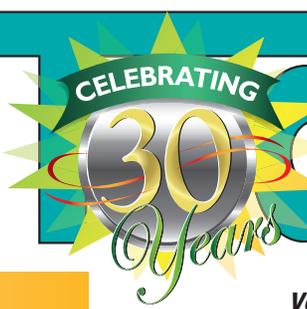


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RUNNING SCARED

~ Thousands of Caribbean nationals are expressing their dissatisfaction and fear in the United States by heading across the Canadian border to seek refugee status, page 3A.



Haitian American Mia Love was among numerous Caribbean Americans who contested mid-term elections in the United States.

Thousands turned out to vote too. Caribbean Today's "Election Wrap Up" begins on page 11A.



Reggae, the music that originated in Jamaica, has secured a coveted spot on the United Nations' list of global cultural treasures.

Led by Bob Marley and others, reggae is now part of an "intangible cultural heritage" deemed worthy of protection and promotion, page 14A.



Happy 30th

~ For three decades, Caribbean Today has served the Caribbean American community in the United States with pride and dedication. We mark this special milestone with a special feature in Section B.



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U.S. federal judge halts Trump's assault on DACA

Caribbean nationals protected under the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program in the United States were given a reprieve last month after a federal court upheld a ruling which stopped the administration of U.S. President Donald Trump from deporting them.

DACA was implemented by former U.S. President Barack Obama. It allows thousands of undocumented immigrant children, including those from the Caribbean, to remain in the country if they follow certain guidelines, including attending school. Trump has vowed to end the program, which, if successful, would halt DACA privileges and lead to possible deportation of its beneficiaries.

However, a 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals panel in California ruled the move to end DACA illegal and issued an injunction pre-



A court has stepped in to protect immigrants.

serving the program.

'CAPRICIOUS'

"We conclude that plaintiffs are likely to succeed on their claim that the rescission of DACA - at least as justified on this record - is arbitrary, capricious, or otherwise not in accordance with law," the federal court ruled last month.

The ruling to stop the phasing out of DACA has sparked a response from the

Trump administration, which is seeking to have the case heard in the Supreme Court, the highest court in the U.S.

The president has been forceful in his rejection of undocumented immigrants. He recently sent military troops to the U.S.-Mexico border to counter a group of Central American migrants.

In Sept. 2017 the Trump administration said it would phase out DACA, which protects some 700,000 young people who came to the U.S. as children.

Earlier this year, a U.S. District judge said the U.S. had to continue processing applications for DACA privileges while the court case was in process. The Trump administration tried to overturn that ruling but its case failed in the Supreme Court.

- G. Williams



FBI uncovers U.S. visa corruption, Haitians arrested

NASSAU, The Bahamas – The United States Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), says it has un-covered a corruption network involving senior Bahamian immigration officials and justices of the peace.

It's been reported that in Oct. 2016, the investigation got underway for fraud relating to U.S. visas in The Bahamas. According to the

FBI, three Haitians were paid close to \$50,000 to participate as informants in a clandestine covert operation that led to the arrest and indictment of Kevin Desir, Johnlee Paul, Edna St. Fleur and a fourth person whose identity is confidential.

Meanwhile, the police said Edward Israel Saintil, a Bahamian suspected of being the leader of the network, was

arrested last September in the District of Columbia during a trap set by the FBI. Saintil, the holder of a Bahamian passport and a Haitian passport, was held when he came to collect \$14,000 to smuggle a Haitian national into the country and organize a marriage with a U.S. citizen.

- Edited from CMC.



Caribbean leaders pay tribute to George H.W. Bush

BRIDGETOWN, Barbados – The prime ministers of Barbados and Jamaica have paid tribute to former United States President George H.W. Bush, who died on Nov. 30.

Prime Minister of Barbados Mia Mottley, in her statement, said Bush will be remembered for utilizing his diplomatic skills and his position as a world leader who presided over the dismantling of the Cold War.

"It is with a sense of regret that we in Barbados note the passing of the 41st president of the United States ... Mr. Bush, who served with distinction as an aviator in World War II, lived a long and fruitful life that was exemplified by service to his country serving as a Congressman, Diplomat, Intelligence Head and as Vice President under President Ronald Reagan before ascending to his country's highest office," Mottley's statement noted.

"The Government and people of Barbados extend deepest condolences to the



Bush

people of the United States of America and to his family. May he rest in peace."

'FRIEND'

Jamaica's Prime Minister Andrew Holness said Bush, was a friend to Jamaica and the Caribbean, adding that the 41st president was a man of strength and believer in the building of democratic institutions.

"He oversaw the ending of the Cold War which was an

extremely significant time in world history, taking the world from the edge of nuclear destruction to an era of relative stability in that regard, and fundamentally changing global dynamics," Holness said speaking from the G20 Summit in Buenos Aires Argentina.

"Jamaica and the Caribbean have lost a friend."

Bush served as U.S. president from 1989 to 1993.



Barbados marks

Barbados celebrated its 52nd anniversary of political Independence from Britain on Nov. 30, with Prime Minister Mia Mottley saying the island has regained its ability to "punch above our weight again."

Mottley, the island's first woman prime minister, told citizens that "Barbados shall forever be friends of all and satellites of none," an apparent reference to the present economic situation facing the island.

The island has had to seek support from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in a bid to turn around an ailing economy.

Mottley departed from tradition and delivered her Independence message at a military parade at the Kensington Oval. She said the nation is capable of competing with the world.

"We have come to Kensington Oval today on November 30, 2018, to say to the people of the world and to say to Barbadians that we too can punch above our weight again in this country," Mottley declared.

CELEBRATION

She told the nation that her administration is planning a

Jamaica wants comprehensive climate change impact review

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Jamaica is calling for a comprehensive review of the impact of climate change on the Caribbean.

"As natural disasters become more frequent so do the adaptation costs impose on us as small island developing states (SIDS), especially since we are on the front line of climate change impacts," Prime Minister Andrew Holness told the high level conference on building resilience to disasters and climate change in the Caribbean held here late last month.

Holness said the review would include the "cancers" not yet integrated into the process. He also reiterated a call for the international community to review its concessionary lending policies to SIDS.

The conference, sponsored by the International Monetary Fund (IMF), Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and the World Bank, is a follow up on 2017 high-level forum "Unleashing Growth and Strengthening Resilience".

FOCUS

The IMF said it has brought together key stakeholders, including senior policymakers, multilateral development partners, and the private sector to "explore incentives to



- File photograph

Mottley is Barbados's first female prime minister.

grand celebration for all Barbadians in 2020 as it would coincide with her administration's plan for the brightest possible Barbados.

"We will be inviting all Barbadians, those by birth, those by marriage, those by choice to come home during the year 2020," she said, noting that the home-coming would start with the residents of the parish of St. Lucy in Jan. 2020 until all the parishes are accounted for on a monthly basis ahead of Nov. 29.

"And then from Nov. 30, 2020 to the 31st of December we invite the whole nation to celebrate as we confirm the

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 4A)

shift the focus of policies towards building resilience and innovative disaster risk financing policies and instruments that would help in the region".



Holness

Holness, chairman of the 15-member Caribbean community (CARICOM) grouping, said the region is facing rapid urbanization in coastal zones with corresponding falling populations in rural areas and out islands.

"Some more than others are facing the pending loss of limited land mass due to sea level rise," he said, noting that one common theme is that the cost of repeated natural disasters has been underestimated "and this is making sustainable development and prosperity much harder to achieve, especially as we are confronted with many development challenges which affect our economic growth."

The conference was also attended by several CARICOM leaders.

Holness noted that last year natural disasters cost the Caribbean \$130 billion.

- Edited from CMC.



RUNNING SCARED: Haitians flee U.S., turn to Canada for asylum

GORDON WILLIAMS

The belief that the United States offers the best hope for prosperity outside the Caribbean appears to be fading rapidly for many.

Thousands of Caribbean nationals, mostly those of Haitian descent, are expressing their dissatisfaction and fear in the U.S. by choosing to seek refugee status in Canada instead.

According to Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) statistics, the number of asylum seekers in Canada has spiked dramatically over the past two years and Haitians have become a significant part of the rapidly rising movement.

Policies set by the administration of U.S. President Donald Trump and deemed harsh to immigrants are believed to have pushed the Haitians to head further north. Trump lumped Haiti among what he reportedly called “shit hole” countries, which are mostly nations with majority black populations. He has also threatened to stop automatic citizenship for children born in the U.S. to undocumented immigrants.

“I speak to quite a few every day and they are scared,” a man who identified himself as a cultural attaché at the General Consulate of Haiti in New York told **Caribbean Today** last month from a telephone number listed online as the consulate’s. “The numbers (of asylum seekers) are huge.”

HIKE

Some 7,785 citizens from Haiti applied for asylum in Canada last year, the most by any country. That was a sharp increase from 620 in 2016.

Nigeria sent the second most asylum seekers to Canada in 2017 with 6,005, up from 1,495 last year.

Americans are also fleeing the U.S. in big numbers. IRCC figures showed 2,550 U.S. citizens sought asylum in Canada last year, up from 395 in 2016. By the end of Aug. 2018, another 1,215 had sought asylum in Canada from the U.S.

According to Canadian authorities, 80 percent to 85 percent of asylum seekers entering Canada are of Haitian descent. Many include families with adults from Haiti and their U.S.-born children.

Among the main reasons linked to Haitians fleeing for Canada is the plan by Trump to end temporary protected status (TPS). Haitians, who were in the U.S. when a massive earthquake hit the nation in 2010, were allowed to live and work legally under TPS by

the administration of then President Barack Obama.

A U.S. federal judge recently blocked Trump’s plan to end TPS, but Haitians fear the president’s order, declared by the Department of Homeland Security in 2017,

may be reinstated and they will be forced to return to the Caribbean nation.

“Now that the (current U.S.) government has gone in and want to end TPS, a lot of Haitians don’t want to go back to Haiti,” the cultural attaché

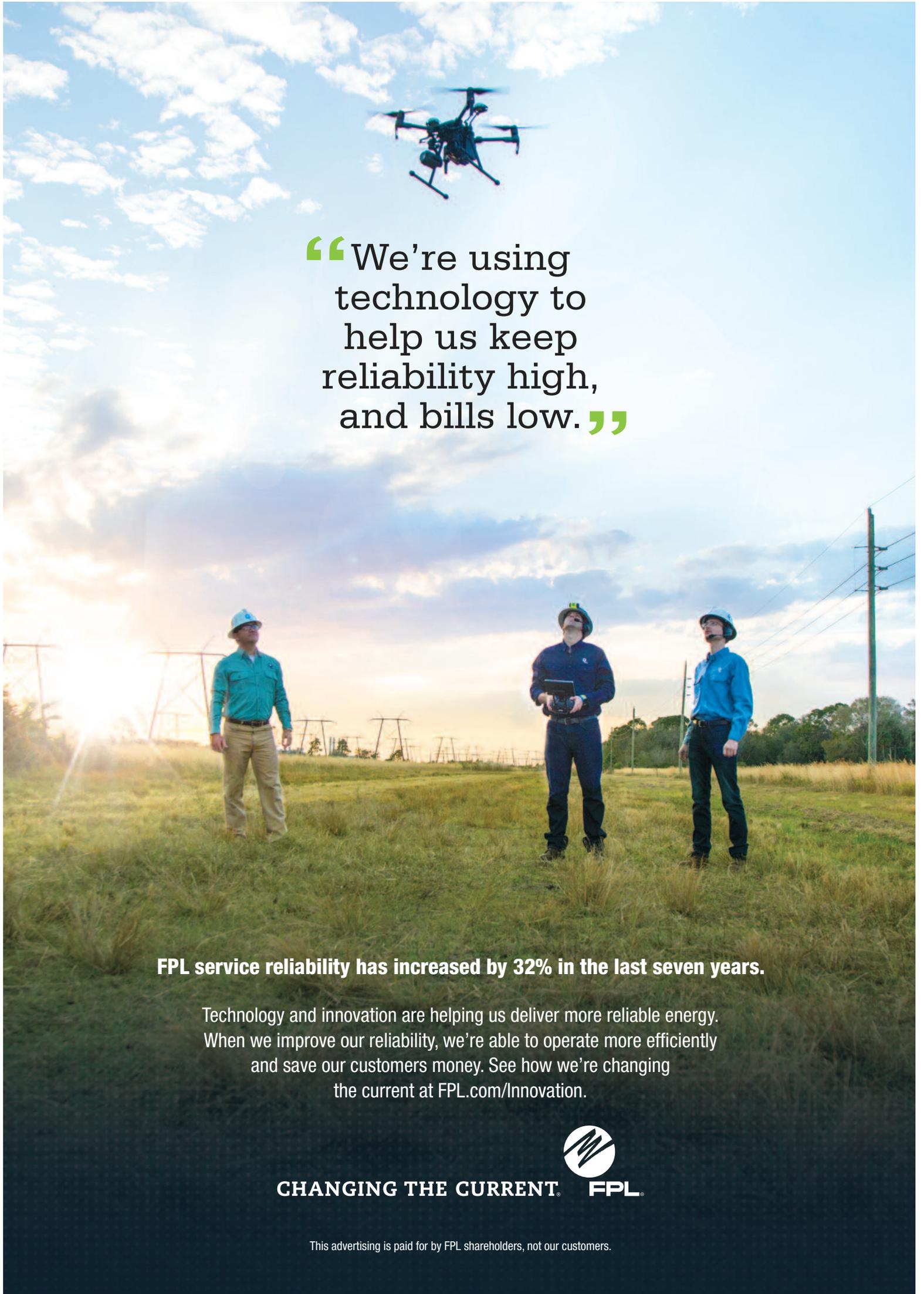
said. “... They don’t want to get deported back to Haiti.”

OBSTACLES

So they are heading north in increasingly greater numbers. But there may be major obstacles there as well.

“There are specific requirements to be considered a refugee,” the Government of Canada’s website stated. “Not having or losing Temporary Protected Status in the U.S. is

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 6A)



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NEWS



Reps introduce bill honoring Shirley Chisholm, first Caribbean, Afro American woman in U.S. Congress

WASHINGTON, D.C. – United States congressional representatives last month introduced a resolution acknowledging the 50th anniversary of the election of Shirley Chisholm as the first Caribbean and African American woman in the U.S. Congress.



Chisholm

Chisholm, was born in Brooklyn, New York on Nov. 30, 1924 to Caribbean immigrant parents Charles and Ruby Seale St. Hill. She died on Jan. 1, 2005 in Florida, after suffering several strokes, at age 80.

Chisholm, whose mother was Barbadian and father Guyanese, served in the New York State Assembly before becoming the first black woman to be elected to the U.S. Congress, representing the then 11th Congressional District in Brooklyn.

She was also a founding member of the U.S. Congressional Black Caucus and the first black woman to seek a major party's nomination for U.S. president.

PATH

“Shirley Chisholm, a proud Brooklynite, created a path for me and the 40 other black women members of Congress who have served after her,” Yvette Clarke, a congresswoman from Brooklyn who is the daughter of Caribbean parents, told the **Caribbean Media Corporation (CMC)**.

“Her definitive contributions were numerous, including creating nutrition assistance programs, expanding health care services for parents and children, increasing the minimum wage, supporting veterans, and providing opportunities for women in college, graduate school, and collegiate and professional sports with the enactment of Title IX,” added Clarke. “She was a voice for a vul-

nerable and marginalized people.”

The bill's introduction came days after the Democratic Party re-took control of the U.S. House of Representatives from the Republican Party in the mid-term elections. A record number of women were elected to the House, including Ayanna Pressley in Maine and Jahana Hayes in Connecticut, the first black women to represent New England in Congress.

The resolution resolves that “the House of Representatives acknowledges the 50th anniversary of the election of Shirley Anita St. Hill Chisholm, the first African American woman in Congress,” and “pays tribute to the service of Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm, her work to improve the lives of women and minorities, her steadfast commitment to demonstrating the power of compassion, and her dedication to justice and equality.”

- Edited from CMC.



New Barbados ambassador to OAS

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Noel Lynch of Barbados last month presented his credentials here to become his nation's new permanent representative to the Organization of American States (OAS).

Ambassador Lynch presented his credentials to Secretary General Luis Almagro.

Lynch said Barbados sees the hemispheric body “as the premier multilateral organization in the Americas working to promote dialogue and to strengthen peace.”



Lynch, left, and Almagro.

He also pledged his country's continuing commitment to support “the programs and activities in the critical areas of

democracy, human rights, multi-dimensional security, and integral development which constitute the four pillars of this organization.”

Almagro recalled Barbados was among “the first group of newly independent CARICOM (Caribbean community) countries to join the organization in 1967.” Since then, he said, “its representation has been constant and active in the critical debates at the OAS.”

- Edited from CMC.



Barbados marks 52nd Anniversary of Independence

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2A)

gathering 2020 on the people of Barbados. For this is our statement to our own and it is our statement to the people of the world,” she said.

Among those being honored to mark Independence were retired educator Avisene

Carrington, who was made a dame of St. Andrew, the first centenarian to be conferred the island's highest award since the national honors began in 1980.

Kenneth Hewitt, a former chartered accountant, who acted as governor general from Aug. 28 to Sept. 16, was knighted for his contribution to

the development of the international business sector. Attorney Philip Serrao was recognized for his contribution to modernizing the Barbados electoral system and its administrative process.

- Edited from CMC.



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Haitian seeking U.S. asylum freed after two years

A Haitian national was last month released from detention by United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) after two years fighting for asylum.



Damus

Ansly Damus arrived in the U.S. in Oct. 2016. He was detained, although he had twice been granted release by the courts.

In September, Damus sued the administration of President Donald Trump, claiming the Constitution of the U.S. had been violated by his detention. He was represented by the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU). Damus was eventually

released on Nov. 30.

"There never was any reason to imprison him, but we're delighted he's being released now," ACLU attorney David Hausman told the **HuffPost** news organization.

"It's a wonderful moment ... but it's also just awful what he's been put through and there's no conceivable justification for it."

ATTACKED

A former teacher, Damus left Haiti in 2014 after allegedly being attacked and threatened by a gang believed to be affiliated with a politician he criticized. He fled to Brazil and then to the U.S., where he sought asylum. He was detained in Cleveland, Ohio.

People in Ohio rallied to support Damus. A couple offered to be his sponsor. But

the government refused to release him, appealing a judge's decision to grant him asylum although, according to **HuffPost**, "asylum-seekers are often released on parole while they await a conclusion of their immigration hearings".

According to **HuffPost**, ICE "offered little explanation for denying Damus parole, only a form with checked boxes indicating he was considered a likely flight risk and lacked substantial ties to the community". On Nov. 29, ICE said it would offer Damus parole.

As part of the release agreement, Damus must live with the couple who offered to sponsor him and wear an ankle monitor as his case goes through the immigration process.



Body of missing American found in Jamaica

Jamaican police last month discovered the body of 72-year-old American Nancy Hardy, who had been reported missing, in the Caribbean island's western parish of Hanover.

The police said they exhumed Hardy's partially decomposed body from a shal-

low makeshift grave in the community of Fish River Road. Hardy, who originated from Massachusetts, had lived in the tourist resort town of Negril, where she operated a guesthouse.

According to the police, someone went to visit Hardy late last month and reported

she was missing after several failed attempts were made to contact her. Up to press time investigators were awaiting the results of a post mortem.

- Edited from CMC.



Caribbean candidates score big wins in N.Y. elections

NEW YORK – Candidates with Caribbean roots romped to victory with overwhelming majorities in New York's mid-term elections last month.

According to early New York State Board of Elections results, Caribbean American Congresswoman Yvette D. Clarke, daughter of Jamaican immigrants, won in a landslide in her race, garnering 167,199 votes to her Republican challenger, Haitian-born Lutch Gayot, who received 10,336 votes.

In the New York State Senate, Democratic Senator Roxanne Persaud, a Guyanese-born immigrant, regained her seat in a landslide in the 19th Senatorial District in Brooklyn. Persaud received 64,940 votes to her Republican challenger Jeffrey Ferretti, who received 7,419.

In the 20th Senatorial District in Brooklyn, Zellnor Myrie, a Democrat lawyer of Costa Rican parentage and Jamaican-born grandmother, defeated the incumbent Jesse Hamilton. Myrie received 67,803 votes to Hamilton's 5,327.

TRIUMPH

In New York State Assembly, Caribbean

Democratic candidates were also triumphant.

Assemblywoman Rodneuse Bichotte, daughter of Haitian immigrants who represents the 42nd Assembly District in Brooklyn, beat two challengers. Bichotte garnered 26,817 votes. Republican Matthew Williams received 2,173 and Jamaican Anthony Beckford, of the Green Party, received 631.

Assemblywoman Diana Richardson, daughter of St. Martin and Aruban immigrants, was unchallenged in the 43rd Assembly District in Brooklyn. Richardson received 33,345 votes.

In her first bid for elective office, Haitian Dr. Mathylde Frontas, a Columbia University professor, was victorious in the 46th Assembly District in Brooklyn.

Trinidadian Jaime Williams was overwhelmingly re-elected in the 59th Assembly District in Brooklyn. Williams, a Democrat, received 26,229 votes to Republican Brandon Washington's 6,306 votes.

- Edited from CMC. More mid-term coverage in *Caribbean Today's "Election Wrap Up"*, pages 11A and 12A.



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JUSTICE: Texas cop who shot, killed St. Lucian charged with murder

The police officer who killed a Caribbean national in his Texas home has been charged with murder.

Botham Shem Jean, a 26-year-old who was born in St. Lucia, was shot dead by Amber Guyger while in his Dallas apartment on Sept. 6. He was unarmed.

Guyger claimed she had



Jean

Guyger

because she believed he was an intruder. He died in hospital.

Guyger was originally arrested on Sept. 9 on suspicion of manslaughter and released on \$300,000 bond. However, it has been reported that prosecutors will pursue a murder conviction.

The shooting sparked

widespread protests. In October, Jean's parents filed a lawsuit in federal court against Guyger and the city of Dallas, claiming excessive force was

used by the officer.

On Sept. 24 Guyger was dismissed from her job.



U.S. indicts Haitian businessman for conspiring to bribe officials

BOSTON, Massachusetts – United States law enforcement officials have charged a Haitian businessman with conspiring to bribe senior officials in the French-speaking Caribbean community (CARICOM) country.

The U.S. Attorney's Office said Roger Richard Bony, 74, a dual American and Haitian citizen who resides in Spain, was also charged recently with laundering funds in connection with a planned \$84 million port development project in Haiti. He faces years in prison and fines if convicted.

Bony was charged in a superseding indictment with one count each of conspiracy to violate the Travel Act and the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act, one count of violating the Travel Act, and one count of money laundering conspiracy.

In Oct. 2017, Bony's alleged co-conspirator Dr. Joseph Baptiste, of Fulton, Maryland, was originally charged by indictment in this case. He was scheduled to stand trial this month in a U.S. federal court in Boston, according to the U.S. Attorney's Office.

According to the indictment, "Bony and Baptiste solicited bribes from undercover agents in Boston, who posed as potential investors in infrastructure projects in Haiti, in connection with a proposed project to develop a port in the Mole-Saint-Nicolas area of Haiti."

The proposed project was expected to cost about \$84 million, the U.S. Attorney's Office said.

- Edited from CMC.



RUNNING SCARED: Haitians flee U.S., turn to Canada for asylum

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3A)

not grounds for a refugee claim. And Canada does not have any special programs for people with Temporary Protected Status."

Canada also had a program similar to TPS. Canada cancelled the program.

Therefore, Haitians crossing into Canada without proper documentation could also be deported to Haiti.

According to the website: "You'll be removed from Canada if you don't have a legitimate claim."

Canada has a

entered the wrong apartment and shot Jean by mistake

strong French-speaking population, especially in cities like Montreal, where a significant Haitian community exists.

- Several sources contributed to this story, including CNN.



Asylum seekers head to the U.S.-Canadian border.

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Trump vows to deny citizenship to U.S.-born kids of some Caribbean nationals

GORDON WILLIAMS

President Donald Trump has threatened to deny American citizenship to children born in the United States to undocumented foreign nationals, including some with Caribbean roots.

However, the Caribbean American community, alarmed by the president's proposal, has strongly pushed back at Trump's controversial interpretation of the 14th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

"The president has no respect," Michael Osei, a Jamaican American living in Virginia, said bluntly. "He needs to go."

Even members of Trump's political party balked at the president's plan.

"I have always opposed presidential attempts to change immigration law unilaterally," Mia Love, a Republican congresswoman whose parents are from Haiti, noted in a statement.

"The Constitution gives Congress, not the president, the power to 'establish a uniform rule of naturalization' and the 14th Amendment makes the conditions of citizenship clear: Individuals born in this country are citizens."

However, Trump vowed in late October he will use presidential executive order to stop children of non-U.S. nationals and undocumented residents,

including those from the Caribbean, from gaining "birthright citizenship".

In an interview with Axios news agency, Trump brushed aside claims he didn't have the power to carry out his threat. The president argued his own legal consultations have concluded he can change the law by the stroke of his pen - and he will.

"Now they are saying I can do it with an executive order," Trump told Axios. "It's in the process and it will happen."

'RIDICULOUS'

During the interview the president called the current situation, where children born on U.S. soil are automatically granted citizenship of the country, "ridiculous and it has to end."

Trump did not specify when he would sign the executive order. Whether he can change the 14th Amendment alone is highly doubtful, according to many legal scholars. U.S. law can only be changed by a constitutional amendment done by the U.S. Congress.

The question of U.S. birthright citizenship was settled well over a century ago when the wording of the constitution was specifically changed to state: "All persons born or naturalized in the United States and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citi-



The president again zeroes in on immigrants.

zens of the United States."

Trump vehemently disagrees. He opposes the idea of birthright citizenship.

"We're the only country in the world where a person comes in, has a baby, and the baby is essentially a citizen of the United States for 85 years with all of those benefits," Trump told Axios.

FALSE

That claim is false. At least 30 countries grant citizenship to children born there, including U.S. neighbors Canada. Even some of Trump's Republican colleagues have strong doubts the president has the power to change immigration law by himself.

"You cannot end birthright citizenship with an executive order," said Paul Ryan, outgoing speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives.

The president's declaration

appears another step in his anti-immigration strategy. Even as he sat for the interview with Axios, public reports circulated that the president had ordered 5,200 military troops to monitor the U.S.-Mexico border. Trump claimed the deployment, which would complement regular border security agencies and members of the National Guard, would stop what he called a "caravan" of Central American migrants determined to "invade" the U.S. Many observers concluded the migrants were fleeing persecution in their home country and were seeking legal asylum in the U.S. Trump claimed the group had been infiltrated with criminals, gang members and possibly terrorists, but offered no proof of his allegations.

ATTACKS

The president's claim falls

in line with his previous attacks of certain immigrants, particularly those from some non-white majority countries, some of which he called "shit hole."

Trump has also issued executive orders to stop immigrants from certain countries, including a ban on those from Muslim-majority nations. Those have been challenged in court. Legal experts said the president can expect court challenges if he carries out his threat on birthright. However, the president seemed, to some, determined to press forward.

"He seemed very certain of it," Jim Vandehei, one of the Axios journalists who interviewed Trump, told MSNBC news network on Oct. 30. "... The guy just believes it."

The president's latest declaration, to strip citizenship from some children born in the U.S., set off another firestorm of controversy. Caribbean nationals without proper documentation have reportedly taken extreme caution, fearing they'd be caught in the anti-immigration net.

"Many went underground if they had any issues with their immigration status," said Osei, a former president of the Association of Jamaicans in Richmond. "They are not for this administration."



GIRL POWER: Stafanie Taylor leads rise of West Indies women's cricket

ST JOHN'S, Antigua – It has been an amazing journey, one that started in spectacular fashion 10 years ago.

That journey has seen a courageous girl from the historic former Jamaica capital of Spanish Town grow to become one of the most recognizable and respected cricketers in the world.

Last month Stafanie Taylor spearheaded the West Indies women's team in its charge to defend the ICC Women's Twenty20 World Cup title in the Caribbean. For Taylor, it was a seminal moment – leading the home team on home soil in a global event – probably the biggest event for women in Caribbean history – with a global audience of millions watching.

Taylor featured on almost every poster, billboard and piece of advertising during the "Watch This" campaign – the official promotional drive for the World Cup. She, quite literally, was the face of the tournament.

The 27-year-old's greatest moment in a glittering career undoubtedly was lifting the coveted trophy as West Indies



Taylor now leads the West Indies women.

captain, after her team upset Australia to win the 2016 T20 World Cup in India.

'WHAT A DAY!'

"Oh what a day ... what a victory ... what a moment! Winning in Kolkata was definitely the best memory," Taylor said recently. "... So winning in India was like reaching the mountain top."

In the three previous tournaments - 2010, 2012 and 2014 – West Indies women had reached the semi-finals before bowing out – twice at the hands of Australia. On a

warm and balmy day at Eden Gardens on April 3, 2016, Taylor put her hand up, scoring a measured 59 runs off 57 balls to help stun the Aussies.

She watched in approval as teenager Hayley Matthews made a career-defining 66 off 45 balls to earn the "Player-of-the-Match" award and, subsequently, international acclaim. Taylor received the tournament's "Most Valuable Player" award.

"To watch Hayley bat and make those runs and win it for us, I was elated," said Taylor. "To see these girls who have

been together for so long and worked so hard together, and done so well ... It was truly great."

DEDICATION

Taylor's story is of one of dedication, commitment, enjoyment and overwhelming success. It has spanned a decade and has seen her represent the West Indies in over 202 international matches. Leading up to the 2018 World Cup she had scored 6,944 runs with her dazzling right-handed stroke-play – 4,282 in 112 one-day internationals and 2,662 in 87 T20Is – making her the all-time highest run-maker for West Indies. She's also one of the leading batters in the game's history.

Taylor has added 208 wickets with her spin bowling and taken 85 catches.

It was a cold damp day in Dublin, Ireland in June 2008 when Taylor made her debut for the West Indies at 16. She made 90 off just 49 balls in her second outing, a one-off T20, as the visitors beat the Irish. Taylor has not looked back. Her rise has been astronomical and her influence unmis-

takable, forever changing the way the Caribbean views women in cricket. Her role has changed as well.

"Back then, 10 years ago, I didn't expect all of this," Taylor explained. "I was young, I was excited ... I just wanted to play and enjoy the game. Now, it's different. I have to help groom the young players. There is much more to do. I really love it."

She appreciates the steps in the journey.

"I give thanks," said Taylor. "I've had some great opportunities to play, to travel and to make a contribution to the game in Jamaica, in the West Indies and around the world. I was a little girl with a dream now I see myself as someone to help with the continued growth of the sport."

"The game has evolved a whole lot since I started as a 16-year-old. The players are more classy (with) more finesse ... It is amazing."

- Edited from CMC. *The West Indies women fail to defend title, losing to Australia in the semi-final, page 18A.*



Signs show Caribbean American senator may run for U.S. president in 2020

Signs are emerging that Senator Kamala Harris, daughter of a Caribbean national, will run for president of the United States in 2020.

While Harris, whose father Donald Harris was born in Jamaica, has not publicly announced plans to seek the highest political office in the U.S., she said her decision will be made during the upcoming holidays, according to **Politico**.

Meanwhile, her amped up social media presence suggests the Democratic senator from California may be gearing up for a presidential bid.

Up to last month she was running more some 1,100 advertisements on social media site Facebook, encouraging followers to sign a "Protect Mueller" petition. Robert Mueller is the special counsel currently leading an investigation into possible collusion and corruption the 2016 elections which elected Donald Trump U.S. president. Democrats have advocated that Mueller's

job may be in jeopardy if it gets close to Trump and demanded Congress approve a bill that will protect him from being dismissed.

SUPPORT

However, some observers believe the tactic of running so many social media advertisements is Harris's attempt to build a following of supporters who could potentially vote for her in a nationwide election.

Other potential presidential candidates are using a similar method, some observers believe. For example, a political action committee representing former Massachusetts Governor Deval Patrick, another Democrat, is running hundreds



Harris

of advertisements advocating for the retention of Mueller.

Democrats Michael Bennet, Cory Booker, Sherrod Brown, Joe Kennedy, Jeff Merkley, Elizabeth Warren and Ron Wyden are also running advertisements asking supporters to sign petitions.

Harris's Facebook advertisements, which mostly appeared following the Nov. 6 U.S. mid-term elections, not only ask followers to support a bill to protect Mueller, but also asks signers to add their e-mail address and zip code.

START

Harris, 54, was born in California. Her late mother Shyamala Gopalan Harris was from India. Her father is a professor of economics at Stanford University. He left Jamaica in the early 1960s and recent articles indicate that he used to take young Kamala to the Caribbean island.

Harris's parents divorced when she was a child. However, she has had a distinguished career, serving as California's attorney general

after attending Howard University and UC Hastings College of the Law. She was elected to the U.S. Senate in 2017.

Harris has emerged as a senator willing to publicly challenge the policies and character of Trump and his administration, regularly voting against his appointees for Cabinet posts.

When asked earlier this year if she will run for president, Harris said she is "not ruling it out." She has announced plans to publish a memoir, a strategy used by previous presidential hopefuls. One Caribbean American political organizer told Caribbean Today last month that there have been signs that Harris's team has been more accessible to the Caribbean community in the U.S. recently.

Turn to *Caribbean Today's 'Election Wrap Up'*, pages 11A and 12A.



'Masquerade Ball' is 'party with a purpose' supporting organ donation

DAWN A. DAVIS

Late this month, Jamaican-born Judith Charlton and her son Charlton Johnson will celebrate life in a big way.

The first "Masquerade Ball" black tie affair, through Charlton's company Ray-j Weddings & Events, in association with The National Kidney Foundation of Florida, will welcome guests and the donor community in a bid to increase awareness about organ donation.

Her inspiration? Her son, who was born with a rare kidney disease.

Charlton's advocacy started 32 years ago when Johnson was age three and stable enough to receive a new kidney. He needed one to survive.

Charlton found out she was a match and donated one of her healthy kidneys to her son, replacing both his bad ones. Since that time at New York's Einstein Hospital, where doctors expected him to live maybe five to seven years, Johnson has had another transplant and myriad complications. He's alive today, testament to a mother's undying love and the critical need for organ donation.

"It was a mother's attempt to save her baby's life," Charlton explained. "If I could, I would give him my last remaining kidney."

"My mission as a mother is to take care of both my sons, no matter how old they are. One needs a life-saving kidney transplant and I will do whatever it takes."



Judith Charlton and her son Charlton Johnson.

uled address the event.

"We will also encourage all our guests to fill out organ donor cards as they enter," Charlton added, "and each card completed will be entered into a raffle to receive a gift. It's a party with a purpose!"

She explained that a kidney transplant is not a cure and should be looked at as life saving treat-

ment. Some transplanted kidneys have lasted more than 30 years. Charlton is hopeful that, with advancing anti-rejection drugs, her son's next transplant will last him much longer than the first two.

DIFFICULT

She admitted Johnson's life, as a young man in his 30s, is difficult.

"To be honest, his life sucks as a dialysis patient," said Charlton. "He is on the machine five days a week (for two and a half hours each day). He was trained to do his own dialysis treatment at home ... He always feels tired."

"His haemoglobin is frequently low, requiring blood transfusions. He also takes blood pressure medication."

Yet her son has learned to

cope.

"(He) manages to keep a positive outlook and rarely complains," she said. "He recently completed a course to become a dialysis technician ... He never gives up."

The National Kidney Foundation warns that African Americans are three times more likely to experience kidney failure. According to the NKF, this population constitutes 35 percent of all patients receiving dialysis for kidney failure, although they represent 13.2 percent of the overall U.S. population. Diabetes is the leading cause of kidney failure among blacks and high blood pressure is a major contributing factor.

Charlton hopes her son's story will help change doubts about organ donation among certain communities.

"My biggest challenge is to be patient and kind and understanding of those who, through lack of education and knowledge or superstition, insist on holding on to their organs, even after death," she said. "How could one not understand that one life in death can save eight?"

Charlton plans to focus on some of these issues at the ball, adding that proceeds from the event will benefit the NKF of Florida.

Dawn A. Davis is a freelance writer for Caribbean Today.

The Masquerade Ball will be held on Dec. 29 in Pembroke Pines, Florida.



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Immigrant versus immigrant

It is unfathomable that any immigrant, or voter with immigrant heritage, would vote for the Party of Trump, also known as the GOP, right? Wrong!

According to the latest analysis of the mid-term elections by the Pew Research Center, a combined 52 percent of Hispanic and Asian voters shockingly voted for Republican candidates.



FELICIA J. PERSAUD

That is mind boggling, given the blatant bigotry that marked Donald Trump's

scapegoating of immigrants and his "caravan" wolf cry to his so-called "base" in the weeks leading up to the elections.

The "base" of Trump's support has always appeared to be older uneducated whites, fearful of the return to brown America. It's a group that truly believes they are superior and cannot stand the thought of being relegated to the "minority" grouping.

SURPRISE

However, the Pew data tells a surprisingly story.

Much like the voting trend in the 2016 elections that saw Trump emerge as the unlikely president of the free world, the Pew analysis showed that 29 percent of Hispanics voted Republic in the 2018 mid-terms, despite the ramped-up rhetoric directed mainly at a so-called caravan made up of Central American immigrants, also known as Latinos, also known as Hispanics.

In Florida alone, 66 percent of the Cuban American vote went to Republican gubernatorial candidate Ron Desantis, according to an analysis by communications strategist Giancarlo Sopo based on results from 35 precincts in Hialeah and suburbs in southwest Miami-Dade.

Meanwhile, Pew found that 23 percent Asians voted Republican, which some experts claim is due to the fact that his administration backed students suing Harvard University over affirmative-

action programs they said discriminate against Asian Americans.

TREND

The trend comes on the heels of the 2016 presidential election, when the same leaning became astonishingly evident. In the 2016 election, 29 percent of Latino immigrants and 18 percent of Asians voted for Trump. Among Asians, according to the Asian American Legal Defense Fund, 32 percent of Vietnamese American voted for Trump.

So what does all this tell us? It speaks to the larger global racist and mental slavery mindset in the home countries of these immigrants and their descendants. It is a mindset where blacks are always



Trump has scapegoated some immigrants.

viewed as inferior; where a white patriarchal society is viewed as ideal; where the accumulation of wealth trumps any other ideals and where classism rules – making it so easy to vote against the xenophobia which they see as directed not at them, but at those less than them, despite the fact that they are of one ethnic origin.

In their minds, it is not so much immigrant against immigrant, but self-interest and self-empowerment above all else.

The Democratic Party would be wise of take note of this fact going into the 2020 elections and recognize and support their main base – the predominantly black women voters, including immigrant voters from the Caribbean and Africa, who lent their black power to making the blue wave possible in the United States House of Representatives.

Felicia J. Persaud is CMO at Hard Beat Communications, Inc. which owns the brands NewsAmericasNow, CaribPRWire and InvestCaribbeanNow.



High voter turnout point to election hope in Florida

PATRICK SMIKLE

The 2018 mid-term elections in the United States are over, although up to press time there were still reports of votes being counted.

Now for the post-mortems. Elections departments across Florida have some tidying up to do, none more so than Broward County, which is going to need a new supervisor of elections. Dr. Brenda Snipes is scheduled to step down with two years left to go on her current term. Given the controversies linked to the Office of the Broward Supervisor of Elections in recent years, especially around the 2018 primary and the November vote (Snipes's department was pilloried by President Donald Trump on Twitter, Republicans protested outside her office, calling for her to be jailed, and late night television comics mocked her), it's likely that only journalists and Florida political junkies remember that Dr. Snipes, a Democrat, was appointed by Jeb Bush, a Republican governor.

Her Nov. 2003 appointment ended the brief and ignominious tenure of Miriam Oliphant (who was accused of gross incompetence) and Snipes was re-elected three times, most recently in 2016.

There's irony in Snipes being under attack while her

counterpart in Miami-Dade County was being praised as the best supervisor of elections in all 67 Florida counties. In the 2000 Bush vs Gore presidential election mess, it was the Miami-Dade Elections Department facing the ire of Republican demonstrators. Christina White, who now heads that department, is the only one of Florida's 67 elections supervisors who was appointed, not elected. That could change with the passage of Constitutional Amendment 10, which requires that constitutional officers, such as the supervisor of elections, be elected.

Campaigning in 2018 mid-term elections was described by many as some of the nastiest and most vitriolic they had experienced in Florida. There were thinly veiled appeals to race, xenophobia, fear mongering and outright lying. Some advertisements were so bizarre that academics who teach communications and public relations, as well as their students, will probably be studying them for years.

HISTORIC

But the elections were also historic.

If you are a Republican, you can celebrate that Florida's government remains in



Floridians followed the signs.

Republican control (the governor and all but one member of the Cabinet) and that both Florida senators are now Republicans. The Republican Party flipped two Senate seats in November. One was in Florida.

If you're a Democrat in Florida, your party flipped two seats in the House of Representatives, one represented by a Republican since 1989. Celebrate that voters gave your party its first seat in the Cabinet since the Lawton Chiles/Buddy McKay administration.

If you have no party affiliation and/or affiliated to one of the several non-partisan, good-government groups (such as the League of Women Voters), which play a crucial role in holding the politicians accountable, then you're quite likely one of the 64.55 percent of voters who helped pass

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 10A)

Was Caribbean allowed to swim or sink at U-20 World Cup soccer qualifiers in Florida?

GORDON WILLIAMS

BRADENTON, Florida - At first glance, last month's final round of the Under-20 World Cup soccer qualifiers (WCQ) here appeared a golden chance for Caribbean nations.

Up for grabs in the tournament, for countries in the Confederation of North, Central America and Caribbean Association Football (CONCACAF), were four places at the 2019 World Cup and 24 of the 34 countries were from the Caribbean.

Under a new format for qualifying, instead of Caribbean teams battling each other before advancing to face the powerhouses of North and Central America, they were ushered into the final round where the teams were split into six groups, each guaranteed at least four games.

Caribbean teams saw advantages. They would play multiple times in one setting, reducing financial and logistical burdens usually associated with traveling the region under the old format. The facility here, where the games were played and teams housed, was

excellent.

QUESTIONS

But Caribbean representatives soon began openly questioning the new format. Some argued the tournament was specifically designed to ensure only favored teams – like the United States and Mexico – advanced, at the expense lower ranked nations. Caribbean teams, for example, playing many matches in the broiling Florida heat, with several kick-off times anywhere between 10:30 a.m. and 12:45 p.m. Each team played every other day, but neither the U.S. nor Mexico, ranked first and second respectively in CONCACAF, played a single group game near

noon. U.S. played at 5 p.m., 5:30 p.m., 6 p.m., 7:45 p.m. and 8 p.m. Mexico kicked off at 4 p.m. and 6:15 p.m., plus three times at 8 p.m.

"I am not in favor of the way it is," said Kyle Lightbourne, senior men's national coach for Bermuda, which played at 10:30 a.m., 12:45 p.m., 3 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. "... If the top teams are allowed to play in the heat, let's see how they react."

Caribbean reps also argued the times for the final group games gave some teams an unfair advantage. For example, with Jamaica and Mexico tied on points but separated by goal difference going into their last

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 10A)

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VIEWPOINT



DESPERATION: The hunt for that partner in love during festive season

The festive season is here and many people seek companionship.

Isn't that why people seek each other - to gain companionship, have a meaningful relationship, fall in love and live happily ever after?

And yet, that is what many people, mostly women, can't achieve.

The fact is, true or false, fact or fiction, parody or satire, there are women who just can't find anybody. They are destined to live their lives in emotional stasis, a sort of loveless hibernation, a cold passionless coma, bereft of male companionship, desperate for love.

The fact that so many successful professional women choose to write about finding romance and using the medium

of the Internet via those dating sites is perhaps an indictment on other women. Truth be told, there are some women who will never land a man, and even if they do manage to snare one, he'll quickly wriggle out of her grasp and seek freedom. Desperate women do not make great companions.



TONY ROBINSON

LUCK

No man wants to know that a woman has been on the shelf for so long that she now has to look for a man online. This online dating phenomenon has roared



through the romantic ravines like a tsunami and the makers are making millions from desperate people.

I remember this lady

whose cyber search took her from America to Africa, Dunkirk to Denmark, Trinidad to Timbuktu, Zaire to New Zealand, until she finally ended

up in Alaska with an Inuit man.

Why is it so difficult for these women to find romance? It's not about looks either, for there are many beautiful women who are living in no man's land.

Is it about attitude, being too picky, abrasive personality, too bossy, lacking in sex appeal, miserable? Who knows? So some women keep flitting from one sour relationship to the next, always blaming men.

"Oh, he couldn't handle a strong woman like me."

"He just wasn't my type." So they search in vain.

seido1@hotmail.com



High voter turnout point to election hope in Florida

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9A)

Amendment 4, which will restore the voting rights of citizens who've run afoul of the law, but successfully completed their court ordered punishment.

INVOLVEMENT

What is probably most historic about the 2018 mid-terms, however, was the level of voter involvement, in primary and general elections.

Some assessments put statewide voter turnout in the general elections at 62 percent, the highest in any mid-term election since 1994.

The people voted - by mail, at early voting locations and at designated precincts on election day.

Fortunately for Republicans, and unfortunately for Democrats, the highest turnout levels were in the more

conservative areas of North Florida. Baker, Collier, Franklin, Jefferson, St. Johns and Sumter counties recorded voter turnout of more than 70 percent.

In the voter-rich and more liberal counties of South Florida, turnout, though higher than usual, lagged behind the north. Palm Beach recorded 61 percent turnout, Miami-Dade 56 percent and Broward 54 percent.

There are more elections to

come. Long before the next presidential elections in 2020, Florida voters will choose would-be office holders. It begins Dec. 11 in the City of Miami Gardens, where voters will decide on a special lighting district issue.

This is a vote-by-mail only election. It's a good test of whether the momentum of the mid-terms is being sustained. Miami Gardens was created with

less than 20 percent of the eligible voters casting a ballot. Let's see what happens on Dec. 11.

Patrick Smikle is a freelance writer for Caribbean Today.

Turn to Caribbean Today's "Election Wrap Up" feature, pages 11A and 12A.



Was Caribbean allowed to swim or sink...

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9A)

group game, Mexico's match against Aruba started well after Jamaica's game with Saint Martin. Some believed both games should have been re-scheduled to start at the same time, eliminating any advantage Mexico may have had by knowing Jamaica's final score before its match was finished.

TIMING

Caribbean representatives also lamented the timing of the tournament. In early November in Jamaica, for example, most U-20 players compete in high school or college competitions. Only a few are club professionals. However, nearly all players for higher ranked teams, for example U.S. and Mexico, are professionals. They don't attend regular school and are more readily available to the national team.

"This tournament should have been played earlier, like it was before (during school summer holidays)," said Lightbourne "... where school doesn't have anything to do with it ... The top teams, they get away because most of their guys are in academies ... and it doesn't affect them."

The mixing of unequally ranked teams at the tournament didn't help, according to some observers. Many Caribbean nations were simply over-matched by higher ranked teams from North and Central

America. Gaping disparity surfaced among Caribbean teams too. Jamaica, for example, beat Saint Martin 11-0 in its final group game.

OFFICIATING

The officiating didn't help either. Whether or not perceived questionable decisions were deliberate is debatable. But wrong calls did happen.

Among the most glaring occurred during the crucial clash between Jamaica and Mexico after players from both teams got into a scuffle. A Mexican player, not directly involved, rushed in and shoved a Jamaican player to the ground. He should have been ejected. A referee at the tournament later admitted that to Caribbean Today. That would have left Mexico a player short against a Jamaica team growing in confidence with the score tied and the loser almost sure to be eliminated.

Despite everything, the tournament revealed definite talent from the Caribbean. Some agents and scouts were impressed.

Yet no Caribbean team advanced to the World Cup. Maybe, it was just not meant to be. Or maybe it wasn't allowed to be.

For coverage of the tournament and more sports, turn to pages 18A and 19A.



Help Us to Help Them



Help Caribbean Today to educate our children, and thereby providing a leg up for all.

Caribbean Today has established "The Caribbean Today Foundation for Journalistic and Healthcare Excellence" which will provide scholarships to students attending Miami Dade College. Donations can be made in the following way:

- Via Check: Make checks payable to "The Miami Foundation" and include the Fund name "The Caribbean Today Foundation for Journalistic and Healthcare Excellence" in the memo line of the check. Mail checks to, The Miami

Foundation, 200 South Biscayne Boulevard, Suite 505, Miami, FL 33131

- Via Credit Card: miamifoundation.org/givenow. Choose the Fund from the dropdown menu and submit payment. Please look for the Fund name Caribbean Today Foundation.

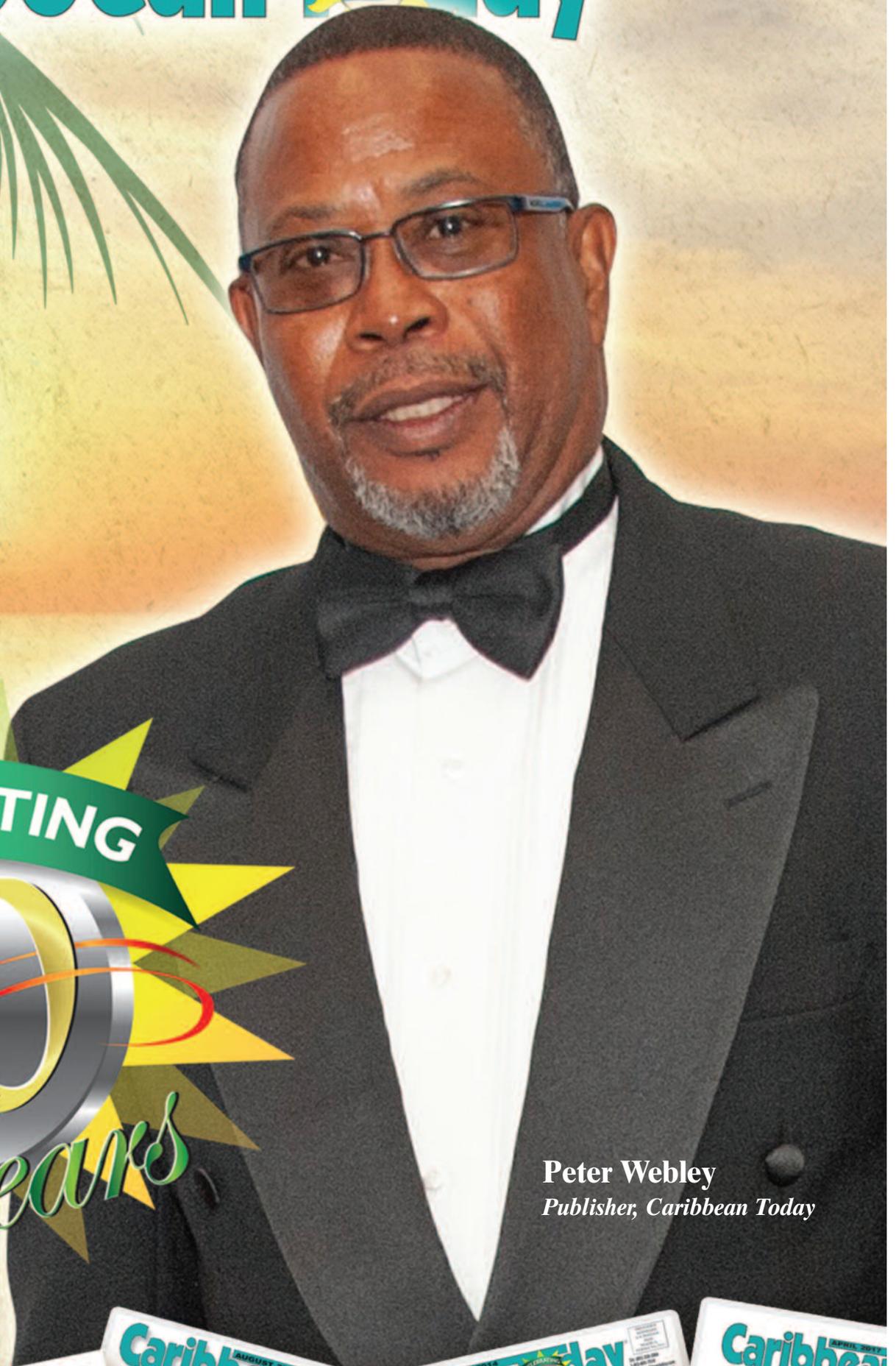
- Please contact the Miami Foundation directly for cash wiring or stock transfer instructions if needed.

Remember no monies come to Caribbean Today, it all goes to your children's future education.

The Miami Foundation allows Caribbean Today to achieve its philanthropic mission and provides strict oversight and accountability of the Fund by the Board of Trustees of the Miami Foundation. For more information on The Miami Foundation, please visit miamifoundation.org.



Caribbean Today



CELEBRATING
30
Years

Peter Webley
Publisher, Caribbean Today





CARIBBEAN TODAY

30th Anniversary Celebration

Caribbean Today reaches 30th anniversary milestone

Caribbean Today is poised to reach another milestone - 30 years in business. Founder, Publisher and Chief Executive Officer Peter Webley recently discussed with freelance writer Dawn A. Davis Caribbean Today's origins, his journey with the publication and the way forward. The following is that interview, edited for content and space:

Dawn Davis: What inspired you to start Caribbean Today?

Peter Webley: I had been doing work on a Jamaica supplement for other publications before I started Caribbean Today. Among those publications were Miami Today and the Kendall Gazette. Several supplements later, I created a business plan for the publisher of one of those newspapers exploring the possibility of creating a Caribbean Gazette.

As advertising manager at the Kendall Gazette at the time, I knew the market and saw the possibilities. But, my

idea was not well received. And that's when the light bulb went off — why not start my own publication. That's when Caribbean Today was born, December 12, 1989.

D.D.: What did you need to get started?

P.W.: All I had was \$2,856.25, and that's what it took to start my publishing dream. As a new entrepreneur I started the business out of my dad's house. The back patio was my office. It was started with a promise from four or five of my good advertisers who said they would give me

continuous business for the first year. They liked what they saw. So, that's how

Caribbean Today was funded.

D.D.: Tell me about some of the challenges.

P.W.: Like most new businesses, one of the biggest challenges has been funding to sustain and help us grow. We did well in the first five to 10 years



Webley

based on the strong economy at the time.

We were especially supported by advertising from the financial sector in Jamaica. In fact, those early years saw us distributing the paper not just in Florida, but also throughout the Caribbean. We became a well recognized and respected brand.

Air Jamaica was the major

distribution vehicle for the Caribbean at the time.

However, since the airline folded, that level of placement has been severely curtailed, which has affected advertising revenue. However, increased marketing stateside has somewhat softened the blow.

D.D.: What are you most proud of?

P.W.: I am especially proud of our presence on social media and, of course, the development of our website. Both have helped to increase traffic, inquiries and new business for Caribbean Today, and we will continue to seek out new trends to keep us in the public eye.

D.D.: What is your secret to longevity?

P.W.: It's been 29 years, and I would say the secret to our longevity is dogged persistence, plain and simple.

In addition to that, if I had not been very frugal and conservative over the years, Caribbean Today would not be here today. It's about looking at the competition, looking at trends, and learning and applying the lessons learned.

D.D.: What differentiates from the competition?

P.W.: We are different from all the rest because we focus on serious stories. As well, we believe in working with professional writers, worldwide. And

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 3B)



Miami-Dade County
Commissioner
Barbara J. Jordan
District One



"Congratulations to Caribbean Today on your

30th

Anniversary Celebration!"

CARIBBEAN TODAY

30th Anniversary Celebration

30 NOT OUT: Caribbean Today marks three decades serving diaspora

The walls of the Palmetto Bay, Florida townhouse-style business condominium, which houses the office of **Caribbean Today**, are decorated with trophies and plaques.

The accolades are from a range of organizations thanking both the newspaper and its publisher Peter Webley for services to the Caribbean community. Occupying a place of pride among them is a plaque titled: "Caribbean Today is making waves, coming along for the ride. AS SEEN IN THE MIAMI HERALD THURSDAY JANUARY 4, 1990."

The frame contains a copy of an article published in the Miami Herald newspaper, which announced the arrival of the new publication. It included a photograph of Webley and staff members. The article reads:

New Voice speaks out for Caribbean natives
Southwest Dade man starts newspaper

By **TANANARIVE DUE**
Herald Staff Writer

December's opening statement from Caribbean Today's publisher Peter A Webley is a rallying cry: "From plumbers to physicians we must go on, from lawn men to lawyers we must go on. Go on to build a better life for ourselves and for the society that we now live in." Webley,

28, publishes the new monthly newspaper from the cramped Florida room turned office of his southwest Dade home. Five years ago, he delivered newspapers for **Miami Today**. Now he runs his own.

It cost \$4,000 to produce 10,000 copies of the first issue, which was distributed last month throughout south Florida and in Atlanta, Houston and Kingston,

It cost \$4,000 to produce 10,000 copies of the first issue, which was distributed last month throughout south Florida and in Atlanta, Houston and Kingston, Jamaica.



HOT OFF THE PRESSES: Publisher Peter Webley, left, looks over the first issue of Caribbean Today with Diane E. Maxwell, account executive, editor Michelle Dreseris and art director Alberto Conte Jr.

- File photograph

Three decades have passed since Caribbean Today's launch.

Jamaica.

That was possible through "savings and mortgaging my soul," Jamaican born Webley said, sipping imported Jamaican kola champagne. The paper's staff of eleven includes former co-workers from the **Kendall Gazette**, where Webley was the Advertising Manager until September.

Caribbean Today editor, Michelle Dreseris is also an assistant editor at the **Gazette**.

"It's not an easy job, starting a newspaper," Webley said. "You're coming out of a \$30,000 plus job here, poorer than a lot of people, but at least I have something going I hope to build."

Webley isn't alone in that dream. Miami's Caribbean natives already have two north-

west publications and four and a half year old magazine called **Caribbean Lifestyles** and a larger more established weekly paper called **Caribbean Echo**.

In recent months three other newspapers were started in Fort Lauderdale and north-west Dade, all targeting the same audience, and worse, the same advertisers, said **Caribbean Lifestyles** publisher, Noel Robinson.

"If we all stay in Miami, no one's going to make it," said Robinson, who's monthly magazine has a distribution of 10,000.

But Webley said he made a profit in his first issue. He said his paper's intent to cross over to American readers separates Caribbean Today from other competitors."

David Rowe, a Holland and Knight law partner who cohosts the Caribbean Issues program on **WVCG Radio 1080** says Caribbean Today's profes-

sional look and feel give it potential. The paper may help fill a void in the media, he said, but it needs direction.

"The editor needs to develop an analytical and socially conscious editorial direction," Roe said. "She (Dreseris) needs to address the problems and needs of the West Indian in South Florida."

December's 20-page issue included articles Jamaican tourism, Christmas in Trinidad and Guyana, Miss Jamaica 1989, Jamaica's new Deputy Consul in Miami, a restaurant review and a column on Jamaican professionals.

The next issue, scheduled for publication in the next two weeks, will be available at Caribbean area restaurants and business. The paper is free in Miami.

Caribbean Today's mission, said editor Dreseris is to unify the disparate voices from the Caribbean. "Now, more than ever, Caribbeans needs to come together," Dreseris said.

None of the publications mentioned in the Miami Herald article have survived. And in the 30 years since the first issue of Caribbean Today, several other newspapers targeting the Caribbean American community have come and gone.

A Caribbean Today 30th anniversary celebration was scheduled on Dec. 1 in Miramar, Florida.

Compiled by **Patrick Smikle**, a freelance writer for Caribbean Today.



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Caribbean Today reaches 30th anniversary milestone

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2B)

we are recognized for these policies.

D.D.: As publisher/CEO What is your typical day like?

P.W.: My days start at 6 a.m. and does not finish until about 11 p.m., sometimes seven days a week. This has been my routine from the very beginning. One of the things I am focused on, which takes up a lot of my time, is working with

non-Caribbean audiences to let them know we offer a viable product for them.

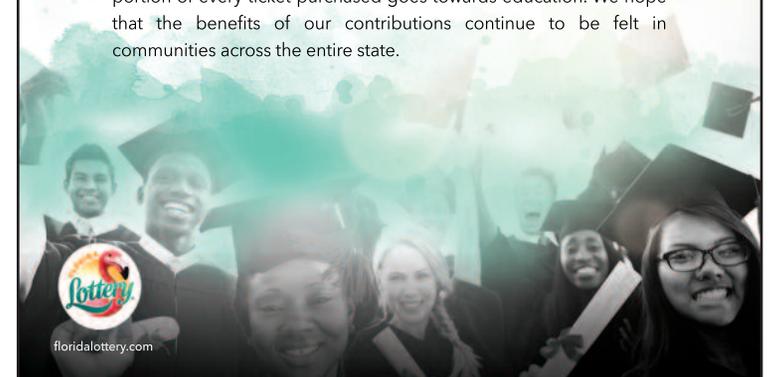
D.D.: Who inspires you?

P.W.: The gentleman that taught me everything I know about the publishing business was Fred Rasmussen, advertising manager at the Miami Herald some years ago. He took me under his wing and really schooled me before he passed away. I owe so much to

him for his advice, counsel and tips about how to make it in the publishing business.

D.D.: Do you have any advice to aspiring entrepreneurs?

P.W.: If you love something with all your heart, it can't be work. It is a passion that you gladly pursue. And Caribbean Today is that passion for me.





CARIBBEAN TODAY

30th Anniversary Celebration

PHOTOTRIP: Caribbean Today's stroll down memory lane in pictures

Caribbean Today first hit the streets three decades ago. Over the years styles and formats have changed.

Staffers have come and gone too. However, Caribbean Today has remained steadfast in its efforts to serve the diaspora.

Here are samples of Caribbean Today editions from the past, including banners, headlines and stories of the day:



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CARIBBEAN TODAY

30th Anniversary Celebration

CELEBRATION TIME: Colorful event marks Caribbean Today's 30 years

Beautiful tropical centerpieces with Red Ginger lilies, orchids and vibrant Heliconias welcomed 180 finely dressed honorees and guests to **Caribbean Today** news magazine's 30th anniversary celebration on Dec. 1 at the Miramar Cultural Center in South Florida.

It was an elegant and fun night of celebration, delicious food, awards and college scholarships, heart-felt appreciation, friendship and memories. Steel drum music by Pan Man and lively dancing to Caribbean soca and 1980s oldies music by DJ Wayne energized the evening. South Florida and the Caribbean's prominent leaders attended.

Jamaican American Founder and Publisher Peter A. Webley spared no expenses to announce to the world that Caribbean Today had reached its 30th anniversary – an impressive accomplishment for any small business and an exceptional feat for a minority-owned media company that began as a monthly tabloid-size newspaper in Dec. 1988 with a handful of friends and a circulation of 10,000 on stands in South Florida.

"Caribbean Today is the oldest, largest and longest-lasting Caribbean publication based in South Florida," said Webley.

START

In 1988, Webley and Caribbean colleagues from the Kendall Gazette newspaper agreed that Caribbean Today's goal was to cover their under-represented, diverse and rich cultures. Webley focused his innate sales and marketing skills on funding Caribbean Today. Jamaican American Michelle Cawley Dreseris became the monthly news magazine's first editor.

The Miami Herald newspaper commemorated the launch of this bold new Caribbean media venture in South Florida by dedicating half-page stories in all its editions. They featured a photograph of Caribbean Today's small staff, which included Webley, Cawley Dreseris, Diane Maxwell, account sales, and Panamanian graphic artist Alberto Conte.

Today, Caribbean Today's monthly circulation is 36,900. In addition, **CaribbeanToday.com** reaches a global digital audience and market – streaming



From left, Nicholas, Maureen and Peter Webley.



Webley, the publisher, right, and Caribbean Today's first editor Michelle Cawley Dreseris.

news, features, entertainment, business, culture and sports stories.

Caribbean Today covers the Caribbean, its diaspora, non-Caribbean audiences, and the lives and successes of second- and third-generation Caribbean of immigrants in North America.

HONORED

Tony Lesesne, from LMG Entertainment/IN FOCUS Magazine TV, was the master of ceremonies at the 30th anniversary event. Multi-media entrepreneur Joshua Olmsted, director of development at Miami Dade College Foundation, thanked Webley for his altruistic support of Miami-Dade College (MDC).

Webley presented four \$500 Caribbean Today Foundation scholarships to MDC students. Isabella Saenz and Melissa Nolasco received Journalism Excellence Scholarships. Ashley Santiago and Daffkine Pierre received Healthcare Excellence Scholarships.

Webley also thanked individuals and businesses who have supported Caribbean Today for 30 years. Those include Jamaica Tourist Board (JTB), Publix Supermarkets, Air Jamaica/Caribbean Airlines, Grace Kennedy

IJET Airlines; Dr. Dorothy Straw; Lenward McCalla; Kaye Chong, sales executive for Air Jamaica/Caribbean Airlines; and Cawley Dreseris.

"Caribbean Today is Peter Webley," Dreseris told guests after he presented her with her award. "Peter makes this happen through daily hard work, dedication, sacrifice, and determination. He has given the same steady devotion to his wife Maureen and his two sons, Nicholas and Brandon."

Maureen surprised Webley with her own award, a beautiful

Caribbean news throughout and beyond South Florida since 1988.

"It is the number one black publication, and the sixth overall publication of the Metro Dade County Communications Department."

"Tonight was unusual," said Lesesne. "Peter presented awards to people who have supported him for 30 years, but some of those who received awards also recognized him."

WINNERS

Lucky guests won tickets on Caribbean Airlines, Pilates classes and other prizes. A silent auction included original autographs by Jamaican sprinter Usain Bolt. The once "fastest man on earth" was two years old when Caribbean Today was first printed.

Event sponsors included Jamaica Tourist Board, Caribbean Airlines, Publix Supermarkets, Florida Power and Light (FPL), Jackson Health System, Port Everglades-Broward County Florida and Miami-Dade County Commissioner Barbara J. Jordan, District 1.

"I am proud of just surviving the past 30 years," said Webley.

"As technology has changed, we have changed. The secret to longevity is dogged persistence, frugality and being conservative. I am especially proud of our social media presence and the development of our website. Both have helped to increase traffic, inquiries, and new business for Caribbean Today."

Page 1B photograph by Dreamy Riley.



- Photograph by Dreamy Riley

Webley, second left, gets a laugh out of guests, from left, Sandy Walker, Moss and attorney Marlon Hill.

Ltd./Grace Foods, Salada Foods Jamaica Ltd. and Ocho Rios International Foods.

He then presented Caribbean Today's honorees with 30th Anniversary Awards. Among the recipients were Miami-Dade County commissioners Dennis C. Moss, Barbara J. Jordan and Audrey M. Edmonson; City of Miramar Mayor Wayne M. Messam; Founder and Chair of Sonshine Communications Bernadette A. Morris; Dr. Donovan Taylor; Dr. Fidel Goldson, Jr.; AMER-

mosaic plaque, recognizing him for devout energy, tireless dedication, sustained excellence, marketing and delivering our Caribbean dreams.

Caribbean Airlines' Chong and the Black Owned Media Alliance presented Webley with awards for 30 years of excellence serving the South Florida community.

Congresswoman Frederica S. Wilson, who represents Florida's 24th District, commended Caribbean Today for serving as a "vital source of

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CARIBBEAN TODAY

30th Anniversary Celebration

POWER BALANCE: Jamaican American shines as FPL's 'point person'

**MICHELLE CAWLEY
DRESERIS**

Juliet Murphy Roulhac, a Jamaican American, has been the regional manager for corporate external affairs at Florida Power and Light (FPL) since 2012.

She moved to Miami with her parents when she was 15 and, months later, graduated from Miami Killian High.

Roulhac brought with her to the United States strong Jamaican values and educational disciplines forged by her parents and St. Andrew's High School for Girls. These, she told Caribbean Today, are part of the foundation of who she is, including her educational and professional successes, and how she approaches her high-powered career, community activities and life.

FPL, a Fortune 200 company, is the largest electric utility in Florida and one of the largest electric utility providers of clean energy in the U.S. Roulhac manages governmental and community relations with elected officials and major stakeholders, and develops regional strategies for FPL.

An attorney, Roulhac practiced in the General Counsel's Department prior to working in external affairs. She has over 25 years of business litigation and appellate experience.

Prior to joining FPL in Oct. 1999, Roulhac practiced law in-house with the general counsel

departments of CIGNA Property and Casualty Insurance Company and Prudential Property and Casualty Insurance Company. For FPL, she's on the frontline of interaction.

RESPONSIBILITY

"I'm FPL's point person," Roulhac explained. "My team and I educate local and county government elected officials on FPL's positions and initiatives. We handle any issues they may have."

That includes dealing with one of most topical issues in these times – clean energy.

"We are responsible for sharing how FPL is developing clean energy," said Roulhac.

"FPL just went through a four- to five-year transition from oil-burning plants to natural gas combustion plants. This is a very significant shift because natural gas brings us to clean energy. Additionally, FPL has made significant investment in building and developing large scale solar energy, all across the state, in the past three years."

According to Roulhac, her company is committed to clean energy.

"FPL has been very aggressive about investing in clean energy," she said. "We are the cleanest energy provider in Florida, and one of the top clean energy providers in the nation. Our goal is to be the leading clean energy provider in the U.S."

"FPL's portfolio includes



Murphy

nuclear energy, natural gas, and solar energy. We use these for generating electricity. It's a huge commitment. Many of our fleet vehicles are bio-diesel with a far-reduced carbon footprint. At FPL, we are committed to reducing our carbon footprints and helping to build a sustainable community," she added.

ROOTS

According to Roulhac, she became interested in clean energy while still in high school, when she "learned about environmental abuses."

She traces the effectiveness of getting her message across to her Caribbean roots.

"The discipline and politeness – saying 'please' and 'thank you' – that we had to have growing up in Jamaica and the impact it has made on me throughout my life, is remarkable," Roulhac explained.

"St. Andrew's was almost like going through an army experience. It still influences me

to be more formal, and more regimented in how I plan out my day, how organized I am, and how I run meetings.

"We were also raised to have quiet confidence and pride. This has helped me to be successful," she added.

Roulhac serves as chair of the Greater Fort Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce. She also serves as treasurer of the Broward Workshop, and is a member of the CEO Council and secretary of the Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance. She serves on several boards, including those of the Museum of Discovery and Science, Community Foundation of Broward, Baptist Hospital BOH/BHE, Broward Cultural Council and Business for the Arts of Broward.

Roulhac is the immediate past chair of Business for the Arts of Broward and the Florida Bar's Leadership Academy. She holds a bachelor of arts and juris doctor degrees from the University of Florida, where she previously served as a gubernatorial appointee on the Board of Trustees, the first Caribbean African American woman to hold that position.

RECOGNITION

Roulhac has earned recognition for her contributions. She has been honored with The National Bar Association's Gertrude Rush Award, the Greater Ft. Lauderdale Alliance's Leadership Award, the Broward 2-1-1 Difference

Maker Award, the Broward County Bar Association's Paul J. May Professionalism Award, the Wilkie D Ferguson Bar's Distinguished Service Award, the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Champion of Law Award, and the University of Florida Alumni "Gator Great" Award.

Roulhac urged girls leaving high school to stay focused and persevere.

"Think about your personal goals and make them happen," she said. "Do not let your lack of three of 10 requirements stop you from trying."

Roulhac remembered being inspired by others as well.

"My mother's best friend, Dorothy Pine McClarty, a lawyer in Jamaica and the first female partner ever in her firm, was a huge role model for me," she said. "She always encouraged me to be a lawyer and to be very confident."

It takes that and more for Roulhac to stay on track, especially dealing with work and family, but passion keeps her going.

"I balance all of this because I love it," Roulhac said, "and you make room in your life for the things you love to do."

Story and photograph submitted by Michelle Cawley Dreseris, a freelance writer for Caribbean Today.



CELEBRATION TIME



Guests who attended Caribbean Today's 30th anniversary celebration in Miramar, Florida were in a happy mood. After all, a big milestone has been reached and all had a good time.

CARIBBEAN TODAY

30th Anniversary Celebration

CARIBBEAN TODAY: 'Accurate, timely, consistently credible coverage'

For 30 years *Caribbean Today* has shone light on issues of importance to the Caribbean community.

It's been a long and inspired journey.

The work has not gone unnoticed. As *Caribbean Today* marks this milestone achievement, members of the Caribbean American community and others have shown their appreciation. *Caribbean Today* appreciates them as well.

Below are some of the responses to *Caribbean Today's* accomplishment:

Dale Holness, commissioner, Broward County, Florida.



Congratulations for being a mainstay in the Caribbean and Caribbean American community for the past 30 years.

Caribbean people are based around the world and your publication has witnessed the explosive growth of the Caribbean diaspora, not only in South Florida, but across the United States and the world as well.

Caribbean Today has been there to cover the vast contributions the Caribbean diaspora has

made and continues to make to the artistic, economic, cultural, sports, education and political landscape.

Your publication consistently delivers accurate and timely news to keep readers informed of what is not only happening locally, but regionally and internationally as well.

Caribbean Today keeps us connected with what's happening here and "back home". I wish you and the staff of *Caribbean Today* another 30 great years of consistently credible coverage of our community.

Norma Darby, Founder/Director, Louise Bennett-Coverley Heritage Council

Caribbean Today has been the voice, eyes and ears of South Florida's Caribbean community for 30 years.

I have known Peter Webley, owner and publisher, since the newspaper's fledgling days and have seen it grow and take its place among the "giants" of South Florida and the Caribbean.



With his team of gifted writers and contributors, Peter has delivered the best and up-to-date, information on the "who is who, what and where". The newspaper's wide readership ensures that advertisements make the right connections and it contributes to education through scholarships awarded at Miami-Dade College in South Florida.

Publisher Peter Webley has been a staunch supporter of the Louise Bennett-Coverley Heritage Council, which showcases the rich culture of Jamaica and awards scholarships to students at both Broward College and the Edna Manley College.

Thank you *Caribbean Today*. Keep on, keeping on.

Malou C. Harrison, president, InterAmerican and North Campuses Miami Dade College.

Any Caribbean American will attest that for them, it is of the utmost importance to stay connected with the "ins and outs" of their island and the region.



Those of us who live abroad simply have a deep affinity for home - the Caribbean - and we are therefore resolute in keeping abreast of the socio-economic, cultural and political happenings back home.

It's been three decades of being able to depend on and seek out *Caribbean Today*, a pragmatic voice that has kept our community very much linked and informed of the most poignant current events of the region. Given the comprehensive nature of *Caribbean Today's* content, it certainly spurs conversation and the generation of ideas around ways Caribbean expatriates might contribute intellectually and through financial investments in addressing the gaps that are precluding the advancement of individual countries and the region overall.

A newspaper for all seasons, *Caribbean Today* and its publisher Peter Webley deserve much praise for their sense of purpose toward "capto veritas" and the excellence in journalism for which the publication continues to be known.

Charles J. Handal

It's with much appreciation and applause that we celebrate the 30th anniversary of *Caribbean*

Today.

I am especially pleased to express the valued contribution *Caribbean Today* has been in the South Florida Jamaica and Caribbean diaspora. Through its online website and print it has continued to provide current and regular information on a variety of pertinent news to the Caribbean community in South Florida.

Moreover, the importance and value of news continues to grow as they seek new ways to serve their readers and strengthen their community.

Over the years I personally have had the opportunity to work alongside Publisher and Founder Peter Webley on many issues including the tourism industry and, more recently, the insurance industry.

Caribbean Today has brought to light issues including the arts, sports, political issues and concern of the local community it serves. It is my hope this will continue into the future and I look forward to many more issues published by *Caribbean Today*.



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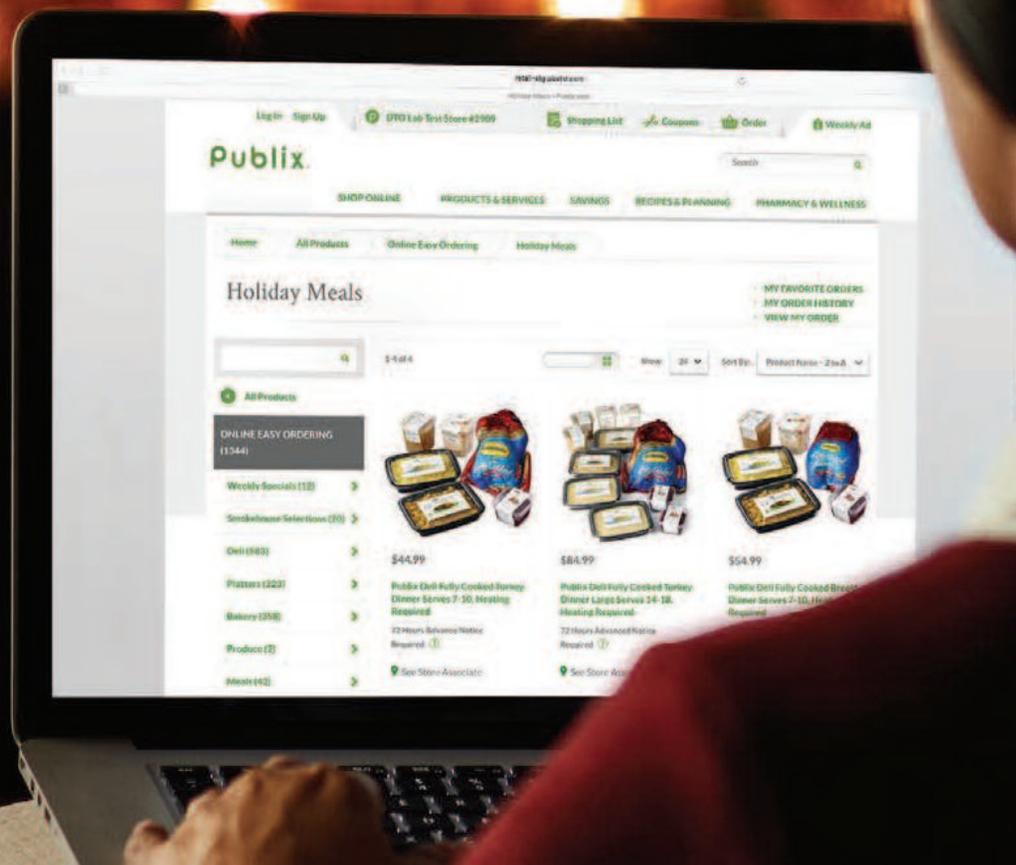


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~ A CARIBBEAN TODAY SPECIAL FEATURE

LIFE IN U.S.: New hope, fears for Caribbean nationals after mid-term elections

GORDON WILLIAMS

BRADENTON, Florida - Caribbean nationals are bracing themselves for at least two more years of Donald Trump's tenure as United States president, but it remains unclear if their outlook has been significantly altered by last month's mid-term elections.

Thousands of Caribbean nationals were among record voter turnout in many places across the U.S., with some running for office with mixed results. And while the overall national races returned the Democratic Party to the majority in the U.S. House of Representatives, the Republican Party managed to increase its advantage in the Senate.

The results have left Caribbean nationals pondering their future in a country split over politics. However, some believe the added oversight of

the president, bound to come from the new Democratic House majority, will help slow Trump, especially in his campaign against immigrants, particularly those from majority non-white countries.

"With the new Democratic House they'll definitely put a check on Trump," said Michael Osei, former president the Association Jamaicans in Richmond (Virginia).

"A lot of what he's doing will come to a halt. Caribbean nationals are more hopeful now."

CONCERN

In Nov. 2016, when Trump was elected president - and his Republican Party controlled



McLeod

the House and Senate - many Caribbean nationals expressed concern over their future in the U.S. Some were stunned by the result and fearful of the president's agenda based on his rhetoric throughout the campaign.

"All the ideas we were consistently told aren't a part of America propelled a man to the presidency of the country of my birth," New York resident Jumaane Williams, son of Grenadian immigrants, told the **Caribbean Media Corporation** after the presidential elections.

"He did so stripping out all the usual code words and phrases, leaving and encouraging unabashed bigotry, using patriotism as an accelerant ... a billionaire, who said the most vile and bigoted things during the campaign."

Yet there was some hope among Caribbean Americans. Rodneyse Bichotte, daughter

of Haitian immigrants and a New York State assemblywoman, believed then that

"Regardless of our political preference, we are all Americans, and we need to come together as a country."



Claire

Trump also drummed up anti-immigrant sentiment, including fear for a group of Central American immigrants walking towards the U.S. border. Most were believed to be peaceful refugees seeking asylum in the U.S. as protection from cruelty in their homeland. Trump, however, claimed many were criminals and possibly terrorists.

Despite the mid-term election results, some Caribbean nationals are now placing more faith in the investigation by Special Counsel Robert Mueller, who is looking into possible violations by Trump and his election campaign, rather than rely on the mid-term elections fallout.

"I'm hoping Mueller can stop Trump," a Caribbean American said last month. "Or else we are doomed."

Maybe not quite. Along with the record number of mid-term voters came many

Haitian American loses seat in U.S. Congress, falls from Trump's favor

Haitian American Mia Love lost her seat in the United States Congress last month and immediately fell out of favor with President Donald Trump.

Love, the Republican representative from Utah's 4th Congressional District, was beaten in the Nov. 6 mid-term election by Democrat Ben McAdams, mayor of Salt Lake County, in a race where the final voting total took weeks to tally. McAdams won by less than 700 votes.

Despite the close result, Love's defeat, even before it was finally decided, earned ridicule from the president.

"Mia Love gave me no love and she lost," Trump told reporters at the White House. "Too bad. Sorry about that, Mia."

Love hit back in her concession speech on Nov. 26 in Salt Lake City, questioning Trump's loyalty.

"The president's behavior towards me made me wonder: What did he have to gain by saying such a thing about a fellow Republican," she said.

Love, at times, had not been viewed as a full-hearted Trump supporter. She distanced herself from the Republican president when he lumped Haiti with other black-dominated African nations by reportedly calling them "shit hole" countries. Love called the president's statements "unkind, divisive, elitist," which "fly in the face of our nation's values." She also said Trump's comments were "unacceptable from the leader of our nation" and called on



Love

the president to apologize.

Love also rebuffed the president's announcement that he will seek to halt automatic U.S. citizenship being granted to children born in the country to undocumented immigrants.

SHOCK

Still, few expected Trump's response following the election. During the press conference, he showed little compassion for Republicans who were defeated. According to Trump, Love, the only Republican female African American in the House prior to the mid-terms, had repeatedly asked him for help, yet her re-election campaign did not fully align with the president's agenda. Love, in her concession speech, torched Trump's worldview.

"No real relationship, just convenient transactions," she said.

The president was not popular in Love's district, according to polls, although the candidate voted for

Trump's policies close to 96 percent of the time, according to FiveThirtyEight, which monitors political trends. By the last week of November, a Gallup poll showed 60 percent of Americans disapproved of Trump's performance as president.

BIG ON TRUMP

Love was born in Brooklyn, New York to parents who moved from Haiti

and became citizens under the current law, which protects citizenship under the 14th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. She described her parents as "big Trump supporters."

However, the week before the election Love criticized the president's declaration that he would use executive order to end automatic citizenship to children born to undocumented U.S. residents.

Meanwhile, Trump's criticism of losing candidates, including Love, irritated other Republican Party members who had not been defeated at the polls. Retiring Republican Congressman Ryan Costello said Trump's comments "Angers me to the core."

Following an exchange of leads in the vote count, McAdams claimed "victory"

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 12A)



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ELECTION WRAP UP

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~ A CARIBBEAN TODAY SPECIAL FEATURE

Caribbean American voters speak out on U.S. 2018 mid-term elections

Up to Election Day, Nov. 6, and beyond, Caribbean Today monitored the Caribbean American community. Below are selected edited responses obtained by freelance writer Patrick Smikle:

QUESTION: Was there any single issue, issues, candidate or candidates that influenced how you voted?

Lukkee Chong, video producer/director: Yes. Voting out the Republicans.

Donna M. Delgado, attorney: My anger at the current president (Donald Trump) was enough to motivate me to motivate others to vote ... I was very excited by Andrew Gillum's campaign (for Florida governor).

Vanessa James, multimedia entrepreneur: I proudly cast my vote for Andrew Gillum. I believe in his progressive ideas.

Everton McDonald, businessman: I am totally opposed to the GOP (Republican Party) and most of their polices.

Michael Walters, engineer:

Anything against Trump.

QUESTION: Were you pleased or disappointed with the (election) outcome?

Delgado: I am disappointed by the outcome, but realistic that Florida is not ready for anyone but an ol' boy in the governor's mansion. Soon, though.

James: ... Disappointed with the outcome. As much as people were more engaged this mid-term season, many stayed home and didn't vote at all.

McDonald: Somewhat pleased, but disappointed with the Florida outcome in the governor and Senate race.

Malachi Smith, poet: I am disappointed with the governor and Senate outcome. I didn't feel the same energy that was there in the primary.

Walters: Not pleased with Florida governor or Senate outcome. Want Democrats in and Republicans out, based on statements by Trump and Republicans going along with (him).

QUESTION: It is generally felt that enough Caribbean

Americans don't run for office and far too many don't vote. What are your views on this issue?

Adolph Barclay, business owner: I agree. The Caribbean American diaspora needs more of both.

Chong: We need to impress on the potential voters the importance of voting and exposing the issues in simple language to the electorate.

Delgado: To the contrary ... I was shocked to see so many of us braving the hot sun. The turnout was excellent.

James: I too believe and agree that Caribbean participation should be higher.

McDonald: I do think more of us should run for office.

Smith: I believe many of us do not run for office because of our antecedents. Our children will.

Walters: Too many non-voters. Tired of hearing complaints that are not followed up by voting.

**MID-TERMS MATTERED**

Like most of the United States electorate, Caribbean nationals appeared energized by last month's U.S. mid-term elections. Several key stories sparked heightened attention from Caribbean Americans. Among them:

- The race for governor of Florida contested by Democrat Andrew Gillum and Republican Ron DeSantis. Gillum, trying to become the first African American governor of the state, courted and received support from the Caribbean nationals. However, it wasn't enough. The mayor of Tallahassee was beaten by DeSantis in a heated race, tinged by racial overtones, a demand for a recount of votes and a delayed concession by Gillum.

- The race for Florida senator between Republican challenger Rick Scott, who was vacating his seat as governor, and Democratic incumbent Bill Nelson. Despite a close race, stained by accusations of voting system failure and a lengthy recount of ballots, Scott emerged winner.

- In Georgia, which also has a large Caribbean American community, Stacey Abrams, a Democrat ran to become the state's first African American governor. It was a long-

shot, but with she almost pulled it off, losing a close race to Republican Brian Kemp. Abrams complained that the race was not "fair" as Kemp was Georgia's secretary of state, a job which includes oversight of the electoral process. She accused Georgia of voter suppression, which she claimed particularly affected the African American community.

- Caribbean nationals were also on the ballot during the mid-terms. Among them was Jamaican American Donna McLeod, a Democrat, grandmother and small business owner, who won a seat in Georgia's House of Representatives from District 105.

- Haitian American Jean Monestime was among those recently sworn in for new terms at the Miami Dade County Commission.

- The Broward County Commission in Florida unanimously voted for Jamaican American Commissioner Dale V.C. Holness to serve as vice mayor at its re-organization meeting. Holness was first elected commissioner in 2010 to represent residents living in Broward County's District 9.

**LIFE IN U.S.: New hope, fears for Caribbean nationals after mid-term elections**

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11A)

Caribbean Americans seeking elected office. Some, like Haitian American Mia Love, a Trump supporter who lost in her re-election bid for the U.S. House, failed. But new faces appeared, making inroads in the U.S. political system. Donna McLeod, for example, became the first Jamaican American woman to win a seat in the Georgia House of Representatives.

If the mid-terms proved anything, it's that change is more likely if people get involved.

"The greatness in our country requires our participa-

tion," McLeod said.

For many Caribbean Americans that may just be the road map to hope in the U.S. – with or without Trump in charge.

"The election result was a pushback to what's taking place," said Irwine Claire, a New York-based Caribbean American, who lauded, in particular, Caribbean American candidates who offered themselves for office in state and local elections.

"A good counter balance. The present setup as is (under Trump) wasn't good for Caribbean immigrants."

**Haitian American loses seat in U.S. Congress, falls from Trump's favor**

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11A)

run for political office. over Love on Nov. 9. Love conceded the election in a call to McAdams on Nov. 24. Despite her defeat, she said had "no regrets" and may still

run for political office.

"I'm leaving all options open," she told CNN on Nov. 26.

- G. Williams

**Successful Women in Business**

In March Caribbean Today will spotlight Successful Women In Business. Join Caribbean Today as we showcase these hard working women who have left their mark on the business community in South Florida. If you would like to nominate someone please send your nominees to Editor@caribbeantoday.com or Peter.Webley@caribbeantoday.com

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Reggae/dancehall star Buju Banton set for prison release



Buju Banton

Jamaica's reggae and dancehall star Buju Banton is scheduled for release from lock-up in the United States this month.

Several reports indicate that Banton, whose real name is Mark Myrie, could leave prison by mid-December.

The 45-year-old

singer/deejay is likely to be deported from the U.S. to his Caribbean homeland following his release from penitentiary in Georgia and processing by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

Banton, who reportedly owns a home in South Florida, will not contest his deportation, according to reports. However, his deportation would mean he would not be allowed to live or perform in the U.S. for at least several years.

HIT MAKER

Banton is known for a slew of reggae/dancehall hits like "Driver", "Browning", "Not An Easy Road" and "Champion". His "Before The Dawn" won a Grammy Award for "Best Reggae Album" in 2011, the same year he was convicted on drug and firearm charges in the U.S.

The Kingston-born Banton has reportedly fathered 15 children. Before he was imprisoned, Banton gave an inspired performance in downtown Miami. In a statement issued last month through a public relations representative, he offered his plans for the future.

"In light of the adversity I have encountered, I feel the need to stress that my only desire going forward is peace and love" Banton noted. "I only want to be associated with my craft. Having survived, I want to share the good news and strength of my music. I just want to continue making music, which I've devoted my life to. I look forward to the opportunity to say a personal thanks to my fans and everyone who supported me."



JAMAICAN 'X FACTOR'



Jamaican singer Dalton Harris, 24, has won the "X Factor", a top talent competition staged in the United Kingdom. A former winner of the Digicel Rising Stars competition, Harris rose from poverty. "I grew up in a one-room house without electricity or running water, but it's not a sad story. It's how I came out of it and I'm triumphant," he said during his audition. Following his win on Dec. 2, Harris told an interviewer: "I've won The X Factor. I've just won." His success in international talent contests followed Jamaican Tessanne Chin's triumph a few years ago in "The Voice", a United States version of "X Factor".

T&T's Calypso Rose to get international award for music



Calypso Rose

PORT OF SPAIN, Trinidad – Veteran calypsonian Calypso Rose is scheduled to receive the Grand Prize for World Music when she attends the Sacem Grand Prix in France this month.

Calypso Rose, 78, holds the Order of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago — the country's highest award. She is among a list of awardees that includes English songwriter

Ed Sheeran, in an event that will celebrate those who have excelled in songwriting, music publishing, humor and classical contemporary music at Salle Pleyel on Dec. 10.

The Sacem Grands Prix are given annually to professionals in the world of music by the Society of Authors, Composers and

Music Publishers (Sacem).

Calypso Rose, whose real name is McCartha Linda Sandy-Lewis, is no stranger to winning top international awards. She won the World Album of the Year award at the Victoire de la Musique award ceremony in France in 2017 for "Far From Home". The award is considered the French equivalent of a Grammy award.

Haitian jazz trumpeter to perform at 'Music in the Park' in Miami Gardens

Haitian-born jazz trumpeter Jean Caze will be among the performers at the "Music in the Park Jazz and Blues" concert in South Florida this month.

The free show will be staged **6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. Dec. 7** at the Betty T. Ferguson Recreational Complex amphitheater in Miami Gardens.

Also scheduled to perform are Amédé and Gia Wyre.

Caze is a millennial jazz and world music artist whose style has been compared to

Miles Davis. In 2004, he was named the winner of the National Trumpet Jazz Competition and in 2006 he won the International Trumpet Guild Jazz Competition.

In 2007, Caze earned a master's degree in jazz performance from Florida International University and won second place in the Thelonius Monk International Jazz Trumpet Competition.

For more information, call **305-474-3011**.



Calypso Rose was also awarded the 2016 Artist Award by the World Music Expo (WOMEX), topping artistes from 95 countries. WOMEX is an international

networking platform for the world music industry.

In 1975, the Tobago-born Calypso Rose won her first national award, the Public Service Medal of Merit. In

2000, she won the Humming Bird Medal and in 2017.

- *Edited from CMC.*



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REGGAE RESPECT: U.N. declares Jamaica's music 'cultural treasure'

MAURITIUS – Reggae music, the genre that originated in Jamaica, has secured a coveted spot on the United Nations' list of global cultural treasures.

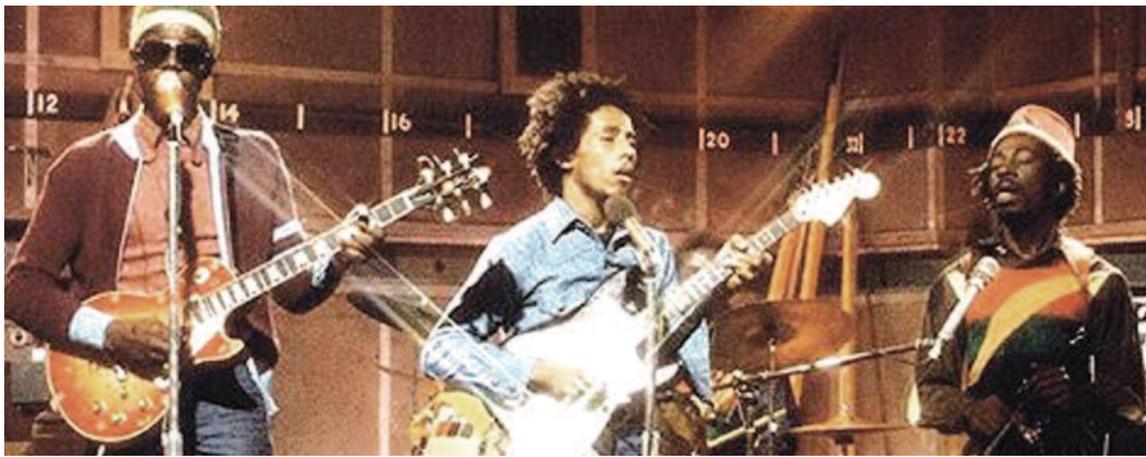
UNESCO, the world body's cultural and scientific agency, added reggae to its collection of "intangible cultural heritage" deemed worthy of protection and promotion.

"This is a historic day, said Jamaica's Culture Minister Olivia Grange following the announcement on Nov. 29. "We are very, very happy.

"Anywhere you go and say you're from Jamaica, they answer 'Bob Marley.'"

Grange said UNESCO's distinction "underscores the importance of our culture and our music, whose theme and message is one love, togetherness and peace."

UNESCO noted that while reggae started out as



Jamaicans, from left, Tosh, Marley and Wailer, were among reggae's early pioneers.

"the voice of the marginalized," it was "now played and embraced by a wide cross-section of society, including various genders, ethnic and religious groups."

CONTRIBUTION

Its "contribution to international discourse on issues of injustice, resistance, love and humanity underscores the

dynamics of the element as being at once cerebral, socio-political, sensual and spiritual," Paris-based UNESCO added in a statement.

The musical style has now joined a list of cultural traditions that includes the horsemanship of the Spanish Riding School in Vienna, a Mongolian camel-coaxing ritual and Czech puppetry, as well

as more than 300 other traditional practices spanning from boat-building and pilgrimages to cooking and dance.

Jamaica applied for reggae's inclusion on the list this year at a meeting of the United Nations agency here, where 40 proposals were under consideration. Reggae was competing for inclusion alongside Bahamian straw

craft, South Korean wrestling, Irish hurling and perfume making in the southern French city of Grasse.

EMERGENCE

Reggae emerged in the late 1960s out of Jamaica's ska and rocksteady styles, also drawing influence from American jazz and blues. The genre is often championed as a music of the oppressed, with lyrics addressing sociopolitical issues, imprisonment and inequality.

Marley is recognized as the leading ambassador for reggae worldwide. But many other names, including his former Wailers band members Peter Tosh and Bunny Wailer, plus groups like The Burning Spear, Culture, Culture and Inner Circle helped boost the music's popularity.

- Edited from CMC.



'Redemption' offers outpouring of Lorna Goodison's heart

- **TITLE: REDEMPTION GROUND**
- **WRITTEN BY: LORNA GOODISON**
- **REVIEWED BY: DAWN A. DAVIS**

Not poetry, not autobiographical, not prose. Instead Lorna Goodison's new work "Redemption Ground" takes readers on the personal journey she traversed until she finally recognized "I am a writer."

From teenage flirtations to life lessons and professional recognition, the reader embarks on the walk with Goodison, watching her "voice" take shape. This book is the outpouring of a writer's heart.

It's the musings, reminiscing and inspiring stories that makes this book so familiar to readers. Growing up in Jamaica, most children had to sing a hymn and say prayers at

the morning assembly before school started. This continues today. The hymns are an early introduction to rhythmic poetry, something Goodison reflects on in her essays and adventures.

The staccato rhyme sung while, for example, jumping rope influenced a sense of timing, coordination and wordplay.

INFLUENCES

Goodison credits these early verses and recitations, as well as the poems she memorized in school, for honing her own voice. Among those poems was William Wordsworth's "I Wondered Lonely as a Cloud".

This and other creative

British verses that forged the Romantic Age left an indelible mark on many from the Caribbean. Goodison's celebration of Derek Walcott, the Caribbean poet who "schooled" her ways of seeing, saying and approaching words, leaves no doubt his tutelage also left its mark.

But, being a good writer or poet is not just about learning poetry or great literature. It's about the life experiences and lessons one takes from those events. Goodison has certainly had her share of life-changing episodes.

Yes, Goodison has always been a poet. The personal encounters throughout her life can be measured in stanzas filled with compassion, challenges and overflowing goblets of words.

Dawn A. Davis is a freelance writer for Caribbean Today.



Caribbean art in D.C. spotlight

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) says new exhibits to be displayed at its headquarters here seek

to promote inclusive development through local art in the Caribbean and Latin America.

The financial institution said its cultural center opened "A City of Questions: DC Artists Encouraging Inclusive Development" last month.



Jean-Pierre

"We want to start this conversation about inclusive urban spaces and how it connects with the same challenges that we are facing in Latin America and the Caribbean," said Trinidad Zaldívar, IDB's unit chief of creativity and culture.

Zaldívar said the exhibit includes pieces from Caribbean artists, including Charles Philippe Jean-Pierre, a Haitian visual artist and U.S. State Department Art in Embassies Artist.

- Edited from CMC.



BRIEFS

'Haiti a Mode' exhibition

"Haiti a Mode", an exhibition featuring the work of international Haitian photographer Marc Baptiste, will be on display from Dec. 5 at the Haitian Heritage Museum in Miami, Florida.

The exhibition is part of the museum's Art Week Miami Exhibition Series. Baptiste is a fashion and portrait photographer. His portfolio includes subjects such as Prince, Shakira, Janelle Monae, Erykah Badu, George Luka, Cicely Tyson, Yoko Ono, Misty Copeland and Spike Lee, plus Michelle and Barack Obama.

Inner Circle New Year's jam

Inner Circle, the "Bad Boys" of Caribbean music, will stage "The New Year's Day Reggae Jam" on Jan. 1 in South Florida.

The event, set to begin at 2 p.m. at the Wynwood Yard, 6 N.W. 29th St. in Miami, is part of the band's celebration of 50 years in the business. Also scheduled to perform are Mykal Rose, Jo Mersa Marley, Lunchmoney Lewis, Bizerk, Daniel Skye, The Ries

Brothers and Papaya.

T&T calypsonians die

Trinidad and Tobago recently lost two legendary calypsonians.

Winston Bailey, better known as the "Mighty Shadow" and Winston Scarborough, who performed as "The Original De Fosto", passed within weeks of each other.

Bailey died in October from a stroke. He was 77. Scarborough died early last month at age 63.

Samuels Honored

The Washington-based Institute for Caribbean Studies (ICS) last month bestowed the Marcus Garvey Lifetime Achievement Award on Jamaican comedian, actor and playwright Oliver Samuels "for his outstanding body of work and for bringing 'Brand Jamaica' to the performing arts locally and internationally."

- Compiled from various sources.



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Sancocho: a delight from Dominican Republic

Sancocho is a meal from the Dominican Republic. It is a hearty stew usually made for special occasions with seven types of meats, but you can enjoy it any day. So here's the recipe:

Ingredients

- 1 lb. beef for stews flank, chuck, or round
- 1 lb. goat meat
- 1 lb. pork sausage
- 1 lb. pork for stews belly, or chump end
- 1 lb. chicken
- 1 lb. pork ribs
- 1 lb. bones from a smoked ham
- Juice of two limes
- 1 teaspoon cilantro or parsley chopped
- 1/2 teaspoon oregano powdered
- 1 teaspoon garlic mashed
- 1 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 4 tablespoon corn, peanut or canola oil
- 2.5 quarts water
- 1/2 lb. yams cut into one-inch pieces
- 1/2 lb. pumpkin cut into one-inch pieces
- 1/2 lb. taro cut into one-inch pieces
- 3 green plantains, two cut into one-inch pieces
- 1/2 lb. cassava or yuca, cut into one-inch pieces
- 2 corn cobs cut into 1/2-inch slices (optional)



Sancocho

Method

Cut all the meat into small pieces. Coat the meat with the limejuice (except the pork sausage).

Place the beef in a large bowl and add the cilantro, oregano, garlic, and half a teaspoon of salt. Rub meat to cover with the spices. Marinate for at least half an hour.

In a large pot, heat the oil over medium heat. Add the beef and stir (be careful with hot oil splattering). Cover and simmer for 10 minutes.

Add a few tablespoons of water if it looks like it might burn.

Add the pork and simmer for 15 minutes, adjust water when necessary. Add the rest of the meat to the pot (except for the chicken) and simmer for another 15 minutes, adding tablespoons of water as needed to prevent it from burning.

Add the remaining meat and simmer for another five minutes, adding tablespoons of water as needed to prevent it from burning.

Add two quarts of water to the pot and bring to a boil. Add the yam, two plantains, taro and yuca that you had previously cut. Simmer covered for 15 minutes.

Grate, or scrape the remaining plantain with a knife to make it into a pulp, add to the pot. Add all remaining ingredients (minus the salt) and add water as it becomes necessary to maintain the same level.

Stir regularly to avoid excessive sticking.

Simmer until the last ingredients you added are thoroughly cooked. Season with salt to taste.

Serve hot with white rice, slices of avocado and garnish with hot sauce.

NOTE: You can skip the other meats if you want and just choose the beef or one type of meat. The trick to this dish is adding the meat from the longest-cooking to the shortest-cooking.

- Edited from News Americas.



Sip, dip or dash some dahl

Dahl is especially popular in Indo-Caribbean communities in the region and diaspora.

It is usually served with rice and meat or vegetable curries or with roti or consumed as a soup. Here is the recipe:

Ingredients

- 1/2 pack yellow split peas, washed
- 3 cloves garlic
- 1 tsp. cumin
- 1 hot pepper, seeds taken out
- 1/2 onion, chopped
- Salt to taste
- 1/2 tsp. turmeric
- 1 tsp. oil
- 1-1 1/2 cup water

Method

Place a pressure cooker on the stove and add a teaspoon oil.

Add the washed split peas, along with the other ingredients. Allow ingredients to fry in for a minute.

Add water and turn pressure on for about 15 minutes. Remove from stove into sink and place unopened pressure under running water.

Once steam has evaporated, open pressure cooker and check doneness of peas. It should be melted and turned to a golden yellow liquid that



Dahl

is not too thin.

If its too thick, add a little water to turn into a thick soup like consistency.

If some peas are still not melted, use an electric hand blender or a wooden hand masher or "dhal ghotni". Return to fire and let it boil further.

Taste and add salt if needed along with a little more ground cumin.

You may also cut up an additional clove of garlic, add a little oil along with a few specks of whole-grain cumin and heat until garlic begins to brown.

Add into dhal and cover down. Leave for a few more minutes before serving.

- Edited from News Americas.

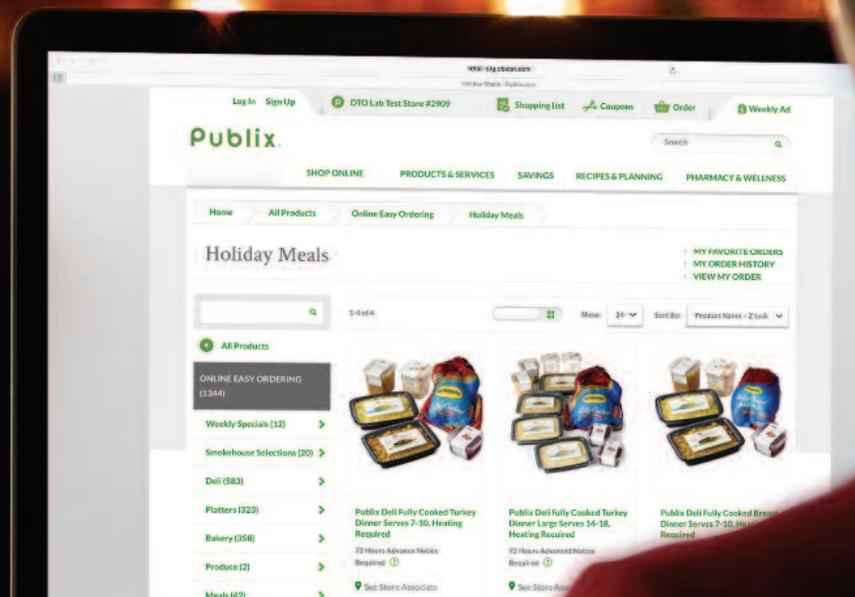


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Eligible Jamaicans should get U.S. citizenship ~ ambassador

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Jamaica's ambassador to the United States is urging eligible compatriots residing in the U.S. to take the necessary steps to become American citizens.

"Tonight, I want to use this opportunity to appeal to those of you who are residents in the U.S. and are not citizens of the United States - please go out and become one," Ambassador Audrey Marks said last month while delivering the keynote address at the HELP Jamaica Medical Mission's annual fundraiser in New Jersey.

"You will have all the benefits and no disadvantages, as Jamaica and the United States offer dual citizenship," she added.

DEPORTATION

She said she had held several meetings with members of the U.S. Congress to discuss immigration. Prior to those meetings, she visited persons held in detention awaiting deportation. Marks explained that becoming a citizen of the U.S. would also help stem the high number of deportations from the U.S. to Jamaica.

"At one center, there were 64 healthy young Jamaican men, many of whom have been in the U.S. since



- Photograph by Derrick Scott
Jamaica's U.S. Ambassador Audrey Marks, center, accepts the HELP Jamaica Medical Mission's distinguished presidential award from President Dr. Robert Clarke, left. At right is Dr. Richard Constable, chairman of the mission.

they were kids and did not get around becoming citizens; and they have no one in Jamaica and are slated to be deported," Marks said.

Over the past nine months, 650 Jamaicans were deported, including 75 young males, Marks said, noting that there has been a dramatic increase in deportations from the U.S.

More than 20,000 Jamaicans have been deported from the U.S. over the past decade, according to Marks,

who challenged Jamaican organizations in the U.S. to unite as mentors and protect marginalized immigrant Jamaican young people from being recruited into criminal activities.

She commended HELP Jamaica Medical Mission for being a valuable partner and true friend of the Caribbean island by providing healthcare to the underserved of Jamaica and New Jersey.

"A decade of service is a commendable achievement," Campbell was quoted as saying in a recent press release. "We are grateful to the community for their support and I'm excited also because I know that there is much more to come."

VMBS Florida office marks 10th anniversary

The Victoria Mutual Building Society (VMBS) Florida representative office will mark 10 years of operations on Dec. 11.

The office offers a range of financial services and serves clients from the Caribbean American community.

Courtney Campbell, presi-

dent and chief executive officer of the Victoria Mutual Group, congratulated the VMBS Florida representative office on the milestone anniversary and thanked members of the diaspora for their continued support.

"A decade of service is a

CELEBRATING 37TH



Prime Minister Gaston Browne addresses the nation as Antigua and Barbuda last month celebrated its 37th anniversary of political independence from Britain. On Nov. 6 citizens of the Caribbean nation voted in a referendum on the Privy Council. They decided to keep the United Kingdom-based court instead of adapting the Trinidad-based Caribbean Court of Justice (CCJ) as its final court.

Jamaicans get CG honors

Seven members of the Jamaican diaspora in the United States were recently presented with the Consul General's Heritage Award 2018 in recognition of their outstanding service to the community.

During a cultural ceremony, held at the Consulate General of Jamaica in Manhattan, New York, Consul General Trudy Deans presented awards to the recipients, noting that their "voluntary efforts and sacrifices help to better the lives of others in the diaspora and Jamaica."

Among the recipients were Dr. Trevor Dixon, Jamaicans Abroad Helping Jamaicans at Home (Jah Jah Foundation); Lesleyann Samuel, Union of Jamaican Alumni Association (UJAA); Titus and Annette Runcie, PA-NASH Restaurant & Lounge; Stephen Drummond, Drummond & Squillace, PLLC; Andrew Morris, Sam's Caribbean Marketplace, Inc.; and Baldwin and Tricia Shields of Johnny Cheesecake.



Sir George presents new book

Barbadian Sir George Alleyne, University of the West Indies chancellor emeritus, recently presented a copy



of his book "The Grooming of a Chancellor" to Ambassador

Selwyn Hart, executive director of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) for the Caribbean.

Among those who attended the presentation were Arthur Williams, Jamaica's representative to the IDB and Phillip Spencer, Trinidad and Tobago's ambassador to the United States.



BRIEFS

Miramar's mayor elected to NLC board

Jamaican American Miramar Mayor Wayne M. Messam has been elected to the board of directors for the National League of Cities (NLC).

Messam will serve a two-year term on the board. He has been a mayor of the South Florida city since Mar. 2011.

Redland Festival

The 43rd Redland Heritage Festival and Craft Fair will be held from **10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Dec. 8 and 9** at Miami-Dade Parks' Preston B. Bird/Mary Heinlein Fruit & Spice Park, Redland Road and Coconut Palm Drive in Homestead, Florida.

The festival will include arts and crafts booths, plant nurseries, an area for kids featuring pony rides, face painting and games.

For more information, call **305-247-5727** or e-mail **fsp@miamidade.gov**.

Diaspora leadership summit

Pearnel Charles, Jr., Jamaica's minister of state in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, was the keynote speaker at last month's Jamaica Diaspora USA Leadership Summit in Georgia.

Charles, Jr. called on the diaspora to develop a plan to give Jamaicans living in the United States a stronger collective voice.

Among those who attended the summit were Wayne Golding, representative for USA Diaspora South East, Jamaica's Consul

General in Miami Oliver Mair; Consul General in New York Trudy Deans; Dr. Elaine Bryan, honorary consul in Atlanta, Georgia; Dr. Rupert Francis, Diaspora Board member from the Mid-West USA; Earl Jarrett, chief executive officer of the Jamaica National Group; and Tony Gray, president of the Jamaica Atlanta Jamaica Association.

Hummingbird Award winners

Patricia Chin, founder and chief executive officer of New York-based VT Records, and Albert Dwsoskin, president and chief executive officer of A.J. Dwsoskin & Associates, were recently honored with the 2018 Humming Bird Award given by the American Friends of Jamaica (AFJ).

The awards were presented Jamaica's Ambassador to the United States Audrey Marks during the AFJ's Humming Bird Gala held recently in New York.

Jamaica's Prime Minister Andrew Holness has lauded AFJ for its sterling contribution to philanthropy.

"The programs and contributions of the AFJ continue to impact our beloved island Jamaica, but particularly the people in very specific and impressive ways," Holness was quoted as saying in his message to gala attendees.

- Compiled from various sources.



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**CITY OF MIRAMAR, FLORIDA
NOTICE OF GENERAL ELECTION**

Notice is hereby given that a General Election will be held in the City of Miramar, Florida, on Tuesday, March 12, 2019, for the following seats:

Commission Seat #4
Mayoral Seat #5

Any qualified Broward County elector whose principal place of residence is in the City of Miramar and who has resided continuously in the City for at least one year immediately preceding the first day of the qualifying period shall be eligible to qualify as a candidate and hold the office.

The qualifying period for candidates in the City of Miramar will begin at **noon, Wednesday, January 2, 2019** and end at **noon, Wednesday, January 9, 2019**, during normal business hours at the Office of the City Clerk in the Miramar Town Center, 2300 Civic Center Place. Miramar Town Center is open 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Monday through Thursday and is closed on Fridays. However, during the qualifying period on Friday, January 4, 2019, staff will be available to accept documentation from candidates at the Miramar Cultural Arts Center, 2400 Civic Center Place from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. There will be candidate qualifying fees of \$416.75 for the Office of Commissioner and \$509.11 for the Office of Mayor.

The election shall be held in accordance with the Charter of the City of Miramar, Florida, and the State of Florida Election Laws.

For further information, please contact the Office of the City Clerk at (954) 602-3014.

Denise A. Gibbs, CMC
City Clerk

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SPORTS



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Caribbean soccer coach arrested for sending minor 'inappropriate' photographs, messages

A South Florida-based Caribbean-born soccer coach was charged last month with sending inappropriate photographs and messages to a minor.

According to the Pembroke Pines Police Department, Owen Gayle, 38, who reportedly moved to South Florida from Jamaica a few years ago, was arrested and charged on Nov. 23 with solicitation of a minor.

A press release from the police stated that "At the time of arrest, the suspect was associated w/Somerset Academy as the head soccer coach. Due to his position, Mr. Gayle worked in close proximity with minors."

Reports indicate that Gayle met the victim after she volunteered to join the Somerset boys team, which he coached.

SOCIAL MEDIA

According to the police, Gayle used a social media site to contact the victim and send photographs and messages of a sexual nature. The victim reportedly told another coach about the messages. That person contacted the police. Gayle was arrested. Reports indicate that Gayle admitted to the charge and was locked up in Broward County Jail.

The Pembroke Pines police have reached out to parents of

children coached by Gayle, including those at Somerset and those who he gave private coaching lessons at other soccer institutions.

The news of Gayle's arrest was not well received in the Caribbean American community. Other coaches expressed shock and disappointment. They also fear the possible fallout.

"Parents will be wary of sending their kids to be coached by Caribbean nationals, especially if it's girls," said one coach who didn't want to be named in this story.



Windies women fail to defend cricket World Cup title

NORTH SOUND, Antigua – Hosts West Indies failed to defend its ICC Women's Twenty20 World Cup title, losing in the semi-final here last month.

West Indies women were sensationally dumped out of the global cricket tournament after suffering a heavy 71-run defeat to Australia, bringing a depressing end to their hopes of repeating as world champion.

Asked to chase 143 runs to win at the Vivian Richards Cricket Stadium, Windies



Windies captain Taylor shows her disappointment in the loss.

women's batting collapsed disappointingly for 71 in the 18th

over – their joint second lowest score in the game's shortest format.

Only captain Stafanie Taylor, with 16, scored double figures. The Windies lost wickets from the outset and never recovered.

Australia had earlier gathered a competitive total after being sent in to bat. Opener Alyssa Healy topscored with 46. Captain Meg Lanning made 31.

Australia beat England in the final to win the title.



SPORT BRIEFS

Caribbean women among soccer's best

Two Caribbean players were selected to the best tournament 11 from the recent women's World Cup soccer qualifiers held in the United States. Forward Khadija Shaw and Konya Plummer, members of Jamaica's team which qualified for the 2019 World Cup, were selected.

Winston Chung Fah is dead

South Florida resident Winston Chung Fah, a popular soccer figure from Jamaica, died last month in the United States. He had been ailing for some time. Chung Fah was known in his homeland as a coach and mentor to many involved in the game. He was once technical director of the Jamaica Football Federation.

Jamaican named to 'Best MLS XI'

Jamaica international Kemar Lawrence was the lone Caribbean player named to the official 2018 "MLS Best XI" by Major League Soccer. Lawrence played for New York Red Bulls.

Caribbean dominates NACAC awards

Caribbean representatives dominated the major honors for the North American, Central American and Caribbean Athletics Association (NACAC) in 2018. Jamaica's Fedrick Dacres was named NACAC's "Senior

Male Athlete of the Year". Shaunae Miller-Uibo of The Bahamas was chosen to "Senior Female Athlete of the Year". Cuba's Jordan Diaz is "Junior Male Athlete of the Year" and Jamaica's Brianna Williams "Junior Female Athlete of the Year". Dacres's coach Julian Robinson was named "Coach of the Year".

Former boxing champ dies

Bunny Grant, a former boxing great from Jamaica, died last month in his home country.

Grant won the Commonwealth welterweight crown in the early 1960s, Jamaica's first international title as an Independent nation. He suffered a stroke in 2016 and, according to his family, "succumbed to his illness after another suspected stroke".

Caribbean refs officiate at U-17 World Cup

Two Caribbean referees were chosen to officiate in the final of the 2018 FIFA Under 17 Women's World Cup soccer. Jamaicans Stephanie Yee-Sing and Princess Brown were assigned assistant referees in the final between Mexico and Spain in Uruguay. It was the first time match officials from the Caribbean were chosen for a global soccer tournament.

- Compiled from various sources.



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BOOTED: Caribbean misses U-20 soccer World Cup qualification

GORDON WILLIAMS

BRADENTON, Florida – The Caribbean failed in its bid to earn a place at soccer's Under-20 World Cup, despite sending the largest contingent to last month's final qualifying tournament in the United States.

Twenty-four of the record 34 nations which participated in the tournament for Confederation of North, Central America and Caribbean Association Football (CONCACAF) teams were from the Caribbean. None advanced from the six groups to contest the four automatic spots to represent CONCACAF at next year's World Cup in Poland.

Jamaica came closest, finishing second in Group B to Mexico on goal difference after the two countries drew 2-2 in



Daley scored four goals in the final game, but it wasn't enough for Jamaica.

their face-to-face match-up and won all their other group

games to end up tied on points.

It was a cruel disappointment for the Young Reggae Boyz, who impressed observers here with speed, skill and determination, despite being woefully underprepared. Head coach Jerome Waite was appointed days before the bulk of the team departed Jamaica and the team's pre-tournament training time together was below adequate.

BEST

Some called the Jamaica v. Mexico game the best of the tournament's group stage and ventured to rate the Young Boyz among the top teams on show here. At kick-off Mexico was officially the second ranked team in CONCACAF, behind the U.S. Jamaica was 12th.

"Jamaica did extremely well," said Kyle Lightbourne,

Bermuda's senior men's national coach.

Other creditable performances came from Trinidad and Tobago, which finished second to the U.S. in Group A; Cuba, runner-up to Honduras in Group C; Guadeloupe, which trailed only Panama in Group D; and Haiti, which was beaten by Costa Rica in Group E.

While all the other Caribbean nations had been virtually eliminated prior to the last round of group games, it was left to Jamaica to make the region's final bid for a coveted World Cup place. Jamaica faced Saint Martin in its last game knowing it was already trailing Mexico by seven on goal difference. Led by four goals from striker Nicque Daley, Jamaica routed its opponent 11-0 to temporarily overtake Mexico on goal difference by four.

However, Mexico rallied, walloping Aruba 10-0 in its last match to win the group and advance to the next round.

Other Caribbean nations which played in the tournament included Antigua and Barbuda, Aruba, Bermuda, Cayman Islands, Curacao, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana, Martinique, Puerto Rico, St. Lucia, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Martin, St. Maarten, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname and U.S. Virgin Islands.

Group winners U.S., Mexico, Panama, Honduras, Costa Rica and El Salvador advanced to the second round. The U.S., Mexico, Panama and Honduras qualified for the World Cup.

West Indies thrashed again, lose Test series 2-0 to Bangladesh



Brathwaite

disappointing showing, which included being bowled out for 43 in the first Test match in Antigua, the lowest Test total since 1974.

It was the first time the West Indies had lost a Test series to Bangladesh in Bangladesh. Following his team's dismal performance, captain Kraigg Brathwaite admitted that the Caribbean batsmen were not up to the task mentally.

'DISAPPOINTING'

"It was very disappointing," said Brathwaite. "Our bowlers did a good job, but the batting let us down."

"Some of the shots weren't the best. Most of the games we were 30-odd for three. It put the batting order under a lot of pressure. It wasn't good for us at all. I can't blame the wicket. Some of the shot selection wasn't good at all."

Bangladesh captain Shakib Al Hasan said he had challenged the team to produce a

better showing at home.

"We never expected such a performance in the West Indies," Al Hasan said. "... Since we didn't do well in the

Tests (there), we had this opportunity to do well at home. We wanted people to at least understand that it was a performance in their home

conditions and see that we could do the same in our home conditions."

WORLD CUP BOUND



Jamaica defeated the United States last month to become the first Caribbean nation to qualify for a Rugby League World Cup. The 16-10 victory in Florida not only qualified Jamaica for the 2021 World Cup, but also earned the Caribbean nation the 2018 Americas Championship. It was the first time that Jamaica had beaten the U.S., making the Reggae Warriors the 11th country to qualify for the World Cup.



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