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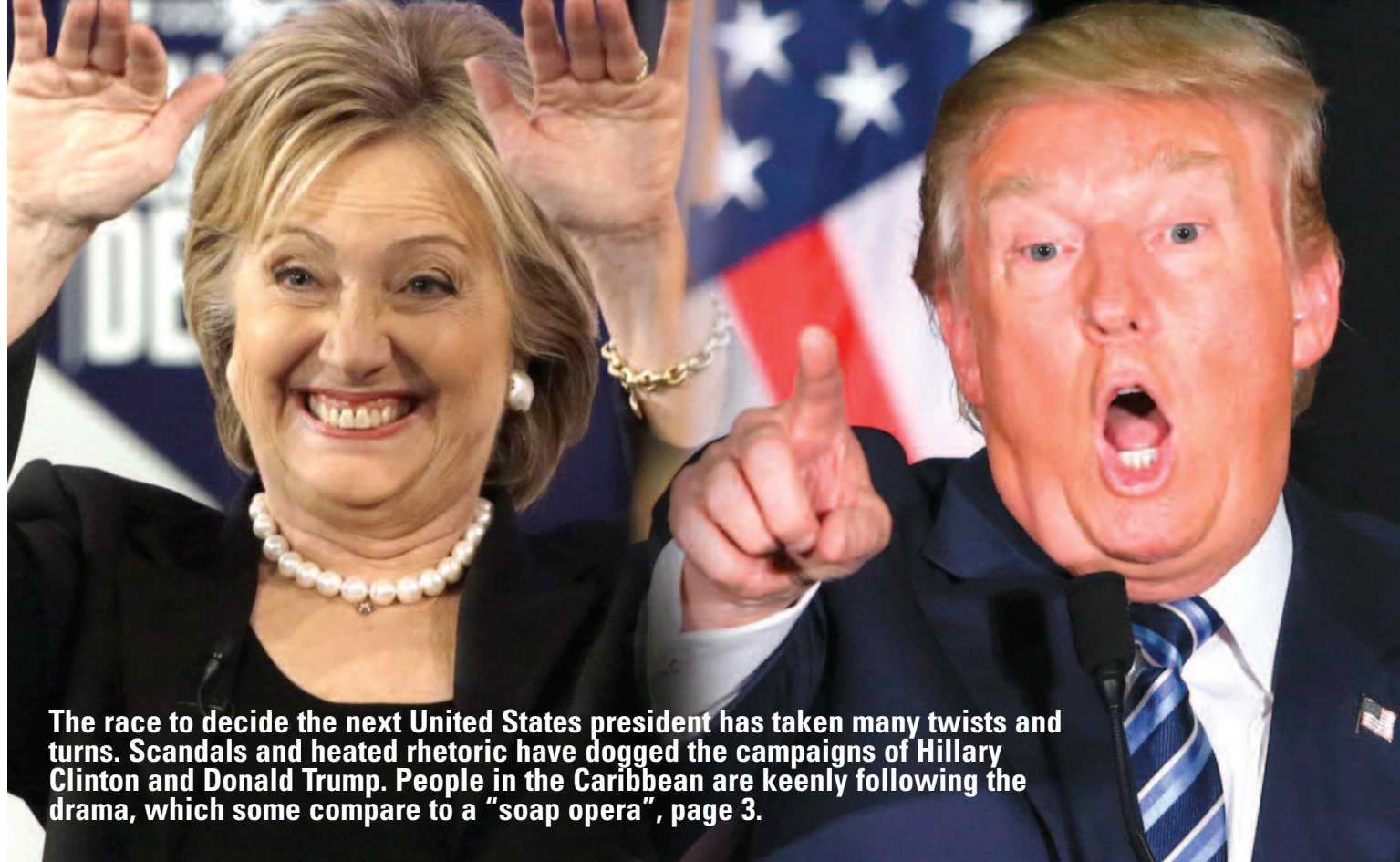
Jamaican-born Beverley Clarke has been a triathlete for 22 years. So far, the 67-year-old has competed in 350

triathlons – each comprising swimming, cycling and running segments - and won more gold medals than most Olympic athletes, page 7.



Donald Trump stirs “great trepidation”, while Hillary Clinton offers “status quo”, according to former Guyana President Bharrat Jagdeo after analyzing the candidates for United States president during a recent visit to South Florida, page 11.

ELECTION ‘SOAP OPERA’



The race to decide the next United States president has taken many twists and turns. Scandals and heated rhetoric have dogged the campaigns of Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump. People in the Caribbean are keenly following the drama, which some compare to a “soap opera”, page 3.

RESPECT OVERDUE

Entertainers have helped make Jamaica respected globally. Now the Caribbean nation is recognizing people in the industry who broke down barriers to earn that respect. From left: dancehall star Shabba Ranks was awarded a national honor, page 6; a museum honoring the late icon Peter Tosh opened in October, page 9; and Skull is finally feeling the love as a reggae pioneer from South Korea, page 10.



Shabba



Tosh



Skull

INSIDE INSIDE INSIDE INSIDE INSIDE INSIDE INSIDE

News	2	Food	13	FYI/Local	17
Feature	7	Sports	14	Miami Book Fair	18
Arts/Entertainment	9	Fall Travel	15	Health	19
Viewpoint	11	Classifieds	16		



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Why you should vote in Nov. 2016 elections

Since 2000, a group of concerned Caribbean Americans in South Florida has developed voters' guides to help United States citizens select the better candidates who may promote their interests and provide guidance on constitutional ballot amendments.

The group watched various political news programs, read local and national newspapers, attended town hall meetings, and consulted with non-partisan advocacy organizations and local community leaders. It assessed the candidates based on their positions on issues, including, but not limited to, the economy, education, the American justice system, civil rights, health-care, social services, affirmative action, economic opportunity among others.

The Caribbean American community numbers well over 600,000 in South Florida.

The community could have an exponential impact on the slate of leadership across the state leading up to, and on, election day, Nov. 8.

Early voting began in South Florida on Oct. 24 and continues until Nov. 6. In 2012 and 2008, voter turnout of Floridians was 72 percent and 75 percent, respectively. Here are a few reasons why you should seriously take the responsibility to vote:

- Today 38 percent of America's black men are unable to vote because of their history with the justice system – meaning being jail, under parole or probation;
- In the last couple general elections cycles, the presidential race was decided by less than one percent of voters. Thousands of persons previously convicted and who have paid their debt to society cannot vote. We implore you to make voting in this

general election a civic priority.

For more information on the voters' guide, call 954-454-7473 or go to

#LetMyPeopleVote or #BeElectionReady.

Edited from an article submitted by Dr. Marcia

Magnus, founding president, Caribbean American Politically Active Citizens.



Haiti postpones presidential election again

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The Provisional Electoral Council's (CEP) in Haiti has decided to postpone elections in the wake of Hurricane Matthew.

The elections were scheduled for Oct. 9. However, on Oct. 5, the CEP decided to postpone presidential and legislative elections for the second time this year after the hurricane's passage, which left a trail of destruction, including hundreds of deaths and displacement of thousands.

Many Haitians expected the delay after the hurricane's Oct. 4 battering from Matthew, a monster storm,



Célestin

which hit the country packing sustained winds of 145 miles per hour.

It made landfall along the



Moïse

French-speaking Caribbean country's southern coast and brought 15 to 20 inches of rain, triggering fears of a cholera outbreak.

PROTESTS

In January, Haiti postponed a scheduled second round of elections amid protests after Opposition front-runner Jude Célestin, who declared he would not campaign until government officials addressed fraud allegations from the contested first round on Oct. 25 last year.

Célestin said the postponement of the elections due to the hurricane was "a wise decision."

"Getting assistance to the population is more important than elections right now," he explained. "It's difficult to go ask people to go vote, given what we're dealing with right now. But elections are important."

Presidential candidate Jovenel Moïse, who finished first in last year's controversial vote, said he was uncomfortable with the CEP's decision without a new election date.

"Before announcing the postponement of the elections, the CEP should have been forced to reschedule," he argued.

Kenneth Merten, the United States special co-ordinator and deputy assistant secretary for the Western Hemisphere Affairs, said: "Our interest is that they do have elections ... That they have elections soon, and that they have elections that are fair, transparent and credible."

Edited from CMC. For more information on impact of Hurricane Matthew on Haiti, turn to page 5.



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HIGH DRAMA: U.S. presidential race creates soap opera, Caribbean nationals tune in

GORDON WILLIAMS

KINGSTON, Jamaica – The day before the second United States presidential debate, five people, including a child, were murdered in a small St. Catherine district in Jamaica.

At any other time, the outrage over such brutality would have dominated the attention of the country's citizens. Yet, in the days that followed on social media Jamaicans appeared more concerned about the battle between Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump hundreds of miles away.



Clinton

"There was more 'chatter' about allegations about Trump's behavior towards women than the murders," explained Claire Grant, general manager of TVJ, a television station on the Caribbean island. "You kind of wondered how that was even possible."

Although Grant conceded the social media buzz may not have accurately reflected the overall views of Jamaicans on that occasion, there is little doubt the race for the U.S. White House has captured the imagination of people in the Caribbean.

"The election news is being fed to Caribbean audiences in such a way it's hard to ignore," she said. "American media is everywhere in the Caribbean."

BACKLASH

There is no shortage of U.S. programming in the region, especially with cable television. For example, Jamaica News Network (JNN), a TVJ subsidiary, opted to broadcast all three presidential debates live, a response to growing interest in the race.

The numbers of those who tuned in were not immediately available, but there are plenty other measures of Caribbean interest. Singer Etana found herself embroiled in public controversy over statements she made supporting Trump, who informal surveys show is less popular than Clinton among Caribbean nationals and the subject of more concern in the region.

"There are some issues that have caused great trepidation

around the world, but particularly in our region because the impact of these policies or pronouncements by Mr. Trump can have devastating consequences for our region," former Guyana President Bharrat Jagdeo told a **Caribbean Today** reporter recently.

Entertainer Spice, known for raunchy lyrics and stage performances, even mentioned Trump in her recent hit "Indicator", promising to "convert" the billionaire businessman.

"When you have something creep into Jamaican dancehall music you know how much people are aware of the issue," Grant said.

Consensus in the region is that Caribbean nationals are drawn to the drama of the 2016 presidential election. Prominent news organizations, like the **Trinidad Express** and the **Nation** in Barbados have occasionally sidestepped local issues to weigh in on the U.S. election via pointed editorials and updating polls.



Trump

CONTRAST

The stark differences between the candidates add fuel to the frenzy of attention. Former reality television star Trump - loud, unpredictable and controversial novice politician - contrasts with the more calculated and cerebral Clinton, a decades-long veteran of the process, who has been a first lady and served as a U.S. senator and secretary of state.

Usual election discussion fodder, like the economy, health care, education and the environment, have often melted into the background of public discussion among the candidates, replaced by talk of sex scandals, corruption and influence peddling. Trump's most recent outbursts have even targeted the foundation of the U.S. democratic process, as he now claims the Nov. 8 presidential election would be "rigged" if he lost.

Every day, it seems, another controversy explodes, and Caribbean people are lapping it up. Yet people from the region are genuinely intrigued by the American electoral process. So they follow the

campaign season keenly, even if politics would appear, on face value, furthest from their interests.

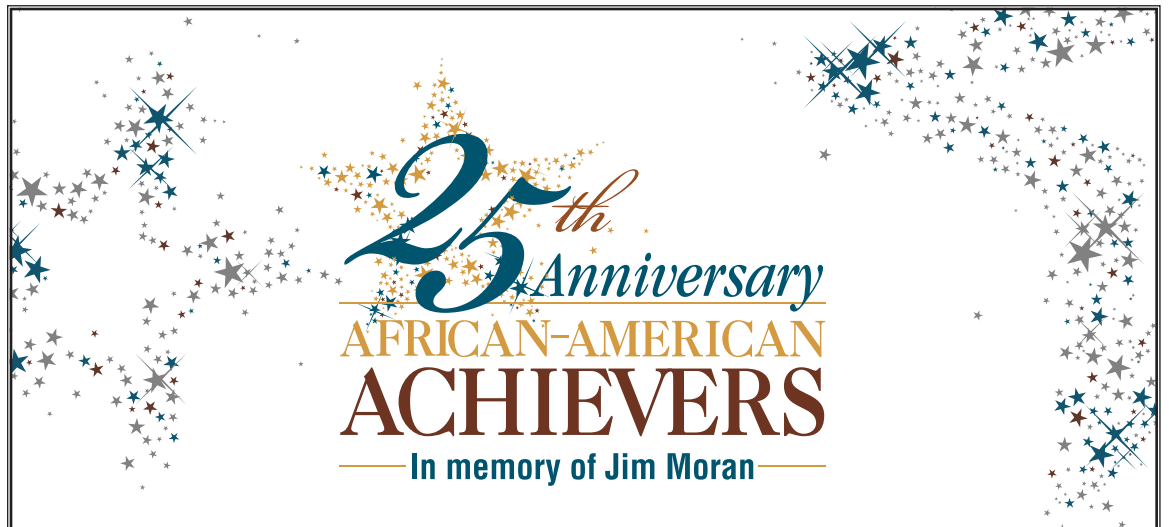
"Oh yes," said Roy Simpson, manager of Jamaica's senior men's national soccer team. "What I appreciate is (the process) gives everybody an opportunity to apply or challenge for

the top job."

Simpson said he focuses on the candidates' views on issues important to the Caribbean, including immigration. Trump's early campaign declaration characterizing some Mexican immigrants in the U.S. as rapists, his plan to round up and deport the undocumented, plus a prom-

ised ban on Muslims, grabbed attention. Clinton has outlined her intention to push for immigration reform, including a path to citizenship for the undocumented already in the U.S. Their approaches stoke further interest in the Caribbean. Many fear that

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 4)



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Jim Moran

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Haitian American Republican congresswoman withdraws Trump support

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Haitian American United States Congresswoman Mia Love is among Republican lawmakers who withdrew support for the candidacy of Donald Trump, her party's nominee for president.

Love, (R-Utah), told the **Salt Lake Tribune** she can no longer support the GOP candidate on the heels of a leaked audio tape from 2005 in which the married Trump is heard telling then Access Hollywood host Billy Bush that he had made a move on a married woman. Trump was heard saying that he just starts kissing

beautiful women and does not "even wait" and as a star he can do anything including: "grab them by" their genitals.

"His behavior and bravado have reached a new low," Love was quoted as saying. "I cannot vote for him."

NOT ALONE

Love is the first Haitian American and the first black female Republican in



Love

Congress, as well as the first African American to be elected to Congress from Utah. She was born Ludmya Bourdeau in Brooklyn, New York to Haitian immigrants Mary and Jean Maxine Bourdeau.

The U.S. congresswoman is currently locked in a re-election battle with Democratic

opponent Doug Owens. Voters will decide on Nov. 8.

Love joined several other Republican lawmakers who have said they will not vote for Trump, including fellow Utah congressmen Jason Chaffetz and Chris Stewart.

Trump has signaled he will retaliate against lawmak-

ers who withdraw their support from his campaign. On Twitter, he attacked Republicans fleeing his campaign as "self-righteous hypocrites" and predicted their defeat at the ballot box.

- Edited from News Americas



HIGH DRAMA: U.S. presidential race creates soap opera, Caribbean nationals tune in

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3)

under a Trump presidency the number of U.S. visas issued to Caribbean nationals would dwindle and more undocumented nationals from the region would be deported, even though those numbers have been high under current President Barack Obama.

"Both candidates acknowledge something has to be done," explained Simpson. "For me, personally, the issue for Caribbean people is immigration. When I'm on the street people are concerned about the immigration issue."

DEEP CUT

Other issues of the U.S. presidential election campaign have cut deeply in the

Caribbean. Trump's alleged history of disrespect towards women, including a revealing recording released recently which shows him bragging about groping and kissing women without their permission and getting away with it because he is a "star", has stirred additional, personal, emotions. Simpson, for example, is convinced Trump has been disrespectful to women, which he condemns.

Yet the abuse of women in the Caribbean is not uncommon. So one man in the region believes "it would be hypocritical for Jamaican/Caribbean people to condemn" Trump for his alleged abusive behavior.

Meanwhile, the Caribbean hasn't been exactly overjoyed

with U.S. leaders, especially with the massive deportations. Still, it appears the region knows what to expect from either presidential candidate.

"What we are worried about is that Donald Trump may take us so far off the track," said Jagdeo. "But, what we can expect from Hillary Clinton is probably status quo."

So Caribbean people are keeping a close eye on the U.S. presidential election. It's the drama which they can't seem to get enough of.

"The regular guy in the streets is interested in it because of the soap operaness," said Grant. "It feels like a soap opera."



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ROAD TO RECOVERY: Haiti rebounds after Hurricane Matthew's devastation

Recent torrential rains have brought to the fore the extent of the humanitarian crisis in southern Haiti after Hurricane Matthew blasted through the French-speaking Caribbean community (CARICOM) country on Oct. 4.

The final death toll from the hurricane had not been finalized up to press time, but more than 500 were confirmed to have perished, with a similar number missing and presumed dead.

The hurricane also inflicted major damage to The Bahamas, but no deaths had been reported up to press time. In Haiti, however, surge destroyed businesses on the beach before assaulting houses further inland.

Various organizations involved in the response to the disasters in Haiti have met to discuss the progress being made since the hurricane struck. The emergency management center has set up several working groups, each focusing specifically on one area, including Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH); education; safety; logistics; health and nutrition; and food security.

"We are working closely with the COUD (district emergency operation center) and we are trying as well to improve our relationship with the municipalities in each commune," said humanitarian affairs officer Rachelle Elien, who emerged as the de facto chair of the meeting.

PRIORITIES

Elien said one key aspect of this coordination mechanism is to identify priorities, gaps, and constraints "and to figure out in a very common way how to figure out how to solve the problems and how to respond."

An estimated 10,000 people in the south of Haiti have been affected by the hurricane and two "big issues" have emerged.

"We have a big gap in terms of shelter," Elien told the **Caribbean Media**

the ground.

Outgoing United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-moon, who visited the country post-Matthew, said the fight against cholera in Haiti has been made even more difficult by the devastation caused by the hurricane. The U.N. has since announced the launch of a new trust fund to support a coordinated system-wide response to the cholera epidemic and support the establishment of water, sanitation and health systems in Haiti.

RESPONSE

Up to press time, Matthew had affected 18 communes, but only 10 had been reached so far.

"Some of the area still now are not really accessible and we have that issues as well in terms of communicating with that these communities," Elien said.

Among the groups and organizations that have responded after the storm is the Barbados-based Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA), which fielded a seven-member team in Haiti. CDEMA is hoping to focus its assistance on Les Cayes. In addition, CARICOM is hoping to assist Jeremie, another southern city devastated by Matthew.

The CARICOM team in Haiti was expected to supervise and record the distribution of the supplies the community will donate, which arrived from Jamaica. CARICOM's relief supplies include water, food, building supplies and sanitary items for children four years and under.

But, according to retired Brigadier General Earl Arthurs, CDEMA's operations specialist who is leading the team, recent showers cause additional concerns.

"The rain, this is always a bad time, after a disaster that you lose your roof and then the rain comes tumbling down," said Arthurs. "... People could get sick and

their supplies could get damaged."

- Edited from CMC.



Haitians struggled in the wake of the storm.

Corporation (CMC), adding that the government wants the displaced persons to move out of school that are being used as emergency shelters so classes can resume in the poorest country in the hemisphere. The category four hurricane was the latest in a string of natural disasters to impact Haiti, including the devastating 2010 earthquake.

"This is a very urgent situation in which we are," Elien said, noting that some organizations have targeted some communes where they can work, but were struggling to get material and supplies on

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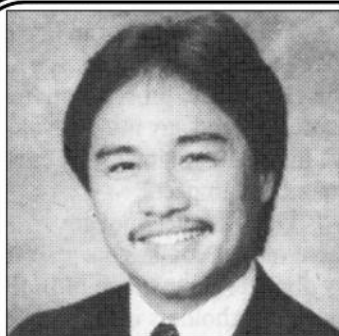


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RESPECT: Shabba Ranks draws big applause as Jamaica honors its best

GORDON WILLIAMS

KINGSTON, Jamaica – Veteran dancehall deejay Shabba Ranks drew the biggest ovation as Jamaica recognized its outstanding sons and daughters at the ceremony of investiture and presentation of national honors and awards at Kings House here on National Heroes Day, Oct. 17.

Shabba, real name Rexton Ralston Fernando Gordon, was awarded the Order of Distinction (O.D.) in the rank of commander, for his “invaluable contribution to the Jamaican music industry locally and internationally”. He was among several entertainers to receive national honors. Allan Roy

“Mutabaruka” Hope, whose award was accepted by his wife, was also recognized with an O.D. William Alexander “Bunny Rugs” Clarke, former lead singer for Third World band, and reggae crooner Gregory Isaacs, were both honored posthumously with the O.D. officer class.

They were among more than 150 honorees in a wide variety of fields, including public service, media, sports and gallantry, who were presented with medals and badges by Governor General Sir Patrick Allen during a ceremony attended by Jamaica’s highest public officials, including Prime Minister Andrew Holness and Opposition Leader Portia Simpson Miller.

Several Jamaicans in the

diaspora were also honored, including Dr. Millicent Comrie, a New York-based gynecologist who received an O.D. for contribution to medicine and family life. Chris Chin, chief executive officer of United States-based VP Records, was awarded an O.D. for work in the music industry. Orville Dorman from the United Kingdom received a badge of honor for gallantry and Enid McLaughlin was awarded a badge of honor for meritorious service to the Jamaican diaspora in Canada.

HIGHEST

Four Jamaicans, Dr. Kenneth Baugh, professors Denise Eldemire-Shearer and Renn Holness, and Ambassador Anthony



– Photograph by Gordon Williams
Shabba after collecting his national award.

Johnson, were the highest recipients on the day, each receiving the Order of Jamaica.

Shabba’s honor, however, struck a particular note. Sharply dressed in a cream three-piece suit with a burgundy hat covering braided hair, Shabba drew loud applause from a cross-section of the crowd as his name was announced. As he approached the stage, he stopped at the

steps to remove his hat before striding towards the GG. The national award seemed final acceptance for a star who rose from poverty to lead dancehall’s charge into the international arena, despite criticism from even some of his own people who didn’t embrace occasional sexual suggestive lyrics from the man who still describes himself as “big, dutty, stinking Shabba.”

Other stories with less celebrity quality also shone brightly at the ceremony, especially the heroics of ordinary Jamaican citizens. Orlando Brown and high schooler Antini Henderson both received a Badge of Honor For Gallantry. Brown rescued a boy being washed away by a raging flood in the parish of St. Andrew. Henderson repeatedly re-entered her burning home to secure the safety of her brother and sisters, one a 15-year-old mentally challenged sibling who was sleeping in a back room.

Shabba Ranks speaks about his honor, inspiration, page 9.

St. Maarten, Curacao get U.S. congrats

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The United States has congratulated the Dutch Caribbean islands of St. Maarten and Curacao on their special anniversary days.

“On behalf of (U.S.) President (Barack) Obama and the people of the United States, I congratulate the people of Sint Maarten on your nation’s ‘Constitution Day,’” said Secretary of State John Kerry in a message last month.

“The warmth of (Sint Maarten’s) hospitality entices visitors from around the world to enjoy your country’s beautiful vistas and golden sands,” he added.

“The United States values its friendship with you, and we

look forward to our continued partnership on behalf of economic growth, environmental stewardship, energy security, and respect for the rights and dignity of all.”

‘FRIENDSHIP’

He also dispatched a congratulatory message, on behalf of Obama and the people of the U.S. to the people of Curacao as they celebrated “Curacao Day”.

“The friendship between Curacao and the United States is rooted in the com-



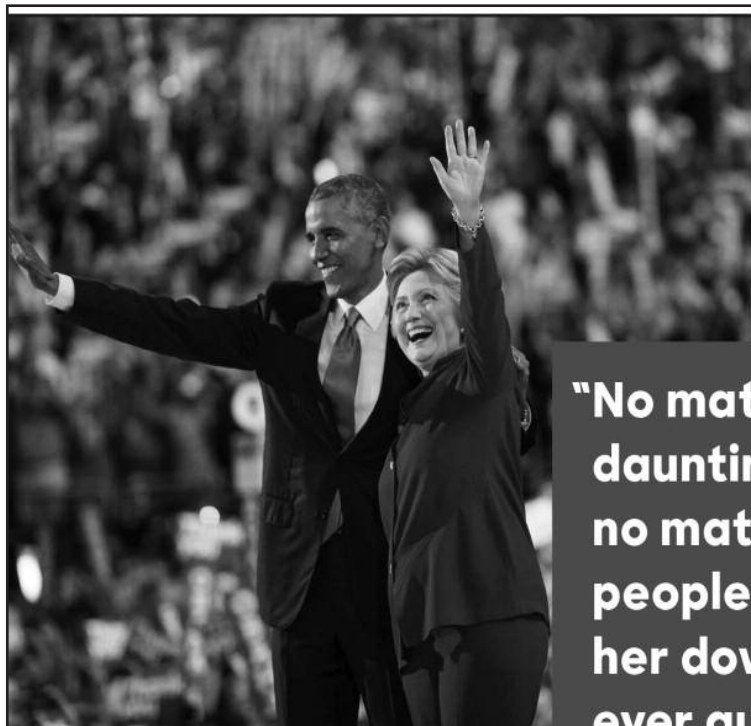
Kerry

mon values that our countries share,” Kerry said.

“We look forward to continuing to build upon our partnership in expanding inclusive economic growth, advancing energy independence, and making our communities safer.

“As you celebrate Curacao’s enduring beauty and environmental riches, know that the United States stands with you as a partner and friend toward a more peaceful and prosperous future for Curacao and the hemisphere.”

– Edited from CMC.



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OBAMACARE

67-y-o Jamaican-born triathlete Beverley Clarke is still going strong

DAWN A. DAVIS

Jamaican-born Beverley Clarke has been a triathlete for 22 years.

So far, Clarke has competed in 350 triathlons – each comprising swimming, cycling and running segments – and won more gold medals than most Olympic athletes.

The 67-year-old currently represents the United States in her age group after being drafted by the USA Triathlon Team at age 50. The invitation was a big thrill.

“I’ll never forget the day I got the call from USA Triathlon,” Clarke beamed as she recalled events to **Caribbean Today** recently.

“The man said ‘Are you



Clarke is ready to go to work.

Beverley Clarke?’, I said yes. He said ‘we’re calling from



Clarke displays some medals and equipment.

USA Triathlon, we’d like you to join the national team and race for the U.S.’ I went crazy, screaming. I said, ‘You realize I’m 50?’, he said ‘Yes ... We want you on team USA’.”

Her first race for Team USA was in Denmark, a country Clarke has had at the top of her list for a long time. She finished fifth, a remarkable achievement on the world stage in the grueling event.

Each contest totals 140.6 miles, with participants swimming 2.4 miles, biking for 112 miles, and running 26.2 miles. Typically, the event must be completed within 17 hours.

GROUNDWORK

Clarke has her eye on the next race. However, the

groundwork for her accomplishments began decades ago when she was a child. Born in a seaside area of east Kingston known as Bournemouth Gardens, she started swimming at an early age. For years she rode a bicycle on the Caribbean island.

“That’s where my cycling skills come from,” Clarke recalled. “I used to swim across the harbor in Jamaica, that’s where I get my endurance from — three and a half miles from Bournemouth Gardens to Gunboat Beach.”

As a teenager, Clarke joined the Pepsi Cola Swim Club and began swimming competitively. She finished

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 8)

Jamaica's culture thrives, but there are some worries

GORDON WILLIAMS

KINGSTON, Jamaica – The pride and purpose of Jamaica and its people were on display during the Caribbean nation’s recent celebration of National Heritage Month in October.

From honoring heroes of the 2016 Olympic Games in Brazil during a “Salute To Our Rio Sporting Ambassadors” on Oct. 15, to recognizing other major contributors to the country’s welfare at the “National Honors and Awards” two days later, plus many other events to mark the occasion, Jamaicans basked in its glorious heritage.

During the “Salute” event at the National Indoor Sports Center, Minister of Culture, Gender, Entertainment and Sport Olivia Grange pointed to the respect and recognition which Jamaica has earned through the success of its athletes.

“People will know Jamaica’s name because of you,” she said.

But the world has embraced the island for far more, including its contribution through, for example music, with the legacy of the late Bob Marley, education and culture. During a recent tour of sections of the island, arranged for overseas-based media by the Jamaica Tourist Board, the appreciation for the country’s beauty could not be understated.

ed. From the newly constructed highways, which make access to destinations smoother and shorter, to beaches like Fort Clarence, where a dip in the warm sea is just as delightful as a plate of fish and bammy.

MORE NEEDED

Many other activities to highlight Jamaica’s culture, the importance of which the country’s leaders have consistently underlined publicly, were also on show. But more needs to be done, observers argue.

“We need to establish and develop our cultural talent,” explained Delroy Gordon, executive director of the Jamaica Cultural Development Commission (JCDC), the agency responsible for all national cultural events and coordinates visits for overseas dignitaries.

and “Heritage Week”. It also trains “probably a couple thousand (volunteers) who assist” with those special events. According to Gordon, the JCDC is planning to include more of Jamaica’s diaspora in future events.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 8)



- Photograph by Gordon Williams
Is Garvey truly honored in his own land?



- Photograph by Gordon Williams
Gordon is charged with promoting Jamaica’s culture.

The JCDC has helped establish culture clubs to spark interest in schools. It has also organized activities to commemorate significant events, for example the Emancipation Day celebrations on Aug. 1, Independence Day on Aug. 6

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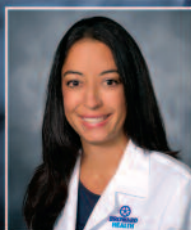
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FEATURE



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Haiti's hero, history featured at new U.S. African American museum

WASHINGTON, D.C. - There's an undeniable link between Caribbean and African American history and it's on display at the new United States National Museum of African American History and Culture in Washington, D.C.

The museum was officially opened on Sept. 24 in a ceremony led by Barack Obama, the first black U.S. president. Correspondence and paintings of a Caribbean hero are among the 37,000 museum pieces on display in the building, located on the National Mall.

Visitors are able to see eight items relating to Haitian slave revolt leader Toussaint L'Ouverture. They include a manuscript letter signed by him (which is accompanied by translation), and seven portraits of him – two watercolors and five prints.

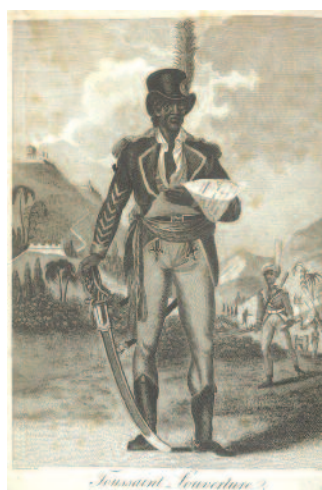
The manuscript is of a pre-printed official letterhead stationery sent by L'Ouverture to Tobias Lear, general agent of U.S. trade in Santo Domingo, on Nov. 25, 1801. In it he thanks Lear for a translation of a letter concerning obtaining a

horse for him. L'Ouverture emphasizes several times that the color of the horse is of no significance as long as the horse is swift.

Some of the portraits are illustrated in the exhibition catalog by Fritz Daguiard and include "Enigmatic in His Glory: Toussaint L'Ouverture (1743-1803)" and Musée du Pantheon National Haitien, Port-au-Prince, Haiti, Mar. 18 to April 22, 2003.

INDEPENDENCE

François-Dominique Toussaint L'Ouverture also known as Toussaint L'Ouverture or Toussaint Bréda, was the leader of the Haitian Revolution – the first black insurrection – that occurred Nov. 1791. He first fought for the Spanish against the French; then for France



L'Ouverture

against Spain and Britain; and finally, for Saint-Domingue (modern Haiti's) colonial sovereignty against Napoleonic France.

He then helped transform the insurgency into a revolutionary movement, which by 1800 had turned Saint-Domingue, the most prosperous slave colony of the time, into the first free colonial society to have explicitly rejected race as the basis of social ranking.

Though L'Ouverture did not sever ties with France, his actions in 1800 constituted a de facto autonomous colony. The colony's constitution proclaimed him governor for life, even against Napoleon Bonaparte's wishes. He died betrayed before the final and most violent stage of the armed conflict. However, his

achievements set the grounds for the black army's absolute victory and for Jean-Jacques Dessalines to declare the sovereign state of Haiti in Jan. 1804.

ADMIRATION

L'Ouverture's prominent role in the Haitian success over colonialism and slavery has earned him the admiration of friends and detractors alike. The histories of the U.S. and Haiti are inextricably linked to today. It began on the last day of 1698, when French explorer Sieur d'Iberville set out from the island of Saint Domingue to establish a settlement at Biloxi, on the Gulf Coast of France's Louisiana possession. Between the 1790s and 1809, large numbers of Haitians of African descent migrated to Louisiana.

A Haitian, Jean Baptiste Point du Sable, is regarded as the founder of Chicago in early 1790.

After Haiti gained its Independence from France in 1804, through slave rebellion, the pro-slavery south worried this event could influence slaves

in the U.S. and America refused to recognize Haiti's Independence until 1862. President Andrew Johnson suggested annexing the island to secure influence over Europe in the Caribbean and later, on the authority of President Woodrow Wilson, the U.S. sent Marines to occupy Haiti from 1915 to 1934.

The U.S. also repealed an 1804 provision that forbade foreigners from owning land in Haiti. This occupation impacted the nation's economy as well as the people's self-image and Independence.

Ultimately, Haitians united in resistance of the U.S. occupation and American forces left in 1934.

Today, some policy experts argue that the U.S. policy of interventions over the decades in Haiti have made problems worse there and made the country's well-being a U.S. responsibility.

- Edited from News Americas.



Jamaica's culture thrives, but there are some worries

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7)

"We're really looking to see how we can involve them in local competition," he explained. "... There is greater interest now (from the diaspora), particularly from young people, in our culture."

DIFFICULTIES

However, while the JCDC has outlined its intent to keep Jamaica's heritage alive, Gordon and others admit it's not easy to keep up with the constantly evolving culture, especially among young people, as they become more exposed to happenings elsewhere through social media and the Internet.

"At all times culture is going through change," Gordon admitted.

His concern is shared by others. Recent visits to places

like the Marcus Garvey section of the St. Ann Parish Library and the Seville Heritage Park showed there is concern parts of Jamaica's heritage are not being adequately embraced. At both venues, there was a noticeable absence of locals.

"The first (National) Hero and you see how they're dealing. Not good. Hell no," frustrated Delroy Downer, a Jamaican who lives in Europe, said about the trickle of Jamaicans visiting the Garvey display at the library. "Culture, people, Jamaicans are difficult. Big disrespect."

Librarian Claudette Whyte also lamented the absence of local support for the Garvey center.

"Mostly tourists," she said when asked about the make-up of the traffic to center. "I have not seen as much locals as I've

seen visitors."

Questions also linger about the fate of Garvey's home not far from the library. There have been discussions to make the national heritage site into a mausoleum to honor the National Hero.

"The government wants the house," said resident Colleen Johnson. "They want to (preserve it) and they have to."

LUKEWARM

Observers pointed to a petition started in the United States to get a presidential pardon for Garvey, which only received attention in Jamaica in recent weeks, as an example of the island's lukewarm attempt to embrace its heritage.

At Seville, tour guide Eldon Riley offered a similar story about the place which, as

stated on a sign at the property, "uniquely represents the encounter between the Amerindian, the European and the African in Jamaica".

"Mostly we get scholars," explained Riley, who said larger crowds tend to visit for special events like Emancipation Jubilee and Heritage Expo. "... Most of the younger children are not interested."

Still, Jamaica's culture is thriving in many areas. New attractions are springing up. For example, a museum in honor of late reggae star Peter Tosh, former bandmate of Marley, opened in New Kingston Oct. 19.

"We have to seek to strengthen and promote Jamaican culture," Gordon said. "... We have to find ways to make to make it attractive."



67-y-o Jamaican-born triathlete Beverley Clarke is still going strong

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7)

third in her first race across the Kingston Harbour.

Clarke migrated to the U.S. in 1976, joined the Gold Coast Swim Club, started training and competed in the annual one-mile competition where she finished first many times. Her jump to triathlons was a natural progression, based on her swimming and cycling skills. She was also inspired by Babette, a dear friend and senior triathlete. Fellow enthusiast Bertha joined them to form the "Three Bs".

Clarke has been outpacing her competition.

"It's not that I'm that great, it's my health," she insisted. "I am outliving the competition. You think I don't have pain in my body after 350 triathlons? I tune it out. Competing in a triathlon is all in the head. It's mind over matter."

COST

Clarke has had injuries, but she works through them. She trains six days a week, combining swimming, biking, running and building strength.

Competing isn't cheap, however. Bikes cost upwards of \$10,000. Wetsuits for swimming in cold water are anywhere

from \$200 to \$1,000 and the proper biking and running shoes can run up to \$500. In addition, travel costs are a big burden for professional triathletes.

To 'stay in the race', Clarke is sponsored by companies such as Miami-based Big Wheel Bikes, law offices of Kessler & Kessler N.Y., and Multirace, organizers of a variety of endurance events.

The investments have paid off. Clarke has won more than 600 medals, many of them gold, and has traveled the U.S. and Europe under the Team USA banner. She has no intention of

slowing down.

"In November I'm doing the National Championship here in Miami," she said. "I'll be doing the half Ironman-Aqua Bike race, so you only have to swim and bike. It's a qualifier for the Canada ITU World Championship next year, and I will qualify."

"Remember, age is only a number. What we do with it is our choice!"

Story and photographs by Dawn A. Davis, a freelance writer for Caribbean Today.



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Finally, trailer load of respect for Shabba Ranks

GORDON WILLIAMS

KINGSTON, Jamaica – Jamaica unloaded a “trailer load” of respect on one of its most prominent, yet controversial sons.

Rexton Gordon, known throughout the entertainment world as the dancehall star “Shabba Ranks”, was recently awarded his nation’s Order of Distinction, officer class, for contribution to the Jamaican music industry locally and internationally.

For the self-described “big, dutty stinking Shabba,” who ignited controversy with sexually suggestive and lyrics as he rose from poverty to produce some of dancehall music’s greatest anthems, the honor, was reward for self-belief. He hopes it will inspire others to never give up on their dreams.

“It significantly show youth and youth that, you see when you work hard, and try to keep yourself free from trouble and problem, there’s great out there for you,” he said. “Because mother used to say, only the best is good enough and, from you do your best, you’ll always get the good. You see wha mi a deal wid? Only good begat good.”

ADVICE

For the youth, Shabba had positive advice, which he



Fans greet Shabba Ranks, center, at national awards ceremony.

- Photograph by Gordon Williams

guaranteed would lead to success.

“Stay conscious with whatever you do, work hard, put oonu mind and body inna it,” he added. “The result, greatness.”

Asked if he had any notion he would become a global figure when he started out in music, fostering a career which has spanned decades and produced monster hits such as “Mr. Loverman”, “Just Reality”, “Ting A Ling”, “Wicked Inna Bed” and “Trailer Load A Girls”, the 50-year-old two-time Grammy winner was adamant failure was never an option.

“Of course mi ‘ave the

idea because Jah bless me in music and the Bible say music alone shall live,” Shabba said. “Only players of instruments and musicians will be there on the day of reckoning.”

Destiny, he claimed, was always on his side.

“A nuh me choose music,” said Shabba, “a music choose me, you see. Because the life weh music make me escape fi live, right now mi just know seh, a way out deh the music a guh go. Because no man on the face of the world can’t determine wah music a guh do and weh music a guh go, unless that person weh a do it don’t have a clean heart and represent it in a

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 10)

Actors with Guyanese roots starring on U.S. television

Two Guyanese-roots stars are in prime time shows on United States television this season.

On Fox TV, actress Kylie Bunbury, whose father is Guyanese, is heating things up as a talented female baseball pitcher in “Pitch”.

Bunbury, the Canada-born daughter of retired professional soccer player Alex Bunbury, plays “Ginny Baker” who rises to fame when she is called up by the San Diego Padres and becomes the first woman to play in Major League Baseball.

Before Bunbury starred in



Bunbury

“Pitch” she never played baseball. The 27-year-old originally worked as a model, but then her agency suggested she try acting. She landed her first role as

“Kathleen” in “Days of Our Lives” for one episode. She also had roles in “Prom” and “The Sitter”.

In Feb. 2015, she portrayed the role of “Eva”, in the science fiction CBS television series “Under the Dome”, before getting the lead in “Pitch”.

The show airs Thursdays at 9 p.m.

THE ‘TRUTH’

Another Guyanese-roots actor currently on prime time television is

Ukweli Roach. He returns this season as reserved psychologist “Dr. Robert Border” in the NBC hit series “Blindspot”, which is on Wednesdays at 8 p.m.



Roach

Roach, 31, was born in England to an English mother and Guyanese father. His first name means “Truth” in Swahili. He attended London’s Royal Academy of Dramatic Art and graduated in 2009.

Roach is also an accomplished street dancer and was an artistic director of dance company Birdgang. He also starred in the film “Streetdance 3D”, but later came to a wider audience playing “Tom Greening”, a lawyer who also happens to be an angel in the drama series “Eternal Law”.

- Edited from News Americas.



STEPPING RAZOR: Jamaica opens museum to honor reggae legend Peter Tosh

KINGSTON, Jamaica – The legacy of one of Jamaica and the world’s greatest musical icons and ambassadors for social equality will now be preserved in his homeland following the official opening of the Peter Tosh Museum in New Kingston on Oct. 19.

Tosh, born Peter McIntosh, was shot to death in Sept. 1987 at age 42. He was an original member of The Wailers, a group which also included Bob Marley and Neville “Bunny” Livingston, both legends as well. The Wailers took reggae worldwide, drawing a massive following and establishing a global foundation for a music which originated in Kingston’s ghettos.

The self-acclaimed “Bush Doctor” and “Stepping Razor” eventually broke from the group to form his own band – Word, Sound and Power, but Tosh established himself as a significant solo artiste, even collaborating on the big hit “Keep On Walking, Don’t Look Back” with British super group The Rolling Stones. Tosh, a Rastafarian, was especially

known for socially conscious lyrics, in which he defended issues such as the legalization of marijuana and equal justice for all.

The museum aims to celebrate Tosh’s contribution. It includes artifacts from the artiste’s life and work, including his famous “M-16 guitar” and unicycle. According to Kingsley Cooper, boss of the modeling agency Pulse, where the museum is located, and a major force behind its creation, it has been “long in the making” – 10 to 15 years. However, he believes, like Tosh, it will leave a lasting impression.

“We are trying to create an institution for the ages,” said Cooper during the opening night ceremony, which was attended by Tosh’s family members, celebrities and top political figures, including Jamaica’s Prime Minister Andrew Holness, Minister of



Crowds flock to the opening of the Peter Tosh Museum.

- Photograph by Michael Sloley

Culture Olivia “Babsy” Grange and former Finance Minister Dr. Omar Davies, a noted Tosh scholar.

‘VISIONARY’

Cooper, like most of the speakers at the function, called Tosh a talented visionary who committed to his pursuits.

“Someone who preferred to die for what he believed in,” he said.

Davies agreed, highlighting that while Marley has received a huge chunk of international acclaim, and crowned the “reggae king”, Tosh also deserved major credit for taking music to the world.

“(He) an amazingly talented artiste as a vocalist and musician,” explained Davies, who called Tosh’s “Equal Rights” “the greatest album

ever made.”

“I’m just proud we’ve found a way to recognize a great Jamaican, Peter Tosh,” he added.

Grange, a veteran of Jamaica’s entertainment industry long before being elected to public office, recalled several anecdotes involving Tosh, including one when he con-

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 10)

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



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CHANGING TUNE: South Korean marks out 16-year career as a reggae singer

GORDON WILLIAMS

KINGSTON, Jamaica – South Korea is known for many things: A prosperous, growing society and mortal enemies to its neighbor North Korea. Producing a reggae artiste determined to make the music thrive in this Asian nation and elsewhere, however, was never part of the country's key selling points.

Enter Skull, real name Sung Jin Cho, a 36-year-old former South Korean university student and army man who has pledged the last 16 years to promoting reggae through his work as a singer. Skull is the self-acclaimed "pioneer" of reggae in South Korea. Yet his embrace of the music spawned in Jamaica's ghettos sprang from an accidental listen of "No Woman Nuh Cry", one of reggae's most powerful anthems done by the genre's late superstar Bob Marley, when Skull was barely out of his teens.

"No Woman No Cry. I'm searching it, because it really touched my heart," he said. "What kind of song this is? ... I didn't even know what reggae is; what kind of music that is. I met Bob Marley's song. When I heard that song, I don't even know this is reggae."

Skull could hardly be blamed for his ignorance. There weren't many reggae

recordings being played in South Korea, which was, back then, fed a steady diet of ballads, hip hop and R&B. So Skull ventured overseas.

"I went up to Japan, a place, and said could you recommend some reggae music?" he recalled.

The store suggested another reggae icon, Buju Banton, who would become, like Marley and other stars like Sizzla Kalonji, Skull's heroes.

THEME

Skull set out on a mission to learn about the music and its roots. Despite the stark differences between Jamaica and South Korea, he found common themes which had inspired the music from the Caribbean.

"Our country is growing up very fast, but people still struggling constantly," he explained while in Jamaica in October. "Rich man always rich, poor man always poor. It's a little similar, like this country's situation."

"The funny thing is this, Koreans who listen to reggae music, not my music, but like Bob Marley's songs, classic songs, they think ... we have something in common. We call it 'han' (translated by Skull as a feeling of resentment because



- Photograph by Gordon Williams
Skull has embraced reggae.

you have suffered so much and you need to resolve it)."

Skull's investment against the odds has paid off. His song "Boom Di Boom Di" scaled significant heights on the Billboard hip hop/R&B sales chart in 2008. More

recently, working with his partner Haha, and with Marley's son Stephen also voicing on the track, "Love Inside" recently excelled on Jamaica's charts. Skull has attended street dances in Jamaica to catch the vibes. He has made the rounds at Jamaica's recording studios and television stations, embracing anyone who will listen to a South Korean reggae artiste.

Skull is also trying to absorb Jamaica's culture. He has a Korean friend on the island who helps him understand the language and has picked up survival level "patois". When he doesn't understand he consults with friend Rohan Marley, another of the late icon's children.

"I learn little things," said Skull. "Like someone says 'irie' at me, so I called Rohan and ask 'What irie means?' So

Rohan kindly teach me. 'What is ragamuffin?' So I think it's my blessing."

RASTA LINK

The Rastafarian connection to reggae didn't escape Skull either. He plunged into that as well.

"I really try to follow their way and study," said Skull.

But styling his straight Asian hair into matted dreadlocks wasn't easy. In addition, for three years Skull said he dropped red meat from his diet, because he thought Rastas didn't eat meat. This caused his mother to worry even more about her son's transition to a culture totally unfamiliar to her and almost everyone else who knew him.

"At that time nobody could imagine I'm doing reggae music or people doing reggae music in Korea," said Skull laughing. "Because it's rare. It's not popular."

He was also concerned about being accepted by the people who created the music. Skull met Rohan Marley through a friend in 2010 and got him to listen to his tracks. Rohan recommended Skull to his brother Stephen. That eventually led to Stephen's contribution on "Love Inside". He released another track, "Get Rich", two months ago.

Skull has also met Sizzla

and one of Buju Banton's sons, a producer. Yet he has his own message to deliver in the music, especially to people who have struggled to find a place.

"I really want to give them hope," said Skull. "Even though times are rough and tough I'll be with you always. Let's move forward."

Personally, Skull is getting tired of listening to people who doubt a South Korean can make it as a reggae singer. One producer called him "a play-boy," until he heard his songs. Skull figures if the Marleys and Sizzla can validate his talent, he'll be O.K. But he believes in himself.

"Maybe some people just look at me and maybe (say) 'He cannot do. He cannot sing, that I'm not good enough too,'" said Skull laughing. "But I can sing."

South Korea is catching Skull and Haha's tune. Reggae has become more popular there. As proof, Skull plucked out his cell phone showing a video of a South Korean toddler singing one of his selections.

"My friend, his son, is singing my songs," said Skull.

Then he bursts into laughter.



Finally, trailer load of respect for Shabba Ranks

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9)

righteous way, then it will have a default inna it, you seen."

POWER

Shabba explained that he always understood the power of music and believed it his

duty to carry it forward with a talent he believes was divinely gifted to him.

"Suh from Jah chose me and guh so bap and place music on me, me know what music value and mi know what mi woulda get out outta music, because mi love the

Lord and the Lord giveth music unto man," he said

He used music to remove himself from a background of poverty and testing odds, which took Shabba from his birthplace in the parish of St. Ann to stages all over the world.

"Suh Jah bless me to use music to escape fi dem predictability," he said. "Mi run pass it through music."

Now he believes his journey, which included a trail-blazing contract with major United States label Epic Records and collaborations

with big name celebrities such as Eddie Murphy, Mick Jagger and Maxi Priest, has been recognized by his own people. He is grateful.

"Suh thanks fi di award ya," said Shabba. "Jamaica, love oonu. Bad."



STEPPING RAZOR: Jamaica opens museum to honor reggae legend Peter Tosh

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9)

vinced her to arrange a meeting with then Jamaica Prime Minister Edward Seaga where he urged the country's political leader to legalize the weed.

'SPECIAL'

"Peter, for me, was really a special human being. Peter was controversial, but he was someone who spoke from heart," said Grange of the man who gave the world anthems such as "Legalize It" and "Get Up, Stand Up", which has been covered by multiple artistes, including Denroy Morgan and Zach Starkey, drummer with the rock band The Who, who attended the museum opening.

The minister said "Jah Is My Keeper", a haunting spiritual expression of faith and her favorite Tosh song, is now being sung in churches.

Starkey said he plays "Get Up, Stand Up" to keep the artiste's memory alive.

"We felt the people were forgetting Peter and his song writing," explained the son of Ringo Starr, drummer for the famous British band The Beatles.

United States-based Niambe McIntosh, administrator of Tosh's estate and one of the late superstar's 10 children, admitted that at age five when Tosh died she was too young to recall her father well, but his work has defined her mission.

"I hold on to his reins to carry on his legacy, even though I have no memory (of Tosh)," she said.

SALUTE

The museum opening, done on Tosh's birthday, was part of multiple events to mark the legacy of the artiste,



- Photograph by Gordon Williams
Tosh's youngest daughter Niambe is on a mission to keep her father's legacy alive.

who won a Grammy award and was bestowed with Jamaica's national honor, the Order of Merit posthumously.

A tribute concert, featuring performers such as Tosh's son Andrew and his grandson was scheduled for Oct. 22 to honor the man Holness acknowledged as "a great Jamaican son" who fought for valuable causes.

"One thing that was clear from Tosh's lyrics was resistance," the prime minister explained. "... He was a rebel.

"People recognize this indomitable spirit," he added, "standing up for your rights, equal rights."

Holness said the Peter Tosh Museum will help to place focus Kingston as an important tourist destination in Jamaica, expanding the industry from the north and west. But he also pointed to other adjustments, including the composition of the audience at the museum's opening - mainly wealthy and influential, who may not have

embraced Tosh in his heyday as a firebrand, weed-smoking Rastaman.

"My how things have changed," Holness said.

"We're not quite there yet," he added in his explanation of Tosh's total acceptance, while jokingly referring to the artiste's song "Buckingham Palace", in which he advocated smoking marijuana in the British queen's residence.

Cooper said there are plans to erect a statue of Tosh at the museum, and add more artifacts. The artiste's contribution, he explained, is too rich to ignore.

"People are coming to understand the greatness of Tosh," said Cooper. "The value of Tosh is absolutely immense on so many levels."

- Gordon Williams



Trump stirs 'great trepidation', Clinton offers 'status quo' ~ Bharrat Jagdeo



Jagdeo

Former Guyana President Bharrat Jagdeo was the main speaker at the 18th annual Eric E. Williams Memorial Lecture held recently in Miami, Florida. Caribbean Today's freelance writer Dawn A. Davis spoke with Jagdeo before his lecture, titled: "The Caribbean and American Presidential Power: A Donald Trump Ascendancy", and the following is an edited version of that interview.

QUESTION: What do you think a Trump presidency will bring or change in regard to the relationship between America and the Caribbean?

ANSWER: It's very difficult to assess any of Trump's policies

because what we have are one-liners, some very unconventional positions with very little details as to how they will be implemented. And then, those positions have evolved over time ...

However, there are some issues that have caused great trepidation around the world, but particularly in our region because the impact of these policies or pronouncements by Mr. Trump can have devastating consequences for our region. The most obvious one is immigration. Mr. Trump has spoken about immigrants being criminals, building the wall ... First of all, remittances to the Caribbean is about \$10 billion. That's about 75 percent of all the foreign direct investment that we get into the region.

So, just imagine those figures falling. Our countries are open economies, we have shallow capital markets. We therefore rely a lot on foreign capital for growth and development, investments, etc. This huge pool of resources has been coming from our immigrants, not just for investment, but to supplement domestic income and a whole range of issues. If

you look at remittances and their impact on our balance of payment, it's doubtful whether we would have any country having a sustainable balance of payment position without the level of remittances we receive from abroad.

Secondly, in the past 20 years of deportation of criminal

deportees, we have received in the Caribbean more deportees than the combined number of law enforcement officials ...

Thirdly, if people are sent back, we already have high levels of unemployment in the region. So, if they are sent back it would just exacerbate the situation. It would overload social

services in the region.

So, just one policy, the policy on immigration, could have multiple consequences for the Caribbean in terms of remittances, which is the well-being of our economy, in terms of the rise in crime because of the

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 12)

Why 'pussygate' will dump Trump

FELICIA J. PERSAUD

In light of Donald Trump's hot mike debacle, also known as "pussygate", the spotlight has been put squarely – as it should – on the issue of sexual assault and misogyny.

And while the Republican presidential candidate, who I now call "The P-Man", is trying earnestly to dismiss it as "locker room talk" and instead turn the focus on bashing immigrants as criminals and terrorists, more and more people, including women, are rightfully speaking out about the bigger issue of sexual assault, sexual harassment and the objectifying of women.

The vile banter between Trump and Billy Bush, as captured on hot mike and released by the **Washington Post**, has forced many women to relive horrific memories of sexual assault and harassment. This as the harsh facts show that one in five women will likely be sexually assaulted in her lifetime.

A poll captured the real mess Trump and the Republican Party are in succinctly. Conducted after the now famous 2005 recording of Trump's lewd comments, a NBC poll found that 63 percent of likely voters said they do not think the Republican nominee respects women.

Meanwhile, before the recording was made public, 64 percent of likely women voters said they did not think Trump respects women. After the recording was made public, 69 percent of women said they did not think Trump respects women, including 53 percent who said he does not respect women at all.

VOTER SUPPORT

Which brings me back to the issue of voter support right now for legalizing the millions of undocumented immigrants in this country. To show how out of touch the Republican Party is with the majority of the population, poll numbers actually show that support has risen to its highest level for legalizing the status of undocumented workers already living in the United States since the last presidential election in 2008.

According to a Rasmussen Reports national telephone survey, 41 percent of likely U.S. voters now think legalizing the status of undocumented workers already here is more important than gaining control of the border – up from 34 percent in February.

And while Trump supporters are sticking by their man, polls also show their views on solving the problem

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 12)



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VIEWPOINT



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'SUSSU': Mastering the sad sport of meddling, succeeding in destruction

Some people often blame other forces for whispering curses in their ears and telling them to do vile things.

It's the malice in their heart that's really coming through, as they utter the most venomous words that cause great pain to others. This usually affects couples and often comes from various quarters such as friends, foes, family and even fans.

In most cases it's from people who are unhappy with

their lot, and who wish to inflict this unhappiness on others. "Misery doth love company."

Meddling is the name of the game; a sport they have mastered well. Family always gives the reason they're doing it for your own



TONY ROBINSON



good. For friends it usually stems from jealousy, envy, or just plain "bad mind".

Meddling has destroyed the lives of many people, both in a physical and emotional way. Too often these

friends wait in the wings like vultures and, under the guise of helping, do nothing but try to destroy relationships with their meddling.

It's mostly a female phenomenon, but men do it too.

We call it sussu. It's dangerous, deadly, disgusting meddling.

seido1@hotmail.com



Trump stirs 'great trepidation', Clinton offers 'status quo' ~ Bharrat Jagdeo

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11)

deportees, and a whole load of social problems from unemployment and the overloading of social capacity, etc.

Q: With about 1.7 million Caribbean immigrants in the United States, how much influence or weight do they have in this critical presidential election?

A: The problem with Caribbean nationals is that sometimes we do not take part in the political process. Many of them are not registered to vote, and many do not show up at the polls.

So really, the impact, if you are talking about voting impact, sometimes it's very negligible impact. I've seen communities that are pretty small project

more power and influence in Washington and in the leadership even at the state level than we have as a Caribbean group.

Q: How much, if any, power do Caribbean immigrants have in influencing American foreign policy toward the Caribbean?

A: Caribbean nationals in the United States of America have to get more organized. If you do not elect candidates that are sympathetic to your views then you'll never be able to influence their policies to the region, or even to your own communities.

Q: How do you view America in terms of its global power, influence, military might?

A: The United States has the largest economy in the world. They have strongest military. The United States has a veto in

the (United Nations) Security Council. In every single forum in which the United States participates, it has overwhelming influence.

The United States is a great country, however it does have problems, like many other countries in the world. Many people do not agree with its foreign policies. We in the Caribbean, there are things we did not agree with, like the Iraq war. Many of us were opposed to the circumstances in which (former Haiti President Jean Bertrand) Aristide was removed.

So, we do have disagreements with the United States of America on its foreign policies. But, to deny that the United States of America has overwhelming influence in the world would be really sticking

your head in the sand.

The problems here are like those of many other countries. So, the United States has got a lot to do with solving its own problems in terms of the dynamism of its economy, its ability to create jobs for everyone, social issues, including race relations, etc.

Q: A (Hillary) Clinton victory would make history: First female, first dual presidential couple in the White House. What would her presidency mean for Caribbean people in the United States, and policy toward the region?

A: We are not extremely happy with the attention we have been given by any U.S. president so far. What we are worried about is that Donald Trump may take us so far off

the track. But, what we can expect from Hillary Clinton is probably status quo ...

I have reason to believe that with Hillary Clinton many of (U.S. President Barack) Obama's policies to the region will continue ... Hillary Clinton will have some policies globally that indirectly will have great impact on us, for example climate change. They believe in the Paris Accord that was signed and through that accord we can get billions of dollars to address the needs of the Caribbean in terms of adaptation to climate change. If Trump repudiates that, then there is no possibility of any help.

Photographs of Bharrat Jagdeo on pages 1 and 11 by Dawn A. Davis.



Why 'pussygate' will dump Trump

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11)

of illegal immigration are clearly out of step with most Americans.

The Pew Research Center has found that an overwhelming 76 percent of Americans polled believe undocumented immigrants are as hard working as U.S. citizens, and 67

percent said they are no more likely than Americans to commit serious crimes, while 61 percent oppose building a wall along the border with Mexico.

LOSS

So while Trump and many within his base are quick to blame immigrants for everything – from crime, to terror,

to taking away jobs and taking over the country – the reality is that a significant voting bloc cares more about sexual assault, misogyny and respect for women than they do about hard working undocumented immigrants who keep the wheels of this country's economy rolling.

Perhaps, this will truly

sink in for Trump, Paul Ryan and crew after the results of the 2016 election are made public and the Republicans are again forced to look at the "man in the mirror" and the real issues that resulted in their loss.

Because it is coming – and this one will be bigger and more unprecedented than it

was in 2008!

Edited from News Americas. Felicia J. Persaud is CMO of Hard Beat Communications, which owns the brands News Americas Now, CaribPR Wire and Invest Caribbean Now.



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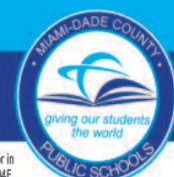
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STEP UP: Dish out some cow foot stew with rice

MINNA LA FORTUNE

The consumption of naturally grown super foods in the Caribbean, such as yams, bananas, sweet potatoes, breadfruit, fruits, vegetables and animal and vegetable protein are combined in delicious meals providing high quality nutrition.

Some of the meals which contribute to the region's athletes' prowess are its soups and stews. Specifically, cow foot stew is filled with protein, carbohydrates, vitamins, minerals and essential nutrients for the entire body.

It's rich in calcium, magnesium and phosphorus, which help bones grow and repair. It also contains nutrients and minerals found in bones and tendons such as collagen and gelatin, as well as amino acids, glycine and protein, which fights inflammation in the body.

Here's the recipe for cow foot stew or raghu as the Haitians call it. It is served with rice and peas or with white rice.

Ingredients

- 4 lbs. cow's feet (chopped and cleaned)
- 3 packs lima or butter beans
- 3 sprigs thyme
- 1 tsp. salt
- 1 tsp. black pepper
- 3 stalks of scallions
- 1 Scotch Bonnet pepper
- 6 pimento seeds
- soy sauce



Cowfoot stew

Method

Wash meat in cold water with lime or lemon. Put in a large pot of water.

Add all the seasonings, including soy sauce and allow to cook for two hours, until fork tender. Add lima or butter beans.

Add more water if necessary to cook beans and provide enough sauce. Skim the fat off the top of the pot with a spoon. Taste for salt and pepper add more if needed.

Continue to cook until beans are soft and sauce is reduced.

Serve with rice and peas or white rice. Do not forget vegetables. Steamed cabbage and carrots are excellent accompaniments.

Edited from News Americas. Minna LaFortune is a Caribbean caterer and also president of the Society for the Advancement of the Caribbean Diaspora.



Coconut gizzadas offer tantalizing sweet treat

Coconut is an essential super food in Caribbean cuisine. Gizzada is a tasty pastry for which it's used.

Gizzada is an uncovered mini coconut pie. Here's the recipe.

Ingredients for the crust

- 2 cups baking flour
- 1/4 tsp. salt
- 2 oz. butter or margarine
- 1/4 to 1/2 cup ice cold water

Ingredients for filling

- 3 cups coconut, grated
- 3/4 cup brown sugar
- 1 tsp. grated nutmeg
- 2 tsp. vanilla
- 1 tbsp. water
- 1tbsp. butter

How to make the crust

Preheat oven to 350 degrees.



Gizzadas

Mix together flour and salt then cut in butter and shortening. Add ice water to form dough.

Use fingers to blend mixture until it resembles coarse crumbs.

Shape into a ball before wrapping in waxed paper and refrigerate for half an hour.

Divide crust into six to eight balls.

Use a rolling pin to roll balls into three inch circles of quarter inch thickness. Pinch edges to form a ridge to hold in coconut and sugar mixture.

Put on greased cookie sheets and bake crust for 10 to 15 minutes.

Filling for gizzadas

Combine all ingredients except butter and cook over a low flame for about 20 minutes. Add butter.

Fill shells with coconut mixture and bake for a further 15 to 20 minutes.

Makes six to eight gizzadas.

- Minna La Fortune



Cocktails Caribbean style

The Trini Woman

Ingredients:

- 1 ¼ oz. Angostura Single Barrel Rum
- ¼ oz. ginger syrup
- 1 oz. passion fruit juice
- 1 oz. mango puree
- A dash of bitters

Koo-Koo Cabana

Ingredients

- 1/2 oz melon liqueur

- 1/2 oz coconut rum
- 1/2 oz vodka
- 1/2 oz sour mix

Fill to brim with pineapple juice

Shake and stir in a tall glass on the rocks. Garnish with lime and orange wedge.

- Contributed



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REWARD: Jamaica's 2016 Olympic athletes honored at lavish celebration

GORDON WILLIAMS

KINGSTON, Jamaica – Jamaicans who competed at the 2016 Olympic Games, including gold medalists Usain Bolt, Elaine Thompson and Omar McLeod, were showered with praise during a lavish ceremony put on here by the country's government in their honor on Oct. 15.

"Salute To Our Rio Sporting Ambassadors", staged at the National Indoor Sports Center, featured a combination of tributes, award presentations and live entertainment, culminating with a performance by reggae star Chronixx.

High level officials, including Prime Minister Andrew Holness, Governor General Patrick Allen, plus members of the Cabinet and Opposition, heaped praise on a Jamaica team which won 11 medals – six gold, three silver and two bronze in August in Brazil. Jamaica's Paralympians were also recognized for their efforts at the Olympics as well.

"Your success over the years continue to excite," said

Olivia Grange, minister of culture, gender, entertainment and sports as she recalled Jamaica's accomplishments in Rio de Janeiro, where the nation of under three million finished 16th overall out of 205 countries in the standings and placed third behind the United States and Kenya in track and field medal haul. "... We are truly world beaters."

"They made us gather as one people with one mission," Holness said of the athletes' accomplishments. "... Their victory is our victory ... I stand on this stage to say thank you."

TRIBUTE

The ceremony was sprinkled by video footage of individual gold medal-winning performances, including those by Thompson, McLeod and Bolt. Thompson won the 100 and 200 meters. McLeod earned gold in the 110 meters hurdles.

Bolt created history by becoming the only athlete to win 100, 200 and 4x100 meters at three Olympic Games, after earning gold in those events at



Bolt, left, poses with his award, received from Holness, center, and Grange.

the 2008 and 2012 Games as well.

Also among those singled out for high praise was sprinter Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce, who became the first woman in Olympic history to win a medal in three consecutive 100 races when she took bronze in the 100, after winning the event in 2008 and 2012.

The gala here was part of three days of celebration for the Olympians, which included tours to other parts of the

Caribbean island, where a nation showed off heroes who were among more than 11,000 athletes in Rio. An estimated 3.5 billion reportedly watched the Games, including 35 million for the 100 meters final won by Bolt. The government said it's keen to cash in on the visibility presented for "brand Jamaica".

HICCUPS

Yet the grand show didn't go off without hiccups. Many empty seats were noticeable at the center, with some wondering why organizers didn't consider, for example, inviting Jamaica's school children to fill the arena in the hope they would benefit from the inspiration of seeing their sporting heroes in person.

Meanwhile, an outstanding entertainment package provided by Chronixx, Chris Martin, Kevin Downswell and several dance groups, was blotted by a raunchy delivery from dancehall diva Spice. She finished her controversial performance without musical backing, which left many in the audience wondering if that

was due to a technical hitch or other causes. In addition, there was no access ramp for Paralympians in wheelchair to enter the elevated stage, so award presenters had to descend the stage to complete that job.

Hitches aside, the event was memorable. Athletes, normally recognized in sports gear, came out resplendently attired for the formal occasion. The women, in particular, wowed in evening gowns.

The government also made a splash, reportedly spending more than J\$80 million on the public show. Athletes received cash awards, ranging from \$2,500 to \$10,000, based on their contribution at the Olympics. Team managers and officials will receive \$1,000. The huge amounts spent, however, didn't escape some public criticism in a nation still struggling with economic issues. Holness brushed aside the question of overspend.

"Don't ask what we are doing for our athletes ... that should never be questioned because my answer is, we haven't done enough," he was quoted as saying.

"What we are doing here is just symbolic to show you, our athletes, that we care because you bring pride to our nation and you make Jamaicans' pride high through the world, and we could never pay you for what you have done in building brand Jamaica."

The government also announced that statues will be built commemorating four of Jamaica's finest athletes, Bolt, Fraser-Pryce, and sprinters Asafa Powell and Veronica Campbell Brown.



Brown rejects offer to coach Jamaica's Reggae Boyz again

South Florida-based soccer coach Carl Brown was recently summoned to help Jamaica's senior national men's team following the Reggae Boyz' disastrous World Cup campaign when they failed to qualify for the 2018 tournament in Russia.

However, the Jamaican-born Brown, who currently coaches at youth level teams in Broward County, where he has resided for many years, turned down the offer, criticizing the compensation package as unsatisfactory.

Theodore Whitmore, who like Brown is a former Jamaica international player, and has held the Caribbean nation's top soccer coaching

post multiple times before, was given the job. Whitmore was coaching a high school team in Jamaica when he was recalled. He led Jamaica to a 4-2 win over Guyana in Caribbean Football Union qualifying competition in mid-October.

Brown was expected to replace Germany-born Winfried Schaefer, who reportedly negotiated a settlement with the Jamaica Football Federation (JFF) to vacate the national coaching post. In an interview with **Caribbean Today** earlier this year, Brown expressed keen interest in assisting Jamaica's national program.



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Jamaica's tourism looks to cash in on sporting success, Caribbean collaboration ~ minister

GORDON WILLIAMS

KINGSTON, Jamaica – Jamaica is gearing up to cash in on its considerable individual sporting success globally to help promote the island as a tourism destination, while also looking to team with other nations to push the region's product.

Jamaica was the most successful Caribbean nation at the 2016 Olympic Games in August, bagging 11 medals overall, including six gold, three by sprint legend Usain Bolt. According to Tourism Minister Ed Bartlett, the plan is to use the recognition won by the athletes to market Jamaica's brand. With globally recognized names such as Bolt, Bartlett believes the move to combine sporting achievement and tourism is natural.

"(Tourists) travel to see where these people (athletes) come from," he explained while attending a celebration to honor Jamaican Olympians on Oct. 15 here. "Who are they that are beating the world for 70 years and more? Who are they, also that are producing world leaders in many other areas than athletics? ... So we find that tourism is the beneficiary of the creative output of our people."

Jamaica is hoping that success in sports will help erase the drawbacks of being a tiny nation and region competing globally.

"What it (sporting success) does is to reinforce the Jamaican energy and the Jamaican panache and drive that we have always been known to exist," said Bartlett. "But it does something more. What it does is to emphasize the specificity of our people. It gives you a sense of place in

the world, because now, for a small country you would be insignificant, but the achievements of your nationals, your sons and daughters gives you a sense of place in the global community.

"In the marketplace, it carves out a conversation that stays with the people who are beneficiaries of the experience of your people for many, many, many years."



Bolt has become a key point of interest for visitors to Jamaica. — File photograph

According to Bartlett, Jamaica has developed a "five pillar" plan to meet its aim. Arising from that, he added, is the development of networks to "drive what we call the experiential aspect of what we call the mission," he explained.

"It's really why people travel," added Bartlett. "They travel to fulfill their passions as expressed by experiences. And sport and entertainment are huge areas of passions that people travel all across the world to realize and fulfill.

"They want to see Bob Marley. His grave. They want to know what is Trench Town ... So it is those kinds of conversations that they come (to Jamaica) to understand by being here.

"... So how we tap it? We tap into, one, by building of products. So a sports product has to be built out in Jamaica,

which involves infrastructure investments. It involves training and development and it also involves packaging and promotions."

BENEFITS

The potential benefits for the country, including additional jobs, are enormous. The Olympic follow-up, including using star performers like Bolt in marketing ventures, is only part of it. Bartlett said Jamaica is hoping for additional success at next year's IAAF World Championships in London, England, to bolster the plan. However, he explained that hitching the tourism product to the accomplishments of athletes comes with challenges. Keeping athletes' image free from scandal, such as doping, is paramount to the success of Jamaica's mission.

"So that there is no second guessing of the integrity of the product we are selling," he said.

According to Bartlett, Jamaica has also reached out to other Caribbean nations and Mexico, hoping that co-operation will broaden the region's appeal. Jamaica has signed a memorandum of understanding with Cuba on multi-destination tourism. The Dominican Republic has also been approached. Jamaica is also scheduled to host a summit for northern Caribbean nations in December. Among the areas which need to be addressed are harmonization of aviation, and border and visa policies. There is urgency to the approach. The region's economic welfare is at stake.

"So we think that this is a new opportunity and it is an opportunity that begs itself right now," said Bartlett, "especially that the growth in the Caribbean has not been keeping with global growth."



JetBlue taking off for Cuba

United States air passenger carrier JetBlue is scheduled to begin daily round trip service from New York to Havana, Cuba later this month.

JetBlue's flight will depart John F. Kennedy International Airport for Jose Marti International on Nov. 28. That will mark the first American

carrier to officially offer service to the Caribbean island in more than half century.

JetBlue has also scheduled flights from Florida cities Orlando and Fort Lauderdale starting Nov. 29 and 30, respectively.



Belize hits tourist arrival record

BELMOPAN, Belize – Belize tourism officials say that for the past 15 consecutive months the industry has been experiencing "record breaking increases" in overnight arrivals monthly.

The Belize Tourism Board (BTB) said that the sector had been recording double digit increases of as much as 33 percent growth.

"We are now nine months through 2016 and the tourism arrival figures continue to show this upward trend, closing off this third quarter with an incredible 26.9 percent increase for the month September 2016 over September 2015," the BTB noted

HIKE

"Overall, the first nine months of 2016 recorded a total of 293,622 overnight arrivals, a 16.4 percent increase over the same nine months of 2015, which had 252,329 overnight arrivals."

The BTB stated that cruise arrivals resulted in 54,569 passengers for Sept. 2016, representing a 20.6 percent increase over Sept. 2015. It noted that, overall, cruise passenger arrivals recorded a moderate 1.3 per cent increase for the first nine months of 2016, despite having 12 fewer cruise vessels arriving in Belize, inclusive of cruise calls cancelled due to Hurricane Earl.

The BTB confirmed that the United States continues to be the country's largest market with 67.4 per cent of the market share, followed by Europe and Canada, respectively.

"We look forward to more increases for the remainder of 2016, especially as we welcome WestJet Airlines on October 29th with direct flights between Toronto and Belize," the BTB stated.



Jamaica offers fitness vacation

The Jamaica Tourist Board (JTB) is sponsoring two fitness-themed trips this month to "Spinning Escape Jamaica" and "Jamaica Fit Trip". Both events are aimed at brining fitness trainers and buffs to the Caribbean island. The schedules are as follows:

Nov. 4-6 - Spinning Escape Jamaica (SEJA) at Couples Swept Away in Negril.

Attendees will be allowed to choose from over 50 fitness sessions, including spinning, yoga and In-Trinity strength training. The trip will close with the "Reverse Spinning® Triathlon", which

includes spinning, running and swimming.

Nov. 6-9 - Jamaica Fit Trip at Royalton White Sands in Montego Bay.

The program will feature celebrity fitness experts, trainers and enthusiasts participating in an all-inclusive fitness and wellness vacation experience. Scheduled fitness personalities and trainers include actress and singer Taj George and television personalities Erica Dixon and Jonica Booth. The trip culminates with the Beach Olympics.

To plan a wellness trip, visit www.visitjamaica.com.



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DAY OF DECISION: Voter registration deadlines for Nov. 8 election

The countdown is on to the Nov. 8, 2016 United States presidential election and other state and local races.

If you haven't voted already, here are the remaining cut off dates for registration:

State voter registration deadline

Colorado	Nov. 8
Connecticut	Nov. 1
District Of Colombia	Nov. 8
Idaho	Nov. 8
Illinois	Nov. 8
Iowa	Nov. 8
Maine	Nov. 8

MinnesotaNov. 8
MontanaNov. 8
New Hampshire.....Nov. 8
North DakotaYou don't need to register to vote in North Dakota. Instead, make sure you meet all the voting requirements, and provide identification to vote on Election Day, Nov 8. Requirements include: being a U.S. citizen, at least 18 years old on Nov 8, live at a North Dakota address by Oct 9, 2016, not be in jail or prison for a felony conviction and not be currently judged mentally incompetent by a court.

Vermont.....Nov. 2
WisconsinNov. 8
WyomingNov. 8

If you need additional details on absentee ballots, or to find out where to vote, see if you are registered or to do a one-stop online registration, log on to **RockTheVote.com**.

- Edited from an article from Felicia J. Persaud, CMO of Hard Beat Communications, which owns the brands News Americas Now, CaribPR Wire and Invest Caribbean Now.



Popcaan is IRAWMA's 'Entertainer of the Year'

International Reggae and World Music Awards (IRAWMA) were presented at a recent ceremony in South Florida. The following is a selected list of 2016 IRAWMA winners:

- Entertainer of the Year – Popcaan
- Best Male Vocalist – Chris Martin
- Best Female Vocalist – Etana
- Best Song – “My Dream” – Nesbeth
- Best Album/CD – “Strictly Roots” by Morgan Heritage
- Best Crossover Song – “Cheap Thrills” by SIAFT Sean Paul
- Best Gospel Song – “If It Is Not You” by Kevin Downswell
- Best Male DJ/Rapper – Vybz Kartel
- Best Female DJ/Rapper – Spice
- Best New Entertainer – SKIP MARLEY
- Best Calypso/Soca Song –

- Teddysen John
- Best Latin Song – Pitbull
- Best African Song – Shatta Wale
- Best Soukous Song – “Selfie” by Koffi Olomide
- Best Belizean Entertainer – Lova Boy
- Best R & B Hip Hop Song – “Work” by Rihanna and Drake
- Best Reggae Rock Song – Slightly Stoopid “The Prophet”
- Best Chutney Song – Shiva Lakhan
- Best Music Video – Major Laser, featuring Tarrus Riley and Ellie Goulding
- Best Spoken Word/Poet – Mutabaruka
- Most Cultural/Educational Entertainer – Tarrus Riley
- Most Outstanding Show Band/Group – Inner Circle

- Most Consistent Entertainer – Yellowman
- Most Promising Entertainer – Stonebwoy
- Best Instrumental Song – Dean Fraser
- Most Popular Sound System/Selector – Tony Matterhorn
- Concert of the Year – Reggae Sumfest
- Most Outstanding Dance Group – National Dance Theatre Company
- Haitian Entertainer of the Year – Jbeatz
- Best Caribbean Entertainer – Beres Hammond
- Recording Producer of the Year – Chimney Records
- Marcus Garvey Humanitarian Award – Cedella Marley.

‘Work, Work, Work’

- Photograph by Dawn A. Davis
A costumed dancer gets down to the business of showing her moves during Miami Broward Carnival 2016 held recently in South Florida.



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MIAMI BOOK FAIR


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~ A CARIBBEAN TODAY SPECIAL ADVERTISING FEATURE

Miami Book Fair introduces 'ReadCaribbean' series

~ Fair launches official Caribbean literary program

The 33rd Miami Book Fair, to be staged Nov. 13–20 in downtown Miami, Florida, will present “ReadCaribbean”, a series of Caribbean-specific events highlighting the vibrant and diverse literary culture of the region.

The program features readings and panel discussions, children’s writers to inspire young readers, storytelling and music, plus publishers at the “Street Fair”.

Among the largest and finest literary gatherings in the United States, Miami Book Fair’s eight-day festival features readings and conversations with some of the world’s most renowned authors and more than 200 booksellers and exhibitors across various genres, interests, languages, and cultures.

“Miami is the unofficial crossroads of the Caribbean,”

Lissette Mendez, director of programs for Miami Book Fair, said in a recent press release promoting the event, “which is why the fair has always included the most prominent writers from the region. Our ReadCaribbean program formalizes this focus.”

SUPPORT

ReadCaribbean is presented with the support of the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation and the Green Family Foundation, in partnership with Sosyete Koukouy, Bocas Literary Festival, and ReadJamaica.

Kimberly Green, of the Green Family Foundation, said of the ReadCaribbean program: “In keeping with Green Family Foundation’s commitment to the diversity of Miami’s community, we are

proud to partner with the Miami Book Fair in highlighting and featuring authors and creative minds from our neighbors in Latin America and the Caribbean.”

In addition to events which specifically highlight Caribbean themes, authors from the Caribbean and its diaspora will participate in readings and other events throughout the fair. When appropriate, author events will take place in creole or French with simultaneous translation into English.

For a complete list of authors of Caribbean heritage, visit www.miamibookfair.com, call 305-237-3528 or e-mail wbookfair@mdc.edu.

- Edited from information submitted by Miami Book Fair.



Bernie Sanders to discuss his book 'Our Revolution'

United States Senator Bernie Sanders will discuss his book “Our Revolution: A Future To Believe In” at this year’s Miami Book Fair.

Sanders, who ran for U.S. president, is scheduled to appear at special event at 6:30 p.m. Nov. 19.

In his book, Sanders shares personal experiences from the campaign trail,

recounting the details of his historic fight in the Democratic Party primary. He outlines a progressive economic, environmental, racial, and social justice agenda aimed at creating jobs, raise wages, protect the environment, and provide healthcare for all - to ultimately transform the U.S. and world for the better.



Music, comedy, cooking among MBF highlights

c, comedy, cooking demonstrations, art and 500-plus authors are scheduled for Miami Book Fair 2016 this month in South Florida.

In addition to Caribbean authors, dozens of writers from Latin America and Spain are scheduled to take part in the “IberoAmerican Authors Program”.

Cooking demonstrations will also be staged at Kitchen

Stadium at North East Second Avenue and North East Third Street in downtown Miami. Games, food and live performances will be held at the Porch.

Storytelling and pop-up fun rooms will be available at Children’s Alley.

Visit MiamiBookFair.com for more information.



TALK SHOP: Panels to focus on Caribbean history, literature, culture

Tales from the Caribbean, from the days of colonization to the present, are among those scheduled to be unveiled at the 2016 Miami Book Fair to be held this month in South Florida.

The following is a sample of the scheduled discussions:

Transatlantic Pollination (English)

The Caribbean colonies were established - and served for centuries - as a nexus for various forms of trade. The region also became a cultural crossroads, blending European, African and indigenous American culture.

Join Jacqueline Couti, Laurent Dubois, Ronald Angelo Johnson, Andrea J. Queeley and moderator Marlene L. Daut for a panel discussion exploring the interplay of cultural currents throughout the Caribbean.

The Caribbean Short Story: Continuity, Innovation, and the Voices of Story Writing (English)

The short story is a vital Caribbean literary form. Through its continuity and innovation, the short story gathers and reflects the individual and collective voices of culture and history.

Join Caribbean short story writers and editors Rhoda Bharath, Sharon Millar and Olive Senior as they consider the problems and possibilities - aesthetic, traditional, ideological, and cultural - of publishing short stories.

The panel will also explore the ways that short fiction has

changed the Caribbean literary landscape over the ages.

No Place Like Home: Setting in the Contemporary Caribbean Novel (English)

Where does one set the modern novel in this globalized age? What are the artistic and

A-Dziko Simba Gegele, Melanie Schwapp and Tanya Shirley.

The Politics of Pleasure: Caribbean Women Writing about Sex (English)

Caribbean sexuality is both hyper-visible and obscured. Celebrated in popular culture as

Koze Mande Chèz: Conversations on Contemporary Haitian Literature (Kreyol Ayisyen with simultaneous interpretation in English)

The current state of contemporary Haitian literature is discussed. Join the panel for a discussion of Haiti’s literature from each author’s generational, linguistic and stylistic perspective.

Panel includes Edwidge Danticat, Yanick Lahens, Gary Victor and moderator Michèle Pierre-Louis.

Vodou Explorations (Kreyol Ayisyen with simultaneous interpretation in English)

Vodou (in its various forms) is an integral cornerstone of West African roots culture. Contemporary authors and scholars will explore different facets of vodou.

Panel includes Mimerose Beaubrun, Jerry M. Gilles, Frantz “Kiki” Wainwright and moderators Gérard Férère and Ingrid Llera.

Reformation: Women on History, Mystery and Inspiration (French with simultaneous interpretation in English)

Authors on this panel have produced works that force the reader to re-contextualize their perceptions of Caribbean women, both historically and

spiritually, and present their ideas on developing a new toolkit for the modern Caribbean woman.

Panel includes Beaubrun, Myriam J.A. Chancy, Gessica Génés, Gisèle Pineau and moderator Nancy Férère.

Pwezi Kreyol Kounye a (Presented in Kreyol Ayisyen with Simultaneous Interpretation in English)

A panel of poets detail their exploration of “modern” Haitian creole poetic forms and their reflections on the past and present state of Haitian poetry.

Panel includes Anivince Jean-Baptiste, Josaphat-Robert Large, Yvette Leroy-Wanègès, Schiller Marcelin, Iléus Papillon and moderator Lochard Noël.

State of the Kreyol Union: A Discussion with Members of the Kreyol Academy (Kreyol Ayisyen with simultaneous interpretation in English)

Haiti’s recently established “Akademi Kreyol Ayisyen” is tasked with the development, preservation and propagation of Haitian creole. Current members deal with matters pertaining to the language, and present work on the past, present and future of Kreyol Ayisyen.

Panel includes Gérard Férère, Michel-Ange Hyppolite, Claude Pierre, Jean-Robert Placide, Marie Jocelyne Trouillot, and moderator Max Manigat.

- Edited from article submitted by Miami Book Fair.



Alexis



Beaubrun



Couti



Danticat



Daut



Delgado



Dubois



Gegele



Hyppolite



Lahens



Large



Marcelin



Millar



Senior

political implications of these choices?

In a modern world where stories take place across and outside of national boundaries, how does setting impact subject, tone, and point of view?

A panel of Caribbean writers, with ties to multiple countries, will reflect on how to situate the trans-national novel and highlight narrative tools to bring geographically rich narratives to life. The scheduled panel includes André Alexis, Jacqueline Bishop and Marie-Ketsia Théodore-Pharel.

Reading Jamaica (English)

Poetry and prose from some of Jamaica’s finest writers, including Dingo, Garfield Ellis,

an important ingredient in Caribbean social life and flaunted to attract tourists to the region, sex is also shrouded in double entendre, secrecy and shame.

This discussion, presented by “Origins”, a literary journal that explores the narrative arts through the lens of identity, will explore the difficulties and delights of Caribbean women writing about sex and desire across generations, cultures, and genres.

Panelists include Anjanette Delgado, Fabienne Josaphat, Katia D. Ulysse, Donna Aza Weir-Soley, and moderators Hector Duarte, Jr. and Jennifer Maritza McCauley.

Sacred Heart University offers health care to Jamaica's poor

GORDON WILLIAMS

KINGSTON, Jamaica – Sacred Heart University in the United States is helping to chip away at health problems



– Photograph by Gordon Williams
Watson leads team to Jamaica.

affecting Jamaica, especially in struggling areas of the capital Kingston, where the need is greatest.

According to Shery Watson, who recently led a team of 26, including nursing students and medical doctors, the mission is “to provide medical care to the poor, to the impoverished communities.”

The group's visits, which started in 2008, bring medical and pharmaceutical supplies. It donates a variety of items,

including beds and machines, such as ventilators, “depending on need,” explained Watson, who, along with the team was based at the Knutsford Court Hotel in New Kingston. The number of Sacred Heart representatives who have come to Jamaica is “into the hundreds now,” she added.

The link with the Caribbean island started through a connection with a Franciscan sister at a local school who helped organize the trips. The group estimates it sees over 125 patients each day, including children and adults. The benefits go both ways.

“It's very rewarding,” said Watson, “and the people are appreciative.”

NO PROBLEM

Some of Jamaica's most notorious areas are on the group's visit list, including Tivoli Gardens, a political garrison community in west Kingston. However, the Sacred Heart University team members said they have never encountered any problems. According to Watson, they treat chronic diseases, like hypertension, diabetes and asthma.

“They need medication,” she said.

However, Watson explained, no one should believe health problems faced by Jamaicans are limited to the Caribbean island.

“It's the same issues throughout the world,” she said.



Vaccination, not spray, most effective fighting flu ~ CDC

BOB LAMENDOLA

As flu season approaches, parents can no longer rely on protecting their children with nasal spray vaccine that was popular among kids who hate shots.

Federal vaccine officials no longer recommend the spray because it didn't work. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and Prevention says several new studies showed that spray vaccine did little or nothing to stop H1N1 flu virus that was the most prevalent last year.

Flu shots, however, were 63 percent successful for kids, and once again are the best option for everyone.

“We realize the change may raise questions for parents,” says Dr. Paula Thaqi, director of the Florida Department of Health in Broward County.

“We want to emphasize that in addition to hand-washing and staying home when you are sick, the best way to prevent the flu is by getting vaccinated. Consult your doctor about which vaccine is right for you.”

DANGEROUS

The 2016-17 flu season kicked off in August when retail stores began vaccinating. The CDC says influenza annually causes hundreds of thousands of illnesses – sometimes severe – and leads to 3,000 to 49,000 deaths a year.

Flu cases typically peak in December through February, but can begin unpredictably early or late. The vaccine often takes two weeks to spark an immune response. The CDC encourages flu vaccine for everyone over age six months old, even healthy adults who can be carriers of flu virus.

Along with vaccine, simple precautions work well. Wash your hands often for at least 20 seconds, avoid close contact with sick people, stay home if you are sick, and cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or your elbow.

Vaccine advocates say many people treat flu too lightly and skip flu shots. Last year, just 59 percent of U.S. children and 42 percent of adults were vaccinated. Even among seniors over age 65, who are at higher risk from flu, only 65 percent were vaccinated.

PROTECTION

Most versions of this year's flu vaccine protect against four strains of flu – A-type H1N1 and H3N2 and two strains of B-type flu. If you can't find the four-strain vaccine, the CDC recommends taking the three-strain vaccine rather than wait.

Some children ages six months to eight years may require two doses, at least four weeks apart. Ask your doctor for guidance.

It's best to get vaccine from your own doctor, but if you cannot, find other sources at <http://vaccine.healthmap.org>. Vaccine should be plentiful. The CDC expects more than 157 million doses to be



Flu shots have proven effective.

available.

For more information, contact the DOH-Broward at <http://broward.floridahealth.gov/programs-and-services/clinical-and-nutrition-services/immunizations/index.html> or 954-467-4705.

DOH-Palm Beach can be reached at 561-625-5180 or <http://palmbeach.floridahealth.gov/programs-and-services/clinical-and-nutrition-services/immunizations/index.html>.

Story and photograph submitted by Bob LaMendola, Florida Department of Health in Broward County.



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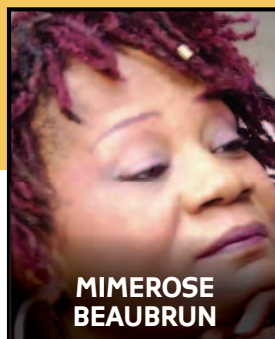
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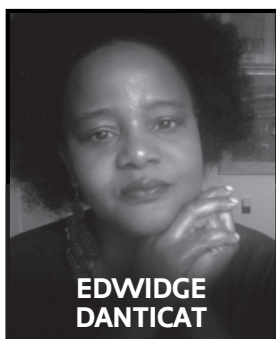
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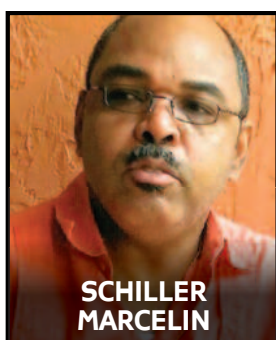
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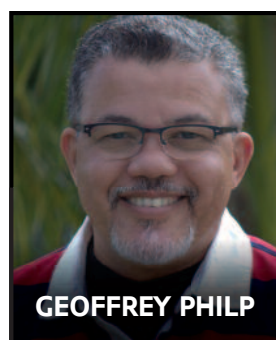
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