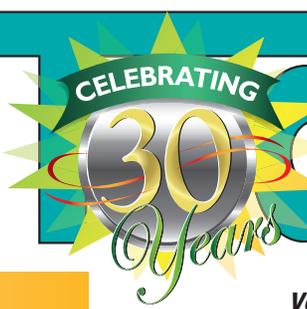


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'RUN KAMALA, RUN!'



~ Kamala Harris, daughter of a Caribbean father, has entered the race for president of the United States. Caribbean Today covers her journey with focus on:

1. The launch of Harris's campaign, page 3
2. Two books written by her, page 7

United States Census 2020

Caribbean nationals will not have to reveal whether or not they are American citizens on the next United States census after a federal judge blocked the administration of President Donald Trump which sought to force them to do so, page 2.



Thousands of young Caribbean "Dreamers" will continue – for now – to benefit from Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals after the U.S. Supreme

Court took no action against the program, stalling attempts to end it by the Trump administration, page 5.



AWESOME JOURNEY

~ Jamaican American Dale V.C. Holness was unanimously voted vice mayor for Broward County, Florida by his colleagues recently. Holness credits his political rise to his Caribbean roots. The "country boy from the parish of Hanover" is making political progress, page 8

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Judge rules Caribbean nationals won't have to declare citizenship on 2020 U.S. census

Caribbean nationals will not have to reveal whether or not they are American citizens on the next United States census after a federal judge last month blocked an attempt by the administration of President Donald Trump which sought to force them to do so.

Judge Jesse Furman, from the Southern District of New York, ruled in mid-January that the Trump administration could not add a citizenship question to the 2020 census.

The census is used to count the nation's population, which includes hundreds of thousands of Caribbean nationals, some undocumented. It also includes



- Photograph by Daily Beast

questions which provide answers that policy makers use to address issues such as allocating resources.

Immigrants from the Caribbean and other communities supported Furman's decision.

"I celebrate this ruling with the millions of immigrants

throughout our city and our country who feared they would be targeted or silenced if this question were allowed to tarnish and bias the census," Jumaane D. Williams, Caribbean American New York City Council member, told the **Caribbean Media Corporation**.

Critics of the Trump plan believe the citizenship question is not necessary and forcing respondents to answer it would lead to immigrants and minorities shying away from participating in the census. Immigrants, including those from the Caribbean, have expressed

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 4)

Surinamese demand jail release for 75-y-o cocaine-selling granny

PARAMARIBO, Suriname – The arrest of a 75-year-old grandmother on drug related charges resulted in people here trolling police and calling for her release.

The woman, known as Nankoemarie N., was arrested in this Caribbean community country last month after police raided her home and alleged that she was running a small "cocaine empire".

The arrest became such a hot topic that the hashtag #FreeGazaNani began trending on social media.

Reports indicate police caught a group of teenagers selling crack cocaine in a neighborhood in Kwatta, western Paramaribo. The boys allegedly told police they were selling the narcotics for a woman. One identified the woman as his aunt.

When police raided the woman's house, they allegedly found a large amount of cocaine, plus proof the boys were selling the drugs at Nankoemarie N's behest. She and the boys were arrested.

TWIST

The case took an unexpected turn, however, when people nicknamed the woman "Gaza Nani" - a play on the Gaza Strip's terrorism reputation and



Nankoemarie N.

the woman reportedly being as tough as a terrorist - and started calling for her release.

"Free Gaza Nani, she is so inspiring. Girl Power Female Power! Let her go. She is a well-respected drug dealer who wasn't selling kilograms, but just a couple of grams here and there so she could buy bread, milk and masala," one person joked on social media.

Some hinted, seriously, that an old lady didn't belong in prison and police should go after big drug dealers. Some also explained that Suriname is in sad state when elders have to resort to crime to survive financially.

None of these reports had been confirmed by police or **Caribbean Today** up to press time.

- Edited from CMC.

Caribbean man wins \$298M in N.Y. Powerball lotto

A Caribbean-born truck driver living in New York last month claimed a \$298.3 million prize for winning the second biggest Powerball lottery jackpot in the state's history.

Dave Johnson, who migrated from Jamaica at age 16, bought the winning ticket on Dec. 26 at a store across the street from his place of employment.

The winning numbers were 5-25-38-52-67, plus Powerball 24. Johnson, 56,

finally came forward last month to claim the cash option for his prize, a net total of more than \$114 million after required holdings.

"I'm happy with joy inside," Johnson, a Brooklyn resident, told **CNN** affiliate **WABC**.

According to Johnson, his



Johnson

job is across the street from the gas station where he bought the winning ticket. However, he told **WABC** he did not check his ticket immediately after the drawing, although a friend had informed him someone had bought the winning ticket from the store had won the massive prize. Days later Johnson did and discovered he had the winning numbers.



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Daughter of Caribbean immigrant enters race for U.S. president

GORDON WILLIAMS

The daughter of a Jamaican-born immigrant has entered the race for the highest political office in the United States.

Senator Kamala Harris, whose father Donald migrated



Harris is already a force in the U.S. Senate.

from the Caribbean island to seek higher education, married her Indian-born mother and had two daughters, last month announced she is running as a Democratic candidate for U.S. president. Sister Maya is her campaign chair.

Harris, 54, who became the first African American attorney general of California and, in 2016, was elected the second black female U.S. senator, originally made the announcement on Jan. 21 on the ABC television program "Good Morning America". The same day she released a social media video announcing her candidacy and also tweeted: "I'm running for president. Let's do this together."

On Jan. 27 Harris officially launched her campaign at a rally in her hometown Oakland, California, promising to bring honor to the office.

"I will lead with integrity and I will speak the truth," she told the estimated crowd of 20,000, which repeatedly chanted "Kamala!, Kamala!"

During the rally, Harris urged Americans to demand a U.S. system fair for all by quoting lyrics of late Jamaican reggae superstar Bob Marley.

"Get up, stand up and don't give up the fight," she said.

PIONEER

Harris's announcement came on the day Americans celebrate the legacy of slain civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and during the week marking the 47th year the late African American Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm decided to run for U.S. president. Chisholm's parents were also Caribbean immigrants. The logo for Harris's campaign are red and yellow, the same colors on the campaign buttons used by Chisholm during her run. Her campaign theme is: "Kamala Harris for the people".

When Harris was asked how she viewed herself, considering her background of being the African American child of Caribbean and Asian immigrants, she replied: "I describe myself as a real American."

Harris, who pronounces her first name "Comma-la", is hoping to survive multiple

Democratic Party primary elections, which could include more than a dozen candidates. She is embracing the challenge.

"I think it will be a robust and healthy conversation," Harris told "The Rachel Maddow Show" on Jan. 23.

If she succeeds, Harris will likely face incumbent

Republican President Donald Trump in the Nov. 2020 election. Harris has blasted Trump for what she called his divisive policies, including those against immigrants.

"America," she said in Oakland, "we are better than this."

Last month Harris released

two publications – a children's book titled "SUPERHEROES Are Everywhere" and the biography "The Truths We Hold – An American Journey". "SUPERHEROES" pointed to key influences, including her father, who she said gave her

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 6)

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No confidence motion against Guyana's gov't is valid ~ court

GEORGETOWN, Guyana – Acting Chief Justice Roxanne George-Wiltshire has ruled the motion of no confidence passed in the National Assembly on Dec. 21, which brought down the David Granger-led coalition government, is valid.

The Jan. 31 ruling paves the way for fresh regional and general elections to be held

here later this year.

Under the Guyana Constitution, elections must be held within 90 days of the motion of no confidence being passed.

Attorney General Basil Williams has since given notice that he intends to appeal the ruling.

Justice George-Wiltshire also said anyone who holds

dual citizenship, as envisaged by Article 155 of the Guyana Constitution, “should not and could not be” a member of the Guyana Parliament.

She delivered her ruling in the three matters regarding the validity of the successful Opposition People's Progressive Party (PPP) motion of no confidence.



General elections in BVI set for Feb. 25

General elections will be held in the British Virgin Islands on Feb. 25.

Premier Dr. Orlando Smith announced the date on Jan. 23 in the House of Assembly shortly after he declared the House dissolved.

Five known political organizations have declared they will contest the elections. They are the ruling National Democratic Party (NDP) and

the Virgin Islands Party (VIP), Progressives United, Progressive Virgin Islands Movement and the newly-formed Reform Action Alliance.



Smith

Last November, Governor

Augustus Jaspert announced general elections would be held earlier than scheduled based on advice from the premier, who decided to forego a by-election for the Fifth Electoral District. That district became vacant in October following the death of Representative Delores Christopher.



Judge rules Caribbean nationals won't have to declare citizenship on 2020 U.S. census

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2)

reluctance to answer the citizenship question, fearing they would be eventually targeted by discriminatory policies.

“This ruling is a forceful rebuke of the Trump administration’s attempt to weaponize the census for an attack on immigrant communities,” Dale Ho, director of the Voting Rights Project at the American Civil Liberties Union, which represented some plaintiffs at the trial, stated in a release.

VIOLATION

Participation in the census is required under law. A U.S. resident can be fined for failing to complete and return the census form or for falsely answering census questions.

Some critics also argued that the inclusion of the citizenship question was a deliberate attempt by the Trump administration to reduce participation in the census by immigrants and minorities, therefore allowing it to make policy to benefit a select

category of people in the U.S.

The suit was filed by a combination of 18 states, plus some cities and immigrant rights organizations.

The judge, in a written decision, explained that adding the citizenship question violated federal law. Under the Administrative Procedure Act (APA), the judge ruled, agencies cannot change a policy without conducting careful study, which the judge said the administration didn't do under the guidance of Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross, who is in charge of the U.S. Census Bureau.

'ARBITRARY'

“Secretary Ross’s decision to add a citizenship question was ‘arbitrary and capricious’ on its own terms,” Furman wrote.

“He failed to consider several important aspects of the problem; alternately ignored, cherry-picked, or badly misconstrued the evidence in the record before him; acted irra-

tionally both in light of that evidence and his own stated decisional criteria; and failed to justify significant departures from past policies and practices - a veritable smorgasbord of classic, clear-cut APA violations.”

The judge explained that adding the citizenship question did not mean the question itself was unconstitutional nor was its intent to discriminate. Those opposed to the citizenship question are convinced the judge's ruling stopped an injustice.

“The evidence at trial, including from the government’s own witness, exposed how adding a citizenship question would wreck the once-in-a-decade count of the nation’s population,” Ho’s statement added. “The inevitable result would have been - and the administration’s clear intent was - to strip federal resources and political representation from those needing it most.”

- G. Williams



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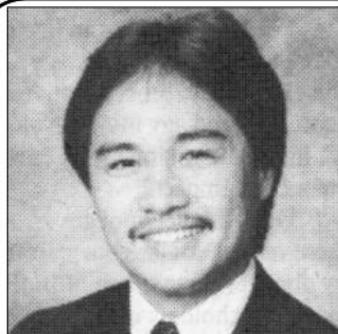
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NO ACTION: Caribbean 'Dreamers' get relief from U.S. Supreme Court

Thousands of young Caribbean "Dreamers" will continue – for now – to benefit from Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) after the United States Supreme Court last month took no action against the program, stalling attempts to end it by the administration of President Donald Trump.

The Supreme Court's decision means, at least for another year, an estimated 700,000 DACA recipients, who are who were brought to the U.S. by their parents as undocumented immigrant children, or those who stayed in the country longer than their visas allowed, will not have to fear immediate deportation.

Most benefiting from DACA are from Mexico, El

Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras. However, many are from the Caribbean. In 2017, for example, the Pew Research Center listed Jamaica (2,640) and Dominican Republic (2,430) with the most DACA recipients among 690,000 enrolled in the program.

The Trump administration had asked the Supreme Court to decide DACA's fate this year. But with last month's no action, the court won't hear arguments in the DACA case until later this year, possibly in October. The judges could then deliver a decision on the program next year.

The Supreme Court's no action, therefore, gives DACA recipients, known as "Dreamers", relief at least up

to that time.

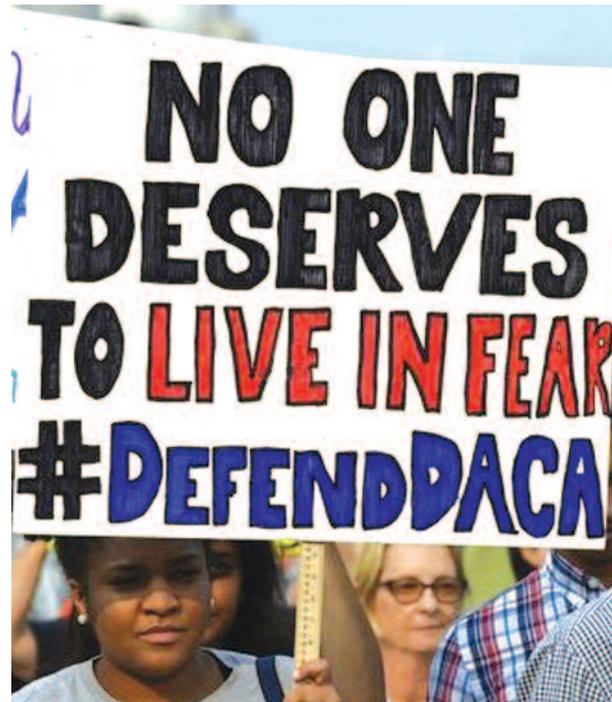
Jeff Sessions, then Trump's attorney general, called DACA unlawful. However, federal courts in multiple states have stymied the administration's attempt to end the program. A judge in Texas declared DACA illegal, but declined to stop it.

CONDITIONS

In 2012, DACA was implemented via executive order by former President Barack Obama. Many recipients were too young to remember much about where they were born and consider the U.S. home.

For the young undocumented immigrants to stay in the U.S. under DACA, they must attend school. They're permitted to work and allowed a driver's license.

DACA, which Trump once declared support for, then later backtracked, appears set to become a hot button issue for the 2020 presidential campaign. Polls have



DACA remains a hot button political issue in the U.S.

shown majority U.S. public support for the program.

Yet DACA is already entangled in the current political debate. As the standoff over the partial U.S. government shutdown spilled from last December into 2019, Trump said he would consider temporary extension of DACA, among other conces-

sions, if Democrats in the U.S. Congress approved more than \$5 billion to build a wall on the U.S.-Mexico border.

The Democrats, who largely support DACA, immediately rejected the deal. Still, following the re-opening of the government last month, the program was again floated as a possible component of a deal that would prevent another shutdown.

DACA, political observers believe, could also resurface as a key bargaining tool for several other issues, especially as the 2020

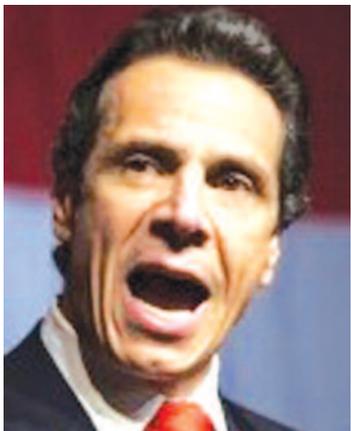
elections approach.

Meanwhile, although a Supreme Court decision on DACA may not come until next year, the U.S. Congress could, on its own, decide the program's fate.

- G. Williams



Undocumented Caribbean students receive boost from New York law



Cuomo

NEW YORK – Legislators in New York have passed a bill that, for the first time, provides undocumented Caribbean and other immigrant students access to financial aid and scholarships for higher education in the state.

On Jan. 23, the José Peralta New York State DREAM Act was passed 40-20 during the New York Senate Majority Conference and 90-37 in the New York State Assembly. New York Governor Andrew Cuomo said he would sign it into law.

The legislation allows undocumented children, who are already students in New York State, the ability to qualify for state aid for higher education, create a Dream Fund

for college scholarship opportunities and remove barriers that prevent undocumented families from college saving programs.

Allowing undocumented youths to access financial assistance will enable them to earn degrees, access employment and support their local economies across the state.

CRITICAL

Caribbean American legislators praised the passage of the bill.

Guyanese-born Senator Roxanne J. Persaud, who represents the 19th Senatorial District in Brooklyn, said granting children of immigrants the same access to financial aid available to citizens is "fair and imperative for their chance at higher education."

The Act will create a DREAM fund commission and a DREAM fund to advance the educational opportunities of the children of immigrants by providing scholarships to college bound students and eliminate financial obstacles to obtaining state financial aid.

- Edited from CMC.



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Caribbean American elected to powerful position in U.S. Congress

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Caribbean American Congresswoman Yvette D. Clarke has been elected to a powerful post in the United States House of Representatives.

Clarke, the daughter of Jamaican immigrants who represents the 9th Congressional District in Brooklyn, New York, was elected on Jan. 15 to serve as vice chair of the full commit-

tee on the House's Energy and Commerce Committee in the 116th Congress. Clarke told **Caribbean Media Corporation** she was "honored" by the appointment.

As the committee's vice chair, Clarke said her concerns include the safety of migrant children at the U.S. southern border, climate resiliency, net neutrality, lowering prescription drug prices, broadband infra-

structure, cyber security, privacy and consumer protection. She also vowed "to ensure that all Americans have access to affordable health care."

'DESIRES'

Clarke's election to the committee follows the Nov. 2018 midterm elections, which gave her Democratic Party control of the House.

"The 2018 midterm elec-

tion reflects the desires of the American people for progress and advances in achieving a quality of life that surpasses that of prior generations," she told CMC.

"It is my firm belief that we have what it takes to achieve these advances. It just takes our will and resolve to make it so.

Clarke said her role as vice chair will include presiding at full committee hearings or

mark-ups when the chairman is not present; serve as a liaison to the Democratic Policy and Communications Committee (DPCC); helping to coordinate and develop messaging for mark-ups and high-profile hearings; and serving as the whip for mark-ups, high profile hearings and other committee activities.



What Kamala Harris stands for, against in campaign for America's top job

Caribbean American Democratic Senator Kamala Harris is running for president of the United States. Below are some of the policies she supports and some she's against:

FOR

• **Medicare for everyone** – Harris believes healthcare is a right for all and backed a 2017 bill by fellow Sen. Bernie Sanders which calls for universal health care, including the possible phasing out of private health insurance.

• **Criminal justice reform** – The former prosecutor believes, for example, too many people are currently being imprisoned for minor crimes and minorities are often subjected to those punishments.

• **Debt free college** – Harris calls it "a priority" and proposes overhaul of the system which often leaves graduates stuck in student loan debt.

• **Tax relief** – She has proposed a "Lift Act", which Harris says will give persons making less

than \$100,000 a year a \$6,000 annual tax credit - \$500 a month. "We have to correct the course," Harris says, referring to the current tax system that benefits the extremely wealthy.

• **Gun control** – Harris supports policies like background checks for potential gun owners. "We have got to have smart gun safety laws," she says.

• **Immigration reform** – The senator, for example, supports "Dreamers" and the right for immigrants to have a path to

U.S. citizenship.

• **Troop withdrawal** – Harris wants American military to return home from foreign lands "immediately," but stresses "in a smart way."

• **Addressing climate change** – She says it's "an existential threat to us" and "our planet is at great risk."

AGAINST

• **Separation of children from parents at the U.S. border** – Harris has blasted as "inhu-

mane" the current policy, which the administration of President Donald Trump says acts as a deterrent to illegal immigration.

• **Death penalty** – The senator says she's "personally" against the policy.

• **Barriers** – Harris vows to vote against any spending for a wall at the U.S.-Mexico border.

• **Wealth inequality** – Harris says it's "unconscionable" that people holding full time jobs cannot afford rent.



Daughter of Caribbean immigrant enters race for U.S. president

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3)

confidence to take on tough challenges. "Truths" is seen as an effort to familiarize broader

U.S. with Harris's background, including her Caribbean roots.

She reportedly will make her campaign headquarters in

Baltimore, Maryland. Harris agreed to appear at a well-publicized CNN town hall meeting late January in Iowa, a bell-

wether state. It was viewed as a move to establish a national foothold. Harris repeatedly credited her upbringing for her drive to make life better in the U.S.

"My parents came here believing in a dream ... for themselves and their children," she told the town hall. "That has informed in many ways how I think about my country. I love my country."

RECORD

Harris's record as a state prosecutor makes a solid case that she's tough on crime and pro gender equality. She's also advocating for financial fairness, which she claims is escaping many Americans.

"This economy is not working for working people," Harris told "Maddow".

Feedback indicates her candidacy has gained early traction. California Democratic Congressman Ted Lieu backed Harris the day after her speech in Oakland.

"She embraces the future, not the past, and is the person we need to move America forward," read part of a tweet by Lieu.

According to a Quinnipiac poll last month, more than 90 percent of Democrats who know about Harris view her favorably, particularly among Democratic activists.

STRUGGLE

Meanwhile, her final potential opponent is struggling. A Pew Research Center poll last month showed 47 percent of Americans believe Trump, now in his third year as president, won't be a successful in the

office, while 29 percent think he will be. A NBC-Wall Street Journal poll revealed 63 percent think the U.S. "is off on the wrong track" under the leadership of Trump, who Harris called "irresponsible," especially when he chooses to govern via social media platform "Twitter".

CLASH

However, political observers are already predicting a possible clash of philosophies between Harris and some in her party who may, they argue, see her as a prosecutor who supports a justice system that has been traditionally unfair to minorities and women. She is also "personally" against the death penalty, a point Republicans are sure to use in their attacks. Harris counteracts that by pledging criminal justice reform.

"My entire career has been focused on keeping people safe," she told GMA.

"It is probably one of the things that motivates me more than anything else."

The U.S. has already had a glimpse of Harris's style. She has been incisive as a senator, especially as a member of the Intelligence Committee. Her bold approach is partly credited to her father, now a university professor. She plans to seize the opportunity.

"This is a moment in time that I feel a sense of responsibility to stand up and fight for the best of who we are," Harris told GMA.

Caribbean Today takes a look at Kamala Harris through her most recent books, page 7.



Spring Health



The April issue of Caribbean Today will feature a comprehensive examination of how the healthcare industry serves the Caribbean community.

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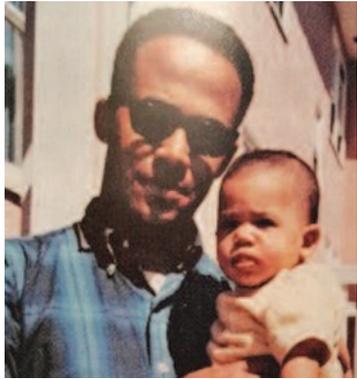
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READY TO RUN: Kamala Harris's books lay out foundation for greatness

GORDON WILLIAMS

As a child, United States Senator Kamala Harris remembers the urgings of her Jamaican father.

“Just let her run, Shyamala!” Donald would say to her mother as Harris set off on another playful dash. “... Run Kamala. As fast as you



Donald and baby Kamala Harris

can. Run!”

Dad wanted Harris to be bold, to test her best. Now she's in the biggest race of her life, after announcing she's running for president of the U.S.. It appears her father's aim, to infuse belief to embrace challenges without fear, worked.

“My dad was a superhero because he made me feel brave,” Harris writes in her children's book “SUPERHEROES Are Everywhere”, one of two published works released last month.

The book drives a theme of inspiration and praise for those who helped shape Harris's character. Although Harris was raised mainly by her single mother, following the couple's divorce when she was seven, her father's message stuck. In Harris's second release, a biography titled “The Truths We Hold - An American Journey”, she describes her dad as “a brilliant student” who migrated from the Caribbean island to attend college in the U.S., where he studied economics and is professor emeritus at Stanford University. His playground encouragement remains embedded in Harris's mind.

“I remember that when I was a little girl,” Harris writes in “Truths”, “my father wanted me to run free.”

MOTIVATION

That confidence was reinforced by Harris's Indian-born mother (a scientist who later died from cancer) plus friends and family, including many in Jamaica, which she and her sister Maya visited growing up. Both books show off photographs of Harris as a child with Jamaican relatives like great grandmother Iris Finegan, grandmother Beryl,

and grandfather Oscar Joseph.

Harris would grow up to run - and win - other races, from college posts to political office in her home state of California. She served as district attorney in San Francisco (2004-2010) and became the state's attorney general (2011-2017). Along the way, she campaigned on issues such as correcting a flawed justice system that unfairly punished minorities and the poor. Harris published “Smart on Crime: A Prosecutor's Plan To Make Us Safer” in 2009. She also blasted a financial establishment that preyed on the same vulnerable groups.

In 2017 Harris was elected to the U.S. Senate, where she has established herself as a tough, direct but fair political force, unwilling, as she outlines in “Truths”, to be chained by norms not worth preserving. In the era of President Donald Trump, where one political scandal tumbles right behind another, Harris is also recognized as an honest, steel-edged inquisitor, especially on the Senate Intelligence Committee. She's also been a member of the Committee on the Budget; Homeland Security and Government Affairs; and Committee on the Judiciary.

URGE

Still, some have criticized her “prosecutorial” style of questioning. Harris isn't fazed.

In “Truths”, Harris recites a lesson learned early: “... the power to make the world a better place is inside all of us.” At age 54, she is feeling the need to expand that power. But she is expected face a crowded field of Democratic presidential candidates hoping to challenge Trump next year. On Jan. 21, which is marked in the U.S. as a day of recognition for slain civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., the first black California attorney general finally announced her decision to run.

The junior senator's stint in the national political spotlight has been brief, but Harris is no stranger to being a voice for public opinion. In “Truths” she recalls her parents taking her to political rallies as a child. She was active in social causes, such as protests for civil rights, throughout her school years, including Howard University and the University of California, Hastings College, where she studied law.

Yet, according to her bio, Harris's formal education is only one pillar in a foundation that has put her firmly among the fresh voices in American politics. She's already forged

important political alliances, calling former President Barack Obama, who also took the presidential plunge as a young U.S. senator, “my friend.”

VISION

“SUPERHEROES” aims to empower children (“You're a hero by being the very best

you”, Harris writes.) “Truths” lays out her views on a wide range of political issues, including support for the public's “right” to health care, belief that climate change is real and threatening, equal justice for all, the importance of fair taxation and same sex marriage. She also sees the need to fix the American

economy so everyone - not just the rich and corporations - benefits.

“It's necessary, it's moral, and it's wise,” she writes.

Yet deeply entwined in her character is the influence of her Caribbean roots. She supports “Dreamers” and

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 8)



CITY OF MIRAMAR

Ballot Style 8	Seq:008	
Official 2019 Municipal Election March 12, 2019 Broward County, Florida	Elección Oficial Municipal del 2019 12 de Marzo del 2019 Condado de Broward, Florida	2019 Ofisyèl Eleksyon Minisipal 12 Mas, 2019 Konte Broward, Florida
Ballot Instructions: • To vote, fill in the oval ● completely next to your choice. Use only the marking device provided or a black pen. • If you make a mistake, ask for a new ballot. Do not cross out or your vote may not count.		
Instrucciones Para La Boleta: • Para votar, llene completamente el ovalo ● junto a su selección. Use sólo una pluma de tinta negra para marcar la boleta. • Si se equivoca, pida una nueva boleta. Si borra algo o hace marcas, es posible que su voto no se cuente.		
Enfòmasyon Sou Bilten Vòt: • Pou vote, byen kolore tout andan oval ● ki akote respons ou chwazi a. Sèlman sèvi ak yon plim nwa oubyen ak yon kreyon pou ekri sou bilten vòt la. • Si w fè yon erè, mande yo ba w yon nouvo bilten vò. Si w efase oubyen fè nouvo mak, l ap posib pou vòt ou pa valab ankò.		
Miramar		
Mayor Seat 5 Alcalde Escaño 5 Majistra Syèj 5 (Vote for One/Vote por Uno/Vote pou Youn)		
<input type="radio"/> Josue Larose <input type="radio"/> Wayne M. Messam		
City Commission Seat 4 Comisionado de la Ciudad Escaño 4 Komisè Vil La Syèj 4 (Vote for One/Vote por Uno/Vote pou Youn)		
<input type="radio"/> Alexandra Davis <input type="radio"/> Leo Gilling <input type="radio"/> Dennis M. Hinds <input type="radio"/> Barbara Ingram <input type="radio"/> Darline Bernot Riggs		

City of Miramar Polling Stations

Precinct No.	Polling Stations	Address
W001	Vernon E. Hargray Youth Enrichment Center	7000 Miramar Parkway, Miramar, FL 33023
W002	Pembroke Road Baptist Church	7130 Pembroke Road, Miramar, FL 33023
W003	Miramar United Methodist Church	2507 Utopia Drive, Miramar, FL 33023
W004	Vernon E. Hargray Youth Enrichment Center	7000 Miramar Parkway, Miramar, FL 33023
W005	Fairway Elementary School	7850 Fairway Boulevard, Miramar, FL 33023
W006	Sunshine Elementary School	7737 La Salle Boulevard, Miramar, FL 33023
W007	Miramar United Methodist Church	2507 Utopia Drive, Miramar, FL 33023
W008	The Bridge Church	9300 Pembroke Road, Miramar, FL 33025
W009	Coconut Palm Elementary School	13601 Monarch Lakes Boulevard, Miramar, FL 33027
W010	A.C. Perry Elementary School	6850 SW 34 Street, Miramar, FL 33023
W011	A.C. Perry Elementary School	6850 SW 34 Street, Miramar, FL 33023
W012	Miramar High School	3601 SW 89 Avenue, Miramar, FL 33025
W013	Sea Castle Elementary School	9600 Miramar Boulevard, Miramar, FL 33025
W014	Coral Cove Elementary School	5100 SW 148 Avenue, Miramar, FL 33027
W015	Sunset Lakes Elementary School	18400 SW 25 Street, Miramar, FL 33029
W016	Sunset Lakes Community Center	2801 SW 186 Avenue, Miramar, FL 33029
W017	Dolphin Bay Elementary School	16450 Miramar Parkway, Miramar, FL 33027
W018	Silver Lakes Elementary School	2300 SW 173 Avenue, Miramar, FL 33029
W019	Sunset Lakes Community Center	2801 SW 186 Avenue, Miramar, FL 33029
W020	Coral Cove Elementary School	5100 SW 148 Avenue, Miramar, FL 33027
W021	New Renaissance Middle School	10701 Miramar Boulevard, Miramar, FL 33025
W022	Miramar Town Center	2300 Civic Center Place, Miramar, FL 33025
W023	New Renaissance Middle School	10701 Miramar Boulevard, Miramar, FL 33025
W024	Miramar Elementary School	6831 SW 26 Street, Miramar, FL 33023
W025	Fairway Elementary School	7850 Fairway Boulevard, Miramar, FL 33023

YOUR POLLING LOCATION is listed on voter I.D. card. You must notify Broward County Supervisor of Election's Office if you move from the address on your voter I.D. card. If you are unsure of the polling location, call 954-357-7050.

The polls are open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Election Day.

PHOTO AND SIGNATURE IS REQUIRED when you go to your polling place to vote. Each elector is required to present a Florida Driver's License, a Florida Identification Card issued under F.S.S. 322.051, or any other acceptable photo I.D.

'AWESOME JOURNEY': Broward commish credits Caribbean heritage for success

DAWN A. DAVIS

Jamaican American Dale V.C. Holness was unanimously voted vice mayor for Broward County, Florida by his colleagues during the county commission's annual reorganization meeting in November.

Holness, who has represented District 9 while serving as Broward County commissioner since 2010, will fulfill the additional role of vice mayor for a year. For him, the accomplishment is rewarding, especially when his background is considered.

"It is gratifying that my colleagues see fit to honor a country boy from the parish of Hanover, Jamaica, to be one of nine and to have the second in command politically for the county of Broward," he told **Caribbean Today** in a recent telephone interview.

"That's an awesome journey for someone from the humble beginnings that I've had."

Broward County has nine commissioners, who are elected by residents, with each representing a particular district. Amongst the nine, Holness explained, the mayor and vice mayor are selected, but still maintain their commission post. As vice mayor, he will represent the mayor at events, as well as sign and execute

documents in the mayor's absence.

Holness credits his Caribbean heritage for his tenacity and success in community building.

"Being a little Jamaican but very tallawah means the spirit and the character that is built inside of you from that heritage says you can achieve," he explained.

"You can be a Nanny and take on the impossible, or Paul Bogle or a Marcus Garvey (all Jamaica national heroes) transforming the world. By leading an organization that to date has been the largest of its kind when it comes to organizing people of the African diaspora, I'm leading that agenda to empower those people and to build the entire African diaspora and even support the development of Africa."

PRIORITIES

One of Holness's top priorities is economic development, particularly the participation of small businesses and minority and women-owned businesses in contracting opportunities. He claimed that since he was elected to office the percentage of small minority/women-owned business participation in government contracts has moved from over 10 percent to more than 21 percent. There is room, he



Holness

said, for more improvement.

"In fact, the next 30 years will generate \$15.3 billion from the additional penny sales tax on transportation," Holness added. "And through my leadership, we are now focused on getting 30 percent of that to small, minority, and women-owned businesses."

Part of his economic development plan involves trade. For the past four years he has hosted the Florida International Trade and Cultural Expo (FITCE), a huge event that last year attracted representatives from 54 countries, including 1,200 attendees. Holness also led a trade mission to India to open doors and opportunities for Florida goods and services to the rest of the world and create lasting bilateral relationships.

CHALLENGES

His plans are grand, but

Holness claims he's up for the challenges going forward. He said he's working on two issues that plague Broward. One is affordable housing. Holness explained that rising housing prices and steady upticks in the county's population is pushing officials to ensure the availability of affordable housing. Holness said he's working with developers to implement inclusionary zoning that includes affordable housing.

The other problem Broward must confront, according to Holness, is reforming its criminal justice system.

"We're locking up too many people and wasting human and financial capital on minor offenses," he explained.

"Things like an open container of alcohol, loitering, having a little bit of weed, even minor shoplifting are minor issues that we can find alternatives to, such as putting them in programs.

"For example, if you're likely to do any of these things you probably have a drug addiction or alcohol problem, you might be mentally impaired, you might be severely underemployed and living in poverty.

"Locking you up is not going to solve those issues. So, it's better for us to bring resources to you ... We sent

one person to the Broward Addiction Recovery Centre and others to other programs. We are seeking to get them housing, to get them jobs. These are the kinds of things we need to do in order to strengthen the community."

Holness is up for re-election as commissioner in 2020. Before then, he could become mayor.

"Hopefully, if what is in place continues, come November this year if nothing changes dramatically, my colleagues should then make me the mayor of Broward County," Holness said.

"That's the tradition that we've had, moving from vice mayor to mayor. Then when I'm re-elected by the people in 2020 I'll serve another four years and continue the agenda."

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



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READY TO RUN: Kamala Harris's books lay out foundation for greatness

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7)

other pro-immigration issues. Yet she also sees the issue being exploited, by people like the current commander in chief, to seize political leverage.

"For as long as ours has been a nation of immigrants we have been a nation that fears immigrants," Harris explains in "Truths". "Fear of the other is woven into the fabric of our American culture, and unscrupulous people in power have exploited that fear in pursuit of political advantage."

Harris has been a vocal critic of Trump's travel (or "Muslim") bans, as she calls them, and his attempts to build a wall on the southern U.S. border. She's also ripped his administration's policy of separating children from their parents at the border in an attempt to deter undocumented immigrants from entering.

On Trump's immigration policies, including efforts to prevent already legally supported asylum, Harris is clear: "The United States government has brought great shame to the American people."



Baby Kamala with great grandmother Iris Fingegan in Jamaica.

WEIGHT

Harris also understands the weight placed on women wedged into a world run mostly by powerful – usually white – men. She witnessed the scathing attacks on Hillary Clinton during her 2016 presidential run, many sexist. Harris has been publicly chastised by men for her approach in the Senate and observers have noted the difference in treatment. But she has not backed down and has not hesitated to vote her conscience. When answers by highly decorated military veteran John Kelly did not satisfy Harris during his confirmation hear-



- Photograph by Gordon Williams



Kamala's parents Shyamala and Donald Harris.

ing for secretary of homeland security, she voted against him and "pressed my colleagues to do the same."

In "Truths" Harris repeatedly crowns her mother with praise. "Mommy, you are the

star of this book," she writes, "because you were the reason for everything." Another truth: Harris is a product of multiple ingredients. She's a black woman born in the U.S. to a Jamaican man and an Indian woman, married to a white man and working

in an environment dominated by white men. Yet Harris writes that she's plunging herself into the thick of the fight "for the soul of our nation."

Her first name originates from an ancient Indian word for lotus flower. But it has long Caribbean roots. Now it appears ready to roar into full bloom.

"Thank you to my father," Harris writes in "Truths", "who, when I was a young girl, encouraged me to be fearless."

- Photographs obtained from "The Truths We Hold - An American Journey".



CARIB Comments

• **“Venezuela is right at our borders so what is happening there, if it is not dealt with or solved peacefully, it can have serious consequences for all the countries in the region”** – Grenada’s Prime Minister Dr. Keith Mitchell says the ongoing political crisis in Venezuela could easily engulf the Caribbean. The United States is among western and Latin American countries publicly engaged in the issue as well.



• **“I am deeply offended by these words and actions. The White House’s decision adds insult to injury with the mounting catastrophes and distress”** – New York State Assemblywoman Rodneyse Bichotte, daughter of Haitian immigrants, blasts the administration of United States President Donald Trump’s decision to end Temporary Protection Status for over 50,000 Haitian immigrants who were granted TPS following a massive earthquake in 2010.



• **“It is a known fact that Dreamers have been contributing to our economy and society and that it would only make sense for us to extend opportunities that will better themselves and the world around them”** – Bichotte joins her Caribbean American colleagues in welcoming the New York Legislature’s passage of a bill that for the first time provides undocumented Caribbean and other immigrant students access to New York State financial aid and scholarships for higher education.



• **“Guyana is one of our hemisphere’s most strategically important partners, and it stands at the brink of potentially transformative economic development. As an emerging economy, political stability is key to the advancement of Guyana and the people of that great nation”** – United States Congressman Gregory Meeks weighs in on the political crisis in Guyana, which led to the collapse of the coalition government recently.

• **“I was then and remain infuriated by this administration’s cruel, inhumane and racist**

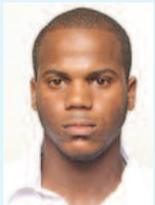
decision to end the TPS program” – U.S. Congresswoman Yvette Clarke blasts the administration of President Donald Trump for its treatment of Haitians under the Temporary Protected Status program.

• **“I could tell you this, Donald Trump could not have been elected prime minister in St. Vincent and the Grenadines because we have a party system which sifts people, twist you inside out and there are people who would be saying - one or two people with money already tried to get themselves catapulted into office you know. But ordinary people twist them, sift them and, finally, they say to themselves, ‘fool a talk but nah fool a listen’”** – St. Vincent and the Grenadines Prime Minister Ralph Gonsalves weighs in on his country’s system of vetting leaders.



• **“We therefore cannot help but recognize the tremendous potential, opportunities and benefits that are there for all Caribbean people and CARICOM nations to capitalize on – if only we can complete the urgent work of establishing a seamlessly inter-connected ‘Single Market and Single Economy’ in our vast and extensive 463,000 square kilometer Caribbean Community space”** – David Comissong, Barbados ambassador to CARICOM, makes the case for Caribbean unity.

• **“Growing up in Jamaica, I always had that dream that one day I would make it. But dreams don’t work unless you do the work. So I know there was a lot more to it than just the talent”** – John Campbell expresses his delight at being selected to the West Indies Test cricket squad to play England.



• **“We can’t just have the few elites and connected persons benefitting. Every single Jamaican must benefit from the economic growth of this country”** – Jamaica’s Prime Minister Andrew Holness last month announcing his government’s plans to privatize several entities, claiming more Jamaicans will have the opportunity to invest.



– Compiled from various sources.



LINK-UP: Building the Caribbean digital economy bit by bit using latest tools

DOYLE GALLEGOS

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Imagine disaster early warning systems using the latest tools offered by artificial intelligence and augmented reality.

Imagine tourists having ubiquitous access to one Gigabit secure wireless hot spots.

Imagine students engaged - real time - in data analytics with environmental scientists across the world via advanced networks.

These are just a few examples of the leapfrogging possibilities that three Caribbean islands are signing up for now. Can this imagination become a reality by 2020?

The island states of Grenada, St. Lucia, and St. Vincent and the Grenadines have just punched their tickets to the future. With technical and financial assistance from the World Bank, in partnership with telecommunications company Digicel, they have started the development of a future-proofed broadband infrastructure that will connect homes, schools, government offices and businesses to each other and the rest of the world by 2020.

CONNECTION

In July, the three countries signed contracts with Digicel for the construction of new government wide area networks (GWANs), educational networks for schools, libraries, and community centers; and a new submarine cable connecting St. Vincent and the Grenadines and Grenada.

These contracts were made possible through the Caribbean Regional Communications Infrastructure Program (CARCIP), with the Caribbean Telecommunications Union (CTU) as coordinator.

So how far of a leap is this?

When CARCIP was initiated, telecommunications were plagued by low bandwidth,



Photograph by World Bank

Caribbean students will help the connection future.

high prices, and poor service quality due to a reliance on legacy copper networks. There were also several large coverage gaps. Governments were often paying high prices for obsolete services and equipment, and citizens had to deal with substandard services and limited access to global networks.

Schools in Grenada and St. Lucia had serious network capacity problems. Many had limited Internet connection to support up to a thousand students. Weak connections made the service so slow that it was generally unusable.

In addition, the existing mobile carriers did not have sufficient capacity to offer 4G mobile services, the building block for eEducation initiatives in most countries.

The Grenadines were becoming uncompetitive in the tourism industry due to slow speed Internet services. Residents also faced a severe “digital divide”.

An undersea fiber optic cable could create the lily pad needed for technological leapfrogging, providing higher capacity connections. This submarine fiber is also essential to connect critical government buildings in Carriacou (such as customs offices and health clinics) and to deliver improved Internet services to

schools and community centers.

ESSENTIAL

The three governments recognized that an advanced, safe, affordable, and reliable digital infrastructure was essential for economic growth, and opted for a complete fiber optic makeover of GWANs, with a special focus on adequate Internet services to the education community.

Fiber optic connectivity to Carriacou and outlying Grenadines islands will introduce modern telecommunications services for the first time, enabling affordable Internet services.

More than 500 government buildings will be connected, an advanced data centers will be installed in Grenada and St. Lucia, and approximately 300 schools will have access to high-speed Internet. Security will be ensured, as contracts include technology updates.

But building the digital economy is not just about providing connectivity. CARCIP focused first on creating an updated policy and regulatory environment managed by the CTU and the regional regulatory authority ECTEL.

The program also includes

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 10)

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VIEWPOINT



ALL A DREAM: There's nothing golden about growing old

The irony is, people who reach the so-called golden years are often put in institutions with the same beguiling, gilt edged names such as Golden Age Home, Golden Acres, Golden Springs.

Maybe they added the word "gold" to those places and also to the years of growing old to sort of ease the pain and give the illusion that life will be glittering. We have the golden age of music, of art, and of course, the Golden Years of people. But therein lies the misnomer, the fabrication, the illusion and downright prevarication, for there is nothing golden about growing old.

Youth has its pleasures. Just watch any child playing. At that tender age, a child has nary a care in the world and, in most cases, their health and wellbeing are in tip top shape. The teenage years are pretty cool too, for with the onset of

puberty, the hormones are raging and experimentation is at its highest.

Jump to young adulthood with that first job, relationships, young love, maybe even settling down and having children.

Truly the "Golden Years".

CHANGE

Then you grow older, wiser, a bit more cautious and conservative. All things being equal, health and wellbeing are O.K. Surely, this era can also be dubbed the "Golden Years".

Then suddenly life changes. The youthfulness has



gone. You slow down. The chin starts to sag. Belly fat won't go away. The gold is starting to tarnish.

What cruel irony and wicked humor is this



TONY ROBINSON

to call that era the "Golden Years"? Elderly people don't agree these are golden years, because they bring nothing but anxiety, fearfulness, grief, frailty, pain, abandonment, incontinence and numerous health issues.

Nobody escapes. Life is now revolved around pension plans, health insurance schemes, frequent visits to the doctor, joint pain and loneliness.

I know people who are living on countless pills per day, just to be pain free and breathe properly. The ailments are too numerous to name here, but you can use your imagination.

Anyway cheer up, you have outlived many and the golden grandchildren bring joy.

seido1@hotmail.com



Caribbean Today: Dependable info

For 30 years **Caribbean Today** has highlighted on issues of importance to the Caribbean community. It's been a long and inspired journey.

The work has not gone unnoticed. In Dec. 2018, Caribbean Today marked the milestone achievement and members of the Caribbean American community showed their appreciation. Below are responses to Caribbean Today's accomplishment edited for space and content:

CARMEN BARTLETT

I applaud and congratulate Peter Webley and his team for their hard work and tenacity in achieving such milestone of 30 years in the edition of



Bartlett

Caribbean Today news magazine.

This newspaper has been a great source of information not only to me personally, but to the Jamaican/Caribbean diaspora and South Floridians. It has continued to provide valuable news coverage in health, education, politics, sports and arts/entertainment and has been the medium for businesses.

This newspaper has received many accolades for its high standard of journalism and is award winning in circulation.

I again want to congratulate Peter and his team and wish for an enjoyable 30th anniversary and a successful future.

GEOFFREY PHILP

For the past 30 years, Caribbean Today has been at the forefront of providing accurate stories about the Caribbean and its diaspora.



Philp

With Peter A. Webley at the helm, Caribbean Today has become our newspaper of record for information about events in the fields of politics, health and the arts.

Webley has also served as a valued member of the community who has brought segments of the population - often from opposite ends of the political spectrum - to create and sustain cultural institutions. This is a remarkable accomplishment given the lack of institutional longevity in South Florida and the Caribbean.

It is even more noteworthy since Caribbean Today has expanded into digital platforms to deliver dependable news by, for, and about us.

Webley is to be congratulated for his vision and tenacity in preserving Caribbean Today, not only as a reliable news source, but also as part of the region's archival memory.



LINK-UP: Building the Caribbean digital economy bit by bit using latest tools

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9)

skills development for women and youth employability and digital entrepreneurship. Digicel will simultaneously roll out advanced networks to provide a broad range of services, including high speed broadband.

The innovative contracting process and resulting PPP (public private partnership) structure is a first for digital infrastructure in the region. It is also the first of this magnitude, requiring approximately

\$45 million from governments and private partners.

This is possibly the first joint tender by three countries for such wide-ranging infrastructure, including both new construction, then transferred upfront to the governments, and service provision over a 15-year service period.

UNIQUE

The unique contracting approach allowed all three governments to obtain substantial economies of scale, allowing lower pricing and better quality

of service than if they had purchased the networks separately. In addition, governments will own the GWAN networks upon completion and have guaranteed access to large amounts of capacity.

This approach provided significant gains, but included risks: the three governments had no experience with PPPs, nor with complex digital infrastructure contracts.

So how was it put together? There are five key success factors: Support from the World Bank to deal with crisis

moments and complex administrative procedures. Partnership to address both technical and PPP sides of the project. Win-win approach to on board all parties. Patience, patience and patience exhibited by all participants.

Time has come to make the Caribbean's digital economy happen.

- Edited from CMC. Doyle Gallegos is the World Bank's lead ICT policy specialist.





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Food Trucks • Cultural exhibition area • Children's fun zone • Fireworks finale

For more information, visit www.tamarac.org or call (954) 597-3620.



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Rihanna sues dad for using her name in business deals

Barbadian pop star Rihanna is taking her father to court, claiming he and his business partner is using her name to make money against her wishes.

The “Umbrella” singer believes Ronald Fenty, who she credits with greatly influencing her career, and his partner Moses Perkins claimed their company is affiliated with her.



Rihanna

“Although Mr. Fenty is Rihanna’s father, he does not have, and never has had, authority to act on Rihanna’s behalf, nor has he ever been authorized to use her name, intellectual property or publicity rights,” court documents filed in the lawsuit by Rihanna’s legal team state. “Similarly, neither Mr. Perkins nor the Company has any affiliation whatsoever with

Rihanna.”

Fenty and Perkins reportedly launched the company Fenty Entertainment in 2017.

DEMAND

The lawsuit is demanding that Fenty and Perkins “cease and desist all activity and efforts to exploit Rihanna’s name and the goodwill associated with the Fenty brand.”

Fenty and Perkins reportedly tried to use the Fenty name to register hotels. The singer also claimed the pair, without her authority, tried to book deals for performances featuring her.

Rihanna wants them to stop using her name. Her lawsuit also seeks damages and attorney fees.

In an interview with Oprah Winfrey a few years ago, Rihanna called Fenty a “great” father who “taught me everything.”

- *Compiled from CNN.*



JA’s CG joins Steve Higgins for South Florida concert

Oliver Mair, Jamaica’s consul general in Miami, will make his United States singing debut this month at a “Steve Higgins & Friends” concert in South Florida.

The show, titled “Falling for You”, is being staged on **Feb. 16** at the David Posnack Jewish Community Center in Davie. Showtime is **7 p.m.**

Mair is scheduled to make a cameo appearance in a duo with Higgins, plus a solo performance.

“Oliver Mair has long been an aficionado of the arts, has great stage presence, lovely vocal instrument the skilled performer who has in fact written and directed his own productions,” Higgins was quoted as saying in a recent press release to promote

the show.

HAPPY

Mair, who will also perform with April Marr, Amaya Lewis and Master Matthew Higgins, said he was happy to be performing in the show, which is being presented in association with The Jamaica Tourist Board and Partners for Youth Foundation.

“Falling for You” is expected to feature a variety of songs, including Broadway classics, ballads and music from the Caribbean.

The community center is located at 5850 S. Pine Island Rd.

For more information, e-mail steve@stevehigginsproductions.com or call 954-673-5885.



Jamaica salutes legacy of icons during ‘Reggae Month’

Jamaica’s reggae icons – living and dead - will be celebrated this month in the Caribbean island.

Olivia Grange, minister of culture, gender, entertainment and sport, last month announced the launch of “Reggae Month”.

According to Grange, events will be staged across the island throughout February.

“Reggae turns 50 this year and we will be celebrating ‘Reggae Month’ under the theme ‘Celebrating Reggae’s Legacy’,” she said.

“While the ‘Reggae Month’ 2019 calendar is packed with independent events endorsed by the government of Jamaica, there are two major events that we will be producing that will honor our reggae greats,” Grange added.

“The Reggae Gold Reception and Awards Ceremony” will honor 50 reggae icons for their work, while



Brown

the “Dennis Brown Tribute Concert” will display reggae music from those who were an integral part of the music’s inception, but also upcoming artistes.

The Dennis Brown Tribute Concert is slated for Feb. 24. Reggae Gold Reception and Awards Ceremony will be held on Wednesday, Feb. 27.

ASSISTANCE

According to Gillian McDaniel, acting principal director for culture in the ministry, February’s line-up also includes events sponsored by the government of Jamaica to honor and assist reggae artistes who are in need of aid.

“There are three particular benefit concerts that we are endorsing and want to bring attention to during the month,” explained McDaniel.

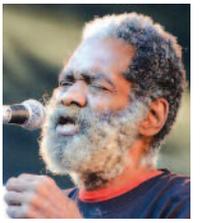
“These are the ‘Rise Up Benefit Concert’, the ‘Junior Byles Benefit Concert’ and ‘Di Real Feluke’ concert series. These three are paid concerts with proceeds going towards supporting artistes that are ailing.

“The ministry has a spon-

sorship and artiste wellbeing program and we provide facilitation support to this and other events. These three benefit concerts are deliberately being staged during ‘Reggae Month’ to take advantage of the time confluence of other reggae-related activities,” McDaniel added.

The “Rise Up Benefit Concert” will be held at Keesing Live in Kingston on Saturday, Feb. 2. The “Junior Byles Benefit Concert” will be held at the Ranny Williams Entertainment complex on Feb. 9. “Di Real Feluke” concert will have two stagings, both in Kingston, one at Jojo’s Jerk Pit and the other at 22 Jerk. Dates for these events had not been confirmed up to press time.

The list of “Reggae Month” 2019 can be viewed at www.mcges.gov.jm and at www.reggaemonthja.com.



Byles



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BRIEFS

Ex-Miss Jamaica contestant dies in U.S.

Zandrea Bailey, a 2014 Miss Jamaica Universe finalist and model, died in a United States hospital last month after a battle with illness.

Bailey, 29, was diagnosed with lupus in 2012. She succumbed to the disease at a New York hospital.

Buju launches foundation for kids

Jamaican reggae/dancehall star Buju Banton, who was recently released from prison in the United States and deported, said he’s mak-

ing an effort to help unfortunate children in his homeland.

The artiste, real name Mark Myrie, recently announced the formation of the Buju Banton Foundation, which he said will give “light to youth living in the darkness of poverty.” The foundation also said it is seeking to “identify underserved communities” in Jamaica and partner with charities in the Caribbean on the “Long Walk To Freedom Tour”.

- *Compiled from various sources.*



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT



www.caribbeantoday.com

'CARIFESTA Super Concert' set for August in T&T

GEORGETOWN, Guyana – Two of the Caribbean's best internationally known entertainers are scheduled to appear at the CARIFESTA Super Concert when the 14th edition of the Caribbean Festival of Arts (CARIFESTA) gets underway in Trinidad and Tobago this summer.



Shaggy

that Jamaica's Shaggy and Trinidad and Tobago's Machel Montano are confirmed to headline the Island Beats Super Concert, at the region's premier arts festival on Aug. 24.



Montano

The show will also feature Ricardo Drew from Antigua and CARIFESTA brand ambassadors Neval Chatelal, Nishard Mayrhuo and Nailah

Blackman.

Festival organizers said the winner of the IShine Soca Star Competition will receive the opportunity to perform on the Island Beats Super Concert stage as the CARIFESTA Secretariat seeks to develop and promote new talent.

The roving Caribbean Festival of Arts will be held in Trinidad and Tobago Aug. 16-25 under the theme "The Tangible and Intangible – Connect, Share, Invest".



St. Lucia Jazz Festival in May

Some of the biggest names in jazz music are scheduled to perform in the Caribbean during the "St. Lucia Jazz Festival" May 5-12.

Christian McBride, Ledisi, Etienne Charles, Russell Hall and Patrick Bartley will serve



Ledisi

as artistes-in-residence in St. Lucia during the festival. Gregory Porter, Dianne Reeves, Catherine Russell, Somi, The Baylor Project, Veronica Swift and members of the New Orleans Jazz Orchestra will perform.

This year's event, a collaboration between the festival and Jazz at Lincoln Center in the United States, will also feature "Artists in Education" initiatives, including classes and live performance collaborations with students at the St. Lucia School of Music.

"The 2019 'St. Lucia Jazz Festival' produced in collaboration with Jazz at Lincoln Center marks another monumental chapter in our small island's history," Dominic Fedee, St. Lucia's minister for tourism, was quoted as saying in a recent press release promoting the event.

"We are excited to begin this partnership which will bring together some of the world's best jazz artistes in the world's most beautiful destination."

St. Lucia has been hosting a jazz festival annually since 1992.

For more information, visit <http://onwww.stlucia.org> /<http://onwww.stlucia.org/http://onwww.stlucia.org/http://onwww.stlucia.org/onwww.stlucia.org>.



McBride

Top Caribbean artistes set for '9 Mile Music Festival'

Some of the top names in Caribbean music, including reggae, dancehall and soca, will be in the spotlight at this year's "9 Mile Music Festival" in Miami, Florida.



Sizzla

The festival is set for Mar. 9 at Virginia Key Beach Park.

Among the confirmed artistes are Shabba Ranks,

Sizzla, Capleton, Barrington Levy, Spice and Busy Signal. American hip hop star Nas is also in the line-up of performers.



Spice

The festival began in 1993 as, according to organizers, "a musical testament to Cedella Marley Booker to the life and philosophy of her son" Bob

Marley. It is billed as "inclusive and welcoming of all forms of music" and a means of assisting the needy as fans are encouraged to bring canned goods to donate.

The park is located at 4020 Virginia Beach Dr. For more information, call 305-665-5379.



Shabba

Film about Caribbean 'HERO' opens in Toronto this month

TORONTO, Canada – Caribbean Canadian filmmaker Frances-Anne Solomon will release her feature film "HERO" here this month.

The movie, which is inspired by the life of Ulric Cross, is scheduled for limited theatrical release. The premier is on Feb. 28 at the TIFF Bell Lightbox, 350 King St. W., Toronto.

The cast of the film, shot

'The Great Debaters' free screening in Overtown

In celebration of Black History Month and the South Florida municipality of Overtown, Black Lounge Films will present a special screening of "The Great Debaters" on Feb. 8.

The film, starring Denzel Washington, will be shown at 6:30 p.m. at the Overtown Performing Arts Center (OPAC), 1074 N.W. Third Ave., Miami.

"The Great Debaters" is

in Trinidad and Tobago, Ghana and the United Kingdom, includes T&T's Nickolai Salcedo.

Cross, who in 1941 left his Caribbean island to seek fortune, became the Royal Air Force's most decorated West Indian. He then joined the African independence movements of the 1950s and 1960s.



an American biographical drama based on a true story revolving around the efforts of debate coach Melvin B. Tolson (Washington) at Wiley College, a historically black college, to place his team on equal footing with whites in the American South during the 1930s.

Reservations required.



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Jamaicans in diaspora rally to support Highgate, a small town they call home

DAWN A. DAVIS

Florida's Jamaican-born residents are among the most active diaspora community when it comes to giving back to the country of their birth.

The growing number of



Shepherd addresses UFOH audience.

high school alumni associations and parish development groups in the state underscores the importance of community building and support among Jamaicans.

More than 50 such associations are listed on the Coalition of Jamaican Alumni Associations of Florida's website. These groups are not just about meeting old friends at reunions. They host events to raise funds for educational and infrastructure development for the institutions and communities that helped shape them.

One such organization,

The United Friends of Highgate (UFOH), hosted a gala event in December to raise awareness and funds for Highgate, a town in the parish of St. Mary. Steered by a group of volunteers who were born or grew up in the town, the non-profit organization, in existence for more than 10 years, said it is committed to contributing "to the economic, physical, educational, environmental, cultural, and social development of Highgate," according to UFOH President Lorrimer Burford.

NEEDS

With the help of its Highgate Chapter, also known as UFOH Ground Zero, the organization identifies essential needs of the community and, with funds raised through its events, provides medical supplies and equipment, skills development and educational tools to schools, health centers and social groups. The group describes itself as non-partisan, making decisions based strictly on community welfare.

"Our immediate job is to meet with the leaders in Highgate and ... encourage them to hold hands in a remarkable yet common cause for Highgate's development, no matter their political persuasion," Burford explained.

Among supporters at the December function was guest speaker Dr. Verene Shepherd,

professor of social history at the University of the West Indies, Mona Campus, and director of the Institute for Gender and Development Studies. Shepherd extolled the work being done by UFOH for the parish in which she was born.

"St. Mary has a proud history of advocacy and activism for social equality and social justice," she said. "You are truly living up to the meaning of the word 'Highgate' ... meaning way, road, path."

NOTEWORTHY

Shepherd named several Jamaicans who hail from St. Mary and who have contributed much to society, including Member of Parliament and former Minister of Youth and Culture Lisa Hanna, Senator Floyd Morris, singer Beres Hammond and Audrey Marks, Jamaica's ambassador to the United States.

She also reminded the audience that these contemporary leaders could not have achieved success without the support of revolutionary activists. She credited Chief Tacky, who led a war to liberate Jamaica from British bondage in April 1760.

"Tacky's fight was not in vain because every couple of years after that a war for liberation broke out in St. Mary," Shepherd explained. "We need to lobby for Chief Tacky to become a National Hero of Jamaica because he and his army laid the groundwork for what (Jamaica National Hero Sam) Sharpe and others later achieved."

UFOH said it is continuing the legacy by focusing on its mission to create a strong social and economic base through collaborative community development.

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



N.Y. Bar honors Barbadian

Barbadian-born Justice Sylvia Hinds-Radix has been honored by the New York State Bar Association (NYSBA) with its 2019 Diversity Trailblazer Award.

During its annual meeting last month, NYSBA said it recognized Hinds-Radix, an associate justice in the New York State Appellate Division, Second Department, for her "extraordinary efforts" in creating "opportunities for students from diverse backgrounds."

She was also honored by the NYSBA for mentoring other lawyers and for promoting "equality and diversity in the workplace."

National College Fair in Miami

Representatives from nearly 200 colleges and universities are scheduled to attend the Miami National College Fair on **Feb. 24**.

The reps will meet with students and parents on subjects such as financial aid, college planning, admission and testing requirements.

The fair, which has free admission, will be held from noon to **4 p.m.**, at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Miami Airport & Convention Center, 777 N.W. 72nd Ave., Miami, Florida.

For more information, contact the college fair hotline at **305-995-1739** or visit www.nacacnet.org.

Social Security warns: Beware fraudulent calls

The Social Security Administration in the United States is warning recipients to be aware of fraudulent telephone calls from persons claiming to represent the SSA.

According to the SSA, the "unknown callers use threatening language to warn unknown victims that they will be arrested or face other legal action if they fail to call a provided phone number or press the number indicated in the message to address the issue."

If you get such a call, contact the SSA's Office of the Inspector General by calling **1-800-269-0271**.

Seminar promises career re-start help

United States residents who graduated from foreign programs and wish to practice their careers in the U.S., but have been hampered by lack of information and orientation, could benefit from a program being offered in South Florida.

ElParacaidista.com will offer a seminar **9 a.m. to noon Feb. 16** at Instituto Insoph 3399 N.W. 72nd Ave., Suite 214, Dorale. It is sponsored by INSOPH, the Institute to

Solve Human Problems.

The seminars offer general introduction on the need to practice the profession, the process to attain it, regulation details, requirements, logistics, the importance of the English language, immigration status and labor market.

For more information, call **786-325-6999** or **786-553-4008**.

Social Security help for tax season

Tax season is approaching and Social Security is looking to make replacing recipients' annual benefit statement easier.

The benefit statement is also known as SSA-1099 or SSA-1042S.

Copies of the 1099 can be obtained at anytime using Social Security Administrations (SSA) online services. It is a tax form SSA mails each year to people who receive Social Security benefits. A replacement SSA-1099 or SSA-1042S is available for the previous year after Feb. 1.

Persons who have a my Social Security account can log in online to view and print SSA-1099 or SSA-1042S.

Persons without a printer can save the document and on the computer or e-mail it. Those without a my Social Security account may create one.

Caribbean legislators rally for TPS

Legal action aimed at protecting more than 50,000 Haitian immigrants and their families in the United States from being forcibly separated by deportation has started in New York.

On Jan. 7, the case *Saget et al v. Trump* started in the U.S. Federal Court. It is the first trial to challenge what petitioners say is the administration of President Donald Trump's "unlawful termination of Temporary Protected Status (TPS)" and Trump's "record of racial hostility against immigrants, particularly Haitians."

Plaintiffs in the suit argue Trump's decision to terminate TPS status for Haitians was "unlawful and unconstitutional" and that the action is "motivated by the President's public racial animus towards Haitians and other immigrants of color."

Last year, Trump announced his intentions to the end TPS for Haitian immigrants. He has set the expiration of TPS for Haitians for July 2019.

- *Compiled from various sources.*



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~ A CARIBBEAN TODAY SPECIAL FEATURE

'Nothing ventured, nothing gained' ~ SVG-born judge

NEW YORK – A St. Vincent and the Grenadines-born judge is issuing words of encouragement to those on a career path as he prepares to step down from the bench in New Jersey.

Judge Emille R. Cox, an administrative supervising judge of compensation (retired on recall), was honored during last month's Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday weekend by the Brooklyn, New York-based St. Vincent and the Grenadines Ex-Teachers Association here.

"Don't be deterred by hurdles you encounter along your career journey," Judge Cox urged during an interview with the **Caribbean Media Corporation (CMC)**.

"The old truism 'nothing ventured, nothing gained' still holds true," added the judge, who received his legal training at Rutgers University School of Law in Camden in New Jersey.

MISGIVINGS

Cox, who holds a bachelor's degree in economics from Long Island University, said when he decided to enter college he had some misgivings since he did not have the resources for four years of college in the United States.

"I still recall the words of



Retired Judge Emille Cox, left, receives a proclamation from Philadelphia Councilwoman Jannie L. Blackwell.

the embassy representative, as she advised, 'I'll grant you the visa, but be sure to get to the college's foreign student assistance office and inquire into any assistance for which you may qualify'. Music to my ears," he said.

Similarly, Cox said, when he was accepted to law school, he resigned his full-time position with the promise of assistance from his mother.

"Shortly before my first semester, my mother, a long-time cancer survivor, passed away," he explained. "With encouragement from family, particularly my wife, we took a leap of faith and relocated to South Jersey.

"My wife was offered a

position on the first job interview in Philadelphia. I liken a career journey as a climb uphill: you bear the rigors going up in order to enjoy the ride coming down."

The judge also urged: "Don't let others define your goals or your potential."

MINORITY

After working for just over two years after college, Cox said he was promoted to associate manager at Prudential Property &

Casualty Insurance company. He said when he looked at the composition of the staff he noticed there was only one person of color at the management level and that he saw a law degree as "a short-cut to a promotion to manager.

"When I informed my manager of my decision, he asked rhetorically, 'you are an associate manager, what else are you looking for?'" Cox said. "That question erased any misgivings I may have had as to whether I was taking too much of a risk by resigning."

Even during his orientation, following his appointment to the bench, Cox said he "had to listen to a col-

league wonder if I was the right person for this assignment. She was wrong."

Cox was appointed judge of compensation in New

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 16)

Library offers 'Black History Month Essay Contest'

The African-American Research Library and Cultural Center (AARLCC) in Fort Lauderdale has organized a "Black History Month Essay Contest".

Children who attend school in Broward County, Florida, are eligible to enter the contest in the following categories: Grades 4-6, Grades 7-9 and Grades 10-12. Deadline for submitting entries is 5 p.m. Feb. 9.

The following are the essay topics:

- Do mass shootings or other issues encourage youth activism and positive change?

- What black movie star has had an impact on your call to activism? What did they do and how does their action drive you to make positive changes in society?

- What black athlete has had an impact on your call to activism? What did they do and how does their action drive you to make positive changes in society?

All entries must be submitted to the AARLCC, Youth Services Section, 2650 Sistrunk Blvd.

For more information, call **954-357-6282**.

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OBAMACARE

Black boys need rites of passage programs in 2019

ROGER CALDWELL

This year is important to African American men, because the opportunities are boundless and amazing.

The only barrier holding black men back is preparation, knowledge and education. The challenge for black men is black manhood.

There are different definitions of manhood, but to be black and a man is unique and in a special position in the United States and the world. The diversity of black men is our gift to the globe. We will be first, not last.

The power and fear of the black man will no longer be curtailed or controlled by racism. Racial bias is being fought in the courts, businesses, sports and entertainment in the U.S. and around the world. When black men start loving each other and working together communities will change and they will take leadership roles in families, the U.S. and the world.

ROLE MODELS

There are black role models in the communities. The black media has a responsibility



- File photograph

Black youth need black men as mentors.

ty to tell positive and powerful stories of black men and women who are making a positive difference every day.

January was National Mentoring Month and the emphasis for black men is to bring attention on the necessity for mentors, to help black boys narrow the achievement gap in the U.S.

The fundamental problem for black boys raised in the U.S. is that 70 percent of black

families are run by a single parent, a woman. African Americans make up about 35 percent of all children raised in the bottom one percent of the income level and distribution.

From the beginning of life, black males start with a financial disadvantage and one out of every three end up in prison.

The system is set up for black males to fail, and it is extremely difficult to climb from the bottom to the top.

"It's not just being black, but being male that has been hyper-stereotyped in this negative way, in which we've made black men scary, intimidating, with a propensity toward violence," said Noelle Hurd, a psychology professor at the University of Virginia.

CALL TO ACTION

In 2019, there is a call to action for all black men to be fathers to all black boys in the communities.

"Black boys and young adults who face an opportunity gap but have a mentor are

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 16)

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BLACK HISTORY MONTH

www.caribbeantoday.com

~ A CARIBBEAN TODAY SPECIAL FEATURE

Art show honoring Fort Lauderdale Feb. 4-28

Fort Lauderdale will honor the contributions and creativity of the African American community during Black History Month by presenting a visual art show Feb. 4-28.

“History Fort Lauderdale is pleased to spotlight the creativity, innovation and storytelling of the emerging young African American artists at Dillard Center for the Arts during Black History Month,”

Patricia Zeiler, executive director of the Fort Lauderdale Historical Society, was quoted in a release promoting the event.

“We invite visitors of all ages to glimpse the world through their eyes and to further explore the significant multidisciplinary contributions of our African American community year-round via our exhibits and special pro-

grams.”

The month-long exhibit, co-curated by Celestin Joseph, instructor at Dillard, will highlight the cultural diversity of African Americans who contributed to, and are still impacting, Fort Lauderdale.

For more information, call **954-463-4431** or visit historyfortlauderdale.org.

**Broward County Library hosts exhibit**

African Americans have played a vital role in the history of Florida since the 17th century.

From the work of prominent writers and activists to everyday traditions of ordinary people, African Americans have contributed to the rich heritage and culture

of the state.

To reveal pieces of the history of the black experience in Florida, the Broward County Library is presenting an exhibit this month. It features original stories narrated by the people who lived them, taken from archival collections. These oral history excerpts will be shown

together with books, photographs and archival documents.

The exhibit runs through Feb. 28.

The library is located at 100 South Andrews Ave., Fort Lauderdale.

For more information, call **954-357-8243** or **954-357-7363**.

Black boys need rites of passage programs in 2019

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15)

55 percent more likely to be enrolled in college than those who did not have a mentor. In addition mentee are 46 per-

cent less likely than their peers to start using illegal drugs and 27 percent less likely to start drinking,” says Dr. Brian Agard, My Brother Keeper

Lead, and Minority Achievement Office – Orange County Public Schools (OCPS).

Black men can no longer

wait for the system and the schools to educate black boys. They must be engaged and involved from the beginning. Dr. Agard’s goal in OCPS is to recruit 1,000 mentors in 2019. There are other organizations and fraternities that have after-school mentoring programs in Orlando and central Florida.

The only way black boys will learn to be black men is they must be taught by black men.

The ultimate goal for black boys to become black men is through months and years of studying the rites of passage. The ultimate goal of the rites of passage is to develop greater leadership roles for the youth and the younger black boys in the black com-

munities. By teaching black boys critical thinking, and how to understand themselves and the world around them, they determine what it means to be a man and a leader.

Through an intensive process of self-reflection, community and global analysis, and understanding their individual beliefs and goals, black boys will become men.

As older young brothers have completed the rites of passage, they will help recruit younger black boys. And, instead of black boys/men killing each other, they will start working to improve their community and spread love.

Roger Caldwell is a freelance writer.

**‘Nothing ventured, nothing gained’ ~ SVG-born judge**

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15)

Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development from April 2003 to June 2010, then as an administrative supervising judge of compensation, from June 2010 to his retirement in 2016.

Prior to these appointments, he served as staff attorney, chief counsel and chief administrative officer in the Superior Court of New Jersey, Appellate Division, from August 1982 to October 2002.

With his penchant to always reach for the stars, Cox said he relies heavily on a simple maxim. “The old saying is, ‘if you aim for the moon and miss, you just might land on a star,’” he said.

DISCRIMINATION

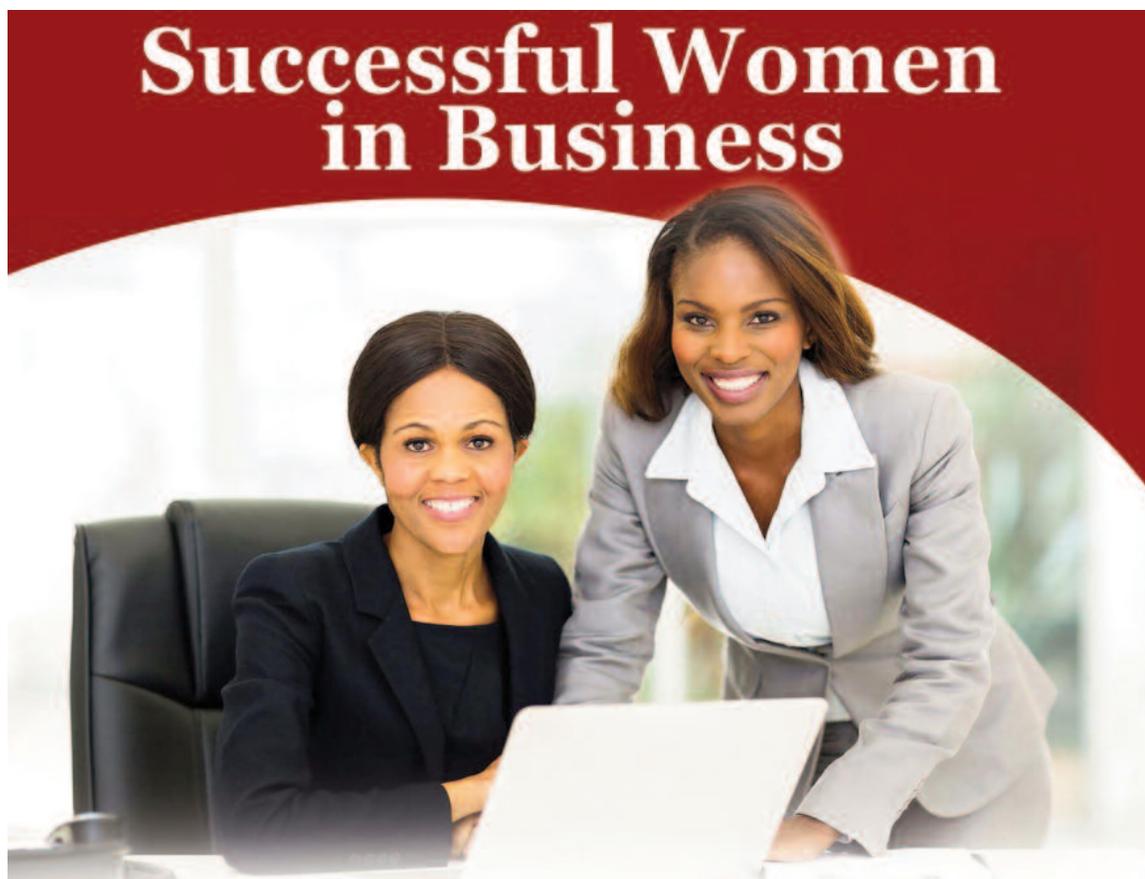
Cox said, as a people, “we are too often tempted to

attribute our lack of motivation to discrimination,” stating that racial discrimination is “woven into the fabric of our society.

“We encounter it everywhere. We can’t wait for that utopian society to evolve where race never matters. It’s not happening any time soon. We have to accept it as a given and move on. Achievements under difficult circumstances are all the more noteworthy. Stars shine brighter on a dark night.”

Additionally, Judge Cox urges everyone not to feel overwhelmed by any assignment, warning that feeling so “might cause you to refrain from applying for promotional opportunities.”

- Edited from CMC.



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

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HEALTH



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Inadequate Caribbean response to HIV epidemic ~ study

GEORGETOWN, Guyana - A study has found that while the Caribbean has made progress in responding to the HIV epidemic, the impact of the prevention plan has been inadequate, particularly among key populations.

The study also found the annual number of new HIV infections among adults in the Caribbean declined by only 18 percent from 2010 to 2017, from 19,000 to 15,000.

"Key populations, men

who have sex with men (MSM), sex workers (SWs) and their clients, and partners of key populations, transgender persons, and persons who use drugs, accounted for the majority of the new HIV infections (68 percent) during this period," the study noted.

According to the study, commissioned by the Pan Caribbean Partnership Against HIV/AIDS (PANA-CAP) Priority Areas Coordinating Committee, new

infections among children fell from an estimated 2,300 in 2010 to 1,100. However, it showed that HIV infected pregnant women receiving ART to reduce HIV transmission declined from 92 percent in 2014 to 79 percent in 2015 and 75 percent in 2016 and 2017, respectively, illustrating a significant decrease that requires investigation.

- Edited from CMC.



Prejudice prevents early leprosy treatment in Caribbean

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) says while cases of leprosy have fallen by 30 percent in the Americas, including the Caribbean, over the past two decades, discrimination, stigma and prejudice surrounding the disease continue to hamper efforts to further stop its transmission.

In a message marking World Leprosy Day, on Jan. 27, PAHO urged regional countries to increase efforts to address stigma and discrimination to put an end to this what it says is an "easily curable disease."

"Throughout history, people affected by leprosy have continued to suffer stigma and discrimination," said Dr.

Marcos Espinal, PAHO's director of communicable diseases and environmental determinants of health.

"Not only has this led to people affected by the disease being denied access to care, education and even free movement, but this continued discrimination means that many are still reluctant to seek medical treatment until symptoms have already become life-altering," he added.

PAHO said more than 200,000 new cases of leprosy are detected worldwide annually, but leprosy has been eliminated in 23 countries of the Americas as a public health problem, meaning there is less than one case of leprosy per 10,000 inhabitants registered for treatment in the country.




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Childhood trauma affects brain, increases substance abuse risk

A new study led by Florida International University (FIU) researchers at the Center for Children and Families has found that traumatic childhood experiences, like domestic violence, abuse and parental incarceration, impact brain functioning and increase the risk of substance use during adolescence.

According to a release by FIU last month, the study was led by social work professor Nicole Fava, from the Robert Stempel College of Public Health and Social Work, and psychology professor Elisa Trucco, from the College of Arts, Sciences & Education, in collaboration with researchers at the University of Michigan.

They assessed 465 children that experienced adversity beginning at ages three to five and followed them through early adolescence. Researchers were interested in understanding why children exposed to adversity in early childhood are more likely to misuse substances later in life.

They found that the negative childhood experiences may disrupt functioning of brain regions associated with impulse control. The children's difficulties in regulating their impulses leads to increased deviant behaviors, such as stealing and aggres-

sion, in early adolescence, which in turn increases alcohol, cigarette, and drug use in late adolescence.

UNDERSTANDING

"Understanding early precursors to later behavior problems and substance use can provide important information for developing more effective preventive interventions," Fava explained in the release. "When we understand the experiences that shape a person's behaviors, we can address the root cause instead of the symptoms to help bring about sustained health and well-being."

According to the study, 88 percent of participants witnessed their parents hitting each other, 62 percent did not have enough money for bills and 55 percent were being physically punished or abused.

"This study supports that early intervention for children exposed to trauma is crucial in preventing this pathway of risk towards substance use," Trucco noted. "More specifically, interventions focused on improving self-regulation training, such as mindfulness and neurofeedback, may be especially helpful for these children."



MOUTH WASH: Tips for improving oral hygiene

Simple adjustments can lead to improved oral hygiene, according bacteriologist Dr. Harold Katz.

Dr. Katz's offers the following suggestions to stop bad breath, especially before you go out on a Valentine's Day date:

Watch what you eat - Stay away from sweets and foods that cause bad breath. If you love chocolate, switch to dark chocolate - it contains much less sugar and much less dairy proteins.

Watch what you drink - Alcohol is chemically a drying agent. All alcoholic beverages make the mouth dry. Many leading mouthwashes contain more alcohol than beer or wine. Avoid alcohol-based mouthwash and look for those powered by oxygen. If you're going to have an alcohol beverage, sip some water afterwards to inhibit the drying effect.

Brush regularly - Dr. Katz suggests brushing your teeth at least twice a day with a fluoride toothpaste and a soft nylon bristled brush. The fluoride is important to remineralize damaged tooth enamel.



from between the teeth that could otherwise act as a fuel source for bad breath."

Drink Enough Water - Avoid dry mouth that increases bad breath. "Saliva is nature's way of cleaning the mouth,"

- File photograph

Brushing regularly is a plus.

Medium and hard bristled brushes will destroy tooth enamel.

"An old, worn out toothbrush cannot clean your teeth well and the toothbrush could also be harboring bacteria," Dr. Katz says.

"Because bad breath-causing bacteria breed below the surface of the tongue, a gentle brush on the surface of the tongue helps keep your breath fresh."

Don't forget to floss - "Floss your teeth at least once each day," Dr. Katz says. "Flossing properly removes plaque and food particles

Dr. Katz says. "If you have dry mouth, food particles and bacteria are not being washed away as they should be. This can cause bad breath. Drink plenty of water to stay hydrated. Keep in mind that coffee, with or without caffeine, can contribute to dry mouth."

Be careful with so-called "breath mints" - Many are full of sugar and won't cure the real reason you have bad breath.

- Edited from newsandexperts.com



Jamaica's Reggae Girlz earn CONCACAF soccer honors for 2018 performance

Several members of Jamaica's senior women's soccer team, which successfully qualified for the World Cup, have been rewarded with individual recognition for performances in 2018 by the Confederation of North, Central America and Caribbean Association Football (CONCACAF).



Shaw

Hue Menzies, who led the Reggae Girlz through qualification, was named CONCACAF's women's

"Coach of the Year". Menzies, who is also in charge of Florida Kraze Krush soccer club, finished ahead of United States coach Jill Ellis in the voting.

The Jamaica women's team was honored with CONCACAF's "Outstanding Performance Award" for its World Cup qualification.

Khadija Shaw was recognized in multiple categories. Shaw, who attends the University of Tennessee, was



Brown

third in the voting for the "Goal of the Year" for her strike in Jamaica's match against Cuba. She and teammate Jody Brown were also selected to the CONCACAF "Female Best XI" team.

Trinidad and Tobago's Crystal Sobers was runner-up to Lucila Venegas of Mexico in the "Female Referee of the Year" category.



Menzies



CARIBBEAN KING



Sony Michel, left, whose parents are from Haiti, scores the winning touchdown for New England Patriots in the Super Bowl in Atlanta. Michel, a Florida native, and Jamaican American teammate Patrick Chung were members of the Patriots team which earlier this month beat the Los Angeles Rams 13-3 to win the American football championship. The two were among several key players in the game who have Caribbean roots, including Rams star Ndamukong Suh, whose mother is from Jamaica.

DOUBLE THE PLEASURE



West Indies cricket captain Jason Holder celebrates after making a double century against England in Barbados last month. Holder led his team to victory in the first two Tests to win the three match series. Scores in the first Test: West Indies 289 all out and 415 runs for six wickets declared; England 77 and 246. Among the other outstanding West Indian performers were spin bowler Roston Chase, who took eight wickets in England's second inning, Shane Dorwich, who scored a second inning century, and fast bowler Kemar Roach, who took five wickets in England's first innings. In the second Test, played in Antigua, England made 187 and 132. The West Indies replied with 306 and 17 without loss. The third Test begins Feb. 9 in St. Lucia. The teams will also contest limited overs matches in the Caribbean.

Osaka's Aussie Open win vaults her to number one in tennis

Florida-based Naomi Osaka, whose father Leonard Francois is from Haiti, last month won the women's title at the 2019 Australian Open tennis tournament.

Osaka, whose mother Tamaki Osaka is Japanese, beat Petra Kvitova of the Czech Republic in three sets, 7-6, 5-7, 6-4, to earn a second straight Grand Slam title after winning the U.S. Open crown last year.

Osaka's success vaulted



Osaka

her to the world number one ranking.



Bolt quits professional soccer bid

Jamaican Usain Bolt, who dominated sprinting for more than a decade and still holds multiple world records, has reached the finish line on his post track career run at becoming a professional soccer player.

"It was fun while it lasted," Bolt was quoted as saying last month.

Following his retirement from track in 2017, Bolt, 32,

went on trial with several pro clubs, including some in Europe and Australia. He did not secure a permanent contract. Yet Bolt called the quest "a good experience."

Bolt trained with Borussia Dortmund in Germany, Stromsgodset in Norway and Central Coast Mariners in Australia. He said he declined an offer from Valletta of Malta.



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