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Jamaica's sprint sensation Usain Bolt has been stripped of one of his nine Olympic gold medals. He did nothing wrong, but will a compatriot's mistake dull the "shine" on Bolt's legendary status?, page 7.



Young Caribbean-born talent always featured prominently in Major League Soccer's SuperDraft, but 2017 was different. They were largely missing from among the highest picks, raising concerns about the region's future in North America's top league, page 17.

TRUMP FEAR

~ Caribbean Americans are outraged by a recent executive order issued by United States President Donald Trump, which banned travel to the U.S. for certain immigrant groups. They worry they'll be targeted next, page 5.



DEPORTATION ULTIMATUM

~ Caribbean nations are among those accused of being unwilling to accept deportees from the United States. Countries in the region have been threatened and a congressman is pushing legislation to punish those which fail to comply with the U.S., page 2.

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NEWS



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U.S. threatens punishment for Caribbean nations refusing deportees

GORDON WILLIAMS

Caribbean nations are among those accused of being reluctant to accept deportees from the United States and at least one leader in the region has claimed the U.S. has threatened to punish his country if it fails to comply.

The strategy of refusing to accept deportees has been condemned by at least one U.S. lawmaker who appears determined to end the practice by cutting American assistance to those countries.

Brian Babin, a Texas Republican congressman, last month introduced the

Criminal Alien Deportation Enforcement Act (H.R. 82), which proposes to inflict tough sanctions on nations which refuse to take back undocumented immigrant deportees with criminal backgrounds, even after they have served prison sentences in the U.S.

"There is absolutely no

reason that criminal aliens should be released back onto America's streets," Babin was quoted as saying in a press release on his website, "yet that is exactly what is happening by the thousands each and every year because their countries of origin refuse to take them back."



Babin

"My bill upholds the rule of law and holds these countries accountable by stripping their foreign aid and travel visas if they fail to cooperate."

Caribbean nations are already feeling the U.S. heat. Late last month St. Lucia Prime Minister Allen Chastanet confirmed the U.S. had threatened to pull travel if his country did not accept deportees. He is seeking the backing of the United Nations to broker a treaty to deal with deportees.

"I think this is an issue that must be brought up at the U.N. level and I think that we should write a treaty that specifically deals with deportees and how we are going to handle it," Chastanet told reporters.

BOOST

Babin's cause was bolstered by an incident in which a Caribbean national was allowed to stay in the U.S., despite a violent past, and later was convicted of brutally murdering an American woman.

Haitian Jean Jacques, an undocumented immigrant since 1992, had been locked up for 17 years after being convicted for attempted murder and illegal possession of a firearm. Attempts to deport him after he served his sentence failed. Haiti's government reportedly refused to accept Jacques, even after he was booked on a flight on three separate occasions in 2012.

In 2015, less than six months after his eventual release, Jacques stabbed to death Casey Chadwick. He was sentenced to 60 years in prison.

"Had Haiti been compelled to take Jacques back, Casey would be alive today," Babin's release noted.

PUNISHMENT

Babin's legislation would punish countries which refused

to take back criminal deportees or make the return process difficult. Among the proposed sanctions for those nations is loss of aid and visa allotments.

"The problem is hundreds of Americans are being robbed, assaulted, raped or murdered every year by criminal aliens who are then released back onto the streets because their countries of origin refuse to take them

back," Babin was reported by **Fox News** as saying recently. " ... It is heart-wrenching."

Reports indicate that more than 20 nations refuse to accept deportees from the U.S., while others make tough the process to deport them. Haiti is not the only Caribbean nation. Cuba has also been listed.

In the 2001 case of *Zadvydas v. Davis*, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that if a country refused to accept a deportee, the U.S. could not indefinitely detain that person. Jacques, who was locked up for 205 days, murdered Chadwick after he was released.

TRUMP'S VOW

Since 2013, more than 86,000 undocumented immigrants have committed over 231,000 crimes following their release from prison, according to a U.S. House Oversight and Government Reform Committee report. Over 2,000 of those convicted criminals were released in 2016 after their country of origin refused to accept them, although they were eligible for deportation.

The U.S. State Department has the authority to impose visa sanctions on countries which refuse to accept deportees. However, there aren't many reported instances of that happening.

New U.S. President Donald Trump has promised harsh sanctions for countries which decline to accept criminal deportees. Last month he signed an executive order increasing the number of law enforcement officers who enforce deportation. Babin is pushing hard to support Trump's policies.

"(Trump) ... has announced that deporting the roughly 2 million criminal aliens in our country would be a top priority for his presidency – and this legislation is a critical component to any such effort," Babin noted in the release.



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NEWS



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Caribbean American lawmakers denounce Trump's Muslim, refugee ban

NEW YORK – Caribbean American lawmakers have denounced United States President Donald Trump's executive order which temporarily halts most refugee admissions to the U.S., in addition to Muslims nationals of Iran, Iraq, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, Syria and Yemen.

"In the best of our tradi-

tions, the United States has welcomed people from around the world who wanted to come here to pursue the American dream," said U.S. Congresswoman Yvette D. Clarke while addressing a meeting of the Muslim community in her New York congressional district on Jan. 29.

"Such people include

many of the families I am honored to represent in Brooklyn, where my parents settled in 1955 from the nation of Jamaica to continue their education."

Clarke said her father, Leslie Clarke, became an engineer with the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey. Her mother Una Clarke became an early childhood education administrator and then the first Caribbean-born woman to be elected to the New York City Council.

XENOPHOBIA

"There are unfortunately periods in our history when the United States has departed from that proud tradition, as when Japanese Americans were forced into internment camps during the Second World War and when strict limits were placed on immigration from eastern and southern Europe in 1924 based on irrational fears about Catholic and Jewish influence on American culture," the congresswoman said.

"We cannot as a nation allow xenophobia to undermine our principles or racism to determine our policies," she added, stating that there are more than three million



Clarke

Muslim Americans living in the U.S.

"These are the same individuals who have volunteered for service in the Armed Forces. These same individuals are our neighbors and friends.

"I will never accept this attack on Muslim families as the policy of the United States," said Clarke, a member of the U.S. House of Representatives' Committee on Energy and Commerce.

"I will resist, and I call on my colleagues in Congress and people of good faith across the United States to join me in resistance to this act of hate."

VETTING

Trump said the executive order was part of his vetting plan to keep "radical Islamic terrorists" out of the U.S.

"We don't want them here," he said during a signing ceremony at the Pentagon.

On Jan. 25, Trump, signed, among other things, an executive order threatening to withhold federal funding from cities that protect law-abiding immigrants from deportation.

"This vicious attack on families across the United States cannot stand," Clarke told the **Caribbean Media Corporation (CMC)**, adding "there are more than ten million people here, in our communities, who want to obtain legal status and become full members of our civil society.

"Their numbers include several hundred thousand young women and men who are enrolled in the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program and are now attending college, working, and serving in the armed forces," she added.

New York City Council Member Jumaane Williams, the son of Grenadian immigrants, who was arrested outside Trump Tower in midtown Manhattan protesting Trump's inauguration last month, also said "as we listen daily, we see a playbook of fear that is used in every authoritarian and fascist regime in the past.

"The use of a hyperbolic threat is the first step before horrible acts occur," said Williams, who represents the 45th City Council District in Brooklyn. "Donald Trump is unraveling all that our country claims to stand for."

- Edited from CMC.



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Cop goes on trial for killing of Jamaican youth

NEW YORK – The long-awaited departmental trial of a police officer accused of killing an 18-year-old Jamaican youth began last month at New York Police Department (NYPD) headquarters in lower Manhattan.

Richard Haste faces the loss of his job if found guilty at the end of the trial for killing Ramarley Graham in 2012. Leading up to the trial, Haste remained stripped of his gun and shield. He had been placed on desk duty with full pay.

Graham was unarmed when Haste shot and killed him on Feb. 2, 2012 in front of his grandmother and little brother after the officer chased the teen into his home during a drug bust gone bad.

POOR JUDGEMENT

The NYPD alleged Haste "exercised poor tactical judg-



Graham

ment leading up to the discharge of his firearm" and "acted with intent to cause serious physical injury leading to the death" of Graham, according to the New York Daily News.

If found guilty, Haste

faces penalties ranging from a reprimand to lost vacation days to termination.

Graham's Jamaican-born mother Constance Malcolm told reporters that she met with NYPD lawyers on Jan. 9 to press them again for information on the case.

"She said they told her nothing — not even what specific charges he was facing or anything about his prior record as a police officer, citing a state confidentiality law," the Daily News reported.

"They were hiding behind that," the newspaper quoted Malcolm as saying, adding "that doesn't make sense because (Mayor Bill) de Blasio talked about transparency."

- Edited from CMC.



ARE WE NEXT?: Caribbean Americans fear they're Trump's next target

GORDON WILLIAMS

A presidential directive banning citizens of seven Muslim-majority countries from entering the United States has ignited a firestorm of outrage among Caribbean Americans, with many terrified their turn could be next.

Caribbean nationals are growing increasingly worried about their future in the U.S. following an executive order issued by President Donald Trump on Jan. 27, although it did not specifically target any country from the region.

"The Caribbean community should be concerned because there is no certain way to predict where the buck stops," Devona Reynolds-Perez, president of the Caribbean American Bar Association (CBA), told **Caribbean Today**.

The uncertainty surrounds Trump's order, which temporarily prohibits nationals from Syria, Iran, Iraq, Libya, Somalia, Sudan and Yemen

access to the U.S. It also stops refugees from entering the U.S. for four months.

A federal judge temporarily stayed parts of the travel ban the day after it was issued. However, there were reports that U.S. Department of Homeland Security officers were detaining and deporting arriving passengers from the seven nations after the judge's ruling.

Sally Yates, acting U.S. attorney general, refused to accept Trump's order as legal and was fired by the president.

PROTEST

Outraged Americans protested Trump's directive by swarming airports and other public places across the U.S. in the days after he signed the order, which he claimed is to prevent potential Muslim extremists from coming to the U.S.

"In order to protect Americans, the United States must ensure that those admitted to this country do not bear hostile attitudes toward it and its founding prin-

ciples," Trump's order stated.

His administration initially claimed the 90-day ban on Muslims only affected persons with non-immigrant visas. However, some holding U.S. permanent residence or "green cards" were detained at airports. Travelers from the seven Muslim-majority nations who made it onto flights were

detained on arrival in the U.S. Some were sent back to their country of origin.

WATCH

Following sustained public protests, the White House claimed the ban didn't include U.S. permanent residents. Trump also denied the order was a "Muslim ban," although

it immediately affected more than 134 million people.

Caribbean Americans fear eventually they could be targeted.

"Right now (the executive order) is not directed towards us Caribbean Americans," Reynolds-Perez explained.

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6)



Reynolds-Perez



Clare

'I'm president of all Haitians'

~ Moise invites ex-coup leader to inauguration

PORT AU PRINCE, Haiti – President-elect Jovenel Moise has confirmed he invited former coup leader and army General Henry Namphy to his inauguration on Feb. 7.

Namphy had replaced former President Jean-Claude Duvalier in Feb. 1986 as head of the National Council and, after handing over power to Leslie Manigat in 1988, he staged a coup in June that year.

But Namphy became the victim of a coup in Sept. 1988 and since then has been living in the Dominican Republic. He has never returned to Haiti.

Moise, who made a three-day visit to the Dominican Republic last month, told reporters that he had met with the former army general, as well as businessman Marc-Antoine Acra, and extended an invitation to his inauguration.

'NORMAL'

"These are Haitians. It is normal, as president of the republic, to meet all Haitians. There is no Haitian that I will not meet," Moise, 48, said as he confirmed the invitation had been extended to Namphy.

"I am the president of all



Moise, left, Namphy

Haitians without distinction."

With regards to Acra, who is wanted by police on drug related matters, Moise, who won the Nov. 20 presidential elections, said while "justice must do its job, I did not meet Marc-Antoine Acra in a prison and I am the president of all Haitians."

Meanwhile, Haiti late last month held legislative and local government elections, but the results are not expected until sometime in February.

The Haitian National Police reported at least 49 incidents of disruption during the Jan. 29 elections, with more than 20 people arrested. Interim

- Edited from CMC.



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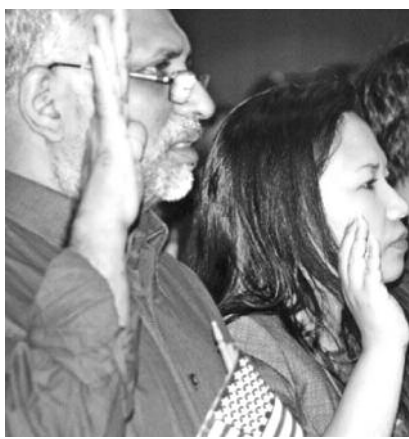
Hike in U.S. citizenship, residence application fees

It's more expensive to become a naturalized United States citizen.

The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (U.S. CIS) recently announced a fee increase.

Qualified immigrants seeking to become U.S. citizens will now have to spend \$640 to submit their N-400 Application for Naturalization. That's up from \$595.

Once the application is approved and applicants are ready to get a Certificate of Citizenship via the



It's more expensive to become a U.S. citizen.

N-600/N-600K Application for Certificate of Citizenship,

they should be ready to spend more. That cost has almost doubled – from \$600 to \$1,170. That includes the \$85 biometric services fee.

However, certain low-income naturalization applicants may pay a filing fee of \$320, plus the biometric services fee, by filing Form I-942, Request for Reduced Fee and Form N-400, Application for Naturalization.

According to the U.S. CIS, the fee increase, which became effective late Dec. 2016, is the first in six years.

MORE

Fees for other services have also been increased. Immigrants filing I-698 Application to Adjust Status from Temporary to Permanent Resident or Green Card holder now have to pay \$1,640, up from \$1,020. Those applying for a work permit, will be required to pay \$410, up from \$380, for the I-765 Application for Employment Authorization.

Those filing to sponsor an immigrant parent, spouse or sibling, will have to pay \$535, up from \$420. Sponsoring a fiancé or fiancée will require a payment of \$535, up from \$340. To replace a lost permanent resident or "green card", the fee is \$445, up from \$365, when you submit the I-90 Application to Replace Permanent Resident Card.

- Edited from News Americas.



ARE WE NEXT?: Caribbean Americans fear they're Trump's next target

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5)

"But the community is diverse, with Muslim populations. We do have some reasons to be concerned and watch what happens next."

"I am concerned that (Trump) could expand that if we don't organize and push back now," declared Caribbean American U.S. Congresswoman Yvette Clarke

Valentine gala
The Holy Sacrament Episcopal Church will hold a Valentine's gala, dinner and dance from **7 p.m. to midnight Feb. 11** at the Bonaventure Resort and Spa, 250 Racquet Club Road, Weston, Florida.

For more information, call **954-432-8686** or visit www.holysacrament.org.

FANM award gala Mar. 11
FANM, the Haitian Women of Miami, will hold its annual



Wilson

award gala at **6 p.m. Mar. 11** at the Miami Marriott Biscayne Bay in South Florida.

Scheduled keynote speaker is United States Congresswoman Frederica Wilson. Among the honorees are Phillip Brutus, Dwight Bullard, Mireille Charles, Majorie Lozama and Paola Pierre.

For more information, call **305-756-8050**.

Civil rights activist Roy Innis dies

A Caribbean-born leader of

the civil rights movement in the United States during the 1960s died last month in New York.

Roy Innis was 82. He reportedly died from complications caused by Parkinson's disease.

Innis, who came to New York from his birthplace St. Croix in the U.S. Virgin Islands, gained national attention as leader of the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE). He supported the militant black power movement which, over time, embraced more conservative principles, developing ties with the National Rifle Association. He became a longtime NRA board member.

Youth partnership for peace

In response to increasing gun violence in the community, the Alternative Directions Music Industry Training (ADMIT) Program is coordinating the release of a free youth oriented CD, entitled "Miami-Dade Partners for Peace – The Anti-Gun Violence Tracks".

A year of writing and recording anti-gun violence songs by many diverse Miami-Dade youth groups has resulted in a 23-track CD. This CD will be released at 6 p.m. Feb. 22 at Florida Memorial University's Lou Rawls Theater, 15800 N.W. 42nd Ave.

Admission is free. For more information, call Thomas W. Demeritte at **786-287-1184** or Gigi Tinsley at **786-740-7334**.



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on Jan. 29, while addressing a meeting of the Muslim community in her New York district.

"We know that in the Caribbean region there is a very healthy Muslim population from Guyana, to Trinidad, to Jamaica across the board. And so, we have to make sure we come together."

Some Caribbean Americans are already convinced that a plan to include Muslims from all nations, plus those who are not Muslims but perceived in any way as a threat to the U.S. by the Trump administration, has already been hatched.

"It will filter down (to the Caribbean)," said Irwine Clare, managing director of Caribbean Immigrant Services Inc. in New York. "Yes, we should anticipate it will affect us all somewhere along the line."

BAN

The Caribbean has notable Muslim populations.

According to published reports, some Muslims who are Caribbean citizens have left the region to join the terrorist group ISIS. Trump's order made clear the seven banned countries were only a starting point, with a wider ban not ruled out.

Meanwhile, Muslim immigrants from the countries identified by Trump's order, who hold permanent residence, were being advised not to leave the U.S. as they may not be allowed re-entry.

The political reaction to Trump's directive in the U.S. has been mixed. Many Republicans were silent after Trump's order was issued. Democrats immediately condemned it.

"This (Trump) Administration has mistaken cruelty for strength and prejudice for strategy," Nancy Pelosi (D-California), minority leader of the U.S. House of representatives, noted in a statement.



STRIPPED: Usain Bolt loses 2008 Olympic relay gold

~ Jamaica punished for teammate's positive dope test; T&T benefits

GORDON WILLIAMS

A compatriot's positive test for a banned substance has cost Jamaican sprint star Usain Bolt one of his nine Olympic gold medals.

The result has nullified Bolt's claim as the only "triple triple" winner in Olympic track and field history, although Caribbean neighbor Trinidad and Tobago is set to benefit from Jamaica's loss with a medal upgrade.

Bolt was stripped of his winning 4x100 meters relay title from the 2008 Olympic Games last month by the International Olympic Committee (IOC), which confirmed his teammate Nesta Carter tested positive for methylhexanamine, a banned stimulant, following re-analysis of samples.

Carter's sample was one of 454 from the Beijing Olympics re-tested by the IOC in 2016.

Jamaica's 2008 winning Olympic relay team, with Carter as lead-off runner, also included Michael Frater and Asafa Powell. Dwight Thomas



Bolt

was an alternate. The team set a new world record of 37.10 seconds in the final, beating Trinidad and Tobago into second, with Japan third.

According to the IOC in a statement released last month, Carter was "found to have committed an anti-doping rule violation" at the Beijing Olympics.

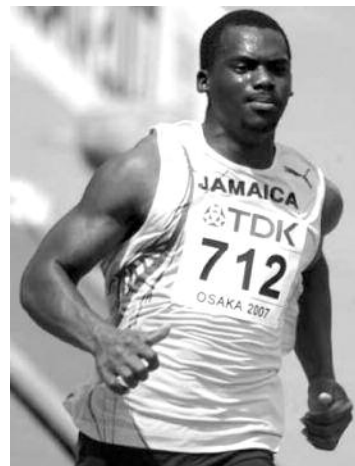
As a result, the IOC noted: "The Jamaican team is

disqualified from the men's 4x100 event. The corresponding medals, medalist pins and diplomas are withdrawn and shall be returned."

Last month, Bolt said he returned the relay gold medal.

SENSATIONAL

The 4x100 meters title capped a sensational 2008 Olympics for Bolt, where he also won 100 and 200 meters



Carter

individual titles. He repeated the triple gold accomplishment at the 2012 Olympics in England and last year in Brazil.

No other athlete has achieved that feat.

T&T, which featured a team of Keston Bledman, Marc Burns, Emmanuel Callender and Richard

Thompson in Beijing, should now be awarded the relay gold and Japan silver. Brazil would be upgraded to bronze.

At the time Carter was first tested, following the 4x100 final in Beijing, the IOC noted that his sample contained no "adverse analytical finding". News agency Reuters reported in June 2016 that Carter's re-tested "A" sample contained methylhexanamine, a substance placed on the prohibited list by the World Anti-Doping Agency since 2004. Jamaica was informed of Carter's failed doping test last year. The Jamaica Olympic Association was officially notified that the Caribbean nation would lose the gold medal from the men's 4x100 in an e-mail sent from the IOC on Jan. 25.

Carter had 21 days from that date to challenge the

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 8)

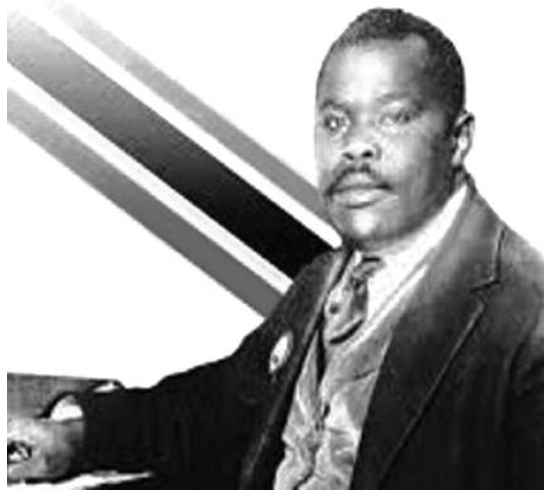
Obama refuses to pardon Marcus Garvey

NEW YORK – Caribbean American Congresswoman Yvette D. Clarke has expressed disappointment that former United States President Barack Obama did not posthumously pardon Jamaica's first National Hero Marcus Mosiah Garvey.

Obama commuted hundreds of sentences during his presidency, including 330 on Jan. 19, his last day in office. The name of Garvey, who was convicted for mail fraud in the U.S. in 1923, was not among them.

"While the exoneration and/or pardon of the Right Excellent Marcus Mosiah Garvey remains elusive, unresolved and unfinished business, we must continue our education and organizing efforts in the pursuit justice for the legendary icon," said Clarke, the daughter of Jamaican immigrants who represents the 9th Congressional District in Brooklyn, New York.

In an exclusive interview with the **Caribbean Media Corporation (CMC)** Clarke, who had taken the lead with 17 other members of the U.S.



Garvey



Obama

House of Representatives in calling on Obama to pardon Garvey, said it was important that "we build upon the efforts waged over the years, most recently in pursuit of a presidential pardon, and that we continue to maintain and elevate the integrity of" Garvey's contributions to

American history.

"His is a case of unjustified persecution that continues to cry out for justice," said Clarke, stating that Garvey was "widely viewed as the father of the 20th century civil rights movement."

"His leadership and intellectual contributions inspired the movements for independence in Africa and the Caribbean," she added.

"However, it was the establishment of the UNIA (United Negro

Improvement Association) here in the United States and its affiliates throughout African diaspora nations that drew the ire of the FBI (Federal Bureau of Investigation) under J. Edgar Hoover, and that ultimately led to the frivolous charges, prosecution and persecution against him."

'DISPLACE'

Clarke said it was "all in an attempt to displace" Garvey from the positive role he played in advancing the civil and human rights in American history.

"The role of our government in this injustice is well documented and must be rectified," she said, adding that

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 8)

YVETTE COLBOURNE, Fighting for the Residents of Miramar

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- ✓ Funding of a new Police substation

- ✓ \$52 million dollars to stop flooding in Historic Miramar
- ✓ Invested over \$20 million for park improvements
- ✓ Funded a new fire station
- ✓ Provided funds available to address lake erosion
- ✓ Funded emergency low income home repairs

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Paid by Yvette Colbourne for Miramar Commission Seat 2

EATING BINGE: Obesity, overweight rises in Caribbean ~ report

SANTIAGO, Chile – A new joint report by two United Nations agencies says overweight and obesity is on the rise throughout the Caribbean and Latin America, affecting every country except Haiti.

The report by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) says overweight and obesity are particularly prevalent among women and children in the region.

The “Panorama of Food and Nutrition Security in Latin America and the Caribbean” last month said that close to 360 million people – about 58 percent of the inhabitants of the region – are overweight, with the highest rates observed in The Bahamas (69 percent), Mexico (64 percent) and

Chile (63 percent).

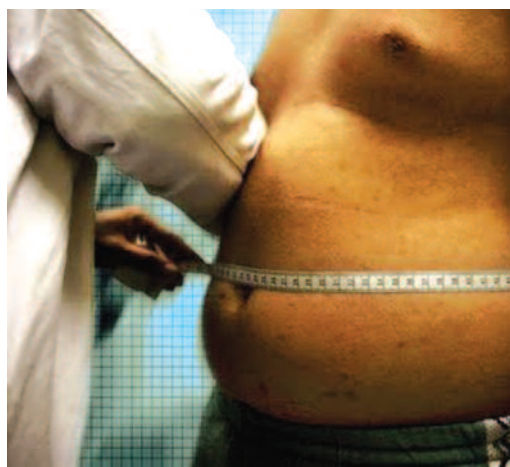
With the exception of Haiti (38.5 percent), Paraguay (48.5 percent) and Nicaragua (49.4 percent), the report said obesity affects more than half the population of all countries in the region.

The report also noted obesity affects 140 million people – 23 percent of the region’s population – and highest rates are to be found in the Caribbean countries of Barbados (36 percent), and Trinidad and Tobago and Antigua and Barbuda at around 31 percent.

WOMEN

PAHO said the increase in obesity has disproportionately impacted women.

It said in more than 20 countries in Latin America and the Caribbean the rate of female obesity is 10 percent-



The ‘battle of the bulge’ is raging.

age points higher than that of men.

“The alarming rates of overweight and obesity in Latin America and the Caribbean should act as a wake-up call to governments in the region to introduce policies that address all forms

of hunger and malnutrition by linking food security, sustainability, agriculture, nutrition and health,” said FAO’s Regional Representative Eve Crowley.

PAHO’s Director Dr. Carissa F. Etienne said that the region also faces “a double burden of malnutrition.

“This needs to be tackled through balanced diets that include fresh, healthy, nutritious and sustainably produced food, as well as addressing the main social factors that determine malnutrition, such as lack of access to healthy food, water and sani-

tation, education and health services, and social protection programs, among others,” she said.

The FAO/PAHO Panorama report stated that one of the main factors contributing to the rise of obesity and overweight has been the change in dietary patterns. It said economic growth, increased urbanization, higher average incomes and the integration of the region into international markets have reduced the consumption of traditional preparations and increased consumption of ultra-processed products, “a problem that has had greater impact on areas and countries that are net food importers.”

To address this situation, FAO and PAHO called for the promotion of healthy and sustainable food systems that link agriculture, food, nutrition and health.

- Edited from CMC.



(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8)

she will continue to work with her colleagues in the U.S. Congress and with Garvey’s family “to maintain the integrity of his work in recognition of his contributions, advancing human and civil rights in our country until we finally secure justice on his behalf.”

The 17 members of the U.S. Congress, including Democrats Charles Rangel and Maxine Waters, had written to Obama in December noting that Garvey, who was born in St. Ann’s Bay, Jamaica, had “inspired generations of leaders, from the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., to late South Africa President Nelson Mandela.

“His efforts to organize the African diaspora across nations in support of freedom and self-determination were critical to the movements for independence in Africa and the Caribbean and to the Civil Rights Movement here in the United States,” the letter stated.

It noted that when Garvey formed the UNIA and African Communities League, most of the nations of the Caribbean were colonies of the British Empire, adding that African Americans in the U.S. – nearly 40 years after the end of the Civil War – were “effectively denied their human rights across the United States.

VISION

“Marcus Garvey offered to his people a different vision for the future; and, even as we continue to work toward his dream, he would have been proud to witness our achievements,” the letter stated.

Despite that legacy, the members of Congress lamented that Garvey “has never been fully exonerated from racially-motivated charges of mail fraud.

“Recognizing that prosecutors and the government mishandled the case, President Calvin Coolidge commuted the sentence at the earliest possible opportunity.

“We believe that Marcus Garvey meets the criteria for a

posthumous pardon, based on his efforts to secure the rights of people of African descent and the utter lack of merit to the charges on which he was convicted,” the U.S. lawmakers wrote.

RIGHT, PROPER

The congressional representatives’ call came on the heels of a similar one, issued in November, by Vice Chancellor of the University of the West Indies (UWI) Professor Sir Hilary Beckles.

“Marcus Garvey was the victim of trumped up charges orchestrated by the late J. Edgar Hoover, the famously anti-black director of the U.S.’s Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI),” Sir Hilary explained in a statement, calling on Obama, “himself the victim of racist campaigns to de-legitimize his presidency, to exonerate Garvey before he leaves office.

“It is the right and proper thing to do,” added Sir Hilary, stating that “UWI’s mission and mandate are manifesta-

tions of Garvey’s struggles for quality education for the masses of Caribbean peoples, for self-respect, self-determination and cultural awareness in our region.”

A global petition campaign demanding that Garvey’s U.S. federal record be expunged had generated tens of thousands of signatures. The campaign was supported, among others, by the Jamaica government, the Caribbean Reparations Commission, the New York-based Institute of the Black World 21st Century and by members of the Congressional Black Caucus in the U.S. House of Representatives.

A letter circulated by the Jamaica Embassy in the U.S. in September noted that “there have been several efforts over the years” seeking Garvey’s exoneration.

Last August, several Caribbean organizations in the U.S. joined the campaign to exonerate Garvey.

- Edited from CMC.



Obama refuses to pardon Marcus Garvey

STRIPPED: Usain Bolt loses 2008 Olympic relay gold

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7)

IOC’s decision with the Court of Arbitration for Sports. Bolt hinted he could help with financing the cost of the appeal. Up to press time Jamaica was also contemplating an appeal, with the possible aim to secure the gold medal for the rest of the team, even if Carter’s punishment stands.

HEARTBREAK

In 2016, Bolt expressed disappointment when he learned of Carter’s positive

test.

“For years you’ve worked hard to accumulate gold medals and you work hard to be a champion, but it’s one of those things,” he was quoted as saying in the **Jamaica Gleaner** newspaper.

He also told the newspaper he worried about Carter’s fate.

“I’m more concerned about the athlete and I hope he gets through it,” Bolt said.

He has called Carter a “friend.”

But the fallout from the

announcement that Bolt was being stripped of Olympic gold reverberated throughout the sporting world. Roger Black, a two-time Olympic silver medalist for Britain, argued Bolt would not be pleased and the IOC’s decision would “take shine off” the legendary sprinter’s reputation.

Carter, meanwhile, is left to ponder his own future. Now 31, he has been a solid part of Jamaica’s world sprint domination over the last decade. He was a member of Jamaica’s 4x100 teams which won

Olympic gold in London and at the IAAF World Championships in Athletics (WCA) in 2011, 2013 and 2015. Carter also won an individual bronze medal in the 100 meters at WCA 2013.

The IAAF, track and field’s world governing body, plans to re-test other samples given by Carter, which it has in storage.

Multiple sources, including BBC, CMC and The Gleaner, contributed to this report.



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Immigrants facing fear

NEW YORK, N.Y. - I contemplated what it must be like to be a DREAMer right now. You know, a young immigrant under age 30 who benefited from former President Barack Obama's Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) immigration executive order, but who could now face deportation under the Donald Trump administration.



FELICIA J. PERSAUD

For someone who sweated it out waiting essentially undocumented on my employment sponsorship to be approved, I can only imagine what these 800,000 young immigrants must be feeling right now.

The fear must be all too powerful. Can you imagine waking up in the middle of the night thinking that the life you have known for the past 15 to 20 years could be changed for the worst?

Imagine walking around in your school, college or work place in daily trepidation, thinking of being rounded up, ripped apart from your family and deported back to a land you hardly ever knew.

It's hard to imagine what it's like to be an immigrant who has been undocumented for years, then being able to obtain a work permit and a travel document. There is a real, unexplainable joy and achievement in that after seeing no hope for years.

NOT EASY

It's much harder to then go back to being undocumented; to having that work permit and travel document you have come to welcome ripped away when you have just learnt to breathe a little easier. Not only to have it ripped away and face being undocumented, "illegal" and scared again, but to also face detention and deportation. Unless you have walked in

the shoes of an undocumented immigrant, it is hard to understand much less empathize.

It is so easy to say they broke the law; it is easy to say "go back where you come from"; it is easy to throw around terms like "illegal" and "no amnesty" and deport them all, even though many of us profess Christianity and hold our Bibles aloft in church on Sundays.

It's much tougher to understand the limbo these young people are living in right now. Many of us would be jumping off the Brooklyn Bridge if we faced this threat.

REGRET

It is unfortunate that Obama, with all that he managed to do over the eight years, failed to get immigration reform passed. It should have been done when he first went into office and had control of the Senate and the House.

But that's history. For now, Democrats and right thinking Republicans must fight harder at Senate confirmation hearings to prevent the appointment of hardliners like Jeff Sessions from ever becoming attorney general.

They must do a better job of asking Trump's Home Security pick General John F. Kelly where he really stands on DREAMers.

Be bold like newly elected Jamaican-roots California Democratic Senator Kamala Harris and ask the tough questions on behalf of these young people who have no voice right now.

Let's spare a thought for these outstanding DREAMers, say a prayer for them and stand up for these amazing young men and women who are and can continue to make phenomenal contributions to this country!

I can only hope Donald Trump, despite his mad hatter personality, recognizes this too!

- Edited from News Americas. Felicia J. Persaud is CMO of Hard Beat Communications, Inc.



Trump's order means time to stand up, speak out

GORDON WILLIAMS

Caribbean people are rarely shy. They usually step boldly in the face of competition - in academics, sports, entertainment or business.

In households, bars, stadiums and offices, Caribbean nationals are easy to spot. The accent-flavored passion of their expression is a dead giveaway. The flair and style in dance and dress brings a deserved spotlight to them - anywhere in the world.

For Caribbean nationals living in the United States, it's hardly different. But the visibility of the Caribbean American as a unified group is normally most obvious in less-than-critical or life-altering circumstances, like sports and entertainment, although some have accomplished greatness in fields like politics and education.

The Caribbean American voice of political protest, however, has not been consistently loud enough, strong enough, unified enough and engaged enough, especially by those from the English-speaking parts of the region.

OUR FIGHT

When South Florida's Cuban Americans are angry, you can tell. They force their political representatives to listen - and act - on their behalf. They march. They protest. They vote.

Same for the Jewish community, which wields a powerful wand of influence in the U.S. Ditto the Italians.

African Americans have embraced their challenges. You can debate the rate of impact of their actions, but their outspoken voice of protest rages today, especially in the Black Lives Matter movement.

Caribbean people are rarely found expressing themselves openly and unified in representing the region on the streets of the U.S. Unless, maybe, it's carnival time. Yet today, more than ever, the voice of Caribbean people



Trump

need to heard in the U.S. Newly-installed President Donald Trump's slew of executive orders, especially one signed Jan. 27 banning Muslims and refugees from traveling to the U.S., demand it.

DANGER

Caribbean Americans embracing the Muslim faith are scattered throughout the U.S. But there are solid pockets of Muslims living in the Caribbean. Which is why Trump's executive order banning travel from seven Muslim-majority countries - Iraq, Syria, Iran, Libya, Somalia, Sudan and Yemen - should not be ignored by Caribbean Americans simply because those nations are nowhere near either the U.S. or the Caribbean.

If today Trump believes Muslims are dangerous enough to require banning them from traveling to the U.S., what will prevent him from making the same decision about Muslims in the Caribbean? If that happens, what would then prevent Trump from banning travel from those Caribbean nations to the U.S.?

If that happens, Caribbean nationals in the U.S. - and permanent resi-

dents - traveling to the Caribbean could risk being denied re-entry into the U.S., where many now call home. Their relatives and friends, the ones with non-immigrant visas, could be barred too. Even dual nationals - yes, the ones with Caribbean and U.S. citizenship - could be affected.

What then?

RISK

No Caribbean national can risk taking the chance of finding how that scenario would play out. Which means it's time for Caribbean Americans to join the protests - hit the streets, write to lawmakers, speak up. Speak out as a unified force.

If more than 130 million Muslims can be barred from the U.S. by the stroke of Trump's pen, why would it be O.K. to believe the Caribbean and its nationals can't be the target of a similar action? After all, so-called Islamic terrorists have jetted off from the Caribbean to fight elsewhere.

The late Protestant pastor Martin Niemöller wrote a famous poem about the Nazis' reign of terror in Germany before and during World War II. The U.S. is not Nazi

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 10)

FASHION STATEMENT: You are what you wear, so dress to impress

It's said that you are what you eat. Well, it's also said that you are what you wear, as your garments are a reflection of you.

There was a time when people dressed elegantly. They dressed for occasions. They dressed for dinner, they dressed to show nobility, they dressed to impress. This applied to men, women and children.

Men wore suits for everyday life and women wore hats

and carried parasols. Even children wore waistcoats and petticoats and shoes with socks. It was an age of elegance and class. A man's worth and wealth was often determined by the clothes that he wore.

Clothes maketh the man, it's been said, and people were often looked down on with disdain if their clothes didn't meet the current standard of society. Most people judge others by the clothes that they

wear. For some reason, the finer the garment, the "better" the person should be and the more respect they get. Big mistake, as all that glitters is not gold and all that shimmers is not fine silk. Plus, there are wolves in



TONY ROBINSON

cheap clothing.

RUSE

Beggars and thieves sometimes use this as a ruse to their advantage and relieve unsuspecting victims of their money. Case in point. If a man approaches you, dressed in rags, all dirty and smelly, and asks you for a few dollars, chances are you might not even look his way, or at best, toss him a few coins with disdain.

But if another man (or woman) meets you at a meeting, dressed in his designer suit and explains that he's having problems with his ATM card and asks you to spot him a few dollars until he sorts it out, chances are you'd gladly hand it over. Duped by designer duds.

In the very same vein, robbers will mingle unnoticed in an establishment, until they

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 10)

VIEWPOINT



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CARIB Comments

• “This vicious attack on families across the United States cannot stand” - Caribbean American



United States Congresswoman Yvette D. Clarke speaks out against President Donald Trump's executive order cracking down on undocumented immigrants.

• “I am a believer in non-violent resistance, but we have to disrupt a structure that is unjust. We must resist from day one. We're fighting for everyone, even those who don't understand what they've done by voting for Trump. We are going to continue moving forward because we know we are on the right side of history” - New York City Councilman and



Grenadian American Jumaane Williams during his protest of Donald Trump as United States president on inauguration day last month.

• “Who would have guessed when I boarded a plane at the age of 14, an unaccompanied child, leaving Laventille to start a new life in the United States that I would return almost half a decade later as the U.S. president's direct representative to the country of my birth? Who would have thought that after leading the U.S. Marine Corps in the fight against terrorism, I'd continue that battle as a diplomat, striving daily to secure the lives and livelihoods of our citizens and allies? No one could have imagined it. But I know

how it happened” - Trinidadian-born John Estrada, outgoing United States ambassador to the Caribbean nation.



• “I will not give in to political operatives who will use the most disgusting tactics in order to malign my name or to scare me into submission. I will trust in the court system and in the Almighty God ... my record speaks for itself” - Dr. Ubaldus Raymond, St. Lucia's minister for finance, responds to a scandal that has led to blackmail charges against a woman. Nude photographs, allegedly of Raymond, were posted on social media, along with text conversa-

tions allegedly between him and the woman.

• “We have challenges with resources here which tend to affect almost every decision that we make, and it's trying to find the best way to hurdle those challenges but at the same time to have the mindset that whatever you have, you almost have to make it enough. It has to be enough to create a quality cricketer and a quality cricket team” - New West Indies Director of Cricket Jimmy Adams underlines the challenges facing Caribbean cricket in its quest to return to the top of the sport.

- Compiled from various sources.



The Grenada Cultural Association of South Florida and The Consulate General of Grenada invite Nationals to Celebrate Grenada's 43rd Anniversary of Independence at a Thanksgiving Church Service

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10:00AM

A Taste of Grenada Brunch immediately following service

FASHION STATEMENT: You are what you wear, so dress to impress

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9)

make their move, all because they're well dressed and therefore seemingly pose no threat.

White collar criminals are well dressed people, but the blue collar criminals are shopping at the same designer stores now.

MASK

Clothes may maketh the

man, but it also masketh who the man really is. There was a time when dressing up was really important, and indeed, there were dress codes put in place to attend certain occasions. Most times there was no prescribed dress code, but people simply knew what to wear when they were attending certain functions. It was an unwritten code that society conformed to.

Even the theater, back in the day, was a place where people dressed in their finery to attend the movies or concerts. As for the opera, that was an occasion of sheer elegance. Men wore suits, complete with three-piece suits, cummerbunds and hats, and ladies wore their flowing gowns.

Even as a youngsters back in high school, long after that era had passed, we still dressed up to go to the movies. Nobody would have to say to us, “Is that you wearing to go to the show?” We just knew what to wear to look decent.

Now people wear shorts, flip flops, T-shirts, tank tops and ripped up jeans. Even when flying overseas people would dress to travel. Now it's like they are going to the beach, even wearing curlers on flights.

That's why places of discipline have crisp uniforms. Can you imagine an airline pilot showing up for work in a tank-top, shorts and flip-flops? Can you imagine the army chief-of-staff in jeans and T-shirt?

Still, there are some places that still have a dress code, and no, I'm not talking about church either. Ironically, even in the inner-city, there are dress



codes posted at some establishments.

As youngsters, we had our own dress codes, authorized by our mothers. There was our “yard clothes” worn after school, our “going out clothes”, and our “church clothes”, which topped the list. Now almost anything is worn in church.

I see ladies showing more skin than a dancehall diva and wearing undergarments as outer garments. Yes, brassieres are now accepted as outer garments and are shown for all to see, straps, buckles, hooks and all. Just picture a backless dress with a big black brassier exposed at the back.

Listen, I'm not saying to go overboard with dressing, but people should at least have a modicum of style when attending certain functions.

“The soul of this man is his clothes,” said Shakespeare.

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Trump's order means time to stand up, speak out

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9)

Germany. Far from it. Yet, in these life-altering times, maybe Caribbean Americans should pay greater attention to Niemöller's words:

First they came for the Socialists, and I did not speak out Because I was not a Socialist.

Then they came for the

Trade Unionists, and I did not speak out Because I was not a Trade Unionist.

Then they came for the Jews, and I did not speak out Because I was not a Jew.

Then they came for me—and there was no one left to speak for me.



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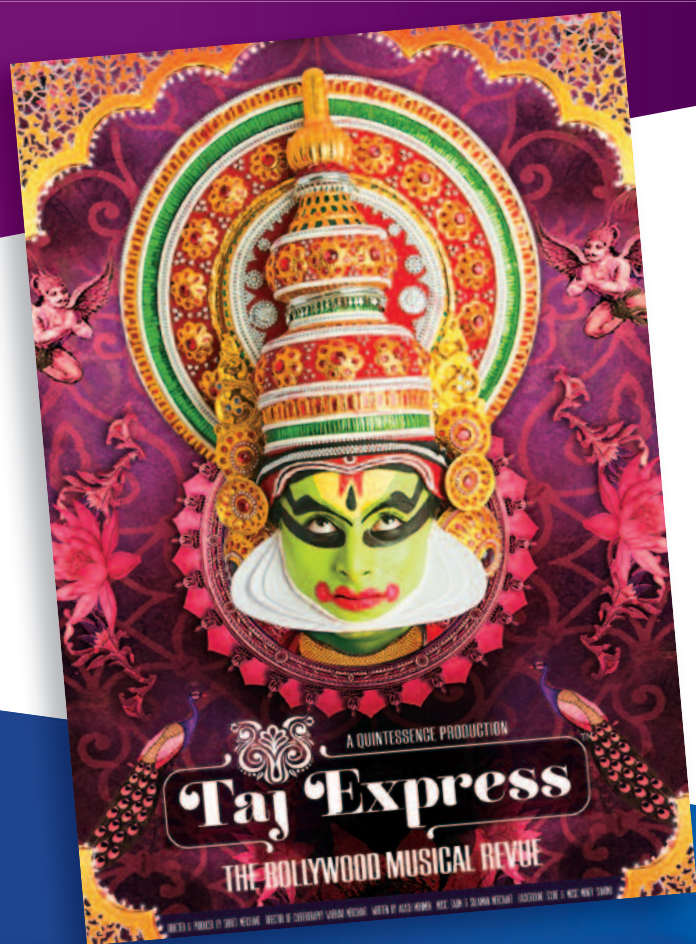
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Rapper Doug E. Fresh to get AFUWI's Bob Marley award

Doug E. Fresh, the Barbadian-born American rapper and record producer best known for his "beat box" style, is scheduled to receive the "Robert 'Bob' Nesta Marley Award" at the Annual Legacy Awards Gala



Doug E. Fresh

of the American Foundation for The University of West Indies (AFUWI) this month.

Born Douglas E. Davis, he is among the 2017 AFUWI honorees who will be lauded on Feb. 23 at The Pierre Hotel in New York City.

The "Robert 'Bob' Nesta Marley Award" is given to an individual/group for their contribution to society and the advancement of arts and culture, transcending race, color,

creed and geographies; to unite people worldwide in a spirit that embodies the essence of the music and lyrics of Bob Marley.

Previous recipients of the award have included Machel Montano, Jimmy Cliff, Danny Glover, Judith Jamison, Spike Lee and Jessye Norman.

Other honorees include Estelle, the British born singer, songwriter, record producer and actress who is best known for her eclectic mix of musical

genres and is of Senegalese and Grenadian descent. She will receive the "AFUWI Caribbean Luminary Award".

This year's awards will be held under the auspices of singer and actor Harry Belafonte. Former New York

City Mayor David N. Dinkins will serve as the dinner's honorary chair.

For more information, visit www.afuwi.org.

- Edited from News Americas.



'King of the Dancehall' movie features one Jamaican among main characters

A Jamaican dancehall film scheduled to screen on YouTube Red has only one Jamaican actor.

"King of the Dancehall", the musical drama by American Nick Cannon, stars Cannon, along with Busta Rhymes, Whoopi Goldberg, Busta Rhymes and Louis Gossett Jr. The only Jamaican among the main characters is Kingston-born newcomer Kimberly Patterson.

Cannon wrote, directed, executive-produced and stars in the film, which had its world premiere last year at the Toronto International Film Festival. In the film, he plays a Brooklynite who moves to Jamaica and falls for a local girl who introduces him to the world of Jamaican dancehall.



Cannon

the musical.

"Music and dance are universal themes, and I'm excited to partner with YouTube to bring a story about the world's sexiest dance tradition to its massive audience," Cannon explained last month in a statement.

"This film invites viewers into a vibrant yet little-known world outside of the Caribbean — the Jamaican dancehall. We assembled an amazing cast, mixed documentary footage from real-life dancehall scenes, and collaborated with music legends to bring King of the Dancehall to life."

- Edited from News Americas.



T&T soca star seeks to overturn conviction

PORT OF SPAIN, Trinidad – Soca star Machel Montano will return to court on April 26 as he seeks to overturn a conviction on assault charges stemming from a nightclub incident four years ago.

Montano, along with songwriter Kernel Roberts, had been convicted in Dec. 2012 for assaulting four people outside a nightclub here on April 26, 2007.

Montano was ordered to pay compensation totaling TT\$13,500 (one TT dollar = \$0.16 cents) and fines totaling TT\$13,700. Roberts was ordered to pay compensation totaling TT\$11,000 and fines totaling TT\$13,000.

On Jan. 27, the Court of Appeal acceded to a request by Assistant Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP) George Busby, "in the interest of justice," to obtain the reasons for Magistrate Maureen Baboolal-Gafoor finding Montano and Roberts guilty on Dec. 10, 2012.

Attorneys representing the two entertainers argued against the move by Busby, saying not only were they surprised that efforts had been made by the prosecution to do

so, without notifying them, but also that Baboolal-Gafoor has since retired from the bench and her judicial authority had ended.

Montano's attorney Jagdeo Singh questioned the magistrate's jurisdiction "after such an inordinately long period"

to give her reasons, warning that to do so would be contrary to justice and judicial accountability and could lead to reasons being tailored around the grounds of appeal.

- Edited from CMC.



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FREDIA Foundation for Rural and Economic Development in Africa

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Entry Price
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HEALTH



www.caribbeantoday.com

PAHO warns of Caribbean tobacco epidemic

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Dominican-born Dr. Carissa F. Etienne, director of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), has warned about what she described as the tobacco epidemic in the Americas, including the Caribbean.

According to Dr. Etienne, though the devastating health effects of tobacco use are well known, tobacco's negative repercussions extend well beyond the obvious health outcomes.

"Tobacco consumption creates a significant economic burden on societies because of both the high costs of health care and the associated lost productivity," said Dr.

Etienne, writing in the Pan American Journal of Public Health.

"In addition, tobacco use contributes to health inequalities and exacerbates poverty within and between countries, through the diversion of resources away from food and other essential needs, as well as through foregone income," she added.

EFFECT

Dr. Etienne said these and other adverse consequences of



Etienne

the tobacco epidemic disproportionately affect low- and middle-income countries, where more than 80 percent of the world's smokers now live, including 127 million in the Americas.

"Considering its tremendous health and economic costs, the tobacco epidemic has the potential to undermine both social and economic development," she said.

Dr. Etienne pointed to a recent global study that found increases in tobacco taxation in low- and middle-income countries could prevent millions of deaths while also creating new fiscal space for financing development. But, she said, despite the clear path forward set forth by the FCTC and abundant evidence on the effectiveness of increasing taxes to reduce tobacco consumption, taxation remains the least widely implemented FCTC measure.

She said this is largely due to industry tactics to "block, delay and weaken tobacco control policies."

- Edited from CMC.



Advocates seeking to raise Broward's legal smoking age

BOB LAMENDOLA

Anti-tobacco advocates in Broward County, Florida will ask local elected officials in the coming year to consider raising the legal age to buy tobacco products to 21, as a way to prevent youths from starting the habit.

The Tobacco-Free Partnership of Broward chose as its top priority for 2017 a project to ask elected commissioners from the county and its cities about raising the legal age for tobacco sales, which is currently 18.

More than 80 percent of smokers start before 18, many with help from friends who can buy tobacco legally. Researchers at the Institute of Medicine have estimated that raising the legal age to 21 would reduce under-21 smoking by 12 percent.

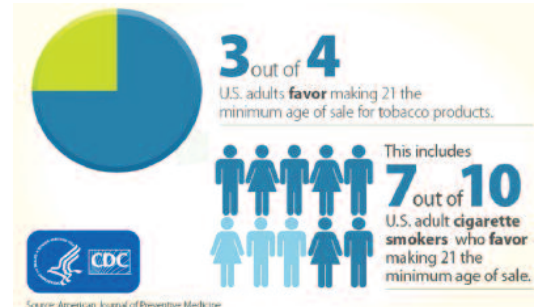
California and Hawaii, plus more than 200 United States cities and counties (none in Florida), have raised the legal age to 21. Four states have raised it to 19.

PREVENTION

"Raising the age would help keep tobacco out of the schools," says Imani Richardson, a health educator at the Florida Department of Health in Broward, which organizes the Tobacco Free

Partnership.

The American Lung Association in Broward has started working on presentations. In addition, the partner-



ship is enlisting the help of teen volunteers in the 20 Broward chapters of Students Working Against Tobacco (SWAT).

The partnership board will tackle other projects this year, including:

- * Encouraging more employers to ban smoking on their property and to offer free quit-smoking services to employees.

- * Holding an anti-tobacco event at a Florida Panthers hockey game.

- * Participating in "Relay for Life" walk/run events with the American Cancer Society.

- * Expanding its youth essay contest to be more often than once a year.

Edited from an article submitted by Bob LaMendola, Florida Department of Health in Broward County.



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Barbara Ross-Lee
First African-American woman to head a U.S. medical school, 1993 through 2001

As we honor the historic achievements of all African-Americans, we also look to the future - and the health of our community. African-Americans are historically at much higher risk of heart disease, diabetes and other health problems. That's why Broward Health offers many seminars, diagnostic services and treatment options that can keep you and your family well. Please visit BrowardHealth.org for information on all the resources available to you. Together, we can rewrite history.



Avoid drowning, be vigilant with children at pool

Drowning is the number one cause of accidental death among children under age five.

The best protections are for an adult to watch children every minute they are around water and to set up layers of protection, such as pool fences, locking gates, door alarms and rescue tools.

Swimming lessons for the children and adults can help. Don't jump in to rescue someone unless you are an excellent swimmer. The person in trouble is desperate and struggling, and can pull a potential rescuer under the water.

The best approach is to find a floating device – life preserver, pole, ladder, tree branch, etc. – that you can use to pull the person out of the water or keep them afloat. And, call for help.

Most adults are grossed out by the sight of a neglected

pool. But that's not always true of toddlers. They may be just as fascinated with filthy water as they are with a sparkling clean pool. Too often, the results are fatal. It's harder to see children struggling if the water is dark.

DOH-Broward urges people to be extra vigilant if a pool becomes abandoned. Call the city or county code compliance offices, which can issue violations to the property owner in an attempt to safeguard the pool. Be persistent if action is slow.

If the stagnant water spawns a swarm of mosquitoes, call DOH-Broward Environmental Health at 954-467-4700, Ext. 4201.

- Edited from Florida Department of Health in Broward County.



Get creative with coconut chicken

MINNA LAFORTUNE

Cooking is a challenge sometimes, especially when you are unable to find the right ingredients to make a special dish you have a strong desire for.

Ingredients are sometimes not available for one reason or another. When these situations occur, the best thing to do is to try to find substitutes. You can substitute meats, fish and various vegetables.

It is difficult, though, to substitute spices. For example, if a dish calls for curry powder and it is difficult to find curry powder because the store is out of stock, you have to create a new dish completely.

Here's a new dish created - because I could not find curry powder- using chicken and coconut milk. It is called coconut chicken.

Ingredients

- 2 pounds chicken breast (fillet)
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 2 sprigs Thyme
- 1/4 cup scallions (chopped)
- 1/2 cup red onions (minced)
- 2 cloves of garlic
- 4 pimento seeds
- 1/2 teaspoon Scotch Bonnet pepper (minced)
- 2 bay leaves
- 2 cups fresh coconut milk
- 1/2 cup coconut oil



Coconut Chicken

Method

Wash and cut chicken fillet into finger length pieces. Add all the seasonings and marinate overnight.

In a Dutch pot, add the coconut oil. When the oil is hot, remove chicken from marinade. Add chicken pieces to hot oil and fry until golden brown.

Put all the fried chicken to rest on a plate lined with paper towel to absorb excess oil. Remove remaining oil from the Dutch pot and add coconut milk.

Allow the coconut milk to simmer for seven minutes then add fried chicken and the remaining marinade.

Cook chicken in the coconut milk until tender. Taste for salt.

Serve with rice, dumplings and steam cabbage or turned cornmeal/ polenta/mayai moulen.

- Edited from News Americas.



Traditional Haitian side dishes offer unique taste

With fresh tropical ingredients and a mixture of African and French influences, Haitian cuisine is unique. Below is a sample of Haitian side dishes:

• Pain de mais - Haitian corn bread

This dense and delicious quick bread is truly an all-in-one. Often eaten after a meal, the taste of Haitian pain de mais is reminiscent of a combination of American pound cake, banana bread and corn bread.

• Diri kole - rice and beans

The rice and beans, known as diri kole, is a common balancing side to a rich and spicy meat entrée.

While there are variations on this classic recipe of red beans and long-grain white rice, it's a sure bet that diri kole will both please and satisfy.

• Macaroni au gratin - Haitian baked macaroni and cheese

Yet another comfort dish. The beauty of macaroni au gratin is that it can be as simple or as enhanced as you like.

This full-flavored recipe can include three different types of cheese and seasonings like Worcester sauce, white pepper, and mustard. Variations can add or leave out some of the seasonings.

• Doumbrey - Haitian boiled dumplings

These oblong shaped dumplings called doumbrey are easy to make. Often added to Haitian soup (bouillon), which by itself is generally loaded with a variety of meats and vegetables, the dumplings contribute a nice and neutral element.

Not only do the dumplings take on the flavor of whatever soup or dish they are a part of, but they contribute to a nice and hearty, overall texture.

• Pikliz - Haitian pickled cabbage

As with most cuisines throughout the world, the key is balance and contrast. Visually, when you add Haitian pikliz to your plate, the array of color will be beautiful.

Taste-wise, you'll enjoy tangy fresh vegetables that compliment and amplify the other parts of your meal that are rich, salty and spicy.

Pikliz is not only a must have with most Haitian entrées, but it has the added benefit of aiding digestion.

- Edited from an article which originally appeared on tasteth-eislandstv.com.



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St. Lucia aims to spice up entertainment festivals

CASTRIES, St. Lucia – St. Lucia's tourism product is getting a facelift as the government begins to roll out plans for the establishment of a new entity to manage the Caribbean island's music and cultural festivals.

Tourism stakeholders said there are plans for the new entity and a summer music festival, which will incorporate a Jazz Week in May that will be a reconfiguration of the annual St. Lucia Jazz Festival.

Minister for Local Government and Culture Fortuna Belrose said the government is trying to be more creative and position the island to be more attractive and competitive in entertainment.

"Our citizens have not been able to effectively capitalize on the economic potential of our unique and diverse culture," Belrose told reporters.

"This is so because of the disconnect that exists across sectors and the absence of effective systems for linkages in all of these sectors."

OBJECTIVE

She said the objective is to brand St. Lucia, which celebrates its 38th Independence on Feb. 22, as destination of events and festivals, linking it



St. Lucia's Jazz Festival will be reconfigured.

summer. We also have our carnival, food and rum, Creole Heritage festival and sailing regatta. Initially we will focus on about five projects."

Dominic Fedee, minister in the Office of the Prime Minister with responsibility for tourism, information and broadcasting, allayed fears regarding the changes to the St. Lucia Jazz Festival.

"What we are doing is reconfiguring how we approach the festival," he said. "It will have a new name and that new name will in no way dilute the festival ... The reality is the time has come for change."

Agnes Francis, executive chair of the St. Lucia Tourist Board, confirmed there will be a jazz festival in May.

"We will have a week of jazz from Sunday 6th May until 14th May 2017," she explained. "It will culminate at Pigeon Island on Sunday 14 May, also Mothers' Day," she said.

She said a creative agency is working on branding for this summer's festival.

- Edited from CMC.



directly to its tourism product, so the country can optimize the contribution of festivals to national and community development and ensure efficiency and effectiveness in the production of these events and festivals.

"We anticipate that this new approach will create some tension, but it will assist us in connecting with the critical sectors as our national events will not be regarded as standalone activities, but as part of a package," said Belrose.

"The events we speak about are our music festival which will be held over the

Bahamas gets \$32M to improve airports

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) has approved a \$35 million loan designed to improve infrastructure at four airports on the Family Islands, as The Bahamas' less developed outer islands are known.

Late last month, the Washington-based financial institution said the loan will contribute to the archipelago's regional and international integration through upgrades at the airports of Exuma, North Eleuthera, Marsh Harbour and Treasure Cay.

The project will finance modernization and maintenance of the airports, including a wide range of aviation and infrastructure improvements, such as visual aids, lighting, runway beacons, mobile airport equipment, parking platforms and passenger terminals, the IDB said.

Air transport also allows people living on the Family Islands to have access to goods and services offered only on New Providence, the island on which 70 percent of the country's population lives, or overseas, the IDB said.

- Edited from CMC.



Premier invites Obama to relax in Bermuda

HAMILTON, Bermuda – Premier Michael Dunkley has invited former United States President Barack Obama to "relax and have fun" in Bermuda.

Dunkley, who expressed his "deepest appreciation and admiration" for Obama's eight years of service as president, in a letter advised him the island would be a particularly good place to visit as it hosts the America's Cup sailing spectacular in May and June.

"Bermudians, like so many people around the world, drew comfort and hope from your steady, unflappable leadership, your integrity and decency in all matters, your inspiring words, your achievements at home and abroad, and your embodiment of the best possibilities," Dunkley wrote of Obama.

"Bermuda and the United

States have a shared history dating back to the first days of the New World and the relationship has evolved into a friendship that extends into every level of our lives here. For many Bermudians, your presidency deepened that connection."

He concluded his letter by extending an invitation to Obama to pay a visit to Bermuda.

"It is a beautiful island of welcoming people, a place to relax and have fun, especially this year when we host the America's Cup.

"Bermudians would love to have you and your family as their guests. We look forward to welcoming you to our island."

- Edited from CMC.



U.S. educators help set up Jamaica hospitality school

KINGSTON, Jamaica – Jamaica says it is collaborating with professionals from international tourism training institutions for the design and development of a hospitality school, due to open in 2018.

Tourism Minister Edmund Bartlett said Donald Hawkins, professor emeritus

of management and tourism studies at the George Washington University, will lead the team tasked with developing the design of the institution and its programs.

The team, at the end of their 50-day term, is expected to produce a business plan that will serve as guide for the establishment of the school.

CENTRAL

Bartlett said the hospitality school is central to Jamaica government's push to build the tourism experience and develop the country's capacity to retain its position as a leading destination. He said the school will focus on training persons for middle- and upper-level positions in the industry.

"The focus of the institution will be heavily hands-on, and so we will be training for competence as well as for pedagogy," Bartlett said, noting that the school will be constructed alongside a hotel to



Bartlett

allow students to have practical experience in the relevant aspects of the industry.

The facility is expected to deliver training on "networks" for visitor experience - gastronomy, knowledge, shopping, health and wellness, and sports and entertainment – on which the government has placed strategic focus for the growth of the sector.

- Edited from CMC.



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~ A CARIBBEAN TODAY SPECIAL FEATURE

February is for 'Carriacou Carnival'

This month Grenada will stage its annual "Carriacou Carnival".

The event features street dances, soca, mas bands, calypso and the Jab Jab.

It even has a "Shakespeare Mas".

This involves the recitation of Shakespeare verses, as men dressed in bright colors engage in a battle of words hoping not to fumble on their lines or risk a stroke of his opponent's stick.

The carnival's schedule is as follows:

Feb. 23 - Carnival Queen Show at Hillsborough Tennis Court

Feb. 24 - Soca Monarch Finals at Hillsborough Tennis Court



Dancers get into the groove at last year's carnival.

Feb. 25

Kiddies Carnival at Hillsborough Main Street
Black Out Fete/Jab Convention at Hillsborough Tennis Court

Feb. 26 - Calypso and Groovy Finals at Hillsborough Tennis Court

Feb. 27
Jouvert/Ole Mas at Hillsborough

Parade of the Bands at Hillsborough Main Street
Monday Night Mas at Hillsborough Main Street
Feb. 28

Traditional Shakespeare Mas at Six Roads/Brunswick and Mount Royal Villages into Hillsborough

Parade of the Bands/Last Lap at Hillsborough Main Street

- Edited from Consulate General of Grenada's website.



Grenada diaspora associations in Florida

• **Caribbean and Floridian Association (CAFA), Inc.**
President: Casmore A. Shaw
Address: P. O. Box 450786, Kissimmee, Florida 34743-0786.
Call: 407-870-9116 or 407-870-7654
• **Grenada Cultural Association of South Florida**
President: Elizabeth Allick
Address: P. O. Box 693090, Miami, Florida 33269
Call: 305-76-1751
E-mail: gcasouthfla@yahoo.com
Website: <http://www.gcasf.org>
• **Grenada Florida Connection, Inc.**
President: Knox Williams

Address: P. O. Box 17985, Plantation, Florida 33318-7985

• **Oine Hills Athletic Club, Inc.**
President: Mr. John Munro
Address: P.O. Box 681082, Orlando, Florida 32868

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• **Patriots & Friends of Grenada**
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Address: P. O. Box 3541, Brandon, Florida 33509

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- Edited from Consulate General of Grenada's website.



U.S. company to invest \$58M in Grenada's tourism resorts

ST. GEORGE'S, Grenada – A United States-based company is set to plug \$58 million into the Grenada tourism industry under the island's Citizenship

by Investment Program (CIP) that Prime Minister Dr. Keith Mitchell said is a way of "bringing serious investments to the country."

The five-star Kimpton Kawana Bay Resort Resort, due to open in 2019, will comprise 110 luxury studio rooms and 45 suites. Twelve additional penthouse apartments will also be available for sale to private owners.

San Francisco-based Kimpton Hotels & Restaurants, which will manage the new venture, has at least 60 properties throughout the U.S. and the Cayman Islands. The Grenada property is owned and developed by True Blue Development Limited, a division of the Tau Capital Group of Companies that specializes in development projects internationally.

DEFENSE

Speaking at the launch of the project last month, Mitchell defended the CIP program under which several Caribbean countries provide citizenship to foreign investors in return for a significant contribution to the socio-economic development of the island.

The program, which is being run by St. Lucia, St. Kitts and Nevis, Grenada, Antigua and Barbuda and Dominica, came under scrutiny recently when the U.S. broadcast network CBS, aired a program alleging that the passports could be used by terrorists and criminals to move freely around the world. Mitchell told the audience at the ceremony that the CIP is about bringing investment to the country and not just about selling passports.

"It's a way of bringing serious investment to the country by serious investors and that is why we conduct serious research and background checks on those who apply," he said.

"When we attract quality people, we have benefits like this through the CIP program."

- Edited from CMC.



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Caribbean-born talent scarce among highest 2017 MLS SuperDraft picks

GORDON WILLIAMS

Caribbean-born talent was largely absent from the highest selections in the 2017 Major League Soccer (MLS) SuperDraft.

Unlike previous years, when they were favored by clubs in North America's best professional league, young players from the region were not among the top choices last month, except for Bermudian midfielder Zeiko Lewis, who was picked 17th overall.

The draft, held annually in January, generally features the cream of soccer players coming out of United States colleges, including many born in the Caribbean. In recent years non-collegians from the Caribbean were also made eligible. The draft takes place after the MLS Combine, a multiple-day trial for players. An earlier combine was held in the Caribbean to select talent for the U.S. trial.

Lewis, a 22-year-old who has represented his country, was selected by New York Red Bulls. He played four years at Boston College and made the All-Atlantic Coast Conference first team in 2016.

Several other players in the 2017 MLS SuperDraft are

believed to have Caribbean roots, although not born in the region. The highest draft choice among those was midfielder Jonathan Lewis, a Plantation, Florida resident from the University of Akron, who has family ties to Jamaica.

Lewis was selected third overall by New York City F.C. after the club traded with the Chicago Fire for the rights to pick the 19-year-old following his freshman college season, when he started 20 of 22 games and scored two goals while providing 12 assists. Lewis had been invited to junior national team training camps for Jamaica and U.S.

"Going third is big," he told **MLS.com**. "I'm just happy, very happy. I never would've expected it."

Lewis has impressed with his physical and mental approach to soccer.

"His playing ability is great," explained Florida resident Valney Brown, a Jamaican who has coached Jonathan Lewis in the past.



Jonathan Lewis

"He has a lot of upsides. He works hard and has perseverance. He has very strong ambition ... He is a bold young man, confident in what he can do."

DISAPPOINTMENT

Caribbean-born talent fared well in previous drafts. Darren Mattocks, a Jamaican-born striker, was the second overall pick in 2012. The following year, another Jamaican, forward Deshorn Brown, was chosen sixth. In 2014, Jamaica had three players in the top 10, including number one overall pick goalkeeper Andre Blake. In 2015 Jamaican Romario Williams was selected third and last year his compatriot Omar Holness was drafted fifth. During those years, other Caribbean players were scattered throughout the draft's second, third and fourth rounds.

This year's SuperDraft was different, yet not surprising. Scouts' evaluations predicted there wasn't standout Caribbean-born talent available. In addition, they warned that MLS clubs were becoming wary of young players from the region, as some had disappointed after being drafted high. Observers claim play-

ers, especially those who did not attend U.S. colleges, were often unready for professional soccer.

"Lack of preparation through the people responsible for the development of the players in the Caribbean is at fault," said Brown.

In addition, with the expansion of MLS – moving from 20 to 22 teams in 2017 – and more spending money available – clubs are believed to be looking for more seasoned talent, players who can have immediate impact in the league.

Still, Caribbean-born players have been coveted for

their speed, strength and technical skills. They usually come with a cheaper price tag than some other international players. More than 20 players born in the Caribbean or who have played for a country in the region, were listed on MLS rosters going into the 2017 pre-season. Several have been key contributors to MLS Cup championship teams in the past.

The 2017 SuperDraft did not represent a total movement away from non-U.S.-born talent, however. The 2017 top pick was Abu Danladi from Ghana. Five foreigners were selected among the top 10 picks and many more were scattered over the four rounds.



Zeiko Lewis

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Jamaican sprinters in line for Laureus sports award

The sensational Jamaican sprint pair of Usain Bolt and Elaine Thompson are among the nominees for the prestigious Laureus World Sports awards.

The award winners will be announced at a ceremony on Feb. 14 in Monaco.

Bolt has been nominated for the World Sportsman-of-the-Year and Thompson has made the cut for the World Sportswoman-of-the-Year.

Bolt, a three-time winner



Bolt

of the Laureus award, successfully defended his 100 meters, 200 meters and 4x100 meters relay titles at the 2016 Olympic Games in Brazil. The 30-year-old previously won the award in 2009, 2010 and 2013.

Bolt faces a stiff challenge to collect it again. Olympic 5,000 and 10,000 meters champion Mo Farah and tennis gold medal winner Andy Murray have been shortlisted, along with soccer megastar Cristiano Ronaldo and American bas-



Thompson

ketball superstars LeBron James and Stephen Curry.

Thompson is one of six 2016 Olympic champions nominated for Sportswoman-of-the-Year. The 24-year-old won the 100 and 200 titles in Brazil. It is her first nomination for the award.

The contest for the Sportswoman-of-the-Year award also promises to be competitive. Challenging Thompson are a trio of Americans – gymnast Simone Biles, swimmer Katie Ledecky and quarter-mile silver medalist Allyson Felix – as well as world tennis number one Angelique Kerber of Germany and British cyclist Laura Kenny.



SPORTS BRIEFS

Australian is new West Indies coach

The West Indies has appointed former Australian player Stuart Law the new senior men's cricket coach for the Caribbean team.

Law replaced former West Indies player, Trinidadian Phil Simmons, who the Australian said helped convince him he had made the right decision to link up with the Caribbean side.

Law was signed to a two-year contract and will formally assume

duties this month ahead of England's one-day tour.

T&T national soccer coach resigns

Trinidad and Tobago's national men's soccer coach Tom Saintfiet last month quit the post after just five weeks and four games in charge, citing a lack of support from the T&T Football Association, the country's governing body for the sport.

The Belgian said his appoint-

ment had been "second-guessed" from the first day by TTFA President David John-Williams and he did not believe he could succeed "in this environment." T&T resumes 2018 World Cup qualifiers next month.

Saintfiet was replaced by former T&T national player Dennis Lawrence.

- Compiled from various sources.



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~ A CARIBBEAN TODAY SPECIAL FEATURE

FLORIDA FARE: Caribbean flavor spices up Miami-Dade's celebration

Miami-Dade County residents are being offered a variety of opportunities to celebrate Black History throughout February, including presentations by Caribbean nationals.

The Miami-Dade County Black Affairs Advisory Board (BAAB), along with community-based organizations, have scheduled several events that pay homage to the African

American diaspora, as well as this year's national theme "The Crisis in Black Education".

The following are some of the events throughout the county commemorating scheduled for Black History Month:

Feb. 9: 7 p.m. – "Faces of Freedom - Jean-Claude Legagneur Artist's Reception", MOCA, 770 N.E. 125 St. Exhibition on display Feb. 7 through Mar. 5. For more information, visit www.NorthMiamiFl.gov/Celebrate.

Feb. 10: 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. – "Black History Month Kickoff", featuring entertainment, unveiling of "Triumphant Spirits: African American Men" exhibit, Kinad African American Museum exhibit, and a "Soul Food Truck" invasion at Stephen P. Clark Government Center, 111 N.W. 1st St. Miami.

For more information, call 305-375-4606 or visit www.miamidade.gov/baab.

6 p.m., 8 p.m. or 10 p.m. – "Sweet Butter Pop-up and Dinner Show: A Southern

Experience" at Overtown Performing Arts Center, 1074 N.W. 3rd Ave., Miami.

For more information, visit www.SweetButter.eventbrite.com.

Feb. 11: 8:30 a.m. – Trayvon Martin Peace Walk/Talk hosted by J. Anthony Brown at the Betty T. Ferguson Recreational Complex, 3000 N.W. 199th St., Miami Gardens.

For more information, call 786-504-4235.

8 p.m. – NAACP Image Awards "Moonlight" Film Watch Party at African Heritage Cultural Arts Center/Wendell A. Narcisse Theater, 6161 N.W. 22nd Ave., Miami. For more information, call 305-638-6771 or visit www.ahcaci.org.

Feb. 12: 3 p.m. – Twenty-Fourth Annual Commemorative Service and Ninth Annual "Youth Talent on Parade" at The Historic City of Miami Cemetery, 1800 N.E. 2nd Ave.

For more information, call 305-638-5800.

Feb. 18: 7 p.m. to 1 a.m. – "Healing the Nation" at 6010 N.E. 2nd Ave., Miami.

Featuring talks by Caribbean nationals Mutabaruka and Edwidge Danticat, Carole Boyce Davies, Andrea Shaw Nevins, Keshia Abraham, Melissa Hunter, Michelle Gomez, Eddie Osborne and professors from Cornell University, University of Miami, Florida Memorial University and Nova Southeastern University.

Visit www.Afrikin.org for more information.

Feb. 19: 5 p.m. – Gospel concert featuring the Miami Mass Choir at Adrienne Arsht Center-Knight Concert Hall, 1300 Biscayne Blvd., Miami.

For more information, visit www.arshtcenter.org.

Feb. 23: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. – Black Affairs Advisory Board Law and Fire Safety Job Fair co-hosted by Florida Memorial University at 15800 N.W. 42nd Ave., Miami

Gardens.

For more information, call 305-375-4606.

6 p.m. – Reception honoring the "Visions of Our 44th President Barack Obama Exhibition" at Black Archives Historic Lyric Theater Cultural Arts Complex, 819 N.W. 2nd Ave., Miami.

For more information, call 305-636-2331.

Feb. 24: 12:30 p.m. – Black History Month Honors Luncheon presented by Commissioner Jean Monestime (District 2). For more information, call 305-694-2779.

8 p.m. – Jazz at MOCA featuring Shareef Clayton at MOCA Plaza, 770 N.E. 125 St., North Miami.

For more information, visit www.NorthMiamiFl.gov/Celebrate.

Feb. 25: 9 a.m. to noon – Free community health fair at Liberty City Church of Christ, 1263 N.W. 67th St., Miami.

For more information, call 305-375-4606.

9 a.m. – "No More Broken Hearts - A Domestic Violence Workshop" at 1331 N.W. 46th St., Miami.

For more information, call 305-995-2311.

5 p.m. to 11 p.m. – Music in the Plaza Featuring Doug E. Fresh, CASE, Denise Williams and Chubb Rock at MOCA Plaza, 770 N.E. 125 St.

For more information, visit www.NorthMiamiFl.gov/Celebrate.

6 p.m. to 11 p.m. – Annual "Samuel's Call" fundraising dinner, featuring African fashions and comedy at Florida International University, 3000 N.E. 151st St., North Miami.

For more information, call 786-271-3683, 305-244-4284 or visit www.samuelscall.org.

7 p.m. – Free film showing of "Moonlight" at Wendell A. Narcisse Theater African Heritage Cultural Arts Center.

For more information, call 305-638-6771 or visit www.ahcaci.org.

**Panel to discuss diversity in design arts, architecture**

"Diversity in Design Arts", a presentation and discussion on black art, architecture and design exploring the idea of a "black aesthetic" will be held from **11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Feb. 4** in South Florida.

The discussion will feature five of South Florida's authorities in design, including architect Victor Hayes of Archi Designz Group. His expertise includes architecture, urban planning and construction management. His portfolio includes municipal, commercial, residential and hospitality projects in Florida and the Caribbean, including Strawberry Hill Resort, Jamaica.

The discussion will be

moderated by event organizer Marsha McDonald, of Seacrest Designs and Decor.

This year's event is part of a three-month program on "Outsider Art" organized by Clare Vickery of Grace Arts FL, and is staged at the Fort Lauderdale Historical Society.

For more information and complimentary tickets, visit www.eventbrite.com under the search term "Diversity in Design - Black Art".



Hayes

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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our readers are highly esteemed. 59.6% own their own homes. 76% are between 25-54 years of age (readership study conducted by Circulation Verification Council).

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~ A CARIBBEAN TODAY SPECIAL FEATURE

Obama designates monuments honoring civil rights history

Barack Obama last month designated three new national monuments honoring civil rights history, in an effort to “ensure that more of country’s history will be preserved and celebrated,” in one of his final acts as United States president.

The Birmingham Civil Rights National Monument will protect important landmarks from the civil rights movement, including the A.G. Gaston Motel, an “epicenter of Birmingham’s civil rights protests and demonstrations.” It also safeguards the 16th Street Baptist Church, which

the Ku Klux Klan bombed in 1963 during the height of desegregation. The Freedom Riders National Monument will honor the 1961 rides through the Deep South with the protection of a Greyhound station in Anniston, Alabama, where a bus was firebombed.

“These monuments preserve the vibrant history of the Reconstruction Era and its role in redefining freedom,” Obama said in a statement.

“They tell the important stories of the citizens who helped launch the civil rights movement in Birmingham and the Freedom Riders whose

bravery raised national awareness of segregation and violence. These stories are part of our shared history.”

Another, called the Reconstruction Era National Monument in Beaufort, South Carolina, will protect areas near the first site where “formerly enslaved people could begin integrating themselves into free society,” the White House said.

All three sites will be protected under the Antiquities Act of 1906.

- Edited from *HuffPost*.



FAREWELL OBAMA



Barack Obama, the first African American president of the United States, waves goodbye as he and wife Michelle prepare to board an aircraft and depart Washington, D.C. following the inauguration of Donald Trump as U.S. president last month. Obama served two terms as commander-in-chief. He left the White House with a public approval rating of 60 percent.

PBS to air specials highlighting African Americans

To honor Black History Month, and as part of its celebration of the diversity of the United States, PBS television will air documentaries and specials that highlight the African American experience.

New offerings include programs that reflect on the contributions of icons like the late Maya Angelou, artistes like Smokey Robinson, and showcase independent documentaries about the valiant efforts

of those pushing for change through thoughtful dialogue.

“Audiences turn to PBS year-round to find thoughtful programs about topics and issues that are top of mind in our nation and inclusive of a diverse America,” said Beth Hoppe, chief programming executive and general manager of general audience programming at PBS.

“Black History Month provides a special opportunity

to highlight the contributions of African Americans to our history and culture. Whether on-air or online, viewers can watch programs that honor the triumphs and achievements of many great Americans anytime and anywhere.”

For more information about PBS and its program schedule, visit www.pbs.org.

- Edited from *Black PR Wire*.



Art, storytime, movies, jazz to mark Nova Southeastern events

Nova Southeastern University in South Florida will host multiple events in February to mark Black History Month. The following is a listing of those events:

Feb. 7, 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. – Presentation and panel discussion on “Sickle Cell Disease – Supporting Illness Management in Schools”.

To be held in Maltz Building, Room 2047. For more information, contact Michelle Brenes at mb2738@nova.edu or Joanna Tsikis joanna.tsikis@gmail.com.

@gmail.com.

Feb. 12, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. – Film viewing of “Freedom Summer”, which looks at events during 10 weeks in Mississippi during 1964.

To be shown in the Alvin Sherman Library, Cotilla Gallery. For more information, call **954-262-5477**.

Feb. 15, 10:30 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. – “Sharkey’s Storytime Special”, a children’s event celebrating African music and culture. Features dance and sing along

in the Sherman Library. For more information, call **954-262-5477**.

Feb. 16, 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. – Presentation: “Remembering Paradise Park”. Paradise Park was the “colored only” counterpart to Silver Springs, a central Florida tourist attraction famous for its crystal-clear water and glass bottom boats. Presented by writer Lu Vickers, author of “Cypress Gardens, America’s Tropical Wonderland: How Dick Pope

Invented Florida” and the novel “Breathing Underwater”. In Sherman Library, Cotilla Gallery. For more information, call **954-262-4627** or visit public.library.nova.edu/FHC to register.

Feb. 18, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. – NSU’s Office of Innovation and Information Technology will feature “Change through Coding”, an event geared toward middle school students, ages 12 to 15. The preview will include interactive

sessions where students will view the contributions of blacks in technology and learn about innovation in virtual reality. In the Sherman Library.

For more information, contact Claudia Bonilla claudiab@nova.edu.

Feb. 26, 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. – “Jazz in the Gallery” featuring the Jason Hainsworth Quintet in the Sherman Library.

For more information, call **954-262-5477**.



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