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TRIPLE TREAT

~ Jamaica's Usain Bolt cemented his legendary status in track and field at the Olympic Games in Brazil, winning his third consecutive 100, 200 and 4x100 meters titles to complete – as promised – the golden "Triple-Triple", page 2.



GOLDEN LEAGUE



Miller



Thompson



McLeod



Puig

~ Caribbean athletes again rose to the spotlight with outstanding performances at the 2016 Olympic Games. Several won gold medals, including from left, Shaunae Miller, of The Bahamas; Jamaica's Elaine Thompson and Omar McLeod; and Monica Puig of Puerto Rico. Others didn't win, but still put on an outstanding show in Rio, page 8.



The United Nations is acknowledging that peacekeepers it sent to help keep Haiti safe may have exposed the French-speaking Caribbean nation to a different danger - a cholera epidemic which has claimed thousands of lives, page 5.



According to the latest Trafficking in Persons 2016 Report, several Caribbean nations have made the list of those battling "sex trafficking" – the act of recruiting, harboring, transporting, providing or obtaining a person for compelled commercial sex acts through the use of force, fraud or coercion – within their borders, page 7.

INSIDE INSIDE INSIDE INSIDE INSIDE

News.....	2	Health	12	Tourism/Travel.....	17
Feature	7	Food.....	13	Eye on Belize.....	19
Olympic Wrap-up	8	Local/FYI.....	14		
Viewpoint.....	9	Voters' Guide	15		
Arts/Entertainment	11	Classifieds	16		



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LEGEND: Jamaica's Bolt wins historic Olympic 'Triple-Triple' sprint crown

GORDON WILLIAMS

He came. He saw. He conquered track, capturing the world's attention and admiration.

Jamaican Usain Bolt justified his promise to become a sporting legend by dominating the sprints for the third Olympic Games in a row, winning gold in the 100, 200 and 4x100 meter events in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

"I told you guys I would do it," a jubilant Bolt told reporters after Jamaica's team took the relay title on Aug. 19, completing his magnificent "Triple-Triple". "That's what I came here to do."

He did it with the style and showmanship that has marked his illustrious career ever since he burst onto the international scene by winning a sprint title at the World Juniors as a 15-year-old in his homeland. Turning 30 at the 2016 Olympics - his last - didn't wipe any sheen off Bolt's distinctive superstar quality, which has left an indelible imprint on track - just as he planned all along.

"I want to be remembered as one of the greatest," Bolt said in Rio. "I have worked all my career, all my life, so, hopefully, they can

read about me as one of the greatest ever in this sport."

AWESOME

Mission accomplished, without a shred of evidence it was ever in doubt. A day before the relay final, which he clinched for Jamaica by demolishing the field with a scintillating anchor leg, Bolt powered his way to win the 200m in 19.78 seconds, well off his 19.19 world record set at the 2009 World Championships in Berlin, Germany. Earlier, on Aug. 14, he again squashed all debate of who is the world's fastest ever human, impressively turning back the challenge of main rival Justin Gatlin of the United States to win the 100m in 9.81 seconds, well off the 9.58 he set in Berlin seven years ago.

Yet, despite failing to lower his individual and relay world records, Bolt wasn't



Bolt seals relay victory and his legacy in Rio.

overly perturbed.

"I have proven myself to the world," he said. "I have done great things ... I still have the world record even though it's been a long time. I am happy. I am Olympic champion again, and that's the main thing."

Bolt sprinted into sporting immortality by completing the task he started at the 2008 Olympics in China and followed up four years later in England. He became only the

third track athlete to win nine Olympic gold, joining former U.S. sprinter/long jumper Carl Lewis and the late Paavo Nurmi, a Finnish distance runner.

In between Olympics, Bolt took charge of the World Championships, a rare blemish coming when he was disqualified for a false start in the 100m final at the 2011 staging.

PRAISE

No other athlete has come close to dominating track's marquee events while basking in worldwide popularity. Accolades recognizing his accomplishments poured in from all corners, including world leaders and top professional athletes from other sports. Social media exploded with admirers. Every time Bolt entered the Maracana Stadium in Rio the crowd chanted his name.

Bolt fever also ignited the Caribbean diaspora in the U.S. as numerous "watch parties" assembled to follow his unprecedented Olympic quest. JFK International Airport in New York was briefly shut down as noise from fans celebrating his 100m victory was mistaken for a security threat.

Yet Bolt threatened no one,

except the fickle notion that the Caribbean cannot claim the world spotlight. In the summer of 2016, the 6'5" icon from a small island again bossed the biggest stage. According to a tweet from Jamaican-born Donovan Bailey, a former Olympic 100m champion for Canada, Bolt has risen to a "Place where no human has ever been."

The Caribbean nations grouping CARICOM underlined Bolt's inspirational effect on the region: "His excellence is an example of the skill and talents which our youths possess and is a beacon of the greatness which beckons those who are willing to make the necessary sacrifices to achieve great heights."

When U.S. President Barack Obama visited Jamaica in 2015, he asked to meet the superstar and joined Bolt in his now famous "to di wer!" pose.

"Nobody's ever been faster than this guy! Ever! Of all the billions of people," said Obama.

Perhaps no one ever will.

Multiple reports contributed to this story. For more Olympic Games coverage, turn to page 8.

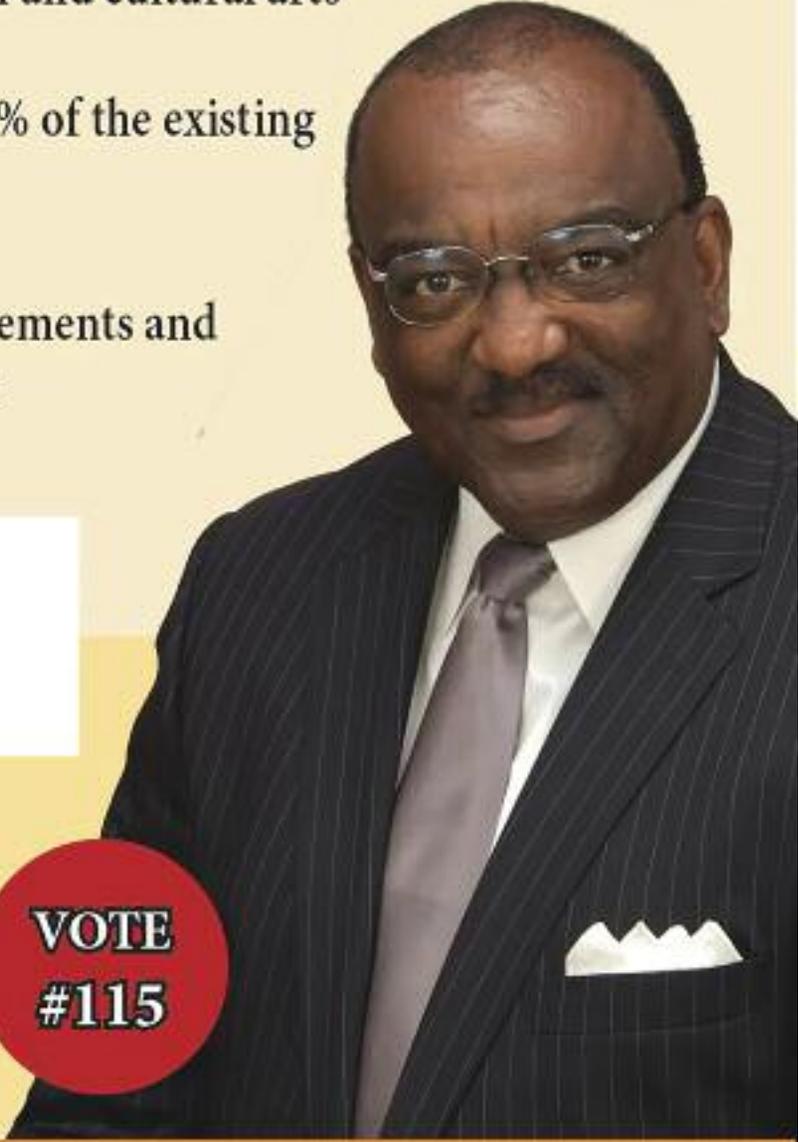


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NEWS



JUSTICE: Caribbean diaspora joins campaign to exonerate Marcus Garvey

NELSON KING

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Several United States-based Caribbean organizations have joined a campaign to exonerate Jamaica's first national hero, Marcus Garvey. The Institute of Caribbean Studies (ICS) here said Caribbean diaspora organizations signing on the campaign include Caribbean Georgia; Caribbean American Advancement Foundation; Caribbean Political Action

Committee; Foundation for the Exoneration of Marcus Garvey; Jamaica Association of Maryland; Jamaica Nationals Association; and Rebuild Dominica.

"The campaign offers an unprecedented opportunity for engagement among civil rights actors, research and education institutions, and the Caribbean diaspora community," said Dr. Claire Nelson, a Jamaican who is ICS founder and president.

During the 100-day campaign, Nelson said Caribbean diaspora organizations will,

among other things, organize cultural expositions, fora and lectures "to shed light on the legacy of Garvey and provide support for this effort to right a wrong."

'THORN'

Nelson said this "wrong" has "long been a thorn in the side of people of African descent and especially Caribbean Americans, whose ancestors immigrated to the U.S. through Ellis Island (in New York) almost 100 years ago." She said the campaign builds on activities, over the past two decades, organized by the Universal Negro Improvement Association that was founded by Garvey; the Foundation for the Exoneration of Marcus Garvey; the National Association of Jamaican and Supportive Organizations; and ICS, among others.

Nelson said Garvey's family was scheduled to hold a press conference at the National Press Club in Washington "to formally announce their petition to the White House for a posthumous Presidential Pardon." She said the Garvey family, under the leadership of Dr. Julius W. Garvey, a medical



Garvey

doctor and youngest son of Marcus Mosiah Garvey, and several lawyers who have been advising the family on a pro bono basis and others will celebrate Garvey's birthday and kick-off of the campaign in support of the petition.

PETITION

According to Nelson, on June 24, Julius W. Garvey, Harvard University Law Professor Charles Ogletree and others "submitted a petition requesting a presidential pardon be granted to Marcus Mosiah Garvey to exonerate his 1923 mail fraud charge."

"A pardon is being called for on the grounds that Marcus Garvey was targeted by the U.S. government and J. Edgar Hoover (the late, for-

mer U.S. attorney general) for his political activity as a leader of the Pan-African movement," Nelson said.

"His charges and conviction effectively ended his political movement and eventually led to his deportation back to Jamaica. The family, 93 years later, is seeking justice for Marcus Garvey with their campaign to have his charges exonerated."

Julius Garvey noted that, in 1927, President (Calvin) Coolidge commuted Marcus Garvey's sentence, "an act that was supported by nine of the 12 jurors who voted to convict."

"However, the commutation still left Marcus Garvey's conviction in place," Dr. Garvey said.

ICS said "Garvey's legal team is asserting his conviction was motivated by a desire on the part of the federal government to discredit, disrupt and destroy Garvey's civil rights movement."

Additionally, ICS said Garvey's conviction was "aided by judicial proceedings that have been condemned as factually unsound, and politically and racially motivated."

- Edited from CMC.



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Haiti to fund fresh elections after U.S. declines

PORT AU PRINCE, Haiti – Haiti will provide the \$55 million needed to fund its elections on Oct. 9.

The Provisional Electoral Council (CEP) said last month that the new budget will cover the period June 2016 to Mar. 2017, by which time both rounds of the presidential vote are due to be completed.

Finance Minister Yves Romain Bastien said the polls would be paid largely through funds collected from various sources, including the country's central bank and National Credit Bank.

"The only way for us to have these elections is to get our own financing in place,"

Bastien said.

U.S. PULLOUT

The United States, which had contributed \$33 million to the last election, strongly opposed aborting the results and said in July that no aid would be forthcoming for the new polls.

Haiti has been without an elected head of state since Michel Martelly left office in February without a successor being elected. The French Caribbean community country has been led by interim President Jocelerme Privert as the authorities move ahead to stage the new polls after the electoral official quashed the

results of the last election amid widespread allegations of fraud.

Privert's 120-day mandate expired in June, but Parliament has not been able to have to vote on whether or not to extend his mandate.

Haiti will vote in presidential and legislative elections on Oct. 9. Another round of legislative elections, and a possible second round, will take place Jan. 8, 2017.



Bastien

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TAINTED LOVE: Cholera imported to Haiti by country's U.N. peacekeepers

GORDON WILLIAMS

The United Nations is acknowledging that peacekeepers it sent to help keep Haiti safe may have exposed the French-speaking Caribbean nation to a different danger - a cholera epidemic.

According to news reports last month, from the New York Times and Associated Press, the U.N. is now convinced that the cholera outbreak, which has claimed thousands of Haitian lives over the past half dozen years, may have been sparked by its own forces.

In 2011, cholera cases in Haiti reportedly peaked at 350,000, although by last year the number had declined to 36,000.

The U.N. has conceded that a "significant new set of U.N. actions" will be needed to resolve the crisis. Farhan Haq, deputy spokesman for U.N. Secretary General Ban Ki Moon, acknowledged in an e-mail last month that "over the past year the U.N. has become convinced that it needs to do much more regarding its own involvement in the initial outbreak and the



- Photograph by Associated Press.

Haitians are being urged to drink clean water.

suffering of those affected by cholera" in Haiti. The U.N. said it plans to present its new plan to the Haitian public in the next few weeks.

STARTLED

Meanwhile, the admission by the U.N. startled some political observers. However, a few were pleased the international body was willing to admit its error and move quickly to fix it. Democratic Congresswoman Frederica S. Wilson, who South Florida

constituency includes a significant Haitian American community, praised the U.N. for finally taking responsibility.

"(Last month's) announcement is a major first step in righting a wrong," Wilson noted in a press release on the matter. "While I welcome the U.N.'s assumption of responsibility for the cholera outbreak in Haiti, it must be followed with concrete actions that include making cholera victims and their families whole, and investments towards eradicat-

ing the epidemic."

MONEY

The U.N. has helped Haiti acquire some \$307 million for its National Plan for the Elimination of Cholera. However, the U.N. doesn't believe it will be held legally liable for outbreak, meaning a lawsuit on behalf of the cholera victims of Haiti which could claim billions of dollars in damages.

More than 10,000 people in Haiti are believed to have died from the cholera outbreak, which began in 2010. Many more were left ill. The effects of the outbreak include diarrhea, which causes dehydration and vomiting.

It is believed that the vic-

tims initially came in contact with more than 450 U.N. peacekeepers who had arrived from Nepal, where there had been a cholera outbreak. The Haitians reportedly contracted cholera after waste from a camp housing the peacekeepers leaked into a river used for water by area residents.

The Times reported that the U.N. cholera eradication program had failed as infection rates climbed. Some \$2.27 billion is believed to be needed to rid Haiti and other U.N. member states of the disease.

Multiple sources contributed to this story, including The New York Times, CMC and other wire service reports.



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CHTA focus on tourism development strategies

DAWN A. DAVIS

MIAMI, Florida - The Caribbean hospitality industry is easily affected by world economic and political events and, because of this volatility, tourism groups such as the Caribbean Hotel and Tourism Association (CHTA) are focusing on development, sustainability, and partnership among its members.

During a recent press conference, held at Miami's Hyatt Regency hotel, CHTA President Karolin Troubetzkoy, Chief Operations Officer Vanessa Ledesma-Berrios and Chief Marketing Officer Matt Cooper highlighted the association's concerns and strategies to help bolster Caribbean tourism.

Among the concerns voiced by some participants was the possible impact elections in the United States may have on the region's tourism numbers.

IMPACT

"We see an impact of the elections on travel patterns," Troubetzkoy explained. "Most of my colleagues that I have contacted say that booking patterns and volumes are back to normal for the winter, but

for the fall it's very soft. I'm sure the elections play a part in that, at least from the U.S. side, and the issue with Brexit affecting U.K. (United Kingdom) travelers."

According to Cooper, Caribbean tourism could be directly affected by who is elected.

"It depends on who comes into office and what kind of influence they have on the region, and their perception of the importance of the region," he explained.

"In fact, there has been some great strides on Capitol Hill recently where Congress asked USAID to come up with a proposal to improve U.S.-Caribbean relations. So, the proliferation of that and the advancing of that is pivotal to who ends up in the White House. Plus, the continuing relaxation of U.S. policy toward Cuba is also pivotal."

The relaxation of restrictions for Americans who wish to visit Cuba could have a positive impact on Caribbean tourism overall. Troubetzkoy

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 6)



Troubetzkoy

Fall Health

The October issue of Caribbean Today will feature a comprehensive examination of how the healthcare industry serves the Caribbean community. With a proven track record now in our 28th year of service to readers in the United States and the Caribbean Basin, Caribbean Today reaches an audience of over 112,000 highly qualified readers. They have median household income of \$63,000 and enjoy a higher disposable income. 15% have a college degree, 32% have some college. In today's economy, 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). Caribbean Today is uniquely positioned to deliver product, retail and services messages to a community with which it is identified. Miami Dade Communications Department ranks Caribbean Today sixth overall out of the 78 publications that it does business with, and number one, as a Black publication.

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DEADLINE IS SEPTEMBER 27TH, 2016

DEADLINE: Haitians given one more year to obtain residency in Dominican Republic

SANTO DOMINGO, Dominican Republic – Haitians living in the Dominican Republic, whose temporary visa permits will start to expire through December, have been given another year to complete documents to obtain residency cards.

In July, Interior and Police Minister Jose Ramon Fadul said the immigration agency's proposal was presented to President Danilo Medina, who agreed to the extension.

"... We are providing stability to all those people, from which we've collected their fingerprints, name, address and it's most feasible right now," said Medina.

He explained that the measure saves the government an additional expense while continuing to regularize foreigners, mostly of Haitian nationality, adding that details will be provided through announcements in the media.

PROTEST

The announcement followed last month's demonstra-



Haitians show their identification cards.

tion in which a group of Haitians protested in front of the Haitian embassy here, stating that they were unable to complete papers needed for provisional permits due to the lack of passports from the Haitian government.

The protestors then said that, despite paying in advance for the passports, they had not received the

documents.

Last year, the government issued residency permits to 184,000 Haitians who could prove they had been living here before Oct. 2011. Officials have warned that anyone without legal residency could face deportation.

- Edited from CMC.



Grenada's constitution referendum on Oct. 27

ST. GEORGE'S, Grenada – Grenada will vote in a referendum for a new constitution on Oct. 27 with the authorities acknowledging the importance of the month in Grenadian history.

"Putting all things on the table ... we have learnt that October is a month of great significance for Grenada, great things have happen in October and referendum day will be October 27," said Dr. Francis Alexis, chairman of the Constitution Reform Advisory Committee (CRAC).

"On the contrary setting 27th October for a referendum day is a matter of building the referendum into our history and using our history as a guide for going forward into the future."

TRAUMATIC

A statement posted on the Grenada government website noted that Oct. 1983 is arguably the most traumatic period in recent Grenada history.

"Within a week, the nation lost its prime minister, several

other Cabinet ministers, leaders of business and labor, military personnel, school children and other civilians.



Alexis

"In four years leading up to 1983, Grenada was ruled by the People's Revolution Government (PRG) of Prime Minister Maurice Bishop. The PRG came to power on Mar. 13, 1979, after the New Jewel Movement (NJM) overthrew the government of the late Prime Minister Sir Eric Gairy."

In July, the Senate approved the eight bills that would allow for changes to the Grenada constitution once two thirds of the voter population approve the measures. In June Parliament also passed legislation that allows the island to replace the London-based Privy Council with the Trinidad-based Caribbean Court of Justice as its final court.



St. Lucia's P.M. to attend finance forum in D.C.

St. Lucia's Prime Minister Allen Chastanet has confirmed his participation in next month's "Finance, Fintech, and the Future of Banking in the Caribbean Basin" forum in Washington, D.C.

The event is scheduled for Oct. 4-6 at the headquarters of the Organization of

American States, co-hosts for the forum, presented by the Caribbean Central American Action and the Inter-American Development Bank.

Chastanet took up the post of prime minister in June.



CHTA focus on tourism development strategies

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5)

emphasized that CHTA wants to embrace Cuba as part of Caribbean tourism. She said CHTA representatives went to Cuba and were warmly welcomed.

"We were told that Cuba is ready to restore the hotel and tourism association that will also become members of our association," she said.

"Cuba surprised us by saying we understand the importance of a Caribbean brand to be out there and promoted as the brand for the region."

The CHTA is also looking at new markets, such as China and South America. Yet there are concerns the Caribbean must face.

"Is the airlift affordable enough, and ease of travel?" she asked. "Do we make it too difficult for certain nations to come to the Caribbean?"

Should we look at our visa regulations and make them easier?"

CHIEF

The CHTA executives highlighted the upcoming annual Caribbean Hospitality Industry Exchange Forum (CHIEF) scheduled for Puerto Rico Sept. 30 to Oct. 2. The forum is scheduled to tackle challenges and concerns facing the Caribbean tourism industry. The forum will bring together Caribbean tourism executives, owners, staff and partners.

"We need to look at our product and realize that in some instances things are in need of renovation," Troubetzkoy said.

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



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TRADE TROUBLE: Caribbean nations make U.S. State Department's 'sex trafficking' list

According to the latest Trafficking in Persons 2016 Report from the United States' State Department, several Caribbean nations have made the list of those battling "sex trafficking" – the term used for the act of recruiting, harboring, transporting, providing, or obtaining a person



Several regional countries being linked to illegal act.

for compelled commercial sex acts through the use of force, fraud, or coercion – within their borders. Here are the nations making the latest report:

1: Belize

When it comes to trafficking in persons, Belize's government, according to the U.S., "does not fully meet the minimum standards for the elimination of trafficking and is not making significant efforts to do so."

The U.S. says in Belize sex trafficking is mostly of foreign women and girls and LGBTI men, as well as children, primarily from Central America. There is also reported sex trafficking of Belizean women and girls and exploitation by foreign sex tourists, primarily from the U.S., of child sex trafficking victims.

2: Haiti

The French Caribbean nation is not only struggling with being a source, transit and destination country for foreign men, women and children subjected to forced sex trafficking, it's also dealing with the issue of internal trafficking cases involving children in domestic servitude who often are physically abused, receive no payment for services and may be kept from school.

3: Suriname

The U.S. report indicates that women and girls from Suriname are subjected to sex trafficking in the country. This includes instances where parents subjected their own daughters to sex trafficking for economic means, the report claims. Officials say there is a shift towards in-home brothels, which makes such establishments – and cases of possible sex trafficking – harder to detect.

4: The Dominican Republic

The U.S. claims the D.R. government does not fully meet the minimum standards for the elimination of trafficking, but is making significant efforts to do so. D.R. is listed as a source, transit, and destination country for men, women, and children subjected to sex trafficking and forced labor.

Large numbers of D.R. women and children are subjected to sex trafficking throughout the Dominican Republic, the Caribbean, Europe, South and Central America, the Middle East, Asia and the U.S. Meanwhile, foreign national victims from the Caribbean, Asia and South America are also subjected to trafficking in the Dominican Republic. Research indicates sex trafficking of 15 to 17-year-old girls occurs in streets, parks and on beaches.

5: Aruba

There is sex trafficking, especially of foreign women - from Venezuela - in Aruba's regulated and unregulated prostitution sectors. Children may also be vulnerable.

6: Barbados

Foreign women have been forced into prostitution in Barbados – especially legal and undocumented immigrants from Jamaica and Guyana. Child sex trafficking is also an issue.

7: Cuba

Cuba makes the list because of child sex trafficking and child sex tourism. Cuban authorities report citizens from ages 13 to 20 are most vulnerable to human trafficking.

8: Curacao

There's a commercial sex industry with foreign women from South America and other Caribbean countries reportedly trafficked. Venezuelan women also work illegally at roadside bars and may also be engaged in prostitution.

9: Guyana

The U.S. report indicated there is sex trafficking of women and children in Guyana and from neighboring nations, including Brazil, Suriname, Venezuela and the D.R. Police officers have been accused of turning a blind eye because they're paid by traffickers.

10: Jamaica

The U.S. said there is sex trafficking of Jamaican women and children on streets and in night clubs, bars, massage parlors and private homes, including in resort towns. Communities vulnerable

include residents of Jamaica's poverty-stricken areas controlled by criminal "dons". Some "missing children" are subjected to forced labor or sex trafficking.

11: St. Lucia

Local and foreign children are subjected to sex trafficking, as are disadvantaged young women from rural areas.

According to the government, business owners from St. Lucia, India, China, Cuba and Russia are the most likely trafficking perpetrators.

12: St. Vincent and the Grenadines

SVG has child and foreign sex trafficking. Report indicated some adults pressure local minors into sex trafficking, while foreign women engaged in prostitution are subjected to trafficking for sex.

13: Trinidad and Tobago

The U.S. indicated that T&T has sex trafficking of women and girls from the D.R., Guyana, Venezuela and Colombia in brothels and clubs there. New brothels continue to open across the country, the report noted, particularly in the east, where they are incorpo-

rated into small bars and shops and are difficult to detect.

14: Antigua and Barbuda

The country is reportedly a destination and transit country for men, women and children subjected to sex trafficking in bars, taverns, and brothels. There are also anecdotal reports that children are subjected to sex trafficking, including by parents and caregivers, and concerns of possible trafficking-related complicity by police officers.

15: St. Maarten

St. Maarten is also struggling with the issue of sex trafficking. The Dutch Caribbean nation is on the U.S. Tier 1 list,

meaning "The Government of St. Maarten fully meets the minimum standards for the elimination of trafficking." In St. Maarten, sex trafficking is largely of women and girls from Latin America, Caribbean, Eastern Europe and Russia who may be subjected to debt bondage.

16: The Bahamas

The Bahamas is considered a source, destination and transit country for men, women and children from other Caribbean countries, South and Central America and Asia subjected to sex trafficking.

- Edited from News Americas.



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2016 OLYMPIC GAMES



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~ A CARIBBEAN TODAY SPECIAL FEATURE

REPRESENTING: Caribbean grabs rich Olympic Games medal haul

GORDON WILLIAMS

Caribbean athletes again rose to the spotlight with outstanding performances at the 2016 Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil last month.

Led by Jamaican multiple sprint gold medal winners Usain Bolt and Elaine Thompson, plus title winning boxers and wrestlers from Cuba, the region's rich medal haul set off a wave of celebration in the Caribbean and its diaspora, including thousands in the United States.

The Caribbean, which sent 20 teams to the Games, secured 28 medals - 13 gold, six silver and nine bronze.

Jamaica and Cuba led the region with 11 medals each. Jamaica won six gold, three silver and two bronze - all in track - while Cuba earned five gold, two silver and four bronze.

Also making it to the medal podium were The Bahamas, a gold and bronze; Puerto Rico, gold; and Grenada, silver. Trinidad and Tobago and the Dominican Republic each earned a bronze medal.

KICK OFF

Thompson helped kick off the Caribbean's gold rush by impressively winning the women's 100 and 200 meters. Teammate Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce earned bronze in the 100m. T&T's Michelle-Lee Ahye finished sixth in 100m and seventh in the 200m. Jamaica's Christiana Williams was eighth in the shorter sprint.

Jamaica, with Williams starting off, Thompson running backstretch and Fraser-Pryce anchoring, also won silver in the 4x100m relay.

The Caribbean shocked the tennis world when Puerto Rico's Monica Puig beat

Germany's Angelique Kerber in the final to earn her country's first Olympic gold and its eternal gratitude.

"I think I united a nation," Puig said, "and I just love where I come from."

Yet it was Bolt who emerged among the biggest stars of the 31st Olympiad. He cemented a "Triple-Triple" in Rio by winning the 100m, 200m and 4x100m, the first ever to win all three events at back-to-back-to-back Olympics. Bolt was partnered in the relay by Yohan Blake, a 100m and 200m finalist, Asafa Powell and Nickel Ashmeade.

Reigning 400m Olympic champion Kirani James of Grenada failed to repeat his feat of four years ago. But it took a world record run from Wayde van Niekerk to dethrone him. The South African shattered the

17-year-old standard of 43.18 seconds, set by American Michael Johnson, with 43.03. James finished second in 43.76.

"Just incredible," the Grenadian told reporters. "To be honest, I'm just happy to be part of history."

T&T's Machel Cedenio was fourth in 44.01, a national record. Grenada's Bralon Taplin finished seventh in 44.45.

MILLER TIME

The Caribbean, however, did one better in the women's 400m. Shaunae Miller of The Bahamas, with a desperate lunge that sent her sprawling across the finish line, edged American Allyson Felix for gold.

"This is the moment I have been waiting for," Miller said. "I just gave it my all."

She was timed in 49.44 seconds, Felix in 49.51. Shericka Jackson, who along with Stephenie-Ann McPherson was one of two Jamaicans in the final, was

third in 50.97. McPherson finished fifth.

It was all smooth for Jamaica's Omar McLeod in the 110m hurdles. McLeod easily dispatched the field to take gold in 13.05 seconds. The silver was won by Cuban-born Orlando Ortega, representing Spain. Bronze went to France's Dimitri Bascou, who was born in Martinique. McLeod credited motivation by compatriots like Bolt and Thompson.

"You see them, they go out and have fun and represent themselves and their country and they win, and you just want to go out and do the same thing," he explained. "It's honestly contagious. You just want to feel how it feels."

KNOCKOUT

Cuba grabbed six medals in boxing and three in wrestling. Mijain Lopez (130 kilograms) and Ismael Borrero Molina (59 kilograms) won gold in Greco-Roman wrestling. In men's boxing, compatriots Julio Cesar La Cruz (light heavyweight), Robeisy Ramirez (bantamweight) and Arlen Lopez (middleweight) earned gold, while Joahnys Argilagos (light flyweight), Erislandy Savon (heavyweight) and Lazaro Alvarez (lightweight) took bronze.

Silver medals were won by Idalys Ortiz in women's judo and Yasmany Lugo in men's Greco-Roman. Denia Caballero won bronze in women's discus for Cuba.

Luisito Pie earned Dominican Republic's lone medal, bronze in men's 58 kilograms taekwondo. Keshorn Walcott did the same for T&T in the men's javelin.

The Caribbean closed out the track and field schedule in style, winning silver medals in the men's and women's 4x400m relay. Both times Jamaica was beaten into second place by the U.S. The Bahamas won bronze in the men's race, which also featured Cuba in the final.

Reporting from several news agencies, including CMC, contributed to this story.



Thompson strikes double gold

Jamaica's Elaine Thompson helped kick off the Caribbean's gold rush at the 2016 Olympic Games by claiming the women's sprint double.

While compatriot Usain Bolt dominated the global headlines with multiple gold medals, Thompson made an impressive mark of her own, winning the women's 100 meters in 10.71 seconds on Aug. 13. She finished ahead of Tori Bowie of the United States (10.83) and Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce (10.86), who had won the event for Jamaica at the two previous Olympics in 2008 and 2012. Thompson and Fraser-Pryce are training partners.

"I am very excited, I'm very happy because Jamaica has so many talented sprinters and to be the second champion, as long as it remains Jamaica I am very happy," Thompson told reporters.

MORE

But she wasn't finished. Thompson returned days later

to also capture the 200m gold in 21.78 seconds.

"My school motto was 'let the light shine' and I let my light shine tonight," Thompson said after the half lap race.

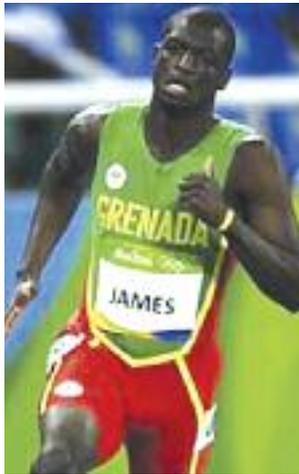
"It's a big surprise to me because I have had a hamstring injury. You must overcome these things and tonight I am standing here with a gold."

Thompson also ran a leg on her country's silver medal-winning 4x100m team, completing what she called a memorable Olympics.

"It's been a wonderful experience, my first Olympic Games," said the 24-year-old. "Two golds, a silver, I can't complain."



Thompson



It took a world record to beat James.



Walcott



Fraser-Pryce picked up two medals.



Pie



Jackson earned bronze in the 400m.

THEY SAID IT

Caribbean participation in the 2016 Olympic Games generated widespread excitement around the world. Athletes and spectators had plenty to say. Below are some of the memorable quotes from the Games.

- "It was indescribable ... The process was not easy at all, but it brought me closer to God and I really needed to dig deep, trust the hard work and just feed off the energy of my teammates and my country" - Jamaican Omar McLeod after winning the 110 meters hurdles gold.
- "I've been going through so much this year. Everyone at home will be celebrating right now" - Bahamian Shaunae Miller after winning the women's 400 meters.
- "An entire nation is jumping for joy ... as Kirani and Bralon have raised Grenada's profile in an unprecedented way" - Grenada's Prime Minister Keith Mitchell explains the significance of the performances of Kirani James and Bralon Taplin in the men's 400 meters in Rio. James earned silver. Taplin also made the final.
- "I'm really proud. They're down there (in Jamaica) and they're celebrating" - Jamaican Elaine Thompson after winning gold in the women's 100 meters.

- Compiled from multiple sources.



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Time to vote against hate

On Aug. 3, 2016, the New York Times released a video compiled over a year of coverage of Donald Trump rallies titled "Voices From Donald Trump's Rallies, Uncensored". In this up close and personal video, the racism and hate being spewed by the audience of white Americans is shocking and frightening to say the least.

It took me back to my first experience with anti-immigrant racism after my arrival as a new immigrant to the United States in 1996. I still remember the day – mere months after my arrival in the U.S. I was walking down Woodhaven Boulevard in Queens, New York when a black pickup truck driven by a young white man pulled up next to me as I was trying to cross the boulevard. Without missing a beat he yelled: "Black bitch, why don't you go back where you came from!" And then he drove off leaving me shaking like a leaf.

I managed to cross the road even though I was half blind from the tears streaming down my face. The range of emotions I experienced in that moment ran the gamut – from fear, to anger and then remorse for moving to a country where I could be so defiled. But that day I learnt a valuable lesson. I realized clearly where I stood in this strange country – I was nothing but a black woman in a white world and that was the reality I had to face and live with!

NO TEARS

So when the second and third incidents of racism came my way, I did not cry – I simply fought back. It was on a bus to a resort in Connecticut. On the bus were a number of Jewish singles, it seemed, who were going to the resort for a weekend. I was on the bus as a journalist, invited to cover the resort and its offerings for the newspaper I was news editor of at the time – The New York Trend. On that bus, on that clear day – the supposed host told the audience that there "were other people on the bus today so no racist jokes were allowed." Meaning, obviously that there were racist jokes when no one of color was around!

But it did not stop there. Once we got to the resort for dinner I was directed to a table. As I approached, this old white woman slammed

her bag down on to the chair she saw me heading for and said rudely: "This seat is taken."

There were no more tears that day! On that day the lioness in me awakened as I snatched that bag up, dropped it on her lap and responded "Not anymore!" as I sat down. The silence at the dinner table that night was deafening. But everyone there had gotten the message – this little black girl was not to be messed with!

ANGER

I calmly went to the front desk after dinner, asked for the manager and told them I needed to leave immediately. To say the story the resort owner and public relations agency was hoping for was not what they got is putting it mildly. But seeing the NY Times video of ignorant white men screaming: "F... You Beans", "Build a wall – kill them all", "Send them bastards back", "Ignorance and immigrants. They mix together", "F... that n...." and "F... Islam" – brought my experiences of racism back to the fore and made me anxious and angry all over again.

This is not the America I want to live in and neither should any right-minded American.

Luckily, we know that the vile screaming Trump audience does not accurately represent the America of many colors I have come to know and love some 20 years later. It is why I strongly believe that these sad individuals are merely part of the 32 million adults in the U.S. who can't read or have a bare basic prose literacy rate as measured by the National Assessment of Adult Literacy (NAAL). That's 14 percent of the population and that's 37 percent of white Americans!

These are the ones we see in this video who are largely the "Trumpeters" – who continue to follow the dangerous man as he spews a tale of ignorance, deceit and a belief that America – if it remains predominantly white – is better than the America of today.

GREATNESS

But America is only great today because of people from all corners of the world who have come here and woven their own cultures and knowledge into the fabric of the stars and stripes.

America is only great because it is one of the few places in the world you can experience so many cultures, cuisines and diverse groups of people in one place without

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 10)

DEVIL'S DUE: Fighting demons of lust, temptation

We all have negative thoughts to do wrong.

I'm referring to those feelings that often take over people, controlling them, weakening them, making them do things they wouldn't normally do. You have to confront them, wrestle with them and defeat them.

There are times when people will do the most absurd, bizarre, out of character things, making onlookers say: "It must be the devil get into him why he did that." Someone will set fire to a house or chase the neighbors with a machete or walk the streets stark naked – all because they heard voices telling them to do so.

My question is: Why do those voices always tell them to do bad things and never good deeds?

The truth is, we're just wrestling with our conscience, or rather our conscience is telling us to do the right thing, but we often resist. Sadly, sometimes the demons win the battle. Yes, children too. Anyone who has a rambunctious four-year-old child must wonder at times if he or she is possessed.

NAG

Relationships are fertile grounds for demons to flourish and many men and women grapple with, wrestle and fight them as they navigate their romantic journey. Men have told me that their women give them so much trouble that they think really bad thoughts about them.

"She nag me and stress me so much I just feel like strangle her to stop her yapping."



But they fight those thoughts, and usually win. When they lose, their actions make the headlines.

Women, too, wrestle their demons. Sometimes they have thoughts of pouring hot oil in the ears of an abusive man as he sleeps. But in other cases they wrestle the demons of sexuality. They usually win, whereas men often lose to demon lust, and that's why it appears as if men are wilder than women.

Women will say to their girlfriends: "I've been fighting this feeling to cheat on my man for months now." This is a fight that they keep secret.

CONSEQUENCE

Is there a consequence to all that? After all, they say the



TONY
ROBINSON

thought is as bad as the deed. If that's the case, may as well you don't wrestle the demons but give in, succumb to them and enjoy the pleasures of sin.

But conscience makes cowards of us all, resulting in many potential thieves never stealing anything and potential murderers who never killed anybody. They fought their demons and won. Still, they may pay the price anyway, for the thoughts carry as much weight as the deeds.

Well, if that's the case, just do whatever you think then. But we don't, and we wrestle our demons every day.

But we also have our angels too. Sometimes you may wish harm on someone because you thought they did you an injustice. But you don't.

Be careful how you cast out your demons, for you may very well cast out your angels too.

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VIEWPOINT



NO JOKING MATTER: Inside the bizarre world of Donald Trump

ROGER CALDWELL

Inside many jokes is an element of truth and with Donald Trump you never know what to believe.

Maybe Trump is a saint sent here to save the white race in America. Or maybe he is a political genius who became a member of the Republican Party to bring them into the 21st century. Or maybe Trump is financially strapped and needs a job to pay his bills.

But the one thing many agree on is Trump is a master salesman. He knows how to stay in the news and be in the top headline story. Seventy-five percent of Americans despise him, but one of the first things they do each morning is turn on the news to see what Trump has done or said that day or the day before.

While many Americans think Trump is a con man, he is in a position to be one of the most powerful men on the planet. This is no longer a laughing matter because there are only two people running for office of President of the United States and Trump is one of them. When Trump

acts crazy, in all probability, he may be displaying some mental health issues.

NO ACCIDENT

It is no accident when Trump calls his colleagues, friends, enemies and challengers “losers”, which appears to be one of his favorite words in the dictionary. This is being extremely disrespectful, but it appears others are below his level of intelligence and he believes he is always right. It does not matter if he has studied the topic of discussion or not; he is still right, and it does not matter if he is wrong because he’s able to convince his supporters that he is always right.

In the Trump world, he can say things that are absurd and sarcastic. He can say whatever he pleases, because he is the official Republican presidential nominee. It does not matter how sick the information coming out of his mouth is, he gets a pass.

Just recently, Trump was giving his absurd solution to



Trump

mass shootings when he said: “Nope, you won’t see any of this namby pamby criminal justice reform Obama is talking about during a Trump presidency. And you won’t see cops being afraid to gun people down in the streets anymore.”

This is an insane statement to make from anyone with common sense, but when Trump says something crazy, his representatives say he really meant something completely different. Every other day Trump is saying something sick and off base, and he actu-

ally believes he is being clever and smart.

NO EXCUSES

It is time for the Republican leadership and party to stop making excuses for Trump’s sick, disrespectful, and ambiguous statements that are reckless and violent. His remarks can be interpreted as appeals to violence and prejudice, and it is time for the national election committee and Republican Party to put an end to this nonsense.

Last month, at a campaign event in Wilmington, North Carolina, Trump crossed the line and urged what could be interpreted as an attack on his Democratic rival or on federal judges.

“Hillary wants to abolish,

essentially abolish the Second Amendment. If she gets to pick her judges, nothing you can do, folks. Although the Second Amendment people – maybe there is, I don’t know,” said Trump. Again, this statement is ambiguous, and it appears to suggest violence.

It is time for this foolishness to end and Trump should get no more passes when he makes idiotic statements. Trump should start saying what he means, and stop being sarcastic and telling jokes. Americans should leave game playing to children, and running government to adults.

Roger Caldwell is a freelance writer for Caribbean Today. The views expressed in this column do not necessarily reflect the views of Caribbean Today.



Time to vote against hate

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9)

even getting on a plane.

That’s why this country is already great and, unfortunately for Trump and his ignorant Trumpeters, their brand of hate cannot win.

It’s why we, as naturalized immigrants, must vote in numbers this election day – to send a clear message that Trump and the Trumpeters

of hate cannot stop us nor can they roll back the hands of time in the United States of America in 2016.

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



Fall Cargo & Shipping

October is the start of the Fall shipping season. More than 500,000 Floridians identify their primary ancestry as West Indians, that is a 117% increase from 1990. Florida’s black household income for 2000 was a whopping \$32 Billion, that has continued to increase healthily over the subsequent 16 years. C.T will spotlight the various shipping services available to them via Land, Air, and Sea to get their goods safely home in time for the season.

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CROWNING QUEENS: Miss Miami Broward Carnival Pageant Sept. 24

The 11th annual Miss Miami Broward Carnival Pageant, the official pageant of the

Miami Broward One Carnival, will be staged Sept. 24 at the Miramar Cultural Center for

the Performing Arts in Miramar, Florida.

The event will feature females in age categories ranging between seven and 25 years. The competition will include highlighting contestants' views and accomplishments. They will also showcase carnival costumes and

evening wear. The night will end with a question and answer segment.

Reigning queens Racquel Service and Brianna Charpentier will be pass on their crowns.

The 2016-2017 Miss Miami Broward Carnival Queen will be an automatic

finalist in The Miss Florida USA Pageant in 2017 at the end of her reign.

The Miss Miami Broward Carnival awards scholarships and other prizes with the support and contributions from local individuals, businesses and organizations.



'Jr. Gong' Marley makes Obama's summer play list



Jr. Gong has U.S. president for a fan.

Proving he is one of the coolest United States presidents yet, Barack Obama dropped his summer play list on Spotify. However, only one Caribbean artiste made the cut – reggae artiste Damian "Jr. Gong" Marley.

Obama's list features both old school and some current hits. The president seems to

be a fan of "As We Enter", Marley's duet with Nas, who was born Nasir Jones. The song was part of Marley and Nas's "Distant Relatives" album.

Coincidentally or not, the lyrics of the song mentions Obama: "As we enter, come let we take you on to dig this adventure ... Salute and honor, real revolution rhymers. Rhythm piranhas, like two Obamas, unfold the drama."

Other artistes making Obama's playlist include Billie Holiday, Aretha Franklin, Aaron Neville, Nina Simone, Janet Jackson, Mary J. Blige, Jay Z and Common.

- Edited from *News Americas*.



Carnival season runneth over

It's carnival time in many cities across the United States and elsewhere in the Caribbean diaspora.

Here are some of the remaining events for the 2016 carnival season:

- **Aug. 27** - Raleigh, North Carolina - CaribMask Caribbean Carnival
- **Aug. 28** - Worcester, Massachusetts - Worcester Carnival

- **Aug. 28-29** - London, England - Notting Hill
- **Sept. 5** - Brooklyn, New York - West Indian American Carnival
- **Sept. 11** - Cambridge Carnival
- **Sept. 22-25** - Dallas Carnival
- **Oct. 9** - Florida - Miami Carnival.

- Edited from *News Americas*.



'For My Daughter' opens in South Florida

The Jamaican play "For My Daughter", featuring Jamaican actress Leonie Forbes and Terri Salmon, will open this month in South Florida.

The show, written and directed by David Tulloch, is being presented by the Sunshine Theatre Company under the patronage of Franz Hall, consul general of Jamaica in Miami.

Shows will be staged **Sept. 23** at S.W. Miami High School and **Sept. 24** at Miramar High School, both nights at **8 p.m.** Another staging will be at **7 p.m. Sept. 25** at Coral Springs Center for the Arts.

For more information, call Michael Shaw at **954-549-7361** or Jacqueline Shaw at **786-237-5493**.



BRIEFS

Jamaican roots music

Nambo Robinson, Eugene Grey and Larry McDonald are listed among the scheduled performers for an "American Roots of Jamaican Music" presentation at **7 p.m. Sept. 4** in South Florida. Special guests are Yishka, Endel-I, Lady Tasha and The Holistic Dancers.

For more information, call **954-462-0222** or **954-660-6307**.

'CaribbeanTales' film festival

The CaribbeanTales International Film Festival (CTFF), which celebrates the talents of established and emerging filmmakers of Caribbean heritage who practice their art across the diaspora worldwide, will be staged Sept. 7-17 in Toronto, Canada.

For more information, call **416-554-2637** or e-mail info@planet3com.net.

- Compiled from various sources.



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HEALTH



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How foods can help heal common ailments

When you're not feeling well, conventional wisdom says you should reach for over-the-counter or prescription remedies.

But many experts point out that foods have healing properties that can be complementary in helping to treat common ailments and prevent illness.

"The concept of using food as medicine isn't a new one; however, the evolution of society and science has moved us further from this concept," says Grand Master Nan Lu, a teacher and practitioner of traditional Chinese medicine (TCM).

"... We are missing some of the most powerful and supportive steps we can take to remain well and prevent disease and illness."

Lu says the teachings of TCM can help patients deal with the root cause of their problems, rather than just eliminate the symptoms. While complex, he is offering a few quick insights into the subject of food as medicine.

- Nutritionists today base



- Photograph © Whitesstorm - Fotolia.com

Sometimes medication is not always the answer.

their work on the physical and chemical properties of food alone, but this is just half the picture.

"There are many immaterial things contained within food as well," says Lu, who cites Qi, or vital energy, as a key aspect of food you can't see.

'RIGHT FOODS'

- The "right" foods won't necessarily protect your health by virtue of their properties alone. Good organ function is also necessary for your body to process and digest what you eat. However, foods can help restore balance to an ailing organ system.

- Listen to your body, not cultural beliefs about what is

good or bad for you. Lu offers the example of a woman craving sugar or salt during her menstrual cycle.

"Assuming she listens to the wisdom of her body and satisfies her craving, she'll have some chocolate or eat some potato chips," says Lu. "This woman is doing something natural."

- You may have heard of the adage "you are what you eat." Lu says to also consider the phrase, "you are what you think," and avoid a steady diet of negative emotions, which you then must digest and process. Your thoughts impact your body and health, he says.

- The next time your stomach is upset, consider reaching for something natural. Ginger can be eaten or used topically to deal with stomach discomfort, reduce inflammation and even lower pain from arthritis.

More information about TCM and "Digesting the Universe" can be found at tcmworld.org.

- Edited from StatePoint.



Caribbean springs beauty, natural healing lifestyle

Natural healing. It's becoming more and more popular as people move towards lifestyle habits with health-promoting potential that cost little and include sensible sun exposure and grounding to the Earth. Here are some places in the Caribbean you should know with purported natural healing qualities:

Nevis

In the Caribbean island of Nevis, the birthplace of United States Founding Father Alexander Hamilton, many rave about the healing qualities of the Bath volcanic hot spring on the compound of the former Bath Hotel.

The bathhouse is the Spring House, a two storey masonry structure which was constructed from local hand cut stones. The building sits on the bank of the Bath Stream. It comprises five thermal baths whose source of water springs from the base of the former hotel. The water is reputed to contain minerals of medicinal value and is known to have cured chronic rheumatism and gout.

The water temperature ranges from 104F to 108F The house is used by visitors and locals alike.

There are currently two bathing spots: the more recently constructed has a roof to protect against the sun. If you wish to immerse your body, you can wear a swimsuit. Do not try to drink the water. It contains volcanic salts.

Ken Evelyn recently constructed an open outdoor pool. The design allows water to filter in through layers of crushed stones through the bottom of the pool and overflow gradually through an overflow pipe into the stream. This design maintains the water at the required temperature.

St. Lucia



Sulphur Springs in St. Lucia

The well-known Sulphur Springs in St. Lucia is the hottest and most active geothermal area in the Lesser Antilles. It is located in a park that is approximately 45 hectares and billed as the

Caribbean's only drive-in volcano.

A walk through the crater takes visitors past pools and hot springs bubbling and belching with sulphur-laden steam. Just outside the Springs, persons can bathe in the warm sulphuric pools, reputed for its soothing effects and cures.

The Sulphur Springs forms part of the story of the creation of the entire Caribbean basin.

Jamaica

The Windsor Mineral Spring, also known as the Firewater mineral healing spring, is in St. Ann's Bay, Jamaica. It is rumored to have mystical healing powers. Some people claim being cured of skin infections and arthritis by soaking in the pond.

The area is about the size of a large Jacuzzi. The mineral water is constantly being pumped from the ground and there's a plug that has to be pulled occasionally so that it doesn't overflow.

The pool contains water which can catch fire! This phenomenon is believed to be caused by a high concentration of sulphur in the water. The water is lukewarm and has a salty/bitter taste.

Fire massages are offered in the pool, where the recipient lies in the water and a massage is performed with a towel which has been soaked in the sulphuric water and held in flames. The high concentration of minerals in the water is said to contain medicinal properties and many stories have been told of its healing and rejuvenating effects. The pond was used for centuries as a medical bathing spot for slaves from the surrounding plantations.

Anguilla

Anguilla, a British Caribbean Island territory, allegedly possesses a "Sacred

Vortex" capable of inspiring creativity, self-awareness and healing. Reiki practitioners enjoy meditating in the caves and swimming in the water, connecting with the energies that flow through the magical locale for a variety of different ends.

At least one spa has sprung up that sells the island's curative properties, offering soaks and other packages and taking advantage of the energy-charged atmosphere.

- Edited from News Americas.



The food culture has influenced the world in many ways over the years. Whether it's having a traditionally cooked meal, an evening of fine dining with drinks, or heading to your favorite food spots.

There are many unique and vibrant food hotspots for locals and visitors who are ready to enjoy the great pleasures of food and dining. Come with Caribbean Today as we set

off to explore the many splendors of rich foods, and delicious drinks inspired by a limitless culture.

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Picnic basket ideas for wine and cheese lovers

It's still picnic season and there's no reason to stick to basic flavors when dining al fresco.

"My mantra is 'eat cheese, drink wine, and live life happy,'" says R. Kent Torrey, president of The Cheese Shop, Inc. in Carmel, California.

To help make your basket-and-blanket feast delicious, Torrey shared ideas for white and red wine lovers.

White wine -

Consider Sequoia Grove Napa Valley Chardonnay, which has a crisp finish that is ideal for pairing with cheese. Pair it with Pilota, a creamy cow and sheep milk blend cheese, which offers a nice contrast to the wine's crisp finish and emphasizes the Chardonnay's fruity flavors.

Another cheese pairing to consider is Grafton Village's Truffle Cheddar from Vermont. The subtle, earthy truffles pair well with the vibrant fruit and crisp acidity in the Chardonnay. Throw in some wildflower honey straws, along with Greek

mix olives, salami, Marcona almonds, and cranberry hazelnut bread.

Red wine - Sequoia Grove Napa Cabernet Sauvignon is a deliciously versatile food-friendly selection that features blackberry and red cherry flavors, sweet spice notes and smooth tannins.

Pair this wine with full-flavored nutty cheeses such as Fourmage, a Dutch Gouda made of cow, goat, sheep and water buffalo milk.

Another pairing to consider is

Comté Cyclaman, which has nutty, fruit forward flavors from cow's milk, along with "crunchy crystals" that accentuate the dynamic red berry fruits in the wine.

For more food and wine picnic ideas, visit TheCheeseShopInc.com and SequoiaGrove.com.

- Edited from *StatePoint*.



Wine and cheese make a nice pairing.

Spicy and sweet, bammy and escovitched fish

MINNA LA FORTUNE

Cassava is a great staple and super food used in Caribbean cuisine. In Jamaica, it's used to make bammy – a unique bread that is eaten with a variety of foods.

Here's the recipe for bammy and escovitched fish, a popular Jamaican snack/meal. There are three ways to prepare cassava.

Soaking: In a shallow dish soak bammy in half cup of coconut milk or regular milk, or salted water. Let stand for about 30 minutes.

Toasting: After soaking for 10 minutes, broil both sides of the bammy until toasted. Cut open and spread butter on the inside while it is still hot.

Frying: After soaking for 30 minutes, fry both sides of the bammy in hot oil until golden brown (about six minutes on each side). Cut into quarters.

Making bammy - Ingredients

- 2 pounds of fresh cassava (yuca)
- Salt to taste
- Oil for frying

METHOD

Wash and peel the yuca

(cassava). Grate yuca using the finest section.

Using cheesecloth or clean cotton towel, squeeze the grated cassava to remove as much moisture as possible and discard the liquid.

Add salt to the yuca mixture and stir it in well. Break up any lumps. Divide grated yuca into two equal parts and set aside.

Heat a frying pan. A cast iron skillet works well. Do not



Bammy and escovitched fish

add any oil. When the pan is hot, place a half of grated yuca in the middle of the pan. Spread it out with a spatula, or back of a spoon, into a circular cake that is approximately two inches around and an inch thick.

Cook until bottom is golden and set, then flip and cook the other side until golden and set.

Escovitched fish

Ingredients

- 2 lbs. large snapper (you may also use parrot, king or sprat fish).
- 2 medium onions sliced
- 1 small chopped Scotch Bonnet pepper
- Salt and pepper
- 12 pimento seeds
- Oil for frying
- 1/2 cup of vinegar

METHOD

Wash fresh snapper fish with lime or lemon and season with salt and black pepper.

Marinate for one to two hours.

Dry fish and fry fish until completely cooked. Put fried snapper fish in a deep dish to cool.

In a separate pot, sauté the onions, and pepper in a quarter cup of oil.

Add vinegar and pimento seeds. Bring to a boil for one minute. Remove from heat.

Pour hot vinaigrette over fried snapper. Serve with bammy.

Minna LaFortune is a Caribbean caterer and also president of the Society for the Advancement of the Caribbean Diaspora (SACD).



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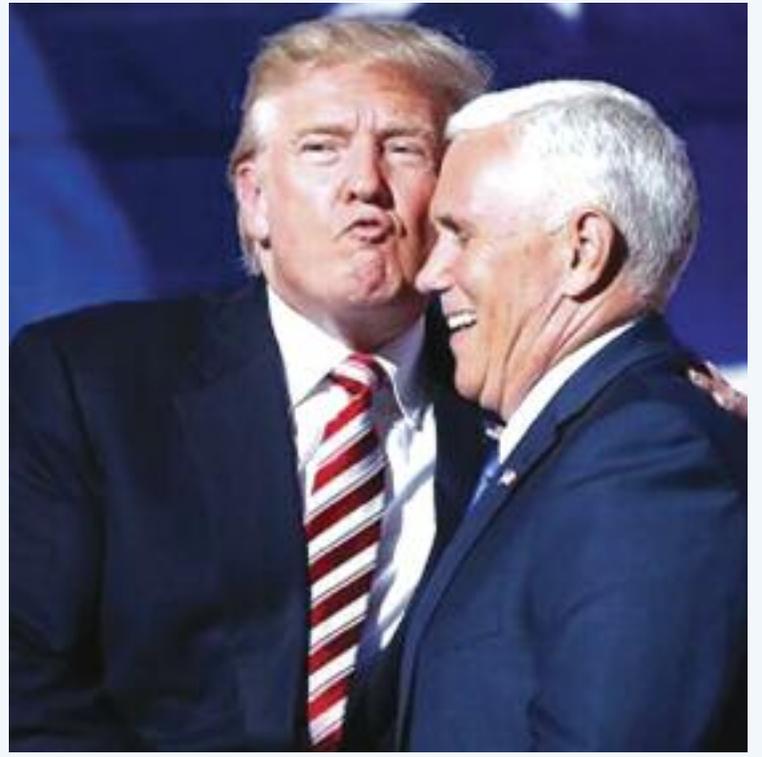
Several brands of curry powder, a seasoning popular in Caribbean American kitchens, are being recalled by the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

The seasonings, allegedly contaminated with lead. The spices allegedly affected are: Blue Mountain Country Mild Curry Powder; Blue Mountain Country Hot Curry Powder; Blue Mountain Country Hot Jamaican Jerk Curry Seasoning; Jamaica Choice Mild; Jamaica Hot Curry Powder; Ocho-Rios Jamaican Nice Mild Curry Powder; Ocho Rios Spicy Curry Powder; Ocho Rios Jerk Curry Seasoning Mild; Ocho Rios Jerk Curry Seasoning Spicy; Oriental Mild Curry Powder; Oriental Hot Curry Powder; Grace Mild Curry Powder; Grace Hot Curry Powder; Grace Caribbean Curry Powder; and Grace Caribbean Tradition Hot Curry Powder.

- Edited from NBC New York.



ELECTION TAG TEAMS



The nominees to lead the two major political parties in the United States into November's presidential election were chosen at their respective conventions in July. At left, Hillary Clinton was officially made the nominee for president by the Democratic Party, along with her vice presidential choice Tim Kaine. At right, Donald Trump, the Republican nominee, greets his running mate Mike Pence.

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U.S. issues warning to citizens traveling to Haiti

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The United States has issued a new travel warning on Haiti, advising American citizens traveling to or living on the Caribbean island about the lack of adequate emergency medical facilities and the security environment there.

The warning came as the U.S. suspended financial assistance to Haiti's electoral authorities as they plan to redo a presidential vote that a special commission found was marred by widespread fraud.

The U.S. warning replaces the Aug. 5, 2015 caution.

U.S. nationals are warned of armed robbery, especially in the Port-au-Prince area and soon after leaving the airport.

"Be circumspect in sharing specific travel plans; have your



Airport and banks are unsafe, U.S. says.

to emergencies is limited and in some areas nonexistent."

The U.S. State Department is also urging U.S. travelers to Haiti to obtain medical evacuation insurance prior to arrival in country and to use evacuation organizations that have solid evacuation and medical support

options in place.

U.S. citizens are also urged to enroll in the Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP) in order to receive the most up-to-date security information.

- Edited from News Americas. For more tourism and travel news, turn to page 17.



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BALLOT BOUND: Elections come to Florida on Aug. 30

Elections to decide various public office holders in the state of Florida will be held **Aug. 30, 2016**. So **Caribbean Today** is offering a voters' guide for Caribbean Americans in Broward, Miami-Dade and Palm Beach counties. Here's a breakdown of candidates and the offices they are seeking in each county:

BROWARD COUNTY

U.S. SENATOR –
REP: Marco Rubio
DEM: Patrick Murphy

STATE ATTORNEY -
Teresa Elizabeth Williams

U.S. CONGRESS
District 23 -
REP: Marty Feigenbaum
DEM: Debbie Wasserman Schultz
District 24 -
DEM: Frederica Wilson

FLORIDA STATE SENATOR
District 29 - DEM: Mindy Koch
District 34 -
DEM: Gwyn Clarke Reed

STATE REPRESENTATIVE
District 92 -
DEM: Sajan Kurian
District 93 -
DEM: Ken Keechl
District 95 -
DEM: Anika Omphroy

CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT -
DEM: Mitch Ceasar

SHERIFF -
DEM: Scott J. Israel

PROPERTY APPRAISER -
Marty Kiar

SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS -
DEM: Brenda C. Snipes

CIRCUIT JUDGE, 17TH CIRCUIT
Group 9 - Lea P. Krauss
Group 15 - Sheila Abby Rifkin
Group 23 - David Salomon
Group 24 - Doreen Inkeles

COUNTY JUDGE
Group 2 - Kal Evans
Group 3 - Florence Barner
Group 7 - Ian Richards
Group 8 - Stephen Zaccor
Group 13 - Betsy Benson
Group 14 - Alfreda D. Coward
Group 21 - Russell Miller Thompson

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER
At Large Seat 9 - Robin Bartleman
District 2 - Patricia Maria Good
District 5 - Rosalind Osgood
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



- File photograph

Caribbean Americans in South Florida get an opportunity to choose their representatives.

District 1 - Nan H. Rich
District 3 - Stacy Ritter
District 5 - Steven Anthony Geller
District 9 - Dale V. C. Holness

For more information, contact the Broward County Supervisor of Elections at www.browardsoe.org, 954-357-7050 or @BrowardVotes. Find your designated precinct at <http://bit.ly/29Iu5xZ>.

MIAMI DADE COUNTY

U.S. SENATOR -
REP: Marco Rubio
DEM: Patrick Murphy

U.S. CONGRESS
District 23 -
REP: Marty Feigenbaum
DEM: Debbie Wasserman Schultz
District 24 -
DEM: Frederica Wilson
District 25 -
REP: Mario Diaz Balart
DEM: Alina Valdes
District 26 -
DEM: Annette Taddeo
District 27 -
REP: Ileana Ros-Lehtinen
DEM: Adam Sackrin

FLORIDA STATE SENATOR
District 38 -
DEM: Jason Pizzo
District 40 -
DEM: Dwight Bullard

STATE REPRESENTATIVE
District 107 -
DEM: Barbara Watson
District 108 -
DEM: Francesca Menes
District 112 -
REP: Rosy Palomino
DEM: Nicholas Duran
District 113 -
DEM: David Richardson
District 114 -
DEM: Daisy Baez
District 115 -
DEM: Jeffery Solomon
District 118 -
REP: Anthony Rodriguez
District 120 -
DEM: Dan Horton

CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT - Harvey Ruvin
CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE – 11th JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
Group 9 - Jason Bloch
Group 34 - Renee Gordon



- File photograph

As seen in elections past, it's worth the wait to exercise your franchise.

Group 52 - Carol "Jodie" Breece
Group 66 - Robert Luck
Group 74 - George Sarduy

COUNTY JUDGE
Group 5 - Fred Seraphin
Group 7 - Ed Newman
Group 15 - Linda Luce
Group 35 - Wendell Graham

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER
District 1 - Steve Gallon III
District 6 -
Modesto 'Mo' Abety
District 7 - Lubby Navarro

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
District 7 - Xavier L. Suarez
District 9 - Dennis C. Moss
District 11 - Joe Martinez

MAYOR OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY - Carlos Gimenez
MAYOR OF THE CITY OF MIAMI GARDENS - Oliver Gilbert
Seat 1 - Lilli Odom
Seat 2 - John Ziegler
Seat 5 - David Williams

For more information, contact the Miami-Dade Supervisor of Elections at www.miamidade.gov/election, 305-499-VOTE or @MDCElections. To know where to vote, visit <http://bit.ly/1wb6QTS>.

PALM BEACH COUNTY
U.S. SENATOR -
REP: Marco Rubio
DEM: Patrick Murphy

Group 1 - Robert Ostrov
Group 4 - Gregory Tendrich

COUNTY JUDGE
Group 7 - Marni Bryson
Group 11 - Gregg Lerman
Group 15 - Bradley Harper

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER, DISTRICT 1 -
Barbara McQuinn

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
District 3 - David Kerner
District 7 - Mack Bernard

SPECIAL TAXING DISTRICT (P)
Port of Palm Beach, Group 2 - Joseph Anderson

SPECIAL TAXING DISTRICT (NP)
Indian Trail Improvement District, Seat 2 -
Gary Dunkley
Indian Trail Improvement District, Seat 4 - Betty Argue

GREATER BOCA
Seat 1 - Shayla Enright
Seat 3 - Erin Wright

JOURNEY END COMMUNITY DISTRICT 1 -
Michael Martinez
JUPITER INLET DISTRICT 3 - Shawn Lopez

PALM BEACH SOIL AND WATER
Group 2 - Daniel Sohn
Group 3 - Patricia Edmonson
Group 4 - Dave Self

PORT OF PALM BEACH GROUP 2 - Joseph Anderson

For more information, contact the Palm Beach County Supervisor of Elections at www.pbcelections.org or 561-656-6200.

To know where to vote, visit <http://bit.ly/1wb6QTS>.

Information submitted by Dr. Marcia Magnus, founding president, Caribbean American Politically Active Citizens (founded 2000).



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Jamaica offers visitors 'Home Of All Right'

Jamaica is promoting tourism by using a variety of small inns from luxury to budget-friendly properties.

The aim is to provide a personalized guest experience, with home-cooked meals, butler services and in-room spa treatments, ensuring relaxation and rejuvenation throughout the duration of their stay.



Pennicook

"Jamaica is the melting pot of the Caribbean and there is no better way to truly have a genuine experience than to stay at a small, intimate property to get to know our people and our cuisine," Paul Pennicook, the country's director of tourism, noted in a recent press release. "Their goal is to unite the intimacy of your home and the warmth of our Caribbean hospitality."

The "Home Of All Right" has small inns located all over the island. Below is a sampling of properties:

Strawberry Hill - This property's name stemmed from its perfect elevation to grow and harvest strawberries. The 12 Georgian-style cottages are most famously known for being a sanctuary for Bob Marley in the mid-1970s. Visit

www.strawberryhillhotel.com.

Tensing Pen - Located on the secluded, lush cliffs in Negril, it includes 17 thatch cut cottages. Visit www.tensingpen.com.

Jamaica Inn - Family-owned and family-run, this small luxury hotel has been in business for over 50 years. Not televisions and radios in its 28 suites and cottages. Visit www.jamaicainn.com.

Hermosa Cove - This place encourages patrons to "stay your way". Visit www.hermosacove.com.

GeeJam - Located on six acres of San Estate, the property extends from the foothills of the John Crow and Blue Mountain to the Caribbean waterfront. Includes five luxury villas, recording studio, healing spa, swimming pool, gym and the Bushbar restaurant. Visit <http://www.geejamhotel.com/>.

Hotel Mockingbird Hill - Nestled between the Blue Mountains and the Caribbean Sea, it identifies itself as the "best eco boutique hotel in Jamaica." Includes 10 private sanctuaries. Visit www.hotelmockingbirdhill.com.

For information, go to www.visitjamaica.com.



JetBlue takes off for Cuba Aug. 31

JetBlue Airlines was scheduled to begin direct flights to Cuba on Aug. 31 from Broward County's Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport (FLL).

JetBlue will operate three routes between FLL and the cities in central and eastern Cuba. They include flights Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays to Santa Clara's Abel Santamaría Airport (SNU) starting Aug. 31.

Daily flights to Camagüey



- Ignacio Agramonte Airport (CMW) begin Nov. 3. Daily flights to Holguín - Frank País Airport (HOG) - are scheduled to start Nov. 10.



Antigua bracing for tourism competition from Cuba, other Caribbean destinations

ST. JOHN'S, Antigua - The Antigua and Barbuda government has warned that Cuba provides a threat to its tourism industry and reminded stakeholders the sector is becoming more and more competitive daily.

Asot Michael, tourism, economic development, investment and energy minister, in addressing a graduation ceremony of the Antigua and Barbuda Hotel Training Institute (ABHTI) recently, said while the island is not the only one relying on the tourism sector for economic growth and social welfare, "the competition is intense."

"Other destinations are increasing the number of their hotels and resorts, and they are fighting every day to diversify their tourism markets and to multiply the airplanes and cruise ships that land in their countries," he said, telling the audience that Cuba, for instance, "is opening up rapidly."

"(In July), the U.S. authorities gave licenses to several airlines to do multiple flights into several cities in Cuba on a



Michael

"Other destinations are increasing the number of their hotels and resorts, and they are fighting every day to diversify their tourism markets and to multiply the airplanes and cruise ships that land in their countries ... (Cuba) is opening up rapidly" - Michael

daily basis. Those airlines include American, Delta and Jet Blue."

DIFFERENCE

"We will face enormous competition from Cuba, for

tourists, for investments in hotels and resorts, and even for airplanes to fly into our country," Michael added. "What will make the difference is the quality of treatment we give to our tourists. That is what will keep us in the race."

He told the graduates that it was therefore necessary for the industry to continue to treat visitors "with the regard that they deserve."

"If we can encourage them to want to come back to us again and again, we can hold our own," Michael said. "And, that is what we must strive to do. It is in the interest of each one of us - every one of you - that we do so."

Michael said that the ABHTI will also have to expand its curriculum to include language training in French, Spanish and Italian "if we are to diversify our markets and accommodate visitors from outside our traditional markets in Canada, the U.S. and Britain."

- Edited from CMC.



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Haitian airline revs up plan for Jamaica route

Haiti-based Sunrise Airways says that it has entered into the final phase of its application process toward initiating its first-ever flights to and from Jamaica.

“Our journey to this point has been long, with some minor turbulence endured along the way, but I’m very pleased to say that we are now, indeed, on final approach to spread our wings to Jamaica this fall,” said Philippe Bayard, president and owner of the airline.

Building upon its initial plan to serve the Kingston-Port-au-Prince route, Sunrise Airways said it has “vastly expanded its commitment to the Jamaica market.

“Our current application to the Jamaican Civil Aviation Authority (JCAA) features a total of 25 possible new routes,” Bayard said, adding “unique to our plan, Sunrise intends to be the only airline serving all three of Jamaica’s international gateways – Norman Manley in Kingston, Sangster International in Montego Bay, and Ian Flemming International



Sunrise Airways

Airport in Ocho Rios, with overseas flights.”

CONNECTIONS

Bayard said the proposed new flights from Jamaica will connect all three of the country’s international airports with destinations in Haiti, the Dominican Republic, and Cuba.

“We see tremendous potential for growth along all of our proposed lines of flying, especially the Jamaica-Cuba routes,” he said.

“We’re committed to serving more of Cuba from more of Jamaica than any other airline, creating valu-

able links for foreign commercial and cultural exchange, as well as unique leisure travel options enabling vacationers to experience the best of both countries in a more seamless fashion.”

Sunrise Airways said it will deploy its flagship ATR 42-320 aircraft on its new Jamaica routes. The airline said it anticipates receiving final clearance from the JCAA this month for the launch of its new Jamaica flights this year.

- Edited from CMC.



BVI visa exemption program effective this month

TORTOLA, British Virgin Islands – The British Virgin Islands visa exemption program will go into effect on Sept. 1.

The program, recently approved by the Cabinet, will, as of Sept. 1, allow nationals of a country that require a BVI visa, but who also hold a United Kingdom, United States or Canadian visa, and are visiting the territory for work, business, tourism and other related matters, to enter and remain for a period less than six months.

The initiative is part of labor and immigration reform efforts to further streamline entry and facilitate economic growth for BVI. It is also part of the territory’s efforts to facilitate visitors while safeguarding national security.

“My government believes that the implementation of our visa exemption program will also help tremendously with our global marketability in tourism and in the financial services sector,” said Premier Dr. Orlando Smith.



Admission requirements loosened.

BEST INTEREST

Smith, who is also finance minister, said it is well known that the U.K., U.S. and Canada already have a strong system for issuing visas. As a result, nationals of a country that would typically require a BVI visa or a visa-waiver to enter the territory, once they hold a current and valid visa issued by the U.K., U.S. or Canada, can travel to the BVI.

The U.K., U.S. or Canadian visas should have more than six months of validity before travel to the BVI and would only apply to visits of six months or less.

-- Edited from CMC.



SITES TO BEHOLD: Caribbean islands feature spectacular landmarks

NEW YORK, N.Y. – People travel to the Caribbean for different reasons. Many take time out to visit some of the landmarks across the region. Below are some of the regional landmarks rated in the Trip Advisor Top 10 for 2016:

Castillo San Felipe del Morro

Located in San Juan, Puerto Rico, it is also known as Fuerte San Felipe del Morro or Morro Castle, a 16th-century citadel that was named in honor of King Philip II of Spain. Over two million visitors a year explore the Castillo. It was also used as a film set in the 1996 motion picture “Amistad”.



Castillo San Felipe del Morro

Old Square (Plaza Vieja)

Old Square (Plaza Vieja) is in Havana, Cuba. In colonial times it was a residential neighborhood of the Criollo plutocracy. Plaza Vieja was the site of executions, processions, bullfights and fiestas – witnessed by Havana’s wealthiest citizens.

Queen Emma Pontoon Bridge

Located in Willemstad, Curacao, the bridge sits across St. Anna Bay. It connects the Punda and Otrobanda quarters of the capital city, Willemstad, and is hinged. It opens regularly to enable the passage of ocean going vessels. The bridge was built in 1888 and renovated

in 1939. When it swings open, two ferries take pedestrians across the water.

Catedral Primada de America

Located between Calle Arzobispo Merino and Isabel la Católica, next to Columbus



Old Square (Plaza Vieja)

Park in the city of Santo Domingo de Guzman in the Dominican Republic, the cathedral is dedicated to St. Mary of the Incarnation and is the oldest cathedral in the Americas.

Castillo del Morro

The Castillo del Morro Castle in Cuba is named after the three biblical Magi and is a fortress guarding the entrance to Havana bay.

Brimstone Hill Fortress

Brimstone Hill Fortress National Park is located in St. Kitts and Nevis. It was designed by British military engineers and built and maintained by African slaves. The

fort was abandoned by the British in 1853, but stabilization and restoration of the remaining structures of the fortress started in the early 1900s.

St. Nicholas Abbey

Located in the parish of St. Peter in Barbados, it was built in 1658 and is one of only three genuine Jacobean mansions in the Western Hemisphere. Its curved Dutch gables, chimney stacks and coral stone finials are well preserved, as are the Chinese Chippendale staircase and fine antiques and china. The natural gullies are home to mahogany and silk cotton trees. There’s also a steam mill and rum distillery, which are used to produce the St.

Nicholas Abbey Rum.

The Citadelle

The Citadelle Laferrière, Citadelle Henry Christophe or simply the Citadelle is a large fortress in northern Haiti, located on top of the mountain Bonnet a L’Eveque. It is one of the largest fortresses in the Americas and has become an icon of Haiti. It was built by Henri Christophe, a key leader during the Haitian slave rebellion (1791-1804), after Haiti gained Independence from France at the beginning of the 19th century.

The Hermitage

Located on Cat Island, Out Islands on Mount Alvernia, it’s the highest point in The Bahamas at 206 feet. This small stone monastery, built by hand by the architect hermit Father Jerome, is at the peak. It is said to be reminiscent of La Verna, the hill in Tuscany that was given to St. Francis of Assisi as a place where he could peacefully contemplate, and is reportedly where Assisi received the Wounds of the Cross.

- Edited from News Americas.



~ A CARIBBEAN TODAY SPECIAL FEATURE

Belize sees tough road ahead in border talks

BELMOPAN, Belize – Belize says it is preparing for tough negotiations with the government in Guatemala over the border dispute between them with Belmopan, indicating that the “new administration is taking a very different attitude towards the claim than the other administrations”.

Foreign Affairs Minister Wilfred Elrington, speaking on News 5 television last month, said that Belize is maintaining its position that the border dispute, dating back to several decades must be an issue settled by the International Court of Justice (ICJ).

Belize said that as far back as 1939, the Guatemalans had written to the British indicating their intention to repudiate the 1859 treaty regarding the border issue.

“Let me make it very, very clear that our most important and most difficult problem is the Guatemalan claim,” Elrington said. “That is a matter that we should all know everything we can about it and it is imperative that we be completely united on it because any disunity is going to be exploited by the Guatemalans.”

VIEW

He said that he has formed the view, “especially over the last two years or so that this particularly new administration is taking a very different attitude towards the claim than the other administrations I’ve dealt with.

“This one is very aggressive, very serious and I have formed the view that they are going to make life difficult for us so we have to constantly be on our guard; that’s my view. And every Belizean will have to play his or her part. We have to agree on the means of solving it.”

In January, Jimmy Morales, a former television comedian, was inaugurated as Guatemala’s new president, following his electoral victory in October last year Morales, who came to



Elrington

office with no previous experience in government, has already said that Guatemala would not relinquish its claim to the Caribbean community (CARICOM) country.

REFERENDUM

Elrington told television viewers that the past administration had agreed that it should be the ICJ to settle the issue and both countries are now working towards a referendum on the issue.

“The British was not prepared to contemplate any other resolution method other than the ICJ,” he said. “We in the UDP (United Democratic Party) are firmly committed to the ICJ, but there are other people in the (European) community who are suggesting otherwise—causing confusion which in my view the Guatemalans will seek to exploit.

“But that is a very serious matter. And while we are trying to manage it as best we can, because that’s all we can do, manage the situation, lower the tension and make the situation as normal as possible. Anything can happen at any time.

“So it is a matter that keeps me awake at night. Twenty-four/seven I am thinking about it because my responsibility and the responsibility of the prime minister and the government is to protect the people,” Elrington added.

- Edited from CMC.



U.S. diplomat welcomes court ruling overturning sodomy law

BELMOPAN, Belize – Carlos Moreno, United States ambassador to Belize, has described as a “landmark” decision, the ruling of Chief Justice Kenneth Benjamin that overturned the country’s sodomy law.

Justice Benjamin ruled that Section 53 of the Criminal Code, which criminalizes consenting intercourse between adults of the same sex contravenes the right granted by the constitution.

“I think Chief Justice Benjamin’s opinion is a landmark, transcending decision,” said Moreno. “As a former judge ... in reading that very comprehensive thorough decision, he covered all the bases, beginning with the statutory history of the statute in question.”

According to the ambassador, the judge delineated the respective positions of the parties, going through the different contentions by those parties and analyzing the Belizean constitution in terms of a number of rights like equal protection and so forth.

Last month, lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) activist Caleb Orozco and his United Belize Action Movement (UNI-BAM) expressed satisfaction with the ruling by the chief justice. Orozco and the group had in 2010 challenged the law, claiming it contravened the country’s constitution of no interference with a person’s dignity and personal privacy, as well as equality and equal treatment of all persons before the law.



Moreno

RAINBOW

In late June, the Rainbow Flag, which is the recognized symbol of gay pride, was hoisted for the first time at the compound of the U.S. Embassy and remained there in commemoration of LGBT Month.

Moreno told television viewers last month that the conclusion of the chief justice “I think, really speaks loudly and clearly for human rights.

“One thing that I noted and I think the prime minister noted was that this decision and the statute in particular, impacted both homosexual and heterosexual couples that prohibited consensual acts or crimes against nature. So I think it was really a victory for all Belizeans and in particular consenting,” the U.S. diplomat said.

The Belize government has already said there will be “no gender policy” as a result of the ruling and Prime Minister Dean Barrow said his administration will not appeal the ruling.

“I can, in good conscience, say to the nation that in so far as the claimants are concerned, they have been given what is without a doubt a shield, they have not been given a sword,” Barrow told reporters, “and the entire nation must understand this.”

- Edited from CMC.





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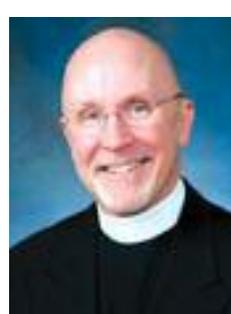
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invites Barbadians and Friends of Barbados to the Service of Thanksgiving on Sunday, 6 November 2016 at 4.00 p.m. at St Benedict's Church, 7801 NW 5th Street, Plantation, FL-33324, in celebration of the 50th Anniversary of Independence of Barbados.

The Very Reverend Peter Eaton, Bishop of Miami, will officiate at the Service.





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