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Saluting Jamaica At 60 ... Page B1



Countdown Begins To World Cup 2022 ... Page 19A



News	2A
Local News	7A
Feature	

Viewpoint	. 9A
Entertainment	
Food	13A

INSIDE

Health	14A
	17A



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Here are the regional headlines making news this week:

REGIONALLY

The Caribbean and Commonwealth elder statesman, Sir Shridath Ramphal, has released papers on the Internet, covering 72 years of public life in the Caribbean, the Commonwealth and internationally.

The former Secretary General of the Commonwealth, often known as Sir Sonny Ramphal, served as Assistant Attorney-General of the West Indies Federation, Minister of Justice and Foreign Affairs of Guyana and concurrently Chancellor of the University of Guyana, the University of the West Indies and Warwick University.

The Guyanese born, Sir Shridath, 94, is the only person to have served on all the Global Commissions that produced pioneering reports on the environment, development and disarmament, between 1980 and 1995. He was also chairman of the West Indian Commission, whose 1992 report, "Time for Action," is still regarded as the seminal blueprint for Caribbean Development. The website, giving free access to Sir Shridath's speeches and other submissions from 1950 to 2022, is available to the public of the international community, including universities, libraries, researchers and academics as well as interested readers at

sirshridathramphal.com.

JAMAICA

The Bank of Jamaica (BOJ) has announced an increase in the policy interest rate by 50 basis points to 5.50 per cent per annum, effective June 30, 2022.

The policy interest rate is offered by the BOJ to deposit-taking institutions on overnight placements with the financial institution, which said it has also decided to continue pursuing other measures to contain Jamaican dollar liquidity expansion and maintain relative stability in the foreign exchange market.

In the wake of the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) past monetary policy adjustments, interest rates on new bank deposits and loans in Jamaica have started to rise and there has been greater stability in the exchange rate, relative to the recent past.

TRINIDAD & TOBAGO

Trinidad and Tobago consumers have been slapped with a 28 percent increase in the suggested retail price for flour after the state-owned National Flour Mills Limited (NFM) announced a 33 percent hike in the whole sale price of the commodity.

NFM blamed the hike on the ongoing war in Ukraine where Russian troops have

the Eastern European country, a major wheat producer, It said that while it has been able to secure sufficient wheat stocks to ensure the country has an adequate supply of flour for the rest of this year, it came at a cost of a 49 percent increase on existing prices.

invaded

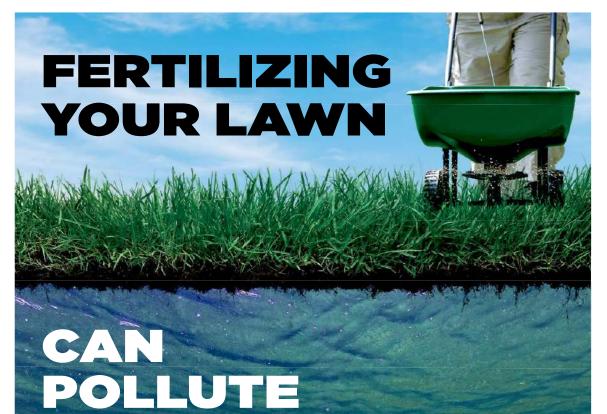
NFM said it decision to limit

the increase in the wholesale price of flour to 33 per cent to reduce losses in its flour division and ensure overall profitability. **ANTIGUA & BARBUDA**

The Antigua and Barbuda Parliament will meet this week to discuss abortion rights issues with the government hinting that the session would allow for "some altering" of the law as it relates to abortion.

Abortion has been declared illegal in this Caribbean Community (CARICOM) country since 1895, and Chief of Staff in the Office of the Prime Minister, Lionel Max Hurst, speaking on a radio program, said that Parliament will meet on Tuesday, July 5th,

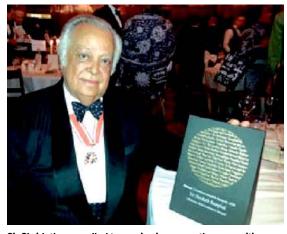
MIAMI-DADE



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OUR BAY



Sir Shridath was called to service in many other capacities, including President of the World Conservation Union, Special Adviser to the UN Conference on Environment and Development, Chief Negotiator for the Caribbean on External Economic Relations and as a mediator and facilitator in elections and constitutional crises.

to debate the issue.

BARBADOS

Barbados Prime Minister Mia Mottley has called on the World Bank to reform its operations to deal with a changing global environment saying it should follow the lead of the International Monetary Fund, (IMF).

"The World Bank regrettably is still now a relic of 1945 catering to 1945 issues and has not found itself into the 21st century," Mottley told a panel discussion on "Building Resilience and Sustainability in the Caribbean."

Mottley told the panel that the Washington-based financial institution needed to ensure that instead of "only focusing on the financing of low-income countries starts to look at being that financier of global public goods as the IMF is trying to do.

Suriname

The government of Suriname has backed down from opening an embassy in Jerusalem, Israel – at least from the time being. In a recent statement to Parliament, President Chandrikapersad Santokhi said no money has been allocated in the budget to set up a diplomatic post.

With this statement, the head of government backtracked on the promise made by his foreign minister, Albert Ramdin, to his Israeli colleague, Yair Lapid, during his working visit to Israel last month. Ramdin's promise caused a great deal of commotion and backlash in Suriname, especially among the Muslim community.

The news comes as Suriname is well on its way to developing its first offshore petroleum project in its deep-sea area following the discovery of more than 180 million barrels of oil in the Krabdagu well. The American oil company,

APA Corporation, has

been working to make the Dutch-speaking Caribbean Community (CARICOM) country, an oil producing state.

BERMUDA

Bermuda Premier and Finance Minister David Burt has promised that help is on the way for families who are struggling to cope with increases in food prices. Burt said a financial support package would be discussed by his cabinet in the coming week, but urged residents to be "wise with their spending choices."

GUYANA

Guyana vice President Dr. Bharrat Jagdeo says the country could earn between GUY\$70-\$100 million (One Guyana dollar=US\$0.004 cents) each year from the sale of cooking gas and other products from a gas-to-energy project that will be developed soon.

Jagdeo explained that the proceeds from the sale would be collected by the government. It is expected to add to the tangible benefits from the Wales gas-to-energy project. The government proposes to bring in natural gas produced in offshore oilfields for use at the NGL and power plants that will be built at Wales, to the South of Georgetown, the capital.

CUBA

A Cuban court has sentenced two dissident artists to nine and five years in prison, the government announced, in a high-profile case that rights groups have slammed as a "sham" that violates free speech.

The activists, Luis Manuel Otero Alcantara and Maykel Castillo, are prominent members of the Havana-based San Isidro Movement, an artists collective that led a number of protests over two years. Many of the group have since left Cuba, alleging government repression.

Otero Alcantara was sentenced to five years in jail for defaming the national flag, contempt and public disorder, according to a statement from the Cuban Prosecutor's Office. Castillo was sentenced to nine years for similar crimes, as well as assault.

Both men, considered prisoners of conscience by international rights group Amnesty International, have already spent months behind bars, drawing widespread condemnation and calls for their release.

Rewritten from CMC & NewsAmericasNow.com

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DITCHING THE QUEEN? - Easier Said Than Done Says Jamaican Attorney

BY HOWARD CAMPBELL

One of Jamaica's respected constitutional lawyers says it could be some time before the country, which is set to mark 60 years of independence from Britain on August 6th, ditches the Queen of England as its head of state.

According to Attorney Bert Samuels, the process is a tedious one not helped by dated clauses in the Jamaican constitution.

In November 2021, when Barbados removed the British monarch as its head of state, it was welcomed throughout the Caribbean. Barbados, a conservative nation often referred to as Little England, followed Guyana, Trinidad and Tobago and Dominica in cutting allegiance to the Queen.

The move sparked reaction from former Jamaica prime minister P.J. Patterson and University of the West Indies vice chancellor Sir Hilary Beckles, for Jamaica to follow suit.

Marlene Malahoo Forte QC, who heads up the nation's newly created Ministry of Legal and Constitutional Affairs, told parliament early in June that the process to transition to a republic had "formally commenced."

Malahoo Forte said the process could be completed before the next general election, which is due in 2025. But Samuels, a lawyer for over 40 years, says that is easier said than done.

"Firstly, it would be very expensive because it requires a referendum to be held on a multi-million-dollar budget. This referendum would require a costly public education prior to the holding," he told Caribbean Today. Samuels says he strongly believes that the British, having imposed those clauses on Jamaica in the first place, should bear the cost of the public education and the cost of the referendum.

"This obstacle was intentional on the part of the British whose brainwashing has caused some Commonwealth states to have reservations whether their populous will vote in favor to remove the monarchy," the attorney said.

In March, the visit to Jamaica by Prince William and his wife Kate Middleton was marred by protests in the capital Kingston from citizens calling for Jamaica to become a Republic and sever ties with the British monarchy.

On March 24, during a banquet honoring the Royals, Jamaican Prime Minister Andrew Holness disclosed his country's plans to do just that.

"There are issues here which are - as you would know - unresolved, but your presence here gives an opportunity for those issues to be placed in context, put front and center, and to be addressed in as best we can," PM Holness said then. "But Jamaica is, as you would see, a country that is very proud of our history and very proud of what we have achieved, and we are moving on, and we intend to attain, in short order, our development goals and fulfil our true ambitions and destiny as an independent, developed, prosperous country."

With the anti-slavery/colonial movement starting in Jamaica during the mid-18th Century, Samuels believes severing ties with the British Crown should have had its genesis there.

"The anti-colonial movement in Jamaica from as early as 1838 when (national hero) Paul Bogle led an uprising against colonial oppression with a move which ought to have continued. British terror reigned upon the people in October, 1865. In fact, that uprising led to 400 civilians being killed and 1000 homes being burnt," he noted. "It was after this uprising the British created the Jamaica police force to control the population from any moves towards liberation. Then in the following century, we had (another national hero) Marcus Garvey preaching dignity and self-respect and again the status quo made him leave and the rest is history. We must honor our heroes and heroines and take the lead to

GOVERNOI



Jamaican attorney Bert Samuels says the process is a tedious one not helped by dated clauses in the Jamaican constitution.

shed us of the monarchy."

The issue is deeply personal for Samuels, one of Jamaica's leading criminal lawyers who is also a member of the Reparation Council of Jamaica. He said the persons who drafted the country's constitution in 1961, one year before independence, did Jamaica a dis-service.

"Our founding fathers should have demanded compensation (for descendants of slaves) in 1962 and total separation from the British," he explained. "We are constantly under their stranglehold. There are 66 references to the Queen in the constitution. All laws must recite at the beginning (so says the constitution) that the law is passed in the name of 'Her Majesty' and with her consent."

Attorney Samuels also disclosed that "the British have constantly threatened to remove trade preferences and aid if we dare to stand on our own."

"The British were always aware of Haiti's successful revolution, removing the French from our neighboring sister island. They, in fact, made sure Governor (Edward) Eyre would put down the uprising in the way he did in 1838, 27 years after our emancipation," he told Caribbean Today. "We need to accompany removing the sovereign with reparations as there is a worldwide acceptance of the principle of reparations being paid to us for the immense wrongs of the past."

Malahoo Forte has said "the goal is to ultimately produce a new Constitution of Jamaica, enacted by the Parliament of Jamaica, to inter alia, establish the Republic of Jamaica as a parliamentary republic, replacing the constitutional monarchy, and affirming our self-determination and cultural heritage."

Professor Rosalea Hamilton, who organized those protests in Jamaica, told The National recently: "The Advocates Network is urging the government to separate the constitutional issues and put the matter of removing the Queen as head of state to a referendum as soon as possible as a first step.

"This matter has been debated for decades. It's now time to act."

CORRECTION

In our last edition, on the article, 'Can Caribbean American Veep Kamala Harris Deliver On Changes In Gun Laws?,' we erroneously described US Vice President Kamala Harris as the first Caribbean American vice president of the United States. That should have read the first black Caribbean American vice president of the United States. The first Caribbean American US vice president was George M. Dallas (1782-1864), the 11th vice president. He served from 1845 to 1849 under President James K. Polk. Like Kamala Harris's father, Dallas' father, Alexander Dallas (1759-1817), was born in Jamaica (June 21, 1759). Dr. Robert Dallas and educated in Edinburgh, was the Secretary of the Treasury under United States President James Madison, and was also briefly the Secretary of War. George Dallas was born in Philadelphia.



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Caribbean Immigrant Among Dead In Brooklyn Hit-And-Run

A Caribbean American family in Brooklyn, NY, is mourning the loss of their Caribbean born mother after she and her grandson were the victims of a hit-and-run car thief.

The woman, Trinidad and Tobago immigrant Lyn Christopher, was fatally struck by hit-and-run car thief as she was returning from a nearby park with critically hurt 8-yearold grandson on Saturday, June 25th.

Eight-year-old Jacob Butler, who was visiting his grandmother from Atlanta, is on life support.

The 67-year-old grandmother was crossing

Macon St. at Ralph Ave. in Bedford-Stuyvesant, coming home from nearby Saratoga Park about 7:10 p.m. Saturday when the speeding driver of a likely stolen Honda HR-V, fleeing a car stop, plowed into her and her grandson. They were around the corner from her three-story brownstone when the accident occurred. Jacob's sister was walking a few steps ahead when her brother and grandmother were struck.

The boy remains in critical condition, sedated and on a

ventilator. "He's fighting for his life right now," NYPD Assistant Chief Judith Harrison of Patrol

2021-2022

Borough Brooklyn North said Saturday night. "He could really use your prayers."

"She should never have died like that," the victim's devastated son, Marvin Christopher, 49, told the Daily News in an exclusive interview as cops continue their hunt for the hit-and-run driver. "She didn't need to be run over like an animal in the street ... No one deserves that."

Cops from the 81st Precinct had pulled the Honda HR-V at the corner of Ralph Ave. and Chauncey St. after cops noticed the vehicle had mismatched plates, a sign that the vehicle may have been stolen. There were two men inside the HR-V, apparently

smoking marijuana, cops said. As the officers approached, the driver floored the gas and sped north on Ralph Ave. "at an extremely high rate of speed," Harrison said.

The SUV driver struck a



Brooklyn hit-and-run victim Lyn Christopher was born in Trinidad and Tobago. (Family handout image)

28-year-old bicyclist head on as he veered into oncoming traffic to go around two cars idling at a stoplight, cops said. The out-ofcontrol driver then sideswiped an unoccupied Nissan Pathfinder before plowing into Christopher and Jacob.

The driver continued on, striking a motorist in a Honda Accord before mounting the sidewalk near Halsey St., hitting a 43-year-old man before slamming into a building five blocks from the initial car stop. The two occupants of the crashed HR-V abandoned the vehicle and ran off. A possible suspect was taken into custody and interviewed but was let go after questioning, an NYPD spokesman said.

The bicyclist, the other pedestrian and the motorist hit were all rushed to area hospitals, where they are expected to recover.

Christopher and her family moved to the U.S. from Trinidad in 1989. She had been a medical secretary at NYU Langone Hospital's cancer center's pathology department for over three decades before retiring two years ago.

After surviving a series of heart attacks in March, she remained head usher at the Brooklyn Tabernacle church.

- NewsAmericasNow.com ₩

33 Haitians Cops Recommended For Dismissal As Anniversary Of Murder Of President Approaches

The National Police of Haiti, (PNH), has confirmed that 33 police officers have been recommended for dismissal as the investigations continue into the July 7, 2021 assassination of President Jovenel Moise.

Moise 53, was gunned down at his private residence overlooking the capital, and while police say a group of mercenaries, most of them Colombians, was behind the attack which they suspect a Haitian doctor of ordering as part of a plot to become president, no one has yet been formally charged with the murder of the Haitian leader.

The authorities have detained dozens of people in connection with the assassination and a number of others are being sought. But the investigation has been slow, and the exact details about the people who carried out the plan, those behind it and their real motives are still not clear.

PNH spokesman, Divisional Inspector Gary Desrosiers, told a news conference that the file on the assassination of President Moïse is at the top of the list of cases being processed at the Central Directorate of Judicial Police, (DCPJ).

In addition, he announced that the General Inspectorate (IGPNH), had recommended the dismissal of 33 police officers and the layoff of three others as part of the administrative investigation into the assassination of the President. Moise was shot 12 times



July 7th will mark one year since the assassination of Haitian President Jovenel Moise. The case remains under investigation. (*Matias Delacroix / Associated Press image*)

and had bullet wounds to his forehead and several to his torso. One of the judges conducting the investigation said his left eye had been gouged out and bones in his arm and in his ankle had been broken.

Desrosiers told reporters that the police, would very soon engage criminal gangs and that a plan is being developed "with clear and precise objectives" to regain control of the Palace of Justice in Port-au-Prince.

The authorities said the Village-de-Dieu gang "5 seconds" has since June 10 taken over control of the Palace of Justice, and as a result, several matters have been transferred to the Peace Court of the southern section of Port-au-Prince.

The "Je Klere" Foundation has been urging the police and the army to dislodge the bandits, recover stolen state property and restore the magistrates to their offices.

Desrosiers confirmed that the materials and equipment to strengthen the operational capacity of the PNH will arrive soon, without elaborating. "For strategic reasons, we cannot reveal the date of the arrival of the materials and equipment," he said

But on June 22nd, after having received authorization from the Department of State, the Haitian government disbursed US\$12 million to a foreign firm for the acquisition of a large batch of materials and equipment including weapons and ammunition for the PNH to enable it to fight effectively against organized crime in the country.

- CMC



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Baroness Scotland Remains SC of Commonwealth



Baroness Scotland won her attempt to be re-elected as secretary-general at the Commonwealth meeting in Rwanda despite not being support by the UK and after facing a challenge from Jamaica's Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade Minister Kamina Johnson-Smith. (LUKE DRAY/GETTY IMAGES)

Dominica-born Baroness Patricia Scotland has prevailed in her re-election bid as Secretary General of the 54-member Commonwealth.

The Dominica-born Scotland had faced a challenge from Jamaica's Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade Minister Kamina Johnson-Smith, who later conceded defeat. Scotland won by a 27-24 margin during the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) which was held in Rwanda.

Despite the defeat, Jamaica Prime Minister Andrew Holness, congratulated Scotland on her re-election, saying it "was a good contest and the Baroness prevailed."

"Jamaica remains deeply proud of Minister Johnson Smith and we are happy to have put forward such a strong, credible and competent candidate," Holness said, adding that her candidature "won her the respect and admiration of many countries within our Commonwealth family and brought prominence to Jamaica and our ability to contest within such a large international institution.'

Dominica had nominated Scotland for the post, and the nomination of Johnson-Smith had divided the 15-member regional integration grouping

VISA

(CARICOM).

Antigua and Barbuda's Prime Minister Gaston Browne had regarded Johnson Smith's entry into the race as "monumental error."

But Jamaica defended its decision saying it was necessary to point out that the revised Treaty of Chaguaramas that governs the regional integration movement "aspires towards co-ordination of foreign policy, including candidatures for positions in external forums, as far as practicable."

British Prime Minister, Boris Johnson, is one of seven Commonwealth leaders who had thrown their support behind Johnson-Smith, saying she has the "vast experience and support to unite our unique family of nations and seize the opportunities ahead."

The United Kingdom is reported to have been campaigning against the incumbent Secretary General, with allegations she was divisive.

In his statement, Holness said that "Jamaica continues to believe in the Commonwealth, its diversity and its potential to deliver for its people."

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New Grenada PM Vows To End Nepotism

Grenada, Carriacou and Petite Martinique's new prime minister, Dickon Mitchell, has vowed to end nepotism, reform the electoral system and work for the betterment of the tri-island state.

Attorney Dickon Mitchell was sworn in as Grenada's ninth Prime Minister on June 24th after leading the opposition National Democratic Congress, (NDC), to a 9-6 victory in the June 23rd general election.

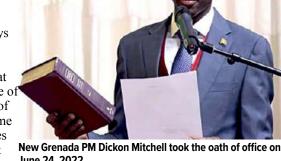
Mitchell, 44, took the oath of office before Governor General Dame Cecile La Grenade in the presence of his grandmother, his two children and supporters of the party.

"I wish to assure the nation that under my leadership, the National Democratic Congress must lead by example by taking a united citizens approach to our governance," said Mitchell. "It does not mean that we do not have to make tough but difficult decisions and often times that's the hallmark of leadership."

He told the ceremony that when those decisions are required "we will make them, but we will ensure that we can explain, consult and justify to our people why we are making the decisions.'

Mitchell, who had been critical of the Parliamentary Electoral Office (PEO) in the run-up to the general election that his predecessor, Dr. Keith Mitchell had called ahead of the constitutional deadline of March 2023, said the victory does not mask the problems at the institution.

"I will not be a hypocrite by suggesting that I was always happy with the Parliamentary Office or for that matter the office of the Supervisor of Elections or some of the challenges we faced, but at the end of the day June 24, 2022.



I think we can conclude...that all in all things have to be looked at" and that the will of the people has been demonstrably shown," he added.

The new PM said he is urging Grenadians to be part of the transformation of the country and that while the members of the cabinet and portfolios will be known soon, such a task will be undertaken on a merit basis.

"If you believe in serving your country and you have the skills...we need you," he said, adding "we need fresh faces with innovative ideas driven by the common desire to make our place a better place."

Meanwhile, former prime minister Dr. Keith Mitchell has vowed that his six New National Party (NNP) legislators will play "a constructive role" as opposition to the newly elected government.

In a television broadcast, Mitchell, 75, no relation to the new PM, said he is aware that there is a level of disappointment among the NNP supporters "because the results were not exactly what we wanted them to be. But noted "in spite of that I am eternally grateful for all of your contributions."

He said he had spoken to the new prime minister "and so we are willing to give the new government support in promoting policies and programs that will be for the benefit of the nation.

We shall play a constructive role as Opposition, understanding that any opposition will be on philosophical issues that we think might be in the better interest of the country," he added.

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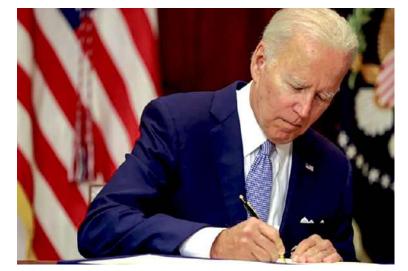
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Caribbean American Lawmakers Welcome New Gun Law

Caribbean American lawmakers are among those welcoming the new Bipartisan Safer Communities Act after President Jo Biden signed it into law on June 25th.

The bipartisan gun measure aims at preventing dangerous people from accessing firearms, bringing to an end almost three decades of stalemate in the federal Legislature over how to address gun violence in the country. It requires young people, ages 18 to 21, to undergo enhanced background checks; includes the first-ever federal law that makes gun trafficking and straw purchases distinct federal crimes for the first time; and clarifies who needs to register as a federally licensed gun dealer and run background checks before selling a single weapon.

In signing S.2938, the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act, into law, Biden thanked the leaders and members of the US



President Joe Biden signs the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act into law in the Roosevelt Room of the White House on Saturday, June 25, 2022, in Washington, D.C. (Tasos Katopodis/Getty Images/TNS)

House of Representatives and the US Senate for "working together to get this done." The legislation, which passed the House 234-193 on

assed the House 234-193

June 24th, following Senate approval on the 23rd, includes incentives for states to pass so-called red flag laws that allow groups to petition courts



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to remove weapons from people deemed a threat to themselves or others.

Caribbean American Congresswoman Yvette D. Clarke commented: "This legislation represents but one significant step towards ending our nation's gun violence crisis. We have many, many more to take before our children and our communities are safe from the threat of guns." Advocate Jumaane Williams welcomed the new law but told CMC: "We have to be clear that this is a step, a symbol that we must push past inaction, not a substitute."

Williams, a candidate for Governor of New York in Tuesday's Democratic Primary, added that "... much more on a city and state level to combat gun violence — both the supply and the demand.

Caribbean American Public

Trinidad & Tobago's DPP Says Criminal Charges In Piarco Airport Project Still Relevant

Trinidad & Tobago's Director of Public Prosecutions, (DPP) Senior Counsel, Roger Gaspard, says he is still considering whether to continue the criminal charges arising out of the construction of the Piarco International Airport even though the London-based Privy Council had earlier this week, thrown out the state's two-decade-old corruption case.

In a statement, Gaspard said that the charges against the former government ministers and public officials and several businessmen and companies, stemming from the construction of the Piarco International Airport, remain intact.

The five-member Privy Council panel said in a 26-page ruling noted that the January 2008 decision of the nowdeceased Chief Magistrate Sherman McNicolls to commit the accused to stand trial was tainted by apparent political bias.

According to the Law Lords, McNicolls should have recused himself from what is known as the Piarco 1 inquiry – one of four inquiries related to the development and construction of the Piarco International Airport between 1997 and 2000. They linked McNiolls' conviction of former prime minister Basdeo Panday on corruption charges, the move to impeach former chief justice Satnarine Sharma, McNicolls' corruption claims against Sharma and the intervention of former Attorney General John Jeremie and contended that there was sufficient information in the public domain to support a claim of apparent bias.

"When all the various sources of concern are considered together, the observer would be likely to agree with the appellants' submission that by January 2008 the Chief Magistrate was hopelessly compromised," the Privy Council said.

In his statement, Gaspard said the judgement "casts in shadow the conduct of the former Chief Magistrate and a former Attorney General and it establishes that such conduct ought to have resulted in the Chief Magistrate recusing himself from any further involvement in the Piarco No 1 preliminary inquiry.

- CMC

Jamaican Husband Sentenced To Life Imprisonment For Murdering Wife

Jamaica's Home Circuit Court on June 30th sentenced a Jamaicaborn Canadian, Alphanso Warren, to life imprisonment after he was found guilty of killing his wife almost seven years ago,

Warren will have to serve 25 years before he's eligible for parole, but the court deducted from the sentence, the seven years Warren spent in custody before his sentencing. Warren was last month found guilty of the stabbing murder of wife Stephanie at the couple's home in Kingston on December 31, 2015. Stephanie was attacked during a domestic dispute.

Justice Leighton Pusey said

it was a crime of passion that arose from a domestic dispute and that the actions of the convicted man have shown a disregard for his family members. The judge said that Warren's previous four convictions were taken into consideration in the sentencing, which included the death of a child of the couple.

But the judge said Warren's intent at the time of the murder was also considered, as it seemed to have been a crime of passion.

Justice Pusey, however, said that the gravity of the offence was a major factor in the sentencing and the message for the general (CONTINUED ON PAGE 7A)

LOCAL N

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Miya's Law Is Now A Reality In Florida

Miya's Law, named after the Caribbean American teen who was murdered in her Orlando apartment complex nine months ago, is now a reality in Florida.

Marcano, who was born to a Trinidadian father and a USVI mother, was murdered last fall at the Arden Villas, the apartment complex where she lived and worked, by maintenance worker Armando Caballero, 27-year-old. Her family and a host of community representative and supporters came together to draft legislation to improve tenant safety in the state of Florida.

After several months of waiting, the Miya Marcano Foundation received noticed that Miya's Law became official on Monday, June 27, 2022, at 1p.m. EST.

Marcano's family father, Marlon Marcano; mother, Yma Scarbriel, and brother, Marlon Marcano Jr., travelled to Tallahassee, the state capital to participate in a private signing ceremony with Governor Ron DeSantis.

Scarbriel, Marcano's mother noted: "Miya was with us today. Her light continues to guide us, and we know that she would've never want anyone to go through what she went through."

She also thanked all of the community members, the state representatives including Representatives Bartlemen and Senator Stewart for their hard work and dedication to Miya's Law and the Foundation's internal team, Jodi Covington, Attorney Marlon Hill and Attorney Daryl K Washington, for guiding our family through the legislative process.

"Your kindness has brought peace in the mist of our storm," Scarbriel added.

"From the day I laid eyes on her, I knew I was blessed with the purest form of love," said s Marlon Marcano, Miya's father. "With the passing of Miya's Law, I am extremely grateful to everyone involved and I want the



Miya Marcano was murdered last fall in Orlando.

community to know that we will do everything we can to ensure what happened to our Miya doesn't happen to anyone else. Thank you Governor DeSantis for signing Miya's Law into Florida Law. It brings great joy not only to my family but to the millions of renters in the state of Florida."

"Now that Miya's Law has been signed into law, the work truly starts. We hope that Miya's Law helps to prevent what happened to Miya from happening to anyone else," said Jodi D. Covington, Board Director of the Miya Marcano Foundation.

"We look forward to working with apartment complexes and multi-dwelling unit owners and property managers to ensure that they understand Miya's Law," she added. "The Foundation would like to work with them to ensure they keep their properties as safe as possible for residents. This is not only a win for Miya's family but the millions of renters in the state of Florida. We are hopeful that more states will follow and pass Miya's Law."

ABOUT THE CASE

Marcano missed a Sept. 24th flight from Orlando to visit her family in South Florida and her family asked the Sheriff's Office to check on her at the Arden Villas apartments near UCF, where she lived and worked.

During that welfare check, the deputy found Marcano's bedroom door was blocked from opening by a dresser, which meant a roommate had to enter Marcano's room from a back window, the statement said, adding that a responding deputy "noticed the window had been tampered with."

Her body was bound with black duct tape across her mouth and tape also tying her hands and feet together on October 2nd. She was found wearing jeans and a bra, as well as a robe and her purse was found nearby containing the shirt she was last seen wearing. Her cause of death has not yet been determined.

Orlando Police have said Caballero, a maintenance employee at the Arden Villas complex where Marcano worked and lived, was waiting for her inside her apartment Sept. 24, before he killed her and dumped her body at another Orlando area apartment complex.

ABOUT MARCANO

Born April 26, 2002, in Pembroke Pines to parents Yma Scarbriel and father Marlon Marcano, Miya grew up in both South Florida and the British Virgin Islands. Marlon Marcano, known professionally as DJ Eternal Vibes, is a Trinidad-born DJ in South Florida. She graduated from Flanagan Senior High in 2020 and headed to the University of Central Florida.

After a few semesters, she transferred to Valencia college, where she was studying sports medicine. "From early on Miya became a Jane of all trades," Sue said. "After taking an interest in modeling, pageantry, cheerleading, dancing, horseback riding and so much more. Miya excelled in everything she set her mind to do."

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Pieces Of Jamaica Photo Exhibit Opens At Island SPACE Caribbean Museum

Celebrating Jamaica's 60th anniversary of independence, acclaimed photographer David I. Muir presented his series of breathtaking images memorializing his homeland in his second visual homage: 'Pieces of Jamaica.'

The photo-art collection was unveiled at Island SPACE Caribbean Museum, 8000 W. Broward Blvd, #1422 in Plantation, FL, to more than 100 VIP wellwishers on June 23rd.

The museum, the first (Ph and only of its kind dedicated to the rich history and culture of the Caribbean Diaspora, held a private reception for the Pieces of Jamaica Photo Art Exhibition, where dignitaries, business and community leaders gathered to meet the artist, view images from the collection and preview the upcoming associated coffee table book.

With more than an estimated 300,000 Jamaicans living in South Florida, and many more residents who have a connection with the island, the collection of vivid images on canvas will connect with photography lovers, travel

 Artist David Muir and Miramar Commissioner

Alexandra Davis at the June 23rd opening. (Photos by RJ Deed/Island Syndicate.)

fans, expats and aficionados of Jamaican culture alike.

The exhibit runs through August at the Museum, located on the northeast entrance to the Broward Mall just south of Broward Blvd., across from Buffalo Wild Wings. Learn more about the Pieces of Jamaica photo exhibit and the Caribbean at large by visiting.islandspacefl.org. You can pre-order a signed copy of Pieces of Jamaica®: Jamrock Edition, and order readily available prints and merch, at piecesofjamaica.com.

Jamaican Husband Sentenced To Life Imprisonment For Murdering Wife

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6A) populace that the time given must serve as a deterrent.

The Warrens had moved from Canada to Jamaica in 2009 following their conviction in the Baby Angelica case in Toronto. The couple's eight-month-old daughter, who became known as 'Baby Angelica,' was found

for concealment of death and failure to bury a dead body after one of his children was found dead in a suitcase. - CMC News

dead in a freezing north Toronto

sentenced to 12 months hard labor

parking garage in 2008. On

September 6, 2012, he was

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UK's Windrush Generation Gets A Monument In London

The National Windrush monument was unveiled at London's Waterloo Station on National Windrush Day, June 22, 2022.

Members of the Windrush generation and the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge were on hand to witness the unveiling of the National Monument that was designed by renowned Jamaican artist Basil Watson. Windrush Day marks the arrival of Caribbean immigrants to the shores of Britain on 22 June each year – the day HMT Empire Windrush arrived at Tilbury Docks in 1948.

The monument, created with £1 million funding from the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, "symbolizes the courage, commitment and resilience of the thousands of men, women and children who travelled to the UK to start new lives from 1948 to 1971," a statement said.

The monument features three figures – a man, woman, and child – dressed in their "Sunday best" are climbing a mountain of suitcases together, demonstrating the inseparable bond of the Windrush pioneers and their descendants, and the hopes and aspirations of their generation as they arrive to start new lives in the UK.

It "... will be a permanent place of reflection, fostering greater understanding and celebrating the talent, hard work and contribution of the Windrush generation who arrived in Britain between 1948-1971," a statement added.

"It has been an honor to design and create this monument which pays tribute to the Windrush generation migrants as they arrived in Britain with their dreams and aspirations, courage and dignity, skills and talents,' Watson commented. "They arrived with the idea of laying a foundation for their families and their future, and a hope of contributing to a society that they expected would welcome them in return. From this seemingly auspicious beginning despite many challenges, they spread their culture across Britain influencing many aspects of the society," he said.

"My parents, along with a great many others, took the long arduous voyage from the Caribbean with very little or nothing other than their aspirations, their courage and a promise of opportunity for advancement," Watson added. "This monument tells that story of hope, determination, a strong belief in selves and a vison for the future."

"Without you all Britain would simply not be what it is today," Prince William said. "I want to say a profound thank you to every member of that generation and the generations that have followed." He also talked about how the "past weighs heavily" on the people of the Caribbean and the Windrush generation.

He said members of the Windrush generation had been victims of racism when they arrived and said: "discrimination remains an all too familiar experience for black men and women in Britain in 2022." The duke referred to the Windrush scandal, which broke in April 2018, and said it still "rightly reverberates through the Caribbean community here in the UK."

The scandal, which saw members of the Windrush generation and their children wrongly detained and even deported, led to the UK government apologizing for the deportation threats many faced.

Secretary of State Michael Gove MP said: "Seeing Basil Watson's magnificent monument, it's easy to imagine the excitement, hope and apprehension that the Windrush pioneers must have felt as they arrived in the UK. Overcoming great sacrifice and hardship, the Windrush Generation and their descendants have gone on to make an immense contribution to public life. Britain would be

"The National Windrush Monument will be a permanent place of reflection, celebration and inspiration for Caribbean communities and the wider public, especially children," said Chair of the Windrush Commemoration Committee Baroness Floella Benjamin, DBE DL. "It will act as a symbolic link to our past and a permanent

much diminished without them."



The National Windrush monument at London's Waterloo Station by Jamaican artist Basil Watson.

reminder of our shared history and heritage for generations to come. I hope it will be a catalyst for other monuments across Britain commemorating the extraordinary contribution to this country by the Windrush generation. I am grateful to the members of the Windrush **Commemoration Committee** for their boundless dedication to ensuring this monument comes to fruition, and hope the Caribbean communities who we have sought to serve, believe that we have done them justice.'

The Windrush generation has come to be defined as those people who emigrated from the Caribbean to Britain between the arrival of the MV Empire Windrush on 22 June 1948 and

Significant Number Of Caribbean Nationals 'Moderately Or Severely Food Insecure'

A new report by the Organization of American States (OAS) says a significant number of nationals in Latin America and the Caribbean are "moderately or severely food insecure."

The report titled, "Confronting Food Insecurity in the Americas: Good Practices and Lessons Learned during the COVID-19 Pandemic," systematizes information from 16 countries on policies and programs to ensure food security in the region and identifies priority lines of action on this issue.

It also states that 41 percent of people in the region were "moderately or severely food insecure."

The report also notes 14 percent experienced extreme food insecurity, defined as having no food and going a day or more without eating, according to data from the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, (FAO).

"The number of people lacking physical or economic access to a quantity and quality of food necessary for health and development increased to 267 million people in 2020, an increase of 60 million people from the previous year," analysts stated. "Food insecurity disproportionately affects groups that are already in a situation of greater vulnerability, such as women, indigenous and Afrodescendant peoples, people with disabilities, the elderly, people in a situation of human mobility, among others."

It notes that food insecurity is on the rise in several countries around the world, reversing years of progress and jeopardizing the ability to achieve the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals by 2030, specifically the goal to "End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture."

The combination of the onset of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic with declining incomes and disruptions in food supply networks and distribution chains have led to a significant increase in chronic and acute hunger, the report says.

"We hope that this report will be of the greatest use to member states in combating this scourge," said Betilde Muñoz-Pogossian, director of the Department of Social Inclusion of the OAS Secretariat for Access to Rights and Equity, which prepared the report.

"Sharing this information at the regional level is of great importance to guide countries in their actions to expand and improve their efforts towards food security in the Americas."

The OAS said the report was an essential input to the joint session of the OAS Permanent Council with the Inter-American Council for Integral Development (CIDI), whose purpose was to address and promote viable actions and regional cooperation to strengthen food security in a comprehensive and sustainable manner "as a fundamental strategy to address persistent social and economic needs in the Americas, including those emerging from the COVID-19 pandemic."

This report is one of the actions adopted by the OAS as a follow-up to the declaration adopted at the OAS General Assembly in 2021, "Renewed Commitment to Post-COVID-19 Sustainable Development in the Americas", which highlights the "commitment to continue promoting national and regional measures to respond to the multiple crises that have unfolded, addressing the structural causes, particularly to counteract the effects of climate change and biodiversity loss, as well as discrimination, hunger and food and nutrition insecurity, displacement, poverty and violence."

The OAS said it "remains at the disposal of member states to continue to promote effective measures to eradicate hunger throughout the region."

- Rewritten from CMC

the Immigration Act 1971. Following public

engagement in 2021, in which Watson's design resonated the most, he was commissioned to create the Monument by the Windrush Commemoration Committee (WCC), chaired by Baroness Floella Benjamin DBE DL. Basil worked collaboratively with a team at Pangolin Editions in Stroud, Gloucester to complete the monument.

The Monument's location, London Waterloo station, was chosen due to its significance in the Windrush story as thousands of people who arrived from the Caribbean passed through the station on their way to start their new lives across the country.

2022 is the fourth annual National Windrush Day and this year's projects will focus on bringing communities together – across different ages and ethnic backgrounds – to commemorate, celebrate and educate their local area about the contribution of the Windrush generation and their descendants across the country.

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Female First Move



Women were always expected to be second to men in all walks of life. They were instructed to walk five steps behind, do their bidding, be at their beck and call, and basically wait to be chosen when the men so desired. After all,

it's a man who sets his sights on the woman, selects her from the herd and expresses his desire to marry her.

for her hand in marriage. It's

expresses his desire to marry her. In many cases he'll get down on his knees and ask

always been the man who makes the move. The woman just waits until he chooses her and proposes.

But what if the script was rewritten and it was the woman who took the bull by the horns by asking the man to marry her? It has been known to happen and is not as farfetched as you may think, even though it's a societal and historical fact that men are the ones who initiate romance. It's the man who sees the woman, has eyes for her, likes what he sees, then makes his move.

It's just the way it is, and is the status quo of romance. He usually chooses where they go, and at the end of the evening, he picks up the tab, swipes that card, pays the bill. But who says that is always the way to do things? What if the woman wants to exert her will and be the one taking matters into her own hands?

"Hello, who is this?" "It's me, Sharon, how about I pick you up later and we make a nice evening of it?" "But I hardly know you." "It doesn't matter, we'll get to know each other later."

Many men would perhaps feel uncomfortable with that scenario and not take too kindly to that forward approach. Just because she made the first move it's perceived that she's desperate. Maybe some women are, but perhaps others simply just decide to exercise their prerogative and go for what they see and like.

Some men may feel more

than a tad intimidated by such an advance, and feel as if they have no control. "Not only did she offer to pick me up, but pay for the entire evening too."

That's another thing - should women pay for the evening? "That's okay Gary, dinner's on me."

Some guys say no way would they allow that on a first date. "Not at all, and let her think that I'm a mean cheap man?!" To step it up though, what if they're in a relationship for a period of time, should she be the one to propose to her man?

"Basil, it's been three years now, will you marry me?" Most men would be nervous and be taken aback, for social mores are forged in the foundries of our history, woven in the fabric of our lives and are hard to deviate from. To have her actually propose to him may just have him suffer a cardiac episode or have him flee faster than a fleeing rabbit.

"Why Victor driving away so fast?"

"The ugly woman just proposed to him."

Somehow, there is some unwritten law that says that women must wait and wait and wait and never make the move. She's not even supposed to ask the man for a dance.

What if the woman just met the man, and on that very first date, says to him: "I really like the way how you look, come let's go to my house."

The man may lose the thrill of the chase, the excitement and mystery of the journey and may even feel intimidated.

As you can see, there are drawbacks to when women make the first move. Apparently in our society, where as far as certain issues dealing with romance go, women must not seem to be too bold, but assume the characteristics of the dainty, coy demure damsel and not make that first move.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Tony Robinson can be reached at seido1yard@gmail.com

Impact of Immigrant Entrepreneurship Revealed In National Immigrant Heritage Month

As the US also marks another National Immigrant Heritage Month, a new report says found that almost 44 percent, or 219 companies, in this year's Fortune 500 list were founded by immigrants or their children.



FELICIA J. PERSAUD

In its annual review of the largest and most recognizable American companies, the American Immigration Council released a report that examines the role of immigrant entrepreneurs and their children in America's economic success story.

The report, "New American Fortune 500 in 2022: The Largest American Companies and Their Immigrant Roots," draws from Fortune Magazine's annual ranking of the United States' 500 largest corporations, ranked by revenue, to analyze the share of companies that were founded by immigrants or the children of immigrants and these firms' contributions to the U.S. and global economy.

The report also found that of the 219 companies, 102 of those companies were founded by immigrants, and 117 companies were founded by the children of immigrants.

Additionally, Fortune 500 companies founded by immigrants or children of immigrants employ more than 14.8 million people worldwide and immigrant-founded Fortune 500 companies drive 68 industry sectors across the American economy. Some 35 U.S. states are headquarters to at least one New American Fortune 500 firm, and seven of those states have at least 10 firms.

Further, the over \$7 trillion in revenue generated by Fortune 500 companies founded by immigrants or children of immigrants is greater than the GDP of every country in the world outside the United States, except China.

"Immigrant entrepreneurs play an indispensable role in driving our economy and in creating job growth," said Andrew Lim, research director at the American Immigration Council. "While immigrants represent only 13.6% of the U.S. population, it's estimated that a quarter of America's entrepreneurs are immigrants. This increased propensity for business creation among immigrants is crucial for the U.S economy, as research shows that nearly all net job growth in the United States is attributed to new firms and startups." Lin added: "From household

names such as Apple and Costco, as

well as newcomers to the Fortune 500 list like Jackson Financial and Caesar's Entertainment, more than two out of every five Fortune 500 companies had at least one immigrant or child-of-immigrant founder - a pattern that has remained over the years since our first New American Fortune 500 report in 2011."

As the anti-immigrant sentiments run rife in the US and more and more immigrants, including those supporting the US economy are either being kicked out or placed in limbo, it is important to ensure the contributions of immigrants to the United States are not pushed on to the back burner and dismissed as simply people who come into this country to take away jobs.

This report is a welcome addition to telling that story in National Immigrant Heritage Month. While the United States has long been the premier destination for this kind of global talent, it has become increasingly clear that we need smarter immigration policies to attract and retain international talent and that means an immigration policy for this century.

The writer is publisher of NewsAmericasNow.com – The Black Immigrant Daily News.

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Correcting A Foolish Wrong

BY SIR RON SANDERS

It is time that several nations, led in the Western Hemisphere by the US and Canada, correct a foolish wrong. Among those countries are two member states of the Caribbean Community, (CARICOM), namely Haiti and Jamaica.

That wrong was not only their anointment of Juan Guaidó as the "Interim President" of Venezuela on January 23, 2019, but also the subsequent imposition of this fallacy on organizations, such as the Organization of American States (OAS), and the Inter-American Development Bank, (IDB).

The wrong was foolish because it was conceived and imposed to suit narrow national political objectives; it was not grounded in international law or practice, nor was there any wide agreement on it. Therefore, it was never sustainable.

Seven of the 13 countries in the Western Hemisphere, which originally joined the US and Canada in aggressively supporting the notion that Guaidó was in charge of Venezuela, have now abandoned that position and reverted to dealing with the de facto Venezuelan government of President Nicolás Maduro.

The 7 countries that have ditched support for Guaidó are: Argentina, Peru, Mexico, Chile, and Honduras in Latin America as well as The Bahamas and St. Lucia in the Caribbean.

Significantly, an eighth and very important country is seeking to normalize relations with the Maduro government. This country is Venezuela's neighbor, Colombia, whose newly elected President, Gustavo Petro, revealed on his Twitter account that he has "reached out to the Venezuelan government to open the borders and restore the full exercise of human rights on the border." The conversation was confirmed by Maduro. Petro will assume office on August 7th.

Many adverse consequences arose from the wrong that was perpetrated in January 2019. Among them were violations of the rules of the OAS to compel accreditation of Guaidó's nominee as Venezuela's Ambassador on



Juan Guaidó

April 22, 2019.

There was a similar dubious procedure, one month before, on March 15, 2019, to appoint Guaidó's representative as a governor of the IDB. Those wrongful actions continue to divide the member states of both organizations and adversely affect their operations both financially and functionally.

For instance, since Guaidó has no control over the finances of Venezuela, including its Treasury, his so-called interim government has not paid one cent in contributions to the OAS or the IDB, nor has it serviced the outstanding loans to Venezuela. In the IDB's case, at the end of 2021, the total amount of Venezuela's sovereign-guaranteed payment arrears amounted to \$1,088 million, including interest.

Further, since 2018, all loans to Venezuela, amounting to \$2,011 million, were placed in non-accrual status. Interest income not recognized amounted to \$51 million during the year ended December 31, 2021, and the related individually assessed allowance for credit losses was \$77 million.

How any Bank can operate in this way is alarming. It demonstrates a woeful politicization of a financial institution with little regard for fiduciary responsibilities. Left unchecked, it will cripple the Bank, severely restricting its capacity to cater to the needs of its borrowing members and threatening repayments to its lending members.

The OAS is equally affected financially. As of June 30, 2022, Venezuela owes the Organization \$17.4 million in unpaid dues.



Every year, \$1.9 million is added to that sum. The cumulative effect is to deprive the OAS of money it desperately needs to recruit competent staff and to retain the ones it has. Projects are also affected by the lack of finance, forcing the Organization to become increasingly dependent on "special funds" solicited mostly from the US and Canada, giving these two countries even greater influence on the Organization than they already have.

When, on April 22, 2019, the US and Canada, imposed Guaidó's representative on the OAS, they did so by the slenderest majority of 18 votes, and only with the support of 6 of the Latin American and Caribbean countries, which have publicly changed their stance.

Today, it is most unlikely that 18 countries would support retaining Guaidó's nominee as the legitimate representative of Venezuela. But the anachronistic rules of the OAS are such that while only 18 votes were required to impose a representative, a two-thirds majority or 22 votes is needed to reverse the imposition, and thus correct this wrong.

It may very well be that, given that 15 of the 33 voting member states of the OAS did not support the April 2019 decision, and 8 countries have now publicly changed their position, there are 23 countries that could overturn it.

All of this sets the stage for a completely different conversation concerning Venezuela; importantly, one that will not include the myth that Guaidó is the Interim President of the country. That is not to say that he would not remain a participant in any negotiations among the parties in Venezuela to find a solution to the political impasse in that country, but he would not be doing so on the unrealistic premise that has so far been promoted.

Both the OAS and the IDB, in their functional and financial interest, need to remedy the situation regarding Venezuela. On a wider hemispheric level, credible and practical discussions should be initiated with the government that is in charge of Venezuela in order to reintegrate the country and its resources into the global trading and financial system.

In that way, desired reforms in Venezuela could be achieved with benefits to its people, and to the role it could play in the peaceful development and prosperity of the Hemisphere.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Sir Ronald Sanders is Antigua and Barbuda's Ambassador to the United States of America and the Organisation of American States. He is also a Senior Fellow at the Institute of Commonwealth Studies, University of London, and Massey College in the University of Toronto. - CMC

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Celebrating



Celebrating Tamaica at 60 SPOTLIGHT ON JAMAICAN AMERICANS Jamaican Immigrant To Receive Presidential Medal of Freedom

BY DERRICK SCOTT

Jamaican immigrant, Dr. Sandra Lindsay, is among one of 17 Americans named by President Joe Biden to presented with the Presidential Medal of Freedom this week.

The Jamaican born critical care nurse in New York, was the first American to receive a COVID-19 vaccine outside of clinical trials and is a prominent advocate for vaccines and mental health for health care workers.

Dr. Lindsay will receive the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the Nation's highest civilian honor presented to individuals who have made exemplary contributions to the prosperity, values, or security of the United States, world peace, or other significant societal, public, or private endeavors, at the White House on July 7, 2022.

In making the announcement, President Biden said that America can be defined by one word: possibilities. "These seventeen Americans demonstrate the power of possibilities and embody the soul of the nation – hard work, perseverance, and faith," he said.

"They have overcome significant obstacles to achieve impressive accomplishments in the arts and sciences, dedicated their lives to advocating for the most vulnerable among us, and acted with bravery to drive change in their communities – and across the world – while blazing trails for generations to come," the President added. Reacting to the

announcement from the White House, Jamaica's Ambassador to the United States, Audrey Marks, who has been invited to the ceremony, congratulated Dr. Lindsay on behalf of the Government and people of Jamaica as a member of the Diaspora who continues to make Jamaica proud.

She pointed out that the Medal of Freedom was a most prestigious award, and being chosen to receive it was an indication of her outstanding contribution to her adopted homeland, and the critical role she played in motivating Americans to take the COVID-19 vaccine in the battle against the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic. To be numbered among

the other individuals who will



Dr. Sandra Lindsay

be awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom, was no mean feat, and is an indication of the high esteem with which she has been held by the Biden-Harris administration, the ambassador added. Among the other recipients are:

• Simone Biles, the most

decorated American gymnast in history.

• Former Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords, the youngest woman ever elected to the Arizona State Senate, serving first in Arizona legislature and a survivor of gun violence, who co-founded Giffords, a nonprofit organization dedicated to gun violence prevention.

- Fred Gray, one of the first black members of the Alabama State legislature since Reconstruction who represented Rosa Parks, the NAACP, and who Martin Luther King called "the chief counsel for the protest movement."
- Steve Jobs (posthumous), the co-founder, chief executive, and chair of Apple, Inc., CEO of Pixar and a former lead investor at the Walt Disney Company.
- John McCain (posthumous), who served the people of Arizona for decades in the U.S. House of Representatives and U.S. Senate and the Republican nominee for president in 2008; and
- Denzel Washington actor, director, and producer who has won two Academy Awards, a Tony Award, two Golden Globes, and the 2016 Cecil B. DeMille Lifetime Achievement Award.

WHAT WE SHARE GIVES US STRENGTH

I was Born and raised in Jacksonville, Florida and I am the youngest of seven children but the first in my family to go to college. My father, James Leroy Butler, was a janitor and my mother Elouise Woods Butler, was a maid. I watched my parents work long days to create opportunities for their children to live the American Dream. I graduated from Florida State University and returned to Jacksonville to work as a social worker, serving abused, abandoned, and neglected children. Dismayed by the bureaucracy of an agency that I believed left too many families behind and unprotected, I became a police officer – an officer with a social worker's heart.





During my 27 years of service at the Orlando Police Department, I served in nearly every unit including Patrol, Special Operations, Internal Affairs, and started a youth mentoring program called Operation Positive Direction. Through hard work and unwavering commitment to my community, I worked my way up through the ranks and became Orlando's first woman Chief of Police. We were under a microscope as we managed a financial crisis that was squeezing budgets. But, by partnering with our community to meet the challenge head-on, we did more with less, kept officers on the street, and crushed violent crime, cutting it by 40%.

My husband Jerry and I have been blessed with three sons and five grandchildren. I am running for the United States Senate because I believe this great nation must deliver on the promise of equality, opportunity and a quality of life free of hate and adversity.





BECAUSE LIKE YOU, I LIVE IT EVERYDAY

PAID FOR BY VAL DEMINGS FOR U.S. SENATE

ating Tamaica at 60 SPOTLIGHT ON JAMAICAN AMERICANS Pillar of The Jamaican American Community - Hazelle Rogers

BY HOWARD CAMPBELL

A pillar of the Jamaican community in the South Florida Caribbean Diaspora is Jamaican immigrant Hazelle Rogers.

The battle-hardened campaigner has now set her sight on the District 9 seat on the Broward County Commission and is in a campaign against Guithele Ruiz-Nicolas in the August 23rd Democratic Primary election.

They are vying to replace Torey Alston, who was appointed to the post by Governor Ron DeSantis. He replaced longserving Jamaican Dale Holness who resigned last year to run for Congress.

124

A current two-term mayor of Lauderdale Lakes, Rogers filed to run for a seat on the Broward County Commission in May. Born in Kingston, Jamaica's capital, Rogers migrated to the United States in 1969, settling in Brooklyn, New York. She has lived in South Florida since 1981. In 1996, she was elected

to the Lauderdale Lakes Commission after many years of community service. Twelve years later, Rogers was elected to the Florida House of Representatives



Jamaican politician Hazel Rogers (Contributed Image)

where she served Districts 94 and 95 for eight years. It is that experience she is counting on to defeat Ruiz-Nicolas, owner of a public relations firm whose campaign slogan is "A New Vision For Broward."

"I'm always fired-up about educating our constituents about all the services that's available, all of the funding that comes down to help our businesses and help those struggling right now with their mortgages," Rogers told Caribbean Today. "Food prices are up, and gas prices are astronomical, these are the things

The secret said Hewett, is the

willingness to jump over hurdles

and push on because you believe

"As our motto says, 'Fortis Cadere Cedere Non Potest - the

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that are important to us." Rogers is quick to point out that solutions to these problems are not a quick fix.

"We always come up with ideas that serve us today and you plant the seeds for tomorrow. It's not short-term planning and we have new vision, we're all going to the same seminars and some of us have ideas it's going to take time for them to get going," she said. "I can tell you, I'm best prepared to represent us now in this crisis that we're undertaking.'

BY DAWN A. DAVIS

A Kingston College (KC) student in the 1950s, Audley Hewett has not stopped giving back since leaving the halls of his beloved alma mater. Now as an Executive member of the KC Old Boys' Association (KCOBA) Florida Chapter, Hewett continues to 'fly the flag' for the high school that helped shape him. Stealthily led by Chapter President Dr. Wayne Fraser, its members share in directing the philanthropic organization's goals and activities, always with the aim of supporting the school.

"We run our association a bit different from the average aassociation. What I mean by that is that if I have a good idea, they can run with it and get the support of everybody," Hewett told Caribbean Today recently. "In a way you could say everybody is the president. But the thing is that we get things done. And we've been doing this for years. Dr. Wayne Fraser is the president, but everybody is as important."

With a number of chapters across the North America, including New York, Atlanta, Miami and Tampa in the US; Toronto, Canada, and Jamaica, the KCOBA has maintained a strong link to the school founded by Reverend Percival Gibson in 1925 to address the educational needs of boys from middle- and workingclass families.

"That model has worked so well, that to date we are regarded as one of the best, if not the best, in Jamaica," said the proud KC Old Boy.

PAYING FORWARD

Paying forward the support and benefits that allowed him and many of his fellow classmates to succeed, Hewett and the KCOBA membership actively raise funds to feed the boys in need at the school today, in addition to its mission to fund scholarships, grants, sports clubs, refurbishment and infrastructure improvement.

The Association also purchased laptops that were distributed to KC students who Flying The Flag For Fortis

Association. Audley Hewett and his wife Shelly (r.)

(Contributed image) lacked the resources for online learning during the pandemic.

And importantly, the Association's support includes other schools; it is wherever the need is, said Hewett.

Gratified at the school's success at producing some of Jamaica's notable leaders, Hewett remarked that it is because of the principles instilled in us, which continues today.

"I personally feel our greatest contribution is engendering the idea that we are our Brother's Keeper," observed Hewett, who is also a past President of the Jamaica Track and Field



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And it is that philosophy that has produced some of the island's successful leaders. Among them are Rhodes scholars, politicians, athletes, doctors, businessmen, artists and musicians such as Delroy Chuck, Barrington Watson,

Paul Campbell, Michael Holding, Lloyd Lovindeer. And the list stretches on.

Hewett is grateful that the

KCOBA is attracting younger KC members. Noting that succession is key to continuing the organization's work, his message to current students? Don't forget that the Old Boys have always supported you, so you too must give back to keep the school thriving, he stressed.

Hewett remarked that without his wife Shelly by his side, his fundraising efforts would not have been as rewarding. Tirelessly working with him to organize events, collect and distribute donations, manage logistics, Shelly Hewett can also be credited with the Old Boys Florida chapter's success in supporting the



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brave may fall but never yield.' One will have many obstacles and challenges through life, but can always overcome them," added Hewitt.



Celebrating Tamaica at 60 SPOTLIGHT ON JAMAICAN AMERICANS Medical Advocate Goes Beyond The Grain

BY DAWN A. DAVIS

An Ivy League graduate from humble beginnings sums up the life of South Miami-based pediatrician Dr. Tina Carroll-Scott.

Dr. Carroll-Scott holds a first degree from Princeton University and the Boston University School of Medicine and credits her altruistic values and her success to her traditional Caribbean upbringing that instilled discipline, focus, and generosity.

She was born in upstate New York to a Jamaican mother and American father but says that she was much more influenced by her mother's side of the family and spoke passionately about her recent trip to the island.

"One of the things that really affected me was the fact that I had gone to Jamaica for all the things that I love - the culture, the beauty of the island, the food, the people," Dr. Carroll-Scott told Caribbean Today. "But the part that I could not ignore was the poverty and how so many people are suffering."

FUNDRAISING

She noted that many schools in Jamaica were negatively affected by COVID-19 which left school children without even the basic necessities to continue learning. In fact, many rural households had no facilities or wherewithal for online support or classes.

"So, how can I help in some way?," was what I asked myself, she revealed. "How can I help the school children start off this new school year, how can I help it be a successful year? I decided I wanted to raise money for the schools."

A fundraising idea came

to light when the paediatrician returned to Florida and participated in a 5K race endorsed by the Consul General of Jamaica, Oliver Mair. Why not create a 5K event specifically to raise funds for schools in Jamaica, was her thought.

Dubbed 5K Gallop, the race will take place on August 27, 2022, at the Miami Metro Zoo to raise money as well as celebrate Jamaica's 60th anniversary of independence. Participants can register online at 5Kgallop.org, come out to the event in person, or donate to a school of your choice on the website.

"I thought this would be a great way to get people out, to raise money, and also to



Dr. Tina Carroll-Scott (Contributed image)

commemorate Jamaica's 60th," said an energized Carroll-Scott.

The doctor's benevolence extends way beyond fundraising. She began her medical career as a resident at the University of Chicago, where she met her husband who was also in residency at the same institution. Fate and choices would lead them to Florida where Carroll-Scott did stints at Jackson Memorial and Miami Children's Hospital.

FOUND HER VOICE

But it was her work with the Public Health Service in Fort Pierce Florida where she found her 'voice,' serving migrant workers, mainly Haitians, and other underserved populations.

It is because of that work that the pediatrician was offered the post as Medical Director for the South Miami Children's Clinic where she is living her dream of giving back to others.

The Clinic was developed, with the support of South Miami Hospital and Baptist Health South Florida, to provide high quality medical care to uninsured/underinsured children living in South Miami, a community of primarily African American working class with limited resources.

"Basically, I was seeing patients that were uninsured, so it was a charity," said Dr. Carroll-Scott. "I realized that they couldn't navigate the system to figure out how to get on insurance like Medicaid, so I spent the first year or so helping them navigate that process and getting them on insurance."

What the Medical Director did was transform the non-profit clinic into a hybrid model that also allowed patients who got on insurance to continue with the practice since the clinic was originally setup to see only the uninsured. So, once they started receiving insurance, they were no longer eligible to continue with the clinic.

"We were defeating the whole purpose of helping this community because if I get them on insurance, then they would no longer have a medical home," said Dr. Carroll-Scott. "So they would end up either with no care or using the urgent care or emergency room as their primary care. I wanted to keep them under one roof. So, my clinic is unique in that it's a safety net."

Now 15 years on, approximately 90 percent of Dr. Carroll-Scott's young patients are insured. That means she does not have to rely solely on grants and donations, but can bill as well, with those dollars put back into the clinic for enhanced patient care.

"What makes the clinic work is that trust in me as the medical director, they trust my vision and they stand behind that 100 percent," Dr. Carroll-Scott explained. "They see the work that I've done in the community, not just from a medical standpoint, but also dealing with all of the social determinants of health."

She added: "I delve further to find out what's going on in their environment, like housing insecurity, food insecurity, abuse in the household, whether it's domestic violence or child abuse. Once you dig a little bit further, you realize that it's the stressors of daily life that are causing the physical problems."

And COVID-19 has proven to be one of the major stressors. The pediatrician noted that mental health issues has become a prime issue since the pandemic. The mother of three explained that anxiety, depression, suicidal ideation, even eating disorders are showing up in her young patients to an extent she has never witnessed in her 25 years of practice.

This medical advocate continues to go beyond the call of her medical practice, going into the community she serves offering social and mental support. She has helped families secure housing, intervened in child abuse cases, or help children enter the school system.

"It's about the relationships that I have with these families," added Dr. Carroll-Scott. "And I think having them put their trust in me is really critical, especially during this pandemic... But, you know, I could not accomplish anything that I do in my daily life without God as my foundation."



Celebrating Jamaica at 60 SPOTLIGHT ON JAMAICAN AMERICANS "A Ballet Of Science" - Captain Courtnay Gooden

BY DAWN A. DAVIS

"When you fly down the diagonal of Africa, from Dubai to Cape Town on an early morning with the clouds way down on the ground and you see the great Kilimanjaro jutting out of the clouds, how can you not wonder about this amazing place?"

This is just one of the reasons Jamaican born pilot Captain Courtnay Gooden will always fly - to experience the awe-inspiring beauty of planet earth. A private charter pilot out of West Palm Beach, Florida, Captain for Emirates Airlines for 15 years, and 20 years in the cockpit at Jamaica's former national airline Air Jamaica, Gooden knew he wanted to be a pilot at just 3 years old. He credits his father as his first mentor.

"My dad used to take me to the airport to watch the airplanes after going to Rockfort Mineral Bath. I remember, a captain put me in the cockpit of a BWIA airplane, the Vickers Viscount, and I was fascinated," Gooden told Caribbean Today recently.

It's In The Blood Born in Jamaica, Gooden attended Jamaica College, then went on to the University of the West Indies where he studied engineering and eventually branched out into aviation. His flying career began as a pilot with Air Jamaica at age 24. Moving through the ranks over the years, he served as pilot, captain, and flight instructor. In fact, he trained one of Jamaica's early female pilots, Helen Otway-Gooden - whom he later married. She was the seventh female pilot hired by the airline and would later also join Emirates as captain.

But, the link continues, underscoring the idiom 'it's in



Captain Courtnay Gooden with son Timothy Gooden, and daughter Gina Lazarus. (Contributed images)

the blood.'

Two of Gooden's children, Timothy Gooden and Gina Lazarus, are also pilots. Timothy is a co-pilot with United Airlines, operating A320s, while Gina is a senior first officer with JetBlue Airlines, flying 737s, A320s and the like. And interestingly, Gina is married to JetBlue First Officer Kevin Lazarus, who also comes from a family of aviators. Gooden's other son, Robert Gooden is in technical operations at American Airlines. The captain's two other children, Tammy Roberts, a music therapist, and Zoe Gooden, a publishing executive, complete the picture.

Asked if he influenced his offspring to follow in his footsteps, the senior Gooden said they just saw his life, felt his passion, saw the fun and created their own path.

Indeed, mirroring his own experience as a youngster of three, Gooden would take threeyear-old Gina with him in the cockpit on some of his early flights in Jamaica. So, one could say he was his children's first mentor.

Indeed, he names many mentors who influenced his own career, were instrumental in his development, and reinforced in him the most important element in aviation - safety. Among them rank are Carl Barnett who warned: 'if you plan to use the brakes, you aren't planning;' captains David Brandt, George Brown, Guy Copping, Dave McRae and Mike Feanny, and Richard Greenwood, who gave him his first flying book Student Pilot's Flight Manual by William Kershner.

TOUCHDOWN

Having flown 14 different jet types throughout his career, Gooden is grateful for the skills and knowledge he acquired from those before him. The complexity of takeoffs and landings is prime amongst the skills he has honed.

"You are actually focused on the accuracy of the approach because you have to land within a certain distance of what is known as the threshold, or the beginning of the runway," said Gooden, speaking to Caribbean Today from his hotel room in Los Angeles where he had landed the night before. "It's a defined set of markings that marks the beginning of the runway. We have to land within the touchdown zone for reasons of safety. The whole thing about aviation is safety."

He continued: "When landing you are in a situation where you are decreasing available energy. So, you are essentially in a low energy state in the last 1500 feet on approach, it also depends on what you're flying. On the other hand, at takeoff you are continuously increasing energy, kinetic because of speed and potential because you're gaining height."

And he added: "But, on an approach to landing you are decreasing your potential and kinetic energy. You should not be flying faster than a certain speed to ensure that you have controllability. It's a ballet of science."

Gooden noted that sometimes it's not always done perfectly. If there are issues, there must be a way for you to mitigate any problem that you come across or you may have created. And once you recover from it, that is resilience.

"You fly long enough, you get some close calls. And you survive it, and the survival is associated with the word mitigation," Gooden explained. "I've done what is necessary. And the resumption and recovery of normal procedure is part of resilience. I tell people, experience is the sum of all the errors that you have made that you've recovered from."

Having operated some of the industry's major aircrafts - from the Airbus 330, 340, Boeing 777, and the double-decker A380 -Gooden is a true expert in his field. He could never do anything else or would never want to. His advice to young aviator hopefuls?

"You have to always approach your profession with interest and passion. If you don't then you're in the wrong profession. Importantly, knowledge, skills, attitude, they are the three defining characteristics of any profession."



Cleveland Guardians Duo Carrying Jamaica's Baseball Legacy



Guardians starting pitcher Triston McKenzie and first baseman Josh Naylor are both Jamaican Americans. (*MLB.com image*)

BY PAT ELLINGTON JR.

The Cleveland Guardians starting pitcher Triston McKenzie and first baseman Josh Naylor are at the epicentre of the youth movement in Downtown Cleveland on the corner of Carnegie and Ontario Street. Together, they are working to establish themselves as valuable pieces for the franchise. They have also bonded over their shared Jamaican heritage along the way.

"Whenever we go on a road trip to a city we haven't been to before, I always try to find a Jamaican restaurant to eat at. It is a tradition that we share now," Naylor said. "Growing up, my mother, aunts or grandmother cooked Jamaican food every single day, and that is how I like it."

Naylor, who is from the greater Toronto area, and McKenzie, a native of South Florida, grew up in homes influenced by Jamaican culture, and each regularly made trips to the island nation as children to spend time with family and friends.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 6B)



SPOTLIGHT ON JAMAICAN AMERICANS Jamaican American TV Anchor Wins Emmy

A Jamaican American reporter and anchor of "Good Day Atlanta" on WAGA-TV in Atlanta, Georgia, has won a 2022 Emmy Award.

Sharon Lawson, according to Jamaicans.com, won in the Health and Medical News category for her feature story, "Journey to be Fibroids Free."

Upon winning the award, Lawson posted to social media, thanking her husband, Chris Pappas, her editor Thako Rucker, and photographer Michelle Scott Mandell. She wrote: "It's been a long road - but I wouldn't have made it to this point without this man by my side. I share this EMMY WIN with my hubby (Chris PAPPAS) who encouraged me to share my story about #UterineFibroid. Thank you my love.And a special thanks to everyone who reached out to me and shared their own personal

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5B)

his love for baseball from

his Jamaican father, Stanton

McKenzie, who taught him his

curveball and paid for private

pitching instruction. Naylor

inherited his love of baseball,

hockey and Jamaica from his

teammates of Jamaican descent

to play together at the MLB level.

Chili Davis and Devon White of

The duo is on a short list of

mother.

The experiences shaped

them. In fact, McKenzie inherited

journeys. Let your test become your TESTIMONY! I would also like to acknowledge my #dreamteam Editor Thako Rucker and photographer Michelle Scott Mandell.⁷

Lawson was born in Toronto, Canada. She and her parents, who are both Jamaicans, moved to Florida in the mid-1980s. Her mother discovered her at age five practicing "intros and outros" like a television reporter, using a hairbrush and a mirror, saying "This is Sharon Lawson with the 6 o'clock news.'

Lawson's career began when as a graduate of the University of Central Florida she worked as an all-purpose correspondent at WWSB in Sarasota. She debuted as an anchor at WMDT in Salisbury, Maryland in 1995 and then worked as the weekend anchor at WHIO in Dayton, Ohio, from 1997 to 2000. She



Sharon Lawson (Jamaicans.com image)

then took on anchoring duties in Minneapolis, Minnesota, at WFTC, and then returned to the South Florida to serve the Miami-Fort Lauderdale market. Before joining WAGA-TV, Lawson worked as an anchor and reporter at NBC 6 in Miami, Florida, for 14 years. During her 20-plus year career, Lawson interviewed His Holiness, the 14th Dalai Lama; Archbishop Desmond Tutu; and heavyweight champion the late Muhammad Ali, among others. In addition to her career achievements,

Lawson is also focused on helping young people find success in the same way her mother and mentors supported

Acquired by Cleveland in the Mike Clevinger trade in 10 players with at least 30 games innings pitched, and he's holding

Statistics aside, McKenzie

her. She always attempts to have a positive impact on young people by providing nurturing environments for them and encouraging them to follow their dreams.

Lawson told Jamaicans. com, "As a journalist, you've been afforded an incredible opportunity to tell people's stories. Use your platform wisely and always be authentic knowing you are making a difference in people's lives every day." When not working on a story or nurturing aspiring journalists, Lawson spends time with her husband enjoying outdoor activities like biking and running. She also enjoys traveling and meeting people and finding new stories to tell.

- Jamaicans.com

and Naylor are aware of what their presence in the big leagues means to their communities.

"I definitely think we're a part of this new wave of Black talent, we all stay pretty close and connected," McKenzie said. "I think it's cool to look around, see more of us and feel represented. To be one of those guys little kids can look up to is heart-warming."

- MLB.com

ENJOY THE REAL CARIBBEAN mild beet Style PATTIES Style PATTIES Style PATTIES Style PATTIES

carippean inside

Spotlight On Jamaican Americans the 1988-90 Angels are the most recognizable pair. (Davis and White are two of only four players actually born in Jamaica to appear

"It's an honour to play the game. I have to thank Jackie [Robinson], because without him, we wouldn't have this chance," said Naylor. "It is humbling what Triston and I are able to do here when it comes to representing our families and where we're from.

in an AL or NL game).

Cleveland has an illustrious and rich history with Black baseball players that spans back to

1948. They were the first team in the AL to sign a Black American position player, Black American pitcher and the first MLB team to sign an Afro-Latino baseball player. Those players - Larry Doby, Satchel Paige and Minnie Miñoso - are all in the Hall of Fame. Cleveland was also the first MLB team to hire a Black manager in Hall of Famer Frank Robinson.

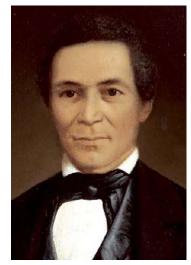
Naylor and McKenzie are hoping to make a lasting mark on the franchise, but both know there is still plenty of work to be done.

August 2020, Naylor is batting .277/.339/.491 with 13 doubles and eight home runs, bouncing back from a lower leg injury that limited him to 69 games in 2021. He ranks among the top logged at first base in OPS and doubles. As for McKenzie, he's sporting a 4.03 ERA in 80 1/3 opponents to a .214 batting average this season.

ing Jamaica at 60 SPOTLIGHT ON JAMAICANS IN U.S. HISTORY

Without a doubt, Jamaicans did not simply arrive in the US in the last century but have been here since the 1800s. Here are a few you should know:

JOHN BROWN RUSSWURM



On March 16, 1827, the first black newspaper was published in the U.S.

It was founded by 27-yearold Jamaican immigrant John Brown Russwurm who was born in Port Antonio, Jamaica to an English father and enslaved mother. As a child he traveled to the United States with his father and received a formal education, becoming the first African American to graduate from Hebron Academy and Bowdoin College.

Russwurm, along with his co-editor Samuel Cornish, published the first edition of Freedom's Journal, an abolitionist newspaper dedicated to opposition of slavery.

During his tenure as editor, Russwurm regularly included material about ancient and modern African history, providing readers on both sides of the Atlantic with a curated source of information about the continent.

The literary education Russwurm provided in the Freedom Journal also included canonical texts of English literary education. In the poetry column of this first issue, for example, he reprinted "Prediction of the Origin of Rome", an excerpt from John Ring.

Russwurm became supportive of the American Colonization Society's efforts to develop a colony for African Americans in Africa, and he moved in 1829 to what became Liberia. In 1836 Russwurm was selected as governor of Maryland in Africa, a small colony set up nearby by the Maryland State Colonization Society. He served there until his death. The colony was annexed to Liberia in 1857.

A statue of Russwurm

was erected at his burial site at Harper, Cape Palmas, Liberia. In 2002, scholar Molefi Kete Asante named John Brown Russwurm on his list of 100 Greatest African Americans. IMAGE: John Brown Russwurm

14

WILFRED ADOLPHUS DOMINGO

The youngest editor of Marcus Garvey's newspaper, the Negro World, was Jamaican immigrant Wilfred Adolphus Domingo. The Jamaican activist and journalist was born in Kingston, Jamaica and moved to the US is in 1910, settling initially in Boston before moving to New York in 1912.

He originally planned on going to medical school, but he soon changed his course and became an activist, specifically focusing on advocating for constitutional changes in



Jamaica. In 1913, Domingo embarked on a speaking tour to various places in the United States where he discussed his vision for reform and progress in Jamaica.

As a member of the Socialist Party, Domingo became involved with others in Harlem who shared similar political ideologies, such as the editors of The Messenger, A. Philip Randolph and Chandler Owen, who published critiques of Marcus Garvey's controversial ideology. Having met Marcus Garvey in 1915 through Jamaica's first nationalist political group, the National Club, Domingo introduced Garvey to figures such as Henry Rogowski, who was the printer for The Call. Thus, Garvey began his own newspaper, Negro World.

Domingo was the founding editor of and a contributor to Negro World until 1919. Domingo and Garvey eventually had a falling out over the content of Domingo's writing, which often argued in favor of radical socialism, and which Garvey said was "not in keeping with the UNIA programme."

Domingo himself was

never a member of Garvey's UNIA. For that reason, Domingo was forced to resign as editor of the newspaper, but continued to write for the Black socialist press. A year later, Domingo and Richard B. Moore began a journal, The Emancipator, but only ten issues were published before its end.

In 1936, Jamaican writer Walter Adolphe Roberts and Domingo created the Jamaica Progressive League, of which Domingo became the vice president. The League's most basic aims included establishing Jamaican selfgovernance, universal suffrage, and the right to form labor unions. They also encouraged their countrymen to study Jamaica's history and art in order to foster the desire for people to express themselves and their culture artistically.

The League also argued against the establishment of the West Indies Federation. Domingo traveled back to Jamaica in 1941, after 31 years of living in the United States.

He was invited back to help expand the burgeoning People's National Party (PNP), a Jamaican political party with social-democratic views. While in this group, Domingo focused on organizing with others to establish Jamaican selfgovernance. However, upon Domingo's arrival to Jamaica in 1941, Sir Arthur Richards, the governor, had ordered that Domingo and several others be detained for 20 months due to them being "considered threats to the peace and security of the country."

Domingo's detention was protested by organizations both inside and outside of Jamaica, including the American Civil Liberties Union.

Domingo returned to New York in 1947, where he continued to fight against the federation of Caribbean nations and fight for Jamaican independence. He stayed involved with Jamaica's diaspora community and politics up until his death. In 1968, Domingo died in New York City, having suffered a stroke four years earlier in 1964. He is buried at Woodlawn Cemetery in the Bronx. There are no monuments to his memory or work in Jamaica today. PHOTO: Wilfred Adolphus Domingo

REV EGBERT ETHELRED BROWN

In 1912, Jamaican immigrant Egbert Ethelred Brown made history when he was ordained as the first black Unitarian minister in the United



Reverend Brown was born in Falmouth, Jamaica and after his ordination, returned to his native island and began work towards establishing Unitarianism among blacks in Jamaica. He spent two years in Montego Bay (1912-14) and six (1914-20) in Kingston trying to make that vision come true, but financial and church problems forced the family to relocate to the United States in

1920

Arriving in New York City in 1920, Brown founded the Harlem Community Church, organized "in honor of John Haynes Holmes, the only ministerial friend [in] those early days," and services were held at 149 West 136th Steet. In 1928 Brown changed the name of the church to the Hubert Harrison Memorial Church (A Temple and a Forum), in honor of the late orator and writer from the then-Dutch West Indies. Harrison, like Brown, was dedicated to his work to the exclusion (and detriment) of all else and died in 1927 at age 44. The name of the church was again changed in 1937 to The Harlem Unitarian Church.

Brown was also active in the political affairs of his community. He was a founder and the first president of the Montego Bay Literary and Debating Society in Jamaica and helped organize the Negro Progressive Association and the Liberal Association in Kingston, both of which were geared toward civil and economic rights for blacks. In 1919 the Journal of Negro History, published Brown's "Labor Conditions in Jamaica Prior to 1917," in which Brown decried the cruel hours and low wages of black workers on his native island.

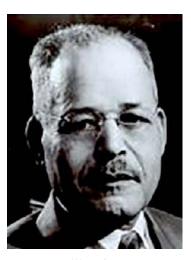
In 1936 Brown became first Secretary of the Jamaica Progressive League and, in 1938 he represented the League before the West Indies Royal Commission, which convened in Jamaica to review the feasibility of independence for the island nation. In 1952, Norman Manley, Prime Minister of Jamaica, invited

Brown "home" as a guest of the People's National Party, of which Brown was chief fundraiser in the United States. He died in 1956.

JOHN ALEXANDER SOMERVILLE

He graduated from the University of Southern California School of Dentistry, becoming the first black graduate but went on to open one of the most upscale black hotels in the United States in 1928.

He was Jamaican immigrant John Alexander Somerville, who was born in Jamaica and migrated to the United States around the 1900s and was the first black graduate of the USC School of Dentistry in 1907.



Dr. Somerville's first major business venture, the Somerville Hotel, was a principal African American enterprise on Central Avenue, in the heart of the Los Angeles in the African American community and counted several African American celebrities among its guests.

In addition to developing other properties in the Los Angeles area, throughout the years both he and his wife, Vada Watson, were active in community affairs and civil rights work.

In 1949, he published his autobiography, Man of Color, and in addition to being the second African American on the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce, served on the Police Commission from 1949 to 1953. In 1953 he was named Officer of the Order of the British Empire by Queen Elizabeth II. He passed away at 91 on Nov. 12, 1984. Image: Jamaican immigrant John Alexander Somerville. (UCLA image)

- Reprinted from

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Buju Banton Is Back With 'Madda Badda'



Grammy winner, multiple Billboard Hot 100 chart-topping artist, and international reggae legend Buju Banton is set to release his latest single, 'Madda Badda,' produced by J August. This new single, which is a mix of classic dancehall rhythm mixed with contemporary sounds, highlights the hardcore dancehall lyricism and flow that brought Buju Banton to prominence in the 90s.

'Madda Badda' was released

in collaboration with Ghetto Youths International and Gargamel Music. Released on Friday, June 24th, this exciting new single by Banton is a reminder and a reclaiming of the dancehall space with the authentic sound and cadence the genre was popularized for.

The first single to propel Banton into stardom was The Ruler at age 16. Now several

years later, his songs are still making statements. His debut album Stamina Daddy with the title track as the first single in 1992 was his breakout. Singles like Wanna Be Loved, Hills and Valley, Murderer, Not An Easy Road, and many more. Following the success of his Long Walk To Freedom tour, Buju Banton released his Grammy-nominated album Upside Down in 2020. Hosting twenty tracks, featuring Stephen

Acclaimed Reggae Progeny Stephen Marley Is Coming To Florida



Grammy-winning Reggae Progeny Stephen Marley will perform in Florida later this month. *(Contributed image)*

Acclaimed reggae progeny Stephen Marley has announced more stops on his 2022 Babylon By Bus Summer Tour, including multiple cities in Florida.

The eight-time Grammy Award-winning singer, songwriter, producer and guitarist kicked off his tour in May with his full band and continues the 25+ city run until the end of July.

The bi-coastal tour started in Monterey, California at the Cali Roots Festival with sold out shows across the West Coast, including a special performance at Red Rocks with his brother Ziggy Marley and Ben Harper. His nephew Skip Marley joined him on several dates at the start of the tour.

Stephen will journey east in July, hitting stages in Florida as well as South Carolina, North Carolina, Virginia, Massachusetts, New York, Texas, Arizona, Montana, Michigan, Illinois and Missouri.

He is showcasing a mixture of original songs from his

illustrious 40-year career as well as revitalized classics from his father Bob Marley's iconic catalogue.

A dollar from each ticket sold on the 2022 Babylon By Bus Tour will benefit the Ghetto Youths Foundation, a non-profit Stephen Marley founded with brothers Damian Marley and Julian Marley to provide aid, resources and opportunities to communities in need, including his father's birthplace of Trenchtown, Jamaica, where nearly 100 percent of the population lives below the poverty line.

His Florida line up is as follows: • July 29 – Jupiter, FL – Abacoa

- Amphitheater • July 30 – Indialantic, FL – Nance Park
- July 31 St. Petersburg, FL Jannus Live.

Log on to stephenmarleymusic.com/ to get tickets. Marley, John Legend, Pharrell Williams, and Stefflon Don, the press lauded his return declaring him "A national hero" according to FADER.

Now with the release of this latest single, 'Madda Badda,' Banton is calling to our collective minds, the dancehall that Jamaica is known for. This track comes as a respite amid public concerns that the quality of dancehall music has waned. Not one to make long speeches, Buju has seemingly responded where it matters most, in song. This complex lyrical track is masterful not just in its instrumentation, but also the simplicity of the song structure. With this single Banton is proving that dancehall songs can be simple and meaningful, dispelling the idea that artists must compromise one for the other.

This new single is available for listening pleasure everywhere music is streamed globally at *https://onerpm.link/ maddabadda*.





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Ketanji Brown Jackson Makes History In Caribbean American Heritage Month

On the last day of Caribbean American Heritage Month, CAHM, Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson was sworn in as the first black woman on the US' highest court.

She is also the newest associate Supreme Court justice. The appointment follows one of the most consequential Supreme Court terms in recent memory, with significant rulings on abortion and gun rights in June.



Justice Stephen G. Breyer (Retired) administers the judicial oath to Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson in the West Conference Room at the Supreme Court Building. Her left-hand rests on two bibles held by her husband, Dr. Patrick Jackson. (PHOTO: Fred Schilling, Collection of the Supreme Court of the United States)

Jackson, 51, will replace Justice Stephen Breyer, joining the court's three-member liberal minority. She accepts "the solemn responsibility" of the role, she said in a statement.

The addition of Ms Jackson to the court means that its liberal minority - with Justice Elena Kagan and Justice Sonia Sotomayor - will be made up entirely of women. The former public

justices and three picked by Democrats. In recent weeks it delivered several blockbuster

defender joins the court at

a tumultuous period in its

history. The nine-member

six Republican-appointed

court is currently split between

decisions - overturning the 50-year-old Roe v Wade decision on abortion, striking down a New York law restricting gun-carrying rights, and limiting the US Environmental Protection Agency's power to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

The lifetime appointment will likely see Jackson on the bench for decades but will not shift the current ideological balance of the court.

Breyer congratulated his successor on Thursday, saying "her hard work, integrity, and



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 33rd 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.

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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 72 publications that it does business with, and number one, as a Black publication.





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DEADLINE IS SEPTEMBER 23, 2022

intelligence have earned her a place on this court."

"I am glad for my fellow justices. They gain a colleague who is empathetic, thoughtful, and collegial," he said.

US President Joe Biden, a Democrat, announced her nomination in February. In April, three Republicans crossed the aisle to seal her appointment in the US Senate.

During her confirmation, Democrats touted Ms Jackson's experience working as a public defender. She will be the first Supreme Court justice since Thurgood Marshall - the first black man to appointed to the highest judicial body - to have career experience representing criminal defendants.

Jackson, a Washington DC native, previously sat on the influential US court of Appeals for the DC circuit.

She has two degrees from Harvard University and once served as editor of the Harvard Law Review. The new justice also worked as a public defender in Washington before joining a private practice prior to her judicial appointments.

- Rewritten from the BBC

43rd CARICOM Heads Of Government Conference Scheduled

BY ELIZABETH MORGAN

The 43rd CARICOM Heads of Government Conference will be held from July 3rd to 5th and hosted by the President of Suriname, Chandrikapersad (Chan) Santokhi, in Paramaribo, Suriname.

Santokhi became the Chair of the body on July 1st. This meeting provides an opportunity for this country, under its current leadership, to be showcased within the region. Suriname is not always in the regional news cycle. Both Guyana and Suriname have oil reserves and the focus recently has been on forging a closer relationship between both countries.

Nnewly elected CARICOM heads will also address the Conference. The most recently elected Prime Minister is Dickon Mitchell of Grenada will be making his inaugural address along with Prime Minister Philip Davis of The Bahamas and Prime Minister Philip Pierre of Saint Lucia.

The Heads continue to have a heavy agenda before them which entails reporting on progress in the many actions emerging from the Intersessional meeting held in Belize in March. With the economic impact of the COVID pandemic, climate change, and the war in Ukraine, the region is facing a grim economic situation. A presentation audited recently on the impact of the Ukraine war, showed that the Caribbean is extremely vulnerable in food and energy security.

Therefore, it is expected

that a major item on the agenda will be regional food and nutrition security, which Guyana has been spearheading, as the Head with responsibility for Agriculture. It will be recalled that Guyana's President, Mohamed Irfaan Ali, presented his vision for agricultural development to the March Intersessional Conference of Heads.

Guyana did host the Agri-Investment Forum and Expo: Investing in Vision 25 by 2025, May 19-20, with the focus being on reducing the regional food import bill by 25 per cent in three years.

The implementation of the CSME remains a principal item as there are Heads and others now acknowledging that regional integration is critical to economic recovery and building resilience in the region.

There seems to be too much discord in the region, in spite of the fact that the Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas does not require CARICOM Member States to harmonize foreign policy.

The evident discord does convey the impression of a lack of cohesion within the group to the people of the region and the international community. Some guidelines need to be agreed.

There are some very serious matters to be addressed as CARICOM moves into the 50th year since its creation in 1973, and if there is to be a future beyond.

- Rewritten from CMC

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Celebrating With Jamaican And Bahamian Recipes

This year - on Sunday, July 10, 2022, and on Saturday, August 6, 2022, respectively, the islands of The Bahamas and Jamaica, will both celebrate their anniversary of independence from Britain. The Bahamas turns 49 while Jamaica turns 60. Here are a few recipes from both islands that you can try at home this July.

Conch Fritters With Dipping Sauce By Chef Winston Williams

- Ingredients
- 1 quart oil for frying
- 1/2 Scotch bonnet pepper
- 1/2 cup Spanish onion, chopped
- 1/2 green bell pepper, chopped
- 1/2 red bell pepper, chopped
- 3 cloves garlic
- 1 stalk celery, chopped
- 1 lb ground conch
- 1 tsp fresh thyme
- 3 tbsp chopped parsley
- 2 large eggs
- 1 cup milk
- 1 1/2 cup all-purpose fl our
- 3/4 tsp baking powder
- 3/4 tsp salt

Directions

Yam Salad

Ingredients

(For six persons)

• 1 teaspoon salt

• 1 small onion

pepper

Directions

yam into cubes.

boil until fork tender.

• 1/4-pound carrots

• 1 small green sweet

• 4 large lettuce leaves

Peel, wash and cut yellow

Bring water to a boil in a

sauce pot, add yam and salt and

1 can Green Peas

• 4 tablespoons Mayonnaise

• 2 pounds yellow yam

• 1/4-pound string beans

• 1 small red sweet pepper

Yam Salad

- 1. Heat the oil in a large pot or deep fryer to 350°F.
- 2. To the bowl of a food processor, add all peppers, garlic, onions, and celery; pulse quickly 10-15 times. Transfer to a large mixing bowl.
- 3. Add conch, thyme, and parsley to bowl; combine well.
- 4. In a separate small bowl, combine milk and eggs.
- 5. Add milk-egg mixture to conch mixture, combine well.
- 6. Combine fl our, baking powder,



and salt separately (dry mix).

- 7. Fold the dry mix into the conch mixture to form the batter.
- 8. Using a tablespoon, drop the batter into the hot oil and fry until golden brown.

For Dipping Sauce, combine • 1/2 cup ketchup

- 1 1/2 tbsp lime juice • 1 1/2 tbsp mayonnaise
- 1 tbsp hot sauce
- 1 tsp lemon pepper
- Salt and pepper to taste

- Recipe from Publix Aprons Recipe

Crab And Rice

By KC Blair

Ingredients • 5 white land crabs or 7 black land crabs, cleaned, segmented,

Cut string beans into three

Chop onions and peppers,

add yam, vegetables, Green Peas,

or four pieces, peel and dice

Mayonnaise and toss lightly.

Put the salad to chill in a

carrots, blanch vegetables.

Bahamian Recipes

- fat removed
- 1 tablespoon vegetable oil or 1 tablespoon corn oil
- 1 large white onions or 1 yellow
- onion, finely diced • 1/2 small green pepper, seeded
- and finely diced • 2 1/2 tablespoons dried thyme
- 1 1/2 teaspoons salt
- 1 1/2 teaspoons fresh ground
- black pepper
- 1 teaspoon seasoning salt • 1/2 scotch bonnet peppers, finely chopped with (optional) or 1/2with out seeds (optional)

Crab and Rice

of the shell into a bowl using

band, mouth, gills and all other

6. Discard the empty half shell,

remaining internal organs,

7. Break the two segments in half

by holding each half securely

the knife or a spoon.

behind the toes.

with a cleaver.

bowl with the fat.

11. Place a large pot over

vegetable/corn oil.

dripped in the oil.

12. Allow the oil to heat until a

drop of water sizzles when

13. Add onion, green pepper, salt,

and snapping apart.

8. This can also be done by

chopping the segment

9. Wash the toe segments under

the tap and put them in the

10. This process is to be repeated

until each crab is processed.

medium high heat, adding the

- 1/2 cup tomato paste
- 5 cups hot water
- 2 cups parboiled long-grain rice or 2 1/2 cups long-grain rice

Directions

- 1. Wash live crabs under the tap using a toothbrush to wash sand from under band and from between toes until completely clean.
- 2. Turn crab with eyes away, upside down, slipping a blunt knife (a butter knife is ideal) between the shell's seam, push upward to separate the crab's shell in two.
- 3. Be careful not to push the knife too far (the gall sac is in the direct path of the knife!). 4. Pull apart.
- 5. Scoop the fat from both sides

Jamaican Recipes

refrigerator for about 30 minutes.

To Serve: Arrange on a bed of lettuce and then serve cold.

Run Dung with Mackerel Ingredients (For 4 Persons)

- 2 tablespoons Vegetable Oil
- 1 stalk scallion, chopped
- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 4 cloves garlic, chopped
- 1 sprig thyme
- 1 tablespoon Curry Powder
- 1 can Coconut Milk
- 1 whole scotch bonnet pepper
- 2 cans Mackerel In Brine, drained
- 4 whole pimento berries

Directions

Chop seasonings except the

Most of us try to attract other people by the friends we keep and the way we carry ourselves. If you are going to a party or a formal function, don't you dress well? We all want to promote a favorable impression of ourselves to other people we meet and talk to. If we agree on that, then think of this. Why should it be any different for your business? If you want to project a favorable image of your company, in order to win customers, you should keep your company with good friends and ... dress your company well in...

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Run Dung with Mackerel

scotch bonnet pepper and set aside. Heat Vegetable Oil in a

saucepan, add seasonings and sauté. Add Curry Powder and stir well.

Stir in Coconut Milk, add

black pepper, seasoned salt, thyme, scotch bonnet and stir.

CARIBBEAN TODAY . JULY 2022 . 13A

- 14. Sauté ingredients until onion is transparent, stirring constantly, about 3 to five minutes.
- 15. Add crab fat and segments, sauté, stirring constantly until fat is liquid, about 7 minutes.
- 16. Add tomato paste, stir ingredients together for another 5 minutes.
- 17. Add water.
- 18. Stir ingredients with the water, taste, adjust salt to taste and bring to a slow simmer.
- 19. Gently pour rice into pot, stirring slowly to ensure even distribution of the rice in the liquid.
- 20. Turn heat down to low and cover pot with a tight-fitting lid to prevent steam from escaping. Foil can be used under the lid to prevent the steam escaping.
- 21. Cook for about 20-25 minutes or until all of the liquid is absorbed.
- 22. Do not lift lid while cooking.
- 23. Turn heat off and let rice stand covered for 10-15
- minutes or until liquid is absorbed.
- 24. Fluff and serve hot.

the whole scotch bonnet pepper and allow to boil for 10-15 minutes. Drain Mackerel from Brine, flake largely and add to the

reduced coconut sauce. Stir in pimento berries and allow mixture to simmer for 5 minutes.

To Serve: Serve with rice, slices of boiled yam and fingers of boiled green bananas or your favorite starch.

Peter A. Webley

Publishe

Bon Appetite.

- GraceFoodRecipes

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Florida Only State Not Preordering Toddler COVID-19 Vaccines



Syringes and colorful bandages are prepared as children from local schools prepare to get COVID-19 vaccines in Pittsfield, Mass. (Ben Garver/The Berkshire Eagle via AP, File)

Florida is the only state that hasn't preordered COVID-19 vaccines for toddlers in anticipation of their final approval by the federal government, and Gov. Ron DeSantis has said that he won't facilitate their distribution, though he said they'll be available to those who want them

White House spokeswoman Karine Jean-Pierre, who has confirmed Florida's outlier status, said not preordering the vaccines could mean delaying their availability in children's hospitals and other facilities that have relied on state distribution of the shots.

Florida officials said the jabs would be available at pharmacies and community health centers, which can preorder them directly from the federal government, and that children's hospitals and other clinics would be able

to order them from the federal government via a state portal and receive them quickly.

"Doctors can get it. Hospitals can get it. But there's not going to be any state programs that are going to be trying to get COVID jabs to infants and toddlers and newborns," DeSantis said at a news conference. "That's not where we're gonna be utilizing our resources.'

The final OK came last weekend for vaccines for kids under 5. The Food and Drug Administration's vaccine advisers gave a thumbs-up to kid-size doses from Pfizer and Moderna for children as young as 6 months, deciding the benefits of the shots outweigh any risks.

- Rewritten from the Associated Press

That Roe Vs. Wade Reversal And The Impact On Florida

A Florida judge on June 30th announced he will block a new law to ban abortions in the state after 15 weeks of pregnancy, saying the measure is unconstitutional because it violates the privacy provision of the state's constitution.

Leon County Circuit Judge John C. Cooper said he will grant a temporary injunction against the law, which was championed by Gov. Ron DeSantis (R). He added that it will take effect as soon as a written order is signed.

The restriction took effect on Friday, July 1st. The decision comes nearly a week after the U.S. Supreme Court overturned Roe v. Wade, leaving it up to states to regulate abortion. Florida is expected to emerge as an epicenter in the state-by-state fight over the issue.

The state is expected to appeal to the Florida Supreme Court, where DeSantis has appointed three of the seven justices.

While 20 years of Republican-led legislatures have chipped away at abortion rights in Florida, overall access to the procedure has been upheld in court cases and on the ballot as part of the state's constitutional right to privacy. Current law in



Advocates stand at the Florida Capitol in Tallahassee to protest a bill before the Florida legislature to limit abortions. (Photo by Mark Wallheiser/Getty Images)

Florida permits abortions up to 24 weeks, and afterward in cases of health endangerment and in cases of rape or incest.

DeSantis signed the law in April. It was passed after hours of often emotional debate on the House and Senate floors, which were accompanied by rallies and protests outside the state's Capitol. Republicans said Florida was "behind the curve" on the issue, with one lawmaker saying the state had become "an abortion destination." They called the new law "reasonable" and "generous."

Witnesses at this week's nonjury trial in Tallahassee included two women called by

the state who are associated with the Charlotte Lozier Institute, an antiabortion research group.

The judge signaled his ruling when he questioned the state's witnesses about their experience. He noted that the state's witnesses had "an unwillingness to rely on essentially any U.S. data."

"I'm not here to litigate abortion, I'm here to litigate the right to privacy in Florida. I'm not here to litigate Roe v. Wade," Cooper said.

- Rewritten from the AP

COVID-19 Testing Ends In Duval County

The Florida Department of Health has announced that has ended COVID-19 testing in Duval County as of June 30th. The Health Department said

that it will now focus on enabling access to COVID-19 services in specific areas of town through

health equity. The organization also mentioned that although its community testing initiative is ending, its mission to "protect, promote and improve the health of all people in Duval County" remains.

COVID-19 testing can

still be acquired by making an appointment with a health care provider or by using rapid at-home tests. At-home tests can be ordered through the federal government or purchased through pharmacies.

Final Expense Insurance

So many of us are unprepared financially when our Love One dies, or more unfortunate, when we die.

Now is the time for us to consider a final expense plan, which would eliminate the confusion and headache of funding funeral expenses from our savings.

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Everything will be taken care of, the Funeral Director, the plot and other expense, leaving you time to grieve.



PAHO Launches Collaboration To Eliminate Chagas Disease

The Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) and Unitaid have launched a five-year, US\$2.6 million partnership to scale-up regional and national efforts to eliminate mother-to-child transmission of

Chagas is a neglected tropical disease endemic to countries mainly in the



Americas, where it kills more people than any other parasiteborne infection. The infection is caused primarily by a bloodsucking triatomine bug, but the disease can also be transmitted from mother to child during pregnancy.

According to the World Health Organization, (WHO), more than one million women of childbearing age are estimated to be infected, resulting in up to 15,000 infants born with the disease each year.

The fight against chagas disease is complicated by several factors including its multiple means of transmission,

through insect bites but also from the blood of an affected person or even by consumption of contaminated food. It is also largely asymptomatic, causing affected persons to go without medical attention until developing chronic infection, which is more difficult to treat. A lack in efficient diagnostic tools, long and difficult treatment, and gaps in policy and funding pose additional challenges.



chagas disease.

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Bahamas Turns 49

The Islands of The Bahamas will celebrate its 49th anniversary of independence on July 10th at 12:00 AM. This holiday commemorates the day when The Bahamas became a fully independent nation on July 10, 1973, separating from the United Kingdom.

Under the theme, "Proud to Be Bahamian," the country's

National Independence Secretariat kicked off the 49th Independence Celebrations on Friday, July 1st. In its efforts to promote

pride and unity throughout the Commonwealth of The Bahamas, the Secretariat is encouraging a National Flag Raising Ceremony be held at all Government, and private corporate offices. Bahamians are urged to wear the national colors of aquamarine, gold and black and assemble together as the National Flag is being hoisted and to sing the National Anthem, followed by a prayer.

The Secretariat is also encouraging participants to capture the event in photos and or videos, for posting on social

WHAT IS DELTA-8? LEARN MORE ABOUT THIS CONTROVERSIAL **FORM OF CANNABIS**

Delta-8 is the latest cannabinoid product legally available to Floridians. It can be found in dispensaries for qualified patients and convenience stores for the general public. But what is Delta-8 and why is it controversial?



Watch the *Conversations on Cannabis* virtual forum to hear experts talk about Delta-8 and why there are concerns about using this form of cannabis.

Watch now to join the conversation.



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media platforms, and inclusion in the national jubilee booklet and

documentary next year.

Bahamas Moving To Make Its Mark As A Digital Assets Hub



As The Bahamas gets ready to mark its 49th anniversary of independence, its Prime Minister, Phillip Davis, says as the country continues to set a path toward economic diversity and innovation, more stakeholders take advantage of the opportunities stemming from the new digital age.

Speaking at the launch of Agio Digital Ltd. & Gryphon Investment Advisors Bahamas recently, Prime Minister Davis said businesses like Agio help to uphold and facilitate the very mandate of economic stimulation his government continues to work diligently to advance.

He said with the government's recent introduction of the policy White Paper on The Future of Digital Assets in The Bahamas, the launch of the two companies could not have come at a better time.

"As our country becomes the vanguard in digital assets around the Caribbean and the world, the policy that we put in place now can significantly generate a much-needed economic recovery and change the landscape of the Bahamian financial markets as we know it, opening our doors to international trade and business."

Agio Digital Ltd. made history in The Bahamas as the first alternative investments platform and the first company to be licensed as a Digital Wallet Provider for crypto assets. The company has also partnered with Bahamian artist, Antonius Roberts, to bring Bahamian culture and creativity to the digital assets space with the sale of non-fungible tokens (NFTs).

Prime Minister Davis also recently attended the groundbreaking of the new FTX Digital Markets Commercial Complex. In September of last year, the company moved its headquarters to The Bahamas and Prime Minister Davis said that it has since contributed greatly to various sectors of the community.

He added the government regards this strategic move toward digital assets as a boost to economic recovery and diversification and future plans include ensuing that Bahamians are well equipped and educated to function in the new digital space.

The PM added that the introduction of Digital Assets to the Bahamas will also provide the arena for more comprehensive policy around climate change with the introduction of carbon credits, a mandate the government is keen on progressing.

- Rewritten from CMC

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Bonaire Offers New Streamlined Visitor Entry Tax



Bonaire

Beginning July 1, 2022, Bonaire's current 'room tax" and rental 'car tax' will be replaced by a \$75 per visit Visitor Entry Tax, which will continue to support the island's infrastructure, tourism product, eco efforts and education.

The visitor entry tax will apply to all non-residents 13 and older entering Bonaire. Non-residents aged 12 and under, residents of the former Netherlands Antilles will be required to pay a \$10 per visit fee. Visitors can pay the mandatory tax digitally at bonaireisland.com in advance of their trip, and can do so as early as Tuesday, June 28, 2022. Alternatively, tourists can also pay upon arrival at Flamingo International Airport.

The 'room tax' and 'car tax' was previously paid per person per night to the accommodation and when renting a car. Shifting the tax responsibility from accommodation and car rental providers to non-residents, the updated collection process has been well received by the tourism sector and is expected to increase revenues for the island by more than \$6 million per year.

New Flight Options To Jamaica

Three carriers have expanded Jamaica's airline options.

Frontier Airlines has begun twice-weekly non-stop flights to Montego Bay, Jamaica, from Tampa International Airport (TPA).

The low-cost carrier touched down in Montego Bay from Tampa, first on June 24, 2022. The new service will increase Jamaica's airlift from the U.S., its largest tourism market, by providing 186 seats per flight.

With its arrival, this is the fifth city in the United States from which Frontier will serve Jamaica, making it a highly desirable destination. Other gateway cities include Philadelphia, Miami, Orlando and Atlanta.

Meanwhile, QCAS Aero has also launched a non-stop charter flight from Fort Lauderdale International Airport to the Ian Fleming International Airport in Ocho Rios, Jamaica. The new charter service is specifically targeting high-end travelers and provides ease of access throughout the island to other resort areas like Portland.

The flight will depart from QCAS' exclusive facility at Fort Lauderdale International Airport, away from the large crowds and



President Airports Authority of Jamaica, Audley H. Deidrick (at left); CEO MBJ Airports Limited, Shane Munroe (second from left); Director of Tourism, Jamaica Tourist Board, Donovan White (third from left); Odette Dyer, Regional Director, Jamaica Tourist Board (fourth from left); Captain Paul Auman (third from right); Jamaica Hotel & Tourist Association Chapter Chair Montego Bay, Nadine Spence (second from right); Deputy Mayor of Montego Bay Councillor, Richard Vernon (at right) welcomed Frontier Airline to Montego Bay on June 24, 2022. *(Contributed image)*

bustle of regular commercial traffic. With 30 seats on board its turbojet aircraft, passengers are assured maximum comfort in seats that exceed standard First-Class seating legroom. The personalized experience can be tailored to meet any passenger whim, with every guest treated to top shelf beverages, healthy menu options and personalized concierge attention from check in to arrival at their resort or villa. And interCaribbean Airways has begun weekly flight from Providenciales, Turks & Caicos (PLS), into Ian Fleming International Airport (OCJ) in Ocho Rios, Jamaica, as of June 16th. The new route marks the first time a carrier is offering scheduled commercial air service into the airport since the completion of its renovation in 2011.

This Caribbean Tourism Minister Wants A Single Travel Visa

Jamaica's Tourism Minister, Edmund Bartlett, says a singlevisa regime among Caribbean Community (CARICOM) countries should be the next critical consideration in rationalizing entry protocols in the region.

Bartlett said that the rationalization of the entry protocols "for touristic purposes and can be provided for visitors coming into your space for 30 days or three days." He said it could be "a simple platform that allows everybody and anybody to apply for a CARICOM visa that allows you entry into all the CARICOM countries."

Bartlett said the region needs to adopt a new approach to air transportation and develop new ideas about collaboration, using the support of today's technology.

"Multi-destination tourism is part of the principle of copetition, where we can offer to visitors coming into our space, multiple experiences across borders. So, when you buy Jamaica, you can get Barbados and you can get St. Lucia and you can get Turks and Caicos,"

he added.

The tourism minister said the aim of the Ministry is to establish Jamaica as an aviation hub, "so that big planes coming from the far-flung areas can bring large numbers into our airports and they are distributed by airlines like interCaribbean across the Caribbean and elsewhere."

But for this to become a reality, Bartlett is suggesting the establishment of preclearance arrangements within the Caribbean, so that arriving visitors in Jamaica are domestic in other countries of the region and vice versa.

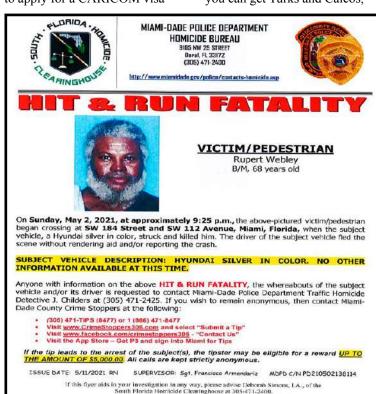
- Rewritten from CMC





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One Caribbean airport has the honor of being declared the Best Airport in the Caribbean.

The Airports Authority of Trinidad and Tobago says the Piarco International Airport has taken the coveted award for the second straight year. The declaration was made by the Skytrax World Airport Awards for 2022.

Skytrax World Airport Star Rating that was introduced 20 years ago, has become a global benchmark of quality evaluation for the airport industry. The Piarco International airport was also named the third best in the global region - the Central America and the Caribbean – only being beaten by Panama's Tocumen International Airport and Costa Rica's San Jose International Airport.

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School Readiness **Step Up For Students** as a result of the perseverance and resilience of our employees, who continue to work diligently, despite prevailing challenges, to ensure that we consistently achieve high standards of safety and security while demonstrating operational efficiency and service excellence," said Hayden Newton, the airport's General manager.

The authority said it intended to continue leading the region by "maintaining the highest standards of operational efficiency and customer service at both the Piarco and ANR Robinson International Airports and making valuable contributions that would enhance the attractiveness of destination TT."

- Rewritten from CMC

Cayman Islands Lifts Mask Requirement The government of this British Overseas territory has removed the mandatory requirement for

people to wear masks to protect against the spread of COVID-19. According to the new regulations released, mask wearing is now voluntary, with the exception of visitors to hospitals, prisons and care homes

In addition, bar and restaurant owners can require staff to wear masks when serving customers but the government is no longer compelling their use.

According to Tourism Minister Kenneth Bryan, although the mask mandate is being lifted, individuals should remember they still have an obligation for personal responsibility.

"The action that we expect everybody to take is to remember COVID isn't over, your freedoms may be coming back, but take caution," he said.

The mandatory requirement to wear masks on aircraft bound for Cayman is also being lifted.

Bryan said this change was important, especially for the national flag carrier Cayman Airways, since the mandatory mask rule had placed it at a competitive disadvantage.

"Ever since the US airlines [removed the requirement of] wearing masks on their planes, it



The Cayman Islands

has been putting Cayman Airways at a disadvantage, one that affects the bottom line for Cayman Airways, because people will sometimes decide not to fly with our airline due to the fact that they were required to wear a mask on the plane, but not required to do so on other airlines.'

He also disclosed that the Government has also removed the requirement for unvaccinated Caymanians and residents returning the islands to isolate upon their arrival.

Previously, all unvaccinated arrivals – other than young children who could take on the vaccination status of their parents - were required to quarantine for seven days.

Under the new protocols, unvaccinated Caymanians

and residents must submit an application for a travel authorization from Travel Cayman no less than five days prior to departing for the islands.

They will also be required to comply with the written directions of the Medical Officer of Health, which may include a direction to carry out a COVID test.

Bryan said the removal of a quarantine restriction on unvaccinated Caymanians and residents meant those individuals could travel freely.

The amended regulations took effect on June 30th and expires on August 31st.

- Rewritten from CMC

Trinidad And Tobago Removes COVID-19 **Testing Entry Requirement**

Travelers to Trinidad and Tobago will now no longer require a negative COVID-19 test to enter the twin-island republic as of July 1st.

Health Minister Terrence Devalsingh says he had been authorized by Acting Prime Minister Colm Imbert to announce that a negative PCR and/or antigen test will be no longer required from July 1st.

The Ministry of Tourism, Culture and the Arts, in a statement, welcomed the removal of the COVID-19 testing requirement, saying it is expected

to result in quicker processing times at ports of entry and contribute greatly to the recovery of the tourism sector.

It said it "looks forward to welcoming visitors, returning nationals and members of the diaspora to Trinidad and Tobago as it continues to strengthen the tourism sector and facilitate the environment necessary for an exciting and unforgettable visitor experience".

Meantime, Minister Deyalsingh said the Cabinet has agreed to proclaim monkeypox a dangerous infectious disease,

under Section 103 of the Public Health Ordinance, with immediate effect.

It also approved an order to allow special measures to be taken in light of the emergency of the spread of the monkeypox, allowing authorities to quarantine persons entering Trinidad and Tobago with foreign travel history who are either a suspected or confirmed case of the virus.

- CMC

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The Countdown Is On To The West Indies In Lauderhill

In just a matter of weeks, the West Indies will be in South Florida.

The Windies will Indies face-off with India in Lauderhill, Florida at the ACentral Broward County Stadium on August 6th and 7th at 10:30 a.m. est.

The Central Broward Regional Park Stadium Turf Ground in Lauderhill in Florida has hosted 8 T20Is making its debut in the format with a New Zealand versus Sri Lanka clash



Get ready for The West Indies versus India in Lauderhill this August. (CMC Image)

in 2010.

West Indies has played 6 T20Is in Lauderhill winning 3 and losing 2 (the last two in 2018 to Bangladesh; one no result). India and West Indies have played each other once at the venue – in 2016 – with West Indies registering a thrilling onerun victory (the other T20I was abandoned due to rain).

They recorded their highest T20I total -245 for 6 - in this match. India replied with 244 for 4 - their second highest T20I total. The match aggregate of 489 is the highest ever in T20I history.

Tickets will be available soon on Windiescricket.com/ tickets.

Jamaican-Born Basketball Player Signs With The Utah Jazz

Former Illino University center Kofi Cockburn, who was born in Kingston, Jamaica, has officially signed with the Utah Jazz of the NBA. At seven feet and nearly 300 pounds, Cockburn averaged over 20 points per game and more than ten rebounds. With his draft by

the Jazz, Cockburn, 22, Jamaican Kofi Cockburn has signed with the Utah Jazz. has realized his dream of getting to the NBA and will have the opportunity to prove his abilities during the Jazz's summer league play.

The team has a round-robin tournament scheduled for July 2022 in Salt Lake City. The round-robin tournament runs from July 5th to 7th, 2022, and the Jazz will play the Oklahoma City Thunder on the 5th, the Philadelphia Sixers on the 6th, and the Memphis Grizzlies on the 7th

Cockburn's size may be his most significant skill, and his seven-foot height and sevenfoot-three-inch wingspan make him competitive with Udoka Azubuike, also of the Jazz, to see who can make his mark on the backboard the fastest. Cockburn is known for using his size well, both on offense and defense, and demonstrates impressive



athletic abilities throughout his play. He can also dominate as a rebounder who doesn't rely only on his size. On the other hand, Cockburn's size can be a liability in his ability to guard in switches. His free-throw skills could be improved as well, but overall, he has the potential to develop into a backup center for the Jazz. This will be one of the factors awaiting whoever becomes the new head coach of the Jazz.

Cockburn had previously entered the NBA draft in 2020 and 2021 and under league rules was not allowed to withdraw his name for a third time. He said it had been his goal to play for the NBA for a "very long time," and he believes that he is ready and prepared to apply his talents to his new team.

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Fall Term Starts Aug. 22



No Caribbean Country In World Cup 2022

No Caribbean country has made the top 32 nations set to compete in the 2022 football World Cup. This as for the first time, football's biggest event takes place in the Middle East.

The 2022 World Cup is slated for Qatar from November 21st to December 18th. A total of 32 teams, including hosts Qatar, have qualified for the tournament.

These are the 32 nations playing in Qatar, sorted by group: • Group A: Qatar, Netherlands,

- Senegal, Ecuador • Group B: England, USA, Wales,
- Iran
- Group C: Argentina, Poland, Mexico, Saudi Arabia

- Group D: France, Denmark, Tunisia, Australia
- Group E: Germany, Spain, Japan, Costa Rica
- Group F: Belgium, Croatia, Canada, Morocco
- Group G: Brazil, Switzerland, Serbia, Cameroon
- Group H: Portugal, Uruguay, Ghana, Korea Republic Former winners Brazil

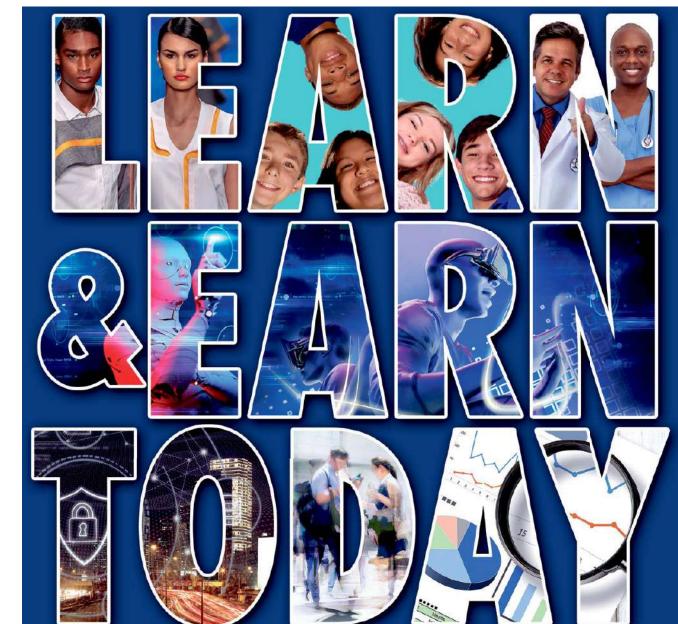
have qualified for the World Cup 21 times, the most by any of the participants in this year's mega event. Qatar, meanwhile, will be making their first World Cup appearance, qualifying automatically for the tournament as hosts

The opening match will be on November 21st with the final taking place on December 18th - Qatar's national day - at Lusail Stadium. Eight stadiums will host the event across five cities in Oatar: Lusall, Al Khor, Al Ravyan, Al Wakrah and Doha.

Following the group stage where four matches will be played on a daily basis, the knockout rounds will comprise the roundof-16, quarter-finals, semi-finals and the World Cup final on December 18th.

- Rewritten from Al Jazeera and NBC News.





PRESCRIPTION OPIOIDS

Addiction and Overdose

Anyone who takes prescription opioids can become addicted to them. In fact, as many as one in four patients receiving long-term opioid therapy in a primary care setting struggles with opioid addiction.^{4,5,6} Once addicted, it can be hard to stop. In 2016, more than 11.5 million Americans reported misusing prescription opioids in the past year.¹

Taking too many prescription opioids can stop a person's breathing-leading to death.

Prescription opioid overdose deaths also often involve benzodiazepines. Benzodiazepines are central nervous system depressants used to sedate, induce sleep, prevent seizures, and relieve anxiety. Examples include alprazolam (Xanax[®]), diazepam (Valium[®]), and lorazepam (Ativan[®]). Avoid taking benzodiazepines while taking prescription opioids whenever possible.

SIDE EFFECTS In addition to the serious risks of addiction, abuse, and overdose, the use of prescription opioids can have a number of side effects, even when taken as directed: Tolerance-meaning you might need to take **Sleepiness and dizziness** more of the medication for the same pain relief Physical dependence-meaning you have symptoms Confusion of withdrawal when the medication is stopped Low levels of testosterone that can result in lower Increased sensitivity to pain sex drive, energy, and strength Constipation Depression Nausea, vomiting, and dry mouth Itching and sweating SOURCES: ¹ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. 2018 Annual Surveillance Report of Drug-Related Risks and Outcomes – United States. ⁴ Banta-Green CJ, Merrill JO, Doyle SR, Boudreau DM, Calsyn DA. Opioid use behaviors, mental health and pain-development of a Surveillance Special Report 2pdf icon. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. typology of chronic pain patients. Drug Alcohol Depend 2009;104:34-42.

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