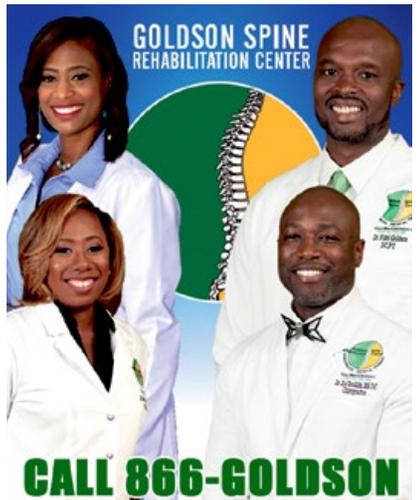


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Jamaican-born Judge Renatha Francis was made to wait a bit longer for confirmation to the Florida Supreme Court after the state's high court last month ruled Governor Ron DeSantis had exceeded his authority in appointing her, **page 2**.



The People's National Movement (PNM), led by incumbent Prime Minister Keith Rowley, was returned to power following last month's general elections in Trinidad and Tobago, **page 6**.

KAMALA FIGHTS BACK

~ Kamala Harris, the history-making daughter of a Caribbean immigrant, is forcefully rejecting personal attacks on her character, heritage and eligibility to become the next vice president of the United States, **page 7**.



JLP WINS LANDSLIDE

~ Preliminary results show incumbent Prime Minister Andrew Holness has led the Jamaica Labor Party (JLP) to a crushing victory over the Opposition People's National Party (PNP) in Jamaica general elections, **page 3**.

INSIDE

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NEWS



Florida Supreme Court rejects appointment of Jamaican-born judge for now

A Jamaican-born judge was made to wait a bit longer for confirmation to her new post after the Florida Supreme Court last month ruled Governor Ron DeSantis had exceeded his authority in appointing her to the court.

Renatha Francis was the choice of DeSantis and Florida's Judicial Nominating Commission (JNC) to fill a vacant seat on the high court. But on Aug. 27 the Supreme Court, in a 5-0 decision, ruled the appointment of the Palm Beach judge came before she was eligible for the post.

Francis was one of two Caribbean Americans who were chosen by DeSantis in May to fill Supreme Court vacancies. They were expected to replace Barbara

Lagoa and Roberth Luck, who were appointed by United States President Donald Trump to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Judicial District in Atlanta, Georgia.

CHALLENGE

However, while John Couriel was allowed to take his seat on the Florida Supreme Court bench without incident, Francis's appointment was challenged by Florida State Representative Geraldine Thompson on the grounds Francis had not been a member of the Florida Bar for 10 years, a requirement of the Florida Constitution.

Thompson, however, did not question Francis's academic qualifications or ability to do the job.



Francis, left, at the announcement of her appointment with DeSantis earlier this year.

"It is undisputed that Judge Francis will not have attained ten years' Bar membership until September 24, 2020."

If reappointed, Francis will become eligible to join the Florida Supreme Court bench Sept. 24, when she will have become a 10-year member of the Bar. She would then become the only woman on the court and the first black judge on the court since Peggy Quince retired in 2019.



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In its decision, the Supreme Court made it clear that DeSantis had jumped the gun.

"In a nutshell, when a governor fills by appointment a vacant judicial office, the appointee must be constitutionally eligible for that office at the time of the appointment," Justice Carlos G. Muñiz wrote.

The Supreme Court also ruled against Thompson's petition to have the JNC "reconvene and certify a new list from the existing applicant pool, and that the Governor then be compelled to select an appointee from that new list."

Bermuda elections Oct. 1

HAMILTON, Bermuda - Bermudians will vote on Oct. 1. Premier David Burt announced general elections on Aug. 21. The polls will come nearly two years ahead of the constitutional deadline.

In the last elections, held in July 2017, the Progressive Labour Party (PLP) defeated the One Bermuda Alliance (OBA) by 24 seats to 12 and added an extra seat in a subsequent by-election to extend its overall House majority to 14.

Burt said the elections would help the nation to focus on rebuilding its battered economy and creating more opportunities. Bermuda's economy has taken a massive hit from the coronavirus pandemic. The national debt is edging towards \$3 billion.

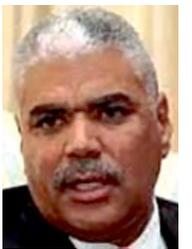
However, Burt's

announcement of the early date came under immediate fire from the main Opposition OBA, whose leader Craig Cannonier said it served "no one's benefit but the premier's."

Cannonier castigated Burt over his early call, saying that general elections were not needed at this time. He called on the government to "fix the economy."

The PLP first came to power in 1998, but was beaten in the 2012 elections by the OBA, a merger between members of Parliament from the now defunct United Bermuda Party and the Bermuda Democratic Alliance that Cannonier headed.

- Edited from CMC.



Cannonier



Burt

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Ruling JLP scores landslide win over PNP in Jamaica general elections

KINGSTON, Jamaica – The ruling Jamaica Labor Party (JLP) scored a resounding victory over the People’s National Party (PNP) in the Sept. 3 general elections to return to power for a second consecutive term in the Caribbean island.

Preliminary results showed the JLP winning 49 of the 63 seats contested in Jamaica’s Parliament, a far more decisive victory than the single seat majority it took in 2016.

It was the JLP’s first consecutive win in general elections since 1967 and the margin mirrored the win the party achieved in 1980 when it stormed to a 51-9 margin over the PNP.

However, Prime Minister

Andrew Holness indicated the task ahead for the nation is not only for the victorious JLP.

“You (PNP) will have a very important role to play in Jamaica’s stronger recovery and I am clear that there should not be any victimization, any retribution, any malice in how we move away as a government,” Holness said in his

victory speech.

“We must embrace everyone, we need everyone on board for Jamaica to recover stronger.”

‘SHOCKING’

Holness said he received an election night telephone call conceding defeat from PNP Leader Dr. Peter Phillips, who

had indicated he would step down as leader of the main Opposition if his party lost.

Phillip Paulwell, PNP vice president and campaign manager, called the election result “a shocking defeat.” Paulwell blamed perceived disunity within the PNP, telling reporters the party did not have sufficient time to show the country that “we

were united.”

The elections were held during the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic environment, which prevented the political parties from staging traditional campaigns and negatively affected voter turnout on election day.



‘Toots’ Hibbert hospitalized

Reggae legend “Toots” Hibbert was hospitalized in his homeland Jamaica and placed in a medically induced coma after complaining of respiratory difficulties.

The 77-year-old lead singer of The Maytals, known for hits such as “54-46”, “Country Road” and “Pressure Drop”, was admitted after reportedly displaying symptoms associated with the novel coronavirus. Results of a test he took for the virus were still pending up to press time. He was placed on a ventilator.

Hibbert’s song “Do The Reggay” is credited with giving the reggae music genre its name. The Maytals released the album “Got To Be Tough” on Aug. 28.



T&T’s 58th Independence

PORT OF SPAIN, Trinidad – Trinidad and Tobago observed its 58th anniversary of political Independence from Britain on Aug. 31 without the traditional military parade and other activities due to the coronavirus pandemic which had, up to that time, killed 21 people and infected 1,691 people.

Prime Minister Dr. Keith Rowley urged T&T citizens to follow measures and protocols to counter the pandemic and help economic recovery.

“We will face down the current outbreak,” Rowley vowed, “... we will surmount not only this but the very many challenges in the coming months and years ahead.”

For Caribbean Today’s “Salute To Trinidad and Tobago” feature, turn to pages 17 and 18.



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U.S. attorneys general step up fight to protect Caribbean 'Dreamers' from deportation

NEW YORK – New York Attorney General Letitia James says she is co-leading a coalition of 17 attorneys general across the United States in continuing the fight against efforts by the administration of President Donald Trump to threaten Caribbean and other “Dreamers” currently registered for the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program.



James

DACA is a program implemented by the administration of former President Barack Obama to protect nearly 700,000 young Caribbean and other immigrants, known as “Dreamers”, from deportation.

After the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in June that the Trump administration’s attempts to cancel DACA were unlawful, the program was supposed to resume. Instead of processing new applications, according to James, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) issued a new memorandum on July 28, by acting secretary of Homeland Security, Chad Wolf, which directed DHS to make interim changes to the program — including declining to accept any new DACA applications — while

never have been carried out. “Despite the Supreme Court already ruling that President Trump’s attempts to unfairly punish ‘Dreamers’ was unlawful, he’s at it again — targeting innocent young people who are only trying to be law-abiding members of society,” James told the **Caribbean Media Corporation (CMC)**.

AMERICANS

She said “Dreamers” are foreign-born people who were brought to the U.S. at a young age and now identify themselves as Americans. Most have no memory of or connection with the country where they were born. Many speak only English.

Under immigration law, before the DACA program, she said most of these young people had no way to gain legal residency in the U.S.

The coalition is seeking to have the July 28 memo vacated and for the DACA program to be restored to where it stood before the Sept. 2017 rescission, as the Supreme Court ordered in June.

- Edited from CMC.



Wolf considered whether to fully rescind DACA.

TARGETS

In two court filings made on Aug. 28 against Trump, DHS, Wolf, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, the coalition James co-leads — like it did in the original lawsuit — is amending the original complaint. The coalition also asked the court to immediately vacate the Wolf memo, in a motion for partial summary judgment, on the ground that it is — like the initial Trump administration policy to rescind DACA — unlawful and should

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St. Lucia welcomes U.S. decision to remove travel ban

CASTRIES, St. Lucia – St. Lucia has welcomed the decision by the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to remove its coronavirus (COVID-19) travel warning for the island.

Prime Minister Allen Chastanet late last month said “this is even more validation

of our country’s success in the management of COVID-19.”

In its previous Level 3: Reconsider Travel notice, the CDC urged Americans to avoid non-essential travel to St. Lucia due to serious risks to safety and security. But, in its latest advisory issued on Aug. 24, the CDC placed St. Lucia at “Watch

– Level 1”, saying “COVID-19 risk in St. Lucia is low, new cases are decreasing or stable.”

Up to press time, St. Lucia had recorded close to 30 cases of COVID-19. No deaths had occurred on island.

- Edited from CMC.



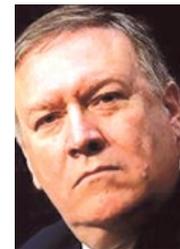
U.S. suspends private charter flights to Cuba

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The United States is suspending private charter flights to Cuba as another way to starve the government in Havana of revenue.

U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo last month criticized Cuba for continuing to jail reporters and pro-democracy activists, suppress dissent, oversee “horrific” physical abuse and prop up President Nicolas

Maduro in Venezuela, among other alleged offenses.

“The suspension of private charter flights will deny economic resources to the Castro regime and inhibit its



Pompeo

capacity to carry out abuses,” Pompeo said in a statement.

“This administration will continue to target and cut the revenue the Cuban government earns from landing fees, stays in regime-owned hotels, and other travel-related income.”

- Edited from CMC.



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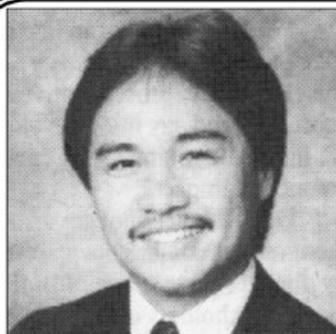
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Caribbean American is chief-of-staff to U.S. vice presidential hopeful

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Martinique-born Karine Jean-Pierre has been chosen chief of staff to Kamala Harris, who recently made history by becoming the first Caribbean American, black and Asian American woman to be nominated as a vice presidential candidate.

Forty-three-year-old Jean-Pierre, who was born to Haitian parents, also created history by being the first Caribbean-born black woman to be named to such a post.

“Karine ‘ambitious’ Jean-Pierre is incredibly proud to be working to elect the Biden/Harris ticket,” tweeted Jean-Pierre shortly after presidential hopeful Joe Biden selected Harris as his running mate.

ROLES

Jean-Pierre, who was raised in Queens, New York, serves as a senior advisor to the Biden 2020 presidential campaign. Her professional experience has ranged broadly from presidential campaigns to grassroots activism,

local politics, and working in the White House. Jean-Pierre, who is the chief public affairs officer for MoveOn.org and an NBC and MSNBC political analyst, previously served as the deputy campaign manager for Martin O’Malley for president.

Prior to joining the O’Malley



Jean-Pierre

campaign, she said on her website that in 2014, she was the campaign manager for American Civil Liberty Union’s (ACLU) Reproductive Freedom Initiative (RFI). Previously, she managed New York Attorney General Letitia James’s successful campaign for New York City Public Advocate.

ROOTS

In 2011, Jean-Pierre said she served as deputy battleground states director for former U.S. President Barack Obama’s 2012 re-

election campaign, “managing the president’s political engagement in key states while leading the delegate selection and ballot access process.”

In graduate school, she said she explored her Haitian roots through documentary film.

“My parents, Haitian immigrants, it’s like the immigrant experience,” Jean-Pierre told the Public Broadcasting Service (PBS) in 2019. “They came here for the American dream that, in many

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 6)

Mixed fortunes for Caribbean Americans in Florida elections

Caribbean Americans experienced mixed fortunes in last month’s South Florida elections, which decided races for a wide ranging number of seats.

While there was a sprinkling of success stories at the ballot, many fell into the loss column as well. **Caribbean Today** is offering a selection of results in this month’s issue.

Among the successful candidates was Jamaican-born incumbent Dale Holness, who, with 87 percent of the votes, swamped challenger Garrington Essue in the race for Broward County commissioner, District 9. Mike Gelin, son of Haitian



Holness

parents, won a three-way race for the District 2 commission seat in the city of Tamarac. Incumbent Dotie Joseph beat fellow Caribbean American Democrat Georges Bossous in the race for

state representative, District 108.

Other winners with Caribbean roots included Incumbent Anika Omphroy, who earned re-election to represent Democrats in District 95, Florida House of Representatives, by edging Jasmen Rogers-Shaw 50 percent to 49 percent.

Carla Spalding earned the right carry the Republican banner in the race for U.S. representative in District 23 against incumbent Democrat Debbie Wasserman-Schultz by winning her primary.

LOSERS

However, multiple Caribbean American candidates fell into the losing column.

Jamaican-born attorney Marlon Hill (22 percent) finished third in his race for District 9, Miami-Dade commissioner, and will not be in November’s run-off. Kionne McGhee (36 percent) and Elvis Maldonado (23 percent) will contest that.

Haitian American educator Marie Flore Lindor-Latortue also lost her bid for a seat on the Miami-Dade School Board, District 7 and Jamaican-born Lavern Deer fared badly in her bid to become mayor of Miami Gardens, earning just seven percent of the votes.

Haitian American Daphne Campbell finished runner-up in the race for state Senate seat

District 35 to winner Shevrin “Shev” Jones. The winner earned 43 percent of the votes to Campbell’s 15 percent. Elizabeth Burns lost her bid to a City of Pembroke Pines commissioner.

Incumbent Alcee Hastings beat Haitian American Sheila Cherfilus-McCormick by almost 40 percentage points (69 percent to 30 percent) in the Democratic primary race to represent District 20 in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Ashira Mohammad lost the race to represent District 101 in the Florida House. The race was won by Marie Woodson with 37 percent of the votes. Mohammad

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 6)

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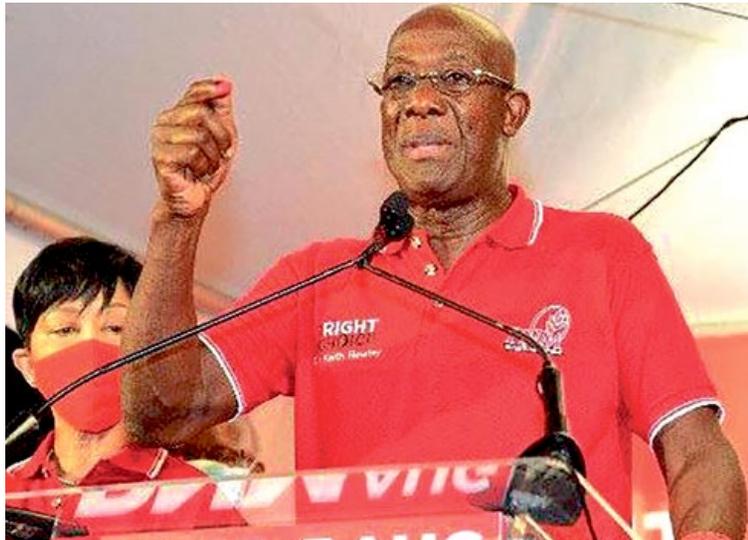
DOUBLE DIP: Narrow majority returns Rowley, PNM to power in T&T

The People's National Movement (PNM), led by incumbent Prime Minister Keith Rowley, was returned to power following last month's general elections in Trinidad and Tobago.

The PNM won 22 of the 41 seats in T&T's House of Representatives, defeating the main Opposition United National Congress (UNC), which won 19 seats.

The win marked the PNM's second consecutive term in office, although it lost one more seat. In 2015 the party won 23 seats.

Rowley, in his Aug. 10 election night victory speech, embraced the narrow majority victory, which he said came "against all odds, in the most difficult situation," including during the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. He promised his government would serve the entire nation, despite sometimes heated political division which surfaced during



Rowley, right, addresses supporters following his win. At his side is wife Sharon.

the campaign.

CONCESSION

The UNC finally conceded defeat after initially demanding a recount in five constituencies.

In a statement issued Aug. 18, Opposition Leader Kamla

Persad Bissessar noted she was "satisfied that the people have spoken and that Dr. Rowley and his party" would form the next government.

"I congratulate them and wish them the best," she told supporters. "... I, too, am

disappointed with the election and I accept full responsibility for the result."

Shortly after the elections, T&T's Elections and Boundaries Commission (EBC) Communications Manager Bobbi Rogers confirmed the UNC had requested "general recounts" in St. Joseph, Tunapuna, Toco/Sangre Grande, La Horquetta/Talparo and San Fernando West.

The EBC later in the month concluded the recount had been completed and the preliminary results stood.

The losing party also hinted that the absence of international observers had contributed to its defeat and said it would be making its position known on several irregularities "in due course" to T&T's Elections and Boundaries Commission (EBC).

Rowley said invitations had been sent to the 15-member Caribbean community (CARICOM) grouping to send

observers, but that they would have had to arrive in T&T in time to be undergo the 14-day quarantine period due to the coronavirus pandemic. He also said regional and international observers had indicated the venture would be too expensive and that his administration had decided against providing assistance for fear of it being regarded as trying to influence the observers in their duties.

Meanwhile, Caribbean leadership embraced the results of the elections.

"We look forward to growing our already strong relationship with the government and people of Trinidad and Tobago," said CARICOM Chairman Ralph Gonsalves.

New government names Cabinet, promises 'bright' future for T&T in Caribbean Today's "Salute To Trinidad and Tobago" feature, pages 17 and 18.



Mixed fortunes for Caribbean Americans in Florida elections

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5) finished third with 30 percent.

JUDGE

However, incumbent Phoebe Francois was elected Broward County judge - Group 27 by a whopping margin.

Francois earned 71 percent of the votes to rival Jacob Segal's 28 percent.

Caribbean American Melba Pearson (38 percent) lost big to Katherine Fernandez Rundle (61 percent) in the race for state attorney, Miami-Dade, Florida.

So too did Gepsie Metellus (21 percent) and Tisa McGhee (14 percent) to Keon Hardemon (49 percent) in the race for Miami-Dade commissioner, District 3.

Haitian American educator Marie Flore Lindor-Latortue also lost her bid for a seat on

the Miami-Dade School Board, District 7. Francis Ragoo and Linda Julien were also eliminated from the race for Seat 5, Miami Gardens City Council.

Former police officer Andrew Smalling was swamped in the race for Broward County sheriff, earning just four percent of the votes. Incumbent Gregory Tony and Scott Israel finished top two with 37 percent and 35 percent, respectively.

However, Gordon Weeks led all challengers in the race for Broward public defender, finishing with 47 percent of the votes.



Caribbean American is chief-of-staff to U.S. vice presidential hopeful

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5)

ways, eluded them.

"They still live check-to-check," she added. "But, in their eyes, because I made it to the White House, because their daughter went to Columbia (University), they have received it."



Andre

Meanwhile, Haitian American political consultant Karen Andre was also chosen a senior advisor by Biden and senior advisor to National Faith Outreach for his Florida campaign. Andre was recently political director of Organizing Together 2020 in Florida.

- Edited from CMC.



ELECTION WRAP UP



Caribbean today will be spotlighting local and state-wide elections in an early printing of our November issue. (Print date is October 23rd) Come with Caribbean Today as we enter the last lap of this most intriguing election season. Candidates, you need to earn the people's vote. This has been a presidency like no other.

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FIGHTING BACK: Caribbean American V.P. candidate rejects critics, rises again

GORDON WILLIAMS

The history-making daughter of a Caribbean immigrant is forcefully rejecting personal attacks on her character, heritage and eligibility as she seeks to become the next vice president of the United States.

Senator Kamala Harris, who was born in the U.S. to a Jamaican father and Indian mother, was last month chosen by Democrat Joe Biden as his running mate. Biden is challenging incumbent Donald Trump to become president.

The selection of Harris, a Democratic senator who represents her birth state of California, drew widespread praise as she became the first black woman picked for that role by a major U.S. political party. Among those supporting the choice, which was announced by Biden on Aug. 11, were Barack Obama, the first African American to hold the office of U.S. president, the general Caribbean American community and citizens living in the Caribbean.

However, Biden's preference, which finally silenced months of mounting speculation, also drew public backlash from political opponents, mainly Republicans. Some questioned if Harris was legally qualified as a U.S.



Harris, left, with father Donald and sister Maya.

citizen to hold the office of vice president, if the Biden-Harris ticket was elected on Nov. 3. Others claimed she could not legitimately be African American because her parents were not U.S. citizens when she was born at Kaiser Hospital in Oakland.

Some, including President Donald Trump, resorted to calling Harris ugly names in an attempt to stain her character. Trump has described the 55-year-old as "extraordinarily nasty," "the meanest," "sort of a mad woman" and "the most horrible." He also criticized her verbal attacks against Biden during the

Democratic presidential debates, when Harris was a candidate for the top White House job, but later dropped out of the race.

Shortly after Biden announced Harris as his running mate, Trump did not dismiss outright the possibility that she may be ineligible to hold the office of vice president due to her parents' immigrant background. Instead, the president cited a recent magazine article by a conservative attorney which raised that issue.

According to

U.S. constitution, she is eligible because she was born in the country.

CONFRONTED

Harris publicly confronted the doubters and, in the process, blasted Trump's record as president, especially during the time of the coronavirus pandemic.

"Donald Trump's failure of leadership has cost lives and livelihoods," Harris said while addressing the Democratic National Convention (DNC) on Aug. 19, where she was officially confirmed as her party's vice presidential nominee.

"If you're a parent struggling with your child's remote learning, or you're a teacher struggling on the other side of that screen, you know that what we're doing right now isn't working."

Days later, she described Trump's efforts to discredit her as a way of turning the negative spotlight away from himself, especially during the pandemic, which had infected more than six million Americans and killed at least 183,000 by the end of August.

"There is so much that comes out of Donald Trump's mouth that's designed to distract the American people from what

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 8)



Harris as a baby with great grandmother Iris Finegan in Jamaica

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FEATURE



Michelle Obama rocks 'V-O-T-E' necklace by Jamaican designer

Michelle Obama may have delivered the message, but the inspiration behind the powerful-yet-fashionable "V-O-T-E" necklace worn by the former first lady of the United States, during her speech at last month's Democratic National Convention, carried a distinct Caribbean flavor.

The necklace, which drew praise and a rush to buy, was designed by Jamaican-born jeweler Chari Cuthbert, a resident of California, and produced by her line BYCHARI.

Cuthbert, 36, who formerly worked as an executive assistant, associate producer, talent coordinator, photo assistant and office manager before founding her company in 2012, is a graduate of the Art Institute of



The former first lady carried a clear message around her neck.

Fort Lauderdale. She told the **LA Times** she sat at her desk and cried for five minutes when she learned Obama was wearing her design, describing the moment as "overwhelming in the best way possible."

"Michelle Obama is the Holy Grail," Cuthbert told the news outlet. "She's the queen. She is the woman to be. She's the woman to listen to."

"Michelle Obama is the Holy Grail. She's the queen. She is the woman to be. She's the woman to listen to"

- Cuthbert

The V-O-T-E necklace is reportedly available in "14K yellow, rose, and white gold" with "small, large or diamond letters." BYCHARI reportedly sold 4,000 pieces, at \$295 each, in the two days following the national airing of Obama's taped speech on Aug. 17.



- Photograph by Purseblog

Cuthbert

Cuthbert has also designed jewelry worn by other well known personalities, including actress Kate Hudson and model

Rose Huntington-Whiteley.

- Edited from News Americas Now.



FIGHTING BACK: Caribbean American V.P. candidate rejects critics, rises again

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7)

he's doing every day that is about neglect and harm to the American people," she told **ABC News**.

During that interview, Biden defended Harris, while also lambasting Trump's reaction to his running mate.

"No president has ever said anything like that," the former U.S. vice-president said. "No president has used those words."

GALVANIZE

Biden's selection appeared to galvanize his campaign, which raised \$48 million immediately after Harris was named his running mate and another \$70 million following the DNC. Her choice was heralded by a cross-section of the Democratic Party.

"Joe picked the right partner in Kamala," Hillary Clinton, who lost the race for U.S. president to Trump in 2020, said during DNC. "Joe Biden and Kamala Harris are gonna give us so much more."

During the DNC Obama said Harris is "more than prepared for the job" and that "Joe and Kamala will restore our standing in the world" if elected.

"They actually care about every American and they care deeply about democracy," he added.

The Caribbean community also rallied around Harris's selection.

"Senator Harris embodies

and is the epitome of the American dream," U.S. Congresswoman Yvette Clarke, daughter of Jamaican immigrants, told the **Caribbean Media Corporation**.

"I am proud to serve in Congress alongside my fellow Jamaican colleague and change maker who is paying the way for women of color in politics and beyond," Clarke added. "(Her selection) ... truly marks a historic milestone for the Democratic Party and the American people."

"Kamala has a Jamaican father. The Democratic Vice-Presidential Nominee has a Jamaican connection. As far as Jamaicans are concerned, WE will be vice-president!", an edited **Twitter** message from @yooneedmorejodi partially stated.

Even Republican critics and media figures who normally oppose Democrats, nodded with approval over the choice of Harris. Colin Powell, a former U.S. Army general and secretary of state under a Republican government, whose parents were born in Jamaica and who addressed the DNC, has said he will support the Biden-Harris ticket.

SUCCESS

In her speech at the DNC, Harris credited her success as "testament to the generations before me," including her parents Shyamala Gopalan and Donald Harris, who met as college



Harris, left, and Biden

students and "fell in love in that most American way - while marching together for justice in the civil rights movement of the 1960s."

Her father later taught economics at Stanford University. The couple separated when Harris was age five and she was raised, along with her sister Maya, mostly by her mother.

While Harris heaped effusive praise about her upbringing on her mother, a theme reminiscent of tributes in her autobiography "The Truths We Hold: An American Journey", she did not offer much detail about her relationship with her father at the DNC.

However, in "The Truths" Harris described her father as "a brilliant student" and the one who encouraged her, at an early

age, to explore all possibilities.

"I remember that when I was a little girl my father wanted me to run free," she wrote.

In the children's book "SUPERHEROES Are Everywhere", which Harris also wrote, she called her father a "superhero because he made me feel brave."

"The Truths" shows Harris visiting family in Jamaica multiple times as a child. They included her great grandmother Iris Finegan, grandmother Beryl and grandfather Oscar Joseph.

FAMILY

During the DNC, Harris also defined her "family" as her husband Doug, his children Cole and Ella who call her "Momala", her sister Maya, best friend, nieces, godchildren,

"Mrs. Shelton" (a neighbor who "helped raise" her), college sorority sisters, plus aunts and uncles, which included some from the Caribbean island.

The former attorney general of California also praised women who fought for equal rights for women, including the late "great" Shirley Chisholm, daughter of Caribbean immigrants who became a U.S. congresswoman and later ran for president, the first black woman to do so. Harris promised a Biden-Harris partnership in the White House would reverse damage done to the U.S. done by Trump and his administration.

"Joe and I believe that we can build that beloved community," she said.

Harris criticized the president's continuous missteps in response to the pandemic.

"(Trump) got it wrong from the beginning," Harris said during a speech on Aug. 27, "then he got it wrong again and again."

She also slammed Trump's response to several other areas, including race issues, an economy slowed by COVID-19 and his stance on immigration.

"There is no vaccine for racism," Harris said.

Harris will be up against current Vice President Mike Pence in a debate scheduled for Oct. 7.



In an unprecedented effort to serve those in need, **Sheriff Gregory Tony** has committed **\$100,000** to **Feeding South Florida** to facilitate the distribution of **700,000 meals** for all Broward County residents suffering during the COVID-19 pandemic. This is the largest single feeding distribution effort in BSO history.



Sheriff Gregory Tony



Sheriff Tony and BSO's Neighborhood Support team formed OPERATION HELPING HANDS: an initiative launched in partnership with Feeding South Florida, and other community partners, to serve the entire Broward community.



BSO's Neighborhood Support Team and Community Services personnel have assisted with the safe delivery and distribution of millions of pounds of food at drive thru and pick-up sites across the county.

5K

BSO hand delivered more than 5,000 meals to seniors who were, and still are, unable to leave their homes.

BSO will continue to be here to support our community. We are here for YOU!

Holding skeptical Windies bosses will endorse report

PORT OF SPAIN, Trinidad – West Indies fast bowling icon Michael Holding has not held out much hope for the implementation of some of the major recommendations arising from the recent Wehby Governance Report.

The 66-year-old Jamaican, now a well-respected international television analyst, said while he was happy with the review of the governance of West Indies cricket, he was worried the Cricket West Indies (CWI) board of directors would be reticent about adopting the proposals, especially those which threatened their own existence.

Holding argued that if

“A lot of those people in my opinion are not there to help West Indies cricket; they are there because they think it’s a big deal to be a part of the West Indies cricket board”

directors had the success of West Indies cricket at heart, they would be motivated to put the development of the game before their own well-being.

“I have absolutely no problem with the recommendations that are coming from these committees,” Holding said during an interview on **i95FM Radio** here recently.

“I’ve seen them on so many occasions but my question always is: are they going to be taken on board? Are the board members going to vote for some of (themselves) to stay home?”

“I doubt it very much because a lot of those people in my opinion are not there to help West Indies cricket; they are there because they think it’s a big deal to be a part of the West Indies cricket board.

“If you’re not offering anything, if the board is not functioning as well as it should, you should be able to look at yourself and say ‘listen, we need to change this’. Even if I am one of the people that have to stay home, if this is going to produce something better (that should be the approach).

“That’s what they should be there for, to look at things that will produce something better, not to be worried about whether I won’t go to the next meeting or if I won’t be part of the board.

“But every time these recommendations come forward I get the impression that’s what people are thinking.”

TASK

An independent task force, headed by Jamaican businessman Don Wehby, was charged by CWI with reviewing the governance structure of



Holding

the regional body. It recently put forward several proposals aimed at “improving the governance of CWI”. Among the recommendations was downsizing of the current CWI board of directors from 18 to 12, and the inclusion of at least two women.

In another potential blow to the CWI bureaucracy, the task force also proposed the reduction in the number of CWI committees from 12 to five.

Holding questioned the rationale of having two directors from each territorial board, pointing out the system did not allow for proper representation to take place.

“You have a ridiculous situation – you have two people coming from a region and there’s an issue on which to vote at the board level,” he explained.

“You are supposed to be taking a mandate from the people in your country. You are not supposed to be going in there with your own impressions and your own thoughts and your own thinking about this thing”

“Now if you’re representing Jamaica or Barbados or Trinidad or anywhere, you are supposed to be taking a mandate from the people in your country. You are not supposed to be going in there with your own impressions and your own thoughts and your own thinking about this thing.

“Both members are supposed to go to that board meeting and vote for what the mandate is from their board and I know on many occasions you have people that will go to a meeting to vote on an issue and one will vote ‘A’ and one will vote ‘B’. How does that make sense?”

CWI President Ricky Skerritt said last month the Wehby Report was currently in the hands of directors and hoped it could be approved and implemented.

- Edited from CMC.



CARIB Comments

• **“Jacob Blake is fighting for his life because law enforcement officers across the U.S. have not been held accountable for the shootings of black men and women. Thousands have been killed or injured without consequence, a dangerous precedent that has given law enforcement impunity rather than an indictment for the violence perpetrated against black and brown people”** - New York City Democratic Council Member Farah N. Louis, daughter of Haitian immigrants, speaks out in the wake of police shooting a black man last month in Wisconsin.



• **“Women have been at the forefront of every civil and human rights movement; and now, we stand ready to take our seat at the table in the White House”**

- Louis welcomes the selection of Kamala Harris as Joe Biden’s vice presidential running mate.

• **“Reggae music has influenced every continent of the world ... That is the power of our culture! Our athletes have established themselves as the best in the world. Our culture, our language, our food, our way of life, has caught the imagination of the world”** - Jamaica

Parliamentarian Peter Phillips explains the Caribbean nation’s global influence in his Independence Day message last month.



• **“The Trump administration has been transparent, blatant and shameless in its efforts to undermine the 2020**

Census (in the United States), particularly by discounting metropolitan areas and disregarding black, brown and immigrant communities” - New York City Public Advocate Jumaane D. Williams, son of Grenadian immigrants, makes clear his views on the recent announcement by the administration of President Donald Trump, through the U.S. Census Bureau, to end all counting efforts for the 2020 Census on Sept. 30, a month earlier than the previous deadline.

- Compiled from various services.



Kamala Harris has huge responsibility to speak up for immigrants



Harris

A lot has been written about Joe Biden’s selection of Senator Kamala Harris as his running mate for the Nov. 2020 presidential elections - from the fact that she is the first black woman ever selected for the post, to the fact that she is a daughter of first-generation immigrants from India and the Caribbean island of Jamaica.

These facts make it a more important job for Harris in 2020 – one she should welcome and do enthusiastically without trying to downplay her identity as simply “American”.

The reality is she is ticks many boxes, and in the era of Black Lives Matter there is no denying that these are the factors that helped her beat out the competition and secure the job. She is a woman, a person of color with South Asian, African and Caribbean roots, a black American and, most of all, a second-generation immigrant.

The saying to whom much

is given, much is required, is one which now applies to Harris beyond all the hoopla, hype and ceremonial significance of her selection. Now is the time for Harris to get to work, energizing the black and immigrant voting blocs with fresh vision and policy changes on issues that affect them.

Issues that we as a community and voting bloc have too long

suffered under the burden of, as we are again and again taken for granted by the Democratic Party.

PERSONAL

Harris has a personal responsibility to move away from the status quo of the Democratic Party and push for an agenda that matches the moment in which we find ourselves – a pandemic moment that requires monumental changes in America.

This is the vision and hope that she must sell as Biden’s running mate, as we count down to Nov. 3, in order to mobilize a despondent, frustrated and

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 10)

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VIEWPOINT



GUT FEELINGS: Men can be softies, they just aren't allowed to show it

Nobody knows the troubles I've seen, nobody knows my sorrow. Those are the words of a famous song.

But they also reflect and highlight the feelings of many males in our society. Yes, men are sensitive and do feel deeply.

A few weeks ago I met a friend who I hadn't seen in a while. It was then that I recalled that his wife had passed away a few months ago and he was naturally still feeling the pain of the loss. What moved me even more was when he told me something that I never knew, that his first wife had also passed many years ago.

He continued to say that for his entire life, every step he made, he would be pushed two steps backwards. At that point tears welled up in his eyes, brimmed over and rolled down his cheeks.

For some strange reason, many people do not believe that men have deep feelings too, especially sensitivity, and expect them to just shrug off misfortune and sorrow with a stiff upper lip and bravado like Samson.

"Come on man, get over it, don't let it get you down, man up."

So men suck it up, mask

their feelings, do not show the world their inner self.

WEAKNESS

Surprisingly, it is mostly women who think that men do not feel, and if they do happen to encounter a man who is, heaven forbid, sensitive, they may consider him weak. Maybe that's why some men hit women, just to prove that they are real men, big, tough and strong.

Many mothers also instill this, even to their sons. Well, truthfully many fathers do it too.

"Boys don't cry, boys don't show weakness, boys must be strong."

"Stop the damn bawling like a sissy."

Being strong does not mean an absence of compassion or sensitivity. Hardened soldiers, policemen or firemen will still cry over a tragedy.

Even so, a man is not supposed to show any weakness



TONY ROBINSON



under normal circumstances. There are men who have lost their women to other men, or perhaps she just simply left for greener pastures for reasons unknown to him. As a man, he's not supposed to show any weakness and pine after her, bawling his eyes out.

"The best cure for a lost love, is to find a new love."

MISERY

But sadly and realistically, all men cannot live up to that

mantra and handle the situation with dignity, aplomb and bravado. Many of them really take it hard, as they feel deeply, so allow those to wallow in their misery and pain until they get over it.

Needless to say, it's never good to see a grown man sniveling and whining over a woman who left him.

"Get a grip man, show some testicular fortitude, find another woman."

When a man gets cheated

on, cuckolded, it's possibly one of the worst pains that he could encounter. Combine that with the shame, plus ridicule, embarrassment and snide remarks from his male friends, and you have a man who suffers.

SYMPATHY

Women who are cheated on get sympathy from their friends and relatives though.

"Never mind dear, he is a worthless man who doesn't deserve you." But men who had their wives run off with another man, are often met with derision and contempt from other men.

Do they know that men are sensitive too? Do they care? Or is it merely a defense mechanism? Or perhaps they think that if it was them they would handle the situation better?!

Society can be cruel, cold, callous towards men who have empathy, men who are sensitive, men with compassion.

So even though men are sensitive and feel deeply too, they certainly dare not show it.

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Kamala Harris has huge responsibility to speak up for immigrants

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9) battered immigrant and black voting bloc to get out and vote.

It is not enough for Harris to tow the line and continue the establishment agenda of simply bashing Donald Trump and his handling of the coronavirus pandemic, the economy, immigration and everything else he has fudged up since 2017.

As the daughter of Jamaican immigrant Dr. Donald Harris and the late Indian immigrant Dr. Shyamala Gopalan Harris, civil rights student protestors and supporters of the 1960s, Harris has the responsibility to energize the base, to push an immigration agenda that reverses the draconian policies of this administration by giving "Dreamers" citizenship once and for all; promising to end the policy that has kept children kidnapped and jailed and away from their parents; and ensuring undocumented immigrants can get on a pathway to some form of legalization once and for all.

RIGHTS

She also has the responsibility

to speak up for the black community at a time when our civil rights are under threat again in this country. From economic to social, to police and marijuana reform, Harris can and must ensure she is THE voice for the immigrant and black voters in America.

It is the only way to get this important swing bloc of voters – Hispanic, Caribbean, Asian and black – energized and out to the polls.

As the daughter of immigrants, and as a little black girl who grew up to become a black woman and who has undoubtedly faced discrimination firsthand, while seeing the xenophobia meted out to her mother because of her accent, she has an added responsibility to do this.

The question now – is will she?

Edited from News Americas column written by Felicia J. Persaud, publisher of NewsAmericasNow.



CORRECTION

Oliver Gilbert edged Sybrina Fulton, 50 percent to 49 percent of the votes, in the race for Miami-Dade commissioner, District 1 last month. Caribbean Today incorrectly reported last

month that Gilbert, a former mayor of Miami Gardens, was again running for that office. We apologize for the error.



VIRTUAL JUMP-UP: Miami Carnival goes online in COVID-19 era

For the first time in 35 years the Miami Carnival will be produced as a virtual experience next month.

The event, which this year is scheduled to run from Oct. 8-11, is a much anticipated celebration in the Caribbean American community, usually drawing up to 75,000 people. It is also a huge boost to South Florida's economy.

However, due to the novel coronavirus pandemic

“Like others, we have been challenged to pivot and re-imagine how we can continue to create space for our annual cultural celebration of Miami Carnival” - Justin

(COVID-19), the event will be offered online, according to the Miami Broward Carnival Host Committee, which said it is “committed to flattening the curve of coronavirus.”

The Miami Carnival online

edition plans to welcome people from across the globe, continuing the tradition of presenting a cultural event that celebrates Miami, Caribbean, music, culture and pageantry in a multiple-day event.

For the first time, the committee is making all the elements of Miami Carnival free to access. It will be hosted at MiamiCarnival.org.

PIVOT

“Everyone has been deeply impacted by the pandemic,” Joan Justin, chair for Miami Broward One Carnival Host committee, explained in a post on its website late last month.

“Like others, we have been challenged to pivot and re-imagine how we can continue to create space for our annual cultural celebration of Miami Carnival.

“While we will miss hosting attendees into the South Florida area, we are excited to share Miami Carnival with a global audience this year. We



- Photograph by RJ Deed/miamicarnival.org

Online viewers will still get to enjoy the pageantry of the costumes and experience the sounds of steel pan music during carnival.

know that we will persevere through this time and continue to support our community to recover from the global crisis with which our world is faced.”

The Miami Broward Carnival team is planning to present a showcase of elements and traditions embraced and celebrated during Miami Carnival, with a promise to entertain, inspire and educate.

Scheduled attractions include local DJs kicking off the Miami Carnival Virtual Weekend experience. There will be performances by the 2019

“While we will miss hosting attendees into the South Florida area, we are excited to share Miami Carnival with a global audience this year” - Justin

“Junior Calypso” winner, the 2019 “Junior Steelpan” winner, plus a segment to take viewers through a story about carnival. Visit <https://miamicarnival.org> for updates.



Surinamese singer dies

PARAMARIBO, Suriname – Surinamese singer Agnes Agie, whose tune “Faluma” was made popular by Barbadian soca star Allison Hinds, died last month at age 57.

Agie, who was buried here on Aug. 25, suffered a stroke while attending a birthday party for her grandson last year and had been at the Libi Makandra Care Center. She remained paralyzed on her right side and had difficulty speaking until her death on Aug. 12.

“Together we were members of music formation Aisa Si. She always brought her own number and one of the popular songs is

Faluma. She will live on,” said singer Carlos Aaron, adding that Agie was a cheerful woman who loved to sing and cook.

In 1998, Hinds and her group Square One released “Faluma”, spoken in the language of the Saamaka tribe in the Caribbean community nation of Suriname. The song went on to top the charts in almost every Caribbean country.

Faluma is in the language of the Saamaka tribe in Suriname. It celebrates their escape from the slave ship that brought them from Africa.

- Edited from CMC.



‘Rediscover Jamaica’ links nationals with attractions

Jamaica has a new program designed to encourage its nationals to enjoy the Caribbean country's tourism product.

The Jamaica Tourist Board (JTB) recently launched “Rediscover Jamaica” to allow persons to safely embrace the island with friends and family.

“Travelers from around the world come to our island for a complete vacation experience and we are lucky to call it home,” Donovan White, Jamaica's director of tourism, explained in a recent press release.

The Rediscover Jamaica campaign aims to generate interest in and use of the tourism facilities available on the island, including accommodations, attractions, transportation and shopping. It is expected to feature a public relations and social media component, coupled with tourism partners showcasing their offerings.

For more information on Rediscover Jamaica and for vacation planning ideas, visit www.visitjamaica.com.



Inner Circle to be honored

Legendary Jamaican band Inner Circle will be among the honorees at the 2020 Launch Music Awards (LMA) this month.

Inner Circle, known for hits like “Bad Boys”, will be recognized alongside other

entertainers, such as the late Betty Wright, Flo Rida, Pitbull, DJ Khaled and 2 Live Crew, on Labor Day weekend. The honorees will receive the Icon Award for their musical contribution.



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PRICE HIKE: U.S. immigration services fees set to increase Oct. 2

As the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) claims it needs at least \$1.2 billion in taxpayer funding to avoid furloughing about 70 percent of its workforce, the agency chose the last day of July 2020 to announce an exorbitant increase in fees for some of the most common immigration procedures.

Come Oct. 2, immigrants looking to enter the the U.S., adjust within or file for citizenship or family members,

Come Oct. 2, immigrants looking to enter the the U.S., adjust within or file for citizenship or family members, will have to shell out a lot more for immigration services, including 81 percent more in fees to become a naturalized citizen.

will have to shell out a lot more for immigration services,

including 81 percent more in fees to become a naturalized citizen.

The reason? The immigration agency cited the increase in operating costs and a decrease in its income. According to a statement, the Department of Homeland Security agency adjusted the rates by a weighted average increase of 20 percent to recover its operating costs and thus avoid a funding shortfall estimated at \$1 billion annually.

- The fee to apply to become a U.S. citizen or receive U.S. citizenship through naturalization will increase from \$640 to \$1,160 if filed online or \$1,170 in paper filing.

- The fee to file for petitions for employment authorization — Form I-765 - will go up by 34 percent to \$550.

- The fee for removing conditions on permanent residence obtained through marriage (Form I-751), will go up by 28 percent, from \$595 to \$760.

Qualifying Family Member of a U-1 Nonimmigrant (Victims of Criminal Activity). Current fee: \$230. Final fee: \$1,485. Percentage change: 546 percent.

- N-470, Application to Preserve Residence for Naturalization Purposes. Current fee: \$355. Final fee: \$1,585. Percentage change: 346 percent.

- 129, Petition for a Nonimmigrant Worker – A 75 percent increase – from \$460

Immigrants applying before Oct. 2 will not have to pay the new fees. As long as the application is postmarked before the final date, the costs will be the current fees.

to \$805.

- I-193 Application for Waiver of Passport and/or Visa. An increase from \$585 to \$2,790.

Immigrants applying before Oct. 2 will not have to pay the new fees. As long as the application is postmarked before the final date, the costs will be the current fees.

- Edited from News Americas.



For the first time, asylum applicants will have to pay a \$50 fee in the Application for Asylum and for Withholding of Removal. That will make the U.S. one of only four countries around the world that charge a fee for humanitarian protection.

- I-131A, Application for Travel Document (Carrier Documentation). Current fee: \$575. Final Fee: \$1,110. Percentage change: 76 percent.

- I-881, Application for Suspension of Deportation. Current fee: \$285. Final fee: \$1,810. Percentage change: 535 percent.

- I-539, Application To Extend/Change Nonimmigrant Status. Current fee: \$370. Final fee: \$400 (\$390 for online filing). Percentage change: eight percent (five percent).

- I-929, Petition for

SSA services available by phone during coronavirus

Social Security Administration (SSA) offices are not providing service to walk-in visitors due to COVID-19.

However, the SSA is able to assist by phone with most Social Security business.

A SSA representative is available by telephone, by calling your local Social Security office or the SSA's national 800 number. The numbers for the SSA local office can be found

online by using the Social Security Office Locator at www.ssa.gov/locator. Online services include:

- Apply for retirement, disability and Medicare benefits;
- Request a replacement Social Security card (in most areas); and
- Print a benefit verification letter; and certain deadlines wherever possible.



Amerijet hires new CEO

Tim Strauss has been named the new chief executive officer for Amerijet International, Inc., an air transportation company headquartered in Miami, Florida which serves the Caribbean and elsewhere.

Strauss is scheduled to take up his new post Aug. 17, replacing Vic Karjian, who will become Amerijet's executive chairman.

"Tim brings an enormous amount of expertise and experience to Amerijet and will be a key driver of our future successes," Karjian was quoted as saying in a recent press release.

"I am excited to have the opportunity to work with him as we continue the company's growth as a leading global air cargo provider."

Strauss, who has been responsible to Air Canada's cargo business, will leave that post to join Amerijet. He has also worked for Northwest/Delta Cargo, Hawaiian Airlines Cargo and Emery Worldwide.



Strauss



FOOD FOR THE SOUL



Members of the Jamaican Jerk Festival USA team last month showed their appreciation for the work being done by healthcare workers in the fight against the coronavirus by delivering 50 lunches to the medical staff at Memorial Hospital in West Hollywood, Florida. The meals, prepared by Chef Abdul Catering, included jerk chicken, vegetable yellow rice and steamed cabbage, accompanied by Grace Tropical Rhythms juice and green banana chips. The annual Grace Jamaican Jerk Festival is a family outing which offers Caribbean-flavored food and cultural awareness.

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Jamaican steamed fish and okra is a healthy, tasty treat

Among the many delicious Jamaican dishes is the nutritious - and tasty - steamed fish and okra.

It's protein gold for a bodybuilder or fitness expert and just about anyone can enjoy it.

Here's you can make it easily, according to RoxyChowDown:

INGREDIENTS

- 4 whole, medium red or yellow tail snappers
- 2-3 teaspoons salt to taste
- 1 teaspoon black pepper
- 1 teaspoon curry powder
- 1 tablespoon butter
- ½ teaspoon scotch bonnet pepper or to taste
- 5 garlic cloves crushed
- 1 onion
- 1 stalk scallion
- ½ large bell pepper
- 1 sprig thyme
- 6 pimento seeds
- 1 large carrot julienned
- pumpkin diced
- 2 tablespoons fish soup mix
- ¼ cup coconut milk optional
- 8-12 okras chopped
- 1 tablespoon cooking oil
- 1 large Irish potato julienned (optional)
- 6-8 Jamaican tough water crackers (optional)

METHOD

Prepare fish by scaling, gutting and washing thoroughly



Steamed fish and okra

in lime or vinegar water.

Wash and prep your fresh herbs and vegetables then set aside.

In a wide skillet, add butter, cooking oil and curry powder and cook for a minute while stirring. Add chopped onions, garlic, thyme, pimento, scotch bonnet, bell peppers and sauté on medium-high heat for a minute.

Add carrots, Irish potato and cubed pumpkin and evenly spread to form a "bed" for your fish.

Lay the fish on the bed of seasoning and vegetables and add a quarter cup water. Then cover the pot to let steam on medium-high heat for three minutes.

Add another half cup of water and let steam for five minutes.

Check the pot every two minutes to ensure the liquid hasn't dried out.

Use a large spoon to scoop some liquid and pour over the fish to cook them evenly.

Add three quarters to one pack fish soup mix (to taste) to a cup of coconut milk and stir thoroughly. Add the fish seasoning and coconut milk mix, cover and let cook for 10 mins on low heat.

Add okras and crackers in the last five minutes and let steam.

Serve with your choice of rice, ground provisions, or festivals.

- Edited from News Americas.



BVI's joy is a 'painkiller'

There's an easy-to-make Caribbean drink called the painkiller, which is popular in the British Virgin Islands. Here's the recipe:

INGREDIENTS

- 2-4 ozs. of dark aged rum
- 4 ozs. pineapple juice
- 1 oz. cream of coconut
- 1 oz. orange juice
- grated fresh nutmeg
- Glass: Hurricane or snifter

METHOD

In a cocktail shaker filled

with ice, add the first four ingredients and shake.

Pour the contents into glasses over ice, and then top with grated nutmeg.

It's that simple.

- Edited from News Americas.



Caribbean 'painkiller'

Chow down on Trini delicacy

Here's a simple recipe for a Trini delicacy that you can make. It's a mango chow.

INGREDIENTS

- 1-2 green mangos
- 1/4 teaspoon of salt
- Sprinkle of black pepper
- 1 tbsp. shado beni or 1/4 cup of cilantro (optional)
- 1 lime or lemon or a few tbsps. vinegar to taste
- Your favorite pepper (optional)
- 1 shallot (optional)
- 2 cloves of garlic (optional)

METHOD

In a bowl, add sliced pepper of your choice, garlic and shallots. These ingredients are optional based on the level of spice you're trying to achieve in your mango chow.



Mango chow

Wash and peel mangos, slice into wedges and place in a bowl.

Add salt and pepper. Add your shado beni or cilantro. Squeeze the juice of the lemon or lime, this can also be substituted with vinegar.

Toss the mixture with a spoon. Do not use hands if peppers are present in the mixture.

- Edited from News Americas.



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COVID AND THE CARIBBEAN



www.caribbeantoday.com

~ A CARIBBEAN TODAY SPECIAL FEATURE

PAHO asks Caribbean to reinforce contact tracing, data systems as COVID-19 cases spike in August

WASHINGTON, D.C.— The Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) is urging Caribbean countries to reinforce contact tracing and data systems as cases of the coronavirus (COVID-19) more than doubled in the region of the Americas in recent weeks.

The United Nations health agency said the number of new COVID-19 infections reported in the Americas more than doubled, rising from 5.3 million at the start of July to 12 million cases by late August.

“Primary health care should be at the center of the response: identifying cases, acting to contain transmission and providing timely care in the community,” said the Dominican-born PAHO Director Dr. Carissa F. Etienne.

“... We can’t stop all transmission, but if countries stay vigilant and expand testing and surveillance, they can better identify spikes in cases and act quickly to contain them before they spread out of control.”

PAHO said despite the rise

in cases, countries have gradually relaxed restrictions, resumed commerce and some are gearing up to head back to school.

BAD SIGN

“This is not a good sign,” she said. “Wishing the virus away will not work, it will only lead to more cases.”

PAHO said data from the Americas show the majority of COVID-19 cases are reported in people between ages 20 and 59 years, but almost 70 percent of deaths are reported in people over 60.

“This indicates that younger people are primarily driving the spread of the disease in our region,” said Dr. Etienne. “Many young people who contract the virus may not become ill or require an ICU bed, but they can spread it to others who will.”

“This is a stark reminder that defeating COVID-19 is a shared responsibility – not only among countries and regions, but between people, neighbors and communities ... If you don’t take



Etienne

the right steps to keep yourself safe, you’re putting others in danger.”

Dr. Etienne said she was concerned about new infections in the Caribbean as countries open their borders. By mid-August, The Bahamas had observed a 60 percent increase, compared to the previous week, while Sint Maarten, Trinidad and Tobago and the United States Virgin Islands all reported a 25 percent jump.

- Edited from CMC.



BVI in lockdown, tightens border to fight pandemic

ROAD TOWN, British Virgin Islands – British Virgin Islands (BVI) Governor Augustus Jaspert late last month announced a lockdown as it seeks to deal with an upsurge in the number of coronavirus (COVID-19) cases.

Premier Andrew Fahie also announced an initiative that will give border security officers in the British overseas territory a monthly allowance in the wake of the pandemic.

Up to press time, the BVI had recorded one death and 25 positive cases of the virus.

Jaspert said that with effect from Aug. 26, for seven days in the first instance, only those businesses that provide essential services will be open and all other



Fahie

businesses and work places must be closed.

“People will be free to leave their homes during 5 a.m. to 5 p.m. (local time), but we ask that you limit this as much as possible

and only do so to access essential services and activities,” Jaspert said.

He said that the BVI is recording further cases of COVID-19 and is now being classified as “having clusters of cases.”

Fahie, meanwhile, said BVI had “boosted our manpower for law enforcement and border protection.” The premier also said government is putting the necessary measures in place to increase the overall fleet size of law enforcement vessels to further protect and strengthen the territory’s borders.

- Edited from CMC.



Jamaica crosses ‘trip line’ as infection cases spike

KINGSTON, Jamaica –The Jamaica government late last month announced a series of new measures, including an all-island curfew, to help curb the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19) after the country recorded 83 new cases of the virus over 24 hours.

Andrew Holness, the prime minister leading into the Sept. 3 general elections, told an Aug. 24 news conference that Jamaica had “now crossed the trip line” and that an all-island curfew from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. (local time) daily, would go into effect from through Sept. 30.

The government said entertainment events requiring permits would be suspended and those for which permits have been granted would be cancelled and the promoter refunded.

“When the contact tracing is done you are seeing that many persons, even high profile persons, who are affected, you could trace right back to entertainment,” Holness said.

BURIALS

Burials will be allowed with up to 15 persons, including the officiating minister.

Beginning Aug. 27, residents in some communities will be required to stay at home, even outside of curfew hours. Holness said this would prevent people



Holness asked Jamaicans to wear a mask.

from being outside unless they have a legitimate reason.

“We are seeing a clustering of cases occurring within a number of communities in the Corporate Area,” he explained. “We have decided that we will take some additional measures for these communities ...

“Even within the curfew hours, we will put in place an order which will give the police the authority to, if you are seen loitering in a public space, you could be required to return home,” Holness added.

Up to press time Jamaica’s COVID-19 infection total was drawing close to 2,000, with 19 deaths.

- Edited from CMC.



No face-to-face classes, says University of Guyana

GEORGETOWN, Guyana – The University of Guyana (UG) last month said there would be no face-to-face classes for the first semester of the new academic year as a result of the ongoing coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic that has killed more than 30 people and infected over 1,000 others since March.

“The institution will continue to work in safe mode online with essential services being performed on the University’s

campuses,” UG explained in a statement, adding that it would offer its courses (online) for Semester 1 of the 2020/2021 academic year. It also said the new academic year is scheduled to begin Oct. 5 and that registration for new and continuing students runs through Sept. 30.

- Edited from CMC.



St. Kitts/Nevis expects big drop in revenue

BASSETTERRE, St. Kitts – Prime Minister Dr. Timothy Harris says government expects an EC\$188 million (one EC dollar = US\$0.37 cents) fallout in revenue over the first six months of this year as compared to the same period last year, due to the impact of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

“The coronavirus pandemic has disrupted our lives, put persons out of work, and undermined the ability of fathers and mothers to care for themselves and their families,” Harris said on his weekly radio and television program late last month. “... This health and economic crisis has no precedent and no template to guide us.”

Harris said his government’s

strategy has been to contain the economic recession, avoid the loss of lives and restore the country to pre-COVID-19 levels of economic activity followed by expanding growth rates.

Harris said his administration, which was recently re-elected to office, has been able to reduce the cost of servicing the public debt, freeing up funds, which are now being used for building roads.



Harris



COVID-19 TOLL

The following is a list of countries in the Caribbean with more than 500 novel coronavirus infections through Aug. 28, 2020 compiled by Worldometer.

The death total for each country is in brackets:

- 1) Dominican Republic - 92,964 (1,630)
- 2) French Guiana - 9,022 (58)
- 3) Haiti - 8,151 (200)
- 4) Cuba - 3,866 (92)
- 5) Jamaica - 1,870 (19)
- 6) Aruba - 1,848 (8)
- 7) Trinidad and Tobago - 1,512 (17)
- 8) Guadeloupe - 935 (15)
- 9) Belize - 818 (12)
- 10) Martinique - 596 (16)

- Compiled from various sources.



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~ A CARIBBEAN TODAY SPECIAL FEATURE

COVID exposes poverty, inequality in Caribbean

SANTIAGO, Chile – The coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic has “exposed” inequalities and social problems affecting the Caribbean.

According to Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), COVID-19 has “exposed and accentuated the social problems that, unfortunately, characterize our region, such as poverty and inequality.”

ECLAC Executive Secretary Alicia Bárcena, in an address to the 19th meeting of the Executive Committee of the Statistical Conference of the Americas (SCA) late last month, said poverty will rise 37.3 percent, affecting 231 million people, and an estimated 98 million people will live in extreme poverty.

ECLAC is also forecasting greater inequality in income distribution in Latin America and the Caribbean.

The SCA meeting was attended by 39 delegations from ECLAC’s member-states and 11 associate members.

INCREASE

ECLAC said the Gini index, which measures the degree of inequality in the distribution of family income in a country, is seen to be increasing between one percent and eight percent in the 17 countries studied.

“The pandemic has clearly shown that inequality, a problem that ECLAC has insisted on repeatedly for more than a decade, is not only to be found in academic or technical discourse but instead has concrete and degrading consequences in people’s lives,” Bárcena said.

She said that the precariousness of social protection systems has left “millions of people adrift who, faced with the termination of their jobs, have had to resort to other alternatives for subsistence, unable to respect social distancing measures and exposing themselves to the pandemic’s risks.”

Bárcena urged countries to continue moving towards “more comprehensive ways of measuring well-being and of rendering social gaps visible through statistical information disaggregated by characteristics such as gender, ethnicity, age group, place of residence and disabilities, so as to leave no one behind.

- Edited from CMC.



Bárcena

WARNING: Pandemic fallout may hurt 500,000 Caribbean tourism jobs ~ ILO

GENEVA, Switzerland – The International Labor Organization (ILO) is warning that almost half a million Caribbean tourism workers face the prospect of losing their jobs, working hours and income due to the coronavirus (COVID-19).

In addition, the ILO said there could also be worsening working conditions and the move to informal employment appear as a concrete possibility due to the pandemic.

In a new publication titled “Tourism sector in the English- and Dutch-speaking Caribbean: An overview and the impact of COVID-19 on growth and employment”, the ILO describes as significant and far-reaching the reduction in the Caribbean tourism industry workforce due to the coronavirus pandemic. The ILO is also noting that recovery from the adverse impact on sector jobs could be prolonged by a reversal in

economic growth, and calls for a human-centered approach to resilient and sustainable solutions.

The report includes ILO guidance and data, as well as research conducted around the region to demonstrate the severity of the crisis on the sector’s labour market.

- Edited from CMC.



Senior Suriname government official dies from COVID-19

PARAMARIBO, Suriname – A senior official in the government of Caribbean community nation Suriname has died after being infected by the coronavirus (COVID-19).

Vergillio Rebin, deputy director of administrative services at the Ministry of the Interior, died on Aug. 24, two weeks after he was admitted to hospital suffering from COVID-19.

The health authorities said

Rebin, 30, who had been admitted to Wanica Regional Hospital, suffered from underlying medical conditions associated with obesity.

Rebin, who became the 59th victim of the virus in the



Rebin

Dutch-speaking country, was also the secretary of the Reform and Renewal Movement (HVB), a party that had split from the Pertjajah Luhur, which is part of the coalition government.

Up to press time Suriname had 876 active cases of COVID-19, out of a total of 3,608.

- Edited from CMC.



Grenada joins WHO program to support virus vaccine

ST. GEORGE’S, Grenada – Health Minister Nicholas Steele has confirmed that Grenada is one of the 172 countries that has complied with the request from the World Health Organization (WHO) to join the vaccine arm of The Access to coronavirus (COVID-19) Tools.

The Access to COVID-19

Tools (ACT) Accelerator, is a new, ground breaking global collaboration to accelerate development, production, and equitable access to COVID-19 tests, treatments, and vaccines.

Up to press time, Grenada had recorded 24 cases of the virus with no deaths.

WHO Director General Dr.

Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, during a news conference on Aug. 24, said most of the organization’s members are engaging the COVAX Global Vaccine Facility.

- Edited from CMC.



Cayman Islands aims to limit border re-opening

GEORGE TOWN, Cayman Islands – The government of the Cayman Islands has announced plans to scale back on a proposal to re-open the territory next month.

According to Premier Alden McLaughlin, with the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic still raging around the world and the high level of active cases in Florida, United States, the phased re-opening will begin with property owners or visitors with access to a home in the Caribbean nation from countries less impacted than the U.S.

Speaking late last month at the first press briefing in more than five weeks, McLaughlin outlined how the government will tackle the increasingly controversial issue of re-opening Cayman to visitors. He said a huge team across government had been considering how to tackle the re-opening, given that Cayman is now COVID-19 free “while the virus rages all around us.”

START

The premier said that Oct. 1 is still the start of the phased re-opening but the goal now is to

allow a limited number of people to come to Cayman, quarantine in more acceptable circumstances than the mandated government quarantine, and ensure they stay put.

He explained that visitors will be tested before they arrive and need a negative test before they can board a plane for Cayman. On arrival, they will be given a bio-button, but they will be expected to isolate for at least eight days before they are given a test in Cayman.

These visitors will also be required to wear a geo-fence tag and government will be employing more public health officials to monitor the individuals to ensure that they do not leave the condos or holiday homes where they are in isolation until officials are sure they do not have the virus.

- Edited from CMC.



McLaughlin

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~ A CARIBBEAN TODAY SPECIAL FEATURE

RISING TIDE: T&T's future is 'bright', says newly elected P.M.

Nationals of Trinidad and Tobago can look forward to a "bright" future, according to newly re-elected Prime Minister Keith Rowley, after his People's National Movement (PNM) won the majority of seats in last month's general elections.

Addressing supporters at his victory party, after preliminary Aug. 10 election results showed the PNM retaining power in the twin island republic by claiming 22 of 41 seats in the House of Representatives, Rowley projected rough roads in the near future, but promised the nation would eventually embrace good times.

"The future of Trinidad and Tobago is bright," he said. "We have some difficult days ahead, but as dark clouds may bring showers, thunderstorms and lightning, behind that is the bright sunshine and the warmth."

"So the passage of the storm

is to be survived and the good weather after is to be enjoyed.

"... Our projections are that the next two years would be difficult, very difficult," Rowley added, "but during that period, we are required to do certain things that will put us in a better position to enjoy the rest of that future which guaranteed to us."

UNITE

The prime minister called on T&T nationals to unite to build the Caribbean nation.

"In this period let us put aside personal slight," Rowley urged. "Let us put aside personal wants and look at the nation's needs, especially of those persons who are least able to look after themselves."

Rowley said his government's priority would be to "ensure that all those who call Trinidad and Tobago home, that they live here with respect



Rowley is sworn in for a second term as prime minister.

and in dignity and the people and the government will play its role."

The prime minister vowed his government's plan is to "build an economy" that will allow all citizens to benefit.

"(An economy) that will grow in such a way that all of us will be lifted by that rising tide of the future, where all boats

will be lifted and we'll all then be able to say 'Mother Trinidad and Tobago is good to us'."

PRIORITY

In the short term, Rowley added, the priority will be to ensure "no one is left behind" and benefits are spread fairly across T&T.

"I said in 2015 the government would have come from the PNM, but it's not a government for only the PNM," he explained. "It's the government of Trinidad and Tobago."

He said the government plans to stick to fulfilling campaign promises because it has been given that power by the electorate.

"Our platform has won and we have a mandate," Rowley said. "We're gonna do and by God we're gonna do what we say we're gonna do."

The prime minister said his Cabinet would reflect meeting those commitments. For example, he promised to "digitize this country" and offer

training for young people to expand agriculture.

TWILIGHT

Rowley, who turns 71 next month, did, however, acknowledge his own political career - which spans more than four decades - was in its twilight years. Therefore, he vowed to spend time grooming young people for political responsibilities they must embrace in the future.

"This, ladies and gentlemen, could easily be my last term in politics in Trinidad and Tobago," Rowley explained.

"I'm not one of those politicians who believe that when you come into office your should go out feet first."

He said he had a "duty and responsibility" to develop the youth in his party, but insisted he would "continue to provide this country with stable and sober leadership."

Gordon Williams



P.M. names new Cabinet for his second term in office



Rowley Morris-Julian Manning Beckles Bacchus Leonce Gonzales de Nobriga



Sagrarsingh-Sooklal Cox Cummings West Hosein Sinanan Webster Roy Al Rawr



Gopee-Scoon Cudjoe Khan Mitchell Robinson-Regis McClashie Deyalsingh Imbert

Trinidad and Tobago Prime Minister Keith Rowley last month named the following members of his Cabinet, after his People's National Movement party was returned to power in the recent general elections:



Gadsby-Dolly Young Rambharat Hinds Singh Browne

- **Keith Rowley** - prime minister
- **Lisa Morris-Julian** - minister in the Ministry of Education
- **Brian Manning** - minister in the Ministry of Finance
- **Penelope Beckles** - minister of housing and urban development
- **Hassel Bacchus** - senator and minister in the Ministry of of Public Administration and Digital Transformation
- **Adrian Leonce** - minister in the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development
- **Marvin Gonzales** - minister of public utilities
- **Symon de Nobriga** - minister in the Office of the Prime Minister
- **Renuka Sagrarsingh-Sooklal** - senator and minister in the Office of the Attorney General and Legal Affairs
- **Donna Cox** - senator and minister of social development and family services

- **Foster Cummings** - minister in the Ministry of Works and Transport
- **Allyson West** - senator and minister of public administration and digital transformation
- **Kazim Hosein** - minister of local government and rural development
- **Rohan Sinanan** - senator and minister of works and transport
- **Ayanna Webster-Roy** - minister in the Office of the Prime Minister
- **Faris Al Rawi** - attorney general and minister of legal affairs
- **Paula Gopee-Scoon** - senator and minister of trade and industry enterprise development
- **Shamfa Cudjoe** - minister of sport and community development
- **Franklin Khan** - minister of energy and industries
- **Randall Mitchell** - senator and minister of tourism, culture and the arts

- **Camille Robinson-Regis** - minister of planning and development
- **Stephen McClashie** - minister of labor
- **Terrence Deyalsingh** - minister of health
- **Colm Imbert** - minister of finance
- **Nyan Gadsby-Dolly** - minister of education
- **Stuart Young** - minister of national security and minister in the Office of the Prime Minister
- **Clarence Rambharat** - senator and minister of social development and family services
- **Fitzgerald Hinds** - minister of youth development and national service
- **Avinash Singh** - senator and minister in the Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries
- **Amery Browne** - will be appointed minister of foreign and CARICOM affairs



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~ A CARIBBEAN TODAY SPECIAL FEATURE

P.M. quarantines after exposure to person with COVID-19

PORT OF SPAIN, Trinidad – Less than two weeks after he was chosen for a second term as prime minister of Trinidad and Tobago, Dr. Keith Rowley went into voluntary quarantine after it became known he had been exposed to a person suffering from the coronavirus (COVID-19) on election day, Aug. 10.

In a message posted on his Facebook page last month Rowley, 71, said that it had come to his attention on the night of Aug. 20 that he was exposed to someone who later tested positive for COVID-19.

“I have been tested and the

results are negative,” he wrote then. “Out of an abundance of caution I have been advised to remain in quarantine at home ...”

His quarantine was expected to last 14 days, until Aug. 24.

CAUTION

Rowley was sworn into office on Aug. 19 as the leader of a new 22-member Cabinet.

He said that, given the circumstances under which “we all now live I once again take this opportunity to appeal to all citizens to each do your part to help fight this virus by strictly following the health instructions

of regular attentive hand washing and sanitization, physical distancing and no congregation in groups above five persons.”

The announcement by Rowley that he had gone into quarantine followed the latest statement by the Ministry of Health that there had been 39 additional positive cases pushing the total to 806. It said that, at that time, the number of active COVID-19 cases was 632, with 12 deaths.

- Edited from CMC.



Persad Bissessar named T&T's Opposition leader

PORT OF SPAIN, Trinidad – Sixty-seven year- old Kamla Persad Bissessar was appointed Opposition Leader in Trinidad and Tobago late last month, promising to lead a “formidable” team that would work in the best interest of the Caribbean nation.

Persad Bissessar, who led the main Opposition United National Congress (UNC) to defeat in the Aug. 10 general elections, said that the Opposition would seek to provide support for T&T's development inside and out of the Parliament. But she warned that “my colleagues and I will no longer be used as an excuse for poor governance and poor performance.”

“We will not be painted as an obstructionist, but I tell you we pledge to work in the best interest of all the people of Trinidad and Tobago,” she said, adding “we will stand strong and resolute in commitment to a better Trinidad and Tobago.”

‘DARK TIMES’

Persad Bissessar said T&T and the world are facing “dark times” as a result of the

coronavirus (COVID-19) “and all I can say is let us pledge to work together” promising that the Opposition will make its contribution to the socio-economic development of the oil rich twin island republic.

She said the population had become more informed, more vocal on national issues “and whilst we may not always agree with the manner in which things are expressed, I am encouraged that our societies demonstrate in the power of the people that the power of the people is stronger than the people in power.”

Persad Bissessar said she was thankful to her colleagues for putting their trust in her becoming Opposition leader, a reference to calls that had surfaced following the electoral defeat for her to step down as both Opposition leader and leader of the UNC.

“I thought long and hard before accepting this appointment, your excellency, I weighed all the pros and cons,” she said.

“I listened to the opinions offered and the support for our great party continues to pour in and it became more and more obvious to me that my work is not yet complete and therefore I thank you today for this appointment.”

- Edited from CMC.



Persad Bissessar

Gov't implements new measures to curb virus spread

PORT OF SPAIN, Trinidad – The Trinidad and Tobago government last month announced a series of new measures aimed at curbing the spread of the novel coronavirus, which had pushed the island into the category of “community spread”.

The government also explained it is examining the possibility of introducing legislation that would allow for persons not wearing masks to be fined.

Prime Minister Dr. Keith

Rowley told an Aug. 15 news conference that the measures had become necessary.

He said the government is also warning about the possibility of a second lockdown of the country, if the new measures that go into effect from Aug. 17, for a 28-day period, do not result in a curtailment of the spread of the virus.

AIM

“The overall aim of these measures are to reduce public

gatherings,” Rowley explained.

“The economy will remain open, people will be required to work as necessary,” adding “all of these actions are aimed at reducing the gathering of people in places where they would normally be exposed to gathering.”

Health authorities here reported more than 600 infections had occurred in T&T through August.



The beginning of the school year is a fresh start and a time of transition. For this teacher, it's bittersweet. As a poor kid with a stutter living in a Miami housing project my parents taught me to work hard because the sky was the limit. Amazing teachers helped me overcome challenges and go on to influence the lives of so many students, lead the United Teachers of Dade and the Florida Education Association (FEA). Our coalition building brought needed improvements to public schools, teacher raises and the safety of our students, teachers and families amid Covid-19 pandemic. FEA has just won an injunction preventing an out-of-control governor from re-opening our schools ignoring the danger of the deadly virus. Our strategy throughout showed me what works. Although not always an easy one, it's been an amazing and blessed journey that prepared me for the national work I have been asked to do. I was recently elected secretary-treasurer of the American Federation of Teachers (AFT) serving as one of three elected officers along with Randi Weingarten and Evelyn DeJesus, representing America's 1.7 million educators and public employees. I will continue to apply the lessons learned in Florida on the national stage. And thanks for your help along the way.

Fedrick 'Fed' Ingram

Is a former Miami-Dade Teacher of the Year, a former president of United Teachers of Dade and outgoing president of the Florida Education Association

FACTS ABOUT T&T

- On Aug. 31, 1962, Trinidad and Tobago gained Independence from Great Britain.
- The country, which consists of two main islands, is 1,981 square miles.
- An estimated 1.4 million people live in T&T.
- T&T became a republic in 1976.
- The nation has a population of mainly people of African and Indian descent.
- T&T is the birthplace of steel pan music.
- Petroleum is the main driver of the country's economy, but it also relies on tourism.
- Some of the world's most famous sportsmen, including cricketer Brian Lara, soccer player Dwight Yorke and track star Ato Boldon are from T&T.
- Trinidad and Tobago claims two Nobel Prize-winning authors, V. S. Naipaul and St. Lucian-born Derek Walcott.

- Compiled from various sources.



T&T's Bravo is first to take 500 wickets in T20 cricket

PORT OF SPAIN, Trinidad – Veteran West Indian all-rounder Dwayne Bravo became the first bowler in the history of Twenty20 cricket to take 500 wickets, when he dismissed Rahkeem Cornwall in a Caribbean Premier League (CPL) contest last month at Queen's Park Oval.

With the fourth ball of his opening over, the 36-year-old Bravo had Cornwall caught at cover by New Zealander Colin Munro for 18 in the fourth over of the St. Lucia Zouks innings, to reach the coveted landmark. That scalp also made him the first bowler to reach 100 wickets in CPL.

Bravo said reaching the milestone at his domestic club venue, where he has played since his childhood, made the occasion even more special.

"It's been a great journey," he said. "I want to say thanks to all my teammates and thanks to all the teams I've played for around the world. "To be able to achieve (this) right here at home,



Bravo this is where I started playing cricket at age eight and I can't be a more happier person to get that 500th here at the Queen's Park Oval."

HAPPY

Bravo started the tournament on 497 wickets and picked up

one each in his first two games, before going wicket-less in Trinbago Knight Riders' last outing against Barbados Tridents at the Brian Lara Stadium in Tarouba. However, the former West Indies one-day captain said he felt under no pressure to achieve the landmark, although he could not hide the joy when he finally did.

"I think everyone is happy for me and I'm happy for myself, and my teammates need to take some credit as well," Bravo said.

He is a member of the well-travelled galaxy of Caribbean T20 stars, having featured in nearly every global franchise tournament, including the high profile Indian Premier League and the Australian Big Bash. Through the match against the Zouks, he had played 458 T20s and averages just over 24.5 runs per wicket with an economy rate of eight runs per over.

- Edited from CMC.



Jamaican wins Golden Glove at MLS is Back Tournament

Jamaica international goalkeeper Andre Blake was last month named Golden Glove winner of the Major League Soccer MLS is Back Tournament.

Blake, playing for Philadelphia Union, made 32 saves, the most in the competition, with a 86.5 save percentage. The majority of his saves came from shots taken inside the penalty area.

He also recorded two shutouts, to be recognized as the tournament's top 'keeper as the Union reached the semi-final.

Among Blake's saves was an outstanding effort against New York City FC which helped to preserve a 1-0 win for the Union. It was nominated for MLS is Back Save of the Tournament.

Accolades are not new to Blake. He was the first goalkeeper ever taken with



Blake

the top pick in the 2014 MLS SuperDraft out of the University of Connecticut. He was named MLS Goalkeeper of the Year in 2016.

Blake currently captains Jamaica's senior team, which is attempting to qualify for the 2022 World Cup.

The MLS is Back Tournament Golden Glove award was voted on by media and fans.



Bolt tests positive for COVID-19; sparks debate over rules



Bolt is self isolating after contracting virus.

the party, held at a soccer complex as a birthday treat for Bolt, were Ricardo Gardner, a former Jamaica international soccer player, current international Leon Bailey, who plays in the top soccer league in Germany, and Raheem Sterling, a Jamaican-born England star.

Days later it was confirmed that

Bolt had tested positive for the virus. He said he would go into self quarantine.

DEBATE

Many did not wear masks or practice social distancing at the party. The government ordered a police investigation, vowing that

no one, including Bolt, would receive special treatment if it was determined they violated the law at the party.

The party was held on Aug. 22 to celebrate Bolt's 34th birthday. Bolt, who holds the world record for the 100 and 200 meters, confirmed on Aug. 24 he had contracted COVID-19.

Specific questions were raised about the presence of current overseas-based sporting figures at the event.

Sterling, for example, played for his club Manchester City in the Champions League on Aug. 15. He, therefore, could not have participated in the required 14-day quarantine after entering the island, before attending the party. The same applied to Bailey, who reportedly played for his club Bayer Leverkusen on Aug. 10 in the Europa League.



Caribbean nations grouped for World Cup qualifiers

Jamaica, the lone Caribbean nation already through to the final round of 2022 World Cup soccer qualification, will kick off its campaign in June 2021 against countries in North America, Central America and the Caribbean (CONCACAF).

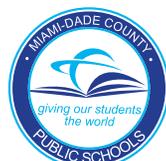
The Reggae Boyz have been placed, alongside four other countries - United States, Mexico, Honduras and Costa Rica - in a group of eight CONCACAF teams.

They will be joined by three other teams, which will qualify from two earlier qualifying rounds. Caribbean nations Antigua and Barbuda, Grenada, Montserrat and U.S. Virgin Islands will play in Group A, alongside Central American nation El Salvador, in the first round. Suriname, Bermuda, Cayman Islands and Aruba are in Group B with North American team Canada. Group C includes Curacao, St. Vincent and the

Grenadines and Cuba, with Guatemala of Central America. Dominican Republic, Barbados, Dominica and Anguilla, along with Central American nation Panama, are in Group D. Group E includes Haiti, Belize, St. Lucia, Turks and Caicos Islands, alongside Nicaragua of Central America. Group F features Trinidad and Tobago, St. Kitts and Nevis, Guyana, Puerto Rico and The Bahamas.

The teams in the first round are scheduled to begin qualification next month. Group winners will advance and two nations will be matched to play home and away games starting Mar. 2021. Each winning team will advance to the final round.

The top three from the final round earn an automatic World Cup place. The fourth place team will play-off with a team from another region to qualify.



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FOUND A LITTER OF KITTENS?

When we find a litter of kittens, our good-hearted instincts tell us to rush to their aid.

DON'T KIT-NAP KITTENS!

Their mom will likely return, so please don't intervene. Always wait and watch for the mother cat for at least 24 hours before taking in kittens. It's critical that the kittens remain in their mother's care as she offers the best chance for survival.

If you find kittens and are extremely certain that they are orphaned, you can then step in and help by caring for the kittens until they're old enough to find homes. Once the kittens are 2 months old and about 2 pounds, bring them to a veterinarian or your local shelter to have them spayed/neutered.

For more information, visit miamidade.gov/animals

