UK PRISON DEAL STILL OPEN, SAYS DIPLOMAT

STORY ON PAGE 3

‘Teachers should carry guns to school’- Page 3
Falmouth not losing cruise ships, says Port Authority

THE PORT Authority of Jamaica (PAJ) is dismissing reports that the Falmouth Port will be losing three major cruise ships.

In a media release, the PAJ, part owners of the port, sought to clarify that Royal Caribbean Cruises Ltd (RCCL) will be repositioning its vessel Allure of the Seas after April 2018, however, it returns to Falmouth in December 2018.

The release also indicated that Symphony of the Seas was not scheduled to call at Falmouth and Celebrity Cruises, a subsidiary of RCCL, was late in making berthing reservations, resulting in the available berth going to Princess Cruises.

Senate passes traffic ticket amnesty bill

THE GOVERNMENT plans to spend $23 million to implement a three-month programme, starting on August 2, under which motorists with $2.8 billion in outstanding traffic tickets can pay fines without penalties.

More district constables for tourist areas

TOURISM MINISTER Edmund Bartlett says more District Constables are to be deployed across tourist areas and will be strategically placed in areas identified as hot spots. He says these include cruise-ship piers, commercial districts, especially those frequented by visitors, craft markets, beaches and major attractions.

Extradition warrant signed for George Flowers

ATTORNEY-AT-LAW DON Poole says he’s shocked and outraged that Justice Minister, Delroy Chuck, signed an extradition warrant for his client, George Flowers, despite him having a matter before the court challenging his extradition.

Flowers was extradited to Canada on June 22 to face sex-related offences.

After failed attempts by Poole to obtain a copy of the extradition warrant Supreme Court judge Justice Bryan St John last week ordered the Government to hand over the document to the attorney.

The warrant shows that it was signed by the Justice Minister on May 26 with Chuck stating that whereas Flowers has not been discharged by the Supreme Court or the Court of Appeal, there was no issue prohibiting him from ordering his extradition.

Notes made on the warrant states that Flowers refused to sign the document and that he indicated to the authorities that he has a matter before the court.

Poole contends that his client was extradited based on a falsehood adding that he’s deeply concerned that the Jamaican authorities could have removed a citizen despite him having a court case.

PNP to take Trafifuga case to Privy Council

THERE ARE indications that the Trafifuga case is heading to the Privy Council based in the United Kingdom.

This follows reports that the legal team representing former president of the People’s National Party (PNP) Portia Simpson Miller and four other party functionaries met to decide their next move.

The meeting was held in the wake of last month’s ruling by the Court of Appeal which dismissed the application by Simpson Miller and the four PNP functionaries that has stalled the hearing into the Trafifuga saga.

One member of the legal team, K.D Knight told The Gleaner/Power 106 News Centre that the ruling by the Appeal Court has raised some serious points of law that should be decided by the nation’s highest court.

The donation was made while Jamaica had an oil-lifting agreement with the Dutch firm.
UK prison deal still on the table
Outgoing British High Commissioner says Jamaica can still access deal

EDMOND CAMPBELL
Senior Gleaner Reporter

EARLY SIX months after the Andrew Holness administration rejected a J$5.5 billion offer by the United Kingdom (UK) government to help construct a new adult correctional facility in Jamaica, a British diplomat has said that the offer is still open for the island to access the deal.

“If the Government were even to want to discuss it again, it would be open, as with my colleagues in London,” said outgoing British High Commissioner David Pitt. In January, the leader of government business in the Senate, Kamina Johnson Smith, told lawmakers that the Holness administration had turned down the UK’s offer to build a modern prison in Jamaica.

At that time, she said that the terms of the offer “were not beneficial to Jamaica as a whole”. However, she did not state the unfavourable terms.

“With any issue — whether tackling crime or dealing with some problem in society or building a facility, a factory or school — there is no point in us possibly accepting and delaying any of that without the host government wanting it,” the British high commissioner told The Gleaner.


days before his tour of duty ends in Jamaica.

JAMAICA’S DECISION RESPECTED

According to Pitton, the UK government respected the decision of the Holness administration, which indicated that it had other priorities that it could not accept the offer.

As a condition of the prison deal when Jamaica and the UK signed a non-binding memorandum of understanding in 2015, the UK would transfer some 300 Jamaican prisoners in British jails to complete their sentences back home. At the time, however, the UK’s £8.5 billion offer for the 1,500-bed facility would report only 40 per cent of the full cost to construct the facility, with the Jamaican Government having to find the balance.

The island’s two main correctional facilities, the Tower Street Adult Correctional Centre and the St Catherine Adult Correctional Centre, are severely overcrowded, with deteriorating, outdated infrastructure. The two facilities were built in the 1600s and 1800s, respectively.

In a Gleaner interview earlier this year, Public Defender Arlene Harrison-Henry argued that the prison conditions were below minimum constitutional requirements.

The UK diplomat said in 2015, when then British Prime Minister David Cameron visited Jamaica, an offer of £300 million was made to the Caribbean to assist with infrastructural development. Pitton said Jamaica was now taking advantage of an allocation from that fund to support irrigation projects in Southeast St Elizabeth and other initiatives to come on stream shortly.

“That’s where our infrastructure fund became more valuable to the prime minister now, to help him with irrigation, farming and development projects in Jamaica,” he added.

Under increased pressure from Jamaicans to address the upsurge in violent crimes, the Holness administration passed the zones of special operations law, which is aimed at clamping down on criminal activities in violent communities.

With the government general’s signature expected to be affixed to the statute short, the law should be ready for implementation in a matter of days.

Diaspora policy review put on hold

THE REVIEW of a draft national Diaspora policy has been put on hold until other key government processes are finished, Kamina Johnson Smith, the foreign affairs and foreign trade minister, has said.

She told a Gleaner editorial forum last week that part of the policy is linked to the Economic Growth Council (EGC), the body established last year to oversee projects aimed at helping the Government achieve five per cent GDP growth in four years, or by 2025-2021.

The EGC initiatives include a Diaspora Engagement Task Force that is working on leveraging the support of Jamaicans living abroad in getting economic growth.

“It is important that the Diaspora policy be sustainable and [that] it be holistic and fit for purpose. The review has actually had to take a pause for us to get a proper out comes — with the Engagement Task Force so that it can feed back into the policy,” the minister said.

Johnson Smith said an update on the diaspora policy would be provided at the 2017 Diaspora Conference scheduled to start Sunday in Kingston.

Earlier this year, the opposition spokesman on foreign affairs, Dr Morais Guy, accused the Government of paying lip service to Diaspora-related issues.

Meanwhile, the matter of whether to allow members of the Diaspora to vote in local elections remains just one of several options on the table on how to settle on representation.

“It’s an emotional issue and one that we want to look at in a struc­ture­d way. There are very different views among the Diaspora and in Jamaica as to whether voting should take place or whether some other type of representation could be used instead,” Johnson Smith said.

“Diaspora doesn’t only have to be a func­tion of voting, and the Diaspora makes that quite clear. There are some people who purely want to vote — they have made that clear. And then there are other people who say that representation in some form whether it is in the Senate or on boards — where they were — is a way to engage the Diaspora engagement task force which will then be put before a joint select committee of Parliament for deliberation.

An update from the task force, she said, is not expected before December.

Educators may carry guns to protect themselves

JTA president-elect

LEON JACKSON
Gleaner Writer

GARTH ANDERSON, the president-elect of the Jamaican Teachers’ Association (JTA), says that there is no provision in the Ministry of Education’s Code of Regulations to prevent a teacher, who is a licensed firearm holder, from taking his weapon to school.

Anderson, the principal of Church Teachers’ College in Mandeville, was responding to questions from The Gleaner that were posed ahead of the ground of a recent incident in which a teacher allegedly pulled a licensed weapon and, as such, confronted hostile students at a Trelawny high school.

“When a person is issued with a firearm license, he is told that the firearm must be on his person or locked away in safe keeping at home,” said Anderson. “The school is like any other workplace, where there is a need for protection of life and property.”

He continued: “The code we now use was written in 1980. The school environment today is much different from those days. Sometimes it gets hostile, making protection of life and property necessary. Based on what is happening in schools today, teachers might well be feeling the need to protect life and property.”

EDUCATION MINISTRY BULLETIN

Anderson said that the issue of teachers taking their licensed firearms to school would definitely be an agenda item at the JTA’s Annual Conference in August, especially against the background of a discussion on firearm in schools, which was unveiled by the Ministry of Education.

“The bulletin, over the signature of chief education officer Grace McLean, stated in part that ‘firearms are to be concealed at all times and should not be exposed or in the visibility of the student body at large. Firearms should not be used to intimidate students or any member of staff. Firearms are not to be used by teachers to quell any form of disturbance involving students or any member of staff.’”

According to Anderson, “we have to ensure that the rights of teachers to protect themselves within their constitutional rights are protected. Our organisation has to be cognisant that we are, as it were, the teachers’ lawyers when and if they are accused of wrongdoing. At the conference, the bulletin issued by the Ministry of Education will be an agenda item at the JTA’s annual conference, and teachers will know exactly how to operate within the system.”

Interestingly, during the graduation ceremony at the Hague Primary and Infant School, where Anderson was the guest speaker, a parent showed up with an entourage to fight a teacher who had reprimanded her child.

Thankfully, the matter was settled without violence.
THE CITY of Toronto has collaborated with the Black Coalition for AIDS Prevention (Black CAP) to launch a public awareness campaign to encourage Torontonians to challenge their perceptions of transgender and non-binary people – specifically trans youth of colour.

Created in consultation with Black CAP’s Community Advisory Committee (CAC), comprised entirely of radicalised transgender youth, the creative concept starts the public conversation with the most basic fact required to begin to understand trans and non-binary Torontonians – the difference between gender and sex.

Regarded misconceptions about trans people, Tatiana Ferguson, project lead for Black CAP and a black trans woman, says people don’t understand that trans is an umbrella term.

“There is this understanding that for most trans people they’re either going to want to identify as men or transition to become men or women, particularly for youth who are more gender fluid or non-binary and who don’t want to be grouped or categorised in those normative ways. She says the campaign promotes visibility for trans people of colour because oftentimes trans identities and trans spaces have only been white.

INTERNAL SENSE OF SELF

In terms of the difference between gender and sex, Ferguson said gender would be defined as an internal sense of self and that is why the photographs in the campaign have “My gender lives here” above the heads of the models.

“It’s really connected to the brain, how people view themselves, and sex would be defined as one’s anatomy. They’re physical characteristics, the genitalia, and gender is different from sex. Gender is really about how people feel about themselves and it’s an internal sense of self. It has a lot to do with how we view ourselves, our brain, and mind and what our body is composed of – not our anatomy. So that’s why we just put ‘not here’ in the groin area.”

Mayor John Tory says Toronto continually strives to be a place that provides opportunities and supports the well-being of all its residents.

“This campaign, which emphasizes that members of the transgender community are part of Toronto, is very timely. The City is committed to developing gender-inclusive services and policies to ensure we serve all of our residents.”

Ferguson says in order to understand the needs of trans youth of colour, various aspects of their identities must be taken into consideration.

NEIL ARMSTRONG
Freelance Editor

The campaign, which features real手中的 trans youth of colour, will run from July 20 to August 15.

REAL TRANS YOUTH

The campaign, which features real Torontonian radicalised trans youth and uses transit ads and social media, was created by the social impact agency, PUBLIC Inc.

The goal of the campaign is to educate and encourage respectful and meaningful dialogue about transgender and non-binary individuals.

It also seeks to empower and motivate trans people to get involved in educating others about trans-specific issues.

“The campaign website torontoforall.ca provides information and resources to educate Torontonians about non-binary people and encourage residents to recognize the systemic biases that trans people, specifically trans youth of colour, face in their daily life in order to foster more understanding and advocacy amongst the cis gender community. (Cis gender individuals are those whose gender identity matches the sex that they were assigned at birth),” notes a media release from the City of Toronto.

This is the fourth phase of the City’s Toronto For All campaign which has an overall goal of creating a Toronto that says “no” to all forms of discrimination and racism.

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Phase 1 ran in the summer of 2016 and was aimed at fostering more understanding and advocating for transgender and non-binary individuals.

The campaign was timely because of the recent passing of Bill C-16 which amends the Canadian Human Rights Act to add gender identity and gender expression to the list of prohibited grounds of discrimination.

Ferguson says this is the first campaign of its type that specifically addresses radicalised trans youth during a time when legislation is changing and becoming more supportive of trans identities.

“We’re confident that this campaign will lead to important conversations about gender and sex and how we can reduce the significant barriers that trans youth of colour in our city experience in their homes, schools, workplaces and beyond,” said Shannon Ryan, executive director of Black CAP.

What’s your view? What stories would you like to read? What issues would you like us to focus on? Email overseas@gleanerjm.com.
How to catch a murderer? As New York Mayor Bill de Blasio reminds us, autopsy results are crucial to identifying the suspect and proving guilt. But in Jamaica, where there is a lack of forensic pathology, securing convictions has been difficult. Without sufficient forensic pathology services to identify causes of death and investigate unexplained or suspicious fatalities, there are few means to prosecute crimes including homicides, domestic violence, and child abuse. It is estimated that just five per cent of murder charges in Jamaica result in convictions.

The G. Raymond Chang Forensic Pathology Fellowship was established to address this gap in forensic pathology Jamaica needs. The fellowship is named in honour of G. Raymond Chang, a celebrated philanthropist who was widely known for his passionate support of education and his desire to give back to his native country of Jamaica.

Before he died in 2014, Chang learnt of the importance of the partnering between the University of the West Indies and the University of Toronto (U of T) from his long time friend, Professor Herbert Ho Ping Kong.

TRIBUTE TO FATHER

Chang’s children, Andrew C. Chang and Brigitte Chang-Addorisio, along with fellow Andrew Chang, selected the project as a fitting tribute to their father’s legacy. They awarded a substantial million dollar donation in 2015 to establish the fellowship, which enables medical students from UWI to pursue a one-year clinical fellowship in forensic pathology at U of T’s Centre for Forensic Science and Medicine.

Now, with two newly certified forensic pathologists representing Jamaica, they have made a second gift of 88.5 million which will help grow this critical and immensely important profession.

“We are pleased to see a number of initiatives that significantly contributes to a fair and transparent judicial system,” says Andrew. “This work helps to prosecute the guilty; exonerate the innocent; provide justice for society, and protect basic human rights.”

“You can’t have justice and peace until you can figure out what has happened to people – until you have truth and knowledge,” says Professor Michael Pollanen, who leads U of T’s Centre for Forensic Science and Medicine and who initiated the fellowship. “Forensic pathology is crucial in determining this truth through measurable observation and analysis.”

FORENSIC RESPONSE MISSION

Pollanen, who serves as Ontario’s forensic pathologist, was called on by the United Nations Development Program in the aftermath of Jamaica’s 2010 Tivoli Incursion when more than 70 civilians were killed during a government operation against a drug lord. As he examined the bodies as part of a forensic response mission, he noted that the country had no reliable institution investigating causes of death.

“Autopsies are not only done for the dead, but they’re survival of the living,” he says. “The knowledge we gather in forensic pathology allows for the protection of human rights among the living.”

Pollanen sees the Chang Fellowship as a critical force in developing a forensic pathology system in the country. As Jamaican partners work at strengthening the institutions involved in post-mortem work – with the establishment of the country’s Institute of Forensic Science and Legal Medicine and other initiatives the fellowship is providing the key professionals and expertise needed for an effective forensic medicine service.

“The ripple effect of this fellowship is far reaching,” says Brigitte. “There’s so much talent in the Caribbean, so it’s just a matter of providing an opportunity for that talent to grow and set roots.”

Pollanen believes the Chang’s investment will not only enhance the justice system and security overall in Jamaica, but also help the country become a model for other low- and middle-income countries.

“I am thrilled that the Chang family is so committed to strengthening forensic pathology in Jamaica,” says Pollanen. “I think this work will have a lasting impact not only for the criminal justice system, but for security and prosperity more broadly within Jamaica and around the world.”

– Article courtesy University of Toronto, Faculty of Medicine

Security minister calls for collective approach to fight crime in Jamaica

SHARON GORDON
Gleaner Writer

BROOKLYN, NY: On Friday, July 14 the Brooklyn councilman under the auspices of Consul General Trudy Dean organised a town hall meeting in Brooklyn at Bishop Riley’s Freedom Hall Church of God.

Among the featured speakers were Jamaica’s Minister of National Security, Robert Montague; Jamaica’s Police Commissioner, George Quallo and National Security Adviser, Major General, John V. Hall, Consul General Trudy Deans introduced Minister of National Security who, in his presentation “Five Pillar Crime Strain Prevention and Citizen Security”, shared that in addition to consulting with the NYPD, his ministry was also looking at Brazil and a recent visit he has been doing with the favela. The presentation highlighted the need for individuals, communities and the government to work together to secure and protect the country from violent crime, especially in Jamaica.

The meeting was well attended and addressed urgently.

“Crime in Jamaica is targeted, “Crime is down by 5 per cent year to loose personnel at a very high rate,” said Quallo.

Montague said often times criminals get away and end up in Jamaica and of course it happened the other around way as well. He informed that murders were up by 20 per cent while crimes is down by 5 per cent per year to date, but there is no quick fix to reduce crime.

Montague informed that there were 497 miles of unmaintained coastline with 145 illegal ports of entry.

He stated that Jamaica has two basic problems, guns and gangs and provided a historical overview of how crime has developed over the years.

Montague shared that, guns came to Jamaica in the 1960’s due to politics, then in the 70’s it was the ganja trade, in the 90’s through 2000’s it was cocaine and 2000 onwards “we now see lottery scams, money laundering, organised crimes and cybercrime.”

He informed guns feature in 84 per cent of crimes, though Jamaica does not manufacture guns or ammunition. Montague further said that corruption needed to be addressed urgently “We must begin to confront the matter of corruption.”

Lisa Hanna faces NY Mayor de Blasio in jerk cook-off

QUEENS, NY: THERE WILL be a culinary contest between New York Mayor, Bill de Blasio and Lisa Hanna in the Celebrity Quick-Fire Challenge at 7th Annual Grace Jamaican Jerk Festival, scheduled for Sunday, July 23 at Roy Wilkins Park in Queens.

The Mayor has emerged as the victor, beating Patrik Fennell and actor Leon from the movie Cool Runnings.

The Mayor has indicated that he plans to challenge de Blasio on home turf for the Dutch Pot trophy The Culinary Pavilion is one of the featured activities at the Grace Jamaican Jerk Festival, where patrons gather as it saw celebrities chefs, fellow jerk

From left: Brigitte Chang-Addorisio, Chang fellow Althea Neblett, Professor Michael Pollanen and Andrew Chang.
JAMAICA DIASPORA CONFERENCE 2017

Confidence levels high despite crime – foreign affairs minister

PAUL CLARKE
Gleaner Writer

Statistics show crime has no severe impact on Diaspora investment

RANKER EARL Jarrett, who will chair next week’s Jamaica 55 Diaspora Conference in Kingston, said that investment remains strong in spite of crime, as members of the Diaspora use their knowledge of Jamaica in their assessment to put their money in the country.

He noted at the Gleaner Editors’ Forum that a survey being undertaken by The Caribbean Policy Research Institute will shed light on the various ways the Diaspora invests in Jamaica.

Outside of remittances, which accounts for approximately 16 per cent of gross domestic product, Jarrett said that the result from the survey will give a better indication to the amount of investment being poured into the country despite the high crime rate.

“Why does the term investment mean?” This includes savings in Government of Jamaica instrument, some of those remittances also end up in property investment, which also is a form of investment, so statistically we’re not seeing that mass effect of crime turning away Diaspora involvement in investing in the country,” Jarrett said.

He noted that Jamaicans abroad are aware of the situation, and because of that familiarity, they are able to make measured decisions about their levels of investment.

“These are your sticky investors. They already know the landscape, they are able to measure the risks, and so they are able to start up new projects in Jamaica, despite the crime,” Jarrett said.

Edward Seaga, Patrick Ewing to be honoured at New York Independence gala

FORMER JAMAICAN prime minister Edward Seaga will be recognised for his contribution to Jamaica, while U.S basketball great Patrick Ewing is to be presented with the Lion of the Soil Award at this year’s independence gala in New York.

The Gala, a black tie affair, hosted by the Jamaica Independence Foundation, Inc. and the Jamaica Tourism Board, under the Distinguished Patronage of the Consul General of Jamaica, Tyrone Deane, will take place on August 26. Prime Minister Andrew Holness will be the special guest.

The event will be hosted by British singer Estelle, Singer and U.S actor Leon with entertainment by Romain Virgo and The Unit Band, Jackie Mittoo and Perfect Fit Band and Road International.

This year Jamaica celebrates its 56th anniversary of Independence under the theme ‘Jamaica 56 ECelebrating Jamaicans at Home and Abroad.’

As of August 6, the activities to mark the event in New York include a Flagraising Ceremony, Independence Service of Thanksgiving and a Grand Gala on August 26.

The Riverside Church in Manhattan will be the venue for the The Flagraising Ceremony and Independence Service on Sunday, August 6. The Flagraising service will commence at 3:30 pm followed by the service at 4 p.m. The preacher will be the Rev. Canon Audley Donaldson.

Proceeds from the event will support the Jamaica Women’s Crisis Centre which falls under the purview of the Ministry of Culture, Gender, Entertainment and Sport in addition to a local charity, The Garey Elementary Basic School in the Bronx, New York.

Visit website www.jifnyc.org for information on tickets and other information.

Day of Service workshop for Diaspora youth

New York, N.Y.
MEMBERS OF the Jamaican Diaspora are organizing an Advocacy, Policy and Leadership Day of Service Workshop for youth and young adults in Jamaica, to be held as a part of the Jamaica 55 Conference – Diaspora Day of Service on July 27, 17 from 2-5pm.

Audrey Mark, Jamaica’s Ambassador to the United States of America and the Permanent Representative of Jamaica to the Organisation of American States (OAS) has been confirmed to deliver opening remarks at the JASSAPL Workshop. The JASSAPL Workshop will advocate for youth and young adults (age 17-35) in Jamaica to become local and global leaders and has also confirmed CEO – Cortia Bingham, Future Leader - Tashasha Woottar, Comedian – Owen ‘Blakka’ Ellis.

The JASSAPL Workshop includes Youth speakers who will deliver individual remarks on policy they have worked on, while connecting what inspired them to lend their time and the impact of the contribution(s) made.

Have a story or photo to share? Tell us of your achievements, new business initiatives, birthdays, anniversaries, church happenings, issues and problems facing you. Email: overseas@gleanerjm.com
Make the inclusion of women and girls a priority – Canadian MP

In introducing Canada’s New Feminist International Assistance Policy, Celina Caesar-Chavannes, Canada’s parliamentary secretary for international development, has stressed the importance for developing countries like Jamaica to make the inclusion of women and girls a priority. She was the keynote speaker during a forum hosted by the High Commission of Canada in collaboration with the Caribbean Policy Research Institute (CAPRI), held at the University of West Indies’ Regional Headquarters in St Andrew.

Chavannes indicated that gender equality cannot be achieved by women and girls working in isolation. “We cannot hope to accomplish this ambitious agenda if half the world’s population is not included in decisions, in power, and in opportunities,” she said, noting that the policy was launched a month ago. “It is to everyone’s advantage to amplify the voices of women and girls because we know that when they can choose their own futures and contribute fully to their communities, everyone benefits. And yet it will take determination and persistence to accomplish this fundamental shift,” she continued.

She said going forward, some imperatives will include partners consulting women locally and involving them in decisions in order to get Canadian funding.

Canada has a close, long-standing relationship with the Caribbean based on links through trade, investment, academic links, immigration, tourism and strong personal and family connections. Work is already under way, but Canada’s new feminist international assistance policy will be working to incorporate this kind of innovation and attention to gender in all of our programmes.” Other speakers included, Sharon Coburn Robinson, senior director at the Bureau of Gender Affairs and Dr Adwoa Onuora, affiliate researcher at CAPRI.

Manchester official, parents and wife arrested as J$92m fraud scheme deepens

LIVERN BARRETT
Senior Gleaner Writer

FINANCIAL INVESTIGATORS have arrested the wife and parents of the Manchester Municipal Corporation official charged in connection with the multi-million dollar fraud uncovered last year at the local authority.

Sanjay Elliot, acting deputy superintendent of roads and works at the corporation, along with his wife, Tasha-Gay Goulbourne-Elliot, his father Elwardo Elliot and his mother, Myrtle, were picked up in a series of early morning raids on Wednesday, July 12.

The four have been charged under the Proceeds of Crimes Act with money laundering offences and have since been released on bail.

They are scheduled to appear before the Manchester Parish Court on July 26.

The raids were conducted jointly by the Financial Investigations Division (FID) and the Major Organised Crime and Anti-Corruption Agency (MOCA).

The FID confirmed that Sanjay Elliot and his father have been charged with possession of crimina

property and engaging in a transaction that involves criminal property.

Elwardo Elliot was also charged with facilitating the retention of criminal property; the FID said.

Tasha-Gay Goulbourne Elliot and her mother-in-law have both been charged with facilitating retention of criminal property.

Sanjay Elliot was first arrested last June along with Manchester carpenter Dwayne Bibles after investigators uncovered what they estimated at the time was a J$9 million fraud scheme.

However, by their second court appearance, investigators revealed that losses from the fraud scheme had reached J$92 million and another official at the Manchester Municipal Corporation, temporary work overseer, Kendale Roberts, was also arrested and charged.

FREEZING ASSETS

In September last year, the FID went to court and obtained an order freezing approximately J$220 million in cash, property and other assets traced to Sanjay Elliot.

The order, issued by Justice David Batta, covers an apartment complex consisting of 11 units, a four-storey family house, four residential lots, six high-end motor vehicles, including a Honda Ridgeline, and several bank accounts.

Outlining the allegations against the three men, prosecutors said the names and taxpayer registration numbers of several persons who previously worked for the corporation were used to create fictitious payment vouchers.

According to prosecutors, the information was relayed to Roberts by Elliott via the Internet-based platform WhatsApp, with instructions to prepare payment vouchers for work that was never carried out.

According to prosecutors, Biddles was the person who cashed the cheques.

PM demands ministers clear high cell phone bills

Prime Minister Andrew Holness has ordered an audit of the cell phone bills of government ministers and state ministers following a Television Jamaica (TVJ) revelation that in one year, Minister of Finance and the Public Service Audrey Shaw racked up more than J$68 million in charges.

According to the TVJ report obtained through the Access to Information Act, from February 2016 to March this year, Shaw incurred J$88.94 million in cell phone bills.

In October, alone, the bill was J$84.32 million.

Shaw has explained that the bulk of the charges were incurred in data roaming fees, and that he was not aware they were being generated.

Nationwide Radio yesterday quoted Shaw as saying he has since paid J$62 million in personal charges and has negotiated with the cellular phone provider for a J$81 million discount.

Meanwhile, in a statement yesterday, the prime minister reportedly described the issue of high communication costs and phone bills as unacceptable and has urged Cabinet ministers to take responsibility to clear their cell phone bills.

Holness made the comment during a meeting of Cabinet ministers ahead of the parliamentary session.

Demanding that the situation be addressed immediately, Holness said there was no policy regarding the treatment of communication expenses for ministers and ministers of state.

The prime minister has directed the Ministry of Finance to review and report on the respective policies for the provision of communication services, including cell phones, operating in the various ministries.

“This is to allow Cabinet to make a comprehensive decision on how communication services and expenses for ministers are treated,” said a spokesperson in a statement from the Office of the Prime Minister.

In the interim, Holness has directed that cellular phone expenses be capped.

The Ministry of Finance has been tasked to advise the prime minister within a week, on the appropriate amount for the cap to be paid by each ministry for the minister’s cellular phone bills.

‘Any amount exceeding the cap should, therefore, be the responsibility of the respective ministers unless otherwise approved by the permanent secretary,” the spokesperson said.

In the meantime, the minister of science, energy and technology has been mandated to enter into discussions with telecommunications providers to devise standard cell phone call time and data packages for government ministers.
Talk isn’t cheap, Mr Shaw

THE EDITOR, Sir:

IT IS outrageous that the minister of finance, under the ‘prosperity’ JLP-led Government, racked up a phone bill of $8.34 million within a one-year period! The minister’s excuse (according to Nationwide News) is that he wasn’t aware, and that the excessive charges were because of mobile data roaming.

Many of us, at some point, experienced extraordinary mobile bill charges, and learnt quickly how to manage our mobile services, especially when travelling to foreign countries. Even if he didn’t know, there must’ve been someone in his circle to warn about the high cost of roaming for voice and data services and advise on the use of Wi-Fi and other options to lower costs.

A senior doctor working in the Simpson Miller administration, racked up charges of more than a $1 million, there was national outrage, especially from the then Opposition. The opposition spokesman at the time, Dr Andrew Wheatley, expressed alarm over these charges, saying it was “another example of poor governance and misplaced priorities of the Simpson Miller administration”, despite the availability of modern communication platforms and services.

We are fortunate to have the Access to Information Act, which must be used to force politicians to be iniced accountable and responsible. How can $8.34 million in phone charges not be spotted in a review of government finances and expenditures?

P. CHIN

Jamaica isn’t CARICOM lead

THE EDITOR, Sir:

EDITORIAL: IN both our major newspapers have more than once incorrectly asserted that Jamaica has lead responsibility in CARICOM for external relations.

Jamaica’s assignment within the CARICOM quasi-Cabinet is for external trade negotiations. No head of government has been given responsibility for external relations. This is the remit of the Council for Foreign and Community Relations, which comprises the foreign ministers of all member states.

BRUCE OWINDING
Former Prime Minister

The state of Jamaican health care

THE EDITOR, Sir:

THE STATE of Jamaica’s health care is a problem that is being covered with a band aid, when it is a festering wound that needs proper attention. As a medical doctor at the Kingston Public Hospital (KPH), one of the nation’s largest public hospitals, we are faced with examining and treating patients in areas with minimal or no lighting in suboptimal conditions.

The doctor- and nurse-to-patient ratio is still too high. The minimal staff that is present has to be doing the job of five or more persons for each patient on wards that are always filled to capacity, and overflowing many times. The nursing staff in this country deserves the highest praise as without them, the country’s health care would go down the drain in the blink of an eye.

I shall not mince words in listing issues that are of paramount importance and needs to be immediately addressed.

The average doctor works around 88 hours per week, with 17 hours of breaks for lunch and rest spread throughout that time period.

Patients’ beds don’t function; most beds cannot be wound up, and so patients who cannot lie flat have to have their beds propped up on cardboard boxes.

Lights at patient’s beds do not work, and most of the ceiling lights are blown. Therefore, patients are being treated in low-light conditions.

Cheap IV accesses, which I would only use to train on a dummy, are placed on patients. These accesses shred veins if you aren’t a young healthy person.

Lack of general supplies and maintenance on the wards: Cheap IV accesses, which I would only use to train on a dummy, are placed on patients. These accesses shred veins if you aren’t a young healthy person.

Lack of general supplies and maintenance on the wards: Broken soap dispensers, broken paper towel dispensers.

If the vision is to make Jamaica a place to live, grow, and raise children, the health sector needs to be addressed. A single member of parliament cannot have an $8.34 million phone bill while the supply of medication and basic resources are in short supply on the wards of the country’s major public hospital.

A prescription needs to be written for the Government of Jamaica to take and address all these issues.

Dr Edward Nigmu

A disgruntled doctor

EDITORIAL

Monday

Global warning an existential threat

MONDAY’s EDITORIAL disagreed with US President Donald Trump, who said Western civilisation faced an existential threat from radical Islam, arguing instead that the real threat not just to the West but the world, was posed by climate change through global warming and the reality that States could disappear beneath rising seas.

It welcomed the fact that the Paris Agreement, which addresses climate change and from which Trump had withdrawn the US, had been declared irreversible.

Tuesday

No Internet overreach

The Editorial discussed the need for a regulatory capacity in the Age of the Internet and the need for a new strategy to achieve this, noting that such a strategy cannot be based on a system of command and control but would need the input of stakeholders in devising the regulatory mechanisms if one is possible.

The editorial concluded that ultimately, the most effective regulator of the Internet, will be an informed citizenry working in concert with the industry and a government, whose major role should more be managing spectrum and bandwidth than policing thought.

Wednesday

Attacking corruption Brazil-style

The EDITORIAL analysed Brazil anti-corruption efforts, identifying some of the elements which drove it, concluding Brazil was a case study for Jamaica as to how to deal with the problem of corruption.

Some of the key efforts employed by Brazil were: significant attempts to upgrade anti-corruption legislation; anti-corruption agencies along with their investigators were empowered and better funded and there were persons of extraordinary courage at the helm of the investigations.

Thursday

Audley Shaw, scandal and the hen house

IT IS difficult to be sympathetic with IT IS outrageous that the minister of finance, under the ‘prosperity’ JLP-led Government, racked up a phone bill of $8.34 million for the year to March 2017, the editorial argued.

It welcomed the fact that Shaw has repaid some of the money and negotiated a discount with the telecoms provider as well as the Prime Minister placing a cap on ministers’ telephone bills, and insisting on better accountability but said Holness should not ask the ‘mongoose to watch the hen house’.

Friday

Gov’t should grasp prison opportunity

IN LIGHT of the British High Commissioner to Jamaica disclosing that the offer of the UK Government to Jamaica to donate £25 million towards the building of a new-state-of-the-art prison was still on the table, the editorial advised the government to grasp the opportunity.

The editorial said the Holness Government’s rejection was a populist overture made while a general election was in the air. Describing the decision as illogical and unreasonable, the editorial said it ignored the dignity, rights and living conditions of those incarcerated.

The opinions on this page, except for the above, do not necessarily reflect the views of the Gleaner.
Have a great week

Osisi Adetoye Enitan Babatunde Ogunwusi, the Ooni of Ife, Nigeria, at the Lakobu 1st Annual Caribbean and Nigerian Brunch at the Tropicana Community Banquet Hall in Toronto on July 15. Sandra Whiting, president of P.A.C.E. Canada, is second from right with the king who was the special guest.

Click! Click!

Some mas' bands showcasing their costumes at the official launch of the Toronto Caribbean Carnival at Nathan Phillips Square in Toronto on July 11, 2017.

Ontario's Finance Minister, Charles Sousa, and two mas' band players at the official launch of the Toronto Caribbean Carnival at Nathan Phillips Square on July 11, 2017.
Jamaica cancer drug aims for yearly US$25m haul

STEVEN JACKSON
Senior Business Reporter

Scientist AND businessman Dr Henry Lowe is predicting annual sales of US$250 million, the equivalent of around J$32 billion, from Cresorol, an anti-cancer drug made from marijuana.

The product, which targets acute myeloid leukemia (AML), has been designated an ‘orphan drug’ by the US Food and Drug Administration, the FDA, but the American regulator also notes on its website that it still requires ‘marketing approval’.

Lowe said the market for this type of AML drug is in excess of US$3 billion annually for the US and European Union markets alone.

“Our drug is projected to be in the market within two to three years with estimated annual minimum sales of more than US$250 million. Globally, it will be multiples more,” he said at a press conference on Wednesday, July 12.

The drug was developed by Flavocure Biotech LLC, based in Maryland in the United States. Flavocure is owned and operated by Lowe’s Eden Gardens Group of Companies. It works directly with the Bio-Tech R&D Institute, based at the University of West Indies in Kingston.

Rivals in the AML space includes newly approved Midostraurin, manufactured by Norvatis, which costs patients roughly US$120,000 a year for treatment, Lowe said.

Specific searches on the FDA’s website show that Flavocure Biotech registered a product listed under the ‘generic name’ Chrysoeriol, which treats AML. Cresorol is the trading name for Chrysoeriol.

FDA assigned ‘orphan drug’ designation to the product on June 22. Orphan drugs treat rare conditions that affect less than 200,000 patients in the US, annually.

FDA searches also reveal that Chrysoeriol was about the ninth entity this year to receive orphan designation for AML.

Lowe aims to raise US$3.5 million in order to finance the final stage of development of the drug to retail sale, set for 2020.

“It is not an easy road to travel,” he said, regarding the寻找 financing for marijuana commerce.

GREAT RISKS, GREAT REWARDS

Local banks denied him capital, even with collateral, he recalled.

“Of course, risks are involved, but great risk gives great reward,” he said.

To unlock local capital for companies like his, Lowe is urging the Jamaican Government to impose a cess on the banks as a means of funding local research and development.

“If not a cess on the banks, then public-private partnership is the way forward,” he said.

Prime Minister Andrew Holness, who was at the press conference, signaled he was not on-board with the idea of a tax to fund science. Instead, he suggested Lowe look towards the newly designated special economic zones for incentives.

Member of Parliament for South East St Andrew Julian Robinson also encouraged Lowe to seek out financing in Jamaica rather than abroad.

The ‘orphan drug’ designation allows the drug developer seven years US marketing exclusivity upon approval of the drug.

Today, not only do we have our new drug with its market potential, but there are at least five others in the pipeline waiting to be developed and if the necessary financial support is obtained, they can be in the top-two earners for the Jamaican economy,” Lowe said.

Dr Ngeh Joseph Toyang, chief executive officer of Flavocure Biotech, says discovery and development of a new drug generally takes five to 15 years at a cost of US$1.5 billion, but that Flavocure needs to spend far less.

Toyang said that the successful development and marketing of Cresorol will mark the second time that a plant from Jamaica would have yielded a molecule for global clinical use against cancer.

“The first drug was Vincristine from the periwinkle plant, even though Jamaica did not get the recognition and financial benefit it deserved,” he said.

Top JSE stocks more than double in value at half-year

INVESTORS MORE than doubled their money in nine top stocks over six months, according to data from the Jamaica Stock Exchange (JSE).

Jamaica’s equity market also ranked 11 among roughly 92 globally, in market capitalisation, according to data from a survey conducted by Bloomberg.

Half-year data on Jamaica stocks showed Pulse Investors gained 389 per cent; luxury coach service Knutsford Express, 295 per cent; paint company Berger Jamaica 199 per cent; event promoter Main Event, 190 per cent, auto trader Jetcon Corporation, 175 per cent; cinema company Palace, 156 per cent; investment company Syklep, 145 per cent; microfinance company ISP Finance, 129 per cent, and microfinance company Access Financial, 112 per cent.

Additionally, real estate investment trust Kingston Properties Limited and tea maker Jamaican Tea made gains of 99 per cent, and 89.5 per cent respectively.

Overall, more than 20 local stocks made gains above 30 per cent over the period, according to JSE data.

VENEZUELA LEADS

On the world stage, Bloomberg data indicates that the stock market in the troubled economy of Venezuela led the world, with a 964 per cent gain, followed most closely by Bermuda, 68.6 per cent.

At the end of June, the JSE Main Market closed at close to 235,043 points and the Junior Market Index at 3,222 points. This represented year-on-year gains of 47.2 per cent and 46 per cent, respectively.

Stock market capitalisation, a measure of market wealth, was estimated at US$839 billion for the main market and US$129 billion for the junior market.

These top stocks reflected increased earnings during the period. Additionally, four of the nine local stocks effected stock splits during the year, which increased liquidity. Additionally, the market benefited from the listing of Main Event Entertainment Limited in February which jumped 30 per cent during its first trading day, while receiving bids upwards of 72 per cent above its $2.00 listing price. It was also the first IPO since the Government restored the tax incentive afforded to Junior Market companies. The incentives restored in October 2016 allows Junior Market companies a five-year tax break and 50 per cent tax break for a second five-year period.

Earlier this year, the JSE, which regulates the market, indicated that the exchange benefited from the global exposure resulting from its 2016 performance even though no overseas deals have flowed in to date. The JSE continued that more investors have decided to look at Jamaica for investment opportunities.

Jamaica was the top stock market for the year 2015 among those tracked by Bloomberg.

steven.jackson@gleanerjm.com
JAMAICA SECURE XCHANGE  

The JSE Market Summary:  
Monday, 17 Jul 2017

In Mondays trading session, the JSE Market activity resulted in the trading of 44 stocks of which 16 advanced, 24 declined and 4 traded.

The USDM Market (excluding blocks) amounted to $29,442.03. The JSE Market Volume (including blocks) amounted to 1,665,566.00 units valued at $1,604,455.76.

The following companies represent the overall volume leaders:
- CW with 367,359 units, amounting to 22.06% of the market volume.
- JMMIB with 346,970 units, amounting to 21.81% of the market volume.
- CPJ with 300,000. units, amounting to 18.01% of the market volume.

New Issues:
- For 10 days.
- The public subscription process.

Upcoming Events:
- 24th August.
- The Capital Market Day.

The Administrator-General's Department

The Administrator-General for Jamaica, administrator of the estates below would like to establish contact with the following persons:

ESTATES PERSONS TO BE LOCATED LAST KNOWN ADDRESS

William Dawkins late of Snow Hill District, Portland
Wislome Dawkins
Robert Dawkins
Unknown
Snow Hill District, Portland
35 Delgado Way, Spanish Town, St. Catherine
5856 Waters Crescent, Brompton, Ontario,Canada
Unknown
Snow Hill District, Portland
27 Halsey Avenue, Kingston 2
88 St. Patrick Road, Kingston 2

Indiana Davis late of 16 Warela Road, Kingston 2
George Davis
Brian Davis
Unknown
16 Warela Road, Kingston 2
3929 Montecello Avenue, Bronx, New York 10466, U.S.A
Unknown
4085 Hill Avenue, Bronx, New York 10466, U.S.A.
44 Southern Cross Drive, Kingston 17
35 Hillview Terrace, Kingston 19 and Bronx, New York, U.S.A.

Gertude Henry late of Brooklyn, New York, U.S.A.
James Henry
Nellie Henry-Johnson
Unknown
Both at 1005 Warwick Street, Brooklyn, New York, 11207, U.S.A.

Franz Stanhope Power late of Alligator Pond, Manchester
Franz Power
Frances Power o/c
Nadia Power
Both of Braham District, Friendship, Westmoreland and U.S.A.

Charles Beagle late of Grangefield, St. Catherine
Kathleen Blake-Latham
Rose Williams

David Usher Leon o/c
Ettiene Humphrey o/c
Ettiene Leon or her Beneficiaries
California, U.S.A.

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Broadcasting Commission looks to cut unauthorised channels

RYON JONES  Staff Reporter

JAMAICANS are set to lose some of their favourite cable channels as the Broadcasting Commission plans to direct local cable licensees to remove additional unauthorised stations from their subscriber packages.

In 2015, the commission issued directives for 19 channels to be removed because of local and international copyright law infringements. But executive director of the commission, Cordel Green, told a Gleaner Editors’ Forum last week that the intention was also to take a phased approach to cleaning up the system.

“I expect that we are going to have other channels, that if they are not licensed for Jamaica, will be going off the cable system sooner rather than later,” said Green.

“But what I expect is that consumers will be provided with appropriate substitutes, unlike what happened the last time where people lost some channels and lost programmes that they were very keen on consuming and it caused some great deal of confusion.”

He added, “The (American) rights holders, I think, are much more sensitised now and sensitive to the need to respond to demand and not just approach this from the point of pure copyright.”

He said the commission and other local stakeholders have been in dialogue with United States (US)-based content owners and have received commitments that will address the Spanish-language content that a lot of Jamaican consumers are rejecting.

SPANISH-LANGUAGE CONTENT

“One of the things that is not acceptable in Jamaica is to have people append us to Latin America, organise the contest for the Latin America-Caribbean market, and give us Spanish-language content,” Green stated.

“We respect copyright, we are enforcing it; we spend a lot of time and invest a lot of resources in it. We have directed that certain channels should come off when we were satisfied that people provided appropriate English-language substitutes. And we have been insist- ing on dialogue with US content providers to simplify the licensing arrangements and ensure that we get access to English-speaking content.”

While the US-based content owners have made it clear that they are not happy about having their material pirated as well as revenue lost, Green said the Broadcasting Commission accepts that mandat- ing a large number of channels to be taken off would only succeed in pushing people into the unregulated market.

It is with this in mind that the commission is lobbying US providers to explore clearance for them to be shown in Jamaica or the wider English-speaking Caribbean.

“So we suggested that there are solutions to this. One of the things is they have to start thinking about their business model, and there is this business model called the ‘Long Tail’ model, where instead of thinking of charging the same fee that you are doing in your domestic market, you think of each additional sale as an additional dollar and you think of selling by volume, as opposed to high per- unit profit margin,” chairman of the commission, Professor Anthony Clayton, told the forum.

“That, in conjunction with a regional or national collective licensing agreement, will actually give them a lot of what they want, which is protection from piracy and a revenue stream. And it gives us a lot of what we want, which is access to English-language material, and so on.”

Have a story or photo to share? Tell us of your achievements, new business initiatives, birthdays, anniversaries, church happenings, issues and problems facing you. Email: Overseas@gleanerjm.com

Any of these persons or anyone who knows of their whereabouts is being asked to contact the Administrator-General’s Department within six (6) weeks of the date hereof at:

12 Ocean Boulevard, Kingston, Jamaica
Telephone: 922-1830-3 or 922-0705-5 or 618-1542
Fax: 922-4201
E-mail: admingen@agd.gov.jm
Caribbean Tales film festival celebrates Caribbean legacy

NEIL ARMSTRONG
Freelance Editor

PATRONS OF the 12th annual Caribbean Tales International Film Festival (CTFF) from September 6 to 21 will have an offering of 14 feature films and 30 short films from 18 countries. Timmia Hearns, outreach and marketing manager, described this year’s programming as amazing, noting that a dozen years is a legacy.

The media launch was held in partnership with the Consulate General of Barbados in Toronto on July 6 at the Royal Cinema in Toronto and featured the Canadian premiere of A Caribbean Dream, directed by Barbadian Shakirah Bourne and produced by Melissa Simmonds. The film offers a Bajan take on Shakespeare’s AA

Haynesley Benn, consul general of Barbados at Toronto, said at its core, “the festival is a great opportunity to learn about the Caribbean, its people and all of the stories that make the region so unique and memorable.”

“As a woman filmmaker, it has been so hard to have a voice, as a woman of colour,” said Frances-Anne Solomon, executive director of CTFF, who was proud to be presenting filmmakers, Sharon Lews and Shakirah Bourne

There was a special presentation of a trailer and feature of Lewie film that has been 15 years in the making, “Brown Girl in the Ring.”

“33 years old, Caribbean Tales has worked since its inception to create a brand for Caribbean cinema, not divided by country, inclusive of diaspora that brings together our separate and collective legacies, our unique distinctive and authentic stories. The festival provides a platform for us to come together across all of our differences to have a meaningful conversation about who we are as a global community.”

Solomon said her work at the BBC in the UK inspired her to seek to create, produce, market and sell our stories to a rapt audience. “Our stories are critical to our survival,” she said.

John Reid, CEO of Flow, lead sponsor of the film festival said it is an important partnership for his company.

PARTNERSHIP

He noted that the partnership has expanded through the Caribbean Tales Incubator (CTI) and described the making of films as a spectacular industry.

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The CTI is a year-round development and production hub for Caribbean and Caribbean diaspora producers that aims to create strong, compelling and sustainable content for the global market.

Its ultimate goal is to increase the pool of world-class indigenous film and television content so as to build the region’s audio-visual capacity.

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

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Its ultimate goal is to increase the pool of world-class indigenous film and television content so as to build the region’s audio-visual capacity.

Caribbean-American Association of Lake County organises Jerk Fest

THE COMMUNITY of Clermont and surrounding areas turned out in large numbers to celebrate the Caribbean-American Association of Lake County (CAALC), Annual Jerk Festival on June 10, 2017, at the Waterfront Park.

Highlights included performances from the Lake Steel Orchestra. Recipients of academic scholarships were honoured, as funds were raised to support $1000 scholarships for selected students of Caribbean heritage from five area high schools: East Ridge, Lake Minneola, South Lake, Leesburg and Tavares High Schools.

Mayor, Gail Ash, of the City of Clermont, in her message, expressed her heartfelt thanks to the members of the Caribbean American Association of Lake County for their many contributions to the community.

Lively activities brought the community together for a festive evening, including the popular Jerk Cook-off competition by a number excellent community restaurants, a Domino tournament with cash prizes, live multicultural music and performances including Steel Band, Country and Western, Calypso and Haitian Band.

The kids were specially entertained at a Fun Zone featuring the TV reality show, Swamp Brothers, and the women, dressed in native costumes of the Caribbean featured the very beautiful Parade of Islands.

The work of President Cuqui Whitehead, Chairman Chris Barrett, and the CAALC committee was commended, as well as the efforts of the participants, sponsors, advertisers, vendors and all other contributors to the festival.

Nicole Brooks, manager of the CTI, who participated in the third year of the incubator noted that it is celebrating eight years.

There are ten 2017 incubator projects by filmmakers from countries such as Canada, Bahamas, Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago, Belize, Barbados, and Haiti.

The opening gala on September 6 themed Epic Caribbean Legacy features the world premiere of “Battledream Chronicles – Series,” the Caribbean Region’s first animated television show with an all-star Pan-Caribbean cast. It is directed by filmmaker, Alain Bidard, of Martinique.

The cast includes Joseph Marcell, best known for his role as Barrington in the American sitcom,

The Fresh Prince of Bel Air, Alison Hinds, queen of soca, Sheldon Shepard of the award-winning 2010 Jamaican drama, Better Mus’ Come and Jamaican multi award-winning actress and icon, Leonie Forbes.

The feature presentation of the night will be Machel Montano: Journey of a Boss King, directed by Barr Phillips of Trinidad and Tobago.

Pimento and Hot Pepper - The Mento Story, a film directed by Era, Ridood will be the feature presentation on September 14.

“Originally in Jamaican music, there was Mento. It was, not only a type of music, a style and a type of band, but also a song form, a rhythm, and a dance. And yet for a century, Mento music and its performers have hidden in plain sight. This documentary explores the origins of Mento and where it is today,” notes a synopsis of the film in the 2017 CTFF programme guide.

CTFF is produced by Caribbean Tales Inc., a registered Canadian charity that aims to connect people through film.
THE SHAGGY Make a Difference Foundation (SMADF) has handed over medical equipment to the Bustamante Hospital For Children. The first of a two-part handover of equipment, furniture, parts and accessories it has a combined value of more than US$529,000. Rebecca Burrell, SMADF’s executive director, said the foundation hired a medical technologist to “determine what was needed to be bought, fixed and replaced. We had extensive consultations with the management of the Bustamante Hospital to determine the best path forward,” she said.

“We had to determine a strategy for solving the long-term needs of the hospital, and that was where the audit came in,” Burrell said. Apart from the day of the handover, she said, “The Shaggy Make A Difference Foundation has donated more than 400 pieces of equipment so far, and now we are streamlining and expanding our response to the needs.”

The second handover is set for September this year. The first includes ventilators, resuscitaires and neonatal patient monitors, as well as IV stands, beds and bedside lockers, privacy screens, cast cutters, cribs, basinssets and medical trolleys. The SMADF is also donating the services of a medical equipment technician for three years to service, maintain, and repair all of the equipment at the hospital.

Shaggy, founder and chairman of the SMADF, said he’s “proud that the foundation, through the help of our dedicated patrons and friends who dare to save a life every time we ask, is able to continue its work and partnership with the Bustamante Hospital.”

BEST CARE

“We all know that Bustamante is the only hospital of its kind in the English-speaking Caribbean. It’s something we talk about all the time, and year after year, thanks to everyone who helps, they are more and more able to give their precious patients the best care,” Shaggy said.

CEO of the hospital, Anthony Wood, said that the hospital is ready to step up to the challenge. “The Bustamante Hospital has some of the best health care practitioners and caregivers in the world. They are dedicated and excited about the future of our partnership with the Shaggy Make A Difference Foundation and continue to deliver and improve the quality, capacity and consistency of the services we offer,” Wood said.

Shaggy was introduced to the Bustamante Hospital for Children more than a decade ago while visiting the son of a friend.
Developers plan multi-storey units for Kingston

Avia Collinder
Gleaner Writer

Builder Phillip Smith, who purchased land currently housing the Redbones restaurant in New Kingston, says he has plans for a multi-storey development at the location. His is one of several developments approved against the background of rezoning which is likely to change the face of Kingston, allowing developers to build up instead of out.

More than a year ago, the planning authority increased the density for allowable habitable rooms per hectare of land, and since then 12 applications for multi-storey and high-rise residences have been approved.

Four of the projects are already under way. Smith is among those waiting to break ground. He plans to put up a five-floor complex on two-thirds of an acre.

“We are waiting on the tenant to move so we can begin construction,” he said, noting that the project would cost upwards of J$400 million.

Guardian Life Limited is going even higher to six, seven, and nine floors on two residential blocks under a J$6-billion project for two-storey on two residential blocks.

In downtown Kingston, where land space is limited, the National Environment and Planning Agency (NEPA) defines density according to ‘plot ratio’. A ratio of four times the building space to land has been introduced.

Habitable rooms include living room and bedrooms, but exclude verandas, bathrooms, kitchens, and small rooms. Plot ratio refers to residential square footage in relation to land size.

“In an attempt to increase the number of residential units downtown, one can now get four times the building area to land,” Leonard Francis, director of spatial planning at NEPA, told The Gleaner.

The re- zoning decision, which applies nationally, was taken at the board level at NEPA, but will be concretised in a new development order now at the Government Printing Office waiting to be gazetted. The last development order was done in 1966.

Government Town Planner and CEO of NEPA, Peter Knight, says the new densities are meant to combat urban sprawl and “promote smart growth” while preserving agricultural and environmentally sensitive lands.

“The decision to increase residential densities and heights within the Kingston Metropolitan Area was reached after careful research and analysis,” he said.

“The benefits of developments within high density areas include less building coverage on land (or footprint), more green areas and open spaces including amenity areas, lower greenhouse emissions and reduced storm water run-off.”

The town planner said, based on planning concepts, such as smart growth and compact walkable cities, it became necessary to rationalise the use of land space.

“As such, the planning authority has sought to encourage high-rise developments in specially zoned areas ...” said Knight. “These are mainly done within major nodes and along corridors.”

Francis says hotels will be permitted in areas zoned as high density that is, up to 375 habitable rooms per hectare.

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ACROSS JAMAICA

ISLANDWIDE
Free admittance to attend Emancipation Jubilee
MINISTER OF Culture, Gender, Entertainment and Sport, Olivia Grange says that entry to the Emancipation Jubilee Celebration will be free.

The annual Emancipation Jubilee Celebration, organised by the Jamaica National Heritage Trust takes place on July 31 at the Seaview Heritage Park in St. Ann. The Jubilee “allows us to celebrate a culture that is distinctly ours - Jamaican, but influenced largely by what is distinctly African - that survived the years of enslavement - a success that we owe to our ancestors who in their own relentless ways ensured that what was culturally endemic to them remained intact in a society that was alien to them,” Grange said.

More garbage trucks coming
THIRTEEN EIGHTY of garbage-collection trucks is to be boosted by the acquisition of additional trucks.

Local Government and Community Development Minister, Desmond McKenzie, on Friday July 7, reported that 138 additional trucks for the National Solid Waste Management Authority (NSWMA).

He said the trucks, which should be procured by the end of the fiscal year, will significantly boost the fleet of garbage-collection units across the island.

Pensioners to benefit from skills bank and discounts
THE JAMAICA Government Pensioners’ Association (JGPA) will be establishing a skills bank, which will enable retirees to continue to utilise their talents to earn an income.

The JGPA will be partnering with local product and service providers to offer discounts for pensioners, according to newly elected President of the JGPA, Jonathan Brown.

“We’re setting up a skills registry where we are trying to get all the data on all our pensioners, who have the skills, their hobbies and so on, to show that there is still service that we pensioners can provide to the public,” he said.

ST ANDREW
JS40 million drain-cleaning exercise underway in the Corporate Area
THE KINGSTON and St. Andrew Municipal Corporation has begun a JS40 million drain-cleaning exercise in an attempt to reduce flooding that usually occurs during rainy periods.

Jamaica is currently in the hurricane season and the Mayor of Kingston Senator Councillor Delroy Williams last week updated the corporation on the drain-cleaning programme which is being financed by the Corporation’s PAROCHIAL RENT Fund.

ST ANN
Craft Development Institute for St Ann’s Bay
THREE ENTITIES have signed a contract regarding the completion of a business plan for the establishment of a Craft Development Institute (CDI) in St Ann’s Bay.

The mission said that there were several complaints about long-term residents being unable to vote, and said in light of the mobility of the population and the contribution made by the diverse expatriate community, consideration should be given to including residents in the franchise.

They also questioned the duration of residence requirements for both voters and candidates, and advised a change in the time span people must be in Cayman before elections. “The requirement that voters must be resident for at least two of the four years immediately preceding registration should be reviewed, as it appears excessive,” the observers stated.

The observers also took note of several issues relating to the law and the Constitution that don’t meet international norms or accepted human rights regarding democratic principles.

The observers also raised concerns that the block of mentally ill being placed on prisoners may encroach upon the individual right to privacy, and said votes should not be required to state their occupation when pre-

ST JAMES
Norwood residents receive land titles
MORE THAN 100 residents of Norwood, St. James, have received land titles for the property that they occupy.

The presentation ceremony, under the Housing Agency of Jamaica’s (HAJ) land-tilting programme, was held on Sunday (July 9) at the Norwood Seventh-Day Adventist Church.

Minister without Portfolio in the Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation, Dr. Horace Chang, who handed over the documents, congratulated the new property owners whom he said had paid down for their

KINGSTON
Institute of Jamaica receives state-of-the-art audiovisual equipment from Japan
VISITOR’S TO the Institute of Jamaica (IOJ) will benefit from a state-of-the-art audiovisual equipment to improve the display and dissemination of the country’s science, art, history and cultural material.

Through grant funding from the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), the institute was able to install the equipment which will allow the institute delivery of information on Jamaica, to be more attractive and appealing.

HANOVER
New BPO facility for Hanover
COLLECTIVE SOLUTION operators of a business process outsourcing (BPO) facility in the Montego Bay Freezone is moving its business to Sandy Bay in Hanover.

The operators are currently spending US$2 million to prepare a facility which will house its Free Zone operation which employs 500 employees. Work is expected to be completed by September.

KINGSTON AND ST CATHERINE
Summer Arts workshop
THE INSTITUTE of Jamaica’s (IOJ) annual Summer Arts Workshop catering to participants from the age group six to 18, is under way at the IOJ headquarters, the Simon Bolivar Cultural Centre in Kingston and the Greater Portmore Junior Centre in St Catherine.

Those attending will experience sessions in speech, drama, drumming, graphic design, animation, computer classes, sign language, music, dance and art as well as personal development sessions.

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Gaining citizenship by marriage or descent

PIA CORNER

Q. I am thinking, in the future, I would like to live in Jamaica. However, my mum was born in Jamaica, although she cannot find her birth certificate. How would I get a replacement?

Also my husband-to-be is Jamaican, although at the moment, he has no bank account or bank statement. He works for himself. How would I be able to obtain citizenship through marriage if my partner does not have a bank account? Would he be able to use savings? Or, if he had relative that could support him and me, could they sponsor? Please advise me.

A. Thank you for your letter in which you raised several interesting questions. We note that your mother was born in Jamaica. This would make you eligible for a claim to citizenship of Jamaica by descent. In order to prove your claim and obtain a formal certificate, you are required to submit the originals of the following documents:

1. Your birth certificate
2. Your mother's birth certificate
3. Two passport-size photographs of yourself, one of which should be certified by a justice of the peace, notary public or a commissioner of oaths.
4. A valid photograph identification of yourself
5. The official change of name document (if applicable)
6. Local applications or citizenship by descent

A processing fee of $10,000. However, if your application is submitted through a Jamaican High Commission, Jamaican Consulate or Embassy, we advise that the particular mission is consulted on the required fee.

On the question of how to obtain a replacement of your mother's birth certificate, an application must be made either online at www.rgd.gov.jm or directly at the most convenient branch addressed to: The Registrar General's Department Twickenham Park Spanish Town St Catherine Jamaica

Eligibility by Marriage

As the spouse of a Jamaican, you are also eligible to make an application for citizenship of Jamaica by virtue of marriage to a citizen of Jamaica. This application requires the originals of the following documents:

1. Your birth certificate
2. Your husband's birth certificate
3. Your state-issued marriage certificate
4. Your current passport
5. Your husband's current passport
6. Verification of income statement
7. Recent bank statement
8. Tax-compliant certificate (if resident in Jamaica)
9. A recent police certificate from the country of last residence
10. Marriage exemption certificate

This application, if made locally, attracts a processing fee of $50,000. However, if your application is submitted through a Jamaican High Commission, Jamaican Consulate or Embassy, we advise that you consult the particular mission on the required fee. You are, therefore, not precluded from making an application because your husband does not hold a bank account for his business. Neither is there a requirement for a spacer. All application forms are accessible at our website at www.rgd.gov.jm.

Immigration (USCIS) allows for a substitute sponsor and a humanitarian request. As most non-immediate relative petitions (e.g., adult daughter) take two years before a visa becomes available, petitions are approved and assigned a priority date. The beneficiary then has to sit and wait until their priority date becomes current. If the petitioner dies after the petition is approved and before the visa interview, the petition can continue.

FILE RETURN

If the petition is at the National Visa Center, they will return the file to USCIS for the substitute sponsor and the humanitarian consideration. The substitute sponsor must be a US citizen or lawful permanent resident and has to be one of a select group of persons. The substitute sponsor must be: the spouse, parent, mother-in-law, father-in-law, sibling (at least 18 years of age), son, daughter, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, grandparent, grandchild, or legal guardian of the beneficiary.

If USCIS approves the humanitarian request and the substitute sponsor, they will return the file to the National Visa Center to resume the processing of the visa application. In your specific case, you need to see if your sister's petition was approved before your mother passed. Also, you indicated that it was DHS that closed the file. I am not sure what was done before the file was closed and whether your mother was able to continue with a substitute sponsor. Here, there will be a combination of everything.

Dahlia Walker-Huntington

Dahlia Walker-Huntington is a Jamaican-American attorney who practises immigration law in the United States and family, criminal, international and personal injury law in Florida.

She is a mediator, arbitrator and special magistrate in Broward County, Florida. info@WalkerHuntington.com

Correcting error in a passport

Q. I will be travelling overseas in a month’s time. However, I recently discovered that my last name was incorrectly spelt in my passport. My name is Livermore, however, it is spelt Livremore in my passport. Should I correct it before travelling? My ticket is already purchased. What is the procedure for having this corrected and what’s the turnaround time for doing so?

A. It is always in one’s best interest to correct errors made with his or her bio-data in order to prevent inconvenience while transacting business or travelling. Where an error is discovered on any PICA-issued document, we ask that you make immediate contact with our office so that the matter can be addressed. A check will be done to determine whether the error was a data entry one or whether the information represented in the passport was the same as that on the source document. The source document in this regard would be either a Jamaican birth certificate or a Jamaican citizenship certificate. If the information contained in our records agrees with the source document, then you would be required to correct the birth/citizenship certificate in order to have your passport information changed.

If it is determined that the error was made by the agency, a new passport with the correct information would be produced at no cost to you and issued within one to three days. Please note, however, that the processing time may vary depending on how recent the passport was issued. To facilitate the process, please carry the passport in question, your birth/citizenship certificate, a completed form and two passport-size pictures.

Should our records be correct, you and wish to correct the source document, then you would be required to apply for a replacement passport and pay the necessary fees. The application must be accompanied by the corrected source document. PICA offers a same-day, next-day, or three-day service at our head offices, should you require the passport urgently.

Q. Kindly let me know the process and cost, if any, to transform a name to a current passport as a result of marriage.

A. Please note that the addition of your new name would not be possible on your current passport. If you desire to have your passport in your married name, then you would have to acquire a new passport, even if the current one is not yet expired.

To apply for a renewal of your passport, you would need to present your marriage certificate along with your application form. The other requirements for the renewal of a passport would apply. In fact, any married woman who is applying for a passport must present a certified copy of her marriage certificate, whether she is applying for the first time or is renewing her document. Please note that the marriage officer’s copy is not accepted.
Businesswoman brands overseas sailing venture with Ja theme

AVIA COLLINDER
Business Reporter

Staci Blake, who turned 26 in May, has already developed four companies in an integrated business model centred on her love of art, television and fascination with the sea.

The Jamaican graduate of the Edna Manley College of the Visual and Performing Arts, with a degree in acting, is now a resident of Maryland in the United States, where she operates a pleasure boat charter business.

Her partner in the venture is an American physician, Dr Melvin Hayes, who works and resides in New York.

Island Chill Yacht Charters operates out of Annapolis, often described as the sailing capital of the United States. The Jamaican-themed entertainment venture combines a fleet of three power and sailboats with names like Irie Vibes and Tallawah, Blake said.

Each of her boats can accommodate up to 12 passengers - with two separate spaces, one on the upper deck with a bar, and the other on the lower deck with showers, toilets, and a lounge area.

Blake and Hayes, as well as other shareholders, also own Effective-Productions LLC, founded in 2013, which is the holding company for entertainment-related enterprises developed by the duo.

These include Blake Visual Artistry, Screenwriting Science and Island Chill Magazine, and now its newest enterprise, Island Chill Yacht Charters.

“These companies are interrelated, but independent,” said Blake, who is co-founder and CEO of both Effective and Island Chill. Effective-Productions is registered in the state of Maryland as a limited liability company.

As to her business acumen, Blake, who is fluent in Spanish, said her “training” has come through “creative and successful collaborations and mentors”.

Because they started as a vehicle to market her acting and videography talent, Screenwriting Science came about when Hayes developed a structure for screenplays with 19 sequences that was published in the Journal of Screenwriting.

“Additional funds have been poured into marketing the business. We are very discipined about setting goals and allocating the appropriate time to each enterprise,” Blake said.

Meantime, Blake herself continues to chase her acting career, say she continues to do small TV roles, commercials and videos to build up her acting portfolio.

We branched off and started doing these businesses together.

For two years, the duo operated boat tours, starting with an old 36-foot that offered parties, fishing trips, and accommodated the filming of music videos and TV commercials. Island Chill itself produces its own video magazine - IslandChillMagZeen.com – that showcases talent, celebrities, entrepreneurs, brands and events.

Earlier this year, they sold the older craft and expanded the fleet. The charter company now offers tours on Tallawah, a 20-foot Wellcraft Bowrider, for rental to individuals. Irie Vibes, a 94-foot Formula Cruiser; and Tharrya, a 46-foot C&C Landfall vessel.

Island Chill also added paddle boards, kayaks and dinghies, which are also rented to boaters.

“Funding was sourced from private and bank financing. Our capital expenditures focused on two domains: first, the capital outlay for the boats and their renovation and making them ‘Jamaican-cruise ready’; second, the financial demands of marketing,” Blake said.

“We own the boats outright,” she told the The Gleaner in interviews via telephone and email.

The yachting service was born out of her love for the water and the challenge of sailing powerful vessels. “We saw a very underdeveloped market,” Blake said, referring to her partner, Hayes, who teamed with her on the venture after they met at a conference.

“When I was going to Edna Manley we had to sit out after they met at a conference. Manley we had to sit out after the US Coast Guard Auxiliary after graduating from Edna Manley College in 2015. At the very same time, she was also promoting her career in acting, working with mentors. But she was serious about the possibilities of boat charters as a source of business.

“The boat charter business is 90 per cent white. There are hardly any blacks and very few females. I had to work hard to be taken seriously. That’s why I got certified,” she said.

We went up and started doing screenwriting. There was demand in the industry for screenwriters and I wanted to be the one that people could go to. It was an industry that I thought I could be successful in.

The concept for Island Chill developed very quickly. Our first challenge was to learn about the boat charter industry and establish our credibility. It took huge amount of smart and skilled work, dedication and overcoming set-backs to succeed in this white male-dominated industry,” Blake said.

In the two years of the operation, Blake and Hayes have invested US$700,000 in Island Chill Yachting, which includes the cost of the watercraft. Additional funds have been poured into marketing the business.

The company pulled in US$40,000 last year. At that pace, Blake says, the break even point is a few years away. “We are two years, but she is confident the venture has good potential and will eventually turn a profit.

The Jamaican-themed koozies for beer mugs and juice holders sold by the company have comments inscribed in the Jamaican dialect.

Each of her boats can accommodate up to 12 passengers – with two separate spaces, one on the upper deck with a bar, and the other on the lower deck with showers, toilets, and a lounge area.
Beres Hammond starts 19-city North American tour

Ryerson University, in partnership with the Black Canadian Network and the Royal Commonwealth Society, will commemorate Aug. 1 as Emancipation Day, August 1. Call 416-598-3008

A Different Booklist presents 2017 Emancipation Day on Tuesday, July 25, 3:30-7pm at Ryerson University, in partnership with the Black Canadian Network and the Royal Commonwealth Society, will commemorate Aug. 1 as Emancipation Day, August 1. Call 416-598-3008

Hammond grew up listening to American soul and pop music from the likes of Sam Cooke and Otis Redding, which formed the foundation for his iconic lover’s rock reggae sound. From topping Billboard Reggae Charts to earning a Grammy nomination for his hit album, One Love, One Life in 2014, there are no signs of him stopping anytime soon.

Joining Hammond on select stops will be reggae songstress Marcia Griffiths. Concert-goers will also be able to enjoy live sets from The Harmony House Musicians and DJ Inferno. The tour began on Tuesday, July 11 in New Haven, CT, running through to the Northeast and Canada and ending in Ft. Lauderdale Florida on August 6.

"VP Records is very proud to be associated with this artiste," said Christopher Chin, president of VP Records. "Beres’ music continues to evolve and his passion for performing is evident in all of his live shows."

Jamaican Canadian Association will hold its Jamaica 55 Independence Gala under the patronage of the High Commissioner for Jamaica to Canada, Janice Miller, on Saturday, Aug. 5, 6:30 p.m. at 995 Arrow Rd., Downsview Station (formerly Sheppard West Station) to welcome in the 5th annual Underground Freedom Train - on July 25th, 3:30-7pm at Ryerson University, in partnership with the Black Canadian Network and the Royal Commonwealth Society, will commemorate Aug. 1 as Emancipation Day, August 1. Call 416-598-3008

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Jamaica’s 55th anniversary of Independence Flag Raising Ceremony on Sunday, Aug. 6, 12:30 p.m. at The Podium Roof, Toronto City Hall, 100 Queen St. W. A reception follows at the Council Chambers-Members Lounge. RSVP at info@jcgtoronto.org/416-598-2064

Jamaica Independence Church Service will be held on Sunday, Aug. 6 at 3pm at Trinity Tabernacle, 4340 Dufferin St., Toronto. Call 416-598-3008

The consul general of Jamaica, Lloyd Wilks, invites you to an exhibition by artist, Cheery Stewart Josephs, Aug. 6 at 3pm at Revivaltime Tabernacle, The New Dimension and Triumphant Church. The New Dimension and Triumphant churches present “Keys to the Kingdom” three weeks of unforgettable life-changing messages unlocking the secrets of Joyful living, with Evangelist Deron Hill, July 15th thru August 5th.晚上6点日至7月22日,10 AM - 6 PM, Cedar Creek Park, Seaford, NY. For further information call 516-571-7470.

Jah Jerry, Inc. Annual Scholarship Fundraiser on Friday, July 28, 2017, 8:00 pm -12:00 am, St. Luke’s Episcopal Church, Bronx. For further information call (212) 470-5655.

You are invited to Jamaica Emancipation Celebration - a lecture marking the 185th Anniversary of the Execution of Sam Sharpe and exploring his death as Martyrdom by Rev. Dr. Delroy Reid-Salmon, Friday, August 4th at 7 pm, St. Luke’s Episcopal Church, 777 E. 222nd St., Bronx.
A remarkable Maroon colonel

Colonel Collin Harris

GARRETH DAVIS SR
Gleaner Writer

MOORE TOWN, Portland: HUNDREDSP Xxx persons comprising family members, friends, and well-wishers packed the St. Paul’s Anglican Church in Moore Town, Portland, last weekend to celebrate the life of former Maroon Colonel Collin Lloyde George Harris, who only recently celebrated his 100th birthday.

Affectively called ‘Teacha’, Harris lived an exemplary life, wherein he reportedly impacted the lives of hundreds of residents in the Moore Town community by providing them with financial assistance, offering them guidance and mentorship, while spending time teaching them how to read and write.

A two-term president of the Portland Jamaica Teachers’ Association, Colonel Harris was a graduate of the then Mico College, which is now The Mico University College.

ACADEMIC DISTINCTION

He also held the distinction of being the first student from Moore Town to secure a credit grade in English language in what was then known as the First-year Super Teacher Examination.

Having excelled academically, Harris quickly aborted a life-long dream of becoming a shoemaker and started his new occupation as a schoolteacher at his alma mater, Moore Town Primary.

Yorkie Harris, one of the Colonel’s sons, spoke about the bonding relationship with his father and pointed out that his dad was well loved by community residents as a result of his invaluable service to the people and the varied communities in the Rio Grande valley. He argued that the contribution made by his father should be replicated by those assuming leadership positions.

“He was an outstanding teacher,” commented Yorkie.

He added: ‘He was an advocate for the community and a family man. He has left us with a rich legacy and I am strongly advocating that Moore Town Primary school be renamed in honour of his memory and contribution.”

During his lifetime, Harris wrote several books including Teacha, The Chieftainess, Sharon Silver Land, and Reminiscences, for which he received multiple awards.

Among those who paid their respects were Minister of Culture, Gender Affairs, Entertainment, and Sports Olivia Grange, Minister of National Security Robert Montague, Dr. Fenion Ferguson representing the leader of the Opposition, Mayor of Port Antonio Paul Thompson, and Member of Parliament for East Portland Dr. Lynvale Bloomfield.

Harris, who was elected as head of the Moore Town Maroons in 1964, was laid to rest at the Bump Grave, next to the monument of one of Jamaica’s national heroes, Nanny.

SYLVIE GRIZZLE

Negril has lost a stalwart

CLAUDIA GARDNER
Gleaner Writer

TRIBUTES FLOWED on Saturday, July 8, during the memorial service for prominent Negril hotelier and environmentalist Sylvie Grizzle.

The service took place at the Mary Gate of Heaven Catholic Church in the resort town.

The 75-year-old philanthropist, who, along with her husband, veteran hotelier and farmer Daniel Grizzle, operated the Charela Inn in Negril, died on June 16.

A founding member of the Negril Chamber of Commerce (NCOC), Sylvie was a passionate person. Sylvie, whether we were lobbying for a central sewage system or certain environmental initiatives to preserve or protect the environment, she was there,” Issa said.
Bring it to the table.
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Bravo exile ends after exchange of apologies

ST JOHN’S, Antigua (CMC): EXILED LEFT-HANDER Darren Bravo is set to play for West Indies again “with immediate effect” after he and Cricket West Indies President Dave Cameron exchanged apologies following a nine-month impasse.

In a statement last week, Cricket West Indies (CWI) said the 28-year-old player would be “available with immediate effect to play in all forms of cricket” after Bravo’s performances had not merited an enhanced contract.

“His averages in the last two years have been declining, so what do you do? Reward poor performance, or do you encourage him to get better?” Cameron was quoted as saying.

“If you continue to keep giving him an A contract, then what is the motivation to get better? He has been on an A contract and he hasn’t done well.”

In response, Bravo lashed out angrily on Twitter, tagging Cameron in a tweet which said: “You hav[e] been failing 4 d 4yrs. Y don’t u resign and FYI I’ve neva been given an A contract. Big idiot.”

CWI slammed Bravo’s actions as “disparaging” to Cameron and demanded he apologise and remove the tweet. The player complied with neither.

Bravo, since then, has been barred from selection and also from playing for his native Trinidad and Tobago.

Only recently, Cameron said Bravo would remain sidelined until the tweet was removed. West Indies are expected to tour England next month for three Tests with a squad announcement expected this week, but Bravo last month indicated his unavailability because of commitments in the Caribbean Premier League.

Robert Bailey
Gleaner Writer

JAMAICA CELEBRATED a double gold medal performance to close off Day Three of the IAAF World Under-18 Championships with De’Jour Russell and Antonio Watson beating their peers in Nairobi, Kenya on Friday, July 14.

Russell lowered his own championships record in the 110m hurdles, dominating the field to win in 13.04 seconds ahead of Chinese Taipei’s Hao-hua Lu, 13.41 and France’s Thomas Wacavoubeq, 13.55.

Fifteen-year-old Petersfield High student Watson won gold in the 400m with a strong performance to finish, after coming into the final 100m in the middle of the pack.

Watson posted a personal best 46.59 to win ahead of Guyanese Daniel Williams, 46.72, and Turks and Caicos’ Colby Jennings, 46.77.

Another Jamaican, Anthony Cox, also posted 46.77, started strongly but faded into fourth place.

Shaquena Floote, 54.05, finished fifth behind winner Barbora Malikova, 52.74 from the Czech Republic, Kenya’s Mary Moraa, 53.31; and Brazil’s Giovana Dos Santos, 53.57.

The results lifted the Jamaicans to four medals (two gold, two bronze) and fourth place on the medal table.

U-21 netballers beaten in quarter-finals

JAMAICA HOPES of winning a medal at this year’s Netball Youth Cup in Botswana, ended after they were beaten 38-36 in the quarter-finals by England.

It was the first time since 1995 that the Under-21 Sunshine Girls were missing out on a place in the semi-finals of the championships. The senior Sunshine Girls, who won silver at the championships in 2000 under the guidance of current head coach Janet Gay, were beaten by hosts Botswana in their third match on Tuesday. They had earlier recorded victories over Cook Islands, Malaysia and Uganda.

The junior Sunshine Girls, who won bronze in Glasgow in 2013, will now be playing for the fifth and sixth spots at the tournament.

The Jamaican team is captained by defender Kadie-Ann Duhaney, who plays in the Australian Super League competition. The team also includes five players who recently represented the senior Sunshine Girls in a three-Test series against Barbados at the National Arena. That series ended in a 1-1 draw.

Russell, Watson mine gold for Jamaica at World U18 Champs
Jamaica’s National football team, the Reggae Boyz, advanced to the CONCACAF Gold Cup quarter-finals knock-out round on Sunday July 16, when they drew 2-2 with El Salvador in a Zone C encounter at the Alamodome, San Antonio, Texas.

Jamaica with five points, finished second behind defending champions Mexico on seven. El Salvador also earned a berth in the quarter-finals by finishing with four points to make them one of the two best third place teams.

Jamaica will bow into the quarter-finals on July 20, when they play Canada while El Salvador will face the USA with Mexico facing Honduras on July 21.

It was El Salvador who opened the scoring when Nelson Bonilla evaded a defender in a speedy dribble into the box from the left flank and lofted pass goalkeeper Andre Blake.

Action swung from end to end until the 64th minute when striker Darren Mattocks buried a penalty, after an El Salvador player handled, to equalise. The score remained unchanged as both teams advanced.

Hayley Matthews

Jamaica’s Under-21 netballers disappoint

ROBERT BAILEY
Gleaner Writer

JAMAICA’S UNDER-21 netballers ended their disappointing show at the Netball World Youth Cup 2017 in Gabarone, Botswana by placing fifth with a 52-47 victory over South Africa to secure the fifth spot on Sunday July 16.

The junior Sunshine Girls, who were one of the favourites for a medal at the championships, failed to make the semi-finals of the tournament after they were beaten by England in the quarter-finals on Thursday.

That defeat to England meant that for the first time since 1995 the young Sunshine Girls were missing out a spot in the last four of a World Youth Championships.

The Jamaicans were also beaten by hosts Botswana in their preliminary round game on Wednesday and also by the Cook Islands. They defeated Malaysia and Scotland in their other games.

The Sunshine Girls, who were led by captain Kadie-Ann Duhaney, won a bronze at the last championships in Glasgow, Scotland. In 2013 Duhaney played her trade in the Australia’s Super Netball League competition this season.

The young Sunshine Girls’ team also includes players who recently represented the senior Sunshine Girls team, which played to a one-all draw against Barbados. It was the first for a long time that Jamaica had failed to beat Barbados at that level.

Windies Women eliminated from ICC World Cup

WEST INDIES Women, in their final game of the ICC World Cup, slumped to another poor performance and were convincingly beaten by 92 runs by hosts England at Bristol.

The Caribbean unit, led by the leg-spinner Afy Fletcher, managed to restrict England to 220 for seven off 50 overs at the Gloucestershire County Ground but their batsmen let them down badly and they collapsed to 128 for nine, slumping to their fifth defeat in seven matches.

West Indies sent in England to bat on a slow turning pitch, the WI spinners restricted England to 220 for seven of their 50 overs. Only captain Heather Knight with a top score of 67 and Tammy Beaumont, 42, managed to show any authority.

FLETCHER EXCELLENT

Fletcher took three for 25 from her 10 overs while off-spinner Anisa Mohammed also proved stingly, conceding just 32 runs from her 10 overs.

In reply West Indies could only muster 129/9 with 29 from opener Hayley Matthews and 23 from Chedean Nation as their batting folded yet again.

Seamer Natalie Sciver took three for three from four overs but it was left-arm spinner Alex Hartley, with one or 25 from her 10 and off-spinner Laura Marsh, with one for 26 from 10 overs, who snuffed out the West Indies.

West Indies ended the tournament sixth on four points from their last two victories over Pakistan Women and Sri Lanka Women. These teams along with five placed New Zealand Women, fell by the wayside.

England finished on top with 12 points, reigning champions Australia Women second also on 12 points but with an inferior net run rate, while India Women were third on 10 and South Africa Women fourth with nine points.
GILBERT CONFIDENT

Head coach of Jamaica’s Under 20 women football team, Xavier Gilbert is confident the team which departed the island, Monday July 17 for the CONCACAF Caribbean Zone qualifiers in Bermuda, can advance to the final round.

CRICKET RETURNS TO FLORIDA

Lauderhill set to host HCPL matches

THE HERO Caribbean Premier League (HCPL) 2020 competition will be back in Lauderhill, Florida, for the second successive year, and the city will host the tournament for four matches on August 5 and 6 at the Central Broward Regional Stadium.

Russell, Watson mine gold for Jamaica at World U18 Champs – P 22