

EMANCIPATION DAY REFLECTION SITES • ROXBOROUGH: MORE THAN A MUSEUM

The Gleaner
Hospitality Jamaica

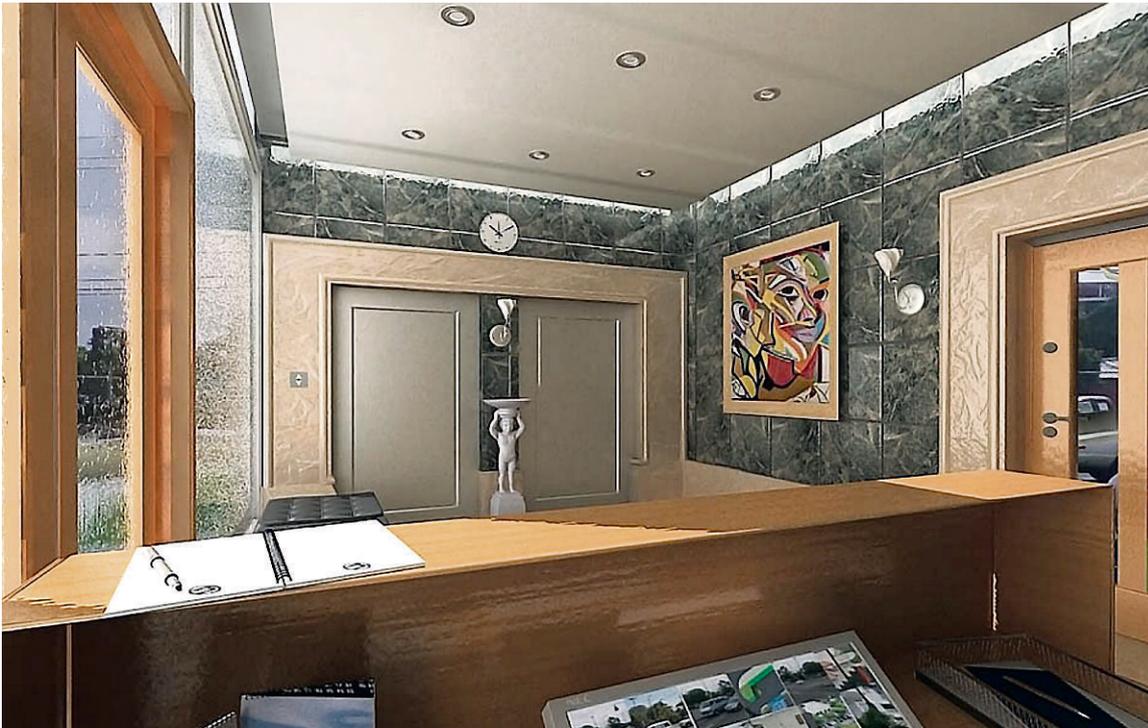
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WEDNESDAY, JULY 27, 2016

The Renfrew

AN ARCHITECTURAL MASTERPIECE,
SAYS BOGDANOVICH





The lobby at The Renfrew.



From left: Opposition Spokesman on Tourism Dr Wykeham McNeill huddles with Minister of Justice Delroy Chuck and owner of The Renfrew, Joe Bogdanovich.

The Renfrew an architectural masterpiece, says Bogdanovich

Wants to replicate throughout Caribbean

Janet Silvera

Hospitality Jamaica Coordinator

JAMAICA'S NEWEST hotelier, Joe Bogdanovic, has tagged The Renfrew, his latest investment, an architectural masterpiece that he wants to replicate in the rest of the Caribbean.

In an interview with **Hospitality Jamaica** on Sunday, Bogdanovich said if the hotel works here, it will do well in the region. "I am looking to bring the model to the rest of the Caribbean," he said.

The property is Kingston's only 'extended-stay corporate luxury' hotel. Situated on Renfrew Road in New Kingston, the hotel will offer 32 exclusive high-end units and eight serviced, luxury apartments, as well as storage, parking and recreation, under one roof.

The project is a partnership between the Los Angeles-born investor, who was drawn to the Jamaican shores in 1991 by the country's music, and his long-time friend, renowned architect, Evan Williams.

According to Bogdanovic, whose diverse portfolio includes Down-sound Records Ltd and Down-sound Entertainment Ltd, Reggae Sumfest, Hardware and Lumber and KLE, which operates Usain Bolt's Tracks & Records, Williams had been nursing this dream of his.

"I did a lot of research on the marketing and the right place to do this in. My research indicated that there was a demand for high-end accommodations, the kind that would meet the needs of a business person, but would be flexible



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From left: The owners of The Renfrew, architect Evan Williams and Downsound's Joe Bogdanovich, showing the design of their new hotel to Director of Tourism Paul Pennicook.

enough. So, you could say, I jumped in with my feet first.”

Bogdanovich, who is from a family of business operators, describes his move into the hospitality sector as “carefully timed and confidently taken”.

Demand for hotel rooms in Kingston is at an all-time high, he said. “Airlift to the city has increased in recent years, providing links with several Latin American markets, whose citizens now enjoy visa-free access to Jamaica. Even within the island access to the city has improved, with the completion of the North-South highway.

“My partner and I have a vested interest in seeing the city’s entertainment options improve. So, believe me, there’ll be demand for our rooms.”

ARCHITECTURAL INNOVATION

The multi-storey residential building is designed to appeal to those who share a passion for architectural innovation, style and an exceptional quality of life, said the man behind the design, Evan Williams.

The hotel is being constructed on property that, up to recently, housed Williams’ offices – Design Collaborative.

“Kingston’s status as the seat of



A rendition of what the bedrooms at The Renfrew will look like.

CONTRIBUTED

government and centre of diplomatic and business activity continues to generate demand for hotel accommo-

dation above and beyond that generated by tourist traffic,” said Williams. He added that the presence in

Kingston of a major conference centre, two universities, the National Stadium and Sabina Park

frequently creates demand for accommodation that the city has been unable to fill, even when the 300-room Hilton/Wyndham was operational.

The new hotel will be within easy reach of all major diplomatic missions, financial institutions and services, several important corporate operations, a variety of restaurants and other facilities. It is located in a safe and quiet *cul-de-sac*, and is within 20-30 minutes of the international airport. The developers are confident that these factors will assure the hotel’s success.

Evan Williams’ portfolio of architectural successes in the hotel sector include Sandals, Couples and SuperClubs. Other well-regarded projects include the headquarters of the Guardsman Group.

In the entertainment sector, he is the visionary and architect behind the legendary Epiphany and Theophany clubs of yesteryear and the city’s current hot spot, the Redbones Blues Café.

For the two businessmen, they are introducing corporate living beyond the traditional urban hotel experience.

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CONTRIBUTED

Eighty youngsters from Trelawny are taking part in a summer camp hosted at the Trelawny Parish Library by the Falmouth Police and Royalton White Sands Resorts. The children are engaged in meaningful activities each day with members of the Falmouth Police, led by Sergeant Wayne Wallace and other volunteers who ensure that they are kept busy. Royalton White Sands supplies the participants with refreshments. In this picture, community relations manager at Royalton White Sands, Debbie Bailey (centre), poses with some of the participants after they completed a day’s activities. She is expressing appreciation to the library and the police for the support they have given to the camp, which she sees as a very good way to keep the youth busy over the summer.

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PHOTOS BY PAUL H. WILLIAMS

The facade of the old governor's mansion in Spanish Town, St Catherine. The Emancipation Proclamation was read on the step of its portico on August 1, 1838.

Emancipation Day reflection sites

Paul H. Williams
Hospitality Jamaica Writer

EMANCIPATION DAY is a time to reflect on slavery, which gave rise to it. It reminds us of what happened decades ago and of what should never happen again.

On that day, there are several heritage sights where we can go to reflect and think about the way forward.

One such place is Sam Sharpe Square in Montego Bay, St James, where there is the Sam Sharpe Monument.

It was the pain and injustice of slavery that led the house slave, Baptist Deacon Samuel Sharpe, to encourage his fellow enslaved Africans to strike if they were not given their freedom after the Christmas break of 1831.

It turned out that an uprising started before Sharpe wanted it to, and by the time he knew it, plantations in St James were on fire, and all hell really broke loose. In the aftermath, Sharpe and many other enslaved Africans were killed, and Christian missionaries associated with them were persecuted, and prosecuted.

After his acquittal, Baptist preacher William Knibb travelled to Britain to campaign for the abolition of slavery in the British West Indies.

In his effort, a controversy developed because it was alleged that Knibb was advocating for a monument in Sam Sharpe's honour.

His accuser, a Peter Borthwick, of the West India Party, regarded such a notion as treasonous. This led to a big debate which Knibb won, as his statement about an "imperishable monument" was misrepresented.

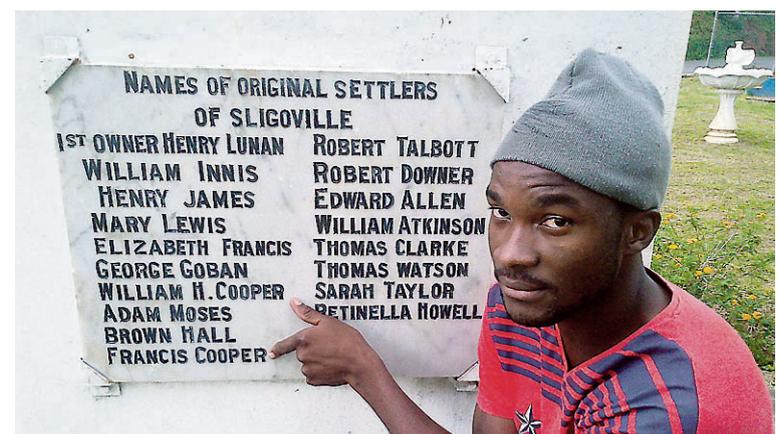
Misrepresentation or not, Sharpe did in fact get an imperishable monument. It is widely felt that the Sam Sharpe Rebellion sped up the Emancipation process. Other points of interest in the square are the cage, a slavery-day jail, and

the civic centre, built on the ruins of the old courthouse.

The St James uprising was also called the Christmas Rebellion, which came way after the Easter Rebellion of 1760, led by Tacky, an enslaved Akan. It was brutally



The Sam Sharpe Monument in Sam Sharpe Square, Montego Bay, St James.



Dalton Cooper points to the names of two of his ancestors who were among the first residents of the free village of Sligoville, St Catherine, established in 1835.

crushed. At the end, 60 whites and more than 400 blacks were dead.

A monument is erected in the Claude Stuart Park in Port Maria, St Mary, to remind us of Tacky's efforts to free himself and his people from oppression. Not far from it are the ruins of Fort Haldane, which

Tacky and his followers had attacked successfully.

The old Government Square in Spanish Town, St Catherine, is another important Emancipation site. There, the Emancipation proclamation was read on the steps of the portico of the governor's mansion, by Governor Sir Lionel Smith on August 1, 1838. There are several other historic ruins and sights in that square.

Just before and after Emancipation, free villages were established for the newly freed. Sligoville, in St Catherine, named after Howe Peter Browne, the second marquess of Sligo, governor of Jamaica, and established by James Phillip in 1835, is regarded as the first of such villages.

To commemorate Emancipation, the community has been hosting Emancifest for some years now. This year, it will be on Sunday, July 31 and Monday, August 1. The vigil and bonfire will be on Sunday. But apart from the annual celebrations, the Sligoville Heritage Foundation organises tours to the heritage sights in the community, another place to go and reflect.



The monument erected in the Claude Stuart Park in Port Maria, St Mary, in honour of Tacky, the leader of the 1760 Easter Rebellion in St Mary.



CONTRIBUTED
 Minister of Tourism Edmund Bartlett (left) shares a light moment with Minister of Labour and Social Security Shahine Robinson (second left); general manager of Bahía Principe Jamaica Resort Antero Mesa (far right); and deputy chairman of Grupo Pinero, parent company of Bahía Príncipe, José Antonio Moreno, as Bartlett arrived to be guest speaker at the resort's annual staff awards on Tuesday, July 19.

Tourism Sector Excellence Programme returns

THE NATIONAL Tourism Service Excellence Programme (TSEP), which rewards industry workers at all levels for outstanding customer service, is back on the agenda of the Ministry of Tourism.

Former director general of the ministry Carrole Guntley has been appointed by Tourism Minister Edmund Bartlett to spearhead the drive to introduce a revamped TSEP.

In making the announcement, Bartlett expressed regret that the programme, which he launched at the Grand Bahía Príncipe Hotel in 2008, had been discontinued, with the last sets of awards being presented in 2012.

While giving the keynote address at the Bahía Principe Jamaica Resort's annual staff awards on Tuesday, July 19, Bartlett underscored the importance of recognising excellence in the industry and indicated that the TSEP was created to do just that.

"We have re-engaged Carrole Guntley to lead the team that will bring back the Tourism Service Excellence Programme so that we can show off the best of the workers in the tourist industry and reward you for the good jobs that you have been doing," he said.

Noting that steps have been

taken to ensure that the programme is sustained with the awards ceremony added to the ministry's calendar of events, Bartlett disclosed that "this year, we will have our first of those Tourism Service Excellence awards and we will have that in November".

The training element of the programme is being reintroduced and will be promoted in a more aggressive manner to encourage greater participation. Steps will also be taken to improve systems to ensure efficiency, effectiveness, and innovation.

Bartlett noted that "people come to Jamaica and return at a rate better than any other destination in the Caribbean", with 42 per cent of visitors who come here being repeat visitors. He stressed that they return "time and time again because of you, the workers and the quality service that you have been giving them."

Congratulating the Bahía Príncipe workers on their awards for service excellence, Bartlett expressed pride, saying, "You, the workers are central to the economic development and growth of this wonderful country of ours, and because you are so critical, we have to take special pride in you and to make sure that we take care of the workers of Jamaica."

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David Jessop
Contributor

THE UNITED States and Canada, the countries of Europe, and others like Australia and Japan regularly issue advisory notices to their citizens informing them about the risks they might face when travelling to particular countries. These normally address issues such as crime, terrorism or public health.

In contrast, it is unclear how many Caribbean nations have either enforce or have issued, as it were, similar travel advisory notices in reverse. From a quick, albeit unscientific online check, I could find evidence of only one such Caribbean notice: the recent and now famous advisory issued by The Bahamas government about travel to the United States.

This recommended Bahamians to take particular care when visiting cities affected by tensions following the shootings of young black males by police officers. The notice advised all Bahamians travelling to the affected cities to exercise appropriate caution, before going on to warn young men in particular 'to exercise extreme caution in affected cities in their interactions with the police', not to be confrontational, and to cooperate. It also counselled its citizens not to become involved in political or other demonstrations under any circumstances and to avoid crowds.



David Jessop

MINOR STORM

Although the advice was perfectly reasonable, and similar notices have previously been issued by Canada and Germany about certain US cities, the advice from The Bahamas Ministry of Foreign Affairs created a minor storm in the US media. The suspicion, voiced on CNN in its usual language of US exceptionalism, was that the notice following the shootings in Louisiana and Minnesota had political intent or was in some way retaliatory.

The Bahamas Ministry of Foreign Affairs said that there was no basis for suggesting this, the notice meant no more or less than what it said, and was similar to advisories that other countries have issued when necessary.

Unfortunately, this then led to the US media looking more closely

THE BUSINESS OF TOURISM

Travel advisories and human nature



FILE

Passengers leave a gym where they took shelter after explosions near the Zaventem airport in Brussels on March 22. Bombs struck the Brussels airport and one of the city's metro stations, killing and wounding dozens of people, as a European capital was again locked down amid heightened security threats.

at the homicide rate in The Bahamas and republishing official US travel advice, which is particularly stark when it comes to New Providence.

What this serves to illustrate is the tension between governments and tourist boards in regions like the Caribbean that want visitors to believe that all is well and that nothing will trouble a vacation, and the legal and moral responsibility that governments in source markets say they have to inform their citizens and the travel trade about the likely risks in certain destinations.

As you might expect, the practice of issuing travel advisories is most common in developed countries with the notices usually being prepared by the local embassy or

high commission in conjunction with senior officials in capitals.

The objective, diplomats say, is to meet citizens' expectations that their government will warn them in advance about risk, and have in place the appropriate consular services to protect them if required. For the most part, they recognise that too strident or disproportionate a warning could result in economic damage to the country concerned and its tourism industry.

HOLISTIC RESPONSE

However, the same diplomats also observe that the published advice has to respond to events and media coverage, matters they observe that reflect, in some countries, government's inability to tackle or solve crimes against visitors, to address crime more gener-

ally or, as is the case in some smaller Caribbean nations, an unwillingness to admit the serious nature of the crimes involved or their frequency.

To confuse matters, when it comes to travel advisories, different governments in the region's key visitor source markets adopt different approaches.

For example, the website of the US Embassy in Nassau has a strongly worded and detailed four-page security advisory, but to find the equivalent warnings from Canada or the United Kingdom, you have to click through from a relatively innocuous foreign ministry summary page to links that set out the risk to visitors from crime or the Zika virus.

So contentious have some country's travel advisories become that

behind the scenes, they are the subject of difficult high-level political or diplomatic exchanges about both the detail and the robustness of the language used.

That said, most visitors exercise a high degree of common sense, recognising that whether you are in Miami, London, Bridgetown or Havana, there will always be danger, crime and violence and public health issues.

The problem, if that is the right word, is that vacations exist to encourage us to relax and seek experience, and increasingly to want the authentic. In the process we perhaps become too trusting, and, paradoxically, more liable to be caught up in the unexpected or in dangerously evolving situations, in ways that no travel advisory can ever address.

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Sandals supports local producers and artisans

Hotel chain increases variety of authentic Jamaican items in re-energised resort shop campaign

A GUEST has just purchased a souvenir from the resort shop at Sandals Montego Bay. It's a carving of a rooster, its unique features expertly etched into what is obviously top-quality wood. The word Jamaica has also been carved into it and it bears the signature of its creator, Winston 'Woody' Joseph. For the guest, this rooster is an emblem meant to serve as a reminder of an awesome Jamaican vacation. It will probably adorn a table back home.

What this guest probably does not

know is that the purchase was much more than a souvenir. The artisan behind the carving was inspired by his late father, who was also a carver, and he is determined to provide for his children. It is the story of many Jamaican artisans and manufacturers – using their natural talent and local resources to create art and provide for their families.

Recognising the need for, and importance of authentic Jamaican creations, Sandals Resorts International has revolutionised all its on-property resort shops increasing the number and variety of authentic Jamaican products. This is in addition to the company's longstanding agreement with local craftsmen and women who are invited on property to display their wares in special Jamaica Day celebrations weekly.

Adam Stewart, Sandals' chief executive officer, said, "When visitors come to our island, have an amazing time and visit our gift shops for that special souvenir to capture the experience, we want them to have something

that is uniquely Jamaican and something that is truly representative of our culture and our people. By partnering with local artisans and manufacturers, we are not only providing quality items for our guests, but we are empowering local entrepreneurs who, in turn, provide jobs for many others. The linkages available between sectors such as these and tourism are quite clear."

Winston Joseph is one of more than 30 local artisans and manufacturers whose products are sold in the gift shops at all local Sandals and Beaches Resorts. For the St Mary-based Joseph, who operates from a small shack with no electricity, and for all the other producers and

artisans, this move by Sandals creates a welcomed market for their creations.

Egbert Hamilton specialises in alabaster carvings and sculptures, a skill he has been practising for decades. He is no stranger to adversity, having lost all his possessions in a fire a few years ago, but still he persists, doing what he loves and pouring his heart into everything he creates. "This is what helped me to send my seven kids to school", he said, "I love it and I'm happy to know that tourists love the things I create."

Owner of EcoFarms Jamaica, producer of the Buzz Wines line of honey wines and flavoured honey,

Grace Foster-Reid, is also grateful for the opportunity to sell her products at Sandals. After the closure of the bauxite company where she worked as an engineer, Foster-Reid was forced to seek another means of income. Turning her attention to her father's farm in St Elizabeth, the bees caught her interest and she decided to fully investigate the potential of bee-keeping. Today, her business is her passion and she welcomes the opportunity to partner with Sandals.

With one purchase of a hand-made clay ornament from Frazer's Ceramics, for example, a guest supports not only Headley Frazer and his wife but his employees and the entire community, all of whom play a hand in creating his exceptional work. "I employ a team of people and I feel responsible for them. If things aren't going too well, I feel a burden on me because I want them all to be successful," he said.

The community, he said, benefits from his business. "I work with local clay that is sourced from near the Castleton River. Someone has to mine it, dig it, break it up, pack it and bring it across the river; and then I have to pick it up, bring it to my shop and the work continues there."

Like Foster-Reid, he is also grateful for the opportunity to work with Sandals. "God bless Sandals! They are doing a very good thing for local products. I wish they could have another 100 hotels," he said with a chuckle.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

This heart-shaped trinket box made from alabaster is one of Egbert Hamilton's many unique creations available at Sandals and Beaches Resorts gift shops.



Winston 'Woody' Joseph hard at work creating one of his many distinct wooden pieces now available at Sandals and Beaches Resorts gift shops.



Bahia Principe Jamaica Resort honours its stars

BAHIA PRINCIPE Jamaica Resort hosted its annual staff awards ceremony last Tuesday at the Bahia Principe Village on the hotel property.

Under the theme 'Honouring Our Stars', 30 members of staff were given special prizes for their performance during 2015, including five members of the recently opened Luxury Bahia Principe Runaway Bay.

Top honours were given in the categories of Manager, Supervisor and Employee of the Year, Five-Year Anniversary, Hotel Manager's Award for Excellence and General Manager's Award for Excellence.

The Department of the Year was awarded to Public Area, an announcement met with strong support from the audience. Other spot prizes were given for Best Dressed Male, Female and Couple, in addition to correct responses to trivia questions about the hotel.

DIGNITARY ATTENDEES

Among the attendees were Minister of Tourism Edmund Bartlett; Minister of Labour and Social Security Shahine Robinson; Mayor of St Ann's Bay Desmond Gilmore; Senator Kavanay; Custos of St Ann Norma Walters, as well as corporate managers from the hotel's main office in Spain.

Event coordinator and social relations manager Farrah Blake said the event was a success because of the assistance received from sponsors, the planning committee and the hotel's current suppliers. She made special mention of the Jamaica Hotel and Tourist Association, Olive International Investments, Singer Jamaica Limited, Digicel, ViewPoint, Bando Events, Therapic, Executive Ground Ambulance Services, Appliance Traders Limited, Quickprint and CoolCash.

Bahia Principe Jamaica Resort has been serving the Jamaican tourism industry for over nine years. The company will celebrate its 10th anniversary in January 2017.



Vana Taylor, chair, Ocho Rios/Runaway Bay Chapter of the Jamaica Hotel and Tourist Association, presents an award to Richard Grant, Supervisor of the Year.



Sadeera Shaw (centre), company attorney, and Antero Mesa (left), general manager, make a presentation to Tourism Minister Edmund Bartlett.



Custos of St Ann Norma Walters (left) presents the Five-Year Award to Melissa Shorter of the Finance Department at Bahia Principe.



Employee of the Year, Odaine Trusty of the Banqueting Department is all smiles as he accepts his prizes from Minister of Labour and Social Security Shahine Robinson.



Troy Cocking (left) of Olive International Investments; Shahine Robinson (second left), minister of labour and social security; and Edmund Bartlett, minister of tourism, make their presentations to Diana Lewis, Manager of the Year.

Jamaican luxury hotels ranked among best

JAMAICA CONGRATULATES the three luxury hotels ranked among the best in the world in **Travel + Leisure's** World's Best Awards 2016. Chosen by **Travel + Leisure** readers, the Jamaican properties made the top of the 'Best Resort Hotels in the Caribbean, Bermuda, and the Bahamas' category: Round Hill Hotel & Villas in Montego Bay at number five, GoldenEye in Oracabessa at number eight and Jamaica Inn in Ocho Rios at number nine.

Jamaica's Minister of Tourism, Edmund Bartlett, and Director of Tourism Paul Pennicook, are delighted with the selection of hotels chosen by **Travel + Leisure's** readers.

"Heartfelt congratulations to our valued resort partners who have achieved top rankings on the **Travel + Leisure** World's Best list for 2016," noted Bartlett. "This recognition provides proof of Jamaica's stellar hospitality and guest experience, distinguishing ourselves among global players in the industry."

"Jamaica has long been a sanctuary for travellers seeking a luxurious getaway. We are thrilled that three of our luxury hotels were selected by **Travel + Leisure** readers as part of this year's World Best Awards list," said Pennicook.

Every year, **Travel + Leisure** asks its readers to weigh in on travel experiences around the globe, sharing their opinions on the

JAMAICA TOURIST BOARD

top hotels, resorts, cities, islands, cruise lines, spas, airlines, and more. Readers rated hotels on their rooms and facilities, location, service, food and drink, and overall value.

JAMAICA INN, OCHO RIOS:

Family-owned and family-run, this small luxury hotel has been in

business for over 50 years. With 28 suites and cottages having no televisions or radios, Jamaica Inn focuses on having their guests re-embrace the simple joys of living. The on-site restaurant serves up typical Jamaican fare or guests can enjoy their meals served on the beach or in-room.

www.jamaicainn.com

GOLDENEYE, ORACABESSA:

When James Bond creator Ian Fleming first came to Jamaica during World War II, he bought a villa in the small village of Oracabessa. He named it GoldenEye, which became inspiration for the 1995 movie **GoldenEye**. This Jamaican hideaway is where Fleming dreamed up James Bond and penned all 13 James Bond novels. Today, the 52-acre world-class property is the flagship of Chris Blackwell's Island Outpost properties, a group of luxury hotels and villas. www.goldeneye.com

ROUND HILL HOTEL & VILLAS, MONTEGO BAY:

Situated on a 110-acre private enclave, Round Hill's luxury villas and boutique oceanfront rooms are designed by Ralph Lauren. The hotel offers award-winning seaside dining and an exquisite spa that lies nestled in a lush, tropical hillside along a private bay of turquoise waters.

www.roundhill.com

JTB honoured at TravelAge West's 2016 WAVE Awards

AT THIS year's TravelAge West WAVE awards, the Jamaica Tourist Board (JTB) was once again named the best international tourism board for providing travel agent support. This marks the JTB's fifth win in the category since 2009. Two of the island's hotels, Hyatt Ziva/Zilara Rose Hall and Moon Palace Jamaica Grande, were also recognised in the category 'Best New Resort or Major Renovation, Caribbean'.

TravelAge West, the leading travel industry trade publication in the western United States, presents the awards annually to recognise travel-supplier partners who provide outstanding qualities and services. The Editors' Picks and WAVE Award winners are celebrated at a star-studded gala held in Los Angeles. The black-tie gala brings together honourees and travel agents, and recognises the outstanding qualities and services of the industry's leading travel suppliers.

Dian Holland, business development manager, West USA, JTB, was on hand to accept the award on behalf of the board. "It is a great honour to see my country rewarded



CONTRIBUTED

Dian Holland, business development manager, West USA, Jamaica Tourist Board, and Kenneth Shapiro, editor-in-chief, TravelAge West.

for this commitment by such a prominent industry staple as TravelAge West," she commented. "We at the Jamaica Tourist Board recognise the very real value of travel

agents in our industry and are therefore committed to ensuring that they receive the support necessary to promote Jamaica as a top-tier destination."

Jamaica Travel Market a big hit

DESTINATION JAMAICA'S inaugural trade show in the United Kingdom, Jamaica Travel Market, has already sold all slots for Jamaican tourism partners eager to take advantage of the exposure. The event, set for September 29-30 at the Luton Hoo Hotel, Golf & Spa in London, will showcase Jamaica exclusively to British tour operators and travel agents.

The list of confirmed suppliers include:

- Couples Resorts Jamaica
- Dolphin Cove
- Essential Detail for Jamaica Inn
- Essential Detail for Sandy Haven
- Fisherman's Point
- Half Moon
- Hedonism
- Holiday Inn Resort Montego Bay, The Courtleigh Hotel, The Knutsford Court Hotel and The Jamaica Pegasus
- Hyatt Ziva Rose Hall and Hyatt Zilara Rose Hall
- Island Outpost
- Jamaica Tours Limited
- Jewel Resorts and Hilton Rose Hall
- Kiuki Tours
- Moon Palace Jamaica Grande
- Mystic Mountain Ltd and Mystic Ridge Resort
- Rondel Village
- Round Hill
- Sandals & Beaches Resorts
- Secrets Resorts

The Jamaica Travel Market will offer a chance for buyers, planners, suppliers and agents to meet, partake in workshops, enjoy a gala dinner, cocktail reception and awards ceremony.

The Jamaica Tourist Board is also organising a luxury event on September 27 at the Chester Grosvenor Hotel. This event will focus on Jamaica's most unique, top-end hotels and resorts, and include an update for luxury partners on the latest news.

AUTHENTIC JAMAICAN CRAFT BOOSTED BY TPDCo/OAS Craft Enhancement Project

180 artisans from across Jamaica benefitted from the recently concluded Tourism Product Development Company Ltd. (TPDCo)/Organization of American States (OAS) Craft Enhancement Project. The project, co-funded by the Tourism Enhancement Fund (TEF), is a demonstration of the commitment of these partners to the development of the local craft sector in a bid to stem the influx of imported craft products into local markets.

The project, initiated and funded by the OAS was also aimed at providing community members with sustainable livelihoods in craft production and increasing the quantity and quality of authentic brand Jamaica products in the island's craft markets.

Graduates were trained and certified in the use of sustainable media found in their respective communities, including bamboo, Papier Mâché, textile, fibre and recycled materials. Over 300 artisans were trained across the Caribbean region in Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, Grenada, Jamaica, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia and St. Vincent and the Grenadines. It is noteworthy that 21 of the 50 new product lines created during the life of the project were produced in Jamaica.



Elated artisans enjoy the company of the Minister of Tourism Hon. Edmund Bartlett (4th right) and OAS Country Representative Mrs. Jeanelle Van GlaanenWeygel (6th right) as they admire the bamboo pitcher and other bamboo craft produced as part of the TPDCo/OAS Craft Enhancement Project.



Hats for the men of the moment and a clutch for the lovely lady. Minister of Tourism Hon. Edmund Bartlett (centre) and Executive Director of the Tourism Product Development Company Ltd., Dennis Hickey try on trendy jippy jappa fedoras while OAS Country Representative Mrs. Jeanelle Van GlaanenWeygel seems quite pleased with her jippy jappa clutch purse crafted by participants in the recently staged TPDCo/OAS Craft Enhancement Project.



Participants had the opportunity to put some of their textile and wicker craft on display in the craft exhibition area at the Recognition and Awards Ceremony of the TPDCo/OAS Project.



Some graduates of the OAS Craft Enhancement Programme from St. James take time out for a photograph. Community members were instructed in bamboo, straw and Papier Mâché techniques under the craft programme.



Executive Director of the Tourism Enhancement Fund (TEF), Clyde Harrison expresses pleasure as he presents certificates of completion to Mrs. Thelma Morris on behalf of participants from St. Elizabeth who were a part of the recently concluded TPDCo/OAS Craft Enhancement Project.



Ms. Lenna Cunningham (centre) accepts a batch of certificates on behalf of the artisans from Kingston & St. Andrew from the Minister of Tourism Hon. Edmund Bartlett. Looking on is TPDCo's Craft Coordinator, Violet Crutchley who was responsible for executing the very successful programme.



Graduates of the Craft Enhancement Project from the Windsor Castle community of St. Mary. The artisans benefitted from training in hardanga and bamboo medium producing a variety of products including hair clips, napkin rings and holders, jewellery boxes and ornamental items.



Deputy Mayor of Mandeville Erwin Facey presenting Barbara Gloudon with a gift after she gave the keynote address at the civic ceremony to commemorate the 123rd anniversary of the birth of Norman Washington Manley.

WHOEVER INVITED Barbara Gloudon to be the guest speaker at the civic ceremony to commemorate the 123rd birthday of National Hero Norman Washington Manley at Roxborough, Manchester, on Monday, July 4, must have been very pleased with the decision.

Gloudon, with her inimitable style, unmatched wit, candour and effervescence, sprinkled with a little mischief, razzled and dazzled her audience, despite losing her reddish-frame glasses to match her jacket.

“A was gwine mad Sally,” she said to much laughter, making reference to Sally Porteous, custos rotulorum of Manchester, who donned a purple pants suit. Porteous did not go mad, of course, but Gloudon almost sent her and everybody else into mass hysteria.

The audience realised it was in for a treat from the introduction of Gloudon by Sharmica Holness, Miss Manchester Festival Queen 2016. She attributed the following description of Gloudon to Easton Lee:

“A fighter and a tough, strong lady; an angel with a sweet, soft voice that can take on the role of thunder, brimstone and fire ... Barbara is all of these people, and many, many more ... Barbara is a people, a whole heap a people.”

And it seems like Lee is right. For, in the shade of an umbrella, the sun was brutal; the veteran playwright went into and out of several characters. She was the serious and reflective social commentator, the ‘mischievous’ comedienne, the dramatic storyteller, and the candid woman from next door who nuh ‘fraid a nobody.

In between speaking seriously about saving Jamaica from “the madness which is besetting us”, Gloudon narrated funny personal anecdotes about Norman Washington and Alexander Bustamante, both of whom she knew personally.

Once, when she tried to impress Manley, whose brilliance, she said, overwhelmed her, by mentioning that she was reading the popular book *Dr Zhivago* but it was taking



PHOTOS BY PAUL H. WILLIAMS

The Jamaica Constabulary Force Band, led by DSP Winston Woolcock, provided musical prelude, tribute and postlude at the civic ceremony to commemorate the 123rd anniversary of the birth of Norman Washington Manley on Monday, July 4, at Roxborough, Manchester.

AROUND JA WITH PAUL H

A whole heap a *Barbara Gloudon*



2016 JCDC gold-medallist Deneil Williams of Knox College thrilling the audience with Jimmy Cliff’s ‘Many Rivers to Cross.’



Objects of yesteryear on display at the civic ceremony to commemorate the 123rd anniversary of the birth of Norman Washington Manley.



PHOTOS BY PAUL H. WILLIAMS

Knox College head girl Oneika Young went instrumental with Norman Washington Manley's favourite hymn, 'There were Ninety and Nine.'

A section of the audience that turned out for the civic ceremony to commemorate the 123rd anniversary of the birth of Norman Washington Manley on Monday, July 4, at Roxborough, Manchester.

too long to finish, Manley told her to go read it in the toilet and get over it.

Then, she was sent by **The Gleaner** to ask Manley why he wore blossoms and rosebuds regularly in his lapel. Manley scoffed at such a silly idea, but he had a sense of humour, she said, and gave her a little story. He said it seemed the penknife he used to cut the thriving flowers in his sister's garden is the same one he cut his toenails with. So something under his nails were making the plants healthy.

Gloudon's first reporter's assignment at **The Gleaner** was to interview Lady Bustamante at her Tucker Avenue, St Andrew Home. She was only 17, and Bustamante invited the "little girl" to sit beside him. It was noon, lunchtime. Roasted breadfruit was served. Bustamante had his with salted butter.

He called for Lady Bustamante to serve champagne. Gloudon said there was no kola champagne on the table, so she wondered what was going on. Well, Bustamante had her drinking real champagne from a glass for a while instead of

sending her back to her job. And she got "shaky", of course.

But the Bustamante champagne episode continued years after. On a visit, when Bustamante was going through his sunset days, it was champagne time again, and Bustamante suggested that Gloudon, his "girlfriend", be served champagne, and her husband, some arsenic, to "take care of a rival".

It was a presentation laced with many funny moments and which earned Gloudon some more admirers, who did not leave without meeting her. A whole heap a Barbara with a whole heap a fans.

But in all of this, the moment I found very funny was when somebody brought a building block for the vertically challenged master of ceremonies to stand on, as some people perhaps could not see him around the lectern. If my memory serves me well, he stood on the block briefly, before abandoning it.

I laughed because I knew what I would have done with that block if someone had placed it for me to stand on to speak from a lectern at a function where a whole heap a Barbara Gloudon was present.

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Small inhibitions to big exhibitions

Local artist showcases at Florida library for African-American Month



'Errol Flynn Marina' by Carol Hamilton Small.

been reignited. "One night I was painting, painting, painting, and my husband came out and sat down and I said to him, 'I'm coming to bed now'. While turning off the light, my hand touched the curtain and it shifted and I realised it was daylight. That is something I will never forget," said the artist, chuckling.

EXTENSIVE EXHIBITION

Since her rebirth, Hamilton Small's pieces, which are done with acrylic and oil and centred on landscape, seascape and Jamaican culture, have been on exhibitions all over the island. Although she has some inhibitions to exhibitions, she has showcased at the Liguanea Art Fest (2014), Tryall Great House Art Exhibition, Montego Bay Art Walk (2013) and most recently, the Broward Library for their African-American Month Celebrations in Florida, where 34 pieces of Hamilton Small's art were on display. The exhibition ran for the months of June and July and closed to good reviews. Some of the pieces displayed included 'The Errol Flynn Marina', 'Bolt' and her bestselling piece, 'Night Dancing'. This opportunity was attained through one of her many clients who had contacts within the Florida-based library. He introduced her to the idea and she grabbed the chance.

With such a demanding career, one can only imagine the task it is for Hamilton Small to keep her 20 years of marriage and her personal life afloat. However, she finds it fairly easy and gives thanks for the type of partner she has, "My husband understands, he's the one that pushes me; and even though sometimes he says stop now, stop, he appreciates me and it works."

Five years from now Hamilton Small, owner of Happy Arts, hopes to see Jamaicans become more sensitised than they are now, in relation to art and the never-ending possibilities.

Carol Hamilton Small can be contacted at 876-707-2729.

"WE USED to live in board houses and I would be using my pencil to mark up on the board and my mother would quarrel, when the board in my house became full, I remember going to my neighbour's house and drawing on the board," said the bubbly Montegonian Carol Hamilton Small laughingly.

She has always been expressing herself through art for as long as she can recall. Revisiting her days in primary school, she remembers being the queen of paper dolls, which she would draw and hand out to little girls in her class. In the 1980s, while in her final year at then Herbert Morrison Comprehensive, now Technical High School, Hamilton Small entered a Parish Library Art Competition, with the theme 'Read and Grow', where she was awarded first prize for her piece.

Hamilton Small went on to further her education at the Montego Bay Community College. Surprisingly, however, art was not the career being pursued there. "Back in the days, art wasn't a big thing, it was like a hobby, art was like for mad people", she said jovially. She did administrative studies at the institution, as there was a lot of secretarial work available at the time.

FINDING HER PASSION

For years, she dodged her true calling by trying her hand at various professions, such as front desk attendant at the Holiday Inn Resort and working at a car rental company. During this time, Hamilton Small would do little sketches here and there, and persons unaware of her hidden talents would be in awe of what she was able to do. Despite much encouragement to follow her dreams, she would still not make any moves in that direction. When asked what



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS
Carol Hamilton Small proudly holds up one of her pieces, 'Country Road'.



'Night Dancing' by Carol Hamilton Small.

gave her that push to come back to her first love, she replied, "Five years ago I said to myself, you know I need to go and get a little piece of art to hang on my wall, something original, and another voice said to me, but Carol yuh can paint. So I went to an art store and got myself some materials, and it was as if my calling finally came."

She remembers not being able to put down her brushes and how she did, indeed, start to resemble a mad person, because she just did not have the time to attend to her appearance. It was as if her fire had



The museum at Roxborough

PHOTOS BY PAUL H. WILLIAMS

Roxborough more than a museum

Paul H. Williams
Hospitality Jamaica Writer

ALONG THE road to Roxborough in central Manchester, there are signs directing people to Roxborough Museum. But for those who are not aware, Roxborough is more than a museum; it is the birthplace of National Hero Norman Washington Manley.

Located about a mile from the district of Belritiro, it can be easily described as isolated. The road from Belritiro was asphalted a few years ago, and until now it is not connected to the Jamaica Public Service nor the National Water Commission grids. The property is powered by solar energy.

It was part of the 400-acre Roxbro Castle estate. Norman Washington's father, Thomas Albert, owned it for some time. It was principally a cattle pen, but coffee and pimento were also cultivated. The dwelling house was built atop a hillock, from which there is a panoramic view of a valley.

Norman Washington was born there in 1893, but after Thomas Albert died, the family moved to their Belmont property at Guanaboa



Manley's relatives' graves.

Vale in St Catherine in 1903. The original dwelling house was destroyed by fire in 1968, and Norman Washington passed away the following year.

The property ownership changed hands a few times, and it is now owned by the Jamaica National Heritage Trust (JNHT), which is

responsible for its preservation. According to the JNHT, "The original house was a two-winged, split-level Spanish wall-and-timber dwelling, completed with a pitched single roof. It contained three small bedrooms, living room, salon, back veranda and cellar ... The house



The old catchment tank at Roxborough.



From the courtyard at Roxborough, there is a fantastic view of a valley.



Ainsley Henriques, chairman of the Norman Manley Foundation, laying a wreath during the Norman W. Manley July 4 commemorative birthday ceremony at Roxborough, Manchester, recently.

was finished with wooden jalousie windows and mahogany doors."

After years of negotiations and frustration, restoration work was completed three years ago. On the ruins of the original dwelling house,

three stone walls were erected to match the original stone-and-mortar edifice, and a roof was added. That is where the museum is housed.

Beside the caretaker's residence is the old catchment tank-cum-water lily pool. The barbecue where pimento and coffee were dried also serves as a run-off into the tank. Not far from them are stone ruins of a building.

In the rose garden, full of stones, are six graves in a row. They contain the remains of Manley relatives. Only one of the relatives, Susan Gotshalk, is identified. Near to the gate of the property, two more graves are located.

At the back of the house there is another barbecue, and a 'courtyard', from which there is a fantastic view of the valley below. Another water tank, a raised stone one, is at the southern side of the museum.

Currently, the main activities on the property are the tours and the hosting of the annual Norman W. Manley July 4 commemorative birthday ceremony. But members of the public are encouraged to go spend a day out and enjoy the rustic ambience of Roxborough. It is there for the taking.



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