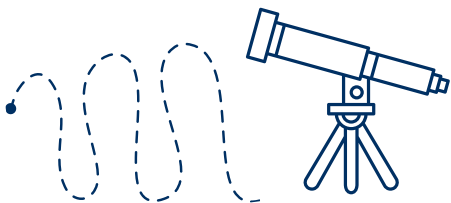


The West Indian Social Club of Hartford, Inc.'s

76TH ANNIVERSARY



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Welcome
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THE WEST INDIAN SOCIAL CLUB OF HARTFORD, INC.



ANNIVERSARY

— 1950 — 2026 —

Honoring our Journey. Igniting our Future

The Caribbean Cultural Heritage Alliance and the Caribbean Heritage Museum congratulate the West Indian Social Club on its 76th anniversary



The Caribbean Cultural Heritage Alliance (CCHA) is the latest offspring of the West Indian Social Club of Hartford (WISCOH). Building on the hard work and dedication of its founding fathers and members, CCHA evolved from a project aimed at preserving cultural and historical artifacts into the first Caribbean Heritage Museum in the northeastern United States.

We opened our museum at an inauspicious time, when history itself is under attack in our national culture. Yet, as the museum shows, these are not our darkest or most challenging times. Our ancestors braved the Atlantic and Indian Ocean slave trades, imperialism, and neo-colonialism — and in doing so, inspired global pan-African, anti-colonial, and civil rights movements. The ongoing fight for social and economic justice and human rights is the struggle of our generation. We remain resilient, vigilant, and hopeful.

There is a crowded stage of people who made CCHA's vision a reality, and some of you are in this room tonight. The Caribbean Cultural Heritage Alliance and the Caribbean Heritage Museum could not be more proud to be on this journey with WISCOH. Congratulations on your 76th anniversary. We hope to be with you for further journey ahead.

Honoring Our Journey, Igniting Our Future



For 76 years, the West Indian Social Club of Hartford has been a beacon of Caribbean culture, unity, and service. Today, we celebrate not only our rich history but also the vision and determination of our founders, whose legacy continues to guide us.

As society evolves, so must we. Our challenge and responsibility is to bridge generations, ensuring our traditions and values remain vibrant and relevant. This year marks an exciting step forward: the growth of the Caribbean Cultural Heritage Alliance and the launching of the Caribbean Heritage Museum. These initiatives will preserve, document, and share the stories and contributions of Caribbean people for generations to come.

Preserving our history is critical. Without it, future generations may lose the connection to the struggles, triumphs, and cultural identity that shaped our community. History gives us context, pride, and direction, it inspires us to reimagine what we can become.

Our success depends on engaging and empowering the second, third, and fourth generations of Caribbean

Americans. We must create opportunities for mentorship, leadership, cultural education, and community engagement, so our youth become stewards of our legacy.

Together, the West Indian Social Club of Hartford Inc., the Caribbean Cultural Heritage Alliance, and the Caribbean Heritage Museum honor our past, serve our present, and prepare the next generation to lead.

We invite our members, partners, friends, and future leaders to join us. Support the Caribbean Cultural Heritage Alliance, help make the Caribbean Heritage Museum a living archive of Caribbean life in the Northeast, and invest in our identity, history, and future. Lend your time, talents, resources, and voice so our story continues for generations to come.

On behalf of the members and Board of Directors I would like to say "Thank you" for your continued support of the West Indian Social Club of Hartford Inc.

Happy 76th Anniversary!

Beverly M. D. Redd, Chair
West Indian Social Club of Hartford, Inc.

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Congratulatory Message

76th Anniversary Gala – West Indian Social Club of Hartford

Theme: Honoring Our Journey, Igniting Our Future



On behalf of the Consulate General of Saint Lucia in New York, I extend warmest congratulations to the West Indian Social Club of Hartford on the occasion of its 76th Anniversary Gala. This milestone is a testament to decades of unwavering service, cultural preservation, and community empowerment within the Caribbean diaspora.

Your theme, “Honoring Our Journey, Igniting Our Future,” beautifully captures the essence of what this institution represents—an enduring legacy built by our forebears and a continued commitment to shaping a vibrant, united, and progressive future for generations to come.

This evening, I am especially proud to pay tribute to Ms. Vernetta Joshua, a distinguished Saint Lucian and one of tonight’s honorees. Ms. Joshua served with distinction as President of the Saint Lucian American Association of Hartford, demonstrating exemplary leadership, integrity, and devotion to community. She is an honorable Saint Lucian—one who gives wholeheartedly to her country and to her adopted homeland. Truly, she is a remarkable woman whose contributions continue to uplift and inspire.

I also wish to recognize all the honorees being celebrated tonight. Each of you has made meaningful contributions within your respective fields and communities, strengthening the fabric of Caribbean life in Hartford and beyond. Your achievements reflect the resilience, excellence, and spirit of service that define our region.

As the West Indian Social Club continues its important work, I extend best wishes for continued success, growth, and impact. May the next chapter of your journey be as bold and transformative as the legacy you honor tonight.

Congratulations and best wishes.

Jeremiah Hyacinth
Consul General



COCC Proudly Celebrates the West Indian Social Club

Congratulations to the West Indian Social Club on 76 years of outstanding service, culture, and community leadership. For generations, the Club has honored tradition, strengthened community, and inspired progress.

In the spirit of this year's gala theme, "Honoring Our Journey, Igniting Our Future," we celebrate a remarkable legacy and a future fueled by vision and purpose.

About COCC

As an industry-leading fintech provider, COCC delivers innovative, comprehensive technology solutions and strategic partnerships throughout the Northeastern United States. Designated a Top Workplace in Connecticut and a nationally certified Great Place to Work, COCC recognizes employees as the core of our success! Our mission is to provide a great employee experience for all, one where each employee has the opportunity to carve their own path, be themselves, and thrive in their career.



Special congratulations to Alex "Lex" Campbell, First Vice President, and Chief Payments Officer of COCC, Inc., on his recognition in Arts, Entertainment, and Media. His contributions reflect a lifelong commitment to communication, culture, and community impact.

Congratulations to all honorees and to the West Indian Social Club on this historic milestone.

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CONSULATE GENERAL OF THE
CO-OPERATIVE REPUBLIC OF GUYANA - NEW YORK, USA

**WEST INDIAN SOCIAL CLUB OF HARTFORD, INC. (WISCOH)
76th ANNIVERSARY GALA**



**AMB. MICHAEL E. BROTHERSON
CONSUL GENERAL**

CO-OPERATIVE REPUBLIC OF GUYANA

On behalf of the Consulate General of the Co-operative Republic of Guyana in New York, it gives me great pleasure to extend sincere congratulations to the Chair & President and the members of the West Indian Social Club of Hartford, Inc. (WISCOH) on the remarkable occasion of your 76th Anniversary Gala.

This milestone offers an excellent opportunity to reflect upon the rich history of your organization and the important contributions you have made in preserving and celebrating the West Indian and Caribbean Culture over the past seven decades. Furthermore, your commitment to Education, advocacy and Social Services, exemplified by your weekly food distribution to the community is truly commendable.

The theme that marks this year's anniversary, "Honoring Our Journey, Igniting Our Future" is quite fitting for an organization like yours.

As you mark this 76th Anniversary of success, and in keeping with your mission, you have every reason to celebrate and be proud about what you have accomplished and done for the future of this organization.

I am certainly convinced that the West Indian Social Club of Hartford, Inc. (WISCOH) will continue in its mission to promote, articulate, interpret, and preserve West Indian and Caribbean culture through your leadership, events and outreach for many years to come, with much success.

Once again, congratulations on 76 years of dedicated service to the community of Hartford and best wishes as you continued to grow, thrive and fulfil your objectives as an organization.

Michael E. Brotherson (Ambassador)
Consul General

Consulate General of the Co-operative Republic of Guyana, New York
2nd April 2026

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Thank You



to the West Indian Social Club
of Hartford for your dedication
to bringing cultural vibrancy
to our city. I am honored
to celebrate and
support the
West Indian
community
of Hartford!

Mayor Arunan Arulampalam





Arunan Arulampalam
Mayor

April 18, 2026

Dear Friends,

Welcome to the West Indian Social Club of Hartford's 76th Annual Gala. This evening provides a chance for celebration, but also an opportunity for reflection and recognition of what this organization means to the Hartford community.

What started as small gatherings of people in Hartford basements has become a cornerstone of culture and community spirit in Hartford. Though immigrants from West Indian countries may be far away from home, WISCOH provides a haven for authentic cultural connections that brings the spirit of the West Indies here to Hartford. Through education, entertainment, programming, and more, the club has become a thriving organization of empowered leaders in our community.

Congratulations to all of tonight's honorees. You embody the spirit of tonight's motto: "Honoring our Journey, Igniting our Future". I can't wait to see what the future holds for the West Indian Social Club of Hartford.

Here's to 76 years of community and connection, and many more in the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Arun Arulampalam".

Arunan Arulampalam
Mayor



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Thank you for elevating culture, in Hartford and across Connecticut.

Here's to more years working and celebrating together!

From Maryam Khan and Khan Pac

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WISCOH

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MASTER *in* CEREMONY

*Alrene
Blake*

Alrene Blake, widely known as RenieLove, is a Connecticut-based radio host, poet, actress, healthcare professional, and influential community leader dedicated to uplifting and inspiring others.

A former President of The March For Education Foundation, she has long been an advocate for youth empowerment, education, and the arts, with service that includes mentoring through Bridgeport Youth Lacrosse and active involvement in cultural initiatives across Fairfield County.

RenieLove's vibrant presence has taken her from pageant stages in Hartford and New York to hosting talent & TV showcases with Nyce Stylze Arts & Entertainment, while her acting spans church, community, and professional productions.

A proud Caribbean woman, she currently serves as Vice President of The Jamaican Flag Raising Organization of Fairfield County Inc. and co-hosts the West Indian American Association of Greater Bridgeport's annual Jerk Festival. She is also a member of Voices of Change alongside gospel artist Gina Lloyd.

Following the profound loss of her only daughter, RenieLove has committed to transforming her pain into purpose by converting her business, "All Eyes On Me," into a nonprofit foundation focused on community upliftment.

She can be heard live every Saturday from 11 AM to 2 PM on OneLove Radio at OneLoveCT.com, where her warmth, faith, and joyful spirit continue to inspire. As she often says, "I'm not a comedian, but I love when we can laugh together."



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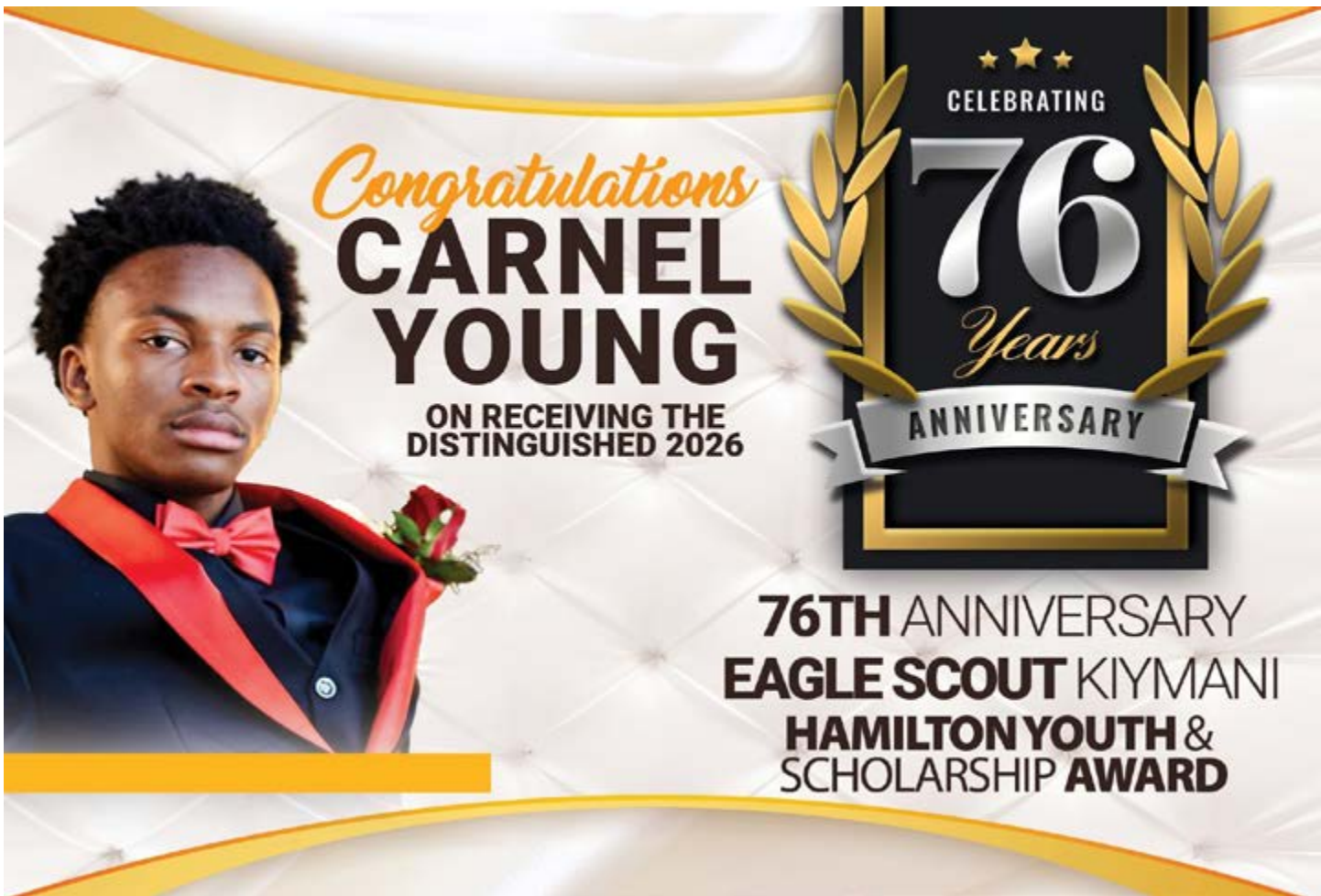
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on its
76th Anniversary*



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The West Indian Social Club of Hartford serves as the heartbeat for the Caribbean Community. Promoting Caribbean culture, advocating on behalf of Caribbean affairs, and facilitating support for social services abroad and here in the Hartford Community.

DH Bolton extends our Thanks and Congratulations to the West Indian Social Club on their 76th year of Service to our Community.

Congratulations

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76TH ANNIVERSARY**

*We, the Kingston College Old Boys Association
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*Your efforts to preserve and promote our culture
ensure future generations can trace the path of
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WOW SERIES

Women of WISCOH, Inc.



CATCHING A TRAILBLAZER

WISCOH's members & leadership honored our incredible female members for International Women's Month, but **Veronica Airey-Wilson** proved to be the one of hardest to pin down. She's such a relentless force for the West Indian Social Club that we essentially had to stage an **"ambush appreciation"** at an event just to hand over her certificate.

Veronica, thanks for working so hard that we actually had to track you down to say thanks!

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"I will soon turn 104... I am thankful. My journey began here in 1943, and it continues to this very day."



W.I.S.C.
76TH
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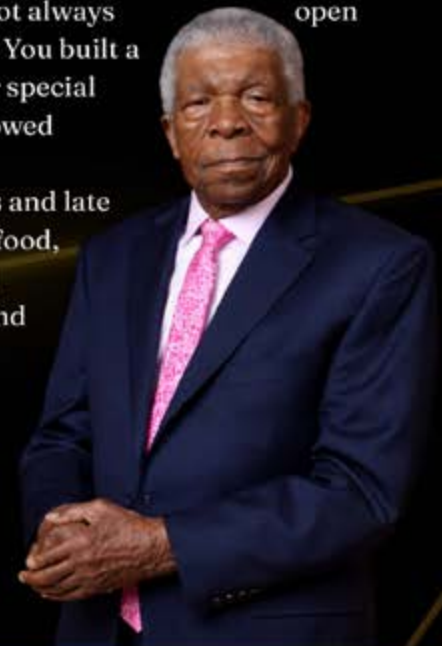
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You taught me that catering is more than a business—it is service: early mornings and late nights, attention to detail, and pride in doing things the right way. Through your food, you helped people celebrate weddings, holidays, and milestones, and you offered comfort during solemn times, too. I appreciate the sacrifices behind the scenes and the legacy you built—one meal, one event, and one act of love at a time.

With love and deep appreciation,
Joanne Bennett Grigsby



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**Congratulations
to the West
Indian Social
Club for 76
years of service.**

Entertainers



Cleveland "Starr" Horton
An evening honoring the stars.

Cleveland Horton

Cleveland "Starr" Horton was born in Pioneer, Louisiana. His musical journey began when a family member noticed his natural ear for music and gifted him a trombone. However, since Cleveland was only ten years old and his arms were too short to reach the slide, his relative gave him a saxophone instead.

After moving to Chicago, Illinois, Cleveland spent 35 years as the lead Rhythm & Blues vocalist and alto, soprano, and tenor saxophonist for the Chicago Intense City Band. A versatile musician, he also played the conga drums and wrote lyrics, eventually collaborating with guitarist Jeff's Jazzy Blues to produce the hit song, "Everybody's Steppin'."

Throughout his career, Cleveland performed alongside notable acts such as the Chicago Show Stoppers, recording artist I.V. Johnson, The Blue Singers, and Bobby "Blue" Bland. His lifelong love for music eventually led him to the St. Dorothy Roman Catholic Parish, where he sang with the Mass Spiritual Choir. Currently, Cleveland continues to share his talents by playing the saxophone and singing in the choir at St. Justin-St. Michael Parish in Hartford, CT.



Deidre Davis

Deidre Davis launched her career in dance and modeling at the Showjam Performing Arts Agency in Montego Bay, Jamaica, in 2008.

By 2011, she expanded her horizons into tourism and theatre, eventually amassing over a decade of international experience across Jamaica, St. Lucia, and the Turks and Caicos Islands.

Today, Deidre continues to bring unwavering passion and professionalism to her work in the arts.

Entertainers



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WISCOH *76th Anniversary Gala Program*

RECEPTION

LIVE PERFORMANCE BY Cleveland “Stars” Horton

Introduction of Mistress of Ceremonies Past Pres. Veronica Airey-Wilson
Open Remarks Alrene “ReniLove” Blake
Invocation President of Taste of Caribbean Arts and Culture, Marva Wilks

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA NATIONAL ANTHEM

NATIONAL ANTHEM OF ST. LUCIA

INTRODUCTION OF PAST PRESIDENTS

INTRODUCTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

W.I.S.C.O.H President/Chairwoman’s Address Chair Beverly M.D. Redd
accompanied by: Vice Chair Tanya Dorman & Dr. Fiona Vernal

DINNER

Greetings from the Consul General of St. Lucia ... Honorable Jeremiah Hyacinth
Greetings from Mayor, City of Hartford..... Mayor Arunan Arulampalam
Greetings from the Jamaican Assoc. of Maryland President Rick Nugent

LIVE PERFORMANCE BY Cleveland “Stars” Horton

AWARD PRESENTATION

Business and Economic Development	Community Service Award
Jah Financial Services (Dean Wilson & Dr. Josette Hill-Wilson, CPA)	John Davis, US Army (Rt.)
Exceptional Leadership Award	Maryland Honoree – Community Service Award
Andrew Lawrence (Rt. Sgt)	William Walker
Education Award	Arts/Entertainment/Media Award
Joshua M. Hall	Alexander “Lex” Campbell
Healthcare Award	Junior Wellington
Wheeler Health	Eagle Scout Kiymani Hamilton Youth & Scholarship
Community Service Award	Carnel Young
Derrick Scott	President’s Award
	To be Announced (It’s a Surprise)

Vote of Thanks Vice Chair Tanya Dorman

Dance Performance – Freya Da Goddess

AN EVENING OF DANCE WITH Sparklez International Sound

FRIENDSHIP GROUP OF HARTFORD



Congratulations

Mr. John Davis

Friendship Group of Hartford, Coordinator

Honoree

At

**THE WEST INDIAN SOCIAL CLUB OF HARTFORD
76TH ANNIVERSARY GALA**

We appreciate you

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*Dr. Marcia Anderson Esson *Veronica Airey-Wilson *Larry's Restaurant
*Mr. & Mrs. D'Andre and Marlo McIntyre *Caribbean American Society of Hartford Inc
*New Britian Social Club Inc *Mr. & Mrs. Michael and Pamela Radney *Shanta's Vintage Boutique
*Pom-Pom Domino Queens LLC *Dale Restoration LLC *New England District Grand Lodge #1

Honoring our Journey



Igniting our Future

HONOREE

DR. JOSETTE HILL-WILSON, CPA *BUSINESS & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT*



Dr. Josette Hill-Wilson is a nationally recognized Certified Public Accountant, financial strategist, entrepreneur, author, and community leader whose faith-centered leadership has empowered businesses and families across Connecticut and beyond.

As Founder and CEO of J.A.H. Financial Services & Real Estate, established in 2015, she has built a trusted financial firm dedicated to advancing minority-owned businesses through financial literacy, tax advocacy, and access to capital. Her work has helped countless entrepreneurs restore financial stability, secure funding, and build generational wealth.

Dr. Hill-Wilson serves as the Financial Treasurer of the Southeastern Connecticut Chapter of SCORE, a U.S. Small Business Administration resource partner that provides mentorship to entrepreneurs nationwide. She is the bestselling author of *Get AAA Credit in 60 Days or Less* and *How to Get the Government to Fund Your Small Business*.

In 2023, she received the Presidential Lifetime Achievement Award for Business & Leadership, along with multiple recognitions for excellence in entrepreneurship and financial services.

Rooted in her Christian faith, Dr. Hill-Wilson is committed to servant leadership, mentoring women and entrepreneurs of color, and building a legacy that strengthens communities for generations to come.

Congratulations Josette!

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HONOREE

DEAN DUVANTIE WILSON

BUSINESS & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



Dean Duvantie Wilson is a serial entrepreneur and financial coach from Hartford, CT. He co-founded JAH Financial Services & Real Estate, a business solutions firm, and owns Golden Touch Personal Care and the Josette and Dean Wilson Foundation. Through their foundation, Dean teaches aspiring entrepreneurs and small businesses how to empower others, propelling them toward success and prosperity.

Dean is also an author, visionary, and philanthropist who is committed to making a positive impact on the world. With a wealth of experience in Commercial Real Estate, Dean has successfully invested in numerous projects within this domain. His full-service CPA Firm offers a comprehensive range of services, including IRS tax resolution, personal and corporate income tax preparation, estate taxes, payroll, bookkeeping services, business funding, insurance and retirement services, and assistance with US Citizenship and Immigration.

Dean's background is quite diverse; he is an expert in CAA Forensic, a certified money broker, and holds licenses as a life and health insurance agent, public notary, 10X trainer, travel agent, and accountant. His impressive skills and knowledge make him an invaluable asset to any business that seeks to grow and achieve financial success.

Congratulations Dean!

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HONOREE

JOHN DAVIS, U.S. ARMY, RETIRED

COMMUNITY SERVICE



John Davis serves as the Friendship Group Coordinator in Hartford, Connecticut. Originally from St. Thomas, Jamaica, Mr. Davis immigrated to the United States in 1970 and has since dedicated his life to public service and community development. In 1975, he enlisted in the United States Army, serving with distinction until his retirement in 2001. Professionally, Mr. Davis is a retired driver for the City of Hartford Sanitation Department and a former entrepreneur who successfully operated an auto body shop for several years.

His commitment to the Hartford community is extensive. As the Coordinator for the Friendship Group of Hartford Scholarship Program, he facilitates critical fundraising initiatives to provide local youth with the financial resources necessary for secondary education. Additionally, he serves as a Trustee and former Business Manager for the Sportsmen's Athletic Club and acts as the official spokesperson for Jamaica within the Sister City program. For sixteen years, he has served as a Marshal for the West Indian Independence Celebration, following a successful tenure as Event Coordinator.

A member of the 7th District Democratic Town Committee, Mr. Davis remains a steadfast advocate for academic excellence and civic responsibility. Informed by his military background, he is dedicated to ensuring the next generation possesses the mentorship and resilience required to excel. Through his various leadership roles, Mr. Davis continues to champion the importance of community support in fostering individual and collective success.

Congratulations John!

A Joyful Milestone Enjoy Every Moment

On behalf of the officers
and members of the
New Britain Social Club



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HONOREE

JOSHUA M. HALL

EDUCATION

Assistant Principal, Weaver High School
& 7th District State Representative



Joshua Hall has over 25 years of public-school teaching experience. Joshua served Hartford Public Schools where the majority of his teaching experience was at Weaver High School. While teaching, he was awarded the Apple Teacher Award, he was awarded the opportunity to travel to South Africa by the World Affairs Council.

After 12 years of teaching, he was elected by his colleagues to serve as First Vice President of the Hartford Federation of Teachers. He served the teachers of Hartford for 12 years. During that time, he was elected to serve on the executive board of the American Federation of Teachers CT and also elected to serve as Treasurer of the Connecticut Democratic Party. In 2021, Joshua returned to Weaver, where he now serves as Assistant Principal.

Joshua was born and raised in the City of Hartford. While attending Hartford Public High, he and his friends pledged to come back and serve the city they love. The pledge he and his friends made was chronicled in the book "House of Good Hope." Joshua attended Norfolk State University. While there he competed on NSU's Honda Campus All-Star Challenge Team. Upon graduating from Norfolk State University in Norfolk, VA with a degree in History Education, he returned home to begin his career as a History Teacher at Weaver High School.

Joshua also holds a Master's degree in Education Leadership from Central Connecticut State University. Elected to the 7th Assembly District in 2017, Mr. Hall's legislative priorities include neighborhood community schools, neighborhood revitalization, safe neighborhoods, and job and retirement security. Recognized among the "100 Men of Color" and the CT NAACP's "Most Influential Blacks," he remains a steadfast advocate for his community.

Mr. Hall resides in the Blue Hills neighborhood with his wife, Timcia, and their two sons.

Congratulations Joshua!



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HONOREE

CARNEL A. YOUNG

*EAGLE SCOUT KIYMANI HAMILTON YOUTH
& SCHOLARSHIP AWARD*



Carnel A. Young was born in Hartford, Connecticut, and is the eldest child of his parents. He currently attends Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT), where he is pursuing a degree in Computer Engineering and has earned placement on the Dean's List. At RIT, Carnel serves as the Vice President of the men's club soccer team and is also a member of the Electric Vehicle Performance Team.

Carnel is a graduate of Windsor High School, where he ranked 11th in his graduating class. During high school, he was inducted into both the National Honor Society and the Rho Kappa Honor Society. He was also a member of the Windsor High School varsity soccer team and served as team captain during his senior year. In 2024, he received the All-Conference State Award for his athletic performance.

In addition to his academic and athletic achievements, Carnel has been actively involved in community service. His volunteer work includes participating in The Hartford Project, community outreach through his church, and coaching youth soccer with Elvis Soccer Academy. He also served as a Windsor Police Cadet, volunteering at community events where police presence and support were needed.

Congratulations Carnel!

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HONOREE

JUNIOR WELLINGTON *ARTS/ENTERTAINMENT/MEDIA*

Mr. Wellington migrated from Jamaica to Hartford, Connecticut, in 1981. From the very beginning, he immersed himself in community life, dedicating his time, energy, and passion to strengthening and uplifting the West Indian community.



Over the years, he has served with distinction as Vice President of the West Indian Social Club, Captain of the Cricket Team, Sports Coordinator, President of the Connecticut Cricket League, Treasurer of the West Indian Foundation, and Chairperson of numerous cultural celebrations. In every role, he has led not for recognition, but out of a genuine love for community and cultural pride.

For the past 16 years, Mr. Wellington has served as the Entertainment Chairperson of the West Indian Independence Celebration. Through his leadership and vision, he has brought internationally recognized musical artists and performers to Hartford, producing events that have drawn crowds of up to 40,000 people – uniting families, preserving culture, and showcasing Caribbean excellence on a grand stage.

His outstanding contributions have not gone unnoticed. In recognition of his unwavering commitment and contributions to the community, Mr. Wellington was awarded a Proclamation in Hartford by the Honorable Mayor Luke Bronin. He also received the prestigious Presidential Lifetime Achievement Award presented on behalf of President Joe Biden for his years of dedicated volunteer service.

But beyond the titles and accolades, what truly defines Mr. Wellington is his consistency, humility, and commitment to service. For more than four decades, he has helped build bridges, strengthen cultural identity, and create spaces where community thrives.

Congratulations Junior!

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HONOREE

ANDREW LAWRENCE (Rt. Sgt) *EXCEPTIONAL LEADERSHIP*



Retired Sergeant Andrew Lawrence (Rt. Sgt) is a highly respected law enforcement professional, community leader, and economic development advocate whose service has left a lasting legacy in Hartford, Springfield, and throughout the Caribbean diaspora. After immigrating from Jamaica in 1982, he devoted 20 years to the Hartford Police Department, advancing from patrol officer to sergeant and serving in major crimes, juvenile investigations, internal affairs, and multiple supervisory assignments. His career was grounded in community policing, neighborhood stabilization, youth engagement, and quality-of-life improvements.

Beyond policing, Andrew Lawrence founded and serves as President and Executive Director of the Caribbean Trade Council, an initiative that strengthened trade, tourism, and economic cooperation between Connecticut and Caribbean nations. Among his most transformative achievements was leading the effort to establish Connecticut's first nonstop commercial air service to Jamaica, beginning with Spirit Airlines in December 2022 and followed by Avelo Airlines in November 2024, significantly advancing economic development, tourism, and cultural connectivity.

In recognition of his extraordinary impact, April 8, 2005 was proclaimed "Sergeant Andrew Lawrence Day" in the City of Hartford for his contributions to public safety and community empowerment. Likewise, September 12, 2025 was declared "Andrew Lawrence Day" in the City of Springfield for his leadership in economic development and international engagement. Together, these honors reflect the enduring spirit, service, and vision that define Andrew Lawrence's legacy.

Congratulations Andrew!

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On their 76th

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HONOREE

ALEXANDER "LEX" CAMPBELL

ARTS/ENTERTAINMENT/MEDIA



A defining element of Lex Campbell's leadership style is his exceptional communication ability, shaped through a long and accomplished career in radio broadcasting that began during high school in 1994. As a student, Lex served as Student Manager of WQTQ-FM 89.9, where he created and hosted the "Reggae Zone" radio show, expanded mix-show programming including a second reggae show, "Tropical Blendz", and helped transition the station to 24/7 broadcasting through radio automation.

In 2003, Lex advanced to commercial radio, joining WZMX-FM Hot 93.7. Alongside his partner Trevor "Da Engineer," he created "Sunday Night Reggae Riddimz," a pioneering program that introduced reggae music to a mainstream rhythmic radio audience. The show's cultural impact earned coverage from The New York Times and The Hartford Courant, and led to Lex and Trevor joining Hot 93.7's Friday morning show, "Reggae Ride to Work." During this period, Lex also launched Level One Entertainment, bringing major events to Connecticut and serving as the original promoter of Hot Club and Reggae Riddimz Live. Today, he continues to engage the community through his Saturday morning show on Energy Radio – Hartford.

Beyond broadcasting, Lex has been a COCC employee since 2007, with over 25 years of experience in Financial Technology. He has led teams across project management, implementations, integrations, mobile delivery, support, and payments. As First Vice President, Chief Payments Officer, he leads COCC's payment initiatives. His prior experience includes Fleet Bank, Bank of America, and the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City.

Lex is active in the community, bringing governance experience as past Board Chair of The Scribes Institute and a current Board Director of NEACH Payments Group. He holds a BA in Business and an AS in Electronic Engineering Technology.

Congratulations Lex!

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HONOREE



DERRICK A. SCOTT

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Derrick A. Scott is one of the Caribbean diaspora's most distinguished media professionals, whose four-decade career stands as a testament to the enduring power of journalism in service of community.

A graduate of St. George's College and holds a BA in Mass Communication from the University of the West Indies (UWI). Mr. Scott launched his career at Radio Jamaica (RJR) in 1976, rising to News Bureau Chief of the Western Bureau before pioneering community broadcasting through the establishment of Radio West under the Jamaica Broadcasting Corporation in Montego Bay. His editorial excellence earned him the prestigious Journalist of the Year Award from the Jamaica Association of Journalists in 1994.

Crossing to the United States, Mr. Scott served in senior editorial and marketing leadership roles at Caribbean Express Newspaper in Atlanta, Caribbean Star Newspaper, and Caribbean Punch Magazine, building Caribbean media voices in the American South for nearly two decades.

For nearly twenty years, he has served as Information Attaché at the Embassy of Jamaica in Washington, D.C., providing strategic communications counsel to eight Jamaican Ambassadors, including the current Ambassador, His Excellency Major General (Ret'd) Antony Anderson. In this capacity, he has represented Jamaica's interests at the World Bank, IMF, OAS, and Inter-American Development Bank, while championing diaspora communities across multiple U.S. states.

His contributions have earned him the Governor General of Jamaica Achievement Award, the Maryland House of Delegates Resolution for Outstanding Community Service, and numerous diaspora honors.

Derrick Scott remains, simply, a bridge-builder – connecting Jamaica to the world, one story at a time.

Congratulations Derrick!

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HONOREE

WILLIAM WALKER *COMMUNITY SERVICE*

A Legacy of Leadership

A native of Jamaica, William Walker migrated to Baltimore in 1969, where he has remained a dedicated community pillar for over five decades. A retired Baltimore Marine employee, Mr. Walker built a distinguished professional career as a Ship Fitter at Bethlehem Steel (or Baltimore a Marine Corporation). During his tenure, he served as a union delegate for the AFL-CIO, where his work on the grievance committee was instrumental in driving team success and stability.

Mr. Walker's impact on the Caribbean community is foundational. In 1971, he became a founding member of the Jamaica Brotherhood Association, the first organization of its kind in the area. As an active board member, he helped navigate the association's major milestones and growth. Today, as the original association has evolved into its current form, he continues to serve, offering his invaluable experience and institutional knowledge to current board members.

For nearly a decade, Mr. Walker has been recognized as a motivator and specialist in team development. He is known for his ability to boost committee morale and deliver programs that empower teams to thrive. Whether in the shipyard or the community, Mr. Walker remains committed to fostering success through leadership and mentorship.



Congratulations William!



Congratulations to the West Indian Social Club of Hartford, Inc.

Celebrating 76 Years of Culture, Community, and Legacy

Upper Albany Main Street proudly congratulates
the **West Indian Social Club of Hartford, Inc.** on
the occasion of your 76th Anniversary Gala.

Your decades of service have contributed greatly to the cultural and economic vitality of Hartford and the Albany Avenue corridor. As neighbors and partners in community development, we celebrate this remarkable milestone with you and applaud your continued dedication to bring people together.

We extend our best wishes for a wonderful gala celebration and many more years of success.



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We cannot do this alone. During the pandemic, we stood side by side with partners across Hartford, including WISCOH, to make testing and vaccines available to people who needed them most. Every day, our impact is strengthened by neighbors and partners here in Hartford and across Connecticut.

We are deeply grateful for tonight's honor, and it is our honor to serve the amazing West Indian community.



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HONOREE

VERNETTE JOSHUA-DENOVAL

PRESIDENT'S AWARD



Vernetta Joshua-Denoval is a proud native of the beautiful island of St. Lucia. A graduate of Weaver High School, she earned her Bachelor's Degree in Business Information Systems from Virginia State University.

Vernetta is a pillar of the Hartford community, dedicating her time and expertise to numerous organizations. She currently serves as the Director of Social Operations for the West Indian Social Club of Hartford (WISCOH) Inc, Secretary of the St. Lucian American Association of CT (SLAAC), and 2nd Vice President of the West Indian Independence Celebrations (WIIC). Her commitment to the arts and faith is reflected in her roles as Treasurer of the Caribbean American Dance Company (CADC) and her active membership in the Martha & Mary Guild and Ladies of Peter Claver at St. Justin-St. Michael Church.

While her professional and volunteer work keeps her busy, Vernetta finds her greatest joy in her family. She is married to Rene Denoval and is the proud mother of three daughters—Jenelle, Kiarah, and Alecxa—and the doting grandmother to Azuri, Jahsy, and Jurai. An avid traveler and music lover, she enjoys reading, dancing, and a spirited game of dominoes, pokeno or spades. Vernetta is driven by a passion for community service and a genuine love for connecting with people.

Congratulations Vernette!



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ON THEIR 76TH ANNIVERSARY GALA



We are delighted to extend our heartfelt congratulations to our extraordinary mom, grandmother, mentor, sister, aunt, and wife on being honored as a 2026 100 Women of Color awardee! This prestigious recognition celebrates her remarkable achievements, tireless dedication, and profound impact. We are so proud of her and grateful for her unwavering guidance and love. Congratulations, with all our love! 🎉

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Rene Lambert



Congratulations to my daughter, Rene Lambert! With immense pride and joy, I celebrate you not just for publishing your powerful memoir, *Uphill Climb: Cerebral Palsy Adventures*, but for the incredible woman you have become. Rene Lambert is a resilient, faith-driven, and determined young author whose life is a true testimony of strength and purpose.

Born with Cerebral Palsy, she has never allowed her challenges to define her limits. Instead, she has used her voice, her story, and her unwavering belief in God to inspire others around the world. In *Uphill Climb*, Rene shares her deeply personal journey from overcoming physical obstacles to navigating life, education, and self-discovery with courage, humor, and grace. Her story is not just about living with a disability, it is about thriving, breaking barriers, and proving that purpose is greater than circumstance.

Rene is more than an author; she is an advocate, a motivator, and a shining example of perseverance. Her passion for learning, her love for people, and her commitment to uplifting others make her a beacon of hope for anyone facing adversity.

This book is a must-read for families, educators, and anyone in need of inspiration. Rene's journey reminds us all that no matter how steep the climb, greatness is still within reach. Get your copy of *Uphill Climb: Cerebral Palsy Adventures* today and be inspired by a story of faith, strength, and unstoppable determination.

From: Mom, Marlene Lambert and family!



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to West Indian Social Club of Hartford

*Celebrating their 76th Anniversary
of honoring our Cultural Heritage and
Celebrating our Caribbean History*



*from the
Officers and Members of
The Caribbean American Society of Hartford, Inc.*

*To the Chair and Members of the West Indian
Social Club of Hartford*

Congratulations

76 years

Of service to the community.

The Greater Hartford Area is Better because of you.



from your community partner the Greater Hartford West Indian Lions Club.



Join us as we celebrate 25 years of service to this wonderful community of Greater Hartford.

For more info: 860 3754996

9/26

Save the Date!



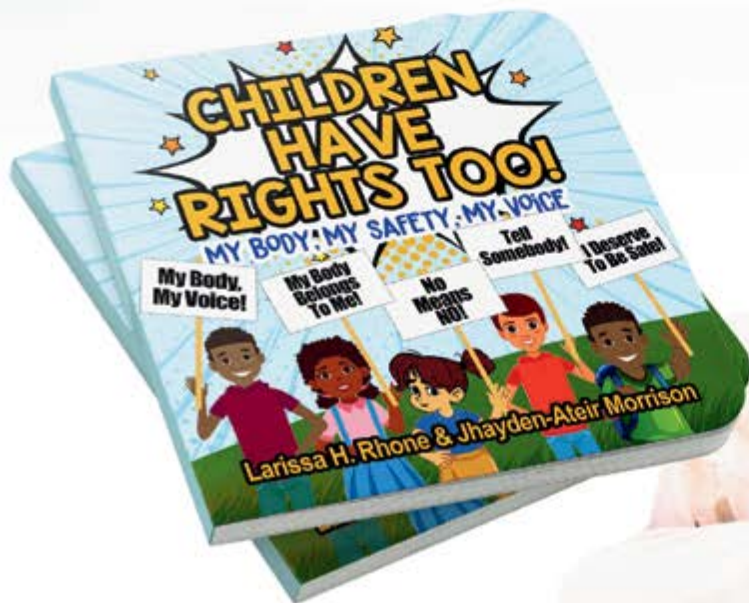
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UPCOMING EVENTS



SMALL BUSINESS EXPO 2026



June 27th Small Business Expo

Join WISCOH's Small Business Expo & GrowthCONN! Connect, Showcase, Exchange Ideas, Learn & Grow. Join us, Saturday, June 27th, 2026.

CELEBRATION WEEK 2026



WWW.CELEBRATIONWEEK.ORG

Church Service TBA

TASTE of the Caribbean Aug. 1st

WISCOH Celebration Week Aug. 2nd - Aug. 8th

WIF Golf Tournament Aug. 7th

WISCOH BUS TRIP to Baltimore, MD Aug. 8th

WIIC Hartford Parade & Concert Aug. 8th

Meet the Candidates October 4th

Connect with the people who are representing, or will represent, you in public office.

Founders Day October 17th

Remembering the Founding members. Connect, community engagement, and more.

Caribbean Heritage Museum

Free Public Museum Tour every 3rd Saturday of the month, supported by the Caribbean Cultural Heritage Alliance, Inc. and WISCOH, Inc.

Community Birthday Friday

Celebrated every 3rd Friday of the month to honor members of our community. Friends and family are warmly invited to join us as we celebrate together.

SNOWFLAKES & SHADOW



Snowflakes & Shadow Dec. 19th

The annual Black and White Holiday Ball Elegant Affair, founded by the Ladies Auxiliary of WISCOH, is a timeless celebration of style and sophistication, where guests can step out, embrace elegance, and dance away the winter blues.

WWW.WESTINDIANSOCIALCLUB.ORG

Congratulations

AND BEST WISHES ON THIS YOUR 76TH YEAR OF CONTRIBUTION TO THE ECONOMIC, EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL RICHNESS OF THE GREATER HARTFORD COMMUNITY!

ON BEHALF OF THE OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF THE NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT GRAND LODGE NO.1, WE ARE PROUD TO BE YOUR NEIGHBOR AND ARE TRULY PLEASED WITH THE LONG AND LASTING RELATIONSHIP WHICH WE HAVE ENJOYED OVER THE YEARS. WE SHARE A LOT IN COMMON AS MANY OF YOUR FOUNDATIONAL MEMBERS ARE ALSO OUR FOUNDATIONAL MEMBERS. MAY YOU, YOUR OFFICERS AND MEMBERS CONTINUE THE WORK WHICH WAS STARTED IN 1950 FOR ANOTHER 76 YEARS AND BEYOND!



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WEST INDIAN SOCIAL CLUB PRESIDENTS



John Richardson
1950



David S. Mills
1950-1953



Reginald A. Leslie
1954-58 & 1961



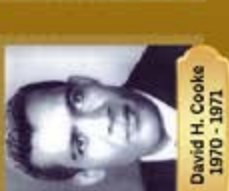
Joseph Lawrence
1959 - 1960



David S. Carter Sr.
1962 - 1967 & 1979



Austin B. Facey
1968 - 1969



David H. Cooke
1970 - 1971



Frank Jacobs
1972-1973



Alfred A. Clayton
1974 - 1975



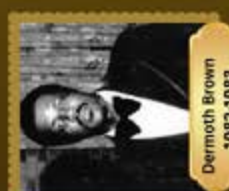
Alvin Watson
1975 - 1976



Leslie G. Perry
1977-1978 & 1993-95



Hugh B. Freeney
1980-81, 1999-2000,
2005



Dermoth Brown
1982-1983



Alfred Chambers
1983 -1984



Horace Johnson
1984 - 1985



Keith Carr
1986 - 1988



Veronica Airey Wilson
1989-1990



Alred Dyce
1991 - 1992



Ray Davis
1996-1997



Frank R. Martin
1998



Doreth Flowers
2001 -2002



Errol Smith
Immediate Past Chair



Andrew Lawrence
2003-2004



Doreen Forrest
2006-2007



Lenworth Walker
2008



Doreen Forrest
2006, 2007, 2017



Lenworth Walker
2008



Terence Durrant
2009



Richard Gordon
2010 - 2011, 2018



Marva Douglass
2012 - 2013



Beverly Redd
Current Chair



Beverly Redd
Current Chair



West Indian Social Club of Hartford, Inc.'s

76th Anniversary

My sincere gratitude to the outstanding team whose hard work made this evening a remarkable success. Blessings to everyone involved.

Frances Ocansey (Chairperson)



Committee Members

Veronica Airey-Wilson
Judianne Daley
Tanya T. Dorman
Dr. Marcia Esson-Anderson
Doreth "Dee" Flowers-Redd
Mark Foster
Doreen Foster
Ludlow Francis
Claudette Graham
Howard Jackson
Vernette Joshua
Nadine Linton
Sheldon Morgan

Demar Osbourne
Beverly M.D. Redd
John Rhone
Velma Simpson
Errol Smith
Tirah Thompson-Rhone
Adrian Turner
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Shauna Whitter
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Patrick G. Williams





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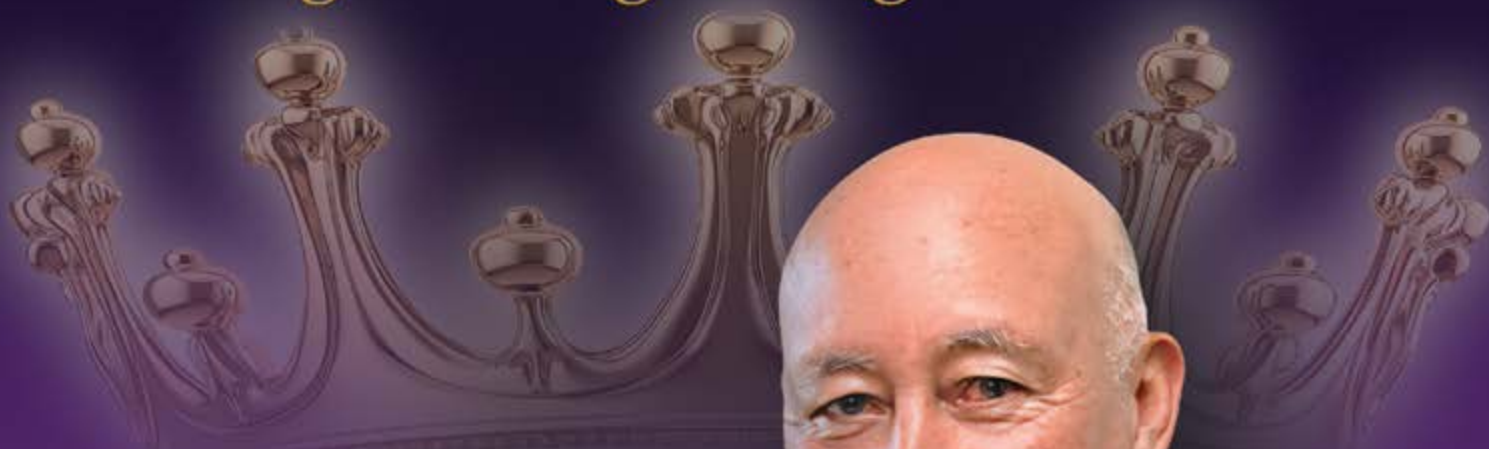
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Congratulations
to the
West Indian Social Club
on an incredible
76 years of

CULTURE, COMMUNITY, AND LEGACY!

As you celebrate this year's theme, "*Honoring Our Journey, Igniting Our Future,*" we recognize and applaud the strength, resilience, and unity that have defined your journey. Your commitment to preserving rich traditions while inspiring future generations is truly admirable.

May you continue to be a shining beacon of heritage, pride, and progress for many years to come. Here's to all you have accomplished— and to an even brighter future ahead!



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