

# Caribbean Life

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## Modest economic growth for Caribbean

By Nelson A. King

Caribbean Community (CARICOM) countries recorded modest economic growth last year, as they sought to address the global economic and financial fallout. So says the Barbados-based Caribbean Development Bank (CDB).

The bank, however, is projecting economic growth of between one and 1.5 per cent this year.

In its annual review on May 22, the CDB said growth ranged from a downturn in countries like Trinidad and Tobago, Antigua and Barbuda and St. Vincent and the Grenadines to marginal growth in Barbados,

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# BRAATA'S DEAL



Braata Folk Singers

Courtesy of Braata Folk Singers

## Set to continue a tradition of excellence

By Chudi Chukwudi

Fresh from the sold-out revival of their 2011 concert season production, Wheel and Come Again, the New York-based Braata Folk singers, under the artistic direction of Jamaican-born actor and singer Andrew Clarke, are turning their attention to their most prestigious assignment to date: representing Jamaica at the 8th World Choir Games to be held in Cincinnati Ohio from July 4 to 14.

The trip to Cincinnati will form yet another milestone for the three-year-old

group, which continues to celebrate Jamaica's 50th anniversary of independence with major calendar events during this year. Their 2012 concert season, to be held at The Jamaica Performing Arts Center in Queens, New York in June, will be a tribute to Jamaica and Jamaicans over the course of the last half century.

But that season is really the precursor to the glittering Choir Games Festivities, which will see several thousand performers from over

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# Caribbean Roundup

## Caribbean

The Caribbean Hotel and Tourism Association (CHTA) will host a gathering of culinary enthusiasts and experts as they converge to witness an all-out food and beverage battle between an assortment of chefs and bartenders from the Caribbean. The annual "Taste of the Caribbean" will be held at the Hyatt Regency, Miami from June 20-24 to crown the Caribbean cuisine masters.

Currently there are 11 teams from the Caribbean, including The Bahamas, Barbados, Jamaica, St. Lucia, Trinidad and Tobago and U.S. Virgin Islands, which have registered.

The teams are vying for top honors including Caribbean Culinary Team of the Year, Caribbean Chef of the Year and Caribbean Bartender of the Year.

The annual Caribbean Food and Beverage event is designed for culinary professionals to network, polish professional skills and cheer on colleagues in competition before a large audience of industry peers and enthusiasts.

## Barbados

Former Chief Justice of Barbados, Sir David Simmons, QC, has welcomed the decision by the Trinidad and Tobago government to sign on to the Caribbean Court of Justice (CCJ) appellate jurisdiction for criminal matters.

Sir David, who is credited as being one of the

**Continued on page 18**



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# Grenada PM survives a no-confidence vote

*By Nelson A. King*

A large number of Grenadians turned out for a rally on May 20 to "give thanks and to celebrate the government's defeat of an opposition no-confidence motion in Parliament," according to a government release.

Prime Minister Tillman Thomas described the no-confidence motion and related events of the past two weeks as an "unwelcomed distraction" which attracted "much negative attention," and reaffirmed his commitment to the values he set out prior to assuming office in July 2008.

"Many of you were apprehensive about your government," Thomas said, adding: "I was never in doubt, because I firmly believe that God is in full control. So today, we give thanks to the Almighty for taking us thus far."

Speaking to a crowd estimated by police to be more than 2,000-strong, Thomas stressed that his administration will maintain its core values of integrity, honesty, accountability, transparency, good governance, respect for law and order, love and concern



**Prime Minister Tillman Thomas interacts with supporters at the rally.**  
Photo courtesy Government of Grenada

"for all our people."

"These are the values that I subscribe to, and I will remain committed to them."

The Grenadian leader also used the opportunity to thank his parliamentary colleagues for voting against the no-confidence motion.

# S. Korea urged to share ideas with region

*By Nelson A. King*

The executive secretary of the U.N. Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), Alicia Bárcena, has urged South Korea to share its "enormous" production and consumption processes with Latin America and the Caribbean.

"Current patterns of economic growth in Latin America and the Caribbean are not consistent with a sustainable development," said Bárcena on May 17 at the conclusion of an official visit to the Republic of Korea, during which she met with authorities of the Asian country and participated in the 2012 High-Level Forum on Korea-Latin American and Caribbean partnership.

"The magnitude of the efforts needed to change this situation implies significant modifications to current production, consumption and distribution patterns, as well as transforming the technological paradigm and the existing relative prices structure," she added.

"Cooperation is crucial for accelerating this transition, and Korea's experience is invaluable in this regard," Bárcena continued.

She urged Latin America and the Caribbean and Korea to capitalize on the "vast potential of South-South cooperation to 'green' their economic links."

Bárcena said actions that can be adopted for achieving this goal include diversification of trade and the promotion of regional exports, "with increased added value and knowledge," as well as the creation of incentives for bi-regional foreign direct investments.

In addition, she called for the participation of firms from both regions in global and regional value chains, the creation of bi-regional business alliances, improvement in cooperation on research and development, and the promotion of innovation, human capital and trade facilitation.

Bárcena said she specified emerging cooperation opportunities between Latin America and the Caribbean and the Republic of Korea "due to structural changes in the Korean economy and the country's accumulation of knowledge on good practices."

# Combating acts of violence against Caribbean women

By Azad Ali

The Organization of American States (OAS) and Chile recently signed a Letter of Intent to strengthen capacities in the area of violence against women in the Eastern Caribbean.

OAS Secretary General Jose Miguel Insulza, said combating violence against women is among the priority areas for the hemispheric organization as evidenced by the follow-up provided to the Convention of Belem do Para, the agreement signed in 1994 by the countries of the hemisphere to protect women's human rights and eliminate cases of violence against them.

"The problem still exists, but we are working very hard to reduce it," he said, adding that "it is very important that we continue providing technical assistance to countries to improve their legislation" in order to address the problem with better legal instruments.

Chile's Foreign Affairs Minister Alfredo Moreno, said that his country has enjoyed a good relationship with the English-

speaking Caribbean and recently made a US\$1 million contribution for social development in the region.

He said \$113,000 of the funds would be used to strengthen capacity in the area of combating violence against women in the Eastern Caribbean.

"The ability of Caribbean countries to act together with the international community and to create a common market of 16 million people is a lesson for all of use," said Moreno, making reference to the regional integration movement, CARICOM.

Permanent Representative of Antigua and Barbuda to the OAS Deborah-Mae Lovell said the signed Letter of Intent "is another example of the government of Chile's partnership with the Caribbean" and stressed the important role played by the OAS in the efforts to address issues of "common concern."

The project will benefit Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, Grenada, St. Lucia, St. Kitts and Nevis and St. Vincent and the Grenadines.



**Organization of American States (OAS) Secretary General Jose Miguel Insulza.**

AP Photo/Pablo Martinez Monsivais



**Guyanese Master Drummer Menes De Griot at Annual Tribute to Our Ancestors of the Middle Passage.**  
Photo by Donna Lamb

## Tribute to Our Ancestors

By Donna Lamb

On Saturday, June 9, from 12 noon to sunset, the 23rd Annual Tribute to Our Ancestors of the Middle Passage will be held on the boardwalk at West 16th St. (Ancestors Circle) in Coney Island, Brooklyn, the site where some of the earliest slave ships once docked.

Sponsored by Akeem Productions and the People of the Sun Middle Passage Collective in conjunction with Medgar Evers College Student Government Association, this annual tribute is in remembrance of the tens of millions of Africans who, after being kidnapped from their homeland, died during the Middle Passage – the voyage across the Atlantic Ocean to the Caribbean

and North and South America.

Prayers for all ancestors will start precisely at noon, rain or shine, in coordination with other gatherings around the world carrying out this same rite at exactly the same time.

The tribute will begin with a libation ceremony, followed by a drum invocation led by Guyanese Master Drummer Menes De Griot and his Shanto Troupe. He will be playing the ancestors' Ngomas, made for him in South Africa by the Venda people. These drums are played only three times a year, and the trinity drum – so named because it can be played on all three sides – is the only one in the world.

Special drum tributes

will also be made to those in our families who are no longer with us, including Professor Charles Jones, Gil Noble and Louis Reyes Rivera, with a special remembrance for Dr. Mary Umlu.

The tribute will feature performances by many singers, drummers, dancers and spoken word artists, including Ngomo, KowTeff African Dance Company, Crown Heights Youth Collective and the Congo Square Drummers and Dancers.

The event will culminate at sundown with the final Ancestral Offering, during which the Ancestral Drummers will lead participants to the water's edge where each person will place flowers into the Atlantic Ocean, the largest

African burial ground in the world.

Attendees are asked to wear white or African attire and bring flowers to place in the ocean in honor of those lost in the Middle Passage. If you do not have a drum, bring a shekere, whistle, cowbell, or shac shac. No vendors please.

For more information, call Akeem at (718) 270-4902 or (718) 659-4999 or email him at Akeem827@yahoo.com.

Transportation: D, F, N or Q train to the last stop, Coney Island/Stillwell Avenue, or B36, B64, B68 or B82 bus to Stillwell Avenue/Surf Avenue (Coney Island Train Station).

# Braata singers prepare for world festival

Continued from cover

70 countries competing for gold, silver and bronze medals in several categories.

Braata will be bringing their unique performing style of “choral theater” to two categories- ‘Scenic Folklore’ and ‘Music of the Religions.’

A collection of renowned Jamaican folksongs will comprise their suite in the Scenic Folklore category while several gospel songs in the Jamaican ‘revival’ tradition will form the repertoire in the Music of The Religions category.

The games were first held in 2000 as the World Choir Olympics, and were organized by German organization Intercultur, to spread peace through music. The event has been held bi annually ever since, in various exotic locations around the globe including Bremen Germany, Graz, Austria and, most recently, Shaoxing, China in 2010.

Artistic Director of the folk singers Andrew Clarke is aware of

the enormity of the occasion, not only because it will be Braata’s first time at the games- but because of the rich tradition of excellence that has been established by other Jamaican choirs at the event over the years.

“We have some pretty big shoes to fill,” Clarke says, “Because the list of choirs that has represented Jamaica includes the Glenmuir High School Choir, The Carifolk Singers and Nexus Performing Arts Company- huge names in the pantheon of Jamaican choral music. The Carifolk Singers earned two silvers and one gold medal in Germany, 2004 while Nexus walked away with one gold, one silver and two bronze medals in Austria 2008. In this fiftieth anniversary of Jamaica’s independence, we are aiming to fly our flag high and hopefully claim some silverware for our country prior to our athletes doing the same at the Summer Olympics in London just weeks later.”

To that end, Clarke and his creative team, including Musical Director Garnett Mowatt and cho-

reographers Chris Walker and Jermaine Rowe have been putting the group through their paces for several weeks.

“You are competing against the very best choirs in the world,” says Clarke. “Every point we can extract from the judges is tremendously vital in a competition where the difference between gold, silver and bronze medals- or no medals at all- can be fractions of a point.”

As always, funding for the undertaking has not been easy to come by but with three months to go before the trip, Clarke is optimistic that they will cross the finish line.

“Our 2012 concert season next month will be our major fundraiser so we are obviously hoping that the show will be well supported. We have also been doing several performances for various organizations and corporations. But every little bit helps, so anyone who wants to learn more about how they can help us get there can go to our website [www.braat-a productions.org](http://www.braat-a productions.org) . We also have

an online campaign going at [www.indiegogo.com](http://www.indiegogo.com) where persons can search Braata Folk Singers and donate as little as \$10 US to our effort from anywhere in the world. While so doing, they will be thanked with wonderful prizes from the Braata family.

Interestingly enough, the Braata Folk Singers will not be the only Jamaica choral group carrying Jamaica’s flag at this major event. The Jamaican Youth Chorale (JYC) under the Artistic Direction of Gregory Simms will also be in attendance.

Clarke is delighted that the JYC-- who will compete in separate categories one week before Braata takes the stage- will be present.

“The unique rules of the World Choir Games allows several groups from the same country to participate, and we embrace the opportunity to be part of this event along with the JYC. Victory for any of us is a victory for Jamaica, and there would be no better way to cap our 50th anniversary independence festivities.”

# Carib economic growth

Continued from cover

St. Lucia and the British Virgin Islands.

The CDB said The Bahamas, Belize Dominica, Jamaica and Grenada recorded “stronger than marginal growth”, while Haiti and Guyana had economic growth in excess of five per cent last year.

The CDB said emerging and developing economies have been the key drivers of the global economic recovery, as advanced economies, the region’s main trading partners, have continued to struggle with “lingering weakness in financial, labor and housing markets”.

It said the recovery in the bank’s borrowing member states in the region “has, therefore, lagged behind”, pointing to preliminary estimates that indicate that 12 of the 18 countries registered expansion in real output during the year.

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# Delta to boost service

By Nelson A. King

Delta Air Lines announced plans on May 21 to launch new or expanded service to 10 destinations in the Caribbean and Bermuda from New York's LaGuardia and John F. Kennedy International (JFK) airports, continuing its program of service expansion in New York.

The airlines said that the new flights, which will begin in late 2012 and early 2013, are in addition to Delta Air Lines' previously announced expansion at New York LaGuardia, where the airline is adding more than 100 new flights to 26 new destinations this summer.

When its full schedule is implemented, Delta said it will operate more than 260 daily flights between LaGuardia and more than 60 cities, exceeding any other carrier operating at the airport.

Delta said it is also optimizing its schedule at New York JFK to facilitate convenient connections to

international flights. JFK is a major global gateway for Delta, which operates non-stop flights to more than 45 international destinations from the airport.

"We're excited to be announcing new and expanded service to these popular leisure destinations at the same time we're building our new domestic hub at LaGuardia Airport," said Gail Grimmer, Delta's senior vice president - New York.

"It's another step toward achieving our goal of becoming the preferred airline in New York," she added.

In conjunction with its expansion at New York LaGuardia, Delta said it is investing US\$160 million to modernize two terminals at the airport and construct a new walkway connecting the facilities.

At JFK, Delta is currently under way on a US\$1.2 billion program to enhance and expand Terminal 4, adding nine

new gates and creating a state-of-the-art gateway. That facility will open in spring 2013.

Grimmett said new and expanded Delta Air Lines service to the Caribbean and Bermuda will include new daily year-round service between LaGuardia and Bermuda, with Boeing 737s; new Saturday flights between JFK and St. Maarten's Princess Juliana International Airport (SXM) with Boeing 757s; and from Dec. 15, Delta's LaGuardia-Nassau flights will be expanded from seasonal to year-round service.

In addition, effective Dec. 15, Grimmer said Delta will increase its JFK-Montego Bay, Jamaica seasonal service from Saturday-only flights to daily service.

Grimmett also said, beginning on Dec. 15, that Delta Air Lines will increase its Saturday seasonal JFK-Aruba schedule to daily year-round service.

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# Carib, Mexico to collaborate for growth

By Nelson A. King

Caribbean Community (CARICOM) leaders and their Mexican counterpart, Felipe Calderon, ended their one-day summit in Barbados on May 21, deciding to collaborate on a range of issues, including tourism, transport, trade, investment and national security.

"We have agreed to share experiences and strategies in an effort to develop small and medium size enterprises in the private sector," Surinamese President Desi Bouterse, the current chairman of the 15-nation regional bloc, told reporters at the post-summit news conference in Bridgetown, the Barbados capital.

"We have also agreed to work together as part of gains in transnational crime and for citizen security," he added, stating that Mexico's cooperation will go a long way in helping CARICOM address some of the ramifications of the current economic climate.

Earlier Mexico and CARICOM signed two agreements to boost cooperation on largely high-tech education and rebuilding earthquake-ravaged Haiti.

"Mexico and CARICOM will also be working closely with our member state Haiti as we seek the reconstruction process of that country following the 2010 earthquake," Bouterse said.

"The community used the opportunity to thank Mexico for its assistance. The community is looking forward to working with Mexico and Haiti to fulfill the objectives of the memorandum of understanding and cooperation towards Haiti, which was signed on Sunday (May 20)," he added.

CARICOM Secretary General, Amb. Irwin LaRocque, and Mexican Foreign Minister, Patricia Espinosa, signed two memoranda of understanding (MOU), as foreign ministers wrapped up talks in preparation for the second CARICOM-Mexico Summit at the Barbados Hilton.

Host foreign minister Maxine McClean, who chaired the foreign ministers' meeting, said a technical cooperation agreement covered "critical areas for the devel-

opment of our respective cooperation biotechnology, health, engineering, environment, nanotechnology, tourism, natural disasters, trade and energy.

"That cooperation would involve exchange of academics and graduate students," she said.

In the second MOU, McClean said CARICOM and Mexico also agreed to work together with its poorest member state in its reconstruction.

"We know that, since the tragic earthquake, we've had several promises of support internationally, but Mexico has actually engaged Haiti and has contributed in several significant ways to that effort to rebuild," she said.

"And we believe that, as CARICOM seeks to play its part, we could more closely with Mexico," she added.

Calderon has also pledged to aid the region in combating natural disasters and climate change.

"In the environment, we committed to continue to fight climate change and to take into account in particular the impact of climate change on small island states, global warming and growth of the level of the sea, as well as to renew serious international long term action in terms of mitigation and adaptation," he said.

CARICOM leaders also pressed Calderon to support their call for reform of international financial institutions, such as the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank, when Mexico hosts the G-20 summit on Jun. 18 and 19.

"Barbados and members of CARICOM are not members of the G-20. We are seen as middle income, but we are highly vulnerable, highly indebted," McClean said.

"It is important that we have persons who can articulate our case," she added.

"And, therefore, countries like Mexico who would have indicated that there are very happy to do so, we will sit and dialogue and ensure that there is a full appreciation of the very vulnerabilities that we face notwithstanding our successes to date," the Barbados foreign minister continued.

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# Assembly passes minimum wage

Assemblywoman Rhoda Jacobs (D-Flatbush) announced on May 15 that the Assembly passed legislation to increase the minimum wage from \$7.25 to \$8.50 per hour beginning January 2013, while also increasing the minimum wage for food-service workers who receive tips from \$5.00 to \$5.86 per hour.

Both wage rates would then be indexed to inflation beginning January 2014 (A.9148). The bill now awaits action in the Senate.

"During this difficult economic time, raising the minimum wage is the right thing to do," said Ms. Jacobs. "Simply put, people who work full time shouldn't be poor. The Assembly's legislation would help make sure that New Yorkers living on minimum-wage salaries can actually survive on the minimum wage. I strongly urge the Senate to pass this crucial measure."

"Over the past five years, New York's minimum wage has only increased 10 cents per hour, which is not enough for Brooklyn families to pay for things like rent, heat, gas, food and prescription drugs," Jacobs said. "By increasing the minimum wage, the quality of life for more than 1 million New Yorkers will be improved."

Currently, the neighboring



From left, Speaker Sheldon Silver, Assemblywoman Rhoda Jacobs and Stuart Applebaum, president of Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Union (RWDSU).

states of Vermont, Connecticut and Massachusetts – as well as 15 other states across the country and the District of Columbia – all have higher minimum wages than New York.

"This measure is a win-win for New Yorkers," said Assemblywoman

Jacobs. "Not only are we helping working families afford basic necessities, we are also putting money in the pockets of those most likely to spend it right here in our community, helping boost the economy and create jobs."

# Elevated Ladies Unite Conference

Elevated Ladies Unite Conference 2012 will be taking place on Saturday, June 2 from 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. at 9 Centre Street Hempstead N.Y. 11550.

The conference is set to educate, inspire and elevate women entrepreneurs as well as the women who aspire to make their mark in business. The purpose of the conference is to bring women together to network, hear words of inspiration and wisdom from invited keynote speakers and be entertained.

The conference will also be featuring a charity section where the attendees will have the option of bringing in their professional women's apparel for the women who cannot afford professional attire. The clothing will be donated to women in shelters and women who are receiving government assistance and who will be job hunting.

"I stick by my motto 'when you look good you feel good and when you feel good you have a great presentation of yourself reflected,' which builds confidence in thyself and an apart of the self-esteem boosting," said Lithera Forbes, CEO and president of Inspiring Tree Consulting.

Women are the pearl and the sparkle across a variety of industries and represent untapped potential for tremendous growth in America.

The Elevated Ladies Unite Conference is designed to increase the growth of women owned business and provide a substantial network of business related resources to spur women owned businesses to the next level.

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# Smokers' rights group challenges smoking ban

By C.L.A.S.H

On April 9, the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation announced it was instituting a new policy that bans smoking within state parks, including beaches, playgrounds and pools.

After consulting with legal counsel, NYC C.L.A.S.H. has been advised that this agency has likely exceeded its authority and is ripe for legal action should it decline our request for reconsideration in the letter (copy upon request) we have submitted to the agency.

"These bans were imposed by bureaucratic fiat, not legislated law," says Audrey Silk, founder of C.L.A.S.H., "and on that basis alone, they're unconstitutional."

In fact, the New York State legislature has repeatedly declined to pass this specific law for over a decade, as proposed by both houses. At least nineteen bills have been rejected.

The Parks Office, therefore, not only exceeded its administrative mission, not only assigned itself legislative powers, but in fact went against the legislature's will.

That the process by which these bans were imposed is unconstitutional has already been determined in two other identical cases.

In *Boreali v Axelrod* (1987), where the state agency Public Health Council expanded restrictions on smoking as set forth by the legislature in Public Health Law, the court found:

We hold that the Public Health Council overstepped the boundaries of its lawfully delegated authority when it promulgated a comprehensive code to govern tobacco smoking in areas that are open to the public. While the Legislature has given the Council broad authority to promulgate regulations on matters concerning the public health, the scope of the Council's authority under its enabling statute must be deemed limited by its role as an administrative, rather than a legislative, body.

In fact, one of the linchpins for the court

in *Boreali* was that the legislatures themselves had previously rejected exactly what the Health Council took it upon itself to impose.

The repeated failures by the Legislature to arrive at such an agreement do not automatically entitle an administrative agency to take it upon itself to fill the vacuum and impose a solution of its own. Manifestly, it is the province of the people's elected representatives, rather than appointed administrators, to resolve difficult social problems by making choices among competing ends.

In *Justiana v Niagara County Department of Health* (1999), where a local health board attempted the same, the United States District Court upheld the same points, asserting that the Health Department "violated the non-delegation doctrine of New York State law."

The Court finds that under the principles set forth in *Boreali*, the Board violated the non-delegation doctrine of New York State law in enacting the regulations...[and] exceeded its authority by writing "on a clean slate" rather than using its regulatory powers to fill in the details of a legislative scheme.

...Defendants argue that... the present case is distinguishable from *Boreali* because since that case was decided, the State Legislature passed the Clean Indoor Air Act, and the Board was simply filling in the interstices of the Act's provisions. This argument, however, is not persuasive in the context of smoking regulations, an area which the Court of Appeals described in *Boreali* as one especially suited for legislative determination as it involves "difficult social problems" which must be resolved ...

In this context, even where the state legislature has provided some guidance for the restriction of smoking, the enactment of further substantive restrictions is a task properly left to the legislative arm of government. By adopting regulations that are substantially more restrictive than existing legislation, the Board went beyond interstitial rule-making

Continued on Page 25

# JPMorgan Lesson: End government bank guarantees

By Sheldon Richman

It's widely believed that JPMorgan Chase's recent \$2 billion-plus loss proves we need the comprehensive banking regulation called for by the 2010 Dodd-Frank law.

That belief is wrong.

In thinking about the loss, remember that the future is always uncertain. It's easy to look back on a bad decision — especially someone else's bad decision — and claim the mistake was preventable. The notion that regulators have knowledge superior to that of people acting in the marketplace is ridiculous. Economic activities are based on local and often unarticulated knowledge that regulators could never acquire. It's a fallacy to think that because imperfect human beings make mistakes, government oversight is necessary. Government also is populated by imperfect human beings, and, on top of the usual fallibility, they also suffer from this particular "knowledge problem," as identified by Nobel-laureate economist F.A. Hayek.

But that is not all they suffer from. Even if we ignore the knowledge problem, we must confront the incentive problem. What reason do we have for believing that government regulators would do the right thing even if they knew what it was? Political economists have been aware of the principle of "regulatory capture" for many years. This refers to the near inevitability that a regulated industry will have far more influence over a regulatory body than anyone else. Often the industry has a hand in writing the rules, which is what is going on with the writing of the myriad Dodd-Frank rules now underway. Regulators cannot be assumed to be as pure as the driven snow. Many come out of the regulated industry and plan to return when they retire from government "service." Regulation is fraught with such perils, which those who see government as an all-knowing, all-good deity routinely overlook.

A further error made by those who see a panacea in regulation is the belief that banks can harm us because government has kept its hands off. This couldn't be less true. Throughout American history governments at all levels have partnered with banks, ostensibly in the public interest but actually in the interest of the bankers.

Commenting about JPMorgan's loss, President Obama stumbled onto the truth

— but didn't realize it — when he said that, since the taxpayers could be on the hook for large bank mistakes, vigilant regulation is needed. But why are the taxpayers on the hook?

The most important thing to understand about the banking industry is that the government maintains a safety net of guarantees in case a big bank stumbles. And it is that safety net which makes the stumbling more likely. This is known as moral hazard. A bank with a government guarantee will be less careful than a bank without one. The crisis of 2008 is a textbook case study in banking moral hazard.

One government guarantee has mostly been overlooked: federal deposit insurance. It's the sacred cow of banking programs, which originated in the New Deal, even though Franklin Roosevelt feared it would encourage bank irresponsibility. (Unfortunately, he signed the bill anyway.) The FDIC is usually thought of as a guarantee for bank depositors, but in reality it is a massive privilege for banks. If government assures depositors that they cannot lose a penny in their bank accounts, they no longer need to be wary about their banks' conduct. Why worry, if the FDIC will make good? But that guarantee eliminates the customer scrutiny that would otherwise keep banks prudent. No promises by regulators can match depositor vigilance in reining in banker recklessness. (In a competitive market, nothing would prevent the offering of private insurance or other devices to prevent bank runs.)

Roosevelt was right:

*The general underlying thought behind the use of the word "guarantee" with respect to bank deposits is that you guarantee bad banks as well as good banks. The minute the government starts to do that the government runs into a probable loss... We do not wish to make the United States government liable for the mistakes and errors of individual banks, and put a premium on unsound banking in the future.*

The only way to minimize systemic damage from banking without stifling productive innovation is to end all guarantees and all barriers to competition.

Sheldon Richman is senior fellow at *The Future of Freedom Foundation* ([www.fff.org](http://www.fff.org)) and editor of *The Freeman* magazine.

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Letters to the Editor are welcome from all readers. They should be addressed care of this newspaper to Kenton Kirby, Editor, Caribbean-Life Publications, 1 MetroTech Center North, Brooklyn, New York 11201, or sent via e-mail to [caribbeanlife@cnglocal.com](mailto:caribbeanlife@cnglocal.com) All letters, including those submitted via e-mail, MUST be signed and the individual's verifiable address and telephone number included. Note that the address and telephone number will NOT be published and the name will be published or withheld on request. No unsigned letters can be accepted for publication. The editor reserves the right to edit all submissions.

# High price for taking a stand

By Les Slater

The issue of the timing of President Obama's statement in support of same-sex marriage is intriguing. In that what's being reported is that Vice President Biden's earlier remark that he was comfortable with gay marriage is what forced the president's hand to make his position known earlier than he intended. Which begs the question: What was the consensus among Obama and his inner core of advisers as to when was the perfect time to announce that he had come around to being supportive of same-sex marriage? For that matter, one would be curious if there was unanimity or anything close to it among that crew about the announcement being done prior to the election, period.

What, exactly, was thought to be the payoff in waiting until the election was that much closer to spring the news? Whenever the president chose to let on that his former "struggling" with the issue had now evolved to this, it was inevitably going to be a political bombshell and calculated risk. The wisdom of yesteryear was that scheduling those bulletins guaranteed to have some downside effect for earlier rather than later in an election cycle was the practical way to go. Time and distance, went that logic, would take care of business. With the mega-bucks marketplace that current-day electioneering has come to be, a rule of thumb that says, "Give it some time and it will go away" clearly no longer has relevance. The means exist to bombard the public ad nauseam with whatever is believed to be election-winning ammunition.

The media was full of innuendo about coolness between Biden and Obama following the vice president's disclosure on that TV interview. But if in fact the White House was less than thrilled when Biden made that bit of news, was it really because it was forcing the president to address the

## Viewpoint

gay marriage thing earlier than he had planned, or simply because the president didn't like being one-upped on the issue? Maureen Dowd in the New York Times thought it underscored a tendency toward equivocation on Obama's part. Whatever, the president did the obligatory show of making nice with his vice president a few days later to convince the public that reports of friction between the two were grossly exaggerated.

All well and good, but as an election-year issue, there's no escaping the power packed by same-sex marriage. Obama's formal commitment to the progressive side of the debate sets up a classic confrontation with Christian conservatives and gives that side a rally point and energy boost, albeit hardly did they seem in need of one. In battleground states, where small voting blocs could be so critical, it's anyone's guess how Obama's new stand will scramble the numbers. Even the African American vote, could turn out decisive in toss-up situations. One recalls that in 2004, George Bush's faith-based initiatives won over some blacks and could have provided the margin of difference for Bush in places like Ohio. Same-sex marriage clearly has the potential to have similar play among the African American electorate, even with an Obama now in the equation – not dramatically changing black support for the president but altering the Obama vote tally just enough to cause a problem.

It's at times like these that our view that you have to be nuts to opt for a career in politics gets reinforced anew. There is at times a certain constitutional fiber required to

survive the cauldron such as the one into which Obama has climbed (or been thrown into). On the one hand, the gay community, activist as they are, pressing the president to throw his support behind same-sex marriage. On the other, the hard-right element salivating in anticipation of just such a move by Obama, which provides them with firepower to die for. A rock and a hard place may not adequately describe the conundrum.

Years ago, Gerald Ford, as president, tried appealing to the public's allegedly soft emotional side by reminding them that America was indeed a nation of immigrants, when he sought support for some displaced Vietnamese who he felt should be given sanctuary in the U.S. Of course it didn't fly. Immigration is one of those social issues that inspires hardened positions on either side. Same-sex marriage, if anything, outpaces immigration on the wedge-issue front. Maybe the calculus on the Obama side is that the religious and other social conservative votes were never going to break for the president, so why not make sure, with this move of his, that support among progressives won't go soft on him.

The bottom line is that with these blasts, first from Joe Biden and then Obama, same-sex marriage is guaranteed a place front and center in this presidential election campaign. Very recent polls showing a slight lead (statistical dead heat) for Mitt Romney may already be reflecting impact among voters of these Obama-Biden revelations. Obama, with his team of advisers wise in the ways of new-age analysis, may have figured this to be a risk well worth taking, given the landscape. He may be right. It would be perfectly understandable, though, if he did what politicians are wont to do, and prevaricated some more...until after votes were cast in November.

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# Jamaican Maroons

## New World's first freedom fighters

An exclusive preview screening of "Akwantu: the Journey" will be held at the Poet's Den Theater, located at 309 E. 108th Street, New York, NY 10019 on Sunday, May 27 at 5:00 p.m.

The screening will be followed by a Q & A session with the writer/director/producer and narrator Jamaican Roy T. Anderson, and a wine & cheese reception afterwards. This occasion will also serve as a kick-off celebration for the upcoming world premiere of this groundbreaking documentary in Jamaica.

Shot in Jamaica, Ghana, Canada and the United States over the course of three years, the film feature interviews with world renowned scholars, African nationals, Maroon officials and present-day Jamaican citizens (both Maroon and non-Maroon), while simultaneously capturing Roy's personal journey of self-discovery from

Maroon society to the North American continent.

With this 87-minute feature documentary, Anderson invites you to join him on a journey into the lives of a people whose enduring spirit of self determination is as much alive today as it was more than 300 years ago.

The maroons were considered the "Spartacus" of their time; except these enslaved Africans were victorious in their fight for freedom. This fact is not lost on New Jersey-based filmmaker and stuntman Anderson.

After years of research and many interviews that took him from remote regions of Jamaica's Blue Mountains to the coastal environs of Ghana and its interior, then finally to the mysterious and isolated community of Accompong, St. Elizabeth, he has conceived "Akwantu: the Journey."

"Akwantu: the Journey" documents the struggles

for freedom of the Jamaican Maroons, rebel slaves of West African origin who defeated the mighty British army and formed independent communities in the rugged and remote regions of Jamaica in the early-mid 18th century.

The descendants of these communities still maintain their proud heritage today. Yet so little is known about the Maroons whose very rich culture and heritage is threatened to now become a thing of the past. "That would be a tragedy," says Anderson, a proud descendant of the Leeward Maroons. "They were after all the New World's first successful freedom fighters."

"Akwantu: the Journey" explores a significant area of Jamaican culture that has long fascinated observers. In fact, UNESCO recognized the international significance of Maroon heritage in 2003 by naming the musical heritage of the Moore Town Maroons



Roy T. Anderson on the high seas - a view of Cape Coast Castle in Ghana.

Photo by MACPRI

one of the Masterpieces of Intangible History.

The Jamaican Ministry of Youth and Culture commended "Akwantu: the Journey" as welcomed addition to its cinematic landscape, having designated the film as a JAMAICA 50 endorsed event - activities that will celebrate the Caribbean island's 50th Anniversary of Independence.

Planned JAMAICA 50 events include a press

and industry screening on Wednesday, June 20 in Kingston, the nation's capital; to be followed by the world premiere of the film on Friday, June 22 in the Maroon community of Charles Town, Portland during its 4th Annual Maroon Conference.

For more than 25 years Roy has performed stunts for such Hollywood stars as Will Smith, Denzel Washington and Jamie Foxx. In his illus-

trious career as a stuntman and stunt coordinator he has accumulated more than 400 production credits, appearing in blockbuster movies like "Men in Black III," "The Dark Knight Rises," "Spiderman 2," "Bourne Ultimatum," "Hitch," "American Gangster," and top-rated TV shows; "Law & Order," "The Sopranos," and "Boardwalk Empire." He's an award winning stuntman, and a world record holder.

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## Health

# Teaching Gardens Program

Healthfirst and the American Heart Association announce their partnership recently to present the American Heart Association Teaching Gardens Program at PS 55 in the South Bronx, N.Y. The educational initiative teaches children how to plant seeds, nurture growing plants, harvest produce and ultimately understand the value of good eating habits.

One in three American children is overweight or obese. A study by The New York City Department of Mental Health and Hygiene found that in the South Bronx, nearly one in four children in public elementary schools is obese and nearly four in 10 are overweight or obese.

The PS 55 Healthfirst and American Heart Association Teaching Garden combines nutrition education with garden-based learning to promote the consumption of more fruits and vegeta-

bles by children. Studies show programs like this improve healthy behavior and positive attitudes towards healthier eating.

"The teaching garden project is a key step in eliminating childhood obesity in our high-risk communities," said Pat Wang, Healthfirst president and CEO. "This joint effort with the American Heart Association supports Healthfirst's mission to promote healthy living from an early age and provide the building blocks for improved academic performance and overall long-term health."

"Today, nearly one in three American children is overweight or obese. And, in a society where French fries make up one-fourth of children's vegetable intake and are the most common vegetable, it's not that surprising, said Dr. Mary Ann McLaughlin, president, New York City American Heart Association Board



of Directors. "But, the American Heart Association teaching gardens program can change that by educating children early about healthy eating habits while also changing attitudes about fruits and vegetables."

The garden is dedicated to Megan Charlop, a veteran public health advocate and director of Community Health at Montefiore Medical Center's School Health Program, who was killed in a tragic cycling accident in 2010. A beloved

community organizer in the area, Megan was actually on her way to PS 55 the day of the accident to attend a summer camp school fair, one of the many projects she spearheaded for local children to experience. Her passion was to improve the health and well-being of Bronx residents, especially children, through fitness and improved nutrition. A special tribute ceremony will be held in her honor.

For more information about the Healthfirst and American Heart Association Teaching Gardens program, please visit [www.healthfirst.org](http://www.healthfirst.org) and [www.heart.org/teachinggardens](http://www.heart.org/teachinggardens).

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# U.S. autism rates reach new height

By Sharon Begley

About one in 88 children in the United States has autism or a related disorder, the highest estimate to date and one that is sure to revive a national argument over how the condition is diagnosed and treated.

The estimate released recently by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention represents an overall increase of 25 percent since the last analysis in 2006 and a near-doubling of the reported rate in 2002.

Among boys, the rate of autism spectrum disorders is one in 54, almost five times that of girls, in whom the rate is one in 252.

"One thing the data tells us with certainty - there are many children and families who need help," said CDC Director Thomas Frieden. "We must continue to track autism spectrum disorders because this is the information communities need to guide improvements in serv-

ices to help children."

Advocates for people with autism seized on the apparent spike in the prevalence of the disease to call for more research to identify its causes and more services for those affected by it.

"This is a national emergency and it's time for a national strategy," said Mark Roithmayr, president of the research and advocacy group Autism Speaks. He called for a "national training service corps" of therapists, caregivers, teachers and others who are trained to help children with autism.

Some researchers have questioned whether the increases over the last decade are real or reflects greater awareness that has led parents and teachers to see symptoms of autism in children who would not have received the diagnosis a generation ago.

Changes in how the disease is diagnosed explains a large fraction of the reported increase in prevalence, even

advocates acknowledged.

### Examining Records

"Inevitably when these statistics come out, the question is, what is driving the increase?" said Roithmayr. Better diagnoses, broader diagnostic criteria and higher awareness, he said, account for about half the reported increase.

The new estimate from the CDC comes from the Autism and Developmental Disabilities Monitoring Network, which operated in 14 states.

To determine whether a child has autism or a related disorder, what CDC calls "clinician reviewers" examined the medical and school records of eight-year-olds in the 14 states and also conducted screening. Children whose records included either an explicit notation of autism-spectrum disorder or merely descriptions of behavior consistent with the disorder were counted as falling on the autism spectrum.

CDC investigators warned, however, that the 14 sites are not "nationally representative." As a result, the rate of autism being reported on Thursday in CDC's Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, "should not be generalized to the United States as a whole."

Autism spectrum disorders are marked by a suite of symptoms, all arising from atypical brain development that results in problems with socialization, communication, and behavior.

Although the disorder can be mild or severe, in general children with autism have difficulty communicating and making friends. Many find it painful to look other people in the eyes, which impairs their ability to understand what others are thinking and feeling.

Reporting by Sharon Begley; Editing by Michele Gershberg and Philip Barbara

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## Doctor, Doctor Questions Often Asked

By Herbert Okun, M.D.  
Diplomate American Board of Urology

# New approach to an old problem

By Herbert Okun, MD

Benjamin Franklin, an American icon and one of the most respected of America's founding fathers was, despite having only two years of formal schooling, a prolific inventor and scientific investigator. His inventions included the lightning rod, the "Franklin stove," bifocal eyeglasses, the odometer, the "Glass Armonica" and the silk woven catheter.

Franklin's new musical instrument, the "Glass Armonica" with its "heavenly sound" was an instant European sensation and even Beethoven and Mozart composed music for it. But it was the silk woven catheter that brought him into urological history. He and his brother suffered with prostate enlargement and urinary tract stone formation.

The agonizing pain of prostate and stone obstruction led him to improve on the previous rigid and irritating catheters of that day by weaving one out of silk and a type of shellac. This gave the catheter smoothness and flexibility and permitted efficient and repeated drainage of urine from the obstructed bladder. In those days, prostate surgery had yet to be invented.

Advances in anesthesia, intravenous therapy, blood transfusion and antibiotics finally permitted a surgical approach to this common male problem. The surgical approach remained the principal method of treatment for many years, culminating in the various relatively modern procedures as TURP, TUNA, and LASER of the prostate. Then effective drug therapies such as Avodart to shrink the prostate and Flomax to relax the muscle within the prostate became available. As a result, the

surgical approach has receded as the treatment of choice and is no longer considered the best initial approach for the patient suffering with symptomatic prostate enlargement.

There are times, however, when for any one of a variety of reasons the patient suffering with any combination of a slow, hesitant, or interrupted flow, urinary frequency, urgency, incomplete emptying, prolonged urination with dribbling, incontinence, the need to push or strain and sleep deprivation, caused by night time urination cannot or will not take the medication required.

The need for a better alternate to a surgical approach was met with the development of "TUMT," Transurethral Microwave Thermotherapy. This office treatment does not require anesthesia. It is a one-time long lasting treatment, successful in the great majority of patients. There are several different microwave treatments available but the safest of all is the FDA approved TherMatrx unit. There has never been a single "SAE," serious adverse event resulting from the use of this equipment reported to the FDA, the federal agency responsible for the safety and efficacy of medical devices in the United States. Ben Franklin would surely smile if he could see how the electricity he investigated at the end of a kite string in a rain-storm had been harnessed to produce microwaves that could apply thermotherapy (heat) through a special catheter directly to the patients prostate and thereby effectively relieve the symptoms of prostate enlargement.

Have a question? Call Dr. Okun at 718-241-6767

# The Caribbean Business Report

## Achieving success in the catering business

By Tequila Minsky

Nadege Fleurimond is celebrating her 10th anniversary in business as a caterer. It's quite an accomplishment for the Columbia political science major, especially when you find out that Nadege is only 30 years old.

Having started at age 20 as a student, catering out of her dorm suite, her jobs were always big. Within the first two months that she decided to cater, she catered a wedding for 150 people.

Her last two years, the department where she

worked would hire her to cater all their parties, snowballing to private parties for professors and administrators.

Basically, she jumped in and got on the job training.

After graduation, she worked for a year for Yvette Clarke. She then went full time and it's been catering, ever since.

As her website indicates, she has varied menus (and booking packages) including traditional American fare. Haitian food is the foundation of her cooking but she has learned how to preserve a recipe and stay true to the authenticity of the dish. And working with different chefs brings their talents.

Nadege says, "I am a fusion cook. I love blending flavors so my food represents the taste and flavors of Latin America, Asian and Caribbean cuisine for the most part.

Nadege used Columbia's kitchens when she was there. In 2004, she started using incubator kitchens. Culinary incubators are commercial kitchens for small food businesses to cook their products for which, without a health department licensed commercial kitchen, they could not legally produce their food. They can be rented by the hour or day.

"It's a way of using a properly licensed commercial kitchen without the everyday overhead," she says. "As a caterer, I am



**Nadege Fleurimond (left) of Fleurimond Catering with Midwin Charles holds the proclamation by Borough President of Manhattan Scott Stringer. Photo by Tequila Minsky**

not cooking everyday, so I find it very efficient to pay as needed, which is what incubator kitchens are."

Zero to six kitchen helpers—prep cooks to full cooks—are hired. For events of 150-200 people, she will hire 10-15 along the way.

Nadege promoted her brand and food to a wider audience by throwing Sunday dinners called "Kreyol Fusion" and Tuesday after-work themed parties at Colors Restaurant. One night, an all-men competitive cook-off, a video hook-up in the kitchen projected their cooking to the diners, was more entertainment than

any comedy club!

How do people find her? Word-of-mouth and googling. Her very professional website works for her.

Her clients are quite diverse. Last month, she catered events for NFL, Audi, and communions, weddings and a Haitian heritage event. A part-time administrative assistant and an accountant are her back room help.

Business success for Nadege is providing the service she sets out to provide in the most positive, effective and efficient way possible. She says, "It is about adhering to your ethics and your promise to

your clients and customers at the risk of financial lost. And finally, it is about achieving financial success within that particular business."

Regretfully, she didn't work with any small business organizations when she was starting, "But I wish I did," she says. "I learned so many things by doing and making mistakes."

"I could have used professional services particularly a marketing or a PR person to help me shape my brand," she says. "I've developed it, but it could have been shaped earlier."

Any advice? She responded, "You have to have guts. Guts to be able to tackle the hard times. Guts to be able to deal with unhappy clients and customers. Guts to be able to deal with those times when things look bleak. And definitely guts to be able to appreciate and say thank you to those around you without fear of your own light being dimmed."

Nadege's recent "Old Hollywood Glamour" red-carpet night celebrated her 10th anniversary, giving awards aka Emmys to all those she was thanking for helping her along the way. Citations and proclamations from Councilman Jumaane Williams and Borough President Scott Stringer (they were not present) to Fleurimond Catering were part of the festivities.

### Small Business Resources

Here are some agencies, and associations, which have a variety of programs to assist the small business community in New York.

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# Caribbean Roundup

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Continued from page 2

architects and driving forces behind the CCJ's formation, said a lot of work went into the establishment of the regional appellate court.

"We've been toiling in the vineyard, toiling for a long time," he said.

Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar recently announced in Parliament that Trinidad and Tobago is moving to abolish criminal appeals to the London-based Privy Council and place this jurisdiction to the CCJ, which is celebrating its seventh year. The regional appellate court was established on April 16, 2005 and is headquartered in Port of Spain, Trinidad.

The CCJ has two jurisdictions – an original jurisdiction to interpret and apply the Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas and an appellate jurisdiction.

Barbados, Belize and Guyana have replaced the Privy Council with the CCJ. Jamaica is also expected to sign on to the CCJ this year.

Dominica

Prime Minister of Dominica Roosevelt Skerrit has defended his government's decision to grant a license to regional casino chain Ma Pau, to operate slot machines on the island.

Ma Pau Entertainment Center is the trade name of the gaming establishment located at the popular Krazy Coconut Recreation Center in the capital Roseau.

Moments before the official opening recently, Skerrit called on citizens to re-think their objection to the latest revenue generating enterprise.

The prime minister made it clear that he had no plans to bow to public pressure on the issue when direct foreign investment was critical to the improvement of the lives of citizens.

Ma Pau is a subsidiary of the Sunny Group of Companies, with operations across the Caribbean that also includes the Sweet Lime Restaurant chain (in

Trinidad and Tobago and St. Kitts) in addition to its interest in the distribution of educational products.

Dominica

Dominica's ambassador to the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) Charles Maynard has died. He was 78 years old.

Maynard, who was also special adviser to Prime Minister Roosevelt Skerrit, died at the Princess Margaret Hospital recently. The cause of his illness was not disclosed.

Prime Minister Skerrit said, "This country has lost a great patriot, a nationalist, a regionalist, an integrationist and someone who dedicated his life to Dominica's development."

Former OECS Acting Chief Justice Brian Alleyne, a former attorney general and ministerial colleague of Maynard, said he had made a significant contribution to the socio-economic development of Dominica.

Maynard held a variety of

ministerial portfolios during the 15-year rule of the Dominica Freedom party (DFP).

Jamaica

Jamaica dancehall star David "Mavado" Brooks was fined a total of J\$100,000 or six months in jail on an assault charge of malicious damage of a car.

Almost a year after he was arrested for assaulting a St. James man and his son and damaging their car in an apparent case of road rage, Brooks was found guilty on the two charges by Resident Magistrate Wilson Smith in the Montego Bay Court recently.

Brooks, who hails from West Armour Heights in St. Andrews, was charged in connection with an incident on July 22, 2011, in which he and members of his entourage allegedly attacked Henry Cunningham and his son, Oshane and damaged their car along the Belmont road in St. James.

Brooks' attorney Martyn

Thomas told the court that his client accepted the ruling and that he was remorseful for the events that led him to being arrested.

St. Lucia

St. Lucia may have to wait a while longer to know if Taiwan would heed Castries' call to demand the recall of Ambassador Tom Chou.

Prime Minister Dr. Kenny Anthony government has repeatedly called for the Ma Ying-jeou administration to return Chou to Taipei, after accusing him of interfering in the country's internal affairs under the previous United Workers' Party (UMP) government.

Anthony, whose St. Lucia Labor Party (SLP) was returned to office in last November's general elections after five years in opposition, said his administration out of respect for Taiwanese law, was willing to wait until after the presidential elections last January for Chou to be recalled.

The law prohibits this movement of diplomats within three months of presidential elections.

Anthony said in a recent television interview that his government would demand the removal of Chou after he is sworn in for his second term on May 20.

St. Kitts

St. Kitts and Nevis and Turkey has signed a mutual visa waiver agreement that will allow nationals of both countries with valid passports to enter the territory of the other without visa requirement for a stay of up to 90 days.

"This is part of our government's ongoing initiative to increase the number of countries to which our citizens have visa-free access, to foster greater opportunities, people-to-people and commercial contacts, said St. Kitts and Nevis High Commissioner to the United Kingdom, Kevin Isaac.

Compiled by Azad Ali

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# FilmAfrica will highlight Danceafrica 2012

Chuck Davis' DanceAfrica returns to the Brooklyn Academy of Music during the Memorial Day weekend with live dance presentations, a bazaar of African trinkets, cultural marketplace and an expanded lineup featuring relevant films.

The annual celebration of African and African-American dance, music, and culture — the nation's first festival devoted to African dance is celebrating 35 years and will feature FilmAfrica, the cinema component to what has become one of the largest celebrations of its kind.

The holiday fest is revered for uniting dancers from various regions throughout the world to celebrate the cultural vitality of Africa and its diaspora.

From May 25 through May 28, BAMcinématek will present this year's edition of the cinema component of BAM's longest-running performance series.

This year's program highlights eight new and classic features from locations worldwide including Algeria, Nigeria, South Africa, Ethiopia and the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Among the highlights is Akin Omotoso's "Man on Ground" (2011), screening on May 26.

This stylized crime drama, an official selection in Toronto's world cinema category in 2011, follows Ade (Hotel Rwanda's Hakeem Kae-Kazim), a successful banker in London who arrives in Johannesburg to search for his half-brother, Femi, among the refugee camps.

When he discovers Femi is missing, Ade sets out to uncover the truth about his brother's mysterious disappearance.

Omotoso will appear in person for a Q&A following the 6:50 p.m. screening.

Screening May 28 is a standout selection from the 2012 African Film Festival, Andy Amadi Okoroafor's directorial debut, "Relentless" (2010—May 28). After years of



## Inside Life

By Vinette K. Pryce

working in creative advertising, Okoroafor makes his first foray into filmmaking with this urban tale set in Lagos, Nigeria.

Obi, a peacekeeping soldier in Sierra Leone, meets a beautiful woman (renowned Nigerian-German hip-hop and soul singer Nneka) and becomes entranced by her, but an unthinkable tragedy forces him to return home to Lagos, where his midnight wanderings help him reconcile with what has happened. Okoroafor, who also wrote and produced the film, will appear for a Q&A following the 6:50 p.m. screening.

Closing the series on May 28 is a special family screening of animation auteur Michael Ocelot's "Kirikou and the Sorceress" a 3-D adventure "Tales of the Night" (2011).

This collection of six exotic fairytales travels through faraway lands and times to tell stories of Aztec monsters, talking horses, love-struck werewolves and more.

The 2:00 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. showings of the film will be accompanied by live readings of the subtitles especially for family audiences.

Also screening is the recently re-released apartheid-era classic "Come Back Africa" (1959) May 26 and "Kongo:50 Years of Independence of Congo" (2010) May 27 a three-part series documenting the nation's colonization through an interesting mix of technique, animation, and archival footage.

Daniel Cattier, who directed the second episode of the



Leonie Forbes (left) receiving proclamation from NYS Assembly member N. Nick Perry. Photo by Donovan Gopie

series, will appear in person for a Q&A following the 5:00 p.m. screening.

## First Lady Of Jamaican Films Hailed In Brooklyn

The Caribbean Cultural Theater promised and delivered a day-long feast of films starring Jamaican Leonie Forbes when they hosted a May tribute to the actress.

With Jamaican culinary delights, luminaries and presentations from the offices of the Brooklyn Borough President, the Jamaica Consulate and the NYS Senate and surprise testimonies from guests, the presentation proved a treat for patrons.

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‘Dark Shadows is a faithfully-cheesy remake of a consciously-campy TV show.’

Kam Williams – Page 23

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## ‘unFramed’ returns to NYC

The play “unFRAMED” returns to Manhattan for five performances in June as part of the solo NOVA Arts Festival at Off-Broadway’s New Ohio Theatre (154 Christopher Street, inside the landmark Archive Building). Performances begin Monday, June 4 and continue through Saturday, June 16.

The play takes the audience into the artist’s studio where Iyaba Ibo Mandingo tells the story of his life as an immigrant in America.

Meanwhile, Double Play Connections and Doing Life Productions, Jane Dubin, executive producer, and Director Brent Buell, collaborators on Antigua-born poet, author, painter, and playwright Mandingo’s “unFRAMED: A Man in Progress,” have been fostering relationships and communication by participating in community driven programming.

Dubin, Buell and Mandingo have stepped outside the theater to “continue the conversation we start with this powerful show,” says Dubin, a TONY award-winning pro-

Continued on next page



Iyaba Ibo Mandingo smiling at Nichols.

Photo by Andrea Reese

## D’Marsh Rouge

By Tangerine Clarke

Brooklyn fashion designer Glenroy D’Marsh unveiled a quintessential spring collection to celebrate 10 years of stunning looks on the runway.

His red, black and white methodology was the backdrop for - D’Marsh Rouge, a fashion show recently held at the Kristin Hanson Studio in New York City, to honor the designer’s successful collections of style and elegance.

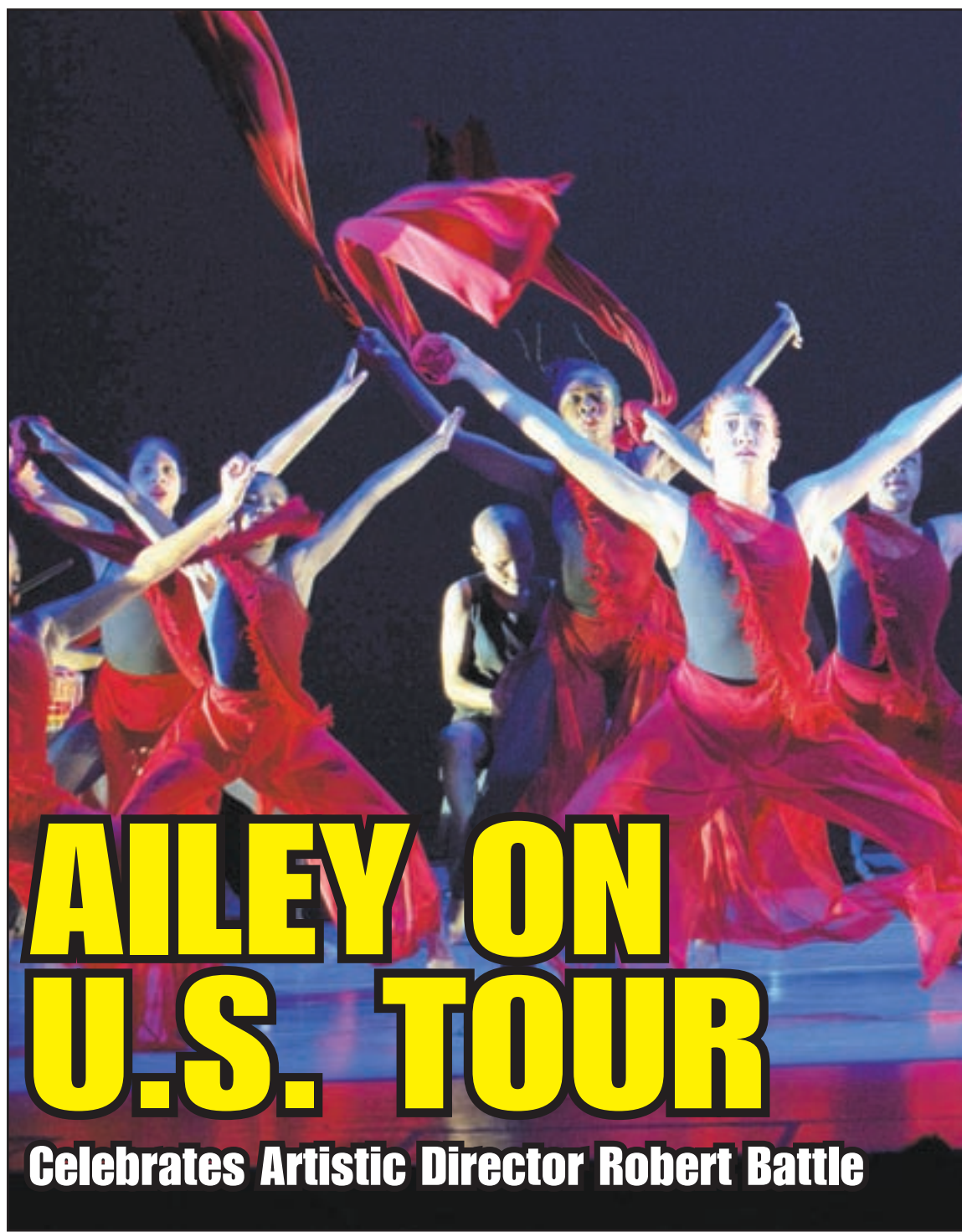
D’Marsh is like fine wine. He has matured with age, as was evident in this sophisticated presentation. His fabulous red-layered Carmeuse gown created with one black lace sleeve charmed the audience, while a black and red fitted floor-length sequin dress with a full back-out effect, sizzled under the lights.

Continued on next page



Fashion Designer Glenroy D’Marsh with his recently launched book – D’Marsh Rouge.

Photo by Tangerine Clarke



## AILEY ON U.S. TOUR

Celebrates Artistic Director Robert Battle

Ailey campers performing a number from Battle’s *The Hunt*.

By John Marrast

Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater continues its 27-City North American Tour with performances at Charleston, SC, May 25-27.

The tour celebrates Robert Battle’s inaugural year as artistic director. Recently, the group performed at Newark’s NJPAC, Charlotte, NC, Baltimore, MD and Harlem.

Ailey made a triumphant return to Harlem’s world-famous Apollo Theater on May 8, for a one-night-only event, which featured performances by artists

Continued on next page

Photo by Christopher Duggan

## TOP OF THE CHARTS

### TOP 10 SINGLES



- 1 We Are Young**  
Fun. Feat. Janelle Monáe
- 2 Somebody That I Used to Know**  
Gotye Feat. Kimbra
- 3 Wild Ones**  
Flo Rida Feat. Sia
- 4 Glad You Came**  
The Wanted
- 5 Starships**  
Nicki Minaj
- 6 Stronger**  
Kelly Clarkson
- 7 What Makes You Beautiful**  
One Direction
- 8 Part of Me**  
Katy Perry
- 9 Rumor Has It**  
Adele
- 10 Payphone**  
Maroon 5 Feat. Wiz Khalifa

### TOP 10 ALBUMS



- 1 Neck Of The Woods**  
Silver Sun Pickups
- 2 Blown Away**  
Carrie Underwood
- 3 21**  
Adele
- 4 Strange Clouds**  
B.o.B.
- 5 Up All Night**  
One Direction
- 6 Hello (EP)**  
Karmin
- 7 Strangeland**  
Keane
- 8 Tuskegee**  
Lionel Richie
- 9 Little Broken Hearts**  
Norah Jones
- 10 This Is How I Feel**  
Tank



AAADT in Renna Harris, "Home."

Photo by Christopher Duggan

## Alvin Ailey American tour

Continued from previous page of the world renowned Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, dynamic students of The Ailey School and young AileyCampers.

The benefit, honoring board member Leslie Maheras and her husband Thomas Maheras, raised a record breaking 1 million dollars for student scholarships to The Ailey School and

the Ailey organization's Arts In Education & Community Programs, including Ailey Camp Washington Heights.

Artistic Director Battle welcomed Honorary Chair Toni Braxton and 900 guests, including Anthony M. Carvette, Marc Strachan, Loraine Boyle, David E. Monn, Police Commissioner Ray Kelly, Susan Fales-Hill, Jonelle Procopé,

Terry Lundgren, Amsale Abera, Baltimore Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake, Bevy Smith, Boardwalk Empire's Justin Davis, Danny Meyer, Henry McGee and Joan & Sandy Weill.

Attendees danced the night away at the post performance party which featured music by DJ Ruckus and the shining lights of the Studio 54 mirror ball.

## 'unFramed' returns

Continued from previous page ducer.

The three have been seen connecting with many different communities – making African masks with an afterschool class in Newburgh, N.Y.; writing poetry with the women in residence and the high school girls at the YWCA White Plains; to presenting the play to more than 200 prisoners and staff inside Sing Sing Correctional Facility.

According to Mandingo, "unFRAMED has allowed me the opportunity to continue my work as a master teaching artist with an entirely new group of students, such as the women and girls of the YWCA in White Plains and the adult students of the Literacy Volunteers of Stamford and Greenwich. The added visibility has also afforded me wonderful performing opportunities too, like partici-

pating in the World Aids Day concert in New London, CT, or participating in the first ever Westchester Poetry Festival, or being a part of the Caribbean Art celebration at Lincoln Center this summer."

"I taught in Sing Sing and other New York maximum security prisons for 10 years and witnessed the transformative power of theater," reflects director Buell. "I am proud to be directing Iyaba Ibo Mandingo's unFRAMED because its powerful message does outside the walls what I'm so proud happened inside: it changes people."

unFRAMED plays the following schedule as part of the solo NOVA Arts Festival:

Monday, June 4 at 7:00 p.m.  
Saturday, June 9 at 7:00 p.m.  
Sunday, June 10 at 4:00 p.m.  
Wednesday, June 13 at 7:00

## D'Marsh Rouge

Continued from previous page

The designer channeled Alexander McQueen's theatrics and his love of pomp by having models gracefully descend a black staircase, before striking a pose at the bottom.

There is no doubt that anyone of these outfits could glam up a Hollywood red carpet. D'Marsh showed 'Oscars' worthiness.

From the flowing red gown trimmed with black at the waistline, to another red gown with a plunging neckline and oversized bow and jewel.

A bridal inspired white silk dress, topped with a striking fishnet headpiece added to the gorgeous pieces.

This is couture you can really wear, from the House of D'Marsh - a conglomerate of fine fashion, styling, runway coaching, and model management.

His book "D'Marsh Rouge" of fashion favorites, runway shows and fashion knowhow was launched with great fan fair.

The Manderville, Jamaica native attributes his success to keeping it real. He cuts from rich fabrics, and tailors with precision. His unrelenting passion to be on top in the fashion industry is seen in his work.



One of the creations by Glenroy D'Marsh.

Photo by Tangerine Clarke

The past to present showcase of both women and men lines have chronicled the designer's growth since he created his first outfit at age 13 in his homeland. "I love Valentino because he reminds me of myself," said D'Marsh.

Next up is a one-stop-shop that would encompass his House of D'Marsh fashions and a runway school models camp.

Log on to [www.houseofdmarch.com](http://www.houseofdmarch.com) for more information.



Lyaba Ibo Mandingo talks about the Statute of Liberty.

Photo by Andrea Reese

p.m.  
Saturday, June 16 at 9:00 p.m.

Tickets are available online at [www.terranovalcollective.org](http://www.terranovalcollective.org) or directly at <http://bit.ly/unFRMAEDtixatSOLONOVA>. Tickets may also be purchased in-person

at Box Office ½ hour in advance of the performances.

Running Time: 85 minutes, no intermission

Website: <http://www.terranovalcollective.org>

# Nostalgic walk down memory lane

**"Dark Shadows"**  
Very Good (2.5 stars)  
Rated PG-13 for sexual-  
ity, profanity, smok-  
ing, drug use and hor-  
ror violence.  
Running time: 113  
minutes  
Distributor: Warner  
Brothers

*By Kam Williams*

"Dark Shadows" was a daytime soap opera which originally aired at 4:00 p.m. on ABC-TV on week-day afternoons from 1966 to 1971. What made the program unique for the romance genre was its Gothic storyline revolving around Barnabas Collins, a 200-year-old vampire as earnest in his search for blood

as for a reunion with his long-lost love, Josette.

The television series built a big cult following among kids who never took the show's fright fare seriously, but merely enjoyed it as a mindless diversion designed to help them unwind after a long day at school. It is with that same lighthearted spirit in mind that master of the macabre Tim Burton apparently approached the screen version of "Dark Shadows."

The movie marks the Oscar-nominee's (for *Corpse Bride*) eighth collaboration with Johnny Depp, a string which has included *Edward Scissorhands*' (1990), *"Ed Wood"* (1994), *"Sleepy Hollow"* (1999), *"Charlie and the Chocolate Factory"* (2005), *"Corpse Bride"* (2005), *"Sweeney*



The cast of the Collins Estate.

Todd" (2007) and *"Alice in Wonderland"* (2010). And the two have reportedly already agreed to work together next on a remake of the Vincent Price classic, *"The Abominable Dr. Phebes"* (1971).

Set in 1972, *"Dark Shadows"* is a costume dramedy that offers a walk

down Memory Lane courtesy of such best-forgotten staples of the era as Lava lamps, macramé and plastic fruit. It also features bell-bottomed Flower Children driving a Volkswagen bus while listening to rock anthems like *"Nights in White Satin,"* and *"Season of the Witch."*

At the point of departure,

we meet Victoria Winters (Bella Heathcote) en route to Collingsport, Maine to apply for a position as governess at Collinwood Manor. Meanwhile, elsewhere in the quiet coastal village, construction workers at an excavation site unwittingly unleash an undead monster by cutting the bolts keeping Barnabas' (Depp) cast-iron casket sealed tight.

Both Barnabas and Victoria descend on the sprawling Collins estate, only to find the mansion in a dire state of disrepair due to the decline of the family's fortune. The place is presently presided over by imperious matriarch, Elizabeth (Michelle Pfeiffer) who lords it over an assemblage of oddballs: her spoiled-rotten daughter, Carolyn (Chloe

Moretz); her ne'er-do-well brother, Roger (Jonny Lee Miller); his troubled son, David (Gulliver McGrath); a live-in shrink (Helena Bonham Carter); and a couple of creepy servants (Jackie Earle Haley and Ray Shirley).

The ensuing mix of slapstick violence and tongue-in-cheek humor is often amusing, nostalgic and clever but never really rises to the level of laugh out loud funny. This Johnny Depp vehicle benefits most from his bloodthirsty character Barnabas' deadpan delivery, as when he mistakenly salivates over gobs of red goo undulating around a Lava lamp.

A faithfully-cheesy remake of a consciously-campy TV show.

## Independent & Foreign Films

**Cowgirls N' Angels** (PG for mature themes and mild epithets) Uplifting road flick about a rebellious tomboy (Bailee Madison) looking for her long-lost father who finds herself instead adopted by a team of female rodeo trick riders. Cast includes James Cromwell, Alicia Witt and Frankie Faison.

**The Intouchables** (Unrated) Inspirational buddy dramedy about the improbable bond which blossoms between a wealthy quadriplegic (Francois Cluzet) and the Senegalese street criminal (Omar Sy) he hires as his live-in caretaker. With Anne Le Ny, Audrey Fleurot and Clotilde Mollet. (In French with subtitles)

**Mighty Fine** (R for profanity and brief nudity) Diminished dreams dramedy, set in the Seventies, about a Brooklyn businessman's (Chazz Palminteri) bitter disappointment after moving his family (Andie MacDowell, Jodelle Ferland and Rainey Qualley) and factory to New Orleans. With Paul Ben-Victor, Richard Kohnke, Arthur J. Nascarella and Kent Jude Bernard.

**Moonrise Kingdom** (PG-13 for smoking and sexuality) Wes Anderson directed this romance drama, set in the Sixties on an island off the coast of New England,



### Kam's Kapsules

By Kam Williams

revolving around a sheriff's (Bruce Willis) search party for a pair of runaway young lovers (Kara Hayward and Jared Gilman). A-list ensemble cast includes Bill Murray, Frances McDormand, Edward Norton, Tilda Swinton and Harvey Keitel.

**OC87** (Unrated) Autobiographical documentary, written by, directed by and starring Bud Clayman, chronicling his lifelong battle with depression, Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder and Asperger's Syndrome.

**Oslo, August 31st** (Unrated) Day-in-the-life drama about a recovering drug addict (Anders Danielsen Lie) who checks out of residential rehab only to roam the rough streets of the city again after being discouraged by a disastrous job interview. With Hans Olav Brenner and Ingrid Olava. (In Norwegian with subtitles)

**Big Budget Films**  
**Chernobyl Diaries** (R for

violence, bloody images and pervasive profanity) Grisly horror flick about a half-dozen tourists who venture to the ghost town created by the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant meltdown where they end-up on the run from a race of radioactive mutants. Starring Ingrid Bolso Berdal, Dimitri Diatchenko, Olivia Dudley and Jesse McCarthy.

**Men in Black III** (PG-13 for violence and suggestive content) Will Smith and Tommy Lee Jones reprise their roles as Agents J and K in a sci-fi sequel which finds the former traveling through a time portal back to 1969 where he has just 24 hours to save both his partner and the planet from an alien assassin (Jemaine Clement) bent on world domination.

Support cast includes Josh Brolin, Tim Burton, Alice Eve, Emma Thompson and Bill Hader, with cameos by Lady Gaga and Justin Bieber.

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# SUN KULCHA

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

### SATURDAY, MAY 26

**Water Safety** The USA Swimming Foundation, The Mount Vernon Y and Dept. of Recreation is holding “Make a Splash: Mount Vernon” Street Fair and Pool Activities hosted by Olympic Silver Medalist Maritza Correia focusing on water safety education and available swim programs, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. at the Mount Vernon YMCA. For more information, visit [www.makeasplash.org](http://www.makeasplash.org).

### MONDAY, MAY 28

**Jazzy Mondays** Jazzy Mondays presents Bill Jacobs, master xylophonist with All Star Sextet, 7:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. at For My Sweet, 1103 Fulton St. at Claver Place, Brooklyn. RSVP jazzy-mondays@gmail.com or call (718) 857-1427, (917) 757-0170 or (718) 753-3302.

### TUESDAY, MAY 29

**Arts & Conversation** Emotional Justice Unplugged 2012 in partnership with WBAI 99.5 FM presents Black Love: A Re-Imagining, a conversation with Dream Hampton and Staceyann Chin and moderated by Esther Armah focusing on love, lessons, legacy, loss and learning, 7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. at The Dwyer Cultural Center, 258 St. Nicholas Ave., entrance on 123 St., between St. Nicholas Ave. and Frederick Douglass Blvd., Harlem. First come, first served. For information, call (212) 209-2815.

**Auditions** FSF Community Theatre Group, 41-60 Kissena Blvd, Flushing, Queens, is holding auditions for “Ragtime, The Musical”, Tuesdays, May 29 and June 5, 7:30 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. Call-backs, Wed., June 6. Performances: Nov. 2012. Need: Expansive, multi-cultural, intergenerational cast of actors, singers, dancers, stage crew. For information, call (516) 521-5500; email [fsfctg@yahoo.com](mailto:fsfctg@yahoo.com) or visit [www.spotlightonstage.com/fsfctg.htm](http://www.spotlightonstage.com/fsfctg.htm).

**Jazz** Dizzy’s Club Coca-Cola, Frederick P. Rose Hall, Broadway at 60 St., N.Y., presents Eric Reed UNMONK Quintet on piano, tenor saxophone, trumpet, bass and drums, thru Sun., June 3, 7:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. plus 11:30 p.m. on Fri. & Sat. For reservations and tickets, call (212) 258-9595 or visit [jalc.org](http://jalc.org).

**Elder Law Clinic** Community Board 8, Queens, is hosting an Elder Law Clinic focusing on wills and estate planning, healthcare proxy, revocable trusts, living wills, nursing home/assisted living and guardianship, 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. at Community Board 8Q, 297-15 Hillside Ave., Hollis. Refereshments will be served at 10:30 a.m. Please call (718) 264-7895 to reserve a spot. Seating is limited.

**MetroCard** Community Board 8 Office, 197-15 Hillside Ave., Hollis, is inviting all seniors and



### Food Stamp Outreach

Find out if you are eligible to receive Food Stamp benefits! A representative from the NYC Human Resources Administration will be available to assist you with eligibility pre-screening & to answer any questions every Tues. & Wed., 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. at Community Board 12, 4101 White Plains Road at 229 St., Bronx. For more information, call (718) 881-4455.



### Financial Coaching

We all have goals - paying off bills, saving for a home, improving our credit score, etc., etc. The Financial Capabilities & Coaching Program is a personal approach to help reach goals. For more information, call the Neighborhood Housing Services of East Flatbush at (718) 469-4679.

people with disabilities to come and apply for a reduced fare MetroCard, 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Refreshments will be served. Call (718) 264-7895 to RSVP.

### WEDNESDAY, MAY 30

**Mental Health** Kings County Hospital Center’s Behavioral Health Services, Division of Wellness, Recovery, and Community Integration is holding the 2nd Annual Conference celebrating Mental Health Awareness Month focusing on the theme “Hope is All Around Us,” 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. at Kings County Hospital Center, T-Building Auditorium, 2nd Fl., corner Clarkson and New York avenues, adjacent to Behavioral Health Center, Brooklyn. Breakfast will be served. Call Ms. Howard to confirm your attendance at (718) 245-2414.

### FRIDAY, JUNE 1

**Dancewave** Dancewave presents “Spring

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Stop. Breathe. Relax. Join Tai Chi Easy, a wellness practice combining Tai-chi, Qigong, meditation & Chinese healing, taught by Daniel Weicher, certified teacher in Integral Qigong & Tai Chi, every Sunday, 9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. at the Moore Street Market, 110 Moore St., entrance on Humbolt St., Brooklyn. Donations are appreciated. Call (914) 673-6016 for information.



Celebration 2012” featuring a showcase of modern dance performed by Dancewave’s pre-professional youth dance companies ranging in age from 10-19 years at the Kumble Theater, LIU Brooklyn Campus, One University Plaza, Brooklyn, Fri. and Saturday, June 1 and 2, 8:00 p.m. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit [www.dancewave.org/spring-celebration](http://www.dancewave.org/spring-celebration).

### SATURDAY, JUNE 2

**Prayer Brunch** United Peoples Inclusive is hosting successive Entrepreneurial Prayer Brunch, Sat., June 2 and Sunday, June 10, both at 11:00 a.m. at UPI Community Center, 1601 Nostrand Ave., between Snyder and Tilden, Brooklyn. Donation for Brunch. For information, contact Bro. Austin Tuitt at (718) 284-4453.

**Health Fair** Wilfred Vernon Clarke Memorial Fund Inc.’s Annual Community Health Fair featuring free health screenings for blood pressure, cholesterol, sugar, height and weight, HIV, nutri-

tion counseling, activities for kids and more, 12 noon - 5:00 p.m. at 167 Linden Blvd., corner of Rogers Ave., Brooklyn. For information, call (631) 673-0133.

**Netball** The Caribbean American Netball Association presents Netball Opening Day, 10:00 a.m. at Lincoln Terrace Park, between Eastern Parkway and East New York Ave. Come and be a part of a day full of fun, live entertainment and exciting netball! For more information, visit [cananetball.org](http://cananetball.org) or call (347) 921-2262.

**Women’s Conference** Inspiring Tree Consulting presents Elevated Ladies Unite Conference 2012 for aspiring women entrepreneurs and women entrepreneurs, 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. at 9 Centre St., Hempstead, N.Y. Attire: Business Casual. For information on tickets and registration, call (516) 532-2181 or email [1forbes8@inspiringtree.com](mailto:1forbes8@inspiringtree.com).

### ONGOING

**Journalism Intern** CNS (Cole Network System, Inc.) is looking for a college student journalism intern for a paid, temp position, for Aug. 27 - Oct. 5 and Dec. 7 to Dec. 10, 2012 to work with The CNS Newsletter: The Gazette. Flexible hours, Metro-Card provided, must have excellent writing and verbal skills and the ability to work alone. To apply, mail cover letter and resume to Norman Cole, CNS, 545 Eighth Ave., Ste. 401, New York, N.Y. 10018 (this is a mailing address only).

**Arts and Culture Fest** The Creative Side presents an arts and culture festival featuring artists, crafters, designers and vendors with fashion items, jewelry, paintings, sculpture, home decor, ceramics, photography and crafts, Saturdays thru Oct. 20, 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. at Parkside Plaza, intersection of Ocean and Parkside avenues, Brooklyn. For information, visit [www.artsculturefest.com](http://www.artsculturefest.com) or call (347) 224-4295.

**Computer Training** Mount Carmel Worship and Outreach Center is holding adult and children computer training programs, 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. or 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. on Saturdays. Call (917) 609-0909 for registration details.

**Home Improvements** Warmer weather is home repair weather. Do you need major repairs done but lack the finances? NHS of East Flatbush can assist you. For more information on home improvement programs, call (718) 469-4679.

**Foreclosure Services** The Flatbush Development Corporation, NHS of East Flatbush and the Center for N.Y. City Neighborhoods are offering free foreclosure intervention services and referral for legal assistance. To schedule an appointment, call (718) 469-4679.

Compiled by Ida Eisenstein

# Rights group challenges ban

Continued from page 10

and into the realm of legislating.

Additionally, it's quite curious that the state Parks Office, in its press release on April 9, more than implied that this was a done deal -- even reported by the media as "implemented." One would think that such an act -- legitimate or not -- would be at least subject to the rule making process pursuant to the provisions of the State Administrative Procedure Act. Yet no rule proposal notice was filed with the Division of Administrative Rules (DAR) for publication in the State Register (pg. 14) until April 18. According to the notice, public comment is open until 45 days after publication of the notice.

"How can state Parks Commissioner Rose Harvey release a statement that boasts about the initiation of a policy when no rule had even yet been pro-

posed? And now the public is supposedly allowed to weigh in until the beginning of June when the policy is supposedly effective by the end of April?" asks Silk.

According to the DAR's manual, "The rule making process is constructed around the fundamental belief that the people of this state have a right to participate in the development of its laws."

"Aside from the primary legal constitutional question, this course of events furthermore makes a mockery of public participation. Parks have demonstrated that this is already a done deal, public comment period or not.

"Such behavior certainly gives rise to the suspicion that something absolutely inappropriate is going on... or that when it comes to 'those damn smokers,' otherwise cherished demo-

cratic constructs need not apply and no one will care," Silk says.

Lastly, and most fundamentally, if these conditions are allowed to persist among our state agencies we might as well render the election of lawmakers, the legislature and its process obsolete. You don't have to be a proponent of anything to do with smoking or tobacco in order to agree it's contemptible when the bedrock of our system is being tossed away.

In this particular case, C.L.A.S.H. doesn't intend to stand idly by.

*NYC Citizens Lobbying Against Smoker Harassment (C.L.A.S.H.) is a grassroots organization established in 2000 dedicated to advancing and protecting the interests of adults who choose to smoke cigarettes or enjoy other forms of tobacco.*

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*'Windies bowlers must be wicket-takers. They are playing at the highest level and the tactics about exploiting the weaknesses of batsmen should be in their game plan.'*

- Eyes on Cricket, Page 29

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## Runners prep for the big NYC Marathon

By Robert Elkin

This is the time of the year when long distance runners are training hard and stepping up their mileage for the upcoming New York City Marathon this November. They are not only running in the streets and in various communities and parks, but they are also entering into numerous races on weekends.

Take for example, 37-year-old Lyle Kirlew of Uniondale. Kirlew entered into the recent Brooklyn Half Marathon which started by the Brooklyn Museum outside of Prospect Park and ran to Coney Island's boardwalk with most of the action along Ocean Parkway.

Kirlew covered the 13.1 mile course in 1:20.30 for 140th place overall in a field of almost 17,000 entrants.

"The course was nice and flat near the end but challenging at the beginning," Kirlew said.

A native of Jamaica, West Indies, where he resided for his first 11 years, Kirlew about four years ago picked up the sport of running and said: "I want to run a marathon."

He is getting ready for the upcoming

Continued on next page

## Uncertainty about Gayle's future

By Azad Ali

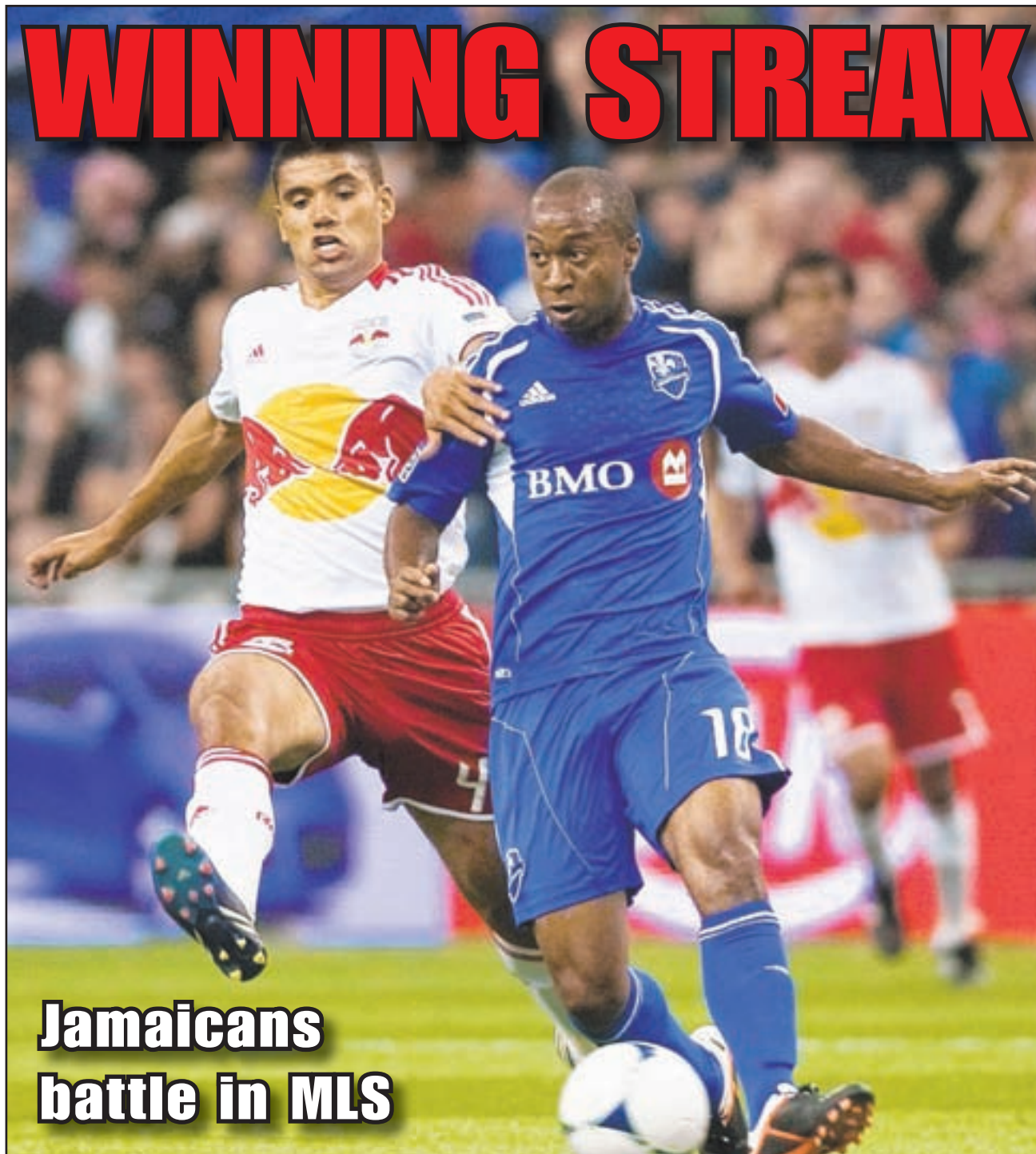
More doubts have surfaced that could prevent Jamaican opening batsman Chris Gayle from representing the West Indies on their tour of England.

The year-long impasse between Gayle and the West Indies Cricket Board (WICB) seemed to be over when they signed an agreement in March that would pave the way for Gayle to be considered for selection to the regional team.

But reports have surfaced suggesting that some uncertainty over his participation on that tour has arisen, as Gayle reportedly wrote to the WICB seeking clarification on whether he would be selected for the limited overs series in England.

Before the resolution, Gayle had committed

Continued on next page



## Jamaicans battle in MLS

**Montreal Impact's Collen Warner (18) is held by New York Red Bulls' Victor Palsson (44) during the first half of an MLS soccer game in Montreal, Saturday, May 19, 2012.**

AP Photo/The Canadian Press, Graham Hughes

By Patrick Horne

Dane Richards got the better of his fellow Jamaican when he scored the winner against goalkeeper Donovan Ricketts to help the New York Red Bulls (8-3-1, 25 pts.) beat expansion team and

hosts Montreal Impact, 2-1, Saturday night at Olympic Stadium.

Richards and Ricketts soon would be suiting up side by side when Jamaica takes on Guatemala on Friday, June 8 in the opening game of the semi-

final round of CONCACAF World Cup qualifying, but last Saturday night, it was a different story; Richards was on a mission to help the Red Bulls get their fifth straight win to stay atop the

Continued on next page

# Winning streak!

Continued from previous page

Eastern Conference standings, while Ricketts was attempting to preserve a shutout and help Montreal (3-6-3,12 pts.) win its fourth game in its last six.

“I was just in the box, lurking around, and the ball popped out to me and I just knocked it home,” Richards said. “I know my countryman, Donovan Ricketts, he’s unhappy with me right now but I had to do it.”

What was probably more frustrating for Ricketts was the fact that he inadvertently gave Richards the assist on the game-winner; Richards’ goal came in the 67th minute when Ricketts parried a Roy Miller cross into the path of Richards, who wasted no time in registering the goal. The moment surely will be a talking point when the pair joins forces in June to help Jamaica in its World Cup qualifying effort.

The New York Red Bulls, undermanned again with injuries to former French international Thierry Henry, Mexican international Rafael Marquez and defenders Stephen Keel and Jon Gunnar Solli, rallied from a 1-0 deficit to tie the score at 1-1 in the 37th minute from a Kenny Cooper penalty kick; Montreal defender Tyson Wahl committed a handball infringement on a Richards cross and it allowed Cooper his team-leading 10th goal.

Montreal got off to a quick start when Bernardo Corradi scored from the penalty spot in the 22nd minute to give Montreal the lead. Richards, always the hard-working and speedy midfielder, was the difference in the game with the assist and the winner; the contest surely is one

that Richards and Ricketts will reminisce about well into their retirement years.

New York has done well to rack up five consecutive wins with a very inexperienced squad, particularly on defense. During the streak, the first for the Red Bulls in nine years, New York climbed atop the Eastern Conference, discovered defenders Connor Lade, Brandon Barklage and Tyler Ruthven, while first-year player and European import Markus Holgersson, who got off to a slow start in MLS, seemed to have grown into his defensive role. The youth movement also has seen rookie goalkeeper Ryan Meara come into his own very quickly and afforded much playing time to midfielder Mehdi Ballouchy, who missed Saturday’s game due to immigration matters.

The trade for national team defender Heath Pearce, recently acquired from Chivas USA, for forward Juan Agudelo, immediately added experience to the Red Bulls backline. Pearce started and played all game at central defense in place of Keel. The youngsters made use of the opportunities that came their way and so far has met the challenge. One example of the constructive play of the young team was its ability to preserve the win despite playing with only 10 players for the last 30 minutes of the game after midfielder Victor Paulsson was ejected with his second yellow card.

Much credit for New York’s good play of late must also go to defensive midfielder Dax McCarty, who has lead by example with consistently solid, dependable play and Joel Lindpere, who



**Montreal Impact’s Sanna Nyassi (11) challenges New York Red Bulls’ Roy Miller (7) during first-half MLS soccer game action in Montreal, Saturday, May 19, 2012.**

AP Photo/The Canadian Press, Graham Hughes

has picked up the scoring slack in the absence of Henry.

## MLS

In other MLS games last weekend, Dwayne Di Rosario led Dc United with two goals in a 3-1 defeat of the player’s former team, Toronto FC, which now has lost a league record nine straight games. DC is now in second place in the Eastern Conference. There were a many drawn games: Vancouver Whitecaps and Seattle Sounders, New England Revolution and Houston Dynamo and Colorado Rapids and Sporting Kansas City played to 2-2 draws; FC Dallas and Philadelphia Union and San Jose Earthquakes and Columbus Crew played to 1-1 draws in their games.

The Portland Timbers beat the Chicago Fire, 2-1, and Chivas USA knocked off defending MLS

champion Los Angeles Galaxy, 1-0. The Galaxy is at the bottom of the nine-team Western Conference, led by Real Salt Lake in the top spot and surprising San Jose in second, while Seattle occupies third place.

## Champions League

England’s Chelsea FC defeated Bayern Munich of Germany, 4-3, on penalty kicks on Saturday to win its first European Champions League club championship for the first time since the club was formed in 1902.

Chelsea’s Didier Drogba, the man-of-the-match, scored in the 90th minute to equalize the game at 1-1 in regulation and later scored the winning penalty to win the title. Tomas Muller had given Bayern Munich the 1-0 lead late in the second half. The game was played at the home stadium of the German club.

# Big race

Continued from previous page

race training both in Brooklyn and Long Island. His personal best times include 1:20.13 for a half marathon and 3:09.11 for a full marathon, which is 26.2 miles. Now his goal is to get under three hours in the New York City Marathon.

Kirlew and the rest of the field enjoyed last week’s race when the weather was just sunny and delightful, a tremendous morning for a half marathon. Everybody enjoyed the weather as athletes came from all over the met area, and some from all over the United States.

Tesfaye Assefa Dube was one runner who took the course to his liking. His appearance in the race raised the level of competition as the first two place finishers were really the class of the field.

Dube was clocked in a fast 1:03.18 to Mengsti Tabor Nebesi’s finish of 1:30.20. Eric Chirchir of Jackson Heights wound up third in 1:04.19.

Originally from Ethiopia, now living in The Bronx, Dube went to the front of the pack right after the start. He is accustomed to the course for he ran in the same event a number of times prior to the recent one.

“I went out for the first two miles a little aggressive and up front,” said eventual fourth place

finisher Nick Arciniaga, who was clocked in 1:05.29. “(Duba and Nebesi) caught up and went by me around the three mile mark. I tried to hang on to them, but they took off.”

Jason Hartman of Boulder with a 1:06.21 clocking rounded out the top five finishers..

On the distaff side, Tinbit Weldegebriel of Manhattan was clocked in 1:15.22 for first place among the females and 49th overall and just edged Hirut Beyene also of Manhattan. The latter was timed in 1:15.27 for 50th position.

The marathon even drew many females, including several who were returning to the race after having taken time off for various reasons. The New York Road

Runners Club, the organization that conducts the New York City Marathon and numerous other races, including half marathons, and other events did a tremendous job in once again staging the Brooklyn Half Marathon; the course was slightly modified from last year.

“We think it was a fantastic course, because we didn’t loop the runners inside Prospect Park,” said a spokesman from the host club.

“We thought that it was a great experience for the runners. The community along Ocean Parkway (and Coney Island) has been great because we left both service roads left open. It worked very well for the community as well as for the participants.”

# Uncertainty about Gayle’s future

Continued from previous page

ted to playing the Friends Life T20 competition in England with Somerset. Gayle will also miss the Test series due to commitment with the Indian Premier League (IPL) franchise Royal Challengers Bangalore until May 27.

As reported by the Barbados Nation, Gayle has asked the WICB to confirm whether he will be selected for the tour, which will determine whether or not he can fulfill his commitments to Somerset.

West Indies Players Association (WIPA) in a press release said there are elements in the WICB who do not want Gayle to return to the regional team.

WIPA was also “disturbed and disappointed at this transparent and continuous attempt to tarnish Mr. Gayle’s good name and public image.”

The release stated that the “true extent” of the discussions between Gayle and the Board had not been made public.

# West Indies Women defeat Sri Lanka

By Azad Ali

The West Indies Women team triumphed in the recent Sri Lanka series in the Caribbean with the regional side winning the three-match ODI 2-1 and the five-match Twenty20 by 3-1 with the final match at the Queen’s Park Oval, Port of Spain rained out.

West Indies spinner, Anisa Mohammed, is confident for the upcoming ICC Two World Cups in Sri Lanka in September.

She described the recently concluded Sri Lanka series as highly competitive outing, saying they are top quality opposition.

Mohammed believes that they helped bolster the West Indies with some exciting One-Day and Twenty20 matches.

Mohammed noted that with a tour of England to take place before the Twenty20 World Cup, things are looking very bright for the Windies.

# Gabriel's unique, professional approach

Trinidad and Tobago right-arm fast bowler Shannon Gabriel performed reasonably well on debut, picking up three wickets for 60 runs against England in the first Test match at Lords.

Full credit to Gabriel who played his first Test match with confidence. He looked a fully-matured, top-class player in the manner in which he bowled. He did so with discipline, line, good direction, appreciably pace and used the conditions to his advantage.

Gabriel seemed to be focus on making batsmen fall prey into mistakes. He challenged the batsmen into going after his bowling, which created a competitive situation. This is what is required for Test cricket.

## Four-Prong Pace Attack Overdue!

West Indies selectors have wasted too much



## Eyes on Cricket

By George H. Whyte

time on looking around for bowlers to represent the West Indies. For too long, useful bowlers have been ignored by the West Indies selectors and these bowlers are fit and ready. Numerous fast bowlers are hanging around and are not being utilized.

The West Indies now have three pacers who can play in the same Test match. Four pacers may be necessary under certain conditions. The pacers must be up to the task of picking up wickets and not just idling.

One of the problems surrounding the selection process is that some players are selected to perform certain duties and they do not adhere to

the requirements. This may include the West Indies captain as well, for he is not doing his share of the bowling.

Captain Darren Sammy must step up and do his share of the bowling and stop putting unnecessary pressure on the other three bowlers. All four specialist bowlers must contribute to the team in inflicting pressure on the opposing team.

## Sunil Narine's Inclusion Is Vital

The inclusion of Sunil Narine as a spin bowler in the West Indies team is of paramount importance. Narine can only take care of the spinning department of the team but it



West Indies Shannon Gabriel, left, celebrates after claiming the wicket of England's Matt Prior during the 3rd day of the first Test match at Lord's cricket ground, London, Saturday May 19, 2012.  
AP Photo/Tom Hevezi

## Bowlers Must Be Wicket Takers

is important to have a minimum of three pacers in the Test squad in order to put any pressure on the opposing team.

Two fast bowlers with spinners Narine and Darren Sammy are insufficient to apply the necessary bowling pressure.

Windies bowlers must be wicket takers. They are playing at the highest level and the tactics about exploiting the weakness of batsmen should be in their game plan.

Bowling at 88-90 MPH is not the only requirement to take wickets. Bowlers must study the skills and tactics of the opposing batsmen. A strategic plan must be implemented in getting wickets and bowlers must work harder.

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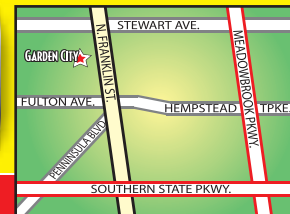
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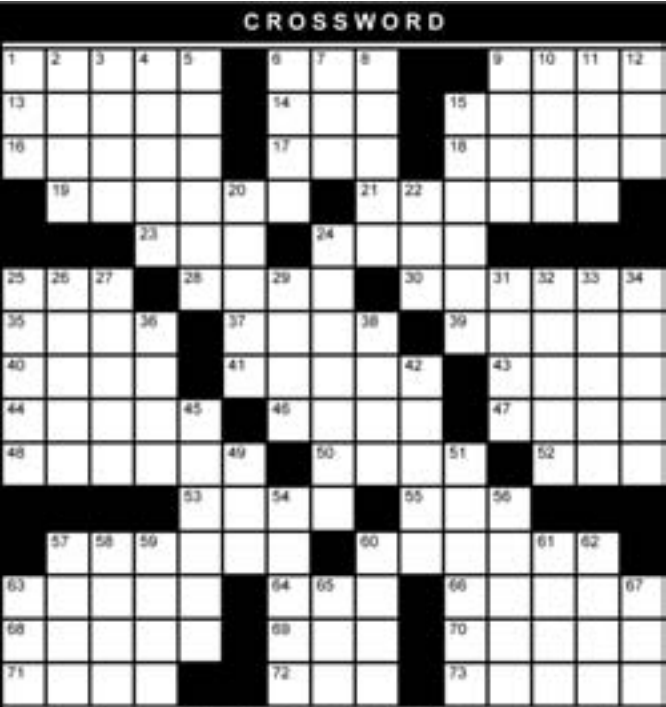
- 1. Spooky spot?
- 6. Marlboro debris
- 9. Leak gradually
- 13. "The Mary Tyler Moore Show" spin-off
- 14. NHL's rival, 1972-1979
- 15. "Is Your Mama a \_\_\_\_\_?"
- 16. It narrows toward point
- 17. Hula garland
- 18. Desert mirage?
- 19. \*Queen's accessory, pl.
- 21. \*Corsage
- 23. Fey's Lemon
- 24. It can be found at a brewery
- 25. Breckenridge pastime
- 28. \_\_\_\_\_a-sketch
- 30. With a dent
- 35. \*Ringwald was pretty in it
- 37. Greek god of love
- 39. Marilyn's real name
- 40. It's hard to control
- 41. Joshua's biblical associate
- 43. Ground beef that's 85% \_\_\_\_\_
- 44. Lawn enemy, pl.
- 46. Church sanctuary
- 47. Related to the ear
- 48. 10 are in decathlon
- 50. Reduced Instruction Set Computer
- 52. Not lager

- 53. Just a little
- 55. Fashion designer Anna \_\_\_\_\_
- 57. Ribbed woven fabric
- 60. Type of roof window
- 63. Sometimes found over "n" in Spanish
- 64. Barkeeper on "The Simpsons"
- 66. Eagle's claw
- 68. Plural of #40 Across
- 69. J.M. Barrie's Peter
- 70. Eskimo hut
- 71. Holiday name that stems from a Greek translation
- 72. "Old college \_\_\_\_\_"
- 73. All over clothes

DOWN

- 1. As opposed to science?
- 2. Not this
- 3. Large African antelope
- 4. Something one hopes to attain
- 5. \*Horror classic
- 6. They're used for making holes
- 7. \*'\_\_\_\_\_' is to 'he' as Prom 'Queen' is to 'King'
- 8. Israeli port
- 9. Shredded cabbage
- 10. "At \_\_\_\_\_, soldier"
- 11. Arabian chieftain
- 12. "Swan Lake" step
- 15. Did you \_\_\_\_\_ there?

- 20. Overthrown by Cortes in 16th century
- 22. Acid
- 24. "Love in the Time of \_\_\_\_\_"
- 25. Sea foam
- 26. Famous ballet of St. Petersburg, Russia
- 27. Fireplace
- 29. SpongeBob's boss
- 31. \_\_\_\_\_ contendere
- 32. Hollywood legend Garbo
- 33. Electronic communication
- 34. \*A Prom's main event
- 36. A \_\_\_\_\_ eye
- 38. Rig
- 42. Lowest male singing voice
- 45. \*Ledger invited \_\_\_\_\_ to the Prom in "10 Things I Hate About You"
- 49. Sun in Mexico
- 51. \*"Prom Night" scream queen
- 54. What sirens do
- 56. Visual or picture
- 57. Grisham's "The \_\_\_\_\_"
- 58. Aquarium scum
- 59. 15th of March
- 60. Refuse
- 61. "\_\_\_\_\_ Enchanted"
- 62. Living space
- 63. \*His threads
- 65. Argonaut's propeller
- 67. As opposed to yeses





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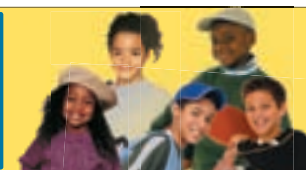


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# Foster families



The Administration for Children's Services honored National Foster Care Month by launching a Foster Parent of the Year Photo Recognition Program to recognize a group of outstanding New York City foster families.

Twenty-two exemplary foster parents, nominated by one of the Administration's foster care agencies, were chosen for demonstrating extraordinary character, integrity, support, and leadership skills in working with their agency, community, and other foster parents. They have also displayed a commitment to those children that are typically hard to place — pregnant and parenting mothers, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning youth, and children with special needs.

"National Foster Care Month is a wonderful time to celebrate the critical and selfless work of New York City's foster families," said the Administration for Children's Services Commissioner Ronald E. Richter. "We are proud to recognize such an exceptional group of foster par-

ents. These foster parents set an example for all New Yorkers by opening their homes and their hearts so that young people can realize their full potential."

The dedicated group of nominees were treated to a professional photo shoot, complete with make-up and wardrobe styling. As part of the month-long celebration, each foster family will be featured on the agency's website to showcase the family's photo shoot and personal success stories.

"May is also an important time for us to recruit new foster and adoptive parents for the many New York City children who need safe and loving homes," said Commissioner Richter. "I encourage all New Yorkers to consider helping a child in need by becoming a foster parent. Fostering a child or youth can provide extraordinary satisfaction."

*Those interested in becoming a foster or adoptive parent should call the parent recruitment hotline, (212) 676-WISH to obtain an informational packet. An orientation can be scheduled during the call or upon receipt of the packet.*

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## BECOME A THERAPEUTIC FOSTER PARENT

Help A Child or Teenager In Our Community



Please Contact: 888-819-4647 x2127  
**Corrine Bethune**  
1668 Pitkin Avenue, Bklyn, NY 11212  
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To advertise your program in the National Foster Care Month Section  
Call (718) 260-2582

**"I encourage all New Yorkers to consider helping a child in need by becoming a foster parent"**

Commissioner  
Ronald E. Richter



## TODAYS FOSTERCARE

Your love will make all the difference in the world

**Make a difference  
in a child's life  
Become a foster parent  
TODAY**

### Brooklyn Residents:

Seeking Foster Parents throughout the Brooklyn community

Call the Home Finding Unit at Community Counseling & Mediation TODAY to find out how YOU can become a foster parent: **Call 718-875-7751 or visit CCMNYC.ORG** to prequalify. The Children of Brooklyn need you.



# Caribbean community classifieds

To Advertise Call: 718-260-2555

## Display & Online Sales Account Executive (Downtown Brooklyn or Bayside, Queens)

The Community Newspaper Group (CNG) is the largest network of neighborhood newspapers in New York City. With multiple community newspapers plus Caribbean Life, the nation's largest Caribbean-American newspaper, CNG distributes hundreds of thousands of newspapers each week in Brooklyn, Queens, the Bronx and Manhattan. These long-established community-specific papers deliver geographically targeted news, lifestyle, local sports and entertainment information. In addition, CNG's monthly Family Publications and annual Wedding, Prom, Bar Mitzvah and Sweet Sixteen magazines reach readers during their family formative years and important life events. For advertisers, CNG offers an opportunity for both market-wide and neighborhood targeted advertising, allowing them to get their message into the areas they want to reach.

We are seeking motivated display & online advertising sales representatives. The position involves selling advertising, working closely with clients to achieve and exceed customers' expectations, maintaining and developing a client base and seeking new business opportunities via face-to-face sales calls within the territory.

### Requirements & Qualifications

- Previous sales experience preferred
- Good verbal and communication skills
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Position pays salary, plus commission, 401K, medical, expenses & paid vacation.

Please send your resume and cover letter when applying for this position to: salesjobs@cnglocal.com. NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE.

CNG is an EOE.



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## INTERNATIONAL HOUSEKEEPERS

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DCA License #1109974

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**718-523-7755**

146-10 Hillside Ave, 2nd floor, Jamaica

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## ► EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

## ► EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

ABLE HEALTH CARE

## HOME HEALTH AIDES!

**HIGHER PAY**  
**+ NO DUES!**

**Immediate Work for**  
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**All Shifts/Locations + Live-ins!**

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ADMINISTRATIVE ASST.

PT Strong computer & organizational skills, proficient in word & excel Duties: basis bookkeeping, managing phone calls and general office duties.

Office located in Jamaica, Queens

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Pregnant, scared, need help? Licensed agency offers free confidential counseling, financial assistance, guidance, opened/closed adoption, choice of loving, pre-approved families. Call Joy: 866-922-3578. [www.ForeverFamilies-ThroughAdoption.org](http://www.ForeverFamilies-ThroughAdoption.org).



## ► MEDICAL HELP WANTED

**New York Parenting**  
MEDIA  
Where Every Family Matters  
[www.NYParenting.com](http://www.NYParenting.com)

## SALES REPRESENTATIVE FULL TIME

New York Parenting Media is NY's source on parenting, consisting of publications in Brooklyn, Queens, Bronx, Long Island, Manhattan, and Staten Island. Our passion is to help make parenting easier, family life more fun, and to provide accurate and current information on local events, news, relevant articles, and resources in a family friendly format. We strive to exceed the expectations of inquisitive moms and dads, and of our valued clients, vendors, colleagues, and employees.

Currently, New York Parenting Media is seeking a highly motivated full-time Sales Representative to sell advertising in our magazines and digital properties.

### Requirements:

- Prior sales exp. (print & digital ad sales a plus)
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills
- The ability to develop new business and grow existing business
- Car and valid driver's license required

Our office is located in downtown Brooklyn, but knowledge of the entire city is essential. Join our dynamic team and become a part of our family. Please submit your resume to [snoable@cnglocal.com](mailto:snoable@cnglocal.com).

CNG is an EOE.

## ► SALES HELP WANTED

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All employment advertised herein is subject to section 296 of the human rights law, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination because of race, color, creed, national origin, disability, marital status, sex, age, sexual orientation, or arrest conviction record, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination. Title 29, U.S. Code, Chap 630, excludes the Federal Gov't from the age discrimination provisions. This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for employment which is in violation of the law. Our readers are informed that employment offerings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.

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## ► EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

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HHA's



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## ► MEDICAL HELP WANTED

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## ► MEDICAL HELP WANTED

## ► MEDICAL HELP WANTED

## ► HELP WANTED

## ► HELP WANTED

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Toll numbers may be  
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Classified ads are intended  
to help people by facilitat-  
ing communication and  
advertising available ser-  
vices; however, some of  
the hotlines & service num-  
bers in classifieds actually  
hurt the people who rely on  
them by cheating them of  
their hard-earned dollars.  
"Most newspapers print a  
disclaimer in their classified  
ad section to warn readers  
about numbers that are a  
direct line to trouble. Any  
number starting with 900,  
540, 595 or 871 charges a  
fee beyond a local call. In  
some instances, ads initial-  
ly advertise calls to a local  
number, but then direct  
callers to a second number  
starting with one of the  
paid exchanges. "Consum-  
ers must also question  
the legitimacy of vague  
classifieds because they  
too could be a scam. Be-  
fore responding to an ad,  
consumers should verify  
the source of all informa-  
tion & always be wary  
about sending money or  
signing a contract with an  
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## Career Change

BY TREVOR KRONK

Are you facing that career change decision point? Do you wish you were?

Career change is a natural life progression. Most studies show that the average job seeker will change careers several times over the course of his lifetime.

Use this plan to ensure that you will be on a path toward success.

- Assess likes and dislikes

Many people change careers because they dislike their job, boss, company, and so forth. Identifying the dislikes is often the easier part of this step.

You will not know what direction to go in unless you examine your likes. What do you really like doing when you are working, when you are at home, and in your spare time? What excites you and energizes you? What is your passion?

- Research new careers

Once you have discovered your passion, spend some time researching the types of careers that center on your passions. Do not worry if you are feeling a bit unsure or insecure; it is a natural part of the career-change process.

- Transferable skills

There are many skills that are transferable and applicable to what you want to do in your new career. You may be surprised to see that you already have a solid amount of experience.

- Training and education

If the skill you need to learn is one you could use in your current job, see if your employer would pick up the tab. Take a course or two to ensure you really like the subject matter.

If you are going for a new degree or certification, make sure you check the accreditation of the school. Get some information about placement successes.

- Networking

One of the real keys to successfully changing careers will be your networking ability. People in your network may be able to give you job leads, offer you advice and information, and introduce you to others.

You can also broaden your network through joining professional organizations in your new field and contacting alumni from your college.

Set positive goals for yourself, but expect setbacks and change. Do not let these things get you down. You might also consider a lateral move that could serve as a springboard for a bigger career change.

Trevor Kronk is the author of articles on topics ranging from credit and finance to career counseling. See more at <http://career.davidsresourcesite.com>.

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