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Golding Faces Tivoli in Harlem

Former Jamaica P.M., on the lecture circuit, takes questions from compatriots at Schomburg Center. See Page 22.

Photo by Leonard Mc Kenzie

Judge gives license to marry at 15

By Bert Wilkinson

Local women's organizations Wednesday expressed shock and horror at a controversial recent high court ruling by which a 15-year-old girl who is the victim of statutory rape is to be allowed to marry the 38-year-old man who impregnated her.

In a landmark ruling that has forced non-government organi-

zations to begin a mass research of the marriage act and related laws to see if the ruling so confirms, Chief Justice Ian Chang ruled that he was allowing the couple to marry on humanitarian grounds after the girl became impregnated and after the teen's parents had petitioned the court to allow the union to proceed because they had given up trying

to persuade her to return home.

The ruling was made on September 24 but only came to light this week after one of the attorneys involved in the case passed the documents to a local newspaper which broke the story to the angst of rights organizations. The couple tied the knot on October 11th after being granted a

Continued on Page 4

MIDTERM WIN FOR THE PNM

Opposition Major Winner in Trinidad & Tobago Poll

By Bert Wilkinson

Early next month, Trinidad's elections commission will be holding a record fourth major election in a single year but yet another consecutive defeat for the governing People's Partnership government could likely signal to the country that the days of the coalition government could well be numbered when general elections roll around in mid 2015.

On Monday, voters across Trinidad went to the polls in long delayed municipal elections and although only 26 percent of those eligible voted, victory went to the main opposition People's National Movement (PNM) of Opposition Leader Keith Rowley by a wide margin.

For Persad-Bissessar, the win by the opposition represented the

third straight heavy loss of an election in which her multiparty coalition participated in this year, starting with those in sister isle Tobago, another recently in the key PP traditional stronghold of Chaguanas that went to the recently formed Independent Labor Party (ILP) of her former National Security Minister Austin Jack Warner and the latest on Monday in which the PNM won eight of the 14 municipal corporations.

The prime minister's party, the United National Congress (UNC) easily the largest coalition member, had held most of the corporations in the past but was simply vanquished by the results and the fact that many of the UNC and PP's loyal supporters stayed away from polling stations by the thousands.

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CARIBBEAN ROUNDUP

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THE NEWS FROM BACK HOME

Grenada

The government of Grenada has reported significant progress in its discussions with the International Monetary Fund (IMF), which concluded a mission to the island on Sept. 13.

The IMF has agreed to support Grenada in its "home grown program" of fiscal adjustment and structural reforms. At this stage, the discussions have not yet been completed.

It is expected that discussions will conclude in October when Prime Minister Dr. Keith Mitchell attends the annual IMF/World Bank meetings in Washington DC. After reaching agreement, the government will issue a formal letter of intent to the IMF and the island's program will be considered by the IMF's executive board.

In addition to government, the IMF team met with stakeholders, including the Grenada Industrial Development Corporation (GIDC), churches, private sector, trade unions and non-governmental organizations.



Guyana

The Caribbean Community (CARICOM) says it has entered into an agreement with Spain for a citizen security project that will focus on youth and gender issues, as well as youth entrepreneurship.

The Guyana-based CARICOM Secretariat said the CARICOM-Spain Citizen Security Project was signed recently during discussions between representatives of the CARICOM Secretariat and the Spanish Agency for International Cooperation for Development (AECID), to formalize approvals for new regional interventions for the 2013-2014 period.

It said the interventions under the project focus on support for the prevention and reduction of youth on youth violence in schools and communities in five Caricom countries and support for the implementation of youth entrepreneurship training through the Creative for Employment and Business Opportunity (CEBO) Programme in ten Caricom countries.



Maintaining our coconut advantage

The vital coconut industry in the Caribbean is reeling under the negative effects of climate change and farmers are fearing the worst. See Page 6.

Photo by IPS/Desmond Brown:

The Caricom Secretariat said that the discussions with the Spanish officials were a follow up to the second meeting of the Joint Technical Committee to the Joint Fund held in Trinidad on September 11.

Haiti

A prominent Haitian businessman and three Customs officials had been arrested on corruption charges, bringing to nearly 100, the number of people either charged or jailed on corruption charges over the past few months.

Prosecutor Francisco Rene said businessman Philippe Victor Chatelin was arrested recently in connection with a corruption and contraband case that involved several Customs officials including a senior official, who had been arrested on Monday. The other two Custom officials were detained recently.

"We have arrested one important businessman and three Customs functionaries and we are looking for others involved with contraband and corruption. We are determined to fight corruption



and I want to tell those who are involved with corruption to give it up, because they will be arrested," said Rene.

At least 90 people, including government officials have already been detained or indicted for corruption over the past year, and several cases have been submitted to the prosecutor's office or are being examined by anti-corruption officials.

Director General of the Anti-Corruption Unit, Antoine Atouriste, said many people now fear being arrested on corruption charges as had been the case in the past.

Jamaica

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has cleared the way for Jamaica to receive a \$30 million disbursement after the first performance review of a loan program designed to aid its struggling economy.

The move by the IMF executive board came recently, some five months after the Washington-based agency approved an "extended fund facility" that could see



heavily indebted Jamaica receiving \$958 million in a four-year loan package.

A previous deal with the IMF forged in 2010 fizzled out after the Caribbean island did not meet performance targets.

Jamaica's Finance Ministry says the IMF board's approval opens up supplemental support from other development partners such as the second review is expected to go to the IMF board for approval by the end of December.

St. Kitts

The St. Kitts based Eastern Caribbean Central Bank (ECCB) marked its 30th anniversary recently with Governor Sir Dwight Vener indicating that the stability of the Eastern Caribbean dollar as the major achievement of the financial institution over the years. The EC dollar has been pegged to the US dollar since 1975 at a rate of EC\$2.70.

"I think we have maintained the stability of the regional arrangement. You can see it in the stability of the currency which is now



37 years and also in our ability to maintain the financial stability in the region, which is in our vision statement", Sir Dwight said.

He said that as the global crisis continues to affect the economic performance of the Eastern Caribbean Currency Union (ECCU), the ECCB, in collaboration with its member governments and with the support of regional and international agencies, has been implementing measures to strengthen the ECCU financial system.

Trinidad

The Council on Hemispheric Affairs (COHA) based in Washington, USA claim gangs are the "new law" in urban Trinidad and Tobago.

In a new report, the COHA said the Sept. 11 ruthless beheading of a man reported by the police as a warning from gang members "exemplified a recent increase in the already significant brutality of gang activity in Port of Spain.

"There is now a trend towards this so-called 'South American method of warfare,' in which beheadings and other extreme forms of violence are the norm in dealing with rival gangs and in which only 14.3 percent of Trinidad and Tobago's youth is confident in its satisfaction with the police force," it said.

Additionally, COHA noted that mid-August saw an incident in which six people were killed in a 24-hour period in a "turf war that drew the level of attention and press focus usually reserved for gang activity in more developed countries."

COHA claimed that gang activity in Caribbean nations has "largely been ignored, despite the fact that gangs in Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago have become so ubiquitous that they represent a challenge to state sovereignty."

It said that the government's decision to "simply amp up the police force is not likely to hinder Trinidad's persistent gang presence.

"Violence is a serious problem in the islands, but targeting this alone will not make an effective reform," it said, adding that "gangs in Trinidad and Tobago, specifically in high-risk areas, like the capital

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Carib nationals arrested in smuggling trip

By Nelson A. King

United States law enforcement authorities confirmed on Oct. 18 that six of the 11 Caribbean migrants who survived a deadly smuggling trip that ended when a motorboat capsized seven miles off Miami Beach have been arrested.

Law enforcement and immigration authorities said those arrested include the 25 feet boat's Bahamian-born captain Naaman Davis and Jamaican-born crewman George Lewis.

The arrest comes as authorities investigated the boat accident involving Haitian, Jamaican and Bahamian migrants.

The U.S. Coast Guard said four people were killed and 11 rescued after the boat carrying the Caribbean migrants capsized early on Oct. 16

Officials said the six arrestees were previously deported from the U.S., and that most of them had been convicted of serious crimes.

Lewis faces a charge of attempted smuggling of the migrants, officials said.

The fatal voyage reportedly began in the Bahamas, and ended at about 2:00 a.m. on Oct. 16, when U.S. Coast Guard crews rescued the survivors.

The criminal complaint said six of the Caribbean migrants interviewed by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security identified Davis and Lewis as the alleged smugglers.

"Another one of the migrants interviewed stated that prior to their being brought ashore, Lewis had directed them all to tell the Coast Guard that the vessel captain swam away and never came back," the complaint says.

Reports indicate that Lewis was deported from the U.S. on May 13 over a drug-trafficking conviction, and that Davis was

deported on Mar. 7.

The other four men, whose nationalities were not disclosed, are Sean Gaynor, Kenard Hagigal, Matthew Williams and Everton Jones, who is also known as Everton Bryce. All six face charges of entering the U.S. illegally after being deported.

Reports also indicate that Williams was deported on Oct. 31, 2012, after being convicted of selling drugs on school property and selling controlled substances.

Hagigal was deported on May 31, 2012, after being convicted of money laundering.

Gaynor was deported on Oct. 27, 2011, after being in the U.S. illegally, and Jones was deported on Oct. 14, 2010, after a drug conviction.

The Coast Guard said crewmembers from Coast Guard Station Miami Beach, Fl. rescued the survivors "clinging to a hull seven nautical miles east of Miami, early Wednesday morning."

It said watchstanders at Coast Guard Sector Miami received a report at about 1:00 a.m. on Wednesday from a Miami-Dade County 911 dispatch of the capsized vessel "and launched a boat crew from Station Miami Beach and an MH-65 helicopter aircrew from Coast Guard Air Station Miami to respond."

The Coast Guard said the survivors were "clinging to the hull of the overturned vessel.

"One of the survivors was medically evacuated to Station Miami Beach, where emergency medical services awaited," the Coast Guard said.

It said a Miami Sheriff's Office air asset was searching alongside the Coast Guard aircrew from Air Station Miami for more survivors.

The dead passengers

Continued on Page 32



Enraged women gather in protest against finance minister's remarks.

Photo by George Alleyne

Opposition calls for censure of Barbados finance minister

By George Alleyne

Barbados Finance Minister Chris Sinckler's reaction to a no-confidence motion galvanized a simple political move by the Opposition into a matter of gender abuse, enraging women across the political spectrum.

When Leader of the Opposition Mia Mottley last Tuesday announced her intention to table a motion of no-confidence, she conceded that the action had little chance of success, owing to the ruling party's majority of seats in the House; but in response, Sinckler upped the ante, uttering terms women deemed derogatory.

The beleaguered finance

minister accused Mottley of seeking attention and suggested that she will next run naked through Bridgetown's main thoroughfare, Broad Street, to get attention.

Her remark triggered a wave of protest on the island by prominent persons and women's groups, who say the remark is unacceptable and demanding an apology. If Sinckler is not budging in the face of the clamor by representatives of women, who the latest census shows outnumbering men by three-to-one on the island.

Contending that the remark was gender neutral, he said last weekend, "I made one comment that was not

even gender specific, had nothing to do at all with women." He asked, "if Owen Arthur was leader of the opposition and I made that comment, who would have risen up in righteous indignation and say I was abusive to men?"

This is the second run-in Sinckler has had with women groups this year. He attracted their fire during the campaign for the February national elections when he described another woman, June Fowler, as "Ignorant as a bald pooch cat". Fowler is president of the Barbados Investors and Policy Holders Association, a watch-dog group with outstanding insurance policies

in the failed Clico company.

While the furor continued to play out in the various Barbados media, the Opposition Barbados Labour Party launched a petition campaign for signatories island-wide calling on Sinckler to go, and held a mass rally last Sunday in favor of their motion of no confidence in the finance minister.

Speaker after speaker addressed a litany of woes in the country's public finance management, all of which they say point to Sinckler being unfit for the job.

Mottley, who was treated to a rousing welcome to the stage, recalled the criticism

Continued on Page 32

Haitians protest DR court ruling

By Nelson A. King

Hundreds of Haitian-Americans on Oct. 17 protested a Dominican Republic court ruling stripping people of Haitian descent of Dominican citizenship.

The protest rally, organized by the Brooklyn-based Haitian Diaspora for Civic and Human Rights (HDRHR), in coalition with other civic organizations, was held in front of

the Consulate General of the Dominican Republic in midtown Manhattan.

Dozens of Dominicans also joined the protest, demanding that the Dominican Republic's constitutional court reverse its ruling.

"These people were born in the Dominican Republic, a lot of them don't speak Creole and don't know anyone in Haiti," HDRHR

organizer Barbara Saint-Louis told the rally. "We're asking for justice."

Vilaile Charlotte, a Haitian-Dominican living in New York, who has six children living in Santo Domingo, the Dominican Republic capital, said: "It's not a political situation, it's a humanitarian situation."

Edward Paulino, assistant professor of history at John Jay College of Criminal Jus-

tice in Manhattan, who is Dominican-American, said the court's ruling underscores a history of racial prejudice in the Dominican Republic against Haitians and their descendants.

"Dominicans are having to thread that needle: how to love something but also calling attention to its weaknesses," he said.

"Anything that's seen as a

Continued on Page 32

Fourth defeat signals the end of the People's Partnership

Continued from cover

November 4, voters in the key St. Joseph constituency will be asked to choose between the PP, the PNM, Warner's ILP and coalition member the Congress of the People's (COP) which until this week was regarded as the country's third major political force. Its place has been taken by the ILP which won individual seats in some of the municipalities.

The "bye" or special election is being held in St. Joseph because former Justice Minister Herbert Volney quit as a UNC parliamentarian recently and retired for politics, leaving the district without representation. He blamed racism and graft for leaving politics.

Critics say a fourth consecutive defeat for the PP and Persad-Bissessar should by now signal to her and supporters that it will likely lose the 2015 general elec-

tions to a now reinvigorated PNM.

A few months ago, morale among PNM supporters was low but its string of victories in 2013 has so buoyed supporters that they are openly

its members. The resilience and commitment to serve the people of Trinidad and Tobago is what the PNM stands for," he said.

For her part, the prime minister blamed the ILP for

This win should also be accredited to the leadership of the PNM and its members. The resilience and commitment to serve the people of Trinidad and Tobago is what the PNM stands for.

predicting that the party will form the next government given voter disgust with runaway corruption and nepotism in the cabinet and government.

"It is inevitable Dr. Rowley will be the next prime minister of this country," said Deputy PNM Leader Orville London "This win should also be accredited to the leadership of the PNM and

splitting the vote and allowing the PNM to slip through the middle and to now dominate and control the major city and town councils in the country.

"I warned you, you know. I warned you. I said the spilt vote, the green (ILP) will not win. Who won? PNM! And let us not make that mistake again in St Joseph. Why do we continue

Judge's order

Continued from cover

marriage license by the court.

Chang was unavailable for comment Wednesday.

Red Thread, the leading women's organization in the country said it is on a frenzy to determine whether the ruling was sound in law" before exercising our options, before making our move" spokeswoman Karen DeSouza said.

"Right now we are researching the marriage act to see what the situation is as the age of consent is 16. This country has become a circus and a very dangerous place for children. They ought to have rights and be entitled to protection," DeSouza said.

The businessman husband, Karim Majeed 38,

however is still facing statutory rape charges at the lower magistrate's court but Magistrate Adela Nagamootoo has postponed hearings until next month while seeking legal advice on how to proceed given the high court ruling. Majeed faces a minimum of five years.

Church and other groups had in 2005 petitioned authorities to fix the age of consent to 16 and to amend colonial era laws for groups including Hindus which had allowed girls as young as 13 to marry.

In the petition, the parents said they had given up trying to get the teen to return home and decided that the next best thing was to allow the couple to marry.

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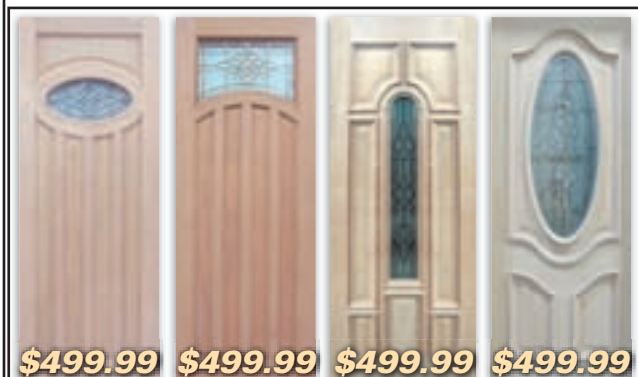
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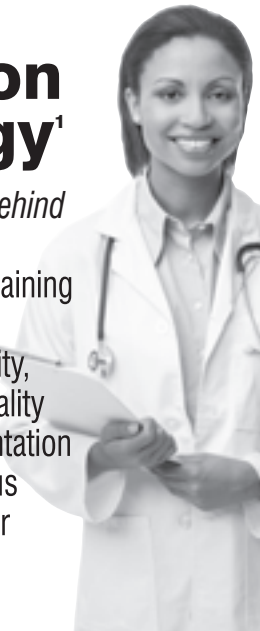
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Climate change a mixed blessing for coconut farmers

By Desmond Brown

GEORGETOWN, Guyana, Oct. 14, 2013 (IPS) - Climbing up the coconut industry has been anything but easy for Rosamund Benn, who has dedicated the past 32 years of her life working on a 50-acre coconut farm in The Pomeroun, a farming region of Guyana.

The Pomeroun borders the Atlantic Ocean to the north, the Essequibo Islands-West Demerara to the east, Cuyuni-Mazaruni to the south and Barima-Waini to the west. The area is characterised by large rivers with an abundance of farms and fruit, including and especially coconuts.

Benn, along with her daughter and husband, produces virgin coconut oil from their home. She says every batch of 400 dry coconuts



Nothing from the coconut goes to waste. Even the shell is used to make craft items. IPS/Desmond Brown

yields five to six gallons of oil.

"It's hard work. After gathering the nuts we burst and dig out the kernel, then we get it grated, then we wash

the milk out. Everything is done by hand," Benn, 48, told IPS. "Three persons doing that work can only do three batches per week so every week we produce between

15-18 gallons of virgin coconut oil."

She says climate change has also been playing a big part in the amount of coconut oil she is able to produce.

But while most of the discussions about the climate change phenomenon centre on the negative impacts, Benn told IPS that for her and other farmers in The Pomeroun, climate change is somewhat of a blessing in disguise.

"During the hot weather and the drier dry seasons which we have been having here in Guyana, you get more yield from the coconuts," she said.

Scientists say climate change is responsible for higher air and sea temperatures, drier dry seasons, more intense rainfall, shifts in sea-

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Delivering authenticity

By Lennox Honychurch

A large part of tourism is show business: set, lights, action. And as in show business, the show must go on as scheduled, as much as possible, regardless of the unexpected interventions, which may occur from time to time.

Those involved in the tourism business, from receptionists to managers, travel agents to tour guides and waitresses to barmen, especially barmen, (with their drinks and entertaining jokes and repartee), are akin to actors.

But the sets are important too: The scenic backdrop to the tourist's visit; the historic sites, the rain forest adventures, the underwater coral gardens, the floor shows displaying so called "cultural dances". These are the Caribbean tourist experiences that our clients have been encouraged to visit.

We have enticed them here with our marketing material, in print, film and cyber space. We have paid adver-

tising agents millions of dollars to conjure up tempting images and descriptions of the experiences awaiting them. Nature, history, health, wellness and indeed, authenticity, are all part of the language used to get our clients to pull out their plastic and pay to go to your destination.

What are we giving them when they get here? How really authentic is the experience? Authenticity is a difficult concept to pin down. It can be the genuine article or it can be a delusion of the real thing that the visitor is prepared to buy into.

Disney World is a case in point. Its visitors know that they are participating in "make believe". Its part of a fairy tale: a vast dream world of plastic computerized pirates and of mock European cities and adventures planted in a swamp in Florida. The unreal magic of this man-made mirage is part of its attraction.

But here in the Caribbean we increasingly mar-

ket ourselves as the genuine article. We have sites related to the real pirates of the Caribbean, real rainforests, real coral reefs and real people taking part in traditional cultures of the islands that have evolved over centuries with the coming together of a variety of ethnic groups. All of this and the story which goes with it, comes together to form what we market as "the Caribbean experience".

Our average visitor is far better informed than they were when the tourism industry began to blossom in the 1960s. A limbo dancer walking on crushed glass and fire eating with a steel band tinkling away in the background was all the entertainment that was necessary for a fun filled evening. But now we must come far better than that.

Information about sites, performances and experiences must be accurate, honest and interesting. With the flick of a smart phone

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One Year After Sandy

How Microfinance Loans Helped Rebuilding Efforts

To The Editor:

New York City, Oct. 7 -- It has been a year since Hurricane Sandy wreaked its havoc. The "Super Storm," at times spanning over 1,000 miles wide, left the East Coast with economic damages totaling over \$50 billion—\$18 billion of which was in New York City alone.

Within a matter of days after Hurricane Sandy struck the Eastern Seaboard, small business loan provider Accion quickly developed a new loan program that has, in its eight months of operation, disbursed over \$1.1 million in loan and grant funds to 80 small business owners.

While the Accion office was left without power for days, Accion employees worked remotely to quickly craft a new loan program offering business loans up to \$25,000 with an unprecedented interest rate of 4.99%, three-month deferment period, and all fees waived for small business owners affected by the storm.

Kamal Elsayad, owner of the local Brooklyn convenience store K&Y Grocery, is one of the nearly 100,000 affected small business owners who struggled to recover their businesses in the aftermath of the storm. "Many people told me it was not worth investing to reopen my shop. But I needed to reopen so that I could support my two sons. Thanks to Accion, I received a \$10,000 loan and \$1,500 grant from Accion that allowed me to restock my lost

inventory and replace damaged items," says Kamal. K&Y Grocery is just one of many small businesses affected by the storm and one of 80 that received help from Accion.

"Hurricane Sandy tested us, knocking us out of our New York office and for some, out our very own homes. Despite lack of office, lack of power, lack of information access and other real challenges, we delivered on the mission to always be adapt-

Despite lack of office, lack of power, lack of information access and other real challenges, we delivered on the mission to always be adaptable, dedicated, and maintain integrity and empathy no matter the odds.

able, dedicated, and maintain integrity and empathy no matter the odds," says Accion CEO Paul Quintero. Just 10 days after the storm, Accion had raised enough fundraising support to leverage a \$725,000 loan and grant fund. While Accion's Sandy Recovery Loan Program officially ended on June 30, 2013, the positive effect of Accion's financial assistance continues to carry on. Not only

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Caribbean Life

Founded 1990 • Published by Community Newspaper Group
Corporate Headquarters: One MetroTech Center North, Suite 1001, Brooklyn, NY 11201

NEW YORK PRESS ASSOCIATION
NYPA

PUBLISHER: Clifford Luster
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Why The Confusion?

By Norma Goodwin, MD

Widespread use of the terms "Affordable Care Act" and "Obama Care" by the media, advocates and opponents of the Affordable Care Act has caused substantial public confusion, including among potential beneficiaries. Therefore, while a lot of the confusion about this landmark Act is understandable, much of it is also being deliberately caused by its opponents. Given all of the confusion, it is unlikely now that there will ever be universal acceptance of one term.

Several other key factors are contributing to various emotional and political attitudes related to the Affordable Care Act:

The term 'Obama Care' was originally used negatively among strong opponents of the President's intensive and ongoing health reform effort, and much of their negativity continues;

As positive aspects of the Affordable Care Act became better known, many supporters began to positively associate the Act with the President's major role in its becoming law, and thus embraced the term 'Obama Care' positively;

Opponents, and even some advocates, are unsure, so far, that adding millions to the nation's federal health care rolls will make health care more affordable for all, and thus have some reluctance about embracing the official law as affordable.

While many people, including potential beneficiaries still don't know what the Affordable Care Act is, even though they may not understand it, and may have different opinions about it, most Americans know that the term 'Obama Care' refers to the 'new' health care law passed by the Obama administration, actively challenged by opponents, but upheld by the Supreme Court.

For the above reasons, rather

The failure of 17 governors to cooperate fully in implementation of this national law placed a special workload on the federal government regarding the rollout of the program.

than try to get everyone to use one term, what is needed at once is to reverse the current level of confusion through:

Targeted messages that emphasize that both terms mean the same thing; and

Simpler basic explanations of the Affordable Care Act's provisions, such as Health Power's one-page "10 Simply Stated Features of 'Obama Care' at www.healthpowerforminorities.com. Check it out and if you agree that it's useful, especially for potential beneficiaries, 'Pass it on'.

The Relative Silence of 'Obama Care' Advocates Strengthens Opponents

(The term 'Obama Care' used in the rest of this article for widespread public recognition)

In Health Power's view, the following messages need wide public education and emphasis in order for supporters to counteract the negative messages of 'Obama Care' opponents, which have been widely, and are continuously, distributed:

'Obama Care, also the Affordable Care Act, is now a national law, having been approved by both congressional bodies, signed by the President, and upheld by the US Supreme Court. Therefore, it's implementation can only be reversed through legislative action of both the House of Representatives and Senate, and the sig-

nature of the President Obama. None of which is likely given the composition of both legislative branches, and the President's key role in establishment of the law

Like all national laws, 'Obama Care' can be revised through the regular legislative process, if such needs are considered indicated by supporters and opponents alike.

It has major health care and health insurance benefits, which are simply stated by Health Power in its one-page summary.

The high degree of ongoing opposition to 'Obama Care' by opponents of the President suggests their concern that it will likely become widely appreciated nationally, just as is now true of Medicaid, Medicare and Social Security.

While the rollout of 'Obama Care' has been met with technical and management problems because of the scope of the program, there were also start-up problems during the start-up of Medicaid, Medicare and Social Security.

The failure of 17 governors to cooperate fully in implementation of this national law - regarding (a) the establishment of state run #Medical Exchanges, or #Marketplaces, and/or (b) expansion of their Medicaid programs - placed a special workload on the federal government regarding the rollout of the program.

Little media or public advocacy attention has been given to the fact that in some states, many poor individuals are not poor enough to qualify under the old Medicaid regulations, and have no access to expanded Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act because their states have decided not to expand their Medicaid Programs.

In summary, state policies and actions related to the Affordable Care Act/'Obama Care'

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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@cnglobal.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.

Call it Affordable Care Act, not Obamacare

By Les Slater

Glitches that have hindered a smooth rollout of the Affordable Care Act have given Republicans some cover and indeed provided a handy diversion, following the hammer blows of contempt directed at the party for its tactics in the government shutdown and debt ceiling fiasco. Such lambasting could only be thwarted by hyperbole-laced throttling of the healthcare law, was how the GOP thinking apparently proceeded. This was obviously where Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell was coming from when he called President Obama's signature achievement "the worst legislation passed by Congress in the last 50 years," which is a peculiar declaration coming from anyone who, for one thing, voted to commit America to an unnecessary, unpopular war in Iraq whose cost variously has been estimated as in excess of the trillion-dollar mark.

Barring some seismic meltdown within the administration, one expects that they will in due course get the better of the system bugs that have facilitated an attack route for opponents of the healthcare measure. Those attacks got tabled for a while as the Republican caucus,

led on a leash by its lunatic fringe, obsessed about its efforts to undo the Affordable Care Act, come what may. Only after some sane heads prevailed upon some of their "suicide mission" hardliner colleagues to stop the bleeding, and having by then felt the full weight of the people's wrath, did enough of them agree to let good sense rule the day. Whereupon they would look up to find the Affordable Care rollout as enticing a target as they might desire.

In this space, we have made a practice of never referring to the president's healthcare initiative as "Obamacare". And we have frowned upon even the president's use of the term, albeit perhaps satirically, because every intoning of that characterization is good for another layer of disrespect aimed at the president himself. "Obamacare" was not the creation of folks who wished the president and his marquee healthcare legislation well. The Affordable Care Act morphed into "Obamacare" at the hands of persons who had every intention of delivering a coded hate message in what for them was a pejorative labeling exercise. Period.

"Obamacare" emerged from the ranks of that venom-filled population sector for whom the audac-

Viewpoint

By Les Slater

ity of the country electing an African American president was and remains an affront. For them, nothing this president does or attempts to do, rates a thumbs-up. That he had the chutzpah to secure a second term only poured more salt in the wound than they see themselves able to abide with. Hence the ongoing vulgarity, as opposed to respectful opposition. Every derogatory slam of Barack Obama that they can fiendishly conjure has been fitted for bionic staying power: that he is Muslim, that he is foreign born, that he has terrorist kin and all the rest. We normally associate such sick behavior with certain parts of the country. But if New Yorkers feel somewhat embarrassed it's perfectly understandable, on account of the presence in their midst of one of the frontline purveyors of this vileness, the odious Donald Trump having taken his slime binge to the extent of questioning whether the president's academic achievements are real.

"Obamacare" was fashioned for that world of overall denigration that is, in sum, the grand design of these folks' engagement of what history ordained for the nation, by way of political enlightenment at this time. The name "Obamacare" is part of the drumbeat of delegitimization to which this legion of sadly embittered souls is committed. Some observers have pussyfooted around the idea of calling this racist conduct. We have never seen the need for such tiptoe tactics. This was always unalloyed racism.

Only in their despising of a progressive agenda generally and of the president specifically are Koch brothers types representative of the common or garden Tea Party forces of reaction. Economically, the much maligned Affordable Care Act and constantly assailed "entitlements" like Social Security and Medicare necessarily are lifeline provisions for the bulk of the Tea Party following. Incredibly, a setting is created in which blind hatred eclipses economic reality. A polarizing White House presence having provided all the tools of demagoguery the agents of hate and fear mongering could need, the underclass set become easy, willing pawns in the master-

minds' power game. The tacticians thus driven, a concept like the derisive "Obamacare" gets hatched in the war rooms of the hard right as the search for a strategy that succeeds in running this president out of town proceeds without letup.

Those of us who understand that the concerted attack being waged by the usual suspects against the Affordable Care Act has seen the same obscuring of facts that characterizes response to this administration's agenda, should abhor "Obamacare" as the demeaning label it is intended to be. The mangling on the other side of what's factual should no way become a more influential marketplace presence that word about what's positive about the Affordable Care Act. That pre-existing conditions are no longer a deal-breaker for coverage, that children up to age 26 can be covered on parents' insurance, that an opportunity for shopping around for the best coverage deal now exists, etc are features that no amount of propaganda about the "worst legislation in 50 years" could minimize.

Features like those define the Affordable Care Act. "Obamacare" is part of a con devised by tricksters. We should avoid it.

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Healthcare

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require close monitoring by supporters as well objective individuals and organizations, and active advocacy for indicated changes. .

The Path Forward

Priority actions needed by those who support the Affordable Care Act, or 'Obama Care':

Widely educating the public, especially potential beneficiaries, that the Affordable Care Act and 'Obama Care' are the same thing, and represent the health care reform act to increase access to high quality health care, nationally and for many who have been previously uninsured.

Widespread distribution of simply stated written explanations of key features of 'Obama Care', such as the Health Power one-pager at www.healthpowerforminorities.com

Intensive and ongoing monitoring of related state level policies and actions, and ongoing active advocacy for needed support at state levels.

Active and sustained advocacy at all levels in order to help the Affordable Care Act increase the physical, men-

tal and spiritual health of all who need its benefits, and thus the health of the nation as a whole.

Dr. Goodwin is founder, president and CEO of Health Power for Minorities, the nation's No.1 online source for minority health information.

Accion

Continued from page 10

did Accion disburse loans to 80 business owners, but Accion's loan consultants counseled over 175 small business owners on how to regain cash flow in the wake of the hurricane.

Sandy Recovery Loan participants collectively saved 282 jobs and created 27, proving the power of adaptability and strength in times of disaster.

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Debra Corrica

The author is the Accion East press contact.

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CACCI Entrepreneurs of the Year Awards

By Lin-Jay Harry-Voglezon

As the honorees of the Caribbean Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CACCI) dined with their families, friends and guests who shared their honored moment at Tropical Paradise Ballroom and Catering Hall, 1367 Utica Ave. in Brooklyn Thursday, Oct.17, the former New York City Schools Chancellor (now Medgar Evers College president) Dr. Rudy Crew, delivered a short and succinct keynote address which charged the spirits of the attendees, as evidenced by their enthusiastic applause.

Noting that his theme: 'The condition of our lives as it relates to education', Dr.Crew observed: "We are standing at a time when our young people in 4th Grade, new immigrants to our country trying to transition to another job; out of one job trying to get to another; trying to take care of a family; trying to build a future for themselves. We are standing in the precipice of a nation that is undecided as to whether or not we're going to put the money behind the people making these kinds of transitions in their lives. But we are not undecided about that in this room. We are not undecided about that in Brooklyn...CACCI is one those (agencies) leading the way."



CACCI members and honorees at Tropical Paradise Ballroom.

Photo by Lin-Jay Harry Voglezon

When you are in transition, Dr. Crew contended: "You need a network; you need an opportunity; you need to know somebody," he said, adding: "The currency of the global world is not necessarily just money. The currency of our new world is who do you know. The students who don't know anybody are students who are not networked into the future."

The former New York City Schools Chancellor remarked that he, like his two fellow CUNY presidents at the CACCI event: Dr. Marcia Keizs (York College) and Dr. Carole Berotte Joseph (Bronx Community College), recog-

nize that community colleges in particular, "need to help students transition in their lives."

Dr.Crew noted that CUNY (established in 1847), is on mission to "bridge the divide between transitions, ability and opportunity" by establishing the kind of partnerships which CACCI has been is successful at building,with Medgar Evers College.

"Medgar Evers College is at this time configuring, for instance: How to connect students to their history, predecessors, local conditions, and global thinking, with a moral commitment to the world," he said, adding: "The key is in understanding

that education is a critical rooting of growth" and that "in the precipice, one needs a network; thus a helping hand must be available to those wanting partnerships, internships, etc. There is no shortage of brilliance even in the poorest places in Brooklyn," he pointed out.

"To get the engine of democracy working for our people, we must let the education system work," he added.

Among the special guests were: representatives of Governor Cuomo's Office, Down State Medical Centre and City Councilmen Dr. Matthieu Eugene and Jumaane Williams.

This luncheon by CACCI saw the honoring of:

* BNY Mellon, for "community development by helping a full spectrum of public, private and nonprofit clients including the Pfizer Corporation, The Apollo Theater Foundation, as well as the City of Bridgeport Connecticut",

* Earnst Ulysse, co-founder of the Career Institute of Health and Technology was founded in 1988,

* Patricia Lawrence-Haughton, president of Apel Travel,

* Junior George, founder of TCNplus, a popular source of Caribbean TV and Internet news in and out the Carib-

bean, (

* Ashton Cudjoe, director of Hawaii Medical Institute, "a successful entrepreneur, school owner and investor",

* The Ghaness Family owners of H&N Insurance Agency & Financial Group

* Patrick Albarano, owner of the family-run Flatbush Copy Center for over 40 years

* Jean Alerte, proprietor of Brooklyn Swirl, the 1st Frozen Yogurt Shop in the heart of Stuyvesant Heights,

* Ray Knights, founder/executive director of Elmy's Special Services, Inc. (ESS), a non-profit organization operating under the auspices of the New York State Office for People with Developmental Disabilities, Office for Children and Family Services, and the New York State Department of Health, and

* Lowell F. Hawthorne, president and chief executive Officer of Golden Krust Caribbean Bakery & Grill, the nation's largest Caribbean franchise chain.

* David Gayle onwre of Tro[pical Paradise Restaurant and ballroom

* Julian Dubois., St.Liucian diplomat

* Corporate Honorees: CUNY, Bank of New York Mellon, Affinity HealthCare, Coca Cola.

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Small Business - Business First - New York State

www.nyfirst.ny.gov/ResourceCenter/SmallBizMenu.html

2013 New York, NY Small Business Resource

www.sba.gov/sites/default/files/files/resourceguide_3135.pdf

Business Resources: Internet Bibliographies: New York State Library

www.nysl.nysed.gov/reference/busref.htm Selected business-related web sites compiled by staff at the New York State Library for use in response to reference questions.

Start a Business in New York - Resources for New York Small Businesses

manhattan.about.com/od/careersjobs/a/nysmallbusiness.htm Find resources and advice on starting a

business in New York City. Get information on New York business licenses and incorporation, free NYC resources for starting a business.

Your Money New York - Help and Resources for Small Businesses

www.yourmoneynewyork.com/helpresource/smallbusiness/index.php This section of Your Money New York is designed to help small business owners - and New Yorkers interested in starting a small business.

Small Business Resources - The Business Council of New York

www.bcny.org/inside/smallbusiness.htm Capital Business Blog - Read about the issues. Visit www.nyfirst.ny.gov to learn what New York State can do for businesses.

Resources for Businesses in New York City - bfindapc.com

www.bfindapc.com/...business-resource.../resources-for-businesses-i If you operate a business in New York City, you are especially fortunate. The city has pulled together a wealth of resources for small business owners.

Small Business Resource Guide - New York - HUD

www.hud.gov/offices/osdbu/resource/guide/local/newyork.cfm 100+ items - to assist the small business community in the State of New York.

Empire State Development Strategic Business Division Minority and Women's Business Development

New York Regional Office 26 Federal Plaza, Suite 3108. New York, NY 10278

Continued from page 9

and a quick entry into the Google search engine a tour guide can be proved to be wrong.

Our colorful history and the sites associated with these events are among the key features of our product. The way in which they are restored and maintained must follow as much as possible the traditional methods, so that we can honestly say that such a fort has survived intact for three hundred years, or that a sugar plantation complex is more or less as it was when "sugar was king". The materials used in their construction are a significant part of the story. Displays of information and artifacts are necessary to authenticate this. Interesting and well designed interpretation centers are increasingly becoming an important part of natural and heritage sites.

Along with our climate and natural attractions both on land and sea, our history

forms a significant part of our product. Here, as we move into our discussion section, is a check list of what we are offering and ways in which we manage and present them. These can be considered by our team:

Our varied landscapes.

The Natural formation of the region through tectonic activity including volcanic eruptions, earthquakes, uplift and subduction zones and the presence of coral reefs. The latter is an increasingly threatened product and dive operators now have to frankly explain the realities of the bleaching of coral and damage to coastlines due to climate change. I have personally witnessed the disappointment of snorkelers and scuba divers after they have visited sites promoted for their beautiful sponges and corals. Of course, what makes it more difficult for dive operators are the fantastic underwater images that appear in television documentaries. And their clients expect similar quality at every site.

Flora and fauna in parks, botanic gardens and protected areas.

Labor group says Haiti's factories are unsafe

By Trenton Daniel

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP) — Haiti's garment factories are unsafe for their workers, often lacking marked fire exits, safe drinking water and sufficient toilets, a labor group said Wednesday.

A study by the Geneva-based Better Work organization looked at working conditions in 23 Haitian factories from May to August. It found 13 workplaces were not sufficiently lighted, and 11 failed to clearly mark emergency exits and escape routes. Eleven factories did not have adequate fire-fighting equipment.

It also found that 21 did not have the legally required number of toilets, and the same number didn't have onsite medical facilities and staff.

Henri-Claude Muller-Poitevien, president of a



In this Jan. 11, 2012 file photo; people make boat shoes at the Timberland shoe factory in Ouanaminthe; Haiti. A labor rights group is accusing clothing manufacturers in Haiti of frequently cheating workers out of their meager wages. AP Photo/Dieu Nalio Chery; file

government commission that oversees Haiti's assembly plants, said he welcomed the survey by the labor compliance group, which is supported by the International Labor Organization and the World Bank's International

Finance Corporation.

He said his commission is working with Better Work and the fire department to mark emergency exits and install fire-fighting equipment.

"All the buildings need

improvement — this is what we are doing now," Muller-Poitevien said. "We definitely want to comply with everything, but we will never be the triple-A student."

Haitian Prime Minister Laurent Lamothe responded on his blog Tuesday night to a separate report from another labor group that alleges assembly plants don't pay their workers even the minimum wage. He said the country is "continuing to build an environment that holds ourselves and employers accountable for safe working conditions, competitive and growing wages, and opportunities for advancement."

Garment workers now earn a baseline salary of 200 gourdes, or \$4.54, per work day. Others who meet production quotas can earn 300 gourdes, or \$6.81 a day.





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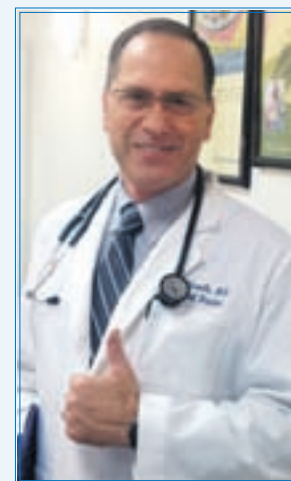
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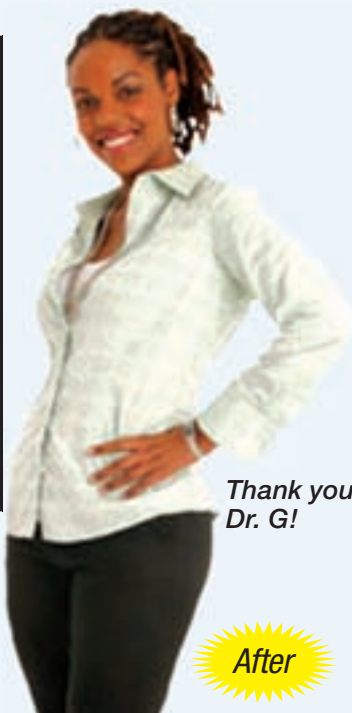
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Beacon Healthcare School

Perseverance, Excellence, Success

By Deborah Anglin

Beacon Healthcare School, Inc., located at 1815 Avenue M, Brooklyn, NY 11230, is considered by many to be the leading

Home Care School in Brooklyn. Strategically located in Midwood Brooklyn and bordered by Coney Island, Sheepshead Bay, and Flatbush, Beacon attracts stu-

dents from many countries and nationalities, reflecting the diversity of the population in Brooklyn and the larger New York community. From the moment you enter

the building, you are greeted with a warm welcome by a member of the staff and a sense of peace that you are in the right place.

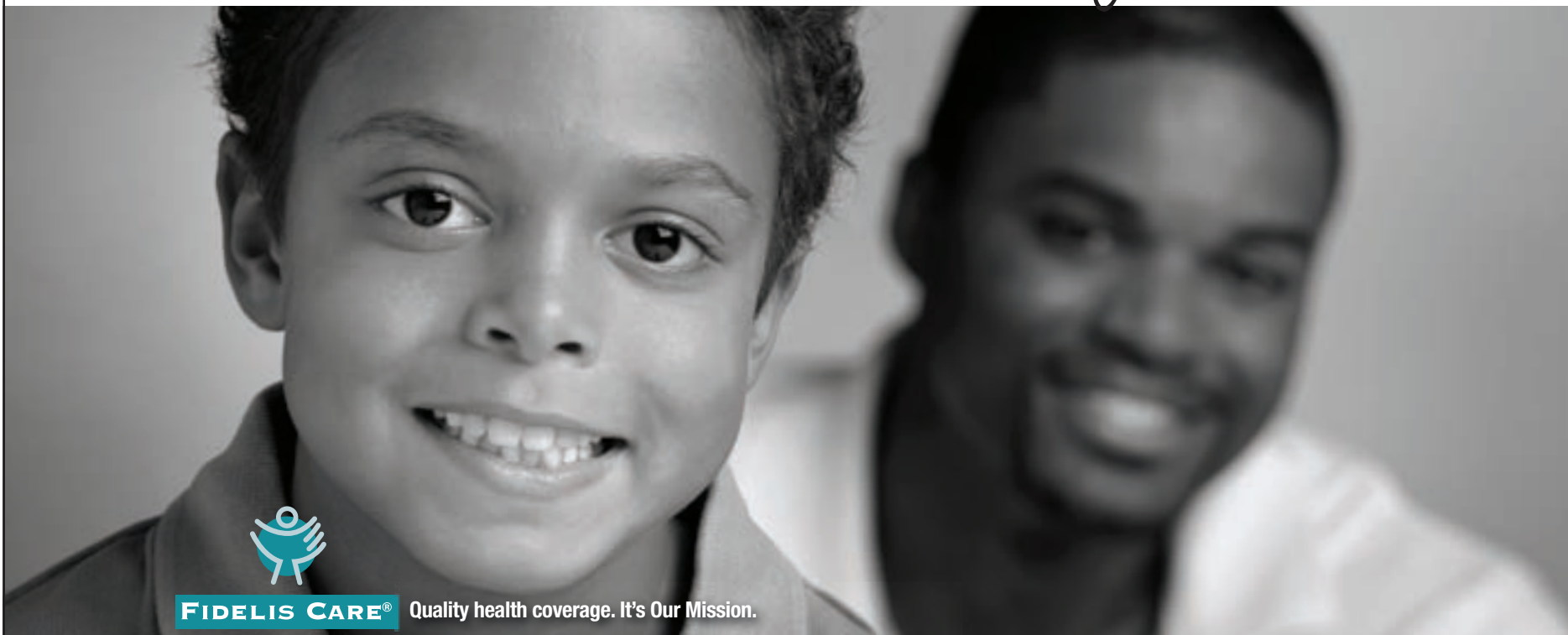
The 2500sq. foot campus

has five class rooms, three laboratories for patient care, and a resource/computer room where students can spend their spare time leisurely reading medical lit-

erature, motivational texts, novels by Alex Cross, or simply looking for a new recipe.

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Beacon Healthcare School Staff.

Photo Credit: Beacon Healthcare School

Deborah Anglin, RN, MSN is among the best one could find anywhere. Classes are such that there is never any over-crowding so that each student is given individual attention at all times. Students at Beacon are often reminded that Instructors want to know what they the students do not know, or understand, so that they could be helped overcoming any difficulty in understanding the material taught. The aim of course is for the student to leave with as much knowledge of the subject, as is possible. Instructors not only teach, but provide individual counseling and day-to-day assistance in a number of areas benefiting the students. Some classes may be very practical as in range of motion where students are encouraged to play music so patients can dance, or a "live TV" version of a cooking class in place of a lecture on nutrition. The student is seen as a whole spiritual being, a holistic individual, who is counseled on job preparation, career ladder paths, child care, relationships, cultural diversity, and much more.

Students are given every opportunity to pass both skills and written exams by taking advantage of group and individual tutoring. CNAs return after graduation for as much as 30 hours of computer and lab practice at no cost, in preparation for the NYS examination. They are helped until they understand, and are capable of passing their written and

practical exams and tests. Beacon boasts between 95% -100% of its students passing both the CNA and PCT exams. .

At the end of training, students are asked to evaluate their experience at Beacon and the positive responses are overwhelming, as they speak of their pleasant experiences and the high quality of instruction they receive.

The staff emulates Beacon's motto, "Perseverance, Excellence, Success." Ms Anglin believes if you persevere you will excel, and if you excel, you will certainly succeed. It's a motto she has lived by since arriving in the United States and became a Home Health Aide. She often reminds the students, that she was once sitting where they are. A few powerful words, that have left indelible impressions on the minds of some students seeking a path to higher learning. Words which have encouraged students, many returning to thank Ms. Anglin, or to say they have not forgotten what she said, while some return to upgrade to CNA, or volunteer to assist with tutoring at Beacon.

It is relatively very easy to register to attend the school. Anyone age 18 years or older with a valid I.D. may walk in between the hours of 9:00am and 5:00pm on any working day and register to be admitted in the next available class. Fees are within the budget of everyone in keeping with the present state of the economy.

Beacon is fully licensed by the New York State Education Department as a proprietary school, and is a member of the National Healthcare Association. The school is also a registered testing site for Home Health Aide (HHA), Certified Nurse Aide (CNA) and National Healthcare Association (NHA) students.

Beacon collaborates with over thirty healthcare facilities including nursing homes, to hire students who graduate from beacon. Recruiting is done on site, which makes it easier for students to transition from graduation to employment, often times within a week.

Beacon is not only involved in training but has also been supportive of many charity projects in Haiti; shipping over \$5,000 worth of medical equipment, supplies, clothes, and food, shortly after the recent earthquake in that country. Medical out-reach to Grenada in conjunction with the Grenada Nurses Association, Jamaica, and Guyana, and Barbados, providing education through soccer.

The future continues to glow for Beacon, with plans to establish training sites in Barbados and Puerto Rico, within the next five years.

Join Beacon in celebrating eight years of excellence in healthcare training, on Tuesday, Oct. 29, from 10:00am to 3:00pm. You may call the school at 718-758-2800 or visit www.beaconschool.info for more information.

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CARIBBEAN ROUNDUP

Continued from page 21
and Laventville, "have become so institution-
alized that they pose a threat to—and even
control in some cases—the republic's crucial
infrastructures," the report said.

Guyana

The sugar corporation's strategic plan for
2013-2017 has slashed by 100,000 tons the
projected annual output contained in the
2009 blueprint and planned improvements
at the troubled Skeldon factory will see the
flagship project grinding only at 71 percent
of what had been expected since 2008.

The Guyana Sugar Corporation is project-
ing annual output of 350,000 tons within
five years compared to last year's figure of
218,000 tons. The failed blueprint of 2009
had aimed at annual out-
put of 450,000 tons but this
has now been discarded
amid the deepening woes
of the company, which has
also racked up huge losses
including a whopping \$13.8b for 2011.

The new plan envisages the continued use
of all current estates and factories.

The plan said that GuySuCo's shareholder,
the government of Guyana had been voicing
its concerns over the performance of the
industry relative to the 33 percent EU sugar
price cut, the slumping production, high
costs and limited cash reserves. It noted that
in 2009 an interim Board was appointed by
the shareholder to formulate a blueprint for

the turnaround of the Industry. This was
presented in April 2009.

Jamaica

The Jamaica Cabinet has approved a con-
tract amounting to US\$1.45 million for the
manufacture and delivery of one aircraft res-
cue, a fire-fighting vehicle and other rescue
equipment for the Norman Manley Interna-
tional airport.

Information Minister Sandra Falconer
told journalists that under the rules of the
International Civil Aviation Organization,
the Norman Manley Interna-
tional Airport is to operate
three aircraft rescue and
fire-fighting capability.

She also announced
Cabinet's approval of rec-
ommendations in connec-
tion with plans to place lights in a section of
the tourist capital of Montego Bay known as
the Elegant Corridor.

"There have been safety concerns for
some time due to speeding and the absence
of street lights, poor night time visibility
and an increased number of road accidents,"
she said. The recommendations include the
option of having bidders submit proposals
for either grid powered or solar powered LED
street lights. Falconer said the bidders for the
solar option will be asked to submit indica-
tive costs for operation and maintenance for
a period of five years.

Compiled by Azad Ali



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Former J'A PM outlines the Golding Rules to Recovery

By Vinette K. Pryce

Jamaica's eighth leader, former Prime Minister Bruce Golding added his name to a roster of distinguished list of speakers invited to the annual Caribbean Lecture Series at the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture.

During a keynote address to a capacity crowd, PM Golding spoke to "Jamaica's Challenges, Opportunities and Imperatives" by outlining five impediments to overcome in order to achieve recovery and stability of the island's economy.

The retired leader cited deficiencies with crime and violence, education, bureaucracy, energy and a need to develop the infrastructure as the key priorities.

"This will take extraordinary leadership," Golding said, "but it will also need followership, there is no easy way out."

According to the one-term leader, Jamaicans should become "vanguards for change" "bite the bullet" and "confront the challenges."

In detailing the constraints, Golding explained that the current educational system was "like a conveyor belt" driven "by distance not quality."

Because of bidding constraints "It spits out rejects."

In his address he explained how the nation is drained by individuals who are paid while attending educational institutions and absent from work.

"We just cannot afford it," he said.

He said with a labor force that is 74 percent unskilled and individuals without certification to perform any particular skill there is urgency to his message.

"We only need half the labor force to be skilled."

He said if everyone had one particular skill the island would not know how to handle the abundance and many would have to



Stephen Hill (Left), Bruce Golding (Middle) and Lowell Hawthorne (Right) at the 9th annual CIN Lecture Series on Tuesday October 22, 2013 at the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture on Jamaica's challenges, opportunities and imperatives.

Photo by Leonard McKenzie

seek employment elsewhere.

Mostly he charged bad governance with problems related to education. In a brief example he explained how Ronald Thwaites, Minister of Education was forced to backtrack with an apology after challenging educators to make concessions.

The government he said did not back him.

Thwaites he said "had to apologize."

Red tape and bureaucracy he said, impedes foreign investments.

It is not a joking matter but PM Golding seemed almost comical in detailing the tedious process and requirements often imposed on individuals – more than one signature needed on a single document; time lapses, natural mistrusts etc etc.

"The government don't trust the people and the people don't trust the government so they try to beat the system."

He recommended modification, simplification and privatization as a solution. He advised codification of standards on construction, building approvals and suggested a 90-day conformation period to applications.

The delicate topic of crime and violence he said made Jamaica a "frighten-

ing place to invest."

He credited the administration he governed from 2007 to 2011 with beginning to implement legitimate strategies to suppress gang violence.

With regard to the island's energy problems, PM Golding said electricity attributes to the highest budgetary concern. On par with Denmark's highest expense item, he said it continues to parallel with the European nation as the most expensive expenditure. He blamed inefficiency of the generating equipment, bidding constraints and attributed poor geological data to some of the issues.

In developing the infrastructure he suggested more privatization. He lauded the successful transition of the island's second-city, western Sangster International Airport which has been privatized. According to PM Golding, Air Jamaica drained the government with a monthly bill of \$1 million. He said he was maligned for giving away "a piece of Jamaica that flies" but he is now pleased with the quality of food and service he experienced using Fly Jamaica to travel to New York.

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Filing for the new health care insurance can seem daunting. w
AP / J. David Ake

Answers to health reform questions

Through the open enrollment period, more than 1 million New Yorkers are expected to sign up for health insurance online through NY State of Health, part of the national health care reform law known as the Affordable Care Act, or Obamacare. But what do you need to do and how do you do it?

Experts from Emblem-Health have been answering a lot of questions. To help New Yorkers choose an insurance plan, below are some of the most common questions and the answers.

Q. What is the Affordable Care Act or Obamacare?

In 2010, President Obama signed this law to make quality, affordable health care available to more Americans and offer financial assistance to those who need it most. It also requires most Americans to have health insurance starting in 2014 or pay a penalty.

Q. What happened on Oct. 1?

NY State of Health, the state's health insurance marketplace, opened. You can learn all about it at www.nystateofhealth.ny.gov. Anyone who enrolls in a health plan between Oct. 1 and Dec. 15 will be eligible for health insurance starting Jan. 1, 2014. The deadline for enrolling on the health plan marketplace in the first enrollment period is March 31, 2014.

Q. Do I need to sign up for health insurance?

Unless you already have health insurance, the answer may be yes. The federal law says that most

people in the US (legal residents and "lawfully present" immigrants) must have health insurance starting in 2014 or pay a penalty. If you don't have health insurance right now, the law is designed to help you get an affordable plan.

Q. How can I afford health insurance?

People who qualify will be eligible for tax credits and subsidies to help lower the cost of coverage. Household income and family size are used to decide who gets help with costs and how much help they can get. You may be eligible for this help if your income is between 100 percent and 400 percent of the Federal Poverty Level. The only way to know the exact dollar amount is to apply through the marketplace.

Q. Am I eligible for subsidies or tax credits?

Many people will be. Under the new law, you may get financial assistance when you apply for a plan on NY State of Health. You may get tax credits to lower monthly payments, subsidies to lower out-of-pocket costs when you go to the doctor, Medicaid (no-cost health coverage) or Child Health Plus (a low-cost health plan for young people up to age 19).

Q. I already have insurance but my spouse needs it. Will my salary affect her ability to receive a subsidy or a tax credit?

Yes. Eligibility for tax credits and subsidies is based on total household income.

WASHINGTON (AP) — Getting covered under President Barack Obama's health care law might take you more than one sitting. In a media preview, it felt like a cross between doing your taxes and making an important purchase that requires research.

"Nothing like this has ever existed before," said Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius.

You'll need accurate income information for your household, plus some understanding of how health insurance works, so you can get the financial assistance you qualify for and pick a health plan that's right for your needs.

The process involves federal agencies electronically verifying your identity, citizenship, and income, and you have to sign that you are providing truthful information, subject to perjury laws.

You heard it was going to be like buying airline tickets online? Not quite. But even if it triggers some anxiety, it's not the government poking into your medical records, as "Obamacare" foes have suggested.

Now that state health insurance markets have opened, people who don't have health care on the job will be able to apply online, via a call center, in person or by mail. Trained helpers are supposed to be available, but there may not be enough of them in every state. Foreign language interpreters are available through the call centers.

The main steps are:

- Identify yourself and your family members.
- Provide current information on income, jobs and any available health insurance options.
- Learn how much financial assistance you're entitled to.
- Shop for a health plan and enroll.

Many people will qualify for tax credits to help buy a private insurance plan. The government will send money directly to your insurer, and you'll make arrangements to pay any remaining premium.



As Rep. Steve Israel speaks (l.), House Democrats rally behind Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, as they tell the Republican majority they want a vote on reopening the government without clamping any restrictions on President Barack Obama's health care law, at the Capitol in Washington, D.C., Oct. 2.

AP / J. Scott Applewhite

The poor and near-poor will be steered to Medicaid in states that agree to expand that program.

Here's an overview of what to expect applying online, with tips:

Go to healthcare.gov and click on "Get Insurance." The site has links to every state market. You'll set up an account and password. You'll provide your contact information and the best way to reach you.

Tip: Treat your password like a bank account or credit card password.

Now you can tackle the actual application. You'll need birth dates and Social Security numbers for yourself and other family members listed on your federal tax return.

You'll also be asked if you're a citizen. Legal immigrants will need their immigration documents.

Tip: You don't have to plow through the entire application at once. You can save your work and come back later.

Next, you'll be asked about income.

You may need your most recent tax return, pay stubs, and details on other kinds of income, such as alimony, pensions, and rents. You can still apply if you haven't filed a tax return. You'll also be asked about access to health insurance through your job.

You may be required to take that insurance if available.

Your personal and income details will be routed through a new government entity called the data services hub, which will ping agencies like Social Security, Homeland Security, and the Internal Revenue Service for verification. The feds will also rely on a major private credit reporting company to verify income and employment.

How smoothly all this works is one of the big unknowns. It could get tedious if discrepancies take time to resolve.

Tip: Provide the most accurate estimate of your expected income for 2014. Lowball the number, and you might see a smaller tax refund in 2015. Overestimate and you won't get as big a tax credit now.

Most people applying will qualify for a tax credit to help pay premiums. The credits are based on your income and keyed to the premium for a benchmark plan known as the "second-lowest cost silver plan" in your area.

With your tax credit, you can finally shop for insurance. Be aware that you'll probably have to live with your decision until the next annual enrollment period.

You'll have up to four levels of coverage to consider: bronze, silver, gold, and platinum. Plans at every "metal

level" cover the same benefits and have a cap of \$6,350 a year in out-of-pocket expenses for an individual, \$12,700 for families.

Bronze plans generally have the lowest premiums, but cover only 60 percent of medical costs on average. Policyholders will pay the difference, up to the annual out-of-pocket cap. Platinum plans have the highest premiums, but cover 90 percent of costs. Young adults up to age 30 can pick a skinny "catastrophic" plan — but you can't use your tax credit on a catastrophic plan.

Tip: Make sure your doctors and hospitals are in the plan you pick. You'll have to check the plan's own website, or better still, call your doctor.

Tip: Your share of the premium could be lower — even zero — if you apply your tax credit to a bronze plan. It's because the credit is keyed to the cost of a silver plan, which is generally more expensive.

Tip: Check if you are eligible for "cost-sharing subsidies," in addition to your tax credit. Extra help with out-of-pocket costs is available to people with modest incomes. But only with a silver plan.

Head spinning? "Obamacare" is finally here.

— AP / Ricardo Alonso-Zaldívar

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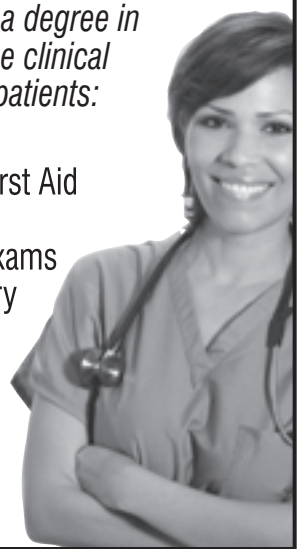
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New Wave of Retailers

Subway system welcomes hip, small stores New Wave of Retailers

Hip, small stores will start making their way into subway stations for short-term stays under a new MTA program. The shops, known as 'pop up stores,' will receive month-to-month leases from the Metropolitan Transportation Authority for small retail spaces that are temporarily vacant while the agency is arranging long-term leases.

The MTA piloted the concept in July by hosting The Newsstand, an indie-oriented media seller at the Lorimer St/Metropolitan Av station in Williamsburg, Brooklyn. The first store that is formally a part of this new initiative is a pop-up branch of UNIQLO, the clothing retailer. The shop opens today at the Union Square Station.

"At UNIQLO, our goal is to bring new and exciting shopping experiences to our customers, and we want to provide New Yorkers with the



Shopping in the comfort and warmth of a subway store during the winter season. Photo Credit: MTA

opportunity to shop for cold weather clothing in the subway before they have to head out into the winter weather. This shop fits perfectly with our strong belief in the fundamental power of clothing to improve people's lives, and trust that it will provide people with comfort and warmth during the winter season," said Larry Meyer, COO of UNIQLO USA.

The pop-up store initiative allows small entrepreneurs, online businesses and established corporations to rent space in generally "as-is" condition to provide high visibility exposure for products or services where the emphasis is on displaying merchandise as much as actually conducting on-site transactions. In some cases, retail customers would be

encouraged to make their purchases online or at larger stores off site.

"Pop-up stores will provide a fresh and beneficial element to our stations while also improving the image and desirability of retail space in the subway," said MTA Chairman and CEO Thomas F. Prendergast. "This is another example of the MTA working to make better use of its real estate portfolio and improving the subway environment for customers at the same time."

"The younger generations are gravitating to the subway system as never before," said MTA Real Estate Director Jeffrey B. Rosen. "They are savvy about shopping online. Retailers want to reach them where they are, which is our subway system. We are glad to be able to offer space in our stations to facilitate this new business niche."

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HEALTH

Health

Continued from Page 23

Q.How do I sign up and what information do I need?

You can sign up for a health care plan online, in person, over the phone, or by mail. You will need Social Security numbers for all family members you plan on enrolling, or document numbers for legal immigrants. Also, have employer information and income information at hand, and policy numbers for any health plans covering members of the household.

Q.Can I enroll my entire family?

Yes. The law requires most citizens and legal residents to have health insurance.

Q.I have health insurance through my company. Will I need to sign up on NY State of Health?

If you have health insurance through your employer, you may not need to sign up. To be sure, ask your employer's health benefits administrator (the person who assists with health benefits) or someone in the human resources department.

Q.I heard the new employer mandate was delayed. How does this affect me?

The employer mandate was delayed until January 2015. Once it takes effect, employers with 50 or more full-time workers must provide adequate, affordable health care coverage to their full-time employees or pay a penalty. (Adequate, affordable coverage means the plan covers 60 percent of total health care expenses and costs employees no more than 9.5 percent of their household income.)

– By Sana Hashmi /

Emblem Health

If you have health insurance through your employer, you may not need to sign up. If you don't have health insurance through your job, you can visit NY State of Health to look at your options. For more information, ask your employer's health benefits administrator (the person who assists with health benefits) or someone in the human resources department.

Q.Can I still buy insurance directly from a health insurance company?

Yes, you can buy health insurance directly from a health insurer. But financial assistance is available only through NY State of Health.

Q.What are 'metal' plans?

All health insurers participating on NY State of Health will offer four types of metal plans — Bronze, Silver, Gold, and Platinum plans. They cover the same benefits but, between health insurers, differ in monthly costs and in the choice of doctors, hospitals, and other health care providers. "Catastrophic" plans will be available for people under age 30 and others who qualify. This plan covers essential health benefits, routine preventive-care services, and three annual visits to a primary care doctor at no out-of-pocket cost to you. It has similar benefits as the metal plans, but different costs.

Q.What will be covered?

All health insurance plans will be required to provide coverage for these essential benefits:

- Routine doctor visits
- Visits to the emergency

room

- Hospital care
- Maternity and newborn care
- Mental health and substance-abuse treatment
- Prescription drugs
- Habilitative and rehabilitative services
- Laboratory tests
- Preventive and wellness services and chronic-disease management
- Pediatric services, including vision care

Certain preventive care services, like cholesterol tests, will be covered at 100 percent so that it's easier to stay healthy.

Q.I don't want health insurance. Will I be penalized?

If you don't have health insurance in 2014, you may have to pay a penalty when you file your taxes. For 2014, the penalty is \$95 per adult and \$47.50 per child or one percent of taxable household income — whichever is higher. For example, if you are a single adult with \$50,000 of taxable income, the penalty would be \$500.

The penalty will go up each year until 2016, when it will be \$695 per adult and \$347.50 per child or 2.5 percent of taxable household income — whichever is higher. After 2016, the penalty will continue to go up with the cost of living.

It's important to think about more than just cost when considering your options. Health insurance is essential to protecting both your physical and financial health, in case something happens.

Q.Where do we go for more information?

The NY State of Health website, nystateofhealth.gov.

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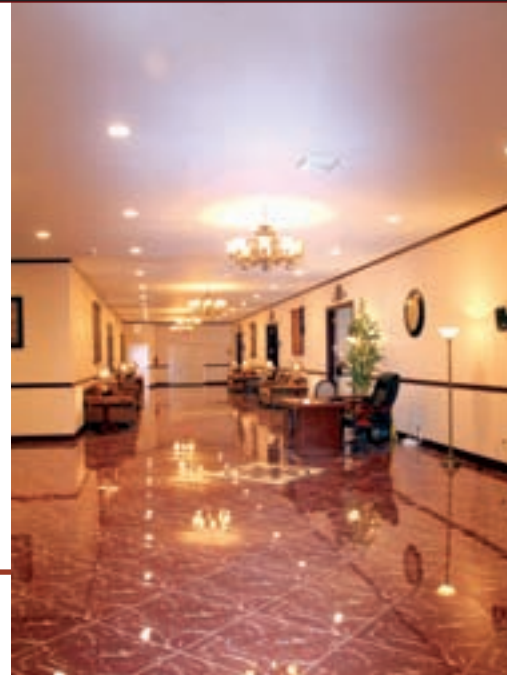
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Climate

Continued from page 6

sonal timings and greater weather extremes, among others.

Dr. Janet Lawrence, a Jamaican entomologist with the Trinidad-based Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute (CARDI), agrees that there are some positive aspects to climate change. But she also noted that with increasing temperatures and a drier region, farmers should expect significantly more pests.

"The Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) has indicated that between 20 to 40 percent of coconuts and other crops are lost each year due to pests and diseases," she told IPS.

Pamella Thomas, a farmer from Antigua and Barbuda, who is part of the Caribbean Farmers Network (CaFAN), told IPS that while members of her association were generally ready to deal with the impacts of climate change, most of the farmers in the Caribbean are older and it's "a bit more

difficult to educate them."

In light of this she said CaFAN has embarked on a drive to get younger farmers on board.

"We are also on an educational drive because persons know climate change is happening but they need to understand the dynamics of what is happening and this requires education," she said.

She noted that while agricultural science is taught in schools in Antigua the entire subject area needs to be revamped.

"You have the practical aspect of it being taught but the sad thing is they are still teaching the old method. There is no climate change aspect or protected agriculture aspect to it," she told IPS.

Vilma Da Silva is a small coconut water producer who is also from The Pomeroun. She has been farming for more than 33 years. She laments what she described as the lack of support and recognition for women farmers.

"Farming is hard work and those in authority need to work with the farmers and encourage them to be

on the farm," Da Silva told IPS. "When you are a coconut picker you must be recognised that you are doing an excellent job and you are needed."

Other challenges faced by women and other farmers in the Caribbean include poor drainage, high costs of production, lack of profitable markets and limited options for manufacturing and processing.

Da Silva said the area has the potential for producing large volumes of coconuts and its byproducts.

"We don't use any fertiliser and we produce a lot. We don't have pests and diseases. So The Pomeroun can stand on its own in terms of the coconut production for the virgin coconut oil and the coconut water," she told IPS.

Farmers in the area have launched the Pomeroun Women's Agro-Processors Association of which Da Silva is a co-founder.

Through the work of the Association in fruit processing for sale, the lives of its members and more broadly of farmers and women in the community have been transformed.

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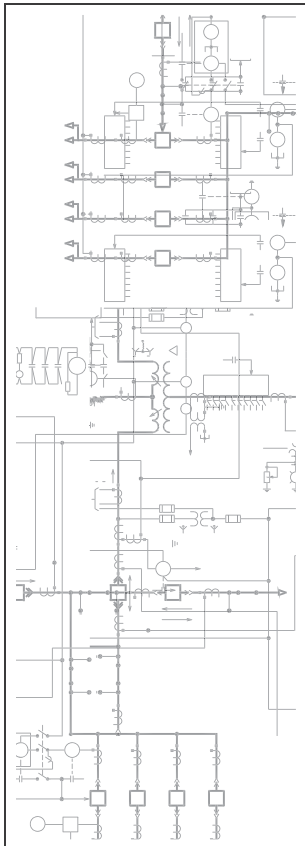
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2009	Chevy Cobalt, 56k	65308	\$7,995	2013	Nissan Altima, 16k	82570	\$13,995
2010	Nissan Sentra, 46k	68559	\$7,995	2011	GMC Terrain, 51k	82272	\$13,995
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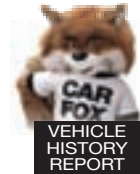
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Protest

Continued from page 3

criticism is seen as treasonous," he added. "We're not the first people who have had to grapple with that."

Analysts say the ruling is expected to primarily affect descendants of Haitian laborers who entered the Dominican Republic to work in the sugar industry.

The ruling has inflamed the historically tense relationship between the two countries that share the island of Hispaniola.

In the wake of the ruling, the Haitian government recalled its ambassador to Santo Domingo.

The Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and some of its leaders, including St. Vincent and the Grenadines' Prime Minister Dr. Ralph Gonsalves has condemned the ruling.

Gonsalves has even written his Dominican Republic counterpart, Danilo Medina, expressing "personal outrage" over the court's ruling.

"I regret that the circumstances have compelled me to write robustly on this matter," Gonsalves said. "I assure you that my language is restrained and does

not fully express my personal outrage.

"This court decision, in effect, renders stateless, huge numbers of these persons of Haitian descent," he added. "Surely, this ruling by the Court is unacceptable in any civilized community."

Gonsalves further told Medina that the court's ruling is "an affront to all established international norms and elemental humanity."

"It is subversive of your country's international human rights obligations as enshrined in several international and hemispheric conventions/treaties to which it is a state party," he said.

Gonsalves' comments came after former Jamaica Prime Minister PJ Patterson called on the 15-member Caribbean Community (CARICOM) grouping to strongly condemn the Dominican Republic court's ruling.

"No one can be hoodwinked as to the reason and the purpose for this kind of discriminatory legislation," Patterson said.

"Within the region we have an obligation to speak, and we cannot allow such inequities to go without our strongest condemnations," he added.

Patterson was a major player in efforts to integrate Haiti into the regional integration movement.

Haiti is a full member of CARICOM, while the Dominican Republic has observer status. The latter has been cooperating with CARICOM, since 1992, through the Caribbean Forum (CARIFORUM), an economic pact involving the Caribbean Community, the Dominican Republic and the European Union.

Earlier, CARICOM Secretary General Irwin La Rocque said the court's ruling "raises a serious question" about the status of numerous Dominicans of Haitian descent.

The Geneva-based office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights has called on authorities in the Dominican Republic to ensure that the ruling did not leave persons of Haitian descent in "constitutional limbo".

A United Nations-supported study, released this year, estimated that there were about 210,000 Dominican-born people of Haitian descent and another 34,000 born to parents of other nationalities.

Censure

Continued from page 3

her party received during the last elections campaign from those now in government when it proposed a Bds\$90 million stimulus plan to re-ignite the economy, only to see Sinckler propose a Bds\$600 million project to rejuvenate the country after the Democratic Labour Party was re-elected to government.

She went on to speak of the flight within three months of some Bds\$300 million in foreign reserves, taken out by investors who have lost confidence in the economy.

Then there was the issue of a series of incorrect figures in the national budget projection for the 2014 financial year, that caused some concern among resi-

dents, because many of the numbers reflected increased taxation.

This was followed by what is regarded as an embarrassing international fumble when Barbados had to halt an attempt to borrow money in the world market to buy-back bonds at an interest rate higher than the seven and 7.25 per cent it has to pay on the money owed and due in 2022.

Finally, the government withdrew a plan to raise Bds\$1 billion on the international market, owing to a lukewarm response from investors.

"I have come here tonight to give you one message, Chris Sinckler is out of his debt," Mottley told the rally crowd. Illustrating her point, she likened him to "a five-foot man in seven feet of water".

The motion of no-confidence in the finance minister

of Barbados was scheduled to come up for debate Tuesday, 22 October, and Mottley threatened that should government fail to heed the call to remove Sinckler, the BLP will move against the entire government.

Smuggling

Continued from page 3

were found in the water, the Coast Guard said.

"Our thoughts and prayers go out to the family and friends of the deceased," said Capt. Austin Gould, commander of Coast Guard Sector Miami.

"This tragic case reiterates the dangers of traveling aboard an overcrowded boat at night with no safety equipment on board," he added.

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Photographed by Sean Kennedy Santos

'Voice' of Jamaica scores victory in battle

By Vinette K. Pryce

There is fierce competition being waged on television.

It involves four chairs, four judges and music.

Allegedly the weekly contest pits the best of the best singers selected by music experts who sit in judgment each Monday on a program called "The Voice."

During this season, Jamaican Tessanne Chin is testing her mettle as one of the select few and a finalist for a recording contract.

Chin won more than cool points on the first episode when she sang Pink's "Try Me."

Her vocal ability caused four judges to reverse their backward facing chairs to face her forward.

Maroon Five singer Adam Levine scooped her up and his coaching has helped her to return votes from the viewing audience as well as his colleagues.

Since Chin's first victory, Jamaicans at home and abroad have dominated social media networks solic-



Inside Life

By Vinette K. Pryce

iting participation. Ratings for the program in Jamaica have been overwhelmingly in favor of The Voice.

Last week, Chin faced-off against one of her teammates Donna Allen during The Voice 5 Battle Round portion of the contest.

Also coached by Levine, Allen is reputedly a full-force, explosion of sounds.

"I'm not trying to out-sing Donna, it's not gonna happen," Chin reportedly stated. "I want to win this for anyone who has a dream and wants to make something of themself."

After both singers completed their renditions of Emeli Sande's "Next To Me," this is what the judges said:

Christina Aguilera: "You brought it. My choice would be Tessanne."

Ceelo Green: "If I had to

give it to someone, I would say Tess."

Blake Shelton: "It was epic. I wish I had something to be critical about but I'll have to go with Donna."

At two to one, it was up to Levine to cast the deciding vote.

"You both know how I feel about you. Tess, you make everything so effortless. Donna, you were pretty astonishing. You each have something the other doesn't." Levine said.

However, he named Chin his winner. Chin's victory qualifies her to move to the Knockout Round.

Allen praised her challenger, calling her "a phenomenal vocalist".

Chin received kudos from fellow national achievers Damian Marley, poet Mutabaruka, Olympians Shelly

Fraser Pryce and Usain Bolt and virtually every Jamaican who watched the competition.

ON TV: BLACK ROOTS & ROUTES -- "MANY RIVERS TO CROSS"

Not since Alex Hailey's "Roots" captivated television audiences has another series delved with such depths into the journey of Africans who crossed the Atlantic Ocean to arrive on the American shores.

All-encompassing and equally engaging, Henry Louis Gates Jr. provides a 21st century approach with "The African-Americans: Many Rivers To Cross."

On his 13th film project, the Yale University scholar who incorporates genealogy and genetic science to unravel the mysteries surrounding African-American history offers a six-hour, six-part series that begins with the arrival of the first African to arrive in Florida in the 1500s.

According to Gates' account, prior to the Trans-Atlantic slave trade which brought large amounts of Africans from the continent a freed African left Spain with Ponce de Leon and may have been the earliest to explore the landscape.

The six-part weekly series spans 500 years of historical documentation that encompasses a journey from slavery to the White House.

With Jimmy Cliff's reggae anthem providing sobering sounds to the series -- "Many Rivers To Cross" -- provides soothing comprehension in an episode entitled -- "The Black Atlantic" as Gates retraces 300 years of Black inclusion to the American construction.

Episode two digs deep into the Age of Slavery, limiting the focus from 1800 to 1860.

From 1861-1896, the following episode explains -- "Into The Fire" perhaps "the most tumultuous and consequential period in African-American history."

It is a period devoted to

the Civil War, the end of slavery and Reconstruction.

"Making A Way Out of No Way" recounts the years from 1897 to 1940.

Jamaica's Marcus Mosiah Garvey is prominently featured with his empowerment organization the Universal Negro Improvement Association. The migrant Caribbean man gets a full spotlight that details his vision for repatriation to Africa, economic independence and Black pride.

Episode five begins at 1941 with Rise, an upward movement towards Civil Rights in 1968.

"By 1968, Dr. King, the apostle of non-violence, would be assassinated, unleashing a new call for "Black Power" across the country."

The final, television, outing focuses on -- "A More perfect Union" spanning the years from 1968 to 2013.

Beginning Oct. 22, tune in each Tuesday at 8 p.m. to PBS stations for more details.

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ENTERTAINMENT

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PETER NERO: The Gershwin Project

Lehman Center for the Performing Arts is proud to present the Grammy-award winning pianist PETER NERO performing The Gershwin Project on Saturday, October 26th, 2013 at 8pm. Joining the Maestro for this incredible program drawn from George Gershwin's iconic American Songbook, will be bassist Michael Barnett.



Peter Nero
Photo courtesy of Lehman Center for Performing Arts

Peter Nero's performance The Gershwin Project at Lehman Center will include a selection of beloved songs that include "Rhapsody in Blue," "Embraceable You," "Someone to Watch Over Me" and excerpts from Porgie and Bess. Hailed as one of the premier interpreters of Gershwin, Peter Nero starred in the 1972 Emmy Award-winning NBC Special S'Wonderful, S'Marvelous, S'Gershwin. Mel Torme has commented that "Peter Nero's interpretations of Gershwin are unique and glorious. He is a one-of-a-kind artist." The virtuoso pianist has been performing Gershwin since he was 14 and has included Gershwin tunes on many of his albums including 1965's Nero Goes Pops (Arthur Fiedler), On Tour ('66), Peter Nero & Friends ('94), All the Things You Are ('96) and More in Love ('97).

PETER NERO, the Juilliard-trained pianist and founding conductor of the Philly POPS, was born in Brooklyn in 1934. He began his formal musical training at age seven and by the time he was 11 he was performing Haydn concertos. For several years after college he played a swinging piano hybrid of jazz and classical in famed New York City nightclubs before being signed to RCA records

in 1960. Awarded the 1961 Grammy Award for Best New Artist, Nero produced an astounding 26 albums in eight years, winning a second Grammy Award for The Colorful Peter Nero in 1962 along with eight additional Grammy nominations. During the 1960's, Nero's jazzy hybrid of pop, classical, swing and bebop became one of the most popular mainstream sounds of the era. In 1963, Nero composed and performed the Golden Globe nominated score for the Jane Fonda film Sunday in New York, which the New York Times opined "was quite possibly more memorable than the script." His subsequent move to Columbia records resulted in two additional Grammy nominations as well as a million-selling gold single and album, Summer of '42.

Over the years Nero has made numerous televised guest appearances in top shows such as the Tony Awards, The Ed Sullivan Show, The Tonight Show

Continued on Page 36



At the Soul Train Awards Wednesday, Nov. 10, 2010 in Atlanta.

AP Photo/David Goldman

ON THE REMIX

Gyptian gives thanks for life

By Toni Dubois

Known for captivating females worldwide with his song, 'Hold You' -- the sultry pop smash that topped charts globally in 2010, Gyptian -- the "champion lover," caught the attention of Trinidad-born rapper Nicki Minaj, and was featured on the remix. His fourth album entitled *Sex, Love and Reggae*, a musically diverse set that takes the listener

from dancehall to soca to global pop sounds, will be released on Oct. 28 on VP records.

Gyptian took time out of his busy touring schedule to answer some questions about his upbringing, love of music and how he really feels about the music industry.

Growing up in a family where his father was Rastafarian and his mother a Seventh Day Adventist,

how did that influence his music. your music?

"Both were really spiritual," he replied. "I found strength in their devotion. It made me sing more of what I felt and be true to my words in a song."

His fondest memory of his childhood was watching his father play music all the time, he said. If he

Continued on Page 36

TOP OF THE CHARTS

TOP 10 SINGLES



- 1 **Roar**
Katy Perry
- 2 **Royals**
Lorde
- 3 **Wake Me Up!**
Avicii
- 4 **Hold On, We're Going Home**
Drake Feat. Majid Jordan
- 5 **Holy Grail**
Jay-Z Feat. Justin Timberlake
- 6 **Blurred Lines**
Robin Thicke Feat. T.I. + Pharrell
- 7 **Applause**
Lady Gaga
- 8 **Safe And Sound**
Capital Cities
- 9 **Wrecking Ball**
Miley Cyrus
- 10 **Summertime Sadness**
Lana Del Rey & Cedric Gervais

TOP 10 ALBUMS



- 1 **Bangerz**
Miley Cyrus
- 2 **Too Weird To Live...**
Panic! At The Disco
- 3 **My Name Is My Name**
Pusha T
- 4 **Glee: The Quarterback (EP)**
Soundtrack
- 5 **Pure Heroine**
Lorde
- 6 **Nothing Was The Same**
Drake
- 7 **The 20/20 Experience**
Justin Timberlake
- 8 **Frame By Frame**
Cassadee Pope
- 9 **Paradigm Shift**
Korn
- 10 **Monsters In The Closet**
Mayday Parade

Presented by
verizon wireless

Gyptian

Continued from page 35

wasn't a reggae artist, he's not sure what he'd be doing. "Music has always been my calling," he said. So, to imagine Gyptian without music is like a bird without wings.

What motivates you when creating music?

"The energy that I am feeling at that current moment. I don't want to force anything, but rather just let things flow naturally."

What made you realize that you wanted to pursue a career in music?

"It was a hobby that consumed every minute of my existence so it had to work."

If he had to describe his music in a few words, what would you call it?

"Sex Love and Reggae."

What has been his biggest break so far in his musical career?

"Getting my first gold plaque."

If he had the opportunity to change something about the music industry what would it be?

"The hypocrisy," he replied. "Radio DJs who feel like they control an artist's destiny is the wrong approach. Executives and radio personalities just need to be true to



In this undated publicity image released by VP Records, reggae singer Gyptian is shown.

AP Photo/VP Records, Marvin Bartley

the music."

Does Gyptian have other interests or talents that he would like to share with us? What does he do for relaxation? What are his favorite foods? Does he play video games?

"I don't play a lot of video games and regarding food, my taste varies;

but I can tell you what relaxes me most – sex, love and reggae."

If Gyptian could perform with any recording artist either dead or alive, it would be Celine Dion, he said.

As an artist, he defines success as being able to change people's

lives.

He would like to thank 'the Creator and my mother and father' for making his dreams come true as an artist?

"Give thanks for life," he adds.

Gyptian will be performing at at S.O.B.'s on Monday, October 28th.

Belafonte to perform in Harlem

By Vinette K. Pryce

Harry Belafonte, the original king of calypso will return to the stage to deliver his incomparable performance on Nov. 15.

The 86-year-old singer, actor and civil rights activist will make a rare appearance to benefit Harlem's Impact Repertory Theater.

Slated to begin at 7:00 p.m., the performance will be held at First Corinthian Baptist Church, 1912 Adam Clayton Powell Blvd. at 116th St.

The special, one-night concert will aid in providing assistance to the 16-year-old cultural group, which is credited with improving the lives of hundreds of teenagers.

Founded by Jamal Joseph, a former member of the Black Panther Party and film professor at Columbia University, the group was nominated for an Academy



Performer Harry Belafonte.

AP Photo/Eckehard Schulz

Award for their rendition of "Raise It Up," a song featured in the movie "August Rush."

Since that time they have been celebrated at numerous cultural and social events.

According to Wikipedia – Belafonte 'was dubbed the "King of calypso" for popularizing the Caribbean musical style with an international audience in the 1950s. Belafonte is perhaps best known for singing "The Banana Boat Song" with its signature lyric "Day-O."

For more information, call 212-864-9526 or 212-864-0830.

Nero

Continued from page 35

Griffin Show. He has performed with Frank Sinatra, Andy Williams, Dizzy Gillespie, Diane Schuur, Ray Charles, Johnny Mathis, Elton John and Rod Stewart. In 1979, Nero founded the Philly POPS and for 34 seasons served as its conductor and musical director where he frequently performed classical arrangements of popular music. With 68 recordings to his name, he was honored with the 2009 American Federation of Musicians Lifetime Achievement Award and has been bestowed with six honorary doctorates.

Lehman Center is supported, in part, with public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partner-

ship with the New York City Council. The 2013-2014 season is made possible by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature, JPMorgan Chase, Con Edison and through corporations, foundations and private donations.

Lehman Center for the Performing Arts is on the campus of Lehman College/CUNY at 250 Bedford Park Boulevard West, Bronx, NY 10468. Tickets for PETER NERO on Saturday, October 26th, at 8pm are \$35, \$30, and \$25 (children 12 and under: \$10 for any seat) and can be purchased by calling the Lehman Center box office at 718-960-8833 (Monday through Friday, 10am–5pm, and beginning at 12 noon on the day of the concert), or through online access at www.LehmanCenter.org.



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Caribbean Life

Auto-biopic of a director's decline since MS

"When I Walk"
Excellent (3.5 stars)
Unrated
Running time: 85 minutes
Distributor: Long
Shot Factory

By Kam Williams

Jason DaSilva was vacationing on the Caribbean island of St. Maarten in 2006 when he fell down on the beach and could not get up. The 25-year-old filmmaker was diagnosed with primary progressive Multiple Sclerosis, an incurable inflammatory disease eventually leading to blindness, as well as a loss of balance and muscle control.

Nevertheless, his hopeful mother refused to let her son feel sorry for himself, encouraging him to seek help and to employ positive affirmations like, "It's mind over matter," and "You'll find a way." Unfortunately, by 2008, Jason's health deteriorated to the point where he had

become dependent on a walker to get around.

Feeling the frustration of his body slowing down while his mind raced, he decided to make a video record of his day-to-day life during the inexorable decline. The fruit of that effort is "When I Walk," an alternately heartbreaking and uplifting tale highlighting the indomitability of the human spirit.

For, in spite of DaSilva's desperate attempt to alleviate his affliction through prayer, yoga, ayurvedic medicine and trans-meditation, he continued to be betrayed by a deteriorating immune system. Thanks to his ever-present camera, he is able to afford the audience an intimate look at his brave battle against MS.

Shot mostly in the director's adopted hometown of New York City, the movie is actually much more than a mere chronicle of the subject's health concerns, as it also devotes considerable attention to his romantic relationship. Jason is suddenly in a rush to start a family,



Jason DaSilva in the East Village, New York City.

Photo courtesy of

but the object of his affection, Alice, has reasonable reservations about marriage.

After all, bringing a baby into the world with a husband with such a dire prognosis might ultimately mean raising a child while simultaneously caring for a virtual invalid.

So, she consults her dad, who just happens to be dating a woman with MS, for a little fatherly advice.

Will Alice and Jason tie the knot, when his legs fail entirely and his walker has to be replaced by a scooter? Rather than spoil this bittersweet biopic's surprising reso-

lution, just let me say Hollywood execs would probably dismiss this sentimental tearjerker as farfetched if pitched as a piece of romance fiction.

An unblinking look at a life and love irreversibly altered by the onset of MS.

Independent & Foreign Films

Blue Is the Warmest Color (NC-17 for explicit sexuality) Homoerotic romance drama about a 15-year-old virgin (Adele Exarchopoulos) whose satiates her carnal cravings in the arms of the blue-haired art student (Lea Seydoux) she's been fantasizing about. Supporting cast includes Salim Kechiouche, Aurelien Recoing and Catherine Salee. (In French with subtitles)

Bridging the Gap (Unrated) Behind-the-scenes documentary about the Vienna Boys' Choir features members discussing the group's cross-cultural appeal.

Capital (R for profanity, sexuality and drug use) Blind ambition is the theme of this psychological thriller chronicling the efforts of the greedy CEO (Gad Elmaleh) of a European investment bank to fend off a hostile takeover by an American hedge fund. With Gabriel Byrne, Natacha Regnier and Celine Sallette. (In French and English with subtitles)

Go Grandriders (Unrated) Golden Years documentary highlights the 1,000 mile trek of a scooter club comprised of senior citi-



Kam's Kapsules

By Kam Williams

zens with an average age of 81 and suffering from an assortment of ailments. (In Mandarin with subtitles)

I Am Divine (Unrated) Drag queen documentary about Harris Glenn Milstead, aka Divine, the cross-dressing star of such John Waters films as *Pink Flamingos*, *Polyester* and *Hair-spray*.

One Chance (PG-13 for profanity and sexuality) Musical biopic about Paul Potts (James Corden), the amateur opera singer who became a reality-TV sensation en route to winning the Britain's Got Talent competition. With Simon Cowell, Jemima Rooper, Julie Walters and Colm Meany.

Spinning Plates (Unrated) Gourmet documentary highlighting the operations at three extraordinary restaurants: Alinea in Chicago, Illinois; Breitbach's Country Dining in Balltown, Iowa; and La Cocina de Gabby in Tucson, Arizona.

The Square (Unrated) Arab Spring documentary examining events surrounding the Egyptian Revolution of 2011 as recounted by a half-dozen activists who protested in Tahrir Square. (In Arabic with subtitles)

When I Walk (Unrated) Autobiopic, directed by documentary filmmaker Jason Dasilva, chronicling his life since being diagnosed with multiple sclerosis in 2006 at the age of 25.

BIG BUDGET FILMS

Bad Grandpa (R for profanity, crude humor, graphic sexuality, frontal nudity and brief drug use) Stunt comedy featuring hidden cameras and starring Jackass' Johnny Knoxville as a cantankerous octogenarian who takes his impressionable, 8 year-old grandson (Jackson Nicholl) on a very eventful, cross-country road trip. With Spike Jonze, Georgina Cates and Brit-tany Mumford.



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SUN KULCHA COMMUNITY EVENT

FRI., OCT. 25

CONCERT: You're invited to a gospel concert featuring Grammy Recording Artist Tramaine Hawkins and former Minister of Music Eli Wilson, Jr. The concert starts at Mt. Pisgah Baptist Church 212 Tompkins Avenue Bklyn Call (718)388-3900 for ticket info.

SAT., OCT. 19 - SUN., OCT. 27

FURNITURE SHOWCASE: Pop-up marketplace featuring furniture and home goods products by more than 35 independent, innovative designers and manufacturers based in New York City. Products will include furniture, lighting, wall coverings and home accessories. On weekends, the showcase will be on the Factory Floor at Industry City in Sunset Park, Brooklyn (241 37th St.). The market is open on Saturdays and Sundays from 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

SAT., OCT. 26

RESOURCE FAIR: Providing information to help you buy, improve and preserve your home and apartment: information, seminars and exhibitors on renters rights, downpayment assistance, disaster preparedness, mortgage modification, water bill payments, first time homebuying, homeowner insurance and more. Brooklyn College Student Center, Campus Road and East 27th Street (3rd Floor), Brooklyn, NY 11210. To register, please call &18 469-4679 or emailinfoet_01nhsnyc.org. Su

SUN., OCT. 27

UPCYCLE FEST: Bring your outdated electronics to Prospect Park and drop them in designated trucks where there they will find new life after being upcycled from 9am-2pm. This sustainable solution to the buildup of old electronics helps to decrease the negative global impact that throwing out devices has on our environment, all while helping support City Parks Foundation and Prospect Park Alliance. Third Street Entrance off Prospect Park West Walk-ins, Willink Entrance- Drive-in drop-offs, and Grand Army Plaza- Walk-ins.

MON., OCT. 28

RELEASE PARTY: New York-based entertainer vocalist and jazz aficionado Keith A. Dames hosts a birthday celebration/release party for his debut CD "Left Alone" at Shell's Bistro in Harlem. Produced by Rose Petal Entertainment Media in association with SoMad Productions. There is a \$15 cover charge with a two-drink minimum per seat. Shell's Bistro is located at 2150 Fifth Ave. For reservations and more information, call (212)234-5600.

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to decrease the negative global impact that throwing out devices has on our environment, all while helping support City Parks Foundation and Prospect Park Alliance. Third Street Entrance off Prospect Park West Walk-ins, Willink Entrance- Drive-in drop-offs, and Grand Army Plaza- Walk-ins. BArtel Pritchard Lot- walk-ins on Monday only.

MUSIC: - Direct from Cuba, master percussionist Joaquin Pozo brings his unique and unmistakable percussion style to New York City for the first time with full band, reminiscent of the popular, driving Cuban format that features hard-hitting brass and pulsating rhythm section. But make no mistake about it - in this band the conga is the musical epicenter. This not-to-be-missed performance will take place at Joe's Pub on at 7:30pm. Joe's Pub is part of The Public Theater, located at 425 Lafayette Street between East 4th and Astor Place in New York City's East Village. For ticket and event information, please visit www.joespub.com.

WED., OCT. 30

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NYPD RECRUITMENT

NYPD RECRUITMENT: If you are interested, or know of anyone interested in a career as a New York City Police Officer, we invite you to check out the October Testing schedule on our site www.nypdrecruit.com. The NYPD Police Officers Exam is given six days a week at the following locations: Testing Center In Lower Manhattan, 2 Lafayette Street 17th Floor New York, NY 10007 and a Testing Center in Downtown Brooklyn, 210 Joralemon Street - 4th Floor Brooklyn, New York 11201.

NORMAN MAILER, over the course of 110 minutes, Mailer/Kingsley heatedly debates, verbally abuses, sexually harasses, and physically attacks the members of the mob—culminating in a totally un-staged, caught-on-film attack on Mailer by a crazed, hammer-wielding Rip Torn. The film screens with Untitled (1947), a rediscovered short filmed just before Mailer published his first novel. The screening will be followed by a discussion with Mailer's son Michael Mailer, biographer J. Michael Lennon, author Peter Biskind (Easy Riders and Raging Bulls), and film archivist Michael Chaiken, as well as a book signing with Lennon, whose his new biography, Norman Mailer: A Double Life, comes out October 15 through Simon and Schuster. Film starts 7:30pm and the discussion will follow screening. Tickets \$13. Location: 30 Lafayette Avenue Brooklyn, NY 11217

THURS., OCT. 31

SCREENING: Following a sold out screening at the Harvey Theater during this summer's The Hitchcock 9, Alfred Hitchcock's The Lodger returns to BAMcinémathèque for a special

Halloween presentation featuring live accompaniment by Morricone Youth. In "the first true Hitchcock movie," as the Master himself dubbed it, matinee idol Ivor Novello was cast against type as a marvelously creepy Jack the Ripper-type serial killer who stalks the fog-shrouded London alleyways for his blonde victims. Filmed with an appropriately expressionist eye, The Lodger boasts a particularly inventive scene that has Hitch shooting the killer's nervously paced footsteps through a plate-glass floor. "Thanks to the BFI's pristine restoration it's never looked better. A glorious renewal" (Time Out London). Morricone Youth is a seven-piece ensemble dedicated to preserving silent film tradition by adapting movie soundtracks for live performance, and will be premiering a brand new score for this screening. Film starts 7:30pm and the discussion will follow screening. Tickets \$13. Location: 30 Lafayette Avenue Brooklyn, NY 11217

ONGOING

CURRENTLY- OCT. 26, 2013

EXHIBIT: New York City-based visual artist Regina Marquita Tate's new exhibit "Dancing On Paper: Marquita" is on display at the New York Public Library's Harlem branch located at 9 W. 124th Street in Manhattan. The collection of pastels inspired by compositions of jazz musicians. Regina Marquita Tate adds that "the music dictates the color and the shape of the sound that appears on the paper." Call (212) 348-5620 for more information.

FRI., OCT. 25, SAT., OCT. 26, TUES., OCT. 29

PERFORMING ARTS: Gotham Chamber Opera presents the U.S. Stage Premiere of Baden-Baden 1927: a staged evening of four one-act operas that appeared together at the Baden-Baden Festival in 1927, from October 23-29, 2013 at the Gerald W. Lynch Theater. Performances: Wednesday, October 23, 2013 at 7:30pm and Friday, October 25; Saturday, October 26; and Tuesday, October 29, 2013 at 8pm. Tickets are \$30+ and are available at www.ticketcentral.com or (212) 279-4200. For more information visit www.gothamchamberopera.org.

FARMERS MARKET: Seeds in the Middle is sponsoring The Crown Heights Farmers Market offering fresh fruits and vegetables, including calaloo and Caribbean favorites and accepting EBT, WIC, SNAP, FMNP, Health Bucks, and Fresh Connect. The market will be operating every Thursday from 12 noon to 7:00 p.m. at Hamilton Metz Park at Albany and Lefferts avenues, Brooklyn. For more information, visit www.seedsinthemiddle.org.

If you have an event that you would like to post in Sun Kulcha, please email your submission to CaribbeanLife@cnglocal.com. All Submissions are up for review by the editor.

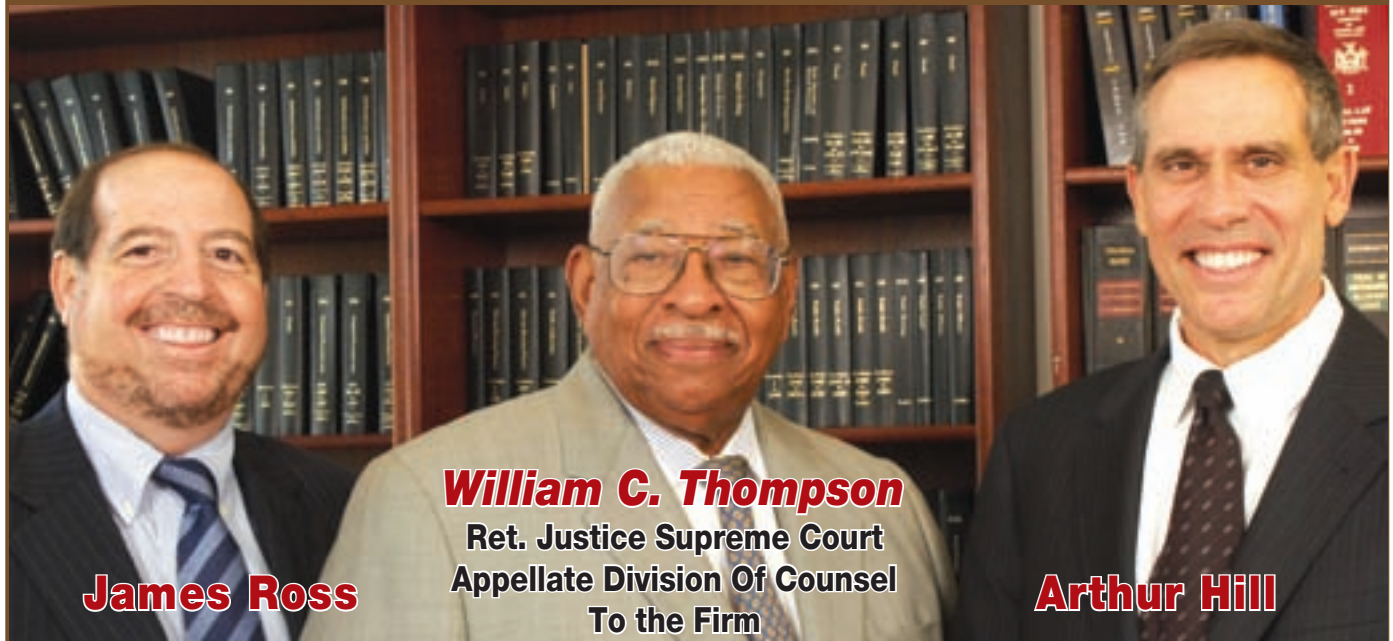
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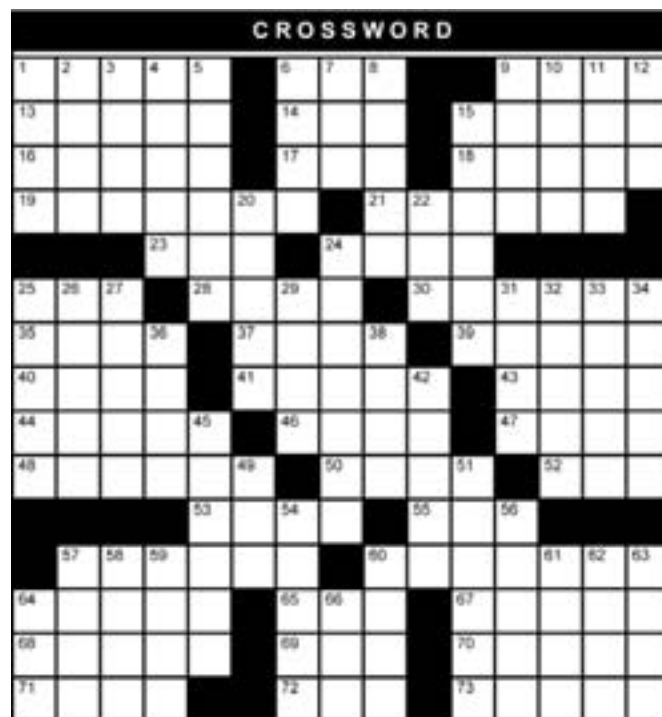
1. Free diving does not require this
6. "And She ____" by Talking Heads
9. Current unit, pl.
13. *Short fly ball
14. Matterhorn, e.g.
15. "The Barber of Seville," e.g.
16. Squirreled-away item
17. High ____
18. *This Bob won 2 games pitching in '48 World Series
19. *Winner of most championships
21. *2004 champs and once named Americans
23. Deadeye's forte
24. Sure or uh-huh
25. Pipe material
28. Conclusion
30. *Nicknames for World Series champs Hornsby and Maris
35. Coral ridge
37. Rigid necklace
39. Conical tent
40. Shamu, e.g.
41. Become eventually
43. Convict's weapon
44. The lesser of two _____
46. Preacher's elevation
47. Antler part

48. Carnegie _____ University
50. Hurry up!
52. Cub's home
53. Desirable state
55. Sin and ____
57. *Last year's Series loser
60. **"Black Sox" hometown
64. *Lawrence _____ Berra, owns 13 World Series rings
65. Like arctic air
67. Waterwheel
68. Chinese weight unit, pl.
69. *Pitcher's stat
70. Aldous Huxley's experiences
71. Lacking on Venus de Milo
72. *At least one is needed to win
73. Brewer's need

DOWN

1. Neuter
2. _____ Cola
3. Second word of fairytale?
4. Muslim woman's cover
5. Relating to apnea
6. Wide area telephone service
7. Draft choice
8. Flat replacement
9. "Singes" in "La PlanÈte des singes"
10. Staff note
11. In the next month
12. _____ Gabriel, CA
15. Overfamiliar through overuse

20. Bring character to life
22. Otitis organ
24. Titanic builder, e.g.
25. Intro
26. Liveliness
27. *Key Fielder on '96 champion Yanks team
29. Lady of Lisbon
31. Joker's act
32. Plant louse
33. "Die Lorelei" poet
34. *Best-of-what?
36. * _____ Classic
38. *Drought victims
42. Hunt illegally
45. Becomes not intoxicated
49. "Neither a borrower ____ a lender be"
51. Sharp
54. Basket material
56. *Listed by inning
57. Product of lacrimation
58. Any thing
59. Hair styling products
60. Blue hue
61. "Tosca" tune
62. Scams, var.
63. Brewer's equipment
64. "Harper Valley ____"
66. French vineyard



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Answers in Classified Section

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NYS Homeowner tax benefits

By Rhoda S. Jacobs

More than one million homeowners have so far registered for STAR according to Governor Cuomo. All homeowners receiving the Basic STAR benefit (available on the primary residence of homeowners who earn less than \$500,000) must register with the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance by Dec. 31 to continue receiving STAR exemptions in 2014 and subsequent years.

By now you should have received in the mail instructions – including a STAR code necessary for registration from the New York State tax department if you are currently receiving the Basic STAR exemption. While this registration is required to receive your exemption, homeowners will not need to re-register every year.

It is important to note that seniors who receive

Enhanced STAR will NOT need to register to continue participation in the program. Enhanced STAR recipients must continue to apply every year, or participate in the Income Verification Program like they have in the past. Additionally, first-time applicants are not affected by this year's registration procedure and must file Form RP-425, Application for School Tax Relief Exemption, with their local assessor.

The new requirement to register for STAR was included in the 2013-14 state budget to help improve the program and safeguard taxpayer money. Improper STAR exemptions cost New Yorkers an estimated \$13 million in 2010-11, and that could increase to \$73 million by 2015-16. To support the registration effort and to discourage fraud and abuse of STAR, individual fines and penalties were incorporated

into the program for intentional misinformation and if the exemption is revoked.

The fastest and easiest way for homeowners to register is through the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance's website at www.tax.ny.gov. Registration and support is also available over the phone by calling 518-457-2036. If you would like to speak with me about this or any other community issue, call 718-434-0446 or email me at Jacob-sr@assembly.state.ny.us.

The author represents the 42nd Assembly District, which includes sections of the Flatbush, Flatbush Gardens, Midwood, and Victorian Flatbush neighborhoods of Brooklyn. She serves in the leadership as the Assistant Speaker, and on the Rules, Ways & Means, Health and Insurance Committees as well as the Task Force on Women's Issues and the Task Force on New Americans.

Family farming key to Caribbean food security

By Nelson A. King

A new report released in Buenos Aires, Argentina on Sept. 26 says family farming has key role to play in food security in the Caribbean and Latin America.

The report, "The Outlook for Agriculture and Rural Development in the Americas 2014: A Perspective on Latin America and the Caribbean," presented at the 2013 Meeting of Ministers of Agriculture of the Americas, says Latin America and the Caribbean can produce more food by increasing the sector's productivity in the face of restrictions on using new land for agriculture.

The document is jointly produced by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), the Regional Office for Latin

America and the Caribbean of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA).

The publication includes a special chapter on the situation and expectations of family farming in Latin America and the Caribbean, as well as analysis of the macroeconomic context; crop, livestock, forestry and fishery sectors; rural well-being; and agricultural institutions.

According to Alicia Bárcena, executive secretary of ECLAC, despite the region's agricultural slowdown in 2013, 2014 is expected to see economic conditions conducive to economic growth and regional agricultural growth.

"These trends should be underpinned by policies

aimed not only at increasing yields in commercial farming but also boosting the successful inclusion of family farming in value chains," she said.

Victor M. Villalobos, IICA director general, noted that family farming is the economic activity with the "greatest potential for increasing food supply in the region, reducing unemployment and saving the most vulnerable rural population from poverty and malnutrition."

The Regional FAO Representative for Latin America and the Caribbean, Raúl Benítez, agreed, adding that achieving this "requires promoting innovation and technology generation, as well as the inclusion of family farming in value chains and retaining young people in the countryside".

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Jefferson's Bey
finishes 21st

By Robert Elkin

Mustaffa Bey is pointing toward the city-wide Public Schools Athletic League Individual and Team Cross Country Championships and a possible trip upstate. On a recent Saturday when his team took a break from league competition, he and his teammates were entered into the Reebok Manhattan Interscholastic Invitational Meet at Van Cortlandt Park in The Bronx.

Last year while a junior at Thomas Jefferson High School, he didn't qualify for the New York State Cross Country Meet as he turned in an 18 minute performance in the PSAL city-wide competition.

He worked hard over the summer to better prepare himself for such a championship meet.

The 5'11" athlete recently covered the 2.5-mile course of the Manhattan Invitational meet in a slow time of 13:49.4 in one of seven sections of the Meet composed of numerous schools across the country. He thus became the second PSAL finisher in a field of 201 finishers. As a team, Jefferson finished in 22nd place in an overall field of 28 schools in this race. Last year in the same meet he was clocked in a slow 14.11.

"Now my goal is to try to break 13:30

Continued on Page 44

NBA Finals
format changed

AP Basketball Writer BRIAN MAHONEY

NEW YORK (AP) David Stern's NBA owners gathered one last time, toasting the outgoing commissioner before he leaves after 30 years on the job.

They also changed back one of the earliest changes Stern made.

Leaving with Stern is the NBA Finals format he implemented in his first full year on the job, one that alleviated travel concerns but critics felt also gave an advantage to the lower-seeded team.

Beginning with the 2014 finals, the higher-seeded team will host Games 1, 2, 5 and 7. The lower seed gets Games 3, 4 and 6, following the same format the NBA uses in all other rounds.

Continued on Page 44



New York Red Bulls defender Ibrahim Sekagya (32) celebrates with forward Bradley Wright-Phillips after scoring as Houston Dynamo midfielder Brad Davis (11) walks away during an MLS soccer match on Sunday, Oct. 20, 2013, at BBVA Compass Stadium in Houston. New York won the game 3-0.

Photo by AP Photo/Houston Chronicle

Red Bulls eye Cup, Shield titles

By Patrick Horne

The New York Red Bulls (16-9-8) couldn't be in a better position at this very crucial time in the MLS season. The team leads the Eastern Conference with 56 points, one point ahead of second-place Kansas City (16-10-7, 55 pts.), and

with one regular season game to play, at home on Sunday, Oct. 27, against a struggling Chicago Fire team; it means that New York could finish first and have the top seed going into the playoffs for home field advantage, or finish in second place as a second seed and still be in good posi-

tion in the playoffs. In the playoffs, the top seed gets to play the second leg of the home-and-away series, at home. The Red Bulls will also be getting off to its best play-off start and on the road to its first MLS Cup Trophy.

Continued on Page 44



Outgoing NBA Commissioner David Stern, foreground center, introduces Houston Rockets players James Harden, right, and Dwight Howard, second from right, as well as Indiana Pacers David West, left, and Roy Hibbert prior to their NBA pre-season game dubbed NBA Global Games Thursday Oct. 10, 2013 at the Mall of Asia Arena at suburban Pasay city, south of Manila, Philippines. The Rockets won 116-96, in the first NBA game in this basketball-crazy Southeast Asian nation, part of the NBA's global schedule that will have eight teams play in six countries this month.

Photo by Bullit Marquez

NBA pre-season glimpses

Continued from page 43

The NBA for the previous 29 years has used what's referred to as the 2-3-2 format, in which the higher seed hosts the first two games, then goes on the road for three straight.

The 2-3-2 format was instituted in 1985 in part to ease the amount of cross-country travel with the Celtics and Lakers frequently meeting for the championship. But some felt it also worked against the team that should have the advantage.

"There certainly was a perception ... it was unfair to the team that had the better record, that it was then playing the pivotal Game 5 on the road. So this obviously moves that game back to giving home-court advantage to the team with the better record if it's a 2-2 series," Deputy Commissioner Adam Silver said.

The unanimous vote to approve the 2-2-1-1-1 format came Wednesday during Stern's final preseason meeting with his board of governors. Owners also voted to add an extra day between Games 6 and 7.

The league's competition committee had recommended the change last month back to 2-2-1-1-1, which was used in all but one finals from 1957 to 1984.

Stern has often said he was acting on advice or complaints about the travel from former Celtics boss Red Auerbach when the finals format was switched. But with commercial flights long since replaced by charters, teams didn't have the same difficulties now with the number of trips.

Instead, the ones who had the higher seed found it more inconvenient, Stern said, to be on the road for as many as eight days in a row when the

opponent hosted the middle three games.

Silver, who will become commissioner after Stern retires Feb. 1, is a proponent of the 2-2-1-1-1 format, though he said Stern and other league executives all thought it was time for the change.

"It reached a crescendo where basketball people thought it was important and the business people stood down and said it was no longer necessary for the convenience of transportation or the media," Silver said.

Beyond the re-election of Spurs owner Peter Holt as chairman, there was little other business for the owners, who toasted Stern during dinner Tuesday night. Stern said there was a video tribute voiced by Bill Russell, Magic Johnson, Michael Jordan, Larry Bird, Tim Duncan, Kobe Bryant and LeBron James, along with "some

speechifying" and "a series of totally embarrassing photos of me over the last 36 years."

"I got the opportunity to thank my colleagues at the NBA for their incredible work and saying how pleased I was that the league was in such good hands under those colleagues and Adam's stewardship," Stern said.

The owners were also presented with a Stern bobblehead doll. The commissioner said Cleveland Cavaliers owner Dan Gilbert joked that unlike most bobbleheads whose heads nod up and down, Stern's only moves side to side as if shaking its head no.

"It's been a great opportunity," Stern said. "Believe it or not, even including my interaction with the media and the burns that come from being a lightning rod, it's been a great run, and I'm grateful to the owners for giving me the opportunity."

Track warm-ups

Continued from page 43

in cross country before I graduate," he said. "And I want to qualify for the New York State Meet in cross country, and indoor and outdoor track. But my main event is actually the 800 meters (on the track)." I want to break two minutes in the event.

"It'll take a lot of training and I have to get motivated for me to go to the State Meet," he added. I'll hope for the best,

"It's fun to run here at Van Cortlandt Park. (In the recent event) I didn't get the time that I wanted. Cross country and track are very good sports."

Right now, the senior,

and many other similar athletes, are undecided about college."

Bey has been coached by Claudell Martin for the last three years at Jefferson. He joined the indoor team in the middle of the indoor season or during the last winter made a big jump in the latter in the middle of the season.

"He helped me a lot," the resident of Brooklyn said. "He knew what were best for now and knew that I wasn't a sprinter. He helped me a lot," said Bey. "He knew that he wasn't a sprinter and (at the same time), adjusted to my schedule."

Match-ups

Continued from page 43

New York's 56 points give it a two-point advantage over the Portland Timbers, along with the point advantage over Kansas City, in the Supporter's Shield race, so by game's end on Sunday it could end the season with 59 points with a win versus the Fire (14-12-7, 49 pts.), which will see the Red Bulls capture the coveted Supporter's Shield for its first title as a franchise in the metropolitan area (its predecessor, the New York/New Jersey Metro Stars, hadn't won any titles). The Supporter's Shield goes to the team with the best regular season record.

The Fire is in a third-place tie with Montreal Impact in the Eastern Conference and is in a tight race for a play-off berth. Chicago beat New York, 3-1, in Chicago in their only meeting this season. Sunday's game kicks off at 5 PM at Red Bull Arena and is dubbed Fan Appreciation Night.

The latest triumph that helped to bring the team to this point came in record style when midfielder Tim Cahill scored the fastest goal in MLS in New York's 3-0 blanking of host Houston Dynamo (13-11-9, 48 pts.) at BBVA Compass Stadium on



Portland Timbers' Sal Zizzo (7) heads a goal attempt against Real Salt Lake's Chris Wingert (17) during the second half of an MLS Soccer game in Portland, Ore., Saturday Oct. 19, 2013.

Photo by Greg Wahl-Stephens

Sunday. Ibrahim Sekagya (65th minute) and Bradley Wright-Phillips (75th) also scored for the Red Bulls.

In making history on Sunday, midfielder Dax Mc Carty's pass seconds after the kick-off reached Cahill on the 20-yard line; the midfielder brought the ball down and immediately launched a shot that found the back of the net with just eight seconds on the game clock. The effort erased Dwayne De Rosario's goal in 11 seconds for the San Jose Earthquakes against Dallas in the 2003 season.

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Windies face an uphill task

Windies Face uphill task against India

When the west Indies faces India in November their task will be a huge one particularly on the field bowling. If west Indies batsmen concentrate fully and play their specific roles it should not be a difficult task for them because all of these batsmen came up against the said bowlers over and over. West

Indies batsmen must take heed to what is currently taking place with Australia and India. The wickets in India are good to bat on and careless stroke play must not be tolerated. Some west Indies batsmen have a tendency of careless and recklessly throw their wickets away three well known Indian bowlers always cause some problems for west Indies batsmen, pacer Bhuvneshwar Kumar who is a wicket taker for India against any opponent. Ravindra Jadeja,



Eyes on Cricket

By George H. Whyte

the slow medium pacer that west Indies batsmen some time fail to pick up his line and the dangerous Ravichandran Ashwin the right arm spinner that normally cause huge problems for the west Indies. West Indies head coach Ottis Gibson has to set his program uniquely with a comprehensive plan based on playing intelligent cricket.

Windies bowlers have key role in test series

Without the mystery spinner Sunil Narine many cricket pundits are saying that the west Indies chances of winning the test series are slim the challenges are up to spinners Veerasammy Permaul

and Shane Shillingford to excel. Shillingford has shown some ability at the test level to strike but on those hard batting wicket in India he has his talents to show off.

Windies bowlers must do well.

West Indies bowlers must perform well in India in the test series. They must pick up wickets frequently and put pressure on the Indian batting. Captain Darren Sammy and Head coach Ottis Gibson has the task of identifying India's batting weaknesses, targeting specific batsmen. With Sachin Tendulkar in the India squad along with Virat Kohli and Shikhar Dhawan west Indies must bow well and

be very penetrative Edward and Deonarine may not make final eleven. When the west Indies test series starts with India it will be a tough call on Kirk Edwards and Narsingh Deonarine to make the final eleven with the squad chosen to tour India it is imminent that two specialized spinners will be playing in the test. If the selectors chose not to play both spinners then Narsingh

Deonarine will get the nod as an all rounder and a middle order strength. Kirk Edwards gets in if Darren Bravo flops. The final eleven looks like:

Darren Bravo
Chris Gayle
Shivnarine Chandepaul
Tino Best
Marlon Samuels
Shane Shillingford
Kemar Roach
Veerasammy Permaul
Darren Sammy [captain]
Kieran Powell
Denesh Ramdin.

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ARIES: Mar 21/Apr 20
Don't race ahead to get the early advantage this week, Aries. Practice patience in all that you do this week, and you may find greater success.

TAURUS: Apr 21/May 21
Taurus, there is a high level of uncertainty in your life right now, so it is best to take a conservative approach regarding your finances. Take big decisions seriously.

GEMINI: May 22/June 21
Keep your options open, as things look promising this week, Gemini. Many things will catch your eye, but you will have to make some tough decisions.

CANCER: Jun 22/Jul 22
Cancer, your career takes an unexpected turn that leads you in an exciting new direction. But these changes may take a few weeks or even months to fully develop.

LEO: Jul 23/Aug 23
Leo, you may have your sights set on an exotic vacation, but you just don't have the money to make it happen right now. Save for your dream getaway or take a quick jaunt to recharge.

VIRGO: Aug 24/Sept 22
Virgo, you may prefer clearly defined relationships, but this week someone comes into your life who you just can't read. This person makes a lasting impression.

LIBRA: Sept 23/Oct 23
Libra, although your vision for the future is grand, you may not know how to execute your rise to success right now. Find a mentor who can show you the ropes.

SCORPIO: Oct 24/Nov 22
Scorpio, you may not have the time to be a shoulder to cry on this week, but a trusted confidante will need your assistance. Take the time out for this special friend.

SAGITTARIUS: Nov 23/Dec 21
You are not in complete control of your feelings this week, Sagittarius. Make a concerted effort to control your emotions when conflict arises.

CAPRICORN: Dec 22/Jan 20
Capricorn, surprises are coming your way. Though you may want to control the situation, you have to sit back and let the chips fall where they may.

AQUARIUS: Jan 21/Feb 18
Aquarius, don't allow daydreaming to distract you from the tasks at hand. Distractions will only derail your plans, so do your best to keep them at a minimum.

PISCES: Feb 19/Mar 20
Pisces, an ongoing issue must be addressed this week. Procrastination will only delay the inevitable, so tackle this issue head-on.

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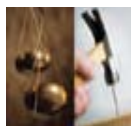
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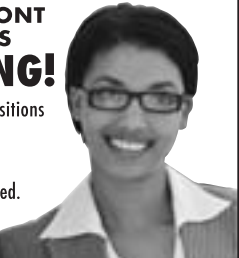


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 750 GB HD
 DVD RW
\$299

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 8 GB MEMORY
 1 TB HD
 15" SCREEN
\$299

TABLET
ACER TOSHIBA IVIEW APPLE SAMSUNG

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DVD PLAYER DVD VCR
\$15 **\$39**

LED, LCD & PLASMA TV

51" SAMSUNG

\$309
60" SAMSUNG

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SONY STEREO Home Theater System

\$69 **\$79**

CCTV SECURITY SYSTEM KIT
8 CAMARA
\$129 **\$189**
4 CAMERA

CCTV400 **CCTV800**
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SONY

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