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Friends of Wingate Park President Vivia Morgan

Photo Credit: Shaun Clark

Building a better Brooklyn

By Kenton Kirby

Friends of Wingate Park, a volunteer non-profit organization in Flatbush, Brooklyn formed in 2011 primarily to engage Brooklyn youth in activities aimed at maintaining a healthy physical environment, is today in the vanguard of the citywide effort to stem gun- and gang-violence.

Friends of Wingate Park targets youth and families of Crown Heights, East Flatbush, Brownsville, East New York, Bedford Stuyvesant and Canarsie in the effort to create a "One Brooklyn" identity, according to Jamaican-born Vivia Morgan, the group's founder and president.

Friends of Wingate Park

builds community activism by "bringing neighbors together in an effort to drive out negative influences and create positive, free, fun, healthy programs for the community at large, so as to build a stronger Brooklyn," Morgan told Caribbean Life.

In addition to the group's

Continued on Page 3

ONLINE GAMING DISPUTE

CARICOM backs Antigua against US

By Bert Wilkinson

It's a classic example of a David vs Goliath story; but this one is not Biblical.

A small Eastern Caribbean island which genuinely thought it had found an innovative way to make millions, by offering itself as a home-base for Internet gambling to supplement annual revenues from its tourism and offshore finance sectors.

But U.S. authorities -- upset that Americans were taking advantage of the opportunity to log on to the site and place millions of dollars in wagers, declared the operation a major crime and began preparations to dismantle it.

Court challenges followed but once the system was dismantled almost completely and indictments handed out to some of the investors, a full-

fledged trade war developed between the U.S. and Antigua with the U.S. using its superior might to not only crush the online gaming sector, but also refuse to accept a ruling from the world trade referee that it was wrong to shut down the Caribbean island's major revenue source.

Stunned by what Prime Minister Baldwin Spencer described as the loss of more than 3,000 jobs and more than \$1B in revenues annually, Antigua took the mighty U.S. to the Geneva-based World Trade Organization (WTO) in 2004 to challenge the move and won. Washington made it clear that it was not amused but even before then, had agreed to abide by the ruling, confident it would have its way.

Now 11 years after the WTO ruling that Antigua had not only won its case

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CARIBBEAN ROUNDUP

Updated daily at www.caribbeanlifeneews.com

THE NEWS FROM BACK HOME

Caribbean

The head of the Caribbean Public Health Authority (CARPHA), Dr. James Hospedales, said the Chikungunya virus has reached epidemic proportions in the Caribbean.

“By definition this is an epidemic since it represents an unusual number of cases of this problem where we would never have it done before,” Dr Hospedales.

The mosquito-borne illness was first detected in the Caribbean in December 2013, in St Martin and recently Antigua and St Vincent and the Grenadines became the latest countries to declare an outbreak.

According to Dr. Hospedales, as of April 28, there were 4,108 probable cases in 14 countries across the region.



He also stated that Caribbean countries have putting measures in place to address the spread of the virus.

“In December, once it came into the region we established an incident management team and that has regular contact with the countries with PAHO (Pan American Health Organization),” Hospedales said.

To date Chikungunya virus has been confirmed in Anguilla, Aruba, Virgin Islands, Dominica, Dominican Republic, French Guiana, Guadeloupe, Martinique, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, St. Maarten (Dutch) and St. Martin (French).

Guyana

Guyana police are investigating the deaths of four people who unknowingly drank a tonic laced with cocaine last Sunday.

One other person – a child – is battling for her life at hospital.

Those who died are identified as Simone “Ngina” Price, 36, her husband, Alex Blair, 42, her seven-year-old son Jahaquel Blair and her close friend, Natasha George, 36.



Price’s elder son, Jamal Waterman, 12, is in a critical condition at the Georgetown Public Hospital.

Investigators are working on a theory that the bottles of multivitamin tonic had been handed to



Gay community out of the shadows

In this, April 25, 2014, photo, gay rights activist James Burton, center, of the Color Pink Group, chats with a group of young homosexual men about HIV and health issues at a shopping mall in Kingston, Jamaica. See page 14.

AP Photo/David McFadden

the family for a family guest to be taken to the United States when she was returning.

The cocaine was dissolved inside, along with casareep and chicken foot.

Police said in a statement that the family ingested SSS Tonic into which a quantity of cocaine had been dissolved.

It said that the bottle of SSS Tonic, along with other goods had been left at the house by a man known to them for an overseas-based female relative to take with her on her return. However, she did not carry the items because she was traveling to Pennsylvania before going on to New York.

Haiti

The American government has awarded US\$4 million to help Haitian families hurt by a drought in the Caribbean nation.

The U.S. Embassy in Port-au-Prince said recently that the U.S. Agency for International development awarded the money to CARE International.

About 60,000 people living in



the remote village of Jean-Rabel who are malnourished or at the risk of severe hunger will receive food vouchers for ten months under the emergency assistance. Some of the money will be used to develop savings and loans programs.

The northwest part of the country has long been prone to dry weather conditions but a drought since October has been particularly acute.

Subsistence farmers have lost two harvest seasons, seen food prices climb and have struggled to feed their families.

Jamaica

Plans to impose a tax on bank withdrawals as part of revenue measures for the 2014/2015 financial year, have been scrapped.

Faced with intense opposition to the proposed tax, the Simpson-Miller administration has decided to look elsewhere to collect revenues for the Budget.



Finance Minister Dr. Peter Phillips who made the announcement

as he closed the Budget debate recently said the gap will be filled by the life insurance industry.

The first being the introduction of a 15 percent withholding tax on all insurance premiums paid by Jamaican residents to non-residents, premiums paid by Jamaican residents to registered Jamaican insurance companies will be exempt. The objective of this measure is to assist us in improving compliance while we strive to protect the most vulnerable,” he said.

The Citizens Action for Principle and Integrity (CAPI) has welcomed the government’s decision to reverse the bank withdrawal tax, which it says was widely perceived to be unjust.

CAPI says it is urging government to recognize the value of consultation in crafting future budgets and its usefulness in facilitating consensus on national issues.

St. Lucia

The National Vision Commission, which was announced by St. Lucia’s Governor General, Dame Perallette Lousiy in the 2013 Throne Speech was launched

recently in Castries.

The Vision Commission will explore all sectors of the economy and is expected to capture the needs and aspirations of a wide cross section of the public.

Recently Prime Minister Dr. Kenny Anthony said the Vision Statement, which will be the end product of the process, will guide the development of economic and social policies as well as strategic planning initiatives over the next few years.



He said the National Vision will help in defining priorities of St. Lucia’s needs.

The Commission comprises representatives recommended by the Governor General, the prime minister, Leader of the Opposition, Civil Society (including youth) and other non-governmental organizations, trade unions, and major private sector groupings.

Trinidad

The 332 kilo grams of cocaine valued at US\$106 million, which was shipped to Norfolk, Virginia, USA from Trinidad and Tobago in fruit juice cans last December originated from Europe, according to Robert Kennedy, attaché for the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) Administration for Port of Spain.

Kennedy was at the time addressing the recent Association of Caribbean Commissioners of Police 29th annual general meeting and conference at the Hyatt Regency, Port of Spain.

“Another accomplishment here in Trinidad and Tobago, for the first time in a record long time, we have had a significant seizure of a direct shipment from Trinidad and Tobago to the United States,” he said.

He said the shipment originated out of Europe and made its way to Norfolk, Virginia and is currently being investigated by the Trinidad authorities and the DEA.

Kennedy said that Caribbean countries need to collaborate and solidify strategies in order to stem the trafficking problem in the region.

Guyana

The Caribbean Financial Action
Continued on Page 16



Councilmember Mathieu Eugene (left) Friends of Wingate Park's Vivia Morgan (center) and Soumia Chraibi, a member of the Councilman's staff. Photo by Shawn Clark

Friends of a B'klyn Park with a community agenda in mind

Continued from cover

initial focus on identifying, expanding and making physical improvements to their parks and neighborhoods in ways that would more adequately cater to the needs of community groups, the elderly, toddlers and the handicapped, Morgan says.

Besides issues of housing, parenting, jobs and immigration, the organization today has as a top item on its agenda: "addressing critical issues such gun- and gang-violence and incarceration," Morgan adds, citing a recent trip to Borough Hall

two weeks ago to engage the new borough president in the effort, as testimony of Friends of Wingate Park's commitment to the effort.

The April 16 visit was also sanctioned by Morgan's employer, Local 79 General Building and Construction Laborers Union, which lent its support to the community effort by sending Apprenticeship Coordinator Wendy Webb as their representative at the Stop Gun/Gang Violence Forum at Borough Hall. Webb outlined the union's recruitment process for candidates interested in joining its apprenticeship

class for April 17, 2014.

Assistant Commissioner Kevin O'Connor had a message for parents, urging them to monitor their children's social activities and warned them about the potential danger in visiting places notorious for harboring gang activities. Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams referred to a video he created on ways to combat gun violence, which he said could be found on youtube.com.

Friends of Wingate Park is working with Community Board 9, area schools, the Office of the Brooklyn

District Attorney and the 71st Precinct Community Council Affairs Unit "to strengthen and uplift the community," Morgan said. It is seeking to engage the support of Unions and local businesses to offer internship and apprenticeship opportunities to its volunteers, she added.

Friends of Wingate Park is also working with Councilman Eugene and Community Board 9 on the renovation of the Wingate Park playground, Morgan said, adding: "I am asking (other) City Council members to help."

Former Grenada Consul General passes

By Nelson A. King

Stephen Alexander, a former Grenada New York Honorary Consul General, died on April 28 after a short illness. He was 73.

Alexander's very close friend, Derek Ventour, a leading Grenadian-born entertainment promoter in Brooklyn, said he died after a two-week hospitalization at Downstate Medical Center and University Hospital of

Brooklyn.

A wide cross section of the Caribbean community in New York paid their final respect to Alexander on May 9, at a viewing and funeral service, at St. Vincent Ferrer Roman Catholic Church, 925 East, 37th St., and Glenwood Road in Brooklyn. His remains were cremated.

Alexander's passion for current affairs, especially political developments in

his homeland and the Caribbean, led him to freelance as a writer for the New York Carib News and a frequent commentator on the Bob Fredrick's show during his tenure at WNYE Radio.

He had studied political science and sociology at the Brooklyn campus of Long Island University, receiving his bachelor's degree in 1976.

Alexander worked for the

brokerage firm of Merrill Lynch for a number of years before moving to the New York Depository Trust Fund as a research analyst.

Although he was very much occupied with his career and community work, Alexander yearned to serve the country of his birth.

Therefore, in 1995, he assumed the Honorary

Continued on Page 4

Setting the minimum wage in New York

More than 1,000 low-wage workers from around the city joined hands recently with interfaith clergy members and labor officials for a historic "Faith and Justice" walk to Harlem's Riverside Church, urging Albany to let cities around the state to set their own minimum wages.

"Throughout history, clergy of all faiths and denominations have been deeply involved in the fight for civil rights and for fair treatment for all people, and this is another front in that battle," said the Rev. James A. Forbes Jr., Senior Minister Emeritus of The Riverside Church.

"New York ranks No. 1 in income inequality in the U.S. No one who works 40 hours a week at minimum wage can afford basic living costs," he added. "In a speech to striking sanitation workers in Memphis before he was assassinated in 1968, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. said, '...it is criminal to have people working on a full-time basis ... getting part-time income.' It was criminal then and it is still criminal today!"

Faith leaders from across the city and community groups, such as UnitedNY, New York Communities for Change and Make the Road New York, joined the chanting, sign-

carrying workers for a three-block "Faith and Justice Walk" from the northwest end of Sakura Park at 123d St. to the front of the historic Riverside Church, on Riverside Drive and 120th St.

"It's very important to me and my fellow 'car-washers' that we raise the minimum wage in New York City," said Ernesto Salazaar, 39, who works at Webster Car Wash in The Bronx. "It is very difficult for us to pay all of our bills on such a small salary. It's important we have the power to change the minimum wage, and end the inequalities and hunger that many New Yorkers face. As immigrants we contribute to this economy, and we deserve to be able to support our families and give our children better opportunities."

Following the march, workers filed into the mammoth church for a two-hour service featuring prayer, music, testimonials from workers and calls from priests, ministers, rabbis and imams for passage of legislation that would let cities and counties around the state set their own local minimum wage and for a higher federal minimum wage.

"Raising wages for working people in New

Continued on Page 26



More than 1,000 low-wage workers, community members, interfaith clergy and labor officials march from Morningside Heights' Sakura Park to The Riverside Church for "Faith & Justice" walk on May 7, 2014. Photo by Dave Cross

Stephen Alexander – A true patriot

Continued from page 3

Consul General position under the previous administration of Prime Minister Dr. Keith Mitchell.

But it was short-lived, as his service was terminated after only 15 months. Though it remains unclear what exactly led to Alexander's sudden termination, it was widely speculated that he had fallen out with a top government official.

Stephen Walter Alexander, nicknamed "Spin Break," for his spin bowling in cricket, was born in Grand Bras, St. Andrew's on May 12, 1940.

He was the son of Veronica Alexander and William Thomas, and was raised by his grandmother, Lucy Bernard. They all predeceased Alexander.

Alexander received his primary school education at the Old Church Roman Catholic Primary School in Grenville, St. Andrew's and was among the fortunate few to attend secondary school in that period.

He started his secondary school at the Presentation Boys' College

in St. George's, the Grenadian capital, but returned to his parish to complete his secondary education at the St Andrew's Anglican Secondary School (SAASS), graduating in 1960.

In the U.S., he organized the first SAASS alumni fund-raising event for his alma mater.

Alexander taught at the St. Andrew's Anglican Primary School in Grenville before gaining employment with the Grenada Cooperative Nutmeg Association.

In 1965, he pursued studies for a year in trade unionism at Canada's Labor College; and, a year later, he migrated to the U.S., marrying the former Denise Shears on Dec. 23 of that year. He remained committed to Denise and their family until his demise.

"He was a great friend with whom I discussed many things of importance to the Caribbean community in Brooklyn," Ventour said. "His views and knowledge on current affairs were always up to date. His contribution to his country will always be remembered for his many patriotic and volunteer deeds. May he



Stephen Alexander.

Photo courtesy of Derek Ventour

rest in peace!"

New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio, Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams, U.S. Congresswoman Yvette D. Clarke, Grenadian American Councilman Jumaane Williams and former Grenada U.N. Amb. Lamuel Stanislaus were among elected officials and community figures who paid tribute to Alexander through messages read and personally delivered at the funeral.

"Whether serving as Grenada's consul general or uniting Brooklyn residents as a community activist, Stephen's longstanding commitment to lifting up others helped make New York more open, accessible and just for Caribbean Americans and other immigrants in our city," said de Blasio in a letter to Mrs. Alexander.

Contradiction of sorts

Continued from cover

against the U.S., but also should be compensated to the tune of millions of dollars per year, it is yet to benefit from the court ruling, having not received a penny to date in payments and there is no indication that the dispute will end anytime soon.

Entirely frustrated, the island's delegation to last week's Caribbean trade bloc's trade ministers meeting, which ended at the weekend in Guyana had asked the meeting to pronounce on the dispute and show support for a fellow bloc member that is suffering from more than a decade in denied revenue earnings.

The ministers wasted no time in issuing a special statement on the issue, warning that the very credibility of the WTO is on the line, given the blatant American disregard for its ruling in favor of Antigua.

"The ministers said that the case is long outstanding and had the potential to undermine the credibility of the dispute settlement mechanism of the multilateral trading system. The council noted that the U.S. had so far failed to become compliant with the decision of the tribunal and had also failed to reach a settlement. The

meeting urged the U.S. to make additional efforts to reach a fair settlement."

The WTO ruling, a year after Antigua approached it for settlement, had said that while the U.S. had a right to protect its citizens from the perils of online gaming, it was nevertheless allowing its domestic horse-racing industry to offer Internet wagering also internationally calling it a contradiction.

The body then gave the U.S. a year to either allow gaming to restart out of Antigua, shut down the Internet gaming section of its horseracing industry or settle bilaterally with Antigua; but authorities say the ruling has largely been ignored. Antiguan authorities said the U.S. had offered it a settlement starting at a mere \$500,000 and other smaller amounts, calling it an insult.

It is unclear what other options are left to Antigua, since it had in 2007 made a second approach to the WTO for redress.

The body ruled that Antigua could ignore American copyright patent and related laws; sell copyrighted products and rake in the sales even as Washington warned of dire consequences if it so did.

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Petrotrin aims to shrink its carbon emission footprint

By Jewel Fraser

PORT OF SPAIN, May 5, 2014 (IPS) - Trinidad and Tobago holds the dubious distinction of being among the top 10 emitters of carbon dioxide per capita in the world, much of it due to the petrochemical industry that is the main driver of its economy.

According to the University of Trinidad and Tobago, the country's petrochemical sector is responsible for 60 percent of those emissions.

Melissa Mohammed-Rajkumar, a business analyst at the state-owned oil company, Petrotrin, told IPS that six percent of the country's greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) are from its own operations.

But now Petrotrin is eager to reduce its carbon



Petrotrin pumping jacks at its oilfields in Trinidad.

Photo courtesy of Petrotrin

It seeks to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by recovering and utilising methane-rich natural gas currently vented in the fields.

This PoA project was registered with the CDM in August 2013.

According to the CDM Programme Design Document Form issued in 2012, "Venting and flaring of associated gases from oil wells is commonplace, in Trinidad and internationally. This PoA will improve the economics of collecting associated gases from both onshore and off-shore oil fields in Trinidad."

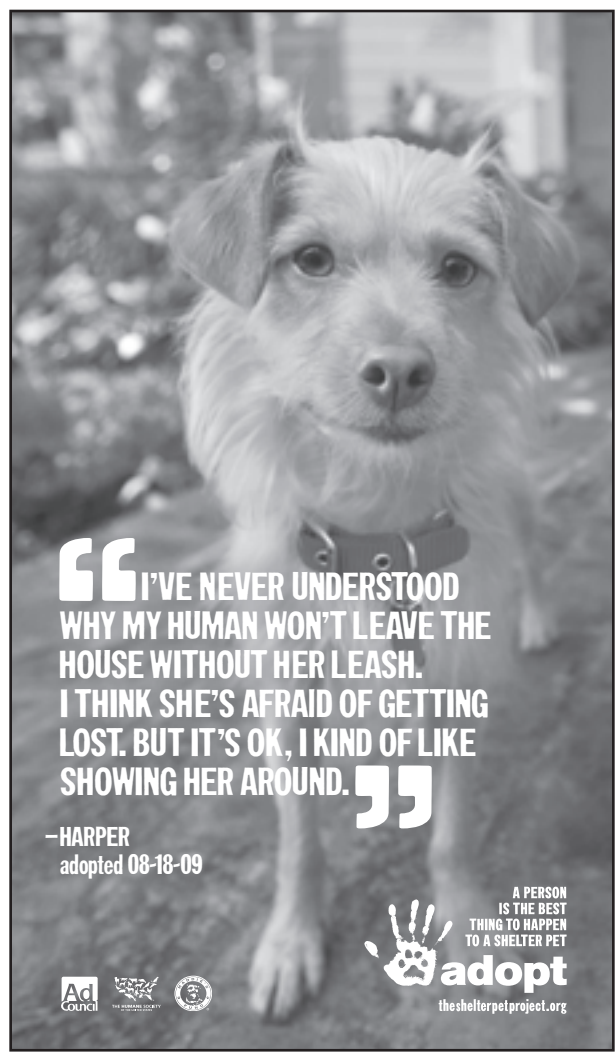
Venting involves controlled release into the atmosphere of unburned gases that are a byproduct of oil production. The vent-

Continued on Page 35

footprint.

It has succeeded in registering a Programme of Activities (PoA) project that would bundle together projects by several petrochemical companies in

Trinidad and Tobago and require only one validation process for all of them – the first such project in Trinidad to be registered under the U.N.'s Clean Development Mechanism (CDM).




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Jamaica traces just \$300,000 to kingpin

By David McFadden

KINGSTON, Jamaica (AP) — Investigators in Jamaica have traced a relatively paltry sum of dirty money to a convicted gang kingpin who profited from government contracts while he oversaw an international crime syndicate, a senior official said Tuesday.

Christopher “Dudus” Coke long controlled a sizable network of drug dealers

and he was once identified by the U.S. Justice Department as one of the world’s most dangerous drug kingpins. He surrendered to authorities and was quickly extradited to the U.S. in June 2010, about a month after Jamaican soldiers and police conducted a bloody siege of the blighted West Kingston slum that served as his virtual fiefdom.

But the director of the

Finance Ministry’s investigative division the past two years said Tuesday that his agency has uncovered bank accounts with just \$300,000 they can trace back to the gangster, who is serving a 23-year sentence in a U.S. prison. They are seeking to confiscate the money through the island’s courts.

Justin Felice voiced frustration with the amount that could be traced to Coke,

the second-generation leader of the notorious Shower Posse syndicate that got its name from the gang’s practice of “showering” its enemies with bullets. Without disclosing specifics, Felice said that a “lack of meaningful information and intelligence from other law enforcement agencies has been disappointing” and hobbled their investigations.



Investigators in Jamaica have traced a relatively paltry sum of dirty money to convicted Jamaican gang leader Christopher “Dudus” Coke. AP Photo/David Karp, File

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Black lawyer nominated as new ABA president

By Nelson A. King

The American Bar Association (ABA) has nominated a black lawyer as the first woman of color to be its president.

Paulette Brown, a labor and employment law partner and chief diversity officer with the Morristown, N.J., office of Edwards Wildman Palmer, was nominated as the ABA’s president-elect for 2014-15.

If elected by the ABA House of Delegates in August, she will become, in August 2015, the first woman of color and third African-American to serve as ABA president, the ABA said.

As a candidate for the president-elect position, Brown said the ABA should prepare itself to be more inclusive.

“Just as the U.S. Constitution has been amended to safeguard our liberties, the ABA must continue to respect and include lawyers in all practice areas and types, from solo practitioners to members of our largest international law firms, as well as public servants and in-house counsel,” she said.

Brown has held many positions throughout her career, including as in-house counsel to a number of Fortune 500 companies and as a municipal court judge.

In private practice, she has focused on all facets of



Paulette Brown. ©Kathy Anderson Photography

labor and employment and commercial litigation.

Brown has been recognized by the New Jersey Law Journal as one of the prominent women and minority attorneys in the state of New Jersey and by the National Law Journal as one of “The 50 Most Influential Minority Lawyers in America.”

She has been listed as a NJ Super Lawyer since its inception and for the past three years as one of the top 50 women lawyers and one of the top 100 lawyers.

Brown has repeatedly been named by U.S. News as one of the “Best Lawyers in America” in the area of commercial litigation.

In 2011, she was honored with the Margaret Brent Women Lawyers of Achievement Award by the ABA Commission on Women in the Profession.

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Adding tourism in the school curriculum

By Bonita Morgan

On behalf of the Caribbean Tourism Organization I want to commend the Caribbean Examinations Council for the launch of the five new subjects at the CAPE level, which addresses specific needs in our societies or areas where we want to develop knowledge and skills, including in the area of Tourism and I want to thank CXC for inviting the CTO to say a few words at this launch.

We at the CTO are really one of the major advocate behind the Tourism subject being launched here today having had discussions with ministers of education, ministers of tourism, chief education officers, the Caribbean Examinations Council etc. over many, many years to try to convince them of the need to introduce tourism as a subject within our school system. Some countries in the region have gone this route already without waiting for the education directorate to sanction anything. The Commonwealth of the Bahamas has developed and uses tourism education materials for all levels of its school system, the Cayman Islands have developed tourism education materials, which they actively use, Jamaica, at the primary school level invested heavily in integrating or infusing tourism into other subject areas and developing specific curricula for the same. You have just heard Minister Jespere, minister of education for St. Martin and St.

Barth, speaking of their success in being able to convince the French government in France of the need to introduce tourism education in their school system. CTO went the route of developing specific tourism education materials for primary and secondary schools and some countries are using the materials to buttress their own tourism education and awareness programmes.

But why is it important to introduce the tourism subject into our schools:

It is one of the building blocks in the development of the human resources environment to support tourism.

1. Building Career Awareness in Tourism - Tourism is the lifeblood of the Caribbean at this time in our existence and will continue to be an important economic sector for our region for some time to come. We have been saying for the longest while that one in every four persons in the region either works directly or indirectly with the tourism sector. Tourism is labour intensive, which is a good thing for our small economies, and we need to attract persons to work in the sector. In fact, there is a strong likelihood that many school leavers will actually end up working in jobs in tourism or in jobs that link to tourism, whether it be in events and conference planning, public relations and marketing, research and statistics, conducting tours, working

Continued on Page 12

Caribbean religious leaders inspire IMF Sunday Schools

By Eric LeCompte

WASHINGTON, May 5, 2014 (IPS) - Last Fall, I witnessed the Grenada Council of Churches insert themselves into negotiations between their government and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) around the island's debt restructuring and presumed austerity policies. Religious leaders called from pulpits across the tiny island for a "Jubilee" or national debt cancellation.

When I recently returned to the Spice Isle, I was awed by what I saw – the religious experiment in Grenada was spreading like wild fire to other Caribbean countries.

At Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church, overlooking the Caribbean Sea, the Caribbean Council of Churches, four Catholic Dioceses and various religious leaders from across the region gathered to launch the Caribbean Debt Network.

They came from St. Vincent and The Grenadines, Barbados, Dominica, Trinidad and Tobago, Jamaica and Grenada, knowing their unity is more vital than ever.

Out of the 20 most heavily indebted countries in the world, six are Caribbean countries.

The islands are dotted with makeshift shacks, where depending on the island, 20 percent to 50 percent of the population lives in poverty. Various islands see high unemployment rates from 30 to upwards of 50 percent.

Like dominoes, island after island is going through International Monetary Fund IMF debt restructurings that demand austerity policies that hurt millions of people living in extreme poverty.

Among most Caribbean tourist areas, you can't avoid the

"Our churches are on the front lines of fighting poverty in the Caribbean. We see how the debt crisis is hurting the poorest people on the islands,

working poor.

In fact, the plight of the vulnerable along with infrastructure challenges are so palpable on the small islands, you scratch your head wondering why the IMF calls these countries "Middle Income." When a poor country is defined as Middle Income, they cannot apply for existing debt relief processes such as the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative or HIPC.

The process by which economists define a country as Middle Income is by averaging the total income of everyone in the country (per capita). In other words if 99 people make one dollar and one person makes 100,000 dollars, the average income per person is 1,001 dollars.

In a place like Grenada, where the poverty rate ranges from 38 to 50 percent, the income levels are skewed. The religious community uses the words "social sin" to describe how income inequality is hidden from us as struggling Caribbean economies are denied relief because of what they are called.

Even with HIPC, any poor country will tell you it's not a walk in the park. The IMF and other international financial institutions acknowledge that the process offers too little debt relief, too late, with too many benchmarks. However, when struggling economies go through the painful act of debt

restructuring without even the framework of HIPC, it's wrangling a hurricane.

And real hurricanes are real threats. In 2004, 200 percent of Grenada's GDP was wiped out in three hours by Hurricane Ivan. With powerful hurricanes landing every 10 years and financial crises in other parts of the world impacting the Caribbean's primary industry of tourism, countries across the region seem destined for never-ending cycles of austerity and debt.

"Our churches are on the front lines of fighting poverty in the Caribbean. We see how the debt crisis is hurting the poorest people on the islands," notes the new chair of the Caribbean Debt Network, Presbyterian Minister Osbert James.

James's historic cathedral, among many structures unrepaired since the 2004 Hurricane, still lacks a roof.

While it's still too early to assess Grenada's debt restructuring, we can see that the Jubilee model is opening up shop on other Caribbean islands.

At Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church, the regional Caribbean religious leaders launched the new coalition in a conference room aptly named The Upper Room. For Christians, it evokes Pentecost when the Holy Spirit empowered religious leaders to inspire others. Pentecost is derived from the more ancient Jewish holiday, Shavuot, which celebrates the gift of our covenant with God and God's abundance.

At the founding conference last week, the religious community sought to spread Pentecost and Shavuot. They resolved the following:

1. To raise the awareness of

Continued on Page 12

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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.

More see-through scheming by the Republicans

This business of predictability in what passes for strategy on the Republican side would be hilarious, were there not such potential for dire consequences, depending on the extent to which gullible non-rabid partisans climb aboard the hard-liners' bandwagon, to swallow intact the twaddle served them by GOP past masters of guile. Critical mid-term elections are upcoming in November, and the intensity surrounding the 2016 presidential stakes is already through the roof. The need to bait-and-switch, to bamboozle, to con their way to ballot-box success is what right now consumes Republican strategists like nothing else. Hence, in a routine gone stale, their pulling, the other day, yet another Benghazi rabbit out of the hat.

The latest Benghazi resurrection is seemingly intended to be a GOP two-fer: a rally cry to be used against Democrats in this year's mid-terms and a broadside that they hope will eviscerate Hillary Clinton if she decides to be a presidential candidate in 2016. The good betting says neither of these will be particularly effective. Only because Benghazi has already been beaten to death as

a would-be issue by Republicans to no avail. From Mitt Romney's failed attempt to give it bite in his face-off with President Obama in 2012 to the elongated witch hunt of Congressman Darrell Issa (whose position heading "investigations" into anything is probably Capitol Hill's number one absurdity), the Benghazi ship has long sailed, absent the bounty Republicans had hoped to load in.

To be sure, this latest destined-to-be-futile effort to re-float the Benghazi episode would have been left in the propaganda suggestion box, if the mining potential for stuff once considered "can't miss" campaign fodder hadn't looked so bleak of late. Most notable among those avenues of attack no longer offering big-time promise is, of course, the Affordable Care Act. After a problem-plagued launch, recent news of sign-ups in excess of eight million wasn't what Republicans cared to hear, and in a demographically proportional mix, to boot, that ensures the program's financial viability. After the obligatory huff and puff decrying those figures as fabricated and all the rest, GOP masterminds had to face up to health care not

Viewpoint

By Les Slater

being the Democratic punching bag they were sure it would be, and the need to devise a plan B. That their best option turns out to be this desperate bid to hike the tired Benghazi trail once again probably explains why relying on gobs of Super-PAC money is really the only campaign game plan Republicans have.

And with nothing doing by way of substance, here come the actors. House speaker John Boehner is the lead. Every once in a blue moon, Boehner makes like he's capable of being a true stand-up guy. As when he refused, a few days ago, to join the chorus of voices in his caucus demanding the resignation of Secretary of Veterans Affairs, Gen. Eric Shinseki. Not so, Benghazi, where all bets are evidently off for Boehner. Something like this crystal-clear obvious attempt to make political hay out of that unfortunate happening in Libya should have aroused, one would think, any "better angels"

that there might be to Boehner's nature. Clearly, a straight-shooter demeanor is nowhere close to being typical Boehner. He is certifiably a full-fledged subscriber to the bottom-feeder mentality and tactics of his party.

Boehner is one of a couple of GOP principals who readily come to mind, in terms of attempting to project, on occasion, an image designed to preclude their being lumped in with the party's extremist kooks. The other is John McCain. Because of his military background, including time spent as a Vietnam era p.o.w., McCain has assumed a position as the Republican foreign policy face. Which would be fine, except that he insists on, again, predictably bludgeoning the public with a take on foreign policy that is totally out of step with Americans' sentiments on foreign policy priorities at this juncture. Even if the Obama administration believes, for instance, that Vladimir Putin's simulated war dance in Ukraine has warranted the application of sanctions and some tough talk, hardly has there been any level-headed observer who thinks U.S. involvement on some military level is a smart option. Trust McCain to insist

that it is and to insist further that the American people "should be led" to that ramped-up response to Putin's antics.

McCain isn't easily resigned to there being exit dates for this country's military involvement in Iraq and Afghanistan. To hear him tell it, hawkish posture is still alive and well. What's perplexing is that for some reason, there's seemingly a McCain hammer lock on the media which uncannily guarantees him continuous talking-head exposure.

The flip side McCain contributions like his up-front positioning on immigration reform and campaign finance reform necessarily are obscured by the hard-charging, power-packing imperative that McCain thinks must continue to define America's place in the world. And an awareness that McCain was willing to entrust the presidency to Sarah Palin certainly doesn't enhance one's impression of the man.

Unlike a few decades ago, one doesn't find in today's Republican ranks the kind of mettle that inspires confidence suggestive of good governance. Only on the one hand, outright wackos.



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OP-EDS

Caribbean debt solutions

Continued from page 10

the effects of the sovereign debt on Caribbean Countries

2. To establish a structure within which our countries can resolve indebtedness fairly

3. To build a Jubilee coalition to achieve debt resolution, sustainable development and fiscal responsibility at all levels

4. To illustrate how sov-

ereign debt impacts issues of concern, such as human trafficking, drug trafficking, climate change and HIV/Aids.

5. To work with governments and with our international partners on all aspects of debt

6. To encourage the Governments of Grenada and Antigua & Barbuda to champion the cause of a special initiative for resolv-

ing Caribbean indebtedness to achieve a sustainable debt level

Eric LeCompte is the Executive Director of Jubilee USA Network and serves on UN expert working groups that focus on debt restructuring and financial reforms. He recently returned from Grenada where he supported the launch of the Caribbean Debt Network.

Tourism as a career

Continued from page 10

in hotels and restaurants, etc. It is a reality of our economies and we should at minimum prepare our young people to understand something about the scope and workings of the sector so that they can make intelligent choices when they begin their own career planning and forging their own career path. So building career awareness is important for the tourism sector.

Why introduce tourism in the schools:

2. Influencing Public Attitudes and Awareness to Tourism and Tourists - We need to do a better job at sensitizing our local populations about the importance of tourism to our economies and to their individual well being and to show them the positive impacts linked to job creation, foreign exchange earnings, local and foreign investment, tax collection, goods and services generated and used by the sector etc. etc. and how this all feeds in a better quality of life for all of us. I am very aware that when we are trying to publicly influence attitudes and thinking about critical areas of our lives for example: the dangers of legal and illegal drugs, protecting our environment, adopting healthy lifestyles, sexually transmitted diseases including HIV and AIDS, domestic violence and child abuse, family planning, the dangers of smoking etc. etc. our social advocates say that we need to go into the schools

to educate our young people so that over time we can influence their thinking and behaviours, and we have started to see positive gains from this type of education in our schools. Just think about the reduction of smoking in our young populations as an example. This campaign has worked successfully over the years and our young people have got the message. Additionally, tourism depends on a host population that is receptive and welcoming to visitors and not hostile or looking for ways to rip them off. And we believe like the African American writer, poet, artist extraordinaire Maya Angelou said "when you know better you do better." So we have to better educate our general population so that we will safeguard and protect our visitors and by doing so safeguard and protect our economies. We are convinced that once our people "know better" about tourism they will act and do better, and the schools are one of those building blocks to engender that those public attitudes and awareness to tourism and tourists.

3. National Commitment to Tourism. Finally we need to continue to build national commitment to tourism as one of the key pillars of our economy in our region so that the attitudes, policies and decisions of our governments towards tourism are sound and sustainable. This includes areas such as investment policies, human and financial sup-

port in areas such as destination marketing, product development, education etc. Having tourism as a subject in our schools will help our countries to expose more of our young people to what tourism entails and continue to build national commitment to tourism in the future.

So, the teaching of tourism in our schools at an early age as possible is positive for tourism, positive for our countries and positive for our region in promoting career awareness in tourism, influencing public attitudes and awareness towards tourism and tourists and continuing to build national commitment for the sector.

CTO looks forward to continuing to work with the Caribbean Examinations Council in helping with the next stage of this journey regarding supporting the teachers who will teach this subject, helping with the provision of resource materials and encouraging our young persons to choose tourism as one of the subjects they opt for at the sixth form level.

Once again, we congratulate Mr. Glenroy Cumberbatch and his team at CXC for the launch of these five subjects. Thank you.

The author, the CTO's director of Resource Mobilization and Development, delivered the keynote address at the launch a Caribbean Rexamations Council's Carer Awareness forum.

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New effort to halt spread of HIV in the Caribbean

By David McFadden

KINGSTON, Jamaica (AP) — A handful of sex workers sit on discarded cardboard along a filthy sewer channel, sharing food and razors to shave their legs and faces as they prepare for the night's labor on the streets of Jamaica's capital.

Gay sex and prostitution is illegal in Jamaica, and LGBT people who sell sex face arrest or worse. But this normally wary group is welcoming on a recent evening as a volunteer descends into the open channel with condoms, lubricant and health advice.

"It's hard living like this, but we're trying our best to stay safe and healthy. Nobody wants to get HIV," says one of the gay men, a shirtless 21-year-old who gives his name only as Kris.

In much of the world, giving out condoms and

guidance to gay, bisexual and transgender sex workers is routine. But reaching out to men who have sex with men is practically revolutionary in parts of the English-speaking Caribbean, where homophobia and laws criminalizing gay sex have long driven people underground — turning them into the toughest group to reach with HIV prevention programs and fueling a regional epidemic.

Now, there's a growing momentum to turn the tide in Jamaica, Trinidad & Tobago, Guyana and eight other countries that criminalize sex between adults of the same gender. Even as funding grants get tighter, HIV prevention programs to reach men who have sex with men are scaling up and advocacy groups appear energized.

"We are in an entirely new era," said Ernest Mas-

siah, the Trinidad-based Caribbean director for the United Nations program on HIV and AIDS.

A clear sign of changing times is Jamaica's Color Pink Group, a nonprofit founded in 2011 whose existence would have been almost unthinkable on the island a decade ago. On a recent night, founder James Burton, one of very few Jamaican homosexuals who feel comfortable disclosing their full name, wore a loud pink shirt as he spoke about HIV prevention to a group of young gays outside a Kingston shopping mall.

"This is what was really lacking before: visibility and one-on-one connections," said Burton, whose group also provides vocational training and distributes condoms and lubricant.

But while societal acceptance of homosexuality is increasing, according to



In this, April 4, 2014, photo, homeless youths hang out at the entrance of a sewer pipe along a trash-strewn canal where they live beneath a busy road in Kingston, Jamaica. They are part of a small group of young, gay and transgender Jamaicans who mostly sell sex to make money.

AP Photo/David McFadden

new polls commissioned by UNAIDS in eight Caribbean countries, the problem for gay men remains dire, even as the region has seen sharp declines in overall HIV infection for the population as a whole since 2000.

Around the globe, men who have sex with men generally face elevated lev-

els of HIV infection compared to heterosexual men. But experts say Caribbean nations with high levels of stigma have disproportionately high rates. One study published in the medical journal *Lancet* in 2012 found that the HIV prevalence for them in the Caribbean is one of the highest documented rates in the

world. Overall, the Caribbean has the highest rate of HIV outside sub-Saharan Africa, though both the overall and per capita numbers are much lower. Regional infection rates are highest for men who have sex with men in countries with longstanding laws that criminalize gay sex.

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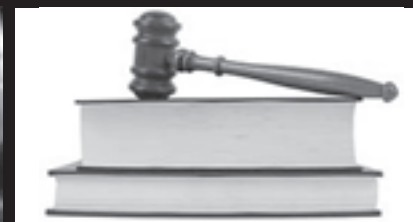


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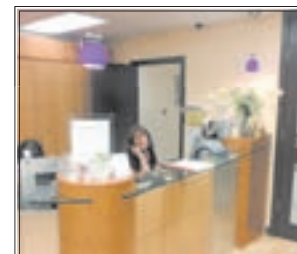
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CARIBBEAN ROUNDUP

Continued from page 16

Task Force (CFATF) has warned of harsh consequences should Guyana fail to pass anti-money laundering legislation.

The task force addressed the matter during a meeting recently with President Donald Ramotar, Attorney General Anil Nandlall and others.

Following the meeting, Nandlall said CFATF noted that Guyana is the only country yet to implement all of the recommendations related to the bill.

He said although Guyana has completed a bill that has been examined by CFATF and deemed to be compliant, the proposed draft amendments made by the parliamentary opposition do not address the bill.

In response, vice-chairman of A Partnership for National Unity (APNU), Dr. Rupert Roopnarine, said there is a political crisis and it requires a political solution.

APNU maintains that even if an agreement was reached in the Special Committee on amendments to the 2009 Anti-Money Laundering and Countering of Financing Terrorism, there are several political issues to be resolved.

Trinidad

Former Prime Minister Basdeo Panday has joined several citizens who have called for foreign investigators to be used to probe the murder

of special prosecutor Dana Seetahal SC.

He said citizens lacked confidence in the Police Service and in the interest of speedy justice foreign assistance should be used.

The government must take the blame for the crime problem in the country as it had no clue on how to fight crime effectively, he added.

According to Panday, the People's Partnership was selected to deal with the problem but failed "miserably."

He said the government must consequently be blamed, not only for Seetahal's death but all the murders in the country since it assumed power in 2010.

The former prime minister said since Sunday's killing, the population was more scared.

Compiled by Azad Ali



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From left, David Evans, LIAT CEO; Neville Boxhill, aviation consultant, Barbados Tourism Authority; Marie-Claire Williams, journalist at CMC; and Economist Ryan Straughn.

‘Spring into Vacation’ with Caribbean Airlines

Caribbean Airlines has launched its “Spring into Vacation” campaign. Customers who travel Mondays through Thursdays from May 9 through June 15, can benefit from 10 percent discount to any of their favourite destinations.

Loyal frequent flyers of Caribbean Miles and 7th Heaven rewards who book their flights to Fort Lauderdale between Trinidad and Jamaica earn double miles on each sector of their trip, plus use 30 percent less miles from Trinidad or Kingston to Toronto, Fort Lauderdale and London between May 9 and June 8.

“Whether it’s for a holiday, getaway or well-deserved break, travelling outside of the traditional summer period has its benefits. Some customers prefer the cooler weather or simply have said it’s the most convenient time to pamper themselves and take a break. With this in mind, we are offering an endless summer for 2014 that takes the hassle out of travel,” states Alicia Cabrera, senior marketing manager.

For more information, visit www.caribbean-airlines.com or www.airjamaica.com.

Taxing for a fairer travel deal

BRIDGETOWN, Barbados, May 1, 2014 – The newly appointed CEO of LIAT – The Caribbean Airline believes a reduction in taxation on intra-regional travel will help increase revenues for the governments of the Caribbean and give customers a fairer deal.

David Evans, who assumed leadership duties on April 22, 2014, acknowledged taxes are important to reinvest in aviation infrastructure, but he would like to see governments fully examine the overall economic and social impact of LIAT.

Speaking on the Caribbean Tourism Organization’s Destination Car-

ibbean – a series of live, regional broadcasts on the importance of Caribbean tourism – Evans, a former British Airways executive, stated that the Caribbean tax burden is not significantly high compared with other parts of the world, but he suggested that a lighter taxation regime will stimulate greater demand and an increase in the “tax take” back to the government.

He contended that for every LIAT employee, four additional jobs in the aviation supply chain are created.

“We spend approximately US\$12.5 million dollars a year here in Barbados, but all those jobs we create

spend a further \$25 million and most of that is, of course, taxable revenue to the government,” said Evans, who joined Elizabeth Scotton, chief commercial officer, Sangster International Airport, Jamaica; Neville Boxhill, aviation consultant, Barbados Tourism Authority; and Economist Ryan Straughn during the lively television discussion, which aired across the region on the Caribbean Media Corporation.

“LIAT is worth - outside of its airline activity - well over US\$100 million dollars annually to the region in terms of the jobs it creates and the impact that it

has on tourism,” declared Evans who assured viewers that meeting increased demand with more capacity was not a major hurdle. “Any airline faced with increasing demand will be happy with that situation and it would find a way either in its own right or in some sort of a cooperative fashion in order to provide that extra supply or capacity.”

Meanwhile, the LIAT CEO sees a real opportunity for collaboration among regional carriers. “Whilst competition is absolutely essential, there is more we can do in cooperation with each other than we are doing at the

moment.” Looking ahead, Evans stated that LIAT is well positioned to increase connectivity to and from other regional and international carriers, thereby increasing the volume of traffic and returning benefits back to governments.

ABOUT LIAT

LIAT is one of the leading Caribbean airlines. It is owned by regional shareholders, with major shareholders being the governments of Barbados, Antigua & Barbuda and St. Vincent & the Grenadines. More information about LIAT may be found at www.liat.com.

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NYC Small Business Resource Center | The New York Public Library

smallbiz.nypl.org

Small Business Services - Empire State Development New York

www.esd.ny.gov/smallbusiness.html

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/help-resource/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.bcnys.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.

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Immigration Primer: Cut This Out and Hang It On Your Fridge

If you are an immigrant or have friends or family members who are immigrants, you should know this information. Too many people are deported from the United States because of mistakes on their applications, because they ignore letters from the government or simply because they did not know what to do or whom to turn to. If you think that you are protected just because you have a green card, think again! Sometimes even a small criminal conviction can become grounds for deportation. Protect yourself and your family by knowing this important information, provided to us by Yakov Spektor, Esq. of Spektor Law Group, P.C. - an immigration attorney with years of experience helping immigrants become legal in this country.

1. What to do if your family member is detained



by immigration?

Sometimes, even if your loved one is illegal here, something can be done to save him or her from deportation. If your family member is detained, he is probably in ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement) custody. Call ICE to find out where he is being held or who his deportation officer is: (212) 264-

4213. If your family member was picked up as a result of a criminal matter, he might still be in police custody - go to your local precinct to find out. Don't forget - neither the police, nor deportation officers will help you save your loved one from deportation! Only an experienced immigration lawyer can do that. Contact an experienced

immigration lawyer immediately after you learn that your loved one was picked up - in this situation, time is very

2. What to do if you or your family member gets arrested for a criminal matter.

Okay, you (or your friend or a family member) gets arrested by the police. However, you are not a U.S. Citi-

zen. Many people mistakenly believe that if they have a green card, they will be protected from deportation. In fact, a green card does not guarantee that you will not be deported if you break the law - many, many green card holders lose their permanent resident status as a result of their criminal convictions. So, it is very important to make sure that you do not get convicted of anything that might become grounds for your deportation. If you had just been arrested, contact a criminal lawyer AND an immigration lawyer. An immigration lawyer will be able to tell your criminal lawyer what to do, so that you are safe from deportation. Of course, all this doubly applies to you if you are here illegally - if you are arrested, have your family contact an immigration lawyer as soon

3. What to do if you are illegal here and got a letter from immigration.

As a general rule, never ignore any letters that you receive from the government. This letter might tell you to

come to Immigration Court and if you do not show up, the court can issue an automatic deportation order. And then, you might get picked up, thrown into jail and deported - all because you ignored that letter! If you are not sure what the letter is, call an immigration attorney - he will be able to explain it to you. A good immigration lawyer will be able to go with you to any hearing or an appointment and sometimes even to save you from deportation.

The contents of this editorial is intended for general information purposes only and does not constitute legal advice. If you need legal advice about your specific situation, call Yakov Spektor at (646) 543-0745.

Yakov Spektor is an immigration lawyer, who saved thousands of people from deportation. He is always happy to answer immigration questions and his firm offers free consultations. Call Spektor Law Group, P.C. to talk about your case: (646) 543-0745.

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Tips for managing stress in your life

(StatePoint) Stress is not only unpleasant; it can be overwhelming, ultimately preventing you from solving the problems that caused the stress in the first place.

But getting focused can help you feel happier and be more successful professionally, financially and in your relationships, say experts.

“Rather than living with fear or regret, you can turn your life’s most difficult challenges into the best thing that has ever happened to you,” says Master DDnard, self-help guru and author of the new book, “The Compass of Now,” a guide for taking control of one’s life, which is already a best-seller in Thailand.

The key to reducing harmful stress in your life is to incorporate meditation into your day, stresses DDnard. She offers these tips for getting started:

• Separate yourself from your feelings: Remember that your thoughts and feelings are impermanent, so try not to be consumed by your emotions. Freeing yourself

HEALTH

from an internal negative loop can improve your mood and have a positive effect on your external circumstances.

• Give and share: Concentrate on giving and sharing your happiness. “When you do so, you’ll attract goodness, good people, and prosperity,” she says.

• Focus on possibilities: A good ratio is to spend five percent of your time thinking about a problem, and the other 95 percent of your time thinking about solutions. Avoid dwelling on limitations that hold you back.

• Appreciate: Each day, set aside time to put down your electronic devices and turn off the television. Meditation can help you appreciate the world around you -- the color of the sky, the smiles of your loved ones, the warmth of your family and friends.



Incorporating meditation into your day is the key to reducing harmful stress. Photo courtesy of Statepoint

• Be satisfied: You can “choose” to be happy regardless of your circumstances, says DDnard. So concentrate on what you have and it being “enough,” rather than on your desires that are unfulfilled.

That way of thinking tends to be negative, and unhelpful toward setting and meeting goals.

More tips and advice for reducing stress can be found at www.CompassOfNow.com.

“In a society oversaturated with technology, we’ve lost our ability to focus,” says DDnard. “But being mindful and tapping into your intuitive center can help you reach your full potential.

Shopping break.
A perfect moment to talk about alcohol.

An alarming number of pre-teens are drinking alcohol – which makes it urgent to find every opportunity to talk to your kids about the dangers of underage drinking. For tips on how – and when – to begin the conversation, visit:
www.underagedrinking.samhsa.gov

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Photographed by Sean Kennedy Santos

Kingsbrook Celebrates newly expanded Emergency Department and Rutland Adult Day Care Facility



This impressive expansion project added 1,800 square feet to enhance patient access. Kingsbrook has experienced a 76% increase in Emergency Department visits from 2005 to 2013, from approximately 21,500 patients annually to over 37,000 patients annually. Pictured left to right are: Vijay Akkapeddi, M.D, Chair of Emergency Medicine at Kingsbrook; Pearl Miles, District Manager Community Board 9; Councilmember Matthieu Eugene, Kingsbrook President & CEO, Dr. Linda Brady, Councilmember Darlene Mealy, Henna White, Kingsbrook Board Chair; and Michael Poretsky, Kingsbrook Board Member.



Rutland Adult Day Health Care Center, representing a cultural cross section of the community, enables physically challenged adults and frail elderly to live at home and spend the day with us. Caregivers will find the Center a tremendous asset in providing respite in their busy schedules. Adults are eligible if they do not require a full time nursing home but are in need of supportive health care to help them maintain a healthy, independent lifestyle in the community. Pictured, left to right are: Berhane Wubshet M.D, Chair Long Term Care Medicine at Kingsbrook; Nicole Casimir, Director of Adult Day Health Care, Rutland Nursing Home at Kingsbrook; Michelle Edwards, Vice President Rutland Nursing Home at Kingsbrook, Councilmember Darlene Mealy; Councilmember Matthieu Eugene; Henna White, Kingsbrook Board Chair; Kingsbrook President & CEO Dr. Linda Brady; Michael Poretsky, Kingsbrook Board Member.



The newly renovated day room at Rutland Adult Day Health Care Center.



Dr. Linda Brady, speaks with Temporah Jones Williams, age 100.

Kingsbrook Jewish Medical Center and Rutland Adult Day Health Care Center are located at 585 Schenectady Avenue between Winthrop Street and Rutland Road. For more information, call (718) 604-5000.

Minimum wage increase for Haitian workers

By Nelson A. King

Haitian President Michel Martelly has issued an executive order raising the minimum wage for apparel workers.

Based on current exchange rates, the increase from 200 Haitian Gourde to 225 Gourde (US \$4.44 to \$5) is a 12.5 percent increase, but currency devaluations make the boost equivalent to only an eight percent hike in U.S. dollars, which is widely used in Haiti, according to the Miami Herald.

It said the increase for apparel workers comes after a settlement earlier this month with the Martelly administration.

But Georges Sassine, general manager of Lafito Industrial Free Zone under construction on the northern outskirts of Port-au-Prince, the Haitian capital, and former president of the association of industries of Haiti, said "salary increases without further social services, health, education and transportation provided don't mean anything."

"It's just a continuation of the same," he added.

Solidarity, the nonprofit affiliate of the American Center for International Labor, said in a report that, based on the cost of basic expenses and a basket of food items, a garment worker in Port-au-Prince needs to earn US\$23.12 for an eight-hour day to support a family of four.

The Herald said the pay



Haitian President Michel Martelly.

AP Photo/Eduardo Verdugo, File

boost is not only less than what Solidarity has outlined, but also far less than the US\$11.11 protesting garment workers have asked for in recent months, as they forced some factories in the capital to stop production.

Yves Savain, the executive director of the commission overseeing the U.S. HOPE legislation that provides preferential trade benefits to Haiti's apparel sector, said he believes the increase will quell demands.

He said because Haiti's apparel industry is still

relatively small but growing, it can sustain the pay increase.

A recent report issued by Better Work Haiti showed that 39 percent of Haiti's nearly 30,000 workers were already earning more than the US\$4.44 a day minimum and 29 percent earned US\$6.66, according to the Herald.

With one of the highest unemployment rates in the hemisphere, the paper noted that Haiti has struggled to attract investors to create jobs.

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Press freedom essential in a democratic society

By Nelson A. King

Antigua and Barbuda's Ambassador to the United Nations, John W. Ashe, says freedom of expression and freedom of the press are "fundamental rights" that form an "essential pillar" of democratic societies.

"When journalists are able to report freely, they support informed citizen participation in political and social processes and promote civic engagement," said Ashe, who is also president of the U.N. General Assembly, as the United Nations on Saturday marked World Press Freedom Day with an appeal to all States, societies and individuals to actively defend press freedom as a "fundamental right" and as a "critical contribution" to achieving and sustaining the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

Ashe recalled that, in December 2013, the Assembly adopted for the first time a resolution condemning all attacks and violence against journalists and media workers, and proclaimed Nov. 2 as the International Day to end Impunity for Crimes against Journalists.

"Our Assembly called upon member states to promote a safe and enabling environment for journalists to perform their work independently and without undue interference," the Antiguan envoy said.

"In this regard, the U.N. Plan of Action on the Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity is an important multi-stakeholder mechanism," he added, stating that "only by ensuring that journalists can work safely and without fear will they be able to give voice to those who do not have one,

and help build open and transparent societies."

U.N. Secretary General Ki-moon and Irina Bokova, director-general of U.N. Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), said U.N. bodies are already working together and with other partners, under UNESCO's leadership, to create a "free and safe environment for journalists and media workers around the world."

They stressed in their joint message that, this year, the international community has a "once-in-a-generation opportunity" to prepare a long-term agenda for sustainable development to succeed the MDGs when they end in 2015.

"Successfully implementing that agenda will require that all populations enjoy the fundamental rights



John W. Ashe.

democracy, transparency, accountability and the rule of law.

"They are vital for human dignity, social progress and inclusive development," they added.

World Press Freedom Day, which was designated as May 3 in 1993 by the U.N. General Assembly, was marked in about 100 countries.

UNESCO is holding an international conference, entitled "Media Freedom For a Better Future: Shaping the Post-2015 Development Agenda", on Monday and Tuesday in Paris.

Also marking the Day, 31 specialists from the largest body of independent experts in the U.N. Human Rights system called on all Governments to promote and protect the rights to freedom of expression and information, freedom of peaceful assembly, and freedom of association and public participation.

They said the protection of these fundamental freedoms is essential for full realization of all human rights for all and for the achievement of related development goals.

of freedom of opinion and expression," said the U.N. officials, underscoring that those rights are essential to

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Visit any HHC breast cancer awareness event in May to learn more:

The Bronx

Jacobi Medical Center*

1400 Pelham Parkway South
Mezzanine – Building 6
May 7, 14, 21 & 28 (Wednesdays)
9am – 8pm
(718) 918-4716

Lincoln Medical and Mental Health Center

234 East 149th Street
Medical Pavilion
May 6, 13, 20 & 27 (Tuesdays)
4pm – 6:30pm
May 8, 15, 22 & 29 (Thursdays)
4pm – 6:30pm

Women Health Clinic (1A2)

May 3 & 17 (Saturdays)
8am – 2pm
(718) 579-5550

North Central Bronx Hospital*

3424 Kossuth Avenue
Lobby
May 8, 15, 22 & 29 (Thursdays)
10am – 2pm
(718) 519-3086

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Breast Health information station
Lobby 1st floor
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(718) 579-4010

Morrisania Diagnostic & Treatment Center

Women's Health Clinic – 3rd Floor
1225 Gerard Avenue
May 5 – 30
9am – 4pm (Monday - Friday)
(718) 960-2701

Brooklyn

East New York Diagnostic & Treatment Center

2094 Pitkin Avenue
May 5, 12 & 19 (Mondays)
May 7, 14, 21 & 28 (Wednesdays)
May 9, 16, 23 & 30 (Fridays)
10am-3pm
(718) 240-0531

Coney Island Hospital*

Main Building - First Floor Lobby
2601 Ocean Parkway
May 7 (Wednesday)
10am – 2pm
(718) 616-4432

Kings County Hospital Center*

E Building – 6th Floor
451 Clarkson Avenue
May 6, 13, 20 & 27 (Tuesdays)
May 7, 14, 21 & 28 (Wednesdays)
May 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29 (Thursdays)
9am – 2pm
(718) 245-3267

Manhattan

Bellevue Hospital Center

Atrium
462 First Avenue (27th Street)
May 15 (Thursday)
10am – 2pm
(212) 562-4516

Gouverneur Health

227 Madison Street
May 1 – 31
8am – 6pm
(212) 238-7897

Harlem Hospital Center*

Mural Pavilion –
Women's Imaging, 2nd Floor
506 Lenox Avenue
May 5 – 30 (Monday – Friday)
8am – 12pm
May 10, 17, 24 & 31 (Saturdays)
8am – 2pm
May 11 & 18 (Sundays)
12pm – 5pm
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Mother's Day Mammogram Event Ronald Brown Pavilion

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9am – 2pm
(212) 939-4290 or 4291

Metropolitan Hospital Center*

1901 First Avenue
May 9 (Friday)
10am – 3pm
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May 17 (Saturday)
10am – 3pm
(212) 423-7993

Queens

Elmhurst Hospital Center*

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Elmhurst
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8am – 5pm
(718) 334-1900

"Healthy Living for Women" Health Fair

H-Building Lobby
May 21 (Wednesday)
10am – 1pm
(718) 334-1900

Queens Hospital Center*

82-68 164th Street
Main Building, Atrium
Jamaica
May 8 & 22 (Thursdays)
10am – 2pm
(718) 883-4509

Staten Island

Mariners Harbor Family Health Center*

Forest Plaza Shopping Center
2040 Forest Avenue
May 9 (Friday)
10am – 3pm
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Sea View Hospital Rehabilitation Center & Home*

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A BIRTHDAY TRIBUTE TO MY FATHER, CHARLES JAMES BARRETT



On May 19, 2014, my father, Charles James Barrett, lovingly called “Papa” by his children and grand children, will turn 95 years old. Although he is almost a centurion, my dad still stands erect despite needing the assistance of a cane. His smile and strength of his voice has not been dulled by age.

Born and raised in the hills of St. Ann in Western Jamaica, Charles Barrett was a force in his native land before immigrating to the United States in 1974 when he was in his early fifties. A champion for education despite his modest schooling, my father was instrumental in bringing schools to the rural district of Higgin Land where we grew up. As a farmer, he worked with the Jamaican Agricultural society to bring training to the local farmers. Papa, a peacemaker, was the “Go-to” person for resolving conflicts.

Charles Barrett is a dedicated father and devoted husband to my mother whom he was married to for 68 years before she passed away two years ago at the age of 91. My parents’ greatest pride was that they produced 12 children as a result of their union. There are 11 of us now as one sibling only lived for three months.

When a person has been alive for almost 10 decades, he has experienced a lot and has achieved a great deal. My father, Charles James Barrett, is no different. For example, in 1945, he was denied the right to sit at a lunch counter in Maryland, yet in 2008 and, again in 2012, he experienced the pride of voting for the first Black President of the United States.

Throughout his 95 years, my father taught us all through simple and universal principles: “Respect yourself. Don’t settle for less than the best. Make hay while the sun shines. Don’t squander your education opportunities. Avoid the deadly habit of procrastination. Treat others the way you want to be treated. Pray without ceasing”. Along with my mother, Papa instilled first in my brothers, sisters and I, and then later to his grandchildren, the desire to achieve excellence.

Through his teachings, my father has guided us and created many special memories for all of us: his 11 children, 23 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren who love him dearly and are in constant awe of him.

A man of principle, integrity and honor, my father is most proud and fervent about being a preacher of the Gospel. Back home in Jamaica, we grew up in the church in which my father tirelessly worked, developed and preached before moving to the United States. Here, 30 years ago, he founded Faith Redeeming Church of God, a small storefront Pentecostal church in the Carnarsie section of Brooklyn, New York where he is the Senior Pastor and, today, remains active in that ministry.

Papa has made deep impressions on many lives. It would be impossible for me to list the many, many ways he has graced the lives of his children, grandchildren and so many others with his strength, wisdom, loving nature and living by example. A truly humble man who is more concerned with others than himself, Papa gives his time and smiles generously to his family, friends and parishioners alike.

On this past Easter Sunday, I closed my eyes and listened to that familiar, sweet and melodious voice. It was hard to believe that this strong voice is that of a man who is about to turn 95 years old. Listening to my father’s voice from the pulpit was overwhelming. I literally had goosebumps. Smiling proudly, I could not help thinking, “my sisters, brothers and I are from good stock!”

HAPPY BIRTHDAY PAPA.

With all my love,
Clover

Clover Barrett is the principal of Clover Barrett & Associates, P.C., a law firm specializing in divorce, estates and bankruptcy law in Brooklyn, New York. She is also the owner of Clover’s Fine Art Gallery, a contemporary art space with a particular interest in art and artists of the Caribbean.

Minimum wage

Continued from Page 3

York City is an economic and moral issue,” said Vincent Alvarez, President of the New York City Central Labor Council, AFL-CIO. “As a just society, we cannot continue to allow New York City’s workers to be undervalued, while the wealthiest in society continue to get rich on the backs of everyday working men and women. Today and every day, we must stand up for the rights of the workers whose dedication, skill, and professionalism keep our city going.”

City Council Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito said: “Working together with faith leaders in our communities, we’re sending a clear message that it’s time for New York City to set an appropriate local minimum wage. We can no longer allow so many of our workers to struggle on an unfairly low wage that does not reflect the cost of living in this city.”

New York has the worst income inequality in the

nation, largely because the state’s \$8 minimum wage is too low. Pending legislation in Albany would let cities and counties across New York supplement the state minimum wage by raising their local minimum wage. Recent polls show 73 percent of New Yorkers support the measure.

“We’ve fought long and hard for dignity and respect in the workplace,” said Michael Carey, a security officer at John F. Kennedy International Airport. “Some of the progress we are now seeing can be attributed to the help we’ve received from the civil rights and faith communities.”

Elizabeth Davis, a worker at a McDonald’s in The Bronx, agreed: “We are here today to stand up not just for fast food workers like me, but for all low-wage workers across New York who are struggling to support our families. The support we’re getting here today is remarkable. Albany better start paying attention, because our move-

ment to RaiseUpNY will not be stopped.”

Amador Rivas, a member of Make the Road New York, said: “I came to this country hoping for a better future, but I have experienced the exact opposite. I started working for a bodega owner in Washington Heights for \$5 an hour. Ten years later, I was only earning \$7.25 an hour, which is not nearly enough to survive in this city. New York City must be able to raise its own minimum wage.”

Clergy members said the service was the start of a new, long-term coalition with low-wage workers. Historically, religious leaders played key roles in the civil rights movement and other struggles against economic and racial injustice.

“It is a sad commentary of our country when people who work full-time and beyond still live in poverty and are unable to provide for their families. This moment calls for political will and the courage to pursue equality and justice for all,” said Rev. Michael Walrond Jr., senior pastor of First Corinthian Baptist Church in Harlem.



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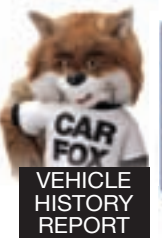


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Indigenous Hondurans unite to preserve culture

Were it not for conscientious documentaries, topical, historic and often under-reported news-worthy issues might never be exposed. Thanks to Ali Allie and Ruben Reyes who wrote, produced and directed the documentary "Garifuna in Peril," the fast-vanishing Afro-Amerindian culture struggling to survive in Guatemala, Nicaragua, Belize and Honduras is now getting some notice.

Reportedly the entire community could disappear after the next generation.

Since production in 2012, the film has consistently gained momentum with screenings at film festivals throughout the USA, Canada and in every country the culture endures. From Cannes, France, to Zanzibar, the plight of a proud people is slowly being acknowledged as one to save from extinction. In a 99-minute documentary that begins with a mother schooling her two sons about the importance of maintaining the



Inside Life

By Vinette K. Pryce

Garifuna language, she lovingly implores -- Ricardo and Miguel -- to speak the tongue of her people.

In an environment where Garifuna lags third behind Spanish and English she is of a minority that believes in its salvation.

"We went to cast the movie and were shocked that there was almost no one under 18 years old who spoke the language," director Allie stated.

Although small villages proudly boasts the hybrid Carib, Arawak and West African traditions, youth seem to eagerly embrace the more dominant Latino culture. An adult Ricardo portrayed by Reyes is determined to abide by his mother's wishes. Later seen as a husband, father and teacher he attempts to instill the

pride his mother passed on to him as a youth. His son is as not as open to the idea. The teenager, like his friends, prefer to converse in English and Spanish. And while the teacher and father tries hard not to dictate to his son, as a proud keeper of the culture it is almost instinctive for him to impress the urgency and importance of conversing in the language of the Garifuna people. The film makers use music, dance, community and heritage to detail the vitality of the descendants who as a small group of only 2,500 survived along the coastal countries of Central America. Ricardo teaches how a community banded together after a marooned British slave-ship caused them to seek refuge in the jungles of St. Vincent



Actor Ruben Reyes portrays teacher in documentary.

which was colonized in 1627 by the British.

In the late 1700s, after French settlers developed plantations there, they fought and lost to the British. The British deported 5,000 Africans to the island of Orinocco near Honduras. According to Ricardo's lesson, suicide and homicide accounted for the reduction in numbers. But the culture combined with those of the indigenous people created a Garifuna nation. What makes this story a caution-

ary tale is that in addition to the dwindling practice of the language, the peril lies with exploitative land developers who con Garifuna villagers into selling their land for less than fair prices. The profit margin ultimately involves tourists who are being lured to visit the rural, agricultural villages. Miguel's role in doing business with one such resort owner helps to crystallize the kind of exploitation that will quickly erase the culture and people. Instead of

building a school he was tasked to construct for teaching his people, Miguel falls prey to a greedy resort owner.

The storyline unfolds to reveal Miguel's exile from the community he was reared. And although Ricardo's son eventually embraces his heritage, his daughter must come to terms with growing into womanhood, dating and the perilous HIV-AIDS virus. The multi-layered documentary is a wake-up call to preserve the heritage and culture of the Garifuna people. With food, a language lesson and dance that mimic colonial occupation, the film offers an opportunity to revel in the culture.

Like the maroons in Jamaica who fled to the mountains to avoid slavery, the Garifuna people eluded slavery in the Caribbean by taking to the jungles.

For more on Garifuna culture log onto www.being-garifuna.com

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The Mighty Sparrow in concert mode

By Vinette K. Pryce

*“Long Live The King!”
“Mightier than ever,
Sparrow is still Mighty”
“Slinger
Francisco reigns”*



Mighty Sparrow performing at Everybody’s Magazine Mother’s Day calypso show at Brooklyn College.

Photo by William Farington

Those were some of the shouts that rippled through a jam-packed crowd recently inside the Brooklyn Performing Arts Center at Brooklyn College. Slinger Francisco had just rendered his version of an encounter with “two white women,” and to the predominant Caribbean crowd decided that “his voice was sweeter than ever.”

On the eve of Mothers Day, Sparrow was assisted onto the stage, helped by a cane, and secured into position by a stool. Otherwise appearing fit and healthy, he ignored the stool and once left on his own charmed the crowd who might have pondered a performance

since his hiatus due to a health set-back. The crowd that filled the hall seemed hushed after his introduction however they erupted into cheers and applause when he blurted the lyrics and first notes to his popular “Congo Man” calypso.

‘I envy the Congo man
Continued on Page 34

The Fabulous Miss Marie’

By Deandra Shuler

“The Fabulous Miss Marie,” an Ed Bullins’ play directed by Woodie King, Jr., is being featured at the Castillo Theatre, located at 543 West 42nd Street in Manhattan and will run until May 18.

“The Fabulous Miss Marie” stars Drama Desk Award winner Tonya Pinkins, as Miss Marie, a former show girl and Roscoe Orman (Sesame Street), who plays Marie’s husband Bill Horton, a parking valet and womanizer. Together,



Tonya Pinkins.

Marie and Bill are the fun loving 1960s very odd couple who love to drink and throw parties while pretend-

Continued on Page 34



Lolo & Manzè Beaubrun of Boukman Eksperyans. The band will perform at the May 23 An’n Pale following a conversation with Manzè on her new book “Nan Domi: An Initiate’s Journey into Haitian Vodou.”

Photo by Tequila Minsky

Celebrating six weeks of Haitian Culture

By Tequila Minsky

“We’re celebrating our fifth year anniversary!” Haiti Cultural Exchange Director Regine Roumain proclaims as the six-week series –Selebrasyon! (Celebration!) gets ready to kick-off this weekend — 19 separate events showcasing Haitian arts.

“Saturday night, May 17, 7:00 p.m. at FiveMyles Gallery is our opening night,” Roumain anticipates. The Brooklyn neighborhood festivity features performances by local poet Michele Voltaire Marcelin and Brown Rice Family, the happeningest Brooklyn-based world roots band around, playing a mélange of

jazz, afro-Caribbean, rock, hip-hop, and funk. The ticketed evening is destined for great fun. (www.haiticulturalx.org.)

Additionally, the artist Engels is exhibiting his sculpture installation outside of FiveMyles Gallery at 558 St. Johns Place near Franklin for

Continued on Page 34

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May 16-22, 2014 • Caribbean Life • Page 32

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Couple confronts rowdy frat in revenge comedy

"Neighbors"
 Poor (0 stars)
 Rated R for crude humor, graphic sexuality, full frontal nudity, pervasive profanity, ethnic slurs, and drug and alcohol abuse
 Running time: 97 minutes
 Distributor: Universal Pictures

By Kam Williams

When Kelly (Rose Byrne) and Mac Radner (Seth Rogen) decided to settle down in suburbia, they reasonably expected to raise their newborn in a quiet community. But that dream was threatened soon thereafter, when the local chapter of Delta Psi Beta bought the house next-door.

As a precautionary measure, the concerned couple introduced themselves to their new neighbors and asked for assurances that there

wouldn't be any wild partying on the premises. Delta Psi's President, Teddy (Zac Efron), and Vice President, Pete (Dave Franco), did agree to keep the noise down in exchange for a promise from the Radners not to call the police.

Nevertheless, it's not long before the situation spirals out of control. After all, the infamous frat has a well-established reputation for rowdiness, having invented the toga party back in the Thirties and then beer pong in the Seventies.

So, today, Teddy feels pressure to match his predecessors' checkered past. This means he's inclined to up the ante in terms of outrageous antics, which can only spell trouble for Kelly and Mac once they go back on their word about complaining to the cops, and Delta Psi is placed on probation by the university's dean, Carol Gladstone (Lisa Kudrow).

At that point, all bets are off, and the frat and the newlyweds proceed to square-off in an ever-escalating war of attrition with more losers than winners. That is the point of departure of *Neighbors*, a relentlessly-raunchy revenge comedy directed by Nicholas Stoller (Get Him to the Greek).



Rose Byrne and Seth Rogen in "Neighbors."

Photo by Glen Wilson - © 2013 - Universal Pictures

Unfortunately, the sophomoric

parties prove to be more cruel than clever in their attempts to get even, and the shocking behavior displayed onscreen is invariably more smutty than funny, as it features plenty of prolonged frontal nudity. Plus, the picture's only

good gag, when the office chair jettisons Mac into the ceiling, was totally spoiled by the TV commercials.

Otherwise, the film is memorable mostly for its homoerotic humor, as director Stoller is fond of seizing on any excuse to lampoon gay sexuality. First, Kelly kisses a college coed she's recruiting as a confidante. Then, fraternity pledges are forced to parade naked in a circle while clutching the penis of the guy in front of him.

On another occasion, a male student is raped by a classmate seemingly in his sleep, only to later admit that he was aware and welcomed the rude intrusion. Throw in the gratuitous use of the "N-word" twice, of anti-Semitism ("You Jews and your f*cking mothers!"), as well as a profusion of misogynistic comments like referring to breasts as "udders," and there's little left to recommend about this ugly descent into depravity.

Independent & Foreign Films

50 to 1 (PG-13 for suggestive material and a bar fight) Fact-based drama chronicling the road trip from New Mexico to Kentucky undertaken by a posse of cowboys when their crooked-footed horse miraculously qualifies for the Derby. Starring Skeet Ulrich, William Devane and Christian Kane.

Ai Weiwei: The Fake Case (Unrated) Reverential biopic about Ai Weiwei, the Chinese artist and political dissident imprisoned and placed under house arrest for his uncompromising commitment to human rights. (In Mandarin and English with subtitles)

The American Nurse (Unrated) Healthcare documentary following five dedicated nurses working in fields ranging from nursing homes to hospice care to prisons to home visitation to obstetrics.

Cyber-Seniors (Unrated) Heartwarming documentary about reluctant retirees who learn to surf the 'net with the help of computer-savvy teen mentors.

Don Peyote (Unrated) Stoner comedy about an unemployed slacker (Dan Fogler) who embarks on a mind-bending drug binge after convincing himself that



Kam's Kapsules

By Kam Williams

the end of the world is imminent. Ensemble cast includes Anne Hathaway, Annabella Sciorra, Josh Duhamel, Wallace Shawn, Jay Baruchel and Topher Grace.

Half of a Yellow Sun (R for violence and sexuality) Screen adaptation of Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie's best-selling novel, set in the Sixties, about a pair of Western-educated twins' (Anika Noni Rose and Thandie Newton) readjustment to their native Nigeria during a turbulent, post-colonial period marked by tribal civil war. With Chiwetel Ejiofor, Dominic Cooper and John Boyega.

Horses of God (Unrated) Islamic fundamentalism is the subject of this docudrama chronicling events in the lives of the terrorist responsible for the 2003 suicide bombings in Casablanca. Co-starring Abdelhakim Rachi, Abdelilah Rachid and Hamza Souidek. (In Arabic and French with subtitles)

The Immigrant (R for

nudity, sexuality and some profanity) American Dream deferred drama, set in Manhattan in 1921, about a young Polish immigrant (Marion Cotillard) pressed into prostitution by a charming pimp (Joaquin Phoenix) soon after passing through customs at Ellis Island. Cast includes Jeremy Renner, Angela Sarafyan and Jicky Schnee. (In English and Polish with subtitles)

Next Year in Jerusalem (Unrated) Right of return documentary about eight nursing home residents who embark on a transformational trip of a lifetime to Israel.

A Night in Old Mexico (Unrated) South of the Border saga about a cranky, cash-strapped curmudgeon (Robert Duvall) who embarks a final wild adventure with his grandson (Jeremy Irvine) rather than quietly retire from his ranch to a trailer park. With Angie Cepeda, Luis Tosar and Joaquin Cosio.

"THE COMEDY OF THE SUMMER!"

AIN'T IT COOL NEWS



FAMILY VS. FRAT

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 ANDREW JAY COHEN BRENDAN O'BRIEN PRODUCED BY SETH ROGEN EVAN GOLDBERG JAMES WEAVER WRITTEN BY ANDREW JAY COHEN & BRENDAN O'BRIEN
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Go to www.Caribbeanlifefews.com for the latest in Caribbean news, entertainment, sports, business, viewpoints and more.

TOP OF THE CHARTS

TOP 10 SINGLES

- 1 **All Of Me**
John Legend
- 2 **Happy**
Pharrell Williams
- 3 **Dark Horse**
Katy Perry Featuring Juicy J ..
- 4 **Talk Dirty**
Jason Derulo Feat. 2 Chainz
- 5 **Not A Bad Thing**
Justin Timberlake
- 6 **Best Day Of My Life**
American Authors
- 7 **Pompeii**
Bastille
- 8 **Team**
Lorde
- 9 **Ain't It Fun**
Paramore
- 10 **Counting Stars**
OneRepublic

TOP 10 ALBUMS

- 1 **Shatter Me**
Lindsey Stirling
- 2 **Frozen**
Soundtrack
- 3 **Supernova**
Ray LaMontagne
- 4 **After Hours**
Timeflies
- 5 **The New Classic**
Iggy Azalea
- 6 **Obsessed**
Jim Gaffigan
- 7 **Passion: Take It All**
Passion
- 8 **Bad Blood**
Bastille
- 9 **Diamonds**
Johnnyswim
- 10 **Honest**
Future

Presented by
verizonwireless

Everybody's Mothers

Continued from page 31

*Ah wish I coulda go and shake
he hand
You all know how much traps
I set?
Until I sweat!
But I never eat a white meat
yet'*

"He sounds the same," a grandmother said.

And indeed as if it was decades ago, Sparrow seemed no different than during his coronations.

There was no denying that he had fully recovered from the three-month comatose condition that kept him recluse from fans anxious about his recovery. A majority of fans seemed able to recite the lyrics first performed at Queens Hall, in Port of Spain, Trinidad on the October 5, 1964. Banned for four decades afterwards on the twin islands, the suggestive, hilarious and ambiguous "Congo Man" recalled Sparrow's heydays as the sole griot of note to amplify controversies surrounding global issues but particularly those emanating from the Caribbean, African, European and American communities.

Explained as a song about can-



Five mothers from the Caribbean region, Denise Donaldson, Brenda Harris Ephraim, Janet Logan, Gloria Smith and Vena W. Baker were honored at Everybody's Magazine Mother's Day calypso show at Brooklyn College.
Photo by William Farington

nibalism, other interpretations have alluded to clever composition of a calypso, lust and other sexually subtle double entendre as the focus of the infectious hit.

Sparrow in an interview said: "The Congo Man" came to me on a subway in New York — just the melody," he told the interviewer. "And the lyrics came from the many activities in Africa at the time. So many nuns and priests were being ambushed and beaten....and I got the idea that this was probably happening there: white people were just traveling through and found them-

selves in the hands of head hunters ...who put them in a pot, had a fire at the bottom, and had a chant. (That's where the "haw, haw, haw" comes in). Jump up and down and see how the food is cooking, and forbid anybody to fraternize with the meat."

He added that "Congo Man" was purely humorous and completely un-suggestive."

The Sunshine Band kept the beat true to form and its origins causing many to dance in their seats.

Sparrow's mellifluous voice

sounded soothing and reminiscent of his spectacular career. Few had heard the 78-year-old calypsonian since he recorded "Barack Di Magnificent" in honor of the first Black president of the United States. Most had neither heard nor seen him since he slipped into a diabetic coma and was hospitalized last year for almost one month. There were rumored news of his death and only when he recuperated in Trinidad & Tobago did an official statement confirm that the monarch was alive and thriving.

Hortons

Continued from page 31

civil rights about to explode outside their door. Bill and Marie are oblivious to the suffering of others. As long as their shallow little world keeps rolling along, Bill and Marie dance their little jigs and sing their little happy drunken songs living life as one big party.

Marie is no saint either. She has mini affairs with some of the male hangers-on that frequent their home, individuals like Steve (Ugo Chukwu), Art (Ashley C. Turner), Marco (Michael Chenevere), and Bud (G. Alvarez Reid). Given Marie's wandering eye, her stud Art is feeling insecure. He knows he cannot stay at the Horton home forever but for now, it's a place to crash while he plans his next move. Meanwhile, he keeps himself busy doing little chores, servicing Marie and worrying about whether another stud will cash in on what he has going with Marie.

We discover that Marie lives a delusional tawdry middle class life in LA, dressing in low cut revealing too tight sexy dresses while Bill sees himself as some kind of song and dance man. Bill makes enough

money parking cars in Beverly Hills to keep up their shallow lifestyle, which is financially better off than the majority people of color during the 1960s. Bill is a drunk who keeps a white woman, his baby's mama, on the side. This is a sore spot for Marie who also drinks far too much. Marie had an abortion that left her unable to have children but pretends she is just fine without them. But as long as Bill keeps the money rolling in, Marie is prepared to ignore his affairs, especially since she is having clandestine affairs of her own. Thing is, Bill loves Marie and cannot function without her. He has no intention of ever leaving Marie and their pseudo fabulous life which is packed with faux friends who parade in and out of the Horton home. Part of maintaining their middle class life style is to associate with the type of people who remain just as disconnected, unaware and uncaring about the impending Watts Riot as the Hortons. None of them possess integrity. The Horton's friends are mostly parasites who leech off them.

If you enjoy light comedy and like a little fun and silliness, "The Fabulous Miss Marie" is the production for you. So, get down to the Castillo Theatre before it ends on May 18.

Haiti culture

Continued from page 31

the six-week festival's duration, until June 30.

"We're regrouping all our existing programs into this six-week festival of Haitian arts and culture," Roumain amplifies.

Haiti Cultural Exchange has had consistently exemplar programming since its start. Monthly artist talks, hosting art exhibitions, two major Haitian film festivals, and outdoor music events are examples of the organizations varied cultural offerings. Previous grant funding enabled the implementation of projects at Bilingual P.S. 189 that included revamping their art room, creating a mural in the schoolyard and sponsoring artist teachers.

"We want to further highlight Haitian culture and enable a broader audience of New Yorkers to experience it in its many facets," Roumain said. A book discussion paired with a performance, children folktale readings, a film, food tastings, poetry and spoken word, and a women's music tribute are part of the six-week, 19-event series.

Two events in Queens are stretching HCX's reach. The Konpa Forum, June 6, Friday, 6:00 p.m. to midnight will take place at Brasserie Creole, 22702 Linden Blvd., Jamaica, NY, with discussion on the history of konpa with musicians Fanfan Tibot of Tabou Combo, Edy Brisseaux, and Steve Desrosier followed by dancing.

At the Queens Museum, Salon d'Haïti on June 22, Sunday, 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., will feature readings and discussion with Haitian writer Katia Ulysse (Drifting) and director of the PEN Haiti House of Literature writer Jean-Euphèle Milcé.

HCX's newest pilot project as part of Selebrasyon! is the Open Studio Tours. Six artists are participating on four different weekends.

Even New Jersey gets into the action in another example of pushing HCX's geographic boundaries. On June 8 at Affero Gallery, 73 Market St. in Newark when Sophia Domeville will be showing her work from 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Trinidad's greenhouse gas emissions at issue

Continued from Page 6

ing ensures that associated natural gas can be safely disposed of in an emergency.

Oil companies resort to venting when they cannot store or use gas commercially, to reduce the risk of fire and explosion.

Mohammed-Rajkumar, a member of Petrotrin's CDM team, told IPS, "Sustainable development of the country will be enhanced by the project as valuable resources that would have been wasted through venting will contribute to eco-

There are also positive social impacts through job creation and utilisation of services and materials from the local energy sector.

nomie development when captured and utilised for productive end-uses.

"There are also positive social impacts through job creation and utilisation of services and materials from the local energy sector," she said.

The CDM, which operates under the auspices of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), validates and subsequently certifies the effectiveness of projects in reducing carbon emissions.

Such certification can then be used as a basis for obtaining Carbon Emission Reduction (CER) credits that are sold to developed countries seeking to meet emissions reduction targets under the Kyoto Protocol.

The CDM has registered over 7,400 emission-reduction projects in developing countries since 2004 and generated over 1.2 billion emission credits. However, it has been jeopardised by a steep plunge in CER prices in recent years.

Trinidad and Tobago's PoA is one of the few CDM projects in the English-speaking Caribbean to achieve registration.

Though some countries have expressed an inter-

est in launching CDM projects that would reduce greenhouse gas emissions and thus make them viable players on the Carbon Emissions Reduction (CER) market, only four projects in the English-speaking Caribbean have achieved registration under the CDM – two in Jamaica, one in the Bahamas, and one in Guyana.

Of the 18 CDM-registered projects in the Caribbean, 12 are in the Dominican Republic and two are in Cuba.

There are two CDM-registered PoA projects in the Caribbean, the one in Trinidad and Tobago and one in Haiti.

Whereas the Wigton windfarm project in Jamaica has achieved a measure of success, the CDM project in Guyana has failed to achieve its targets under the CDM, according to Sharma Dwarka, the factory operations manager of Guyana Sugar Corporation Inc., otherwise known as GuySuCo.

Though the Caribbean is not a major source of GHG emissions, GuySuCo chose to get involved in the CDM because of its commitment to reduce its carbon emissions.

GuySuCo. chose to launch a bagasse cogeneration project under the CDM, Dwarka said, "because it fits directly into GuySuCo.'s operations. The processing of sugar cane to produce sugar produces bagasse [a fuel] which is utilised for power generation for the operations.

"The quantity of power produced from bagasse is more than adequate for the operations. As such, excess power is available for sale to the national grid."

The hoped-for effect was the reduction of Guyana's dependence on fossil fuels for energy and, hence, of its carbon emissions.

Unfortunately, Dwarka told IPS that there have been no financial gains to Guyana or GuySuCo. to date from registration with the CDM.

This was mainly "due to non-achievement of design parameters of the sugar plant. The main issues at

the sugar plant include non-achievement of cane throughput (tonnes of cane processed per hour) and frequent stoppages due to breakdowns, no cane periods due to poor weather conditions, etc."

However, he said, "GuySuCo. remains committed to reducing its carbon emissions. Having identified the root cause of problems at the sugar factory, corrective action is cur-

rently being taken such that the factory can achieve the original design parameters.

"Once this is achieved, the cogeneration plant will be positioned to generate carbon emission reductions (CERs) and tap into the carbon credit market."

Mohammed-Rajkumar told IPS that Petrotrin's PoA project is now in the implementation stage. "Tenders have been issued and we

are awaiting responses," she said. The project is approaching its study and design phase.

Regarding funding, she said, "Commercial arrangements are in the process of being drafted and their form will depend on the outcome of the engineering estimates."

The initial CDM project, in its first year of operation, is expected to remove approximately 90,000

tonnes of CO2 equivalent (tCO2e).

"For the next nine years, the project is expected to remove an average of 78,000 tCO2e per annum, but this estimate is subject to further engineering studies to be conducted."

Mohammed-Rajkumar said that the initial phase will focus on its wells in the Fyzabad, Grand Ravine, Parrylands, Palo Seco and Barrackpore fields.

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SUN KULCHA COMMUNITY EVENTS

SAT., MAY. 17

BIKE THE BRANCHES: Brooklyn Public Library (BPL) will host their second annual Bike The Branches event, a one-day bike ride through BPL's network of 60 neighborhood libraries. Building off of biking's long history as a central Brooklyn pastime, Bike The Branches will feature 12 unique bike routes, and a range of special events featuring prizes, music, and entertainment. All proceeds from the event will go towards library services, including programming, technology, and collections. A free helmet fitting session will take place on Tuesday, May 13 from 4:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. at BPL's Central Branch at 10 Grand Army Plaza. Free helmets will be available while supplies last. To register, visit <https://apps.brooklynpubliclibrary.org/btb/>.

SUN., MON. 18

HAITIAN FLAG DAY: A free outdoor celebration of Haitian culture with live music, crafts, food and dance workshops from Noon - 6:00 p.m. Music by DJ Sabine Blaizin with co-host poet Mr. Jeff Dess, Elsie Saint-Louis of HAUP and Carine Jocelyn of Diaspora Community Services. Parkside Plaza | Located at Ocean Ave & Parkside Ave on Prospect Park, Brooklyn, NY 11225.

STORYBOOK SERIES: Brooklyn Center for the Performing Arts at Brooklyn College (BCBC) concludes its 2013-14 Target Storybook Series with American Family Theater's *The Wizard of Oz*. Based on L. Frank Baum's classic book *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*, this original musical tells the beloved story of Dorothy's adventure over the rainbow as she follows the yellow brick road with the Scarecrow, the Tin Man, and the Cowardly Lion towards the Emerald City and the mysterious Wizard who can help her get home. All tickets are \$7 and can be purchased by phone at 718-951-4500 (Tues-Sat, 1pm-6pm), or online at BrooklynCenterOnline.org.

TUES., MAY. 20

FIRST-TIME HOME BUYER SEMINAR: At the Homebuyers' Workshop, Ridgewood Bank representatives, mortgage consultants, and a licensed architect will take participants through the home buying process — including initial decision making cost analysis, criteria for selecting the right home, and the "do's and don'ts" of filing mortgage applications. Seminar is from 6:15 p.m. - 8:15 p.m. Held at the bank's White Plains Road branch - 3824 White Plains Road, Bronx, NY; (718) 882-0440.

THURS., MAY. 22

COMEDY SHOWCASE: Veteran actress / comedian Angela Scott brings her funny friends William Stephenson (FX Networks "Louie") and Rhonda "Passion" Hansome ("Saturday Night Live") to the legendary Duplex cabaret-theater in Manhattan's West Village for a night of laughs. The Angela Scott Show is scheduled to start at 7:00 p.m. and admission is \$10.00 with a two-drink minimum. For additional information and

COMMUNITY CENTER

ONGOING: Are you looking to improve your life? Take a class at Community Learning Center: How to Write a Book or Script, Create a Resume, How to Create Wealth, Get/Keep a Spouse, Start a Business. Classes for everyone. Community Learning Center, 147-12 Archer Ave., Queens. For more information/RSVP, call (718) 291-1094.



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reservations, contact (212) 255-5438 / Info@TheDuplex.com.

FRI., MAY 23

CAFE CONVERSATION: Join us for a conversation with Manzè Beaubrun; lead singer and co-founder of Boukman Eksperyans, about her new book *Nan Domi: An Initiate's Journey into Haitian Vodou*, followed by a performance with Boukman Eksperyans from 6:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. FiveMyles Gallery, 558 St. Johns Place, Brooklyn, NY 11238.

ONGOING

SAT., MAY. 3 - FRI., MAY. 23

THEATRE: Following the successful, award-winning 2013 co-production of "Detroit '67" written by Dominique Morisseau, Dr. Barbara Ann Teer's National Black Theatre (NBT) and The Classical Theatre of Harlem (CTH) official announce their second co-production. The famed Harlem arts institutions will produce the 50th Anniversary revival of "Dutchman" by LeRoi Jones (Amiri Baraka). Carl Cofield will direct the revival. This limited engagement production of the classic political allegory



BIKE THE BRANCHES

MAY 17: Brooklyn Public Library (BPL) will host their second annual Bike The Branches event. The event will feature 12 unique bike routes, and a range of special events featuring prizes, music, and entertainment. All proceeds from the event will go towards library services. A free helmet fitting session will take place on Tuesday, May 13 from 4:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. at BPL's Central Branch at 10 Grand Army Plaza. Free helmets will be available while supplies last. To register, visit <https://apps.brooklynpubliclibrary.org/btb/>.



of the 1960's Black Arts Movement will pay tribute to the great Amiri Baraka and give a retrospective look at the Black Arts Movement as well as relevant current events through Community Engagements that will deepen the theatrical experience of the play. Tickets are on sale now and can be purchased online at www.nationalblacktheatre.org or by calling NBT directly at (212) 722-3800. NBT is located at 2031 Fifth Ave. between 125th and 126th streets in Harlem.

PRESENT - SUN., JUN. 22

ART EXHIBIT: Pelham Art Center is thrilled to announce the continuation of our Public Art Program, In the Courtyard, with an installation by South Carolina artist Virginia Scotchie on view in our 2,300sq.ft open courtyard from April 26 - June 22, 2014. This colorful and playful installation titled, "Spheres of Contemplation" will consist of 20 ceramic spheres varying in size from 15" - 28" in circumference and 30 - 90 pounds each. These serious yet humorous orbs reference planets, molecules, and atoms on one end of the spectrum and soccer and beach balls on the other. The viewer is invited to move from one sphere to the other in a

flowing and tranquil path or to appreciate the work by sitting on a sphere and becoming part of the installation. Admission is free and open to the public. Hours: Tuesday-Friday, 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.; Saturday, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Pelham Art Center 155 Fifth Avenue Pelham, NY 10803, For more information, contact (914) 738-2525.

FRI., MAY. 2 - SAT., JUN. 28

ART EXHIBIT: Pelham Art Center is pleased to announce Big, Fat & Juicy, a group show of large-scale abstraction that pushes the boundaries of the physicality of paint. Paintings and sculptures by four New York-based artists, Emily Noelle Lambert, Dorothy Robinson, Josette Urso and Deborah Zlotzky, combine the deliberate spontaneity found in abstract painting and the inventive possibilities of paint itself, which appear here in lush and expressive ways. Big Fat & Juicy will be on view from with an opening reception, and all-age hands-on workshop on Friday, May 2 from 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. Make sure to arrive on time to hear the Artist Talk at 7:00 p.m. Admission is free and open to the public. Pelham Art Center 155 Fifth Ave., Pelham, NY 10803. For more information contact (914) 738-2525.

FLOOD RELIEF: Donations are being accepted at the Friends of Crown Heights Center located at 671 Prospect Place, Brooklyn. Donations will also be accepted by Mirtha Colon, a Garifuna from Honduras, who operates Honduras Against Aids out of Casa Yurumein in the Bronx. Casa Yurumein is located at 874 Prospect Ave. in the South Bronx, corner of Westchester Avenue. Checks and money orders are welcomed and should be made out to "SVG Community Inc." Anyone in the Long Island area who wishes to make a donation but cannot drive to Brooklyn, please call (347) 488-4395 to arrange a drop off or to arrange for Colon to pick up the donation. Items needed include medical supplies, non-perishable food, clothes, shoes, candles. Monetary donations can be made in the form of checks or money orders addressed to "SVG Community Inc."

PASSPORT APPLICATION CENTER: Brooklyn Public Library (BPL) launched a second Passport Application Center at the Kings Highway Library providing a convenient facility for Brooklyn residents and new immigrants to apply for passports. Hours are temporarily set for 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. from Monday through Friday and Sunday by appointment. The Center is currently closed on Saturdays until further notice. The library is located at 2115 Ocean Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11229. To make an appointment, call (718) 230-2292 or (718) 375-3037 ext. 128.

If you have an event you would like to post in Sun Kulcha, please email your submission to Caribbeanlife@cnglocal.com. All submissions are subject to a review by the editor.

Compiled by Natalie Y. Henry

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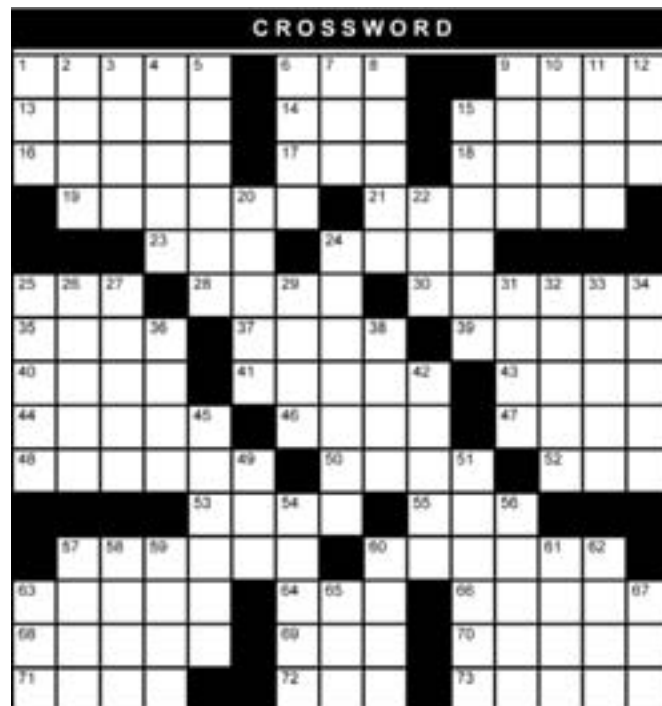
1. Plant life
6. OB-GYN test
9. What the Big Bad Wolf did
13. Couch
14. Hit the slopes
15. #1 Across partner
16. North African inhabitants
17. *He patented the saxophone in 1846
18. Inflexible
19. *Queen Victoria's other half
21. Flying high
23. U.N. workers' grp.
24. "Rhinstone Cowboy" singer
25. Seasonal blues
28. As opposed to stereo
30. Like having pH less than 7
35. Climbed down
37. Beverage usually served hot
39. Swelling
40. Nessie's abode
41. *Nicholas I and Alexander III
43. Distinctive flair
44. Beforehand
46. *The Three Musketeers, e.g.
47. Singular of "algae"
48. *Famous HMS Beagle voyager
50. *"William ____ Overture"

52. Costa del ____
53. Talk like a sailor?
55. Ice-T on "Law & Order: SVU"
57. *The Great _____ in Ireland
60. *Sitting Bull's tribe
63. Like Cheerios
64. *"The Murders in the ____ Morgue"
66. Give a boot
68. Antler point
69. Geological Society of America
70. Hawaiian island
71. First-rate
72. *van Gogh severed his left one
73. Live snowmen?

DOWN

1. Governmental approver
2. *Italian money starting in 1861
3. Face shape
4. Teacher of Torah
5. Founder of Scholasticism
6. Quiet attention grabber
7. Rap sheet abbreviation
8. Resolution dot
9. Fisherman's fly, e.g.
10. *Sled sport, originated in 1800s
11. Author Bagnold

12. Roll of bills
15. *Louisiana Purchase seller
20. Fowl place
22. Grassland
24. Soap Box Derby vehicles
25. Tossed starter
26. Luau greeting
27. Kitchen device
29. *a.k.a. Father of the American Cartoon
31. Brainchild
32. Small valleys with trees and grass
33. Idealized image
34. *Erie or Suez
36. Spring event
38. One of Great Lakes
42. Solfège syllables: 5th and 4th
45. Cutting into cubes
49. Convent dweller
51. Probable
54. Type of twill fabric
56. Star bursts
57. Betting game
58. Perching place
59. ____ room
60. Shakespeare's king
61. Windshield option
62. Palm tree berry
63. Pick
65. *This country declared war on Britain in 1812
67. "____ the season ..."





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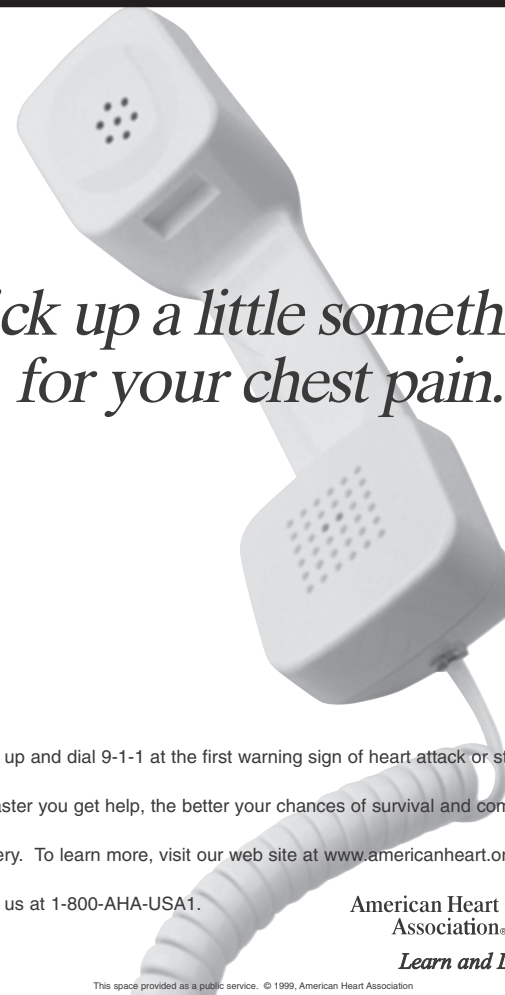
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Justin Gatlin, center, of the United States, Christophe Lemaitre of France, left, and Yoshihide Kiryu of Japan cross the finish line during the men's 100-meter race at the Golden Grand Prix Field and Track in Tokyo, Sunday, May 11, 2014.

AP Photo/Shizuo Kambayashi

Gatlin clocks 10.02 to win

TOKYO (AP) — Justin Gatlin of the United States won the men's 100 meters in 10.02 seconds on Sunday at the Seiko Golden Grand Prix, an IAAF World Challenge event.

Gatlin beat compatriot Mike Rodgers by .09 at Tokyo's National Stadium. Christophe Lemaitre of France was third in 10.31.

"Once I got past the 50-meter mark, I just wanted to stay relaxed," said Gatlin, who had to race into a strong wind. "If the wind was none, you might have been looking at

Continued on Page 40

Records break at Loucks

By Robert Elkin

Rai Benjamin was only one of many athletes who put on tremendous performances during the 47th annual Glenn D. Loucks Track and Field three-day meet for high school athletes at White Plains High School in Westchester County, upstate New York. Entries keep growing yearly both in number of athletes and schools.

One of the largest meets in the tri-state area, on only the third day of action, when most of the finals were contested, was marked twice by rain which temporarily curtailed the competition. The officials of the meet waited out the rain and kept the meet in progress.

The meet, under the direction of Fred

Continued on Page 40



JOHNSON LEFT OUT

USA's Eddie Johnson runs during a World Cup qualifier soccer match between USA and Panama, last year in Seattle. AP Photo/Ted S. Warren, File

Coach criticized for surprise omission

By Patrick Horne

U.S. Men's National Team coach Jurgen Klinsmann selected a 30-man preliminary roster for the final training camp before next month's FIFA World Cup in Brazil, and his surprise omission of forward Eddie Johnson had many folks

miffed, especially me.

While justifying Johnson's omission, the coach acknowledged the player's invaluable contribution in qualifying the team; he said that he hadn't forgotten the important goals Eddie Johnson scored while helping the team to qualify for the

World Cup.

Klinsmann, in a conference call, added that other players had moved past Johnson on the U.S. forward depth chart, but where Klinsmann, a former German national player, erred is by using John-

Continued on Page 40



Sunderland's Jozy Altidore, left, watches a shot toward goal past Aston Villa's Antonio Luna, right, during an English Premier League soccer match in Sunderland, England. Altidore is one of the forwards for the U.S. Men's National Team.

AP Photo/Scott Heppell, File

FIFA World Cup trials

Continued from page 39

son's slow start this season with his new team, DC United, to make his final decision. Although Johnson has scored only a goal in eight games this season, the veteran forward is a proven scorer at the international level. His goals were crucial to the U.S. in qualifying, and I see no forward in the squad that has 'moved past Johnson on the depth chart' since those crucial goals a year ago.

Johnson's slow start is understandable; traded in the off season from Seattle, where he was the leading scorer the past two seasons, the forward is with a new

team put together during the off-season. Not only is he new to the players, but more than three-fourth of the team are new to each other as well.

Johnson isn't the only U.S. player off to a slow start this year! Landon Donovan, whom Klinsmann says is picked as one of six forwards, which was one of the reasons for Johnson's omission, missed the final round of qualifying and has not scored for the Los Angeles Galaxy this season. Except for a decent showing in last summer's Gold cup, Donovan has been out of the loop. U.S. captain Clint Dempsey got very little playing time this past win-

ter at his old club, Fulham FC, in England and only got in the scoring column recently with a very good Seattle Sounders team. Jozy Altidore has struggled for playing time at Sunderland FC in the England Premier League.

By using Johnson's current slump, Klinsmann disregarded the players already proven goal-scoring ability at the international level. Player-slumps are a part of the game and are frequent when coaches and players change teams. Johnson's overall contribution to the squad and his proven effectiveness at the international level should have garnered him a trip to Bra-

zil. Brazilian Paulino had a torrid time at Tottenham Hotspurs in the English Premier League, but coach Phil Scolari knows Paulino as a proven international. Among the forwards selected, Terrence Boyd, Aron Johannsson and Chris Wondolowski have not played at Johnson's level internationally.

"By putting these 30 players together, we just think that's where we want to see them compete in (the) first place, that's where we see them as a first option," said Klinsmann. "That makes it maybe then difficult for a player like Eddie that you have to leave out. In Eddie's case, it's really, really difficult because he's also a player that brings so much to the table and he's done tremendously well with us over the last two years and scored very, very important goals for us and he can also play in the left wing and right wing. So, why Johnson?"

The 30-man squad must be reduced to 23 by June 2. The squad: Goalkeepers Tim Howard, Brad Guzan and Nick Rimando. Defenders DaMarcus Beasley, Omar Gonzalez, Matt Besler, John Brooks, Geoff Cameron, Tim Chandler, Brad Evans, Fabian Johnson and Clarence Goodson Michael Parkhurst and DeAndre Yedlin. The midfielders are Kyle Beckerman, Alejandro Bedoya, Maurice Edu, Brad Davis, Michael Bradley, Jermaine Jones, Julian Green, Mix Diskerud, Joe Corona and Graham Zusi. The forwards are Jozy Altidore, Clint Dempsey, Landon Donovan, Aron Johannsson, Chris Wondolowski and Terrence Boyd.

Track and field

Continued from page 39
Singleton and his very competent staff, was once again a success marked by fast times and long distances as well as outstanding performances. Many records fell to the delight of the coaches and athletes. The meet drew 242 schools, including those from Canada, 353 teams, 1616 boys and 1517 girls on the high school level.

Benjamin almost pulled off a double by winning the 400-meter hurdles in a time of 52.42 and finished second in the 400 meter dash in 47.17. Scoring was based on a 10-8-6-4-2-1.

The junior at Mount Vernon High School competes during the indoor and outdoor seasons and trains in the fall doing base work for the winter. His time in the hurdles thus became the fastest clocking in the nation during this outdoor campaign. It also became the second best on the Loucks Games all-time list.

Benjamin also ran the anchor leg on the 1600-meter relay team that finished second, but in the hurdles Benjamin did not get out the way that he wanted to.

"I was still a little tired from the Open 400 but gradually I built 'it' up, Benjamin said. "With more practice then I'll be fine All in all it was a god race."

Benjamin's father, Winston Benjamin, was a professional cricket player in Antigua, West Indies. He now manages an under 17 cricket team.

"I was born here (in New York) but have traveled back and forth," the student athlete said. "I don't have any problems going back and forth. It's always fun to go to the beaches and see the people (there). When I go down there it's a vacation.

"My goal is to get under 47 seconds for the 400 and get under 50 seconds in the hurdles."

He has been competing in the Loucks Games for three years and holds numerous indoor and outdoor school records.

Meanwhile, coming into the race, Richard Rose, a junior at Boys and Girls High School in Brooklyn, felt very good and confident that he could win his event. And he did!

Rose just edged Benjamin 46.38 seconds to 47.17 in the 400-meter dash and earned outstanding athlete of the meet award for the boys. Rose is a versatile track performer and he is capable of running at any distance from the 200 meters to the 800 meters. He is top-ranked in New York State in the 400 after his performances last week in the Loucks Games. He also set a record and has the fastest time in the nation this year.

"To be top-ranked and win the race means a lot to me," Rose added. "I'm a hard worker. Everybody's goal is to make an Olympics team (and I'm no exception)." Rose's farther Collin comes from Jamaica, West Indies.

"He is a hard working and dedicated man, and that's who I got that trait from," he said.

On the distaff side, Brenessa Thompson, a senior at Medgar Evers High School in Brooklyn and a native of Guyana in the Caribbean, was timed in 12.22 in the preliminaries of the 100-meter dash, and then captured the finals in a faster time of 11.97. In addition, the highly ranked sprinter also took the 200 meters in 24.31. She helped her school to the combined men and women team title with 78 points.

"I'm satisfied with my win," Ms. Thompson said. "My start was slow and I have to work more on it."

Brenessa's farther used to be a runner in the Caribbean. The student athlete was born in Guyana and the family moved to Brooklyn three years ago.

All the athletes and coaches had nothing but praise for the meet.

Go to www.Caribbeanlifeneews.com for the latest in Caribbean sports and more.

IAAF Challenge

Continued from page 39
another meet record."

World champion Brianna Rollins of the United States won the women's 100 hurdles in a meet record of 12.62, ahead of Lavonne Idlette of the Dominican Republic in 12.91 and Kettie Wells of the United States in 12.98.

Olympic 400-meter champion Kirani James of Grenada won the men's 200 with a time of 20.63, edging Michael Mathieu of the

Bahamas by one hundredth of a second. Kei Takase of Japan was third in 20.75.

Tianna Bartoletta of the United States won the women's 100 in 11.18, .27 ahead of Melissa Breen of Australia. Chelsea Hayes, also of the United States, was third in 11.53.

Jenny Simpson of the United States opened her season by cruising to victory in the women's 1500 meters.



From left, Japan's Shota Iizuka, Grenada's Kirani James, Japan's Yoshihide Kiryu, France's Christophe Lemaitre and United States' Justin Gatlin pose for photographers during a press conference of the Golden Grand Prix in Tokyo, Saturday, May 10, 2014.

AP Photo/Eugene Hoshiko



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Denesh Ramdin is Windies new Test captain



West Indies' Denesh Ramdin bats during the fourth day of the second cricket Test match between Bangladesh and West Indies in Khulna, Bangladesh.

AP Photo/A.M. Ahad, File

West Indies wicketkeeper batsman Denesh Ramdin is the new West Indies Test captain. He replaces former captain Darren Sammy who was axed after a very poor showing during his four-year captaincy. Ramdin has the experience after being vice captain for a long period. He led the West Indies in one One-Day international and three Twenty20 matches. The West Indies cricket team needs a new image and this is the first step with the appointment of a new leader. Sammy's leadership was poor throughout his Test career.

FINAL 11 MUST BE BALANCED

West Indies selectors have the responsibility of choosing 11 players capable of performing as a balanced unit that can lead to success. Dwayne Bravo's return to Test cricket will be welcomed but he has to be prepared to work harder at the Test level. West Indies



Eyes on Cricket

By George H. Whyte

batsmen must learn to settle at the wicket and build innings.

WEST INDIES BATSMEN MUST BE PATIENT

Test cricket calls for patience. It is the longer format of the game and West Indies batsmen must be patient in their undertakings. Shot selection is vital and batsmen must be able to analyse the position of the game and learn to make critical decisions. In the bowling department, West Indies must have two specialist spinners to play against New Zealand. Chris Gayle must be used occasionally. The West Indies team must lift its standards in Test cricket and this

could be achieved by players displaying a professional attitude.

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Kinship foster parents are an integral part of maintaining children and youth within their community. This also ensures they remain connected to their birth families and all that is familiar in their lives. One of our kinship foster parents, Coleen Davis, has demonstrated such a commitment to her sister, who was placed

with our program and in Ms. Davis' home. When Ms. Davis' mother was ill and could no longer care for her sister, she came forward as a family resource and picked up the reigns when her mother could not hold on to them anymore. She is a compassionate and tireless advocate and has ensured that her sister is given every opportunity to succeed in life. Her sister is currently an honor roll (straight As) student and is working with a college consultant in order to find a college that will compliment her strengths. In addition, she is very involved in her church and is involved with The Possibility Project (TPP); an organization for youth who are in foster care. TPP provides the opportunity for youth to write and perform their own plays about their personal experiences within foster care. She has also earned her food handler license after participating in a cooking club at her school. All of us here at this agency commend Ms. Davis for all that she has done for her sister and acknowledge how far she has come with her support, encouragement and love.

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Caribbean Life

YOUR WEEKLY HOROSCOPE FOR MAY 19TH TO MAY 25TH

ARIES: Mar 21/Apr 20
Interaction with an elder is something to cherish this week. Aries. Listen closely to the good advice you are offered, as it will pay dividends down the road.

TAURUS: Apr 21/May 21
Taurus, a new coworker may come to you with questions. This is your opportunity to serve as a mentor and use your experience to help the next generation.

GEMINI: May 22/Jun 21
Gemini, you are intent on purchasing an expensive item sometime this week, but make sure it can be returned. Hold on to the receipt and carefully survey your finances.

CANCER: Jun 22/Jul 22
It is time to get out of a rut, Cancer. Explore a new fashion choice or dine on a different type of ethnic food. The idea is to step out of your comfort zone.

LEO: Jul 23/Aug 23
Leo, thoughts of returning to school may have floated around in your mind in the past. This week you are energized to investigate your educational options.

VIRGO: Aug 24/Sept 22
Your creativity is on display this week, Virgo. You have ideas, and you need to put your thoughts in motion, whether through an art project or entrepreneurial venture.

LIBRA: Sept 23/Oct 23
Your ability to compromise is a big asset in the workplace, Libra. This alone can propel your career to new heights. You'll take a few steps in the right direction this week.

SCORPIO: Oct 24/Nov 22
Your ability to stay informed helps you to feel in touch with your surroundings, Scorpio. You will enjoy socializing with friends this week and may host a gathering.

SAGITTARIUS: Nov 23/Dec 21
Do your best to turn a negative into a positive, Sagittarius. It may require a little creative thinking to pull this off, but you are up to the task. Start by smiling more often.

CAPRICORN: Dec 22/Jan 20
Family matters will fare better this week than business matters, Capricorn. Focus more of your energy on your home life than happenings at the office that are beyond your control.

AQUARIUS: Jan 21/Feb 18
Aquarius, pay attention to all of the little details this week. If you can keep your eyes open, you may find new opportunities coming your way in the next few days.

PISCES: Feb 19/Mar 20
Pisces, don't let your emotions get the best of you when making an important decision this week. Let logic reign.

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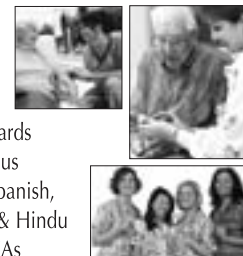
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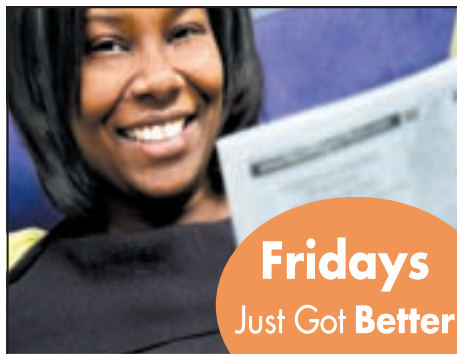
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