

Robert De Niro (right) after signing ceremony with Antigua and Barbuda PM Gaston Browne. Photo courtesy of Gov, Äôt of Antigua and Barbuda

## Antigua, De Niro ink multi-million deal

By Nelson A. King

The Gaston Browne administration in Antigua and Barbuda has signed a Memorandum of Agreement with American film star Robert De Niro for an investment project on Barbuda to the tune of US\$250 million.

During a special sitting of the Cabinet of Antigua and Barbuda, Prime Minister Browne and De Niro, who is a regular visitor to one of Antigua and Barbuda's most

Jumby Bay, signed the MOA, the ceremony on Friday. giving the green light for the renovation and expansion of the K-Club on Barbuda into an exclusive 5-Star resort, according to an Antigua and Barbuda Government statement issued in New York.

"We are, indeed, very delighted that you will be embarking on a very exciting project on Barbuda, transforming the island, making it one of the most exciting islands in the region,"

prestigious vacation resort, Browne told De Niro after

project "Your increased interest in Barbuda. The project is attracting additional investors to our country. That is why I am delighted to appoint you as a Special Economic Envoy of Antigua and Barbuda to attract more investments to our twin-island state," Browne added.

"It is my belief that your celebrity status will attract Continued on Page 6

But despite the enthusiasm being exhibited by the agency, officials are attempting to manage expectations

# GOLD SEARCH

## Jamaica, others look for oil

By Bert Wilkinson

With its annual import bill going way beyond the US\$1B mark, authorities in Jamaica are scrambling to sign off agreements with international firms to begin a new round of off and onshore drilling for oil and gas, convinced that its geographic location looking north to the Gulf of Mexico should greatly enhance its chances.

Tullow Oil of the UK which already has experience working in the Caribbean trade group, is one of the companies in the sights of authorities as the state-run Petroleum Corporation of Jamaica (PCOJ) prepares for the latest in a series of failed efforts since 1955 for the island to become a producer and possibly exporter of oil and gas.

"There is oil and gas in our territory in commercial quantities," PCOJ boss Christopher Cargill told the Observer Newspaper recently. "I know it. And I am convinced that it can be a game-changer for our country."

by reminding islanders that seismic

exploratory surveys could run for at least 18 months and drilling for another 18.

The PCOJ says that while there have been previous attempts onshore in Jamaica, this time it is targeting waters off the south of Jamaica. encouraged by data from previous attempts which contain indications of deposits of both oil and gas. Whether these are in commercial quantities are yet to be determined officials said.

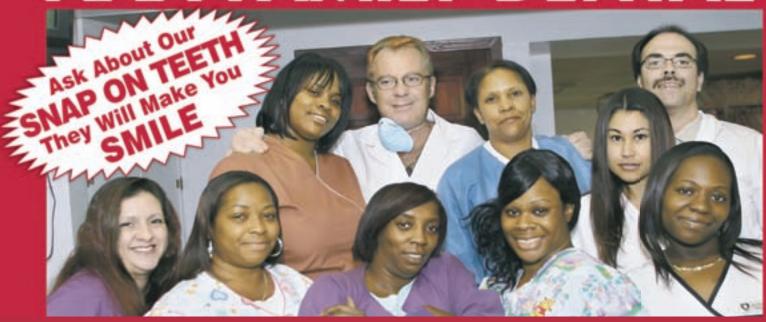
The latest attempt to find deposits in Jamaica failed in 2012 but officials say the presence of a big and reputable player like Tullow Oil and its technology could make a difference this time.

Tullow and a consortium that had also involved Spanish giant Repsol and CGX Energy of Canada last year had abandoned a very promising deep water well off the Guyana coast fearing that further drilling could have led to a spill similar to that which British Petroleum had experienced in the Gulf of Mexico a few years ago.

Work could resume next year on the well as there is every indication

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## **SVG PM readies** to 'ring election bell

By Nelson A. King

With Vincentians anxiously awaiting the date for the next general elections, St. Vincent and the Grenadines' Prime Minister Dr. Ralph E. Gonsalves has reiterated his readiness to ring the proverbial "bell."

Gonsalves told a town hall meeting in Brooklyn that the incumbent Unity Labor Party (ULP) is putting everything place to ensure the party retains power for a fourth consecutive term. General elections are constitutionally due in St. Vincent and the Grenadines in early 2016.

The Vincentian leader said two of his party's younger candidates and Ministers of Government - Agriculture Minister Saboto Caesar and Foreign Affairs Minister Camillo Gonsalves - will be going this weekend to their respective constituencies "to secure their nomination/their recommendation to the central executive.

"I wish both of those young men well, they're two good young men," Gonsalves said. "And, by the end of the year, we should have all our candidates in place.

"But depends on what they (the main Opposition New Democratic Party - NDP ) say, from what I've said here - and they provoke me - I may get all the candidates selected quickly and move faster than they expect me to move, because I am ready to ring de bell," he added.

Gonsalves stressed that, based on the nation's Constitution, he is the only one who can officially announce the date of the next general elections, recalling a conversation he had earlier this year, during VincyMas at Victoria Park in Kingstown, the Vincentian capital, with a NDP supporter in the presence of Opposition Leader and NDP leader, Arnhim Eustace.

"So one his (Eustace) supporters was next to him say, 'Ralph yo come to hear Patches say ring de bell," recalled Gonsalves, speaking colloquially, referring to the calypsonian.

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Prime Minister Dr. Ralph E. Gonsalves. AP Photo/ Mary Altaffer



Zita Adams receives award from Sharon McBarnett (pink dress) and members of the St. Matthias Charities, Inc.

## Vincentian charity group honors outstanding 5

By Nelson A. King

A major Vincentian charity group in New York has honored four outstanding nationals and a Brooklyn-based physician for their exemplary service to the community and the organization.

The Bronx-based St. Matthias Charities, Inc. on Nov. 22 honored Dr. Vijaypal Arva, an Indian-born gastroenterologist at Wycoff Medical Center; Vaughan Toney, chief executive officer and president of the Brooklyn-based Friends of Crown Heights Educational Center, Inc.; Ruby Wood, chief executive officer of Square Deal Shippers and Movers; public school educator Zita Adams; and this

The ceremony took place during the group's third annual fundraising Prayer Breakfast at the Friends of Crown Heights Educational Center.

In recent years, the St. Matthias Charities, Inc. has been donating medical and other supplies to the Milton Cato Memorial Hospital in Kingstown, the Vincentian capital, and other hospitals and clinics throughout St. Vincent and the Grenadines, as well as to various communities and individuals.

"It was my greatest honor to show my sincere appreciation and gratitude to present these recipients with the St. Matthias Charities, Inc. Awards and to thank all who continue to support us, so we can continue our charity work,"

Robert McBarnett, the group's founder and president, told Caribbean Life afterwards.

"As my vision becomes clearer, with the establishment of the St. Matthias Charities, Inc., I shared my ideas with (others), besides my wife (Sharon)," he added.

These "others". he said, were: "Ruby Wood, who immediately supported me and is a tremendous help with our shipping needs; Mr. Vaughan Toney, for allowing us the use of his facility to host events to help with our fundraisers: Ms. Zita Adams for her continuous support in bringing out the folks to support St. Matthias Charities, Inc.; Dr. Arya, for his large donation of an Endoscope machine that we denoted to the Milton Cato Memorial Hospital on our second trip to St. Vincent and the Grenadines (SVG); and, of course, to Mr. King, for reporting on the organization so that the Vincentian community is made aware of what we are doing to help the people of SVG."

Dr. Arya, 52, director of endoscopy, Wyckoff Heights Medical Center, joined the hospital as an intern in 1986, completing his internal medicine residency five years later.

In further pursuing his interests, Dr. Arya joined the Gastroenterology fellowship program at Allegheny General Hospital in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and became a board certified gastroenterologist in 1993.

A year later, he joined the Gastroenterology Division of Wyckoff Heights Hospital as the assistant director; and became a fellow of the American College of Physicians in 1996, American College of Gastroenterology three years later, and the American Gastroenterology Association in 2007.

Dr. Arya is an active member of various academic and honorary societies and organizations.

Renowned for his generosity and humility, Dr. Arya selflessly assists many in need, thus establishing the Vikalp Foundation.

He lives in Old Brookeville, Long Is. with his wife, Kalpana Arya-Gupta, also a physician, and their four children -Swarn, Simran, Sajel and Krishna.

Since 2001, Toney has presided over the largest expansion of Early Childhood Education services in the history of the 39-year-old Friends of Crown Heights Educational Center.

With a current network of 19 fullservice centers in Brooklyn, Manhattan and Staten Island, the center, under Toney's tenure, has become one of the larger providers of child care and early education, including Universal pre-K and after-school programs, in New York

Over the years, many former school Continued on Page 20

#### Caribbean

The Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) says its expert missions are supporting Eastern Caribbean countries in preparing for a potential case of the Ebola virus.

To date missions from PAHO have visited seven countries of the Eastern Caribbean to support their efforts.

In coordination with national health authorities and with support

from the Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA), PAHO said three expert missions have already visited Barbados, Dominica,



Antigua & Barbuda and Grenada. Others were expected to conclude in St. Vincent and the Grenadines,

"The missions are supporting efforts in Eastern Caribbean countries to ensure they are able to detect, treat and contain the spread of any potential case of Ebola," PAHO said in a statement.

Since the start of the West Africa's current Ebola epidemic, PAHO said more than 15,000 cases and over 5,000 deaths have been reported.

Nearly 200 employees of Caribbean airline, LIAT, could get the axe if proposed job cuts aimed at improving the airline's financial stability are realized.

Antigua Observer newspaper reported that the regional carrier is looking to retrench about 185 of its staff who are stationed in every country it oper-

The newspaper said it was reliably informed the company has presented several options to reduce the number of persons it employs. These measures

include early retirement, voluntary severance, normal retirement, temporary layoffs and termination.



Based on the pro-

posals, the commercial, customer experience and cargo divisions would be the departments mostly affected with a 21 percent reduction in personnel. The proposed cuts will trim the number of employees in those departments from 283 to 225 individuals.

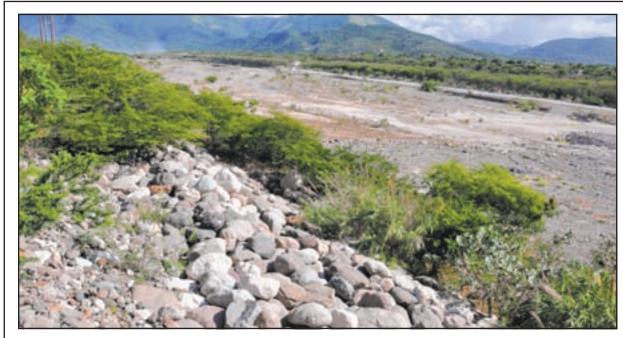
LIAT is also considering sending home 51 workers in flight operations, reducing the department by about 20 percent as well.

The engineering department is also expected to lose 50 workers, while 26 individuals are expected to be redundant in finance, human resource and administration.

#### **Barbados**

Crime and security were high on the agenda as several attorney gener-





## Jamaica experiences severe drought

The Yallahs River, one of the main water sources for Jamaica's Mona Reservoir, has been dry for months. See story on page 14. Inter Press Service / Desmond Brown

als from the Caribbean met with U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder to discuss a wide range of issues at the U.S. Embassy in Barbados.

Some of the issues discussed includ-

ed the strengthening of the international legal framework and deepening the partnership and collabora-



tion between the U.S. and the Caribbean on crime and security matters.

Discussions also focussed on border security, regional security, transnational organized crime, human trafficking, international justice cooperation and mutual legal assistance.

Several attorneys general, including Anand Ramlogan from Trinidad and Tobago, Patrick Atkinson (Jamaica), Adrienne Braithwaite (Barbados) and Jason Hamilton (St. Kitts-Nevis) attended the meeting.

#### Guyana

Heavy rains flooded thousands of homes in Guyana and forced the closure of schools and businesses in the capital, Georgetown, officials said.

More than seven inches of rain fell on the capital in less than 24 hours. Many streets were impass-



able in Georgetown and there were widespread reports of flooding in the lower floors of buildings throughout the city.

gerous flooding. The coastal plains of the South American country are protected by a system of canals, drains and the sea wall.

#### **Jamaica**

A highly regarded Cannabidol (EBD) specialist, Dr. William Courtney, has joined the Jamaica-based Timeless Herbal Care (THC), to assist in research and development.

According to THC, he will be part of a team of international and local researchers at the Timeless Medical Research Center at the University of

the West Indies (UWI) Mona Campus, Jamai-



Courtney is recognized as an interna-

tional leader in medicinal marijuana treatment and is also a member of the American Academy of Cannabinoid Medicine.

THC is a Jamaican company that is focused on developing medical products from Jamaica herbs and in September, established a partnership with the UWI to establish the Herbal Medicine Research Center.

With Dr. Courtney joining THC, the company is expressing optimism that he will help to attract thousands of patients to Jamaica to receive herbal treatments.

#### St. Kitts

The St. Kitts-Nevis government has Guyana is particularly prone to dan-sought to downplay the decision by

Canada to impose visa restrictions on nationals from the twin-island Federation wanting to visit the North American country, noting that since the September 2011 terrorist attacks on the United States on the United States countries have been reviewing their immigration policies periodically.

"Countries review and change their policies routinely in order to protect their interests and their people and so do we," Foreign Minister Patrice Nesbit said in a broadcast.

"Canada is an important ally, an ally of long standing. Our government values the strong relations, which over the years that Canada and St. Kitts-Nevis have built.

Canada has strong security concerns, the government recognizes this and the

government of St. Kitts-Nevis will do all in its power to respect and accommodate the concerns of an important ally," Nisbet said.

But Opposition Leader Mark Brantley said that Canada's position may have been influenced by an Iranian national holding a diplomatic passport issued by the St. Kitts-Nevis govern-

Brantley reminded nationals that the Iranian national told Canadian border agents that he was entering Canada for meetings with the Canadian Prime Minister on behalf of the government and people of St. Kitts,

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## Antigua, De Niro deal

Continued from cover

more American celebrities to Antigua and Barbuda and the Caribbean," he

Browne said that Barbuda is a "diamond in the rough and will make a net positive contribution to the treasury of Antigua and Barbuda.

Your involvement in Barbuda shows that you Mr. De Niro, Mr. James Packer and your team are pioneers and visionary (visionaries) - recognizing that Barbuda represents a unique proposition for investment, giving you the opportunity to carve out a particular niche," the Antiguan leader said.

"My government is very happy to be a part of this historic and significant moment," he added. "Your presence as an international celebrity is of significance and to have you as an investor and a friend of the people of Antigua and Barbuda and an economic envoy is equally significant.

"Today is, indeed, an historic day for our nation and we are very pleased to have you and your team here and we are hoping that within 30 days we can conclude the deal and construction can begin in the next 12 months, providing employment to the people of Antigua and Barbuda," Browne told the American actor.



Robert De Niro signs deal at special Antigua and Barbuda Cabinet meet-Photo courtesy of Gov, Äôt of Antigua and Barbuda

The award winning actor who has appeared in over 90 films, including the Godfather Part II and Raging Bull is also a film director, restaurateur and

De Niro said he is happy and excited to do business in Barbuda, stating that the project will be unique and "great."

He also thanked Browne and his Cabinet for accepting his team into the Antigua and Barbuda family, pledging not to let the government and country down.

Parliamentary Representative for Barbuda, where the project is located, Arthur Nibbs, said De Niro is inheriting a great property "as the previous owners were people of class, and they will be honored to know that Mr. De Niro has taken over the establishment to renovate and expand under the 'Paradise Found' brand."

Nibbs said Barbudans are anticipating "an excellent working relationship going forward.'

Browne commended Ambassador Gilbert Boustany for executing the agreement, pledging government's support in ensuring that the project progresses smoothly.

"We expect this project to be one of the most exciting projects in the Caribbean," he said.

## Jamaica oil

Continued from cover

that it contains hundreds of thousands of barrels of oil.

If Jamaica does in fact net oil or gas, it would join two other Caribbean trade bloc members-Trinidad and Suriname as producers. Trinidad, the most southerly of the Caribbean island chain has been a producer and exporter for decades. Prospectors recently found oil in an offshore well in the southeast at a mere 600 feet.

Suriname's story on the other hand is pure magic. Its state run water company was drilling artesian wells in the 70s when oil instead of water gushed from the bowels of the earth in the west of the country. It has never looked back ever since even building a refinery and is currently hoping that Repsol and others with offshore concession could strike it rich.

Guyana recently raised its optimism levels when Esso-Exxon announced plans just last month to begin drilling in a 26 million acre offshore concession off the south and north coasts by mid next year. And if Jamaica thinks it has potential, then the Bahamas does as well.

Authorities there say the Grand Bahama Island Bank represents the archipelago's best chances of netting oil and officials are looking to raise \$100M for the upcoming campaign, buoyed by efforts in neighboring Cuba to also become a producer or exporter even though their latest efforts had failed.



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## Violence against women linked to reproductive health problems: PAHO

By Nelson A. King

The Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) says unintended pregnancies, sexually transmitted infections, and miscarriages are more frequent among women in the Caribbean and other places who report having experienced violence at any point in their

On the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, observed each year on Nov. 25, PAHO called for the health sector—especially sexual and reproductive health services—to be involved in efforts to prevent and respond to violence against women. "This is a major problem with many health implications," said Dr. Carissa F. Etienne, the Dominican-born PAHO's director. "The health sector has a role to play in both prevention and response."

PAHO said violence against women continues to be a serious public health problem in the Americas, including the Caribbean.

It said one in three women in the Americas experiences physical or sexual

violence by a partner or sexual violence by a non-partner during their lifetime, and 20 percent of women report being sexually abused as children.

Young women aged 15-19 years are most at risk of suffering physical or sexual partner violence, with many reporting their first sexual encounter as unwanted or forced, PAHO said.

"This violence not only results in physical injury or death but also has an under-recognized impact on women's reproductive health, leading to more complications of pregnancy, unwanted pregnancy, miscarriage and sexually transmitted infections (STI), including HIV," PAHO said.

In some countries in the Americas, PAHO said levels of unwanted pregnancy are two to three times higher among women who report partner violence compared with women who do not.

It said pregnancy loss is twice as high among women who report experiencing violence, and the risk of premature labor is 1.6 times greater.



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# Blacks call for concrete action against ongoing injustices

#### By Wellington C. Ramos

The unjustified killing of Michael Brown in Ferguson, Missouri by a white Police Officer Darren Wilson, is just another added victim to the amount of Blacks who have been killed unlawfully in the United States of America since slavery. When Africans were brought from their native homeland to the Caribbean, Latin America and the United States of America, this was done by Europeans because they were seen as a people unequal to whites. They were unlawfully imprisoned, shackled with chains, placed on several boats and brought to these strange places like animals. Some who were held as prisoners of wars by their rival African ethnic groups, were sold into slavery for a few dol-

Since the Africans arrived in this part of the world, in most of the countries where they reside today including the United States they are still looked down upon by whites and other ethnic groups as inferior human beings. During slavery the African slaves were considered to be personal property to their slave owners. They had the right to punish, sell, kill or do anything with the slaves belonging to them without any questions asked. Many of them had guns to shoot their black slaves and kill them if they retaliated, violate their rules, incite escapes, disobey them or try to escape from their slave farms. After about two hundred years of slavery in America, there are many whites who are suffering from slave guilt and carry guns to kill blacks if they suspect that they intend to commit harm against them. Some of these white people are members of hate groups, the U.S. Armed Forces, the police forces and other law enforcement institutions.

Slavery has been abolished in the United States of America for years now but most white people and other ethnic groups continue to see blacks as inferior to them. It has gotten so bad, that even some Hispanics and Asians who many white people see in the same way they see blacks are discriminating against blacks as well. This is all due to the problem of racism which is still a way of life in America. The treatment of our current President Barack Obama who is half white and black is enough evidence for us to come to this conclusion.

The killing of our young black children by police officers in our country can end but we must introduce Federal, State and City Laws in Ordinance titled, "Use Of Justifiable Force And Harm." These laws will spell out what type of force police officers can use when they are confronted with a given situation to apprehend

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# Solve our climate crisis with climate justice

By Jagoda Munic

LIMA, Dec. 1, 2014 (IPS) - In November, the world's top climate scientists issued their latest warning that the climate crisis is rapidly worsening on a number of fronts, and that we must stop our climate-polluting way of producing energy if we are to stand a chance of avoiding the worst impacts of climate change.

Science says that the risk of runaway climate change draws ever closer. Indeed, we are already witnessing the consequences of climate change: more frequent floods, storms, droughts and rising seas are already causing devastation.

Our governments' inaction is obvious: they have failed to create a strong and equitable climate agreement at the U.N. for 20 years and their baby steps in Lima do not take us in the right direction.

Around the world people and communities are paying the cost of our governments' continued inaction with their livelihoods and lives and this trend is likely to increase significantly in the future.

## Good energy, bad energy

The fact is – our current energy system – the way we produce, distribute and consume energy – is unsustainable, unjust and harming communities, workers, the environment and the climate. Emissions from energy are a key driver of climate change and the system is failing to provide for the basic energy needs of billions of people in the global South.

The world's main sources

The fact is, the way we produce, distribute and consume energy - is unsustainable, unjust and harming communities, workers, the environment and the climate.

of energy like oil, gas and coal are devastating communities, their land, their air and their water. And so are other energy sources like nuclear power, industrial agrofuels and biomass, mega-dams and waste-to-energy incineration. None of these destructive energy sources have a role in our energy future.

There are real solutions to the climate crisis. They include stopping fossil fuels, building sustainable, community-based energy systems, steep reductions in carbon emissions, transforming our food systems, and stopping deforestation.

Surely, a climate-safe, sustainable energy system which meets the basic energy needs of everyone and respects the rights and different ways of life of communities around the world is possible: An energy system where energy production and use support a safe and clean environment, and healthy, thriving local economies that provide safe. decent and secure jobs and livelihoods. Such an energy system would be based on democracy and respect for human rights.

To make this happen we urgently need to invest in locally-appropriate, climatesafe, affordable and low impact energy for all, and reduce energy dependence so that people don't need much energy to meet their basic needs and live a good life

We also need to end new destructive energy projects and phase out existing destructive energy sources and we need to tackle the trade and investment rules that prioritise corporations' needs over those of people and the environment.

So the goals are set, and it is time to act immediately towards a transition period in which the rights of affected communities and workers are respected and their needs provided for during the transition.

## Climate politics at odds with climate science

So how are our governments tackling the issue? In the 20 years of the U.N. negotiations on climate change, we haven't stopped climate change, nor even slowed it down.

Proposals on the table, negotiated by our governments, now are mostly empty false solutions, including expanded carbon markets, and a risky method called REDD (Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation), which will not prevent climate change, and will impact and endanger poor and indigenous communities while earning money for big corporations.

Our governments' inaction is obvious: they have failed to create a strong and equitable climate agreement at the U.N. for 20 years and

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

## Ferguson accentuates an existing negative

An op-ed piece in The New York Times by sociologist and political commentator Michael Eric Dyson said of the Ferguson grand jury decision and aftermath, that it "illuminates" the racial divide in the country. Which it certainly does. Although Ferguson, and any similar episodes in which people of color have cause to question a systemic unfairness, pale by comparison with what, in recent history, has been the most in-your-face representation of color cleavage in the society. If there is perhaps more of an edge in reaction to occurrences like Michael Brown's killing by a white cop in Ferguson it's understandable, coming as it does when there's been nothing more graphically illustrative of the country's racist core than the contempt in which President Obama is held by so much of the citizenry. Ferguson merely accentuates an already existing negative.

Then of course there are people like Rudolph Giuliani who, we prefer to believe, must

hard-core views on race to get New Yorkers to elect him mayor. Nowadays, Giuliani is free to give unrestrained voice to his feelings, deflecting a question about persons of color being killed by white police officers with the selfserving observation that blackon-black killing is what instead ought be discussed. It was left to Dyson, also in the conversation on NBC-TV, to interject that most of the perps responsible for those black-on-black crimes get sent to jail, a far cry from how white cop killings of blacks get resolved.

Even as mayor, Giuliani let on that he viewed people of color through a whole different lens. One recalls his craven conduct in unsealing the juvenile record of Patrick Dorismond, after the young man had been shot and killed by a cop on a New York street. And we recall, too, one Newsday journalist's recounting of the markedly different responses the freshly installed mayor had for queries from the white (encouraging) and black (dishave deliberately repressed missive) sectors of a Staten

## **Viewpoint**

By Les Slater

Island town hall gathering.

Given what we like to think of as this town's cachet, it seems improbable that there could be a member of New York's political class so ideally representative of racial intolerance in the society. With at least one other name, to boot, that we can think of, the detestable Donald Trump, also worthy of enshrinement in that hall of shame.

Like many of us, Dyson isn't exactly brimming with confidence about the society's ability to effect a shift anytime soon that would manifestly change the racial dynamic. Who can blame him when, enigmatic as ever, the country could conjoin election of the first African American president and some of the most vehement displays of race-based hate we've seen in a while? Paradoxically, Dyson chides Presi-

dent Obama for his soft-pedal approach in what passes for his identifying and attacking the country's failings on the race issue...including moral deficiencies on the black side of the divide. "The president has lectured black folk about our moral shortcomings," Dyson said. "And yet his themes are shopworn and mix the innocuous with the insidious: pull your pants up, stop making racial excuses for failure, stop complaining about racism..."

In terms of a way forward, after referencing the alarming conclusions of the Kerner Commission on race in America, appointed by LBJ in the wake of the 1967 Detroit riot, Dyson calls out the nation as a collective, but pointedly names the president: "If our president and our nation now don't show the will and courage to speak the truth and remake the destinies of millions of beleaguered citizens, then we are doomed to watch the same sparks reignite whenever and wherever injustice meets desperation.

We have no reason to doubt bothersome.

that injustice will continue to meet desperation in the short term and guite likely for the long haul as well. We look at the very town of Ferguson, Mo. that has been the flashpoint on this occasion, and take note of one statistical reality on the ground there that stands as nothing short of cold defiance in 2014: that the police department comprises 50 white officers and three black ones, in a town that is reported to be 67 percent African American. It's a given that the replications of that Ferguson-style intractability, on law enforcement and Lord only knows whatever else, must be legion around the country.

Professor Dyson's criticism of President Obama notwithstanding, we cannot ignore one overarching truth about where the post-Ferguson road takes us. And that is that the country's political directorate is too thickly speckled with those for whom the indifference of a Ferguson to the legitimate aspirations and rights of citizens is not the least bit



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## **OP-EDS**

## **Ongoing injustices**

Continued from page 10

a suspect. A person who is a distance away from a police officer with a knife, does not have to be shot and killed to disarm him or her. In the cases of Michael Brown, Shaun Bell and Diallo in New York City and several others who have been killed by white police officers. more bullets were fired by these police officers with the intent to kill these individuals. Under no circumstances these incidents could be determined as self-defense. These were unjustifiable force used with the intent to kill those persons. Common sense dictates that the more bullets a police officer discharge at a person from his weapon, the higher the chances that the person shot will receive serious injuries or die in the process.

Any police officer that uses excessive force in apprehending a person that results in that person's receiving serious harm, injury or death should be prosecuted. There have been too many white Police Officers who have used excessive force which resulted in the death of black suspects and were not charged for killing them. This pattern of behavior has become so routine,

that it has happened and is happening throughout many cities in the United States. Police officers take oaths to protect lives and properties and not to take innocent black people's lives.

Black people in the United States are now demonstrating to say to the world enough is enough. There are some black people who might want to stop all these demonstrations and promote retaliations and this is why we must find a resolution to this major problem in our country. The Grand Jury system is not working to evaluate whether charges should be brought against police officers who continue to use excessive force to kill black citizens in America. Maybe, it is time for us to come up with another solution. In most of these cases, the police officers are being investigated by their friends. This will give them the opportunity to destroy any or all the evidence that is necessary to indict them for the crimes they committed. Darren Wilson is another police officer that has killed a young black male and was not indicted. With this current system he will not be the last, unless something is done about these ongoing injustices in America.

## Baby steps in wrong direction

Continued from page 10

their baby steps in Lima do not take us in the right direction. The reason is that, unfortunately, the U.N. climate negotiations are massively compromised because the corporate polluters who fund and create dirty energy are in the negotiating halls and have our governments in their pockets.

Major corporations and polluters are lobbying to undermine the chances of achieving climate justice via the UNFC-CC. Much of this influence is exerted in the member states before governments come to the climate negotiations, but the negotiations are also attended by hundreds of lobbyists from the corporate sector trying to ensure that any agreement promotes the interests of big business before people's interests and climate justice.

If we want any concrete agreement that would ensure the stopping of climate change for the benefit of all, we must stop the corporate takeover of U.N. climate negotiations by those corporate polluters.

There is also an issue of historic responsibility. The world's richest, developed countries are responsible for the majority of historical carbon emissions, while hosting only 15 percent of the world's population.

They emitted the biggest share of the greenhouse gases present in the atmosphere today, way more than their fair share. They must urgently make the deep-

est emission cuts and provide the most money if countries are to fairly share the responsibility of preventing catastrophic climate change.

Of course, tackling climate change and avoiding catastrophic climate change necessitates action by all countries. But the responsibility of countries to take action must reflect their historical responsibility for creating the problem and their capacity to act.

While the emissions of industrialising countries like China, India, South Africa and Brazil are rapidly increasing, these nations made a much smaller contribution to the climate problem overall than the rich developed countries, and their per capita emissions are still much lower.

Industrialised countries' governments are neglecting their responsibility to prevent climate catastrophe and their positions at global climate talks are increasingly driven by the narrow economic and financial interests of wealthy elites and multinational corporations. These interests, tied to the economic sectors responsible for pollution or profiting from false solutions to the climate crisis like carbon trading and fossil fuels, are the key forces behind global inaction.

This year in Lima there are big plans to expand carbon markets. Friends of the Earth International argues that carbon markets are a false solution to climate change that let rich countries off the hook and do not address the climate crisis.



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Bill de Blasio Mayor Mary T. Bassett, MD, MPH Commissioner



Former T & T Prime Minister Patrick Man-

AP Photo / Chris Greenberg

## Manning mulls over a comeback

By Azad Ali

Former Trinidad and Tobago Prime Minister and former leader of the People's National Movement (PNM) Patrick Manning plans to return for next year's General Election.

Manning, 63, who suffered a stroke in 2012-two years after his government was defeated in the May 2010 General Election by the Kamla Persad-Bissessar-led People's Partnership (PP) announced recently that he is watching his health as he contemplates whether he will once again seek to contest the San Fernando East constituency.

Manning said he will give a definite answer in due course after talking to new PNM leader Dr. Keith Rowley.

The former prime minister's message was relayed by former minister of Public Utilities in his administration Abdul Hamid because he has a speech impediment and problems with walking since suffering the stroke, said he is not ruling out another five years as an MP but would not make a definite decision until in the new vear.

Hamid assured that Manning could also get the job done although he was still recovering from the stroke.

However, Manning, like all other prospective candidates for

the 2015 election will have to pass the PNM's screening committee.

Manning suffered a stroke on Jan. 23, 2012, which paralyzed his right side and affected his speech.

He was on leave from Parliament in 2012 and 2013, having sought medical attention in Cuba and the USA, before returning earlier this year.

Manning is currently the longest serving parliamentarian for 43 years.



## **Lessons from** Jamaica's billiondollar drought

**By Desmond Browne** 

MORANT BAY, Jamaica, Nov. 24, 2014 (IPS) - As Jamaica struggles under the burden of an ongoing drought, experts say ensuring food security for the most vulnerable groups in society is becoming one of the lead-ing challenges posed by climate change.

"The disparity between the very rich and the very poor in Jamaica means that persons living in poverty, persons living below the poverty line, women heading households with large numbers of children and the elderly are greatly disadvantaged during this period," Judith Wedderburn, Jamaica project director at the non-profit German political foundation Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES), told IPS.

"The concern is that as the climate change implications are extended for several years that these kinds of situations are going to become more and more extreme, [such as] greater floods with periods of extreme drought."

Wedderburn, who spoke with IPS on the sidelines of a FES and Panos Caribbean workshop for journalists held here earlier this month, said Caribbean countries - which already have to grapple with a finite amount of space for food production now have the added challenges of extreme rainfall

events or droughts due to climate change.

"In Jamaica, we've had several months of drought, which affected the most important food production parishes in the country," she said, adding that the problem does not end when the drought breaks.

"We are then affected by extremes of rainfall which results in flooding. The farming communities lose their crops during droughts [and] families associated with those farmers are affected. The food production line gets disrupted and the cost of food goes up, so already large numbers of families living in poverty have even greater difficulty in accessing locally grown food at reasonable prices and that contributes to substantial food insecuritv - meaning people cannot easily access the food that they need to keep their families well fed."

One local researcher predicts that things are likely to get even worse. Dale Rankine, a PhD candidate at the University of the West Indies (UWI), told IPS that climate change modelling suggests that the region will be drier heading towards the middle to the end of the century.

"We are seeing projections that suggest that we could have up to 40 per-

Continued on Page 30





## CARIBBEAN ROUNDUP

Continued from page 4

"the claims by the Iranian national of a meeting with Canadian Prime Minister were categorically false."

#### St. Lucia

St. Lucia has slapped a temporary ban on the importation of all poultry products from the United Kingdom, as a result of an outbreak of bird flu

The Ministry of Agriculture said the ban was imposed in light of information received from the Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs in the United Kingdom confirming that the country recently experienced an outbreak of a Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI).

The Ministry said in a statement

that the importation ban is imposed with immediate effect and applies to all poultry, poultry meat products



and processed internal organs of poultry raised, slaughtered or processed in the United Kingdom from 21 days prior to the start of outbreak on Nov. 14, 2014.

"These importation restrictions are part of quarantine measures aimed at preventing the entry of the Avian Influenza Virus into St. Lucia and will remain in effect until further notice," the statement said.

#### St. Vincent

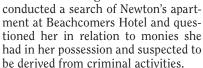
A flight attendant with regional airline LIAT was fined EC\$10,000 or serve nine months in prison after she pleaded guilty to money laundering charges.

Sherita Kernelle Newton, 30, was charged with bringing criminal property into St. Vincent and the Grenadines and also being in possession of criminal property, contrary to the country's laws.

The Dominican national pleaded guilty to the charges when she appeared before Chief

Magistrate Rechanne Brown-Matthias.

The court heard that, on Nov. 21, 2014 law enforcement agents



Newton told the police she had EC\$12,000, but when police counted the money it amounted to EC\$27,000. She also had 25 Euro in her posses-

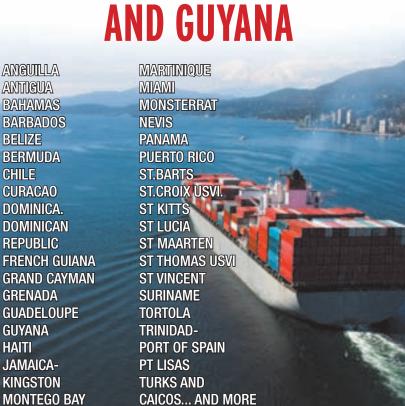
She explained that someone in Antigua had given her the money to take to an individual in St. Vincent and she was paid a fee of EC\$1,000 to transport the money.

Compiled by Azad Ali





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## THE CARIBBEAN BUSINESS REPORT

## LASCO Financial Services wins MoneyGram's **Agent of the Year Award**

LASCO Financial Services in Kingston, Jamaica is the recepient of MoneyGram's 2014 agent of the year award for the company's Caribbean region. The award, which was presented in Miami on Oct. 29, recognizes the company for outstanding international business development and selfless contribution to the marketing efforts of MoneyGram services.

Previously, the company has been recognized by Money-Gram for Fastest Growth, Top Remittance Agent, Top Receive Agent and Largest Network in Jamaica and the Caribbean. In 2013, Lascelles Chin was named the MoneyGram Brand Ambassador to Jamaica in recognition of the company's outstanding performance.

Beverley Douglas, deputy general manager for remittances at LASCO Financial Services was elated at receiving the award. "The LASCO Financial Services team is deeply honoured to have been awarded the top remittance agent in the Caribbean for 2014. This award is the result of our hardworking staff, dedicated sub agents, loyal customers and our supportive partner MoneyGram International. We are encouraged to continue the strategies which have taken us this far and which we hope will con-



Representatives of LASCO Financial Services in Kingston, Jamaica receive the Money Gram's 2014 agent of the year award for the company's Caribbean region. Photo courtesy Jump Communications & Darketing Inc.

tinue to position us as a global leader in the remittance service industry."

The relationship between LASCO Financial Services Ltd and MoneyGram has resulted in convenient and affordable remittance services to Jamaica for over 10 years. The company is driven by its passion to provide premium services

that enable Jamaicans, to care for their families and transact business from remote locations with ease.

"LASCO Financial Services demonstrates a total commitment to the development of MoneyGram services in Jamaica," said Peter George Smith, MoneyGram's regional director for the Caribbean. "The impact

of the marketing and technological development programs they've built to better serve our Jamaican consumers at home and abroad is something that can benefit agents in our other key Caribbean markets."

LASCO provides MoneyGram remittance services through more than 90 sub-agents conveniently located island-wide.

Customers can transfer funds from anywhere in the world to recipients in Jamaica in just 10 minutes

The LASCO Financial Services team remains committed to improving the lives of Jamaicans through continued innovative and effective money transfer services to its custom-

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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.nvsl.nvsed.gov/reference/busref.

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.

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# Lifestyle tips to reduce chronic inflammation

Millions of Americans endure the pain of chronic inflammation, and even when pain is not apparent, millions more run the risk of serious diseases triggered by chronic inflammation.

"Almost all chronic diseases -- from arthritis to heart disease to diabetes to Alzheimer's disease -- have one thing in common: destructive, unchecked inflammation," says Dr. Michael A. Smith, host of "Healthy Talk" on RadioMD.com and senior health scientist with Life Extension in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. "Certain lifestyle measures and the use of particular supplements, however, can help manage and reduce chronic inflammation."

According to Smith, here's what everyone should know:

#### **TESTING**

An annual blood test for C-reactive protein can detect potentially high levels of systemic inflammation that may be boosting your risk of a host of age-related diseases. If your C-reactive protein level is over 1.0 milligrams per liter (1.0 mg/L), this likely indicates you have inflammatory activity occurring in your body and may be at increased risk for any number of serious medical

## **HEALTH**

conditions -- the higher this number the greater the risk.

#### **NATURAL EXTRACTS**

Mainstream medicine offers drugs that typically target a single aspect of acute inflammatory pain, and aren't typically suitable for long-term use due to substantial side effects. Scientists, however, have identified three compounds -- curcumin, ginger, and turmeric oil -- that inhibit multiple underlying factors behind inflammation, safely reducing both chronic pain and long-term disease risk.

"Numerous studies have confirmed that by targeting inflammatory origins, these natural extracts reduce the symptoms, risk profiles, and mediating factors of arthritis, cardiovascular disease, cancer, and other diseases. And some of these effects are observable in a matter of weeks," says Smith.

While you can find these compounds in certain foods, scientists have discovered a novel way to deliver almost seven times as much of these three extracts



It is important to take action now to reduce chronic inflammation.

Photo courtesy of Blue Sky Image-Shutterstock

to your bloodstream through supplementation.

#### **HEALTHY HABITS**

Even light physical activity has proven benefits to reducing inflammation, according to a study conducted by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Incorporate exercise into your routine, even if that just means a daily walk. And inflammation is one more reason to quit a cigarette habit or avoid secondhand exposure, as it can be a response to smoking, according to Harvard Medical School's Family Health Guide.

Certain foods can promote inflammation. Shy away from too many highly

processed foods such as white breads and pasta, and foods high in saturated fat, sugar and trans fat. You don't need to sacrifice flavor, however, by loading up on herbs and spices. They are not only a low-calorie way to flavor your food; certain varieties even have anti-inflammatory properties.

More information about reducing your risk for chronic inflammation can be found at www.lef.org/curcumin or call the toll-free number, 1-855-820-9479

To dramatically minimize cellular aging and risk for lethal age-related diseases, many doctors and medical experts urge taking action now to reduce chronic inflammation.

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## **Elections**

"I said, 'listen to me, Eustace and Patches are into entertainment'.

"I said, 'there's only one man can ring de bell - is I-man'(loud laughter)," he added. "He said, 'what you say about Julian (Francis, ULP general secretary) then, because Julian had gone to the tent with a bell?"

"I said, 'Julian, too, is involved in entertainment', the prime minister continued. "I tell you, I'm the only man can ring the bell (loud laughter)...You ever hear a song could be a (political) strategy? Can you imagine you can base a political strategy on a calypso?

"They (NDP) go up and down the country (saying), 'ring de bell comrade, ring de bell'. They had rallies, they had it day in, day out. They (are) trying to make Patches' song into a road march, which it can't be. ... From where I am in the Financial Complex, I can see them coming down.

But I said, 'da band dey smaller than Melbourne mas band'. Ah say, they (are) playing mas in July, late July. They (observers) say, 'no, it's de ring de bell march'," said Gonsalves, as the packed crowd rolled with laughter.

"The fellas (NDP) came to

We (NDP) are working harder and wiser. The business of St. Vincent and the Grenadines is serious.

town to ring de bell and, when they ring de bell, when they look for de bell - and you can write this (looking at this correspondent seated in the front row of the hall) - the bell tongue drop out, (more loud laughter). And that's the end of 'ring de bell' yo' know. The bell tongue come (came) out. Anybody could take dem man day seriously?" asked the prime minister rhetorically in local parlance.

Former NDP South Windward candidate Stephen

"Scombo" John, who was, among a few NDP supporters, seated near the back of the hall, did not ask any question during the question-andanswer segment, but later told Caribbean Life that Gonsalves' "entertainment speech" masked the real, serious issues confronting nationals.

"We (NDP) are working harder and wiser," said the president of the Brooklynbased St. Vincent and the Grenadines Progressive Organization of New York (SPOONY), the NDP New York arm, "The business of St. Vincent and the Grenadines is serious.

"Last night was entertainment, which I thoroughly enjoyed," added John, a public school principal in Brooklyn, noting that the NDP won seven of the 15 seats in Parliament in the last general elections almost five years ago. "Even the airport (prime minister's reference to completion of the Argygle International Airport next year) was a joke...very sarcastic to entertain some and stifle ideas from others."

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## Charity

Continued from Page 3

teachers and others in St. Vincent and the Grenadines have earned their living through employment at the Friends of Crown Heights Educational Center.

Adams worked in private and public schools, as well as in day care centers in New York City under the auspices of Toney and former New York City Councilwoman Jamaican-born Una Clarke, the first Caribbean-born woman to hold elective office in the city.

But Adams said her expertise is "exemplified" in Early Childhood Education.

In conjunction with teaching, Adams began her own giving ministry, supporting a "very worthy cause for the less fortunate" at the Louis Punnett's Home and the Mental Hospital in St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

She said she embraces the opportunity to send clothing consistently to those two insti-

Adams, the mother of one son, is also an active member of St. Augustine's Episcopal (Anglican) Church in Brooklyn.

She has received sever-

al awards for public service, including an award for "Mother of the Year" from St. Augustine's Episcopal.

A former Qualified Assistant Teacher in St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Adams holds a bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education from Adelphi University in Long Is.; a master's degree in Early Childhood and Elementary Education, also from Adelphi University; and a master's degree in education from Columbia University.

Wood is co-founder of the Brooklyn-based Square Deal Shippers & Movers, Inc. She founded the popular shipping company in 1979 with her late husband Egerton "Creech" Wood.

She studied at St. Joseph's Convent Kingstown; Kingsborough Community College in Brooklyn; and Adelphi Univer-

Over the years, Mrs. Wood has made exceptional contributions to her homeland and to the Caribbean community in the Diaspora.

She also supports numerous educational, health, sports, cultural and church organizations throughout the Caribbean, and is the recipient of many awards, including a New York City Council Proclama-





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## More Caribbean people receiving antiretroviral treatment for HIV

By Nelson A. King

The Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) says antiretroviral treatment for people living with HIV/AIDS is increasing in Latin America and the Caribbean.

PAHO said on Thursday that nearly 600,000 more people today than in 2003 are receiving antiretroviral treatment for HIV in the region.

PAHO released the figures ahead of World AIDS Day, Dec. 1.

PAHO's theme for World AIDS Day this year is "Close the gap - for an AIDS-free generation."

It said the goal is to bridge the gap between people who have access to HIV prevention, treatment, care and support services and those who are being left behind.

"Over the past decade, countries in Latin America and the Caribbean have increased access to health services needed by people with HIV, including medicines," said PAHO'S Dominicanborn Director Dr. Carissa F. Etienne.

"Controlling the epidemic by 2030 would be possible if countries implement a combined prevention strategy and if everyone knows their HIV status, gets the treatment they need, and live free of stigma and discrimination," she

The 2014 PAHO/WHO report "Antiretroviral Treatment in the Spotlight: A Public Health Analysis in Latin America and the Caribbean" reveals that the number of people receiving antiretroviral treatment in Latin America and the Caribbean increased from an estimated 210,000 in 2003 to 795,000 in 2013, representing 56 percent of those who need treatment and 44 percent of all people with HIV.

"We still face a gap that we urgently need to close," Etienne said. "The challenge now is to make further progress and ensure we do not backslide on our achievements so far."

In 2013, 106,000 people became newly infected with HIV in Latin America and the Caribbean, 9 percent less than in 2003.

PAHO said new infections could be reduced even more through the implementation of a prevention strategy that combines evidence-based services and interventions based on the needs of those they serve.

These interventions range from the distribution of condoms and information on HIV to offering HIV testing and timely treatment, among others, PAHO

Just as new infections have declined, Continued on Page 26







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# Daily News PR giant John Campi dies of heart attack at 75

By Shavana Abruzzo

Iconic New York Daily News executive John Campi — a marketing genius who enriched "New York's hometown newspaper" with clever, blue-chip campaigns — died of a heart attack at a New Jersey hospital on Nov. 28. The former vice president and director of promotions was 75.

Campi retired two years ago after an illustrious, 50-yearold career that delivered heartwarming events to New Yorkers, including the Brighton Beach Jubilee, the New York Daily News Stickball Tournament at MetroTech, and the 1986 Daily News Great Blimp Race, featuring four hot air balloons in a 12-mile aerial jaunt along the Hudson River to celebrate the Statue of Liberty's 100th anniversary — all of them with Campi cheering from the sidelines.

"Anytime we sponsored something, John wasn't only behind it, but he went to it," said John Polizano, the current senior vice president of



Celebrated: The New York City Hispanic Chamber of Commerce hailed John Campi as "Advocate of the Year."

advertising.

Campi was a visionary who built alliances with the city's Dominican, Mexican, Colombian, West Indian, Ecuadoran, and other communities, and was hailed advocate of the year by the New York City Hispanic Chamber of Commerce.

He also traveled to Trinidad in the mid-1980s to check out the Pan American Steel Drum Band and bring it to the Big Apple to perform at Daily News events, and later at Carnegie Hall, while boosting Caribbean Americans in Brooklyn.

"John was supportive of all things Caribbean that were newsworthy, whether it was a parade, giving out college scholarships, or working with community organizations," said Jean Alexander, marketing director of the West Indian Day Parade in Flatbush that Campi often attended. "He was a decision-making person who had a decision for you by the end of your meeting, and you could take his word to the bank."

Other former co-workers remembered how he loved a challenge. When prominent city hospitals balked at endorsing the News' prostate cancer screening program one year, Campi brought survivors ex-Mayor Rudy Giuliani and baseball great Joe Torre on board to help promote the life-saving



Celebrated: The New York City Hispanic Chamber of Commerce hailed John Campi as "Advocate of the Year."

initiative.

"John would say, 'We're the Daily News, we can make anything happen,'" said promotions and community affairs manager Brian Adams. "He commanded respect, not demanded it."

Campi was among the inaugural honorees inducted into the Golden Gloves Hall of Fame in the spring for rescuing the popular competition from financial ruin in the mid-1980s, and expanding it to include female contestants.

"His guiding hand made it the world-famous boxing tournament it is today," said Daily News president and editor-inchief Colin Myler.

Advertisers were similarly impressed by the dentist's son who launched his career in the newspaper's sales unit when John F. Kennedy was still president, rising steadily through the ranks to become the man to seal the deal on dozens of festivals, carnivals, parades, and other spectacles that celebrated the Big Apple's multiculturalism and attracted critical revenue dollars.

"John was the Daily News," Gary Richard of the P.C. Richard & Son retail chain told the newspaper.

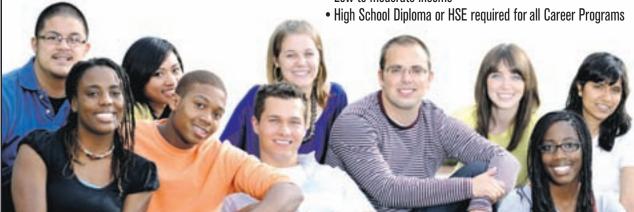
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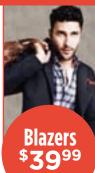
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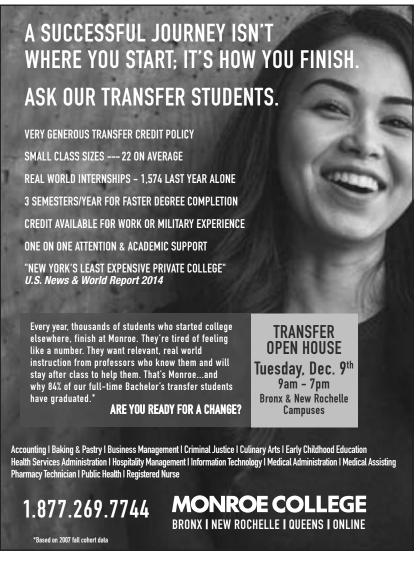
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#### Continued from Page 22

so are HIV deaths, PAHO said, revealing that, last year, 58,000 people in the region died from HIV, a 40 percent decline since 2003.

"Timely treatment is fundamental for saving the lives of people who contract HIV and to prevent transmission to others. Providing testing and counseling together is a crucial strategy to link people who have the virus with comprehensive healthcare services," said Massimo Ghidinelli, chief of PAHO's HIV/ AIDS, STI and Hepatitis Unit.

"Simplifying treatment regimens can help reduce the emergence of resistance and adverse side effects and help keep medications effective," he added.

The number of mothers receiving treatment also increased significantly, according to preliminary data from PAHO and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).

In 2010, PAHO said fewer than 59 percent of pregnant women with HIV

received treatment.

In 2013, this proportion reached 93 percent, close to the 95 percent target adopted by the region's countries for 2015, PAHO said.

The proportion of children 14 and under with HIV who are receiving treatment reached 51 percent last year. Some 52,000 children in the region are believed to be living with the virus.

In Latin America and the Caribbean, 3 in 10 people with HIV are unaware that they have the virus, and 35 percent of new cases are diagnosed late, impeding timely treatment, according to PAHO.

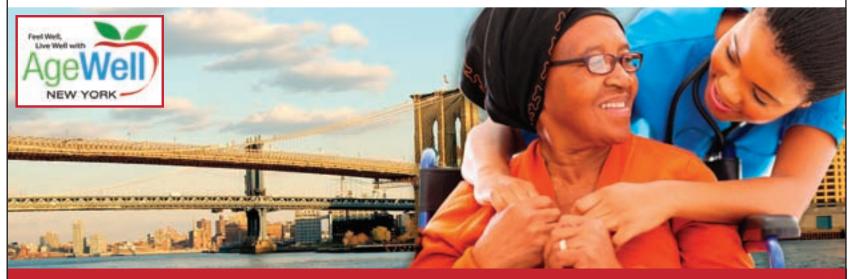
The new PAHO report is the region's first to present this type of data.

PAHO said World AIDS Day is observed each December 1 to raise awareness of HIV/AIDS.

It provides an opportunity to disseminate information and stimulate progress in prevention, treatment and care for people with HIV in countries with high prevalence and throughout the world, PAHO said.



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## Hadley Players founder celebrates 100

The founder of the H.A.D.L.E.Y Players, Gertrude Jeannette, who was born Nov. 28, 1914, celebrated her 100th birthday at the Alhambra Ballroom in Harlem on Sunday, Nov. 30 where theater people, friends, press and community folks came out to honor Gertrude and remember her birthday.

A playwright, actress, director and producer in her own right, Gertrude has appeared on both stage and screen. She appeared on radio and performed on Broadway in Tennessee Williams "Vieux Carre." Also in "The Skin of our Teeth," "The Great White Hope," "Lost in the Stars." "Amen Corner," "Nobody Loves an Albatross "and "The Great White Hope," et al.

In film, Ms. Jeanette was memorable in "The Legend of Nigger Charlie," "Black Girl," and appeared in "Shaft," "and "Cotton Comes to Harlem." She has lent her talents to both film shorts and documentaries. A playwright in her own right, Gertrude wrote plays like: A Bolt from the Blue, Light in the Cellar, Glady's Dilemma, This Way Forward, and Who's Mama's



Baby, Who's Daddy's Child? She has also featured and directed the works of other playwrights.

Born in Urbana, Arkansas, Gertrude made Harlem, NY, her home. An innovator, in 1935 she became the first woman to get a license to operate a motor cycle and later became the first female cab driver in New York City. Jeannette received the Harlem Business Recognition Award from the National Council of Negro Women. She was honored as a Living Legend by the National Black Theater Festival in Winston Salem, NC. She received the Outstanding Pioneer Award from AUDELCO in 1984. She

also received the AT&T and Black American Newspaper 1987 Personality of the Year Award. She was inducted into the Hatch-Billops Oral History Collection by the Schomburg Center for Research and Black Culture. As well as inducted into Philadelphia's Bushfire Theatre Walk of Fame. The Giving Back Corporation endowed her with their 2004 Giving Back Award, and Gertrude was given the 2006 Professional Women's Award from the Riverside Club/National Negro Business and Professional Women organization. She received the Standing on Our Shoulders Award from the Delta Sigma

Theta, Bronx Chapter, and the Lionel Hampton Legacy Award for her outstanding work in the Harlem community. In 2002, Gertrude Jeannette received the prestigious Paul Robeson Award from Actor's Equity. She was also honored by Harlem Is... Living History, an educational project by Community Works.

Letters wishing Ms. Jeannette "Happy Birthday" came from Congressman Charles Rangel, Assemblyman Keith Wright, State Senator Bill Perkins and Councilwoman Inez Dickens. The Master of Ceremony was producer Voza Rivers. Ebony Jo-Ann sang "You Will Never Grow Old." The Classical Productions led by Patricia Hancock Rogers sang a medley of Gertrude's favorite songs. The invocation was done by actress, comedian and reverend Dorothy Fox. Among the guests were former HADLEY Players Artistic Director Ward Nixon, actors Albert Eggleston, Ralph McCain, photographer Ronnie Wright, Don Thomas (NY Beacon), Woodie King (New Federal Theater), Patricia White, Elizabeth Van Dyke, David Downing, Hazel Smith, Vinie Burrows, organizer

Margaret Jackson, Sirlouis Jones, Shirley Scott, Micki Grant, Mary B. Davis, Johnnie Mae, Joe B. Hunt, Barbara Horowitz, Larry Thorp, June Terry, Janice Jenkins, Louise Mike, Dee Dixon, director Eric Coleman, Margery Johnson, Kimberly Monroe, playwrights Roger Parris and J.E. Franklin.

Many of the attendees have presented their plays and/or appeared in some of the Hadley Productions. Others were supporters and long time friends. People such as actress Joan Valentina, Cherryl Thomas, Ms. Bobbi Willis, Kim Weston-Moran, journalists Joan Allen, Peter Cooper and Michael J. Feeney, actress Johnnie Mae, Tommie Thompson, Kelly Marie Berry, costumer Kathy Roberson, Ed Lawrence, Debbie McIntire, Ajene Washington, Alice Garcia, Michelle Wilson (Ms Jeannette's great niece), Alvin Alexis, Juanita Howard, Loretta Abbott, and Lillian Harrison came out to celebrate Gertrude's 100th birthday milestone.

Ms. Jeannette appeared to have a lovely time and invited all her guests back to her 110th birthday party to do it all over again. God willing Gertrude, we'll all be there.



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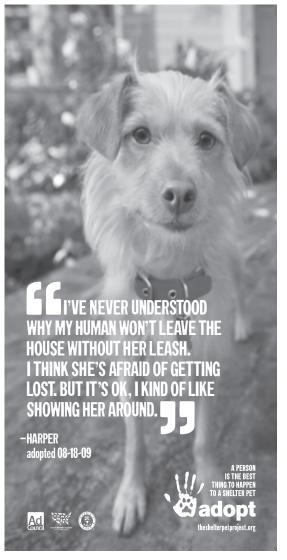
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## **Drought**

cent decrease in rainfall, particularly in our summer months. This normally coincides with when we have our major rainfall season," Rankine said.

"This is particularly important because it is going to impact most significantly on food security. We are also seeing suggestions that we could have increasing frequency of droughts and floods, and this high variability is almost certainly going to impact negatively on crop vields."

He pointed to "an interesting pattern" of increased rainfall over the central regions, but only on the outer extremities, while in the west and east there has been a reduction in rainfall.

"This is quite interesting because the locations that are most important for food security, particularly the parishes of St. Elizabeth [and] Manchester, for example, are seeing on average reduced rainfall and so that has implications for how productive our production areas are going to be," Rankine said.

The U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) announced recently that September 2014 was the hottest in 135 years of record keeping. It noted that during September, the globe averaged 60.3 degrees Fahrenheit

(15.72 degrees Celsius), which was the fourth monthly record set this year, along with May, June and August.

According to NOAA's National Climatic Data Centre, the first nine months of 2014 had a global average temperature of 58.72 degrees (14.78 degrees Celsius), tying with 1998 for the warmest first nine months on record.

Robert Pickersgill, Jamaica's water, land, environment and climate change minister, said more than 18,000 small farmers have been affected by the extreme drought that has been plaguing the country for months.

He said the agricultural sector has lost nearly one billion dollars as a result of drought and brush fires caused by extreme heat waves.

Pickersgill said reduced rainfall had significantly limited the inflows from springs and rivers into several of the country's facilities.

'Preliminary rainfall figures for the month of June indicate that Jamaica received only 30 per cent of its normal rainfall and all parishes, with the exception of sections of Westmoreland (54 percent), were in receipt of less than half of their normal rainfall. The southern parishes of St Elizabeth, Manchester, Clarendon, St Catherine, Kingston and St. Andrew and St. Thomas along with St Mary and Portland were hardest hit," Pickersgill said.

Clarendon, he said, received only destinydlb@gmail.com

two percent of its normal rainfall, followed by Manchester with four percent, St. Thomas six percent, St. Mary eight percent, and 12 percent for Kingston and St. Andrew.

Additionally, Pickersgill said that inflows into the Mona Reservoir from the Yallahs and Negro Rivers are now at 4.8 million gallons per day, which is among the lowest since the construction of the Yallahs pipeline in 1986, while inflows into the Hermitage Dam are currently at six million gallons per day, down from more than 18 million gallons per day during the wet season.

'It is clear to me that the scientific evidence that climate change is a clear and present danger is now even stronger. As such, the need for us to mitigate and adapt to its impacts is even greater, and that is why I often say, with climate change, we must change," Pickersgill told IPS. Wedderburn said Jamaica must take immediate steps to adapt to climate change.

"So the challenge for the government is to explore what kinds of adaptation methods can be used to teach farmers how to do more successful water harvesting so that in periods of severe drought their crops can still grow so that they can have food to sell to families at reasonable prices to deal with the food insecurity."

Edited by Kitty Stapp The writer can be contacted at

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## Trinidadian-American wins **Dancing With The Stars**

By Tangerine Clarke

Super star Alfonso Ribeiro who was born to Trinidad and Tobago parents wowed millions of fans when he danced his way to the mirror ball trophy on the 19th season of the ABC TV hit show, Dancing with the Stars.

Ribeiro, a former child star, and outstanding lead of one of the longest running Broadway shows - "The Tap Dance Kid," received loud applause and standing ovations from the moment he began his performance on the show.

Even though the fleet-footed dancer suffered back spasms leading up the finals, he tangoed, tapped and waltzed his way into the hearts of fans, as his wife and son applauded him weekly from their seats in the ABC Hollywood Theater.

Viewer votes combined with scores from the judges put the exciting performer and his dance partner Whitney Carson in the lead week after week, making the Bronx born actor the top dancer, and ultimately the winner of the competition.

After being named champion, the actor who has been on the sitcom Silver Spoons, and hosted the show Catch 21, said "I've wanted it forever, oh my gosh. I don't even know what to say. These are happy tears."

Parents, Michael and Joy expressed



Actor Alfonso Ribeiro poses on the press line at the Music Mogul Launch Party in Beverly Hills, Calif. on Monday, Nov. 24, 2008.

Associated Press / Dan Steinberg

how proud they were of the former host of the ABC Family show Spell-Madden from a video clip, and called 43 year-old Ribeira a perfectionist who works very hard at everything he does.

The star-studded finale of DWS included performances by Jennifer Hudson and Nick Jonas, both gave Ribeira an opportunity to return to the spotlight. He will join the Dancing With The Stars cast when the national tour kicks off on December 27 in Niagara Falls.

The group will perform at the Beacon Theatre in New York City on June 15, 2015.





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# Prevent slips and falls this winter

inter is right around the cor- Change your walk ner. That means that most people will be trading in windbreakers and rakes for heavy coats and snow shovels.

Winter can be a beautiful time of the year, but the snow and ice that covers the landscape in a pristine sheet of white can present certain hazards as well.

Walking on ice can be extremely dangerous, particularly to those people who already may have mobility issues, such as the elderly. According to the National Safety Council, slips and falls are the single largest cause of emergency room visits.

Slip and fall injuries also are the third largest cause of workplace injuries, says the Bureau of Labor Statis-

Many accidental falls occur from lack of stability or poor physical health. However, come winter, many falls can be attributed to walking on slippery surfaces covered with snow or ice. To avoid falls on ice, you might want to take certain precautions:

Adapting to the slippery conditions could help prevent some of the falls caused by snow and ice.

When walking on ice, plant feet with toes facing outward slightly, and then shuffle along.

Hunching over a little and extending arms outward will help to lower your center of gravity and also offer a little more stability.

Take short, flat steps so that the heels and toes of your shoes stay in contact with the ground as much as possible and offer maximum surface

### Switch shoes

Flat shoes with rubber soles are more capable of gripping the ice than other types of shoes. Contrary to popular belief, clunky winter boots may make walking more difficult. Try rain boots instead, as rain boots typically have flatter soles.

There also are many different types of shoe ice grips on the market that can be added to the soles of shoes.

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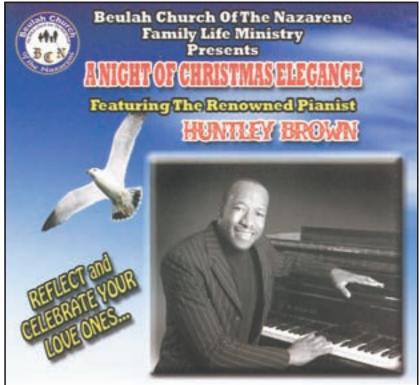
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# Jonkunnu arrives for Ole Time Grand Market

A traditional Jamaican holiday folk treat is due in Jamaica,

From the hot climes of the Caribbean to the brisk and chilly, urban New York community of Queens, BRAATA education and outreach team promises to deliver an Ole Time Grand Market. Slated for Dec. 13 the event will celebrate the island's traditional holiday practice and perhaps introduce a new generation of revelers and fans.

The popular folk singers and cultural activists acclaimed for rendering songs and theatrical presentations representing the best of the Caribbean guarantee an all-day fun feature that families will appreciate. They also claim that participants and Jamaicans of a certain age will reminisce the unique Christmas treat that includes a musical parade of characters through the streets. Known as Jonkunnu, the band of celebrants comprise men dressed in colorful rags, masks, and devilish getups, a drum and fife ensemble, dance and mime. The roving band of Jonkunoo (John Canoe) nostalgically links music, dance, symbols and mime to entreat



### **Inside Life**

By Vinette K. Pryce

youngsters and endear adults to a historic legacy that mimics slave masters and could be viewed as Jamaica's early carnival celebration. The Jamaican traditional dance form of African descent finds performers parading in the streets to enact mime-style plays. The folk form has gone through many stages of development until today when it is rarely performed on the island. Probably the highlight of the pre-holiday event, in addition to Johnkunno, BRAA-TA will offer free face painting for the youngsters; Bun eating competition, patty eating competition, music, cultural exhibit, karate demonstration, storytelling, vendors, and opportunities to take family portraits with characters. The 1:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. revelry will be held at the Jamaica Performing Arts Center in Jamaica, Queens, New

For more info. Log onto www.

braataproductions.org

#### **JAMAICAN BOBSLEDDERS FOR 2018 OLYMPICS IN NEED**

The next winter Olympics is four years away. Again slated continents away in Asia, Korea won the rights of hosting the quadrennial, athletic test of ice champions. And once again, if all goes well with successful qualifications, the Caribbean will be represented by the region's cool runners from Jamaica. Already in training in Park City Utah, two of the nation's brand new drivers have just successfully completed a bobsled driving school and competed in their first international race.

According to former Olympian Devon Harris, the process of developing the next generation of Jamaican bobsledders is in full throttle. However, there



Flyer promoting "Ole Time Grand Market."

are some hurdles that still have to be crossed before the entire team is assured a place in the competition. In order to leap the obstacles, support is being urged. For starters, the team has not yet received any corporate sponsorship. And although it is still early to panic, Harris said adjustments had to be made to the number of athletes

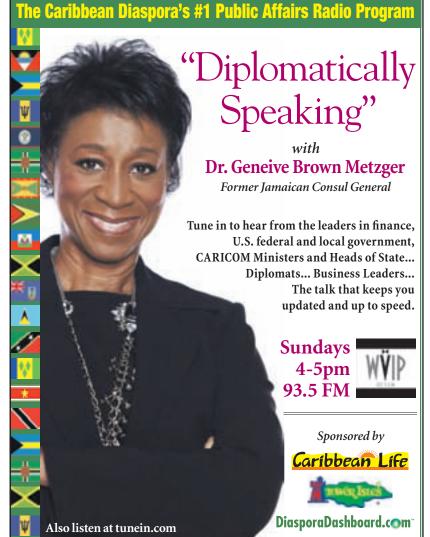
slated to be sent abroad for training. Ten more are eligible to make the Utah training. Harris and his crew would like to get them on ice this season in Utah. But funds are limited and now the public is being urged to help the cause. To that end a fundraising campaign was recently launched to get a team in place for the 2018 Olympic Games.

"We know that with your help we can get past these enormous challenges," Harris said in a letter to friends and supporters. "Can I ask you to make a small donation? Any amount will be helpful, and ask your friends to do the same?"

Now serving as secretary general to the team, Harris added "It is small donations such as this that will create the momentum we need and help us achieve our goals.'

For more information on how to help the future Olympic sleigh riders, log onto: https://coolrunnings.tilt.com/pushing-for-gold

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Tracey Greene Douglas wears her Photo courtesy of Tracey Douglas

# Let's Paint Guyana

### By Tangerine Clarke

American born artist Tracey Greene Douglas is using the beauty of painting to inspire and empower children in the rural areas of Guyana.

Douglas believes in the power of painting. "When you pick up a brush, whatever fear or anxiety you are feeling, you address it when you paint," she said.

"This is the same way children are inspired. There is an immediate joy

Continued on Page 42

# Spectacular holiday show

### By Vinette K. Pryce

Undoubtedly, this time of year, the biggest attraction to New York finds tourists mingled with local residents around 50th Street where Radio City Music Hall endears audiences to experience the annual Christmas Spectacular. And although the biggest applause usually lavish kudos to the resident Rockettes, rival contenders for rousing fanfare annually include Santa Claus, a Nativity scene, two riveting organ players, a fantastic orchestra, and a myriad of magical attractions. The 2014 edition features dazzling dance numbers and costumes, traditional favorites, stateof-the-art technology and the return of a classic number "Rag Dolls," which has been completely re-imagined and stars the Rockettes.

Continued on Page 42



Artist Lauryn Hill performing at the Apollo Theater.

Photo by Toni Dubois

### Marley heirs wail to legend

#### By Vinette K. Pryce

Benefactors to the legacy left by Robert Nesta Marley rocked the Apollo Theater in Harlem with a tribute concert commemorating the legend's 35th anniversary appearance at the landmark showplace. They each performed signature songs and in the end united onstage singing his "One Love" anthem.

Reggae Ambassadors Third World, Maxi Priest, Marley's son Kymani, The Wailers and surprise guest Lauryn Hill transformed the landmark Harlem showplace into a reggae dancehall with double-header commemorative concerts that fulfilled the dream of the Rastafarian, reggae musician who was named the first third world superstar.

Sold-out, SRO crowds marked the milestone occasion jammin' to each and every song performed throughout the spectacular showcase.

Sampling from Marley's best-selling songbooks, each performer delivered a Bobfest of wailing tribute to the pioneering Rastaman.

ВQ

"I didn't know I would see Bob Marley," a fan said after noticing the transposed, black and white image of the Rastafarian that loomed large on a back wall of the showplace. Tightfisted, eyes closed, clutching a microphone with a guitar slung across his chest, the video reminder remained a constant throughout the two and half concert.

The image dominated the stage serving as a permanent tribute throughout.

Continued on Page 42

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# Principal cast reunites for raunchy, saucy sequel

"Horrible Bosses 2" Fair (1 star) Rated R for pervasive profanity and crude sexuality Running time: 108 minutes Distributor: Warner Brothers

Timing is everything, when it comes to comedy, and this sequel suffers from an acute case of terrible timing. First of all, with the Bill Cosby rape allegations figuring so prominently in the news nowadays, the last thing anybody wants to laugh at is a premise predicated upon secretly slipping a knockout pill into the drink of an unsuspecting victim.

Equally distasteful is the running joke revolving around a female trying to turn a homosexual man straight by seducing him, suggesting that all you need to alter a gay guy's sexual preference is an attractive seduc-



Jason Bateman (Nick), Charlie Day (Dale) and Jason Sudeikis (Kurt) in "Horrible Bosses 2." Photo courtesy of Rotten Tomatoes

tress in a skimpy outfit. The picture's political-incorrectness even extends to ethnic jokes, such as a cringe-inducing scene where a man mocks his Asian housekeeper's thick accent.

Throw in unfunny skits about rape, pedophilia and the Ku Klux

Klan, and you have a raunchy romp that repeatedly resorts to terribly tasteless fare simply for the sake of a cheap punch line.

Directed by Sean Anders (We're the Millers), "Horrible Bosses 2" features Jason Bateman, Jason Sudeikis and Charlie Day reprising their lead roles as BFFs Nick, Kurt and Dale, respectively. Also returning are Jennifer Aniston as nymphomaniac Dr. Julia Harris, Jamie Foxx as feloniously-inclined Mother-[expletive] Jones, Kevin Spacey as conniving Dave Harken, and Lindsay Sloane as Dale's wife, Stacy, while additions to the cast include Christoph Waltz, Chris Pine, Keegan-Michael Key and Jonathan Banks.

This go-round, the intrepid protagonists morph from disgruntled employees into hapless entrepreneurs with no clue about bringing their invention, the Shower Buddy, to market. Consequently, they soon find themselves ruined financially by a sleazy investor Bert Hanson (Waltz), who rationalizes cheating them with, "I make new enemies every day. It's called business."

So, the three hatch a cockamamie plan to recoup their losses by kidnapping the creep's son (Pine) for ransom. What they didn't bank on, however, was the possibility that Bert couldn't care less about freeing his ne'er-do-well offspring (a motif reminiscent of Ruthless People (1986), where Danny DeVito ignored a demand for cash being made by his wife Bette Midler's abductors).

# **Independent & Foreign Films**

The Barefoot Artist (Unrated) Poignant portrait of 73-year-old Lily Yeh, the Chinese artistturned-global humanitarian who, based on a belief that access to art

is a fundamental human right, created a foundation which transformed abandoned lots and buildings into parks, gardens, theaters, studios and educational facilities for poor kids in Philadelphia. Rwanda, Kenya, Ecuador and elsewhere around the world.

By the Gun (R for sexuality, nudity, graphic violence, pervasive profanity and drug use) Mafia drama, set in Boston, about an ambitious mobster's (Ben Barnes) effort to become a made man. With Harvey Keitel, Toby Jones and Leighton Meester.

Comet (R for profanity, sexual references and drug use) Time-travel adventure set in a parallel universe and chronicling a star-crossed couple's (Emmy Rossum and Justin Long) tempestuous relationship. With Eric Winter, Lou Beatty, Jr. and Kavla Servi.

Concerning Violence (Unrated) Liberation retrospective, narrated by Lauryn Hill and inspired by Frantz Fanon's "Wretched of the Earth," recounting nine African nations' fights for freedom from European colonial rulers in the Sixties and Seventies. (In English, Swedish, French and Portuguese with subtitles)

Dying of the Light (R for profanity and violence) Revenge thriller about a CIA



agent (Nicolas Cage) who goes rogue, rather than retiring as ordered, in order to track down the terrorist (Alexander Karim) who tortured him years earlier. With Anton Yelchin, Irene Jacob and Adetomiwa Edun.

The Foxy Merkins (Unrated) Unlikelybuddies comedy about a cash-strapped, asthmatic, lesbian, wannabe whore (Lisa Haas) who learns the ropes of the business from a straight, wealthy, seasoned streetwalker (Jackie Monahan) well-versed in picking up and satisfying women. With Frances Bodomo, Diane Ciesla and Claudia Cogan.

Lap Dance (Unrated) Greg Carter wrote and directed this semi-autobiographical drama about an aspiring actress (Ali Cobrin) who gets permission from her fiance (Robert Hoffman) to moonlight as a stripper to pay her cancer-stricken father's (James Remar) medical bills. Costarring Stacey Dash, Mariel Hemingway, Carmen Electra and Nia Peeples.

Life Partners (R for profanity and sexuality) Romantic comedy revolving around a couple of BFFs, one gay (Leighton Meester), one straight (Gillian Jacobs), whose long-term friendship is tested when the latter starts dating a doctor (Adam Brody).



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### TOP OF THE CHARTS



- **Animals** Maroon 5
- **Habits (Stay High)** Tove Lo
- Don't Ed Sheeran
- **Shake It Off Taylor Swift**
- **Blank Space Taylor Swift**
- Waves Mr. Probz
- **All About That Bass** Meghan Trainor
- **Blame** Calvin Harris Feat....
- Don't Tell 'Em Jeremih Featuring YG
- I'm Not The Only One Sam Smith

## **TOP 10 ALBUMS**

- **FOUR** One Direction
- 1989 **Taylor Swift**
- That's Christmas To Me Pentatonix
- **No Fixed Address** Nickelback
- **Black Widow** In This Moment
- Interstellar Soundtrack
- In The Lonely Hour Sam Smith
- Punk Goes Pop, Vol. 6 Various Artists
- The Hunger Games: Soundtrack
- **Sonic Highways** Foo Fighters



# **Marley Wailers**

Continued from page 39

Although patrons expected the advertized lineup, many were particularly surprised by Hill's appearance. The mother of Bob Marley's grandchildren had not been announced as one of the performers but when the Apollo crew added four microphones to the Wailers set up, it was if a special guest would emerge with Marley's own I-Three backing vocals. Hill was accompanied by three female songbirds to help her wail a thrilling rendition of Marley's "Is This Love" and "Natty Dread."

"We have to bridge the gap of the diaspora, I am living example of that," she said.

Marley's son Kymani let loose his inheritance wailing "I Shot The Sherriff."

He gave reverence to the celebration voicing a verse from his letter and debut composition penned for his father. Kymani's Dear Dad" left audiences wanting.

He also wailed "Running Away," and "Crazy Baldhead."

Grammy-winning Priest upped his game wailing "Turn Your Lights Down Low." He was spectacular.

And while every performer

proved their mettle, The Wailers distinguished themselves true benefactors. Fronted by Wayne "Danglin" Anglin the veteran group now led by Family Man Barrett superbly celebrated the historic date Oct, 1979 the band backed Marley on his inaugural performance at the Harlem showplace.

Wearing a red, black and green scarf representing the colors associated with Marcus Mosiah Garvey's movement, Anglin paid tribute to the Pan-African proponent. He said he was elated to perform in Harlem, the Village Garvey launched a global appeal for a back To Africa movement. Needless to say, this latest configuration of The Wailers continues the legacy inherited since their most famed leader left in 1981when he died of cancer.

In his tribute they jammed – "Natural Mystic," "Buffalo Soldier," "Rise Up," "Africa Unite," "Exodus,"

"Honored to be jammin' for Robert Nesta Marley," is how Third World co-founder Stephen "Cat" Coore described his Apollo appearance. Along with bass player, Richard Daley, Coore led the revamped



Kymani performing at the Bob Marley Tribute at the Apollo Theater. Photo by Toni Dubois

Ambassadors through a barrage of solid selection familiar to the eclectic crowd.

They performed from their repertoire of his -- "Forbidden Love," "Try Jah Love," the O'Jays remake "Now That We Found Love," and in tribute to popular lead singer Bunny Rugs who died earlier this year delivered his signature rendition of "96 Degrees In The Shade."

Front-man A.J. Brown ably led the group which comprised Norris "Noriega" Webb on keyboards and Tony "Ruption" Williams on drums. Williams' percussive tribute recalled the years Irvin "Carrot" Jarrett wowed audience with his combined athletic and musical style of amplifying his instrument.

Not since the exits of cofounder Michael Ibo Cooper and drummer Willie Stewart had the group enjoyed such an overwhelming approval from reggae afficionados.

## **Painters**

Continued from page 39

when they paint," said the multi-talented artist who sells her artwork online to supply the children with tools to paint.

Her pieces include prints on paper, canvas totes, pillowcases, cell-phone covers, duvets and tee shirts. The items are sold on the webwww.redbubble.com under the heading Goddesstria images.

All of the proceeds go towards the purchase of art supplies to support the "Let's Paint Guyana" project for children of all ages.

Douglas who uses a nontraditional concept to motivate the children and allow them to freely express themselves on canvas, has a deep spiritual belief that painting instantly brings the soul present for peace of mind and creative stimulation.

The ongoing artwork project that may possibly one day produce masterpieces, or the next Van Gogh, will in the future give the young-



A group of kids showcasing their paintings. Photo by Tracey Douglas

sters an opportunity to see their work on display at an art show, said Douglas whose tie-dye designs have garnered loud applause on many fashion runways.

A naturalized Guyanese who immigrated to the South American country with her Guyanese-born husband Warren more than 10 years ago, owners of Pandama Retreat and Winery, Tracey uses the tranguil backdrop of Madewini on the Linden Soesdyke Highway to let her creative juices flow, while sharing her skills with youth.

and paint. Be free, we don't have to be limited when we paint," added Douglas who will help teachers to take the art form to the classroom.

Her program has also helped AIDS patients in a 'connecting art' with healing initiative.

From the moment she arrived in Guyana, Tracey connected deeply with citizens. The youth arm of the Rotary Club as well as NGOs where she has trained more than 60 children in the basics of paining, tie dving and drawing, is just an example of her "The idea is just to show up commitment to the youth.

### Rockettes

Continued from page 39

Guaranteed predictable is the annual unpredictability of the presentation that appeal to thousands of patrons annually.

Television promos already offer a sneak peak to the adventure. However, seeing (up-close) isbelieving and this year, when the finale number, "Snow," transformed the hall into a breathtaking winter wonderland digital snowflakes float above. Hovering with marvel for families to cheer the giant snowflakes encased in transparent bubbles propelled by GPS, after the delightful floatation display neatly fade from view into the orchestra pit.

"Snow" is now one of the classic performances that include "Living Nativity" and "Parade of the Wooden Soldiers," which sets the standard for the Rockettes style of precision dance, as vital parts of the show.

See the show and afterwards, check out the city's Christmas Tree at Rockefeller Center, it is located right behind Radio City... merry Christmas.

The 2014 Christmas Spectacular will run through Dec. 31.



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# Step your home up a notch with Kitchen & Bath Gallery

BY CAMILLE SPERRAZZA

Okay, we can do a lot with our smartphones, but can we control the temperature of the shower?

Yes, we can.

Kitchen and Bath Gallery of Brooklyn explains how. It's the one-stop shop for everything you need to modernize the two busiest rooms of your household.

"Electronics is very big now," says Tom Acquavella, director of Sales and Marketing for Solco Plumbing Supplies, parent company of Kitchen and Bath Gallery of Brooklyn. Whether you're putting a bathroom in a new home or remodeling an old one, it's now possible to set things up so that preferences are programmed. A touch of your cellphone offers this control, as does other advanced systems.

For example, say you prefer a hot shower, but someone else in the household likes the temperature to be cooler. These preferences can be automated so that by pressing button number one, the water temperature is just the way you like it. Then, when button number two is touched, the temperature is just the way your spouse likes it. There's no more fussing with knobs, no more accidently burning yourself. You step into the shower, and like Goldilocks, everything is "just right."

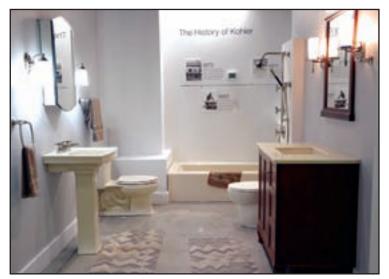
The shop carries a line of Delta hand showers that contain digital temperature displays, too.

"It's great for washing the kids," says Acquavella. "No worries about being too hot or

Browsing the 4,000-square foot showroom opens a world of possibilities. Imagine updating your medicine cabinet to one with a built-in television, something you may have seen at hotels. It's now possible to install them in your home. Likewise, televisions and stereos can be built into whirlpool tubs.

There are faucets with every type of handle and spout you can imagine, and others you might have never envisioned. Some of these have electronic technology displays. Others are works of art ceramic glass, customized patterns, hand-blown glass. Sinks designed like bowls have become very popular. In-









(Clockwise from top left) The staff at Kitchen & Bath Gallery on Atlantic Avenue in Boerum Hill. There are faucets with every type of handle and spout you can imagine, and others you might have never envisioned. The showroom features extremely high-quality basic and luxury products. Photos by Elizabeth Graham Browsing the 4,000-square foot showroom opens a world of possibilities.

stalling one of these in your home can heighten its beauty.

Vanities may be created with custom glass inlays. Sides can be ordered in different styles and designs. There are a variety of finishes. No more are bathroom vanities restricted to one color or one

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"We can spend hours working on a project with you," says Acquavella. The company will outline everything you need, including handling plumbing needs. After all, the parent company, Solco Plumbing Supplies, has been in business since 1960.

"Solco proudly distributes domestically manufactured products whenever possible. Our faith in the quality of American manufacturing has been our mantra," he says. "Today, 90 percent of our inventory is produced in America. We challenge any other plumbing products' distributor in the United States to equal that percentage."

Kohler is one of the most recognized brands in the business, and Kitchen and Bath Gallery of Brooklyn is the only Kohler premier showroom in the borough, says Acquavella. It had to meet stringent requirements to earn that privileged status.

"It's the result of meeting the high quality and product presentation standards set by the Kohler Company," he taste and budget."

It took nearly a year to complete the showroom, and the design encompasses the feel of the neighborhood, with its open-air, lofty decor.

"It creates a shopping atmosphere that is very comfortable," he says. The sales staff has about 40 years of combined service in the industry. "They really know what they are doing," says Acquavella.

The choices may be limitless, but if your budget is not, know that Kitchen and Bath Gallery of Brooklyn can accommodate all price ranges and styles.

"We carry extremely highquality basic and luxury products," says Acquavella. "There's something for every

The company encourages people to come down to the showroom to see all that it offers. Materials are supplied to individuals, plumbers, contractors, designers, and archi-

You don't have to know what you want before you get there, because you may find something you didn't know existed.

"Come in with your dreams, and we'll make them come true," he says..

Kitchen and Bath Gallery of Brooklyn [299 Atlantic Ave. between Smith and Hoyt streets in Boerum Hill, (718) 259-8010, www.kbgbrooklyn.com, www. solco.com). Open Mondays through Fridays, 9 am-5 pm, and Saturdays, 10 am-3 pm.



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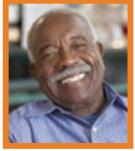


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#### THEME: YEAR IN REVIEW

#### **ACROSS**

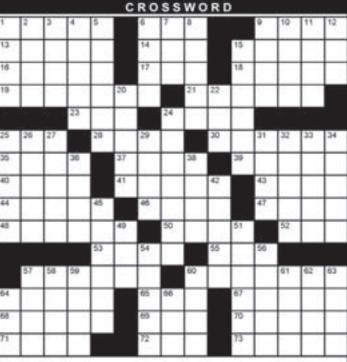
- 1. Good for biceps
- ' alive!'
- 9. \*Many Kurds did this from Syria in 2014
- 13. Unctuous Heep, of "David Copperfield"
- 14. Not pre-owned
- 15. It made Harry Potter's invisible
- 16. Common Thanksgiving Day action
- 17. ATM extra
- 18. Reduce, \_ \_, recycle
- 19. \*Captured drug lord
- 21. Zoo section
- 23. Go wrong
- 24. Hat part
- 25. Old age, archaic
- 28. Musical compositions for
- 30. African equines
- 35. \*Suspect in PA police ambush was denied this
- 37. Kosher establishment
- 39. Davy Crockett's last stand 40. Popular Creole vegetable
- \_ Miss hot chocolate
- 43. Auditory
- 44. MC Hammer's "2 \_ 2 Quit"
- 46. Last two words of certain shoe company's famous slo-
- 47. "Rambling Wreck From Georgia
- 48. \*Beyonce and Jay Z per-

- formed in them together in '14
- 50. Antonym of #14 Across 52. "Big Island" flower necklace
- 53. Leave them behind for riches?
- 55. Grazing area
- 57. \*Animated Oscar-winner
- 60. \*Billboard Music Awards hologram quest
- 64. Indian restaurant condi-
- 65. Schiller's "\_\_\_ to Joy"
- 67. Got up
- 68. Remove, as in a Pinterest post
- \_, as in money 69. A cool
- 70. Takes it easy 71. They're famous for being
- busy 72. Snake-like reef dweller
- 73. Arrogant one

#### DOWN

- 1. 27 is the of 3
- Mountains 2. Russia's 3. Reduced Instruction Set Computer
- 4. Wood-shaping device
- 5. Barn scissors
- 6. Facts and figures
- 7. Tiger's peg
- 8. Take an oath
- 9. Bloodsucking hopper
- 10. Displeasure on one's face
- 11. "Piece of cake!"
- 12. Obtain or create, barely
- 15. \*Russia/Ukraine "apple of discord"
- 20. Cattle control, pl.

- 22. "That is to say"
- 24. Suffering from gastric dis-
- 25. \*It caused a scare globally in 2014
- 26. Kobe, e.g.
- 27. Sad song
- 29. Off-color
- 31. The Phantom \_\_\_\_ \_, Mickey
- Mouse's nemesis
- 32. a.k.a. honey badger
- 33. White liturgical neckwear
- 34. \*2014 Olympic site
- 36. Been in bed
- 38. \*Infamous terrorist group
- 42. Type of monument
- 45. Jane's mate
- 49. Sigma Alpha Epsilon
- 51. Type of sticker, pl.
- 54. \*Washington Nationals gave away a Jayson Werth garden\_
- 56. Ohio rubber hub
- 57. Olden-day temple
- 58. \_\_\_\_ for the picking
- 59. Elevator inventor
- 60. Come together
- 61. \*Hope \_\_\_\_ set U.S. soccer record for career shutouts
- 62. Norse capital
- 63. Egg holder
- 64. Cause friction
- 66. Bond movie "Live and Let



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# Booters turn to running

From soccer to marathon running! That's the story of a 39-year-old native of Haiti who now resides in Valley Stream, Long Island.

Reggie Hyppolite, who runs unattached, decided to enter into a Turkey Trot of 10K or 6.2 miles in Long Beach, Long Island. The course took the runners from the boardwalk in Long Beach through the city's streets and finished near the starting line. Hyppolite competed in the event because he had some friends also running the race.

Hyppolite enjoyed the event in Long Beach and covered the course in 46:34 for 38th place in a race that attracted most of the competitors coming from Long Island.

"This is my first time doing (running in) Long Beach," said Hyppolite. "It's fine here in Long Beach; the weather is kind of windy. And the cross wind was a little bit challenging. But it was fun. The course was very flat."

Hyppolite's time of 46.34 was way off the winner's clocking of 37:58, turned in by Matthew McGovern in a race comprising 415 finishers.

Continued on Page 48

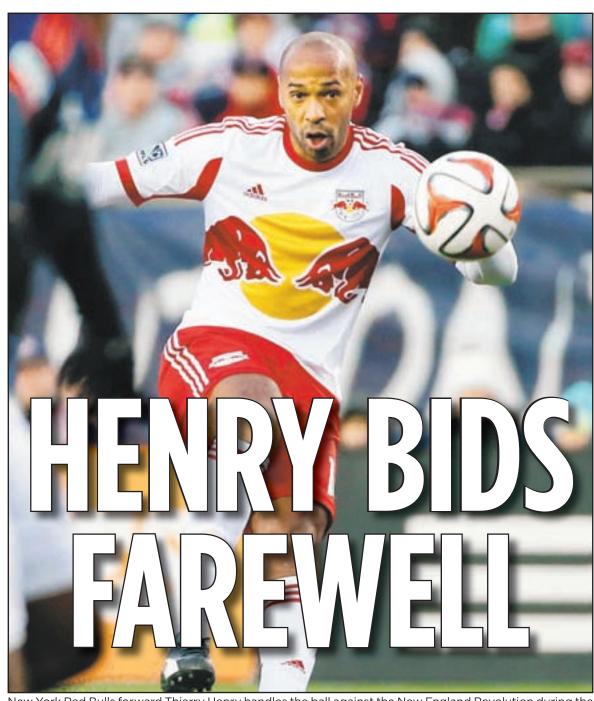
# Cricketers escape ban

Chairman of the India Premier League (IPL), Ranjib Biswai has said that the "rebel" West Indies cricketers who abandon the India series would not face any ban.

Fears of the ban surfaced following their pull out of the tour which the Board of Control for Cricket (BCCI) says would cost them about \$65 million in losses.

A pay dispute with the West Indies Players Association (WIPA) forced the players to follow through with threats to quit the tour after the fourth one-day International in Dharasmsala with one more ODI, Twenty20 and three Tests remaining.

ESPNcricinfo quoted a West Indies Cricket Board director as calling for an IPL ban on the core group of players, who were instrumental in West Indies aborting the India tour.



New York Red Bulls forward Thierry Henry handles the ball against the New England Revolution during the first half of the second soccer game of the MLS Eastern Conference final in Foxborough, Mass., Saturday, Nov. 29, 2014.

Associated Press Photo/Elise Amendola

### Red Bulls captain memorable era

#### **By Patrick Horne**

When the New York Red Bulls lost the MLS Eastern Conference twogame finals series to the New England Revolution last Saturday afternoon at Gillette Stadium in Foxboro (MA), it not only marked the end of the season and the gallant effort to play in the 2014 MLS Cup, but the end of a memorable era in the club's history - the end of Captain Thierry Henry as a Red Bull.

The Red Bulls lost the first leg at home, 2-1, to the Revs, but could only muster a 2-2 tie on the road, when it needed a win, and lost 4-3

on aggregate. Tim Cahill and Peguy Luyindula scored for New York and Charlie Davies had both goals for the Revs.

In the waning moments of the game, Henry kept gesturing to his teammates for one more goal, one

Continued on Page 48



Seattle Sounders midfielder Osvaldo Alonso (6) kicks the ball against the Los Angeles Galaxy during the second leg of the MLS soccer western conference final, Sunday, Nov. 30, 2014, in Seattle. Associated Press Photo / Ted S. Warren

# **Galaxy wins Western Conference**

#### Continued on Page 48

more game to his Red Bulls career, but it was one more goal that never came. So the curtain came down on a most memorable four-and-a half years in Red Bulls history, then the former French international took his bow this way:

"I am taking this opportunity to announce that unfortunately Saturday was my last game for the New York Red Bulls. The decision has always been that I would leave after the duration of my contract and although that was never going to change, I didn't want it to distract from the progress of the team.

"I have immensely enjoyed my four and half years here and would like to thank everyone involved with this club who has made my time here so enjoyable.

"Thanks must go particularly to Erik Soler, Hans Backe, Gerard Houllier, Andy Roxburgh, Mike Petke, all my team mates, the technical staff, medical staff, all the personnel who work for the Red Bull organization, the MLS and of course the owner Mr. Mateschitz whose vision and passion brought me to this wonderful city.

"A special mention must go to the Red Bull fans, who have supported this team through the good, the bad and the ugly times in the sun, rain and snow. You guys have really meant a lot to me and thank you for all your wonderful support.

"I will now take the next few weeks to reflect and decide on the next chapter of my career.

"Thank you all."

Henry went out in style; he combined with forward Bradley Wright-Phillips to score 37 goals and 16 assists in the regular season and, for his part, recorded 10 goals and 14 assists on the season, including five assists in five playoff games. Henry was the driving force behind a late season surge that carried the team in the playoffs and surprisingly all the way to Eastern Conference finals. His efforts garnered him a fourth MLS Best Selection. This time he was accompanied as an MLS Best pick by Wright-Phillips, who led the league with 27 goals and four in the playoffs.

Most importantly, Henry brought much publicity and legitimacy to a once bewildered area franchise and a growing league. With Henry, MLS got serious looks from many established European stars such as Irishman Robbie Keane with the Los Angeles Galaxy, Jermaine DeFoe in Toronto FC, Nigerian Obafemi Martins in Seattle and lately former England international Frank Lampard with New York City FC, which kicks off its inaugural MLS season in 2015. Thierry Henry will always be remembered as a Red Bull.

#### **REVS, GALAXY IN MLS CUP**

The Eastern Conference champion Revs will play the Galaxy on Sunday afternoon at 3:00 p.m. in StubHub Center in Los Angeles for the 2014 MLS championship. The Galaxy, despite a 2-1 lost at the Seattle Sounders last Sunday, won the Western Conference

for the ninth time and is playing in MLS Cup for the fourth time in the last six years. The Galaxy won the first leg of the Conference finals at home, 1-0, which left the series with a 2-2 aggregate tie, but Los Angeles advanced because of the away-goal tie-breaker. Brad Evans and Clint Dempsey scored for Seattle, while Juninho pulled a goal back for Los Angeles.

The MLS Cup brings the curtain down on another star's career as it will be former USA international forward Landon Donovan's last MLS game because of retirement. "It seems perfect, yeah, but we have to win it," Donovan said. "That's our challenge. We're playing a team that is -- I think -- the best team in the league over the past 10 or 12 games. So it's going to be a challenge."

### **SOCA PRINCESSES LOSE**

The Trinidad and Tobago women's national team came close to making history on Tuesday in its bid to be the first Caribbean women's team to play in a FIFA Women's World Cup; instead, the Soca Princesses suffered a heartbreaking lost at home to Ecuador. After dominating the game and missing a number of chances to score, the visitors made one of only a handful of opportunities count. Ecuador scored a free kick in stoppage time to win, 1-0, and get the last berth in the 24-team World Cup field for Canada next summer.

# **Booters**

Continued on Page 48

Hyppolite, who competes unattached, works out wherever and whenever he gets a chance to put in mileage and time. He would practice Valley Stream State Park, or Hendrickson Park, or even at State University of New York at Old Westbury, putting in about 35 miles weekly.

Since he was getting injured a lot, he had to get away from running, but at the same time he wanted to remain healthy.

He wants to qualify for the Boston Marathon maybe in two years. He is going to be 40 years next year. He would have to qualify in 3:10. Hyppolite doesn't only compete in 10Ks, for he all ready ran in the New York City and Chicago marathons this past year of 2014. He ran a 3:57 in the New York City one and a 3:49 in Chicago.

He had attended his schooling — middle school and high school- in Haiti where he played right wing on the soccer team. But he had to give this sport up because he had a bad ankle. He played soccer for 18 years and even received an award for being the best player in all of Haiti, a long time ago, while in high school.

After he came to America not many people were playing soccer and therefore gave this sport up. He started running about three years ago to say in shape.

After attending high school and coming into the United States, he went on to Walsh University, a Division III college, and concentrated on academics. He then settled in Valley Stream.

When asked about his goals, Hyppolite who ran at a 7:30-mile pace in Long Beach, said that he wants to compete in the Boston Marathon.

Another competitor in the Long Beach Turkey Trot who moved up from being a sprinter was Patrick White who covered the course in 54:14 for 133rd place.

Originally from Jamaica, West Indies, White tried the long distance race, in Long Island, because he is unable to sprint any more. "I had a good race," he said. "I run for the fun right now."

White played soccer in Jamaica and competed against clubs and other high schools for about four to five years.

"I stopped soccer because I was getting old," he recently said. "At the time I was 22 or 23 years of age.

Now living in Massapequa, Long Island, he recommends running to anybody.

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# WICB, WIPA must be ready for conflict resolution

The West Indies Cricket Board (WICB) and the West Indies Players Association (WIPA) must find a professional solution to their many differ-

ences which have emerged over the years. WICB and WIPA must not depend on CARICOM to solve their problems. The president of the WICB and the president of the WIPA must be much more transparent in their negotiations. It is the responsibility of the WICB to ensure that an equitable contract be passed to the players and not just a lukewarm agreement. Ending that tour of India with the cricketers returning home to the Caribbean should never have occurred. Qualified participants must be involved in resolving conflicts.



West Indies cricketers will soon return to the cricket field after returning from India early following a dispute with its association and the WICB. The West Indies will play South Africa in their home country where there are some very fast wickets. The South Africans who have some useful bowlers for such conditions including Steyn, Philander and Morkel are always up to the task to take wickets quickly.

### Windies pacers must learn quickly

Kemar Roach, Sheldon Cotterell, Jason Holder, Shannon Gabriel and Jerome Taylor must be prepared for the tough task in South African conditions. Holder, Taylor and Roach should have good help from the wickets and Holder's bouncy technique should earn him some dividend if he maintains the proper line and control. Left-arm spin bowler Sulieman Benn will have to pick up wickets to keep the pressure on his opponents.

### **Kraigg Brathwaite** to the task

Opening batsman Kraigg Brathwaite has so far enjoyed a good Test career but going into South Africa and coming up against those quickies should be very testing. Jermaine Blackwood, the middle order batsman has shown good courage and the exposure in South Africa should boost his skills and make

him much more confident. Blackwood has a cricket style that I enjoy and that is, he is not afraid to go after the bad balls. He bats intelligently and with his brilliant fielding he is an asset to the team. Darren Bravo is not available for the South African series. The 14 contracted players to tour South Africa are Denesh Ramdin (Captain) Sulieman Benn, Jermaine Blackwood, Kraigg Brathwaite, Shiv-Chanderpaul, narine Sheldon Cotterell, Shannon Gabriel, Christopher Gayle, Jason Holder and Leon Johnson.





West Indies' bowler Sulieman Benn bowls against England on the first day of the first cricket test match at Sabina Park in Kingston, Jamaica.

Associate Press Photo/Lynne Sladky, File

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ARIES: Mar 21/Apr 20 Aries, although you are full of excitement this week, rein in some of those feelings so you can focus on the tasks at hand. Use your energy to your advantage.

TAURUS: Apr 21/May 21 Taurus, motivation may not be strong this week, so begin with some menial tasks around the house and build up to bigger plans. Eventually you will find a groove.

GEMINI: May 22/Jun 21 Gemini, try to avoid focusing on just one issue for too long. Sometimes you simply must trust your instincts and forge ahead anyway. Let past experience guide you this week.

CANCER: Jun 22/Jul 22

Cancer, avoid the temptation to take on too many responsibilities this week. If you don't, you might not get much done. Think before you accept more work.

**LEO:** Jul 23/Aug 23 Financial matters are looming and a decision must be made, Leo. Don't be overcome with anxiety, as all you need to do is carefully examine your finances to come up with a solution.

VIRGO: Aug 24/Sept 22 Spontaneity beckons, Virgo, even though you are a careful planner who puts a lot of thought into your decisions. Overthinking is more hassle than it's

**GUICK RESULTS** 

GUARANTEE

LIBRA: Sept 23/Oct 23

LIBRA: Sept 23/Oct 25
Someone may catch you off guard this week, Libra. This person will bring a welcome surprise, so look forward to this unexpected encounter.

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SCORPIO: Oct 24/Nov 22

Back up your promises with decisive action, Scorpio. That's the only way to prove to others that your word means something and you are committed to honoring your commitments.

**SAGITTARIUS:** *Nov 23/Dec 21* There may be more to the big picture than you are seeing, Sagittarius. Gather the facts before you jump to any conclusions. You may just see things from a different perspective.

CAPRICORN: Dec 22/Jan 20 Capricorn, you are riding high and looking to share your good fortune with others. Make the most of this chance to improve the lives of those around you.

AQUARIUS: Jan 21/Feb 18 Aquarius, you have an idea about how to tackle a difficult obstacle, but someone crosses your path with a different agenda. Perhaps there's a way to work

PISCES: Feb 19/Mar 20

Pisces, avoid open conflict without being a pushover this week. Find the middle ground and try to understand another's perspective.

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Every Wednesday at 4:00 pm for new ads, renewals, changes, or cancellations.

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- Sales Help Wanted
- Medical Help Wanted
- General Help Wanted
- And More

**Employment** Pgs 52-55

### **Business Opps** Pg 55



- Financing / Loans
- Business For Sale
- Misc. Business Opps And More

### **Instruction** Pgs 56-57



- Learn to Earn
- Education Services
- Tutoring And More

### Merchandise Pg 55



#### And More

### Here's My Card Pgs 59-61



- Professional, Commercial And Residential Services Attorneys
- Home Improvement Moving & Storage

### Real Estate Pgs 57-58 Rentals



- Properties For Sale Open Houses
- Commercial RE And More

### Services Pg 58



- Beauty Care Handymen
- Home Improvement
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### Automotive Pg 58



- Autos For Sale Autos Wanted
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- · Identify client needs, communicate the benefits of our audience-based marketing solutions as they relate to each need and then sell the appropriate campaign.
- Negotiate contracts.
- Manage day-to-day activities using a CRM system.
- · Meet or exceed revenue expectations.

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Classified ads are intended to help people by facilitating communication and advertising available services; however, some of the hotlines & service numbers in classifieds actually hurt the people who rely on them by cheating them of their hard-earned dollars. "Most newspapers print a disclaimer in their classified ad section to warn readers about numbers that are a direct line to trouble. Any number starting with 900, 540, 595 or 871 charges a 540, 595 or 871 charges a fee beyond a local call. In some instances, ads initially advertise calls to a local number, but then direct callers to a second number starting with one of the paid exchanges. "Consumers must also question the legitimacy of vague classifieds because they too could be a scam. Before responding to an ad, consumers should verify the source of all information & always be wary tion & always be wary about sending money or signing a contract with an unknown party."

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### **►LEGAL**

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### **≻LEGAL**

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on 11/26/2014, bearing Index Number NC-001247-14/KI, copy of which may be examined at the Office of

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Livingston Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201, grants (me/us) the right to: Assume the name of (First) Jennifer Rosemarie (Last) Francis. present name (First) Jennifer (Middle) Rosemarie (Last) Henry AKA Jennifer R. Henry AKA Jennifer Rosemarie Francis. My present address is 831 Albany Avenue. Brooklyn, 11203-. My place of birth is Jamaica. My date of birth is February 24,

### **➤ LEGAL**

1961.

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"Cellco Partnership and controlled affiliates its the Clerk, located at 141 doing business as Veri-

### **►LEGAL**

Wireless Wireless) is proposing to locate roof-top wireless telecommunications antennas on a building that reaches an overall height of 81 feet above ground level at 181 Suydam Street, Brooklyn, Kings County, NY 11221. Public comments regard-

ing potential effects from the site on historic properties may be submitted within 30 days from the date of this publication to: Joseph Schuchman, E2PM, 87 Hibernia Ave-Rockaway, 07866, by email to: joseph.schuchman@e2pm.com, phone: (973) 299-5200. Please refer to E2PM Tracking Number P-14-02-53.

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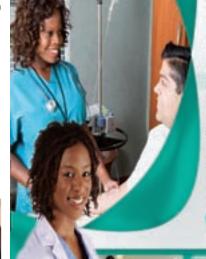
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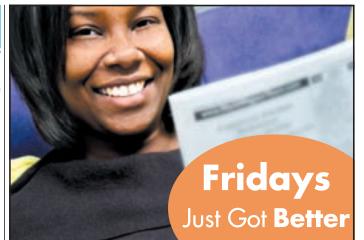
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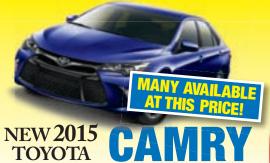
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