



Congressman Hakeem Jeffries speaks during a press conference outside police headquarters in New York. Associated Press / Beбето Matthews, File

CUBA TRADE MOVES

CARICOM panics as others move in to new markets

By Bert Wilkinson

Cuba wants greater CARICOM market access but region slow to act.

For more than a decade now, Cuba and the 15-nation Caribbean trade group have been trying to refine a system that would govern trade between the two.

For Cuba, being a single country with a centralized command system makes it easy to determine exactly what it wants from the Caribbean but for a group of 15 separate countries, it is sometimes tougher to have every one agree in timely fashion on precisely what terms and conditions should form part of an agreement with the largest island in the region.

That is exactly the problem now with negotiations for an extended partial scope trading agreement between CARICOM and Cuba.

Officials across the trading group from Suriname to Belize are appearing to now realize that the region might have missed a glorious and golden opportunity to tie and firm up an arrangement with Havana before groups and mega companies from the much more powerful countries or blocs such as the U.S., Europe, Canada as well as others like Spain take advantage of moves by Cuba and the U.S. to normalize relations.

The two are also openly talking about eventually dismantling the economic blockade system that has been in place for over five decades.

Panic stalked the halls of power among Caribbean trade ministers when they learned that New York Governor Andrew Cuomo and a high-powered team of American company executives including

Continued on Page 6

Legislation to outlaw chokeholds

By Nelson A. King

U.S. Rep. Hakeem Jeffries (NY-08) on Monday, joined by the National Action Network (NAN) and Gwen Carr, the mother of Eric Garner, gathered in front of One Police Plaza in lower Manhattan to announce the introduction of the Excessive Use of Force Prevention Act of 2015.

On the heels of a nationwide outcry demanding an end to the excessive use of force by police officers, the legislation

will make the deployment of a chokehold unlawful under federal civil rights law.

“The overwhelming majority of all police officers are hardworking individuals who are on the job to protect and serve,” said Jeffries, a member of the U.S. House of Representatives’ Judiciary Committee and Whip of the Congressional Black Caucus.

“Yet, it is undeniable that our country is in the midst of an epidemic of police vio-

lence that has badly damaged the relationship between law enforcement and communities throughout America, including in New York City,” he added.

“The chokehold is a poster child for violent police tactics,” Jeffries continued. “It is an unreasonable measure. It is an unnecessary measure. It is an uncivilized measure. The Excessive Use of Force Prevention Act will make it an unlaw-

Continued on Page 6

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A woman of vision and perseverance, Dr. Marta Moreno Vega established the Caribbean Cultural Center African Diaspora Institute in 1976 to create an international organization to promote and link communities of African descent.

Photo by Tequila Minsky

Caribbean institute celebrates

By Tequila Minsky

The Caribbean Cultural Center African Diaspora Institute (CCCADI) is working hard on the next chapter of the institute's direction — its move to the renovated firehouse at 120 E. 125th St. in El Barrio. Renovations will begin this month and are expected to end in late 2016. CCCADI left its W. 58th St. location in 2012.

Not far from its new home — the firehouse, CCCADI held its First Annual Spring Gala at the Alhambra Ballroom in Harlem, situated in a building with its own historical legacy.

The building has been reconfigured over the years, but the now upper floor venue where the gala took place harbors remnants of The Harlem Alhambra theatre past. Its mezzanine looks and feels like the balcony seating, it once was.

Politicos, folklorists, scholars, culture activists, business community members, well-established Caribbean and Latino families, Harlem residents and those interested in the history and traditions of the African Diaspora as well as philanthropists packed the ballroom to support CCCADI. On April 25, the overflowing crowd paid tribute to the honorees, later dancing to the 19-piece Mambo Legends Orchestra.

Dr. Marta Moreno, president and founder, established the center in 1976, to create an international organization to promote and link communities of African descent. She is a strong advocate for cultural equity and cultural studies and education. Through her numerous cultural institution affiliations she assures that contributions of African and African descendants are integral to the lives of civil society in the Americas.

Brooklyn politicians hail confirmation of Loretta Lynch

By Nelson A. King

Brooklyn's Democratic Congressional Representatives Yvette D. Clarke and Hakeem Jeffries have welcomed last week's long-delayed United States Senate's confirmation of Loretta Lynch as the next U.S. attorney general.

The Senate on Thursday confirmed Lynch, the first African American woman to hold the position, after almost six months of Republicans' stonewalling.

Lynch became the 83rd Attorney General of the United States by a bipartisan majority in the Senate, with 10 Republicans joining two Independents and 44 Democrats in support of her confirmation.

"Yesterday, I had the utmost privilege and distinct honor of representing the people of the Ninth Congressional District of New York as the votes of the United States Senate were cast confirming the Hon. Loretta Lynch as the next attorney general of the United States," a delighted Clarke, who had led the fight in New York to have Lynch confirmed, told Caribbean Life on Friday.

"I congratulate the Hon. Loretta Lynch on her historic confirmation as United States attorney general," she added.

A proud native of North Carolina and currently a resident of Brooklyn, Lynch has "excelled in the profession of law, both in private practice and as a federal prosecutor renowned for her commitment to public service and her fairness in the application of the law," said Clarke, the daughter of Jamaican immigrants, whose mother, Una S.T. Clarke, was the first Caribbean-born woman to be elected to New York City



Vice President Joe Biden, accompanied by Loretta Lynch's father Lorenzo Lynch, second from left, and Loretta Lynch's husband Stephen Hargrove, second from right, administers the oath of office to Loretta Lynch as the 83rd Attorney General of the U.S., Monday, April 27, 2015, during a ceremony at the Justice Department in Washington.

Associated Press / Andrew Harnik

Council.

Educated at Harvard College, where she was a charter member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc., and Harvard Law School, Lynch, the United States Attorney for the Eastern District of New York, has a "distinguished career as a federal prosecutor, securing convictions of the police officers who brutally attacked Abner Louima," a Haitian immigrant, who was a Brooklyn resident at time of his assault, "as well as investigating corruption from the Town of Brookhaven to the Borough of

Brooklyn," said the younger Clarke.

"It has been a testament to her record of accomplishment and success that her nomination was supported by prominent officials from both the Democratic Party and the Republican Party, as well as law professors, the community of faith, and social justice organizations," she said.

"I wish Loretta Lynch and her family all the best, as she becomes the leader of the Department of Justice and the highest law enforcement official of our nation," Clarke added.

Bichotte to chair business subcommittee

By Nelson A. King

New York State Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie has appointed Haitian American Assemblymember Rodney Bichotte as chair of the Oversight of Minority- and Women-Owned Business Enterprise (MWBE) Subcommittee.

The subcommittee was created and held by Assemblymember Crystal People-Stokes, chair of Government Operations for more than 10 years.

Heastie and People-Stokes had worked together to provide additional funding for MWBE initiatives in the enacted 2015-2016 state budget.

"I thank Speaker Heastie for his confidence in my abilities and recognition of my experience in the issues facing minority- and women-owned businesses," said Bichotte, who represents the 42nd Assembly District in Brooklyn.

"I am ready and eager to work with my colleagues in the state legislature to make significant progress, especially in our cities, in promoting MWBEs and ushering in a new generation of minority and women entrepreneurs across the state," she added.

"Promoting economic diversity only serves to strengthen our state's economy and our competitiveness regionally and nationally," Bichotte continued. "I know I can bring to bear my knowledge and skills to push us forward toward that goal."

She said the MWBE government contracting industry has gained much attention, given the billions of procurement opportunities across the state of New York, allowing MWBE firms to conduct business with New York State's and the city's local govern-

ment agencies.

"Although the promise and the intent to increase participation has been instituted in various state and local laws, there still exists constraints in meeting aspirational goals for the historically underrepresented groups; ultimately preventing the needed quantum leap to happen in the MWBE sector," she said. "The way we change this is to implement and enforce the law."

The Assembly's financial plan includes US\$1 million for the Minority- and Women-Owned Business Development and Lending Program, which provides financial assistance to MWBEs, as well as to projects and programs that assist the development of entrepreneurship among minorities and women in New York.

Caribbean

The Eastern Caribbean Bank (ECCB) is boasting that, for the 39th year, the Eastern Caribbean Currency has been pegged to the US dollar at a fixed rate of EC\$2.70.

The rate for the last financial year was disclosed by the Deputy Governor of the ECCB Trevor Braithwaite, who said this means the currency is doing well.

The EC dollar has been pegged to the US dollar since 1976, and that peg is the anchor that gives investors and citizens of the Eastern Caribbean certainty and confidence in the stability of the currency which is used by eight member states.

Braithwaite added that the backing ration of the EC dollar is high up in the 90 percentile.

"The EC dollar is as strong as ever. The backing ration of the EC dollar is above the legal administrative limit," he said.



The ECCB agreement regulates the levels of foreign currency reserves that the bank should hold and it also regulates the calculation for the backing of the foreign currency.

"The foreign reserves we hold are obtained from the influx of foreign currency into the region so it will either be by export. If our countries continue to export items to other countries and they are paid in foreign currency, it is pooled into a reserve, the deputy governor said.

The EC dollar is the official currency for Anguilla, Antigua & Barbuda, Dominica, Grenada, St. Kitts, St. Vincent and the Grenadines and St. Lucia.

Antigua

A new baggage claim regulation, which allows residents spending two nights or more outside of the country to import US\$200 worth of goods, free of duty, upon their return, is in place at the Customs and Excise.

The regulation, and amendment of the 1999 law, which allowed for \$700 allowance on non-commercial items bought overseas by returning residents, per quarter, also includes "generous allowances" for visitors of all ages to the island, returning students and other professionals.



"What we did promise, we re-drafted an elaborate baggage regulation which has been approved by the government and it has been gazetted and comes into force immediately," the Comptroller of Customs Raju Boddu said in an interview on OBSERVER Radio's Patrol Duty.



Grenada faces declining fish stock

Grenadian fishermen prepare to head out to sea. They say they have been catching less fish and their livelihoods are threatened by climate change. See story on page 15.

Inter Press Service / Desmond Brown

Bahamas

Foreign Affairs and Immigration Minister Fred Mitchell said the Bahamas is dealing with a "deluge of illegal migrants."

Recently, more than 200 undocumented Haitian migrants were apprehended. "I wanted to inform the public that we have been dealing with a deluge of illegal immigrants who have breached our borders over the past week," Mitchell said in a statement.

"We are working to expedite their immediate return to Haiti," he said.

He was referring to two separate illegal landings recently.



Among those apprehended were 37 children — babies six to nine months — and 168 Haitians in waters of Bimini on a 50-foot sloop. While contributing to the Immigration (Amendment) Bill in the Senate recently, Minister of State for National Security Keith Bell expressed concern about migrants traveling up the coast of Cuba to northern islands of the Bahamas and Bimini.

Barbados

Scientists from the National Oceanic and Atmosphere Administration (NOAA) in the United States will begin a series of dives to investigate sections of the Caribbean Sea and Atlantic Ocean that have never occurred before.

Scientists aboard the NOAA ship Okeanos Explorer have embarked on a

mission that can be followed online.

According to the NOAA, the dives are expected to go as deep as 3.7 miles and the unnamed submarine will broadcast live video from the seafloor allowing anyone with net access to watch the exploration as it unfolds.

"We'll be exploring an area of the United States Exclusive Economic Zone that scientists know very little about," said Alan Leonardo, director of NOAA's Office of Ocean Exploration and Research, the federal program responsible for coordinating those expedition.

As many as 40 scientists ashore are expected remotely in the expedition.



Cayman Islands

Cayman Islands and Cuba have signed a new memorandum of understanding (MoU) which they say will help speed up the process of repatriating migrants who land illegally in the territory.

Few details of the agreement have been released, with Cayman Islands officials saying only that it "outlines a more efficient repatriation process for irregular Cuban migrants."



Discussions between the two countries have been ongoing for the past two years, with Cayman Islands authorities anxious to reduce the escalating cost of detaining increasing number of

migrants arriving on Cayman's shores in makeshift boats.

A large jump on the number of migrants passing through Cayman in 2015 has put a new focus on the problem with the detention center at Fairbanks approaching maximum capacity throughout March and April.

More than 160 Cuban migrants were estimated to have shown up in Cayman's waters in the first three months of 2015, compared with 24 per month in 2014 and four per month in 2013.

The current MoU, signed in 1999, commits Cayman official to a series of enforcement actions once Cuban migrant boats appear in local waters, including a time frame for returning the migrants to Havana.

The Cayman Islands government spent \$1.6 million last year on the detention, housing and repatriation of Cuban migrants, who arrived illegal on the island.

Guyana

Marriott Hotels in Guyana made history with the opening of its first in the South American country.

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Continued on Page 34

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CUBA OPENS TO TRADE

Continued from cover

reps from Jet Blue Airways, Master Card and medicine maker Pfizer flew to Havana this month for talks with Cuban government officials.

The New Yorkers want to be the first among equals to position themselves to take advantage of any formal and structured opening of trade with America's neighbor just 90 miles to the southeast when in fact the Cubans have been trying to persuade the Caribbean to do so for years without glaring success.

Various countries have been dilly and dallying about approving requests from Cuban negotiators on small issues like whether to place cigars, beer and wooden furniture on the list of approved and preferred items.

To sweeten the deal during talks last November, Cuba offered to add 300 more items to the list the region can export to Cuban markets duty free or with vastly reduced tax rates in exchange for 85 items including its globally recognized and loved Cohiba Cigars.

The next round of talks is not scheduled until July when the regional team

will fly to the eastern Cuban Province of Santiago de Cuba but by then, teams from other American Canadian and European cities might well have returned and put themselves in a better position than the Caribbean. The communiqué from the latest regional trade ministers meeting in Guyana last weekend gave a strong hint of panic in CARICOM with the document noting that "the ministers agreed to review urgently outstanding requests from Cuba for additional preferential access to CARICOM."

Under the partial scope rather than a full fledged free trade agreement, only the larger states such as Guyana, Suriname, Belize, Jamaica, Trinidad and Barbados will have to participate fully because the smaller Eastern Caribbean countries, as per normal, say they have little to trade and must be protected from being swamped by goods entering duty free from third countries. They would also lose revenues from tax free trade, a development they say they can ill afford with the collapse of the banana export industry and the unstable tourist sector.

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Outlawing chokeholds

Continued from cover

Minister Kirsten John Foy, NAN's Northeast Regional Director, thanked Jeffries for his "legislative, political and moral leadership in the pursuit of equal protection under the law and equal justice for all.

"Rep. Jeffries' bill to classify the use of the chokehold as excessive and prohibited use of force will begin to restore faith in the criminal justice system, it will provide much needed clarity for law enforcement across the nation and it will, most importantly, save lives," he said.

"By eliminating discrepancies between criminal procedure law which governs the behavior of law enforcement and penal law which governs the behavior of everyday citizens this bill will establish a uniform right to breathe, which is a fundamental human right," he added. "We stand solidly with Rep. Jeffries as he labors to permanently ban the chokehold."

Carr said that her son, Eric, lost his life to a "senseless, unnecessary and inhumane chokehold."

"He begged for air, he begged for the right to breathe, and the police took his last breath from him," she said. "Congressman Jeffries' legislation will prevent another mother and another person's child from losing their breath and their lives because of a police officer's chokehold.

"I thank Congressman Jeffries for his commitment to justice for Eric, justice for our communities and for life," she added.

Garner, a father of six, died in Staten

Island as a result of a chokehold administered by Police Officer Daniel Pantaleo on Jul. 17, 2014.

Despite pleading for his life on 11 different occasions, "not a single officer came to his aid," Jeffries said.

The medical examiner ruled Garner's death a homicide.

Although a bystander captured the entire encounter on video tape, a Staten Island Grand Jury failed to indict Officer Pantaleo on a single charge.

"In the memory of Eric Garner, we are introducing the Excessive Use of Force Prevention Act of 2015. His tragic death and the stunning miscarriage of justice that resulted from the failure to indict his killer sparked a national outcry. It demands a national response," Jeffries said.

The deployment of a chokehold has been banned by the New York Police Department (NYPD) for more than 20 years.

Presently, several major police departments throughout the country prohibit, limit or discourage chokehold use.

In addition to New York, these cities include Los Angeles, Chicago, Philadelphia and Washington, D.C.

However, there is no national standard on the excessive use of force, as guidance in restraining a suspect has traditionally been left to local law enforcement officials and municipalities, Jeffries noted.

The Excessive Use of Force Prevention Act of 2015 amends a civil rights statute section entitled "Deprivation of Rights Under Color of Law" to include chokeholds as a "punishment, pain or penalty."

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Williams endorses Diana Richardson in special election

Guyana readies for elections

By Nelson A. King

With just days to go before the special election, on May 5, in the 43rd Assembly District in Brooklyn, Council Member Jumaane D. Williams (D-Brooklyn) has joined a broad coalition of labor, community organizations and progressive elected officials in endorsing Diana Richardson, who is running on the Working Families Party line.

"As Council Member for the 45th District, I am proud to see that Diana Richardson is working hard to earn your vote to become our next representative in the New York State Assembly," said Williams, chair of the City Council's Housing and Buildings Committee.

"Many of you already know her or have met her during this campaign. Today, I write to ask for your support to vote for Diana in the upcoming special election so that our community can gain a true champion in Albany," he added.

"Now more than ever, we need an Assembly Member in Albany who has the passion, voice and positive energy to improve our district, which is why the special election on May 5 is so



Diana Richardson addressing recent "Women Celebrating Women" gala in Brooklyn. Photo by Nelson A. King

important," Williams continued.

Like him, Richardson was born and raised in Brooklyn, to Caribbean parents.

"So she thoroughly understands what this borough needs," Williams said. "I know that she is the best candidate for the position. So I hope you join

me in voting for Diana who will fight for the resources and socio-economic justice our community deserves."

Richardson said she is "honored" to accept Williams' endorsement, adding that his "integrity and leadership have helped to pave the way for a truly Progressive Caucus in our City Council.

"You can count on me to be a fierce advocate for working families and seniors," she said. "This June, when Albany will be asked to make decisions on affordable housing, I'll be your ally in standing up against the skyrocketing rents and luxury towers that are destroying, exploiting, and displacing our communities."

Richardson has already earned the endorsements of many prominent elected officials, including New York City Comptroller Scott M. Stringer, Congresswoman Yvette Clarke, State Senator Kevin Parker, Assembly Member Rodney Bichotte, and Assembly Member Latrice Walker.

Richardson is also heavily backed by the labor community. Her endorsements include: TWU Local 100, 1199SEIU United Healthcare Workers East, and SEIU 32BJ.

By Azad Ali

Seven parties are set to contest the General and Regional Elections in Guyana on May 11, 2015.

Among the parties contesting are People's Progressive Party/Civic (PPP/C), A Partnership for National Unity and Alliance for Change (APNU)+AFC, Independent Party Organization for the Victory of the People Party (OVPP), the United Force (TFU), United Republican Party (UTP) and Healing the Nation Theocracy Party.

From the releases lists of the ruling PPP/Civic it was clear that several surprises have been thrown up, particularly in the 93-strong national top up list.

In addition to the return of former President Bharath Jagdeo, who suddenly backtracked from a recent position that he will not be a candidate, chief executive officer of the troubled Guyana Sugar Corporation, Dr. Rajendra Singh, is the one that caught the eye along with businessmen Clinton Urling and Peter Ramsaroop, former AFC executive Sixtus Edwards and former APNU parliamentarian Africo Selman.

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####FASTRACK

Extending the life of critical NYCHA properties

By Richard Roberts

A \$100 million plan announced this month by New York City and HUD to retrofit nearly 300 New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) buildings will be important for the environment, our city's affordable housing inventory and tenants.

Part of Mayor de Blasio's "One City: Built to Last" plan to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions 80 percent by 2050, the initiative aims to enhance energy efficiency in NYCHA buildings. Brooklyn and Staten Island are home to a combined 63,197 NYCHA apartments including the Coney Island, Gowanus, Farragut and Stapleton Houses.

According to findings from the mayor's report on the "Inventory of New York City Greenhouse Gas Emissions," 70 percent of GHG emissions in the Big Apple in 2013 were caused by buildings' use of heating fuel, natural gas, electricity, steam and biofuel. Throughout the country, commercial and residential buildings accounted for only 12 percent of those emissions in the same year, according to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

The bulk of NYCHA developments were erected during the post-war construction boom between 1945 and 1965 and as they aged, the piping, heat-

ing and ventilation systems in similar type buildings have reached their expected useful life spans.

These complexes are vital, valuable sources of affordable housing for hundreds of thousands of New Yorkers, so the City and NYCHA focusing its efforts on what is hidden behind the ceilings and walls of apartments should be commended.

The critical operating systems of each NYCHA complex are essentially its heart, lungs and arteries. When pipes that had an original life expectancy of half a century carry on much beyond that span, they begin to fail, leak and contribute to wasting energy and causing pollution.

Despite only a nine percent rise in energy consumption by NYCHA over the last decade, rising energy prices have driven its utility costs up by 64 percent. The mayor and the authority's action, facilitated by HUD, seeks to reverse this growing expenditure.

One of its sustainable, long-term solutions to lengthen the life and boost energy efficiency in buildings is the installation of new copper piping to last for the coming 70 to 100 years.

Much like the arteries leading to a human heart, with age the insides of pipes calcify and clog, leading to blockages and

Continued on Page 12

Progress of the World's Women 2015-2016: Transforming economies

By Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka

UNITED NATIONS, April 27, 2015 (IPS) - Our world is out of balance. It is both wealthier and more unequal today than at any time since the Second World War.

We are recovering from a global economic crisis – but that recovery has been jobless. We have the largest cohort ever of educated women, yet globally women are struggling to find work. Unemployment rates are at historic highs in many countries, including those in the Middle East and North Africa, in Latin America and the Caribbean as well as in southern Europe.

Our globalised economy seems to be working at cross-purposes with our universal vision of women's rights; it is limiting, rather than enabling them.

Where women do have jobs, globally they are paid 24 per cent less than men, on average. For the most part, the world's women are in low-salaried, insecure occupations, like small-scale farming, or as domestic workers — a sector where they comprise 83 per cent of the workforce.

Why isn't the global economy fit for women?

In our flagship report "Progress of the World's Women 2015-2016: Transforming Economies, Realizing Rights," we investigate what this failure means – and propose solutions.

We take a fresh, holistic look at both economic and social policies and their implications for the

Our globalised economy seems to be working at cross-purposes with our universal vision of women's rights; it is limiting, rather than enabling them.

entire economy. We look particularly at the 'invisible' economy of unpaid care and domestic work that anchors all economies and societies.

Conventional measures like GDP have historically been blind to a large proportion of the work women and girls do, and unhearing of the voices of those who would wish to allocate public resources to their relief, for example through investments in accessible water and clean energy.

We suggest the need to apply a human rights lens to economic problem-solving. We propose specific, evidence-based solutions for action by both government and the private sector, to shape progress towards decent, equally paid jobs for women, free from sexual harassment and violence, and supported by good quality social services.

Our public resources are not flowing in the directions where they are most needed: for example to provide safe water and sanitation, quality health care, and decent child- and elderly-care services. Yet water is essential, families still have to be nourished, the sick

still have to be tended, children brought up, and elderly parents cared for.

Where there are no public services, the deficit is borne primarily by women and girls. This is a care penalty that unfairly punishes women for stepping in when the state does not provide resources and it affects billions of women the world over.

Data from France, Germany, Sweden and Turkey suggest that women earn between 31 and 75 per cent less than men over their lifetimes. We need policies that make it possible for both women and men to care for their loved ones without having to forego their own economic security, success and independence.

Our globalised economy seems to be working at cross-purposes with our universal vision of women's rights; it is limiting, rather than enabling them. Where there is no choice, there are few rights.

But there are solutions. The report proposes a number of specific ways in which to mobilise resources to pay for public services and social transfers: for example by enforcing existing tax obligations, reprioritising expenditure and expanding the overall tax base, as well as through international borrowing and development assistance.

Global corporations also have a central role to play by being employers that offer equal pay and opportunities. Shareholders can and

Continued on Page 12

Caribbean Life

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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@cnglobal.com All letters, including those submitted via e-mail, MUST be signed and the individual's verifiable address and telephone number included. Note that the address and telephone number will NOT be published and the name will be published or withheld on request. No unsigned letters can be accepted for publication. The editor reserves the right to edit all submissions.

The Hillary bashing goes into overdrive

We knew it was coming, and damned if, right on cue, they didn't sound the horn for revved-up slinging of mud to commence. While Hillary Clinton's 2016 presidential run remained in speculation stage, the pot shot artists on the right kept their usual anti-Clinton fixation very much alive, the prospect of Hillary as Democratic standard bearer not at all resonating well in GOP circles. As of the Hillary candidacy being made official, it was their cue on the right for heavier artillery to be rolled out. And until election time comes in 2016, we'll have to somehow endure, i.e. get immune to, the barrage as the Clinton trashing machine spits out every conceivable variety of bilge dreamed up by the sick masterminds at the controls.

Hillary Clinton as the Democratic nominee is a Republican nightmare, period. It dials up images of the party losing its grip on White House power on which they figured to have a lock just a few decades ago. The post-FDR period saw Eisenhower, Nixon, Reagan, George H.W. Bush and George W. Bush all

besting Democratic opponents (never mind the junior Bush having acceded to the office via tainted circumstances in 2000). Barack Obama's storming of the barricades in 2008 offered dramatic evidence of the electoral strength of an energized progressive/moderate element in the country. That Obama was able to win again four years later only heightened those GOP fears. And party strategists know full well that being now in control of both Capitol Hill chambers isn't likely to change the national outlook at presidential level.

Those jitters in Republican circles about Hillary recall the absurd, see-through gimmickry of the local bastion of right-wing-speak, the New York Post, while Hillary battled Obama for the nomination in '08. Convinced that the GOP needed to worry only about Hillary among the Democratic hopefuls, the Post launched into a bogus championing of Obama to defeat Hillary in the primaries, only to return, as expected, to its aggressively anti-Obama base position once he eventually won the nomina-

Viewpoint

By Les Slater

tion. As we get into the 2015-16 round of political theater, who knows, we may even see a rerun of right-side forces in a fake propping up of another Democrat who has announced for the nomination.

Hillary is the overwhelming favorite to get the nomination, though, and will so remain, barring some momentous unforeseen development. Hence the GOP's Hillary take-down apparatus going into overdrive. Amazingly, assorted players in the GOP camp continue to speak about the Benghazi incident that occurred during her watch as secretary of state as some newly discovered hell-hole for which Hillary has earned a punishment of fire and brimstone without letup. The unsuspecting hardly would believe Benghazi to be an episode that has been endlessly pored over by designated inquisitors, in and out-

side of government, never a one concluding that she bore guilt for her actions or lack thereof in the incident. One fully expects that the Hillary bashers will be making another run at the issue they've already attempted to merchandise as a scandal, all the huffing and puffing the other day about the then secretary of state having a private email account – an operational feature in which she was no trailblazer, with GOP folk having done likewise. The GOP's penchant for grasping at such straws, however, is well known.

If neither Benghazi nor the email tempest in a teapot would catch the kind of fire the bashers now desperately need, then how about targeting the Clinton Global Initiative founded by the former president, for whatever dirt could be exposed there that might, by extension, be made to stick to Bill's wife? MSNBC's Rachel Maddow, in her usually tenacious reporting, made mention recently of a book, "Clinton Cash" written by a conservative bozo whose name is probably better off left unmentioned. Maddow

reviewed this guy's poor track record in previous attempts at expose publications, including one about an alleged strained relationship between President Obama and former Health and Human Services secretary, Kathleen Sibelius which, like the dude's other book of revelations, was shown to be absolutely without foundation. And Maddow was dumbfounded as to why both the New York Times and Washington Post had expressed any interest in the latest potboiler, given the author's history of invariably getting it wrong.

The Clintons, for better or worse, are no strangers to microscopic examination of their every action, past and present. Their White House years were nothing if not a daily pounding from sources in the conservative bellowing space, the routine, if short on facts, not at all lacking in allegations of wrongdoing, as names like Whitewater, Vincent Foster, Travelgate, etc came to represent. The Clintons survived it all in fine style in the 90s. Meaning, they're well primed for 2016.

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Creating a fairer future

Continued from page 10

should ask corporations to act with responsibility to the countries in which they operate. Annual tax revenue lost to developing countries due to trade mispricing, just one strategy used by corporations to avoid tax, is estimated at between 98 and 106 billion dollars. This is nearly 20 billion more than the annual capital costs needed to achieve universal water and sanitation coverage.

With the right mix of economic and social policies, governments can make transformative change: they can generate decent jobs for women and men and ensure that their unpaid care work is recognised and supported.

Well-designed measures such as family allowances and universal pensions can enhance women's income security, and their ability to realise their potential and expand their life options.

Finally, macroeconomic policies can and should support the realisation of women's rights, by creating dynamic and stable economies, by generating decent work and by mobilising resources to finance vital public services.

Ultimately, upholding women's rights will not only make economies work for women, it will also benefit societies as a whole by creating a fairer and more sustainable future.

Progress for women is progress for all.

From the president, students, faculty and staff of York College/CUNY:



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Reinvesting in NYCHA properties

Continued from page 10

ruptures. This can be a major contributor to inefficiencies and climbing utility costs.

With regularity, steamfitters, insulators and other trade union workers have modernized the inner workings of similar post-war housing complexes in our region. A prime example is the Penn South Houses in Midtown, which were dedicated in 1962 by President John F. Kennedy.

That complex of buildings has long served working-class New Yorkers, providing quality affordable housing. About a decade ago managers there recognized that more units had been experiencing leaks and floods, so they took action. The restoration significantly lengthens the lifespan of the 15-building high-rise complex, while resulting in an energy

use reduction of 15 percent each and every year. It's an investment that pays for itself in cost and energy savings in just a matter of years.

For NYCHA some estimates say its reinvestment could result in over \$86 million in annual utility savings. For taxpayers that's a no-brainer, for the environment it's a necessity and for tenants it's a win-win.

Richard Roberts has 32 years of experience in the piping industry as business agent at large for the 8,000 member Steamfitters Local 638. Steamfitters design, install and maintain critical piping, heating, ventilation and cooling systems in tens of thousands of high-occupancy commercial, retail and residential buildings throughout the New York region.

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But some Albany and City Hall politicians, like Mayor Bill de Blasio, want to turn back the clock to old policies that failed in the past. They want stricter rent laws, and they want to freeze rents while raising property taxes and water and sewer rates. That would push affordable housing right back into the 1970's and 80's. We need to move forward, not backwards.



IT'S TIME FOR NEW SOLUTIONS TO AN OLD PROBLEM.



Grenada braces for impacts of climate change

By Desmond Brown

PALMISTE, Grenada, April 27, 2015 (IPS) - Henry Prince has lived in this fishing village for more than six decades. Prince, 67, who depends on the sea for his livelihood, said he has been catching fewer and fewer fish, and the decrease is taking a financial toll on him and other fisher folk throughout the island nation of Grenada.

I heard about the climate change but never paid too much attention towards it," Prince told IPS, adding that "we don't catch jacks as before."

Jacks, a small fish widely used by the fishermen as bait, are also fried and eaten by poor families for whom they are an inexpensive source of protein.

Over the last few years, fisher folk have not been catching the jacks, which are usually found in abundance around the month of November. Due to the scarcity of jacks, fishermen have been forced to import sardines from the United States to

use as bait.

Grenada's Agriculture, Land, Fisheries and the Environment Minister Roland Bhola believes the dwindling numbers of fish in the country's waters are a direct result of climate change.

"Our fishermen are reporting less and less catches in areas where there was once a thriving trade," Bhola said.

"We have been able to associate that with the issues of climate change ... the destruction of our coral reefs and other ecosystems like mangroves," he said.

"The catch is one day good, one day bad as far as I am looking at it," Ralph Crewney, another fisherman, told IPS.

"For the last few months we hardly catch anything. Last June, it was just at the last moment that we made big catches."

Crewney, 68, has been living on the seashore for close to 20 years. He noted that in recent times the sea is getting a lot closer to his small shack. But

he has no immediate plans to move.

"I feel comfortable here because I like to be away from the noise," he explained.

Other families in the area are now thinking about relocating to communities in hilly areas but are reluctant to move too far from their source of livelihood.

Fishing families in the Caribbean see beachfront living as a virtual birthright, with an alarming 70 percent of Caribbean populations living in coastal settlements.

While storms and beach erosion have long shaped the geography of coastal environments, rising sea levels and surge from more intense storms are expected to dramatically transform shorelines in coming decades, bringing enormous economic and social costs.

In the CARICOM region, the local population is highly dependent on fish for economic and social development. This resource also contributes sig-



Grenadian fishermen Henry Prince (right) and Ralph Crewney see beachfront living as a virtual birthright, despite the risks posed by climate change.

Inter Press Service / Desmond Brown

nificantly to food security, poverty alleviation, employment, foreign exchange earnings, development and stability of rural and coastal communities, culture, recreation and tourism.

The subsector provides direct employment for more than 120,000 fishers and indirect employment opportunities for thousands of others – particularly women – in processing, marketing, boat-building,

net-making and other support services.

Experts say that while storms and beach erosion have long shaped the geography of coastal environments, rising sea levels and surge from more intense storms are expected to dramatically transform shorelines in coming decades, bringing enormous economic and social costs.

Scientists and computer
Continued on Page 36



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Opinion: Why workers celebrate May Day 2015

By Bhairavi Desai and Edgar Romney

Recently, thousands of workers all over the country took to the streets demanding a hike in the minimum wage to \$15/hour. Our Fight for \$15 campaign highlighted the income inequality that has made the gap between the haves and have-nots as wide as the Grand Canyon. It also underscored its moral and practical pitfalls and spurred some in Congress to act.

Still, the ever widening gap between an average worker's wages and a CEO's seven figure salary is only one of many reasons union members and our allies will take to New York City streets for a May Day March and Rally.

On May 1, we will be joined by a coalition of fast food workers, taxi drivers, homecare, retail, transit and constructions workers, as well as community, social justice and immigrant rights groups because the Fight for \$15 campaign is only the tip of the iceberg.

Our coalition – The Coalition for

Real Jobs, Real Wages and Real Rights – supports, not only a minimum wage hike, but pay parity for women, the right of all workers to join unions, immigrants' rights and a path to citizenship, affordable housing, good public education, policies that show that Black and Minority lives matter, and a host of other issues that impact both us and the communities they live in and serve.

From May 1, 1886 when it was first organized, May Day, has highlighted those issues that make the difference between a job that is demeaning and one that has dignity, a job that protects a workers' health and safety and one that endangers our lives, and a job that uplifts workers and their families and one that grinds them up and spits them out.

What kind of employer closes retail stores in order to lay off thousands who want decent wages and dignity? What kind of employer ignores unsafe working conditions that endanger workers' lives while constructing buildings that will reap them billions in profits? What kind of employer

May Day, has highlighted those issues that make the difference between a job that is demeaning and one that has dignity,

undermines taxi drivers who play by the rules by granting licenses to others who don't? And, what kind of employer seeks to destroy jobs that provide safety-net services needed by millions?

May Day has always been about workers standing up for their rights. This May Day will be no different.

On this Friday, May 1, workers will gather in front of the Park Avenue home of one of the owners of our most egregious employers – Walmart billionaire Alice Walton -- to call attention to that corporation's unfair treatment of workers. Workers from a California Walmart will represent 2,200 of their brothers and sisters whose attempts to unionize were halted when Walmart closed 9 stores claiming "plumbing issues."

They will not be alone. Joining them will be RWDSU car wash workers whose four-month strike recently won a new contract, wage hikes and stronger worker protections. Also, joining them are members of CWA1180 who recently won back pay thanks to a U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission ruling that Black and Latina women supervisors deserve to be paid the same as their male counterparts.

Together, they will march side by side with TWU and ATU bus operators who are being unfairly excluded from the protections of the Vision Zero law and are being arrested on the spot for issues stemming from faulty equipment and employer-directed left turns in crosswalks.

On May Day, we will march side-by-side, shoulder-to-shoulder celebrating the solidarity that makes us all stronger together.

Bhairavi Desai is the president New York Taxi Workers Alliance and Edgar Romney, secretary-treasurer Workers United, SEIU

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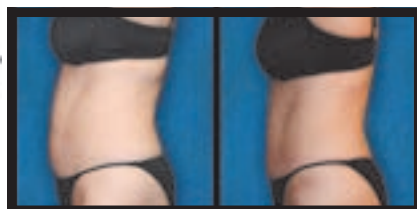
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New York's Cuomo becomes 1st US governor to visit Cuba post-detente

By Michael Weissenstein

HAVANA (AP) — Cuban officials and New York business executives are exploring ways for companies to do business on the communist-run island despite the longstanding U.S. embargo that makes most trade and investment illegal, New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo said Monday.

Cuomo was on the first day of a visit that made him the first U.S. governor to visit Cuba since the recent thaw in relations with the communist nation. He met with Cuba's top officials for U.S. relations along with executives from Jetblue, Chobani Greek Yogurt, Pfizer and other New York-based companies.

Before a series of meetings between the executives and Cuban officials, Cuomo praised the decision by presidents Barack Obama and Raul Castro to re-establish diplomatic relations after a half-century, and move toward a broader normalization expected to include deeper trade ties.

"Like the people in Cuba, the people in New York and the United States are very excited about the courage that your president, Raul Castro, has shown, and the leadership that he has shown," Cuomo said. "We believe that this is going to be a dramatic change that is going to be to the benefit of the people of Cuba and also to the people of the United States."

Obama loosened the trade embargo early this year with a series of executive actions that allow easier U.S. travel to Cuba, more remittances to the island and, at least on paper, U.S. exports to support the island's relatively new private business sector.

Obama also moved to remove Cuba from the U.S. list of state sponsors of terror, removing a barrier to access



New York Governor Andrew Cuomo waves to the press after speaking as he and his delegation prepare to depart Jose Marti International Airport in Havana, Cuba, Tuesday, April 21, 2015. Associated Press / Ramon Espinosa

to the global financial system. Cuban officials have been pushing Obama to go further with measures that could include more specific federal licenses for U.S. businesses to trade with Cuba in ways currently prohibited.

"The president of the United States has the ability to grant licenses to businesses so that businesses can actually start developing right now in select areas and those are areas that we want to pursue," Cuomo said.

Ex-Im Bank honored

Leading online business portal Diversitybusiness.com presented Ex-Im Bank with the Top 25 Government Agencies for Multicultural Business Opportunities Award during their 15th annual National Summit on Thursday, April 30 at the Harvard Club of New York in New York City.

Diversitybusiness.com announced the selection of Ex-Im Bank as a top agency along with 24 other government organizations that provide business opportunities to diverse business owners throughout the United States. Since 2009, Ex-Im Bank has authorized more financing to support the growth of minority- and women-owned businesses than it did over the previous 16 years combined. In FY 2014, the Bank financed U.S. exports from minority- and women-owned businesses valued at more than \$2 billion.

"Ex-Im is honored to receive this award and to be part of an outstanding list of organizations dedicated to pursuing equality of opportunity and supporting economic growth and jobs here at home," said Ex-Im Bank Vice Chair and First Vice President Wanda Felton, who accepted the award on behalf of the Bank. "We look forward to continuing our work with minority- and women-owned businesses as they expand their export portfolios and thrive in the global marketplace."

According to Diversitybusiness.com, these agencies truly differentiate themselves in the market place in a time when diversity is on the rise.

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Small Business Services - Empire State Development New York

www.esd.ny.gov/smallbusiness.html

Small Business - Business First - New York State

www.nyfirst.ny.gov/ResourceCenter/SmallBizMenu.html
2013 New York, NY Small Business Resource

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

Business Resources: Internet Bibliographies: New York State Library

www.nysl.nysed.gov/reference/busref.htm

Selected business-related web sites compiled by staff at the New York State Library for use in response to reference questions.

Start a Business in New York — Resources for New York Small Businesses
manhattan.about.com/od/

careersjobs/a/nysmallbusiness.htm
Find resources and advice on starting a business in New York City. Get information on New York business licenses and incorporation, free NYC resources for starting a business.

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Tribute to Bishop Pitts

By Patricia Abasali-Phillips

Talk about Divine Order! We (family, friends and associates) are about to embark upon a piece of "history" which I believe was not only destined but with which I always wanted to be associated. A person whom I have come to love, respect and admire. A woman of substance – Candace Queen Mother Abbess of the Ethiopian Orthodox Church and a Bishop of Faith Restoration, Inc., Bishop Shirley Ann Pitts. This colorful woman and I met through one of my spiritually adopted Sisters, Dr. Daphne Sapphire June Anderson, a British Trinidadian Herbalist (now deceased) and therefore our story began.

She wears many hats, literally speaking (as a Bishop). Ms. Shirley Pitts arrived in the USA on January 14, 1963 from her homeland, Belize City in Central America. Like so many, she had a vision for herself and her country and to explore how Cable Television could be introduced to Belize (which up to that time had no television). Her fascinating

journey over the years began with the "Belizean Girl International Cable TV." This program launched the careers of many well-known Artists. In 2015, Bishop Pitts celebrates 52 years in Harlem.

Back in Belize, Ms. Pitts came from a religious background. Her parents, the late Mr and Mrs Vallon P.L. Pitts (Father a constable and Mother a Community Activist in Politics) were Methodist Christians. During her formative years the young Ms. Pitts, a teenager, (the eldest of seven siblings), along with her mother, assisted Mr. Phillip Goldson in the District of Cayo. Both parents were members of the National Independent Party (NIP), later the United Democratic Party (UDP).

Young Shirley also worked alongside Ms. Rosita Williams to organize the UDP which is the current government of Belize under Mr. Dean Barrow. Belize City is divided into six Districts and Shirley's father, being a police officer, wanted the best for his family and requested that he be transferred to live in more upscale

places. There were many families who lived in rural areas, where there was no electricity and they used lamps etc. there were water snakes and all types of animals and they had to go up and down the river with a prayer. Through her life style, Shirley was better positioned to influence the less-privileged to strive for a better future along with her mother, a commandant in the Red Cross, Ma Pitts (Senior) as she was famously known, was the founder of the Ma Pitts Marching Band. She founded an after school program which provided the children with food and drinks and welcomed them to her residence as a second home.

After her mother's passing, Ms. Pitts continued to return to Belize to support the Ma Pitts Marching Band and the children. There are two main events in which she participates. The first on Sept. 10, known as National Independence Day of Belize and the second on Sept. 21, the celebration of Independence Day. Ms. Pitts returns to her homeland to provide all the clothing and acces-



Bishop Shirley Pitts with some of her Queen Daughters of the Candace Queens of Ethiopia Order. They are from left, Deborah Clark, Queen India, Victoria Richardson, and Queen Imani.

sories for the children during the two-day celebration.

Because of her strong desire for television, the arts, entertainment, etc., Bishop Pitts

met Sister Alma Nomsa John in January 1963. Sister Alma was an RN at Harlem Hospital and invited Ms. Pitts to her Radio Program (WWRL) as a hostess.

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Memorial for ‘...Paid’ Bahamian singer Kemp

By Vinette K. Pryce

The final farewell rites for Bahamas-born singer Johnny Kemp will be held May 11 at St. Phillips Church 204 W 134th St. (between Frederick Douglass Blvd. & Adam Clayton Powell).

The 1 o'clock memorial ceremony will afford his beloved friends and fans to pay tribute to the incredible contribution the Bahamian immigrant made to the music industry.

News of Kemp's sudden death came on April 17, a day after his alleged accidental death..

Jamaican authorities issued a statement saying while vacationing in Montego Bay, the singer died.

According to a statement from the Corporate Communications Unit — the information division of the police department there -- Kemp's body was found face down on a beach.

They also said Kemp might have hit his head on rocks during a fall.

It was no ordinary Friday in April. Not in the Bahamas, Jamaica or around the entertainment circuit here when news of rhythm and blues singer Johnny Kemp buzzed about the circuit.

At first, reports were that the 55-year-old singer best known for the 1988 hit record “Just Got Paid” died after falling while on a Tom Joyner Morning Show cruise through the Caribbean.

However, soon after a flurry of queries surfaced, Reach Media, the company responsible for the Tom Joyner Foundation Fantastic Voyage issued a statement saying: “We have received confirmation that Johnny Kemp has passed away. We do not have any other details. We can confirm he was not on the ship for the Tom Joyner Foundation Fantastic Voyage Cruise.”

Born Aug. 2, 1959 in the Bahamas, Kemp started singing at an early age, and by the time he was a teenager had bookings in local clubs. Reportedly, he moved to Harlem in 1979 with the band “Kinky Fox.”



Johnny Kemp album cover 1986.

A decade later, he was signed to a solo record deal with Columbia Records. His self-titled debut album was released in 1986.

Kemp's claim to fame arrived with the track “Just Another Lover.”

But his meteoric rise followed with the release of the club-popular, party track “Just Got Paid.”

Club patrons regarded the tune as a cause célèbre to the weekend by parodying the lyrics “Just got paid...Friday night... Party huntin', feelin' right... Body shakin', all around (Body shakin' all around) No one thinks when I'm gettin' down...Check the mirror, we're lookin' fly...round up the posse, jump in my ride...”

To end the up-tempo hit song, Kemp sang “Thanks, Aaron, Teddy, you guys be cool!”

“Ha! Ha!” “That's it!” The shout-out to members Aaron Hall and Teddy Riley, saluted innovators of the New Jack Swing fusion genre and the popular group named Guy they collaborated.

His mention in music referenced the pair of red-hot producers of the genre and ironically secured a friendship that lasted until his untimely passing.

Allegedly, Kemp was also in Jamaica at the time Kemp died and speculations were that together they were expected to join the Joyner cruise in Jamaica.

Recognition for pan veteran

A full house, headed by New York City officials and including well-wishers who traveled from as far away as Canada for the event, was on hand on Sunday, April 26 as special recognition was showered on steel band icon and legendary leader of Trinidad All Stars, Neville Jules.

The gala tribute, presented by the Trinidad & Tobago Folk Arts Institute, was held at Tropical Paradise Ballroom in Brooklyn, New York. Accolades conferred on Jules included three from elected officials in New York.



Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams (left) presents a proclamation to Neville Jules.

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Haiti Film Fest spreads across 3 boroughs



Patrick Ulysse's romantic comedy "Forever Yours," previews at 1:00 p.m. on Sunday, May 10, leading off a day of three films at St. Francis College, 180 Remsen St., Brooklyn. At 6:00 p.m., a special Mother's Day reception will take place.

By Tequila Minsky

It is so exciting that the Haiti Film Fest, now in its third edition, is expanding its reach and will be screening a film in Queens, as well as uptown Manhattan (City College and also Maysles Cinema) and downtown, and of course in Brooklyn where the mother ship, Haiti Cultural Exchange (HCX) is based. For the full schedule: <http://haiticulturalx.org/haitifilmfest>.

HCX has always been masterful partnering with organizations with which they share vision or mission.

Screening all over town? HCX Director Regine Roumain explains, "Partnering with multiple venues across the city provides an increased audience for the festival, strengthens the visibility for the films, and allows diverse audiences to attend the festival."

A gala on Thursday evening,

May 7 at Drom NYC, featuring short films—Freedom by Matthew Brown and La Veuve by Wood-Jerry Gabriel— launches the festival.

Performances by Sanba Zao of Lakou Mizik and Ioan Delice with a crowd that loves to dance is part of the evening's program.

The eight-day cinema fest comprises varied contemporary films, all about Haiti. This includes a preview screening of Forever Yours—just finished—by local filmmaker Patrick Ulysse (5/9, Sun., 1:00 p.m., St. Francis College) and the classic film Haitian Corner by renowned filmmaker Raoul Peck (5/12, Tues. 6:30 p.m., Brooklyn Historical Society).

The festival also includes expanded post screening discussions with filmmakers, actors and scholars. Edwidge Danticat will be at the City

College, Ayiti Toma, screening on May 8 and Millery Polyné will lead a post screening discussion of Raoul Peck's Haitian Corner on May 12.

Other highlights. On Saturday, May 9, the Brooklyn Public Library's Dweck Auditorium on Grand Army Plaza will host an afternoon of screenings from 1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

On Sunday, following the projections that run from 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at St. Francis College, Remsen Street in Brooklyn, and a special Mother's Day reception will be held

from 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

La Cayes restaurant on Lafayette Street is the "official after hours" joint for Saturday, Sunday and Tuesday.

On May 14, 6:00 p.m., the Central Queens Library (Merick Blvd. near 90th Ave., Jamaica) will host the screening of "Lakay" (a documentary in English & Kreyol with English subtitles.)

In addition to Robin Lloyd's animated film Black Dawn, and the Monday night series of shorts at Kraine Theatre, 85 E. 4th St., there are five NY Pre-

mieres as part of the program.

Seven documentaries are in the festival: Ayiti Toma (Haiti, The Country that is Ours) by Joseph Hillel; Port-au-Prince Mon Seul / Unique Amour (Port-au-Prince My Only and Unique Love) by Arnold Antonin; In the Eye of the Spiral by Eve Blouin and Raynald Leconte; La Belle Vie: The Good Life by Rachele Salnave; Reembarque / Reshipment by Gloria Rolando; Lakay (The House) by Tirf Alexius and Remoh Romeo, and Storming Papa Doc by Mario Delatour.



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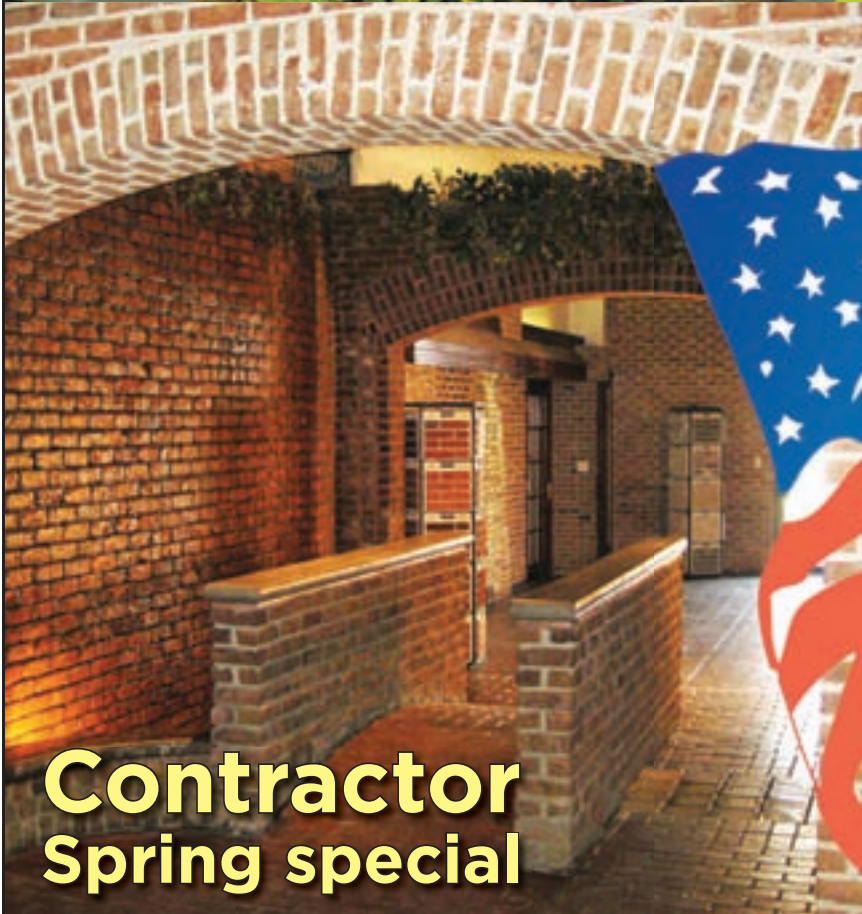
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For a growing number of seniors, retirement years are being spent helping to raise grandchildren.

TIPS
FOR

GRANDPARENTS WHO HELP RAISE CHILDREN

As retirement age approaches, many older adults envision themselves downsizing and moving to a quaint community to enjoy their golden years in as relaxing a fashion as possible. However, for a growing number of seniors, their retirement years are being spent helping to raise grandchildren.

United States Census data from 2010 indicates 4.9 million American

children are being raised solely by their grandparents. CanGrads, a National Kinship Support organization, says approximately 62,500 children are being raised by grandparents and other family in Canada. Many grandparents provide part-time care when their older children have to move back home with their families, as roughly 13 million children are now living in homes with their grandparents.

Being raised by grandparents may not be the ideal situation for all parties involved, but such situations are a necessity for many families. Seniors who are once again thrown into the caregiver arena may need a crash course in childcare or a few pointers on parenting in the modern age:

Get the right equipment. Children certainly require a lot of gear, more than grandparents likely used

when raising their own children. Certain safety requirements are in place to safeguard young children, and that often means investing in new cribs, car seats, high chairs, and other items. Grandparents should resist the temptation to use old items they may have kept in storage, as such items may no longer be safe and could put grandchildren at risk for injury.

Continued on page 31

Aging can impair driving ability

The number of drivers 70 and older is predicted to triple in North America during the next 20 years. Research indicates that the older a person is, the higher the risk of driver accident or fatality. The risk posed by older drivers and the inevitable increase in older drivers on the road in the next two decades has sparked debate as to whether or not such drivers should be reexamined to ensure safety on the road.

In 2003, an 86-year-old man unintentionally killed 10 people and injured more than 70 when he drove his car through a crowded farmer's market in Santa Monica, Calif. In 2010, a 72-year-old Connecticut man faced vehicular manslaughter charges for allegedly striking and killing a motorcyclist. In 2012, an elderly man in Buffalo, N.Y. caused an accident resulting in three fatalities when he traveled in the wrong direction on the New York State Thruway. Very frequently, the local news is peppered with reports of elderly drivers causing serious accidents. Some wonder if more stringent requirements for elderly drivers would help the situation.

Thirty-three states presently have legislation in place to ensure drivers can retain driving privileges once they reach a certain age. It's important to note that, according to the National Safety Council, drivers over the age of 75 account for only 3.3 percent of accidents in the United States. Drivers age 25 to 34 account for the largest number of accidents, at nearly 20 percent. Some argue that these findings do not paint an accurate picture because senior drivers spend far less time behind the wheel and log fewer miles than younger drivers, reducing the chance for accidents.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration notes that aging can affect drivers in a number of ways. The physical and mental changes that accompany aging can have a profound impact on a person's ability to safely operate a motor vehicle.



Research indicates that the older a person is, the higher the risk of driver accident or fatality.



ADVANCE DIRECTIVES

Documents that speak for you when you cannot speak for yourself

BY JOANNA R. LEEFER

What do Health Care Proxies, Do Not Resuscitate orders, and Living Wills have in common? All three are legal documents, called Advance Directives, that communicate your end-of-life choices to family members, caregivers, and doctors if you cannot speak to them yourself.

New York State has a long list of medical and social decisions that need to be made when a person is terminally ill. Do you want to be resuscitated if you should stop breathing? What if your heart stops beating? Do you want to be placed on a feeding tube if you can no longer eat?

Advance Directives insure your end-of-life choices are followed even if you slip into a coma, are in the advanced stages of dementia, or are unable to speak. Advance directives inform medical professionals if you want any interventions at the end of life or if you want only palliative care.

Many people feel they do not need to make these decisions while they are young and healthy. They prefer to believe that only older people or people with terminal illnesses should make these choices. This is a big mistake. According to The Center for Disease Control, of all fatal U.S. traffic deaths predicted in 2015, almost half will be among people between the age of 25 and 54. These statistics are a clear reminder that life is fragile and even the healthiest of us can face life-and-death decisions at any time.

Below is a list of the three essential advance directives that every

adult should have:

Health care proxy

In some states this is called a Power of Attorney for Health Care. This is a document that allows you to appoint someone you trust to make health care decisions for you if you are unable to convey them yourself. You can appoint a family member, friend, or anyone else you trust as long as he is at least 18 years old and is considered legally competent.

Once you appoint an agent, that person can sit in on medical meetings, decide on special treatments, approve all diagnostic tests and surgical procedures, and even agree or disagree to organ donations.

The proxy is one of the easiest documents to obtain and activate. It can be downloaded for free by logging onto New York Department of Health's website. It is printed in eight languages including English, Spanish, Chinese, Creole, Russian, Italian, French, and Korean. You do not even need a lawyer. The only requirement is that two adults must witness the signing.

Before you entrust someone to this important role, it is crucial that your appointee understands and agrees to follow through with your fundamental beliefs. Write these choices on the health care proxy so there is no question about what you want.

You should make sure your agent feels comfortable communicating your preferences. Some problems can occur if you do not want any end-of-life interventions and your agent has religious be-

liefs to the contrary. In this case, you should consider appointing another person.

Only a doctor can determine when an individual lacks mental capacity to make her own decision and when an agent's role can be activated. This step insures that an agent does not misuse his power.

Living will

A living will is a legal document that informs medical personnel whether you do or do not want life-sustaining treatment if you are terminally ill.

Every state has its own living will requirements, so you might want to consult an attorney or check with your state to determine the particulars of filling out a request. New York State does not have a specific living will form but has a document called a Medical Order for Life Sustaining Treatment that spells out what kind of life-sustaining treatment you would like or not like if you are terminally ill.

Some of the choices include whether you want cardio-pulmonary resuscitation (CPR) if your heart stops; whether you want to be connected to a breathing machine if you stop breathing; and whether you want artificially administered fluids and nutrition if you can no longer eat or drink. New York State's document also asks if you wish to refuse all antibiotics and settle for only palliative care.

The form is printed on bright pink paper and must be signed by a New York State licensed physician.

Nutrition and aging go hand-in-hand

Nutrition is important for people of all ages, but it's especially important for men and women over the age of 50, who can dramatically improve their quality of life by eating a well-balanced diet filled with vitamins and nutrients. Though that may seem like common sense, research has shown that men and women in this age group, who are often referred to as baby boomers, are not necessarily as healthy as they may seem.

While the baby boomer generation, which is generally regarded as those people born between 1946 and 1964, boasts longer life expectancies than any generation that came before them, some of that can likely be chalked up to advancements in medical care, including a booming pharmaceutical industry that seemingly has

an antidote to every ailment. But a 2013 study from researchers at the West Virginia University School of Medicine found that baby boomers are less healthy than the generation that immediately preceded them, tending to be more likely to have higher levels of hypertension, diabetes and high cholesterol. While that news might be sobering, it's never too late for men and women over 50 to start eating healthier diets, which can reduce their risk of a wide range of ailments, including heart disease, stroke and osteoporosis.

The following are a few ways men and women over 50 can alter their diets so their bodies are getting what they need to live long and healthy lives well into their golden years. As is always the case, men and women should

discuss any potential changes to their diets with their physicians to ensure the changes will be both effective and healthy.

Balance your diet. Kids hear of the benefits of a balanced diet seemingly from the moment they enter a classroom for the first time, but many adults fail to heed that basic advice as they get further and further away from kindergarten. When changing your diet, be sure to include plenty of protein and carbohydrates. Protein maintains and rebuilds muscles, which is especially important for aging men and women who might find themselves unable to keep up with the physical demands of everyday life as well as they used to. Including ample low-fat protein, which can be found in fish, eggs and low-fat

Continued on page 31



Men and women over the age of 50 are in a unique position to vastly improve their quality of life by adopting a low-sodium diet that is rich in vitamins and minerals.

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Managing money after age 50



Managing money after age 50 is about more than just reducing risk.

Investors know that money management can be difficult. The ebb and flow of the economy can be similar to a roller coaster, with soaring highs followed by steep drops, and those changes all affect investors' bottom lines. It's no wonder then that many investors over 50 envision the day when they can get off that roller coaster and simply enjoy their money without having to worry about the everyday ups and downs of the market. But managing money after 50 is about more than just reducing risk.

Reducing risk as retirement draws near is a sound financial strategy that can safeguard men and women over 50 from the fluctuations of the market. That's true whether investors put their money in stocks, real estate or other areas that were not immune to the ups and downs of the economy. But there are additional steps men and women can take after they turn 50 to ensure their golden years are as enjoyable and

financially sound as possible.

Prioritize saving for retirement. Men and women over 50 know that retirement is right around the corner. Despite that, many people over 50 still have not prioritized saving for retirement. It's understandable that other obligations, be it paying kids' college tuition or offering financial assistance to aging parents, may seem more immediate, but men and women over 50 should recognize that their time to save for retirement is rapidly dwindling. Just because you are retired does not mean your bills will magically disappear. In fact, some of those bills, such as the cost of medical care, are likely to increase. So now is the time to make retirement a priority if you have not already done so. It might be nice to finance a child's college education, but that should not be done at the expense of your retirement nest egg. Kids have a lifetime ahead of them to repay college loans, while adults over 50 do not

hard work has sewn and retire early. Finances will likely play a strong role in when you can comfortably retire, so start making decisions about your long-term future. Do you intend to stay in your current home or downsize to a smaller home? Will you stay in your current area or move elsewhere? These decisions require a careful examination of your finances, and many will hinge on how well you have managed your money in the past and how well you manage it in the years ahead. Managing money after 50 requires more than just allocating resources. Sound money management after 50 also means making decisions about your future and taking the necessary steps to ensure those decisions come to fruition.

Pay down debt. Men and women over 50 are not often associated with debt, but that's a misconception. Thanks in part to the recession that began in 2008 and led to high unemployment, many people in the baby boomer generation, which includes people born between the years 1946 and 1964, went back to school to make themselves more attractive to prospective employers. While that might have been a sound decision, it left many deeply in debt. According to a 2013 report from the Chronicle of Higher Education, student loan debt is growing fastest among people over 60, and that debt is not inconsequential.

have that much time to save for retirement.

Start making decisions. People retire at different times in their lives. Some people want to keep working as long as they are physically and mentally capable of doing so, while others want to reap what their lifetime of

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GRANDPARENTS

Continued from page 27

Gather important documents. Grandparents should keep pertinent documents in one easily accessible place in their homes should an emergency arise. These include birth certificates, health immunization records, death certificates (if the child's parents are deceased), dental records, school papers, citizenship papers, and proof of income and assets.

Speak with an attorney. Lawyers can help grandparents wade through legal arrangements, such as filing for custody, guardianship or adoption. Options vary depending on where petitioners live, but lawyers can provide peace of mind to grandparents concerned about their grandkids' futures.

Investigate financial assistance. Seniors may not earn the income they once did and may be on assistance programs or living off of retirement savings. Grandparents who find themselves caring for a child may be eligible for financial assistance. The Temporary Assistance for Needy Families is a joint federal and state program that can provide need-based financial assistance. The AARP or the organization GrandFamilies may be able to put grandparents in touch with financial advisors in their areas.

Contact schools and daycare centers. School-aged children will need to be enrolled in school. Grandparents should contact the department of education where they live to learn about local school systems, especially when grandkids are moving in with their grandparents. Some grandparents can qualify for free or low-cost daycare, and such programs can be discussed with local Social Services offices. Enrollment in school or daycare can provide grandparents with much-needed free time during the day.

Find emotional support. Taking care of grandchildren is a full-time job. At times, grandparents may feel stressed or out of sorts. Having a strong support system available can help grandparents work through the peaks and valleys of this new and unexpected stage in life. Church- or community center-based counseling services may be available. Grandparents also can check with their healthcare providers to determine if counseling or therapy sessions are covered under their plans.

Caring for grandchildren is a life-changing event. It can be fulfilling, but it also requires a lot of energy and commitment. But grandparents needn't go it alone, as there are numerous resources available to seniors who suddenly find themselves caring for their grandchildren.

NUTRITION

Continued from page 29

dairy among other foods, will aid in muscle recovery, benefitting aging athletes as well as those men and women over 50 who recently started exercising as a means to regaining their physical fitness. A diet lacking in sufficient protein can contribute to muscle deterioration, arthritis and even organ failure, so it's important for men and women to prioritize including protein in their diets.

Carbohydrates are also an important part of a balanced diet, as they are a great source of energy that can help men and women stay active well past the age of 50. Carbohydrates found in fruits, grains and vegetables are the most beneficial, as these contain valuable vitamins, minerals and nutrients.

Don't denounce dairy. Dairy is a great source of calcium, which promotes strong bones and teeth. Men and women over the age of 50 want their bones to be as strong as possible because aging is one of the strongest risk factors for osteoporosis, a potentially debilitating medical condition in which loss of tissue causes bones to become brittle and fragile.



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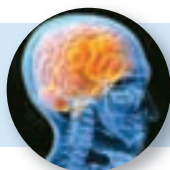
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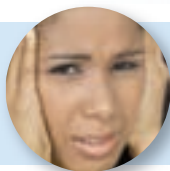
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2013	Acura TL, 17k	7918	\$17,995	2011	Infiniti M37, 27k	1237	\$22,995
2011	Mercedes C300, 14k	3824	\$17,995	2014	Ford Explorer, 4k	8588	\$22,995
2011	Mercedes GLK350, 44k	8159	\$19,995	2013	BWW 328i xDrive, 18k	3881	\$24,995
2011	Mercedes ML350, 25k	5589	\$21,888	2012	Mercedes E350, 20k	11628	\$24,995
2011	Acura MDX, 48k	1321	\$21,995	2011	Mercedes GL450, 17k	6101	\$32,888

>>>>MANAGER SPECIALS<<<<

YEAR	MAKE/MODEL/MILES	STOCK /VIN	PRICE	YEAR	MAKE/MODEL/MILES	STOCK /VIN	PRICE
2004	Toyota Highlander, 101k	6771	\$7,995	2009	Infiniti G37x, 52k	1255	\$11,995
2010	Toyota Corolla, 37k	1042	\$7,995	2011	Ford Edge, 51k	1241	\$12,995
2012	Honda Civic, 31k	5650	\$8,995	2013	Chevy Malibu, 3k	1382	\$13,995
2011	Honda Accord, 31k	2651	\$9,995	2011	Honda Odyssey, 35k	4830	\$13,995
2014	Nissan Versa, 9k	3309	\$9,995	2008	BMW 528xi, 34k	1008	\$13,995
2012	Ford Escape, 72k	7278	\$10,995	2011	Toyota Sienna, 15k	1034	\$13,995
2011	Nissan Rogue, 32k	4761	\$10,995	2012	Dodge Charger, 8k	1030	\$15,995
2012	Honda Accord, 32k	1223	\$10,995				

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2003	Honda Accord, 91k	A72885	\$3,995	2008	Lincoln MKZ, 177k	J1656	\$7,995	2011	Nissan Altima, 10k	1026	\$9,995
2007	Honda Civic, 14k	8519	\$5,995	2009	Toyota Sienna, 93k	391451	\$8,995	2012	Nissan Altima, 32k	1079	\$9,995
2003	Honda Accord Coupe, 91k	021636	\$5,995	2011	Honda Civic LX, 47k	7569	\$8,995	2012	Chevy Traverse, 50k	1260	\$12,888
2006	Toyota Camry, 106k	10431	\$6,995	2010	Toyota Camry, 34k	1013	\$8,995	2009	Honda Pilot, 36k	1032	\$13,995
2008	Nissan Altima Coupe, 136k	8314	\$6,995	2013	Kia Soul, 10k	10515	\$8,995	2011	Honda CRV, 24k	4923	\$13,995
2004	Toyota Sienna, 121k	2571	\$6,995	2011	Toyota Rav4, 48k	1066	\$9,995	2011	Honda Pilot, 23k	5210	\$14,995

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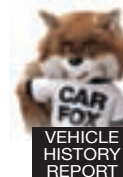
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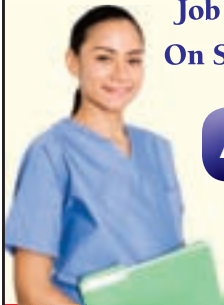
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CARIBBEAN ROUNDUP

Continued from page 4

Georgetown opens at a time when investor confidence is at an all-time high and with the country turning out a balance sheet of a 10-growth trajectory for four percent per annum.

Built at a cost of US\$58 million, the new investment is expected to realize returns of 11 percent per annum, Finance Minister Dr Ashni Singh said.

The property is owned by Atlantic Hotel Incorporated, a government agency. The private sector shied away from the project because of legal wrangling between the opposition and the government, which remains before the courts.

Marriott will also oversee the construction of a 20,000-square-foot entertainment complex and a casino in Guyana. Both entities will complement the hotel.

Haiti

The United Nations Security Council says it is awaiting a "comprehensive investigations" into the death of one of its peacekeepers in Haiti.

In a brief statement, the Security Council said the Chilean nationals were killed during an attack on a vehicle of the UN stabilization mission on the French-speaking CARCIOM country.

The statement gave no details of the incident that led to the death, but said the

Security Council was awaiting a "comprehensive investigation to determine the facts and circumstances of the incident."

Media reports indicate the soldier was killed along Haiti's border with the Dominican Republic and that he was helping to provide security during a demonstration when the UN vehicle was fired upon.

The United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti has been in operation on the island since 2004.

St. Kitts and Nevis

Police are searching for the killer/killers of a senior official of the Bank of Nevis, whose body was found in his car outside his home last weekend.

Police and Press Relations Officer Lyndon David confirmed the murder of Everette Hanley, credit manager of the Bank of Nevis and urged persons with information to help law enforcement authorities to solve the case.



Hanley's killing is the fourth in Nevis, and the second in less than two weeks.

Meanwhile, police are investigating the death of Jeffrey Daniel, 42, who was shot and killed at his home recently.

Daniel's death brings the number of homicides to 14 in St. Kitts and Nevis so far for this year. The twin-island Federation recorded 24 murders last year.

— compiled by Azad Ali



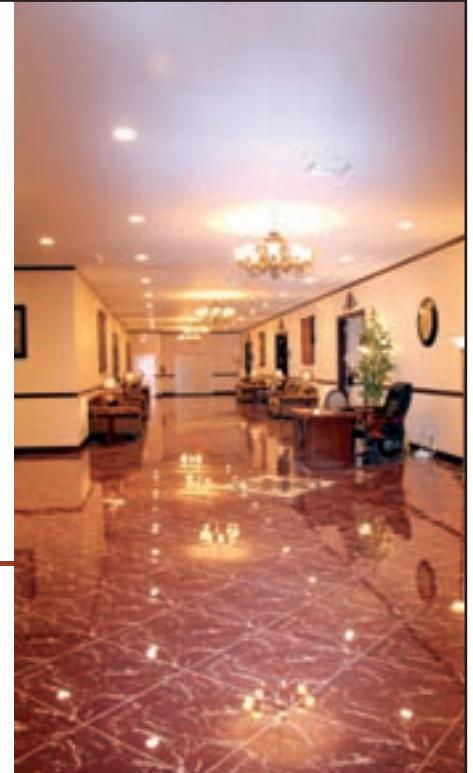
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PUBLIC MEETING #2

On the CSO Long Term Control Plan for the Gowanus Canal

Thursday, 14 May 2015

Public School 32
317 Hoyt St, Brooklyn, NY 11231
6:00pm to 8:00pm

DEP will provide a brief presentation at 6:30pm.

When there are heavy rains and the sewer system has reached its capacity, a diluted mixture of rain water and sewage, also known as combined sewage, may overflow into local waterways as a combined sewer overflow (CSO). The New York City Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is developing a CSO Long Term Control Plan (LTCP) that will identify and evaluate alternatives to reduce the impact of CSOs in NYC's waterbodies and waterways. You will also learn about the status of the Superfund process as it relates to the siting and design of CSO controls.

Join us as we seek your input in developing this plan.

How to Get Involved?
To RSVP, please email ltcp@dep.nyc.gov or call (718) 595-4148.

For more information on DEP's CSO program, please visit our LTCP Program website at www.nyc.gov/dep/ltcp or follow us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/NYCWATER.



Climate change affects Grenada

Continued from page 15

models estimate that global sea levels could rise by at least one metre (nearly 3.3 feet) by 2100, as warmer water expands and ice sheets melt in Greenland and Antarctica.

Global sea levels have risen an average of three centimetres (1.18 inches) a decade since 1993, according to many climate scientists, although the effect can be amplified in different areas by topography and other factors.

On Apr. 16, delegates attending a one-day National Stakeholder's Consultation here urged the authorities to re-establish the National Climate Change Council as the island moves to strengthen measures to deal with the impact of climate change.

They said while Grenada had made progress on dealing with climate change and the environment, it still has some way to go to become climate resilient and to develop the capacity to implement climate resilience actions.

The one-day consultation was jointly organised by the World Bank and the Grenada government.

A government statement issued after the consultation said that the re-establishment of the Council will help "drive the climate change agenda of integrating climate change at the national planning level, the mainstreaming of climate change adaptation" as well as monitoring and reporting.

The Climate Investment Fund (CIF)

Pilot Programme for Climate Resilience (PPCR) recently approved a 10.39-million-dollar grant funding for a Caribbean pilot programme for climate resilience.

Grenada along with St. Vincent, St. Lucia, Dominica, Jamaica and Haiti stand to directly benefit from this grant.

A 2007 report by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change said the devastation wreaked on Grenada by Hurricane Ivan in 2004 "is a powerful illustration of the reality of small-island vulnerability."

The hurricane killed 28 people, caused damage twice the nation's gross domestic product, damaged 90 percent of the housing stock and hotel rooms and shrank an economy that had been growing nearly six percent a year.

Grenada and its tourism-dependent Caribbean neighbours are thought to be among the globe's most vulnerable countries.

Scientists say the island has a high risk of being adversely impacted by climate change in several areas. These include coastal flooding due to natural disasters and storm surges. They also point to marine ecosystems being affected by increased ocean temperature, and increased freshwater run-off resulting in coral reef destruction and food chain interruption which affect fishing and tourism industries.

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WITHOUT BACK SURGERY**

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That is why doctors from all over the country are racing to acquire and get trained to operate the DRX9000™...an FDA approved device that is saving thousands of Americans suffering from chronic back pain from going under the knife.

Dr. Melinda Keller, who treats serious back pain without surgery explains how the DRX9000™ works...

"Over 10 years ago, NASA began to notice an unexpected result of space travel - Astronauts that left with back pain would come back without it. After investigated this now phenomenon here's what they found: During the anti-gravity state of the mission there were decompressive forces on the intervertebral discs and back pain was relieved. How? When you travel through space, the effects of gravity are removed and you are in a weightless state. All the pressure is taken off your spine and discs. Even better - and this is the key - a negative pressure is created. This negative pressure actually sucks the herniated material back into the disc and allows it to

heal. Thanks to the DRX9000™, disc herniation sufferers finally have a non-surgical solution."

The main conditions the DRX9000™ has documented success with are back pain, sciatica, herniated and/or bulging discs (single or multiple), degenerative disc disease, facet syndromes and a relapse or failure following back surgery.

Anyone wishing to learn more about this new FDA approved solution to back pain or to set up an appointment for a free consultation call Dr. Keller's office at **718-234-6207** or visit Brooklyn Spine Center, 5911 16th Ave., Brooklyn, New York 11204. **Brooklynspinecenter.com.**

Entrepreneur and Visionary Edward Rogoff Selected as Dean of LIU Brooklyn School of Business

Dr. Edward Rogoff has been selected to lead the LIU Brooklyn School of Business, Public Administration and Information Sciences. Dr. Rogoff is the recipient of the 2010 Outstanding Educator of the Year award, given by The United States Association of Small Business and Entrepreneurship. He joins LIU Brooklyn from Baruch College, where he directed the Lawrence N. Field Center for Entrepreneurship. Dr. Rogoff founded the CUNY Center for Student Entrepreneurship and was instrumental in developing nationally ranked undergraduate and graduate Entrepreneurship programs.

"The LIU community is privileged to have Dr. Rogoff join our University," said Dr. Kimberly R. Cline, president of LIU. "A leader in business curriculum development and an experienced entrepreneur, he has a deep understanding of New York City, national, and global business landscapes. Dr. Rogoff's vision for the University's business-focused academic programming reaffirms LIU's growing reputation as a leading experiential

learning university."

"It is an honor to join LIU Brooklyn, a rising university rife with opportunity and a palpable spirit of entrepreneurial thinking," said Dr. Rogoff. "I look forward to working with the esteemed faculty at LIU Brooklyn to bring the School of Business, Public Administration and Information Sciences to new levels of achievement. My approach has always been to teach students to be business leaders, not to teach students about business leadership."

"I see the rapid change in technology, financial systems, and entrepreneurship support systems as new demands on business education and great opportunities for LIU with its current curriculum in these areas, strong faculty, and involvement with many of the leading businesses in these sectors," said Rogoff. "We need to keep evolving to meet these needs and anticipate the coming demands on business schools," he said.

Dr. Rogoff prides himself on building what he calls "structures of opportunity" to serve LIU Brooklyn students, the

University community, and New York City. According to Rogoff, exceptional opportunities exist in the form of potential synergies with leaders and organizations helping to take advantage of downtown Brooklyn's preeminence in real estate, technology, and arts activity and commerce.

"Dr. Rogoff possesses the rare combination of entrepreneurial skill and educational creativity, said Dr. Jeffrey Kane, vice president for Academic Affairs." He has a well-deserved reputation for making a difference at the convergence of business, scholarship, and community. We are delighted about the educational and career opportunities Dr. Rogoff's leadership brings to current and future LIU Brooklyn students."

LIU Brooklyn's business-focused students and academic programs are well known in New York City business and higher education communities. Students currently hold competitive internship positions at the Barclays Center, the Brooklyn Nets, New York Stock Exchange, and the U.S. Department of Commerce, among others.

LIU Brooklyn's School of Business also enjoys partner affiliations with the "Big Four" accounting firms, where students and alumni intern, work, and excel. As a result, LIU Brooklyn is ranked among the Top 50 Colleges in the Northeast for Salary potential by Payscale.com.

Dr. Edward Rogoff is the author of two books, *The Entrepreneurial Conversation* and *Bankable Business Plans*, and his work has been published in *The New York Times*, *The Journal of Small Business Management*, *Entrepreneurship Research Journal*, and *Forbes*. He holds a B.A., M.B.A., M.A., and Ph.D. from Columbia University.

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Patterson keynotes 'Borderless Possibilities' forum

Jamaican Diasporans from the tri-state area are first to see and hear the island's sixth prime minister when he presents a case for "Borderless Possibilities" in the Caribbean region.

Former PM P.J. Patterson who headed the government of Jamaica from 1992 to 2006 and emerged the longest head of state to rule there will keynote a town hall meeting at Medgar Evers College in Brooklyn on May 4 before heading to Toronto, Canada and later Florida where he will repeat the message.

In fact, the popular leader will not focus on his island nation of Jamaica but will talk on the topic "Caribbean Diaspora: Borderless Possibilities."

Intended to broaden the discussion about opening the region's borders and easing restrictions pertaining to entry and exits, former PM Patterson's visit will also continue a dialogue that will be addressed during the sixth Biennial Jamaica Diaspora Conference next month in Montego Bay.

Prime Minister Portia Simpson Miller broached the topic on a recent visit here when she



Inside Life

By Vinette K. Pryce

addressed Diasporans.

However, the abbreviated presentation was deprived query when a disruptive group interrupted the visiting prime minister's address.

Organizers of the Brooklyn event promise a detailed presentation followed by a question and answer segment which will engage the audience.

During a three and a half hour forum beginning at 5:30 p.m. Western Union and Grace Kennedy, hosts of the community engagement will also share information about their commitment to education and support of the Diaspora.

A press release from the hosts attributes the event to be being "part of our thrust to positively impact the communities we serve."

Don Wehby, group chief executive officer of Grace Kennedy Ltd. and Sean Mason, vice president and general manager, Western Union Car-

ibbean will discuss "Corporate Social Responsibility - Changing Lives and "Cultivating Generations through Educational Investment."

The town hall meetings provide a forum in which members of the Caribbean Diaspora can engage in meaningful dialogue about the developments in their home countries, share thoughts on the issues that are of importance to their communities, discuss solutions and ways to contribute to the development of the Caribbean.

"These forums are very important to us as they provide an excellent opportunity to engage the Caribbean Diaspora -not just to network with our customers and get their feedback but also importantly, to encourage their participation in the discussion about issues that are critical to their home countries," Michelle Allen, chief executive officer of Grace Kennedy Money services said.



Former Jamaican Prime Minister Percival Patterson, left, takes a question during a press conference at the end of the three-day G15 conference in Montego Bay, Jamaica, Friday, Feb. 12, 1999.

Associated Press / Lynne Sladky, File

"Their contribution is very valuable as we explore ways to continue the development and promotion of the Caribbean while improving the quality of lives for those who live within the region."

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for Western Union in nine Caribbean countries - Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago, Guyana, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, St. Kitts and Nevis, Antigua and Barbuda, Anguilla and Montserrat and most recently, the British Virgin Islands.

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Hip hop artist Kurtis Blow.

Disco Fever reunion

By Deandra Shuler

With Lehman Center for the Performing Arts in association with Sal Abbatiello of Fever Records, sponsoring the 38th Anniversary of the famed Bronx nightclub “Disco Fever” by presenting an Old School Hip Hop Fever Reunion Throw-Back Concert on Saturday, May 9, at 7:00 p.m., this writer had the occasion to talk to one of the original hip hoppers, Kurtis Blow.

Mr. Blow will be in good company sharing the stage with other hip hop artists such as Rob Base, the Sugarhill

Continued on Page 41

Jazz, Arts Festival

By Vinette K. Pryce

An eclectic billing of performers from the Caribbean and the United States combine for 11 nights of revelry during the 24th annual staging of the St. Lucia Jazz & Arts Festival from April 30 to May 10.

The alluring attraction features jazz, rhythm & blues, hip-hop, soca, reggae, creole, dancehall, and pop music as well as visual arts, crafts and other spectacles to make the island the destination of choice to end and begin the months.

Pop star Robin Thicke and rapper Flo Rida have been touted as headliners but the bacchanal begins with Destra, Sedale, Wildfire, Arthur Alain, Bakanal Band and Invader with a blending of island cultures that includes Jamaica’s dancehall talent Chronixx.

Continued on Page 44



REGGAE HITS

Nadine Sutherland performing at the “International Women of Reggae: Night of Hits” concert at Brooklyn College.
Photo by Kevin Bollers

Concert celebrates top female singers

By Kevin Bollers

The Coalition to Preserve Reggae Music (CPR) presented “International Women of Reggae: A Night of Hits” at Brooklyn College on Saturday, April 25, 2015. The concert celebrated the feminine energy of reggae and featured some of the biggest female reggae artists to date. Performers featured were Tasha T, Chyna Nicole, Junie Ranks, Kristine Alicia, Lady Ann, Shuga, Nadine Sutherland and the headliner for that evening, Etana.

The inspiration to create an International Women of Reggae concert came when Sharon Gordon, founder of Coalition to Preserve Reggae Music went to a reggae event last year. “It was supposed to be a women of reggae event and it was a dismal failure,” Gordon said. “It was a flop because for one, there was an artist on the lineup whom a section of the community was up in arms about and it was not properly promoted. In being disappointed, I said to myself, ‘We have to do something; it doesn’t

have to be like this.’”

The opportunity came when Brooklyn College invited CPR to be a part of their 60th anniversary. “When we were invited to produce a unique reggae event here, I immediately said to my partner and President Carlyle McKetty, “Let’s do an all woman reggae show and let’s hand-pick these artists; making sure that they represent the past, present and future of reggae. So, here we are!”

The purpose of this concert was
Continued on Page 44

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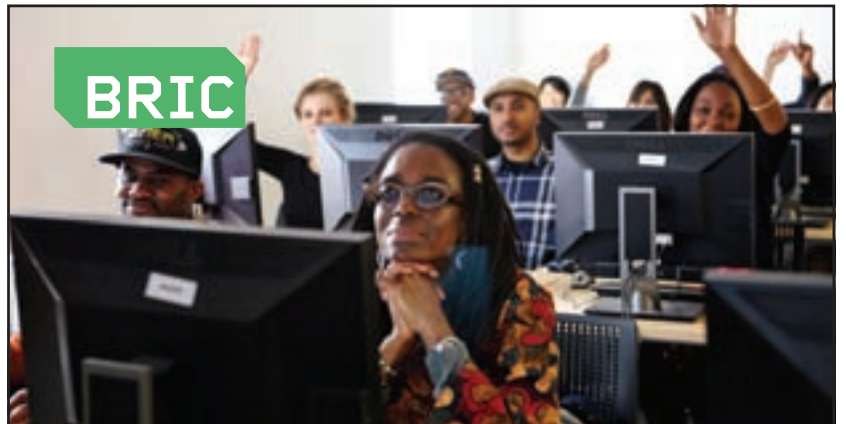


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Repressed teen vents his carnal urges

"Blackbird"
 Good (2 stars)
 Rated R for teen sexuality, profanity and drug use
 Running time: 99 minutes
 Distributor: RLJ Entertainment



Mo'Nique and Julian Walker from the film "Blackbird."

Rotten Tomatoes

By Kam Williams

Randy Rousseau (Julian Walker) claims to be straight, even though everybody thinks he's gay basically because he's effeminate, sings in the church choir, and is a member of Christian High's drama club. The repressed 17-year-old has even confessed to his BFFs, Effie (Gary Leroi Gray) and Crystal (Nikki Jane), to waking up "soaked in sin" after nightly wet dreams in which he makes love to other guys.

Nevertheless, he's so deep in denial, that he's willing to take Crystal's virginity to prove his masculinity. But that brief

experimentation with heterosexuality is only momentary, while his choosing to co-star in "Romeo and Julian," a gay-themed, school production of "Romeo and Juliet," proves a tad more telling.

Perhaps Randy's reticence to

come out of the closet has to do with his horrible relationship with his parents, between an absentee dad (Isaiah Washington) he can barely recognize ("Who the eff are you?"), and a Bible-thumping mother (Mo'Nique) who calls him an

"effing punk." In addition, she blames her son for the mysterious disappearance of her daughter (Hannah Moyer), and has faith that God will send her back home once Randy is purged of his gender-bending demons once and for all.

Directed and co-written by Patrik-Ian Polk, "Blackbird" is a coming-of-age musical adventure, which walks the fine line between drama and comedy. That failure to commit is an unfortunate flaw which serves to undercut any serious message the picture intends to deliver about tolerance.

Another problem is that the overplotted production has too many sidebars distracting our attention away from the compelling question of Randy's sexual orientation. There's the return of his Prodigal sister, his mama proselytizing in the supermarket, a pal infected with an STD, a married man cruising at a gay Lover's Lane, the suicide of a preacher's (Tirell Tilford) daughter (D. Woods), and an exorcism.

Despite its failings, I'm still willing to give "Blackbird" a little credit for tackling a subject that remains taboo in the black community. A gospel-driven cross of Precious and Rent, only set in a sleepy Southern town that time forgot instead of New York City.

Independent & Foreign Films

The 100-Year-Old Man Who Climbed out the Window and Disappeared (R for profanity and violence) Screen adaptation of Jonas Jonasson's novel of the same name about a frisky geezer (Robert Gustafsson) who celebrates his 100th birthday by making a break from his retirement home to embark on a daring adventure of a lifetime. With Iwar Wiklander, Mia Skaringer and David Wiberg. (In Swedish, Spanish, Russian German, English and French.)

Any Day (Unrated) Romance drama about a just-paroled murderer (Sean Bean) in search of redemption who moves in with his sister (Kate Walsh),



Kam's Kapsules

By Kam Williams

gets a job at a pizzeria and starts dating a woman (Eva Longoria) he meets in a grocery store. Cast includes Tom Arnold, Shane Black and Sonya Eddy.

Cas & Dylan (Unrated) Unlikely-buddies dramedy about a suicidal, senior citizen with a brain tumor (Richard Dreyfuss) who embarks on a cross-country road trip with the free-spirited, 22-year-old girlfriend (Tatiana Maslany) of a guy (Christopher Cordell) he accidentally ran over. With Aaron Poole, Jayne Eastwood and Corinne Conley.

Gerontophilia (Unrated) Romantic comedy about love which blossoms between a teenaged summer intern (Pier-Gabriel Lajoie) and one of the residents (Walter Borden) in the old folks home where he works as an orderly. Featuring Katie Boland, Yardly Kavanagh and Shawn Campbell. (In English and French with subtitles)

Marie's Story (Unrated) Fact-based biopic, set in 19th Century France, about a neglected, deaf and blind girl (Ariana Rivoire) who realized her potential with the help of the Catholic nun (Isabelle Carre) who started teaching her how to communicate for the first time at the age of 14. With Gilles Treton, Brigitte Catillon and Noemie

Continued on Page 45



A scene from "Maya and the Bee."
 Rotten Tomatoes.com

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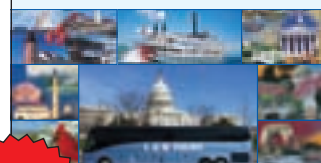


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TOP OF THE CHARTS

TOP 10 SINGLES



- 1 **Love Me Like I Do**
Ellie Goulding
- 2 **Sugar**
Maroon 5
- 3 **Uptown Funk!**
Mark Ronson
- 4 **Earned It (Fifty Shades..)**
Ed Sheeran
- 5 **Style**
Taylor Swift
- 6 **Somebody**
Natalie La Rose
- 7 **Thinking Out Loud**
Ed Sheeran
- 8 **Shut up & Dance**
Walk the Moon
- 9 **One Last Time**
Ariana Grande
- 10 **want to Want Me**
Jason Derulo

TOP 10 ALBUMS



- 1 **Handwritten**
Shawn Mendes
- 2 **Cherry Bomb**
Tyler, The Creator
- 3 **Into The Wild Life**
Halestorm
- 4 **Furious 7**
Soundtrack
- 5 **Love Somebody**
Reba
- 6 **Barter 6**
Young Thug
- 7 **If You're Reading This...**
Drake
- 8 **Montevallo**
Sam Hunt
- 9 **1989**
Taylor Swift
- 10 **To Pimp A Butterfly**
Kendrick Lamar



REGGAE

Continued from page 41 to put female artist center-stage. Many female artist used to be backup artist trying to break into the industry. Some women were abused and that experience outlasted their careers. "For me, a concert like this puts women in the reggae industry in their respectful and rightful place," said Gordon.

This event serves as a platform to empower younger female artists and shows them a better way to present their craft without compromising themselves by making 'slack' music. For the older artists, it gives them the opportunity grace the stage, get some exposure and engage a whole new generation of reggae fans.

CPR is in its tenth year and Gordon sees that their impact, nationally and internationally and continues to grow. "We have been very fortunate to see the tide turning in reggae music. We see a lot more roots and culture artists coming to



From left, Etana, Chyna Nicole, Junie Ranks, Lady Ann, Tasha T, founder and creator of the Coalition to Preserve Reggae Music, Sharon Gordon, Shuga, Kristine Alicia and Nadine Sutherland.

Photo by Kevin Bollers

the forefront. CPR Live, which is our internet broadcasting platform is how we reach out and bring that music into the world. We have a global audience."

The coalition raises the bar in which reggae music is created, developed, promoted and presented; to elevate the profile of its purveyors and to

research, codify, curate and disseminate literature about the genre so as to increase understanding of its development, its significance, and its influence around the world. She also stressed the diversity of the reggae culture.

"CPR is not a Jamaican organization; it is a reggae lov-

ers organization. Our organization represents people of all colors, nationalities, ethnicities, age groups and sexual orientations. We have people of all persuasions. That is what CPR is about because that is what reggae is all about. Reggae has gone out into the world to touch human beings," said Gordon.

Jazz fest

Continued from page 41 A jazz showcase with Joey DeFrancesco and Alain Jean-Marie will feature Grant Stewart.

Add superstar Jimmy Cliff, two-time Grammy winner Jon Secada, reggae crooner Beres Hammond, Barbados' acclaimed "saxiest horn player in the Caribbean" Arturo Tappin, Latin sensation Timbalive, soca sensations Krosfyah with Edwin Yearwood and irie fuses with carnival to deliver jazz plus entertainment.

"This year's festival continues to infuse artistic events with star-studded musical performances, providing a platform for local artisans, entertainers and cultural enthusiasts to also command world attention during the two-week celebration," said Minister of Tourism, Heritage and Creative Industries, Lorne Theophilus.

The diverse music offering of genres continues throughout with "Soufriere Creole Jazz," a combination of bouyon, soca and jazz musicians that are slated to perform on a night headlined by Jamaica's Jah Cure.

The National Cultural Centre will host Caribbean cultural icons Ronald "Boo" Hinkson, Derede Williams and Shayne Ross at the Cadet Concert.



American-Canadian singer and songwriter Robin Thicke. Associated Press / Kin Cheung

"Monchy: Mizik En Kweyol" spotlights more action at Monchy Square in Gros Islet with local bands such as The Royal Saint Lucia Police Band and headliner Derek Yarde Project.

"Jazz on the Square" features free shows from May 6 to May 8 at Derek Walcott Square in the capital city of Castries.

The island wide festival will also venture to Pigeon Island where the most ideal venue for a main stage event stages "Amidst the Ruins."

Famous for its role in the 1782 Battle of the Saints, the island boasts 44 acres of sloping grasslands, tropical forests, beaches and twin peaks, as well as Fort Rodney where the Atlantic Ocean joins the Caribbean Sea.

Hip Hop culture

Continued from page 41 Gang, Biz Markie, Grandmaster Melle Mel & Scorpio of the Furious Five, SoulSon-ic Force, Sweet G, Mc Shan, Fearless Four, T-Sky Valley, Spyder-D, Spoonie Gee, Busy Bee Starkie, et al. DJ Marley Marl, DJ Hollywood and DJ Brucie B will be there playing the beats with Dr. Bob Lee co-hosting.

"For those who are unaware of the club "Disco Fever," it was the number one club in NYC from 1979-1985. I used to MC there on Tuesday with Grand Master Flash in the early days of my career. Disco Fever was a small club but the place to be. Some of the early rap music was inspired or created out of that club. I recall driving up to the club in my tour bus after doing a show to hang out," remarked Kurtis Blow.

Through producer Sal Abbatiello (who inherited the "Disco Fever" club from his father), hip hop came alive. "Music wasn't the only thing we did through the club. We did a lot of functions and benefits at Disco Fever for the Bronx community. Fund raising events that raised money for the United Negro College Fund, putting up basketball courts and theme parks and

opening up a roller skating rink. Disco Fever did a lot of community service," recalled Kurtis.

Kurtis explained the difference between Rap and Hip Hop. "Hip hop is the umbrella and rap is part of the umbrella. Hip hop is a way of life, a culture. The culture represents the music people listen to, the way they walk and talk. It represents a fashion, religion, dance, art. All of that is part of hip hop culture. Hip hop is the general term of a way of life. It is not only a business but has introduced elements of dance; rap, scratching, DJing, graffiti (art) and beeboying or break dancing, pop locking, and even a hip hop religion," explained the originator of "If I Ruled the World."

Hip hop was born in the early 1970s. It was birthed out of the south Bronx and Harlem and spread throughout the five boroughs catching the world by storm. It was around about seven or eight years before the first song came out in 1979, by King Tim III (Personality Jock) with Fatback band. A major hit "Rappers Delight" by the Sugar Hill Gang came out in the summer of 1979 and blow hip hop music up.

Films

Continued from page 43

Churlet. (In French and sign language with subtitles)

Maya the Bee Movie (G) Animated adventure about a lowly drone with a big heart (Coco Jack Gillies) who leads the search party after the Queen bee's (Miriam Margolyes) royal jelly is stolen. Voice cast includes Jacki Weaver, Noah Taylor and Nina Hagen.

Ride (R for profanity and drug use) Helen Hunt wrote, directed and stars in this California dreaming dramedy as a concerned mom who quits her job as an editor at the New Yorker to be with her son (Brenton Thwaites) in L.A. after he drops out of college to surf while finding himself. Supporting cast includes Luke Wilson, Richard Kind and Robert Knepper.

Welcome to Me (R for sexuality, profanity, graphic nudity and brief drug use) Quirky character study about a lottery winner suffering from Borderline Personality Disorder (Kristen Wiig) who stops taking her meds and starts hosting her own TV talk show. With Linda Cardellini, James Marsden, Tim Robbins, Joan Cusack, Loretta Devine and Jennifer Jason Leigh.

BIG BUDGET FILMS

Avengers: Age of Ultron (PG-13 for suggestive comments and intense violence, action and scenes of destruction) Eleventh installment in the Marvel Cinematic Universe franchise finds Iron



A scene from "Avengers: Age of Ultron."

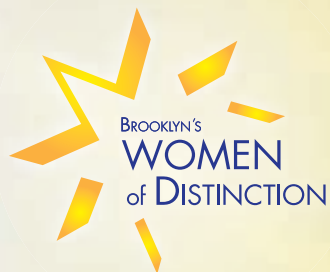
Rotten Tomatoes.com

Man (Robert Downey, Jr.), Thor (Chris Hemsworth), Captain America (Chris Evans), Hawkeye (Jeremy Renner), Black Widow (Scarlett Johansson) and the Hulk (Mark Ruffalo) joining forces to prevent a diabolical villain with a God complex (James Spader) from wiping humanity off the face of the plan-

et. With Samuel L. Jackson, Elizabeth Olsen, Idris Elba, Hayley Atwell, Don Cheadle, Paul Bettany, Anthony Mackie and Linda Cardellini.

Far from the Madding Crowd (PG-13 for violence and some sexuality) Third screen adaptation of Thomas Hardy's classic novel, set in Victorian

England, revolving around a trio of suitors, a shepherd (Matthias Schoenaerts), a sergeant (Tom Sturridge) and a wealthy bachelor (Michael Sheen), vying for the affections of a fetching, headstrong farmer (Carey Mulligan). With Juno Temple, Jessica Barden and Eloise Oliver.



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SUN KULCH COMMUNITY EVENING



FLAMENCO DANCING

MAY 1: Bronx Museum, 1040 Grand Concourse, The Bronx, New York 10456; (718) 681-6000; www.bronxmuseum.org; 6:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.; Free admission and bar (donations suggested). Join us for a night of flamenco puro and contemporary dance.



MOTHER'S DAY CONCERT

MAY 9: Calvary Cathedral of Praise, 45 E. 8th St., Brooklyn, NY 11218; www.ccopny.org; 6:00 p.m.; \$20 in advance (More at the door) Children 12 & Under: \$10. Calvary Cathedral of Praise and Calvary Pentecostal church presents will host a Mother's Day celebration featuring special guest Jules Bartholomew and Judacamp. Sean Daniel, Wendy Mitchell, Wayne Johnson and Emrand Henry will be performing.

lyn; (718) 302-1180; www.cameony.net; Wednesdays, 8:00 p.m.; Standup comedy hosted by Max Silvestri.

FRI., MAY 1

BRONX FIRST FRIDAYS: Bronx Museum, 1040 Grand Concourse Bronx, New York 10456, The Bronx; (718) 681-6000; www.bronxmuseum.org; 6:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.; Free admission and bar (donations suggested). Join us for a night of flamenco puro and contemporary dance. Four extraordinary artists from Soledad Barrio and Noche Flamenca will perform traditional flamenco presenting a range of comedy, joy, and sadness through dance. Artist and choreographer Nia Love will perform her new project entitled "Recognize," an exploration of interpersonal relationships with her young son, virtuoso drummer Kojo Roney.

SAT., MAY 2

STORYTIME: Barnes and Noble, 23-80 Bell Blvd., Queens; (718) 224-1083; www.barnesandnoble.com; 11:00 a.m.; Free. "What do you do with an Idea" is the

selection.

MON., MAY 4

STORYTIME: Barnes and Noble, 23-80 Bell Blvd., Queens; (718) 224-1083; www.barnesandnoble.com; 11:00 a.m.; Free. Read a new book.

TUES., MAY 5

STORYTELLERS: Word Up Community Bookshop, 2113 Amsterdam Ave. (corner of 165th Street), Manhattan; (347) 688-4456; www.wordupbooks.com; 7:00 p.m.; Free. No Name Comedy/Variety Show producer Eric Vetter brings New York's best established and emerging authors and storytellers including Terri Mintz, Angel Yau, Mark Pagán and Dean Masello, for its monthly series. Curated and co-hosted by author / storyteller Michele Carlo (FISH OUT OF AGUA: My life on neither side of the (subway) tracks, Citadel Press), the show will also include a "Magic Hat Open-Mic" where audience members can sign up for a chance at four minutes of stage time to share their own story.

THURS., MAY 7

NYU LUTHERAN FAMILY HEALTH CENTERS' SERVICES FOR OLDER ADULTS: Arthritis Classes: Sunset Park Neighborhood Center, 4520 4th Avenue, Brooklyn; Free. Arthritis classes for seniors will be held every Thursday in May from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. This event is subject to change without notice. Before attending or for additional information, please call 718-210-1050.

SAT., MAY 9

HAITI FILM FEST: Central Library, 10 Grand Army Plaza Brooklyn, NY 11238, Brooklyn; 718.230.2100; haiticulturalx.org; 1:00 – 6:00 p.m.; Free. The festival was launched in 2011 to provide opportunities for filmmakers to share their work and for diverse audiences to embrace more nuanced, multi-faceted stories of the Haitian experience. There will be a screening of "Black Dawn" by Robin Lloyd and Doreen Kraft (1979, 20 Minutes/ English/Animation) at 1:30 p.m. This film offers a captivating introduction to Haiti's early history, culture, rich folklore, and religion. Followed by "Port-au-Prince Mon Seul et Unique Amour" by Arnold Antonin at 2:00 p.m. This documentary is the portrait of Georges Corvington, the man who had one single passion in his life: Port-au-Prince. The afternoon ends with "In the Eye of the Spiral" by Eve Blouin & Raynald Leconte at 4:00 p.m. The film narrated by the poised and compelling voice of Annie Lenox, this documentary presents a new side of Haiti through the fascinating voices of some of its most successful native artists. All screenings will be followed by discussions with filmmakers, actors and scholars.

A PRE-MOTHER'S DAY CELEBRATION: Ryan's Daughter, 350 E 85th St., New York, NY 10028, Brooklyn; tommy.pryor@gmail.com; yorkvillestoopstnuts.blogspot.com; 7:00 p.m.; No cover, no minimum. Author, Thomas R. Pryor, ("I Hate the Dallas Cowboys: tales of a scrappy New York boyhood" - YBK Publishers) brings his storytelling show, "Stoops to Nuts," back to his beloved neighborhood, Yorkville, for a special Mother's Day eve celebration. Pryor's guests: Abbi Crutchfield (PEOPLE Now, Living Room Show), Luke Thayer (MTV.com), Walter Michael DeForest (The Moth), Joe Dettmore (The Daily Show with Jon Stewart), Eric Vetter (No Name Comedy Variety Show), actress, Liz Phillips (www.elizabethadelephillips.com) and poet/visual artist, Apryl Miller (Time Out Magazine). There will be live music and drink specials. Thomas will have copies of "I Hate the Dallas Cowboys" and his acclaimed 2012 photographic portfolio, "River to River ~ New York Scenes from a Bicycle," available for purchase.

Compiled By Natalie Henry

LONG-RUNNING

IDENTIFICATION ENROLLMENT: The Bronx; Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 9:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m., Tuesdays and Thursdays, 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., Saturdays, 9:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m., Now – Friday, June 26; Free. Make your appointment today - NYC is offering a free ID Card for all city residents. Enrollment in the program provides access to services and programs offered by the city as well as by businesses. Holder may gain access to all City buildings that provide services to the public and is an accepted form of identification for accessing numerous city programs and services. Benefits also include a free one-year membership at many of the city's leading museums, zoos, concert halls, and botanical gardens.

WOMEN ARTISTS IN PLACE: Jamaica Center for the Arts & Learning, 153rd St. and Jamaica Ave., Queens; (718) 658-7400; www.jcal.org; Daily, 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.; Now – Thursday, May 28; Free. This is an exciting exhibition featuring the works of 10 women.

"KEHINDE WILEY: A New Republic": Brooklyn Museum, 200 Eastern Pkwy. at Washington Avenue, Brooklyn; (718) 638-5000; www.brooklynmuseum.org; Wednesdays and Fridays – Sundays, 11:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m., Thursdays, 11:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m., Now – Sunday, May 24; \$16 suggested. The first museum survey of Brooklyn artist Kehinde Wiley's prolific career.

BROOKLYN MUSEUM EXHIBITION: Basquiat: Brooklyn Museum, 200 Eastern Pkwy. at Washington Avenue, Brooklyn; (718) 638-5000; www.brooklynmuseum.org; Wednesdays and Fridays – Sundays, 11:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m., Thursdays, 11:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m., Now – Sunday, Aug. 23; Adults \$16, students with ID \$10, 62+ \$10, 19 and under free. Brooklyn-born artist Jean-Michel Basquiat filled numerous notebooks with poetry fragments, wordplay, sketches, and personal observations ranging from street life and popular culture to themes of race, class, and world history. The first major exhibition of the artist's notebooks, Basquiat: The Unknown Notebooks features 160 pages of these rarely seen documents, along with related works on paper and large-scale paintings.

YOUTH MADE MEDIA (Y2M2): Hunts Point Recreation Center, 75 Manida St. at Spofford Ave., The Bronx; (212) 360-3327; jheffler@ciyparksfoundation.org; www.ciyparksfoundation.org; Weekdays, 3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m., Now – Sunday, May 31; Free. Students 11 to 15 years old receive instruction in Media Arts linked to Environmental Science. In addition, children receive homework help, go on field trips, watch movies and so much more. Registration is required.

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TSSS athletes pose for Caribbean Life before hitting the tracks in the 4x400m on Saturday. From left, Kailon Kirby, Erasto DaSilva, Rodrique Thorpe and Neilo Thomas. Photo by Nelson A. King

Vincentian athletes' best performance

By Nelson A. King

After competing over the last weekend for the fifth consecutive year in the prestigious Penn Relays Carnival in Philadelphia, athletes from the Thomas Saunders Secondary School (TSSS) in St. Vincent and the Grenadines have recorded their best performance to date in the century-old games.

"I am much more satisfied because I'm glad the guys (athletes) were able to post a faster performance than in

Continued on Page 50

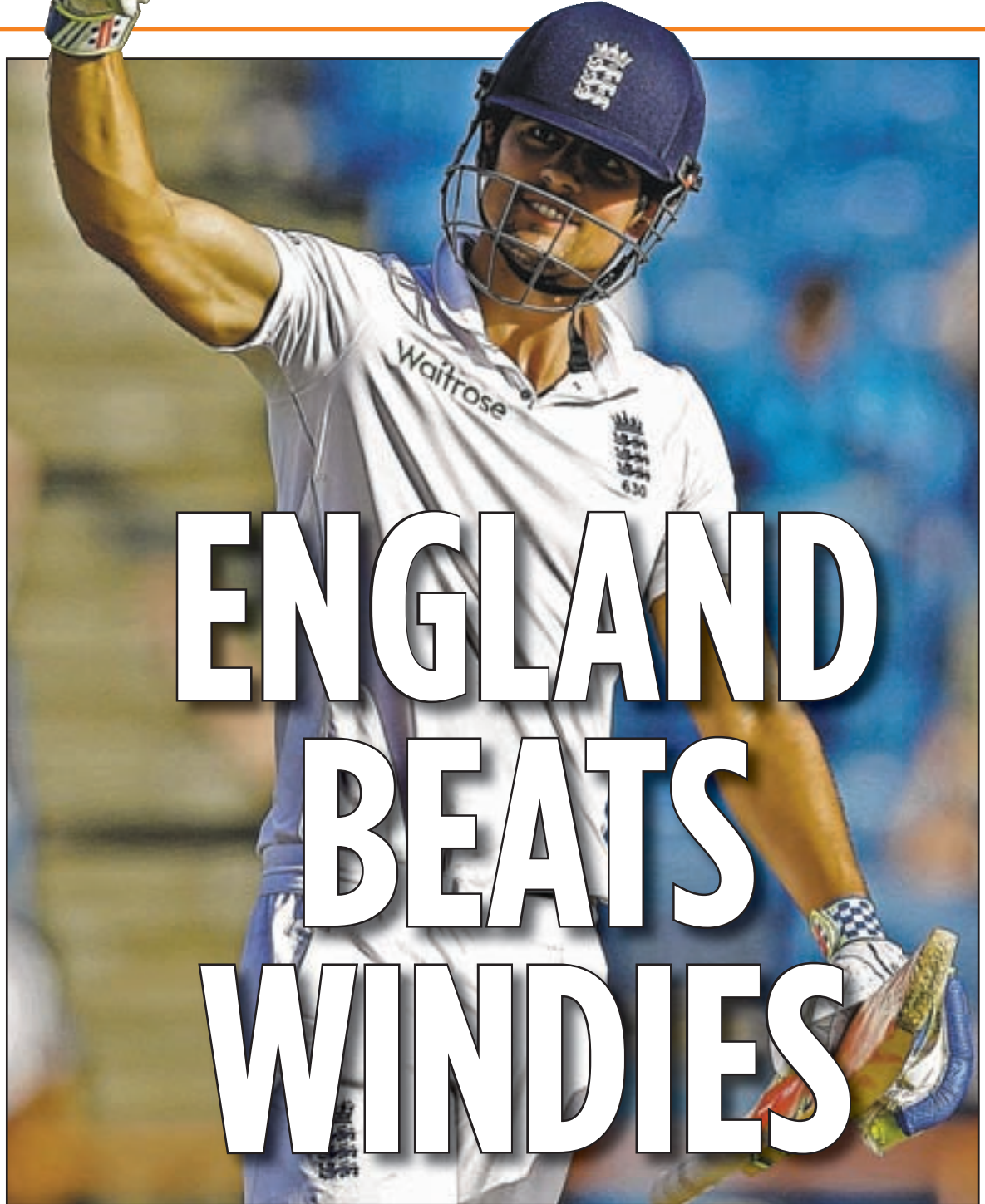
St. Francis looks ahead

By Robert Elkin

This is the time of the year when college basketball players and coaches receive recognition for their accomplishments on the court. Usually it is in the form of plaques or trophies to go along with an award ceremony.

This dinner honoring the best of the best was recently staged at the Westchester Marriott Hotel in Tarrytown, New York, and marked the 82nd annual Haggerty awards affair, conducted by the National Invitation Tournament and the Metropolitan Basketball Writers' Association.

Continued on Page 50



ENGLAND BEATS WINDIES

England captain Alistair Cook celebrates after beating West Indies for nine wickets during day five of their second Test match at the National Stadium in St. George's, Grenada, Saturday, April 25, 2015.

Associated Press / Ricardo Mazalan

Takes a 1-0 lead into the third test

ST. GEORGE'S, Grenada (AP) — Inspired by James Anderson's fiery burst with the second new ball and his brilliance in the field, England defeated the West Indies by nine wickets on the last day Saturday of the second cricket Test.

Anderson's three wickets for 16 in

eight overs, allied to his two catches and a sharp, direct hit run out, triggered a stunning West Indies collapse from 202-2 at the start of the day, with a lead of 37, to 307 all out.

As England set out for the winning goal of 143, Jonathan Trott was bowled in fast bowler Shannon

Gabriel's opening over without scoring. Captain Alastair Cook, unbeaten on 59, and Garry Ballance, 81 not out and dropped twice, completed the job against lackluster bowling with an unbroken partnership of 142.

Balance passed 1,000 runs in his

Continued on Page 50

Continued from page 49

previous years,” Head Coach Godfrey “Fuzzy” Harry told Caribbean Life in an exclusive interview before the team departed Monday afternoon for home.

“So people can see upward mobility in terms of team performance,” added Harry, who has accompanied the team of male of female athletes ever since the school began participating in the three-day event, in 2011, at the Franklin Field Stadium, University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia.

Competing in a field of 14 teams (schools) last Thursday, in the 4x100m relay, the girls’ team comprising Kerina Hooper, Rownesha Spencer, Jasmine Robertson and Zamesha Myle clocked 4 min., 8.15 sec. in winning their heat.

Hooper, who ran for the third successive and last year in the Penn Relays – the oldest track and field meet in the U.S. – also helped her team significantly in winning the 4x400m-heat, with a personal best of 51.20 sec. Other competitors in that race were Oleisha Ryan, Mekeila Slater and Cheslyn Simper.

Harry, who was assisted by Ronique Dowers, a TSSS Penn Relays athlete in 2011 and 2012, said the girls’ team performed beyond expectations. Earlier this year, TSSS won the Girls Division in the Inter-Secondary Schools Championship in St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

“When you check it out, their ranking was 53rd out of 364 competing schools,” said Harry, noting that athletes came from the length and breadth of the U.S. and internationally – including Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago and the Bahamas in the Caribbean.

The TSSS boys’ team also made the nation proud by clocking their best ever in the 4x100m heat on Friday.

In beating eight other schools, the team of Eresto DaSilva, Rodrigue Thorpe, Keilon Kirby and Neilo Thomas recorded 44.48 sec. in triumphing in their race.



West Indies’ Devon Smith, center, is bowled by England’s James Anderson during day four of their second Test match at the National Stadium in St. George’s, Grenada, Friday, April 24, 2015. Associated Press / Ricardo Mazalan

WEST INDIES FACE UPHILL TASK

Continued from page 49

17th innings, the third fastest in England Test history, and Cook, with 76 in the first innings, finally got among the runs to scrubs those critics off his back.

The West Indies was set back when medium-fast bowler Jason Holder was taken off on a stretcher after damaging his left ankle as he planted it to deliver to Ballance in his second over. Ballance was missed at 15 and 67 at slip by Devon Smith off Marlon Samuels, but the West Indies seemed resigned to the outcome.

The result was a disappointment for the locals in the biggest crowd of the match, but celebrated by 2,000 jubilant travelling supporters, witnesses to England’s first away victory since late 2012 in Kolkata, India.

England takes a 1-0 lead into the third and final Test at Kensington Oval in Barbados on Friday.

Anderson’s decisive spell began with his seventh delivery, a fierce bouncer that Kraigg Brathwaite could only parry to gully after adding 15 to his overnight 101.

Brathwaite lasted 252 balls, and done the most to make observers believe West Indies could bat out the last day on a flat pitch and earn a second straight draw.

But Anderson, who surpassed Ian Botham as England’s highest wicket-taker in tests in Antigua last week, also removed the usually dependable veteran left-hander Shivnarine Chandernepaul for 7 to a catch to second slip; it bounced from Ian Bell’s grasp to be taken, with a juggle, by a fully stretched Cook.

In his next over, Anderson dismissed first-innings century-maker Marlon Samuels for 37, out behind from a thin edge.

When he ended his spell of eight overs that earned three wickets for 16 runs, Anderson also had a hand in the next three wickets.

He leapt to grasp an overhead catch at mid-off from Jermaine Blackwood’s unnecessary drive off Chris Jordan, ran out Holder with a direct hit of the non-striker’s stumps from over 20 meters, and caught Kemar Roach’s soft shot on the run at wide mid-on from offspinner Moeen Ali.

Ali dismissed captain Denesh Ramdin for 28 and Shannon Gabriel second ball for a duck to end the innings soon after lunch. Incredibly, the West Indies lost its last eight wickets for 83 runs.

Terriers capture season title

Continued from page 49

tion.

Sir’Dominic Pointer became the second consecutive recipient from St. John’s University to accept this honor, named after a former Red Storm player of years ago, Frank J. Haggerty. And it also marked the return of Chris Mullin a former

Three-time Haggerty award player while at St. John’s, as he already has been named as the new coach at the Red Storm.

While Pointer heads the award winners, St. Francis College might have been

the best of the teams in the metropolitan tri-state area.

Only a few years ago, the Blackbirds from Long Island University emerged on top of the Northeast Conference This was the Terriers’ time.

This time, thanks to some good recruiting, good coaching steady improvement over the years on the court, the Terriers captured the regular season title, but fell just short of winning the Conference post season tournament. Overall, they posted a 23-12 record, including 15-3 in the league.

Meanwhile, neighborhood rival LIU



St. John’s Sir’Dominic Pointer (15) drives past San Diego State’s Angelo Chol (3) and Malik Pope (21) during the first half of an NCAA tournament college basketball game in the Round of 64 in Charlotte, N.C., Friday, March 20, 2015. AP Photo/Gerald Herbert

posted an under 500 record season.

When voting time came about, St.

Francis College veteran coach Glenn Braica was chosen as co-coach of the year in Division I of the NCAA. He thus shared the award with Jim Englis of New Jersey Tech.

It took time for the Terriers to move up in the standings over the years, but they finally did it.

And it was team work that turned the track for them, and it was led in particular by Jalen Cannon, a senior, who will surely be missed next season because he is graduating. Cannon made the first all-met team for his tremendous play on both ends of the court throughout the schedule. And one can not forget another senior Brent Jones who gave Cannon the ball for those baskets. Jones earned third team honors.

West Indies players lack enthusiasm

The breakdown of West Indies Cricket continues as England go 1 - 0 in three scheduled Test matches. The first Test match was drawn in Antigua and England won the second Test in Grenada. The third and final Test match is set for the Kensington Oval, Barbados.

The West Indies Cricket team lacks credibility and that blame should only fall on the cricketers because of their lousy performance. Consistency is a major factor in winning. There are too many failures with West Indies batsmen and those who are in batting form are carelessly giving their wickets away.

In contrast to the West Indies, the English Team has been playing as a unit and their players, particularly their batsmen, have stuck to their game and have played match winning innings. The batsmen include Joe Root, Ian Bell, Gary Balance and their captain Alastair Cook, who finally stroked two half centuries in the second Test in Grenada.

For the West Indies, Marlon Samuels, Kraig Braithwaite,



Eyes on Cricket

By George H. Whyte

Jason Holder and Jermaine Blackwood scored centuries but these were insufficient to enable the team to win. West Indies bowling seems to be very thin and Denesh Ramdin's captaincy and his batting leave much to be desired. West Indies batsmen are not intelligently accessing their game and applying the correct strategy to win.

ANALYSIS OF THE PLAYERS

Kraig Braithwaite is a confident player but he needs to learn quickly how to play the rising ball and negotiate much more singles at the wicket. Devon Smith is very solid against the pace attack but he loses concentration too quickly. He needs much more movement with his feet, particularly against the spin. Darren Bravo is potentially classy. He is too overrated and too

many cricket pundits expect too much from him batting in the number three position. He functions better in the number five slot.

Marlon Samuels is a superb cricketer but he should not be exposed to too much bowling in Test cricket. His batting should be a priority. Jermaine Blackwood is a fine fielder and attacking batsman and he has a great future with the West Indies team. Shivnarine Chandernaul has been a fine player over the years but he must call it a day and resign with dignity. His significant contribution to West Indies cricket will always be remembered.

As a wicket keeper Denesh Ramdin has done a reasonably good job but as a captain and batsman his performance has been very poor. He is not a motivator and his batting must improve greatly to boost the efforts of the team.



West Indies' Jermaine Blackwood plays a bouncer from James Anderson during day one of their second Test match at the National Stadium in St. George's, Grenada, Tuesday, April 21, 2015.
Associated Press / Ricardo Mazalan

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ARIES: Mar 21/Apr 20
You are a mystery lately, Aries. No one is quite sure what you will do next and you may like to surprise. But share your plans every so often with those closest to you.

TAURUS: Apr 21/May 21
Taurus, surround yourself with positive people who maintain optimistic outlooks. Many opportunities will open up if you keep a positive attitude.

GEMINI: May 22/Jun 21
Gemini, you may resist social activities this week at first, but soon you will get swept up in the fun and lose your inhibitions. Use social activities as a way to network.

CANCER: Jun 22/Jul 22
Cancer, if you are thinking about a career move, it's about time you put your plans in motion. This week you may find you are full of energy and ready for a new challenge.

LEO: Jul 23/Aug 23
Leo, a renewed sense of enthusiasm has you eager to get started on future plans. Perhaps a new course of study will suffice and pave the way for new experiences.

VIRGO: Aug 24/Sept 22
A chance encounter with an old flame stirs up feelings you didn't realize you still had, Virgo. Even if these feelings are less dramatic, you're still tempted to act on them.

LIBRA: Sept 23/Oct 23
Libra, it is up to you to initiate action in a situation that leaves you somewhat uncomfortable this week. Don't hesitate to step up and take charge.

SCORPIO: Oct 24/Nov 22
A difference of opinion may be highlighted at work this week when you are confronted by a coworker, Scorpio. Act with integrity, but be firm with your resolve.

SAGITTARIUS: Nov 23/Dec 21
Sagittarius, others may try to stop you from having fun, but you are determined to enjoy yourself. Your entire week is focused on having a good time with friends and family.

CAPRICORN: Dec 22/Jan 20
Capricorn, although you cannot control all of the changes in your life, you do have firm control over your personal health. Don't put off revamping your diet and exercise plan.

AQUARIUS: Jan 21/Feb 18
Aquarius, close friends will keep you pretty busy over the next few days, but you can handle it. Let off steam with a few different fun activities when time allows.

PISCES: Feb 19/Mar 20
Use caution when making decisions this week, Pisces. You can be prone to impulsive behavior, and you don't want to find yourself in trouble.

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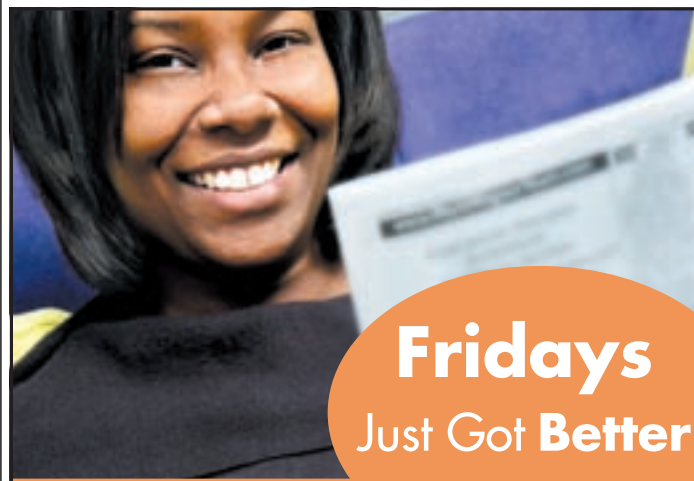
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- Troubleshoot and/or track down missing ads by communicating with sales reps and management.

QUALIFICATIONS

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Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly filed on July 07, 2014, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Kings County Supreme Court, Room 224, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, NY on May 14, 2015 at 2:30 p.m., premises known as 9 Fanchon Place, Brook-

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lyn, NY. All that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of New York, Block 3483 and Lot 17. Approximate amount of judgment is \$704,202.08 plus inter-

LEGAL

est and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index # 2030/07. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the deposit paid. The Purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mort-

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gagee, or the Mortgagee's attorney. Marc J. Held, Esq., Referee Peter T. Roach & Associates, P.C., 125 Michael Drive, Suite 105, Syosset, New York 11791, Attorneys for Plaintiff

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