



Favorite teacher

Ashley Medouze, left, nominated her teacher, right, Shola Roberts for the award. See story on page 3. Photo by Kevin Bollers

US-Carib strategic engagement

By Nelson A. King

Two high-ranking United States congressional representatives have introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives legislation that they say would "prioritize" U.S.-Caribbean relations.

New York Democratic Con- H.R. 4939, a bill that would ing member on the House For-Affairs Committee, introduced

gressman Eliot L. Engel, rank- require the US Secretary of State and the administrator of eign Affairs Committee, and the U.S. Agency for Interna-Florida Republican Congress- tional Development (USAID) woman Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, to submit to the US Congress a former chair of the Foreign a multi-year strategy focused Continued on Page 6

RACIAL STRAIN RISING

Race raises its head in tranguil Barbados

By Bert Wilkinson

When it comes to political stability and general services, the Caribbean Community nation of Barbados is regarded as not only the best Afrorun country in the world but also one of the most organized societies in the western hemisphere.

But deep beneath the surface of life in this 166-squaremile country that is commonly referred to as little Britain, runs the problem of growing

racial tensions between blacks and the country's tiny but economically dominant white local class. Blacks comprise about 90 percent of the population of more than 350,000 and when it comes to living standards ratings, Barbados is ranked at 53, a remarkable placing for a country with little natural resources.

Many Afro Bajans say the whites who had enjoyed all the privileges dating back to Continued on Page 6



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Shola Roberts is this year's winner of the Barnes & Noble 2016 My Favorite Teacher award. Photo by Kevin Bollers

Grenadian dance teacher a favorite

By Kevin Bollers

Theresa Grimm once said, "Without teacher appreciation there can't be any student progress."

On Thursday, April 21, the Barnes & Noble located at 106 Court St. in Brooklyn held the 2016 Barnes & Noble My Favorite Teacher ceremony to honor local winner, Shola Roberts from Grenada; dance teacher at School of Integrated Learning in Brower Park, Brooklyn. The contest ran from Jan. 4 until March 1, and gave middle and high school students the opportunity to tell their communities just how much they appreciate their teachers. Students nominated their favorite teacher by writing essays, poems or thank-you letters that shared how their teacher had influenced their life and why they appreciated and admired their teacher. Guyanese-born Ashley Medouze, one of Roberts prized students, wrote the winning nomination essay; she received a certificate of recognition and was also honored at the ceremony.

Ashley came to the School of Integrated Learning in the beginning of the school year. She was shy and unsure of herself, but Roberts saw potential in the young student and took Ashley under her wing. "Ms. Roberts was the very first one that ever made me feel comfortable. She made me feel welcomed and invited me in without judgments," she said.

On being the recipient of the 2016 Barnes & Noble My Favorite Teacher award, Roberts said, "I'm overwhelmed. When you're doing your craft, you don't think that it will have such an impact; you're just being passionate about what you've been put

Continued on Page 9

Women of valor honored



First Lady, Sandra Granger, left and Sita Nagamootoo, wife of Prime Minister, Moses Nagamootoo sitting in front of honorees, - (in no particular order) Dr. Karen Godette, Guliana Jacobs, Bonita Montague, Elsa Kum, Joycelyn Wilson, JoAnne Williams-Carryl, Patricia Jordan-Langford, Lakshmee Singh, Paula Liverpool, and Abbess Shirley Beaton, with member, Ismay Griffith, president, Linda Felix-Johnson and Senator Roxanne Persaud.

Photo by Tangerine Clarke

By Tangerine Clarke

Guyana's First Lady Sandra Granger and Sita Nagamootoo, wife of Prime Minister Moses Nagamootoo, were guests of honor at the Women of Mission International (WOMI) empowerment Awards Gala on Friday, April 8 at the Glen Terrace, Brooklyn, where 10 Guyanese women of valor were honored.

The awardees included: Dr. Karen Godette, Guliana Jacobs, Bonita Montague, Elsa Kum, Joycelyn Wilson, JoAnne Williams-Carryl, Patricia Jordan-Langford, Lakshmee Singh, Paula Liverpool, Abbess Shirley Beaton.

During the outstanding evening of tributes, the 10 women were praised for their sterling contribution to Guyanese society, and presented with citations from Senator Roxanne Persaud, Community Service Certificates from Congresswoman Yvette Clarke's office, and award statues from Women of Mission International (WOMI).

The event, attended by Guyana's Consul General to New York Brentnold Evans, and CARICOM Ambassador to the United Nations Missouri Sherman Peters attracted a sold-out crowd of Caribbean nationals, who applauded First Lady Sandra Granger when she saluted the women for their grit, determination and achievements.

In her address to the women who came from a wide spectrum of professionalism Granger said, "These 10 women honored here tonight, came to a new land, found their purpose, and overcame many challenges to fulfill their destiny. Our lives are richer because of them, we are fortunate that they were true to their roots and never lost the essence of their "Caribbeaness," their "Guyaneness."

"I salute them for their dignity and fortitude. I thank the organizers for honoring our sisters in this lovely setting," said Mrs. Granger, recipient of the Danny Glover Power of Dream Award.

Granger told the audience that women have made great strides and achieved much, particularly during the 20th century, but added that women still have miles to go.

She said despite the struggles many Guyanese women face, they have access to education and certain rights according to the law, even though there is a gap between legislation and implementation. She adds that some women live in poverty, and single mothers in particular, struggle to put food on the table for their children.

She condemned the violence women face on a daily basis in Guyana, be it, physical, psychological or verbal, that sometimes lead to their death at the hands at their assailants or by their own hand, through despair, adding, "Our young girls are victims of sexual violence, incest, rape or trafficking."

Granger who, received a citation from Senator Roxanne Persaud, and accepted a Community Service Certificate from the office of Congresswoman Yvette Clarke, expressed concern for adolescent mothers in Guyana that leave school, and risk dying of maternal causes. To this end, she has established programs to combat poverty to improve the lives of young women, and the elderly.

"Women are strong, they believe in themselves, they set a path and follow it until they achieve their goals. I believe that each one of us has the power to change the world in which we live, regardless of race, creed, gender, age,

or social status. By finding our passion and pursing it with dedications, we will meet the goals we set for ourselves."

Nagamootoo while applauding the women for their significant achievements, compared the honorees to the female West Indian cricketers who she said, did not only win big, they also offered both leadership and inspiration for "our men who also won."

"Our women knew their purpose, which was to excel and win, they are the shining examples of success that we all could emulate."

In her eloquent presentation, Mrs. Nagamootoo said women no longer have to fight for their seat on the bus, Rosa Parks did that to become a gem of a good example, she demonstrated that our place is, and should always be upfront. Not only for women, all persons discriminated against, and dehumanized.

"In Guyana, I am proud to say that after a long fight women now occupy one-third of the seats of parliament, and several women ministers of our government, solicitors, judges, the chief magistrate are all women of worth and distinction," said Nagamootoo.

The prime minister's wife received loud applause when she praised the success of Guyana's local government elections which resulted in a female mayor of Georgetown, Mayor Patricia Chase-Greene, and other female elected deputy mayors of various regions.

"We could soar to the skies, if we are determined, and know our purpose," added Nagamootoo, who, was also presented with a Citation from Senator Roxanne Persaud, a Danny Glover Power of Dream Award and a Community Service Certificate from Congresswoman Yvette Clarke's office.



THE NEWS FROM BACK HOME

Caribbean

Cuba will host the seventh summit of the Association of Caribbean States (ACS) which will take place on June 4, 2016 in the capital, Havana.

This was revealed by the organization's Secretary General Alfonso

Munera who recently paid a working visit to the island. He met with Cuba's Foreign Minister Marcelino



Median on drafting the documents for the summit.

The two high-ranking officials addressed the performance of the ACS and the role of Cuba while chairing the Association's Council of Ministers, according to a statement from the Cuban Foreign Ministry.

During the 21st Meeting of the ACS Council of Ministers, held in January in Haiti, Cuba took up the pro-tempore presidency of the organization until 2017. The association comprises 25 member states and seven associated countries.

Antiqua

The Antigua and Barbuda Workers Union (ABWU) will be presenting both sides of the Privy Council / Caribbean Court of Justice (CCJ) debate to workers in a forum later this month.

Government has launched an ongoing public education campaign on the matter in March, but the union is

of the opinion that the campaign is "biased." Secretary Deputy General of the ABWU Chester Hughes said it



will be the first time that both sides of the debate will be presented because "we have seen government's organizing committee presenting only one side of the debate."

The forum the Workers Choice-Privy Council or the CCJ will be held on April 28 as part of the union's Labor Week celebration.

Former Attorney General Justin Simon QC, Attorney Kendrickson Kentich, former ABWU President Sir Keithlyn Smith and head of the newly formed lobby group CCJ Not Yet, Eles-



Dominica's tourism back on track

A man takes photos during his visit to Trafalgar Falls, outskirt from from Roseau, Dominica.

Associated Press / Arnulfo Franco

ton Adams are among the presenters at the debate.

Chairman of the National Coordinating Committee (NCC) charged with educating the public on the CCJ, Ambassador Dr. Clarence Henry has stated repeatedly he is satisfied that the campaign is providing citizens with arguments from both sides.

He also said previously it is not the responsibility of the committee to advocate on behalf of the London-based Privy Council.

Barbados

Barbados is seeking to further partner with Cuba in an effort to take advantage of emerging opportunities now that the country has re-establish diplomatic relations with the United States of America.

This was revealed when Industry Min-

ister Donville Inniss recently received a courtesy call from Cuba's Ambassador to Barbados Francisco Fernandez Pena.

The minister disclosed that from forging deeper economic relations

with Cuba, the Barbados government was also eager to engage robustly in trade and there were several



companies ready to do business with the Spanish-speaking island.

Come next month, Bank Breweries Limited would be shipping approximately one million cases of Banks Beer to Cuba.

Inniss said that early next month, a delegation comprising government and private officials would be traveling to Cuba to conduct a trade mission.

The minister told the Cuban ambassador that over the years, Cuba has

been committed to providing extensive technical assistance to Barbados, especially in the area of health care.

The two officials also spoke briefly about the upcoming Cuba International Tourism Fair set to take place in Havana.

Restorations of relations between Cuba and the United States were reinforced on March 21, when President Barack Obama became the first sitting U.S. president to visit since 1928.

Dominica

An International Monetary Fund (IMF) mission recently visited Dominica to conduct the 2016 Article IV consultation.

Following the mission which was led by Alejandro Guerson, the IMF issued a statement saying; "Tropical storm Erika Continued on Page 16

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ВQ

Transforming Barbados society

Continued from cover

the British colonial era of more than 400 years ago, argue that nothing has changed for them and they are still at the bottom of the economic and social ladder despite the fact that Afro leaders and political parties have run the country for the past 50 years since the island achieved independence back in 1966.

But as it prepares for massive jubilee celebrations in November, some of the more militant Afro Bajans are raising the race issue and reviewing the state of play 50 years after the island pulled down the Union Jack and hoisted its own national flag.

"The Barbados society in its current structure is not sustainable. There is, in Barbados, a division of labor which says that the black community will occupy and control the politics and the white elite will control the economy," University of the West Indies Vice-Chancellor Sir Hilary Beckles said at a public lecture this week.

"All of us as citizens of Barbados have to examine this model and transform it. It has to be transformed in order to fulfill the vision if our ancestors in General Bussa's time, General Greene



Sir Hilary Beckles (L) with the U.S. civil rights leader, the Rev. Jesse Jackson. Photo by Nelson A. King

and Clement Payne," he said referring to Barbadian heroes of the past.

To many blacks in Barbados, such words and observations coming from the mouth of Sir Hilary is significant. After all, Beckles is the man Caribbean trade group governments have chosen to lead the regional effort to make Britain and other European slave trading societies pay blacks millions in reparations for the horrors of the TransAtlantic slave trade.

Beckles has already addressed the British House of Commons and has detailed for them some of the findings of the research by various national reparations commissions about the effects of slavery on Caribbean societies.

US-Caribbean bond

Continued from cover

on outreach to the countries of the Caribbean and Diaspora communities in the U.S.

Engel and Ros-Lehtinen said the measure would also improve energy security, counter violence, and ramp up diplomacy, among other priority areas.

"While they are sometimes overlooked, the countries of the Caribbean are profoundly important to the United States, and particularly to the many Caribbean-American citizens in the United States," Engel said.

"With so many crises around the globe that demand U.S. attention, we can't lose sight of our long-term interests closer to home but should instead strengthen and expand ties with our Caribbean neighbors," he added. "This legislation makes it clear that Congress will prioritize U.S.–Caribbean relations for many years to come."

Ros-Lehtinen said she was "pleased" to join with Engel in introducing this "important bill.

"As someone who represents South Florida and a large number of individuals from the Caribbean Diaspora community, I'm well aware of the unique importance of the Caribbean and a strong U.S.-Caribbean relationship," she said. "Now that the Caribbean should be less dependent on a deteriorating Venezuelan economy, this bill will go a long way in improving those strategic relationships and show the region that the U.S. is redoubling its efforts to remain engaged in the Caribbean to enhance our diplomatic and economic ties.

"It's also more important now than ever that we increase coordination and cooperation on security related issues, especially in conjunction with our leaders at SOUTHCOM [Miami-based U.S. Southern Military Command]."

According to Engel and Ros-Lehtinen, the legislation would require the U.S. State Department and USAID to identify agency efforts to prioritize U.S. policy towards the Caribbean, outline an approach to broaden outreach to the Caribbean Diaspora community in the United States, and outline an approach to partner with governments of the Caribbean region to improve citizen security and reduce drug trafficking.

The bill would also establish a comprehensive, multi-year strategy to improve energy security and increase access to diverse, reliable, affordable and sustainable power; and outline an approach to improve diplomatic engagement with governments of the Caribbean region.

In addition, the congressional representatives said the legislation would also develop an approach to assisting Caribbean countries in the diversification of their economies.



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Growing concerns over Trinidadian ISIS fighters

By Azad Ali

The government of Trinidad and Tobago has confirmed that more than 100 men, women and children from that country had traveled to Syria to join the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) between 2013 and 2015 in addition to Trinidad and Tobago fighters fighting with the militant organization.

National Security Minister Edmund Dillion said the number includes about 40 children from 20 families, some as young as three years old, who could not have made the decision independently — and up to 16 years.

The minister is said to be looking at other countries besides those in which ISIS operates, such as Syria and Iraq. One group under scrutiny is Muslims who travel to Mecca for the annual pilgrimage, the Hajj.

Dillion said that while there are genuine pilgrims, they have to monitor all areas and look at all possibilities.

Last week Opposition MP Dr. Roodlal Moonilal, a former minister of housing in the former Kamala Persad-Bissessar administration told Parliament that about 400 Trinidad and Tobago nationals had been indoctrinated, radicalized and trained by ISIS. He described ISIS as the most significant security threat to Trinidad and Tobago.

Minister Dillon told a daily newspaper his blacklist contained 105 descriptions of men, women and children and names of those who have gone to Syria.

Attorney General Faris Al-Rawi said there are growing concerns of Trinidad



Attorney General Faris Al-Rawi news.gov.tt

and Tobago nationals being part of the ISIS operating in Trinidad and Tobago.

He said the government continues to explore legislation to stop nationals from returning to the country after serving in ISIS.

However, the AG said there is an issue of making sure that people who are caught in these circumstances are treated within the confines of the law and the Constitution.

Al-Rawi said people had multiple rights, one of which was a package of rights as a result of citizenship.

Dance teacher honored

Continued from page 3

on this earth to do. To see that manifest we stay connected.' Monique Campl

She also talked about how such an honor reaffirms that she is walking in her calling as an educator. "It definitely reinforces that for me because there are days when you will have to deal with kids who are defiant, but moments like these help me to say to myself 'hold steadfast' because someone looked out for me; someone created opportunities and an atmosphere for me to grow and succeed. I feel that this is the duty of not only educators, but also friends and family to help people be their best," said Roberts.

Roberts speaking on maintaining bonds with students, said, "It's funny, I always thought that I would be on Broadway, but I realized that I have a deeper calling to teach and to inspire. I would say that even when we think to go off track or drift apart, the Creator always has a way of bringing you back to your calling and the people who are important in your life. I believe that he's going to make sure that we stay connected."

Monique Campbell, principal of the School of Integrated Learning, has nothing but gratitude and admiration for Shola Roberts. "Think of how interesting it is that a dance teacher touches the life of a youngster. We're not talking about a math teacher or an ELA teacher. Here we have a dance teacher who is allowing our boys and girls to fly, to soar, to be themselves and embrace difference. Ms. Roberts provided that for Ashley. We thank her for showing what a teacher ought to be in a child's life," she said.

"I know that this is a relationship that is just not for today. I know that even when Ashley graduates, she will carry these small talks and moments shared with Ms. Roberts and I also know that she's not the only student; I know that if Ashley feels this way, that other young lives in the school are being touched molded and for this we are thankful," she added.

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OP-EDS

Unnoticed, we are close to destruction of our planet

By Roberto Savio

ROME, Apr 21, 2016 (IPS) On the 17th of April, Italians were called to vote in a national referendum, on the extension of licenses to extract petrol and gas from the seas. The government, the media and those in the economic circles, all took a position against the referendum, claiming that 2000 jobs were at a stake. The proponents of the referendum (among them five regions), lost. Italy is following a consistent trend, after the Summit on Climate Change (Paris December 2015), in which all countries (Italy included) took a solemn engagement to reduce emissions.

Two weeks after the Summit, the British Prime Minister took the initiative to extend the licenses to extract coal, explaining that 10.000 jobs were at stake. Then it was India's turn, to declare that licenses for coal powered stations would be increased, as the development of the country comes before protection of the environment.

On this, the Polish government declared that it had no intentions to reduce the use of Polish coal, in the short term. Then Hungary made a similar statement about its use of fossil energy.

Meanwhile, no significant initiative for emission's control has been announced after Paris. And all the Republican

candidates have announced that, once installed in the White House, they will declare null and void the agreements reached in Paris, where Obama played a crucial role. In fact, several Republican initiatives are seeking Supreme Court cancellation of measures taken by the administration to limit pollutions. And with different accents, all the xenophobe and right wing parties which are emerging everywhere in Europe, have indicated that they do not consider the Paris agreement as a priority in their agenda.

The main criticism of the scientific community, on the Paris agreements, was that while the accepted goal was to limit the increase of the global temperature to 2 degrees, compared with that of the beginning of the industrial revolution (while accepting that 1.5 degrees would have been an adequate target), in reality the sum total of all individual targets freely established by the countries, was coming to at least 3.5 degrees.

The idea was that with further negotiations, the target of 2 degrees would finally emerge, also thanks to new technologies. Now, an equally crucial flaw is emerging. No control of implementation of the agreement will take place before 2030. Until then, each country is responsible for implement-Continued on Page 12

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Panama, secrecy and tax havens

By Jomo Kwame Sundaram

Jomo Kwame Sundaram was United Nations assistant secretary-general for Economic Development, and received the Wassily Leontief Prize for Advancing the Frontiers of Economic Thought in 2007.

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia, April 22, 2016 (IPS) -Unlike Wikileaks' exposes, the recent Panama revelations were quite selective, targeted, edited and carefully managed. Most observers attribute this to the political agendas of its mainly American funders. Nevertheless, the revelations have highlighted some problems associated with illicit financial flows, as well as tax evasion and avoidance, including the role of enabling governments, legislation, legal and accounting firms as well as shell companies.

The political tremors generated by the edited release of 1.1 million documents were swift. Nobody expected Iceland's prime minister to resign in less than 48 hours, or that the British prime minister would publicly admit that he had benefited from the hidden wealth earned from an opaque offshore company of his late father.

Panama Papers

The Panama documents are from the law firm Mossack Fonseca, which has worked with some of the world's biggest banks including HSBC, Société Générale, Credit Suisse, UBS and Commerzbank to set up 210,000 legal entities, often to circumvent tax and law enforcement Oxfam revealed that the top 50 US companies have stashed US\$1.38 trillion offshore to minimize US tax exposure.

authorities worldwide. Just one law firm in Panama is still the tip of a massive iceberg hidden from public view as many such firms in other locations provide similar services.

High net-worth individuals and corporations thus secure a far greater ability to evade taxes by paying tax advisers, lawyers and accountants. Not surprisinglv. Mossack Fonseca insists it has never been accused or charged in connection with criminal wrongdoing, only underscoring that Panama's financial regulators, police, judiciary and political system are part of the system. Similarly, many clients of such firms claim that they have not violated national and international regulations.

'Offshore' Tax Havens

Total global wealth was estimated by a 2012 Tax Justice Network (TJN) USA report at US\$231 trillion in mid-2011, roughly 3.5 times global GDP of US\$65 trillion in 2011. It conservatively estimated that US\$21 to US\$32 trillion of hidden and stolen wealth has been stashed secretly, 'virtually tax-free', in more than 80 secret jurisdictions, with two thirds in the European Union, and a third in UKlinked sites.

After the Panama Papers leak, Oxfam revealed that the top 50 US companies have stashed US\$1.38 trillion offshore to minimize US tax exposure. The 50 companies are estimated to have earned some US\$4 trillion in profits across the world between 2008 and 2014, but have only paid 26.5 per cent of that in US tax.

More so now than ever before, the term 'offshore' for tax havens refers less to physical locations than to virtual ones, often involving "networks of legal and quasi-legal entities and arrangements". Private banking 'money managers' provide all needed services to facilitate such practices, making fortunes for themselves in doing so. Thousands of shell banks and insurers, 3.5 million paper companies, more than half the world's registered commercial ships over 100 tons, and tens of thousands of 'shell' subsidiaries of giant global banks, accounting firms and various other companies operate from such locations.

Reforming Tax Havens?

In recent years, the global tax-haven landscape has shifted under increased public scrutiny. The OECD (Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development) club of rich nations has been developing a global transparency initiative but Panama is refusing to participate seriously, with the OECD tax chief calling it a jurisdiction "that welcomes crooks and money launderers".

To get on the OECD's list of approved jurisdictions, Continued on Page 12

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

Open primaries mean system manipulation

We raised here recently the issue of national parties in the U.S. being organized and run in a manner that leaves us mystified as to whether "national" leadership of the country's two dominant parties really does exist. The riddle seems to have come front and center this year among Republicans, with so many of them who conceivably are of "leadership" rank having been at odds with where the party's formal leadership apparatus, the national committee, has taken them in the search for a presidential nominee. How the parties function was a storyline out of last week's New York Democratic primary as well, the issue there being who could and could not cast a vote.

The decentralized format that has been standard for both parties no doubt has its advantages. The idea of power to make their own rules being in large measure reposed in state party organizations has probably worked to the satisfaction of most...until perhaps a situation arises —like Donald Trump as presumptive

GOP nominee — that engenders second-guessing about the nomination process. And questions from critics about why the "leadership" didn't move preemptively against what they see as an impending Trump train wreck.

The hue and cry last week with respect to New York Democrats was an altogether different one, involving folks being denied the chance to vote. The bigger headlines centered on a purge of the voter rolls in Brooklyn that inadvertently made many thousands of voters ineligible – a more or less indefensible faux pas for which one electoral office figure promptly found herself skating on thin ice. But of more relevance to how the

Democratic Party conducts its affairs, there was an uproar among some independent voters because of their not being allowed to vote in the Democratic primary. To which the only question we would pose is: Why is this an issue?

The rules governing voting which state party organizations craft for themselves are



probably the area most susceptible to overreach by those in whom this power is vested. It would be no surprise, for instance, that objective observers found the concept of open primaries somewhat of a head-scratcher. We have difficulty assessing the notion of permitting Republicans to vote in a Democratic primary or vice versa as anything but a perversion of what the democratic ideal is intended to be.

Yet, there are a number of states where this is permitted. If there's some rationale behind the whole business of having citizens register as members of a given party, surely the greater part of it is according persons who are affiliated with a particular party the right to select who gets to represent the party in a presidential or other election. If that foremost right of party affiliation is watered down by

having non-party members also participate in candidate selection, the party registration routine would seem to be mere sham. Really, what's the point of being a registered Democrat or Republican if there remains an open door to manipulation of the candidate selection process by persons who aren't declared party members?

An eye toward manipulating the system is precisely what constituted the pushback against those independents and the Bernie Sanders campaign folk who cried foul when many independents found themselves shut out of the Democratic primary. There appeared, in truth, to be no calculated attempt to sideline independents from the process, more a case of many independents not adhering, innocently or otherwise, to the Democratic Party's stipulations for changing party affiliation. As surely as it is any voter's prerogative to switch political affiliation, so is it that voter's responsibility to observe the guidelines set, in this case by the New York

Democratic organization, for becoming a registered Democrat and being eligible to vote in last week's primary. Sanders supporters who, thinking his nomination chase with Hillary Clinton was becoming more of a duel than earlier imagined, sought to switch beyond the designated deadline, had only themselves to blame. Not that it mattered anyway, given Clinton's eventual margin of victory.

But the convoluted landscape, as far as how the election process is handled in the states, seems to make the case for looking anew at the need for a true central authority in our so-called national parties, the better to attempt a streamlining of how elections are done.

Is it good enough that there be a "Do your own thing" message to the states in so important a piece of the democratic fabric as election ground rules? Alas, given the lay of this land, smart wagering points to most of the players thinking the status quo to be just fine.





Need to cut emissions now

Continued from page 10

ing its target, and also for checking the implementation of its commitment.

It would have been interesting to see a similar philosophy, adopted on tax levels. Every citizen could decide how much tax he or she pledges to pay, and be responsible until 2030 to check that this engagement or commitment is met. Then only in 2030, mechanisms of verification would fall in place. And those mechanisms would bear no enforcements or penalties. They would only indicate public shaming of those who did not keep their engagements.

Of course, the fact that industrialized countries, like Italy and United Kingdom, far from reducing sources of pollution, is not a good example for developing countries, who are now coming into industrialization, and have to limit their emissions because since early 19th century industrialized countries have been polluting the world.

In fact, subsidies to the fossil industries, according to the World Bank, run now at 88 billion dollars per year. According to a report from the Overseas Development Institute G20 countries spend more than twice of what the top 20 private companies are spending on finding new reserves of oil, gas and coal, and do so with public money. Meanwhile, the Fund for helping underdeveloped countries to adopt new technologies, established at 100 billion in Paris, has yet to be completed. Of course a check up is due by 2030.

Well, every week we receive alarming data on how the climate is deteriorating much faster than we thought. I am not talking about the uninterrupted news on natural catastrophes. I am talking about the alarming cries by the scientific community from all over the world.

The National Centre for Climate Restoration from Australia has published a sort of summary about all those calls, in an alarming report by Prof. Kevin Andersen of the UK Tyndall Centre for Climate Change in which it says:

...According to new data released by the U.S. National Oceanic and Atmosphere Administration, measurements taken at the Marina Loa Observatory in Hawaii show that carbon dioxide (CO2) concentration jumped by 3.08 parts per million (ppm) during 2015, the largest year-to- year increase in 56 years of research. 2015 was the fourth consecutive year that CO2 grew more than 2ppm. Scientist say that they are shocked and stunned by the "unprecedented NASA temperature figures for February 2016, which are 1.65"C higher than the beginning of the nineteen century and around 1.9"C warmer than the pre-industrial level.....

This means, according to Prof. Michael Mann "we have no carbon budget left for the 1.5 degrees target and the opportunity for holding the 2 degrees is rapidly fading unless the world starts cutting emissions rapidly and right now. The current el Niño conditions have contributed to the record figures, but compared to previous big El Niños, we are experimenting blowout temperatures." For a glimpse into what lies in our future, we have only to look at Venezuela, where now public offices work three days per week to cut water and power usage.

Int'l cooperation on taxation

Continued from page 10

almost 100 countries and other jurisdictions have imposed minimal disclosure requirements. Hence, subject to certain conditions, the Swiss government allows information-sharing about illegal or unauthorized deposits with other countries. Consequently, the flows have moved to new destinations.

Panama, US exceptions

Only a handful of nations have declined to sign on. After all, many countries and institutions actively enable—and profit handsomely from—the theft of massive funds from developing countries. The most prominent is the US. Rothschild, the centuries-old European financial institution, is now moving the fortunes of wealthy foreign clients out of offshore havens subject to the new international disclosure requirements, to Rothschildrun trusts in Nevada, which are exempt. As Panama is another, a large number of accounts have been moving there as well from other signatory tax havens.

The U.S. does not accept a lot of international standards, and can get away with it because of its economic and political clout, but is probably the only country that can continue to do that. To its own advantage, the US has taken steps to keep track of American assets abroad, but not of foreign assets in the U.S. In his 5 April speech, following the US Treasury's crackdown on corporate tax 'inversions', U.S. President Obama criticized 'poorly designed' laws for allowing illicit money transfers worldwide, and noted that "Tax avoidance is a big, global problem...a lot of it is legal, but that's exactly the problem".

Following the Panama revelations, most Western government leaders have pledged tough action against tax evasion and avoidance, especially from developing country locations. But since they receive most of the funds in the tax havens in the world, the OECD has limited its efforts.

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Usain Bolt joins PAHO to promote vaccination

By Nelson A. King

The Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) says Jamaican track superstar Usain Bolt has joined the Washingtonbased organization in a campaign to raise awareness of the importance of vaccination in protecting health and preventing disease.

PAHO said on Wednesday that the six-time Olympic gold medalist and 11-time world champion

"Vaccination is one of the most effective means we have to protect the health of children as well as adults."

sprinter appears on posters and in a public service announcement (PSA) encouraging people to get vaccinated.

The PSA, posted on Vimeo, and posters are part of PAHO's 14th annual Vaccination Week in the Americas campaign, which highlights the life-saving benefits of vaccines.

PAHO said countries throughout the Americas, including

those in the Caribbean, celebrate Vaccination Week each year with activities focused on reaching populations who lack regular access to health services.

"Being the best athlete I can means staying healthy - including keeping up to date on my vaccines," Bolt says in a social media post for the campaign.

In the PSA, he says "I'm up to date on my vaccines. Are you?" urging viewers to "Go for the gold" and get vaccinated.

PAHO said "Go for the gold - Get vaccinated!" is the campaign slogan for this year's Vaccination Week in the Americas, which takes place from April 23 to 30. It references the upcoming 2016 summer Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro, in which Bolt is scheduled to compete.

"Vaccination is one of the most effective means we have to protect the health of children as well as adults," said PAHO Director Carissa F. Etienne.

"Having a world-class champion like Mr. Bolt supporting our campaign will help us reach more people with information on the benefits of vaccination and for that, we are enormously grateful," she added.



Workers display posters with Usain Bolt image for PAHO's "Go for the gold! Get vaccinated!" campaign.



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CARIBBEAN ROUNDUP

Continued from page 4

hit the Dominica economy hard. Output is estimated to have declined by 3.9 percent in 2015 as a result of the storm.

Tourism activities have largely normalized following the resumption of full operations at the main airport, and visitor

arrivals showed some recovery. Other sectors will likely need more time to be fully restored."

"Notwithstanding weak exports of agriculture and tourism, the 2015 current account deficit remained contained at an estimate of 9.4 percent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) on the back of lower oil import," it states.

The statement added in part, "the government should continue with its plan to adopt the reforms needed to support the recovery process and to ensure fiscal sustainability. The measures already identified are appropriate and consistent with the commitments which include further re-prioritization of public investment, wage restraint, a gradual unwinding of storm-related social assistance with the regional debt target commitment."

Guyana

Guyana is taking steps towards dealing with the high rate of suicides with President David Granger saying "the time for mourning suicides has passed".

He told a National Stakeholders Con-

ference on Suicide Prevention recently that it was imperative Guyana implement measures aimed at reversing the

high rate of suicides in the South American country.

Official figures show that in 2014, there were 97 suicides — a decrease on the 128 recorded in 2013.

Last year, 89 suicides were reported and there have been several cases so far for this year.

The president said he was disturbed about the high rate of suicide as any other Guyanese.

Granger said that Guyana had to do away with the label that it is the "suicide capital of the world."

He reiterated a call for extensive research to be conducted to determine the reason for the high rate of suicides in this CARICOM country saying that suicide is usually premediated and not hastily or thoughtlessly done. The World Health Organization (WHO) says Guyana has a suicide rate four times the global average, ahead of North Korea, South Korea, and Sri Lanka.

Grenada

Prime Minister Dr. Keith Mitchell will formally open an International Conference on The Indian Diaspora in Grenada and the Wider Caribbean at the end of this month.

The conference will run from April 29 to May 1, to commemorate the arrival of East Indians in Grenada on



Indo-Caribbean Cultural Center Co Ltd (ICC), Indian Cul-

tural Organization (Grenada) Inc. and the Indo-Caribbean Heritage Foundation (IHF)



are organizing the conference with support from Belmont Estate Group of Companies and the High Commission of India to Trinidad and Tobago.

May 1 has been official recognized by the government since 2009 as Indian Arrival Day.

On that historic day, the Maidstone docked at Irwin's Bay in St. Patrick's with 287 passengers who were brought as indentured laborers to replace the emancipated African slaves.

In this African-dominated society, Indians now comprise 2 percent (1,700) of the total population of 105,900 persons in Grenada.

Race relations continue to be harmonious to the extent that the rate of inter-racial marriages in Grenada is the highest in the Caribbean.

St. Lucia

St. Lucia Prime Minister Dr. Kenny Anthony has welcomed

a decision by the Trinidad-based Caribbean Grains Flour Mill to establish a facility in the



south of the island, saying it would provide significant employment for residents in the area.

Dr. Anthony, who recently toured the facility, said it is a major boost for the south of the island saying it is a good investment because of the job opportunities.

He said over the years, successive governments have had the challenge of dealing with unemployment in Vieux Fort, which he represents in Parliament. The prime minister said most of the factories located there have been closed and moved overseas claiming the high cost of operations in St. Lucia.

He said the facility, which is expected to provide employment for about 100 people, once fully operational would make the island self-sufficient in flour.

The flour mill is expected to be fully operational by November this year.

Suriname

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has reached an agreement with the Suriname authorities for a two-year standby arrangement for approximately US\$478 million.

The IMF team led by Daniel Leigh recently visited Paramaribo for discussions



consider the proposed financing arrangement in early May.

"Suriname is facing challenging conditions in the near term, caused largely by the sharp decline in the international prices of its commodity.

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Sign painter beautifies Georgetown for jubilee

By Tangerine Clarke

Sign painter, Andrew Allen was born in Georgetown 50 years ago, the exact year Guyana attained independence from Great Britain in 1966. So in a fitting tribute to the land of his birth and the Golden Jubilee, the painter said he wants to make a contribution and is calling on the Guyana government to commission him to paint murals for the upcoming week of celebration.

Just recently, Allen, a painter for the past 18 years told Caribbean Life, that he noticed two bridge walls on D'Urban Street in the capital city were being spruced up with a coat of white paint, as such, he immediately volunteered his skills by making the walls his blank canvas.

He was observed painting the Golden Jubilee logo, which depicts the head of Guyana's endangered leopard, encircled by the number 50, and trimmed with colors that represent the country.

Allen sat on a carton box on the corner and weaved his brush strokes to complete his masterpiece.

A resident of Stevedore



Painter Andrew Allen adds the finishing touches to Guyana's 50th Jubilee logo on a bridge wall in Georgetown.

Ruimveldt area of Georgetown, Allen paints in his community and is commissioned to create sign boards, banners, or 50th Jubilee emblem because murals, for which he charg- it is significant to him as he

(USD\$50.00).

The soft-spoken man said he felt compelled to paint the

Housing Scheme in the North es a small fee of GUY\$50,000 was born the same year Guyana became independent. He also loves his country and has the opportunity to do his part to beautify the city.

"This makes me feel good,"

he added.

"I would like to participate in the celebrations, and especially participate in GuyExpo 2016," said the painter, who added that the government does not know that he volunteered his time to etch the logo on the walls of the bridge on the busy thoroughfare.

Allen is enthusiastic and excited about showcasing his painting skill, and what better place to do so than around Georgetown where the decorating and planning for the 50th Jubilee are at a fever pitch.

Allen says he is awaiting that important call to his phone from organizers so that his talents could be used.

In addition to GuyExpo 2016 which will be held from May 12 - 15 at the Sophia Convention Center, Guyana will hold a National Flag Raising Ceremony on May 25 at new Durban Jubilee Park, Georgetown, and a Jubilee Float parade along Guyana's historic Brickdam roadway, on May 26.

To learn more about upcoming Golden Jubilee events, log on to www.50guyana.com.

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Queen Elizabeth II reigns at 90

By Vinette K. Pryce

A purple inscribed letter addressed to all the people of England, Scotland, Wales and Northern invited an April 21 public celebration of the 90th birthday of the queen of the commonwealth.

Designed and colored in the color designated for royalty, the be-jeweled crown, the Union Jack, and a purple silhouette of Queen Elizabeth II draped and sashed by the date of her birth to the present - 1926- 2016 extended an open invitation that read in purple: "It will be a birthday party fit for queen."

Britain's Queen Elizabeth is now a nanogenarian and showing no signs of slowing down.

She celebrated 90 years on earth and managed a full calendar of activities to mark the historic occasion.

On her birthday she was greeted by cheering crowds that lined the streets in Windsor as she walked throughout the streets. Later she lit the first of more than 900 beacons lighting up across the UK and overseas as part of her 90th birthday celebrations.

At the lighting of the bea-

con, her eldest son Prince Charles said:"I find it very hard to believe that you've reached your 90th year and I suddenly realized the other day that I have known you since you were 22 years old.

"But this, ladies and gentleman, is a very special occasion and this beacon that her majesty is about to light will also represent - as it lights other beacons across the nation- the love and affection with which you are held throughout this country and the Commonwealth.

"So can we wish your majesty a special and the most happiest of birthdays on this occasion."

Members of the army cadet force took beacons to the top of the highest peaks of England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland to mark the occasion.

Some of the beacons are specially built gas-fuelled structures, while others are traditional bonfires or braziers on top of tall wooden posts.

Royal gun salutes were fired from each of the UK's capital cities as the queen met crowds of well-wishers in Windsor.

The monarch joined her husband, Prince Philip, her son the sion in the House of Com-

Prince of Wales and his wife the Duchess of Cornwall at a private dinner in Windsor Castle afterwards.

Still in her prime she took to social media posting on Twitter, a thanks to her many well wishers who had sent tweets saying "#HappyBirthdayYourMajesty."

"I send my best wishes to those who are celebrating their 90th birthday... on this shared occasion, I send my warm congratulations to you."

The Queen, who was accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh, was presented with a birthday cake at the Guildhall by the Great British Bake Off champion Nadiya Hussain.

On her celebrated day she also unveiled a plaque marking The Queen's Walkway — a trail that links 63 significant points in Windsor.

The trail was designed to recognize the moment last Sept. 9 when the monarch broke the record held by her great, great, grandmother Queen Victoria who occupied the throne for 63 years and seven months.

Prime Minister David Cameron paid tribute to the occa-

Britain's Queen Elizabeth II cuts into a birthday cake baked by Nadiya Hussain, left, winner of the Great British Bake Off, during celebrations of her 90th birthday in Windsor, England, Thursday April 21, 2016.

John Stillwell / Pool via Associated Press

mons saying she was "a rock of strength for our nation" and the commonwealth.

PM Cameron said: "Her Majesty The Queen has lived through some extraordinary times in our world. From the Second World War... to the rations with which she bought the material for her wedding dress. From presenting the World Cup to England at Wembley Stadium in 1966, to man landing on the moon three years later. From the end of the Cold War to peace in Northern Ireland throughout it all, as the sands of culture shift and the tides of politics ebb and flow, Her Majesty has been steadfast — a rock of strength for our nation, for our Commonwealth and on many occasions for the whole world."

To coincide with the queen's birthday, the largest exhibition of her clothes and accessories ever shown in Scotland opened at the Palace of Holyrood House.



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Avoid risk factors and reduce cancer risk

No one is immune to cancer, a disease so prevalent the World Health Organization estimates it will claim more than eight million lives across the globe in 2015 alone. While even the healthiest man, woman, or child can get cancer, there are steps everyone can take to lower their risk of developing the disease.

According to the National Cancer Institute, reducing your exposure to avoidable risk factors may lower your risk for certain cancers. Some risk factors for cancer, such as age, cannot be avoided. However, the following are some that you have control over, and avoiding these might help you lower your risk for developing certain cancers:

Alcohol

The Institute notes that drinking alcohol can increase your risk of developing cancers of the mouth, throat, esophagus, larynx, liver, and breast. The more alcohol a person consumes, the greater that person's risk of developing cancer becomes. And that risk only increases when alcohol consumption is combined with tobacco use.

When consuming alcohol, follow the Dietary Guidelines for Americans established by the federal government. These guidelines define moderate alcohol consumption as one drink per day for women and two drinks per day for men.

Obesity

Maintaining a healthy weight and taking steps to avoid obesity can help people reduce their risk for several cancers. According to the Institute, people who are obese have an increased risk for cancers of the breast (among women who have been through menopause), colon, rectum, endometrium, esophagus, kidney, pancreas, and gallbladder.

Keep skin healthy by knowing sunscreen facts

The best way to care for skin is to be smart about sun exposure. Too much unprotected exposure to the sun can cause a host of problems, from premature wrinkling to skin cancer.

According to the American Academy of Dermatology, millions of cases of skin cancer are reported each year, and many more may go undetected. The best way to protect skin from the sun is to stay out of the sun. When that is not feasible, using a broad-spectrum sunscreen can guard against damage from ultraviolet radiation.

Although sunscreen is an enormous help, it is not foolproof. Sunburns and skin damage can occur even when using sunscreen, and user error accounts for much of that damage. To get the best results from any sunscreen product, consumers can educate themselves about proper application and avoid certain information inaccuracies.

Myth: The best sunscreen is the one with the highest sun protection factor, or SPF.

Truth: Actually, the best sunscreen is the one you will use regularly. Make sure you like the scent and the feel of the sunscreen. Decide if you prefer a sunscreen that is grouped together with a moisturizer or a makeup foundation. Try sunscreens that are lotions or sticks to figure out which application works best for you. Once you've found a product you like, stick with it. But make sure the sunscreen has an adequate SPF.

Myth: I only need sunscreen on sunny days.

Truth: The sun can prove harmful even on cloudy days. You may not be safe indoors, either, particularly if you spend a good deal of time next to an open window. Window glass will only block certain types of ultraviolet light, making sunburn possible even if you are indoors or riding in a car. It's a good habit to apply sunscreen daily regardless of if you will be out in the sun.

Myth: Spray sunscreens are as effective as the rest.

Truth: Spray products may not deliver enough sunscreen to the skin because droplets are dispersed unevenly. Furthermore, the propellents used in spray sunscreens could be harmful if inhaled. Opt for sunscreens that are applied by hand and can be adequately coated over all areas of the skin.



Myth: Sunscreen does not need to be reapplied, especially if it's water-resistant.

Truth: There is no such thing as a waterproof sunscreen. The Food and Drug Administration recently prohibited the use of the term "waterproof" because consumers falsely believed their sunscreen products would not wash off. Water-resistant sunscreens will be effective for a certain number of minutes before they need to be reapplied, usually between 40 to 90

ΒQ

minutes. If you have been sweating profusely or have been in the pool or ocean for awhile, play it safe and reapply often.

Myth: A little drop of sunscreen is all that's needed.

Truth: Many people are applying far too little sunscreen to protect themselves from the sun. The average person needs about an ounce of lotion to cover his or her entire body. Think about the size of a shot glass and use that amount.

Caribbean Life, April 29-May 5, 2016 23

Dr. Alan P. Goldman: Treating And Relieving Arthritis Pain

There are a lot of people suffering with joint pain and arthritis, says **Dr. Alan P. Goldman,** a specialist in rheumatology (130 Brighton Beach Avenue, 718-946-7557), and they often believe that there is little that can be done to alleviate their pain.

They are wrong. There are many options available, Dr. Goldman says; the key is finding a physician who is knowledgeable in those treatment modalities.

As a rheumatologist, Dr. Goldman specializes in the treatment of arthritis; one of only a handful practicing in Brooklyn.

Rheumatoid arthritis is an inflammatory illness that causes joints to swell. Symptoms include morning stiffness and swelling, often in the hands, elbows, or wrists, he says. Perhaps because there are so few rheumatologists in the borough, when people experience these symptoms, they often "see a surgeon first," says Dr. Goldman. But this often doesn't make much sense, he explains.

"When you have stomach pains, you don't go to a surgeon before seeing a gastroenterologist," he explains. "When you have chest pains, you don't see a surgeon before seeing a cardiologist."

A surgeon is the expert to see when surgery is needed, he notes, and of course Dr. Goldman refers patients to surgeons when necessary. Still, Dr. Goldman believes that the majority of people who suffer with arthritis can be treated without surgery. Even those who suffer

There are a lot of peoe suffering with joint ain and arthritis, says r. Alan P. Goldman, a becialist in rheumatolbecialist in rheumatol-

> Patients receive these treatments once every few months, and people who previously couldn't move well find that the "benefits are tremendous," he says. Those whose symptoms are less severe may find relief with pills or injections. This method has been used successfully for many years, says Dr. Goldman. And, "It still works."

> When patients see Dr. Goldman they are assured of receiving expert evaluations. Dr. Goldman's office offers x-rays, and a number of in-office treatment procedures. Should patients need physical therapy, arrangements can be made for this, as well.

Dr. Goldman also recommends that people age 60 or older come in to be checked for osteoporosis. People who are thin or who smoke are especially at risk, he notes.

Dr. Goldman is a Harvard graduate who has studied at Bellevue Hospital-New York University Medical Center and Gouverneur Hospital in Manhattan. He is on staff at the New York Methodist Hospital, and he is a Fellow of the American College of Rheumatology, as well as a member of the American College of Physicians, Nassau County Medical Society, the New York State Medical Society, American Medical Association, and the New York

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BBB

Trying new things can also be fun

BOOK REVIEW

"Little Shaq Takes a Chance" by Shaquille O'Neal, illustrated by Theodore Taylor III c.2016, Bloomsbury Children's Books \$9.99 / \$10.99 Canada 74 pages

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

"Here, try this."

Ugh. That's advice you almost never take because you hate new things. You know what you like, you know what you don't - and there are plenty of things that fall into the last category. But, as in the new book "Little Shaq Takes a Chance" by Shaquille O'Neal, illustrated by Theodore Taylor III, unless you try something, how do you know for sure?

Little Shaq loved his mother's cooking, so when he and his cousin, Barry, came home from the rec center and Little Shaq's mom promised something good for supper, Little Shaq was almost drooling.

Man, Mom's cooking was the hest!

eagerly, stomachs growling, as Little Shaq's mom carried in a plate full of rolled-up things! Sushi!

Little Shaq had never had sushi, but he was sure he wouldn't like it. It wasn't cooked and he had to eat it with two sticks. There was no way he was going to do that, so he had peanut butter sandwiches that night for supper.

The next day at school, Ms. Terpenny reminded Little Shaq and his classmates about the upcoming Art Show. It was going to be really fun! She spread lots of art materials on a table in the classroom and said that the theme for the show was "What We Love."

Little Shaq's friend, Aubrey, drew a picture of her dog.

His other friend, Rosa, made a portrait of her kitten.

Little Shaq's crayon drawing of a basketball looked more like an orange. This wouldn't be easy. Little Shaq hated art; though his Everyone was hungry at the friends were really talented, he

table that night. They all waited didn't think he was any good at it. There was no way he was going to do it, even though his mom always said to "keep an open mind."

> But then, he got an idea. Little Shaq was a natural at basketball. Maybe he'd be a natural at something else, too...

I don't wanna. I can't. I won't. You say those things all the

time to yourself and you hear them often from your kids. Nei-ther of you "wannas" because change is hard, but "Little Shaq Takes a Chance" shows that trying new things can also be fun.

Using a story-within-a-story method and characters from his last book, author Shaquille O'Neal not just up, but inside. O'Neal's young namesake and title character is hip and funny - illustrations by Theodore Taylor III made me laugh — but Little Shaq shows a surprising lack of confidence in this book. He works things out, of course, and gets his old swagger back — and in the meantime, your kids will get a lesson-not-lesson to learn.



Shaquille O'Neal author of "Little Shaq Takes a Chance."







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No 2 trains between Flatbush Av and Franklin Av

Free shuttle buses provide alternate service

3 service ends earlier in Brooklyn, take the **2** or **4** instead

2 service operates between 241 St and the Utica Av **4** station, the last stop

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- 2 trains make all 3 station stops between Chambers St and Utica Av.
- ④ trains make all ③ station stops between Nevins St and New Lots Av. Service to New Lots Av starts early.
- Transfer between 2 and 4 trains at Utica Av.
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Call 511 and say "Current Service Status," look for informational posters in stations, or visit **mta.info** – where you can access the latest Planned Service Changes information, use TripPlanner⁺, and sign up for free email and text alerts.

####FASTRACK

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A musical 'Prince' has passed away

Purple reigns....and purple rains.

The royal color painted a swath across the nation and in England with good and bad news that at age 90 in England, Queen Elizabeth II became the longest-reigning British monarch and here Prince Rogers Nelson passed away at age 57.

It rained in Minneapolis on April 21 when Nelson AKA Prince, a native son died there.

The ironic weather phenom coincided with the tragic passing of a legend who grew up in that city, never left and in his lifetime infused the economy there and forced the whole world to tune into the Minneapolis sound.

To residents of that city, Prince was king.

Throughout the music industry, entertainment world and most of the United States, Prince was best known for his musicianship and for embracing the color purple.

He chose the one from a rainbow as the one he and most royals identify.

Prince wore the color with style and fashion and in his first starring movie role — "Purple



velvet outfit.

Inside Life By Vinette K. Pryce

Rain" colored the big screen riding on a purple motorcycle and during promotional congenius. certs strummed on a purple guitar while wearing a purple

That was four decades ago. Since making his debut

in 1978 at age 17, Prince has remained relevant to music lovers and was in the middle of a tour when he died at age 57.

Sold-out in all venues, he was not touring as a vintage artist, Prince managed to command large audiences through the decades. He was not billed to reprise nostalgic music he was actually on the road performing current recordings.

Prince recorded 39 studio albums, played 27 instruments and his sudden death shocked the universe.

How he died is still a mystery, but how he lived is being interpreted and reinterpreted by media pundits — many of whom may not have seen the likes of such a transformative

Rev. Alfred Sharpton said on MSNBC's day-long tribute that Prince was a Civil Rights advocate. A very private individual, Sharpton said Prince opened his checkbook to help the family of Trayvon Martin after the teenager was gunned in Florida.

Sharpton said he did not want the news to go public and did not even want the teenager's mother to know that he had given to the cause.

He also donated millions to the Uptown Dance Factory and helped needy individuals throughout the nation.

That he actively campaigned with the Black Lives Matter movement, performed a concert in Baltimore to bring attention to the police killing of Freddy Gray, shared a treasured friendship with actor / human rights activist Harry Belafonte, helped



Prince performs during the 46th Annual Grammy Awards in a Los Angeles, Ca. file photo from Feb. 8, 2004. The "Purple Rain" singer was honored with the 2005 NAACP Vanguard Award in a Los Angeles ceremony.

Associated Press / Kevork Djansezian, File

to fund Spike Lee's "Malcolm X" movie when richer, more prominent Black stars refused and advocated for gender equality long before many politicians

claimed their concern are just a fraction of the storied life of a musical visionary generations revered as Prince.

Catch You On The Inside!





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Colby Christina (right) as 'Emma' with Sandy Wills.

Sandy Wills' story

Author, Speaker and Veteran Television Journalist Cheryl Wills from NY1 News is telling the powerful story about her enslaved ancestor who fought for his freedom as a soldier during The Civil War. Her great, great, great grandfather was the amazing Sandy Wills. In a never seen before magnificent children's book based on documented facts, we learn that her beloved father, Clarence Wills, a firefighter with the NYFD Engine 1 in Manhattan, New York left his wife and children. Shortly

Continued on Page 34

Bites & art

Visual artist Fudd, known for his contemporary abstract paintings with a gritty urban influence and Chef Nina B. are presenting their inaugural event, The House that Art Built a gallery exhibition combining food and art on April 30 at The Living Gallery located in Bushwick, Brooklyn.

The House that Art Built, is a collaborative effort highlighting the more than 20 paintings by Fudd and the epicurean delights by Chef Nina, who are both self-taught in their respectable fields as well as born and raised in Brooklyn.

The evocative and colorful journey will be interactive for attendees as Fudd will be live painting and utilizing the gallery and attendees as his motivation. Chef Nina B. has curated a menu

Continued on Page 34



The Afri-Garifuna Jazz Ensemble and organizers from Casita Maria Center for Arts & Education pose on the Alexander Ave. stoop. Photo by Tequila Minsky

Garifuna music comes to South Bronx

By Tequila Minsky

It was a glorious spring afternoon. The Alexander Avenue stoop in the historic Mott Haven section of the Bronx provided a multi-level staging area for the Afri-Garifuna Jazz Ensemble's music that brought traditional jazz mixed with Garifuna music to this South Bronx neighborhood. The ensemble aims to bring awareness to the endangered language of the Garifuna people through iazz music.

and culture is part of the month-long Hilliard Greene on bass were in the South Bronx Culture Trail Fusion Fest 2016, which runs until May 22. Held in many venues in the South Bronx, this cultural program bills itself as a festival held on "stoops, roofs and in nooks."

On this stoop, Gary "Wicked" Fritz and his assemblage of percussivemaking instruments were enthroned at the top of the stairs, with vocalist Lucy Blanco steps below. The Ensemble's co-founder James Lovell This intimate sharing of music and his Garifuna drum along with

pit, while Mario Sprouse on keyboard and Julian Meyers on sax played from the sidewalk.

As the performance progressed, Bronx neighbors stopped to hang along the edges or skirted the street to listen to the hour-long concert. Treated to Summertime and Besame Mucho, the words to these familiar standards had been translated and were sung in the Garifuna language. For the street side audience, the side-Continued on Page 34

ВQ

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BQ

Saldana successfully channels Simone in biopic

"Nina" Very Good (3 stars) Unrated Running time: 90 minutes Distributor: RLJ Entertainment

By Kam Williams

Most of the pre-release buzz surrounding this controversial biopic has swirled around the debate about Zoe Saldana's darkening her skin, donning an afro wig and wearing a prosthetic nose to portray Nina Simone (1933-2003). Apparently, in these politically-correct times, some consider the casting of Saldana as the darkskinned title character to be a case of cultural appropriation, since she is of Dominican and Puerto Rican extraction and thus, by implication, not black enough to play an African-American.

The beleaguered actress was so beat up in the press that she's



David Oyelowo (left) as Clifton Henderson and Zoe Saldana as Nina Simone in the biopic "NINA" an RLJ Entertainment release. RLJ Entertainment

even publicly acknowledged the micro-aggression, admitting "I didn't think I was right for the part." However, I suspect anyone who actually sees the film would find Zoe's Africanized features to be less of a distraction than her singing.

For, while she certainly manages to hold her own, Nina's fans will undoubtedly be more disappointed by the absence of the haunting strains of The High Priestess of Soul's

distinctive voice than by her impersonator's performing in blackface. Again and again, it's frustrating to have to settle for second-rate renditions of such Simone classics as "My Baby Just Cares for Me," "Feel-

ing Good," "Black Is the Colour," "To Be Young, Gifted and Black," "I Put a Spell on You," and "Why? (The King of Love Is Dead)."

Thankfully, Zoe does a better job in the acting half of the role, convincingly capturing Nina's mercurial personality, from the imperious air, to the violent mood swings, to the substance abuse, to the bouts of depression and self-doubt. The movie marks the writing and directorial debut of Cynthia Mort who reportedly distanced herself from her own production, at one point suing over the final cut because she had lost creative control over the editing.

The story unfolds in North Carolina in 1946 with an adolescent Nina exhibiting promise as a classical pianist. From there, the film fast forwards to New York in 1965 where we learn that the once-promising prodigy has been reduced to playing jazz in nightclubs after having dropped out of Juilliard.

Independent & Foreign Films

3rd Street Blackout (Unrated) Romantic comedy about a tech-addicted couple (Negin Farsad and Jeremy Redleaf) forced by a Huirricane Sandy power

outage to face each other sans electronic devices. With Janeane Garofalo, Devin Ratray and Ed Weeks.

A Beautiful Planet (G) Jennifer Lawrence narrates this eco-documentary examining humanity's relationship with the Earth via footage shot from the International Space Station.

Dough (Unrated) Unlikely-buddies dramedy about a Jewish shopkeeper (Jonathan Pryce) who revives his failing bakery with the help of his Muslim apprentice's (Jerome Holder) marijuana-spiked yeast. With Ian Hart, Philip Davis and Malachi Kirby.

The Family Fang (R for profanity) Jason Bateman directed this adaptation of Kevin Wilson's best seller about a brother (Bateman) and sister's (Nicole Kidman) search for their performance artist parents (Christopher Walken and Maryann Plunkett) who disappeared without a trace. Cast includes Kathryn Hahn, Jason Butler Harner and Marin Ireland.

The Man Who Knew Infinity (PG-13 for smoking and mature themes) Adaptation of the best-seller of the same name about a promising math prodigy (Dev Patel) brought to Cambridge University from the slums of India by a professor (Jeremy Irons) who recognized the



kid's genius. Cast includes Toby Jones, Stephen Fry and Jeremy Northam. (In Tamil and English with subtitles)

Papa Hemingway in Cuba (R for profanity, sexuality, nudity and some violence) Slice-of-life biopic, set in Havana, recounting the friendship Ernest Hemingway (Adrian Sparks) forged with a reporter from Miami (Giovanni Ribisi) during the Cuban Revolution. With Minka Kelly, Mariel Hemingway, James Remar and Joely Richardson.

BIG BUDGET FILMS

Keanu (R for violence, sexuality, nudity, drug use and pervasive profanity) Suburbia meets the 'hood comedy about a couple of bourgie cousins (Keegan-Michael Key and Jordan Peele) who pose as drug-dealing gangstas in order to rescue a beloved pet from the ghetto. With Nia Long, Will Forte and Method Man.

Mother's Day (PG-13 for profanity and suggestive material) Ensemble comedy revolving around a cornucopia of characters whose lives serendipitously intersect over the course of a very eventful week leading up to Mother's Day. Cast includes Jennifer Aniston, Jason Sudeikis, Julia Roberts, Kate Hudson, Loni Love, Hector Elizondo and Jon Lovitz.

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ALBUMS







Continued from page 31 walk became a dance floor with only the slightest encouragement from the band.

The festival entitled "Lookin' Up in the Boogie Down" pays tribute to pioneer Bronx artists who were inspired by the neighborhood and sites in community organizations, playgrounds, bodegas and improvisational venues.

Co-founder vocalist Lucy Blanco whose parents migrated from a small fisherman's village in Santa Rosa de Aguan, Honduras Central America was born in the Bronx.

This was the first of this year's 14 neighborhood stoops, roofs, and nooks performances held on the street. How was it for the band? Blanco said, "It was a great feeling and I appreciated going back in time when artists and their fans could interact with the community."

Following the performance, Blanco proudly accepted for the band a "pioneer" plaque from the 80-year-old Casita Maria Center for Arts and Education that presented the afternoon gig.

The festival's other collaborating partners are Dancing in the Streets, City Lore, Lincoln Centre's Boro-Linc, Bronx Music Heritage Center, Bronx Academy of Arts & Dance, and NYCHA.

The schedule, a Who's Who of local jazz musicians and performers includes Bill T. Jones dancer alumnae Arthur Aviles, Grammy award winners drummer Will Cahoun, Latin Jazz pianist Arturo O'Farrill and drummer percussionist Bobby Sanabria; jazz pianist and arranger Bertha Hope bandleader and International Jazz Hall of Fame inductee Lou Donaldson, African troubadour Abdoulaye Diabete, NYC all-star youth big band Fat Afro Latin Jazz Cats, Bangladeshi American band The Feringhees, Bronx native bassist Carlos Henriquez, and core member of hip hop/soul project Soul Baba Israel, among others. For the schedule www. casitamaria.org/lookinupinbo-



The sidewalk became a dance floor while the jazz ensemble plays for the 'hood. Photo by Tequila Minsky

ogiedown

Among the eight upcoming performances are: Okwui Okpokwasili-4/29-30, (Baad!/2474 Westchester Ave. 8 pm, \$15); a parade and performance, Marching Cobras & Sapphire Dance Line, Carlos Henriquez Jazz Latino Oreste Abrantes Jr. Y Su Orquesta -4/30, (Msgr. Raul del Valle Sq. Bruckner Blvd., Hunts Point Ave., 1pm); Bertha Hope & Jazzberry Jam! The Mimi Jones Band-5/7 (Graham Triangle, 138 St., 3rd. Ave. 2 pm.)

Arturo O'Farrill Trio & Fat Afro Latin Jazz Cats, Abdoulaye Diabate and Super Manden and Digital Diaspora will perform on May 22 the finale performance at 52 Park/across from 681 Kelly, at 1 pm. All are free unless noted.

Sandy

Continued from page 31

thereafter he died in a 1980 motorcycle accident at the age of 38. Cheryl Wills then 13 was left with a lot of questions that she sought and obtained answers for. The "Emancipation of Sandy Wills" written by Cheryl Wills is sharing some of those answers.

Colby Christina plays "Emma Wills" in a groundbreaking role in the first staged production of the children's book the "Emancipation of Grandpa Sandy Wills." Performing before a packed audience, Colby commands the attention of all in attendance as she carefully portrays some of the life experiences of the wife of Sandy Wills in a performance where there are no spoken words only narration by the great, great, great granddaughter Cheryl Wills.

When Sandy Wills returned to Haywood County after fighting in the Civil War he married a young woman named Emma, who had also grown up there on the Moore Plantation as Emma Moore. Despite their hardships, the couple had nine children, and with each birth, Emma — who had been denied an education as a child, asked someone else (the Mooreland

Cheryl Wills loses her father as a child.

Plantation owners son, John) to inscribe her infant's names and date of births in her Bible each and every time one was born, since Sandy Wills and his wife Emma could not read and write. Then tragically, Emma Wills in 1889 became a widow and was left with nine children from her marriage to Sandy Wills. Emma would soon discover that she was left to battle with the United States government for a Widow's Pension that the white widows were receiving and that she was legally entitled to. Emma's determined battle with bureaucracy was long, but she fought back and hired a lawyer and received a pension for herself and her nine dependent children.

This masterful performance

by AUDELCO "Rising Star," Colby Christina will go down in history along with the masterfully documented narration by the author, distinguished speaker and NY1 news anchor the brilliant Cheryl Wills.

CHERYL WILLS

Cheryl Wills is an award-winning television personality for Time Warner Cable's flagship national news network, New York 1 News, based in New York City. She has been with the news channel since its launch in 1992 and she is the only journalist in her cable news network's nearly 25 year history to do a one-on-one interview with a sitting president: Nobel Laureate Ellen Johnson Sirleaf. Cheryl is also the author of "Die Free": A Heroic Family Tale www.diefreethebook.com and the "Emancipation of Grandpa Sandy Wills" which traces her great-greatgreat grandfather Sandy Wills' courageous service in the Civil War as a member of the United States Colored Troops. Cheryl is also a blogger for the internationally renowned The Huffington Post and she contributes to Essence.

Gallery exhibition

Continued from page 31

of light bites with notable ingredients encouraged and inspired from the paintings.

In addition, during the exhibit, vocalist Mic Blaque will perform. Both Fudd and Chef Nina B seek to highlight their talents fostering the fervor for both art and food as well as meshing both old and new Brooklyn.

The House that Art Built takes place on April 30 from 4-7 pm at The Living Gallery 1094 Broadway Brooklyn, New York 11221. A donation of \$10 is suggested but not required for attendance.

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Former West Indies fast bowler Wes Hall. Associated Press / Chris Brandis

Legends call for action

By Azad Ali

West Indies cricket legends are calling for the "immediate resignation" of the Dave Cameron-led West Indies Cricket Board, in line with the recommendations of the WICB / CARICOM Governance Review Panel.

The legends, which include Sir Gary Sobers, Sir Wes Hall, Sir Vivian Richards, Sir Andy Roberts, Deryck Murray, Charlie Griffith, Desmond Haynes, West Indies captain Darren Sammy and sports psychologist Dr. Rudy Webster, held a meeting recently at the Spice Island Beach Resort in Grenada where they insisted on the establishment of

Continued on Page 38

'Run The Bronx' returns

On Saturday, May 7, at 10 am, the people of the Bronx will hit the ground running.

That's the date of Run the Bronx: The 38th Roscoe C. Brown Jr. 10K and 5K Runs and 2-Mile Walk that begins and ends on the campus of Bronx Community College. Launched in 1978 by devoted marathoner, legendary Tuskegee Airman and then BCC president Roscoe Brown, the race that now bears his name has become a signature annual event in the borough. This year's walk and run will pay a special tribute to Dr. Brown.

Continued on Page 38



Los Angeles Galaxy midfielder Steven Gerrard, right, prepares to strike the ball during the first half of an MLS soccer game in Carson, Caliornia. Associated Press / Ringo H.W. Chiu

Galaxy ends Salt Lake's winning streak

By The Associated Press

CARSON, California (AP) — Emmanuel Boateng had a goal and two assists as the Los Angeles Galaxy beat Real Salt Lake 5-2 on Saturday night to snap the Utah team's threegame winning streak.

Gyasi Zardes tied it with a right-

footed blast in the 19th minute and Mike Magee smashed in Boateng's cross for the go-ahead goal in the 26th. Boateng scored his first MLS goal in the 41st minute and set up Giovani dos Santos' left-footed chip shot to make it 4-1 for the Galaxy (4-1-2) shortly before halftime. Nick Rimando saved Steven Gerrard's penalty kick in the sixth minute and Juan Manuel Martinez gave Real Salt Lake (4-1-2) the early lead on a header in the 16th. Javier Morales' penalty kick pulled RSL to 4-2 in the 71st minute.

Continued on Page 38



Real Salt Lake midfielder Javier Morales, center, controls the ball against Los Angeles Galaxy midfielder Jeff Larentowicz, left, during the second half of an MLS soccer match in Carson, Calif., Saturday, April 23, 2016. The Galaxy won 5-2. Associated Press / Ringo H.W. Chiu

GALAXY DEFEATS SALT LAKE

Continued from page 37

Gerrard capped the scoring for LA with his first goal of the season in the 91st.

In Vancouver, Jordan Harvey and Kekuta Manneh scored and FC Dallas had an own-goal in a 3-0 Whitecaps victory that snapped a six-game unbeaten streak for the MLS-leading visitors.

Shut out in three straight games, Vancouver (3-4-1) took the lead in the 35th minute when Manneh whipped in a cross that Dallas goalkeeper Chris Seitz punched into his own net off defender Maynor Figueroa.

Harvey made it 2-0 in the 63rd Montreal dropped to 4-3-0.

minute off a Cristian Techera's corner after the ball fell to him in the Dallas penalty area. Manneh sealed it in the 77th when Blas Perez — just into the match as a sub against his former team - touched the ball to Manneh for a shot through Seitz's legs.

In Montreal, Sebastian Giovinco scored his fifth and sixth goals of the season to help Toronto win 2-0 away.

The reigning Major League Soccer MVP scored from the penalty spot in the first half and on a counterattack in the second.

Toronto improved to 3-2-2, and

In Colorado, Jermaine Jones, Luis Solignac and Kevin Doyle scored as the Rapids beat Seattle 3-1 for its third straight victory.

Doyle capped the scoring in the 86th minute with a toe-punch finish off Dennis Castillo's cross. Seattle's Brad Evans was sent off for unsporting behavior following the goal. Jordan Morris had made it 2-1 by scoring for Seattle in the 63rd minute.

In other games, Columbus beat 10-man Houston 1-0 in Ohio, D.C. United won 3-0 at home against the struggling New England, and Philadelphia beat visiting New York City 2-0.

Cricket

Continued from page 37

an interim board and the creation of a new structure to replace the WICB and manage the regional game.

In a statement released after the meeting, the legends called for the WICB to honor a promise it made to accept the recommendations of the WICB / CARICOM Governance Report.

The WICB had given a commitment to implement the recommendations during a meeting with the legends and CARICOM chairman Prime Minister Dr. Keith Mitchell in Grenada a year ago, but have since been accused of reneging.

"We the Legends, call on the WICB to honor its solemn promise to Caribbean prime ministers in April 2015, to accept and implement the recommendations of the WICB / **CARICOM Governance Review Panel** - the immediate resignation of current directors, the establishment of an interim board, and the design of a new board structure," the legends said in the statement,

The statement also called on CAR-ICOM to appoint an independent auditor to carry out a detailed forensic report of the board and requested that sponsors of West Indies cricket make good governance a condition for financial support.

"Continual backing of an inefficient board and an out-of-date structure will result in irreparable damage to West Indies cricket," said the statement.

During the meeting in Grenada, the legends also held talks with Prime Minister Mitchell, chairman of CARICOM's sub-committee on Cricket Governance.

"We are satisfied that CARICOM has no intention of engaging in the day-to-day management of West Indies cricket. CARICOM's aim is to help create a structure and an enabling environment in which West Indies cricket can develop and flourish," the statement pointed out.

Stay fit - Run the Bronx

Continued from page 37

Last year, as hundreds looked on, a record 1336 runners and walkers tore along Grand Concourse, including BCC students, faculty and staff, school and community groups, local politicians and leaders, kids, seniors and passersby. Turn out is expected to exceed that this time around.

The 2016 Run the Bronx will also honor the work of the police officers of the neighboring 46th and 52nd precincts, who will be presented with a plaque and the warm thanks of the community they serve.

There will be t-shirts, refreshments, medals and a day's worth of wonderful memories for all who run or stride their way through BCC's University Heights neighborhood — and trophies for the more outstanding athletes.

But beneath the high spirits and friendly competition of Run the Bronx lies a serious cause — the fitness and well-being of the people of the Bronx, where alarmingly high rates of obesity, diabetes and cardiovascular disease make the borough the unhealthiest of the state's 62 counties. So the day is about presence of local health care institutions



And they're off! "Run the Bronx" runners tear out of the BCC campus. Bronx Community College

more than fun. It is also about spreading the word about the benefits of exercise and a balanced diet.

Emphasizing that point will be the

and organizations offering screenings for blood pressure, cholesterol levels and other indicators of a healthy lifestyle. So even for those who don't join the race, it's worth it to come, get tested and informed and cheer on their friends and neighbors as they cross the finish line.

Sponsors of Run the Bronx run the gamut of local businesses, media and healthcare providers, including Affinity Healthcare, Bronx Lebanon Hospital, Fidelis Healthcare, Health First, Hutch Metro, MetroPlus, New York Road Runners, Urban Health Plan, Union Community Health, US Army Recruiting, Just Bagels, Walgreens, Kenmar Shirts - and BCC's CUNY siblings in the Bronx, Lehman College and Hostos Community College.



BQ

Martin Guptill to captain Amazon Warriors

Eyes on Cricket

By George H. Whyte

New Zealand batsman Martin Guptill will lead the Amazon Warriors in this year's Hero Caribbean Premier League 2016. Guptill 30 has played 38 Test matches scoring more than 2,000 runs, his highest score was 189 and his average is 30.45.

He played 121 One-Day Internationals scoring more than 4,000 runs and averaging 42.71. His highest score is 237 not out which is also the second highest in One-Day Internationals.

GUYANA AMAZON WARRIORS SQUAD

Dwayne Smith, Rayad Emrit, Veer Sammy Permaul, Orlando Peters, Assad Fudadin, Anthony Bramble, Paul Wintz, Steven Jacobs, Steven Katwaroo, Ali Khan, Jason Mohammed, Christopher Barnwell, Chris Lynn, Sohai L. Janvir, Mar-



tin Guptill (Captain) and Adam Zampa. Omar Khan (manager) Roger Harper (head coach).

STRONG BATTING FOR CPL

Australian Chris Lynn and New Zealand Martin Guptill along with Dwayne Smith will lead the Guyana Amazon Warriors batting. Young impressive leg spinner from Australia, Adam Zampa and all-rounder Emrit from Trinidad and Tobago certainly give the Warriors a good opportunity to win the competition.

BOWLING COACH

Team Australia will visit

Sri Lanka later this year for three Tests, five One-Day Internationals and two Twenty20s. Allan Donald has 330 Test wickets from 72 Tests. He played 164 One-Day Internationals taking 272 wickets. Donald joins former Australian batsman Greg Blewett on the coaching staff.

New Zealand's Martin Guptill looks to hit the ball during their ICC World Twenty20 2016 cricket match against Australia at the Himachal Pradesh Cricket Association (HPCA) stadium in Dharamsala, India, Friday, March 18, 2016.

Associated Press / Ashwini Bhatia



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YOUR WEEKLY HOROSCOPE MAY 2ND TO MAY 8TH

Libra, no matter how hard you try to get yourself

LIBRA: Sept 23/Oct 23

ARIES: Mar 21/Apr 20

Things seem to be in high gear this week, Aries. Others around you are just as boisterous, and it may even seem manic. Exercise a little extra patience to get through

TAURUS: Apr 21/May 21 Taurus, you have been hiding something and it's time you let your feelings out in the open this week. Pay attention to how others react to the news.

GEMINI: May 22/Jun 21 ΞĐ If you crave adventure, Gemini, then it could be time to host a party or see if friends want to go out on the town. Staying home mulling over all of the options will get vou nowhere.

CANCER: Jun 22/Jul 22

LEO: Jul 23/Aug 23

CANCER: JUIT 22/JUIT 22 This week's contradictory cosmic energy will not help you when making decisions, Cancer. It is entirely up to you and your gut instincts to make the right decisions

tell you to take life more seriously. It can't be all fun and

work a little more stressful than you had anticipated.

Virgo. Bide your time and soon the week will be over.

games. Buckle down at work and set a plan into action.

VIRGO: Aug 24/Sept 22

Leo, do not ignore the inner voice that is trying to

Circumstances beyond your control will make

heard, others just aren't ready to listen. Perhaps you have to try a new approach to making your voice heard?

SCORPIO: Oct 24/Nov 22 Scorpio, you may find yourself in trouble this week because you keep on starting new things without finishing others. Pretty soon you will have a list of unfinished business.

SAGITTARIUS: Nov 23/Dec 21 Restlessness can get the better of you this week, Sagittarius. Just don't jet off on some spur-of-the-moment trip to try to channel your energy. You have things to handle first.

CAPRICORN: Dec 22/Jan 20 Finding yourself in the middle of a sticky situation has you trying to discover a solution to a complicated problem, Capricorn. You might need to distance yourself for a little while.

AQUARIUS: Jan 21/Feb 18 AQUARIUS. Jun 21/1 co 10 A disagreement with a friend or family member could turn your schedule upside down for a little bit, Aquarius. You'll get back on track soon enough and resolve your issues

PISCES: Feb 19/Mar 20 Pisces, getting your finances in order will take more than balancing your checkbook. It might be time to make some cuts and follow a budget.



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