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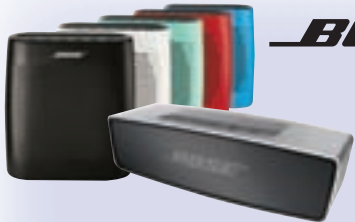
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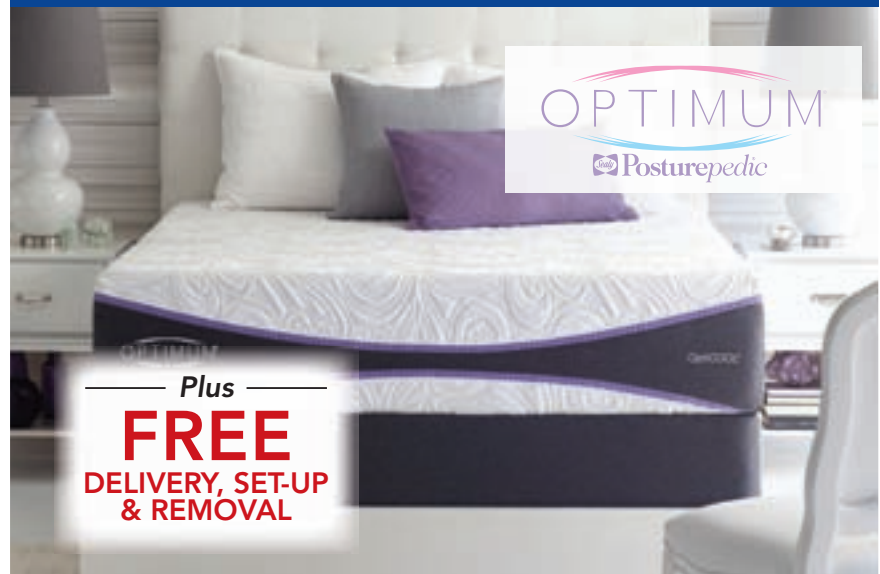


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Haitian Flag Day

Sabrina Guillaume, 24-year-old Brooklyn-based designer, shows off her Haitian flag skirt. See story on page 3.

Photo by Tequila Minsky

CARICOM UNDER REVIEW

Jamaica to assess usefulness of regional organization

By Bert Wilkinson

As far back as the late 1950s when regional leaders had formed the West Indies Federation, Jamaica was the first to abandon it, as its leaders looked more north to the United States than backward towards the Caribbean.

Now more than 50 years after a referendum on the island forced the then internal self government to leave the integration movement, Jamaica is once again moving to review its relations with fellow Caribbean Community neighbors mostly to the south.

Its latest reason for dissatisfaction with things CARICOM

or Caribbean, is premised on a simmering row with Trinidad over the treatment of Jamaican nationals arriving in the country and the way Trinidadian customs sometimes deal with Jamaican imports into the island despite duty free status for goods manufactured in the region.

In parliament late Tuesday, new Prime Minister Andrew Holness appointed his mentor and former prime minister Bruce Golding to head up a commission to review not only Jamaica's role in the 15-nation single trading group but to determine what exactly, if any,

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Hearing on reparations in Atlanta

By Nelson A. King

Atlanta, Ga will be at the center of the growing national discourse and debate about the issue of reparations for African Americans for slavery and generations of discriminatory policies and practices

post-emancipation on June 10-11, according the Institute of the Black World 21st Century (IBW).

The New York-based IBW, a leading Black organization, said the National African American Reparations Com-

mission (NAARC), which was established in 2015, will be in Atlanta to conduct a Community Hearing to solicit input on its Preliminary 10 Point Reparations Program.

IBW said the Commission

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Ani Alert from Haiti entertains the audience during Haitian Flag Day celebrations. Photo by Tequila Minsky

Haitians celebrate Flag Day

By Tequila Minsky

In the mid-nineteen nineties a group of Haitian students felt Haiti only got attention when something negative was happening. At that time, Ruddled Deceus and friends from CUNY and other universities organized the 18 Mai Committee named for the date the Haitian flag was created in 1803. The idea of the committee was cultural awareness and the group was dedicated to Haitian history.

The Haitian flag was adopted on May 18, the last day of the Congress of Archaie. The story goes that revolutionary leader Jean-Jacques Dessalines created the flag by taking a French tricolor and ripping out the white center, which he discarded, asking his god-daughter Catherine Flon to sew the remaining bands together.

Over time, the 18 Mai Committee grew, held many commemorative and other events including celebrating Haitian Flag Day at New York City Hall.

Deceus was clearly at the forefront of awareness. Subsequently this young history activist got married and started a family and while he's busy with different things, others carry on the historical torch.

This year, from the United Nations and throughout the region, there were many and varied events celebrating Haitian Flag Day.

Ambassador Daniel St. Lot with the National Alliance for the Advancement of Haitian Professionals (NAAHP) held at the United Nations the Catherine Flon Symposium: Cultivating Innovation, Entrepreneurship and Economic Empowerment to boost women entrepreneurship in Haiti and the diaspora. The first panel entitled: "Bridging the Gap — How to Fill the Missing Middle" focused on empowering Haitian women in Haiti or abroad through the promotion of social entrepreneurship, leadership, social skills and professional development.

Ex-SVG police group honors outstanding five

By Nelson A. King

The St. Vincent and the Grenadines Ex-Police Association USA, Inc. last Friday night honored four outstanding nationals and a business concern during its 36th anniversary banquet fundraiser and awards ceremony at Tropical Paradise Ballroom on Utica Avenue in Brooklyn.

The Brooklyn-based group conveyed its Special Recognition Award on Vaughan Toney, president and chief executive officer of the Brooklyn-based Friends of Crown Heights Educational Centers.

The group's former president, Godfrey Pitt, and current secretary, Berisford "Shuga" Latham, received the Diamond Award; and the Brooklyn-based Standard Shippers, Inc., whose owner is Gideon "Fessy" Yorke, received the Corporate Citizenship Award. Ex-police officer Charles Jordan received the President Surprise Award.

The Special Recognition Award, which is conveyed on a non-member of the association, is bestowed on someone who has played a "significant role in empowering individuals within the Vincentian/American community," the St. Vincent and the Grenadines Ex-Police Association USA, Inc. said in its souvenir journal.

The Diamond Award recognizes members of the association, who have "demonstrated a passion for community service to the development of St. Vincent and the Grenadines, and in particular members of the St. Vincent and the Grenadines Police Force and Ex-Police Associations," and have "dedicated time, energy, financial and other personal and professional resources towards this passion."

The Corporate Citizenship Award "recognizes a member of the corpo-



Vaughan Toney receives award from Malethia Joseph. Photo by Nelson A. King

rate society who has made significant contribution to St. Vincent and the Grenadines Police Force and Ex-Police Associations towards achieving their goals and has demonstrated good corporate citizenship within the Vincentian community as a whole," the association said.

It said the recipient of the President Surprise Award recognizes "an unsuspecting member of the organization who has performed beyond the call of duty, resulting in the recruitment of at least two new members over the past 12 months," and has "contributed signifi-

cantly to the success of the 36th anniversary celebration of the St. Vincent and the Grenadines Ex-Police Association USA, Inc. 2016."

"I want you to know that I very much appreciate this recognition here tonight," said Toney after receiving the award from ex-police officer Malethia Joseph. "Tonight, I'm honored, I'm humbled, and I'm inspired for the work you're doing."

Pitt, a former Brooklyn resident, now living in Georgia, said: "My mother always said to us, 'if you're doing some-

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Brooklyn celebrates Caribbean Fair

By Nelson A. King

Brooklyn is celebrating Caribbean Fashion, Food, Art and Music Fair 2016, which is being held from May 2-29 at Brooklyn Commons, 495 Flatbush Avenue.

According to Claudius Phillips, president and chief executive officer of CBUSA, Inc. and Lancaster Youth Forum PA, Brooklyn Chapter, the fair is modified from its original format to fit the new space at Brooklyn Commons.

Phillips said the fair is being used to launch Caribbean Week 2016 as part of the Caribbean Tourism Organization's (CTO) celebration of Caribbean Week

activities in Brooklyn.

Caribbean Week this year will be officially launched in Brooklyn, with an Ecumenical service at St. Gabriel's Episcopal Church on Hawthorne Street, on Sunday, May 29, Phillips said.

He said Lancaster Youth Forum PA, Brooklyn Chapter, Brooklyn Commons and CTO New York's office are collaborating to produce the fair.

"The fair is an effort to ensure that Caribbean-inspired fashion designers, Caribbean-inspired chefs or restaurateurs, Caribbean-inspired fine artists and musicians are given an opportunity to present their skill to New York-

ers on the weekend prior to memorial weekend," Phillips said.

He said Friday, May 27 is set aside for buyers between 1 am and 1 pm, and would give designers and artists an opportunity to engage volume buyers.

Phillips said a Caribbean-themed concert will be held the next day, featuring several different genre of Caribbean music, including Gospel Jazz.

Brother Danny and Petula Beckles will be among the performers.

Caribbean designers, chefs, artists and music producers are urged to register by contacting Phillips at 717-666-7192 or by email at cobcorp159@gmail.com.

THE NEWS FROM BACK HOME

Antigua

The Professional Organization for Women in Antigua & Barbuda (POWA) and Women Against Rape (WAR) are in support of a recommendation that abortion should be an option for women who are pregnant and may be infected with the Zika virus.

Public relations officer for POWA, Gisele Isaac said a woman's health and her mental and emotional well-being should be paramount.

"Abortion is a decision for the parents of the baby and the last word really should be from the woman, because she is the one who will be carrying and the one who will be the primary caregiver. So we have to look at her quality of life and the baby's quality of life," Isaac said.



Head of WAR, Alexandrina Wong left the right to abort squarely in the hands of the woman.

She based her argument on the premise that the twin-island state lacks the infrastructure necessary to adequately support a baby born with a birth defect or provide assistance for the affected family.

Chief Executive Officer of the Caribbean Family Planning Affiliation, Alder Bynoe suggested that women should have access to a range of options in response to Zika and abortion should be one such option.

Bynoe said simply asking women to delay pregnancy was not enough.

Barbados

Barbados Prime Minister Freundel Stuart has described as "unfair and unwarranted" the decision last year by the European Commission to blacklist several Caribbean countries, including his country, as uncooperative tax jurisdiction.



Addressing a ceremony marking Europe Day 2016 and the 40th anniversary of the European Delegation's presence in Barbados, Stuart said he was surprised at the blacklisting.

"There are reports that in the wake



Masqueraders greet Guyanese expats

Masqueraders greet Guyanese expats at the Cheddi Jagan International Airport. See story on page 14.

Photo by Tangerine Clarke

of the so-called Panama Papers, the prospect of another list looms. I trust that this will not materialize and that the European Union has by now recognized that the financial services sector is a vital element of the economies of a number of CARICOM countries, touching their very existence," he said.

Stuart said the European Union had aided the development of Barbados and the region through several measures.

He pointed out the focus in the initial stages of the relationship was on sugar and then rum, but the attention was now directed at new areas, such as that of renewable energy.

The prime minister told the ceremony Barbados aspires to become a green economy and a large part of this change would involve moving away from expen-

sive fossil fuels.

Bahamas

The Inter-American Bank (IADB) Group and civil society organizations representatives from seven Caribbean countries — The Bahamas, Barbados, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago — will meet on June 1, 2016 in Nassau, Bahamas to discuss key economic and social trends and challenges for the region under the perspective of sustainable growth.



The meeting will feature discussion about the future and sustainability of civil society organizations (CSOs) in alignment with their governments' development efforts.

The program includes other topics such as climate change, sustainable cities, and health challenges.

The IDB Group sustains a systematic dialogue with civil society organizations from 26 countries of Latin America and the Caribbean, which includes information, dialogue consultations, collaboration and partnership.

Cuba

Cuba announced the opening of 127 projects among its opportunities for foreign investment in its tourist sector during the current FitCuba International Tourism Fair. The Business Director of the Cuban Tourism



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Jamaicans protest treatment



Jamaica Prime Minister Andrew Holness. Associated Press / Collin Reid, File

Continued from cover

Jamaica gets from being a member of the community.

"We must assert ourselves in such a way that Jamaica gets the full benefits that membership in CARICOM promises," he told the house. "Our foreign policy must support our economic and development policy," he said.

Holness did not hide the fact that the latest government mindset on CARICOM has a bit to do with the latest row between Trinidad and Jamaica, among the bloc's two most influential members, over hassle free travel in the region.

The two exchanged harsh diplomatic barbs in recent weeks after Trinidadian customs and immigration officials had turned away more than a dozen Jamaicans at the main Piarco Airport.

The refusal to land the Jamaicans sparked a simmering diplomatic row with Jamaica formally writing Trinidad protesting the alleged persistently negative treatment of its citizens and demanding better treatment.

And in a surprising move, Port of Spain for once did acknowledge that its airport authorities might have been prejudiced and could have acted pre-

cipitately even commencing a special training program for Caribbean nationals arriving on the island in general and Jamaicans in particular.

Trinidadian immigration officials had muttered remarks about the Jamaicans that the group of mostly women visitors might have been intended drug mules or were planning to become involved in prostitution.

Many of them protested vigorously to their government who fired off protest letters to Trinidad and hastily arranged meetings to discuss a worrying recurring issue.

For his part, Holness told the house that a CARICOM Review Commission will be established to determine and assess the "value of CARICOM" to Jamaica.

Reparations Study Bill

Continued from cover

will also receive input on HR-40, the Reparations Study Bill, which Congressman John Conyers, (D) of Detroit, has introduced every year since 1989.

Conyers, who is the Ranking Member of the House Judiciary Committee and dean of the Congressional Black Caucus, will travel to Atlanta to consult with NAARC on the Reparations Program and plans to introduce a revised version of HR-40 that will focus on remedies for slavery and discriminatory practices and policies, IBW said.

It said the hearing will be convened in conjunction with the Morehouse School of Religion, Saturday, June 11, 12:00 noon at the Interdenominational Theological Center (ITC), 700 Martin Luther King Ave.

The proceedings will feature a keynote address by Sir Hilary Beckles, vice-chancellor / president of the University of the West Indies, Kingston, Jamaica, and chairman of the CARICOM [Caribbean Community] Reparations Commission.

A Clergy / Faith Leaders Roundtable on engaging people of faith in the reparations movement; panel of scholars and activists posing inquiries about the Commission's 10-Point Program; and questions / comments / input from the public will be part of the proceedings, IBW said.

It said the Atlanta Hearing is the first

in a series of area/regional events of its kind that will be convened by NAARC over the next 12 months.

Houston, Los Angeles and Chicago have been identified as potential sites for future hearings.

IBW said the input/recommendations from the hearings will be incorporated into a Final Reparations Program that will be used as the framework for negotiations with the federal government, state and local governments, private corporations and institutions.

The hearing at ITC will be preceded by a Benefit Reception, Friday, June 10, 7 pm at the National Center for Civil and Human Rights, 100 Ivan Allen Blvd., where the actor, humanitarian and activist Danny Glover will be the special guest.

IBW said the Atlanta Reception and Hearing come at a time when there is a resurgence of interest in the issue.

One of the most dramatic recent developments was the unanimous decision by the 15 nations of CARICOM demanding reparations from the former European colonialists for native genocide and African enslavement.

"When the heads of state of nations took such a courageous position, reparations activists in the U.S. and around the world took notice," said Dr. Ron Daniels, IBW president. IBW serves as the administrator and convener of NAARC.

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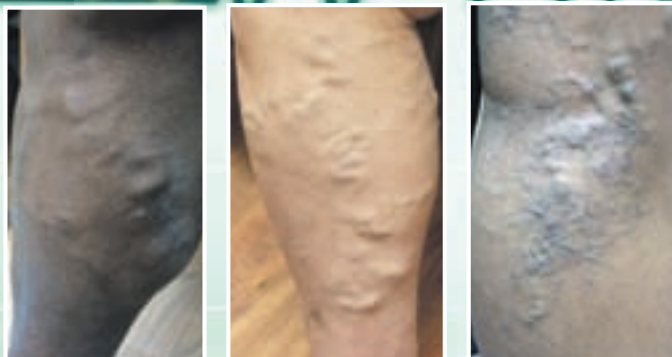
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Protest over hangings

By Azad Ali

Two Jamaica Human Rights organizations are opposing plans by National Security Minister Robert Montague to resume hanging as a means to dealing with the escalating crime problem in the country.

In a joint statement, Stand Up for Jamaica (SUFJ) and Jamaicans for Justice (JFJ) said, "while we understand the minister's need to send a strong message about his handle on crime, we believe that he could have been more prudent in making his comments about the resumption of hangings."

Recently, Montague said the Andrew Holness government remains committed to mobilizing all the resources at its disposal to wage a "relentless war" against criminal elements "intent on destroying our nation."

He said as a result, the government is currently exploring the possible resumption of hangings and that the junior minister, Parnell Charles Jr, has been asked to consult with several stakeholders, including the Ministry of Justice and Attorney General's Office to determine if there are any "legal impediments" to be addressed.

But the opposition spokesman on justice and governance, Mark Golding said the death penalty is not the answer to the country's crime situation.

SUFJ Director Carla Gullota in the statement said: "Montague's comments about a resumption of the death penalty has fed into the frustrations of many Jamaicans and has served to ignite passions about what is a very widely debated issue."

"If we are not careful, this frustra-



Jamaica National Security Minister Robert Montague. <http://jis.gov.jm/>

tion could lead to citizens taking matters into their own hands once they come to appreciate the well-established legal impediments which make the resumption of hanging highly unlikely in Jamaica," she added.

JFJ Chairman Horace Levy noted that the position of the group is that there should be a moratorium on carrying out the death penalty, given the state of the justice system.

The human rights groups said that there is an abundance of evidence which shows that capital punishment is not an effective deterrent to crime.

The two human rights groups said several countries and states in the United States, which continue to practice capital punishment still have very high rates of violent crimes and the international trend is that more and more countries are abolishing the death penalty.

Concerns over rising murder rate in the Caribbean

By Azad Ali

Homicides in Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago are expected to rise to alarming levels and the Eastern Caribbean islands could see an increase in murders currently resembling those reported in Jamaica.

That is the prediction of a report which looks at the Caribbean in 2050 based on its current development path.

The report; "Achieving a Resilient Future for Small States: Caribbean 2050" considers current policies and trends in six Caribbean countries — Bahamas, Barbados, Jamaica, St. Lucia, Grenada, Trinidad and Tobago and Guyana — made a 34-year projection across different sectors.

The report was released at the Fourth Global Biennial Conference on Small States in Seychelles last week.

The report predicts that if nothing

changes, the Caribbean in 2050 will face unmanageable debt, poor growth and greater socio-economic problems.

The report said: "Five out of the six countries under study would have a debt-to-gross domestic product ratio for 100 percent while for two countries this could exceed 200 percent."

With interest on debt reducing funds for development, the report predicts that when combined with the slowdown in growth in the medium term due to declining competitiveness, Caribbean countries would face worsening socio-economic condition.

The report said crime and disorder is forecast to rise in the region.

It noted that youth unemployment and underemployment contribute to inadequate human and social capital development and a rising crime rate.

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Developing countries under attack from new FTAs

By Martin Khor

In this column, Martin Khor, the executive director of the South Centre, warns that industrialised powers are taking aim against the role of the state in developing countries.

GENEVA (IPS) - Two new trade agreements involving the two economic giants, the United States and the European Union, are leading a charge against the role of the state in the economy of developing countries.

Attention should be paid to this initiative as it has serious repercussions on the future development plans and prospects of developing countries.

The two latest attempts towards this are through the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement (TPPA) and the Trans-Atlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP). A new feature of both, as compared to other FTAs, will be discipline on the operations of state enterprises and a reduction of the state's role in development.

The latter is a subject of long-standing discussion. The immediate post-colonial period saw a tendency towards a strong state, including government ownership of some key

sectors, such as industry and banking.

Past decades witnessed a wave of privatisation across both rich and developing countries. But the state still owns or controls utilities, infrastructure, public services, banks and a few strategic industries in many developing countries.

Countries provide incentives for foreign companies, such as tax-free status. However, the state also offers special treatment to local companies, such as grants, cheaper-than-normal credit, subsidies, and government contracts.

The developmental role of the state in developing countries is now coming under attack from developed countries.

This is promoted by the big companies in the U.S., Europe and Japan, which seek to enter the markets of developing countries – the source of their future profits.

The support given by the state to domestic companies is seen by multinational companies as a hindrance to their quest for expanded market share in developing countries.

They are thus seeking to change the worldview and policy framework in developing countries, to get them to reduce the role of state enter-

prises as well as to curb the governments' promotion of local private companies.

A sub-chapter on state-owned enterprises is a prominent part of the TPPA, which is being negotiated by the U.S. and Australia, Brunei, Canada, Chile, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Peru, Singapore and Vietnam. Japan has just joined too.

The U.S. and Australia are leading the move to have rules to discipline the role of the government in the economy, through a two-pronged approach.

First, to get government or other monopolies to behave in a "non-discriminatory" way, including when they buy or sell goods and services. For example, they are not allowed to give preferences or incentives to local firms.

Second, companies that are linked to the government (including through a minority share) should not get advantages vis-à-vis other firms in commercial activities. Of course, the developed countries that are proposing this are thinking of their companies -how they can get more access to developing countries' markets.

In the TTIP, a U.S.-European Union agreement, negotiations for which started in July, the EU has prepared a sub-chapter on state-owned enterprises, with rules that seem quite similar to what the U.S. and Australia are proposing in the TPPA.

Although the TTIP only involves Europe and the U.S. directly, the rules it sets are intended to have consequences for other countries.

According to press reports, the two economic giants are planning for the rules they set in the TTIP to become the standard for future bilateral agreements that also include developing countries.

They also hope that these rules will eventually be internationalised in the World Trade Organisation, which has over 130 member states.

The EU position paper on state-owned enterprises says that its aim is to "create an ambitious and comprehensive standard to discipline state involvement and influence in private and public enterprises" and for this to "pave the way to other bilateral agreements to follow a similar approach and eventually contribute to a future multilateral engagement."

In other words, the constraints on the role of the state, and the reduction of the space for behaviour or operations of state-linked companies, will become the way of the future for all countries, if the U.S. and European plans succeed.

These attempts to curb the role of the state in the economy are worthy of serious study and counter-action.

Developing countries that succeeded in economic development were able to combine the roles of the public and private sectors in a partnership that advanced overall national development.

Asian countries, including Japan, South Korea, Malaysia, Singapore and China, have pioneered this model of public sector collaboration with the private sector.

Those few developing countries that managed to get development going were all driven by the "developmental state", or the leadership role of government in establishing the framework of economic strategy, and the collaboration between the state, state enterprises, and commercial companies.

Ironically, agricultural subsidies, the main trade-distorting practice of developed countries and regions like the U.S., Europe or Japan, have been kept off the agenda of the FTAs negotiated by the U.S. and EU with developing countries, including the TPPA.

The developed countries are clever not to include what would be more damaging to them. Thus the developing countries are deprived of what would have been the major trade gain for them.

Naturally, there are pros and cons to any agreement, including the FTAs. Any potential gain for a country in exports or investments should be weighed against potential losses to domestic producers and consumers, and especially the loss to the government in policy space and potential pay-outs to companies claiming compensation under the FTAs' investment rules.

But if developing countries have to come under new international rules that curb the role of the state and that reshape the structure of their economy, then the prospects for future development will be adversely affected.

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CEO: Les Goodstein
PRESIDENT & PUBLISHER: Jennifer Goodstein
ASSOCIATE PUBLISHER: Ralph D'Onofrio
EDITOR EMERITUS: Kenton Kirby
ASSOCIATE EDITOR: Kevin Williams

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Contributing Writers: Azad Ali, Roderick J. Broome, Fabian Burrell, Tangerine Clarke, Robert Elkin, Patrick Horne, Nelson King, Donna Lamb, Tequila Minsky, Vinette K. Pryce, George H. Whyte, Bert Wilkinson, Lloyd Kam Williams

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Court nominee's snub will re-surface

Although it has now receded a bit from the major headlines it generated a couple of months ago, there's every expectation that the issue of President Obama's selection of Judge Merrick Garland for the U.S. Supreme Court will again be a huge bone of contention, before this critical election season is history. It would be unfortunate and only further entrench cynical popular sentiment about political gamesmanship and the judiciary, if Senate Republicans' power play to ignore the president's nominee holds firm until a successor to Obama is in place next year.

The Republicans' strategy, of course, is all about rolling the dice on a Republican president calling the shots next year regarding who gets nominated. To no one's surprise, however, they reach into the political correctness trick bag to explain away yet another "dis" of this president. Majority Leader Sen. Mitch McConnell followed the president's announcement of the Garland nomination with some clap-

trap that the hard-ball GOP stance was meant to "give the people a voice in the filling of this vacancy." Surely an oddity, this inference of the GOP being suddenly people-sensitive, seeing as how GOP tone-deafness regarding the low esteem in which the electorate holds Capitol Hill clearly doesn't hint at any burning GOP desire to pay heed to what "the people" find disgusting about their elected representatives.

And then there's the self-styled puppet master who couldn't possibly pass up the opportunity to work the crowd with some court nominee fluff of his own. In typical fashion, reducing the awesome presidential responsibility of high-court member selection to all the gracefulness of clown hijinks a la Barnum & Bailey, Donald Trump was regaling folks willing to listen with his list of potential nominees. There's an entity called the Grand Old Party to which "credit" is due each time one of these Trump atrocities or inanities makes it onto your

Viewpoint

By Les Slater

TV or computer screen!

Although Republicans, for the most part, have given Judge Garland the cold shoulder, there's already speculation afoot that, should Hillary Clinton win the presidency in November, Republicans may very well get into a fast shuffle that pivots back to Garland. He being regarded as more of a centrist, consensus-builder type, as opposed to the kind of unblinking liberal jurist the conservative element fears with a Clinton nomination opportunity. In other words, rumors of politicking galore, as usual, to arrive at what purports to be justice for all.

Ultimately, that's the shame of it — that there's so much nakedly political posturing attending composition of the nation's judicial forum of last resort. And the question isn't whether Democrats,

were the Senate breakdown reversed, would be doing the same dance. They very well might. The question, rather, is whether the process toward someone's placement on the nation's highest court couldn't be stripped of at least part of the circus atmosphere that demeans it. It was in mid-February, for instance, that Justice Antonin Scalia's death created the vacancy now to be filled. Which is to say, if the Republican wall of defiance holds all the way, it would have been roughly a year before a start could be made toward seating the court's ninth justice. Think of the many 4-4 splits that figure to compromise court rulings in the meantime. Where, in this calculus, are the best interests of "the people" taken into account? Reform of the process, by whatever device is required, that expressly prohibits the kind of protracted delay to which the Garland nomination is being subjected, is sorely needed.

Even more scary than the travesty we're now experiencing, with Republicans engaged

in what their Senate majority allows them to do, is the prospect of Republicans brazenly attempting to stymie any high court nomination made by a Democratic president. We have regularly seen evidence, in certain extremist behavior displayed in the GOP caucus, which clearly suggests that being of hard-right ideological bent is the key acceptable qualifier for membership on the court. Especially so as a Scalia replacement. It's the sort of fanaticism that tends to tune out the rights of others in the discussion and makes light of rules, protocol, etc. The name of Ted Cruz comes to mind. But he's by no means alone in his single-minded devotion to right-wing extremism.

What's being done with the president's pick of the generally respected Judge Garland for the high court very much deserves to be in the mix in this contest for the presidency. And it will be, never mind one candidate's trivializing of what this most sobering of presidential duties entails.

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Smell of death: Kids were pretty grossed out.

Community News Group / Tatiana Hernandez

SCARED STIFF!

Brookdale brings kids to morgue to show dangers of guns

By **Tatiana Hernandez**

This scared-straight program is dead serious.

Brookdale Hospital brought 50 kids from Brooklyn high schools to its morgue to scare them away from gunplay on May 18. And the event was right on target, according to one student who said it helped him realize how one wrong move could cause a lifetime of pain.

"It was touching," said New Visions Charter High School student Deshawn Rios. "Knowing what these people went through, it could have them think, 'What if that was me in that situation, in this position? How would the family members of the victim of the life I took away feel?'"

Hospital employees showed kids some unlucky stiffs whose lives gun violence cut short, because the day was all about tough love, one worker said.

"They never had a chance to see tomorrow, they never had a chance to wear Jordans, they never had a chance to enjoy themselves," external affairs guru Khari Edwards told a group of aghast students viewing a corpse. "What we want you to do is live long, fruitful, fulfilling lives being real ingratiated people to society."

Edwards dreamed up the event — the first in the hospital's "It Starts Here" campaign to end gun violence — because his 12-year-old son was held at gunpoint in an attempted robbery.

A criminal justice advocate, a gunshot survivor, a trauma surgeon, and Deputy Borough President Diana Reyna talked to kids about confronting aggression in their own lives, and students shared their reasons for fearing to speak out — peer pressure, respect, and fear of what might happen to their families if they did. The intimate conversation resonated with pupils, one school administrator said.

"I felt like that personal level that they had, talking about the gun violence and holding them accountable for their behavior and actions while watching this presentation, I thought that was super effective," said New Visions Charter High School for Advanced Math and Science III guidance counselor Stefan Phillip.

"It opened their eyes to see stuff they had never seen before, and to see that this is real. It's not just something that's in a movie, it's not something from a video game. This stuff can actually happen."

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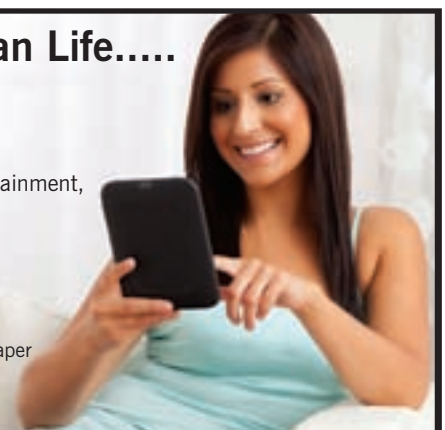
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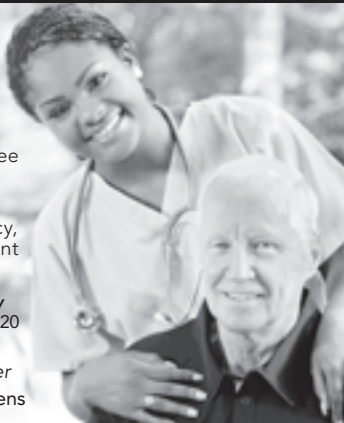
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Festive welcome for Guyanese expatriates

By Tangerine Clarke

Thousands of Guyanese expatriates from every corner of the world arrived in Georgetown, Guyana, over the last week to a festive welcome when they disembarked from several carriers at the Cheddi Jagan International Airport, to revel in the country's 50th Jubilee Independence Anniversary celebrations.

The nationals, many dressed in colors of Guyana's golden Arrowhead flag, and laden with carryon luggage, stopped to capture the colorfully decorated façade of the airport before being greeted by masqueraders in costumes of the six races at the walkway leading to the terminal.

The terminal that also showcased images of Guyana's rich cultural heritage, and beautiful landscape welcomed the nationals with steelpan music and a sign that read Coming Home.

Gifts of mini Guyana flags and memorabilia were handed out as expats and visitors snapped images of the arrivals and festive spirit, along the

way.

The lines to clear immigration, and baggage claim, were very long, but the travellers were never deterred, instead, they waited patiently, and at times were seen hugging and greeting each other with handshakes, and expression of 'Happy Independence Anniversary,' before exiting the airport for a week or two of festivities.

The streets of Georgetown that are beautifully decorated in national colors of red, white, green, black and gold, will be alight with Jubilation and pride of this historic achievement, that will be commemorated with a flag raising ceremony at the newly constructed Durban Stadium in Georgetown, on Thursday May 26, the date Guyana became independent from British rule.

Under the theme, Reflect, Celebrate, Inspire, the festivities that started on May 1, for a month-long celebration, will continue with fashion shows, sporting events, conferences and a carnival float parade.

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A welcome billboard at the Cheddi Jagan International Airport.

Photo by Tangerine Clarke

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Continued from page 4

Ministry, Jose Daniel Alonso, announced at the event that 25 of those projects aimed at building new hotels, another 97 initiatives include hotel management with or without foreign financial back-up and five for the management of marinas.

The official said that by December 2015, Cuba was offering 65,000 and 67,000 hotel rooms, while another 108,000 rooms will be built between this year and 2030.

Alonso added that the Tourism Ministry considers the construction of what is known as ecological hotels, and new products such as nature and health tourism.

Grenada

The U.S. Embassy to Barbados, the Eastern Caribbean and the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) recently partnered with the Judicial Education Institute of the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court to provide training in Grenada for regional attorneys and financial investigators on civil asset recovery.

The purpose of the training was to improve regional attorneys and financial investigators' knowledge of civil asset recovery, and promote best practice in this area of law.

The training was an example of the close working relationship between the Eastern Caribbean states and the United States to promote the rule of law and enhance citizen security.

Grenada introduced civil asset recovery powers when it passed the Proceeds of Crime (Amendment Act) and in doing so became the fourth country in the Eastern Caribbean to introduce civil asset recovery legislation.

Since the new took effect, criminal justice agencies in Grenada have made full use of the powers contained in the legislation.

Guyana

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) is predicting a four percent economic growth for Guyana in 2016.

The Washington-based financial institution, which recently concluded an Article IV consultation with the Caricom country, said that lower export commodity prices and budget delays weighed down on activity, while the opening of two large gold mines helped support growth.

It said consumer prices contracted 1.8 per cent in the 12 months ending December 2015, reflecting lower import prices and a one-off increase in value added tax (VAT) exemptions.

The IMF said the macroeconomic outlook is generally positive for 2016 and the medium-term.

It said growth is projected at four percent in 2016, supported by public investment and two large gold mines.

Twelve-month inflation is expected to remain low at around 2.1 percent by year end.

The IMF said it commended the resilience of Guyana's economy, which continues to grow despite global headwinds, challenges and risks remain.

It also stressed the importance of strengthening the anti-money laundering efforts and combating the financing of terrorism framework.

Jamaica

Jamaica must move with urgency to develop a medical marijuana industry.

The call was made by Finance and Planning Minister Audley Shaw who told lawmakers that the benefits of marijuana is "not about smoking a spiff" or "walking around with two ounces of weed."

Delivering his first budget debate of the new Andrew Holness government, Shaw said, "this is about building an industry of value-added products."

Shaw, who cited other countries who benefitted from using the plant, said that Jamaica is uniquely positioned to play a leading role in the medical marijuana industry, which can create wealth for the country. He noted that in the United States alone, the legal marijuana market is predicted to rise from US\$6.7 billion this year to US\$21.8 billion by 2020.

The finance minister said Canada has built a major industry, which may become fully legalized next year, adding that the Dutch Ministry of Health is exporting medical marijuana to Canada, Italy, Germany and the Czech Republic.

In addition, Israel has more than 12,000 medical marijuana patients and is leading the world in research on medical marijuana.

Shaw said developing a medical marijuana industry for the country will involve pursuing research at the universities to create medicines which can help people dealing with major illnesses, such as diabetes, epilepsy and other medical conditions.

St. Vincent

St. Vincent and the Grenadines Prime Minister Dr. Ralph Gonsalves says his government remains opposed to the controversial Citizenship by Investment Program (CIP) as a means of luring foreign investors to the island.

Addressing the launch of the Chamber of Industry Commerce Finance Fair recently, Dr. Gonsalves said his administration remains opposed to the CIP which he described as a "race to the bottom."

Several Caribbean countries, including Antigua and Barbuda, St. Kitts and Nevis and Dominica have established CIP's through which foreign investors are given citizenship in return for making a significant investment in the socio-economic develop of these countries.

— compiled by Azad Ali

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According to the Federal Highway Administration, wet roadways, and rain in particular, are the main cause of weather-related vehicle crashes. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration notes that, between 2004 and 2013, rain caused 573,784 crashes.

To drive safely in the rain and avoid accidents, drivers should follow certain precautions.

- Maintain windshield wipers. Inspect and, if necessary change windshield wipers regularly to ensure they are working optimally. Always test wipers before driving in rainy weather.

- Turn on lights with wipers. Reduced visibility is a major contributor to wet-weather accidents. Drivers' views may be hampered by falling precipitation and glare from wet roadways. Cloudy conditions and fog also compromise visibility. When using windshield wipers, turn on your headlights as well. This makes your vehicle more visible to other motorists and improves your own ability to see the road and

pedestrians.

- Recognize changing road conditions. Roadways accumulate oil and engine fluids that can float in rainwater, creating slippery road surfaces. This is usually a problem during the first few hours of a rainstorm or in areas that receive little precipitation and then are subjected to downpours. These fluids make rain-soaked roads even more slippery. Slow down, leave more room between vehicles and try driving in the tracks left by vehicles ahead.

- Reduce speed. The automotive group AAA says hydroplaning, when the tires rise up on a film of water, can occur with as little as 1/12 inch of wa-

ter on the road. The group goes on to say that tires have to displace a gallon of water per second to keep the rubber meeting the road. Drivers should reduce their speeds to correspond to the amount of water on the roadway. New tires can still lose some contact with the roadway, even at a speed as low as 35 mph. Therefore, reducing speed and avoiding hard braking and turning sharply can help keep the rubber of the tire meeting the road.

- Rely on the defogger. Use the car's windshield defroster/defogger to improve visibility. Turn it on early and keep it on until the rain has stopped and visibility has improved.

- Recover from a skid. Skids can be frightening, but when skidding, resist any temptation to slam on the breaks. Instead, continue to look and drive in the direction you want to go and slowly ease up on the accelerator.

- Skip the cruise control. It's important to maintain control over the vehicle in rainy conditions, so avoid using cruise control.

- Maintain tires. Proper inflation and tire tread levels can improve traction. AAA recommends checking tread depth by inserting a quarter upside down into the tire groove. If you can see above Washington's head, start

shopping for new tires. Check tire pressure on all tires at least once a month. Get an accurate reading when tires are cold and adjust air pressure accordingly.

- Avoid other distractions. Distracted driving can be hazardous during good road conditions and even more dangerous when visibility and other factors are compromised. Switch phones and other devices off so you can fully focus on the road and other drivers.

Rainy weather can contribute to poor driving conditions. Drivers should make changes to speed and other factors to make wet weather driving as safe as possible.

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New president of NY's largest grocery workers union



Tony Speelman, president, UFCW Local 1500.



Rob Newell, secretary-treasurer, Local 1500.

Tony Speelman, a committed labor leader who has dedicated nearly four decades of fighting for hard working men and women, was unanimously elected president of the over 20,000 member United Food and Commercial Workers Local 1500 (UFCW). Robert Newell, who began his career in 1990 pushing shopping carts at Pathmark, was unanimously elected secretary-treasurer.

Speelman, who began his career as a Local 1500 member as a part-timer at Dairy Barn on Long Island, has fought for decades to help working men and women attain better lives at work and at home with their families. He has long held irresponsible corporations accountable throughout the New York tri-state region, fighting for better rights and wages for Walmart and Target workers. He has repeatedly fought to raise the standards for all workers because he deeply believes all men and women deserve the right to improve their lives.

"I am honored to represent the proud men and women of UFCW Local 1500, a union I first became a member of when I was 17 years old," Speelman said. "We will work together to provide a better

life for all Local 1500 members, to provide better benefits, and safer working conditions," Speelman said. "We will make it a priority to secure better part-time scheduling, so our members can better balance a family life."

The Local 1500 Executive Board unanimously elected Speelman and Newell on May 11, 2016. He becomes the sixth president of New York's largest grocery workers union, and began his career working part-time for Dairy Barn stores on Long Island while attending college in the 1970's. He quickly became an instrumental part of the UFCW Local 1500 membership, fighting for better wages and benefits for his coworkers and their families. At a young age, he served on three contract negotiation teams, leading to win contracts with better wages, benefits and hours for his coworkers. Speelman then joined the UFCW Local 1500 staff in 1986, serving in every union department before becoming secretary-treasurer in 2009.

Speelman succeeds retired UFCW Local 1500 President Bruce W. Both. Both. Both served as president of UFCW Local 1500 since 2004.

"Our team will bring in a big energy change," Speelman noted. "We're eager to and look forward to working alongside community groups, other unions, and our International Union. We are in this together, and only together can we make a significant impact on helping the hundreds of thousands of men and women working throughout New York. Our team will have a dedicated focus on organizing new stores and helping working women and men better their lives in the food retail industry."

Newell began his career in 1990 working as a part-time shopping cart attendant for Pathmark in Bayshore, New York. Newell was instrumental in working to organize Wild by Nature, an organic chain of stores throughout Long Island in the 1990's. Prior to becoming secretary-treasurer, Newell was previously assistant to the president of UFCW Local 1500.

"I want this union to become an even greater and stronger union for the decades ahead," Newell said "Our new team will truly make a positive impact on the lives of working men and women throughout New York."

"It's a neat story," Speelman

explained, "I started as a part-timer working nights, Rob started pushing carts as a teenager. It's because of our passion and love for the men and women in this union that we're here today. We couldn't be more proud and honored to lead Local 1500 to become bigger and better."



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Caribbean Rocks New York City as TEMPO turns 10



Founder, Chairman and CEO of Tempo Networks Frederick A. Morton, Jr., a graduate of Rutgers University School of Law in Newark, on the roof of the Tempo office in Newark

TEMPO Networks is celebrating its 10 years in existence by hosting an event “Caribbean Rocks NYC – TEMPO Turns 10” at the legendary BB King’s Blues Club and Grill on Sunday, June 5, 2016.

Recently the organization announced that Barbados, Turks and Caicos and St. Kitts had joined the Bahamas as sponsors of “Caribbean Rocks NYC – TEMPO Turns 10,” along with Caribbean Airlines and American Airlines.

“The Caribbean is one of the most captivating regions of the world; home to diverse multi-ethnic cultures with people of different skin tones, different languages and dialects, belonging to various melting pots yet connected by history and heritage. Our colorful culture has left its mark on the world — the way we walk, the way we speak, our music, our dance, and our cuisine are celebrated,” said the Portia Stubbs-Smith, minister of Tourism, Turks and Caicos Islands.

“The Turks and Caicos Tourist Board and Ministry of Tourism are thrilled to support Caribbean Rocks NYC — a celebration that promises to highlight the Caribbean diaspora and remind potential visitors that the Turks and Caicos Islands and the islands of the Caribbean are still the most enriching and fulfilling destinations for adventure, fun or total relaxation,” Smith further stated.

Caribbean Rocks NYC – TEMPO Turns 10 is being staged as part of the Caribbean Tourism Organization (CTO) Caribbean Week NY celebrations, with a showcase of the best of Caribbean, music, culture and hospitality. The event is being produced by TEMPO Networks in partnership with the CTO and is a combination of cultural showcase and awards ceremony, designed to spotlight Caribbean tourism and entertainment, two of the region’s most important economic sectors and to engage

and energize the Caribbean diaspora.

“The people of the Caribbean Diaspora remain connected to their roots through a deep appreciation for the music, culture and heritage of the islands. Caribbean Rocks NYC brings the music and spirit of the Caribbean to New York City. The Bahamas Ministry of Tourism is especially delighted to collaborate with TEMPO and CTO to produce Caribbean Rocks NYC — a one-of-a-kind Caribbean cultural extravaganza,” said Minister of Tourism, Obie Wilchcombe.

Destination sponsors of Caribbean Rocks NYC will receive significant event branding, telecasts across TEMPO’s cable television network (Optimum/Cablevision, Verizon FiOS, Caribbean-wide) and talent exposure during the course of a three-month campaign. TEMPO will produce a two-hour television special from the event that will be broadcast across its cable television

network. Having worked with numerous Caribbean destinations over the years in promoting and producing cultural events, creative content and other marketing initiatives, TEMPO is well-recognized for

promoting Caribbean talent and its groundbreaking work in creating synergies between Caribbean entertainment and tourism. “I am super-excited by the leadership and support

Continued on Page 24

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New non-stop services to Guyana

Guyanese residents in New York, Florida and throughout the USA now have an additional option for air travel to Guyana, both for the Golden Jubilee Independence celebrations in May 2016, and also with a full schedule starting in July for the summer holidays.

One Guyana Air Travel in collaboration with Eastern Air Lines and Travelspan Inc. will offer non-stop flights from Miami (MIA) and New York's (JFK) and other international airports to Cheddi Jagan International Airport (CJIA) in Guyana on May 20 & 21. These flights will be bringing to Guyana quite a number of visitors and returning Guyanese from the diaspora to celebrate the nation's 50th Independence anniversary. These flight services will continue with five weekly flights from July 1 through to Sept. 11, 2016.

One Guyana created this partnership with Eastern and TravelSpan mainly because of the overwhelming demand for reliable and affordable air transport to Guyana, combined with a strong commitment to serve the travelling public from

the continental United States, Canadian and European cities. The flights are timed to provide excellent connecting opportunities at both JFK and Miami from cities throughout the U.S., Canada and Europe.

The United States Department of Transportation (US DoT) granted Eastern Air Lines approval to provide these new charter services on Feb. 10, 2016, followed by approvals from the government of Guyana on May 12, 2016.

Catherine Hughes, minister of Public Telecommunications / Tourism was extremely pleased about this very timely and much needed collaboration among seasoned air carriers. "There is no better time for this to come to pass. With the large amount of people booked to visit Guyana over this period, we welcome all carriers that could provide safe transportation for our residents and visitors before and after the Jubilee celebrations," the minister said.

Eastern Air Lines operates the state of the art 737-800 'next generation' aircraft, and will provide convenient



President and CEO of Eastern Airlines Ed Wegel.

schedules with comfortable Business and Economy seating, new onboard ambience lighting particularly to enhance sleep inflight. The modern conveniences will certainly enhance the overall experience that passengers will have.

President and CEO of East-

ern Airlines, Ed Wegel said, "We are extremely pleased to be working with Travelspan and One Guyana which have over 21 years of experience in this market ... and we are excited to be part of the 50th Anniversary celebrations with the Guyanese Community. We hope and expect to

be serving this market for many years." With the experience and expertise of Travelspan, One Guyana Air and Eastern Airlines our customers will experience a superior quality of service, ensuring the comfort, safety and hassle free travel of all our passengers.

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You May Have An Enlarged Prostate and Not Know It!

Pain & disturbance in urination? Suspect that you may have prostate problems?

According to the National Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, one in every two men over age 50 suffers from an enlarged prostate, and at age 75, about 80% of men suffer from this condition. Are you part of this disturbing statistic? If you are a male and experience painful urinary symptoms that make life difficult, it's time to talk to a urologist.

Symptoms and Testing

BPH (Benign prostatic hyperplasia or enlarged prostate) occurs when the prostate gland becomes enlarged due to an excess growth of healthy cells. The presence of an enlarged prostate can be identified through the prevalence of the following symptoms:

Increased frequency & difficulty urinating (especially frequent urination at night), weakening of the stream of urine, feeling of incomplete emptying of the bladder, and difficulty holding in urine.

These symptoms emerge gradually, often growing and worsening. Such conditions are often mistakenly blamed on age, stress and other factors, which is absolutely not the case.

In order to rule out prostate cancer and alleviate symptoms, it is important to see a urologist as soon as any of these symptoms occur. BPH does not cause prostate cancer, both afflictions may be present at the same time. The Accord Physicians Prostate Center is home to a unique laboratory and certified pathologist, who can quickly and accurately study PSA (prostate specific antigen) in blood and, if necessary, take a painless biopsy (sampling of cells) of the prostate. This eliminates the possibility of prostate cancer, which is identical with BPH in its symptoms.

Treatment

There are various treatments for an enlarged prostate, including minimally invasive and surgical treatments. If symptoms begin affecting your daily life, treatment options such as minimally invasive procedures, medication, or surgery may help. The Accord Physicians Prostate Center offers a range of possibilities for the treatment of an enlarged prostate, including applied therapeutic and physiotherapeutic methods.

Minimally Invasive Procedures

Minimally invasive procedures usually allow patients to recover quickly after treatment with little to no complications. These procedures

involve using microwave therapy to eliminate portions of the prostate.

Medication & Drug Therapies

Medications and drug therapies are commonly used to relieve moderate symptoms of an enlarged prostate. The goal of these medications is to relax the muscles in the prostate and bladder in order to reduce bladder obstructions.

Surgical Procedures

Surgical procedures involve removing the inner part of the prostate through a special instrument inserted into the urethra. If the prostate has greatly enlarged, an open prostatectomy is necessary, where an incision is made in the abdomen from which the inner layer in the prostate is removed.

Because BPH and prostate cancer can coexist, urologists at the Prostate Center are meticulous in diagnosing BPH and highly recommend regular screening for prostate cancer. If you experience excessive discomfort from your symptoms, do not hesitate to discuss your treatment options with one of the award-winning urologists at the Accord Physicians Prostate Center. If your life has been impacted by BPH, come visit Prostate Center and see how you can restore your comfort.



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TEMPO

Continued from page 20

exhibited by the Islands of the Bahamas and now Barbados, Turks and Caicos Islands and St. Kitts, recognizing, in addition to reaching the general market, the importance of our Caribbean Diaspora and the connection between tourism and entertainment," said Frederick A. Morton, Jr. founder, chairman and CEO of TEMPO Networks. Caribbean Rocks NYC is "the beginning of a franchise and movement in which the Caribbean Rocks the world and issues a new and innovative invitation to all to experience our amazing destinations, people and culture," said Morton.

Event details for "Caribbean Rocks NYC – TEMPO Turns 10," including talent-line up and tickets sales, can be found at www.caribbeanrocksnyc.com, www.gottempo.com, and www.bahamas.com/caribbeanrocksnyc or call the B.B. King's Box Office at 212-997-4144 or TEMPO Networks at 718-355-8255. For more information about Caribbean Week New York visit [bean.org, email \[CaribbeanWeek@carib-tourism.com\]\(mailto:CaribbeanWeek@carib-tourism.com\) or call \(212\) 635-9530.](http://www.onecarib-</p>
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About TEMPO Networks

TEMPO Networks is the premier media and entertainment company worldwide producing and offering culturally relevant Caribbean content and engagement on all media platforms: on air, online, on mobile and on the ground. TEMPO Networks' Flagship cable television network, TEMPO, captures and delivers the extraordinary Caribbean vibe, loved worldwide by over 40 Million annual travelers to the Caribbean, by producing and delivering Caribbean content dedicated to travel and tourism, music, cuisine, adventure, sailing, diving, social awareness initiatives, etc. TEMPO is the "Caribbean Connection." TEMPO broadcasts in over 30 countries in the Caribbean and on Optimum / Cablevision in the NY Tristate Area, reaching over five million viewers. In 2016, TEMPO launches nationally throughout the U.S. on Verizon FiOS. Additional information on TEMPO is available at www.gotTEMPO.com.

HONORS

Continued from page 3

thing, do your best."

"Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father, who is in Heaven," said Pitt on receiving the award from ex-SVG Police Detective Corporal Orton Guy, quoting a popular scripture. "Don't keep your light under a bushel.

"They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength," added Pitt in continuing Biblical quotes, prompting Master of Ceremonies Hailes Castello to quip afterwards that Pitt was taking spiritual lessons in Georgia. "If feel like an eagle, and we're going to fly."

Lorna David, an ex-police officer, assistant secretary of the association and Registered Nurse, presented Latham with his award.

"I just want to thank my former police officers for recognizing me," said Latham tersely, who has over 40 years of law enforcement experience, in receiving the award.

Entertainment promoter Atiba Williams received the Corporate Award on behalf of Yorke, saying that Standard Shippers, Inc. "will continue to assist all the NGOs (non-governmental organizations in the Diaspora."

Jordan, indeed, expressed much surprise in receiving the President Surprise Award from Arden Tannis, the current ex-police association president.

"I'm really, really surprised," he told Caribbean Life afterwards. "I'm really honored, and I'll continue to serve."

Don Providence – a former elementary school teacher in St. Vincent and the Grenadines, ex-general manager of O.D. Brisbane & Sons and extant owner of AI Real Estate, one of the older real estate companies in St. Vincent and the Grenadines – delivered the keynote

address at the gala ceremony that was also addressed by New York Counsel General Selmon Walters and president of the Brooklyn-based Council of St. Vincent and the Grenadines Organizations, USA, Inc. (COSAGO) Laverne McDowald-Thompson.

In focusing on the role of NGOs, Providence said they control over US\$100 billion globally, adding that, while, totally independent of government, NGOs play key roles in society.

He also urged patrons to continue contributing to nation-building, using a popular quote from slain US President John F. Kennedy: "Ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country."

Kennedy (1917-63), the 35th President of the United States, also said in that famous quote on patriotism: "Change is the law of life. And those who look only to the past or present are certain to miss the future. Forgive your enemies, but never forget their names.

"Those who make peaceful revolution impossible will make violent revolution inevitable," he added. "Let us never negotiate out of fear. But let us never fear to negotiate. As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them.

"A man may die, nations may rise and fall, but an idea lives on," Kennedy continued. "Those who dare to fail miserably can achieve greatly. Mankind must put an end to war before war puts an end to mankind. Efforts and courage are not enough without purpose and direction."

Tannis said the St. Vincent and the Grenadines Ex-Police Association USA, Inc.'s motto is "Staying together to Serve," adding: "And tonight, we're staying together to serve for another 36 years."

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Stacey Angoy, (center), surrounded by models in her African creations.
Photo by Tangerine Clarke

NY-based designer for Guyana Fashion Week

By Tangerine Clarke

New York-based Guyanese designer, Stacey Angoy received loud applause at a 50th Independence Fundraiser in Rosedale Queens, recently, when she showed off her Stacey A Collection designs, set for the Guyana Fashion Week 2016 to celebrate Guyana's Jubilee.

The eclectic line designed from African fabric, will be one of many other collections on the runway at the Arthur Chung Convention Center on the East Bank of Demerara, as part of the festivities to celebrate Guyana's 50th Independence Anniversary.

Angoy's design philosophy is simple, but enthralling. Each piece signifies the assertiveness of a woman when she is dressed-up. From whimsical skirts, to dresses, and matching accessories of scarves, and head wraps, and clutches, the pieces are beautifully designed, for all occasions.

The Stacey A Collection also highlights masculine style, in "dressed to impress" bow ties, and pocket-handkerchief designed from decorative African textile.

Angoy's design sensibility and inspiration comes from a strong female upbringing. Both her mother and grandmother were seamstresses who instilled in her a strong sense of entrepreneurial skills.

"For many years, fashion design was

a deferred dream of mine," said Stacey who found her niche after attending the New York's Fashion Institute of Technology.

The multifaceted artist learned early her love of the arts. With these skills nurtured from an early age, Angoy attended Guyana's prestigious Bishop's High School, before attaining a Bachelor of Arts in chemistry from the City University of New York.

The Stacey A. Collection is inspired by vibrant African prints framed in modern and regal silhouette, and made to order.

The growing brand, she added, will expand beyond fashion. "I aspire to build a brand with lasting legacy, modern style and cultural aesthetics. One of my goals for the brand is to inspire women to dream and pursue their dreams," she said.

And while Angoy makes time for her husband, Lumumba, and son, Nathan, Stacy A. Collection "made in Guyana" is a dream in the making, she said.

She said participating in the launch of Guyana Fashion Week 2016 gives her a sense of pride and concluded that the Stacey A. Collection would launch its first spring / summer collection, which inspires classic resort wear with an essence of jubilation and festivity.

To connect: facebook - Stacey A Collection, or on Instagram stace_aic.

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Natural ways to beat seasonal allergies

The season of allergy-induced sniffles and other complications is right around the corner. If you are one of the millions of people affected by seasonal allergies that lead to nasal swelling, sneezing, watery eyes, and a scratchy throat, you may not be eagerly anticipating the warmer weather as much as others.



If you are one of the millions of people affected by seasonal allergies that lead to nasal swelling, sneezing, watery eyes, and a scratchy throat, you may not be eagerly anticipating the warmer weather as much as others.

Allergy research is ongoing, and in the future doctors may be able to prevent allergic reactions from occurring rather than treating the symptoms that ensue. Until then, you will have to work with the remedies that currently exist. These remedies include antihistamines, which can cause dangerous interactions with other medications and may cause drowsiness. These side effects can be dangerous for use in seniors. Consider these other options instead:

Drink plenty of fluids. Although liquids can't wash the allergens out of your system, water, juice and clear broths can help loosen congestion. Hot liquids can soothe inflamed membranes in the nose and throat.

Avoid allergens as much as possible. Check weather reports for the levels of particulates in the air and stay indoors if they are high. Keep away from tall grasses and places with a lot of foliage.

Use the air conditioner. Rather than keeping

the windows wide open, use an air conditioner and dehumidifier to filter the air coming inside of the house and ensuring it is cool and dry.

Head to the beach. If you want to spend time outdoors, areas by the ocean will have pollen counts that are much lower than in mountainous areas.

Dry clothes indoors. Line-dried clothes may smell fresh, but they can bring molds and pollens indoors and exacerbate allergies.

Shower frequently. After being outdoors, take a shower to rinse off any allergens clinging to hair and skin.

Check with a doctor. Before mixing allergy medications with any prescriptions you are taking, ensure that they are safe to mix.



Pollen, mold, dust, and animal dander are some of the more common triggers of allergic rhinitis.

Hay fever triggers Common causes of seasonal allergies

Allergy triggers are all around, and the rates of those people affected by various allergies seems to be growing. Worldwide, the rise in prevalence of allergic diseases has continued in the industrialized world for more than 50 years, according to the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology. Sensitization to foreign proteins in one's environment is present in up to 40 percent of the world's population, continues the Academy.

An allergy is defined as an overreaction of the human immune system to a foreign protein (allergen) that is eaten, inhaled, touched, or injected into the body. Allergies can cause such reactions as stuffy or runny noses, itchy eyes, coughing and sneezing, rashes, and hives. More severe reactions can include difficulty breathing, a lowering of blood pressure, and asthma attacks.

Millions of visits to physician offices result in a primary diagnosis of allergic rhinitis, or hay fever — one of the most common allergy manifestations. The Centers for Disease Control says 17.6 million Americans were di-

agnosed with hay fever in the past 12 months. Allergic rhinitis is a common condition that creates symptoms similar to a cold. Unlike a cold, which is caused by a virus, allergic rhinitis is an allergic response to any number of triggers. Usually hay fever can be brought on by any number of allergens and sometimes it can be difficult to narrow down the exact cause.

However, here are some of the more common allergens:

Pollen

Of all things that can cause an allergy, those resulting from pollen tend to be the most prolific. Pollen can be released from trees, grasses, weeds, and flowers throughout much of the year.

While the main goal of pollen is to fertilize other plants, pollen that is inhaled can cause allergic reactions. It's one of the more difficult allergens to avoid since pollen is virtually everywhere.

Dust

Dust is an accumulation of microscopic particles that become trapped in a home. A

large portion of dust is comprised of dust mites. WebMD says about 20 million Americans are allergic to dust mites and their waste.

Dust mites feed on skin from pets and humans. They tend to spike in numbers during warmer weather or if indoor temperatures are kept at 75 F or higher. Cleaning using a HEPA filter vacuum can keep dust at a minimum. Air purifiers also may be able to help.

Animal dander

Millions of pet owners have an allergy to their animals, says the Academy. It's not the fur of the animal that causes the trouble, but usually proteins found in a pet's shed skin, saliva, and urine that can cause problems.

Keep in mind that there are no truly hypoallergenic breeds, and length of hair or fur will not eliminate allergies. An allergist may be able to suggest a course of treatment.

Mold

Tiny fungi with spores that float through the air, mold is yet another common allergen.

Alleviate ear problems

Ear problems come and go, and some may be the result of seasonal allergies or the accumulation of wax or water inside the ear canal.

Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, Texas, says the eustachian tube is a narrow tube that connects the middle ear to the back of the nose. Normally, this tube opens with every swallow or yawn to act as a pressure-equalizing valve for the middle ear. It also serves to drain the mucus produced by the lining of the middle ear. At times, the tube

can get blocked, causing a negative pressure that draws the eardrum inward. When this occurs, dull or muffled hearing is sometimes evident, and individuals may feel pain and pressure.

Colds, sinus trouble, allergies, and other ailments can contribute to eustachian tube dysfunction. In many cases, eustachian tubes will become clear

Those suffering from eustachian tube congestion should consult their physicians to develop courses of treatment.

SPINAL DECOMPRESSION: The alternative to back pain



Back pain is one of the most common chronic pain conditions affecting Americans, and spinal decompression goes right to the root of the problem.

Back pain is one of the most common chronic pain conditions affecting Americans, and spinal decompression goes right to the root of that problem.

Back pain is a significant health issue affecting more than 80 percent of Americans. Its symptoms reoccur and usually increase in severity with each episode.

The American Academy of Pain Medicine calls back pain the major cause of disability affecting Americans under 45 years of age. More than 26 million Americans between the ages of 20 to 64 experience frequent back pain. And according to the National Institute of Health Statistics, back pain is the most common type of pain reported by Americans.

Duke Medical Center notes that back-pain patients spend more than \$90 million each year on healthcare expenses.

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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

enormously may find relief with Remicade IV infusion treatments, he says. "It has worked wonders."

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 Academy of Sciences.

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Jamaicans hold high hopes for Queen Bee speller

Twelve-year-old Chaunte Blackwood is the pride of her people, the champion of her nation and the hope of all classmates at Kingston's Ardenne High School in Jamaica.

Throughout this week in Jamaica, Blackwood will be cheered, prayed for and held in high esteem during the 89th Annual Scripps National Spelling Bee.

Dubbed the Queen Bee for out-spelling all school-age contenders that vied for the Gleaner Company-sponsored championship competition held in Jamaica, her name could easily resonate with similarity and enthusiasm to Usain Bolt's, Shelly Frazier Price's, Bob Marley, Marcus Mosiah Garvey's or Jody Ann Maxwell's.

Those achievers are regaled with pride for elevating the status of the Caribbean nation and its potential for winning against tremendous odds.

However, first from May 24 to 26 Blackwood will have to beat out 284 other spellers from across the United States, The Bahamas, Canada, Ghana, Japan and South Korea all eager to win the coveted loving cup, the



Inside Life

By Vinette K. Pryce

\$40,000 prize moneys and more than any other incentive, claim the distinction a fellow student from her school achieved in 1998.

That year, Maxwell at the same age smartly won all the top prizes but also emerged the first non-American to win the coveted national and now international spelling contest.

Since that year, it seems the best of the island's Bees have emerged finalists from that educational institution to represent the entire island.

The anticipated event will be held at the Maryland Ballroom within the Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center in National Harbor, Maryland and for devoted spell checkers, the cheering has already begun.

Hanif Brown, a former Jamaica national champion who competed at Scripps in 2011 said Blackwood has all the qualities of a winner.

"She has worked hard, she has made a lot of sacrifices, and Jamaica will only see the result."

Although Brown lost out to tough competition five years ago, the former contender said "the important thing for Chaunte to take from this is that whatever it is you do in life, there are going to be challenges."

Brown is now a senior at Ardenne and in addition to a demanding study regimen, he is also the replacement coach following the 2015 death of Glen Archer, a reputed spelling coach credited with steering the best to international attention.

Archer coached 26 national champion spellers and it was Archer who coached Maxwell to celebrity status in her native Jamaica after she clinched the title with the word "chiaroscuro."

And while Jamaicans hailed that historic acclaim, there are those that believe the U.S.

national competition should be relegated to Americans.

Some even contend that a limit should be placed on the racial makeup of finalists.

Their argument is that for "seven years in a row, and for 11 of the past 15 years, the \$30,000 Scripps National Spelling Bee championship has been won by American youngsters of Indian heritage."

While that may be true, organizers of the competition offer that "they (Indians) make up one in five of the 285 spellers, aged nine through 15, from all 50 states and seven foreign countries, who ran a gauntlet of local and regional contests to qualify for the big event."

To further dispute the bias, "Americans of South Asian heritage make up just one percent of the United States population, but only a few are really into competitive spelling, Shalina Shankar, Northwestern University anthropology professor said.

Seven of the 10 finalists in the National Geographic Bee earlier this month were Indian American, including the winner, Karan Menon, from New Jersey.

"I look forward to the day, as do I think many of our South Asian participants, when they are called what they want to be called — Americans," Paige Kimble, a 1981 champion and current Bee director said.

"The bee is one of the truest forms of meritocracy, and we support every kid no matter where they come from," Kimble added.

"It's unfortunate that people have some not very nice things to say on social media."

The Bee is the nation's largest and longest-running educational promotion, administered on a not-for-profit basis by The E.W. Scripps Company and 288 sponsors in the United States, Europe, Canada, New Zealand, Guam, Jamaica, The Bahamas, Ghana, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands and American Samoa.

Annually held in late May and / or early June of each year, competitions are open to students who have not yet completed the eighth grade, reached their 15th birthday, nor won a previous National Spelling Bee.

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ENTERTAINMENT

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A scene from 'Colors of Death' at the Friends of Crown Heights Educational Center in Brooklyn.

Velda Ashton

'Colors of death' teaches lessons about 'Dead Left'

By Nelson A. King

The turmoil that too often envelops some families about inheritances, or "death left" in Vincentian parlance, on the death of loved ones, particularly parents, was played out in New York over the weekend in the debut of "Colors of Death."

The witty yet serious play, written and produced by prominent Vincentian playwright and actor Jerol Huggins-Jackson, was introduced to patrons in the United States on Saturday and Sunday at the Friends of Crown Heights Educational Center in Brooklyn.

Performed in four scenes, "Colors of Death" tells the story of Desmond and his wife, Beverly Bain; their three daughters — Jacqueline, Mable or

Continued on Page 38

Oliver Samuels' 'Guilt Trip'

Everybody's "Caribbean" Magazine presents the magical and hilarious family play, "Guilt Trip" on May 28–29 in New York City. After more than 350 performances in Kingston during the 2016 Jamaica theater season and nominated for nine Actor Boy Awards (Jamaica equivalent of Broadway's Tony), "Guilt Trip" premiered in Toronto, Canada and St. Kitts and Nevis to launch the international tour.

Veteran stage and screen actor and comedian Oliver Samuels stars as Stead-

Continued on Page 38



CULTURE FEST

Reggae artist Ziggy Marley rehearses with his band at Swing House Recording Studio in Los Angeles.

Associated Press / Chris Pizzello

Marley, friends to launch new venue

By Vinette K. Pryce

The buzz about Brooklyn's outdoor, boardwalk showplace is no longer an enigma. The 500-seat, Coney Island Amphitheatre is a reality and is ready to launch its first summer concert series.

For a starter, promoters lured Ziggy Marley from his annual date in Manhattan at Central Park Summerstage to perform with like-minded musicians on a bill tagged Marley & Friends Culture Fest.

The alluring reggae concert prom-

ises three for the price of one with British reggae legends Steel Pulse and Maxi Priest along with the seven-time Grammy winner.

Slated for June 25 at the new venue, Marley & Friends Culture Fest also bills Ed Robinson, another legendary reggae recorder.

At least one promoter is banking on the adage that the early bird catches the worm and advance ticket buyers are hoping to cash in on making advance ticket purchases.

The stellar presentation is the first

major reggae concert of the season and that it will be held at the West 21st & Surf Ave. should be alluring to music aficionados of all ilk.

Other hot tickets include a diverse selection of presentations from numerous genres. Friday night concerts will also feature fireworks along the boardwalk.

June 25: Ziggy Marley & Steel Pulse

July 01: Impractical Jokers "Santiago Sent Us" Tour

Continued on Page 38

It's Birds Vs. Pigs in adaptation of video game app

"The Angry Birds Movie"
Very Good (3 stars)
Rated PG for action and rude humor
Running time:
95 minutes

By Kam Williams

With over three billion downloads and counting, Angry Birds is the most popular app of all time. Nevertheless, one need not be familiar with the video game to enjoy this delightful animated adventure.

The kid-oriented cartoon was co-directed by Fergal Reilly and Clay Kaytis who make an auspicious debut with this silly comedy featuring enough sophisticated asides to keep adults thoroughly entertained, too. The frenetically-paced production arrives laced with witty one-liners (like "Something isn't Kosher about these pigs.") as well as a cornucopia of cute sight gags (such as a billboard



A scene from "The Angry Birds Movie."

rottentomatoes.com

for "Calvin Swine" underwear).

The story is set on idyllic Bird Island, a tropical paradise inhabited by a variety of very happy flightless birds. As the film unfolds, we're introduced to

four exceptions to the rule who actually have trouble controlling their tempers. We find protagonist Red (Jason Sudeikis), along with Chuck (Josh Gad), Bomb (Danny McBride) and

Terence (Sean Penn), attending an anger management class being taught by Matilda (Maya Rudolph), a former angry bird-turned therapist.

The plot thickens upon the

arrival of a big boat containing a couple of ingratiating green pigs (Bill Hader and Tony Hale) claiming to be alone and explorers coming in peace. Truth be told, the pair have a hidden agenda about to be executed by their army of pigs.

After suckering the masses of gentle, gullible birds into letting down their guard, the diabolical invaders proceed to steal every hatched egg on the island before setting sail for home. Once, it's clear they've all been duped, the irritable quartet, led by Red, springs into action.

Because they can't fly, they soon realize their best chance of retrieving the eggs rests in enlisting the assistance of Mighty Eagle (Peter Dinklage), the only bird on the island who can. Trouble is, he's lazy and hasn't flown in ages. Of course, Red and company do eventually coax him out of retirement to join forces and help save the day.

A kooky, kitchen sink comedy with lots of laughs for kids of all ages!

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Independent & Foreign Films

Holy Hell (Unrated) Mind control documentary revisiting The Buddhafield, an ill-fated, religious sect located in L.A. in the Eighties which was run by a charismatic cult leader called Michel.

The Idol (Unrated) Against-the-odds biopic about Mohammed Assaf (Tawfeek Barhom), the Palestinian kid from Gaza who used a forged visa to enter Egypt where he proceeded to win the 2013 Arab Idol competition. With Ahmed Al Rokh, Hiba Attalah and Kais Attalah. (In Arabic and Spanish with subtitles)

Jia Zhangke, A Guy from Fenyang (Unrated) Reverential biopic about Chinese filmmaker Jia Zhangke unfolding from the perspective of his Brazilian colleague, Walter Salles. (In Mandarin with subtitles)

Ma Ma (R for some nudity and brief sexual references) Character-driven drama, set in the Canary Islands, revolving around a young mother (Penelope Cruz) recently diagnosed with cancer who forges a friendship with a soccer scout (Luis Tovar) who just lost his wife and daughter in a car accident. With Asier Etxeandia, Teo Planell and Anna Jimenez. (In Spanish with subtitles).

Presenting **Princess Shaw** (Unrated) Prestige biopic about Samantha Montgomery, New Orleans healthcare worker-turned-Youtube singing sensation with the help of a stranger, Kutman, a pioneering composer / musician



Kam's Kapsules

By Kam Williams

/ video artist located half a world away in Israel.

Unlocking the Cage (Unrated) Animal rights documentary chronicling the efforts of attorney Steven Wise to secure personhood status for primates, elephants and whales.

BIG BUDGET FILMS

Alice through the Looking Glass (PG for fantasy action, scenes of peril and mild epithets) Adaptation of Lewis Carroll's sequel to Alice's Adventures in Wonderland finds Alice (Mia Wasikowska) traveling backwards in time in order to save the Mad Hatter (Johnny Depp) from losing his mind. Ensemble cast includes Helena Bonham Carter, Anne Hathaway, Sacha Baron Cohen, Rhys Ifans and the late Alan Rickman.

X-Men: Apocalypse (PG-13 for violence, action, destruction, suggestive images and brief profanity) ninth installment in the franchise based on the Marvel Comics series finds Raven (Jennifer Lawrence) and Professor Xavier (James McAvoy) recruiting a team of young X-Men to prevent a seemingly immortal and invincible mutant (Oscar Isaac) from triggering an extinction-level event. With Michael Fassbender, Nicholas Hoult and Rose Byrne.

Go to www.Caribbeanlifeneews.com for the latest in Caribbean news.

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TOP OF THE CHARTS

TOP 10 SINGLES



- 1 **7 Years**
Lukas Graham
- 2 **One Dance**
Drake Feat. Wiz Kid...
- 3 **I Took A Pill in Ibiza**
Mike Posner
- 4 **Can't Stop The Feeling!**
Justin Timberlake
- 5 **Love Yourself**
Justin Bieber
- 6 **Work From Home**
Fifth Harmony
- 7 **Pillowtalk**
Zayn
- 8 **Don't Let Me Down**
The Chainsmokers Feat. Daya
- 9 **Cake By The Ocean**
DNCE
- 10 **Stressed Out**
twenty one pilots

TOP 10 ALBUMS



- 1 **Lemonade**
Beyoncé
- 2 **Views**
Drake
- 3 **Thank You**
Meghan Trainor
- 4 **A Moon Shaped Pool**
Radiohead
- 5 **Misadventures**
Pierce the Veil
- 6 **Cloud Nine**
Kygo
- 7 **Playing with Fire**
Jennifer Nettles
- 8 **Ripcord**
Keith Urban
- 9 **Traveller**
Chris Stapleton
- 10 **The Heart Speaks in...**
Corinne Bailey Rae



Vincy theater

Continued from page 35

Mabeline, and Evelyn — and a cantankerous and often antagonistic aunt, Beatrice.

The family lives in a refurbished dwelling in Bottom Town, presumably in Kingstown, the Vincentian capital.

With the primary goal of improving his family's impecunious state, Desmond left home and sought employment with the US-based shipping company, National Bulk Carriers.

While sailing, Desmond got caught up in the drug trade, trafficking in cocaine.

But, while hoping to earn US\$1 million in the illegal trade, he was busted in November 1975 by the Feds (FBI — Federal Bureau of Investigation) in Galveston, TX.

Jailed initially for 44 years, Desmond was unable to provide for his family. He, however, continued corresponding with Beverly from behind bars.

But, just before Beverly's death from cancer, Desmond told her where to find some "treasures" he had hidden near the outdoor latrine. Beverly used that money to repair the house.

Fearful that disclosure of Desmond's incarceration would

bring shame and disgrace on her and the family, Beverly kept it to herself. She did not tell her children — much less her loquacious sister, Beatrice.

Instead, Beverly said Desmond was drowned in a "boating accident."

Consequently, the children grew up in dire poverty — hardly getting anything to eat on a daily basis — and the family was often unable to pay for basis utilities, such as electricity.

After growing up, the two elder daughters — Jacqueline and Mable — migrated; Jacqueline, the oldest, went to England, and Mable, "the crack addict," travelled to Trinidad and Tobago. The youngest, Evelyn, remained at home, assisting her mother until she passed.

Apparently, Jacqueline and Mable "never looked back" on their mother; they never sent remittances to improve her lot. Beverly "had to do what she had to do," selling, among other things, groundnuts, to get by.

However, with Beverly's death, the elder daughters returned home, after decades overseas, for the funeral.

But rather than being preoccupied with funeral arrangements, or demonstrating emo-



Jerol Huggins-Jackson introducing cast at play's end. From left: Sylvia Williams-Gould, Toni Johnson-DaSilva, Bernadette Bristol and Nikki Nero. Velda Ashton

Both laid claim to the house, but Beatrice would have none of that, frequently asking them, especially in family arguments, to "get out."

Rather, Beatrice said Evelyn, who took care of Beverly over the years, should be the true inheritor of Beverly's estate.

Suddenly, out of nowhere, a fully grey-haired, old man, with a cane, knocked on the door, claiming to be the children's father.

But, while Evelyn seemed to more readily accept him, occasionally calling him "daddy," her elder siblings quickly rejected him, querying his whereabouts when they most needed him.

Desmond eventually told the children and Beatrice of his plight, stating that he was

prison walls.

Beatrice wondered why Beverly did not "pinch" her about Desmond's incarceration.

Soon, the hostility towards Desmond dissipated as Beatrice read Beverly's will, stating that Desmond had, in fact, provided the finance to refurbish the dwelling house while in jail.

The will provided that Desmond get the master bedroom, Evelyn gets bedroom #1, Jacqueline gets bedroom #2, and Mabel gets bedroom #3.

Beverly also bequeathed that half an acre of land around the house be used to "cultivate food" for the family. One, however, cannot discern how half an acre of land is available for agricultural production in "concrete jungle" Bottom Town.

Caribbean comedy

Continued from page 35

man; Ruth Ho Shing, Jamaica's brilliant actress, plays the role of Steadman's wife, Irene and Dennis Titus acclaimed for his role in Denzel Washington's, "The Mighty Quinn," is Morgan, son of Steadman and Irene.

The Rev. Devon Dick says, "'Guilt Trip' extols the virtues of Bob Marley. It is a play for the entire family to enjoy but leave with a rewarding message."

"Guilt Trip" is written by Basil

Dawkins. Although Dawkins is one of the Caribbean's top playwrights, and certainly among the cream of Jamaican writers, producers and directors, his popularity and respect are increasing. You may think he is new on the scene. Yet, he has been a playwright for decades and wrote some of Jamaica's top plays such as "My God Don't Wear Pajamas," "Feminine Justice," and "Uptown Bangarang." Since he started working with Oliver Samuels in 2015.



Steel Pulse singer David Hinds sings with the band at the Farm Aid concert in Camden, N.J. Associated Press / Mel Evans

Reggae Festival

Continued from page 35

July 03: Sting & Peter Gabriel
July 04: The Beach Boys
July 09: Maxwell
July 10: Hollywood Vampires
July 13: Culture Club

July 15: Jane's Addiction & Dinosaur Jr.
July 16: 311 & Matisyahu
July 17: KIDZ Bop
July 23: Slightly Stoopid, SOJA, Zion I, The Grouch, Eligh
July 31: Dark Star Orchestra
Aug 03: Erykah Badu



Ruth Ho Shing, Oliver Samuels and Dennis Titus in the family play, "Guilt Trip." Mykonic Productions

MEC to celebrate legendary Jazz pianist Randy Weston

By Nelson A. King

Randy Weston, the legendary jazz pianist, composer and bandleader, will be celebrated at a special free program, from 6 to 8 pm on Friday, June 10, at Brooklyn's Medgar Evers College (MEC).

The program takes place in the college's Founders Auditorium at 1650 Bedford Ave.

MEC said the celebration will include a performance by Weston and a conversation about his life journey with Dr. Clinton Crawford, chairman of the college's Department of Mass Communications, Creative & Performing Arts and Speech.

The evening will begin with a presentation by "Something Positive," a premier Afro-Caribbean performing arts company, and remarks from MEC President Dr. Rudolph F. Crew.

A video montage that show-

cases Weston will be shown, and Weston will sell and autograph copies of "African Rhythms: The Autobiography

"You put all of those ingredients in the pot, stir it up, and you have Randy Weston,"

of Randy Weston."

MEC said Weston's spectacular career has spanned over 60 years.

The National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) in 2001 named him a "Jazz Master," which the NEA describes as "the highest honor that our nation bestows on jazz artists."

The list of artists selected by the NEA for that honor includes Miles Davis, Betty Carter and

Ramsey Lewis.

In 2015, MEC said the Jazz Journalists Association gave Weston the Lifetime Achievement in Jazz award.

"If you were to ask who is Randy Weston, it would be like making a stew," Weston said. "You throw in some Ellington, some Basie, some Monk, some Tatum and some Nat Cole; throw in Africa, throw in Coleman Hawkins, Dizzy Gillespie, and Chano Pozo.

"You put all of those ingredients in the pot, stir it up, and you have Randy Weston," he added.

"When Randy Weston plays, a combination of strength and gentleness, virility and velvet, emerges from the keys in an ebb and flow of sound seemingly as natural as the waves of the sea," Langston Hughes said.



Legendary jazz pianist and composer Randy Weston.

Photo by Stefano Giovannini

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Trombone Shorty finds riches in his city's songs

"Trombone Shorty" by Troy "Trombone Shorty" Andrews, illustrated by Bryan Collier c.2015, Abrams Books for Young Readers \$17.95 / \$21.95 Canada 40 pages

BOOK REVIEW

could hear the music floating in the air" day and night. The house where Troy Andrews grew up was filled with music, too, and Troy loved the trombone. He hoped to be a musician some day.

Each year, when Mardi Gras rolled through Tremé, Troy and his neighbors would dance along with the bands in the parades. Man, that was fun! There were balloons, beads, and music, which "made everyone forget about their troubles for a little while."

That also made Troy want to become a musician even more, so he and his friends created instruments from odds and ends they found around Tremé; Troy was happy to find a beat-up trombone, and he fixed it up good. That's the best part of being a musician: you can make music from almost anything.

So he was ready. At the next

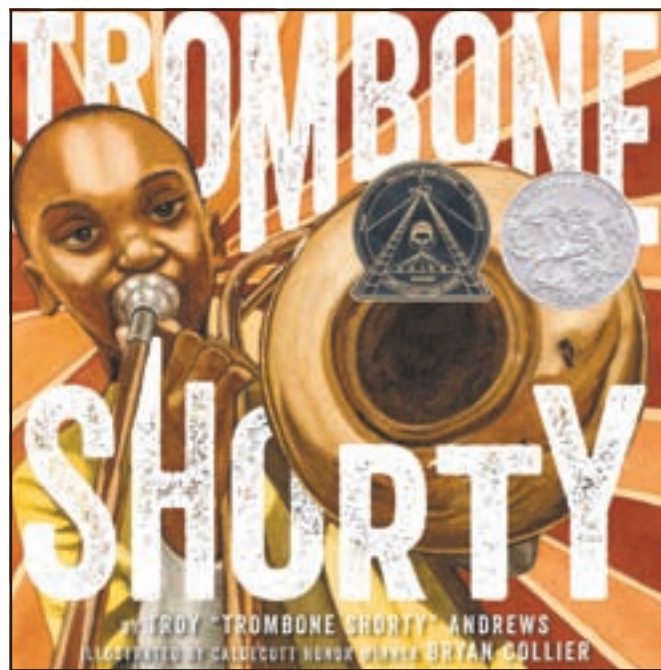
parade, he grabbed his trombone, jumped right in, and started marching with the band. Because he was a little guy and the trombone is a big instrument, Troy's brother gave Troy the nickname of "Trombone Shorty," which is what everyone called him from then on.

"I took that trombone everywhere," Troy says, "and never stopped playing."

He even took it to the New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival, and he played along with the musicians. He was so loud and so good that Bo Diddley called Trombone Shorty onstage and asked him to jam.

Trombone Shorty knew then that he could have his own band, so he did. Every day after school, his band practiced their music until they were able to perform "all around New Orleans" — and they still perform today!

Lately, you've played air gui-



Book cover of "Trombone Shorty" by Troy "Trombone Shorty" Andrews

tar to a Prince song, and were a drummer on your kitchen table. If your kids caught your love of music, they might likewise dream the dreams found inside the award-winning "Trombone Shorty."

With the same laissez les bon temps vibe you get from merely standing on a New Orleans sidewalk, author Troy Andrews tells of coming up

poor and finding riches in his city's songs. It's a story that'll make your children want to dance with music they can almost hear from the pages of this book; those silent songs are underscored by illustrations from Bryan Collier, himself an award-winner.

Be sure to check out the author's notes. Show your kids the pictures.

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West Indies' Chris Gayle, right, listens to team's bowling coach Curtly Ambrose during a training session ahead of their ICC World Twenty20 2016 match against Sri Lanka in Bangalore, India, Saturday, March 19, 2016. Associated Press / Aijaz Rahi, File

WICB fires Ambrose

By Azad Ali

West Indies fast bowling legend Sir Curtly Ambrose says he is shocked over his firing as West Indies bowling consultant.

Ambrose, 52, who has served in the role for the past three years, said he had only been informed of the decision by West Indies head coach Phil Simmons a week ago.

He said he had already planned his schedule for the upcoming Tri-Nations

Continued on Page 42

WI, England clash in Jamaica

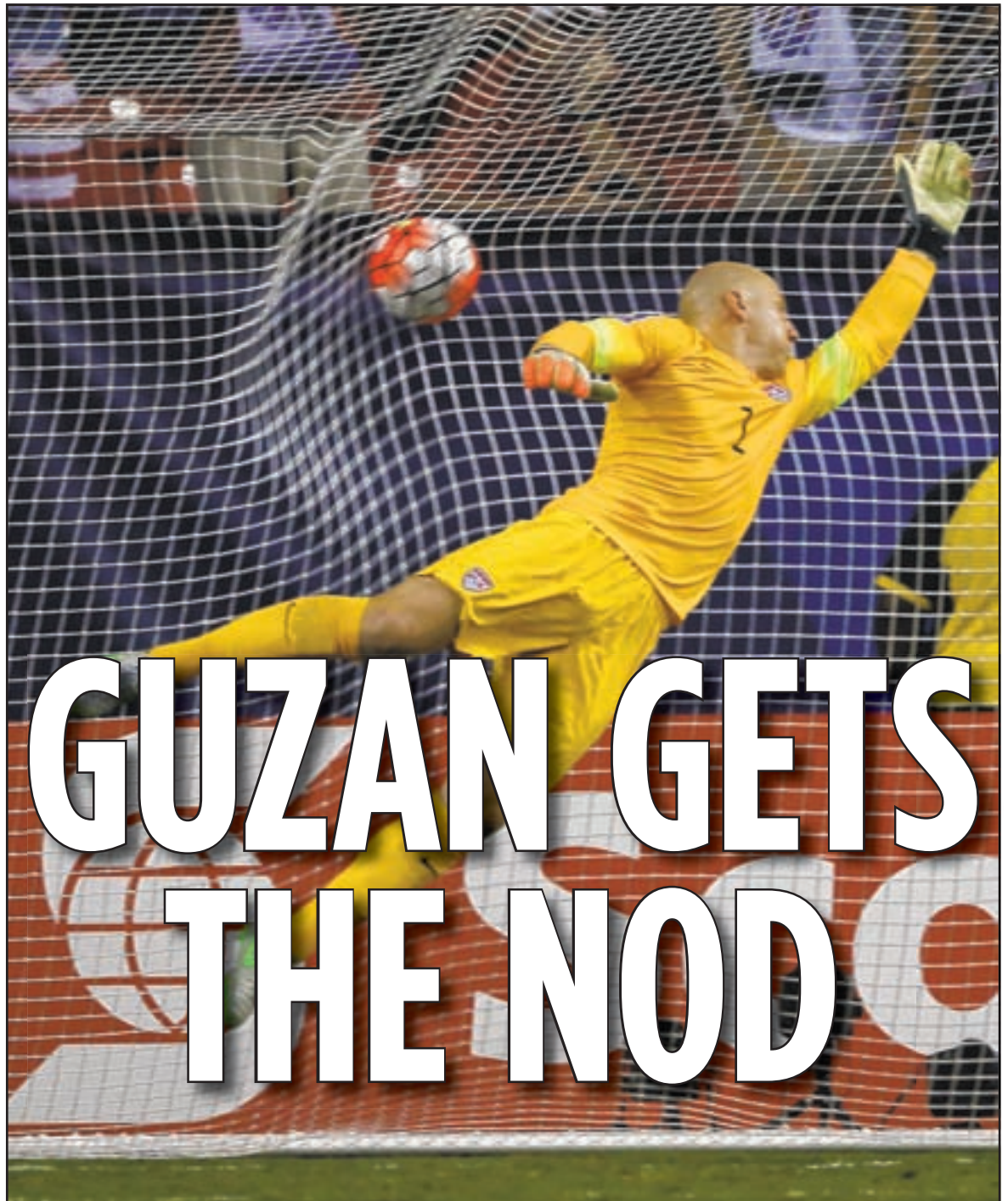
By Azad Ali

The International Cricket Council (ICC) Women's Twenty20 champions will clash with England in the 50-over format in five-match One-Day International series in October in the Caribbean.

This was revealed by the West Indies Cricket Board (WICB) which said the two teams would meet in a series from Oct. 8-19 with three final games designated with ICC Women's Championship points.

For West Indies, the tournament will be the first since winning the Twenty20 World Cup in India last month.

Continued on Page 42



GUZAN GETS THE NOD

The ball gets past United States goalkeeper Brad Guzan for a Jamaica goal during the first half of a CONCACAF Gold Cup soccer semifinal. Wednesday, July 22, 2015, in Atlanta. Associated Press / John Bazemore, File

As US prepares for Copa America tourney

By The Associated Press

Goalkeeper Brad Guzan is set to start ahead of veteran Tim Howard for the U.S. national team in the 2014 World Cup team.

Coach Jurgen Klinsmann announced the 23-man roster Saturday during halftime of the MLS

rivalry game between New York City FC and the New York Red Bulls. The roster features 15 players from the 2014 World Cup team.

"We will go with Brad Guzan as the No. 1 at the Copa America. That's the decision that we made," Klinsmann told FOX Sports for the half-

time announcement. "We had good talks with both goalkeepers. Tim Howard is there to support Brad 24-7. But it's important that both goalkeepers know what is the ranking right now."

Howard, who played for Everton
Continued on Page 42

Continued from page 41

Series and four-Test Indian series starting in July.

Last week, the West Indies Cricket Board (WICB) announced that Ambrose would be replaced by former Barbados and West Indies fast bowler, Roddy Estwick, who was recently the bowling coach for Barbados.

The move came just about a few weeks prior to the start of the June 3–26 Tri-Nations Series, involving Australia and South Africa and about a month after the Antiguan helped guide West Indies to their second capture of the Twenty20 World Cup title in India.

The Tri-nation series will be played under lights.

Sir Curtly said he had been told by Simmons that he required a bowling consultant who was “more technical,” hence the decision to go with Estwick.

Sir Curtly is widely regarded as one of the finest fast bowlers to have played the game, taking 405 wickets in 98 Tests at an average of 20.09.

Estwick has to his credit national coach of the year in Barbados in 2005 and 2011.

Windies

Continued from page 41

West Indies women and their English rivals met during the Twenty20 World Cup in India, when the Caribbean side missed out by one wicket in a last-ball thriller during the group stage.

The first two games have been scheduled for Oct. 8 and 10 at the little-used Trelawny Stadium in Jamaica, which first hosted warm-up games for the 2007 Cricket World Cup, but to date has never staged an international fixture.

The final games will be played at the historic Sabina Park in Kingston, on Oct. 14, 16 and 19.

West Indies team is second in the ICC Women's Championship on 20 points, four adrift of Australia, while England is in the sixth position with 13 points.



West Indies players celebrate their victory over Australia in the final of the ICC Women's World Twenty20 2016 cricket tournament at Eden Gardens in Kolkata, India, Sunday, April 3, 2016.

Associated Press / Bikas Das, File



In this March 21, 2016, file photo, U.S. soccer goalkeepers Tim Howard, left, and Brad Guzan, warm up during a training session at Barry University in Miami Shores, Fla. Associated Press / Marta Lavandier, File

BIG SURPRISE ON ROSTER LIST

Continued from page 41

for nine seasons until signing with the Colorado Rapids in March, was the national team's starter in goal for the World Cup in Brazil. Afterward, he took time off from the U.S. team and Guzan took over as starter. Upon Howard's return, the two keepers rotated.

Perhaps the biggest surprise on the roster itself was the exclusion of Seattle Sounders forward Jordan Morris. Klinsmann named Clint Dempsey, Chris Wondolowski, Bobby Wood and Gyasi Zardes at forward.

There was the possibility that Morris might make the roster in the absence of Jozy Altidore, who was injured while taking a penalty kick for Toronto FC against the Vancouver Whitecaps last weekend. Altidore is expected to miss six to eight weeks.

“It came down to Wondo (Wondolowski) or Jordan,” Klinsmann said. “And we decided at this moment to go with Wondo. He's in top form, he's scoring a lot of goals for the (San Jose) Earthquakes. Obviously when you take

certain players in one area you have to leave other ones out.”

The roster includes three goalkeepers, eight defenders and 12 midfielders / forwards. Eighteen players have appeared for the United States in World Cup qualifying.

The youngest player is 17-year-old Christian Pulisic, who has one previous appearance with the national team, and played with Borussia Dortmund, where he became the youngest player ever to score two goals in the Bundesliga.

The U.S. opens the 16-nation Copa America against Colombia on June 3 in Santa Clara, California. It then plays Costa Rica four days later at Chicago and closes the first round June 11 against Paraguay in Philadelphia.

A number of the players named to the Copa Roster won't be available for Sunday's U.S. exhibition at Puerto Rico because of Major League Soccer obligations. But most should be return to the national team for matches against Ecuador on Wednesday in Texas and Bolivia on Saturday in Kansas City,

Kansas.

The roster, including club team affiliation:

Goalkeepers: Guzan (Aston Villa), Howard (Colorado Rapids), Ethan Horvath (Molde IK).

Defenders: Matt Besler (Sporting KC), Steve Birnbaum (D.C. United), John Brooks (Hertha Berlin), Geoff Cameron (Stoke City), Timmy Chandler (Eintracht Frankfurt), Fabian Johnson (Borussia Moenchengladbach), Michael Orozco (Club Tijuana), DeAndre Yedlin (Tottenham Hotspur).

Midfielders / Forwards: Kyle Beckerman (Real Salt Lake), Alejandro Bedoya (Nantes), Michael Bradley (Toronto FC), Dempsey (Seattle Sounders FC), Jermaine Jones (Colorado Rapids), Perry Kitchen (Heart of Midlothian), Darlington Nagbe (Portland Timbers), Pulisic (Borussia Dortmund), Wondolowski (San Jose Earthquakes), Wood (Hamburg SV), Zardes (LA Galaxy), Graham Zusi (Sporting KC)

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West Indies selects weak Tri-Nation squad



Eyes on Cricket

By George H. Whyte



West Indies Jason Holder bowls to New Zealand during their one day international cricket match in Hamilton, New Zealand, Wednesday, Jan. 8, 2014.

Associated Press / New Zealand Herald, Christine Cornege, File

West Indies selectors have named a very weak Tri-Nations Series squad which lacks penetrative bowlers. Wicket keeper Denesh Ramdin must make room for Barbadian wicket keeper and batsman Shane Dowrich. Batsman Jason Mohammad should have been in the Tri-Nation squad, Andre Russell, the prolific all rounder and brilliant fielder would have been a plus to the team. Jonathan Carter did not merit his place in the squad and he never should have been selected.

ODI MODE

West Indies batsmen and their bowlers must get into the mode of batting and bowling respectively according to One-Day standards. West Indies batsmen must re-form their Twenty20 habits and get into the rhythm of staying at the wicket for longer periods. West Indies cricket needs much modification. Sir Curtly Ambrose has done an admirable job with the West Indies bowlers. For the West Indies to gain success in One-Day Internationals and

Test cricket, its players must transform their thinking into battling the opposition much tougher.

ALL ROUNDERS

With Dwayne Bravo, Chris Gayle and Andre Russell not included in The West Indies Tri-Nation squad, two key players as in Carlos Brathwaite and Kieron Pollard, will have to play full all rounder roles. Batting longer is the key for batsmen and bowlers have at least 10 overs to get it together. The swashbuckling Twenty20 hustle will have to cease and intelligent batting must prevail. Head Coach Lendl Simmons has a difficult job in getting players to focus on the longer version of the game. West Indies should have its strongest and best team playing at home. Captain Jason Holder has to play a pivotal role with the bat

and ball.

WEST INDIES TRI-NATION SQUAD

Jason Holder [Capt] Sulie-man Benn, Carlos Brathwaite, Darren Bravo, Jonathan Carter, Johnson Charles, Andre Fletcher, Shannon Gabriel, Sunil Narine, Ashley Nurse, Kieron Pollard, Denesh Ramdin, Marlon Samuels and Jerome Taylor. Australia squad Steve Smith [Captain] David Warner [Vice Captain]. George Bailey, Nathan Coulter-Nile, James Faulkner, Aaron Finch, John Hastings, Josh Hazlewood, Travis Head, Usman Khawaja, Nathan Lyon, Mitchell Starc, Matthew Wade and Adam Zampa.

Note: Captain Steve Smith hopefully will not make the mistake and assign David Warner at number three. Aaron Finch and David Warner must start the Australian innings.

Usman Khawaja should bat at number three.

SOUTH AFRICA

Abde Villiers [Capt], Kyle Abbott, Hashim Amla, Farhaan

Behardien, Quintonde Kock, JP Duminy, Fafdu Plessis, Imran Tahir, Morne Morkel, Chris Morris, Wayne Parnell, Aaron Phangiso, Kagiso Rabada, Rilee Rossouw and Tabraiz Shamsi.

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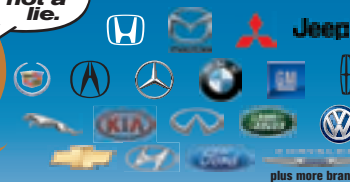


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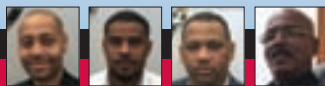
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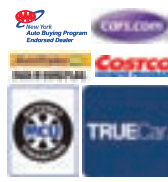
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ARIES: Mar 21/Apr 20
Aries, expect others to pay attention to what you have to say this week. It may seem like no one is giving your thoughts much mind, but they're not falling on deaf ears.

TAURUS: Apr 21/May 21
Taurus, this week starts off with a lot of excitement, and that energy continues throughout the ensuing days. You may need to catch your breath at some point.

GEMINI: May 22/Jun 21
Concentrating on work seems quite challenging this week, Gemini. Many interesting diversions are calling out to you. Ask a friend to help you focus.

CANCER: Jun 22/Jul 22
It can be burdensome to have so many people relying on you in any given week, Cancer. But keep your head up because that trust shows their faith in you.

LEO: Jul 23/Aug 23
Leo, even though you continue to adapt to every change thrown your way, always thinking on your feet can be taxing. It's time to take a well-deserved break. Start planning.

VIRGO: Aug 24/Sept 23
Virgo, instead of thinking everything through to the most minute of details, take a much simpler approach. You'll rest easier knowing you cut out most of the drama from your days.

LIBRA: Sept 23/Oct 23
Libra, some intense social interactions may have tapped into your reserved energy. If you're feeling tired and out of sorts, laughter and good friends can help.

SCORPIO: Oct 24/Nov 22
Scorpio, you always have a few tricks up your sleeve and this week is no different. Reserve your secret weapon for when you need it most. Enjoy the good times ahead.

SAGITTARIUS: Nov 23/Dec 21
Sagittarius, devoting your energy to pleasurable things instead of work has found you falling behind on some important things. It's time to finally buckle down.

CAPRICORN: Dec 22/Jan 20
Don't let a few bumps along the way completely derail your plans, Capricorn. You may feel discouraged, but this is only a small hill to overcome. Next week looks promising.

AQUARIUS: Jan 21/Feb 18
Aquarius, stop midweek and assess just how much you have accomplished already. You will be amazed at just how much you can do in a short amount of time.

PISCES: Feb 19/Mar 20
You are quick at the start, Pisces. But unless you pace yourself, you are going to fizzle out before the end of this week. Try to be more steady.

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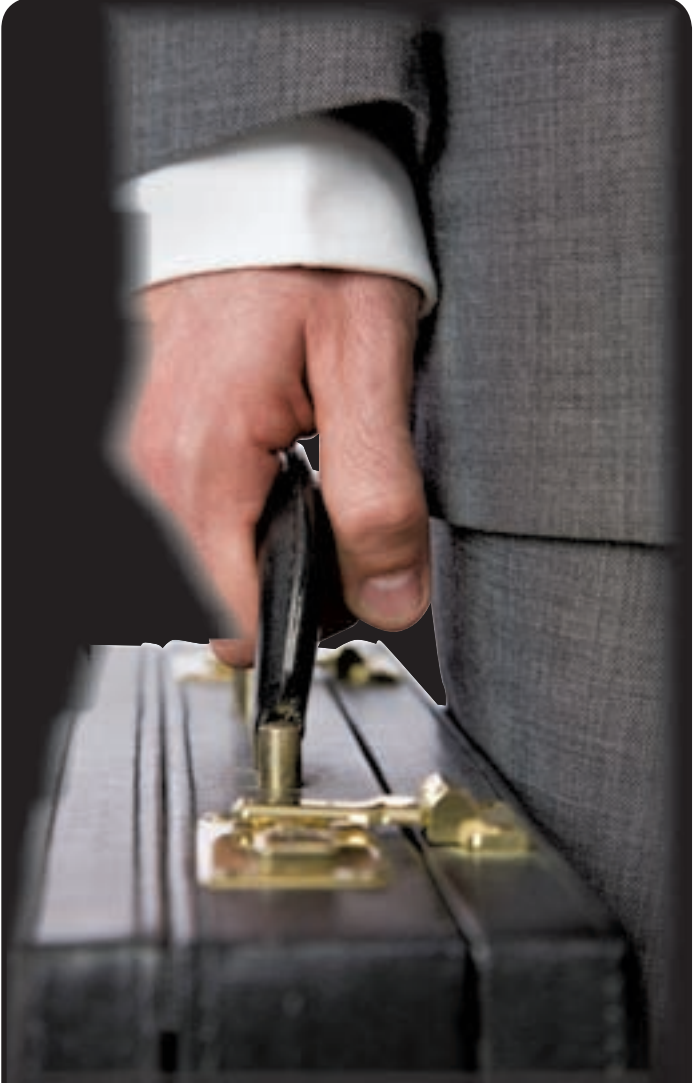
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NOTICE OF SALE
SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF KINGS Deutsche Bank National Trust Company, as Trustee for Morgan Stanley Capital I Inc. Trust 2006-HE2, Plaintiff AGAINST Marie Cesar a/k/a Marie C. Cesar; Wilbert Louis; et al., Defendant(s) Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated December 11, 2015 I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Room 224, Brooklyn, NY 11201 on June 16, 2016 at 2:30PM, premises known as 1735 Albany Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11210. All that certain plot piece or parcel of

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land, with the buildings and improvements erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of NY, Block 7745 Lot 20. Approximate amount of judgment \$585,204.00 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index# 506326/2013. Ryan Scott Karben, Esq., Referee Shapiro, DiCaro & Barak, LLC Attorney(s) for the Plaintiff 175 Mile Crossing Boulevard Rochester, New York 14624 (877) 759-1835 Dated: May 3, 2016

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