

Caribbean Life



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BROOKLYN/STATEN ISLAND EDITION

June 17-23, 2016



CARIBBEAN LIFE PROUDLY PRESENTS

CARIBBEAN AMERICAN HEALTHCARE

Awards 2016

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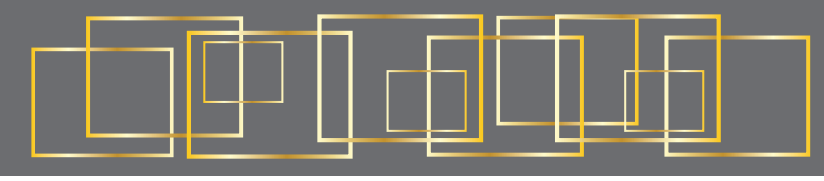
Lenox Hill Hospital
is proud to recognize our colleague

Kirstie Toussaint, RN, MS, NEA-BC
Director, Patient Care Services

for her strong leadership, endless energy and unwavering
commitment to improving patient care. She inspires us all.

Congratulations to Kirstie and all the honorees at the
Caribbean American Healthcare Awards 2016.





To our good health!

Celebrating Caribbean Americans who help advance New York's healthcare industry

Tomorrow's healthcare facilities will be smaller and more widely dispersed, as healthcare providers move away from the traditional model of community hospitals, making it essential for caregivers to have a grassroots approach.

It is good to know the standard of practice is imbued in the Caribbean Americans who comprise a significant portion of our healthcare workforce and dominate critical areas of our caregiving disciplines.

Caribbean contributions to diagnostic, disease-prevention, and delivery of healthcare services are pioneering:

Jamaican microbiologist and pathologist Louis Grant [1913–1993] helped to isolate the deadly dengue virus. His compatriot Mary Seacole [1805–1881] brought her mother's herbal remedies to the Crimean War's battlefields, self-financing her trip to the Black Sea peninsula to treat wounded soldiers after being passed over by Florence Nightingale.

Caribbeans have brought their heritage of loyalty and hard work to New York in a swell of compassionate care, becoming naturalized United States citizens at higher rates compared to other immigrant groups, and gravitating to our health care system in a victory for all Americans.

Caribbean Life and Community News Group are proud to celebrate 32 healthcare professionals in our third annual Caribbean American Healthcare Awards special edition, capped with a gala on June 23 at Paradise Catering Hall, where we will formally salute these exceptional New Yorkers for helping to advance our healthcare system to its best possible outcome.

Our awardees are as diverse as the myriad cultures that course through the veins of their ancestral lands:

- A pastor's daughter from Trinidad and Tobago inspired to become a nurse by her father's kind, gentle manner, and service to neighbors.

- An Antiguan-American who began her healthcare administration journey as a part-time clerk.

- A Haitian-born union vice president who started her career as a volunteer first responder.

Their stories are valiant and inspiring:

- A Jamaican-born physician signed up with her home church for a mission to Haiti, after seeing herself in a dream working on a mountain top.


- A nurse came to her career choice while caring for a blind aunt as a girl in Trinidad.
- An aspiring veterinarian from the Cayman Islands switched gears upon realizing she wanted to help people more.

Our other honorees are just as outstanding, and together they forge an extraordinary combined footprint in our thriving city of limitless opportunities.

They have all surmounted unique obstacles along their personal and professional journeys, and demonstrated a commitment to hard work, an attention to duty, and a love of community while healing and uplifting innumerable people and paving the way for our next generation of healthcare providers.

We are pleased to share their stories with our readers, and express our gratitude to them for being an integral part of New York's essential healthcare industry.


— *Caribbean Life Publications and Community News Group*



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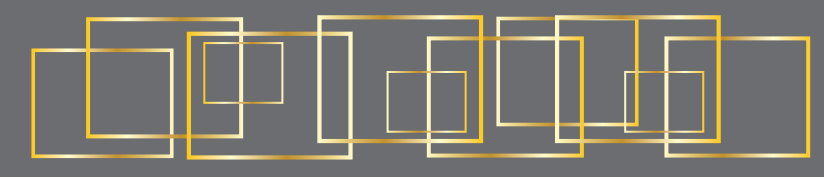
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Healthcare Awards



INDEX OF PROFILES

MARGARETT ALEXANDRE.....	A8
YASMINE BEAUSEJOUR.....	A8
ADELLA BODDEN.....	A9
CELIA BRAMBLE.....	A9
JOAN BRUCE.....	A10
NATASHA BURKE.....	A10
MANUELA BUTLER.....	A10
ELVERINE CADOGAN-SMARTT.....	A10
DR. CARY DANIEL.....	A11
SYBILLA DANIEL-DOUGLAS.....	A11
DR. FRANK A. DENBOW.....	A12
DR. RICARDO ORLANDO DUNNER.....	A12
ANGELA EDWARDS.....	A13
D. BEVERLY FOSTER.....	A13
DR. FRITZ FRANCOIS.....	A14
SANDY FREELAND.....	A14
LIESL S. HALL-GRANT.....	A14
HYACINTH HAMILTON-GAYLE.....	A14
EVA JAMES.....	A15
PATRICIA JAMES.....	A15
CYNTHIA JAMES-WHITE.....	A15
DR. CARL KENEL-PIERRE.....	A15
DR. TANESHA LAWRENCE.....	A16
DR. PATRICIA MARTHONE.....	A16
LORENA MCEACHRAN.....	A16
PHYLLIS PAYNE-DUBLIN.....	A16
FAY RANDALL.....	A17
MEVE SHAKESPEARE.....	A17
VERGINIA STEWART.....	A17
KIRSTIE TOUSSAINT.....	A17
CLAUDYA C. VERDINER.....	A18
DR. MAURICE E. WRIGHT.....	A18

CARIBBEAN AMERICAN HEALTHCARE AWARDS

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The 400,000 nurses and caregivers of 1199SEIU applaud all of the honorees of the

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and our very own

Sybilla Daniel Douglas, R.N.

Eva James, R.N.

Yasmine Beausejour, R.N.

Patricia Marthone, M.D.

We salute Caribbean American healthcare workers who have dedicated their lives to providing quality patient care!

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A message from our 2016 Awards Gala Master of Ceremonies

Caribbean-Americans have been actively shaping America from fighting slavery and segregation to serving in the highest levels of government, sports and all industries.

June is national Caribbean American-Heritage Month when we celebrate the contributions of persons with Caribbean heritage who have contributed to the shaping of America. There are various ceremonies, parades and activities to celebrate the rich and resilient heritage.

One of those celebrations is the Caribbean Life Health Care Awards honoring Caribbean-Americans in the health professions. The health care team includes physicians, nurses, therapists, nutritionists, social workers, administrators, diagnostic technicians and others who provide such valuable services in health care.

I am proud to be a Jamaican born registered nurse who embrace the rich culture and play an integral role in the Jamaican Diaspora. Also, as an American citizen who has received higher education in this country and having the right to vote, I dedicate my skills and professionalism at home and abroad.



I am honored to be serving as mistress of ceremonies at the Caribbean Life Health Care Awards on Thursday, June 23 and look forward to congratulating the honorees.

Special thanks to Caribbean Life newspaper for recognizing the accomplishments of Caribbean-American health professionals and providing the medium for showcasing their achievements and accomplishments

— Claudette D. Powell

...about Claudette Powell

Claudette D. Powell has been a registered nurse for more than 35 years. Her strong passion for nursing and healthcare led her to participate in a wide range of activities and she now serves as an assistant director of nursing at Health and Hospitals Corporation Home Health Care Regulatory Affairs.

She is integrally involved in promoting healthcare in Jamaica where she was born. In Nov. 2010 she participated at the Jamaica 2030 Health Care Vision Forum, in Minnesota, with officials from the Jamaican Ministry of Health, other stakeholders and Friends of Jamaica, to develop the framework for improving the public health system. In Oct. 2011, Powell led the United States delegation at the International Healthcare Fact-Finding Mission to the public hospitals and health centers in Jamaica. She is instrumental in spearheading health initiatives and procurement of medical equipment and supplies to Jamaica.

Powell is also affiliated with several organizations in various capacities including: Immediate past president of the Caribbean American Nurses Association [current public relations officer], co-chair for Jamaican Diaspora Health Sector (Northeast US), member of the Union of Jamaican Alumni Association, vice president of St. Hugh's Alumni Association New York Chapter and vice president of the Guyana-Jamaica Friendship Association. She completed her term as president of the Jamaica Nurses Group of New

York [2010–2013] and now serves as vice president for the group. In Oct. 2014, the Minister of Health in Jamaica appointed her to the Think Tank committee as an advisory board member.

Powell volunteers several hours of work in medical missions to Jamaica, conducts health fairs in New York, and coordinates monthly blood pressure screenings at her local church. She serves on the Jamaica Independence Church Service Committee and the CARICOM Consular Corps Health Committee in New York. Her work has earned her several awards including: Excellence in Nursing in 2008 by the Caribbean American Nurses Association; Women Celebrating Women award by the Honorable Dr. Una Clarke; Humanitarian Award by the Sickle Cell Trust November 2011; Outstanding Service award by the New York Black Nurses Association in February 2012; the Distinguished Health Professional Award by Assemblyman Nick Perry in 2013; the Caribbean Life Healthcare Award in 2014; the Governor General's Achievement Award for Excellence, Diaspora USA, June 2015; Service award by JAHJAH Foundation, May 2016; and Mother of The Year Award, May 2016.

Powell earned her Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing from Long Island University and holds a Master of Arts Degree in Nursing Administration from New York University.

She resides in Long Island, and is a wife, mother of three adult children, and six grandchildren.



PROUDLY PRESENTS

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AWARDS

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Thursday, June 23, 2016

Cocktails at 5:30pm

Dinner at 6:30pm

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CARIBBEAN AMERICAN HEALTHCARE AWARDS 2016 HONOREES

Margarett Alexandre
 Yasmine Beausejour
 Adella Bodden
 Celia Bramble
 Joan Bruce
 Natasha Burke
 Manuela Butler
 Elverine Cadogan-Smartt
 Dr. Cary Daniel
 Sybilla Daniel-Douglas
 Dr. Frank Denbow
 Dr. Ricardo Orlando Dunner
 Angela Edwards
 D. Beverly Foster
 Dr. Fritz Francois
 Sandy Freeland

Liesl S. Hall-Grant
 Hyacinth Hamilton-Gayle
 Eva James
 Patricia James
 Cynthia James-White
 Dr. Carl Kenel-Pierre
 Dr. Tanesha Lawrence
 Dr. Patricia Marthone
 Lorena McEachrane
 Phyllis Payne-Dublin
 Fay Randall
 Meve Shakespeare
 Verginia Stewart
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Margarett Alexandre

A guide to the real world for nurses

Born in Gonaïves, Haiti, Margarett Alexandre arrived in the United States at the age of 10, after a five-year detour to Jamaica.

Holding a Masters Degree in Nursing with a concentration in administration and education from Adelphi University, Ms. Alexandre is an assistant professor in the Department of Nursing at CUNY York College.

With more than 30 years as an educator, Prof. Alexandre teaches new students in York's four-year nursing program, those in a registered nurse to bachelor of science program, and in the CUNY dual degree Bridge program. Ms. Alexandre also teaches medical aspects of nursing, lab skills and policy.

"I see myself as the intersection of theory and clinical practice; I am there to guide students into the real world," she says of her role.

She adds, "Also, on 'policy to action day,' we go to Albany to lobby."

Additionally, the professor is also a



CUNY nursing doctoral student and a Jonas scholar. Her Ph.D. dissertation research focuses on traumatic amputation as a result of the Haitian earthquake.

Professor Alexandre has also been a member of the former CUNY Chancellor's Haiti Initiative.

She made an assessment trip before teaching a series of nursing classes in

Haiti, asking students and faculty: what do you need? "This was a joint project."

For several summers at the public nursing school in Gonaïves, she taught intensive classes in ethics, nursing, diabetes, hypertension and trauma care as well as a course in teaching styles to faculty.

Last year, she taught a two-week intensive license topic review for 54 senior nursing students in Haiti.

Professor Alexandre most recently served as a member of the new CUNY Haitian Studies Institute executive planning team at Brooklyn College. "I learned a lot by integrating with other academic fields," she says.

Yasmine Beausejour

Aims to be a nurse educator

Yasmine Beausejour migrated from Haiti to Brooklyn at the age of 15. When she was a student at Wingate High School, she discovered the healthcare field as a volunteer at Downstate Hospital.

Launching her life's work, she says, "My sister-in-law invited me to take

the entrance exam for licensed practical nursing at Vocational Educational Extension Board (VEEB)." That was the beginning for her career that has spanned 21 years.

From a home health attendant and licensed practical nurse, Ms. Beausejour moved up the ladder. She became a registered nurse with an Associates of Applied Science degree and then earned her Bachelor of Science of Nursing degree. This registered nurse works at Northwell Health.

Ms. Beausejour cites the nursing home Director of Nursing Phyllis Quinlan as an inspiration, "She always stressed how important it is to get certified and that to become a leader is to be proactive."



She also thanks her husband Patrick Beausejour for being the biggest influence on her career with his continuous backing and "encouraging me to go higher in my education."

She says, "He has been supportive of every tough decision that I had to make to get to

this level. Whenever self-doubt tries to set in, he has always been the one to remind me that I can do it."

One of Ms. Beausejour's biggest challenges was the transition to a hospital setting and later from working in medical-surgical unit to the critical care unit.

This nurse spent four years working in the Intensive Care Unit / Critical Care Unit setting. "I encountered some great challenges that ultimately shaped my views and thinking of the nursing process," she says.

Ms. Beausejour is active with the hospital's wound care champion committee. She is also concentrating on applying to become a nurse educator.

Congratulations

Sybilla Daniel-Douglas,
MSN, RN-BC, AE-C.

You are an amazing Wife, Mother and Sister.

We are beyond proud of you! Your dedication to service and your commitment to excellence is truly admirable.

We thank you for selflessly giving yourself to those in need. As Mahatma Ghandi once said,

"The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others." Continue to bless the world with your greatness!

Love always,
Leslie, Danielle, Stephanie, Kailah & Avril

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Well Deserved!

Adella Bodden

Nurse cared for injured in the Middle East

Emigrating from the Cayman Islands as a young girl, Adella Bodden continued her education in Brooklyn.

After taking a veterinarian tech class at Lincoln High School, she thought she wanted to be a veterinarian, but realized, "I wanted to help people more."

She says, "Ira Levy, my biology teacher, was very encouraging in making my career choice change."

After her family relocated to Florida, and she was mid-point in her studies at LIU, she joined the United States Army and completed her nursing studies earning an Army Medical Specialist / Combat Medic Diploma, Army LPN Diploma.

Ms. Bodden was stationed in Florida when she was called to active military duty during Operation Desert Shield / Desert Storm. She did a tour from January 1991 to May 1991 — sent to King Kalid Military City, Saudi Arabia — where she cared for injured



Iraqi soldiers, children, women and men.

Returning to New York, she received an honorable discharge as a sergeant with the Army Reserve in October 1996.

Ms. Bodden attributes her work internship leader Ms. Hayden and her aunt Winnie Dix, also a nurse, for influencing her career. "I also saw the way they

were caring, loving and treated their patients and what a difference their care made in the patients' lives."

For 24 and a-half years, Ms. Bodden has been employed as an LPN at NYU Hospital for Joint Diseases, working in the areas of adult and pediatric medicine / surgery and presently, working in the ortho neuromuscular pediatric clinic.

Her nominator, co-worker Linda Massiello says, "She is truly devoted to her patients, patient families, her physician partners and all the staff. She remains calm and focused under pressure and exceeds what is asked of her."

Celia Bramble

Retired but continues to influence lives

"During my formative years in St. Vincent and the Grenadines," Colonel Celia Bramble recalls her inspiration to become a nurse, "I watched my aunt, a community midwife, deliver hundreds of babies. She provided these services to poor, disenfranchised women at no cost, with passion, dedication and selflessness."

In SVG, the opportunities for growth and advancement in the profession were limited, so Celia Bramble decided to immigrate to the United States.

With nursing educations from C.W. Post, LIU, and Columbia University, Ms. Bramble has clocked more than 40 years in a profession she has totally embraced.

Now retired from HHC — Kings County Hospital Center where she began her career in 1967, her last position was Associate Executive Director, Training and Organizational Development, responsible for overseeing training of all disciplines and levels of staff to ensure regulatory compliance. While



there, she established an MPH and other on-site degree programs.

Additionally, she rose to the rank of colonel in the United States Army Reserve — she is now retired — and was devoted to duty, clinical skills and leadership. She served for 25 years as chief of nursing education, executive officer,

and commander in various metropolitan area reserve units.

Ms. Bramble is recently retired as president of the St. Vincent and the Grenadines Nurses Association of New York, Inc., serves on the executive board of the Council of St. Vincent and the Grenadines Organizations (COSAGO) and is an active member of the Caribbean American Renal Failure Foundation and Caribbean American Nursing Organization.

"I continue to influence lives through health teaching and counseling at church, in the community, or wherever possible," she says. "Nursing is an emotionally, spiritually fulfilling career; it is truly the heart and soul of health care."

The 39,000 members of the
New York State Nurses Association
are proud to honor

- Yasmine Beausejour -

- Virginia Stewart -

- Joan Bruce -

and the other recipients of the

2016 Caribbean American Healthcare Awards

Joan Bruce

Passionate about her patients and colleagues

Joan Bruce was born in a rural community in Springfield, St. Mary, Jamaica, the second of 10 siblings. There, she started her 10-year career as a teacher.

When Ms. Bruce first moved with her children to the United States in 1989, she worked as a companion. This led to her career in nursing and — it has been more than two decades.

She earned a bachelor of science in 1997 from Lehman College and that year she started her professional career as a staff nurse at the Bronx Lebanon Hospital Center where she is still employed. She now holds a Master of Science Administration Degree in Healthcare and advanced certifications in this field.

Ms. Bruce works in case management / review, providing clinical information, discharge planning and acts as a liaison between the hospital and insurers.

“South Bronx is a very poor neighborhood and we have to do a lot for them,” Ms. Bruce says of the hospital’s population. “We coordinate care, teach them about their diagnosis (e.g. diabetes and



hypertension), and engage them — the patient and family — to be involved in their own care, and plan for follow-up.”

“It’s rewarding to see the outcome,” she says, “and when they’re feeling better, some return to thank you.”

“I have a passion for my patients and colleagues,” she adds.

For five years she has served on the New York State Nurses Association (NYSNA) executive committee at the Bronx Lebanon Hospital, assisting nurses with complaints, speaking with management to solve nurse problems, and working on negotiations.

Ms. Bruce mentions that NYSNA also invites specialists on domestic violence and human trafficking to speak to the utilization department to raise consciousness.

She works with the hospital for community outreach, with NYSNA which has participated in many health fairs, and is also an active member of Greater Centennial A.M.E. Zion church serving on its health ministry.

Natasha Burke

A project leader and manager

Natasha Burke was born in Grenada and immigrated to the United States at age 11. When she was 17, she started volunteering at Kingsbrook Jewish Medical Center where her mother worked in radiology.

“It exposed me to all of the wonderful work that goes on behind the scenes to make a hospital a place where people come for comfort and care,” she says. “I could see the direct impact that they made on people’s lives, and I wanted to do that.”

Ms. Burke is the chief of staff at Kings County Hospital, assisting the chief executive officer. As both the “go-to” person and one who translates policy into action, she coordinates operations and planning and ensures timely flow of information to and from the executive office at the hospital.

She serves as a project leader and manager of all special projects and is eyes and ears to the community and hospital stats.



Ms. Burke holds a Masters in Public Administration from Long Island University. She is a healthcare manager with 12 years experience in the planning and administration of marketing, public relations, public affairs, development and community affairs programs.

Before her work at Kings County, she worked at SUNY Downstate Long Island Col-

lege Hospital with executive and clinical leadership to develop community outreach goals and targets, served as the intergovernmental liaison to elected officials and government agencies and held management roles.

She is a member of many professional and civic organizations and associations.

Ms. Burke cites her mom as the most influential person in her life and career. “She instilled in me the love of learning and the value of getting a good education,” Ms. Burke says. “And that has set me on a great path.”

Manuela Butler

A home care worker who fights for others

Native of Puerto Rico, Manuela Butler started a new career as a home care worker in 1991, putting behind her nearly 20 years as a seamstress, but not her years as the shop steward in Local 155 of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union.

Manuela Butler became progressively active in the Home Care Employees Union and is now the president of Local 389, DC 1707, AFSCME, because she saw the need to fight for the rights of home care workers, particularly changing the Federal Fair Labor Standards Act.

“Home care workers are workers and not companions,” she says, challenging the antiquated law put in to effect in the late 1930s.

Ms. Butler has been working at the Jewish Association Serving the Aging for more than 15 years. “I have found that being a home health aide is more fulfilling because I directly help people who are either sick or aged and need



assistance,” she says.

Of great influence on her second career was Bella from Brazil, the home care coordinator caring for her grandmother, “a difficult-to-serve client who needed someone who spoke Spanish.”

Ms. Butler says, “She informed me how to receive my training. I learned how to care for people in their homes so

that these clients could maintain their respect and dignity.”

One of her proudest moments as a worker and trade unionist was going to the White House in 2011 to meet President Obama to discuss the fight for overtime pay for home care workers.

In 2012, she joined AFSCME to organize home care workers in Vermont. Furthermore, she says, “I would like to build the largest local within the Council.”

Ms. Butler relishes her visits to Europe and Mexico and seeing how other countries treat their workers.

Elverine Cadogan-Smartt

She has a passion for helping people

In Guyana, after her mother died, Elverine Cadogan-Smartt’s maternal aunt raised her in their small village.

“During my childhood years, she sent me to perform chores for older women who were not able to get around and take care of their physical well being,” she remembers. With this early emersion, Ms. Cadogan-Smartt

developed a passion for helping people and gaining satisfaction when seeing them restore to optimal health. She became a registered nurse while in Berbice, Guyana.

After immigrating to the U.S., Ms. Cadogan-Smartt resumed her education, obtaining her bachelor’s and master’s degrees in nursing.

She has been a certified psychiatric nurse for 21 years. “I have a passion for teaching and became a CPR instructor at the same hospital while still working in charge of the psychiatric unit,” she says.

This dedicated nurse worked at Brookdale University Medical Center for 35



years before retiring. She was the recipient of numerous commendations and awards for her outstanding performances in medical, surgical, psychiatric and emergency units. Her career has spanned a total of 44 years.

Additionally, Ms. Cadogan-Smartt participates in various health projects including monthly blood pressure screenings and health fairs at her church,

God’s Battalion of Prayer.

She keeps her license active and applies medical intervention if warranted with church members and with various groups including her volunteer work during Hurricane Sandy relief.

Ms. Cadogan-Smartt attributes Clara Barton as having a great impact on her life, “I read her history which described a similarity to my childhood. She had a passion for helping people and took care of her father while he was ill and nursed him until he died.”

She and her husband of 46 years, Godfrey Smartt, have five children and 14 grandchildren.



Proud to be a Guyanese

Can't take my country out of me: Vanessa Chance, born and raised in Georgetown, Guyana, displays her native country's flag at the Guyanese Unity parade on Utica Avenue in East Flatbush, Brooklyn. See story on page 16. Photo by Stefano Giovannini

FIGHT TO STAY AFLOAT

Countries dip in to special savings to survive

By Bert Wilkinson

Unless and until international prices for their key exports increase in the coming months, governments of two of the Caribbean trade group's larger economies will be forced to continue dipping into special rainy day accounts to keep economies afloat officials said this week.

When decision makers both in Trinidad and Suriname had set up special heritage and stabilization funds a few years ago, they did so with the far future in mind as oil prices were booming, rates for gold at

runaway levels and commodity exports for products like bauxite decent.

But as oil and gold prices climb back all too slowly, officials in the two countries have watched helplessly as central bank reserves have dwindled and as receipts from exports tanked.

In the case of Trinidad, the administration of Prime Minister Keith Rowley has said it has no other choice but to borrow from the stabilization fund as it is the only source of income to top up the little it is getting

Continued on Page 6

Mayor signs Criminal Justice Act

By Nelson A. King

Mayor Bill de Blasio on Tuesday signed Intro. 639-B into law that requires the New York Police Department (NYPD) to provide quarterly reports to the Mayor's Office and City Council on criminal

and civil summonses issued.

Council Member Jumaane D. Williams (D-Brooklyn) who is also the deputy leader of the City Council and representative for the 45th Council District in Brooklyn sponsored the bill.

The data will be categorized into number of summons by offense, race, gender, age, borough and patrol precinct or housing police / transit district the summons was issued in, Williams said.

Continued on Page 6

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Caribbean pols celebrate youth services' victory

By Nelson A. King

Two Caribbean legislators in New York City Council has hailed Tuesday's budget passage that allocates funding for youth services.

Chairman of the Youth Services Committee, Haitian-born Council Member Dr. Mathieu Eugene, and Deputy Leader Jumaane Williams, the son of Grenadian immigrants, have declared a victory for young people after the funding allotted for youth services in the budget agreement for Fiscal Year 2017 was announced at City Hall.

With a \$38.5 million investment, Eugene, who represents the 40th Council District in Brooklyn, said the Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) will be expanded to include 60,000 jobs for young people.

"And this historically high figure will be baselined, which not only ensures these jobs will be available in future years but also allows providers to make advance accommodations for young people that will help enhance their employment experience," said Eugene, who had been in the forefront of protests for funding for youth summer programs.

He noted that "there is a total investment of \$100 million in youth services, and this include additional afterschool program slots for elementary and middle school children, year-round jobs, and a commitment to more programs that will help young people throughout New York City.

"This budget is truly a victory for our young people, and it reflects the needs of our youth," Eugene said. "We in the City Council worked together to negotiate a budget that will help youth in all neighborhoods of our city.

"I'm thankful for the leadership of our Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito, as well as Finance Chair Julissa Ferreras-Copeland. I'd also like to thank Mayor Bill de Blasio for listening to the requests of my colleagues and I [me] during this process," he added.

"Most importantly, I'd like to thank the youth advocates for raising their voices for youth programs, and I'd like to commend the young people who were at every rally to speak out about the importance of making youth a priority," he continued.

Since the release of the preliminary budget, Eugene has advocated for youth programs, including SYEP.

Standing alongside youth advocates, young people and his col-

Continued on Page 24



Praise Dancers going through their movements at the Guyana flag raising ceremony.

Photo by Tangerine Clarke

East Orange NJ mayor raises Guyana flag over City Hall

By Tangerine Clarke

Mayor of the City of East Orange, Lester E. Taylor III on June 10, congratulated Guyanese on their 50th Independence Anniversary on the steps on City Hall, and said it was a joy to welcome the nationals to the City of East Orange where 'our vision is setting the standard for excellence to become a destination city.'

"I am very proud to recognize that East Orange has the second largest Guyanese American population next to queens New York, and I am very happy to congratulate all Guyanese on the 50th Anniversary of your independence," said the politician, who joined the founders of the Guyana American Heritage Foundation Inc. (GAHFI) at their 10th Annual Flag Raising ceremony on the municipal plaza.

"We in the City of East Orange welcome and share in that recognition with Guyanese residents, including my wife Bibi, who have played a substantial part in building the fabric of this great city, along with many other employees of East Orange."

"We embrace the Caribbean Heritage and we will continue to flourish even more so, as we work with bi-lateral partners in the City of East Orange through our economic trade initiatives," said Taylor, who thanked GAHFI president, Ira Lewis, Allison Butters-Grant, and many others for their steadfast effort in putting 'this program on.'

"Together we will set the standard for excellence," said Taylor who presented the organization with a Proclama-



Mayor of the City of East Orange, Hon. Lester E. Taylor III; First Lady Bibi Taylor; Desmond Roberts; Allison Butters-Grant; Minister Catherine Hughes, and Ira Lewis in national colors, after raising the flag. Photo by Tangerine Clarke

tion, and Certificates of Appreciation, to members of the community. Legendary singer, Ivor Lynch was at the top of the list.

First Lady of East Orange, Bibi Taylor, was then honored with the Danny Glover Award, from CARICOM Pageant President, Monica Sanchez, and a plaque from President of the Guyana America Heritage Foundation, Ira Lewis, presented by Minister Hughes.

Ted Green, East Orange Council chairman expressed best wishes to the expatriates on the celebration of their 50th Independence Anniversary and thanked them for their contribution to the City of East Orange.

"On behalf of the entire City Council we thank you for making us a part of your celebration today, and thank you for your contribution. We love that you are here in the City of East Orange to celebrate with us," he added.

Guyana Minister of Public Communication & Tourism, Catherine Hughes who was in New York to attend Guyana's 50th Jubilee festivities, in her keynote address, thanked her fellow Guyanese for giving back to their homeland.

"I want to implore you to come home and visit. Now is the time to come back, to reconnect with your history, with your heritage, and family that might be

Continued on Page 32

CARIBBEAN ROUNDUP

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THE NEWS FROM BACK HOME

Grenada

Security forces from the Caribbean recently joined the United States, France and the United Kingdom for maritime and internal security and disaster response training in Grenada as part of Exercise Tradewinds 2016.

This year's Exercise Tradewinds was conducted in three phases; Phase I included maritime and land operations, which took place in Grenada through June 14; Phase II which will include maritime and land operations, including U.S. Marines will take place in Jamaica from June 20-28; Phase III, a key leader seminar, will be conducted between July 20-22 in Miami for key stakeholders and decision makers from the region.



Exercise Tradewinds supports the Caribbean Basin Security Initiative (CBSI), a U.S. Department of State regional security partnership. Phases I and II are designed to conduct joint, interagency capacity building exercises for participating nations. Those exercises focus on increasing regional cooperation in complex, multinational security operations, humanitarian assistance and disaster response operations.

Military and security personnel from 13 Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Member States — Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, St. Kitts and Nevis, Suriname, St. Vincent and the Grenadines and Trinidad and Tobago — joined military personnel from the United States, Canada, France, and the United Kingdom for Phase I of the Exercise Tradewinds 2016.

Participating regional organizations include the Regional Security System (RSS), Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA) and CARICOM.

Guyana

Police in Guyana have arrested six people in connection with a live grenade that was found near the Kaieteur News newspaper recently.

Police said in a statement that after reviewing surveillance footage, they



Former Venezuela's President Hugo Chavez, right, laughs with former Prime Minister of St. Kitts and Nevis Denzil Douglas during the Petrocaribe Summit on energy, in Frigate Bay, St. Kitts, Friday, June 12, 2009.

Associated Press / Brennan Linsley, File

have seized a motorcar matching the description and six suspects.

It said the suspects were arrested at several locations in Sophia, South Georgetown and its environs.

The announcement by the police came after the Guyana Press Association (GPA) called on law enforcement authorities to conduct an "in-depth investigation" into the matter.

Investigators said the device was found near a vehicle owned by the newspaper's publisher, Glen Lall, where colleagues had gathered to pay respects to journalist Dale Andrew, who died recently.

In a statement the GPA said: "All stakeholders in the international community, opposition, government and civil society must speak out against



what seems like a calculated act to intimidate the work of Kaieteur News. The media in Guyana must be allowed to carry out its crucial work of being the society's watchdog, ensuring transparency and efficiency in the state and private sectors, without frightening distractions like these."

Jamaica

The Jamaica Constabulary Force (JFC) says there is an overall 10 percent reduction in most categories of serious and violent crimes for the first six months of this year.

Data from the Statistics and Information Management Unit of the JFC indicates that there was an overall two percent reduction in murders when compared to the same period-



Jan. 1- to June 4, 2015, while there was a 29 percent reduction in rape and a 27 percent drop in aggravated assault. Shootings, however, saw a six percent increase, the Corporate Communications Unit (CCU) said in a release.

Divisions in Kingston, St. Andrew and St. Catherine accounted for the greatest reduction, with an overall 10 percent reduction with the exception of the St. Andrew Central Division that recorded a four percent increase in murders or one more than the same period last year.

The St. James Division continues to record a high rate of murders with a total of 103 murders compared with 81 for the same period last year or a 27 percent increase outlined. However, all other categories of serious and violent crimes have seen a three percent reduction.

Continued on Page 20



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Trinidad, Suriname face economic crisis



Trinidad and Tobago Prime Minister Keith Rowley.

Continued from cover

from oil, gas and petroleum exports.

Officials in Suriname on the other hand have asked the IMF to intervene in the economy and lend the central bank about \$480M in budget support because its special reserve fund has declined in the past year from \$1B to less than \$400M, a development that triggered panic in many circles in the country.

In Trinidad, opposition lawmakers and media analysts pressured Finance Minister Colm Imbert into explaining on the floor of parliament reasons for withdrawing a whopping \$4B from the special fund to pay basic bills including wages.

Despite the withdrawal, the special fund still has about \$8B as he assured the nation there is little need to worry about the fund being empty.

“The Heritage Stabilization Fund draw down therefore was simply to finance the well-known budget deficit, not for any item in the budget in particular.” He said it was the only source of funding available to the state.

He also said petroleum revenues in 2015 fell short of projections by 40 percent leaving authorities with little

choice.

The minister even suggested that the previous administration which lost general elections last September had used up all of the surpluses left by the administration it had succeeded back in 2010 and had run government accounts into full overdraft.

“In other words the draw down was simply added to the revenues we collect from other sources to collect to help meet our expenditure commitments both current and capital expenditures to pay bills.”

And while officials in Trinidad are battling to stabilize the economy, fellow producer and neighbor Suriname is also in deep economic crisis.

Justice Reform

Continued from cover

The bill, which is part of the Criminal Justice Reform Act, also calls for all data to be published online and in a format that allows for automated processing.

Each report is required to include comparative data for summons information for the past five years, Williams said.

The Criminal Justice Reform Act of 2016, comprising eight bills, aims to change the way low-level nonviolent offenses are enforced, diverting them from criminal to civil matters.

Int 639-B — amends the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to requiring the police department to submit quarterly reports relating to the issuance of summonses.

Int 662-A — amends the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to requiring the police department to submit quarterly reports relating to the issuance of desk appearance tickets.

Int 1056-A — amends the New York city charter and the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to penalties for violating park rules.

Int 1057-A — amends the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to the enforcement of criminal and civil offenses.

Int 1058-A — amends the adminis-

trative code of the city of New York, in relation to the penalties for excessive noise.

Int 1059-A — amends the New York city charter, in relation to OATH procedures for certain quality of life offenses.

Int 1067-A — amends the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to the penalties for possessing an open container of alcohol.

Int 1070-A — amends the administrative code of the city of New York, and to repeal subdivision 5 of section 16-118 of the administrative code of the city of New York, relating to the distribution of advertising matter.

“We know police disproportionately issue summons in historically disenfranchised communities,” Williams said. “This bill will allow us to track, document and have on record these unfair practices, which will allow us to advocate and implement a change.”

“I want to thank Mayor Bill de Blasio and Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito for their support and leadership on this bill,” he added.

In enforcing misdemeanors and non-criminal offenses, the NYPD may either arrest, issue a desk appearance ticket, or issue either a criminal or civil summons, Williams said.

He said that the difference between a desk appearance and a summons is that issuing a desk appearance ticket requires the offender to be fingerprinted and booked, typically at a police precinct.

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State comptroller celebrates Caribbean-Americans

By Alexandra Simon

State Comptroller Thomas P. DiNapoli hosted a celebratory event to honor Caribbean-Americans at the Brooklyn Law School in Boerum Hill on Tuesday, to commemorate Caribbean Heritage Month. The third annual Caribbean Heritage Celebration honored several individuals of Caribbean descent, including Caribbean Life Newspaper, for contributions to the Caribbean community in New York City.

DiNapoli made remarks about Caribbean culture and its influence in New York, and also used the opportunity to stress the need for diversity and immigration reform.

“We are not resting on our morals in this regard — we have to do more work in making sure the doors of opportunity remain open,” said DiNapoli. “We are overdue in having the DREAM Act adopted in New York State, there will be no barriers to financial aid for children of undocumented



One of our own local pols: Comptroller Thomas P. DiNapoli, left, presents an honor plaque to Councilman Jumaane D. Williams (D-East Flatbush), at his annual Caribbean Heritage Celebration.

Office of New York State Comptroller

families.”

Honorees of the event included Shawn Francois, president of Local 372, Aleatha Williams,

co-founder of Youth Leaders on the Move, Councilman Jumaane D. Williams (D-East Flatbush), and Michael Kevin Williams, editor for Caribbean Life Newspaper. DiNapoli presented each honoree with a plaque.

“When we honor individuals it’s really a way for us to recognize the strengths of the community,” said DiNapoli. “The individuals, and organization we are honoring this evening really represent a wide array of activities and involvement in the larger community — they certainly are wonderful role models for all of us.”

Unable to stay for the entirety of the event due to a funeral, Pat Williams, mother of Councilman Jumaane D. Williams (D-East Flatbush) accepted the award on his behalf.

The vibrant host of the event expressed excitement for the honorees and praised the community for their talents.

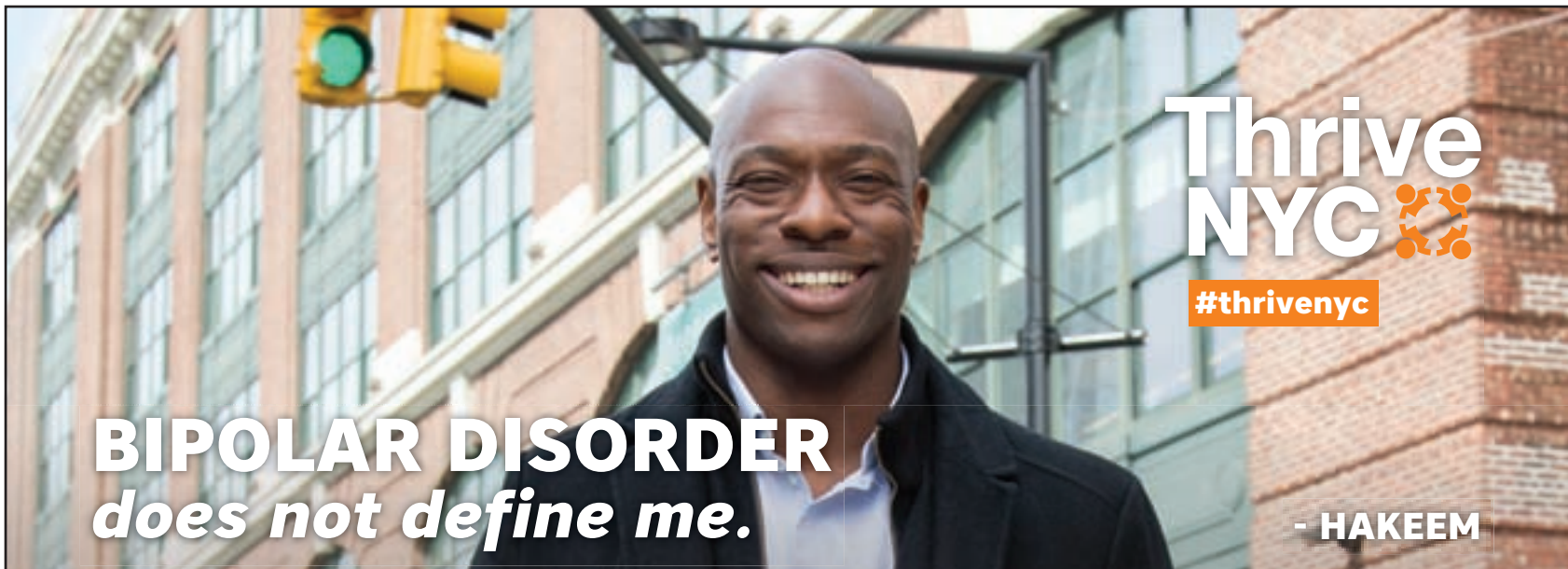
“I thought this was a great



The honorees: From left, Micheal Kevin Williams, Pat Williams, the mother of Councilman Jumaane Williams (D-East Flatbush), state comptroller Thomas P. DiNapoli, Aleatha Williams, and Shaun D. Francois with plaques honoring their contributions to the Caribbean community, at the annual Caribbean Heritage Celebration, at Brooklyn Law School in Boerum Hill.

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opportunity to have those of Caribbean descent get recognized,” said Yanick Alexandre, mistress of ceremony. “Everybody from the Caribbean does great things.”



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NYC

Governments slow to respond to elder abuse

Toby Porter is chief executive officer of Health Age International

LONDON, June 15, 2016 (IPS) - Although instances of elder abuse are widespread around the world, many government responses have been inadequate.

Although there is evidence that elder abuse is a global problem, many governments fail to even collect data on the problem. In 2014, a World Health Organization (WHO), UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and UN Development Program (UNDP) Global Status Report on violence prevention showed that of the

133 countries surveyed, only 17 per cent reported any survey data on elder abuse, and of these, the majority were in high-income countries.

In Tanzania, the Legal and Human Rights Centre reported that 630 older people had been murdered in 2012; a year later, this number had risen to 765. Family members carried out many of the killings, accusing older women of witchcraft, and stealing their property, land and assets.

On World Elder Abuse Awareness Day, Wednesday 15 June, we remember the many older women who have been chased away by their

husband's relatives following his death. The main cause for this kind of abuse is said to be property, with witchcraft often being used as an excuse. Witchcraft is associated with old age, and unbelievably, allegations are often still believed when an older person is accused. Those whose husbands are alive tend not to suffer so much.

Mariam, 61, married with two children and six grandchildren, is from Mwanza, Tanzania, where many of the killings have taken place.

Mariam told HelpAge International, an international organisation working to reduce the prevalence of elder abuse, about why addressing this problem is so important to her.

"I feel really bad about this, which is why I and others have volunteered to play an advisory role," said Mariam, one of many older women working to change negative community attitudes, behaviours and practices through

human rights training and awareness raising.

Mariam grows maize and rice and keeps chickens and 30 ducks, which she plans to leave her two children.

She has also learnt how to write a will and is happy that she has had a chance to decide how her property will be distributed, ensuring that all her children benefit. She has now made sure that her property will go to both her son and daughter. In the past, only her son would have benefitted.

She recounts how she had a brother who died without leaving a will. All his property was lost and his children have suffered. She is determined that only her daughter and son will benefit when she dies and nobody else.

Any new international legal instrument on older people's rights should provide the right to make advance directives, living wills and other legally binding documents setting out a person's preferences for

their end of life.

HelpAge's Age Demands Action campaigners in Tanzania will be calling on their government to attend the seventh session of the UN Open-Ended Working Group on Ageing in December, prepared to talk about what they would like to see in a new convention on older people's rights. Their action will be echoed around the world, where the civil society organisations that are part of the HelpAge Global Network will organize a concerted effort to lobby their national governments.

Mariam has reported feeling more respected and valued now than when she was young. "I can now own property, for example the ducks are mine and not my husband's. We eat well. I am able to contribute to the family. When I was young I depended on other people. Now I feel more empowered and more important in my family. My family respects me more because of my contributions."

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Other currents swirl around a tragedy

It's only natural to wonder what peculiar DNA strain is present in those among us who shrug off, unperturbed, what has just transpired in Orlando, as they have every other gunfire massacre that's now on the books. Trustingly, we dared to surmise here that the slaughter of young innocents in Newtown, Connecticut in 2012 had sensitized the polity to a level of depravity sufficient to break the fever enveloping our space. With the NRA and its surrogates in Congress and across the land responding even to those martyred Sandy Hook Elementary kids with an emphatic "No dice!," the Orlando horror finds us settled into this sense of resignation about a firearms proliferation status quo of the crazies' design. Not good enough, if we aren't repulsed by the very idea of tacitly accepting a so-called new normal that looks like this.

It recalls that surreal phase in gun-law congressional behavior after the assault weapons ban, with Ronald Reagan's pivotal support, was passed in 1994. Congress, it seemed, was collectively made to atone for

crossing the dreaded NRA with that action. In the face of overall congressional non-engagement, Long Island Congresswoman Carolyn McCarthy was practically a lone voice condemning both NRA bullying and her feckless colleagues. No one was surprised that serious discussion about extending the assault weapons ban beyond its 2004 sunset just didn't materialize. One might make the case that the real new normal kicked in when the NRA's tightened stranglehold on Capitol Hill assured permanent burial for the assault weapons ban.

As a result of which the Orlando perpetrator, like others before him, could acquire his mass-destruction weapon without hindrance, ownership of it obviously making for a toxic mix with this troubled individual. It remains difficult to fathom how any measurable subset of us could hold to the belief that military-style weaponry should be out and about for general accessibility. Are they for real, the folks who are bitterly opposed even to background checks as a pre-requisite for firearms pur-

Viewpoint

By Les Slater

The more important common denominator for these all too frequent mass shootings is the emotional instability that is almost always a centerpiece of the trigger mechanism.

chase? Even allowing for the well-known braggadocio resident here, is it not the least bit bothersome, the place of dishonor this country occupies globally because of its fanatical gun-culture worship?

As if adhering to a script, Orlando has become fused with other currents, the connection none too savory for many, a propaganda platform for others. Seizing the tragedy as opportunity for a new round of Muslim bashing, and intimat-

ing that eliminating Muslims from American society effectively addresses the gun violence problem, is ludicrous and pandering of the worst sort. But as we well know, this is hardly enough to muzzle the presumptive Republican presidential candidate from running off at the mouth. Donald Trump has blamed Orlando's dark hour on President Obama, Hillary Clinton, the entire Muslim community... everyone but himself, who alone knows what needs to be done when and how. The silver lining here is that Trump doesn't know how to shut up. And when he talks, he is most lethal...to himself.

When Trump and others conveniently ignore reality and act like the Muslim presence is the root cause of mass shootings, everyone knows this is pure rubbish. What would a Muslim purge have done to stop the mayhem at Sandy Hook? Or at Columbine? Or at Virginia Tech? Getting to the bottom of gun-violence problems that have origins in the Muslim world, here or abroad, naturally remains a top national security priority. But every

attempt by apologists for the gun lobby to frame this country's sick infatuation with guns as having now become a Muslim-rooted terror issue, should be called out for the treachery that it is.

The more important common denominator for these all too frequent mass shootings is the emotional instability that is almost always a centerpiece of the trigger mechanism. The authorities know this and routinely acknowledge, particularly when there's a fresh episode of gun violence, how important it is that the mental health component not be neglected in any effort to get a handle on the problem. One wonders, though, whether the sensitive nature of mental health issues within family units may not at times get in the way of accessing valuable information. Which underscores how critical it is that mental health not be short-changed in the campaign to eradicate mass-shooting eruptions.

We will long remember that in Orlando we got treated to one more grisly than all that went before.

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Williams honors former staffers at Pride party



From left, William Gerlich, Council Member Jumaane D. Williams, and Stefan Ringel. Ernest Skinner, City Council

By Nelson A. King

Brooklyn Council Member Jumaane D. Williams, Deputy Leader and co-chair of the City Council's Task Force to Combat Gun Violence, honored two former staffers at Brooklyn Pride Party on June 7.

Stefan Ringel and William Gerlich both served as Williams' communications directors "and have since then made great strides in their careers," Williams said.

Ringel currently serves as communications director for Brooklyn Borough President Eric L. Adams.

Gerlich is a creative media strategist for Marathon Strategies, a New York-based communications and research firm.

"I wanted to honor pride month by honoring two people who are very close to me," Williams said. "They have both made a positive impact on my life, and I am happy for the opportunity to celebrate their work and achievements."

William said Brooklyn Community Pride "provides a special opportunity to celebrate the history and contributions of people in the LGBT (Lesbian,

Gay, Bisexual and Transgender) community."

The kickoff will feature an oral history project presented by Brooklyn Community Pride Center, an exhibition by photographer and fashion blogger Gabrielle Royal and art by Elise Peebles.

"As Pride kicked off in New York City, I couldn't be more honored to receive this incredible distinction," Gerlich said. "As a gay man in America, I am grateful for what our LGBT elders have accomplished, and appreciate the opportunity to build on them so that all people are granted the freedom, rights and dignity that they deserve."

"I'm honored — and humbled — to be recognized by Council Member Williams, a man I'm proud to call my close friend and partner in public service," Ringel said. "I accept this proclamation as a product of the important work we have done and continue to do together."

"With pride in my soul, I commit to channeling this commendation into fuel that will power, the hard work to come for advancing my community forward," he added.

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Five Guyanese receive leadership awards

By **Tangerine Clarke**

The excellent contributions made by five Guyanese to uplift their country and fellow citizens, were celebrated at the first 21st Century Leadership Awards Event, at the Georgetown Regency Conference Center, as part of Guyana's Golden Jubilee of Independence celebrations.

Founder and President of the non-profit, Dr. Esther Haynes-Tross recently honored, Dr. Horace Griffith, Tangerine Clarke, Hilton Hemerding, Dr. Joseph Haynes, and Colin A. Moore, Esq.

Dr. Horace Griffith, DDS, is an oral maxillofacial surgeon practicing in St. Thomas, St. Croix and the British Virgin Islands. Dr. Griffith has participated in voluntary international surgical missions to Africa, the Caribbean, and earthquake ravaged Haiti. While in those places, he surgically managed deformities of the jaw; face congenital cleft lips and cleft palate for poor and medically underserved communities

Award-Winning Journalist, Tangerine Clarke, is a freelance

reporter and photographer for Caribbean Life newspaper for more than 20 years, and where she has covered international fashion, and entertainment events, and highlighted the achievements of expatriates in the Guyanese, and Caribbean community.

Clarke is the recipient of a Certificate of Recognition from New York Mayor, Bill de Blasio, and was presented with Proclamations from Senator Roxanne Persaud, and NYC Councilmembers, and a Citation from Assemblywoman Yvette Clarke, for her outstanding journalistic endeavors.

Dr. Joseph Haynes is a visionary who received his doctorate in Natural Health & Nutrition at a time when this profession was emerging. Dr. Haynes is passionate about health and wellness, and continues to share his knowledge to help residents of hometown of Linden.

International Award-winning Musician and songwriter, Hilton Hemerding composed "Beautiful Guyana" two months before Guyana gained its Independence in 1966. That song is now included in the



From left, Founder and President of 21st Century Leadership Now, Dr. Esther Haynes-Tross; honorees Hilton Hemerding; Tangerine Clarke; Mrs. Estherann Haynes; wife of Dr. Joseph Haynes; Dr. Horace Griffith; and Mr. Marlon Pearson of the Ministry of the Presidency.

"Book of National Songs of Guyana."

Hemerding also composed a gospel album titled "Songs of Inspirations," and is the choirmaster and organist at the Truth Center for Higher Consciousness in Brooklyn.

Colin A. Moore, Esq., is a public speaker, and political analyst. A graduate of Brooklyn Law School, Moore has authored several academic papers, including "The Berbice Insurgency of 1763," "The Ven-

ezuela / Guyana Border Controversy," and "Guyana 2015-A strategy for the Transformation of Guyana."

The mid-morning ceremony, set against the backdrop of Guyana's rich cultural heritage and blessed by Rev. Ismay Griffith, sought to uphold the life of citizens at home and abroad, who Dr. Haynes-Tross, a Brooklyn resident, said have bountiful skills and talents to offer.

"Guyanese have shared their

skills immensely around the world, and as we celebrate 50 years of Independence, I am delighted that we could continue in this vein to produce skills that are needed here at home."

"These distinguished honorees have made tremendous strides in their fields and this is why my organization 21st Century Leadership Now, chose these people who show what we do to move our country into the future."

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Thousands march in Guyana Unity Parade

By Alexandra Simon

The Guyanese Unity Parade on Sunday concluded a week-long of events celebrating Guyana's 50 years of independence with a display of pride.

Thousands walked the parade route in East Flatbush, which started at Utica and Church avenues. Parade goers descended down Utica Avenue waving flags, and sporting colors of Guyana's flag as they created a sea of red, yellow, white, and green for the second year of Mashramani, a celebration of Guyanese state.

About 8,000 people turned out to walk in the jubilee event, according to an organizer. The parade route ended at South Shore High School field in Canarsie, with a free concert boasting of the best Guyanese artists.

"It was the best Guyanese concert ever," said Rickford Burke, parade leader and chairman of the Guyanese 50th Independence Anniversary Celebration Committee.

"That was feedback to me — many people said it was best concert they have been to,"

said Burke.

The 50th Independence Anniversary Celebration Committee in conjunction with the Consulate General in New York organized and scheduled a series of celebratory events in the New York City area for the Guyanese diaspora.

Amidst all the recent violence at parade events, including the random killing of Cary Gabay at the 2015 West Indian Day parade, organizers say with the large turnout, the outcome of the parade should be lauded.

"I want to stress that there were no incidents," said Burke. "I want to congratulate the Guyanese people — to celebrate peacefully after two consecutive parades — it speaks to the decency and nature of Guyanese people, and we hope to continue that."

The festivities, organized by the Guyanese Independence Anniversary Celebration Committee, included a concert featuring Guyanese artists such as Angels Caribbean Band, Ernesta Nelson, and winner of the talent show, The Voice UK, Jermain Jackman. Other



Guyanese-Americans gather for a Unity Concert at South Shore High School Park in Canarsie, Brooklyn, rally following the Guyanese Unity parade on Utica and Church avenues in East Flatbush, Brooklyn. Photo by Stefano Giovannini

notable visitors were state Sen. Roxanne Persaud (D-Canarsie) and Prime Minister of Guyana, Moses Nagamootoo.

Previous jubilee events hosted a soccer match for the children, a dinner honoring the Guyana's President David

Granger, and the honoring of 50 persons earlier this month, where Mayor DeBlasio made some remarks.

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TEMPO Network turns 10 honors the legacy of Caribbean music

By Kevin Bollers

TEMPO Networks hosted an amazing line-up of entertainment and talent in the form of Caribbean Rocks NYC – TEMPO Turns 10 Anniversary Celebration on Sunday, June 5 at the legendary B.B. King's Blues Club and Grill in Times Square, New York. The line-up was designed to honor the legacy of Caribbean music as a dominant cultural force worldwide and its importance in defining the Caribbean tourism product.

The exciting array of talent included the next generation of powerful Caribbean artists, music and entertainment, selected both to stimulate and energize the Caribbean diaspora and general market and cement the relationship between Caribbean entertainment and tourism. Caribbean Rocks NYC – TEMPO Turns 10, a combination of destination, talent showcase and awards ceremony was the crowning event in the annual week of activities comprising Caribbean Week NY 2016.

The event was presented by TEMPO Networks, in partnership with the Caribbean Tourism Organization (CTO), and sponsored by the beautiful Islands of the Bahamas, who took center stage as Platinum sponsor. Joining the Islands of the Bahamas were the islands of Barbados, Turks and Caicos and St. Kitts.

The Caribbean Rocks NYC – TEMPO Turns 10 talent line-up included Romain Virgo, R. City ("Rock City"), Cecile, Loyal Flames, Ziggy Ranking, Isaac Blackman, RKG, soca stars Kerwin Dubois and Shurwayne Winchester. The event also featured a very special performance by Caribbean music royalty, The Mighty Sparrow who was also honored with TEMPO's very first Icon Award. The legendary calypsonian spoke about what the award meant to him. "It means that I am very lucky to be here in person to receive it than to be receiving it posthumously. Something like is, I have had in my mind for a long time. To be present here at TEMPO to receive it, you wouldn't believe how happy I am." Sparrow also gave sage advice to up and coming superstars who would aspire to achieve half of the success that he has in the business. "Well,



Frederick A. Morton, Jr., founder and CEO of TEMPO Networks presents an award to Una S.T. Clarke.

Photo by Kevin Bollers



The legendary Mighty Sparrow gives a performance after accepting TEMPO's first ever Lifetime Achievement Award at Caribbean Rocks NYC-Tempo Turns 10 Anniversary Celebration.

Photo by Kevin Bollers

nity like this as I have been and if they are, give God all of the thanks."

One of those superstar performers who had the honor of sharing the stage with Sparrow was Jamaica's own Romain Virgo, specializing in the lovers rock style of reggae music. He spoke about the honor and excitement of performing at TEMPO's tenth anniversary celebration. "Caribbean music is in my heart. I always look at the Caribbean as one people with one aim and we should always work together. So, when TEMPO puts on something like this and I get to share the stage with people like Mighty Sparrow, it really and truly is a blessing; I give thanks and praise for it." He went on to speak further about TEMPO's value in the Caribbean community. "TEMPO is celebrating 10 years and they have contributed to the Caribbean islands by helping us move forward and helping our voices to be heard by people inside and outside of the Caribbean."

Another pillar of the Caribbean community honored at TEMPO turns 10 was the incomparable Dr. Una S.T. Clarke with the Pioneer Award. Dr. Clarke was accompanied by her daughter and equally prominent figure in the community, Congresswoman Yvette Clarke as well as other family members. Dr. Clarke spoke of the importance of recognition in the Caribbean community. "I believe it is very important that there is recognition on behalf of our community. I have given my best as a politician, an educator, and one who cares deeply about the Caribbean and its people. I believe in our unity is our strength. It is my hope that through events like TEMPO and through the promotion of CTO and everything else that we do as Caribbean people that we will get the

recognition we deserve."

Congresswoman Clarke, beaming with pride of her mother's accomplishment added, "My entire family is just elated with this Pioneer Award that Dr. Clarke has received from TEMPO. We see her as a trailblazer, having brought voice and recognition to the Caribbean diaspora in the context of the African diaspora. I think that we are all fortunate that Dr. Clarke remains a vital part of our community and she is certainly a vital part of my family."

Frederick Morton Jr., founder and CEO of TEMPO networks along with hostess for the evening, Sharon Gordon, founder and CEO of the Coalition to Preserve Reggae (CPR) spoke of the purpose, significance and impact that TEMPO is having in the Caribbean world. "The purpose of Tempo is to uplift the Caribbean people, elevate them; market and promote our destinations. The Caribbean is an amazing place filled with amazing people. So the purpose is to show the world what we have and with that, change the world for a better place," said Morton. Gordon added, "It is significant that I am standing next to Frederick Morton Jr. as this tenth anniversary celebration closes out Caribbean week. It was 10 years ago that Frederick Morton Jr. launched TEMPO at the South Street Seaport.

"Many artists were there at Tempo's launch including Machel Montano, Wyclef Jean as well as a young woman whose career would also be launched that night and who would go on to become a household name. Her name is Rihanna. TEMPO has gone on over the past 10 years to be a platform where Caribbean youth are seeing themselves in a positive light."



A woman, along with her son, fills her containers at a water distribution point in Las Palmas, Haiti.

United Nations

Potable water campaign in Haiti

By Nelson A. King

The United Nations says it is supporting the Haitian government in its potable water campaign, stating that some 30,000 residents of three localities in the French-speaking Caribbean country now have access to potable water.

The UN said on Friday that it has supported a sanitation campaign launched by the Haitian government following a cholera epidemic that killed almost 100 people in the community.

"So much of my time was spent looking for water," recalled Ivrose Paul, who, along with hundreds of other women and children living in the neighbourhood of Los Palmas — which lies 30 minutes north-east of the city of Hinche — used to leave her home early every morning, walk for more than an hour, and wait for hours to secure a container full of water.

The UN said residents of Los Palmas, Guébo and Jacob — three localities in the third communal section of Hinche — were part of an initiative aimed at increasing and improving access to safe drinking water and sanitation facilities in schools in particular, but which also focused on supplying water to health centres and homes.

The initiative also involved engaging in the construction of latrines to avoid contamination of water by open defecation, practices which reduce the spread of waterborne diseases including cholera, the UN said.

It said that, in July 2014, Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon visited Los Palmas, along with Sandra Honoré, his special representative in Haiti and also head of the UN Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH), and Laurent Salvador Lamothe, who was then prime minister of Haiti, "and expressed sympathy to cholera victims and the victims' families."

Fundraising with rum and Caribbean rythm

By Alexandra Simon

The first Friday of Caribbean heritage month kicked off with a blast-filled event to the sounds and tastes of the Caribbean, all for a good cause.

The Caribbean Tourism Organization concluded its Caribbean Week, which lasted from June 1-5, by hosting its 5th annual Rum and Rhythm Festival in Chinatown on Friday. Along with food and entertainment, attendees had the opportunity to party and participate in a silent auction to raise money for Caribbean students. At the fest, two of the best mixologists in the world competed for a final round for best mixologist.

"I mean I don't even know how to express it. It was so much fun," said Selma Slabiak, the crowned mixologist winner.

Slabiak praised her fellow mixology competitors, as well as her runner-up.

"I think everyone participating in this event are very driven people. I'm so excited to be a part of this," said Slabiak. "It was never really like a crazy competition because we're all



Taste the culture: Chefs from all over the Caribbean came to compete and cook for guests of the Rum and Rhythm Benefit Festival in Manhattan.

friends and peers and we had so much fun supporting each other."

The Rum and Rhythm benefit is organized by the Caribbean Tourism Organization to raise money for scholarships in the Caribbean, and to help increase tourism and vitality to the region.

Organizers of the event hope that guests know that they supported a wonderful event, and their presence will benefit the education of students pursuing hospitality careers.

"They didn't just come to a

party, they came to party for a cause," said Sylma Brown, director for the Caribbean Tourism Organization based in New York. "The Caribbean Tourism Organization believes we must encourage the best and the brightest to come into the tourism industry and we do that by providing scholarships to them."

The guests of the fest were spoiled with food, drinks, music, and had the opportunity to taste-test and sample cuisines from nearly every country in the region. Chefs represented were from Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Cayman Islands, Jamaica, and St. Martin and competed for best chef.

The winner of the chefs' competition echoed the need for a multinational Caribbean event.

"Coming together is important. I've always believed that when the Caribbean comes together — there aren't much places in the world that are stronger," said Barbadian chef and winner, Creig Greenidge. "Let's keep the camaraderie going — because for me, yes I



Barbadian mixologist pouring alcoholic beverages to serve at the Rum and Rhythm benefit festival in Chinatown.

Mariam Kambon

won, but I'm not here to compete necessarily, I'm just here to cook."

Greenidge says the energy, spirit, and community vibe at the Rum and Rhythm fest seals

his return.

"I've been coming here for four years — and I love coming and they love me here," said Greenidge. "I will be here next year."



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CARIBBEAN ROUNDUP

Continued from page 4

tion in that parish.

Robberies are down by 30 percent, while larceny has been reduced by 52 percent, the police reported.

St. Vincent

Officials in St. Vincent and the Grenadines will no longer swear allegiance to the Queen when taking oaths of office, instead they will swear to “be faithful and bear true allegiance to St. Vincent and the Grenadines.”

Parliament recently passed an amendment bill to get rid of the practice of officials swearing allegiance to the Queen.

Prime Minister Dr. Ralph Gonsalves says it is not any disrespect to Queen Elizabeth II, the country’s ceremonial head of state.

Gonsalves pointed countries such as Jamaica that have the Queen as their head of state but do not swear allegiance to her.

He pointed out there was no constitution requirement for officials to swear allegiance to the Queen and the amendment to the Oaths by Officials Act simply makes the oath more “consistent with the sensibilities of the people of St. Vincent and the Grenadines, even though they may still wish to acknowledge her majesty.”

In November 2009, a referendum in St. Vincent and the Grenadines on proposed changes to the Constitution — including a switch from the Queen to a president elected by the National Assembly as the ceremonial head of state — was defeated.

St. Kitts

The St. Kitts and Nevis government is making efforts to reduce the substantial debt owed to the government of Venezuela under the PetroCaribe agreement.

Speaking at his monthly press conference recently, Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Dr. Timothy Harris referred to the debt as a part of the bad inheritance that his administration received after taking office in February 2016.

He said the last government boasted that they had so much money but refused to pay their debts.

Harris said the “significant backlog” has been the subject of ongoing discussions between his government and the government of Venezuela adding that federation’s financial secretary will meet with officials from PDV St. Kitts and Nevis to “deal with this matter.”

St. Kitts and Nevis owes Venezuela US\$45 million under the PetroCaribe arrangement, according to Energy Minister Ian Liburd.

Minister of Public Infrastructure, Ian “Patches” Liburd recently disclosed that the St. Kitts and Nevis government had accrued a debt of close to

US\$200 million to PDV St. Kitts and Nevis between the years 2009 and 2011.

Suriname

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has approved a US\$478 million 24-month Stand-By Arrangement for Suriname to support the government’s economic reform program.

The board’s approval of the arrangement enables the immediate disbursement of US\$81 million.

The home-grown program aims to facilitate Suriname’s adjustment to the fall in prices of major commodity exports, restore confidence and pave the way to economic recovery.

A critical ingredient of the program is fiscal consolidation, to restore fiscal and external current account stability.

The program will also catalyze support from other multilateral institutions, including the Caribbean Development Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank, the Islamic Development Bank and the World Bank Group, as well as from bilateral creditors.

Director and acting chair of the IMF Board said in a statement: “Suriname has been hit hard by the drop in the international prices of its main exports and the closure of the country’s alumina production. These developments have caused substantial fiscal and current account deficits, a rundown of international reserves and an economic downturn.”

St. Lucia

The Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) has approved a US\$11.2 million loan to the government of St. Lucia to help improve the water supply system in the community of Dennery North.

The Dennery North water supply redevelopment project aims to deliver a safe, reliable and climate-resilient supply of potable water to residents and businesses in the area.

The community of Dennery North is grappling with some of the most acute water supply challenges in St. Lucia. In the dry season, raw water is especially turbid and treatment facilities are unable to improve the quality to an acceptable level. In addition, the community’s water supply infrastructure is outdated and can no longer keep pace with rising demand.

The water shortages have disrupted household and business activities in Dennery North, led to migration out of the community, and reduced productivity and profitability.

In addition to the loan, the government will receive a grant of US\$110,000 to be used for communications and building awareness of the project; water conservation practices; waterborne diseases; and the impact of climate change on water supply.

— compiled by Azad Ali



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Vincy student accepted to Harvard Medical School



Tiffany and her parents, Sus and Cheryl Minors.

By Nelson A. King

With thousands of applicants annually to Harvard Medical School in Cambridge, Ma, a Vincentian student has been very fortunate to be among the elite group that has been accepted to the prestigious institution, considered to be the top medical school in the world.

Tiffany Minors, 22, who was born in Brooklyn to Cheryl Gibson-Minors and Sylvanus “Sus” Minors, is one of 150 students to be accepted to Harvard’s medical program, which she plans to start on Aug. 1.

“I believe I got into Harvard Med for a couple of reasons,” Tiffany told Caribbean Life over the weekend. “First and foremost, I believe God has a special plan for my life, so all the glory should go to Him.

“Secondly, I think it was obvious from my application that I had an underlying driving force in everything I was doing, which had to do with my faith,” added the Born-Again

Christian. “In all my extracurricular activities – be it working at the homeless shelter, leading the Social Action team for Harvard College Faith and Action, tutoring inner-city kids, musically directing Harvard’s Christian A Cappella group, going on missions trips, or attempting to find cures for certain viruses – I was working towards the goal of loving people well and using my talents to do so.

“Thirdly, I believe my heritage was a big factor in my acceptance,” continued Tiffany, who graduated in May from Harvard College with a bachelor’s degree in chemistry, with honors. “I spoke in my interviews about being a first generation American and identifying with my Vincentian culture. I explained how I was interested in Global Health, partly because I would love to impact St. Vincent and the Grenadines’ local hospitals in the future.”

Besides Harvard, Tiffany, who said she is “driven by

her faith in Jesus Christ and deep love for others,” was also accepted to two other Ivy League medical schools – the University of Pennsylvania (U-Penn) and Columbia University.

In addition, she was offered a full scholarship to Hofstra Medical School in Long Island. The Award Letter from Hofstra cited her ability to be “a leader” of the school as it moves forward.

In her undergraduate study at Harvard College, Tiffany co-synthesized, with another Harvard student, novel NS3 Protease Inhibitor for dengue fever.

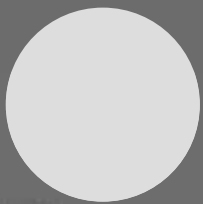
They presented their findings to the Medicinal Chemistry sector of the American Chemical Society (ACS) National Convention. Clinical trials are expected to begin later to produce a dengue vaccine.

Tiffany said she was “blessed with many opportunities to do research while at college,” stating that she worked for Dr.

Lecia Sequist, Chief Pulmonary Oncologist at Massachusetts General Hospital, on an EGFR mutant third generation

drug, in which she analyzed the side effect of hyperglycemia in patients not previously known to have diabetes.

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Politicians face corruption charges

By Azad Ali

Three former Antigua and Barbuda government ministers have been charged with corruption in connection with three Daewoo buses donated to the former Baldwin Spencer administration.

Leader of the main opposition United Progressive Party (UPP) Harold Lovell, along with former Education Minister Senator Dr. Jacqui Quinn-Leandro and former Health Minister, Wilmot Daniel have been charged with larceny, fraudulent conversion and corruption.

Lovell is a former finance minister in the former UPP government.

It is alleged that they converted the buses, valued at more than EC\$600,000 (US\$222,000), to their personal use and had the vehicles registered in their names. The buses were donated to the former UPP administration.

The case has been adjourned to Sept. 8.

The UPP said in a statement that the charges are politically motivated, and accused the ruling Antigua Labor Party (ALP) of attempting to deflect from its "dismal failures to deliver on any of the promises that it made to the electorate," as it approaches its two-year anniversary in office.

"The charges reflect a poor attempt to cover the political policing practiced



Former Antiguan Education Minister Senator Dr. Jacqui Quinn-Leandro.

by the Gaston Browne administration with the commissioner of police," the statement said.

"The UPP stands firmly and resolutely with its leaders and our party is fully satisfied that at the end of the process, however, long it may take, our leaders will be vindicated," it added.

Another top UPP official, Chairman Gisele Isaac, is facing charges relating to her term as executive secretary of the Board of Education.

Youth

Continued from page 3

leagues, Eugene led multiple rallies throughout New York City, calling for more funding for crucial youth services.

In addition, Eugene wrote three letters to Mayor Bill de Blasio asking for an increased commitment to youth services.

"Together, through dialogue and negotiation, we were able to do great things for our young people and the future of New York City," Eugene said. "I'm so delighted that our young people will have a chance to continue to enjoy a variety of programs that will empower them."

Williams, Chair of the Committee on Housing and Buildings, and co-chair of the Task Force to Combat Gun Violence, "whether it comes to issues of youth employment, crime, or affordable housing, New Yorkers expect their elected officials, from the Mayor, to the Speaker and each Council Member, to adopt a budget consistent with our values.

"Earlier today [Tuesday], thanks to the work of the Mayor and the City Council, we had a handshake on a budget that reflects this," said Williams, who represents the 45th Council District in Brooklyn.

"This is a budget that represents progress," he added. "Since the beginning of negotiations, the Council made clear Youth Employment, as a central priority - both Summer Youth and Year Round employment. More importantly, we need a true pathway to universal

Summer Youth Employment program.

"As all of the experts say, and we know, employing young people means stronger families, crime reductions and, literally, young people remaining alive," Williams continued. "I am proud that, working together, 60,000 Summer Youth Employment slots were baselined, which is up from 54,000 last year. This represented the amount advocates thought they could handle in year one and the amount that would show a real commitment."

In addition, Williams said 6,000 year-round jobs, equal to the amount requested, has been included.

Aside from the commitment, he said a taskforce will be established, dedicated to analyzing both programs, with the aim of looking at how well the program is run, how it can be improved and increased, while getting to the individuals who need the most attention.

"Critical to this, is the administration's agreement to put funding behind the taskforce's recommendations," Williams said. "Just as important, the taskforce will be short-lived, charged in July and finishing in January, with the aim of impacting next year's preliminary budget."

"We know that above all jobs help prevent crime, and so do other necessary resources," he added. "I want to thank the Administration and Speaker for its infusion of \$8 million in the Crisis Management System."

Williams said the system was an outgrowth of the work of the Task Force to Combat Gun Violence, established last term and co-chaired by him and Council Member Cabrera.

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Marijuana researchers seek government approval

By Azad Ali

The University of the West Indies (UWI) is urging the Barbados government to enact the necessary legislation to allow its scientists to undertake studies on the medicinal use of marijuana.

The Barbados Cave Hill Campus of the UWI has announced plans for a symposium on marijuana in September and would welcome the required legislation to advance its research on the plant.

Principal of the Cave Hill Campus, Professor Eudine Barriteau said it has been investigating the medicinal value of Barbadian plants and there is need for the legislative framework to conduct research on marijuana.

Recently a Barbados government senator criticized the UWI for its failure to lead the regional efforts on the research of marijuana for medicinal purposes.

Senator Jeptor Ince told the Senate during the debate on the Caribbean Accreditation Authority for Education in Medicine and other Health Professionals (Incorporation) Bill, 2016; "we have this talent at the UWI and we should have been at the forefront of marijuana uses for diseases, and for medical purposes".

Ince insisted that the UWI had to look at research in medicine as a way to boost its revenues, saying it was clear that the marijuana industry was exploding, particularly in the United States.

Professor Barriteau noted that the Jamaican government has ensured that



Professor Eudine Barriteau.

marijuana research was undertaken at the Mona Campus by passing the necessary legislation in April 2015.

Earlier this year, St. Vincent and the Grenadines Prime Minister Dr. Ralph Gonsalves called for a collective Caribbean approach regarding the trade and other benefits of marijuana cultivation in the region.

In 2014, CARICOM leaders, at their summit in Antigua, announced the establishment of a commission to discuss the means of decriminalizing marijuana for medicinal purposes.

Haiti to redo both rounds of presidential election

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP) _ Haitian electoral officials announced Monday that a new presidential election will be held in October with additional safeguards in place to avoid the widespread fraud that marred last year's voting and led to the imposition of an interim government.

The first round of the new presidential election will be Oct. 9 and, if no one secures a majority, a runoff would follow on Jan. 8, Electoral Council President Leopold Berlangier said at a news conference.

All 54 candidates who ran in the disputed October election would be permitted to run again, Berlangier said.

The CEP announced a series of measures aimed at reducing the opportunity for fraud in the upcoming election

including an end to the ability of poll workers and observers to vote wherever they want, a practice that many believe led to the large number of multiple voting by individuals.

The top finisher last time was Jovenel Moise, from the party of former President Michel Martelly. He was trailed by Jude Celestin, a businessman tied to the president before Martelly's term.

But a widespread perception of fraud led to the cancellation of the second round and appointment of interim President Jocelerme Privert.

Last month, a special commission reported significant fraud and professional misconduct. The panel examined 25 percent of the roughly 13,000 tally sheets from polling stations and found about 628,000 untraceable votes.

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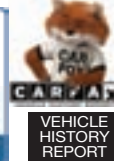
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A search for answers from former lovers

"I Almost Forgot about You" by Terry McMillan c.2016, Crown \$27.00 / \$36.00 Canada 358 pages

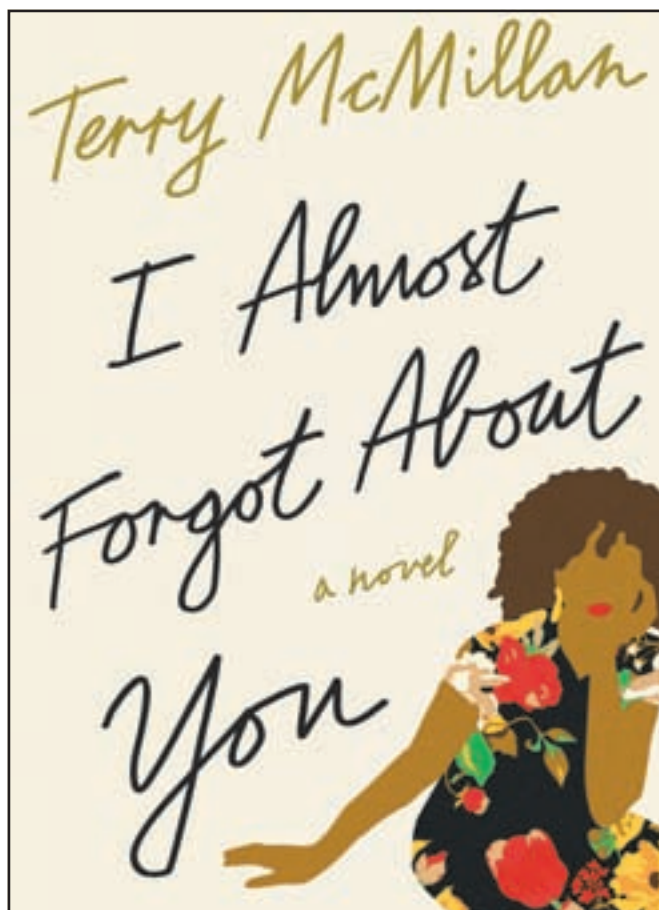


"I Almost Forgot About You" author Terry McMillan.

and she never would... because he was dead.

Shaken to the core, Georgia began to think about all the men she had slept with, and the ones she had fallen in love with. How would life have changed if she'd stayed with any one of them? She'd been divorced twice; would that number have been higher or lower? Would she have more than her two daughters, live somewhere other than San Francisco, travel, cook for two?

At nearly 55 years old, she figured she would never find love again, but she at least needed closure. With the urging of her BFF, Wanda, Georgia made a list of the men she had once loved, and she promised herself she would find them — not because she wanted to rekindle anything, but because she had so many questions for them and for herself.



Book cover of "I Almost Forgot About You."

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

In every love life, there's always 'The One That Got Away.'

He got away because you were both too young, too scared, too broke, or too different. Things were said that couldn't be unsaid, done that shouldn't have been done. It just didn't work out then, but now...? In the new novel, "I Almost Forgot about You" by Terry McMillan, he'll never get away twice.

It should have been an ordinary run-of-the-mill Monday. That's the way it started for

optometrist Georgia Young: new prescriptions, return clients, follow-ups, and one new Monday-morning patient who — big surprise! — turned out to be the daughter of a man Georgia dated in college and had fallen for. She never told the guy she loved him, though,

Finding her ex-husbands white-collar crime; both were was easy. Michael happened to happy and had moved on with be moving back to California, their lives. Georgia was even and Niles was out of jail for his able to stop hating them.

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Guyana

Continued from page 3

there, but most importantly we want you to bring the next generation of Guyanese so that they can come and experience our beautiful county."

"Thanks to you in the Diaspora and citizens like you who continue to do good things for Guyana. I recognize, and the government of Guyana recognizes your contribution. Many of you help your old school, churches and orphanages; and many of you help in the development of the health sector," said the politician.

"The things that we are committed to doing in Guyana, we cannot do without your continued support and assistance, so I want to say thank you for all that you have done, and will continue do."

"The things that we are committed to doing in Guyana, we cannot do without your continued support and assistance,

so I want to say thank you for all that you have done, and will continue do."

The pleasant sunshine that hung over City Hall, was an inspiring gesture that helped the nationals to celebrate with pride and excitement, as the Golden Arrowhead flag was raised in New Jersey, 50 years after Guyana became independent on May 26, 1966.

Retired, Guyana Defense Force Colonel, Desmond Roberts who raised the flag at Guyana's National Park, in 1966, passed the baton over to his son who helped the former army brass to once again hoist the flag alongside Minister Catherine Hughes, members of the GAHFI and citizens who celebrated the historic occasion.

The evening's commemoration included folk music, a rendition by Larry's Steel Pan, Praise Dance by the Brenda Telford Dance Group, Songs of Guyana's Children by St. Paul & St. Agnes Church Choir, an Indian Fashion Showcase by Bibi Alli, and a display of Guyana's six races of people, by Ismay Sam.

Pastor Julius Ceasar, (Christian) Pandit Suresh (Hindu), and Ashraf Latif, (Muslim), blessed the observance with multi-cultural prayers while talented young singer, Rkhqy, sang the national anthems of Guyana and America. YA&G donated the delicious Guyanese fare.

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Let's hear the reception: Pleased guests applaud at the ending of the film screening for "Black Women in Medicine," in the library of the Yale Club in Manhattan.

Film screening highlights black women's struggles as doctors

By Alexandra Simon

Award-winning filmmaker and author Crystal R. Emery preview-screened her documentary film, "Black Women in Medicine" at the Yale Club in Manhattan on Wednesday, June 8.

The quadriplegic filmmaker teamed up with former Surgeon General Joycelyn Elders, to create a documentary highlighting black women doctors from the past to the current. The film highlights the challenges and struggles that black women face in medical school, their professions, and their relationships with their peers. Creators of the film explain the efforts that need to be implemented to change the face of physicians in the country.

"You can't be, what you can't see," said Elders to an audience recalling her childhood in racially-segregated Arkansas. "I couldn't aspire to be a doctor, I couldn't aspire to be a nurse. The only thing that seemed better than the cotton patch was to be a clerk at Dillard's department store — because that was all I saw."

Various black female physicians, students, and aspiring doctors, speak in the documentary about their journey's into the medical field. The timelines the very first black female to enter medical school, to the current, and incoming medical students. Along with Elders, other notable women in the film include doctor Claudia Thomas, the

first black female orthopedic surgeon, and doctor Velma Scantlebury, the first black female transplant surgeon.

Some doctors who appeared in the film praised Emery for documenting their stories for the world.

"She has done a remarkable job," said guest speaker Aletha Maybank,

the deputy commissioner for New York City's Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. "She's doing something that nobody else is doing and that's documenting the history, especially the history of the African-American female physicians in the country, and nobody has taken that on."

As part of the film, Emery created an initiative called "Changing the Face of Medicine," being pushed by her and Elders, to increase the number of all black physicians in the country. The launch of this project is to bring

awareness and to emphasize the importance of introducing more diverse faces into healthcare.

Emery wants the film to reach every demographic in hopes that everyone is uplifted.

"This film transcends race, gender, economics — if it moved your heart, then I need your help to move other people's hearts," said Emery.

The film is not completed, but "Black Women in Medicine" will air on 279 public American television stations this September.



Let's hear the reception: Pleased guests applaud at the ending of the film screening for "Black Women in Medicine," in the library of the Yale Club in Manhattan.

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Pride Month carnage galvanizes rainbow coalition

Americans are again traumatized by the hate and bigotry that frequently pauses after a horrendous tragedy but always replays with intensity, conversation and consternation. This time, the focus is on Orlando, Florida where 49 gay (meaning fun-seeking individuals) revelers were brutally terrorized and murdered by a single gun-wielding man in a club named Pulse, on a night dedicated to Latino heritage.

It was Latin Night and a weekend of celebration of Pride Month — a 30-day celebration of LGBTQ gender identity. And that young, patrons packed into the southern, gay-friendly space last Sunday could not have been a coincidence for a 29-year-old shooter — whose name will not be immortalized here. He chose to arm himself with an automatic weapon and a handgun and in a blaze of what he might have considered glory, waged terror and is now being labelled the perpetrator of America's worst mass murders.

From his name and heritage, it was assumed that his



Inside Life

By Vinette K. Pryce

brutality might have been sparked by an alliance with Muslim extremist loyalists. Early reports associated the carnage with acts of terrorism a term now synonymous with Muslim activity. That the carnage occurred during Ramadan — a holy period for Muslims and a time alleged to register the lowest crime figures throughout the Islamic community — it seemed unlikely that the bloody massacre could be tied to a Muslim.

Undeniably the shooter was there to wreak havoc, kill and make a statement.

He accomplished much of his intentions, however exactly what the message inside the statement might have been is now being interpreted by police officials and media pundits.

Was it homophobia that motivated his brutality?

Born to Afghan parents in New York in 1986, he lived in Port St. Lucie, Florida, a two-hour distance from Orlando.

The suspect's ex-wife, Sitorio Yusufiy from Ukbekistan who married him in 2009 and divorced him in 2011 said he had been violently abusive to her but was not especially religious.

Although the marriage only lasted four months from April 2009 to August 2009 the woman who lived with the terrorist she met online described her former husband as a "sick person."

She said he was bi-polar with an unpredictable personality. In talking with media she said he regularly beat her and held her hostage before she was "rescued" by her family.

In her reflections she expressed fear she said she endured throughout her mar-



A historical New York Gay Pride Parade, three days after the United States became the twenty-first and most populous country to legalize same-sex marriage, following the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in Obergefell v. Hodges.

Associated Photo / Kike Calvo

riage to a mentally instable and now diagnosed mentally ill maniac.

From most accounts from those who knew him since childhood, he was obsessed with guns. He aspired to being a police officer with the NYPD. He wore T-shirts that carried the NYPD logo and often posted photos brandishing weapons while wearing the shirts.

Reportedly born in Queens,

New York, his roots are in Afghanistan and initially it was theorized by media that allegiance to Muslim extremism might have provoked this wicked act.

Allegedly he was radicalized via the internet and while holding hostages in a bathroom at the club claimed allegiance to ISIS after making three 911 calls.

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Miss Georgetown, Guyana, Shary Solomon, wins Miss New York Continental Cultural Pageant.

Photo by Nelson A. King

Miss Georgetown wears the crown

By Nelson A. King

A 22-year-old Kingsborough Community College graduate Saturday night outshone six other beauties to win the Miss New York Continental Cultural Pageant at George Wingate High School Auditorium on Kingston Avenue in Brooklyn.

Miss Georgetown, Guyana, Shary Solomon, 22, outclassed her competitors with elegance, beauty, grace, poise, talent and articulation to win the crown with the judges' vote – and the crowd's acclama-

Continued on Page 40

Tessanne to sing in Queens

With less than two weeks left before New York's premier reggae and R&B summer festival — Groovin In The Park — unfolds at Roy Wilkins Park in Queens on Sunday, June 26, 2016, event organizers are reporting an uptick in calls about Voice season 5 winner Tessanne Chin.

"There is tremendous interest in Tessanne based on calls to our office and to the radio station" Chris Roberts, founder of Groovin Inc. said.

"She has been a New York fan favorite ever since she first appeared on the Voice three years ago. What is interesting, it is not just Jamaicans who are calling, but fans from the Caribbean diaspora, Americans and music lovers who want to see her live. She could steal the show," he said.

Continued on Page 40



CELEBRATE BROOKLYN!

Sharon Jones and the Dap-Kings performing for an excited audience in Prospect Park. Photo by Tequila Minsky

Hot start to Prospect Park's festival

By Tequila Minsky

What a great way to start off the BRIC Celebrate Brooklyn! season in Prospect Park than with performer extraordinaire, electrifying funk and soul singer, the borough's own Sharon Jones and the Dap-Kings.

On June 8, the chill in the air after the heavy rainstorm didn't keep the crowds away from the first concert of Prospect Park's summer long arts festival.

Sharon Jones grew up in Bed-Stuy after her family moved up from the

south when she was a young girl; her musical home was with gospel in the church.

This Brooklyn-based band is seen by many as the spearhead of a revivalist movement aiming to capture the essence of funk / soul music as it was at its height in the mid-1960s to mid-1970s.

The season's launch brought out fans and friends and attendees for the fundraising gala, which was held just prior to the concert.

Thirteen brass instruments with

about eight saxes performed one opening number and created rich texture to set the mood. Then Dap-Kings settled in with the backup singers further drawing the crowd in.

The audience jumped to their feet during the Sharon Jones' performance and delighted in her signature song "100 Nights." Her final number was an exorcism song to rid the cancer that has returned to Miss Jones.

It is well known that Jones' battled

Continued on Page 40

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BY CAMILLE SPERRAZZA

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Rated PG-13 for violence and some profanity
Running time: 115 minutes
Distributor: Lionsgate Films

By Kam Williams

It's been three years since we last saw the world's greatest illusionists, aka the Four Horsemen, playing a dangerous game of cat-and-mouse with the FBI. Now, the master magicians have resurfaced for a mesmerizing, mindbending adventure which ups the ante in terms of both audacity and visual capture.

This bombastic, bells-and-whistles sequel is given to wowing the audience via a combination of spectacular stunts and a dizzying array of exotic locales. Just don't expect much in the way of a coherent plot and this preten-



Morgan Freeman stars as 'Thaddeus Bradley' in "Now You See Me 2."

Jay Maidment

tious, globe-trotting fantasy will never disappoint you.

Directed by Jon M. Chu (Jem and the Holograms), the picture co-stars Woody Harrelson, Jesse Eisenberg and Dave Franco who reprise their lead roles as Merritt, Daniel and

Jack, respectively. Lizzy Caplan rounds out the principal cast as Lula, replacing Isla Fisher as a members of Four Horsemen. The A-list ensemble also includes Academy Award-winners Morgan Freeman and Michael Caine, as well as Dan-

iel ("Harry Potter") Radcliffe and Sanaa Lathan.

After needlessly filling in a superfluous bit of backstory from 1984, the movie fast-forwards to the present where we find our heroes being blackmailed by Walter Mabry (Rad-

cliffe), a billionaire bad boy bent on world domination. He has designs on "The Stick," a powerful computer chip which will afford him unfettered access to the back door of every computer on the planet.

Of course, the skeptical quartet proves adept at staying a step ahead of the megalomaniacal misanthrope. For, instead of accommodating the creep, they proceed to flaunt their seemingly-supernatural powers in daring displays of hocus-pocus.

Yes, the group is supposedly worried about restoring its tarnished reputation, too. However, that concern definitely takes a back seat to staging a series of increasingly-implausible magical acts.

Plus, there's a healthy competition among the four which has each endeavoring to outdo the other. The ensuing ever-escalating feats make great fodder for an eye-popping blockbuster, even if what's served up on screen is purely a product of cartoon physics.

Independent & Foreign Films

Argentina (Unrated) Folklore documentary exploring the heart of the Argentine culture, including the nation's dance and musical heritage. (In Spanish with subtitles)

Cosmos (Unrated) The late Andrzej Zulawski's final film, an adaptation of Witold Gombrowicz's novel of the same name, reinterpreted as an exploration of desire at a rural retreat by a law school dropout (Jonathan Genet), his unemployed friend (Johan Libereau) and the newlywed daughter (Victoria Guerra) of the owner (Sabine Azema) of the guesthouse. With Clementine Pons, Jean-Francois Balmer and Andy Gillet. (In French with subtitles)

The Last King (Unrated) Costume drama, set in Norway in 1206, revolving around how the birth of the monarch's (Benjamin Helstad) illegitimate son touched off a civil war which altered the country's course of history. With Anders Dahlberg, Asmund Brede Elke and Elg Elgesem. (In Norwegian with subtitles)

My Love, Don't Cross That River (Unrated) Tale of undying love about 100 year-olds Jo and Gye-Yeoi Kang, a Korean couple that's been happily married for 76 years and counting. (In Korean with subtitles)

No Stranger than Love (R for profanity) Romantic comedy about a married man (Colin Hanks) who mysteriously



Kam's Kapsules

By Kam Williams

disappears into a hole in his mistress' (Alison Brie) living room floor when she tells him she loves him. With Justin Chatwin, Mark Forward, Lisa Berry and Christopher Cordell.

Raiders! The Story of the Greatest Fan Film Ever Made (Unrated) "The Making of" documentary revisiting a couple of Mississippi adolescents' seven-year effort to remake their favorite film: Raiders of the Lost Ark.

Seoul Searching (Unrated) Fact-based coming-of-age dramedy, set in the Eighties, recounting how the Korean government created special summer camps where foreign-born kids from mixed backgrounds might learn about their roots. Co-starring Jessika Van, Justin Chon and Teo Yoo. (In Korean, English and German with subtitles)

BIG BUDGET FILMS

Central Intelligence (PG-13 for violence, sexuality, nudity, crude humor and brief profanity) Unlikely-buddies comedy about a nerdy accountant (Kevin Hart) who is lured into the world of international espionage by a childhood friend-turned-crack CIA agent (Dwayne Johnson). With Amy Ryan, Danielle Nicolet and Aaron Paul.

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TOP OF THE CHARTS

TOP 10 SINGLES



- 1 **Can't Stop The Feeling!**
Justin Timberlake
- 2 **One Dance**
Drake Feat. Wiz Kid...
- 3 **Don't Let Me Down**
The Chainsmokers Feat. Daya
- 4 **Work From Home**
Fifth Harmony
- 5 **7 Years**
Lukas Graham
- 6 **I Took A Pill in Ibiza**
Mike Posner
- 7 **Dangerous Woman**
Ariana Grande
- 8 **Love Yourself**
Justin Bieber
- 9 **This is What You Came For**
Calvin Harris feat. Rihanna
- 10 **Panda**
Designer

TOP 10 ALBUMS



- 1 **Lemonade**
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- 2 **Seal The Deal & Let's...**
Volbeat
- 3 **Hero**
Maren Moriis
- 4 **Views**
Drake
- 5 **Obsessed**
Dan + Shay
- 6 **Love You To Death**
Tegan and Sara
- 7 **Stranger to Stranger**
Paul Simon
- 8 **Hamilton: An American...**
Original Broadway Cast
- 9 **T.God Mafia: Rude...**
Juicy J Wiz Khalifah
- 10 **Falling Into Place**
Rebellion



Music Festival

Continued from page 37

cancer in 2014 and Barbara Kopple's film "Miss Jones!" documents her struggle to be a musician and her treatments, which at that time left her cancer free. The film, which screened at film festivals has attracted a larger audience to Sharon Jones and will have a theatrical release at the end of July.

The band's album "Give the People What They Want" was nominated for a Grammy in 2014 in the Best R&B Album of Year category.

Thirty-two performances, a mix of music, film, dance, and multimedia will keep Brooklynites entertained during the summer at BRIC Celebrate Brooklyn!

Twenty-five are free (\$5 suggested contribution) and there are 19 concerts. Dance, and music and movies are all part of the schedule: www.bricartsmedia.org/events-performances#Jun2016

The full season lineup consists of artists from Brooklyn and around the world — across the U.S., the Caribbean, Latin America, Africa and Europe. They include (June 16), Alvays / Ducktails / Big Thief (June 23), ¡Cubanismo! / Ricardo Lemvo & Makina Loca (June 24), Red Baraat's Brooklyn Mela / Sunny Jain / DJ Rekha / Heems / Bhi Bhiman & More (July 7), Rachid Taha / Krar Collective (July 15), The Wood Brothers / Aoife O'Donovan / Hiss Golden Messenger (July 16), a double bill featuring Femi Kuti and Bombino (July 23), Angelique Kidjo's Celia Cruz Tribute (July 29), Dignable Planets / Camp Lo (July 30), and Morgan Heritage / British Dependency (Aug. 5).

The Bud Light Music Series includes Violent Femmes / Kristin Hersh (June 18), Carla Morrison / Hurray For The Riff Raff / Buscabulla (July 9), Dr. Dog / The Knights (Aug. 12), and Andra Day / Son Little (Aug. 13). The American Express Series includes Josh Ritter / Martha Redbone / Birds of Chicago (July 8), Jon Batiste and Stay Human & Friends (July 22), and Gregory Porter / Marcus Strickland & Twi-Life (July 28).

Performances start between 7 pm and 8 pm (check the schedule) with seating for those who arrive early and space for blankets and picnicking behind the seated area.



Nine saxophones, part of the brass band Dap-Kings that opened the evening's performance. Photo by Tequila Minsky

Pageant

Continued from page 37

tion.

When Master of Ceremonies Atiba Williams announced the winner late Saturday night, Solomon, who was also voted "Miss Photogenic," could not withhold her emotions, breaking down in tears.

"I was overwhelmed," Solomon told Caribbean Life in an exclusive interview afterwards. "I'm not a talker."

"It's something I like doing, but I just have fear of crowds," she added, referring to participation in the pageant that was organized by the Brooklyn-based Caribbean American Cultural Group, Inc. (CACC).

Solomon — who holds an associate degree in substance abuse and counseling, and plans to pursue further studies in counseling and education — said it was the first time she competed in a pageant.

"I feel the other contestants were beautiful, and they all did well, making it a tough competition," said the Guyanese beauty, who migrated to Brooklyn from her native country when she was 15.

"When I was backstage, I was mentally preparing myself, and God's favor was upon me," she added.

Solomon, currently an assistant in a doctor's office in Brook-



Vincentian calypsonian Navel String performs at pageant. Photo by Nelson A. King

lyn, wowed patrons in her evening wear, wearing a gold mermaid, V-neck, backless gown.

For her talent, she performed a praise and worship dance to "Ocean" by Hill Song.

In response to the pageant's interview question, "Do you think public citizens have the right to carry a firearm?" she said: "Yes, only if they are licensed to carry that. If the people think they have a right to carry the license, once they qualify, they have the right to carry it."

Competitors were also judged on swimwear.

Miss St. Vincent Yeshi Francis, 17 — who graduates this month from Brooklyn High School for Leadership and Community Services in Bedford-Stuyvesant, and will attend La Guardia Community College in Queens in the fall — took the first runner-up spot.

Groovin in the Park



Tessanne Chin.

Marvin Bartley Studios Ltd.

Continued from page 37

In terms of preparations for the festival, Roberts indicated that he is pleased so far.

"Things are looking very good so far compared to where we were last year at this time. The street team is fully engaged, we have stepped up our radio, print and social media promotions and most of the confirmed acts are working with us to assist with promotions. In fact, we just did radio interviews with Peabo Bryson

and Regina Belle on Groovin Radio, WVIP radio in NY and that went very well. These two Grammy Award winners have performed together numerous times. They are very familiar with Caribbean audiences and they promise to deliver something magical for fans on Sunday, June 26," Roberts added.

Other performers booked for Groovin In The Park are Brian McKnight, Beres Hammond, Toots Hibbert and Duane Stephenson.



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- Organization's office: 325 Rogers Avenue (Bet. Montgomery & Sullivan). Phone: 718-467-1797
- Online at the following web address www.wiadcacarnival.org

Please note there will be an additional service fee for online registration. Office Email: wiadcainc@gmail.com

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ICC Chief Executive David Richardson answers questions from the media after he announced a change in venue for the upcoming India versus Pakistan match of the Twenty20 World Cup in New Delhi, India, Wednesday, March 9, 2016.

AP Photo/Saurabh Das

Windies fail to qualify

By Azad Ali

For the first time since the inception of the International Cricket Council (ICC) Champions Trophy, the West Indies' name is not on the list of teams which the organizers announced for the 2017 edition.

The Caribbean side, which won the event in 2004 in England, failed to qualify for the tournament last year as they were not among the top eight One-Day

Continued on Page 44

India to tour Caribbean

By Azad Ali

The West Indies Cricket Board (WICB) has released the itinerary for the seven-week tour of India to the Caribbean starting in July.

The tour was thrown in jeopardy after the West Indies pulled out of a series on the sub-continent two years ago.

India will play four Tests matches over a 49-day stint in the region following a couple of warm-up matches in St. Kitts, the WICB said in a statement.

The Indians will arrive in St. Kitts on July 6 for two-day warm-up matches at Warner Park on July 9-10 followed by a

Continued on Page 44



US DEFEATS PARAGUAY

Paraguay's Paulo da Silva, left, and United States' Jermaine Jones leap for the ball during the second half of a Copa America Group A soccer match at Lincoln Financial Field, Saturday, June 11, 2016, in Philadelphia.

Associated Press / Matt Slocum

Reaches Copa America quarters with 1-0 win

By Ronald Blum

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Protecting a lead after Clint Dempsey's first-half goal, the United States' Copa America planning was suddenly upended.

DeAndre Yedlin got a pair of yellow cards 57 seconds apart just into the second half for two rash tackles, forcing the U.S. to play a man short

against Paraguay for what turned out to be 49 fretful minutes.

Defenders held the back line, goalkeeper Brad Guzan made an outstanding double save in the 82nd minute and the U.S. held on for a 1-0 victory Saturday night to reach the Copa America quarterfinals.

"We stuck together," defender

Geoff Cameron said. "Everybody sacrificed."

Hosting a special expanded 100th anniversary edition of South America's championship, the Americans (2-1) won Group A on goal difference over Colombia (2-1), which was upset 3-2 by already eliminated Costa

Continued on Page 44

Continued from page 43

International teams at the Sept. 30, 2015 cutoff date.

Minnows Bangladesh and the embattled Pakistan sneaked in to gain qualification ahead of the West Indies.

World champions, Australia, head group A, while reigning Champions Trophy kings, India, tops Group B for the tournament set to run from June 1-18 next year.

“The ICC Champions trophy 2017 is not just an ODI competition; it carries a great deal of value since it is being played just three months before the ICC Cricket World 2019 qualification cutoff date. As such, every point earned here could be crucial,” ICC chief executive, Dave Richardson said.

“The announcement of the ICC Champions Trophy schedule 12 months before the start of the event will provide sufficient time to all eight sides to plan for the tournament and arrived in England and Wales fully prepared and geared up so they can collect enough points to directly qualify for the 2019 extravaganza,” he said.

Hosts England will raise the curtain on the tournament with a clash against Bangladesh at the Oval in Group A which also includes New Zealand.

Tour

Continued from page 43

three-day fixture at the same venue between July 14-16.

The first Test begins on July 21 at the Sir Vivian Richards Stadium, Antigua, while the second will start on July 30 at Sabina Park, Jamaica.

The Indians will then travel to St. Lucia for the third Test, to be played at the Darren Sammy Cricket Stadium from Aug. 9.

The final game of the series will be held at the Queen’s Park Oval, Port of Spain, Trinidad from Aug. 18.



West Indies’ captain Darren Sammy. Associated Press / Andres Leighton



United States’ Clint Dempsey, center, scores a goal past Paraguay’s Justo Villar, right, and Fabian Balbuena during the first half of a Copa America Group A soccer match Saturday, June 11, 2016, in Philadelphia.

Associated Press / Matt Slocum

PARAGUAY LOSES TO US TEAM

Continued from page 43

Rica. By finishing first, the Americans may avoid a quarterfinal matchup with Brazil.

The U.S. plays Thursday night at Seattle, most likely against Ecuador or Peru, with the matchup to be determined by Sunday’s Group B finals.

“I think that we could possibly do something special here,” Dempsey said.

With the Americans playing for the third time in nine days, U.S. coach Jurgen Klinsmann started the same lineup for the third straight game — something done only once before in U.S. national team history, in its three matches at the 1930 World Cup.

Dempsey scored for the second straight game, getting his 51st international goal in the 27th minute to move six behind Landon Donovan’s American scoring record.

Gyasi Zardes received a pass from Michael Bradley, ran along the left flank and slowed. Marked by Paulo Da Silva, who made his record 137th appearance for Paraguay, and Victor Ayala, Zardes spurred to the endline and crossed. Dempsey sprinted into the penalty area as the trailing runner and from eight

yards one-timed a left-footed shot past the leg of sliding defender Fabian Balbuena and under the left arm of diving goalkeeper Justo Villar.

Yedlin got his first yellow in the 47th for a slide tackle from the side into Miguel Almiron near the center circle. When play resumed, he raised a foot and charged into Miguel Samudio near the sideline. Chilean referee Julio Bascunan immediately gave a second yellow, and the 22-year-old Yedlin lifted both arms wide as if to say, why me?

“He got caught emotionally,” Klinsmann said. “He just lost his head for a second.”

Yedlin, the first U.S. player to receive a red card in a competitive match since Michael Bradley at the 2009 Confederations Cup, walked by reporters without stopping to answer questions.

Because of goal difference, Paraguay needed to win in order to advance. Michael Orozco entered to replace Yedlin at right back in the 50th minute, and Dempsey came off as the U.S. prepared to survive an onslaught during the rest of the half, which included six minutes of stoppage time.

“It’s huge discipline. It’s huge work rate,” Guzan said. “Everyone needs to

be on the same page. And when you play a man down in the conditions like they were tonight, for so long, for 45 minutes, it’s always going to be hard.”

With Paraguay applying pressure, Klinsmann repeatedly turned to try to spur on the crowd of 51,041.

Brooks made a sliding tackle to knock the ball away from Almiron on a 3-on-1 break in the 11th minute, and Guzan parried Derlis Gonzalez’s short-range, angled header in the 18th.

That was just a prelude.

Of Guzan’s seven saves, the best were in the 82nd minute, a sliding body stop on Jorge Benitez’s four-yard shot followed by a kick save on Almiron’s six-yard attempt off the rebound.

“You sit there biting your nails,” Dempsey said. “Certain plays, you’re wanting the ball to go out of bounds. You want people to kind of take their time and be smart how they manage the game.”

Klinsmann reveled in one of the team’s bigger wins since he took over in 2011.

“This,” he said, “is a huge statement to teams in South America or whoever watches it on TV.”

Anderson is ICC number one Test bowler



Eyes on Cricket

By George H. Whyte

James Anderson has reached the top of the ICC Test bowling statistics.

This is the first time he has reached to the top since his Test career started in 2003.

He picked up 18 wickets in the first two Tests against Sri Lanka collecting 79 points and going up four spots in the rankings.

In the first Test match he picked up 10 wickets, the second he got 8. He is the sixth bowler to pass 450 wickets in Test cricket.

HERO MOTORCYCLE COMPANY EXTENDS CPL SPONSORSHIP

Hero Motorcycle Company extend whose head quarters is in India has extended its' title sponsorship of the Caribbean Premier League for another three years.

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is considered the world's largest two wheeler manufacturer in terms of unit volumes.

This brand hero is present in about 30 countries the CPL Tournament is schedule to be played between June 29 and Aug. 11, it will be called Hero Caribbean Premier League until the 2018 season. The first set of games are to be played in the USA.

The Hero CPL 2016 will be played across seven territories, Guyana, Barbados, St. Kitts & Nevis, St. Lucia, Trinidad and Tobago, Jamaica and Fort Lauderdale in the United States.

SPIN BOWLING STILL TROUBLES WINDIES BATSMEN

At the start of the 50-over One-Day Competition the West Indies again has proven the inability to perform well against the spinners.



England's James Anderson, right, attempts to run out Sri Lanka's Kasul Mendis during day two of the Third cricket Test match against England at Lord's, London Friday June 10, 2016.

Adam Davy / PA via Associated Press

Head Coach Phil Simmons haa to modify his coaching strategies and get the players to change their approach in

facing the spinners.

West Indies top order batting must be able to score comfortably from many spin

attack. Denesh Ramdin is very disappointing past three long years. He must be replaced a the wicket keeper batsman.

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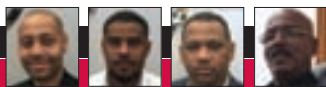


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ARIES: Mar 21/Apr 20
You are motivated to explore new relationships this week, Aries. Do so without jeopardizing existing relationships. Speak about your plans with others as you work things through.

TAURUS: Apr 21/May 21
Taurus, it's best to address an uncomfortable topic or situation directly, even if you would rather sweep it under the rug. Choose your words wisely and you will get by.

GEMINI: May 22/Jun 21
You may be sitting on edge as you try to manage a sticky situation, Gemini, but rest assured that things will work out in your favor. Do not worry about things for too long.

CANCER: Jun 22/Jul 22
Cancer, while you may want to steer clear of large groups this week, in some instances, it just may be unavoidable. Look for friends at large gatherings and enjoy the time together.

LEO: Jul 23/Aug 23
Leo, push past your hesitation and try something that scares you. You may be surprised at how much you actually enjoy it when you give new things a chance.

VIRGO: Aug 24/Sept 22
Do not waste too much time over-analyzing your feelings, Virgo. Trust your gut instincts because you are on the right path and you will soon realize it.

LIBRA: Sept 23/Oct 23
Libra, take some time to smell the roses this week. No matter how hectic your schedule, a little time to relax and appreciate the little things is just what the doctor ordered.

SCORPIO: Oct 24/Nov 22
Scorpio, spend some time on your own this week without the noises of the outside world creating any interference. It is good to recharge once in a while and clear your head.

SAGITTARIUS: Nov 23/Dec 21
Focus your attention on those actions that will help you be most successful, Sagittarius. This means not getting swept up with trivial things in your path.

CAPRICORN: Dec 22/Jan 20
Capricorn, progress is hard to come by lately. Find a system that works for you and you will soon start to gain some momentum. Allow events to unfold at their own pace.

AQUARIUS: Jan 21/Feb 18
Straightforward actions will help others see your motives more clearly, Aquarius. Make time to share your intentions with friends or coworkers if you desire their support.

PISCES: Feb 19/Mar 20
Pisces, long-term planning becomes a priority in the week ahead. Put future goals that involve finances at the top of your list.

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PINEDA, ET AL.,
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Dr. Cary Daniel

Uses his skills to serve the community

Dr. Cary Daniel was born and educated through high school in Haiti where the seeds of being a healthcare provider started. "I witnessed my neighbor suffering so much while giving birth and was helpless while my father transported her from the village to the city hospital." It was then he knew "that being in the healthcare field would be a direct way to make a difference."



ambition and greed. I am reminded of his advice and miss him dearly."

He also acknowledges doctors in the community including Henry Paul, Bernadette Sheridan, Jean Claude Compas, Jean Pratt Daniel, and Derek Chung for their mentoring.

First hand, this doctor observes that obesity, antibiotic resistance, and the prevalence of dementia are challenges he faces, along with educating patients regarding compliance to a treatment plan and the importance to focus on preventive measures. "It is not easy but it is a worthy endeavor."

With an objective to help the community, Dr. Daniel offers his services through his church, community health fairs, and educational programming.

He participates in NOAH-NY's yearly medical missions to northern Haiti that see more than a thousand patients. He also helps organize monthly health care clinics in his home village Dondon where "the need is tremendous."

Dr. Daniel is a family practitioner at Maimonides Medical Center, working in the outpatient clinic on Nostrand Avenue and at Grace Family Medical on E. 96th Street.

He earned a bachelor's of science at York College, worked as a physician assistant, and then attended medical school in Dominica.

The doctor pays tribute to his late father as the most influential person in his life and career. "He taught us to be humble, respectful, and honest, always emphasizing the value of hard work. He cautioned on the danger of selfishness,

Sybilla Daniel-Douglas

One who cares about the sick and elderly

Sybilla Daniel-Douglas was born in London of Caribbean parents; her mother is from St. Lucia and her father is from Antigua.

Being drawn to nursing has been a blessing for her. She says, "As a child, I had a passion for helping people, especially the sick and elderly, and it was my mother who advised me to become a nurse. I took her advice and never regretted one moment."

Ms. Douglas has 29 years in the healthcare field, a Master of Science in Adult Health Nursing with an emphasis on education. She works as a registered nurse and asthma educator at Brookdale University Hospital and Medical Center, Brookdale Family Care Center on Linden Avenue.

She uses simple terminology and pictures to explain to parents the difference in medications and the importance of the daily protocol even when the child is well.

"It's important for them to under-



stand the role of daily-inhaled corticosteroids in the management of persistent asthma," she explains, of the challenges at times to get parents of pediatric asthma patients to understand the importance of certain treatments.

"They are so grateful." And, a reply that she gets most of the time is "no one ever told me that, no one ever explained it to me that way before."

For the last eight years, Ms. Daniel-Douglas also has been a clinical instructor, an adjunct assistant professor for nursing fundamentals and psychiatric nursing in the Medgar Evers College Nursing Program. She is equally engaged with her eager-to-learn students where she provides supervision and assistance to students in a clinical setting.

She says, "I am a firm believer that good habits start early and if you teach the students well from the very beginning, they will carry these good practices with them forever."

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Dr. Frank A. Denbow

Passionate about education and health

Already a practicing physician, Dr. Frank Denbow migrated from Guyana several years ago. He is an internist.

At the age of 10, a young Frank decided on his career path, growing up and observing his mother Dr. Enid Denbow, looking very smart with her stethoscope and medical bag.

"My mother is an amazing person who continues to inspire me," he asserts. She was the first and only female chief medical officer within the Health Ministry for several years. Quite a role model! Even as a child, he was nicknamed "Dr. Denbow" by his friends.

Soon after completing his medical studies in Ireland, and post graduate training in the United Kingdom and Jamaica, he returned to Guyana in 1988 where he practiced at the Georgetown Public Hospital.

Dr. Denbow was vice president of the nascent Guyana Medical Association, which helps promote continuing med-



ical education — most recently 200 practitioners attended a continuing education session.

He and his family moved to the United States seeking specialized medical treatment for his wife.

The doctor's passion for education equals his passion for health, "It has the potential of elevating even the most vulnerable among us."

With the support of friends, in 2014, Dr. Denbow organized the Guyana-Jamaica Friendship Association (GJFA) to lend support to health and education in Guyana and Jamaica with a target for deprived communities.

"In health, we focus to improve the health of the residents in poverty-stricken rural areas," he says. In education, the organization has adopted a primary school in each country to make it the best so others can look to it as a model.

Dr. Denbow emphasizes, "What it taught me is it's not how bright you are, but if you have the right support structure you can achieve anything."

Dr. Ricardo Orlando Dunner

Devoted to serving marginalized populations

Dr. Ricardo Orlando Dunner was born in Barbados and immigrated to the United States as a young boy. Newly arrived, he remembers, "At PS. 229, my third grade home-room teacher told me, 'You can do it!'"

Armed with MD and MPH degrees, Dr. Dunner has devoted his entire medical career to serving some of the most marginalized populations. But, decades later, Dr. Dunner might be facing his biggest challenges yet.

His colleague nurse practitioner, Abigail Flanagan invited him to be lead doctor for a Barnard College and Columbia University student volunteer health mission for Honduran families in January, this year.

For three years, the two had been running Neighborhood and Family Health Center / Casa Maria in the Bronx, educating patients about wellness, nutrition and preventive medicine and treating hep B & C, diabetes, obesity, hypertension, and depression. As the physician and medical director, Dr. Dunner says,



"We did it all."

On Jan. 13, as the health mission group returned to the Honduran airport, their filled bus careened into a ravine. Three students, including Dr. Dunner's workmate, nurse Abigail Flanagan, died.

The doctor suffered innumerable facial fractures, concussions and other serious injuries, and with others who were seriously injured was airlifted out. He is still recovering.

Dr. Dunner is an HIV specialist, also working with individuals struggling with substance abuse and / or living with HIV and AIDS and speaks internationally, sharing his experience on the latest treatments.

For over 15 years, he was the medical preceptor for nurse practitioners at both Columbia and Pace Universities and counts at least 500 nurse practitioners he's mentored.

Additionally, Dr. Dunner founded and runs the non-profit Coach for Living, encouraging wellness and helping people of all ages improve their lifestyle around healthy eating.



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Angela Edwards

From

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Angela Edwards

A leader in nursing

It was in Trinidad where Angela Edwards made her career choice after spending her early childhood with Aunt Dol, a nurse who lost her sight. "I read and wrote letters for her and she shared her nursing stories and experiences with me. From then, I knew that I wanted to be a nurse to care for people."



"My mother ensured that I receive an education," she attests. She also recognizes Nurse Executive Dr. Miriam Carasa at Woodhull Hospital whose vision provided her with "the mentorship, direction and leadership qualities required to spearhead the many challenges in the healthcare arena."

At Woodhull, Ms.

Edwards has implemented several initiatives to improve nursing care and the hospital's ability to respond to patient's needs. These initiatives culminated with the implementation of a Primary Nursing Model that is a system of optimal nursing care delivery.

With more than two decades of leadership positions in local New York hospitals, Angela Edwards is chief nurse executive / deputy executive director at the NYC Health + Hospital / Woodhull where she leads nursing teams and provides care for 334 acute beds, and 12 health clinics.

As a coach in the HHC Leadership Development Program, Ms. Edwards helped the development of aspiring NYC Health + Hospital leaders. Additionally, to ensure mentoring for further nurses, Ms. Edwards assisted in the selection of nurse leaders as mentors for the Senior Nursing Student Leadership Program in collaboration with The College of New Rochelle.

Ms. Edwards started her 33-year nursing career at Port of Spain General Hospital in Trinidad where she received her nursing diploma. After migrating to the United States, she earned a bachelor's degree at St. Joseph College and a Master Degree in Nursing from Teachers College, Columbia University.

D. Beverly Foster

A nurse with compassion for people in need

D. Beverly Foster hails from Manchester, Jamaica where she attended college and taught at the vocational level before migrating to the United States. Here, she earned her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from York College and then a Master of Science degree as a nurse practitioner from Hunter College.

She remembers one of her greatest influences, "My primary school principal Mr. Sanderson made me believe, all those many years ago, that I was a smart child who could achieve anything I set my mind to."

It was when a friend encouraged her to go to nursing school that she got on the nursing path.

Ms. Foster is an adult nurse practitioner at the Zucker-Hillside Hospital, Northwell Health System where she has been for the past 14 years. Prior to this she worked as an ICU nurse at North Central Bronx Hospital.

In 2011 she was recognized for her humanitarian work with communities



in Port-au-Prince, Haiti in the aftermath of the 2010 earthquake. Ms. Foster continues this work, returning every year.

For more than 15 years, Ms. Foster has coordinated and participated in medical missions to Grenada, Carriacou, Haiti, Ghana, Ethiopia, and Tanzania with the Organization for International Develop-

ment. She is now the organization's vice president and missions coordinator.

Yearly, she returns to Jamaica for medical missions and additionally every summer for a week, is a summer youth camp nurse there.

She also volunteers with her church's health ministry.

Ms. Foster has also served as a United States Army Reserves Registered Nurse, 2nd Lieutenant for eight years and was honorably discharged in 2004.

"It has been a wonderful journey," she says, about her long rewarding career, "that has allowed me to combine my love of traveling and experiencing different cultures with my compassion for people in need."

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Dr. Fritz Francois

An advocate who addresses health disparities

Born in Haiti of Haitian and Dominican parents, Dr. Fritz Francois is an associate professor of medicine, chief medical officer and patient safety officer at NYU Langone Medical Center.

"I grew up in a time when textbooks listed Haitians as one of the 4 Hs—of who gets AIDS along with homosexuals, hemophiliacs, and heroin users," he remembers.

"Recognizing how wrong this was, I committed myself to a future where I could be among those who have the opportunity to engage in the science necessary to write those books."

Dr. Francois is an academic gastroenterologist whose research interests include esophageal disease, h. pylori bacteria, hepatitis C, and colorectal cancer screening in minority populations.

After the earthquake in Haiti, Dr. Francois led a multidisciplinary team from NYULMC to the General Hospital in Port-au-Prince to deliver care in diverse areas of medicine.



Besides helping to supply and run the surgical units, the team staffed the triage area, medical intensive care unit as well as the pediatric and obstetric tents.

Dr. Francois then established a fund to support continued relief and he continues to work with support groups.

He has been recognized for his work with underserved minority students, distinguished teaching and post-earthquake relief efforts including receiving the NYU Martin Luther King Jr. Humanitarian Award in 2011.

As the associate dean for diversity and academic affairs at the NYU School of Medicine, Dr. Francois led efforts to address health disparities through medical education. He has mentored students at all educational levels with a view toward encouraging careers in health fields.

In addition to his parents, he attributes one of the most influential individuals in his career to a research mentor, Dr. Martin Blaser who advised him "Don't ever be afraid to invest in yourself."

Sandy Freeland

Makes a difference in people's lives

Sandy Freeland chose healthcare as an avenue to help make a difference in people's lives.

She says, "Having lost my mother to illness at age four in Antigua and seeing healthcare workers do their best to save her, I knew from that moment on that I would seek a career in the healthcare field."

Ms. Freeland is employed at Village Care at 46 & Ten and has a BA in Healthcare Administration. With 26 years in the field, she is pursuing her masters degree in this field.

At Village Nursing Home she started as a part time medical record clerk working her way up the ladder — medical records coordinator, medical records director and operations director.

"My former administrator at Village Nursing Home, Mrs. Aida Ramos, saw the potential in me to become a long-term care administrator, when I did not dare to dream that big."



"I would often volunteer to assist her with small projects and remember saying to her, 'Give it to me I can do it.' She soon began to take notice." At her coaching, Ms. Freeland began the pursuit of obtaining her Long-Term Administrator License.

Also a great influence on Ms. Freeland's career is Mrs. Emma DeVito, current president & CEO of Village Care. "She encouraged me to attend

a healthcare leadership institute at Baruch College and when a position became available, to accept the assistant administrator position while I was pursuing my Administrator's License."

"This year, upon her recommendation, I am now an assisted care facilities cabinet member with Leading Age, an association that represents numerous not-for-profit organizations, advancing policies, promoting practices, and conducting research that supports, enables and empowers people to live fully as they age."

Liesl S. Hall-Grant

In the footsteps of Florence Nightingale

A family illness set the course for a young woman's future. That was the case for Liesl S. Hall-Grant who remembers helping her younger brother in Guyana when he became sick.

Also setting the course, "It was the picture of Florence Nightingale standing in front of the hospital in England in her starched white uniform, crisp hat and navy blue cape that sealed it for me," she says. "I wanted to be her."

She got her start, at age 16, volunteering at Coney Island Hospital followed by internships at other local hospitals.

Ms. Hall-Grant has been in healthcare for 34 years, a registered nurse for 27 years. A nurse leader with experience specializing in pediatrics, pediatric critical care, nursing regulation, and business development, Ms. Hall-Grant is also a legal nurse consultant.

Ms. Hall-Grant is a clinical nurse manager for inpatient pediatrics at New



York Presbyterian Hospital Queens.

This nurse cites her mother as always believing in her and offering support, "She is my rock."

She also acknowledges Dr. Dorothy Ramsey who "pushed me to academic limits" and nominated her for the New York State Board of Nursing. Ms. Hall-Grant has been a member for the last 15 years and is twice a past chair of the New York State Board.

As a member of the board, she screens professional misconduct claims, participates in disciplinary hearings and provides input on changes in scope of practice for nurses across the state.

Additionally, Ms. Hall-Grant presents information on health care and nursing regulation to schools, nurses, and nurse leaders.

She also chairs the Calvary and St. Cyprian's Community Health Fair Committee and launched her own legal nurse consulting practice, last year.

Hyacinth Hamilton-Gayle

A change agent with a shoulder to cry on

H yacinth Hamilton-Gayle was born in Jamaica and reveals, "My field in nursing chose me."

Already trained as a teacher, she joined her parents in New York and Brooklyn Jewish School of Nursing responded to her application. "With encouragement from my mother, I started school. After my first year, I knew that I had found my passion."

Now, with a Master of Science in Nursing and as a pediatric nurse practitioner with 35 years in the health field — starting as a neonatal critical care nurse — Ms. Hamilton-Gayle is director of Patient Care Services at Mount Sinai Beth Israel.

She is responsible for behavioral health — psychiatry and chemical dependency and mater-



the heaviest assignments from a head nurse or supervisor. "I found that I could be relied upon to provide excellent care to the sickest patients."

Ms. Hamilton-Gayle reflects, "As I look back to the early days, I am humbled by my innate abilities to provide a healing touch, to show that I can help someone at a time when they are vulnerable and may not be able to help themselves."

At this point she says, "I am a change agent, a mentor, support, facilitator, touchstone and sometimes a shoulder to cry on."

Additionally, Ms. Hamilton-Gayle helps organize community health fairs and over the years has worked at the High School for Pregnant Teens. She also maintains close ties with her Jamaican roots.

nal child health services — and works with a senior leadership team.

Ms. Hamilton-Gayle acknowledges phenomenal nurses who mentored her as a novice. One particular nurse educator held for her high expectations — that she was capable of achieving more. "It helped to develop my confidence; I did not want to let her down," she says.

She also always took

Eva James

A believer in the human side of nursing

Born in the United States to Guyanese parents, Eva James spent her formative years through high school in Guyana continuing her education at Brooklyn College, where she earned a Bachelor of Science in Biology.

She began her nursing education at Philips Beth Israel School of Nursing ultimately advancing her education with an MSN in adult teaching.

“My mother encouraged me to follow in her footsteps by becoming an RN, which I resisted for a while. If I had to do it again, I’d go directly into nursing,” she gladly admits.

Now, with 31 years in healthcare, this nurse wears two hats.

Full-time, she is an 1199 SEIU Union contract administrator representing the 1000 registered nurses at Mount Sinai Beth Israel. She says, “I make sure the contract is not violated — ensuring nurses’ rights.” Among her duties, she is a member of the



committee that monitors temporary workers and with the professional issues committee, she meets with management once a month.

“I try to facilitate labor and management. The main goal is to have good quality and safe patient care.”

Twice a month, keeping up her nursing skills, she cares for patients on the pulmonary medical – surgical floor. During that time, she is a preceptor to nursing students who come to her unit as well as orienting new hires.

“I love wearing two hats,” she says.

In 2015, she attended to the spiritual, physical and emotional needs of participants in two Marches for Justice sponsored by Mr. Harry Belafonte and the NAACP respectively.

She also ministers to the sick at her church.

Ms James observes, “Nursing has become involved a lot with advanced technology. You still have to remember the human side — touch and feeling.”

Patricia James

Enjoys working with young mothers

Patricia James left Guyana where she worked as a licensed practical nurse / midwife. Soon after her arrival to the United States, she found employment at New York City Health and Hospital. Through the Career Ladder Program at College of Staten Island she earned her Associate of Applied Science degree, subsequently earning her Bachelor of Science in Nursing.

She cites her dad — a stickler for education, stressing the importance of reaching for the stars — as being the most influential person in her career that has now spanned more than 35 years.

Ms. James works at Kings County Hospital as a staff nurse. For the last 11 years, she has been in the maternal child department working with pregnant women, pre-natal care, recently delivered and complications.

“We are a breast-feeding hospital,” she explains of her concentrated efforts and joys working with young mothers to breast-feed their babies from birth



to leaving the hospital. “We don’t force them, we teach them the benefits.”

She recognizes that with about a one-third success rate, “We have a long way to go.”

Additionally, after years of being a union delegate, Ms. James is the vice president of the local King’s County bargaining unit of the New York State Nurses Association (NYSNA) at New York City Health and Hospitals Corporation. She notes that NYSNA is the largest union — 37,000 — and professional organization for registered nurses.

Her trips to Albany include lobbying related to hospital closures, benefits and wages, and legislative issues.

“Our collective power gives us a real say in working conditions and patient care. Our biggest issue is staffing.” The union would like to see a patient-to-nurse ratio closer to the California model of five or four to one.”

Ms. James credits her former supervisor, Ms. Ena Benjamin who mentored her, as having had a great influence on her career.

Cynthia James-White

A stickler for quality care of patients

A daughter of Jamaica, Cynthia James-White’s passion for nursing started at a very young age, particularly when she realized she liked helping people. Her aunt had arthritis and as a young girl, she helped a lot. She immigrated to this country 41 years ago.

Decades later, Ms. James-White is director of nursing for the 400-bed The Phoenix Rehabilitation & Nursing Center where she oversees the day-to-day operation and management of the nursing department. This includes planning, organizing, developing, implementing, supervising and evaluating the direct functions of the nursing care in accordance with the nursing process and guidelines.

“My primary focus is on the quality of care and customer satisfaction,” she points out.

Her 32 years of service reflect working her way up: she started as a nursing assistant, then an LPN, then an AAS



in registered nursing.

“I earned a BS in nursing, continuing to a masters degree in advance practice nursing at SUNY Downstate.” Ms. James-White is also credentialed by the American Nurses Credentialing Center, Certified MDS 3.0, Instructor and Mock Survey Consultant.

In her pursuit of the profession, this nurse emphatically recognizes

Mary Jane Seacole with her Jamaican roots, the founding mother of nursing, as well as nurses who mentored her along the way. She says, “Early on, one nurse, compassionate about patient care, took me under her wings.” Ms. James-White also pays tribute to a college nursing professor who “motivated me and gave me the inspiration that I needed to pursue my nursing profession.”

A former vice president of the Jamaica Nurses Group of New York, Ms. James-White is also professionally affiliated with the New York State Nurses Association and the National Resident Assessment Institute.

Dr. Carl Kenel-Pierre

Passionate about caring for patients, families

Dr. Carl Kenel-Pierre graduated medical school in Haiti, immigrating not long afterwards to pursue a career in Ob / Gyn. He is an Advantage Care physician and the regional medical director. His medical career spans more than four decades.

“Healthcare is a passion I developed very early in life, having witnessed what the lack of access to it did to people around me as I was growing up in Haiti,” he says.

“The field of obstetrics and gynecology was particularly appealing since it dealt with new beginnings and carried the hope of a better future for all involved in nurturing the newborn.” He deeply believes how pre-natal care can so positively impact someone’s whole life.

Immigrating to the United States offered the doctor opportunities to develop skills and share visions he had not fully understood before, “It reinforced the concept of healthcare



delivery as a global need that can only improve our relations with each other.”

Dr. Kenel-Pierre focuses most of his clinical and managerial practice trying to find ways to partner with patients and family members as well as healthcare workers.

The doctor also recognizes those who believed in him. “I owe a lot to my extended family who constantly pushed me to achieve.”

Service in improving others’ lives is a guiding principle that continues to motivate Dr. Kenel-Pierre.

“Becoming the first physician of the family was an accomplishment that is part of a larger plan to positively impact life in the community,” he says, acknowledging a responsibility to those who were instrumental in his professional achievement.

The doctor has participated in and has led various medical missions. His most memorable trips have been to Panama City, Antigua, Turks and Caicos Islands and Haiti.

Dr. Tanesha Lawrence

A faith-based medical missionary

Dr. Tanesha Lawrence left Jamaica at age four with her family settling in Florida.

With a Bachelor of Science in Biology from the University of Miami, a Doctor of Medicine from Temple University Medical School, she did her residency at Montefiore Medical Center in family and social medicine.

For five years at Montefiore, Dr. Lawrence served as staff physician with the New York Children's Health Project, providing comprehensive medical care to residents in family and domestic violence homeless shelters in New York.

"As a trained family physician, I am a strong proponent of preventative medicine," Dr. Lawrence says with experience providing primary medical care to patients of all ages.

Since late 2011, she has been providing urgent / walk-in medical care services through DR Walk-In clinics in New York City, New York.

Also in 2011, she was reading "The



Purpose Driven Life" by Rick Warren when the section describing the call to the mission field literally caused an unmistakable move in her spirit. Soon after, Dr. Lawrence saw herself in a dream working on a mountain top with fellow church members.

Six months later, she signed up with her home church Greater Allen Cathedral of New York, for a mission to Haiti. "This

was a life-changing opportunity, serving the beautiful people of Haiti," she says of the March 2012 trip, in part, mountain-top outreach, ministering to people who lived along the way in Carralisse, Haiti.

Her call to mission has also led her to seminary school in January 2014 where she is pursuing a Master of Divinity in Theology and Missions. She is also the chief executive and founder of The Remnant Inc., a relatively new faith-based missionary humanitarian outreach organization.

Dr. Lawrence believes that we are all blessed and called to be a blessing to others.

Dr. Patricia Marthone

A community advocate who rights the wrongs

Dr. Patricia Marthone is a medical doctor born in the United States of Haitian parents. She was recently appointed vice president with the Healthcare Union 1199SEIU UHWE in the Registered Nurses' Division.

As an undergraduate at SUNY Buffalo, she was a volunteer first responder, then EMT, and then took 911 responses for an ambulance service. She says, "I've been in the health field half my life" — over 20 years. Dr. Marthone went to medical school in the Czech Republic.

Previously, she worked on the administrative and management side of medicine for a series of practices and clinics. She was also the lead for the Research Department and Quality Assurance for the Palliative Care Department at Montefiore Medical Center.

"Healthcare labor chose me," she says of her most recent appointment. "I couldn't resist joining a movement that truly represents my edict in life.



As a community advocate, I've been laser-focused on not only doing the right thing, but also righting wrongs when I know they are happening."

Her greatest influence? "Gerard Cadet, VP at 1199SEIU UHWE made me realize: it is one thing to know who you are, it is another to decide to make your drive and passions come together in a movement — the labor

movement — that expresses who you are at every turn."

Among her voluntary involvements, she is the 42nd Assembly District's State Committee Democratic Female's Director of Health, Education, and Youth Services; and active in programming at the Flatbush YMCA.

"I remain loyal to my roots as a child of Haitian immigrants and I am devoted to serving the needs of all immigrants," she says. "I work for a powerful healthcare union that allows me to continue my community and political involvement."

Lorena McEachrane

One who goes beyond the call of duty

Lorena McEachrane, a native of Trinidad and Tobago, immigrated as a child and it is since then that she wanted to be part of the healthcare profession.

"My dad, Rev. V.H. McEachrane, influenced my decision to go into this field," she says, lovingly citing his ability to share knowledge, his kind, gentle manner, his love of God, and service to man.

Ms. McEachrane graduated from Helene Fuld College of Nursing and attended Los Angeles Community College.

She started in 1976 at Cedar Sinai Medical Center where this licensed practical nurse worked for almost 15 years in the areas of maternal child health, postpartum, nursery, pediatrics and ICU.

For 16 years, Beverly's Home Care has employed her as a private duty nurse. She has been working with a 10-year-old special needs child since infancy and is effectively the nurse, mother, teacher and playmate.



Sharing her vast experience working with homebound patients, she says, "We do a lot of hand washing. Cleanliness is most important. It is something we are constantly aware of and it is done on an ongoing basis." She emphasizes that if the area is kept clean, the home can be a safer environment from infections than a hospital.

Ms. McEachrane works the evening shift — 3 pm to 11 pm, full time. Beverly Nichols who nominated her says, "She is very dedicated and goes beyond the call of duties."

"I always remain calm," this nurse relates, "whether administering to critical medical needs or neutralizing an emotionally anxious situation."

Additionally, weekly, for the past 18 months, Ms. McEachrane ministers to the bumps and bruises, medical or special needs of preschoolers.

She also works on occasion as a hospice nurse, caring for terminally ill at the end of their life, easing their passing.

Phyllis Payne-Dublin

A role model for students and nurses

Hailing from St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Phyllis Payne-Dublin has had a committed nursing career, spanning more than 40 years. In recognition, she received the 2012 Nurse of the Year award from the Caribbean American Nurses Association.

At a very early age, Ms. Payne-Dublin knew she wanted to become a nurse, "It was the only profession I wanted to embrace from the few opportunities available. It was also the only one that would allow me the opportunity to care for those around me who needed a healing touch."

A registered nurse, her academic degrees are from St. Joseph's College and Central Michigan University and she is certified in several areas including geriatrics and resident assessment.

Having dedicated her professional career to geriatric nursing, Ms. Payne-Dublin most recently was the associate director of reimbursement at the 320-bed Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation and had been the director of educa-



tion and assistant director of nursing at River Manor Nursing and Rehabilitation.

For her community and church, she has co-chaired outreach committees focusing on health education, screenings and assessments, has partnered with nursing groups to St. Vincent and the Grenadines and other Caribbean islands, and has

fund-raised for people with kidney disease.

She also assists with development through mentoring high school and college students to ensure that the nursing profession endures.

Among her many professional affiliations, she is a past president of the St. Vincent and the Grenadines Nurses Association of New York and is an officer in the Caribbean American Nurses Association.

Ms. Payne-Dublin remembers "the importance of going the extra mile to ensure that each patient is cared for as if the patient were a relative or even yourself."

Fay Randall

A great nurse educator

A daughter of Jamaica, Fay Randall's career interest peaked when nurses visited at St. Thomas Technical High School. She began her studies at the University Hospital of the West Indies School of Nursing.

Working there for seven years, Sister Olive Charles, nursing director, was a great influence, "She pushed me to be the best of myself, recommended me to do a presentation to an auditorium full of nurses and told me I would make a great nurse educator." And Ms. Randall is a great educator and has advanced her education at York and Hunter Colleges.

Now, with her vast experience in maternal health and child nursing, this nurse educates the present generation of health professionals.

For 24 years, Ms. Randall worked at Metropolitan Hospital Center — 10 years as a clinical educator.

Currently at Bellevue Hospital Center, where in addition to being the head nurse of the surgery clinic, she does what she



does best, teaching.

For the last eight years, Ms. Randall has been educating nurses, an adjunct faculty in pediatrics and obstetrics / gynecology, supervising the clinical experience of registered nursing students, and instructing junior nursing students.

"As part of my work, I mentor new nurses, encourage staff and offer advice for professional career development," she says.

Additionally, Ms. Randall opens doors for the next generation, "I have worked closely with the volunteer department to facilitate summer internship programs for high school students from 1199 Union and other organizations. This experience allows high school students to see the role and activities of the different professions in health care and helps them make a life choice for their career."

Ms. Randall enjoys a long list of awards and recognitions for her devotion and contributions to this field where she has worked for more than 40 years.

Meve Shakespeare

A firm believer in professional development

Meve Shakespeare got her start as a nurse at the Grenada School of Nursing / Midwifery, immigrating to the United States as a young adult. Ms. Shakespeare has been a nurse for 31 years.

After her arrival, she started in home care segueing into long-term care and geriatrics, a field she enjoyed. "There is a need for work with and to raise the level of the quality of care with the elderly," she thought, wanting to be a part.

For the last 15 years, Ms. Shakespeare has been at the 364-bed Cobble Health Center, where the average stay is three to six weeks. For the last three years, she has been the director of nursing.

"They're doing more with sub-acute and short term care," she explains, of the growing demand for rehabilitation centers. Ms. Shakespeare observes that her facility is getting some very sick patients who require higher level of clinical skills.



In addition to her supervisory and staff monitoring capacity, Ms. Shakespeare teaches and trains procedures such as intravenous application, dialysis and treatment of complex wounds. Of particular importance, she notes, are the procedures for patient documentation so that proper information is passed shift-to-shift and between the nurses and the doctors.

A firm believer in professional development, Ms. Shakespeare encourages higher levels of education and expanded areas of certification among her staff. She says, "I've guided some nurses from being a CNA to an LPN to an RN."

Good outcomes, staff satisfaction and good survey results are all part of what Ms. Shakespeare deems as success.

But, she cites her humble beginnings and her faith in God as being her greatest motivation, creating for her a desire to aim high and not give up despite the odds.

Verginia Stewart

One who inspires others for the profession

Verginia Stewart, as a young adult in Jamaica, was already a registered nurse when she immigrated to the United States.

Initially inspired by the school nurse in St. Ann Parish, a young Verginia Stewart wanted to help people, enter a life of service and have flexibility to use her skills anywhere she traveled. Nursing suited her.

Now, she has 40 years of service in healthcare behind her, the last 28 at Metropolitan Hospital. She was head nurse in a medical surgical unit before her current position as staff nurse in ambulatory service.

Early in her tenure at the hospital, fellow nurse Margaret Hobson took her to a meeting of the New York State Nurses Association (NYSNA). Not only did this nurse show professionalism and traits Ms. Stewart wanted to emulate but, she says, "This started me on



my journey to inspiring other nurses to band together for the good of the profession."

Over the many years, Ms. Stewart has served in various capacities for NYSNA.

"I've devoted a lot of time," she says. "We cannot allow the profession to be stagnant. We need to work for the necessary changes for advancements of the profession and patient care."

For the last five years, Ms. Stewart has been a member of the NYSNA board — one of its 21 statewide members. Before that, she was vice chair of the local bargaining unit of her hospital and on the executive council of the local bargaining units of the City of New York and NYC Health and Hospitals.

"I've seen more young nurses join the profession," she observes, greatly heartened. "Also, nurses are more aware of their needs from the institutions where they work for optimal patient care."

Kirstie Toussaint

A leader who focuses on the mission

Kirstie Toussaint was born in St. Thomas and raised in the Commonwealth of Dominica. Her empathetic nature drew her to healthcare; Ms. Toussaint works as a registered nurse.

This nurse graduated with her LPN from Curtis High School on Staten Island where she found she was good at nursing. In these last two decades working in this field, she has continued her education to become the professional she is today.

In 2011, she earned her Master of Science Degree, cum laude, in nursing administration at New York University (NYU) and on graduation was named Distinguished Master's Student in Nursing Administration, "an award given to one student who embodies the ideals and standards of their specialty."

Working for Northwell Health, Ms. Toussaint is director of Patient Care Services for Nursing Administration at Lenox Hill Hospital. Additionally, she is



designated the "Culture Leader" to ensure that the mission, vision and values of the organization remain a priority for everyone.

Ms. Toussaint knew she had to return to school for a masters degree. She cites her NYU graduate program director Eloise Cathcart as having an immense influence on

her career. "Little did I know, the experience was going to change my view of who I am in this world," she says.

"Eloise taught me that success would be a reflection of my leadership. She taught me about comportment, how to lead an organization in times of constant change and to ensure that my focus was always on the people I serve."

Co-worker Cathy Fogarty speaks of Ms. Toussaint, "She has grown from a staff nurse in maternal child arena to her role as a leader. Her Caribbean roots shine through in her leadership style with her artistic flair and political maturity, influencing a diverse group of care givers."

Claudya C. Verdiner

Dedicated to helping others



nership with physicians. She is experienced in directing and motivating large numbers of employees and establishes milestones to ensure a high standard of care.

This director also reaches out to local residents and coordinates events with the communities wherein she works.

“My grandmother Fernande Valme was the most influential person

in my career,” she says. “Although she could not read or write she taught me the importance of education saying, ‘People can take away your home, car, money or job but they can never take away your education.’”

Ms. Verdiner is a candidate for a Master of Business Administration in Healthcare Management at St. Joseph’s College in Brooklyn.

Additionally, Ms. Verdiner volunteers in helping coordinate annual mission trips to Haiti with the non-profit Fernande Valme Ministries, Inc. that brings medical care to Leogane and helps supply clothes and supplies to students.

Claudya C. Verdiner has dedicated close to a quarter century to ensure access and delivery of quality health care to the residents of Brooklyn. Ms. Verdiner arrived in the United States as a toddler from Haiti.

She believes that the profession chose her. “I was born into a family that helps others; this is what I know and this is what I do,” she says, “It’s second nature to me and I am blessed for it.”

Ms. Verdiner is the site director of NYU Lutheran Family Health Centers-Caribbean American on Church Avenue, which serves more than 32,000 patients and offers an array of health care services. Her health management skills repeatedly serve to improve productivity and reduce patient wait time.

With a career that has taken her into various medical institutions as well as community-based health care providers, Ms. Verdiner excels in conflict and problem resolution, and actively coordinates collaborative training in part-

Dr. Maurice E. Wright

His grandmother taught him to assist others



Son of Jamaica, Dr. Maurice E. Wright truly has a foot on both sides. Although born in the United States, he grew up and attended high school on the island. He has been in the medical field for 33 years including medical school and is a graduate of Fordham University and Albert Einstein College of Medicine.

For the last six years, Dr. Wright has been the chief medical officer of Harlem Hospital and senior associate dean of Columbia University for the academic affiliation.

Dr. Wright ensures that clinical and educational programs of all departments are consistent with the priorities and standards of the New York City Health and Hospitals Corporation and as associate senior dean, he is responsible for oversight to the faculty appointment and promotion process.

“Growing up in the Caribbean exposed me at an early age to many disparities in health area,” Dr. Wright

says. “Many people could not financially afford it and suffered at that time. As I progressed on my educational journey, my interest in the application of science to the functioning of the human body increasingly became the focus of my studies.”

By his third year in college, he realized that he was going to pursue medicine so he could directly impact those who were suffering in areas of high health disparities.

Dr. Wright pays tribute to his grandmother, a farmer’s wife, as having the most influence on his career. “I watched her as she helped others in our poor community in several ways.”

“The empathy I saw my grandmother exhibit, at a young age, to those suffering and the help she gave, molded my thoughts to always do my best to assist others.”

Dr. Wright holds several academic appointments and is a member of several professional organizations.

NYC Health + Hospitals / McKinney's Friends of Celia Bramble

Salute

Celia Bramble,

RN, MA, MEd. Col. (Ret.) - USAR



*Because this Award is conferred to a ‘Grateful Woman,’ your friends are giving you the **Key** to unlock those rungs, elevating your steps unto your greatness.*

You have never focused on success, but you’ve fixated your sights on the significance of small steps and minute successes of everyone who come into your path.

Your life will always take on the greater meaning.

Thank you for caring and sharing of self Angela Cooper.

Angela Cooper Samuel Clarke
Janet Larghi Sheron Joseph
Rosetta Hancl Marsha Paul

Dawn Burton

Hilton & Beverly Samuel

Marlene Guillaume | Cyrilla Barnes | Dale Span

Congratulations!!!!

Caribbean Life
congratulates the 2016
Caribbean American
Healthcare Award
Honorees

We salute your tremendous
contributions to the health and
wellness of New Yorkers





CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR OWN CLAUDYA VERDINER

This years Honoree at the Caribbean American Healthcare Awards. We are inspired by your dedication and level of commitment to the community.

**Your friends at
NYU Lutheran.**