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Associated Press / Gerry Broome

Caribbean stunned as Donald is elected President of United States

By Bert Wilkinson

Caribbean Community nations have traditionally been known to support the Democratic Party in the U.S., as its

citizens appear to feel more comfortable with that party than the sometimes openly racist and insular Republicans. So no one should be sur-

prised with the way some of the leading regional politicians like former prime minister Kamla Persad Bissessar of Trinidad and Portia Simpson Miller of Jamai-

ca have reacted to resounding defeat of Democratic candidate Hillary Clinton in American elections this week. As expected, both did not

miss the fact that the U.S. has blown the chance to elect a woman President of the most powerful country on earth and
Continued on Page 1

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Donald Trump victory shocks Brooklyn's Caribbean community

By Alexandra Simon

President-elect Donald Trump's huge victory on Nov. 9 stunned many voters of Caribbean descent who said they did not expect the real-estate mogul to pull out a victory.

The vast majority of the residents from Brooklyn we spoke to expressed feelings of shock, fear, and anger about the results, and some felt that the country underestimated the motivation that brought Trump supporters to the polls.

"I am disgusted — I watched the coverage up until 9:30 pm and I had to move away from my television," said Crown Heights resident DJ Yard Z.

"There are so many dimensions and aspects to this — ultimately I think a lot of these people who voted for Trump had their motives rooted in them not having any kind of kind of entitlement their fathers and grandfathers had."

Still, some voters seemed less than shocked by Trump's victory, and even blamed Hillary's and the Democratic Party's overconfidence for her defeat at the hands of a lesser foe — one the last President would have beaten handily.

"It was arrogance on the side of the Democrats — they thought they had it in the bag but the people of this country feel differently," said Patrick Desir, an East Flatbusher who voted for Clinton. "The flawed candidate won off of hate because she never once captivated the people like Obama did."

In the days leading up to the election, polls were showing Trump gaining on Clinton. As results came in Tuesday night showing Trump winning in battleground states, people were



Hello and goodbye: Hillary Clinton waves to photographers while headed out to vote Tuesday morning. She lost the election late Tuesday night.

growing concerned, said Desir.

Third-party voters like Rose Cine (who cast her ballot for the Green Party's Jill Stein), seemed more hopeful of the outcome than others — but predicted Trump voters will be disappointed in him once he takes office in January, because the bombastic reality television star will have to change his tune now that he's actually the leader

of the free world.

"His speech gave a relative idea of how it's going to be for him and he's going to have to be a different person," she said. "I think people who voted for him are scared because they don't know what's next and what he's going to enact and prioritize. He won't be able to reverse everything he promised his supporters, but we'll see."

Sen. Chuck talks, tries to calm the masses

By Julianne Cuba

Sen. Chuck Schumer was poised to become the Senate Majority Leader had the chamber picked up enough Democratic seats on election night — but with just three short of swinging blue, Schumer (D-Park Slope) made a speech less victorious than the one he was hoping to give at the Jacob Javits Center in Manhattan on Nov. 8. Republicans grabbed control of the entire federal government, but that disappointment only means the Brooklyn native will work harder with politicians on the other side of aisle, he said following the results the next day.

"Last night the American people exercised their sacred right to vote and made their voices known, electing Donald Trump to the Presiden-



Americans from both political parties. It is time for the country to come together and heal the bitter wounds from the campaign. Senate Democrats will spend the coming days and weeks reflecting on these results, hearing from the American people, and charting a path forward to achieve our shared goals and to defend our values."

cy, and returning Republican majorities to both Houses of Congress," said Schumer.

"This was a divisive and hard fought election, and the outcome surprised many

The Senate now has 51 Republican seats to the Democrat's 48 — and Schumer will lead them — but his re-election would have been much sweeter had he landed the coveted position of majority leader, said Assemblywoman Jo Anne Simon (D-Downtown Brooklyn), who was amongst the devastated Clinton supporters at the Javits Center.

"We have four new women in the Senate, which is good, but the Republicans held onto the senate.

"He will be minority leader, but it's not the same as majority," she said.

"These were not the results we were hoping for. It was a very somber mood, it became a very somber mood as the returns started coming in."



Britain's Prince Harry gestures as he attends the WellChild Awards in London, Monday, Oct. 3, 2016

Associated Press / Daniel Leal-Olivas

Prince Harry to visit the Caribbean

By Azad Ali

Britain's Prince Harry will be making an official visit to the Caribbean, on behalf of Queen Elizabeth II in November and December 2016, on the occasion of the 35th anniversary of independence in Antigua and Barbuda and the 50th anniversary of independence in Barbados and Guyana.

The prince will be engaged in 14 days of official duties in countries where the Queen is head of state and Guyana — a member of the Commonwealth.

He will visit seven countries, including Antigua and Barbuda, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Grenada and Barbados, as well as Guyana on behalf of the Foreign Office.

The visit will begin on Nov. 20 and ends on Dec. 4.

This will be Prince Harry's second official visit to the Caribbean following his tour to the region in 2012 when he represented the Queen during the Diamond Jubilee.

A Kensington Palace spokesman said: "Prince Harry is honored to be representing The Queen, in the year of her 90th birthday, particularly as Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados and Guyana mark their own important anniversaries of independence".

The Royal tour will begin in Antigua and Barbuda, which is one of the three countries Prince Harry will visit that is making significant independence anniversary in 2016.

He will then undertake a number of day trips to nearby countries including St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines and Grenada. His Royal Highness will then go on to Barbados, which is celebrating its 50th year of independence.

Antigua

LIAT has announced it is moving to improve its service after cancellations of 261 flights and delays of 564.

The company issued a statement, one month after St. Vincent and the Grenadines Prime Minister Dr. Ralph Gonsalves threatened to withdraw state funding until the service was improved.

The Leeward Island Air Transport (LIAT) is owned by regional shareholders, with the majority being the governments of Barbados, Antigua and Barbuda, St. Vincent and the Grenadines and Dominica.



On May, Dominica Prime Minister Roosevelt Skerrit had also complained about the airline's poor service,

In a press release, LIAT stated that its acting Chief Executive Officer Julie Reifer-Jones maintained that the company had sufficient crew to operate the current schedule.

LIAT had cancelled 261 flights and delayed a further 564 due to crew sickness.

The airline said the majority of the crew was hardworking individuals and that the management will continue to work with the crew to ensure a reliable product.

Barbados

Barbados is looking to produce limited quantities of sugar to meet its domestic demand, called "direct consumption" in Barbados, with any excess to be exported to specialized markets.

This was revealed by Finance Minister Chris Sinckler during a Barbados Investor Forum last week at the Hilton Trinidad and Conference Center.



He said the government of Barbados is "reforming" the sugar industry and will have to finance it to the tune of Bds\$100 million, including Bds\$52 million of "pure debt."

The finance minister said the reformation will include the upgrading of two existing sugar factories and the government will partner with the West Indies Sugar Trading Company (WISTCO) to grow and market direct consumption sugar.

Sinckler said the government wanted to reverse the current arrangement where the country exports the sugar it produces and imports to meet local demand to an arrangement where it reduces imports of sugar, in the process saving foreign exchange.

He said Barbados is aiming to increase production to 25-30,000 tons of sugar for domestic consumption.



So, who you voting for?

Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump and his wife Melania cast their ballots at PS-59, Tuesday, Nov. 8, 2016, in Manhattan. Associated Press / Evan Vucci

Grenada

Grenada's Health Ministry has reported an outbreak of hand, foot and mouth disease at some daycare and preschool centers across the island.

Chief Medical Officer Dr. George Mitchell said the ministry has received reports of 12 cases and is going forward with public education and direct intervention will be the main focus.

The health minister said in a release that several, education and information brochures relating to the disease are being distributed in electronic and print format to the various institutions.



Medical practitioners have also been reminded that the disease is endemic in Grenada and they need to notify the ministry once a case is diagnosed.

Records at the Ministry of Health indicate that during the same period last year there were similar outbreaks of the disease among toddlers.

The release said while a decision has not been made to close the schools, health authorities are reminding parents and operators of daycare centers and kindergartens that frequent hand-washing is still the best way of managing the disease.

Guyana

American oil giant ExxonMobil has

made oil find offshore Guyana as it continues its exploration.

Chief operating officer Greg Hill said the reservoir has a "very healthy" gas-to-oil ratio that should aid in oil production.

In July, ExxonMobil submitted a development plan for Liza to Guyana's Environmental Protection Agency to begin the environmental review process that involved a floating production, storage and offloading vessel with capacity of around 100,000 barrels of oil a day in its first phase.

Liza-3 well is in the Stabroek block, about 193 kilometers offshore Guyana.

Exxon says it's a world-class discovery with a recoverable resource of between US\$800 million and 1.4 billion oil-equivalent.

President of Exxon Mobil Exploration Company, Steve Greenlee said: "We are excited by the results of a production test of the Liza-2 well, which confirms the presence of high-quality oil from the same high-porosity sandstone reservoirs that we saw in the Liza1 well completed in 2015."

Jamaica

There has been a reduction in the number of Zika cases in Jamaica.

This was disclosed by Health Minister Dr. Christopher Tufton who said

there has been less case over time, adding that severe cases of the illness are also on the decline.

Tufton urged people to continue to take protective measures against the mosquito-borne illness.

Director of the Family Health Services in the ministry, Dr. Simone Spencer, noted that 70 percent of the population will get some form of Zika, with 20 percent having symptoms of the illness.

Jamaica had confirmed its first case of Zika last January and since then the ministry has repeatedly urged the people displaying symptoms, such as fever, joint and muscle pain to get the necessary testing done and sent to the National Public Health laboratory.

Suriname

Suriname is trying to resolve a trade dispute with Trinidad and Tobago which prevents the Dutch island from exporting duck meat from entering the Trinidad and Tobago market.

The government said the issue can be resolved as soon as the Trinidad and Tobago government amends its Animal Act, under the CARICOM Council for Trade and Economic Development

Continued on Page 6

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CARIBBEAN ROUNDUP

Continued from page 4

(COTED).

COTED has urged the Trinidad authorities to take the necessary steps to resolve the issue in a timely way.

COTED-chair and Agriculture Minister of Dominica, Johnson Drigo noted, however, that since legislative procedures could take some time, Trinidad could not offer a timeline when the matter would be resolved definitely.

Since December 2015, Trinidad has prevented the importation of meat from Suriname after Trinidad raised concerns the processes at the duck facility were not in conformity with international food safety measures.

Trinidad

Trinidad and Tobago has recorded its first confirmed case of a baby girl born with microcephaly linked to the mosquito-borne Zika virus in the country.

This was revealed by Health Minister Terrence Deyalsingh during a news conference at the Ministry of Health Office, in Port of Spain last week.

He said there were 10 to 12 babies born with microcephaly each year in Trinidad but this was the first confirmed case attributed to Zika.

Blood samples taken from the baby

were sent to the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) for confirmation a few weeks ago.

The baby was delivered at a private hospital in San Fernando then transferred to the San Fernando General Hospital Neonatal Intensive Care Unit.

He said due to the family insistence they wanted the baby at home with them.

Turks and Caicos Islands

Turks and Caicos Islands Premier Dr. Rufus Ewing has postponed the general election carded from Dec. 5, 2016 to Dec. 15, 2016.

The surprise postponement was announced late on Saturday by newly-appointed British Governor Dr. John Freeman, who said the earlier date "will not give officials sufficient time to prepare for the election, as envisaged by Section 26 of the Elections Ordinance."

According to local media, the postponement resulted from confusion over the calculations of the number of working days after the dissolution of the House of Assembly that an election can be called.

When the premier dissolved the House recently, no date was given for Nomination Day.

— compiled by Azad Ali



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Suriname radically reduces malaria

Deaths from the disease have been virtually eliminated

By Nelson A. King

The Washington, D.C.-based Pan American Health Organization has recognized Suriname, along with Costa Rica, and El Salvador, for drastically reducing malaria cases and deaths, rewarding them with the "Malaria Champions Award."

Advances in these countries "assert further our belief that we can effectively eliminate malaria in several areas (in the region) in the coming years," said Francisco Becerra, assistant director of the organization, the regional office for the Americas of the World Health Organization.

Costa Rica has achieved a 100 percent decrease in malaria cases since 2000, according to the group, which attributed this success to the implementation of National Plan to Eliminate Malaria, which includes supervised treatment and home visits by Basic Comprehensive Care Teams, who on horseback, motorcycle, boat or foot, visit the communities.

The nation plan's network of 126 laboratories and integration of malaria in the health care network swiftly detect and prevent disease outbreaks in Costa Rica, the group said.

It said El Salvador has achieved a



Skeeters! Associated Press / James Gathany

reduction of 98.9 percent in cases since 2000, and has reported no deaths since 1998.

In 2014, the agency said the country recorded only eight confirmed cases of malaria, two of which were imported. The figure was the lowest in the country's history.

Success in El Salvador is attributed to the strengthening of surveillance activities of the Ministry of Health, active case detection, supervised treatment and strong national funding, the group said.

In Suriname, the organization said malaria has been virtually eliminated in the inland villages, which previously had the highest rates of transmission of the Americas, and have been reduced to less

than 90 indigenous cases each year.

In 2014 and 2015, Pan American said the Caribbean Community member-state recorded no deaths from the disease.

"These advances were achieved through highly proactive and innovative interventions focused primarily in the areas and populations at risk, such as irregular mining operations," according to the group. "The country improved access to diagnosis and treatment in areas of difficult access, created a malaria clinic in the capital and generated public-private partnerships to stop the disease."

Costa Rica received a prize of U.S.\$ 2,500 to encourage their efforts against malaria. All winners received a plaque of appreciation.

In addition, the group said videos on each of these best practices will be disseminated at regional level. The prizes have been awarded for the past eight years.

At the regional level, the organization said between 2000 and 2014, an expansion of malaria interventions helped reduce cases by 67 percent (from almost 1.2 million in 2000 to 375,000 in 2014) and malaria-related deaths by 79 percent (from 390 in 2000 to 89 in 2014).

Coast Guard ups repatriation of Cuban migrants

By Nelson A. King

The United States Coast Guard says it has increased the repatriation of Cuban migrants, with 109 repatriated to Bahia de Cabañas, Cuba, since Oct. 15.

The Coast Guard said on Saturday that the Cutter Raymond Evans repatriated seven Cuban migrants Oct. 15; the Cutter Charles David Jr. repatriated seven Cuban migrants Oct. 19 and 76 Cuban migrants Oct. 25; the Cutter Diamondback repatriated 15 Cuban migrants Oct. 22; and the Cutter William Trump repatriated four Cuban migrants Thursday.

These repatriations are a result of seven separate at-sea migrant interdictions in the South Florida Straits, the Coast Guard said.

In each instance, the Coast Guard said it "helped secure the US border and prevented these sea voyages from ending in tragedy."

Once aboard a Coast Guard cutter, the Coast Guard said all migrants receive food, water, shelter and basic medical attention.

The Coast Guard said it has observed a "steady increase in illegal maritime migration attempts to the Southeastern US from Cuba."

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The myth of freedom and democracy

Many U.S. citizens may instinctively believe they still live in the land of the free, but a new global rights rating system shows the country is far less tolerant than they may think.

The world's first systematic review of how well countries uphold fundamental civic freedoms — to protest, organise and speak out — reveals a significant deterioration in the protection of these constitutional rights in the U.S.

From the streets to the internet, civic space is being contested and restricted, threatened by a new era of state authoritarianism. People of color and social movements such as Black Lives Matter routinely experience first-hand police harassment and violence. Mass arrests, the use of excessive force, laws requiring prior authorisation for peaceful gatherings and undercover police infiltration of peaceful protests were once the preserve of authoritarian regimes, but these confrontational and brutalising tactics are increasingly being used by the state to suppress its own citizens.

The battle over the freedom of the internet is raging, spearheaded by the National Security Agency, arguably the world leader in collecting data on people's private electronic communications. How free can expression be when we are wired into a Big Brother complex with such fearfully oppressive potential?

The U.S. is not alone of

course and there are dozens of countries around the world in which governments are cracking down even harder on protest, shutting down organisations on flimsy pretexts, and brutally silencing dissent by intimidating and murdering human rights defenders, lawyers and investigative journalists.

Rights violations in countries like Bahrain, China, Cuba, Ethiopia, Iran, North Korea and Saudi Arabia may be well known but the scale of the current global rights crisis is staggering.

The findings of the new CIVICUS Monitor conclude that over 3.2 billion people currently live in countries where civic space is repressed or closed. Most alarming is just how few countries are categorised as having open space — only nine out of the 104 for which there is verified data.

In many mature, respected democracies like the U.S., Australia and Hungary, civic space faces a new wave of threats. Just last week, a senior United Nations official expressed concerns about Australia where a raft of new laws, as well as the public vilification of human rights defenders by senior government officials, is having a 'chilling effect' on civil society. From intensifying secrecy laws to a proliferation of anti-protest legislation, he cited a range of measures now combining to levy 'enormous pressure' on Australian civil society.

Europe may well be home

Continued on Page 22

Tackling climate change

The world is still celebrating the Paris Agreement on Climate Change, the main outcome of the 21st Conference of the Parties of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. Its ambitions are unprecedented: not only has the world committed to limit the increase of temperature to "well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels," it has also agreed to pursue efforts to "limit the temperature increase to 1.5 °C."

This achievement should be celebrated, especially by Small Island Development States (SIDS), a 41-nation group—nearly half of them in the Caribbean—that has been advocating for increased ambition on climate change for nearly a quarter century.

SIDS are even more vulnerable to climate change impacts—and risk losing more. Global warming has very high associated damages and costs to families, communities and entire countries, including their Gross Domestic Product (GDP) according to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.

What does this mean for the Caribbean? Climate change is recognised as one of the most serious challenges to the Caribbean. With the likelihood that climate change will exacerbate the frequency and intensity of the yearly hurricane season, comprehensive measures are needed to protect at-risk communities.

Moreover, scenarios based on moderate curbing of greenhouse gas emissions reveal that surface temperature would increase between 1.2 and 2.3 °C across the Caribbean in this century. In turn, rainfall is expected to decrease about 5 to 6 percent. As a result, it will

be the only insular region in the world to experience a decrease in water availability in the future.

The combined impact of higher temperatures and less water would likely result in longer dry periods and increased frequency of droughts, which threaten agriculture, livelihoods, sanitation and ecosystems.

Perhaps the most dangerous hazard is sea level rise. The sea level may rise up to 0.6 meters in the Caribbean by the end of the century, according to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. This could actually flood low-lying areas, posing huge threats, particularly to the smallest islands, and impacting human settlements and infrastructure in coastal zones. It also poses serious threats to tourism, a crucial sector for Caribbean economies: up to 60 percent of current resorts lie around the coast and these would be greatly damaged by sea level increase.

Sea level rise also risks saline water penetrating into freshwater aquifers, threatening crucial water resources for agriculture, tourism and human consumption, unless expensive treatments operations are put into place.

In light of these prospects, adapting to climate change becomes an urgent necessity for SIDS—including in the Caribbean. It is therefore not surprising that all Caribbean countries have submitted a section on adaptation within their Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs), which are the voluntary commitments that pave the way for the implementation of the Paris Agreement.

In their INDCs, Caribbean countries overwhelmingly highlight the conservation of water resources

and the protection of coastal areas as their main worries. Most of them also consider adaptation initiatives in the economic and productive sectors, mainly agriculture, fisheries, tourism and forestry.

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) has been supporting Caribbean countries in their adaptation efforts for many years now, through environmental, energy-related and risk reduction projects, among others.

This week we launched a new partnership with the Government of Japan, the US\$15 million Japan-Caribbean Climate Change Partnership (J-CCCP), in line with the Paris Agreement on Climate Change. The initiative will be implemented in eight Caribbean countries: Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, benefitting an estimated 200,000 women and men in 50 communities.

It will set out a roadmap to mitigate and adapt to climate change, in line with countries' long-term strategies, helping put in practice Caribbean countries' actions and policies to reduce greenhouse as emissions and adapt to climate change. It will also boost access to sustainable energy and help reduce fossil fuel imports and dependence, setting the region on a low-emission development path, while addressing critical balance of payments constraints.

When considering adaptation measures to the different impacts of climate change there are multiple options. Some rely on infrastructure, such as dikes to control sea level rise, but this can be particularly

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Needs in Haiti remain vast one month after Hurricane

By Nelson A. King

As Haiti struggles to recover from the massive destruction wrought by Hurricane Matthew, which pummelled the French-speaking Caribbean country one month ago on Friday, the United Nations has warned that while it seems as if “the world has moved on,” Haiti’s needs remain vast.

The UN said on Friday that this is exemplified by the nearly 600,000 children being stalked by disease, hunger and malnutrition, and in need of assistance.

“One month after the hurricane, life for more than half a million children in Haiti is still far from back to normal,” said Marc Vincent, Haiti representative for the UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF).

“Too many children are still homeless, hungry, out of school and in danger,” he added. “We are scaling up our response and are determined to help as many of them as possible, as fast as we can.”

UNICEF said there have been at least 1,000 suspected cholera cases among children in the past month.

Out of 219 cholera treatment centers in the country, 18 have been damaged in the worst-hit departments of Grand’Anse and South, further complicating efforts to contain the disease, UNICEF said.

The UN said the total destruction the Category 4 storm inflicted on crops, food stock and livestock in some of the worst affected areas have left over 800,000 people in need of immediate food assistance and more than 112,000 children at risk of acute malnutrition.

An estimated 50,000 children have been left homeless and are staying in temporary shelters, said the UN, adding that another 3,500 children living in institutions need help accessing nutrition, water and sanitation services.

The UN said up to 80 percent of hospitals and health

centers in Grand’Anse have lost their roofs. An additional seven health centers in Grand’Anse, four in South and three in Nippes are no longer operational, the UN said.

More than 700 schools have been affected, and about 86 schools have been used as temporary shelters, causing school disruption for at least 150,000 children.

The UN said UNICEF is working with national and other partners to provide basic assistance to the most vulnerable children.

They are providing 100,000 people a day with safe water, organizing a cholera vaccination campaign that will be launched next week to immunize up to 900,000 people, and providing cholera prevention kits that contain water purification tablets, soap and oral rehydration salts, the UN said.

It said between 100 and 200 kits are distributed every day.

In addition, the UN said UNICEF is delivering an inte-



Residents wade through flood waters in Leogane, Haiti, Tuesday, Oct. 4, 2016. Associated Press / Dieu Nalio Chery

grated package of services to prevent and treat malnutrition among children under five, as well as pregnant and breastfeeding mothers living in the hurricane-affected areas; replenishing vaccines and restoring the cold chain so that routine immunization can resume in the health centers that are still operational and in mobile clinics; and distributing emergency medical supplies to

18 health centers. The UN said joint actions also include setting up mobile child friendly spaces, where vulnerable children and families can receive psychosocial support, and training 60 volunteers to staff them; and repairing 22 schools and distributing school-in-a-box and early childhood development kits so that children can resume their learning as soon as possible.

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Clarke wants Caribbean nationals to 'demonstrate the power of the vote'



Congresswoman Yvette D. Clarke addresses Prayer Breakfast before heading to Florida to campaign for Hillary Clinton.

Photo by Nelson A. King

By Nelson A. King

As Americans voted in Presidential Elections on Tuesday, a prominent Caribbean American Congresswoman wants Caribbean nationals to "demonstrate the power of the vote."

"It really pulls on all of us — what we have done for our core values. I wanted to encourage you all again. I want you to demonstrate the power of the vote," said Congresswoman Yvette D. Clarke, the daughter of Jamaican immigrants, in addressing a fund-raising Prayer Breakfast at St. Gabriel's Episcopal (Anglican) Church in Brooklyn on Saturday.

"The power of this nation is that you reap everything you do," added Clarke, who represents the largely Caribbean Ninth Congressional District in Brooklyn. "And we're all part of this fabric. We're on the verge of electing the very first woman President of the United States.

"This is about moving forward," continued Clarke, as her



Young Isaiah Temple Group Drummers, from left, brothers Joshua, Jeremiah, and Justin Malloy, and Padi Kuma, entertain the prayer breakfast.

Photo by Nelson A. King

mother, Dr. Una S.T. Clarke, a former New York City Councilwoman and the first Caribbean-born woman to be elected to the Council, cheered on. "This is about the inconceivable."

The congresswoman had been hopscooting across the nation in rallying for votes for Hillary Clinton, the Democrat Presidential candidate.

Her mother urged patrons

to "call everybody you know to vote on Tuesday.

"Our vote is kind of damp," said Dr. Clarke, expressing concern that Caribbean Americans and African Americans are not demonstrating enough enthusiasm for Clinton as they did for President Obama.

"We have to now preserve his [Obama] legacy," she added. "Barack Obama is still on the

ballot.

"Don't forget our color, and our accent may be the wall," the elder Clarke continued. "I came to this country just before the Civil Rights Movement [in the 1960s]. They wanted to put the muzzle on us. Go to the polls and vote for Hillary Rodham Clinton."

A number of Caribbean clergy prayed at the breakfast for Congresswoman Clarke, who was also on Tuesday's ballot.

They included Guyanese-born Bishop Melda B. Williams, of the More Grace Redemptive Church in Brooklyn, who delivered the sermon, and Haitian-born Rev. Luc Pierre, pastor of the New Jerusalem Church of the Nazarene, also in Brooklyn.

"When there's a prophetic voice, the prophetic voice brings direction," Bishop Williams preached. "There's a time for change. The change is about to take place in the United States of America.

"I hear a voice that's telling

me, it's my time," she added. "It's time to soar. Somebody, flap your wings. It's time to soar."

On Monday, a large number of Caribbean nationals joined the Hillary for New York campaign, at the Flatbush Junction in Brooklyn, at a "Get out the Vote" rally.

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Brooklyn Crown Heights Lions celebrate 40 years

By Tangerine Clarke

The lavish celebration at Antun's Banquet Hall in Queens Village on Saturday, Oct 29 was befitting the 40 years of outstanding service the Brooklyn Crown Heights Lions Club Inc. has given to residents of the community through its outreach programs to improve the lives of humanity under its motto: "We Serve."

The organization, which inducted new members and presented current Lions with plaques for their dedicated service, also honored 10 community leaders whose stellar work in several fields were acknowledged with Lion Awards.

Borough President Eric Adams, Congresswoman Yvette Clarke, Senator Kevin Parker and Councilmembers Mathieu Eugene and Jumaane Williams, honored the citizens with Proclamations, Community Service Awards, and Citations.

The honorees are: Dwayne R. Norris, is a five-time qualifying member of the Million Dollar Round Table Life Insurance Agent with New York Life, a community activist and homeless shelter volunteer.

Sybil F. Griffith-Chester is



Crown Heights Lions Club members Monique Brizz-Walker and Sharon Joyeau at one of the group's annual pre-Thanksgiving dinners.

Guyanese-born and an ambassador in the Caribbean and African-American communities. She is a former Senior Manager of Multicultural Relations at Schieffelin & Somerset Company.

Griffith-Chester, who has won many accolades for her work with the NAACP Image Awards, and Caribbean Music Awards, among others, uses her wealth of experience to consult with wine companies, and strongly believes in giving back to the community.

Leroy Bradford is a clinician in physical therapy, and serves as an advocate for six mentally, physically disabled people living in a group home in Brooklyn. He uses his passion and love of dance to teach various types of ballroom dances and interacts socially at LB's Social Dance Club in Brooklyn.

Like his counterpart, Lennox Marious loves to dance, and uses his talent to raise funds for juvenile diabetes. The USB Financial Services professional has taught many stu-

dents in the art of ballroom dancing.

The Rev. Dr. Glenmore Bem-bry, Jr. has pastored at the Trinity Baptist Church of Brooklyn since 2001. He is also an adjunct professor of Theology and Philosophy at the Bloomfield College.

Nathaniel Fields is the president and CEO of the Urban Resource Institute and is a specialist in strategic vision and holistic functioning. He also enjoys being part of a community committed to improving the lives of others.

As a social justice advocate, Peter A. Boyke has worked tirelessly to help victims of crimes securing restitution, and obtaining orders of Protector for battered woman. He was promoted to director of Queens Mediation Center, where he ran the Conflict Resolution Center for 10 years.

Because of her caring, loving and compassionate personality, Lewanda J. Modeste became a nurse like her mother. She is also an ardent volunteer whose mission trip to Puerto Rico donated school supplies and toiletries to the less fortunate.

Gilman Figueroa, Sr. is a promoter of the Caribbean culture through art, music and poetry. He was inspired by the Mighty Sparrow and Lord Kitchener, and continues to raise the level of excellence with each of his exciting entertaining promotions.

Dessery Y. Foster has dedicated her life to healthcare, serving in the nursing profession for the last 25 years. As a nurse manager of Boro-Park Rehabilitation Center, she strives to deliver the best service to each patient.

The packed audience applauded the honorees, who were congratulated by District Governor Jacqueline D. Williams as she lauded the Brooklyn Crown Heights Lions Club on its 40th Year Anniversary.

"Our neighbors and our fellow lions send you "Lion roars of approval" and "hugs of encouragement" to keep you all strengthened to continue your efforts," said Williams, adding. "We know that you have accepted the international president's theme of 'New Mountains to Climb,' while simultaneously celebrating the journey of a lifetime."



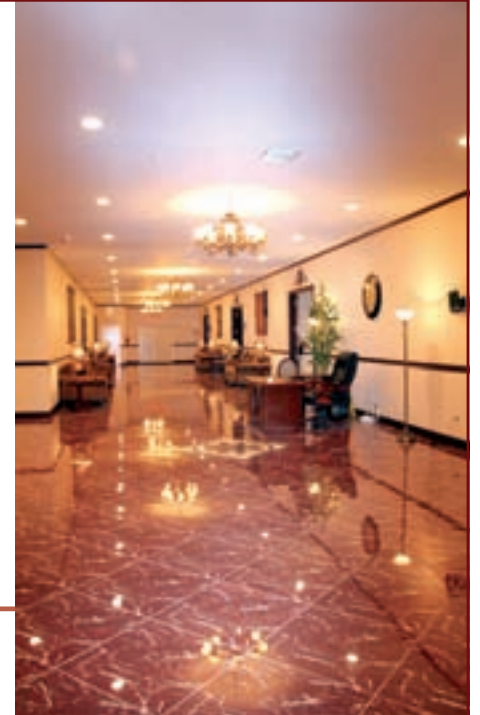
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Caribbean stunned by Trump win...

Continued from page 1

both were mentioned by international media houses as being among nearly 50 women who have been elected or appointed presidents or prime ministers in the modern political era.

Reports from U.S. cities where Caribbean immigrants reside had indicated that the Democrats might have gotten the bulk of the Caribbean vote. Social media posts appeared to have backed up this view. And up to mid-Wednesday, most governments in the region had not reacted to the Trump win. Neither did Caricom.

But Persad Bissessar who holds the distinction of becoming both the first woman head of government and opposition leader in oil and gas-rich Trinidad, expressed open disappointment that a man is once again large and in charge in Washington.

"Throughout its 240-year history, the United States has been ruled by men," said a disappointed ex-leader of state. "Many women around the world were looking to Hillary to join the list of female leaders in the world and make the USA the 45th country to have had a female leader.

"She led a dignified, positive campaign that has energized women everywhere who looked forward to the results with great anticipation that she would shatter the toughest glass ceiling to become the first female President of the United States. She has inspired and empowered millions of girls and women across



President-elect Trump. Associated Press / Charles Krupa

our planet."

Far north from Trinidad, former Jamaican Prime Minister Portia Simpson Miller extended congratulations to President-elect Donald J. Trump on his victory but quickly pounced on a major issue to do with the lives of Caribbean people in the U.S.-immigration.

She desperately tried to remind him that "this job carries with it an awesome responsibility as the President of the United States has a major influence on global affairs." She pointed out. "In the weeks ahead we look forward to hearing and seeing how the Trump's administration will take shape. Throughout his campaign, he offered policy solutions that may impact immigrant communities in the United States. We have some concerns, since Jamaicans are a big part of the immigrant community in the U.S."

In Trinidad, Vice Chairwoman Camille Robinson-Regis expressed disap-

pointment with the devastation of Clinton telling the Guardian Newspaper that most Caribbean people she knows are Democrats and would have voted along party line.

"What I find truly amazing is that a country as liberal and advanced like the U.S. took 200 years to have a woman on the ballot of one of the major political parties," she said, echoing region-wide disappointment with the result. "My brother, who lives in the key swing state of Florida, had been campaigning for Hillary and canvassing for votes for her. I told him if Hillary didn't win I'll blame them squarely. My brother and cousins in New York, who are all registered Democrats, were among millions of early voters.

"They all understand the history that a victory by either presidential candidate would have made and they've expressed concern if Trump won, what that would mean, especially for the Caribbean people, due to his immigration policies."

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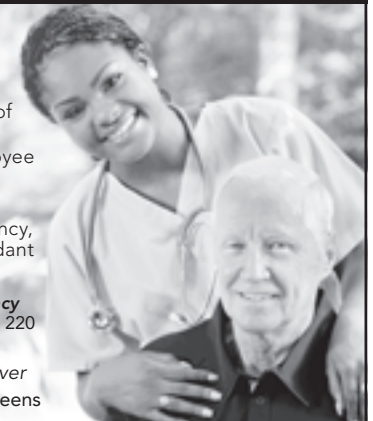
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It's that time of year again ... Nation Time

Ron Daniels, President of the Institute of the Black World 21st Century, has been assessing the conditions of Blacks throughout the world, and now that the marathon campaign to electing a US president has ended, the distinguished lecturer at York College will convene a State of the Black World Conference IV in Newark, N.J. from Nov. 16-20 to decide a national Black agenda.

Dedicated to the memory of Imamu Amiri Baraka, New Jersey poet Laureate and activist — who died Jan. 9, 2014 — the theme of the five-day confab will adopt the call-to-action title of one of his prolific and challenging poems, “It’s Nation Time.”

Since its publication, the poetry added a permanent reference to the American lexicon to take action.

“In the era of the 1960s, the notion of ‘nation’ conveyed the sentiment and possibilities that Black people could unite to become a formidable force, harnessing our human and material resources to confront white



Inside Life

By Vinette K. Pryce

supremacy and to overcome oppression and exploitation,” Daniels explained. “Baraka’s powerful poetic oration challenged Black people from all walks of life to get up and get busy to cultivate the consciousness and commitment to come together to build Black institutions, mobilize and organize movements and fight for our liberation “by any means necessary.”

He said during the era when the poem became regular vernacular “it was an all Black hands on deck” call to action for Black people to join the Black Freedom Struggle and to use whatever we had to achieve victory.”

It’s nation time, get up santa claus

get up roy wilkins,

get up diana ross,

get up jimmy brown

it’s nation time, build it

get up muffed dragger
get up rastus for real to be
rasta farari
ras jua
get up nigger get up nigger
come over here nigger
take a bow nigger
It’s nation time eye ime
It’s nation ti eye ime
It’s nation ti eye ime
It’s nation ti eye ime
chant with bells and drum
Its nation time

Baraka taught poetry at the New School for Social Research, literature at the University of Buffalo and drama at Columbia University. He also taught at San Francisco State University, Yale University and George Washington University. He was also a playwright who during the 1960s won a best off-Broadway Obie award for the play “Dutchman.”

Baraka’s son Ras J. Baraka is the current mayor of the city



Amiri Baraka.

Amiri Baraka

of Newark.

Born the same year his father penned the timely poem in 1970, he is the 40th mayor of the largest city in New Jersey.

For the New Jersey gathering at the Double Tree Hilton at Newark Airport, Daniels has enlisted assistance from an esteemed and diverse group of

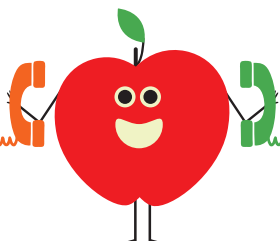
intellectuals to execute a productive assembly.

Among them: St. Vincent & The Grenadines PM Ralph Gonsalves, former Jamaican Prime Minister. P.J. Patterson, Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan, UWI Vice Chancellor Sir Hilary Beckles, actor Danny

Continued on Page 30

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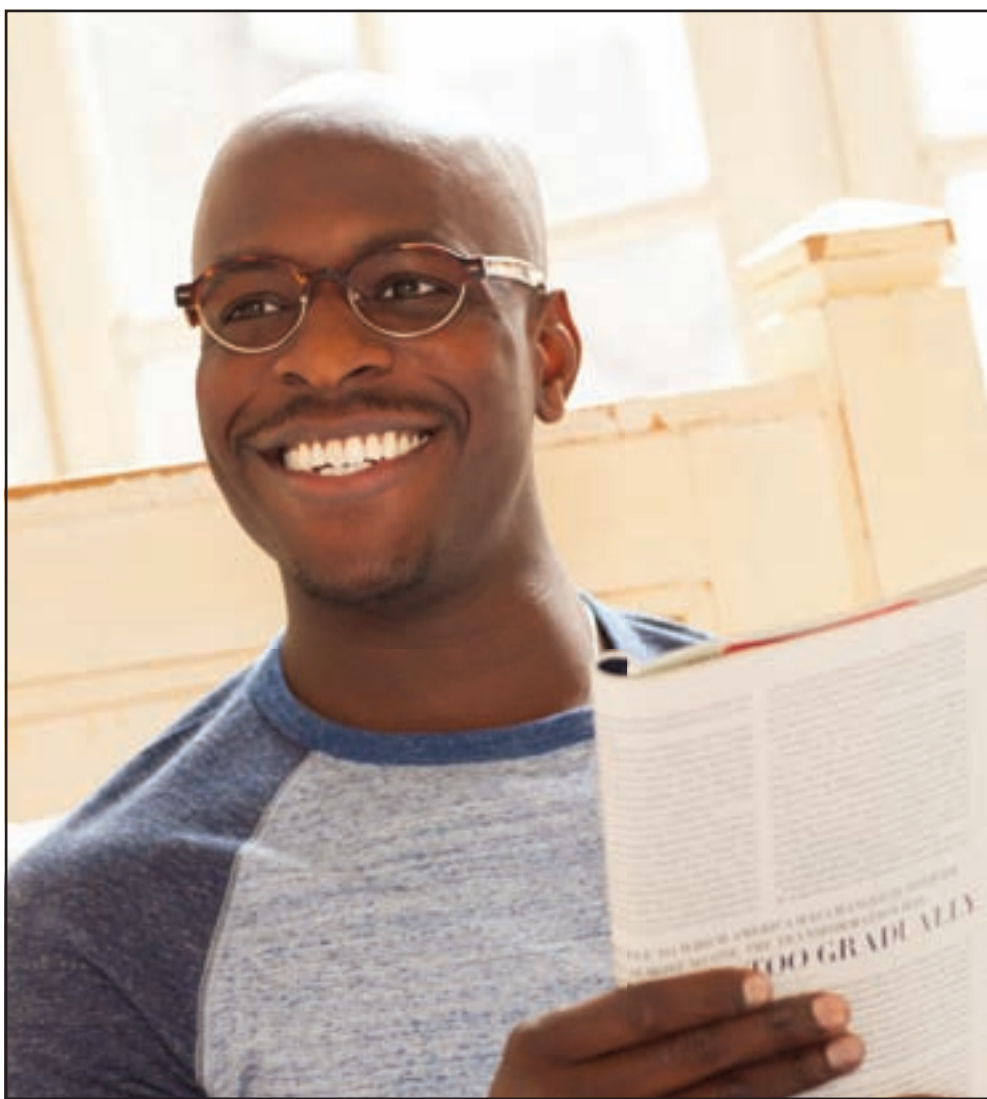
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B'klyn friends to rival Uber with ride-sharing service

By Alexandra Simon

Scoot over Uber and say 'allo to a new ride-sharing service.

Two Haitian-American men are innovating a car service with an environmental mission to service Brooklynites. AlloRide will be a new ride-sharing platform. The creators — Richard Sam and Paul Celicourt — are behind the new social platform for riders and drivers hoping to rival other companies. Sharing similarities to Uber, the most popular driving service, both Celicourt and Sam say they will implement a striking difference from it.

“The main difference between us and our competitors, is that they contract their drivers and take a huge amount of percentage from them,” said Sam. “What we’re doing is not taking any at all from the drivers — so whatever fare they take from riders they can keep it all.”

AlloRide promises more money in the pockets of the drivers, which Sam says will work by the use of a different revenue model, which will encourage drivers to join them. There may be challenges he says, but AlloRide intends on meeting the satisfaction of both riders and drivers, he said.

“We were inspired by the trouble that we see drivers go through working for other ride-sharing platforms,” said Sam. “We’ve seen a lot of people complain about low pay and



Paul Celicourt and Richard Sam won a \$2,000 prize from the Brooklyn Public Library for their new, Uber-esque car service plan. Brooklyn Public Library

how companies take too much from their fares.”

The origin of the idea was from another co-founder based in Montreal, who also created the name of the company said Sam. Allo, which means “hello” in French, signifies the social aspect of platform. Ride is the act of finding of the fare or a ride, said Sam. The team decid-

ed the idea of AlloRide would better service a larger city like New York City.

The mission of the platform, which will act as connection between riders and drivers, will give a different face to ride-sharing. Drivers can still make better profits, with the revenue system they will use and also make clear efforts in energy

saving, said Sam.

“All of these ride-sharing services do help against gas emission, but what we notice is that they don’t accentuate on that,” he said. “We want to emphasize and show them that we need to do take that into account, and we are making sure you aware that we understand this benefit.”

Potential drivers cannot sign up to join yet, as the founders are talks with the Taxi and Limousine commission on the law. But getting the paperwork out of the way is one of the main priorities before AlloRide can officially branch off.

“The first thing we want to do is take care of the legal aspect first,” said Sam.

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www.nyfirst.ny.gov/ResourceCenter/
SmallBizMenu.html

2013 New York, NY Small Business Resource

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

Business Resources: Internet Bibliographies: New York State Library

www.nysl.nysed.gov/reference/busref.
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Selected business-related web sites compiled by staff at the New York State Library for use in response to reference questions.

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

Your Money New York - Help and Resources for Small Businesses

www.yourmoneyny.com/hel-
presource/smallbusiness/index.php
This section of Your Money New York is designed to help small business owners – and New Yorkers interested in starting a small business.

Small Business Resources - The Business Council of New York

www.bcnys.org/inside/smallbusiness.
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Capital Business Blog - Read about the issues.

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The myth of democracy...

Continued from page 10

to all nine of the countries categorised as 'open', but all is not well there either. Hungary, once the beacon of post-Cold War democratic hope, is now rated as having 'obstructed' civic space. Over the last year, the Hungarian government, finding their country at the centre of refugee flows into Europe from Syria and the north and horn of Africa, has installed a fence along Hungary's southern border and introduced a raft of restrictive immigration and border control policies. NGOs critical of the government's response have been threatened with de-registration and subjected to baseless legal and administrative investigations, while outspoken journalists have routinely faced criminal defamation charges brought by politicians.

If elite capture of politics is allowing for these abuses, it is the combination with deepening economic inequality that has driven citizen-led disruption right across the political spectrum. At one end, the radical mass movements of Occupy and the revolutionaries of the Arab Spring sought system change. At the other, anti-Establishment populism fuelled in different ways by the Trump insurgency and certain Brexit 'leavers', trails a rag bag alliance of right-wing nationalists ped-

dling noxious divisive narratives that seek to blame all of society's ills on the mass arrival of displaced peoples into Europe.

Technology is catalysing these shifts in beliefs and nudging our voting habits. The mobilising advantage that Obama's 2008 Presidential campaign created by building new tools to harness big data has become accessible to all, making mass organising easier than ever before. Yet despite all this data, pollsters are finding it harder to predict winners. In the recent U.K. and Colombian referendums, the polls got it wrong and even the day before America votes can anyone call the outcome of the Presidential race with certainty?

For some governments this messy, unpredictable democracy has triggered a seemingly irresistible authoritarian reflex. Fearful of their own people, many states are taking drastic measures to prevent their citizens from criticising authority or calling for their basic social and economic needs to met. From local campaigners to the big international NGOs, civil society actors are being vilified by governments accusing them of being the agents of foreign powers, intent on destabilizing the very communities they are part of and whose rights they seek to protect.

We may at times mythologise freedom but it is a free, vibrant civil society that often holds back extremism, intolerance and exclusion. Restrictions stimulate the febrile conditions in which right-wing populism breeds and it is into this dangerous terrain that many of the world's most mature democracies are heading.

Whoever becomes the next U.S. President faces a critical choice between fully restoring the people's civic freedoms or following a global trend that is undermining the legitimacy of our govern-

ments and damaging our democracies.

A healthy democracy is not just the absence of violations; it needs those in power to take proactive steps to safeguard citizen action, to tolerate dissent and to provide platforms for meaningful dialogue. Governments in the U.S. and the world over need to stop fearing people power and instead nurture active citizenship.

Dr Dhananjayan (Danny) Sriskandarajah is the Secretary-General of CIVICUS, the global civil society alliance.

Tackling climate change...

Continued from page 10

expensive for SIDS, where the ratio of coastal area to land mass is very high.

In this context, ecosystem-based adaptation activities are much more cost-effective, and, in countries with diverse developmental priorities and where financial resources are limited, they become an attractive alternative. This means healthy, well-functioning ecosystems to boost natural resilience to the adverse impacts of climate change, reducing people's vulnerabilities as well.

UNDP, in partnership with national and local governments in the Carib-

bean, has been championing ecosystem-based adaptation and risk reduction with very rewarding results.

For example, the Government of Cuba partnered with UNDP, scientific institutes and forestry enterprises to restore mangrove forests along 84 km of the country's southern shore to slow down saline intrusion from the sea level rise and reduce disaster risks, as the mangrove acts as a protective barrier against hurricanes.

In Grenada, in coordination with the Government and the German International Cooperation Agency, we sup-

Continued on Page 26

OPHTHALMIC SURGERY

Simple Procedure Improves Dry Eyes & Sagging Eyelids

Exclusive interview with Dr. Golio, Director of Craniofacial Surgery

If you have recurring infections on your eyelashes, dry eyes, feeling of dirt, debris, sand, odd bodies or watery eyes, you are not alone. A simple procedure performed under local anesthesia can help.

Dr. Dominick I. Golio says, "A growing number of people flock annually to be examined due to these symptoms. There are many different causes for these problems. Age, Arthritis, the use of certain drugs to lower blood pressure, meds to treat allergies, Parkinsons & nerves may increase the chances of dry eyes exposing them to recurring infections & other serious conditions."

Not everyone can reduce or stop using meds or drops of artificial tears and antibiotics are not enough for many. Dr. Golio explains, "A test that all patients with these symptoms should take in front a mirror, lower the lower eyelid with the index finger and hold it in this position for five seconds. It is important not to blink for this test. Typically, the lid returns to its normal position in a second. We often see patients with such sagging eyelids that after taking this test their eyelids do not return to their position within 7 to 10 seconds."

A simple procedure that does not require hospitalization, removes a small amount of skin from the edge of the eyelid restoring the position thereof. "It's like

pulling the rope of a hammock that has withered with time," says Dr. Golio.

If this situation is not corrected, eyes that are exposed outdoors for longer periods of time may have increased symptoms and incidences of infections. Flabby eyelids occasionally veer inward and the lashes touching the eye causing even more irritation.

This procedure that corrects a sagging lower lid is done under local anesthesia by removing excess skin, aligning the eyelid to the outer eye while removing excess fat by pulling the eyelid down. There is no pain or patches needed, you return home the same day and the stitches fall out on their own within one or two weeks.

The same day of the surgery you can watch television, read a book, warm up your own food as well as wash your face permitting the stitches to get wet.

In short, you will be able to fend for self the same day of procedure.

Private insurances and Medicare will cover the procedure when it's done to correct the excess flab, symptoms of tearing, recurrent infections or inversion of the eyelashes. This procedure should not be confused with under-eye bags that are considered a cosmetic concern and therefore is not covered by any insurance.



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Minimally invasive treatment at Vascular Institute

BY CAMILLE SPERRAZZA

The Vascular Institute of New York has long been recognized for its groundbreaking techniques performed by a world-renowned team of board-certified vascular and endovascular surgeons.

It is proud to introduce patients to a new member of the staff — Dr. Sheila Blumberg, a vascular surgeon who joined the team this past August.

Dr. Blumberg focuses on minimally invasive techniques that target treatment for women and underserved minorities. This includes issues such as uterine fibroids, varicose veins, pelvic pain, and venous diseases usually related to diabetes.

Many of these issues can be treated with modalities that involve the use of needles rather than complex surgery. This means recovery time is faster, there is less stress to the body, and



Dr. Sheila Blumberg is now at the Vascular Institute of New York.

Photo by Jordan Rathkopf

patients can return to work quickly.

Such is the case with varicose veins. These unsightly veins often bulge through the skin, and can be painful, worsening without treatment. Patients may experience a sense of heaviness to the legs, and perhaps a burning sensation. The sooner one makes an appointment at the Vascular Institute, the better

patients respond, says the doctor, and fortunately, the Vascular Institute of New York uses the most advanced, state-of-the-art treatments available.

The first of two effective and painless procedures for varicose veins is sclerotherapy, which utilizes an ultrathin injection needle. Another is stab avulsion, the removal of long segments of varicose veins through

incisions so tiny they do not require any stitches to close, says the doctor. No hospital stays are required for either one.

Vascular issues are often seen in patients who suffer with diabetes. This is because diabetes is a disease that lingers for many years, taking its toll on the body. If patients are overweight, eat a diet high in saturated fats, do not exercise, and have high blood pressure, this can accelerate complications. They may experience leg pain, swelling, ulcers, or sores to the feet. It's all very uncomfortable, and has the potential to become dangerous. The good news is that these are all issues that can be addressed at the Vascular Institute. Sometimes they can be treated with medication. In more severe cases, patients may need surgery. Making an appointment with the doctor is the first step.

Dr. Blumberg attended

school at New York University and Boston University, earning her degrees, and working with Dr. Enrico Ascher, founder of the Vascular Institute of New York, at NYU Lutheran. She is originally from Kenya, and moved here to attend college.

"I understand a lot of the issues involved in coming to a new country," she says, so she is especially open to those in the community who find themselves in a similar situation. She is here to help and assist with their medical needs.

All major medical plans are accepted. Call for an appointment. Walk-ins are welcome.

Vascular Institute of New York [960 50th St. between 9th and 10th avenues in Borough Park, (718) 438-3800, www.vascularnyc.com]. Open Mondays through Sundays. Dr. Blumberg is available Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, 8 am-6 pm.

Jamaica welcomes the new Peter Tosh reggae museum



Jamaican reggae singer Luciano performs during the opening of the Peter Tosh Museum.



Jamaican Prime Minister Andrew Holness speaking at the opening of the Peter Tosh Museum in Jamaica.

composition of a gathering for Peter Tosh... my, how things have changed.” He continued “I want to say how very important it is for us to put in place the institutions that will protect and preserve, but also project our history, and that is what this museum will do.”

The museum showcases personal artifacts including tour jackets, Tosh’s passports, telephone and radio, audio and video recordings featuring the superstar, as well as the famed M16 guitar and his beloved unicycle. Exclusive merchandise was also available for sale to the public.

“This is an important turning point in the preservation and advancement of my father’s legacy, and the museum will allow my father’s message of equal rights and justice to be heard by generations, both young and old,” Niambe McIntosh, daughter of the Grammy winner and administrator of the Peter Tosh Estate has recently said.

album “Legalize It.”

In a five-day celebration, which included a VIP Cocktail Event, a Symposium, the Grand-Opening, Benefit Concert, and the Peter Tosh Memorial Garden Excursion - distinguished guests included Jamaican Prime Minister Andrew Holness, who spoke at the opening stating “Many years ago, you maybe would not have had this profile and

Minister of Information, Youth, Sports & Culture Olivia Grange, Minister of Tourism Edmund Bartlett, Opposition Spokesman on Tourism Dr. Wykeham McNeill, Opposition Spokesman on Youth & Culture Lisa Hanna, former Minister of Finance & Planning Dr. Omar Davies, and Opposition Spokesman on National Security Peter Bunting also attended the event. The museum project is a joint-venture collaboration between the Peter Tosh Estate, Pulse

Investments Ltd., and Andrea Marlene Brown.

Pulse Chairman Kingsley Cooper, who produced the 1983 Pulse Superjam Concert, which became Tosh’s last performance, and who led the initiative for the museum’s establishment said, “The great Rastafarian campaigner for equal rights and justice, for the abolition of apartheid and for the legalization of marijuana, who did not get his due in life, will now be duly honored by this important addition to his legacy.”

On Oct. 19, after much anticipation from the Jamaican community and the world at large, late Reggae Legend Peter Tosh was honored with the opening of a new museum dedicated to his life and impact on the music industry, and a benefit concert which brought out a wide array of reggae acts including Tosh’s original backing band “Word, Sound and Power,” the late star’s son Andrew Tosh and grandson Dre Tosh, granddaughter Jahzarah Tosh, Marcia Griffiths, Chronixx, Luciano, Etana, Kabaka Pyramid, Tarrus Riley, and many more!

The museum officially opened to the public Nov. 1, and its hours of operation are Monday – Friday: 10:30 am to 7 pm and Saturday: 10 am to 6 pm at Pulse Centre, 38A Trafalgar Rd., New Kingston, Jamaica.

The project came on what would have been Tosh’s 72nd birthday, to commemorate the 40th anniversary of his solo

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OP-EDS

Tackling climate change...

Continued from page 22

ported the establishment of a Community Climate Change Adaptation Fund, a small grants mechanism, to provide opportunities to communities to cope with the effects of climate change and extreme weather conditions. We have engaged with local stakeholders to develop climate smart agricultural projects, and climate resilient fisheries, among other activities in the tourism and water resources sectors.

UNDP's support is directed to balance social and economic development with environmental protection, directly benefitting communities. Our approach is necessarily aligned with the recently approved 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda and its associated Sustainable Development Goals, delivering on protecting ecosystems and natural

resources, promoting food security and sanitation, while also helping reduce poverty and promoting sustainable economic growth.

While there is significant potential for climate change adaptation in SIDS, it will require additional external resources, technologies and strengthening of local capacities. In UNDP we are ideally placed to continue working hand-in-hand with Caribbean countries as they implement their INDCs and find their own solutions to climate-change adaptation, while also sharing knowledge and experiences within the region and beyond.

Jessica Faieta is United Nations Assistant Secretary General and UNDP Regional Director for Latin America and the Caribbean | @JessicaFaieta @UNDPLAC

Power of vote...

Continued from page 12

Herman Hall — the Grenadian-born publisher of the Brooklyn-based Everybody's, a popular Caribbean magazine, and a registered Republican, who is supporting Clinton — said Caribbean Amer-

icans are "solid for Hillary 97 percent."

"When more than eight percent of Caribbean-Americans vote for the Republican presidential candidate, the Republican wins the presidency," he said. "When more than 90 percent of Caribbean-Americans vote for the Democratic Party presidential candidate, the Democrats wins the presidency.

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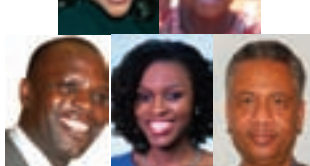
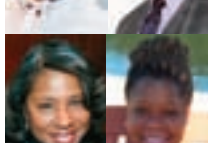
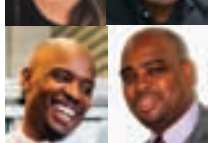
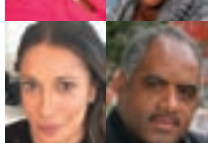
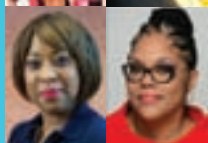
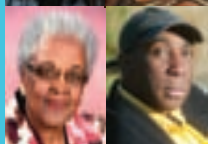
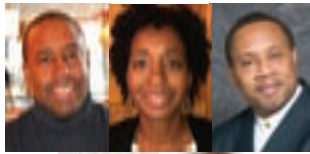
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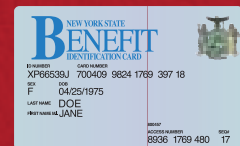
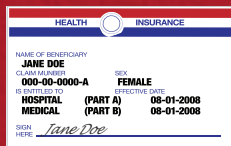


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We celebrate those who make an impact

The contributions of entrepreneurial Caribbean Americans have helped to improve our city and distinguish it as a diverse place of great opportunity for hard-working people from everywhere.

Caribbean Life and Community News Group are pleased to celebrate the proud Caribbean-American heritage, and feel so strongly about its benefit to our communities that we've dedicated this special section to 27 Caribbean Americans who have touched our lives in exemplary ways.

The notables lauded in these pages are ambassadors of change, ranging in age, experience, and representing a myriad of Caribbean countries, but they are all equally worthy of praise as our 2016 Impact Awards honorees.

Here's a sneak peek at some of their inspirational stories:

- The first woman of African descent with ancestors from Trinidad and Tobago to become chaplain of the Church Center for the United Nations says her vocation chose her on her first day of seminary class — Sept. 11, 2001 — when her professor informed her, "Theology is the search for meaning, meaning in the midst of tragedy." Then the Twin Towers fell.

- A boy who came here from Jamaica and grew up to be an executive director of a grass-roots business collective, today oversees one of the most thriving commercial districts in the country with an eclectic mix of nearly 400 businesses.

- A founder, president and chief executive officer of one of the largest privately owned arts schools in Queens and Brooklyn with more than 40 staff and thousands of alumni, also provides performing arts education to public school students, plus vital services to early childhood, youth, senior, adult, and faith-based organizations.

We are proud of the opportunity to recognize these and other Caribbean-American superstars, and formally celebrate their accomplishments at the Caribbean Life Impact Awards Gala on the evening of Nov. 17 at Paradise Caterers in Brooklyn.

We thank our readers, for your involvement in the nomination process, for without you many of these heroes would remain unsung, and we hope you enjoy reading their inspiring and impactful stories as much as we did writing them.

— CNG and Caribbean Life

Gala MC: Nelson A. King

Award-winning Caribbean Life journalist Nelson A. King, Ph.D, has made an impact locally, nationally, and internationally during a prolific academic odyssey spanning more than 35 years.

Dr. King was a U.S. correspondent for the Caribbean's only news agency — the Barbados-headquartered Caribbean Media Corporation — for more than a decade, and held the same position for The Vincentian newspaper in his native St. Vincent and the Grenadines. His vast portfolio of work features tenure with assorted media outfits, including Daily News' Carib Beat magazine, the Queens Chronicle newspaper, WNJR Radio, and the British Broadcasting Corporation.

Our emcee is an accomplished professional with seven degrees — including a doctorate, three masters, and two law degrees! — but there's even more to his story:

- Dr. King was a staff sergeant in the New York National Guard, and holds a number of military and civilian awards, including the U.S. Army Commendation Medal, and the "Iron Man" Award for being the "strongest man" in his battalion while attending aircraft technician school at Fort Gordon in Georgia.

- He is an adjunct professor at Medgar



Evers College.

- He has more than 23 years of public health experience, working in a number of supervisory, managerial, and administrative positions at the city's Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, SUNY Downstate Medical Center, and University Hospital of Brooklyn.

Dr. King served is an associate member of the Central Brooklyn Lions Club, in addition to being past vice president of the Brooklyn-based Vincentian Christian Charity Organization.

He is also the recipient of numerous community service awards, including citations from the State Assembly and City Council.

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Tai Abrams

An entrepreneur and business coach

BIO FILE

BIRTHPLACE:

United States, of parents from Guyana.

OCCUPATION:

Government consultant; entrepreneur; business coach; co-founder and CEO of AdmissionSquad, Inc.

MOTTOS:

“Hard work pays off.”

“Having a large-scale vision to get out there and fix a broken system pays off.”

Brooklyn-born and raised Tai Abrams is of Guyanese heritage. An entrepreneur and business coach, she is the co-founder and CEO of AdmissionSquad, Inc., an education non-profit with a mission to get black and brown students into New York City’s top high schools.

Having attended the specialized competitive Bronx High School of Science, Tai Abrams later discovered the alarming statistic that only nine black students out of 1,000 were getting into one of the city’s other top school — Stuyvesant High School. She noticed this shortage was an epidemic across New York City.

In 2013, Abrams got busy structuring a highly effective program to support Caribbean American middle schoolers and other black and brown students to become more competitive and successful in top high schools’ admissions process.

A 2009 graduate of Duke University, with a degree in mathematics and a former top-tier government consultant, she is relentless in her efforts to go above and beyond for the youth, working to grant access to more opportunities for them through intervention strategies.

Her program has yielded an 80 percent success rate for the past two years and under her leadership, more than 700 students have received early exposure to the specialized high school admissions exams, the SHSAT. More than 500 parents have also received parent workshops to close the information gap.

A critical influence?

“Mr. Reid, my Barbadian, middle school math tutor demonstrated through his highly effective teaching strategies, how impactful outside of school intervention strategies could be for a child’s success,” she says.

Abrams is the recipient of numerous awards including the Dean’s List with Distinction, Congressional Black Caucus Award, and You Make a Difference Award.



Darnell Benoit

Helps immigrant students be successful

BIO FILE

BIRTHPLACE:

Haiti.

OCCUPATION:

ESL teacher, founder and director of Flanbwayan Haitian Literacy Project.

QUOTE:

“Education is the property of no one. It belongs to the people as a whole and if education is not given to the people, they will have to take it.”

— Che Guevara

Haitian-born Darnell Benoit founded the 12-year-old community-based Flanbwayan Haitian Literacy Project, which partners with immigrant students ages 14-21.

Why this literacy project?

“I was an ESL teacher for many years and saw that many young adult immigrant students weren’t graduating high school or even learning English in high school,” Benoit responds. “I wasn’t satisfied and knew I needed to do something more to help immigrant students be successful.”

Benoit explains that Flanbwayan’s priority is enrolling students in high school immediately upon entering this country.

To this end, the project is starting a campaign for high school enrollment for newcomer immigrants.

“The process is so challenging for these families with no knowledge of the school system and there is no one in the Office of Enrollment who speaks Creole and can help with information,” she says.

“We don’t want these students to go to failing schools,” she adds.

On the positive end, Benoit has witnessed

what support means.

“I have seen over 500 immigrant students graduate high school and have successful lives, many going on to college.”

Her work has transformed hundreds of lives.

In Flanbwayan, student-members also find a safe space where they discuss issues, share experiences, and express views on educational issues.

Benoit is the Achievement Award recipient from Haitians United for Development and Education and the Antonia Pantoja Advocacy Award from NY State Association of Bilingual Education.

Benoit recognizes her father’s impact, “He taught me to share and to help whenever possible.”

“I love my work,” she says. “I was 13 when I came here. Being around the students keeps me young.”



Rev. Dionne P. Boissière

A champion who works for peace with justice



BIO FILE

BIRTHPLACE:

United States of parents from Trinidad and Tobago.

OCCUPATION:

Chaplain of the Church Center of the United Nations, Manhattan, ensuring that the church center provides sacred space, worship, hospitality, community advocacy and a forum for partners and civil society.

QUOTE:

"I found God in myself and I loved her ... I loved her fiercely."
— Ntozake Shange

Caribbean-American Rev. Dionne P. Boissière is the chaplain of the Church Center for the United Nations (CCUN) and says her vocation chose her on the fateful day of Sept. 11, 2001. Born in the United States, her parents are from Trinidad and Tobago.

In ministry for almost 18 years, Rev. Boissière has been ordained for almost 10 years. She received her Masters of Divinity at Union Theological Seminary with a focus on ethics and religious education.

Rev. Boissière is the first woman of African descent and Caribbean heritage to hold the position of chaplain of the CCUN. Commissioned by United Methodist Women, her position allows her to champion the work of peace with justice on behalf of those on the margins, especially, women and girls worldwide.

Her vocation chose her, she says.

Her first day of seminary class was Sept. 11, 2001. Her professor Dr. James Cone told the Systematic Theology class, "Theology is the search for meaning, meaning in the midst of tragedy."

Right after his statement, a fellow seminar-

ian ran in to report that the Twin Towers were hit.

Rev. Boissière teaches, counsels, and conducts workshops throughout the tri-state area and beyond. She provides leadership for several organizations and larger ecumenical and interfaith institutions.

This clergywoman recognizes her greatest influence, the late Rev. Dr. Ella P. Mitchell who "not only set a standard for women in ministry but was a wise and grace-filled mentor with a passion for teaching, preaching and the work of social justice."

Rev. Boissière is among those featured in Rev. Mitchell's book on preaching women.

Serving on several boards, most recently, Rev. Boissière was elected as the co-chair of Ecumenical Women at the United Nations.

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Patrick Buddington

Helping others get to the next level



BIO FILE

BIRTHPLACE:

Jamaica.

OCCUPATION:

Business development executive; Founder, CEO and chief marketing officer, IMC Media Group Corp., a Brooklyn-based, boutique ethnic branding, and marketing agency.

QUOTE:

“If there’s no struggle, there’s no progress.”

— Frederick Douglass

Jamaican-born Patrick Buddington has a stellar 31-year career in marketing.

He is founder, president, CEO and chief marketing officer for the Brooklyn-based ethnic media management agency, IMC Media Group, which specializes in brand identity and advertising campaigns for small and mid-size businesses, advertisers, and international firms.

Digicel Group, Grace Foods USA, CaribZone.com, Pathfinders Magazine, Rocky Mountain Energy Drink are among his clients as well as select local and national political and advocacy campaigns.

He primarily targets Caribbean-American consumers in the United States and their respective homelands. He uses traditional — tv, radio, and print — and non-traditional — word-of-mouth community promotions, online banners and social media outlets, utilizing his extensive experience of integrated marketing, planning / placement as well as sales to reach consumers.

He has been a consultant to develop marketing programs targeting African-Americans, Caribbean-Americans and other emerging

consumer markets.

Buddington holds undergraduate and MBA in Marketing degrees from Hofstra University.

He thanks his late mother, Ms. Grace Kerr, for his accomplishments. With limited education, no family connections, and leaving behind five children, she migrated to the United States to be employed as a domestic worker.

In short order, she got her GED, nurse’s aide certification, and brought her children to the United States.

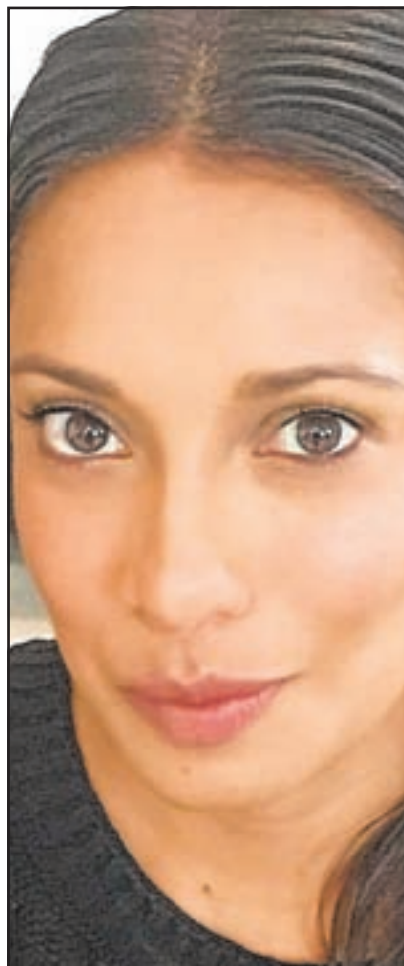
Buddington’s knack for selling stuff started at age 7 with painted rocks in Jamaica. He recalls bombarding his family and friends with “101 business ideas.”

Through his work as a marketer, he helps small business owners or community-focused organizations that want to connect with New York’s immigrant populations.

He says, “I put my skills to use daily. My primary goal is to help you — a not-for-profit organization or small business owner get to the next level.”

Nikisha Carlini

An advocate for animal welfare



BIO FILE

BIRTHPLACE

Trinidad and Tobago.

OCCUPATION:

Public relations; Avocation; Animal rights advocate; Volunteer dog walker; Activist.

QUOTE:

“Any form of cruelty to any species is unacceptable and should never be tolerated. If we report animal cruelty or suspicion of cruelty, by being the voice for the animals, we can make a difference for at least one life.”

Nikisha Carlini was born in San Fernando, Trinidad and Tobago, and after being raised on a farm and learning about animals first-hand, she has made advocating for the voiceless creatures her passion.

A journalism graduate from University of Florida, she has been working in public relations for 16 years.

Carlini’s long-time passion is for the care and advocacy of animals. She believes that reporting cruelty can make a difference.

Fervent about animal treatment, Carlini uses the power of social media to raise awareness toward animal welfare. She circulates and signs petitions, writes letters to senators, posts news, and protests abuse.

“I was raised on my grandparents’ farm,” she says, treasuring her childhood experiences. “My fascination with animals began early. I learned things that I will carry with me for the rest of my life.”

She recalls, “At a very young age, I could tell when a duck was pregnant and when a cow was ready to give birth.”

She found out firsthand about animals

growing their families.

“The animals on the farm became my friends. I loved and cared about them like no other and I take that love and passion with me now.”

Also she was in conflict on the farm, crying for days knowing that her “buddy” was going to be slaughtered.

“In my adulthood, I made a conscious decision not to eat animals,” she says.

She is also a volunteer dog walker at the local Animal Care and Control — an animal shelter and participates in animal-affiliated charity events.

For humans, she volunteers with New York Cares that improves education, meets immediate needs, and revitalizes public spaces.

“My dream, one day, is to open an animal sanctuary of my own,” she divulges.

Michelle R. DeSouza Forte

An attorney who provides legal help to her community

BIO FILE

BIRTHPLACE:

Guyana.

OCCUPATION:

Solo practitioner; Attorney at law; School board president, Battalion Christian Academy.

MOTTO:

“For with God nothing shall be impossible.”

— Luke 1:37

Born in Guyana, Michelle R. DeSouza Forte came to the United States at age 15 and attended Erasmus High School. She pursued a career as a lawyer to fulfill her mother’s dream.

She speaks of her mother, “Growing up, I would always hear my mother mention that if it had been possible she would have become a lawyer. But raising nine children was her priority.”

DeSouza Forte pursued a career as a lawyer to fulfill her mother’s dream; it was a challenge.

Out of school for almost a decade — having studied political science — with one child, she returned to school in Michigan. Her husband took over child-care. In 2007, she graduated law school at Michigan State University, ever grateful for the support of family and friends.

“I have not once regretted that decision,” she said.

DeSouza Forte operates a sole practice in Jamaica, Queens, providing a wide swath of areas of legal advice and representation.

She speaks so highly of fellow attorney, mentor Ellen Edwards, “one of a few African-

American women working as a defense attorney in a male dominated field.”

Desouza Forte admired Edwards’s client commitment and authoritative manner. Our award recipient speaks of how she learned from this mentor qualities of boldness and aggressive negotiating to bring to her own practice.

A member of God’s Battalion of Prayer church, Desouza Forte volunteers in several areas of ministry, including Sunday School, Shelter and Women’s Ministries and serves as the board president of the independent school — Battalion Christian Academy.

As an attorney, she is able to provide legal assistance to many community members. She also runs workshops, through various churches and schools, teaching the importance of Estate Planning.



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Ricot Dupuy

Haitian broadcaster keeps his community informed

BIO FILE

BIRTHPLACE:

Gonaives, Haiti.

OCCUPATION:

Director, host and commentator, Radio Soleil.

QUOTE:

“When I came to this country you didn’t hear Creole. It was sad. You didn’t leave your country because you wanted to; you were forced to. You left because of the political or the economic situation.”

MOTTO:

“We are not neutral; we are objective but not neutral.”

Ricot Dupuy, director of Radio Soleil, the radio station for New York City’s Haitian community, was born in Gonaives, Haiti, but was forced to leave due to an oppressive dictatorship.

He studied philosophy in Port-au-Prince but by 1974, the oppressive Duvalier dictatorship and declining economy forced him and his two siblings to depart for New York City, settling in Brooklyn.

For 12 years, he devoted significant energy mobilizing public opinion against the dictatorship.

Dupuy graduated Brooklyn College. Having developed radio skills in Haiti and Brooklyn, he was called upon to launch a pirate station, eventually serving as a commentator for NJ-based programs.

When those folded he joined Radio Soleil.

In 2002, 10 years after its founding, Dupuy became station director.

“Things were developing so fast in Haiti. And the Haitian presence here got bigger. We could not give them stuff a la carte any more.” And he decided, “That’s what I’ll do,” he recalls.

With a limited staff, mostly volunteers,

Dupuy is the principal commentator, hosting a daily show at 7:30 pm and a two-hour Sunday afternoon show.

His commentaries and analyses have major resonance in the Haitian community.

He has interviewed Bill Clinton and Nelson Mandela, to name a few.

Broadcasting primarily in Haitian Creole with some French and English, accessed through the internet, Radio Soleil serves a million dedicated listeners as the go-to source of news for Haitians.

After the 2010 earthquake, Haitians gathered outside of the station for updates and the station helped them to communicate with family members.

Most recently, it served as a link, providing information related to the hurricane.

Dupuy is consulted with and called upon regularly by American press on Haitian issues.



Khari Edwards

An advocate for the needs of others

BIO FILE

BIRTHPLACE:

United States, of parents from Trinidad (mother) and Guyana (father).

OCCUPATION:

Vice President of External Affairs, Brookdale Hospital and Medical Center; Behind the scenes work for elected officials, non-profit organizations, and city agencies in New York City and state politics and community development.

MOTTO:

“If you are able to reach one, you have succeeded ... then let us each reach one!”

Brooklyn-born Kari Edwards is the son of immigrants from Trinidad and Guyana. He is vice president of External Affairs at Brookdale Hospital & Medical Center, the first vice president of color in the history of the medical center.

For nearly 17 years, Khari Edwards has led a vast career in politics and community development throughout New York City and State. He helps bridge the gap between members of the community, business leaders, public unions and others to ensure everyone’s voice is heard.

“I fell into this career by accident,” he explains. “I worked as special assistant for New York State Senate Leader John Sampson, put in charge of the Brooklyn Health crisis taskforce, helping restructure Brooklyn’s hospital system.”

After that, he was asked to work in the field — Brookdale Hospital — where he has been ever since.

Edwards is the first vice president of color in the history of Brookdale.

Edwards served as a field representative for former Congressman Major Owens, special assistant to former Comptroller Carl McCall,

community liaison for former Assemblyman Roger Green, and city-wide program manager for the New York City Housing Authority where he facilitated youth programs for local community centers.

Recently, for students in schools near Brookdale, he created “It Starts Here,” a program against community gun violence.

Through tours of the morgue, the trauma department, and personal stories, students are exposed to effects of gun violence on the victim, the community, and more.

His “Pick ‘N’ Roll” program provides community members opportunities to learn and participate in basketball.

“My parents instilled in me all the tools needed to be an advocate for the needs of others to find the positive in every person,” he says.



Feet of Rhythm

Nadia Dieudonné & Cynthia Karaha

BIO FILE

HOME COUNTRY:

Nadia: United States, of parents from Haiti.
Cynthia: Haiti.

OCCUPATIONS:

Nadia: Dancer, choreographer, teacher
Cynthia: Founder, World Music Promotions, apparel designer

QUOTE:

"The greatness of a man is not in how much wealth he acquires, but in his integrity and his ability to affect those around him positively."
— Bob Marley

Duo transforms kids with Haitian pride

Nadia Dieudonné and Cynthia Karaha are cultural sisters, a complementary duo. They are the heart and soul of Feet of Rhythm (F.O.R.) for youth who are, so far, the only troupe to represent the Haitian community in the West Indian Day Junior Carnival Parade.

F.O.R. was founded as a dance group in 1995, and began to participate in the children's carnival in 2001.

Dieudonné is the artistic director, choreographer and dance teacher. Karaha is the troupe's co-director, manager and visual director who designs and oversees the production of the unusual parade costumes.

Apparel designer Karaha has been designing clothes since she was a child in Haiti. She is also an artist manager, music promoter and founder of World Music Promotions.

Dieudonné has been dancing and teaching dance for years.

After her 2000 choreography collaboration with the Trinidadian Cage Productions mas camp, she teamed up with Karaha for a Haitian

children's presence in the Junior Carnival.

After recruiting the dancers — this year's ages were 6 to 17 — Dieudonné teaches up to 10 free dance classes in order that the troupe learns the choreography. By parade time, "they feel confident, know their routines and have made friends," Dieudonné observes.

As for the greatest joy? "It's the smiles on the children when they're in make-up and costumes," beams Dieudonné. "Filled with such pride, they strut down the street, so happy to be participating in something just for them."

Karaha adds, "On that day they're announcing to the world their cultural heritage and celebrating being Haitian. At the end of the parade, they've been transformed by pride."



Nadia Dieudonné



Cynthia Karaha

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Joan H. Grant-Boyd, Ph.D.

An educator who also takes care of the needy



BIO FILE

BIRTHPLACE:
Spanish Town, Jamaica.

OCCUPATION:
Doctoral lecturer, SUNY/BEOC under the auspices of New York City College of Technology; adjunct assistant professor, Medgar Evers and Queens College.

QUOTE:
"The heights by great men reached and kept were not attained by sudden flight, but they, while their companions slept, were toiling upward in the night."
— Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Born in Spanish Town, Jamaica, Dr. Joan H. Grant-Boyd's father, who was a police officer, stressed education and ensured that all of his 11 children would receive an education while on his policeman's salary supplemented by farming.

After earning a Diploma in Education in History and English from the University of the West Indies she migrated to the United States, where she earned her Master's Degree in Curriculum and Teaching from Teachers College, Columbia.

She later earned a second Master's Degree in English from Hunter College, and a Ph.D. in English from the City University of New York Graduate Center.

For the past 46 years, she has been a doctoral lecturer at SUNY / BEOC under the auspices of New York City College of Technology.

Dr. Grant-Boyd has also taught as an adjunct assistant professor at Medgar Evers and Queens College.

"I choose teaching because of two exemplary high school teachers (in Jamaica)," she says, noting Louis Austin Prescod, headmaster at Manning's, who taught her Latin, particularly,

Virgil's "Aeneid."
"He made that ancient classical text come alive for us country children and inculcated in me the beauty and elegance of this ancient language and an empathy for the heroic and tragic elements in that enduring work."

Active in her Crown Heights community, Dr. Grant-Boyd served on the vestry at Church of St. Mark. Thirteen years ago with two other women, she started a food pantry there, which weekly serves 125 persons.

Dr. Grant-Boyd is president of the school board of the St. Mark's Day School. Additionally, for several years she has been a judge of the NAACP ACT-SO coalition of New York Academic Olympics.

Congratulations to


Jolander Headley

on receiving the

Caribbean Life Impact award 2016

From Rev. Michael Bacchus and the Full Gospel Assembly congregation

Well deserved!

 FULL GOSPEL ASSEMBLY

Sharon A. Haynes

An advocate for education

BIO FILE

BIRTHPLACE:

Kingston, Jamaica.

OCCUPATION:

Consumer marketing for Essence Magazine; Former fifth-grade math teacher, PS 268, East Flatbush; President, block association; Committee member, 67th Precinct for annual essay writing contest.

QUOTE:

"Discipline is the bridge between thought and accomplishments."
— AR Bernard.

MOTTO:

"Success. Don't just wish for it, work for it."

Not only is Kingston, Jamaica,-born Sharon A. Haynes a completely dedicated teacher, she also is civically engaged, always advocating for education. Haynes migrated to Brooklyn as a teen.

Twelve years ago she said goodbye to the corporate world (Conde Nast, McGraw-Hill, and lastly consumer marketing at Essence Magazine) to follow her passion. She works diligently on behalf of her students.

Haynes teaches fifth-grade math at PS 268 in East Flatbush. "I always knew I had a calling to be an educator," she says, remembering being the teacher when playing school with her siblings. Also, memories of her seventh-grade teacher Ms. Purcy's wit, devotion, compassion and eagerness to motivate her students left an indelible impression on her.

Haynes is a teacher leader/model teacher for her school, motivating through life experiences, career day activities, and even alumni visits.

"I want to be a leader others want to follow," she said.

She is also community liaison and member of the principal's cabinet, working alongside

the principal to help in decisions concerning the school's welfare.

Beyond the classroom, Haynes helps students advance their academics and assists them with extracurricular projects of their interest such as music, dance and singing.

Living her philosophy as a teacher that "Our work should be impactful," she is also active in the community.

Haynes is also block association president and member of Community Board 17. She is a committee member with 67th Pct. annual essay writing contest and engages in many religious and other civic involvements.

Haynes holds a masters degree in early education from Brooklyn College and is currently pursuing administration credentials.



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Jolander Headley

Entrepreneur with a passion for the arts



BIO FILE

BIRTHPLACE:
Trinidad.

OCCUPATION
Licensed insurance broker; Producer; Client advocate and broker for a number of multinational energy, chemical, utility and financial companies; Founder, president, and CEO Joe's Music Store, Joe's Music Center & Performing Arts, Inc., specializing in music education.

QUOTE
"To handle yourself, use your head; to handle others, use your heart."
— Eleanor Roosevelt

Born in Trinidad, Jolander Headley is a multi-faceted entrepreneur with 24 years of corporate experience in the United States. She found her calling in music education.

She is the founder, president and CEO of Joe's Music Store and Joe's Music Center & Performing Arts Inc., established in 1998, that specializes in music education.

"I have a passion for the arts, which are essential for success," says Headley. As a child, she pursued piano studies and music theory at Juilliard.

The academy is one of the largest privately owned arts schools in Queens and Brooklyn with more than 40 staff and thousands of alumni. It partners with New York City schools providing performing arts education, and also offers services to early childhood, youth, senior, adult and faith-based organizations.

Headley says, "Through the arts one learns the creative process and develops critical thinking — learning not covered in any other discipline. Our program bridges a gap for

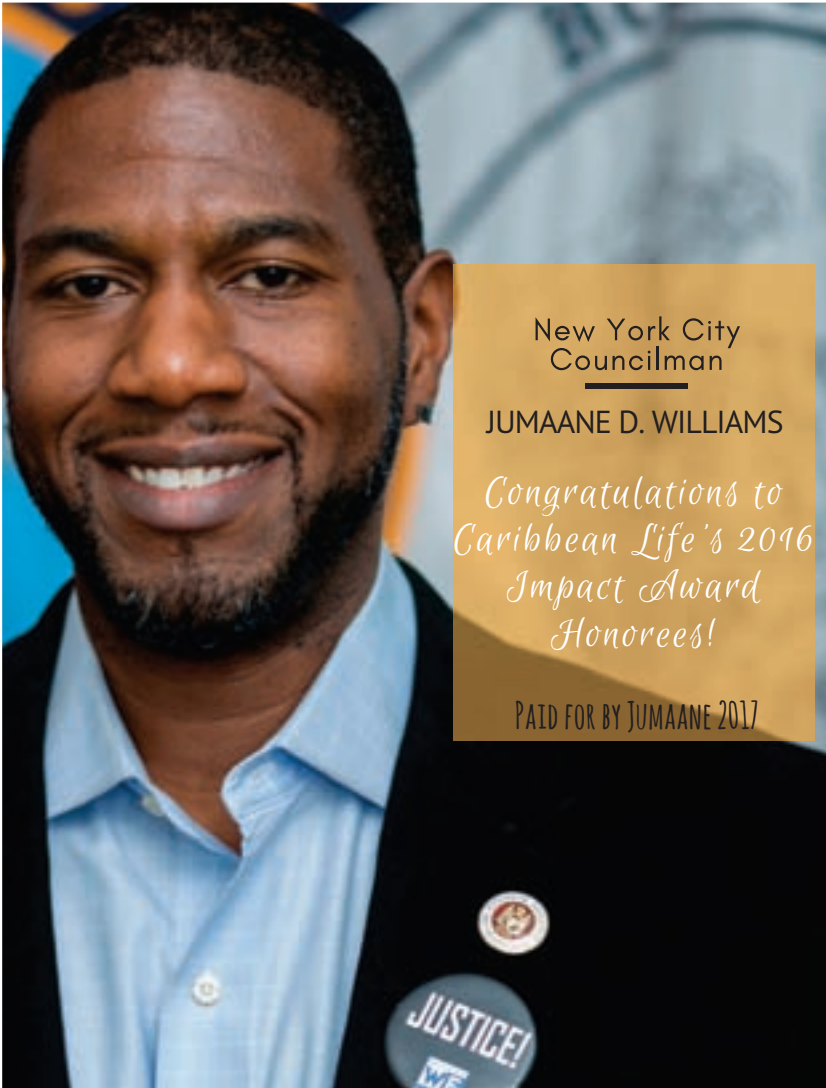
future leaders."

Believing that music lessons should be available to everyone, Headley co-founded the non-profit Major Music International Corporation that provides musical instruction to youth and senior citizens, regardless of their finances.

This entrepreneur is involved with numerous music professional organizations including The Grammy Foundation and The Recording Academy, the National Association of Negro Musicians B-Sharp branch, the National Association for Music Education, the National Association of Music Merchants, and the Southeast Queens Chamber of Commerce and the Farmers Boulevard Merchant Association.

Her greatest influence? Lawrence Berk, founder in 1945 of Schillinger House of Music — its name changed in 1970 to Berklee College of Music.

"Schillinger was the first U.S. school to teach jazz, the popular music of the era," she informs us.



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Det. Roxanne Joseph

Born to serve her community

BIO FILE

BIRTHPLACE:

St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

OCCUPATION:

NYPD Officer, Detective, 67th Precinct.

QUOTE:

"I've learned that people will forget what you said. People will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel." — Maya Angelo

Roxanne Joseph was born in St. Vincent and the Grenadines. Raised by her grandmother from the age of 4, she joined her mother in Brooklyn in her teens, and in was inspired to join the police force after watching her sergeant aunt.

In 2005, she was sworn into the New York City Police Department and assigned to the 67th Precinct impact unit. Patrolling East Flatbush streets, she was a member of the precinct's community policing unit.

Her expression of love for her culture and safety for the community subsequently earned her the position of community affairs officer.

This officer can not emphasize enough the impact of community affairs, "We mend the fence when it is broken."

Detective Joseph educates newly assigned precinct police officers on West Indian cultures and traditions.

She is also an advocate for guiding young women to be successful, productive and independent women in society.

Three vans of civilians attended the promotion ceremony when she made detective this past August.

Influencing her career choice, Joseph speaks of her aunt Sergeant Ilene Maloney who spent 30-plus years in the Royal St. Vincent Police Force, "Always wearing her uniform, I was so proud of her."

She adds, "My older cousin Ruth is a superintendent and first female head of the Central Investigation Division in St. Vincent."

Joseph thanks First Sergeant Mark Smith who trained her as a rookie and taught her to "always do what is right."

For her on-the-job excellence, Det. Joseph was named her precinct's 2015 Police Officer of the Year.

She is the recipient of the Woman of Distinction Award, Congressional Recognition from Congresswoman Yvette Clarke, and numerous other citations.

Detective Joseph is married with two children.



*...But let those who love Him be like the sun
When it comes out in full strength.*

Judges 5:31(NKJV)



Dr. Iva Carruthers and The Samuel DeWitt Proctor Conference congratulate

Rev. Dr. Dionne Boissiere
as a recipient of the Caribbean Life Impact Award.

Like the prophet Deborah, her love for and faithfulness to our awesome God comes forth in full strength for service to the world.

Lindiwe Kamau

Shares her love for the arts with the community

BIO FILE

BIRTHPLACE:

Trinidad.

OCCUPATION:

Verizon technician (retired); Owner and instructor, Expression in Ceramics; President of Nostrand Merchants Association.

MOTTO:

“To do always as much as I can, in order to leave my community more beautiful and beneficial than I inherited it.”
— In the Spirit of the Kwanzaa Principle, Kuumba.

Lindiwe Kamau emigrated from Trinidad in 1971 to join her mother, and shortly after, the family moved into a house on Nostrand Avenue, where she still lives.

Kamau went to Pace University while working at New York Telephone Company. After graduation she continued working at the company but became tired of answering phones, so she took and passed the technician test.

She was transferred to the field and became part of the first crop of female technicians — three among 25 males — in this environment.

The women, regularly subjected to insults and intimidation, had bonded and were determined to stay with a weekly pay almost \$100 more and unlimited overtime opportunities.

Meanwhile, she practiced ceramic arts in her Nostrand basement studio that had a kiln.

After retiring from Verizon 12 years ago, she started the Expression in Ceramics business, holding classes for all ages, preschoolers and up, as well as “paint and carry” parties to create useable and decorative ceramics.

“I was inspired by my mother’s love for the arts,” she said.

The studio is a hub for creatives — knitters, crocheters, painters, and jewelry makers — to network and participate in holiday bazaars, and has inspired other arts stores to open. The NYC Small Business Services designated her business as a Community Cornerstone Business.

President of the Nostrand Merchants Association for 10 years, Kamau works with the merchants, the community, city agencies, government and public services.

She is an incredible resource for small businesses, particularly helping new ones hone and develop their ideas, and is also involved with assisting Trinidadian cultural organizations.

“I love Brooklyn, my adopted home, because of its incredible cultural diversity that has allowed me to maintain my Trini roots in a foreign land.”



Michael Lambert

A supporter of community and small business

BIO FILE

BIRTHPLACE:

Jamaica.

OCCUPATION:

Executive director, Bedford-Stuyvesant Gateway Business Improvement District; Led ambulatory care programs for Montefiore Medical Center; Deputy director of the Mosholu Preservation Corporation.

MOTTO:

“No matter what you do in life, always do your best no matter what it is, because your reputation will follow you.” — Michael Lambert’s father, Lloyd Lambert

Michael Lambert came to the United States as a very young boy from Jamaica and now helps shape neighborhoods for the benefit of local residents and businesses.

He serves as executive director of the six-year-old Bedford-Stuyvesant Gateway Business Improvement District (BID), in one of Central Brooklyn’s busiest commercial thoroughfares — an eclectic mix of almost 400 businesses.

This culturally diverse area is situated amidst many landmark historic districts.

With years of managerial experience as a director of a health care program of the Children’s Hospital at Montefiore Medical Center, Lambert segued into economic development, an arena allowing him to shape entire neighborhoods for the benefit of those living, working, and visiting them.

Previously, he was executive director of the Jerome-Gun Hill BID and the deputy director of the Mosholu Preservation Corporation, which manages several community and economic development programs throughout the northwest Bronx.

Lambert is liaison to New York City agencies including the New York City Department

of Small Business Services and represents the BID with Bed-Stuy community organizations.

Under his purview, Lambert points to newly recreated local business networking; the annual holiday tree lighting event, now engaging hundreds of community residents and several community organizations; and a real estate committee to address needs of the area’s lower capacity property owners.

He respectfully recalls the significant influence of his late father from whom he learned the value of hard work and of supporting one’s local community and its small businesses.

Lambert also serves as the co-chair of the New York City BID Association (72 BID directors), co-chair of the Age Friendly Neighborhood Coalition in Bed-Stuy, and served as the co-chair of NYC Comptroller Scott Stringer’s Red Tape Commission to improve the city’s business community’s operating environment.



Rev. Terry Lee

Acts as mediator between community and police

BIO FILE

BIRTHPLACE:

Cowley, Jamaica.

OCCUPATION:

Head, By Ways and Hedges Youth for Christ Ministry; Founder and president, Immigrant Responding to Crisis, an arm of the Community Concerns Network; Founder, Utica and Church Avenue Merchants Association.

MOTTO:

"Communities are one village where everyone works together toward empowerment."

Born and raised in Cowley, Jamaica, Rev. Terry Lee immigrated to New York in 1989. He travels the New York area giving spiritual awareness and comfort through his many programs.

Rev. Terry heads the By Ways and Hedges Youth for Christ Ministry. He sees the microphone as his sword and the bible as his shield.

He is the founder and president of Immigrant Responding to Crisis, an arm of the Community Concerns Network, which did considerable Hurricane Sandy relief.

Reverend Lee's vision lead him to network with local political and civic including the NYPD's 67th, 70th and 71st precincts, where he is a mediator between the community and the police department.

The intent of his Unity Walks is to bridge the gap between the two groups.

He often speaks to new recruits during their orientation and he was once selected as a "Police Inspector for a Day" to the Transit Department.

Rev. Terry led a pilgrimage to the White

House for prayer. He has conducted health and wellness seminars, distributed food and clothing to those in need.

Domestic violence and gang awareness programs are among his visions.

A member of CUSH — Churches United to Save and Heal — he is the only person with a Christian float on the Parkway during the West Indian Day Parade.

The reverend is also an active member of many civic organizations including CACCI, Community Board 17, Brooklyn Ecumenical Advisory Group, and Brownsville Academy High School.

He founded Utica and Church Avenue Merchants Association.

He also conducts his own awards programs to acknowledge volunteers who give their time and energy to help their communities.



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On her deserving recognition as
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**2016 Caribbean American
 of Distinction**

Rev. R. Simone Lord Marcelle

Transforming lives and communities



BIO FILE

BIRTHPLACE:
Trinidad and Tobago.

OCCUPATION:
Inspirational speaker; Author; Pastor, Peoples First Baptist Church; President and founder, Southeast Queens Chamber of Commerce.

QUOTE
"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."
— Philippians 4:13

Rev. R. Simone Lord Marcelle is a pastor born in Trinidad and Tobago and is building a vibrant community in southeast Queens..

With a Bachelor of Arts from Brooklyn College, she holds honorary doctorates in Ministry & Humanities.

For the past six years, she ministered at Peoples First Baptist Church.

Rev. Simone Lord Marcelle is the founder and president of the Southeast Queens Chamber of Commerce, which builds more vibrant businesses and safer, stronger communities in those Queens' neighborhoods.

She describes its work, "We sponsor small and big events, business card exchanges, and refer businesses.

Neighborhood beautifying projects include landscaping on Sutphin Boulevard and South Road, and colorful street poles' banners to instill pride."

Previously Rev. Lord Marcelle had opened the non-profit Royal People Group Community Learning Center that held adult classes and tutoring for children.

With her husband Martin Marcelle, she founded The ICAN Network, a global television

ministry helping pastors, leaders and business people worldwide reach people internationally and affect changes in the condition of their lives.

The latest of her four authored books is "Get Out of Your Cage, Keys to Freedom."

She says, "I am proud to be able to work for and serve the Lord, helping transform lives and communities by addressing and improving quality-of-life issues for many."

"Meeting President Barack Obama made an impact in my career," she said. Being able to meet him and Michelle Obama through Around Town magazine, which she started, gave her courage to keep going forward.

"You never know how far you will get when you use your faith to live out your dreams," she says.

She is currently completing her doctorate degree in naturopathic medicine.

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JOLANDER HEADLEY

on receiving The

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Recipient of the
Caribbean Life Impact Award

*Sharon we are so proud of you.
We were always aware of your
humanitarian abilities, now the rest
of the world knows it too.
This award is so fitting and so
well deserved. Continue being you.
We love you very much*

*Your Mom, Daughter, Brothers,
Sister, Nieces and Nephew*

Judith Lovell

Her passion is guiding students to success

BIO FILE

BIRTHPLACE:

United States, of parents from Trinidad (father) and Jamaica (mother).

OCCUPATION:

MetroCard Operations, Customer Relations, and Corporate Communications for the MTA New York City Transit (retired); Business courses instructor.

QUOTE:

“Everything influences each of us, and because of that I try to make sure that my experiences are positive.”
—Maya Angelou

Brooklyn-born Judith Lovell’s father hailed from Trinidad and her mom’s parents came from Jamaica. A career in the MTA led to teaching business, and she is also a published poet.

This Brooklynite embodies a deep commitment to community and civic engagement, devoting a lifetime since she was 17 to civic and volunteer activities.

Recently, she has embraced the written word and teaching.

Holding degrees in Urban Planning and Public Administration and certificates in Management and Labor Relations, her MTA New York City Transit career spanned more than 20 years.

Additionally, she worked with business ventures in advertising, real estate sales, public relations and marketing research.

These accumulated experiences have led her to teach various business courses at St. Joseph’s College and at ASA College in the Department of Business.

“Sharing my love of learning and my passion for guiding students to success is the highlight of my day,” she says of this calling.

As a published poet, Judith Lovell writes

enlightening skits and plays. Her four-part “Papa’s Letters” series focuses on her grandparents’ love letters from Jamaica to Brooklyn starting in 1913. This work has expanded into her first book, “Papa’s Letters: Love via First Class Male.”

This mother of two and grandmother of two lovingly acknowledges her father Milton M. Lovell’s impact on her.

“He was a meticulous man of integrity who truly enjoyed his career path and courageously stood up for justice and fairness in the workplace,” she says.

Judith Lovell is the recipient of numerous awards including the Shakespeare Trophy of Excellence from the Famous Poets Society, the Exemplary 20 Years of Service Award from NYC Transit.

She is included in the 2013 edition of the Covington Who’s Who Registry of Executives and Professionals.



E. Wayne McDonald

Director of Caribbean cultural events

BIO FILE

BIRTHPLACE:

Jamaica.

OCCUPATION:

Actor; Theatre director; Founder and director, Caribbean Cultural Theatre; Founder and curator, Poets and Passions Literary Series.

OBSERVATION:

The Caribbean in the truest sense does not exist; it’s a shifting sand, the people come from literally the entire world.

E. Wayne McDonald emigrated from Jamaica to New York on the eve of his 21st birthday and now stages major Caribbean authors at his Brooklyn-based arts program.

With humor and passion, he toils away on the work of Caribbean Cultural Theatre (CCT), the Brooklyn-based multi-arts program organization he founded and directs.

Without a steady revenue stream, he manages to stage major Caribbean authors. He is the founder and curator of the “Poets and Passions” literary series, which has presented more than 100 emerging and celebrated Caribbean writers over its 10-year history.

CCT also hosts a Caribbean film series and stages plays.

In his work, E. Wayne struggles to showcase a balance of voices from all the Caribbean populations.

E. Wayne is also the artist in residence at the Caribbean Research Center, Medgar Evers College (CUNY).

Having studied at the Jamaica School of Drama, the Lincoln Center Directors Lab, E. Wayne holds a Master of Arts degree from the New York Institute of Technology.

During three decades as a theatre profes-

sional, he has mounted works that probe Caribbean realities, not just celebrating, but also challenging them.

He has directed productions in Jamaican patois, English, and French.

Credits include Godfrey Sealy’s treatise on HIV / AIDS “One of Our Sons is Missing” and Glenville Lovell’s immigration comedy “Lovers.”

For directing Athol Fugard’s Apartheid-era drama “My Children! My Africa!,” he earned an Outstanding Director nomination from the AUDELCO Awards for Excellence in Black Theater.

In 2014, E. Wayne directed “Pantomime” by Nobel Laureate Derek Walcott in Brooklyn, with the playwright in attendance.

Frequently, E. Wayne is master of ceremonies at public Caribbean events. He is known for his off-beat sense of humor.



Damian R. McIntosh

Making a positive difference in the community

BIO FILE

BIRTHPLACE:

Guyana.

OCCUPATION:

Regional leader, Primerica, Inc.; Senior operations administrator, FedEx Ground; Volunteer minister and assistant director, God's Battalion of Prayer Church.

MOTTO:

"Preparation plus opportunity equals success."

Guyana-born Damian R. McIntosh migrated to the United States with his parents in 1994. A consummate entrepreneur and community activist, he is an ardent people person with a trained eye that identifies undeveloped talent. "I am passionate about making a positive difference in the community," he said.

McIntosh is a regional leader with the financial services company Primerica, Inc. with whom he has been providing financial solutions for families and businesses in New York, Maryland, and Pennsylvania for the past 10 years.

McIntosh organizes motivational seminars, financial literacy workshops, and private financial coaching sessions to help the earning potential of those who run schools and churches, business owners and the public at large.

To further broaden the plethora of community services, he produces and hosts the Damian McIntosh Show, which airs Saturdays at 10:30 pm on BCAT.

The show highlights individuals who significantly impact the community — its intent is to inspire. McIntosh has interviewed state Sen. Kevin Parker; founder of the Caribbean

American Cultural Group Yvonne Peters; Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams, and local beauty pageant winners, among others. He is also an anchor with Caribbean Heritage TV, which covers major events in the community.

Weekly, he serves as an ordained minister and an assistant director of stewardship at God's Battalion of Prayer Church in Brooklyn under the leadership of Bishop, Dr. Alfred S. Cockfield.

"James Kocher, my business mentor, is the most influential person in my current career," McIntosh said, adding, "His life exemplifies the principles he teaches. James demonstrates a deep devotion to his family. He is solid in his faith and his business practices are sound and ethical."



Marlon Peterson

A national social and criminal justice advocate

BIO FILE

BIRTHPLACE:

United States, of parents from Trinidad and Tobago.

OCCUPATION:

Criminal justice advocate; Writer, Organizational trainer, Founder and chief, Precedential Group; Social justice consulting firm; TED resident; Soros Justice Fellow.

QUOTE:

"The function of freedom is to free someone else." — Toni Morrison

Marlon Peterson is an example of someone who made mistakes, turned his life around, and is now completely devoted to helping others in similar situations prevent and break a crime-prison cycle.

Peterson spent 10 years, his entire 20s, in New York State prisons for his involvement in a crime as a teenager.

During that time he did his associate degree online, with honors, in criminal justice.

Born in Brooklyn from a Trinidadian family, Marlon Peterson is now a national social and criminal justice advocate, writer, organizational trainer, community organizer, and educator. He earned a B.S. from NYU in organizational behavior.

During the last five years of his incarceration he created programming and curricula for men nearing release from incarceration, heading up The Transitional Services Center, which he created.

Since his release in 2009, he has held several non-profit positions working with The Fortune Society, Crown Heights Community Mediation Center, Youth Organizing to Save

Our Streets, How Our Lives Link Altogether (H.O.L.L.A.).

Peterson is the founder and chief re-imaginer of the social justice consulting firm The Precedential Group.

He is 2015 Soros Justice Fellow, Aspen Ideas Festival Scholar, a 2015 Ebony Magazine Power 100 honoree, and TED resident.

"I am a product of tough experiences," he reveals. "I care about sharing truths and empowering folks from the communities I come from. I promised folks in prison I would be truthful and impactful, so I try my best to fulfill that promise."

Outside of Malcom X, he attributes Dr. Nadia Lopez as having the most influence on his career, "While I was in prison, she exposed me to possibilities I never saw for myself."



Pastor Anthony Quintyne

Always on call to help those in need



BIO FILE

BIRTHPLACE:

Barbados.

OCCUPATION:

Grassroots minister and "In-the-Field" counselor; Substance abuse counselor; Founder and pastor, Enduring Faith Ministries.

MOTTO:

"Forever forward, never backward."

Pastor Anthony Quintyne was born in Barbados. He uses 'out-of-the-box' methods of being there to counsel his growing flock.

Ordained by Assemblies of God in 2009, Pastor Quintyne started the non-denominational Enduring Faith Ministries — a small group meeting in a living room.

Crystal Manor now holds his intimate, growing assemblage of 50 and his wife Susan's award-winning voice leads psalms during the weekly Sunday morning service.

Pastor Anthony Quintyne counsels members, performs pastoral ceremonies and rites and oversees a grassroots ministry.

"I work completely 'out of the box' using untraditional methods of being a counselor," he said. He might counsel people in a convenient diner or even on FaceTime.

In his pre-marital counseling, he stresses issues of finances, looking beneath the surface at the future spouse, and what faith the couple might want to follow.

He might meet one-to-one with a teen struggling with alcohol or drug abuse.

Pastor Quintyne's relationship with his

grandmother impacted him greatly.

"After making many wrong choices in her life, she had a conversion experience," he said.

"She had passion for the word of God and desire to teach, preach and encourage the younger generation not to make the same mistakes she made as a girl. Without a formal education, she completed her studies in theology and planted a church in Brooklyn, never looking back."

A volunteer pastor at Jewish Institute for Healthcare & Rehabilitation, recently he provided counsel and comfort visiting a Jewish home with a spouse with dementia.

Pastor Quintyne actively seeks to meet the physical and emotional needs of individuals and families.

He is a member of the New York State Chaplain Task Force, an on-call member of the clergy for emergency situations.

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Cindy Similien-Johnson

Transforms community and self



BIO FILE

BIRTHPLACE:

United States, of parents from Haiti.

OCCUPATION:

Author; Newspaper columnist, publisher, founder — Goal Chic, Women's Empowerment Organization.

MOTTO:

"Never, ever give up."

Haitian-American Cindy Similien-Johnson lives by the words: 'When you transform your community, you also transform yourself.'

Similien-Johnson founded Goal Chic, a mentoring organization whose mission is to inspire, encourage, and empower women and girls.

Through workshops and afterschool programs, she helps them be productive in their careers, finances, health and wellness, and relationships.

The first Goal Chic empowerment conference was held in May in Brooklyn. Recently, this social entrepreneur won the \$3,000 prize, second place for Goal Chic from the PowerUp! Kreyol start-up competition.

Similien-Johnson graduated Barnard College of Columbia University.

The author of several books including "How to Stay Motivated: Inspiration and Advice for Everyday Living," and "Goal Chic: Changing the World, One Goal at a Time," Similien-Johnson founded CSJ Media Publishing to share messages of inspiration.

Her e-cookbook series and cooking class, Cook Like a Haitian, provides an introduction

to Haiti's cuisine and culture, and keeps her connected to her roots.

As a board member of the United Nations Association-Brooklyn Chapter, she brings awareness to global issues of climate change, gender inequality, and child hunger.

Featured in many publications, she is the recipient of numerous awards including Star Network's 2016 40 Stars Under Forty and this year she was invited as a changemaker at the inaugural United State of Women Summit convened by the White House.

With core values of faith, women empowerment, and cultural identity, she acknowledges the influence of family, friends and mentors.

She says, "I stand on the shoulders of those who sacrificed and struggled to give me access to opportunities so that I can have a better quality of life."



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Jolander Headley
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We salute you!



Andrew Walcott

Restaurateur fulfills community needs

BIO FILE

BIRTHPLACE:

United States, of parents from Jamaica.

OCCUPATION:

Attorney, CPA, Founder and restaurant entrepreneur, Fusion East, Brooklyn

MOTTO:

“Attention to detail.”

Andrew Walcott, son of hard-working immigrants from Barbados, grew up in rough-and-tumble Brooklyn. He always strived to take advantage to opportunities America offered and now brings a taste of the Caribbean to Brooklyn.

He served in the Air Force and now continues to serve through his upscale Caribbean and soul food restaurant — Fusion, which seats 72 and even has a small stage.

Located in the Gateway Estates of East New York, next to Gateway Center Mall, Walcott recognized the hassle for the local population of traveling to eat familiar food in an upscale environment.

The eatery has been called the first “modern chic” restaurant in the neighborhood.

A corporate attorney and certified public accountant, Walcott identified a need in the community where he lived most of his life.

His restaurant is the intersection of opportunity and desire to have his own business.

The menu is inspired by the surrounding community demographics — Caribbean- and

African-American.

“It doesn’t matter if you are from Aruba or Alabama, you will find something on the menu that your mother used to make,” Walcott opines.

The restaurant blends some standard Caribbean and soul food meals such as oxtail, rice and peas and collard greens, as well as serving chicken and coconut waffles.

He adds, “We are always searching for ways to blend the two cultures into one.”

“Neither of my parents went to college,” Walcott reveals. “Both my brother and I attained advanced degrees and have had success in our respective careers.”

“I am most proud of the fact that my family immigrated to America without a penny to their name and we were still able to achieve some measure of the American dream.”



Rawlston Williams

Vincentian chef pleases all at his ‘Food Sermon’

BIO FILE

BIRTHPLACE:

St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

OCCUPATION:

Chef and owner, The Food Sermon, Crown Heights.

MOTTO:

“The way you live, the way you carry yourself, the way everyone sees you, it’s your sermon. My message is food.”

“God gives us little crumbs. When you want to give up, he gives us different crumbs to motivate you.”

Born in St. Vincent and the Grenadines, raised in Brooklyn, and trained at the French Culinary Institute, Chef Rawlston Williams offers an elevated, forward-thinking take on Caribbean classics in Crown Heights, a unique approach influenced by the chef’s worldly background and free-spirited life experiences.

After immigrating to New York at 10 years old and living in East Flatbush, Chef Williams studied theology at Oakwood University in Alabama, a private Seventh-day Adventist Church university.

Faith still plays a large role in his life, but he found another calling in the kitchen. After graduating from New York’s French Culinary Institute — now the International Culinary Center — Williams opened the first Food Sermon location in 2015.

Originally intended to be a small outpost for a catering business, the pint-sized restaurant quickly attracted followers and drew attention of food critics.

The New York Times praised Williams’s “gift for meat” and “extraordinary brightness of flavors.”

Williams’s innovative approach features creative takes on traditional Caribbean standards. His signature Island Bowls present mouth-watering savory stewed meats swimming in coconut-ginger or spicy tomato sauces.

Inspired by an array of cultures, cuisines and techniques, Williams’s goal is to nourish and please. The name “Food Sermon” speaks to this mission.

Williams recalls, “My Aunt Gloria Farrel is the most impactful individual in my career. Often sick and bedridden, she taught me how to cook in preparation for the Sabbath, many times from her sick bed. At 5 and 6 years of age, I was her arms and legs when she was unable to be in the kitchen.”

Located in Crown Heights, the “Food Sermon” gets a very high rating from Yelp.



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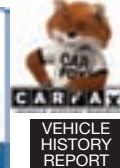
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Glover, Pan African advocate Dr. Julius Garvey, originator of the Kwanzaa celebration, Dr. Maulana Karenga, former Essence Magazine editor Susan Taylor, Pan-African advocate and lecturer Prof. Leonard Jeffries, Founder of the Christian Times, Rev. Dennis Dillon, poet, publisher and poet Haki Madhubuti, poet Sonia Sanchez, author, economist and social commentator Dr. Julianne Malveaux and Grenadian intellectual and journalist Don Rojas along with many more distinguished names.

"It is time for a convergence of some of the most visionary and powerful movements, scholar-activists, organizers, institution-builders, opinion-makers, a new generation of freedom fighters, conscious and concerned Black people, African people from the U.S. and the Pan African world to network, share information, love and learn from each other to forge a more unified and formidable movement to fight for a new future for our people."

Daniels said during panel discussions they will examine and discuss topics — "Analyses of the Crises that Afflict Black Families," "Communities and Nations and Examine Strategies," "Initiatives and Models for Healing and Black Empowerment" and throughout the process "Strengthen Bonds of Cultural, Social," and the "Economic and Political Unity Between Africa and the Diaspora."

Opening day discussions include a symposium on "the Future of Democracy and Development in Africa, the Caribbean, Central and South America."

Perhaps most anticipated is the analysis and dialogue about the "Implications of the 2016 Presidential Election for Black America and the Pan African World."

Other topics slated for discussion include: "Religion, Spirituality and Liberation," "Culture and Education for Black Survival and Development Economic Development for Black Empowerment," "Sustaining and Enhancing the Black Family," "Beyond the War on Drugs: Healing Black Families and Repairing Black Communities," "Pan African Institute and Reparations," "the Black Lives Matter Movement," and a hip-hop work session.

In addition, the organizers will launch an initiative to mobilize 2,000 African Americans, Haitian Americans and friends of Haiti for a Pilgrimage of Hope to the embattled French creole landmark next year.

Organized prior to the recent devastation by Hurricane William, IBW previously on several occasions delivered 'care' relief to the island.

In an effort to continue the mission of aiding Haiti, the IBW will launch a humanitarian and development cruise to provide human and material support for the world's first Black Republic via the Haiti Support Project's Model City Initiative.

Enthusiastic about the prospect of serious discussions with progressive

registrants to the upcoming conference Daniels added: "The State of Emergency still persists in Black America and indeed in the Pan African world, but there have also been dramatic changes over the past four years which will serve as the context for what will be one of the great gatherings of Black people in the 21st century."

"In the name of our ancestors, let the organizing and mobilizing begin!"

Fists Up For 47th Annual Black Solidarity Day

The Black fist has always held significance among youths in America.

During the early 1960s, the Black Panthers were mostly identified as a radical, revolutionary group when they gestured using one right hand and advocated a "Power ToThe People" mantra that all but scared conservative white Americans.

Most memorable also is the high-fisted stance taken by track and field Olympians John Carlos and Tommie Smith in Mexico City, Mexico when they took to the winners' podium and raised the salute.

How it irked one segment of the society yet inspired pride and admiration in another.

That was 1968.

A year later, Panamanian, Brooklyn College Prof. Carlos Russell instituted a Black Solidarity Day.

The day demanded an absence from work, school and shopping.

Observed on the first Monday in November, students and progressives

embraced the one day dedicated to Black expression of unity and purpose.

According to the Wells College' web portal BSD "As a concept, it derives from the play, 'Day of Absence' by Douglas Turner Ward. The day is based on the extreme social, political, and economic consequences that would ensue if all Black people were to disappear for one day."

Forty-seven years later, Monday, Nov. 7, BSD prevails and was evident on many college campuses. From Yale University to CUNY campuses, the eve of the presidential elections marked the significant day of observance.

At Medgar Evers College in Brooklyn, an all-day program of reflection and commemoration billed "The Power of Protest" featured spoken word, music, real talk and cultural presentation "dedicated to those who were harmed by violence or police brutality."

An open mic session and workshop enabled dialogue.

"Black Solidarity brings justice to everyone. Injustice anywhere, is injustice everywhere," formed the basis for conversation spearheaded by the Black Lives Matter Movement.

The tradition of wearing black still persists and on some campuses students chose to wear tape over their mouths as if in silent protest.

Political pundits reported that millennials played a pivotal role in the recent election the day after. Apparently like reggae singer Bob Marley, more than a few had "so much things to say."

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These are uniquely dangerous and stressful jobs. We are physically assaulted hundreds of times each year. Spitting incidents are at all time highs. Thousands of our brother and sister transit workers, meanwhile, are injured annually by on-the-job industrial accidents. Twelve were killed on duty since 2001.

Our contract with the MTA is expiring. We will kick off our campaign for fair raises, solid benefits and no givebacks with a rally on Nov. 15th in Lower Manhattan. **We are NYC's transit workers and We Move NY.**



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THOUSANDS of knee arthritis sufferers flock for this advanced medical

Knee Arthritis Pain:

Why patients come Brooklyn, Queens Long Island, the Bronx, arthritis pain . . . and why waiting can

By Matt Edgar -
America's Health
Writer

NY Pain MD, a center for Non-Surgical Medical Relief For Spine And Joint Pain Relief, is a medical clinic with multiple locations in New York City that has treated thousands of knee arthritis patients. Here is what every knee arthritis sufferer should know about the best treatments and options available today. And why waiting can drastically decrease your chances to live a pain free life again.

The information you are about to read can possibly save you from years and years of agonizing knee pain. It might even keep you from getting total knee replacement surgery. *Please pay careful attention.*

What you are about to read is a cutting-edge medical treatment... But it is NOT what it appears to be at first glance. In fact, I'm going to have to ask for a bit of patience from you if you have already **unsuccessfully** tried any (or many) other knee arthritis pain treatments

You see, many knee arthritis sufferers had already tried what seemed to be similar

treatments to what we are going to talk about and did not get the results they wanted. But I assure you there is something VERY DIFFERENT about the technology and the way we do this treatment. That can possibly make it much more effective for many ... and it often gets results when many others have failed.

This is why patients come from all over the tri-state area and beyond to have their knee arthritis pain treated here.

Would You Like Instant Proof?

If you want instant proof - you can just look at all the actual patient testimonials we have included. These patients were once skeptical just like you ... and are now either pain free ... or eliminated quite a bit of their pain.

Here's the most important thing:

Many said they saw this information SEVERAL times before finally deciding to take action and give us a call. As you can see - they are happy they did. Once crippled with knee pain, they are playing golf again, dancing again, riding bikes again and going for long walks again.

But We Do Get One Very Common

Complaint One Very Common Complaint And it is:

"I wish I started this treatment much sooner." Let's be very clear about this. Time is the most precious thing. There is no way to slow it down - or get any back once it's gone.

All the more reason for you to not suffer even one more second than you have to. Missing life suffering in pain is a tragedy. Isn't it time for you to get rid of your knee pain and start living the life you want and deserve?

And please understand this: One of the keys to success in medicine is early diagnosis and treatment. Like many diseases, arthritis only gets worse over time. The longer you wait - the more damage to your knee and eventually- the more pain. If you wait "past the point of no return", the entire knee joint can be degenerated and your ONLY option will be total knee replacement.

If you are suffering with knee arthritis pain, here is why you should act NOW:

When you have arthritis, you suffer a decrease in the lubricating fluids in your knee. In other words, your knee joints basically "dries up." The lubricating

fluid that decreases is called "synovial fluid". Pharmaceutical companies can now make synovial fluid-like compounds that... during treatment... doctors precisely and directly apply these gel-like medicines into the knee joint. This helps replace the lubricating fluid to the knee joint - allowing it to move more freely and smoothly and often decreasing or even eliminating pain.

What Results Can Be Expected?

Like all medical treatments, the results vary and can not be predicted. In fact, it is impossible to predict results and there are no statistics proving what the "average" patients can expect. Everyone is individual and gets individual results - so we never tell anyone to expect the same results as any of our other patients. But to be 100% clear - many knee arthritis sufferers get dramatic results. It is not uncommon for patients to either postpone knee replacement surgery for years ... or even permanently cancel it.

What Are Treatments Like?

Treatments are simple, fast and virtually painless. The total time of the procedure itself is only 10 minutes and most say it is like

getting a flu shot. You walk out of the clinic just minutes after your procedure.

But There Is A BIG Problem The key is the treatment must be EXTREMELY PRECISE. Often ignored by many other clinics, if the procedure is just slightly off, the medication will not get into the knee joint and the treatment will not work.

That's why the experts at **NY Pain MD** use what they call "Precision Arthritis Targeting Technology" or **P.A.T.T.** so they can see the medicine going directly into the knee joint - in live motion-during the treatment.

Research shows that doctors performing procedures without Precision Arthritis

Targeting can miss the joint as much as 30% of the time. If you had viscosupplementation (or Stem Cells or PRP) without the exactness of P.A.T.T. and did not get good results - this may be why.

In fact, by using Precision Arthritis Targeting Technology, **NY Pain MD** doctors are able to double confirm the precise placement of the arthritis medicines used. This is to help ensure patients get the best possible results.

Another Important Factor

Viscosupplementation medications also come in several different brands and chemical make-ups. Just like all medications, some people respond better to some than others. While many doctors only use one type or brands, the experts at **NY Pain MD** use several and great effort is taken to figure out which is best for YOU.

What To Do Next If You Are In Pain Your Special Invitation

NY Pain MD offers a limited number of complimentary knee arthritis treatment screenings every month. These screenings are a way for knee arthritis sufferers to get their questions answered and find out if they are a candidate for one of the cutting-edge treatments offered at **NY Pain MD**. For a complimentary screening, call 855-94-RELIEF. The screenings fill up fast every month. This screening is no cost and there is no further obligation. Call 855-94-RELIEF to schedule your screening. Many of the procedures offered at NY Pain MD are often covered by many insurance plans, union plans injuries and even Medicare. Call 855-947-3543 to schedule your screening.

treatment & How they relived pain while so many continue to suffer

The Untold Story

and, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Connecticut and beyond for this
your chance to live a pain-free life again

"I cannot ask for better results"



Dr. Stanley Weiner, M.D. - Surgeon
I had (replacement) surgery scheduled last year. But three months before I made an appointment with **NY Pain MD** I was amazed at the ease with which I was evaluated and the treatment schedule implemented. The results I had at **NY Pain MD** were outstanding. I cannot ask for better results. After the treatment I was able to go back to work with no discomfort at all. They use a digital monitor to locate the space that they use the treatment for and it's like exact science and I never had to have replacement.

Dr. Stanley Weiner MD

"Hey this feel terrific"



I was diagnosed with bone on bone about 2 years ago I went to see an Orthopedic Surgeon and he said my knees were shot and I need to get them replaced. The NY Pain guys said after looking at x-rays they could help. That procedure is so basic so simple so quick in 15 minutes you are in and out. When I got up out of the chair I stood up and I said, "*Hey this feels terrific.*"

"I don't have any pain any more"



After I had the treatments ... the last tune up ... I just go right to the golf course. I'm able to keep up with these guys who walk - I'm right next to them! My guys on the golf course would say Hey, look at this he doesn't need us to put the ball up any more. **When I'm playing on the course I don't have any pain any more I don't have any aches and pain.** I'm out there playing!

"I feel like a new woman"



I came to the clinic because I was not sleeping at night. My leg was pounding. There were times when I sat too long the knee would tighten up. I would get in pain and I would be miserable and I would have it for the whole night. **After the treatment I goof around with my grandchildren. I feel like a new woman.** It's great. I know I don't have to sit on the couch and be in pain and I can just pick up and get dressed and go out. It was so gentle.

"I'm able to do it again"



It got to the point where I couldn't stand up for a period of time and I knew something had to be done about it. You walk into the doctors office - he puts your leg in a machine - he shows you where he is going to do the procedure and before you know it... It's done and you're outta there. Now I'm able to take out my bicycle a couple of the guys and myself we took a couple of rides out in the woods and we had a good time and *I couldn't do that for years and now I'm able to do it again.*

"I feel like a new woman - It's amazing"



The pain was excruciating like 24/7. Nothing I took over-the-counter would work so I knew it was something more serious. When I saw that my condition was not getting any better, I decided to do something about it and I immediately made an appointment - I went and started treatment. **The feeling of getting back to my dancing and my mobility is indescribable. I feel like a new woman - It's amazing.**

"I am ecstatic with the results of this procedure"



One day, as I was running, my knee got tighter and tighter. I had to stop and just walk home. They x-rayed me and said I was a candidate for treatment. You sit there for few minutes and then you are up and walking out the door. I am ecstatic with the results of this procedure because I could not run just weeks before. I ran my race without any issues. I felt good - it just opened a door that was closing.

"I Can Finally Live My Life"



Prior the relief center I was taking painkillers and I was becoming addicted to it and it was damaging my health. Since the treatment, I've been able to be less dependent on them. I don't feel helpless anymore. **Since going through the procedure I can finally live. I can finally live my life.**

Many insurances cover these treatments for qualified candidates:

Most Out-of-Network Insurance Plans
United Health Care In-Network & Out-of-Network
*(*except UHC Community Plan)*
Traditional Medicare • AARP Medicare Most Union Plans •
Transit Worker Plans Work Related Injuries/Work Comp
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Out of network:
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(Med Dir: G Craig)

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But more than this, now is a wondrous time to discover or re-discover this exceptional catering hall. After a stunning re-modeling of their the grand ballroom, management recently spared no expense when they completely re-did the facility's grand lobby as well as the luxuriously appointed bridal suite, now done up with marble and granite accents for a look of timeless elegance.

They match the walls of marble and granite in the ballroom — which itself sports one of the largest chandeliers in all of Brooklyn — giving you just a brief inkling into what they have in store for you and your guests. Come and see the grandeur for yourself.

But this is only one reason to choose Paradise. Here, they accept only a single function at any one time. There's no splitting of the resources between two or three or even more affairs. When you book Paradise, you get the skills and expertise of every person there, on scene and behind the scenes to assure that your event runs flawlessly.

This sort of ultimate personalized attention starts the very minute you discover Paradise. At this facility, you don't deal with some salesman. You deal directly with one of the owners, Hercules, or his son, Mike. And why is this so essential?

Quite simply, they have a vested interest in making you happy, not just in making a sale. They know their business depends on word-of-mouth recommendations and on the special days yet to come in your life and the lives of your family. Thus, they will do everything in their power to be certain that the affair you have imagined is transformed into reality under the skilled hands of themselves and their staff. That's the secret of their longevity and of their success.

The lavish party room, which can be made intimate enough for parties of 100, or grand enough to host a spectacular of up to 400, is marked by a central chandelier that will take your breath away. It is the focal point for a magnificent space done up in sophisticated pinks and reds, with mirrored accents that lend a touch of infinity to the already expansive area.

The re-done, picture perfect bridal room is large, romantic and very feminine, accommodating up to 15 in easy comfort, with wall-to-wall mirrors.

Ideal photographic locales are assured in this world of environments, which also includes an intimate private garden area, a uniquely designed water fountain, as well as a host of fine, white wrought-iron work.

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Whether it be the wedding, engagement party or any other affair, plan it at Paradise and the bottom line will put a very big smile on your face.

Our service is top flight, with the uniformed staff a longtime part of the Paradise family. These are full-time professionals who know their business; not weekend teens learning the trade.

And when it comes to the food, the chefs are world class. Whatever you can find in the cookbooks, they can serve at the table. They offer an added expertise in all manner of ethnic cooking. Add to that everything is cooked from scratch right on the premises to assure the highest in quality control.

Don't you want to celebrate those once-in-a-lifetime days in Paradise?

The catering office is open Tuesday through Sunday, 1 – 9 p.m. Note that the facilities are also available during the weekdays for all types of social meetings and functions.

For the further convenience of your guests, Paradise also can provide free valet parking.

ENTERTAINMENT

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Ruth Negga in "Loving."

Ruth Negga: The 'Loving' Interview

Ruth Negga was named a Shooting Star at the 2006 Berlin International Film Festival. On the big screen, she's been featured in "World War Z"; "The Samaritan", alongside Samuel L. Jackson; "Breakfast on Pluto", for which she received an IFTA Award nomination; "Of Mind and Music"; "Noble"; "Jimi"; "All Is by My Side", "Warcraft"; and in the title role of "Iona".

Here, Ruth talks about her latest outing as Mildred Loving in "Loving", the biopic/courtroom drama about the couple who took their challenge of the State of Virginia's law against interracial marriage all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Kam Williams: What interested you in "Loving"?

Ruth Negga: I basically fell in love with Mildred and Richard ["Loving", the main characters]. I thought they were an extraordinary couple whose love just seemed so apparent. To be honest with you, Jeff's [writer/director Jeff Nichols] script was such a beautiful reflection of these human beings that I really wanted to spend time with them.

KW: What convinced Jeff Nichols to trust such an American story in the hands of leads from Australia and from Ireland by way of Ethiopia? Had you ever heard of

Continued on Page 37



Original artwork: The Mackey twins are showing artist Xenobia Bailey's crochet work. A tiled version of the work can be found on the ceilings of the 34th Street-Hudson Yards station in Manhattan. Community News

TWICE AS NICE

Twin sisters highlight artists of color

By Alexandra Simon

Twin sisters are currently staging the largest-ever exhibition of art by people of color in the Tri-state region at the Interchurch Center Gallery in Manhattan through Nov. 30.

Identical twins and gallerists Karen and Sharon Mackey are featuring 65 different works by 14 artists in their new show "Art's Conscience II," and the pair say they hope the pieces and the messages behind them will

inspire visitors to become art collectors and create spaces for the artists to show their works.

"Our goal is for people to understand that we are responsible for keeping art alive — especially the art by artists of color because they don't have the platforms," said Karen Mackey, co-founder of Mackey Twins Art Gallery. "When an artist creates, there's a lot that goes into that process — from what's going culturally,

historically, or what's going on with them. We want people to understand that part — the consciousness of art to make that process real for people."

The 14 artists, who include veteran Florida artist James Denmark and Xenobia Bailey — a crochet artist whose work is featured on ceiling tiles at the 34th Street Hudson Yards subway station — will also be part of

Continued on Page 37

TOP OF THE CHARTS



TOP 10 SINGLES

- 1 **Closer**
The Chainsmokers Feat. Halsey
- 2 **Heathens**
Twenty one pilots
- 3 **Starboy**
TheWeekend Featuring Daft...
- 4 **Let Me Love You**
DJ Snake Featuring Justin Bieber
- 5 **24k Magic**
Bruno Mars
- 6 **Cheap Thrills**
Sia Feat. Sean Paul
- 7 **Treat You Better**
Shawn Mendes
- 8 **Cold Water**
Major Lazor
- 9 **Side to Side**
Ariana Grande
- 10 **Send My Love**
Adele

TOP 10 ALBUMS



- 1 **Trap or Die 3**
Jeezy
- 2 **DC4**
Meek Mill
- 3 **Cosmic Hallelujah**
Kenny Chesney
- 4 **The Stage**
Averged Sevenfold
- 5 **Joanne**
Lady Gaga
- 6 **Lady Wood**
Tove Lo
- 7 **Down Home Sessions III**
The Pretty Reckless
- 8 **A Pentatonix Christmas**
Pentatonix
- 9 **Cozy Tapes, Vol. 1: Friends**
ASAP Mob
- 10 **Ripcord**
Keith Urban



Have a blast at 'Sausage Party'

Rogen and cronies voices groceries in raunchy animated comedy

By Kam Williams

Frank (Seth Rogen) finds himself frustrated sitting on a shelf at Shopwells supermarket where he's cooped up in a shrink-wrapped package with seven other sausages. They pass their time speculating about what awaits them in "The Great Beyond," meaning the vast unknown just past the cash register on the other side of the door.

They're all very eager to be bought because of an unfounded belief in a rumor that the store's customers transport their groceries to a heaven-like utopia to enjoy lives of never-ending bliss. And Frank has another reason he wants to leave, namely, a crush on Brenda (Kristen Wiig), the curviest of the girly Glamour Buns.

Then, when they're all about to be purchased during the blowout Fourth of July sale, Frank learns from a returned jar of Honey Mustard (Danny McBride) that they've been operating under a mistaken assumption all along. Truth be told, food simply gets taken home and devoured eaten by the humans.

So, Frank sounds the alarm, warning, "The Gods are evil and they kill us!" Unfortunately, the news falls mostly on deaf ears, since the majority of his friends are simply way too brainwashed to catch on and resist.

However, he and a few



The "cast" of the hit comedy "Sausage Party," which is now on Blu-Ray.

intrepid souls do question their blind faith and make a break for it, including Brenda, Sammy Bagel, Jr. (Edward Norton), Teresa the Taco (Salma Hayek), Lavash the Pita bread (David Krumholtz), Grits (Craig Robinson), Twinkies (Scott Under-

wood) and fellow sausages Barry (Michael Cera), Carl (Jonah Hill) and Troy (Anders Holm). What ensues is a rollicking, raunchy exploration of religion, sex and political issues from the perspective of these anthropomorphized, foul-mouthed grocery items.

For example, Middle East concerns are reflected in the bitter badinage over aisle space between the bagel and the pita bread, a thinly-veiled reference to Jewish and Palestinian tensions. Race in America is touched upon when Grits complains about "Crackers" in a tirade during which he bellows "They call me Mr. Grits!"

Still, most of this expletive-laced adventure is dedicated

to the sort of sexual innuendo designed to titillate testosterone-sodden males. Frank's explicit flirtations with Brenda are actually matched by lesbian Teresa's equally-tawdry appeals ("I have crotch feeling for you!").

Co-directed by Greg Tiernan and Conrad Vernon, Sausage Party is a hard to pigeonhole, adult-oriented cartoon. It's certainly a coarse and crude teensploitation flick which relentlessly earns its R-rating. Most reminiscent of a couple of other equally-outrageous animated adventures, namely Team America (2004) and South Park (1997), this is a take no prisoners comedy which will undoubtedly resonate with fans of such politically-incorrect shock-fare.

"Sausage Party"

Very Good (3 stars)

Rated R for ethnic and off-color humor, graphic sexuality, drug abuse and pervasive profanity

Running time: 89 minutes

Distributor: Sony Pictures Home Entertainment

Independent and foreign films round-up

The Anthropologist (Unrated) Climate change documentary assessing the prospects of the planet from the perspective of the 15-year-old daughter of an anthropology professor studying the impact of global warming on indigenous peoples.

Elle (R for violence, profanity, rape, brief graphic nudity, disturbing sexuality and grisly images) Cat-and-mouse revenge thriller revolving around a business executive's (Isabelle Huppert) attempt to track down the stranger who raped her right in her own home. With Laurent Lafitte, Anne Consigny and Charles Berling. (In French with subtitles)



Kam's Kapsules

By Kam Williams

The Fiance (Unrated) Monster flick about a beautiful bride-to-be (Carrie Keagan) who is transformed into a brutal beast after being bitten by the legendary creature known as Bigfoot (Douglas Tait). Featuring Dallas Valdez, Curt Lambert and Danni Lang.

Lazy Eye (Unrated) Homoerotic romantic dramedy set in L.A. where a graphic designer (Lucas Near-Verbrugge) makes the most of

an opportunity to rekindle a relationship with an ex (Aaron Costa Ganis) he hasn't seen in 15 years. Support cast features Michaela Watkins, Drew Barr and Harrison Givens.

The Love Witch (Unrated) Horror comedy about a witch (Samantha Robinson) who resorts to casting spells on potential suitors during her desperate quest to find Mr. Right. Cast includes Jeffrey Vincent Parise, Laura Waddell

and Gian Keys.

National Bird (Unrated) Whistleblower documentary in which three veterans plagued by guilt express their misgivings about participating in the U.S. Air Force's drone warfare program. (In English and Dari with subtitles)

No Pay, Nudity (R for pervasive profanity) Character-driven dramedy set in Manhattan and revolving around an aging actor making adjustments to diminished career expectations. With Nathan Lane, Frances Conroy, Jon Michael Hill and Ethan Sandler.

Seasons (PG for mature themes) Meteorological documentary observing assorted metamorphoses in nature dur-

Twice as nice...

Continued from page 35

a panel discussion on the exhibit's reception night on Nov. 11.

Guests and potential collectors can learn about the works from the people who made them and participate in a question and answer session. The exhibition is a follow-up to the Mackays' first "Art's Conscience" show in 2013. The audience responded so positively to the artists' work, that the sisters decided to return for another show, they said.

"My sister and I were feeling that we're going to have to come back to this again," said Sharon Mackey. "People said the artists were skinless and so honest, that it helped them see and better understand this art world."

The Mackeys intend on selling all the pieces at the month-long exhibit, and say they want to expose the artists' work to buyers with a large reach.

Bailey's work is now seen by millions, after the Metropolitan Transportation Authority chose her pieces to adorn the subway stop, and the twins want to see similar opportunities and investments for other artists of color.

"This was a huge project for her and to have a woman of color's artwork grace Hudson Yards — it doesn't just happen like that," said Sharon Mackey. "But that's part of our role as gallerists to connect people and get them to know that a black woman's work is represented there."

They'd especially like to see more artists of color get the chance to have their work seen in everyday places, like hotels.

"One of our missions is to develop collectors and get artwork of people of color in hotels," said Karen Mackey. "There's two to three pieces of art in a hotel room, and we want our artists there. We want some of our artists to land those contracts."

"Art's Conscience II" at Interchurch Center Gallery [475 Riverside Dr. between W. 119 and W. 120th streets in Manhattan, (212) 870-2200, www.mackeytwinsart.com]. Oct. 31–Nov. 30, 9 am–5 pm. Opening reception Nov. 11 at 5:30–9 pm.

Loving interview...

Continued from page 35

the Supreme Court case, *Loving v. Virginia*?

RN: Yes, but I don't think that being an expert in the *Loving* case is what would qualify me to play Mildred. I think my job is to be a chameleon and to disappear, so I don't think my being Irish and Ethiopian should prohibit me from playing Mildred at all. I believe that what should matter more is my skill set and my willingness to work.

KW: This is very intimate film, with a quiet chemistry generated between you and Joel via looks and tender touches. Had you two worked together before? How long did you get to rehearse with each other?

RN: Well, Jeff doesn't rehearse. He casts quite instinctively. In this case, I think he knew he was casting two actors who would be willing to work very hard. I did audition for him, and I think he was impressed with the extent to which I'd prepared for that. The thing is, he wanted people who could embody this couple, not mimic them. He'd previously worked with Joel in *Midnight Special*, so he'd already witnessed Joel's ability to disappear into a character. And that was a very American part, too. I believe Jeff just trusted us both as actors to do our jobs individually. And we both professed such love for this couple that he was confident that we'd try as hard as possible to recreate their love and their chemistry. He also knew, intrinsically, that we were two actors who don't act in isolation but very much rely on other

Continued on Page 42



Almost CHRISTMAS

Oh, the joy of family.

UNIVERSAL PICTURES PRESENTS IN ASSOCIATION WITH PERFECT WORLD PICTURES A WILL PACKER PRODUCTIONS PRODUCTION
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PRESTON HOLMES JAMES LOPEZ GABRIELLE UNION JEFF MORRONE PRODUCED BY WILL PACKER, P.O.B. WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY DAVID E. TALBERT
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Seating**

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\$19.95

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Beverage



A tour de force

Blacka Di Danca heads to Europe



Dancehall to the world: Blacka Di Danca is touring Europe in a partnership with Red Bull, bringing dancehall styles and history to different cultures.

Justin Pallack

By Alexandra Simon

He is busting a move from Crown Heights to the Continent!

Famed local dancehall instructor Blacka Di Danca just jetted off on a seven-country tour of Europe. The choreographer rose to stardom creating instructional dance videos on YouTube and says he is excited to now have the opportunity to spread the popular Jamaican genre and dance style around the planet in person.

“Having a bigger platform to tour is another opportunity to change the perspective and for people to understand the dancehall scene and promote Jamaica,” said Danca, who played the first date on his tour on Nov. 2 in Italy. “And it’s just another day to live my dreams — I’m really excited.”

The Crown Heights native will teach dancehall classes and workshops in Italy, Belgium, Russia, the Netherlands, Switzerland, Germany,

and the Czech Republic — all countries with new and growing dancehall scenes, he said.

He expects to run two classes in each country, and will school participants about the dance style’s political and cultural roots as well as his signature moves.

“My focus on new scenes for this tour is to build understanding of the culture,” said Danca. “I try to make my classes a history lesson so I teach them about the social and economic issues of dancehall.”

Danca is particularly excited to return to Siberia — where he has been three times before — because it is so surreal to see dancehall in one of the coldest places on the planet, which he remembers seeing in James Bond films as a kid.

“Being from Brooklyn, growing up watching ‘007’ movies and to know I’m going to be teaching the willie bounce — it’s really mind-blowing,” he said.

Energy drink giant Red Bull is sponsoring Danca’s tour — the first time the big beverage brand has backed a dancehall artist, which Danca says is a historic moment, because it shows the wider world is finally recognizing the Caribbean influences in mainstream entertainment and because it offers a gateway for other dancehall artists to pursue similar sponsorships.

“How many movies use fake Caribbean accents and our music, utilizing the lyrics, and the rhythms?” he said. “I think everyone should finally look into how important and influential the West Indian community is to the world. I think it’s the right step every brand should take because it’s long overdue for dancehall and Caribbean culture.”

Danca’s tour ends will wind down in early December, and after returning stateside, he plans on creating a dance program for Jamaica.

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Jamaican cricketer Jimmy Adams.
Associated Press / Max Nash

Adams tapped for coaching job

By Azad Ali

Jamaican Jimmy Adams has been tipped to take over the vacant post of West Indies coach.

Adams recently quit as head coach of English County Kent after five years in charge.

Last September, the 48-year-old former West Indies captain is said to be the main contender for the post after Trinidadian Phil Simmons was suddenly fired by the West Indies Cricket Board (WICB).

Adams, who played 54 Tests for West Indies between 1992 and 2001 took over the reins of Kent ahead of the 3012 season and led them to a third place finish in Division Two that year.

He enjoyed the best season in the recently concluded campaign when Kent finished second, narrowly missing promotion.

Adams, a left-hander, made 3012 runs at an average of 41 with six centuries.



St. Francis Athletics / Kevin Yen

It only takes one: Terriers senior Yussuf Olajide scored the game's only goal against Long Island University, lifting St. Francis to a 1-0 victory and a regular-season conference crown on Nov. 6.

WORTH THE WAIT

St. Francis men's soccer clinches title

By Michael Randazzo

The Terriers are alpha dogs now.

The St. Francis men's soccer team notched a 1-0 victory over Northeast Conference rival Long Island University at Brooklyn Bridge Park's Pier 5 on Nov. 6, wrapping up the program's first regular-season conference title since 1997. It was also a bit of a revenge win — the Blackbirds defeated St. Francis in the Northeast Conference semifinals on penalty kicks last season — and the entire squad had this game circled on the calendar.

"It starts from the forwards to the midfield to our back four to our goalkeeper," said St. Francis head coach Tom Giovatto, now in his 10th season. "They did a really good job today of staying in our shape, not overreacting, cutting off passing lanes."

Yussuf Olajide tallied the match's lone goal after beating Long Island University (10-5-2, 4-2-1) keeper Logan Keys on a nifty set-up from defender Dominick Falanga in the 27th minute of play. Falanga beat Blackbirds defender Erik Wahlin and threaded a pass in front of the Long

Island University net to a wide-open Olajide, who calmly put home his team-leading sixth goal of the season.

By virtue of the win, the top-seeded Terriers (10-4-3, 6-0-1) will host the conference tournament, opening with a match against No. 4 Sacred Heart on Nov. 11. St. Francis has a shot at its third Northeast Conference title in four years and this latest victory is a major stepping stone for the program.

"It's great to win the regular-season
Continued on Page 42

Righting their ship

Dutchmen re-balance in blowout win

By Laura Amato

All he saw was wide-open receivers and clear rushing lanes.

Erasmus Hall quarterback Aron Cruickshank was an offensive force to be reckoned with on Nov. 6 — leading the Dutchmen to a 56–20 victory over Fort Hamilton and entrenching himself as one of the best players in the city. The junior racked up five touchdowns in the lopsided tilt, cementing the No. 2 seed for his squad in the Public Schools Athletic League championship division playoffs.

“It was all about the reps in practice and getting that separation to translate it to the field,” Cruickshank said. “I

want to play our game and not let the last game define us. We know what we’re capable of.”

The victory is a major statement for a Dutchmen (8–1) squad that was left searching for answers after dropping its undefeated season to Curtis on Oct. 29. Erasmus Hall responded throughout the week in practice however, and came into the regular-season finale refocused and reenergized.

“I think they were a little humbled, a little upset,” said Erasmus Hall coach Danny Landberg. “They want to do more for themselves right now, and it’s a process when you’re a high-school kid. We’ve just got to make sure we keep them strong and stay focused.”

The Dutchmen were ready for a gridiron battle against Fort Hamilton, but Cruickshank — who has drawn interest from top-tier college programs this fall, including a recent offer from Michigan — quickly made it a one-sided battle. He threw three touchdown passes in the first quarter and racked up 116 all-purpose yards before halftime.

“He’s just like all the other greats at Erasmus as far as football players,” Landberg said. “He’s actually a better person, so it’s really great to have him on this team.”

Cruickshank wasn’t the only one picking up yards for the Dutchmen. Andrew Howell and Dejourée Addison also notched



Strong captain: Erasmus Hall quarterback Aron Cruickshank led his team to a victory against Fort Hamilton 56–20.

Photo by Steve Schnibbe

touchdown runs, following some big-time blocks by the Erasmus Hall offensive line.

“They’re working hard in practice and that’s the first step,” Cruickshank said. “When everybody is calm like that, that’s when we do great.”

Fort Hamilton (5–4) did its best to go blow for blow with the Dutchmen’s offense — senior quarterback Neba Sekhet finished with more than 100 rushing yards — but every time the Tigers found a bit of footing, Erasmus Hall answered.

ST. FRANCIS CLINCHES...

Continued from page 41

title,” Giovatto said. “Not only for the kids, but to see so many alumni in the crowd and the smiles they get from winning today, it’s great for everybody.”

St. Francis’ success is built on team defense. The Terriers squad has pitched nine shut-outs, yielding a paltry 12 goals

all season, and the team shut down the Blackbirds’ high-octane offense, led by sophomore Rasmus Hansen — the conference’s leading scorer with 11 goals and seven assists.

“We were not connecting on passes and playing to the level that we normally do,” said Long Island University coach T.J. Kostecky, who has led the Blackbirds the past 18 seasons. “[St. Francis] is good at sitting back and anticipating.”

A key factor in the championship tilt actually didn’t come from either sideline — a fierce

wind played havoc with balls in the air and made it all but impossible for either squad to settle into a rhythm on offense. That, of course, played right into the Terriers’ defensive hands and left Long Island University’s front line frustrated.

“The environment’s certainly difficult, you could see several times when the wind blew the ball backwards,” Kostecky said. “As a player you have to anticipate that — though I’m not sure how you know where the wind will blow.”

The Terriers have waited

all season for another shot at Long Island University, but the squad knows there’s still more work to be done. Playoff soccer is a brand-new challenge, but St. Francis is nothing short of confident heading into the tournament.

“We waited a whole year for this game,” said St. Francis senior Sal Barone, who faced off against his younger brother Joey in the matchup. “Now that we won, it feels very good. We’re looking forward to working hard this week and going to the playoffs.”

St. Francis is anxious to defend its home turf throughout the Northeast Conference tournament, determined to lock in on defense and keep building up that wall in front of the net. Now that the Terriers know what it’s like to be on top, the squad isn’t looking to relinquish that position without a fight.

“We don’t really care about scoring six or seven goals,” Falanga said. “We haven’t conceded a goal in [league play] yet. Our main objective is defense first and that’s our plan going forward.”

Loving interview...

Continued from page 37

actors. And Joel and I both very much felt that this was something that we could do as an ensemble.

KW: When I saw the film, I thought that this was the first time I’d seen you. Then, when I looked at your resume, I realized I’d seen you in *World War Z*, in *Of Mind and Music*, in *Jimi* and in a few other productions. So, that shows how much you do disappear into a role. I was very impressed. I had no idea you weren’t American.

RN: Wow! that’s a lovely thing to say. Thank you!

KW: Editor/Legist Patricia Turnier asks: How did you prepare to play Mildred? What research did you need to conduct to cap-

ture the character accurately?

RN: Great question, Patricia! Luckily, Nancy Buirski had made the documentary, *The Loving Story*, for HBO. She first found out about Mildred Loving by reading her obituary. Being the excellent documentarian that she is, she then began digging and doing research, and she found archival footage which had been discarded that was originally intended for a contemporary documentary. And she created a documentary about this couple, weaving footage into it. So, I basically studied that and all the archival footage that we could find. The *Loving Story* was really a gift, because it let me sort of

unlock Mildred, her physicality, the way she spoke, the timbre, tone and pitch of her voice, the way she moved, and the way she was with Richard, her kids, and the rest of her family. It really was invaluable, which is why I always quip that Nancy did my homework for me.

KW: What message do you think people will take away from the film?

RN: I don’t know what people will take away from the film, but I would hope they take away the idea that it’s very important that we don’t forget those in history who might have been quiet agitators, people who might have changed the world in a way which was unexpected. And that should remind us that we all have the capacity to do that. Even if you think that you don’t, this couple proves otherwise.

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KW: I agree. I found the film to be very powerful in an understated way. It’ll be interesting to see how people respond to it.

RN: It will be. You’re right.

KW: Is there any question no one ever asks you, that you wish someone would?

RN: Gosh, that’s a good question. Hmm... I don’t know, but that’s a brilliant question, I must admit. But I do love talking about this couple.

KW: Harriet Pakula-Tewes asks: With so many classic films being redone, is there a remake you’d like to star in?

RN: Someone’s already asked me that, Kam. I answered All about Eve, because I think it’s just such a brilliant film. I doubt that it could be remade any better, but I just love the character Eve Harrington.

KW: Ling-Ju Yen asks: What

is your earliest childhood memory?

RN: Waiting with my mom at a bus stop in Addis Ababa during the rainy season. I remember being dressed in a pink coat and being fascinated by the raindrops hitting the pools of water. I do love rain, which you better, if you grow up in Ireland.

KW: Finally, what’s in your wallet?

RN: Credit cards, stick gum attached to pennies, and an unhygienic toothpick. Honestly, my purse is just a mess. Constantly. [Laughs]

KW: Thanks again for the time, Ruth, and best of luck with “Loving”.

RN: Thank you ever so much, Kam. Bye!

To see a trailer for “Loving”, visit: www.focusfeatures.com/loving.

Take them by 'Storm'

Jefferson guard looks for new life at St. John's

By Laura Amato

He's ready to school 'em all. Former Jefferson star Shamorie Ponds was one of the most highly recruited high-school basketball players in the country last season, but he opted to stay close to home, heading to St. John's with a very specific goal in mind — turning the program around.

"I have a high IQ, and I play with a slow pace, but I know what I'm doing on the court," Ponds said during the team's media day last month. "I play calm, and there's not too much pressure. So I know that I just need to bring the same thing that I was doing at Thomas Jefferson and the high IQ and the type of leadership to the college game."

The Red Storm won just one Big East game last year, but Ponds is determined to provide the spark that will lift St. John's back to the top of the college basketball ranks. It won't be easy and Ponds is aware of the hometown microscope he's under, but the former Orange

Wave guard is ready to do his city proud.

Ponds was named the Big East Preseason Rookie of the Year and — despite some early-game miscues — finished with 12 points, two assists, and five steals in St. John's 99-49 exhibition victory over Baruch on Oct. 31. He's more focused, however, on what all of that means to the team.

"I'm not going to be focused on just [my own stats]," Ponds said. "I just want to see the team win. I want to see us all get accolades."

Ponds — a 6-foot-1 left-hander with one of the softest shooting touches in the game — was a consensus four-star, top-50 recruit after leading Jefferson to its first city championship since 1954 last season. He could have taken his talents just about anywhere in the country, but couldn't shake the draw to St. John's. Ponds attended nearly every home game last year and the Red Storm wanted him just as much as he wanted them.

"I'm happy he felt that way," said head coach Chris Mullin. "We always felt like he was the perfect fit."

Ponds is only a freshman — playing in his first college hoops game on Nov. 11 — but he's already settled into a leadership role with the Red Storm. He's become a calming presence in the backcourt, focused on helping his teammates cut down on the turnovers and full-court miscues that plagued the squad last year.

"When things go bad, we can't go into a shell," Ponds said. "So I think I really bring that to the team — calming them down and bringing them together."

Ponds found a preseason rhythm with fellow first-year guard Marcus LoVett — who was unable to play last season due to academic issues — and with the return of sophomore guard Federico Mussini in the backcourt, the freshman is certain St. John's has the weapons to notch victories this season.

He knows there are expecta-



Making a splash: St. John's freshman guard and former Jefferson standout Shamorie Ponds is anxious to get the college hoops season underway, determined to turn around the Red Storm program.

St. John's Athletics

tions for him — the hometown kid determined to make good for the hometown team — but the only thing Ponds cares about is the score at the end of every game.

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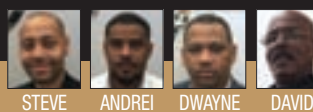
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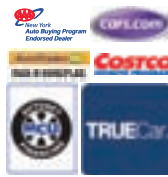
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ARIES: Mar 21/Apr 20
Aries, you may be caught off guard by certain events, but it's best not to overreact. The excitement will die down soon enough, and soon you will find yourself on top of your game.

TAURUS: Apr 21/May 21
Taurus, a hectic pace this week could sweep you along with the current if you're not careful. Stand on solid ground as much as possible. Do your own thing if need be.

GEMINI: May 22/Jun 21
Deep bonds and relationships from the past may come into play this week, Gemini. You may have to separate your past from a particular situation to arrive at the most honest conclusion.

CANCER: Jun 22/Jul 22
Cancer, you are aware of what you need to do to get things accomplished. Prioritize the most pressing matters and then tackle the things that can wait a little longer.

LEO: Jul 23/Aug 23
You may find yourself floundering for a little while, Leo. Once you find stronger footing, you can regain your leadership role and get things moving in the right direction.

VIRGO: Aug 24/Sept 22
Virgo, in spite of your passion for certain tasks, everything will not always go smoothly. Devote your full attention to the various tasks that pop up along the way.

LIBRA: Sept 23/Oct 23
Libra, speak up now rather than letting a problem go unaddressed, even if speaking up figures to be uncomfortable. Letting things go is not an option in this situation.

SCORPIO: Oct 24/Nov 22
Share your thoughts this week, Scorpio. Others are waiting for you to chime in and that's a sign of just how respected your opinion is. Offer a thoughtful response.

SAGITTARIUS: Nov 23/Dec 21
Sagittarius, a new relationship may be moving along more slowly than you are accustomed to. If you're rekindling a romance, allow things to redevelop organically.

CAPRICORN: Dec 22/Jan 20
Capricorn, you're always willing to stand up for a just cause. Just be careful how much effort you devote to something, as this week your energy levels may be fleeting.

AQUARIUS: Jan 21/Feb 18
Expect some important negotiations to reach an impasse this week, Aquarius. It may be up to you to push ahead and resolve things once and for all.

PISCES: Feb 19/Mar 20
Pisces, get to work on a strategy that will help you realize your ambitions. If necessary, pull back a little to gain a broader perspective.

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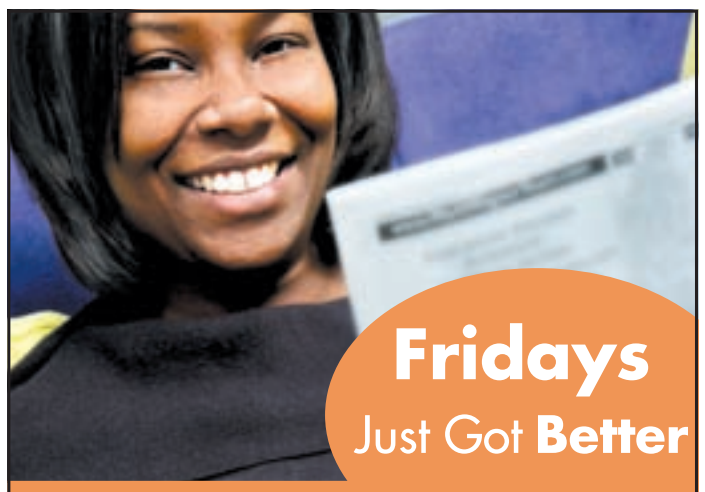
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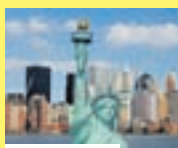
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