

Caribbean Life

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Caribbean pols react to guy on the right

By Nelson A. King

As the American political establishment begins coming to grips with the reality of four years of Donald J. Trump's presidency, Caribbean-American legislators are still stunned, like many others in New York, across the country and globally, over Trump's unexpected triumph in the U.S. Presidential Election last Tuesday.

"As I gathered my thoughts, I realized that now, adding salt to the deep wound, are those trying to downplay the importance of racism, xenophobia, jingoism, and misogyny played in this election — the very things that so many of us were consistently told weren't a part of America. And too many deny the impact it has on continually disenfranchising communities," said New York City Councilman Jumaane Williams, the son of Grenadian immigrants.

"Yet, all the ideas we are consistently told aren't a part of America propelled a man to the presidency of the country of my birth," added Williams, the Democratic Deputy Leader of the Council, who presents the largely Caribbean 45th Council District in Brooklyn. "He did so stripping out all the

Continued on Page 1



President-elect Donald Trump speaks during an election-night rally last week. He did not get many votes from within the Caribbean community. Associated Press / Evan Vucci

WHO'S WHO?

Activist: Stop and frisk data ignores Indo-Caribbeans

By Alexandra Simon

As far as police are concerned, this community of color is totally invisible.

Stop and frisk is disproportionately affecting the Indo-Caribbean community in Richmond Hill and Ozone Park, but the city data does not accurately reflect this, because police mis-classify members of the ethno-cultural group as Asian or Latino, according to a Cypress Hills activist. The neighborhoods' 102nd and 106th precincts led Queens in stop and frisk over the last two years, but the city must keep accurate accounts of who it stops before it can improve police-community relations, the advocate said.

"There are two precincts in that area that had the highest number of stops [in Queens] in

2014 and 2015," said William Depoo, a leader from Desi's Rising Up and Moving, a South-Asian community organization. "Depending on how they categorize me I can be either Asian or Latino — there's no category for Indo-Caribbean. Our experiences need to be discussed. We can't pinpoint what someone's West Indian identity is, but we know it exists, because we know people going through this. If you look at the statistics in the neighborhood — Richmond Hill — has the highest correlation between policing and the criminalizing in our communities."

Richmond Hill and Ozone Park is home to some of the largest Indo-Caribbean communities in New York City, and a majority here are from Guy

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From left, Allison Lynch, Laura Spencer, Melinda Edwards, and Shaundell Agrippa, with children from Nicky's Little Sprouts and Jeremy's Place Daycare.

Nicky's Little Sprouts

Group reads to 'Sprouts'

By Nelson A. King

Kids at a daycare center in Laurelton, Queens last Thursday were given the extraordinary opportunity of being read to by officials from the Long Is. Branch of the National Association of University Women (NAUW).

Melinda Cashwell-Edwards, NAUW's Long Island Branch president, and Laura Spencer, branch chaplain and co-chair of the Literacy Committee, read to 17 kids, whose ages range from one to six years, at Nicky's Little Sprouts D.C. Inc., owned and operated by Guyanese Shaundell Agrippa.

Six children from the nearby Jeremy's Place Daycare, owned and operated by Agrippa's mother, Paulette Hyman, also attended the reading session.

"We wanted to continue our service in education with reading to as many children as possible," Edwards, of Cuban descent, told Caribbean Life, adding that, simultaneously, other branch members read to children in six classrooms at Northern Parkway School in Uniondale, Long Island.

Cashwell-Edwards and Spencer, an African American, read from the book, "The Bear Ate My Sandwich" by Julia Sarcone-Roach.

Cashwell-Edwards said that since Agrippa, is also a member of the Long Island Branch, "our branch wanted to give back on the yearly event of 'Jumpstart to Read.'"

Three children, four-years-old, at Nicky's Little Sprouts D.C., Inc. also read to the NAUW officials.

Cashwell-Edwards said it was the first time that the branch read to children at Nicky's Little Sprouts D.C., Inc., stating that members will

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Town hall meet on police relationship with C'Heights

By Alexandra Simon

Members of Bethany United Methodist Church are introducing their first town hall at their church on their community relationship with the police in Crown Heights on Nov. 10.

Organizers from the church are gathering community members and local officers from the 77th precinct for "Working Together for a Better Crown Heights," a discussion about their neighborhood and improving how residents and authority figures work and communicate together for their safety of their community. One organizer urges residents that the police's presence at the town hall should encourage them to partake in it.

"The police is there to listen and help the community," said Mayleen Fredericks, chairperson of the committee organizing the meeting.

"It's a dialogue that needs to happen and everyone with concerns will need to address that."

During the summer members of the congregation trekked the neighborhood taking a survey of people on the streets. They compiled data on residents views with three questions — what makes them glad, excited, and mad about their community and decided on a town hall based on their conclusions.

"All of those that we surveyed — we found a common theme," said Fredericks. "They talked about being forced out with rent and housing and their relationship with community and police, and we asked 'what is it as a church that we can do?'"

Fredericks is expecting 200 participants to attend the meeting, which will be the first of its kind for the neighborhood. Police officers from the 77th precinct will oversee the town hall, and organizers encourage residents to not



Community locale: The Bethany United Methodist Church is hosting a town hall with police officers at the church on Nov. 10, to address the relationship of the police department and residents of Crown Heights.

Community News Group / Alexandra Simon

shy away but use the opportunity to tackle their concerns, including crime and gentrification.

"This is basically about the relationship between the community and the police, but if someone comes in and they might have problem with drug activity on their block and feel like they are not seeing enough police — the police will be there to answer," said

Fredericks.

"The police is there to listen and help the community, and it's a dialogue that needs to happen. Everyone's concern will be addressed."

"Working Together for a Better Crown Heights" at Bethany United Methodist Church [1208 St. Johns Place between Albany and Troy avenues in Crown Heights, (718) 774-5689], Nov. 10, 6:30 pm.

Promises of 'Year of Mercy' prisoner release

By Azad Ali

A number of prisoners who are incarcerated for minor offenses in St. Vincent and the Grenadines will be released as part of the island's 37th Independence Anniversary, Prime Minister Dr. Ralph Gonsalves announced.

Gonsalves said he intends to advise the governor general to order the release of some young men and women who are serving terms of imprisonment for "relatively minor offences," saying the young people ought to be given a second chance, con-



Prime Minister Gonsalves will allow criminals with minor offenses out of jail in honor of the "Year of Mercy."

sidering this is the internationally proclaimed "Year of Mercy" by persons of faith.

"We ought to exercise it appropriately to deal with young persons and others," he said.

The prime minister also announced that some 110 people who are employed as temporary clerks — some of them for several years in the public service — will be afforded permanent status from Jan. 1, 2017, claiming the move would provide them with the necessary job security and attendant benefits as public servants.

He added students who passed the associate degree

program at the required level of the Community College will be rewarded.

This, he said, will cost the Government more than EC\$5 million.

Gonsalves said for the 2017-2018 academic year, the government will grant tuition scholarships to deserving applicants for university study and will continue to pay the economic cost got all eligible students at the University of the West Indies.

St. Vincent and the Grenadines celebrated its 37th independence anniversary on Oct. 27, 2016.

Barbados

Barbados opposition leader Ria Mottley has called on supporters of the Barbados Labor Party to prepare to take up the reins of government.

Speaking at the Party's 78th annual conference recently, Mottley told party faithful that they must be "prepared for battle."

"This is not a battle for the faith of the Labor party," she said. "This is a battle not for just rescuing and the resuscitating of the Barbados economy. This is a battle for the protection of the social fabric of this country."



She slammed the Freundel Stuart administration's management of the country's affairs over the past eight years, which saw government introduce a home-grown austerity program to revive the country's ailing finances, saying Barbados cannot survive five more years of Stuart's "uninspired leadership".

Mottley also outlined the party's plans for the country, should it be victorious in the next election, which is constitutionally due in 2018.

Cayman Islands

A company owned by United States billionaire Paul Allen has agreed to pay the Cayman Islands for damage to a coral reef blamed on his 300-foot yacht.

The government of the British territory and Allen's Vulcan Inc. announced the settlement in a joint statement recently but did not disclose the amount the co-founder of Microsoft had agreed to pay for the damage to the reef in the Seven Mile Beach Park.



Environment Minister Wayne Pantou announced in a statement the agreement with TDE Maritime, the owner of the yacht.

Authorities previously said the anchor chain from the MV Tatoosh caused significant damage to the reef in January.

Allen, whose company remediation



Chappelle shows 'em

Jarobi White, left, and Q-Tip, right, of A Tribe Called Quest bookend "Saturday Night Live" host Dave Chappelle. The three appeared on the live broadcast Saturday night, with the Caribbean-influenced band performing two sets — after Chappelle appealed to President-elect Trump to make sure he gives the historically oppressed people a chance.

Associated Press / Rosalind O'Connor

work began in March, said in the statement that the agreement would "preserve the reefs and ecosystem for future generations".

Caribbean

Climate change has a very important impact on climate variability and water resources in the Caribbean, according to Alberton Pacheco, Regional Co-coordinator for Ecosystems of the United Environmental Program, who said the

region suffers from a lot of droughts which affects agriculture and when these droughts pass they are usually followed by periods of flood.

"If we are able to manage our water resources we might be able to save enough water for whenever we have an extended period of drought and likewise when we



have floods we can manage ourselves a little better," he said. "Because the problem that we have at the moment is that in either instance, either drought or floods, the region's agricultural soil is being affected".

Pacheco was leading a discussion on water management at the recent Caribbean Basin Forum in Trinidad.

Guyana

Guyana police Force has fired six police officers for criminal conduct last month.

Acting Police Commissioner David Ramnarine said they included one subordinate officer and five constables.



He also disclosed that five police officers, including an inspector, were also suspended during October pending investigation into misconduct.

Ramnarine said one of the officers on suspension is a female officer from the Brickdam Police Station, in Georgetown, who is reportedly unable to account for a .32 firearm that she received from a civilian while on duty.

The acting Commissioner said he considers the matter a very serious offence.

In September, Ramnarine said the Guyana Police Force fired 30 police officers for various offenses, ranging from corruption to larceny and robbery. That is addition to 15 others who were dismissed earlier in the year.

He said the force had taken a zero-tolerance to police officers being involved in any criminal offense.

Haiti

A prison guard is suspected of helping 173 inmates to escape from the Arcahaie prison in Haiti recently.



The inmates killed the head prisons guard and wounded two other guards in the process.

Reports are that the prisoners may have stripped the prison guards of their weapons before making their escape.

Some of the escapees were considered armed and dangerous. About 30 of them were serving long sentences of at least 10 years.

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CARIBBEAN ROUNDUP

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Police have so far recaptured 12 of them. The remaining inmates have been move to another prison.

Jamaica

Jamaica National Security Minister Robert Montague has urged Jamaicans to partner with the government to create a national closed-circuit television system.

He said the government is taking to Parliament an amendment to the law, "if you are doing a development of over 400 unites you must, at the developer's expense establish a police post in close proximity to the development."



The minister said this would support the work of officers in close proximity to the development.

Montague said as the Andrew Holness government seeks to establish the national closed-circuit system, "we are going to be setting up a system where we are going to be asking you to give us or lend us your feed from specific cameras."

This, he said, would assist the police in solving crimes committed in specific areas and that the government is still exploring the option of electronically monitoring low risk offenders.

St. Vincent

Japan has given the St. Vincent and the Grenadines government US\$5 mil-

lion in aid to assist with disaster preparedness and boost its fishing industry.

The equipment was presented by non-resident Japanese Ambassador to St. Vincent and the Grenadines Mitsuhiko Okada at two separate functions- the Ministries of Health, National Security, Agriculture and Foreign Affairs.

Among the equipment presented by Okada were two command vehicles for use by the National Emergency Management Organization and another to the Royal St. Vincent and the Grenadines Police Force.

He said the vehicles were important in times of emergency with flooding, landslides, and earthquakes.



Okada noted that St Vincent was a small island state that was vulnerable to natural disasters.

Okada said the grant will significantly assist the fisheries sector in St Vincent.

Prime Minister Dr. Ralph Gonsalves told the ceremony for the handing over of the equipment at the Caliaqua Fishing Complex that he intended to visit Japan next year to continue to improve relations between the two countries.

Trinidad

Trinidad and Tobago was among some 12 Caribbean countries which recently attended the 34th Havana International Fair in Cuba.



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ECLAC: Caribbean needs shared vision on natural resources

By Nelson A. King

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean has called on the regional countries to build a shared vision on governance of natural resources and infrastructure with an integrated and sustainable approach.

The group said this would aid in helping to close “the significant gaps that still persist in these areas.”

Executive Secretary of the regional United Nations body Alicia Bárcena is the main speaker at the opening of a High-level Regional Dialogue on the Governance of Natural Resources and Infrastructure taking place at commission headquarters in Santiago, Chile.

Commission representatives said the meeting — which is being attended by 15 ministers and also deputy ministers of energy, mining, infrastructure, the environment and natural resources from 21 Latin American and Caribbean countries — concludes on Friday.

The event marks the formal inauguration of the Governance Week on Natural Resources and Infrastructure, the group said.

“The governance of natural resources is a key element today in the development agenda of Latin America and the



Alicia Bárcena, ECLAC Executive Secretary, at the opening of the Governance Week on Natural Resources and Infrastructure. ECLAC

Caribbean since it involves reflecting upon property ownership, the means of appropriation and the distribution of the productivity earnings that they generate,” Bárcena said. “I invite you to forge a shared vision on this issue, which creates a new balance between the State, the private sector and soci-

ety, and renewed opportunities for dialogue, participation, planning, and transparency.”

In her presentation, Bárcena said that it is fundamental to increase current low levels of investment in infrastructure (2.2 percent of annual gross domestic product — GDP — on average).

She said this figure is insufficient to cover countries’ needs in this area, which are projected at 5.4 percent and 8.6 percent of GDP, depending on the economic growth scenario.

“The governance of natural resources and infrastructure requires a paradigm shift and new coalitions,” Bárcena said. “It is about changing the conversation to achieve better agreements between companies, communities and society as a whole. It demands a long-term vision to move towards a sustainable future, with greater social inclusion and

intergenerational equality.”

According to the senior United Nations official, the progressive structural change that the region needs, in order to shift its development paradigm, cannot be achieved without transforming the current pattern for the design and use of infrastructure for transportation, energy, water and telecommunications.

“We must change our production matrix because it is the reflection of the inequality seen in our region,” she emphasized.

Bárcena said that commission’s proposal to countries in this area includes a research program that facilitates the substantive discussion, the creation and implementation of public policy instruments that incorporate the State’s strategic and political vision on this matter, as well as actions for technical assistance, the institutionalization and systematic execution of mechanisms that facilitate regional dialogue between different actors, and the transmission of this dialogue’s conclusions to the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean, which will hold its first session in Mexico in April 2017.

The High-level Regional Dialogue on the Governance of Natural Resources and Infrastructure included speeches by the heads of delegation of all the countries attending, who shared reflections and experiences regarding the challenges of governance of natural resources and infrastructure in their respective nations.

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Will Barbados ever be a true republic?

Like Guyanese did back in late May, Barbadians will on Nov. 30th celebrate 50 years of independence from Britain with a string of celebratory events including an appearance from native pop star Rihanna, but the island's administration remains under severe pressure to demolish a political system that still allows Britain's Queen Elizabeth to be its head of state.

As thousands prepare to descend on the Eastern Caribbean island nation from the U.S., Canada, and the U.K. among other destinations, Prime Minister Freundel Stuart has once again made a solemn promise to ensure that a white, English great grandmother in faraway London will soon be replaced by a local person of standing when authorities dismantle the near 400 years monarchial system of governance which has kept Her Royal Highness as the head of state.

But like he has done on several occasions, Stuart has once again refused to give details or set in train a date to follow Guyana, tiny Dominica, and Trinidad in becoming a republic with a local president. He says only that the process will be completed in the very near future.

"The Right Excellent Errol Barrow decolonized the politics. Owen Arthur decolonized the jurisprudence and Freundel Stuart is going to complete the process," the leader vowed this week. "While we respect the Queen as head of the Commonwealth and accept that she and all of her successors will continue to be at the apex of our political understanding in terms of Barbados' constitutional status, we have to move from a monarchical system to a republican form of government in the very near future".

Pressure to delink from London has been mounting on the head of government and not surprisingly sometimes, comes from inside his own cabinet.

For example, International Business Minister Donville Inniss said this week that the time has long passed for her to be replaced by a local and those who fear a backlash from English tourist should cease worrying about this as few concern themselves with such issues while on holidays.

"There're those who say that if you do that the British are going to stop coming here. I have never met anybody from the U.K. who concerns themselves with whether the Queen is head of state of Barbados or if we're republic with our own president. That is simply not the case," he said during

Continued on Page 16

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Inside Politics

By Bert Wilkinson

Demand community role in stop-and-frisk reform

New York City is failing in its obligation to include and inform the community on reform of the controversial stop-and-frisk program, activists charged at a town hall earlier this month in South Richmond Hill.

The town hall, hosted by Jackson Heights-based advocacy group Desis Rising Up and Moving, took place Nov. 3 at Khan's Tutorial, 103-42 Lefferts Blvd.

The event was held to inform the community about the Joint Remedial Process – an effort mandated by Manhattan Federal Judge Shira Scheindlin to give affected communities, home to primarily black and Latino men, a voice in the reform process.

The event focused on the experience of community members, such as William Depoo, a youth from the community and leader at DRUM, who in addition to being stopped and frisked, claimed to have been detained without cause and called an ethnic slur while in police custody.

He was released without charges.

He recounted that incident as being one of several encounters with police officers while living in the area.

In attendance were many young people from the community as well as representatives from the office of Councilman Ruben Wills (D-Jamaica) and students studying community attitudes on policing.

Former Associate Justice Ariel E. Belen, who is now the facilitator of the Joint



New Voices

By Prem Calvin Prashad

Remedial Process, was represented at the Town Hall. Provisions stemming from the stop-and-frisk lawsuits required the cities to have forums such as these, but DRUM has determined the need to hold forums in communities such as South Richmond Hill.

A vocal protester attempted to disrupt the event, citing recent, high-profile shootings of police officers.

"Many believe if someone is stopped by the police, they are either a criminal or did something wrong," Depoo noted.

"We ignore factors such as racial profiling and police abuses, which then makes folks in our communities who do face these factors internalize these experiences."

Depoo indicated that the recent election of Donald Trump as president would only exacerbate this uncertainty.

To demonstrate what they termed "over-policing" in the neighborhood, organizers cited 2014 statistics that indicate a high number of stops in the predominantly Indo-Caribbean neighborhoods covered by the 102nd and 106th precincts, where there were 1,181 and 2,228 stops, respectively.

According to the group, reform would not only include fewer stops and probable cause, but also overall changes to policing in the community.

Though much has been

made about the NYPD and communities of color bridging gaps in trust and accountability, Depoo downplayed the necessity of trust in the reform process.

"Stop and frisk and other abusive policing tactics have left a deep scar," he said. "The NYPD has shown they will use unjust factors, such as race, to patrol and target communities."

The group has determined their role to be highlighting the voices of community members in the reform process.

Political engagement remains low in the Richmond Hill-Ozone Park area, especially among the Indo-Caribbean community.

Activists, such as Depoo point out that "They (Indo-Caribbean people) left behind turmoil, and they feel if they face any racism or discrimination, it is a compromise for living in this country."

In contrast with other community-based organizations that work on political engagement, DRUM places less of an emphasis on the political process, noting that community insight is frequently ignored by elected officials.

Rather, the organization seeks to empower residents to become activists.

"We have to work with our communities to understand you don't need to sacrifice your rights for a better life," Depoo concluded.

Caribbean Life

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

Contributing Writers: Azad Ali, Tangerine Clarke, Nelson King, Tequila Minsky, Vnette K. Pryce, George H. Whyte, Bert Wilkinson, Lloyd Kam Williams

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Hurricane relief for Cuba

By Nelson A. King

The United Nations says its Development Program (UNDP) is cooperating with Cuban authorities to support early recovery in hard-hit hurricane areas.

The U.N. said on Friday that the areas mostly affected by the recent passage of Hurricane Matthews are Baracoa, Maisí, Imías and San Antonio del Sur.

UNDP has already delivered 9,000 plastic tarpaulins for roofs and 5,740 mattresses to the Port of Santiago to assist the needs of the population, as part of its Action Plan in Cuba, the U.N. said.

It said this was program's second delivery, after sending 9,700 tarpaulins and 20 mills to transform debris into building materials.

In addition, the U.N. said its program has also supported a government-led early recovery process that aims to provide roofs immediately, create hous-



In Cuba, UNDP is helping more than 600,000 people affected by Hurricane Matthew to rebuild their lives. UNDP

ing solutions, create jobs, and facilitate the recovery of the local economy, recover affected ecosystems, and improve the hydraulic and meteorological early warning system.

Specialized tools, zinc sheets, and roofing modules will be purchased to provide a durable housing solution for 14,300 families, the U.N. said.

"Cuba has a strong under-

standing of risks and has been investing in the prevention of natural disasters, and UNDP has always supported their efforts," said Myrta Kaulard, the program's Resident Representative in Cuba.

"An example of that was the response to Hurricane Sandy, where we worked together to rebuild houses with the participation of communities."

Rowley: IMF must address Carib debt

By Azad Ali

Trinidad and Tobago Prime Minister Dr. Keith Rowley has called on the International Monetary Fund to address debt burdens facing Caribbean countries.

He said the Fund must step up to the plate and assist with this necessary initiative to convince policy-making institutions like the Organizations for Economic Cooperation and Development and G20 countries of the need for policy changes.

He was at the time addressing an IMF Forum at the Hyatt Regency in Port of Spain, Trinidad recently.

Rowley said the region will not achieve faster economic growth and sustainable development unless the problem of the debt overhang is addressed.

While Antigua and Barbuda, Jamaica, and St. Kitts and Nevis recently obtained significant debt service relief, in the context of Fund-supported programs, which also

carried a large fund financing, the prime minister said the relief did not go far enough as it did to reduce the outstanding debt stock.

He noted that the debt levels are still high with 90 percent of the gross domestic product for Antigua and Barbuda, 140 percent for Jamaica and 65 percent for St. Kitts and Nevis.

These persistently high debt ratios, he said, will continue to jeopardize growth performance, especially for Trinidad and Tobago where "our debt ratios are approaching that of St. Kitts and Nevis."

Rowley said the region's debt burden, among the highest in the world, has meant high borrowing costs, and discouraging private investment because the high-debt-service ratios, have sharply reduced flexibility.

In 2015, the average debt-to-GDP ratio for all countries in the region was about 77 percent, he noted.

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Feeling blue? Seeing red? Just fear fear

Old Glory continues to fly high despite the rift separating the red, white and blue hues that decorate the dominant stars and stripes symbol of democracy and capitalism.

That a predominantly white demographic voted overwhelmingly in preference of the standard-bearing Republican represented red champion over the losing rainbow-identified blue Democrats seems nothing short of revolutionary in 2016.

Still red with rage one week after Donald Trump — a businessman and political outsider scored in excess of the 270 required by the Electoral College disappointed supporters of former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton.

They continue to protest vociferously in more than 10 cities and in the process are shouting: “No Trump. No KKK. No fascist USA,” “He’s Not My President” and “We Reject the President Elect.”

There were protests in the Midwest in Omaha, Nebraska, and Kansas City, Missouri.



Inside Life

By Vinette K. Pryce

From the East Coast New England cities to the West Coast, demonstrators brandished flags and effigies of the president-elect, disrupting traffic and declaring that they will not quietly accept Trump’s victory.

Flames lit up the night sky in California cities of San Francisco, Los Angeles, and Oakland. Thousands of protesters burned a giant papier mâché Trump head in Los Angeles and started fires in Oakland.

Los Angeles demonstrators also beat a Trump piñata and sprayed the Los Angeles Times building and news vans with anti-Trump profanity.

One protester outside L.A. City Hall read a sign that simply said “this is very bad.”

In Washington D.C. dissenters stood outside the White House. They held candles, listened to speeches, and sang songs.

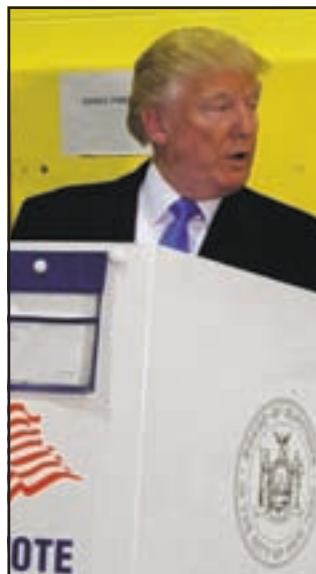
Reportedly, activists in Dallas, Texas gathered by the dozens outside the American Airlines Center, the city’s sports arena.

In Portland, Oregon, people blocked traffic, burned American flags and forced a delay for trains on two light-rail lines. A similar scene repeated in Seattle, Washington.

Here in New York, demonstrations have been growing uptown, midtown, and downtown in Manhattan.

Spilling past Union Square, Times Square, and near the luxurious Trump Tower at Fifth Ave. between 56th & 57th Streets, throngs tests the tolerance and capabilities of the NYPD.

At the 14th St. Union Square, an entire wall filled with posties provide evidence of a verbal assault on the president-elect and his supporters.



Democracy at work: Stay strong, America.

Associated Press / Evan Vucci

And while name-calling has all but discolored the landscape, conversations seem to negate the fact that in his last year and months in office, President Obama’s favorability rating is still spiraling up past other former presidents.

For half the voting popu-

lation, it is bad that Trump won but worse for them is that along with the White House, he also will have his way in the House and the Senate now that his party controls the majority of elected state officials.

Perceived to be racist, sexist, and anti-gay, Trump’s majority endorsement seems almost un-American.

How could such a bigoted, Ku Klux Klan-endorsed individual win over a perceived liberal, diverse, sophisticated, rainbow coalition that twice elected a black man to lead the most powerful nation on earth?

Racist as some are now branding all of America, the argument does not balance against a black man voted to the most elite position in America. Less than a decade ago, millions of those same people turned out in record numbers to ensure Obama’s pioneering place.

Hindsight now seems obvious that the Democratic National Committee should accept a huge responsibility for

Continued on Page 38



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Reading to 'Sprouts'...

Continued from page 3

continue doing so "on an annual basis and be involved with other events."

She said she was "blown away" by the reading ability of the kids at Nicky's Little Sprouts D.C. Inc. "and will love to come back, time to time, to assist with projects, etc."

Cashwell-Edwards said that she loves reading to children, disclosing that she also reads to her son, who is almost three years old. This is the fifth year that NAUW's Long Island Branch has been involved with "Jumpstart to Read, where we read to children," the branch president said.

"I'm excited and always look forward to reading to the children," Spencer chimed in.

Agrippa, who is also the center's director, said the children were "all engaged as they listened quietly while Cashwell-Edwards read to them.

"She asked questions in between the reading, and the children responded appropriately to the questions," she said. "I was pleased and grateful that NAUW took the time out to promote and participate in reading to our children. Reading is fundamental it opens an avenue in which children can learn."

"I felt proud because reading is one of

my passion, especially for children," Ms. Agrippa added. "Reading is the gateway for children to form ideas and make them good communicators. It also helps to prepare them to excel in school.

"The readers were very animated, bringing the stories to life to my children," she continued.

The teachers at Nicky's Little Sprouts D.C. Inc. were also delighted with the children's reading ability.

"These children have come a long way," said Allison Lynch, who has been teaching at the center for over five years.

Agrippa said Lynch and the other teachers "have worked tirelessly with our children; and, for that, I commend all of them immensely for the magnificent job they do every day."

All were treated to a sumptuous reception at the reading's end, Agrippa said.

In support of the National Strategic Plan, NAUW's Long Island Branch says that it engages in initiatives that support education, health and civic activities, as well as networking and cooperating with other community organizations, to produce health fairs, forums, black history events, tutorial and reading programs.

Monarchy or republic...

Continued from page 10

a debate in parliament. He wants the entire process to be wrapped up in a year's time.

The island has already taken baby steps to become a republic when it ditched the London appeals court as its final, taking cases to the Trinidad-based Caribbean Court of Appeal instead. A local head of state would complete the decolonization process many argue.

In the meantime, Stuart has another jubilee issue related to public expenditure for the jubilee celebrations.

The price tag so far has been put at a meager \$3.5M but Stuart has been forced to defend this as not being excessive.

"I cast my bucket down right there on that argument. We will never again have an opportunity to celebrate a golden jubilee of this country's Independence. This is the moment and that is why we are doing it. So far as the funds allocated for the celebrations are concerned, I accept full responsibility for it."

Opposition attacks about spending have come in the context of a touch economic austerity period that the island has been experience in recent years. Dozens of state workers have been retrenched, authorities are doing all they can to avoid a devaluation of the dollar (US1-Bds-2) and to avoid getting into an IMF program like Guyana, Jamaica, and Suriname among others.

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Vincy Mas 40th anniversary celebrated in Brooklyn



A Vincy carnival costume on display at the launching ceremony. Photo by Nelson A. King

By Nelson A. King

A full cast of soca and calypso artists entertained an exuberant crowd Sunday evening, as officials from the Carnival Development Committee and the Ministry of Sports and Culture in St. Vincent and the Grenadines launched the 40th Anniversary of Vincy Mas in Brooklyn.

Hundreds of nationals made it their top priority to witness and participate in the four-hour-long ceremony at the Friends of Crown Heights Educational Center.

The event also served as the simultaneous launching pad for the St. Vincent and the Grenadines Diaspora Mapping Project, organized by the Regional Integration and Diaspora Unit, in partnership with the United Nation's International Organization of Migration.

Briggo, Bomani, Scorcher, Dennis Bowman, Drakie, Hibiscus, Madzart and Winston Soso were among artistes who



Bomani electrifies the audience. Photo by Nelson A. King

performed at the anniversary launch.

Among officials were Tourism, Sports and Culture Minister Cecil "Ces" McKie; Tourism Authority chief executive officer Glen Beache; chairman Ricky Adams; 40th anniversary chairman Dennis Ambrose; New York Consul General Howie Prince; and president of

the Brooklyn-based umbrella Vincentian group in the United States, Council of St. Vincent and the Grenadines, U.S.A, Inc., Laverne McDowald-Thompson.

"Our mission, at this time, is to extend an early invitation to everyone to join us in promoting the special celebration of 40 years of June to July Carnival — Vincy Mas 2017," said Ambrose, the committee's immediate past president, stating that he was pleased to be invited to speak to "this wide cross-section of persons, who have been identified as a great audience for assisting St. Vincent and the Grenadines Team to link with other sources in the Diaspora."

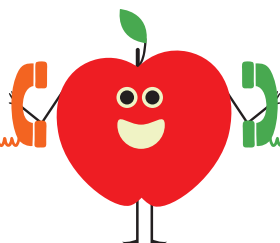
Ambrose said the Diaspora "has worked well" with the committee in the past in promoting carnival as a tourism product for SVG.

"We anticipate your participation at multiple levels in this landmark festival," he told the ebullient crowd, which included officials and

artistes from, among others, the Brooklyn-based Dynamite Calypso Tent, Mas Productions Unlimited and Club

St. Vincent, Inc., one of the leading Vincentian cultural groups in the U.S.

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40th Anniversary of Vincy Mas...

Continued from page 18

Ambrose said the 40th Anniversary of Vincy Mas Committee hopes to introduce some new shows in the Vincy Mas program, which starts as early as January 2017.

"Our presence here is, of course, to give you an early little teaser of our special program for Vincy Mas 40th Anniversary celebration," he said, adding that the Committee is staging events in different parts of St. Vincent and the Grenadines, "which would showcase talents of the components leading to the hype of the official launch of the festival."

Ambrose said that date is set for May 6; carnival dates are from June 20 to July 11, 2017.

Adams said his focus as new committee chairman goes by the acronym "Madness."

He said "m" represents marketing; "a" for accountability; "d" for development; "n" for natural interest; "e" for embracing change; "s" for shows; and the other "s" for synergies.

"I invite all to Vincy Mas 2017, where we will continue to celebrate the hottest carnival in the Caribbean," he said. "Congratulations to all predecessors who brought Vincy Mas to this point.

"We are now 40 and, when you turn 40, it is a new era when you can be more confident and explore new opportunities in life," he added. "So, too, will Vincy Mas embrace this new era."

McKie urged nationals not only to come home for Vincy Mas but to come home for other activities, stating: "We have now reached the stage, where we can boast [of] a whole calendar of events in St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

"I want you to pay attention, because there are a lot of activities for you in St. Vincent and the Grenadines, because if you don't others will," he warned.

"Put your hands to St. Vincent and the Grenadines," he urged. "For the next 10 years, St. Vincent and the Grenadines will be envy of the Caribbean."

Beache also appealed to the audience to speak well about the homeland.

"I hear a lot of people complain," he said. "We need to stop being so negative about St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

"You can see from the team we brought up here that the Diaspora is very important," he added. "Take pride in your homeland. If, as Vincentians, we don't take pride in what you have, nobody else is going to do it for you."

New Consul General Howie Prince said: "You're asked for change, and you got it.

"So it is for you to get behind these people behind carnival in St. Vincent and the Grenadines," he added.

McDowald-Thompson told the audience that the program was "planned with you in mind, and it is planned in the form of culture."

Prince, who have already demonstrated keen interest in working closely with groups and individuals in the US Diaspora - "a breath of fresh air,"



Scorcher performs at the 40th anniversary launch of Vincy Mas.
 Photo by Nelson A. King



Winston Soso entertains with "I Don't Mind."
 Photo by Nelson A. King

observers say — prepared the program's agenda, while free refreshments were prepared.

Scorcher performed "Wake Up the Party," "Sweetness is my Weakness" and "Party Fever."

Among others, Bomani sang "Dis Island;" Dennis Bowman wanted Vincentians to "Take Care of SVG" and commended construction of the "Argyle International Airport;" Briggo "Welcome to St. Vincent and the Grenadines;" Mozart gave a warm "Welcome to Vincy Mas;" and Soso wrapped up the entertainment, which interspersed the ceremony, with his signature "I Don't Mind."



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BY CAMILLE SPERRAZZA

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Tropical Bar: Say aloha to the place where teens enjoy drinks that include virgin pina colodas, strawberry daiquiris, and frozen sensations.

Food: A buffet loaded with fun food, customize designed to taste. Among the offerings: taco stations, a mashed potato bar, and sliders. For dessert, there's an ice cream sundae bar, candy tables, and Sirico's famous chocolate fountain.

Decorations: Select from in-house designs and decorations, tailored to teens. Balloon center pieces are always a hit.

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Every special occasion calls for unique needs, and Sirico's accommodates them all. Whether it's an anniversary, retirement, Communion, Confirmation, corporate event, or other special occasion, Sirico's is the place to be.

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Mark Justh and Dan Dolgin legally farm hemp in upstate New York — and the plant could become a cash crop in the Caribbean.

Associated Press / Mary Esch

Industrial Hemp to be explored at big Carib conference

By Nelson A. King

The Institute for Caribbean Studies (ICS) says that industrial hemp and medical marijuana will be explored this week at a major Caribbean conference in Washington, D.C.

The Washington D.C.-based institute is urging the public to join Dennis Ramdahin, its agribusiness advisor, "as he brings his passion for all things Hemp" to the Invest Caribbean Agribusiness Forum on Nov. 17 to 18.

"ICS has been championing a hemp initiative since 2014, and the initiative is now being discussed in the Caribbean in several countries at the national level for policy amendment and research experimentation, leading up to enterprise development," said Dr. Claire A. Nelson, the institute's Jamaican-born founder and president on Saturday.

Nelson noted that industrial hemp is not a drug, unlike its cousin strain.

She said while the plant may look identical to marijuana, its but Tetrahydrocannabinol — known as THC — content is a mere 0.03 percent of what marijuana contains.

"This means it is practically impossible to use or trade industrial hemp as a drug, and smoking it will not create any toxic or hallucinating effect," Dr,

Nelson said.

"We anticipate former sugarcane lands in many islands that can be used for growing hemp, and when integrated with sugarcane, can generate a 30 percent sugar cane production increase," she added.

Nelson said Hemp production "will feed directly" into processing of textiles, oils, high strength composites, food, hemp milk, and a list of other viable commercial products and commodities, such as hempcrete.

She said hempcrete is a super high-strength concrete formulation for building houses and structures, that is much cheaper, stronger and lighter than traditional concrete, and eliminates the need for aggregates.

Nelson said the ICS has introduced Vihara Sustainable Solutions (U.S) and Textile and Composite Industries (Australia Pvt. Ltd) Joint Venture (VSS-TCI JV) as the technical experts on Industrial Hemp to advise Caribbean governments on formulating implementation plans for scalable contributions.

"Why not attend the upcoming Invest Caribbean 2016 on Nov. 17 to 18, and open the doors to the wider world and be in the vanguard of change to 'Farm the Future,'" Nelson said.

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Retired NYPD detective wants to train Caribbean police officers

By Alexandra Simon

A former New York detective wants to train cops in the Caribbean.

The Caribbean Law Enforcement Foundation will partner United States law enforcement professionals with counterparts in the Caribbean to provide on-the-job education, because the region needs lessons on how to better keep the peace, the organization's president said.

"Our primary goal is to make Caribbean law enforcement and first responders better at what they do with training," said David Watson, a former NYPD detective and leader of the foundation. "As far as advanced training we get here, it's not like that in the Caribbean — and when they do, it's only once a year."

Many Caribbean countries do not have money for instruction, according to Watson, a Barbados-native and former officer with the 77th Precinct in Crown Heights.

"Majority of law enforcement budget from the Caribbean goes to salary and uniforms — the bulk of it," said Watson. "The cars, the paperwork — a bulk of it goes to those places so what suffers is training. My goal is to raise money for the foundation and help



Gregg Roberts talks about programs headed by current and former NYPD at the launch of the Caribbean Law Enforcement Foundation.

Devonte Cleghorn

fund trainers going to Caribbean."

Watson intends to use the cash and training to help Caribbean police departments improve counterterrorism operations, combat drug-trafficking, navigate hostage situations, increase community policing, and better respond to natural disasters.

He will connect U.S.-based first responders and intelligence agencies with Caribbean law departments with help from the Regional Security Sys-

tem — a multinational Eastern Caribbean security defense cooperation, he said.

"What we will do start asking units around the New York Police Department and guys from the Caribbean will ask us if we have this training available and we will send personnel," said Watson.

Watson aims to use his connections to New York City law enforcement to get officials to let officers go down to the Caribbean. Previously, officers travelled to new York for training — which cost \$3000-\$4,000 for travel, room, and board — but Watson's plan will cost half that, he said.

"It will cost us about \$2,000 to send a trainer — and you can get a ticket to the Caribbean for \$150," Watson said.

Watson hopes to raise \$50,000 by September to fund the program, and says the support of the Caribbean community locally is important for the foundation to ensure livelihood of their native countries.

"This will improve your country overall," said Watson. "When cops are rude and you don't know why, it's their lack of training. The training will improve the quality of life for family and distant relatives."

Measured urged to reduce diabetes

By Nelson A. King

On World Diabetes Day on Monday, United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-moon called for preventative measures to reduce diabetes and associated blindness.

According to the U.N., the global rate of diabetes has nearly quadrupled since 1980, with some 422 million adults living with diabetes as of 2014.

"The disease shortens lives and, if not managed, can cause severe complications such as amputations, strokes or kidney failures," said Ban in his message. "It has devastating impacts on household budgets and national economies."

This year, the Secretary-General especially focuses on the fact that diabetes is a leading cause of poor eyesight and blindness worldwide, the U.N. said.

"Because the changes are painless and gradual, people often only realize they have a problem when their eyesight finally begins to fail," Ban said. "At that point, it can be too late to improve or restore vision."

He urged people with diabetes to have their eyes examined regularly by trained personnel in order to identify problems and receive advice and treatment.

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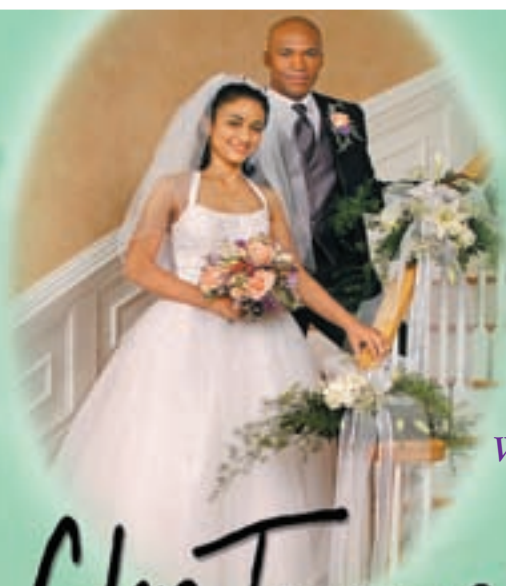


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U.N. says World closer to ending modern slavery

By Nelson A. King

With an international protocol on forced labor coming into force, the United Nations labor agency, the International Labor Organization, says the world is closer in ending modern slavery.

The agency said the attainment of the protocol is a major milestone in the fight to end modern slavery, which is estimated to victimize 21 million people worldwide.

The Forced Labor Protocol "requires countries to take effective measures to prevent and eliminate forced labor, and to protect and provide access to justice for victims," said Director-General Guy Ryder in a joint statement with the heads of the International Organization of Employers (IOE) and the International Trade Union Confederation.

The Protocol, adopted by the International Labor Conference in 2014, entered into force this week, a year after it gained its second ratification, the agency said.

It means that all countries that have ratified — Niger, Norway, United Kingdom, Mauritania, Mali, France, Czech Republic, Panama, and Argentina — now have to meet the obligations outlined in the Protocol.

It said Argentina signified their commitment to ending modern slavery by

becoming the ninth country to ratify the Protocol.

Argentina will also host the upcoming IV Global Conference on child labor and forced labor in November 2017 in the capital Buenos Aires.

The agency said victims of forced labor worldwide include farm workers, migrants, domestic workers, seafarers, women and girls forced into prostitution, "and others who are also abused, illegal, exploited and paid little or nothing."

The group estimates that forced labor illegally generates \$150 billion annually.

"We all have a role to play, and if we join forces, the end of forced labor is within reach," said IOE Secretary-General, Linda Kromjong.

Sharan Burrow, General Secretary of the International Trade Union Confederation stressed the legally binding nature of the Protocol.

"That means the more governments that ratify and ensure it is implemented, the closer we'll be to eliminating slavery once and for all," she said.

The U.N. said the group of organizations is leading the "50 for Freedom campaign," with the aim of raising awareness and encouraging at least 50 countries to ratify the Protocol by 2018.



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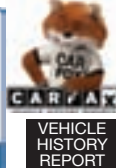
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Funding available to regulate tobacco

By Nelson A. King

The United Nations says new funding is now available to support tobacco control implementation for low and middle-income countries, such as those in the Caribbean, through the World Health Organization Framework Convention on Tobacco Control, currently the strongest global instrument to control tobacco.

The U.N. said that if current patterns continue, tobacco will kill about 1 billion people during the 21st century.

By 2030, 80 percent of those who die due to tobacco use will be those who live in low and middle-income countries, the U.N. warned.

The new project will be delivered by World Health through a collaboration with the United Nations Development Program and other partners, the U.N. said. One hundred and seventy nine countries and the European Union are parties to the Convention.

The U.N. said the partnership will provide support to low- and middle-income countries as they move to implement new control strategies and policies.

The Convention is expected to greatly reduce tobacco use if implemented properly, the U.N. said.

HEALTH

“In developing countries, the deleterious effects of tobacco are primarily treated as a health matter, which, though important, overlooks serious secondary impacts on social, economic, and environmental progress,” the U.N. said.

“Tobacco control is a development issue, and successful regulation relies on the contributions from sectors such as commerce, trade, finance, justice, and education,” it added. “This is why the international community has agreed to incorporate the implementation of the WHO FCTC throughout the entire 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals, not only Goal 3, which addresses health and wellbeing.”

Dr. Vera Luiza da Costa e Silva, one of the organizers of the push, said the implementation is critical in advancing sustainable development.

“Through the new project, we will take implementation of the WHO FCTC to a new level by providing support and guidance to developing country Parties,” she said.



A worker rests as tobacco dries in Cuba. The World Health Organization and the United Nations report that tobacco products will kill 1 billion people in the 21st century.

Associated Press / Ramon Espinosa

Through the new initiative, the U.N. said low and middle-income countries will be able to create and strengthen coordination mechanisms and action across sectors to implement the plan.

Examples include treaty obligations to ban tobacco advertising and promotion, guarantees that tobacco packaging comes with health warnings, putting an end to smoking in enclosed public spaces and in the workplace, tax increases for tobacco products, and safeguards to keep public health policies free from

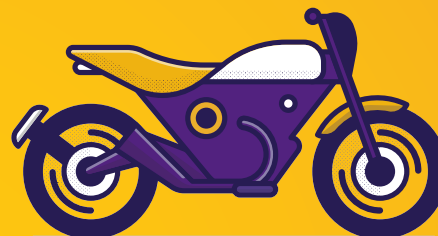
tobacco industry interference.

Prior work by the U.N. and Parties to the Convention has revealed support in a number of areas related to social and economic development, according to the U.N.

“Efficient tobacco control measures can have positive impacts on investment and country-specific plans for increasing non-health sector engagement in order to protect health policies that are integral to the implementation of the SDGs,” the U.N. said.



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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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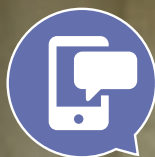
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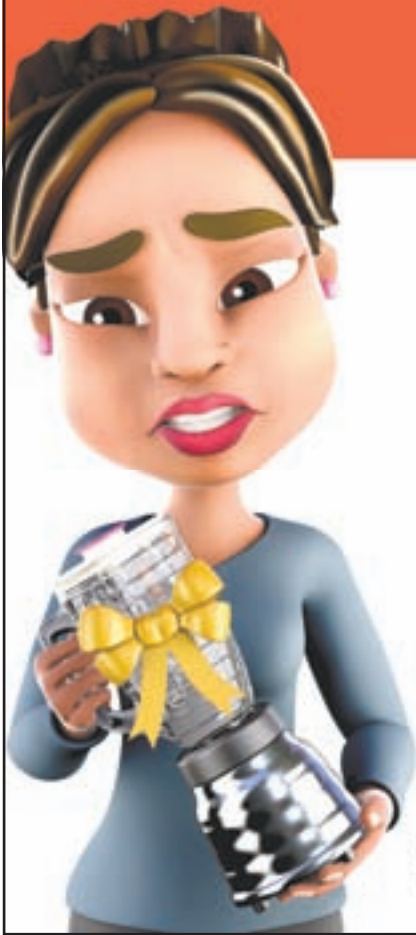
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Dancing to perfect: Francis Acevedo, front, practices his bomba dancing skills during the instructional class. Photo by Caleb Caldwell

Dance class connects with Puerto Rican tradition

By Alexandra Simon

Rug-cutters are turning, twisting, and connecting to their roots at “Where Kathak and Bomba Meet in Me,” a two-week series of dance classes around the city combining traditional Indo-Guyanese and Puerto Rican styles and teaching the history and basics of both.

Participants in the first class on Nov. 8 learned the basics of bomba — a drum-based rhythmic Puerto Rican style with some origins in Africa, which one participant said really helped her connect to her heritage.

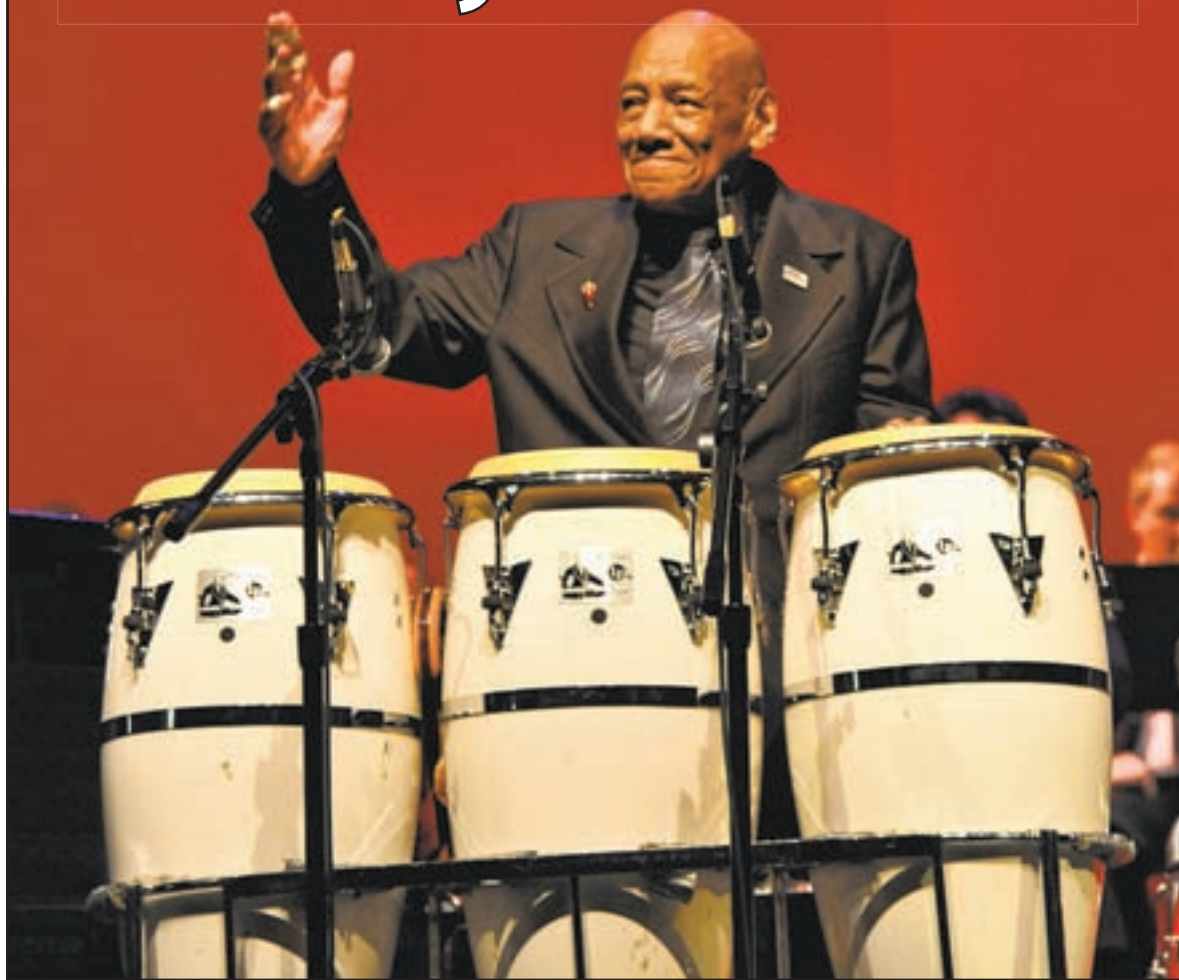
“I’m Puerto Rican and it was very appealing to me that I got to learn more about my culture,” said Dalia Velez, who is of Puerto Rican descent. “From learning about the culture behind bomba and learning about the relationship to people on the island and how it began — I found it to be very enjoyable.”

The instructor says the class of about 10 students followed his movements very well, but the highlight for him was seeing some struggle with the steps, because he was able to explain that the style was created by enslaved Africans who were also frustrated by their restricted movement, and participants were able to use that history to express themselves and connect with the music.

“I watched quite a few get frustrated, but when these Africans were

Continued on Page 44

ADIOS, CANDIDO



Farewell: Cuban-American jazz legend Cándido Camero will play his final show at City College on Nov. 18. The popular percussionist is retiring from his congas at 95 years old. Yaritza Acosta Hernandez

SAYING ‘GOODBYE’ TO A LEGEND

By Alexandra Simon

Retiring Latin-jazz phenom Cándido Camero is playing a final farewell on Nov. 18.

The Cuban-born conga player is leaving behind a decorated 70-year career and will perform one last time for his New York fans at a tribute show at City College Center of the Arts. After seven decades of playing congas, he says his time has come.

“Well, I think it’s time to have some rest,” said Camero, who has been beating drums since he was a

teen. “I’ve been playing professionally since I was 14 years old and I’m 95 now. I just thank god that I’ve been all over the world playing with big names.”

Camero got his start on homemade drums that his father fashioned out of two empty cans of condensed milk, he said.

“I would play it, and one day my grandfather said, ‘Let him play, and he will be famous all over the world’ — and I’m very lucky and very proud to be where I am.”

He is the most-recorded conga player and percussionist in history, having lent his talents to more than 600 songs along the road to international recognition.

Camero may be taking a break from the professional grind, but he will never get tired of music, he said.

“I want more and more all the time — the word ‘tired’ doesn’t exist to me,” Camero said. “It makes me feel wonderful to see the reaction of the people everywhere I go. They

Continued on Page 44

TOP OF THE CHARTS

TOP 10 SINGLES



- 1 **Closer**
The Chainsmokers Feat. Halsey
- 2 **Starboy**
TheWeekend Featuring Daft...
- 3 **Let Me Love You**
DJ Snake Featuring Justin Bieber
- 4 **Heathens**
twenty one pilots
- 5 **24K Magic**
Bruno Mars
- 6 **Cheap Thrills**
Sia Feat. Sean Paul
- 7 **Treat You Better**
Shawn Mendes
- 8 **Side to Side**
Ariana Grande
- 9 **Don't Wanna Know**
Maroon 5 Feat. Kendrick Lamar
- 10 **I Hate U I Love U**
gnash Feat. Olivia O'Brien

TOP 10 ALBUMS



- 1 **HERE**
Alicia Keys
- 2 **Trolls**
Soundtrack
- 3 **This House Is Not For Sale**
Bon Jovi
- 4 **A Pentatonix Christmas**
Pentatonix
- 5 **Black America Again**
Common
- 6 **Collage (EP)**
The Chainsmokers
- 7 **Hamilton: An American Musical**
Original Broadway Cast
- 8 **NOW 60**
Various Artists
- 9 **Joanne**
Lady Gaga
- 10 **Chaos**
Attila



Forest Whitaker: 'Arrival' interview

Earth to Forest!

Forest Whitaker was born in Longview, Texas on July 15, 1961, but raised in Carson, California from the age of 4. He earned an athletic scholarship to Cal Poly Pomona where he switched his major to music after a back injury prematurely ended his football career.

Forest made his big screen debut in 1982 in "Fast Times at Ridgemoor High" en route to delivering memorable performances in "Platoon" and "Good Morning Vietnam." In 1988, he landed his breakout role as saxophonist Charlie Parker in "Bird," before subsequently starring in such critically acclaimed pictures as "The Crying Game," "Smoke," and "Ghost Dog."

In 2007, Forest won an Academy Award for his chilling impersonation of Idi Amin in "The Last King of Scotland." Since then, he's starred in such box-office hits as "The Great Debaters," "The Butler," "Southpaw," and "Taken 3." And later this year, he'll play Saw Gerrera in "Rogue One," the upcoming "Star Wars" story.

Here, he talks about his latest outing as Colonel Weber opposite Amy Adams and Jeremy Renner in "Arrival," an alien invasion adventure directed by Denis Villeneuve.

Kam Williams: Hey Forest, thanks so much for the time. I really appreciate it.

Forest Whitaker: Hey, Kam. Sorry for the early morning call.

KW: No problem. What city are you in?

FW: London, but I'm on my way to South Africa later today after I finish this film.

KW: Which movie are you working on next, "Burden?"

FW: No, I already finished "Burden." That's another interesting film, actually. We just wrapped that up about a week ago. I liked the way they did it and I felt that the story was really powerful, so I'm hopeful.

KW: Then what movie are you shooting in South Africa?

FW: One about Archbishop Desmond Tutu called "The Forgiven." It's about the Truth and Reconciliation Trials he conducted after the fall of Apartheid.

KW: It was a remarkable way to resolve a civil conflict, to let perpetrators of war crimes off

the hook, provided they confessed publicly.

FW: Yes, I think that was the interesting thing about what happened in South Africa. It enabled them to change regimes peacefully, and not leave all the pain underneath the surface. It brought a little bit of it out, so they could address what really happened. It was a very powerful solution.

KW: What interested you in "Arrival?"

FW: I thought it was really an interesting story, first of all, the whole notion of people coming to the planet and trying to find ways of communicating with them. But I thought the understory of time, and of how time exists in our lives.

I also found my character, the cast and the director very interesting. So, it all made sense to give it a try.

KW: I loved both "Prisoners" and "Sicario" by this director.

FW: Yeah, Denis is a really good filmmaker.

KW: Here, he's made a very sophisticated contribution to the alien invasion genre. How would you describe your approach to playing Colonel Weber? Did Denis suggest anything?

FW: Wow! I'm trying to remember what he might have suggested. We had some meetings and stuff where we talked about the character and worked on it. I think, first, I was trying to figure out where Weber was from. That sort of involved locking in his speech patterns and creating that back history. You know what I mean?

KW: Yeah.

FW: I'd played military men before, but this felt a little different, maybe because of my task. So, I was trying to understand that, as well as this notion of running a team the way Denis wanted me to do it, by splitting powers. And then it all started falling into place and taking on a reality as I began to embrace the idea that I was trying to save the world.

KW: I know that you worked with Jeremy Renner a decade ago in "A Little Trip to Heaven." How was it reuniting with him?

FW: Yeah, Jeremy's a great guy. That was a little independent film directed by Baltasar Kormakur. It was fun working with him then, and fun work-



Forest Whitaker in "Arrival."

Paramount Pictures

ing with him now. He's a really generous, good person who's there, committed to having everything work out, and who you like being around.

KW: Was this your first time working with Amy Adams? How was that?

FW: It was. I enjoyed it. The movie was so much from her mind. She was very focused in on it. And when we tried to get the different scenes we shared to work, there was something happening inside of them every time. So, she's a really talented actress. Really strong!

KW: What would you say was the movie's message?

FW: I think it has several messages. One is about communication, because the film does deal with trying to communicate with these beings. Another message is about how communication can bring us together. And a third is about misconceptions in terms of how we read people and how we read circumstances. Meaning, are these people coming to create war or not? Are they our friends? How are we interpreting their actions? We look at people differently culturally, in this case, as different galactically, or however way you'd say it. How do we engage them? How do we judge them? I think another issue explored in the film is time. From a scientific point of view, it raises the question of whether it exists at all. And secondly, if it doesn't exist, it asks are we nevertheless on this plane of a loop that still holds the universe up? [Laughs] I think it poses that question, too.

KW: How do you feel about aliens? Do think that life exists on other planets?

FW: I think it must, when

they talk about how many other galaxies there are. Even scientifically, they're acknowledging that there are places where life could exist. And we've already discovered that there's been life on certain planets that we've explored. That may just be algae or whatever, but life on Earth began a certain way, too. So, yeah, I do believe there's life other than on our planet.

KW: What do you care to share about playing Saw Gerrera in "Rogue One?"

FW: I'm excited about it. I think he's a really interesting character. It was a very exciting project to work on. He walks in the middle ground of trying to save the universe by any means necessary. He's a freedom fighter and a rebel. The whole piece, which deals with those kinds of concepts, is really strong.

KW: What's it like to join that franchise?

FW: I'm still discovering it. I'm looking at the toys and other releases that are coming out. It's a big universe that I'm still learning to walk inside of. But I really enjoyed it when I walked out on the set for the first time. And I've remained excited during the entire process. Just trying on my uniform was itself an exciting process.

KW: Did you meet George Lucas while working on the project?

FW: No, he came and met with the director, but I wasn't there.

KW: Finally, what's in your wallet?

FW: My driver's license, some credit cards, a laundry card, pieces of papers I've written things on, some notes I made to myself about things I need to remember, and a few bucks.

Aging actor adjusts to diminished prospects

No Pay, Nudity

Excellent (3.5 stars)

Rated R for pervasive profanity

Running time: 92 minutes

Distributor: Monterey Media

Lawrence Rose is the stage name of Lester Rosenthal (Gabriel Byrne), a former television star whose career has been in a tailspin ever since his doctor character was killed off a popular, daytime soap opera. Consequently, the aging actor now fritters away his days hanging out in the lounge of the Actors' Equity union hall, hoping to land an audition that might lead to another big break.

While Lester's younger colleagues are making the most of those opportunities, he's routinely left behind to chew the fat with other waiting room regulars like pessimistic Herschel



Frances Conroy, Gabriel Byrne, Nathan Lane, and Jon Michael Hill in "No Pay, Nudity."

A Day in the Life Films

(Nathan Lane), the irascible receptionist (J.R. Horne) and the aspiring African-American (Jon Michael Hill) he's showing the ropes. He also sits there wondering whether it might be time to retire because he can

no longer take all the rejection and disappointment. The only soothing presence in this scenario is Andrea (Frances Conroy), a pleasant soul who's always accompanied by her toy poodle, Papp.

This is the thought-provoking point of departure of *No Pay, Nudity*, a poignant portrait of an over-the-hill thespian's adjustment to diminished prospects. The movie the impressive direc-

torial debut of Lee Wilkof, a veteran actor with a plethora of stage and screen credits on his resume.

As the film unfolds, we find chronically-underemployed Lester contemplating his miserable lot in life and mourning the recent loss of his beloved pet dog, Barry. It doesn't help that he is pressured by his daughter Renie (Zoe Perry) to take a job as a waiter at the restaurant where she works, and that his ex-wife (J. Smith-Cameron) thinks he's losing his looks.

The plot thickens when he's offered a supporting role in a play opening a world away in Dayton, Ohio. Will Lester downsize his elusive expectations and relocate to the Midwest, especially when it means putting on hold a budding May-December romance with Pearl (Donna Murphy), a pretty, acting class student?

Kudos to Gabriel Byrne for delivering a nonpareil performance in this plausible portrait of a fading star struggling to maintain his dignity in the face of diminished dreams.

Find a movie to see this week — the fun way

Big-Budget Films

"Bleed for This" (R for profanity, sexuality, nudity and violent images) Inspirational biopic chronicling Junior Middleweight Boxing Champ Vinny Pazienza's (Miles Teller) incredible comeback after a near-fatal car accident which left him with a broken neck. Cast includes Aaran Eckhart, Katey Sagal, Christine Evangelista, and Ciaran Hinds. (In English and French with subtitles).

"The Edge of Seventeen" (R for sexuality, profanity and underage drinking) Coming-of-age dramedy revolving around an awkward teen (Hailee Steinfeld) whose life gets even harder after her best friend (Haley Lu Richardson) starts dating her big brother (Blake Jenner). With Hayden Szeto, Woody Harrelson, and Kyra Sedgwick.

"Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them" (PG-13 for action violence) Screen adaptation of a textbook mentioned by J.K. Rowling in *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone*, set in 1926 and chronicling the adventures of a wizard (Eddie Redmayne) who ventures from Great Britain to New York City. Support cast includes Carmen Ejogo, Johnny Depp, Zoe Kravitz, Colin Far-



Kam's Kapsules

By Kam Williams

rell, Jon Voight, and Ron Perlman.

Independent & Foreign Films

"Hunter Gatherer" (Unrated) Character study highlighting a recently-paroled convict's (Andre Royo) adjustment back to society without the support of his girlfriend (Ashley Wilkerson) or family members who moved on with their lives while he was behind bars. Support cast includes Kellee Stewart, Jeannetta Arnette, and Trayvon Williams.

"I Am Not Madame Bovary" (Unrated) Battle-of-the-sexes comedy about a woman (Bingbing Fan) who sues her ex-husband (Zonghan Li) for refusing to remarry after they filed for a supposedly fake divorce in order to purchase a home reserved for singles. With Wei Fan, Tao Guo, and Hua Liu. (In Mandarin with subtitles)

"Life on the Line" (R for violence, grisly images and brief profanity) John Travolta stars in this action thriller about the unsung electricians who risk

their lives working hundreds of feet in the air to maintain the grid.

"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.

"Magnus" (Unrated) Reverential biopic about Norwegian Magnus Carlsen, child chess prodigy who became world champion at the age of 22. Featuring commentary by Gary Kasparov and Viswanathan Anand.

"Manchester by the Sea" (R for sexuality and pervasive profanity) Character-driven drama about a janitor (Casey Affleck) who becomes the guardian of his teenage nephew (Lucas Hedges) following the untimely death of his older brother (Kyle Chandler). With Gretchen Mol, Michelle Williams, and Heather Burns.

"Nocturnal Animals" (R for menacing, violence, profanity and graphic nudity) Screen adaptation of "Tony and Susan," Austin Wright's suspense thriller about an art gallery owner (Amy Adams) haunted by dark truths

revealed in a novel written by her ex-husband (Jake Gyllenhaal). Ensemble cast includes Michael Shannon, Isla Fisher, Laura Linney, Michael Sheen and Armie Hammer.

"Off the Rails" (Unrated) Obsessive compulsive documentary about Darius McCollum, a black man suffering from Asperger's syndrome who has been arrested 32 times for impersonating engineers, conductors, track repairmen and token booth clerks in order to hijack subway trains.

"Officer Downe" (R for sexuality, nudity, pervasive profanity and graphic violence) Kim Coates plays the title character in this adaptation of the sci-fi comic book about a reincarnated cop who repeatedly returns from the dead every time he gets shot to patrol the mean streets of L.A. With Tyler Ross, Lauren Luna Velez and Alison Lohman.

"A Street Cat Named Bob" (Unrated) Heartwarming biopic recounting the real-life story of a recovering drug addict (Luke Treadaway) whose life was transformed by a stray cat that crossed his path. With Ruta Gedmintas, Joanne Froggatt, Anthony Head and Darren Evans.

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Inside...

Continued from page 12

making some of the most blatant and obvious errors a winning team would have foreseen.

Although Clinton scored almost 3 million more popular votes than Trump, the DNC should have weighed the fact she was a loser in 2008.

Instead of accepting rejection from a national constituency, it seems the defeat might have bolstered a sense of entitlement as the first-runner up to clinch the presidency and as a double bonus stake claim to history's first female leader.

Disregarding any possibility of Vice President Joe Biden inheriting the place he apprenticed under a historic commander-in-chief the DNC did not seem interested in indulging the qualified Democrat.

It was clear from the start that had he run he might have been the DNC's second best choice.

In fact, Biden when pressed by the media, opted out.

By then, Clinton had already amassed a hefty cache from DNC supporters and accumulated super-delegates to ensure the party's nomination.

Something should be said for second bests, a senator from Chicago was just that when he first ran for the highest seat in the land.

Not lost in the minds of most is at the time, the DNC seemed more eager to promote the ambitious former First Lady than to elevate the young, former community activist and Harvard graduate who eventually made history.

Obama persevered in 08 and Clinton was forced to wait eight more years.

Some claimed, afterwards, the DNC encouraged Obama to make concessions yielding to her quest to take on the task of being a high-profile Secretary of State.

Whether Obama enthusiastically chose his former rival for the powerful duty of shuttle diplomacy or was encouraged heavily by the DNC, full transparency might never reveal the Democratic gesture.

Like Obama in 2008, Sen. Bernie Sanders fought to the finish. He won 22 states and promoted a progressive agenda that appealed to millennials, celebrities and the Black Lives Matter movement.

The DNC seemed to ignore the avowed socialist and forged a media blitz hailing the hope of a female pioneer.

Not since Brooklyn, Rep. Shirley Chisholm campaigned for the presidency in 1968 has anyone epitomized a candidacy declaring independence.

Like Chisholm Trump presented a commitment of being "unbought and unbossed." Trump campaigned as an equal-opportunity offender.

Some of the GOP's top leaders did not endorse him.

Not a single former president supported his bid.

Presidents George W. and H. Bush rejected Trump's ideals. The fact a third benefactor to the Bush dynasty was denied when Trump trumped Jeb could also add to his un-bossed, blitz campaign.

Trump criticized his party's war hero

Sen. John McCain calling him a coward who "surrendered" to the enemy.

Trump had choice names for the GOP's Majority Leader, Paul Ryan.

He blamed Sen. Ted Cruz's father for contributing to the assassination of Pres. John F. Kennedy. During the competitive primary season, Trump boldly declared that Lee Harvey Oswald and the father of the would-be-presidential hopeful were buddies.

Compounded by insulting comments Trump made about Cruz' wife Heidi, perhaps the once-optimistic GOP presidential contender has many more axes to grind with his former rival and new leader.

Trump flatly promised to round up 11 million immigrants for deportation.

Despite his marriage to immigrant Slovenian Melania, he vowed to rid the country of illegal aliens.

He also said he would force Mexico to pay for a wall keeping Mexicans from crossing U.S. borders.

Trump repeatedly promised than he would "jail" Clinton.

Other outrageous promises included a ban on Muslims from entering the country.

The Affordable Care Act known as Obamacare prominently factored on his agenda to change history President Obama wrote into law.

However, President-elect Donald J. Trump quickly toned down the rhetoric apparently realizing that talk is not cheap.

The stock market plummeted when news of his election awakened the world. However, it quickly rebounded when he humbly offered a positive acceptance speech vowing to unifying America and promising fairness to every American citizen.

One day later he was seen seated next to the top DEM he had assailed most consistently. Appearing almost beholding, Trump sat side by side his predecessor who he said was not a legitimate American because he was born in a foreign country.

It was at the White House that the abrasive businessman used the opportunity to right a few wrongs. He revealed he would reverse his rigid decision on the health plan and will maintain portions.

On the second day of his immediate transition period he surprised the media and others by announcing his choice to head the transformational team.

It will not be New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie as projected, but his vice presidential choice Gov. Mike Pence.

Undoubtedly, Trump has a few more surprises to unload.

While fear seems to be the overriding emotion among some Dems, Americans should be confident about the provisions of the Constitution.

It seems one of the biggest fear is that former Mayor Rudolph Giuliani will be appointed Attorney General or Secretary of State.

Another is the appointment of an extreme conservative to replace Justice Antonin Scalia on the Supreme Court.

Through all this, it would behoove everyone to remember the words of Franklin Delano Roosevelt who on his first inaugural address, Mar. 4, 1933, said:

"The only thing we have to fear is fear itself."

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West Indies' Carlos Braithwaite, right, hugs Dwayne Bravo back in August. Associated Press / Lynne Sladky

Braithwaite a top-20 player

By Azad Ali

West Indies opener Kraigg Braithwaite's huge performance in the third Test against Pakistan in the recent Third Test has moved him into the top 20 of the International Cricket Council Test rankings.

The 23-year Barbadian right-hander jumped 13 places to a career-best 19th spot in the latest batting rankings released last week.

He is the only West Indies batsman to reach the top 20. Braithwaite became the opener to remain undefeated in both innings in a Test with 142 and 60 respectively, as West Indies beat Pakistan by five wickets in Sharjah for their only victory of the limited overs and Test.

The Windies vice-captain was joined by wicket-keeper/batsman Shane Dowrich who moved up 27 places to a career-best 58, following his outstanding performance in both innings.

He made 47 in the first innings and an unbeaten 60 in the second in an aggressive batting as part of an 87-run, unbroken six-wicket stand with Braithwaite which saw West Indies complete a successful run chase early on the final day.

In the bowling rankings leg-spinner Devendra Bishoo has also enjoyed a measure of success, jumping seven places to 29th spot after taking seven wickets in the third Test.



LION'S SHARE

Top dog: Great Danes senior and former Bishop Loughlin star Imani Tate is seizing the spotlight in her final season at the University at Albany, looking to lead the squad back to another championship.

University at Albany / Bill Ziskin

Former Loughlin star ready for spotlight

By Laura Amato

It's her team now.

Former Bishop Loughlin star Imani Tate will become the de facto leader of the University at Albany women's basketball team after three years on the roster. It's a role Tate is determined to perform to perfec-

tion — particularly with a handful of major changes facing the Great Danes this winter.

"The goal of the team, always, is to win a championship," Tate said. "I know a lot of people are going to doubt us this year because of losing [all-time leading scorer] Shereesha

Richards and getting a new coaching staff, but I think we can make this work."

Tate has always been a solid scoring threat for the Danes, but her talents have long been overshadowed by Richards's ability across the court.

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Reaction...

Continued from page 1

words and phrases, leaving and encouraging unabashed bigotry, using patriotism as an accelerant. And the party that so often said they didn't believe in these things, while pushing policies that said different, was rewarded with increased power for creating this candidate."

Williams expressed dismay that America is headed for the Presidency of Trump, "a billionaire who said the most vile and bigoted things.

"So much so, he was officially endorsed by the Klu Klu Klan, a man whose candidacy was described by the head of the American Nazi Party as a 'wonderful opportunity that may never come again,'" said Williams, adding, however, that Trump's election "didn't happen accidentally, but with zeal and excitement from half of this country."

Throughout the campaign, tension had run high among a broad group of people, including Caribbean-Americans and other groups who had felt ostracized by Trump's racially charged rhetoric.

But Williams said he took "solace in history, showing us that 'this, too, shall pass.' This is the expected backlash for progress being made."

He said that, "after a period of lament, those of good consciousness will step forward and organize to turn the ship back," stating that he hopes New York

City will be a beacon for that fight.

"Unfortunately, it will not happen without tremendous damage to real human beings, families and communities," Williams lamented. "How much damage depends on how quickly we are honest with what happened on Nov. 8, and why it happened?"

New York State Assembly Member Rodneyse Bichotte, the daughter of Haitian immigrants, said "many of us did not expect the outcome that we received" on Tuesday.

"Many of us thought that we would be making history by voting in the first female president of the United States, and that we would be moving forward — stronger together," said Bichotte, the first Haitian American in New York City to be elected to the New York State Assembly.

"I have observed varied responses to the outcome — some who are angry, some who are saddened and depressed, and those who are ready to begin to go to work on strategies for 2018 and 2020," said the representative for the predominantly Caribbean 42nd Assembly District in Brooklyn.

In reiterating President Obama's views when he addressed America on Thursday about the country's peaceful transition of power, Bichotte said: "Regardless of our political preference, we are all Americans, and we need to come together as a country.

"There are competing visions for what will make America great, and one aspect

of our democracy is that we can voice our discontentment and fight for what our vision is," she said. "We are, indeed, stronger together, and this is how we must proceed. As a member of the Assembly of this great State, I will continue to be committed to doing my part in bettering the welfare of our neighborhoods, our communities, our state, and our country."

Bichotte's State Assembly colleague, Jamaican-born Nick Perry, who represents the 58th Assembly District in Brooklyn, while expressing disappointment over the outcome of the election, said it was the Democratic Party's race to win.

"In some parts of the country, we failed to get out the votes in the African-American communities," Perry told Caribbean Life Friday night. "Even in New York, we did not go out [to vote] as we should."

Perry said the consequences of Trump's victory are "immeasurable," adding that his triumph is unbelievable, but it is what it is.

"The fact that Donald Trump is the President-Elect, we have to live with that," he said. "Let's hope for a surprise — that Donald Trump can actually be a very good person.

"Whether or not you like Donald Trump, you have to accept him, even as deplorable as he was in the campaign," Perry added. "But you cannot hope for a failing president, because all of us will be affected. Our Founding Fathers did make provisions for checks and balances; no one man can destroy America.

"We have to pray that he does good things, because failure at the presidency hurts all American," he continued.

Like many New Yorkers, Mayor Bill DeBlasio, whose wife, Chirlane McCray, traces her roots to Barbados and St. Lucia, said he was deeply disappointed to learn of Donald Trump's victory Tuesday night.

"And as I've talked to many of you over the past day and a half, I understand your fears, and that the results have shaken your faith," said the mayor in an email message to supporters. "The work of democracy and building a more just and equitable society must continue long after Election Day. I am glad that we are in that fight together."

Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams, whose borough is dubbed "the Caribbean capital of America," said the United States is "defined by so many things," including its "commitment to a peaceful transition of power — that is an indispensable hallmark of democracy."

He applauded everyone who exercised their valued right to vote in Tuesday's election, and asked all to get engaged in the weeks and months ahead in the continued work that goes beyond campaign seasons — work to make all of our communities safer places, where every one of us is able to raise healthy children and families.

"That is a shared mission around which every Brooklynite, New Yorker, and American can unite," Adams said.

NYPD's 'stop and frisk' data...

Continued from page 1

ana, according to Depoo who is Guyanese and has been stopped and frisked three times.

Overall, the controversial practice has steeply declined since 2011. A Judge ruled the practice — but not the law allowing it — unconstitutional in 2013, saying it was a form of racial profiling that disproportionately targets men of color.

Desi's Rising Up and Moving hosted

a town hall in South Richmond Hill earlier this month, which Depoo led, to gather residents and community members to discuss the effects of stop and frisk and abusive policing in the Caribbean community in Queens. Depoo says the meeting is the first of what he hopes for many, especially since those communities are being affected by more than abusive policing.

"There are many Indo-Caribbean's

being affected by surveillance but we don't talk it because many organizations aren't talking about it," he said. "It's hard but we need to create a space to understand, because even though stop and frisk is supposedly gone, there are still people being stopped."

Police department officials did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Top players say 'No' to contract offers

By Azad Ali

Top all-rounder batsmen, Marlon Samuels, Darren Bravo and all-rounder Carlos Braithwaite have turned down central contracts from the West Indies Cricket Board.

The three players were recently with the Test team in against Pakistan in Sharjah.

The WICB now has 12 men and 15 women on central contracts for the period up to September 30, 2017.

The central contracts for men range from US\$100,000 to US\$150,000, while contracts for women ranged from US\$12,000 to US\$30,000.

The contracts are based on performances from Oct. 1, 2015 to Sept. 2016.

The WICB also has 90 additional players on contract for the six franchises and their salaries range from US\$15,600 to US\$30,000. Those players are part of the first-class set up.

TATE...

Continued from page 41

Now the focus is entirely on Tate and her jump shot.

"I do see people gunning for me more," said Tate, who averaged a career-best 18.3 points per season last year. "I think my approach this year just has to be more of poise and patience and seeing what the defense gives me. I know I'm going to be using screens a lot more this year and focusing on shooting off the wing."

Tate isn't just focused on her stat line this season. The former Lions star is also working to help the University at Albany program tran-

sition after long-time coach Katie Abrahamson-Henderson left the program for the University of Central Florida following the squad's first-ever National Collegiate Athletic Association tournament victory last year.

Now, Tate is working with a brand-new staff — led by head coach Joanna Bernabei-McNamee — for the first time in her college career, looking to lend her own experience to a group that hasn't quite hit its stride.

"It's actually been really different, because this coaching staff has never coached together," said Tate, who finished with nine points, six rebounds, and four assists in the Great Danes' season-opening loss to

Kentucky on Nov. 11.

"So they don't know each other's tendencies and stuff quite yet, but I think everybody has great input and initiative and stuff like that. I just know I have to be on my A-game."

That game has evolved since Tate's time at Bishop Loughlin, and the guard is thankful for that particular change heading into her final season of college hoops.

"In high school I was definitely more of a post player, even though I could shoot and do the little things on the outside perimeter," Tate said. "I think I've developed my outside game in college, I've been able to dribble out a lot more, dribble with people

on me, and see the court a lot better."

The expectations for the Great Danes are as high as ever — despite a recently acquired coaching staff and the loss of Richards. After all, the University at Albany clinched an unprecedented fifth-straight America East title last year and wrapped up the season with a 28–5 record. And Tate is determined to make sure that the team doesn't miss a step this year.

"We're chasing a championship again," Tate said. "It's a new slate, a new year, and we're all chasing after it, and we've got to go after it like we're hungry every time we go out there."

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Candido doing what he does best.

Yaritza Acosta Hernandez

Candido...

Continued from page 35

make me feel like I was born yesterday and it's so beautiful."

The jazz master has worked with legends such as Billie Holiday, Frank Sinatra, Miles Davis, and Celia Cruz, and he boasts of long-time friendships with singer Tony Bennett and fellow jazz cat Randy Weston.

"Tony Bennett sends me Christmas cards every year, and Randy — he invited me to dinner at his house the other day," he said.

At the show, Camero will perform seven of his favorite songs with a the

Unity Hall Jazz Band, ending the performance with Grammy Award-winner Bobby Sanabria and his band. It will be his last New York show and one of his last public performances — he'll play in Chicago in December and Miami in March.

Camero may be done professionally, but he won't stop slapping the skins until he's six feet under, he said.

"I'll keep playing the three congas until god says, 'That's it,'" he said.

"Cándido: The Last Legendary Music Journey" at Aaron Davis Hall at City College Center for the Arts [129 Convent Ave. between W. 133rd and W. 135th streets in Manhattan, www.citycollegecenterforthearts.org, (212) 650-6900]. Nov. 18 at 7:30 pm. \$25 (\$10 for students).

Puerto Rican...

Continued from page 35

enslaved and had to work to sunrise, they couldn't look over their shoulder," said instructor Don Angel Reyes. "I wanted them to start getting into the feeling of expressing yourself."

Even long-time bomba dancers enjoyed the class and history lesson.

"I had a blast," said Francis Acevedo, who has been dancing bomba for a decade. "I love that he emphasizes that there is no wrong or right and no judgment in the class, and I love his obvious passion for bomba."

The drum-based dance was a way for enslaved people in Puerto Rico to let loose a well as communicate with each other across language barriers, and Reyes says the form still encourages self-expression and unites people of color in the African Diaspora — something he hopes to see more of throughout the series.

"Bomba is one sure way to put a big smile on person's face on a personal level, because you get the person to express themselves in ways they didn't know before," he said. "We have to find ways to get our people together — because sometimes there's one rhythm we have and this is the one that touches directly with us."

"Where Kathak and Bomba Meets in Me," Nov. 8-20 at various locations and times, www.romaneandcompany.com. \$10-\$50.

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Bomba away: Dalia Velez performs to bomba

Felix St. between Lafayette Avenue and Hanson Place, (718) 638-5660, brooklynmusicschool.org]. Nov. 20, 5:30-9 pm.

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Aries, peace of mind may come your way after you square away all of your finances and begin developing a budget for the year to come. Enlist some professional help if necessary.

TAURUS: Apr 21/May 21
Introspection leads you on a quest to find a creative outlet, Taurus. Play to your strengths and ideas will surface, or check in with friends for inspiration.

GEMINI: May 22/Jun 21
Gemini, stick with a course of action even if you have hit a rocky road. Your efforts thus far have been extensive, and you will soon see a light at the end of the tunnel.

CANCER: Jun 22/Jul 22
Cancer, if family is not around, surround yourself with friends. This support system will prove invaluable. Express your gratitude to friends for their unwavering support.

LEO: Jul 23/Aug 23
Leo, a different way of thinking may be just the thing you need to solve a problem that's been more puzzling than you expected. Ask others for their point of view.

VIRGO: Aug 24/Sept 22
Virgo, before you can be honest with others, you have to be honest with yourself. Take a look at things you might want to change and then forge ahead in that direction.

LIBRA: Sept 23/Oct 23
Libra, if you take a roundabout route, you will still end up at the finish line. And the new perspective this route provides may benefit you in the long run.

SCORPIO: Oct 24/Nov 22
Scorpio, you may have to work a little harder to get what you want, but the results can't be denied. Focus your attention on making a name for yourself in your career.

SAGITTARIUS: Nov 23/Dec 21
There is no stopping you when you have a goal in mind, Sagittarius. Call it stubbornness or just dedication, but your ambition may open doors that remain closed to others.

CAPRICORN: Dec 22/Jan 20
Capricorn, someone close to you is interested in learning more about what makes you tick. New friendships may develop this week, so approach situations with an open mind.

AQUARIUS: Jan 21/Feb 18
Aquarius, resist the temptation to bite off more than you can chew. While you might want to prove your ability to multitask, don't do so at a detriment to your health.

PISCES: Feb 19/Mar 20
Pisces, even if you have rest and relaxation on the brain, celestial forces are pushing you in a different direction.

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