

Tenants get more legal aid

By Nelson A. King

Mayor Bill de Blasio and City Council Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito say that, for the first time, the City will fund universal access to legal services for tenants facing eviction in New York City Housing Court.

The Mayor's Office said on Sunday that a \$93 million allocation doubles the administration's existing funding for tenant legal services.

Legal services have proven effective at reducing unlawful evictions and preventing displacement, the Mayor's Office said.

It said that, since beginning an unprecedented expansion of tenant legal aid two years ago, evictions have dropped by 24 percent.

"We are the biggest city in the country to level the playing field between tenants and landlords in housing court. To anyone being forced out of their home or neighborhood, we are fighting for you. This is still your city," de Blasio said.

"Bringing more justice to vulnerable New Yorkers is a hallmark of this City Council," Mark-Viverito said. "Since passing landmark legislation in 2015 to create the Office of the Civil Justice Coordinator, the Council has tirelessly worked to figure out how to best provide legal representation to all low-income New Yorkers facing eviction.

"Today, we're closer than ever to realizing this goal," she added. "The groundbreaking legislation outlined by the City Council and the Mayor will ensure that no low-income New Yorker is

Continued on Page 6

CARICOM TO FOCUS ON US

Leaders assemble in Guyana

By Bert Wilkinson

Caribbean Community leaders begin two days of talks at their half-yearly summit in Guyana this week with the recent election of Donald Trump to the presidency of the United States, Brexit and a string of other international issues on their agenda.

Officials say that recent developments in the United States, including controversial changes to the country's immigration policies and its effects on Caribbean nations cannot escape the attention of leaders.

But just as important would be agreement on a strategy to engage with the new administration in the wake of a satisfactory level of contact with the previous administration including two summit meetings with former President Barack Obama and sessions with other high level officials including the previous secretary of state and the attorney general.

"One of the broader issues we will be looking at is relations with our international partners. Of course, since there is a new administration

Continued on Page 6



D'Marsh Fashion

One of the many creations by D'Marsh Couture. See page 33.

Photo by Tangerine Clarke



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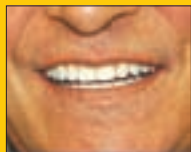
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Caribbean tourism on the uptick



One woman team: Jean P. Alexander, founder and executive director of the Caribbean American Center of New York has been running the non-profit organization alone for more than 30 years.

Community News Group / Alexandra Simon

Caribbean American Center turns 30

By Alexandra Simon

After decades of serving the Caribbean community locally and abroad, the Caribbean American Center of New York (CACNY) is celebrating its 30th anniversary this year. The Brooklyn-based center has been a leading organization in helping communities of color with a multitude of services and this is only just the start, said its founder who sees an even bigger future for the center.

"We want the center to go on with the sort of services that we can provide to impact the community for the next 30 more years," said Jean Alexander, founder and executive director of the CACNY.

"What we want to do now is a more of hands-on approach as to what is required in terms of our youth and the issues — and to deal with hardships the kids have."

A one-woman staff, Alexander has managed the non-profit organization solo for most of its existence, she said. She is also a board member for the West Indian American Day Carnival Association (WIADCA).

"Almost for the whole 30 years I've done all the typing. I do all the begging and I don't only do it for CACNY, I also do it for WIADCA," she said.

Alexander founded the Caribbean American Center of New York in 1987, not long after she immigrated to the states from Trinidad and Tobago. When she came to Brooklyn, she noticed the lack of immigrants taking advantage of services available to them and no programs geared to assisting them, she said. Recalling her childhood and having to leave school early to care for her family, she was inspired to ensure that she could help the children, particularly in avoiding situations she encountered.

By Nelson A. King

Caribbean hoteliers are predicting positive tourism performance for the Caribbean in 2017.

In announcing the results of the second annual Caribbean Hotel and Tourism Association (CHTA) Industry Performance and Outlook Study in the Bahamas, Frank Comito, director general and chief executive officer of the private sector association, said that "more than four out of five (81 percent) hoteliers have an encouraging outlook for tourism in 2017."

Comito said that the survey, conducted by CHTA, was undertaken "to assist the organization in gaining a better understanding of the state of the tourism economy, its outlook and the degree to which a number of factors impact or may affect the tourism industry."

The survey, administered during the first two weeks of this year, polled a representative sampling of hotels throughout the Caribbean of varying sizes and categories, and looked at their 2016 performance and 2017 expectations for factors in areas such as employment levels, revenue, profits, capital spending, room occupancy, and rates, each forming the basis for assessing the state of the tourism economy.

In 2016, hoteliers reported an even split on revenue performance, with 47 percent recording an increase and a similar percentage reporting a decrease.

While expectations for the year were higher initially, last year's mixed performance came after an exceptional year for Caribbean tourism in 2015, CHTA said.

"Hoteliers entered 2016 with high performance expectations, but these were tempered as a combination of unanticipated factors surfaced during the year," Comito said.

These events included a warmer than usual winter in the region's primary feeder markets, Canadian and UK exchange rates, Brexit, the threat of Zika, and



Frank Comito addresses the media at Caribbean Travel Marketplace. CHTA

political and economic certainty in parts of the world, according to the survey respondents.

Despite this, the profitability picture improved over the previous year, with most hotels registering a net profit in 2016, the survey said.

Seventy-eight percent of respondents reported a net profit, while 22 percent reported a net loss.

Looking ahead, in 2017 more than two-thirds (67 percent) anticipate an increase in revenue, and 56 percent expect a slight improvement in profits, according to the survey.

Comito said it was encouraging that about 55 percent of hotels also increased capital expenditures in 2016, with a quar-

ter of those investing more than 10 percent over what they did in 2015.

"This is a positive sign and an indication of long-term confidence by Caribbean hoteliers in the industry," he said.

Although room occupancy decreased for just more than half (51 percent) of the reporting hotels, a notable proportion (29 percent) reported an increase in occupancy, according to the survey.

It found that more hoteliers are optimistic for 2017, with two-thirds expecting an increase in occupancy.

This year, about 55 percent of hoteliers expect to increase average daily room rates (ADR), while only 15 percent expect downward pressure on rates, according to the survey.

Clarke urges Congress to help Haitian nationals

By Tangerine Clarke

Congresswoman Yvette D. Clarke, on Thursday, Feb. 9, urged her colleagues in Congress to work together to aid the people of Haiti at this crucial time, in a bill she drafted to expand the temporary Protection Status (TPS) program to include all Haitian nationals who were in the United States prior to Nov. 4, 2016.

The Congresswoman made this statement to address the Haitian Emergency Relief Act of 2017 that would grant 18 months of TPS to every eligible individual.

"Temporary Protect Status for Haitian nationals living in the United States was established after the devastating earthquake in 2010 to allow Haiti to start the process of recovery and to provide invaluable support in the



Congresswoman Yvette D. Clarke.
Photo by Tangerine Clarke

form of remittances to family members there," she said.

The program the statement added was created — and extended — based on need. Those needs have increased

since Haiti suffered extensive damage during Hurricane Matthew last year, when hundreds of people were killed and thousands of families were displaced.

However, despite the difficulties in Haiti, the Department of Homeland Security previously refused to grant TPS to Haitians who reached the United States after 2011, excluding thousands of people who would deservedly benefit.

Congresswoman, Clarke said Congress must act. If enacted, the Haiti Emergency Relief Act of 2017 would allow Haitian nationals to maintain their remittances, which amount to about 25 percent of the nation's gross domestic product, and the people of Haiti to continue the process of recovery, she said.

Antigua

The Antigua and Barbuda government is considering establishing a law school and will soon conduct a feasibility study for the project.

This is according to Attorney General and Legal Affairs Minister Steadroy Benjamin who said the issue was discussed at the Executive Council meeting of the Legal Education when it met recently in Jamaica.

He said the government will be retaining the services of a specialist in this area to conduct a study to show how many persons in the region who wish to be educated and are unable to find places, because the law schools are overwhelmed.

Benjamin said Guyana is in the process of undertaking a similar study.

Last month, Guyana signed an agreement with the University College of the Caribbean (UCC) and the Law College of the Americas (LCA) as it moves to establish its own law school and ease the difficulties being experienced by Guyanese students wishing to attend the Hugh Wooding Law School in Trinidad and Tobago.



Haiti's new president sworn in

Haiti's President Jovenel Moise sits with his wife Martine during his swearing-in ceremony at Parliament in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, Tuesday Feb. 7, 2017. See story on page 14.
Associated Press / Dieu Nalio Chery

Barbados

Three St. Vincent and the Grenadines students, who were due to return to their homeland, were among four people killed in a recent two-car crash in Barbados, which also claimed the life of a Barbadian.

The three dead teenagers were part of a seven-member group who had been in Barbados since last December for an internship program at the Crane Resort, St. Phillip and were due to depart the island on Jan. 29, 2017.

Police said that Daneë Devery Horne, 17, Carianne Lee-New Padmore, 19 and Aziza Awanna Dennie, 18, died as a result of the crash and that two other St. Vincent and the Grenadines nationals, Darren Renaldo Daniel, 18, and Kemelius, 21 escaped death.

Investigators said the driver of the other vehicle in the accident, Andre Jabarry Gittens, 23, also died.



Grenada

Grenada Prime Minister Dr. Keith Mitchell has chastised former finance minister Nazim Burke for not paying taxes owed to the state for several years.

Government figures show that Burke, who served as finance minister under the previous National Democratic Congress (NDC) government, did not pay taxes for the years 2011, 2012 and 2013.

In a television interview Dr Mitchell said an EC\$30,000 tax relief was offered to Burke, who was due to receive more than EC\$70,000 dollars in gratuity.

Burke wrote to the prime minister, who is also the minister of finance asking for relief on the fact that he did not pay, Mitchell told television viewers.

Mitchell asked, "How could a minister of finance of a country, that has tax liabilities of your family for 2011, 2012, and 2014 and you did not pay and you



are calling on us to pay?"

Burke has denied owing the government EC\$478, 456.91 saying that he is owed funds by the government.

He said the government owes him EC\$21,300 and he does not owe the government any money.

Jamaica

Jamaica police have warned that gangs are recruiting children after a 14-year-old boy was arrested by police with a firearm and several rounds of ammunition.

Assistant Commissioner of Police Ealan Powell is calling on the community; parents, the churches and schools to play a greater role in guiding these youngsters who are "ripe" for recruitment by gangsters.

Powell, who heads the Criminal Investigation Branch, questioned the circumstances in which the 14 year-old had been found with gun recently.



Police were conducting a stop and search exercise when a 9 mm pistol with seven rounds of ammunition was found tucked in the teenager's waistband.

St. Kitts

St. Kitts and Nevis is moving to establish a labor code that will serve to improve the laws governing the world of work and better relations between employers and employees.

Labor Minister Vance Amory made the revelation at a town hall meeting on Jan. 24 dubbed "Good Governance and Accountability for Prosperity".

Amory said the government has taken a positive approach to labor issues since taking over the reins of government in 2015. This would include the creation of the code, which is essentially the revision, upgrade and amalgamation of related laws.

Consultations were held between



Continued on Page 16


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Secretary-General of CARICOM Irwin LaRocque. Caribbean Community

Continued from page 1

in the United States, there will be discussions," Secretary-General Irwin LaRocque said. "That will be the tenet of the discussions we will be having."

Nationals of some Caribbean countries, even some with green alien registration cards, remain on edge in the wake of moves by federal officials to round up and deport undocumented immigrants and permanent residents with even minor misdemeanor criminal infractions.

This aspect of relations with the US is not likely to be the linchpin of discussions among the leaders. Officials say the bent would be more to find a way to formally engage an inward-looking and insular administration to ensure Washington remembers that the bloc of 15 nations actually exist.

Additional areas of discussion would include continued trouble some regional banks are experiencing in getting mega American banks such as Citi, Chase and Bank of America to process wire transfers, checks and other transactions because of tighter regulations from federal agencies.

BOA in particular has severed ties

with most of these banks, forcing some to engage British Crown Agents Bank to process transactions at much higher rates than previous.

Antiguan Prime Minister Gaston Browne will lead the presentation on this issue as he had done at the main annual summit also in Guyana last July.

Meanwhile, leaders will also have extensive discussion on the establishment of a region-wide arrest warrant system that would make the transfer of prisoners and suspects easier than is the case today. Guyana's President and current bloc Chairman David Granger is the lead spokesman on this issue.

Additionally, leaders will also examine a system to make the recovery of assets from one jurisdiction stashed in another easier for law enforcement agencies to levy on. LaRocque said that "the process for this is very, very advanced" but he was unsure whether the agreement will be ready for leaders to adopt and sign this week.

More funds for evicted tenants

Continued from page 1

forced from their home without legal representation."

The new funds are on top of the City's unprecedented \$62 million-a-year commitment to expand legal services for tenants, which was launched in 2014, according to the Mayor's Office.

It said the new funds will be phased in over the next five fiscal years, starting with \$15 million in Fiscal Year 2018, to reach \$93 million by 2022.

At full implementation, the Mayor's Office said the City's investment in anti-eviction legal services will total \$155 million.

It said the City Council will memorialize the program in legislation.

Since January 2014, the Mayor's Office said administration-funded legal service programs have served more than 34,000 households and assisted more than 100,000 New Yorkers.

The number of tenants in Housing Court with legal representation has risen to 27 percent, up from 1 percent in 2013, the Mayor's Office said.

It said evictions by City Marshals have decreased 24 percent, representing more than 20,000 New Yorkers who were able to stay in their homes in 2015.

Universal access will provide free legal representation in court to New Yorkers with household incomes below roughly \$50,000 (200 percent of the

federal poverty level for a family of four), and legal counseling to those earning more, the Mayor's Office said.

The City estimates 400,000 New Yorkers will be served under the program every year at full implementation.

"It is one thing to talk about the battle that may be impending with the Trump Administration, it is another to prepare for it with tools and resources. As chair of the Committee on Housing and Buildings, I commend the Mayor on the announcement made today," said Council Member Jumaane D. Williams (D-Brooklyn), Deputy Leader of the City Council.

"It moves our city dramatically forward in helping keep New Yorkers in their homes," added the representative for the 45th Council District in Brooklyn. "The lack of preservation of affordable units and insufficient investment in low-income construction are prime drivers of our record homelessness.

"Today, with the historic Right to Counsel being funded, and the addition of 10,000 units being steered to low and extremely-low income, we will help push back on flippant evictions and take a big step toward providing units of housing for those who need it most," he continued. "No longer will low-income New Yorkers have to face the prospect of showing up to court with inadequate legal representation, just because of a financial burden."

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Interfaith leaders get survival advice



From left : Evan Bernstein, Pastor Gilford Monrose, Etzion Neuer, Nydia Shihata, Dave Kalin, Sergeant Kevin Lonergan, Anthony Bivona and Christopher Stantzios.
Pastor Gilford Monrose

By Dawn Plummer

The security for churches, synagogues, mosques has definitely heightened. This is a new increment that calls for serious attention. Amid this, the United States visa upheaval for some immigrants has also intensified and has stirred fear and anxiety for several communities. With these spikes in uncertainties, the Brooklyn Borough President, Eric Adams hosted a seminar on Monday morning at Borough Hall, to expose faith-based leaders on ways they can help secure religious and communal institutions as well as to help secure the freedom of worship.

The forum presenters were individuals from the Federal Bureau of

Investigation(FBI); The United States Attorney's Office, Eastern District, New York; The New York City Police Department – Hate Crimes Task Force and The United States Department of Justice. This mode of presenters revealed overwhelming examples of the dangers involved when problems go unnoticed. The law enforcers explained the hidden traps, what to do to escape the disaster if the opportunity steps in. Panelist also demonstrated by videos what is at stake if groups or individuals are confronted with these catastrophic experiences. Members of the group discussed appropriate steps needed for right outs and the safety of everyone involved.

Continued on Page 20

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TOP DRIVER DISTRACTIONS

Using mobile phones

Leading the list of the top distractions behind the wheel are mobile phones. Phones now do more than just place calls, and drivers often cannot pull away from their phones, even when driving. According to the California Department of Motor Vehicles, studies have shown that driving performance is lowered and the level of distraction is higher for drivers who are heavily engaged in cell

phone conversations. The use of a hands-free device does not lower distraction levels. The percentage of vehicle crashes and near-crashes attributed to dialing is nearly identical to the number associated with talking or listening.

Daydreaming

Many people will admit to daydreaming behind the wheel or looking at a person or object outside of the car for too long. Per-

haps they're checking out a house in a new neighborhood or thought they saw someone they knew on the street corner. It can be easy to veer into the direction your eyes are focused, causing an accident. In addition to trying to stay focused on the road, some drivers prefer the help of lane departure warning systems.

Eating

Those who haven't quite mastered walking and

chewing gum at the same time may want to avoid eating while driving. The majority of foods require a person's hands to be taken off of the wheel and their eyes to be diverted from the road. Reaching in the back seat to share some French fries with the kids is also distracting.

Try to eat meals before getting in the car. For those who must snack while en route, take a moment to pull over at

a rest area and spend 10 minutes snacking there before resuming the trip.

Reading

Glancing at an advertisement, updating a Facebook status or reading a book are all activities that should be avoided when driving. Even pouring over a traffic map or consulting the digital display of a GPS system can be distracting.

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Restore Guyana to its former glory!

By Keith Benjamin

Guyana has been blessed in its history and development with public servants of the caliber of Judges like Chancellor J.O.F. Haynes, E.V. Luckhoo, Victor Crane, and Chief Justice Kenneth George. Diplomats such as Noel Sinclair, Sir Sonny Ramphal and Fred Wills. Attorneys General like Dr. Mohammed Shahubudeen, and Dr. Fenton Ram-sahoye. Solicitor generals such as Joaquin Sabola et al. The present crop cannot hold a candle to these luminaries. Gone are the days when Guyana was respected as the bread basket and brains of the Caribbean, and the land of brilliance. With all due respect to the qualifications, reputation, abilities and services, or lack thereof, of Chancellor Carl Singh (Ag.), Chief Justice Yonette Cummings (Ag.), Hon. Bayney Kar-ran, AG Basil Williams and others, we can, and must do better. We have to do, if we are to stop being the laughing stock of the Commonwealth. This problem has plagued all three administrations — Jagdeo, Ramoutar and Granger.

Most of the judicial talent has to be repatriated, and a vigorous, objective recruitment drive for the best globally must be undertaken, including advertising and utilizing foreign talent if we are to return our country and its systems to former glory. Future appointees must be deeply vetted and investigated. Other countries and scholars no longer cite our judicial decisions with pride and authority. We are already stuck with an attorney general who seems to have the wrong temperament and judgment for the job of top legal officer, a DPP who seems out of her league, an acting

chief justice who should have never been even a puisne judge, much less acting chief justice in the first place.

We simply cannot allow such seminal appointments to be bullied and trampled by anyone's caprices, whims and prejudices-or pity. Our future and heritage will be shaped by these people. We can no longer reward political patronage with selection to these positions. Talent, reputation, class and skill must be the paramount considerations to the Offices of DPP, AG, chancellor, chief justice, judges, diplomats etc. We cannot allow questionable qualifications, mediocre talent and social and political alliances to continue to deprive Guyana of its best judicial, diplomatic and public servants. Ian Change is arguably the only choice who justified his appointment as chief justice, and has the reservoir of work to prove it.

The shortcomings of unwise appointments are felt by all Guyanese all over the world. For example, where are our international representatives, especially our US Ambassador Riyad Insanally and others, on the present international crisis, pain and suffering caused by the Trump ban? They need to step up, stand up for human rights, it's not only to attend black tie dinners, sit in limos and sip champagne! Our tax dollars pay them for representing Guyanese in the USA and elsewhere. The Trump fiasco has affected Rabeeya Khan and other Guyanese citizens, and demands diplomatic action! Also, we need to appoint people who have the courage and conviction to tell the government when it is wrong!

We can, and must, do better.

Trump and traditions of the nation's founders

By Ezra Aharon

Maybe I should watch more CNN or MSNBC to be convinced since most Black people seemingly regard Donald Trump as some sort of abrupt political mutation who violates America's traditions. What I see in Trump is "America's traditional reflection in the mirror." I see the exact same hard-line and hostile government that the founders deliberately engineered with deep political and racial contradictions, where "democracy in practice" has always deviated from "democracy on paper."

So, although Trump is new to American politics, Trump's politics are not new to America. And while Trump's style is unorthodox, his ideals do not run counterclockwise against tradition. After all, how do you think America became the most powerful nation in the world in record time? Certainly not by handholding or being non-militaristic like Dr. King dreamed of nationhood. Nor by safeguarding the genuine interests of Blacks, Mexicans, and Muslims at the expense of diluting the staunch Euro-centricities of America's ideals, identity, and institutions.

Sure, it's safer to hitchhike onto the patriotic bandwagon or pretend to not see America's ugliness in the mirror, especially knowing your career or fame can nosedive. This keeps celebrities from "biting the racial hands that feed them." But the power, development, and national security enjoyed by Americans did not materialize by adherence to precepts of

Second, as Mos Def says, you then "Add the Mathematics" of 85 percent of US presidents.

morality or equality or non-violence or tolerance.

Regardless of "kum-baya" accounts that media commentators get paid millions to peddle, this country was forged into a "puritanical superpower" by WASP men who thought and acted in the very despotic and swashbuckling "American ways" that Trump now loosely babbles and brags openly...Be it impulsive comments about immigration and "bad hombre" Mexicans; or torturing Muslims with "waterboarding and a hell of a lot worse;" or military operations to "bomb the shit out of them;" or contrary to Obama's romanticized plan to close Guantanamo Bay, Trump itches to "load it up with bad dudes."

On election night after Trump dethroned Democratic heir Hillary Clinton, (subsequent to manhandling 16 other average-minded Republican candidates), well-paid media personality Van Jones tearfully whimpered: "How do I explain this to my children?"

Well, as Black people who did not arrive as colonists on the Mayflower or Arabela, it's actually quite easy...once you do not moralize the founders with credit they never really earned regarding equality. Then you address three traditional traits of Americanization.

First, explain that America ultimately became a multiethnic nation and the adopted homeland for African people — not because of the goodness of democracy — but because of the capitalist aggression and belligerent expansion of the very same US government that Trump now spearheads as a traditional throwback who the founders would be well-pleased.

Contrary to popular immigration notions, America was founded with ethnonationalist aspirations. Under George Washington the Naturalization Act of 1790 restricted citizenship to "free white person[s] — of good character." And like Thomas Jefferson who detailed a 25-year scheme to send all Blacks to Africa, Abraham Lincoln sought the same in effort to transform America into a nation for "free white people everywhere." So the Trump Doctrine to ban Muslims, build walls, and block Mexicans is neither as un-American nor unprecedented as the media purports.

Second, as Mos Def says, you then "Add the Mathematics" of 85 percent of US presidents. Explain that from George Washington to John Kennedy, 35 of America's 43 presidents (Democrats and Republicans) prior to Obama, governed over administrations where either chattel slavery or boldfaced segregation was legislatively and violently enforced from 1776 to 1964.

Third, explain that Trump's WASP-appeal to near-63 million voters festered within the modern-

Continued on Page 12

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JA's first female PM opts out from leadership

Jamaica's most foremost female leader and current principal voice of the opposition People's National Party said April 1 is the deadline date she has agreed to exit her prestigious political positions.

The trailblazing, female, Caribbean, politician who made history as the very first of her gender to be elected prime minister of the largest English-speaking island in the region and the third — following Eugenia Charles of Dominica and Janet Jagan of Guyana — made the announcement at a meeting of her party's National Executive Council.

The departure date was actually announced by Julian Robinson, the party's general secretary who told the elite membership that Portia Simpson-Miller will demit office as opposition leader on April 2.

Afterwards he informed the media.

While that date will mark her official exit from leadership, March 16 will also mark a red-letter date because the 71-year-old leader will submit her resignation as opposition leader to Sir Patrick Allen, the



Inside Life

By Vinette K. Pryce

island's governor general.

Prior to relinquishing control on the April date, she will execute her leadership role for a final time by participating in a budget debate in parliament.

In making his announcement to members of the media, Robinson said a replacement for the pioneering leader would be announced on March 26 when a special delegates' conference will be held.

The news did not come as a shock to nationals because at a meeting of the same committee last year, Simpson Miller told her party members that she would opt out as president at the next conference which is slated for September.

Her exit comes 11 years after presiding over the premiere political party to nominate a woman for prime minister and also serving twice in that pioneering position.

She entered politics in 1974

as a councilor and emerged a force when long-serving colleague and fellow comrade Prime Minister Percival J. Patterson resigned from leadership in 2006. She garnered grassroots support and was hailed affectionately as "Mama P" or "Sister P."

After completing Patterson's remaining term of office, she was defeated by Bruce Golding on Sept. 11, 2007.

Four years later when he resigned, Simpson-Miller reclaimed leadership with a resounding triumph over his successor that December.

But Andrew Holness, the ambitious contender representing the Jamaica Labour Party proved her reckoning when as the youngest ever to seek the office swept to victory ousting the historic female from leadership.

While serving as prime minister, Simpson-Miller retained the positions of Minister of



Jamaican Prime Minister Portia Simpson-Miller hugs President Barack Obama following the conclusion of their bilateral meeting at the Jamaica House, Thursday, April 9, 2015, in Kingston, Jamaica. Associated Press / Pablo Martinez Monsivais, File

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She has also served as Minister of Labor, Social Security and Sport, Minister of Tourism and Sports and Minister of Local Government throughout her political career.

Following her second election win she became the second individual since independence to have served non-consecutive terms as prime minister, the first was Michael Manley, the island's fifth prime minister.

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Death by a thousand cuts

Continued from page 10

day cracks of racial indifference and immoralities that both parties and the remaining eight presidents (Lyndon Johnson to George W. Bush) left unattended. As Trump-like Republicans have inevitably emerged in consequence, Democrats have in turn allowed breeding grounds of inequalities to fester in areas of wealth, health, housing, education, unemployment, street violence, police shootings, incarceration and recidivism.

Although Black America's present-day instabilities link largely to America's past inhumanities, both Democratic and Republican establishments have colluded to reject Congressman John Conyer's H.R. 40 legislation (since 1997) to merely "examine the institution and impact of slavery, and make recommendations on remedies." Further, neither party regards Lincoln's 13th Amendment as problematic even though it underhandedly permits slavery to exist "as a punishment for [Black] crime"... which fomented convict leasing of yesterday and mass incarceration today.

But now, after centuries of unending struggle, the same Democrat-

ic Party is ringleading Black people to flood the streets to condemn Trump's presidency after mere days ... That's like someone conniving you to blame the ground for long-term damages after pushing you off a cliff. Although anti-Trumpness does have its relevancy, the fundamental ire of conscientious Blacks should target the Democratic establishment for its unprincipledness and derelict failure to reciprocate centuries of unselfish Black loyalty.

Comparatively, while Trump brashly swings sharp-edged swords in every direction to preserve White privilege and power, Democrats exercise a stealth version of White privilege and power through artful language, customized media, and "death by a thousand cuts" tactics. Either way, as a body politic, Black people occupy the bottom-most rungs of society... just as the founders traditionally devised.

Ezrah Aharone is an adjunct associate professor of political science at Delaware State University. He is also a political and business consultant on African affairs, as well as the author of The Sovereign Psyche, Sovereign Evolution and Pawned Sovereignty. He can be reached at www.EzrahSpeaks.com.

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Prostate Cancer: Stop It Before It's Too Late

Reading newspaper articles can be fun, interesting, and entertaining, but can it save your life or the life of your loved ones?

The American Cancer Society estimates that in 2014, about 233,000 new cases of prostate cancer will be diagnosed and about 29,480 men will die of prostate cancer. About 1 in 7 men will be diagnosed with prostate cancer during his lifetime. Other than skin cancer, prostate cancer is the most common cancer in American men.

Prostate cancer can be a serious disease, but most men diagnosed with prostate cancer do not die from it. In fact, more than 2.5 million men in the United States who have been diagnosed with prostate cancer at some point are still alive today.*

In this article, we seek advice from award winning doctors at Prostate Center of Accord Physicians, general urologist Dr. Llewellyn Hyacinthe and two urological surgeons, Dr. Vitaly Raykhan and Dr. Yuly Chalik. These two are recipients of the prestigious Patient's Choice Award were also named America's Top Urologists since 2009.

They will tell us how to detect prostate cancer in its earliest stage and successfully fight it.

Doctors, what are the symptoms of prostate cancer? Can a man diagnose himself for this disease?

Unfortunately, prostate cancer will usually not exhibit outward symptoms in its early stages, so the patient is often

not aware of the presence of a tumor. Because it is important to diagnose this disease before any symptoms occur, men over age 45 are strongly encouraged to undergo an elective urological examination at least once a year.

How do you diagnose prostate cancer?

The first step in diagnosing prostate cancer is analyzing PSA (prostate-specific antigen) in blood. If cancer is suspected, a biopsy will be advisable, since it is the only test that can fully confirm the diagnosis of prostate cancer. At Prostate Center of Accord Physicians, doctors can perform a biopsy under anesthesia directly on premises.

The Prostate Center of Accord Physicians's in-house specialized laboratory enables our certified, astute pathologist to quickly and accurately study prostate cells, shortening your diagnosis and treatment time.

Given the complexity of the diagnosis and of prostate cancer in general, we urge readers to be tested only using modern equipment at the most up-to-date clinics, such as Prostate Center of Accord Physicians.

What is the most effective method of treatment offered at the Prostate Center?

When choosing a method of treatment, we take into account the stage of the cancer, the patient's age, risk of complications, as well as the wishes of the patient. There are a number of

proven treatment options available, including radiation therapy, hormone therapy, and surgical treatment.

To date, the most effective method of combating prostate cancer is radiation therapy. Intensity Modulated Radiation Therapy (IMRT) is a unique type of radiation therapy offered at Prostate Center which involves the use of computed tomography (CT) to carefully pinpoint and map the exact 3-Dimensional shape of the tumor. The software carefully calculates the dose intensity pattern that will best conform to the tumor shape. IMRT allows for more effective radiation to the prostate, while minimizing exposure to adjacent normal tissues. With a radiation oncologist with over 30 years of experience and the most modern treatment and diagnostic tools, Prostate Center of Accord Physicians is a leader in the fight against prostate cancer.

What would you say to men suffering from prostate cancer?

Being diagnosed with prostate cancer doesn't mean you should give up and stop fighting. Prostate Center of Accord Physicians can successfully treat this type of cancer if it is diagnosed in its early stages. Our treatment can prolong the lives of prostate cancer patients for many years.

We recommend that all men be more attentive to their health and to seek professional medical help when symptoms first develop.

*Information via the American Cancer Society, www.cancer.org.



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Jovenel Moise sworn in as Haiti's new president



Haiti's President Jovenel Moise walks with Police chief Michel-Ange Gedeon past National Police at the National Palace after being sworn-in at Parliament in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, Tuesday Feb. 7, 2017. Associated Press / Dieu Nalio Chery

By David McFadden

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP) — Jovenel Moise was sworn in Tuesday as Haiti's president for the next five years after a bruising two-year election cycle, inheriting a chronically struggling economy and a deeply divided society.

The 48-year-old entrepreneur took the oath of office in a Parliament chamber packed with Haitian lawmakers and foreign dignitaries from countries including the U.S., Venezuela and France. He smiled slightly as the Senate leader slipped Haiti's red and blue presidential sash over his left shoulder.

In his inaugural address during the day of prayer and platitudes, Moise gave a rough outline of his government's priorities and pledged to bring "real improvements" to the economically strapped nation, particularly the long-neglected countryside.

He urged unity and promised to strengthen institutions,

fight corruption and bring more investments and jobs to one of the least developed nations in the world.

"We can change Haiti if we work together," Moise said to applause on the grounds of what used to be the national palace, which was one of many buildings obliterated during a devastating earthquake that hit outside the capital in January 2010.

There's little expectation among citizens that Moise's new government can overcome Haiti's deep problems of poverty and economic malaise in the next five years, but he does have a majority in Parliament and some are hopeful the businessman-turned-politician will make steady advances.

"What we still really need in this country are the basics: working hospitals, better schools and security. I think it can be done," said Maxime Cantave, owner of a car wash and propane business in the Port-au-Prince district of Del-

mas 48.

Nearby, Charles Bichotte agreed but said he'd wait and see if Moise was sincere with his various vows. "We've heard so many pledges from our presidents but here we are, still struggling," said the houseplant vendor.

Robert Fatton, a Haitian-born politics professor at the University of Virginia, described the many challenges facing Moise as "herculean."

"He has to revive domestic production, increase foreign and local investments, rebuild the moribund agricultural sector, create a sense of national solidarity, and generate a sorely lacking political stability," he said, adding that all this will have to be achieved amid diminishing international assistance.

But Fatton suggested that Moise might actually benefit from citizens' low expectations of political leaders following many years of broken promises and failed policies.

"If he manages to deliver a modicum of change he may restore a sense of hope for the future," he said.

The Tuesday inauguration was the concluding step in Haiti's return to constitutional rule a year after ex-President Michel

Martelly left office without an elected successor in place amid waves of opposition protests and a political stalemate suspending elections. A caretaker government was quickly created to fill the void and pave the way for elections.

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CARIBBEAN ROUNDUP

Continued from page 4

officials from the government; employer representative groups, including the Chamber of Industry and Commerce as well as trade union representatives who speak on behalf of the workers.

The minister said the process is ongoing and must be completed in order to produce a draft document.

The wider public will then be engaged in meetings on the changes to the draft labor code before it is finalized and taken to Cabinet and then to Parliament for approval.

St. Lucia

The opposition St. Lucia Labor party (SLP) has called on minister in the Ministry of Finance Senator Dr. Ubaldu Raymond to tender his resignation following the release on social media of nude photographs purportedly of him and the arrest of an 18-year-old college student charged with attempted blackmail.

The student, identified as Curshaby Alexander of Gros Islet, recently appeared in court in Castries and will reappear later this month.

Raymond told a news conference that he was blackmailed and there have been attempts to extort monies from him through devious means.

In a statement on behalf of the SLOP, Alvina Reynolds, former minister of health, wellness, human services and gender relations, said she has been anticipating Raymond's resignation in the wake of the scandal.

Turks and Caicos Islands

Two more vessels carrying 125 Haitians, 98 males, 27 females and two juveniles were recently intercepted in the waters of the North West Point of Providenciales by police and immigration officials in the Turks and Caicos Islands (TCI).

At the time law enforcement officials were searching for bodies that may still be in the waters when another vessel capsized in the same area.

The Royal Turks and Caicos Islands Marine Police intercepted

a 36-foot wooden boat about three miles from South Doc with the Haitians aboard.

Another boat was intercepted two miles from Five Cays with 53 men and seven females.

A total of 178 persons from both sloops were taken to the Detention Center and handed over to immigration officials for processing and repatriation.

This brings the total number of persons caught attempting to enter the TCI for the month of January 2017 to 275.



Trinidad

Opposition leader Kamla Persad-Bissessar has written to US President Donald Trump, asking him to state his position on the Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (FATCA).

She by-passed Prime Minister Dr. Keith Rowley and wrote to President Trump recently informing him of the "controversy" the FATCA legislation has caused Trinidad and Tobago.

She wrote; "As we consider the full impact of FATCA compliance on our citizens, taxpayers and institutions, as well what some see as a compromise of the sovereignty in submitting to a foreign law, it is appropriate to ask you about what your administration plans to do about FATCA."

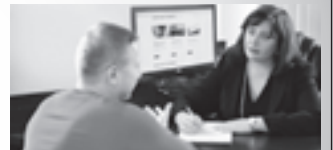
The former prime minister added; "specifically, as you know, the Republican Party Platform for 2016 calls for its repeal." She was referring to March 2015 2015 bill brought by Paul, titled S.663.

In that bill, Rand Paul described FATCA as a "complete violation of every American's constitutional right to privacy and adds burdensome regulations that negatively impact our country. It is a defective law which disregards the mutual respect of sovereignty among nations and drains money from the federal treasury, on top of discouraging overseas investment in the United States."

— compiled by Azad Ali

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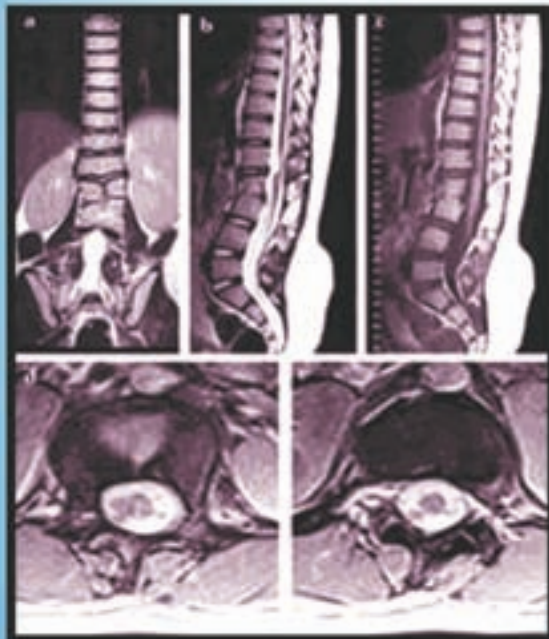
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What is the right age for braces?

Dental braces have been used for decades to correct various alignment and spacing issues in the teeth. Braces can be crucial to the future of one's oral health and prevent serious issues down the line.

Roughly 25 percent of the people in North America who get braces are adults. But braces still are geared toward young people and getting them on the road to straight and properly aligned teeth early on.

Braces correct a number of problems, including re-aligning the jaw and alleviating overcrowding of teeth. Crooked teeth can trap food and debris between them, making it harder to floss and brush. Wearing braces also corrects the bite. If teeth or jaws are not aligned correctly, it can lead to difficulty chewing food or create jaw muscle pain. Braces also may boost self-confidence because they can remedy



Parents should speak to a dentist or make an appointment with an orthodontist to evaluate their children's treatment needs.

appearance issues that may prove embarrassing.

Parents eager to get their children on the road to straighter teeth may wonder when is the right time to get their kids braces. Many kids are getting braces earlier and earlier, but when to get braces typically depends on the child and the shape of his

or her teeth.

The American Association of Orthodontics recommends that children see an orthodontist for an evaluation by age 7. The best time for braces will be when the orthodontist and parents collectively decide it's time to correct the misalignment of a child's teeth.

Some orthodontists prefer a two-stage approach to orthodontic treatment. They may use a dental appliance or a preliminary amount of braces to begin moving the teeth while a child still has most of his primary teeth. The second stage begins when all the permanent teeth are in. The thought is to shorten the overall duration of treatment.

Other orthodontists follow the traditional approach of putting on braces once all the primary teeth have fallen out. This occurs between ages 9 and 14. This is often a less expensive approach because braces need only be applied and removed once.

A number of studies have shown that, for common problems alleviated with orthodontic work, youngsters are better off waiting until all of their permanent teeth have come in. Antonio Secchi, a pro-

fessor of orthodontics at the University of Pennsylvania, notes that if parents choose to treat crooked teeth too early, the child may need another phase of intervention a few years down the road.

Some problems, like crossbites, overbites, or severe overcrowding, warrant early intervention. Scheduling an orthodontic visit early on means children can get the care they need when they need it. The orthodontist will be able to monitor how teeth are growing in and map out the best treatment plan for all.

Braces can help fix an imperfect smile and alleviate oral health concerns. Parents should speak to a dentist or make an appointment with an orthodontist to evaluate their children's treatment needs.

Severity of overcrowding as well as bite issues will dictate when a child should get braces.

Help kids feel comfortable at their dental visits

Routine dental examinations and cleanings are an important component of oral healthcare for both children and adults. However, many children do not visit the dentist until well after the time recommended by medical and dental professionals. Parents may be unaware of the dental health timeline, or they could be reluctant to bring their children for fear of how their kids will behave — especially if parents are harboring their own apprehensions about the dentist.

The American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry recommends that a child go to the dentist by age 1, or within six months of the eruption of his or her first tooth. Yet, according to a survey commissioned by Delta Dental Plans, the average age of a child's first dental visit is 2.6 years.

Parents worried about how their kids will respond to the dentist can take the following steps to acclimate kids to dental visits to make them more



Parents can help children be more comfortable with going to the dentist.

comfortable during their appointments:

Be a positive role model. Children frequently learn by example. If they see their parents being diligent about dental care, they're more likely to embrace proper oral hygiene. Bring children to your own dental appointments so they understand the process

and become familiar with the type of equipment used.

Stick to the first-tooth milestone. Take your child to the dentist on or about when his or her first tooth erupts. Early dental visits will get kids used to going to the dentist and prevent minor problems that may lead to more complex dental issues.

Read books about the dentist and role play. Information can allay kids' fears about the dentist. Read books together about dental visits and act out possible scenarios with your kids. Give kids toy dental health tools and have them practice exams on you and vice-versa.

Be supportive and in-

still trust. Avoid telling your child that everything will be okay. If a procedure is needed, this could affect his or her trust in you and make the dental office an even greater source of anxiety. Simply be supportive and offer a hand to squeeze or a hug if your child needs you.

Consider using your dentist. Some parents like to take their children to a pediatric dentist, but it may not always be necessary. Many family practices cater to patients of all ages, and the familiarity of the office may help make children feel more comfortable. Speak with your dentist about the ages they see.

Steer clear of negative words. Dr. Michael J. Hanna, a national spokesperson for the Academy, suggests using positive phrases like "clean, strong, healthy teeth" to make the visit seem fun and positive rather than scary and alarming. Let the office staff come up with its own words to describe processes that won't seem too frightening.



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Survival tips

Continued from page 8

right institutions to contact and the organizations to utilize are those comprehensive institutions which can help them make prudent decisions for their institutions.

Nydia Shihata, assistant United States attorney for the Eastern District, said faith-based groups should work with the local law enforcement agencies at all times before contacting federal agencies, "with the federal agency we are much more limited, so proceed with state law, as they have more options," Shihata commented. "The local law enforcement can eradicate hate crime in the community," she stated, however the faith-based group has a role to play by helping to build trust with the NY City Police Department. "This forum today is for you to take back information to your church," Ms. Shihata stated, and "we remain committed to investigate and prosecute," the US attorney added.

FBI representatives, Anthony Bivona and Christopher Stantzios, during their presentation both suggested that clergy leaders get training to help protect themselves and protect their institutions. They called for faith-based leaders to identify short comings, assaultive behaviors are on the rise especially in the Boroughs of Brooklyn and Manhattan, Bivona added.

Both men acknowledged that hate

crime is not lawfully reported. "As they may be considered as, non-assaultive, hate crime and are delayed because of fear," Special Agent Stantzios noted. The law enforcement officer explained how institutional leaders should take actions to implement security and help safeguard everyone involved. They illustrated the ways individuals should respond to the police whenever a crisis is on hand. This is important Stantzios noted, "to help de-escalate the situation."

Sergeant Kevin C. Lonergan of the NY Police Department – Hate Crimes Task Force, said the New York Police Department has collaborated with all agencies, private and government, to address the issue of human trafficking. The problem he noted has also escalated and there "has to be a way to work with the victims of these crimes." Sergeant Lonergan reminded the group of the availability of the T-Visa program for the victims of human trafficking, "if the victims can collaborate with us to help fight the crime they can stay in the country, they are eligible for that kind of visa." The program he added helps provide for immediate family members as well. Lonergan also mentioned the U-Visa program that is available for immigrants who are victims of serious crimes. He noted that eligibility becomes available if the victims are collaborative with the law enforcement representatives who are investigating the crimes. "This allows the victims and their immediate family members to stay in the country for at least four years," he added.

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Africa's first sledders pursue Winter Olympic goal

By Vinette K. Pryce

Three persevering women are bound to make history as the first from the African continent to compete in the challenging and icy Winter Olympics in Pyeochang, South Korea.

Already immersed in training for the 2018 competitions, Nigerian bobsled driver Seun Adigun and brake-women Ngozi Onwumere and Akuoma Omeoga are determined to deliver glory to one of the hottest place on earth by qualifying in the bobsled category.

In fact, if the trio prevails, Hollywood might green-light a sequel to the film "Cool Runnings" which showcased Jamaica's 1988 debut in Calgary, Canada.

That Jamaicans already paved the way as the first from the hot climate in the Caribbean to compete despite the fact snow and ice eludes the region, the African trio are even more confident of success because unlike their predecessors they have an edge.

They are all athletes and are familiar with Olympic runnings.

Adigun and Onwumere competed in track and field for the University of Houston and Omeoga was an athlete with the University of Minnesota.

Adigun, an Olympian and chiropractic doctoral candidate became interested in bobsled after she competed in the 2012 Summer Games in London and saw some of her teammates make the switch to the winter sport.

"I've been used to the sprinting part and the getting strong part, but the whole idea of going 80 miles an hour down an ice mountain is definitely something that's new!" Adigun said.

She has been training as a driver in Whistler, B.C., and in Park City, Utah, but admitted that the most difficult hurdle was getting used to the motion sickness that came with the sport.

"I love roller coasters, but this is like a roller coaster times a thousand! It's quite the ride," she said. "But once I got over that, it was like, 'O.K., I can do this.'"

While training and competing as a brake-woman with the American bobsled team last year, Adigun learned that the sport could benefit from having more female teams.

She recruited Onwumere and Omeoga — who she met through track and field — and persuaded them to join her in creating the bobsled team.

She requested a release from the American team in order to develop the Nigerian program — a choice she said that was difficult to make.

"Starting the Nigerian Women's Bobsled team was not an easy decision, but I know it will be one of the most impactful things I will ever initiate."

The trio believes the biggest challenge now is getting people on board



The Nigerian bobsled team.

Seun Adigun

with them and understanding the mission.

"I realized that the entire continent had never been represented at the Olympic games. From my understanding, never in the history has there been a federation for bobsled for any country in Africa. The International Bobsled and Skeleton Federation (IBSF) were looking to expand on the continent because it's one of the last that needed to be represented for them to get the opportunity to expand the sport.

"My conscience just wouldn't let me breathe knowing that all of these things that were so much bigger than me were available to actually do and help impact, really, what could be millions of people," Adigun said.

"We're not just talking about the federation and the sport of bobsled, but we're talking about the entire continent of Africa and being able to empower those individuals into something they may not have ever considered."

The Nigerian Olympic Committee is literally rallying behind us — the government, the people of Nigeria. People don't know what it is but they're still excited. The challenge is for us having to pioneer something.

"The fate of Nigeria's eligibility to be represented in the 2018 Winter Olympics rests exclusively on my ability to qualify as a competent driver," Adigun explained.

The biggest challenge we have is starting a new federation for an entire continent. It's just that it's all new for everyone and the great thing about it is we have our country behind us.

"That challenge, although a true reality, is not handicapping us. It's something that we're collectively working

together to achieve and utilizing the help of everyone else who is willing to be there with us and for us," Adigun said.

"Since we can't get practice time on ice, what we do is we just focus on strengthening," Omeoga said. "So weightlifting and sprinting—since we all have that background — is something we already know how to do but it's just another repetition; just getting it in when you can. Strength is the most important thing for this sport, so that's what the focus has been thus far and also we have a push cart as well that Seun actually initially created which was a beast.

"She's made us little engineers!" Onwumere said. "We literally took wood in her garage and just started building a push cart."

The driver said she feels confident in the team's strategy of qualifying for the 2018 Winter Games. Nigeria is very supportive of their efforts and according to the trailblazing Nigerians, their goals are "very realistic."

"It's about trying to bring about a level of pride for everybody and expand on positive awareness for the country and the continent."

Jamaicans had the loudest and last laugh in Calgary, Canada in 1988 when their unlikely team of bobsled competitors qualified during the winter Olympics. The most popular team to take to the icy, speed track the newcomers won raves, media attention, movie rights, publicity for their island and has since competed in numerous Olympiads.

Jamaica's 2018 team comprise a team of 12 who are now in training in Calgary, the very same location their predecessors debuted and found fame with international sports fans.



Sir Grantley Herbert Adams, CMG, QC.
<http://www.mrd.gov.bb>

Sir Grantley H. Adams, Barbadian & West Indian statesman

By Nelson A. King

Sir Grantley Herbert Adams, CMG, QC (April 28, 1898 – Nov. 28, 1971), was a Barbadian and British West Indian statesman.

Adams was a founder of the Barbados Labor Party (BLP), and was named in 1998 as one of the National Heroes of Barbados.

According to Wikipedia, Adams was born at Colliston, Government Hill, St. Michael, the Barbadian capital, on April 28, 1898.

He was the third child of seven born to Fitzherbert Adams and the former Rosa Frances Turney.

Adams was educated at St. Giles and at Harrison College in Barbados.

In 1918, he won the BScholarship and departed the following year for his undergraduate studies at Oxford University, Wikipedia said.

It said Adams played a single match of first-class cricket for Barbados during the 1925–26 season, as a wicket-keeper against British Guiana in the Inter-Colonial Tournament.

Adams was married to Grace Thorne in 1929 at St. John's Church. Their only child, Tom, himself won the Barbados Scholarship and attended Oxford to become a lawyer. Tom Adams would later be elected as Barbados' second prime minister in 1976.

Adams was president of the Barbados Workers' Union (BWU) from 1941 to 1954.

While being a staunch supporter of the monarchy, Adams and his party also demanded more rights for the poor and for the people, Wikipedia said.

It said that progress toward a more democratic government in Barbados was made in 1942, when the exclusive income qualification was lowered and women were given the right to vote.

By 1949, governmental control was wrested from the planters, Wikipedia said.

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*Past Results Do Not Guarantee Future Outcomes

Author explores Haiti and blackness

By Alexandra Simon

In a newly released book, Connecticut-based author and anthropology professor Gina Athena Ulysse, candidly discusses her evolving world views, as a feminist, as a Haitian, and as a black woman. "Because When God is Busy: Haiti, Me, and the World," follows a

series of poems and writings that she wrote about to Haiti and its culture, which she will discuss at Hemispheric Institute of Performance & Politics in Manhattan on Feb. 23.

In her book, Ulysse tackles her journey throughout her life to understanding Haiti, herself, and how the world has viewed it through misconceptions. Because of this some of the poems in the book that seem current, were actually written a long time ago, she said.

"When you look at the book some of issues are current and these are things I wrote since I was 20," said Ulysse. "It's a book I've been writing for years and moreover the course of my life I've been writing it."

But the book is not a memoir or an autobiography of Ulysse's life, and rather a specific look at her varied emotions and Haiti.

"When you read the project you'll see that Haiti is a larger black story," said Ulysse. "There's an autobiographical aspect to it because it's about me and world. But it's also about Haiti and the world, and

the world and everything else and a sense of what that means."

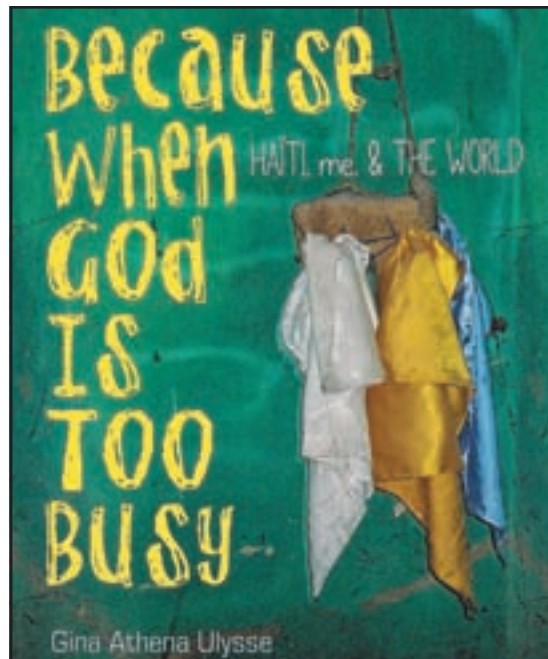
And one of the aspects of the books, she addresses stigmas about Haiti and blackness and where it is positioned alongside other groups. In one of the eye-opening writings in the book, she calls to mind her experience with this realization.

"Within the African-American community there is sense of attachment how people recall Haiti. Haiti seems further away from blackness — it's black but Haiti is particular kind of black, a revolutionary kind of black," she said. "Unless someone is Pan-African and has broader sense of blackness, our black is the farthest away from them. Because we're not just black we're black twice, we're Haitian and black and that means something different."

Ulysse says misconceptions about Haiti continues to thrive in the minds of many but she is not set out to retire those stereotypes, she said. Unlike in her previous book, "Why Haiti Needs New Narratives," she does not give an explanation to dispel myths and preconceived notions this time — in her latest book, she lays the information out through poetry and imagery and leaves it to the viewer to decide and hopes it allows them to see beyond limited views.



Haitian-American author, professor, and anthropologist Gina Athena Ulysse. Lucy Giuliano



Cover art for her latest book, "Because When God is Too Busy: Haiti, Me, and The World."

Gina Athena Ulysse

"I'd like you to sit with it, hear it, listen to it, and try to recognize it," she said. "Ask 'Why did someone feel so compelled to break through silencers and write this?' I have a range of emotions and I'm so raw in the book — vulnerable, lingering, wondering, angry — don't just focus on the anger. I want you to hear this black woman and her emotions."

"Because When God is Too Busy: Haiti, me, and The World" at Hemispheric Institute of Performance & Politics. [20 Cooper Square between E. 4th and E. 8th streets in Manhattan, www.hemisphericinstitute.org, (212) 998-1631]. Feb. 23 at 6 pm. Free.



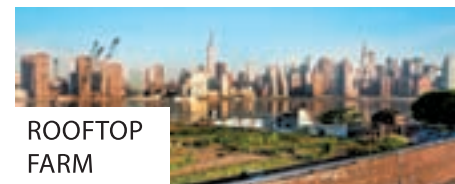
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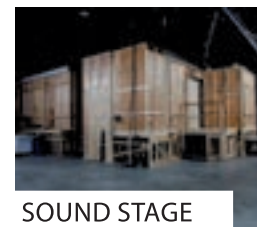
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Caribbean exporters face major hurdle

By Jewel Fraser

PORT OF SPAIN, Trinidad, Feb 7 2017 (IPS) - As CARICOM countries struggle to move away from their traditional reliance on a single industry or major crop in the face of growing economic uncertainty worldwide, they are finding it increasingly difficult to enter markets in the EU and North America with new types of food products.

But tariffs are no longer the main barriers to accessing important markets, according to a document produced by the ACP-EU Overcoming Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) programme.

Latin America and the Caribbean provide over 90 per cent of the fruits and nearly 80 per cent of all vegetables imported by the US. Nonetheless, some countries in the region have “very high rejection rates” at US ports of entry.

The ACP-EU is of the view that “Non-tariffs barriers will become the main challenge of the future multilateral trade system.” Specifically, technical barriers related to compliance with sanitary and phytosanitary standards (SPS) in export markets and other standards including those relating to labelling and packaging.

The EU considers these technical, non-tariff, barriers to trade so challenging for its African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) partners that it provided 15 million euros starting in 2013 to help those developing countries upgrade their processes and become compliant, thus giving them a better chance of success on the EU and North America markets.

The Caribbean Agribusiness Association (CABA) is one Caribbean organisation that was able to access funding to help its members move toward HACCP (Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point) certification, which the ACP-EU TBT programme identified as a crucial

requirement. Since the early 2000s, the US and EU have stipulated that foods entering their markets must have HACCP certification.

Ten of CABA's members were present at a regional conference, held at the Radisson Hotel in Port-of-Spain, Jan. 29-30, to report on the benefits they received from the HACCP training. They heard some sobering statistics with regard to the EU and US food industry that provided context for the TBT programme.

Dr. Andre Gordon, chief executive officer of TSL Technical Services Limited, told delegates that each year, the UK records approximately one million cases of food-borne illnesses, of which about 20,000 require hospitalisation, and 500 deaths are recorded. The cost to the UK of dealing with food-borne illnesses is 1.4 billion pounds annually.

In the US, approximately 48 million cases of food-borne illnesses are recorded annually, resulting in 128,000 hospitalisations and 3,000 deaths. The cost to the US of dealing with food-borne illnesses is approximately 77.7 billion dollars annually, the delegates heard.

The 2016 report, “Addressing Food Losses due to Non-Compliance with Quality and Safety Requirements in Export Markets: the case of Fruits and Vegetables from the Latin America and the Caribbean Region,” by two Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) experts, underlined how much is at stake for Caribbean agribusiness exporters.

The report reveals that Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) provide over 90 percent of the fruits and nearly 80 per cent of all vegetables imported by the US. Nonetheless, some countries in the region have “very high rejection rates” at US ports of entry, including Jamaica, Bolivia and the Dominican



Oraine Halstead (left) and Rhys Actie tend tomatoes in a greenhouse at Colesome Farm at Jonas Road, Antigua. Inter Press Service / Desmond Brown

Republic, the document states.

The report said, “While many LAC countries have a good rate of acceptance in comparison with other countries exporting to the USA and EU, a few countries within LAC perform very poorly, revealing great disparity in preparedness for export trading within the region.” The report noted that “Multiple handling failures along the chain are likely the cause of the most frustrating complaints by international buyers.”

Dr. Gordon, who oversaw the Jamaica ackee industry's transformation that made it compliant with US Food and Drug Administration regulations in the early 2000s so that it could gain access to the US market, explained to IPS the obstacles facing Caribbean exporters.

“The problem in general with all agribusiness companies in the Caribbean is typically lack of technical capacity and knowledge of the requirements and lack of the resources to implement the systems as required,” he said.

However, Dr. Gordon said, “The cultural change that is required is probably the biggest single limitation to implementing and sustaining certification systems...If the management and ownership [of agribusinesses] do not have a vision of becoming global players then the effort and resources required are going to seem unattainable and not good value for money. A lot of firms have issues with understanding the value for money proposition of embarking on a certification programme.”

New SVG airport opens with much fanfare

By Nelson A. King

Amid much fanfare and streams of “tears of joy,” a new US\$259 million international airport was officially opened Monday in St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

The Argyle International Airport (AIA), located along the eastern coast of mainland St. Vincent, was opened, with a flag-raising ceremony, after six years behind schedule.

Thousands of nationals attended the opening ceremony, addressed by Prime Minister Dr. Ralph E. Gonsalves, who had made the AIA a major plank of his administration's objectives.

He said the AIA is “a symbol, it is a metaphor of what is possible in us.

“Do not ever allow any people, any nation to impose on us limitations to our imagination,” he said. “Only we, as a self-governing people under God, with our own individual sense of being, only we



St. Vincent and the Grenadines Prime Minister Dr. Ralph E. Gonsalves. United Nations / Ryan Brown

must impose limitations on ourselves.

“Any other notion is a colonial one, and it is debilitating, and it will hold us back,” he added. “Whatever we set our minds to achieve, with patience and calm, we can

achieve, as we have seen it here.

“This is a bridge to the world,” the Vincentian leader continued. “And this plan didn't just come from us. It is a combination of human intelligence and divine inspiration.”

He lauded the “Coalition of the Willing” for helping to make AIA a reality, identifying among the coalition the governments of Trinidad and Tobago, Cuba and Venezuela.

“We have had contributions from countries – some of them do not have diplomatic relations with one another,” Gonsalves said. “And part of the creativity and skill of the government was to bring all of these countries together to assist the people of St. Vincent and the Grenadines.”

He said export credit guarantees from the United States, Canada and Great Britain also aided with “certain items of equipment,” which were obtained on “better interest terms.”

A number of international chartered flights arrived at AIA on Tuesday. These included Caribbean Airlines and Dynamics Airline, which departed from New York's John F. Kennedy International Airport.

Lennox Joslyn – chairman of the Fundraising Committee of the Brooklyn-based umbrella Vincentian group in the United States, Council of St. Vincent and the Grenadines' Organizations, U.S.A., Inc. (COSAGO) – said he couldn't wait to land at AIA.

“It's an historic flight, and I can't miss this for the world. I think it's a significant milestone for St. Vincent and the Grenadines, and all Vincentians should embrace it, as we move forward.

“I want all Vincentians to move on this [welcome AIA],” added Joslyn, a member of the Brooklyn-based Striders Social and Cultural Organization, who was born at Diamond, a short distance from AIA. “Forget about politics.”



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ability by working with Employment Specialists on resume writing, interview skills and workplace communication. They benefit from one-on-one counseling, financial aid application assistance and college campus tours.

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Watson. "The sky's the limit for our students and we will continue to help them reach their highest potential every step of the way."

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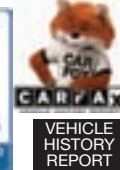
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Early Detection of Heart Disease at BRMI

BY DR. JOSEPH ABRAMS

The perfect gift this Valentine's Day is the gift of heart health. Along with Valentine's Day, February marks American Heart Month, a great time to get a heart checkup and commit to a healthy lifestyle that will lead to a lifetime of heart health. One of every four deaths are caused by heart disease, making heart disease the leading cause of death for men and women in the United States and worldwide. The aim of American Heart Month is to reduce the risk of heart disease through early detection and healthy lifestyle. With early detection, heart disease can be managed and treated before it results in heart attack or death. Detecting a ticking time bomb before it's too late leads to a longer healthier life.

Doctors are now able to view the heart and its arteries with a CT scan. A CT scan of the heart, also known as a cardiac CT or coronary CT angiogram, has been shown to be a very reliable way to noninvasively check for blockages and areas of narrowing in the heart's arteries (coronary artery disease). This simple test determines a patient's future risk of adverse cardiovascular events, and identifies specific areas of disease within the coronary arteries. In the past, this information could only be reliably obtained from an invasive test known as a cardiac catheterization which involves inserting a catheter into the arteries themselves.

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Couturier, Glenroy Marsh with featured model, Tanya taking a bow after the runway show at CoCo-Mat in NYC.
Photo by Tangerine Clarke

D'Marsh stunner

By Tangerine Clarke

It was no surprise when D'Marsh Couture Fall 2017 Collection made a grand entrance to the runway. As a matter of fact, Jamaican-born designer Glenroy Marsh, showed his flair for the dramatic, opening the presentation with the Belle of the Ball being dressed by her men-in-waiting.

From then on, the runway at CoCo-Mat in Manhattan was pretty much flooded with stunning ballroom gowns

Continued on Page 34

Calypso Rose gets French toast

By Nelson A. King

The undisputed Calypso Queen of the world, Calypso Rose, has received a French toast with a very special award, according to reports.

Rose, 76 — whose claim to fame lies in Trinidad and Tobago Carnival as winner of Road March, Calypso Queen and Calypso Monarch titles — won the Best World Music Album award Friday for her "Far from Home" album at the prestigious Victoires de la Musique French music awards ceremony in Paris, according to the New York Daily News.

The paper said Sunday that, while millions of eyes are focused on Trinidad and Tobago all the activities leading up to the annual carnival later this month, Rose was winning the French award and "reveling in a new and wonder-filled chapter of her life."

Continued on Page 34



Step Afrika! performances are much more than dance shows; they integrate songs, storytelling, humor, and audience participation.
Tony Powell

Dance company to host three-day residency

Brooklyn Center for the Performing Arts at Brooklyn College continues its 2016-17 season with the much-anticipated return of Step Afrika! on Saturday, April 1, 2017 at 8 pm. Holding the distinction of the first professional company in the world dedicated to the art of stepping, the company will conduct a three-day residency that includes not only a public performance but also a free after-school stepping master-class on Thursday, March 30 at 3:30 pm and three educational shows for

school children.

Tickets for Saturday evening are \$25 and can be purchased at BrooklynCenter.org or by calling the box office at 718-951-4500 (Tue-Sat, 1pm-6pm).

The repertoire for the company's 2017 Brooklyn residency performance includes:

Tribute (choreography, Jakari Sherma), a piece paying homage to the American step tradition and its roots in African American fraternities and sororities.

Ndlamu (choreography, Jackie Semela), a traditional dance of the Zulu people

Isicathulo (choreography, Jackie Semela), based on the South African gumboot dance

Solo, (choreography, Christopher Brient)

Chicago (choreography, Jakari Sherman), a "percussive symphony" that transforms traditional stepping into contemporary performance art

Continued on Page 34

TOP OF THE CHARTS

STEP AFRIKA!

Continued from page 33

About Step Afrika!

Founded by C. Brian Williams in 1994, Step Afrika! aims to promote an appreciation for stepping and its use as an educational, motivational, and healthy tool for young people. Performances are much more than dance shows; they integrate songs, storytelling, humor, and audience participation. Over the past two decades, the company has grown to become one of the top 10 African American dance companies in the U.S. as well as Washington D.C.'s largest African American arts organization.

Step Afrika! promotes stepping as an educational tool for young people, focusing on teamwork, academic achievement and cross-cultural understanding. The company reaches tens of thousands of Americans each year through a 50-city tour of colleges and theaters and performs globally as Washington, DC's one and only Cultural Ambassador.

The company has earned Mayor's Arts Awards for Outstanding Contribution to Arts Education (2005), Innovation in the Arts (2008), and Excellence

in an Artistic Discipline (2012), and most recently performed at the White House for President Barack Obama and the First Lady. Step Afrika! is featured prominently at the Smithsonian's new National Museum of African-American History & Culture with the world's first stepping interactive.

C. Brian Williams (Founder / Executive Director) is a graduate of Howard University in Washington, DC and a native of Houston, TX. Brian first learned to step as a member of his fraternity, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. Beta Chapter in 1989. After a fellowship in Southern Africa, he began to research stepping, exploring the many sides of this exciting, yet under-recognized American art form and founded Step Afrika! in 1994. Williams has performed, lectured, and taught in Europe, South & Central America, Africa, the Middle East, Asia, the Caribbean, and throughout the United States.

He is a co-founder of the historic Step Afrika! International Cultural Festival in Johannesburg, South Africa.

Under Brian's leadership, stepping has evolved into one of America's newest cultural



Members of Step Afrika! will be performing at the Brooklyn Center for the Performing Arts at Brooklyn College next month.

Edward C. Jones

exports and inspired the designation of Step Afrika! as Washington, DC's official Cultural Ambassador. Brian has been cited as a "Civic/Community Visionary" by NV Magazine and "Nation Builder" by the National Black Caucus of State Legislators. He is featured in *Soulstepping*, the first book to document the history of stepping, and several docu-

mentaries discussing the art form. Brian is also a recipient of numerous awards including the Mayor's Art Award for Innovation in the Arts and the Pola Nirenska Award for Contemporary Achievement in Dance. Most recently, Brian received an appointment from Mayor Muriel E. Bowser to serve as a Commissioner for the DC Commission on Arts & Humanities.

TOP 10 SINGLES

- 1 **Shape Of You**
Ed Sheeran
- 2 **Don't Wanna Know**
Maroon 5 Feat. Kendrick Lamar
- 3 **Scars To Your Beautiful**
Alessia Cara
- 4 **Bad Things**
Machine Gun Kelly x Camila Cabello
- 5 **I Don't Wanna Live Forever**
Zayn / Taylor Swift
- 6 **Love On The Brain**
Rihanna
- 7 **Closer**
The Chainsmokers Feat. Halsey
- 8 **I Feel It Coming**
The Weeknd Feat. Daft Punk
- 9 **Fake Love**
Drake
- 10 **Side To Side**
Ariana Grande Feat. Nicki Minaj

TOP 10 ALBUMS

- 1 **I Decided.**
Big Sean
- 2 **Joanne**
Lady Gaga
- 3 **Dear Evan Hansen**
Original Broadway Cast Rec.
- 4 **The Fame**
Lady Gaga
- 5 **Sing It Now: Songs Of Faith & Hope**
Reba McEntire
- 6 **The Garden**
Kari Jobe
- 7 **La La Land**
Soundtrack
- 8 **Culture**
Migos
- 9 **Trolls**
Soundtrack
- 10 **24K Magic**
Bruno Mars

Presented by

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D'Marsh

Continued from page 33

and cocktail dresses. The lavish pretty two-toned creations of black and white, green and pink, red and blue, and purple and white paid homage to fairytale and fantasy.

The collection consisted of topless, asymmetric and cap-sleeve elegant designs suited to all occasions.

His chicken-yellow gown with a lavish hemline, designed with plumes of feather throughout the outfit, is a signature piece consistent with the couturier's design concept.

Notably, were the statuesque models, who showcased Marsh's themed, *La Fantaisie Ball* perfectly, elegantly dressed in a pink Cinderella gown decorated with rhinestone, and a white wedding gown with beading, and finished with a plunging V-neckline.

The jaw-dropping collection was beautifully tailored with love and passion, and showed the designer's strength for creating elegant gowns to accent the feminine soul.



A model wears one of the many creations of D'Marsh Couture Fall 2017 Collection.

Photo by Tangerine Clarke

"I feel more loved with this collection. This is who I am. The inspiration goes back to a fairytale party, the elegant Nicole Kidman, Cinderella, sleeping beauty," said Marsh.

"I transformed these images into my vision of a fairytale," added Marsh, a seasoned, award-winning designer, whose fine collection will be on display at *Boutique En blanc couture*, 1190 Bedford Ave. in Brooklyn.

Custom design services are available for prom dresses, bridal gowns and ensembles, for both male and female.

Calypso Rose honored

Continued from page 33

Awards at the annual French ceremony are presented by the French Culture Ministry to recognize outstanding achievement in the music industry, the Daily News said.

It said that riding the successes of the album, which shot into France's top 10 ranking, Rose is currently on a concert tour of French cities.

Rose was honored for her successful 2016 album, a collaboration with popular French-born performer Manu Chao, the son of Spanish immigrants, the Daily News said.

With Rose leading the way, Chao is the album's featured artist and co-writer on 11 of the release's 12 tracks, according to the Daily News.

In December 2014, the Caribbean community in New York paid tribute to Rose at a massive ceremony at the Brooklyn Christian Center, organized by Dee Vee Inter-



Calypso Rose performs at the Brooklyn Christian Center in December 2014.

Photo by Nelson A. King

national Productions, headed by Grenadian-born pre-eminent entertainment producer Derek Ventour.

The Rev. Dennis Dillon, the Jamaican-born pastor and founder of the Brooklyn Christian Center, said he was "grateful" for Calypso Rose's "leadership, her inspirational spirit and for doing what few people have done.

"Many people at the Christian Center they dance to your music all the time," he said about Calypso Rose. "We salute you for your inspiration to all of us.

Keanu Reeves returns as vengeful assassin

"John Wick: Chapter 2"
Very Good (3 stars)
Rated R for profanity, brief nudity and pervasive violence
In English, Italian, Hebrew and Russian with subtitles
Running time: 122 minutes
Distributor: Summit Entertainment

By Kam Williams

When we first met John Wick (Keanu Reeves), he went on a bloody killing spree in the wake of losing the love of his life (Bridget Moynahan). And at the end of that revenge-fueled splatterfest we saw the wounded assassin walk off into the sunset with a puppy he just rescued from the dog pound.

Picking up soon after the events of the original, Chapter 2 opens with Wick retiring after retrieving his stolen Mustang from a Russian gang. But before he has a chance to settle into a rocking chair, he's recruited by Santonio



Keanu Reeves stars as John Wick in "John Wick:Chapter 2."

www.rottentomatoes.com

D'Antonio (Riccardo Scamarcio) to perform one last hit.

The ambitious mobster wants his sister Gianna (Claudia Gerini) knocked off so that he can assume the reins of the powerful Mafia family left to

her by their late father. Wick grudgingly agrees to kill her only because Santonio is holding his marker, a blood oath ironically taken in order to leave behind his grisly line of work.

So, he proceeds to Rome where he tracks down Gianna who quickly commits suicide once she realizes the reason for his visit. Nevertheless, her death doesn't sit well with her horde of henchman, especially

her personal bodyguard, Casian (Common).

Next thing you know, Wick needs to waste wave after wave of minions while on the run through the catacombs. After a miraculous escape, things are no better back in America where the senseless slaughter simply continues.

That is the sum and substance of John Wick: Chapter 2, an unapologetic indulgence in blood lust. This high-body count affair is right in Keanu Reeves' wheelhouse, as he seems to excel when called upon to dispatch dozens, if not hundreds, of adversaries in a variety of creative ways, without ever having to exhibit much of an acting range.

The picture reunites Reeves with Laurence Fishburne, his co-star in The Matrix trilogy. Laurence only enjoys a minor role here, however, in favor of Common, a standout who proves to be the protagonist's worthy adversary in a protracted hand-to-hand showdown.

A twisted Wick continues to burn bright!

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 PRODUCED BY PHIL BRENNAN EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS MAYES C. RUBIO EDITORS MARY JO MARKEY ACE CRAIG WOOD ACE PRODUCED BY JOHN MYHRE DIRECTED BY STUART DRYBURGH ASC
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 JON JASINI EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS PETER LOEHR EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS BY MAX BROOKS AND EDWARD ZWICK & MARSHALL HERSHKOVITZ DIRECTED BY CARLO BERNARD & DOUS MIRO AND TONY GILROY
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Pols host emergency immigration forum



Community leaders, Councilman Jumaane Williams (D-Flatbush), Assemblywoman Rodneyse Bichotte, and state Senator Kevin Parker, at the “State of Immigration, State of Emergency,” a community forum on immigration held at Flatbush YMCA on Feb. 8.

Mike Wright

By Alexandra Simon

Local Flatbush pols held an emergency immigration forum at the Flatbush YMCA with the Brooklyn District Attorney’s office in Flatbush on Feb. 8.

More than a hundred guests packed the “State of Emergency, State of Immigration” meeting led by Councilman Jumaane Williams (D—Flatbush), Assemblywoman Rodneyse Bichotte, state Senator Kevin Parker, and District Leader Josue Pierre, which was an effort to provide vital information about immigration to prepare and put community members at ease with growing concerns surrounding President Trump’s executive orders, which included the travel ban of seven countries in the Middle East.

Throughout the two-hour and a half meeting leaders and concerned residents discussed with immigration experts how

to avoid finding themselves in limbo with United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and travel advisories. Representatives from the The Brooklyn District Attorney say that legal permanent residents should ensure they stay on top of their travel lengths outside the country.

“If you’re a green card holder and travelling outside the country for more than six months or more, you should apply for appropriate extensions,” said a spokesman with the Brooklyn district attorney. “Because being outside of country for six months or more the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) may deem your green card invalid.”

And with an alleged increase in immigration raids, others were advised to take extra precautions if they see an ICE, said a spokeswoman with the district attorney.

“Please do not interfere if

you see an ICE agent removing someone. Document anything they may have said and any details about those who are present — recording details may actually help you in your case,” she said.

Councilman Williams, who will be running for City Council Speaker, urged his constituents a long fight against the Trump administration, and to use their worries to mobilize.

“What we want to do is make sure we turn that fear and use that to help bring some courage, because it’s not going to be enough to just be afraid in these Trump times,” said Williams. “What I want to ask of people who have less to be afraid of – we want to make sure we take the biggest risks and we’re need we out there and do as much as you can.”

He also promised more forums encouraged community members to help their neighbors in need and recog-

nize ways to resist.

“Next meetings — we’re going to go directly into how we can continue to organize and

how can continue to engage, and how we can continue to resist Trump because he won’t win — we will win,” he said.

Emeline Michel

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SPORTS

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Former West Indies' head coach Phil Simmons. Associated Press / Arnulfo Franco

Afghanistan hires Simmons

By Azad Ali

Former West Indies coach Phil Simmons was appointed technical consultant to the Afghanistan cricket team.

Simmons, 53, who played 26 Tests and 143 One-Day Internationals for West Indies, will assist the current head coach Lalchand Rajput, according to the Afghanistan Cricket Board (ACB).

An ACB release states: "Afghanistan Cricket Board management considers Simmons appointment a valuable step in players' capacity development. Simmons appointment will have a great

Continued on Page 40

Windies to tour S. Africa

By Azad Ali

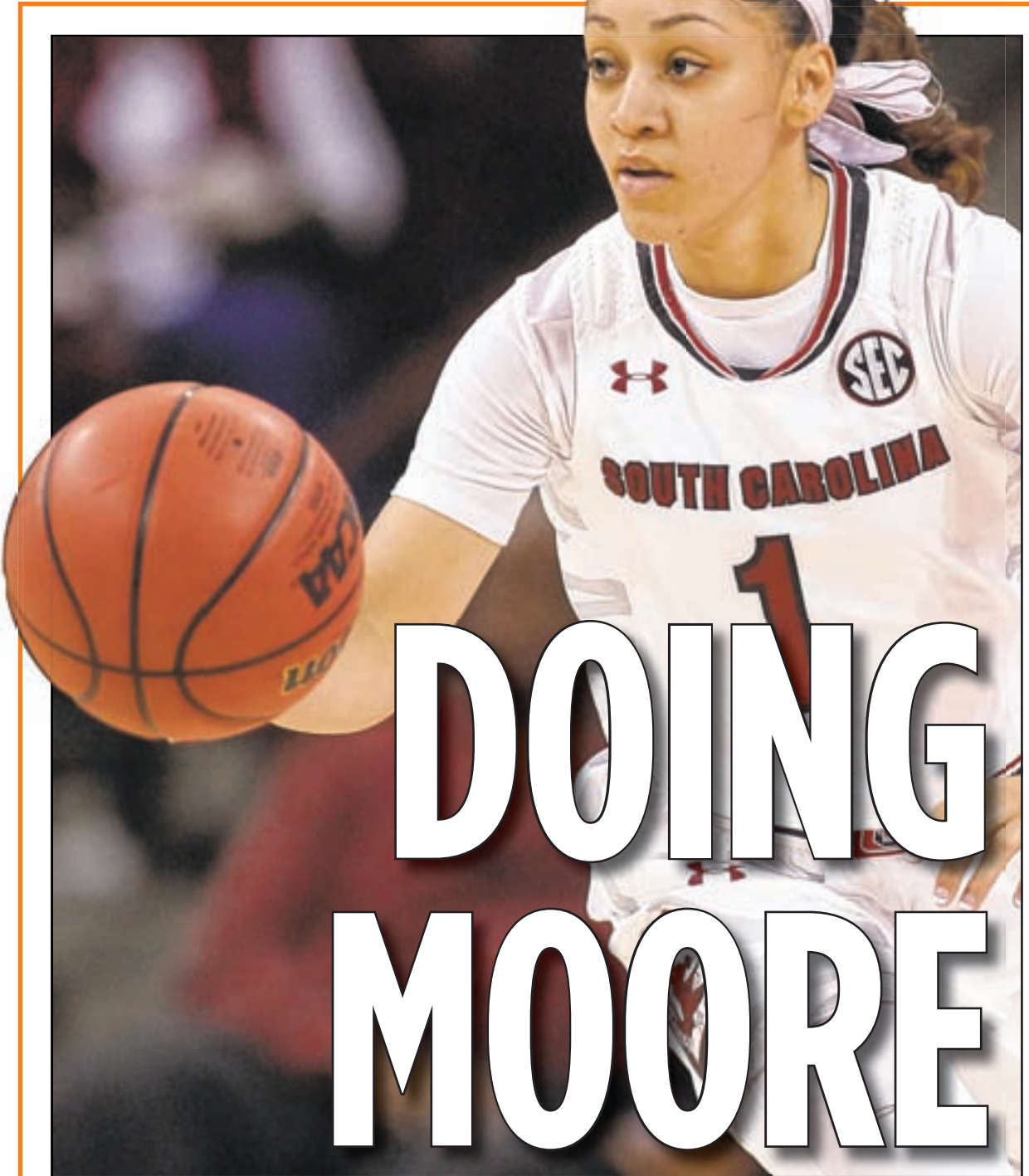
West Indies Under-19 team will have a seven-match tour of South Africa later this year to continue preparation for the International Cricket Council's (ICC) Under-19 World Cup.

The regional team won their first Under-19 World Cup in February 2016 in Bangladesh by defeating India.

The West Indies will be looking to defend the trophy when they play in New Zealand in January 2018.

The tour to South Africa will be in Durban from June 30 to July 27. It will feature two warm-up matches against local opposition and five One-Day Internationals against the South Africa Under-19 team.

The West Indies Under-19 is par-
Continued on Page 40



DOING MOORE

Scoring threat: South Carolina guard Bianca Cuevas-Moore has fine-tuned her shot this season, coming off the bench to help spark the Gamecocks' offense. South Carolina athletics

Former Nazareth star finds footing

By Laura Amato

She finally feels like she's coming into her game.

Former Nazareth basketball star Bianca Cuevas-Moore waited two seasons for her chance to step into the spotlight — and now she is seizing her opportunity, settling into a leadership and scoring role with

South Carolina's women's basketball team.

"I play starting minutes most of the time, but I think coming off the bench is good for me," said Cuevas-Moore. "I've been able to come in and make an immediate impact off the bench. I know it's helping my team out on both ends of the ball."

Cuevas-Moore has been a presence on the Gamecocks roster since she arrived at South Carolina. She set the freshman record for most games played (37) during the 2014-15 season, but this year things are different.

Cuevas-Moore has taken on a lead-
Continued on Page 40

Continued from page 39

ership mantle that she didn't have before. She's no longer looking to the upperclassmen on the team to guide her — she's the upperclassman, and Cuevas-Moore has been the guiding force for South Carolina this winter.

"I watched the older girls that were in front of me and listened to what they told me," she said. "So I learned from them, and now I've got younger players who look up to me and listen to me. I just try and set an example for them."

Cuevas-Moore has gotten a bit more vocal on and off the court this season, but she's still about actions first. The pep talks come after she puts the ball in the basket.

"I think I'm more of a leader by action," Cuevas-Moore said. "I mean, everybody wants to score, so I do think it's exciting for me, because I can actually show what I'm good at."

The former McDonald's All-American — who notched more than 20 points per game during her high-school career — averaged just under nine points in the Gamecocks' first 22 games this season. Finding her shot has been a consistent work in progress.

Cuevas-Moore was recruited to shoot the ball, but the guard understands her role — score first, set up her teammates second — more than ever this year.

"I know that's what coach wants me to, that's my main focus," Cuevas-Moore said. "I've been in the gym getting shots up, because that's what I'm supposed to do for the team. I just want to try and score whenever I can."

Afghanistan

Continued from page 39

impact on team performance."

Trinidadian, Simmons was fired as West Indies coach last September, five months after overseeing the side capture an unprecedented second Twenty20 World Cup title in India last year.

He is a former Ireland head coach and spent six years in the role before leaving in 2015 to take charge of West Indies.

Windies

Continued from page 39

ticipating in the current Cricket West Indies (CWI) Regional Super50 tournament. They play in Zone A alongside Leeward Islands Hurricanes, defending champions Trinidad and Tobago Red Force, Windward Islands Volcanoes and English county side, Kent Spitfires.



Moving on: Seton Hall guard and former Bishop Loughlin star Khadeen Carrington was anxious to forget the Pirates' 78-70 loss to Seton Hall on Feb. 11. Seton Hall Athletics

Former Loughlin star can't lift Seton Hall at Madison Square Garden

By Laura Amato

He's already forgotten what happened.

Khadeen Carrington walked off the court at Madison Square Garden on Feb. 11 disappointed with himself and his team as Seton Hall dropped a 78-70 showing to St. John's. But the former Bishop Loughlin standout refused to dwell on the negatives — and he refused to listen to talk about the Pirates' dashed postseason hopes, or the skepticism regarding his own game.

By the time he stepped into the locker room, Carrington had already turned his attention to what's next — another game and, he hopes, another run at a Big East championship.

"In March, when we come back here, I'm going to forget about [today's game]," Carrington said. "I'm not going to be thinking about this the next time I step in here. It's just moving forward. That's really all there is to it."

Carrington has faced an up-and-down season with the Pirates, the unquestioned leader in the backcourt as Seton Hall looks to defend its confer-

ence championship.

The former Lions standout, however, dislocated his pinkie, and his shot has struggled as he battled a nagging hand injury over the last few weeks. Carrington averaged 19.2 points per game during non-conference play, but he is averaging just 13.1 points per game and shooting 35 percent from the field against Big East competition.

He finished with 14 points against St. John's, but Carrington never quite hit his stride. He went five-of-16 from the floor and connected on just one of his five three-point attempts.

Still, he refused to make excuses, promising that his "hand is good now" during the Pirates' post-game press conference.

Of course, it wasn't only Carrington that struggled against the Red Storm.

Seton Hall led 24-23 with just under four minutes left in the first half, but the Pirates couldn't hold onto the lead — or the ball.

"We were up 24-23 with 3:54 to go in the first half, and we had five turnovers in a row," said Pirates coach Kevin Willard.

The Pirates racked up 18 turnovers in the Big East tilt, and St. John's took advantage, scoring 30 points off Seton Hall's miscues.

Desi Rodriguez — a former Lincoln standout — did his best to jumpstart Seton Hall, racking up a team-high 17 points and eight rebounds, but it wasn't quite enough. The junior forward also notched six turnovers and played out of position down the stretch as the Pirates tried to match St. John's intensity in the paint.

"I thought [St. John's] playing big was a little bit of a difference," Willard said.

Seton Hall will need to do a bit of work to get back to the National Collegiate Athletic Association tournament, but the Pirates — and Carrington — are confident the squad can do just that. After all, they've already put this game behind them.

"We're just going to take it one game at a time," Carrington said. "We just spoke about that in the locker room. We just want to get in next week and prepare for the next opponent we're going to play."

Multi-city workshop to prep east-coasters for carnival

By Alexandra Simon

Get ready for carnival.

Fuze carnival is taking off its third annual three-city dance tour in three states starting this month to prepare parade goers for carnival festivities in the Caribbean. The dance and fitness workshop is a dance fusion class that combines African-derived and inspired dances for a two-hour preparative course. This year they are dancing and hoping to highlight one particular island's carnival in mind, said one of the workshop's organizers.

"We're actually in our third year and we are promoting carnival in Antigua, along with promoting the fusion of cultures, in particular the dance techniques of the Caribbean and Africa," said Roberts. "We also want to give light to the fact that carnival happens in the Caribbean and some ethnicity of Africa being brought to Caribbean as well to promo of Antigua, show our

cultures are only separated by water."

Roberts who is Grenadian will teach the workshop with Akosua Asa, who is West-African, in an effort to teach soca and various African dances such as Soukous and Azonto. Such a combination for a class will bring students closer to their roots of the Caribbean, she said.

The dance tour will start off in Washington D.C. on Feb. 18, then the second workshop will be on March 18 in Philadelphia, and the final workshop will come to New York City on April 15. The workshops will give students a chance to learn from two different dance techniques and different genres, said Roberts.

"I teach the soca portion of the class — people will learn some soca dance moves, a warm up, floor movements, and choreography," she said. "Then Asa fitness is our second portion of the class."

But while there are simi-

larities between the two dances they will taught be differently.

The difference between the two dance portions are that soca requires casual active wear while, Asa fitness dance requires a more bare look and the donning of a traditional skirt, said Roberts.

"For my class, sneakers can be worn for my portion, and in the second portion people won't wear no shoes but wear lappa skirts," she said.

Organizers say they want the course to bring a new light to similarities between West African and Caribbean cultures, and promote a sense of solidarity.

"It's important because to promote unity we have our own individual characteristics and we want to embrace Africa and show the richness and wealth inside of these cultures," said Roberts. "The culture is in the dance and the music — and we're all about the promoting this."



The dancers: Shola Roberts, (left) and Akosua Akoto, creators of Fuze Carnival, a dance fusion class that incorporates soca and various African styles of dance. The duo will be hosting a tri-city class to prepare carnival goers for festivities in the Caribbean. Loves Life Photography

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ARIES: Mar 21/Apr 20
This week you may get caught up in family conflicts that you don't want to deal with right now. Yet, if you manage the situation the right way, it'll blow over more quickly.

TAURUS: Apr 21/May 21
Taurus, you could learn some very interesting things about activities that are going on around you. Pay attention to those that grab your interest the most.

GEMINI: May 22/Jun 21
Gemini, you already are a sensitive person, but the activities of the week may tug at your heartstrings just a little bit more. Don't be shy to express your feelings.

CANCER: Jun 22/Jul 22
Today you may be receiving mixed messages from others, Cancer. You will have to dedicate some time to separating the fact from the fiction from what others are saying.

LEO: Jul 23/Aug 23
This week you can have an enjoyable time attending social gatherings. Leo. You'll enjoy relaxing in the company of some friends or family members.

VIRGO: Aug 24/Sept 22
The stars are advising you get back into the swing of things, Virgo. Forget your past frame of mind and prepare for a whole new adventure that is right around the corner.

LIBRA: Sept 23/Oct 23
Libra, the challenges of the week could be catching up to you. Try to plan a day where your only activity is maximizing on relaxation. There will be time for responsibilities later.

SCORPIO: Oct 24/Nov 22
Scorpio, you are inspired to clarify your personal situation and make some changes in your life. Try a new strategy because the old methods may be inadequate.

SAGITTARIUS: Nov 23/Dec 21
The time has arrived to focus on your personal life, Sagittarius. Things have been quite a roller coaster lately, and you can find a way to even out the landscape.

CAPRICORN: Dec 22/Jan 20
Find a new and creative approach to a routine conflict, Capricorn. You may find that stress is abated with a different perspective to the situation. Scorpio can lend a helping hand.

AQUARIUS: Jan 21/Feb 18
Your relationships will evolve and there will be many changes in your personal life, Aquarius. Keep your strong personality in check and let others express themselves, too.

PISCES: Feb 19/Mar 20
You often find yourself attracted to individuals with very strong personalities who also are eccentric, Pisces. Try to expand your horizons.

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2015-HC-DEM-CIV-SA-273 IN THE HIGH COURT OF THE SUPREME COURT OF JUDICATURE CIVIL JURISDICTION In the Matter of the Custody, Contact, Guardianship and Maintenance Act No. 5 of 2011 - and - In the Matter of Order 43, Rule 1 (i) (h) of the Rules of the High Court, Chapter 3:02. - and - In the Matter of the minor children KEVIN ISAAC DEAN, KEVICIA ALLICIA DEAN and KAIDEN DEVON DEAN. BETWEEN: DEVON A. DEAN Applicant -and- VONNIE DEAN Respondent

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION
To: VONNIE DEAN Lot 1760 Bergen Street, Brooklyn, New York, 11233 United States of America TAKE NOTICE that a summons and Affidavit in support of summons AND Amended summons with Affidavit in support has been filed in the High Court Registry, Georgetown, Demerara, Guyana by DEVON DEAN, against you for the following:

(a) A Variation of the Order of Court granted by the HONOURABLE JUSTICE JAMES BOVELL-DRAKES (In Chambers) dated the 9th day of September, 2015 in following terms:

► LEGAL

KEVIN ISAAC DEAN, KEVICIA ALLICIA DEAN, KAIDEN DEVON DEAN for leaving Guyana and Visas and any other documents necessary for entry to any foreign country. (b) Such further or other Order as this Honourable Court may Deem just; (c) Costs UPON APPLICATION in person or by letter to MS' KESHIA A. CHASE, Attorney-at-law, of Lot 228 South Street, Lacytown, Georgetown, sealed and certified copy of the Originating Summons with Affidavit in support and a sealed copy of the Order of Court will be sent or delivered to you. IF WITHIN 28 (Twenty-Eight) days after the last and final publication of this Notice no application has been made nor appearance entered the Court may proceed to hear the said Originating Summons and pronounce Judgment in your absence notwithstanding. Shazad I. Persaud FOR REGISTRAR Dated the 10th of June, 2016

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TO Martin Joseph and any and all unknown persons whose names or parts of whose names, and whose place or places of residence are unknown, and cannot,

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after due diligent inquiry, be ascertained, distributees, heirs at law and next of kin of said and if any of the said distributees, heirs at law or next of kin of deceased, be dead, their legal representatives, their husbands or wives, if any distributees and successors in interest whose names and/or places of residence and post office addresses are

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unknown.
A petition having been duly filed by William T. Shepard, who is domiciled at 4 Shari Lane East Northport NY 11731
YOU HEREBY CITED TO SHOW CAUSE before the Surrogate's Court, Kings County, Room 319 at 2 Johnson St, Brooklyn, New York, on February 28 2017 at 9:30 o'clock in the fore noon of that day, why a decree should

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not be made in the estate of Clifford Joseph lately domiciled at 1062 Bergen St. Brooklyn, NY 11216 admitting to probate a Will dated February 2, 2010 (a Codicil dated) as the Will of Clifford Joseph deceased, relating to real and personal property, and directing that Letters Testamentary issue to: William T. Shepard.

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Dated, Attested and Sealed
December 23, 2016
HON. MARGARITA LOPEZ TORRES
Surrogate
Doreen A. Quinn
Chief Clerk
William T. Shepard
Attorney for Petitioner
516-200-6900
Telephone Number
4 Shari Ln East Northport NY 11731
Address of Attorney

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[NOTE: This citation is served upon you are not required to appear. If you fail to appear it will be assumed you do not object to the relief requested. You have a right to have an attorney appear for you.]

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