

Youth designer honored

Nine-year-old Sappire Autumn Rose is presented with the Golden Arrowhead of Achievement Youth Award by Barbara Atherly, consul general of Guyana to New York. See story on Page 3.

Photo by Tangerine Clarke

Give Caribbean 'Dreamers' permanent status: Clarke

By Nelson A. King

As the United States Deferred Actions for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program, otherwise known as the "Dream Program", marks its fifth anniversary, Brooklyn Congresswoman Yvette D. Clarke is urging the United States Congress to pass legislation that would grant permanent status for Caribbean and other "Dreamers."

"Since DACA was created in 2012, more than 750,000 used the program to expand their participation in our civil society, attend college, and start careers, all in the pursuit of the American Dream. Their contributions have been invaluable and their remarkable stories are now stitched

into the fabric of this nation," said Congresswoman Yvette D. Clarke, the daughter of Jamaican immigrants.

"But the DACA program remains under threat," Clarke, who represents the 9th Congressional District in Brooklyn told Caribbean Life on Saturday. "DACA recipients have been unlawfully arrested by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) officials and needlessly detained.

"We cannot, in good conyoung women and men have science, allow Donald Trump to undermine their expectations or diminish their contributions," she continued. "Congress must act to secure their permanent status in the United States."

> According to new memorandums issued by the Trump

administration Thursday night, President Trump will not immediately eliminate protections for the so-called "Dreamers," undocumented immigrants who came to the United States as small children.

But White House officials said on Friday that Trump had not made a decision about the long-term fate of the program and might yet follow through on a campaign pledge to take away work permits from the immigrants or deport them.

However, the US Department of Homeland Security has announced that it would continue the Obama-era program intended to protect those immigrants from deportation and provide them with work

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BREI BRINGS MISERY

One dead, roofs off and flooding in Trinidad, Grenada

By Bert Wilkinson

Grenada and its smaller family islands as well as the Dutch dependencies of Aruba, Bonaire and Curacao were spared the wrath of Tropical Storm Bret as it roared through the Caribbean and northern South American countries this week, dumping tons of rain, snarling traffic, cancelling commercial flights and closing government and private sector offices in one of the earliest storms of an annual hurricane season in recent memory.

But Trinidad which had always been in the pathway of this early fact of nature, was not so lucky as Bret ripped off the roofs of nearly 100 homes mostly in south, central and east Trinidad, felled trees and utility poles, damaged and blacked out the electricity grid and left homes under water. No serious injuries were reported. One man died after falling off a makeshift bridge, hitting his head in the process.

"Thank God," said a clearly

relieved Prime Minister Keith Rowley who is already trying to steer the oil and gas-rich twin island republic with Tobago back to economic prosperity after years of poor governance decisions and shocks from relatively low oil and gas prices.

"This was a serious storm but everything was in place and I just want to thank everybody who did everything that they were supposed to do. But, most important, Thank God," the Trinidad Express quoted Energy Minister Rohan Sinanan as saying as it weakened as it headed to the Dutch Caribbean as a severely weakened depression that came much too early.

The annual hurricane season usually starts on June, 1 and runs until the end of November. The region braces for strong storms mostly around and after August.

Nearby Barbados which was also on storm alert hardly batted an evelid as locals tracked

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Grenadian-born Michael K. Williams, joined by his daughter Karlene, holds a Golden Arrowhead flag of Guyana after becoming an honorary member of the Guyanese community. Photo by Tangerine

Caribbean Life associate editor honored

By Tangerine Clarke

After more than 40 years in the field of mass communication and photojournalism that began in his homeland of Grenada, Associate Editor of Caribbean Life newspaper, Michael Kevin Williams, an unsung hero, who works feverishly to ensure Caribbean Life is on the newsstand in a timely manner received a well-deserved honor from the Guyana Tri-State Alli-

Last Friday, June 16, Williams, who began his career in 1997 at Grenada's largest Torchlight newspaper, back then, received the Golden Arrowhead of Achievement Award of Achievement and Distinction — the fourth highest award in the Order of Service of Guyana, a citation from Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams, and a Congressional Service Award from Congresswoman Yvette Clarke, during Guyana's 51st Anniversary of Independence commemoration organized by the alliance at Brooklyn Borough Hall.

Williams, a Brooklyn resident who has served more that 10 years, assists the managing editor in an editorial capacity including the written and visual presentation of the editorial section. He is also the content editor for the newspaper's website caribbeanlifenews.com.

Before joining Caribbean Life newspaper in 2006 — the largest, free, Caribbean publication in the United States, Williams worked for the Grenada Public Service as an information officer and later seconded to the Free West Indian newspaper — a state-owned West Indian Publishing

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Guyana's independence celebrated with culture, honors at Boro Hall



President of the Guyana Tri-State Alliance, Patricia Jordon-Langford, Councilmember Mathieu Eugene, and Consul General of Guyana to New York, Hon. Barbara Atherly, join members of the organization and awardees.

Photo by Tangerine Clarke

By Tangerine Clarke

The Guyana Tri-State Alliance's theme of unity and togetherness was expressed during the commemoration of Guyana's 51st Anniversary of Independence, under the patronage of Brooklyn Borough President, Eric Adams and Councilmember Dr. Mathieu Eugene at Brooklyn Borough Hall

The organization which celebrated its 26th year of hosting the event, presented the Golden Arrowhead of Achievement to Guyanese and a Grenadian, who have made significant contributions to the community. Citations from Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams, Congressional Service Awards from Congresswoman Yvette Clarke and Citations from Councilmember Mathieu Eugene were also presented to citizens.

The awardees are: Pandit Chunelall Narine, Karen Gray, David Correia, Mercedes Pierre, Dr. Kamini Doobay, Jacqueline Gulstone, Phd. Allison Butters-Grant, Brian Singh, Cloyette Harris-Stoute, Romola Lucas, Esq. Imam Rudy Zaman, Bishop Robin Diannanauth, Sydney Mahadeo, and Grenadianborn Michael Kevin Williams, associate editor of Caribbean Life newspaper, a honorary Guyanese.

Nine-year-old Sapphire Autumn Rose received the Golden Arrowhead of Achievement Youth Award for her excellence. She is the creator of D'Obvious fashion collection.

Guyanese and friends who enjoyed a mixed piano melodies and African drumming before the celebration Colonial rule, Consul General Barbara

began, were reminded to be united for the betterment of their community, by the Hon. Eric Adams, Brooklyn Borough president, who delivered a stinging speech on division in the community, stating that it was imperative that Guyanese focus their attention and energies on unity.

"This community is too strong, too great, and too powerful to allow petty differences to divide you. You fought for your independence 51 years now because your contribution is honorable, said Adams who reminded nationals that America is the only country in the world that would not allow nationals to abandon their cultural beliefs, but encourage the hyphen between America and the other country because of the fusion that makes 'us great," he said.

"Brooklyn will stay united. One country one Brooklyn," said the politician.

Councilmember Mathieu Eugene. who always refers to himself as a Guyanese, acknowledged the work of the Tri-State Alliance, and was vocal about Guyanese constituents calling on the government to offer opportunities for their children who are the future of the

The councilman reminded compatriots of the discipline they adhere to wile growing up in their homeland, stating - "We must stand together for a better quality of life for our children," said Eugene.

And while acknowledging Guyana's 51st year as an independent nation, and the struggles Guyanese overcame after three hundred and fifty years of

Atherly applauded the awardees of doctors, lawyers, CEO, entrepreneurs, and religious leaders, for their proactive nature to do something for others, for country, and for self.

The diplomat encouraged Guyanese to continue to invest in their homeland, in areas of remigration, personal remittances, shipments, and the establishment of various overseas-based chapter and organizations — ways to grow Guyana, she said.

"I wish to encourage Guyanese in the Diaspora, to contribute to the development of our homeland. Recipients, we recognize your contributions to the growth and development of our country by awarding you the Golden Arrowhead of Achievement. It represents a lasting memento of your patriotism, discipline, and dedication to duty, which facilitates unity and security for generations to come, in peace, happiness and prosperity of Guyana," said Atherly, who thanked the Tri-State Alliance for its contribution.

President of the Tri-State Alliance, Patricia Jordon-Langford in turn said Guyanese are filled with hope and expectations of significant changes in the economic future of Guvana, and the shaping of a land that is filled with promise of a nation growing towards honesty, integrity, self-esteem and most of all unity.

"Today let us renew our national spirit, our legacy and hospitality, unity and togetherness handed down to us by our ancestors that is our birthright," said Jordon-Langford," who congratulated the awardees.

Updated daily at www.caribbeanlifenews.com CARIBBEAN

THE NEWS FROM BACK HOME

Caribbean

The Group General Manager at Ocean Hotels in Barbados, Patricia Affonso-Dass is the new president of the Caribbean Hotel and Tourism Association at the Association's Annual General Meeting, held alongside the Caribbean Hospitality Industry Exchange Forum (CHIEF) and Taste of the Caribbean at the Hyatt Regency in Miami recently.

Affonso-Dass, a graduate of Florida International University's School of Hospitality and Tourism Management, serves as president-

elect for the next year before taking over the presidency of the travel trade association next summer from current



incumbent Karolin Troubetzkoy, executive director of the renowned Jade Mountain and Anse Chastanet resorts in St. Lucia.

He has been the president of both the Tourism and Hospitality Association of Guyana and the Barbados Hotel and Tourism Association and runs the Ocean Hotels group, a family-owned company located on the south coast of Barbados with three unique hotels.

Affonso-Dass will serve the association as president for two years after Troubetzkoy's tenure ends next year.

Barbados

Hotels in Barbados have seen an increase in package demand with nearly a 15 percent growth in 2016.

This is according to the Expedia group, one of the world's leading travel companies.

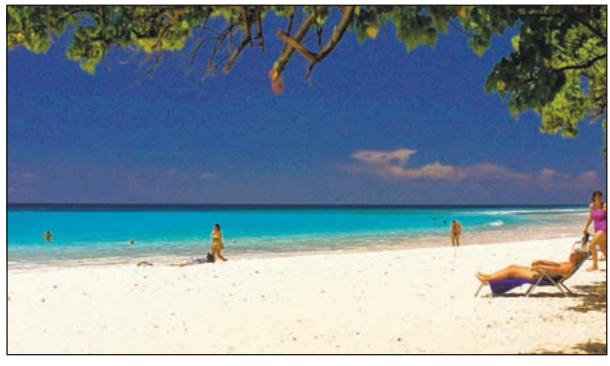
Package bookings, which combine components like flights and hotels, typically capture the attention of higher qual-



ity travelers that spend money, have longer lengths of stay, book further in advance.

Some destinations within Barbados that experienced increases in package demand in 2016 included Christ Church with nearly 30 percent year-on-year and St Peters with nearly 50 percent.

New data from the Expedia group



Destination Christ Church

Several tourists enjoy Rockley beach, in the resort town of Rockley, in the parish Christ Church, Barbados.

Associated Press / Chris Brandis

also. Indicate that the United States remains the key feeder market for Barbados with a reported growth of more than 20 percent year-on-year in 2016, followed by Canada with more than 15 percent and Brazil with nearly 25 percent year-on-year.

According to the Barbados Hotel and Tourism Board, the destination welcomed more than 630,000 tourists in 2016- a 6.7 percent increase compared to 2015.

Expedia reported that the top source markets for Barbados came from the United States, followed by Canada, UK and other Caribbean markets.

Grenada

An oil exploration campaign is set to begin in the coming months in Grenadian waters.

Prime Minister Dr. Keith Mitchell

announced during a national address that a search for oil is expected to start within months.

He said the government of Grenada has granted the Global Petroleum Group (GPG) authorization to conduct a seismic survey on the island and the group has identified "the most prospec-

tive geographical features offering greatest exploration and economic potential."

"They have prepared all the engineering

and logistical plans for the exploratory drilling campaign, engaged all the contractors, subcontractors and vendors necessary, and are on the verge of commencing the exploratory drilling campaign within the next month or two," Mitchell said.

At present, Grenada does not pro-

The prime minister said the achievements to date represent the furthest any company conducting petroleum exploration in Grenada has ever reached — and the guest continues, with future prospects in sight.

Guyana

Guyana government said it will be seeking advice before making any decision to set up an oil refin-



ery in the South American country.

Minister of State Joseph Harmon said after the minister of natural resources receives the advice, he will bring a memorandum to Cabinet upon which "we will cogitate and make a decision that is in the best interest of the people

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Storm Bret leaves its mark

Continued from Page 1

the path of the storm as it veered away from the region's most easterly island. Down south in Guyana and Suriname rain pounded those countries on Monday causing isolated flooding in parts of the interior and a bit on the coast. This is even as both countries are in the midst of its annual mid year rainy season.

But Trinidad which like fellow Caribbean Community nations Guyana and Suriname that are thought to be out of the normal path of hurricanes, was by mid week cleaning up, having been reminded that climate and weather patterns might be changing.

The Caroni, Guaracara, Godineau and Cipero rivers all overflowed their banks, causing flooding. Furniture and other household items floated down streets in some areas but officials said small monetary grants will be available to help people recover and settle down.

While taking to social media to discuss being stranded, airline passengers accepted the fact that major regional carriers like LIAT and Caribbean Airlines were forced to cancel nearly 60 flights but quickly mobilized to resume once the worst of the storm had passed



Parts of Grenville, St. Andrew's in Grenada were flooded as a result of Tropical Storm Bret.

and clearances given by air traffic controllers

Bret was the earliest named storm spotted so far east. At its worst, wind gusts had reached 50 miles per hour. The US National Weather Service deemed Bret an oddball because it had formed much farther south in the Atlantic than usual.

Weather experts also say that the region must be prepared for the unusual as they hark back to another extreme. In November 1999 Hurricane Lenny, moving from west to east rather than the other way around, pounded Dutch St. Maarten as the season rolled to an end as warm Atlantic waters which feed hurricanes were cooling.

Protecting 'Dreamers'

Continued from Page 1

permits so they can find legal employment.

A fact sheet posted on the department's website says that immigrants enrolled in the 2012 program, "will continue to be eligible" to renew every two years, and notes that "no work permits will be terminated prior to their current expiration dates."

A news release from the department said flatly that "the June 15, 2012, memorandum that created the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program will remain in effect."

But officials at the White House and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) said on Friday that those statements were intended only to clarify that immigrants enrolled in the DACA program would not immediately be affected by a separate action officially ending a similar program for undocumented immigrants whose children are citizens or legal permanent residents, according to the New York Times.

"There has been no final determination made about the DACA program, which the president has stressed needs to be handled with compassion and with heart," said Jonathan Hoffman, the assistant secretary for public affairs at the department.

He added that John F. Kelly, DHS secretary, "has noted that Congress is

the only entity that can provide a longterm solution to this issue."

Immigration rights activists, who have fiercely battled Trump's travel ban and increased enforcement of other immigration laws, initially hailed the announcement, calling it a surprising turn of events from Trump, the Times

"This is a big victory for Dreamers amid months of draconian and mean-spirited immigration enforcement policy," said David Leopold, an immigration lawyer. "The preservation of DACA is a tribute to the strength of the Dreamer movement."

But after the White House clarified its intent, activists expressed regret, according to the Times.

Leopold said in a second statement that "it's no surprise that Trump would quickly walk back the preservation of DACA."

Leopold said the Trump administration was trying to "cynically pit 800,000 Dreamers against the rest of the 11 million undocumented immigrants."

A decision to maintain the DACA program would be a reversal from Trump's anti-immigrant language during the campaign and would disappoint some of the president's most ardent supporters, who view the program started President Obama as an illegal grant of amnesty, the Times said.



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New citizens

Dozens become official Americans at East Flatbush naturalization ceremony

By Alexandra Simon

They can now call it home!
Dozens of candidates for citizenship became American citizens at a naturalization ceremony at the historic Wyckoff House Museum in East Flatbush on June 15. Many of the new nationals were thrilled to reach this accomplishment, particularly those who waited many years, said one woman who came to the United States from Trinidad and Tobago.

"I feel wonderful — it's been a long time coming," said Vanessa Rawlins. "I should've done it a long time ago but better later than never, and it's a great feeling."

Rawlins came to the states as a child in the late seventies, and said seeing her parents thrive inspired her to follow their footsteps and make the country her permanent home because it was the country where she grew up.

"My parents brought us here when we were young and taught us to prosper wherever we are, and they made it here and they



Proud: A happy Delores Christen Clarke from Jamaica poses with her son and certificate, after becoming a naturalized citizen at a ceremony on June 15. Community News Group / Alexandra Simon

really did well as people coming from the West Indies with pretty much no educational background," said Rawlins. "The way I saw how they were able to prosper, I figured I'm going to do same thing for myself because I have children, and a grandson, and this is best place

to be on earth."

About 49 people originating from 20 countries read the oath of allegiance to fulfil the last step in the citizenship process. Many were from the Caribbean, hailing from Barbados, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and Trinidad and Tobago.

Having the ceremony at the Wyckoff House was an appropriate place to hold the ceremony because it was one of the oldest houses in the country, built in 1652 by a Dutch settler who immigrated to then formerly called New Amsterdam, said Melissa Branfman, executive director of the museum. It also represents one of the finest symbols of immigration in the borough, she added.

"Today the house remains a part of a vibrant and diverse community of immigrants and in past decade we have welcomed 150 new citizens here to take the same oath and become naturalized citizens, today you



My fellow Americans: United States District Court Judge Vera M. Scanlon speaks to 49 candidates for citizenship at the Wyckoff House Museum in East Flatbush.

Community News Group / Alexandra Simon

join them," said Branfman. "We share with you the past of this house and its inhabitants, so do we celebrate our shared future together as fellow citizens."

Each new citizen stood up to represent their country and read their oath with United States District Judge Vera M. Scanlon, who echoed Branfman.

"I hope you're proud to celebrate your new citizenship at a place with so much history kept alive," she said.

She encouraged the naturalized citizens to learn more about the old house and use the full potential of their new rights to their benefit.

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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. Perhaps 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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Armory plan is right for Crown Heights

By Rev. Daryl G. Bloodsaw

The city is proposing to transform the Bedford-Union Armory in Crown Heights into a new recreational center, affordable office space and housing. After years of seeing the armory sit vacant and unused, this plan would finally reclaim the site as a crucial resource for the Crown Heights community.

Under the city's proposal, 50 percent of the mixed-income rental housing in the project would be affordable. In other words, 165 of the building's 330 apartments would serve low- and middle-income households, including many longtime Crown Heights residents.

Some activists and construction unions want to block the plan, claiming it should offer housing only for the lowestincome New Yorkers and be built using only union labor. They argue that unless these demands are met, the entire plan should be scrapped.

But in this case, mixedincome housing is actually better for Crown Heights than a 100% low-income plan. Here's why.

First, while there is a great need for low-income housing, the reality is that we need more of both low- and middle-income options in Crown Heights. Believe it or not, there are indeed families of color in our community making \$75,000 or \$100,000 per year. Families with teachers, police officers or many other professions can be found throughout Crown Heights. The tragedy is that they don't qualify for low-

income housing and in many cases can't afford the market rate. The armory plan will serve them as well as those making \$40,000 per year or less.

Arguing that low-income housing is the only kind of housing that benefits black and brown New Yorkers is short-sighted and it is simply not true. What should Crown Heights tell its young men and women of color after they gain middle-class jobs and want to stay here or come back to raise families? That they are no longer welcome?

Second, we must understand that mixed-income housing will play a crucial role in keeping the armory's planned recreational center affordable and sustainable - for generations to come. The recreational center will include new basketball courts, indoor fields and a swimming pool. It will cost millions of dollars each year to maintain this facility and its free and low-cost programming for community members.

Crown Heights residents particularly low-income families — have lacked access to quality athletic facilities for far too long. We want the new rec center to be open as many hours as possible and for free and low-cost programming available at all times. But without the revenue generated by market-rate apartments under a mixed-income plan, it will be impossible to sustain the rec center and ensure that it truly serves everyone in our com-

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Caribbean Life

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'Big reflection' needed on opioid crisis

By Tharanga Yakupitiyage

UNITED NATIONS, June 22, 2017 (IPS) - Opioids are among the most devastating drugs and are creating a crisis of epidemic proportions, said the UN drug agency.

In its annual World Drug Report, the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) found concerning trends in drug use around the world.

In 2015, an estimated quarter of a billion people used drugs at least once. Of these, almost 30 million suffered from drug use disorders including dependence. UNODC found that opioids were the most harmful drug type, accounting for 70 percent of negative health impacts associated with drug use disorders worldwide, and its production is only increasing.

"[Opioid use] is a really dramatic epidemic...they are really, in terms of burden of disease, at the top of the scale," said UNODC's Chief of Drug Prevention and Health Branch Gilberto Gerra to IPS.

The use of opioids, including heroin, morphine, and fentanyl, heighten the risks of acquiring diseases such as HIV or hepatitis C through unsafe injecting practices as well as overdoses and death.

Globally, there are an estimated minimum of 190,000 premature deaths related to drugs that were mostly avoidable. A large proportion of those deaths is attributed to the use of opioids.

Though affects many countries in the world, the opioid crisis is particularly prevalent in the United

Mostly driven by opioids,

In fact, more Americans died from the misuse of opioids in 2016 than in the entirety of the Vietnam War, noted Gerra

approximately one quarter of the estimated drug-related deaths worldwide occur in the U.S.

Overdose deaths in the North American nation more than tripled from almost 17,000 to over 52,000 annually between 1999 and 2015, and increased by 11 percent in the past year alone, reaching the highest level ever recorded.

In fact, more Americans died from the misuse of opioids in 2016 than in the entirety of the Vietnam War, noted Gerra.

In the state of Maryland, opioid-related deaths quadrupled since 2010 and deaths from fentanyl increased 38-fold in the past decade. In response to the crisis, Governor Larry Hogan declared a state of emergency, stating: "We need to treat this crisis the exact same way we would treat any other state emergency...this is about taking an all-hands-on-deck approach so that together we can save the lives of thousands of Marylanders."

Though some states have begun the place restrictions on the accessibility of pharmaceutical opioids, including a Florida bill that aims to restrict painkiller prescriptions to a five-day supply, Gerra stressed the importance of focusing on not only supply, but also the demand side of opioids.

"If so many people are consuming this opioid medication including legal opioids from the pharmacy, when you restrict the pharmacy's opioid medication, they will start to turn to things like heroin," he told IPS.

In the U.S., heroin use has increased significantly, and the Centers for Disease Control has suggested that it is linked to prescription opioid abuse.

"There needs to be a big reflection on this issue in North America," Gerra said.

However, the potential changes in healthcare in the U.S. may impact access to treatment.

In particular, the current health care bill proposes cuts to expanded Medicaid, which is used by many states hardest hit by the opioid epidemic to boost their response by paying for medication, therapy, and other treatment services.

Health advocates criticised the proposed cuts during President Trump's first meeting of the President's Commission on Combating Drug Addiction and the Opioid Crisis which is charged with finding solutions for the epidemic.

"If we make it harder for people to get health care coverage, it is going to make this crisis worse," said North Carolina's Governor Rov Cooper.

A similar scenario is found around the world as availability of and access to treatment of drug use disorders remain limited. Fewer than one in six persons with drug use disorders are

Continued on Page 12

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR are welcome from all readers. They should be addressed care of this newspaper to the Editor, Caribbean-Life Publications, 1 MetroTech Center North, Brooklyn, New York 11201, or sent via e-mail to caribbeanlife@ cnglocal.com All letters, including those submitted via e-mail. MUST be signed and the individual's verifiable address and telephone number included. Note that the address and telephone number will NOT be published and the name will be published or withheld on request. No unsigned letters can be accepted for publication. The editor reserves the right to edit all submissions.

Free boro-wide entertainment in City Parks

One of the best bargains of the year comes every summer when City Parks announces its free, series of music, dance, films and theater. Already in full swing in many of the neighborhood parks in all five boroughs, the biggest and longest announced Brooklyn's Celebrate Brooklyn Festival in Prospect Park.

"We are thrilled to announce the 39th summer season of the BRIC Celebrate Brooklyn! Festival at the Prospect Park Bandshell," Jack Walsh, BRIC's VP of performing arts and exec producer of the festival said. "This special season features over fifty celebrated artists from around the world and around the block — across the genres of music, dance, and film — that illuminate the vibrant cultures that make our borough so unique."

"We invite everyone to come together at the Prospect Park Bandshell as these artists take our stage to compel, intrigue, entertain and uplift us," he added.

Revered as New York City's longest-running summer outdoor performance festival, when it began in 1979 it was regarded



Inside Life

By Vinette K. Pryce

to be 'a catalyst for a burgeoning Brooklyn performing arts scene, and to bring people back into the park after years of neglect."

The festival has presented celebrated global music icons, legendary jazz artists, chart-topping indie bands, gravity-defying dance troupes, large-scale film projects and even a virtual reality performance, becoming one of the city's foremost cultural attractions and a beloved summer tradition that draws a diverse audience upwards of 200,000 each season.

"As one of the leading lights of New York City's vast cultural offerings, the world-class Celebrate Brooklyn! Festival will once again deliver a summer full of outstanding free performances by extraordinary and diverse artists," Leslie Schultz, president of BRIC said.

"We believe it is especially important to use artistic platforms to reaffirm the very basis

of what Brooklyn and America — a welcoming supercollider of ideas and cultures, informing and enriching each other."

This year marks the 150th anniversary of Prospect Park, and BRIC will celebrate the milestone. On the evening of July 28, Andrew Bird and Esperanza Spaulding will honor the park's "sesquicentennial and the entire Brooklyn community that makes the park so vibrant," Sue Donoghue, Prospect Park Administrator and President of the Prospect Park Alliance said.

The full season lineup consists of artists from Brooklyn and around the world — across the U.S., the Caribbean, Latin America, the Middle East, Africa and Europe. They include: Pharoah Sanders (June 23) Natasha Diggs (June 24), Chronixx / Chop & Quench / Laolu NYC (July 8), Robert Randolph & The Family Band / Eric Krasno (July 13), and Quantic / Tei Shi / Álex



Chronixx performing at Roy Wilkins Park in Queens

Toni Dubois

Anwandter (July 14) Admiral T / Tabou Combo / DJ Spike T.I. (July 29), and Youssou N'Dour / Yacouba Sissoko (Aug. 12).

The music of Guadeloupe, Haiti and Jamaica represent the Caribbean's diverse sounds.

The Guardian reported that "Chronixx is one of Kingston's hottest new artists, "modernizing reggae staples and breathing new life into the roots reggae movement."

His style recalls the Rastafarian golden age of the 1970s with uplifting, consciousnessraising lyrics set to deep, swooning rhythms.

Continued on Page 12



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Armory plan

Continued from Page 10

munity.

Third, the mixed-income housing plan for the Bedford-Union Armory would put low-income, middle-income and market-rate households together under the same roof, all with access to the same amenities. That is the kind of development Crown Heights should have. This is important because many New Yorkers have opposed so-called "poor door buildings," where developers create one building for wealthier market rate residents and a separate building for low- or middle-income residents. This kind of opposition is a good thing. When New Yorkers of all backgrounds, ethnicities and income levels live in the same building, we all benefit.

Finally, when it comes to the armory opponents' argument for union construction, it is widely known that building all-union would be too expensive to provide any low or middle-income apartments. More importantly, building with union labor makes it much harder to provide jobs for members of our Crown Heights community.

It is time to revitalize the Bedford-Union Armory and make it work for all of Crown Heights' families. The city's plan would accomplish that.

The Rev. Daryl G. Bloodsaw is pastor of the First Baptist Church of Crown Heights.

Prescription opioid abuse

Continued from Page 10

provided with treatment each year, UNODC found.

Gerra highlighted the importance of treatment, pointing to the need for personalised interventions and close supervision by doctors or therapists in order to avoid opioid misuse.

He also added that people possessing drugs for personal consumption should not be criminalised as it steers them away from seeking treatment for fear of punishment.

Though approaches to global drug policy have been contentious and diverse, countries in the General Assembly session on the world drug problem (UNGASS) in 2016 unanimously agreed for the first time to a

people-centered approach which sees the drug problem as a health disorder rather than a criminal or moral

"We cannot respond to people trapped by drugs with a punitive approach. We have to tell them that we are here, we are aware of your condition and behaviour, you are aware that you are in trouble, please come and we will do what we can to help you and your family to overcome this problem in a very humane and human-rights, science-based way," Gerra told IPS.

Gerra called for a continuum of care approach to help keep people using drugs like heroin safe through services like needle exchange programs and to provide long-term accessible and affordable treatment once users

are ready.

"No one should be left behind in the delivery of prevention and treatment interventions," UNODC said in its report.

Gerra noted that prevention is by far the most cost-effective intervention in the long run, but approaches must be science-based in order to be effective.

"People don't understand that there is a science behind prevention—they continue to use initiatives that are well-intentioned but completely not science-based [and] then they say prevention is not working," he said, pointing to science-based methodologies such as life skills education and drug education to children.

The globally agreed Sustainable Development Goals, whose motto is to leave no one behind, includes a target to strengthen the prevention and treatment of substance abuse.

Free entertainment

Continued from Page 11

Admiral T was born on the island of to every performance. Guadeloupe.

At the age of 16, he joined the DJ collective Karukera Sound System, introducing the world to his "unique fusion of dancehall, reggae, and soca

Five albums later, he is one of the most celebrated dancehall artists of the French-speaking world, bringing its 45th season.

his trademark radiance and positivity

Haitian compas band Tabou Combo is expected to enthrall audiences with their deep, merenguemeets-funk sound. DJ Spike T.I. will start the revelry.

Renowned choreographer Garth Fagan joins the lineup on June 30 when his dance company celebrates

Born in Jamaica and educated in Detroit, Fagan has changed the landscape of movement with his innovative blend of modern dance, ballet, Afro-Caribbean and social dance. According to the LA Times, "He "fuses technical virtuosity with conceptual depth by imbuing his work with the characters, issues, and cultural climate of his surroundings."

He is widely acclaimed for choreographing the Broadway musical "The Lion King."

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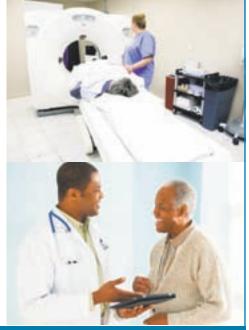
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Barbados new taxes brewing trouble

By George Alleyne

Storm clouds are building in Barbados as workers representatives along with the private sector denounce planned massive tax increases, and one trade union threatens a mass march if government does not repeal the measures.

At the end of May government introduced the 2017-18 budget with \$542 (Bar\$1 = 50 cents US) in revenue-enhancing measures beginning July 01.

Among those measures is a two percent across-the-board tax on all foreign exchange transactions conducted by anyone on the island. This means that the levy will be placed on all activities involving buying United States or any other foreign currency from dealers, wire transfers, and for credit card purchases.

Another of the measures aimed at boosting revenue is an increase in a National Social Responsibility Levy (NSRL) on all imports from two per cent to 10 per cent.

Barbados is an importer with more than 70 percent of its goods and with a similar figure for inputs to its services, so the combined effect of a de facto devaluation of the dollar and a massive increase in one of its sweeping import taxes would make it more expensive to purchase items abroad.

The National Union of Public Workers, the island's second strongest union, over the weekend announced that it was giving government until July 01, the implementation date for the new levies, to withdraw these taxes or its more than 9,000 strong members will take to the streets in a march of protest.

This union has been in negotiations with government for a pay increase for members whose salaries were not raised since 2009.

"In light of the challenges, the union is calling for the Minister of Finance and Economic Affairs Christopher Sinckler to either immediately repeal the tax measures, or to institute a coping subsidy for public servants until salary negotiations have been concluded," said NUPW President Akanni McDowall after emerging from a union executive council meeting.

He added, "failing a response to the union's concerns, permission has been given for the union to take industrial action to protect the interests of its members and the wider citizenry of Barbados".

Finance Minister Chris Sinckler responded to the union's threat by saying that because of government's dire financial circumstances the alternative to the new tax measures is to send home public workers.

"There are a growing number of persons out there who believe that government should immediately and substantially reduce the size of the public sector, especially its wages bill ...it simply means that government should send home thousands of public servants from the service," Sinckler was reported saying Monday.

While the Finance Minister spoke of sending home public workers as an alternative to the new taxes, the Barbados Renewable Energy Association, that promotes the use of renewable energy across the island, stated that some members may have to lay off staff because of the new levies.

And in begging for a tax ease on its members, the Barbados International Business Association (BIBA) President Gregory McConnie said that the increase



NUPW President. Akanni McDowall.

Photo by George Alleyne

in the NSRL added to, "the natural inflationary impact of the combination of this and other taxation measures introduced on domestically sourced inputs, will raise the cost of operations for the sector. BIBA will continue to make representations to have the international business sector exempted from this tax."

Meanwhile, the Barbados TODAY newspaper reported CEO

of the Barbados Small Business Association, Lynette Holder saying that she will seek a mandate from her membership, who make up the bulk of local companies, on a national response to the taxes

Discontent among labour and employers with the new tax measures point to a coming storm that government will be hard-pressed to stave off.





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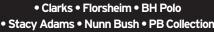
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CARIBBEAN ROUNDUP

Continued from Page 4

Recently, Pedro Haas, director of Advisory Services at Hartree Partners of the USA who was tasked with carrying out a feasibility study for an oil refinery in Guyana revealed that the estimated cost to construct an oil refinery would be around \$5 billion dollars.

The feasibility study found that it would be too costly for the government to invest in an oil refinery and the minister said that Cabinet is still to review the findings of the study.

The consultant, secured through the New Petroleum Producers Group by Chatham House, USA, said that the final results of the study showed that Guvana would be "destroying over half of the value of your investment the day you commission your refinery."

Jamaica

The Jamaica government has passed

the Plea Bargain Negotiations and Agreement Act, in the Senate, which provides for a system of plea bargaining for those who commit



Minister of Foreign Affairs Kamina Johnson Smith, explained that the act is intended to give accused people the opportunity to offer a guilty plea in exchange for a lighter sentence.

Smith, who is leader of Government Business in the Senate, said the legislation would assist in the delivery of justice in a timely manner and reduce the backlog of cases in the nation's courts.

St. Vincent

St. Vincent and the Grenadines Prime Minister Dr. Ralph Gonsalves has praised CARICOM countries for acting "with independence, courage and concerted action" during the recent Permanent Council meeting of the Organization of American States (OAS) which was called to discuss the situation in Venezuela.

In a letter sent to CARICOM Secretary General Irwin Larocque, Gonsalves said the "CARICOM stance is a tribute to our region's commitment

to the highest ideals of our Caribbean civilization and of its institutional expression, politically, the inde-



pendent and sovereign nation-state."

The prime minister said through its position at the OAS, CARICOM countries have honored the names of "our revered leaders of yesteryear," including Errol Barrow of Barbados, Forbes Burnham of Guyana, Michael Manley of Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago's Dr. Eric Williams," whose representative countries defied the edict of a hegemonic neighbor in their formal diplomatic recognition or revolutionary Cuba in 1972."

Trinidad

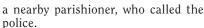
Police are hunting for three bandits who held up a prominent Roman Catholic priest, tied him up and robbed the St. Martin de Pores Church in Belmont, Port-of Spain around 5 am on June 12, 2017.

Police said Fr. Clive Harvey was outside the church when he was accosted by three armed men with guns.

They ordered the priest into the presbytery before they tied him up and threatened to abduct and kill

They left with only TT\$1,000 in cash, a cellphone and some other items.

Fr. Harvey managed to untie himself and went to the home of



Religious leaders have condemned that attack on the well-known priest. who helps underprivileged children in communities in a crime "hot spot" in Laventille, Port of Spain.

In a response, Prime Minister Dr. Keith Rowley said the attack on Fr. Harvey by "able-bodied, gun-toting men" represents the worst that exist in our communities.

He said: "Notwithstanding what difficulties one may be facing in life there are limits beneath which the human form should not sink."

— compiled by Azad Ali

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Vincycares conducts successful fundraiser

By Nelson A. King

The Brooklyn-based group Vincycares, Inc. has described as a "resounding success" its recent fundraising scholarship launch.

"The event was a resounding success as many Vincentian community supporters showed up to patronize the event, where they partook of delicious barbecue and a variety of drinks," said the group's public relations officer Franklin "Superdex" Richards, a former president, about the 8th annual Taswya Cambridge, Sr. Scholarship Launch that took place at a new location, at Friends of Crown Heights Educational Center. at 668 Logan St., Brooklyn.

The group especially thanked another Brooklyn-based group, Friends of Sion Hill, which has "continuously pledged its annual support to the organization not only in monetary donations but also in personal support."

"The organization also thanks all those individuals who have pledged personal monetary support to ensure our children receive a decent

educational support," Richards said.

"We would also like to express our heartfelt thanks to the consul general (Howie Prince) and all our diehard supporters, who would brave any condition to lend their support to make this event a success," he added.

After evaluating the collection of supplies over the years, we felt that our energy would be better spent in providing scholarships, as many organizations [in the Vincentian community in New York] have now taken up collecting supplies and disbursing to St. Vincent and the Grenadines,

Richards said Vincycares, Inc., continues to "show its commitment to the education of the less fortunate children and the Diaspora," Richards

in St. Vincent and the Grenadines."

At its annual general meeting on March 18, the group said it overhauled its bylaws, and evaluated and discussed the activities of the organization.

"The organization decided that, as we go into another year, much more emphasis must be paid to scholarships," Richards said.

"After evaluating the collection of supplies over the years, we felt that our energy would be better spent in providing scholarships, as many organizations [in the Vincentian community in New York] have now taken up collecting supplies and disbursing to St. Vincent and the Grenadines," he added.

The group will hold another fundraising scholarship drive on Labor Day Saturday, Sept. 3, and its 8th Annual Dinner Gala on Dec. 3.

"The organization will continue to improve its work to better serve the needs of the less fortunate children of St Vincent and the Grenadines.



Vincycares, Inc. executive members at recent fundraising scholarship drive. Vincycares, Inc.

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Besides Richards, other members of the board of directors are Jillian Arthur, Stephanie Bovce-Herbert, Michael Alexander, Garfield Palmer,

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State comptroller honors Clarke, slain officer

By Alexandra Simon

They're some of the best around.

State Comptroller Thomas P. DiNapoli honored several notable members of the city's Caribbean-American community in Manhattan on June 16. The celebratory event at the Metropolitan College of New York in commemoration of Caribbean-American Heritage Month, acknowledged that immigrants and descendants from the region have people who have most impacted their community, said the comptroller.

"We are very pleased to be celebrating Caribbean Heritage Month and what we like to do is give recognition to individuals in the Caribbean community who have contributed so much to our city and our state," said DiNapoli. "The five individuals we are honoring have done a great deal and give back to larger community."

The honorees included Congresswoman Yvette D. Clarke, Assemblywoman Michaelle C. Solages, Bharati S. Kemraj, founder Bharati Dance Academy, and Felina Baker, assistant principal of Teachers Preparatory High School in Brooklyn. The comptroller also posthumously honored Detective Randolph Holder, the slain officer killed in Harlem in 2015, which was accepted by his father and fiancee.

DiNapoli said people like Holder and the other honorees devote their life to public service and uplifting their communities.

"Detective Holder certainly gave his life in the line of duty, and we have great elected officials in Congresswoman Clarke and Assemblymember Michaelle Solages," he said. "Our other honorees also give back with work in community and working with children through education. The common theme is that we are celebrating individuals who exemplify that tradition of giving back, and certainly when we talk about the Caribbean Americans, many whom are immigrants, we are talking about people who are hardworking and entrepreneurial and these five individuals are certainly worthy of our

Congresswoman Clarke, who is of Jamaican heritage, praised DiNapoli for celebrating Caribbean people because often credit to the contributions of Caribbean immigrants is often ignored, she said during her recipient speech.

"I believe there are Caribbean Americans at the founding of this nation, and we are the hidden figures and we've been hidden figures for generations,"

She also recalled the stigma Caribbean-Americans experienced during the first wave of immigration from the region, particularly that of her mother and former councilwoman Dr. Una S.T. Clarke, who was also the first Caribbean-born woman elected to New York City Council. She said the reaction to her mother's island pride was not initially received well, but should stand as a reminder of why all immigrants should be proud of their heritage.

"When she ran for office she said she was Caribbean-American and it rattled a lot of people when she said that," said



State Comptroller Thomas P. DiNapoli, right, presents the fiancee, left, and father, center, of slain Detective Randolph Holder, with a posthumous proclamation award at a Caribbean Heritage celebration at Metropolitan College of New York on June 16.

we look at myopically, we miss out on America so strong."

Clarke. "And it was just declaration of the richness, we miss out on depth of being — it was a declaration that we experiences and cultures, and values are not a monolithic people. When that people bring with them that make



Congresswoman Yvette D. Clarke, left, was also honored and presented with a proclamation by State comptroller Thomas P. DiNapoli, right. The daughter of Jamaican immigrants, her mother is former councilwoman Dr. Una S.T. Clarke.



Assemblywoman Michaelle Solages, left, became the first woman of Haitian descent to be elected into the New York State assembly. She was also presented with a proclamation by DiNapoli.



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THE CARIBBEAN BUSINESS REPORT

Fly Jamaica opens ticketing office in Brooklyn

By Tangerine Clarke

Fly Jamaica Airways has extended its reach into the Caribbean community with the opening of a new ticketing office at 1397 Nostrand Ave., two doors from Linden Boulevard Avenue in the heart of Brooklyn, for travellers who like the comfort of face to face service, when booking travel.

Last Thursday, June 15 Hon. Barbara Atherly Consul General of Guyana to New York joined Marketing Manager of Fly Jamaica Kayla Reece in a significant ribbon-cutting ceremony that received ecumenical blessings. The first Fly Jamaica office opened in Queens some years ago.

Carl Bowen, marketing manager, welcomed travel agents and vacationers, stating that the new ticketing office is to facilitate customers in Brooklyn who cried-out for an office to do business, with customer service, void of an automated

Guyanese-born owners of Fly Jamaica, Captain Ronald Reece and Roxanne Reece after a champaign toast hosted a launch reception at Jamaican Trelawni Place, on Utica Avenue where CEO Capt. Ronald Reece thanked customers who he said remained committed to Fly Jamaica since it began flights four years ago, from JFK, to Jamaica and Guyana, and later Canada.

Capt. Reece said with the help of Marketing Manager



Consul General of Guyana to New York, Hon. Barbara Atherly, second from left, cut the ribbon with Marketing Manager Kayla Reece to open Fly Jamaica Brooklyn office, as staff Photo by Tangerine Clarke

Kayla Reece, the airline plans to woo citizens of the diaspora back to their homelands of Guyana and Jamaica to enjoy the pleasures of the Carib-

He applauded the cabin attendants and the team of Fly Jamaica Airways, who he said worked hard to make the operation wonderful.

"With the support of our passengers and tourists and business travelers from the diaspora that make our opera-

tions successful, I say thank you. I hope you continue to support Fly Jamaica Airways," he added.

Consul General, Barbara Atherly while thanking the Reece family for inviting the consulate to be a part of their successful launch, congratulated Fly Jamaica Airways for the new initiative.

"We are impressed with the expansion in Brooklyn. This is a great opportunity to reach more people in the diaspora and to forge stronger bonds between Guyana and Jamaica," said Atherly.

She recalled the tireless travel she experienced as a student calling it a 'bus ride' where she had to travel to several Caribbean countries before arriving in Kingston, Jamaica. She added that Fly Jamaica Airways now makes it easier, faster, and more efficient for the community, while creating an opportunity for tourism.

CG Atherly is confident that a tourism package to include Jamaica's sand and sea, and Guyana's eco-tourism, would attract passengers to both destinations using Fly Jamaica Airways on a larger scale.

"You are a great organization that invest in the community. Your corporate responsibility is impressive, and you have been contributing to the Guyanese community in New York and at home. I congratulate you and wish you ever success," said the consul gen-

"I know you will be doing greater and better things, in both the Guvanese and Jamaican community, that would benefit greatly," she added.

Roxanne Reece, in turn, thanked the traveling public for their continued support that has made the airline the success it is today.

Dr. Una Clarke, added that this is what economic development is all about, and called on the nationals to continue its support for Fly Jamaica Airways.

"We cannot call ourselves a Caribbean community if we do not support each other. There is money at stake, we have to support our own. We need to get together to support Fly Jamaica, plan your itinerary around the airline," Clarke encouraged.

Fly Jamaica - One Team One Dream - www.fly-jamaica.com.

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www.nyfirst.ny.gov/ResourceCenter/

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

Business Resources: Internet Bibliographies: New York State Library

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Malcolm X – American Muslim leader, human rights activist

By Nelson A. King

Malcolm X was born Malcolm Little on May 19, 1925 in Omaha, Nebraska. His mother, Grenadian-born Louise Norton Little, was a homemaker occupied with the family's eight children.

According to an abridged biography, Malcolm X's father, Earl Little, was an outspoken Baptist minister and avid supporter of Black Nationalist leader Jamaican Marcus Mosiah Garvey, Jamaica's first national hero.

Earl's civil rights activism prompted death threats from the white supremacist organization, Black Legion, forcing the family to relocate twice before Malcolm's fourth birthday, the biography states.

It says that regardless of the Little's efforts to elude the Legion, in 1929, their Lansing, Michigan home was burned to the ground.

Two years later, Earl's body town's trolley tracks. Police recent conversion to the Mus-

dents, but the Littles were certain that members of the Black Legion were responsible, the biography says.

It says Mrs. Little suffered emotional breakdown several years after the death of her husband and was committed to a mental institution, while her children were split up among various foster homes and orphanages.

Eventually, Malcolm and his long-time friend, Malcolm "Shorty" Jarvis, moved back to Boston. In 1946, they were arrested and convicted on burglary charges, and Malcolm was sentenced to 10 years in prison, although he was granted parole after serving seven

Recalling his days in school, the biography says Malcolm X used the time to further his education. It was during this period of self-enlightenment that Malcolm's brother Regiwas found lying across the nald would visit and discuss his

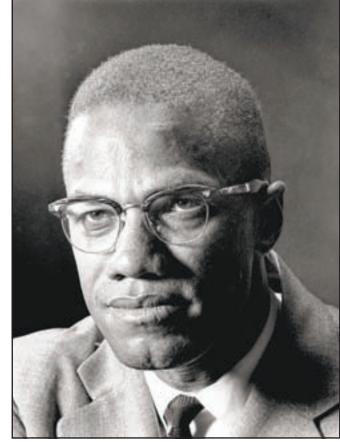
ruled both incidents as acci- lim religion. Reginald belonged to the religious organization the Nation of Islam (NOI).

Intrigued, Malcolm began to study the teachings of NOI leader Elijah Muhammad, the biography says, adding that Muhammad taught that white society actively worked to keep African-Americans from empowering themselves and achieving political, economic and social success.

Among other goals, the NOI fought for a state of their own, separate from one inhabited by white people, the biography

By the time he was paroled in 1952, Malcolm was a devoted follower with the new surname "X". He considered "Little" a slave name and chose the "X" to signify his lost tribal name, according to the biography.

Intelligent and articulate, Malcolm was appointed as a minister and national spokesman for the Nation of Islam. Elijah Muhammad also charged him with establishing



Black Muslim leader Malcolm X poses during an interview in New York on March 5, 1964. Associated Press / Eddie Adams, File

new mosques in cities such as Detroit, Michigan, and Har-

Malcolm utilized newspaper

columns, as well as radio and television, to communicate the NOI's message across the United States.

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Guyana consul general praises Queens Mandir

By Tangerine Clarke

Consul General of Guyana to New York, Barbara Atherly, told a group of senior citizens at the Richmond Hill Queens Shri Trimurti Bhavan Mandir, on its 19th anniversary, and a celebration of mothers, that women are the bedrock of society, and they should be honored everyday.

The diplomat, who addressed the predominately Indo-Caribbean audience of grandmothers, great-grandmothers and youth, reminded the citizens, that she also celebrated a day to honor mothers during her UNICEF tour of duty in Afghanistan, Mozambique and Syria, where a special day is set aside to honor mothers.

"I want to encourage woman to embrace their uniqueness," Atherly said. adding that the records show that the Mandir has made significant contributions to the community in Queens.

"We applaud your efforts. Since its inception, this Mandir has been called a 'Thriving Ozone Park Temple' by the New York Times."

"Your contributions towards

the spiritual, cultural, and community life of many Indo-Caribbean Hindus must be applauded. You have reached out to families facing social problems. Many of these problems are similar to what we are facing home in Guyana, such as domestic abuse, mental health issues and suicide."

'I urge you to continue your spiritual and social support to families and if possible conduct a study to find out what are the underlying factors of these social ills affecting our society."

"Ladies and gentlemen, today we honor and celebrate mothers, today you celebrate 19 years as an organization in this community. So once again I congratulate you for all your achievements and pray that this temple with grow from strength to strength.

"Let us continue to remember the less unfortunate among us and continue to support them," said the diplomat, who has attended numerous outreach programs since taking up office one year ago.



Consul General of Guyana to New York, Hon. Barbara Atherly stands behind colorfully dressed seniors at the 19th Anniversary of the Richmond Hill Queens Shri Trimurti Bhavan, and a celebration of mothers. Consul General NY

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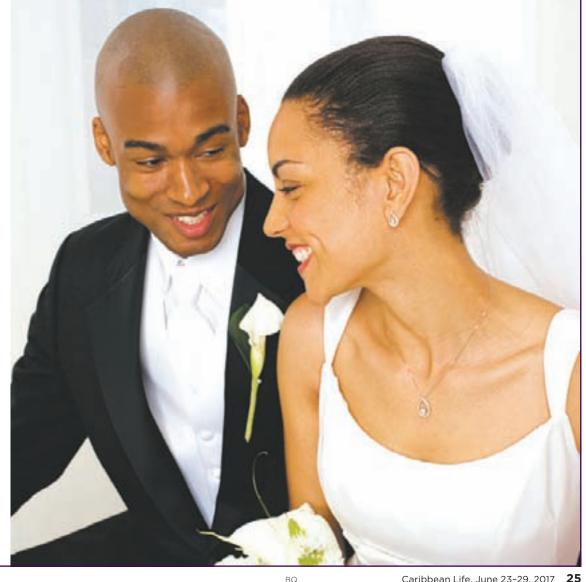
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UN seeks funding to counter cholera in Haiti

By Nelson A. King

The United Nations deputy chief on Wednesday called on member states to fund the organization's new strategy to counter cholera in Haiti, stressing that the initiative is facing a critical shortage of resources.

"Without additional resources, the intensified cholera response and control efforts cannot be sustained through 2017 and 2018," said Deputy Secretary-General Amina Mohammed during an informal briefing to the General Assembly on the UN's latest report on the strategy.

"Without your political will and financial support, we have only good intentions and words," she added.

Last December, then-Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon put forward a "New Approach to Cholera in Haiti" to demonstrate the organization's commitment to the elimination of the disease, the UN said.

Ban also apologized to the Haitian people on behalf of the United Nations, stating that the organization simply had not done enough with regard to the cholera outbreak and its spread in Haiti and that it was profoundly sorry for its role.

The UN said the new approach has two tracks: Track 1 involves intensifying the organization's efforts in order to reduce and ultimately end the transmission of cholera, improve access to care and treatment and address the longer-term issues of water, sanitation and health systems

Track 2 is a package that will provide material assistance and support to those Haitians most directly affected by cholera, the UN said.

"Secretary-General António Guterres is strongly committed to taking forward the 'New Approach," Mohammed said.

The UN said that in the weeks following Hurricane Matthew last October, the number of suspected cholera cases increased.

However, it said the number of suspected cases has since declined significantly.

As of May 27, the Haiti Ministry of Health reported 6,762 suspected cases, compared to 16,822 at the same time last year, Mohammed said.

The vaccination campaign being carried out by the Pan American Health Organization and World Health Organization (PAHO/WHO) is "well advanced," and is expected to reach 85 per cent of the 700,000 target by the end of this month, the UN said.

It said the next campaign, scheduled for the last quarter of 2017, aims to vaccinate 2.6 million people in the Frenchspeaking Caribbean country's most vulnerable areas.

As of April 20, the UN said voluntary contributions to the UN Cholera Response Multi-Partner Trust Fund totaled about US\$2.7 million from seven Member States, namely Chile, France, India, Liechtenstein, South Korea, Sri Lanka and the United Kingdom, "against the envisaged expenditure of US\$400 million over two years.'

Outside of the Trust Fund, the UN said Canada and Japan, committed nearly US\$7 mil-

The fund has also received about US\$17,000 from UN staff members and private donors, the UN said.

However, it said three projects, which together cost US\$2.5 million, have nearly depleted the Trust Fund, which now has just US\$183,000. No



UN Deputy Secretary-General Amina J. Mohammed (left) briefs member states on the United Nations' New Approach to Cholera in Haiti. General Assembly President Peter Thomson is seated right.

new contributions have been appointment of a high-level received, the UN said.

It said the Secretary-General proposes to address the need for resources in several ways, including the soon-be-announced

envoy to develop a comprehensive fundraising strategy to seek additional voluntary contributions from member states and

Grenada strengthens tourism ties during CTO Week New York

By Nelson A. King

The Grenada Tourism Authority (GTA) says Caribbean Week in New York, hosted by the Barbados-based Caribbean Tourism Organization (CTO), "proved to be a successful endeavor for the promotion of Grenada's tourism product."

GTA said on Thursday that Grenada's delegation was led by Minister of Tourism and Civil Aviation, Dr. Clarice Modeste-Curwen: GTA chief executive officer Patricia Maher and Director of Sales and Marketing (USA), Christine Noel-Hosford.

The destination's participation in the week-long schedule of events, which ran from June 5-9, was supported by the island's North American public relations agency Cheryl Andrews Marketing Communications, under the leadership of its president, Cheryl Andrews, and director of client development, Jennifer Johnson.

GTA the Grenadian delegation spent the first half of the week attending trade-focused events, including the Travel Agent Trade Show & Educational Forum, a targeted event that provided a platform to showcase the destination's offerings and interact with Caribbeanselling agents based in New York, New Jersey and Connecticut.

the Caribbean Marketing Conference, an interactive seminar dedicated to enhancing marketing initiatives, and Caribbean Tourism Industry Awards Luncheon, an occasion where the CTO recognizes journalists and photographers who have published "captivating and influential stories spotlighting the region."

On June 8, Modeste-Curwen, on behalf of the government of Grenada, signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) to "formalize and implement a cohesive partnership with the global home-sharing company, Airbnb," GTA

"The signing of the MOU is part of ongoing efforts by the GTA to maximize exposure of the destination and will act as a streamlined framework for the collaboration between the GTA and Airbnb," the statement said.

GTA said the Grenada booth was a "favorite for the more than 100 media in attendance" at the Media Marketplace "where all eager to hear and learn about the latest news, developments and industry offerings from the island.

"This event provided yet another valuable opportunity to be top-of-mind with niche and general destination writers across all platforms including print, dig-Trade-focused events also comprised ital, online and social media," GTA said.

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Immigration benefit for victims of sexual abuse

By Gertrude Onuoha, Esq

American Psychological society defines sexual abuse as unwanted sexual activity, with perpetrators using force, making threats or taking advantage of victims not able to give consent. Most victims and perpetrators know each other. Immediate reactions to sexual abuse include shock, fear or disbelief. Long-term symptoms include anxiety, fear or post-traumatic stress disorder. Domestic violence victim are eligible to seek the following benefits:

- Self-petitions for legal status under the Violence against Women Act (VAWA).
- 2. Cancellation of removal under Violence against Women Act (for victims in deportation court)
- **U**-nonimmigrant (crime victims)
- T-visa status if you were brought to the United Statesfor prostitution
- Asylum based on social grounds (gender violence) for those fear to return to their country on account of persecution.
- Special Immigrant Juvenile (SIJ) Status The purpose of the SIJ program is to help foreign children in the United States who have been abused,

abandoned, or neglected. Sexual abuse can be a basis for this claim. Children who get a green card through the SIJ program can live and work permanently in the United States.

Each of the immigration status mentioned above has specific detailed legal requirements. It is expected that a person seeking any benefit above based on sexual abuse must prove the following evidence:

- Detailed declaration from the a) victim telling his or her own story;
- b) Letters from witnesses of the abuse;
- Letters from counselors, shelc) ters, and community groups, etc;
 - d) Medical records;
 - Police reports; and e)
 - Restraining orders. f)

If you do not have some or any of evidence listed above and you are a victim of sexual abuse, you may still be eligible to apply for immigration benefit. Call for a free telephone evaluation.

The content of this article is intended for general information purposes only, and is not legal advice. Those seeking specific legal advice should contact Gertrude Onuoha Esq. at 575 Lexington Ave., 4th Fl. New York, NY 10022 (Phone) 732-642-5605.

Keeping communities safe

Kingsbrook's Best Health School has partnered with the 71st Precinct to feature a series of educational sessions for the community in 2017. On Saturday, June 24, neighborhood Coordinating Officers Paul Parkinson and Stephen Schmitt will present the first of the series entitled: "Keeping our Communities Safe." The event will be held on the main campus at 585 Schenectady Ave. between Winthrop Street & Rutland Road in the Lillian Minkin Ballroom.

The Neighborhood Coordinating Police Officer program was created out of the need for new methods to close the gap between cops and communities. Through this program, New York city residents get to know their neighborhood police officers in a brand new way. "We are happy to partner with our neighborhood coordinating officers at the 71st Precinct as part of our Best Health School initiative," said Enid Dillard, director of marketing and public affairs. "We are extremely committed to providing education that impacts our community's health and wellness. Addressing our community's safety falls within the scope of awareness and prevention and that is invaluable to our residents."

For more information about the Best Health School's educational schedule for 2017, visit the website at www.kings-

brook.org under Community Programs & Events or call Kingsbrook's Community Information line at 718-604-5062.

The mission of the Best Health School is to provide better access to wellness information and screenings to promote healthier communities in the borough of Brooklyn. As such. the Best Health School's education programs are integral part of Kingsbrook's effort to improve access to quality care and education efforts.

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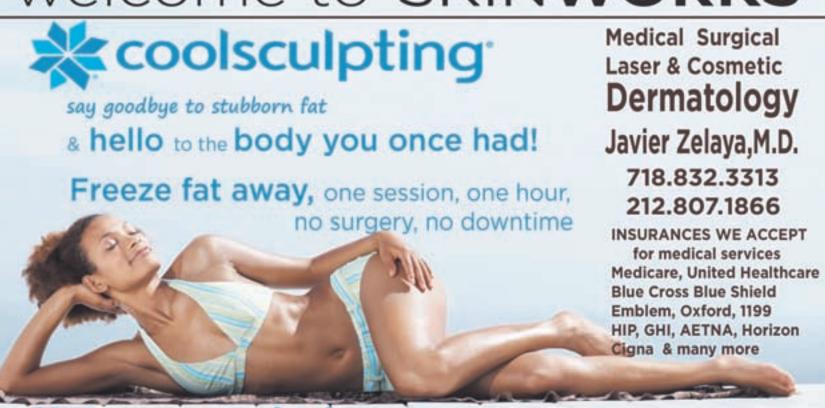
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Three key central Brooklyn pols endorse Gonzalez

By Nelson A. King

Acting Brooklyn District Attorney Eric Gonzalez has received endorsements from three of central Brooklyn's key state officials.

The Puerto Rican-born Gonzalez said Assembly Members Rodneyse Bichotte (42nd AD), Tremaine Wright (56th AD) and Latrice Walker (55th AD) have thrown their support behind him, citing his progressive reforms that protect Brooklyn's immigrant communities, children and quality of life.

The three state officials represent the central Brooklyn neighborhoods of Bedford-Stuyvesant, Crown Heights, Brownsville, Flatbush and more.

"Immigrant Brooklynites are our neighbors. DA Gonzalez understands this," said Bichotte, a daughter of Haitian immigrants, who represents the 42nd Assembly District.

"In the short time that he has been leading the district attorney's office, Eric has addressed the concerns of the diverse immigrant communities of Brooklyn by opposing the Trump administration's harmful proposals that can, at the very least, disrupt the daily life of some Brooklynites and at worst, break up families," she added. "I am delighted to put my support behind Eric. He will sincerely continue to address issues that our immigrant communities are facing in Brooklyn."

Last month, Gonzalez said he implemented a new immigration policy that seeks equal and fair justice for all Brooklyn residents, including the foreign-born.

Gonzalez hired full-time immigration lawyers to work with the assistant district attorneys to evaluate the unintended consequences of a plea, and train them to try to avoid giving someone the conviction that will get them deported.

"Brooklyn has made great strides forward in recent years, and Eric Gonzalez will continue that progress," Wright said. "He has shown that he knows how to make Brooklyn safer, while making our criminal justice system fairer. I strongly support the reforms he's implemented in the district attorney's office and believe he is the best choice to move Brooklyn forward."

In Brooklyn, studies have shown that black people were nine times more likely to be arrested for marijuana possession than white people despite the fact that there is virtually no racial disparity in marijuana use, according to Gonzalez.

New York City's digital kiosks celebrate Caribbean heritage

By Alexandra Simon

A digital way to honor the leaders.

In commemoration of June as Caribbean-American Heritage month, all of the city's digital WiFi kiosks — LinkNYC, are displaying images of Caribbean-American icons all month. The project was created by Caribbeing, a cultural platform headquartered in Flatbush, in partnership with LinkNYC. The display intends to familiarize passersby with the influential people of West Indian background, and honor their contributions to American history, according to the project's creator.

"We hope New Yorkers will learn more about the tremendous contributions of Caribbean Americans to New York City and beyond, National Caribbean American Heritage Month celebration, and about the work Caribbeing is doing to illuminate the Caribbean experience through culture + art + digital media technologies," said executive director of Caribbeing, Shelley Worrell.

With Links rapidly popping up around many parts of the city, it is the perfect chance to highlight the notable and historic icons, among other day-to-day information, she added.

"The icons will appear on Links every minute or so, interspersed with other LinkNYC house content such as weather updates, and advertising content," said Worrell.

The kiosks are currently highlighting 10 Caribbean-Americans, from writers, musicians, activists, actors, and dancers. They include Marcus Garvey, Celia Cruz, Harry Belafonte, DJ Kool Herc, Arturo Schomburg, Junot Diaz, Notorious B.I.G., Edwidge Danticat, Geoffrey Holder, and Claude McKay, according to Worrell. And more figures may be added to the billboards before the campaign is over.



Former presidential hopeful: Shirley Chisolm was the first woman and first black person, to run for president. Also the black woman sworn to congress was of Barbadian descent.

Shelley Worrell

Worrell says she pushed for a campaign to acknowledge the history of Caribbean people connected to the city's history, after seeing other following the success of similar campaigns during black history month and women's history month. With June being the month spotlighting Caribbean Heritage, it is the perfect time to honor that on a growing digital platform such

as Links, she said.

"We are proud to be able to partner with LinkNYC to honor Caribbean American icons past and present," said Worrell. "Despite the fact that the Caribbean is so close to the United States, few people are aware of the many American leaders, creators, and visionaries who happen to be of Caribbean descent."

Grenadian editor receives Guyanese honor

Continued from Page 3

Company as a senior reporter / photographer. At that entity, he wrote news and feature articles, photographed events and assisted in the editing of articles and the layout of the newspaper. He worked there until 1983 when the publication ceased.

A talented and skilled journalist, Williams returned to the Government Information Service as a senior information officer where he supervised information staff; produced and broadcast the radio program "Prepare to Prevent," which dealt with disaster preparedness, edited news releases, and organized news conferences

Williams designed, edited and produced the weekly newsletter "Newsline."

As the senior information officer, he organized and coordinated the press center for CARICOM Heads of Government Meeting in Grenada and served on the National Emergency Relief Organization as the information officer.

A multifaceted professional, Williams also served as an education officer in the Ministry of Education and Labor, and appointed managing editor of the Materials Production Unit. There, he supervised and assisted in producing audiovisual and printed educational materials for the primary and secondary schools.

He also served as the communications officer for the Ministry of Education and assisted in developing, directing and implementing communications plans and strategies for the ministry. This included the communication plans for the OECS Basic Education Reform Project funded by the World Bank and the government of Grenada.

His service extended to public relations officer for the folk group "Spice Island Youthquake" since its start in 1980. In that capacity, in addition to promoting local concerts, he promoted an international concert tour to the USA. and toured with the group as a performer to England, Scotland and Ireland.

He gave back as a part-time tutor for a Print Journalism module at the T.A. Marryshow Community College, Grenada in 2001, and conducted training workshops for teachers and the staff of the Curriculum Development Department, Ministry of Education, in the use of technology for teaching and designing educational materials.

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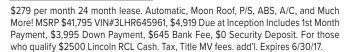


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John Dougan performs "God Help

Vincy calypso judging begins in New York

By Nelson A. King

Five judges from the homeland were on hand Saturday night at Café Omar in Brooklyn for the preliminary round of adjudication in the Dynamite Calypso Tent, the sole Vincentian-owned calypso tent in North America.

The judges — Earl Paynter, Roddy Dowers, Marla Nanton, Daniel Hall and Kenlem Beach — were the first to begin duties in the National Calypso Competition for Vincy Mas 2017.

Continued on Page 42

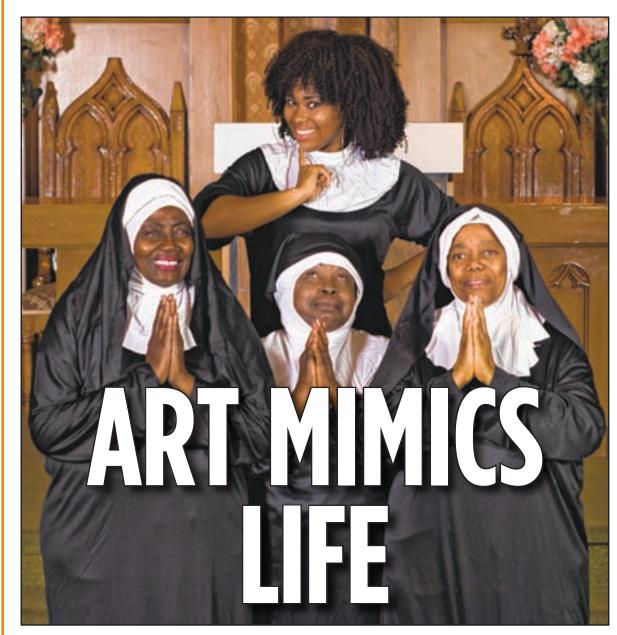
Baby Cham drops new album

By Alexandra Simon

He's back on the scene.

Dancehall artist Baby Cham is making his return to the music with the release of his new album "Lawless." The artist rose to fame in 2004 with his single "Ghetto Story" and soon after came out with an album of the same name. The hit scored him even more popularity with the remixed version of the song. Now seven years since his last album, Cham's musical style is much more experimental on his new project, which he described as a mash-up of different genres with dancehall as the base influence.

"You can't box this into just dance-Continued on Page 42



Playwright and executive director of AbunDance Academy of the Arts, Karisma Jay, top center, said the play mirrors the real life story of her trying to keep her dance school open.

Dance school recreates 'Sister Act' films

By Alexandra Simon

Call it art imitating life.

A Prospect-Lefferts Gardens dance school is reimagining the company's displacement in their new stage play inspired by the Sister Act films, which will debut at Kings Theatre on June 25. AbunDance Academy of the Arts is presenting their project, "Sister Act, Abundantly." The musical play is mainly based on the plot of the second film in the duology, which follows Catholic school nun Deloris Van Cartier, who heads the school choir

and is trying to prevent their school from closing down. The play greatly mirrors a similar instance that the school underwent, said the founder and playwright.

"We are experiencing what it it feels like to keep our school from closing and to keep arts at forefront of our community," said Karisma Jay. "That's happening in real time, and that's actually one of major ways we bring twist to the story because it's our story as well.'

Early this year Jay discovered

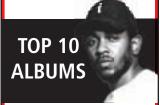
that the lease for her Rogers Avenue dance company was up, and the landlord would double their rent. In the process of preparing for the summer show, Jay said she came upon "Sister Act 2" and strongly related to the struggles in it. She rewrote her original idea and found inspiration from the movie because it hit home, she said.

"We didn't anticipate having to tell the story and live that story at same time," said Jay.

Continued on Page 42

TOP OF THE **CHARTS TOP 10 SINGLES**

- That's What I Like Bruno Mars
- Shape Of You Ed Sheeran
- **Something Just Like This** The Chainsmokers & Coldplay
- Zedd & Alessia Cara
- Say You Won't Let Go James Arthur
- Despacito Luis Fonsi, Daddy Yankee...
- It Ain't Me Kygo x Selena Gomez
- I'm The One DJ Khaled, Justin Bieber, Qavo..
- Julia Michaels
- Humble. 10 Kendrick Lamar



- hopeless fountain kingdom Halsev
- This One's For You Luke Combs
- Steven Universe, Volume 1 Soundtrack
- **Last Young Renegade** All Time Low
- Relaxer alt-J
- The Joshua Tree
- Guardians of the Galaxy, Vol. 2 Soundtrack
- Is This The Life We Really Want? Roger Waters
- DAMN. Kendrick Lamar
- Divide
- 10 Ed Sheeran



Vincy calypso judging begins in New York

Continued from Page 41

Eleven calypsonians among them veterans D Man Age ("Can't Take No Break"); Denis Bowman ("Don't Spear the Rod"); John Dougan ("God Help Us"); Jose Juan ("Kaiso Man"); and Rejector ("Pan Movement Victory") — vied for a place in the semifinals to take place at Carnival City, Victoria Park, in capital Kingstown, on June 30.

Others were: Hilford Hurst ("Iron Man"); Lady Hibiscus ("Things Not So Bad"); Stryker ("Sweet Mother Earth"); Navel String ("In Style"); Jakie ("Jaming Non-Stop"); and D-Tecta ("Lead Us").

Ainsley Primus, the Arnos Vale-born president of the Brooklyn-based Dynamite Calypso Tent, said the competition, broadcast live on NBC and Nice FM radios in St. Vincent and the Grenadines, was very keen.

"Everybody was good," said Primus in a post-show Caribbean Life interview. "It was a variety of topics — from social commentary to up-tempo

"Those guys (calypsonians) were consistent," he added. "For the tent that got judged,



D Man Age sings "Can't Take No Break."

those in St. Vincent and the

Primus declined to predict

how many calypsonians will be

picked from his tent to com-

pete in the semifinal round,

stressing, however, that "eve-

Grenadines to follow."

we set a good standard for rybody was positive.

"It was a good show," he said. "Everybody loves it."

Errol "D Man Age" Rose, former National Calypso Monarch, told Caribbean Life that he competed this year just for the sake of his fans.

"Last year, when I went home, my fans were angry that I stayed out [of competition]," said the former elementary school teacher in St. Vincent and the Grenadines. "So, I decided to write this song ('Can't Take No Break'), and be more frequent."

"Can't Take No Break" alludes to the fans' desire that D Man Age continue compet-

"Even though I don't compete frequently, I still want to do something and keep my fans happy, and deal with the issues that affect people's lives," said D Man Age, who won the Calypso crown in 1978, 1999 and 2000.

He said that since he does not sing "Party Songs," vying for a place in calypso competitions "gives my fans a chance to see me."

Bowman, who has made the semifinal round 13 times and the grand finale 10-11 times, said he "did enough to get into the semifinals.

"The band (Grenadianowned Lambert and the Matadores) had problems with the horns, but I think this has nothing to do with my song," he said. "The song was very powerful.

Sister Act, Abundantly

Continued from Page 41

The two-hour show has a cast of more than 110 performers, from children to seniors, as young as three years old and 83 years old, according to Jay. She will also be playing the lead character Deloris.

Jay said that Deloris' passion to save the school releflected her own drive and fight to keep the school in her community.

"Deloris Van Cartier was bringing arts to the community and making sure that she helps the next generation of students and leaders access their talents and sharpen their skills," she said. "Deloris was championing for her community and particularly in this day and age we need more of that due to budget cuts, social events and political events happening — we really don't take into consideration that without the arts we don't real-

programs running, but also provide the children with a creative outlet, said Jay. The school is no longer at their Rogers Avenue location but still needs support to find another place through their online crowdfund campaign.

"Community support is one of the major themes throughout the show. I'm very passionate about the arts, so I take it very personally and passionately and many times I see how society skims. "It doesn't matter the age or walk of life, there are three-year-olds who know their part, and seniors and parents in the show dancing as well, so there's really that sense of community and stress of art is important in community and it does change lives."

"Sister Act, Abundantly" at Kings Theatre [1027 Flatbush Ave. between Tilden Avenue and Duryea Place in Flatbush, (347) 788-1069, The goal of the play is to http://www.abundancearts. continually keep the school's org]. June 25 at 6 pm. \$65.

New dancehall release

Lady M

Continued from Page 41

hall or just reggae," he said. "This new album is a mixture of dancehall reggae, electronic dance music, and a lot of different fusions."

Baby Cham explores and dabbles in different sounds in his latest album, presenting his fans with what they may have missed from him. He said often there was a rigid expectation for the genre, but invoked one of his idols and his creative inspiration.

"The whole album is like that. A lot of people think this is how dancehall is supposed to sound, but this just us going to the studio with a lot of freedom, and us doing what we want to do," he said. "What Marley did, that's authentic reggae because that's what reggae is all about — different fusions of music."

Despite not releasing a music project for close to a decade due to label issues, the musician used his time by branching away from contract by promoting singles and was building a favored brand. Now the name of his album, Law-



Dancehall artist Baby Cham.

Photo by Stefano Giovannini

less is also the name of his line of t-shirts. While working on smaller projects, he said a fan base grew and they started asking for music.

"Since the last album, I was basically promoting singles from the last album "Ghetto Story" and was on the on road a lot," he said.

Most of the songs on the 15-track album range from upbeat and dancey songs, to other songs that even tackle social commentary, according to Baby Cham.

Librarian courted by hobo while searching for aunt

"Lost in Paris" Excellent (4 stars) Unrated In French and English with subtitles Running time: 83 min-Distributor: Oscilloscope Laboratories

By Kam Williams

If you're familiar with the surreal cinematic stylings of Dominique Abel and Fiona Gordon, then you have an idea of what sort of treat's in store while watching "Lost in Paris." The talented husband and wife team wrote, directed and costar in their latest magical escape into the theater of the absurd.

The movie might best be described as a cross of Wes Anderson and Charlie Chaplin, as it is an unconventional, visually-captivating affair featuring little in the way of dialogue on the part of the mime-like leads. The lithe-limbed, rubber-faced duo entertain far more with their movements and expres-



Dominique Abel, Emmanuelle Riva and Fiona Gordon star in "Lost In Paris."

www.rottentomatoes.com

sions than with words.

The film unfolds in Canada about a half-century ago, which is where we find Fiona (Gordon) bidding farewell to her beloved Aunt Martha (recent-

ly-deceased Emmanuelle Riva) who is moving to Paris. Fastforward to the present when Fiona, now a librarian, receives an urgent appeal for assistance from her 88-year-old aunt.

In the letter, Martha complains that they're trying to move her into an assisted-living facility for old folks. But the feisty free spirit will have none

Fiona dutifully springs into action and the next thing you know she's landed in France sporting a bright orange backpack festooned with a Canadian flag. Her troubles start right off the bat, when she gets stuck in a subway turnstile thanks to that oversized valise.

The slapstick escalates further when the weight of the knapsack causes her to topple into the Seine while posing for a photo on a bridge. She has to shed the bag to survive the ordeal, and ends up separated from all her possessions, including her passport, cell phone, cash and clothes.

It is in these dire straits that Fiona crosses paths with Dom (Abel) an amorous hobo living in a tent pitched along the banks of the river who soon becomes hopelessly smitten. So, Fiona finds herself having to fend off the advances of an ardent admirer while frantically searching for her missing

The ensuing chase proves every bit as charming and sublime as it is hilarious and implausible. A disarmingly-endearing homage to the Silent Film era!

Independent & Foreign Films

All the Rage (Unrated) Healthcare documentary chronicling Dr. John Sarno's half-century campaign against the over-prescription of pain medication. Featuring

commentary by John Stossel, Howard Stern, Senator Bernie Sanders, Larry David and Dr. Andrew Weil.

The Bad Batch (R for violence, profanity, drug use and brief nudity) Postapocalyptic drama revolving around a young woman's (Suki Waterhouse) struggle to survive after being dumped into a desert where she is soon surrounded by a horde of savage cannibals. With Jim Carrey, Jason Momoa, Giovanni Ribisi, Yolonda Ross and Keanu

The Big Sick (R for profanity and sexual references) Romantic comedy recounting the real-life courting of fan (Zoe Kazan) by a Pakistani stand-up comedian (Kumail Nanjiani as himself). Supporting cast includes Ray Romano, Holly Hunter and SNL's Aidy Bryant.

Bwoy (Unrated) Homoerotic drama revolving around a closeted, former physician (Anthony Rapp) who starts cheating on his wife (De'Adre Aziza) with a hunky young Jamaican (Jimmy Brooks) in the wake of their son's untimely death. Featuring Jermaine Rowe, Drew Allen and Ashton Randle.



Can't Stop, Won't Stop: The Bad Boy Story (Unrated) Gangsta' raptrospective chronicling the career of Sean "Puffy" "Puff Daddy" "Diddy" Combs, as well as story of the hip-hop label he founded in 1993. With Lil Kim, Mary J. Blige, Faith Evans, Clive Davis and DMX.

Food Evolution (Unrated) Thoughtprovoking eco-documentary exploring the critical issues of sustainability and food security in a world marked by escalating competition for fewer and fewer natural resources. Featuring commentary by Bill Nye - The Science Guy, Neil deGrasse Tyson and Tamar Haspel.

Paulina (Unrated) Dolores Fonzi plays the title character of this crime thriller, set in Argentina, as a lawyer who abandons a promising career in Buenos Aires to teach high school in her hometown, only to end up brutally assaulted by a local gang. With Oscar Martinez, Esteban Lamothe and Cristian Salguero. (In Spanish and Guarani with subtitles)

In Pursuit of Silence (Unrated) Noisereduction documentary extolling the virtues of a little peace and quiet.





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West Indies' batsman Shai Hope. Associated Press / Eranga Jayawardena, File

Series draw

By Azad Ali

West Indies bounced back in the second ODI against Afghanistan to win through their bowling attack by four wickets last Sunday to level the series 1-1.

But on the final day of the threematch series rain forced the abandonment of play for the day.

In the second ODI they bowled out Afghanistan for 135 all out but then labored to reach their target, getting home in the 40th over at the Darren Sammy National Stadium in St. Lucia

Continued on Page 46

Now Cricket West Indies

By Azad Ali

The cricket board for West Indies, on its 91st anniversary earlier this month, has re-branded itself as Cricket West Indies (CWI) from the former West Indies Cricket Board (WICB).

The board also announced in a media release on their official website that the cricket team from now on will be officially known as "WINDIES."

The release also quoted the board's CEO Johnny Graves as saying that the name Cricket West Indies "better reflects how the organization operates."

CWI President Dave Cameron said the name "is more inclusive and appropriate" as the board wants to recognize the "valuable role that our players, territorial boards, staff, supporters, gov-

Continued on Page 46



Knotted up: Cosmos midfielder Emmanuel Ledesma tied up the game against Puerto Rico FC on June 16 in the 69th minute, sparking a late-game comeback.

Late-game heroics give New York win at MCU Park

By Troy Mauriello

If you blinked, you missed it.

A few moments of spectacular offense were all the New York Cosmos needed to score a 4–2 win over Puerto Rico FC on June 16 at MCU Park.

New York trailed 2-1 early and

struggled to find offense for much of the game, but a pair of secondhalf goals, in just five minutes, from midfielders Emmanuel Ledesma and Walter Restrepo gave the squad a spectacular come-from-behind victory.

Cosmos coach Giovanni Savarese

wouldn't reveal the specifics of his halftime speech, but was quick to credit the team with rising to the occasion down the stretch.

"I can't say every single thing, because then there would be all lines bleeped," he joked. "The real-

Continued on Page 46



Home sweet home: The Cosmos grabbed a much-needed victory on home field on June 16, notching a come-from-behind 4-2 win over Puerto Rico FC.

COSMOS NOTCH COMEBACK

Continued from Page 45

ity is that we needed to be a little more aggressive...and I think the second half was much better."

The Cosmos had their first real chance in of the game in the 13th minute — and they capitalized. Cosmos defender Ayoze was able to curl a free kick around a wall of Puerto Rico defenders, past goalie Austin Pack, and into the net to give New York a one-goal lead.

It was the second straight match in which the Cosmos scored a goal within the first 15 minutes, but once again, New York couldn't hold on.

Puerto Rico's Jair Puerto tied the game in the 17th minute. He had a hand in the next goal as well; after his beautiful centering pass found the foot of Yuma, who simply had to extend his foot to out in order to score his first goal of the year, and give the visitors a 2-1 lead.

Puerto Rico had a few chances to extend its lead late in the first half, but could not capitalize in what was a lackluster opening 45 minutes for New York, during which the Cosmos took just two shots on goal.

"I think we started good, we scored a goal. And then I think they got confidence, they scored one goal, they scored two goals and then we lost our [mindset]," Ledesma said.

The Cosmos changed their mindset in the second period, coming out with more energy in the opening minutes. Pack was forced out of the box several times early on in the half and had to make a stellar save on a rocket of a shot from Ayoze.

New York didn't have anything to show for its efforts as the clock wound down, but in just a matter of moments, the entire complexion of the match changed.

Ledesma got it started in the 69th minute with a beautiful strike from just

outside the corner of the 18-yard box to tie the game. Then, just four minutes later, Restrepo slotted away a centering pass from Irvin Herrera to give New York a 3–2 lead.

"I kicked it, and I tried to hit a target. And then when I saw the ball go to the corner...I can't believe it," Ledesma said of scoring the game-tying goal in his first game back from an ankle injury.

Just like that, the Cosmos generated the rally they so desperately needed. Pablo Vranjican added a stoppage time goal to extend the lead to 4–2 and put the game away and allowing the squad a bit of home-field confidence.

"We won. We got the three points. We haven't won that many games at home, so for us it was very important to get those three points," Savarese said. "The guys were really passionate about winning today and those three points are huge."

Next up for the Cosmos will be a road matchup at Miami FC on June 24.

Tame draw

Continued from Page 45

to beat the inexperienced Afghans.

Rashid Khan, who took seven wickets for 18 runs in the first ODI picked up three for 26. Not a single Windies batsman passed 50 in the series.

Shai Hope scored 48 to see the West Indies to safety.

West Indies were humiliated in the first ODI as they lost by 63 runs. In chasing Afghanistan 213 runs off 50 overs, the Windies slumped to 149 off 44.4 overs...

Windies



Cricket West Indies President Dave Cameron.

Continued from Page 45

ernments, coaches, match officials and volunteers, play in the organization."

The name "Windies' has been associated with cricket teams that have been representing the Caribbean islands in a more colloquial way. The team, once regarded as one of the most feared in the game, has been on the decline since the past few years.

This year, the team also failed to make it to the ICC Champions Trophy and a series of defeats in ODI cricket have led to their automatic disqualification from the 2019 ICC World Cup in jeopardy.

Usain Bolt wins final home run

By Azad Ali

Tears flowed as Jamaica's superstar Usain Bolt made his final appearance before his home crowd, winning a special 100 meters event dubbed "Salute to a Legend" at the Racers Grand Prix in Kingston last Saturday night (June 10)

Bolt, 30, will end his remarkable career following August's IAAF World Championships in London in August.

There was also jubilation among the 30,000 fans in an emotional farewell at the National Stadium.

Although Bolt was slowly away from the blocks but found his usual midrace acceleration to pass the early leaders and cross the line in first. Jamaicans Jhevaughn Minize and Nikel Ashmeade followed Bolt across the line.

He celebrated with a lap around the track before striking his trademark

"Lightning Bolt" pose much to the delight of his fans.

Bolt said afterwards, "I don't think I have ever been that nervous to run in the 100 meters. It was nerve-wrecking."

"I have done all I have done. Being a legend now is something big," he told reporters.

Bolt is an eight-time Olympic gold medalist and has announced that he will retire from the track after the IAAF World Championship in London.



Bolt receives a special award from his coach, Glen Mills.

Associated Press / Bryan Cummings







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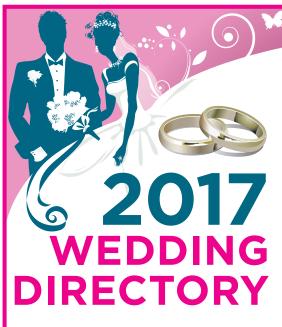
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Caribbean Life YOUR WEEKLY HOROSCOPE JUNE 19TH TO JUNE 25TH

ARIES: Mar 21/Apr 20 Aries, when your mischievous side comes out to play, others better watch out. You certainly can be a force . a very fun force. Just don't let things get out of control.

TAURUS: Apr 21/May 21 Other people around you seem to be the epitome of positivity, but you just may not be able to muster the same level of giddiness, Taurus. That's okay, as this is just a phase.

GEMINI: May 22/Jun 21 Things that have been on your mind come right out without a thought, Gemini. Your honesty is commendable, but you may need to self-censor some

CANCER: Jun 22/Jul 22

Cancer, a casual comment by a friend sets off a powder keg of ideas in your mind. This is the inspiration you have been waiting for, and now you can't wait to get busy.

LEO: Jul 23/Aug 23

Leo, others can't read your mind, so if something is bugging you, then let them know. Doing so will help you collectively develop a solution that much faster.

VIRGO: Aug 24/Sept 22 Virgo, keep your mind open to all the possibilities this week. You may be surprised at what you can accomplish if you maintain a willingness to try new

READING

LIBRA: Sept 23/Oct 23

LIBRA: Sept 25/Oct 25
Libra, you don't need any extra encouragement to go after what you want. You are quite motivated at the moment, putting a lot of possibilities within reach.

SCORPIO: Oct 24/Nov 22 If you want a particular relationship to thrive, then you have to work together with a partner, Scorpio. No one is out for herself or himself in this situation.

SAGITTARIUS: Nov 23/Dec 21 Your social life is about to heat up. Sagittarius. You might find your calendar going from empty to chock full in just a few days. Pace yourself to avoid

CAPRICORN: Dec 22/Jan 20 Capricorn, while it is important to take care of others, you shouldn't do so at the expense of your own health and happiness. Give yourself a break

AQUARIUS: Jan 21/Feb 18 Don't be afraid to take the next big step in your love life, Aquarius. Your partner may be feeling the same way. Communication is key in this situation.

PISCES: Feb 19/Mar 20 Pisces, your emotions may have been all over the place the last few days, but you will be able to reel them in soon. Enjoy the respite.

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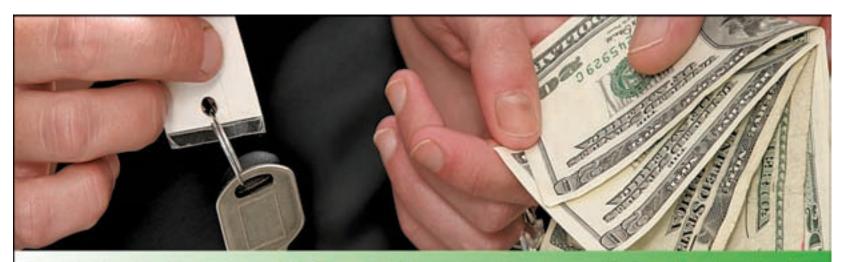
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