



## African arts take center stage

Elyssa Nicole with a fan from her store Diaspora Africa. See story on Page 41.

Photo by Jason Speakman

## Cuomo vows to protect Caribbean immigrants

By Nelson A. King

Amid draconian measures in clamping down on Caribbean and other immigrants in the United States, New York State Gov. Andrew Cuomo has reaffirmed his commitment to protecting Caribbean and other nationals.

Stating that the state of New York has a long history of fighting for immigrants — from the state's commitment to helping newcomers find a path to citizenship to efforts to prevent the exploitation of workers, and most recently by defending the rights of immigrants from illegal deportations — Cuomo said New York “has been and today remains a beacon of hope and opportunity for people around the

world.

“That is who we are as a state,” he wrote in an opinion piece in the New York Daily News. “Sadly, the federal government seems to have forgotten who we are as a nation. Maybe what they need is a visit to Lady Liberty, where Emma Lazarus’ poem is engraved on the pedestal on which she stands, underpinning our core values of liberty and justice: ‘Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free.’

“This is not just an expression of charity; it’s a plea to people around the world to help us meet the needs of the country and our state,” the governor added. “That’s why in New York we are reaffirming our com-

mitment to protecting immigrants’ rights.

“And that’s why each new effort by the federal government to ban our immigrant sisters and brothers will be met by a redoubling of our commitment to support and protect them,” he continued. “Because, after all, we are them.

“From Brooklyn to Utica, Washington Heights to Buffalo, we are a state of immigrants,” Cuomo said. “Our buildings, roads and bridges could not have been built without their skill and strength. The success of our small businesses is a testament to their hard work. The arts, culinary and hospitality industries are infused with the spirit of ethnic diversity

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# GUYANA PRISON BREAK

## City, businesses shut shops early; fear convicts on the run

By Bert Wilkinson

Some businesses in the city and coastal areas are shutting up shop earlier than usual after police at mid week revised official figures from five to eight as to the number of inmates who broke out from the city’s main maximum security prison on Sunday before setting fire to facility completely destroying it.

While authorities say they are now confident that only eight are on the run, unease in the business community is growing largely because officials have admitted that they are uncertain about the identities of four of the eight and even whether it is in fact only eight.

This has triggered doubts about the exact number of those missing from a roll call of 1,080 who were housed in the mainly wooden buildings when inmates took control Sunday evening. It was built during the British colonial era to house no more than 500. When bedlam erupted on a quiet and sunny Sunday afternoon, there was twice that number crammed into the heavily overcrowded

facility in the heart of the city.

The umbrella private sector commission at mid week gave a hint to the mindset of some of its members casting doubts about whether authorities are on top of the situation in the evening hours after Sunday.

“We urge the authorities to publish the true and accurate count of prisoners held prior to the incident, the amount transferred and the unaccounted prisoners. The lack of accurate official information has created much room for speculation and is fueling fear in our society,” the body said, echoing complaints from newspaper letter writers and critics on social media.

The breakout and subsequent fire destruction of the entire complex of buildings was the worst of the kind in living memory and one of the worst in the Caribbean Community group of nations. It also came 17 months after inmates had embarked on a mutiny to highlight long trial delays, overcrowding, poor quality food and other ills. As expected, the fires eventually got out of con-

Continued on Page 6



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Flatbush-area residents at last year's Flatbush Tenant Coalition's candidate forum. Another forum will be held on July 15.

Flatbush Tenant Coalition

## Pols and residents talk community, election

By Alexandra Simon

Returning with their election cycle meeting, the Flatbush Tenant Coalition is hosting its annual candidate forum at Erasmus High School on July 15. Area residents, representative elected officials, and challenging candidates, are going to discuss community concerns about the state of their districts.

The previous forum had a major focus on housing, particularly in regards to gentrification and the deliberate pricing out of long-time residents — and that still remains a hot-button topic because of the increasing aggressive actions being taken to enforce them resulting in families being put out on the streets, said one of the forum organizers.

"I think whenever you talk about Flatbush, gentrification will always be an urgent issue," said Karl Valere of Flatbush Tenant Coalition. "People are really concerned about the homelessness crisis and evictions — especially evictions, which is at an all time high."

Other issues of concern are for the community's most vulnerable population and the measures that can be taken to assist them in sustaining a decent livelihood in the midst of rapid changes in their neighborhoods, added Valere.

"We're not just going to be talking about the housing issue, but we're going to discuss senior issues in regards to our senior citizens and also our youth and employment and education for them," he said. "We also need to be talking about these things and how we are going to improve our community."

Last year's forum spotlighted the New York State Assembly election, where those elected officials and running mates positioned themselves on these issues. This year, the focus is on

Continued on Page 35

# City Council approves Shirley Chisholm Community Center in Brooklyn

By Nelson A. King

Brooklyn Council Member Jumaane Williams, deputy leader of the City Council, said the Council voted to approve a \$85.2 billion budget, which included funding for a new community center in East Flatbush, named after the legendary Shirley A. Chisholm, of Barbadian and Guyanese parentage.

"I am blessed to walk in the distinguished footsteps of Shirley Chisholm, both as a Caribbean-American and as an elected representative of this community," said Williams, who represents the 45th Council District in Brooklyn.

"I feel personally connected to her trademark 'unbought and unbossed' brand of leadership — a brand I endeavor to represent in my work every day," he added. "Every African-American, Caribbean-American and woman seeking public service stands on her shoulders, and I believe the best way to commemorate her many contributions is to establish a community center bearing her name which will serve generations to come."

Williams said Mayor Bill de Blasio contributed \$40 million in funding, in addition to \$10 million that Williams said he secured with the help of Council Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito.

The center, when completed, will be the only such facility serving residents of the 45th District, and would offer residents of all ages access to recreation, educational and employment opportunities, Williams said.

"This center would be a place where young people could gravitate to in the evenings, and a place where our teachers, our firemen, our policemen can come in and mentor you peo-



A rendering of the Shirley A. Chisholm Community Center.

Office of Council Member Jumaane Williams

ple and participate in the community," said William Howard, a former staffer for the late Shirley Chisholm and president of the West Indian American Day Carnival Association (WIADCA).

"It'll also be a place for senior citizens where they can interact with the youth and share their experiences and knowledge with them," he added.

Williams said the Shirley A. Chisholm Community Center would be located on the grounds of the existing Tilden Park, located in the East Flatbush district on Tilden Avenue, between East 48th and East 49th Streets.

The center would include a gymnasium, with accompanying men and women's locker rooms, cardio

/ weight room, multipurpose room, and a game room, said Williams.

He said the center will also feature a computer resource center, classrooms, audiovisual room and a greenhouse on the roof.

"As co-chair of the Task Force to Combat Gun Violence, I know that our young people need positive outlets to turn them away from poor life choices," said Williams. "The fact that my district ranks last in New York City in park space, combined with our lack of a community center, make the challenges we face with youth violence easy to understand and all the more pressing to address."

"I hope we will have strong public and private partnership to make the Shirley Chisholm Community Center come to life," he added.

## Guyanese fugitive suspect nabbed in Queens

By Nelson A. King

Law enforcement officials in New York say that a man wanted for murder in Guyana has been arrested in Queens.

Members of the New York Police Department (NYPD)/US Marshals Joint Fugitive Task Force apprehended Marcus Bisram in the Rockaway section of Queens, at about 1 pm on Tuesday, according to the New York Daily News.

"He was living here in plain view," a law enforcement source told the paper.

It said Bisram is accused of masterminding the killing of carpenter Faiyaz Narinedatt on Oct. 31, 2016. He allegedly got four co-conspirators to kill Narinedatt, who was beaten to death.

After the killing, Bisram moved to the United States and lived in Arverne on the Rockaway Peninsula, where he created the Marcus Brian Bisram Foundation, which is focused on "making better, brighter futures," the Daily News said.

Narinedatt's body was found on 70 Village Rd. in Berbice, Guyana, the next day, officials said.

Georgetown police arrested his attackers, who confessed that Bisram had ordered them to commit the killing, according to the Daily News.

It said the suspects admitted that they had beaten Narinedatt to death, then put his body into a car, drove him to Village Road and then ran his lifeless

body over with the car to make it appear that he was the victim of a hit-and-run driver.

Alluding to information from the Guyana Chronicle, the Daily News said Narinedatt was killed because he had slapped another man — believed to be Bisram — during a party.

Bisram is expected to be arraigned in Brooklyn Federal court on Wednesday.

Officials said Guyana, which reissued a fugitive warrant for Bisram in March, will have to petition for his extradition.

It will be the first time in recent memory that the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) member-country has made the request, the Daily News said.



## Antigua

The Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court has handed down a judgement in favor of the former head of Antigua and Barbuda Financial Services Regulatory Commission (FRSC), Leroy King, granting him leave to appeal an earlier High Court rejecting an application for judicial review of the 2012 decision by the government to approve his extradition to the United States.

King is wanted by the United States authorities to face charges of facilitating the multi-billion dollar Ponzi scheme by convicted former businessman Allen Stanford.

In April High Court Justice Darshan Ramdhani in a 71-page judgement said, having reviewed King's arguments, he saw no reason why either King's claim for constitutional relief against extradition or the application for leave should be allowed.

The judge said he had seen no reason why the order of extradition to the United States for trial should be stayed or quashed.

Following the latest court ruling, King may now pursue his application for judicial review, a process that could take as long as another two years.



## Fire destroys Guyana prison

Fire officers comb through the rubble for bodies, valuables, weapons and ammunition on Monday, hours after inmates burned Guyana's main wooden prison facility to the ground barring one concrete block recently constructed. This is just inside the main entrance of the prison.

Photo by Bert Wilkinson

## Bahamas

The United States Coast Guard Cutter Richard Etheridge intercepted a boat carrying 11 Cuban migrants recently within Bahamas territorial waters, southeast of Cay Sal Island.



The migrants were transferred to the Coast Guard Isaac Mayo, which took the migrants to the Bahamas immigration in Freeport.

The Coast Guard routinely partners with the Royal Bahamas Defense Force to facilitate interdiction and human repatriation of alleged and unsafe migrant ventures on the high seas.

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

Close to 2,000 Cuban migrants have attempted to illegally migrate to the United States via the maritime environment since October 1, compared to 7,411 in fiscal year 2016.

The Coast Guard and partner agencies have interdicted 33 Cubans migrants who have attempted to enter the country illegal via maritime means in June.

These numbers represent the total number of at-sea interdictions, landings and disruptions in the Florida Straits, the Caribbean and Atlantic.

## Barbados

A delegation of UK firms recently took a trade mission to Barbados to attend the first CARIB Food and Hospitality Exhibition. The purpose of their visit was to pursue business opportunities and partnerships with local stakeholders in the food and beverage industry.



Representatives for UK firms Tg Teas (green tea drink manufacturer) and Par Foods (UK distributor) made the long journey to Barbados to attend the special event, where they joined with local representatives for UK brands Franklin & Sons (gourmet soda manufacturer) and the ADHB (English beef and lamb growers) to exhibit in the UK Food and Beverage Display being staged within the CARIB Food event.

The products offered were the latest innovations from the UK and include gluten-free and health conscious options packed with positive health benefits.

## Grenada

Prime Minister Dr. Keith Mitchell has called on the United Kingdom to increase its quota of scholarships offered to students in Grenada and

other Caribbean countries.

He made the request during a meeting with the United Kingdom's new High Commissioner to Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean, Janet Douglas.

The prime minister said Britain's assisting in bolstering its quota of scholarships to the region is particularly important.

The new high commissioner conceded that Britain was losing out to countries such as China which have been increasing scholarships to Caribbean students.

Mitchell, expressed his thanks to the British for their support in several areas, especially the Caribbean Infrastructure Fund announced by former Prime Minister David Cameron during a visit to Jamaica in 2015, under which the UK government invests 300 million pound sterling in vital new infrastructure such as roads, bridges and port to help drive economic growth and development across the Caribbean.

High Commissioner Douglas said one of the main objectives in her four-year tenure is to ensure that Britain's exit from the European Union is done in a way that will not have negative on

trade and development relations with the Caribbean.

## Suriname

The Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) has approved a loan of US\$17.5 million to improve Suriname's agricultural sector's competitiveness and raise rural incomes and exports.

The farming industry is Suriname's second largest export sector after mining, accounting for seven percent of total export revenues. It employs 16 percent of the labor force and contributes nine percent of the country's gross domestic product.

The CBD-funded project will help Suriname's farmers improve sanitary conditions, food safety, and agricultural research and technology transfer services.

Additionally, the project will strengthen the country's network of laboratories with new protocols and diagnosis techniques.

## St. Vincent

St. Vincent and the Grenadines High Court judge, Justice Esco Henry has



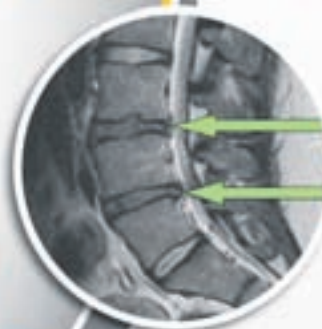
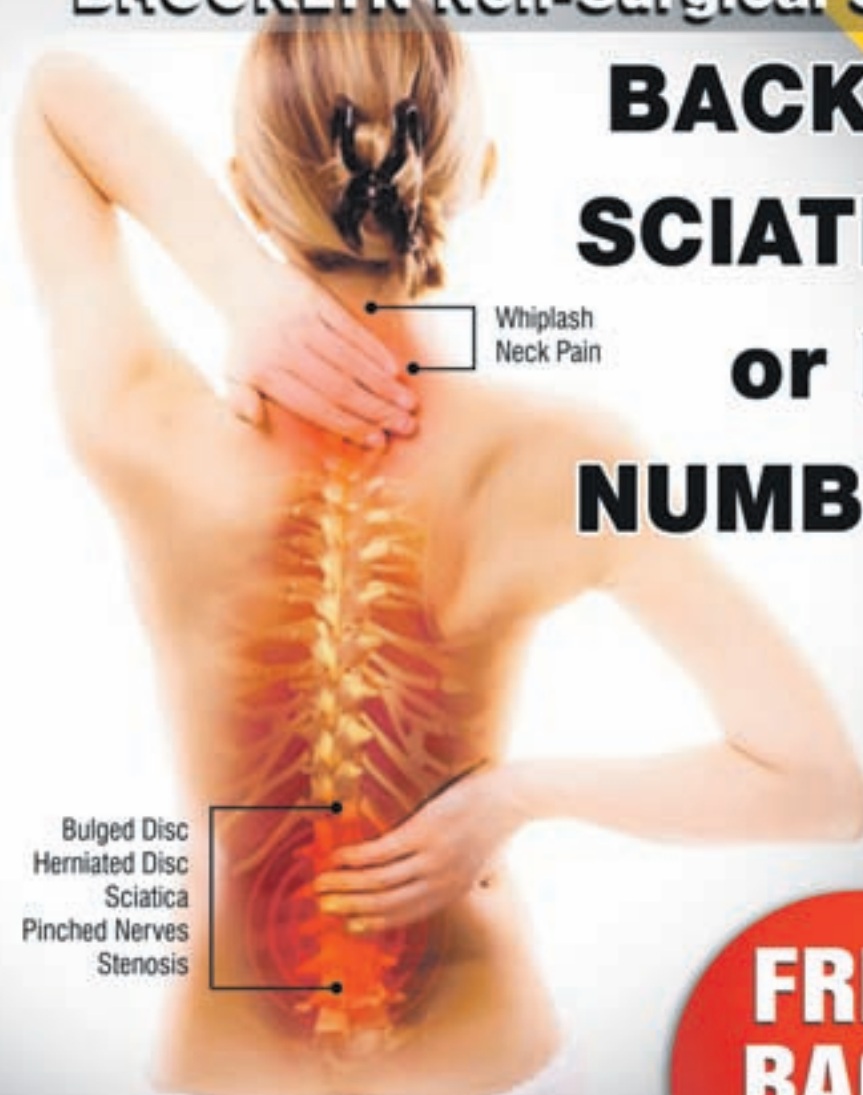
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# Guyana prison break leaves one dead



Guyana's President David Granger. Associated Press / Joedson Alves

Continued from Page 1

trol, killing 17. Nearly a dozen others were injured, while several wardens were also hospitalized.

As the jail breakers were leaving the facility on Sunday, they shot and killed Warden Odinga Wickham and seriously injured at least six other officers. The breakout immediately brought back memories of a carnival day 2002 when four inmates also shot and killed a warden and crippled another. They then slipped into the coastal community of Buxton and helped to spawn gangs that had terrorized the country. Police recorded more than 150 killings that year. Early reports also indicate that the men are hiding out in the village, about nine miles east of the city.

In the meantime, President David Granger took his entire cabinet to the burned out facility on Tuesday and declared that authorities have no intention of rebuilding a full and complete prison at the same site.

The announcement was sweet music to the ears of nearby residents and businesses as many had closed after police had sealed off main access streets after previous breakouts or threats of similar

action and had long called from the main jailhouse to be moved out of the city.

Authorities have since shuttled about 150 of the worst inmates to the Mazuruni Prisons at a river town in western Guyana and have as well shunted the remainder to a poorly constructed coastal facility, incidentally near Buxton Village.

In recent days, soldiers, police and prison wardens have been forced to fire warning shots at inmates to keep them from escaping from the minimum security facility that is now being reinforced to cater for the bad boys. Magistrates are also reviewing bail for misdemeanor offences and those with a few months to go on sentences are being released to ease overcrowding.

# Immigrants fuel growth: Cuomo

Continued from Page 1

that results from our open doors. The truth is that immigrants don't hurt our economy, they fuel its growth."

The Trump administration has moved aggressively to fulfill one of the president's most contentious campaign promises, banning entry into the United States by refugees from around the world and prohibiting most visitors from six predominantly Muslim countries.

Freed by the US Supreme Court to partly revive Trump's travel ban, administration officials said the American border would be shut to those groups unless specific individuals can prove they have close family members living in the United States, or are coming to attend a university or accept a job offer, according to the New York Times.

The paper said the Trump administration has begun a new tactic in cracking down on Caribbean and other illegal immigrants in the United States.

This time, immigration agents are arresting undocumented parents suspected of having paid to have their children ushered into the country by smugglers, the Times reported.

But Cuomo said, from the beginning, his administration has prioritized support for immigrants to help them join "our great mosaic of a society and contribute to our civic life."

He said his Office of New Americans, launched in 2013, has provided legal assistance to people on the path to citizenship — with more than 150,000 served.

Last month, Cuomo said his administration announced the second year of "Naturalize NY," which eases the financial burden of the naturalization process by offering application vouchers to thousands of hard-working Caribbean and other immigrants.

Equally essential, he said, the Worker Exploitation Task Force has been hard at work making sure undocumented workers are treated fairly and paid adequately.

As attorney general, Cuomo said he "saw these injustices first-hand."

"That's why, as governor, I've put 700 investigators on the job of stopping the secret, shadow economy of exploited labor," he said, disclosing that, in the first three months of 2017, US\$10 million in recovered wages was returned to 15,489 victims of wage theft.

Additionally, this year, Cuomo announced the first-in-the-nation "Liberty Defense Project," making good on our promise to protect immigrants in New York.

He said more than US\$10 million in public and private investments are providing services to meet the surging legal needs of the state's immigrants.

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# Trinidad PM fires public utilities minister

By Azad Ali

Trinidad and Tobago Prime Minister Dr. Keith Rowley fired his public utilities minister 24 hours after she was sworn in to the post by President Anthony Carmona Monday, July 3.

This was the second time that Marlene McDonald was sent packing by Rowley when she held the portfolio as Housing Minister some 15 months ago.

Her dismissal came following reports that one of her guest at the swearing-in was linked to a notorious gang in her constituency of South Port of Spain.

The president was advised to appoint Dr. Rowley as public utilities minister in the meantime in addition to his other responsibilities.

The guest, Cedric "Burkie" Burke, who had slipped past security at Presi-

dent's House said he came to support and witness the swearing-in of his Member of Parliament. During the 2011 state of emergency Burke was detained and charged with being a gang leader but was later freed.

The prime minister had restored McDonald to ministerial office even as she was under active investigation by both the Integrity Commission and the police.

Questions had arisen over her alleged recommendation of public housing for her male companion, Michael Carew.

The former minister was also queried over donations from her ministry when she was minister in 2010 of TT\$375,000 and TT\$200,000 plus another sum to the Calabar Foundation, of which Carew was said to be a director. McDonald has assured all was above board.

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# Will the UN 'Leave No One Behind' and improve LGBTI health and well-being?

By Dr Felicity Daly

*Dr Felicity Daly is the Global Research Coordinator for OutRight Action International*

NEW YORK, July 10, 2017 (IPS) — While there has been progress in researching the health and well-being of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and intersex (LGBTI) people and responding to certain emerging health threats in high-income countries — elsewhere in the world such research is inadequate and incomplete.

A new report published by OutRight Action International, the Global Forum on MSM and HIV highlights that wherever research has been conducted, LGBTI people's health is shown to be consistently poorer than the general population.

Agenda 2030 for LGBTI Health and Well-Being, has been written in advance of the High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development which convenes from 10-19 July 2017 at the United Nations in New York. At this meeting UN Member States will review progress on implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals — a plan of action for "people, planet and prosperity."

The aspiration of the SDGs to "leave no one behind" can be utilized to improve the health and well-being of LGBTI. UN officials, former Secretary

General Ban Ki Moon and the Independent Expert on protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity Prof. Vitit Muntarbhorn, have made it clear that the SDGs are inclusive of all people regardless of their sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, and sex characteristics.

LGBTI people have the right to health — the same as all other people, and thus LGBTI health concerns should be included in the implementation of the health goal — SDG 3.

Agenda 2030 for LGBTI Health and Well-Being reviews data from low- and middle-income countries, which shows that compared with the general population gay, bisexual men and other men who have sex with men are 19 times more likely to be living with HIV and transgender women are 49 times more likely to be living with HIV.

The report notes that the health concerns of lesbian and bisexual women, trans and intersex people have all too often been overlooked and presents data which demonstrates that LGBTI people also experience: poor mental health, higher prevalence of alcohol and substance abuse, lack of access to sexual and reproduc-

Continued on Page 35

# Promoting sustainable population growth, key to raising human rights standards

By Dr. Hanif Hassan Al Qassim

*Dr. Hanif Hassan Al Qassim, is Chairman of the Geneva Centre for Human Rights Advancement and Global Dialogue*

GENEVA, Switzerland, July 11, 2017 (IPS) — The world population has witnessed a remarkable growth during the recent decades. In 1965, it stood at 3.3 billion people. In 2017 — 52 years later — the global population reached a staggering 7.5 billion people corresponding to more than a doubling of the Earth's residents over the last half-century.

Humans have been blessed with access to natural resources such as water, food and rare minerals that have been indispensable to the evolution and to the progress of humanity since time immemorial.

Nonetheless, the rapid increase of the world population is raising again Malthusian concerns. The Earth's resources are finite and cannot sustain the current population growth rate in the long run; the Earth's population is set to grow to 9.8 billion people by 2050.

"When the last tree has been cut down, the last fish caught, the last river poisoned, only then will we realize that one cannot eat money."

This is tantamount to saying that world population during the post WWII century will increase three times as much since man's appearance on our planet. A Native American saying reminds us that uncontrolled popula-

**Child marriage accelerates population growth as women marrying before the age of 18 are prone to having more children than women marrying at a later age.**

tion growth and excessive use of resources can leave the world empty-handed:

The 2017 World Population Day is an important occasion to raise awareness on contemporary unsustainable consumption patterns.

According to the United Nations, this year's World Population Day will coincide with the 2017 Family Planning Summit that will focus inter alia on family planning among the world's most marginalized and vulnerable women.

Preventative family planning is a vehicle for promoting sustainable population growth and for enhancing the status of women.

The "Protection of the Family" resolution adopted on June 22, 2017 by the United Nations upholds international human rights standards on the right to life and the right to family life, and is a good starting-point to further promoting sustainable population growth through family planning.

Child marriage is considered as a major triggering factor worsening population pressure around the world. It is referred to as a major problem in numerous countries located in Afri-

ca, the Middle East, Asia, Latin America and even in Europe.

The charity "Girls not Brides" estimates that 1 out of 3 girls in the developed world are married before the age of 18. It also estimates that approximately 700 million women alive today were married when they were children.

According to the World Bank and the International Centre for Research on Women, child marriage accelerates population growth as women marrying before the age of 18 are prone to having more children than women marrying at a later age.

Child marriage also discourages women from pursuing higher education as their prospects of completing education diminishes drastically. In many cases, girls marrying at an early age are left with no other option than to drop out of school. This impedes the prospects for achieving economic empowerment owing to the marginalization of girls and of women.

Lack of access to family planning also remains a major concern in many countries. The 1993 Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action called upon member states of the United Nations (UN) to improve access to family planning services in an effort to resolve issues related to overpopulation.

The 1994 Cairo Declaration on Population & Development likewise called for constrained efforts to

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**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.



# First International Reggae Day in London

Following the successful launch of the very first celebration of International Reggae Day in London, an amalgam of Black music devotees claim they are fully committed to making July 1 a hallmark event on the annual, British cultural calendar.

Members of BritishBlackMusic.com/Black Music Congress (BBM/BMC), organizers of the inaugural event held at University Of Westminster's Marylebone campus said because of the tremendous success of the event they plan to promote the Jamaica-originated annual which has been celebrated for 23 years on the island.

Founded by Kingston-based Andrea Davis who heads Jamaica Arts Holdings (JAH), IRD events have hoisted the reggae banner touting fashion, symposium, concerts, tree-plantings, poster contests, digital displays, award presentations, and even shone the spotlight on the genre's Trench Town birthplace through media tours etc.

Throughout the years, internet connections enabled



## Inside Life

By Vinette K. Pryce

virtual connections, radio programming and live stream broadcasts devoted to the day with 24-hour reggae music and interviews. In addition, aficionados annually hail the day sporting red, gold and green in tribute to the banner that identifies the roots music many revere as "heartical" and spiritually defined dominantly by Rastafarians.

Last year, New York launched its IRD festivities with a Manhattan roof-top fete that featured a performance by Toots Hibbert, lead singer of the renowned Toots & The Maytals. A deejay blasted continuous reggae music – spanning the various forms of its evolution from mento to ska, rock-steady, lover's rock, spoken word, dub and dancehall.

In London the day featured a film, discussions on Britain's sound system history, a presentation on copyright and

its role in the development of Jamaican music, a quiz, and highlights from a documentary that claims the London borough of Brent as the centre of Britain's reggae history.

During the quiz portion the history of Ladbroke Grove and Notting Hill carnival was examined.

Veteran sound system operator and record producer Lloyd Coxson received an IRD2017 award for his long-standing work as the innovator of the Sir Coxson Outernational sound system.

Fellow veteran record producer and manager Mikey Campbell and singer-songwriter Tony Washington — whose song 'Something's Gotta Be Done' was the b-side to Millie Small's 1964 crossover hit "My Boy Lollipop" made the official presentation.

BBM / BMC also acknowledged the late Daddy Vego.



International Reggae Day Poster contest in Liverpool, England. Maria Papaefstathiou

Vego operated the Ladbroke Grove-based Peoples Sound record shop and sound system in London.

His son Far Adams accepted the accolades.

Also, three BBM / BMC awards in recognition of Carroll Thompson, Janet Kay and Paul Dawkins were

announced.

Recognized for promoting the UK's reggae sub-genre known as lover's rock internationally and putting Brent on the musical map they will be presented at the Brent Black Music History Quiz event at Brent Civic Centre on July 28.

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## OP-ED

# Optimizing growth potential

Continued from Page 10

strengthen family planning particularly in the developed world. Nonetheless, the UNFPA estimates that approximately 225 million women “are not using safe and effective family planning methods.”

In order to address these challenges, I appeal to UN member States to implement concrete plans to address target 5.3 of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This target requires the world community to eliminate all forms of harmful practices including early and

forced child marriage to advance the status of girls and women worldwide.

Addressing child marriage would further advance gender equality, increase access to education and improve the social status of girls and women. Child marriage is considered as a violation of human rights and must be eliminated in all its forms.

Enhancing family planning policies enables societies to cope with population pressures by bringing down the fertility rate to a sustainable level. This would improve the economic well-being

of families and alleviate poverty and inequality. The economic burden on families would be reduced as there would be fewer mouths to feed.

However, countries should avoid implementing family planning policies reducing the fertility level below the 2.1 reproduction rate.

Addressing the depopulation of ageing advanced societies by fostering migration of population from high population growth developing countries is therefore key to optimizing growth potential and thus to move development forward.

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# Caribbean seeks to climate-proof tourism industry

By Desmond Brown

BRIDGETOWN, Barbados, June 30, 2017 (IPS) — The tourism industry is the key economic driver and largest provider of jobs in the Caribbean after the public sector. Caribbean tourism broke new ground in 2016, surpassing 29 million arrivals for the first time and once again growing faster than the global average.

Visitor expenditures also hit a new high, growing by an estimated 3.5 percent to reach 35.5 billion dollars. And the outlook for 2017 remains rosy, with expected increases of 2.5 and 3.5 percent in long-stay arrivals and between 1.5 percent and 2.5 percent in cruise passenger arrivals.

But tourism officials say Caribbean islands are significantly affected by drastic changes in weather conditions and they fear climate change could have a devastating impact on the industry.

They note that the Caribbean tourism sector faces significant future threats related to both competitiveness and climate change impacts. And

for a region so heavily dependent on coastal- and marine-related tourism attractions, adaptation and resilience are critical issues facing Caribbean tourism.

“The impact of more severe hurricanes and the destruction of our most valued tourism assets, our beaches and coral reefs, and the damage to our infrastructure threaten to reverse the developmental gains that we have made,” Dominican Senator Francine Baron said.

“Our efforts to attain the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations cannot be achieved without dealing with the causes of climate change.”

Baron, who serves as Dominica’s minister of foreign affairs, made the comments as she addressed a forum on the issue of climate change at the general assembly of the Organization of American States (OAS) held in Mexico recently.

In the face of these threats, the Caribbean Tourism Organization (CTO), the

Caribbean’s tourism development agency, has received a much-needed boost with a 460,000-euro grant from the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) to implement a project to increase the Caribbean tourism sector’s resilience to natural hazards and climate related risks.

“Global climate change and its impacts, including the increasing frequency and severity of extreme weather events, pose a significant risk to the Caribbean region and threaten the sustainability of Caribbean tourism,” the CTO’s Secretary General Hugh Riley said.

“The CTO is pleased to have the support of the CDB to implement this project which will contribute to enhancing the resiliency, sustainability and competitiveness of the region’s tourism sector. Mainstreaming climate change adaptation (CCA) and disaster risk management (DRM) strategies in tourism development and planning is our duty to our member countries.”

The CDB / CTO partnership was formalized at a signing



CTO Secretary-General Hugh Riley (left) and CDB President Dr. Warren Smith share a light moment during the signing of a partnership agreement at CDB headquarters.

Inter Press Service / Desmond Brown

ceremony held on June 22 at CDB’s headquarters in Barbados.

Speaking at the event, CDB President Dr. Warren Smith noted that the tourism sector makes an enormous contribution to the region’s socio-economic development.

“Tourism generates high levels of employment, foreign direct investment and foreign exchange for our borrowing

member countries and, given its multi-sectoral nature, it is a very effective tool for promoting sustainable development and poverty reduction,” Dr. Smith said.

“However, maintaining this critical role calls for adequate safeguards to be erected against the enormous threats that climate change and natural hazards pose to the sustainability of our region.”



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# CARIBBEAN ROUNDUP

Continued from Page 4

ruled in favor of allowing the hearing of two election petitions initially brought by two opposition new Democratic Party (NDP) politicians, Benjamin Exeter and Lauron Baptiste more than a year ago.

The judgement now allows the petitions to be heard on its own merit.

The latest ruling delivered a week ago rejected an application by the governing party to strike out the petitions as invalid.

Initially, the elections petitions were struck out by Justice Cottle in April 2016 based on a technicality, having accepted the submissions by lawyers for the government that they were filed improperly.

However, Eastern Caribbean Court of Appeal sitting in St. Lucia recently reversed Cottle's decision, noting apparent bias, and ruled that the case be returned to the High Court in St. Vincent and the Grenadines to be heard by a different judge.

The NDP said it is confident that the evidence to be presented will be overwhelming and will show that the electoral procedures in at least two constituencies on Dec. 9, 2015, were violated, resulting in a general election that was not free and fair according

to the country's Representation of the People's Act.

The 2015 election resulted in a one-seat majority for the ruling Unity Labor Party (ULP).

## Trinidad

The escalating murder rate in Trinidad and Tobago has forced Prime Minister Keith Rowley to announce that Cabinet has agreed to hire 16 more Crime Scene Investigators (CSI) to the current 15 that are involved in searching for clues which can lead to the arrest of hundreds of killers who are at large.

The murder rate so far for the year stands at 260. Acting Commissioner of Police Stephen Williams said the detection rate has moved from 26 percent to 29 percent.

Rowley said "given the level of criminal conduct and the demand for crime scene investigators, we can't rely on the current 15 we have, because they are not sufficient."

Rowley said the government had no alternative but to keep working to improve the ability of law enforcement, which under the Constitution was largely the responsibility of the Police Service, along with other law enforcement agencies.

— compiled by Azad Ali



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# Queens daycare centers graduate 'unique' 6 from pre-k

By Nelson A. King

Six "unique" pre-kindergarten students were showered with praises recently at an elaborate graduation ceremony for two Guyanese-owned daycare centers in Laurelton, Queens.

Jeremy's Place Daycare, Inc. and Nicky's Little Sprouts, D.C., Inc., owned, operated and directed by mother and daughter, Paulette Hyman and Shaundell Agrippa, respectively, collaborated, as in the past two years, in hosting the extravagant ceremony — with all pomp and circumstance — on June 23, at Nicky's Little Sprouts, D.C., Inc.

Dylan Bailey, Joy Jackson, Janiyah Jonas and Malaysia Smith graduated from Nicky's Little Sprouts, D.C., Inc., and Celina Nedderman and Anaya Croft graduated from Jeremy's Place Daycare, Inc. The graduates will be going on to Kindergarten in the fall.

"The class of 2017 is a unique class," said Ms. Agrippa in delivering the Commencement Address, attended by parents and family members, friends, distinguished

guests, teachers and volunteers.

"These children started in our daycare as babies," she added. "Look at these sprouts today; they have grown and made us proud. Do you agree? (the audience responded with a resounding 'yes')."

"I'm delighted and proud to see all of you here," Ms. Agrippa continued. "Today, I give God all the glory and praise for what he has done. I wanted to read excerpts from the book, 'Oh, The Places You'll Go,' by Dr. Seuss, but, I'm not going to do that — you're not babies anymore (turning to the graduates). You're sitting here today because your mountains aren't waiting for you; you've already been moving them to get to this point."

Ms. Agrippa said she saw the preschool class as being "uniquely equipped to solve the problems our world faces, because they (graduates) have had the best start on their educational journey."

"You, the graduating class, have worked hard to get here," she said. "Just think — when



Graduates from left: Dylan Bailey, Anaya Croft, Joy Jackson, Janiyah Jonas and Celina Nedderman.  
Photo by Nelson A. King

you started preschool, you were picking your nose, could not tie your shoe or even write your name. But you have overcome these hurdles. Kindergarten is very different from where you are right now — no more mud castles or

hangouts in the sandbox. Get ready to work hard."

Ms. Agrippa said some of the graduates have already showed "great potential" in reading, math, science and the arts.

"Keep striving, because the

future is yours," she urged. "Show your gratitude. Many of you have been taught that gratitude is saying 'please' and 'thank you'. If you want your parents to know how grateful you are, make them proud."



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# 18 receive Legend of Faith Awards

By Nelson A. King

Caribbean Life's senior writer, Dr. Nelson A. King, was among 18 members of the community who were recently honored with the Legend of Faith Award by the Brooklyn-based Faith Deliverance Pentecostal Church at the church's inaugural award ceremony at the Sheraton La Guardia Hotel in Flushing, Queens.

The other honorees were: Vincentians Dr. Roxie Irish, James Cordice, Ministers Claudette Muckett and Roslyn Thorpe, Mary Abbott, and the Rev. Greta Edwards; Barbadians David McNair Douglin, Dr. Daphne Belgrave Cox, and Pastor Nigel Best and his wife, Minister Sharon Best; Jamaicans Pastor Madge Rowe and the Rev. Trevor L. Rankine; Haitians Fatima and Tatic Telcy; African American Dr. Kim Best; and Ministers Ruth Stapleton McCoy and Sylvia Davis. The nationalities of Row and Davis were unknown.

"Our honorees have come from various backgrounds, and they are holding different offices – have made great accomplishments," said the church's Vincentian-born pastor, the Rev. Dr. Neithe Soleyn, at the event on July 1. "Some are pastors, community leaders, missionaries, teachers, director, professors, journalists, faithful members and more.

"Some have touched rock bottom, but are here today," she added. "I highly commend all of our honorees here today for taking a stand to make the sacrifices you have made, and we have recognized you to receive the Legend of Faith Award. You have, indeed, weathered the storms in making these great achievements — touching human's lives."

The Philadelphia-based Cordice, the former president of the St. Vincent and the Grenadines Organization of Penn-

sylvania (SVGOP) and coordinator of St. Vincent and the Grenadines' participation in the illustrious Penn Relays for the past seven years, was the youngest storeroom manager to be employed at the Cotton House Hotel in Mustique in the St. Vincent Grenadines.

Dr. Irish, a Born-Again Christian and former national netball star in St. Vincent and the Grenadines, is the founder and president of the United Vincie Cultural Group of Brooklyn (UVCGB).

In 1986, Dr. Irish migrated to the United States and, in 1987, she became a member of Church of the First Born, renamed the Miracle Temple Ministries International in Brownsville, Brooklyn.

Missionary Abbott, who worships at Faith Deliverance Pentecostal Church of God, is close to finishing her Master's degree in education. She works as a Group Teacher in Brooklyn.

Minister Muckett, a woman called by God, is the widow of the late Rev. William Muckett, founding pastor of Attributes of Christ Church, in the Crown Heights section of Brooklyn. She is a licensed minister of the Gospel, who has been preaching and teaching God's Word for more than 30 years. She has facilitated many workshops and assisted in departmental organizations within her home church.

Rev. Edwards was a pioneer for several churches for the New Testament Church of God in St. Vincent and Grenadines. She was pastor of the McCarty Church for seven years and then pastored the Lodge Village New Testament Church of God for six years.

In 1990, Edwards migrated to the United States, and became a member, works cooperatively as a minister and serves on the Board of Faith Deliverance Pentecostal Church of God for the past 27 years.



Dr. Roxie Irish receives award from Dr. Soleyn.

Photo by Nelson A. King

Minister Thorpe came to Faith Deliverance Pentecostal Church of God, as a minister of the Gospel of Christ, from the Pentecostal of Assemblies of the West Indies. She had worked as secretary in her brother's law firm, Stanley John in St. Vincent and the Grenadines. Thorpe has worked for New York City's Board of Education for 20 years, and is the author of two children's books, "Ray Rays' Amazing Dream" and "Danny New Kid in School."

Douglin, who worships at Faith Deliverance Pentecostal Church of God, with

his family, is head usher at the church, "and continues to serve faithfully," his biography says.

In 1975, Dr. Belgrave Cox was called to the ministry full time and was ordained in 1976 as evangelist under the umbrella of the Preparation Church of God on Rogers Avenue in Brooklyn, where she now serves as pastor. From Dr. Belgrave Cox's ministry, for over 40 years, ministries have been strengthened and enlightened.

Pastor Nigel Best and Minister Sha-

Continued on Page 36



Dr. Nelson A. King receives award from Dr. Kim Best.

Velda Ashton



James Cordice receives award from Faith Deliverance Pentecostal Church of God official.

Photo by Nelson A. King



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Founder and President of the Jersey City West Indian Caribbean American Carnival Assoc. Inc., (JSWICACAI) Cheryl DB Murphy, second from left with police officers and officials at the start of last year's parade.

Photo by Tangerine Clarke

# Jersey City to light up with carnival parade

**By Tangerine Clarke**

Founder and President of the Jersey City West Indian Caribbean American Carnival Association Inc., (JCWICACAI), Cheryl DB Murphy said with 1.5 million West Indians in the metro area, the streets of Jersey City will come alive with colorful costumes and revelry when the parade takes to the streets on Saturday, July 22.

The non-profit that kicked off its 22nd Anniversary earlier in the year with a Grand Marshall Meet & Greet Reception at Jersey City City Hall, and continued with activities leading up to the state-wide carnival weekend, will host an After work J'ouvert fete at the LaMexicana 405 Route 440, in Jersey City, on Friday, July 21.

An Annual Carnival Scholarship Breakfast will begin the "turn-up 22 Carnival Parade and festival" of costume spectacle, that will include all Caribbean Islands. The Moko Jumbies, Steepan music, and live music parade, will kick-off at 12:00 pm from Belmont Avenue & JFK Blvd.

The cavalcade will then proceed along the parade route, and judged outside in front of City Hall on Montgomery Street, before climaxing with a Carnival Village at Exchange Place Waterfront Pier.

Performers will include McWassay, Peppa Squad Records Star Boy, Guyana Soca Monarch 2009 Winner, Shelly G, Lyrikal, Lady T, Cory North and Edd

Master. Also on the how Carnival celebration, are DJ Natural Yonette Hooper/ Glen Miller One Man Band, SB, Diablo 400, Cali Biggs, Gucci Boss and Shawn Shatta.

Murphy who started the Caribbean carnival in Jersey City to engage the melting pot of Caribbean community and other nationalities, is an inspirational figure who throughout the past 21 years has organize community outreach programs such as a scholarship program, arts and cultural events and health fairs, gaining respect from the community along the way.

Her family, community leaders inspired her to give back, as such, she has worked diligently to showcase the beautiful culture and diversity of Jersey City and looks forward to an exciting 22nd year celebration of activities.

In addition to a Children's Village, spectators will have access to a Health Corner, Carnival Village and After Carnival Community Party Fete.

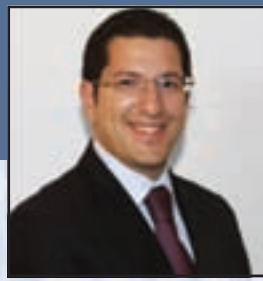
Murphy thanked the City of Jersey City, Jersey City Municipal Council, Hudson County Freeholders, Sidewalk University, Golden Krust, Lynx & Company, Jerk Chicken, Chocolate City, Hudson Medical Center, and many, many others sponsors for their support.

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# Goal guide: Author pens motivating self-help book

By Alexandra Simon

It's time for some action!

Long Island-based motivational speaker and author Nikkie Pryce is releasing her first book to help millennials jump start their dreams. In her self-help book titled "Dreamers, Take Action," to be released on July 24, she lays out a guideline for the perpetual dreamer to embark on their goals and aspirations, because she too was once a procrastinator with many plans before setting forth on her ambitions.

"One day I looked in the mirror saying 'Dreamers take actions,' and really started doing things I said I would do," said Pryce. "Even writing this book was a dream of mine, but in 2010 it was just a thought back then."

Having finally completed her book, a goal of hers that she worked on for three years, Pryce decided that her topic of interest was to share the motivation she gained working toward her dream with others in a self-help guide. In the book, she discuss-

es seven different steps that a dreamer can take to reach an objective, and the common setbacks that can come along the way, she added.

"The reason why I wrote this book is because I always wanted to do this but also wanted to skydive into why I didn't do it earlier — because people always have excuses especially when it comes to writing a book or starting a business," she said. "You have to cut the excuses and put massive action to it everyday assisting it from point A where it's just a dream, to point B where you take steps to action — because someone can be motivated but don't have actionable actions."

With a background in broadcast media, she did not always think she was going to be an author despite her love for the pen but now sees that it was a dream yet to be tested, said Pryce.

The 117-page book is a quick and practical read, that steers readers toward a driven attitude, according to Pryce. And

she takes on the tone of an older sibling when detailing the beginning steps for a path to success.

"I'm so high energy and excited for life and I'm that voice encouraging teamwork," said Pryce.

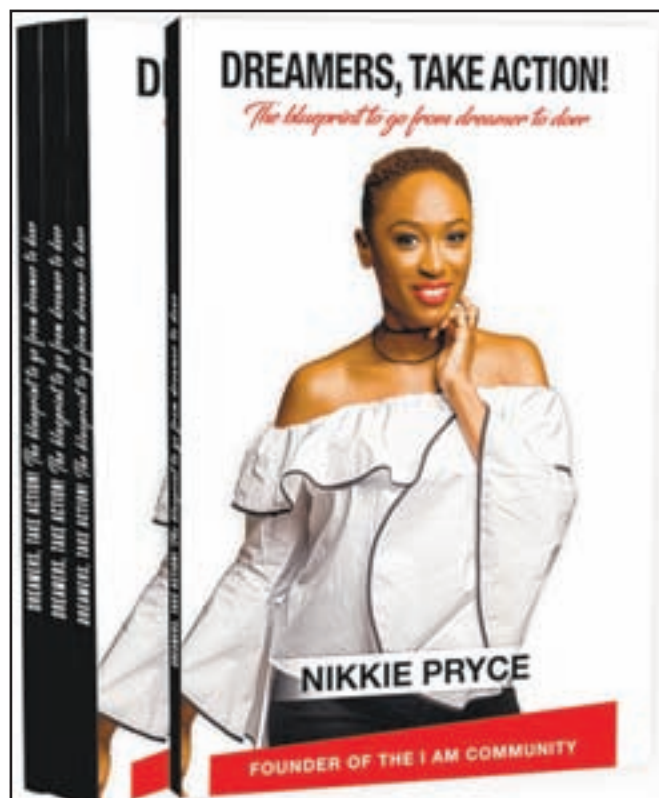
And she is the main inspiration behind her manual. She says her own journey opened her eyes to the struggle with getting on board to complete a desire, and is now a declaration of her determination.

"The book is the blueprint on how to go from a dreamer, to just doing your dreams and actually putting action to it — it's like an affirmation for me," she said.

But in order to get to that point strong a desire, encouragement is needed as well as a belief in your capabilities.

"Whatever keeps you up at night until you do it — it will continue to haunt you," said Pryce.

Pryce adds that she wants her book to reach the hands of people looking for than just



The book will be released on July 24.

Keilan Scott

motivation, and those are seeking to actually meet their goals and need a step-by-step tour on spearheading into it.

"I was once that person who needed a voice, or a push, and needed to hear someone say that

to me," she said. "I want to get this book into in someone else's hands and touch their lives, because I want them to understand that the earth thrives because it's ours and we have to do these things."

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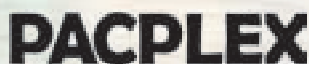
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# Have a taste of Island Soul

## Caribbean food festival comes to New York City

By Alexandra Simon

Curry on down to Canarsie!

A new food festival in Canarsie aims to showcase the wide variety of Caribbean cuisine, featuring culinary favorites from more than a dozen different islands. The organizer of the New York City Caribbean Food Festival, happening on July 15 at Pacplex, says that she wants the event to do away with stereotypes and preconceived notions of what the region's cuisine is like.

"I want people to appreciate and enjoy the different dishes that the Caribbean has to offer because we are not just all about pineapples and coconut," said Deborah L. Burchell. "Once you say Caribbean, they're thinking palm trees — but we are more than that."

Burchell, an event planner, came up with the idea after noticing lack of West Indian representation at other city food events. Most festivals featured only a few from select cultures, she said.

"Every time I go to a fes-

tival there may be only one Caribbean vendor and it's a lot about jerk but nothing for the entire Caribbean to come together," she said. "It's either Haiti, Trinidad and Tobago, [or] Jamaica."

For her festival, Burchell has recruited chefs serving food from Belize, Jamaica, Haiti, Guyana, Puerto Rico, Trinidad and Tobago, St. Lucia, St. Vincent, and a few other spots.

Each admission ticket will allow guests to sample dishes from five different vendors, and those with VIP tickets will also get a sit-down, four-course meal and alcoholic beverages, according to Burchell.

The diverse offerings on the menu will let eaters a chance to experience trendy plates influenced by stateside favorites.

"We have a nice Caribbean modernized menu and it's not going to be a typical curry — we are having something more modern," said Burchell. "It's going to be a fusion and a mix of American and original Caribbean."

One of those innovative dishes will be a shark and waffle dish, served by Prospect Heights chef Shayaa Muhammad, who was inspired to combine Trinidadian fast food and southern cuisine.

"I had to choose something from my country and a popular dish is bake and shark," he said. "I also like to eat chicken and waffles, so I figured I'd do something from my island but with a twist."

He will be serving a lightly fried shark, along with some fried chicken for those who are not fond of fish.

In addition to the food, the fest will feature live calypso, soca, and reggae music, with a performance from up-and-coming soca singer KC.

New York City Caribbean Food Festival at Pacplex [1500 Paerdegat Avenue North between Paerdegat 13th and 14th Streets in Canarsie, (718) 209-1010, [www.caribfoodfest.net](http://www.caribfoodfest.net)]. July 15, noon-7 pm. \$20 (\$65 VIP, free for kids 12 or younger).



Cooking with a twist: Chef Shayaa Muhammad, who runs Gourmand Eats will be serving an island style version of fried shark and waffles at the inaugural New York City Caribbean Food Festival on July 15. Gourmand Eats



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# CARIBBEAN FOOD FESTIVAL 2017 MAP

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Salmon, Fish Cake, Beef Patties  
551-333-0310

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Chef Toy Catering  
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Pasta, Shrimp Mac and Cheese, Buf-  
falo Chicken Rolls  
516-945-7121

## Catherine Santiago - BOOTH 3

LA Charca Café  
Puerto Rican - Restaurant  
Bacalaitos (Cod Fish Fritters)  
Arroz Con Gandules (Pigeon and  
Rice) Pork  
646-428-4710

## Shayaa Mohammad - BOOTH 4

Gourmand Eats  
Trinidad and American  
Shark and Waffles

## Simply Caribbean - BOOTH 5

347-881-3228 Caterer  
Roast Corn

## R & O Catering - BOOTH 9

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Sauce

## Symone Smalls - BOOTH 23 / 24

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## Royal Paradise - BOOTH 25

Vincentian Food  
Provision, Dumplings and  
Saltfish, Steam Veggies

## G's International - BOOTH 26

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Cilantro, Lime Rice, Steam Cab-  
bage Medley, Fried Plantains, steam  
bokchoy & carrots with Teriyaki  
Sauce

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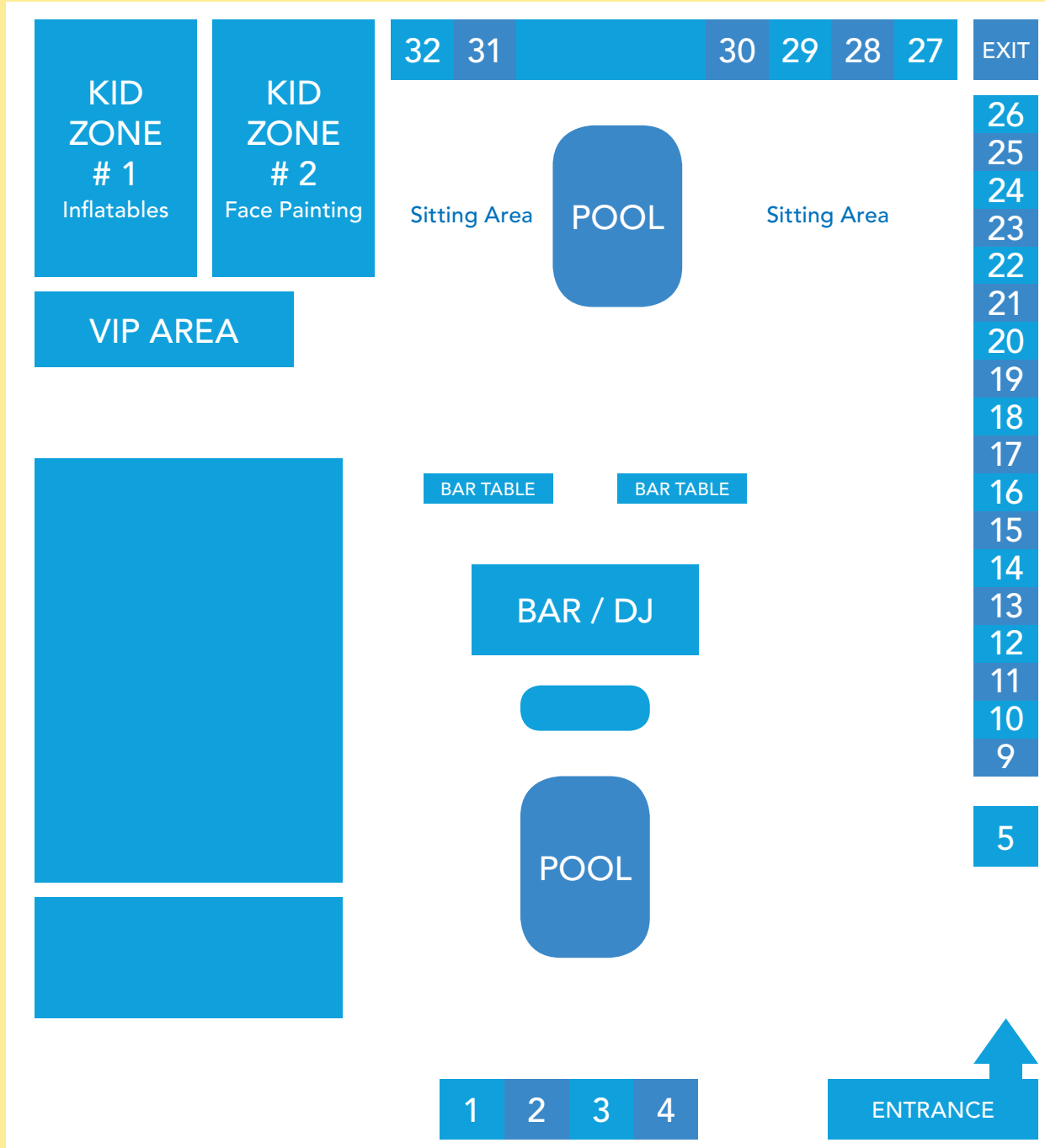
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# A colorful and delicious peas salad for a festive dinner table

Author: Simply Caribbean

Recipe type: Lunch

Cuisine: Caribbean

## Ingredients:

- 1 cup dried black-eyed peas (you can substitute canned beans if necessary)
- 2 medium beets, steamed, peeled and diced
- 1 small onion, diced
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- ¼ cup apple cider vinegar
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- ½ teaspoon salt
- ½ teaspoon black pepper
- 4 sprigs chadobeni or cilantro, chopped
- 4 sprigs fresh parsley, chopped

## Instructions

1. Rinse the black eyed peas then place them in a small saucepan. Cover the peas with water and bring to a boil over high heat. Reduce heat to low, and simmer until peas are tender when pierced with a fork, approximately 20 minutes. Drain and set aside
2. Combine vinegar , olive oil, black pepper and salt , whisk together. Set aside.
3. Steam or boil the beets for 25 - 30



minutes or until tender. Peel and diced beets , then place in a bowl or serving dish, and top with peas, onion, garlic, cilantro and parsley. Drizzle the vinegar mixture over the salad along with the juice from half fresh lime. Serve.

# Trinidad Style Fry Bake

## Ingredients:

- 2 cups all-purpose flour, plus more for dusting
- 1 tablespoon baking powder
- ½ teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon sugar
- 1 teaspoon butter or margarine- this is totally optional
- ¾ cup water, plus ¼ cup plus 1 tablespoon if needed
- 2 cups canola or coconut oil for frying the bakes

## Instructions

1. Mix together flour, baking powder, sugar and salt.
2. Add butter and mix with a fork or use your fingers until the flour resembles coarse breadcrumbs
3. Make a hole or well in the center of the flour and start pouring ¾ cup water while mixing and stirring in a circular motion.
4. Dough should begin to resemble really coarse crumbs at this stage
5. Add ¼ cup more water and continue mixing gently for about 5 minutes until you form a nice soft dough.
6. If dough is too sticky, dust with a tablespoon of flour, if dough is too dry after adding all the water, add another one tablespoon or so of water and bring the dough together, IF IT'S NEEDED+
7. Allow to rest for about 3-5 minutes,



then dust with flour and knead to form a smoother dough.

8. Rub some oil on top of dough and allow the dough to rest for 25 - 30 minutes covered with plastic wrap or a damp paper or kitchen towel
9. Cut the dough into 6 or 8 pieces (depending on how large you want the fried bakes to be)
10. Roll them into balls and place on a clean, well-floured surface. Allow to rest for at least 10 - 15 minutes.
11. "covered with a damp kitchen towel or plastic wrap"
12. Flatten the balls of dough until they are about ¼ inch thick, and 5 -6 inches in diameter using your fingers or a rolling pin

Continued on Page 33

## SPONSOR PROFILE

# Rishavena Home Health Care Agency

Founded in 2008 by dedicated and passionate Nurse Vena Laurent, Rishavena Home Health Care has since been a gleaming example in the home health care field and the senior community. Hiring only the best and caring Home Health Aides, Nurses, and Client Coordinators, Rishavena earned its reputation for excellence by word of mouth. Treated by dedicated, certified health care professionals with a wealth of experience, Rishavena's clients were able to take control of their lives with the freedom to live the way that they chose. From humble beginnings in the basement level of Vena's home to a sprawling palace at 2260 Flatbush Avenue, the journey of Rishavena has been one of perseverance, humility, and grace.

In 2014, the company moved to its current location at Flatbush Avenue in preparation for the opening of its long awaited Caribbean-American



friendly Social Adult Day Care. Of Caribbean descent herself, it had always been a dream of Vena's to open a facility where seniors could relax in luxury and congregate with like-minded individuals while cultivating creative expressions through art, music, exercise, and culture. It was in the summer of 2015 that the doors to the Social Daycare had officially opened and it has since been a destination for seniors in all five boroughs to come together in luxury,

comfort, and leisure. Offering services and amenities a cut above the rest, Rishavena Social Adult Day Care has adopted the same reputation of excellence as its sister Home Health Care Agency. Offering such activities as Ballroom Dancing, Salon & Spa Services, Meditation, Yoga, Karaoke, Computer Lessons, Exciting City Wide Field

Trips, Mental Fitness, Arts and Crafts, Music Lessons, Birthday & Holiday Parties, and food to match any dietary needs including Kosher, this daycare puts its competitors to shame.

It has always been the philosophy of Rishavena to treat others the way that you would like to be treated yourself, and as such, no expense is spared when meeting the needs of clients and their families. Rishavena has never turned away a senior in need, regard-

less of race, nationality, lifestyle, or beliefs. Partnering with an individual's existing Health Insurance Plan is a special priority for Rishavena staff to ensure that you will never have to come out of pocket to enjoy any of the amenities offered at the center. If you do not have Health Insurance, we can help you to enroll with a Managed Long Term Care Plan that will work closely with you to ensure that all of your medical needs are met. You can even pay privately to enjoy services at the center on your own terms, in your own time, at your leisure. Our activity calendar is always overflowing with in-house and community based events, and access to the Daycare gives you access to everything!

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For more information about Rishavena Home Health Care Agency call 718-251-1231 or visit [www.rishavena.com](http://www.rishavena.com)



# Fried Saltfish

## Ingredients:

- 1 pack boneless salted fish (12 ounces)
- 4 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 2 plum tomatoes, chopped
- 6 sprigs fresh thyme, de-stemmed
- 2 scallions, finely chopped
- ½ teaspoon ground black pepper
- 6 sprigs fresh parsley, roughly chopped

## Instructions

1. Boil salted fish for 20 – 22 minutes
2. Using a fine strainer or colander, strain salted fish and rinsed under cold run-

- ning water
3. Using your hands or a fork, shred or flake the fish into small pieces, set aside
4. Heat a skillet with 2 tablespoons. oil to medium heat, add garlic and onions, fry until onions are tender and fragrant, about 2 minutes
5. Add tomatoes and continue sautéing on high until some of the juices are dried out
6. Add thyme, Stir!
7. Add shredded fish and incorporate with the other ingredients in the pan
8. Add scallions and keep frying for at least 2 more minutes
9. Add black pepper and parsley and combine together\
10. Remove from heat, you're done!

Continued from Page 32

13. Add oil in a deep pan to a depth of about two inches over medium heat
14. When oil is heated through, start adding the rolled out dough to the hot oil
15. Turn dough immediately as it's added to the oil, as this will help the bake swell or puff up
16. Fry in hot oil until both sides are golden brown, about 30 - 45 seconds per side, turn over once
17. Drain on paper towel so as to eliminate some of the grease from the oil.
18. Serve with Fried Salt fish or Fried Shark or anything you fancy.

# Cucumber Chutney

## Ingredients:

- 2 medium size cucumbers, grated, 1 peeled and 1 unpeeled
- 4 cloves garlic, minced
- 4 leaves chadobeni or 6 sprigs cilantro, finely chopped
- Freshly squeezed juice of 1 lime or lemon
- ½ hot pepper, finely chopped
- ½ teaspoon salt, add more if it's needed

## Instructions

1. Mix all ingredients together and chill until ready to serve.
2. Taste and adjust seasoning

# Tamarind Sauce

## Ingredients:

- 2 cups tamarind pulp or paste
- 6 cups water divided
- ¼ - ½ cup sugar, (adjust as needed)
- 1 teaspoon salt, add more as needed
- 6 cloves garlic
- ½ hot pepper
- 8 leaves chadobeni or 12 sprigs cilantro, roughly chopped
- 1 teaspoon ground geera/cumin
- 1 teaspoon ground garam masala

## Instructions

1. Blend the sugar, salt, garlic, pepper, chadobeni / cilantro, cumin and masala by placing in a
2. blender with 2 cups of water, blend until smooth. Set aside.
3. Place the tamarind into a sauce pan with 3 cups water. Bring to a boil, keep boiling on low for about 20 minutes – Allow to cool.
4. You may need to add about a cup of

- cold water to the tamarind, now using your fingers,
5. separate the pulp away from the seeds and try to crush the flesh or meat of the tamarind
6. between your fingers. If it's too messy for you, you can wear disposable gloves.
7. Now, grab an empty bowl and place a strainer over the bowl
8. Then squeeze the tamarind through the strainer to separate the pulp from the liquid, (You will be saving the liquid)
9. Now remove the seeds and discard
10. Return the liquid to the saucepan, place the saucepan on medium heat, add the mixture from the blender to the saucepan and bring to a gentle boil. Now turn the heat down to low and with the pan shut, allow to simmer for about 15 – 20 minutes or until it breaks down to the consistency that you want or you're looking for.
11. Taste and adjust your spices if you need to. If it's too tart add some more salt and sugar

# Chandon Beni /Cilantro Garlic Sauce

## Ingredients:

- 12 Chandon Beni leaves or 16 sprigs cilantro
- 4 sprigs fresh parsley
- 1 cup lime juice (fresh squeezed if available)
- ½ fresh scotch bonnet pepper (or habanero) optional
- 6 whole peeled garlic cloves

- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon olive oil

## Instructions

1. Put all ingredients in blender except the olive oil and blend till smooth-add a little extra lime juice if puree is too thick.
2. Drizzle the olive while the blender is still running

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# Focus on improving LGBTI health and well-being

Continued from Page 10

tive health services, and inadequate funding for inclusive and effective health interventions.

The common drivers behind these health disparities are violence, criminalization, social exclusion and discrimination, including widespread discrimination LGBTI people experience in health care settings.

Ironically, this means that very often LGBTI people are rendered invisible in efforts to collect health data, which do not include questions about sexual orientation, gender identity and expression and sex characteristics.

The lack of data poses problems in effectively targeting health services to help those in most need. While some high-income countries have effectively used research to inform HIV prevention and care for gay and bisexual men, and other affected populations this has not been the case in most countries.

Missing health data

makes it harder for LGBTI people to advocate for resources they need and becomes an excuse for governments hostile to LGBTI populations to ignore the health needs of LGBTI people.

Moreover, data about LGBTI health overwhelmingly represents research conducted in high income countries where there has been social and legal progress for some sexual and gender minorities.

For example, a systematic review of general population studies conducted in Australia, Europe, and North America found that compared with heterosexual people, lesbian, gay, and bisexual people are at higher risk for mental disorders, including depression and anxiety, suicidal ideation and deliberate self-harm.

Data gaps are starkest in countries where discrimination based on sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression and sex characteristics is entrenched in law.

There are no specific

indicators in the SDG framework that measure the health specifically for LGBTI people. Nevertheless, states can voluntarily report on progress and we urge them to do so in order to live up to the commitment to “leave no one behind.”

Agenda 2030 for LGBTI Health and Well-Being details the type of data UN Member States should collect to effectively monitor implementation of the

targets of SDG 3 in a way that improves the health and well-being of LGBTI people.

We want to ensure Member States ask the right questions in order to understand and monitor health and well-being among LGBTI people. We urge that they also focus on ending stigma and discrimination, which has a major detrimental impact on health and well-being, and also poses barriers

to accessing health care services that LGBTI people need.

We stress that all Member States must repeal the laws, policies, and practices that criminalise same sex behaviour and limit the ability of people to express, and have legally recognised, their gender identity.

States must also prohibit non-consensual medical procedures, including intersex genital mutila-

tion, forced sterilizations as requirements for gender recognition, and forced anal examinations.

LGBTI people are well aware of the health disparities taking hold and stealing lives in their communities, but insufficient evidence makes it harder to make a convincing case for health services to respond to these needs.

We hope more countries will accelerate a research revolution for LGBTI inclusion, which improves the health and well-being of these communities.

## Community confab

Continued from Page 3

the city council race, said Valere.

Confirmed council members expected to be there are Councilwoman Laurie Cumbo (D-Crown Heights) and Councilman Mathieu Eugene (D-Flatbush) from districts 35 and 40 respectively. Councilman Jumaane Williams (D-East Flatbush) who represents district 45 will not be in attendance but his populace is included in the forum. Neighborhoods where council seats are up for re-election are Crown Heights, Prospect Lefferts Gardens, Flatbush, East Flatbush, Canarsie, Kensington, and Midwood.

The running candidates who will also be in attendance are Ede Fox and Jabari Brisport challenging Councilwoman Cumbo, Jennifer Berkley, Brian Cunningham, Pia Raymond, and Rose St. Albord who top

for the most challengers for Councilman Eugene, and Lou Cespedes challenging Councilman Williams for his seat.

Valere says that this forum is one of the few chances members of the community get to set clear their stances, and what they want in return from the incumbents and prospective leaders for their votes.

“I think we want to create room for residents to get engaged and really get mobilized, and stay connected to these issues until September when primaries come,” he said. “As voters and as citizens, we want people to be aware of what’s happening and how that can affect their family and entire neighborhood.”

*Flatbush Tenant Candidate Forum at Erasmus High School [911 Flatbush Ave. between Church and Snyder Avenue]. July 15 at 10am-noon. Free.*



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# 'One Love' Rasta excursion explores Jamaican culture

By Vinette K. Pryce

Any fan of reggae music or those familiar with Bob Marley are likely to have already sung, hummed and probably danced to one of its most profound messages of unity, "One Love."

Now one of the best kept secrets in the Caribbean, Great Huts Eco-Resort is launching "One Love Rastafari" — a new special interest excursion in Jamaica.

The July 9 to 16 tour encompasses three days in the bustling city of Kingston and four days at Great Huts: Paradise on the Edge in Port Antonio

designed to "embrace a wealth of tradition and experience."

The seven-day cultural exploration into the origins of Rastafarian spirituality will be accompanied by expert commentary.

The scenic route from Kingston to the lush parish of Portland through the Blue Mountains promises unparalleled beauty and awe inspiring views along the route.

Tour guides allege the tour is "guaranteed to be enjoyed by anyone, and "is simply breathtaking."

The fact insight into Jamaica's most

spiritual and international acclaimed Africa-centered adherers will be components to this excursion could prove an unprecedented tourist attraction. There are some misconceptions about Rastafari and this excursion will probably bring clarification.

For many, the word conjures images of head-wrapped mystics wreathed in clouds of ganja smoke, intimations of immortality, or the mythic stature of Marcus Garvey and Haile Selassie.

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Born in Brooklyn, New York, Dr. Rhodes began with three tents and a mission to help the homeless and the elderly in Port Antonio.

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## Legends of Faith Awards

Continued from Page 22

ron Best are members of Faith Deliverance Pentecostal Church of God. Minister Best is currently a student in Master's program at a theological seminary and as a support administrator in a secular company.

Rev. Rankine is the founder and visionary of World Harvest Deliverance Center, Inc., a ministry which he established 23 years ago in Queens.

In 2009, his vision to open a Christian Academy in the United States was realized. He said World Harvest Deliverance Center Christian Academy provides "an awesome alternative for families," where students receive "an excellent education in a safe and loving Christian environment."

Dr. Best has been involved in community for over 44 years. She began her community service with the Bedford Stuyvesant Restoration Corporation. She worked in the community outreach centers, where she conducted blood pressure and audio screenings, housings assistance, employment referrals and outreach projects.

Dr. Best is the president of the 79th Precinct Community Council, president / chief chaplain of Anointed By-God Seminary, president of the National Association of Negro and Business and Professional Women's,

Inc., and chair of Bedford Stuyvesant Interagency Council for Aging.

Pastor Rowe began her Christian journey under the ministry of the Freedom Church of God and was mentored by Jamaican Bishop Cecil G. Riley. After some time, the Lord sent her to work with her father, Bishop Percival Rowe at the Full Gospel Church #2. Bishop Rowe handed the baton over to Pastor Rowe in 2008.

Minister Stapleton McKoy is a minister, and Board Member and secretary of Faith Deliverance Pentecostal Church of God. In addition, she has been employed at St. Johns' Family Daycare in Brooklyn for 26 years, has worked as group teacher for 16 years and is currently a director.

Minister Davis is one of the senior evangelist at Believers Gateway to Freedom at 325 A Lewis Ave., Brooklyn. Evangelist Davis has been a member for the past 18 years, and was ordained in 2007 as an evangelist. In 2012, she became a chaplain, supervised by Bishop Alfred Phillips.

The biographies of Haitian immigrants Fatima and Fatic Telcy were unavailable at press time. Fatima's last name was withheld.

Dr. King has almost four decades of journalistic experience, and has been a senior writer for Caribbean Life for more than 25 years.



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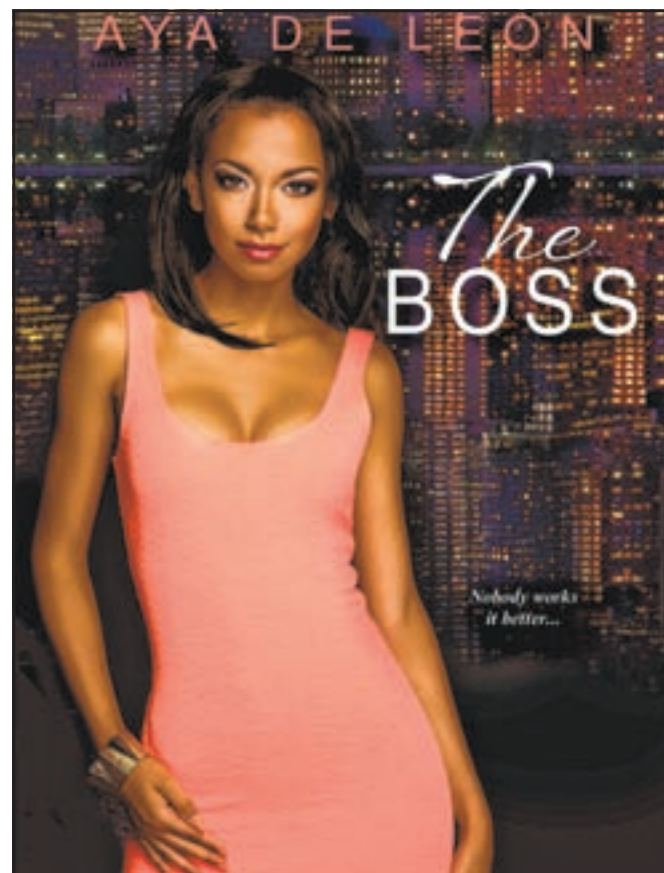
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# A great summer escape with 'The Boss'



Book cover of "The Boss" by Aya De Leon.

"The Boss" by Aya De León  
c.2017, Kensington Dafina  
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352 pages



Author Aya de Leon.  
Photo by Anna de Leon

It didn't help that Tyesha's friend, Lily, was having trouble, too: she was a dancer at the One-Eyed King, a club that was forcing its strippers to do things they didn't want to do and one girl almost got hurt. Lily had learned that a Ukrainian mob was behind the new rules, and so she'd turned to the Clinic — and Tyesha — for help.

So much drama — and yet, it was just what Tyesha needed. Her life was uninspiring, but going to bat for the strippers was something she could totally get into. She understood their plight: in another life, Tyesha had been a dancer / escort, too.

She had also helped run a little heist ring with her friend, Marisol, but that work was behind them both. Tyesha was respectable now; a professional with access to legal information who could help New York's dancers form a union.

If only her love life was as

clear as her work project. Tyesha had dated rapper Thug Woofer for awhile, but he kept blowing every chance she gave him to get it right.

Now Tinder wasn't cutting it and one-night stands were no good. Really, could any man handle a relationship with a strong woman like her?

**By Terri Schlichenmeyer**  
Somebody needs to call the shots.

Leading by committee may seem equal, right? Everybody should have a voice, but there has to be a head honcho in the mix somewhere. Somebody has to make decisions and stand up, to lead with a big heart, a cool head, an open mind and, in "The Boss" by Aya de León, a solid backbone.

For Tyesha Couvillier, it should have been the best day of her life.

Newly graduated from Columbia with a degree in public health, she'd just landed a job as executive director of the Maria de la Vega Community Health Clinic, focusing on the well-being of New York's sex workers. It was a

job she'd had her eye on for years, and she should have been celebrating.

Instead, there was nothing but drama: her older sister, Jenisse, was in town with her drug-dealing boyfriend and two teenage daughters. Not that Jenisse did anything specific; just her being in town aggravated Tyesha.

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The sounds: Anguillan band British Dependency was one of the many musical acts at the 46th annual International African Arts Festival on July 3. Photo by Jason Speakman

## African art shines at fest

By Alexandra Simon

Art for all.

Thousands of art enthusiasts packed the 46th International African Arts Festival at Commodore Barry Park in Fort Greene on July 3. The annual festival celebrating the music and artistry of the African Diaspora attracts many people, particularly frequent visitors who always attend every year, and come to showcase their work, said one woman.

“I’ve been going for years and I’m a

Continued on Page 42

## Caribbean, New Orleans links

By Nelson A. King

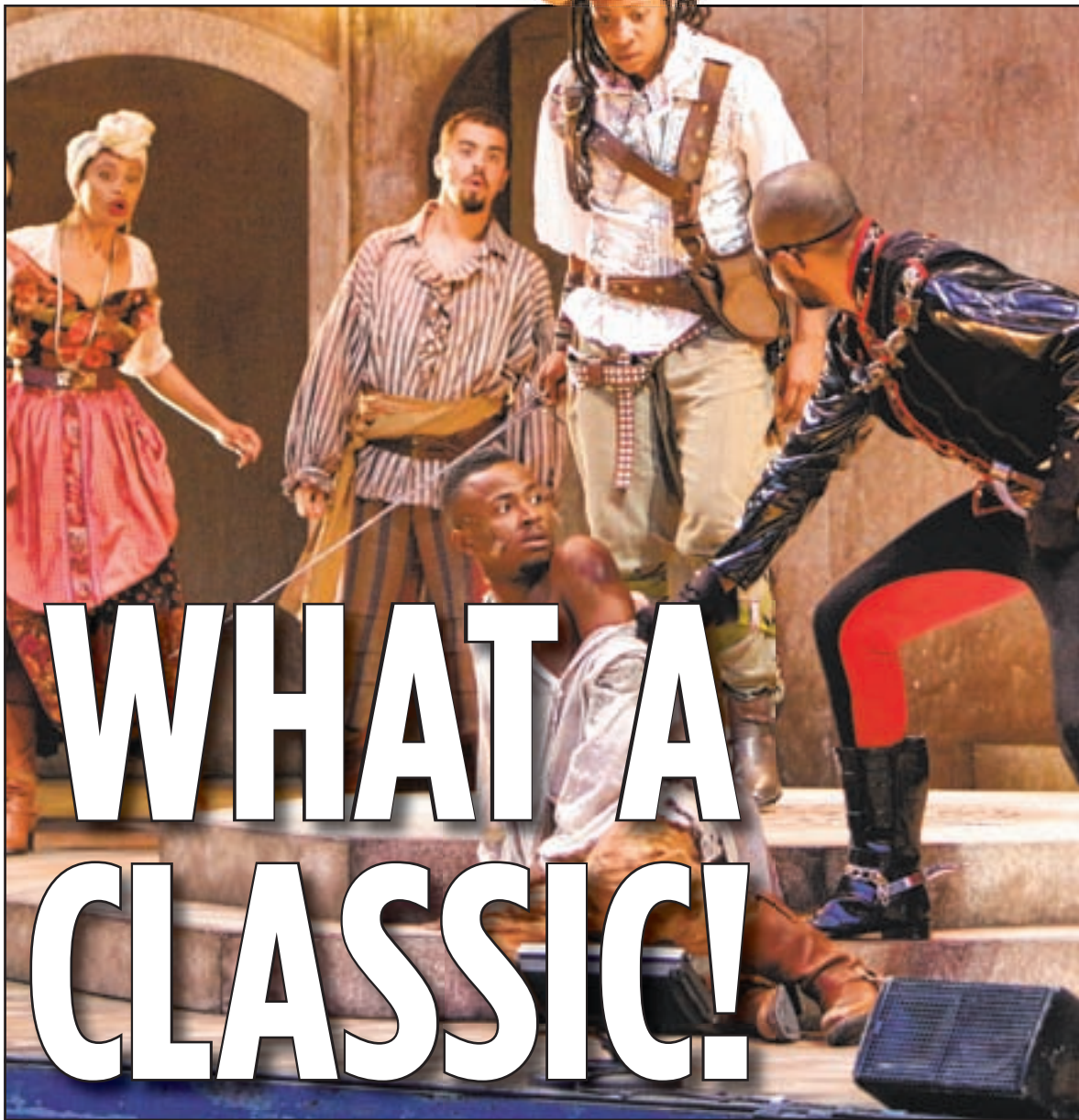
The New Orleans Center for the Gulf South helped highlight the links between the Caribbean and New Orleans during the annual US Department of Agriculture’s (USDA) Southern Regional Research Center’s Caribbean Cultural Heritage Month in June, according to Tulane University.

The university said the event took place at the New Orleans office of the USDA.

Jarrell Hamilton, a choreographer, African diaspora scholar, and graduate student in the Tulane School of Liberal Arts’ Department of Theatre and Dance, performed at the event along with Dominican Republic singer / songwriter and bandleader José Fermín Ceballos, Tulane University said.

For Hamilton, exploring these cultural

Continued on Page 42



In action: Actors in the play adaptation of Alexandre Dumas’ “The Three Musketeers.”

Jill Jones

## ‘The Three Musketeers’ returns to the spotlight

By Alexandra Simon

Ready, set, en garde!

A Harlem theater company will be playing their adaption of the popular Alexandre Dumas action novel, “The Three Musketeers,” from July 11-30. The Classic Theatre of Harlem is having a free nightly outdoor showing of the classic play at Marcus Garvey Park. And in this revival, the company is not only bringing a favored story back into the spotlight, but is also honoring the literary work of a Caribbean man whose background is

typically disregarded, said the artistic director of the company.

“One of the things I’m proud of about this show — I feel that the way we present this piece a way that Dumas would be proud of,” said Ty Jones. “A lot of people don’t know that he was Haitian and we are celebrating him just like we do with the Shakespeare’s, the Sheridan’s, and the Shaw’s.”

He adds that Dumas’ work shines light on the presence of people of color in the classic novel age, despite

the lack of awareness about who he was.

“What better way to raise the profile of a man of color who is often-times overlooked in terms of impact,” he said. “This was the man who also wrote “The Count of Monte Cristo” and from our perspective, he did a lot of great work that was intellectually compelling and we want to create a conversation with the audience.”

The 90-minute play does not have much changes to the original story,

Continued on Page 42



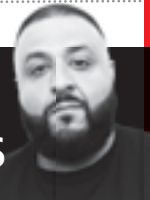
## TOP OF THE CHARTS

### TOP 10 SINGLES



- 1 **That's What I Like**  
Bruno Mars
- 2 **Despacito**  
Luis Fonsi, Daddy Yankee...
- 3 **Shape Of You**  
Ed Sheeran
- 4 **Stay**  
Zedd & Alessia Cara
- 5 **Something Just Like This**  
The Chainsmokers & Coldplay
- 6 **I'm The One**  
DJ Khaled, Justin Bieber, Qavo...
- 7 **It Ain't Me**  
Kygo x Selena Gomez
- 8 **Say You Won't Let Go**  
James Arthur
- 9 **Believer**  
Imagine Dragons
- 10 **Castle On The Hill**  
Ed Sheeran

### TOP 10 ALBUMS



- 1 **Evolve**  
Imagine Dragons
- 2 **Grateful**  
DJ Khaled
- 3 **MOSAIC**  
311
- 4 **Big Fish Theory**  
Vince Staples
- 5 **Purple Rain (Soundtrack)**  
Prince And The Revolution
- 6 **OK Computer: OKNOTOK '97-'17**  
Radiohead
- 7 **Moana**  
Soundtrack
- 8 **Melodrama**  
Lorde
- 9 **Trolls**  
Soundtrack
- 10 **Divide**  
Ed Sheeran

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# WHAT A CLASSIC!

Continued from Page 41

but the plot remains relevant to the times and sheds light to current social issues and where society should be heading, said Jones.

"We bring a little levity to the musketeers and we have fun with it," he said. "There's a reason why the statement all for one and one for all resonates now — folks of different backgrounds need to see how much we do have in common, and strategize and create contention and execute a world that we want to see."

In this adaption, the theatre plays up Dumas' Caribbean heritage in an admiring form towards his background.

"What we did was blend the elements of the Diaspora, not to be an imitation, but to have a Caribbean flavor to it and paying homage to that," said Jones.

"We want folks to walk away not just saying lighting and the music great, but world and

what we live, I write my plays, impacted by decision made by the ruling class, classic plays are commentary on ruling class and with this particular play, ppl from diff background like the musketeers were different but despite those differences they came together to fight against the forces that are interested in exploiting people."

"If you love the musketeers, a little romance, swordplay, the play is fun, we took some liberty in adding some comedic stuff and you will walk away with smile," he said.

And the best part is that show is free. The month-long showing is welcoming the families and kids to enjoy the tale

The choice to make the showing free was intentional and a realistic opportunity for the community to just enjoy a summer show.

"I actually believe a lot of drama and arts is creative from is from one's community and one's connection to the



In this adaptation, the theatre pays homage to novelist Alexandre Dumas' Caribbean ancestry, according to the artistic director.  
Jill Jones

world," said Jones. "Theater is a business but at end of the day I'm highly aware of the limited access that people of color have, and the last thing I want to do is take very people who helped me in my career and

abandon them."

"The Three Musketeers" at Marcus Garvey Park [Madison Ave. between E. 120th and E. 124th streets in Harlem, (347) 688-6304, www.ctnyc.org]. July 11-30, 8-10 pm. Free.

## Arts fest

Continued from Page 41

big fan," said Karain Water, an artist and jewelry maker who began attending the festival since the early 90s.

Water and a friend set up a booth to sell some of their jewelry and artwork and even tattoo some of the guests. And even her gal pal's children got in on the business with their own crafts.

"They are upcoming artists as well and sold some of their art," she said. "They had jewelry trinkets made out of pipe cleaners, and they were selling post-cards that they drew."

She said that the festival's family atmosphere was a good opportunity for encouraging children with an interest in the arts and provides them with a learning experience.

"I like it very much because it's very family-oriented," said Water. "I grew up with this festival and we bring our kids here because they are part of the next art generation that's going to keep the festival going."

The four-day outdoor event saw performances from bands and artist including British Dependency, Gary Nesta Pine and The Love Generation Band, and Denroy Morgan.

For other longtime festival goers, the event was another



Artist Karain Water with Asata Alexander at the International African Arts Festival. Photo by Jason Speakman

chance to take in the musical performances and catch up with old friends.

"There were so many good performances this year and I really enjoyed the music — it was a great day," said Taesha Muhammad. "I've been coming to the festival since I was child and it's like a reunion sometimes since I know many of the vendors."

Muhammad said a memorable moment for her at this year's festival was seeing so many artists compared to the previous festivals.

"As an artist it was nice to see all of the different types of artwork — I usually see maybe one or two sometimes, but it was nice to see all the art," she said.

## Caribbean cultural links

Continued from Page 41

links involves researching the religions of people of African descent and incorporating her understandings into choreography, the university said.

It said Hamilton's performance was inspired by her own



Jarrell Hamilton, a graduate student in the Tulane School of Liberal Arts, performs her own choreography during the Southern Regional Research Center's Caribbean Cultural Heritage Month celebration.  
Tulane University

During the course, Hamilton said she encountered images that inspired her costume design, and she studied the geography, history, music and dance of this region, according to Tulane University.

"As a child growing up in New Orleans, I learned about the spiritual practices of Vodun

and the Lucumí, and I was influenced by these cultures," said Hamilton. "Learning more about them has helped to define my neo-African spiritual identity and movement."

For Dominican Republic musician José Fermín, "The similarities of the festive culture

and carnival, the warmth of the people, and the communal and joyful experience of music are what the Dominican Republic and New Orleans share."

Fermín discussed the traits that merengue shares with zydeco as an example of the reach of the Caribbean in the US Gulf South.

The New Orleans Center for the Gulf South supports researchers, culture-bearers and community members through fellowships, community engagement and the coordinate major musical cultures of the Gulf South, Tulane University said.



# Affleck, Mara co-star in romantic fantasy

**"A Ghost Story"**  
 Good (2 stars)  
 Rated R for brief profanity  
 and a disturbing image  
 Running time: 87 min-  
 utes  
 Production Studio: Zero  
 Trans Fat Productions  
 Distributor: A24



Casey Affleck as C appears as a ghost in "A Ghost Story" directed by David Lowery.

www.rottentomatoes.com

## By Kam Williams

C (Casey Affleck) and M (Rooney Mara) are a non-descript young couple living in a modest ranch house in suburban Texas. Nothing of note transpires between the happily-married lovebirds besides carnal canoodling interrupted by things that go bump in the night.

The next morning, bliss turns to tragedy when he suddenly passes away in a car crash at the mouth of their driveway. Grief-stricken M is summoned to the morgue where she only lingers long enough to identify her husband's body.

But as soon she leaves, mat-

ters enter another dimension when the ghost of C miraculously stands up and walks out of the place under the white sheet covering the corpse. Like a homing pigeon, the disembodied spirit proceeds to make his way back to his humble abode, deliberately traipsing across a rolling, verdant field

to take the most direct route.

By the way, C's flowing white linen covering (with a couple of eyeholes conveniently poked out) has somehow been rendered invisible to the naked eye. This ghost is mute, so there's no "Honey, I'm home!" when he literally walks through the door.

M mourns, oblivious of C's ethereal presence, despite his hovering over her obsessively. He might be frustrated by his inability to make contact. Or he might just want to protect. It's hard to tell, since he never talks. Then, when she vacates the premises, he stays behind, and starts to spook

the new residents, as if scaring them away might bring his wife back.

Thus unfolds *A Ghost Story*, a pretentious speculation on loss from the perspective of the dearly departed. The tortoise-paced production might be best described as a series of stark, shadowy tableaux, like an Edward Hopper painting come to life.

The picture was written and directed by David Lowery (*Pete's Dragon*), and co-stars a couple of consummate thespians in Oscar-winner Casey Affleck (for *Manchester by the Sea*) and two-time nominee Rooney Mara (for *Carol* and *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo*). The pair's considerable talents are underutilized, here, since Casey's hidden under a Halloween costume 90% of the time, and Rooney's character disappears about halfway through the movie.

Though Casey is earnest in his attempt to convey a range of emotions from under the sheet, ultimately, it's the cinematic equivalent of watching a little kid try to fight his way out of a paper bag.

## Independent & Foreign Films

### Battle Scars (Unrated)

Post war drama about a veteran's (Zane Holtz) attempt to readjust to civilian life after suffering devastating physical and psychic wounds during a tour of duty in Afghanistan. Featuring Ryan Eggold, Jamal Woolard and Heather McComb.

**Birthright: A War Story (Unrated)** Women's reproductive rights are the subject of this documentary examining the effort to repeal Roe v.Wade.

**Blind (R for profanity, sexual references and brief drug use)** Romance drama about a blind widower (Alec Baldwin) who having a risky love affair with the wife (Demi Moore) of a powerful, white-collar criminal (Dylan McDermott) temporarily imprisoned for insider trading. With Eden Epstein, Viva Bianca and Dorothy Liman.

**Bronx Gothic (Unrated)** Reverential biopic about Okwui Okpokwasili and her autobiographical, one-woman play about coming-of-age black and female in New York in the Eighties.

**Chasing Coral (Unrated)** Climate change documentary featuring divers' time-lapse photography as well as scientists exploring why the world's coral reefs are disappearing at an alarming rate.



## Kam's Kapsules

By Kam Williams

**Lady Macbeth (R for profanity, sexuality, frontal nudity and disturbing violence)** Adaptation of Nikolai Leskov's classic novel, set in the 19th Century, about a miserably-married teenager (Florence Pugh) who cheats on her rich, sadistic husband twice her age (Paul Hilton) with one of the servants (Cosmo Jarvis). With Christopher Fairbank, Naomi Ackie and Anton Palmer.

**To the Bone (Unrated)** Fact-based drama about a 20-year-old anorexic (Lily Collins) who enters a rehab clinic run by a physician (Keanu Reeves) with an unorthodox bedside manner. Cast includes Carrie Preston, Liana Liberato and Brooke Smith.

### BIG BUDGET FILMS

**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.

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# SPORTS

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Indian cricket captain Virat Kohli bats on the third day of the first cricket test match between India and England in Rajkot, India, Friday, Nov. 11, 2016.

Associated Press / Rafiq Maqbool, File

## Double blow for West Indies

By Azad Ali

It was a double blow for West Indies cricket teams as both the senior West Indies men were humbled by India in the five-match One-Day Internationals losing 3-1. At Sabina Park, Jamaica, while in the ICC Women's World Cup in England, the women slumped to their fourth straight defeat by the same margin to end their interest in their tournament.

West Indies men entered the final ODI on a high having defeated India in  
Continued on Page 46

## Simmons bids for coaching job

By Azad Ali

Former West Indies coach Phil Simmons is among several contenders for the post of India's coach.

Simmons, 54, who has in recent months served as coaching consultant to Afghanistan, joins the likes of Indian Ravi Shastri and Virender Sehwag along with Australian Tom Moody and Cricket West Indies' former director of cricket, Englishman Richard Pybus in the race for the highly regarded position.

Simmons applied during the second round of applications which was initiated by the sudden resignation of incumbent Anil Kumble.

Kumble whose one-year contract was up for renewal, resigned prior to the start of India's ongoing tour of the Caribbean.

Continued on Page 46



# SOCCKER FEVER

Jamaica's Alvas Powell dribbles the ball during a CONCACAF Gold Cup soccer match against Curacao in San Diego, Sunday, July 9, 2017.

Associated Press / Gregory Bull

## CONCACAF Gold Cup opening a hit among soccer lovers

By Patrick Horne

The great thing about the CONCACAF Gold Cup biennial tournaments is the showcasing of live, quality soccer throughout the USA, which means firsthand exposure of the excitement and vigor of the game to millions of soccer lovers across

the country, including the millions of expatriates from countries around the world, and in this situation, particularly fans from Central America and the Caribbean, who will see their national teams on display. Also, very importantly, it gives the U. S. professional league, MLS, a preview for

expansion viability.

Another great benefit of the CONCACAF Gold Cup is the opportunities for player development as young MLS players represent their national teams. As the 2017 CONCACAF Gold Cup competition for regional

Continued on Page 46



# Double blow for West Indies

Continued from Page 45

the fourth game five days ago in Antigua. The first game at the Queen's Park Oval, Port of Spain was abandoned because of rain.

The regional team surprisingly won the third match in Antigua by 11 runs in a low scoring game.

Captain Virat Kohli smashed a century (111) not out to give India victory in the final game at Sabina Park.

It was tough going for the regional men's team when they chose to bat first on a good pitch as they only managed to score 205 off their 50 overs.

The West Indies had earlier failed to capitalize on a strong start as their middle-order batting collapsed yet again and could muster a disappointing 205 for nine off their 50 overs.

The dependable Shai Hope scored 51 of 98 balls, while his older brother Kyle chipped in with 46 off 50 deliveries.

The century was Kohli's 28th in ODIs and a record 18th in run chases. He struck 12 fours and two sixes in a 115-ball knock and added 122 in an unbroken third wicket stand with Dinesh Karthik, who scored an unbeaten 50 from 52 deliveries.

West Indies Women, meanwhile continued at the bottom without a point and ended their hope of making the final four.

After being sent into bat by New Zealand, the Caribbean side was all out for 150 off 43 overs at the Somerset County Ground in Taunton.

## Simmons



Former West Indies' head coach Phil Simmons.

Associated Press / Arnulfo Franco, File

Continued from Page 45

Kumble stood down citing an "untenable" relationship with Captain Virat Kohli.

Simmons spent just over a year in charge of the West Indies, during that time he led them to the Twenty20 World Cup title in India.

He also spent several years overseeing the Ireland and Zimbabwe teams.



El Salvador goalkeeper Benji Villalobos, left, punches the ball during a CONCACAF Gold Cup soccer match against Mexico in San Diego, Sunday, July 9, 2017.

Associated Press / Gregory Bull

# SOCCER FEVER TAKES OVER THE US

Continued from Page 45

supremacy among nations from Central America, the Caribbean and North America unfolded last weekend, Friday, July 7, quality soccer came to three United States cities, and by tournament's end on July 26, fans in 14 United States cities and millions more on television would have experienced the fervor and creativity of the game. Also, 51 players from 18 MLS teams would have represented their countries, with an eye for playing in the 2018 World Cup in Russia.

The excitement began at a sold out, 30,000 capacity Red Bull Arena (Harrison, NJ) on Friday night with a Group A double header when Canada defeated debutants French Guiana, 4-2, and in the nightcap, amidst a deafening and electric atmosphere created by fans, Costa Rica got past Honduras in a masterful game as both teams, inspired by their supporters, played one of the most exciting Gold Cup games.

The excitement started well before Honduras and Costa Rica took the field to renew their on-going Central American rivalry. Thousands of Hondurans started their deafening chants of "Honduras, "Honduras", "Honduras" while

they waved the blue and white national flags from every corner of the stadium; not to be outdone, the Costa Ricans had their say as they countered with chants of "Costa Rica, "Costa Rica", Costa Rica" as blue and red flags swirled in the warm stadium air. The frenzied atmosphere continued throughout the match, peaking at near misses and disputed referees calls and rising to a tremendous crescendo when Costa Rica's Marco Urena scored the only goal of the game in the 39th minute off an assist from Rodney Wallace; the two MLS players connected for the Costa Rica victory. Urena plays for the San Jose Earthquakes and Wallace for local team, New York City FC. The defeat for Honduras was harsh since it was the better team for most of the game.

The Canada-French Guiana game had its moments as well. As the more experienced Canadians forge ahead, 3-0, in the 60th minute, it seemed that the French were out of it, but a brief shower gave the Frenchmen life as the debutants scored twice in three minutes when Roy Contout connected with a wonderful header off a corner kick in the 69th minute and Sloan Privat, in a crowded Canadian goal area, poked

the ball over the goal line at the 71st minute to narrow the lead to a goal, 3-2; but the teenage sensation from Canada, Alphonso Davies, who also plays for the Vancouver Whitecaps of MLS, scored his second goal on the night in the 86th from a breakaway, as he beat the on-rushing French goalkeeper, Donovan Leon, to secure the win for Canada.

Davies is the talk of the tournament so far; at 16 years old, he is the youngest player to score in Gold Cup history and the first player, worldwide, born after 2000 to score in a full international game. Davies, of Nigerian descent, is also the youngest Canadian to score for the national team. MLS players scored seven of the 17 goals scored in all the weekend games.

In other opening weekend contests, witnessed by sell-out crowds, Group B play saw the USA and Panama played to a 1-1 draw, while Martinique defeated Nicaragua, 2-0, both games at Nissan Stadium in Nashville, Tennessee. In Group C at Qualcomm Stadium in San Diego, Mexico topped El Salvador, 3-1, and Jamaica bettered Curacao, 2-0. A good CONCACAF Gold Cup opening for soccer fans throughout the country and the MLS and its players.



# Run the world: Clara Barton grad ready for next challenge

By Laura Amato

He's got his sights set on the finish line — and he'll race anyone to get there.

Clara Barton grad Ronaldo Griffiths has been running for as long as he can remember. Now, the award-winning hurdler is anxious to take the next step — onto the track at Mississippi State University.

"When I put up the times that I have, I'm confident," said Griffiths, who won the Wingate Award in boys outdoor track last month. "The first time I ran [the hurdles in 52 seconds], I was kind of stunned because I was only a freshman. My first thought was, just imagine what I can do when I get to my senior year."

Griffiths was nothing short of unstoppable throughout his high-school career. He racked up victories in the 400-meter hurdles this spring, posting first-place finishes at both the city championship and the Mayor's Cup tournaments, and also picking up a city title in

the 110-meter hurdles.

Griffiths set the citywide standard in hurdles during his career, but he's quick to point out that distance running — not hurdling — was his first track and field choice.

"I was a distance runner, but I saw the hurdles and it looked fun and I wanted to do it," he said. "We started with some lower heights until we got up to the competitive ones and then I progressed throughout my middle school years and took it serious in high school."

Griffiths began competing in the 400-meter hurdles as a freshman — picking up a city championship award with a 53.28 finish that outdoor season — and discovered he could combine his love of distance with his natural ability for sprinting in a single event.

"I took my distance technique and my hurdling technique ... and kind of combined them together," he said. "I just figured out that was the perfect race for me."

Griffiths, who was born in Jamaica but moved to East New York when he was just 6 years old, has his sights set on international competition. He ran in the Caribbean Free Trade Association Games in Jamaica this past March, posting a 51.92 finish in the 400-meter hurdles. That time shattered the previous record by a Public Schools Athletic League runner — Boys & Girls High School sprinter Frank Mensah's 52.58 finish in 1992, and, Griffiths hopes, opened the eyes of the international track and field community to his talents.

"That was a good debut internationally," he said of his 51.92 time. "It showed a lot of people that I can do good stuff on the track, even though I'm from the city. A lot of people don't expect that [from New York City athletes]."

Griffiths is keeping his options — hopeful he'll be Olympic-bound in 2020 — but first, he's ready to take on collegiate competition.



Outrunning the competition: Former Clara Barton track star Ronaldo Griffiths, pictured with his mother Natalee Doyley, wrapped up his high-school career with a Wingate Award last month.

Photo by Robert Cole

"I don't know how far I can go," he said. "This is just the beginning. My parents always ask where all this determination comes from, and who knows? I just want to keep running."

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# 'Enact change through action' says Sen. Persaud

By Tangerine Clarke

NYS Sen. Roxanne J. Persaud, called on guests at her recent fundraising brunch, to get involved in their community to affect change. "People should not sit back in their homes and say 'I can't affect change,' unless they join their block association, community board, or become familiar with their local precinct, urged the lawmaker.

The Democrat, whose 19th Senate District encompasses parts of Canarsie, East New York, Brownsville, Mill Basin, and Sheepshead Bay, Bergen, told a wide-cross-section of Caribbean nationals, and district residents, that Kings Plaza is a fitting example of how change could come about through action, after the community advocated for the years-old shopping center to conform to the community's growing development.

The sunny spring day, and the backdrop of Mill Basin lake off family owned restaurant Nick's Lobster House on Flatbush, were perfect for donors to relax, eat, and talk politics, while supporting the senator

who thanked CEO of Rhythm Nation Entertainment, Dimple Willabus, for hosting that brunch. The politician reminded friends that Willabus was a great help in her senate office campaign efforts.

"We always ask people to help us because this is a way for us to continue our work in the community. Campaigning does not come cheap," she added.

Senator Roxanne J. Persaud, who supports "Raise the Age" and any initiative that would enable young people to create positive change, stating, "If we say that we care about the next generation then we must make a distinctive, commitment to ensure our policies for young people are not only transformative but sustainable," - brought attention to the dysfunctional politics in Washington.

"We see what is happening in Washington so it's really important, that we do the work on the ground, and make sure the community is informed, so they get the services they need."

Attended by Hon. Justice Ingrid Joseph, acting supreme

court Justice, Civil Court of the City of New, Hon. Barbara Atherly, consul general of Guyana to New York, and Alan Maisel, council member (D) District 46, Brooklyn — the event was just one of such fundraising initiatives the politician said is welcomed, but at all times, be organized through her campaign manager, Amar Dyal.

Persaud can be contacted through her website [www.roxannepersaud.com](http://www.roxannepersaud.com) or by messaging [persaud@nysenate.gov](mailto:persaud@nysenate.gov) since all donations and fundraising events are vetted.

She encouraged guests including Sherif Fraser, district manager CBC 17 Brooklyn, Consuelo Mallafré Meléndez "Connie" candidate for judge, Kings County Civil Court, Pastor Ellsworth Chester, and friends alike to also support community businesses such as Nick's Lobster House, and thanked everyone for their support.

Dimple Willabus said it was her 10-year-old daughter, Anaya Willabus who suggested Rhythm Nation Entertainment (RNE) host the event for



NYS Sen. Roxanne J. Persaud, Acting Supreme Court Justice Ingrid Joseph, and Guyana Consul General to New York, Hon. Barbara Atherly. Photo by Tangerine Clarke

Sen. Persaud, since the youth is actively involved in her community. She is a member of Thomas Jefferson Club, and the Civic Association of Brooklyn.

"Since starting (RNE) back in Guyana 21 years ago, and now hosting events in New York, it is important to be active in your community, and I include my children in activities that would benefit them and their community, as well," said the CEO.

"Anaya wants to make sure

younger children also give back to their community. Even though they are not eligible to vote, they should be aware of what's taking place in their community, and should have a voice."

Willabus added that the Rhythm Nation brand wanted to host the fundraising brunch to show other residents they could also rally for an elected official who is working hard in the community on behalf of citizens.

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**ARIES: Mar 21/Apr 20**  
Aries, you may need to make some modifications to your strategy as a situation continues to evolve. Don't be afraid of change, as it is necessary to get the job done.

**TAURUS: Apr 21/May 21**  
It can be difficult to separate facts from the fiction, Taurus. However, you generally are a good lie detector. Put your skills to use to determine if someone is stringing you along.

**GEMINI: May 22/Jun 21**  
Gemini, some shocking information may find you reeling if you do not stay grounded. Although it comes as a surprise, with some processing you will be able to handle it.

**CANCER: Jun 22/Jul 22**  
Cancer, address a potentially mess situation before it gathers too much steam. Communication is all that's needed to ensure cooler heads ultimately prevail.

**LEO: Jul 23/Aug 23**  
Leo, allow your plans for self-improvement to take center stage, especially true if you have put them on the shelf for some time. Make yourself a priority.

**VIRGO: Aug 24/Sept 22**  
Virgo, you don't tend to be reckless, but even you can surprise others sometimes with your behavior. Let the tongues wag if it means stepping out of your comfort zone.

**LIBRA: Sept 23/Oct 23**  
Libra, take others' candor with a grain of salt. They might just be blowing off steam and they will appreciate having someone there who listens.

**SCORPIO: Oct 24/Nov 22**  
Scorpio, you sometimes have a sarcastic sense of humor that makes you loved by some and disliked by others. Explain to the latter group that you mean no harm.

**SAGITTARIUS: Nov 23/Dec 21**  
Sagittarius, a possible breakthrough in your communication levels may open up a whole new world. This can only improve your relationships and help your career.

**CAPRICORN: Dec 22/Jan 20**  
Capricorn, you're very good at balancing the elements of your life. This week may be especially challenging as many things come your way in rapid succession.

**AQUARIUS: Jan 21/Feb 18**  
Aquarius, others may seem sure about their actions even if you feel lost. Don't put too much stock in it, as everyone copes with self-doubt from time to time.

**PISCES: Feb 19/Mar 20**  
Some of your beliefs are non-negotiable, Pisces. This can make for some rather heated conversations. But you're up to the challenge.



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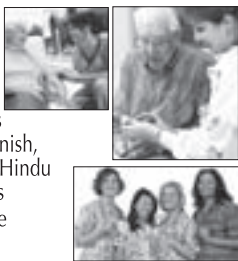
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**NOTICE OF SALE**  
SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF KINGS  
Aurora Loan Services, LLC, Plaintiff AGAINST  
Chauncey Spencer; Sandra Spencer;  
Xspence Properties, LLC; et al., Defendant(s)  
Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated May 17, 2017 I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Room 224, Brooklyn, NY 11201 on August 10, 2017 at 2:30PM, premises known as 530 Hegeman Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11207. All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of NY, Block 4322 Lot 7. Approximate amount of judgment \$735,496.28 plus interest and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index# 7374/09. Lee M. Huttner, Esq., Referee  
Shapiro, DiCaro & Barak,

➤ LEGAL

LLC Attorney(s) for the Plaintiff 175 Mile Crossing Boulevard Rochester, New York 14624 (877) 759-1835 Dated: June 30, 2017 47171  
**NOTICE OF SALE**  
Supreme Court County Of Kings  
HSBC Bank USA, National Association as Trustee for the Holders of Nomura Home Equity Loan, Inc., Home Equity Loan Trust, Series 2007-1, Plaintiff AGAINST  
Esteban Fernandez, et al, Defendant  
Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale duly dated 6/9/2014 and entered on 6/17/2014, I, the undersigned Referee, will sell at public auction at the Kings County Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, NY on August 10, 2017 at 02:30 PM premises known as 576 Williams Avenue Brooklyn, NY 11207. All that certain plot piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough and County of Kings, City

➤ LEGAL

and State of New York, BLOCK: 3835, LOT: 41. Approximate amount of judgment is \$951,129.04 plus interests and costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment Index # 45711/07.  
Steven Richman, Referee  
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➤ PUBLIC NOTICE

**The Board of Trustees** of Hebrew Language Academy Charter School 2 will meet on Tuesday, July 18 at 6 PM at Hebrew Language Academy located at 2186 Mill Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11234. Those who wish to attend in Manhattan may do so via video conference at Hebrew Public located at 555 8th Avenue, Suite 1703, New York, 10018. The meeting is open to the public.



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