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Aug. 25-Aug. 31, 2017

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GUIDE TO Carnival

INCLUDES

- *West Indian American Day Carnival Parade launch*
- *Things to do*
- *Complete Rules and Guidelines*
- *And More!*



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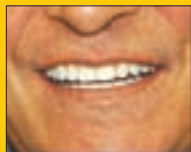
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DR. SITKI MURAT DOGUS Prosthodontist, is a Clinical Instructor, Albert Einstein College of Medicine and Montefiore Medical Center, NY.
DR. DANIEL GREENBAUM Board Certified Prosthodontist, with advanced training in implantology and periodontology. DDS Degree from Columbia University College of Dental Medicine in NY.

WIADCA launches 50th anniversary of Caribbean Carnival

By Nelson A. King

The colors, pageantry and sound of Caribbean Carnival were fully on display last Thursday, as the West Indian American Day Carnival Association (WIADCA) launched its 50th anniversary celebration of Caribbean Carnival Week in New York.

Masqueraders from a number of mas camps, as well as carnival lovers, officials and area politicians, converged on the Brooklyn Children's Museum for the grand celebration, held under the theme, "From a Dream to a Legacy."

"It's good that we got to the 50th anniversary," costume-clad Trinidadian Kay Mason, described as the "Queen of Labor Day Carnival," told Caribbean Life among the gaiety.

"I want to thank WIADCA for their organization over the years," added Mason, who won WIADCA's Carnival Queen nine times and

was five times "Queen of the Bands" in Trinidad and Tobago Carnival.

"It's a milestone to bring this culture together, so we can celebrate," continued Mason, representing perennial West Indian American Day Carnival Parade's Band the Year Champions Sesame Flyers, who was honored by WIADCA in April.

Other mas bands represented included Detailz Mas, Antoine International, Amezilia Costumes and Diamond Entertainment.

"This is my first year; and, so far, so good," said Giselle Thomas, the Trinidadian designer of Amezilia Costumes. "It's very interesting."

Brooklyn Congresswoman Yvette D. Clarke, perhaps, spoke for the Caribbean community in New York, stating that it was "important that we stand with pride."

Later, in her brief remarks, she led the audience to a chant of "Get

out the Vote," while calling for President Donald J. Trump's ouster, with the refrain, "As soon as Possible."

WIADCA's president William Howard assured the effervescent crowd that "you'll have a good time [during the Carnival Parade on Eastern Parkway.

"We'll see you for Labor Day," he said.

The 50th Annual New York Caribbean Carnival Week kicks off on Thursday, Aug. 31, with Reggae Unda Di Stars.

WIADCA said this "funky reggae party" features reggae ambassadors Cocoa Tea, Ghanaian Dancehall Reggae artist, Stonebwoy, and Brooklyn's own Afrobeat songstress, WUNMI, performing popular hits, such as She Loves Me Now, FYAH, My Name, Come from Far and Fit Body.

Stephen "Ragga" Marley is also expected to appear on Thursday, commemorating his father's [Bob Marley]



Masqueraders on the stage during the carnival launch.

Photo by Nelson A. King

visit to the same Brooklyn stage, where Marley debuted "Uprising," and expressed enthusiasm and support for WIADCA's efforts in bringing the community together by promoting diversity and tolerance through music and culture in NYC," WIADCA said.

The annual Summer Jam: Stay In School Con-

cert & Youth Fest will be featured on Friday, Sept. 1, along with the popular Brass Fest concert later that day, starring soca ambassadors D'All Stars Blaxx; 2017 Party Monarch King Ricardo Drue (Antigua); Teddyson John (St. Lucia); Lyrikal (Trinidad and Tobago); Farmer Nappy (Trinidad and Tobago); 2017 Road

March King, Problem Child (St. Vincent and the Grenadines); Lava-man (Grenada); and 2017 Road March King MX Prime of Ultimate Rejects (Trinidad and Tobago).

Music for the Brass Fest will be furnished by DJ Sounds 4 Life, DJ Starboy Movements and DJ Spice.

Continued on Page A6



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West Indian American Day Carnival Association

Rules & Regulations

NEW YORK CARIBBEAN CARNIVAL PARADE

DATE: Labor Day – Monday,
Sept. 4, 2017
TIME: 8 am to 6 pm
PARADE ROUTE: Eastern Parkway —
Utica Avenue to Grand Army Plaza

1. BAND RULES & REGULATIONS

1.1. **APPLICATION FORMS:** Every Single Group or Band must fill out WIADCA application forms. Acceptance of application forms depend on applicant meeting ALL guidelines and is not guaranteed.

1.2. **REGISTRATION COST:** Registration Fees for bands will be as follows:

ADULT BAND – LARGE -	\$500.00
ADULT BAND – MEDIUM -	\$400.00
ADULT BAND – SMALL -	\$300.00
JUNIOR BAND -	\$300.00
Admission to Brooklyn Museum	\$5.00

1.3. **BAND LEADERS:** will be responsible for the following:

1.3.1. The organization of their respective band on Labor Day

1.3.2. Be at the parade starting point by 9:00 AM

1.3.3. Keeping order in the band along the parade route

1.3.4. Ensuring that only costumed masqueraders enter the reviewing area for judging

1.4. **BANDS:** Trucks or Floats must have Proper Registration and must pass Highway Inspection to enter Parade.

1.4.1. No one (artist/performer) is permitted to ride on top of the truck cabs.

1.4.2. Bands without a permit from WIADCA will not be allowed to participate in the Parade.

1.4.3. Only paid band revellers and properly identified band security and personnel are allowed in costumed bands.

1.4.4. Band Leaders should be prepared to present their permit to the Police or any authorized member of WIADCA upon request.

1.4.5. Band Leaders must ensure the safety of their band members by providing at least 10 Marshals per 100 masqueraders during their participation on the parade route.

1.4.6. Persons accompanying floats may not stop and walk in the opposite direction of the bands.

1.4.7. Band Leaders must take responsibility to ensure that promotional items or otherwise should not be thrown from the truck (e.g. t-shirts, CDs etc.).

1.4.8. Band Leaders must restrict the participation of non-masqueraders.

1.5. **EXCLUDED BANDS:** Artist Trucks, Advertising Trucks & T-Shirt Bands are excluded from Registration by WIADCA.

1.6. **BAND VISITS:** All bands will be visited by WIADCA Officials and NYPD before final registra-

tion.

1.7. **NYPD ESCORT:** NYPD will provide escorts to Parkway to registered bands ONLY!

1.8. **RETURNING BANDS:** Loud music CANNOT be played on STREETS on the way back to Mas Camps!

1.9. **TRAVEL:** Please use Public Transportation. All subways and buses in Brooklyn will connect to the parade area. Vehicles are discouraged — There is NO PARKING in the area.

1.10. **DISQUALIFICATIONS / PENALIZATIONS:** This year there will be a zero tolerance policy for nudity and indecent exposure. Bands will be disqualified and escorted off the parade route for nudity, indecent behavior and exposure by any individual, in or out of any band. NO EXCEPTIONS. Failure to comply with any of the rules stated in this document may result in removal from the Parade.

THERE WILL BE ZERO TOLERANCE FOR NUDITY AND INDECENT EXPOSURE!

NO STRINGS, NO THONGS, NO G-STRINGS, NO FULL BODY PAINT, NO C-CUP (panties) NO WIRES (lower body) HOWEVER, WIRE BRAS UP TO D-CUPS ARE PERMITTED.

1.11. **ALCOHOL:** Absolutely NO Alcoholic Beverages to be sold or carried on parade route.

1.12. SPECTATORS

1.12.1. Spectators are not permitted to enter Parkway Route. No Crossing on Eastern Parkway until there is a gap in the procession of floats and bands. Pedestrian crossing may be allowed at Nostrand,

Continued on Page A5



COMPLEX IMMIGRATION PROBLEMS

1. Are you a skilled, humanitarian or professional or business immigrant (construction, mechanics, artisans, beauty, health care, elder care, child care, religious, non-for-profit etc) that need work permit and or green card?
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3. Have been ordered deported or denied asylum and now married to US Citizen or Green Card holder or have a relative over 21 years?
4. Are you having marital crisis, separation or divorce with your US Citizen or Green Card Spouse?
5. Do you have criminal record affecting your green card or citizenship or immigration status or did you lose your green card to crime and want it back?
6. Are you having Difficulty Removing condition on your 2 - Year Green Card?
7. Are you a parent of U.S. Citizen that needs immigration relief?
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Rules & Regulations

Continued from Page A4

Bedford A4 & Franklin when the flow of the parade allows. Adults must be vigilant of small children at all times.

1.12.2. All non-costumed persons in any band MUST move completely OUT OF THE BANDS before Classon Ave. Only costumed members may be on Stage for Judging

1.12.3. ALL SPECTATORS AND NON-COSTUMED PERSONS MUST STAY BEHIND POLICE BARRICADES AT ALL TIMES!

1.13. IMAGES: WIADCA reserves the right to use the names, images, and mas designs of the COMPETITORS to advertise and promote the future parade. WIADCA reserves the right to record, film, videotape, broadcast, and to transmit via internet the proceedings and performances of the Parade. Acknowledgement of images and mas designs will be made related to the band.

1.14. DISCLAIMER: WIADCA WILL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY INJURIES CAUSED BY PARADE VEHICLES OFF THE PARKWAY AFTER THE PARADE.

1.15. INSURANCE: Each band will be provided a specimen of the Acceptable Insurance Certificate for all trucks and floats that will be participating Labor Day Parade along Eastern Parkway.

1.15.1. All vehicles taking part in the Parade MUST be insured separately with the policy naming WIADCA as co-insured & the City of New York.

1.15.2. Insurance coverage can be purchased at ANY insurance firm; however insurance certificates must be EXACT replica of the specimen provided.

1.15.3. Upon submission of insurance certificates, WIADCA reserves the right to verify coverage with their own insurance company.

1.16. VEHICLES: Trucks or Floats MUST have Proper Registration and MUST PASS Highway Inspection to enter Parade. No one (artist / performer) is permitted to ride on top of the truck cabs.

1.16.1. Floats and all other vehicles must have WIADCA Permits, Registration and (one) day Insurance Stickers to enter Parade Route. New York State Highway Police will be conducting thorough inspections of all vehicles before entry on Parade Route. Inquire ASAP at WIADCA's Office: 323 Rogers Ave., Brooklyn at 718-467-1797.

1.16.2. All vehicles MUST be registered three (3) weeks in advance with Association at 323-325 Rogers Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11225.

1.16.3. Trucks and floats with corporate advertising that are not registered with WIADCA will not be allowed to enter parade route.

1.16.4. Vehicles are to display only the banners which have been approved and authorized by WIADCA.

1.16.5. Band Leaders are allowed a maximum of two (2) vehicles and no

more than one (1) Food truck on the Parkway and no more than 15 adults on that truck during the parade.

1.16.6. Band Leaders and / or drivers MUST NOT allow anyone to ride on the side of their Trucks or Floats. Band Leaders will be held responsible for any injuries caused by such action.

1.17. CONGESTION: Please be mindful of your neighbors! Do NOT block traffic! Do Not PARK in Driveways! Do NOT block Bands on Parade Route & Do Not Jump in other Mas Bands.

1.18. VEHICLE OPERATIONS

- All Operators / Drivers must have valid license to present to Highway Inspectors

- All Vehicles must have valid inspection stickers

- Operator / Driver should have proof of valid insurance

- Brake lights and tail-lights must be clearly visible at all times

- Brake lights shall be in proper working order

- The coupling device (if applicable) must be in proper working order

- All floats and trucks MUST have wheel guards on rear wheels

- Tires should be in good condition

- Vehicle load (speakers) must be safely secured

- No object shall extend past the front, back or sides of the vehicle

- WIADCA & NYPD advise utilizing 18 wheeler low bed trailers

- No flammable liquid may be carried or stored on floats or trailers

- Floats must have protective coverings the length of trailer to cover wheels (front to back)

- Sound truck/floats shall install mirrors that eliminate blind spots around the vehicle.

- Only persons affiliated with the music shall be permitted on any float or sound truck

- No person may board a moving sound truck, float or other parade vehicle

- No person may distribute promotional items from floats or trailers that are either moving or stationary on route

- No one is allowed to "throw" gifts to spectators AT no TIME or PLACE! Anyone doing so will be fined by NYPD

- Children under 16 years old are not permitted on floats

- Safety marshals must be easily identified by wearing distinctive clothing

- All Bands must have adequate number of MARSHALS for BAND SIZE!

- Supply vehicles to maintain a safe distance between themselves and the parade float

- Alcohol consumption is strictly prohibited on trailers and

Continued on Page A6



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Rules & Regulations

WIADCA launches its carnival

Continued from Page A5

parade route

- All Music Trucks must have guards on all wheels, properly secured and have constructed railings that do not obstruct the driver's view

- Load Height — Nothing higher than 13.6 feet from street level will be allowed **NO EXCEPTIONS!**

- To facilitate turning corners, hinged covers are to be built where cab wheels join flatbed trailer

- All truck-cabs must be properly cordoned-off for safety reasons

- Railings built around truck-trays must be strong and secured with specifications as per NYPD and High-way Police

- For safety / security reasons **ONLY** persons relating to music and performances will be allowed on trucks by NYPD

Anyone needing help, contact NYPD personnel wearing Blue Jackets or White Shirts.

2. JUDGING CRITERIA FOR BANDS

2.1. All bands approaching the reviewing area for judging on Labor Day Monday will be allowed a maximum of 3 minutes per section for large bands and 2 mins for medium and small bands, in front of the judges.

2.2. Points will be awarded in 4

Continued on Page A8

Categories:

2.2.1. **IMPACT:** The use of color to enhance, illustrate, and demonstrate the appearance of the costume; blending of colors for ultimate attraction.

2.2.2. **PRESENTATION:** The manner of presentation, movement of the costume, the overall display of entire costume.

2.2.3. **SPIRIT OF CARNIVAL:** This category is self-explanatory. A close observation should be made in this category as the amount of life put into a character can enhance the appearance of the costume.

2.2.4. **MAS ON THE MOVE:** Bands must be on the move in their sections when parading in Front of the Judges.

2.3. Points Awarded:

- Impact 30 points
- Presentation 30 points
- Spirit of Carnival 20 points
- Mas on the Move 20 points

Bands shall display banners identifying the band's presentation. The banner shall also display the band size which is:

ADULT BAND:
S M A L L

Continued from Page A3

The Junior Carnival and Panorama take place on Sat., Sept. 2.

Dimanche Gras finale takes place the next day, featuring The Calypso King of the World, The Mighty Sparrow; Queen Calypso Rose; King David Rudder; Swallow (Antigua); Ras Iley (Barbados); and Dane Gulston steel pan virtuoso, along with the King & Queen of the Bands costume presentations.

"We are blessed to have marked 50 years of Caribbean impact, culture, education, economic contribution, services and carnival in New York State," Howard said. "This year, we celebrate our long-standing partners and welcome new ones that will help sustain this legacy for the next 50 years."

"We look forward to a diverse, inclusive and bright future, as we welcome new members and volunteers from all

walks of life, and celebrate our stalwarts," he added.

The Grand Marshals for the Labor Day Parade are: NY State Assemblyman Nick Perry, representative for the 58th

Community Engagement, Healthfirst); Camille Joseph-Goldman, Vice President for Government Affairs, Charter Communications; and NY State Comptroller Thomas DiNapoli.



Tonia Small (L) portrays "Amazila", and Seanay Vaz portrays "Lacarta" from Detailz Mas.

Photo by Nelson A. King

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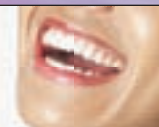
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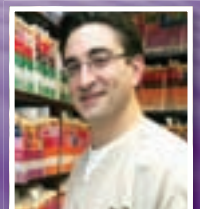
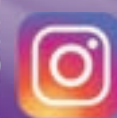
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Rules & Regulations

d) Costume designed & made by

e) Specify tune selection. Any special selection

as the amount of life put into a character can enhance the appearance of the costume.

3.8.3. Creativity & Authenticity: The art of creating an object and displaying inventive skills. In Carnival an imaginative thought expressed in a costume or structure. Authenticity is simply the positive reply to this question. Is the portrayal genuine, true, faithful, reliable or credible in what it is supposed to represent.

3.8.4. Presentation: The manner in which the character is presented to the judges as it goes across the judging point. The effect here is to establish a relationship to the theme and the impact it creates to the judges and spectators.

3.9. The show starts promptly at 7 pm on Sunday.

3.10. COMPETITORS WILL BE CALLED THREE (3) TIMES BY WIADCA OFFICIAL TO APPEAR AND PERFORM ON STAGE. FAILURE TO RESPOND AND LINE UP WILL RESULT IN AUTOMATIC DISQUALIFICATION AND THE AUDIENCE WILL BE ADVISED ACCORDINGLY.

3.11. JUDGING: Judging will take place on the Sunday before Labor Day at 7 pm at the Brooklyn Museum Grounds. Contestants must be in their positions no later than 6:30 pm so that the judges can view their costumes prior to presentation on stage.

3.12. The Criteria for Judging of COMPETITORS will be as follows:

- Color and Impact 30 points
- Spirit of Carnival 30 points
- Creativity / Authenticity 20 points
- Presentation 20 points

ADDENDUM to rules - 2016

1. DISQUALIFICATIONS/PENALIZATIONS: This year there will be a zero tolerance policy for nudity and indecent exposure. Bands will be disqualified and escorted off the parade route for nudity, indecent behavior and exposure by any individual, in or out of any band. NO EXCEPTIONS. Failure to comply with any of the rules stated in this document may result in removal from the Parade.

tion should be presented on a CD and given to the DJ one hour (1) in advance.

3.4. All registration must be completed by Aug. 12, 2017.

3.5. There will be NO REGISTRATION on the night of the COMPETITION.

3.6. The costume from one competition cannot be used or adjusted with minor changes such as: additions of fabric or pieces added, to compete in another category of WIADCA competition within the same year.

3.7. All costumes entering the WIADCA competitions will be subject to inspection (screening) at the pre-judging on the grounds of the museum prior to being judged on stage. At the pre-judging digital recordings or photos will be taken of each costume so that costumes can be reviewed by the judges prior to their appearance on stage. These measures are taken to ensure fair competition for all competitors and a smooth, rapid flow of costumes across the stage. Any deviation or repetition of any costumes or parts of costumes from the images taken are subject to deduction in points or disqualification of competitor.

3.8. CRITERIA & DEFINITION

3.8.1. Color & Impact: An appropriate and pleasing blend of colors, which is relevant to the particular portrayal of the colors displayed, must tell a story. Purists in the world of art contend that black and white are not colors. In the contest of Carnival, black and white are accepted as colors in the same way that for example, red, yellow, and blue are. Throughout the sense of sight, the object viewed seeks to create an impression. It evokes a reaction and it makes up a degree of appreciation and admiration. It may be akin to "love at first sight," the intensity of which is not so much analytical as it is sensory.

3.8.2. Spirit of Carnival: This category is self-explanatory. A close observation should be made in this category

ADULT BAND:

SMALL.....	1 to 150 players
MEDIUM.....	151 to 200 players
LARGE.....	201 and over players

3. ADULT KINGS & QUEENS; MALE & FEMALE INDIVIDUALS

3.1. COMPETITION RULES: The COMPETITOR agrees to appear at the appropriate show sponsored by WIADCA and to perform, compete under, and be bound by the following rules, and to comply with all instructions given by the Stage Manager or an authorized member of WIADCA concerning the presentation of the show in which the COMPETITOR takes part.

3.2. IMAGES: WIADCA reserves the right to use the names, images, and mas designs of the COMPETITORS to advertise and promote the future competitions. WIADCA reserves the right to record, film, videotape, broadcast, and to transmit via internet the proceedings and performances of the Competition. Acknowledgement of images and mas designs will be made related to the band

3.3. REGISTRATION

Registration shall commence on Wednesday, July 5, and continue thru Wednesday, Aug. 2, 2017 (10 am – 4 pm) at 325 Rogers Ave., Brooklyn. Late registration will not be accepted.

3.3.1. All information must be clearly written and submitted in block letters on the registration form. The categories are as follow:

- a) Name of Mas Player
- b) Name of Band
- c) Name of the Costume, portrayal and a brief description

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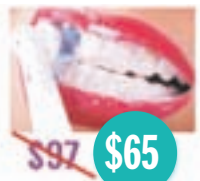
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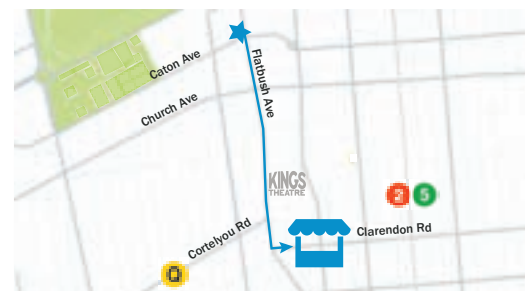
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Mayor Bill DeBlasio, second from right, NYPD Commissioner James O'Neill, right, and other officials discuss the city's plans for increased security at the J'Ouvert pre-West Indian Day Carnival parade. Keith Getter, File

Increased security measures for J'Ouvert

By Nelson A. King

New York City officials and J'Ouvert organizers on Monday announced enhanced parade security measures for the 2017 Caribbean J'Ouvert Celebration, which takes place on Monday, Sept. 4 at 6 am in the Crown Heights section of Brooklyn.

The announcement was made at a press conference Monday at the Brooklyn Public Library by New York City

Mayor Bill de Blasio, the New York Police Department (NYPD), the Mayor's Office of Criminal Justice, J'Ouvert City International, organizers of the Caribbean J'Ouvert, and elected officials.

"J'Ouvert is one of the most vibrant and passionate celebrations of culture in our great city, and it is incumbent upon all of us to make this year's festivities peaceful and enjoyable for everyone," said

de Blasio, whose wife, Chirlane McCray, traces her roots to Barbados and St. Lucia.

"I commend the parade organizers, New York Police Department and my colleagues in government for coalescing to come up with a sound plan to make this year's J'Ouvert the safest ever," the mayor added.

Noting that J'Ouvert is a celebration of Caribbean cul-

Continued on Page 3

CASH FOR TRAVEL PERMIT

OECS body to govern Citizenship by Investment Program

By Bert Wilkinson

The nine-nation Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) will establish an umbrella body to oversee the highly controversial but cash-providing foreign dollars for local passport scheme arguing that it is better to harmonize the system than have individual islands do their own thing with all the global controversy swirling around it.

Antiguan Prime Minister Gaston Browne said this week that the time had come for a comprehensive review of the system given major hiccups in various countries about the Citizenship by Investment Program (CIP) where foreigners pay or invest specified sums to obtain a local passport and citizenship.

Several western nations have complained about the inability of the smaller nations to properly scrutinize the backgrounds

of some of those applying as it has turned out that many have done so to escape criminal prosecutions back home.

Grenada, Dominica, Antigua, St. Kitts and St. Lucia all have active CIP schemes in place with applicants paying or investing up to \$3M in real estate or other programs in the region in exchange for passports and citizenship awards. The fees in some countries are drastically lower.

"We have held discussions with the various leaders within the OECS, and they have all agreed it's now for the technicians to put the logistics together to ensure there is full cooperation and harmonization going forward," Browne told the local Observer Newspaper. "These things do not happen overnight, and when you are dealing with like five different countries, it will take

Continued on Page 3

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Calls for a Marcus Garvey Square

By Dawn Plummer

The Jamaica Progressive League is calling for the renaming of the Williams Bridge Square to be known as Marcus Garvey Square, which is located at the junction of the Gun Hill and White Plains roads.

On Saturday, Aug. 19 in the Bronx, New York, there was a rededication and recommitment for the Marcus Garvey legacy to be reignited.

The League is seeking petitions from residents to have the area called the Marcus Garvey Square, with full signage at all corners of the square. President of the Bronx based, Jamaica Progressive League, Sadie Campbell, said the impact Garvey's work has on Black people and the oppressed in the world are reasons why the Jamaica Progressive League seeks this change, that the William Bridge Square should be renamed. In addition, times have changed she noted and "the community is now strongly Caribbean and African American so let it be a reflection of us." Campbell stated in her opening remarks to those who gathered for the event at the Williams Bridge Square.

Marcus Mosiah Garvey was certainly one of the most influential persons of his time. He was a Pan Africanist who believed in education for the Black race across the globe. Marcus Garvey also established the Universal Negro Improvement Association (UNIA) which is dedicated to racial pride and economic-self reliance, an organization which still functions. Now, after the hundred and thirtieth year of his birth, in St. Ann, Jamaica, several people are calling for the rekindling of his work and that his legacy should continue.

Also participating were some Bronx state and New York City officials which included Bronx NY state Senator, Jamaal Bailey, who commended the idea as an excellent one and sees the



From left holding sign, Bronx NY State Senator, Jamaal Bailey; Danielle Jones, Bronx Community Outreach Representative in the Office of NY State Comptroller, Thomas DiNapoli; Sadie Campbell, president, Jamaica Progressive League and Brian Milford, special assistant to Bronx City Councilman, Andy King.

Danielle Jones

move as being vibrant for the community. He called for the support of the petition, acknowledging that it is a step in helping to establish the Marcus Garvey Square. "Set the trend to get the next generation involved. Nothing that is reflective of us is in the community the signage would be a reminder to us of Garvey's work and legacy," Senator Bailey announced.

Brian Milford, special assistant to Bronx City Councilman, Andy King rep-

resenting the 12th District, also pleaded to the community residents to sign the petition. "The signage is needed to help propel the work of Marcus Garvey," he said. Milford added, "the education on the work of Marcus Garvey should continue especially for the young" Milford noted. Danielle Jones, representative from the office of the New York State Comptroller, Tom DiNapoli was also in attendance and endorsed the call for the signage for a Marcus Garvey Square.



Mayor Bill DeBlasio, second from right, NYPD Commissioner James O'Neill, right, and other officials discuss the city's plans for increased security at the J'Ouvert pre-West Indian Day Carnival parade.

Office of the Mayor

J'Ouvert security

Continued from Page 1

ture, Commissioner James P. O'Neill said the NYPD is committed to making it safe for all.

"That's why, in addition to providing these enhanced security measures and additional public safety resources, we've been strengthening our partnerships with the community, elected officials, other city agencies and other stakeholders," he said. "Each of us has the ability to make J'Ouvert safer and more enjoyable, and together we're so much stronger."

In past years, the J'Ouvert parade, which precedes the massive West Indian American Day Carnival Parade on Brooklyn's sprawling Eastern Parkway, started at 4 am.

But the decision to step off this year's parade two hours later, at 6 am was a "joint, strategic judgment" made by the parade's organizers and permit holders — J'Ouvert City International — and the NYPD in an effort to reduce the potential for violence, according to the Mayor's Office.

This year, the formation area and parade route will close to the general public the night before the parade.

Hundreds of additional uniformed officers — an increase of more than 10 percent over last year — will provide security at 12 secure entry points and along the two-mile parade route.

Both parade participants and spectators will be screened for weapons and alcoholic beverages. In addition, backpacks and other large bags will be prohibited, the NYPD said.

Organizers said each entry point will be outfitted with light towers to increase safety and facilitate the ease of entry.

Additional light towers — representing a total increase of about 30 percent over last year — will be placed along the parade route.

The NYPD said it will also deploy additional high-resolution security cameras this year.

O ECS to oversee citizenship by investment program

Continued from Page 1

some time to materialize."

The Caribbean program took a tremendous hit several times this year especially when CBS's famed 60 Minutes program took a comprehensive look at the CIP. It was particularly embarrassing when Dominican Opposition Leader Lennox Linton said that applicants to his country's program "do not have to even set foot" on the island but could apply electronically. Many have also never even visited Dominica but travel on national passports and are citizens, eligible to live anywhere in the bloc of nations which allow for free movement of Caribbean nationals.

PM Browne, who was also featured on the 60 Minutes program says that a position paper is being drawn up at

the moment and the OECS will meet in the very near future and make a determination on the way forward.

The Democratic National Alliance (DNA), a small party in Antigua planning to compete in general elections expected in early 2019, had suggested that authorities should proceed with a regional commission to govern the CIP, especially because some of the newer entrants the program have been reducing the minimum dollar investment ceiling to attract clients. 'Others like Antigua itself have reduced processing fees by up to 50 percent to make it easier and more attractive for foreigners to apply.

"The CIP remains a vexing issue for a majority of the public, yet the government has refused to listen to our concerns and recommendations," said DNA Leader Joanne Massiah. "The

DNA views the purported justification for the markdown as nothing more than the government's ongoing practice to deceive the country. "It heightens suspicion as to why the government operates the CIP program with so much secrecy that is eventually exposed."

Of the major OECS nations, St. Vincent and the Grenadines under four-term Prime Minister Ralph Gonsalves has steadfastly refused to sign on, saying island citizenship is not for sale.

Many of the governments participating in the scheme have at one time or the other been forced to pull back passports and revoke citizenship of a few holders as these have run into problems with police once they land in other jurisdictions with state of the art criminal data base systems.

Antigua

The Antigua-based regional airline LIAT plans to introduce an airport passenger facilitation fee for international flights from the Eugene F Correia International Airport from next month.

In a statement, the airline said that its newly-appointed CEO, Julie Reifer-Jones led a delegation to Guyana for talks with the Director General of the Guyana Civil Aviation Authority, Lieutenant Colonel Egbert Field and representatives of Ogle Airport Inc. "to discuss concerns relating to the airport passenger facilitation fee which LIAT passengers are required to pay for the use of facilities at the Eugene F. Correia International Airport."



The statement said that the fee (which was not disclosed) "is being charged to LIAT" and the parties "agreed that an airport passenger facilitation fee is normal and legitimate airport charge to the passenger and that, IATA's (International Air Transport Association) approval, effective Sept. 1, 2017, this fee will be included in the LIAT ticket price."

The statement said the fee "will appear on the LIAT ticket for any booking on LIAT international flights departing Guyana from the Eugene F Correia International Airport."

Grenada

The Grenada government is looking to develop a new national export strategy that it hopes will provide new markets for existing exports, maintaining the focus on sustainability while expanding exports.



Trade Minister Oliver Joseph said that the strategy, which will cover the period 2017-2021, is aimed at establishing a competitive export sector focused on a mixed of quality high value goods and service for the sustainable development of the island.

He said the strategy is expected to improve Grenada's trade balance and its ranking in export, despite the country's small scale production.

The minister also hopes that the island's import bill would be reduced significantly by the time the strategy is reviewed.

In 2016, Grenada's total export of goods and services amounted to US\$650.5 million while total imports were estimated at US\$1.145 billion.

Guyana

Guyana's gold production is boom-



Carifesta opens in Barbados

A Guyanese tiger leads a rainforest display during the opening of the Caribbean Festival of the Arts in Barbados. See story on Page 18

Photo by George Alleyne

ing so far for this year and the South American country is well on track to meeting its target for 2017, according to industry experts.

Officials of the Guyana Gold Board (GGB) say just in seven months in the year, more than 360,000 ounces of gold have been produced, earning more than US\$450 million in revenue.

Figures released show that as of July 31, 2017, a total of 367,861 ounces had been declared.

This, officials say puts the country well on track to meeting its target of 700,000 ounces of gold and already surpasses last year's output of 600,000 ounces.

The Ministry of Natural Resources and the GGB have attributed the strong performance to recent measures implemented by the government to boost production and export levels.

Haiti

Haitian legislators have banned same-sex marriages as well as all forms of public demonstrations in support of homosexuality.

The Senate recently approved the measures that include sanctions and specifies that perpetrators, accomplices of homosexual marriages face a penalty of three years imprison-

ment and a fine of US\$5,000.

The bill, in addition to prohibiting marriage, or attempted marriage between two persons, also includes foreigners on Haitian territory to solicit the celebration in Haiti of a marriage between two persons of the same sex.

The bill must now go to the Lower House for debate before being sent to the executive for publication in the official newspaper.

Jamaica

Jamaica's Health Minister Dr. Christopher Tufton has urged members of the Diaspora to support a new \$46 million medical facility to be built on the compound of the Cornwall Regional Hospital in the western city of Montego Bay.

Speaking to delegates attending the recent Diaspora 55 conference, he said the 220-bed medical facility will provide specialist services for children and adolescent.

The minister also called on them to support the expansion of the Bustamante Hospital for Children in the Corporate Area to include a cardio-care facility aimed at increasing the number of surgeries administered to youngsters up to the

age of 12, from 50 to 250 per year.

Dr. Tufton said the development of the hospital in Montego Bay is being supported by the government of China, which has signed off on the project in tandem with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade.

He said the Chinese government has also promised it will provide some of the center's equipment.

St. Lucia

The St. Lucia Citizenship by Investment Board has appointed Nestor Alfred to the post of chief executive officer of the Citizenship by Investment Unit, as of Monday, Aug. 8, 2017.

Alfred brings to the Citizenship program his vast experience as a regulator within the financial services and his expertise in the areas of anti-money laundering and combating the financing of terrorism.

Prior to his appointment, his former roles include executive director of the Gaming Authority; financial management consultant; senior executive with the Eastern Caribbean Financial Holding Group and assistant comptroller of Inland Revenue St. Lucia.

Continued on Page 16

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A Guyanese hero in America



Deputy Inspector Deodat Urprasad, commanding officer of the 102nd NYPD Precinct in Queens, being presented with a proclamation from Public Advocate Letitia James.

Photo by Tangerine Clarke

By **Tangerine Clarke**

Guyanese-born, Deputy Inspector Deodat Urprasad is soft spoken, but his presence in the New York City Police Department is a powerful reminder that it does not matter where you come from, your contribution could leave an indelible mark on the lives you touch every day.

Just recently, Urprasad who is the commanding officer of the 102nd Precinct in Richmond Hill, Queens was presented with two awards, within two weeks. He received the Legacy Award from the Queens Tribune, and later Public Advocate Letitia James presented the officer with a Caribbean Heritage Month Proclamation in recognition of his outstanding work in the community.

A long time resident of Queens, the officer said he was humbled by the recognition he received for his work in the community, but added that creating lasting bonds and treating the community with respect made his work in law enforcement rewarding.

Urprasad's story about an immigrant coming to the United States for a better life and to

pursue educational opportunities may sound familiar, but his speaks volumes. His determination, hard work and commitment to his community are what kept him in the NYCPD, for 25 years.

After obtaining a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science from York College, with plans to pursue a career in law, officer Urprasad took a detour and joined the Little Flowers Children Services foster care agency while continuing his education at John Jay College of Criminal Justice from where he obtained a Master's Degree in Public Administration.

During this time he graduated from the Police Academy and began his career as a housing cop.

Urprasad worked his way up clocking hours throughout the boroughs learning how to end conflict, and avoid arrests of residents whom he had fostered good relationships, many whom he said, were model citizens.

After being appointed sergeant in 1999, and transferred to the 79th Precinct, and the Brooklyn North Evidence Collection Team, he was promot-

ed to lieutenant in December 2002, where he served in the 41st Precinct,

The decorated career officer was promoted to captain in June 2007 and worked in the Bronx as the executive officer of the 45th and 43rd Precincts and Impact Zone Captain in the 40th and 41st Precincts.

His role in helping to reduce the crime rate in his jurisdiction has been commended. For this, he was awarded the rank of deputy inspector in 2015, and commanding officer of the 102nd Precinct.

Officer Urprasad often times found himself out in the community, bringing along his fellow officers, to engage citizens in their day-to-day duties.

After migrating to the United States with his parents in August 1973, exactly 44 years ago, at age 5, it could be said this officer truly personifies discipline in his quest to achieve the American dream, as he continues his love of law enforcement.

"I am happy to share this moment with my family and friends," said the officer who lauded his brothers in blue and thanking them for the support

they have given him over the years.

"I have some great men and women in the 102nd Precinct," he said, attributing a 41 percent reduction in crime to his work, since he took the position in 2015.

Learning to treat residents

with respect, is what the officer has held on to during his career, a characteristic that "transcend into his kind of management style," said Urprasad, the youngest of eight children whose parents instilled in them the importance of education and hard work for success.

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Trump's assault on immigrants is wrong!

By Albert Baldeo

"America was indebted to immigration for her settlement and prosperity. That part of America which had encouraged them most had advanced most rapidly in population, agriculture and the arts."

-James Madison

A bewildering 22 percent of inmates in the federal prison population are immigrants who have either already been deemed to be in the country illegally or who the government is looking to put in deportation proceedings. They are the stock in trade steered into incarceration by a judicial system that incarcerates minorities and immigrants to feed those evil puppet masters who thrive on exploiting and enslaving them. See, e.g., "The Prison Industry in the United States: Big Business or a New Form of Slavery?" by Vicky Peláez published in Global Research.

Moreover, nearly 50,000 unauthorized immigrants were ordered removed from the U.S., a 28 percent increase over last year, according to statistics released by the immigration review branch of the U.S. Department of Justice, an inhumane act which destroyed families, businesses and dreams in its wake.

The 22 percent is much higher than the population of foreign-born in the U.S. as a whole-13.5 percent. Moreover, the government confirmed more than 42,000 aliens in federal prisons as of June 24. About 47 percent already face

final deportation orders, making them illegal immigrants, and 3 percent are currently in immigration courts facing deportation proceedings. Almost all of the rest are being probed by federal agents looking to deport them.

Immigrants who commit serious crimes, even if they once had legal status, can have that status revoked and can be subject to deportation, hence the high number of cases where an alien is still being probed by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement. Additionally, The U.S. Marshal Service, is holding about 12,000 "self-reporting" aliens, and almost all of them have already been ordered deported.

The DOJ's Executive Office of Immigration Review's data also revealed that total orders of removal combined with voluntary departures by immigrants in the U.S. between Feb. 1 and July 31 were up close to 31 percent over that same period last year. Final decisions issued by immigration judges also rose 14.5 percent during that time frame this year, the DOJ said recently.

There was also a total of 73,127 final decisions issued by immigration judges between February and the end of July this year, compared to 63,850 issued during the same period last year.

The boost in orders of removal over last year is undoubtedly the consequence of President Trump's signing of an execu-

Continued on Page 14

Who is Latin America and the Caribbean leaving behind?

By Jessica Faieta

Jessica Faieta is UN Assistant Secretary-General and UN Development Programme (UNDP) Regional Director for Latin America and the Caribbean

UNITED NATIONS, Aug 21, 2017 (IPS) - Last month at the High Level Political Forum in New York, more than 40 countries — 11 from Latin America and the Caribbean — shared their progress in achieving the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), within the new 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.

The meeting has made evident the region's political will to adopt and accomplish this universal agenda. Argentina, Belize, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Panama, Peru and Uruguay presented their progress, along with Colombia, Mexico and Venezuela that shared their reports in 2016.

The SDGs recognize the virtue of inclusive, sustainable economic growth that respects the environment and strengthens institutional and regulatory frameworks. The agenda seeks to "leave no one behind," and admits that the market alone does not solve all problems. This is fundamental for our region, the most unequal in the world.

During the Forum, the Secretary-General presented his global report on the SDGs, which also shows progress and challenges for Latin America and the Caribbean. Over the past two decades, the region has accomplished extraordinary achievements: the proportion of the population living in extreme poverty (or on less than \$ 1.90 per day) fell

The region remains the most violent in the world, with 27.3 murders per 100,000 inhabitants.

from 13.9 percent (1999) to 5.4 percent (2013). In addition, 61% of Latin Americans had some type of social protection in 2016.

But the report also reveals that we remain indebted to certain groups, especially young people and women. In addition to being a young person or woman, being afro-descendant, indigenous, LGBTI or a person with disabilities affects the opportunities and possibilities of social and economic advancement and access to services in our region, as a recent UNDP study shows.

There are challenges for young people, especially those with low incomes. Annual GDP per capita growth has declined over the last decade and the youth unemployment rate (17.2) was almost three times higher than for adults (6.1) in 2016.

If the world was previously focused on measuring the number of children in school, the new agenda looks more at the quality of education. This report shows that, although there are more students than ever before, in many countries in the region only half of them have achieved minimum levels of proficiency in reading or mathematics at the end of primary education.

Moreover, the region remains the most violent in the world, with 27.3 mur-

ders per 100,000 inhabitants. Young Latin-Americans, especially men, are the most affected by crime and violence and yet are the most common perpetrators, according to a UNDP report which also calls for avoiding the criminalization and stigmatization of young people, particularly those with low income.

Many challenges remain for women. An average of 12 percent suffered physical or sexual violence by their partners in the last 12 months. In addition, we have the second highest rate of teenage pregnancies in the world. Also, women do three times more unpaid work at home than men, a disparity that increases in Latin America when there are children in the household.

On the other hand, there are more women in parliaments in our region than ever before. The proportion jumped from 15.2 percent in 2000 to 29.4 percent in 2017, with Latin America being today the second region of the world with more female MPs.

Beyond the report's figures, the region has taken concrete steps in creating or adapting institutions to implement the SDGs, and several countries are moving towards incorporating the targets into their planning and budgeting.

This is good news. The new agenda provides a historic opportunity to rethink the region's traditional progress model and encourages many countries to define new ways of working with the public sector, private sector and civil society, for our planet and our people, leaving no one behind.



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WIADCA to kick-off 50th lauding Bob Marley

Stephen, the son of Robert Nesta and Rita Marley is scheduled to make an appearance on the inaugural evening of the 50th anniversary celebration of the West Indian American Day Carnival Association's annual five-day tribute to Caribbean culture by adding to the line-up of "Reggae Unda Di Stars" with acceptance of a posthumous special tribute to his famous father.

The six-time Grammy winner will accept WIADCA's cultural ambassador honor on behalf of his iconic father who died in Miami, Florida in 1981.

Offered in commemoration of the NY visit he made in 1978-1980 where he debuted a now-prophetic album titled "Uprising," the nostalgic event was hosted at that juncture by WIADCA during the Brooklyn festivities.

The Rastafarian, acclaimed 'king of reggae,' designated first Third World superstar, singer, composer, husband and father allegedly expressed his enthusiasm and support of the "organization's efforts in bringing the community together by promoting diver-



Inside Life

By Vinette K. Pryce

sity and tolerance of all ethnicities."

This occasion marks a significant milestone appearance of any member of the talented Marley family members.

Probably the most-sported image of any T-shirt worn on Labor Day, Marley's image and "One Love" mantra has been an integral aspect of the summer's-end festivities.

A Tribute to Bob Marley theme previously prevailed throughout the history of the celebration alongside those signifying "Caribbeans Unite," "Samba Brazil" and "African Feelin'."

It's been 16 years since Damian, Marley's youngest son launched his "Half-Way-Tree" CD. It was his second album and he introduced it by parading on a truck with a legion of fans following behind as he performed tracks from the now Grammy winning com-

pilation.

On the last day of August, Stephen will again add Marley magic to the revelry which headlines Cocoa Tea.

The singer will be backed by Derrick Barnett & Statement Band, and also features Afrobeat songstress Wunmi, Ghanaian dancehall artist Stonebwoy Dajah. Also billed is music from Road international and Irie Jam Rdio's Cali B, Max Glazer and Kenny Meez of Federation Sound.

Road International's DJ Roy will emcee the rain or shine showcase which is slated to begin at 7 pm at the rear of the Brooklyn Museum, 200 Eastern Parkway.

On Labor Day Eastern Parkway Will Be Runway For Longest Fashion Show

Janice Lawrence-Clarke, Trinidad & Tobago's creative



Stephen Marley performs during the "Catch A Fire Tour 2015" stop at The Paramount in Huntington, Long Island on Tuesday, Sept. 1, 2015, in New York

Donald Trull / Invision / Associated Press, File

fashion guru plans to ramp up WIADCA's half century parade along the span of the Brooklyn boulevard by presenting the best of the best designs created by Caribbean trendsetters.

President and creative direc-

tor of JLC Productions, she is also founder of Caribbean American Fashion Exchange, a program aimed at integrating fashion design talent into United States markets.

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Authority of Powers in the Universe Organizational Chart

Jesus ◀ God (Gave all power in
↓ heaven and earth to Jesus)
Believer (Powers and Protection
↓ given by Jesus to use
his name and do exploits)
Satan (Has powers of the
↓ Kingdoms of the earth
and of the air subject
to God)

Satan's Demons, Principalities
and Powers, etc.
↓ (Has delegated powers
from Satan)
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↓ + Not subject to the law
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BY CAMILLE SPERRAZZA

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OP-EDS

An unholy alliance

Continued from Page 10

increase of the cases those new judges oversaw resulting in orders or removal requiring unauthorized immigrants to depart or be removed. The Justice Department has also hired an additional 54 immigration judges since Trump took office "and continues to hire new immigration judges each month."

In contrast, between Feb. 1 and July 31 this year, 49,983 unauthorized immigrants were ordered removed, compared to 39,113 last year. Another 7,086 unauthorized immigrants agreed to voluntarily depart the U.S., bringing the total removal and voluntary departures so far this year to 57,069, whereas he total orders of removal

and voluntary departures in that same six months last year was 43,595.

When juxtaposed with the unholy alliance between his racist base of white supremacists, neo-Nazis, the KKK and other hate and bigotry groups, the present administration's assault on immigrants is most un-American and mitigates us as a nation, and must be stopped!

Note: Albert Baldeo is a civil rights activist and community advocate. His political battles placed previously ignored minority communities like Richmond Hill and Ozone Park firmly on the political and economic map.

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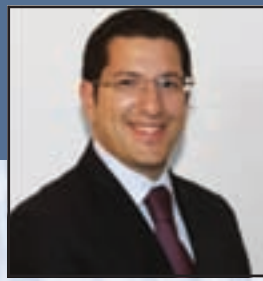
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CARIBBEAN ROUNDUP

Continued from Page 4

Trinidad

Five Trinidad and Tobago nationals have been awarded scholarships to study medicine in Cuba courtesy the Cuban government.

Among those present at the signing ceremony at the Ministry of Education in Port Spain, Trinidad last week were Education Minister Anthony Garcia, Dr. Gaynelle Holdip, manager of the Scholarships and Advanced Training Division and Cuban Ambassador Guillermo Vasquez Moreno.



Dr. Holdip said that the government of Cuba will pay accommodation and tuition and "we will pay for their flight to and from Cuba and a stipend of US\$200 per month for each student."

From September, the five young students will begin studies in medicine.

The late Dr. Fidel Castro conceived the project of the Latin American School of Medicine which was created in November 1999, has graduated from 2005 to date more than 28,500 doctors from 103 countries.

-Compiled by Azad Ali

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TOP DRIVER DISTRACTIONS

Using mobile phones

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

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

Daydreaming

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

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

Eating

Those who haven't quite mastered walking and

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

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

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

Reading

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

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Twenty-six nations participate in Carifesta

By George Alleyne

A Trinidadian Red Devil, a marauding Guyanese tiger, flouncing Bermudians, and Barbadian stilt walkers were among the 1,500 artists and performers who pranced and danced their way from Queen's Park to Kensington Oval Sunday to declare open the 13th Caribbean Festival of Creative Arts.

A total of 26 nations, from Guyana and Venezuela in the south to Bermuda in the north, invaded Barbados for this 11-day cultural extravaganza that promises to showcase all the Caribbean has to offer in traditional practices and beliefs.

Among those nations is for the first time a Diaspora group from Canada representing the many people of the Caribbean who have made that North American country home.

The colourful Sunday opening that climaxed at the Oval with each nation announcing its presence in song and dance, was two days late owing to the passage of Tropical Storm Harvey that damaged some Barbadian households Friday on its way to put discomfort in the

Windward Islands.

But the energy displayed on the Bridgetown roadways Sunday as the teams tramped to the Oval showed the typical resilience of a Caribbean people whose lives are affected for six months of every year by Hurricanes or threats of storms.

With the opening festivities aside, countries will now have individual platforms to not only display their unique twist to Caribbean culture, but also there will be joint theatrical productions of dance, mime, and expressive acting, nation markets, along with a number of symposia discussing the life and significance of cultural icons from Marcus Garvey to Derek Walcott.

Speaking at Kensington Oval Sunday night Barbadian Culture Minister, Stephen Lashley noted that Carifesta as a Festival "was birthed in the imaginations of our Caribbean Literary Artists as far back as 1967 at a Writers' Conference at the University of Kent, in England. Those great sons of the Caribbean soil, among them George Lamming, C. L. R. James, Andrew Salkey and Samuel Selvon, were inspired

to advocate for the staging of a major arts festival within the Caribbean which would bring Caribbean Artists together.

"The vision of those bold cultural ambassadors was realized when their resolution for the staging of a Caribbean Arts Festival was favorably considered by the CARICOM Heads of Government Conference and the first edition of Carifesta held in Guyana in 1972."

Financial constraints among the nations of the region caused a temporary halt of this form of collective Caribbean expression until a revival of the cultural party in 1992.

Lashley noted, "we have found the strength within ourselves to survive, a practice adopted during enslavement and colonization. Our cultural moorings were always our anchors of sanity and stability. Carifesta therefore remains the best opportunity for the region to respond to these threats, as it challenges us to look within ourselves and to our special traditions.

"It ought to remind us that we need now more than ever to work even harder towards



A Trinidadian Red Devil was among the Trinidad delegation participating in the opening of Carifesta in Barbados.

Photo by George Alleyne

full regional integration, by our presence here this evening we must as a proud Caribbean people rededicate ourselves to the dream of our forefathers of a united Caribbean, politically, economically and socially." Caribbean lifestyle is alive in Carifesta and promises to have Barbados bubbling in this cultural melting pot over the next week and a half.



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Vincentians came out to have fun

By Nelson A. King

Thousands of Vincentians from all walks of life on Saturday converged on Heckscher State Park in East Islip, LI, for the annual Vincy Day USA Picnic.

Nationals, friends and supporters from across the United States and Canada, and even from home, descended on the picturesque campgrounds, in picture-perfect weather, for the 6th annual family day.

Picnic-goers feasted on mouth-watering Vincentian delicacies — such as breadfruit and saltfish, blackfish, callaloo soup, pelau, souse and roasted corn — and washed them down with local drinks — mauby, ginger and sorrel beers, and Ju-C.

They also, among a host of other things, renewed acquaintances, “old talked” and partied before the huge stage on the eastern end of the mammoth grounds, where soca and reggae artistes entertained the crowd.

“We feel at home, we feel welcomed, we’ll come again,” said Millicent “Millie” Johnson, sitting at a table with her sisters, Frances and Althea, in a Caribbean Life interview. The Johnson sisters — all Georgetown, St. Vincent and the Grenadines natives and Brooklyn residents — attended the picnic for the very first time.

“It’s good to see so many people,” chimed in Althea. “It’s really nice.”

Frances agreed: “It’s beautiful. I’ll love to come again.”

Olson Thomas, also a Georgetown native and president of the Brooklyn-based St. Vincent and the Grenadines Humanitarian Organization, said the most important thing to him was meeting friends he had not seen in “donkey years.”

“The weather today is beautiful,” said Thomas, a retired public and private

school teacher in Brooklyn, and former head teacher of the Union Methodist School at home, who attended the picnic for the 4th consecutive year. “This is nice. We’re enjoying it.”

Audrey Horne, of Georgetown, Silvern Hackshaw, of South Rivers, Joyce James, of Kingstown, the Vincentian capital, and Ann White, of Troumaca, feasted on pelau a short distance from the central stage.

“It’s the best thing for the closing of the summer, and we look forward to it,” said Hackshaw, stressing that she is a “true, true Vincy.”

“It just came here to relax and to see people I’ve not seen in a very long time,” Horne added.

Allison Vincent, of Belair, came from home to be part of the Vincy get-together.

“I’ve heard and read about it in papers, and it’s nice,” said Vincent, attending the picnic for the first time, as family friend, Ron John, of Mesopotamia, barbecued chicken on a small grill. “The atmosphere is good.”

Clyde Griffith, of Byera, brought along his Jamaican friend, who wanted to be identified only as “G.”

“It’s very good, love it!” exclaimed Griffith, barbecuing chicken and pork on a grill, who lives on Union Street in Brooklyn. “The unity, my Vincentian people in one place, the togetherness — it’s a beautiful thing.”

Calbert Pierre, of Chateaubelair, hang out with his girlfriend, Shelly King, of Belair, and his daughter, Shirley John, of Prospects.

“It’s a good thing,” they said, in unison, about the picnic. “You re-acquaint with friends you have not seen in a long time. It’s a good outing.”

The James cousins, of South Rivers — Cheryl, Daphne and Lana — shared their meals and drinks, as most picnic-goers, with passersby.

“It’s good that Vincentians get together once a year for this special event, which we’re so proud of,” said Daphne, a registered nurse at St. Luke-Roosevelt Hospital in Manhattan, serving as the unofficial spokesperson for the family. “Nice to see everybody together,



Members of the Biabou group participate in Sack Race. Photo by Nelson A. King

drinking, having fun. “It’s a beautiful day, and we love the spirit of unity and togetherness.”

James Cordice, the former president of the Philadelphia-based St. Vincent and the Grenadines Organization of Pennsylvania, Inc. (SVGOP), said two bus-loads of nationals trekked from Pennsylvania.

“I think it’s a wonderful idea to have his gathering,” said Cordice, the Clare Valley-born architect of St. Vincent and the Grenadines’ participation in the annual Penn Relays at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia, before helping to serve rice and peas and other delicacies. “I think it’s a good idea to bring Vincentians together, especially the young.”

Nearby, Lorenzo DeCaul, also a former SVGOP president, who hails from Biabou, “shoot the breeze” with his homeboys, Donald Jacobs and Lennox Daniel, a former St. Vincent and the Grenadines Deputy Ambassador to the United Nations.

“It’s good to see people you have not seen for so long in an atmosphere that’s friendly and loving,” said DeCaul, sip-

ping a drink from a plastic glass. “This is truly what Vincentians are — loving, peaceful. You can’t beat us.”

As the initial vice chair of the Vincy Day USA Organizing Committee, Daniel said he had predicted that the picnic would “expand beyond everyone’s expectations.

“Vincentians get the opportunity to display a variety of Vincentian dishes, including my favorite breadfruit and bowljowel [saltfish mixed with onions, peppers, cucumbers, tomatoes and other ingredients],” he said. “It’s always an opportunity to meet new friends within St. Vincent and the Grenadines and the wider Caribbean Community.”

Daniel met Olton Olliver, of Barrouallie, director of Site Engineering with New York City Department of Design and Construction, for the first time.

“I support it [picnic] because it promotes togetherness among Vincentians,” said the South Ozone Park, Queens resident. “This is the only time when I have the opportunity to be among a large amount of Vincentians.”

Marlene Alves, of Bequia, said she was able to reconnect with a high school classmate after over a decade.

“It’s like rejuvenation,” she said. “Hopefully, we’ll get to have a soiree in the near future.”

Crispin and Ancilla Friday brought along their two daughters, Christine and Krisann.

“It’s a loving atmosphere, there’s no animosity,” said Ancilla, who hails from Ratho Mill. “When you come to New York, everybody is together. Everybody lets their arms down in peace and unity.”

“It’s a homogenous feeling,” added Crispin, a former Beachmont, Kingstown resident, who traces his roots to Bequia. “I’ll like this togetherness to transfer to back home. There’s no politics in it [Vincy Day USA Picnic].”



Entertainer Atiba Williams of Kingstown decks out in national colors of St. Vincent and the Grenadines (Right) A section of the massive party crowd at the Vincy Day USA Picnic. Photo by Nelson A. King

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Keeping Catholic schools excellent

Many recall the visit of Pope Francis to Our Lady Queen of Angels School in East Harlem in September of 2015. While Pope Francis was intrigued by the use of the Smartboard, he also used this time to reflect on the importance of Catholic education. Pope Francis stated: "School then ends up being one big family, A family, where together with our mothers and father, our grandparents, our teachers and friends, we learn to help one another, to share our good qualities, to give the best of ourselves, to work together and to pursue our dreams."

The mission of Catholic education within the Diocese of Brooklyn shares in this important vision. Through the leadership of Bishop DiMarzio, Catholic education is made a priority, and everyone associated with the Catholic academies and parish schools plays a vital role in advancing this mission.

Quality Catholic education is built

upon a strong foundation of those who have gone before us, and we continue to build for the future. Essential to our continued growth are the following: sustaining the mission of Catholic education for generations to come; providing all students with the necessary skills to be successful in the future; the quest for academic excellence; supportive parish priests, dedicated principals, teachers, and staff; and the commitment of our parents.

As one would reflect on Catholic education, one of the first essential elements is the role that our faith plays in advancing the mission. Our academies and parish schools are places for the new evangelization, which includes complete formation and service to others.

Striving to follow the Gospel and creating learning environments based on values and virtues is an essential part of the Catholic identity of each academy and parish school.

Living the gospel

When one enters into an academy or parish school, one is reminded that the reason why we exist is to infuse the gospel message into our academic program, our learning environment, and into the culture of the academy and parish school. One can experience the Catholic identity of an academy and parish school as soon as one enters the doors.

I enjoy visiting the academies and parish schools throughout the year. What strikes me often are the conversations that I have with the pastors, parish priests, principals, teachers, and students. They all share in enhancing the mission of Catholic education within the academy and parish school community. The students often share their experiences — whether it be in providing service to others, working with their classmates, or participating in regular Mass and prayer experiences. All of this is fostered on a regular basis by our priests. The academy and parish schools are an essential element in the life of the parish.

Parents, as the first teachers, are partners in Catholic education. By choosing Catholic education, parents want not only a quality Catholic education, but also want for their children a full understanding of the faith.

Our Catholic faith is the cornerstone of our academies and parish schools, and our students are the future of the church. Through our Catholic identity, we must continue to encourage them to be bearers of the good news.

Academic excellence

Our Catholic academies and parish schools are charged with infusing the curriculum with strong Catholic values and virtues, while striving to provide academic excellence.

Academic excellence is achieved through the instructional leadership of our principals. Through their efforts to guide their teachers, they ensure that the necessary resources are available to them. In addition, through the efforts of various benefactors and partnerships with the colleges and universities, principals and teachers are provided with extensive professional development in all academic areas.

Our academies and parish schools have been the recipients of the generosity of the St. Elizabeth Seton Trust. Through its financial support, the following programs have been established in the academies and parish schools:

- Artist in Residency is a fine arts program for grades four, six, and eight, and

is infused with play writing, the literary classics, and play productions.

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The goal of academic excellence is to ensure that all students are provided with a well-rounded academic program that allows them to develop their critical-thinking skills and to apply what they have learned to real-life situations. Our dedicated teachers make this happen each and every day. As we begin this new academic year, we pause to show our true appreciation of everything that our teachers within the academies and parish schools do for the students entrusted to them.

This appreciation is extended to our administrators who work tirelessly in striving to provide each student with a quality Catholic education.

Partners in Catholic education

In the Academy governance model, we have true partners in the Board of Directors. As volunteers, the Board of Directors work tirelessly to support the efforts of the principal. The Board of Directors provide their time, talent, and expertise to enhance the mission of Catholic education. Their many contributions in development, finances, marketing, and recruitment are essential to the success of the academy governance model. As partners, the Board of Directors support the pastor as spiritual moderator of the academy and the principal as the chief catechist and instructional leader.

Our Catholic academies and parish schools are supported by the efforts of our parents, who sacrifice each day for their children to provide them with a quality Catholic education. This is never easy, but parents continue to make Catholic education a priority for their children.

Final thoughts

Catholic education within the Diocese of Brooklyn is focused on providing each student with a quality Catholic education. By everyone working together, the students will be provided with the necessary skills to be successful in the future.

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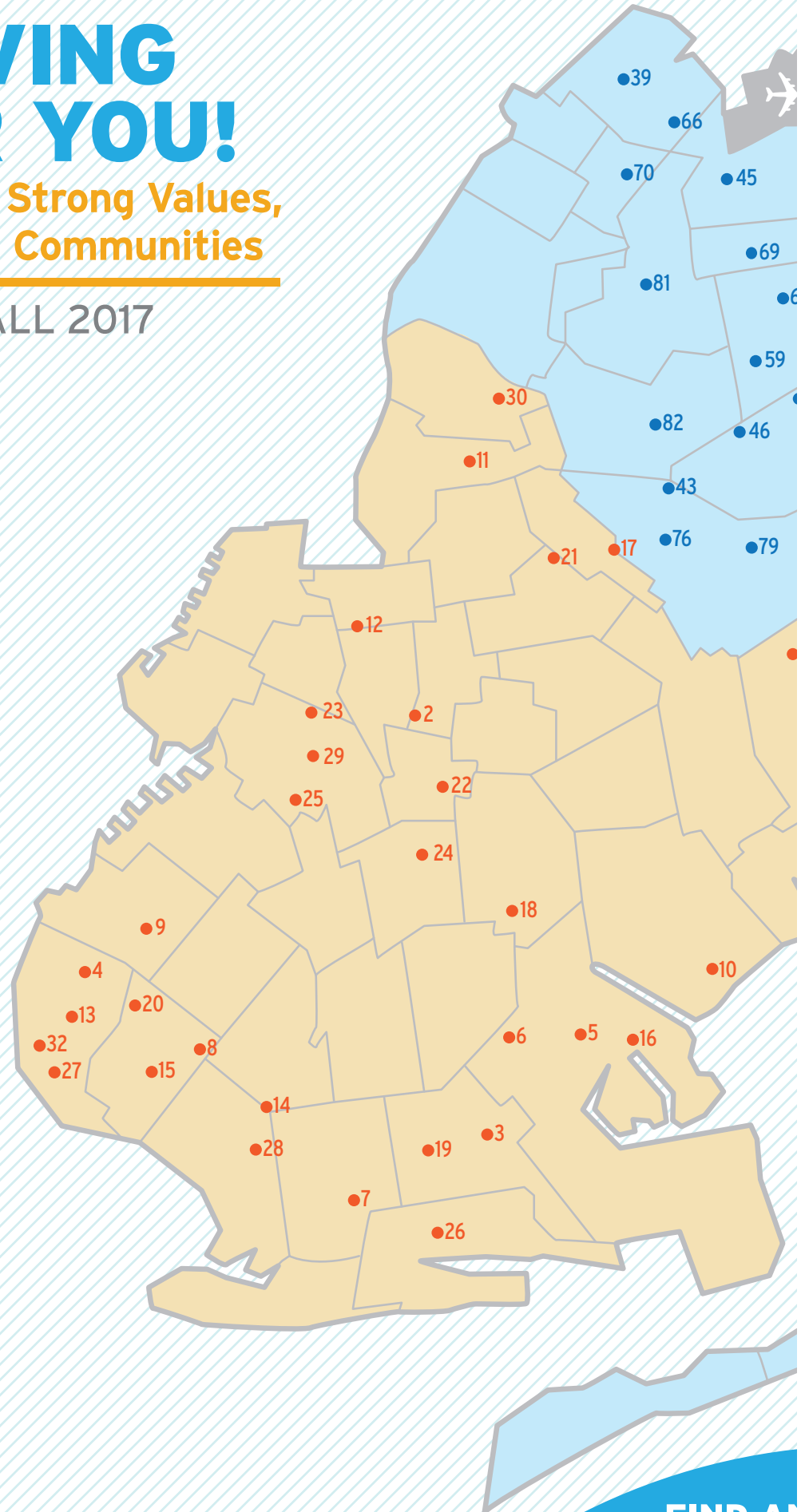
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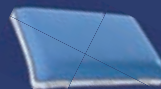
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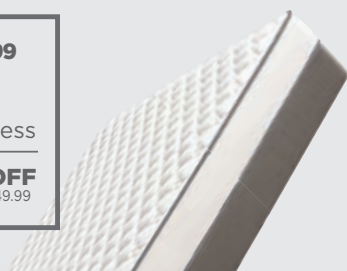
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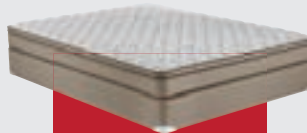
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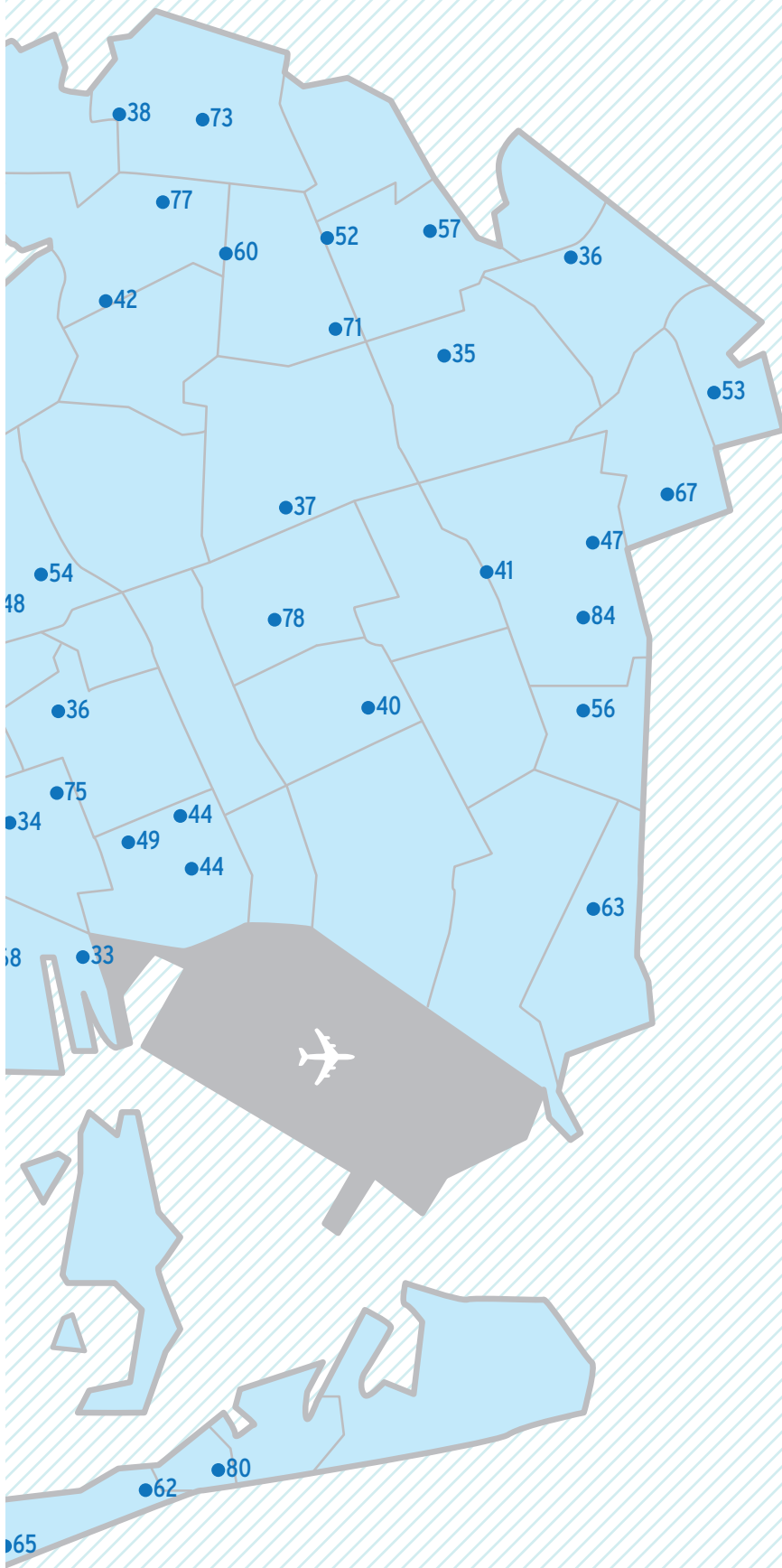
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BACK TO SCHOOL



Navigating tech choices for school use

Technology is essential in the daily lives of students. Whether it's kids learning their ABCs or graduate students pursuing advanced degrees, technology has transformed the way lessons are taught and learned.

Statistics support the notion that technology in the classroom is irreplaceable. According to data from the tutoring resource PracTutor, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, and various colleges, 98 percent of schools have one or more computers in the classroom. In addition, 77 percent of teachers use the internet for instruction, while 40 percent of teachers report students use computers during instructional time in the classroom.

Many instructors now assign homework that must be completed online. The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development looked at computer usage among 15-year-olds across 31 nations and regions. Many students in high-performing

nations reported spending between one and two hours a day on a computer outside of school. Because computers are so necessary in and out of the classroom, families and students may want to revisit their options before buying new devices:

Desktop computer

Desktop computers used to be the go-to for families and students, and there are still many reasons why desktops make sense. In addition to their relatively inexpensive sticker price, desktop computers allow students to customize their packages according to their needs and get a powerful operating system in the process. New and advanced processing speeds also mean that many desktop computers can be relied on for educational purposes while also being fast enough to handle recreational gaming.

One of the main disadvantages of desktop computers is their lack of

portability. Desktops are not easily moved, and if repairs are necessary, it can be a hassle to have them fixed.

Laptop computers

Over the last decade, laptop computers have become more popular than desktop computers, largely because of their portability. Laptops are designed to be taken from place to place, so students can use them for note-taking in the classroom and then studying at home.

Laptop processors have just about caught up to desktop processors, but they may be lacking the processing pop unless consumers are willing to pay more for laptops with high performance. Another shortcoming of laptops is that they generally have smaller screens than desktop computers, which can make working on fine details more challenging.

Tablets

Tablets offer the most in terms of

portability. They're lightweight and small and offer a wealth of access in a compact package. Today's tablets offer much more than the first such devices to hit the market. Some can run apps and equivalent programs that were once exclusive to desktop and laptop computers. Tablets also tend to be less expensive than desktops or laptops.

Where tablets may fall short is in the peripherals. It's difficult to connect backup drives and other accessories to tablets. However, with advancements in cloud-based storage, this may not be an issue. Also, note-taking on virtual keyboards may be more challenging, and working on tablets' small screens can be tiresome over time. Convertible tablet and laptops are now emerging to bridge these gaps.

Shopping for a new computer can be complicated, but basing purchases on need rather than want can help guide the process.

Finding balance with extracurricular activities



Even though extracurricular activities are largely positive – even when schedules are packed – parents need to be aware of the diminishing returns of too many activities.

Many high schools, colleges, and universities emphasize their goals of producing well-rounded students. Extracurricular activities teach students important life lessons, provide them opportunities to socialize, and often stimulate their minds and bodies in ways that differ from the stimulation provided in the classroom.

Data from the U.S. Census Bureau states that, in 2014, 57 percent of children between the ages of 6 and 17 participate in at least one after-school extracurricular activity. Children are more likely to participate in sports than clubs or lessons — such as music, dance, and language — but each of these activities can be beneficial to students' development.

Students who participate in extracurricular activities may want to limit their participation to 20 hours per week. This is according to a group of professors from Stanford University and Villanova University who have been collecting data on the issue since 2007. In their report "Extracurricular Activity in High-Performing School Contexts: Stress Buster, Booster or Buffer?," Jerusha Conner and Sarah Miles found that 87 percent of kids who would be considered to have packed schedules were perfectly happy unless they were doing more than four hours a day.

The "over-scheduling hypothesis" may be over-hyped. This is the concern that too much organized activity participation leads to poor developmental outcomes. This hypothesis also suggests that hectic schedules also undermine family functioning, detract from schoolwork, and possibly increase the risk of copycat behaviors and excessive competitiveness. However, in the study "The Over-Scheduling Hypothesis Revisited: Intensity of Organized Activity Participation During Adolescence and Young Adult Outcomes," researchers J.L. Mahoney and Andrea Vest determined that, controlling for demographic factors and baseline adjustment, extracurricular intensity was a significant predictor of positive outcomes and unrelated to indicators of problematic adjustment (e.g., psychological distress, substance use, antisocial behavior) at young adulthood.

Even though extracurricular activities are largely positive — even when schedules are packed — parents need to be aware of the diminishing returns of too many activities. This is something called the "threshold effect." Benefits from extracurriculars can level off when too many activities are being juggled. If a child is experiencing anxiety, sleeplessness, or depression, or seems overly stressed, it could be time to reduce his time spent do-

ing structured activities.

It's essential that families use the cues given by kids to assess what students can handle. And children should be encouraged to be honest with their parents about their extracurricular activities as well.

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Add health screenings to back-to-school checklist

As summer vacation winds down, thoughts turn from jaunts to the beach to readying for a new school year. To-do lists include many of the typical tasks that precede going back to the classroom, including shopping for new clothes, purchasing school supplies, and finishing summer reading assignments.

Another essential requirement parents must find time for is completing their children's health screenings and immunizations so youngsters can return to school.

Health screenings may include, but may not be limited to, routine physical exams, eye exams, and dental cleanings. Each school district may have its own set of health requirements that must be met in order for children to attend school.

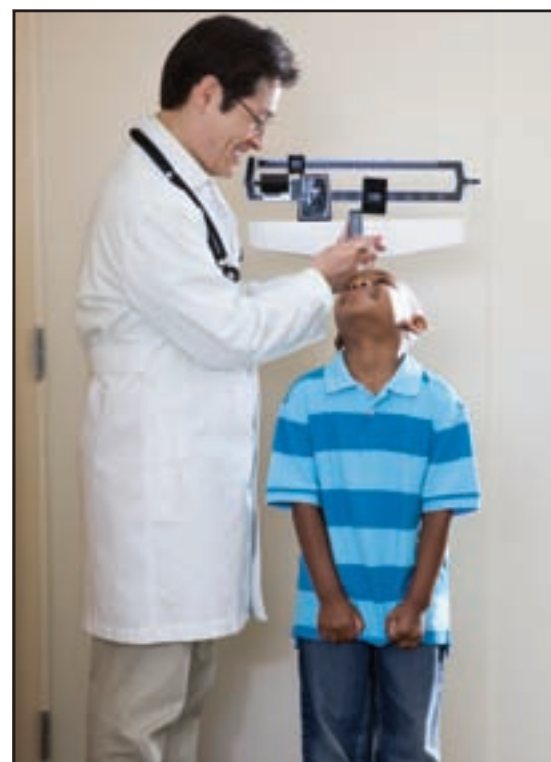
Many schools require that children are up-to-date with all immunizations before they can begin a new school year. The issue of vaccinations has inspired debate in recent years, but parents should recognize that many schools will only exempt students from receiving certain vaccinations due to religious reasons. For a list of state vaccination requirements and possible exemptions for schools in the United States, visit [www.2a.cdc.gov/nip/schoolsurv/schIm-](http://www.2a.cdc.gov/nip/schoolsurv/schIm-mRqmt.asp)

mRqmt.asp.

Students who have specific learning disabilities or medical conditions that require classroom modification should obtain recent documentation from any therapists or specialists prior to beginning a new school year. Doing so facilitates the process of setting up procedures within the school while ensuring children have what they need to excel in the classroom. All parents may want to ask doctors to provide copies of medical and immunization records so that schools will have the most recent copies on file.

Parents should schedule eye examinations well in advance of the first day of school so they have ample time to fill new prescriptions for youngsters before school begins. This ensures kids won't be starting off on the wrong foot because of vision problems that could already have been addressed.

Parents of adolescents or students on the verge of adolescence may want to address the subject of bodily changes before the school year begins anew. Address which changes can be expected, including the start of menstruation for girls. This will help children better understand what is happening when they witness changes in themselves and fellow class-



Schedule visits to the doctor, dentist and an eye doctor so your child is up-to-date upon the dawn of a new school year.

mates and give them a chance to receive accurate information rather than gossip from their peers.

Keep in mind that health screenings conducted in advance of the school year may not preclude students from school-sponsored screenings. Schools may offer their own vision and hearing screenings and may take physical measurements to ensure students are growing on schedules in line with normal development.

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Why music education matters

Come the 2016–17 school year, the music and arts budget in the Los Angeles Unified School District will reach its highest point in a dozen years. While that's great news for students, it also illustrates the sad fact that arts and music programs have taken a considerable hit in recent decades, when arts education fell victim to budget cuts.

The benefits of music education extend far beyond getting kids to tap their toes. The National Association for Music Education lists the following benefits among the many reasons to support music education in schools:

Music training helps develop language skills. Studies have shown that music training contributes to the physical development of the part of the left side of the brain associated with processing language. A 2005 study from researchers at Stanford University found that mastering a musical instrument may also improve reading skills, which can benefit students both inside and outside the classroom.

It can improve hand-eye coordination. Studies have linked long-term music training to improved hand-eye coordination. That is likely connected to the motor skills children develop when playing musical instruments. Without those instruments, those motor skills may not develop as strongly.

Music improves concentration. In 2007, a re-

search team from the Stanford University School of Medicine found that music engages the areas of the brain involved with paying attention. Today's students deal with numerous distractions, from smartphones to tablets to social media, but those who routinely listen to certain types of music might find it easier to block out those distractions and focus on their work.

It can help students' emotional development. A 2003 study commissioned by Chorus America found musicians are more likely than the average person to be involved in charity work as volunteers and donors. The National Association for Music Education also notes that music students may be more likely to exhibit empathy toward other cultures.

Music can improve self-esteem. In a study examining 117 fourth-grade students attending public school in Montreal, a researcher at the University of Texas at Austin found that children who received piano lessons weekly for three years had higher self-esteem than children who were not given piano lessons during the same period. Neither group had participated in formal music instruction before the study, and students in both groups reported similar levels of self-esteem prior to participating in the study.

Music education can enrich the lives of young students in a myriad of ways, potentially contributing to happier, more fulfilling lives.



Music education can enrich the lives of young students in a myriad of ways, potentially contributing to happier, more fulfilling lives.



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Can even Paradise become better? Of course it can. And they proved that when they totally renovated the large lobby area, adding a regal touch to this space, as well.

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

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

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

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

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

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

A Natural Holistic approach to Living Healthy and Pain Free with Dr. Vincent Adamo & Dr. Danielle La Montagne



(Above) Dr. Daniel La Montagne, right, has joined Dr. Vincent Adamo at Live Holistic, providing patients with the tools they need to live healthier, happier lives. (Above right) The Bay Ridge Parkway practice aims to help patients heal themselves without drugs and surgery. (Below right) Dr. La Montagne is a chiropractor with a decade of experience.



BY CAMILLE SPERRAZZA

Dr. Daniel La Montagne, chiropractor, has joined the team of Live Holistic — the practice started by Dr. Vincent Adamo — that teaches people how to live healthier, happier lives.

The doctors strive to get closer to the underlying cause of the issues for which the patients seek help. It is when these underlying concerns are addressed that the body can do the job of healing itself.

When patients are in pain, something is interfering with the natural, self-healing process, says Dr. La Montagne.

“It is often the lack of communication between the brain and the body; it somehow stops working.”

He compares it to running a business.

“If you’re the boss, your employees can do their job for a while — but eventually things start to break down without direct communica-

tion from you.” The chiropractor’s job is to get that communication going again.

It can be because built-up stress or trauma has caused the frontal lobe of the brain to shut down, he says.

“It becomes overrun with emotions, and needs to be reset to work properly.” Like a computer, the brain needs to “defrag,” so it can operate at peak performance.

As a chiropractor with a decade of experience, he assures people that, “Chiropractic care is extremely safe; it’s a natural and effective way to get the body back to healing itself.” His observations have shown that, “When flu epidemics wipe out a lot of people, it’s those who are under chiropractic care that seem to resist the flu better than anyone else.”

He cites studies from Dr. Heidi Haavik, an esteemed chiropractor, neurophysiologist, and researcher in New Zealand, who has been

instrumental in building scientific evidence that demonstrates chiropractic care improves people’s health and wellbeing.

“It has shown to be better than many other therapies that are out there,” he says. “It is effective in helping with sleep disorders and stress-related ailments.”

Medicine, he says, is imperative for trauma and emergency care.

“If you are having a heart attack, you need to get to the emergency room immediately. Medicine is absolutely needed for emergencies.” But often medicine provides a temporary fix to a problem, he says. “Medicine cannot make you healthy. It is your immune system that helps you overcome the battle.”

At Live Holistic, the goal is to get to the cause of the problem so that the immune system is up and running again.

Like Dr. Adamo, Dr. La

Montagne is enthusiastic about enlightening and educating patients.

Dr. Adamo began the practice because he traveled the world, studying and learning about the body’s power to heal itself, without drugs and surgery. It continues to thrive because it has been able to help so many people overcome personal pain and hardship.

“You have to invest in

your health,” says Dr. Adamo. It requires a commitment — but the rewards are well worth it.

Live Holistic [446 Bay Ridge Pkwy. between Fourth and Fifth avenues in Bay Ridge, (718) 921-5483, www.LiveHolistic.net]. Open Mondays and Wednesdays, 9 am-noon and 3-6:30 pm; Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1-6:30 pm; and Saturdays, 8:30 am-noon.

New tool analyses 'climate-smart agriculture'



The base for a water catchment tank. Faced with severe droughts, many farmers in the Caribbean have found it necessary to set up catchment areas to harvest water whenever it rains.
Caribbean Development Bank

By Desmond Brown

PORT OF SPAIN, Trinidad, Aug 14, 2017 (IPS) — A Trinidadian scientist has developed a mechanism for determining the degree of climate-smart agriculture (CSA) compliance with respect to projects, processes and products.

This comes as global attention is drawn to climate-smart agriculture as one of the approaches to mitigate or adapt to climate change.

Steve Maximay says his Climate-Smart Agriculture Compliant (C-SAC) tool provides a certification and auditing scheme that can be used to compare projects, processes and products to justify the applicability and quantum of climate change funding.

"C-SAC provides a step-by-step, checklist style guide that a trained person can use to determine how closely the project or process under review satisfies the five areas of compliance," Maximay told IPS.

"This method literally

forces the examiner to consider key aspects or goals of climate-smart agriculture. These aspects (categories) are resource conservation; energy use; safety; biodiversity support; and greenhouse gas reduction."

He said each category is further subdivided, so resource conservation includes the use of land, water, nutrients and labour. Energy use includes its use in power, lighting, input manufacture and transportation. Safety revolves around production operations, harvesting, storage and utilization.

Biodiversity support examines land clearing, off-site agrochemical impact, limited introduction of invasive species, and ecosystem services impact. Greenhouse gas reduction involves enteric fermentation (gas produced in the stomach of cattle and other animals that chew their cud), soil management, fossil fuel reduction and manure / waste management.

"These subdivisions (four each in the five categories) are the basis of the 20 questions that comprise the C-SAC tool," Maximay explained.

"The manual provides a means of scoring each aspect on a five-point scale. If the cumulative score for the project is less than 40 it is deemed non-compliant and not a truly climate smart agriculture activity. C-SAC further grades in terms of degree of compliance wherein a score of 40-49 points is level 1, (50-59) level 2, (60 -69) level 3, (70-79) level 4, and (80-100) being the highest degree of compliance at level 5.

"It is structured with due cognizance of concerns about how the global climate change funds will be disbursed," he added.

The United Nations (UN) Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) describes climate-smart agriculture as agriculture that sustainably increases

productivity, enhances resilience (adaptation), reduces or removes greenhouse gases (mitigation) where possible, and enhances achievement of national food security and development goals.

The climate-smart agricul-

ture concept reflects an ambition to improve the integration of agriculture development and climate responsiveness. It aims to achieve food security and broader development goals under a changing climate and increasing food demand.



NATIONAL NIGHT OUT 2016



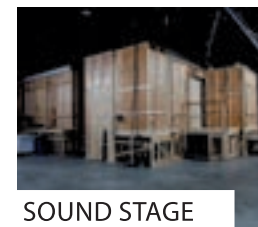
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Crowned: Winner of this year's Queen of the Bay pageant is Kayan Willoughy. Barbara Betson

QUEEN OF THE BAY

By Alexandra Simon

Talk about culture and pageantry. More than a 100 people came out to see young Belizean beauty queens represent a variety of Belize's culture at the annual Queen of the Bay pageant at St. Joseph's Anglican Church in Cypress Hills on Aug. 19. The yearly contest brings together young women from the many different ethnic groups in the central American country to compete for the best show of beauty and culture.

Continued on Page 46

Terry Gajraj wows Brooklynites

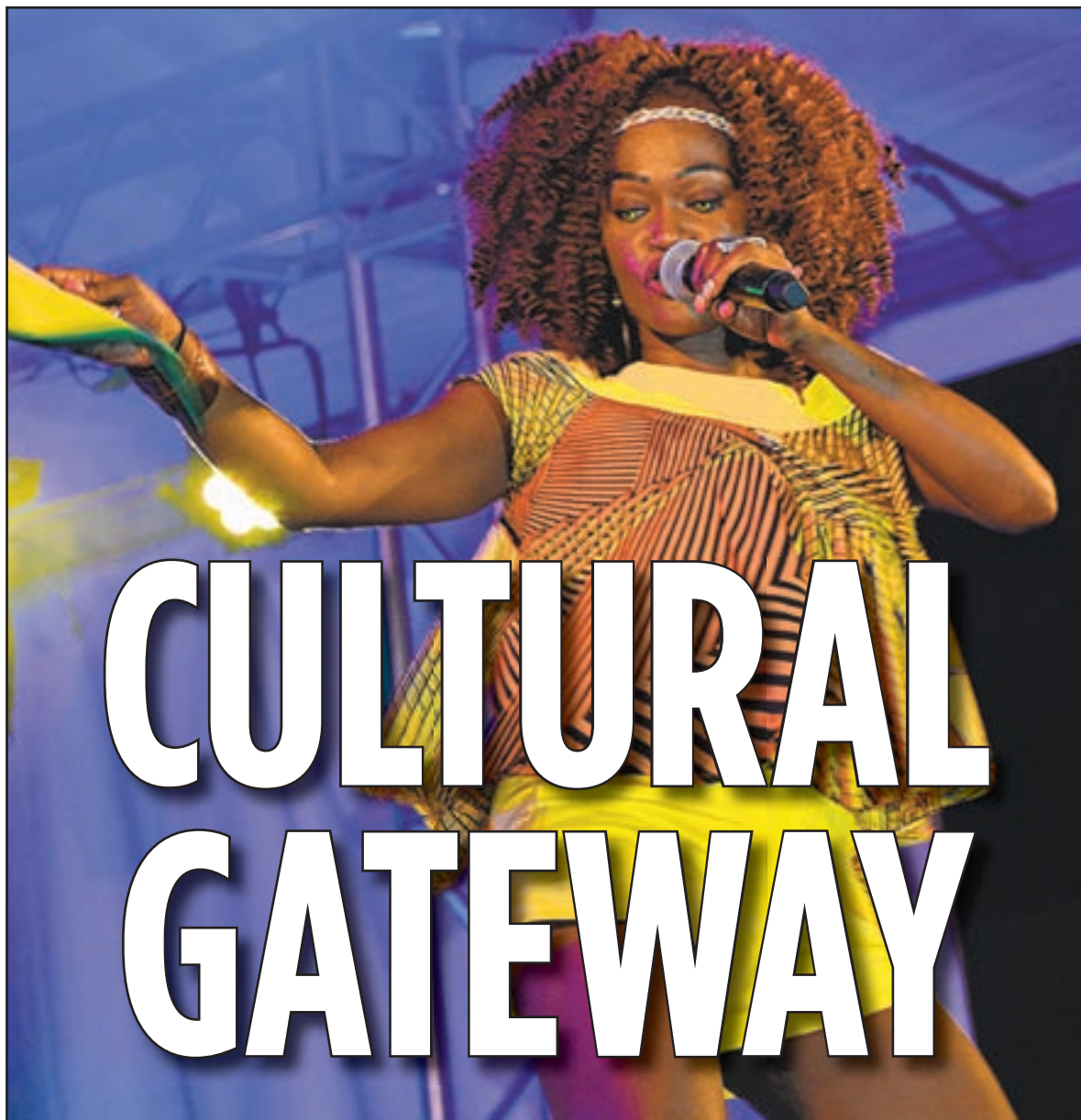
By Tangerine Clarke

There is no other like "Guyana Boboo," a song made famous by Guyanese performer Terry Gajraj, whose dynamic music has crossed over all ethnic barriers, making him one of the most sought after singers in New York.

Last Saturday evening, Gajraj proved his worth, when he received a rousing welcome at his debut presentation at the Bangladeshi American Community Development & Youth Services 7th Annual Multicultural Festival in Brooklyn, where he wowed the audience with "Guyana Baboo," and waved his Golden Arrowhead, Guyana flag.

Gajraj, who, is set for a slew of Labor Day Jam sessions, will begin at Melanie's on Castle Hill Avenue in the Bronx, before performing at Coconuts Reunion On the Lake boat cruise on Sept., then on to the

Continued on Page 46



Fya Empress rocking on stage at Carifesta in Barbados.

Photo by George Alleyne

CULTURAL GATEWAY

Vincentian performers rock Barbados during Carifesta

By George Alleyne

The Vincentians came with a purpose and wasted no time taking over the previously serene Bajan night air by unleashing a power source of lively infectious music and dancing that rocked the Carifesta crowd Monday night.

It can be nothing less than a St. Vincent and the Grenadines invasion when there is on stage at the same time three-time calypso monarch Man Zangy; current Calypso Monarch, Fya Empress; former monarch

for many years and now a regional legend, Skinny Fabulous; current Ragga Soca Monarch, Hans John; and second runner-up for Road March L Pank rocking the Two Mile Hill evening.

None of those in the small rabid crowd could be blamed for thinking they were amidst an encore of the St. Vincent carnival that ended July 11, but they in fact were in the car park of the Lloyd Erskine Sandiford Centre, Barbados, where SVG was the featured member that evening

for the Carifesta Country Night and the combined singing, dancing, prancing took on the appearance of a miniature Vincy Mas.

It was not music alone as the Vincentians brought out some of the unique lifestyle aspects of that island group within the Caribbean.

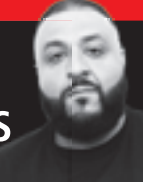
"Our performance really is Cultural Gateway AIA (Argyle International Airport), a Vincy cultural experience," explained the evening's narrator and St. Vincent theatre

Continued on Page 46

TOP OF THE CHARTS

CARIFESTA

TOP 10 SINGLES

- 
- Wild Thoughts**
DJ Khaled Feat. Rihanna...
 - There's Nothing Holdin' Me Back**
Shawn Mendes
 - Attention**
Charlie Puth
 - Believer**
Imagine Dragons
 - Despacito**
Luis Fonsi, Daddy Yankee...
 - That's What I Like**
Bruno Mars
 - Shape Of You**
Ed Sheeran
 - Body Like A Back Road**
Sam Hunt
 - Stay**
Zedd & Alessia Cara
 - Something Just Like This**
The Chainsmokers & Coldplay

TOP 10 ALBUMS

- 
- Rainbow**
Keshi
 - Federal 3X**
Moneybagg Yo
 - You (EP)**
Dodie
 - The Project**
Lindsay Ell
 - Guardians of the Galaxy Vol.2**
Soundtrack
 - Love Has A Name**
Jesus Culture
 - 4:44**
Jay-Z
 - Descendants 2**
Soundtrack
 - American Teen**
Khalid
 - Divide**
Ed Sheeran

Presented by

verizon wireless

Continued from Page 45
personality, Gloria Williams. "We wanted to show aspects of who we are and we tried to show it in our package."

AIA was inserted into the theme of this Carifesta performance because of St Vincent's desire to highlight its sparking new international airport that since its February opening has been the gateway for people coming and going, and each being a cultural persona.

The islands of St Vincent and the Grenadines are the ancestral home of the Garifuna, a people of mainly indigenous and African mixture celebrated for their confrontation with colonisation, and who in their resistance dispersed themselves to Nicaragua, Honduras, Belize, Costa Rica, Guatemala and the USA

Performers did the Garifuna Punta dance, "a celebratory dance for when you die. You prepare the souls to meet the elders," explained Williams

who added that the complex symbolism of these movements are also to welcome births, coming of age and marriage.

Then there was a 'drumology' with drummers tapping into African mixed with Garifuna influences. "A kind of hybrid sound."

"Carifesta is about culture, artistic abilities of people within the Caribbean." Williams noted and explained, "so we tried to give some of a bit of everything. We did some traditional stuff, and things that are very current."

There were Vincy folk songs such as 'Moonlight', recalling the days of the 'Poor Man's Lantern' before installation of electricity service.

"So full moon in St Vincent was a real family time. We told a lot of stories, we played a lot of games," she said.

'Come to St Vincent' was another of the folk tunes performed telling about the attributes of SVG "that will make you want to come to



A colourful dancer from St. Vincent and The Grenadines participate in the Carifesta events in Barbados.

Photo by George Alleyne

visit."

There was a steelpan piece 'St Vincent I Love You.'

This was written by Alston Becket Cyrus, "The man who actually originated Ragga Soca," Williams asserted beat-

ing her Vincy chest.

"Ragga Soca is a genre of music that started in St Vincent by Alston Becket Cyrus. It is now sold as a product of other countries but the record shows that it started there."

Belize Miss Teen winner

Continued from Page 45

The display is a great show of the country's diversity, said a former pageant winner who attended the event.

"What I love about the pageant is that you get to know about other backgrounds and how they do their cultures and their foods, and learn what their roots are all about," said Dorla Lewis, the 2006 Belize Miss Teen winner.

As a participant and fan of pageantry, Lewis said she enjoys seeing the younger generation of women explore their identities through arts.

"I love seeing the girls expressing what they all do different in their cultures because it's good to know the history — and the history of the native Indians and Garifuna," said Lewis.

Five young women participated in the competition for title of Queen of the Bay. Kayan Willoughby, who represented the East Indian heritage, and



Winner of the pageant, Kayan Willoughby representing as an East Indian contestant.

Photo by Stefano Giovannini

someone who Lewis predicted would win took home the title.

"When I go to a pageant I observe all the contestants and have my own opinions, and most time when I guess on a winner, I'm always right," she said.

Rachel Webster and Naya Gabroul were two of the other contestants who showcased the traditions of Mayan and Garifuna cultures of the country.

Last year's winner, Jasyra Franklin presented the crown to Willoughby.

Gajraj scores a hit

Continued from Page 45

Save Abee Foundation fund raising event — Chutney Glow on Sept. 9, at the Amazura Concert Hall in Queens New York.

The popular artists revved up the crowd with hits, "Ratiya," "Sary Zamanay" and some acapella in his usual exciting style that has kept him in the music business for 25 years.

Gajraj, who began singing at age 5, and who entertained the Miss Universe Guyana Pageant at York College just before taking the stage in Brooklyn, thanked the organizers of the 7th Multicultural Festival for inviting him to the stage for the first time.

The master performer who hails from Fyrish Village on Guyana's Corentyne Coast has brought down the house at sold-out concerts in Trinidad, the British Virgin Islands, Suriname, Canada, the United Kingdom, and who continues to be on stage in the New York Tri-State area, has recorded 30 albums and according to his biography is the most toured artiste to emerge out of Guyana, and the most successful in promoting Guyanese music and culture around the world.

Gajraj has embraced his role model status as a celebrity

spokesman for the Save Abee Charitable Foundation for kids in Guyana, and for the past five years, the Save Abee team has organized many fundraisers in Canada and the USA with 100 percent of proceeds donated to educate kids in computer technology based on the "teach a man to fish" philosophy.

It has evolved with success, to not only represent his ideals to give back to those in need, but most importantly to showcase the goodwill and strong community spirit of the Guyanese people who Terry represents as their musical ambassador, according to Gajra's website, www.facebook.com/terry.gajraj.



Guyanese singer Terry Gajraj 7th Annual Multicultural Festival in Brooklyn.

Photo by Tangerine Clarke

Jackson, Reynolds grudgingly join forces

"The Hitman's Bodyguard"
 Excellent (4 stars)
 Rated R for graphic violence and pervasive profanity
 Running time: 118 minutes
 Distributor: Summit Entertainment



The world's top protection agent (Ryan Reynolds) is called upon to guard the life of his mortal enemy, one of the world's most notorious hitmen (Samuel L. Jackson). www.rottentomatoes.com

By Kam Williams

World-class bodyguard Michael Bryce's (Ryan Reynolds) services were in great demand when a Japanese tycoon (Tsuwayuki Saotome) was executed on his watch. That botched operation ruined not only his professional reputation but his romantic relationship with Interpol agent Amelia (Elodie Yung). In fact, his career took such a hit that a couple of years later we find him homeless and reduced to chauffeuring clients around in a beat-up jalopy for a fraction of his former fee.

A shot at redemption and at winning back the object of his affection arrives when Amelia

surreptitiously approaches him for help protecting Darius Kincaid (Samuel L. Jackson). He's the key prosecution witness in the trial underway at the International Court of Justice of Vladislav Dukhovich (Gary Oldman), an Eastern European dictator accused of committing

genocide.

Amelia has determined that there's a mole inside of Interpol who has compromised Kincaid's safety. So, the only hope of getting him to court alive is by hiring someone outside the organization.

Trouble is Darius is no altar

boy, but a vicious hit man who has murdered hundreds of people. Despite being disgusted by the assassin's grisly resume, Michael grudgingly agrees to escort him from a British prison to The Hague where he's scheduled to testify in less than 24 hours. In return for his coop-

eration with authorities, Darius bargained for the release of his wife Sonia (Salma Hayek) who is herself sitting behind bars for slitting a guy's throat in a gruesome bar fight.

That is the point of departure of *The Hitman's Bodyguard*, an unlikely-buddies comedy directed by Aussie Patrick Hill (*The Expendables 3*). Superficially, the film unfolds like a high-octane, action adventure where a pair of protagonists prove to be impervious to harm from bullets, explosives, pyrotechnics or boat and car crashes.

The production works primarily because of the palpable screen chemistry generated by veteran thespians Samuel L. Jackson and Ryan Reynolds. However, it does help immeasurably that each of these indestructible characters has been somewhat humanized by their vulnerability to a fetching love interest.

But the guys mostly exchange lighthearted barbs while having a close brush with death every other minute or so as they negotiate their way through a never-ending gauntlet of blood-thirsty goons.

Independent & Foreign Films

Bushwick (Unrated) Harrowing tale of survival, set after a bloody riot breaks out on the streets of Brooklyn, about a young woman's (Brittany Snow) attempt to get home with the help of an army veteran (Dave Bautista). Cast includes Jeff Lima, Paco Lozano and Christian Navarro.

Good Time (R for violence, drug use, sexuality and pervasive profanity) NYC crime drama revolving around a mobster's (Robert Parkinson) efforts to spring his brother (Ben Safdie) from jail after a botched bank robbery. With Buddy Duress, Barkhad (I'm the Captain, now!) Abdi and Jennifer Jason Leigh.

Polina (Unrated) Anastasia Shevtsova handles the title role in this coming-of-age saga about a Russian prima ballerina who leaves the prestigious Bolshoi Company to explore improvisation and modern dance. (In French and Russian with subtitles). With Veronika Zhovnytska, Juliette Binoche and Aleksey Guskov. (In French and Russian with subtitles)

Served Like a Girl (Unrated) Band of Sisters documentary chronicling the efforts of five, female combat vets to help 55,000 homeless comrades suffering from PTSD and other illnesses after

serving overseas in Iraq or Afghanistan.

Tulip Fever (R for nudity and sexuality) Romance drama, set in 17th Century Amsterdam, chronicling an artist's (Dane DeHaan) passionate affair with a married woman (Alicia Vikander) whose portrait he's been commissioned to paint. With Christoph Waltz, Zach Galifiniakis and Dame Judi Dench.

Unleashed (Unrated) Romantic comedy about a woman unlucky at love (Kate Micucci) who lands in an unlikely love triangle when her pet pooch (Steve Howey) and cat (Justin Chatwin) mysteriously morph into great guys she'd love to date. Featuring Sean Astin, Josh Brener and Illeana Douglas.

The Villainess (Unrated) Ok-bin Kim plays the title character in this action thriller, set in South Korea, as a trained assassin-turned-aspiring actress forced to take the law into her own hands when a couple of goons (Ha-kyun Shin and Jun Sung) from her former life come a-calling. With Ye-ji Min, Eun-ji Jo and Seo-hyeong Kim. (In Korean with subtitles)



Kam's Kapsules

By Kam Williams

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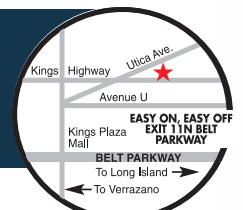
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West Indies player Kraigg Brathwaite, bats during the first day of the third test cricket match against India in Mumbai, India.

Associated Press / Rajanish Kakade, File

West Indies defeated

By Azad Ali

West Indies suffered an embarrassing defeat in the historic day / night Test against England by an innings and 209 runs in three days at Birmingham, London on Saturday, Aug. 19.

The regional team facing a massive task of overtaking England's imposing 514 for 8 declared was bundled out for

Continued on Page 50

Bolt warns drug cheats

By Azad Ali

Jamaican sprint superstar Usain Bolt has retired from track and field with a warning to drug cheats.

Bolt, last race was in the 200 meters at the London 2017 Olympics Championships where he failed to get gold and had to settle for bronze, is suggesting that athletes who uses drugs (anabolic steroid to increase muscle strength) should get a life ban.

"We hit rock bottom last year or the year before and now we're on our away backup. Now we have to be strict on this (drug use) to help the sport stay in good place. I've proven to the world you can do it. You can be great without doping, that's one of the things I want to preach to the

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UNCERTAIN ROAD

Cleveland Cavaliers forward LeBron James (23) shoots against Golden State Warriors forward Kevin Durant (35) during the second half of Game 5 of basketball's NBA Finals in Oakland, Calif., Monday, June 12, 2017.

Associated Press / Marcio Jose Sanchez, File

US men's basketball enters a new world — without its stars

By Brian Mahoney

The jerseys say USA, though that's about all that will be recognizable.

When the U.S. men's basketball team returns to action later this month, fans might be left wondering, "the red, white and who?"

The Americans are cautiously

entering a whole new basketball world, one in which not only are the best U.S. players not available, but neither are any in the NBA. LeBron James, Kevin Durant and the stars might show up in a few years for the Basketball World Cup and Olympics, but only if a group of minor leaguers

can get them there.

It's all part of FIBA's new qualifying format and the road starts at the AmeriCup 2017. It's a tournament the Americans don't need to win — and aren't sure they can — but one they have to play to make themselves

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169 in their first innings despite an aggressive unbeaten 79 from Jermaine Blackwood.

The Windies were asked to follow on by 364 runs, but they were bowled out for a paltry 137 in their second innings, with only opener Kraigg Brathwaite showing some resistance against the English bowlers with a top score of 40.

The defeat left West Indies trailing 1-0 in the three-Test series. The loss was the sixth heaviest ever for the Windies in its once-proud Test history.

Resuming at 44 for 1 in their first innings, they were all out after lunch on the second day.

England bowled West Indies out twice in less than 100 overs, taking 19 wickets in a day to win the match. It was also the first time a pink ball was used.

Opener Alastair Cook scored a fourth double century (243) and passed 11,500 runs in England's innings.

Joe Root's 136 saw him become just the sixth man to make a half century in 11 straight Tests.

And fast bowler Stuart Broad overtook Ian Botham to become England's second-highest Test wicket-taker with 384. His spell (3 for 34) under floodlights near the end claimed three wickets for four runs in 11 balls — including two wickets in two deliveries. West Indies has not won a Test in England since 2000. They lost their last four series in England 4-0, 3-0, 2-0 and 2-0.

Drug cheats

Continued from Page 49

younger kids," he told reporters in England on the final day of the competition.

Bolt wants to mentor to youngsters, particularly in his native Jamaica where he intends to occupy most of his times on retirement. But first, he said, will come to the nightclubs of London and Jamaica. Track and field has been Bolt's life since his remarkable talent was identified at the age of 10.

Over the past 20 years, Bolt has won three of his eight Olympic titles at London 2012.

He is blaming the lengthy wait in the cold weather before the 4x100 meter relay last Saturday night which may have contributed to what he said was a pulled hamstring injury, which caused him to pull up in the event.

Bolt had said he had no regrets about continuing after winning three gold medals at Rio 2016, but he said that the London 2017 Olympics would be his last.



New York Knicks' Carmelo Anthony (7) is defended by Philadelphia 76ers' Justin Anderson (23) during the second half of an NBA basketball game, Wednesday, April 12, 2017, in New York. The Knicks won 114-113.

Associated Press / Frank Franklin II, File

UNCERTAIN ROAD

Continued from Page 49

eligible for the events that will matter. "It's going to be really interesting," USA Basketball men's national team director Sean Ford said. "We don't know. We're flying blind a little bit."

Even the Americans' best-known commodity is a bit of an unknown now.

Jeff Van Gundy coached in the NBA Finals and is analyst for them every year on ABC, but he's leading the U.S. team as an international basketball rookie. He is busy brushing up on the nuances of a game that can be played and officiated completely differently than in the U.S.

He begins Thursday in Houston for training camp, where he will seek the 12 players who will travel to Uruguay and possibly Argentina for the AmeriCup and the potentially better-prepared opponents who wait.

"What we have to do is match and exceed their passion, how hard we play, how together we are as a group," Van Gundy said, "because when the U.S. has not succeeded in international competitions, it's because there wasn't as much maybe sacrifice as you need, or maybe you were deficient in one skill that was important."

It's the Americans' first appearance in the former FIBA Americas tournament since 2007. Their starting lineup in that romp to gold — James, Kobe Bryant, Carmelo Anthony, Jason Kidd and Dwight Howard — was one of the strongest the U.S. has ever assembled.

The 17 players in camp with Van

Gundy include Kendall Marshall, Reggie Williams, Darius Morris and Marshall Plumlee, players good enough to play in the NBA but not stick.

The Americans haven't needed to play in their zone championship since because they've won every Olympic and world title, exempting them from qualifying. But FIBA has revamped its qualification system to look more like soccer's, where national teams will play home-and-away games against teams in their pool.

But some of the windows are during the NBA season — the opening games are scheduled for Thanksgiving weekend — and players under NBA contract won't be permitted to play. So the Americans plan to primarily use players from the NBA G League, with perhaps some who have been playing overseas.

"Look, no one's going to feel sorry for us. But we know that this is different and we're going to have to figure out how to be successful in a different model," Ford said. "There's always unknowns, but there's probably more unknowns because No. 1, we don't know how good we need to be. We don't know how good we can be."

International NBA players could play for their countries in the AmeriCup Aug. 25-Sept. 3, but just like their American colleagues, they will not be able to represent their countries during the NBA season.

Ford considers the prospective players a notch below the NBA, calling them "survivors, grinders, competitors." That's far from the level that suited up for Mike Krzyzewski for a dec-

ade or would play for Gregg Popovich in 2019 and 2020, but Van Gundy is eager to work with them in his first coaching assignment — not counting his daughter's youth league — since he was fired by the Rockets in 2007.

"There's very few LeBron James of the world — obviously one — or great players who have it easy. These guys' careers have not been easy and so I really admire their persistence, their grit and their determination," Van Gundy said. "To get to work with them and coach them, that was part of the pull for me."

With limited time and options, the Americans know the AmeriCup could be a challenge. Ford said they hope to reach the semifinals in Argentina and see what happens from there.

They will need to start winning come the FIBA Basketball World Cup Americas qualifiers in November when they open their first-round pool that includes Puerto Rico, Mexico and Cuba.

The U.S. has to finish in the top three there, playing their other windows of games in February and June-July, to advance to another pool that will include three teams among Argentina, Panama, Paraguay and Uruguay, from Sept. 2018 to Feb. 2019.

Another top-three finish then would clinch their spot in China in 2019.

They will have a deeper field of candidates later who will be in shape from playing with their G League teams. But, they also could lose a player they like if he plays well enough for them in August to get a contract in the NBA or overseas.

Gayle to stay put for now

By Azad Ali

Hard-hitting opener Chris Gayle says he has no plans to retire and is setting his sights on the 2019 World Cup in England.

He is hoping to return to international cricket for a possible farewell to Test cricket.

Gayle, 37, one of the most decorated West Indies cricketers of modern times, has not played international cricket since helping the Caribbean side to capture the Twenty20 World Cup in India in April last year.

He has also not represented West Indies in One-Day Internationals (ODIs) since the last World Cup in Australia and New Zealand two years ago and has not played Test cricket in three years.

The Jamaican left hander, who has concentrated on Twenty20s, said he was making plans to be part of the One-Day Internationals and Test squads soon.

Gayle said he still wants to play for the West Indies in a Test match as well as the next 50-over World Cup and he is looking forward to that next year.

He is a former West Indies captain who has dominated every format of the game throughout his 17-year career.

The left-handed batsman has compiled 7,214 runs from 103 Tests at an average of 42, and is one of only four batsmen in his-



West Indies player Chris Gayle celebrates after taking the wicket of South Africa's Hashim Amla during their Cricket World Cup Pool B match in Sydney, Australia.

Associated Press / Rick Rycroft, File

tory with two triple centuries. He has also played 269 One-Day Internationals with 22 centuries and is one of two players in the

game with two Twenty20 in International series titles. Recently he became the first batsman to pass 10,000 runs in ODIs.

UWI opens sports faculty

By Azad Ali

Cricket West Indies (CWI) President Dave Cameron is giving kudos to the University of the West Indies (UWI) on the initiative to officially add the Faculty of Sport to its courses of studies.

Cameron said The Faculty of Sport at the UWI is a welcome addition to the academic inventory of the Caribbean at this time.

He said the university continues to be innovative in its academic development and this suggests that the region is preparing the next generation of leaders, managers and workforce.

Cameron noted that the value of this initiative adds to the established sporting prowess of the region on the field, track, and ring (boxing) shows the extent of what the university believes is an industry worthy of investment.

He said CWI stands by to support these efforts. The Faculty was official launched last month.

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ARIES: Mar 21/Apr 20
Aries, change is afoot, but there is no use trying to cling to the past. Look to the future and find a way to embrace the changes and challenges that lie ahead.

TAURUS: Apr 21/May 21
Taurus, beneath that cool, calm and collected exterior beats the heart of someone who may be looking for adventure from time to time. Let others see your wild side this week.

GEMINI: May 22/Jun 21
Gemini, you can think of plenty of reasons why you shouldn't take chances this week, but somehow you are compelled to take risks. Just be careful who you involve.

CANCER: Jun 22/Jul 22
Your shift with regard to motivation is quite evident this week, Cancer. Others notice this change in attitude and are willing to come on board to support you further.

LEO: Jul 23/Aug 23
Leo, an exciting announcement makes it difficult to maintain your composure over the next few days, but give it your best shot. Look at it as a challenge that needs to be met.

VIRGO: Aug 24/Sept 22
Virgo, you are usually quick to catch on and can easily read between the lines of a situation. Put this skill to use in an important business meeting in the coming days.

LIBRA: Sept 23/Oct 23
It is hard for you to respond when people do not play by the rules, Libra. Do not let their activities ruin your week. Continue to follow your own path.

SCORPIO: Oct 24/Nov 22
Scorpio, no matter how many times you run through the details of a specific situation, you still will come up with questions. Work them out until you feel confident.

SAGITTARIUS: Nov 23/Dec 21
Something big is on the horizon and you are getting very excited about it, Sagittarius. The wait will soon be over and you can enjoy yourself fully. Try to remain patient a little while longer.

CAPRICORN: Dec 22/Jan 20
Sticking to your safety zone has done you well, Capricorn. But sometimes you need to step outside of the boundaries for a new perspective. Don't let apprehension hold you back.

AQUARIUS: Jan 21/Feb 18
Aquarius, a packed calendar feels stifling right now. It's good to have a solid social network, but not if it comes at the expense of free time. See what you can clear from your schedule.

PISCES: Feb 19/Mar 20
There is more to living than adhering to career goals, Pisces. Find ways to schedule more activities that bring you happiness.

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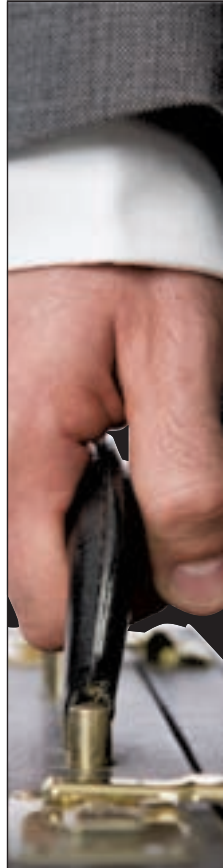
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LEGAL

Steven J. Baker, Esq., Successor Referee
Ann Pinciss Berman, Esq., Referee
Caribbean Life
SUPREME COURT – COUNTY OF KINGS
BAYVIEW LOAN SERVICING, LLC, Plaintiff
against
ANDRE MAXWELL, KARLYNE MAXWELL
A/K/A KARLYNE J. MAXWELL, ALDEN MAXWELL, DEXLENE MAXWELL, TED MAXWELL, et al
Defendant(s).
Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered on December 21, 2015.
I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction in Room 224 of the Kings County Courthouse, 360 Adams Street, Brooklyn, N.Y. on the 7th day of September, 2017 at 2:30 p.m. premises described as follows: All that certain plot, piece or parcel of land, with the buildings and improvements

LEGAL

thereon erected, situate, lying and being in the Borough of Brooklyn, County of Kings, City and State of New York.
Said premises known as 167 East 59th Street, Brooklyn, N.Y. 11203. (Block: 4731, Lot: 27).
Approximate amount of lien \$ 639,266.72 plus interest and costs.
Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed judgment and terms of sale.
Index No. 503057-13.
Steven J. Baker, Esq., Referee.
McCabe, Weisberg & Conway, P.C.
Attorney(s) for Plaintiff
145 Huguenot Street – Suite 210
New Rochelle, New York 10801
(914) 636-8900

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Carican Costumes tells 'Little History of Carnival'

By Nelson A. King

Trinidadian mas designer and producer Pat Nurse will be taking her costume-designing workshops a little further by telling a "Little History of Carnival" in this year's production for the West Indian American Day Carnival Parade.

She told Caribbean Life that Carican Costumes, her band, decided on the production because it is the band's "5th anniversary of Labor Day in Brooklyn."

"Little History of Carnival" comprises four sections: "Bronx to Brooklyn," "Labor Day is a Sunny Day," "Mask Faces" and "Carnival is Color."

With 20 masqueraders in each section, Nurse said girls will play in all four sections, while boys play in two sections.

King, Queen and Characters will be included in each section, she said.

Nurse said masqueraders from "every nationality" can expect a "great time."

"As usual, we have always given our children refreshments, balloons, whistles and toys along the [parade] route," she

said, adding that music will be supplied by DJ Tolo.

Nurse said Carican Costumes has "always won a prize every year," as volunteering parents and children help in the production.



Jeremiah Johnson portrays "Mask Faces."



Arianna Waite portrays "Winter to Summer (Bronx to Brooklyn)."

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Rhythm International catches '5 Elements'

By Nelson A. King

With over 20 years of producing mas, Trinidadian Anton Reynolds says his mas band, Rhythm Catcher International, catches "5 Elements" for Labor Day.

He told Caribbean Life that "5 Elements" comprises "Earth," "Fire," "Water," "Wood" and "Metal."

"All sections are designed for women," said Reynolds, whose dream was to produce mas ever since he was "a little boy back home." "This year, we did not include men 'cause we realize, in the past, men prefer just to buy a t-shirt."

He said each section will have a maximum of 50 masqueraders, with between 150 and 200 altogether.

"New York is a big melting pot, so our masqueraders are from all over the Caribbean," Reynolds said. "Everyone hopes to come in first, but, most impor-

tant, all masqueraders have fun.

"We haven't won yet, but our time is coming," he assured in competing for a top prize in the West Indian American Day Carnival Parade. "Masqueraders can expect great music, a loving staff, food, beverages and, most of all, safety."

Reynolds said preparations are "going accordingly," with "a lovely staff that works around the clock to make sure needs and deadlines are met."

Masqueraders will move to the rhythms of DJs Sterling Silver, Desperado and X-rated.

The mas camp is located at 2705 Church Ave., close to the corner of Rogers Avenue in Brooklyn.

Follow Rhythm Catcher International on Instagram @rhythm_catcher_int; or call Anton and Kimberly Reynolds at (646) 858-6680 or (347) 656-0115.



Briana Armour portrays "Frontline Floating Water" and (right) Anna Martineau portrays "Frontline Mahogany Wood."

Photos by Nelson A. King



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Kaios Int'l looks at 'Time Machine, Then, Now and Future'

By Nelson A. King

As it participates for the 17th consecutive year in the West Indian American Day Carnival Parade on Brooklyn's Eastern Parkway, Kaios International Mas Band is looking at "Time Machine, Then, Now and Future."

"The concept is a tribute to 'ole mas' as we used to know it ('Then' segment); mas as we currently know it ('Now' segment); and the evolution of mas as we anticipate in years to come ('Future' segment)," said co-band leader Trinidadian Tamera Khalifa in a Caribbean Life interview.

She said "Time Machine, Then, Now and Future" comprises 13 Adult sections: Ole Mas; Obeah in We — designer Junior Elias Andrews of Cocorite House; Spyrasticka — designer Patterson Nelson; Now Mas; Supernova Sunset — designer Shakellia Augustine; Orion's Treasure — designers Tamera Khalifa, Trini Toussaint and Yazmin Baptiste (Diamond Class Mas &

Major Look Designs); Papillon — designers M&R Designs (Martin and Richard Andell Jack); Draco (male only) — designers M&R Designs (Martin and Richard Andell Jack); Soca Gladiators — designers Tramaine Aigle and Latoya; Y2K — designers Kenneth Johnson (The Promise); Nostalgia — designer Makesi Andrews; Ohemma/Midnight Fantasy/Cherchez La Femme — designer Errol; Future Mas; and Epoch — designer Patterson Nelson.

There are also four kids' sections — Botanica Warrior (male only), Peoni Paradise, Botanica Lily and Royal Botanica — and one pre-teen section, Pretty Little Butterfly.

With 20-30 masqueraders in each section, Khalifa said 150-plus masqueraders altogether, of all nationalities — Trinidadians, Grenadians, St. Lucians, Vincentians, Jamaicans, Barbadians, Antiguan, Virgin Islanders, Haitians and Belizeans — will gyrate down the Parkway.

"Masqueraders can expect the best carnival experience they've had to date — good music, good vibes, food and drinks, complimentary breakfast, gives-away, security and the chance to jump with the number one band on the road for 2017," she said.

Music will be supplied by DJs "Top Flight" (Sean Philips) from the Franchise Family; "Father Dread" (Barrington Coburn) from Pretty Posse; and "DJ Steph" (Stephanie Roberts) from The One Gyal Army.

"We expect to come home with nothing less than the first-place title," said Khalifa confidently, disclosing that Kaios International has "placed a number of times" in competing in the carnival parade. Last year, the band collaborated with D'Midas.

She said Kaios International, over the years, has placed second and third in the large band category, first and second in small band and even second in medium band.

"Our masqueraders are die-hard Kaios supporters and come back year after year for a great experience," said Khalifa, stating that the band was founded by band leader Trinidadian Mark McLean in 2000 "because we saw people who paid for costumes, with another band at the time, and on Labor Day morning, there were no costumes made for them.

"Mark saw the tears and hurt in their eyes, and his heart dropped," she said. "He walked over to them and vowed that, if they came with him the following year, he would ensure they were compensated for this painful experience and be able to fulfill their mas experience," she added.

Prior to founding Kaios International, Khalifa said McLean had helped other bands with costume production.

Khalifa said preparations for this year's production are "going very well," stating: "We have a group of wonderful section leaders who work



Allyssa McLean portrays "Y2K."

Photos by Nelson A. King



Jon Edwards portrays "Orion's Treasure Male Frontline."

very well together.

"We help each other to make sure the band on a whole succeeds," she said. "We operate like a family, and we don't compete with each other. Everyone helps out — down to the photographers, DJs, graphic designers and truck builders."

Kaios International mas camp is located at 1523 St. John's Place in Crown Heights, Brooklyn, and the showroom is at 662 Blake Ave. in East New York, Brooklyn.

You can visit Kaios International Mas Band at www.kaiosnyc.com, or email at kaiosint@gmail.com. The band is also on Facebook: Kaiosnyc; Instagram: Kaios_international; and Snapchat: kaios_int.

Additionally, you can call Khalifa at (917) 202-2265, or McLean at (917) 327-0458.



Phoenix Thornhill portrays "Royal Botanica."



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Casino exhibit celebrates city's carnival in photos

By Alexandra Simon

There's a carnival in the game house.

A new exhibit honoring one of the most popular aspects of Caribbean culture opened at Resorts World Casino in South Ozone on Aug. 9. The photographic presentation titled "Carnival in the City," will be on display at the casino until Sept. 3, showing off the glitz and color of photos from one of the city's most festive cultural events. About a dozen of the pictures showcase the designs of longtime costume producer Roy Pierre, who has worked in the business for decades and he is well deserving of the honor, he said.

"I've been doing carnival costume bands since the inception of organized J'ouvert and I eventually got involved in starting costumes with parade on Eastern Parkway — so I'm not new to this. I'm a veteran to carnival in New York," said Pierre.

This year Pierre will present his band "Untamed!" for the J'ouvert parade.

The legendary designer has an entire floor of photos dedicated to his creations. The show in total has 24 photos that are divided onto two floors of the casino — one floor of Pierre's designs and the other floor shows pictures of mas camps.

The two-month-long exhibit that includes many images from photographer Keith Getter, features J'ouvert and the West Indian American Day Parade, is being housed in the casino until the end of September where passersby and casino-goers can take a look at some of the photos of the events through the years. The placement of the gallery in the gambling locale is a great way to get people of non-Caribbean background to grow familiar with the culture, which is often misconceived due to bad press over the years, said

one of the exhibit curators and organizer.

"This could help us with the showcasing of who we are as a Caribbean community, and give a chance to expose our culture to people who are not ordinarily exposed to it," said Karen Valentine. "There are more than 20,000 people who walk through the doors of the casino every week, so it's very nice that they'll get to see our culture here, especially because of the negative press coverage about J'ouvert and carnival over the years."

She added that guests will be just as impressed by the photos in the gallery as she was, and hopes it will be a stepping stone to a larger project in the coming years.

"It's amazing the type of imagery that we have out there — I was blown away by some of the images," said Valentine. "I really hope people come out to see it so we can have a bigger exhibit in the future."



Costume producer Roy Pierre, pointing, at the "Carnival in the City" exhibit show at Resorts World Casino in South Ozone, Queens on Aug. 9.

Photo by Stefano Giovannini

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STK#371728 Model#1852, 4cyl, Auto, Power s/b/w/l.
MSRP: \$20,257.
Ttl Pymts /Residual: \$4,284/\$11,533.

NEW 2017 TOYOTA CAMRY LE



\$153⁽¹⁾ PER MO. LEASE 36 MOS

STK#371176 Model#2532, 4cyl, Auto, Power s/b/w/l.
MSRP: \$24,253.
Ttl Pymts /Residual: \$5,508/\$12,599.

NEW 2017 TOYOTA RAV4 LE AWD



\$173⁽¹⁾ PER MO. LEASE 36 MOS

STK#372532 Model#4432, 4cyl, Auto, Power s/b/w/l.
MSRP: \$27,776.
Ttl Pymts /Residual: \$6,228/\$16,646.



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(1) Price includes all costs to consumer except tax, title, DMV & \$75 Dealer Fee. Due @ Signing= \$1,995 Down Pymt. + 1st Mo. Pymt + \$650 Acq. Fee + \$0 Sec Dep (Waived By TFS) + Tax, DMV, Doc Fee. (*17 Corolla). Includes \$1250 Lease Cash Available Thru TFS. (*17 Camry) Includes \$2,500 Lease Cash Available Thru TFS. (*17 Rav4) Includes \$1500 Lease Cash Available Thru TFS. Requires Approved Credit Thru TFS. All pricing based on Tier1 Credit subject to credit approval. Lessee Resp For Excess Wear/Tear. 10k Mi Per Year, 15¢ Each Add'l Mi. Not Resp For Typo Errors. Not valid on previous purchases. (2) Only available to existing Toyota or Scion owners or lessees (household members included). Includes gas and hybrid models. \$500 rebate available on L, LE & SE Models. \$1,000 rebate available on XLE & XSE models. (3) Low financing on select new 2016 and 2017 models up to 72 months on approved credit through TFS. 0% APR financing for 36months with \$27.78 per \$1,000 borrowed. 0% APR financing for 48 months with \$20.83 per \$1,000 borrowed. 0% APR financing for 60 months with \$16.67 per \$1,000 borrowed. 0% APR financing for 72 months with \$13.89 per \$1,000 borrowed. (4) Based on dealers factory scheduled maintenance. Not valid on previous purchases. Expires 08/27/17.