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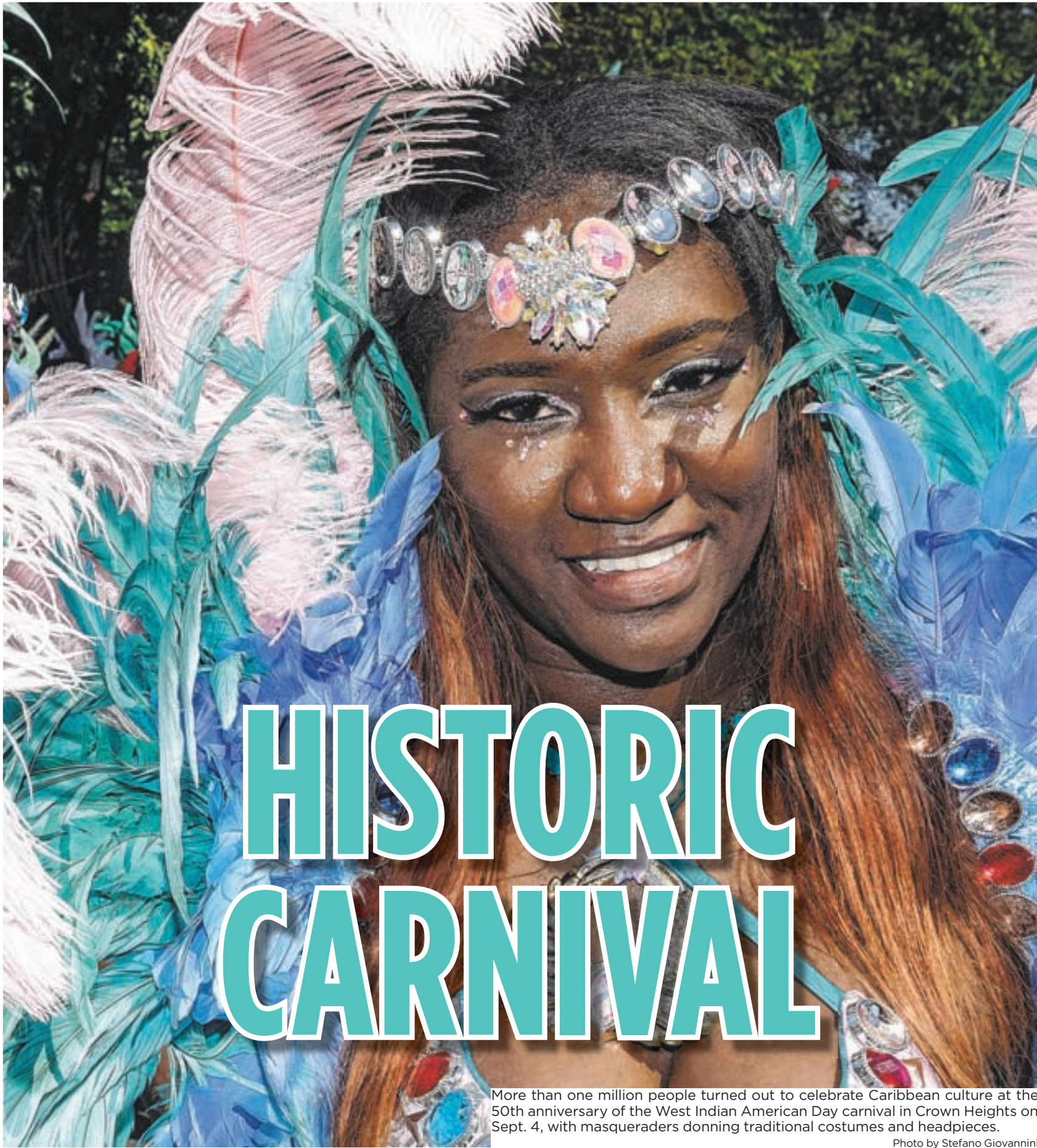
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More than one million people turned out to celebrate Caribbean culture at the 50th anniversary of the West Indian American Day carnival in Crown Heights on Sept. 4, with masqueraders donning traditional costumes and headpieces.

Photo by Stefano Giovannini

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Agencies prepare hurricane relief



New York State Comptroller,
Thomas P. DiNapoli. Danielle Jones

Ready for a DACA fight

By Dawn Plummer

In the aftermath of the announcement made by the Trump Administration on Tuesday to end the program, Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), the New York State Comptroller, Thomas P. DiNapoli has condemned the action taken by the government and called it cruel, immoral and un-American.

In his remarks DiNapoli further declared that of the over 800,000 young adults who may be affected with the end of a DACA program, 40,000 are New Yorkers who have met the requirements and are educated and have passed background checks, which allowed them to earn their DACA status.

The New York state comptroller said that the young people will also be robbed of the opportunity to work and live without fear of deportation. DiNapoli said that the decision to deport the beneficiaries of the DACA program calls for the involvement of everyone, "to join in with the immigrant youths and to fight for the DREAM Act."

DeNapoli went on to call for better and firmer implementation on legislative solutions that will affirm value and dignity to the immigrant community. For this DiNapoli asked that the community sought out immigrant serving organizations in New York City with unclaimed funds to ensure that they receive these funds that can help serve the immigrant community. "The organizations that serve the immigration community in New York should consider the Office of the State Comptroller an ally," he noted.

The state comptroller also reminded the young "Dreamers" of New York state that he stands with them to fight back on the decision to end DACA.

By Nelson A. King

Deeply concerned about the devastation wrought by Hurricane Irma in the Caribbean, United Nations agencies are already preparing supplies and communication lines to the youth in the region.

"Although it is still early to know the full impact that Irma will have in the region, the main concerns of UNICEF center around the supply of drinking water and food, and the health and protection of children and adolescents," the United Nations Children's Fund said on Wednesday.

UNICEF said its office in the region has activated its emergency protocols, and is working with Government officials in Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, St. Maarten, St. Kitts and Nevis, and the Virgin Islands, as well as the Dominican Republic, Haiti and Cuba, which the hurricane is projected to hit next.

Supplies of drinking water, unperishable food and medicines, and emergency kits are pre-positioned and ready for distribution in the most affected communities, UNICEF said.

The agency also activated its U-Report platform, which allows it to send urgent messages via Facebook and other social media platforms to young people who subscribed.

"Considering the possible magnitude that Irma represents, it is both hugely urgent and necessary to be prepared, informed and vigilant so that we try to avoid the impact on the most vulnerable, that is to say children," said Marita Perceval, Regional Director of UNICEF in Latin America and the Caribbean.

The UN said Hurricane Irma has become "the most dangerous natural phenomenon" in the region this year, stating that its impact may likely surpass Hurricane Matthew, which was a category 4 hurricane on a five-point scale and affected 3.2 million people last October – of whom 1.3 million were



A homeowner makes last minute repairs to his roof in preparation for Hurricane Irma, in St. John's, Antigua and Barbuda, Tuesday, Sept. 5, 2017.

Associated Press / Johnny Jno-Baptiste

children.

Since last fall, UNICEF said it has been working with government officials in the Caribbean to help create better access to clean water and hygiene, education, protection, nutrition and health, and respond to the spread of cholera.

The UN said a team of humanitarian workers headed to Barbados on Wednesday to work with the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA).

The team will help those on the ground brace for a storm that could affect up to 37 million people, the UN said.

In Haiti, UN humanitarian staff have been deployed to the northern area of the country, which is likely to be hit.

In addition, the UN said some military and police from the "drawn-down" of the UN peacekeeping mission in the country, known as MINUSTAH, are preparing to be deployed to assist the Haitian National Police.

Thousands protest DACA ruling

By Tequila Minsky

On Tuesday, Sept. 4, Attorney General Jeff Sessions announced — as anticipated — that the Trump administration will not renew the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program introduced by President Obama's executive order, five years ago. Sessions said DACA will end in six months giving Congress time to formally act.

DACA provides temporary legal status to vetted young adults who immigrated before the age of 16 to the United States with their undocumented parents and are undocumented. Referred to as "Dreamers," it protects them from deportation, issues them a work permit and social security number. More than 800,000 are protected in this program.

Following the announcement, immigration advocates amassed on both sides



Protesters outside of Trump Tower in Manhattan. Photo by Tequila Minsky

of Fifth Avenue outside of Trump Tower to protest. Thirty-four were arrested after sitting on the roadway, blocking traffic. In what might have been called unofficial complicity, the police then

set up barricades to shepherd protestors across Fifth Avenue, blocking traffic for an additional 15 minutes.

In the early evening, DACA supporters rallied with local politicians and labor leaders at Foley Square who vehemently assured the crowd they will fight this ruling and will offer assistance to immigrants.

Following the rally, another civil disobedience action took place at the entrance to the Brooklyn Bridge, resulting in several other arrests including City Councilman Ydanis Rodriguez. Thousands then marched on the walkway across the Brooklyn Bridge.

Trump tweeted later on Tuesday night that "I will revisit this issue!" if Congress is unable to pass legislation within six months to formalize DACA.

Antigua

A Canadian tour company Sunwing will be taking over the management and operation of Antigua's largest all-inclusive resort, the 464-room Jolly Beach Resort & Spa from Sept. 1, 2017.

Blue Diamonds Resorts, the Caribbean's fastest-growing hotel company's managing director Jordi Pelfot said, "we are looking forward to bringing our operations to the beautiful island of Antigua, and to applying our management experience to this popular resort."



Known to be one of Antigua's best all-inclusive resorts for its value, Jolly Beach Resort and Spa is set on Jolly Beach and is surrounded by 40 acres of lush tropical garden and greenery.

Bahamas

Police in the Bahamas have arrested two Caribbean nationals after they arrived on a Caribbean airline flight.

In a statement, the police said that in the first case, drug enforcement officers on duty at the Lynden Pindling International Airport conducted a search of a suitcase owned by a woman from Suriname who had just arrived on a Caribbean airline.

It said during the search the officers uncovered just over nine pounds of cocaine. The woman was taken into custody and charged with several drug offences.

In the other incident, the police said that acting on a tip off, they conducted a search of a hotel room in the capital where they found nine pounds of cocaine hidden in a suitcase.

A woman from Guyana who had arrived on a Caribbean airline flight was later charged with trafficking in cocaine, the statement said.



The value of the drugs seized was not given neither was the name of the airline.

Guyana

The Guyana government has seen a 2.2 percent growth of the local economy so far for this year.

Minister of Finance Winston Jordan said the growth was important given the economic development in other Caribbean countries.

However, he noted that the growth for this first six months was "marginal."

The minister of finance said it is not a decline which means that there is still spending, adding that the spending is expected to increase as citizens become more confident and government policies will lead to sustained growth rather than be a "one off."



Hurricane Irma's path of destruction

This house in Barbados lost its roof to Hurricane Irma. See story on Page 14.

Photo by George Alleyne

Jordan said that local spending is directly correlated to the performance of the agricultural sector, particularly rice and sugar and with the latter's underperformance spending is affected "if only because a number of people employed directly and indirectly in those areas."

The minister said that were it not for sugar's poor performance, the economy would have passed the 3.8 percent growth initially projected, but due to the poor performance of this sector, projected growth has been reduced to 3.1 percent.



According to the mid-year report, sugar production was 49,606 tons, compared with 56,645 tons for the same period last year, a drop of 12.4 percent.

The shortfall was described as being due to Skeldon Estate's lack of production, due to unsafe boilers and the need for significant repairs.

Jamaica

The Jamaican government said it is moving to clear all criminal charges against National Hero, Marcus Harvey, whose 130th birthday was recently celebrated in Jamaica.

Culture, Gender, Entertainment and Sports Minister, Olivia Grange, said a bill is being finalized to take to parliament to absolve several iconic Jamai-

cans, including Garvey, of what she described as "acts of liberation."

Garvey was sentenced to prison in Jamaica in 1929 after he made a political speech in which he referred to corrupt Jamaican judges.

In November 1927, Garvey was deported to Jamaica after being imprisoned in Georgia, USA, on mail fraud charges.

He was founder of Jamaica's first modern political party, the People's Political Party (PPP) in September 1929.

He left Jamaica for London in 1935, where he lived until his death in relative obscurity in 1940.

In 1987, then Prime Minister Edward Seaga was instrumental in having Garvey remains returned to Jamaica and buried at National Heroes' Park. He made him Jamaica's first national hero in 1969 and also piloted a decision to pardon him from the criminal sentence in 1929.

The new bill will include provisions to remove the names of all "freedom fighters" with early anti-slavery leaders.



St. Lucia

St. Lucia's banana industry is expected to increase by a whopping 300 percent if current production trends continue, according to figures released by marketing agents WINFRESH.

Minister of Agriculture Ezechiel Joseph told reporters that if the current level of production is maintained, the island could see the production of almost 20,000 tons for 2017, an over 300 percent increase compared to 2016 figures.

He said the figures released by WIN-FRESH are "very encouraging" and called on farmers to continue to work diligently as government continues to expand the export market for the fruit.

Joseph revealed that the country is hoping to add to its exports starting in January where it will export 3,000 boxes of bananas to France weekly.



St. Vincent

The St. Vincent and the Grenadines Police have brought five disciplinary charges against the head of the Police Welfare Association (PWA), Sergeant Brenton Smith, after he allegedly made remarks on social media about plans to "storm" the Office of the Prime Minister.

The charges stem from the July 13 WhatsApp conversation among PWA executive members in which Smith reportedly said the executive should "storm" the office



Continued on Page 8

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Caribbean gov'ts standby to assist neighbors

By Bert Wilkinson

Caribbean governments and the Barbados-based Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA) were on standby late Wednesday waiting for one of the most powerful Atlantic storms in recorded history to pass by member states before kicking the rapid response system in place towards the weekend.

This is as Hurricane Irma blew through the region with winds of up to 190 miles per hour overnight Tuesday, causing significant damage in Barbuda and several other islands in the northeastern Caribbean including the region's Dutch and French neighbors.

Dutch St. Maarten and French Sint. Martin, took direct hits as the eye of the storm passed directly over the two European colonies, wiping out some of the more sturdier buildings and particularly taking out St. Maarten's iconic Princess Juliana International Airport.

That is the island where thousands of tourists flock to each year to watch the arrival of international flights which pass just a few feet above the heads of

visitors on world famous Maho beach

Tourists also cling on to the chain link fence to feel the power of planes preparing to take off but officials say this won't happen for a few weeks-if not months-because of the severe damage caused by Irma.

Jetways were broken in pieces and debris were strewn on to the runway. The main terminal building also sustained major water and debris damage. Large boulders smashed into planes which were inexplicably left on ramps despite warnings to the contrary from officials. Tides also dumped tons of sand on the runway, indicating that it might not open for a while yet.

The Caricom Secretariat in Guyana said late Wednesday that governments are certain to mount a high level team to visit the affected islands once the storm passes and once flights resume allowing for access to those countries and a proper inspection of the situation on the ground. They are also certain to send teams of engineers and soldiers from various member states to assist in rebuilding efforts on affected islands.

In the meantime, the storm was headed to Puerto Rico on Wednesday and also had the Dominican Republic, the Virgin Islands, the Turks and Caicos and calamity-stricken Haiti in its sights, among others. Authorities in nearby Bahamas have ordered the evacuation of several of the southern so-called Family Islands, moving them to New Providence in the north as the storm is expected to make landfall on Thursday or early Friday if projections hold true.

Prime Minister Hubert Minnis was firm and adamant that locals in the southern Bahamas should get out of the way as accessing those areas if hit by Irma would be difficult.

"Don't be foolish and try to brave out this monster storm. Don't put your lives and those of your loved ones at unnecessary risk," he said as he appealed for common sense to prevail. "This is the largest evacuation in the history of this country," he said.

In St. Kitts and Nevis in the meantime, senior journalist Clive Bacchus said the twin island with Nevis was spared the worst. "No reported deaths at this time. No major damage on both islands.



People stand near the shore before the arrival of Hurricane Irma, in Luquillo, Puerto Rico, Wednesday, Sept. 6, 2017.

Associated Press / Carlos Giusti

Officials still assessing the situation but spared. Loads of rain and some strong wind but thankfully far below expectations. I am trying to get more info on vulnerable areas and losses," he said in a hurried note to colleagues.

In neighboring Antigua,

Prime Minister Gaston Browne said that island was also spared but he was preparing to head to Barbuda to determine the situation on the ground as reports have indicated that dozens of buildings were damaged. About 1,500 people live there.

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"Jesus is the light of the world. Those that follow him will not walk in darkness" John 8:12

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
 ↓ of God)
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 Insects, etc.



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CARIBBEAN ROUNDUP

Continued from Page 4

of Prime Minister Dr Ralph Gonsalves in an effort to have issues affecting police officers addressed.

The PWA president is also accused of conducting himself "in a mutinous behavior." Charges are also expected to be laid against another PWA executive member.

Trinidad

Trinidad and Tobago and the United States have once again reaffirmed their commitment to support and collaborate with each other to aggressively deal with the threat of violent extremism and transnational crime.

The bilateral arrangement was confirmed during a courtesy call by General Raymond A. Thomas 111, the 11th Commander of the United States Spe-

cial Operation Command to Minister of National Security Edmund Dillion.

Dillion noted that while violent extremism is not specific to Trinidad and Tobago, the government is dealing with the phenomenon where citizens travel to areas associated with terrorism and return home.

He said the government is actively engaging its regional and international partners including the United States to treat with these global challenges.

General Thomas 111 said he recognizes the need for Trinidad and Tobago and the United States to synchronize their efforts, especially to treat with ISIS.

-Compiled by Azad Ali



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Congress must override the President's repeal of the Dream program

By Albert Baldeo

The dreadful news that President Donald Trump has scrapped the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) policy is very troubling. In addition to the legal actions to preserve and / or reinstate it, Congress must swiftly act to make it law. The people protected by DACA have been referred to as "DREAMers" and are people who were brought by their parents to America as children, before they were able to make an independent choice to immigrate. These folks are, as President Obama said when enacting DACA, American in every way--except for possessing papers.

Former President Obama condemned President Trump's decision to end the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program, saying a "shadow has been cast over some of our best and brightest young people once again." Obama decided to implement DACA through an executive order during his presidency because "it made no sense to expel talented, driven, patriotic young people from the only country they know solely because of the actions of their parents."

"To target these young people is wrong – because they have done nothing wrong. It is self-defeating – because they want to start new businesses, staff our labs, serve in our military, and otherwise contribute to the country we love. And it is cruel," he said. Deporting them

back to countries they have no memory of and where they know nobody demonstrates the basic lack of human decency.

National pride and interest dictate that the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, or DACA initiative, should have been made permanent years ago. This year marks the fourth anniversary, and although the track record supports that conclusion, these dreamers still languish for some permanence to their hopes and endeavors. All Dreamers are products of America, and most also have someone in their family who's an American citizen—17 percent are married to a citizen, 26 percent have children who are citizens, and 59 percent have a sibling who's American.

Surveys and studies confirm that the economic, educational, and employment experiences and outcomes of DACA recipients make clear that DACA has had a positive impact, not just for recipients but also for the American economy more generally.

Through executive action, DACA provided temporary relief from deportation and work authorization to eligible unauthorized immigrants who entered the country at a young age. 800,000 unauthorized young people have received DACA, improving the lives of its recipients and their families.

The data illustrate that DACA recipients are making significant contributions to the economy by buying cars and



Our kids — the future leaders and defenders of America, should not be divided into first and second class citizens by repealing the Dream Act.

Surveys and studies confirm that the economic, educational, and employment experiences and outcomes of DACA recipients make clear that DACA has had a positive impact, not just for recipients but also for the American economy more generally.

first homes, which translate into more revenue for states and localities in the form of sales and property taxes. Some are even using their entrepreneurial talents to help create new jobs and further spur economic growth by starting their own businesses.

The positive wage effect of DACA is also significant. The data show that DACA increased recipients' average hourly wages by 42 percent. Given that higher wages translate into higher tax revenue and economic growth, these findings reinforce the fact that DACA benefits all Americans. Moreover, a full 95 percent of survey respondents are currently employed or enrolled in school. Consistent with the 2015 survey, the data indicate that many DACA recipients are getting better and higher-paying jobs because of DACA. Many are

pursuing educational opportunities that were previously unavailable to them. The majors, specializations, and training that DACA recipients are pursuing include early childhood education, biochemistry, computer science, creative writing, graphic design, neuroscience, nursing, social work, and urban planning, among many others, which benefits our nation.

The latest data indicate that having work authorization remains vital when it comes to helping DACA recipients participate more fully in the labor force. Eighty-seven percent of respondents to the 2016 survey are currently employed, with an additional 8 percent not working but in school.

The current survey is one of the first to systematically identify the industries in which DACA recipients are working,

and the results show wide-ranging labor market contributions. The data indicate that 21 percent of respondents work in educational and health services, 11 percent work in the nonprofit sector, 9 percent work in wholesale and retail trades, and 8 percent work in professional and business services. The results illustrate that DACA recipients are contributing across all sectors of the economy.

Furthermore, after receiving DACA, 63 percent of respondents reported moving to a job with better pay; 49 percent moved to a job that "better fits my education and training." 48 percent moved to a job with better working conditions. These figures are largely consistent with previous findings from the 2015 survey and show that the temporary work authorization that comes with DACA has helped to unlock recipients' economic potential.

The 2016 survey also found that 6 percent of respondents started their own business after receiving DACA. This rate of business starts is higher than that of both the American public as a whole—at 3.1 percent—and the entire immigrant population—at 3.6 percent. These businesses include tech startups, online craft stores, and tax preparation services, among others. One business owner who employs nine people hopes to continue to grow and "hire [even] more people from the community."

Statistics don't lie! Congress must act accordingly, and make President's signature initiative law!

Note: Albert Baldeo is a civil rights activist and community advocate. As President of the Baldeo Foundation and Queens Justice Center, he has continued to fight for equal rights, dignity and inclusion in the decision making process. He can be contacted at the Baldeo Foundation: (718) 529-2300.

Caribbean Life

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Sept. 11 – Happy time for some... Sad for others

The ninth month of the year signals the unofficial end of summer conjuring emotions of variance to students returning to school or entering a learning institution for the very first time.

It also provides temporary relief to parents of youngsters restricted throughout the hottest season of the year by constant companionship and mentorship without teachers.

In stark contrast to those perennial realities, since the millennium, the nation has had to recalibrate each year to recall a series of four coordinated terrorist attacks by the Islamic group al-Qaeda on the United States on the morning of Tuesday, Sept. 11, 2001.

The attacks reportedly “killed 2,996 people, injured more than 6,000 others and caused at least \$10 billion in infrastructure and property damage” Wikipedia notes.

On Sept. 11, four passenger airliners operated by two major U.S. passenger air carriers — United and American — were hijacked resulting in the single deadliest incident for firefighters and law enforcement offic-



Inside Life

By Vinette K. Pryce

ers in the history of the United States, with 343 and 72 killed respectively.

One jet crashed into the Pentagon — the headquarters of the Department of Defense in Arlington, County, Virginia, leading to a partial collapse of the building’s western side.

Another initially was steered toward Washington, D.C., but crashed into a field in Stonycreek Township near Shanksville, Pennsylvania, after its passengers tried to overcome the hijackers.

Worst of all, the haunting reflection of witnessing two passenger jet-planes surge into two of New York’s tallest edifices seemed at first like a scene from a movie. Many people could not believe their eyes. From a distance, the huge gasoline bombs looked like toy planes. Few would have perceived such a notion that terrorists took control of the

cockpit forcing suicidal and homicidal deaths in 2001.

The indelible images seem to resurface annually since then with added bleakness recalling billowing black smoke spiraling upward and across the skies.

Singer Michael Jackson had performed a fantastic concert at Madison Garden the night previous amidst a star-studded lineup that included Liza Minnelli, Whitney Houston, Shaggy and others.

I was among the patrons there to see the galaxial assembly.

The fact many of my entertainment associates were scheduled to jet back to the west coast on the first flight out of New York and those two flights were among the first bound for California resonated with concern.

It was also a primary election Tuesday and also a dead-



Reggae musician Peter Tosh, right, seen with local fans and musicians in Lagos, Nigeria, Feb. 26 1982. Associated Press, File

line day for me as entertainment editor at the Harlem-based, New York Amsterdam News.

Train service halted across all bridges, the uncertainty of more attacks and at the time the principal concern of ensuring that a major Black publi-

cation made the newsstands in a timely fashion seemed a priority.

Undoubtedly, 16 years later the sad reality returns for generations hard-pressed to believe that such an egregious attack

Continued on Page 55

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Hurricane Irma leaves one dead in Barbados



Barbadian surfer Zander Venezia.

Facebook

By George Alleyne

Though the monstrous Hurricane Irma passed miles north of Barbados, this island might have been among the first territory to register a casualty as a teen-aged surfer dared the rough seas and paid for it with his life.

On Tuesday when Irma was about to pummel mostly Barbuda at the beginning of its path of destruction along the Leeward's Islands chain, as 16-year-old Barbadian surfing ace, Zander Venezia, and others shrugged at the meteorological office's high surf advisory and small craft warning, and reportedly died of injuries when a wave slammed him into a reef.

Venezia was a Barbados Olympic surfing prospect for 2020 when the sport is scheduled to make its debut at the games.

Other surfers tried in vain to resuscitate the youngster who had just a few weeks

won the Rip Curl Grom-search qualifying event in Outer Bank, North Carolina.

The incident occurred in an area of Cattlewash, St. Joseph, notorious high wave action in times of passing storms.

Barbados TODAY online newspaper reported a veteran surfer and six-time national surfing champion Mark Holder saying the area could be very dangerous during passage of storms

"That wave only breaks when you have hurricane swells and it breaks in a different direction, so that swell breaks like once in a blue moon. When it is breaking guys go there because it is a beautiful wave, but it is pretty dangerous," Holder said.

He added, "In my 45 years I have never surfed that break, I surf at Soup Bowl and other places around the island but I never surf that break because

it is pretty dangerous. The way the waves are coming in today even at Soup Bowl, you have to be on your 'A' game. You must know what you are doing because out here is not easy. If you are not a professional, today is a day you should sit down and watch."

Packing winds of over 180 mph the Category Five storm had ripple waves across the Caribbean peninsula, with outer bands of the cyclone hitting Barbados and other territories miles away from the brunt of this weather system, said to be among the largest registered in the Atlantic.

High waves and winds propelled water over Barbados' careenage downtown leaving behind a mess of debris Wednesday.

Beaches were dotted with red flags warning would-be swimmers of the danger of Irma's monster waves.

The winds ripped off the roof of a house in St. David's Village,

Christ Church to register the other notable damage so far reported in Barbados, as the 68-year-old

home owner, Patsy Trotman, who along with a nephew were reportedly shaken but unharmed.

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Author to launch Belize's first writers conference

By Alexandra Simon

She's on a mission to reinvent literary history.

Belizean writer and author Joey Garcia is launching her country's first ever writers conference next spring. The Belize Writers Conference is set for April 23–28, 2018 and is going to give 30 writers a chance to a retreat on a resort and receive advice from literary experts about their work. It will be the first time a gathering of such is happening because in the past there were meetups for writers but none bigger summits, said Garcia.

"There have been maybe one or two writing workshops but I did all the research and none has ever been held," she said.

And as a writer she also took notice that other Caribbean countries in the region are well-known for their literature leaving out Belize.

"I think the literary arts have not been as emphasized and celebrated in Belize as other countries," said Garcia.

"It hasn't been pushed in any way although we have talented writers — but we haven't had any celebrated writers."

To change this narrative, the conference will be aimed at bringing writers of all ages — Belizean and non-Belizean — who want to share their work and connect with other writers. The five-day getaway will be on a resort on Ambergris Caye — an island off the coast of mainland about 45 minutes from Belize City. The trip prices range from \$1629–2099.

Everyday groups of 10 writers will meet with Carrie Howland from Empire Literary and Kate Johnson of Wolf Literary Services, and get feedback from them about their work. They also get to attend panels about self-marketing and entrepreneurship.

"The goal is to allow the writers the opportunity to have their fiction and nonfiction work critiqued at a professionally level and I'm bringing two pals to look at their manu-

scripts," said Garcia.

The conference has been a goal of Garcia's for a considerable time. As a writer and educator based in California, she frequently visits Belize and also founded her non-profit Rise Up Belize, to provide impoverished children throughout the country with access to educational programs.

"It's been a dream of mine for 10 years. I was born there and I'm working on raising the advancement of education in Belize," she said.

During the conference guests will even be treated to cultural experiences such as the music and history of the Garifuna people and Mayans, according to Garcia. The full-fledged conference offers yoga classes along with developmental workshops — and calming experience for the writers who can benefit from de-stressing event.

"It allows people to relax and unplug, and focus on something else in this fast paced



Author Joey Garcia is launching what will be Belize's first ever Writers Conference next spring. The Belize Writers Conference will be a five-day getaway at a resort.

Hope Images

world," said Garcia. "And they'll get time to work on the critiques they get and relax — they'll feel replenished."

Garcia said she wants the Caribbean community to come out in support of her mission, and help lift Belize into literature conversations about Caribbean writers.

"We have stories from Belize and we deserve as much attention as anywhere from the

Caribbean Diaspora," said Garcia. "So what I want from my Belizean brothers and sisters is an opportunity to raise their stories and get published to become part of the national and international literature community."

After the conference each writer will get a chance to write something for a journal that will be published several months after the event.

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Barbados dollar diminished



barbados former Prime Minister Owen Arthur.

Photo by George Alleyne

By George Alleyne

All persons living and doing business in Barbados have, begun operating with a dollar that has been unofficially devalued as of Sept. 01.

This is owed to a government decision in its last budget to affix a two percent fee on all transactions involving the use of foreign currency, which covers the gamut of activities from purchases of items outside of Barbados and simple remittances to relatives or friends.

Finance Minister Chris Sinckler had said in his June 30 budget proposal which Parliament passed days later, "in an effort to signal the need to reduce the demand for consumption goods I propose that, effective July 1, a broad-based foreign exchange commission be charged on all sales of foreign currency at a rate of two percent. This will extend to, inter alia, all wire transfers, credit card transactions, and over the counter sale of foreign cur-

rencies."

This means that that anyone on the island seeking to use credit, debit and travel cards for international transactions or purchasing foreign cash, bank drafts and wire transfers will have to pay a tax of two percent on the Barbados dollar value of the transaction

Government began applying this tax on cash, bank drafts and wire transfers since mid-July, but had delayed implementation on credit, debit and travel cards transactions to Sept. 01 because commercial banks needed time to adjust their accounting software.

A further disadvantage to users of Barbados dollars for foreign transactions is that there is no reciprocal arrangement because whenever they receive payment in currency from abroad the foreign money is still exchanged at the equivalent of Bds\$1 to .50 US cents.

In a clarifying statement earlier this week the Barbados Central Bank stated, "the Foreign Exchange Fee

is applicable to purchases made while overseas, as well as to items purchased from companies outside of Barbados, e.g. Amazon... the fee will be calculated on the Barbados value of the transaction using the exchange rate on the date that the transaction was processed, not on the date that the bill is paid and will be applied even if customers choose to be billed in Barbados dollars."

Former prime minister and noted regional economist, Owen Arthur, had said during parliamentary debate on this measure in the budget, that it "is effectively changing the price at which Barbados uses domestic currency to pay for foreign currency and making it necessary for Barbadians to use more domestic currency for foreign exchange. So that is a devaluation."

The thought of devaluation of the Barbados dollar triggers torment in the minds of Barbadians who cherish the fact that since 1975 their currency has held its trading value sym-

bolizing the nation's economic strength even amidst cyclical challenges.

But now having to pay

Bds\$102 for every 50 US cents of foreign currency spent means nothing else than that the dollar has diminished in value.

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BRIC helping media-makers excel at their craft

BY CAMILLE SPERRAZZA

BRIC is the leading presenter of free cultural programming in Brooklyn, and one of the largest in New York City.

It presents work by artists and media-makers who reflect Brooklyn's diversity, and their programs reach hundreds of thousands of people each year. The main venue, BRIC Arts Media House, offers a public media center, a major contemporary art exhibition space, two performance spaces, a glass-walled TV studio, and artist work spaces.

BRIC is also home to Brooklyn Free Speech, Brooklyn's public access initiative. This is a New York Emmy award-winning community television network that amplifies and honors alternative voices in media. The initiative seeks to empower Brooklynites with media dreams to share their brilliance, talent, and creativity with the world. People all over Brooklyn can come to BRIC's Media Center to obtain equipment, studio



Community radio specialist Mark Paqán is at the mic.

Photo by Jason Speakman

space, and to access editing software, free of charge, so they can produce their own television shows.

Those who wish to use the center's state-of-the-art equipment and facilities need to become certified community producers through BRIC's Media Education program, which offers a variety of free and low-cost, high-quality film, television, and podcasting courses, serving 2,500 adult students annually.

Highlights from the summer programs include:

Intimate Eye: Capturing Theatrical Performance

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Riker's Island Podcasting Program

Brooklyn Media Educa-

tion, the education arm of Brooklyn Free Speech, helped develop and pilot a special podcasting program for youth detained at Riker's Island. Eight students learned about the technical side of podcasting, brainstormed show ideas, wrote and recorded their scripts, and learned how to edit their podcasts.

Photography Bootcamp at Arlington Library

The class will culminate in a special public exhibition of the student work at the Arlington Library.

Brooklyn Free Speech Radio

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Documentary Intensive applications now open!

In this class, a group of 12 Brooklynites will be selected to write, produce, and shoot a documentary on a subject of their choosing. Students will make their own films, help their classmates, and develop a cohort that can work together after the class ends.

Application deadline: Sept. 14.

Documentary Intensive runs from Oct. 26 to Feb. 22, 2018.

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Picture-perfect carnival in Brooklyn

By Nelson A. King

For at least the third consecutive year, revelers, masqueraders and millions of spectators converged in picture-perfect weather on Brooklyn's Eastern Parkway on Labor Day for the 50th annual celebration of the West Indian American Day Carnival Parade.

With temperatures at a high of 84 degrees, around 3 pm Monday, the sight, sounds, pageantry, artistry and everything else West Indian exploded along the 3 ½ mile-long parade route that began at Buffalo Avenue and ended at Grand Army Plaza in Brooklyn.

The cornucopia of colors and the potpourri of West Indian dishes that wafted the air brought the best out of West Indians, including over 3 million onlookers who converged for the annual extravaganza.

The ubiquitous police presence and extraordinary security did not prevent Caribbean nationals from reveling in what has been described as the largest parade in North America.

Some spectators even ventured among the multiplicity of costumed bands to "get down" with masqueraders and revelers.

Jamaican Candace Manley, who usually plays mas in Hollywood, Los Angeles and recently moved to Brooklyn,



Trinidadian Natasha Carrington represents Kaios International.

Photo by Nelson A. King



said she could not resist playing mas on the Parkway.

"I'm just having fun," said Manley portraying "Glamorous" from perennial band leaders Sesame Flyers, as she linked up, for the very first time, with Antiguan Latoya Jeffers, who played "Bella" with the band Ramajay.

"Our culture brings people together," chimed in Jeffers, who has been playing mas in the West Indian American Carnival for the past four years. "I'm having fun, enjoying my culture, meeting my people, enjoying life. This is my culture."

St. Lucian Beverly Francis, who usually plays with Karma Carnival Band, joined Messiah Mystic this year.

"Madness on the road, split in the middle," she exclaimed, as she gyrated to pulsating Caribbean soca rhythm emanating from humongous boom boxes mounted on a nearby flatbed truck.

As she portrayed Boom Mas's "Empress of the Jewel," Darlene Price, 46, who was born in Guyana to a Guyanese mother and a Trinidadian father, said she was playing mas since 14.

Continued on Page 24



Vincentians Charelle Ollivierre (L) and Gabrielle Ollivierre - both of Bequia - "Party on the Parkway" with the newly-formed Stronjeh International (left) and St. Lucians Heidi B (L) and Shashamane portray "Caviar and Truffles."

Photos by Nelson A. King

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Eastern Parkway comes

Continued from Page 22

“Oh God, having fun already,” said the Irving, Texas resident, who came to Brooklyn just to play for Boom Mas for the very first time. “I’m tired, but am playing. I will not stop doing this for anything.”

Natasha Carrington, who hails from East Dry River, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, said she has been playing with Kaios International for the past 20 years.

“I’m enjoying myself,” she said. “I’m representing Trinidad and Tobago, and living life.”

Flatbush, Brooklyn residents African American Angela Battle and Jamaican Kimmi Campbell played for Freaks Mas.

“We love it,” they said in unison. “It’s good for the culture; it’s good for Brooklyn.”

A few yards away Grenadian Erica Paul and Guyanese Star Denny played for Antoine International.

Paul said it was “wutlessness (worthlessness), no behavior (on the road),” reciting the words from a popular soca hit, while Denny said she was reveling in what she missed since childhood.

Trinidadian Annmarie Edwards, a supervisor of coordinators at Special Touch Home Care Agency in Brooklyn, brought along co-worker Panamanian Lydia Valmont to play for Ramajay.

“I’m a mas jumbie,” said Edwards, who began playing mas in her native land since she was 6, under her father’s guidance. “All I know is mas. After this Labor Day, I look forward to going to Trinidad and Tobago’s every year.”

“I love it,” Valmont said. “I look forward to play mas every Labor Day.”

Belizean Jelani Fernandez, Jamaican Deanna Findlay and Trinidadian Kenyetta Worrell teamed up for Suga Candy Mas.

“I feel good, I feel excited,” said Fernandez, while Findlay added: “I’ll be whining down all day.”

In portraying Don-golay Mas’s “Crowned Eagle,” Dominican Tamara Shillingford-Compas, said she has been playing “Queen” for the last three years.

“I love to play Queen,” she said. “I love our culture.”

Soca artiste Michelle Hillocks, who carries the sobriquet “Hibiscus,” came from Philadelphia to play for the Vincentian-owned band Mas Productions Unlimited, co-sponsored by the Brooklyn-based Friends of Crown Heights Educational Center.

“I feel good!” exclaimed Hillocks, winner of the Vincy New York New Song Competition in 2016, as a DJ struck up soca vibes. “Vincy people, you know we love we culture.”

Continued on Page 25



Panamanian Lydia Valmont (L) and Trinidadian Annmarie Edwards portray Ramajay’s “Opulence - the Art of Luxury.” Photo by Nelson A. King



Trinidadian Darlene Price portrays Boom Mas’s “Empress of the Jewel.” Photo by Nelson A. King

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Continued from Page 24

But despite the pagentry, gaiety and revelry, police said four people were stabbed and one person was shot along the parade route.

Injuries to two victims in separate incidents were not life-threatening, police said; the conditions of the other victims were unclear.

The shooting victim, taken to the sprawling Kings County Hospital in Brooklyn, was in stable condition, police said.

Monday's grand parade climaxed five days of Caribbean carnival festivities, celebrated under the theme "From A Dream to A Legacy," which began on Thursday, August 30.

It featured "Reggae Unda Di Stars," starring "Reggae Ambassadors" Cocoa Tea, Ghanaian Dancehall Reggae artist, Stonebwoy, and Brooklyn's own Afrobeat songstress, WUNMI, performing popular hits like "She Loves Me Now," "FYAH," "My Name," "Come from

Far" and "Fit Body."

The show was augmented with "a taste of Marley magic" by the appearance by Grammy award-winning artist, Stephen "Ragga" Marley, commemorating his father's visit to the same Brooklyn stage where he (Bob 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 New York City.

Friday, Sept. 1, celebrated the annual "Summer Jam: Stay In School Concert & Youth Fest;" and, in the evening, the popular Brass Fest concert featured "Soca Ambassadors" D'All Stars, including 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



From left, Vincentians Diamond King and Isha Winer, and Trinidadians Kaliyah Cody and Faith Johnson represent Kaios International.

Photo by Nelson A. King

Child (St. Vincent and the Grenadines); Lavaman (Grenada); King Bubba (Barbados); and 2017 Road March King MX Prime of Ultimate

Rejects (Trinidad and Tobago).

On Sat., Sept. 2, the Junior Carnival and Panorama took place. The next day, the Dimanche

Gras finale was showcased, featuring "Calypso Ambassadors" The Calypso King of the World, The Mighty Sparrow." the Calypso Queen of

the World, Calypso Rose; David Rudder; Swallow (Antigua); Ras Iley (Barbados); and Dane Gul-

Continued on Page 26



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Mas in Brooklyn

Continued from Page 25

ston steel pan virtuoso, along with the King & Queen of the Bands costume presentations.

“We’ve worked hard to make this carnival what it is today,” said Trinidadian Angela Sealy, chairperson of the Brooklyn-based organizing group, West Indian American Day Carnival Association (WIADCA), in addressing the annual pre-Carnival Breakfast, at the Lincoln Terrace Court, near the beginning at the parade route. “We’re not paid; we’re doing this for the love of the culture.”

“Ladies and gentlemen, 50 years of my life, and we’re still jamming,” added Sealy, who was among the original founders of Caribbean Carnival in New York City, flanked by New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio and other elected officials.



Barbadian Andrea Mercury portrays Freak Mas’s “Graceful Cosborban Swan.”

Photos by Nelson A. King



Belizean Jelani Fernandez, Jamaican Deanna Findlay and Trinidadian Kenyetta Worrell portray Suga Candy Mas’s “Queen to Be.”



Masqueraders from Greenz United Mas display the Grenadian flag while portraying “Veko.”



Dominican Tamara Shillingford-Compas portrays Dingolay Mas’s “Crowned Eagle” (left)



and Grenadian Esther Morgan portrays Freak Mas’s “Midnight in the Garden.”

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Sat, Nov. 4, 2017	TACHS Administration
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Fri, Dec. 15, 2017	TACHS results to arrive at high schools.
Wed, Jan. 10, 2018	Release of admission notices by high schools.
February 2018	Response cards back to high schools – high school notification letters will include information relative to the date on which a student should return his/her acceptance letter to the high school of their choice.

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DATE	TIME	SCHOOL
September 2017		
Sat. 30th	10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Cathedral Christ the King
October 2017		
Sat. 1st	10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Christ the King
Thurs. 5th	6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.	St. Saviour
Sat. 7th	1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	McClancy
Wed. 11th	5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.	Bishop Loughlin
Thurs. 12th	6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.	Bishop Kearney
Sat. 14th	10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. 12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.	St. Agnes St. Edmund St. Francis St. John
Sun. 15th	12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.	Bishop Loughlin Mary Louis Molloy Xaverian
Thurs. 19th	6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.	Nazareth
Sat. 21st	1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Fontbonne
Sun. 22nd	1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. 12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. 12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.	Cathedral Holy Cross St. Saviour
Tues. 24th	7:00 p.m.	St. Edmund
Thurs. 26th	6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.	Nazareth St. Joseph
Sat. 28th	12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.	Nazareth
Sun. 29th	12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.	Bishop Kearney
November 2017		
Thurs. 9th	6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.	Cristo Rey
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Thurs. 18th	5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.	St. Agnes

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Guyanese show national pride to honor WIADCA 50th Anniversary.

Photo by Tangerine Clarke

Guyanese celebrate WIADCA on Eastern Parkway

By Tangerine Clarke

Guyana's Minister of Natural Resources, Semona Broomes joined a Guyanese contingent on Eastern Parkway on Monday, Sept. 4 and waved the Golden Arrowhead flag with nationals to the 50th Anniversary of the Caribbean American Day Carnival Association (WIADCA).

Minister Broomes said she was happy to celebrate with the Guyanese Diaspora, adding that the Guyana government felt it was necessary for a representative from the administration march with nationals to show unity, and in support of WIADCA.

"This is the biggest event in the Caribbean community and we are happy to celebrate its 50th Anniversary, said Broomes, adding that the government cares about Guyanese in the Diaspora, and reminded them of their newly acquired wealth.

"Your country has oil and gas. We are the richest people in the Caribbean, and we will transfer that wealth to educating Guyanese, as we develop our country," she said, while calling on the expatriates to work together in unity for the betterment of their homeland.

The nationals made history; since this is the first time a group headed by Guyanese-born elected officials joined the parade on Eastern Parkway. This was to say thanks to WIADCA, who last year, celebrated Guyana's 50th Anniversary of Independence by inviting Guyana's Consul General to New York, Barbara Atherly to join its festivities as a Grand Marshall to honor Guyana's achievement.

Scores of Guyanese, in yellow tee shirts affixed with the Guyana Coat-of-Arms emblem and the words "Guyanese Celebrate WIADCA@50, marched along the parade route singing patriotic songs.

The Guyana Celebrates WIADCA @ 50 banner, led Senator Roxanne Persaud, Justice Ingrid Joseph, Consul General, Barbara Atherly, President of the Guyana Unity Movement, Sherif Fraser, and members of other organizations as they marched to the beat of Master Drummer Menes de Griot and the Shanto Rhythms. A group of creative dancers performed a choreographer by Verna Walcott-White, to showcase Guyana's indigenous heritage.

Acting Supreme Court Justice, Ingrid Joseph in an invited comment, said it was important for her to march, because she is a born and bred Guyanese, and was very proud to celebrate her culture with her compatriots.

"I would not be here were it not for my Guyanese roots," said Judge Joseph.

Senator Roxanne Persaud in turn, thanked nationals for marching together, saying, "The next time we do this, let us encourage more people to come out to showcase the six races of Guyana. Too often this is what we see, said the politicians, adding that on-lookers, questioned if Amerindians (indigenous people) were Guyanese. People in Brooklyn see only one segment of the Guyanese community."

"Thank you for coming out to showcase Guyana. Let's do this again, but on a larger scale," said Senator Persaud.

Consul General Barbara Atherly also thanked Guyanese for their participation, and reminded them that the consulate is there to serve them, noting that the consulate will start its Saturday service from Sept. 16. www.guyana-consulatnewyork.org.

Jonathan Locke, a world-renown sculptor from the land of Pepper Pot, Cook-up rice and Roti and Curry, said many don't know the value of Guy-

Continued on Page 30

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WIADCA

Continued from Page 28

anese living in America, and the Labor Day parade was the place to showcase their culture, while Eric Joseph of the Guyana Unity Movement, said, "more than anything else, we are here to support WIADCA on its 50th Anniversary because very few institutions have stood the test of time, so it was imperative to honor this organization, and at the same time, display our Guyanese pride in the diaspora."

Mickey Harte, who travelled from New Jersey, said he was proud to be in the parade and is committed to sup-

porting events that benefit the Guyanese diaspora. Passionate about preserving the Guyanese culture, GUM member, Kay Gray said, "It is important that we preserve and protect our culture," while bringing attention to the noticeable lack of vending on the parkway during the carnival. "We must fight for our culture, and community organizations must mobilize towards this effort," said Gray. The Guyanese contingent ramped up their "Guyana Nice" song, penned by Menes de Groit, as they passed the Brooklyn Museum, and later gathered to sing "Oh Beautiful Guyana, Oh My Lovely Native Land in a crescendo, to end their historic participation.



Members of the Impressions Dance Theater perform on Eastern Parkway. Photo by Tangerine Clarke



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Junior costume bands revel like pros

By Tangerine Clarke

Once again, junior revelers showed their carnival prowess, shaking their costume tails, frames, and frills, to light up the streets of Crown Heights during a stirring presentation on Saturday, Sept. 2, that began the 50-year festivities of the West Indian American Day Carnival Association.

Little Grand Marshall Jalani Mccoi, led the multifaceted parade of color, pageantry and revelry, and commented, that the kids came to have a fun time with family friends. He was on point, because the juniors from as young as one-year old in detailed costumes enjoyed themselves during the last summer hooray of fun, before many of them head back to the classroom.

The cool temps certainly did not dampen the spirits on the kids, who thoroughly, enjoyed themselves. The blaring calypso music, steel pan sound and the excitement all wrapped into one, fueled the children's eagerness to showcase their cul-

ture.

Cutie babies being pushed along in strollers and others in the arms of their parents, equally showcased their carnival tradition, wearing costumes saturated with feathers, beads and sequins.

The little ones moved and grooved to the music, some pulling extravagant individual costumes, complete with towering headpieces along the grueling parade route.

D'Midas International — Goddess of the Sky — individual queen costume worn by a 14-year masquerader was simply magnificent. Plumes of blue feathers towered above the young lady, who reveled like a professional.

Sesame Flyers International's 13 years of winning has certainly put this band in a category by itself. This year's junior band portrayed "Life is Sweet" with a mix of multi-colored costumes, that little four-year-old Emily proudly displayed.

Parents along the parade



Goddess of the Sea from D'Midas International.

Photo by Tangerine Clarke

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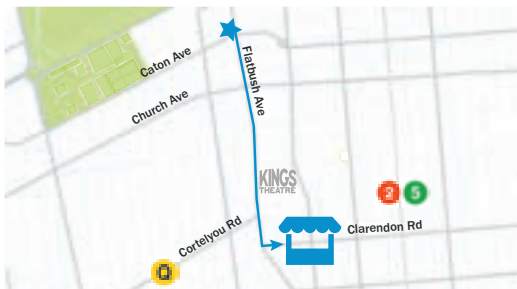
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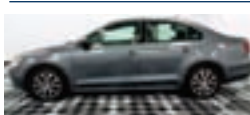
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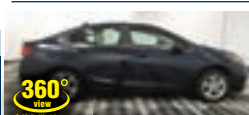
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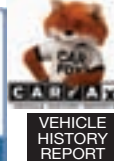
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Junior bands parade

Continued from Page 32

route showed dedication and determination to pass on the tradition, guiding children, at times, egging them on to gyrate to the music.

From three-year-old Anton of Fuzion Flavors, waving his Trinidad flag, to Charlotte of the Diamond Band in a gold colored costume, to three-year-old Ayana in pink, and Roxanne of Kaisokah Moko Jumbie USA — Things with Wings, to Tropical Fete's stilt dancers — A Child's Dream — and many others — this



Three-year old Ayana on the parade route. Photos by Tangerine Clarke



Pretty in pink, the little ones strike a pose.

carnival means much more to them than reveling.

West Indians in New York put all into preserving, and cherishing the carnival in their children's life. This was evident at the 50th annual junior parade that will be kept alive for generations to come.

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Estate planning: Properly preparing for your death

BY ISAAC YEDID, ESQ. AND
RAYMOND ZEITOUNE, ESQ.

Summer has come to an end and now is a great time to take a few minutes and think about the most important legal documents you should have prepared for the end of your life. We should all review our estate planning documents to ensure they are up to date and reflect exactly what we want to have done and the individuals on the receiving end are still supposed to be the receivers. If you don't already have your estate planning documents, now is the time to have them prepared by an estate attorney.

Your estate consists of everything you own. The most commonly known tool used in estate planning is a Last Will and Testament. Trusts are also commonly used, which can be either Revocable or Irrevocable. Both kinds of trusts avoid probate. Properly drafted Irrevocable Trusts can also shield some assets from long-term care expenses such as nursing home care costs (also known as Medicaid planning). Additional estate planning documents include a Power of Attorney and a Living Will or Health-Care Proxy.

An estate plan allows you to

appoint someone you trust to manage your assets and make health care decisions for you, if you ever become incapable of doing so, rather than leaving such decisions up to someone you did not select, and may not trust.

Estate planning is the process of addressing issues relating to the management and preservation of your assets during your lifetime, and then, ultimately, the transfer of those assets to your chosen beneficiaries. Many questions and issues are addressed in the estate planning process, including the following:

- If you are incapacitated for any extended period of time, who will pay your bills and manage your assets for you?

- Who will make your health care decisions during any period when you may be unable to make them for yourself?

- If you need long-term care such as a nursing home, how will the cost of your care be paid?

- Do you wish to do any asset protection planning, such as transferring your homestead and other assets into an asset protection trust, sometimes known as a "Medicaid qualifying trust," so that at least some of your assets are protected from long-term



care costs?

- Do you want your heirs/beneficiaries to receive their inheritances under a Will, which is subject to the oversight of your local Surrogate's Court, or do you want to avoid the Probate process by transferring your assets into a Revocable (Living) Trust? Note: Such a trust avoids probate, but does not give you any asset protection benefits.

- If you own any business interests, what plan do you have in place to transfer ownership and control of those interests to those who will take over the business? For closely held businesses, the use of "discount valuations" for minority interests and marketability discounts can significantly lower estate tax liabilities.

- Do you expect any Will challenges from your heirs, or do you want to disinherit any of your closest heirs? Such circumstances strongly suggest the use of a Living Revocable Trust, to reduce the chance that your directives might be subject to challenge.

- As of April 1, 2017, if you are a New York resident and your taxable estate will be more than \$5,250,000, you will need to give strong considerations to the idea of minimizing or at least reducing possible estate taxes. Such analysis involves the balance between maintaining control of assets versus relinquishing some control in order to reduce the amount of taxes that ultimately must be paid by your estate. Failing to do so can be a very expensive omission.

- In formulating your estate plan, you must select executors, trustees and agents for your Will, trust(s), power of attorney and healthcare proxy documents.

- If you have minor children, you should consider naming a legal guardian to make healthcare and other decisions for your children, in the event that you are unable or unavailable to do so.

Having an efficient estate

plan in place not only ensures that your assets will be managed and distributed according to your wishes and directives, but also alleviates burdens on your family members and reduces the likelihood of disputes. An efficient estate plan can ensure that your surviving spouse is adequately provided for; protect your assets from any creditors to whom your beneficiaries may owe money; and can shield assets from your heir's spouses and divorced spouses. May we all merit living long, happy, and healthy lives. Amen!

The attorneys in the Trusts and Estates Practice Group at Yedid & Zeitoune, PLLC have more than 20 years of legal experience and are ready to assist you with all your Medicaid and estate planning needs.

Isaac Yedid, Esq., and Raymond Zeitoune, Esq.

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Restrained revelry

Heightened J'Ouvert security prevents fatalities, changes atmosphere

By Alexandra Simon

It was the dawn of a new J'Ouvert.

Thousands of revelers gathered in Crown Heights on Sept. 4 for the early-morning parade that unfolded without a fatality after years of deadly violence following the enactment of its strictest security measures yet. But the precautions, which included a significantly increased police presence, resulted in a festival largely unrecognizable to long-time attendees.

"It was dead," said Imani Henry of Flatbush, an advocacy group that monitors police-community relations at the event. "There were no people and no vendors, and usually for there are a lot of people out."

The beefed-up safety also included pushing the procession's start time from 4 am to 6 am, setting up more floodlights along its route from Grand Army Plaza to Prospect Lefferts Gardens, and installing entry checkpoints with metal detectors — all of which sucked life from the historically spirited celebration, Henry said.

"It created a different energy," he said.

And the heightened



Crack of dawn: Dozens of Caribbean-Americans came out to partake in the annual gathering, which celebrates the abolition of slavery in the region. Photos by Jon Farina


Continued on Page 41



New changes: A reveler gets searched by police to gain entry onto the route. Police enacted several checkpoints at 12 different locations along the route to curb violence.



Painted ladies: Denise Garzon and Alana Bustillo sport their flags and paint at the pre-dawn gathering. Photo by Jon Farina



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Daybreak: Thousands celebrate the early morning festivity of J'Ouvert at the start of the parade route near Grand Army Plaza on Sept. 4.

Photos by Jon Farina

Continued from Page 38

security did not entirely curb festival-related violence: Around 5 am, a 38-year-old man was shot

in the abdomen and a 34-year-old man was hit by a bullet in his left leg, the New York Post reported. Both men were near

the parade route, and the 38-year-old sought treatment at Kingsbrook Jewish Medical Center while the 34-year-old checked-

in to Kings County Hospital.

Neither injury was life-threatening, according to authorities.

Kittitian pride: Keyshanique Drew wears a large flag of St. Kitts and Nevis at J'Ouvert on Labor Day morning.

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Playing mas: Dozens of revelers wore masks and other ornaments of celebrating J'Ouvert.



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Roy Pierre portraying "Humankind - The Synthesis of Good and Evil." Keith Getter



"Me Jane!" Keith Getter



The Griot embraces a burlap woman in the fabric of J'Ouvert. Keith Getter

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Sandra Elena Roper as a civil rights lawyer, while also a hospital pharmacist, has been an ardent community advocate referred to as the woman with “Velvet Gloves” and “Steel Balls,” by the press. Roper, was the first person of color to run for Brooklyn District Attorney after taking the baton from the late Judge John Phillips after he was unceremoniously removed as a candidate by the incumbent DA Hynes. Roper’s bravery, tenacity and perseverance kept her on course despite no political backing, incredibly modest finances and disproportionate malicious tactics by the incumbent DA Hynes.

Born in Panama, Roper’s father (Ralph) was Costa Rican and her mother (Norma) was Panamanian. She immigrated with her grandparents, UAW member (Lionel Scott) and 1199 member (Cecilia) and lived in Crown Heights Brooklyn on Pacific Street.

- Sheepshead Bay High School
- Long Island College University
- Brooklyn Law School
- NYU Law

As an 1199 member for 37 years, Roper was a hospital Pharmacist beginning 6/17/1980 at St. Mary’s Hospital in Crown Heights. She passionately fought its closure in 2005, where she strategized legal maneuvers in charitable deeds and bankruptcy protection for the employee-protests against the closure.

As an Attorney, Sandra had her store-front office in Bedford Stuyvesant on Fulton Street across from Restoration, where she specialized in civil rights matters and consumer rights, i.e.- race and gender discrimination and predatory lending from 1990. Roper was a Court Attorney for one of 2 judges that she ran with as candidate for DA. As an Adjunct Professor at CUNY – NYC Technical College, Roper taught Paralegal Studies and had many law graduate interns over the years.

Roper’s parents instilled in her the importance of community and she lives by the motto, “upon whom much is given, much is expected.” As a community activist, Roper has collaborated with the following organizations: Habitat for Humanity – Jimmy Carter Build; NAACP Brooklyn Branch – Legal Committee; Stuy Park Lions Club - District 20K-1, Melvin Jones Fellow; Charter member of the Bedford Stuyvesant Rotary Club with the former Ana Jefferson and Betty Shabazz; National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women; Caribbean America Chamber of Commerce and Industry; and Panamanian Drum Corp (Advisor).

“We, the Family & Friends of the Wrongfully Convicted, are 100% in support of Sandra Roper for Civil Court Judge.”

— Derrick Hamilton, who spent more than 20- years trying to prove his innocence and made new case law in the process

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Kenroy Dolly stands before his art exhibit at the Borough of Manhattan President's Office.

Photo by Nelson A. King

Vincy artist Kenroy Dolly makes it big

By Nelson A. King

After discovering his talent in the late 1960s while living in St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Vincentian-born artist Kenroy Dolly has made it big internationally.

Recently, Dolly's artwork — the only artwork from the Caribbean — was considered for display, under the exhibit "City View," at the Maggi Peyton Gallery, at the Manhattan Borough President's Office in lower Manhattan.

Continued on Page 50

Billboard hit for IamStylezMusic

By Alexandra Simon

He's chart topping in style.

Dancehall artist IamStylezMusic made his billboard debut last week with his album "Back to My Roots." The musician who also goes by the name Stylez, said that the achievement on the Reggae Record Chart was an expected one given his efforts, and a long work in progress, he said.

"It makes me feel really proud and happy, and this is from all the work I put into it from months prior to now," said Stylez. "I wouldn't call it a prediction but moreso the strategic planning and hard work I put in."

Continued on Page 50



International headliner: Popular dancehall artist Sean Paul performs at "On Da Reggae and Soca Tip" concert in Coney Island on Sept. 1.

Photo by Georgine Benvenuto

Reggae, soca music shake the Boardwalk

By Alexandra Simon

Some island vibes took over Coney.

Labor Day weekend kicked off with one of the city's biggest Caribbean music events on Sept. 1. Thousands of concert-goers attended "On Da Reggae and Soca Tip" at Ford Amphitheater on Coney Island Boardwalk

for the annual concert hosted by radio station Hot 97. Many guests went to see live performances from some popular soca and dancehall artists, and even though some did not get to see all of their favorites they still enjoyed the concert, said one Flatbush woman.

"I didn't get to see Bunji Garlin but

I did see Konshens and Busy Signal, and it was a great night — I had lots of fun," said Tekeya Prescod, who came with relatives.

The star-studded lineup included several big Caribbean stars, such as Sean Paul, Charly Black, Kranium, Rupee, and Kevin Lyttle.

Continued on Page 50

TOP OF THE CHARTS

TOP 10 SINGLES

- 1 **Wild Thoughts**
DJ Khaled Feat. Rihanna...
- 2 **Attention**
Charlie Puth
- 3 **There's Nothing Holdin' Me Back**
Shawn Mendes
- 4 **Believer**
Imagine Dragons
- 5 **Slow Hands**
Niall Horan
- 6 **Despacito**
Luis Fonsi, Daddy Yankee...
- 7 **Shape Of You**
Ed Sheeran
- 8 **That's What I Like**
Bruno Mars
- 9 **Unforgettable**
French Montana feat. Swae...
- 10 **Strip That Down**
Liam Payne feat. Quavo

TOP 10 ALBUMS

- 1 **Luv Is Rage 2**
Lil Uzi Vert
- 2 **Villains**
Queens Of The Stone Age
- 3 **Fifth Harmony**
Fifth Harmony
- 4 **Happy Endings**
Old Dominion
- 5 **17**
XXXTENTACION
- 6 **A Deeper Understanding**
The War On Drugs
- 7 **Guardians Of The Galaxy...**
Soundtrack
- 8 **Cozy Tapes, Vol. 2: Too Cozy**
A\$AP Mob
- 9 **All We Know Of Heaven...**
PVRIS
- 10 **Heart. Passion. Pursuit**
Tasha Cobbs Leonard

Presented by



Vincy artist showcases in 'City View' exhibit

Continued from Page 49

"I was selected because I am a member-artist of the Art Students League of New York," said Dolly in an exclusive Caribbean Life interview. "I was given the opportunity to submit my artwork for the exhibition. In doing so, my artwork was accepted.

"After checking with my colleagues and the roster list of the exhibit, I realized I was the only Caribbean/Vincenian artist present," added Dolly about the exhibit, which was a collaboration between the Manhattan Borough President's Office, The Art Students League of New York and the New York City Cultural Affairs Department.

The exhibit showcased the art and artistic process of members and students from the Art Students League of New York, which was founded by artists and supporting artists since 1875.

The Art Students League of New York said it has been instrumental in shaping America's legacy in the fine arts, stating that many renowned artists have trained and taught at the League.

Today, more than 2,500 students of all ages, backgrounds



Kenroy Dolly (c) with his relatives, the Miller family, Brooklyn residents, originally from Troumaca, L-R: Kenlyn Miller; her father Kenroy Miller; Silas Marin (child, 6); Kenroy's wife, Margaret Miller; and Kaylonda Marin, the Miller's other daughter. Photo by Nelson A. King

and skill levels, study at the League each month. For example, it said O'Keeffe, Pollock, Rothko, Nevelson and Ai Weiwei studied at the Art Students League of New York, along with scores of other prominent artists.

"But today's students at the

League share the same passions that those greats brought to their art," the League said, adding that it was founded by students breaking away from the US National Academy of Design.

That independent spirit remains at the League today,

where students pursue their work unconstrained by dogma, politics or burdensome tuition.

The League said the format of ongoing monthly classes allows students to learn at their own pace from prominent artists, who have a range of artistic philosophies.



Representing: Dancehall artist Konshens was also one of the performers in the lineup. Photo by Georgine Benvenuto

Island music

Continued from Page 49

Prescod says as her first time going to the yearly musical event, she was happy to enjoy the experience even though she arrived behind schedule and stayed to the end.

And she says the concert was a family get-together, and

somewhat of a retreat away from daily life.

"I really loved just being there with my sister and cousins, dancing and enjoying the music," she said. "We work hard and don't have time to enjoy each other so it was a night of dancing with the family and I was really happy."

IamStylezMusic hits Dancehall billboard

Continued from Page 49

And he also credits his determination and self-efficacy for the musical feat.

"I have a vision board and I do everything I set out to accomplish, and it's not a surprise it came to this point," he said.

He said that his brand of music sets him apart in many ways from other artists in the genre, pointing to his will to adapt to current trends, and attract listeners interested in diverse sounds.

"I want people to know that I'm a serious dancehall artist singing a new wave of dancehall, and if people want variety they can flow with my style of music," said Stylez.

Stylez said that he was thrilled to see his album charting alongside a few of his idols and favorite artists, such as Damian Marley Jr., Chronixx, and Sizzla. The artist is hoping that his album performs well and remains on the chart

for some time in preparation for his new project, because he aims to chart again.

"The goal of my team and I is to keep it at number one for 15 weeks into the next year," he said. "And I want my fans to look out for more because this is just the beginning."



Dancehall artist IamStylezMusic's album "Back to My Roots," is number one on the reggae billboard chart. Otricity Photography

Partisan polemic revisits Mike Brown shooting

"Whose Streets?"

Good (2 stars)

Rated R for ethnic slurs, mature themes and pervasive profanity

Running time: 101 minutes

Distributor: Magnolia Pictures

By Kam Williams

On Aug. 9, 2014, Mike Brown was shot a half-dozen times by police officer Darren Wilson on the streets of Ferguson, Missouri, a predominantly-black suburb of St. Louis. Because several eyewitnesses said the 18-year-old had his hands up at the time, the incident triggered nationwide civil unrest which gave rise to the Black Lives Matter movement.

But Wilson was not even indicted by the grand jury which deemed his testimony credible. He claimed to have pulled the trigger in self defense after Brown had punched him and tried to grab his gun. The legal case divided the country along color lines in the same way as



A scene from the movie "Whose Streets?"

Autumn Lin Photography

the O.J. Simpson trial, with African-Americans generally feeling that cops are too quick to shoot young black men, and most whites being inclined to give law enforcement the benefit of the doubt.

Co-directed by Damon Davis and Sabaah Foleyan, "Whose Streets?" is an incendiary doc-

umentary which revisits the tragedy in partisan fashion, arguing entirely in favor of Brown's innocence while conveniently ignoring the mountain of evidence which ultimately exonerated Wilson. Granted, this provocative polemic might serve as a Black Lives Matter recruiting tool, but it is likely

to be of little value to any truth seeker interested in an impartial investigation.

After all, there was video proof that Brown and Dorian Johnson had robbed a convenience store just three minutes before the encounter with Wilson who was summoned to the scene by a police dis-

patcher. Furthermore, the county, federal and independent autopsies corroborated the cop's story while simultaneously refuting Johnson's claim that his accomplice had been shot in the back and with his hands up. After an exhaustive investigation by the U.S. Department of Justice, even Attorney General Eric Holder concluded that Wilson was innocent.

So, what's dismaying about "Whose Streets?" is how its presentation of a thief as an altar boy flies in the face of Dr. Martin Luther King's appeal that black people be judged not by the color of their skin but by the content of their character. Why make Mike Brown the poster child for the Black Lives Matter movement, when there are so many martyrs far more deserving, like Trayvon Martin, Jordan Davis and Tamir Rice, to name a few?

A soulful cinematic sermon elevating a sinner to sainthood for the sake of an uncritical Amen choir still in denial about the truth of the Mike Brown case!

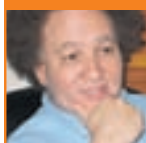
Independent & Foreign Films

Boris without Beatrice (Unrated) Marital crisis drama about a wealthy businessman (James Hyndman) who embarks on an extra-marital affair while caring for his depressed, terminally-ill wife (Simone-Elise Girard). Cast includes Denis Lavant, Isolda Dychauk and Dounia Sichov. (In English, French and Russian with subtitles)

Company Town (Unrated) Eco-documentary chronicling one man's mission to save his hometown of Crossett, Arkansas plagued by cancer clusters ostensibly caused by Georgia-Pacific, a corporate polluter owned by the Koch brothers.

Free in Deed (Unrated) Christian-oriented fare, inspired by real-life events, recounting a Pentecostal storefront minister's (David Harewood) use of faith-healing to cure a church member's (Edwina Findley Dickerson) autistic son (RaJay Chandler). Featuring Kathy Smith, Helen Bowman and Alex Coker.

The Good Catholic (PG-13 for profanity and a sexual reference) Romantic comedy about an idealistic, young priest (Zachary Spicer) whose vow of celibacy is tested when he develops a fondness for a parishioner (Wrenn Schmidt) while taking her confession.



Kam's Kapsules

By Kam Williams

With Danny Glover, John C. McGinley and Alex Miro.

Man in Red Bandana (PG-13 for mature themes and disaster images) Gwyneth Paltrow narrates this documentary about Welles Remy Crowther, a heroic stockbroker posthumously credited with saving over a dozen lives in the wake of the 9/11 terrorist attack before perishing in the collapse of the World Trade Center's South Tower.

Poster Boys (Unrated) Buddy comedy about three guys (Bobby Deol, Shreyas Talpade and Sunny Deol) whose lives come apart at the seams when their faces appear in a pro-vasectomy poster. With Sonali Kulkarni, Tasha Bhambra and Randheer Rai. (In Hindi with subtitles)

School Life (PG-13 for smoking and brief profanity) Poignant character portrait chronicling a year in the lives of John and Amanda Leyden, a married couple who both teach at Ireland's only primary education boarding school. (In English and Spanish with subtitles)

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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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West Indies' Chris Gayle.
Associated Press / Rajanish Kakade, File

Chris Gayle recalled

By Azad Ali

West Indies selectors have recalled hard-hitting opener Chris Gayle and fellow Jamaican Marlon Samuels for the five One-Day Internationals (ODIs) match tour of England next month.

But, both Darren Bravo and his brother Dwayne Bravo along with Sunil Narine have declined the offer to join the 15-member squad.

Gayle, 37, has not played an ODI in about two and a half years and Samuel

Continued on Page 54

World XI team named

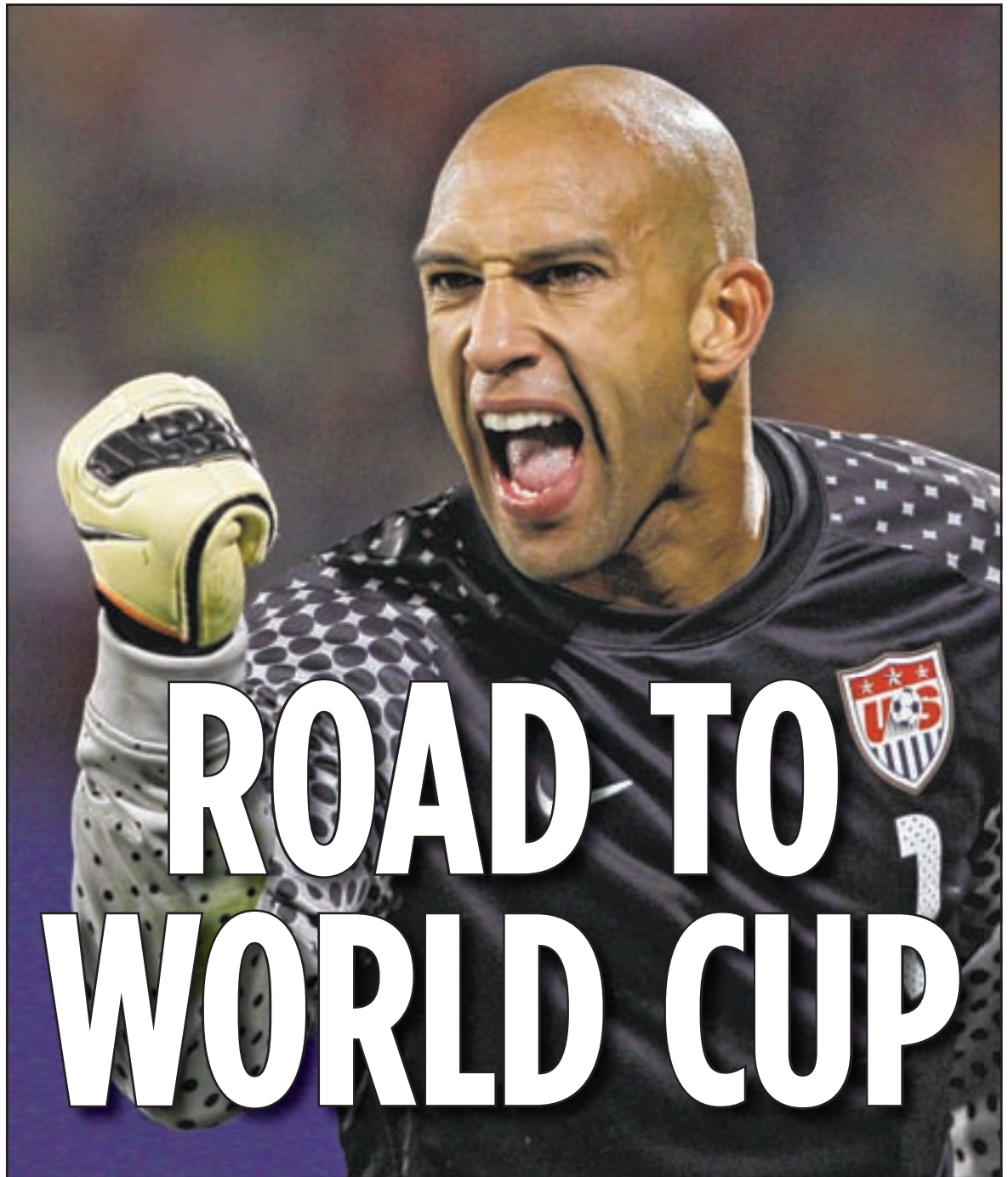
By Azad Ali

Two West Indies players Darren Sammy and Samuel Badree were named in the 14-member World XI to play three Twenty20 Internationals against Pakistan in September.

All-rounder Sammy, a former West Indies captain, and leg-spinner Badree will be part of the star-studded squad comprising players from seven Test-playing nations for the series of matches to be called the Independence Cup on Sept. 12, 13, and 15 at the Gaddafi Stadium.

South Africa's Faf du Plessis, however, will be the captain of the World XI ahead of Sammy, who led the West Indies to two ICC World Twenty20 titles in 2012 and 2016. Badree was the No. 1 bowler in the format at one

Continued on Page 54



United States goalkeeper Tim Howard clenches his fist during the World Cup round of 16 soccer match between the United States and Ghana at Royal Bafokeng Stadium in Rustenburg, South Africa.

Associated Press / Elise Amendola, File

US will need road results to reach 8th straight competition

By Ronald Blum

SAN PEDRO SULA, Honduras (AP) — Michael Bradley realizes the huge distinction between home games and road matches in international soccer.

"In some cases it couldn't be more different," the U.S. captain said last

week at Red Bull Arena in New Jersey. "You look around here: a beautiful stadium, a field that's in great condition."

And then he thought ahead to the Americans' upcoming trip to Central America.

"Tuesday in Honduras will be the

complete opposite," he predicted, "so your group has to have a mentality that understands that, embraces that and realizes that the way to get results on the road is different."

Teams usually reach the World Cup by winning home games and

Continued on Page 54

Chris Gayle recalled

Continued from Page 53

has been kept out because of the West Indies' controversial eligibility rule, which requires players to make themselves available for the domestic format in which they prefer to play internationally.

However, Cricket West Indies (CWI) announced last month a "temporary player amnesty" paving the way for the return of several of the region's previously marginalized stars.

The selectors said that both Gayle and Samuels will be a boost to the young side.

Gayle has last featured in ODIs during the 2015 World Cup in Australia and New Zealand.

Samuels has not played ODIs since the Pakistan series last October but he has scored over 5,000 runs and 10 centuries.

Seasoned fast bowler Jerome Taylor has also recalled to the squad for the first time in a year.

World XI



Former West Indies' captain Darren Sammy.

Associated Press / Eranga Jayawardena, File

Continued from Page 53

stage and will be part of the attack which also includes Imran Tahir, the Pakistan-born South African leg-spinner.

The Independence Cup has been organized in a strong bid by the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) to see the safe and gradual resumption of international matches in the country.



United States midfielder Clint Dempsey goes up for the ball against Ecuador in the second half of an international soccer friendly game in Harrison, N.J.

Associated Press / Julio Cortez, File

ROAD TO WORLD CUP

Continued from Page 53

occasionally picking up points on the road. The U.S. had lost once in 50 home qualifiers (42 wins, seven ties) since 1985 before defeats to Mexico last November and to Costa Rica on Friday night.

During that same span, the Americans had 19 wins, 15 losses and 16 draws in away qualifiers.

A temperature in the low 90s is expected for the late-afternoon game, which kicks off at 3:36 pm (5:36 pm EDT). High humidity could make it feel like about 110, and rain is possible. The Americans won a night game here 3-2 eight years ago, then wasted a one-goal halftime lead in the afternoon in 2013, wilting during a 2-1 loss to the Catrachos.

Gaining at least a point at Estadio Olímpico Metropolitano has become critical for the Americans, who are third in the North and Central America and the Caribbean with eight points, ahead of Honduras on goal difference. The top three teams qualify for next year's tournament in Russia, and the fourth-place nation goes to a playoff

against Asia's No. 5 finisher.

Mexico (17 points) clinched Friday night and Costa Rica (14) is on the verge of assuring itself a World Cup trip. While Panama (seven points) could move into third with a home win over Trinidad and Tobago on Tuesday, the U.S. hosts the Panamanians next month and could move back ahead.

Goalkeeper Tim Howard said Friday's 2-0 loss to Costa Rica doesn't change the U.S. approach to Honduras.

"I think we would have anticipated us going down there and getting a win," he said.

The U.S. probably will need wins or draws from all three of its remaining games to reach its eighth straight World Cup. The Americans host Panama on Oct. 6 at Orlando, Florida, and conclude the hexagonal four days later at Trinidad, which probably will have been eliminated by then.

After the U.S. opened the final round with losses to Mexico and Costa Rica, the U.S. Soccer Federation fired coach Jurgen Klinsmann and brought back Arena, the American coach from 1998-2006. Qualifying started to get

back on track in March with a 6-0 rout of Honduras at San Jose, California. The U.S. figures to play a bit more defensively on the road.

Arena made three changes to his lineup for the March qualifier at Panama, when his players had three days' rest, and seven for the June match at Mexico City, when there were just two days between games and the U.S. had little time to adjust to altitude.

He will have to make at least one switch Tuesday: forward Jozy Altidore is suspended for yellow card accumulation.

Howard was at fault on Costa Rica's first goal Friday and defender Geoff Cameron's poor pass led to the second. With a 25-man roster, Arena has ample maneuvering space.

"We're going to go down there with the mentality to win the game," Bradley said. "We're going to be aggressive. We're going to make sure we've got 11 guys on the field who are ready to give everything, and we will. If at the end of 90 minutes we're in a position where we take one point, then we'll take that and know that everything's still in our own hands in the last two games."

Inside Life

Continued from Page 11

that begins at the very moment the first airplane slammed into the North tower of the World Trade Center's Twin Towers — on each anniversary, the nostalgia becomes real.

And while the date brings grief and sadness to most Americans, in Ethiopia, joy prevails on Sept. 11 because the date signals celebration of a new year.

Based on the Julian calendar, the Ethiopian calendar is seven years and eight months behind the Gregorian calendar used in most of the world.

To actually be in Addis Ababa, the capital city on that date is nothing short of being in Times Square on Dec. 31.

Yours truly was privileged to be there in 2007 when that African nation celebrated a millennium.

The glee that pervaded was indescribable.

The humblest of homes were cleaned and decorated with roses.

Citizens paraded through the streets, singing and dancing.

Traditional food, African and

Jubilation reigned.

The Ethiopian millennium took Beyonce to Addis Ababa.

The Black-Eyed Peas also performed inside a giant arena erected for the international concert.

In the midst of virtually every African head of state, numerous Asian and European leaders, Caribbean and South American diplomats and representatives I was able to walk over and dialogue with the likes of Zimbabwe president Robert Mugabe, Libyan leader Muammar Qaddafi and so many important heads of government.

It remains one of the happiest experiences to recall.

And while jollification reigned, it was difficult to subdue the memories of America's Sept. 11.

Like television's submission of Ethiopia's revelry of a millennium, there was no trace or reverence for the 2001 plight of this nation on Ethiopian television.

For Ethiopians living in Washington D.C and all throughout that country, September 11 means joy, happiness and the start of a brand

new year.

Reggae music lovers also regard the date as memorable because on Sept. 11, 1987, Peter Tosh was brutally murdered in his Kingston, home.

A collaborator with Bunny Wailer and Robert Nesta Marley to form Bob Marley & The Wailers, Tosh was the second of the three founding members to succumb. Marley died May 11, 1980 from cancer.

That another talent from the trio to comprise the island's most iconic recording group would perish in such a heinous demise, records the date to be one of the worst days in Jamaican history.

Tosh was gunned down in his home after being taunted and terrorized by thieving thugs.

Reportedly, the singer, musician and Rastafarian proponent "had returned to his home in Jamaica, when a three-man gang came to his house on motorcycles and demanded money. Tosh replied that he did not have any with him but the gang did not believe him. They stayed at his residence for several hours and tortured him in an attempt to extort money from Tosh. Over the hours, as various Tosh's associates arrived to visit him, they were also taken hostage by the gunmen.

The gunmen became more and more frustrated, especially the chief thug, Dennis "Leppo" Lobban, a man whom Tosh had previously befriended and tried to help find work after a long jail sentence. Tosh insisted he had no money in the house, after which Lobban and the fellow gunmen began opening fire in a reckless manner."

Tosh was shot twice in the head and killed.

The news rocked the nation and ultimately the entire world particularly reggae music aficionados.

Jamaicans Commemorate Anniversary of Worst Train Tragedy — Sept. 1 Kendal Crash

Sept. 1, marked the 60th anniversary of the Kendal Crash which occurred at a place in Manchester, Jamaica known as Kendal on Sunday, Sept. 1, 1957.

Recalled as the most tragic train mishap to ever occur anywhere in the world at the time, Olivia Grange, the nation's minister of culture, gender, entertainment and sport announced that beginning this year, September 1 will be observed as the date on which the nation officially commemorates the Kendal Train Crash.

St. Anne's Catholic Church in

Kingston also commemorated the Kendal Crash with a memorial Service on Sept. 3.

Many of those who died in the accident were members of the church. They were returning to Kingston following an outing to Montego Bay when the ill-fated accident occurred.

The Kingston bound train with its two diesel engines leading 12 overcrowded wooden coaches, had been transporting approximately 1,600 people when it ran off the rail at Kendal, resulting in the deaths of 186 people and injury to many more.

In a press release, the government official said: "Friday, Sept. 1, we will as a nation officially recall the circumstances of the horrendous train accident which claimed close to 200 hundred lives."

Grange said the decision was made after discussions with prominent nationals who vividly recall the tragedy that gripped the passions of the entire nation.

Beverly East, author of the book, "Reaper of Souls" was among the many consultants who enabled serious consideration of an annual tribute to the martyrs. In the book, she used fictional characters to deliver a stirring account of the Kendal Crash.

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ARIES: Mar 21/Apr 20
Aries, don't let plans that don't come to fruition discourage you. Many of your plans will fall into place, and there is plenty of time to think of others. Keep dreaming away.

TAURUS: Apr 21/May 21
People close to you may be keeping secrets, Taurus. You don't know the reason they aren't telling you everything, but chances are you'll get the full story soon enough.

GEMINI: May 22/Jun 21
You might feel as if your mental wiring is about to expire, Gemini. It could be time to shut the circuits down and let your brain recharge its batteries.

CANCER: Jun 22/Jul 22
Cancer, expect this week to go smoothly as you put in a lot of time and effort. Extra effort will pay off in the days ahead, and others will begin to notice.

LEO: Jul 23/Aug 23
Leo, when you speak with your friends, your imagination runs wild with all the prospects of things to do. Narrow down a few of the best ideas and put them into action.

VIRGO: Aug 24/Sept 22
Virgo, whether you are dating someone new or have been with your partner for years, this week your love life will be top notch. Enjoy all the special moments you experience.

LIBRA: Sept 23/Oct 23
Everyone wants something you possess, Libra. It's not a material object, but self-confidence and common sense. Continue to exhibit the same passion you always do.

SCORPIO: Oct 24/Nov 22
Scorpio, you are prone to sticking to the familiar and things that might not provide much of a challenge. This is the week to try something new.

SAGITTARIUS: Nov 23/Dec 21
Sagittarius, it's great to have many helpful, supportive people in your corner. These supporters are with you at every turn. Show them how much they're appreciated.

CAPRICORN: Dec 22/Jan 20
Attention to detail can make or break a project for you, Capricorn. Even if it takes more time, focus on the smaller picture when working this week.

AQUARIUS: Jan 21/Feb 18
Aquarius, your way with words this week is simply outstanding. You can persuade someone to support your position, even if he or she was once opposed to the idea.

PISCES: Feb 19/Mar 20
Pisces, sharing your feelings right now can strengthen a relationship. Be sure that this is the direction you seek before uttering any words.

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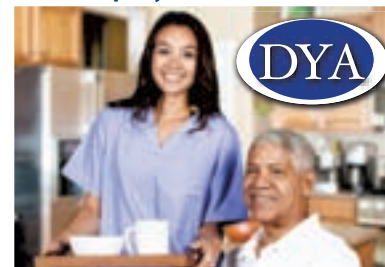
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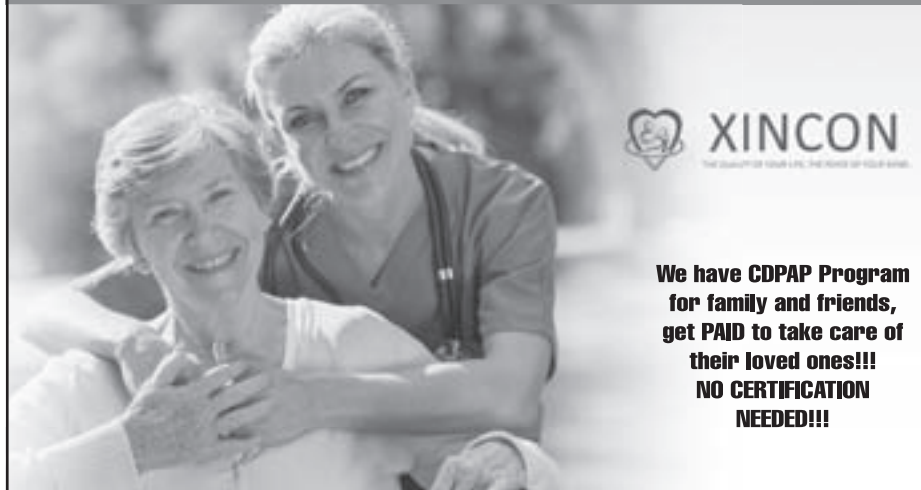
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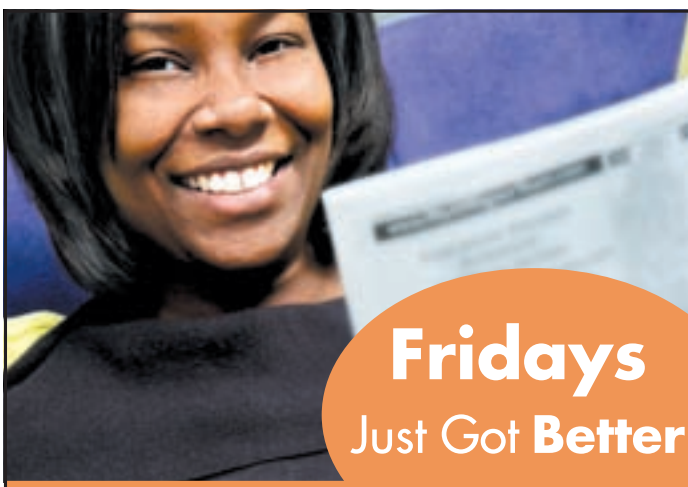
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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING – CORRECTION ON THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT for the BEDFORD UNION ARMORY PROJECT

Project Identification

CEQR No. 16DME005K
ULURP Nos. 170416 ZMK, N170417
ZRK, 170418 ZSK, 170419 ZSK,
170420 PPK
SEQR Classification: Unlisted

Lead Agency

Office of the Deputy Mayor for Housing
& Economic Development
253 Broadway, 14th floor
New York, NY 10007

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT a public hearing will be held for the Bedford Union Armory Project. The purpose of the hearing is to receive comments related to the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS), which received a Notice of Completion on May 19, 2017.

The public hearing has been scheduled for **Tuesday, September 19, 2017 at 9:00 A.M. and will be held at the Manhattan Municipal Building, 1 Center Street – Mezzanine Level (access through the North Entrance), New York, New York, 10007**, in conjunction with the City Planning Commission's citywide public hearing pursuant to ULURP. Translation services will be accommodated upon request at a minimum five business days before the public hearing.

PLEASE NOTE: This is the public hearing that was originally scheduled to be held at 22 Reade Street. This notice is to advise the location change to **Manhattan Municipal Building, 1 Center Street – Mezzanine Level (access through the North Entrance), New York, New York, 10007 and a change in start time to 9:00 A.M.**

Comments on the DEIS will be accepted until 5 p.m. on Friday, September 29, 2017 and may be submitted at the hearing, or to the contacts below.

The New York City Economic Development Corporation (NYCEDC) in coordination with Bedford Courts LLC, (the Applicant, is seeking a series of discretionary approvals to facilitate the redevelopment of the historic Bedford Union Armory located at 1555 Bedford Avenue (Block 1274, Lot 1) in the Crown Heights neighborhood of Brooklyn (the "Project Site") into an approximately 542,393 gross square feet (gsf) three-building mixed-use development. Specifically, the redevelopment would result in approximately 390 residential dwelling units (DUs), including approximately 177 affordable DUs; up to 48,997 gsf of office space; up to 18,122 gsf of academic space; approximately 72,252 gsf of community facility space; and a minimum of 118 parking spaces (the "Proposed Development"). Should the 18,122 gsf of academic space be determined infeasible, 25 additional DUs (including 14 affordable DUs) would be incorporated into the Proposed Development in lieu of the 18,122 gsf of academic space and associated office space (approximately 8,278 gsf).

The Applicant is seeking discretionary approvals including the disposition of City-owned property, zoning map and text amendments, and special permits to facilitate the Proposed Development (the "Proposed Actions"). The analysis build year for this project is 2020.

The DEIS analyzed the potential environmental impacts of the Redevelopment Project and disclosed the potential for significant adverse impacts with regard to: historic resources, transportation (traffic), and construction (traffic and noise). The DEIS identified measures and/or potential measures that would fully or partially mitigate most significant adverse impacts; some impacts would remain unmitigated. Between DEIS and Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS), potential mitigation measures are being studied further to determine whether they are feasible and whether any significant adverse impacts would remain unmitigated. The DEIS considered alternatives to the Proposed Actions that included a No-Action Alternative and a No Unmitigated Significant Adverse Impacts Alternative.

Copies of the Notice of Completion, the DEIS, and Final Scope Work are available for review from the contact listed below and on the website of the Mayor's Office of Environmental Coordination at www.nyc.gov/oec.

Mayor's Office of Environmental Coordination
Attn: Esther Brunner, Deputy Director
253 Broadway, 14th Floor
New York, New York 10007
Phone: 212-676-3293, Email: ebrunner@cityhall.nyc.gov

Lead Agency: Office of the Deputy Mayor for Housing and Economic Development
Hilary Semel, Assistant to the Mayor
253 Broadway, 14th Floor
New York, New York 10007
(212) 676-3273, Email: hsemel@cityhall.nyc.gov

Sponsoring Agency: New York City Economic Development Corporation
Attn: Aileen Gorsuch, Senior Planner
110 William Street, New York, New York 10038
(212) 312-4226, Email: agorsuch@edc.nyc

This Notice of Public Meeting has been prepared pursuant to Article 8 of the New York State Environmental Conservation Law (SEQRA), its implementing regulations found at 6 NYCRR Part 617, and the Rules of Procedure for City Environmental Quality Review found at 62 RCNY Chapter 5, and Mayoral Executive Order 91 of 1977, as amended (CEQR).

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