



## Dance away

Special dance performance by Yamilka Salazar of the Panamanian dance group, Conjunto Nuevo Milenio. See story on Page 6.

Photo by Nelson A. King

## ABLP returns to power in Antigua

By Nelson A. King

The incumbent Antigua and Barbuda Labor Party (ABLP) of Prime Minister Gaston Browne returned to power resoundingly in Wednesday's general elections.

Preliminary results in the low voter-turn-out poll indicate that the ABLP was poised to win 15 of the 17 seats in the Legislature.

Browne, who called the elections 15 months before they were constitutionally due, had predicted that the ABLP would win all seats.

The main opposition United Progressive Party (UPP), of Harold Lovell, seemed likely to earn no more than one

seat, with Lovell himself losing his seat for the second successive election.

The last general elections in Antigua and Barbuda were held in 2014.

According to the Antigua and Barbuda Newsroom, one independent candidate and 52 other people were officially nominated to contest the poll.

Attorney-at-law Ralph Francis was the only independent candidate.

The ABLP was the only party to contest all 17 constituencies. The UPP contested 16 while its affiliate, the Barbuda Peoples Movement (BPM), contested one

seat on hurricane-ravaged Barbuda.

The new Democratic National Alliance registered 13 candidates, the Go Green Party two, the Antigua Barbuda True Labor Party two and the Missing Link VOP one, the Newsroom said.

Both Browne and Lovell were sanguine of winning the elections.

"We are confident about not only winning the next general election but literally taking all the seats," Browne had said before the vote.

Lovell had told reporters: "I am confident that the constituents have decided that I should be returned."

# RISE TO THE TOP

## Women at the helm across the Caribbean

By Bert Wilkinson

Justice Paula-Mae Weeks has reportedly settled in nicely into her new role as the first woman to serve as president of Trinidad and Tobago after being sworn as head of state at a well attended public ceremony on Monday.

Almost no section of the republic's society had opposed her nomination last year to replace fellow Judge Anthony Carmona. In fact, the loudest voices of support had come from the main opposition United Congress (UNC) which had incidentally given the country's first woman prime minister in the form of attorney Kamla Persad-Bissessar.

Persad-Bissessar served a single five-year term as head of government before being booted out of office in 2015 amid swirling accusations about corruption, nepotism and graft during her tenure.

Justice Weekes' inauguration ceremony was broadcast live on both traditional and social media, allowing her to tell the

nation, the island's Caribbean neighbors and the wider world that the time had come to heal a nation grappling with more than 400 mostly gun murders each year, other forms of violent crime, fear, unemployment and serious issues.

"Telling us that Trinidad and Tobago is currently close to the point of no return, crime, corruption, racism, a dismal public service and an ineffective judicial system and other problems are so thick on the ground that we feel all is lost if we are not there already — a failed state however defined," she said, pointing to some of the bucket list of problem besetting the oil and gas-rich nation just north of the South American coast.

But she said "we must trust in time. We will reap the benefits of our efforts. So be a light at your home, instill discipline, model good behavior. You can be a light in your school, pay more attention to the lessons in your home, protect the vulnerable, respect

Continued on Page 8

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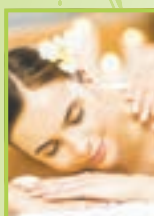
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Congresswoman Yvette D. Clarke addresses patrons.

Photo by Nelson A. King

## Pols rip Trump's policies

By Nelson A. King

Mayor Bill de Blasio took the lead Sunday in condemning President Donald Trump's policies at a gala "Women Celebrating Women" Awards ceremony at Tropical Paradise Ballroom on Utica Avenue in Brooklyn.

"To build power, we need leadership," said de Blasio in addressing the sell-out event that comprised a number of New York legislators. "The next few months is a moment of peril, because we know who's in the White House.

"This is the moment, because people are yearning for change," added the mayor at the ceremony organized by the Brooklyn-based Progressive Democrats Political Association (PDPA), headed by the trailblazing, former New York City Councilwoman Jamaican Una S.T. Clarke.

"Job no. 1 is to make sure Yvette Clarke wins the primary for Congress," he continued. "God will not spare us if we don't work hard. Help Yvette not to be in the lonely group in the House of Representatives. We want Yvette to be in the majority."

Without calling the president's name, Clarke said "45 (the 45th president) has the dignity of calling African and Haitian 's---hole countries.'

"No words they throw at us can stop us from rising up," she said. "The battle is on. We're not, by any means, afraid of what's going on right now. It's good versus evil.

"Let's draw the line," added Clarke, representative for the 9th Congressional District in Brooklyn. "There's no grey area. When you go and deport people, that's evil.

# Lt. gov., challenger seek votes at women's gala

By Nelson A. King

Rarely do politicians miss the opportunity to convey their messages to a large audience, especially when seeking votes for election or re-election.

So, while most patrons would expect to hear addresses by legislators during last Sunday's gala "Women Celebrating Women Awards" ceremony, at Tropical Paradise Ballroom on Utica Avenue in Brooklyn, they likely did not anticipate that the incumbent New York State Lt. Gov. Kathy Hochul and her fierce challenger, Council Member Jumaane Williams, would speak at the event.

Hochul addressed a captive audience at the ceremony, organized by the Brooklyn-based Progressive Democrats Political Association (PDPA), headed by former New York City Council Member Jamaican Dr. Una S.T. Clarke.

Hochul was the second speaker, delivering her remarks soon after Public Advocate Letitia James gave hers in the five-hour-long program.

Williams, who arrived late, told Caribbean Life, during the event, that he was unaware that Hochul would attend and speak at the gala.

Nonetheless, he said: "I would have loved to be here when she spoke."

Both, however, delivered remarks that seemed to resonate with disparate sections of the audience.

Piggybacking on James's terse tribute to the late Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm, who had represented the then 11th Congressional District in Brooklyn, Hochul said Chisholm, of Caribbean parentage, "may be from Brooklyn, but she spent time in my home town.

"She became a champion of seniors," she said before launching into President Donald Trump's immigration policies.

"I'm a grand-daughter of immigrants," Hochul added. "I'm concerned that the next Una Clarke is being shut out of our country.

"I know what it's like to fight for Yvette (Congresswoman Clarke, Una's daughter)," Hochul continued. "Only 20



Council Member Jumaane Williams delivers remarks at Women's Gala.

Photo by Nelson A. King

percent of women are in Congress. I'm honored to be lieutenant governor. I'm going to keep fighting for you."

She also said she will address "the criminal injustice system" before noting the 100th anniversary of a woman's right to vote.

"You should not continue voter suppression for 2018," she then asserted.

Williams, representative for the 45th Council District in Brooklyn, said, on the other hand, that "we're fighting

'Orange Madness' in New York State.

"They have an interesting guest speaker," he added, clearly alluding to Hochul. "They (Hochul) have not been here much, but I have.

"I have been able to step up and say, 'the emperor has no clothes,'" continued Williams, disclosing that Brooklyn has had "one of the highest (voter) turnouts" for lieutenant governor.

"We have a lot of work to do," he said. "It's time; let's go."

## Celebrating people of African descent in the Americas

By Nelson A. King

The Organization of American States (OAS) on Tuesday began the celebration of a week commemorating the contributions of persons of African descent to the social, economic, political and cultural development of the Americas, including the Caribbean.

The OAS said it will celebrate the Inter-American Week for People of African Descent in the Americas, planned

to be an annual event, with a number of activities "aimed at promoting greater awareness and respect for the diversity of the heritage and culture of people of African descent and their contribution to the development of societies in the Western Hemisphere."

The OAS said its Permanent Council will hold a special meeting on March 23, at its headquarters in Washington, D.C., to mark the International Day of

Remembrance for Victims of the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade and Slavery under the theme, "Remember Slavery: Triumphs and struggles for freedom and equality in the Americas."

The special meeting will include a panel discussion intended to highlight the personal stories and gains of African descendants in the movement towards freedom and equality in the Americas, the OAS said.

## Antigua

Antigua and Barbuda Prime Minister Prime Minister Gaston Browne announced that his government has decided to appoint a special investigator to look into bribery and money laundering allegations against United Progressive Party (UPP) candidate Dr. McCheseny Emmanuel in the March 21 general elections.

Emmanuel has denied the fraudulent allegations saying the people making the allegations are on a smear campaign because he is likely to defeat his constituency opponent Charles Max Fernandez.



Speaking on local radio, Browne said the authorities in the United States may have a case against Dr. Emmanuel.

He said the Dr. Emmanuel maybe in violation of the laws of Antigua and Barbuda as well.

Browne said that Cabinet has taken a decision to appoint a special investigator to investigate this matter and to turn it over to the director of public prosecutions (DPP) and other law enforcement officers to pursue it. Because there is a prima facie evidence of a bribe and money laundering.

The prime minister also alleged corruption after revealing that the UPP administration allegedly spent more than one million dollars a year for an office for an honorary consul in the United States:

Dr. Emmanuel served as Antigua and Barbuda's honorary consul in New York from 2004 to 2014.

## Barbados

The Governor of the Central Bank of Barbados, Cleviston Haynes, said that initial estimates suggest that economic activity in Barbados expanded by only one percent in 2017.



He said the current forecasts do not indicate any acceleration of economic growth.

Haynes was at the time addressing the 2018 Week of Excellence Seminar in Barbados.

He said in recent years, the Barbados economy has been characterized by sluggish economic activity, weak public finances, high public sector indebtedness and declining foreign exchange reserves.

The Central Bank governor told the seminar that the island's credit rating has fallen and access to finance for government in both domestic and foreign markets has declined.

Haynes noted that while economic activity has recovered in the past two years, growth remains weak, as evidenced by the bank's initial estimates



## Improving Caribbean resilience

UNICEF staffers load a supply of hygiene and dignity kits for distribution to families affected by the Hurricane Maria at the port of Roseau, capital of Dominica, on Sept. 28, 2017. See story on Page 8. UNICEF

that suggest that activity expanded by one percent in 2017.

## Cayman Islands

Outgoing Governor of the Cayman Islands, Helen Kilpatrick has called on the British Overseas territory to address the lack of recognition of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) rights.

Kilpatrick, who is due to leave the Cayman Islands shortly, said the Foreign and Commonwealth Office wants the government to adopt legislation in the territory to prohibit discrimination against the LGBT community, saying that it is time to recognize same sex partnerships.



She said there is need for legislation, and particularly the recognition of same sex partnerships, is now pressing and "I would urge the government to make progress on this legislation to advance the rights of LGBT members of the Cayman Islands community."

## Dominica

The government of Dominica will soon sign an agreement with Cuba for 100 skilled workers, including engineers in the reconstruction of the hurricane-ravaged island.

Prime Minister Roosevelt Skerit is also appealing to nationals living overseas with such skills to return and assist

in rebuilding the island.

He said five months after Hurricane Maria lashed the island, killing some 30 people and causing widespread damage, there was still the need for skilled workers to help homeowners put a roof over their heads.



Skerit said the government is finalizing an agreement with Cuba where more than 100 skilled workers (men and women) will be brought into Dominica to help fix the homes and reconstruct the country.

He said among the skilled workers are some 30 electricians to help in re-wiring of homes across Dominica.

The prime minister also urged nationals with various skills residing overseas to assist, adding that many contractors have said to the government that they are experiencing challenges recruiting skilled workers.

## Jamaica

The Jamaica government is seeking to speed up the approval for licenses to be issued to stakeholders in the local marijuana industry.

Industry Minister Karl Samuda said the industry has not progressed as anticipated.

Samuda said many stakeholders were of the view that the approval process was too "cumbersome" and "lends itself to unnecessary bureaucracy and

delay and is hoping for some significant changes."

He noted that while two licenses has been approved and the licensees have started production there is a lot more that can be done if some of the bureaucracy is removed.

Samuda, who is also Agriculture Minister, pointed out that one of the challenges being experienced by the sector is the lack of funding, noting that local financial institutions are unwilling to support any of the industry's activities due to what is deemed the informal nature of the business.



The minister added that the Cannabis Licensing Authority's role in the industry's overall development is to be strengthened.

## St. Kitts

The St. Kitts and Nevis government has denied international media reports that India fugitive billionaire diamond czar Nirav Modi has applied for economic citizenship in the twin-island Federation.

Modi is wanted in connection with the biggest fraud in India history.



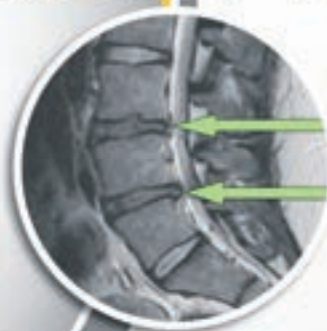
In a statement, the government said it has come to its attention that "media reports

Continued on Page 16

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# 15 receive 'Women Celebrating Women' awards

By Nelson A. King

Fifteen outstanding women on Sunday received the "Women Celebrating Women" Awards at an elegant ceremony at Tropical Paradise Ballroom on Utica Avenue in Brooklyn.

The Brooklyn-based political group, Progressive Democrats Political Association (PDPA), headed by Jamaican-born, former New York City Council Member Dr. Una S.T. Clarke, bestowed the honors at the sell-out event.

Several New York legislators — including Clarke's daughter, Congresswoman Yvette D. Clarke; Mayor Bill de Blasio; New York Lt. Governor Kathy Hochul; Public Advocate Leticia James; Assemblywoman Diana Richardson; and Councilman Jumaane Williams — were among patrons at the gala ceremony, marking PDPA's 26th anniversary.

The honorees were: Patricia Dennis Abrams, Barbara Blackman-Betegon, Betty Campbell-Adams; Karen Crawford, Judith Destin, Alishia Goodridge; Fay A. Lawrence, Tonya Ores, Jodie Patterson; Eugennie Plummer-Edwards, Juana Smith, Adri-

enne M. Spencer, Rosita Thompson, Alize Utteryn, and Clare Watson.

Congresswoman Clarke, representative for the 9th Congressional District in Brooklyn, commend the "distinguished individuals," stating that "each of you has earned our recognition as well as our best wishes."

"As the representative of the community, I am honored to join you in celebration of this important milestone," she said. "I wish you many continued years of success."

Mayor de Blasio noted that, this month, New Yorkers are "coming together to reflect and celebrate the enduring legacies of women throughout history, who have made an indelible impact on our city and world."

"Women's History Month is always a wonderful opportunity to renew our commitment to forge a brighter and more equitable tomorrow, and the Progressive Democrats Political Association is a vital partner in these efforts, thanks to the ways it has strengthened the Brooklyn community and worked to build an inclusive New York that benefits all people," the mayor



Former NYC Councilmember Dr. Una S.T. Clarke.

Photo by Nelson A. King

said.

Guyanese Dennis Abrams started her nursing career as a Community Mental Health worker at St. Vincent's Hospital working full-time and went to school at the Borough of Manhattan Community College on a part-time basis while caring for her three daughters as a single parent.

She is currently an Assistant Director of Nursing at Kings County Hospital Medical Center

in Brooklyn.

Blackman Betegon is a native of Colon, Panama. She and her mother migrated to the United States when she was a little girl. Barbara entered the New York City Police Department in 1977 where she attained many medals and recognition for her work.

She is the recipient of the Miss Panama US 2016 "Cancer Survivor of the Year" award and the 2016 P.A.J.A.C.A.M. "Mother of the Year" award.

Lloyd's Carrot Cake is the venerable boutique bakery that was started 35 years ago by the now deceased, Lloyd Adams. The company is now run by Adams's widow, Campbell-Adams.

Campbell-Adams has developed a network of new outlets for the Lloyd's products, including supermarkets and specialty shops.

Trinidadian Crawford is has thrived in her role as community liaison officer in the Brooklyn District Attorney's Office. Her work covers the areas of Crown Heights, Prospect Lefferts Garden, Wingate and North Flatbush.

Goodridge is an entrepreneur, business and community

leader with a serious passion for assisting others to discover and develop their personal path to success. She is a woman of faith and is actively involved in the Church community, this has prompted her to attain her chaplaincy certification with the Worldwide Association of Small Churches.

Destin is a Public Engagement Associate at the Kings County District Attorney's Office, in the Office of Public Engagement. She is a resident of East Flatbush and is bilingual; she speaks fluent Haitian Creole. At the Kings County District Attorney's office, Destin also serves as a liaison to the Haitian American and Immigrant communities.

Lawrence is an internationally-recognized transformational master trainer, executive coach and HR/leadership strategist. She has authored her soon to be released book, "From Flawed to Flourishing: How to Transform Your Weaknesses into Your Greatest Strengths." She has also co-authored "The Facilitator's Toolkit: A guide for Decision Making."

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# Caribbean women in power

tion parties and could be elected as prime ministers in the coming months.

For example, polls in Barbados are showing that attorney Mia Mottley will more than likely defeat incumbent Prime Minister Freundel Stuart when elections are called before mid year as is constitutionally mandated.

The 30-member parliament has already been dissolved. It is just for Stuart who is running the clock to almost the very last, to call a date as the island economy sags, foreign exchange reserves are at an all time low and as a major sewage problem on the south coast is causing hotels and other businesses millions in lost revenues weekly.

There are several women at the national helm both in the 15-nation CARICOM bloc of nations and the wider Caribbean.

Lucille George-Wout has been governor of Curacao, a Dutch territory since November of last year. In nearby Aruba, Evelyn Wever-Croes is prime minister in Aruba as well as Sharlene Cartwright-Robinson in the Turks and Caicos Islands as it tries to recover from that devastating 2017 hurricane season.

As well, Dame Cecile La Grenade is governor general of Grenada, Dame Marguerite Pindling has been governor general of The Bahamas since 2014. Like Mottley of Barbados, Persad-Bissessar of Trinidad is waiting to become prime minister again if her party wins the 2020 general elections. And no one forgets that social worker Portia Simpson-Miller had been the immediate past prime minister of Jamaica, serving at the same time with Persad-Bissessar.

# Boosting Caribbean resilience

By Nelson A. King

The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) says despite a massive humanitarian effort over the past six months in the Eastern Caribbean, Cuba and Haiti, there is still much work to be done to rehabilitate water and sanitation and other infrastructure damaged by powerful hurricanes Irma and Maria.

"So long [as] children are in need or in danger, we will continue working tirelessly so that everyone can look to the future with hope," said María Cristina Perceval, regional director of UNICEF for Latin America and the Caribbean on Tuesday, stating that some US\$11.5 million in international donations continue to help the agency's work in the region.

UNICEF said it continues to work on the ground, while, at the same time, it prepares for the arrival of the new hurricane season, with the aim of minimizing potential damage and impact on the most vulnerable areas.

In September 2017, the UN said at least 1.4 million people, including 357,000 children, were affected by the two category 5 hurricanes that wreaked havoc through Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, Cuba, Dominica, Haiti, the British Virgin Islands, and Turks and Caicos Islands.

"Following the storms," Perceval said, UNICEF responded immediately, mobilizing supplies and human resources to

meet the needs of those affected and save lives."

The agency said it continues to prioritize safe water and hygiene, giving more than 400,000 affected people, including children, access to drinking water and purification tablets — "fundamental actions that save lives and prevents the outbreak and transmission of waterborne diseases, such as cholera and diarrhea."

On protecting children, another of UNICEF's priorities, some 16,000 participated in psychosocial activities and 1,500 people were trained to continue carrying out these programs.

In addition, UNICEF and its partners launched a cash transfer system benefiting more than 4,600 of the most vulnerable families following the hurricanes.

"Along with these emergency response actions," Perceval said "UNICEF and its partners maintain their work in the Caribbean to contribute to an inclusive, equitable and prosperous region that guarantees the provision of quality services and support to children in the areas of education, child protection, social protection and resilience to guarantee the realization of children's rights."

With the next hurricane season in the region officially beginning on June 1, UNICEF said it is working to improve capacities and reduce vulnerability at national and community level.

Continued from Page 1

those in authority. Light can be seen in a community, where people care for their environment and are tolerant of the views, beliefs and practices of others."

Her nomination to the highest position in the country comes just three months after neighboring Barbados also chose a woman judge to become the island's governor general.

Not being a republic like Trinidad, the position in Barbados is for the appointment of a governor general rather than president. That person serves as Queen Elizabeth's representative in Barbados. No such thing applies in Trinidad as it has basically severed ties with Britain, its former colonizer.

In early January, Justice Sandra Mason was sworn in as governor general of Barbados, the second woman to do so after Dame Nita Barrow. She has the distinction of being the first woman admitted to the bar on the island and its first female appeals court judge.

The two will sit at above the political and partisan fray in their respective countries and will join a burgeoning list of distinguished women holding that position. Some are also leaders of the main opposi-

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# We need truth in treatment in modern medicine

By Wendy K. Smith RN, MSN

I recently met with a patient who was diagnosed with throat cancer and metastases to his lungs. He was on a feeding tube and his weight was down to 109 pounds. A surgical procedure that he underwent this past June in an attempt to remove the cancer had permanently robbed him of his speech and his ability to ever eat or taste food again. He spent two months after surgery in a skilled nursing facility sharing a room with a stranger. After 2½ months of being away from his home, he was discharged.

His family contacted my office in September due to his rapid decline and because he had no direction or conversation with the multitude of healthcare providers that he had encountered over the course of his diagnosis, surgery, hospitalization and skilled nursing admissions. Unfortunately, he is just one of thousands of patients who yearly undergo non-beneficial treatments and are left with the physical and emotional scars. What little time he had left, he was now denied the joy of simple things such as tasting his favorite foods.

When I first met this patient whom I will refer to as "Joe" to maintain his privacy, he wrote on a piece of paper, "quality of life." I wonder how many times he verbalized those words to

the healthcare providers he trusted before he died on New Year's Eve.

In fact, an article published in the Journal of American Medical Association (JAMA) Internal Medicine concluded: "The majority of participants over-estimated intervention benefit and underestimated harm. Clinicians should discuss accurate and balanced information about intervention benefits and harms with patients, providing the opportunity to develop realistic expectations and make informed decisions."

The Journal of Palliative Medicine reports: "Seventy-eight percent of patients received at least one form of intensive EOL [end-of-life] care, including 75 percent of those who preferred comfort measures at last documentation."

As a practicing nurse, I know these studies are accurate because I have seen terminally ill patients die in hospital ICUs. These patients were subjected to non-beneficial exams and treatments, which resulted in increased pain, anxiety and needlessly prolonged suffering. I know many other nurses who feel the same way.

In response to this systemic failure, Compassion & Choices, which advocates for patients to have the full range of healthcare options, introduced a new initiative last November called "Truth in Treatment." The goal

Continued on Page 14

# Regaining our past cricket glory

By Albert Baldeo

The West Indian diaspora demands answers from Cricket West Indies or West Indies Cricket Board, or "whatever you'll call yourselves," to borrow former West Indies captain Ramnaresh Sarwan's recent quote, as to why and how we are still struggling amongst cricket's minions to find a place on cricket's biggest stage-the World Cup. This is a debacle in itself, because not only is it unprecedented, but it would have been risible to even think that before.

This prestigious tournament is held every four years, and is cricket's Olympics. We have won the first two editions of the tournament, thanks to the leadership of Clive Lloyd and his team. Hence, our struggle to make the qualifiers is very depressing, indeed.

While other teams such as Australia, England, India, New Zealand, Pakistan, South Africa and Sri Lanka have already secured a place in the tournament, West Indies is still fighting hard to qualify in Zimbabwe, where the home team almost knocked us out of the tournament, after Afghanistan humiliated us. Even Bangladesh, an emerging cricketing nation, has made the World Cup qualifiers before us.

Most West Indians treasure our conquests in this tournament, from its inception. Will that brilliant, match winning 102 by Clive Lloyd in the final against Australia in the inaugural World Cup in 1975, Rohan Kanhai's wonderful supporting knock of 55 with

**Indeed, the basic defects of Cameron's so called master plan is reflected in the omission of players like Kieron Pollard, Darren and Dwayne Bravo, Sunil Narine and Andre Russell.**

Lloyd, Alvin Kallicharran's onslaught on Lillee in his spellbinding 10 ball sequence of 4,4,4,4,4,1,4,6,0,4 (35 runs), Viv Richards spectacular 3 run-outs in the same final, his majestic 138 from 157 balls, consisting of 11 fours, 3 sixes and Collis King's mercurial 86 from 66 balls, 10 fours, 3 sixes in the 1979 final, this time against England, for example, ever be bestowed again to a proud Caribbean nation?

Caribbean nations yearn for such glory, again. After all, although the West Indies "are Third World countries, we belong and are in the first World of Cricket." (Former Jamaican PM, Michael Manley). Cricket is not only a religion in the Caribbean, but it best defines the region in the highest context. Indeed, regional political integration has its genesis in cricket as a unifying and defining force.

We just cannot ignore, nor relinquish that supremacy. In a larger world where we are often treated as underdogs and second class citizens in a global context, allow us to find comfort and solace in our regional strength.

Intrinsic in this endeavor, is our demand that Cricket West Indies President, Dave Cameron, explain his logic and methodology that "the Caribbean side are using the ICC World Cup qualifiers in Zimbabwe to plot their capture of the showpiece in England next year... In going to the tournament, we've been planning on how to win the World Cup, not just qualify... That's the reason we took certain players to ensure that we have the quality and we're [giving] some players experience to be able to win the World Cup," he has told reporters.

Every school child in the Caribbean is smart enough to denounce such an unwise approach and utterances as "counting your chickens before they are hatched." They will tell you that you will achieve nothing when you implement such an egotistical and reckless approach. Some will, understandably, use more colorful language to describe it, which I cannot publish here.

Indeed, the basic defects of Cameron's so called master plan is reflected in the omission of players like Kieron Pollard, Darren and Dwayne Bravo, Sunil Narine and Andre Russell. He may argue that they "opted out," or that amnesty will solve the problem and we will field our strongest team, but his critics will counter that he kept them out, without exploring any avenues to include them at all. After all, in Cameron's world, an Emperor does not have to accommodate lesser mortals. "These players would

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# Consul Society honors Jamaica's VP VIP

March is acclaimed for many things – the month clocks here “spring forward” to daylight saving time; fabled to come “in like a lion -- out like a lamb” and for a gender relentlessly striving to establish equality and parity in the workplace, women’s history month.

Although the entire 31 days are devoted to acknowledging significant achievements of the gender, Mar. 8 is regarded for celebrating International Women’s Day.

Trudy Deans, Jamaica’s Consul General who probably considered half a million outstanding women from her island to laud during an awards reception hosted by the Society of Foreign Consuls chose Patricia D. Chin.

Deans named the four feet 11 inch tall, octogenarian, Chinese-Jamaican businesswoman who has lived half her life on the Caribbean island and much of the other in Jamaica, Queens for a 2018 prestigious International Women’s Day Award.

“The Consulate General has followed your work and accomplishments over time and are very proud to select you as this year’s honoree in recognition



## Inside Life

By Vinette K. Pryce

of your outstanding contributions to our homeland Jamaica and within our Diaspora in the north-east and southern regions of these United States,” the island’s diplomatic representative at the consulate said.

As consuls and guests from numerous nations watched, the recipient took her place among women heralded globally for successfully contributing to social, economic, cultural and political advancements, Chin stood tallest in the moment.

“I am very honored and blessed to accept this prestigious award,” Chin said.

Affectionately renowned as Miss Pat to Jamaican nationals, recording artists, managers and clients, familiar with her storied career, many are also aware that the petite businesswoman is the P that established the largest independent reggae record label in the world -- VP Records.

Along with her husband Vin-

cent, the Kingston-based couple migrated to New York after retailing records for almost two decades at a business named for her husband’s pen name -- Randy’s Record Shop.

Since selling the island’s music won handily on the island, when they migrated here the couple bargained on the vast Caribbean immigrant community to advance their purpose.

They settled in Brooklyn, combined their first names and voila! The alphabets proved appealing to immigrants, nationals and tourists yearning for vintage and current reggae releases.

The venture was also alluring to new and burgeoning reggae artists who were elusive to commercial labels and their artist and repertoire scouts.

It was Brooklyn 1975 and with almost no major, music magazine support nor record



Patricia Chin, VP Records principal displays her award with Trudy Deans, Jamaica’s consul general. Christopher Chin

charting process devoted to niche music, a vast drought blighted reminiscences and nostalgia for Caribbean nationals.

At the time, commercial radio was not as friendly to the hard-driving beat and television seemed an unwilling

medium to navigate. Stocking old and new recordings, widening the repertoire and displaying merchandise familiar to a specific market, VP established an address and quickly garnered a foothold.

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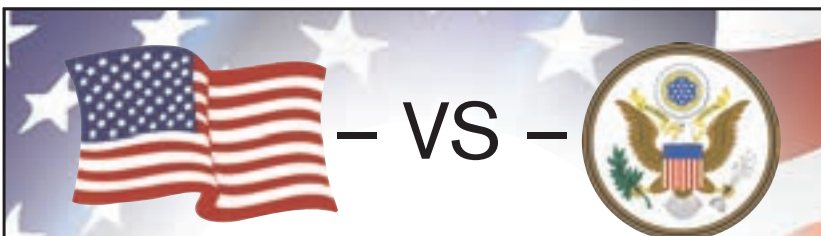
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# Unnecessary patient treatment

sions, a survey commissioned by the John A. Hartford Foundation, the California Health Care Foundation, and Cambia Health Foundation concluded: "Less than one-third (29 percent) [of physicians] report having had any formal training specifically on talking with patients and their families about end-of-life care."

Continued from Page 10

is to bring awareness to the growing number of patients with life-threatening illnesses who are receiving non-beneficial treatments. The program is aimed at moving away from a "one size fits all" approach to healthcare and empowering individuals through educational tools, such as a "Diagnosis Decoder," to help them build trusting, candid relationships with their doctors, ask discerning questions, and use the answers to make fully informed treatment decisions.

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has also recognized the importance of end-of-life care decisions. In an effort to facilitate end-of-life care discussions with patients, CMS is now reimbursing physicians to participate in these discussions. While Medicare now reimburses doctors for conducting these discus-

The responsibility of Truth in Treatment starts with all teaching medical institutions. Without incorporating end-of-life care discussions into the curriculum and limiting physician's exposure to only a "curative" approach to healthcare, they are doing a disservice to the doctors and the patients in which he/she will be entrusted. Without education and understanding, the cycle of non-beneficial treatment will continue and it is the patient and family who will suffer.

Death is inevitable. Truth is a right. Knowledge is power.

*Wendy K. Smith is a registered nurse in Richland, Washington who specializes in treating patients with life-shortening and terminal diseases caused by exposure to toxic materials in the workplace.*

# Once mighty West Indies in disarray

Continued from Page 10

have had to bow down and ask for an apology, I am the king of the West Indies. The West Indies is me, myself and I," Cameron would have explained.

To their credit, veterans Chris Gayle and Marlon Samuels sucked up their pride and were included, but were under great pressure to perform. These players will tell you how WPA's criticisms can devastate a player. Ask Ronnie Sarwan, a class batsman we loved to see bat. Ronnie said he did not know his front foot from his back foot, and will never play for the West Indies again.

Understandably, when great players and captains such as Worrell, Sobers, Kanhai, Lloyd, Richards and Lara scold players, they respect that, but when a dictatorial official who hardly knows how to hold a bat or grip a ball attempts to do the same, he disparages a player.

Cameron's also claims that, "CWI had made player performance the key requirement going forward...I think we need to be very clear about what we are doing... We are about performance and we want to make that very clear across everything that we do, that if we don't perform they are consequences. I wouldn't go as far as to say they will be changes because I know we will qualify."

We cannot forget that Cameron presided over the defeat of the once mighty West Indies that were forced into the qualifiers for the first time in our history after we were ranked ninth in the One-Day International rankings at the Sept. 30 cut-off date last year, while 8 other teams who will readily admit that they cannot boast of the great

players and history the West Indies once ruled the cricketing world-gained automatic qualification. Neither should we compete in the World Cup if we are going to be content with qualifying. Where is your plan to win, and regain our cricket superiority, Mr. Cameron?

Cameron's attempts to preempt the arguments that he is the cause of West Indies demise, when he claims, "the lack of financial support from both government and the corporate sector, had contributed to the decline of West Indies cricket... You just look at the top of the cricket rankings, the globalized nations, and that tells you everything," he contended. "There's financial support, there's corporate support — government and corporate — and that's the reason Cricket West Indies cricket is where it's at today. We were supported by sugar cane, bananas, bauxite and where are those industries today?"

Well, what has changed, Mr. Cameron, when we had those same humble or even less support, and proudly ruled the cricket world? Your argument is fallacious. America, a corporate behemoth, is not the greatest cricket nation, in spite of your theory. Neither is the UAE, Netherlands or Hong Kong. Indeed, we were almost sent packing by Zimbabwe, humiliated by Afghanistan, while countries like Nepal have claimed One-Day International status for the first time, surely not corporate, financial or global titans by any stretch of the imagination!

Indeed, you are the common and supervening factor in our cricket's deterioration. Take a leave of absence, let CARICOM grant and implement unconditional amnesty to all players, implement professional responsibility for players, and let's see how our fortunes soar once again.

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## CARIBBEAN ROUNDUP

Continued from Page 4

out of India are promulgating the false claim that Nirav Modi, his wife Ami and his uncle Mehul Choksi have applied for economic citizenship in the twin-island Federation of St. Kitts and Nevis."

"The government of St. Kitts and Nevis repudiates this allegation and states on the record that Mr. Modi is not a citizen of St. Kitts and Nevis, and neither his wife and uncle," the statement said.

The India government recently revoked the Indian passport of Modi and an Indian newspaper has claimed he has since moved to the Caribbean island in a bid to evade arrest.

Punjab National Bank (PNB), India's second largest government-owned lender, has said that the quantum of fraud uncovered at one of its Mumbai branches last month is expected to rise to over US\$204 billion from US\$1.77 billion estimated until now.

### Trinidad

The Trinidad and Tobago government and opposition came together in the House of Representatives to pass the

controversial Anti-Gang Bill 2018.

Both members of the government and the opposition voted in favor of the bill, which will now go to the Senate for final approval.

The Anti-Gang Bill 2017 was defeated in Parliament last year after the opposition did not lend its support over the sunset clause which the opposition wanted two years but the government wanted five years.



The bill was allowed to return to Parliament after Attorney General Faris-al-Rawi moved the suspension of Standing Order 78 to permit the introduction of the bill.

The Anti-Gang Bill would give the police some help in the fight against criminals.

The bill carries a stiff penalty of 10 years in prison for a first conviction and 20 years for any subsequent conviction.

There are more than 210 gangs in T&T with a membership of more than 2,000 members in Trinidad and Tobago.

— Compiled by Azad Ali

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**MADE FOR NEW YORK.**

# Barbados government angry at UK press

By George Alleyne

A report in the British Daily Telegraph newspaper on the distresses afflicting Barbados ranging from economic to environmental health matters, has government politicians up in arms, while the political opposition is expressing shame.

In an article headlined, 'The stench of economic decay is overwhelming Barbados,' the Telegraph's business editor, Julia Bradshaw, warned a week ago that "Barbados stinks. It really does," as she reported on the vexing issue of sewage spilling onto the roads on the island's south coast, resulting in the closure of several establishments and hundreds of thousands of dollars in losses to hoteliers.

The writer claimed that because of the stench tourists were leaving and many who have not yet arrived were cancelling flights.

Among other issues the article addressed are what it described as a 'toxic mix of incompetence and economic mismanagement,' and violence in schools.

Leader of the main political



Barbados Opposition Leader, Mia Mottley.

By George Alleyne

opposition, Mia Mottley, said the report is "a commentary on Barbados that is so sad that we feel shame."

"When they can talk about the foul stench, it wasn't only the stench on the south coast they were talking about. They were talking about the foul economic stench, corruption in government, indiscipline in our society, the decline of a society and a nation," Mottley said.

"The Democratic Labour Party [government] in 2018 has

devalued and diminished us, downgraded us as a country to the point where everyone who read that article shook their head in shame and said, 'Lord have Mercy on our people, our country,'" she added.

But despite a crisis of a broken sewerage system causing sewage spills on the road, into yards and business compounds along with persistent national economic problems, Tourism Minister Richard Sealy was outraged at the report and fired off a note to the British newspaper's editor expressing 'shock and disappointment' at the article, which he said was "viciously crafted with invective, rhetoric and hyperbole."

Sealy said in the letter that the article was "an attempt to denigrate Barbados' reputation, a country which currently ranks number 25 of 180 countries, by Transparency International."

In a comment that suggests money should influence the newspaper's editorial integrity, Sealy said, "we are confounded that the Telegraph, a long-standing media partner of Barbados, would print such a



Barbados Tourism Minister Richard Sealy.

By George Alleyne

scathing article about a partner who spends significant sums in advertising with them annually without doing us the courtesy of making an enquiry. This is a terrible affront and an incredible situation."

Sealy's bald attempt at editorial interference might be

founded in his government's anxiety over any negative image in the UK, the island's largest source market for tourists.

As he noted, of the 663, 441 tourists who made Barbados their holiday destination last year, 222, 322 of them were from the UK.

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# Medgar Evers College to host Black Writers Conference

**By Nelson A. King**

The Center for Black Literature at Medgar Evers College (CBL), City University of New York says it will hold its 14th National Black Writers Conference (NBWC) from Thursday, March 22 – Sunday, March 25.

The four-day, highly-anticipated event features a Youth Literacy program, an Elder Writers Workshop, and a Tribute and Awards Ceremony honoring some of today's most revered authors, scholars, cultural historians and literary activists.

CBL said the 2018 theme is "Gathering at the Waters: Healing, Legacy and Activism in Black Literature."

Local, regional, and nationally celebrated writers, scholars, literary professionals, students, and the community-at-large will convene over four days to discuss topics related to the conference theme, CBL said.

It said delegates will examine the state of literature produced by Black writers, listen to writers read from their work, attend a variety of informative workshops and "fellowship with other supporters of Black literature.

This year, the honorees are: Col-

son Whitehead, Kwame Dawes, David Levering Lewis, Susan L. Taylor, Steven Barnes and Tananarive Due, and Eugene B. Redmond. The honorary chair is Dr. Myrlie Evers-Williams.

"The vision for the 14th National Black Writers acknowledges CBL's concern about the recent and ongoing issues of social inequality and injustices that challenge us and builds on the legacy of healing through activism," the statement said.

"This timely theme centers on the ways in which Black writers use their writing to explore and convey messages that heal and restore our individual selves and collective community," it added.

CBL said the conference will also examine the instrumental role Black writers have played in building cultural history; the imprint that this has left in Black literature; and how the literature of Black writers has impacted present-day and future generations.

Each conference day will feature a variety of film screenings, panel discussions, author readings and workshops, CBL said.

# Caribbean court names new president

**By Azad Ali**

A national of St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Justice Adrian Saunders has been named as the next president of the Caribbean Court of Justice (CCJ).

He will replace Sir Dennis Byron when he steps down later this year.

Byron, a national of St. Kitts and Nevis, was appointed as the CCJ's second president on Sept. 1, 2011.

The tenure of the CCJ president is for a non-renewable term of seven years.

The announcement of Saunders as the next CCJ president was made on the CCJ's official Twitter account last week.

"The CCJ president, Sir Dennis Byron, announced that the next president of the Court will be Mr. Justice Saunders, who is already a judge at the

CCJ," the tweet said.

Saunders, a former acting chief justice of the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court, was sworn in as a CCJ judge on April 16, 2005.

Justice Saunders was appointed in 1996 as Judge of the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court (ECSC) and in 2003 he was confirmed as a Justice of Appeal of the ECSC.

One year later he was appointed to act as chief justice of that court.

Justice Saunders holds a Bachelor of Laws degree from the University of the West Indies (Cave Hill) Barbados in 1975 and Legal Education Certificate of the Hugh Wooding Law School in Trinidad and Tobago in 1977, the CCJ's website stated.

He was called to the bar of the St Vincent and the Grenadines in the same year.

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**MADE FOR NEW YORK.**

# How mom and pop shops stay competitive against big chain stores in Brooklyn

By Llana Weinberger

With new Duane Reades and CVSs opening up shop every year, there is a space issue in NYC. Especially in New York, which is known to be a dog-eat-dog city, more and more of the smaller stores are finding it harder to stay in business in this changing landscape. Brooklyn specifically has seen major changes in the real estate space, with a prime example being Lake Realty's 1601 Kings Highway in Sheepshead Bay which is currently under construction, that will house tenants such as Modell's Sporting Goods, CVS, and Planet Fitness. While massive new projects like this one are great for a community's development, it's also important for a community to remember its past — its culture and heritage — through smaller shops such as bodegas.

The influx of bigger businesses and chain stores into neighborhoods pose a problem for mom and pop shops around our neighborhood, struggling to stay competitive. The prices of rent in Brooklyn have become comparable to Chicago, San Francisco and Miami. Although this might not matter as much to Duane Reade, obviously this is a deterrent for smaller shops. Some solutions that smaller Brooklyn businesses have been trying so far include moving to cheaper areas within Brooklyn, or moving out of Brooklyn altogether. Other companies are taking a more proactive

approach.

One company striving to equal the playing field is National Retail Solutions (NRS), a technology used by bodegas to provide an inventory management system for bodegas, benefiting both bodega owners and customers. Its rewards program — The BR Club Savings & Rewards program — comes built into the POS (Point of Sale,) allowing bodega owners to offer personalized discounts every month. Both merchants and consumers can enjoy the program at no extra cost. Other unique features include its ability to remind you what you're running low on by sending you alerts, and managing store analytics so that bodega owners know what to stock. Users create customized profiles on NRS's app, where they keep what they usually buy at their bodegas, and get reminders on what they need the next time they shop. In this way, NRS increases customer satisfaction and therefore customer loyalty, driving business for bodegas.

There are hundreds of bodegas in Brooklyn, with so many on Bedford alone. If you walk around the corner you'll most likely see one, where you can stop by for breakfast on your morning commute and pick up a smoothie and granola bar. You can never take away a city's culture. Culture is the heart of any city, and sometimes protecting your heart takes work.



Elie Y. Katz, president of National Retail Solutions.

"NRS was created as a way to fight back against the big guys and protect community heritage by keeping bodegas thriving in communities around

New York and beyond," said Elie Y. Katz, president of NRS. "With about 20 NRS systems in Brooklyn, we have found a concrete way of achieving that goal."

## Know yourself: Nicole McLaren Campbell's self-help book

By Alexandra Simon

Help yourself by knowing yourself!

In a new self-help book by educator and debut author Nicole McLaren Campbell — wife of Jamaican artist Jeffrey "Agent Sasco" Campbell — she challenges readers to finding their true purpose in life with some self-examination. Her book titled "Make it Count," calls on readers to headstart on a life toward their dreams without the many obstacles preventing them. She says if someone is stalling on a goal and overthinking its completion, her guide aims to help in deciding the next step.

"The book is definitely a push and it's a great starting point because sometimes people just need a little push — all of us," said McLaren-Campbell.

Often the go-to person for advice, she wrote the book to discuss everything she has journeyed through to similarly coach people.

"I enjoy giving people a push that they need," she said. "That's the type of motivation it gives you, and it also challenges



Nicole McLaren Campbell.

you to say: 'Is that project that important to me?' and 'What is the price of me not completing it?' — because sometimes the goal is not that important."

In the quick 39-page read, Campbell discusses the five different aspects of reaching your goals — such as fear, procrastination, courage, purpose, and staying motivated. The universal audience for her book all relate to the stagnancy

in the lives of big dreamers.

She was tasked to creating the book when she realized her following on social media were turning to her for answers on her own life journey. McLaren-Campbell would often post about overcoming fear and pushing herself, and people began inquiring on how she persevered. Not long after noticing the uptick in questions, she felt that her social media postings could have a bigger impact to her following if there was a book to rely on.

"People were reaching out to me and I found myself responding to a lot of questions centered around the same theme — and I always felt it was my mission to reach and empower people," she said. "I saw that I had the opportunity to empower people around their goals, and if my mission is to reach as many people as possible I know that a book was the answer."

Twenty years ago, McLaren-Campbell was featured in a Nickelodeon documentary highlighting young and influential teens and in Teen People Magazine as

one of "20 teens Who Will Change the World." Now two decades after that ranking, she went on to attend prestigious schools in Jamaica and the states, and founded her own tutoring company — AIM Educational Services.

Watching the video for the first time at an book signing earlier this month, Campbell says looking back she is proud of how she figured herself out in those years.

"It's inspiring, it gives you energy, and it gives sense of reassurance that you're on the right path," she said. "It's exciting and it's encouraging because even as an adult I continue to dream big. And just to know that I stayed focused and put in the work to follow my purpose, has led my mission to make my goals happen."

Campbell said her main goals with the book were to provide people with a quick reference guide to use whenever they needed a motivational coach, and remind them to live life without wasting a day.

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# With Arze and Mollica, the legal process is painless

BY CAMILLE SPERRAZZA

Arze & Mollica LLP recently secured a \$450,000 verdict for a woman who was struck by a vehicle.

The 65-year-old woman was walking in the parking lot of a bank she had just left in Bayside, Queens, when a driver lost control of his vehicle, striking her. She was taken from the scene of the accident to the emergency room at Queens Hospital.

There, she was diagnosed with a fractured ankle, as well as two fractured ribs. She spent approximately 10 days in a rehabilitation facility. Following that stay, she began to experience pain in her spine, right knee, and right shoulder.

Just prior to trial, the insurance company for the defendant alleged that she made a full recovery from her injuries, and that any corresponding injuries to her knee, shoulder, or spine were age-related conditions, unrelated to the accident. It offered less than \$100,000 to settle the case. But the law firm of Arze & Mollica was confident that at trial, a larger award could be obtained from a jury.

A weeklong trial commenced in Kings County Supreme Court, with Arze & Mollica securing a verdict in her favor.

Yes, injuries are painful — but the legal process doesn't have to be. When Arze and Mollica LLP is on your side, it won't be.

Attorney Gerald G. Arze of the firm says when it comes to any time of accident — be it auto or something else — it is imperative that people speak to a knowledgeable attorney soon after the accident has taken place. This is because there are time restrictions involved in the filing of paperwork. No one should hesitate to call Arze and Mollica LLP because it doesn't cost anything to talk with them. Arze and Mollica LLP does not get compensated for its time unless it wins the case.

Mr. Arze also stresses the importance of hiring the right lawyer — one who has a dedicated practice to helping people who are in-



Arze and Mollica LLP's new and larger office space, conveniently located close to the D and N trains. Gerald Arze and Raymond Mollica are personally involved in every case they take on. Photos by Georgine Benvenuto.

jured in accidents.

"This will ensure the attorney is up-to-date on all the changes in law that occur year to year in the realm of automobile accident and No Fault law."

The office represents many people who have been injured at work, due to the negligence of a third party.

"This permits the person to not only have a Workers Compensation case, but to also have a lawsuit against the negligent party," says Mr. Arze. Such a scenario takes important investigative work on the part of the law office. "It includes searching building permits and work applica-

tions which identify various entities hired to perform work at a work site," he says.

"Premises liability" refers to those who are injured while inside a building or while in front of one due to the negligence of a property owner or manager. Collecting cellphone photos and the names and phone numbers of witnesses is extremely important to preserve your ability to bring a case if you have been injured, he says.

"Our office is dedicated to protecting the injured against the negligent acts of persons, corporations, businesses, and municipal entities."

Some of the company's many success stories can be read on its website. To best serve clients, the office does not take on more than it can handle. This assures that Mr. Arze and Mr. Mollica are personally involved in every case. Clients are kept aware of the case progress, too, and calls are returned promptly.

Both attorneys worked for high-profile law firms before deciding to open Arze and Mollica LLP in 2007. Mr. Arze is an active participant in the New York State Trial Lawyers Association and the Brooklyn Bar Association. He is fluent in Spanish and English.

Mr. Mollica is a member of the Columbian Lawyers Association, Brooklyn Bar Association, and the New York Trial Lawyers Association.

Arze and Mollica LLP has marked a milestone 10 years in the business, and has moved to larger office space, conveniently located close to the D and N trains.

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# Barbados loses a round in NCD fight

By George Alleyne

Barbados government's haste to grab tax revenue, a determination of distributors to sell their product regardless of health consequences, and fluctuation in the Trinidad currency have combined to dull the intended effect of a sin tax on sugary drinks.

With one in five persons afflicted by diabetes in its general population, and that ratio increasing to one out of every two adults above the age of 65, health officials convinced the Barbados government that radical action is needed against non-communicable diseases (NCD), and sugar should be targeted.

This resulted in a 10 percent surtax being slapped on all local and imported sugar-sweetened beverages in 2015.

Lecturer at the University of the West Indies, Professor Alafia Samuels, said that the sugary drinks were singled out because, "the Caribbean has the highest consumption of sugar-sweetened beverages in the world. On average, people in the Caribbean drink two sugar-sweetened beverages per

person per day," and this is the main reason that, "four out of 10 women are obese, and two out of 10 men are obese".

But she said last weekend that the Barbados government's overriding focus on earning the extra revenue was the first factor to soften the desired effect of the sin tax measure.

"Usually when we are going to do something like this, it is a health intervention, and so it would be important to have public education to prepare the public.

"But in reality, in Barbados this intervention was driven more by tax revenue. And so it was announced and implemented quickly without a chance for real public education to take place," said Dr. Samuels, the director of the George Alleyne Chronic Disease Research Centre.

She said that while government has been successfully reaping its revenue over the almost three years, "the industry has absorbed some of that tax, and on the shelf you [consumer] are only actually seeing a six percent tax difference in prices."

Samuels pointed out that this reduces the impact of the price increase, which was intended to discourage consumers from purchasing many sugar-sweetened drinks.

"Obviously it's what the consumer faces when they are going to the checkout register that matters, and the consumer is facing only a six percent difference, and this is going to influence their behaviour."

The impact of that 10 percent, effectively cut to six percent, sin tax has been further reduced by a drop in value of the currency of Trinidad, from where Barbados imports many of its drinks.

"The Trinidad and Tobago dollar has been weakening over time, which means that their products, including their sugar-sweetened, beverages coming into the island are actually more competitively priced.

"It meant that some of those drinks are at a lesser price than they would have been had the Trinidad dollar remained stable," she said of this uncontrollable factor.

Samuels is now calling for that sin tax on sugar-sweetened



Dr Alafia Samuels.

Photo by George Alleyne

drinks to be hiked from 10 percent to 20 percent, but unless it is accompanied by public education on the dangers of over-consumption of sugar, government is convinced not to focus only

on the extra revenue, and beverage distributors are persuaded not to lower the price to ensure sales, the impact of that recommended 50 percent tax increase will be equally blunted.

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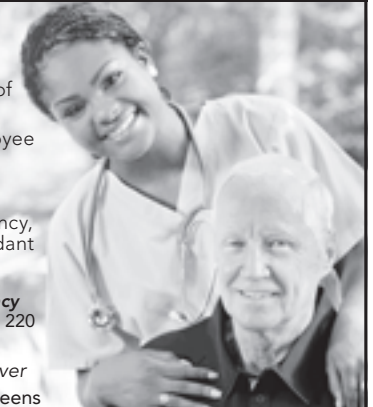
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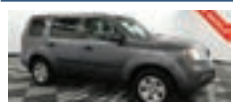
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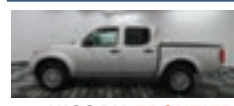
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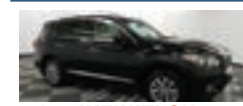
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# TOP DRIVER DISTRACTIONS

## 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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# Cancer organization to host tea party

**By Tangerine Clarke**

After a successful medical mission to Guyana last year, the Health Education Relief Organization For Cancer Inc. (HEROC) — a non-profit that partners with the Giving Hope Foundation in Georgetown — will host its 5th Annual Tea party and hat show on April 8, at St. Gabriel's Golden Banquet Hall in Brooklyn. The event starts 3 pm.

The "High Tea" event which is expected to attract ladies in beautiful hats, and men in debonair ensemble at the 331 Hawthorne St. venue, will bring in much needed funds for the group to carry on its important work that continues to help hundreds of Guyanese.

President of HEROC, Lorna Welshman-Neblett is calling on all to support the fundraiser that will give patrons the opportunity to win prizes, while donating to this worthy cause.

Decorated tables to showcase fancy clothes, center pieces, and tea sets, will vie in the best table setting category, while best Fashion Hat and getup will be judged in another category.

Welshman-Neblett noted, that the organization's far reaching initiatives that included a Look Good Feel Better

Session for 35 Cancer survivors and patients at the headquarters of the Giving Hope Foundation, put a smile on the faces of the citizens.

Nurse Desrene Wallerson of New York, presented how to conduct breast checks and identify early signs and unusual variations via a Power Point presentation.

Dr. Isaac Fordyce presented a detailed session on Nutrition that was very beneficial for everyone, said Welshman Neblett.

Additionally, Nurse Fraser traveled to Bush Lot, West Coast Berbice where he presented a program on Sickle Cell. Mr. Fraser has completed some extensive research and studies in this area and continues to educate the community in his hometown. Dr. Isaac Fordyce accompanied him as part of the week-long mission, where HEROC members volunteered to ensure all services were administered to aid citizens.

Welshman-Neblett said much more work is needed to end late stage cancer detection. "We have a lot of work to do here and most importantly we have a great deal to do in terms of educating people. We have to help people to understand what signs they should look for."



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- Frequent urination?
- Wetting? Incontinence?
- Rushing to urinate?
- Urinating at night?

Experts in minimally invasive and laser treatment of BPH

## Prostate Cancer

- High PSA blood test?
- Family history of prostate cancer?

Cutting edge treatments for localized and advanced prostate cancer

## Kidney Stones

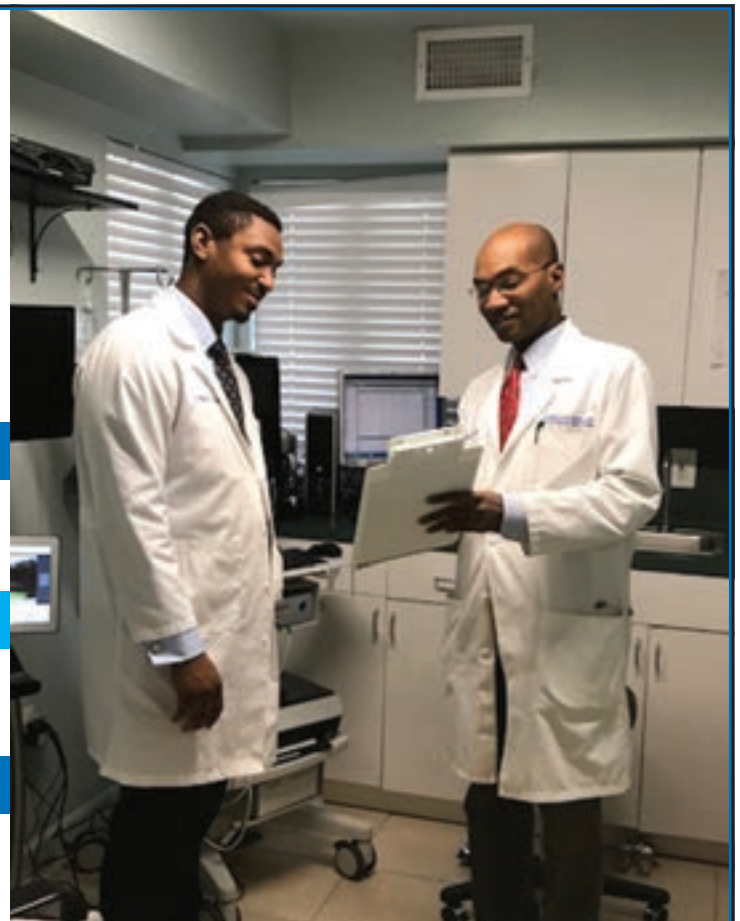
- Blood in urine?
- Pain?

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## Erectile Dysfunction

- Difficult or poor erection?
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# NYC ELDER CARE

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# Watch out for cons

Dime seminar warns seniors and their families of deceptive scams

BY MARK HALLUM

Dime Community Bank's seminar focused on educating seniors and their families on scams making the rounds that specifically target elderly people.

Some of these cons include calls claiming to be from the IRS and threatening police action if debts are not paid. Incidents like this are on the rise, according to Dime's Director of Security, David Panetta.

"Be concerned if you get a phone call asking for you as if it's some type of emergency or threatening you might be locked up if you don't pay a certain fine. Be aware of anybody who asks for cash, wire money or prepaid cards. Always verify the sources," David Panetta of Dime Community Bank



David Panetta of Dime Community Bank held a seminar on the latest scams targeting senior citizens. Photo by Mark Hallum said. Over half a million people last year reported their grandparents were scammed, and that's just what was reported... Some people lose their entire life savings."

Dime is based in Williamsburg, Brooklyn, and has been in business for over 150 years with 28 branches across the city — including many locations in Queens — as well as Nassau and Suffolk Counties.

Reach reporter Mark Hallum by e-mail at [mhallum@cnglocal.com](mailto:mhallum@cnglocal.com) or by phone at (718) 260-4564.



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Hundreds cycled through the Queens College gymnasium to speak with experts about vital services. Photo by Mark Hallum



Alzheimer's Disease was major concern for aging individuals and their families with experts ready to help.

Photo by Mark Hallum



Even Shlepper's Moving and Storage had a table at the event to offer information about their services. Photo by Mark Hallum



Representatives from EssentialRN offered information about their in-home care nursing services. Photo by Mark Hallum



Director of Security for Dime Community Bank David Panetta schools seniors on how to



Sponsors at the Elder Care Expo help attendees decide what their the best options are for

# Elder Care Services

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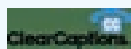
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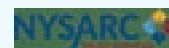
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# Signs of heart disease

Seminar focus: watching for these symptoms can save a life

BY MARK HALLUM

Perry Frankel of Advanced Cardiovascular Diagnostics, based in Nassau County, had more than just a table at the expo.

Staff from Frankel's clinic were speaking with seniors about the risks of heart disease and recognizing the signs and symptoms of a silent heart attack as well as conducting on-site health screenings.

"Three-quarters of strokes we can stop by just doing ultrasounds to people who are high

risk such as people with hypertension, diabetes," Frankel said in between consultations at the expo. "Forty-five percent of people who have a heart attack don't know they've had a heart attack—and have triple the risk of dying, according to a big study by the American Heart Association."

Some symptoms of a silent heart attack do not include chest pain. Women, in particular, are at risk of experiencing sleep disturbances, shortness of breath, indigestion, fatigue and anxiety.



Perry Frankel of Advanced Cardiovascular Diagnostics ran check-ups on event attendees and educated on heart disease. Photo by Mark Hallum

Heart disease is one of the leading causes of death in women who are most likely to experience these misleading symptoms, Frankel said, and

preventative measures are recommended since emergency treatment can come with a hefty price tag.

Reach reporter Mark Hallum by e-mail at [mhallum@cnglocal.com](mailto:mhallum@cnglocal.com) or by phone at (718) 260-4564.



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# Getting to know your identity

“All the Women in My Family Sing,” edited by Deborah Santana  
 c.2018, Nothing But the Truth Publishing  
 \$16.95 / \$24.50 Canada  
 363 pages

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

Who are you? Spoken or unspoken, serious or in jest, you get asked that question all the time. Where are you from? Who are your parents? Have you been here before, and what do you do? In “All The Women in My Family Sing,” edited by Deborah Santana, the questions stand: who are you and what is your story?

It’s a no-brainer: every day you spend in this world is different, socially, than it was last week, last year, in your mother’s time. Great-grandma might not even recognize your world — and that’s especially so if you are women of color.

Take, for instance, home. It’s a complicated word, to be sure. It means going back to where people love you, where your roots lie, even if your parents spent their lives leaving it.

It might be the first place you experienced bullying. Maybe you wonder where “home” is — or you may already be there but you’re “just not sure how long [you’ll] stay.”

On racism: what would you say if, after learning about Rosa Parks, your child asks which water fountain he would’ve had to choose, had he lived then? Or: what do you do when your school pays homage to the historical figure who stole your ancestors’ lands? Also: if you endured racism as a child, will there ever be a time when you’ve “stopped being eight years old”?

And then there’s the matter of identity.

What was it like to be raised in an all-white neighborhood, educated in an almost-all-white school, with mostly-white friends? Many of the authors know — and they honor the elders who taught them through example what it was like to be a woman of color. Still, many write about being the “only”: the only Black English teacher, the only Asian student, the only forty-something Latina in the mom-group...

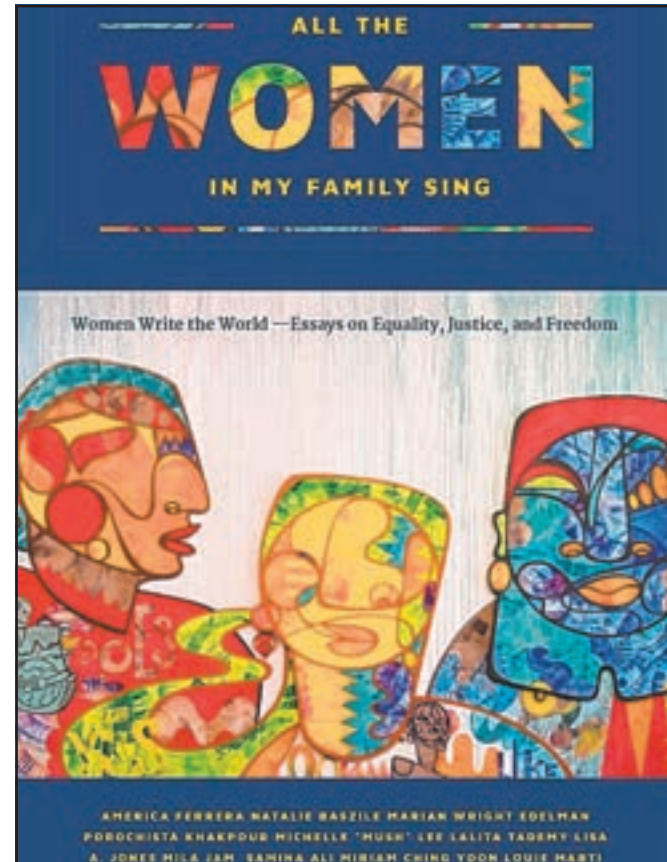
Sometimes, you may “feel

like part of no people and every people.” Your hair is curly. Your political beliefs are loud. The next generation is yours to raise, if you choose, and you’ve got things to tell them. You are beautiful, and you know that “Some scar tissue knits so tight that it shores you up like a bone.”

There’s something absolutely compelling about the stories in “All the Women in My Family Sing.” They’re like an addiction.

Read one, and your eyes fly open. Turn to the middle and your heart sinks. Taste one at random and find a kindred spirit, then disagree with another that just doesn’t touch you right. That’s the appeal of this book: each of the essays in here — written by everyday women as well as those with fame — are short enough to dip into quick, you can easily skip around, and they’ll all make you think and think and think.

Yes, “All the Women in My Family Sing” is for women. It’s more feminist than not. And yes, men can enjoy it, too, because reading it is like falling into a web of nourishing voices. This is a book to have, no matter who you are.



Book cover of “All the Women in My Family Sing,” edited by Deborah Santana.

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# ENTERTAINMENT

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Professional dancer Gina Mayers dances full-time with multiple sclerosis..

## Between two worlds: Dance and disability

By Alexandra Simon

She's striding through a hidden disability.

Barbadian-born Gina Mayers is a full time modern professional dancer at Brooklyn's Shadowbox Theater. But unbeknownst to most people, she dances while living with multiple sclerosis — a central nervous system disorder that affects nerve cells in the brain and spine. Having always had a love for dancing, she came to the states to pursue her love for the

Continued on Page 44

## Easter cantata

By Vinette K. Pryce

Members of the Brooklyn-based Day of Independence Committee of Panamanians New York organization are gearing to present "The End of Times...Contact of a Soul" a dramatic Easter cantata.

Slated for six showcases until Easter, two weekend performances include a matinee at 1 pm and an evening engagement at 7 pm beginning March 24.

A benefit performance on March 24 will begin at 7 pm and is a fundraiser to benefit the Oct. 6 - pride of the isthmus parade which begins at Bergen and Franklin each year and ends at Classon and Eastern Parkway, across from the Brooklyn Museum.

There will be no matinee on Palm Sunday.

All showcases will be held at Mt. Zion  
Continued on Page 44



# LOVESICK

Trinidadian singer Arita recently released her new single "Lovesick." She wants her debut EP of the same name to reintroduce the Caribbean influence in mainstream. CL Vision

## Trini singer wants to go mainstream

By Alexandra Simon

There's a new Caribbean songstress on the block!

And she is trying to maintain the island flavor in mainstream music. Trinidadian singer Arita, recently released her debut single and EP "Lovesick." As a singer, she wants to reintroduce the music industry to its Caribbean influence. She said many artists of Caribbean heritage played a huge part in American music throughout the years — but going mainstream often erased that

and now she wants to be one who challenges it.

"I am Caribbean and I'm from Trinidad and I have a love for the blues, soul, and reggae, but I also love my Caribbean music and I want to be that representation for Caribbean people who come into the industry and think they only have to sing the American way," she said Arita. "I want to take Caribbean music and make it mainstream — it's always been there but we often fuse it together and I want to keep

my accent in the songs."

Her musical inspirations are Aretha Franklin, Nina Simone, and Heather Headley — who is also of Trinidadian descent. Even though Headley is Caribbean — Arita says many people are not often aware of that because she sings in a standard American accent, which is why speech is a main factor in her artistry because she has experienced the downsides.

"I've been in studios with multi-

Continued on Page 44

## TOP OF THE CHARTS

### TOP 10 SINGLES



- 1 **Finesse**  
Bruno Mars & Cardi B
- 2 **Perfect**  
Ed Sheeran
- 3 **Meant To Be**  
Bebe Rexha & Florida Georgia Line
- 4 **God's Plan**  
Drake
- 5 **Lights Down Low**  
MAX Feat. gnash
- 6 **New Rules**  
Dua Lipa
- 7 **Him & I**  
G-Eazy & Halsey
- 8 **Havana**  
Camila Cabello Feat. Young Thug
- 9 **The Middle**  
Zedd, Maren Morris & Grey
- 10 **Let You Down**  
NF

### TOP 10 ALBUMS



- 1 **Bobby Tarantino II**  
Logic
- 2 **Tearing At The Seams**  
Nathaniel Rateliff & The Night Sweats
- 3 **Firepower**  
Judas Priest
- 4 **The Greatest Showman**  
Soundtrack
- 5 **Hardwired...To Self-Destruct**  
Metallica
- 6 **Ray Ray From Summerhill**  
YFN Lucci
- 7 **Outsider**  
Three Days Grace
- 8 **Lil Boat 2**  
Lil Yachty
- 9 **Both Sides Of The Sky**  
Jimi Hendrix
- 10 **Black Panther: The Album**  
Soundtrack

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# LOVESICK

Continued from Page 43

ple award-winning producers and some have asked me to sing more 'American,' or say that I need to sound a certain way, but I want to be true to who I am," she said.

This constant encounter has made her diligent about keeping her particular style and why she advocates for Caribbean accents in today's music.

"It's definitely played a role because a lot of producers make you try to sing that way, and a lot of artists end up doing it because they tell them it's faster — but now it's no longer authentic because we are not being us," said Arita. "We have so much to offer but

the authenticity is not there."

She cites Jamaican-American deejay Kool Herc as one of the earliest examples of Caribbean influence, and even says that Jamaican reggae singer Beres Hammond nearly sings about the same things popular American artists have sung about.

"I love reggae and it's like soul to me — we just tell our stories in a different accent," she said. "Before Beres Hammond came out, there was Otis Redding and Marvin Gaye and he sings about the same things they did."

Arita said her cross-cultural single "Lovesick," was one of those singles that will take her there.



The singer says keeping her accent is somewhat revolutionary due to the music industry. Ashley Naomi Campbell

## Dance

Continued from Page 43

artform at the Alvin Ailey school in Harlem in 2009. But before it all, she started experiencing symptoms that would lead to a life-changing health crisis.

"I didn't know what was happening and I was already dancing professionally at the time and I started to experience blurry vision," she said. "Next thing I know — I was blind and in the hospital."

After an MRI scan and a full recovery to regaining her sight, Mayers learned she was being diagnosed with multiple sclerosis. The news came as a shock to her and she had just been accepted into the Ailey school. She knew it would be a new challenge to balance her disorder, but figured she would not miss out on the opportunity.

"I knew I would still go and pursue that education, but then I started to deal with numbness on my right side and feeling really tired," said Mayers. "All of



Mayers in the Shadowbox Theater production of "The Earth and Me."

a sudden when it came to choreography, I couldn't grasp basic steps."

One of the most devastating outcomes Mayers encountered while having the disorder was the substantial memory function that she used the most. She said losing that drastically changed how she typically danced.

"Before I exhibited signs of multiple sclerosis, I had photographic memory and I could just see a choreography and mimic that and memorize it," she said. "But I had to relearn how to analyze steps and that

was the hardest part because it was like relearning how to dance in a sense — that loss really hurt me."

Since her diagnosis, Mayers said she now has an increased sense of structure in her personal life in order to manage her day-to-day life. There are five medications she takes weekly to control her symptoms — one of them is an injection she has to take three times a week and requires refrigeration.

"I have to be way more organized and I have to make a lot of considerations," said Mayers

"Being organized is conducive to my dancing because I also have to come an hour before and give myself more time to prepare."

The 32-year-old said she was living her dream despite having multiple sclerosis, and also teaches Barbadian folk dance classes. One of the disease's symptoms is depression and feelings of sadness that Mayers often experience, but she said balancing was a struggle that was mostly contained. Mayers recommends that other people living with disabilities — whether visible or invisible — not let it prevent them from at least trying to accomplish something they think will get in the way, adding that the dreams will not always be there.

"Whether you're working at a desk or dancing full time or whatever is passion — your disability will be there regardless of what you do," she said. "If you could attempt to do something you love, it'll be easier for you and you're going to be less stressed. You need to have an exit strategy, and I'm going to have multiple sclerosis even if I was working at a desk or whether I'm working as a dancer."

## Panamanian show

Continued from Page 43

Tabernacle, 182 Gates Ave. in Brooklyn.

DICPNY Vice President Enriquez Small along with four associates wrote the musical production and it will be presented in association with Misioneros Production

Featuring a cast of 40, the

two-hour 10 minute presentation focuses on a preacher who finds himself on death row amidst "demons and evil spirit and reveals the complexities of life in the real world."

According to Small, the dramatic presentation will include singing and choreographed dancing.

"Appropriate for the entire

family," as in previous cantatas showcased throughout 21 years they are "told through acting, singing and dancing, that reveals the story of Jesus through the lives of normal people."

Each year, the group delivers an original musical production in order to conform to the organization's mission of "working arduously to create programs for the educational growth and development of our community."

The chorale composition will integrate musical renditions, solo and ensemble presentations as well as instrumental renditions.

The sacred event is expected to attract patriots, Christians and presented as a preview to the holiest Christian day of the year and offers an artistic, religious sacrament during the 40 days of Lent leading up to the Resurrection of Jesus Christ.

# Alicia Vikander plays acrobatic superhero

“Tomb Raider”  
Very Good (3 stars)  
Rated PG-13 for violence and some profanity  
In English and Cantonese with subtitles  
Running time: 118 minutes  
Production Studios: Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer / Warner Brothers Pictures / GK Fims / Square Enix  
Distributor: Warner Brothers Pictures



Alicia Vikander stars as Lara Croft in “Tomb Raider.” [www.rottentomatoes.com](http://www.rottentomatoes.com)

By Kam Williams

Times have certainly changed when you find celebrated dramatic actresses opting to play action heroes in blockbuster movies. For instance, Jennifer Lawrence had already been nominated for an Academy Award (for Winter’s Bone) when she agreed to star as Katniss Everdeen in the adaptation of The Hunger Games trilogy. And she’s since been nominated for three more Oscars, winning for Silver Linings Playbook.

Now we have Alicia Vikander

taking a page out Jennifer’s “playbook” by assuming the role of Lara Croft in the reboot of the Tomb Raider franchise. After all, Vikander had not only already won an Academy Award (for The Danish Girl), but also received critical acclaim for delivering mesmerizing performances in Ex

Machina and Testament of Youth.

The upshot is that Tomb Raider 2.0 is blessed with a versatile lead who is not only eye candy and kicks butt in convincing fashion but has the emotional range to induce the audience to invest in her character. What makes

Vikander’s accomplishments all the more impressive is the fact that English isn’t even her native language, having been born and raised in Gothenburg, Sweden.

At the picture’s point of departure, we find Lara eking out a living in East London as a bike courier, and training

to be a kickboxer in her free time. She doesn’t have to be so poor, given that she’s the only heir to a massive fortune left behind by her parents, Lady and Lord Croft.

While her mother is really dead, there’s no proof of her father’s (Dominic West) passing. Lord Croft was an archaeologist/explorer who went missing seven years ago on an expedition to an uncharted spot in the ocean off the coast of Japan. He was searching for a fabled tomb rumored to contain a key to a supernatural realm.

Instead of signing daddy’s death certificate, accepting her inheritance, and living in the lap of luxury, Lara follows a set of mysterious clues he left behind leading to an island resembling the Rock of Gibraltar. Upon arriving, she must rely on her wits and her acrobatic and archery skills to survive an epic fight to the death with a worthy adversary (Walton Goggins) and his gang of goons armed to the teeth.

Think “The Da Vinci Code,” except with less talk and way more action.

## Independent & Foreign Films

A Bag of Marbles (Unrated) Adaptation of Joseph Joffo’s World War II memoir, set in 1941, about a couple of Jewish brothers’ (Dorian Le Clech and Batyste Fleurial) attempt to survive during the Nazi occupation of Paris. With Kev Adams, Patrick Bruel and Elsa Zylberstein. (In French, German, Yiddish and Russian with subtitles)

Final Portrait (R for profanity, sexual references and nudity) Buddy biopic, set in 1964, chronicling the reunion in Paris of Swiss painter Alberto Giacometti (Geoffrey Rush) and his good friend, American art critic James Lord (Armie Hammer). Supporting cast includes Tony Shalhoub, James Faulkner and Clemence Poesy. (In English, French and Italian with subtitles)

Hichki (Unrated) Bollywood coming-of-age drama about a young woman (Rani Mukerji) with Tourette syndrome who turns her weakness into a strength en route to landing a teaching position at an elite prep school. With Supriya Pilgaonkar and Ivan Rodrigues. (In Hindi with subtitles)

Roxanne Roxanne (Unrated) Chante’ Adams plays the title character in this hip-hop drama, set in Queens in the



### Kam’s Kapsules

By Kam Williams

early Eighties, about a 14-year-old girl well on her way to becoming a rap legend. Support cast includes Nia Long, Mahershala Ali and Beastie Boy Adam Horowitz.

What We Started (Unrated) The electronic music craze is the subject of this documentary featuring commentary by Ed Sheeran, Louie Vega and Usher Raymond.

### BIG BUDGET FILMS

Midnight Sun (PG-13 for partying and sensuality) Bittersweet romance about a sickly teen (Bella Thorne) allergic to sunlight who’s sweet soul-mate (Patrick Schwarzenegger) doesn’t mind that she can’t go on a date before dark. Featuring Rob Riggle, Quinn Shephard and Ken Tremblett.

Pacific Rim Uprising (PG-13 for action, violence and some profanity) Sci-fi sequel finds Jake (John Boyega) and Mako (Rinko Kikuchi) joining forces with a new generation of Jaeger pilots to save humanity from another invasion of alien sea monsters. With Scott Eastwood, Charlie Day, Tian Jing and Adria Arjona.

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*(Entrees Served With Potato or Rice and Fresh Vegetable)*

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

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# SPORTS

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West Indies' Stafanie Taylor plays a shot during their ICC Women's Twenty20 Cricket World Cup semi-final match against Australia in Dhaka, Bangladesh.

Associated Press / Aijaz Rahi, File

## West Indies Women suffer white-wash

By Azad Ali

West Indies Women suffered a series white-wash (3-0) at the hands of New Zealand at the Hagley Oval in Christchurch last week.

It was their worst performance on the final One-Day International as they suffered a 205 runs defeat. New Zealand scored 310, while West Indies could only make 105 runs.

Continued on Page 48

## Afghanistan stuns West Indies

By Azad Ali

"Minnows" Afghanistan stunned the West Indies by defeating them in their opening match of the all-important Super Sixes of the ICC World Cup qualifiers on Thursday, March 15.

The regional team slumped to a three-wicket defeat following its unbeaten campaign in the preliminaries.

This is the second time that Afghanistan has beaten West Indies in the ICC World Cup qualifiers.

West Indies opting to bat first at the Harare Sports Club in Zimbabwe made a paltry 197 for 8 off their 50 overs.

Hard hitting opener Chris Gayle surprisingly made just one run, while Shai

Continued on Page 48



Dallas Mavericks' Dirk Nowitzki (41) shoots next to Brooklyn Nets' Caris Levert (22) during the first half of an NBA basketball game, Saturday, March 17, 2018, in New York.

Associated Press / Andres Kudacki

# NETS BEAT MAVS

## Nets blow double-digit lead, still conquer Mavs 114-106

By Adry Torres

NEW YORK (AP) — Nets coach Kenny Atkinson tinkered with his starting lineup, hoping to cure his young team's recent defensive lapses.

It paid off quickly in a St. Patrick's Day matchup between the fifth and sixth worst teams in the NBA.

Rondae Hollis-Jefferson scored 23 points in his second straight start at power forward, D'Angelo Russell had 22 points and Brooklyn recovered after blowing a double-digit lead to beat the Dallas Mavericks 114-106 on Saturday night.

The Nets, who struggled in the sec-

ond half of their previous three losses, held Dallas to just 17 points in the last quarter, limiting the league's sixth-worst team to just 7 for 20 from the field.

"Having Jarrett (Allen) and Rondae out there, I thought it was huge. We had

Continued on Page 48

# White-wash

Continued from Page 47

Asked to chase an improbable target of 311, the Caribbean side were bowled out for a paltry 105 in their allotted 50 overs.

Captain Stafanie Taylor top scored with 26, but was the only player to pass 20 as her side's batting decline badly to record their second lowest One-Day International total in two years.

On their last tour in New Zealand four years ago, West Indies were also swept 3-0 in a One-Day International series, before going to lose the five-match Twenty20 series 4-0.

After being sent in to bat by the West Indies, New Zealand piled on imposing 310 for 5 off their 50 overs. West Indies could only manage 105 in their turn at the crease.

West Indies face the hosts in the first Twenty20 International of the five-match series at the Tauranga Ground later this week.

## Afghanistan



West Indies' Shai Hope plays a shot against India during their fifth ODI at the Sabina Park cricket ground in Kingston, Jamaica, Thursday, July 6, 2017.

Associated Press / Ricardo Mazalan

Continued from Page 47

Hope top-scored with 43 off 94 balls.

Veteran Marlon Samuels chipped in with 36 and Captain Jason Holder scored 28. Opener Evin Lewis made 27.

Sixteen-year-old opener Afghan off-spinner Mujeeb Ur Rahaman led to the attack with three for 33 to be named Man-of-the-match.

Afghanistan started poorly as two wickets fell for 17 runs and they were three for 83 before Rahmat Shah struck 68 to spearhead the run chase, while Mohammed Nabi completed an all-round performance with 31.

West Indies have to blame themselves for the defeat by dropping four catches.

The loss left West Indies second in the standings, one point behind leaders Scotland on five and hosts Zimbabwe in third place.



Dallas Mavericks' Kyle Collinsworth (8) fights for a loose ball with Brooklyn Nets' Jahlil Okafor, right, during the first half of an NBA basketball game, Saturday, March 17, 2018, in New York.

Associated Press / Andres Kudacki

# NETS BEAT MAVS

Continued from Page 47

some more size," Atkinson said. "I thought Jarrett came over and affected more shots. Rondae, obviously, gives us the rebounds, so I do think that's a part of it."

DeMarre Carroll had 19 points and 12 rebounds, and Caris LeVert and Joe Harris each chipped in 11 points for the Nets, who snapped a three-game skid. Hollis-Jefferson added five rebounds.

Dallas rookie Dennis Smith Jr. scored 21 points but left with 3:30 remaining in the third quarter, spraining his left ankle after he stepped on Spencer Dinwiddie's left foot. X-rays were negative, though the 20-year-old had his left foot in a walking boot as a precaution.

Dwight Powell had 18 points and reserve Yogi Ferrell had 12 points and 12 assists for the Mavericks, who dressed only 10 players.

Dallas was also sluggish early after losing in overtime Friday night at Toronto. The Nets took advantage, jumping to an 11-0 lead in the first quarter.

After blowing leads of 14 and 13 in its previous two losses, Brooklyn led by 14 Saturday before the Mavericks recovered late in the second quarter, cutting the lead to 59-56 with 9-2 run to end the half.

Smith gave Dallas its first lead in the third quarter with 8:06 remaining, stripping the ball from Russell and dunking to cap an 8-2 run that put the Mavericks ahead 70-68. Dirk Nowitzki later hit a 3 and Smith followed with a pull-up jumper to put the Mavs up 80-70 with 5:36 left before Brooklyn charged back.

The Nets punched back with Carroll and Hollis-Jefferson combining for 10 straight points, capped by Hollis-Jefferson's jumper with 3:56 left in the third period that evened it at 80 before Smith exited the game.

The Nets wrestled the game away with their stifling defense in the fourth quarter a night after they gave up 34 points to the 76ers.

### STILL GOING STRONG

Nowitzki played in his 1,463rd game,

moving past Kevin Garnett into fifth place in the NBA career list. The 39-year-old Nowitzki, who last summer signed on for two more years with the Mavericks, also played Friday night in Toronto and has played in 10 back-to-back sets this season.

"It just means that I've been around for a long time, been fortunate, some injuries, only missed a few games here and there every season," said Nowitzki, who scored 13 points.

### TIP-INS

Mavericks: Veteran guard J.J. Barea was inactive due to a left rib muscle strain. Forwards Nerlens Noel and Harrison Barnes were held out to rest.

Nets: Guard Allen Crabbe (illness) was ruled out. He was replaced in the starting five by reserve Joe Harris. ... Have eclipsed 30 points in the first quarter of their last three games. ... F Dante Cunningham was held out due to a concussion he suffered Friday night in Philadelphia.

## Day, night Test scheduled for Kensington Oval

By Azad Ali

The historic Kensington Oval in Barbados will be the venue for the Caribbean's first ever day / night Test when West Indies hosts Sri Lanka in the final Test of the three-match series.

West Indies have already played two day-night Tests, also widely referred to as "pink-ball Tests" but are yet to play at home.

The regional side has featured in two of eight such matches- the first against Pakistan in Dubai 16 months ago and the second against England last August at Edgbaston.

Sri Lanka will open the May 30 to June 27 series with a two-day tour match before clashing with the West Indies in the opening Test at the Queen's Park Oval, Trinidad starting

on June 6.

Darren Sammy Cricket Ground in St. Lucia, originally scheduled to stage the final Test, will now host the second match starting on June 13.

The Oval will now be the venue for the final match of the series.

Sri Lanka toured the Caribbean three times but has never played a Test at the Kensington Oval.



# Impact of Twenty20 format on West Indies cricket, money

By George Alleyne

The need for money to ensure survival of the game was the common ground reached in a discussion among former Test greats and Barbados cricket administrators.

The legendary West Indies opening batting pair, Gordon Greenidge and Desmond Haynes, earlier this week departed from the cohesion for which they are known while plundering bowlers the world over, and disagreed publicly on whether Twenty20 cricket is destroying the game.

Their debate Tuesday as members of a panel discussing West Indies cricket and society, got a dose of reality when Barbados Cricket Association President, Conde Riley, pointed out that whether Twenty20 is good for the game or not, administrators and of the island's game and clubs were benefitting handsomely.

Riley said that as of Thursday he will be handing over Bds\$115,000 (Bds\$1 = 50 cents US) to a single club, and similar amounts will go to other organi-



Former West Indies cricketer Desmond Haynes.

Photo by George Alleyne

sations whose players are involved in the Twenty20 competitions, Indian Premier League of the Bangladesh Cricket League.

Explaining that the money represents a percentage measured against what is paid to the players, he said, "it is not from their salaries, this is 20 per cent to what they earned".

The specific players whose clubs are benefitting are Dwayne Smith, Carlos Brathwaite, and Jason Holder.

Next year another club is set to benefit from the exploits of Jofra Archer, a Barbados-born player who now lives in England, for which team he is expected to play soon. Archer is also making waves in the Twenty20 leagues in Asia.

That money going to the clubs is the third fraction of a three-way split of a payment representing a form of royalty. The West Indies Board gets a third and the territorial association gets a third.

"So, the reality that we face as administrators is how do we get these guys, who say to you, you know my span in cricket will be to 20 to 35 [years] if I'm lucky. After that who is going to provide for me and my family and so on," Riley interjected into the Haynes and Greenidge debate.

That position partly suited Haynes who favours Twenty20.

"I believe in Twenty20 cricket... I have always felt that



West Indies legendary cricketer Desmond Haynes.

Photo by George Alleyne

Twenty20 cricket is here to stay.

"I am not going to sit here, in no way, just because I played at a time when there was no Twenty20, and say that Twenty20 destroying our cricket."

Haynes added that based on

being with the Barbados Tri-dents Twenty20 team, "I can tell you from a coach's point of view, Twenty20 has enhanced our fielding, our catching. It might not do a lot for our batting because you got your minuses and you got your plusses."



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We will contact you before April 11, 2018 if your candidate is selected.

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Nominee's occupation: \_\_\_\_\_ Where does your nominee currently work? \_\_\_\_\_

How many years has your nominee been working in healthcare? \_\_\_\_\_

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What makes your nominee outstanding? (100 words or less): \_\_\_\_\_

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**ARIES: Mar 21/Apr 20**  
Aries, take some time to assess a situation before you act on gut instinct. Your initial reaction may not be the best way to go. Ask a trusted friend for advice.

**TAURUS: Apr 21/May 21**  
Taurus, when you get an idea in your head, it can take a monumental effort to persuade you to think otherwise. This week your ideas may need tweaking.

**GEMINI: May 22/Jun 21**  
Stop planning for the immediate future and start thinking long-term, Gemini. This way you can relax as much as possible and enjoy the ride knowing all things are in order.

**CANCER: Jun 22/Jul 22**  
It is very easy to become complacent, Cancer. Just when you thought your week would be routine, things get stirred up in ways you never would have imagined.

**LEO: Jul 23/Aug 23**  
Leo, if a career change has been on your mind, it may be better to dip a toe into the waters rather than jumping in all at once. Try an internship before making a commitment.

**VIRGO: Aug 24/Sept 22**  
Virgo, it's understandable that you want to prove yourself as capable as ever. But accepting a little help is not a sign of weakness. In fact, it is a sign of strength.

**LIBRA: Sept 23/Oct 23**  
Family matters push to the forefront, Libra. This may require all of your attention for the time being. Clear your schedule so you can give this the attention it deserves.

**SCORPIO: Oct 24/Nov 22**  
Scorpio, overcoming challenges as they are presented to you is one of the things that makes you so successful. But even the best task master needs some rest and relaxation.

**SAGITTARIUS: Nov 23/Dec 21**  
You may find yourself at the center of social occasions, Sagittarius. If you want to be the life of the party, then go ahead. If you want to remain on the sidelines, that's fine as well.

**CAPRICORN: Dec 22/Jan 20**  
It's not worth getting into an argument to win a point with someone who doesn't have all of the facts, Capricorn. Rest your case and forge ahead with what you know is right.

**AQUARIUS: Jan 21/Feb 18**  
A change of direction may not be the right fit for you at this moment in time, Aquarius. If you have been pondering a move, you may want to devote more time to vetting the idea.

**PISCES: Feb 19/Mar 20**  
Splurge on something that you have been considering buying for a while, Pisces. As long as you can afford it, you can splurge without any guilt.

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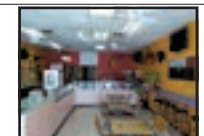
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