

Caribbean Life

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Wed at last

After waiting 47 years, Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Bernard walk down the aisle as husband and wife. See story on Page 20.

Photo by Nelson A. King

ANTIGUA HIT BY SCANDAL

Investment and trade minister resigns May 17

By Bert Wilkinson

Apart from Guyana, Trinidad and Suriname, there are few other countries in the Caribbean Community which are perennially plagued by corruption scandals such as Antigua and the latest one to hit the island has triggered the resignation of one of its most high profile ministers.

Businessman Asot Michael, a longtime senior functionary in the governing Antigua Labor Party (ALP) will resign as investment and trade minister on May 17 in the midst of an international bribery scandal involving several police jurisdictions-Germany, the United Kingdom and the Car-

ibbean.

Prime Minister Gaston Browne had last October relieved Michael of his ministerial position after British authorities had informed him about an ongoing investigation into allegations that he had demanded bribes from British property tycoon Peter Virdee but Michael was reappointed after the ALP had won all but two seats in general elections in March. Michael was last year briefly detained at London's Heathrow Airport and questioned but was released and allowed to travel.

Saying he did not want to further tarnish the name and

Continued on Page 8

CCJ slams Barbados electoral authority

By George Alleyne

Attorneys for Commonwealth citizens living in Barbados out-manoeuvred the island's electoral authority by getting an urgent appeal to the Caribbean Court of Justice and within 48 hours winning the

right of these persons to vote in this month's elections.

Following a recent High Court and Appeals Court ruling that non-Barbadian citizens of the British Commonwealth who were legally resident in Barbados at least three years

are entitled to vote, once they apply to be registered, the Electoral and Boundaries Commission (EBC) last week however announced that its own interpretation means it is not compelled to register such persons

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Antigua and Barbuda Prime Minister Gaston Browne with Ambassador Franklyn "King Frank-I" Francis. Government of Antigua and Barbuda

Antigua apologizes to Rastafarian community

By Nelson A. King

The government of Antigua and Barbuda was expected Monday to formally apologize before the Organization of American States (OAS) on discrimination against the Rastafarian community, hoping to improve relations with the religious group.

"Ambassador to the United States and the OAS, Sir Ronald Sanders, will address the Permanent Council of the OAS on Monday morning to advise that the Prime Minister of Antigua and Barbuda, Gaston Browne, has apologized to the Rastafarian community for decades of discrimination against them," said an Antigua and Barbuda government statement on Saturday.

"He will also inform the Council of other measures that the government has taken or intends to take to enhance the rights of Rastafarians who are a minority group in Antigua and Barbuda," it added.

The statement said Sanders' report is in keeping with Inter-American Democratic Charter of the OAS, which requires the elimination of all forms of discrimination and intolerance, as well as respect for cultural and religious diversity in the Americas, including the Caribbean.

"Implementation of the Charter requirement to eliminate discrimination and intolerance contributes to strengthening democracy and citizen participation in all the 34 active member states of the OAS, and the Antigua and Barbuda government is proud to show its deep commitment to the rights of all citizens," Sanders said.

He said Browne "readily agreed to his request to be joined on Monday by Ambassador Franklyn Francis, a leading member of the Rastafari community, to also address the OAS Permanent Council on the actions of the Antigua and Barbuda government.

Panel to examine Haitian Diaspora and history

By Alexandra Simon

The Brooklyn Historical Society is hosting a panel featuring two Haitian-American speakers who are going to discuss Haitian identity and history in observation of Haitian Heritage Month on May 23. The society is hosting the discussion "Celebrating Haitian History," and bringing together journalist and founder of the Haitian Times, Garry Pierre-Pierre, and professor and scholar Dr. Carolle Charles. The pair will analyze how history between the United States and the island nation have led to how both countries are viewed today, said a program director.

"They're going to talk about the Diaspora, living here in Brooklyn, and how the history of the United States has impacted and shaped the way Haiti and its people are viewed in America," said Marcia Ely.

Just months after President Trump allegedly made derogatory comments about Haiti and immigrants, which quickly prompted reaction and protests — and two months before the Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for Haitians expires in July — the head of state is sure to come up during the discussion. And that subject is an opportune time to revisit and examine how the Haitian community has had to grapple with similar issues, added Ely.

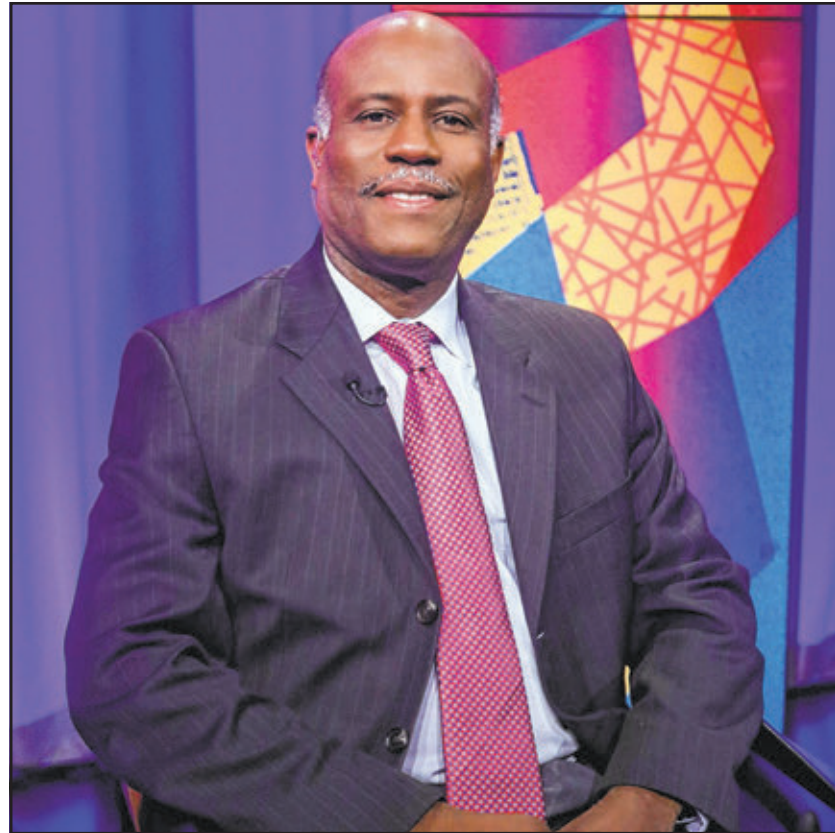
"There are a lot of misconceptions about the Haitian communities here, and the struggles they face here and at home — and that strongly ties in with Haitian identity," she said. "Brooklyn has the largest population of Haitians in the city, so we wanted to put together what we think is a great panel that can address that."

The event will be moderated by Haitian-American comedian and writer Tanael Joachim, and each will bring a set of different experiences and viewpoints that encompass what it means to be Haitian, said Ely.

"We have Carolle, who concentrates on Haitian society and Haitian immigrant communities, Gary, who is like the grandfather of Haitian press in the city, and we're having Tanael moderate because he came to our attention for his



Baruch College sociology professor and scholar Dr. Carolle Charles is also a panelist.



Journalist and founder of The Haitian Times, Garry Pierre-Pierre will be a panelist at "Celebrating Haitian History" — a discussion about Haitian history, identity, and culture at the Brooklyn Historical Society on May 23.

Laura Fuchs

New York Times editorial," she said.

One of the major topics to be discussed is the United States occupation of Haiti from 1915-1934, and Haitian immigration to the states — particularly to New York, said Garry Pierre-Pierre.

"The occupation I believe — was a time that really shaped the relationship between Haiti and United States for the worse and we're going to briefly look at that invasion," he said. "We're also going to take a look at migration from the late 60s to present. It was a difficult time and Haitians faced a lot of prejudice and racism to get where we are now."

Ely said the event will shed light on historical international relationships that may be unknown to many, and allow visitors to learn about the Haitian experience.

"It's fascinating and important history. We hear about Haiti in the news regularly and there has always been a lot of interaction with our government and Haiti," she said. "But many people in Brooklyn might not realize that there's a big Haitian community right here in our midst, and this is an opportunity to learn about our neighbors."

Pierre-Pierre says without Haiti, the history of the states would have had a different outcome and people should be well-informed about the history that allowed it

to be what it is.

"I just hope people have a better understanding of the contributions Haiti made to the United States," said Garry Pierre-Pierre. "The Haitian Revolution had a huge impact on the United States because after Haiti defeated France, Napoleon's need for money after the war is what led him to sell the Louisiana Territory, which allowed the United States to double in size and pave the way for westward expansion."

"Celebrating Haitian History" at Brooklyn Historical Society [128 Pierrepont St. between Clinton and Henry streets in Brooklyn Heights, www.brooklynhistoricalsociety.com, (718) 222-4111]. May 23; 6:30-8pm. \$5 (Free for members.)



Haitian-American stand-up comedian Tanael Joachim.

Caribbean

The CARICOM and Commonwealth secretariats recently signed a new Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to further strengthen cooperation between the two organizations.

CARICOM Secretary General Irwin La Rocque and Commonwealth Secretary General Patricia Scotland signed the MoU, which will facilitate joint implementation of programs and projects while harnessing the experience and resources of the two organizations at the Pegasus Hotel in Georgetown recently. The MoU will build on areas of interest agreed to in a memorandum signed in 1996.

The areas of cooperation will include supporting more inclusive economic growth and sustainable development; climate change, justice reform, crime and security, youth sports and gender.



Barbados

The Barbados government is seeking a US\$60 million to US\$70 million bailout from the private sector because of a serious foreign reserves problem.

Governor of the Central Bank Clevisston Haynes revealed that for the first time in 27 years, the bank requested the private sector to repatriate some of its overseas funds as the government faced a major foreign loan payment next month. However, he said, the private sector funds will not be enough.

Haynes was at the time delivering the first-quarter economic review during a press conference at the bank.

He said the government's efforts to divest assets, including the Barbados National Terminal Co. Ltd. and the Hilton Barbados property, needed to proceed so that the reserve problem could be fixed.



Haynes added that the private sector funds would be sought on the understanding that "we would reciprocate in much the same way we did once the challenge is over... by allowing them to take those funds back out."

The Central Bank governor also reported that the Barbados economy contracted in the first quarter of this year by 0.7 percent.

Cayman Islands

Cayman Islands Premier Alden Mc Laughlin said the country is not ready for independence.

He said independence requires a whole new set of skills and abilities which "we are still developing."

McLaughlin said he wasn't saying that Cayman should never contemplate independence, he told radio Cayman's



Grenada faces another referendum

Dr. Keith C Mitchell, prime minister of Grenada gives his final remarks at the final press conference during the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in London, England, April 20, 2018. See story on Page 30.

Dominika Zarzycka / NurPhoto / Sipa USA / Associated Press

For the Road, program; but indicated that independence was not the only option and that the government was not going to simply lie down and let the UK do whatever it wants.

Recently the British government amended the Sanctions and Anti-Money Laundering Bill to require its overseas territories to establish public registers of the beneficial owners in their jurisdictions, has stirred up the topic of independence again.

Mc Laughlin said the plans to take the UK's government decision in the courts, adding that his government was planning a sustained campaign because it was wrong in principle for members of the British parliament to decide on things that affect the Cayman Islands so fundamentally when most of them don't even know where Cayman is.



He said it is a very serious matter, but whether Cayman would be forced down the road of beneficial ownership or not, the financial sector was resilient enough and would survive.

The issue, he said, was about the UK's willingness to discriminate against and legislate for the overseas territories.

Grenada

A Grenadian politician has been charged with conspiracy to import and trafficking in marijuana after six pounds

of the illegal drug was found in a barrel assigned to him recently.

Basil Williams, 34, who unsuccessfully contested a seat for the Progress Party, was among three people jointly charged with conspiracy to traffick a controlled drug. The accused men appeared in court and were remanded on bail to next month.



The marijuana, with a street valued of EC\$250,000, was discovered by customs officials at the Maurice Bishop International Airport recently.

Jamaica

The Jamaica tourism sector grew by 12.1 percent in 2017, netting \$62.2 billion to the local economy, according to Tourism Minister Edmund Bartlett.

Bartlett, in the 2018-2019 Sectoral Debate in the House of Representatives



recently, said the sector has been expanding at a "unprecedented pace" and remains poised to outperform the growth target of 5 percent in five years, noting that for two consecutive years, tourism exceeded the 5 percent projected annual growth.

Last year 4.3 million tourists visited Jamaica, with the country making history with 500,000 new visitors to the island in a single calendar year.

Revenue in the sector grew from

US\$2.1 billion in 2016 to approximately US\$ 3 billion in 2017, the minister said.

He said in 2017, tourism accounted for 8.9 percent of the labor force, employing 122,500 workers and generating indirect employment for another 250,000 workers.

Bartlett also noted that the sector is seeing an increase in employment.

St. Kitts

St. Kitts and Nevis Prime Minister Dr. Timothy Harris said that a second investigation has started into the Sugar Industry Diversification Foundation (SIDF) and that a successor to the foundation could be in place before the end of the year.

The SIDF was established in 2006 to assist the transition from sugar as the main economic activity after the 300-year-old industry ground to a halt in 2005.

While in opposition, the current coalition government accused the SIDF of wrongdoing and launched an investigation into the entity after it won the 2015 general election.

The findings of that investigation are not made public but the authorities announced that a second investigation would follow.

"With respect to the SIDF and the further investigations we are expecting with



Continued on Page 16

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Williams applauds mayor's bid to reduce unnecessary arrest for marijuana



Brooklyn Councilman Jumaane Williams
Photo by Tequila Minsky

By Nelson A. King

Brooklyn Councilman Jumaane Williams on Tuesday applauded Mayor Bill de Blasio's announcement that he will work to reduce unnecessary arrests and disparity in enforcement for marijuana possession in New York City.

"As other states across the country legalize marijuana usage, the supposed progressive beacon of New York has been far behind on this issue. Even as the drug remains illegal in the state, it has been very clear that there in New York, and especially in our city, there has been a massive disparity in the degree and severity of enforcement against users," said Williams, representative for the 45th Assembly District in Brooklyn.

"In New York City, people of more color

are being arrested at a rate eight times higher than white individuals for marijuana-related offenses. There has been a systemic targeting of low income and black and brown communities for enforcement against an action that has been tacitly permitted in wealthier and whiter populations," added Williams, a candidate for Lt. Gov. of New York State. "This disparity is blatant and inexcusable, and must be corrected.

"I applaud the mayor for today announcing that he will work to reduce unnecessary arrests and disparity in enforcement for marijuana possession, an action that is long overdue but will have significant positive impact on the city if implemented consistently and comprehensively," he continued.

"To that end, I thank Council Member Stephen Levin for his leadership in passing legislation that requires reporting on marijuana arrests and criminal summonses by demographic, as well as for joining me in calling on the NYS Legislature to pass the Marijuana Regulation and Taxation Act," Williams said.

In addition, he said he joined with his colleagues Council Members Antonio Reynoso and Alicka Ampry-Samuel to introduce legislation aimed at reforming marijuana offense penalties in multiple city agencies.

"And I hope that these measures will be broadly supported and soon implemented alongside the Mayor's newly announced reforms," he said.

Brooklyn District

Attorney Eric Gonzalez said he believe that low level marijuana cases should be responded to with summonses rather than arrests.

He said that, since 2014, the Brooklyn DA's Office has led the way in declining to prosecute marijuana possession cases, "resulting in a 75 percent decline in arrests citywide and confirming that such policy does not adversely affect public safety.

"Yet, the racial disparities in arrests remain intractable and unacceptable," Gonzalez said. "So, we need to do more to ensure fairness and trust in our system."

Three months ago, Gonzalez said his office began a pilot program "in which we declined to prosecute some instances of smoking marijuana in public where a public

nuisance was not created, doubling the number of cases we declined to prosecute."

In the coming weeks, he said his office will work with the NYPD and the

mayor "to identify the very small number of exceptions that raise public safety concerns, and any case that does not fall within these exceptions will no longer be prosecuted."

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Antigua faces another scandal



Antiguan businessman Asot Michael.

<https://www.facebook.com/asot.michael/>

the government. I have not worked so diligently over the last 21 years for the advancement of Antigua and Barbuda, and in support of ABLP to allow the reputation and standing of the nation and the party to be tarnished by political actors who are determined to pull down the government and the party by besmirching me. The nation and the government remain of first and foremost importance to me," wrote in his resignation letter. Browne accepted without hesitation, no longer in a position to bat for his longtime colleague.

Virdee's links to Antigua have to do, as an editorial in the Observer Newspaper stated this week, with him being an investor in a 1,000 acre solar development project in sister isle Barbuda.

Continued from Page 1

reputation of Antigua and the cabinet, Michael, 48, handed his resignation letter to Browne at around midday on Tuesday as audio recordings of his conversations with Virdee and another businessmen surfaced and were widely carried by British media.

His resignation followed hours of deliberations by the Antiguan cabinet this week as details of his demands for money, a vehicle and other items were made public from audio recordings taped by German police. Authorities say that given the details contained in the audio recordings, it was hard for cabinet colleagues to support his retention in the system.

While minister of energy back in 2016, the international police group allege that Michael had demanded a vehicle for his mother, cash and campaign finance ahead of the 2018 elections in exchange for influence peddling. He represents St. Peter in the city and will remain as its representative for a while yet. The other businessman involved is Dieter Trutschler, a partner of Virdee.

"The allegations have caused anxiety in some quarters of our society and are being used by opposition political elements to discredit me and

EBC head facing possible jail

Continued from Page 1

and refused to do so.

With Barbados' national elections set for May 24, observers believed that the EBC strategy of disobeying a court order would have effectively stopped the eligible non-nationals from being registered in time to vote because hearing in any court challenge to the island's elections authority would be held past polling day.

But a team of lawyers led by renowned Caribbean jurist Elliott Mottley, QC, on Friday filed an appeal to the CCJ, Barbados' court of last resort, and convinced that regional authority of the urgency of the matter, resulting in a hearing by Sunday and a slap down of the EBC.

In this unprecedented action of quick hearing the CCJ panel of judges, led by President Sir Dennis Byron, ordered the EBC to register St. Lucian Professor Eddy Ventose, whose name was used as the central person in the challenge, by noon the next day, Monday, and warned Chief Elections Officer, Angela Taylor, "that she may face contempt of court proceedings, which could result in imprisonment and/or fines" if instructions are not carried out.

With the EBC head facing possible jail and no other room left for delaying tactics as the CCJ is Barbados' highest court, the island's elections authority duly registered Ventose and the three other non-Barbadian Caribbean

and Commonwealth nationals directly involved in the case by noon Monday.

But the EBC still appears to be displaying some degree of stubbornness, as reports are that it has registered only those persons directly named in the case while ignoring applications of other Commonwealth citizens legally resident in Barbados for three years or more.

The EBC's refusal, so far, to register the other qualified Commonwealth nationals, might be a second example of it flouting a court order.

The CCJ made clear in a press release following the Sunday court hearing conducted by webcast between the Barbados Supreme Court offices and the Trinidad headquarters of this Caribbean court, that its ruling applies to all eligible commonwealth citizens in Barbados.

"The CCJ president expressed the view that the Court's decision should also resolve the matter for other Commonwealth citizens, resident in Barbados for the relevant qualifying period, who are also claiming a right to be registered as voters under the Barbados laws," the release stated.

Gregory Nicholls, one of the lawyers in the team that challenged the EBC was reported saying, "it doesn't appear as though that the other Commonwealth citizens who would have registered during the special registration period have been put on the list."



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At a time when the West Indian sporting public endures disappointment after disillusion, defeat after humiliation, bowlers like Lancelot Richard Gibbs remind us of the cricketing legacy, professionalism and pride players like him bequeathed to the Caribbean nation, and indeed, to the world-so sadly lacking today. It is a testament to his greatness and professionalism that Lance would have been an asset in any form of the game today.

He proudly held the World Record for the most Test wickets in cricket history from Feb. 1 1976 to Dec. 27, 1981, an achievement lost on many people today, with 309 wickets at an average of 29.09 in 79 Tests, statistical confirmation to his value and the present paucity of players of his caliber, pride and work ethic today in the West Indies team.

He was one of the great spinners of all time, the first spinner to reach 300 test wickets, and had an exceptional economy rate of under two runs per over. He added the arm-ball to his repertoire, and reminisces how he always "thought out" batsman, like when he outfoxed and bowled the great Sir Viv Richards with it after deceiving him with four consecutive off-breaks and forced him to play down the wrong line in a regional first-class game. He never bowled the same delivery twice in the same over, always

varying his spin, flight, line and length.

Gibbs took three wickets in four balls at Sydney and a hat-trick in the next Test at Adelaide in West Indies' historic 1960 - 61 tour of Australia, snaring KD Mackay, ATW Grout and FM Misson at Adelaide. This double feat was emulated amongst West Indian players only by another great bowler, Wesley Hall, of "Pace like Fire" acclaim. Hall's hat-trick victims were Mushtaq Mohammad, Fazal Mahmood and Nasim-ul-Ghani of Pakistan at Lahore in the 1958-59 series, and his three wickets in four balls was done at Port-of-Spain, Trinidad in the 1961 - 62 series against India.

After these heroics by Wesley and Lance, only Jermaine Lawson has taken another test hat-trick for the West Indies, when he captured the wickets of Brett Lee, Stuart MacGill and Justin Langer for the West Indies against Australia at Bridgetown, Barbados, in the 2002 - 03 series. Sylvester Clarke is the only other West Indian bowler to get 3 wickets in 4 balls, a feat he performed against Pakistan at Karachi in the 1980 - 81 series.

Lance also spun one of the game's greatest spells at Bridgetown, where he single-handedly destroyed India, despite their batting strength against spin bowling. Against his combination of guile, flight and spin, India collapsed from 149 for 2 to 187 all out, with Gibbs

Continued on Page 30

Time to get serious about peace & development

By Jan Eliasson

Jan Eliasson is chairman of the Governing Board of the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI)*

STOCKHOLM, Sweden, May 4, 2018 (IPS) - Four months ago UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres issued a "red alert," noting that instead of progressing towards greater peace, the world had moved in reverse towards deepening conflicts and new dangers: "Global anxieties about nuclear weapons are the highest since the Cold War.

Climate change is moving faster than we are. Inequalities are growing. We see horrific violations of human rights. Nationalism and xenophobia are on the rise."

Levels of violent conflict have increased sharply since 2010, and conflicts have become increasingly protracted and internationalized, making them longer and deadlier. Due to violence, persecution, disaster, and instability 65.6 million people have been displaced from their homes, the highest level on record.

These figures are troubling and should elicit urgent action - but they also highlight the difficulties of working on truly "sustainable development". We know that conflict sets back development by decades, and disproportionately and increasingly affects poor people; studies suggest that unless we dramatically change course, by 2030 fully 67 percent of the extreme poor will live in fragile and conflict-affected settings.

But we also know that the only way to prevent the violence of tomorrow is to work

Climate change is moving faster than we are. Inequalities are growing. We see horrific violations of human rights.

on development today or risk leaving more and more people behind.

And the challenges of today are compounding to complicate tomorrow. Demographic trends in Africa, including a decline in child mortality rates combined with relatively high fertility rates, result in a doubling of Africa's population to 2.5 billion by 2050. While 10-12 million youth enter the workforce each year across Africa, only three million formal jobs are created annually.

According to a World Bank survey, 40 percent of those who join rebel groups do so because of a lack of economic opportunities. Further, it is generally not religious ideology but poverty and marginalization (lack of employment, healthcare, education, security and housing, as well as distrust and lack of respect for government, and its perceived lack of legitimacy) that motivate youth towards violent extremism.

Educating youth, creating employment opportunities, reducing poverty, reforming and improving government systems, rebuilding trust and the state-society relationship takes time. This is the reason that the Sustainable Development Goals, a universal set of 17 goals and 169 targets agreed to guide the agendas

of the UN's member states, are a generational endeavor with a 15-year window.

But because of the time it takes to plan and execute the real reform needed to make progress in achieving peaceful, just and inclusive societies, we cannot wait until 2029 to deliver. If achieved, the goals of the 2030 Development Agenda will transform our world: now is the time for us to direct financing and plan programming for delivery (and course correction) over the next decade.

To achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), we must somehow address the Secretary General's Red Alert today and avoid twelve more years of red alerts to make sufficient progress in an increasingly complex world. But we must remember, despite the current alarming trends, the world has never been simple.

We have developed tools that enable us to understand how to manage our complex reality. We have accumulated and refined our knowledge about trends and drivers of conflict and peace, developed mechanisms for mediation and diplomacy, peacekeeping where necessary, and, increasingly, the tools to understand complex development environments in fragile and conflict-affected state.

We now know that development is critical to conflict prevention and sustaining peace, and this realization is increasingly reflected in the frameworks we apply to guide our efforts. The overarching framework of "sustaining peace" was introduced in April 2016 through twin resolutions of the UNGA

Continued on Page 12



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

Piers, parks & plazas ready for Concert Series

No sooner than daylight savings time dawned, so too did a plethora of summer concert series to brighten and lengthen the season of free, outdoor music and dance offerings. The annual five borough presentations of music, dance, spoken word, films and theatrical presentations encompassing jazz, reggae, hip-hop, pop, r&b, and country music offerings enable free, quality, outdoor entertainment for the asking.

Already announced, the lineup for the 2018 Good Morning America Summer Concert Series at the Rumsey Playfield in Central Park — where SummerStage presents live televised Friday morning, showcases from 7–9 am.

On May 25, the series offer Sting and Shaggy, the two hottest duos to collaborate this year.

The pop / reggae dancehall stars plan to wake up America by kicking off the series on the last Friday in the month performing their individual hits as well as their own hit single “Don’t Let Me Wait.”

The following week on June 1, Halsey, on June 8, Ne-Yo, Pit-



Inside Life

By Vinette K. Pryce

bull is slated for June 15, with an impressive weekly lineup to include Bebe Rexha, Florence + the Machine, G-Eazy, Backstreet Boys, Camila Cabello, Fall Out Boy, Kelsea Ballerini, The Chainsmokers and Luis Fonsi.

Simultaneous to those Friday concerts, artists for the 2018 SummerStage season have been unveiled. Acclaimed as New York’s biggest, free, outdoor summer series, a five-month long daily lineup ends on Oct. 7 after showcasing more than 200 artists across a plethora of genres.

Presenting the most varied lineup in all five boroughs, artists taking the stage in parks around New York’s five boroughs include Talib Kweli, Dej Loaf, Big Daddy Kane, Angelique Kidjo and Young MA.

Several benefit shows in Central Park will bolster the stellar lineup and offer pre-show workshops at various shows,

expanding this year for two new season-long collaborations with Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater and social justice nonprofit organization VOICES, to offer free dance workshops and humanitarian events. The 2018 season kicks off on June 2 in Central Park with jazz legend Gregory Porter and rising folk singer Victory Boyd.

In Brooklyn, the BAM R&B Festival announced events slated for the MetroTech Commons (corner of Flatbush and Myrtle avenues) presented on Thursday afternoons from June 7 through Aug. 9, the series offers a variety of jazz, soul, and r&b lunchtime concerts that are free and open to the public. June 7 — Bernard Purdie’s All-Star Shuffle with guests Bobbi Humphrey and Quiana Lynell; June 14 — Savion Glover featuring Marcus Gilmore; June 21 — PJ Morton; June 28 — Vivian Green; July 5 — Delgres; July 12 — Amal-



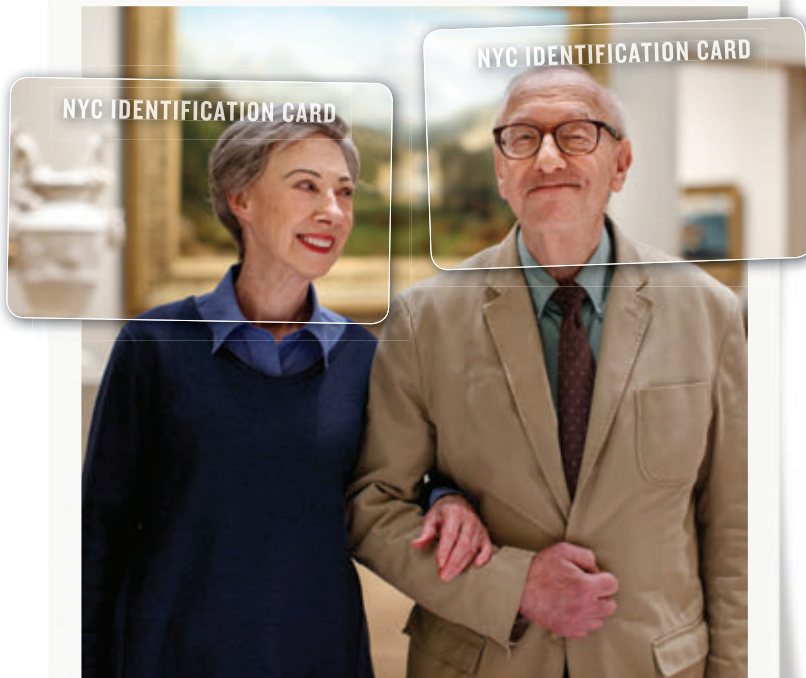
Angelique Kidjo accepts the award for best world music album for “Sings” at the 58th annual Grammy Awards on Monday, Feb. 15, 2016, in Los Angeles.

Matt Sayles / Invision / Associated Press

garhythm with Kris Davis and Terri Lyne Carrington; July 19 — Jupiter & Okwess; July 26 — Terence Blanchard featuring the E-Collective; Aug. 2 — Ranky Tanky; Aug. 9 — Marcus Miller.

BRIC, the leading presenter of free cultural programming in Brooklyn also announced its 40th season of the BRIC Celebrate Brooklyn! Festival in Prospect Park.

Continued on Page 46



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Workers' Compensation Law

Answers to common questions

What is Workers' Compensation and who is eligible?

Workers' Compensation is a claim filed against the employers insurance. This entitles the injured individual to medical coverage, lost wages, and money for permanent damage. By law, anyone who is injured while working is covered by Workers' Compensation.

I just got injured while at work, what do I do now?

First ensure that you are seen by a proper medical professional right away. Next, make sure your employer is immediately notified about this accident. Different forms will also need to be filled out and submitted to Court in order to protect your rights. It is highly advisable you speak to a Workers' Compensation attorney to ensure your rights are protected.

Do I really need an attorney?

Although, you are not required to obtain an attorney, retaining one is highly recommended. The attorney will ensure all required documents are properly filled out and submitted to Court in a timely manner. Furthermore, the attorney makes certain that you receive all the money you deserve. Since the insurance company has hired attorneys in order to figure out a way to pay you the least amount of money as possible, it is highly advisable for you to retain an attorney to maximize the money due to you.

Who will cover my medical bills if I go to the doctor/emergency room for treatment?

By law the Workers' Compensation insurance carrier must cover all medical bills related to a work related injury.

I got injured last month, can I still file a Workers' Compensation claim?

Technically, you have 2 years to file a Workers' Compensation claim. However, it is highly recommended

to file the claim right away. The longer someone waits to file a claim, the more likely it will be that that claim will be denied. Furthermore, an employer must be notified of the accident within 30 days, otherwise the case will automatically be denied.

Can my employer fire me, or will I lose my job if I file a Workers' Compensation claim?

An employer is not allowed to fire an employee just because a Workers' Compensation claim was filed.

How often do I need to see the doctor?

You are entitled to be seen by your doctor as often as is deemed necessary by your doctor. If you remain out of work, we advise that you be seen at least once every 45 days.

How soon can I go back to work?

As soon as your doctor clears you to go back to work.

Do I pay the attorney any money upfront?

No. The attorney does not get paid unless he is able to recover money for you.

When will I get compensated for the time missed from work?

If you miss time from work due to a work related accident, you could be entitled to money of lost wages. The amount of time it takes to recover this money varies depending on many factors. This could take a couple of months, if the insurance carrier isn't disputing the claim. However, it can take as long as 1 to 2 years, if the case goes to trial and there is an appeal.

I already have an attorney, can I switch attorneys?

An injured person is allowed to choose the attorney of their choice. If not satisfied with their current attorney, you are entitled to change attorneys.

Edmond J. Hakimian, Esq. specializes in Workers' Compensation law. He is the managing attorney at the Law Offices of Edmond J. Hakimian, PC, which serves all of New York City and Long Island. Please send your questions or comments to HakimianESQ@gmail.com or you may call the office at 718-362-3180. No column is a substitute for competent legal advice. Please consult with the attorney of your choice concerning specific legal questions you may have.

OP-EDS

Time to get serious about peace & development

Continued from Page 10

and the Secretary-General, and redefines the approach of the UN, placing new emphasis on the long-term prevention of conflict and addressing its root causes.

The 2030 agenda and sustaining peace together underscore that sustainable and inclusive development, grounded in respect for all human rights, is the world's best preventive tool against violent conflict and instability.

Thus, as noted recently by Secretary-General Guterres, "investing in sustained peace means investing in basic services, bringing humanitarian and development agencies together, building effective and accountable institutions, protecting human rights, promoting social cohesion and diversity and moving to sustainable energy."

It isn't just good practice to plan ahead and invest in development — it is also efficient and economical. Aside from saving and improving human lives, studies suggest that investing USD \$2 billion in prevention can generate net savings of \$33 billion per year from averted conflict.

Yet delivering peace, justice and inclusion are not as simple as infrastructure projects — in addition to technical expertise, they also require political acumen and flexibility necessary to navigate planning, reform and delivery.

That is why the upcoming Stockholm Forum on Peace and Development, 7-9 May in Stockholm, will convene leading experts, policy-makers, and civil society actors to discuss the core challenges and issues on "the politics of peace". We want to know what are the real obstacles between us and achieving the SDGs — and how can these be overcome now to achieve our goals by 2030?

Events like the Stockholm Forum on Peace & Development are ways for serious people to take a moment to think today about how to achieve the peace of tomorrow. While humanitarian response, peacekeeping and diplomacy are important parts of our "firefighting" toolkit, we must also be thinking about how we get ahead of this world of perpetually responding to crisis, and of playing the long game of building resilience to shocks, preventing conflict and delivering on the development agenda.

The Forum will bring together a dynamic international group of thinkers and doers in peacebuilding and devel-

opment to discuss how to so deliver at a time of great uncertainty, but also of opportunity which sees important initiatives to improve our collective response.

As just one example of an effort to better enable the UN to deliver on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and sustaining peace, the Secretary-General has launched an initiative to develop a more tailored, integrated and coherent UN development system that responds to national priorities.

A key element is to reinvigorate the UN's system of Resident Coordinators, who play a critical role in coordinating the UN's work on the ground. Independent, impartial and empowered Resident Coordinators will henceforth be the driving force behind the UN's SDG response and conflict prevention in country, driving system-wide support and holding entities accountable.

It is time for us all to get serious about prevention and Sustaining Peace if we are to achieve the peace envisioned in the SDGs by 2030. Policymakers must focus efforts on prevention, committing additional resources and attention to the highest risk environments. Leaders need to be honest about the risks they face and the needs they have to avoid conflict.

Peace researchers need build the evidence base now to set a baseline of the "peace we have" and give us the tools to assess when we're making progress by 2023 and 2027 on our way to achieving significantly more peace by 2030.

Martin Luther King, Jr. famously declared that "the arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice"; if we want to bend the arc of history toward peace by 2030, we need to get serious now about sustainable development and prevention. The Stockholm Forum is one small part of the global effort to bend that arc.

*Jan Eliasson was deputy secretary-general of the United Nations from July 2012 to December 2016 and Sweden's Minister for Foreign Affairs in 2006. He was also president of the 60th session of the UN General Assembly in 2005–06; the UN Secretary-General's Special Envoy for Darfur in 2007–08; the first UN Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs, 1992–94; and participated, 1980–86, in the UN mission mediating in the Iran–Iraq War, which was headed by former Prime Minister Olof Palme of Sweden.

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Suriname legislators blast handling of fishing vessels attack

By Bert Wilkinson

Legislators from both sides of Suriname's parliament Thursday night roasted authorities for the apparent lackluster way in which the April 27 barbaric attack on fishing vessels off the country's coast was handled and called for a complete review of the sector including the release of millions to the coastguard and police to improve their capabilities.

Only five of 20 mostly Guyanese crewman who were working on four vessels survived the late night attack in waters between Suriname and French Guiana after their boats were attacked most likely from attackers linked to Suriname's booming fisheries sector.

Police in both Guyana and Suriname have dismissed the high seas attack as one related to piracy, alleging that it had more to do with revenge linked to the March fatal shooting of a Guyanese boat captain. His brother who had allegedly vowed revenge for his death, remains in Guyanese police custody and is being questioned about any possible role. A second captain was shot dead at sea in the past week. Police say his murder is

related to recent events.

Some disgusted legislators deemed the late April attack as barbaric and urged authorities to treat those arrested on both sides of the border Corentyne River as an act of terrorism, punishable by the death penalty.

That country's fishing sector is largely sustained by Guyanese fishermen, many of whom have not over the years bothered to file legal papers for work permits or to become citizens. Officials do not normally bother them given their important role in the country's struggling economy.

But with sympathy overflowing for the 15 still missing and the five who made it to shore, lawmakers on both sides argued in a motion that the time had come to offer legal status to this group. The suggestion won overwhelming support along with other measures that included demands for millions to be given to the coastguard and police to beef up their capacity to better patrol a large swathe of water covering the so-called three Guianas, Guyana, Suriname and French Guiana.

Thirty eight of the 51 leg-

islators present in parliament voted in favor of measures contained in the motion. Given the charged and sympathetic atmosphere, no one bothered to vote no.

The measures include a proper a thorough investigation of the attack and related incidents, given that fact that relatives and survivors had bitterly complained that no one in authority had taken the first set of complaints about unfolding events on the water seriously. Others had charged that both the coastguard and military air wing had made excuses about faulty boats and planes as reasons why search and rescue efforts were not launched immediately.

Psychological care, monetary and other forms of help will be offered to relatives and survivors of the worst high seas attack in recent decades and the legal process to regularize the status of Guyanese fishermen will begin in earnest.

Andre Misiekaba, leader of the governing National Democratic Party (NDP) said the attack has to be put in its proper criminal context and urged all to think similarly.



Suriname Defense Minister Ronni Benschop. <http://www.gov.sr>

"I want to know if the government has the same opinion," he said, referring to calls for those in detention to be charged with terror related crimes.

But even as parliament moves to put new measures in place, much of the fishing fleet remains on shore, fearful of going back out to sea without guarantees about their protection.

Defense Minister Ronni Benschop said all sides are to blame

for the lack of capacity of the coastguard as it needs money to properly function.

"Now we are confronted with sour fruits. We are way too late because we have seen the problem coming and did nothing, he said vowing that "we will not leave that area for the time being. We will stay so that the fishermen can fish safely and give us the guarantees that they will continue to contribute to the economy."

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**Our Perspective
Workers Can't Live
on Sub-Minimum
Wages!**



By **Stuart Appelbaum**, President
Retail, Wholesale and Department
Store Union, UFCW

No worker should earn less than the minimum wage, ever. But in many low-wage industries, including car wash, where many workers are represented by the RWDSU, that's what has been happening for years. Now, however, there's hope that this will change, and that countless workers in

New York state – including car wash, restaurant, nail salon workers, and parking attendants – will be guaranteed to take home at least the minimum wage for their hard work.

The RWDSU and other unions and worker-advocates are leading the charge to get rid of the so-called “tip credit,” which has allowed operators to pay workers well below the minimum wage on the theory that tips will more than make up the difference. In reality, however, this system has created a confusing web of different minimum wages that often provides employers with an outrageous license to steal. In many cases, including car wash, a mind-boggling morass of differing sub-minimum wages – which can change weekly – leaves workers scratching their head over what their actual minimum wage is supposed to be.

Hearings, ordered by Governor Cuomo, are being held throughout this spring and summer in Buffalo, Syracuse, Long Island, New York City, and Albany. Department of Labor officials are hearing first-hand about the struggles workers affected by sub-minimum wages are experiencing. Workers have testified about the inability to live in dignity because they can't afford decent housing for their families, and how they can't look for other work because they cannot afford adequate transportation. Workers struggle with paying their bills and putting food on the table.

For the car wash workers in New York City – especially those without union representation – sub-minimum wages are a vehicle for wage theft and systemic underpayment. Investigations have shown that employers don't always make up the extra pay for workers when tips are short, and car wash workers don't always receive the tips customers presume are going into their pockets. We shouldn't be giving unscrupulous employers additional opportunities to underpay their workers, and that's exactly what tip credit does in the car wash industry and many others. Car wash operators have been fined and directed to make restitution for wage theft to the tune of millions of dollars.

In many industries, immigrant workers are particularly susceptible to tip credit-aided wage theft. Nail salon workers, deliverymen, car wash workers, restaurant workers; all are affected by wage theft and the sub-minimum wage loophole that makes it easier for employers to underpay them and even steal from them.

The ongoing hearings are an important next step in ensuring that 5,000 car wash workers in New York now have a chance to earn fair wages for their work, and that no worker in the Empire State is underpaid and impoverished. It's time to get rid of the tip credit, eliminate legal sub-minimum wages, and raise wages to make sure that all workers have a chance to thrive in New York.



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CARIBBEAN ROUNDUP

Continued from page 4

the next 14 days to have a report from a particular group that was conducting the further evaluation of the SIDF," the prime minister said. "We have submitted the reports that we have had for further evaluation and scrutiny by competent persons and within the next 14 days the attorney general has promised that we will have their recommendations as to further action to be taken with respect to that."



Trinidad

A European Union (EU) Delegation to Trinidad and Tobago does not believe the death penalty is an effective deterrent to crime.

The EU expressed concerns about Trinidad and Tobago's high crime rate, gang and drug activity and the significant number of guns on the nation's streets.

Several ambassadors from France, Spain, the Netherlands, Germany and the United Kingdom held a press conference at its office, in Queen's Park West, Port of Spain, last week.

They shared their views on many issues, including human rights, trade with Trinidad and Tobago, climate change, culture and its role in the world.

Speaking on the death penalty, Tim Stew, British High Commissioner to Trinidad and Tobago, noted that Trinidad and Tobago was the only remaining Commonwealth Caribbean country to still have a mandatory death penalty.

"We don't think it is effective. There is too much evidence to show that a mandatory death penalty is not an effective deterrent to crime," he said.

Stew said the EU was yet to make an argument locally that would persuade it that the death penalty would make a difference to the crime situation. He added that gender-based violence was a serious concern to the EU.

— compiled by Azad Ali

Interpol busts human trafficking ring in the Caribbean

By Azad Ali

An Interpol-coordinated operation to bust an international human trafficking ring in 13 Caribbean countries, as well as Central and South America resulted in 350 women being rescued last month.

According to a statement from Interpol, more than 500 police officers in 14 countries in the Caribbean and Venezuela freed men, women and children from sexual exploitation and forced labor in gold mines, nightclubs, factories, open-air markets and farms.

The exercise dubbed "Operation Libertad" was conducted under the Interpol Project to Combat Human Trafficking in the Caribbean between April 3 and 9.

The participating countries were: Antigua and Barbuda, Aruba, Barbados, Belize, Brazil, Curacao, Guyana, Jamaica, St Lucia, St Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago, Turks and Caicos Islands and Venezuela.

In Guyana, young women were found working as prostitutes next to extremely remote gold mines, from which they could not escape.

In St. Vincent and the Grenadines "Asian" employees who were found working at a factory were stripped of their passports and had to rely completely on their handlers for housing, transport, food and the most basic necessities.

According to Interpol, the traffickers took advantage of the victims who were in search of a better life overseas.



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Burke appeals for unity in Guyanese community

By Nelson A. King

Even as the Guyanese community in New York is receiving what has been described as unprecedented outpouring of support from United States federal, state and city officials for Guyana's 52nd Independence Anniversary celebration in New York, chairman the Guyana Independence Celebration Committee (New York), Rickford Burke, is appealing for unity among his compatriots in the United States.

The committee will celebrate Guyana's independence anniversary with a series of activities from June 3-16.

Burke told Caribbean Life on Tuesday that "the eyes of the world are on the Guyanese community, as the independence celebration creates history as the second, largest West Indian celebration in New York City, after the [West Indian American Day] Labor Day parade."

He said the leadership of the wider Caribbean community is also "steadfastly supporting" his committee and the celebration

"in a demonstration of Caribbean unity."

Burke, therefore, appealed to all Guyanese in the United States Diaspora to "put political and other differences aside and work together for the good of Guyana and all Guyanese.

"There is strength in unity," he said. "We are 500,000 strong in the New York tri-state. This is the time for us to demonstrate oneness and our inseparable and envious characteristic — our common Guyanese identity.

"Now is the time for unity and togetherness," he emphasized, expressing confidence that his committee will continue to be "an agent for positive change in the Diaspora."

Burke hailed Guyana as "the most hospitable country in the Caribbean region with an illustrious culture and rich in natural resources, and whose diversity of races and ethnicities creates a social fabric that is incomparable.

"This is the essence of our nation and who we are as a peo-

ple," he said.

He posited that the commemoration of the birth of the Guyanese nation must be "a signal occasion for all Guyanese to put grievances and differences of opinion aside and come together to celebrate the nation and its journey from colonialism to modern development."

Burke pledged to work closely with all stake holders of the Guyanese Diaspora "to engender national harmony and cohesion.

"Guyana cannot attain developed nation status without cohesion and national harmony, and all Guyanese bear responsibility for bringing about this reality," he said.

The Guyana independence anniversary celebration comprises, among other activities in Brooklyn, the annual Independence Parade (Mashramani) in Brooklyn on June 3; the after-noon parade Unity Concert on the same day at the Brooklyn Museum; and an Independence Cup Soccer Tournament on June 16 at Old Boys High School Soccer Field.

United Nations team to meet with T&T PM

By Azad Ali

United Nations Secretary General Antonio Guterres is sending a team to Trinidad and Tobago to inquire into Prime Minister Dr. Keith Rowley's complaint about criticism from its United Nations representative in Trinidad and Tobago on the repatriation of 82 Venezuelans.

Attorney General Stuart Young made this announcement at a recent post-cabinet press conference.

He said Rowley sent the letter to the United Nations secretary general pointing out the government's position on the voluntary repatriation exercise and expressing discomfort and disappointment on the UN representative's statements.

United Nations representative Richard Blewit recently expressed concern over the deportation process, which Rowley claimed was "misinformation" and said he would complain to the United Nations about the comments from its representatives.

He said there is a legal pro-

cess to be followed by all potential migrants.

Young said Trinidad and Tobago's ambassador at the United Nations, Penelope Beckles, also conveyed Trinidad and Tobago's concerns and lodged a request with the UN secretary general for a call with Rowley. There was a teleconference the next day.

The acting attorney general said in the conversation Rowley defended Trinidad and Tobago in the repatriation issue, saying Trinidad and Tobago did everything according to laws and felt aggrieved that a United Nations representative, rather than consult with the government to ascertain what occurred, went ahead and criticized Trinidad and Tobago.

Young said Guterres acknowledged Trinidad and Tobago's position and noted that United Nations records showed Trinidad and Tobago has about 40,000 Venezuelans in Trinidad and Tobago and the government had treated them with dignity and respect.

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file a lawsuit against the person who caused the accident. Many people are easily mistaken by this, and thus do not get the proper representation they need. Workers' Compensation and Personal Injury are 2 completely different fields. Most personal injury attorneys do not know how to properly handle a Workers' Compensation case since it is a difference Court system, and the rules and laws are difference. Therefore, if someone gets injured while working it is imperative to retain an attorney who specializes in Workers' Compensation and not just hire a personal injury attorney. *Edmond J. Hakimian, Esq. specializes in Workers' Compensation law. He is the managing attorney at the Law Offices of Edmond J. Hakimian, PC, which serves all of New York City and Long Island. Please send your questions or comments to HakimianESQ@gmail.com or you may call the office at 718-362-3180. No column is a substitute for competent legal advice. Please consult with the attorney of your choice concerning specific legal questions you may have.*

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Former Vincy teachers wed after 47 years spent apart

By Nelson A. King

They were young teachers and lovers at the same elementary school in St. Vincent and the Grenadines, but, after going their separate ways for 47 years, Dennis Bernard and Dawne Matthews reunited to wed each other Saturday at an elegant ceremony at a quaint church in Philadelphia.

Though he grimaced and twisted in pain from surgery on his right leg a few weeks before, Dennis Bernard was determined to exchange wedding vows with Dawne Matthews before 200 guests at the Lutheran Theological Seminary on Germantown Avenue in Philadelphia.

Guests trekked from St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago, Toronto and New York, among other places, for the special occasion.

The bride and bridegroom — former teachers at the Gomea Methodist School, where the bride's late mother, Beulah Matthews, was the head teacher — sat, for the most part,

throughout the ceremony.

The bridegroom had entered the sanctuary, from a backroom, on a motorized scooter, because of his inability to stand or walk unassisted for a while.

"This is a first for me," said the Rev. Colleen M. Butler, of the African Methodist Episcopal Church — usually called the A.M.E. Church or AME, a predominantly African-American Methodist denomination, based in the United States — who presided over the ceremony.

"The bride and groom will sit for the wedding," she added.

Before the couple tied the knot, Rev. Butler read verses from the Bible about love and marriage, including Ephesians 4:2: "Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love."

"This is a couple that [who] came together in love," she said. "They met young, and they went their separate ways.

"The importance is that God created this couple to come

together," Rev. Butler added. "With love as their guide, they will now take their vows."

But, despite the seriousness of the occasion, there were light moments.

Guests erupted in huge laughter when Dennis repeated the exact preface to his vow that Rev. Butler asked of him.

"Dennis, repeat after me," he said.

The congregation again rolled and roared, with the bride's unexpected interjection when the groom completed his vow.

"You're off the market now," she blurted out.

The ceremony was preceded and interspersed with solo renditions from Andrea Soleyn — "When God Made You" and "Have I Told You Lately."

She was accompanied on the piano by her dad, Andre "Nicky" Soleyn, son of the late, popular, Brooklyn-based Vincentian evangelical pastor, the Rev. Dr. Isaac Soleyn.

Hours later, after pictures



Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Bernard at their wedding reception.

Photo by Nelson A. King

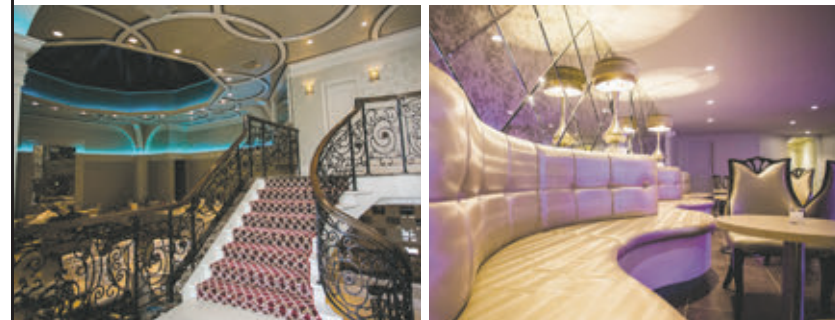
were taken by the entire bridal party, the Rev. Dr. Thomas Thomas — a chaplain in the Vitas Unit, at Methodist Hospital in Philadelphia, where he and Dawne work — told the reception, at the Brossman Center next door, that Dawne

was, obviously, very delighted to be married.

"I've never seen a young lady so happy," said Rev. Thomas, a Kerala, India native, before offering prayers. "Dennis, you're happy to have her as your wife."



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Bronx restaurant gets a makeover



From left, Jamaican Consulate Community Relations Officer, Patrick Maitland, Bronx councilman Andy King (D-Baychester), owner of Dumpling Cove, Kerieth Mair and his daughter Joelle, celebrate the grand reopening of Mair's restaurant.

By Alexandra Simon

One of Bronx's popular Jamaican-American restaurants reopened last month and debuted a new look. Founded in 1990, the Dumpling Cove restaurant — known for its dumplings and fish meals recently transformed from a takeout spot, to a dine-in restaurant. This change has been in the works for a long time, mostly to create a more customer friendly atmosphere and to satisfy more menu choices, said the founder of the restaurant.

"We have been planning the

re-launch for the Cove for the past few months, and the decision to relaunch was motivated by my vision to transform the Dumplin Shop into a full fledged sit-down restaurant that offer clients a full Jamaican menu," said Kerieth Mair.

The new space boasts of the slightly new name of Dumpling Cove — for two decades it was known as the Dumplin Shop. And customers will be able to pick and choose what they want to eat on an up to date bill of fare.

"We did a complete revamp- ing of our display menu. We

now have new 30-inch flat display menu monitors that gives us a more modern look, and for the summer, clients who like the outdoors — we will offer them the option of dining on our outside veranda," he said.

Mair added that the name change reflected their homegrown mission to create a home away from home, and encourage the ambiance of community he wants to continue building in his business.

"The name was changed to the Dumpling Cove Restaurant — the name reflecting

our laid back island offering," he said. "The tempting island aroma that originates from the kitchen, signals to neighborhood folks that this Jamaican-style cuisine is the only place they need to dine."

The restaurant's interior has painted murals, and there is even a stage for band performances for music groups and karaoke nights, according to Mair. And a new addition there will be Internet radio, which will feature reggae music stations and talk shows.

Longtime patrons are huge fans of the makeover, that sales have increased as are new venue requests.

"The feedback has been tremendous and we have received lots of positive compliments. The clients love not just the new looks but they raved about the improved service," he said. "We have seen an increase in business in the takeout and sit down restaurant. We have also been getting lots more bookings from clients celebrating milestone events like birthdays, wedding anniversaries and graduations."

He adds that this newly revamped Cove will feature more social gatherings, and starting next month on June 3, the eatery will be the location of a wine and cheese mixer. Mair said many people were looking forward to the social event.

"We have just started the



Councilman King (D-Baychester) eating a meal at the Dumpling Cove.

promotions and I am happy to report that we are getting positive responses so far," he said.

Mair, a former public transit driver, retired four years ago to focus on his business full time. Since, he has been committed to staying true to his business model, and offering more to his customers along the way.

"The mission of the Cove is to serve authentic Jamaican dishes to clients and provide them with a vibrant eating experience that tantalize their taste buds and satisfy their appetites," he said. "The Cove is not just a restaurant, it's an experience."

Dumpling Cove [1524 E. 222nd St. between Baychester and Edson avenues in Baychester, (718) 653-3143, www.thedumplingcove.com]. Open Monday – Thursday, 6 am – 9 pm; Friday – Saturday, 6 am – 11 pm; Sunday, 6 am – 7 pm.

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Smartphones

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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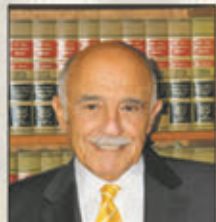
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Caribbean judge receives Lifetime Achievement Award

By Nelson A. King

The Brooklyn Women's Bar Association (BWBA), the oldest incorporated Women's Bar Association in New York State, Wednesday night bestowed its Lifetime Achievement Award on a Caribbean-born judge in Brooklyn.

Justice Sylvia Gwendolyn Ash, who was born in Trinidad and Tobago to Vincentian and Grenadian parents, received the award during BWBA's Centennial Awards Gala Celebration at the Liberty Warehouse in Red Hook, Brooklyn.

The other honorees were: Jenny Rivera, associate judge of the New York Court of Appeals, New York's highest court, who received the Beatrice M. Judge Recognition Award; and Attorney Helen E. Blank, who received the Sybil Hart Cooper Award.

BWBA said it honored Justice Ash, a justice of the Supreme Court of the State of New York and the presiding justice of the Commercial Division in Kings

County Supreme Court, for more than 30 years of service in the legal community.

"BWBA's Lifetime Achievement Award recognizes an outstanding individual who has dedicated herself to law and policy before courts, agencies, US Congress, State Legislatures or other institutions," BWBA said.

"Justice Ash is receiving this award in recognition for her commitment to law and policy spanning over 30 years," it added.

Justice Ash was the fifth recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award in the 100-year-history of the association.

The award was presented to Justice Ash by her long-time friend and colleague, Justice Sylvia Hinds-Radix, the Barbadian-born Associate Justice of New York State Appellate Division, Second Department.

"I was very humbled to be the recipient of this award, especially coming from such a

well-established and revered organization as the BWBA," Justice Ash told Caribbean Life on Thursday.

"I am not sure if I am deserving of a Lifetime Achievement Award, given the fact that I believe my legal career is still a work in progress," she added. "Nonetheless, I must give thanks to all whose shoulders I have stood on, those who have paved the way, cleared the path and accompanied me on my legal career journey.

"I will continue to dedicate my legal career to ensure that everyone who comes before the court seeking justice is given the opportunity to be heard and is treated equally with compassion," Justice Ash continued.

Justice Ash is a graduate of Howard University School of Law in Washington, DC.

After 20 years of legal service in the private community, in 2010, she was elected to Kings County Civil Court.

Justice Ash was the first



Justice Sylvia Ash poses with Lifetime Achievement Award. Justice Ash

Caribbean-born woman to be elected to the Civil Court in a county-wide race.

She is also the first per-

son of color to hold the position of presiding justice of the Commercial Division in Kings County Supreme Court.

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Brooklyn kids learn dining and etiquette skills

By Alexandra Simon

They're learning adult skills. Over a dozen Brooklyn middle school kids got to learn some valuable table manners and a cooking lesson at an etiquette dining Class in Chelsea on May 11. The students from MS 61 in Crown Heights, ventured to Manhattan for a day of learning the how-to's, the do's and don'ts of cooking, and proper manners to display at a dinner table, and they were consumed with the class, said the event's co-organizer.

"They had wonderful time and a lot of them were already interested in coming back again," said Amarimba Charles. "They were totally engrossed in everything, and everyone got the opportunity to cook and learn something new."

The youngsters mostly cooked pasta dishes, and they had a bevy of ingredients to choose from such as shrimp and chicken, and different sauces and vegetables, according to Charles. And they also competed in cooking demonstrations to see how quickly they could prepare a meal in under four minutes.

Charles and Jamaican-Ameri-



Young culinarians: From left, Danaya Smalls, 13, and Jaida Thomas, 12, use the chef's technique to make a four-minute pasta dish.



Too cool: Chef Patrick and the students give high fives ahead of the cooking demonstration. Photos by Caroline Ourso

can chef Patrick Wenford Simpson both organized the event, after she approached him about combining her etiquette class with his culinary background.

She says giving the kids an opportunity to learn some behavioral customs aside from what they can learn at home, while picking up new cooking skills, is essential to preparing them for the world and how they interact and received by people.

"I often hear when people hear the word etiquette, they associate it being bougie or stuck up — but that's not what etiquette is," said Charles. "It's basically home training and being able to socialize outside of the home, holding doors for people, and giving up a seat on the bus, and even as adults etiquette is something that you'll continually learn."

Charles said her mission behind her etiquette empowering classes were to reintroduce new habits to prepare young adults entering the professional world. And an important aspect of that is through experience.

"One of the reasons dining etiquette class is important is because nowadays we have a lot of meetings over meals and even

sometimes the interview process for middle school or high school is done over a meal," she said. "It's important to set your best foot forward, whether you're sitting behind the desk or at a lunch, and I think it's always great to have that holistic part of it, not just focusing on the tie or dress suit — but how you present your whole self."



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OP-EDS

Outstanding West Indians

Continued from Page 10

taking eight wickets in 15.3 overs at a total cost of just six runs! His final innings return of 8 wickets for 38 runs was his best in a Test match.

His career culminated in his inclusion as one of Wisden's Cricketer of the Year in 1972, a deserving accolade.

Eddie Nicholls-An Umpire Who Did It All!

Last Sunday, we had the pleasure of renewing acquaintances with a world class umpire, and a Guyanese brother who made it to the top in his field — Eddie (Edward) Nicholls, now 70 not out. Now officially retired, but still giving back to the game he loves so much and which made him a household name. He officiated in 17 Tests from 1997 to 2001 and 46 ODIs from 1995 to 2005. Nicholls was one of four West Indian umpires on the International Cricket Council's elite panel of international umpires, and umpired international matches throughout the Caribbean and in many famous grounds across the globe, including the Oval, Wellington, Brisbane, Bulawayo, Colombo, Cape Town, Manchester, Nairobi, Sharjah, and Melbourne.

A former police officer, who rose to the rank of an acting assistant superintendent with the Guyana Police Force, Nicholls played club cricket for the Guyanese police force cricket team. He is married and has a son and two daughters, was a senior cricket coach in Guyana from 1990 - 1997, a committee member of national umpires' association 1992 / 1993, 1996 / 97 / 98; treasurer 1994 and 1995, and played club cricket for the Guyana Police Force and Demerara.

Nicholls is part of a respected group of Caribbean umpires headed by umpires like Steve Bucknor ("Slow Death"), Douglas Sang Hue, Ralph Gosein, Stanton Parris, Compton Vyfhuis, Lew Kow, Cortez Jordan, Errol Gillette, Ralph Gosein, David Archer, Cecil Kippins, Lloyd Barker, Clyde Cumberbatch, Tulsi Kumar and others.

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

Grenada PM to revisit CCJ

By Azad Ali

Grenada Prime Minister Dr. Keith Mitchell will again be pursuing a referendum on the Caribbean Court of Justice (CCJ) as the island's final court of appeal.

He said a second referendum will be held at the end of the year after 12,653 Grenadians voted against it in a referendum in 2016.

Some 9,639 voters supported the 2016 Constitu-

tion of Grenada (Caribbean Court of Justice and other justice-related matters) Bill in November 2016.

Mitchell's New National Party, which was re-elected to office in the recent general election, had supported the Bill, but the opposition National Democratic Congress (NDC) opposed the reform.

He said the Caribbean Court of Justice is an important issue to take a

second look at.

"Our jurists have served the regional and international institution with distinction, and it would be, to me, almost an insult to say to ourselves that we cannot be responsible for justice in our country," he said.

The Caribbean Court of Justice Bill was one of seven, which the electorate voted on in September 2016.

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BOOTH FEES DURING EARLY REGISTRATION:

- Food/Non Alcoholic Drinks: \$400.00 per booth (Individuals without a Business)
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- Non-profits for distributing information: \$250.00 per booth

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A Late Fee of \$50.00 will be applied for any registration submitted from Monday August 20th, 2018

Per the Department Of Health all vendors selling food & beverages **MUST obtain A Food Handlers Certificate** in order to sell on Eastern Parkway during the parade. Please visit www.nyc.gov/health (Food Safety Certification) for further information. Summons will be issued by the Department of Health to individuals without proper credentials.

INSURANCE:

Vendors are required to purchase general Liability Insurance from a reputable Insurance Company that is licensed to provide insurance coverage. The policy should name the following individuals as additional insured: West Indian American Day Carnival Association, The City of New York, Office of the Mayor Street Activity.

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Largest Haitian-American Unity Day in Albany: Bichotte



Assemblage on the Capitol for Haitian American Unity Day.
Office of Assemblywoman Rodneyse Bichotte

By Nelson A. King

Brooklyn Assemblywoman Rodneyse Bichotte has said the largest Haitian-American Unity Day was held on May 7 in the New York State's capitol.

Bichotte, who represents the 43rd Assembly District in Brooklyn, said she and her Haitian-American Assembly colleagues Michaëlle Solages, Kimberly Jean-Pierre, Clyde Vanel and Ellen Jaffee, as well as Senators Kevin Parker and David Carlucci, hosted the largest Haitian Unity Day to date, "as almost 200 of their dignitaries, colleagues, and constituents all came to Albany to take part in this celebration."

The event was also co-sponsored by 40-plus other state legislators, including Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie and Senate Leader Andrea Stewart Cousins, said Bichotte, the first Haitian American from New York City to be elected to the State Assembly.



Assemblywoman Rodneyse Bichotte addresses State Assembly on Haitian American Unity Day.

Office of Assemblywoman Rodneyse Bichotte

She said Haitian Unity Day was originated by Assemblymember Ellen Jaffee who represents Rockland County, which has a significant Haitian population in her district.

"It was created so that Haitian-Americans from

throughout the state would have a day to celebrate their culture and the significant contributions that Haitians have made to the State of New York and the United States," Bichotte said.

"Participants enjoyed a tour of the Capitol and a fantastic

lunch," she said. "They also visited both the senate and assembly chambers, and had an opportunity to be acknowledged on the assembly floor before the adoption of Resolution 1130, establishing May 7, 2018 as Haitian Unity Day in New York State."

This year, Bichotte said the sponsors honored Karine Jean-Pierre, CNN and MSNBC contributor, and national spokesperson for moveon.org.

"She has a very robust history in activism, organizing and political campaigns, even serving in White House under the Administration of Presi-

dent Barack Obama as the Regional Political Director for the White House Office of Political Affairs," Bichotte said. "She has been an outspoken advocate for the Haitian community and fellow immigrant communities."

Bichotte said, this year, attendees were treated to outstanding performances from Earline Dorsainvil, "who delivered magnificent renditions of both the US National Anthem and the Haitian National Anthem, and Ester Duclair from Newbirth Evangelical Christian Church, who astounded all with her voice and the violin."

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Teens create event to celebrate different cultures

By Alexandra Simon

A group of Brooklyn teens in a high school music program is organizing a wide-ranging cultural appreciation day in Gravesend next month.

Students in the Avenue Music Group program at Life Academy for Film and Music are creating a multicultural celebration day they are calling “For the Culture,” set for June 2. Their mentor and the executive director of the program, Joshua Walker, said the students are thrilled to spearhead a day honoring diverse cultures in light of the country’s political climate, he said.

“These kids felt that there’s been a really negative interpretation of race and cultures in our country, and they wanted to put together an event where people of minority backgrounds can embrace their cultures, and learn something else about another person’s culture,” said Walker.

The 12 teenagers in the program, mostly freshmen and sophomores from different parts of Brooklyn, are from mostly first or second-generation families and of Caribbean and West African descent, according to Walker. He added that the youngsters reached out to other

schools in their district, hoping to bring together diverse school bodies for a day of fun, exploration, and cultural exchange. One focus will be sharing the diverse offerings from local ethnic restaurants.

“The endgame is to have an event where we bring together the community to experience different cultures, and one of the main aspects is food, so the students have been reaching out to different restaurants and a range of food of different places to participate,” said Walker.

Avenue Music Group is an educational program which Walker founded in 2013, that focuses on preparing teens for college, jobs, and careers.

In addition to a variety of food, the four-hour event, which will be held on the Lafayette Campus football field, will have games, sporting activities, musical entertainment, and prize giveaways.

The students are currently fund-raising for the event and aim for \$20,000, said Walker. The group has already raised \$2,200, and with the help of sponsors, local businesses, and door-to-door donations, and they hope to meet a minimum goal to pro-



Young do-gooders: Students from Life Academy for Film and Music High School — with Avenue Music Group founder and director, Joshua Walker, far left, and Supastar Rell, second from left — are creating a multi-cultural event to get people to explore and learn about cultures other than their own.

Photo by Steve Solomonson

duce the event.

“We need at least \$5,000, but even if we don’t hit that goal, we will still have the event,” he said. “No matter what number we get, we may cut a few things out, but we’re still going to put on something.”

Staff and administrators at the high school have been supportive of the teens’ project, according to Walker.

“They’ve been a huge help in spreading the word, and they love the idea — they’re all very excited and the kids got the sup-

port of their principal and teachers,” he said.

Walker said that the teens were the ones who conceived of the event, and it reflects the program’s objective of inspiring students to give back to the community.

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Guyana group to honor Maj. Gen. Errol Schwartz

By Tangerine Clarke

The Guyana Unity Movement, Inc. (GUM) will honor Ret. Army Major General Errol Schwartz, of Guyanese lineage, who was appointed by George W. Bush, and served in the Obama Administration at its Honor Our Veterans Black Tie Gala, saluting past and present Guyanese members and Guyanese / American Law Enforcement Officers.

The June 15 event at Glen Terrace, 5313 Ave. N. Brooklyn, will also honor Ret. Director General Desmond Roberts, Ret. Assistant Police Commissioner Paul Stowe, NYPD Deputy Inspector, Deodat Urprasad, and Ex-GDF pilot Barbara Adams Wilson, among others, to commemorate Guyana's 52nd Independence Anniversary. The event will start at 9 pm.

The weekend of events will also include a Unity Father's Day brunch on Sunday, June 17, at 1436 Remsen Ave., (bet. avenues K&L) Brooklyn from 2 pm. Music will be provided by Ranny Gold Stone.

Sherif Barker Fraser, president of the non-profit 501 (3c), told Caribbean Life during an



Major General Errol R. Schwartz, former commanding general, District of Columbia National Guard. Sgt. Jennifer Amo; D. C. National Guard

interview at Power Jam Radio, that plaques and pins will be presented to service personnel from the Guyana National Service, Guyana Defense Force, United States Armed Forces, and other veterans, who have served with distinction.

She said the organization is committed to its mission to fostering growth in Guyana and the United States, and as such,

will inspire youth through grant programs within the organization, as part of its vision.

One of the biggest marches that began at Bedford and Church Avenues, and ended at Schenectady Avenue in Brooklyn in 2015 after the Coalition Government's victory, attracting 20,000 supporters, started the Guyana Unity Movement, that now boasts a membership including social media following of over 5000.

Vice President Ervin Washington thanked sister company Power Jam for giving GUM a platform to continue its unity programs that allows the organization to donate to various charities in Guyana and the United States.

Washington said the group's historic Black Tie Gala is a fitting tribute to law enforcement officers who have gone beyond the call of duty to make sure citizens stay safe, as such, GUM wants to show its gratitude.

He is calling on everyone to show up dressed to the nines to salute the men and women in uniform, adding that attendees who bring along a family member serving in the armed



Fifth from left (front row) President of Guyana Unity Movement, Sherif Fraser-Barker, Vice President, Doris Rodney next to her, with other members of the Guyana Unity Movement.

forces or law enforcement, that lawman or woman, will receive a special pin in honor of their service.

Sergeant-of-arms Burgett Williams, ex-Guyana National Service member, applauded GUM for honoring service members, saying there is no other organization that has bestowed such an honor on service personnel, and thanked Linden Forbes Sampson for creating GNS.

"He created opportunities for thousands of young people," she

added.

Under the theme "Uniting Guyanese one at a Time," Eric Joseph said meeting with ex-military from Guyana was a fruitful way for GUM to continue discussions to engage the community and unite with other organizations in the Tri-state areas, where much more could be attained in the diaspora.

Burchell Marcus said he looks forward to the planned programs, which bridge the gap, and coming together to make Guyana what it is.

Prospective Caribbean-American priest a shining example

By Nelson A. King

A young, prospective Episcopal priest in Brooklyn, of Caribbean parentage, is preaching the right word as she sets a shining and welcoming example to both youth and adults in the community.

The Rev. Leandra Lambert, 29, a transitional deacon — transitioning into the priesthood — at St. Gabriel's Episcopal Church on Hawthorne Street, will be ordained as a full-fledged priest on Sept. 15. The ordination will take place at The Cathedral of the Incarnation in Garden City, Long Island.

Rev. Lambert — whose parents, Leandra "Virginia" Baptiste and Joseph Lambert, hail from Bogles, Carriacou, the larger of Grenada's two sister isles — was ordained as a deacon March 1 at St. Gabriel's.

As a deacon, Rev. Lambert assists with the liturgy and preaches monthly to the faithful at St. Gabriel's, whose congregants are predominantly Caribbean.

"Part of what we do as a church or a community is that we plant seeds," Rev. Lambert

said recently in an exclusive Caribbean Life interview at the church. "I do believe God has a funny way of speaking to us or through us.

"My ministry is about living a life that's worthy of my calling in the church, and God will do the rest," added Rev. Lambert, who was born in Crown Heights, and grew up in East Flatbush — both in Brooklyn. "Not everybody can or should be a priest. We're called to something. To me, it's ordained ministry.

"But if we provide the young people with a framework to know God, they'll be able to discern for themselves what that call for their life is," she continued. "Priest[hood] is really a calling; it's a devotion. It isn't anything I just, one day, decided to do. It's a process."

Though her Christian principles were molded, from a very young age, in the Episcopal Church — at St. Augustine's Episcopal Church on Avenue D in Brooklyn — Rev. Lambert said the process of pursuing the ministry actually began after her first year in the graduate program at Harvard



Rev. Leandra Lambert of the St. Gabriel's Episcopal Church on Hawthorne, Brooklyn. Photo by Nelson A. King

University.

"I felt God was calling me to do something more and [showing me] what a meaningful life can look like," she said. "I spoke with people on campus

— fellow students, professors — and people in my personal life (my friends, my family), then switched to Divinity."

Rev. Lambert graduated from Harvard University's

Divinity School with a Master of Divinity (M. Div.) degree in 2015. Her master's thesis was on "Sign, Symbol and Sacrament: Eucharistic Ethics and the Israel-Palestine Conflict."

"And that ended up being a better fit for me," added Rev. Lambert, who had initially thought of pursuing a Master of Arts (MA), with concentration in religion, ethics and politics.

Prior to pursuing her master's degree, Rev. Lambert said she had attended Wellesley College in Massachusetts, graduating in 2011 with a bachelor's degree in classical civilization and political science, and pursued a semester of studies in Greece a year earlier through the college's Study Abroad Program.

In Greece, she said, her interest in politics and the church's role heightened.

"You're seeing human suffering in a very jarring way and wondered why the church [was] not saying anything," she said. "Why [was] the Greek Orthodox Church not involved? The priests are considered civil servants.

2018 Caribbean Impact Awards

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

At 11:00 AM on September 5th, 2018, the Caribbean Life Impact Awards will be held at the New York Marriott Hotel. The event will celebrate the achievements of Caribbean Americans who have made a positive impact in New York City. The awards will be presented to nominees who have demonstrated exceptional leadership, innovation, and community service. The event is free and open to all. For more information, please contact us at (718) 260-8302.



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Please submit your nomination to: Caribbean Life Impact Awards, c/o MetroTech Center North, 10th Floor, Brooklyn, NY 11201. The deadline for nominations is **August 10th, 2018**. You can also submit your nomination online at www.caribbeanlifeneeds.com. We will contact you on **September 4th, 2018** if you are selected.

Nominate an outstanding Caribbean American who has made an impact in New York

Your nominee (Please print clearly)

Name: _____ No. of children: _____
 Address: _____ No. of children/roommates: _____
 Work: _____
 Phone: _____
 Email: _____

Please use additional paper, if necessary.

How can we reach you?

Home: _____ Cell: _____ Home: _____ | _____

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Please include a copy of your nominee's bio & resume if available.

Mail to: Caribbean Life, Impact Awards Attn: Jennifer Stern
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'The Sun Does Shine' for innocent black convict

"The Sun Does Shine: How I Found Life and Freedom on Death Row" by Anthony Ray Hardin with Lara Love Hardin
c.2018, St. Martin's Press
\$25.99 / \$34.99 Canada
255 pages

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

You always keep your eyes on the prize.

You've given yourself no other options and your steadfastness is your compass. What you believe will happen. What you know is truth. Say it enough, and everybody else will know, too — especially when, as in the new book "The Sun Does Shine" by Anthony Ray Hinton with Lara Love Hardin, the truth is one of innocence.

On a night in the summer of 1985, 29-year-old Ray Hinton checked in with the security guard at his workplace, just as he'd been told to always do. He hadn't been at the job long, but that had become his routine every night before getting assignments for his shift, doing work he liked.

Reaching that point hadn't been

easy.

The youngest of 10 children, Hinton was his mother's "baby" and he continued to live with her after high school; though he'd thought about college, there was no money or scholarship for it. Instead, he found work at an Alabama coal mine, hating the work, loving the paycheck, still wanting what he couldn't afford.

He took a car he never paid for, and it cost him a few months in jail.

By that evening in the summer of 1985, though, Hinton had resolved to make his Mama proud. He was again employed, sober, living on the straight-and-narrow, had checked in with the guard as he was told, and worked until it was time to go home.

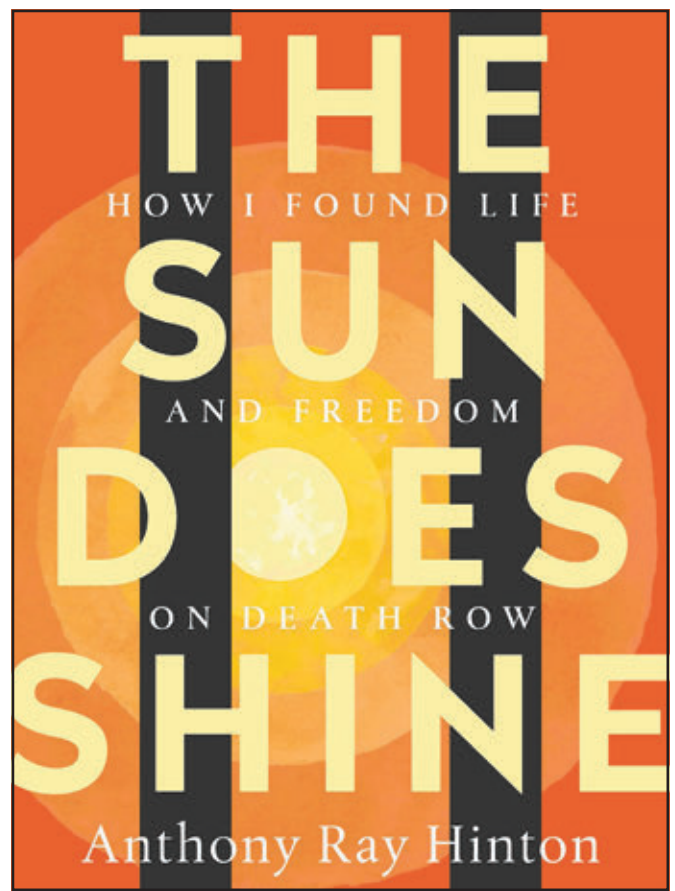
And that was where he was arrested five days later, accused of a robbery and murder committed while he was at work, miles from the crime scene. His trial was short. The jury was all-white, as were the judge, prosecutor, defense attorney, and a ballistics "expert" that was no expert. During the

trial, Hinton "knew" he'd be convicted, knew it in his heart, even though he clearly had an alibi.

He was innocent. And he was sent to Death Row.

Because there's a book about this, you've probably already figured out that author Anthony Ray Hardin is a free man now. You already know of his innocence. The shocker is that that took 30 years for exoneration, and when you read "The Sun Does Shine" (with Lara Love Hardin), be prepared to be shocked some more.

Or maybe you won't be: at times, Hardin himself seems to expect many of the things that happened to him, which leads to a whole host of emotions for a reader. You shouldn't, in fact, be at all surprised to feel frustration, sadness, white-hot anger, and crushing despair — sometimes, from the same page. And yet, despite that you'll cringe inside, Hardin also makes readers' souls soar with words that reveal small beauties between horrors, and kindness where you don't expect it. That's like taking an amusement-park



"Book cover of The Sun Does Shine" by Anthony Ray Hinton with Lara Love Hardin.

ride with no seat belts: hang on tight, because it might hurt.

What's left to say, then, about this book? Nothing, except that

you'll like it for everything it wrings from you. "The Sun Does Shine" could be the most impressive book you'll lay eyes on.

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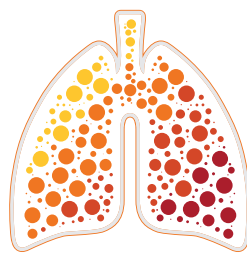
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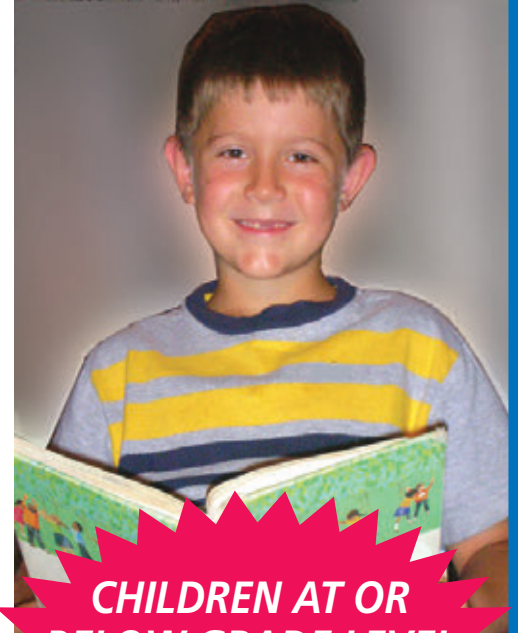
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In the play "Yellowman," light-skinned Eugene, left, and dark-skinned Alma, come to terms with colorism over the span of their childhood into adulthood.

Play on colorism

By Alexandra Simon

A production of the Pulitzer prize finalist play "Yellowman," is playing at Billie Holiday Theatre in Bedford-Stuyvesant until May 20. The story follows the skinny and light-complexioned Eugene, and the larger and darker complexioned Alma, as they grow from a platonic friendship to a romantic relationship in the deep South. As its name suggests, the play tackles skin complex-

Continued on Page 40

'Echos from the Plantation'

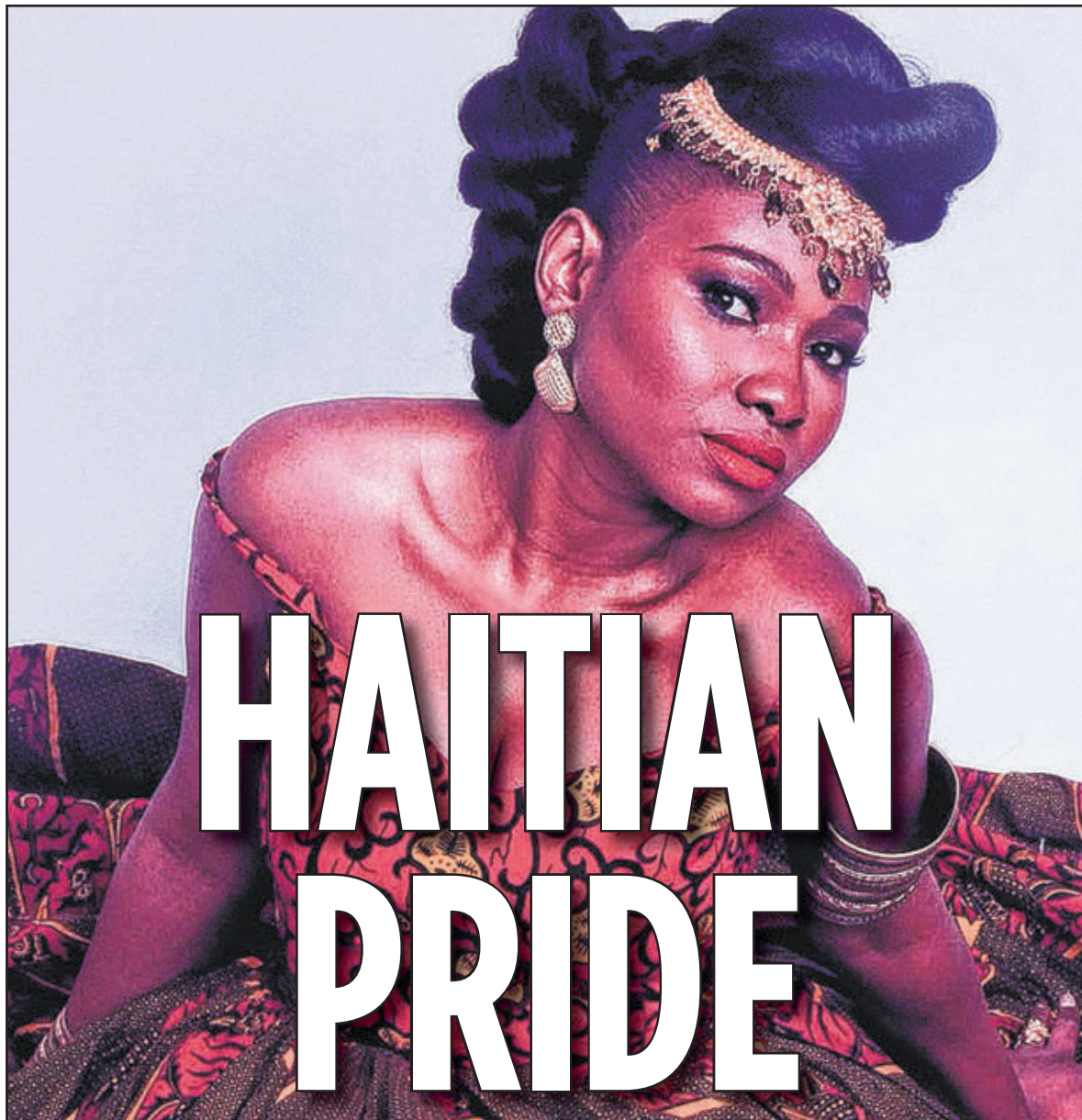
By Tangerine Clarke

"Echos from the Plantation," a documentary that chronicles 180 years of East Indians in Guyana, and draws parallel between Indian and African indentured workers who braved inhumane conditions at the hands of slave masters, received rave reviews at its first screening in Brooklyn.

Indo-Guyanese nationals commemorated their arrival on May 5, 1838, a period that was very important to thespian Kishore Seunarine, who reflected on what his ancestors endured after 396 of them reached Guyana aboard the *Whitby* and *Hesperus*, and worked on the plantations.

This documentary is a labor of love for Seunarine, a passionate actor, spoken-word poet, and voiceover professional who used his narrative voice to bring

Continued on Page 40



Sherlee Skai has a jazzy, folkloric, soulful, world music sound and recently released her album "Toutouni (Bare Naked)." Photo by Tequila Minsky

Female musicians to celebrate Haitian culture

By Tequila Minsky

An evening of Haitian culture and pride, starting at 8 pm, will take place May 20 at SOB's in Manhattan to commemorate the 215th anniversary of Haiti's flag, the symbol of the first free Black Republic in the Western Hemisphere.

The first purely Haitian flag was adopted May 18, 1803, on the last day of the Congress of Archaie. It was one-half year before independence was declared — Jan. 1, 1804.

Haitian lore holds that the flag

was created by the revolutionary leader Jean Jacques Dessalines, who took France's tricolor flag and ripped out and discarded the white center, asking his god daughter Catherine Flon to sew the remaining blue and red bands together.

In honoring women's contribution to the Haitian flag, three Haitian-American female artists will be showcased for this commemorative evening.

Classically trained pianist, and vocalist Phylisia Ross performs in

English, French and Kreyol, and has been singing and playing the piano since she was three. Completely dedicated, she has developed vocal, instrumental, songwriting and production skills mastering and incorporating several genre styles from classical, R&B, jazz, and world music into her performances.

Born in Haiti, singer / songwriter Sherlee Skai spent her teenage years listening to Haitian artists such as Emeline Michel as well as Ameri-

Continued on Page 40

TOP OF THE CHARTS

TOP 10 SINGLES

- 1 **The Middle**
Zedd, Maren Morris & Grey
- 2 **Meant To Be**
Bebe Rexha & Florida Georgia Line
- 3 **God's Plan**
Drake
- 4 **Never Be The Same**
Camila Cabello
- 5 **Whatever It Takes**
Imagine Dragons
- 6 **Pray For Me**
The Weeknd & Kendrick Lamar
- 7 **Perfect**
Ed Sheeran
- 8 **Nice For What**
Drake
- 9 **Psycho**
Post Malone Feat. Ty Dolla \$ign
- 10 **Wait**
Maroon 5

TOP 10 ALBUMS

- 1 **ATTENTION ATTENTION**
Shinedown
- 2 **The Greatest Showman**
Soundtrack
- 3 **beerbongs & bentleys**
Post Malone
- 4 **Good Things**
Leon Bridges
- 5 **Book O' Ryan**
Royce da 5'9"
- 6 **Reverence**
Parkway Drive
- 7 **KOD**
J. Cole
- 8 **CRAZ TALK**
Mat Kearney
- 9 **Invasion O' Privacy**
Cardi B
- 10 **SR3MM**
Rae Sremmurd, Swae Lee & Slim Jxmmi

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Haitian Flag Day

Continued from Page 39

can pioneers like Tracy Chapman, all who inspired her jazzy, folkloric, soulful, world music sound. After several singles and collaborations, Sherlee Skai recently released her album "Toutouni (Bare Naked)" where she celebrates her culture and shares her vision as an immigrant and as a woman standing in front of life, hence the title "Bare Naked."

Rounding-out the triumvirate of women honoring the Haitian flag is Haitian-American singer, songwriter, and author Riva Nyri Précil. Born in Brooklyn to a Russian Jewish-descent mother and a Haitian father, Riva grew up in Haiti, exposed to and studied under many great masters of Haiti's cultural and artistic scene as

well as her mother's eclectic music interests from jazz and soul, to Indian and Arabic music. She also visited Haitian vodou ceremonies, learning both the beautiful and spiritual parts of the culture. At 15, Riva left Haiti due to the dangerous political climate and finished high school, majoring in vocal performance, at LaGuardia High School of Music & Art and Performing Arts. She received her Bachelor of Arts in music therapy at Loyola University of New Orleans.

Sunday should prove to be a rich, full evening of the next generation of Haiti-inspired women singers adding contemporary and cultural influences to a repertoire they will share while paying homage to their ancestral homeland.



Riva Nyri Précil has been exposed to an eclectic swath of genres with deep roots in Haitian traditional music.

Francesca Andre.

Indians in Guyana

Continued from Page 39

to life this important story, three years in the making, and not known to many Guyanese nationals.

Seunarine told Caribbean Life at the May 5 screening, that he wanted to do something impressive, and lasting to mark the 180 years bringing alive the spirit of determination and persistence of his ancestors.

The Guyana Cultural Association of New York Inc. in collaboration with the Guyana Consulate, New York, screened the film as part of a cultural and heritage forum, after the University of Charlotte, North Carolina Asian Film Festival highlighted the historic drama.

The first screenings were held in Guyana, where the entire film was shot on location.

Using his resonant voice, Senaurine summed up the documentary by saying: "On this day 180 years ago, our ancestors arrived in 'British Guiana' under much duress, no one really knows their struggles for they were the first, it is sparsely documented."

"Unlike other historic human atrocities we only know through stories that our parents and grandparents told, and that too, relied on memory. Echos from the plantation scratches the surface to break through the crust of time, and



From left, Pandit Ramdular Singh, Satwika Reddy and Kishore Seunarine. (Grandfather, grand daughter and producer and director)

Echos of the Plantation

reveal snippets of their struggles, honored in their determination and the resilience of our heritage."

"I hopes to ignite a discussion among our selves, and tell the story for future generations, who will tell it with pride, compelled by duty, and marvel with admiration, for this is our story," recited Seunarine, who produced and directed the documentary.

Except for one Caucasian male who played the role of a slave master, the entire cast and crew were Guyanese, who, according to Seunarine gave moving performances that made the documentary spectacular.

He applaud the actors, many retrenched cane-cutters who gave an authentic feel of what the laborers endured, working long hours barefooted in the harsh cane-fields under rough conditions.

Colorism

Continued from Page 39

ion — particularly through colorism and how they affect both characters respectively.

The perception of skin tone remains somewhat of a taboo issue in many black communities today, but this play gives a magnifying eye to those issues and viewers will easily relate to it, said the play's director.

"Within the black community — colorism is still prevalent so there is a joy, recognition, and relief and the feeling of "It's not just me thinking that," which is what black audiences will experience watching this," said Timothy Douglas.

He says often the subject is simply observed or discussed between families. But this play shines a light on colorism for wider audiences.

"In this climate, this play also speaks to black and white relationships and how an individual's ability to self-identify with a skin complexion can determine how smooth their journey in America will be," said Douglas. "It's black specific but white audiences will get it — because it parallels with issues of racism."

In the two-cast member production, both main characters are also playing other characters, which include their parents and relatives, according to Douglas.

The play concludes with a

somewhat daunting ending, where both characters lives are forever changed by one action. But Douglas said it can be interpreted differently, and the play has several tidbits of comedy that help swallow some of the heavy content.

"It's cathartic to witness the journey and spirit of these two people," he said. "It's sad and unresolved and after their journey people are left to determine what happens next. But there's lots of humor, which is necessary because the more tragic life is, it is essential that we never lose the ability to laugh.

Douglas said this show is a perfect segue for a more reflective conversation on colorism, and can help lead to self-examination and the unpacking of harmful attitudes.

"The frontline is that people are talking about it because it's not usually spoken about in polite conversation," he said. "But just being able to connect and share on the subject also gives life, and can lead people to thinking differently or start conversation that brings people close together."

"Yellowman" at The Billie Holiday Theatre [1368 Fulton St. between Brooklyn and New York avenues in Bedford-Stuyvesant, (718) 636-0918, www.thebillieholiday.org]. Running until May 20 at various times. \$25 - \$65.

Divorcee now life of the college party

"Life of the Party"
 Very Good (3 stars)
 Rated PG-13 for sexuality,
 partying and drug use
 Running time: 105 min-
 utes
 Production Studios: New
 Line Cinema/ Warner
 Brothers / On the Day
 Productions
 Distributor: New Line
 Cinema / Warner Brothers
 Pictures

By Kam Williams

Deanna Miles (Melissa McCarthy) was a junior in college when she got pregnant and dropped out of school to have the baby. She married her boyfriend, Dan (Matt Walsh), who finished his degree and kickstarted his career while she remained a stay-at-home mom.

Fast forward to the present and we find the couple dropping now-grown Maddie (Molly Gordon) off at their alma mater, Decatur University, where she's about to begin her senior year. She's happy to be moving back



Deanna Miles (Melissa McCarthy) stars in "Life of the Party."

<https://rottentomatoes.com/>

in with her girlfriends living at Theta Mu Gamma sorority house.

On the drive home, Dan drops a bombshell on Deanna. He's canceled their planned, month-long vacation in Italy in favor of filing for divorce. Furthermore, the callous creep wants her out of the house,

since it's in his name alone.

To add insult to injury, he's putting it on the market with the help of his mistress Marcie (Julie Bowen), a realtor in town. And he has the temerity to rub salt into his shocked wife's wounds by explaining the affair with, "I just needed an upgrade."

That cruel behavior frees Deanna to put some of his favorite belongings in a pile and set them on fire. Still, she's left in a quandary about what to do next, not having worked and or even graduated from college.

Then she comes up with the bright idea of returning to

Decatur to do her senior year right along with her daughter. Too bad Molly's mortified about the prospect of having her mom on campus.

But that is precisely the premise of "Life of the Party," a midlife crisis comedy directed by Ben Falcone and co-written by Ben and his real-life wife, Melissa McCarthy. The movie marks the couple's third and most successful collaboration, following the less funny Tammy (2014) and The Boss (2016). This offering is most reminiscent of Back to School (1986), the Rodney Dangerfield classic about a dad who decides to matriculate at the same college as his son.

While Melissa McCarthy has undeniably been hilarious in buddy flicks and as part of an ensemble, a la Bridesmaids (2011), The Heat (2013) and Ghostbusters (2016), she remains yet to prove an ability to maintain that level of laughter carrying a star vehicle. That being said, this female-centric variation on Back to School is well worth the investment.

Independent & Foreign Films

Carter & June (Unrated) Michael Raymond-James and Samaire Armstrong play the title characters in this mob comedy as ex-lovers who reunite to pull a bank heist which goes horribly wrong. With Timothy Omundson, Paul Rae and James Landry Hebert.

First Reformed (R for some disturbing violent images) Suspense thriller, set in upstate New York, revolving around a grieving pastor (Ethan Hawke) whose counseling the depressed husband (Philip Ettinger) of a pregnant parishioner (Amanda Seyfried) fails in tragic fashion. Supporting cast includes Cedric the Entertainer, Michael Gaston and Victoria Hill.

The Most Unknown (Unrated) Frontier documentary following visionary scientists on the cutting edge as they explore new fields and seek answers to an array of unanswered questions.

On Chesil Beach (R for nudity and sexuality) Adaptation of Ian McEwan's best-selling novel of the same name, set in Dorset in the summer of '62, chronicling the courtship of a young couple (Saoirse Ronan and Billy Howie) that culminates in a bedroom crisis on their wedding night. With Emily Watson, Bebe Cave and Samuel



Kam's Kapsules

By Kam Williams

West.

Pope Francis: A Man of His Word (PG for mature themes and images of suffering) Intimate Papal profile taking the audience on an intimate, cinematic journey with Pope Francis as he pontificates about poverty, pollution and social justice. (In Italian, Spanish, German and English with subtitles)

Sollers Point (R for sexuality, drug use and pervasive profanity) Tale of redemption revolving around a just-paroled ex-con's (McCaul Lombardi) attempt to readjust to society while living under house arrest in Baltimore at the home of his father (Jim Belushi). With Imani Hakim, Zazie Beetz and Tom Guiry.

That Summer (Unrated) Leisure class documentary, set during the summer of '72, chronicling the comings and goings of pop icons and jet setters at Grey Gardens, the sprawling Long Island estate of socialites "Big Edith" and "Little Edith" Bouvier Beale. Featuring file footage of Ady Warhol, Lee Radziwill, Peter Beard and Paul Morrissey.

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Pakistani bowler Mohammad Amir, second right, celebrates the dismissal of West Indies' Keemo Paul, center, during the second Twenty20 match in Karachi, Pakistan, Monday, April 2, 2018.

Associated Press / Shakil Adil, File

Spin coach appointed

By Azad Ali

Former Pakistan leg-spinner Mustaq Ahmed will be joining the West Indies coaching staff for the upcoming Sri Lanka series.

Cricket West Indies (CWI) is appointing Ahmed, 47, on a short-term contract for a month as the squad prepares for the Sri Lanka tour.

He is expected to focus on the developing the team's spin assets. Ahmed

Continued on Page 43

No Test cricket for Bravo

By Azad Ali

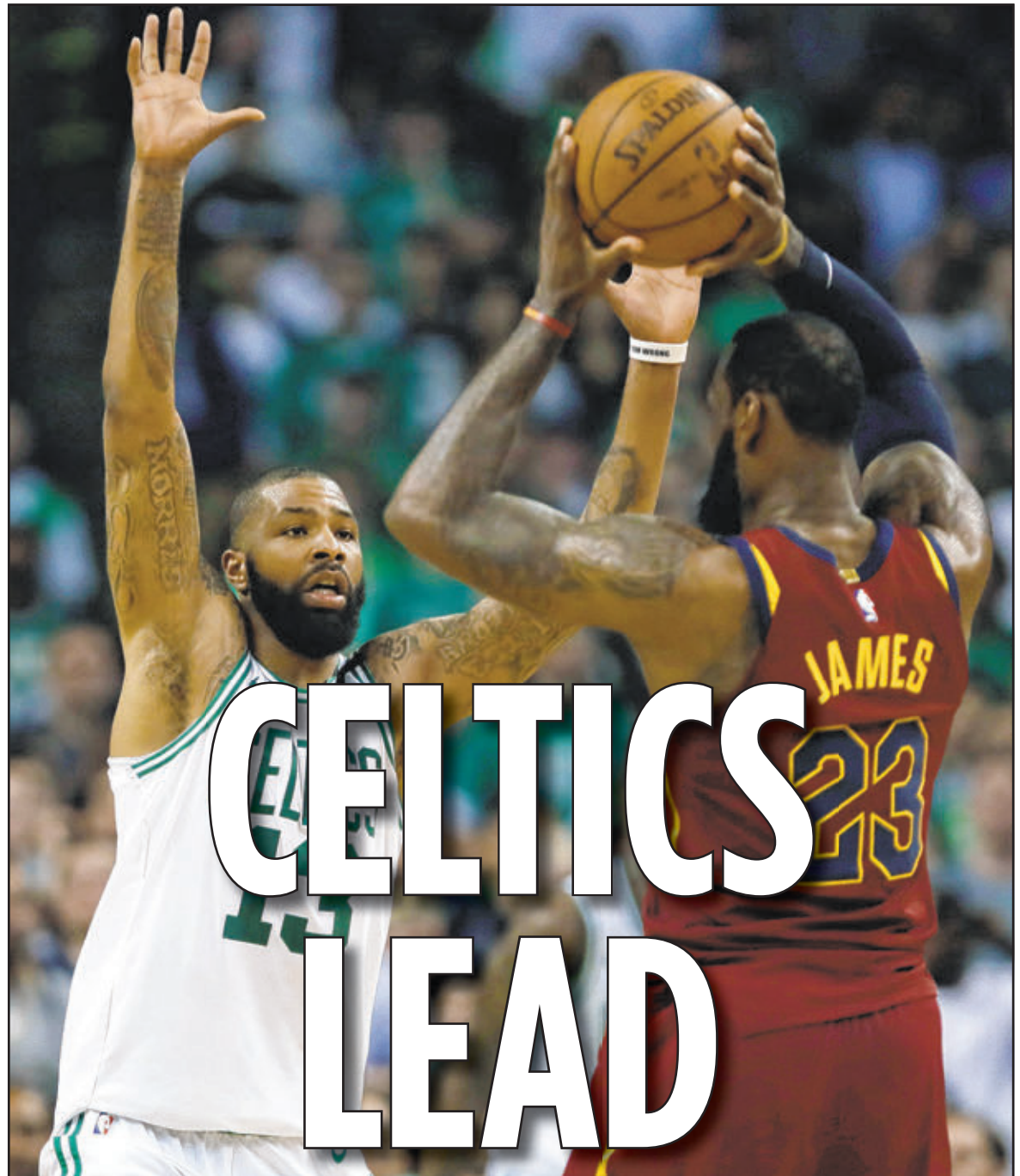
There is no hope of Trinidad and Tobago's Darren Bravo returning to Test cricket in 2018.

This was revealed by Johnny Greaves, CEO of Cricket West Indies (CWI) who said Bravo would not be featured in the upcoming home Test series against Sri Lanka in June and the two-Test matches with Bangladesh immediately after.

Bravo, 29, has not played for the West Indies since his infamous Twitter message against CWI President Dave Cameron in November 2016.

The left-hander had slammed Cameron for spreading misinformation con-

Continued on Page 43



Boston Celtics forward Marcus Morris (13) defends Cleveland Cavaliers forward LeBron James (23) during the second half in Game 2 of the NBA basketball Eastern Conference finals, Tuesday, May 15, 2018, in Boston.

Associated Press / Charles Krupa

Survive 42-point night by LeBron, down Cavs 107-94

By Kyle Hightower

BOSTON (AP) — The Celtics punched the Cavaliers first and never looked back in rolling to a Game 1 rout.

LeBron James took a literal shot to the jaw in Game 2 but kept right on scoring.

So did the Celtics.

Jaylen Brown scored 23 points and Boston withstood a 42-point night by James to beat Cleveland 107-94 on Tuesday and take a 2-0 lead in the Eastern Conference finals.

Terry Rozier added 18 points, while Al Horford finished with 15

points and 10 rebounds.

Boston improved to 9-0 this postseason at TD Garden. The Celtics have never blown a 2-0 series lead in the playoffs.

"We're going to fight," Rozier said. "At this point we don't care if we win

Continued on Page 44

Ahmed

Continued from Page 43

said he is looking forward to the assignment.

He said it was a privilege to work with West Indies cricket team, since it had a very rich history of class, commitment and sheer dominance in the cricket world.

Ahmed spent six years as spin consultant with the England side, helping them win the Twenty20 World Cup and the Ashes series.

He has served as head coach of the Pakistan Cricket Academy, as well as serving in several coaching positions in the Pakistan Super League and the Indian Premier League (IPL).

CWI Cricket Director Jimmy Adams said Ahmed could play a pivotal role in helping to develop the region's spin assets in the future.

The wily off-spinner took 185 wickets in a 52-Test career, while picking up 161 scalps from 144 PDI.

The West Indies team faces Sri Lanka in three Tests from June 6-27.

Bravo



West Indies' batsman Darren Bravo.

Associated Press / Ricardo Mazalan, File

Continued from Page 43

cerning his contract with the then-West Indies Cricket Board (WICB), calling him a "big idiot."

Both parties have settled their differences, but Bravo is yet to make his return to West Indies cricket.

Greaves said Bravo is going to struggle to get back in the side, so that will probably rule him out of the summer tours.

"I don't think, having not played any cricket in the long format for so long and just playing Twenty20s, you can just walk back on a Test team and be expected to perform," Greaves told a daily newspaper.

The CWI CEO said Bravo could be eligible for the West Indies A team and work his way back from there.

Greaves explained, though, that himself and Director of Cricket Jimmy Adams will make one last approach to Bravo to determine where he stands on playing cricket for the West Indies again.



Cleveland Cavaliers forward LeBron James, left, and Boston Celtics guard Jaylen Brown reach for a loose ball during the second half in Game 2 of the NBA basketball Eastern Conference finals Tuesday, May 15, 2018, in Boston.

Associated Press / Charles Krupa

CELTICS LEAD CAVALIERS IN SERIES

Continued from Page 43

by half a point. If we win, that's all that matters."

James added 12 assists and 10 rebounds. He scored 21 of Cleveland's 27 points in the first quarter, tying his playoff career high for points in a period. His 42 points marked his fifth 40-point game of this postseason. James had just 15 points and missed all five of his 3-point attempts in the Cavs' Game 1 loss.

But he didn't seem to play with the same force after straining his neck in a first-half collision and the Cavaliers wilted in the second half, with the Celtics outscoring them 59-39.

"I think I'll be fine. I'm not going to lose sleep over it. You go out and when you lay everything on the line, at the end of the day, you can live with that," he said. "They did what they had to do, and that was protect home, and now it's our time to try to do that, as well."

Kevin Love finished with 22 points and 15 rebounds for Cleveland.

As expected, Tristan Thompson started in place of Kyle Korver in the hopes his presence could energize what was a sluggish Cavs offense in Game 1. Thompson got Cleveland's first basket of the night and helped to limit Horford's effectiveness on the inside early on.

Korver added 11 points off the bench for Cleveland. But starters Thompson, JR Smith and George Hill combined for just 11 points on 5-of-17 shooting.

Tempers flared with 3:49 to play with Boston leading 97-89. Marcus Smart got in Smith's face after Smith pushed Hor-

ford in the back to prevent a layup. Smith shoved Smart and the pair had to be separated.

Smith was assessed a flagrant foul and both received technical fouls.

"I felt like it was uncalled for that type of play there," Horford said. "We have each other's backs. ... We moved on to the next play way and we locked in after that."

Smith said there was no malicious intent on the play.

"I blatantly pushed him. It wasn't like I was trying to low bridge him or something. Just make sure he didn't get it," Smith said. "It was a good, hard foul."

Boston's balanced attack was effective again, with six players reaching double figures. Cleveland had 15 turnovers leading to 13 Boston points. The Celtics turned it over just six times.

Boston led 84-77 after three quarters and took command late in the fourth with the Cavs getting little offense other than from James. Cleveland's starters were pulled with 1:48 left and the Cavs down 14.

James was on the attack from the opening tip. He turned the ball over the Cavs' first possession. But it was one of his only miscues in the first quarter.

James was also astoundingly efficient, using his dribble to create space, while he knocked down an assortment of jump shots.

He finished the opening quarter 8 of 13 from the field and 4 of 7 from the 3-point line.

His momentum was stunted briefly at the 3:50 mark of the second quarter, when Jayson Tatum was whistled for a

foul after catching James jaw with his shoulder as he attempted a steal. James stayed in the game and connected on one of his ensuing free throws, but then exited to the locker room with Cleveland leading 47-36.

The Cavaliers said James had a neck sprain. He returned after missing less than two minutes of game time.

Boston flurried just before the half, getting six points from Morris in the final minute to trim Cleveland's lead to 55-48 at the break.

"I think we just have a group of guys that really believe in each other," Horford said. "Our group in tough times, we've always found a way."

TIP-INS

Cavaliers: Were outscored 50-42 in the paint after being outscored 60-38 in Game 1.

Celtics: Went 10 of 31 from the 3-point line.

QUOTABLE

"We've got to be tougher. I think they're playing tougher than we are. We see that. They're being physical. They're gooning the game up and we've got to do the same thing." — Cavaliers coach Ty Lue

40-POINT MAN

According to Elias Sports Bureau, James now has three career playoff 40-point triple-doubles. That is the most in NBA postseason history.

DEFENDING A TEAMMATE

Smart said Smith's play was a "dirty shot."

Belize principal pledges to return to Penn Relays

By Nelson A. King

After creating history by becoming the first country in Central and South America to compete in the illustrious Penn Relays in more than 80 years, the principal of the Belize high school that participated in last month's relays carnival has pledged to be back.

"We will definitely be back at the Penn Relays," vowed Dr. Jeremy "Jackie" Cayetano, of the Stann Creek Ecumenical High School, in an exclusive Caribbean Life interview over the weekend.

"Mr. Cordice has indicated that he will continue to support our team," added Dr. Cayetano, referring to James Cordice, the Vincentian-born, Philadelphia-based architect behind Belize and St. Vincent and the Grenadines' participation in the oldest and largest collegiate athletic meet in the United States.

The Penn Relays is held annually, during the last weekend in April, at the Franklin Field Stadium, at the University of Penn-

sylvania in Philadelphia.

"Some Belizeans have also pledged to support, including the Belizean Ambassador to the United States," Cayetano said. "As a school, we will definitely begin fundraising early, so that we are prepared for April next year."

In the interim, the principal said the Stann Creek Ecumenical High School, in the Belizean town of Dangriga, has adopted three criteria for participation in the Penn Relays.

"Our students need to have a passing GPA [grade point average], they need to have a good disciplinary record, and they need to be able to run the races in at least the average time of the others running the Penn Relays," she said.

"Once the students meet these expectations, we will definitely participate next year," she assured.

Cayetano said Stann Creek Ecumenical High School attended the Penn Relays "because of the support, encouragement

and persistence of James Cordice, and also because, after hearing and understanding what it would be for our students, community and country, it was an opportunity that we could not pass up."

Cordice told a reception in Philadelphia for Belizean and Vincentian athletes, after last month's Penn Relays, that, "in 1937, a Panamanian team came to the Penn Relays and, since that time — until now — there has not been a team from Central America participating in the games."

Cordice, a community advocate, was instrumental in having two St. Vincent and the Grenadines high schools — The Thomas Saunders Secondary School and the St. Vincent Grammar School — compete in the Penn Relays Carnival for the past eight years.

Earlier this year, Cordice undertook a special trip to Belize, convincing at least one high school — Stann Creek Ecumenical — to participate in



Dr. Jeremy "Jackie" Cayetano and Assistant Principal Gregory Ovado at a brunch at the Calabash Restaurant and Lounge in Philadelphia. Photo by Nelson A. King

the games.

The 10-member Stann Creek contingent — comprising seven athletes and three officials — Cayetano, Assistant Principal Gregory Ovado and Head Coach and Councilman Gary Francisco — lauded Cordice for facilitating the historic initiative.

"Salute to our athletes!" Cayetano told a reception for

athletes from St. Vincent and the Grenadines and Belize, at the Vincentian-owned Calabash Restaurant and Lounge on Lancaster Avenue in Philadelphia, at the conclusion of the Penn Relays.

"Extreme thanks to Mr. Cordice," she added. "You are part of our family. We take this love from the Penn Relays back home."



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Summer concert series

Continued from Page 11

Offering 31 performances beginning June 5 – Aug. 11, the pioneering NYC arts-and-media organization and leading presenter of free cultural programming in Brooklyn boasts programming, reflective of the borough's eclecticism and diversity by featuring a wide array of free and world-class performances.

Common is up first for the premiere event on June 5, 8 pm.

Jamaicans, Caribbean nationals and reggae fans will relish the return appearance of Taurus Riley.

The full season lineup consists of artists from Brooklyn and around the world — across the U.S., the Caribbean, Latin America, the Middle East, Africa, and Europe include: The Jayhawks / Mandolin Orange / Parsonsfield (June 16), Juliana Huxtable (June 23), Branford Marsa-

lis / Roger Guenveur Smith (June 29), Kentucky Thunder / Sierra Hull and Justin Moses / Mamie Minch (June 30), Ricky Skaggs and Antibalas / Combo Chimbata / DJ Nickodemus (July 12), Kronos Quartet / Trio da Kali (July 14), Anoushka Shankar / My Brightest Diamond (July 20), Tinariwen / Cheick Hamala Diabate (July 27), Taurus Riley with Dean Fraser and the Blak Soil Band / Mwenso & the Shakes (Aug. 4), and Godspeed You! Black Emperor / Emel Mathlouthi (Aug. 10).

On the Manhattan plaza during the Lincoln Center Out of Doors 2018 Festival, free music, dance and spoken word, redefine their annual summer festival of diverse music, dance, and spoken word artists runs beginning July 24 – Aug. 12 at Lincoln Center.

July 24 at 7:30 pm. Damrosch Park Band-

shell introduces RZA, Wu-Tang Clan founder, composer, and filmmaker who will kick off the season with an epic audiovisual film experience. Billed as a re-score of the Shaw Brothers' 1978 martial arts classic The 36th Chamber of Shaolin with its themes of perseverance, transcendence, and brotherhood, the film was a formative influence on Wu-Tang's aesthetic. Now, weaving together instrumentals, beats, and lyrics from the Wu-Tang discography (and beyond), RZA performs his thrilling new score live, amplifying the film's powerful narrative and astonishing action from opening sequence to closing credit. After touring this project to sold-out venues in 12 cities, RZA will open the outdoor fest with a special edition crafted specially for his hometown fans.

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ARIES: Mar 21/Apr 20
Aries, swirling emotions may be affecting your peace of mind. This may cause you to obsess and lose control if you let it. Try to stay calm and regain your perspective.

TAURUS: Apr 21/May 21
Don't be envious of other people's relationships and possessions, Taurus. You never know what is going on behind others' closed doors. Appreciate what you have.

GEMINI: May 22/Jun 21
Interactions with others may be causing you to remain guarded, Gemini. Open yourself up a bit if you want to foster new friendships and relationships.

CANCER: Jun 22/Jul 22
Cancer, if you are fearing rejection, give yourself a much-needed pep talk and then hang out with good friends. Friends can help you regain your confidence.

LEO: Jul 23/Aug 23
Try not to react without thinking things through, Leo. Knee-jerk reactions are a surefire way to land yourself in trouble. Take a moment to think before offering a response.

VIRGO: Aug 24/Sept 22
Virgo, openly expressing your thoughts and feelings can help you form close bonds with others. Share what is on your mind. True friends will commend you for it.

LIBRA: Sept 23/Oct 23
Libra, dedicate yourself to work for a few days so that you can feel reliable and needed. Otherwise, you may flounder around for a little while seeking purpose.

SCORPIO: Oct 24/Nov 22
Scorpio, consider volunteering your time to causes that are important to you, either in your local community or on a grander scale. This will provide a deep sense of satisfaction.

SAGITTARIUS: Nov 23/Dec 21
You may feel like taking a few risks or stepping outside of your comfort zone, Sagittarius. Following your instincts can lead you to try things with confidence.

CAPRICORN: Dec 22/Jan 20
Socialize with people you care about Capricorn. The pleasure of their company may prove rejuvenating. Choose any type of occasion, whether intimate or grand.

AQUARIUS: Jan 21/Feb 18
Aquarius, it may seem like lately you're feeling extreme highs or lows. Soon things will settle down to a more even keel. Enjoy some escapism for now.

PISCES: Feb 19/Mar 20
A laundry list of responsibilities may be coming your way, Pisces. Stay motivated and you can muscle through anything.

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ALLERGY AND IMMUNOLOGY FOR CHILDREN AND ADULTS

HEMATOLOGY AND ONCOLOGY

CARDIOLOGY | GASTROENTEROLOGY

PHYSICAL THERAPY

Evaluation and Treatment of Acute and Chronic Disorders Including Strokes, Fractures, Tumors, Arthritis • Pain Management Massage, Ultrasound, Electrical Stimulation, Therapeutic Exercises

EAR, NOSE, THROAT

Services include Ear Problem, Throat Problem, Nose Disorders

ENDOCRINOLOGIST

Diabetes • Throid Dysfunction • Weight Control • Metabolism Abnormalities • Osteoporosis

GENERAL VASCULAR SURGEON

Diagnosis & Treatment of Diseases and Tumors of the Skin, Soft Tissue, Breast, Stomach, Pancreas, Bile Ducts, Gallbladder, etc. Diagnoses and Treatment of disease of Veins & Arteries
• Breast Biopsy, etc. • Laser Surgery, Vascular Surgery, Laparoscopic Surgery

OB/GYN

- Prenatal Care And Delivery • PAP Smears
- Pregnancy Testing • Family Planning • High Risk Pregnancies Management • Uterine Fibroids And Chonic Pelvic Pain • Menopausal And Menstrual Disorders, Infertility • Pelvic Relaxation & Urinary Incontinence • HIV & STD Testing And Treatment

NEUROLOGY

- Comprehensive Neurology Exams For Adults
- Alzheimer's And Parkinson's Diseases
- Headaches, Siezures, Chronic Pain, Stroke
- Carpal Tunnel Syndrome • Rehab
- Muscle Testing • Neurological Testing

PODIATRY

- All Foot & Ankle Related Problems
- Blisters And Calluses
- Foot Odor, Ingrown Toenails, Warts, Etc.
- Numerous Treatments & Services For Diabetic Patients

DERMATOLOGY

Full Spectrum Skincare For Adults And Children

- Rash • Acne
- Warts
- Brown Spots
- Sun Damage, Etc.

INTERNIST

- Medical History & Physical Exams
- Wound Care • Cholesterol Screening
- Blood Pressure • Flu Vaccines
- Diabetes, Arthritis, Infections
- Hypertension • Heart Diseases
- Blood, Urine & Stool Testing

PEDIATRICIAN

- Comprehensive Exams Of Children Of All Ages
- Osteopathic Manipulations For Treatment Of Asthma, Headaches, Sinusitis, Otitis, Etc.
- Sick And Well Visits • Immunizations
- All Necessary Forms For Schools, Colleges, Camps & Wic Programs

OPHTHALMOLOGY

- Comprehensive Eye Exams For Adults & Children
- Nearsightedness, Farsightedness
- Astigmatism, Glasses Prescribed
- Evaluation & Treatment Of Eye Diseases
- Glaucoma, Cataracts, Diabetic Retinal Evaluation, Dry Eye

We Speak Creole, Russian, Philippine & Spanish