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CELEBRATING 25 YEARS

October 16–22, 2015 CNG



## Toast to Clarke

Dr. Una S.T. Clarke (left) receives plaque from Patricia Jordan-Langford, president of the Guyana Tri-State Alliance. See story on page 3.

Nelson A. King

## Clarke commits to Dominica's recovery

By Nelson A. King

Brooklyn Congresswoman Yvette D. Clarke says she's committed to helping Dominica recover from massive destruction caused by Tropical Storm Erika in August.

Clarke, who represents the 9th Congressional District in Brooklyn, recently met with Amb. Hubert J. Charles, permanent representative of

Dominica to the Organization of American States (OAS) and the United States on relief efforts for the Windward Island.

More than 30 people were killed and dozens remain missing from Erika's onslaught.

Dominican official said reconstruction will cost in the region of US\$228 million. Almost half of the island's

annual Gross Domestic Product has been wiped out, officials said.

John E. Beale, ambassador of Barbados; Congressman Eliot Engel, ranking member of the Foreign Affairs Committee in the House of Representatives; and Congresswoman Maxine Waters, ranking member of the Financial

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# SUICIDE RIFE IN GUYANA

## Officials tackle epidemic in Amerindian community

By Bert Wilkinson

Until miners from the coast land discovered relatively large amounts of gold in the last three years, life at a north-western native Amerindian community was simple and traditional.

Most of the 800 residents in the Carib Community of Baramita District near Venezuela had eked out a living from harvesting timber, subsistence cassava and cash crop farming. Children attended government schools by rote.


Now authorities are being forced to cope with what Guyanese Health Minister George Norton on Wednesday, Oct. 7

called "a suicide epidemic" in the community that is more than an hour by air from the capital, Georgetown.

Baramita's categorization as "a community in deep distress" follows the death last month of an 11-year-old Carib child "from alcohol poisoning" and an attempted suicide by a six-year-old. Officials say he was given a high proof alcohol drink mixed with wine on an empty stomach.

In all government says, 69 community members have committed suicide or died by alcohol-related misadventure incidents in the past four

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# Former Councilwoman Una Clarke – the toast of the town



President David Granger pins a button on Sheila Hazelwood a staff member of the Guyana Mission, as Permanent Representative HE George Talbot at left (partly hidden) and other staff members look on.

Tangerine Clarke

## Guyana prez greets nationals

After a full day of bilateral talks with heads of state, and making his presentation to the United Nations on Tuesday, Sept. 29 to address the ongoing Venezuela border conflict, Guyana President David Granger relaxed at a reception at the Guyana Permanent Mission on 2nd Avenue in midtown Manhattan, and thanked staff members of both the Mission and the New York Consulate, for their contribution.

Accompanied by First Lady Sandra Granger, the politician was greeted by Permanent Representative Wilfred Talbot and members of the Diaspora who enjoyed moments of candor with the head of state who spoke of his grueling schedule, but said it was important for him to visit the mission during his first UN General Assembly, as president.

"It is impossible for Guyana to project its interest, and protect the people back home without embassy representatives in the United States," said Granger who added that international organizations could not do the job for Guyana — "we must be on the ground to do it for ourselves."

And even though it is expensive to maintain diplomatic offices, Granger argues it is however a good investment, and noted that the six days he spent attending bilateral talks, stopped Venezuela in its tracks.

"Venezuela was really doing as it liked, sending a gunboat in our waters, publishing decrees, showcasing its massive military, and conducting exercises on our borders, while spreading propaganda throughout the Latin states, and particularly English speaking states," said the former brigadier.

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By Nelson A. King

Former New York City Councilwoman Una S.T. Clarke was the "toast of the town" Monday night, as hundreds of community figures, legislators, members of the judiciary and clergy, supporters and well-wishers attended a gala reception honoring her appointment to the Board of Trustees of The City University of New York (CUNY).

In June, Mayor Bill deBlasio appointed Clarke to the board, replacing Joseph Lhota.

"First let's thank Dr. Clarke for the lovely weather; the trade winds of Jamaica [are] flowing through," said City Public Advocate Letitia James in addressing the standing-room only reception at Giando on the Water in the Williamsburg section of Brooklyn, referring to Clarke's place of birth.

"Dr. Clarke has shattered so many ceilings for women," James added. "I stand on her shoulders, Rodneyse (Assemblywoman Bichotte), Latrice (Assemblywoman Walker), and Diana (Assemblywoman Richardson).

"As a new member of the Board of Trustees, she will stand truth to power," she continued. She's an inspiration to countless numbers of New Yorkers. She will do a good job."

Bronx-based Episcopal (Anglican) priest the Rev. Calvin McIntyre said he has been a "life-long" friend of the Clarke family for 30 of his 35 years in the priesthood.

"All you've heard of this noble woman is true," said Rev. McIntyre, Clarke's compatriot. "Aunt Una is a gem in Jamaica. Although she lives here, she's known in Jamaica.



(Center) Dr. Una S.T. Clarke with Assemblywoman Rodneyse Bichotte (left) and Public Advocate Letitia James.

Nelson A. King

"We're extremely proud of you," he added, turning to Clarke. "I can tell the president that CUNY will not be the same. She's not afraid of anybody. Those who are poor, marginalized, she'll be their voice.

"She's a strong church woman," Rev.

McIntyre continued. "She's a very out-right woman. She speaks here mind easily; and, afterwards, she'll buy you a drink."

Clarke's daughter, Congresswoman Yvette D. Clarke, said her mother has

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## SIDS Dock Treaty makes history at UN

By Alley Olivier

A slice of history was made Sept. 30 as the United Nations observed the announcement of the entry into force of the SIDS Dock Treaty — the legal recognition of the intergovernmental sustainable energy and climate resilience organization established by heads of state and government of Small Island Developing States in 2009.

The creation of the organization was in an effort to help finance climate change adaptation through transforming their countries economies to low carbon economies.

According to their website, SIDS Dock, "is designed as a "DOCKing station," to connect the energy sector in SIDS with the global market for finance, sustainable energy technologies and with the European Union (EU)



H.E. Vince Henderson (left) and Prime Minister Ralph Gonsalves of St. Vincent (right) at the historic meeting for SIDS DOCK at the United Nations.

SIDS DOCK

and the United States (US) carbon markets, and able to trade the avoided car-

bon emissions in those markets."

Prime Minister of St. Vincent and the Grenadines Ralph Gonsalves said, "It is intended to connect the SIDS with the public and private investors, global clean energy technology developers, and carbon markets, and to accelerate capacity building in order to transform the energy sector in SIDS."

During the various presentations, special care and importance were placed on the vulnerability of small island states — particularly the case of Dominica which was devastated by a recent storm causing Prime Minister Roosevelt Skerrit and fellow chair of CARICOM to miss the historical day.

"These disastrous events are the reality that we at SIDS face on a regular basis. Therefore it is fitting that we are

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### Barbados

Barbados and Iceland have signed an air services agreement. It entitles the airlines designated by the countries to, among other things, fly over as well as land in the territory of the other country.

The deal further permits airlines from within the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and from within the European Economic Area to benefit from its provisions.

Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade, Senator Maxine McClean, and Iceland's Minister of Foreign Affairs, Gunnar Sveinsson signed the agreement recently on behalf of their respective countries. Barbados has an extensive network of Air Services Agreements globally, which are aimed at facilitating air travel to and from Barbados and encouraging new investments in the air services sector.

In July this year, Barbados and Hong Kong signed a similar agreement aimed at developing air transport and tourism out of the Asian region.

This is the second major agreement between Iceland and Barbados—the two countries concluded a Double Taxation Agreement in 2011.



### GUYSUCO broke

The Guyana Sugar Corporation faces financial difficulties as many estates are operating at a loss. Photo shows dry canals in the Enmore Estate in Guyana.

Guyana Sugar Corporation

### Bahamas

Bahamas Prime Minister Perry Christie has signed an exigency order to allow residents affected by Hurricane Joaquin to import items duty free “across the board to bring whatever is necessary for them to have relief.”

Christie and several members of his cabinet have completed storm assessments after multiple trips to the various southeastern Family Islands devastated by the Hurricane, a category four storm. While estimated the total damage will cost tens of millions of dollars, Christie admitted a figure has not been validated.

He said the Hurricane had caused “enormous expense” to the government and hundreds of residents.

### Cayman Islands

Cayman Islands is reporting an outbreak of hand, foot and mouth disease at one school, following similar reports at several schools in Jamaica.

A total of 19 students were diagnosed at one primary school — the West End Primary School in Cayman Brac.

The Public Health Department has recommended that the entire school compound be sanitized.

Recently, several cases were reported at schools in Jamaica.

Up to last week, the number of schools affected by the outbreak had



risen to 53.

Jamaica's Health Minister Dr. Fenton Ferguson said cases have been reported in the parishes of Kingston, St. Andrew, St. Thomas, St. Catherine, Portland and St. Ann.

Hand, foot and mouth disease is a viral illness common in infants and children. Symptoms include fever and blister-like eruptions on the tongue, inside the cheek, poor appetite and sore throat.

There is no vaccine to protect against the viruses that cause the disease.

### Dominica

An International Monetary Fund (IMF) mission recently visited storm-ravaged Dominica to assist the government to develop a macro-economic framework in the aftermath of Tropical Storm Erika last month, which resulted in losses and damages estimated at EC\$1.298 billion.

This was announced by Prime Minister Roosevelt Skerrit who in a radio broadcast said that the IMF delegation reviewed and updated the island's macro-economic framework.

He said the mission will assist government in preparing a framework that will take into account the significant level of investment that government



must take and establish a plan that will guide fiscal operations.

The prime minister said that as far as direct relief to Dominica following the passage of the storm on Aug. 27 that killed more than 30 people, “to date government records cash receipts totaling EC\$13.2 million.

### Grenada

Grenada has launched a labor force survey which it said was necessary and urged the public to support the initiative so to accurately determine the socio-economic performance of the island.

The survey is being conducted in collaboration with the St. Lucia-based Organization of Eastern Caribbean States Commission, the International Labor Organization (ILO) Decent Work Team and Office for the Caribbean and the United Nations Development Program (UNDP).

A statement from the Ministry of Finance urging the general public to support the initiative, noted that the main objectives of the 2015 Labor Force Survey (LFS) are to divide the working-age population into three mutually exclusive classifications — employed, unemployed and not in the labor force — to provide descriptive and explanatory data on each of these classifications as well as to assess the level

of poverty in Grenada using the multi-dimensional measurement.

But it warned that the success of the Labor Force Survey in accurately capturing persons' employment and welfare status depended on the full cooperation of the public.

### Guyana

Guyana's state-owned sugar corporation has gone bankrupt, according to a report.

A government-appointed inquiry commission found that the company is nearly half a billion dollars in debt and faces other challenges.

“Every estate, without any exception is operating at a loss,” inquiry chairman Vibert Parvatan said in a preliminary report issued to government officials.

The commission is expected to release a final report later this month to determine what the government should do about the Guyana Sugar Corporation.

The company has struggled with an increase in production costs amid falling international sugar prices, and it has faced labor shortages, strikes and changing weather patterns.

It also has to pay back a US\$200 million loan from China that was used to build a new sugar factory in Guyana's southeast region that has struggled to



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# Trouble in Carib community

Continued from cover years.

Officials blame this mostly on the violent change of life following the discovery of gold as many of the men, women and children abandoned their traditional lifestyle, started panning for gold and consuming alcohol as money rolled in from gold sales.

"The situation is tragic. It has the worst kind of social problems that you can imagine," Norton, a medical doctor told this publication this week as alarm bells ring about the deterioration of a district. Most residents barely speak a word of the English language, communicating largely in their native Carib Amerindian tongue.

Caribs are one of nine Amerindian tribes in the Caribbean single market headquarter nation. They account for about a tenth of the population and for much of the 20-plus percent of those classified as mixed race, through intermarriages mostly with blacks.

Norton said he is taking a multi-agency team including experts from the World and Pan American Health Organizations, social workers and the police to Baramita in two weeks to tackle the problem comprehensively before it is too late.

"Alcohol is reaching the village by the truckloads and this has got to stop.

Before the gold, the Jehovah Witness Church had a lot of influence. They prayed all day Sunday. Today, it is gold and alcohol. We have social problems to the extreme."

Norton said the problem had been festering for months with little intervention from the previous government which lost elections in May.

## Strong attempts were made by officials to bury the problem for political reasons.

Laura George from the umbrella Amerindian People's Association (APA) said "strong attempts were made by officials to bury the problem for political reasons. We are watching to see how this government will solve it."

Guyana was earlier this year classified by the WHO as the country with the highest per capita rate of suicide in the world.

Minister for Education Rupert Roopnaraine raised the issue publicly last week saying Baramita needed "omnipotent control" to prevent it from "becoming a budding Jonestown," referring to the November 1978 mass suicide deaths involving more than 900 Americans at nearby Jonestown or Port Kaituma.

He complained that persons who attempt to publicize the issue are being harassed and threatened as he called for greater police presence in the community. The Amerindian body confirmed threats to whistle blowers.



From left, Barbados Ambassador John E. Beale, Congressman Eliot Engel, Congresswoman Yvette D. Clarke and Amb. Hubert J. Charles of Dominica.

## Dominica

Continued from cover

Services Committee; also attended the meeting, Clarke said.

"With my colleagues, Congressman Engel, Congresswoman Waters, Amb. Charles, Amb. Beale, and the people of 9th Congressional District of New York, I am committed to the full rebuilding of Dominica," Clarke declared.

"Since Tropical Storm Erika, the community of nations has become involved, offering contributions ranging from helicopters for search-and-rescue attempts, medical assistance,

engineers to restore telecommunication, critical supplies, such as nonperishable food and clothing, and direct contributions," she added.

Clarke said members of the Caribbean community in the United States have conducted fundraisers and collected household items to send to people in Dominica.

"Now, the United States has a responsibility to contribute to these relief efforts," she said.

Clarke said many individuals lack secure access to the basic necessities, adding that extensive damage to the infrastructure of Dominica has isolated some villages, with hundreds of families still displaced from their homes.

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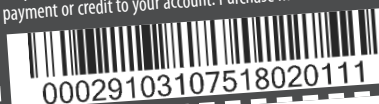
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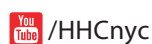
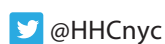
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#### Councilman Colton's Office

155 Kings Highway  
October 23, 10am - 1pm

# Jamaican leaders pen redress to UK PM's 'Prison Deal'

By Vinette K. Pryce

Jamaicans on the island, abroad in Europe, Africa, Asia and throughout the diaspora are split in deciding the merits of a gift from the British government to build a new prison for the sole purpose of housing Jamaicans convicted of violating British laws.

All abuzz with arguments that agree or dispute the audacity of British Prime Minister David Cameron to announce partial funding of a high-tech correctional facility in Kingston with a \$37.9 million gift, many have called into radio programs, register opinions on the worldwide web or written their opinions to numerous newspapers throughout the world and particularly in England and Jamaica.

Some claim that a prison is urgently needed there, as deplorable conditions prevail throughout the 18th century structures which many refer to as dungeons.

Since issuing terms of the deal to

the government while on a one-day visit to the Caribbean island, the UK leader has received numerous letters from influential individuals incensed that a discussion on reparations was not on the agenda and concerned that a return to slavery might have motivated the prison deal.

Although Prime Minister Portia Simpson-Miller has not openly addressed the issue, Andrew Holness, parliamentarian and opposition leader vigorously criticized the ruling People's National Party calling them a "spineless government that will sell you out."

In a strong condemnation of the deal, the Jamaica Labour Party (JLP) leader said his party objects to the proposed prisoner transfer deal with Britain.

The opposition leader said he knew that some people were "salivating at the prospect of building a prison because they know how much money they gwi mek off it."

"The essence of prison reform is not



Former Jamaica Prime Minister P.J. Patterson. Associated Press / Shirley Bahadur

to build more prisons but to reduce the number of people who we incarcerate at the expense of the State such that we can throw down prisons. That is prison reform."

"So if you tell me about reforming the correctional services, then at the end of that discussion I must hear how many prisoners less will be burdening the taxpayers of this country and how many prisons we are going to close. The essence of reform and rehabilitation is to prevent our young men especially from committing crimes that they end up in our penal system. Prisons are not the solution to Jamaica's crime problem," Holness said.

# Steve Camacho passes away

By Azad Ali

Former West Indies Cricket Board (WICB) chief executive officer, Steve Camacho has died at the age of 69.

The 69-year-old, who was also a selector, West Indies team manager and Test batsman passed away in Antigua last week following a battle with cancer.

Camacho distinguished himself as an outstanding administrator, spending 18 years as CEO of the WICB.

He was born in British Guiana and played his early cricket at the Georgetown Cricket Club.

As a right-handed opener, he went on to play 76 first class games, scoring 4,079 runs including seven centuries and 24 half-centuries at an average of 34.

Camacho played 11 Tests for West Indies, making his debut on England's 1968 tour of the Caribbean alongside the likes of the legendry Sir Gary Sobers, Clive Lloyd and Sir Wes Hall.

He made 640 runs with four half centuries.

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# ‘Sanitation, Water & Hygiene For All’ cannot wait for 2030

By Geeta Rao Gupta

UNITED NATIONS, Oct. 9, 2015 (IPS) - The new Sustainable Development Goals, agreed upon recently by the member states of the United Nations, are all interconnected, as has been reiterated time and again. However, it is in the new Goal 6 – “Ensure access to water and sanitation for all”—for which this interconnectedness is most apparent.

Water flows throughout the 2030 Development Agenda. And sanitation and hygiene underpin any possible gains from access to water.

If we do not reach Goal 6, the other goals and targets will not be reached. Progress in the areas of education, health, inequality and extreme poverty all depends on how well we do on water and sanitation.

The United Nations some years ago declared that access to water and sanitation is a basic human right. However today, 663 million people are without access to adequate drinking water and 2.4 billion lack adequate toilets.

We at UNICEF are particularly concerned about the children, who are disproportionately affected by the lack of access to these basic needs.

It affects their health. Water and sanitation related diseases are one of the leading causes of death in children under five. Without access to sanitation hundreds of them fall ill and

die every single day from preventable causes, particularly diarrhoea and other fecal-oral diseases.

It affects their education. In many communities, girls stay out of school because they need to fetch water; because they do not have a safe space to use when they menstruate; because they must help their mothers care for those who are sick – often from water-borne diseases.

It affects their nutritional status and their development. There is emerging evidence of direct linkages between lack of access to water and sanitation, and chronic malnutrition. Around 159 million children worldwide are stunted (short height for age), a condition which causes irreversible physical and cognitive damage. The repercussions of stunting can be felt beyond the individual child. It can significantly diminish the learning and future earning potential of entire generations, and thus negatively affect the local and national economy.

It affects equality and equity. One important aim in the new SDGs is the goal to reduce inequalities. New evidence from the World Bank shows that investing in water and sanitation for the poorest 20 per cent of a population yields greater economic returns than investing in the other quintiles and

Continued on Page 12

# Welcome immigrants, don't stigmatize them

By Nisha Agarwal & Steven Choi

In his historic speech to Congress, Pope Francis hailed the welcoming values of acceptance and diversity that the United States represents throughout the world.

“In recent centuries, millions of people came to this land to pursue their dream of building a future in freedom. We, the people of this continent, are not fearful of foreigners, because most of us were once foreigners. I say this to you as the son of immigrants, knowing that so many of you are also descended from immigrants.”

Unfortunately, Pope Francis’ hopeful words uplifting newcomers in the United States stand in stark contrast to the current immigration debate where many national candidates are espousing distinctly anti-immigrant, un-American positions — ideals that are contrary not only to our collective conscience, but the values upon which our nation was founded.

Beginning with the backlash against “sanctuary” city policies, the national debate now consists of offensive sound bites about “anchor babies” and attacks on the Constitution and birthright citizenship. In response to this toxic rhetoric, cities and advocacy groups are teaming up to lead a more thoughtful national discourse and taking action on the types of immigration reforms that benefit the interests and recognize the identity of our country.

From the moment President Obama’s executive actions were announced

**We, the people of this continent, are not fearful of foreigners, because most of us were once foreigners.**

last November, Cities United for Immigration Action — a coalition of nearly 100 mayors and municipalities nationwide in support of immigration reform — began preparations to implement these programs. When baseless and politically motivated legal challenges were erected to slow down progress, these cities were among the first to demand that the programs be allowed to continue. Standing side-by-side with them were advocacy groups and coalitions like the New York Immigration Coalition, fighting for the hope and promise of relief programs for their communities.

And now, as some members of Congress attempt to capitalize on the recent attention given to the issue of sanctuary municipalities by withholding vital funding, we are leading the charge against this misguided penalization — advocating for a smart approach to immigration reform that builds trust between communities and law enforcement while providing the opportunity for all residents to thrive and participate in civic life, making cities safer and more prosperous for everyone.

The fact is that any approach focused on criminalizing immigrants is the wrong approach — public safety is actually put at

risk, and all residents, citizen and non-citizen, suffer as a result. When Alabama passed its harsh anti-immigrant laws in 2011, local police found themselves overwhelmed by their immigration enforcement workloads, spending hours on routine traffic stops and embarrassing the state’s public image with high-profile arrests of Mercedes Benz and Honda employees. Local Latino communities stopped talking to the police entirely, including to report crime, and the state’s agriculture and construction industry suffered immense losses due to labor shortage. Arizona’s Maricopa County is another example; under Sheriff Joe Arpaio, the county has actively tried to turn its police officers into Federal enforcement agents. But the result was devastating - response times to life-threatening emergencies, arrest rates, and other routine police work fell below standards, while serious crimes went uninvestigated.

In contrast, cities pursuing a “smart” approach — both traditional immigrant hubs like New York City, and also places like Dayton, Ohio, and Nashville, Tennessee — have experienced transformational boosts in their economy and civic life, in addition to cutting down on crime. Crime rates are in fact lower in San Francisco than other similar-sized cities without sanctuary policies. Somerville, Massachusetts, saw a 41 percent decrease in crime since instituting a sanctuary policy. New York City,

Continued on Page 12

## Caribbean Life

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# Kamla crew's lack of grace continues

The post-election behavior of the former Trinidad and Tobago Prime Minister, Kamla Persad-Bissessar, and her partners in crime who were boot-ed out of office Sept. 7, has been as hideous as one would have guessed, given what had been telegraphed during their five years of misrule as the country's government. The same lack of grace that came to define Bissessar's tenure at the helm will apparently be a hallmark of the crew's modus operandi in their rightful station, outside the corridors of power. We're prepared to wager that not many folks familiar with the abomination that was the Bissessar administration would be surprised.

Classlessness reared its head the very evening of Sept. 7, Bissessar unable to bring herself to congratulating Dr. Keith Rowley, the new prime minister (for that matter, even declining to address supporters at their party headquarters). To the contrary, Bissessar sought to sugarcoat the defeat her party had suffered, claiming that Rowley would be leading a "minority government" because of her unfounded con-

centration that her party had won a plurality of votes cast. Even when the Elections and Boundaries Commission (EBC) later released figures showing Rowley's party, the People's National Movement, to have convincingly won the popular vote, a good-taste admission by Bissessar that she had misspoken about the "minority government" nonsense was nowhere on her radar. She and her confederates typically don't go there.

But there was more. The day following the election brought not only the bogus tripe that more voters had supported Bissessar's crew, but that the other side did not in fact win the election. A suit would be filed, Bissessar and company announced, questioning the EBC's decision to extend voting by one hour on Election Day, which the EBC had judiciously determined to be a reasonably warranted extension, after serious flooding had hampered the commute of many voters. Adding to the silliness of what seems a most ludicrous exercise, the demand from Bissessar and her pack of sore losers is for a re-vote specifically in

## Viewpoint

By Les Slater

marginal constituencies! Go figure.

Also, a budget has now been presented by the new government, in the limited time at its disposal to do so, according to constitutional mandate. The budget confirmed what had been widely known or suspected — that the Bissessar administration's reckless and corrupt ways had produced an orgy of spending which betrayed scant regard for properly protecting public assets — classic feeding trough mentality. Again came Bissessar's skewed take on what had been worrisome to much of the citizenry during the poor excuse for governance that she and her sidekicks engaged in. Not so, she said of the new finance minister's warnings about the vulnerable state to which the national economy had been brought, courtesy the regime she led — one that outstripped by plenty any other in the country's history in its

revolving door of cabinet changes. But, nothing new about any of this. We have referenced before this proclivity of Bissessar's for matter-of-factly looking truth in the face and calling it fiction, or offering falsehood as truth. Preparation of a budget would have afforded the new government its first close-up look at the preceding administration's care-free spending habits with the public purse. But there assuredly is a lot more to be revealed going forward, attesting to the scope of the Bissessar regime's wrongdoing. What perhaps was most perplexing to the average, even-keeled mind was the expectation (or so it seemed) among the Bissessar crowd that they had earned themselves a vote of confidence from the electorate and a return to office. Talk about chutzpah! The reality more likely being that re-electing the former prime minister's party would have accorded Trinidad and Tobago instant laughing-stock status in the international community.

Bringing down the curtain, thankfully, on the Bissessar administration's highly blemished run calling the

shots in Trinidad and Tobago was not without one element of drama and tension that, as it turned out, was an ill-advised, uninformed input into the finale. This had to do with reporting of the results and one TV outlet's presumably well-intentioned inclusion of colored maps to enhance graphic presentation, akin to TV reporting of vote outcomes in the U.S. Unfortunately, the station opted unwisely to drop in respective party colors for various constituencies when a party's candidate was merely leading, as opposed to when the final outcome was definitively known. The faux pas made for much unnecessary confusion and anxiety among viewers, who hopefully will be spared repetition of that particular grief down the road.

Of greater importance, of course, is that confining Bissessar and company to a place from which further infliction of damage, more so to the national psyche, isn't possible, was a surge of mature action by the Trinidad and Tobago citizenry that has done them proud.

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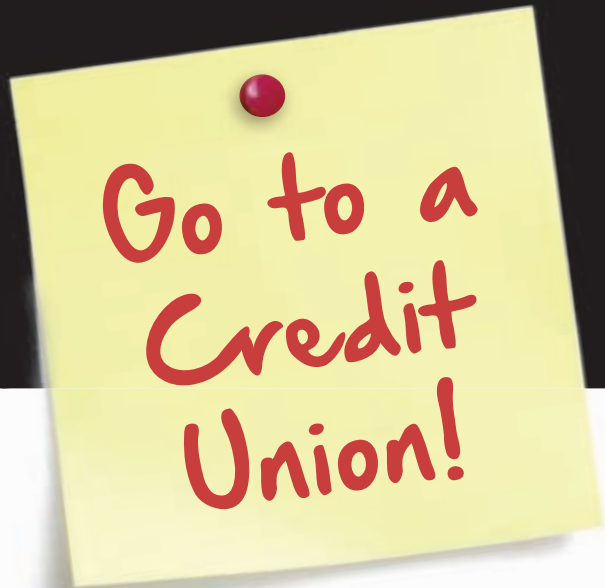
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# OP-EDS

## It can't be business as usual

Continued from page 10

thus has the potential to reduce societal inequalities.

Our data from 45 developing countries show that in 7 out of 10 households, the burden of collecting water falls to women and girls, so access would also aid gender equity.

A side event in the margins of the UN General Assembly, hosted by the governments of the Netherlands, South Africa, Hungary and Bangladesh, concluded that targeting the poorest and the most marginalized will require an immense mind-shift for governments. But it must be done.

It cannot be done without strengthening institutions and improving the accountability of governments and service providers. And it will not be done without involving those who have the most at stake – the poor, women, and adolescents – in planning and in monitoring of services. Their influence has already been brought to bear in the

drafting of Goal 6, the fastest agreed-upon goal.

It is no coincidence that impressive results are achieved by working closely with those directly affected. Partnership with them is not a 'nice-to-have' but a must-have.

In short, access to water and sanitation is not only a matter of dignity and human rights, but fundamental to our ability to attain any of the goals the governments of the world have just adopted.

We must start right away on working on Goal 6, and it can't be business as usual: we need to start with the most disadvantaged, or we risk losing the gains we have so painstakingly made in the last 15 years, and we endanger the future. There is no time to waste.

*Dr Geeta Rao Gupta, deputy executive director (Programmes), joined UNICEF in June, 2011, and brings over 20 years of experience in international development programming, advocacy and research to the UN children's agency.*

## Smart choice for cities

Continued from page 10

with a 40 percent immigrant population, is the safest it has been in years. To underscore this message, mayors for a number of cities across the country, all of whom are members of the Cities United for Immigration Action coalition, sent a letter to congressional leadership, counteracting the divisive message of the proposed sanctuary cities legislation.

But a "smart" approach can go beyond cutting down on crime — it can truly revitalize cities and states, making them more vibrant and dynamic. Across the nation, many jurisdictions are catching on — offering undocumented immigrants routes to drivers' licenses, professional licenses, affordable college degrees, and other opportunities that will enrich the city as a whole. Dayton, a manufacturing city that had lost 40 percent of its population after 1960, has actively welcomed immigrant newcomers to the city and experienced a reversal of fortune including impressive economic growth and the transformation of blighted neighborhoods by new immigrant residents. Nashville went from considering English-only city ordinances in 2007 to being voted the nation's friendliest city in 2012. By establishing a citywide welcoming initiative for immigrants, Nashville has now become one of the nation's fastest growing, job-producing cities.

We need look no further than New York City to see the benefits of a "smart" approach. With one of the highest and most diverse immigrant populations in the country, the Big Apple has chosen to embrace its immigrant diversity and

the economic, cultural and social benefits of welcoming this population - not only by creating a successful policy on immigration enforcement, but also by offering a municipal ID, idNYC, that offers a wide range of free benefits to all residents, including undocumented immigrants.

Organizations like the New York Immigration Coalition help to reinforce the need for cities like New York to work with immigrant communities, provide support and resources, and build trust — further ensuring the safety of all. And by treating immigrant residents as an asset rather than a threat, New York City continues to grow and thrive as a dynamic metropolitan center.

At this moment, municipalities across the nation need to take a stand on whether or not they want to be irrational cities suffering the disastrous effects of policies that just don't work, or heed the words of Pope Francis and become "smart" cities that are safe and thriving. Will our communities go the way of Maricopa County, or New York City? Will we heed the words of the Pope or continue with this misguided approach to shutting out the very people who are the backbone of the United States? We look forward to building a movement of more cities taking up a smarter approach to immigrant inclusion, where talent, initiative, and great ideas find ample room to grow.

*Nisha Agarwal is the commissioner of the NYC Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs.*

*Steven Choi is the executive director of the New York Immigration Coalition.*

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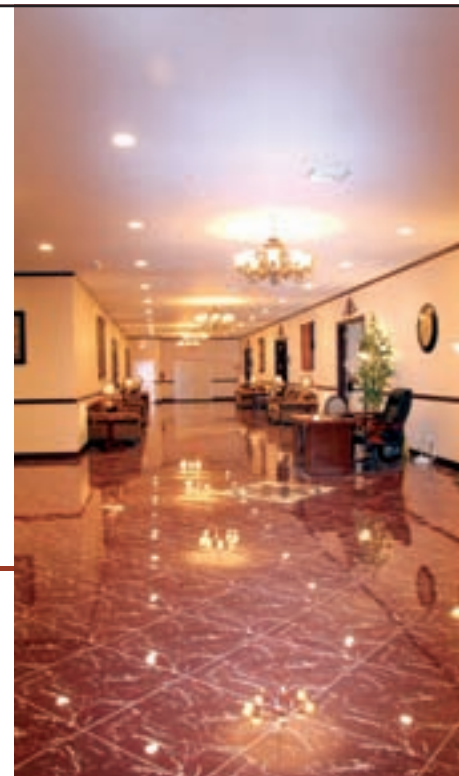
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# Virgin Islanders seek reparations from Denmark



Danish Prime Minister Poul Nyrup Rasmussen.

By Vinette K. Pryce

Britain and the United States are not alone with indebtedness to African s transported against their will from the continent to be sold into slavery.

Although Portugal and Spain have also been maligned for inhuman exploitation of a race of people, in light of the centennial anniversary of the sale of the Virgin Islands — Saint Croix, Saint Thomas and Saint John — Denmark is now being tugged for an apology and from some, demand reparations for their cruel and inhumane treatment of Africans.

The Unity Party in Denmark's Parliament cites Shelley Moorhead, a Crucian activists and president of the African Caribbean Reparations and Resettlement Alliance for pressing for a belated apology.

A member of parliament blamed the activist saying Moorhead "actually has been in the forefront of this," and that "it is not only an apology (they want) ... it's also money."

Moorhead fired back saying he had not asked for an apology.

"Nowhere in the history of ACRRA can anyone find that I or the organization has ever pursued an apology from the Kingdom of Denmark."

"The emergence now of the debate on an apology may perhaps be inspired by the Virgin Islands Reparations Movement, but in no way is organic to the Virgin Islands and is not influenced by Virgin Islanders and, truth be told, it was originated in Denmark by interested and concerned Danes."

While backing away from initiating an apology Moorhead went on to describe the movement Denmark has made since 2004. He also concluded that Denmark should and ultimately will apologize.

"When viewed from the vantage point of Virgin Islands leadership, we find that Denmark over the last decade of USVI reparations advocacy has in fact made many conces-

sions. So, as much as they decry that they "won't," we are seeing that they will, and by the year 2017, I promise you that Denmark will apologize to the people of the U.S. Virgin Islands," Moorhead said.

"One thing about reparatory justice is that the perpetrator doesn't get the right to decide the terms of the judgment. So when we see Danish officials shirking their nation's responsibility to account for the crimes against humanity perpetrated against the people of the Danish West Indies, it is only because the prosecuting entity has yet to present the evidence in its case."

Denmark was the seventh-largest slave trade nation during the transatlantic slave trade.

The Europeans occupied those islands from 1666-1917.

During that period more than 100,000 Africans were sold into slavery to work without compensation in the then Danish West Indies.

And although controversy prevails as to whether Denmark will ever concede wrongdoings and might ever attempt to right their wrongs, some European and Caribbean nations are now recognizing the importance of reparations.

"Reparations can be defined as the acknowledgement between communities which share a common past with the aim to heal the wounds from past human rights violations."

In 2013, the government of Denmark said it recognizes the evils of slavery in its past,

but it will not issue a formal apology or pay reparations to the U.S. Virgin Islands because there are no living former Danish slave owners or slaves to apologize to.

"We cannot undo the past, but we can and we must work to ensure that no one in the world to live in slavery. ...

What we can, must and will do is to focus on the present and the future and work hard for no one else to live un-free, no need to live in slavery, not to be victims of trafficking," Nick Hækkerup, Denmark's foreign minister said.

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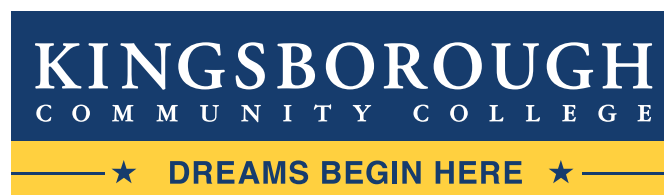
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# CARIBBEAN ROUNDUP

Continued from page 16  
function properly.

Guyana is the largest sugar-producing country in the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), but it has seen a steady drop in production.

Sugar generates the third highest amount of revenue for Guyana's government after gold and rice.

## Jamaica

Justice Minister Senator Mark Golding is pleading for "political consensus between the government and opposition" when the Senate debates the proposed adoption of the Caribbean Court of Justice (CCJ) as Jamaica's final court.

The debate is scheduled for later this month in the Upper House.

The three companion bills seek, among other things, to entrench the CCJ as Jamaica's final court. The bills were debated and earlier this year in the House of Representatives where the government has the two-thirds majority needed to have them passed. The opposition voted against all three bills.

Speaking at the recent 4th Biennial Conference of the Caribbean Association of Judicial Officers (CAJO) in Kingston, Golding contended that the CCJ has built an excellent jurispruden-

tial record over the first decade of its existence, and while Jamaica admires and respects the eminent judges of the UK's Privy Council, which currently serves as the island's final appellate body, the judges of the CCJ are capable and are better suited to the needs of Jamaicans.

## St. Lucia

President of the St. Lucia Teachers Union (SLTU), Julian Monrose, has warned that there will be serious conflict ahead for teachers over the issue of same sex-marriage.

"Just now we may be asked to teach that the family can be made up of a man, the father, a man the mother and children," Monrose told an ecumenical service at the Piaye Secondary School to mark the recent opening of Teachers' Week.

The SLTU president disclosed that just recently he was indicating to some teachers that the profession would have a battle over what is taught in the classroom, because what is happening in other countries will soon be here. He told the audience, which included Education Minister, Dr. Robert Lewis that teachers who believe in a particular message may soon be asked to teach what they do not believe.

He also pointed to the need for a

powerful teachers union that can fight for teachers, who must be in a position to determine what goes into the school curriculum.

## Trinidad

In keeping with its manifesto promise to take the fight to criminals in Trinidad and Tobago, the one-month-old, Dr. Keith Rowley People's National Movement (PNM) government has allocated TT\$3.2 billion in its 2015/2016 fiscal package for the Police Service.

In 2015 the Police Service received TT\$2.2 billion under the previous Kamla Persad-Bissessar administration and has now given an extra TT\$1 billion to fight the spiraling murder rate, which has reached 340 so far for this year.

September has been the bloodiest month so far with 50 murders recorded in the 30-day period.

In presenting the 2015/2016 budget last Monday, Finance Minister Colm Imbert allocated TT\$10.8 billion to Ministry of National Security- T&T Regiment, Coast Guard, Prison Service, Immigration and Air Guard.

In the \$63 billion (US\$10 billion) budget TT\$9.7 billion will go towards Education; Health \$6 billion; Public Utilities \$4.4 billion; Local Government \$2.2 billion; Works and Infrastructure

\$1.9 billion; Housing \$1.66 billion; Transport \$1.56 billion and Agriculture \$0.83 billion.

The finance minister slammed the former PP government for the state of the economy which the PNM discovered to be more perilous than at first thought when they assumed office last month.

In fact, Imbert said the country almost ran out of money and was "running on fumes" at one point in time.

In his two-hour address to the House of Representatives, Imbert said, "we have laid bare the true state of T&T's finances... we believe that in order to pull ourselves out of the difficulties which the previous administration has put this country in, through corruption and rampant squandermania, we require the collective efforts of all."

He announced that gas prices will increase by 15 percent; diesel up by 15 percent; Value Added Tax (VAT) down to 12.5 percent; \$500 pension increase; the return of Property Tax and no tax on persons earning \$6,000 a month or less.

Finance Minister Colm Imbert last week unveiled a TT\$63 billion (US\$10 billion) budget, which contained a series of proposals aimed at providing relief for citizens and generating much needed revenue for the country's challenging economic times.

— compiled by Azad Ali



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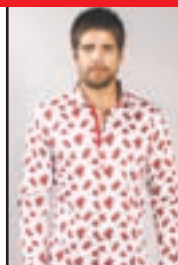
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# MAS2 TV is the Caribbean's Netflix

By Alley Olivier

Move over Netflix, there's a new streaming service in town and it's just for the Caribbean.

Filling an apparent void of Caribbean-based content, created by and for the Caribbean community, MAS2 TV – which stands for Multiculturalism, Art Society, and Sports and is pronounced Mas Squared TV – is set to provide docu-series, web-series, TV shows and more online.

"There was nothing there for the Caribbean market or the African market. The reason why Caribbean culture never goes somewhere is because nobody sees it therefore nobody is going to buy it," Dianne Bisson, a veteran in the telecommunications industry and the EVP/CCO of MAS2 TV, said.

Celebrating the fruit of their labor, Bisson and Ian Royer – vice president of marketing and strategy – invited friends, family, and collaborators to share in the experience of commercially launching MAS2 TV Oct. 1 at Sweet Chick – located on Ludlow Street between Orchard and Essex streets.

Ideologically conceived two years ago, the MAS2 TV team began hitting the ground running to create the platform last year, Oct. 1, making the launch that much more significant.

"We need to take the culture far and as wide as we can and quickly as possible. Two years



From left, Faride Precile, director of communications NAMIC National; Kandyse McClure, actress; Dianne Bisson, EVP/CCO MAS2TV; Robbie Earle, former footballer and TV host; Ian Royer, VP Marketing & Strategy MAS2TV; and, Mike Prinville, NBC Producer. Tayo Ola

later, here we are now — we started development a year ago and on the technology side of it, we have the best applications in streaming and that's something we're very proud of," Royer said during his address to the crowd.

The digital platform provides two tiers of content, categorized as premium or free. Those who subscribe to the service, paying \$6.99 per month or \$69.99 per year, receive access to special content MAS2 TV would not

be able to provide without paying a fee.

According to their website's terms and conditions, "Therefore, we give our users the choice of paying a subscription fee to access MAS2 TV Premium, which includes content and MAS2 TV would not otherwise be able to make available without charging a fee."

"This module, used by industry giants such as Netflix and Hulu also allows for filmmakers to earn income from

their properties when they are licensed to the platform — a huge win for the emerging film market," MAS2 TV added in a statement.

While at the launch, guests were able to mingle with actress, Kandyse McClure (Battlestar Galactica) who feels a special connection to the service since she is now connected to the Caribbean through marriage.

Throughout the night, the resounding theme was that of

triumph and a pledge to support the culture of the Caribbean and put it on a global pedestal for all to enjoy.

"This platform is something we hope to bridge the gap between the Diaspora, between people of Caribbean ancestry, between the places that we come from," Royer said.

"I recently heard Spike Lee speaking at a conference and he said the United States is the most powerful country in the world not because it has a nuclear bomb but because it supports its culture and so here's a platform in MAS2 to bring our culture," McClure added.

Pat Meschino of Billboard Magazine, Michael Prinville, a producer from NBC, and former footballer and TV Personality Robbie Earle added to the celebration with their attendance and support.

MAS2 TV is ready for streaming and is open to inviting as many content makers and influencers to utilize their platform.

"We don't want to reject anybody, we will work with it on the free portal or premium. We're just looking for entertaining documentaries, TV shows — once there is some sort of quality control in the filming we're happy to look at it," Royer said.

MAS2 TV is available via their website [www.mas2tv.com](http://www.mas2tv.com).

## SMALL BUSINESS RESOURCES

### Small Business Energy | SmallBusinessEnergy.com

[www.smallbusinessenergy.com/NewYork](http://www.smallbusinessenergy.com/NewYork)  
Save on Small Business Energy Bills and Compare Rates. Get a Quote Now!

### NYC Small Business Resource Center | The New York Public Library

[smallbiz.nypl.org](http://smallbiz.nypl.org)

### Small Business Services - Empire State Development New York

[www.esd.ny.gov/smallbusiness.html](http://www.esd.ny.gov/smallbusiness.html)

### Small Business - Business First - New York State

[www.nyfirst.ny.gov/ResourceCenter/SmallBizMenu.html](http://www.nyfirst.ny.gov/ResourceCenter/SmallBizMenu.html)

### 2013 New York, NY Small Business Resource

[www.sba.gov/sites/default/files/files/resourceguide\\_3135.pdf](http://www.sba.gov/sites/default/files/files/resourceguide_3135.pdf)

### Business Resources: Internet Bibliographies: New York State Library

[www.nysl.nysed.gov/reference/busref.htm](http://www.nysl.nysed.gov/reference/busref.htm)

Selected business-related web sites compiled by staff at the New York State Library for use in response to reference questions.

### Start a Business in New York — Resources for New York Small Businesses

[manhattan.about.com/od/careersjobs/a/nysmallbusiness.htm](http://manhattan.about.com/od/careersjobs/a/nysmallbusiness.htm)

Find resources and advice on starting a business in New York City. Get information on New York business licenses and incorporation, free NYC resources for starting a business.

### Your Money New York - Help and Resources for Small Businesses

[www.yourmoneyny.com/helppresource/smallbusiness/index.php](http://www.yourmoneyny.com/helppresource/smallbusiness/index.php)  
This section of Your Money New York is designed to help small business owners – and New Yorkers interested in starting a small business.

### Small Business Resources - The Business Council of New York

[www.bcnys.org/inside/smallbusiness.htm](http://www.bcnys.org/inside/smallbusiness.htm)

Capital Business Blog - Read about the issues.

Visit [www.nyfirst.ny.gov](http://www.nyfirst.ny.gov) to learn what New York State can do for businesses.

### Resources for Businesses in New York City - bfindapc.com

[www.bfindapc.com/...business-resource.../resources-for-businesses-i](http://www.bfindapc.com/...business-resource.../resources-for-businesses-i)  
If you operate a business in New York City, you are especially fortunate. The city has pulled together a wealth of resources for small business owners.

### Small Business Resource Guide - New York - HUD

[www.hud.gov/offices/osdbu/resource/guide/local/newyork.cfm](http://www.hud.gov/offices/osdbu/resource/guide/local/newyork.cfm)  
100+ items – to assist the small business community in the State of New York.

# TREATY

Continued from page 3

gathered here today in celebration of one of the greatest historical events for the Small Island States,” Gonsalves said.

Following the recent passage of Tropical Storm Erika, Dominica lost nearly all of its GDP; an example calling for the need for countries to pay special attention to the effects of climate change.

Dominica has served as a major pillar in ensuring the success towards the implementation of the SIDS DOCK.

“This is an important milestone, a new phase in a long journey. An endeavor to address the needs of almost 50 million SIDS citizens,” he

said.

The ceremony included a symbolic handover of instruments to the Office of the United Nations Secretary-General from the first 11 ratifying countries including, The Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Cook Islands, Dominica, Grenada, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Seychelles, and Tuvalu.

The adoption of the SIDS Dock Treaty is seen as an opportunity for possible lucrative public-private partnerships to be explored in areas such as technology.

At the conclusion of the ceremony, the partners committed to raising \$100 million for funding of the initiative.

# CLARKE

Continued from page 3

been a public servant from Day One, serving the public for 45 years.

“So it’s not a surprise when the Mayor appointed her as a trustee of CUNY,” the congresswoman said. “Dr. Clarke has always made herself available. This event is a reflection of all that she has done.

“It is quite fitting that someone who has those values will ascend to the Board of Trustees,” she added. “She keeps going. It’s a blessing to have your parents in your life – in your right mind and right theme.

“It’s so good to see you come out,” Clarke continued. “Dr. Clarke, we’re very proud of you. You help all of us to be in public service.”

In his congratulatory message, Mayor deBlasio commended the State Senate for confirming Dr. Clarke’s appointment to the CUNY Board of Trustees.

He noted that, during Clarke’s tenure on the City Council, she was a “prolific legislator and tireless advocate for students across the five boroughs.

“I’m confident that Dr. Clarke will bring her vast knowledge as a former educator and longtime public servant to further improve the quality of education CUNY delivers to its students every day,”



Congresswoman Yvette D. Clarke addresses patrons.

Nelson King

said the Mayor, who had served with Clarke in the City Council.

Clarke said she was “humbled” by the outpouring of support, adding that “without your help, my name would be unknown, my face would be unknown.

“When things get tough, I’ll call you up to CUNY,” she said, later flanked by members of the Progressive Democratic Political Association (PDPA), the Brooklyn-based political club that Clarke founded and is the president. “I’m extremely grateful for your love. This is beyond my expectation.”

Assemblywoman Annette presented Clarke with a bouquet of flowers; William “Bill” Howard, who organized the event with Bishop Sylveta Gonzales, gave Clarke a dozen red roses; and Patricia Jordan-Langford, president of the Guyana Tri-State Alliance, honored Clarke with a plaque on behalf of her group.

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# How to conduct breast self-exams

Dr. Magdalena Lombardi Plasilova is a surgeon and director of breast health services at Brookdale University Hospital and Medical Center specializing in the comprehensive care of breast cancer patients. In honor of Breast Cancer Awareness month, Dr. Plasilova and Brookdale University Hospital bring their expertise on the diagnosis and management of breast cancer with their advice on prevention and self-exams.

Says Dr. Plasilova, "Being a woman is the single greatest risk for breast cancer, so we must do everything we can to prevent becoming a statistic.

"We need to educate ourselves, our daughters, our sisters and our neighbors. It is essential for women to self-check, schedule regular screenings, and live a healthy lifestyle!"

## How to conduct a Breast Self-Exam

Optimally, a breast self-exam should be done once a month, approximately 7-10 days from the beginning of the menstrual cycle, or around the same time each month if periods are no longer existent.

1. Begin by removing your clothing and standing in front of a mirror. You will want to check your breasts for changes in the size, shape or color. You will want to check for any changes to the skin and nipples as well, including: any sores, dimples or redness. Check all angles of your breasts by lifting and looking underneath as well as from the side. Put your hands above your head and repeat the same process of checking all angles.

2. Lie down on the ground and feel your left breast with your right hand and your right breast with your left hand using a firm touch and a circular motion. Your fingers should remain flat, not pointed, and together. Repeat the same process while standing.

3. Check your nipples by pulling them forward and checking for discharge or fluid.

4. If you find anything unusual, give your doctor a call or schedule an appointment.

## Talk to your Doctor

1. Get regular breast cancer screenings: Early detection is essential. Getting in the habit when you are young will develop

good habits as you age into the prime diagnosis years

2. Ask your doctor to decide what type of screening you need and how often: Every woman is different. Learn your family history and work with your doctor to determine what is right for your body, age and breasts.

## Live Your Best Life

Early detection is ideal, but living a healthy lifestyle is the surest way to prevent breast cancer and other health complications.

1. Limit alcohol to no more than one drink per day
2. Eat Healthy
3. Exercise regularly

## About Brookdale University Hospital and Medical Center

The Brookdale University Hospital and Medical Center is a 530-bed not-for-profit teaching hospital. Brookdale provides general and specialized inpatient care to thousands of people every year. In addition, Brookdale provides 24-hour emergency services, numerous outpatient programs and long-term specialty care.



In this file photo Lindsay Avner, left, founder of Bright Pink, a breast cancer awareness organization, demonstrates a breast exam with E! Television personality Giuliana Rancic, during a live webcast in Chicago on breast cancer awareness and prevention. Associated Press / Charles Rex Arbogast

Brookdale is one of Brooklyn's largest, and most experienced full service emergency departments and a regionally recognized Level I Trauma Center. Brookdale is also a New York State DOH designated Stroke Center. The hospital houses a state-of-the-art Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory with the most high-tech imaging equipment available in Brooklyn. Its community centered organiza-

tion also provides numerous outpatient Ambulatory Care services in both on campus and off site facilities. Additionally, specializes in rehabilitative medicine and long-term specialty care in the renowned Schulman and Schachne Institute for Nursing and Rehabilitation and in addition is home to 86 units of assisted living and independent housing in the Arlene and David Schlang Pavilion.

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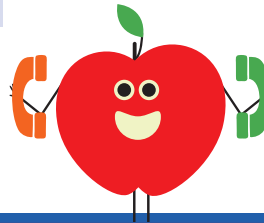


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# Shaquille shares a story

“Little Shaq” by Shaquille O’Neal, illustrated by Theodore Taylor III c.2015, Bloomsbury Children’s Books \$9.99 / \$10.99 Canada 74 pages

not miss – nor did he miss seeing his cousin, Barry, who called for the ball but Little Shaq never passed it to him.

When the game was over and his team won, Little Shaq went looking for Barry. He knew something was wrong. Barry didn’t want to talk. Barry was angry.

Once they got home, Little Shaq tried everything to make Barry laugh. Finally, he offered to let Barry be “Player One” on their favorite video game, which meant that Barry got to pick the team name. Barry accepted the offer and the boys started playing, but Little Shaq couldn’t help himself. He wouldn’t – couldn’t – share, one thing led to another and bang! The boys’ favorite game was accidentally broken.

Their friend, Rosa, who’d seen everything, pointed out that both boys were at fault. Little Shaq’s Dad said they needed to work together to replace the broken game. But would they ever be able to earn that kind



Shaquille O’Neal.

of money?

The answer came that week in school when the boys’ teacher, Ms. Terpenney, announced that the class was going to study plants by growing a garden. Both Barry and Little Shaq knew people who loved plants. Some of their neighbors had gardens, and someone had to make sure the flowers and vegetables were watered. He and Barry could start a gardening business!

And so they did, learning as



“Little Shaq” by Shaquille O’Neal.

they went along, making mistakes, but earning money, too. It was a great way to save for a video game replacement, and their new business also gave

them time to play basketball. But could they put their new talents together with their old ones to make a difference in their neighborhood?

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# IMMIGRATION GUIDE

## REMOVING IMMIGRATION NIGHTMARES

There are solutions to problems immigrants frequently experience. Among the problems and solutions are the following:

### 1. GETTING MARRIED TO A US CITIZEN OR GREEN CARD HOLDER AND BEING ABUSED OR ABANDONED BY THE SPOUSE:

If you are married to a US Citizen or green card holder who is abusive or has abandoned you, you may be entitled to a work permit and green card even if you are divorced or have a criminal record. You do not need your spouse to file for you or sponsor you or attend the interview with you. This relief is also applicable to child (including step child), fiancée and parent of US citizens or green card holder. You can also get relief if you are married to a citizen or green card holder who was already married but did not divorce before marrying you, that is, a bigamy or polygamy situation.



### 2. PARENTS OF US CITIZEN WANTING TO WORK AND MAINTAIN THEIR CHILDREN:

Are you a parent of a US Citizen Child or Green card holder? You may be administratively approved for a work permit to enable you to maintain your family. This is an administrative relief subject to discretion of the government officials.

### 3. ILLEGAL ENTRY INTO THE US:

This is a major problem but there is relief for special immigrants married to a US Citizen or green card holder or those who have US citizen children. You may still get a work permit and green card.

### 4. ILLEGAL REENTRY AFTER DEPORTATION:

Did you enter the US after being deported? This is a crime. There is relief for special immigrants married to a US Citizen or green card holder. Hurry to talk to us before you are arrested. You may be entitled to relief?

### 5. WORK PERMIT AND GREEN CARD FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PERSONS:

- Are you less than 21 years old?
- Are you living in the US dependent on someone other than your parent?
- Is your natural parent dead or lack viable means to take care of you?
- Do you think it is not in your best interest to return to country of birth or citizenship now?

You may be entitled to work permit and or green card whether you entered with visa or not. You may still be approved even if you entered without inspection, entered with fraudulent document or overstayed your visa or have certain criminal record.

### 6. CRIMINAL RECORDS: WAIVERS AND PARDONS:

If you are convicted or pled guilty to a crime in the past it can generate complexities and be a nightmare but waivers and various special actions and legal procedures are available to relieve immigrants with past criminal records.

### 7. REMOVING 2-YEAR CONDITIONAL GREENCARD:

Many immigrants have found it difficult to remove conditions on their 2 year green cards either because they are not able to convince

the government that their marriage is genuine or because they are not getting cooperation from their spouse. We can help remove conditions on your green card, even if your spouse is not filing with you and even if you have been denied and placed in a removal proceeding. You need not wait for 2 years if you are abused by your spouse or if your spouse died.

### 8. ASYLUM PROBLEMS AND DEPORTATION ORDERS:



Do you have deportation order on you that makes you a fugitive? Hurry to talk to us before you are picked up by Detention and Removal Office (DRO).

Your deportation may be suspended and get work permit & green card.

### 9. APPROVALS AND VISA BULLETIN PROBLEMS:

Do you have an approved petition filed by your brother or sister, parents etc and you were unable to apply for a green card because you overstayed here in US? Call us now. We might be able to assist you.

### 10. NOTICE TO APPEAR (NTA) IN IMMIGRATION COURT AND IMMIGRATION COURT PROCEEDINGS:

Did you receive NTA from the government or are you currently in immigration court? Consider speaking to us for a great first or second opinion and resolution of your case. You will not regret calling.

### 11. DO YOU NEED A WORK PERMIT, IDENTIFICATION CARD AND FOREIGN TRAVEL PERMIT?

You may be entitled.

### 12. CBP AND TSA PROBLEMS:

Correcting travel records- US-VISIT, ADIS Records, Enforce/Ident Records, DHSTRIP, and CLASS etc. Citizens and green card holders can remove names from CLASS



### 13. CITIZENSHIP AND CITIZENSHIP DELAYS OR DENIALS:

Did you apply for citizenship and you are being denied or unnecessarily delayed? Call us to enforce your rights in Federal Court.

### 14. WE PROCESS ALIEN WORKERS, STUDENTS, ENTREPRENEURS AND BUSINESS IMMIGRATION.

### 15. WE PROCESS CHANGE AND EXTENSION OF STATUS.

### 16. WE PROCESS ORPHAN AND ADOPTION PETITIONS.

### 17. VICTIMS OF CRIMES RELIEFS:

Are you a victim of Domestic Violence, Sex, Assault, Trafficking and other crimes? You may be entitled to relief?

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for DHS cases**

### 18. UNCONTESTED

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### 19. FEDERAL COURT ACTIONS.



Council Member Jumaane D. Williams presented East Flatbush resident Ajani Romain (center-left) with a New York City Council Citation for his innovative ideas toward building a greener, sustainable environment in the 45th Council District. They were joined by Ajani's brothers Amir (right) and Akins (center).

# Williams honors autistic student for innovative ideas

By Nelson A. King

Brooklyn Council Member Jumaane D. Williams has presented an eight-year-old autistic student of Public School 315 in East Flatbush with a New York City Council Citation for his innovative ideas towards building a greener, sustainable environment in the 45th Council District.

Williams, Deputy Leader of the City Council, said Ajani Romain was non-verbal at an early age, but added that, with intensive therapy, he began to express his thoughts, and, in particular, his passion for the environment, through art.

With the help of his mother Wadlyne Charles, Ajani sent a letter to Williams that outlined his vision of a more environmentally-conscious City "through a new and improved street sweeper prototype he designed," said Williams, representative for the 45th Council District in Brooklyn.

The design would not only clean the streets in a more efficient way but would decrease the noise and gas pollution that street sweepers currently emit, Williams said.

"I was touched by Ajani's story, whose admirable passion for bettering our community will not go unnoticed," said Williams, who met Ajani and his family during the 4th Annual Breukelen Coun-

try Fair on Sept. 26.

"We are facing one of the most difficult climate issues of our time, but with ambitious proposals like young Ajani's, our city can move toward a more sustainable future," he added.

"I look forward to meeting with the Council's Committee on Sanitation & Solid Waste Management Chair Reynoso as well as members of the City's Department of Environmental Protection to make Ajani's dream become a reality," Williams continued. "Though he is one of my younger constituents, he is truly an example for all New Yorkers."

Williams said Ajani is asthmatic and is "quite aware of the state of his health."

On one particular day, the councilman said Ajani was walking home from school with his mother, when a sidewalk cleaning truck swept up "a monstrous cloud of dust.

"It was a habit of theirs to spot, stop, and cover their nose, mouths and eyes whenever the cleaning trucks passed," Williams said. "That day, something struck him after the dust storm left, and he told his mother, 'this truck is not cleaning the street, it's just moving the garbage around. I will design a truck that will clean streets and the air.'"

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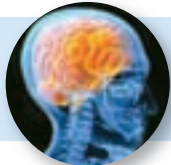


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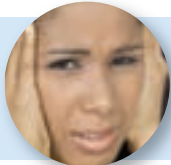


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# Jamaica is 'open for business'

By Alley Olivier

When you think of words associated with Jamaica you may immediately think of sun, reggae, and jerk chicken, but you're missing something pivotal: business.

The island is "open for business" and investment as expressed by veteran Jamaican business owners William Mahfood, president of The Private Sector Organisation of Jamaica and chairman of WISYNCO Group, and Glenford Christian, chairman and CEO of Carimed Limited and Kirk Distributors Limited, during the annual Jamaica National Building Society's Outlook for the Future panel.

Featuring opening remarks from Lowell Hawthorne, president and CEO of Golden Krust Caribbean Bakery and Grill, and Herman LaMont, consul general to New York for Jamaica, the distinguished group of leaders urged the audience that there is no time like the present to return home with their own entrepreneurial pursuits.

The concept of Jamaica as a brand was stressed throughout the various presentations and remarks, stressing the participants to create business plans



Presenter, William Mahfood, provide new statistics proving that Jamaica is prime for business and investment.

Sharon R Bennett

rooted at home that can then cross the waters into American markets.

"The focus should be what can be done in Jamaica and expanded to the United States. Think globally, think export, think brand Jamaica," Hawthorne said.

Continued on Page 28

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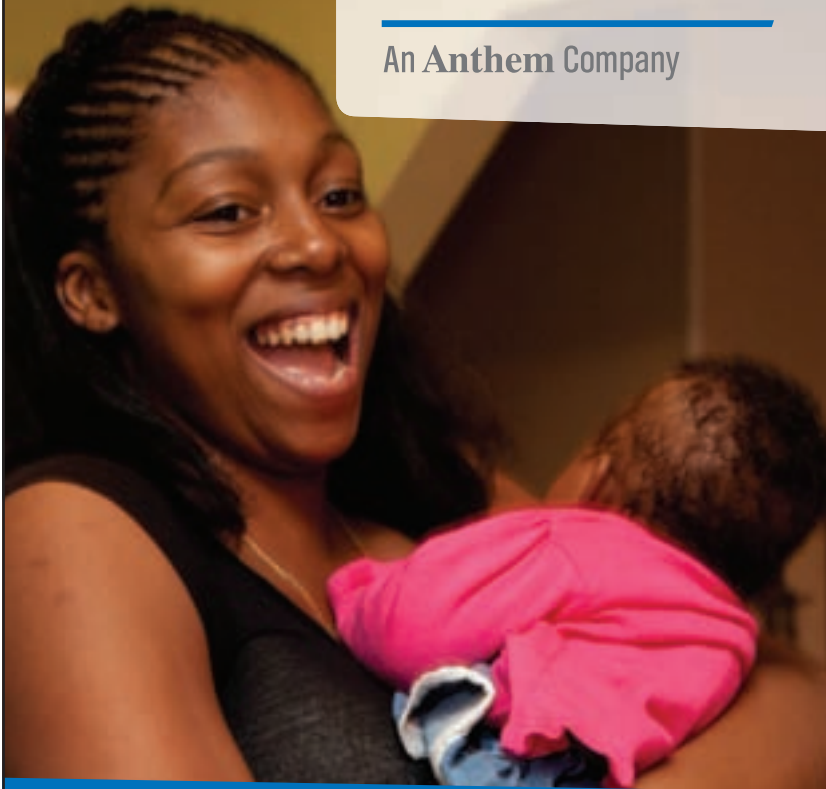
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The panel of distinguished business leaders answered questions from the audience following the presentations from the featured speakers.

Sharon Bennett

## BUSINESS

Continued from page 26

The event was structured to inspire and mobilize all in attendance that the challenge of starting a business in Jamaica is worth it. Both Mahfood and Christian discussed their trials and triumphs in starting their respective businesses.

Christian spoke of starting with three employees 30 years ago to now overseeing 800 persons and 150 contractors.

"Jamaica is open for business. I know your hearts are close to home," Christian said.

Listing various sectors that are growing in Jamaica, both Christian and Mahfood mentioned the BPO sector, technology and agriculture.

Both presenters offered key advice to any starting entrepreneur, stressing the importance of working with the right people, investing in those people and knowing why you decided to get into business.

"Did you get into business just to make a quick buck or did you go into business because you love business," Christian said.

"It's about doing more for our community, for our country," Mahfood said.

## GUYANA

Continued from page 3

"This country (Venezuela) is very influential, and after 50 years of peace, it has been able to erode some of the support we received from the people we thought were our friends, by implanting certain scurrilous ideas in their minds, and in the minds of others, who do not know of the 1899 Settlement, and are claiming that it is a British problem, not a Venezuelan problem." This is in reference to Guyana being the only English-speaking country in South America.

"This was settled. Venezuela has over 300,000 sq miles of land. It is not a Guyana problem, it is a Venezuelan problem, but unless we keep working and informing our people, and ensuring that our mission is delivering the same message, we will not be able to win over world support," said President Granger, adding, we must continue to convince other countries, particularly the smaller states, that unless they band together in solidarity, they too could be isolated, and picked on by bigger states."

"We will not be bullied by Venezuela. Maduro intended to carry on a campaign against Guyana in which he felt he could do anything he wanted to do, and we would be bound to agree because he bought our rice, and sold us oil," said President Granger.

"We have to stand on our feet, and tell

him to "haul," quipped the politician, referring to a 'derogatory' term used by Guyanese.

"I am proud of Permanent Representative George Talbot and the work this office has been doing. I am here to say thanks. I know other embassies and missions are more spacious, better equipped and offer better salaries and allowances, but we hope things will be better in the future."

"As you know, this administration was faced with challenges when we went into office, and we are now dealing with falling gold prices, flat rate bauxite prices, and working out situations in the rice industry, and the sugar industry, but we will do everything possible to make sure you can continue to perform your duties here," he said.

"Diplomacy is at the forefront of our defense and what we were able to achieve in the last six days here, will also be achieved by our diplomats who are committed to convincing nations of the world that Guyana is a country that needs to be protected, and need to have its voice heard, in solidarity," said the president.

President Granger, who spent many hours meeting with nationals, graciously presented members of the diplomatic staff with heritage pins, he said, were gifts for their outstanding work. He then placed the pins on the ladies' lapel, before handing over the badges to male staff members.

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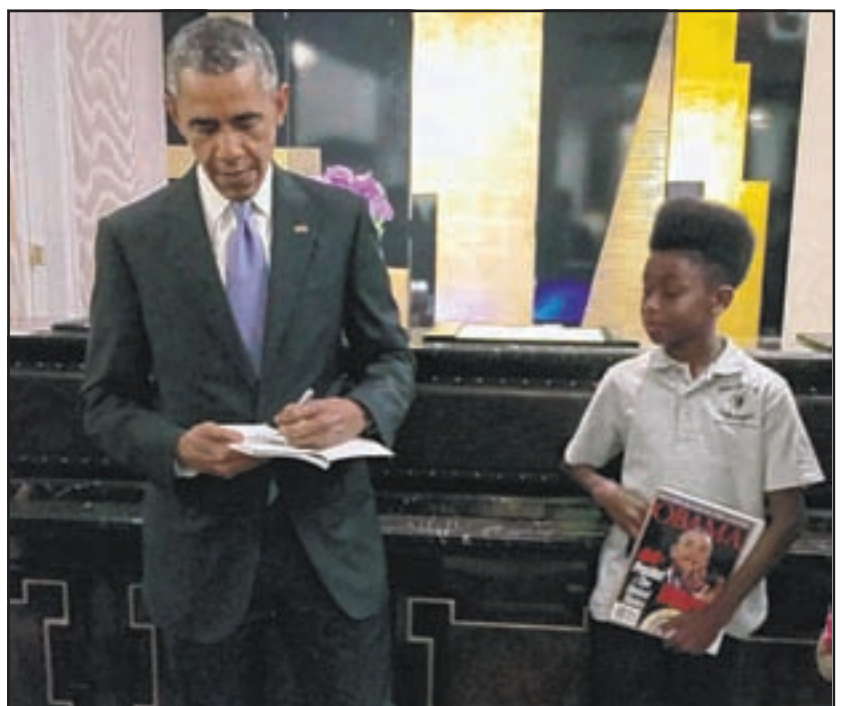


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Asante Alexander meets President Obama, who signed a copy of his book for the student.

## Vincentian student meets Prez Obama

By Nelson A. King

A 12-year-old Vincentian student who lives with his parents in Brooklyn has had the rare privilege and opportunity of meeting United States President Barack Obama after the child had written the president four years ago congratulating him on his election.

Asante Alexander, 12, a Grade 7 student at Meyer Levin Intermediate School 233 in Brooklyn, told Caribbean Life that meeting the most powerful leader in the world and the first U.S. Black president was an experience “beyond my expectations.”

“Meeting President Obama is a great experience,” said Asante, who, through the United States Chief of Protocol, Amb. Peter A. Selfridge, and his wife Panita, was able to meet Obama at his hotel room in midtown Manhattan, on Sept. 29, on the margins of the 70th Session of the just-concluded United Nations General Assembly Debate in New York.

Asante’s mother, Silvina “Gen” Crichton-Alexander and father, Fitzlyn “Omari” Alexander are Vincentians living in Brooklyn.

The Alexanders have another child, Fayola, 20, a student at Brooklyn’s predominantly Black Medgar Evers College.

“I thought he was just going to shake my hand and leave,” said Asante about meeting Obama. “He spent some time with me, although he had all the leaders around the world waiting on him.

“What a wonderful feeling that would definitely stay with me forever!” beamed Asante with excitement. “President

Obama is a great inspiration for me.”

Asante – a soccer enthusiast, who represented Central Brooklyn Soccer Club in a tournament in Dubai in April, and has earned several Black belt degrees in Taekwondo – had written Obama in September 2011, when he was a seven-year-old student at Langston Hughes Public School 233 in Brooklyn.

At that time, Asante congratulated Obama on becoming the nation’s first Black president and hoping to meet him in Brooklyn.

“I have read a lot of books about you, and have educated myself to the fullest,” Asante wrote. “Many of the books I read made me want to help people.

“I like the way in which your mom taught you as a child to become a great person,” he added. “I know you fulfilled Martin Luther King’s dream by becoming the first Black president [of the United States] and bringing everyone together.”

The slain Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., was considered America’s greatest civil rights leader.

“So I will like you to fulfill my dream and come to Brooklyn, so that I can see you in person and tell you what a great man you are,” Asante continued.

In responding, Obama thanked Asante in a letter dated Dec. 13, 2011.

“I am continually inspired by the enthusiasm and bright ideas of young Americans, and I appreciate your taking the time to share your thoughts with me,” the president wrote. “One of the things I can do as President is to make sure your tomorrow is as bright as it can be.

# Make the occasion with flowers from 13th Avenue Florist

BY CAMILLE SPERRAZZA

George Procovas, owner of 13th Avenue Florist, knows how flowers make the occasion.

He creates beautiful and unique floral arrangements for weddings, birthdays, anniversaries, and corporate events. The exotic flowers come from all over the world, including many from the Caribbean and Hawaii, places known for having some of the prettiest.

Brides have been dazzled by his creations that have included cherry blossoms, and centerpieces both large and small.

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In fact, all who shop here are happy with the very reasonable prices 13th Avenue Florist offers.

"We take good care of our customers," says Procovas. It's how the business has grown — via word of mouth from all his satisfied customers who continue to shop here.

Procovas likes to say he's been in the flower business since he was 7 years old. Back then, his uncle owned a Brooklyn flower store, and Procovas helped out. He observed how his uncle would take flowers and somehow turn them into beautiful bouquets and arrangements, a craft Procovas was eager to learn.

An outgoing kid, he also loved to chat with customers, and they, too, enjoyed their conversations with him. It seemed like such a happy business. Flowers made people happy, was the lesson he learned at an early age. It was then he knew that this was the career for him, and everything has been coming up roses since then.

At age 18, Procovas opened his first flower shop, also on 13th Avenue in Dyker Heights.

"I started from scratch, and there were many chal-



lenges," he says. Despite hard times, he continued to plant the seeds of success. His family was supportive of his endeavor, and after a while, his brother, Dino, came into the business. "By treating everyone with respect, the company eventually grew," he says.

In fact, it blossomed so much, it soon outgrew that location, and moved to where it is now, just a few blocks away from where it all started.

Customers who enjoy planting their own flowers are happy that 13th Avenue Florist carries everything needed to create spectacular flower gardens at home. If you don't have a green thumb, but simply love looking at flowers, there's a huge selection of silk arrangements that might just work for you.

Fresh flower arrangements, for every occasion, can be delivered locally and

worldwide. Flowers really do have the power to cheer people up, and brighten their day. Sending a bouquet makes people feel appreciated and valued. It's a perfect way to say, "thank you."

Procovas is living his dream, and customers reap the benefits of having a florist they can trust for all their floral needs. Today, he advises young business owners.

"Trust your dream, and

follow it," he says. "Be willing to take the risk. Nothing is handed to you in life, and nothing worthwhile comes without taking risks. Follow your dream."

*13th Avenue Florist*  
[7806 13th Ave. between 78th and 79th streets in Dyker Heights, (718) 236-9088, [www.13thaveflorist.com](http://www.13thaveflorist.com)].  
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1. George Procovas, owner of 13th Avenue Florist. 2. Stop by and see the exquisite centerpieces on display. 3. Procovas, started his business from scratch, and it has blossomed. 4. Lovely bouquets the florist has made for clients.

Photo by Georgine Benvenuto

# Million Men March again in Washington DC



## Inside Life

By Vinette K. Pryce



People cheer during a rally to mark the 20th anniversary of the Million Man March, on Capitol Hill, on Saturday, Oct. 10, 2015, in Washington. Waving flags, carrying signs and listening to speeches and songs, the crowd gathered at the U.S. Capitol and spread down the Mall under on a sunny and breezy fall day. Associated Press / Evan Vucc

A media black-out of the largest gathering of Black men in America recently did not deter thousands of Black Americans -- predominantly Black men -- to pack the National Mall in Washington D.C. on Oct. 10 to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the Million Man March.

The 10/10 commemorative assembly registered attendance from virtually every state in the union with impressive numbers accounting for seniors, the youth, children, Hispanics, Native Americans, soldiers and predominantly Black men, repeating the historic assembly initiated on Oct. 16, 1995 in response to a call from the Nation of Islam and its leader Minister Louis Farrakhan to address a number of inequities and wrongdoings against women.

That initial, history-making event also implored Black men to atone for their misdeeds, reconcile with their loved ones and take responsibility for their actions.

Although atonement was the theme, the MMM provided the impetus for thousands to board

buses, trains, planes and cars in order to address concerns related to poverty, unemployment and poor housing.

Two decades later, the theme was "Justice...or else" and with far less media attention than the first, thousands poured a yet-to-be verified million or more participants.

Numbers attending last weekend's anniversary celebration were certainly impressive.

Given that weather conditions favorably accommodated the crowds, Black men travelled from as far away as the Caribbean and California to join thousands more; women, Caucasians and groups representing numerous nationalities and a myriad of races.

After the first historic event, reports varied on the exact number of men that responded to the call.

D.C. police claimed crowd attendance to be less than half

a million.

Their assessment of 400,000 was vociferously discredited with allegations that the undercounted figures stemmed from racial indignation.

The range of disparity varied from MMM organizers estimating that two million attended to ABC News projecting the official count to be 850,000.

After much criticisms and complaints, the police department has since refrained from estimating crowd numbers in the nation's capital.

This time around, Haitians represented in large numbers.

There in front of the domed US Capitol building, French-creole, Caribbean nationals demonstrated a presence against the decision by the government of the Dominican Republic to deport Haitians.

That the two countries once shared a borderless island called Hispaniola — before

splitting into a divide of Spanish and French-creole languages — was not negated from the conversation that invited everyone.

Haiti was part of the agenda.

Minister Farrakhan spoke at length about the plight of the Haitian people.

He made the Caribbean diasporan issue one of concern

to his NOI.

Another of the topics the leader emphasized was the fact Blacks faced unemployment at nearly twice the rate of Whites and for 16-19-year-old Blacks, the unemployment rate jumped to more than 50 percent.

He said, more than 40 percent of Blacks lived at or below the poverty rate and the Black

Continued on Page 39

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# ENTERTAINMENT

FOR MORE ENTERTAINMENT



Papa Jean in costume as one of his five characters. Papa Jean

## Papa Jean's funny faces

By Alley Olivier

So you want to be famous? In this digital age, there's a new formula: find the proper lighting, invest in an iPhone or Android, and nail speaking in 15-second increments.

To go viral on social platforms like Instagram and YouTube, establishing a niche, creatively writing short skits, and being consistent is key – just ask the latest viral star Papa Jean.

Papa Jean, who's real name is Jean Lodescar Jr., is a first generation Haitian American who happened upon the world of vlogging or video blogging with a social media following of 11,500

Continued on Page 38

## Seeing 'Red' with Trini artist

By Alley Olivier

Colors have an uncanny ability to evoke emotions or memories.

Drawing upon the complex shade of red, Trinidadian artist Robert Reid is welcoming the masses to see red in all of its forms — indicative of passion, violence, and more.

"The exhibition is called 'Red' and one of the things when I was doing this show is that red means a lot of different things to people - love passion, death, incorporating all of those things," Reid explained.

The seasoned artist has created an exhibit featuring 36 pieces, including watercolors, charcoal, and oil paintings. Reid's approach was to craft pieces that

Continued on Page 38



# KICK-OFF CONCERT

Chaka Khan performs during the memorial for Whitney Houston at the BET Awards in Los Angeles.

Associated Press / Invision / Matt Sayles

## Circle of Sisters mobilize women of color

By Vinette K. Pryce

This weekend, beginning Oct. 17 a kick-off concert at Madison Square Garden headlined by r&b singer Chaka Khan, is expected to attract women of color for the 15th annual Circle of Sisters exposition.

Avant and Tamar Braxton are also billed to perform.

COS is the largest expo for women of color and will focus on topical discussions varying from #Blacklivesmatter, police brutality in the Black community, the prison industrial com-

plex, mass incarceration of Blacks in America, health, unemployment and other issues.

Panel discussions convene on Oct. 18 from 10 am to 6 pm at the Jacob Javits Convention Center.

The Cooking Pavilion will spotlight rhythm and blues singer Bobby Brown in the kitchen.

For the clueless, Brown is no stranger to that room. His Bobby Brown Barbecue Sauce has been a favorite savored from his BB Foods.

The former New Edition singer,

Grammy winner, husband of the late pop star Whitney Houston and father of the late Bobbi Kristina Brown is also slated to talk with WBLS radio personality Earthquake during a one-on-one session.

COS annually hosts a variety of panel discussions, seminars, inspirational services, r&b and gospel concerts as well as a fashion show .

In addition, more than 200 vendors and small businesses annually sell unique items and services throughout

Continued on Page 38

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# Monsters run amok in friendly fright franchise

“Goosebumps”  
Excellent (4 stars)  
Rated PG for  
scary images,  
intense action and  
rude humor  
Running time:  
103 minutes  
Distributor: Sony  
Pictures



A scene from the movie “Goosebumps.”

## By Kam Williams

Launched by Robert Lawrence Stine in 1992, “Goosebumps” is a phenomenally-popular series of spooky stories carefully-crafted to scare the bejesus out of seven to 12-year-olds. The so-called Stephen King of kiddie literature has published hundreds of titles over the years, selling about a half-billion books worldwide and counting. “Goosebumps” has been spun off into a TV show and video games, so it makes sense that it would be

brought to the big screen, too. Directed by Rob Letterman, the picture stars the terminally-impish Jack Black as R. L. Stine, although the author he’s portraying does make a cameo appearance during a

mob scene. The movie marks the reunion of Letterman and Black who in 2010 collaborated on a poorly-received remake of “Gulliver’s Travels.”

This production is likely to fare far better, since its has

a built-in audience already weaned on the books. Plus, the adolescents’ appetites have been further whetted by the prerelease of a product line of “Goosebumps” tie-ins, including posters, games, stationery,

Halloween costumes, plush toys, clothes and accessories. Not that the movie version needs any help, as the combination live-action/animated adventure proves to be quite entertaining in its own right.

At the point of departure, we find teenager Zach Cooper (Dylan Minnette) and his recently-widowed mom (Amy Ryan) grieving their loss and sorely in need of a change of scenery, which explains their moving to the town of Madison, Delaware. Their new, next-door neighbor, Mr. Stine (Black), is a reclusive grouch who warns the boy right off the bat to keep off his property and to stay away from his home-schooled daughter, Hannah (Odeya Rush). But it’s obviously love at first sight for Zach, who is instantly smitten with the attractive girl his own age.

A family-friendly romp providing just the perfect blend of light-hearted humor and spine-tingling fright fare to scare and delight kids of all ages!

## Independent & Foreign Films

**All Things Must Change** (Unrated) Music biz documentary revisiting the rise and demise of Tower Records. Featuring commentary by Chris Cornell, Chuck D., Elton John and David Geffen.

**A Ballerina’s Tale** (Unrated) Reverential biopic chronicling the ascension of Misty Copeland from humble roots in California to prima ballerina in Manhattan with the American Ballet Theatre company. Including commentary by Deirdre

**Experimenter** (PG-13 for mature themes and brief profanity) Peter Sarsgaard portrays Stanley Milgram in this biopic about the legendary social scientist’s famous study of humans’ willingness to obey authority. Ensemble cast includes Winona Ryder, Dennis Haysbert, Jim Gaffigan, Kellan Lutz, John Leguizamo and Vondie Curtis-Hall.

**Meadowland** (R for profanity, drug use and graphic sexuality) Marriage on the rocks saga, set in New York City, examining the emotional rift which develops between a cop (Luke Wilson) and his wife (Olivia Wilde) in the wake of their young son’s mysterious disappearance. With Giovanni Ribisi, Juno Temple and John Leguizamo.

**Tab Hunter Confidential** (Unrated) Out-of-the-closet biopic recounting how the Fifties matinee idol hid his homosexuality until finally publishing a tell-all autobiography a half-century after his heyday. Featuring commentary by Clint



## Kam’s Kapsules

By Kam Williams

Eastwood, Debbie Reynolds and Connie Stevens.

**This Changes Everything** (Unrated) Global warming documentary examining the effect of climate change in seven locales around the world, including communities in America, India, China, Canada and Germany.

**Truth** (R for profanity and a nude photo) Broadcast ethics is the theme of this thriller about the news story which cost CBS ‘ Dan Rather (Robert Redford) his career. With Cate Blanchett, Topher Grace, Dennis Quaid and Bruce Greenwood.

**Woodlawn** (PG for mature themes and racial tensions) Fact-based, coming-of-age saga, set in 1973, recalling how a black football star (Caleb Castille) and his white football coach (Nicholas Bishop) joined forces to alleviate tensions across the color line at a Birmingham, Alabama high school. Featuring Jon Voight, Sean Astin and Sherri Shepherd.

### BIG BUDGET FILMS

**Bridge of Spies** (PG-13 for violence and brief profanity) Cold War thriller about a lawyer (Tom Hanks) recruited by the CIA to represent an American spy (Austin Stowell) whose surveillance plane was

Continued on Page 39

B E W A R E

FROM THE VISIONARY DIRECTOR OF PAN'S LABYRINTH

## CRIMSON PEAK

LEGENDARY PICTURES AND UNIVERSAL PICTURES PRESENT A LEGENDARY PICTURES/DOV PRODUCTION A GUILLERMO DEL TORO FILM "CRIMSON PEAK" MIA WASIKOWSKA JESSICA CHASTAIN TOM HIDDLESTON CHARLIE HUNNAM AND JIM BEAVER MUSIC BY FERNANDO VELÁZQUEZ COSTUME DESIGNER KATE HANLEY EDITOR DENNY YILAPLANA EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS TOM SANDERS PRODUCED BY DAN LAUSTEIN OFF PRODUCED BY JULIAN SHARP PRODUCED BY THOMAS TILL EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS DON JASHIN EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS GUILLERMO DEL TORO EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS CALLUM GREENE EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS GUILLERMO DEL TORO & MATTHEW ROBBINS EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS GUILLERMO DEL TORO

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# TOP OF THE CHARTS

## TOP 10 SINGLES



- 1 **The Hills**  
The Weeknd
- 2 **Locked Away**  
R. City Feat. Adam Levine
- 3 **Wildest Dreams**  
Taylor Swift
- 4 **What Do You Mean?**  
Justin Bieber
- 5 **Can't Feel My Face**  
The Weeknd
- 6 **Photograph**  
Ed Sheeran
- 7 **Hotline Bling**  
Drake
- 8 **Stitches**  
Major Lazer & DJ Snake ..
- 9 **Renegades**  
X Ambassadors
- 10 **Good For You**  
Selena Gomez Feat. A\$AP Rocky

## TOP 10 ALBUMS



- 1 **Unbreakable**  
Janet
- 2 **What A Time To Be Alive**  
Drake & Future
- 3 **Calling All Lovers**  
Tamar Braxton
- 4 **Beauty Behind Madness**  
The Weeknd
- 5 **Psychic Warfare**  
Clutch
- 6 **Fetty Wap**  
Fetty Wap
- 7 **1989**  
Taylor Swift
- 8 **Stories**  
Avicii
- 9 **Kill The Flaw**  
Sevendust
- 10 **Cold Beer Conversation**  
George Strait



# CONCERT

Continued from page 35  
the weekend.

“The expo is accented by an avalanche of captivating elements such as fabulous shopping and food tasting with some of today’s top chefs at the food pavilion and youth activities including lessons in the arts and dance at the children’s pavilion.”

Produced and hosted by radio stations WBL5-FM, HOT 97, WLIB – AM in association with owners Emmis Communications, each year, patrons are able to attend informative and empowering panel discussions led by authors, field experts, political figures and some of the biggest names in entertainment.

Intended to present a broad-based, issue and entertainment-oriented presentation under one roof, the COS is perhaps, the most alluring exposition that aims directly at the needs of women of color.

For the very first time, patrons can take the subway directly to the venue by using the number seven train. The newly-opened station will make that long walk from the A-Train at 34th St. a thing of the past.

Informed sources also tell me that for a limited time, ticket prices have been slashed a whop-



Tamar Braxton performs at the BET Awards at the Microsoft Theater on Sunday, June 28, 2015, in Los Angeles.

Associated Press / Invision / Chris Pizzello

ping 50 percent to provide an affordable opportunity to dialogue with professionals and insiders in virtually every field.

In order to capitalize on the bargain, potential patrons can use code 50COS.

Ladies!

Have a happy gathering.

By the way, like the MMM everyone is invited to attend the gender-friendly assembly.



Jean Lodescar Jr. or Papa Jean as his YouTube fans know him is putting Haitian culture on the visual map. Papa Jean

## Comedy

Continued from page 35

users and growing.

“I did a lot of stage acting and I wanted to start getting into filming. I basically just started shooting little clips of these skits that I started writing and posting them on Instagram and YouTube,” Lodescar explained.

Posting his first clip back in March of this year, Papa Jean and his family of characters were created three years prior.

“About three years ago, I wrote a one-man show called ‘Toussaint Louverture’ and within that show I introduced

five characters,” he said.

Those five characters became Papa Jean - main character and head of household, Mama Jean - wife of Papa Jean, Roland - the womanizing, romantic, Manoucheka - daughter of Papa and Mama Jean, and Lodescar playing himself; loosely based on generalized stereotypes of Haitian people and his own parents.

“My father’s name is Jean, I took a lot of things that he taught me in life and I pretty much infiltrated it through Instagram. It might not be specifically him but if you know my father you’ll see a lot of similarities with that main character to my father,” he explained.

## Art

Continued from page 35

were simple to showcase the subtle beauty of his figurative pieces.

Throughout his work, he includes the female form, a combination of naked, semi-naked, and clothed. His purpose in doing so is to catch the beauty of not only the human form but also of the everyday people we pass by who have their own unique story connected to the color red.

“One of my goals was that I wanted to tell people’s stories and by doing that I used the term red,” Reid said.

In an artist statement, Reid expands upon his use of the female form saying:

“My subject is primarily the human form. There is no greater joy than capturing the complex human element. With color, light and space, I seek to manifest the energy and emotions of my subjects, offering moments of beauty, serenity and introspection.”

Providing art lovers — and the masses — one more chance to experience the exhibit and rub elbows with him, Reid will



Artist Robert Reid masters the art of subtle beauty in his latest exhibit, “Red.”

Robert Reid

host a closing ceremony Oct. 23 at the Clover Art Gallery. He hopes that more people will take a break from the hustle-and-bustle and take a breather with his art as the excuse.

“A lot of times we miss the things that are right there and it’s important to raise the consciousness for all those people who are kind of sleep walking, caught up in so much of just trying to make that dollar going to the job, we lose a sense of just coming up for air and breathing,” Reid said.

# INDIE FILMS

Continued from page 37

shot down behind the Iron Curtain.

**Crimson Peak** (R for sexuality, graphic violence and brief profanity) Gothic horror film, set in England in the 19th Century, about a troubled author (Mia Wasikowska) who, after a whirlwind romance, marries an aristocrat (Tom Hiddleston) and moves into a haunted house he shares with his sister (Jessica Chastain). Cast includes Charlie Hunnam, Jim Beaver and Doug Jones.

**Goosebumps** (PG for scary images, intense action and rude humor) Kiddie-oriented horror fare adapted from the R.L. Stine children's book series and revolving around a couple of teenagers (Dylan Minnette and Ryan Lee) who unwittingly unleash monsters which were the product of Stine's (Jack Black) fertile imagination. With Amy Ryan, Halston Sage and Odeya Rush.

**Room** (R for profanity) Adaptation of the Emma Donoghue best seller of the



A scene from the movie "Woodlawn."

same name about the harrowing ordeal of a young woman (Brie Larson) and the son (Jacob Tremblay) she bore while imprisoned as a sex slave in her kidnapper's (Sean Bridgers) backyard shed. Support cast includes William H. Macy, Joan Allen and Amanda Brugel.

# INSIDE LIFE

Continued from page 34

family income was about 58 percent that of white households.

Last year, the unemployment rate was still 11.4 percent for Blacks — double that of white unemployment at 5.3 percent.

When it comes to poverty, 27 percent of Blacks still live at or below the poverty level — which is almost three times the rate of whites at 10 percent. The Hispanic poverty rate is 24 percent.

Without a doubt, the biggest issue facing Black Americans currently is police violence. The succession of Blacks killed by police officers has risen to alarming rates.

According to the Guardian web portal in its recently released findings in a five-month analysis of police shootings revealed that:

"Black Americans are more than twice as likely to be unarmed when killed during encounters with police as white people"

"32 percent of Black people killed by police in 2015 were unarmed, as were 25 percent of Hispanics, compared with 15 percent of white people killed."

"The figures illustrate how disproportionately Black Americans, who make up just 13 percent of the country's total population according to census data, are killed by police."

Consistent with a 1995 broadcast commitment to a national viewing audience, C-Span again provided all-day, live television coverage of the event.

Back in the last century when the initial gathering called the biggest gathering of Black men ever in America, virtually every network outlet beamed the proceedings which featured poet Maya Angelou, Isaac Hayes, Stevie Wonder, MC Hammer and other celebrities.

"It's mind boggling," comedian/activist Dick Gregory said at the time.

"I'm just so glad my three sons are here to share this because it's almost

something you can't describe. If you are not here, there is no English language, no nothing language that can tell you about this."

As a reporter, I was privileged to spend some time with Speech, lead singer of the then red-hot pop group Arrested Development. The DC-based group at the time was highly regarded for voicing poetry and expressions of concern for the plight of Blacks in America.

Tasked to cover the event, I urged Phillip "Fattis" Burrell, a prominent music manager to stop-in to the gathering with Luciano, a popular, Jamaican reggae artist he managed and was then here to launch his recording career.

Together, they represented Jamaica, Rastafarians and the reggae music genre.

Needless to say, this insider fielded the massive turnout for the unlikely crowds — Caribbean nationals, women and entertainment personalities.

It was an effortless cause, flags of many nations, T-shirts and other accessories boasted a rainbow of Caribbean national and their numerous concerns.

"I give credit to Louis Farrakhan. He did call this march, despite whatever the press wants to say...but it signals for Clarence Avant that it's now time for Black Americans to learn how to count... when you learn how to count, you learn how much power you've got," Clarence Avant, Chairman of Motown Records said.

Spotted among the throngs this time were celebrated rappers Common and Snoop Dogg.

Reportedly, Professor Cornel West, Jeezy, J.Cole, Jay Electronica, Russell Simmons, Dave Chappelle and Sean "P-Diddy" Combs also attended.

In order to subsidize the massive undertaking actors Will and Jada Pinkett Smith helped the cause by donating a check for \$150,000 to the MMM movement.

*Catch You On The Inside!*

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# Vincetians display their culture at Brooklyn expo

By Nelson A. King

The undisputed oldest and largest Vincentian cultural and educational group in the United States on Oct. 3 conducted what organizers say was a very successful biennial exposition at the Friends of Crown Heights Educational Center in Brooklyn.

Executives from the Brooklyn-based Club St. Vincent, Inc. said the 2015 cultural exposition, held under the auspices of the St. Vincent and the Grenadines Consulate General, was an “event for the entire family.”

“It was very, very good,” said the group’s president, Grafton “Breen” Greaves, in a Caribbean Life interview. “It’s good for the family, for the community and for St. Vincent and the Grenadines.”

“We get to show our talents and skills, so the younger generation can see what we’re doing – that they can follow in our footsteps,” he added. “I hope we can carry [continue] this thing a little longer and



Oscar James performs on stage.

bigger, and that more Vincetians can participate in our endeavors.”

Actually, besides Vincetians, other Caribbean nationals participated in the showcase that featured, among other things, cultural performances; children’s village; food court; fashion show; local arts, crafts and agro products; a health corner;

and a resource area.

Fourteen members of the Philadelphia-based St. Vincent and the Grenadines Organization of Pennsylvania (SVGOP) attended the event “to show support and to vend,” according to Yvonne O’Garro, the group’s public relations officer.

The SVGOP crew, which included president Lorenzo DeCaul and ex-president Arlette Dopwell-James, said they were promoting their group as well.

Members of SVGOP sold local delicacies, such as pelau, dukuna, and peanut (ground nut) and coconut sugar cake, among other things

DeCaul also displayed his “imaginative, acrylic painting,” dubbed “Beachscape of St. Vincent and the Grenadines.”

“I do it [paint] just to relieve stress,” he said. “I don’t really sell them [paintings, which also featured some called ‘Rainbow Mountain.’ I just display them.

“We just come here to support the culture,” DeCaul continued. “If you want the culture



Milton Harry purchases a CD from Alston “Becket” Cyrus.

Nelson A. King

to develop, you have to do that. I’m enjoying myself.”

Nearby, Ynolde “Nollie” Walkin displayed a wide variety of locally-made products.

They included: Pepper sauce, coconut oil, soap, seasoning, body scrub, bracelet, ash tray, coconut oil, farine and plantain chips.

Lana Harper, of Georgetown, Guyana attended the event for the second time, displaying her “self-made jewelry”, blended oils and soaps.

“I enjoy doing this because I get to display my work and get to mingle with people from the

Caribbean,” she said.

Calypso maestro, Alston “Becket” Cyrus, renowned as the “ABC of Calypso,” used the occasion to promote his new calypso album.

“It’s good,” he said, referring to the exposition. “I came [from St. Vincent and the Grenadines] just for this.

“I want people to get the new album [‘Remakes & New Takes’],” he added, flanked by former disc jockey Dennis Nanton and Sandra Millington, ex-Club St. Vincent, Inc. president. “The remake is better than the original.”

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# SPORTS

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The overall female winner Jessie Petersen of Brooklyn finished in 34:12 and eighth place overall.

Restoration Plaza / Margot Jordan

## Bed-Stuy athletes point to marathon

By Robert Elkin

Time is drawing near and it would not be long now before comes the 2015 edition of the New York City or Five-Borough Marathon. With a short time remaining before the start of the 26.2-mile grind takes place with the start being in Staten island and finish in Central Park, the athletes are cutting down on their training.

Last week on a beautiful sunny Sun-

Continued on Page 44

## Sir Garfield to be honored in Sri Lanka

By Azad Ali

West Indies cricket icon Sir Garfield Sobers will be honored during the upcoming Test Series between West Indies and Sri Lanka.

The two-match series will be played in Sri Lanka for the Sobers / Tissera trophy as tribute to the former West Indies all-rounder and captain and Michael Tissera, the former Sri Lanka captain.

The announcement was made by Sri Lanka Cricket at the official pre-series launch last week in Colombo.

Continued on Page 44



Honduras forward Alberth Elis (17) and United States defender Dillon Serna (7) battle for the ball during the second half of a CONCACAF men's Olympics semifinal qualifying soccer match, Saturday, Oct. 10, 2015, in Sandy, Utah.

Associated Press / Rick Bowmer

## US in danger of missing Olympic soccer

By John Coon

SANDY, Utah (AP) — The United States is in danger of missing its second straight men's Olympic soccer tournament.

Alberth Elis scored in the 24th and 77th minutes, and Honduras beat the U.S. 2-0 Saturday to qualify

for next year's Rio de Janeiro Games.

To reach the Olympics for the first time since 2008, the Americans must beat Canada on Tuesday in the third-place game of North and Central American and Caribbean qualifying, then defeat Colombia in the CONCACAF-South America one-

game playoff, to be held in Rio from March 21-29.

"We have to win," Columbus midfielder Wil Trapp said. "Plain and simple. That's all it takes. There's no other way. We can't read into this result anymore. It's over — disappear."

Continued on Page 44

Continued from page 43

day morning some of these athletes competed in a 10K race called the Bedford Stuyvesant-Restoration Corporation one as part as part of their training schedule for the city marathon to be held on Sunday morning Nov. 1.

Even those athletes not competing in the City grind tested the course of the annual 34th annual October event to stay in shape or to run just for the fun of it. One runner who falls into the latter category is Anthony Watson, coach of the Prospect Park Track Club. Watson had competed in the New York City Marathon and its international field.

Originally from Jamaica, West Indies, Watson is 57 years of age and is well known for his running and coaching in a race no matter of its distance. For instance, last Sunday Watson turned in a time of 42 minutes and 17 seconds for a 10K which course ran through Bedford Stuyvesant and its streets of Brooklyn.

His personal best time for this race was 32 minutes some 20 years ago. Watson, who is skipping the New York City Marathon this November, will be concentrating on his job as coach of the adults in the Prospect Park Track Club.

"Running for the Prospect Park Track Club has been great," said Watson. "I've been coaching this club for 13½ years. We put on many events throughout the years," added Watson.

Watson's assistant coach is Charlene Kohler-Britton. The duo is still hanging in there as coaches. Some 200 members belonging to this Prospect Park Track Club expect to be competing in the New York City Marathon.

The overall winner of the Bed-Stuy race was Mourad Marofit who is originally from Africa and now makes his home in Roxborough, New York. The winner turned in a 4.42 mile pace on way to a time of

A short distance back and second place finisher was Menlistu Nebisi of Manhattan, who, in his debut in this race, clocked in at 29:36. Birhanu Dare finishing third, who just was nosed out by the second place finisher. Dare was recorded in 29:41.

Abe Shine and Mark Hess finished with times of 29:59 and 31:51, respectively, for fourth and fifth standings in a close field and in an exciting race. Outside of the Africans there were no super stars in the huge field.

Awards went to the first three overall place finishers for both sexes and the initial trio of finishers in their respective age groups.

The overall female winner was Jessie Petersen of Brooklyn. She finished in 34:12 and eighth place overall, two places ahead of Hirut Guangul, who clocked in 34:30. Mariela Quintana's 38:16 earned her 19th spot. She rounded out the top three female finishers.



United States defender Dillon Serna (9) and Honduras defender Jhonatan Paz (2) battle for the ball during the second half of a CONCACAF men's Olympic semifinal qualifying soccer match Saturday, Oct. 10, 2015, in Sandy, Utah. Honduras won 2-0.

Associated Press / Rick Bowmer

## HONDURAS CELEBRATES VICTORY

Continued from page 43

pointing as it was. We got to move forward."

Olympic qualifying is limited to under-23 teams, and the Americans were eliminated four years ago in the group stage. Senior national team coach Jurgen Klinsmann said failing to reach the London Olympics set back the careers of players in that age group, which included Brek Shea, Mix Diskerud and Bill Hamid.

Now another age group could miss out on the Olympics. Among the American starters were New York Red Bulls defender Matt Miazga, Tottenham under-21 defender Cameron Carter-Vickers, Fulham midfielder Emerson

Hyndman, Real Salt Lake midfielder Luis Gil and Stanford forward Jordan Morris, who already has scored for the U.S. senior national team.

"We were not able to deal with the situation today," U.S. coach Andi Herzog said. "It's sad, but it's the truth."

Herzog cannot be on the bench for Tuesday's game after receiving a red card in the 81st minute from referee Jafeth Perea of Panama, who also gave a red to Honduras coach Carlos Tabora.

Elis put the Hondurans ahead when he chested a pass from Kevin Alvarez and lobbed the ball over two defenders and inside a post of goalkeeper Ethan Horvath.

The U.S. had just two shots on goal in each half. The best chance was in

the 63rd, minute, when goalkeeper Luis Lopez made a diving one-handed deflection on Carter-Vickers' header off a corner kick.

Elis doubled the lead when he flicked the ball inside the far post following Kevin Lopez's cross.

"We had our plan, but we weren't able to do it in the right way," Herzog said. "That's the most disappointing thing."

As the Americans pressed for a goal, Trapp, Fatai Alashe and Jerome Kiesewetter were given yellow cards from the 75th minute on.

"It's an emotional game with a lot on the line," Trapp said. "They managed the game pretty well. Can't fault them for that."



West Indies' cricket legend Sir Garfield Sobers speaks during the opening ceremony of the ICC Cricket World Cup at Trelawny Stadium, Jamaica, Sunday, March 11, 2007.

Associated Press/ Andres Leighton, File

## Greatest all round cricketer Sir Garfield to be honored

Continued from page 43

The two teams will play Test matches at the Galle International Stadium (Oct. 14-18) in the coastal town of Galle; and the P Sara Oval (Oct. 22-26) in the capital, Colombo.

Sir Gary, 79, is rated as the greatest all-rounder of all time.

The left-handed Barbadian played 93

Test matches for West Indies between 1954 and 1974. He scored 8,032 runs with 26 centuries and took 235 wickets. He also held 209 catches.

Tissera, 75, is a highly respected former Sri Lanka captain and team manager. He represented the country in the pre-Test era and played in the first Cricket World Cup in 1975.



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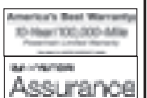
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# Jason Holder stuck in ongoing crisis



## Eyes on Cricket

By George H. Whyte



Sri Lanka's captain Angelo Mathews, right, and West Indies' captain Jason Holder shake hands after a media briefing ahead of their cricket series in Colombo, Sri Lanka, Tuesday, Oct. 6, 2015. The first Test cricket match between them began on Oct. 14. Associated Press / Eranga Jayawardena

West Indies Test and One-day Captain Jason Holder has pleaded with the West Indies Cricket Board to hurry and cease the ongoing conflict between suspended Head Coach Phil Simmons and West Indies Cricket Board (WICB). Holder will have to work with players he has been given and implement the plan they had strategized during the camp in Barbados before the squad left for Sri Lanka.

The West Indies squad in Sri Lanka is mixed with a few experienced players such as Marlon Samuels, Kemar Roach, Jerome Taylor, Darren Bravo and Denesh Ramdin. Several inexperienced players are on the tour and they have to learn quickly about the competitiveness about Test cricket and how to grow.

### BRavo, SAMUELS AND RAMDIN ARE KEY TO WINDIES WINNING

Bravo, Samuels and Ramdin must play pivotal roles if the West Indies team wants to defeat Sri Lanka. Bravo has not scored many runs for the West

Indies in a long time and having gone to Sri Lanka before, he should use that advantage to stay on top of the game.

Sri Lanka has a very young team but on paper the West Indies team has more experience and they should execute their skills fully. Ramdin and Samuels are the seasoned players who should be looking for long innings in the Tests. Both of these players are excellent at batting spin, Samuels in particular, so this should be some guidance to the younger players.

### SHANNON GABRIELS' QUICKNESS CAN BE A FACTOR

Trinidad and Tobago's Shannon Gabriel bowls very fast and most of the time maintains between a speed of 135 to 140 mph. His bowling has great bounce but Sri Lankan wickets are not that bouncy as those

in Australia and South Africa so he will have to create some swing and get the deliveries in the correct places. He cannot only depend on speed to take wickets. The pace combination of Taylor, Roach and Gabriel can create early problems for Sri Lanka's front line batsmen.

### TEST CRICKET IS ABOUT TAKING WICKETS

How well Captain Holder rotates his bowlers will be critical in keeping pressure on the Sri Lankan batsmen. Sri Lanka will be having a very strong middle order batting side and these batsmen are well aware of how their wickets play because they are at home. Holder will have to get his bowlers in the correct rhythm and fresh by avoiding them being overworked in order to capture the 20 wickets needed to win a Test match.

Spinner Devendra Bishoo must be used for short spells as he is not good at bowling the longer ones. Field setting and holding the catches are also important. The West Indies

fielding was not at its best during their last two series against England and Australia. This will be a tough tour for Captain Holder in regards to his decision making.

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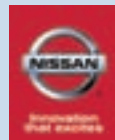
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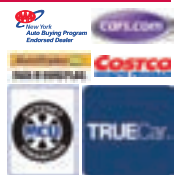
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**ARIES: Mar 21/Apr 20**  
Aries, you can't seem to focus your attention on one thing this week. However, wandering thoughts may put you in touch with some better ideas.

**TAURUS: Apr 21/May 21**  
Taurus, you may like to tackle projects on your own, but sometimes letting someone else pitch in can provide a fresh perspective and a new way of doing things.

**GEMINI: May 22/Jun 21**  
It's time to get serious about your job-seeking efforts, Gemini. Start putting out feelers and see what is available. Also, fine-tune your resumé to get noticed.

**CANCER: Jun 22/Jul 22**  
Cancer, while success brings you many things, it can feel lonely at the top. Make some time to reconnect and hang out with friends this week.

**LEO: Jul 23/Aug 23**  
Leo, listen more than you speak in the coming days. You can learn so much more by remaining quiet and taking it all in, and others will appreciate your attentiveness.

**VIRGO: Aug 24/Sept 22**  
Virgo, after an exciting event, life may seem a little mundane for a while. Happiness is what you make of it. Try a new hobby or make some new friends.

**LIBRA: Sept 23/Oct 23**  
Expand your social circles and you may meet some influential new people, Libra. This can only help your reputation and open up new doors to various opportunities.

**SCORPIO: Oct 24/Nov 22**  
Scorpio, take control of a situation that comes to light this week. No one else seems capable of taking the reins but you. Chances are you will be an excellent leader.

**SAGITTARIUS: Nov 23/Dec 21**  
Sagittarius, you may be unable to keep everything organized this week. Don't fret, as you need not be in complete control at every moment.

**CAPRICORN: Dec 22/Jan 20**  
Capricorn, you may be inspired to do something creative but don't know where to begin. Pisces may be a good source of inspiration. You can work on a project together.

**AQUARIUS: Jan 21/Feb 18**  
Aquarius, make the necessary changes in your life to put primary goals back on target. These may be career or fitness goals or even plans to increase family time.

**PISCES: Feb 19/Mar 20**  
Pisces, this week may start off a little differently than most, but by midweek you will find your groove.

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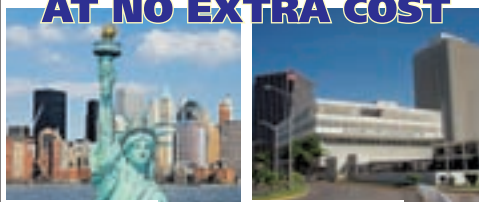
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