

# Caribbean Life

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Brooklyn/Staten Island Edition

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**NDTC returns to  
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## Benedict urged to stay away

By Nelson A. King

Cuban dissidents say that almost 750 activists have signed a letter to Pope Benedict XVI warning that his forthcoming visit to the Spanish-speaking Caribbean island would “send a message to the oppressors that they can continue” to abuse Catholic opponents.

“We would be very happy to receive you in our country, if the message of faith, love and hope that you could bring us also would serve to halt the repression against those who want to go to church,” said the dissidents in the letter made available to reporters in Havana, the Cuban capital.

The letter did not directly urge the pontiff to cancel his planned Mar. 26-28 visit to Havana and Santiago de Cuba, but added, “May the Holy Trinity illuminate your mind so that you can make a correct decision.”

The letter was the latest word from Cuban dissidents, who claim that the pope’s visit would legitimize Raúl Castro’s government and do little or nothing to improve human rights on

Continued on page 4



## In Champions' Row!

Samson Usilo of Nazareth HS is caught between two St. Agnes players as his team emerges at the top of the CHSAA League championships. See page 43.

Photo by Lem Peterkin

# SUMMIT WITH A GROUSE

## Caricom leaders head to Suriname

By Bert Wilkinson

Caribbean Community (Caricom) leaders head to Suriname this week for their annual mid-year retreat with what would normally contain a list of mundane agenda items on their plate, but recent grumblings from one of the most influential among the current bunch could generate enough sound bites and quotes to make the two-day summit starting on Thursday a memorable one.

For one thing, Prime Minister Ralph Gonsalves of St. Vincent and

the Grenadines, usually the most outspoken of leaders at any forum which he attends, has already signaled his intention to highlight a string of “grouses” he and the Caricom sub-grouping -- the nine-nation OECS, have with the regional integration movement, not the least among them being limited development aid available to the smaller island-nations.

Gonsalves says in a most recent letter to colleague prime ministers

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The latest Caribbean news and information at [www.caribbeanlifeneews.com](http://www.caribbeanlifeneews.com)

Caribbean

Prince Edward, the youngest child of Queen Elizabeth II and his wife Princess Sophie are visiting several Caribbean islands to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee according to an announcement by Buckingham Palace.

"It's even more significant given that it would be the first tour of any for the royals to any countries worldwide for these celebrations," states the release.

Prince Edward and Princess Sophie who carry the titles, the Earl and Countess of Wessex will spend a total of two weeks visiting Trinidad and Tobago, Barbados, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Grenada, Montserrat, St. Kitts and Nevis, Anguilla and Antigua and Barbuda.

The visit began on Feb. 21 in St. Lucia and will end on March 3.

The ship used by the royal couple, Fort Rosalie, is part of the fleet that replenishes warships of the Royal Navy and allied navies with food, stores and ammunition, whilst underway,

It currently provides the UK government's presence in the Caribbean, strengthening regional ties and in support of Counter Narcotic Operatives.

Barbados

The Barbados and Eastern Caribbean operations of the crashed CLICO insurance company have been bought by a Barbadian entrepreneur.

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News from back home  
updated daily at

www.caribbeanlifeneews.com

# Michel Martelly nominates Lamothe for prime minister

By Nelson A. King

Haiti President Michel Martelly on March 1 nominated his Foreign Minister Laurent Lamothe, as the next prime minister in the earthquake-ravaged, French-speaking Caribbean country.

Senate President Simon Desras said Lamonthe, 39, one of Martelly's closest advisors and longtime friend, was named in an official letter to lawmakers.

Martelly and Lamonthe were partners in Global Voice Group, a South Africa-based telecom company, which among other things, offer pre-paid calling cards, before Martelly's candidacy for president. Lamothe represented Haiti on the country's Davis Cup team in the mid-1990s.

Haitian legislators have already begun discussing whether Lamothe meets the basic constitutional requirements to replace caretaker Prime Minister Garry Camille, who resigned a week before after four months on the job.

Among the issues being raised among senators are Lamothe's residency, nationality and the need for him to present a "dis-



Haiti's Foreign Minister Laurent Lamothe.

AP Photo/Dieu Nalio Chery

charge," a document clearing him of any mismanagement of state funds in the four months he has been foreign minister.

Haiti's constitution not only forbids the prime minister from holding a foreign passport, but the individual is required to have lived in the country for the past five years.

Before his foray into Haitian politics, the U.S.-educated Lamothe was a businessman living in Miami and parts of Africa, where his company did extensive business.

Lamothe was born in Port-au-Prince, but like others in the Martelly administration, has been

the subject of dual nationality accusations by some lawmakers. He has denied renouncing his Haitian citizenship.

After Martelly, Lamothe's has been the most visible face of the Haitian government. He has used his position as foreign minister to promote foreign investment, and he serves as co-chairman of the Presidential Advisory Council for the Economic Development and Investment in Haiti along with former President Bill Clinton.

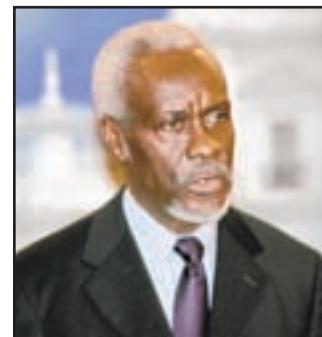
"I am not sure why Lamothe wants to be prime minister. He is in a position of power. He

was even more powerful than Conille," Michel Eric Gaillard, a Port-au-Prince political analyst, referring to Lamothe's closeness to Martelly and reputation as the "go-to" guy even among some foreign diplomats seeking to influence Martelly, told reporters.

"For Lamothe to win the nomination, President Martelly will need to improve on his negotiating skills with the parliament," he added.

Lamothe's nomination comes less than a week after Conille's surprised resignation. He stepped down amid tensions with Martelly and members of his cabinet. Conille is the 10th prime minister to be deposed or dismissed, or who has resigned, since Haiti ushered in democracy in 1986.

In a statement after Conille's resignation, Clinton, who co-chaired the Interim Haiti Recovery Commission, said he had "tremendous respect for Prime Minister Conille and his decision to step down." Conille had served as a top Clinton aide in his role as U.N. Special Envoy for Haiti and co-chairman of the recovery commission.



Former Jamaica Prime Minister Percival James Patterson.

AP Photo/Santiago Llanquin

## Patterson calls on region to unite

By Azad Ali

Former Jamaica Prime Minister PJ Patterson has called on Caribbean nations to press ahead with the regional integration project, including the adoption of the Caribbean Court of Justice (CCJ) as their appellate court.

Patterson who was speaking at a recent celebratory dinner held in his honor at the Round Hill Hotel in the northwestern parish of Hanover urged states to work together to develop the region and protect their interests, just as how the once-warring European Union countries have done.

"The challenges which we face oblige us, not just out of a question of sentiment, but of shared necessity, to pool our collective strengths and combine all our resources in the development of the Caribbean to which we belong," he told the banquet.

Patterson, an early architect of the Caribbean Court of Justice, said the Caribbean community member states should embrace the CCJ as their final court of appeal and replace the Privy Council in London, stating that the questions surrounding the court have been answered.

"We have already paid for the Caribbean Court of Justice in full, whether or not we use it as our final appellate court, so let's embrace it," he said.

Jamaica retains appeals to the Privy Council for civil and criminal matters but Patterson's recently-elected People's National Party (PNP) government has signaled its intention to join the CCJ.

# Runako Morton dies in car crash

By Azad Ali

West Indies cricketer Runako Morton, 33, was killed in a car crash on the Sir Solomon Highway, while heading to his home in Princess Town, South Trinidad around 11:00 p.m. on Sunday night

Morton reportedly lost control of his car and crashed into a utility pole. He was the lone occupant in the car.

Nevis-born Morton, who has been living in Trinidad for several years playing Club cricket had earlier left the Queen's Park Cricket Club, Port of Spain.

The right-handed batsman and off-break bowler started his Test

career against Sri Lanka in Colombo in July, 2005. His last Test was against Australia in 2010 at Sydney.

Morton played his first One-Day International against Pakistan in 2002 and made his Twenty20 debut against New Zealand in 2006.

In all, he played 15 Tests scoring 1192 runs at an average of 22.03. His high score was 70 not out.

In the ODIs, he played 56 matches scoring 1519 runs with a score of 110 not out and an average of 33.75. He played seven Twenty20s with a highest score of 40 at an average of 16.00

His international career with the West Indies spanned eight years but he was unable to win a regular place in the side because of the controversies he was embroiled in.

He also played 95 first class matches and represented the Leeward Islands, before moving to Trinidad and Tobago. He also represented T&T in first class matches.

Last March Morton and his compatriot, Leeward Islands cricketer Elequemundo Willett were charged with possession of marijuana after police searched a car in which they were occupants and allegedly seized the "weed."



West Indies batsman Runako Morton died in a car crash in Trinidad.

AP Photo/Chris Brandis

They pleaded not guilty and were released on bail. The case is yet to be completed.



**Councilman Jumaane Williams introduced three bills to City Council as part of a campaign to end discriminatory policing practices by the NYPD.**

Photo by Tequila Minsky

## Calling for more accountability from the NYPD

By Tequila Minsky

Council Member Jumaane Williams joined other elected officials and Communities United for Police Reform (CPR) in a campaign to end discriminatory policing practices in New York City last week. They are launching a legislative effort to raise NYPD accountability.

The coalition, seemingly spearheaded by Councilman Williams (at least, legislatively), brings together community groups, city council members and advocacy individuals and organizations who believe “enough is enough” with the erosion of New Yorkers’ civil liberties, particularly for those who are black and brown.

Braving a blustery rain, supporters took shelter under City Hall’s portico

as Williams articulated the legislation – three bills – he was about to introduce to the State Council Meeting to protect New Yorkers against discriminatory NYPD practices, including unlawful and seemingly capricious searches.

“We need to empower 90 percent of New Yorkers that are innocent with legal protections, stronger oversight and better policing practices. I am convinced that this legislation will improve community policing by creating stronger relations between the police and the community,” Williams said.

Williams has himself been the target of NYPD profiling, stopped in Williamsburg while driving, last year, and then a month later, detained and handcuffed with Kirstin

**Continued on page 3**

# PAL tournament of Champions

500 youngsters from the five boroughs of New York City competed in city-wide tournaments during a fun-filled day of educational games and laughter on Feb. 22 at the Police Athletic League’s (PAL) Annual Educational Tournament of Champions at PAL’s Edward Byrne Center in Queens.

Champions, ages six to 13 from PAL’s Duncan Center in Hells Kitchen, PAL’s Harlem Center and PAL’s Armory Center in Washington Heights, challenged their peers from PAL centers across the city in Checkers, Boggle, a Spelling Bee, Ping Pong, a Math Bowl, Trouble, UNO, PAL’s Fitness Challenge, Mancala, Tangram Challenges, Basketball and a Boat Expo.

The Tournament of Champions is an annual PAL event, fostering better understanding and relationships by bringing together boys and girls of different ethnic and cultural backgrounds. PAL encourages youngsters to develop athletic and educational skills, and the sportsmanship qualities of discipline, fair play and healthy competition.

New York City’s Police Athletic League is the first and finest civilian-run PAL in the country. Founded in 1914, PAL has served the city’s young people for 97 years. PAL provides recreational, educational, cultural and social activities to over 50,000 boys and girls annually. It is also the city’s largest, independent, nonprofit youth organization. For more information, please visit [www.palnyc.org](http://www.palnyc.org).



**PAL Youngsters built boats to participate in the Boat Challenge Expo.**



**Young people participate in PAL’s Fitness Challenge.**



**Children participated in ping pong at PAL’s tournament of Champions.**

## Stanford convicted in international ponzi scheme

By Nelson A. King

A federal jury in Houston, TX on Mar. 6 found Texas financier Allen Stanford guilty of masterminding a “massive” US\$7 billion Ponzi scheme involving certificates of deposits (CDs) at Stanford’s Antigua-based Stanford International Bank (SIB).

The jury of eight men and four women found Stanford guilty of all but one of the 14 counts against him, including wire and mail fraud and obstructing a US Securities and

Exchange Commission (SEC) probe. He faces up to 20 years in prison for each fraud count when he is sentenced.

Stanford was found not guilty of a single wire fraud count related to bribing an Antiguan official with Super Bowl tickets.

“We are disappointed in the outcome,” defense lawyer Ali Fazel told reporters outside Houston Federal District Court. “We expect to appeal.”

Robert Scardino, Stanford’s other lead attorney, said the defense team will “examine issues for a new trial.”

Prosecutors said Stanford used investors’ money to fund a series of failed businesses, bribe regulators and pay for luxuries, such as yachts and private jets.

His attorneys had portrayed Stanford as a visionary entrepreneur who made money for investors and conducted legitimate business deals.

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Continued from cover

and presidents that he has some "specific grouses" linked mostly to what he called the "limited capitalization of the Caricom Development Fund (CDF) and "the veritable collapse" of the petroleum fund that Trinidad under the previous Patrick Manning administration had offered to sister bloc nations.

Since Kamla Persad-Bissessar became the Trinidad and Tobago (T&T) prime minister nearly two years ago, she has signaled that millions in grant aid from the petroleum fund would dry up because T&T "is not the ATM" of the Caribbean. And judging by Gonsalves' interpretation of the state of play, it appears that Port of Spain has carried through with threats to whither up the fund to virtually no releases in at all in recent months.

Railing against alleged unfair competition and the inability of the regional powers-that-be to level the playing field, the second-term prime minister argued that manufacturing is on the decline in the OECS, and fingered Trinidad as being one of the main culprits of unfair trade and competition.

Trinidad also came into his sights for offering its own carrier, Caribbean Airlines, a fuel

subsidy that makes it unprofitable and harder for Antigua-based commuter airline, LIAT, to continue its lifeline services to islands across the region. LIAT, he says, might well approach the regional trade court to resolve the issue.

There is a "prevailing sentiment" in the OECS that "Caricom's service to, and sensibility towards, the OECS member-states are less than desirable," he noted, contending that "some of these complaints are more easily addressed than others but that they are all evidently soluble if we are committed, on an on-going basis, to solving them. If not satisfactorily alleviated, these problems or limitations would fester further; in time they are likely to become septic and debilitating," Gonsalves said.

Other agenda items would as usual include a review of the functioning of the single trading market, the debilitating turmoil in West Indies and Guyanese cricket, the visit of the president of Chile and Haiti's continuing struggle to get back on its feet after the January 2011 devastating earthquake that reportedly killed more than 300,000 as all roads lead this week to Paramaribo, the Surinamese capital.

# Dissidents against papal visit

Continued from cover

the communist-ruled island. Popular blogger Yoani Sánchez wrote in Spain's El País newspaper that while Cubans enthusiastically welcomed Pope John Paul II's visit in 1998, today "a dose of national cynicism conspires against any enthusiasm."

Havana dissident Martha Beatriz Roque said the idea for the letter emerged several weeks ago among activists, including Catholics and non-Catholics, and from various groups who know each other and talk regularly about Cuban issues.

"This does not come from any specific group, but rather from many people who are in contact with each other, and then each group sought the signatures in the provinces," Roque told reporters.

Roque said she emailed the letter to contacts abroad, along with the list of 749 names of people who signed it and their respective Cuban identity card numbers.

She said some of Cuba's best-known dissidents, such as Guillermo Fariñas, Sara Martha

Fonseca, Vladimiro Roca, Jorge Luis "Antunez" García Pérez and his wife, Iris Tamara Perez Aguilar were among the letter signers.

Some dissidents have, however, cautiously welcomed the papal visit as "a ray of hope"

But some see it as a ray of hope.

for the Cuban people and the Catholic Church, Roque said.

Catholic activists Oswaldo Payá and Dagoberto Valdés, Ladies in White leader Bertha Soler and her husband, former political prisoner Angel Moya, and dissident Oscar Elias Biscet did not sign the letter, Roque said.

She said that she has been asking for an interview with the Vatican's diplomatic envoy in Havana, Msgr. Bruno Musaro, for the past month, to hand over the letter but is yet to receive any response.

The letter says that since abuses against Catholics has increased after the papal visit was announced, Benedict's

presence in Cuba "would be like sending a message to the oppressors that they can continue to do whatever they want, that the church will allow it."

It cites three cases in which alleged government supporters harassed or threatened dissidents who had gathered in churches, including one on Feb. 19 in which the archbishop of Santiago de Cuba had to intervene to protect 14 Ladies in White surrounded at the Our Lady of Charity shrine in El Cobre.

"One should add that on top of all that, some of the faithful are visited by the political police, between Friday and Saturday of each week, to be warned that they will not be allowed to attend mass — and, indeed, they are arrested on Sunday," the letter adds.

The letter also states that the government alleges the dissidents go to church only "to provoke and engage in politicking", adding that "some non-official people" have repeated that line.

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## In recognition of National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day (March 10)

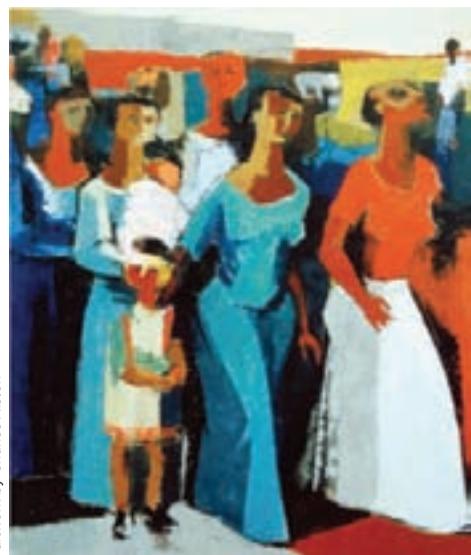
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Team Leader, Minority, HIV/AIDS  
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6:30 PM – 8:00 PM: COMMUNITY DISCUSSION

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**MARTHA STARK** Co-Vice Chair, GMHC Board of Directors and  
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Guest Panelists:

**INGRID FLOYD, MBA** Executive Director, Iris House

**JACQUELINE EBANKS, MS**  
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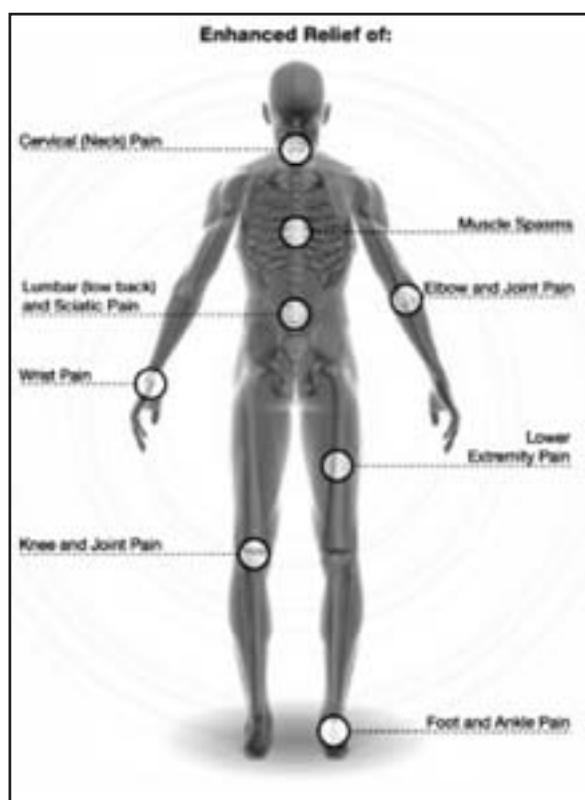
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- John M.

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# T&T's PM survives no-confidence motion

A no-confidence motion in the Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago, Kamla Persad-Bissessar by Opposition Leader Dr. Keith Rowley was defeated in the House of Representatives on Saturday after a historic 27 and a half hours of debate.

All 20 government MPs voted against, while 11 opposition MPs voted in favor of the motion, which began on Friday at 1.30 p.m. and ended after 5:00

p.m. the following day.

It was the longest sitting in the history of the country's Parliament, Speaker Wade Mark told the House.

No MP abstained from voting. The 12th People's National Movement (PNM) MP, former Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago Patrick Manning is in the USA recuperating from a stroke.

In her contribution Persad-Bissessar delivered a stinging attack on

Rowley for making allegations against her without a shred of evidence, said the objective of the motion was to get her fired and bring down the government, but the opposition had failed in its attempt.

"The motion was doomed to fail. You must come with evidence," she said.

She said for 12 years Rowley's former leader Patrick Manning had to put up with him and had even described him as a "raging

bull and a man completely out of control."

Dr. Rowley first announced he had filed a motion against Persad-Bissessar when he spoke at a news conference recently.

He noted that the opposition was going to lose the vote on the motion because of the government's numerical advantage in the Parliament. "The actual votes cast are not the matter at hand, it



Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago, Kamla Persad-Bissessar.

sustainable employment; a consistent unwillingness to act in the best interest of the people of T&T and an absence of effective management of officers under the control of the prime minister, resulting in persistent confusion and encouragement of wrongdoing in the conduct of the national affairs of the country, as the reasons why he is calling on the House "to express its concern and lack of confidence in Persad-Bissessar."

Rowley said he wanted the prime minister to account for her stewardship since her government took office 22 months ago.

The People's Partnership government comprises a coalition of five political parties.

is what is said in the debate and we (PNM) have a lot to say to the government," he said.

The text of Rowley's motion cites the prime minister's gross incompetence, failure to stimulate the economy and create

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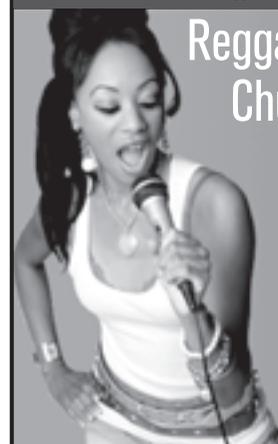
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## Letter

# Jamaica Prime Minister supports Gayle's recall

To The Editor:

Kudos to Jamaican Prime Minister Portia Simpson Miller for taking a stand on the Chris Gayle-West Indies Cricket Board (WICB) issue and the incompetence of those who run West Indies cricket. The response by the WICB was not only out of order and illogical, but also arrogant, disrespectful of a head of state and smacked of 'massa' mentality.

To suggest that a head of state was misinformed on a matter that has been so highly publicised is indicative of the attitude of the WICB over the years that it is the only repository of what is accurate and valid.

Furthermore, the claim that Gayle's comments were "tantamount to a member of the Jamaican Cabinet lambasting and deriding the leader of the Cabinet and fellow Cabinet colleagues and being returned to that august body without any accountability for his or her actions" is ludicrous at best. For one, Gayle is not a member of the WICB so he cannot be equated to a cabinet member. Secondly, like any citizen of the region, Gayle has the right to freedom of expression. Thirdly, Gayle is not simply an employee of the board but a cricketer representing the entire West Indies and one who has done so with acclaim over the years.

Finally, the WICB is not a ruling cabinet with political power nor a corporate board in charge of private interests but a group delegated to take care of our cricket and that delegation comes from the people of the region.

The simple fact is that Gayle's comments reflect the views and feelings of the majority of West Indian cricket fans and lovers, thus if the WICB was not a group of self-righteous dons, it would have taken cognizant of the sentiments of Gayle and the thousands of others expressed over the years and really put in place recommendations to address its incompetence and maladministration of the past two decades or so.

Madam Portia Simpson has taken a stand. It is time that other heads of state and governments join her in calling on the WICB for accountability and reform so that our cricket can get back on a footing that would lay the base for its rise once again.

Meanwhile, we ask all fans and lovers of West Indies cricket to please do the following:

1. Write letters to the media calling on governments to follow the lead of the Jamaican prime minister.

2. Call, fax or write the West Indies Cricket Board to express your views about their incompetence and mismanagement.

3. Log on the Facebook page 'Guardians of WI Cricket', click the like button (<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Guardians-Of-WI-Cricket/353213088034412?sk=wall&filter=1>) and share your views. Also invite others to do so.

4. Sign the petition that will be sent to the WICB – link on the FB page 'Guardians of WI Cricket.' The petition will be available soon.

*Annan Boodram*

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

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## Op-Ed

# Fighting to protect affording health care

By David R. Jones

A recent New York Times article found how dependent many Americans are on public benefits, even while supporting candidates and policies that would wipe out such programs. I've just been through my own "wake up call" experience over the past two months. I oversee the care of my 93-year-old mother who resides in a group care setting in Manhattan.

Over the past year, she had to be admitted to the New York Cornell Hospital on two occasions -- basically to get a full battery of tests -- once after a fall, the other time because of an infection. In both cases, things turned out well; no broken bones and an easily treatable infection. The bills, on the other hand, would have virtually wiped her out if she wasn't covered by Medicare. Between CAT scans, a couple of days of care in the emergency room and on the wards, x-rays, etc., the bills that I looked at exceeded \$50,000 and climbing -- all fully covered, but an unmitigated disaster if she were uninsured.

But as I reviewed all the paperwork, I realized how neither the White House, elected officials, nor advocates like me have been adequately conveying to the general public just what is at stake in insuring that the American Care Act (ACA), aka "Obama Care," is kept in force.

It's under direct attack now in the courts; the Supreme Court agreed to determine its legality (Florida v. Department of Health and Human Services, No. 11-400). And it's become an article of faith for the Republican candidates for president that their first priority if elected would be to seek its repeal.

The attacks on the legislation are often abetted by the fact that virtually no one in the general public understands what this legislation means to them and their families. In the absence of understanding, the radio talk show hosts have convinced many Americans across the economic and political spectrum that the ACA either has no relationship to them or, at worst, will deny them access to health care. Part of the problem is that the main provisions of the ACA don't kick in until 2014, so the tangible benefits are still in the future for most of us.

But it's also a fact that the manner in which the act was passed was primarily an "insider's game," convincing the major interests -- insurers, hospitals, doctors, and members of Congress -- that the act would not destabilize their interests. Very little effort was made to enlist broad-based public support for the act and now, as a consequence, there needs to be a broad-based education effort to get people to

understand just what's at stake for them and their families.

And the stakes are enormous. Already, in the Great Recession and its aftermath, 62 percent of personal bankruptcies are directly attributable to the inability to pay for health care. An estimated 50 million Americans lack health insurance, including the 9.3 million adults who lost health insurance due to the recession. Even under the compromises which led to the passage of the ACA, fully 95 percent of Americans would be covered by 2014. This would be an enormous help not only for the working poor, but for virtually everyone who isn't super wealthy.

My organization, the Community Service Society (CSS), has had a ringside seat at how the act is beginning to have significant positive impact on a great number of New Yorkers. Largely through the efforts of New York's U.S. senators, a special provision was inserted in ACA, which required each state to establish an Ombuds Program to assist consumers in the inevitable challenges they face accessing health care or coverage.

In New York State, CSS supervises a group of 28 non-profits, ranging from the Medicare Rights Center to the Adirondack Health Institute, in order to help level the playing field for individuals trying to get the coverage they're entitled to. In the first year of operation (November 2010 to September 2011), our network provided counseling or education to 28,589 New Yorkers, including individual case assistance to 10,506, and our Helpline assisted 2,911 people (888-614-5400; [www.communityhealthadvocates.org](http://www.communityhealthadvocates.org)). We also conducted 750 training events for 18,083 advocates, consumers, and providers.

Some of the cases we've handled involve getting people insurance they are entitled to under the ACA. For example, up to the age of 26, children of insured people can now be covered under the ACA. Just as significantly, people with pre-existing conditions, even cancer or renal failure, can now get insurance coverage where none was available before the act was passed.

We've put a small booklet together which describes some of the cases: Health Reform Works: How the Affordable Care Act is Already Making a Difference for New Yorkers (2012). But now we have to urge the White House and other players to start to get the message out to consumers that this act must survive in order to avoid what could be a real tragedy for huge numbers of Americans -- financial ruin at best and dire health outcomes, including early death, at worst.

President and CEO, Community Service Society of New York

# Between a rock and a hard place

By Les Slater

Let's face it. Republicans had to know they were in trouble when the serious challengers to what many thought to be Mitt Romney's secure hold on the nomination turned out first to be Newt Gingrich and more recently, Rick Santorum. Primary and caucus voters apparently came to see the outlandishness of Gingrich possibly heading the 2012 GOP ticket and have pulled back from that but, implausibly, have looked in the direction of an alternative wrapped in as much, if not more freakishness. Selling Santorum as possessing credible presidential mettle is probably as good an admission as there could be of being sapped of all energy to make this fight – the party throwing in the towel in the effort to come up with a choice who did not, like Romney, flunk the far-right's litmus test.

The Republicans' plight has been generating lots of buzz from commentators. How unimpressive is the field of candidates tends to be a popularly held view. As is the boomerang effect of what GOP strategists figured to be a sure-fire tactic for dominating the political space, the scheduling of that bewildering series of debates. Maureen Dowd of the New York Times, in her typically droll summarizing of where the Republicans currently find themselves, suggested that Santorum should just get lost so as to leave Romney alone "to limp across the finish line," thence to devote "full time and attention to losing to President Obama."

It's early yet, but there's much folks are seeing about how this presidential race stacks up that leads many an observer to call it exactly as Dowd has. She in fact speculates that the Republicans may have already caved on 2012, and have begun looking four years down the road. Don't try convincing Santorum or Romney of that, though. Romney will keep right on trying to make

## Viewpoint

the case that he's the Mr. Fixit the country needs. And Santorum will just as doggedly be insisting that the hard-line ideological twaddle he seeks to propagate is America's last best hope.

Even if the Republican high command has tacitly pulled the plug on the party's 2012 prospects, candidate Romney, if he becomes the nominee, as is widely presumed, has got to acquire a rap that makes sense. To continue saying of the president, that he has no ideas, that the job is too big for him, that it's a failed presidency, etc sounds more hollow with each new report of Obama's job approval numbers on a steady upswing. I mean, how long do you continue trying to make the case of ineptness against a guy who nailed bin Laden where seven post-9/11 years of a Republican administration failed to do so? How long do you continue trying to convince an electorate that this administration's decision to bail out the auto industry was horrible and should have been left to the private sector (at a time that banks were themselves reeling!), now that the U.S. auto sector has come roaring back? No doubt about it, barring some cataclysmic new turn in the country's economic fortunes, the hard, unyielding ground on which Romney finds himself standing these days looks to become, if anything, even harder.

That Santorum's name is in the conversation about contenders for the presidency is bizarre enough. But, given a platform, via those infernal debates, to play to his gallery, he made capital of the opportunity and pressed hard to arouse the soft-on-Romney base. Still, how Santorum and the bunch of zealots who identify with the

extremist social conservative screed he is always ready to unleash, can seriously entertain dreams of his elevation to the presidency is beyond the comprehension of those of us of more rational bent. Here's a guy who not only doesn't hesitate to publicly repudiate the doctrine of separation of church and state, but does so in a manner callous and disrespectful enough to infuriate some even in the religious community to which he panders. Those must be some mighty strange urgings to which he responds in relating that he felt like throwing up upon reviewing candidate John Kennedy's famous declaration about Catholic dogma not influencing his conduct of American policy.

Then there's the view from Pennsylvania to be considered, where Santorum didn't merely lose his Senate seat when he last ran for re-election, he wound up on the short end of an 18 point shellacking. That such a drubbing can be fast-forwarded to a certified non-starter like Rick Santorum making like he really belongs in presidential politics is entirely due to the orchestrated work the Republican Party rolled out as the nomination drill this time around. It is, one imagines, the kind of scenario that gave rise to the expression: Only in America!

It is therefore not without justification that there's continued referencing of the unflattering state of the Republicans' quest for a presidential candidate. On the one hand, a presumptive nominee whose feet, anchored in some pretty forbidding terrain, as we've said, don't exactly suggest growth potential. On the other hand, a Rick (the tiresome process has been bedeviled by two of them) who, never mind the histrionics, is going absolutely nowhere. Truth be told, the Romney-Santorum duel looks much like Maureen Dowd chose to describe it: a race to the bottom. Caught between a Rick and a hard place isn't quite where the GOP faithful would care to be.

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# Cut the auto insurance fraud tax

By Peter M. Rivera

New York State adopted its no-fault auto insurance system in the 1970s to contain litigation costs, which were driving up auto insurance premiums for ratepayers, while making sure victims with minor injuries got quick compensation without regard to fault. To aid victims with more serious injuries, such as fracture, significant disfigurement, or death, the system protects a victim's right to sue in court.

Today, New York's no-fault auto insurance system permits up to 50,000 dollars in coverage for any individual who is seriously and legitimately injured in auto accident. Unfortunately, amidst a tough economy, this payout sets the stage for criminals to commit massive and highly organized fraud at the expense of honest drivers. As a result, this criminal activity costs New Yorkers upwards of 200 million dollars each year by way of a "Fraud Tax" in the form of higher insurance premiums.

No-fault auto insurance fraud and staged auto accidents have escalated over the last several years. New Yorkers currently pay 53 percent more than the national average for auto insurance premiums, placing our state fourth most expensive for such costs in the nation. Costs are particularly high in the Bronx, where drivers pay as much as 335% more than the statewide average, due in large part to rampant no-fault fraud.

Make no mistake about it, no-fault fraud is perpetuated by highly organized criminal rackets which involve a number of players who play specific roles in these

## Op-Ed

schemes. In some instances, these criminals target unsuspecting drivers by purposely causing accidents in order to cash-in on no-fault payouts. Other times, "runners" prey on victims of legitimate car accidents with a sophisticated web of lies and deceit in order to steer them in the direction of unscrupulous medical mills where crooked doctors either bill insurance providers for a battery of procedures that were not medically necessary or were never performed in the first place. No matter the details of these fraud schemes, this criminal activity puts innocent people at risk and is highly lucrative for the perpetrators who are determined to defraud New York's no-fault auto insurance system only to leave honest ratepayers in the red.

This is not to say that no-fault auto insurance is not a good idea – it is. However, our state's outdated and broken system is not working as efficiently and cost-effectively as it should. In fact, since 2007, the suspected number of no-fault claims has increased more than 26 percent, raising the cost of no-fault claims and the "Fraud Tax" by 50 percent in the process. What we need now, more than ever, are real reforms that put a stop to the rampant criminal abuses which have cost New Yorkers \$627.5 million over the last three years, while at the same time maintaining protections for people who

are hurt in auto accidents.

Reforming New York's no-fault auto insurance system does not require a wholesale overhaul. Instead, Albany can and must act now in order to keep the cost of insurance premiums down for hardworking New Yorkers and small business owners and ensure fast and fair settlement of legitimate no-fault claims by passing meaningful legislation that will dramatically reduce fraud and close the loopholes in our state's broken auto insurance system.

New York's ratepayers will benefit from reforms that will control escalating premium costs and make our streets safer, including allowing insurers and law enforcement sufficient time to conduct investigations into suspicious claims; decertifying health care providers who commit no-fault insurance fraud; and increasing felony charges for criminal who stage accidents and steer victims toward medical mills.

I urge my colleagues in the legislature to join me in the call for reforms so that we can fix New York's broken no-fault auto insurance system, cut the "Fraud Tax," stop paying high premiums and start to put dollars back in the pockets of New Yorkers at a time when they need it most.

For more information regarding no-fault auto insurance fraud, please visit <http://www.i-issues.com/new-york/>

*Peter M. Rivera is New York State Assemblyman for the 76th Assembly District.*

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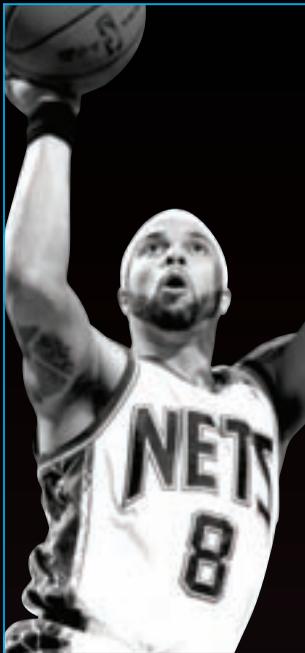
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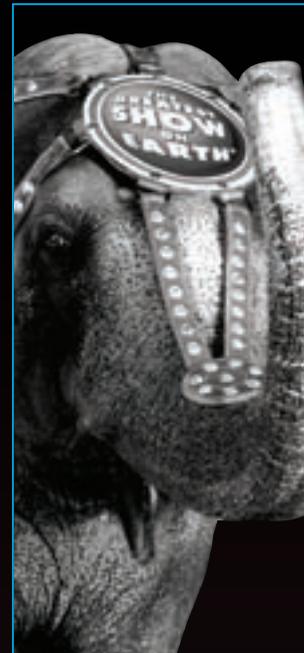
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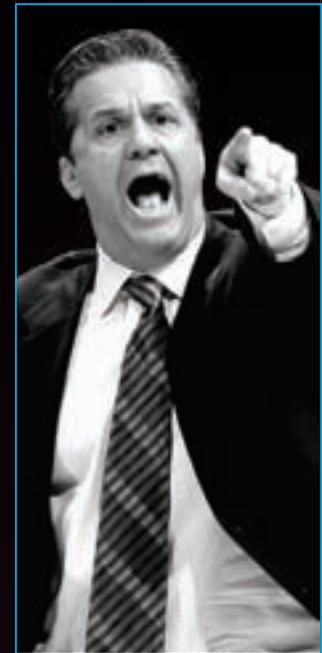
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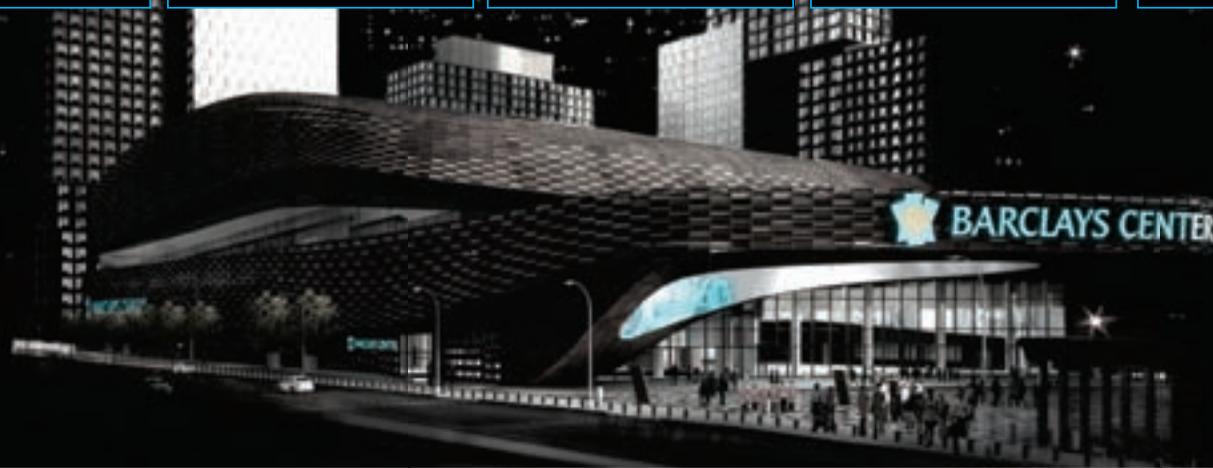
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# Reduce LGBT youth suicide

*Distributed By Healthy Living News*

A new study shows that support from friends and family may be the best protection from suicide and self-harm for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) youth.

The study, conducted by Northwestern University researchers and published in the American Journal of Preventive Medicine, is the first of its type to look at thoughts of hopelessness, HIV-risk behaviors, and suicide, among LGBT youth. The study determined the importance of support for LGBT youth from friends and family in minimizing these negative thoughts and actions.

For more than two years, researchers regularly interviewed 246 sexual minority youths, ages 16 – 20, about various health risk factors and behaviors. Up to now, similar research among LGBT populations have been done with adults.

The findings show that LGBT youth who are verbally or physically victimized for being gay and who have poor social support are more likely to self-harm or consider suicide. The study showed that each episode of victimization increased HIV-risk behaviors by 2 1/2 times.

On the other hand, LGBT adoles-



cents who know they can talk to their parents about problems and know they have friends who care about them are less likely to consider ending their lives, according to the study.

“When LGBT’s are victimized they are at higher risk of suicidality and self harm, and when they are supported that risk goes way down,” said Lou Bigelow, a director of the LGBT Health & Development program, IMPACT.

Suicide is the third leading cause of death among all youth. LGBT youth are at least twice as likely to attempt suicide than heterosexual youth.

Other studies show LGBT youth face greater pressures and are more socially isolated than heterosexual youth. In one study, 94 percent of LGBT youth were shown to have had at least one experience in which people said cruel things to them, spit on them, destroyed their property and threatened or assaulted them for being gay.

“Our research shows how critical it is for these young people to have social support and for schools to have programs to reduce bullying,” said Brian Mustanski, Ph.D., who is a professor of medical social sciences at Northwestern University and lead researcher of the study.

Dr. Mustanski’s team of researchers added that there are ways to be supportive of LGBT youth.

When a child comes out to parents, a good reaction is one of acceptance instead of judgment, noted Dr. Mustanski, who is also a clinical psychologist. “This lets teens know their parents are approachable for support and are unconditional in their love,” he said.

“An example of an accepting response is, ‘You are still the same child as you were before you told me, and I love you just the same.’ We believe this will help save young lives,” said Dr. Mustanski.



## Doctor, Doctor Questions Often Asked

By Herbert Okun, M.D.  
Diplomate American Board of Urology

### Do not despair surgery is not the next step

*By Herbert Okun, MD*

Most people are afraid of surgery and the hospitalization with anesthesia often required. When faced with an emergency from an accident, there is no time to consider all the possible problems that may ensue.

When there is no emergency however, such as in the case of a man whose symptoms of benign prostatic obstruction have been slowly worsening over a long period of time, there is no rush to seek medical attention. As a result, such a man has plenty of time to think over all the things that might go wrong in submitting to surgery, hospitalization, and anesthesia. Especially when he has heard from his friends or their wives all the horror stories people, for some strange reason, love to relate.

Is it any wonder that men hesitate to seek help for relief of the symptoms of prostate enlargement? It’s so easy to rationalize away the symptoms because they do so vary in intensity and frequency of occurrence. He thinks to himself, “last week I was getting up five times a night from sleep but last night, only twice. I must be getting better.” However, eventually, the symptoms pile up including the increasing difficulty to achieve and maintain an erection, which brings on additional pressure from his wife so he gathers all his bravery and decides to obtain professional help. Then, when asked to describe how his stream has also become more frequent, intermittent, weak, slow, urgent and despite some push-

ing still leaves him with an unsatisfied feeling, it dawns on him that he should have come to the urologist a lot sooner. Happily, he learns that surgery is not yet up even for discussion.

That’s because, once the diagnosis is properly established, treatment most often comes down to the use of various medications, which work in two basic ways. One type actually shrinks the glandular portion of the prostate, which accounts for about 60 percent of the prostate’s weight. The other 40 percent of the prostate consists of muscle tissue, which contracts around the urinary flow tube thereby constricting the stream. The second type of medication, can relax this muscle tissue. These two medications given together are very effective in relieving the annoying symptoms.

However, not every man is able to use these drugs for a variety of reasons: He may develop side effects or be allergic to one or both or there may a drug interaction with another drug he needs for an entirely separate condition or the drugs have subsequently lost their effectiveness. There is still no reason for despair; surgery is not the next step to try to relieve the symptoms. The next step is to consider the use of microwave thermotherapy, which over he past ten years has proven itself quite effective in relieving the symptoms without surgery, anesthesia or hospitalization. There is no need to fear.

*Question? Call Dr. Okun at 718-241-6767*

# Doctors call for a war on sugar

*Distributed By Healthy Living News*

Sugar needs to be controlled like alcohol and tobacco say University of California (UC) health experts. They maintain that sugar is causing a global obesity problem contributing to 35 million deaths annually from diseases like diabetes, heart disease and cancer.

The health experts, doctors in endocrinology, sociology and public health, recently made their case for a war on sugar in the prestigious journal Nature.

The experts believe that sugar’s potential for abuse, and its toxicity and pervasiveness in the Western diet, make it the cause of a worldwide health crisis.

At the levels consumed by most Americans, sugar changes metabolism, raises blood pressure, critically alters hormones and causes significant damage to the liver – the least understood of sugar’s damages. The effects of sugar also mirror prolonged alcohol use.

According to the U.N., diabetes and obesity now pose a greater health problem worldwide than infectious diseases. In the U.S., 75 percent of health care dollars are spent treating sugar related conditions.

Worldwide consumption of sugar has tripled during the past 50 years making it a key contributor of the obesity epidemic. According to the UC doctors, obesity is just a marker for



the damage caused by too much sugar. This helps explain why 40 percent of people with metabolic syndrome — the metabolic changes leading to diabetes, heart disease and cancer — are not clinically obese.

The problem requires community-wide solutions, similar to what has occurred with alcohol and tobacco, one of the doctors said.

“We’re not talking prohibition,” emphasized Laura Schmidt, PhD, MSW, MPH, of the University of California, San Francisco. “We’re talking about gentle ways to make sugar consumption slightly less convenient, thereby moving people away from the concentrated dose. What we want is to actually increase people’s choices by making foods that aren’t loaded with sugar comparatively easier and cheaper to get.”

Meanwhile, a recent study shows that Black and Hispanic families are most likely to buy sugary cereals that are advertised directly to children. The study, which appears in the journal Public Health Nutrition, shows that Ethnic Minority households purchase cereals advertised directly to children at a 13 times higher rate.

The findings may also explain why cereal companies have opposed stronger nutrition standards. Advertising to children appears to be extraordinarily effective at increasing sales the researchers noted. They suggest that improving the nutritional quality of cereals targeted to children could lead to healthier eating.

*Courtesy of Healthy Living News*

# Black History Month and modern slavery

By Colin Harris

In spite of the advances and contributions made by African Caribbeans and African Americans since the days of slavery, an even greater threat exists today: Human Trafficking.

Human Trafficking is modern slavery; it is also the third largest criminal enterprise in the world, according to the FBI's Law Enforcement Bulletin, March 2011.

Yet, human trafficking remains largely unnoticed in our community because people are not aware of its existence. Unlike the past where slaves were openly transported, displayed and sold, this modern version of slavery operates covertly. As one convicted criminal stated: "Those involved in human trafficking are more afraid of community outrage than the police."

Defining a thing is the first step in recognizing it. According to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), human trafficking is a crime against humanity. It involves recruiting,

transporting, transferring, harboring, or receiving persons through the use of force, coercion or other means, for the purpose of exploiting them.

The horror stories of the trans-Atlantic slave trade that are remembered during Black History Month are repeated in the present.

Girls and boys, ages 12 to 14, are "recruited" from the Caribbean and Latin America and shipped to Western Europe and North America, according to UNODC, largely to work as commercial sex slaves. And as slavery in the Caribbean and the U.S. was glamorized during the time of the Atlantic slave trade, today movies and TV glamorize pimps and madams by glossing their lives with big houses, shiny new cars and stacks of cash. The media even depicts sex slaves as willing accomplices. But that is fiction. The truth is the modern slave is lied to, beaten, drugged, raped, constrained and threatened into servicing seven to 15 men a day, held to a quota of \$200 - \$1,000 daily, and

forced to surrender all the money to the pimp or trafficker.

Yet, in the face of public unawareness of this activity and the organized structure of those involved in human trafficking, Youth For Human Rights ([www.youthforhumanrights.org](http://www.youthforhumanrights.org)) has been in the forefront of exposing this criminal activity and eliminating the abuses. Youth For Human Rights joins the efforts of other groups

like Polaris Project ([www.polarisproject.org](http://www.polarisproject.org)) and Safe Horizon ([www.safehorizon.org](http://www.safehorizon.org)) in making sure the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, adapted by 192 countries in December 1948, is upheld.

The hard-won accomplishments of Black people in the Caribbean and the U.S. are threatened by human trafficking. Eleanor Roosevelt expressed what is necessary to maintain the freedom of all men when

she wrote the following in 1948:

"In small places, close to home — so close and so small that they cannot be seen on any maps of the world. Yet they are the world of the individual person; the neighborhood he lives in; the school or college he attends; the factory, farm or office where he works. Such are the places where every man, woman, and child seeks equal justice, equal opportunity,

equal dignity without discrimination. Unless these rights have meaning there, they have little meaning anywhere. Without concerted citizen action to uphold them close to home, we shall look in vain for progress in the larger world."

*Collis Harris Collis Harris is a freelance writer. Contact him: [collisharris@gmail.com](mailto:collisharris@gmail.com) and [www.twitter.com/#chasedbyadream](http://www.twitter.com/#chasedbyadream)*

## Police reform

Continued from page 3

John Foy of the NYC Public Advocate's Office, as they tried to pass a police check-point to attend a West Indian Day breakfast following the parade.

One bill Williams introduced would create an enforceable ban on bias-based profiling by the NYPD, including a prohibition based on age, sex, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, immigration status, and housing status.

A second bill would require NYPD officers to explain a person's right to refuse to consent to a search without a warrant and proof of consent when given.

The third would require officers to provide their name and rank to the subjects of law enforcement activity, as well as the reason for the activity including the officer's business card and a phone number for the Civilian Complaint Review Board.

"The NYPD needs to be

held accountable to New Yorkers just like any other agency," said Council Member Margaret Chin who represents lower Manhattan including Chinatown.

Jean Rice, member of Picture the Homeless spoke at length of NYPD harassment because he is homeless.

The Center for Popular Democracy and Center for Constitutional Rights are among the civil liberties organizations supporting Communities United for Police Reform.

"Hardly a day goes by without another story of NYPD abuse hitting the news and undermining the ability of the community to trust the police department," said New York Civil Liberties Union Executive Director Donna Lieberman. "The landmark legislation introduced today will put New York City at the forefront nationally in the effort to combat discriminatory policing."

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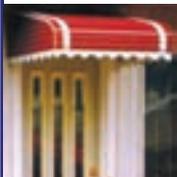
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## Getting Prepared For Spring

As spring approaches and the weather gets warmer you should consider getting estimates for the work you need done around your home. Not only will you receive free estimates more easily in March rather than waiting until April or May but you will find those estimates to be more reasonable by beating the spring price increases. Most manufacturers put yearly price increases into effect April 1st and most contractors get so busy with phone calls in April that they often price jobs higher in anticipation of the new work. Since most quality companies make custom made products that take a few weeks to manufacture you can finalize these lower prices by the end of March yet wait until April, May or even June to have the work done if you so choose. Reputable companies will not only give you a written estimate fully itemized with individual prices but should also give you time to make your decisions regarding those projects and prices.

You may also want to walk around your home to check for any new damage that might have occurred over the winter or during storms. It's always best to address new issues right away rather than waiting and possibly allowing the elements to turn a small problem into a big one. At Unified we are always available to come to your home and give you a free estimate on Windows, Doors, Siding, Roofing, Awnings, Attic Insulation and Stone Work. Our showrooms are open 7 days a week or you can call us for an appointment at (888)631-2131. You can also find all of our products and prices on our website at [www.unifiedwindows.com](http://www.unifiedwindows.com)

Written by: Steven J DiMare  
Chief Executive Officer  
Unified Window Systems, Inc.

## Chase Peres named President of Unified



**Chase Peres**

Chase Peres of Sayville was named President of Unified Window Systems Inc. as of January 1, 2012. Former President and Chief Executive Officer Steven DiMare stepped aside as President but retained the title of CEO. Steven DiMare said, "As an owner of the company, we needed Chase to move up to this important position as the company continues to grow." Peres started as an installer 20 years ago with Unified and has moved through the entire company having performed and excelled in almost every position including the most recent, Vice President of Sales and Senior Vice President. Steven DiMare will retain his position as Chairman and Chief Executive Officer as both men expand their duties. With Unified Windows, Doors, Siding and Roofing increasing its product line into Attic Insulation, Pavers and Stone Work and expanding it's areas to cover the entire Tri-State region Chase Peres said, "It's a challenge to grow as much as we have without increasing our responsibilities. The new position is quite challenging but also very exciting as we grow our business."



**Steven DiMare**

Unified has branched out most recently by having added showrooms in Westchester County and Queens County and plans for a Brooklyn Unified showroom have begun. Unified is one of the fastest growing companies in the region. Contact Unified for more information on products and prices.

# Caribbean Roundup

News from back home updated daily at

[www.caribbeanlifeneews.com](http://www.caribbeanlifeneews.com)



Continued from page 2

neur and will be renamed Sun General Insurance, the Barbados Nation newspaper reported.

The buyer, Sandridge Limited, led by hotelier Berine Weatherhead, signed the deal with CLICO Holdings at a law firm office recently to acquire CLICO International General Insurance Company, the paper said.

It said CLICO General Insurance branches in Barbados, Antigua and Barbuda, Anguilla, Dominica, Grenada, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines and St. Kitts will now operate under the name Sun General Insurance.

## Barbados

Low fares airline REDjet has announced plans to begin services to St. Maarten from Barbados.

The airline is expected to launch sales later this month, REDjet said in a

statement.

The new service will mark the airline's first entry into the Dutch colony, with works underway to launch more routes from the island. The route will operate twice weekly with a day service on Saturdays.

REDjet will also offer passengers the option to travel with unlimited baggage, allowing them to capitalize on the commercial and shopping opportunities available in St. Maarten.

St. Maarten will be REDjet's seventh destination, having launched its sixth, St. Lucia, as recently as December with the launch of flights to Antigua and Jamaica in November.

## Dominica

Dominica is expected to receive between 14 and 15 million euros during 2012 and 2013, from the 190 million euros allocated to the African Caribbean

Pacific (ACP) nations through the European Commission's BAM (Banana Accompanying Measures) program.

Dominican agricultural officials say the country is positioning itself to make maximum use of funds being made available to 10 banana exporting nations by the European Union.

The funding is intended to provide additional development assistance to help countries involved adjust to new market conditions, following the erosion of the preferential market access that was previously enjoyed by the ACP group of countries through trade with Europe.

Director of Agriculture Ricky Brumant said under the BMA arrangement, Dominica will seek to make its banana production and exports more competitive, while focusing on other areas of agriculture as well.

## Guyana

Guyanese could be paying significantly less for fuel in the near future with the establishment of an oil refinery, the first of its kind in the South American country.

A Guyanese born private investor is currently in the country meeting with stakeholders to finalize funding, site location, preparation, and documentation.

The investor said the refinery would have the capacity to produce 100,000 to 200,000 barrels a day. More than 5,000 new jobs directly related to the industry would be created.

The establishment of the refinery, the investor noted, is not dependent on an imminent discovery of oil in Guyana. A large volume of oil is already being produced in the region which provides a need for such a facility, he said.

Oil and gas exploration companies Repsol and CGX Energy are scheduled to

begin drilling operations off Guyana's coast shortly at locations believed to contain massive deposits of oil.

Ramesh Dookhoo, chairman of Guyana's Private Sector Commission, said a local refinery was critical if fuel prices were to be significantly reduced.

Exceptionally high fuel cost in Guyana has been a major impediment to the growth and development of the manufacturing industry in particular, he said.

Dookhoo had pointed out that without a refinery in Guyana, even if oil is discovered it would still have to be exported, refined, and imported as usable fuel.

Guyana has also received a proposal from Prime Energy Caribbean, a United States-based petroleum company to construct the first ever oil refinery in the country, which officials say will create initial employment opportunities

for approximately 100 persons.

## Haiti

Haitian President Michel Martelly was attacked as he walked in a carnival procession in downtown Port-au-Prince, but he escaped unharmed the National Palace said.

The statement said only that "troublemakers" who had taken refuge in a university were responsible for the afternoon attack on Martelly near the Champs de Mars plaza.

Witnesses said that rocks were thrown at the president and his accompanying motorcade from behind the University of Haiti. Police responded by firing shots in the air and unleashing tear gas.

The attack on the president was the second since he was inaugurated last May and pointed to growing tension between Martelly and his critics.

Compiled by Azad Ali

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# Jamaican artistes to get Linkage Awards

The Third Annual Linkage Music Awards honoring outstanding Jamaican artistes will be held at the Macedonia Center in Mount Vernon, New York on Sunday, March 11.

"Among those to be honored are Marcia Griffiths, Beres Hammond, Denroy Morgan, Wayne Wonder, Sanchez and Ken Boothe," said founder of the Awards Show Dexter 'Linkage' Blake. Several top artistes have also been nominated for awards in various categories.

International logistics solutions provider Laparkan Trading is among the sponsors of the event honoring those artistes who have helped to propel reggae music on the world stage.

General Manager  
of Laparkan Shipping

Jamaica, Ms. Marguerite Taylor said Laparkan is pleased to be among the sponsors of the awards especially as Jamaica celebrates its 50th anniversary of Independence this year. Taylor said the company is also honored to be invited to be one of the presenters at the awards ceremony.

"Reggae has evolved as one of the leading music forms globally and this is testimony to the creativity and great talent of our Jamaican artistes, some of whom will be honored during this event," Taylor said.

Taylor pointed out that reggae music along with the steel pan, which was invented in Trinidad and Tobago in the 20th century and West Indies cricket "have over the years helped to positively propel the Caribbean on the world

stage."

Among the nominees for awards this year are Romain Virgo, Movado, and I-Octane, Kip Rich, Beres Hammond, Tony Matterhorn and Laze Morgan. Virgo made international headlines last year when he became the first reggae artiste to perform at the Country Music Awards in Nashville, Tennessee.

"Laparkan's sponsorship of this music awards ceremony will help begin a special community outreach campaign the company is undertaking in the New York Tri-State area," Taylor said.

Taylor and her team will be meeting with Jamaican community organizations including church and business leaders to explore areas of mutual interest and collaboration in the future.

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# Disney 'Fantasy' cruises to Caribbean

By Vinette K. Pryce

New York provided the perfect setting for the launch of Disney's newest cruise-liner, "Fantasy."

The fourth of the fleet made its official debut when actor Nick Cannon joined Minnie Mouse for the champagne smasher docked at Pier 88.

The signature moment transported guests to an atrium adorned by a bronzed figure of Mickey Mouse positioned adjacent to a huge champagne bottle.

From there, his wife and godmother to the vessel -- Mariah Carey stood on steps to a spiral staircase facing a crowd of media and VIP guests who anxiously anticipated the historic moment. Joined by Robert A. Iger, president and CEO of the Walt Disney Company and Mickey Mouse, Carey reveled in the honor of the title.

The New York native boasted her home town roots, lauded the ship's fantasies and introduced her husband who actually expedited the tradition by passing the champagne bottle

to Disney's best-known female Mouse, Minnie.

Mayor Michael Bloomberg cleared his schedule to board the 1,115 feet, 14-deck adventure-packed vessel that will carry up to 4,000 passengers from New York to numerous ports of call including the Caribbean.

The star-studded inaugural invited actor Neil Patrick-Harris to host. From the stage of the 1,340 seat Walt Disney Theater, he introduced funnyman Jerry Seinfeld and Broadway actress/singer Heather Headley as well as a 28-member, musical, production cast.

Travel agents, media and guests oohed and aahed each offering from three Disney musicals that will be performed daily throughout cruises -- "Aladdin," "Wishes" and "Believe."

Guests were treated to dinner in the various restaurants aboard the ship.

An after party also lured revelers to Europa, a continental retreat boasting nightlife reminiscent in London, England, Paris, France, and cities of Ireland and Italy.



Mariah Carey (Second left) on Fantasy Cruise.

Photo courtesy of Walt Disney

Beginning later this month, vacationers from New York and north eastern cities wanting to sail to the Caribbean will no longer have to board an airplane or fly to Florida in order to connect with a cruise liner.

Those seeking adventure, a Disney family vacation and fantasy will be able to board their newest cruise ship on the west

side of Manhattan, just a few blocks from Times Square.

Slated for a March 31 launch, the ship will make its inaugural fantasy cruise which includes fun-filled theatrical presentations, innovative games, chic dining facilities, luxurious cabins and the world's first ship-board water coaster.

A seven-night cruise to St.

Maarten, St. Thomas, Grand Cayman, Costa Maya, San Juan, Puerto Rico and Cozumel, Mexico is now being promoted to lure passengers seeking a fantasy getaway.

Beginning in May, another ship, the "Disney Magic" will make 20 cruises from NYC to Nassau, Bahamas while providing an opportunity for vacationers to stop at Walt Disney world Resort in Orlando, Florida.

While families are invited to join the high-water excursions, special provisions are built into sails to offer adult-only fantasy retreats aboard ship. Similarly, areas restricted to children will offer superlative age-appropriate fantasies to youths.

Other ports for departure include Galveston, Texas, Seattle, Washington and Miami, Florida. Some of the destinations from these ports include: Venice, Italy, the Greek Isles and Barcelona, Spain. The fleet of Disney Cruise line includes "Magic," "Wonder" and "Dream."

Each made maiden voyages in 1998, 1999 and last year.

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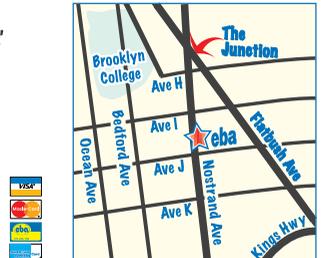
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# Lots of love in building for Habitat-NYC

By Tequila Minsky

The most current of Habitat-NYC's "100 homes in Brooklyn" project, Halsey St. near Broadway in Bed-Stuy was filled with a lot of love during its Valentine's Day Build (the weekend before), especially when volunteer couples, along with family partners and former Mets star and SNY broadcaster Ron Darling braved the cold and the slush to paint six affordable homes.

The second time doing "hands-on" work with Habitat-NYC, Darling is also a member of Habitat-NYC's Board of Directors, inspired by the dedication of future Habitat-NYC owners. "They are passionate about their neighborhoods and will make them better," he said. Darling spent the day with eight couples who raised more than \$4,000 altogether towards construction costs. This was a different way to spend a Valentine's



Brooklyn resident, Regina Thompson, a future Habitat-NYC homeowner and school service manager, worked side-by-side with volunteers on the Valentine's Day Build. Photo by Tequila Minsky

Day weekend.

Kim Scherer and her husband Stu Scherer wanted to share their blessings with others. Kim said: "My husband and I have been talking for some time about doing something together (like volunteering for Habitat-NYC) but have never done it. When this Valentine's Day opportunity became available, we both instantly knew that this was meant to be. We are very blessed in our lives and both want to give back and help others." Kim and Stu have been married for 13 years.

Regina Thompson, a future Habitat-NYC homeowner and school service manager, worked side-by-side with volunteers. She and her two-year-old son Jaden live in a bone-chilling, one-bedroom basement apartment, and Regina said she wants to give him a better life. "I enjoy working with other families who are trying to

## Six new families in Bedford Stuyvesant will move into their new homes.

better their housing situation, and I meet people from all walks of life," said Regina, who plans to volunteer with Habitat after she moves into her new home.

The Halsey Street building has only has about two more months of work left until completion. In the very near future, this location will be home to six new Habitat families.

Habitat for Humanity-NYC transforms lives and New York City by building quality homes for families in overcrowded or substandard housing. The organization unites all New Yorkers in its advocacy for affordable housing. Find out more about home ownership opportunities with Habitat at <http://habitatnyc.org>.

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# Tribute to NYC's first female cabbie

Black theater audiences are most familiar with the Audelco Awards – the African-American alternative to the Tony Awards – which lauds presentations often overlooked by Broadway and Off-Broadway audiences.

Equally established in the niche market are the HADLEY Players, a theater company founded by Gertrude Jeannette.

In 1984, Jeannette won an Audelco Outstanding Pioneer Award.

She was a star of the screen who appeared in "Nothing But A Man" in 1964 and in 1972, "The Legend of Nigger Charley" and "Black Girl."

Onstage she portrayed Grace Kumalo in 1949 in "Lost In The Stars," Sarah Washington in 1963 "Nobody Loves an Albatross" and Nursie in 1977 in the play "Vieux Carre."

Since that time she won numerous theater-related honors.

However, prior to becoming a thespian Jeannette distinguished herself when she became the first woman to get a license to drive a motorcycle in New York City. That was 1935.

She later joined her husband's motorcycle club in the early 1940s.

In 1942, she took and passed the cab driver's test and became the first female cab driver in this city. Allegedly, she hid the fact that she was a woman by putting her hair up and wearing no make-up. Although gender was her secondary concern for discrimination, she said she had to battle racism and suffered bigotry on the job due to the fact she was an African-American driver.

Jeannette continued to drive a cab until 1949 when she got her first big acting gig on Broadway in the play "Lost in the Stars."

Reports are that she was blacklisted during the "Red



## Inside Life

By Vinette K. Pryce

Scare" which associated targeted creative, Americans with communism.

She is one of several prominent African American theater directors featured in the 13-minute documentary "Drama Mamas: Black Women Theatre Directors In the Spotlight and Remembered," which was shown at the Reel Sister of the Diaspora Film Festival in Brooklyn.

She joined the American Negro Theatre Workshop and became a leading lady for legendary playwright Tennessee Williams.

### Hynes To Fund Annual Race Symposium In Brooklyn

The Howard Beach Murder Case continues to impact the lives of New Yorkers and will positively reflect the progress made in improving race relations since white youths attacked Michael Griffith in 1986. Recently during an unveiling at Medgar Evers College, Brooklyn's District Attorney Charles J. Hynes announced the establishment of an annual symposium that will focus on racial issues, the law and their impact on American society.

To be held during Black History Month at the college the discussion session will be designed to educate the community with a focus on the connection between race and emerging trends or public policies in the areas of criminal and social justice, civil rights, diversity in the legal profession and law

enforcement and education.

"We have come a long way in the fight against discrimination but it still exists in our society. One of the goals of the symposiums is educating the community, especially our youth about their history and civic responsibility, and how to use the court system to bring about change. It will enable them to not only better themselves but to also make a positive impact on society," DA Hynes said.

"I believe it is important to educate the community concerning issues such as race and discrimination and their impact on law and society," DA Hynes added. "And it is important to reach people at an early age to steer them in the right direction."

Together with William L. Pollard, president of the college, DA Hynes unveiled a proclamation agreeing to establish an annual symposium focusing on race.

"I'm excited that we will be able to provide our students and the public with a forum for critical discussions on the intersection of history, discrimination, the law, and social justice," Pollard said. "We want to foster people's interest in and use of the political and social tools available to them to bring about the kinds of change that will improve our communities. And by combining the wealth of experience and the resources of the District Attorney's office with our own, we will be able to engage people in a thought-provoking and constructive way."

The idea for the symposiums allegedly emerged when participants of the DA's Office's Youth and Congregations in Partnership (YCP) program created a documentary titled "Slavery and the Law."

The film was screened at MEC last year. The documentary focuses on Brooklyn teenagers as they create a mural while learning about the history of slavery and the different laws that were passed.

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'Wanderlus is a humorous send-up of the 21st Century commune as a hedonistic dystopia for spoiled brats who can't cope with the real world.' Kam Williams – Page 31

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## Kes The Band Set to Rock NY

By Rhea Smith

KES ALL IN post Trinidad Carnival concert tour begins with Trinidad's own, KES the BAND & Friends, at the Best Buy Theater NYC on Friday, March 9.

The theater is located at 1515 Broadway & West 44th Street, New York, N.Y. 10036 corner of 44th Street and 7th Avenue. Doors open at 7:00 p.m. and the show begins at 9:00 p.m.

Produced by (ShorBlu Events and Big and Strong Promotions, KES ALL IN (NYC) also features live performances from King David Rudder (Trini to de Bone, De Hammer) and Benjai (Trini & People's Champion), with music by Sounds 4 Life and System Lords, along with state-of-the-art sound, red carpet



Kess, lead vocalist & Trinidad's 2011 Groovy Soca Monarch winner.

## 50 Years of Monty's Music

By Dve Rodney

It's a bitterly cold Sunday morning in New York City and I am on the world-famous stage at the Blue Note Jazz Club interviewing the extraordinarily talented Jamaican jazz musician Monty Alexander.

We must get this interview done in a hurry before Monty jets off to Davos-Klosters in Switzerland for a performance at the World Economic Forum, where he will play for a number of world leaders. We're running late due to snow.

In less than an hour hundreds of jazz lovers will start pouring into this inti-



Monty Alexander outside the world famous Blue Note Jazz Club in New York City.

Photo courtesy of Dave Rodney

mate West Village landmark for Sunday brunch and a

Continued on next page

# RHYTHMS & BODY LANGUAGE



## Jamaica's top dancers return to New York

NDTC's Marlon Simms and Stephanie Thomas in Clive Thompson's "Vision."

By Chudi Chukwudi

Brooklyn is the flagship stop for performances by Jamaica's National Dance Theatre Company when they celebrate their 50th anniversary year and simultaneously commemorate the nation's golden independent status.

Slated for a two-day appear-

ance at the Brooklyn Center for the Performing Arts at Brooklyn College on March 24 and 25, the first will offer an 8:00 p.m. evening performance and a matinee at 3:00 p.m. the following afternoon.

The company will perform two programs of dance and music celebrating Caribbean culture and

the 50th anniversary of the company founded by Rex Nettleford and Eddy Thomas and endorsed by the Ministry of Development and Welfare. Their intention was to establish a definitive Caribbean dance theatre that would link a varied and versatile group.

Continued on next page

## TOP OF THE CHARTS

### TOP 10 SINGLES



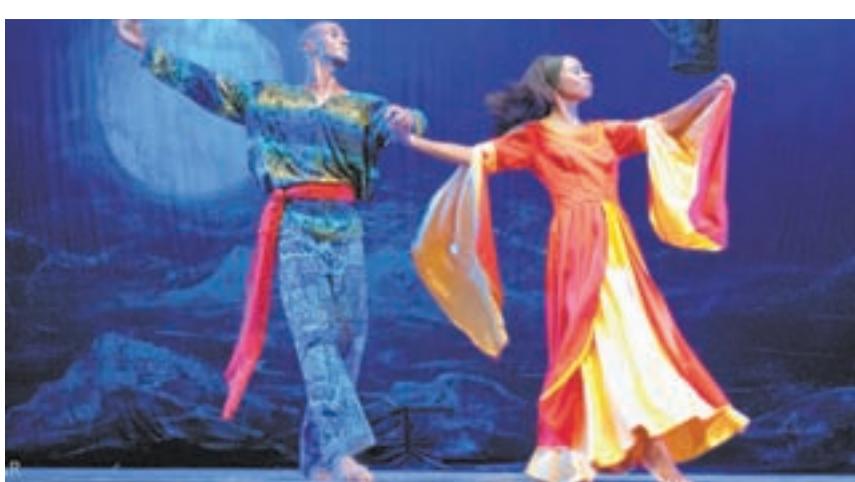
- 1** **Set Fire To The Rain**  
Adele
- 2** **We Found Love**  
Rihanna Feat. Calvin Harris
- 3** **Stronger**  
Kelly Clarkson
- 4** **Good Feeling**  
Flo Rida
- 5** **Turn Me On**  
David Guetta Feat. Nicki Minaj
- 6** **Domino**  
Jessie J
- 7** **It Will Rain**  
Bruno Mars
- 8** **International Love**  
Pitbull Feat. Chris Brown
- 9** **Take Care**  
Drake Feat. Rihanna
- 10** **Young, Wild & Free**  
Snoop Dogg & Wiz Khalifia

### TOP 10 ALBUMS



- 1** **21**  
Adele
- 2** **Some Nights**  
fun
- 3** **Barton Hollow**  
The Civil Wars
- 4** **Breakfast**  
Chiddy Bang
- 5** **Whitney: The Greatest Hits**  
Whitney Houston
- 6** **Reign Of Terror**  
Sleigh Bells
- 7** **Making Nirrors**  
Gotye
- 8** **19**  
Adele
- 9** **Take Care**  
Drake
- 10** **Barton Hollow**  
The Civil Wars

Presented by  
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Marlon Simms and Keita-Marie Chamberlain in Rex Nettleford's "Kumina."

## NDTC at BCBC

Continued from previous page

With only 18 original members representing a diverse mixture of artists with differing backgrounds in dance training they worked together for three years, from 1959-1962, to form a national company.

According to its own archives: "The NDTC has survived on a vision of dancing on its own feet, capturing the rhythms,

body language and aesthetics of a people who have lived for over three centuries under British rule and a total of 400 years under slavery and the plantation system. Its dancers, choreographers, musicians and designers have continuously striven to communicate these experiences and are dedicated to the creation of works rooted in the Jamaican and Caribbean cultural experience."

## The Kes experience

Continued from previous page

feel and rock-star appeal, all in an atmosphere where concert goers can jam to a live "KES" experience.

Fresh from several critically acclaimed worldwide performances, trend-setting innovators of the emerging new "Caribbean Pop/Rock" genre, KES the BAND will showcase their unique fusion of Rock, Pop, Soul, Techno, Reggae and Neo-Soca rhythms as they perform chart-topping crossover hits such as "Stress Away," "Comin' Over," "Where You From?," "Til' the Morning," "Stalker," Let Me Know as well as other hits like Wotless (as featured in their latest chart topping album also entitled WOTLESS), Ah Ting, Come Gyal, and more for the first time at the Best Buy Theater. This is "the" event you definitely won't want to miss! Media support provided by FUNSATI0N4 Media.

Kes the Band is a Caribbean Pop/Rock band from the Republic of Trinidad & Tobago. Since debuting in 2005, the band has played sold out venues in the United States, Caribbean, Europe, Asia and Canada. A

chieving significant worldwide success, which has catapulted them into superstardom, Kes the Band is comprised of brothers Kees (lead vocalist & Trinidad's reigning 2011 Groovy Soca Monarch winner), Hans (drums), Jon (lead guitar) Dieffenthaler, best friend Riad Boochoon (bass), Ricardo Rameshwar and Mario Callendar (keyboardists), and DJ Robert "Robbie Styles" Persaud.

To date the band has released five



Kes the Band and Friends.

albums, Three Baldheads & a Dread, Lion, On in Five, Wotless and Stereotype, with more than a dozen single tracks which enjoyed major chart success. In the summer of 2009 the single entitled, "Stalker" garnered international attention and won the band several awards including the USA 4 Real "Most Promising Artist."

Touted as the "the future of Soca music," Kes the Band has become a music phenomenon on the rise throughout the world.

The band has collaborated with major industry talents such as rapper Snoop Dogg, songwriter Desmond Child (worked with Bon Jovi, Ricky Martin, Aerosmith) and producer Richard Browne and has aspirations of working with other groups like Maroon 5 (also opened for Maroon 5- Dec. 2005), No Doubt and Bruno Mars. Boasting a complete repertoire of old school meets new age styles, a large intergenerational fan base, and high-energy performances, this band has no signs of slowing down.

## Monty's Music

Continued from previous page  
live show at the club that has been home to jazz greats like Sarah Vaughn, Lionel Hampton, Dizzie Gillespie, George Benson and Stanley Turrentine for three decades.

A tense and agitated club manager approaches us and his thoughts shift towards the interview from below the stage. He studies his watch and he is clearly wondering how much more time we will need so his staff can move into final preparation to welcome the excited crowds outside hungry for live lunchtime jazz. Instinct is telling him to quickly get us out the way, but he pauses and recalculates. The subject of the interview is the widely respected and internationally acclaimed Monty Alexander so the manager yields, smiles warmly, and gestures to us to take all the time we need to complete the interview.

Such is the respect that the Jamaican-born pianist commands in New York City jazz circles; a respect that he has earned for dishing out magical, mesmerizing and superlative jazz performances worldwide for 50 years. Monty was born in Kingston and he was only 17 when he first migrated to South Florida. It wasn't long before his music talent became abundantly visible in South Beach jazz joints and Monty was soon recruited by pop icon Frank Sinatra to relocate to New York from where he launched a tremendously successful career, sometimes accompanying Sinatra and other jazz greats of the sixties on piano.

In a dazzling career that has spanned five decades, Monty has produced 70 albums. He has played on virtually every major jazz festival worldwide and in prestigious venues like the Lincoln Center and Carnegie Hall. Years ago, when Monty was seeking permanent residence in the United States, it was Duke Ellington and Count Basie who wrote his letters of recommendation. Monty has collaborated on recordings with the likes of Quincy Jones, his longtime friend, and with Tony Bennett and Natalie Cole on a number of Billboard smash albums, including Natalie Cole's Unforgettable, and he played on the soundtrack of Clint Eastwood's movie Bird.

Monty's latest album The Harlem-Kingston Express (Motema Music) celebrates his grounded connectivity to American jazz and Jamaican reggae. The album soared to the top of the charts, comfortably riding the number one position on the Jazz World Chart for fourteen weeks. The album has also earned him a Grammy nomination for Best Reggae Album. In his quest to win a Grammy, one of the crown jewels of the American music industry, Alexander is up against other illustrious names: Shaggy, Stephen Marley, Ziggy Marley and Israel Vibrations.

But for Monty, the real finger-licking icing on his 50th anniversary birthday cake is a two week jazz and reggae festival that he has planned for the Blue Note Jazz Club in New York from February 20 to March 4 that is called the Full Monty Experience. The festival is, in a sense, a musical retrospective that will showcase the many moods and the musical memories of Monty, and it will also synergize exciting new millennium partnerships between classic American Harlem jazz and Kingston's roots reggae.

The Full Monty Experience Jazz & Reggae Festival will take place in two parts. Part 1, Fifty Years in Music will bring together a number of extraordinary and unique jazz talent, some of whom worked alongside Monty in the past and who represent classic jazz from various eras, from the 60s to the present.

The theme of Part 2 of the festival is Jamaica Meets Jazz- A One Love Celebration and here Monty will go directly to .

# Conventional couple tries hippie commune

**"Wanderlust"**  
**Very Good (3 stars)**  
**Rated R for profanity, sexuality, drug use and graphic nudity.**  
**Running time:**  
**98 minutes**  
**Distributor:**  
**Universal Pictures**

apartment at a big loss.

Unable to afford Manhattan any longer, they decide to take up George's brother's (Ken Marino) generous offer of a job and a place to live until they can get back on their feet. So, they pack up the car and start the long drive to Atlanta.

*By Kam Williams*

Happily-married Linda (Jennifer Aniston) and George (Paul Rudd) finally took the plunge into home ownership after being convinced by their realtor's (Linda Lavin) sales pitch that a "micro loft" in the West Village would be a great investment. However, when the ambitious workaholic subsequently loses his high-paying, high-stress job, they are forced to sell the postage stamp-sized studio

En route, they book a room for a night at what they think is merely a quaint, country bed and breakfast located off the beaten path. But they immediately get a hint that something strange is afoot at Elysium when they are greeted in the driveway by a naked guy (Joe Lo Truglio) who isn't the slightest bit modest about it. Next, they learn that they have just checked into a free-love commune which considers monogamy tantamount to sexual slavery.



**A scene from "Wanderlust", with Jennifer Aniston as Linda and Paul Rudd as George.**

Linda is initially creeped-out by the cult while George finds himself a little intrigued by the alternate lifestyle. Nevertheless, she grudgingly agrees not only to move in but to have an open relationship to boot, in order to make her husband happy.

Then, lo and behold, Linda takes to the arrangement, too, and she soon seduces Seth (Justin Theroux), a hirsute hunk who serenades her with his guitar. George, on the other hand, has a harder time bringing himself to cheat on his wife with the attrac-

tive young blonde (Malin Akerman) propositioning him.

Can this marriage survive the infidelity and incessant temptation? That is the recurring question posed by *Wanderlust*, a fish-out-of-water comedy directed by David Wain (*Wet Hot American Summer*).

The picture was produced by Judd Apatow, whose string of coarse teensploitation flicks includes *Bridesmaids*, *Knocked Up*, *Superbad*, *Pineapple Express* and *Forgetting Sarah Marshall*. Seizing on the flimsiest of excuses for gratuitous full-frontal nude shots, Apatow again remains faithful to his shallow, stated mission to feature male genitalia prominently in every movie he makes. Thus, fans of that phallus philosophy will not be disappointed.

Of far more consequence is the conviction which Jennifer Aniston and Paul Rudd bring to their performances as the couple in crisis. They succeed in holding together an implausible storyline whose saving grace rests in all the cheap laughs coming courtesy of simplistic stereotypes about aging hippies, hallucinating addicts, bohemian bimbos, insatiable sexaholics and naïve New Agers. The talented leads are ably assisted in this endeavor by a gifted supporting cast stocked with versatile veterans like Alan Alda and Ray Liotta, as well as scene-stealing comedienne such as Kathryn Hahn and Kerri Kenney.

A humorous send-up of the 21st Century commune as a hedonistic dystopia for spoiled brats who can't cope with the real world.

## Independent & Foreign Films

**Apart** (R for violence, profanity and bloody images) Romance thriller about a couple of star-crossed lovers (Olesya Rulin and Josh Danziger) who share a psychological disorder which proves fatal for their friends the deeper they fall in love. With Bruce McGill, Joey Lauren Adams and Michael Bowen.

**Attenberg** (Unrated) Bittersweet Greek drama about an inexperienced, 23-year-old (Ariane Labeled) who belatedly begins to explore her sexuality with the help of a girlfriend (Evangelia Randou) while caring for her terminally-ill father (Vangelis Mourikis). (In Greek with subtitles)

**The Decoy Bride** (Unrated) Unintended consequences comedy, set on a remote Scottish island, about a British bloke (David Tennant) who develops feelings for the look-a-like (Katie Macdonald) he hires to impersonate his famous, Hollywood actress fiancée (Alice Eve) so they can tie the knot in peace without being hounded by the paparazzi. With Dylan Moran, Michael Urie and Sally Phillips. (In English and Gaelic with subtitles)

**Footnote** (PG for mature themes, smoking, mild epi-



### Kam's Kapsules

By Kam Williams

thets and brief nudity) Israeli drama about a father (Shlomo Bar-Aba) and son (Lior Ashkenazi), both Talmudic scholars at Hebrew University in Jerusalem, whose healthy rivalry turns ugly when the elder wins the nation's highest prize for scholarship. With Yuval Scharf, Aliza Rosen and Alma Zack. (In Hebrew with subtitles)

**Good for Nothing** (R for violence and sexual references) Erectile dysfunction Western about a wanted man (Cohen Holloway) who kidnaps a beautiful British woman (Inge Rademeyer) only to go limp when he tries to have his way with her. Support cast includes Jon Pheloung, Richard Thompson and Allen Hemberger.

**Jiro Dreams of Sushi** (PG for mature themes and brief smoking) Gourmet biopic about 85-year-old Jiro Ono, the legendary chef and owner of Tokyo's Sukiya-bashi Jiro, considered by many to be the best sushi restaurant in the world. (In Japanese with subtitles)

**Playback** (R for graphic violence, sexuality, nudity and teen partying) High attrition-rate horror flick about an evil spirit that's suddenly unleashed when a group of high school students decide to explore a dark rumor about their hometown's past. Starring Christian Slater, Johnny Pacar and Ambyr Childers.

**Shakespeare High** (Unrated) Theater appreciation documentary chronicling promising high school students performing at the 90th Annual Shakespeare Festival staged in L.A. by the Drama Teachers Association of Southern California.

**Sound of Noise** (R for profanity and brief nudity) Swedish crime comedy about a tone-deaf cop's (Bengt Nilsson) attempt to track down the gang of musical anarchists which has been terrorizing Malmo by staging impromptu percussion concerts all over the city. With Sanna Persson, Magnus Borjeson and Marcus Boij. (In Swedish with subtitles)

### Big Budget Films

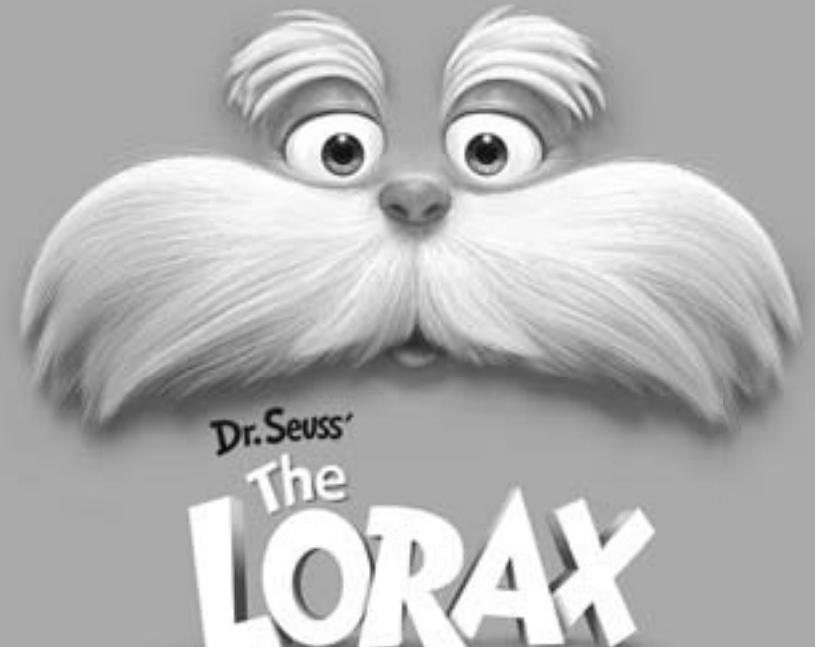
**Friends with Kids** (R for profanity and sexual-

ity) No strings comedy about best friends (Adam Scott and Jennifer Westfeldt) who decide to have a child together while maintaining

a Platonic relationship and dating others. Ensemble cast includes Kristen Wiig, Megan Fox, Edward Burns, Maya Rudolph and Jon Hamm.

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# SUN KULCHA

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

### SATURDAY, MARCH 10

**Health Challenge** Get results in the management of your weight, blood pressure, blood sugar, cholesterol & more with the 10-Day Health Challenge with Daniel Diet Lifestyle Training. Participation is free & open to all. Kickoff (informational session & registration) starts at 5:00 p.m. at Kingsboro Temple of Seventh-Day Adventists, 415 Seventh St., Brooklyn. For more information, call (718) 369-3534 or visit [www.kingsborosda.org](http://www.kingsborosda.org).

**Community Tribute** A committee of Brownsville residents, concerned citizens, clergy, friends & activists invite you to attend a community tribute to Zurana Horton who was fatally shot when she threw herself into the line of fire to protect a group of school children, 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. at PS/IS 298, 85 Watkins Ave., Brooklyn & will feature creative expressions & performances by Brownsville youth & community residents as well as provide an opportunity to provide donations & support to the Horton children. For information, contact Chaplain Rogers at (347) 636-1732 or Rev. Butler at (718) 452-1141.

**The Magic School Bus** BMCC Tribeca PAC, 199 Chambers St., N.Y., presents Maximum Entertainment Productions The Magic School Bus Live! The Climate Challenge celebrating its 25th anniversary with an all new musical adventure about global warming, 1:30 p.m. For ages 5 - 8. For information & tickets, call (212) 220-1459 or visit Ticketing Services, Tues.-Sat., noon-6:00 p.m. in the lobby of the BMCC or visit [www.tribecapac.org](http://www.tribecapac.org).

**Spay/Neuter Clinics** The ASPCA Mobile Unit is holding Spay/Neuter Clinics at Petland Discounts in Queens on Sat., 3/10 at 171-33 Hillside Ave., between 171 & 172 streets, Jamaica; Mon., 3/12, at 30-28 Steinway St., between 30 & 31 avenues, Astoria & 3720 Main St., between 38 & 39 avenues, Flushing; Tues., 3/13 at 55-52 Myrtle Ave., between Cypress & Putnam, Ridgewood. All clinics start at 7:00 a.m. For information, call Amy Eisenberg at (631) 273-6363.

### SUNDAY, MARCH 11

Brooklyn Center for the Performing Arts at Brooklyn College, Walt Whitman Theatre, 2900 Campus Rd., presents "The Beauty of Ballet" featuring students & faculty of the School of American Ballet illustrating the process by which talented youngsters develop into accomplished classical ballet dancers in a class where training exercises & steps are demonstrated & also featuring excerpts from famous ballets. For children six & up. General admission; no tickets issued. For information, call (718) 951-4600.

### MONDAY, MARCH 12

Radical Women & Freedom Socialist Party is



### Food Stamp Outreach

Find out if you are eligible to receive Food Stamp benefits! A representative from the NYC Human Resources Administration will be available to assist you with eligibility pre-screening & to answer any questions every Tues. & Wed., 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. at Community Board 12, 4101 White Plains Road at 229 St., Bronx. For more information, call (718) 881-4455.



### Financial Coaching

We all have goals - paying off bills, saving for a home, improving our credit score, etc., etc. The Financial Capabilities & Coaching Program is a personal approach to help reach goals. For more information, call the Neighborhood Housing Services of East Flatbush at (718) 469-4679.

holding an eight-week public class, "Overcoming Racism: A Radical Approach," at Freedom Hall, 113 W 128 St., Harlem, between Malcolm X Blvd. & Seventh Ave. Class 7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. (\$2.00 per session). Light supper served at 7:00 p.m. for \$5.00 donation. Childcare provided. For more information or to get the readings, call (212) 222-0633 or visit [nycradicalwomen@nyct.net](mailto:nycradicalwomen@nyct.net) or [www.socialism.com](http://www.socialism.com).

**Women's Jazz Festival** The Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, 515 Malcolm X Blvd., N.Y. presents "Women's Jazz Festival at the Schomburg" featuring performances by the Spelman Jazz Ensemble, 7:00 p.m. For tickets & information on all March performances, call (888) 71-Tickets or visit [www.ShowClix.com](http://www.ShowClix.com).

### TUESDAY, MARCH 13

**NSP2 Program** Thinking about buying a foreclosed home? With the NSP2, a city program, you may be eligible for up to \$80,000 in principal reduction. Learn more about this program at the Flatbush Library, 22 Linden Blvd, near the corner

### Children's Program

The Mount Carmel Worship & Outreach Center, 788 East 46 St., between Clarendon & Ave. D, Brooklyn, is offering a children's tutoring/computer training program, standardized test preparation & job skills training program, Saturdays, 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. For registration details, call (971) 609-0909.



of Flatbush Ave., 2nd Fl., 6:00 p.m. To reserve space call (718) 469-4679. Sponsored by NHS of East Flatbush.

### FRIDAY, MARCH 16

**Birthday Bash** Jammins Entertainment presents live performance by Jamaica's hottest sensation I-Octane & the official return of Tony Matherhorn to the U.S. Celebrity Birthday Bash, 10:00 p.m., at Pulse 48, 1020 East 48 St., corner of Farragut Rd., Brooklyn. Tickets available at [tix4me.com](http://tix4me.com) or call (718) 282-8041.

### ONGOING

**Dinner Dance** The Meadowbrook High School (Kingston, Jamaica) Alumni New York Chapter presents its Third Annual Dinner Dance at The Elegant Rose Hall, 4848 White Plains Rd., Bronx, on Saturday, March 24, 8:00 p.m. For tickets & information, call (732) 874-3788 or (347) 414-4284.

**Live Jazz** The Chocolat Restaurant Lounge,

2217-23 Frederick Douglass Blvd., at 120 St., N.Y., offers daily Happy Hour, 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m., Saturday & Sunday. Brunch with unlimited Mimosas, 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. & live jazz Sundays, 6:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. featuring the David Lee Jones Quartet. For information, log onto [info@chocolatlounge.com](mailto:info@chocolatlounge.com) or call (212) 222-4545.

**Free Tax Preparation** The Bethex Federal Credit Union is offering free tax preparation every Wednesday, 12 noon - 7:00 p.m. & Fri., 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m., at Bronx Independent Living Services, 4419 Third Ave., Ste. 2C, Bronx. For more information & necessary paperwork, call (718) 515-2800 ext. 111 or for an ASL interpreter, call & make appointment with Ms. Saldana at (866) 882-3244.

**Free Tax Help** The Brooklyn Cooperative Federal Credit Union & the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program will be offering free tax help to low- to moderate-income residents of Bedford Stuyvesant & Bushwick. In addition to providing free, high-quality tax preparation, the program gives Central Brooklyn residents an opportunity to open credit union accounts. For more information, call (212) 505-EITC (3482).

**Adoption** "You Gotta Believe!," a community based older child adoption agency is looking for families (regardless of age, marital status, gender or income) who would be willing to provide love & nurturing to a child in the foster care system. Classes held on Wednesdays, 6:00 p.m. at St. Paul's Church, 2801 W 8 St., in Coney Island & Saturdays, 10:00 a.m. at Church of the Holy Redeemer, 2424 Linden Blvd. in East New York. For information, call (718) 372-3003.

**Home Improvement** Did your roof collapse? Does your boiler need replacement? Do you need major repairs done? NHS of East Flatbush, can assist you. Ask about the 5-3-5 program & Emergency Repair program. For more information, call (718) 469-4679.

**Winter Aches & Pains** Jamaican Fountain Pimento Oil is an all natural, chemical & preservative free herbal medication that relieves sore muscles, stiff joints, nerve damage, circulation issues, fluid retention amongst a host of other ailments. Call Sandra at (866) 223-2414 to book a free massage appointment for your place of worship, senior citizens group or nursing home. For more information, visit [www.pimentooil.com](http://www.pimentooil.com).

**Tai Chi** Stop. Breath. Relax. Join Tai Chi Easy, a wellness practice combining Tai-chi, Qigong, meditation & Chinese healing, taught by Daniel Weicher, certified teacher in Integral Qigong & Tai Chi, every Sunday, 9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. at the Moore Street Market, 110 Moore St., entrance on Humbolt St., Brooklyn. Donations are appreciated. Call (914) 673-6016 for information.

**Vendor Registration** Black Christmas 2012, A Holiday Season with a Purpose, will be held on Saturday, Dec. 8, 2012, at the Hotel Pennsylvania in Manhattan. For details & fees on early, regular & late vendor registration call Norman Cole at (212) 714-4531.

Compiled by Ida Eisenstein

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# A fitting musical tribute to Jamaica at 50

By Lorraine Muir

The staging of the 16th Annual Jamaica Jazz and Blues Festival was indeed a memorable musical event and one of a series of premier music festivals honoring the country's 50 years of independence. from British rule.

Headliner, Celine Dion, certainly did not disappoint the more than 20,000 patrons who witnessed the diva belt a series of smash hits, one after the other.

"Are you ready Jamaica?" she asked screaming fans mesmerized by her beauty, music, soul, and charm, who could not contain their applause.

But the night undoubtedly belonged to Damian Marley, who was accompanied for cameo performances by Stephen "Raggamuffin" Marley and son.

The Marley's dominated the event with solid delivery of reggae hits and lover's rock, such as: *Justice, Hey Girl, There for You, Love and Inity, War/No More Trouble, Exodus/Move,*



Destra Garcia.

Photo Credit: Denise Mason

*Pimper's Paradise, Traffic Jam, Mission, Written, Road to Zion.*

But it was the befitting rendition of monster jam, *Jamrock*, that marked the stellar ending to the 16th Annual Jamaica Jazz and Blues Festival and the continuing celebration of *Jamaica 50!*

The annual festival, dubbed The Art of Music,

was held at the Trewlany Multi-Purpose Stadium, just outside Montego Bay, the Jamaica tourist capital and attracted over 20,000 patrons including a mix of Jamaicans and friends of Jamaica.

This year the festival began on Thursday, Jan. 26, with an all-reggae, diverse cast representing Jamaica's music trend from Ska, to RockSteady, to Dancehall reggae.

Dion began her repertoire with, "I Drove All Night." Then she took a personal moment to speak with the audience, commenting: It took us a few years to get to Jamaica, but tonight we'll make up for lost time. Jamaica is so beautiful: beautiful weather, beautiful ocean, friendly people and great food.

"Honestly I can't believe we are here!" she screamed.

Dion also took the opportunity to wish Jamaica, "Happy Fiftieth! Home to the reggae legend, Bob Marley, the birthplace of

reggae, and the best place on the planet."

With that, Jamaicans and patrons whom, she acknowledged over time have supported her career and love for her songs, hung on to every word and musical phrases from the diva and her backing band. The fans didn't seem to mind her three wardrobe changes. Albeit, the set changes were brief.

Dion, certainly did not disappoint with the delivery of monster tunes, particularly from her 1996 *Falling Into You* album, but adored most for her ballads to the likes of: "*Because You Loved Me*", the theme from *Up Close and Personal*; "All By Myself", and "Beauty and the Beast", a duet with Peabo Bryson; and "The Prayer", a duet recorded with renowned Italian-tenor Andre Bocelli.

Adding an element of surprise, Jamaican born, singer and songwriter, Dianna King joined Celine for a cameo performance in the rendition of "Treat Her



Shaggy and the Temptations.

Photo by Denise Mason

Like a Lady". She ended with the heartfelt rendition of "My Heart Will Go On".

Dion, the headliner for the festival was included on the Friday night lineup of singers: Jully Black, Nicole Henry, Tami Chynn & Tessane Chin, and Richie Stephens & Gentleman.

Saturday night was the night for Cee Loo Green to shine, seemingly the headliner for that evening. The cast included: Heads of State combination trio Bobby Brown, Johnny Gill, and Ralph Tresvant; The temp-

tations Review, featuring Dennis Edwards; soca diva Destra Garcia, reggae-jazz guitarist, Earl Klugh, and Grammy-winning, Damian 'Junior Gong' Marley; son of the late Bob Marley with Cynthia (Cindy) Breakspere, former Miss Jamaica and Miss World (1976).

R&B sensation Green, disappointed. There seem to be a disconnection with the audience and after a few songs his allure fizzled and the audience anxious to see him complete his set.

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Photo courtesy of City Harvest



Photo by Lem Peterkin

Left: Danny Meyer and volunteers at the City Harvest's Mobile Market while a Bed-Stuy resident receives a supply of free fresh vegetables.

# Residents receive free fresh produce from City Harvest

Union Square Hospitality Group founder Danny Meyer, along with 12 additional volunteers from his restaurants Maialino and Gramercy Tavern, handed out food to approximately 200 households at City Harvest's Bed-Stuy mobile market on Wednesday, Feb. 15 from 9:00 a.m. to noon located at 862 Park Ave,

Brooklyn.

Mobile markets are free farmer's market-style distributions of approximately 85,000 pounds of fresh fruits and vegetables per month across City Harvest's healthy neighborhoods in the Bronx, Staten Island, Brooklyn, and Manhattan.

City Harvest operates eight mobile

markets per month, and each mobile market day provides between 8,000 and 18,000 pounds of produce to the community. Typical items include potatoes, onions, greens, apples, bananas, cabbage, plantains, and squash. Volunteers participate by helping residents select and bag produce items.

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# Honoring Tuskegee Airmen and WWII veterans

By Verona Forde

The Committee to Honor African American Heroes and Sheros had a Black History Month Awards Breakfast at the Eastwood Manor in the Bronx on February 25, 2012.

The first African-American Mayor of New York City, Honorable David N. Dinkins was the keynote speaker and honoree. He started the Beacon schools to keep the youth off the streets after school. Within four years, crime in the City went down. Dinkins' predecessors took credit for the low crime rate.

Assemblyman Keith L. T. Wright delivered the keynote speech in Mr. Dinkins' stead and accepted his award on his behalf.

Combating discrimination in the military was a common thread for the Tuskegee airmen and WWII Veterans. Tuskegee Airman and Retired Lieutenant Colonel, Floyd Carter recalled the War Department said that Black men didn't have the intel-



**Standing: Latisha Seabrook; Tuskegee Airman, Lt. Col. Floyd Carter; Seitu Oronde and Cheryl Simmons-Oliver. Sitting: WWII veteran and Tuskegee Airman Dabney Montgomery, WWII Veteran Hattie B. Harris and WWII and Korean War veteran George B. Crouch.**  
Photos credit Seitu Oronde

ligence, the coordination can't be taught to fly fighter planes. Regardless what the War Department said, Lt. Col. Carter became the first and only Black Commander out of 65 officers of the 732nd Military Airlift Squadron at McGuire Air Force Base from 1970 to 1974. He was the one who

taught the other 64 officers to fly C-141 Starlifters bringing that squadron from number three to number one.

When Dabney Montgomery was 19, he joined the Army. Although he was not a pilot, he was a member of the 1051st Quartermaster Company.



**Step Team from MS180 Soldiers of Righteousness with Parent Coordinator Rita Henry.**

The unit's duty was to provide food and clothing to the airmen. For every man in a fighter plane, there were fifteen on the ground keeping them up.

After the army, he went back to his hometown of Selma, Alabama where he became a bodyguard for Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in 1965 during one of the "Selma to Montgomery" walks.

Dr. Roscoe C. Brown, Jr. was another Tuskegee Airman being honored and his award was accepted by

Cheryl Simmons-Oliver on his behalf. Dr. Brown, Jr. was traveling to promote the movie Red Tails as a consultant for the movie.

He designed the Congressional Gold Medal of Honor that 300 living Tuskegee Airmen received that took 60 years for the country to recognize them.

One woman who was being honored, Hattie B. Harris served WWII as with the medics. Her basic training at Fort Devins in Massachusetts was sleep-

ing in segregated barracks. The women had to do relay shifts just to keep the airmen out of the barracks. The black women in the service had to deal with the discrimination and sexual harassment. It was only grace that they continued to serve and for that all the women truly need to be honored.

The entertainment for the morning was the step team from MS 180 in Co-Op City, Soldiers of Righteousness under Rita Henry, one of the parent coordinators. The spoken word was performed by a dynamic 13-year-old, Muhammed Drammeh. Latisha Seabrook was the Mistress of Ceremony.

Council Member Larry Seabrook along with Jessie W. Collins, Virginia Stewart, Jimmy Alston, Sir James L. Robinson, Verna McDavid, Anthony Barr, Jullian McDavid and Johnnie Goff contributed to a wonderful morning of fantastic history of the Tuskegee Airmen and WWII Veterans.

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# New book highlights the quagmire of the Haitians

By Tequila Minsky

The Jan. 12, 2010 Haitian earthquake, with so much loss of life, injuries, and property devastation, magnified the social ills that beset Haiti. Centuries of underdevelopment, misguided foreign and domestic policies have contributed to the vast inequalities and social and economic exclusions in the country.

On Jan. 27, the Brecht Forum hosted the NYC book launch of "Tectonic Shifts" with a discussion. The book offers on-the-ground perspectives about Haiti's earthquake and the aftermath.

York College Anthropology Professor Mark Schuller, co-editor with Pablo Morales, an editor at NACLA, moderated a panel with four other essay contributors who were among the scholars, journalists, and activists highlighting the struggles Haitian people face today.

Schuller pointed out that half of the 46 articles were authored by Haitians



Associate professor of anthropology, African-American studies, and feminist, gender, and sexuality studies at Wesleyan University Gina Athena Ulysse signs a copy of the book.

living in Haiti and six in the Diaspora. Of the contributions, most are single authored but organizations and/or groups of individuals contributed several pieces.

The contemporary realities are divided into nine chapters in two major divisions—"Geopolitical Structures" and "On-The-Ground Realities": vulner-

ability, foreign domination, NGOs, "disaster capitalism", peasants, the camps, women, public health, emerging movements.

"Tectonic Shifts" offers insight into nagging questions of why Haiti appears to be persistently stuck in a quagmire of dysfunction and why recovery is so unbearably slow. Not all is hopeless. Essays on Haitians pro-active during the aftermath and empowering grassroots works are also covered.

Leading off the panel, Haiti-resident Melinda Miles read "Assumptions and Exclusion: Coordination Failures During the Emergency Phase" from chapter two on foreign domination.

Over a background of projected slides, Lisa Davis, human rights advocacy director from Madre, gave case studies of why just giving whistles as a rape deterrent doesn't work unless the women are organized and trained as to what to do when one woman blows the



Contributors Lisa Davis of MADRE, Melissa Miles of Let Haiti Live, Gina Athena Ulysse from Wesleyan University, Co-editor Pablo Morales of NACLA, Boston Haitian Reporter and founder of the Diaspora organization, Haiti 2015, Manolia Charlotin read from her selection "The Haitian Diaspora: Supporting

Photos by Tequila Minsky

whistle—other women must blow their whistles and come outside, their presence together is powerful.

Editor of the Boston Haitian Reporter and founder of the Diaspora organization, Haiti 2015, Manolia Charlotin read from her selection "The Haitian Diaspora: Supporting

Reconstruction From the Centers of Power."

Co-editor Schuller, who also co-produced the film about Haitian women "Poto Mitan", read his interview with Haiti's first Minister of Women's Affairs Lise-Marie Dejean, "Need to Stay Vigilant."

Passionately underscor-

ing the necessity of authentic inclusion from Haitians, Wesleyan associate professor Gina Athena Ulysse read "Why Haiti Needs New Narratives Now More Than Ever" from the concluding Shifting the Terrain chapter. She recognized the book's conscious presence of Haitian voices.

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*'The many setbacks facing the West Indies team leave them at a disadvantage going into Test matches later this month against Australia.'*

- Eyes on Cricket, Page 45

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## Historic U.S. win over Italy

By Patrick Horne

The U. S. men's national soccer team did something in 90 minutes on Wednesday, Feb. 29 that it couldn't do in the past 78 years: defeat Italy. The 1-0 victory over Italy in an international friendly in Genoa was the first in 11 tries for the U. S. since the teams first met at the 1934 World Cup in Italy.



U.S. forward Clint Dempsey celebrates after scoring.

AP Photo/Luca Bruno

The loss was Italy's first at Genoa since 1924 and it took a well-placed shot from forward Clint Dempsey – his 25th goal in 83 internationals - in the 55th minute of one of the best ever displays by a U. S. national team.

The U. S. had some respectable past results

Continued on next page

## Jack Warner faces lawsuit

By Azad Ali

The Trinidad and Tobago Football Federation (TTFA) is moving to sue its former special advisor, Works and Infrastructure Minister Jack Warner, to compel him to provide information on the accounts related to Trinidad's 2006 World Cup campaign.



Former FIFA executive Jack Warner.

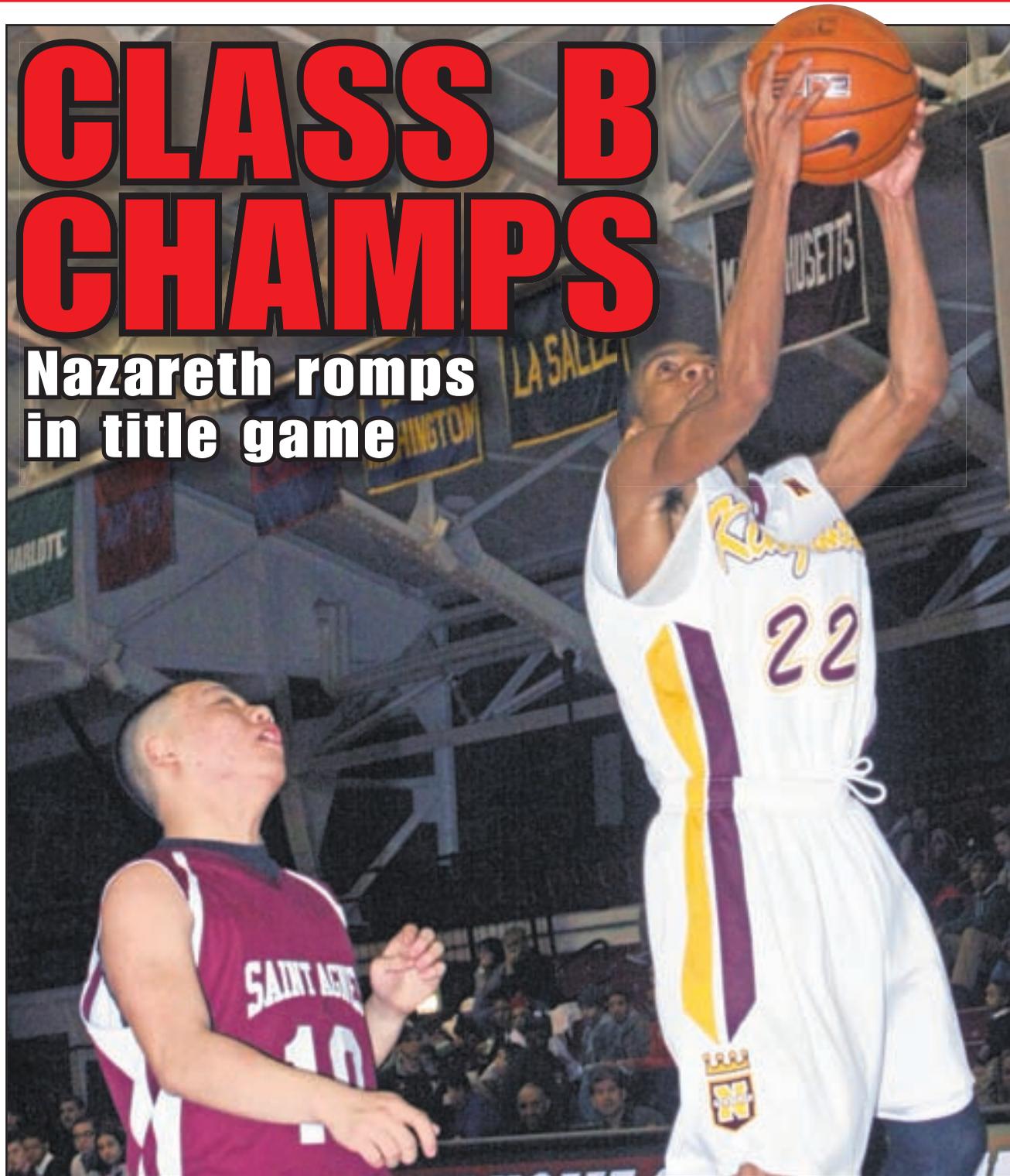
AP Photo/Shirley Bahadur

Attorney Derek Ali, who is representing the TTFA, in the case against 13 members of the 2006 squad, informed Justice Devindra Rampersad in the Port of Spain High Court recently that the local governing body for football will sue the former

Continued on next page

# CLASS B CHAMPS

## Nazareth romps in title game



Nazareth's Sajea Stephenson #22 flies by St. Agnes' Andrew Chan.

Photo by Lem Peterkin

By Robert Elkin

Nazareth's last Class 'A' Intersectional Basketball Championship game came in back-to-back years of 1988-1989 when Ted Gustus coached the teams. Overall,

Nazareth from the East Flatbush section of Brooklyn captured it three times, including the citywide crown in 1977 when all the teams were in one class or league of the Catholic High Schools

Athletic Association.

Over the years, the Kingsmen turned out decent squads but not of championship caliber. Lately, the school has been

Continued on next page

# Ramnaresh Sarwan strikes cricket deal

By Azad Ali

Experienced Guyanese batsman Ramnaresh Sarwan seems set to miss the West Indies' upcoming engagements after striking a deal with English county Leicestershire as their overseas player for the upcoming season.

The club announced that it had signed the former West Indies middle order batsman for the entire 2012 season subject to approval from the West Indies Cricket Board and the United Kingdom immigration authorities.

"We are delighted to have completed the

signing of Ramnaresh Sarwan," said Chief Executive Officer Mike Siddall.

"He has an impressive Test record and his availability to play all forms of the game for us during the 2012 season in an added bonus," he said.

Sarwan's commitment to the club rules him out of the Australia tour of the Caribbean, which runs from March 16 to April 27 and the subsequent tour of England that bowls off May 5 and ends June 24.

West Indies also host New Zealand in the Caribbean from June 23 to Aug. 2.



Guyanese batsman Ramnaresh Sarwan.  
AP Photo/Andres Leighton

# Disciplined and compact

Continued from previous page

versus the Azzurri when, at the Italia '90 World Cup, a young American team lost 1-0, but the best result prior to Wednesday was a 1-1 tie in the 2006 World Cup in Germany where the U.S. were the only team to tie the Italians on their way to their fourth World Cup title.

"It's historic for us beating a team of Italy's level and it's a very good win," U.S. Coach Jurgen Klinsmann said. "But what we wanted to do above everything was to learn, to see how we could do against a team like Italy. I think the boys did very, very well, they played great for 90 minutes. And moreover we have young players and they're growing and it's from games like this that they do."

Klinsmann deserves much of the credit for the U. S. performance; the team played with confidence from the outset, players looked comfortable on the field and not in awe of the four-time world champion which recently qualified for this summer's European Championship and in the process were undefeated and unscored upon. The Americans were a hardworking, compact and disciplined unit, which displayed fluent soccer.

The usual stellar defense was evident from the start when stalwart goalkeeper Tim Howard kept the Italians at bay with game-saving plays against early pressure from the Italians. Howard, in one of those early nervous moments, barely got his left foot out to steer Thiago Motta's point-blank shot away from his goal, which turned out to be a crucial turning point in the match. The rest of the defense, anchored by Captain Carlos Bocanegra, took Howard's cue and with Clarence Goodson next to Bocanegra in central defense and Steve Cherundolo at right full back and Fabian Johnson at left, the U. S. held their ground against a torrent Italian offensive. Johnson's forays forward, one of which resulted in Dempsey's goal, were particularly telling.

# Nazareth ballers in championship form

Continued from previous page

increasing talent wise.

They recently put it all together last week by capturing the Class 'B' final and wound up with a 20-6 overall record, including 12-0 in league competition of seven schools from the five boroughs in New York City and Westchester County, all members of the CHSAA.

Junior guard Naquan Chandler, senior forward Mike Megaafu, and sophomore forward Samson Usilo earned berths on the all-league Class 'B' team.

In the 70-47 trouncing over St. Agnes of Manhattan, Usilo led all scorers by tallying 29 points. Teammate Shajea Stephenson, a senior guard, netted 15 points to help with the scoring.

Field goal percentage, three-point shooting, great defense, and the outstanding back-court play paced the way for the Kingsmen, who now move ahead into the New York State Tournament. Credit also goes to the players and the coaching staff, headed by veteran head coach Todd Jamison and his entire staff.

The Kingsmen opened the game with a 6-0 run on a dunk by Usilo on a pass from Naquan Chandler, Megaafu's lay-up, and Usilo's outside shot. Daniel Beausejour's three-point shot at the buzzer enabled the Kingsmen to take a 21-5 lead and they never looked back. Incidentally, Mike, a senior, is the valedictorian for Nazareth.

"We try to overwhelm the



Nazareth Class B Champions.

Photo by Lem Peterkin

other team's guards and get out on the open floor," said Jamison. "We have some very good athletes. We try to mix our pressure (going) half court and full court.

"As far as our excellent field goal shooting percentage, we've been shooting the ball very well all year, because we're an inside-outside team with Sammy and Mike (leading the way). Sammy is a Division I athlete. They like to get the ball in the paint. As a team we shot the ball very well from the perimeter (in the final), and we're shooting the ball better lately."

Winning the game and Class 'B' intersectional final meant everything to the coaching staff, players, student body, and administration.

"I did everything that I needed to do," said Usilo, a sophomore forward. "My teammates encouraged me and made eve-

rything (easier) for me. Next year I'll be a junior."

"We haven't won a championship since 1989," Jamison said. "Now we have two more to go, as we play St. Mary's (this weekend). We'll see what happens. The kids are playing well defensively...Winning the championship is special for us. I'm gracious to coach this team."

"It's exciting to win the championship and be playing so well, and it's exciting for Coach Todd Jamison to win his first championship," said Nazareth Principal Providencia Quiles. He's an exceptional coach."

On the lower level, Nazareth's junior varsity team also captured a city-wide title when they turned back Salesian High, 61-57, in overtime.

"We went undefeated in the league," said Coach John Fields. "We had a very good year. The kids played hard.

We're looking for better things next year. It's a great thing to win two titles (Varsity and Junior Varsity). We're getting better talent in the school.

"These kids really wanted to perform and we won the city title. From day one, we put 'it' out there in front of them-let's go and get a city title. And they worked hard to achieve that."

Now the varsity is looking forward to take everything-the State and Federation championships, as well.

"We're trying to build something at Nazareth and we're on a roll right now," added Fields. "Hopefully we can make it (the school) a power house once again."

In the second game of the double-header at Fordham University in The Bronx, Iona Prep of New Rochelle turned back St. Edmund's of Brooklyn, 70-54, for the Class 'A' title.

Brandon Williams, a junior guard, scored 18 points one more than sophomore guard Isiah Ice to lead Iona Prep.

"I helped my team get the championship," Williams said. "I tried to keep the game under control. So many different guys stepped up. It meant a lot to win the title."

Williams, who didn't start some of the games during the season because of an injury, is a two-sport athlete for he is a wide receiver on the football team at Iona Prep. His goal now is helping his school win the State tournament and the Federation Tournament in Class 'A.'

# In hot water

Continued from previous page

FIFA vice-president, seeking information on the missing accounts.

Justice Rampersad recently gave the local football body three days to determine what course of action they intend to pursue to obtain the documents or find themselves in contempt of court.

The TTFF and the national footballers have been embroiled in a legal battle over World Cup bonuses with Justice Rampersad awarding the players two interim payments so far.

The court is yet to determine, however, the full total of what was obtained from the campaign of which the players will obtain 50 percent.

The TTFF has submitted accounts previously, which were deemed to be incomplete by the judge.

# West Indies face uphill task against Australia

By George H. Whyte

When Australia faces the West Indies this month, they will have a strong advantage going into the Tests, One-Day Internationals and the Twenty-Twenties. West Indies are facing many setbacks which include a long injury list, out-of-form batsmen, including players who have been discarded by West Indies Cricket Board selectors.

Lendl Simmons, Adrian Barath, Denesh Ramdin and Ravi Rampaul are down with injuries, and it is doubtful if they would be fully fit for the series. In the Regional Four Day Tournament most of the batsmen have been failing miserably. The bowlers in the region have dominated the competition. Sunil Narine and Odean Brown, along with Nikita Miller, have done extremely well so far in the series.

## West Indies Wicket Keepers Injured

Denesh Ramdin got injured in a game against



## Eyes on Cricket

By George H. Whyte

the Windward Islands and Darren Bravo had to keep wicket. Going into a series with Australia, it clearly means that a specialist wicket-keeper is necessary. Carlton Baugh will have to be called up if Ramdin is not available and many young cricketers may have to debut at the highest level.

### A State of Chaos

The West Indies Cricket Board and its selectors would be looking forward to a rude awakening from Australia in the upcoming series. It will be almost six weeks of cricket which would be rigid. The Australians are fully prepared with their pacers, spinners and batsmen. Michael Clarke, their captain, is in full form, as

well as most of the other batsmen. In contrast, West Indies senior opener, Chris Gayle, has been discarded by the Cricket Board. Adrain Barath, his partner, is down with an injury and Kraigg Brathwaite does not look capable of taking on the bowlers at a higher level. Also, Lendl Simmons is on the injury list for about six weeks.

### Jino Best and Odean Brown Must Have a Play in Tests

West Indies pacer Jino Best bowled fiercely in the first four rounds of the Regional Four Day Tournament and he picked up vital wickets. He is in good form and fully fit and has experienced because he wore the West Indies cap before. Head

Coach Ottis Gibson ought to do some work with Best and give him the necessary assistance he needs. With Fidel Edwards, Jino Best and Ravi Rampaul, along with Sunil Narine and Odean Brown, the West Indies should have their bowling department fully covered.

Odean Brown, the spinner from Jamaica, has been splendid for Jamaica in the

Regional Competition and it would be good for the selectors to add his name to their list of players.

### Dwayne Smith May Open in ODI

Barbados Dwayne Smith may find himself opening the batting for the West Indies in the One-Day Internationals. The other players, and the batting-

order just remain a huge conjecture. Senior players are being ignored, in spite of their form, and the West Indies Cricket Board cannot see the disastrous effect this will have on West Indies Cricket. The Aussies have the edge in winning in all three categories. The WICB ought to examine and modify their failing management strategies.



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# Caribbean Crossword by StatePoint Media, Inc.

## ACROSS

1. Jasmine's kin
6. Former Soviet Socialist Republics, acr.
9. Fancy marbles used as shooters
13. Are you \_\_\_\_\_ or a hawk?
14. One of Indiana Jones' quests
15. Having three dimensions
16. Same as mesotron
17. \_\_\_\_\_ Patrol
18. \*First network TV soap \_\_\_\_\_ debuted in 1950
19. \*Overthrown Cuban
21. \*Arthur Miller's wife
23. Jones' Wall Street partner
24. What Rumpelstiltskin did
25. School support organization
28. Reduced Instruction Set Computer
30. Boiling pot
35. Globes and eyeballs
37. \*Site of Egyptian Crisis
39. Dominion
40. Italian currency, pl.
41. Ringworm
43. Lover's strike
44. Prayer leaders in mosques
46. \*One of Ike's two
47. Pitched at Occupy Wall Street
48. Os
50. Be agitated
52. Sushi sauce

53. Offensively curious

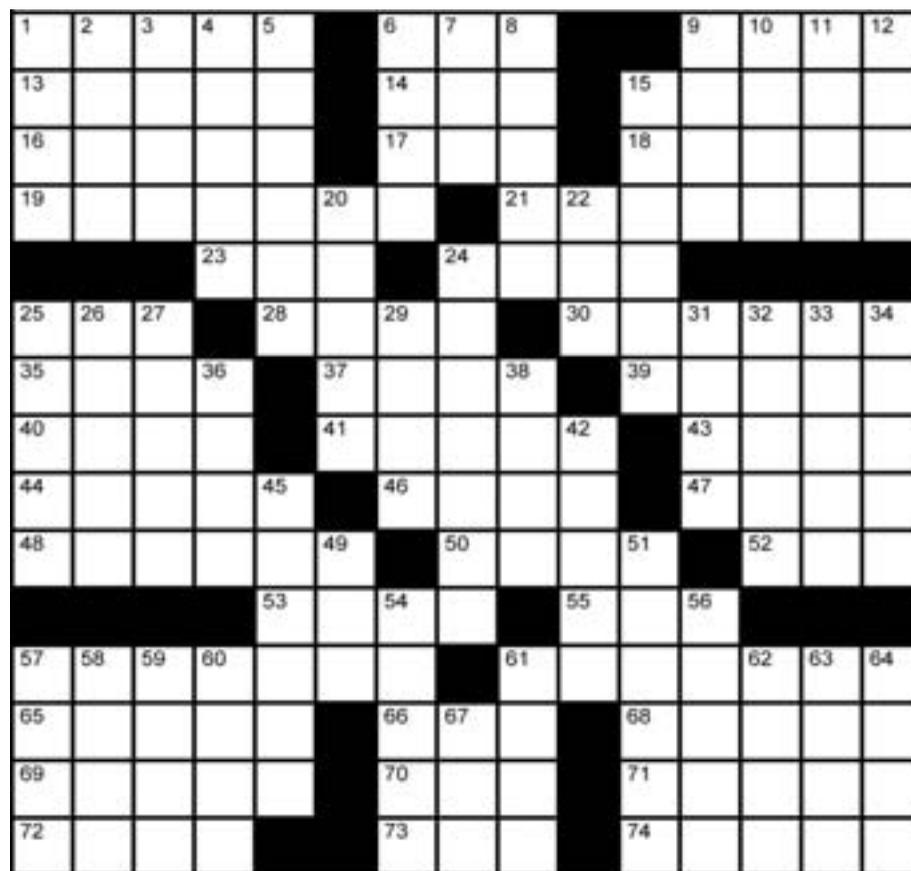
55. Sin over tan
57. \*Its launch started the Space Race
61. Thumbelina's raft
65. Smallest number in a crowd
66. "\_\_\_\_ we there yet?"
68. Late Saddam Hussein, e.g.
69. Helped
70. Sheep not yet sheared
71. "Swan Lake" skirts
72. Brooding
73. A.k.a. Tokyo
74. In vertical position

## DOWN

1. Mary's little pet
2. Light bulb over head?
3. ABC's adventure, 2004-2010
4. Stay clear
5. Book burner, e.g.
6. Mine is yours
7. Irritate
8. Save money on rent, e.g.
9. South American Indian people
10. Cain's victim
11. Lean like an athlete
12. PET or CAT
15. Little Jack Horner's spot
20. Do this and shout
22. Black and white sea bird
24. \*New York in "Guys and

Dolls," e.g.

25. \*Jonas Salk fought it
26. Decorates Christmas tree
27. Biblical Abraham's original name
29. \*"The Man in the Gray Flannel \_\_\_\_\_"
31. Exam
32. Stories "from the Crypt"
33. Treeless plain
34. E on dashboard
36. 18-wheeler
38. Freezing temperature in Celsius
42. Friends in Italy
45. What cat did on the window sill?
49. Me in Paris
51. \*Humbert Humbert's interest
54. Edible ray
56. Maple tree treat
57. Dateless male
58. \*This Yankee was MVP in 1950
59. Pakistan's official language
60. To abound or swarm
61. Toy building block
62. Liver delicacy
63. Greenish blue
64. Floppy storage device
67. \*Color of Scare



Answers in Classified Section

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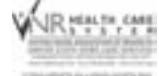
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## ➤ LEGAL NOTICES

### ➤ LEGAL

the relief demanded in the complaint.

NOTICE OF NATURE OF ACTION AND RELIEF SOUGHT THE OBJECT of the above entitled action is to foreclose a tax lien for the amount due and interest, recorded in the office of the Register/Clerk of the County of KINGS on the 15TH day of JULY, 2008 and bearing County Register File Number / C R F N 0008000280709 covering premises described as follows:

ADDRESS: 636 HANCOCK STREET, BROOKLYN, NY  
BLOCK: 1661 LOT: 37  
COUNTY: KINGS

The relief sought in the within action is a final judgment directing the sale of the premises described above to satisfy the debt secured by the tax lien described above. Plaintiff designates KINGS County as the place of trial. Venue is based upon the county where the Property being foreclosed upon is located. WE ARE ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT, ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

Dated: February 9, 2012  
New York, New York  
WINDELS MARX LANE & MITTENDORF LLP  
ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFFS  
NYCTL 2008-A TRUST, and The Bank of New York As Collateral Agent and Custodian for the NYCTL 2008-A Trust  
MICHAEL H. RESNIKOFF, ESQ.  
156 WEST 56TH STREET  
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10019  
PHONE: (212) 237-1102  
TO THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANTS: The fore-

### ➤ LEGAL

going summons is served upon you by publication pursuant to an Order of the Court dated February 9, 2012 and filed along with the supporting papers in the KINGS County Clerk's Office. This is an action to foreclose a tax lien.

SCHEDULE A - DESCRIPTION ALL THAT CERTAIN PLOT, PIECE OR PARCEL OF LAND, WITH THE BUILDING AND IMPROVEMENTS THEREON ERECTED, SITUATE, LYING AND BEING IN THE BOROUGH OF BROOKLYN, COUNTY OF KINGS, CITY AND STATE OF NEW YORK, BOUNDED AND DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: BEGINNING AT A POINT ON THE SOUTHERLY SIDE OF HANCOCK STREET, DISTANT 168 FEET 9 INCHES WESTERLY FROM THE SOUTHWESTERLY CORNER OF HANCOCK STREET AND REID AVENUE; RUNNING THENCE WESTERLY ALONG THE SOUTHERLY SIDE OF HANCOCK STREET, 16 FEET 3 INCHES; RUNNING THENCE SOUTHERLY PARALLEL WITH REID AVENUE AND PART OF THE DISTANCE THROUGH A PARTY WALL, 96 FEET 11 INCHES; RUNNING THENCE EASTERLY PARALLEL WITH HANCOCK STREET 16 FEET 3 INCHES; RUNNING THENCE NORTHERLY AGAIN PARALLEL WITH REID AVENUE 96 FEET 11 INCHES TO THE SOUTHERLY SIDE OF HANCOCK STREET TO THE POINT OR PLACE OF BEGINNING. SAID PREMISES BEING KNOWN AS 636 HANCOCK STREET, BROOKLYN, NY, BLOCK: 1661, LOT: 37  
Reference #: 700777.017

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Here are some tips for parents to consider when returning to college from Dr. Deborah Snyder, senior vice provost of academic programs at Strayer University:

• **Talk with your spouse:** The additional time devoted to going to classes, studying and preparing for exams may require a shift in responsibilities.

• **Tap into your network:** Create a network of support consisting of friends and extended family to help with important household considerations, such as child care.

• **Make your children part of the team:** Children love to have a sense of responsibility and to be helpful to their parents. Explain your educational goals to them and help them understand how they can help you succeed. Group study sessions are one way to create a parent-child bond.

• **Plan ahead:** Inventory your home logistics: chores, meals, child care, children's activities and exercise routines. Plan for a shift in the division of responsibilities while you are in school. Make sure everyone involved understands.

• **Review the family budget:** Will you pay for college out of savings, borrow money or be reimbursed by your employer? Talk to school advisors and others to determine what makes the most sense for you.

• **Consider your present lifestyle:** Returning to school will require a commitment to spend some of the time you were spending on other activities, including your children's extracurricular activities. If you've been out of school awhile, getting back into the habit of studying will likely take a focused effort on the part of the entire family.

— NAPS

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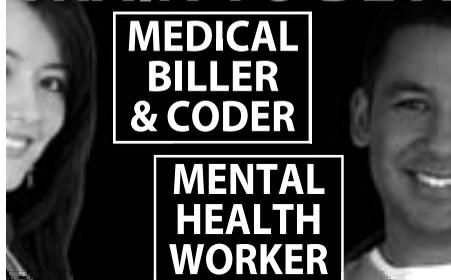
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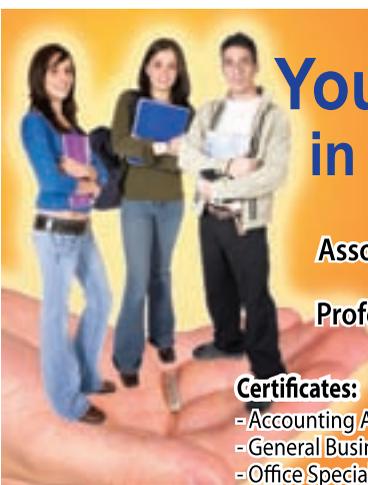


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