

Caribbean Life

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Queens/Long Island/Bronx/Manhattan Edition

FREE Published by Courier-Life Publications Inc. One Metrotech North, Tenth Floor, Brooklyn, NY 11201 • 718-260-2500 • June 29 - July 5, 2012 **CNG**

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International Masters Champion

Guyanese national Hugh Ross walked away with the prestigious bodybuilding trophy, June 16 in Dublin, Ireland. See Page 45.

Photo courtesy Brooklyn Sports Club.

KAMLA'S BLOATED CABINET

T&T Reshuffle Seen In Bad Light

By Bert Wilkinson

Just over two years after the multi-party People's Partnership (PP) administration swept to power in Trinidad, Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar has found it necessary to not only reshuffle the pack of cabinet ministers but also to add four new ministries in a move that has garnered mixed reviews from critics and observers including former prime Minister Basdeo Panday.

The move comes a week after one of the original and founding partners in the Movement For Social Justice (MSJ), walked out of the coalition citing spi-

raling corruption, nepotism, racial discrimination and a host of other ills and as ordinary Trinidadians complain that the new but now bloated cabinet of nearly 40 ministers will place additional financial burdens on the public purse.

Among those rewarded with new portfolios are disgraced former FIFA Vice-President Jack Warner who moves from the key works ministry to the crucial national security, replacing former military chief Brig. Gen. John Sandy who appears to have fallen on his sword amidst a worsening violent crime situation.

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The latest Caribbean news and information at www.caribbeanlifenews.com

Caribbean

US Immigration authorities have confirmed that deportations to the Caribbean, among other countries, are continuing.

Fewer than two percent of deportation cases have been closed in a review of more than 411,000 deportation cases, the US Department of Homeland Security officials have admitted.

The Barack Obama administration had ordered the review in order to alleviate the negative effects of increased deportation on the Caribbean and other communities. Over 1.1 million immigrants have been deported in the last three years, officials said.

The officials blamed bureaucratic delays of criminal background checks of the immigrants for the slow pace of review but said that thousands more deportations could be suspended in the coming months.

Barbados

The Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) has approved a US\$55 million loan to finance the construction of an environmentally-friendly hotel that will be operated by Four Seasons at Clearwater Bay in Barbados.

The project is expected to create as many as 725 direct jobs during construction and operation and engage a significant number of

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News from back home
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Diplomatic harassment U.S. points finger at Cuban agents

By Nelson A. King

United States officials charge that Cuban government agents have increased their verbal harassment of U.S. diplomats in Havana in the past year.

Officials claim that Cuban agents have been shouting epithets at diplomats from moving cars and publishing photos of their vehicles.

"They've done this for quite some time, but over the last year or so they seem to have gotten nastier," an official, who prefers to be anonymous, told reporters in Washington. "We have asked them to stop, and they have not."

U.S. officials said the heightened harassment appears linked to Cuban President Raúl Castro's ongoing crackdown on government critics.

Human rights groups in Havana reported about 4,115 short-term arrests of dissidents in 2011, compared to 1,765 the previous year.

"When the security forces go after dissidents, (the U.S. diplomats) are usually in the neighborhood and catch the flak, too," the official said.

A senior State Department official

said Washington is "concerned about the continued harassment and vilification of our diplomatic mission staff in Havana, who are simply performing their normal diplomatic duties."

"We have reminded the Cuban government on a number of occasions that under the Vienna Conventions, this kind of treatment of diplomatic personnel is not acceptable," said the official, who sought anonymity because of department policies.

Since Cuba and the United States don't have normal diplomatic relations, they each maintain an Interests Section in each other's capital to handle consular affairs and other matters.

The Cuban government regularly labels dissidents as "mercenaries" paid by Washington to undermine the socialist system, and views anyone who approaches government critics with suspicion.

Earlier this month, Cuba expressed its ire at the U.S. appointment of Ricardo Zuniga, who served as a human rights monitor at the U.S. Interests Section in Havana in 2003, as head

the National Security Council's Western Hemisphere section.

The official Cuban newspaper, Granma reported that Zuniga handled the "work of subversion and destabilization" and was "a traveling salesman for the most retrograde and anti-Cuban ideas."

The U.S. government officials said restrictions on travel for both U.S. and Cuban diplomats assigned to their respective Interests Sections remain tight, despite repeated Obama administration proposals to ease them significantly.

Officials here said U.S. diplomats in Havana and Cuban diplomats in Washington and at the United Nations now must ask permission of the host government before they can travel outside established boundaries, roughly a 25-mile radius.

But U.S. officials said there have been little or no problems with visa approvals for U.S. and Cuban diplomats assigned to work in each other's countries, because both sides are interested in maintaining efficient diplomatic missions.

Sweeping changes to Trinidad & Tobago Cabinet

By Azad Ali

Trinidad and Tobago Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar has made some sweeping changes in her cabinet -- the second in two years since the People's Partnership (PP) government came into office after the May 24, 2010 general election.

Works and Infrastructure Minister Jack Warner has been elevated to the post of national security minister, replacing Brigadier John Sandy and banker Lary Howai has been brought in to take charge of the Ministry of Finance.

Winston Dookeran, who held the portfolio of finance minister for the past two years, has been made foreign affairs minister, replacing Dr. Suruj Rambachan.

The prime minister also brought into her expanded cabinet -- now numbering 34, San Fernando Mayor Marlene Coudray as minister of gender, youth and child development, which was formerly held by Senator Verna St Rose-Greaves, who was axed from the government.

Coudray, who defected from the Congress of the People (COP), one of the four coalition partners in the government and joined the United National Congress (UNC), won the post of deputy political leader in the March 24 UNC internal elections.

Other changes made were in the Ministry of Trade, Public Utilities, Transport, Food Production and Ministry of Multiculturalism.

Calypsonian Winston "Gypsy" Peters, who held the portfolio minister of multiculturalism, has been shifted to the Ministry of Community Development. Five new faces were added to the Cabinet.

Prime Minister Persad-Bissessar in making the announcement on Friday night stressed that her changes were not an indictment of the performance of anyone.

Her firing of retired Brigadier Sandy comes in the wake of growing concerns over the spiraling crime rate. So far police have recorded 200 murders for the year.

Persad-Bissessar has described Warner as a man of action and expressed confidence in the new national security minister saying he would be the best crime-buster.

However, Warner's new appointment has come in for criticism from the opposition PNM and some members of the public, since questions still hang over his head over the Caribbean Football Union (CFU) cash-for-votes scandal.

Reggae Trailblazers Day

By Vinette K. Pryce

Three seems a recurring theme for Jamaica Arts Holding (JAH) and the 18th annual celebration of International Reggae Day.

This year, three popular radio personalities -- Dermot Hussey (USA), David Rodigan (London, England) and Barry G (Jamaica) will be awarded for their role in enhancing the Jamaica popularized beat.

"They will be honored as trailblazers in broadcasting and for their role in the international spread of Jamaican music throughout their careers," Andrea Davis, founder and chair of Jamaica Arts Holdings said.

In addition a three-pronged set-up incorporating the Jamaica 50 calendar begins on the weekend when the Jamaica Defense Force (JDF) presents a Military Tattoo and the National Senior Trials in track and field takes place at the island's National Stadium.

"What we want to deliver this



Marcia Griffiths.

year is a media festival anchored by a creative expo and concert

experience in Kingston," Davis said.

A concert at Emancipation Park in Kingston will feature guest deejays who will play recorded music. Also, a Jamaica 50 must-play music mix will spotlight selections that both Jamaica-based radio personality Barry G and London's Rodigan will adhere.

A CD for the day will feature Toots and the Maytals, Sly and Robbie, Ky-Mani Marley, I-Wayne, Jah 9, Raging Fyah, Marcia Griffiths and Jesse Royal.

"I think IRD has got to the point where as a media festival, particularly, it has grown legs and it continues to build momentum. It has become a calendar event, to the extent that at a particular point in the year media begins to contact us," Davis said.

IRD is marked annually on July 1.

For more log onto www.ireggaeday.com

G-20 leaders to help the poor

By Nelson a. King

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) says nations from around the world have firmed up their commitments to provide emergency resources to deter the spread of crises and increase the institution's lending capacity to help Caribbean and other countries in financial trouble.

"Countries large and small have rallied to our call for action," said IMF Managing Director Christine Lagarde at the just-concluded meeting of the Group of 20 (G-20) industrialized and emerging market countries in Los Cabos, Mexico.

"I salute them and their commitment to multilateralism," she adding, stating that, as a result, the total pledged has risen to US\$456 billion, almost doubling the Washington-based financial institution's lending capacity.

"With today's announcements, some 37 of the IMF's member countries, representing about three-fifths of total quota in the organization, have joined this collective effort, demonstrating the broad commitment of the membership to ensure the IMF has access to adequate resources to carry out its mandate in the interests of global financial stability," Lagarde continued.

In April, the G-20 and the broader membership of the IMF had pledged a total of US\$430 billion to help reinforce the IMF at a time of global uncertainty, particularly because of the crisis in Europe.

The IMF, which has 188 member-countries, stressed that the new resources would be available for crisis prevention and resolution, and to meet the potential financing needs of all IMF members.

"The IMF is committed to assuring our members' interests and resources are safeguarded," Lagarde said.

The IMF has warned that global risks are on the rise again and has urged policymakers to act together to achieve lasting stability and growth and boost job creation.

In particular, the IMF has called for comprehensive action to revive growth and reduce unemployment in Europe.

Lagarde said, after the Los Cabos summit, that the G-20 joint Leaders Declaration was a step in the direction of restoring confidence in the global economy.

"We have more work to do before global recovery is assured, but I take away from Los Cabos a sense of convergence that will facilitate the comprehensive and coordinated approach to global economic and financial challenges advocated by the IMF," she said, adding that the seeds of a pan-European recovery plan had been planted.

Gaps in terror protection for the U.S. Cabinet

By Jeff Bliss

WASHINGTON - When Los Angeles County police found Commerce Secretary John Bryson unconscious and alone in his bashed-up Lexus on June 9, he had no security team or automatic system to sound the alarm that he was in trouble.

While Bryson survived - he resigned Sunday citing a condition that caused a seizure diagnosed after he crashed his car twice that day - the case raises questions about why the 10th official in line to succeed the president was left so vulnerable, according to James Carafano, a terrorism scholar at the Heritage Foundation in Washington.

"They lost track of him," Carafano said. "Post-9/11, that's a bit of a head-scratcher."

Bryson's incident highlights potential gaps in security for senior U.S. government officials, who receive varying levels of protection.

Defense Secretary Leon Panetta and Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, who are high in the line of succession and have national-security responsibilities, receive protection 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

But such full-time safeguards remain the exception. Federal officials, even in cabinet-level positions or other top posts, often travel without the security details that even a



President Barack Obama meets with John Bryson, former Secretary of Commerce, in the Oval Office of the White House in Washington, Thursday, June 21, 2012.

(AP Photo/Susan Walsh)

big-city mayor or state governor would be provided.

Although Bryson, who was off-duty when the crashes took place, didn't have a national-security portfolio, he oversaw an agency with 47,000 employees and a \$7.5 billion budget. A member of President Obama's economic team, Bryson was charged with delivering on Obama's goal of doubling annual U.S. exports to \$3.14 trillion by the end of 2014 from 2009 levels.

Threats to cabinet-level officials aren't overblown, said Norman Ornstein, a congressional scholar at the American Enterprise Institute, a Washington-based policy group.

Since the Sept. 11 attacks, he has urged the government to revamp its succession plans.

A nuclear bomb hidden in a suitcase detonated in Washington "could leave a headless government," he said.

Government officials face a steady stream of threats. Prosecutors brought 301 cases against defendants who assaulted federal workers performing their duties in the fiscal year that ended Sept. 30, according to the Justice Department, about the same amount as the previous two years.

The Secret Service had a \$1.1 billion budget to provide protection in the fiscal

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Landslide victory for Yvette Clarke

By Nelson A. King

Brooklyn Congresswoman Yvette D. Clarke on Tuesday night won a landslide victory in New York's Democratic Primary elections.

Clarke, who represents the redrawn 9th Congressional District in Brooklyn, heavily trounced her Democratic rival Sylvia Kinard, winning 88 percent of the vote with 86 percent of the voting precincts reported.

Clarke received 11,903 votes to Kinard's 1,584. Republican Daniel Cavanagh will challenge Clarke in November's Presidential Election.

"I am honored and pleased to have received the overwhelming support of the people of the 9th Congressional

District," Clarke told Caribbean Life after she was declared the winner.

"I've spent a decade serving the community I grew up in, and I am thrilled to continue serving Central Brooklyn as their voice in Washington, D.C.," she added.

"I will continue to fight for the issues I have always fought for: job creation, support for small business, fair immigration reform, quality education for our children and services for our seniors and working families," Clarke continued.

In other Democratic Congressional races, incumbent Harlem Congressman Charles Rangel, considered a "Friend of the Caribbean," survived a tough Democratic



Congresswoman Yvette Clarke speaking recently Brooklyn Borough Hall on the Caribbean Idea Marketplace, a platform for local and Diaspora entrepreneurs. Photo by Tequila Minsky

primary in his bid for a record 22nd term in the redrawn 13th Congressional District.

Rangel, 82, who has been

representing Harlem in Congress for more than 41 years, was ahead of Dominican Republic native New York State Senator Adriano Espaillat by 45 percent to 40 percent with 85 percent of the voting precincts reported.

"I'm just glad that my community has faith and confidence in me," Rangel told reporters at the famed Sylvia's Restaurant in Harlem.

The veteran congressman was censured in 2010 after the U.S. House of Representatives' Ethics Committee found him guilty of 11 counts of ethical violations, including failure to pay taxes, improper solicitation of donations and failure to report his personal income accurately.

Kamla's bloated cabinet

Continued from cover

Critics say that he has been unceremoniously booted out but will likely accept an official offer to work overseas for Trinidad and Tobago.

Warner, meanwhile, widely regarded as the best functioning cabinet minister and a doer has promised to do his best even as FIFA, the world governing body for soccer, is investigating him for alleged malfeasance linked to his personal ownership of a regional soccer training facility that FIFA had long thought it owned.

Another notable change concerns firebrand Youth and Gender Development Minister Verna St. Rose-Greaves who appears to have gotten herself into political hot water by speaking out against a number of controversial issues including her anti-death penalty and abortion rights positions as well as the fiasco surrounding the forced detention of a state worker at the national mental hospital recently. The former minister had accepted blame. She plans to return to social activism and says that she won't accept a diplomatic posting to Costa Rica.

Of similarly high significance was Winston Dookerran's transfer to foreign affairs from finance, a development that is largely believed might be connected to his failure to stimulate the economy and his penchant for reigning in spend-

ing on "politically popular projects."

But even as debate swirls about Persad-Bissessar's efforts to keep everyone in the coalition happy and united in the wake of the departure of the MSJ, former Prime Minister Panday is very upset that the oil- and gas-rich twin-island republic now has "the biggest cabinet in the world per capita" and even suggests that the PM is all concerned about holding things together in an environment where coalitions have hardly succeeded in the past.

"It seems to me that the prime minister is trying to bolster up her position. She is getting frightful of her weakening position in office by creating a proliferation of ministers," he said. Panday nearly three years ago had lost his leadership of the Indo-dominated United National Congress (UNC) -- the main group in the Partnership, to Persad-Bissessar.

For her part, the head of government argued that, "I saw to get the most out of the best fit possible. There are new faces in the cabinet and major shifts in responsibilities and portfolios. The changes which I announce must deliver a level of competence and performance for an impatient and expectant population. There is no room for egos or personal agendas. Every single appointment made by me has received the full support of those selected," she said in a nation-wide address.

Increase in US drone flights to the Caribbean

The United States plans to expand unmanned surveillance flights, commonly known as Predator drones, into the Caribbean and the Gulf of Mexico to tackle drug smuggling, according to a Department of Homeland Security release.

DHS officials said Washington has been quietly testing Predator drones over the Bahamas for more than 18 months.

They said the latest move would dramatically increase U.S. drone flights in the Western Hemisphere, more than doubling the number of square miles now covered by the Department of Homeland Security's fleet of nine surveillance drones, which are used primarily on the northern and southwestern U.S. borders.

Officials said an additional drone will be delivered this year to the U.S. Customs and Border Protection's

base in Cocoa Beach, Florida, for operations in the Caribbean.

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) said it already has approved a flight path for the drones to fly more than 1,000 miles to the Mona Passage, the strait between Puerto Rico and the Dominican Republic.

"There is a lot more going on in the deep Caribbean, and we would like to know more," said a law enforcement official, who prefers to remain anonymous, adding that drones may be based temporarily at airfields in the Dominican Republic and Puerto Rico.

The Predator B is best known as the drone used by the CIA to find and kill al-Qaida terrorists in Pakistan and Yemen.

U.S. officials said an unarmed version patrols the U.S. borders searching known overland smuggling

routes.

Border agents said they recently deployed a maritime variant of the Predator B, called a Guardian, over the Bahamas with a SeaVue radar system that can scan large sections of open ocean. Drug agents can check a ship's unique radio pulse to identify the boat and owner.

Department of Homeland Security officials said the expanded drone flights to the wider Caribbean are partly a response to demands from leaders in the western Caribbean to shift more drug agents, surveillance aircraft and ships into the area, as drug cartels have switched from the closely watched U.S.-Mexico border to seaborne routes.

Officials said, in the last four years, drug seizures in the Caribbean and the Gulf of Mexico have increased 36 percent.

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Inadequate Cabinet protection

Continued from Page 3
year that ended Sept. 30. The Obama administration has requested \$988 million for fiscal year 2013. George Ogilvie, a Secret Service spokesman, declined to say how many people the agency is protecting.

In addition to the president, vice president and their families, the agency protects others at risk such as major presidential candidates and former presidents.

After the Sept. 11 attacks, President George W. Bush's administration considered extending Secret Service protection to all cabinet members, said Ralph Basham, a former director of the agency.

The administration decided against the change.

"It was deemed unnecessary to require that level of security," Basham said, and the administration approved a plan to better share threat information between agencies.

Most departments have their own security details for their leaders. Clinton, for example, has a State Department team guarding her "everywhere she travels in the world," according to the department website. Seventy-two special agents provide protection for the secretary, according to a November 2009 report by the Government Accountability Office.

Panetta relies on agents from the Army Criminal Investigation Command, who are sworn federal law enforcement officers, said Chris Grey, a spokesman for the command.

Some of the agents protecting Panetta have backgrounds in military special forces or federal law enforcement agencies, such as the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, Grey said.

The Commerce Department's Office of Security provides protection for its secretary, according to the agency website.

A past job posting on allPoliceJobs.us said the duties of the protection team's supervisor include overseeing the secretary's travel plans and accompanying the cabinet official on trips. Special Agent Duane Christian died in the same 1996 plane crash in Croatia that killed then-Secretary of Commerce Ron Brown.

Bryson, 68, was in California, where he owns a house, when he crashed his vehicle into two other cars about two miles apart.

Bryson became Commerce secretary after Gary Locke took over as U.S. ambassador to China. On June 11, Bryson transferred his duties to Deputy Commerce Secretary Rebecca Blank, an economist whom he named as acting secretary.

Concerns that U.S. lawmakers may be vulnerable to threats rose again after Rep. Gabrielle Giffords, D-Ariz., was shot in the

head last year in Tuscon in an incident that claimed six lives and prompted her resignation from Congress.

Lawmakers are accompanied by U.S. Capitol Police in their states only in some cases, said Lt. Kimberly Schneider, a spokeswoman for the force.

After Giffords was shot, members of Congress considered whether they needed more protection, Ornstein said. Ultimately, most lawmakers rejected making major changes to their security because they thought it would be a barrier between them and their constituents, he said.

Last month, Supreme Court Justice Stephen Breyer's Washington home was burglarized. Three months earlier, he and his wife were robbed in their vacation home on the Caribbean island of Nevis by a man brandishing a machete.

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Caribbean Roundup

News from back home updated daily at

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small and medium-sized predominantly local firms as suppliers.

The hotel will also work with local farmers to create a reliable supply of high-quality produce for its guests.

The IDB loan will provide long term financing for the project and will pave the way for the completion of the construction of the hotel as part of the overall resort development.

Haiti

The Howard University Teaching Hospital, the most prestigious of historically black universities in the US, has joined with US-based Haitians in a medical mission to earthquake-ravaged Haiti later this month, the university said.

A team of 25 doctors, nurses, dentists and medical students and 75 student volunteers are to

head to Port-au-Prince to provide medical care and clinical training, the university hospital said.

The effort is being organized by Howard University Hospital, the New York chapter of the National Organization for the Advancement of Haitians (NOAH) and the Haitian Healthcare Alliance.

Howard, established to educate free black shortly after end of the US Civil War, has educated many Haitians and Haitian-Americans and has a vibrant Haitian students association.

The team will focus its work on the northeastern town of Fort Liberte and nearby villages that is home to about 350,000 residents and an area near the border with the Dominican Republic that is short of doctors, the hospital said.

Guyana

Guyana's minister of

Tourism, Industry and Commerce Irfaan Ali is wooing yachtsmen in Trinidad to visit the South American country as his Government plans to stimulate an ecotourism-based economy.

The minister was at the time speaking to more than 50 yachtsmen who were in Trinidad to attend a forum, organized by the Trinidad and Tobago Sailing Association.

Ali encouraged the yachtsmen to visit Guyana.

He said they will be able to access Guyana through Bartica, Essequibo, a gold and diamond mining town of about 15,000 residents.

The minister said because Guyana is in the early stages of developing a yachting industry was part of its overall ecotourism package, a lot of the usual fees (anchorage and harbor fees) will be forfeited.

Guyana registered only 16 yacht visits for 2011.

Ali said his Government, through its Guyana Tourism Authority, is willing to bend backwards to facilitate visas for yachtsmen that will allow them to stay for as long as one year.

St. Lucia

Dispelling down fears that the decision by American Airlines (AA) to cut back services to St Lucia spells disaster for the tourism industry's summer season, the St Lucia Tourist Board had indicated its strategy has shifted away from paying airline subsidies to stepping up its marketing drive.

While acknowledging the cutbacks are a cause for concern, the tourism agency said it is looking forward to a summer-time boost in airlift from rival carrier JetBlue.

American, which had earlier said it was suspending its Eagle turboprop air-

craft services to San Juan, Puerto Rico from August 21, announced recently that it will also reduce its daily Miami flights to four times weekly.

The flight reductions could mean more than 1,000 fewer visitors to the island every month.

While some hoteliers say it will be a disaster for the summer, St Lucia Tourist Board believes the fears are an exaggeration.

Trinidad

Finance Minister Winston Dookeran has expressed confidence that the Trinidad and Tobago economy will emerge from its three-year period of negative growth.

"I am sure this economy will come out of its negative growth which it has been for the last three years, starting in 2008," he told a meeting of the Home Mortgage Bank's 25th anniversary awards

ceremony at the Hyatt Regency in Port of Spain recently.

Dookeran who has been criticized for his handling of the local economy recently went to Parliament to seek provisions to increase the 2012 budget expenditure allocation by TT\$1.5 billion for various projects.

The money is expected to benefit several ministries, including the Office of the Prime Minister, Ministries of National Security, Transport, Housing and the Environment.

Dookeran said that TT had largely been insulated from the global economic meltdown because of the policies implemented by his Government.

The former Central Bank Governor said current wage negotiations, most of which have been completed for the three-year period, will ensure the further stabilization of the economy.

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'Mission 50' unveils Jamaican anthem

By Vinette K. Pryce

Shaggy along with 10 names in Jamaica's music history recently collaborated to compose an anthem that will embody the 50th anniversary theme as well as pay homage to Jamaican athletes who will be representing the country at the Olympics in London this year.

"Mission 50" is the title of the rallying theme song.

Featuring Beres Hammond, Tarrus Riley, Tessanne Chin, Tifa, Alaine, Wayne Marshall, Assassin, Damian "Junior Gong" Marley and Romain Virgo, the diverse assembly exe-

cuted various reggae styles to gain approval from the Jamaica 50 Secretariat, the final decision-makers for the year-long celebrations.

"I kinda wanted to have from veterans all the way up to new artists. I wanted to make it well rounded," Shaggy said. "A lot of it also boiled down to availability because there were a few artists I contacted who weren't around."

The song came about after Shaggy was approached by Robert Bryan, project director of the Jamaica 50 Secretariat.

"I was going through music that I had in my

computer, just to get a feel of what of what direction he (Bryan) wanted to go... something up-tempo and energetic."

Shaggy said after listening to a song that was composed to inspire support for Jamaica's soccer team to World Cup Competitions in France he decided he would rework the uplifting tune.

"Rise Up" he said motivated the Reggae Boys therefore he felt it was "ok, I'll just give you the song and I'll sit and rework it," Shaggy said.

A video for the song is being planned.

T&T to serve as VP for the 67th Session of the UN General Assembly

By Azad Ali

Trinidad and Tobago has been elected to serve as vice-president of the 67th Session of the General Assembly (GA) of the United Nations for the period September 2012 to August 2013.

The decision was taken at a recent meeting of Member States of the General

Assembly.

Vice-presidents assist the president of the GA by chairing plenary meetings of various UN related bodies and are normally represented by the Permanent Representative of elected countries.

Trinidad and Tobago was one of three countries

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Routine screening for HIV in New York City

By Kingsley Dougan

With National HIV Testing Day fast approaching, we are often reminded of the stark reality of the impact of HIV in New York City. Despite being 30 years into the epidemic, New York City is home to less than 3 percent of the U.S. population, but nearly 14% of the people in the nation diagnosed with HIV.

According to the most recent figures from the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, there are more than 110,000 people living with HIV/AIDS in New York City. 78.6 percent of the new diagnoses were among Blacks and Hispanics.

But there is hope. New York State the first in the country to require doctors and other health care providers to offer an HIV test to anyone 13-64 years old seeking medical care. While uptake has been slow, we now have a few hospitals and health centers in our community who are stepping up to the plate; many are offering the test to anyone 13 years or older.

Urban Health Plan (UHP) is a network of federally-qualified health centers that serves over 48,000 patients annually, primarily in the Bronx. In January 2011, UHP began integrating HIV screening into regular care.

In just one year, UHP has increased its testing rate from 8% to 50%, and identified over 50 HIV positive patients, who previously didn't know their status.

"Routine HIV screening at Urban Health Plan means that patients are offered HIV

testing as part of their primary care visit," said Debbie Lester, director of The Institute for the Advancement of Community Health at Urban Health Plan. "As a result, more patients are being tested and those that are positive are being linked to medical care."

Community Healthcare Network (CHN) which has clinics in Brooklyn, Manhattan, Queens, and the Bronx has been offering HIV testing at its clinics for several years. But it was just recently that they have drastically scaled up HIV testing at their three Brooklyn clinics. Now, all patients are routinely offered an HIV test at least once a year.

"We believe in the need for routine testing," said Dr. Luis Freddy Molano, Vice President of HIV Programs and Services and the Community Healthcare Network. "But we also see the need for prompt linkage to care. Testing is the first step toward staying healthy. We need to also reengage those who may be aware of their status but are not accessing medical care. We know that earlier treatment helps reduce infection."

Routine HIV screening has helped to identify people who were not aware that they were HIV positive and link them to medical care, like "Linda." Linda, who did not want to be identified by her real name, is a grandmother in her mid 80's who was offered a test at her annual medical visit and found out she was positive. Despite being in medical care for some time, Linda said that she had never been offered an HIV

Continued on Page 19

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Caribbean Life

Founded 1990 • Published by Community Newspaper Group
Corporate Headquarters: One Metrotech Center North, Suite 1001, Brooklyn, New York 11201



Publisher... Clifford Luster
Associate Publisher... Ralph D'Onofrio
Editor-In-Chief... Kenton Kirby
Associate Editor... Kevin Williams



Contributing Writers: Azad Ali, Roderick J. Broome, Fabian Burrell, Robert Elkin, Patrick Horne, Nelson King, Tequila Minsky, Donna Lamb, Vinette K. Pryce, George H. Whyte, Tangerine Clarke, Bert Wilkinson, Lloyd Kam Williams
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Will Supreme Court's ignorance torpedo Americans' freedom?

By James Bovard

Americans have never had reliable protection against the ignorance of the Supreme Court. During the past 80 years, Supreme Court justices have routinely rubber-stamped government policies that they grossly failed to understand. Black-robed economic illiteracy is perhaps the Obama administration's best hope in the Court's pending decision on the constitutionality of Obamacare.

At the oral arguments in late March, neither the justices nor the attorneys arguing the case seemed to understand the 1942 precedent case that provides the linchpin for Obamacare's individual mandate. In *Wickard v. Filburn*, the Supreme Court decreed that "it is hardly lack of due process for the government to regulate that which it subsidizes." But the Roosevelt-era Court completely failed to recognize how the feds had ravaged a market before they forcibly seized control over all producers.

At the time of the 1942 ruling, the Department of Agriculture dictated how many acres each of the nation's 1.5 million wheat farmers could grow. Roscoe Filburn, an Indiana farmer who slightly exceeded his quota, claimed that the government had no right to prohibit him from growing wheat on his own land to feed to his livestock. The Roosevelt administration, in a brief to the Supreme Court, claimed that it must have a free hand to "suppress ... a public evil."

And what was the "public evil"? Wheat surpluses. The Court unanimously concluded that the government was justified even in restricting "the amount of wheat ... to which one may forestall resort to the market by producing for his own needs."

The Court concluded that federal action was justified in part because wheat exports had fallen sharply since the 1920s, resulting in a "large surplus in production." But that surplus existed largely because the Roosevelt administration had driven the price of U.S. wheat to almost three times the world market price. Planners assumed that high crop prices would somehow make America rich — or at least spur a national recovery.

The Roosevelt administration scorned exports, preferring to restrict domestic production in order to inflate U.S. prices. Nobel laureate economist Theodore W. Schultz denounced New Deal farm programs for "putting a 'Chinese Wall' around our export farmers."

The Roosevelt administration first murdered the wheat exports and then threw itself on the Court's mercy on the grounds that wheat farmers were orphans. But the justices in 1942 showed

scant curiosity about the cause of the loss of exports, treating it like an act of God.

The key to Roosevelt's policy was that prices were no longer permitted to provide signals to buyers and sellers. High federal price supports encouraged farmers to boost production, and then politicians cited supposed surpluses as proof of the need for perpetual control of agriculture. The Supreme Court's decision empowered the Agriculture Department to trample farmers' rights and freedoms for the next 60 years.

Unfortunately, at least some of today's Supreme Court members are as clueless as the 1942 panel that swallowed the government's self-serving claims. Justice Stephen Breyer asked one of the lawyers arguing about *Wickard*'s relevance to Obamacare, "Didn't they make that man growing his own wheat go into the market and buy other wheat for his — for his cows?" Similarly, Justice Ruth Ginsburg declared that "*Wickard* was you must buy; we are not going to let you use the home-grown wheat. You have got to go out in the market and buy that wheat that you don't want."

If Supreme Court justices have zero understanding of the most important precedent for Obamacare, it is unlikely that they will recognize the danger of sanctifying politicians' vast arbitrary power over health care.

There are stark parallels between the growing federal takeover of medical care and the 1930s takeover of agriculture. In the same way that high price supports spurred farmers to boost wheat production, government subsidies have driven up the demand for health-care services. The feds helped set off a health-care price explosion — and then invoked rising costs to justify seizing far more power over doctors, hospitals, insurance companies, and private citizens. When Barack Obama bewails the number of Americans without health insurance, he forgets to mention that legislative and bureaucratic mandates have made health insurance far more expensive than it would otherwise be. The market for medical services has been ravaged almost as badly as U.S. farm markets in the New Deal era.

The mere fact that government throws money at an activity does not entitle Uncle Sam to dictate endless terms to both producers and consumers. Neither Congress nor the Supreme Court has any right to control what they do not understand. "Good intentions" cannot absolve perpetual economic mangling.

James Bovard is policy advisor at The Future of Freedom Foundation (www.fff.org) and the author of Attention Deficit Democracy [2006] as well as Lost Rights [1994].

Turning a blind eye to Warner-gate

By Les Slater

For the second time we have found it handy to invoke, in this space, one of those Trinidadian witticisms that made it into the vernacular a few years ago, its acclamation and application immediate and widespread. Maybe because the shelf life of “How it go look?” had long run its course by the time the administration of Prime Minister Kamla Persad Bissessar began in 2010, an awareness of actions and their consequences is far less keen than it should be for the government. Indeed, it’s fair to say that indifference to “how it looks” has become routine practice for the ruling party. And certainly one of the dramatic manifestations of this is the continued presence in Bissessar’s cabinet of a very tainted Jack Warner, the infamy magnified by his being named recently as minister of national security.

Warner’s assignment to his new post was announced in a cabinet reshuffle the other day. Because he is a former FIFA big cheese, whose murky and controversial trail, in that connection, has garnered international headlines, what does or doesn’t happen with Warner transcends the Trinidad and Tobago political landscape. And this too might give pause, one would expect, to how the prime minister treats with the undeniably toxic quality Warner’s inclusion in the cabinet represents. Hewing defiantly to the path of hubris, however, Bissessar made like Warner’s towering accumulation of questionable conduct was no cause célèbre. And his retention as minister of works, after his pirouette and resignation from FIFA last year in the face of what looked to be a sure-fire dose of trouble, has now morphed to Bissessar “handing him unrestricted access to private lives and public institutions,” as Trinidad Express contributor Clarence Rambharat observed.

Perhaps the most troubling aspect of this affront to morality in public affairs is that Bissessar could pull it

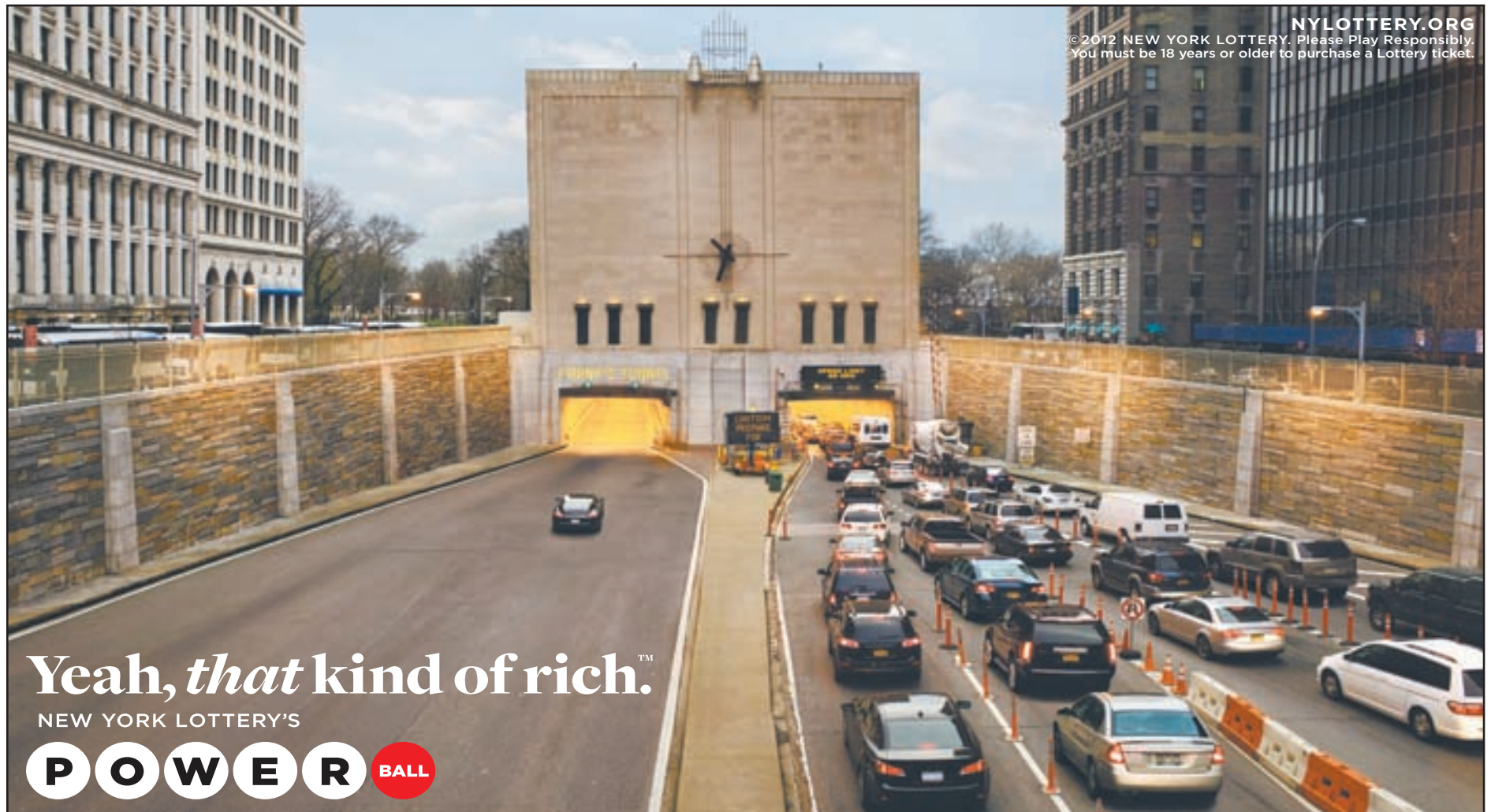
Viewpoint

off obviously because she was convinced enough of the citizenry was on board with the fluff about Warner being the “hardest working” minister and that this superseded whatever else he brought to the dance in the way of transgressions (which definitely weren’t of the traffic ticket variety). Warner’s Johnny-on-the-spot grandstanding as works minister, clearly designed to de-fang those allegations of impropriety, had the desired effect on John Public (in sufficient volume, at least) for him to bask in performance glory, the trappings of service delivery coming with the package. Folks one would assume to know better went for this razzle-dazzle, offered testimonials about how early Warner got to work each morning, and thought all of this better than fair exchange for excusing a raft of wrongdoing attributed to the man.

When Warner parted company with FIFA last year, he grandly declared it was so he could devote himself to serving his country. Nothing in Warner’s past suggests that he wouldn’t still be a football power figure if he could, precious few, one would think, buying anything but saving his bacon in the face of a bribery scandal as reason for the resignation. The bribery allegations, leveled at himself and Mohamed Bin Hammam of Qatar, stemmed from a meeting of CONCACAF, the regional football federation, last year in Port of Spain. Warner would say of the charges, that FIFA was hanging him out to dry, since handing out gifts to attendees at such gatherings was common FIFA practice. It was immaterial, apparently, that the “gifts” in this instance were envelopes stuffed with cash, meaning that an estimated \$US 1 million had been brought into the country illegally.

Both prior to and since Warner got into government, making news of an unflattering nature seems to have been an ongoing feature for this guy. There’s the still unresolved issue of monies allegedly owed to Trinidad and Tobago’s 2006 World Cup Soca Warriors. There’s the issue of funds donated by FIFA and the Korean Football Association for earthquake relief in Haiti, which reportedly went through Warner and which gave rise to claims that Haiti did not receive all of the allocated monies. There’s a campaign finance matter still awaiting court judgment. And that’s hardly the full story. The point here being that any head of government who gives succor to a member of her governing crew around whom there’s instance after instance of malfeasance, or the appearance of it, would be considered, under normal circumstances, absolutely in violation of the public trust. Bissessar’s heralding of Warner as some indispensable talent exemplifies government unapologetically out of control. Worse, that among citizens there could be voiced the view that Warner is perhaps best suited to be the national security overlord is in truth a lament, a sobering commentary on the degree of societal dysfunction in the country.

National security in Trinidad and Tobago has assumed dimensions where, by now, it probably has outstripped the capacities of any individual portfolio holder. An inter-ministerial approach might well be a model worth exploring in confronting the challenges this area poses. Be that as it may, Warner’s being installed in the role, whatever its design, is, in the words of one football veteran very familiar with the Warner odyssey, “an insult.” Referencing the People’s Partnership coalition that forms the government, Rambharat in the Express commented: “For those who stand for goodness, civility and good governance, Warner’s new appointment without exoneration is an act of Partnership thuggery.” We couldn’t agree more.



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Why it's difficult for Romney to win

By Wellington C. Ramos

Unemployment is the key issue that will decide who will be the next president of the United States. However, nobody in their right senses can place all the blame on President Barack Obama for the unemployment situation in this country.

When he took office, our country was at war in Iraq and Afghanistan, the financial market had collapsed, we were facing a recession close to a depression, our trade imbalance with China was huge. Many of our companies are moving their businesses out of the United States to go abroad to seek cheap labor and the Republican House of Representatives blocked and continues to block every job initiative Mr. Obaman sent to them.

Romney cannot be president of the United States without winning Florida, Virginia and Michigan; and wining all of these three states will be difficult to do.

In the last election President Obama won all three of these states when the unemployment situation was worse than what it is today. For Romney to win these states, he will have to talk about other issues and not just unemployment.

The only issue Romney can use in Florida against Obama is his support for same-sex marriage. His record on immigration is terrible and there's a lot of Hispanics in this state. On social issues he has already agreed to surrender to the Tea Party, which will help him go downhill.

In the state of Michigan where Romney was born, President Obama bailed out General Motors and they have bounced back like most of the other auto makers in Michigan. Now, these companies are re-hiring some of their laid-off employees and hiring new ones.

Romney was against the auto bailout, like most of the Republicans and some of them in Congress were also

Op-Ed

against the bailout of the financial industries on Wall Street.

Virginia is the next state that he is thinking about winning but the employment situation is getting better there as well. Most American citizens do not know much about Mitt Romney but by the time this campaign is over, the Obama campaign would have let you know who is the real Mitt Romney.

During the campaign for the Republican nomination, his rivals exposed many things about him and I am sure they will come back in the presidential campaign to haunt him. From what the members of the Republican party saw, they were reluctant to support Romney fr the nomination.

When I heard that he decided to shelter his money in a bank in the Cayman Islands at a time when our country needed people with wealth to invest in our economy I was deeply troubled. I cannot point to any business that Romney owns in the United States that is creating jobs for our people.

If Romney is concerned about the citizens of this country, he should take his money and invest it here, so that our people can find employment -- not take it outside of our country so that he could avoid paying taxes. By investing at home, our government can collect revenues to support programs for the needy people at home.

The Republicans are convinced that unemployment is the issue that they will be able to use to make President Obama a one-term president. However, for that to work most Americans must be convinced that the unemploy-

ment situation is due to the president and him alone. So far, I have not seen any polling that indicates Obama alone is responsible for the unemployment situation we are in. The American people are not stupid. Our debt is about 15 trillion dollars and according to the last report, most of this debt was accumulated when George Bush, Jr. was president. The Wall Street bailout, the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq which Obama inherited from Bush, increased the national debt and now it is close to 16 trillion dollars. If we can reduce the trade imbalance and create jobs by encouraging our businesses to stay at home and invest in our country's future by providing jobs to our citizens, we will be able to decrease our national debt.

Romney is the Republican nominee for president because he secured the required number of delegates. He is continuing his campaign for president. Yet, I haven't heard him outline any plan to create jobs in this country.

If all Romney is doing so far, is to blame President Obama for the current unemployment situation, over and over again, without explaining to the American people why the president should be blamed for it, and fails to present a plan to create jobs, he will not be elected as president of this country.

If his Republican Party members of Congress care about the unemployed citizens in this country, then why is it that when it is time to extend unemployment benefits they are reluctant to vote for it? For them to vote for the extension, they want to take the money away from other needed programs already approved for the needy.

The Republicans care only about the rich, because all they talk about is tax cuts for the wealthy, while cutting spending on programs for the working class and the poor.

The author is adjunct professor of political science and history at Boricua College.

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Are Americans not submissive enough?

By Sheldon Richman

If I didn't know better, I'd have thought New York Times columnist David Brooks was having a laugh at our expense. Alas, Brooks means every word of his column titled "The Follower Problem," as anyone who reads him regularly will realize.

"I don't know if America has a leadership problem; it certainly has a followership problem," Brooks laments. "Vast majorities of Americans don't trust their institutions."

Worse than that, he thinks Americans dislike all authority.

We live in a culture that finds it easier to assign moral status to victims of power than to those who wield power.... Then there is our fervent devotion to equality, to the notion that all people are equal and deserve equal recognition and respect.... But the main problem is our inability to think properly about how power should be used to bind and build.... Those "Question Authority" bumper stickers no longer symbolize an attempt to distinguish just and unjust authority. They symbolize an attitude of opposing authority.

I think Brooks is wrong, though I wish he were right. I see little real rejection of political authority. Too bad. We need it.

But let's assume Brooks is right. Is anti-authoritarianism a problem? You'd have to be a nationalist devotee of intrusive government to think so. Who else would value mindless obeisance to political authority?

Brooks disparages "our fervent devotion to equality" because it's "hard in this frame of mind to define and celebrate greatness, to hold up others who are immeasurably superior to ourselves."

Op-Ed

Is he kidding? Is he really finding fault with those of us who fail to recognize greatness and superiority in "our political leaders"? ("Misleaders" is a better word.) Where, pray tell, is the evidence of either greatness or superiority in those whom Brooks has in mind? For some reason he doesn't provide any. He just takes it for granted.

He quotes Dwight Eisenhower, who wrote, "Always try to associate yourself with and learn as much as you can from those who know more than you do, who do better than you, who see more clearly than you."

That's good advice, but is Brooks suggesting that our misleaders know more, do better, and see more clearly than the rest of us? Can he give us any reason for that assertion?

Presidents routinely interfere with our lives and authorize the mass murder we call "war." Members of Congress do equally stupid things, such as passing bills authorizing unaccountable and ignorant bureaucrats to write inane rules about how to manage everything from medical care to the financial industry.

These people get elected not by demonstrating superiority, or even greater-than-average knowledge, but by their facility for setting the right mood for voters. Politics is theater, and politicians are actors. If one portrays a character that enough people find appealing, he or she gets elected.

Of course, that's not all politicians do. They devote a

good deal of time promising new ways to spend other people's money — money that will be extracted from the taxpayers by threat of violence. They will also borrow money, which means they will create liabilities for future generations that have no say in the matter.

This is greatness? It's ludicrous to read superiority into anything they do. Nefariousness and condescension are more like it.

Brooks fears the consequences of a general skepticism about authority:

You end up with movements like Occupy Wall Street and the Tea Parties that try to dispense with authority altogether. They reject hierarchies and leaders because they don't believe in the concepts. The whole world should be like the Internet — a disbursed semianarchy in which authority is suspect and each individual is king.

Again, I wish he were right. But he is far too optimistic. (He'd call it pessimistic.) Neither Occupy Wall Street nor the Tea Party have identified the root of our political and economic problems, and consequently their solutions are not anti-authoritarian enough. But at least they sense something is wrong systemically. That's a start.

Brooks, on the other hand, thinks it's not the leaders who need changing so much as those who distrust "their" leaders.

"We have to relearn the art of following," he writes.

No we don't. We need to learn the art of living free.

Sheldon Richman is senior fellow at The Future of Freedom Foundation (www.fff.org) and editor of The Freeman magazine.

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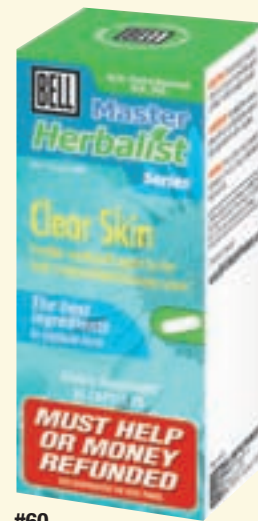
■ **Bell Blood Pressure Formulation helped me feel great.** Thank you for this wonderful product. William Oliver, Portsmouth, VA ■ **I have been taking Bell #26 now for one year.** My mom and brother started taking it as well. Even my pastor is on it now. Thanks! Mary Earl, Longview, TX ■ **I started to take Bell Blood Pressure Formulation Formulation #26.** After about 30 days my blood pressure was normal. My doctor was very happy with me. Irene Surridge, 67, Owen Sound, ON ■ **A friend recommended Bell BP Formulation!** When a friend had good results I decided to try it. After taking Bell Blood Pressure Formulation #26. It made a difference in my life. Milton Perdomo, 68, Rego Park, NY. **No need to make claims. Bell relays 100% truthful user's free speech. No money is paid for it. No questions asked guarantee.**

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#60

SNORING?

As recommended by Dr. Gifford-Jones M.D.



#23

Here is proof that snoring can be corrupting your health and your marriage. Three out of 10 couples are considering divorce because of snoring says a major magazine article. You are not alone! An official survey says 48% of all people snore. 75% are affected, if you add non-snoring husbands that have snoring wives or vice versa. Snoring is caused by slack muscles in the throat. A common complaint is that people feel that they are not well rested in the morning. Many people wrote they are now sleeping like a babies. Their partners are delighted. This natural health product Sound Sleep #23 usually helps the first night. No side effects.

■ **College professor had lack of good sleeps with many interruptions** for last 8 years that made her tired during the day. Within 3 days taking Bell Sound Sleep #23 the terrible snoring stopped. I wake up feeling refreshed and energized. I can concentrate in a focused, happy manner. I feel delighted with this natural product. Dr. Anela E. Helges, 77, New York, NY ■ **A life changing product.** The very first night I took the capsules and every night after I had a restful and wonderful sleep. It has been a God send and blessing. I am by nature a skeptic. The money-back guarantee convinced me to try it. Jimmy Pay, 53, Gardendale, AC ■ **3 Years on Bell Sound Sleep** #23. My wife and I are entirely satisfied. Snoring episodes have completely disappeared. This has improved our lives enormously. Leo Fortin, 60, St-Georges, QC ■ **Basically you saved my husband's life.** For the last 5 years my husband had very bad nights. Bell #23 was nothing short of a miracle. I have my husband back. No more snoring. No more napping during the day. I am telling all our friends. Bonnie Johnson, 64, Wichita, KS ■ **My life changed. Sleep now 7-8 hours.** I am a retired college professor and author of books. I have no more need to nap during the day. Nothing I tried helped until I started Bell Sound Sleep. I am so delighted with this product I would like to make motivational speeches to help others. Carmen V. Caruso, 66, Ann Arbor, MI **On the Bell Website we list phone numbers or email addresses of actual users of this product and all other Bell products. Most are delighted to talk about their relief.**



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The Caribbean Business Report

RUDISA CONSULTING Helping to keep Brooklyn healthy

By Donna Lamb

Jacqueline Gulstone always dreamed of owning her own business. After finding herself growing increasingly restless, three years ago she decided it was finally time to take the leap.

Having worked for many years at a number of health care facilities, Registered Nurse/Family Nurse Practitioner Gulstone had gained significant skills in various areas of health care, including management. This helped her pinpoint the exact type of business she wanted to embark upon as an independent consultant offering her services in health care.

At her husband's suggestion, she decided to name her business Rudisa Consulting. "Rudisa is a combination of my two children's names," she explained. I'm thinking of having something to pass on when I'm no longer here."

Some of the services Rudisa Consulting offers are annual health assessments for employees of

small and medium-sized businesses, individual health evaluations for employment and school health requirements, CPR certification and infection control certification along with health presentations to community groups and mentoring of nursing and allied health students.

"Preparation is the key," Gulstone noted. "Before starting my business, I had to do my homework. I researched the market, looking at the needs of the population I wanted to serve, and I attended small business owners' seminars trying to identify all of the things I needed to do to be successful."

One organization Gulstone found particularly helpful was CAMBA, which offers some free workshops and others for a small fee. She utilized all her other resources, too, getting advice from acquaintances who were experienced small business owners or independent consultants. Then she put a lot of time and effort into preparing

a solid business plan and made sure she satisfied all the requirements of the state, providing proper documentation, etc.

"Networking is a vital tool," she declared. "I reached out to my colleagues, friends and acquaintances, who assisted me in more ways than I can possibly mention." She is especially grateful to Fred Valentine, who helped her find the right location for her business and to Jacqueline Finch, who literally helped paint, furnish, and brighten up the office space. "And throughout it all my husband has been a rock of support," Gulstone continued. "He provided the technology I needed to get started: a computer, fax machines, a projector etc. All this helped decrease the out of pocket start up costs since I really did not want to have to take out a loan at that time."

Once Rudisa Consulting was up and running, she employed a CPA to ensure that all legal requirements are met and that all proper

records are maintained. Gulstone also learned how to do such things as create spreadsheets for easy reference to keep her business flowing along as efficiently as possible.

Gulstone emphasized the importance of advertising, stating that she utilizes every available form she can, including advertising on the Internet, postcards, business card distribution, and good old "word of mouth." She went on to say that she believes in starting small and expanding services as time and need increase, a philosophy that has served her well.

"If a person is thinking of starting their own business, they need to go in with their eyes open," she said. "Long hours and weeks are the order of the day if you're going to advance. And in any business there will be lulls in requests for services, which can provoke some anxiety," Gulstone noted. "But one has to be persistent and keep pushing."

Although starting a busi-



Jacqueline Gulstone, owner of Rudisa Consulting LLC
Photo by Donna Lamb

ness and making it work can be quite challenging, Jacqueline Gulstone said she has never for a moment regretted doing it. "I will always remember how good it felt the first day I had everything in place," she recalled. "And at the end of conducting my first class, such a deep sense of fulfillment settled over me. Even with the occasional ups and

downs, I am ecstatic," she concluded. "I tell people that besides my children, opening my own business is my greatest and proudest achievement."

Rudisa Consulting LLC is located at 1324 Flatbush Ave. in Brooklyn. For more information, contact 718-207-4143, Rudisag@gmail.com, www.Rudisaconsulting.com.

SMALL BUSINESS RESOURCES

Bronx Small Business Development Center

Lehman College SBDC
250 Bedford Park Blvd. West
Old Gym Building, Room 007
Bronx, N.Y. 10468-1589
Clarence Stanley, Director
Tel: (718) 960-8806
Fax: (718) 960-7340
Email: bxsdbdc@binc.org
Website: <http://bronx.nyssbdc.org>

Brooklyn Small Business Development Center

Boricua College
9 Graham Avenue
Brooklyn, N.Y. 11206-4108
Angel Roman, Director
Tel: (718) 963-4112 X 563
Fax: (718) 963-2031
Email: BoricuaSBDC@mindspring.com
Website: <http://brooklyn.nyssbdc.org>

Buffalo Small Business Development Center

State University College at Buffalo
Grover Cleveland Hall, Room 206
1300 Elmwood Avenue
Buffalo, N.Y. 14222-4222
Susan McCartney, Director
Tel: (716) 878-4030
Fax: (716) 878-4067
Email: buffalosbdc@yahoo.com
Website: <http://buffalo.nyssbdc.org>

Canton Small Business Development Center

SUNY Canton
Faculty Office Building, Room 202
34 Cornell Drive
Canton, N.Y. 13617-1098
Dale Rice, Director
Tel: (315) 386-7312
Fax: (315) 379-3814
Generic Email: sbdc@canton.edu

Email: coreyb.canton.edu
Website: <http://canton.nyssbdc.org>

Small Business Development Center

Corning Community College
24 Denison Parkway West, Suite 203
Corning, NY 14830-3297
Bonnie Gestwicki, Director
Tel: (607) 962-9461
Fax: (607) 936-6642
Email: gestwicki@corning-cc.edu
Website: <http://corning.nyssbdc.org>

Jamestown Small Business Development Center

Jamestown Community College
P.O. Box 20
525 Falconer Street
Jamestown, N.Y. 14702-0020
Irene Dobies, Director
Tel: (716) 665-5754 or
Toll Free: 1-800-522-7232
Fax: (716) 665-6733
Email: iredobies@mail.sunyjcc.edu
Website: <http://www.jamestown.nyssbdc.org>

Long Island (Farmingdale) Small Business Development Center

SUNY @ Farmingdale
Campus Commons
2350 Route
110 Farmingdale, NY 11735-1006
Lucille Wesnofske, Director
Tel: (631) 420-2765/7930/7931/7952
Fax: (631) 370-8895
Email: Wesnofl@farmingdale.edu
Website: <http://www.farmingdale.edu/SBDC>
Long Island (Stony Brook)

Small Business Development Center SUNY at Stony Brook

Nicolls Road
Harriman Hall, Room 109
Stony Brook, N.Y. 11794-3777
Ed Fritz, Director
Tel: (631) 632-9070
Fax: (631) 632-7176
Email: Lynne.Schmidt@sunysb.edu
Website: <http://www.stonybrook.nyssbdc.org>



Ryan Chan.

Photo Credit Tiffany Lue Yen

Mission Catwalk's 'Wild Card' Finale

Some Mission Catwalk viewers were in for a surprise on Tuesday's episode of the Caribbean reality series when instead of seeing Caribbean Fashion Week (CFW) presentations from the final trio, eliminated designer Rebecca Stirm, who also showed at CFW, was brought into the mix as the wild card and a contender for the winning title. Needless to say the top three, Crystal Powell, Gregory Williams and Ryan Chan were caught off guard by Rebecca's return as well.

For her part, 19 year old Belmopan Belize native, who was already preparing a collection for CFW was thankful for the second chance.

"When the judges announced to me that I was being brought back as a wild card I teared up. It's very humbling to know that I have a second shot at winning and going to London Fashion Week."

Rebecca, who won four of the shows 11 challenges, introduced the crowd at Jamaica's National Indoor Sports Centre to

her line Rebecca Stirm Collection, which featured her trademark soft dresses.

The marine theme in Powell's collection "Treasure Beach: Where the Desert Meets the Ocean" was evident in her use of different shades of blue and an interesting number which she called the sting-ray dress. The Crystal Christina owner, who specializes in evening wear, says she is now considering swimwear after strong reaction to her first item on the catwalk- a striking black and white one-piece.

Fellow Jamaican Gregory Williams who loves black showed his edgy fashion sensibility with unique constructions set to Lady Gaga no less. When asked if his H.O.D Designs collection will bring him the win, the 28 year-old says "I want to. But if not, I win in my heart."

Rounding up the top four is Trinidadian Ryan Chan of Ryan Chan Designs, whose gladiator-inspired presentation was unified by shades of brown copper and gold.

GSelectPR, Kingston.

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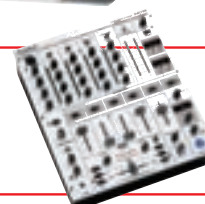


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Health

It's Men's Health Month! Make a pact to stay healthy

By George Hulse

I'm pretty sure I speak for all the men out there when I say to you, ladies, you know we're stubborn—especially when it comes to taking care of our health. Doctor's appointments, checkups, medical tests—we'd rather forget about all that.

Which is why I'm reminding you, men, that this June – designated Men's Health Month by the Men's Health Network - is your time to think about how you've been handling your health and what you can do to be even healthier—starting now. Dust off those weights, go for a run around the neighborhood, or join a gym.

June is a special month for men particularly because we also celebrate Father's Day. If you're a father, you want to make



sure you're around to see your kids shine at every opportunity. Promise yourself this Father's Day to make fitness a priority. Keep yourself in good health and teach your kids how to live a healthy lifestyle by example. Whether

it's getting outside and playing with them, working out together or signing up to coach a little league team - show them they have a fit, healthy dad who's still got it.

Ladies, the men in your lives may need a lit-

tle encouragement. Please urge your father, your brother, your spouse, your good friend—any important man in your life—to make a doctor's appointment. A simple check-in with your doctor is all it takes to talk to them about anything that's been bothering you and make sure everything's in working order.

A little tender loving care towards your health goes a long way. We have to make sure we're taking good care of ourselves. I'm man enough to admit that sometimes we need a little help.

George Hulse is Vice President of External Affairs at Healthfirst. For more tips on leading a healthier lifestyle, visit Healthfirst Healthy Living, www.hfhealthyliving.com.

Prostate Health for Men

By Susan Beane, MD

According to the American Cancer Society, prostate cancer is the second most common cancer in American men, after skin cancer. This year alone, about 241,740 new cases of prostate cancer will be diagnosed, and 28,170 men—about one out of every 36—will die from the disease.

While these are sobering statistics, prostate cancer is also one of those diseases that can be treated successfully if caught early. Though the disease occurs mainly in men aged 65 and older, it's recommended that men begin to think about getting screened as early as 40, depending upon family history.

With June designated Men's Health Month by the Men's Health Network,

now's the perfect time to think about how you've been handling your health and what you can do to be even healthier. It's a great opportunity to make an appointment with your doctor to have a serious conversation about prostate cancer risk factors and discuss screening options.

About one in six men will be diagnosed with prostate cancer during their lifetime. An appointment with your doctor may be an important step in determining how a diagnosis may affect you.

Dr. Beane is Vice President and Medical Director at Healthfirst. For more tips on leading a healthier lifestyle, visit the Healthfirst Healthy Living website at www.hfhealthyliving.com.



Men's heart health by the numbers

Courtesy Langone Medical Center

Cardiologists at NYU Langone Medical Center regularly track three important numbers to help keep men healthy including blood pressure, cholesterol and body mass index (BMI). It's a good time for men and their families to recognize their risk for cardiovascular diseases and to understand specific numbers they can monitor to maintain their health. These numbers are particularly important since cardiovascular disease is the leading cause of death among men in the U.S. and claims over 600,000 lives annually, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

"Preventive care is a key focus area for clinical research and patient education at NYU Langone's Cardiac and Vascular Institute," said Stuart Katz, MD, the Helen L. and Martin S. Kimmel Professor of Advanced Cardiac Therapeutics. "By empowering men to make small, manageable changes in their lifestyle, such as exercising and eating healthier, they can significantly improve target health numbers such as blood pressure and cholesterol, and help prevent conditions like heart disease, which affect a large number of men."

Men should start by understanding the three key numbers that are important to their cardiovascular health and work with their doctor to monitor these numbers. Every man should do the following:

~Get blood pressure checked. About one in three U.S. adults has high blood pressure. Blood pressure is typically recorded as two numbers. The systolic number (often the higher of the two numbers)

measures heart muscle contractions and the diastolic number measures the pressure in the arteries between heartbeats. According to the American Heart Association, a healthy blood pressure should be less than 120/80 mm Hg for adults aged 20 or over.

~Know "good" and "bad" cholesterol levels. High cholesterol can lead to heart disease and other cardiovascular problems. Cholesterol is often reported as a single number referred to as "total cholesterol," but there are both good and bad forms of cholesterol. Cholesterol levels are measured in milligrams per deciliter of blood (mg/dL) and tests include numbers for HDL (good) cholesterol and LDL (bad) cholesterol. A cholesterol level of 200 mg/dL puts people at lower risk for coronary heart disease.

~Keep track of Body Mass Index (BMI). BMI is calculated using height and weight. BMI can provide a reliable indicator of health for most people and is used to screen for weight categories that may lead to health problems. A BMI of 25 or higher puts people at greater risk for coronary heart disease, stroke, Type 2 diabetes and a variety of other preventable problems.

There are many proactive steps men can take to lessen their risk factors for cardiovascular disease. Increasing physical exercise, limiting salt and alcohol intake and managing stress are all important lifestyle changes that men can make to reduce their health risks. Dr. Katz notes, "Men don't have to make these changes all at once. Even making small changes can lead to big improvements in heart, and overall health."

UWI law school students top 'em at the Hague

By Chudi Chukwudi

Russell Warner, a second-year law student at the Hague, Netherlands and a member of the Hugh Wooding Law School at the University of the West Indies' St. Augustine campus in Trinidad defeated top-tier international competitors to take the first place trophy for Best Defense Counsel at the recent International Criminal Court Mooting competition held at the Hague, Netherlands.

Warner was a member of a team which included Johanen Doughlin (Grenada), Kevin Webster (Barbados), Mansergh Griffith (Trinidad) and coach Roger Ramgoolam (Trinidad) course director Hugh Wooding Law

school.)

This was Hugh Wooding's first entry into this competition. The teams presented arguments based on a hypothetical situation using principles of international criminal law applied by the International Criminal Court, and based on the Rome Statute of which Trinidad and Tobago is a signatory.

The qualifying rounds of the competition were held at Pace University in New York in February 2012. Of the 26 teams involved, early favourites Harvard and Yale failed to make it to the finals. The Hugh Wooding Law School team qualified as the sole representative from the Caribbean region. In winning the award, Russell Warner beat several international entrants

from the USA, Osgoode Hall law school (Canada), Miami University and the University of Hong Kong.

Hugh Wooding law school is one of three law schools established by the Council of Legal Education, a body constituted to administer the vocational training aspect of legal education in the Caribbean. The other two are Norman Manley Law School (Jamaica) and Eugene Du Puch Law School (Bahamas).



From left: Russell Warner, Johanen Doughlin, Kevin Webster, Mansergh Griffith and coach Roger Ramgoolam. The three women in gowns are judges of the competition.



From left: Mansergh Griffith, Roger Ramgoolam, Kevin Webster and Russell Warner.

HIV Screening

Continued from Page 10

test and had never tested before.

Montefiore Medical Center is also doing its part to help turn the tide on the epidemic in New York. Montefiore, which provides care to approximately one-third of the Bronx's 1.3 million residents, is the largest New York City institution to date to undertake a hospital-wide effort to make HIV screening routine.

In January 2012, Montefiore began implementing routine HIV screening across 23 outpatient sites, 3 emergency departments, and 3 inpatient units. Montefiore plans to drastically scale up HIV testing this year, and aims to provide testing to

over 84,000 patients.

Montefiore will officially launch its hospital-wide routine screening program on National HIV Testing Day June 27, 2012 with an event at the Tishman Learning Center. The event, which runs from 12:00 – 2:00 p.m. will feature a keynote address from Dr. Ron Valdiserri, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Health, Infectious Diseases and Director, Office of HIV/AIDS Policy.

So on this year's National HIV Testing Day, get tested. If you are between the ages of 13-64 years old, your doctor is required to offer you an HIV test. Say yes when you get the offer. Help us end the epidemic in our community.

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Opening Day at East NY Farmers' Market

Saturday, June 30th 2012 kicks off the 14th market season at ENY Farmers' Market. On opening day, stop by and meet the new gardeners, farmers & vendors, enjoy the LIVE entertainment and exciting activities throughout the day.

This season we have an exciting line up of events including the return of our summer concert series, "Summer Saturdaze", Annual Health Fair, Annual Pie Contest, and children's activities every Wednesday and Saturday.

Every Saturday: Homegrown fruits & vegetables including organic and Caribbean specialties; Fresh Fish (porgy, croaker, blue and salmon) and crabs; cooking demos and nutrition info; Info about community resources; Handmade arts & crafts; CSA - Farm Share Pickup; Home cooked food & baked goods; Tours of our Youth Farm; Volunteer Days on the first and third Saturday of each month, 10 - 2; Children's activities; Entertainment

Every Wednesday: Homegrown fruits & vegetables including organic and Caribbean specialties; cooking demos and nutrition info; Information about community resources and Children's activities.

About Eny Farms! Farmers Market:

While building our local economy and creating places for neighbors to meet and greet. Since 1998 we have been providing fresh produce, handmade arts & crafts and a safe public space for families in East New York, Brooklyn. Our market is the only place in East New York to find local and organic produce and Caribbean specialty crops like karela, bora, and callaloo.

Market Locations: Saturdays - New Lots Ave & Schenck Ave, Brooklyn - 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM Wednesdays - New Lots Ave & Georgia Avenues, Brooklyn - 3:30 PM - 6:30 PM

About Our Summer Concert Series

Summer Saturdaze 2012 events are culturally enriching community gatherings that are geared towards establish-

Food

ing a love for the arts as well as opportunities to target specific socio-economic issues that cripple the growth of our neighborhood. Each Saturday, community members are able to enjoy culturally rich entertainment, visual art and participate in a community forum discussing various topics in sustainability. Brought to you by ARTs East New York Inc.

July Calendar of Events

July 14 Golden Oldies Join us in our blast from the past as we look back on music, dance and art inspired from the past. We're also offering tips on healthy eating habits while watching professional performers imitate the sounds of old soul favorites like James Brown, Otis Redding, The Supremes and more....

July 21 International Celebration This multi-cultural festival explores performances of artists across the globe. We will explore Japan, Ireland, India and more.

July 28 "WORD" ARTs East New York Inc. is proud to host this Teen Poetry Slam. With nothing but a mic and their powerful voices, 20 of New York City's inspiring young poets, spoken word artists and emcees will recite their own original works. This event culminates in an opportunity to win cash prizes and named East New York's first Youth Poet Laureate.

August Calendar of Events

August 4 Carnival: East New York Style Grab your flag and come represent your island! This year we are going to "jump and wave" as we celebrate with some of the best Caribbean performers to date, captivating steel pan symphony and much more. Prizes for best costume awarded.

August 11 Urban Gumbo What do you have when you

mix a little tap dancing; sprinkle some spoken word, a dash of contemporary dance and a drop of theater on the side? It sounds like you have some "Urban Gumbo".

August 18 East New York's Next Top Model Wanna Be On Top??? Think you have what it takes to be East New York's Next Top Model?! Well come sign up and strut your stuff for our judges to decide. Winner will be crowned East New York's Next Top Model, receive a grand prize which includes your very own professional photo shoot, a modeling contract and much more. This show is produced and coordinated by the youth of the East New York Community.

August 25 "This Is It" Michael Jackson Birthday Celebration A "Don't Miss" event put together by some of our finest youth in East New York and a spectacular "Flash Mob" performance.

Call Out To Volunteers: We are looking for volunteers interested in helping with the children's activities (you would receive a small stipend), connect with us on Facebook or our website to learn more.

ENY Farms! is a community based program that unites business skills development, youth leadership development, support to regional farmers, and a commitment to improving the community food security of East New York, Brooklyn. The ENY Farms! Farmers' Market is one of the few markets in NYC that work closely with community gardeners to develop a micro-enterprise of urban agriculture. The youth interns learn critical lessons on nutrition and leadership skills as they maintain their own community garden, assist gardeners that produce for market, and manage their own produce table at the farmers' market, all the while witnessing how fresh produce benefits overall health.

For more information about East New York Farms! and a full list of summer events go to: www.eastnewyorkfarms.org

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Evening of Guyanese literary nostalgia

By Lin-Jay Harry-Voglezon

What the Guyana Cultural Association of New York Inc. (GCA) promoted as a "Literary Hang" Saturday, June 9 at the Flatbush Reformed Church in Brooklyn could have been equally called an evening of emigrant nostalgia. Twenty Guyanese writers and publishers, in addition to three Americans, presented and discussed excerpts from their published and unpublished books, based largely on memories of, and experiences in, Guyana and beyond.

Through different perspectives they addressed not only the conflicts between virtues and vices, manifestations of cultural and individual prejudices, but cultural and interpersonal conflicts, traditional humour and its significance, survival and development issues, class values, attitudes, behavior, sexual intransigence, stages of drunkenness, family choices and conflicts, emigration's costs and benefits, the value of and disappointment in Guyana, etc.

Of striking contrasts were the presentations of Henry Mutttoo and Angela Massiah. Like Massiah,

Mutttoo's book is in the process of publishing. But while Mutttoo's main character in his novel, a frustrated coarse grassroots man, addresses Guyanese race relations, politics, frustrations, and devel-

The core focus of this sixth annual hang by the GCA was on the technological changes in the literary industry, the challenges of and opportunities for self-publishing.

opment pessimistically, Massiah investigates how as a middle-class 12-year-old city girl in Guyana in 1969 she could not understand why a white, 22-year-old American VSO perplexed at the inter-racial/inter-ethnic bonding in her community.

Neither could he have under-

stood why no one looked-up at him because of his colour but kept enquiring about or reminding him of his paleness. But she understood that only when she emigrated to the U.S. in 1982 and witnessed the width and depth of ideological racism. She realized then that the American society was compartmentalized according to race and skin colour. That is why the rate of development of Caribbean people in the U.S. tended to be faster than Black Americans in spite of the facilities.

She contends that Caribbean people have largely escaped the psychological damage of ideological racism whose impact is largely underestimated.

Among other striking readings, were those by Muriel Glasgow and Yvonne Mc Callum Peters whose works questioned ideas and concepts they learnt through the colonial education system. Glasgow in particular sought to promote different ways of exciting the imagination of children from as early as kindergarten that they will grow up as big thinkers, enquirers and innovators.

Of the 23 presentations, divided into two roundtables and two sets of readings which lasted less than five hours, 19 were from published works. Of the other presentations, two were essentially introductions to Eusi Kwayana's soon to be released "Post Emancipation Villages in Guyana Making World History" and Peter Halder's "The Cat of Muritaro" (also soon to be released) which is a narrative of Guyanese ghost stories.

The core focus of this sixth annual hang by the GCA was on the technological changes in the literary industry, the challenges of and opportunities for self-publishing. The invitation was open to all Guyanese poets, novelists, short-story writers, dramatists, essayists, lyricists and graphic artists. Cook books, travelogues, scholarly texts, newspapers, news magazines and newsletters were allowed.

The panelists and audience were dominated by middle-aged Guyanese professionals and academics, especially long-standing educators. "Literary Hang" which is developing into an institution, has been the initiative of Dr. Juliet Emanuel.



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SUN KULCHA

COMMUNITY EVENTS

SATURDAY, JUNE 30

Annual Symposium The N.Y. Chapter of the Nat'l. Assn. of Kawaïda Organizations and the Int'l. African Arts Festival presents The 23rd Annual Symposium on Culture, Community, and Struggle, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. at PS 287, Navy St., at Flushing Ave., near the Manhattan Bridge and the Brooklyn Navy Yard. For registration, admission, information and directions call (718) 523-3312, (718) 789-3246 or email nakoinfogroups@yahoo.com.

Summer Jam The Center for Culture, The Afrikan Poetry Theatre presents the Annual Fund Raising "Oldies But Goodies Summer Jam" featuring the mixed and slamming sounds of DJ Omar, 9:00 p.m. - 2:00 a.m., 176-03 Jamaica Ave., Jamiaca, Queens. For ticket information, which includes food and drinks (B.Y.O.B.B.), call (718) 523-3312.

Comedy/Variety Actress/comedian Rhonda "Passion" Hansome, is hosting a comedy benefit for the nonprofit WorkShop Theater Company specializing in off-off Broadway theater developing and providing a creative home for playwrights, directors and actors, 6:30 p.m., at the theater, 4th Fl., 312 W. 36 St., near 8 Ave. For tickets go to <http://workshoptheater.org/node/2122/> and for additional information call (212) 695-4173.

Summer Library Event "A Moment of... LOUD", NYPL and Souleo Enterprises presents A Fashion Reinvention w/Beau McCall workshop on reinventing old and worn T-shirts. Patrons are asked to bring their favorite large sized T-shirt, a pair of scissors and seam rippers, 2:00 p.m. at The Riverside Library, 127 Amsterdam Ave., at W. 65 St., N.Y. Ready to wear items will also be available for purchase. For details visit www.nypl.org or www.souleouniverse.com.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 4

Celebrate July 4 The N.Y. Historical Society celebrates July 4 with games, Revolutionary War re-enactors, arts & crafts, a scavenger hunt, fireworks and more, 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. at The N.Y. Historical Society and DiMenna Children's History Museum, 170 Central Park West at 77 St. Regular Museum admission; free admission for 18 years and under. For those 21+, Empire Brewing Company will be hosting 1/2-hour beer tastings at 2:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. in the beer hall of Beer Here: Brewing N.Y.'s History. For tickets and information call the Museum at (212) 873-3400.

Celebrate July 4 The Louis Armstrong House Museum invites you to celebrate Louis Armstrong's Birthday featuring special birthday historic house tours including rare, personal audio clips of Louis celebrating his birthday with friends and band members plus a 1:00 p.m. reading in the garden by autor Randy Fertel with excerpts from his book The Gorilla Man and the Empress of Steak: A New Orleans Family Memoir, 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., 34-56 107 St., Corona, Queens. For admission and general information visit www.LouisArmstrongHouse.org or call (718) 478-8297.



Financial Coaching The NHS of East Flatbush is offering The Financial Capabilities and Coaching Program focusing on helping you reach your goals such as paying off bills, saving for a home, improving credit scores and more. For more information, call (718) 469-4679.



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.



Foreclosure Services

Are you behind in your mortgage or seeking a modification? The Flatbush Development VCorp., NHS of East Flatbush and the Center for N.Y.C. Neighborhoods are offering free services and assistance. Referrals for free legal assistance are also available. To schedule an appointment call (718) 469-4679.

THURSDAY, JULY 5

Free Music at BAM BAM presents its continuing R&B Festival featuring Van Hunt offering rock-R&B originally rooted in dirty beats, vocal harmonies, unpredictable melodies and plenty of analog buzz, 12 Noon at MetroTech concert stage located on the lawn at MetroTech Commons in Downtown Brooklyn between Jay St. and Flatbush Ave. where Myrtle Ave. ends. For information visit BAM.org.MetroTech or call (718) 636-4100.

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.



FRIDAY, JULY 6

Haitian Culture The Brooklyn Children's Museum, 145 Brooklyn Ave., at St. Marks Ave., presents Blooming Babies: Let's Celebrate Haitian Culture, 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. featuring the culture, music and art of Haiti and creating a traditional Haitian craft to take home. For children ages 18 months - 2 1/2 years. Event repeated Sun., 7/8. For more information and a full schedule of events for July visit www.brooklynkids.org or call (718) 735-4400.

ONGOING

Farmers Market Seeds in the Middle is sponsoring The Crown Heights Farmers Market, offering fresh fruits and vegetables, including calaloo and Caribbean favorites and accepting EBT, WIC, Snap, FMNP, Health Bucks and Fresh Connect. The market will be operating every Thursday from 12 Noon to 7:00 p.m. at Hamilton Metz Park at Albany and Leffers avenues, Brooklyn. For more information visit www.seedsinthemiddle.org.

Arts and Culture Fest The Creative Side presents an arts and culture festival featuring artists, crafters, designers and vendors with fashion items, jewelry, paintings, sculpture, home decor, ceramics, photography and crafts, Saturdays thru Oct. 20, 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. at Parkside Plaza, intersection of Ocean and Parkside avenues, Brooklyn. For information, visit www.artsculturefest.com or call (347) 224-4295.

Computer Training Mount Carmel Worship and Outreach Center is holding adult and children computer training programs, 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. or 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. on Saturdays. Call (917) 609-0909 for registration details.

Tai Chi Stop. Breath. Relax. Join Tai Chi Easy, a wellness practice combining Tai-chi, Qigong, meditation and Chinese healing, taught by Daniel Weicher, certified teacher in Integral Qigong and 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.

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 and to answer any questions every Tuesday and Wednesday, 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.

Summer Repairs Warmer weather is home repair weather. Do you need major repairs done but lack the finances? NHS of East Flatbush can assist you. For more information on our Home Improvement Programs, call (718) 469-4679.

Foreclosure Services Are you behind in your mortgage or seeking a modification? The Flatbush Development VCorp., NHS of East Flatbush and the Center for N.Y.C. Neighborhoods are offering free services and assistance. Referrals for free legal assistance are also available. To schedule an appointment call (718) 469-4679.

SummerStage Kids City Parks Foundation presents SummerStage Kids, a unique, interactive family festival presenting free performing arts events at park locations citywide featuring dance, music, storytellers, theatre, contemporary circus juggling, poetry, puppetry and including expanded day programs where families enjoy at full day of family entertainment and adults are invited to stay for an evening concert and film. For complete schedule for all programming visit <http://www.CityParksFoundation.org>.

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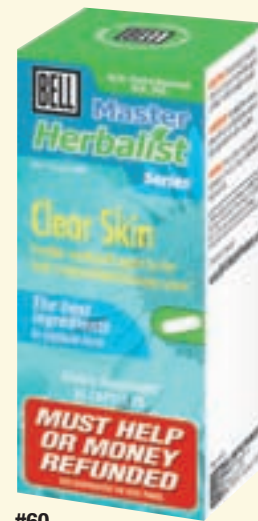
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Atlanta Court denies Buju a retrial

By Vinette K. Pryce

The longest day of the year, June 21 probably seemed longer for dancehall artist Buju Banton whose anticipated dawn darkened with news that his appeal for a retrial and shortened sentence were denied by the 11th Circuit Court of Appeals in Atlanta, Georgia.

"I called him and told him about the decision," Banton's attorney David Markus said, "He, like me, was heartbroken."

"He couldn't believe it."

Reportedly, the reggae talent and his lawyer were both convinced of victory in the higher court.

"He believes that we were right and would win," Markus added.

The panel of three judges agreed with the Florida jury's conviction of Banton on a gun possession charge and rejected Banton's argument that his right to a speedy trial had been violated.

Markus noted that while the appeal court has sent the matter back to the lower court to decide if Banton should be retried, it agreed with the prosecution that he should have been given prison time for the presence of a firearm during the drug deal.

The appeal court left open the possibility that Banton -- whose given name is Mark Myrie -- could be granted a new trial but it also raised the prospect of his prison sentence being extended by five more years.

"I'm sick to my stomach over this opinion. I truly believe that a good man is in jail for talking a big game," the attorney said.

"I will continue to fight for him," Markus said.

Less than a year ago, Banton was found guilty of



Inside Life

By Vinette K. Pryce

conspiracy to possess with the intent to distribute cocaine, possession of a firearm in furtherance of a drug-trafficking offense and using a telephone to facilitate a drug-trafficking offense.

The conviction carried a 15-year prison sentence.

However, Florida presiding Judge James Moody threw out the gun conviction and at his sentencing lowered Banton's prison time to 10 years.

In appealing his conviction, Banton argued that the government did not establish that he was part of a drug conspiracy.

The judges disagreed saying that the "evidence on record supports Myrie's conviction."

"Given Myrie's familiarity with the drug trade, the jury could have reasonably concluded that the carrying or using of a gun by a co-conspirator was a reasonably foreseeable action ...," the appeal court ruled.

"Myrie demonstrated familiarity with the drug trade, and his behavior during the instant offense was consistent with his described role of an investor who stays on the outside," the judges said.

The Appeal Court also rejected Banton's claim that his conviction should be dismissed on the basis that he was entrapped by Alexander Johnson, an informer.

"Johnson only engaged Myrie on the topic of the

cocaine after Myrie indicated his familiarity with drug dealing, and Myrie asked Johnson if he could purchase cocaine for him ..." the judges said in their ruling

"Though Myrie testified that he was just trying to out-talk Johnson and that he was not a drug dealer trying to conduct a drug deal, we assume, based on the jury verdict, the jury disbelieved Myrie ..."

Banton's argument that he should be set free because he did not get a speedy trial was also rejected by the judges who said any delay was understandable and did not prejudice his defense.

The Appeal Court judges noted that after the jury returned the guilty verdict against Buju in the district court, his lawyers had filed a motion for judgment of acquittal or for a new trial.

At that time, the sitting judge granted an acquittal on the gun charge but did not rule on the motion for a new trial.

"Because the district court did not comply with the (rules), we remand for the district court to make a determination on Myrie's motion for a new trial," the Appeal Court judges said.

According to his lawyer, the news resonated negatively with the jailed reggae artist.

He is reportedly "crushed" and "heartbroken" by the Appeals' verdict.

"He's been strong for a long while, but this is a big blow for him," added Markus.

"I truly believe that a good man is in jail for talking a big game. I will continue to fight for him," Markus said.

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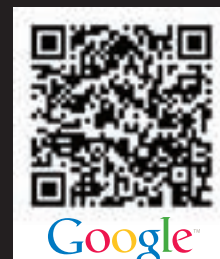
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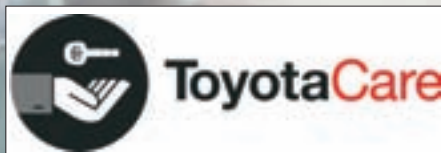
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Filling station 411

Things you may not know

For motorists, visits to a local gas station are a necessity. Fortunately for many, the prevalence of these stations makes getting a good deal possible, right? Not exactly — and there are some other things that gas stations don't tell us.

- Brand doesn't necessarily matter. Most gas stations are supplied by oil companies that share the same fuel pipeline. The only difference in brands may be a quart of detergent added to a truck filled with thousands of gallons of gasoline. Some brands advertise that they have sophisticated additives to keep engine performance at its peak. All gasoline providers have detergents added to their gasoline to help prevent fuel injectors from clogging. It's a requirement the U.S. government enacted in 1994. So, in terms of gasoline

quality, it really doesn't matter if a driver fills up at a locally owned filling station or a brand-name vendor.

- Skip payment with debit cards. When a gas station employee swipes a debit card in advance of starting the pump, the company doesn't know how much gas will be purchased, so it reserves a rounded-off amount. While a person may only be filling up \$20, the debit card may set aside \$30 to \$100 to be safe. It's only until the gas station sends over its bulk transactions a few days later that all is

reconciled. With an unknown amount of money reserved, it's easy for an individual to bounce checks or deplete funds unknowingly from his checking account.

- Gas stations don't make more when prices go up. A number of gas purchases are made with credit cards. So when gas prices rise, stations have to pay a higher fee to credit card companies, which charge for the right to accept credit at a station. Some stations will charge a premium for gas that is paid for with credit rather than gas. Others will not

in an effort to remain competitive.

- Some pumps are inaccurate. Older pumps or those in disrepair may not pump gas accurately. That means a driver could start paying for gas before the fuel has entered the car, or the volume measurements may be incorrect. Inspectors that check for accuracy are often few and far between.

- Fuel station credit cards might not be a bargain. Just like many store credit cards, interest rates on gas cards tend to be higher than the average credit card, with fewer perks.

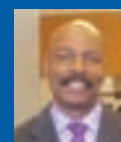
- Static electricity can be dangerous at the pump. The Petroleum Equipment Institute learned that static electricity can ignite gasoline vapors at the pump. Once you start

Continued on Page 38



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25/35
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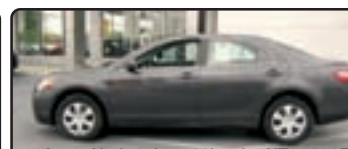
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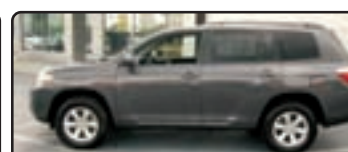
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2010 HYUNDAI ELANTRA SE, 4 CYL, AUTO, POWER WINDOWS, POWER LOCKS, ALLOYS, AM/FM/CD, STK#HU01212, 21K MILES.....	\$12997
2011 HYUNDAI SONATA GLS, 4 CYL, AUTO, POWER WINDOWS/LOCKS/SEATS, ALLOYS, vin#250345, 12K MILES.....	\$16997
2011 SANTA FE, V6, 4X4, POWER WINDOWS, POWER LOCKS/SEATS, AM/FM/CD, STK#HU01263T, 18K MILES.....	\$21997
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TOYOTA

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INFINITI

2008 INFINITI G35X, V6, AWD, AUTO, ALL POWER, LTHR, HEATED SEATS, SUNROOF, NAV, BOSE, Rr CAMERA, STK#HU01216, 49K MILES.....	\$21997
2008 INFINITI G35X, S SPORT PACKAGE, AUTO, LEATHER, HEATED SEATS, BOSE, SUNROOF, REARVIEW CAMERA, STK#HU01215, 48K MILES.....	\$21997
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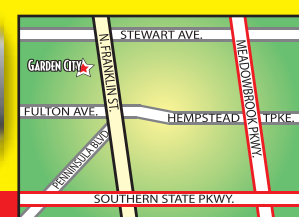


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Accidents that occur on the roadways are unpredictable and can be caused by just about anything. Impaired or distracted motorists might heighten the risk of an accident, but even things like a squirrel running across the street and scaring a driver can lead to an accident.

Tire blowout is another potential cause of accident, and such blowouts might be more common than motorists expect. For instance, a 2005 study from the French National Institute for Transport and Safety Research found that, between 1996 and 2002, nearly 61,000 vehicles were involved in crashes with property damage or injury on a particular stretch of highway. More than six percent of those accidents involved tire blowout, a problem many motorists might mistake as something that only happens in movies.

But tire blowout can put motorists in a precarious position, especially if they don't know what to do should one of their tires blow out. Surviving tire blowout can be done by adhering to the following tips.

•Don't respond by hitting the brakes. It might be counterintuitive to squeeze the gas pedal when a tire blows out, but doing so puts drivers in control of the vehicle and keeps it going in the intended direction. Immediately slamming on the brakes will cause the vehicle to turn, possibly turning the vehicle into oncoming traffic, a guard-rail, or other cars traveling in the same direction. When squeezing the gas pedal, drive straight down the lane. Within seconds of pressing the gas pedal, slowly begin to release it.

•Coast to a slower speed. As the accelerator is released, allow the vehicle to coast to a slow speed, but not a speed so slow as to put driver and passengers at risk. Once the car is coasting between 25 to

30 miles per hour, use the turn signal and slowly turn toward the side of the road where the tire is blown. For example, if the front right tire is blown, turn toward the right shoulder. You want to turn toward this side because it's always safest to limit your own exposure to oncoming motorists when changing the tire.

•Check tire pressure when you can pull into a parking lot. When you have safely made it to the shoulder and the tire has been changed successfully, find a filling station or other parking lot and check the tire pressure on the tires that did not blow out. A blowout is often the result of an underinflated tire, so if one tire blows out due to underinflation, it's quite possible the others might as well.

Gas

Continued from Page 30

fueling a car, you should not re-enter the vehicle and then get back out and continue fueling. Static electricity generated from the car's interior could travel from your hand to the pump and cause a dangerous spark.

•Gasoline was once a waste product. In the

early 1900s, the primary goal of oil companies was to produce kerosene to light lamps. Gasoline was a byproduct of kerosene production. Eventually, oil companies discovered that this "waste" could be used to affordably fuel automobiles.

•Boycotting one brand will not make all the other prices go down. During a boycott, prices at the non-boycotted stations will likely rise due

to the temporarily limited supply and increased demand. The only way to effectively reduce gas prices is to significantly reduce demand across the board.

The need for gas and, consequently, filling stations, will continue until electric cars or other technology surpasses gasoline engines. Until that day, you can be smart about gas purchases by knowing the facts.

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ENTERTAINMENT

'The Girl From The Naked Eye' features a homegrown idol who might well become the next Bruce Lee.'

Kam Williams – Page 43

FOR MORE ENTERTAINMENT, GO TO CARIBBEANLIFENEWS.COM/ENTERTAINMENT

All-star groove at Roy Wilkins Park

By Chudi Chukwudi

It's "all systems go" for Groovin In The Park, Sunday July 1, 2012.

The fully-loaded reggae and R&B concert at Roy Wilkins Park, Queens, dubbed as the hottest outdoor concert in the tri-state area for the summer, features heavyweight headliners Gladys Knight, Boyz 11 Men, Beres Hammond, Jimmy Cliff, Beenie Man, plus upcoming local acts, who will be given a greatly valued opportunity to open the Independence Weekend show.

"We have gone to great lengths to package a powerful and memorable event for this summer,"



Gladys Knight

says Christopher Roberts CEO of Groovin Inc., parent company of 'Groovin In The Park. "WBLS, the loudest radio voice to urban African-Americans in New York and the high call volume to our office daily confirms this."

Continued on next page



Braata Folk Singers

Boo-noo-noo-noos

The acclaimed Braata Folk Singers of New York will present their most ambitious production to date, with Boo-noo-noo-noos - A Celebration Ah Wi People, their 2012 gala concert in tribute to Jamaica's 50th anniversary of independence.

The one-time-only event will take place on Saturday June 30 at 8:00 p.m. at the

Jamaica Performing Arts Center, 153-10 Jamaica Ave., Queens.

As a celebration befitting this milestone year in Jamaica's history, 'Boonoonoonoos' will take its audiences on a nostalgic trip through the evolution of Jamaican music, with songs from several genres includ

Continued on next page

FEVER EYES 30/30 TOUR



'Mr. Fete' Macheal Montano wows 'em

By William Farrington

When "Mr. Fete" Machael Montano strode on stage, HD launched into "Bottle of Rum". As the audience surged to the stage he grabbed a bottle of 10 Cane, pouring drinks for those holding out cups. It was the moment the throngs of fans were waiting for.

Earlier the sounds of Rapso, Reggae and Dancehall rung out in the night air Saturday, on Manhattan's West Side as the Fever Eyes 30/30 tour landed at the Intrepid Sea Air and Space

museum.

Preceding Machael was Barrington Levy, (who made the point that its all one music), 3Canal and Mr. Vegas. Montano, the reigning triple-crown king of Trinidadian pop featured KI (Single Forever), Farmer Nappy, and Patrice Roberts (I Am Soca) during his set.

It was the first of several high-profile New York summer appearances for Machael. Caribbean Beach Fest at Jones beach July 8 is the next, followed by Celebrate

Brooklyn with Bélo in Prospect Park on July 20. Finally, the soca icon celebrating his 30th year in the business told the audience at the Intrepid he will be the Labor Day parade Grand Marshall this year.

The audience didn't seem to mind a late start. The atmosphere at the Intrepid was inviting, a cool breeze swept off the Hudson River and drinks were served with the Manhattan skyline as a backdrop. Early guests were able to stroll

Continued on next page

TOP OF THE CHARTS

TOP 10 SINGLES



- 1** **Somebody That I Used to Know**
Gotye Feat. Kimbra
- 2** **Call Me Maybe**
Carly Rae Jepsen
- 3** **Payphone**
Maroon 5 Feat. Wiz Khalifa
- 4** **We Are Young**
Fun. Feat. Janelle Monae
- 5** **What Makes You Beautiful**
One Direction
- 6** **Starships**
Nicki Minaj
- 7** **Where Have You Been**
Rihanna
- 8** **Glad You Came**
The Wanted
- 9** **Wild Ones**
Flo Rida Feat. Sia
- 10** **Scream**
Usher

TOP 10 ALBUMS



- 1** **Looking 4 Myself**
Usher
- 2** **+**
Ed Sheeran
- 3** **Clockwork Angels**
Rush
- 4** **Up & Away**
KID iNK
- 5** **Rock Of Ages**
Soundtrack
- 6** **Synthetica**
Metric
- 7** **Up All Night**
One Direction
- 8** **Triple F Life**
Waka Flocka Flame
- 9** **21**
Adele
- 10** **The Lion The Beast The Beat**
Grace Potter & The Nocturnals



Mr. Music in his element.

Photo by William Farrington

Fever Eyes 30/30 tour

Continued from previous page

the aircraft carrier flight deck and visit the concorde and other attractions.

Host Dahved Levy explained that weather elsewhere forced the artists to come to the venue directly from the airport.

Celebrating Jamaica's and Trinidad and Tobago's golden anniversaries as independent nations, the show forged a fusion of Camaraderie and culture, featuring artists from

both nations.

Backed by a tight band, Barrington Levy's timeless voice and personable warmth shone on, "Here I Come", "Too Experienced" and concluding with "Murderer," Levy reminds us why reggae is embraced worldwide. Mr. Vegas thrilled with "Bruck it Down", his current hot number. It was also good to see 3Canal again, their engaging vocals had revelers singing along on "Good

Morning". They also did the rapso classic "Blue" and finally "Talk Yuh Talk."

Neither storms nor American Airlines was able to derail the Fever Eyes 30/30 show. The delay cut sets short but focused the energy of the performers. As concert goes streamed down 46th Street, one dazzled woman waiting to get into the Hudson Terrace nightclub exclaimed, "I want to go to that party."

Groove at Roy Wilkins Park

Continued from previous page

The addition of top-tier dancehall don Beenie Man, aka Moses Davis, who will once again be able to perform in the United States, has also excited music lovers in the tri-state. Beenie Man will make a triumphant return to the USA for his first

performance at the Groovin In The Park concert.

"Music fans in the New York tri-state area have been waiting for a long time for the opportunity to see Beenie Man perform live here in the USA again. He is a supremely talented entertainer and we are very happy that he will

be again able to showcase his talents on stage in New York," Roberts said.

According to Images Newsletter, www.images-newsletter.com, 'Groovin In The Park' is sponsored in part by Grace, Donald Vernon & Associates and The Door Restaurant.

Boo-noo-noo-noos

Continued from previous page

ing Mento, Ska, Rocksteady, Reggae and Dancehall.

The show will also pay musical tribute to Jamaican icons who have impacted the world in various fields, including: Audiences will be treated to performances of traditional Jamaican ring-game songs such as *Manuel Road* and *Ole Mass Charley*; folk favorites including *Evening Time* and *Yellow Yam*, as well as popular Jamaica festival song winners such as *Give Thanks and Praises*.

Founder and artistic director of Braata Folk Singers, Andrew Clarke, is both honored and excited at what he calls "the most important and inspired Braata production to date."

"There is no question about it, that Boo-noo-noo-noos is the coming of age concert season for Braata, for a number of reasons" he says." Firstly, it falls within a year that will be a major milestone in the social and cultural history of Jamaica. It is one of a series of events taking place in New York and throughout the Diaspora to mark our country's golden jubilee.

Secondly, it is the most ambitious project we have ever mounted, because we are essentially trying to tell the story of Jamaica's musical development over the past 50 years, within a two-hour presentation. What do you leave in and what do you leave out? That was a huge challenge for us because there is so much material.

And thirdly, this is our last major performance before we journey to Cincinnati Ohio for the World Choir Games where we will represent Jamaica from July 10-14. Boonoonoonoos is a major part of our preparations for that."

Clarke states that he and his creative team: Musical Director Garnett Mowatt, Choreographers Jermaine Rowe and Chris Walker, and Costume Designer Johnpaul Pierre, have gone "above and way beyond" their previous efforts to make Boonoonoonoos the show it deserves to be.



Braata Folk Singers

Photo credit: Marcia Wilson

Gambler goes vigilante after girlfriend's murder

The Girl from the Naked Eye
Very Good (3 stars)
Rated R for violence, sexuality, ethnic slurs and pervasive profanity.
Running time: 84 minutes
Distributor:
Naedomi Media

By Kam Williams
Jake (Jason Yee) is a guy who let his gambling debts spiral out of control. Consequently, he considered himself lucky that his bookie was willing to let himself work off his debt by serving as a chauffeur and bodyguard for a mob-owned

escort service run by a pimp named Simon (Ron Yuan) out of a whorehouse called the Naked Eye.
Over the course of his brief tenure there, Jake develops feelings for a sweet, 16 year-old runaway (Samantha Streets), the proverbial hooker with a heart of gold. However, before their relationship has a chance to blossom, Sandy turns up dead.
In the wake of the grim discovery, it becomes clear that nobody's interested in solving the gruesome murder. So, Jake decides to take the law into his own hands, and proceeds to leave a bloody trail in his quest for the truth.
That is the basic plotline of The Girl from the Naked Eye,



Jake (Jason Tee) develops feelings for a sweet, 16 year-old runaway (Samantha Streets).

kind who shot his directorial debut while still a teenager with the romantic comedy Shanghai Kiss (2007). Here, he makes the most of a modest budget via a visually-captivating whodunit laced with highly-stylized martial arts action.
The movie's play-by-play is narrated pulp fiction-style by the picture's revenge-minded protagonist played by Jason Yee. The former World Kick-Boxing Champ also orchestrated the acrobatic fight sequences, and proves himself far more adept at delivering punches than delivering dialogue.
A compelling chopsocky made in America, featuring a homegrown matinee idol who might very well blossom into the next Bruce Lee.

an ambitious neo-noir by 25 year-old David Ren, a wunder-

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FROM THE WRITER OF "SCARFACE"



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Independent & Foreign Films

Bests of the Southern Wild (PG-13 for mature themes, child imperilment, disturbing images, profanity and brief sensuality) Surreal Southern saga, set on a backwoods bayou outside New Orleans, revolving around a motherless 6 year-old (Quvenzhané Wallis) with a vivid imagination who does her best to protect her home and ailing father (Dwight Henry) in the face of a fierce storm. With Levy Easterly, Lowell Landes, Pamela Harper and Gina Montana.

Busong (Unrated) Filipino road flick following the peripatetic effort of a desperate native (Rodrigo Santikan) to find a healer capable of curing the oozing sores his sickly sister (Alessandra de Rossi) was born with. Cast includes Clifford Banagale, Bonivie Budao and DaxAlejandro. (In Filipino with subtitles)

Gypsy (Unrated) Slovakian variation on Shakespeare's Hamlet, set in a 21st Century gypsy village where a 15 year-old boy (Jan Mizigar) tries to come to grips with his widowed mother's (Martina Kotlarova) marrying his uncle (Miroslav Gulyas) in the wake of the death of his father. (In Slovak and Romany with subtitles)

I Heart Shakey (PG for rude humor, mild epithets and brief smoking) Heartwarming comedy about an enterprising 10 year-old (Rylie Behr) who hatches a plan to save the beloved family pooch after her widowed father (Steve Lemme) unwittingly rents a new home with a "no pets" clause in the fine print. With Beverly D'Angelo, Steve Guttenberg and Steve Lemme.

Unforgivable (Unrated) Romantic romp about a middle-



Kam's Capsules

By Kam Williams

aged writer (Andre Dussollier) looking around Venice for a retreat to work on his next novel who offers to rent an apartment from an attractive real estate agent (Carole Bouquet) he falls in love with at first sight on the condition that she moves into the flat with him. With Melanie Thierry, Adriana Asti and Mauro Conte. (In French and Italian with subtitles)

Big Budget Films

Madea's Witness Protection Program (PG-13 for crude sexual remarks and brief drug references) Tyler Perry's back in drag for another madcap adventure. This go-round, we find the pistol packin' granny hiding the family of a Wall St. whistleblower (Eugene Levy) who's on the run from mobsters after agreeing to testify in federal court about his company's Ponzi scheme. With Romeo, John Amos, Tom Arnold, Denise Richards and Marla Gibbs.

Magic Mike (R for profanity, drug use, brief graphic nudity and pervasive sexuality) Channing Tatum stars in the title role of this gritty, character-driven drama as a jaded male stripper who takes a naive newcomer (Alex Pettyfer) under his wing while trying to find a legitimate line of work. Cast includes Matthew McConaughey, Cody Horn and Olivia Munn.

People Like Us (PG-13 for profanity, drug use and brief sexuality) Dysfunctional family drama about a grieving salesman (Chris Pine) who tracks down the illegitimate half-sister (Elizabeth Banks) he never knew he had in order to deliver a \$150,000 inheritance to her in accordance with the recently-deceased father's wishes. With Michelle Pfeiffer, Olivia Wilde, Philip Baker Hall and Jon Favreau.

Take This Waltz (R for profanity, sexuality and graphic nudity) Romantic dramedy, set in Toronto, about a married freelance writer (Michelle Williams) who secretly cheats on her husband of four years (Seth Rogen) with a dashing rickshaw driver (Luke Kirby). Featuring Sarah Silverman, Jennifer Podemski and Diane D'Aquila.

Ted (R for crude humor, coarse sexuality, pervasive profanity and drug use) Unlikely buddy comedy about a guy (Mark Wahlberg) whose best friend is a teddy bear (Seth MacFarlane) that came to life as the result of a childhood wish. Plot thickens when the anthropomorphic animal attempts to sabotage his pal's love relationship. Cast includes Mila Kunis, Giovanni Ribisi, Patrick Stewart and Norah Jones.

Go to www.Caribbeanlifeneews.com for the latest in Caribbean news

Crossword by StatePoint Media, Inc.

ACROSS

- *"The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy" author
- A light touch
- Shirley MacLaine's 1963 character
- Relating to a gene
- 2016 Olympics host
- a.k.a Little Mermaid
- Arabian chieftain
- Toymaker
- Social class
- *Street of Number 10 fame
- *England's official language, 1066-1362
- Romantic destination
- Antonym of hero
- School support org.
- It means lights out
- Skylight, e.g.
- Fleshy hindquarters
- Army beds
- Approximately
- *Simon Cowell's gig, "Pop ____"
- State of danger
- Immaterial part of person
- Pouting grimaces
- Actress ____ Kunis
- *Great Britain, e.g.
- Misprint
- Person, place or thing

- Bro's sibling
- Highly excited
- *Petrol
- *Under Tower Bridge
- *World's longest underwater tunnel
- ORD Airport
- Apolo Ohno's field
- Hollow rock
- Pretend
- Make a mistake
- Reddish brown natural dye
- Novice
- Marbled bread
- Stride

DOWN

- Like some cheeses
- Visual presentation
- Afresh
- Dignified bearings
- Actor's guide
- Residue amount
- Be ill
- Very successful
- Ahmadinejad's home
- Reduced Instruction Set Computer
- Illegal lab product
- *It's Bitter, Brown, Mild or Old in England
- Type of acid

- Civil rights org.
- Like one who needs improvement
- Type of thong underwear
- *____ Minister
- *Elizabeth I's last name
- Frenchman's love
- *Lord Byron's "She Walks In Beauty," e.g.
- Not final or absolute
- Worthless impurities
- Round openings in architecture
- *Prince Charles' domain
- Attorney's bargain
- Silage holder
- "Live, Love, ____"
- Reproductive structure of a flower
- *Victorian ____ or Era
- Complete failure
- Twig of willow tree
- Expression of contempt
- People in general
- Homer Simpson's deficiency
- Golden Fleece ship
- Wrap up in cerecloth
- Not any
- Pulitzer Prize winner ____ Ferber
- Banned paint substance
- "Oftentimes" in poetry
- "____, the Beloved Country"

CROSSWORD

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8		9	10	11	12
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Answers in Classified Section

“Former pace bowler Wes Hall, now a knight, was the first West Indian to perform a hat-trick in Test cricket.”

- Read Azad Ali on Page 47

FOR MORE SPORTS, GO TO CARIBBEANLIFENEWS.COM/SPORTS



Hugh Ross.

Hugh Ross at the top of his game

By Kingsley Dougan

Hugh Ross, a native of Guyana, won the World Championships Masters Division (Over 50) at the National Amateur Body Builders Association (NABBA) competition in Dublin, Ireland on June 16. Ross now has the distinction of being the most successful bodybuilder to ever come out of Guyana.

His titles include the World Masters Over 50 Championship, Masters Over 50 Mr. Universe, Musclemania Professional, CAC Gold Medalist, NABBA USA National Overall Bodybuilding Champion, and USA National Masters Overall Powerlifting Champion.

Continued on next page

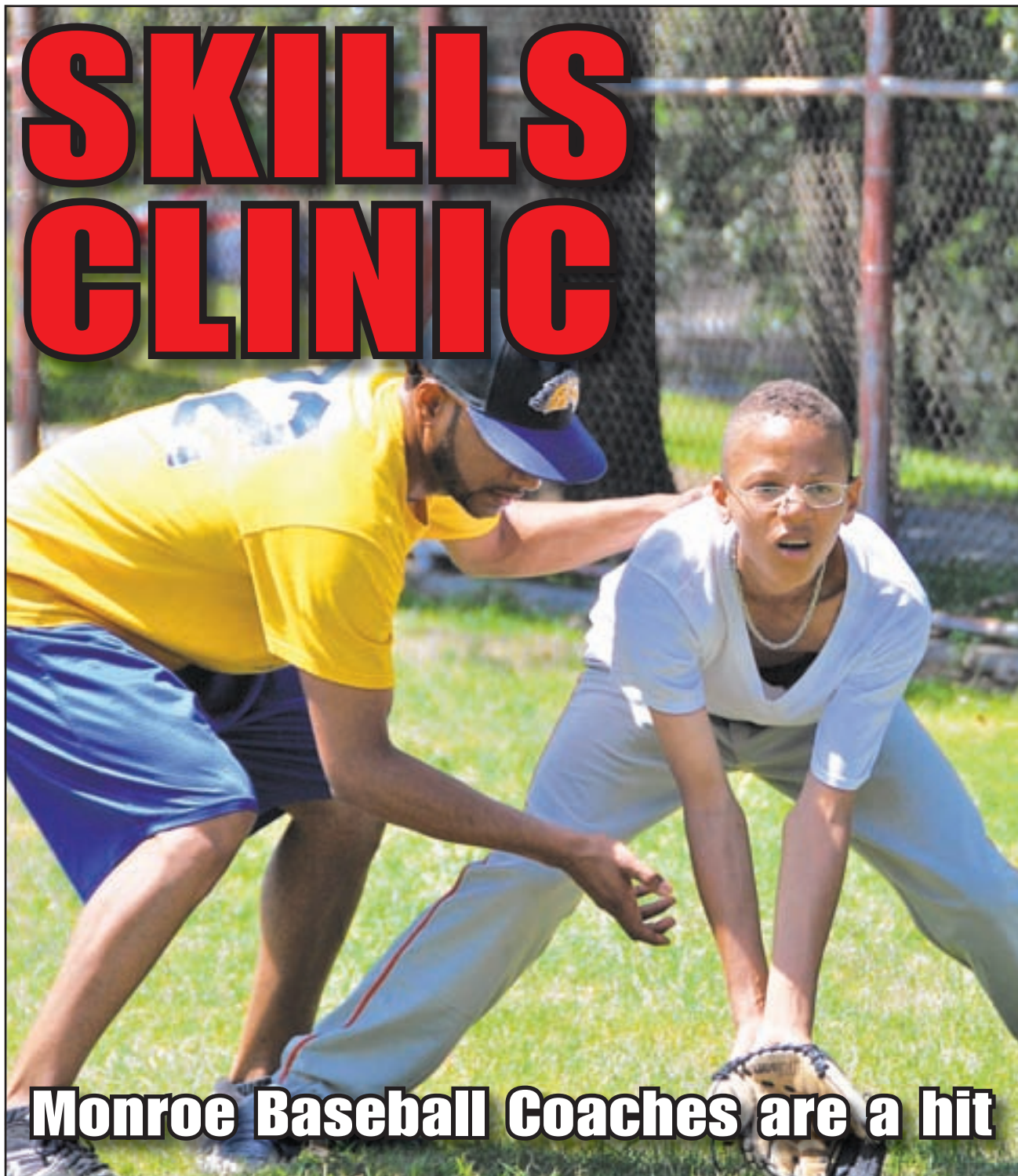
Red Bulls dominate DC

By Patrick Horne

The record sellout crowd of 25,187 at Red Bull Arena Sunday night was greeted with a shocker when DC United's Chris Pontius scored 32 seconds into the MLS game to give United the early lead. But that was it! No more shockers, only Red Bulls domination as the home side seemed bent on doing right by their record crowd; New York later marched on to a 3-2 win.

Pontius scored off a header from the near post in the first minute of play from a cross by Danny Cruz, who received a through pass from Dwayne De Rosario and went around left side defender Roy Miller and crossed to Pontius. The Red Bulls responded by displaying its best

Continued on next page



Monroe Baseball Coaches are a hit

Coach Francis Santos teaches fielding to a Bronx little leaguer.

Photo by Gary Axelbank

By Gary Axelbank

On Sunday, June 24 Monroe baseball coaches Luis Melendez and Francis Santos ran a fun skills clinic for the kids of the Grand Councourse Little

League in Tremont Park in the Bronx. More than fifty players ages 5-17 were schooled in fielding, baserunning, pitching, and hitting by the Mustang experts. The event was part of the col-

lege's 80-year commitment to supporting important community endeavors. News 12 reports on the Monroe baseball clinic.

Continued on next page

Summer sports program kicks-off

On July 2nd, in parks throughout New York City, City Parks Foundation kicks off its 2012 Summer Sports Program for young people. Throughout the summer, City Parks Foundation provides over 13,000 New York City children free tennis, golf, and track and field instruction including free use of equipment in over 60 locations citywide.

CityParks Tennis presented by Chase provides free tennis lessons to children, ages five to 16, in more than 35 parks throughout the five boroughs. The program promotes physical fitness while building self-confidence and is designed to make the sport of tennis freely available to those who want to learn the game in a fun, relaxed atmosphere. CityParks Tennis runs through August 10th and concludes with an exciting tournament for beginners held at the Central Park Tennis Center and the JP Morgan Chase Aces Tournament for intermediates held at Flushing Meadows Tennis Center in mid-August.

CityParks Golf presented by René Lacoste Foundation makes it fun and easy for boys and girls, ages six to 16, to learn to play golf. The free golf lessons, and use of equipment, held in public parks and on citywide courses, makes the sport of golf accessible to kids of all skill levels throughout New York City. The emphasis of the program is not only on learning the basics of the sport, but also on developing self-esteem, discipline and sportsmanship. The program gives kids a chance to improve their skills and ultimately try out for the CityParks Intermediate Program and



Track and Field.

Junior Golf Academy—specialized programs for dedicated young golfers available at the CityParks Junior Golf Center, a facility in Bay Ridge, Brooklyn that also offers programming for new or first-time youth golfers from New York City. CityParks Golf will be held in two sessions, running from July 2nd through July 26th and from July 30th through August 23rd.

CityParks Track & Field gives New York City kids, ages five to 16, the chance to learn the basics of the sport, from hurdles and relay races, to long jump, shot put and javelin throw. All

participating youngsters have the opportunity to display the basic skills learned at the end of the season at an organized track meet held at Icahn Stadium, the world class sports complex on Randall's Island on August 9th.

For more information and a full list of City Parks Foundation's 2012 kids programs, please visit www.CityParksFoundation.org.

North Shore-LIJ Health System is a signature sponsor of City Parks Foundation's Sports & Fitness Programs, which offer free expert instruction to over 15,000 New York youth and seniors at over 60 locations city-

wide.

Founded in 1989, City Parks Foundation (CPF) is the only independent, nonprofit organization to offer park programs throughout the five boroughs of New York City. CPF works in over 750 parks citywide, presenting a broad range of free arts, sports, and education programs, and empowering citizens to support their parks on a local level. CPF's programs and community building initiatives reach more than 600,000 people each year, contributing to the revitalization of neighborhoods throughout New York City.

Fun skills clinic

Continued from previous page

"It was an opportunity for us to come out and reiterate the importance of an education through sports," Coach Melendez said. "We want the kids to excel in their respective sports but never lose sight of the importance of getting a good education."

In addition to the clinic, the Mustangs presented the little league with a gift card so that they can purchase some much-needed equipment.



Coach Luis Melendez teaching hitting to a Bronx little leaguer.

Photo by Gary Axelbank

Red Bulls dominate DC

Continued from previous page

performance so far this season. Midfielders Mehdi Ballouchy and Dax McCarty were at the forefront of the good play. The pair worked well in tandem as McCarty, with his good positional play, sitting just in front of his defense, won tackles, moved the ball from side to side in the middle, utilizing the width of the pitch. Ballouchy proceeded to dissect the visitors' defense with accurate passes.

As McCarty did his defensive work, Ballouchy operated just ahead of him and found the seams in DC United's defense; he sent through pass after through

pass as he constantly looked to create opportunities for his forwards – Kenny Cooper and Joel Lindpere. Ballouchy's play was reflected in DC United's goal keeper Bill Hamid's statement: "They were finding seams and we weren't too happy," Hamid said. "You could say we gave this game away in the first half. Once we score early like that, we've got to keep up the pressure and not let up because teams are going to punish us, especially on the road."

The constant forays on DC's goal led to a Lindpere corner kick in the 20th minute. Lindpere sent a low cross into the crowd-

ed goal area and right full back Brandon Barklage stormed into the area and nudged the ball off his right shin for his first MLS goal, while Lindpere registered his seventh assist. Barklage wasn't done yet; he came up big again as he scored his second MLS goal on the stroke of half-time to give the New York Red Bulls a 2-1 lead at the intermission. DC failed to clear the ball completely after a rebounded free kick and Barklage stormed in to hit a one-time, 20-yard volley for a 2-1 half time lead.

Barklage might have been on a mission because he was released by United last winter before the Red Bulls gave him another chance at MLS. "It took me four years to do it," said Barklage of

scoring in MLS. DC United was pegged back most of the half and relied on counterattacks, which were few and far between.

New York picked up where it left off in the first half and continued its forays on the United's goal. In the 55th minute, Jan Gunnar Solli received a cross from Lindpere and struck a shot from point-blank range at DC goal keeper Hamid, who parried the initial shot, but Solli got the rebound and made no mistake in scoring his first MLS goal in the 55th minute and after 43 games in the league. It turned out to be the winning goal.

There were some bright spots for United. Maicon Santos, a second half substitute, connected with Pontius with a through ball

for Pontius's second goal; the forward streamed down the right side to receive Santos's square pass to close the deficit to 3-2 in the 66th minute. The visitors lifted their spirits after the second goal and for most of the rest of the way were more direct.

In the final minutes of the game. New York's defense played very high and left space behind its defense, which DC United failed to exploit with the long ball over the top. Eventually, DC's late surge just wasn't enough as New York held on for the win. The Red Bulls (9-4-3, 30 pts), with one less game played than DC, is now in a first place tie with DC United (9-5-3, 30 pts.) in the Eastern Conference.

Wes Hall now a knight

By Azad Ali

Legendary West Indies cricketer, Barbadian Wes Hall, who helped to inspire successive generations of great Caribbean fast bowlers, has been knighted in the Queen's Birthday Honors list recently.

The Barbadian government announced that the 74-year-old fast bowler, who went on to head the West Indies Cricket Board (WICB) and also become a colorful speaker and figure in public service, government, business and religion, would be made a Knight Bachelor "for his contribution to sport and community."

Hall, a charismatic figure on and off the field, took 192 wickets in 48 Tests during an 11-year career that has earned him a place in the West Indies cricket Hall of Fame as the first West Indian to take a hat-trick in Test match, a feat he achieved against India in his first match in 1958.

He went on to take 30



Sir Wes Hall

wickets in the five-match series and became a permanent fixture in the star-studded West Indies team that included the incomparable Sir Gary Sobers, Conrad Hunte and Rohan Kanhai.

Hall was one of the heroes of the historic first tied Test against Australia at Brisbane in 1960, claiming match figures of nine for 203 and bowling the dramatic final over as West Indies claimed three wickets to earn the first tie in 84 years of Test cricket.

In the private sector, he worked for Cable and

Wireless, Banks Barbados Breweries and Sandals Resorts in Barbados and West Indian Tobacco Company in Trinidad, where he was also instrumental in organizing the Wes Hall Youth League for young cricketers.

Entering Barbadian politics as a senator for the Democratic Labor Party, he won election to parliament in 1986 and was re-elected in 1991.

As the minister for tourism and sports in the Erskine Sandiford administration, he has been credited for developing the sports tourism industry in Barbados.

He then became an ordained minister in the Pentecostal Church in 1990.

Sir Wesley now adds a knighthood to an honorary doctorate from the University of the West Indies and a lifetime achievement award from the Caribbean Tourism Organization.

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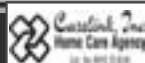
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Due to the July 4th holiday, the Classified ads deadline will be
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