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Of Poets & Peasants

Haiti's MPP Dance and Theatre Troupe Ibolele performed a small playlet to entertain peasants during their five-day conference to decide on their priorities for the next five years.

See Page 8.

Photo by Tequila Minskyw

Miami training for Haiti national police

By Nelson A. King

21 officers from the Haitian National Police Counternarcotics Unit (BLTS) are undergoing a three-week "Train the Trainer" course at the Miami-Dade Public Safety Training Institute (MDP-STI), the U.S. State Department said this week. The training in advanced law enforcement investigation techniques is the result

of a collaboration between the Department's Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL), the US Drug Enforcement Administration and the Miami-Dade Police Department (MDPD) on the curriculum, equipment, and logistics.

Miami-Dade instructors are sharing knowledge and skills

with their Haitian counterparts through in-service training at their Public Safety Training Institute. The three-week course aims to enhance the professional skills of the Haitian officers and build their professional network.

"Increasing the capacity and skill of BLTS personnel will improve their abilities to address

Continued on Page 4

'SAVE OUR SEAS'

Ocean's future hangs in the balance

By Kenton Kirby

As the World Ocean Council (WOC) gets ready to host SOS 2013, a conference to secure the future of the Caribbean Sea, the Washington, DC-based Institute for Caribbean Studies (ICS) this week issued a call for private sector leadership as preparations move into high gear for the WOC's Sustainable Ocean Summit (SOS), April 22-24 in Washington, D.C.

Last year, the Washington-based Institute for Caribbean Studies launched the Sustainable Caribbean Sea Futures Initiative to develop an inter-sectoral, international leadership alliance to secure a living future for the

Caribbean Sea. The issue takes on new momentum as ICS engages with the (WOC) to mobilize Caribbean participation, especially by the private sector which stands to gain immense benefits from the successful outcomes of the venture.

"SOS 2013 is an unparalleled, world-class gathering of the diverse ocean business community," says ICS President Dr. Claire Nelson. "It sets the agenda for ensuring responsible industry operations."

The SOS 2013 program is a unique, global, multi-industry ocean leadership event, with an

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CARIBBEAN ROUNDUP

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THE NEWS FROM BACK HOME

Caribbean

The European Union (EU) is providing US \$8 million to boost agriculture in the Caribbean.

The funds are being provided under the tenth European Development Fund (EDF) Intra-African Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Agriculture Policy Program for the Caribbean between the European Commission and the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA).

The agreement was signed by Guyana President Donald Ramotar, who has lead responsibility for agriculture within the quasi-Caribbean Community (CARICOM) cabinet, the Delegate of the European Union (EU) to Guyana, Ambassador Robert Kopecky, Co-ordinator of IICA's Regional Integration for the Caribbean Region, Gregg Rawlins and CARICOM Secretary General Irwin LaRocque.



IICA is the principal implementing agency of the program on behalf of the Caribbean Forum (Cariforum), with the Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute (CARDI) and the CARICOM Secretariat as implementing partners.

La Rocque said the implementation of the program "comes at a time of significant challenges for the Caribbean in general, and the 16 states of Cariforum in particular.

The four-year program is specifically planned to further strengthen policy regimes and incentive schemes for agricultural smallholders across the region from the bulk of producers.

Antigua

Antigua-based news website, Caribarena, said it had parted company with a freelance journalist, who claimed gunshots had been fired at him as he left the Sir Vivian Richards Stadium following the recent cricket game between the touring Zimbabwe team and the West Indies.



In a statement posted on its website, the media house said after it carried the story on the incident, "the report caused a firestorm of discussion, suspicion, and queries", which the freelancer was asked to



Peasants set priorities

About to enter the central square in Hinche, marchers are finishing up their march from Papay and their participation in the five-day Congress of Mouvement Peysan Papay, MPP, where they set priorities for the next five years. See story on page 8.

Photo by Tequila Minsky

address in a statement.

He chose to 'respectfully decline' to comment, or assist in any way in our internal inquiry into the matter," Caribarena said, adding that it "prides itself on reliably informing and educating our readers.

"Credibility, integrity and willingness are just a few of the rocks within our foundation that we are building on and we will not be associated with those who appear to jeopardize that," it said, informing subscribers that "effective immediately" it would no longer use the service of the journalist.

The incident had been condemned by the president of the Antigua & Barbuda Media Congress, Colin James, who said "this one certainly has come as a surprise and a shock to not only to media workers but it's a complete shock to the entire society."

In its original story, Caribarena quoted the un-named reporter as saying someone called out to him before gunshots were fired and that the journalist was unharmed, the driver sustained minor injuries from broken glasses.

Dominica

Dominican authorities say they

intend to take a tough line, including legal action, against people who fail to pay taxes.

Comptroller of Income Tax Irwin Williams, speaking at the recent launch of the 12th annual Tax Awareness Week, said the Inland Revenue Division (IRD) would be moving aggressively against tax evaders and defaulters.

"I think it is a fitting time to inform non-compliant people that action will be taken against those who do not comply. All are encouraged to voluntarily pay their taxes when they are due", he said.

Williams said the IRD would also be working with the appropriate authorities to ensure that people did not travel without a valid exit certificate.

He said the IRD was willing to negotiate with defaulters.

He gave no indication as to how much money was owned as a result of the non-payment.

Grenada

Grenada is still struggling with its debt repayments and it has asked creditors to give it leeway to

restructure US\$193 million debt that it says it cannot afford to pay.

"The global financial crisis has taken a heavy toll on the country and aggravated the severe debt overhang that continues to weigh down our economy," said new Prime Minister Dr. Keith Mitchell in a recently released statement.

"It is now time for Grenada to confront the fact that it cannot continue to pay its debt on current terms," he said.

Grenada would be the third Caribbean country to restructure its debt this year. Jamaica said on March 1 that about 99 percent of bondholders agreed to swap J\$860 billion (US\$9.1 billion) of higher interest local debt for lower yielding bonds. Belize is finishing negotiations on its second restructuring in five years, as missing a US\$23 million coupon payment in August 2012.

Guyana

Police said the suspect held in connection with the murder of a 42-year-old United States army medical doctor, Max Kungel, had

been found hanging in his cell.

They said Omesh Thakurdeen had been taken into custody as investigations continued into the murder of Dr. Kungel, whose body was found in the backdam in Corentyne, Berbice, Guyana recently with several gunshot wounds.



While in the cell at the police station a check was carried on the cell where Thakurdeen's was kept in which he was the only prisoner. During the check in the early hours of the morning, he was found hanging by his shirt from the grillwork, a police statement said.

Media reports said Kungel and his sister-in-law arrived in Guyana on March 7 to participate in a religious ceremony in the observance of their grandmother's first death anniversary.

Jamaica

The Jamaica Teachers Association (JTA) has become the latest public sector union to sign a wage restraint agreement with the Portia Simpson-led administration.

Previously, the teachers' union had stated that it could not make such an agreement and as a result did not join other public sector unions, which signed the agreement with the government recently.

JTA President, Clayton Hall, said the teachers decided to relent given the circumstances facing the country. He noted that the wage restraint deal for the 2012-2015 came in the form of a package with other incentives.

He warned that although the JTA has joined the other groups in signing, it will remain strident in defending its members, adding that this will also be the last agreement to a wage restraint with the government.

St. Vincent

Prime Minister Dr. Ralph Gonsalves is not pleased with the response of the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) to his complaint about the conduct of two of their jour-



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Assembly raises minimum wage

Assemblywoman Michele Titus announced that the 2013-14 state budget increases the state's minimum wage to \$9.00 per hour by 2016. The wage will gradually increase over the next three years from \$7.25 to \$8.00 per hour on Dec. 31, 2013; to \$8.75 on Dec. 31, 2014; and then to \$9.00 per hour on Dec. 31, 2015.

"New Yorkers overwhelmingly support raising the minimum wage because it is the right thing to do morally, and it will help jumpstart consumer spending and spur the economy," Assemblywoman Titus said. "The Assembly Majority has led the fight to raise the wage, and soon, the thousands of hardworking families who depend on it will have a little more money in their pockets. This is a huge victory for not only minimum-wage employees, but workers across the state."

Increasing the minimum wage is also good for business, Assemblywoman Titus noted. The Retail Council of New York pointed out that minimum wage workers are also customers and are more likely to spend any increase in income locally.

The increase to the minimum wage will directly benefit 925,000 New Yorkers currently earning below \$9.00 an hour, which is over 10 percent of the state's employed popu-

lation. A worker making the current minimum wage of \$7.25 per hour earns just over \$15,000 annually if they work 40 hours per week for all 52 weeks in a year. Under the new law, minimum-wage earners working full time would earn about \$16,640 beginning Dec. 31, 2013; roughly \$18,200 beginning Dec. 31, 2014; and roughly \$18,720 beginning Dec. 31, 2015.

The Assembly Majority has led a strong fight to increase the minimum wage, voting last year to increase it to \$8.50 per hour and voting twice again this year to raise it to \$9.00 per hour. The issue has become a hot-button topic nationally, and with over 80 percent of New Yorkers showing their support for an increased minimum wage, the Assembly delivered the results that hardworking families expect and deserve, Assemblywoman Titus noted.

"The gap between the rich and poor keeps growing, the cost of living keeps rising and wages have stagnated – we need to turn the tide," Assemblywoman Titus said. "Raising the minimum wage helps level the playing field, while putting money into the pockets of those most likely to spend it at our local small businesses. That creates more jobs through a spike in consumer demand."

NAN's agenda: Immigration, race & the justice system

By Vinette K. Pryce

Al Sharpton's National Action Network Convention begins on April 3 and will continue through April 6 at the Sheraton Hotel & Towers with panel discussions focusing on immigration, gun violence, race and the justice system, the Black male, housing, education and politics. According to the founder of the advocacy organization, several high-profiled politicians, legislators and victims of crime are booked to participate in the annual confab.

Among them, NYPD Commissioner Ray Kelly, the parents of Trayvon Martin, Constance Malcom, the mother of Ramarley Graham, Nicole Paultre-Bell, widow of police shooting victim Sean Bell and U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder.

Topics include: the role of media; race in the justice system, women's rights, demanding congressional rights, housing, healthcare, a panel on the Black church, sports & entertainment, corporations, a focus on youth and economic devel-



Rev. Al Sharpton.

AP Photo/Paul Sancya

opment.

Others of note slated to speak include: U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack, U.S. Secretary of Transportation Ray LaHood, U.S. Secretary of Educa-

tion Arne Duncan, Dennis Walcott, chancellor, NYC Department of Education, Congressional representatives include Marcia L. Fudge (chairwoman), Hakeem Jeffries, Gregory

W. Meeks and Charles B. Rangel.

A fashion show and Keepers of the Dream dinner are also slated. For more information, log onto www.nationalactionnetwork.net.

Guyana to rebuild 'Jim Jones' church

By Bert Wilkinson

Officials in Guyana confirmed this week that the Georgetown Catholic church where the late American cult leader Jim Jones performed fake healings using blood from chickens and other animals, is scheduled for re-commissioning in December. A Christmas Day fire in 2004 completely destroyed the mostly wooden Gothic structure.

Putting out a public appeal for about \$200,000 to complete the super-structure and acquire furnishings, church spokesman Ramsay Ali said a concerted effort is being made to rebuild the Sacred Heart Church to accommodate about 400 "very sad" parish-

"Notwithstanding all the challenges over the years associated with the reconstruction of the building, we are at a point now where the reopening is merely months away."

ioners who lost their place of worship when an electrical fire flattened the building during a Christmas Day service in 2004.

Jones, who in November 1978 had enticed more than 900 members of his People's Temple cult to com-

mit mass suicide in the mosquito-infested Guyana jungles near Venezuela, had persuaded the Catholic Church to allow him to use the Sacred Heart facility on Main Street -- at the time located opposite the U.S. Embassy, to perform healing services as part of a plan to win the hearts and minds of a skeptical Guyana public.

The healings were eventually exposed as phony after some cult members leaked information to local and international media that some of the blood used as wounds to be healed, had come from chickens and other animals. The church later publicly admitted its embarrassment and said it

had been tricked by the very cunning Jim Jones to allow for the use of the building.

"We will be able to restart our outreach efforts in the community, which had a positive impact, particularly on children, who benefited from our feeding program," Ali said in an written statement.

"Notwithstanding all the challenges over the years associated with the reconstruction of the building, we are at a point now where the reopening is merely months away. It will be very nice to have our own home once again."

This time, the structure will be made purely of concrete just in case fire strikes again.

Caribbean Sea Initiatives

Continued from cover

opening, “Ocean Executive Forum” plenary panel of industry CEOs and VPs from a range of sectors, Dr. Nelson explained.

U.S. Navy oceanographer, Admiral Jonathan W. White will deliver the keynote address at the Washington conference, entitled: The “Global Ocean Commission - Industry Forum” -- the only business-led input to the former U.S. presidents and cabinet members chairing this new international ocean policy body.

The Global Ocean Commission brings together international leaders in an independent body to analyze the main challenges and threats to the high seas, recommend solutions for addressing them, and, in 2014, provide recommendations to the U.N. and other institutions and processes that can implement change.

The cross-cutting challenges affecting future ocean use will be addressed in SOS sessions on:

Smart Ocean/Smart Industries: Scaling Up Data Collecting by Industry, Arctic Challenges and Opportunities for Responsible Industries, Ocean Policy and Ocean Industries in International Waters, Marine Spatial Planning, Sound and the Marine Environment, BioFouling and Invasive Species, Climate Change and Sea Level Rise: Port and Coastal Infrastructure Adaptation, Financing Innovation and Technology for Ocean Sustainability.

Preceding the main SOS conference, the business community will convene for the agenda-setting, “Oceans 2050 Workshop” on April 22. “This event will identify the drivers, trends, and scenarios affecting the future of ocean industries and determine critical pathways for its success and sustainability,” ICS explains.

“Given the dire straits facing the Caribbean Sea, the window of opportunity to ensure a living sea is closing,” Dr. Nelson said. “The Sustainable Caribbean Sea Futures Initiative includes as

a key priority, the goal of ensuring a multi-industry coalition to advance responsible use of the Caribbean Sea.

“We envision bringing together tourism, yachting, fishing, cruise-shipping, ocean data management, oil/gas, mining -- everyone to engage private sector leaders in securing a sustainable future for our Caribbean Sea. Partnering with like-minded organizations like the WOC, will allow ICS to realize this agenda,” Dr. Nelson added.

Caribbean participants at SOS 2013 can also expect a Special Caucus organized by Dr. Nelson, to begin talks on an agenda for a proposed Business Leaders Forum for a Sustainable Caribbean Sea being planned for the Fall of 2013, as well as to develop private sector representation to the Caribbean Sea Commission and the UN 2015 Ocean Summit.



ICS Director Dr. Claire A. Nelson leads effort to save the Caribbean Sea.

Institute for Caribbean Studies

The Sustainable Caribbean Sea Futures Initiative is a partnership with The Futures Forum, and the Development Foresight Institute based in Jamaica.

To register for SOS 2013, please visit www.oceancouncil.org.

To find out how you can get involved in the Business Leaders Forum for a Sustainable Caribbean Sea, please contact: nelson.claire@gmail.com

Police training

Continued from cover

and combat drug trafficking and drug transshipment in and out of Haiti,” the State Department said. “In addition to endangering US citizens, the drug trade in Haiti undermines the rule of law in that country by fostering corruption and fomenting armed violence perpetrated by criminal gangs and political opposition groups,” it added.

The State Department said its Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs and the Miami-Dade Police Department signed a Memorandum of Understanding on Nov. 19, 2012 to cooperate on training, advising, and mentoring international law enforcement personnel.

Miami-Dade is one of more than 50 U.S. state and local agency partners from communities around the United States who help foreign law enforcement and judicial officials

enhance their civilian security and justice sector capacity, the State Department said.

“Through these agreements, U.S. partners develop networks of contacts with foreign counterparts that assist them in stemming the tide of illicit drugs and transnational crime that are entering their own communities,” it said.

“Making international law enforcement connections on drug-related and gang-related issues has a long-term impact on cross-border, state-level, and community security,” it added.

The State Department said the MDPD is one of the larger police departments in the southeastern United States, with a staff of about 4,700 employees.

It said MDPSTI will offer four additional State Department –supported training courses to a total of 74 BLTS officers over the course of the calendar year.



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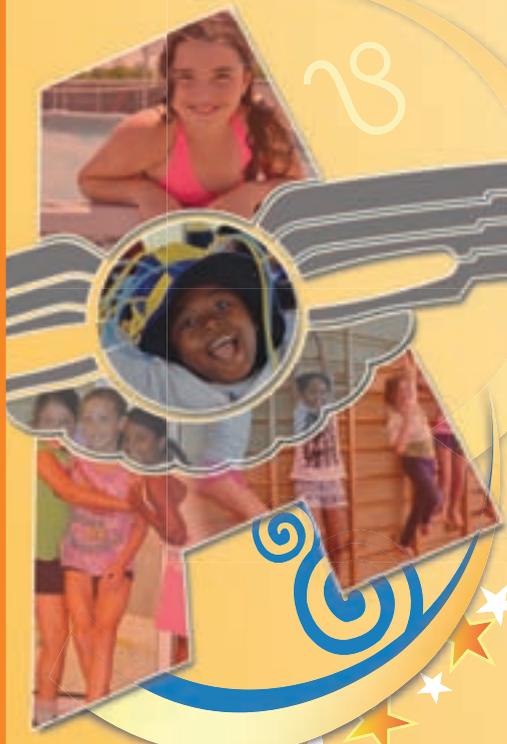
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Grenada citizenship sale continues

By David McFadden and Linda Straker

ST. GEORGE'S, Grenada (AP) — Grenada announced Wednesday that it intends to revive a program that will essentially allow investors from across the globe to buy citizenship on the sparsely-populated Caribbean island known for its beaches and spice-scented forests.

The strategy is part of a growing trend in the Caribbean to drum up much-needed revenue on tiny islands struggling with massive public debt. The nearby islands of Dominica and St. Kitts & Nevis allow investors to secure local citizenship in return for a healthy contribution or real estate investment. Cash-strapped Antigua & Barbuda is planning on launching its own program this year.

The Grenada "government will soon introduce a citizenship-by-investment program. Such programs have existed for a long time in many developed and developing countries," said Governor General Carlyle Glean during his ceremonial speech at the Wednesday opening of Parliament.

"Investor visa" or citizenship



Grenada PM Dr. Keith Mitchell. Photo by Nelson A. King

programs are offered by many nations, including the U.S. and Britain. But the Caribbean countries offer a very fast path to citizenship at a very low cost and the whole process, including background checks, can take as little as 90 days in St. Kitts. Plus, there's no need to ever live on the islands, or even visit.

Grenada's program will require approval by the legislature, which is controlled by the ruling New National Party of newly re-elected Prime Minister Keith Mitchell.

ell. Glean said the government is "committed to bring appropriate legislation to Parliament for this program within its first year in office." In the meantime, officials will review other nations' citizenship-by-investment programs and decide the best way forward.

Mitchell, whose party won all of the island's 15 constituencies after trouncing the former ruling party in February elections, had previously hinted that he planned to revive a citizenship-for-cash program that was suspended after the Sept. 11, 2001, terror attacks due to fears that local passports could mistakenly be sold to terrorists.

For about three years before it was suspended in October 2001, Grenada sold passports to investors for roughly \$40,000. But Grenadian authorities quickly said the practice was too risky after the deadly attacks in the U.S. At that time, Grenada had also been placed on an international blacklist of countries considered uncooperative in fighting money laundering. It was removed from the blacklist in 2002.

Bernard Wiltshire, a former Dominica attorney general who

is a prominent critic of the Caribbean's economic citizenship programs, said he was disappointed in Grenada's decision and believed Caribbean leaders who opt to sell citizenship had run out of decent ideas.

"The present crop of Caribbean leaders is among the most unimaginative group of leaders in the world," Wiltshire said Wednesday. "What they are doing with these citizenship programs at the moment is going to prepare the ground for great problems later on with our larger, powerful neighbors. And this is apart from the fact they are endangering, in my view, the long-term security and safety of the Caribbean islands."

Various critics say the revenue-boosting programs have security risks. While there are no known cases of terrorists using the islands' programs, experts say that's a possibility with many visa arrangements anywhere.

Linda Straker reported from St. George's, Grenada; David McFadden reported from Kingston, Jamaica.

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Jamaica to approve bill targeting lottery scams

KINGSTON, Jamaica (AP) — The House of Representatives in Jamaica has passed a bill this week calling for tougher prosecution of those involved in multimillion-dollar lottery scams that mostly have targeted elderly Americans.

The governor general is expected soon to sign the bill, which the Senate also passed on March 21. The bill targets advanced fee fraud, identity theft and the use of technology for illegally accessing financial accounts. The bill also prohibits making threats and coercing victims over the phone. Those found guilty could face up to 20 years in prison.

Authorities say at least 30,000 calls are made daily from Jamaica to the U.S. as part of the scams. Suspects usually tell victims they've won millions but must first wire payments to cover taxes before they can receive the prize. The scams generate at least \$300 million a year.

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An overflowing hall with delegates under tents about to begin their five-day Congress to prioritize their concerns and plans.
 Photo by Tequila Minsky

Haitian peasants prioritize for the next five years

By **Tequila Minsky**

"Fighting for food sovereignty" was a major theme of the five-day Congress of Mouvement Peyisan Papay (Peasant Movement of Papay-MPP) that began March 18 in Haiti's Central Plateau. This year's Congress with MPP, the Americas' second oldest peasant organization, celebrated the organization's 40th anniversary.

From all regions of Haiti and equally represented by women, men, and youth who work the land, 1800 delegates came together at MPP's Papay training center, about four miles north of Hinche. The goal of this Congress was to define a strategy for the next 10 years and to put forth priorities for the next five years.

Agro-ecology, land reform, and national sovereignty were areas of major concern and support for the week's Congress. Its motto: "We struggle hard for social change."

Haitian and international partners, Haitian parliamentarians, dignitaries, delegations from Dominican Republic, South and North America and Europe, shared in the opening festivities. Along with staff, MPP's Center hosted more than 2,000 persons.

The ceremony began with

a "Mystique," a small playlet, reenacting the historical conflict between government forces—Macoutes—and the peasantry.

Following a heartfelt tribute to Hugo Chavez, the Venezuelan president who died on March 5 and was a great friend to Haiti, the first day's presentations recognized MPP members and foreigners who work for and with the peasant organization.

Simon Dieuseul Desras, Senate President, who was present, admitted privately that he has yet to see any significant support to the agricultural sector from the current government in spite of its claim that agriculture is a priority.

Between official presentations, MPP's Dance and Theatre Troupe Ibolele livened things up with rhythmic music and dance.

The assembly then adjourned to the village of Papay for the formal opening of MPP's new central office, a grand two-story structure, and a seeming palace.

The monies for this came from the peasants, Chavannes Jean-Baptiste, MPP's director, explains. "They want something that they are proud of and feel respected by." Dignitaries, champagne, and the press inau-

gurated the building—with the first floor, only, finished by Congress time.

The second day was filled with panels and discussion. Former Prime Minister and long-time MPP friend, Michele Pierre-Louis and Michel Soukar, discussed national sovereignty. Danielle Magloire spoke about women's participation and how actual Haitian laws discriminate against women and that without full equality, there can never be real social change. One session drew gasps when it was learned of the grave environment hazards (cyanide, integral to the process, which poisons the water table) wrought by mining gold, a venture in the north the government is actively exploring.

By Wednesday, the assembly had broken into 30 workshops to address the previous day's discussion, evaluating the last 40 years and the movements' weaknesses of which there are many.

It was decided during the week that all MPP structures must have one man and one-woman delegate. Also discussed were political betrayals from so-called friendly politicians, some of whom, after elected, tried to destroy the peasant movement.

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Call for passage of the NY State Dream Act

By Adriano Espailat & Mark Gjonaj

If there's one thing more heart-breaking to parents and educators than children who have dropped out of school, or turned to drugs and crime, it's this: students who are bright, hardworking and passionate about their education, but because of their immigration status, are ineligible to receive financial aid for college.

There are nearly 4,000 New Yorkers that graduate high school each year that fit this description, and under present law they are being cheated out of their right to an education. These are young Americans that were brought here at age 5, 3, or even just months after their birth. Our country may have denied them a path to citizenship, but these young people are the living embodiment of our country's values.

That's why it's critical we pass the New York State DREAM Act (Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors), and give these students the chance to pursue a college education, begin an exciting career, and make their parents proud.

After all, there's a reason immigrants from all over the world give up so much to move here and raise their children in our country. The United States has always been a nation of immigrants, and their hard work has made our country great. But in recent years, our country has lost sight of its true values, and

has too often shamefully exploited honest, driven immigrants as political scapegoats.

We all know how college costs have exploded in recent years, and it's virtually impossible for immigrant families to afford the tuition, textbooks, housing and other costs of higher education.

The DREAM Act would begin to correct our broken immigration laws and restore this country's true ideals by making all New Yorkers who meet key requirements, including graduating high school or receiving a GED eligible for the state's Tuition Assistance Program, which offers low-interest loans and scholarships to our youth.

It would also establish private scholarships from the public and private sector, through what has been called the DREAM Fund, to offer additional aid. After all, U.S. companies are desperate for skilled workers in science, technology, engineering and math and shouldn't have recruit foreign employees when we have ambitious young people desperate to learn right here in New York.

While we had hoped the DREAM Act would be included in this year's state budget, the fight to achieve basic fairness for our kids is not yet over. With Washington gridlock threatening federal immigration reform, it's crucial that our state lead the nation in supporting our most promising students, regardless of

Continued on Page 12

African Americans want access to reproductive health care

By Eleanor Hinton Hoytt

As a long-time reproductive justice advocate, I have spent the better part of my career working to ensure that women, regardless of income or background, have access to the care that they need. For me, Women's History Month provides a perfect opportunity to take stock of the work that still needs to be done so that women and girls can claim agency over their own destinies. A lot of progress has taken place over the past 100 years, but none has been as central to improving the lives of women and their families as access to safe and effective reproductive health care. Ironically, in many communities, we are still fighting to gain access to such basic care. In fact, the legislative battles of the past three years have been as intense and crucial as any we've fought since *Roe v. Wade*—the 1973 Supreme Court decision that legalized abortion in the U.S.

Many efforts to eliminate access have been squarely targeted at communities of color, particularly African Americans.

Numerous polls show overwhelming voter support for women's access to affordable birth control, safe and legal abortion and preventive services, such as STD testing and treatment. Since 2011, legislators have introduced more than 1,100 rights-related provisions aimed at limiting or eliminating access to these services, according to the Guttmacher Institute. With almost 20 percent of African Americans uninsured and over 10 percent of Black families living below the poverty level, African Americans have a lot at stake in this fight.

Many efforts to eliminate access have been squarely targeted at communities of color, particularly African Americans. For example, In 2011 Mississippi legislators tried to pass a so-called "personhood" bill, which would have deemed a fetus a person and banned not only access to safe and legal abortion in the state but also emergency contraception, commonly known as the morning after pill. As the state with the highest percentage of African Americans—37 percent—and one of the country's highest poverty rates, Mississippi's personhood bill would have had a disproportionate and devastating effect on the Black community. African Americans have also been the target of vitriolic anti-reproductive-rights campaigns in recent years, including one financed by Georgia Right to Life—a largely white, male conservative group—that put up billboards accusing

Continued on Page 12

Caucus says 'budget falls short'

To the Editor

While there are parts of the budget that are beneficial to the communities we represent, we are greatly disappointed that more was not done to address the needs of the most vulnerable New Yorkers.

We were optimistic when many of our top priorities were mentioned as key priorities of the governor in his State of the State. However, the actual results fell short.

This budget fails to address many of the most pressing issues facing the most vulnerable New Yorkers including strong minimum wage legislation, the DREAM Act, and decriminaliza-

tion of small amounts of marijuana.

DILUTED MINIMUM WAGE

Without gradual increases and indexing the minimum wage bill is a "watered down" version of what President Obama, an overwhelming number of New Yorkers, and even Mitt Romney supported. Even more concerning is that the Senate negotiated unnecessary tax subsidies, which benefit major corporations at a time when essential services throughout the state were cut.

DREAM DENIED

The failure to even consider

the DREAM Act as priority was a denial of the American Dream to a broad cross section of New York's most precious immigrants. The DREAM Act will allow undocumented young adults who entered the country before the age of 18 and have lived in New York State for a minimum of two years the right to have access to financial aid opportunities while attending college within the state. Their families contribute to the state's economy as workers, consumers, business owners and tax payers. However, they are often left out and unaccounted for in state's higher education programming.

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Caribbean Life

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

Jack, yes, but perfidy doesn't end there

The government of Trinidad and Tobago led by Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar will have been in office three years come May. All things considered, whatever Bissessar's administration has undertaken on the plus side for the country has been eclipsed big time by the cascade of negative headlines that have roiled the prime minister and her crew, beginning rather early in their term. Somewhat of a constant in the underside of the narrative has been the man holding the national security portfolio, Jack Warner. And, faithful to the script, Warner is again front and center in the latest brouhaha, inseparable from the dark cloud that came with the package – something Bissessar and her colleagues knew as well as just about everyone else.

Warner's Achilles heel, in the latest imbroglio as often before, is the long association he had with FIFA, world soccer's governing body, where he had become a known power player. Holding a vice presidential post in FIFA when the Bissessar-headed People's Partnership assumed the reins of government in 2010, no way should Warner have been allowed

to become a cabinet minister without relinquishing his FIFA role. In any government beholden to principle, so strong an appearance of conflict would have made simultaneous serving of both masters a matter not for discussion. The government's resort to language about "seeking legal opinion" was a tell-tale sign, if ever there was one, and Warner's continuing his FIFA gig while heading a government ministry probably held surprise for very few when it became a done deal. When Warner departed FIFA, not of his own volition (as he dared, unabashedly, to declare), but under allegations of bribery, it only underscored the morality issue for the ruling team, Warner by then hardly singular among government figures raising eyebrows. But with respect to Warner, it was left to the prime minister to make the plot an even bigger "theater of the absurd" blockbuster by announcing a cabinet reshuffle that made him minister of national security.

The current flare-up of controversy surrounding Warner again has to do with alleged questionable activity during his FIFA tenure. A recent Reuters news report quoted sources which named Warner's

Viewpoint

By Les Slater

son as a "cooperating witness" in an investigation by the FBI into alleged unsavory goings-on within FIFA. Which has only fueled speculation, anew, about Warner's continuing to be a government minister – why has he not either stepped down voluntarily or been dismissed by the prime minister. Nothing in the Warner profile familiar to the public would suggest any readiness on his part to step down on his own. As for Bissessar wielding the axe, the buzz has been that Warner has the sort of goods on her that buffers him against any such move. And that in turn feeds into the whispering that, from day one, has not abated about personal conduct issues ascribed to the prime minister. Bissessar's inaction on Warner so far would presumably be really put to the test if whatever is currently circulating around him becomes the kind of heat in the face of which a continued business-as-usual strut could be a bit of a

challenge. So it goes.

Although the fat lady may not yet have sung regarding what Warner did or didn't do that was none too wholesome, there's no secret about the caustic tone he seems all too ready to show off in the course of functioning in the public arena. It was what has sadly come to be seen as a typical performance by him when he commented about an activist on a hunger strike against a government project, that the man should just hurry up and die. Even so, as we said, Warner is by no means a lone face of perfidy in the Bissessar government. One of the banner instances of governmental skullduggery was what came to be known as the Section 34 matter, where the administration surreptitiously rushed one section of a crime and punishment bill to the country's president for him to sign. Once it was revealed that the stealth move to get this section of the bill proclaimed was a time-sensitive action apparently designed to get off the hook political cronies of the government possibly facing jail time, the public backlash was fierce. Huge crowds took to the streets in protest against the brazen abuse of power, albeit that

the now departed President Max Richards made no converts as to his diligence in office when he was snookered into signing the egregious measure. And Bissessar's sacrificial firing of the justice minister over the scandal was evidently seen largely as an appeasement ploy that never had traction.

Early in the government's term, an ongoing drumbeat about nepotism in the ranks had probably its most dramatic big-screen projection in the infamous Reshmi affair, in which an inadequately credentialed young woman was being readied to assume one of the top-echelon security posts. Between Reshmi in the early phases and Section 34 in the latter part of 2012, the government's trail has been strewn with abuses of all forms and proportions, a common characteristic being, worryingly, an indifference to, as the calypsonian once said, "how it go look."

In elections in Tobago a couple of months ago, what seemed a strong message was delivered, with voters electing not a single administration-backed candidate. But if past performance is any guide, it's a message that won't likely be heeded.

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Access to reproductive health care

Continued from page 10

Black women who choose to end their pregnancies of committing genocide.

All of this activity and notoriety has made Black women's bodies the topic of hot debate in recent years. And yet, few polls have actually looked at African American support for reproductive health services, including birth control and safe, legal abortion. A new survey commissioned by a coalition of reproductive justice organizations is providing some definitive insight that legislators would do well to consider and reproductive justice advocates would be smart to act on.

The poll (conducted by Belden Russonello Strategists and sponsored by Black Women for Wellness, Black Women's Health Imperative, New Voices Pittsburgh, SisterLove, Inc., SPARK Reproductive Justice and

individual reproductive justice activists, in partnership with Communications Consortium Media Center) queried a random sample of more than 1,000 African-American adults. Surprisingly, 86 percent of African Americans believe that contraception is a part of basic health care. An even larger percentage believes that publicly funded health services should provide birth control to low-income women who want it.

When questioned about abortion, 79 percent of respondents said they support it remaining legal and that they believe it should be available in their own communities. In fact, African-American support for legalized abortion is nearly identical to the overall percentage of Americans who, in a recent USA Today/Gallup poll, said they support legalized abortion.

Most significantly, an overwhelming majority of

African Americans said that regardless of how they personally feel about abortion, it should remain legal, and women should have access to safe care if and when they need it. This belief held across political and religious lines, with 74 percent of conservatives, 88 percent of liberals and more than three-quarters of regular churchgoers saying abortion should remain safe and legal.

These findings are enlightening and can be a persuasive argument against continued efforts by some legislators and interest groups to reduce access to reproductive health-care services and vilify the women who use them. Even today, following a national election that was won largely on the basis of how women—particularly women of color—voted, too many lawmakers are working to rescind the broadened access to birth control

provided by the Affordable Care Act.

Given that African American women are more likely to experience pregnancies that result in poor maternal and infant health outcomes, we have an urgent need for our views to be accurately represented and seriously considered. This new poll makes clear to lawmakers and groups that would target our communities with racially charged rhetoric that a majority of African Americans—like most other Americans—believe women, not politicians, should be trusted to make decisions about their reproductive health. Getting out of the way of women and our ability to access the care we need is the best way to pay tribute to Women's History Month.

Eleanor Hinton Hoytt is the president and CEO, Black Women's Health Imperative
American Forum

NYS Dream Act

Continued from page 10

bring them out of the shadows and send them to college. Through their diligent advocacy and courage in speaking out, these young DREAMers have already proven their intelligence, heart and patriotism.

Let's work together to

bring them out of the shadows and send them to college.

Despite the setback in this year's budget, now's not the time to stop DREAMing. *The authors are members of the New York State Assembly.*

Budget falls short

Continued from page 10

MARIJUANA OFFENSES

Standardization of marijuana penalties remains a top priority for the Caucus, as this is an inherent issue of fairness and fiscal responsibility. Most of those arrested are young people who are then saddled with permanent criminal records that follow them for the rest of their lives. As Governor Cuomo has noted, the racial disparities in these arrests is plainly evident: approximately 85 percent of those arrested are Black and Latino, mostly youth,

even though the data shows that young whites are the predominant users of marijuana. These practices waste our criminal justice resources, including police time, for unnecessary criminal proceedings, costing taxpayers at least \$75 million every year. By making marijuana in public view a violation, we can fix the law and standardize the penalties, bringing greater fairness to the law, saving taxpayer money, and preventing unwarranted criminalization and arrests.

The New York State Black, Puerto Rican, Hispanic, and Asian Legislative Caucus



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International airport to boost St. Vincent tourism

By Nelson A. King

St. Vincent and the Grenadines' Tourism, Culture and Sports Minister Cecil "Ces" McKie says the tourism sector, and the country as a whole, will get a significant boost on completion of the Argyle International Airport.

McKie, on a stop-over in New York from Taiwan, over the Easter weekend, told Caribbean Life, in an exclusive interview, that the ministry anticipates between 190,000 and 250,000 tourist arrivals by air annually within the first two years of the airport's completion.

Currently, the country gets, on average, 80,000 visitors annually via air transportation, he said.

Despite US\$80 million more needed, of which US\$44 million have been identified, to complete the largest capital project in the nation's history, McKie said construction is "progressing on schedule," with the terminal building expected to be completed



SVG Tourism Minister Cecil "Ces" McKie and Dr. Jerrol Thompson (r) at town hall meeting.
Photo by Nelson A. King

by year's end, and "the strip and other amenities will be completed early next year the latest."

"I am very confident that will be realized," said the tourism minister, referring

to the US\$80 million still needed.

He said nationals in the Diaspora are noticeably "more excited and more vocal than those at home" about the international

airport, primarily because "people outside are more familiar with the hassles of getting home."

"It's difficult for them to understand why LIAT (regional airline) is more

expensive (the price of a ticket) from Barbados to home than from New York to Barbados," he added.

As construction of the international airport progresses, McKie noted that even opposition legislators are now support the project.

"We're beginning to see a difference, whereas, the opposition was playing politics, there are clear and visible signs (of support)," he said.

"And in the last Parliament, all members of the opposition came out and showed support for the issue," he added. "More and more doubting Thomases have been converts."

In a town hall meeting in Brooklyn last month, Opposition Leader Arnhim Eustace expressed concern about construction of the airport satisfying international standards.

But Prime Minister Dr. Ralph Gonsalves has assured that international standards are being main-

tained according to International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) guidelines.

McKie dismissed talks about the unprofitability of constructing the international airport, saying: "There's hardly an airport in the region that is profitable, but the benefits far outweighs the cost."

The tourism minister – who with other government officials on Sunday evening updated Vincenians on developments at home in a town hall meeting, at the Friends of Crown Heights Educational Center in Brooklyn, – also expects hotel rooms to significantly increase on completion of the international airport.

"We're looking to increase hotel stock by 10 percent with the opening of the airport," he told Caribbean Life.

"We have about 2,000 capacity (hotel rooms), and we're working with all hotel stakeholders to continue to upgrade," he added.

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CARIBBEAN ROUNDUP

Continued from page 2

nalists towards him last month.

"You have adopted the posture of an advocate in the cause of Messrs Paul Kenyon and Matthew Hill, the two offending BBC journalists. You were not seeking the truth from facts," Gonsalves said in the March 5 letter to Tim Giles, editor of the BBC's Panorama program.

Giles has responded to the letters sent by Gonsalves to Lord Chris Patten, chair of the BBC Trust, in which he complained about the "rude and unprofessional" approach of the two journalists when they "accosted" him on a flight to Barbados on Feb. 15.

The two journalists had asked Prime Minister Gonsalves to respond to an allegation that investor Daves Ames had gone to his office with a bag of money and left without it.

"It is plainly wrong for Mr. Kenyon to peddle a wholly unfounded allegation against me and in the process sully my good name and that of my office. His allegation is false. Further, the unprofessional manner in which he accosted me is surely improper," Gonsalves said in the letter to the BBC chairman.

He further reiterated that he deserves the same level of respect accorded to any other prime minister in the world.

Trinidad

There was a "spike" in murders for the first two months of this year compared to

last year but a decrease in serious offences.

This is according to Leader of Government Business in the House of Representatives Dr. Roodlal Moonilal.

He was at the time contributing to debate on the Defense (Amendment) Bill.

Quoting from police statistics, Moonilal noted there was a decrease in serious offences from the period January to February 2012, compared to January to February 2013, of 26 per-



cent. He said there were a 22 percent decrease in robbery, 34 percent drop in house breaking and burglary, 35 percent drop in fraud offences, 23 percent fall in general larceny and a 38 percent drop in narcotic offences.

Moonilal noted Government was not happy with the 26 percent fall because the homicide rate "is not acceptable" and there was an increase for the same period from 67 to 83 murders.

He said the Police Service was now focusing on homicides and also taking a new approach to crime data of monitoring daily, weekly and monthly and not just at the end of the year, to get the extra effort in dealing with criminal elements.

The Housing Minister noted the Bill, which seeks to grant soldiers police powers, was part of a multipronged approach to crime.

Compiled by Azad Ali

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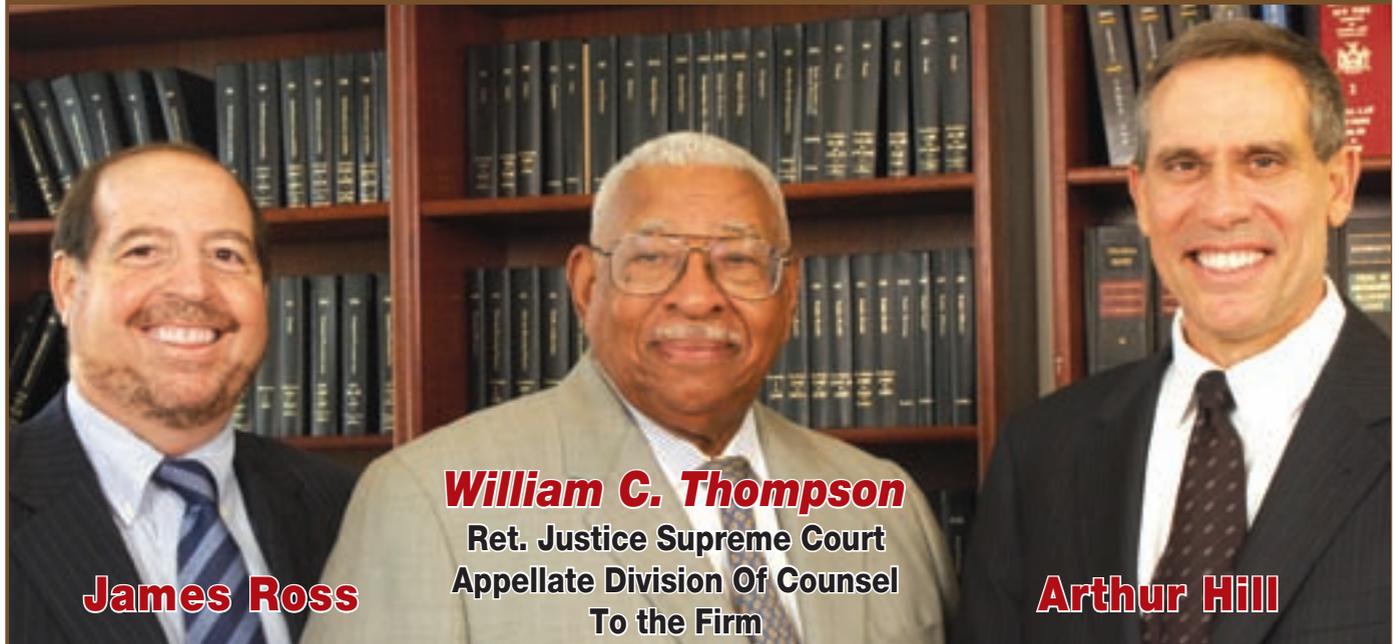
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Caribbean nations search for oil amid spill fears

By David McFadden

KINGSTON, Jamaica (AP) — The turquoise waters that have long brought treasure seekers to the Caribbean now are drawing a new kind of explorer as countries across the region increasingly open their seas to oil exploration.

From the Bahamas and Cuba down to Aruba and Suriname, international oil companies are lining up to locate potentially rich offshore deposits in the Caribbean. The countries hope drilling could lead to a black-gold bonanza, easing demand for imported oil and diversifying their economies.

It's a longstanding dream for many. As the Dominican songwriter Juan Luis Guerra once sang, "If petroleum sprang from here, oh but there would be light and hope."

So far, the twin-island nation of Trinidad and Tobago is the only major hydrocarbons producer in the Caribbean, and its waters are crowded with offshore platforms. The country sits just about seven miles (11 kilometers) off the coast of Venezuela, which has the world's largest proven oil reserves. It's pushing hard into deep-water drilling and has signed production-sharing contracts with British oil company BP for new exploration blocks.



In this Sept. 5, 2005 file photo, the refinery of the state-owned Petroleum Company of Trinidad and Tobago Ltd., PETROTRIN, is shown in Pointe-a-Pierre, on the Gulf of Paria, Trinidad & Tobago.

AP Photo/Shirley Bahadur, File

A growing number of other Caribbean nations are also authorizing or at least aggressively pursuing offshore exploration.

The Bahamas recently announced it would try offshore exploratory drilling and said it should have enough information by late 2014 to decide whether it can move forward with production. A voter referendum would first have to decide the matter. Bahamas Petroleum Company CEO Simon Potter said a

rig will drill to subsea depths of roughly 22,000 feet (6,705 meters) in some 1,600 feet (488 meters) of water adjacent to Cuba's offshore territory.

Barbados and Jamaica have also been seeking well exploration in their seas, while the Anglo-Dutch group Shell announced in December it was preparing to sink its third offshore well in nearby French Guiana, an overseas French department, with other companies also exploring in deep waters there.

"What once was a trickle is fast becoming a stream in the Caribbean, with new announcements of expanding deep-water exploration lease offerings and drilling permits being issued," said Lee Hunt, a Houston-based consultant who retired last year as the longtime president of the International Association of Drilling Contractors.

The push for exploration has been fed partly by worries that Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez's nearly

two-year-long cancer fight and March 5 death would affect a Venezuelan aid program called PetroCaribe that sells petroleum to 17 Caribbean countries on preferential terms.

PetroCaribe provided \$14 billion worth of Venezuelan oil to the region last year, with Cuba being the principal beneficiary. Chavez's successor Nicolas Maduro hasn't said he would stop the aid, but his challenger in April 14 elections, Gov. Henrique Capriles, has pledged to cut off subsidized oil to Cuba and reevaluate the PetroCaribe program if elected.

Keeping the oil flowing is crucial. Caribbean countries generate nearly all their power from imported oil although the region is blessed with solar, wind and other alternative energy opportunities.

Nonetheless, many people across the region fear their famed clear water, fringing reefs and white-sand beaches could end up a casualty to any future oil boom, threatening the tourism bonanza that many countries already depend on. Even with the possibility of a windfall still distant, regional officials have begun to discuss how they would cooperate in the event of a major accident, such as the 2010 Deepwater Horizon

oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico.

"First, we have to prevent any kind of spill. And second, if something happens, we have to make sure everyone is working together," said Ernesto Soberon Guzman, the Cuban ambassador to the Bahamas, during regional talks about oil spill preparedness in the Bahamian capital of Nassau this month.

Ocean currents practically assure that a big spill in one Caribbean nation would significantly affect neighbors, possibly even the U.S. East Coast. Many Gulf communities are still recovering from the Deepwater Horizon accident, the country's largest offshore oil spill.

"If oil rises to the surface and gets to the surface currents, it would start flowing towards our waters and our shores," said Capt. John Slaughter, chief of planning, readiness, and response for the U.S. Coast Guard's Miami-based 7th District. "We're going to take every action we can to prevent that from happening."

Jeff Todd in Nassau, Bahamas, and Peter Orsi in Havana contributed to this report.

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Budget will show surplus: PM Douglas

BASSETERRE, St. Kitts, April 2, 2013 (CUOPM) – Next Tuesday's Budget for the financial year 2013, is expected to show a surplus in the country's overall balance, a surplus in the country's current account and a surplus in the country's primary balance.

In what has been seen as a precursor to the Budget Session, St. Kitts and Nevis' Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Dr. Denzil L. Douglas said his Budget Presentation in the National Assembly "will show, in other words, a government well-positioned to continue being a major player in our country's economic growth. And own house being in order, of course, cannot help but produce expanded investor confidence – both locally as well as domestically - as has been demonstrated by the range of



PM and Minister of Finance, Dr. Denzil L. Douglas. Photo by Erasmus Williams

local and foreign investments that are now very much underway."

Speaking during his weekly radio program "Ask the Prime Minister," Prime Minister Douglas noted that the consultation on the Budget was completed in late 2012 and next week's Budget Address will reflect "the seriousness with which this gov-

ernment has taken its fiscal and managerial responsibilities, the extraordinary expertise and first-rate planning that the government has clearly put into this effort and the results, the extraordinary results and the real and quantifiable benefits that this government is now in a position to deliver to the people, as a result."

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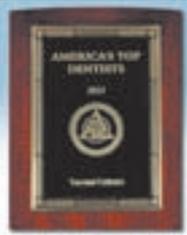
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Food safety tips for better entertaining

(StatePoint) Great food is the centerpiece for a successful party, but taking shortcuts in the kitchen can put you and your guests at risk.

"Managing your party buffet foods safely is important -- and it's also easy to do! Remember to keep hot foods hot and cold foods cold, and not to leave food out at room temperature for more than two hours," suggests Shelley Feist, executive director of the non-profit Partnership for Food Safety Education.

According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, one in six Americans gets sick from dangerous foodborne bacteria every year. But these crucial safety tips can help you throw a great party:

Clean

Prevent the spread of bacteria by keeping a clean kitchen. Keeping hands and surfaces clean helps reduce the risk of food poisoning.

Enforce a strict hand washing policy for all kitchen helpers. Use warm water and soap for 20 seconds before and after handling food.

HEALTH

Cutting boards, dishes, utensils and counter tops should be washed with hot water and soap after preparing each food item, and before going on to the next. Keep plenty of clean cloth towels or paper towels handy for cleaning surfaces and drying hands.

Separate

Cross-contamination is how bacteria spread. Keep raw meat, poultry, seafood and eggs and their juices away from ready-to-eat foods, like salad ingredients. Using separate cutting boards is one way to reduce opportunities for cross-contamination.

Cook

Temperature matters! Bacteria can survive if foods aren't cooked to a safe internal temperature. Hot foods on a buffet can be kept hot with chafing dishes, crock pots or warming trays.

Even an experienced cook can't tell if food is cooked safely by



Crucial safety tips can help you throw a great party.

how it looks, so use a food thermometer to ensure you're cooking foods to a safe internal temperature. Access a temperature chart

at www.fightbac.org.

Chill

Instead of putting out one very large tray of meat, cheese and cut vegetables, try creating a few smaller ones and keep them in the refrigerator. After two hours, replace the tray on your buffet with a new tray from the refrigerator. Doing this will ensure food safety -- and keep your buffet offerings looking fresh and delicious.

A big dinner party or celebration is great -- and even better if you have delicious leftovers. Just remember to enjoy them within four days.

Bacteria spread fastest at temperatures between 40 and 140 degrees Fahrenheit, so be sure to chill food promptly -- within two hours -- at a refrigerator temperature of 40 degrees or below. Appliance thermometers are inexpensive and can help you monitor your refrigerator's temperature.

Find more great food safety tips at www.fightbac.org.

By taking precautions to prepare food safely, you can ensure that bacteria won't be guests at your party.

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Strategy for keeping high blood pressure in check

Hypertension symptoms may be subtle or even non-existent, but high blood pressure boosts the risks of leading killers such as heart attack and stroke, as well as aneurysms, cognitive decline and kidney failure. As we know, the disease is highly prevalent in the black community. In fact, more than 40 percent of blacks have the disease compared to whites and are also more likely to develop it at an early age and more prone to have substantially elevated blood pressure rates.

While high blood pressure can't be cured, it's important to manage it. Healthy lifestyle changes like weight loss, a healthy diet and exercise are very important factors.

What if a prescription drug that costs just pennies a day could help lower your blood pressure?

That's what a recent study conducted by the Visiting Nurse

HEALTH

Service of New York (VNSNY) Center for Home Care Policy and Research and Weill Cornell Medical College revealed. The research study uncovered that less than half of African Americans were prescribed a diuretic drug with proven benefit that costs just pennies a day. Their study, reported in the American Journal of Hypertension, found that the patients in the study who used the common diuretic drugs had, on average, lower blood pressure (both systolic and diastolic) than the patients who did not receive them.

"Communicating effectively with patients' physicians and persuading them to review the medications of patients with uncontrolled hypertension is an ongoing challenge for home care nurses," says study co-author Dr. Penny Feldman, director of the VNSNY

Center for Home Care Policy and Research and senior vice president for Research and Evaluation at VNSNY. "Our study shows that close monitoring of patient medications can help identify inconsistencies and divergence from current approved medical guidelines and make inroads to help improve the health and quality of life of black patients with hypertension."

"The home health setting is an important factor to eliminating future health risks brought upon by hypertension," says Registered Nurse Elizabeth Almanzar-Wright, a nurse care manager with VNSNY CHOICE, a managed long-term care health plan that supports individuals on Medicaid who have been diagnosed with multiple chronic illnesses. "Our health professionals work to ensure that patients with hypertension learn to manage their medications, use a home blood pressure monitor, maintain



healthy lifestyles and are aware of the signs and symptoms that they may need emergency care."

Nurse Almanzar-Wright offers these tips to manage hypertension at home:

Manage Your Medication

Per the above research, ask your doctor if prescribed diuretics may be helpful for you; he or she will help you outweigh the benefits and potential side effects. It's also important to keep an

up-to-date list of all the medications you are taking, including over-the-counter or nonprescription medications or supplements. A medication container or pillbox can serve as a reminder of when to take the pills – and can help you plan up to a week in advance.

It is also important to try using one pharmacy for all of your medications as this fosters a good relationship between you and your pharmacist and decreases medication errors or interactions.

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Journalism award for Nelson King

A leading Guyanese medical mission group in the United States has conferred on Caribbean Life's senior writer Nelson A. King its prestigious "Leader in Excellence in Journalism" award.

King was honored on Feb. 17 by the Brooklyn-headquartered APC (Action, Performance, Commitment) Community Services, Inc. during its annual Black History Month/Valentine Award Ceremony at the banquet hall at Grace Church of God, on Dewitt Avenue, in Brooklyn.

The group, which conducts annual medical missions to Guyana, singled out King for his "dedicated service and outstanding contributions as a journalist."

APC Community Services, Inc. also said King was honored for his "commitment to promoting the contributions of Caribbean people in the United States and around the world."

In addition, the distinguished group, which comprises medical doctors, nurses and other health care professionals, said King was "unselfish" in improving "the lives of families and for being a role model to the seniors and youths in our community."

"We honor you as a 'Leader of Excellence on Black History Month,'" said the group in the inscription on the extraordinarily large plaque.

In a citation, Brooklyn Borough President Marty Markowitz, "saluted and commended the esteemed Nelson A. King" as "a true son of Brooklyn, by way of St. Vincent and the Grenadines, as a respected Caribbean journalist with over three decades of experience, among so many distinctions."

Markowitz said he congratulated the versatile and humble King "as he is justifiably recognized by his peers and loved ones, and I thank



Nelson A. King with a citation from Brooklyn Borough President Marty Markowitz.

Photo courtesy of Nelson A. King

him and all those present for helping him to make the world a better place to live, work and raise one's family."

Dr. Janice Emanuel-Bunn, the Guyanese-born president of APC Community Services, Inc. said her group was pleased to honor King because of his humility, penchant for excellence and sheer dedication to the Caribbean community.

"We specially chose to honor Mr. King because of his selfless service and his commitment to APC Community Services, Inc. and the Caribbean community at

large," she told Caribbean Life.

"He has demonstrated a unique quality of capturing the contributions of Caribbean people and the impact they have made on these United States," she added. "We applaud him for being fair and balanced in his writing."

King said he was "very humbled for the honor, especially coming from a group outside" his native Vincentian community.

"I certainly could not have achieved this without everyone's unconditional love and support, especially my late parents and my wife, but, most important, Almighty God," King told the

honor ceremony. "Through Him, everything is possible."

"I thank APC Community Services, Inc. for recognizing my work and for bestowing this special honor on me," he added.

"Journalism is my greatest passion. I do what I do not for great rewards or awards but because of my deep commitment and devotion to the community; and so, I humbly accept this award," King continued. "I certainly could not have done it on my own. Thank you so much, and may God continue to richly bless us all."

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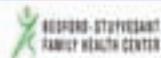
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Fathers join basketball shootout

On Saturday, March 30, 2013, Council Member Leroy Comrie, with The Allan Houston Legacy Foundation, and Jay Sugarman, founder of the iStar Family Shootout, hosted the "Father Knows Best Tour" at the Queens College Fitzgerald Gymnasium.

In its work to strengthen ties between fathers and their families, The Allan Houston Legacy Foundation has been hosting basketball clinics across the city, as a bonding experience, to help encourage fathers to be a part of their children's lives.

Council Member Leroy Comrie: "Sports activities

are not only a way for people to stay physically fit, but they also serve as a great bonding tool between father and child. Events like the iStar Charity Shootout not only helps build this relationship, but also show how important it is for fathers to be with and care for their families. Participating in sports can allow young people to develop character, sportsmanship, and leadership skills. I would like to thank the Allan Houston Legacy Foundation and Jay Sugarman, as well as all the participants, for supporting the community and holding this event in Queens."



From left, Jay Sugarman of iSTAR Charities, Council Member Leroy Comrie, Allan Houston, Congressman Gregory Meeks, Council Member Ruben Wills, Alan Farrell, NYC Fatherhood Services Coordinator for Mayor Michael Bloomberg Fatherhood Initiative.

"Roughly one third of children in New York City live in a fatherless home. We have the opportunity to go to the source of the problem and help provide the tools needed to improve communication and support better family relationships," stated Allan Houston, former NBA All-Star for the Knicks, now the team's assistant general manager. "We had a tremendous turn out throughout the tour and I am grateful

to iStar Financial, Queens College and everyone who made our final stop such a success."

Allan Houston and Council Member Leroy Comrie, spoke to the more than 200 participants on Saturday on the importance of a strong family and raising a child. The clinic was an opportunity for fathers and their children to bond, while participating in basketball drills that were lead by Houston.

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COJO Child Month appeal

By Vinette K. Pryce

New York based Jamaica charity Children of Jamaica Outreach (COJO) Inc., recently launched its annual Child Month initiative to raise funds to benefit less fortunate children in Jamaica. From now until May, tri-state residents can assist in providing scholarships to needy youths. This year's aim is to maximize support for the cause and also give back to the US-based community which throughout the years has aided in bolstering funds to the underserved population.

Reportedly, JetBlue Airways has already donated travel certificates to aid the scholarship fundraising initiative. Since inception in 1994, COJO has dedicated its resources -- human and financial -- to help make a difference in the lives of

underserved children in Jamaica as well as the United States of America.

Allegedly, these funds will help children on the island to

"I am forever indebted to JetBlue and our many hotel partners for making an investment in our children who are the future. We encourage everyone to support this worthwhile cause and help us achieve our goal."

pursue their academic goals.

COJO Founder and Chairman Gary M. Williams welcomed support from the airline saying their contribution is integral to the organization's scholarship fundraising efforts.

"I am forever indebted to JetBlue and our many hotel partners for making an investment in our children who are the future. We

encourage everyone to support this worthwhile cause and help us achieve our goal," Williams said. The raffle will culminate during

the week of May 18.

In addition to the plane tickets, numerous hotels on the north coast have also donated complimentary vacation packages which will be raffled for proceeds.

COJO's mission is to "help improve the health, education and general well being of less fortunate children."

For more information, visit www.cojokids.org.

Go to www.Caribbeanlifeneews.com for the latest in Caribbean news, entertainment, sports, business, viewpoints and more.

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Photo by Arthur De Gaeta

Vanessa Wegner, visiting from Germany

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BOOK REVIEW

Dodging a bullet

"Living and Dying in Brick City"
by Sampson Davis (with Lisa Frazier Page)
c.2013, Spiegel & Grau
\$25.00 / \$29.95 Canada
245 pages

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

Throughout your life, you've dodged a lot of bullets.

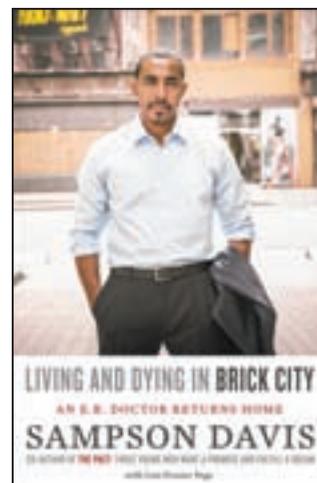
By accident or design, you were in the wrong place at the wrong time but somehow remained unscathed: the almost-hazard while driving, the near-miss at work, the moment you caught yourself just in time from falling.

Things could've been worse – much worse – but you dodged a bullet. So did it make your heart pound, or did it change your life? For author Sampson Davis, it was the latter because, as you'll see in his new memoir "Living and Dying in Brick City" (with Lisa Frazier Page), the bullets were sometimes real.

Sampson Davis hid his intelligence from his friends.

He was an A-student and had, in fact, landed a college scholarship and was on his way to becoming a doctor. But since it wasn't cool to be intelligent, he hid his smarts until he did something dumb: at age seventeen-and-a-half, he gave in to the streets, participated in a robbery, and was caught.

Because he was a juvenile



with no prior record, he got off easy with scholarship intact but it was a sobering wake-up call. Grateful for a second chance, Davis buckled down and went to med school.

When given the chance to intern in the emergency department at Newark's Beth Israel Hospital, Davis seized it. He wanted to do something good for his community and working at the hospital where he drew his first breath seemed extraordinarily right. He felt that he could empathize with the patients who were brought to "Beth," and he was correct.

Too correct, as it turns out.

Time and again, Davis discovered to his dismay that he knew the people who lay on the tables in front of him; gunshot victims, domestic violence survivors, addicts, smokers,

the sexually active, and the mentally ill.

He knew them – or he knew he might've been one of them, if not for a youthful near-miss and a bullet dodged.

No doubt about it, "Living and Dying in Brick City" is one of those books you want to read slowly, not because it's difficult to understand but because it's difficult to accept that it will end.

But long before that happens, readers are treated to a heart-racing memoir filled with guns,

blood, violence, and life's unfairness. Rising above all that, though, is author Sampson Davis' amazingly powerful sense of gratitude: he fully realized that he could very well have been a man on a gurney, rather than the man caring for the man on the gurney.

But that's not all.

At the end of many chapters, Davis offers brief, helpful information and stats on STDs, heart attacks, AIDS, domestic violence and other issues of particular interest to African Americans and inner-city residents. This information and the accompanying stories pretty much glued me to my chair.

As memoirs go, this one's a stunner and if you're a medical professional, fan of medi-dramas, or if you just want a fast-paced book to read, don't miss it. Grab "Living and Dying in Brick City"... and fire away.

CITY OF NEW YORK 2012-2013 DISTRICTING COMMISSION

NOTICE OF PRECLEARANCE SUBMISSION TO THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY GENERAL

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT on March 22, 2013, in accordance with Section 5 of the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, 42 U.S.C. 1973c, and 28 C.F.R. § 51.10(b), covering the counties of Bronx, Kings and New York, the City of New York 2012-2013 Districting Commission (the "Districting Commission") submitted to the Attorney General, U.S. Department of Justice, the Districting Commission's final plan for the boundaries of the fifty-one City Council districts in the City of New York (the "submission").

A complete duplicate copy of the submission is available for public inspection at the office of the Districting Commission at 253 Broadway, 7th Floor in the borough of Manhattan. A complete copy of the submission is also available on the Districting Commission's website at <http://www.nyc.gov/districting>, where it can be automatically translated into over 50 languages.

The Districting Commission invites members of the public to review the submission and to provide comments for the Attorney General's consideration as this request for preclearance is being considered. Any such comments may be forwarded to: Mr. Chris Herren, Chief, Voting Section, Civil Rights Division, Room 7254 – NWB, Department of Justice 950 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W., Washington, DC 20530.

Please take further notice that, in order to permit timely implementation of the final districting plan in advance of the City Council's upcoming primary and general elections, the Districting Commission has requested that a decision on preclearance be issued on an expedited basis pursuant to 28 C.F.R. § 51.34.

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Minus 50+ Celebration

By Chudi Chukwudi

The Flatbush, Brooklyn-based United Peoples Inclusive movement will premiere its Extended Family Unite Alliance in Brooklyn, New York on Sunday, April 28, 2013. Propelled by its theme Minus-50-Plus, this novel event will celebrate triumphs over trials reaching age 50 and beyond. Minus signifies that at 50, individuals within the UPI family commit to helping others journeying toward the milestone of 50; and plus denotes that our Elderhood Community (70 and beyond) commits its acquired insights and wisdom to assisting 50-Plus aspirants journeying toward Elderhood.

“Responding to an increasingly dysfunctional global community, the UPI infrastructure is fitted with a five-proang network alliance” says Elder Austin Tuitt, the UPI founder. “From this vantage point, we see the extended family unit as the epicenter of this



The Credo/Veira Family.

alliance network. Therefore, following decades of search for the exemplary family who befits this novel peoples' honor of First Extended Family Unit; the UPI Search Committee reached a consensus in choosing the Aubrey/Credo Veira family.

“Given the steadfast rise in global unemployment and underemployment, UPI has created a curriculum titled EntreCare 001 – Entrepreneurial Care & Development Alliance – aimed at tapping the artis-

tic creativity of our young to develop reliable job creators, based on sound morality, rather than a stream of anxious job seekers being produced by our conventional education system,” Elder Tuitt explains.

Among the day's highlights is a portrayal of EntreCare 001 to be presented by the Youth Ensemble of the Ifetayo Cultural Arts Academy, featuring interpretive dance to UPI theme songs and African drumming.



Ifetayo Cultural Ensemble performers.

“We come together just a few, to give of ourselves wisely, that all may receive

sufficiently,” he added, quoting the UPI mantra. For more information,

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Derby Favorites Face-off in Queens' Biggest Race

It's extremely rare to see the country's top two three year olds face off before the Kentucky Derby but that will be the case at Aqueduct Racetrack Saturday, April 6th when undefeated Verrazano and undefeated Vyjack compete in the Grade 1, \$1 million Wood Memorial.

The Wood is New York's premier prep race for the Kentucky Derby with a long history as a springboard to Derby, Preakness, and Belmont Stakes success. Five of the eleven Triple Crown winners have competed in the race including most recently Secretariat and Seattle Slew.

One of the horses looking to add his name to that distinguished list is New York-based Vyjack who has spent the winter stabled at Aqueduct, going 4-for-4 at the Queens track. Following a pair of wins as a 2-year-old, Vyjack started off his sophomore season with a narrow victory in the Grade 2 Jerome after contesting the pace. In his most recent start in the Grade 3 Gotham Stakes on March 2, Vyjack changed his running style when he rallied from far back and blew past his opponents to win by 2 ¼ widening lengths.

Vyjack, whose name is a result of combining the names of his owner's parents Vivienne and Jack, is the first horse owned by David Wilkenfeld. Wilkenfeld is a successful entrepreneur and horseplayer who knows just how lucky he is to own such a promising runner.

"It's amazing," said Wilkenfeld moments after Vyjack won the Gotham. "Words can't describe it. You buy a horse, you hope



Photo by Bob Coglianese Photos Inc.

for this, but it's not something you really think about."

Vyjack is expected to face his toughest challenge to date in the form of another undefeated 3-year-old – Verrazano.

Despite his quintessential New York name, Verrazano is making his first Big Apple appearance following three dominant wins in Florida. Verrazano trounced the competition by an astonishing 24 lengths in his first two races before he easily handled stakes competition

with a three-length win in the Grade 2 Tampa Bay Derby on March 9.

Verrazano is trained by five-time champion trainer Todd Pletcher, who won the 2010 Kentucky Derby with Super Saver and saddled Rags to Riches to a victory over Horse of the Year Curlin in the 2007 Belmont Stakes.

Pletcher has been pointing Verrazano, the early favorite for the Kentucky Derby, to the Wood Memorial for quite some time.

"Looking at his schedule, we felt [the Tampa Bay

Derby] put him in a position that opened up a lot of options, with the Wood always being our first choice," said Pletcher.

Hall of Fame jockey John Velazquez has ridden the colt in his first three starts and will be aboard once again in the Wood Memorial.

The rest of the Wood Memorial field is coming up strong, even with both the Kentucky Derby favorite Verrazano and Derby second choice Vyjack pointing for the race. The top notch field includes several

other talented 3-year-olds in Grade 2 Remsen runner-up Normandy Invasion and Gotham second- and third-place finishers West Hills Giant and Elnaawi.

While the Wood Memorial is the main attraction, Saturday's undercard is not to be overlooked with four additional graded stakes, including another Grade 1 in the Carter Handicap for sprinters and the Grade 2 Gazelle for three-year-old fillies. First post Saturday at Aqueduct is at 12:50 pm and admission is free.

Chaka Khan celebrates 60 in New York City

Chaka Khan might be convinced "Ain't Nobody Loves Me Better" than New Yorkers.

Perhaps for that reason the Chicago-native held the third affair marking her 60th birthday here by hosting a dinner-party at the swank midtown EVR Restaurant.

The "I'm Every Woman" siren of the recording industry invited special guests to the last of a series of celebrations of her Mar. 23 birth date.

Born Yvette Marie Stevens, the popular recording artist radiated charm and elegance, arriving fashionably late wearing a purple ensemble which prominently featured knee-high, suede boots and an outfit that complimented her recently stream-lined figure.

Khan recently shed 75 pounds.

And for her celebration, the internationally acclaimed rhythm & blues icon, 10-time Grammy Award winner and singer



Inside Life

By Vinette K. Pryce

flew south, west and north to mark the occasion.

According to her sister and personal manager Tammy McCrary, it is part of her "100 Days of Chaka," -- signifying the 100 days between her birthday and the 40th anniversary of her first album in 1973 with the band Rufus.

Held in Miami, Florida, Los Angeles, California and New York City, they each attracted a select-group of media, associates and friends for a private dinner.

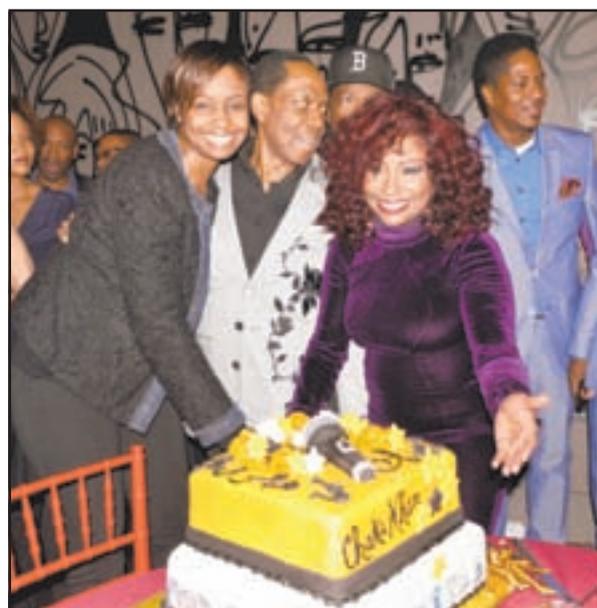
TV personality and attorney Star Jones, Oprah Winfrey's best pal and television host Gail King, CNN news reporter, Soledad O'Brien, r&b singer Freddie Jackson, activist and MSNBC personality Al Sharpton, BET-TV Chairman & CEO Debra Lee, actress Taraji P. Hen-

son, director Lee Daniels, songwriter Gordon Chambers were among the celebrity guests to attend the mid-town Manhattan gala last Tuesday.

They all surrounded the funk and pop diva as a band of musicians sang and played an untraditional version of the birthday song.

A two-tiered cake decorated by a microphone and photos of the temporarily upstaged the celebrant as she beamed what seemed a grateful smile to all the guests.

Monday in California, Anita Baker, Natalie Cole, Quincy Jones, Stevie wonder, Roland Martin, Shaun Robinson, Alfre Woodard, Jonathan Butler, Tracee Ellis Ross, Tatyana Ali, Yolanda Adams, Fantasia and Anthony Hamilton serenaded the



From left, Aaliyah Baylor, Freddie Jackson, Chaka Khan at EVR. Photo by Ronnie Wright

veteran super-singer who has influenced generations of artists.

In addition to reveling six decades, in Fort Lauderdale, she performed at the Florida AIDS Walk where a crowd

chorused the "Happy birthday" song.

Khan is acclaimed for enjoying the rare ability of singing in eight music genres. Lauded for delivering her unique sounds to

r&b, jazz, pop, rock, gospel, country, classical and dance music, she is also a songwriter, producer, author, actor, philanthropist, entrepreneur and activist. Khan has released 22 albums and racked up ten number one charted songs, seven RIAA certified gold singles and 10 certified gold and platinum albums. Her recorded music has produced over 2,000 catalogue song placements. Last year, she was honored for her legendary career with a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame.

Khan's autobiography, "Through the Fire" is currently being adapted into a screenplay. In 1999, she established the Chaka Khan Foundation which includes a variety of programs and initiatives that assist women and children at risk.

This year marks the 40th anniversary of Khan's career in music and entertainment.

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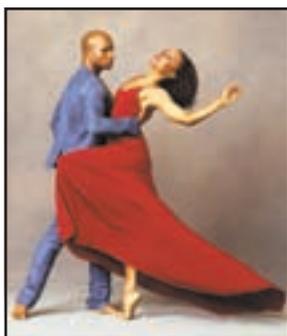
An Ailey farewell

By Laura Andrews

Brimming with Caribbean-inspired décor, costumes by Ves Harper and spine-tingling music adapted and arranged by Howard A. Roberts, dancers of the American Dance Theater Company: Linda Celeste Sims, Glenn Allen Sims and Renee Robinson in Alvin Ailey's "Revelations" at New York City's City Center brilliantly detailed the essence of courageously overcoming inconceivable hardship. For more than 50 years, performances of "Revelations" have elicited unadulterated human emotions from audiences across the globe.

This evening at the AAADT annual season in NYC is no exception. The eyes of patrons are fixed on the movements and expressions of the three renowned dancers in "Wade in the Water," a section of "Revelations."

This original composition by Ella Jenkins is a



Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater's Glenn Allen Sims and Renee Robinson.

Photo by Andrew Eccles

perfect portrait of a disentangling of rich history telling through fluid hip-flexing. The dignified presence of ethnic costumes paired with the employment of an umbrella summarizes the feeling of tender nobility and earned emancipation. In this dance piece, Robinson is full of life. She masterfully uses her hips with force to demonstrate her

Continued on Page 34

Berbice native crowned Miss Bartica Regatta 2013

By Tangerine Clarke

Tall, elegant and confident, 21-year-old Faydeha King, made an impassioned plea to teachers, parents and community leaders to work on stamping out violence in schools, during her platform presentation that gained her high marks, and ultimately won her the title as Miss Bartica Regatta 2013, at the March 31, pageant in the township on the Essequibo Coast of Guyana.

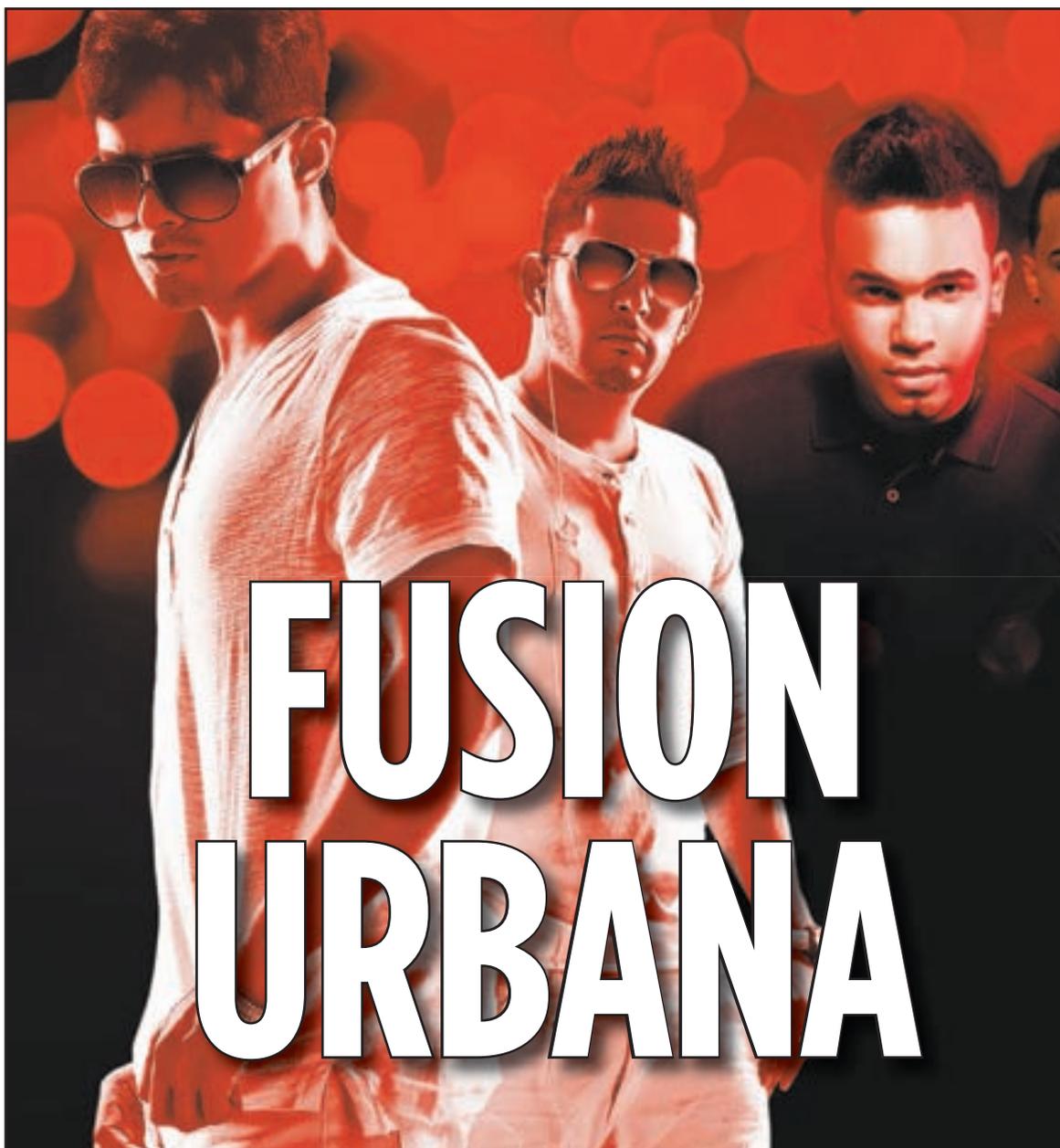
The Scottsburg, Berbice native and aspiring doctor, was consistent throughout

Continued on Page 34



Twenty-one-year-old Faydeha King is Miss Bartica Regatta 2013.

Photo by Tangerine Clarke



RKM & KEN-Y with 24 Horas and Karlos Rosé.

Grammy nominees come to Lehman Ctr.

Lehman Center for the Performing Arts presents an exciting evening of Fusion Urbana that brings together the popular reggaeton music of the Grammy Award-nominated duo RKM & KEN-Y with hot bachata performances by 24 HORAS and KARLOS ROSÉ on Saturday, April 20, 2013 at 8:00 p.m.

The show is produced by Lehman Center and Jose Raposo.

RKM (José Nieves) and Ken-Y (Kenny Vázquez) started performing together in 2004, while they were still in high school in Puerto Rico. Passionate about singing and playing the piano from a young age, Ken-Y has a rich, beautiful voice flavored with R&B undertones that counterbalances RKM's "Dem Bow" street entranced raps and rhythms. While still true to the "Spanish Reggae"

musical style that blends Jamaican dancehall, soca and bomba influences with hip hop and electronica, they have been dubbed 'reggaeton's romantic duo' because their lyrics focus on love and friendship instead of reggaeton's traditionally sexually explicit rap about the drugs and violence of inner-city life.

RKM and Ken-Y's new and refreshing

Continued on Page 34

TOP OF THE CHARTS

TOP 10 SINGLES



- 1 **When I Was Your Man**
Bruno Mars
- 2 **Thrift Shop**
Macklemore & Ryan Lewis...
- 3 **Suit & Tie**
Justin Timberlake Feat. Jay-Z
- 4 **Daylight**
Maroon 5
- 5 **I Knew You Were Trouble**
Taylor Swift
- 6 **Stay**
Rihanna Feat. Mikky Ekko
- 7 **Locked Out Of Heaven**
Bruno Mars
- 8 **Sweet Nothing**
Calvin Harris Feat. Florence Welch
- 9 **Don't You Worry Child**
Swedish House Mafia Feat. John Martin
- 10 **Ho Hey**
The Lumineers

TOP 10 ALBUMS



- 1 **The 20/20 Experience**
Justin Timberlake
- 2 **Same Trailer Different Park**
Kacey Musgraves
- 3 **The Truth About Love**
P!nk
- 4 **Night Visions**
Imagine Dragons
- 5 **The Heist**
Macklemore & Ryan Lewis
- 6 **Unorthodox Jukebox**
Bruno Mars
- 7 **Some Nights**
fun.
- 8 **Spring Break... Here To...**
Luke Bryan
- 9 **Babel**
Mumford & Sons
- 10 **NOW 45**
Various Artists

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Robinson leaves Alvin Ailey

Continued from page 33

colossal power and strength. Interestingly, with all the issues "Revelations" is likely to raise, Robinson is uninhibited by

Aware that Robinson will depart from the Company after three decades is bittersweet. Great dancers are not plentiful.

these well-choreographed multiple challenges. Clearly, with ease, confidence, dexterity and glamour Robinson moves across the stage transforming seemingly enigmatic hardship into a state of winning accomplishment

Aware that Robinson will depart from the Company after three decades is bittersweet. Great dancers are not plentiful. They raise the bar and are irreplaceable even in a classic piece like "Revelations."

Indeed, educational and artistic institutions consistently embrace change. At AAADT the Company's founder, Alvin Ailey passed the torch to consummate dancer Judith Jamison. Under Jamison's leadership, as artistic director, AAADT's success exceeded the public's expectation. Today, faithfully, AAADT thrives as a premiere institution worldwide with unprecedented programs and works by outstanding choreographers, including Jamison. Now with Robert Battle as artistic director of this continuously flourishing company look forward to more bold endeavors because change is inevitable.

After more than a decade, AAADT returns to Lincoln Center's David H. Koch Theater from June 12 to the 16. Tickets go on sale on April 1.

Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater's Linda Celeste Sims and Glenn Allen Sims in Alvin Ailey's Revelations.

Photo by Andrew Eccles



From left, recording artists 24 Horas, Frankie Negron, Carlos Martin at the HBO Latino screening of, 'The Latino List,' on September 16, 2011 held at El Museo Del Barrio in New York City.

(Photo by Terrence Jennings/Picturegroup) via AP IMAGES

Lehman Ctr.

Continued from page 33

piece which contained their first hit single "Down" that reached #1 on Billboard's Hot Latin songs chart in 2006. Two other singles from that album, "Me Matas" and "Iqual Que Ayer," also made it to the top 10 list, solidifying RKM & Ken-Y's position as reggaeton's most successful and popular new artists.

In 2008, the duo followed up with their second album The Royalty: La Realeza that captured the #1 spot on both of Billboard's Latin and Latin Rhythm charts, was nominated for the Grammy Award for Best Latin Urban Album and spawned the #1 hit single "Te Regalo Amores." In addition to their five compilation/live albums and 2011's hit studio album Forever, RKM & Ken-Y are scheduled to release their fourth studio album Masterpiece II in 2013.

Miss Bartica Regatta

Continued from page 33

the pageant, winning prizes for Miss Body Beautiful, Best Platform, Best Introduction, and Best Evening Gown Display.

Faydeha says she competed in the pageant mainly to gain the prize money to lessen the financial burden on her parents, who were working very hard to help her to accomplish her dream to study medicine. "Pageantry also helps women like me with our self esteem, and it gives us the opportunity to use our platform to address whatever social issue we are passionate about".

Sponsored by Partners Investments, Faydeha who likens herself to Guyana's rare majestic bird, the Canje Pheasant - sees herself as a cut above the rest. She enjoys a good game of hip-scotch and loves modelling. "I am doing something that I love, for something that I want, said the articulate young woman, who now has her eyes set on achieving her dream to become a doctor.

The 5' 8" beauty wore a stunning white topless sequin gown that represented Guyana's many

waters and Kaieteur Falls. The design was complete with a train, and showcased a plunging V-back, accented with individual white appliques that ran along her bare back.

Faydeha says she is overwhelmed at winning the crown, and praised her seven fellow contestants whom she said, worked very hard to prepare for the pageant

The queen took home prize monies in the amount of G\$500,000, and Thierry Mugler perfume, compliments of Lorna Welshman-Neblett. She will also enjoy a trip to the Kaieteur Falls and the given the opportunity to complete in other regional pageants.

The third runner-up prize went to Eksi Edwards; Jamilah Jones was the second runner-up, and Alicia Best, the first runner-up. She also won the Miss Congeniality title. Miss Personality went to Tekeisha Taylor.

Other contestants included Sahsha Hamza Miss People's Choice, Shellon Fraser and Tenece Ferrier.

Cannibal inspires artist in horror comedy

“Eddie: The Sleepwalking Cannibal”
Good (2 stars)
Unrated
Running time: 90 minutes
Distributor: Music
Box Films

By Kam Williams

Once the darling of the art world, Lars Olafssen (Thure Lindhardt) is down on his luck after developing the painter's equivalent of writer's block. He's been reduced to taking a teaching position at a college in rural Koda Lake, Canada, a mythical town located outside Ottawa.

There, he shares an apartment with Eddie (Dylan Smith), a mentally-challenged mute. Lars quickly learns that his untalented student obviously only gained admission to the school because he's the relative of a generous alum.

However, Eddie has bigger

issues than being utterly unqualified, for he not only sleepwalks at night, but attacks and devours humans while in that somnambulant state. But rather than have the cannibal arrested, Lars lets his roommate embark on a reign of terror, since the bloodletting has simultaneously provided the spark of inspiration he's been missing as a painter.

Soon, with his popularity restored, Lars even finds himself pursued by an attractive colleague (Georgina Reilly). Will he ever help the police (Paul Braunstein) crack the case, or does his man-eating muse merely mean too much to his revitalized career?

That is the question at the heart of “Eddie: The Sleepwalking Cannibal,” a dark comedy written and directed by Boris Rodriguez. While a tad too understated and perverted to make this critic laugh, the film's tongue-in-cheek brand of humor is nevertheless likely to resonate with cerebral types



A scene from “Eddie: The Sleepwalking Cannibal.”

bleamed with a taste for the droll and the bizarre.

An unlikely-buddy horror flick which figured a viable way of walk-

ing a fine line between the sadistic and the sublime.

Independent & Foreign Film

6 Souls (Unrated) Supernatural crime thriller about a recently-widowed, forensic psychologist (Julianne Moore) who becomes concerned about her family's safety after discovering that all but one of a patient's (Jonathan Rhys-Meyers) multiple personalities resemble victims of unsolved murders. With Brooklyn Proulx, Frances Conroy and Jeffrey DeMunn.

The Brass Teapot (R) for sexuality, profanity, violence and drug use) Juno Temple and Michael Angarano co-star in this adaptation of the comic book series of the same name about a cash-strapped couple that steals an antique which proceeds to reward them with money whenever they hurt themselves or others. Co-starring Alexis Beidel, Alia Shawkat and Matt Walsh.

The Company You Keep (R) for profanity) Political thriller about a former Sixties radical (Robert Redford), still wanted for murder, who becomes desperate to clear his name before his identity is revealed by an investigative journalist



Kam's Kapsules

By Kam Williams

(Shia LeBeouf) on the verge of blowing his cover. A-list ensemble includes Academy Award-winners Susan Sarandon, Chris Cooper, Julie Christie and director/star Redford, Oscar-nominees Terrence Howard, Anna Kendrick, Stanley Tucci, Nick Nolte and Richard Jenkins, as well as Sam Elliott, Brendan Gleeson and opera prodigy Jackie Evancho.

Down the Shore (R) for profanity and drug use) Romance drama set on the Jersey shore, where the lives of three friends since childhood start to unravel after a dark secret from the past is revealed. Starring James Gandolfini, Famke Janssen and Maria Dizzia.

Eddie: The Sleepwalking Cannibal (Unrated) Dylan Smith handles the title role in this horror comedy about a once-successful artist (Thure Lindhardt) with painter's block whose career is revitalized after

he is befriended by a cannibal who walks in his sleep. With Alain Goulem, Paul Braunstein and Stephen McHattie.

Free Angela and All Political Prisoners (Unrated) Reverential biopic about Angela Davis chronicling why the controversial socialist professor-turned-black radical became a fugitive after landing on the FBI's 10 Most Wanted list.

Lucky Bastard (NC-17) for explicit sexuality) Found footage horror flick about a fan (Jay Paulson) who comes to regret answering an adult website's invitation to have sex with his favorite porn star (Betsy Rue). With Don McManus, Chris Wylde and Catherine Annette.

No Place on Earth (PG-13) for mature themes and violent images) World War II documentary recounting the ordeal of five Jewish families who survived the Holocaust by hiding in caves in the Ukraine.



PHOTO: RACHEL NEVILLE, MATTHEW MURPHY

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SUN KULCHA

COMMUNITY EVENTS

SATURDAY, APRIL 6

WORKSHOP: We will be exploring the important role ships played in the Battle of Brooklyn at the Waterfront Museum, located on a barge in Red Hook from 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. In the summer of 1776, local residents would have seen the imposing British fleet from Red Hook; Washington later rounded up more humble vessels in order to retreat to Manhattan from Brooklyn Heights. Participants in this family workshop will make their own improvised armada from objects found in Brooklyn today, such as coffee cups and cardboard packaging. Weather permitting, we will test launch our boats from the deck of the barge. The Waterfront Museum, 290 Conover St., Pier 44, Red Hook. Taught by Artist Eva Mendes.

SUNDAY, APRIL 7

PREVENTION SYMPOSIUM: Assemblywoman Rhoda Jacobs invites you to a free symposium to learn about heart, vascular, and stroke issues including signs and symptoms, available treatments, and preventive care from acknowledged experts in the field at 2:30p.m. St. Jerome RC School Gymnasium at 465 East 29th St.

WRITERS SERIES: In Still Thinking of You: A Second Chance with our Mothers four authors, Vicki Adesso, Susan Hodara, Joan Potter and Lori Toppel, vividly examine the complex, poignant, fraught and loving bonds that define each author's relationship with her mother. Part of Pelham Art Center's Emerging Writers Series, and hosted by Pei-Ling Lue, One Teen Story editor, this free, open-to-the-public program will feature the four authors as they read, and then discuss their inspiration and processes in writing this book. The audience will be able to participate in a question-and-answer period with the authors following the readings. Emerging Writers will be held from 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. in Pelham Art Center's main gallery, 155 Fifth Ave., Pelham, NY 10803, 914-738-2525, info@pelhamartcenter.org.

MONDAY, APRIL 8

MOVEMENT MONDAYS: Join us for a fun walk-in-place workout from 10:30 a.m. through 11:30 a.m! No complicated steps and no equipment needed. This DVD workout is safe for all ages and fitness levels, so lace up your walking shoes and join us! Wear comfortable shoes and workout wear. We'll provide plenty of water. We'll ask you to fill out an emergency form on the first day of class. Be sure to let your doctor know you'll be taking part in an exercise class. This event is free, just call to RSVP: 1-646-476-1294 206-20 Linden Blvd. in Cambria Heights, Queens.

TUESDAY, APRIL 9

DISEASE MANAGEMENT: CMO, Montefiore Care Management, offers free, interactive health education workshops for people with chronic health issues such as diabetes and respiratory conditions including asthma and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD). Family



FREE TAX ASSISTANCE: BronxWorks will provide free tax prep to the South Bronx residents. Morris ISC: Monday to Thursday, 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.; Friday, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; Saturday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.. 2070 Grand Concourse, Saturdays 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.



IMMIGRATION SERVICES: Free immigration services. Wednesdays 11:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. 67 Hanson Place, Office of Council Member James. Call (718) 260-9191.

members are also invited to attend. The workshops are offered in English and Spanish at sites in the Bronx and Westchester. The discussion will be on Asthma from 10-11am. Montefiore Medical Group (MMG) Bronx East, 2300 Westchester Ave., Bronx.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10

TRADE BROOKLYN: The Cardinal Trade Group will host Trade Brooklyn, at Stage 6 @ Steiner Studios, Brooklyn Naval Yard, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The 1010 WINS, TD Bank and 5 Borough Business Breakfast, 7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m., will jumpstart the show. CTG has planned a worthwhile, lively show for businesspeople, professionals, entrepreneurs and the public to network, market and promote their products and services. Connect with more than 100 premier exhibitors, attend free business seminars and panel discussion. Trade Brooklyn is free with pre-registration; \$10 at the door. 5 Borough Breakfast is \$25 with pre-registration. For exhibit and sponsorship opportunities, visit <http://tradebklyn.com>, call (347) 464-0777 or e-mail info@CardinalTradeGroup.com.

THURSDAY, APRIL 11

DINING FOR DIABETICS: Join us as we discuss the special nutritional needs of those with diabetes. Learn how to eat right while still enjoying your meals. Topics will include: healthier versions of popular ethnic recipes (with recipe



COMMUNITY CENTER: Are you looking to improve your life? Take a class at Community Learning Center: How to Write a Book or Script, Create a Resume, How to Create Wealth, Get/Keep a Spouse, Start a Business. Classes for everyone. Community Learning Center 147-12 Archer Ave., Queens. For more information/RSVP, call (718) 291-1094.

handouts), healthy eating on a budget (can I afford it?), how to read food labels (can I eat it?), fun and interactive cooking demonstrations (let's cook!). This event is free, just call to RSVP: 1-646-476-1294 206-20 Linden Blvd., Cambria Heights, Queens.

SUNDAY, APRIL 14

ISLAND LIFE: From the Cocos Island off of the coast of Costa Rica to the famed Galapagos, oceanic islands foster a vast array of wondrous cultures, biodiversity, and diverse environments. Join us for this Milstein Science Series program which explores what scientists have learned about island species since Darwin's famous voyage on the Beagle brought him to the Galapagos in 1831, with a focus on current island discovery, adventure, and cutting-edge science. This program is hosted by Jenny Newell, assistant curator of Pacific Ethnology in the Museum's Division of Anthropology; speakers include Christopher Filardi of the Museum's Center for Biodiversity and Conservation; Chris Meyer, director of the Moorea Biocode Project at the Smithsonian Institute; and Jarod Miller, naturalist and zoologist, who will lead a live-animal presentation. Central Park West at 79th Street New York, NY 10024-5192

LAW DAY: Rev. Dr. Fred Lucas and the Brooklyn Community Church in Fort Greene invite you to their annual law day at 11:00 a.m. The theme will be the emancipation proclamation - 150

years later. Public School 67, 51 St. Edwards St. (between Park & Myrtle avenues.) Parking lot available. For more information email bccpraise@aol.com.

ONGOING

SATURDAY, APRIL 6 - MAY 11

LIVING WITH DIABETES: This six-week mind/body/spirit approach to diabetes management was developed by Stanford University and offers research-proven success for those who complete it. Take control, renew your sense of well-being and lead a healthy, fulfilling life. You'll learn how to: manage symptoms, better understand your condition, reduce stress and boost confidence, problem solve and better manage everyday tasks, gain control of your diabetes - and have more energy to devote to feeling healthy, content and nourished. This event is free, all who plan to attend must pre-register by calling 1-646-476-1294, 206-20 Linden Blvd., Cambria Heights, Queens.

UNTIL APRIL 15

FREE TAX ASSISTANCE: BronxWorks will provide free tax preparation to the South Bronx residents.

MORRIS ISC: Monday to Thursday, 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.; Friday, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; Saturday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m..

2070 GRAND CONCOURSE, SATURDAYS 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

UNTIL APRIL 15

FREE TAX ASSISTANCE: Ariva at Spring Bank, 69 E. 167A Gerard Ave., 2nd Fl., Monday & Thursday, 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.; Tuesday and Wednesday, 1:00 to 7:00 p.m.; Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.; call (718) 292-2983 for further information.

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) and Tax Counseling for the Elderly, at the Bethex Federal Credit Union, 20 E. 179th St., Thursday And Friday, 5:30 to 9:00 p.m.; Saturday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.; and Sunday, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.; call (718) 299-9100 for further information.

Food Bank of New York City, at 1000 Sedgwick Ave., Ste. 1A, Monday & Thursday, 2:00 to 6:00 p.m.; Wednesday, 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.; and Saturday, 3:00 to 6:00 p.m.; Call 212-639-9675 for further information.

QUEENS SICKLE CELL: The Queens Sickle Cell Advocacy Network, 207-08 Hollis Ave., Queens Village, N.Y., presents a Parent to Parent Support Group meeting every first Monday of every month, 7:00 p.m. For directions and registration, call (718) 712-0873 or email Qscanorg@verizon.net.

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.

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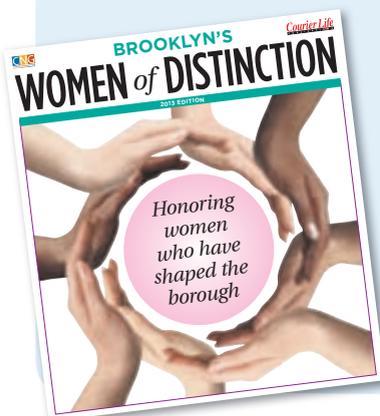
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Jeanine Ramirez joined NY1 News in October 1996 and covers Brooklyn's schools, politics, religions and neighborhoods. She also is the lead reporter on many Latino issues. A native Brooklynite, Ramirez majored in communications both at Brooklyn Technical High School and Fordham University.

WE HONOR OUR ESTEEMED GROUP OF 2013 BROOKLYN WOMEN OF DISTINCTION

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- Linda Camarda
Natural Balance
- Dr. Millie Fell
Brighton Eye
- Camille Loccisano
Frankie's Mission
- April Mosqus
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- Pamela Williams Harris
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Bed Stuy Against Hunger
- Renee McClure
National Grid
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The power of music on Alzheimer's patients

HEALTH

By Joanna R. Leefer

During the mid-stages of my mother's Alzheimer's disease, I visited her daily at the Brooklyn assisted living facility in which she lived. She resided on a special floor reserved for people with dementia. The activities offered in this unit were designed especially for people with various levels of cognitive and physical disabilities.

Every Wednesday at 2 pm a local performer would lead the group in a sing-along hour. At the appointed time, every resident who could sit was guided into the activity room and directed to a chair. Residents who were unable to walk were wheeled in on gurneys or wheelchairs. Most of these residents would set in stony-eyed silence until everyone was settled.

When the performer began playing an old song and invited the residents to sing along, they did! As soon as the music started every person in the room sat up straighter and began to sing. They didn't just mumble a few words, or hum, they sang every word of every single old song. Their faces became animated. They clapped their hands and tapped their toes. They came alive!

One tall, stately man nicknamed "the General" was totally transformed by the music. He spent most of his day sitting by a window with his hands folded in his lap staring vacantly, oblivious to anything going on around him. However, during the Wednesday sing-along, he would lift his head and in a clear, tenor voice, harmonize to every song. After the concert was over, the residents quieted down, and slowly returned to their former selves.

This is not an unusual occurrence. Scientific studies have shown that people with Alzheimer's can remember through music.



One reason for this transformation is that music is processed differently from verbal or written information. Music is a whole-brain activity. It works on both the cortical (i.e. the thinking part of the brain), and the sub-cortical (i.e. the parts of the brain responsible for reflexive, non-thinking, and emotions). For this reason, people with dementia are able to react to music on a different level.

People with Alzheimer's or other dementias lose the ability to recognize family members or remember life events, but music memory often survives. Even people with advanced dementia are often stimulated by music. In fact, studies are revealing that music can be used in several ways with Alzheimer's patients, and they often respond to music when nothing else reaches them. Studies show that music can calm agitation and confusion in people with dementia.

People with dementia will vary in their response to music depending on which stage of the disease they are experiencing. It can also change from day to day.

Music has become so recognized as helping older adults that in September of 1992 the U.S. Senate passed the Music Therapy for Older Americans act into law. The law includes provisions for funding for music therapy with the elderly, recognizing the benefits music has on their mental health and emotional health.

Musicandmemory.org is a nonprofit group that promotes music therapy. It

supports the "iPod Project" to make music available to people with dementia living in nursing homes and assisted living facilities. Donations of gently used iPods and MP3 players are sought, and popular "old-time" music is loaded on the devices and taken to the facilities.

Many nursing homes, including the Cobble Hill Nursing Home in Brooklyn, have similar programs. A recent YouTube video, Alive Inside, shows a Cobble Hill resident, Henry, participating in this program. When a staff member places an iPod on his head and starts playing music, he is obviously moved. He becomes animated, opens his eyes, and speaks about how the music makes him feel.

You can easily develop a music therapy program for your loved one with dementia. The studies recommend songs from the patient's era or lifestyle. For instance, if your loved one liked classical music, that's most likely to have a more positive effect on him than country music. Watch for clues in his facial expressions and body language to try to determine the effect of the music. But one thing is for certain: music makes a difference in everyone's life.

Joanna Leefer is the founder of ElderCareGiving, an agency that helps families find the right care for their frail loved ones. For more on her service, log onto www.joannaleefer.com. Her book, "Almost Like Home: A Family Guide to Navigating the Nursing Home Maze" will be available in May.

Schulman and Schachne Institute for Nursing and Rehabilitation Receives Highest Rating from U.S. News & World Report

The Schulman and Schachne Institute for Nursing and Rehabilitation, the long term care facility of Brookdale University Hospital and Medical Center in East Flatbush, has received the highest possible overall rating of five stars in U.S. News & World Report's fifth annual Best Nursing Homes, available to view at <http://www.usnews.com/best-nursing-homes>.

The Best Nursing Homes 2013 ratings highlight the top nursing homes in each city and state, out of nearly 16,000 facilities nationwide. U.S. News & World Report's goal is to help users find a home with a strong track-record of good care.

U.S. News' Best Nursing Homes ratings are based on data collected by the Centers

for Medicare and Medicaid services. This federal agency sets standards and assesses nursing homes in three categories – health inspections, level of nurse staffing and quality of care – giving each an overall rating based on these CMS guidelines. This information is posted on their website as Nursing Home Compare. Only 3,036 nursing homes in the entire country received an overall rating of a five stars out of 16,000 surveyed.

“Our commitment to provide quality healthcare extends from the time a patient visits our Emergency Room to the full continuum of services, including our Long Term Care facilities. This is well-deserved recognition for the staff of the Schulman and Schachne Institute for Nurs-

ing and Rehabilitation and we are proud of them,” said Mark E. Toney, President and CEO of Brookdale University Hospital and Medical Center and the Schulman and Schachne Institute.

“Every member of our staff is immensely proud of the five star designation we have received,” stated Genevieve Sorensen, RN, VP for Long Term Care at the Schulman and Schachne Institute for Nursing and Rehabilitation. “We are a tight knit family that cares for our residents as they would care for members of their own families.”

About the Schulman and Schachne Institute for Nursing and Rehabilitation

The Schulman and Schachne Institute for Nursing and Rehabilitation is a voluntary, non-profit, residen-

tial healthcare facility dedicated to providing the highest quality of clinical care in a homelike environment. This supportive atmosphere is created by the Schulman and Schachne Institute's dedicated team of healthcare professionals, who are devoted to helping each individual regain health and strength while respecting individuality, dignity and autonomy.

The Schulman and Schachne Institute provides a range of specialty services including Dementia Special Care, Sub-acute Care, Long Term Geriatric Care, HIV/AIDS Care, a Ventilator-Dependent Care Unit and a Hospice Care program under the supervision of Hospice of New York. Our comprehensive array of services combines quality on-site medi-

cal care and state-of-the-art therapeutic techniques. A creative approach to individual care is initiated through the development of personalized plans that focus on the unique qualities and needs of each resident. A care team of professionals, working in collaboration with the residents and family, contributes to designing a plan to maximize the physical, cognitive, psychological and social abilities of each resident. Our goal at the Schulman and Schachne Institute is to support residents to function at their optimal level, and to enhance the quality of life of each individual we serve.

For additional information on the services provided at the Institute or to schedule a tour of the facilities, please telephone (718) 240-6902.

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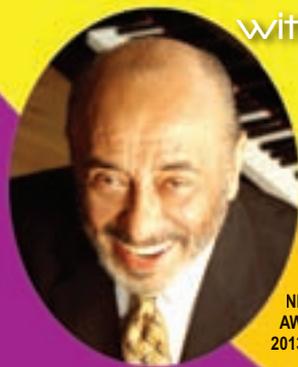
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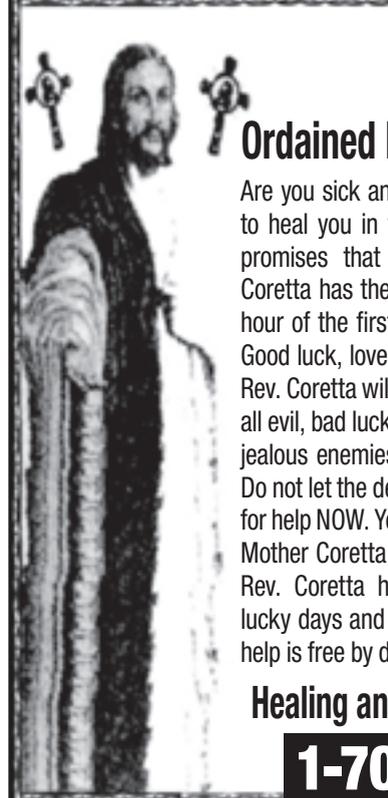
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Red Bulls rookie head coach Mike Petke.
AP Photo/Mel Evans

Red Bulls, Petke get first win

By Patrick Horne

New York Red Bulls rookie head coach Mike Petke won't forget the team that he put on the Red Bull Arena field last Saturday afternoon versus the Philadelphia Union; the line-up gave Petke his first MLS win as a head coach and the team's first win of the season. It took all of 81 minutes before second half substitute Thierry Henry scored the winning goal, his first of the season, to seal the 2-1 victory.

Helping Petke's first-win effort were a number of moves initiated by the coach in
Continued on Page 42

WIPA congratulates West Indies team

By Azad Ali

The West Indies Players' Association (WIPA) has congratulated the West Indies team over their comprehensive victory over Zimbabwe in each of the three series played, ending with the just-concluded second Test in Dominica.

President of WIPA, Wavell Hinds said, "We want to recognize the leadership of both Darren Sammy, who was in charge for the T20s and Tests and Dwayne Bravo, who was the skipper for the One-Day Internationals. They both exhibited excellent stewardship of their charges,"

"Everyone knows that cricket is a team
Continued on Page 42



AP Photo/Gregory Payan, file

Christ the King's Jonathan Severe #10 takes a free throw against Xaverian during a high school basketball game on Sunday, Jan. 27, 2013 in Middle Village, NY. Christ the King won 71-51.

Nation's best student b-ballers come to Brooklyn

By Robert Elkin

Jonathan Severe, who paced Christ The King High School to an incredible season in the Catholic High Schools Athletic Association, heads the roster for the City team, that will oppose the Suburban team in the 5:30 p.m. New York Regional game of the

Jordan Brand Classic at Barclays Center on Saturday, April 13.

This venue, the home of the Brooklyn Nets franchise in the National Basketball Association, will host three all-star contests pitting the cream of the crop of schoolboy players in the nation. There

will also be a game of international players. Some of these cagers expect to be the stars of tomorrow, both in the college and pro ranks.

Severe earned many honors, led the Royals from Middle Village, New York in
Continued on Page 42



New York Red Bulls forward Thierry Henry dribbles the ball during the first half of an MLS soccer game against the D.C. United, Saturday, March 16, 2013, in Harrison, N.J.
AP Photo/Julio Cortez

A season-best for Red Bulls

Continued from page 41

his memorable line-up. Central defender Jamison Olave's return to the starting team brought much-needed stability to the defense; so far this season, Olave has been the most valuable off-season acquisition for the Red Bulls (1-2-2, 5 pts). He organizes the defenders, communicates well with them and his midfielders and inspires confidence by his presence.

The other significant move was midfielder Juninho's second straight start, which turned out to be his best performance to date after a slow introduction to MLS; the former Brazilian World Cup player was very involved in the game; he dropped back deep into the defense to relieve his defenders of the ball, started the attack and encouraged good ball movement.

Then there was the new forward Peguy Luyindula, who has been favored ahead of off-season acquisition Fabian Espindola. Luyindula, a former French League One performer with a number of top French clubs, has given the Red Bulls good movement and ball-handling skills on the frontline. The diminutive forward created the assist on the Henry's

winning goal.

Midfielder Dax McCarty, an intense and consistent good performer at defensive midfield, was his usual self and more as he scored the first goal in the 55th minute from a corner kick. Philadelphia gave the Red Bulls a run for the win; the Union played a good game and kept the contest close throughout. Second-half substitute Conor Casey equalized from a header off a corner kick in the 63rd minute to make for an exciting finish and one of the best games so far in the league.

The rest of Petke's memorable team – forward Tim Cahill, who started as a forward, midfielders Eric Alexander, Johnny Steele and Lloyd Sam, and defenders Marcus Holgersson, Heath Pierce and Kosuke Kimura, along with goalkeeper Louis Robles – will always have a special place in the memory of the rookie coach.

The Red Bulls travel to the Chicago Fire on Sunday, April 7 for a 5:00 p.m. game (TV: ESPN2); Sporting Kansas City is the Red Bulls' next home opponent, on Wednesday, April 17 at 7:30 p.m.

In other MLS games last weekend, USA national team forward Landon Donovan

returned to MLS and helped the Los Angeles Galaxy play to a 2-2 tie with Toronto FC; FC Dallas beat New England Revolution, 1-0; Houston Dynamo knocked off San Jose Earthquakes, 2-0; Sporting Kansas City topped Montreal, 2-0; Real Salt Lake over Seattle Sounders, 2-1; and Chivas USA bettered the Vancouver Whitecaps, 2-1.

Trinidad's U-17s

The Trinidad and Tobago Under-17 men's soccer team – preparing for the CONCACAF Under-17, 12-team final tournament in Panama starting Saturday, April 6 through April 19, 2013 – completed two games last week against its U. S. counterpart with a loss and a draw in Tampa, Florida. The Trinidadians lost the first game, 4-0, but bounced back to draw the second, 2-2.

Trinidad and Tobago opens play against Canada on Saturday in Panama City and is in Group B along with Costa Rica. Group A consists of Panama, Jamaica and Barbados; Group C will see Haiti, USA and Guatemala do battle; and Group D has Cuba, Mexico and Honduras. The top four teams go to the FIFA Under-17 World Cup in the United Arab Emirates this fall.

All-star basketball

Continued from page 41

scoring, has many college offers but still has to make up his mind where he wants to go to continue his basketball and academic career.

He is only one of two players from the CHSAA of New York City to land a spot in the Jordan Classic that is expected to draw a large crowd and plenty of recruiters from the college ranks.

Other New York City players to go to the Barclays Center court include Jaquan Lynch, who helped to pace Brooklyn's Thomas Jefferson, to runner-up position to Lincoln in the Public Schools Athletic League finals and is headed for Florida International college, South Shore's Terrance Samuels, who will play at UConn, teammate

Shamick Sheppard, who will head for Towson and Curtis' Hasson Martin, who is Rhode Island College bound.

Long Island's Ken Facey, who starred at Long Island Lutheran this past season, and is headed for UConn, Chinonso Obokoh who played his high school ball at Bishop Kearney and signed with Syracuse, Shane Rector (South Kent, Rutgers), Brewster Academy's Kyle Washington (North Carolina State) and Rich Williams (Vermont Academy, Hofstra) complete the roster.

The feature game of the 12th annual Jordan Brand Classic, matches the East against the West teams with the players chosen by a committee of Jordan Brand, a division of Nike.



Thomas Jefferson Orange Wave's Jaquan Lynch #0 takes a jump shot against the Curtis Warriors.
AP Photo/Gregory Payan

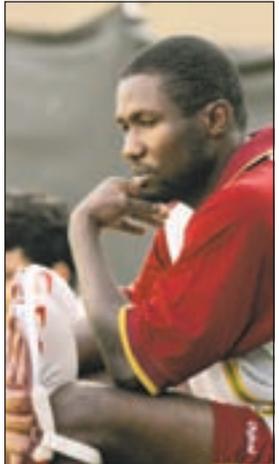
WIPA

Continued from page 41

sport, but teams are made up of individuals and there were some outstanding performances throughout the home series.

"We have to acknowledge the special achievements of Shane Shillingford, Man of the Test-Series, for setting a West Indian record of 19 wickets in a two Test series. Shiv Chanderpaul just keeps rolling along and scored his 28th Test century, while Chris Gayle notched his 15th. There were excellent ODI centuries from Johnson Charles, Darren Bravo and Ronnie Sarwan, while Lendl Simmons was voted Man of the Twenty20 Series for his excellent batting," the WIPA president said.

Noting that winning was



WIPA President Wavell Hinds.
AP Photo/Gurinder Osan

habit-forming, Hinds also congratulated Sammy and his men for six wins in a row, a feat no West Indian team has accomplished since 1988 when they won seven straight against England and Australia.

Dave Cameron is the new WICB president



Eyes on Cricket

By George H. Whyte

By George H. Whyte

Forty-two-year-old Dave Cameron, a Jamaican businessman, was elected the new president of the West Indies Cricket Board (WICB) at the Annual General Meeting in Barbados on Wednesday, March 27. He defeated Dr. Julian Hunte who served in that capacity for six years. The vote went in favor of Dave Cameron 7-5 and his Vice President Emmanuel Nathan of Dominica defeated Joel Garner 8-4.

Garner is the president of the Barbados Cricket Association. Cameron has 10 years of WICB experience. The new president said, "I am happy and feel extremely blessed to be leading this body. We take it (challenge) on, understanding and knowing very well

that we will be innovative and creative. We will use every strength that we have available and try to get West Indies cricket back to the top. I certainly believe this thing called cricket, in particular, is very passionate to all of us and I would like to say from the sweeper on the streets to the prime ministers of the region, this is very passionate to all of us and with that we take on this very huge task of building the West Indies team and taking it back to the top where we are accustomed to."

Selectors Reform

One major area the new president of the WICB Dave Cameron should modify is the process in which West Indies teams, captain along



The West Indies cricket team pose for the media after receiving the trophy for winning the one-day international series 4-1 against India at the Queen's Park Oval in Port of Spain, Trinidad.

AP Photo/Andres Leighton, file

with vice captain are being selected. West Indies need to have a group of players who have the skills and potential to put West Indies cricket at the top. With help from management that is

surely possible.

Dave Cameron Hopefully Will Deliver

This is a critical stage in West Indies cricket with

talented players around and with the firm and skillful leadership at the top of things can change for West Indies cricket and have that respect regained. The regional bodies must come

forward and make their recommendations. The best West Indies team must always be chosen. We await the measures of change from new WICB president Dave Cameron.

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2003	Hyundai, 63k	H1088	\$2,995	2006	Chevy Cobalt, 100k	70263	\$3,995	2005	VW Passat ndsmtr, 24k	69686	\$4,995
2001	Toyota Corolla, 73k	17062	\$2,995	2004	Nissan Sentra, 53k	UC16122	\$3,995	2005	Toyota Camry, 65k	62871	SAVE
2001	Honda Civic, 87k	73406	\$2,995	2002	Ford Escape, 97k	67450	SAVE	2003	Ford Mustang, 99k	63795	\$4,995
YEAR	MAKE/MODEL/MILES	STK /VIN	PRICE	2008	MAKE/MODEL/MILES	STK /VIN	PRICE	2007	MAKE/MODEL/MILES	STK /VIN	PRICE
2003	Cadillac CTS, 145k	70281	\$5,995	2008	Toyota Corolla, 7k	43265	\$6,995	2007	Mazda 3, 5k	JU13340	\$7,995
2003	Jeep Cherokee, 136k	70605	\$5,995	2003	BMW x5, 110k	68755	SAVE	2006	Cadillac CTS, 67k	JU12013	SAVE
2002	Mercedes C240, 112k	67680	\$5,995	2006	Chrysler Town & Country	JU14877	SAVE	2007	Toyota Corolla, 92k	74352	\$7,995
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2007	Chevy Impala, 28k	42370	\$7,995	2010	Chrysler Sebring, 38k	61787	\$9,995	2011	Nissan Rogue, 50k	69968	\$13,995
2009	Chevy Cobalt, 56k	65308	\$7,995	2004	Toyota Highlander, 134k	69228	\$9,995	2007	Lexus ES350, 53k	56974	\$14,888
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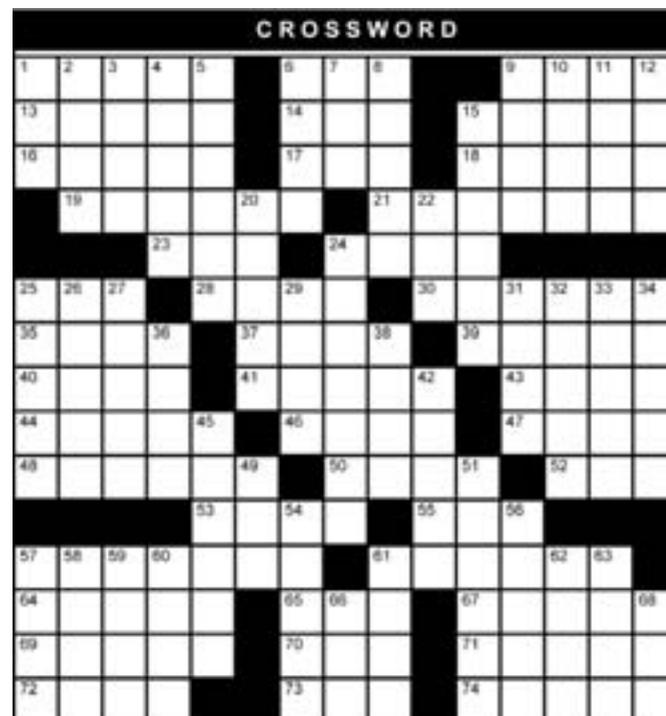
1. Indian instrument in "Norwegian Wood"
6. Lab eggs
9. "I want my baby _____"
13. *Mack the _____
14. Type of test for women
15. Bridal veil fabric
16. Of sour taste
17. Pitcher's stat
18. Bone-chilling
19. "I'm the wonderer, yeah, the wonderer, I roam _____"
21. "Lean on me... I'll help you _____"
23. Hit the slopes
24. "I read the _____ today oh boy"
25. It makes a guitar louder
28. Small ornamental case
30. "Hey, I just met you... but here's my _____"
35. Like beef with little fat
37. Aphrodite's son
39. Artillery burst
40. Doing nothing
41. Puzzle combining pictures and letters
43. Hula feast
44. Opinions from Barbara, Elisabeth and Joy
46. "_____ no mountain high enough"

47. Danson and Seth MacFarlane's stuffed animal
48. Like a smell or taste of soil
50. "Now you're just somebody that I _____ to know"
52. "I _____ the bad moon rising"
53. 500 sheets
55. Surfer's turf
57. "Killing me softly with _____"
61. "I'm puttin' on my _____"
64. Bye to Edith Piaf
65. Frigid
67. Impulses
69. Rubber-_____ boots
70. And not
71. High-pitched laugh sound
72. Walk, as through mud
73. _____ Goo Dolls
74. Brewer's staple

DOWN

1. Reggae precursor
2. Ancient Peruvian
3. Bleacher feature
4. Rounded hairdos
5. Chastise
6. Popular newspaper page
7. Variable, abbr.
8. Quickly or rapidly
9. Dutch settler in South Africa
10. Breezy
11. The Muse of history
12. Razor-sharp

15. Sometimes denoted as a "v"
20. Fertilizer ingredient
22. Barley bristle
24. Nb on Mendeleev's table
25. "I will survive... I know I'll stay _____"
26. The press
27. A whiter shade of pale?
29. Carbamide
31. Scotch ingredient
32. "Lady sings the _____"
33. Some do this with taxes
34. Awaken
36. Former Speaker of the House
38. Phoenix' team
42. Dictation taker
45. Corpse's garb
49. Asian capital
51. "I didn't shoot no _____"
54. "I'm sitting here, doing nothing but _____"
56. "You and me and the devil makes _____"
57. Door fastener
58. "White Wedding" singer
59. Fodder holder
60. Start of something big?
61. Apprentice
62. Turkish honorific
63. Found in a caddy's pocket
66. Dove's sound
68. Part of tennis match



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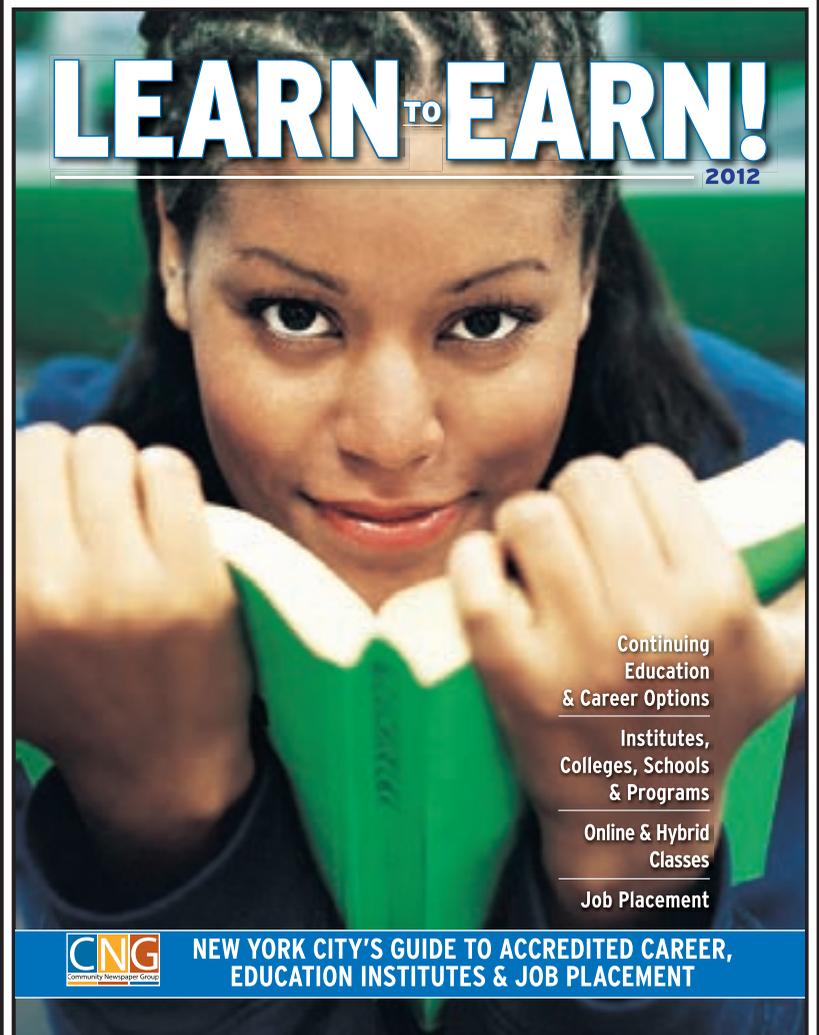
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Employment Pgs 50-52



- Sales Help Wanted
- Medical Help Wanted
- General Help Wanted
- And More

Business Opps Pg 52



- Financing / Loans
- Business For Sale
- Misc. Business Opps
- And More

Instruction Pgs 48-49, 52



- **Career Training**
- Education Services
- Tutoring
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Merchandise Pgs 52-53



- Garage / Yard Sales
- Merchandise Wanted
- Merchandise For Sale
- And More

Here's My Card Pgs 54-57



- Professional, Commercial And Residential Services
- Attorneys
- Home Improvement
- Moving & Storage

Real Estate Pgs 58-59



- Rentals
- Properties For Sale
- Open Houses
- Commercial RE
- And More

Services Pg 59



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Automotive Pg 59



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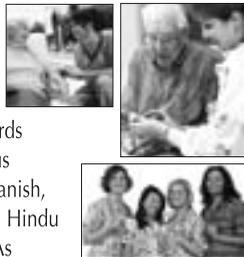
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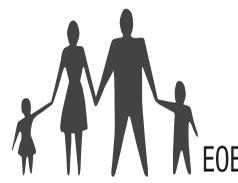
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SSNY designated as agent of LLC upon whom process against it may be served. SSNY shall mail copy of process to: Gerald P. Holman, PO Box 380563, Brooklyn, NY 11238. Purpose: any lawful purpose.

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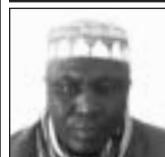
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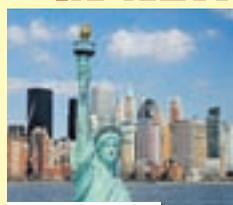
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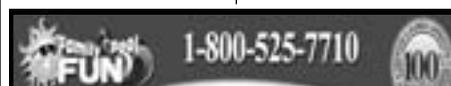
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