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**11-PAGE CLASSIFIED  
SECTION**



## Monty's coming to New York

Grammy-nominated Caribbean jazz pianist Monty Alexander set for New York and Boston performances. See story on page 33.

Photo by Alan Nahigian

## Call for a New York Fair Pay Act

**By Chudi Chukwudi**

For the 10th consecutive year, the New York State Assembly has failed to pass a pay equity legislative package that would end wage discrimination for New Yorkers.

"For all these years, I have worked with my colleagues in the Assembly to pass pay equity legislation and other bills addressing equality for women," Assemb.

Rhoda S. Jacobs, Brooklyn's 42nd Assembly District representative told Caribbean Life.

"It is unfortunate that in New York State today we still have so many workers who are not earning equal pay for equal work," she said, adding: "That's not in line with New York's commitment to equality, justice and fairness for all of our citizens. The legislative pack-

age I co-sponsored and helped pass would finally put an end to unfair pay gaps."

Specifically, the Assembly legislation would make it easier to enforce equal pay regulations and create a state policy to determine and define "comparable work." Additionally, the legislation would:

\* Enact the New York State

Continued on Page 4

# SAINT KITTS REVOLT

## Rebel group seeks prime minister's ouster

**By Bert Wilkinson**

Tired of what they call the increasing dictatorship of St. Kitts and Nevis Prime Minister Denzil Douglas, a group of six MPs, including members of his own party and government, now say they are ready to get rid of the long-term leader.

Internal opposition to the four-term prime minister's leadership had been simmering for months before it boiled over into open rebellion in recent weeks when Dr. Douglas, 60, one of the Caribbean Community's longest serving prime ministers, fired his long-term deputy and

close friend, Sam Condor and senior minister Timothy Harris from key cabinet and party positions, blaming them for leading protracted efforts to implode his government.

Meanwhile Condor and Harris, along with opposition legislators and an MP from Nevis say they are ready to form a new unity government that would end decades of traditional partisan politics in the federation of about 52,000 people near Antigua, and run its affairs without Douglas at the helm.

Now holding the majority

Continued on Page 4

# CARIBBEAN ROUNDUP

Updated daily at [www.caribbeanlifeneeds.com](http://www.caribbeanlifeneeds.com)

THE NEWS FROM BACK HOME

## Antigua

Vere Bird, the elder brother of former Prime Minister Lester Bird has died at the age of 76.

Bird, the first son of the island's first prime minister Vere Cornwall Bird, died of a heart attack at Dr Joey John's hospital recently.

Bird, an attorney entered politics in 1981 and served as a minister of aviation, information and public service.

He also served as chairman of the Antigua Labor Party (ALP).



As Public Works and Communications Minister he oversaw the reconstruction of the VC Bird International Airport, which was the subject of controversy after it was discovered that he had granted a contract for the construction of a new runway to a company he was a shareholder.

He was later fired after a scandal in which Israeli weapons, sold to Antigua and Barbuda, were found in the hands of the Medellin cartel of Colombian drug smugglers and a report by Sir Bloom-Cooper recommended that he be debarred from holding public office again.

But despite that report, Bird returned to government in 1996 serving as a minister of science, technology and communications and after the 1999 general election, he served as minister of trade, industry, agriculture, lands and fisheries.

## Bahamas

The mother, sister and brother-in-law of former Bahamas Cabinet Minister Sidney Collie were recently killed when a plane crashed into a truck on the runway at the Mayaguana airport.



Police said they were inside one



## Banging in Chavez's heir

Opposition supporters bang pans from a car to protest the official presidential election results in Caracas, Venezuela, Tuesday, April 16, 2013. Opposition presidential candidate Henrique Capriles called off the planned opposition march in Caracas for Wednesday demanding a vote-by-vote recount of Sunday's presidential election after President-elect Nicolas Maduro summoned his supporters to take to the streets in the capital, raising the possibility of a confrontation with anti-government protesters. See story on page 14.

AP Photo/Ramon Espinosa

of the trucks that they were using their high beam to guide the nine-seater plane on the runway at the airport at night- a long-standing practice at the airport at night.

The trucks were stationed on either side of the runway to light the plane's path as the airport has no light.

The pilots came to pick up Collie's uncle, who had a medical emergency. The victims were trapped inside the burning truck and their bodies were burnt beyond recognition.

The victims are Collie's mother, Edith Collie, 82, sister, Emanate Polowick and her husband, Tina Polowick, a Canadian.

The plane's pilot, co-pilot and

a nurse on board escaped the crashed unharmed, but the aircraft was badly damaged.

## Barbados

Barbados is sending a delegation to the United States for talks with the major cruise lines at it seeks to promote southern destinations as an attractive brand.



Tourism Minister Richard Sealy will head the delegation which will leave for Miami this month.

He said officials from the Barbados Tourism Authority and Barbados Port Inc. would also be part of the delegation and would use the

opportunity to also discuss with stakeholders other issues that are affecting the industry.

Sealy acknowledged that the island had lost some of its cruise market share as a result of the singular marketing approach of destinations which were unsuccessful at regaining the major cruise lines.

## Grenada

After almost four years, hundreds of Grenadians will soon find employment with Consolidated Contractors Company (CCC), which will resume work later this month.

The New National Party (NNP) government of Prime Minister

Dr. Keith Mitchell promised to quickly reinstate the construction company, during the recent general election campaign and a little more than a month in office, the promise has been fulfilled.



Minister of Communication and Works, Physical Development, Public Utilities and ICT, Gregory Bowen made the announcement at a recent press conference.

The Kuwaiti Fund suspended disbursement to Grenada last February after the Tillman Thomas NDC government failed to make overdue payments on four loans. Bowen said the government has entered into a new agreement with the Kuwaiti Fund, which allows CCC to resume operations in April 2013. Projects coming on stream include the construction of 10 roads.

## Jamaica

The House of Representatives in Jamaica has passed a bill calling for tougher prosecution of those involved in multimillion-dollar lottery scams that have targeted mostly 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

Continued on Page 16

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# Eager for new foreign worker program

By Sam Hananel

WASHINGTON (AP) — As desperate as unemployed Americans are to find work, there are still some jobs that many would never consider applying for because they are seen as too dirty, too demanding or just plain unappealing.

But employers that struggle to fill those jobs — washing dishes, cleaning hotels, caring for the elderly — could soon get help now that business groups and labor unions have agreed on a plan to allow thousands of new low-skilled foreign workers into the workforce.

The deal, which still needs final agreement from lawmakers, is one of the last major hurdles to completing immigration overhaul legislation this year, one of President Barack Obama's highest priorities. It is expected to be part of a broader measure that would address the status of the 11 million immigrants who either arrived in the U.S. illegally or overstayed their visas.

The new program, called

the "W" visa, is crucial for companies like Medical-odges Inc., a Kansas-based company that wants foreign workers to help run its chain of nursing homes and assisted-living facilities and perform in-home care for the elderly and people with developmental disabilities.

"We've offered signing bonuses, set up tables in grocery stores, sent direct mail, posted job openings on the Web, even laundromats, and it's still not enough to fill positions," said Fred Benjamin, chief operating officer for the company that operates in Kansas, Missouri and Oklahoma.

"It's tough work taking care of people with Alzheimer's and dementia that may strike somebody or scream at people, may be incontinent, have difficulty getting in and out of bed, or need help feeding," he said. "But we believe there are a lot of people from other countries who would gladly take these jobs."

The average salary for nursing assistants is \$9.50 an hour, while licensed practical nurses with at least two years of college training can earn about \$16.50 an hour. But the company says it has little room to increase wages to attract workers because most of the patients they care for receive fixed Medicaid or Medicare payments.

The new W visa program would admit 20,000 low-skilled foreign workers starting in 2015 and could gradually grow up to a cap of 200,000 after five years. The number of visas would fluctuate, depending on unemployment rates, job openings, employer demand and other data.

It would fill a gap in current law, which doesn't give employers a good way to bring in such workers for year-round positions. The existing H-2B visa program for low-wage nonagricultural

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(L-R): Mr. Sergio Rivera, Ms. Patricia Fernandez, Nurah Jahan Abdur-Rahman, Ms. Latrice Shaw, Ms. Elvia McKnight, Ms. Linda Mickens, Ms. Lillian Ming, Ms. Jean Black.

Photo by Lem Peterkin

## Bed-Stuy Health Center's milestone celebration

By Eulene Inniss

Various statistical analyses seem to indicate that residents of the Bedford-Stuyvesant community are plagued with health issues and there are valid concerns about the lack of more quality health care facilities in the area. However, the Bedford Stuyvesant Family Health Center (BSFHC), located at 1456 Fulton St., in the heart of the community, has the distinction of being the major medical

service provider for the past 35 years.

One year ago, BSFHC relocated to a new state-of-the-art facility across the street and to highlight this accomplishment, a First Anniversary Dinner, "Embracing New Beginnings", marked the occasion on April 5th 2013 at the luxurious Glen Terrace Banquet Hall in Canarsie.

Community support in honor of this milestone was quite impressive. An aura of

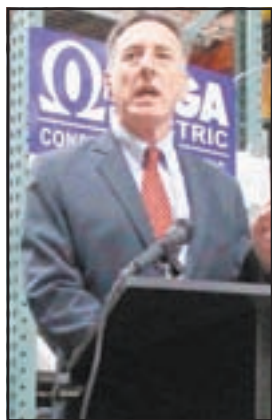
pride permeated the atmosphere. Staff and supporters rallied around CEO Patricia Fernandez and the Board Chair Jean Caston Black, as they accepted a citation from Borough President Marty Markowitz in recognition of their leadership skills, clarity of vision and continuous commitment to excellence, in spite of the many challenges and hardships encountered over the years.

A theme of persever-

ance weaved through each speech during the evening. Another citation was presented to Ms. Fernandez by the keynote speaker, City Councilman Albert Vann, who reminded all that new beginnings are rooted in lessons learned from the past.

He commended the staff for having "soul" to move out of the old and embrace the new. He said their caring characteris-

Continued on Page 25



Gov. Peter Shumlin, center, holds a news conference at Omega Electrical on Wednesday, April 10, 2013 in South Burlington, Vt. Omega Electrical has been working with the state to sponsor employees who get trained while working full time.

AP Photo/Toby

Talbot

## Sweeping Senate plan for illegals

By Nelson A. King

A bipartisan group of eight United States senators on Tuesday passed a sweeping immigration bill that seeks to legalize the status of an estimated 11 million illegal immigrants, including Caribbean nationals, residing in the U.S.

The bill is also aimed

at reorienting future immigration by bringing Caribbean and other nationals to the U.S. based increasingly on the job skills and personal assets they can offer.

The bill, by four Democrats and four Republicans, is described as the most ambitious effort in at least 26 years to repair, update

and reshape the American immigration system.

But immigration advocates say the part of the bill expected to draw the most controversy is a 13-year pathway to citizenship for immigrants who have been living in the U.S. illegally.

In an effort to make that proposal acceptable

to Republicans who fear it could unleash a new wave of illegal immigration, the senators placed a series of conditions, or triggers, along the pathway, that would require the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to spend as much as US\$6.5 billion over 10

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# Call to enact the NY State Fair Pay Act

Continued from cover

Fair Pay Act to address and enforce pay equity, including broadening equal pay protections to include equivalent jobs, making it unlawful for an employer to discriminate on the basis of gender, race or national origin, and ensuring that traditional female and minority jobs are not undervalued (A.5958);

- \* Establish a state policy that local political subdivisions ensure equal pay for work of comparable value regardless of sex, race or national origin (A.1729);

- \* Implement a state policy that compensates employees in state service equally for work of comparable value by eliminating wage inequality for workers due to sex, race or national origin (A.753); and

- \* Design and publish a report evaluating wage disparities of public employees related to job titles, segregated by the gender, race and/or national origin of employees (A.881).

\*The time for pay equity is

now,” Jacobs said. “No worker should make less, simply because of their sex, race or national origin.”

Jacobs noted that unfair wages lead to unfair and unequal pensions too.

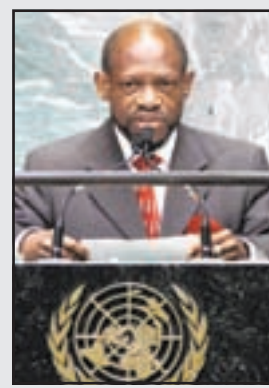
“Our pensions are based on our wages,” she said, adding: “Where our wages are less, so too are our pensions and that is not fair and it is not just.”

Women in New York make 84 cents for every dollar men earn, creating a substantial yearly pay gap of roughly \$8,275 between men and women working full time in New York State. Further, minority women fare even worse, with African-American women being paid 64 cents and Latina women being paid just 55 cents for every dollar paid to white, non-Hispanic men nationally.

As a group, these full-time working women are paid nearly \$23 billion less every year because of the wage gap. And since over one million households are headed by women, these disparities translate into further inequity, Jacobs noted. Specifically, if a woman in New York was paid equal pay for equal work, she could afford 63 more weeks of groceries; four more months of mortgage and utilities payments; eight more months of rent; or 2,116 additional gallons of gas each year.

“New York is historically a leader in implementing progressive policies, especially when it comes to equality,” Assemb. Jacobs, who serves in the leadership as the assistant speaker, and on the Rules, Ways & Means, Health and Insurance Committees, as well as the Task Force on Women’s Issues and the Task Force on New Americans, said. “Pay inequity and inexcusable wage disparities are wrongs we must make right – the sooner the better. It’s time to take swift action to make equal pay a reality for all New Yorkers,” she added.

The 42nd Assembly District includes sections of the Flatbush, Flatbush Gardens, Midwood, and Victorian Flatbush neighborhoods of Brooklyn.



Prime Minister Denzil Douglas

AP Photo/Richard Drew

Continued from cover

of seats in the legislature, the six have written to Governor General Sir Edmund Wickham informing him that they are a united slate and should be recognized as the elected majority in the St. Kitts and Nevis Parliament.

The crisis has hung like a dark cloud over island affairs, especially in St. Kitts where the seat of the federation’s government is located. Groups ranging from the Chamber of Commerce

# Parliamentary saga

to the church have asked for a quick resolution to the problem even as the six boycotted the presentation of the 2013 budget in parliament in the past week.

“We are part of the federation and we are responsible as the people’s representatives to participate in any action which will serve the interest of the people of St. Kitts and Nevis, Harris said, explaining that while he and the others from the opposition have had bitter rivalries in the past, they were always viewed as “opponents worthy of respect,” so it should not be that difficult for legislators from different sides to come together and try to form a unity government.

Condor shared similar sentiments saying that forming a patriotic front government should be very easy.

“Being part of a unity

government is not a problem for me and I believe it is something that the country is demanding. I think the time has come for us to move away from the divisive and destructive politics and to come together,” he said.

So far, the governor general has not acted on the request by the now majority to form the government. Douglas, however, went ahead with his budget presentation despite a half-empty Cchamber, noting that “even with the challenges confronting us, this budget is designed to sustain government’s role in stimulating and facilitating growth in meaningful partnership with the private sector.”

But even as the uncertainty remains, Harris in the past week said he is beginning to fear for his security as he has been the victim of several threats in recent days.



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# Surge in drug trafficking expected

By Azad Ali

A top U.S. State Department official, William Brownfield, has predicted that the Caribbean is likely to see a surge in drug-trafficking activity by 2015 as operations out of Central America dwindle due to international crackdown.

Brownfield, assistant secretary of state for international narcotics and law enforcement, said he believes drug traffickers squeezed out of Mexico, Central America and South America will target the Caribbean because it's spacious and allows them to remain undercover and take advantage of weak law enforcement in certain countries.

"We're dealing with 14 different countries spread across a large area," he said adding, "drug traffickers are looking for very



Assistant Secretary of State William Brownfield. AP Photo/Israel Leal, file

vulnerable holes."

The State Department official was speaking recently during a visit to Puerto Rico, where he met with local and federal authorities to talk in part about the Caribbean Basin Initiative, which aims to boost regional security with

U.S. funding.

In the upcoming fiscal year, Congress has allocated US\$40 million for the program. The new funds will be available by August and distributed after the top priorities are identified, according to Brownfield.

# Jamaican dollar plunges in value

By Vinette K. Pryce

On a visit to Jamaica a few years ago, comedian Steve Harvey joked about a loaf of bread costing him J\$100. On his return home, he often joked about what seemed an exorbitant price to pay for the combination of flour and water.

If the radio and television talk-show host travels to the island today, he will have to fork over J\$250 in dough to pay for that same baked product.

And while that might not impose any hardship to the U.S., millionaire or tourists visiting the island, Jamaicans are feeling the pinch of seeing their currency devalued...again.

Early this week, the value of the Jamaican dollar plummeted against the American dollar.

The alarm went off to many hearing that the value was \$99.57. However, by the middle of the week economists described the amount with suspicion saying that the amount parallels the figure set by the International

Monetary Fund – the lending institution the Jamaica government petitioned for assistance. Only 43 cents shy of the number referred to as the "magical benchmark" the IMF had set, some believed the devaluation might have been orchestrated to facilitate the application for a US\$2 billion bailout from the central bank leaders.

"I believe it is more than coincidental," an outspoken critic said of the financial plunge.

He expressed the view that there might have been an unstated pre-conditionality of the IMF for the Jamaican dollar to reach a new low of J\$100 to US\$1 before an agreement was signed with the Fund.

However, financial analyst Colin Bullock said he had no basis to conclude that the IMF wanted the Jamaican dollar to slide to its present value.

One of the conditions of an IMF loan is that the borrowing

Continued on Page 24

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# Brooklyn Spine Center keeps you healthy and free of back pain

BY CAMILLE SPERRAZZA

Brooklyn Spine Center, the facility that provides the latest and most innovative treatment for back pain, has expanded to a brand-new location.

The 4,000-square foot, ultra-modern center is not only gorgeous — it also contains the newest technology. It is four times the size of the former facility.

Dr. Melinda Keller, the center's director, says the state-of-the-art services offered are designed to support people for a "100-year lifestyle" — keeping them healthy, well, and flexible for a lifetime.

Dr. Keller has been a practicing chiropractor for more than 30 years. She is proud to now offer physical therapy services with physical therapist MaryAnne Coughlin.

"She is a compassionate, caring, and kind physical therapist, with 30 years of experience," says Dr. Keller.

The center also includes Dr. Marilyn Applebaum, another chiropractor with more than 30 years of experience in the profession. All share the same vision — to provide non-invasive care that keeps the musculoskeletal system healthy.

If you feel pain in the neck, arm, back, or leg, it may be due to a bulging or herniated disc.

"Sometimes, patients have no idea what started their conditions, as they cannot tie any specific event to the onset," says Dr. Keller. Nevertheless, these conditions exist, causing pain, limiting movement, and hindering lifestyles.

The Brooklyn Spine Center can help. It offers non-surgical spinal decompression. This cutting-edge technology is "the latest medical breakthrough" that alleviates neck and back pain caused by herniated discs and degenerated discs, as well as sciatica, says Dr. Keller.

The treatment, combined with Dr. Keller's expertise and compassion, offers top-notch care, which gets results.

In the past, patients suffering from disc problems were given pain medications, and instructed to refrain from physical activities, the doctor says. When treatment failed, many were then told to have back surgery. Such surgery can be risky.

"Know your options," says the doctor. "If you have been told this, come in for an examination so we can discuss possible alternatives."

Technology at the center includes the DRX 9000, state-of-the-art treatment that relieves nerve compression. Brooklyn Spine



(Clockwise from top) Brooklyn Spine Center's newest location on 16th Avenue is four times the size of its former facility. Dr. Marilyn Appelbaum, a chiropractor with 30 years of experience, does an adjustment with a patient. Dr. Melinda Keller is the center's director, and has been a practicing chiropractor for more than 30 years.

Photos by Elizabeth Graham

Center has six of these machines. Four are used to relieve back pain; two to treat neck pain.

"They significantly reduce pain, enabling the majority of patients to return to more active lifestyles," says the doctor.

"Decompression is achieved by using a specific combination of spinal positioning,

and varying the degree and intensity of force," she says. "The key to producing this decompression is the gentle pull that is created."

In fact, "Many patients have found success with the DRX 9000 after a failed back surgery," Dr. Keller says. "Our mission is to relieve the pain and suffering of people in our community. We help

people live happier, healthier lives, without drugs and surgery."

The highly-trained staff speaks English, Russian, and Polish. There are both male and female doctors at the facility, should patients have a preference. And the center treats people of all ages.

"We provide pediatric care and geriatric

care," says Dr. Keller. Sports injuries are also treated.

**Brooklyn Spine Center [5911 16th Avenue between 59th and 60th streets in Borough Park, (718) 234-6206; [www.BrooklynSpineCenter.com](http://www.BrooklynSpineCenter.com)]. Open Mondays through Fridays, 9 am-7 pm, by appointment.**



# U.S. judge backtracks in Haiti's PM defamation case

By Jennifer Kay

MIAMI (AP) - A federal judge in Florida is backtracking on a ruling that barred a Haitian-American journalist from writing about Haiti's prime minister, who had sued the reporter for defamation.

U.S. District Judge Ursula Ungaro reversed course in a ruling Tuesday, lifting the prohibition. Ungaro also ordered Prime Minister Laurent Lamothe and South Florida businessman Patrice Baker to file an amended complaint detailing facts that support their allegations that Leo Joseph's reporting was false or made with reckless disregard for the truth.

The attorneys representing Lamothe and Baker did not immediately respond to messages left Thursday by The Associated Press. They have until April 19 to file the amended complaint.



Haiti Prime Minister Laurent Lamothe.

AP Photo/Carolyn Kaster

"The ruling was in everyone's favor," said Joseph's attorney, Scott Ponce. "The First Amendment says you can't have an order prohibiting you from speaking on a subject. It was an important ruling to get the prior restraint set aside."

Ungaro had issued a default ruling in February in

favor of Lamothe and Baker, who sued Joseph in federal court in September over his reporting for the New York-based Haiti-Observateur.

The lawsuit said Joseph had published false and malicious reports about Lamothe's role in the sale of a telecommunications company. Ungaro initially said she agreed with Lamothe and Baker, and she also prohibited Joseph from ever again writing about either man in their professional, personal or political lives.

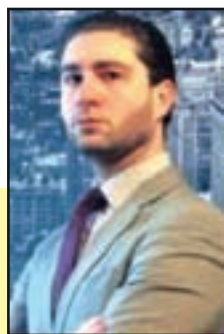
Lamothe and Baker had asked Ungaro for a default judgment because Joseph failed to enter a plea or otherwise respond to the lawsuit.

On Tuesday, Ungaro wrote that the plaintiffs must provide evidence to support taking the extraordinary step of banning Joseph from ever again writing about Lamothe and Baker.

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# Small business opposes global firms' tax avoidance

By Frank Knapp Jr.

In our highly partisan environment there seems to be very few issues that Republicans, Independents and Democrats agree on. This partisanship is easily seen in Congress but is also alive with voters across the country. Small business owners are often no different than their customers in demonstrating divergent opinions on issues depending on their political preferences.

So when we find an issue on which small business owners agree, regardless of partisan leanings, we should take notice. And when that agreement centers on one of them most contentious matters that Congress will soon be addressing, our elected officials in Washington need to pay close attention. Such is the case involving federal tax fairness between small business and large, multinational corporations.

Small business owners are keenly aware that multinational corporations are legally escaping paying much, and often all, of the highly publicized 35 percent U.S. corporate income tax rate. In a poll released early last year by the American Sustainable Business Council (ASBC) and others 80 percent of the small business owners surveyed said that U.S. multinational corporations using accounting loopholes to shift their U.S. profits to offshore tax

havens is a problem. Seventy-five percent said that big corporations using tax loopholes harms their own small business.

Accounts of giant businesses like Boeing, General Electric, Pfizer, Microsoft and Honeywell International using offshore tax loopholes to dramatically lower their taxes -- often to zero -- are all too common. U.S. Public Interest Research Group just released report showing that each of America's small businesses on average picks up the tab for \$3,067 to cover the costs of tax avoidance by U.S. multinational corporations playing the offshore profit-shifting game.

It is clear to small business owners that the ability of these large corporations to minimize their tax liability through offshore tax loopholes is contributing to our nation's budget problems and is harmful to the small business community. This awareness of multinationals shirking their tax responsibility has resulted in a bipartisan small-business owner consensus on the need of large, multinational corporations to pay their fair share of taxes.

Last month ASBC and the Main Street Alliance (MSA) commissioned a scientific telephone survey of over 500 small businesses across the country. As national business organizations represent-

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# Women deserve a path to citizenship

By Kit Miller

As Washington lawmakers throw themselves into comprehensive immigration reform, I say, "Remember the women."

Women constitute more than half of our country's undocumented immigrant population. They have a huge stake in the new immigration overhaul now being crafted by eight men in the Senate.

Undocumented mothers, especially, are making history by advocating for comprehensive immigration reform. I saw them at the Capitol last week, testifying before Congress. They spoke of husbands serving in the military and children hoping to attend college. Maybe they were afraid, but they conquered their fear and testified.

Most immigrant women are law-abiding. Their only illegal act was entering the United States without a visa. They are grateful to be here and believe in giving back. They respect authority. They're active in their schools and

churches, and are role models of civic engagement.

I know this because many immigrant women have come through my English as a Second Language class. I've taught them, been in their homes, gotten to know their families. They are honest and generous to a fault, pay their share, always offer food, take in family, and make sure their kids are fed and clean and going to school. They also pay taxes: sales taxes, housing taxes, employment taxes. It's estimated that when undocumented residents become citizens, it will add \$1.5 trillion to America's economy over a decade.

The overwhelming majority of undocumented women are mothers -- high-value, low-risk members of our society. And, as workers, wives and pillars of their communities, they have particular needs from any immigration reform bill.

Women need to keep their families together. There are about 5.5 million children in the United

States with at least one undocumented parent; 73 percent of these children are citizens. Yet more than 200,000 parents of U.S. citizens were deported in the past two years. Children not born here risk deportation, too. For immigrant women, maintaining family unity is their highest priority.

Women deserve a rapid path to residency and citizenship. Rapid means 3-8 years, not 10, as the Senate is proposing. Most undocumented women already have been here at least 10 years -- paying taxes, raising children and working. They need to be sanctioned quickly so they can work, study and participate fully in American society, just as their children are striving to do.

Women need flexible ways to document their residency in the U.S. Many women have sporadic work histories, are paid under the table and have no consistent proof of employment. Many stay home, caring for young children. These

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# Concerns about DOE's Hudde proposal

By Rhoda S. Jacobs

NYC Department of Education Proposes Co-location of Brooklyn Prospect Charter School, Kindergarten-5th Grade, with Andries Hudde Middle School.

"Andries Hudde Middle School (I.S. 240) may soon be housing the elementary grades of the Brooklyn Prospect Charter School, if a recent proposal by the New York City Department of Education (DOE) is approved by the State University of New York Charter Schools Institute following a 45-day public review period.

As both a former educator and the Assemblywoman for the 42nd District, I have significant concerns about the DOE's proposal to co-

locate the elementary grades of Brooklyn Prospect Charter School with Andries Hudde, located on Nstrand Avenue between Avenues K and L.

Although the DOE's plan is intended to make better use of Hudde's current space—which is not being utilized to capacity—I believe it is the responsibility of our public educational system to give existing public schools the resources that they need to improve and encourage prospective students to attend, rather than to privatize. The Department of Education's proposal evades that responsibility with a one-size-fits-all solution that does not consider potential ramifications to students and the school's neighbors.

Based on the numbers alone, housing a kindergarten-5th grade school within Hudde might be a practical choice -- but education is more than a numbers game, and the Department of Education's separation of its schools into three distinct levels -- elementary, middle and high school -- is not arbitrary. I am concerned that housing elementary and middle school aged students in the same building would create an unhealthy educational environment.

I have additional concerns about the implications of this proposal on quality-of-life in the surrounding community; though enrollment preference will ostensibly be given

Continued on Page 12

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# Defying the people easy for Capitol misfits

There are some things we can readily identify as solid barometers of what “civil” society was meant to be. This 100th anniversary of the introduction of the federal income tax furnishes us with one of them. A recent Pew Research Center survey was reassuring in its finding that 71 percent of respondents believed Americans had a moral obligation to report income earned. By the same token, though, much of the gloss comes off that image of wholesome-ness and doing the civic thing right when, again on the matter of taxes, a reported 258 Capitol Hill lawmakers remain signatories to the pledge Grover Norquist demanded of them, not to raise taxes. Safe to say Norquist must think he still has a pretty good ransom deal going.

The only redeeming value about the latter item is that the 258 members of the House and Senate could be dismissed as mere commodities for sale on the open market who therefore can’t hold a candle to a scientifically derived 71 percent of the population. The people, in other words, displaying a readiness for their designated role that puts to shame the sad, spineless conduct of their elected representatives. Not unlike the sickening tableau now

unfolding on the gun control issue – the shame of better than 90 percent of the country favoring something (background checks) and some really noxious types in the Congress in open defiance of that reality.

Frankly, we would have thought there was enough of a hullabaloo over raising tax revenue during the “fiscal cliff” and “sequester” episodes for most of the Capitol Hill misfits still hog-tied by Norquist’s “enforcer” tactics to become emboldened enough to jettison his tax pledge demagoguery. That 258 of the 535 members of the House and Senate find validity or are sufficiently intimidated to subscribe to the town cry of a charlatan is sobering commentary on the descent of political representation into travesty.

Norquist famously declared that he wanted to shrink government down to a size that “it could be drowned in a bathtub.” It’s the kind of fist-pumping line guaranteed to get a rise out of a gathering of small-government believers. But it’s one thing revving up an audience of simpletons with rhetoric about “getting government off our backs” and other loaded appeals to crowd hysteria. It’s a whole other matter to reel in folks charged with lawmak-

## Viewpoint

By Les Slater

ing responsibility and have them, too, parroting nonsense about government having no right to the citizenry’s monetary contribution to facilitate the state’s proper functioning.

It’s incredulous that the merchandisers of this tripe can so effortlessly get some among the masses walking in lock step with the notion that there is precious little that a government has to do. How the full spectrum of government services impacting people’s lives somehow becomes, for some, a non-factor in society’s overall design is mind-boggling. One would tend to narrow the purveyors of this malarkey to those with malicious intent to mislead the gullible and others incomprehensibly trapped in some foggy existence. Whatever the breakdown among those pushing the anti-tax agenda, it’s comforting to know that it’s a view the average Joe doesn’t share – something borne out by the Pew study. Only 12 percent among those

surveyed said they disliked paying taxes because they didn’t approve of how the government spent tax dollars.

Not unexpectedly, scapegoating gets into the picture somewhere. And in the diatribe about too much government, the scapegoat of choice is entitlements...which one can’t realistically examine absent the not-well-disguised class warfare inferences that attend it. An honest attempt at reforming government entitlements is hardly deserving of summary rejection, given today’s fiscal challenges. What’s not cool is what underlies the din from the right where “reform” in truth means gutting to the point of imperiling the well being of those on the lower rungs. It’s about folks indicating what, given the opportunity, they would do to those whose pushback is deemed to pose no threat. Some people in Britain may have been over-the-top coarse in their reaction to the passing of Margaret Thatcher, but their protest/celebration last week was basically a gut response to someone who dared to unapologetically present herself as no friend of the underclass.

Then there’s always this paradox of those beating the loudest drum

against government spending invariably being the biggest cheerleaders for costly military action, justified or not. When George Bush, Dick Cheney and a bunch of trigger-happy neoconservatives were hell bent on that unnecessary intervention in Iraq 10 years ago, there was nary a suggestion from these armchair gladiators that a tax be imposed to fund the war (God forbid it be a tax on the well-to-do). So there’s our takeaway from that particular military miscue: government is for engaging in ill-advised battlefield abominations; not for helping citizens lead productive lives.

The disconnect continues. On issue after issue we find too many of the people’s representatives in Washington standing some place remote from vox populi. Which, as we’ve said here before, makes no sense at all. Why else are they there if not, foremost, to be reflective of the views of those they supposedly represent? “In America the people govern,” Benjamin Franklin once said, early in the American narrative. Some folks evidently didn’t get that memo. It needs to be sent again, for starters to the 258 lily-livered toadies of a modern-day medicine man named Norquist.



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# Women and immigration reform

**Continued from page 10**  
factors need to be considered in legislation dealing with proof of residency.

Women need their families acknowledged, regardless of marital status. Many undocumented women are not formally married to their partners. Immigration reform must include both unmarried and same-sex partners who face special persecution in their home countries.

Women need the freedom and safety to come out of the shadows. Because they fear deportation and separation, undocumented mothers remain in the margins of American society. They do not report domestic violence, rapes, work exploitation or other crimes against them. Without documents, they cannot realize their full potential to work as professionals. They're discouraged from furthering their education.

Freedom from fear

includes freedom from the threat of detention and deportation, which is ripping apart families in every state. Detention of low-risk families should be frozen and reviewed. America can only benefit by helping undocumented mothers gain rapid citizenship. They are the glue to their families and communities. They volunteer in their children's classrooms, attend PTA meetings, raise money for schools, and help their kids with homework. They study English. They work. One of my best students works the graveyard shift at a fast food place, then comes home, gets her kids off to school, and attends my three-hour English class. Sometimes her eyes droop, yes, but she is motivated by her children. Her top English goal, she said, is to be able to talk with her child's teacher and help with homework.

Some say undocumented

ed women should go to "the end of the line," behind those who've applied legally. This policy would affect poor women and children disproportionately, and punish women who risked life and limb to enter the U.S. These mothers were too poor to apply for visas, and knew they could never get a legal visa precisely because they are poor. Residency and citizenship for undocumented mothers will restore and strengthen families. Most of the immigrant women I know have not seen the Statue of Liberty. But each day they show how much they value her. Now is their time.

*Kit Miller teaches English to immigrant mothers in Mountain View, California. She recently spent four days lobbying Congress with the We Belong Together Campaign, and the Women Donors Network.*

# Opposition to tax avoidance

**Continued from page 10**  
ing small and medium size companies, both ASBC and MSA have advocated for equitable taxation on big business profits to invest in the country's infrastructure and address the national debt.

Here are some of the overwhelmingly bipartisan consensus results of that ASBC/MSA small-business owner poll just released.

- More than three quarters of small business owners support closing overseas tax loopholes with a unitary combined reporting system:

75 percent or more of Republican, Independent and Democratic small business owners support this approach, which is success-

fully used by states to stop corporations from shifting the location of profits to avoid taxes.

- More than four out of five small business owners oppose a proposal to institute a territorial tax system (a system that would eliminate U.S. taxes on profits made or shifted offshore):

85 percent of small business owners oppose a proposal for a territorial tax system. Across party lines, at least 67 percent strongly oppose the proposal.

- Small business owners support ending deferral of taxes on foreign profits and requiring US corporations to pay income taxes on income earned overseas:

When asked if foreign earnings of U.S. corpora-

tions should be taxed after given credit for foreign taxes paid, 64 percent of small business owners expressed support. Within each party affiliation, at least 62 percent, expressed support.

These results should send a clear signal to Congress and the president from the country's small business owners. The priority for reforming our nation's tax code is to stop multinational corporations from using offshore tax havens to avoid paying their fair share of taxes.

*Frank Knapp is vice-chair of the American Sustainable Business Council and president and CEO of the South Carolina Small Business Chamber of Commerce.*

# Hudde education proposal

**Continued from page 10**

to District 22 students, the Brooklyn Charter School will likely serve many students from outside of the district as well, thereby

increasing school bus traffic in an already congested area.

*Assemblywoman Rhoda S. Jacobs represents the 42nd Assembly District.*

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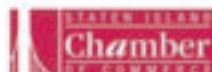
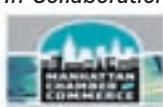
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Venezuela's newly elected President Nicolas Maduro celebrates his victory after the official results of the presidential elections were announced, at the Miraflores Palace in Caracas, Venezuela, late Sunday, April 14, 2013.  
AP Photo/Ramon Espinosa

## Each side blames the other for Venezuela violence

**By Frank Bajak & Jorge Rueda**

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP) — All day, the political heirs of Hugo Chavez filled Venezuela's airways with a steady drumbeat of attacks on the man who says they stole the presidency from him. They called opposition leader Henrique Capriles a coup-plotter and said he was inciting post-election violence that had claimed seven lives and injured 61.

President-elect Nicolas Maduro further charged Tuesday that the violence was being bankrolled and directed by the United States, which said it wouldn't recognize his victory without a vote-by-vote recount demanded by Capriles.

It was not clear, however, whether the violence was as serious as Chavez's anointed successor claimed. Venezuela has an average of more than 40 homicides daily, one of the highest rates in the world, and the government offered almost no information on the deaths that Maduro blamed on "neo-Nazi gangs."

Capriles called the government assault a smoke screen to divert attention from his demand for a recount of every ballot from Sunday's election, which the National Electoral Council said Maduro

won by 262,000 votes out of 14.9 million cast.

A number of opposition protests across Venezuela have turned violent, but apparently only after National Guard riot troops and police used tear gas and plastic pellets to turn back marchers converging on provincial offices of the electoral council.

While government officials complained of violence by Capriles' supporters, incidents of intimidation by gangs of pro-government forces, some armed, also occurred.

An Associated Press journalist witnessed a pro-government gang of motorcycle toughs rampage through Teques, seat of the state that Capriles governs. They tossed a firebomb into an opposition party office and smashed display cases and looted goods from a bakery they said was owned by a Capriles supporter.

In the western town of San Francisco in Zulia state, three journalists with the local newspaper La Verdad said they were arrested by motorcycle-borne National Guard troops and jailed overnight Monday because they had interviewed a family that the troops had harassed. Reporter Juan Jose Faria wrote that the troop's

commander told the reporters the country was in the midst of a coup and that they were putschists.

Maduro accused opposition protesters of attacking government health clinics, a socialist party office and the house of electoral council President Tibisay Lucena on Monday, but the government provided no details. Like Chavez, Maduro has a history of making allegations he does not substantiate.

Meanwhile, Maduro's government announced that 15 countries had confirmed they were sending high-level delegations to Maduro's swearing-in on Friday. They included Bolivia, Ecuador, Nicaragua, Iran, China, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Haiti, Uruguay and Argentina.

The potential for violent street confrontations in the capital Wednesday seemed to be headed off when Capriles called off a planned march to electoral council headquarters. That decision came after Maduro urged his supporters to take to Caracas' streets at the same time.

"Whoever goes out into the street tomorrow is playing the government's game," Capriles said at a news conference. "The government wants there to be deaths in the country."



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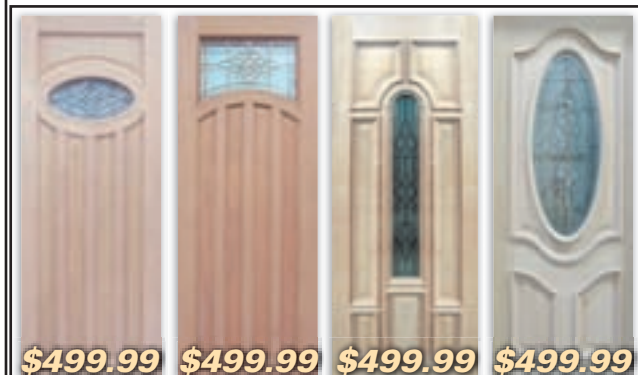
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## CARIBBEAN ROUNDUP

Continued from page 2

first wire payments to cover taxes before they can receive the prize. The scams generate at least J\$300 million a year.

### St. Kitts

St. Kitts and Nevis has established diplomatic relations with Paraguay. The relevant documents were signed recently by Organization of America States (OAS) ambassador/permanent representative Jacinth Henry-Martin on behalf of St. Kitts and Nevis and Martin Sannemann for Paraguay.

Henry-Martin said this is an important step to deepen existing bonds of friendship, paving the way for more focused attention to collaboration in areas of mutual interest.

These range from language instruction, information and technology exchange in the area of small farming and agricultural development to tourism and cultural exchange.

Permanent Secretary in the St. Kitts and Nevis Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Elvis Newton, said this move represents another component of the government's efforts to form strategic relationships with countries in order to promote mutual interests in the international arena.



### Suriname

A Haitian "bush" doctor is facing a manslaughter charge after one of his "patients" died after drinking a concoction aimed at healing his illness.

Police said Hosner Guerrier, 42, also a Haitian national had been taken to the "doctor" by his relatives after he complained of feeling unwell. But he died soon after he was given the "medicine" to drink.

When the officers arrived at the location in Kwatta, a residential area in west Paramaribo, they found the victim's lifeless body, according to a statement by the police.

Police said they recovered the drink the "doctor" gave his "patient" adding that they man could be charged with manslaughter.

Two other people, including the "doctor's" assistant, were questioned by police.



### Trinidad

A Trinidadian mother was extradited to the United States recently to face charges

for her alleged role in the 2005 kidnapping and subsequent murder of her lover retired U.S. war veteran, 62-year-old Balam "Balo" Maharaj of Mount Vermont, New York.

According to the U.S. Embassy, in Port of Spain, Dooren Alexander-Durity, 47, appeared before Judge Deborah A Robinson in the District Court of Colombia on April 2, 2013 on a two-count indictment filed in September 2010.

She is accused of organizing the kidnapping of Maharaj when he visited his native country in 2005.

It is alleged that she arranged to have him kidnapped from a bar in San Juan a few miles from Port of Spain. The plot went awry and the Army veteran was shot to death. Twelve other co-conspirators from Trinidad were extradited and prosecuted by the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Colombia. They are waiting to be sentenced. If convicted, Alexander-Durity faces a maximum penalty of life imprisonment.

She has previously denied the allegations and fought extradition since 2006.



### Trinidad

Tourism planners, policy makers and stakeholders in the tourism industry will meet in Trinidad and Tobago later this month for the 14th Annual Caribbean Conference on Sustainable Tourism Development, which will explore ways the Caribbean can enhance destination sustainability and competitiveness in the current global environment by examining several critical issues.

The Caribbean Tourism Organization (CTO), which organizes the conference, has chosen as its theme, "Keeping the Right Balance: Enhancing Destination Sustainability through Products, Partnerships, Profitability."

The conference program will feature focused panel discussions, special presentations and interactive workshops to create opportunities for delegates to interact with leading local, regional and international experts and tourism practitioners.

*Compiled by Azad Ali*



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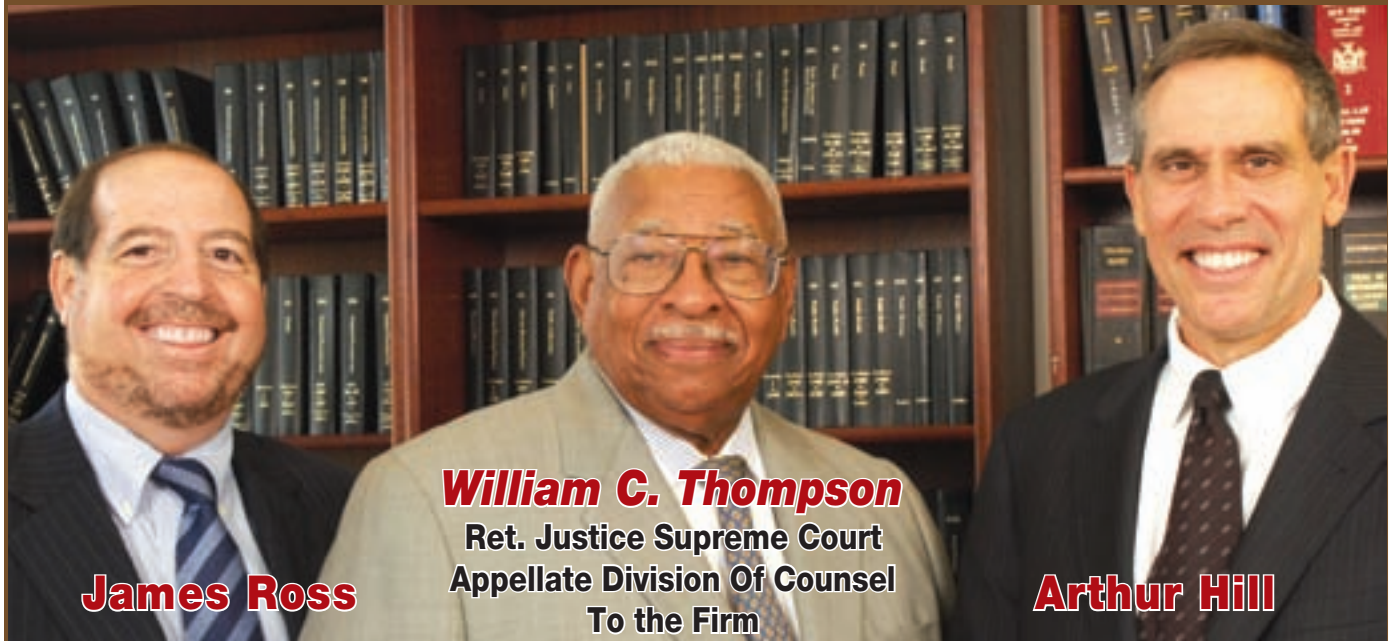


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# Guyanese women grow sorrel for export

By Tangerine Clarke

Long Creek farm on the Linden/Soesdyke Highway in Guyana, is the site of a government-, and business-funded Quick Impact project to encourage women to grow sorrel for export.

On a recent visit to the farm, project director Dr. Faith Harding said the farmers will begin to earn money from the first harvest of some 400 tons of dried sorrel expected from seedlings donated by the Mexican overnment.

Several initiatives were put in place as part of the Quick Impact program that includes scholarships and job-placement opportunities in rural areas where sorrel can flourish on fertile land. The plant was not grown for commercial benfits, but for local consumption only, especially during the Christmas season, but could be specially cultivated to meet growing demand around the world, because of its medicinal properties for curing hypertension, diabetes and other illnesses.

"I discovered that sorrel could be picked four times a year," said Dr. Harding, who explored the market before initiating the pilot project with 30 farmers, who cleared 10 acres of land, r planting an initial 600 seeds which pro-



The sorrel farmers show off a seedling. From left, Juanita Melville, Brian Solomon, Ramdai DeAbru, Michael DeAbru, and Dr. Faith Harding, Quick Impact project director, at Long Creek on the Linden/Soesdyke Highway.

Photo by Tangerine Clarke

duced some 5,000 plants.

Now, farms are littered with thousands of the red buds and doing quite well, Dr. Harding said, but cautioned that raising funds was crucial. The program received assistance from

the National Agriculture Research & Extension Institute (NAREI), but the needs more resources.

"We must raise funds for an irrigation system for the Long Creek farm," she said, adding: "The yield has

not been as good as we had hoped, but we gained experience, and have been able to ship a few pounds as an sample, to show the Mexican Agricultural agency our progress."

"We have applied to the

Ministry of Agriculture for further assistance and are awaiting approval," Dr. Harding said, adding that the farms at Moraikobai, Mahicony Creek, are producing very well but not at the projected yield, while the Cor-

riverton, Berbice group has germinated over 4000 seeds which were recently transplanted.

"We're making every effort to plant at least 400 acres of sorrel (which would) yield the 400 tons required by Mexico," she added, but cautioned that 400 acres in Guyana is but "a drop in the ocean," and would take "a whole lot of energy and other resources to bring this young nation's people to produce like their lives depended on it."

Michael, a resident and project manager at Long Creek, recalled that Jamaicans were some of the first farmers in the region to cultivate farmland with pineapples in the '70s. He noted that the sandy soil in the area poses a challenge to the crop and suggested that a "drip system" would have to be put in place to water the plants.

"There's a variety of sorrel, that include the Spider, Mexican and Jamaican varieties which could produce bountiful crops," he said.

Juanita Melville, leader of the women farmers, said: "The best idea is for us to secure an international market. Sorrel has come to Guyana and Long Creek, where it will be available all year long, but I would like to see more women involved," she added.

## SMALL BUSINESS RESOURCES

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

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

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

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

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

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

### 2013 New York, NY Small Business Resource

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

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

[www.nysl.nysed.gov/reference/busref.htm](http://www.nysl.nysed.gov/reference/busref.htm)  
Selected business-related web sites compiled by staff at the New York State Library for use in response to reference questions.

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

[manhattan.about.com/od/careersjobs/a/nysmallbusiness.htm](http://manhattan.about.com/od/careersjobs/a/nysmallbusiness.htm)  
Find resources and advice on starting a

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

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

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

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

[www.bcnys.org/inside/smallbusiness.htm](http://www.bcnys.org/inside/smallbusiness.htm)  
Capital Business Blog - Read about the issues.  
Visit [www.nyfirst.ny.gov](http://www.nyfirst.ny.gov) to learn what New York State can do for businesses.

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

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

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

[www.hud.gov/offices/osdbu/resource/guide/local/newyork.cfm](http://www.hud.gov/offices/osdbu/resource/guide/local/newyork.cfm)  
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# Kids have the summer of their lives at Aviator Camps

BY CAMILLE SPERRAZZA

Who's ready for summer?

Aviator Camps at the Aviator Sports and Event Center is ready for you to register your children for an exciting summer camp experience.

Activities are designed to develop leadership qualities, self-confidence, moral character, vital social skills, and healthy living habits, says Jason Fuller, Youth Programs Director. Campers will also learn about the environment, culture and arts, and sports.

"Our dedicated and highly trained staff will ensure each camper a safe and fulfilling summer experience," he says.

•Adventure Camp is for ages 5 to 13. Children will enjoy activities such as gymnastics, swimming, rock climbing, arts and crafts, and field trips.

•Aviator Camp at the Aviator Sports and Event Center has a 35-foot high indoor rock climbing wall, among the tallest in New York City.

•Gymnastics Camp, for ages 5 to 13, will emphasize balancing, stretching, tumbling, and the trampoline.

•Skate Instruction Camp, for



Summer Camp kids cool down in the water, and fly high with Aviator's harness and trampoline.

Photos by Steve Solomonson

ages 5 to 13, will focus on developing ice skating skills.

•Sports and Fitness Camp, for ages 5 to 13, concentrates on instruction in basketball, soccer, volleyball, and flag football.

•Dance Camp for ages 7 to 13 will teach students a variety of dance skills.

•Theater Camp for ages 5 to 13 will instruct in theater arts, and includes a live performance.

•There's a Junior Camp for youngsters age 3 to 5, too.

The goal is to provide fun and learning, through diverse experiences, says Fuller. The camps are housed at the Aviator Sports and Event Center — 175,000 square feet of indoor events, athletics, and recreation space. The facility is magnificent, with all the latest equipment to keep your child entertained all summer.

The outdoor space is huge, too, and has hosts festivals, fairs, concerts, and community events. The Kings County Fair will take place there from May 16 to 27. There will be rides and games for children of all ages, including a Ferris wheel, roller coaster, and kiddie rides. Food will include corn dogs, cotton candy, and funnel cakes.

"People from all over Brooklyn come to the fair," says Jaclyn Muns, Marketing Director. "They come from Long Island and Westchester, too."

When the fair is over, Aviator Sports and Events Center will host New York City's largest Native American Celebration, from Friday, June 1 through Sunday, June 3. There will be singers, dancers, artists, and educational presenters. Participants can experience the jewelry, crafts, and food created by Native Americans from across the Americas, Muns says.

Aviator Sports and Events Center is the perfect place to celebrate a unique birthday party. Kids can enjoy a Rock Climbing Party, Pool Party, Ice Skating Party, or a Gymnastics Party.

Included in the Pool Party, for example, are pizza or hot dogs, balloons, table cloths, invitations, paper goods, utensils, and a gift certificate for every participant. You can also customize your party, as you desire, by adding an outdoor barbecue picnic with burgers, hot dogs, French fries, corn on the cob, potato salad, coleslaw, and watermelon. Yet another package includes baby back ribs, barbecue chicken, pasta salad, and lots more.

There are after school programs for children, too.

But it's not only kids who get to enjoy the fun. Adults can celebrate special occasions at the Aviator Sports and Events Center, too, and there are activities for them as well.

*Aviator Camps at the Aviator Sports and Event Center [3159 Flatbush Ave. at Floyd Bennett Field in Marine Park, (718) 758-7500, [www.AviatorCamps.com](http://www.AviatorCamps.com), [www.AviatorSports.com](http://www.AviatorSports.com)]. For information about the camps, call Mondays through Fridays, 11 am-6 pm. The Sports and Event Center: Mondays through Fridays, 5:30 am-12 am; and Saturdays and Sundays, 6 am-12 am.*

*For more about the Kings County Fair, visit [www.theking-countyfair.com](http://www.theking-countyfair.com).*

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# Returning to normalcy after a cancer diagnosis

(StatePoint) Cancer. It's a word no one wants to hear, yet all too many people are diagnosed each year. With a diagnosis comes many questions, most importantly how to get the best medical care possible. For many, the next logical question is how to maintain a normal life with cancer -- including balancing work, life and health demands.

Nearly 80 percent of cancer patients and survivors say continuing work after diagnosis aids recovery, according to recently released survey results from non-profit organization Cancer and Careers and Harris Interactive. Still, many struggle to find support navigating the work/life balance of employment with cancer.

For some, working through treatment is not a choice, but a necessity. For others, the decision to work is made based on personal preferences.

Survey results showed that several factors motivate cancer survivors to continue working --

## HEALTH

including feeling well, wanting to maintain a routine and wanting to be productive. At the same time, 67 percent of surveyed cancer patients and survivors said work/life balance was critical to having a career.

Regardless of the situation, experts say that those working through or returning to work following treatment have many factors to consider.

"There are many components to manage when people return to work after a cancer diagnosis or treatment, including understanding legal rights, telling co-workers, managing treatment schedules and addressing potential resume gaps," said Kate Sweeney, executive director of Cancer and Careers, a national nonprofit organization dedicated to serving people working during and after cancer treatment.

Sweeney offers the following tips for people transitioning back into the workplace after a cancer diagnosis or treatment:

- Before sharing your diagnosis, study your options. Learn about the laws that may protect you, know your company's policies and speak to your healthcare team.
- Be mindful of what you say online. Whatever you post becomes part of your online brand, so consider the short- and long-term effects of what you say and do.
- When returning to work, ease back into the routine. Make sure you take care of yourself physically and mentally.
- Be clear with your co-workers about how they can support you.
- Be prepared to "swivel" the conversation back to work-related things so the focus isn't always on cancer.
- Rely on free resources to help make the transition. For example, Cancer and Careers pro-



Workers who have cancer should have a plan to empower them to thrive in the workplace.  
(c) Monkey Business - Fotolia.com

vides expert advice, interactive tools and educational events for everyone dealing with cancer in the workplace, including patients, healthcare professionals, human resource managers and co-workers.

More information on how to balance the demands of work and

cancer can be found at [www.CancerAndCareers.org](http://www.CancerAndCareers.org).

Whether you need to work or simply want to stay active during your treatment, having a plan can empower you to thrive in the workplace and leave you with more energy to cope with the rest of life's details.

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# Effective nutrition tips for busy lifestyles

(Family Features) While it's important to maintain a regular health and wellness regimen, busy schedules and last minute commitments can sometimes send us off track. Many Americans may try to maintain a balanced diet but continue to fall short on valuable key nutrients necessary for a healthy body.

In fact, according to data

## HEALTH

from the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES), conducted by the Centers for Disease Control, the overall quality of the American diet gets a failing grade. According to the Healthy Eating Index, adults (19+

years) score just 50 out of 100 on the quality of their diets.

While hectic lifestyles may play a role in this failing grade, registered dietitian and best-selling author, Dave Grotto has a few simple and effective tips to maintain proper nutrition even when time is tight.

Eat nutrient-filled meals. Set aside five minutes to

pack a healthy lunch before you head to work each day. Prepare meals such as a salad with grilled chicken or a turkey sandwich on whole wheat bread – healthy options that provide a combination of protein and fiber to give you sustained energy throughout the day. “It's vital that we find ways to get the nutrients our bodies need



Businesswoman eating salad outdoors. Photo courtesy of Getty Images



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**if you qualify**

and eating well-balanced meals can do just that,” says Grotto.

Take your vitamins. In addition to proper food choices, quality dietary supplements can be helpful to fill nutrient gaps. As someone who believes that the vitamin experience can be enjoyable, Grotto has partnered with Nature Made® in support of their VitaMelts™ line. “Nature Made VitaMelts come in great flavors like juicy orange and melt smoothly in your mouth without water which provides an enjoyable vitamin experience,” says Grotto. “Plus they come in a handy, portable flip-top pack which can fit perfectly in your gym bag, or work bag, an added convenience factor on days you may not be eating as properly as you should.”

Stay active and enjoy the sunshine. Even if it is minimal, find time to move each day while you're at work; take the stairs instead of the elevator or go for a

ten minute walk around the block. An added benefit of being outdoors, even for a short amount of time, is the exposure to sunlight, which helps skin produce vitamin D3. Unfortunately, many food sources do not provide nearly enough vitamin D to meet dietary recommendations. Grotto recommends a vitamin supplement such as Nature Made VitaMelts Vitamin D3 in a creamy vanilla flavor.

Don't forget to take time for yourself. Rest and relaxation can help to rejuvenate your mind, and is an important part of an overall healthy lifestyle. Not only does Grotto recommend getting six to eight hours of sleep a night, he also suggests keeping to the same bedtime each night. Maintaining such a simple routine can really do the body good.

To learn more about Nature Made VitaMelts visit [www.naturemade.com](http://www.naturemade.com) and for more nutrition tips from Grotto visit [www.davgrotto.com](http://www.davgrotto.com).

Go to [www.Caribbeanlifeneews.com](http://www.Caribbeanlifeneews.com) for the latest in Caribbean news, entertainment, sports, business, viewpoints and more.





Some members of the United Vincie Cultural Group of Brooklyn performing during the airport fundraiser.  
Photo by Nelson A. King

# Hundreds support fundraiser for St. Vincent Airport

By Nelson A. King

Hundreds of Vincentians attended a recent fundraiser in Brooklyn for the largest project in St. Vincent's history: the construction of an international airport.

Some came from as far away as Massachussettes for the four and one half-hour gospel concert in a zealous bid to see the airport completed.

Vincentian Gospel diva Bridgettte Blucher paid a surprise visit, bursting through the side entrance of the massive hall, creating a frenzy among effervescent patrons and instantly warmed up with "Calvary," followed by the rapturous "Rivers of Babylon," bringing the audience to their feet.

Blucher then returned at show's end, bringing the house down and setting it on fire, with "Send the Light," "God's not Dead," and "I'm Saved."

In between, the throng of other entertainers kept patrons bubbling. Trinidadian Gerard Placide, a McDonald's Gospel Fest winner, who served with the U.S. Army during the Iraq War, cried and received a standing ovation after belching out "How Great Thou Art" and "A Perfect Play" from Broadway's "Phantom of the Opera."

Placide's compatriot, Kemba Lodescar, rendered "I Look to You;" and Evangelist Ellsworth Quammie,

who had carried the calypso sobriquet "Lifeboy," gave an encore and convulsed patrons into waving patriotically to "St. Vincent and the Grenadines – Islands of Love."

**I really feel it is a need simply because trying to get anything done is always an issue with air transportation.**

He then returned with "Hold on, Don't Give Up," telling the audience: "We've got to get the airport done, so hold on to Jesus."

Other performers included: Praise International; Kingdom Life Ministries; Brooklyn for Jesus Youth Group; Beulah Church of the Nazarene; Trinity Gospel Apostolic Church; Garfield Bowen; Andean Charles; and Firstman "Bardo" Hills, his wife Joan and daughter Kathleen.

In addition, the popular United Vincie Cultural Group of Brooklyn (UVCGOB) performed very short skits on the salience of constructing the Argyle International Airport; recited the poem, "Fish Fo' So"; and executed nostalgic, folkloric songs, "Mawning Neighbor;" "I'm a Better Woman Than You;" "Brown Skin Girl;" "Dance, Dance;" "Sammy Plant Piece

Ah Yam"; "Mr. Anansi, O"; and "Nah Eat Dah Fish."

"I really feel it (international airport) is a need simply because trying to get home to get anything done is always an issue with air transportation, especially during our last two mission trips home," UVCGOB president Roxie Irish, a former national netball star, told Caribbean Life.

Last year, during its annual cultural showcase in Brooklyn, UVCGOB collected almost US\$800, then added the remainder in presenting US\$2,000 towards the international airport, Irish said.

Godfrey Pitt, chairman of the Friends of Argyle International Airport, U.S.A., said the second gospel concert was the third fundraiser the group has held, aimed at raising funds for the airport, since its formation in November 2011. The other was a bus ride to Atlantic City casinos in nearby New Jersey. a , effervescent patrons went into a

Pitt, an ex-police officer in his homeland, said the group, which has already presented US\$20,000 to airport construction authorities, also plans a "Wine and Cheese" fundraiser shortly.

"Vincentians (in the U.S.) are getting on board (in supporting construction of the international airport)," he told Caribbean Life. "Our goal is to raise more money."

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# Jamaican dollar decreases in value

Continued from Page 6

nation must be "willing to forfeit some of their sovereign authority" in order to prevent a collapse from the global economy. Another condition is that the IMF will also provide advice on methods to improve the Jamaican economy.

By providing the two billion rescue fund, the IMF will help secure the Jamaican currency and encourage stability in the financial sector.

The Jamaican dollar lost 12 percent of its value in the last year and a whopping four percent since the government outlined a deal with the IMF on Ash Wednesday.

"Right now, when mi a buy snack for my daughter, it's no less than J\$2,000. It's because mi have a discount card why I get it for this price," a mother told the local newspaper. "It's just by the mercies of God

mi survive but it could be worse. God is taking care of me and my family."

Those days, she recalled, were in the 1980s and during that period trading of the Jamaican currency did not escalate beyond the J\$6.50 to US\$1 mark.

And at that time a great many protested even recording dance songs named "Everything Crash."

"Three thousand-odd dollars and mi nuh get half a weh mi want yet," another national lamented. "Mi did waan three sardines and a only one mi could afford. You nuh see seh the country mash up?"

## Tourism can benefit

Hotels charge their visitors in U.S. dollars while most of their costs are paid in Jamaica dollars. Hotel owners pay wages, utilities and taxes in Jamaican dollars.

Reportedly, one-third

of Jamaican households live on US\$ remittances received from family members in the U.S.

When the Jamaican dollar slides, transfers by Money Gram or Western Union gain extended value.

With inflation running at nine percent and cuts in services, citizens may have to brace for more than a pinch. Allegedly, planned spending on national security is down by four percent. The police training budget was reportedly snipped. Education spending has also been slashed by five percent.

Reportedly, China will lend Jamaica approximately 20 percent of their capital budget. Terms for repayment of the US\$300 million loan will be spread over a much longer period than the IMF amount. Those funds will allegedly be used for a major infrastructure development project.

Go to [www.Caribbeanlifeneews.com](http://www.Caribbeanlifeneews.com) for the latest in Caribbean news

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# Guest worker program

Continued from Page 3

tural workers is capped at 66,000 per year and applies only to seasonal or temporary jobs.

If other temporary worker programs are any indication, most of the foreign workers taking advantage of the new W-visa program would come from Mexico, Jamaica and Guatemala. About 80 percent of workers in the H-2B visa program in 2011 were from Mexico, according to State Department data.

"It's not perfect, but it's probably as good as it can reasonably be to make both sides happy in a way that protects the interests of U.S. workers while also bringing workers in when employers truly need them, not just when they say they need them," said Daniel Costa, immigration policy analyst at the liberal-leaning Economic Policy Institute.

Labor unions have criticized other temporary worker programs, claiming that businesses don't look hard enough for American workers to fill the jobs and that

foreign workers depress U.S. wages and have no chance for advancement. But unions made sure more protections were built into the new program.

The number of workers admitted each year would fluctuate based on actual employer needs determined by a new federal bureau to monitor the job market. Workers would earn the same wages paid to U.S. workers or the prevailing wages for the industry they're working in, whichever is higher. And it would allow foreign workers to move from employer to employer, petition for permanent residency after a year, and eventually seek U.S. citizenship.

Not all business groups are pleased with the deal. Several major construction industry groups issued a statement criticizing the agreement for limiting the number of visas for construction workers to 15,000.

"A guest worker program that fails to provide a sufficient number of visas to meet

market demand as the construction sector recovers will inevitably make it harder to fill critical labor openings," said a statement from Associated Builders and Contractors, the National Association of Home Builders and other groups.

Labor unions, worried about members losing jobs to foreign workers, argued that construction should be treated differently from other industries because it can be more seasonal in nature and includes a number of higher-skilled trades.

But the agreement is seen as a boon to employers in long-term care, the hotel and restaurant industry and other low-wage service sectors that are among the fastest-growing job categories in the nation. Seven of the 10 largest occupations in the country now pay less than \$30,000 a year, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Follow Sam Hananel on Twitter: <http://twitter.com/SamHananelAP>

## BSFHC milestone party



From left, Ms. Patricia Fernandez, Councilman Al Vann, Ms. Jean Black and Hon. Robin K. Sheares.

Photo by Lem Peterkin

Continued from Page 3

tic distinguishes the new center from others and he was especially proud of the BSFHC's achievement and its distinction for providing quality health care for

his constituency as well as neighboring communities.

For their years of unselfish service, some employees received plaques and messages of praise from high-ranking state and city elected officials, as

well as testimonies from patients about the quality of care and the range of health services provided at BSFHC, as evidence of the new, 38,000 sq-ft facility's exemplary service to over 20,000.00 residents.



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Photo by Arthur De Gaeta

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# Citizenship opportunity for illegal residents

Continued from Page 3

years to increase enforcement and extend fencing along the Southwest border.

According to the bill, the border security programs would have to be fully operational before any immigrant, who had been in the U.S. illegally, would be able to apply for permanency, or green card, the first step toward becoming American citizens.

The bill includes a long list of "disqualifiers" that prevent Caribbean and other immigrants from becoming legal residents if they have any felony convictions or at least three misdemeanor convictions.

Illegal immigrants also would not be able to upgrade their status if they were ever convicted of a criminal offense under foreign law, voted unlawfully in the United States or are

determined by the federal government to be a criminal, or national security or

**"If the ACLU drew up their bill, it wouldn't pass the Senate. We've made it clear, if you commit a serious crime, you shouldn't be on the path to citizenship."**

public health threat.

"There are serious civil rights concerns," said Cecillia Wang, director of the American Civil Liberties Union's (ACLU) Immigrants' Rights Project. "There shouldn't be any kind of automatic disqualifiers."

But Sen. Charles Schumer (D-NY), one of the bipartisan "Gang of Eight" who

wrote the legislation, said the bill strikes the right balance.

"If the ACLU drew up their bill, it wouldn't pass the Senate," he said. "We've made it clear, if you commit a serious crime, you shouldn't be on the path to citizenship."

After meeting with Schumer and Sen. John McCain (R-AZ), President Barack Obama hailed the legislation as "largely consistent" with the principles he had laid out for sweeping immigration overhaul.

He said the provisions in the bill are "all common-sense steps that the majority of Americans support."

"This bill is clearly a compromise, and no one will get everything they wanted, including me," he said. "But it is largely consistent with the principles that I have repeatedly laid out for comprehensive reform."

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# Relationships in the African-American community

*"Where Did Our Love Go: Love and Relationships in the African-American Community," edited by Gil L. Robertson, IV*

c.2013, Bolden  
\$16.00 / \$18.95 Canada  
240 pages

**By Terri Schlichenmeyer**

The song always pops up when you least expect it.

There you are, minding your own business, you hear a few notes, and you're pulled back to a wonderful-horrible time, starry dreams, laughter, bitterness, love lost. That old love song might be just a "precious melody," but it almost brings you to your knees.

Love is such a complicated



Gil L. Robertson IV.

Photo by Bolden

thing: easy to fall into and easy to fall out. And in the new anthology "Where Did Our Love Go," edited by Gil L. Robertson IV, you'll see that you're not alone in being

alone.

The statistics are quite sobering.

Forty-two percent of Black women ages 25-34 are unmarried. The number is similar for Black men, higher for those over age 34. African Americans simply are not keeping pace, marriage-wise, with their white counterparts.

But why? Is it a legacy of slavery, a cultural issue, "being picky," or economic fall-out? Or is marriage historically "ill-suited" for people of color?

Perhaps, as one writer hypothesizes, relationship woes could be an issue because many young Blacks have never "actually seen...

one family unit consisting of a father and mother, plus two children." Or maybe the timing for marriage was wrong, as another believes. There's too much judgment, too much "craziness," too much self-reliance from too early an age.

And it gets even more complicated.

The old "there aren't enough decent black men to go around" is bunk. Malcolm X proved it wrong, though many continue to believe it. Black men often think black women only want someone equal or better, financially, and how can they play against that? Black women consider "swirling." Neither can talk about what they really want.

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# Auntie Vie celebrates 100 yrs

By Tangerine Clarke

Viola Shaw certainly deserved the lavish celebration of a special church service at St. Sidwell's Anglican Church and four parties in Georgetown, Guyana to honor her on her 100th birthday on April 17.

Viola was born during the peak of British rule in Guyana. She outlived presidents and prime ministers, and had the pleasure of seeing her country become independent, and then a Republic nation.

But this feisty old lady with an encyclopedic brain isn't done yet. There is no doubt Viola has many more years to enjoy her guilty pleasures of ice cream, Mac & Cheese and pastries.

Lovingly called Aunt Vie, this cute little lady who loves to tell stories of years gone by, was born on April 17, 1918 in the rural area of New Amsterdam, on the Berbice Coast.

She may have lived to be 100 years old, but it was not easy getting to where she is today. As she

sat in her comfortable room at the Holy Family Homestead in Georgetown, where she still knits and cooks, Aunt Vie recalled how hard she worked, but never regretted it. She attributes her active lifestyle and kindness to others, as qualities that brought her to this day in her life.

"I was very kind to people, this is the reason I had a long life. I also prayed to the almighty," said Aunt Vie, who asked God for strength, good health, and long life.

After her mother died when she was just two years old, Viola's father took on the role of both parents, but eventually had to send his two daughters to live with a family friend.

"I was treated like a servant. I had to carry a heavy basket on my head from the market, and was forced to do manual labor in the house," recalls Viola, who said she got up at the 'gong' of 5:00 a.m., and did not go to bed until the 'gong' of 8:00 p.m."

However, Viola was even-



Viola Shaw hugs her teddy gift at her Holy Family Homestead in Georgetown, Guyana. Photo by Tangerine Clarke

tually able to break free and used the skills she had acquired to become a domestic worker in several homes, including a wealthy British Caucasian couple, who treated her very well.

At the age of 23, Viola married a poultry farmer and enjoyed her life as a housewife, but left her husband years after he became an alcoholic.

She never had any kids of her own, but she enjoyed the com-

pany of nieces and nephews who looked after her, especially she said, her adopted niece Lillieth Clemonds, who took her (aunt Vie) into her home, after a family member had evicted her.

This centenarian who still has a lot of energy and spring in her step, says she likes solitary moments, and even though she claims not to be too talkative, she surely had lots to say about living to be 100 years old.

## Time to check your passports

As the summer season approaches, New York Passport Agency Customer Services Manager Robyn J. Richards is calling on families to check expiration dates on their passports.

In an exclusive statement to Caribbean Life, Richards reminds the traveling public that passports issued to minors under age 16 are only valid for five years, rather than the regular 10 years for adults.

She noted that some countries require an entry visa that may take several weeks to process, and with the summer season being such a busy time for travel, she suggested that citizens take the opportunity to equip themselves with all valid travel documents.

"Apply early for your passport," said Richards, who advised travelers to avoid waiting in line as well as saving \$60 for an expedited book. U.S. citizens must present a valid passport book when entering the country by air.

Those entering the United States from Canada, Mexico, the Caribbean and Bermuda at land borders and sea ports must present either a passport book, passport card or other travel document approved by the U.S. government.

Information is also available at [www.travel.state.gov](http://www.travel.state.gov). U.S. Citizens may also obtain passport information by phone, in English and Spanish by calling the National Passport Information Center toll-free at 1-877-427-2778.

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The latest News from the NYC Department of Education

# Public School Press

APRIL 2013

## Expectations Rise for Students *New era for teaching and testing*

### CHANGES REFLECT PARENT CONCERNS

#### Scores will Reflect New Emphasis on College and Career over Basic Skills

There's something uncommon taking place in the city's public schools.

New York is implementing a far richer curriculum called Common Core. The lessons, and the exams that go hand in hand with them, have students writing more, thinking critically, defending their ideas, and working in teams to solve real-world problems.

The new coursework is harder, and the state exams students in grades 3-8 take this month will be different and more challenging, too. Test scores

will reflect that at first. But this year's scores will not be comparable to scores from previous years. This is a new baseline.

We're no longer satisfied with just teaching your child basic skills. We're aiming higher, because we want all of our 1.1 million students to graduate from high school ready to succeed in college, their careers and beyond.

*Search NYC.gov for Common Core Parent Resources.*



### Straight Talk from the Chancellor

*Schools Chancellor Dennis Walcott  
responds to parents' questions*

**Why are my child's tests getting harder? As a parent, I'm tired of hearing that this is going to be great for my kid.**

Let's be honest. Tougher tests aren't the problem. The real problem is that too many of our kids aren't prepared to succeed in college or flourish in a career. We're not doing them any favors if we don't challenge them. It's time we raised the bar.

The new curriculum demands that your kids engage their creativity and intellectual curiosity. The goal is

to take them beyond the pages of their textbooks and prepare them for the real world.

The new tests will reflect that richer—and more challenging—coursework. When you set a new goal for yourself that feels out of reach, you work harder to meet it. This will be no different. And that's a good thing.

**Why am I hearing that my child's test scores are going to drop?**

There's no way to know how your child will do until he or she takes the test. But we're now measuring based on completely different, and tougher, criteria. The last tests measured basic skills. The new tests measure your child's ability to get into college or learn a skill after high school graduation.

Some states that have adopted the Common Core have seen lower test scores of over 30 points at first. We have

set new benchmarks in the past and our students have always risen to meet them and we think that over time they will do the same with these new standards.

**I'm struggling to support my children with their homework. How can I help my child master the more challenging coursework?**

We get that. We've worked hard to develop vast parent resources for you. They include sample questions similar to those that your children can expect to see on the new state tests, and "webinars" that I've hosted which explain the transition to the Common Core (for more information, search *NYC.gov* for Common Core Parent Resources).

If your child is struggling and needs extra help, talk to his or her teacher or to your school's parent coordinator. It's a new era in teaching and testing. I'm committed to helping your child succeed.



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# Team Jamaica Bickle honors Caribbean nationals

By Nelson A. King

Team Bickle Jamaica, the New York-based group that provides meals for Caribbean athletes at the prestigious Penn Relays in Philadelphia, on Tuesday evening honored four Caribbean nationals at its annual Awards and Fund-raiser ceremony at Brooklyn Borough Hall.

The honorees were: Jamaican Olympian Deon Hemmings-McCatty, Grenada New York Consul General Derrick James, chief executive officer and owner of Brooklyn's SuperWings Trinidadian Colette Cyrus-Burnett, and founder and president of Bequia United Progressive Organization Vincentian O'Brien Simmons.

The honorees said they were very grateful to the group for the honor. It was founded by Jamaican Irwin Claire 19 years ago.



Above: Colette Cyrus Burnett, CEO, SuperWings, receiving award from Kevin Richards, of Team Jamaica Bickle. At Right: Distinguished Athlete and Community Advocate Award to Jamaican Olympian Deon Hemmings-McCatty.

Photos by Nelson A. King

"I would like to extend commendations and appreciation to Team Jamaica Bickle for the unwavering support to the Jamaican athletes and the athletes of other Caribbean nations at the Penn Relays," said

James in receiving the award.

"Your organization has embodied the principle that sports are not just games but about life, since talent is not the only competency that makes a great athlete,"



he added.

"The skills of passion, dedication and motivation will get an athlete to the top;

however, the support from organizations like yours is critical in the cultivation of character to keep them

there," James continued. "I am confident that this outreach from your organization will continue to produce the greatness that the world has seen from Usain Bolt and Kirani James."

Claire, who is also head of operations, said "it's a big tent, and an even bigger Caribbean presence, at these relays; the largest track event (outside of the Olympics), that attracts over 22,000 athletes.

"We are happy to see the numbers from the region grow as other countries embrace this platform for their athletes," he said.

"Team Jamaica Bickle is entering its 19th year at Penn. Jamaica, its 49th. We use the experiences gained to the greatest benefit of the athletes," he added.

"It is also fitting that this atmosphere of care and camaraderie surround our youth. What better example and promise for the future of the region?" he continued.

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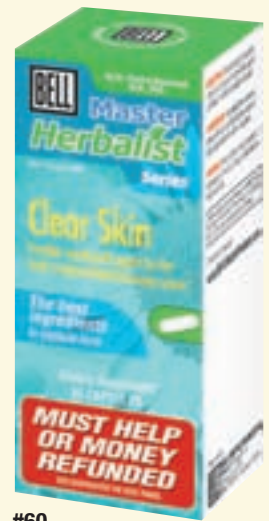
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# 'Motown' family night culls celebrated reunion

"At Motown we called ourselves a family and we were — a big family. While it is impossible to list here the many people who helped create Motown with their love and passion, I personally want to thank them all. Their dedication and talent contribute to our success, as well as helped to inspire me to bring our story to Broadway. Motown was a dream that happened to come true, and it's because of all of you. Thank you." Berry Gordy, founder of Motown.

Although an opening night gala is usually the norm for any Broadway play, "Motown: The Musical" enjoyed early celebration with a pre-opening Family Night gathering that attracted music insiders who contributed to the legacy of the first successful, Black-owned record company.

Held one week before the official opening at the Lunt Fontanne Theater on April 14, a VIP assembly gathered to pay tribute to the author of "To Be Loved," a book published in 1995 by Berry Gordy,



## Inside Life

By Vinette K. Pryce

the former, Motown Records president and founder.

Gordy invited employees of the Detroit record company who helped him build the legacy that is now an American institution and pride of a people who endured racism and personal sacrifice in order to maintain independence from exploitative major labels.

Former executives, reunited with talents to take bows and share the experience that began when George Romney governed the state of Michigan.

Miller London, one of the mentioned contributors in the musical reveled with the likes of former Dennis Edwards, lead singer of the Temptations, Martha Reeves and members of The Vandellas.

Despite the fact Gordy

relinquished the company to MCA Records, staffers, and artists signed after his departure took the opportunity to share in the merriment which continued after a preview of the play and during an after-party held at the Edison Hotel.

Super-talent Stevie Wonder who started his career at the label when he was a mere pre-teen and remains at the label despite many, many departures from the legendary trailblazing company seemed the most prominent and dominant Motown name to attend. Wonder was barely mentioned in the musical revue. His arrival with his mother to Hitsville USA only emerged during the second half of the second half of the musical. Yielding to long, laborious tributes to Diana Ross of the Supremes, the



Founder of Motown, Berry Gordy in Times Square in New York.  
Photo by Charles Sykes/Invision/AP

son, The Temptations, but glossed over the magnanimous contribution of Wonder and the Jackson Five.

Although Wonder and Michael Jackson are probably the biggest money-makers for the label to date, they had to take a back-seat to a love-story that belabored the musical.

Ross seemed the focus of the stage memoir. And while alluring, and integral, detracted to the many overlooked talents who deserve praise.

Next month Wonder will celebrate the 50th anniversary of his first hit "Finger-tips II."

However, he celebrated with Gordy, who retired after selling the company for \$61 million in 1988.

Wonder remains a stalwart of Gordy's dream and a key supporter of the label Gordy envisioned when he borrowed \$800 from his family in order to start the Mid-western record label.

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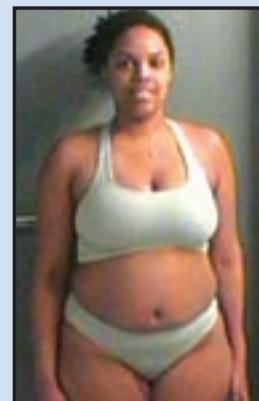
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## In high Demand

By Chudi Chukwudi

Grammy-nominated Caribbean jazz pianist Monty Alexander returns to the U.S. for performances at Boston's legendary Scullers Jazz Club on April 26 and New York City's famous Birdland Club Jazz Club from May 7-11.

On the heels of his new album, *Harlem-Kingston Express: Live* and now in his 51st year as a musician, Jamaican-born Alexander is in high demand with performances that has him globetrotting and city-hopping.

Monty was scheduled to take his brand of stirring jazz to the Bern Jazz Festival in Switzerland from April 16-20, then return to the U.S. for performances in Boston and New York City, before heading to the nature isle of Dominica for the first time. There, he will headline the increasingly popular Dominica Jazz 'n Creole Festival on May 19 at the Cabrits National Park.



"For many years, I have harbored the desire to be able to visit one of the beautiful islands in the Caribbean: Dominica," Alexander reportedly said. "I have had friends of Dominican heritage, including Connie Kay, the great drummer from the great Modern Jazz Quartet. To be able to bring a musical offering to Dominica makes my visit extra special," according to CaribPR Wire.

Monty's Grammy-nominated band, *The Harlem Kingston Express*, will add

Continued on Page 34

## El Barrio's art project

By Tequila Minsky

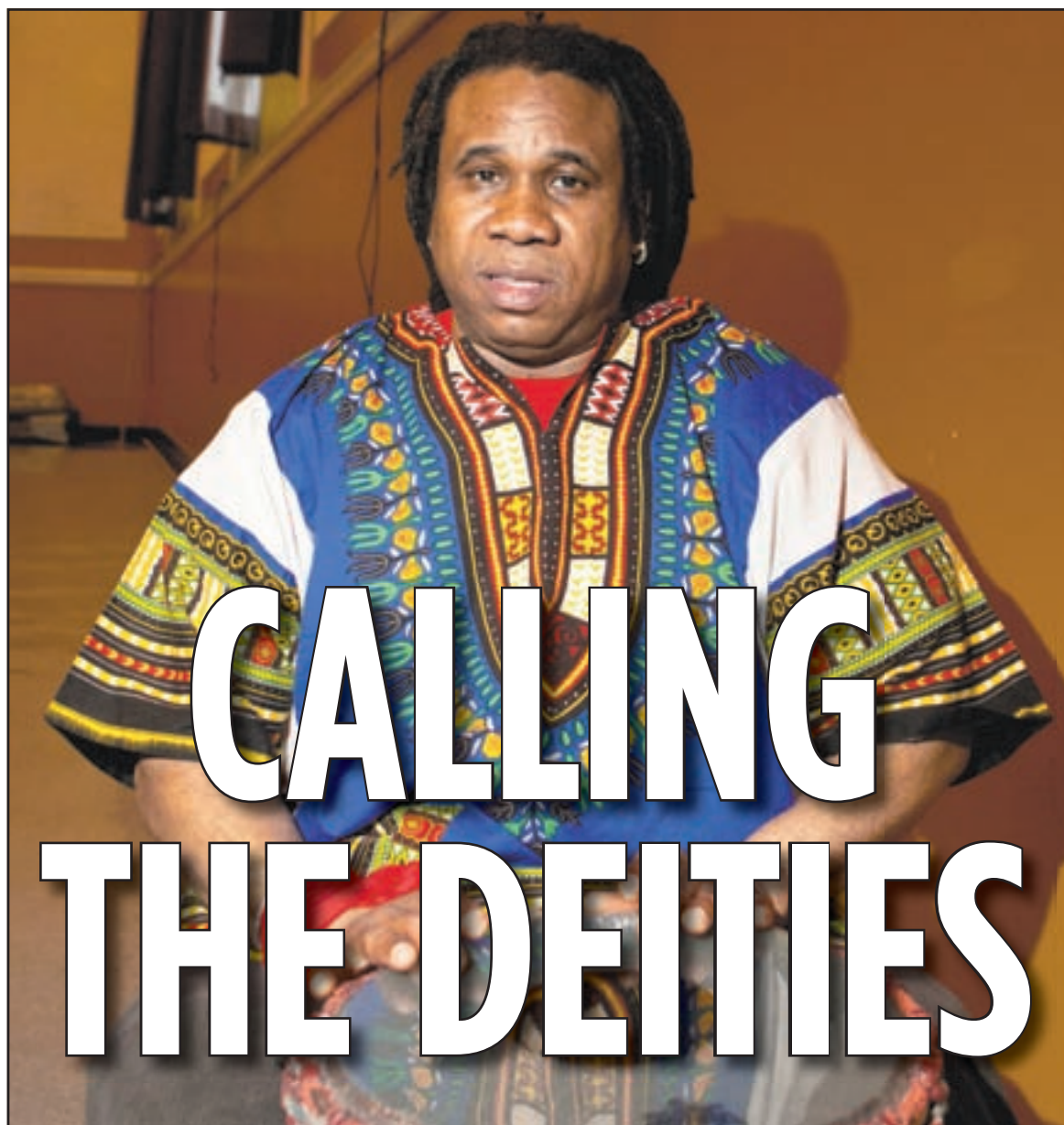
Last week, Dr. Marta Moreno-Vega, president and founder of the Caribbean Cultural Center African Diaspora Institute (CCCCADI), announced the planned art and historic exhibition "Mi Querido Barrio" (My Dear Neighborhood), celebrating the rich history in East Harlem's El Barrio.

Mi Querido Barrio, a two-year project, is an augmented reality exhibition. Simply put, it is a view of a real-world environment (which is/was physically somewhere else) transformed digitally, appearing on your smart phone.



Triggers at on-site posters throughout East Harlem (La Marqueta, Tito Puente's birth location, the Young Lord's garbage offense, or Willie Mays stickball locations, to name a few) call forth on your phone the dig-

Continued on Page 34



Master drummer Earl King and an Orisha ensemble will perform at Elebash Hall in Manhattan, as a part of the City of the World music series, Wednesday, April 24.  
Photo by William Farrington

## Orisha drummers to perform in City

By William Farrington

A rare opportunity presents itself this week as Orisha drummers play Manhattan's Elebash Hall. Outside of Trinidad, Orisha is generally experienced in late-night gatherings in Flatbush churches celebrating feasts, occasions which can last several nights. Earl Noel, a master of this sacred ceremonial tradition, will lead a trio of drummers and an

ensemble of dancers in an Orisha religious service. Three drums, the Bo, Bembe, and Umele are at the center of the ceremony. The drummers call to each Deity in turn with a particular rhythm known by that Deity's name.

In a sense, Earl says, it's a conversation with that spirit or ancestor -- the rhythms from the three

drums calling the Yoruba deities; a tradition handed down orally from generation to generation that he continues as a drummer and teacher in Brooklyn.

A typical Orisha religious service includes Spiritual Baptist hymns, plaintive prayers, lively songs for all the spirits, and closes with a somber

Continued on Page 34



## TOP OF THE CHARTS

### TOP 10 SINGLES



- 1** **When I Was Your Man**  
Bruno Mars
- 2** **Suit & Tie**  
Justin Timberlake Feat. Jay-Z
- 3** **Stay**  
Rihanna Feat. Mikky Ekko
- 4** **Thrift Shop**  
Macklemore & Ryan Lewis...
- 5** **Daylight**  
Maroon 5
- 6** **Feel This Moment**  
Pitbull Feat. Christina Aguilera
- 7** **Just Give Me A Reason**  
P!nk Feat. Nate Ruess
- 8** **I Knew You Were Trouble**  
Taylor Swift
- 9** **Sweet Nothing**  
Calvin Harris Feat. Florence Welch
- 10** **Locked Out Of Heaven**  
Bruno Mars

### TOP 10 ALBUMS



- 1** **Wolf**  
Tyler, The Creator
- 2** **The 20/20 Experience**  
Justin Timberlake
- 3** **Pioneer**  
The Band Perry
- 4** **Based On A True Story ...**  
Blake Shelton
- 5** **Night Visions**  
Imagine Dragons
- 6** **I Am Not A Human Being II**  
Lil Wayne
- 7** **Disarm The Descent**  
Killswitch Engage
- 8** **The Truth About Love**  
P!nk
- 9** **The Heist**  
Macklemore & Ryan Lewis
- 10** **New Kids On The Block**

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# Orisha drummers

Continued from page 33

song of thanks. All of the songs are sung in Yoruba, except for the opening hymns sung in English, says producer Ryan Bazinet.

A musician, Ryan fell in love with the fast-paced, energetic music, where everyone is singing and clapping. "It is the best feeling and musical experience I have ever had." The Orisha religion shares roots, Yoruba lyrics and even identical songs with the Cuban music," he says. "Many people who have heard of Santeria did not know Yoruba-derived music and religion exist in Trinidad. I am thrilled to be a part of sharing this with a wider audience."

Earl plays a vital role in the Orisha social scene in Brooklyn, which is coming into season. As the weather gets warmer, feasts return, centered at Mt Moriah Baptist and other churches in Flatbush.

Earl began drumming at four years old in Belmont, Port of Spain. "A place called Gonzalez," he says. The youngest of 13 children, he was born into Orisha music, first picked up drumming

from his older siblings and from his neighbor, Mother Burness, the keeper of the Orisha feasts there. He now spends time teaching drumming -- folkloric and Orisha, to youths here in Brooklyn. Natural Expressions, another group he is involved in performs during carnival season and includes drummers of all ages.

While Orisha music remains largely confined to tight-knit communities both here and in Trinidad, its influences can be heard in the popular music of David Rudder and in the spiritual folk music of songs like, "Bring Down the Power" by Ella Andall.

Historian and radio host Trevor Wilkins says "Shango (Orisha) played a serious role in Trinidad and Tobago music in the '30's and '40's, calypso grew out of shango and spiritual baptist music. The practice itself was banned under colonial rule, and as an underground practice only became legal with independence." Chalkdust, Sparrow, Houdini and others made calypsos based on Shango.

The concert is Wednesday, April 24 at Elebash Hall, located



Orisha master Earl Noel and student drummers before a recent performance. Earl passes along the musical traditions as a teacher in Brooklyn schools and in his carnival drum group Natural Expressions.

Photo by William Farrington

at 365 5th Avenue, at 34th Street in Manhattan, at the City University Graduate Center. Tickets are \$12; \$10 for students and can be purchased online by visiting [www.liveat365.org](http://www.liveat365.org).

The Trevor Wilkins Show on Friday and Saturday evenings on WNYE (91.5 FM) will present a full evening of Spiritual Baptist music May 24th and a full evening of Orisha music on May 25th.

## El Barrio

Continued from page 33

ital artwork. Sound, graphics, and video are also part of the digital-transformed creation.

If this all seems very conceptual, a demonstration using a smart phone makes it straightforward.

Nine artists from diverse artistic backgrounds have been brought together to produce an exhibition using this latest technology paying homage to the vast contributions of East Harlem's community.

The newly launched art project will map historic and cultural areas of New York's El Barrio neighborhood. Each artist will create a site-specific virtual artwork. At the end of the training period for artists, there will be a limited public exhibition as an example of what the final project will be.

The artists have been trained by Tamiko Thiel, a German-based visual artist, who has developed artistic capabilities of various forms of this technology for exploring social and cultural issues. Bruce Lincoln is directing the project along with a technology advisor, historian, and workshop coordinator.

This is a homecoming for cultural activist Dr. Moreno-Vega, who was born and grew up in El Barrio.

Having devoted her life to pre-



The Caribbean Cultural Center African Diaspora Institute has been named the developer of a decommissioned, historic landmark Romanesque Revival-style firehouse located at 120 E. 125th St. in El Barrio, to open in 2015.

Photo by Tequila Minsky

serving, nurturing and showcasing Hispanic arts, she is clearly on the wave of a "now" art form, situating CCCADI stanchly into the 21st century. With this recognition, Dr. Moreno-Vega says, "It is an exciting time for us here at the Center as we have the opportunity to train and open a new field to a diverse group of artists."

## Monty Alexander

Continued from page 33

to the experience that combines traditional jazz with the rocking rhythms of Jamaica, resulting in a sound that is uniquely Jamaican and Alexander's.

"Harlem-Kingston Express: Live!" was nominated for a Reggae Grammy and won rave reviews from The Wall Street Journal, The London Evening Standard and Jazz Times, among dozens of other media houses.

Alexander's U.S. performances come as the pianist's new album release, Uplift 2 on the JLP label, sits at #2 on the Jazz charts.

### 2013 Performance Dates:

- Switzerland - Bern Jazz Festival - April 16-20.
- Boston, MA - Scullers Jazz Club - April 26.
- New York City - Birdland Club Jazz Club- May 7-11.
- Dominica, W.I. - Dominica Jazz 'n Creole Festival - May 19.
- Washington, D.C. - Blues Alley - June 20-23.
- Pittsburgh, PA - South Park Band Shell - June 28.
- Rochester, NY - Rochester International Jazz Festival - June 29.

About Monty Alexander

Over his stellar career, Alexander, whose influence combines that of Oscar Peterson, Gene Harris and Nat "King" Cole, has performed with international stars including Frank Sinatra, Tony Bennett, Ray Brown, Dizzy Gillespie, Sonny Rollins, Clark Terry, Quincy Jones, Ernest Ranglin, Barbara Hendricks, Bill Cosby, Bobby McFerrin, Sly Dunbar and Robbie Shakespeare.

In fact, it was Sinatra and his best friend Jilly Rizzo who hired Alexander after he moved to the United States in 1961 at the age of 17. And it was at Jilly's famed New York City nightclub that this Jamaican teen caught the ears of Miles Davis, Dizzy Gillespie, and Milt "Bags" Jackson.

Bags introduced him to the great bassist Ray Brown, and the rest as they say, is history, including Alexander's 1976 Montreux (Switzerland) Jazz Festival performance with drummer Jeff Hamilton and bassist John Clayton, which has become one of the most celebrated live recordings in contemporary jazz.

For more on the Caribbean's greatest jazz pianist and his music visit [www.montyalexander.com](http://www.montyalexander.com).



# Eccentric artist lobbies for inmate's freedom

**"Herman's House"**  
Very Good (3 stars)  
Unrated  
Running time: 81 minutes  
Distributor:  
First Run Features  
Herman's House

**By Kam Williams**

Seventy-two-year-old Herman Wallace has been imprisoned at Louisiana's infamous Angola penitentiary since he was found guilty of committing bank robbery back in 1967. His sentence was later lengthened to life after he was convicted of stabbing a prison guard to death solely on the testimony of a fellow inmate.

Was he a political prisoner who'd been railroaded on account of his membership in the Black Panther Party, or had he actually committed the murder? Unfortunately, that question is not the focus of "Herman's House," an unlikely-

couple documentary directed by Angad Singh Bhalia.

Mr. Singh instead devotes his attention to the friendship forged between Herman and a woman half his age. "Jailbirds and the naïve girls who love them" has served as the theme of many a TV talk show, but rarely have any gangsters' molls had the pedigree, sophistication or undying dedication of Jackie Sumell.

Sumell, an activist who once presented anti-abortion President Bush a quilt woven from hundreds of pro-choice feminist's pubic hair, was a grad student in the Art Department at Stanford when she took an interest in Herman. What really rankled her was the fact that he held the record for solitary confinement in the country, currently

at 40+ years and counting.

Over that period, he's been cooped up in a 6 x 9 foot cell, which Jackie felt was a violation of the 8th Amendment's sanction against cruel and unusual punishment. So, she struck up a long-distance

correspondence with Herman via a combination of letters and phone calls.

And that led to a decision to draw attention to his plight by mounting an art exhibition featuring a full-scale replica of his pris-

tic aspect to their relationship? A fascinating flick as much about a possible miscarriage of justice as about a case of arrested development who looks like a little girl playing house with an imaginary mate.



Architect's rendering of the front yard of the home designed by Angola Prison inmate Herman Joshua Wallace and New York artist Jackie Sumell.  
Photo by Ann Harkness

## Independent & Foreign Films

**Ain't in It for My Health** (Unrated) Reverential rockumentary about Levon Helm, the late drummer, lead singer and founding member of The Band. Featuring appearances by Billy Bob Thornton, Libby Titus and Larry Campbell.

**Errors of the Human Body** (Unrated) Psychological thriller, set in Dresden, revolving around a research scientist (Michael Eklund) who becomes the first victim of a newly-created lethal virus as the result of a lab accident. With Karoline Herfurth, Tomas Lemarquis and Rik Mayall.

**Filly Brown** (R for profanity, violence and drug use) Musical drama about a struggling hip-hop artist (Gina Rodriguez) trying to rap her way out of the barrio who finds herself facing a dilemma when a record producer (Pete Herrera) offers to sign her to a contract if she compromises her heartfelt feminist values. Supporting cast includes Lou Diamond Phillips, Edward James Olmos and Jenni Rivera.

**Girl Rising** (PG-13 for mature themes and disturbing images) Female empowerment documentary about



### Kam's Kapsules

*By Kam Williams*

nine women from different countries who found fulfillment after overcoming everything from child slavery to arranged marriages. **Herman's House** (Unrated) Unlikely-buddy documentary chronicling the long-distance friendship forged via phone calls and correspondence between a female, Stanford University grad and a Black Panther with a life sentence kept in solitary confinement for over 40 years.

**Home Run** (PG-13 for mature themes) Prodigal Son saga about a disgraced pro baseball player (Scott Elrod) with an alcohol abuse problem who returns to his hometown to rehab. There, he cleans up his act with the help of his estranged childhood sweetheart (Dorian Brown) and rekindles his love for the game while coaching a ragtag team of Little Leaguers. With James Devoti, Nicole Leigh and Drew Waters.

**In the House** (R for pro-

fanity and sexuality) Screen adaptation of "The Boy in the Last Row," Juan Mayorga's play about a high school student (Ernst Umhauer) whose essays about a classmate's (Batien Ughetto) family come to impress his jaded literature teacher (Fabrice Luchini). With Kristin Scott Thomas, Emmanuelle Seigner and Yolande Moreau. (In French with subtitles)

**The Lords of Salem** (R for profanity, drug use, disturbing violence, frontal nudity, and graphic sexuality) Rob Zombie wrote and directed this horror flick starring his wife (Sheri Moon Zombie) as a radio DJ who unwittingly unleashes demonic forces by playing vinyl records from a mysterious box sent to the station. Featuring cult film favorites Dee Wallace (The Howling), Patricia Quinn (The Rocky Horror Picture Show) and Ken Foree (Dawn of the Dead).

**TOM CRUISE**  
**MORGAN FREEMAN**  
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# SUN KULCHA

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

### FRIDAY, APRIL 19

**COMEDY:** "No Name... & A Bag O' Chips" Comedy / Variety presents Otto's in Manhattan with Luke Thayer (MTV.com) and illusionist Lee Alan Barrett. Both shows - which starts at 7:00 p.m. - will feature "No Name" house band The Summer Replacements" including Carl (BabyFreak) Fortunato, Pat (Dangerous Monk) O'Shea and Fernando (Dr. Sandman) Morales Gonzalez. No cover, no minimum and Otto's is located at 538 E14th St. (Cross Street: Between Avenue A and Avenue B) "L" subway train to First Avenue. For more information, call (212) 228-2240 or go to: [www.ottoshrunkenhead.com/](http://www.ottoshrunkenhead.com/) Performers subject to change, for more "No Name," info, contact (347) 885-3466 / NoNameNYC@hotmail.com.

### SATURDAY, APRIL 20

**PERFORMING ARTS:** FUSION URBANA LIVE IN CONCERT, Direct From Puerto Rico featuring Grammy Award-nominated Reggaeton Duo, RKM & KEN-Y Plus New York's Hot-test Bachata Group 24 HORAS and Bachata Sensation KARLOS ROSE. Tickets: \$45, \$40, \$25 | Children 12 and under, \$10 any seat 8:00 p.m. 250 Bedford Park Blvd. West, Bronx, N.Y. 10468

### SUNDAY, APRIL 21

**PERFORMING ARTS:** Stars of the Russian Ballet: This amazing gala features the most outstanding dancers from one of the most renowned Russian Ballet companies in the world, The Stars of the Russian Ballet, performing the legendary ballet moments from The Sleeping Beauty, Cinderella, Giselle, The Dying Swan, and many more! Tickets: \$40, \$35, \$25 | Children 12 and under, \$10 any seat 4:00 p.m. 250 Bedford Park Blvd. West, Bronx, N.Y. 10468

### MONDAY, APRIL 22

**SACKLER SERIES:** Neuroscientist Joy Hirsch, Ph.D., of Columbia University discusses recent findings and new insights related to obesity and weight loss based on brain-imaging research. Suggested general admission, which supports the Museum's scientific and educational endeavors and includes 46 Museum halls and the Rose Center for Earth and Space, is \$19 (adults) suggested; \$14.50 (students/seniors) suggested; \$10.50 (children) suggested. Central Park West at 79th Street, New York, N.Y. 10024-5192.

**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. RSVP: 1-646-476-



**HOME IMPROVEMENT:** Warmer Weather is Home Repair Weather. Do you need major repairs done but lack the finances? Call Neighborhood Housing Services of East Flatbush, a not-for-profit housing organization, for more information on our Home Improvement Programs: (718) 469-4679. [www.nhsfoeastflatbush.org](http://www.nhsfoeastflatbush.org).

1294. Each event is open to the public and is being held at 206-20 Linden Boulevard in Cambria Heights, Queens.

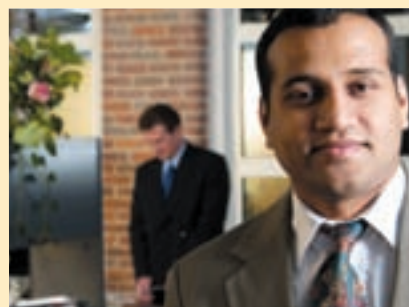
### TUESDAY, APRIL 23

**HOME BUYING SEMINAR:** The first step toward homeownership begins with education. Neighborhood Housing Services (NHS) of East Flatbush, a not for profit housing organization, is having a Free Homebuyer seminar. Learn about grants, affordable mortgages, closing cost assistance and building your homeownership team. Time: 6:00 p.m. Where: Flatbush Library, 22 Linden Blvd., 2nd fl. (on the corner of Flatbush Ave.) Brooklyn, N.Y. 11226. To reserve space, call 718-469-4679 or email [nfoef\\_01@nhsnyc.org](mailto:nfoef_01@nhsnyc.org).

**THEATER PANEL DISCUSSION:** This panel will explore every aspect of licensing: from what it costs to use existing music and images in productions, to the use of "licensing" to extend the life of a work and benefit the writer and often the producer. The panel will explain the cost difference between licensing and optioning a play for a production, discuss grand rights and performance rights required for integrating music into a presentation, and the many subtle and not so subtle differences in production costs when licensing becomes part of your budget. Admission is \$12 (free for TRU members). Please RSVP by email to [TRUStaff1@gmail.com](mailto:TRUStaff1@gmail.com) or by phone at (212)



**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.



**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.

714-7628 at least one day in advance. The Players Theatre's Steve & Marie Sgouros Theatre, 3rd floor, 115 MacDougal St., NYC. Doors open at 7:00 p.m. for networking and refreshments, panel starts promptly at 7:30 p.m.

### THURSDAY, APRIL 25

**CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP:** Helpful tips, tools and resources, as well as guidance, support, sharing and caring from 2:00 - 3:30 p.m. This event is open to the public. RSVP: 1-646-476-1294. Each event is open to the public and is being held at 206-20 Linden Blvd. in Cambria Heights, Queens.

### FRIDAY, APRIL 26

**JOB FAIR:** Central Brooklyn Community Job Fair will be hosted at the Concord Baptist Church, 833 Gardner C. Taylor Blvd (formerly Marcy Ave.) from 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Sponsors will Sponsor: Assembly Member Annette Robinson For more information call, (718) 399-7630.

### MONDAY, APRIL 29

**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 comfort-

able 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. RSVP: 1-646-476-1294. Each event is open to the public and is being held at 206-20 Linden Blvd. in Cambria Heights, Queens.

### ONGOING UNTIL- SATURDAY, MAY 11

**CELEBRATE NURSES:** Help us honor nurses by submitting their names and related information. As the selection is made we will forward the names of the nurses who will receive an award and the invitation to the nurses ball. Please submit names to [jacobshyatt@gmail.com](mailto:jacobshyatt@gmail.com).

### SATURDAY, APRIL 6 - SATURDAY, 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.

**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.

**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.

**DONATIONS:** St. Robert Bellarmine Church is joining efforts with the Dioceses of Trenton to bring relief to victims in the hardest hit areas. The church has organized a sorting sub station in the parish and will be delivering donations to various locations shortly. The church is seeking donations of cardboard shipping boxes for packing or rubber bins for storage for victims. Donations are tax deductible and the church will provide you with a receipt upon request. Feel free to contact St. Robert Bellarmine Church at any time Attn: SRB Hurricane Relief Effort, 61 Georgia Rd., Freehold, NJ 07728 or [srbwelcome@gmail.com](mailto:srbwelcome@gmail.com), Pam Stengel (732) 580-0075, Linda Altini (917) 578-4852. Phone: (732) 462-7429 or Fax: (732) 409-3496.

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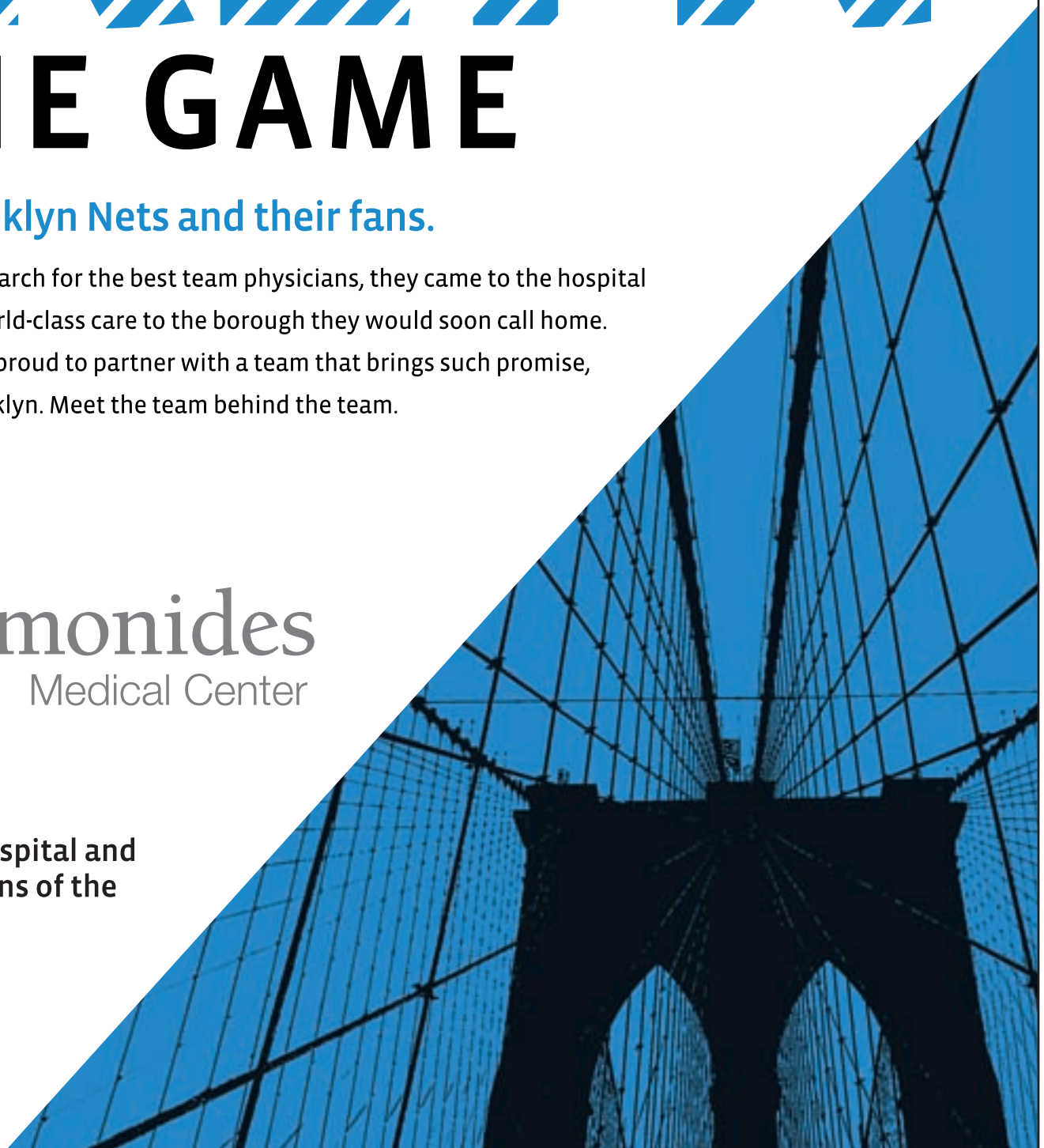
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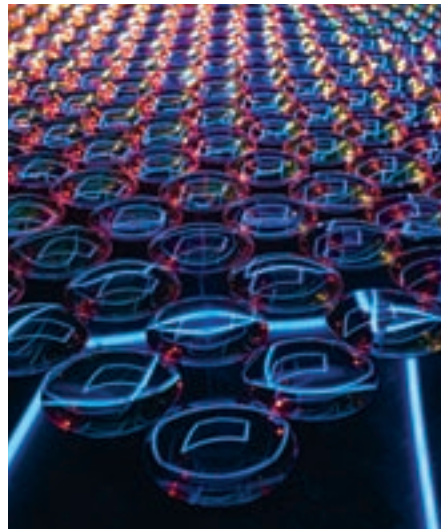
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■ **I was skeptical.** I bought a box and it worked as advertised. Within a week I had relief. Howard Toy, 69, Henderson, NV ■ **It's heaven to sleep through the night.** For many years I had 6-7 sleep interruptions every night. Had urgent trips to the bathroom day and night with discomforts. I enjoy my new life. Angus Pike, Oshawa, ON ■ **I am truly amazed and relieved.** After 2 weeks I no longer have to get up during the night. I'm enjoying a normal sex life again. I hope a lot of men with a pride issue give this tea a shot. It's difficult to express how delighted I am. Clarence A. Rehrig, 58, Allentown, PA ■ **Know the truth.** This is my third year of drinking the Ezee Flow Tea. I highly recommend it. A real life saver. Thomas M. Thurston, Forsyth, GA. ■ **Women** suffering with incontinence, UTIs ask for Bladder Control Tea for Women #4b. Guaranteed relief within days. **No need to make claims. Bell relays 100% truthful user's free speech. No money is paid for it. No questions asked guarantee.**



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**Dr. C. Hammoud M.H., PhD,** recommends this natural, effective fish peptide product to nutritionally support the body's normal blood pressure function. \*A science-backed herbal phytonutrient. Promotes flexible, relaxed blood vessels in healthy persons. \*A one-of-a-kind formula that offers unprecedented nutritional support for your overall health and well-being. \*We have thousands of repeat customers. Blood pressure is a focal point of cardiovascular wellness. \*Achieve your balance and maintain your balance and a healthy range.

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

\*These statements have not been evaluated by the Food and Drug Administration. This product is not intended to diagnose, treat, cure or prevent any disease.

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#60

**Last couple of years I tried everything.** Results with Bell Skin Disorders #60 were unbelievable. I have beautiful skin again. Thanks for giving back my self-esteem. Nelisa Royer, 28, Doral, FL ■ **My mom bought Bell #60.** I was skeptical. It did work quickly and better than anything else. Christopher Seraphin, 14, Brooklyn, NY. ■ **It worked.** I no longer have to hide at home, because I was ashamed to be seen. Agnes Casillas, 60, New York, NY ■ **Can wear again dresses** that are backless. My skin looks fantastic. Thank you from the bottom of my heart. Yvette Maclean, 40, Lodi, CA ■ **I was trying everything for years** and nothing worked. I felt physical and emotional pain having to hide. Finally I found your Bell #60. I'm so grateful and impressed about how fast it worked with amazing results. Eulalia Isabel Sanchez Martin, 30, Brampton, ON **Skeptics can call everybody. All are real people like you or your friends.**

## SNORING?

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



#23

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

■ **College professor had lack of good sleeps with many interruptions** for last 8 years that made her tired during the day. Within 3 days taking Bell Sound Sleep #23 the terrible snoring stopped. I wake up feeling refreshed and energized. I can concentrate in a focused, happy manner. I feel delighted with this natural product. Dr. Anele E. Heiges, 77, New York, NY ■ **A life changing product.** The very first night I took the capsules and every night after I had a restful and wonderful sleep. It has been a God send and blessing. I am by nature a skeptic. The money-back guarantee convinced me to try it. Jimmy Pay, 53, Gardendale, AC ■ **3 Years on Bell Sound Sleep** #23. My wife and I are entirely satisfied. Snoring episodes

have completely disappeared. This has improved our lives enormously. Leo Fortin, 60, St-Georges, QC ■ **Basically you saved my husband's life.** For the last 5 years my husband had very bad nights. Bell #23 was nothing short of a miracle. I have my husband back. No more snoring. No more napping during the day. I am telling all our friends. Bonnie Johnson, 64, Wichita, KS ■ **My life changed. Sleep now 7-8 hours.** I am a retired college professor and author of books. I have no more need to nap during the day. Nothing I tried helped until I started Bell Sound Sleep. I am so delighted with this product I would like to make motivational speeches to help others. Carmen V. Caruso, 66, Ann Arbor, MI **On the Bell Website we list phone numbers or email addresses of actual users of this product and all other Bell products. Most are delighted to talk about their relief.**



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# SPORTS

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Prep basketball star Terrence Samuel, seen here at the Jordan Brand Classic Regional Game, held at the Barclays Center.

AP Photo/Damen Jackson via Triple Play New Media

## Jordan Brand Classic a success

By Robert Elkin

Selwin Thomas doesn't know much about basketball, but he still tries to help his son Terrence Samuel as much as possible by giving him off the court pointers.

Thomas originally comes from Grenada, where cricket was the main sport. Samuel is

Continued on Page 42

## All set for SVG school at Penn Relays 2013

By Nelson A. King

The coordinator of St. Vincent and the Grenadines' participation in the prestigious Penn Relays Carnival in Philadelphia, Pa says stage is set, and anticipation is very high, for this year's event.

James Cordice, the mastermind behind the initiative, told Caribbean Life, in an exclusive interview, that nationals and well-wishers in the United States could hardly wait to see athletes from the Thomas Saunders Secondary School (TSSS) compete for the third consecutive year in what is undisputedly the

Continued on Page 42



# RED BULLS WIN

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, file

## In fourth-place tie in Eastern Conference

By Patrick Horne

The New York Red Bulls (2-3-2, 8 pts.) got its first road win last Saturday night at DC United's RFK Stadium in the nation's capital. The 2-0 defeat of host DC United (1-4-1, 4 pts.) came from goals by forward Thierry Henry and defender Jamison Olave

and put New York in fourth-place tie in the Eastern Conference.

Henry's 25-yarder in the 29th minute beat DC goalkeeper Bill Hamid as it took a bad bounce just in front the goalkeeper before landing in the goal. The Red Bulls though did find the back of the net

moments after Juninho's corner kick was flicked on by Brandon Barklage and nudged into the goal by Olave at the 36th minute. In other MLS games last weekend, Portland beat San Jose, 1-0, and Dallas defeated Los Angeles by the same score; Phila-

Continued on Page 42



# Jordan Brand

Continued from page 41

a senior guard on the basketball team at South Shore High School in Brooklyn.

"Selwin would tell me to go out there (on the court) and play with passion," Samuel said. "When Selwin played cricket he would play with passion. My father played cricket just for the fun of it. He was a math teacher in Grenada. When he came to New York he didn't teach any more."

Samuel recently concluded his senior year on South Shore's basketball team. When he took part in the Jordan Brand Basketball Classic all-star game for the Regional team. He was on the 'white' squad.

The 6'3" guard turned in an outstanding career at South Shore when he led them to two straight Public Schools Athletic League Class 'AA' quarter final round spots during his sophomore and junior seasons. But academics always came before basketball and academics qualified him for a spot in college.

Samuel's play during his high school days enabled him to continue his round-ball sport at Big East member UConn, thus staying close to 'home.' Samuel is a 'big'



Prep basketball star Kentan Facey, seen here at the Jordan Brand Classic Regional Game, held at the Barclays Center. AP Photo/Damen Jackson via Triple Play New Media

guard that is at his best when he's attacking the basket.

Samuel scored eight points and grabbed four rebounds

in 15 minutes and helped to pace his White team to a 114-102 victory over the Black team in the second

of the three games in the Classic of high school players at the Barclays Center last Saturday.

# CONCACAF soccer

Continued from page 41

delphia and Toronto, Montreal and Columbus, and Real Salt Lake and Vancouver, all played to 1-1 draws; Houston beat Chicago, 2-1, and Colorado topped Chivas USA, 1-0.

## CONCACAF hosts FIFA President Blatter

Jeffrey Webb, the new CONCACAF president, is really working the public relations circuit and strengthening his relationships in FIFA in an effort to shore up CONCACAF regions in need of more development. He is pursuing his mission to re-establish CONCACAF as one of the most effective and successful confederations in FIFA. Webb, also a FIFA vice president, vowed recently to lift the standard of administrative operations and the standard of play throughout the Caribbean and North and Central America. In this regard, the CONCACAF president hosted FIFA President Joseph Blatter and Secretary General Jerome Valcke in a Caribbean tour recently.

"We are honored to have President Blatter and Secretary General Valcke for a week-long tour to see some of the advancements within the CONCACAF region," said Webb during a press conference. "At CONCACAF, we are following FIFA's foot-



New York Red Bulls defender Jamison Olave. Cal Sport Media via AP Images

prints by empowering the region through development."

The contingent visited Dominican Republic, Haiti and Cuba, places in need of more exposure and development, since the focus was to inaugurate FIFA Goal Projects in those regions. The FIFA Goal Projects are an initiative to build stadiums and administrative buildings in under-developed countries and in other areas in need of expansion.

In the Dominican Republic, that nation's soccer federation's president, Osiris Guzman, led the delegation on visits to past Goal Project initiatives such as the Joseph Blatter Technical Center and the new Pan-American Soccer Stadium. The group also visited the future site of the next FIFA Goal Project, where a futsal field will be built.

# Saunders School athletes

Continued from page 41

largest track and field event in the U.S.

"I expect TSSS to perform even better than last year," said Cordice, a former president of the organizing group, the Philadelphia-based St. Vincent and the Grenadines' Organization of Pennsylvania (SVGOP).

"The TSSS athletes exceeded the expectation of many in the past two years that they competed in the Penn Relays," he added. "They can only do better."

"It also shows that the concept of sports and academic achievement is really working," the untiring Cord-

ice continued.

He said a 14-member contingent – comprising 11 athletes, two coaches and a manager/chaperone – from TSSS will leave home on Apr. 21 for the games, which run from April 25 - 27. The contingent returns home on April 29.

Cordice said the boys' and girls' teams will compete in 4x100 and 4x400m relays.

The girls, who will be competing for the second successive year, will vie on April 25; while the boys will compete in the 4x100m the next day, and the 4x400m on the final day.

Cordice said the boys'

team qualified for the games in early February – two months in advance – during the Barbados Relay Fair; while the girls did so during the recently-concluded Inter-Secondary Schools Athletic Championship (ISSAC) in St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

The male athletes are: Seon Shephard, Kemuel Forde, Dylan Carr, Neilo Thomas, Erasto Dasilva and Rogike Thorpe (ISSAC Intermediate Male Champion 2013, ISSAC Junior Champion 2012 and member of the 2011 Penn Relays team).

The female athletes comprise: Adero Dasilva, Casanique Richardson, Lenasha

Olliver, Narisia Young and Kerina Hooper (ISSAC Intermediate Female Champion 2012, SVG representative at CARIFTA 2013 and member of the 2012 Penn Relays team).

Godfrey "Fuzzy" Harry is the head coach, Kamal Hunte, assistant coach, and Teacher Dawana Balcombe is the manager/chaperone.

Last year, the boys' and girls' teams triumphed in the 4x400m (3 min., 29.79 sec.) and 4x100m (50.39 sec.) heats in the unaccustomed blustery and cold weather, making every Vincentian in the Franklin Field stadium extraordinarily proud.

The girls' team also placed sixth in the 4x400m (4 min., 15 sec.), and the boys' placed second in the 4x100m (44.37

sec.)

"You have to give these athletes a lot of credit for competing in adverse weather conditions and doing comparatively very well," Cordice said.

"We are seeking progression every year," he added. "It's an expensive process, but our country becomes more visible when our children participate in sports outside of St. Vincent and the Grenadines."

"When you have 50,000 people in that stadium on the Saturday, and over 100,000 for the three days, plus millions watching on TV, we're setting this up to boost tourism and boost the visibility of our country," he continued.

Penn Relays organiz-

ers said attendance for the three days last year totaled 110,000, about the same as the population of St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

The relays attracted athletes from throughout the United States, as well as from several foreign countries, including the Caribbean.

Besides St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Caribbean countries represented last year included the mighty Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago, the Bahamas, Grenada, Barbados and Guyana.

With Jamaicans exceeding all nationalities, including Americans, in attendance, Prime Minister Portia Simpson Miller was on hand on the final day last year to cheer on her country's 500-odd athletes.





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# Marlon Samuels gets Wisden recognition

West Indies all-rounder Marlon Samuels received the prestigious recognition from Wisden as one of its five Cricketers of the Year. One of the highlights of the year for Samuels was his terrific innings of 78 from 56 balls that led West Indies to win the ICC World Twenty20 Title. In three Tests in England, he batted five innings and failed to pass 50 runs only once. He went on to Bangladesh and scored his highest Test score of 260. He scored 866 runs including three centuries and four 50s in seven Test matches at an average of 53.27 last year.

## Barbados Protests Exclusion From Semi-Finals

Barbados and Combined Campuses and Colleges (CCC) finished fourth on 10 points but Barbados was not chosen as one of the four teams for the semi-finals. Barbados lost to CCC in the head to head contest and in spite of Barbados having a better net run rate of 0.013 compared



## Eyes on Cricket

By George H. Whyte

with CCC 0.055, the West Indies Cricket Board left the team out. Both Barbados and CCC ended with two wins from their six games.

## WICB Super 50 Tournament Rules

According to the tournament rules, if two teams end the competition on the same number of points, the team with the more wins will secure the semi-finals spot. If the teams are still equal, the rule states that "the team with the most number of wins over the other team or teams who are equal on points and have the same number of wins will be used as a factor to determine which team goes through to the semi-finals. Consideration is also given to the the team having the highest

number of bonus points and the final criteria is the team with the highest run rate.

## Barbados Cricket Association Goes to Court

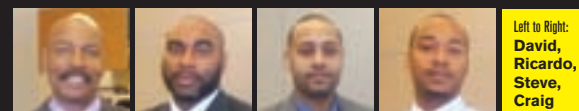
Conde Riley, first vice president of the Barbados Cricket Association said "there is an error with regard to the final standings. In any Round Robin Tournament, individual teams will win and lose and the tie breaker used internationally is the net run rate if most wins cannot determine the positions." Prominent attorney at law Randall Belgrave, QC, is representing the Barbados Cricket Association in this matter. The final for Regional Super 50 championship is set for Sunday April 21 at Kensington Oval, Barbados.



West Indies' batsman Marlon Samuels plays a shot during their ICC Twenty20 Cricket World Cup final match between Sri Lanka and West Indies' in Colombo, Sri Lanka.  
AP Photo/Eranga Jayawardena, file



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Offers exp 3 days after pub. Price incl dlr prep & any cost except tax, tags, DMV fees & reg fees. \*Leases incl 10k mi per yr, add'l mi at 15¢ per mi. Lessee resp. for maint. excess wear. Prices reflect all avail incentives to dlr. Must be approv. by prim lender @ Tier 0. Due @ sign/Total pymts/Resid: Altima=\$3804/\$1896/\$17,195; Rogue=\$3824/\$5811/\$14,011; Sentra=\$3704/\$1656/\$14,765; Pathfinder=\$4054/\$8541/\$19,105. Due at signing=1st mo. pymt+Down pymt+\$0 Security Dep+\$895 Acq fee. Closed end leases. †Finance @ 0% APR for 72 mos. Down pymt/Tit pymt: Altima=\$15,064/\$5688; Rogue=\$11,620/\$10,728; Pathfinder=\$13,632/\$15,768; Sentra=\$13,632/\$4968. Must be from dlr stock. \*Allowance avail for recent college grads if qualified. \*\*2002 Nissan Altima: Stk# U18732, auto, 4cyl, p/w/l/s/b, a/c, 66k mi, Buy for \$3995. Offers can't be combined w/other advertised prices. †For qualified buyers. ‡Based on Galves Value Book. Cannot combine w/ any offer. See dlr for details. Not resp for typos. Prices and availability subject to change from time of pub.



# CROSSWORD BY STATEPOINT MEDIA, INC.

THEME: HISTORY 101

## ACROSS

1. Debra Messing's NBC show
6. Distress call
9. Pack down
13. \*Coat used by army starting in Korean War
14. It can be electric
15. Of the kidneys
16. E.T., e.g.
17. \*Progressive or Victorian one
18. O. Henry's specialty
19. \*a.k.a. "Father of U.S. Constitution"
21. \*Underground Railroad conductor
23. Presidential election mo.
24. Arizona city
25. Auction call
28. Poet \_\_\_\_\_ Angelou
30. \*George W. Bush is the \_\_\_\_\_ son of George H.W. Bush
35. Keats' works, e.g.
37. Magnifying glass
39. Eastwood's \_\_\_\_\_ Harry
40. Hippocrates' promise
41. Monument to Buddha
43. Steam engine fuel
44. Of them
46. Prayer leader in mosque
47. Upper hand
48. "The Green \_\_\_\_\_"

50. Any thing
52. Ever, to a poet
53. Chapter 11 issue
55. Cranberry habitat
57. \*Site of first shot of Civil War
60. New Hebrides
64. Something unusual, perhaps worthy of collecting
65. Exclamation of surprise
67. Back of mandible
68. Comprehend
69. Waste of time, in text lingo
70. Sheep-like
71. Not working
72. Clinton \_\_\_\_\_ Rodham
73. Dog-\_\_\_\_\_ book

## DOWN

1. Unsubscriber's focus
2. \_\_\_\_\_ fide, in bad faith
3. Desert-like
4. Coil of yarn
5. Type of horse-drawn carriage
6. Espied
7. "\_\_\_\_\_ the fields we go"
8. List of candidates
9. \*FDR was only president elected to more than two
10. Dwarf buffalo
11. \*Father of American Education, Horace \_\_\_\_\_
12. Layer

15. Like risqué entertainment
20. Stretched circles
22. "It's no \_\_\_\_\_!"
24. Free from slavery
25. \*Lincoln's assassin
26. \*Known for potatoes, it achieved statehood in 1890
27. Block
29. Supposed giant Himalayan
31. Vegas cube
32. Wear away
33. "All the world's a \_\_\_\_\_"
34. \*Tippecanoe's running mate
36. Leg bone
38. Quarrel or argument
42. Single-cell protozoan
45. Grass valued for hay for cattle
49. Driver's aid
51. \*Non-interference doctrine creator, 1823
54. \*1954 Board of Education opponent
56. Tropical fruit
57. Voiceless consonant
58. Europe/Asia mountain divide
59. \_\_\_\_\_ en scene
60. \*15th Amendment subject
61. Gulf V.I.P.
62. Ditty
63. CPO in auto industry
64. Computer-generated imagery, acr.
66. Garden cultivator

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### ► SALES HELP WANTED

### ► SALES HELP WANTED

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### ► MEDICAL HELP WANTED

### ► MEDICAL HELP WANTED

### ► MEDICAL HELP WANTED

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- RNs- Registered Nursing

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- Paid Vacation
- Holiday Pay
- Cases from 4-12 hours & Live In

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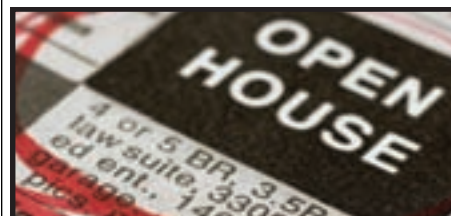


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## HIRING

- PCAs-Personal Care Aides
- HHAs – Home Health Aides
- RNs- Registered Nursing

## BENEFITS

- Top Dollar
- Paid Vacation
- Holiday Pay
- Cases from 4-12 hours & Live In

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## ► MEDICAL HELP WANTED

## ► MEDICAL HELP WANTED

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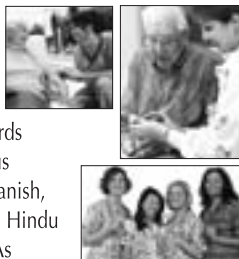
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- HHAs – Home Health Aides
- RNs- Registered Nursing

## BENEFITS

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- Paid Vacation
- Holiday Pay
- Cases from 4-12 hours & Live In

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ing communication and  
advertising available ser-  
vices; however, some of  
the hotlines & service num-  
bers in classifieds actually  
hurt the people who rely on  
them by cheating them of  
their hard-earned dollars.  
"Most newspapers print a  
disclaimer in their classified  
ad section to warn readers  
about numbers that are a  
direct line to trouble. Any  
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540, 595 or 871 charges a  
fee beyond a local call. In  
some instances, ads initially  
advertise calls to a local  
number, but then direct  
callers to a second number  
starting with one of the  
paid exchanges. "Consum-  
ers must also question  
the legitimacy of vague  
classifieds because they  
too could be a scam. Be-  
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consumers should verify  
the source of all informa-  
tion & always be wary  
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unknown party."

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