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## Preparing for Carib tourism festival

By Nelson A. King

The Barbados-based Caribbean Tourism Organization (CTO) says New York is getting ready for the annual invasion of Caribbean vibrancy, energy, cuisine, culture, spirit and spirits.

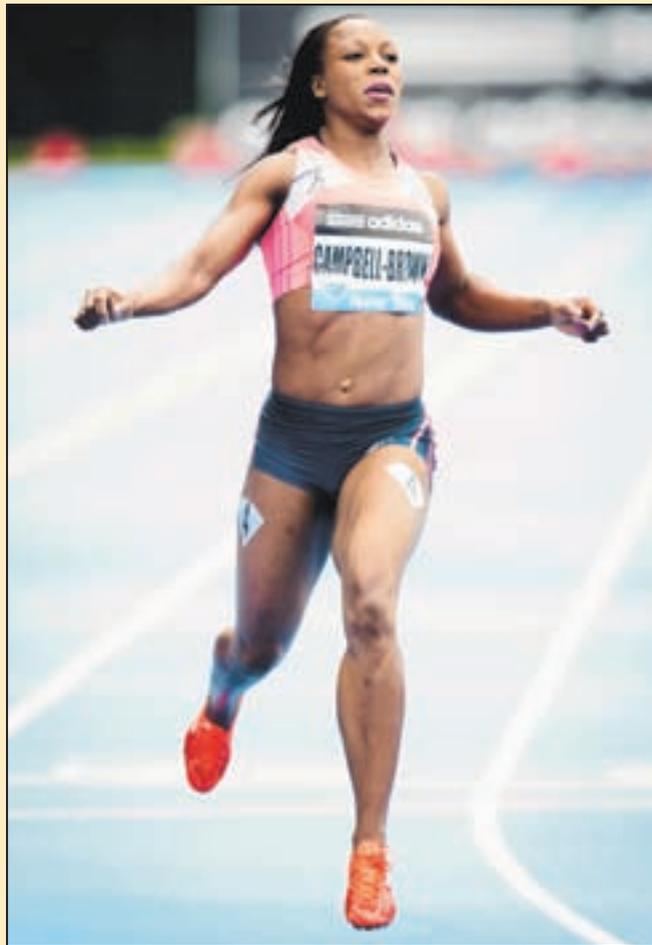
CTO said its New York office is "busy putting the finishing touches to preparations for Caribbean Week in New York, a celebration of the sights, sounds and vacation attributes of the Caribbean."

The Week begins on Saturday with a "Gospel Celebration" in Brooklyn, and ends on Friday, Jun. 7, with the "highly anticipated, spirit-filled Rum and Rhythm" in Manhattan.

"Along the way, there will be some exciting, fascinating and thrilling events to satisfy varying interests – the youth, Diaspora, engaged couples, those seeking romance, marketers, and those who simply wish to enjoy a lovely Caribbean holiday," said CTO in a statement.

It said the "Gospel Celebration"

Continued on Page 4



## Best on the track

Veronica Campbell-Brown, representing Jamaica, wins the Women's 200m during the IAAF Diamond League Grand Prix competition on Randall's Island, Saturday, May 25, 2013, in New York.

Photo by John Minchillo

# GUYANA AIRLINE DILEMMA

## Wooing Jet Blue, Air China

By Bert Wilkinson

With the upcoming summer peak season just two weeks away, Guyanese aviation authorities are scrambling to woo international airlines to fly to the Caribbean trade bloc nation to help fill a void at Timehri International Airport caused by the early May devastating pullout of Delta Airlines from the popular Georgetown-New York route.

The administration of President Donald Ramotar this week said

they will redouble efforts to woo US-owned Jet Blue and even Air China to take up the slack as there are already indications that there will be no seats available to New York by the end of June when schools and universities close and when thousands leave the country to spend time with friends and relatives overseas.

Citing poor passenger loads on its New York-Georgetown run, Delta withdrew its service earlier

Continued on Page 4

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# CARIBBEAN ROUNDUP

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THE NEWS FROM BACK HOME

## Barbados

Bridgetown, Barbados, the war against drugs will continue if those involved do not have an alternative means of feeding their families, Barbados Attorney General Adriel Brathwaite stressed during a recent courtesy call by secretary general to the Organisation of American States (OAS), Jose Miguel Insulza.



Brathwaite pointed out that there was a need to create more opportunities for young people to move them away from that type of life style.

If they can't be an employee, they must eat and live, he said, stressing there must be a parallel approach.

Nothing that the drug trade was one of the main links to crime, the attorney general also expressed concern over reports that indicated the region should expect to see increases in being used as a trans-shipment point.

Insulza noted that the war on drugs was not unsuccessful, as about 50 percent was confiscated annually. However, he noted that it was time to start working on outstanding matters in terms of penalties for such crimes, and treating drug addiction as a chronic, disease and not a crime.

## Dominica

Dominica Prime Minister Roosevelt Skerrit has denied allegations of misuse of European Union funds by his government.



From time to time because of partisan politics sometimes, we enrage ourselves in untruths and unfortunately, some in the media for political reasons; publish these things as if it is the gospel accord-



## U.S., Caricom mutual interests

U.S. Vice President Joe Biden, right, signs the guest book as Trinidad & Tobago's Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar looks on, during their meeting at the Diplomatic Center in St. Anns, Trinidad, Tuesday, May 28, 2013. See story on page 6.

AP Photo/Anthony Harris

ing to the book of Luke.

Skerrit refuted these allegations while addressing the launching of the Banana Accompanying Measures (BAM) IN La Plaine last week.

An EU delegation led by EU Ambassador to Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean, Mikael Barfod were on island for the launch of the EC \$54 million (15.5 million Euros) injection of funds towards BAM.

BAM is a series of measures aimed at strengthening the viability of agriculture and increasing its productivity and competitiveness.

According to the Prime Minister, the EU conducts its own

auditing of all programs and projects which it finances.

The EU has made over \$185 million available to Dominica for various projects over the last ten years.

EU Ambassador Barfod told the media last week that the EU shares an excellent relationship with Dominica at all levels.

## Grenada

Former Prime Minister Tillman Thomas has a warning for Grenadians.



He wants them to beware of the politics of the New National Party (NNP), which defeated Thomas'

incumbent National Democratic Congress (NDC) 15-0 in general elections on February 19.

"Not because the NNP won a majority, that is not an indication that they are on the right track," Thomas said. "We respect the democratic process and we respect the majority in the country. But, at the same time, that doesn't mean it is right."

According to Thomas, Grenadians should not "surrender our values and our morality to the NNP brand of politics. It's not the healthiest thing for Grenada I maintain this and I'm very strong on this".

Many have been speculating on Thomas' political future since

his failure to hold his government together during its tenure that began in July 2008 and ended with February's whitewash that included Thomas losing his own St. Patrick East constituency.

The party's leadership is likely to be on the agenda of the 2013 annual convention of the NDC.

Last year's convention was held September 30 when 10 senior members, including then General Secretary Peter David and Acting Chairman Stanford Simon, were expelled from the party.

## Guyana

Relatives of a well-known attorney in Guyana who defended drug traffickers and gang members are asking police to further investigate his death.



A state pathologist has ruled that 57 year old Vic Puran died from asphyxiation after his car veered into a canal in October. However, daughter Mikhaila Puran said she believes her father was killed and that his death was made to look like an accident.

Puran died around the same time that three of his clients were shot and killed. All were suspected gang members. Puran at the time also was defending Guyana's national security minister amid a state probe into the police killings of three demonstrators.

Deputy Police Chief Seelall Persaud on Friday upheld the autopsy results, although he added the case has not been closed.

## Jamaica

A 20-year-old pregnant Jamaican woman, who passed out 17 packages of marijuana at the Queen Elizabeth



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Elected officials and family members at Queens news conference.

# Chrissy's New York Premiere

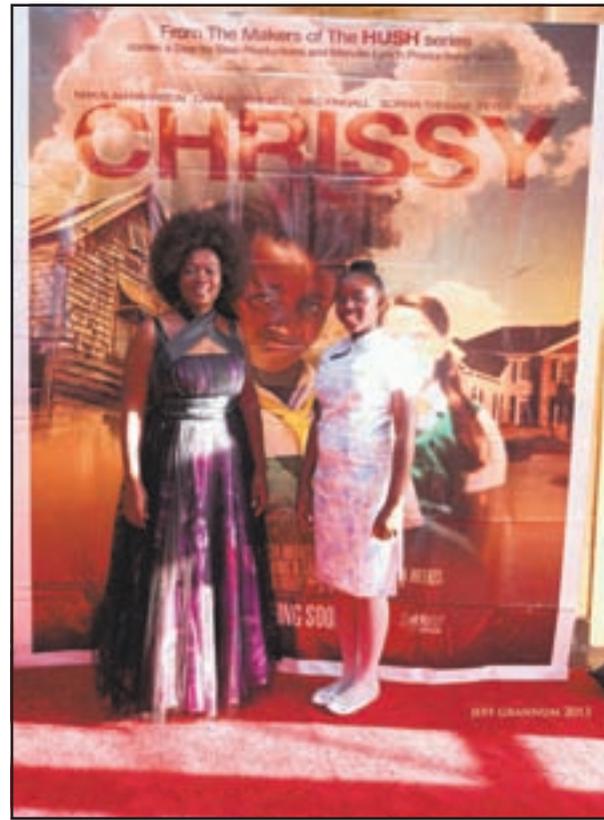
By J. D. Massiah

Chrissy, the fourth film shot on location in Barbados by Step by Step Productions was well received by a Caribbean audience on Friday, May 17, 2013 at its premiere at the Tribeca Cinema. It subsequently played to packed audiences there and at other New York City locations, including St. Gabriel's Episcopal Church in Flatbush and the Linden Multiplex in Brooklyn.

Due to the overwhelming response, additional shows have been added for the Linden Multiplex in Brooklyn on Thursday, June 6 at 7:00 p.m. and again on Thursday, June 20, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.

"The previous three shows were the Hush Series, writer and director, Marcia Weekes said. "We wanted to shine light on the two issues of poverty and bullying, which are very pervasive in our societies. We concentrated on the countryside of Barbados because you hardly get to see poverty like this close to the beaches."

Shot entirely on location in Barbados, the film is set in a country village and revolves around an intelligent and articulate 11-year-old girl named Chrissy. As the story unfolds, we find Chrissy in tattered socks and an unkempt school uniform in front of an empty refrigerator. She heads out to school hungry, and on her way there spots and



Director and lead actress

Photo by Jeff Grannum

climbs a mango tree. She eats a mango; while walking through cane-fields as her uniform gets dirtier.

The film tackles the class issue, highlighting the poverty and non-hygienic practices of a poor teenager, where three square meals is a rare occurrence on any given day for her and her family, compared to that of her newly-found friend Melissa, played by Cara O'Donnell, who lives in an upscale and well to do

neighborhood.

Makalah Harrison co-stars in the movie and is quite effective in portraying Chrissy, who's often hungry and extremely thirsty for knowledge, and whose quest for knowledge is exemplified in a scene that captures her studying under a street light because there is no electricity in the house she shares with her mother, younger brother and older sister.

"I had to get my mind

ready to play Chrissy, because her life is totally different from mine, said Makalah. "It called for a lot of emotions and perseverance to bring the character to life and my mother has helped me tremendously."

Co-star Mac Fingall's depiction of the headmaster lends maturity to the film. The seasoned entertainer is no stranger to the big screen and his role as headmaster is well illustrated, showing the depth of his entertaining abilities. Fingall sees the Barbados film industry as burgeoning.

"The film industry in Barbados is in its embryonic stages, and as with anything that is young, you have to nurture it," he says. I'm confident that it will succeed, because this production is one example of the talent in Barbados, especially among the young actors who are a part of this production."

Ultimately, Chrissy is a story of hope and the vision of a better future. It shows how two young people working together can make changes for the better. The old adage, 'study hard and you'll have a better life,' is still very much alive. It gives young viewers the template to realize a better tomorrow.

This film is nothing short of an inspirational opus that will inspire many children to appreciate what they have and to help the less fortunate.

## Pols complain about danger on the streets

Council member Leroy Comrie, a candidate running on the Democratic ticket for the borough president of Queens, recalled growing up a few blocks from where the New York City Department of Transportation installed traffic lights – at the intersection of 227th Street and 115th Avenue in Cambria Heights, NY – months after 24-year-old doctoral student

Paulina Rodriguez was struck and killed by two speeding cars driving at approximately 90 mph in a 30 mile zone.

Comrie stated at a press conference in Cambria Heights, Queens, "My best friend grew up on this block" The Southeast Queens legislator added, "We need to make sure we are advocating to lessen speeding," said the councilman in an interview at the site of the tragedy.

The councilman whose 27th council district encompasses Cambria Heights acknowledged that his office has continuously received complaints related to the area.

"We have gotten complaints from Community Board 13 and the 105th Precinct Council about this stretch. We realize the entire stretch (from Farmers Boulevard to the Cross Island Parkway) is used as a corridor for drivers to come in and out of

Queens. When the accident occurred, I convened a meeting with different organizations and looked at the corridor," said the councilman in the presence of Assemblywoman Barbara Clark, Department of Transportation Commissioner Dalila Hall and Community Board 13 District Manager Lawrence McClean.

According to Comrie, one source in Queens reported 40 accidents on 115th Street in 2012.

McClean concurs with the lawmaker's assessment. "DOT realizes it was a dangerous corridor so we were able to get a traffic light fast," McClean noted.

According to Agnes Kumi, the best friend of the late Paulina Rodriguez, following the death of Rodriguez, not one street light but two street lights were installed after a petition drive.

With a group of family members and friends, Kumi reminisced about the fatal encounter of the first-generation Trinidadian-American. "Paulina was driving. She came to a stop sign. There was no traffic light when she was hit," Kumi and a close-knit group collectively explains the incident as a few carried enlarged photographs of prominent periods in their late friend's life.

Continued on Page 42

## Diverse groups urge expanded preschool

By Cydney Hargis

WASHINGTON, May 30 2013 (IPS) - Over 300 business, civil society and academic groups here are urging U.S. lawmakers to support early childhood education, months after President Barack Obama hinted that his administration would be pushing for a change in U.S. policy to support universal preschool.

Organizations supporting an open letter sent Wednesday include Macy's, a national department store chain, the Committee for Economic

Development and the University of Miami.

"The bigger challenge for me is most politicians, regardless of party, are wired to think short term and for the next election." -- Secretary of Education Arne Duncan

"The letter is specifically about getting the business community, both organizationally and individually, to demonstrate that there are groups outside of the typical parent organisations that care about this issue," Colleen Wilber, vice-president of

media relations at America's Promise Alliance, the U.S.'s largest partnership dedicated to improving the lives of children, told IPS.

In February, during his annual State of the Union Address, President Obama outlined his administration's plans for overhauling early childhood education. "Most middle-class parents can't afford a few hundred bucks a week for private preschool," President Obama stated. "And for poor kids who need help the most, this lack of access

to preschool education can shadow them for the rest of their lives."

According to the PEW Center for States, a research group here, children from disadvantaged homes can start kindergarten as far as 18 months behind, after which point it has been found to be extremely difficult for them to catch up. High-quality preschool programmes, on the other hand, have been shown to improve early literacy, language and math skills by almost 50 percent.

# Ultimate culture experience

**Continued from cover**  
will feature some of the Caribbean's top gospel icons lifting spirits with joyful noises and inspirational messages through song, dance and other performances."

The "Rum and Rhythm," a benefit for the CTO Foundation, is Caribbean Week's "exciting signature event," dubbed "The Ultimate Caribbean Cultural and Epicurean Experience," CTO said.

It said rum and food lovers will sample top-shelf award-winning Caribbean rums, traditional Caribbean cuisine and rum-infused delicacies prepared by celebrity chefs from the Dutch, English, French and Spanish Caribbean.

CTO said other "can't miss" events include the Students' Colloquium next Tuesday, at the New Yorker hotel in midtown Manhattan, "at which Caribbean students studying at the tertiary level present sustainable tourism projects that are

practical and can provide a sustainable source of income for Caribbean nationals."

There will also be the Caribbean Diaspora Forum, developed in collaboration with the Brooklyn-based Caribbean American Chamber of Commerce and Industry; Caribbean Media Marketplace, where CTO member governments and private sector exhibitors interact with leading journalists from trade and consumer press; and the Media Awards Luncheon, where the organization honors journalists for their award winning features on the Caribbean.

Other features are the Avalon Invest Caribbean Now Breakfast, the annual investment power forum on the Caribbean; and the Caribbean Marketing Conference & Awards Luncheon, organized by the CTO Allied members, where the "latest cutting edge marketing trends are presented and people who have made

significant contributions to the region's tourism development are recognized," the CTO said.

"One event that's sure to excite potential holiday-makers is the OneCaribbean Vacation Mart and Auction, a One Day Bonanza at which Caribbean vacations will be available at special prices," it said. "Professional retail travel agents will close the sales in an environment that evokes the colors and energy of the Caribbean."

CTO said this event will get "a further lift by the presence of the Caribbean Week official spokesman, Tamara Tunie of "Law & Order: Special Victims Unit" and "As the World Turns" fame.

"A Romance Pavilion is being organized as part of the One Day Bonanza to make it easy for engaged couples or those seeking romance in the warmth and hospitality of the Caribbean, to select or design their perfect Caribbean wedding or honeymoon," said CTO, adding that the celebrity wedding planner, Samantha Goldberg, will at the Romance Pavilion to add "some star power" to the event.

# Delta Guyana pullout

**Continued from cover**  
this month, triggering criticisms from the government which in turn produced figures showing that the airline had in fact been operating with a load factor of more than 80 percent for most of its five years in and out of Guyana.

Airlines officials confirmed that Delta was doing well on the route and remain baffled as to why it abandoned the run, traditionally known as a tough one for operators, given problems with cocaine smuggling, lax aviation security and other problems.

Since the Delta pullout, Trinidad&Tobago-owned Caribbean Airlines has been the only one left that offers non-stop or direct flights to New York via Trinidad.

The carrier said Tuesday that only a handful of seats are now left on the route and it expects

these to be gobbled up once schools close for the summer. Round-trip fares average about \$800.

Civil Aviation Director Zulfikar Mohamed said the department is willing to expedite applications for start-up services from any credible operators but no such documents have yet been sent to his department.

"We have had no real, tangible interest from any major operators for now, but we are ready if we get any applications to fast forward them," he said.

His remarks come just days after President Ramotar announced plans to redouble efforts to get increased airlift to the country. He said Jet Blue is showing interest even if barely, Air China is being targeted and Suriname Air which flies from Georgetown to Miami several times weekly is being lobbied to also serve New

York as the summer peak approaches.

Asked about the Guyana-Jamaica joint venture Fly Jamaica Airline (FJ), which has an application on file, Mohamed insisted that "they need to supply us with more documentation." But FJ officials say they beg to differ and scoff at the lukewarm support from Guyanese officials and the Cabinet.

While the two sides differ, FJ is preparing to launch routes to Toronto, Canada, leaving Guyana in the lurch. Mohamed has hinted that officials want to be doubly sure about its finances given the failure of several startups in recent years. Others in the aviation sector say the time has come for an investigation into government-subsidized airlines operations and to determine why there's such a high rate of failure.

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# Biden signs U.S. trade pact with Caribbean Community

AP Writers Tony Fraser and David McFadden

PORT-OF-SPAIN, Trinidad (AP) U.S. Vice President Joe Biden and political leaders from across the Caribbean met in the capital of resource-rich Trinidad & Tobago on Tuesday to sign a trade agreement and discuss a range of security, investment and energy issues.

After a more than three-hour session, Biden signed an agreement providing a framework for trade and investment between the U.S. and the Caribbean Community, a group of 15 nations and territories that include Trinidad, Jamaica and the Bahamas.

At a news conference, Biden said he was aware that island nations face unique challenges and added that the U.S. administration's goal is "not simply growth, but it's growth that reaches everybody."

The leaders also discussed efforts to combat drug trafficking and other transnational crimes under a U.S. program launched in 2009 dubbed the Caribbean Basin Security Initiative. More than \$200 million in funding has been committed to it so far.

Biden said Washington and the Caribbean region should be pre-



Vice President Joe Biden, left, listens to Trinidad & Tobago's Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar during their meeting at the Diplomatic Center in St. Anns, Trinidad, Tuesday, May 28, 2013.

AP Photo/Anthony Harris

pared to counter upticks in drug trafficking if smuggling routes swing back heavily to the islands. The Caribbean in the 1980s was the main smuggling route to the U.S. mainland, but the path shifted west to Mexico and Central America.

"We know that as other nations in the hemisphere make strides against drug trafficking, the threat

as I said may increasingly shift back toward the Caribbean," he said.

Biden also disclosed that Washington and Trinidad recently signed a memorandum on launching a renewable energy research center in the country for the whole Caribbean region.

"There's probably no group of nations better situated to take

advantage of renewable energy possibilities than here in the Caribbean," he said.

Caribbean Community leaders raised the matter of criminals being sent by the U.S. back to their native lands in the region. The matter has been a major issue on the Caribbean's diplomatic agenda for years.

The U.S. has deported thousands of convicted criminals to the Caribbean annually since 1996, when Congress mandated that every non-citizen sentenced to a year or more in prison be kicked out the U.S. upon release. As it stands now, home countries are told only why an offender is deported due to rules preventing the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement agency from sharing more details without permission first from federal or state entities.

Haitian President Michel Martelly, chairman of the Caribbean Community, said regional leaders "repeated our plea for information sharing with respect to criminal deportees."

Officials also spoke to Biden about their concerns regarding generous U.S. subsidies to the rum industry in its Caribbean territories that regional distillers worry will drive

some island labels out of business or force them to sell out to global beverage corporations.

Trinidad Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar said regional governments have been invited to view U.S. Navy vessels that are being decommissioned to see if the craft can be used to patrol the borders of the Caribbean Sea.

Trinidad's government also disclosed that it has ratified a "status of forces agreement" with Washington spelling out legal protections and obligations of U.S. forces during temporary stays. It says the agreement can't be the basis for any U.S. base in Trinidad and there are no provisions for other facilities used by American troops on the islands.

Trinidad and Tobago, a two-island nation off Venezuela's coast, was the second stop on Biden's three-nation trip in the region. It is the most industrialized country in the Caribbean and one of its most prosperous, thanks to a wealth of natural gas that make it a major fuel supplier for the U.S. and other nations.

Biden arrived Monday night from Colombia, where he met with President Juan Manuel Santos. His next stop will be Brazil, where he will conclude his six-day trip.

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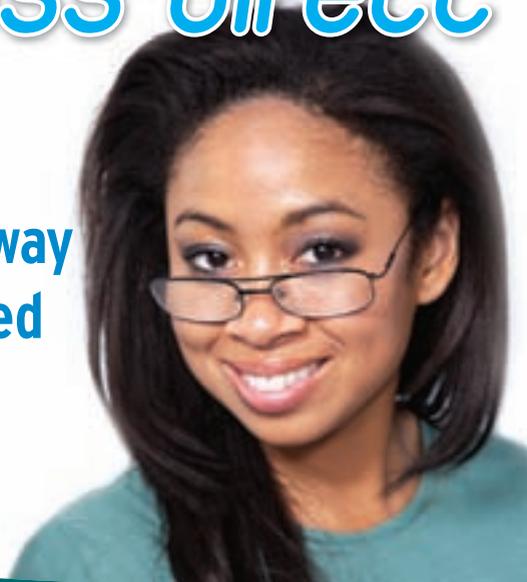
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# How To Avoid Risky Back Surgery With A Breakthrough Non Surgical Treatment And Get Out Of Pain Fast

Here's how the newest breakthrough non-surgical back pain and sciatica treatment may end your pain and solve your herniated, bulging or degenerated disc pain problems...

You may be thinking "What IS going to happen to me if I can't find a solution to my back pain or leg pain?" The answer to your question starts out hopeful. I'll just go to my doctor and he will take care of me. He will know what to do. But then something very odd happens to you. You discover your primary care physician is not really well equipped to handle that job. He or she is very busy treating infections, diabetes, heart conditions and the like, which they are very well equipped to handle. This is very apparent with your resulting drug prescription for Soma muscle relaxers and Norco, Neurontin or any other of the various prescribed pain medications. You then take the drugs soon to feel strangely like you're not altogether "there" or you immediately are sick, feel nausea and vomit the drugs as fast as you swallowed them. When you get sick of that (pardon the pun! I couldn't resist), you go back to your doctor looking for another more appealing treatment. This time it's physical therapy. The thing you already can't do!! You already can't bend over, twist, lift things, and now they want you to do more of it with a bunch of other back pain sufferers! Gimme a break. Now, you've really had it. You try the chiropractor and either you feel better for a little while only to have the pain return, or worse nothing happens at all. Or even worse than that, after your treatment you have **MORE** pain (not because chiropractic does not work..your condition is just too deteriorated or severe). Then you try acupuncture because you read in a magazine it could help pain. You then realize sticking a bunch of needles in you will not magically remove the bulging disc that is smashing your nerve and causing you pain. You try massage as you read on the internet massage may help alleviate back pain...only to be disappointed. You're now beginning to feel desperate. Back to your primary care doctor to tell him about your adventures hoping he will have a different answer this time. He does.



"We can inject pain drugs through a big needle into your spine." You cringe in fear and reluctantly agree at this point. "NOW I will be fixed." Or at least that's what you've been led to believe. You have either no pain relief, some pain relief, a whole lot of pain relief or it makes you have more pain. The second pain shot (oh, yes there will be a second and a third) is usually less effective or not at all and requires another one. You come to the realization that pain shots will not fix the disc bulge or herniation still smashing your delicate nerves causing you pain. Finally, your doctor recommends you see a "Specialist" (Back Surgeon) and he can do risky surgery. If you've read the latest article in the Journal Of American Medical Association\*, you will see surgery patients and non surgery patients turned out the same! Why even do the surgery? Risk of paralysis, death, infections, more pain. No thanks. So. Back to the question. What are YOU going to do if you are stuck between serious back pain or leg pain or surgery? **Great News! A new extremely effective non surgical new back pain treatment is now available in Brooklyn.** If you are suffering from back pain or leg pain,

having pain at the belt line, fire down your legs, numb legs, feet or toes or feel like a knife is stuck in your back you owe to yourself to check out this new procedure.

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a very small percentage of folks we can't help. Here's what a couple applicants said after I told them both I couldn't help them:

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**Lincoln Leung  
Brooklyn, NY**

*I felt like a truck ran over me. I was in such pain it was unbelievable. I gotta tell you, so far I've had 7 or 8 treatments, and I feel 100% better. I live away but worth every mile to come here."*

**Fabienne Alexander - Retired  
Brooklyn, NY**

*I saw several different doctors, medical doctors, chiropractors and other various treatments with no results. I had a couple bad discs. I immediately started feeling much, much better and the back pain decreased. At the end of my treatments my pain is almost non-existent."*

**Burt McIvain  
Brooklyn, NY**

*"After reading the full page article in the paper, I was skeptical of the positive results of a treatment for degenerative disc that might show pain relief. My wife and I decided to make an appointment for the no charge (nothing to lose) 17 point evaluation. Guess What! Following only my third treatment, I was virtually pain free. I cannot thank the doctor and her staff enough as I am pain free!"*

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# Family caregivers: tools for better care

By Susan Beane, M.D.

Today's fragmented health-care system has left some gaps in care that are now being filled by family caregivers. More and more, family caregivers are performing medical tasks for loved ones and becoming important partners in the care process.

"Family caregivers are the glue that holds everything together," says Mary Jean McKeveny R.N., Director of Program Development, Dominican Sisters Family Health Service. "Caregivers are the silent care coordinators, but they're not necessarily being engaged in the discharge planning process across all care settings. They are a key partner in really improving the quality of care being provided to the patient."

Certified home healthcare agencies like the Dominican Sisters Family Health Service hire nurses, physical therapists, occupational therapists, social workers, and home health aides to help patients and their family caregivers in the home once they leave the hospital.

The AARP Public Policy Institute and the United Hospital Fund, in a first of its kind national survey, recently reported that almost half (46 percent) of family caregivers perform nursing tasks for care recipients with long-term physical and mental conditions. These tasks include managing multiple medications, providing wound care, preparing food for special diets, using mon-

itors, and operating specialized medical equipment. These tasks were on top of helping with daily activities like eating, bathing, and dressing. And most telling of all, most caregivers said that they received little or no training to perform these nursing tasks.

This report recommends that accrediting and standard-setting organizations should strengthen their oversight of how well institutions meet family caregiver needs and require steps to fill in their gaps in training.

Mary Jean McKeveny says that 40 to 80 percent of the medical information that patients receive is forgotten right away, and nearly half of the information that they remember is actually incorrect. This is why she says her organization uses the "teach-back" or "show me" method to provide education. This method lets the caregiver repeat in their own words what is said by the physician to make sure they know what to do to provide their family member with care. "Healthcare professionals often use jargon or terms that are unfamiliar to people," Mary Jean adds, "and we need to speak the language that people can understand."

Mary Jean suggests families seek out and research organizations online that provide necessary care support. Home health agencies like hers can connect families to a combination of medical services and community

Continued on Page 12

# Legal Services employees say no deal

By Kate Whalen & Ian Davie

Members of the Legal Services Staff Association (LSSA), the union representing over 200 attorneys, paralegals, secretaries, process servers, and other professionals employed with Legal Services NYC (LSNYC), recently rejected management's contract proposal which demanded unprecedented cuts to health care and retirement benefits. Employees at LSNYC, the nation's largest provider of low-income civil legal services, are on strike for the first time in nearly 20 years.

"The employees of LSNYC have committed themselves to anti-poverty advocacy on behalf of low-income and elderly New York City residents," said Melissa Roman, a paralegal with LSNYC's Queens-Long Island City office. "It saddens each of us that LSNYC management has forced us into this position."

Employees have been working without a contract since

**"The employees of LSNYC have committed themselves to anti-poverty advocacy on behalf of low-income and elderly New York City residents."**

July 1, 2012. An overwhelming majority of the membership rejected LSNYC's proposal, which demanded financially unnecessary concessions including significant cuts to health care coverage for particularly vulnerable members and families, higher employee payments to health care premiums, a 29% reduction to 403(b) retirement contributions, and zero cost of living increases to salaries.

In the waning hours of negotiations, the union made an unprecedented offer to pay 2% of member salaries toward

health care. The union's solution, aimed at preventing proposed cuts from falling primarily on the organization's sickest and lower-income members, was flatly rejected by management.

At the heart of the strike is a dispute concerning the direction of LSNYC and the quality of services to the organization's thousands of clients. LSNYC attorneys and members worry that management's proposed cuts would undermine the organization's model of retaining experienced advocates, in turn diminishing the direct legal services provided to clients.

"Maintaining high quality legal services for our clients is of chief concern for us," said Sonja Shield, an attorney with LSNYC's Brooklyn office. "We want to gain the experience to ensure that we are the most effective advocates for social justice. That is simply not possible."

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# Women's forum decries alarmism

By Julie Gunlock & Angela Logomasini

WASHINGTON, D.C. — In a continued effort to counteract the culture of alarmism, the Independent Women's Forum drafted a coalition letter, signed by 23 prominent pro-freedom organizations, to call out a misinformed assault on chemicals, retailers, and consumers. The letter, sent to the nation's 10 largest retailers, urges them to stand firm against the anti-science "Mind the Store" campaign's demands that stores rid shelves of thousands of common, safe consumer products.

The radical environmental organization at the helm of the "Mind the Store" campaign is noto-

rious for relying on junk science to spread fear and misinformation about chemicals. Removing popular and safe products from store shelves will do nothing to improve public health.

Members of this coalition share a commitment to identifying false alarmism, flawed science, and manufactured hysteria and providing a reasonable voice to counteract efforts to limit consumer choices, stifle free-enterprise, and take away our freedoms.

Julie Gunlock, director of the Culture of Alarmism project at the Independent Women's Forum issued the following statement:

Mothers have had enough of the fear mongering from the anti-

science, anti-progress Left. In this economy, moms certainly don't need peddlers of junk science to make products less safe, more expensive, and harder to find. As a mother of three young children, I want products that work well, last long, and are readily available. The "Mind the Store" campaign is misleading Moms into believing only products free of chemicals can be considered safe. That simply isn't true.

Moms must resist the alarmism and remember that one reason children are safer today is because of innovations, including chemicals, that make products better. These chemicals shield children from real

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## Caribbean Life

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

NEW YORK PRESS ASSOCIATION  
**NYPA**

**PUBLISHER:** Clifford Luster  
**ASSOCIATE PUBLISHER:** Ralph D'Onofrio  
**EDITOR-IN-CHIEF:** Kenton Kirby  
**ASSOCIATE EDITOR:** Kevin Williams

**Contributing Writers:** Azad Ali, Roderick J. Broome, Fabian Burrell, Tangerine Clarke, Robert Elkin, Patrick Horne, Nelson King, Donna Lamb, Tequila Minsky, Vinette K. Pryce, George H. Whyte, Bert Wilkinson, Lloyd Kam Williams

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# This glass-house dweller dispenses with caution

In Trinidad and Tobago, where folks have by now gotten used to eruptions on the political front occurring with dizzying speed, the latest attention-grabber for politicians, plebes and all others was what the local scribes dubbed Emailgate. Opposition Leader Dr. Keith Rowley disclosed in Parliament a bunch of emails, very incriminating of the government, that were purportedly exchanged among members of the administration of Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar, including the lady herself. Rowley, we learned, came into possession of the allegedly “hot” material months ago and handed copies of them over to then President Maxwell Richards, who in turn passed them on to the Integrity Commission. Seeing nothing come of all this as time went by, Rowley apparently decided that making the existence of the alleged emails public and making this the basis of a no-confidence motion against the government, was the way to go.

The emails generally concerned the infamous Section 34 scandal, in which the government had surreptitiously pulled out and presented for proclamation by the president one highly controversial section of a piece of legislation, the president

dumbfoundingly obliging. Speculation naturally centered on whether the emails were authentic. And media commentators’ (that’s media, not “media”) takes on the issue made for an eclectic mix. As for example in the country’s largest-circulation daily, the Express, where Raffique Shah concluded the emails had to be bogus, reasoning that the recklessness of communicating about the documents’ explosive content via email was a stretch he couldn’t bring himself to think the government players capable of...albeit that recklessness and the government, Shah must know, have been shown to be committed bedfellows. Fellow columnist Michael Harris was all over Rowley, whether the emails prove valid or otherwise, for his move in going public with the stuff without first getting professional verification of its authenticity.

But it was the perspective of Sunity Maharaj, whose fix on social dynamics in her midst seems always super-sharp, that most insightfully took Emailgate’s measure. “The corruption is now so comprehensive,” Maharaj said, “from top to bottom, that we’re likely to find no institution...no one that will lead us to the truth about Emailgate.” Which

## Viewpoint

By Les Slater

served as preamble to: “The frightening thing...is not whether the conversations actually happened – that we might never know – but that in this country it could very well have happened.” Maharaj detailed matters allegedly discussed in Rowley’s bundle and showed where, in each instance, no great leap was required to dial up the reality version. Regarding the involvement of Bissessar herself, Maharaj said: “Given the prime minister’s handling of the Section 34 imbroglio, acting as judge and jury in a matter in which she should have been the key person investigated, how hard is it to imagine her as part of a cover-up?”

Indeed Bissessar, along the way of her now three-year-old administration, has resorted to an above-the-fray buffer against implication that has oftentimes been much open to question. In the appalling abuse of power that was Section 34, she was playing that card again, the script including the justice minister walk-

ing the plank in a Bissessar charade that couldn’t possibly have conned too many. Early on she claimed, not very plausibly, unawareness of the goings-on surrounding what came to notoriety as the Reshmi affair, in which an unqualified young woman was being made head of one of the main security agencies.

There have been times, though, when “I didn’t know” wasn’t an option. Bissessar certainly knew that even if not spelled out in law, there was something fundamentally wrong in principle in making Jack Warner a member of her cabinet while he remained a vice president of FIFA. She certainly knew, subsequently, that there was too much of a dirty-dealing cloud over Warner for his assuming the national security portfolio not to have hiccups. She certainly knew that even if, again, not forbidden by law, nominating herself and her attorney general for senior counsel status (the vaunted “silk”) wasn’t a cool thing to do. And she certainly knows that her government has engaged in a rampant nepotism in hiring and contracting that has become downright ugly. Express columnist Keith Subero recently noted that, “every sector appears to have been vulgar-

ized by the appointments of friends and family of the government.”

Bissessar vigorously pounded away at Rowley, as political combatants are wont to do, responding to what he laid in the Parliament. But in light of the brazenly corrupt trail her government has marched in its three years on the job, some of the characterizations and lines of attack the prime minister opted for mandate a double-take reaction, considering the source. No one who had been participant in, or subscriber to, or mastermind of Section 34 or Reshmi, or awarding silk to self or the whole sordid Jack Warner saga should tap into an attack line like: “O what a tangled web they weave when first they conspire to deceive.” A line like, “This is what I see as a conspiracy of deception” should be off-limits to members of the Bissessar government. Ditto, “It is impossible to defend the indefensible.” Ditto, “What goes around comes around.” Ditto, anyone else’s credibility being “totally shot and gone.” The nerve!

If she’s the legal eagle she claims to be, the prime minister surely can avail herself of other slings and arrows that won’t call attention to her own glass-house dwelling.



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# Employees reject management's healthcare, retirement proposals

Continued from page 10

sible if we are unable to pursue sustainable careers in direct legal services." LSSA's 220 members employed at LSNYC represent thousands of low-income and elderly New York City residents each year.

LSNYC's proposed cuts to employee benefits, and the feared effects on client services, come in the face of disputed fiscal circumstances. Despite LSNYC's pessimistic claims of funding cuts from the nationwide Legal Services Corporation, the organization expects a working capital surplus of \$10.5 million at the end of 2013 and does not expect significant layoffs until 2015. Management's lead negotiator has also indicated that LSNYC can conservatively expect additional working capital increases of \$2 to \$3 million per year. Both sides have proposed a two-year contract that would expire June 30, 2014, leaving time to negotiate depending upon actual funding outcomes.

Meanwhile, despite exaggerated claims of budget shortfalls, LSNYC has faced criticism from the union for its low ratio of advocates to high-salary managers. While LSNYC currently employs only three union members for each higher-salary manager, the Legal Aid Society has an advocacy-oriented ratio of five employees to each manager. Because of LSNYC's allocation, skewed toward man-

agement, just slightly over half of LSNYC's budget pays for front-line case-handling staff. LSNYC has refused to address the management to staff ratios, or discuss any commitment to proportional layoffs should such steps become necessary in the future. The union estimates this proposal would save approximately \$1.5 million per year, while preserving vital services to low-income families and the elderly.

LSNYC clients expressed worries about the proposed givebacks and voiced support for union members on strike. "I am fully behind the attorneys, paralegals, and staff on strike, and I worry that these cuts would deprive people in my situation of quality advocacy" said Alicia Moore, a former client in LSNYC's Brooklyn office. "When I was facing eviction, and was unable to afford a lawyer, the employees of Legal Services were there. Their expertise helped me every step of the way. These employees are experienced and dedicated to serving our community, and they deserve a fair contract."

Employees have also questioned the tactics of LSNYC's bargaining team, led by Executive Director Raun Rasmussen, Joseph Genova (partner at Milbank, Tweed, Hadley and McCloy), and Michael Young (JAMS). After members set a May 1 contract proposal deadline - with a goal of educating themselves in order to make an informed decision

on May 15 - management failed to supply full written details of the proposal until the day before the vote. Just hours later, near the close of business on May 14, LSNYC proposed adding various conditions in exchange for a possible lump-sum restoration of retirement benefits. Union members also rejected this supplemental proposal today. Meanwhile, LSNYC began threatening to drop all union members from their health care coverage in the event of a strike. Members emphasize the importance of a contract that allows them to continue their careers while raising families and planning for their futures. "The proposed cuts will likely cost my family an additional \$450 per month, totaling \$5,400 a year in health care costs, and my son's speech therapist would become prohibitively expensive due to increased deductibles and out-of-pocket expenses," said Terry Lawson, staff attorney with Legal Services NYC-Bronx. "LSNYC's proposed cuts threaten our financial security in jobs that we love, in which we have already made substantial sacrifices. We're asking our management to resolve this strike by giving us a fair contract that doesn't make cuts at the expense of our most vulnerable members."

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## Tools for caregivers

Continued from page 10

support services to provide a successful transition from the hospital to the home.

"I would say to family caregivers—absolutely look into the organizations that

support family caregivers at a community level like the United Hospital Fund and the Transitions In Care-Quality Improvement Learning Collaborative," she says. "They have online

support and have information in understandable ways to provide the next step in care. They have tools in all different languages that really help family caregivers."

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# Rastas, Muslims and Voudon complain about denial of protections

**By Nelson A. King**

The United States claims that Rastafarians, Voudou practitioners and Muslims are discriminated against in Caribbean Community (CARICOM) countries.

In its International Religious Freedom Report for 2012, the Department of State says these are more pronounced in Haiti, Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago, and the Bahamas.

The report says while there were no reports of abuses of religious freedom in Haiti, some members of the Vodou and Muslim communities "complained they did not enjoy the same legal protections as Christians."

Vodous, which is widely practiced in Haiti, is often blended with elements of other religions, usually Catholicism, the report says.

It says the leader of a prominent multidenomina-tional group reports half the Haitian population practices some form of Vodou.

The report says Vodou leaders and civil society representatives expressed concern that the May passage of a constitutional amendment could again criminalize the practice of Vodou and lead to increased discrimination against Vodou adherents.

But the report says government officials, including the prime minister, immediately responded to these concerns and stressed that the new amendment would not limit the freedom of religious expression.

It says government officials noted that a 2003 presidential decree recognizing Vodou as a religious practice remained in force.

Washington says, in October and November, government officials met "numerous times" with Vodou leaders and practitioners "to assuage lingering concerns," adding that "there were no reports of discrimination against the Vodou community arising from the May constitutional amendment."

The report says that

some Muslim religious leaders claimed that the Haitian government was reluctant to recognize Islam, and that Muslims married in a religious ceremony did not receive the same government recognition accorded to Christians who married in the church.

The Muslim leaders complained that religious ceremonies could obtain government recognition only through a civil court.

According to the State Department, the press reports a "growing number" of Muslims in Haiti since the January 12, 2010 earthquake, citing an estimate of 2,000 to 10,000.

It says the authorities generally permitted prisoners and detainees to practice their religions freely and to request access to a Protestant minister, a Catholic priest, a Vodou leader, or a Muslim cleric.

But the report says while society generally was tolerant of the variety of religious practices, citizens' attitudes toward Vodou "ranged from acceptance as part of the culture to rejection as incompatible with Christianity."

It says the growing visibility of Islam after the 2010 earthquake expanded local perceptions of religious diversity and "demonstrated the need for more sustained interfaith partnership to address the country's developmental challenges."

The report says that Religions for Peace and the Interfaith Council of Christian, Muslim, and Vodou groups conducted a series of interfaith dialogues on cholera awareness and the importance of the Creole language in promoting religious understanding.

In Jamaica, the State Department says there were reports of societal discrimination based on religious affiliation, belief, or practice, stating that Rastafarians alleged the overwhelmingly Christian population discriminated against them,

"although there were signs of increasing acceptance.

"Rastafarians said that elements of their religion, such as wearing dreadlocks and smoking marijuana, presented serious barriers to their ability to find employment and achieve professional status in the official economy," the report says.

It cites a Rastafarian group, the Church of Haile Selassie I, which it says continued to seek religious incorporation "for the 15th year without success.

"Some Parliamentarians maintained Parliament should continue to deny incorporation because church members used marijuana, which was illegal, in religious services," the report says, adding that "the church asserted this was not the case and indicated it used legal herbs."

The report also says that Rastafarians continued to allege that law enforcement officials unfairly targeted them.

However, the report says it was not clear whether the reported discrimination was based on religious belief or was due to the group's alleged illegal use of marijuana as part of religious practice.

With the exception of the concerns raised by Rastafarians, the State Department says there were no other reports of societal abuses or discrimination based on religious affiliation, belief, or practice in Jamaica.

It says the U.S. embassy in Kingston, the Jamaican capital, "engaged with and encouraged dialogue" among religious groups, including Christians, Muslims, Jews, and Rastafarians, "as part of its overall efforts to promote religious freedom."

During a three-month state of emergency declared by Parliament in 2011, the report notes that authorities in Trinidad and Tobago arrested 16 Muslim men who were allegedly plotting to assassinate the prime min-

Continued on Page 42

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# CARIBBEAN ROUNDUP

Continued from page 2

Hospital, has told a magistrate that she was transporting the drug to support her family.

Shanique Ameike Hyman, of 90 West Street, Kingston, pleaded guilty to possession of cannabis, possession with intent to supply, trafficking in the drug and importing the drug when she appeared at the District "B" Magistrates' Court yesterday.



Magistrate Laurie-Ann Smith-Bovell sentenced the drug mule to 12 months on each charge to run concurrently.

In relating the case against Hyman, prosecutor Sergeant Wendell Greenidge told the court that she arrived in Barbados on Friday from Trinidad. She cleared Immigration and was subsequently interviewed by the police.

She was arrested and taken to the hospital and examined by a doctor where she confessed that she was pregnant. This was also confirmed by ultrasound.

The young woman also admitted that she had ingested drugs and tests revealed that there were foreign matters in her digestive system.

Hyman was detained in Ward C6 where she passed out 17 packages of marijuana, weighing half a pound.

The quantity was valued at \$2 000.

Hyman apologized to the court and said she was offered money to transport the

drugs and she did it in order to support herself and her family. (MB)

## Trinidad and Tobago

Trinidad and Tobago being placed on a US Trade Representative (USTR) watch list.

In a report released on May 1, the USTR said T&T had been placed on its watch list because of the concern that the local cable operator refuses to negotiate with the Copyright Organisation of Trinidad and Tobago (COTT) "for compensation for public performance of music, including for music written by American composers".



"The United States is also concerned by ongoing delays in the resolution of the long-standing litigation over the collection of unpaid performance royalties from the same cable operator," the report said.

The report requested the Government to take "all necessary action" for compliance to intellectual property rights agreements.

Speaking at the launch of the Caribbean Investment Forum at the Hyatt Regency (Trinidad) hotel in Port of Spain, Trade Minister Vasant Bharath said he was aware, through news reports, of the situation but did not have details, and would therefore need to be apprised of the situation by COTT.

*Compiled by Azad Ali*

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# Ways to ENHANCE YOUR BUST without surgery

Many women are concerned about their appearance, and often the size of their bust is a cause for their concern. Those who seek a more curvaceous bustline have different options beyond surgery to achieve their desired looks.

## What determines breast size?

Upon the arrival of adolescence and puberty, many of the physical changes that set females apart from males take place. Estrogen, progesterone, and prolactin are three female hormones that largely determine the variation in sizes and appearance of the breasts.

The genetic blueprint that females inherit play a role in determining a woman's bust size. There's a good chance that girls whose relatives are busty will have ample busts as well, and girls whose relatives have smaller busts will likely follow suit.

Other factors play a role in breast size. For example, the amount of glandular tissue

that forms can dictate breast size. Also, because the breasts are largely comprised of fat, changes in a woman's body weight can impact bust size.

## Increasing bust size

According to research by the British magazine *Expert Beauty*, almost 50 percent of women considering cosmetic treatments would like to improve the size or shape of their bust. Strong feelings against breast surgery force many women to seek nonsurgical options to improve the look and size of their bust. There are different techniques to try, which can have varied results. Here are some of those methods.

- **Padded bras:** Bras that have padded cups are one of the easiest ways to increase bust size. Many manufacturers offer padded styles, some of which have removable or layerable cups that can decrease or add just as much size as you desire. These bras look seamless under clothing.



Women do not need to go under the knife to increase breast size.

- **Bra inserts:** There are different inserts that you can add to your own bra to perk up your bust size. Some retailers offer pump-up bra pads that, at the user's discretion, can be

filled with air and then tucked inside the bra. There are also prefilled silicone inserts that are either placed inside of the bra or backed with adhesive

**Continued on page 24**

# New York Methodist breaks kidney stone

When patients come into a hospital in pain, they're often asked a version of the same question: "On a scale of zero to 10, with zero being 'not painful at all' and 10 being 'the worst pain you can possibly imagine, how would you rate your pain?'" There's one condition that almost universally receives an emphatic response of "10"—an impassible kidney stone.

Kidney stones are solid masses of tiny crystals that can form when substances in the urine become highly concentrated over time.

A kidney stone sometimes passes through the body with little or no discomfort, but if it becomes lodged in the urinary tract, blocking the flow of urine, the pain that results in the back or lower abdomen can be excruciating.

Fortunately, many kidney stones can now be dissolved with a technique called extracorporeal shock-wave lithotripsy.

"By generating shockwaves with a constant intensity from one firing to the next, we are able to quickly pulverize kidney stones into small pieces, which can more easily travel through the urinary tract and pass from the body," said Dr. Ivan Grunberger, director of urology at New York Methodist Hospital.

"This means that a higher number of patients will be stone-free after the first treatment," he continued.

During the procedure, the lithotripter generates high-powered sound-waves that target the stone, breaking it into small pieces.

"With the advantages of the latest ultrasound technology to locate the stones, and the ability to generate consistent shockwaves, we can treat lithotripsy patients with more precision and accuracy than ever before," said Dr. Grunberger.

"The pain from a kidney stone may often be a 10, but NYM's treatments for kidney stones have firmly been turned up to 11," he continued.

For referral to a urologist at New York Methodist Hospital, call the hospital's Physician Referral Service at (718) 499-CARE or go to New York Methodist Hospital's website, [www.nym.org](http://www.nym.org), and click on "Find a Doctor."



Actress Angelina Jolie had a double mastectomy after learning she has a gene that made it likely she could get breast cancer. AP / Evan Agostini

# Women have more options for breast cancer surgery

By **Marilynn Marchione**  
Associated Press

One of the world's most glamorous women had an operation that once was terribly disfiguring — removal of both breasts. But new approaches are dramatically changing breast surgeries, whether to treat cancer or to prevent it, as

Angelina Jolie just chose to do. As Jolie said, "the results can be beautiful."

Jolie revealed that she had a double mastectomy and reconstruction with implants because she carries a gene mutation that puts her at high risk of developing breast cancer.

For women who already

have the disease, the choice used to be whether to have the lump or the whole breast removed. Now there are more options that allow faster treatment, smaller scars, fewer long-term side effects and better cosmetic results. It has led to a new specialty — "oncoplas-

**Continued on page 24**

# Simple ways to enhance your personal beauty



Many women are on an eternal quest to enhance their beauty, spending thousands of dollars each year on cosmetics or hair care products to emulate the pictures they see in leading beauty magazines.

Studies going back to 1995 have determined that it can take only a few minutes of looking at a beauty magazine to cause most women to feel depressed, guilty, and shameful. In the 1980s, models weighed about eight percent less than the average woman. But today's models weigh 25 percent less on average, establishing a standard that many women cannot meet without sacrificing their health. But models and celebrities have entire teams devoted to making them look attractive, sometimes spending hours receiving cos-

metic applications from stylists and makeup artists.

Women struggling to live up to unrealistic standards can look beyond many makeup and cosmetic fixes to bring out their beauty. There are many different strategies that have stood the test of time.

•**Confidence:** A woman who exudes confidence and security about how she looks may come off as more attractive. By comparison, women who hide behind layers of clothing or makeup may seem like they're trying to disguise their true selves. Walking with your head held high into a room can certainly have all eyes pointing in your direction for the right reasons.

•**Good posture:** Standing up straight can improve your health and your appearance.

Stooping posture has long been associated with old age, and symptoms of frailty and lack of energy. Simply standing tall can elongate the body, making it appear slender and helping to portray a younger appearance.

•**Healthy hair:** Hair sends a message to others about how much you care about your appearance, as it is one of the most visible aspects of your appearance. Many people suffer with hair issues that can be remedied with different techniques. Dry unmanageable hair may be the result of inadequate scalp stimulation. In such instance, the oils of the scalp need to be spread to the hair shaft to improve hair's appearance and health. Too often women do not spend enough time brushing or massaging the scalp to induce oil distribution. While 100 strokes with a brush

is not necessary, a thorough brushing each day can help.

•**Skin care:** Women often turn to cosmetic products as fast fixes to beauty woes. While many manufacturers present their products as the miracle fix women were looking for, most beauty items do not offer the fresh-from-the-plastic-surgeon's-office effect. In reality, expensive products may not work any better than inexpensive ones. For decades people have relied on petroleum jelly as a versatile skincare product. It has been used to accelerate healing in the skin, as a moisturizer, as a protectant from weather elements and even as a lip balm. You should try petroleum jelly to prevent wrinkles or add moisture to troubled skin as a first recourse over more expensive specialty products.

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**Clockwise from top left:** Dr. Paul Saunders and Registered Nurse You Chung. Bottom, left to right: Dr. Norbert Moskovits, holding the device, and Registered Nurse Lorraine Carroll.

# Maimonides heart surgery patients share stories

Maimonides Medical Center recently hosted a one-year anniversary party to commemorate the success of one of its heart surgery programs. Patients and their families enjoyed a festive gathering to celebrate life, their surgical care, and the device that's making this all possible — the left ventricular assist device.

The left ventricular assist device program was founded at Maimonides in early 2012. As the first and only hospital offering this procedure in Brooklyn (and one of only a handful in the country), Maimonides is proud to have transformed the lives of so many patients. A highly trained team of cardiac surgeons, cardiologists, anesthesiologists, and nurses work together to facilitate the procedure. The device is an implant that essentially powers a failing heart suffering from advanced congestive heart failure.

“Our patients are here today smiling and enjoying every moment together. They're talking about what Mets or Yankees games they plan on attending, which vacation they're going on next and more,” said Dr. Norbert Moskovits, Co-Director of the

program. “Before undergoing the LVAD procedure, these patients had a hard time leaving their homes. It's truly spectacular how drastically this device can improve one's quality of life.”

The patients were thrilled and grateful to be part of this celebration. The afternoon included a photo slideshow of each patient as they recovered from the procedure, and a recognition of all those involved.

“After receiving our accreditation from the Joint Commission, we were inspired by the possibilities we knew this program would deliver,” said Dr. Paul Saunders, Co-Director of the program. “Seeing our patients here today is a very gratifying experience. We're so happy to have this device and the expertise to make a difference.”

One of the most important benefits of the procedure is that patients can return to most of their normal activities — they can travel abroad, ride in trains or airplanes, and drive cars. Because the device takes over for the failing heart, patients are once again able to walk for longer distances, climb stairs, and perform many other physical activities which would have

previously been impossible.

Maimonides President and Chief Executive Officer Pamela S. Brier noted, “When the doctors approached me with this fascinating new program, they said, ‘The program will cost millions of dollars, but it will be worth it.’ And as I look at the healthy, energetic faces in this room, I know that it was worth every penny and then some.”

The afternoon continued with a celebratory cake and shared moments of joy between Maimonides staff, patients, and their families.

The Maimonides left ventricular assist device team provides outstanding patient-centered care for people with advanced heart failure, while aligning with the Joint Commission's high performance standards for safe, high quality treatment. The team consists of surgeons, cardiologists, nurses, and many others who work together to ensure the best possible outcomes for our patients.

The team is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week at (718) 283-5243. For more information about the program, visit [www.maimonidesmed.org/Heart-and-Vascular-Center/LVADProgram.aspx](http://www.maimonidesmed.org/Heart-and-Vascular-Center/LVADProgram.aspx).

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# Pros and cons of anti-wrinkle injections

For many men and women, the fear of aging and the desire to look young as long as possible has driven scores of people to doctors' offices around the country for anti-wrinkle injections.

Since Botox received Food and Drug Administration approval back in April 2002, it and its successors have become the drugs of choice in wrinkle reduction. These treatments are a derivative of the botulinum toxin, the same bacteria that causes botulism. Botulinum toxin is one of the more powerful neurotoxins discovered. Because it deadens nerve impulses and relaxes muscles, it is widely used to relax the face in areas where wrinkles are prevalent, thusly reducing the appearance of wrinkles as well.

The types of facial lines that are most often treated with these products are the ones that appear when one is frowning or squinting. Frown lines, wrinkles on the forehead, crows feet,



Injections to reduce the appearance of wrinkles are often very effective but carry some risks.

and the like are frequent treatment areas. Areas on the lower half of the face are sometimes treated, but it's controversial due to the risk of damaging important facial nerves.

There are potentially serious risks associated with

these wrinkle treatments. It is important to weigh the risks associated before making the commitment to the treatments. Furthermore, it is important to visit a qualified cosmetic specialist, dermatologist or cosmetic surgeon for the administration of any botulinum toxin.

## Pros

These procedures are relatively safe when administered by a skilled person. They are known to temporarily erase wrinkles for three to six months. Many people find a boost in self-esteem after receiving a treatment. Many others have gotten compliments about looking younger or happier, especially if wrinkles created an angry or sad expression to the face. Injections are less expensive than other cosmetic surgery.

## Cons

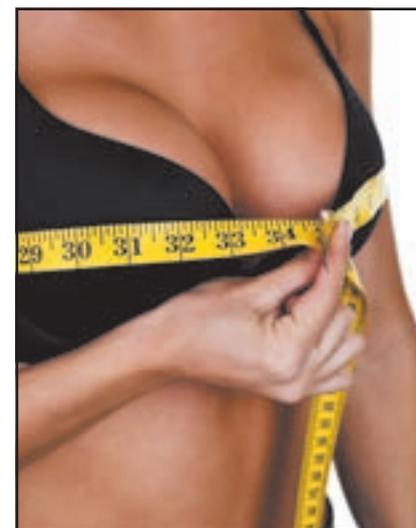
As with any drug treatment, there are side effects that may negate the benefits of treat-

ment. These can include drooping of eyelids, swelling, redness or bruising at injection sites, and infections. Faces also may lack emotions and limit a person's ability to communicate effectively.

It's when the botulinum toxin spreads outside of the treatment area where severe side effects can occur that might be life threatening. These include all-over muscle weakness, hoarseness, loss of bladder control, problems swallowing or breathing, and other side effects.

Because this is a medical procedure, it is important to have a medical professional administer the product in a medical setting. "Botox parties," where an unskilled technician performs the injections can be risky for all involved.

Wrinkle treatments can be effective, but carry with them some risks. Explore all the benefits and risks prior to administration of botulinum toxin.



## Breasts

Continued from page 21

and worn in place of a traditional bra when a strapless style calls for it.

- **Suction devices:** A suction product might incite some skepticism, as some might think it's one of those infomercial or gag products that really don't live up to their claims. However, Dr. Roger Khouri, a reconstructive surgeon, developed the Brava Breast Enhancement and Shaping System as the first nonsurgical technique for increasing bust size. The breasts may grow up to one full cup size after a 10-week period. Women wear two plastic domes on the breast within a bra and the domes are hooked up to a battery-operated box. When the system is turned on, the air in the domes is pumped out and the breasts are sucked forward into the domes. It is believed that the suction causes the nerves and breast tissue to grow.

- **Breast slapping:** This is a Thai breast enhancement method that uses a combination of aggressive kneading massage and slapping to increase bust fullness. The technique was invented by Bangkok-based beautician Khem-mikka Na Songkhla and has been approved by the Thai government. The goal is to physically transfer fat from the surrounding tissues of the body to the breasts. It usually targets fat on the sides of the body and abdomen and, though the exact technique is not typically found in the western world, it is quite popular in Thailand and other Asian nations.

- **Breast fillers:** Women who may not want to go under the knife may have no problem going under the needle. There is a gel that is inserted into the space between the breast tissue and the muscle wall and then molded into the right shape. The gel is made of purified hyaluronic acid, a natural substance found in the skin. The entire process takes about 45 minutes and can last up to a year.

## Options

Continued from page 21

tic" surgery — combining oncology, which focuses on cancer treatment, and plastic surgery to restore appearance.

"Cosmetics is very important" and can help a woman recover psychologically as well as physically, said Dr. Deanna Attai, a Burbank, Calif., surgeon who is on the board of directors of the American Society of Breast Surgeons. Its annual meeting in Chicago earlier this month featured many of these new approaches.

More women are getting chemotherapy or hormone therapy before surgery to shrink large tumors enough to let them have a breast-conserving operation instead of a mastectomy. Fewer lymph nodes are being removed to check for cancer's spread, sparing women painful arm swelling for years afterward.

Newer ways to rebuild breasts have made mastectomy a more appealing option for some women. More of them are getting immediate reconstruction with an implant at the same time the cancer is removed rather than

several operations that have been standard for many years. Skin and nipples increasingly are being preserved for more natural results. Jolie, for example, was able to keep her nipples and presumably her skin.

Some doctors are experimenting with operating on breast tumors through incisions in the armpit to avoid breast scars. There's even a "Goldilocks" mastectomy for large-breasted women — not too much or too little removed, and using excess skin to create a "just right" natural implant.

Finally, doctors are testing a way to avoid surgery altogether, destroying small tumors by freezing them with a probe through the skin.

"Breast surgery has become more minimalistic," said Dr. Shawna Willey of Georgetown's Lombardi Comprehensive Cancer Center. "Women have more options. It's much more complex decision-making."

Breast cancer is the most common cancer in women around the world. In the U.S. alone, about 230,000 new cases are diagnosed each year.

Most can be treated by just having the lump removed, but that requires radiation for weeks



Rose Ragona was diagnosed with breast cancer and recently had a mastectomy where surgeons saved much of her skin and started reconstruction during the same surgery.

Associated Press / Carrie Antlfinger

afterward to kill any stray cancer cells in the breast, plus frequent mammograms to watch for a recurrence.

Many women don't want the worry or the radiation, and choose mastectomy even though they could have less

drastic surgery. Mastectomy rates have been rising. Federal law requires insurers to cover reconstruction for mastectomy patients, and many of the improvements in surgery are aimed at making it less disfiguring.

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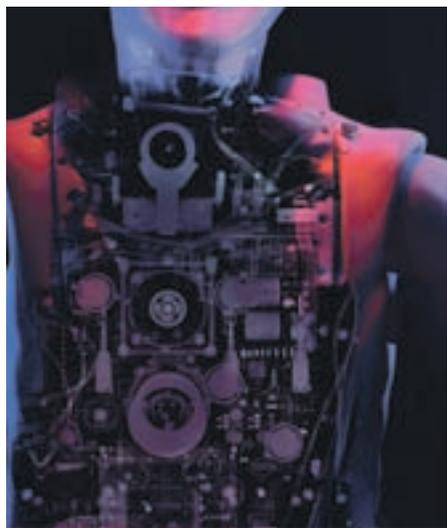
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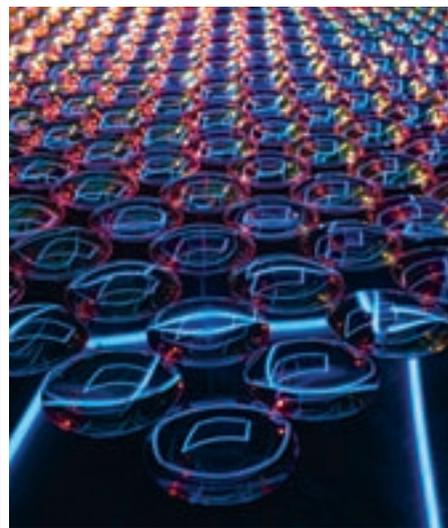
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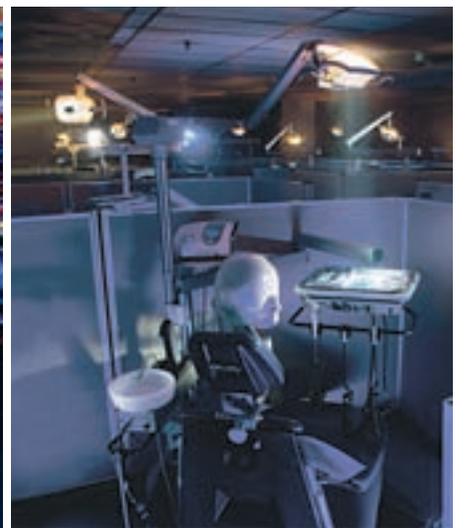
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# Studies find health decline among immigrants

By Nelson A. King

An increasing number of studies say that the health of Caribbean and other immigrants declines with longer years in the United States.

The studies point out that the longer Caribbean nationals live in the U.S., the worse their rates of heart disease, high blood pressure, diabetes, and mental illness, among others, decline.

“Empirical evidence suggests that Caribbean Immigrants tend to have better health outcomes when they arrive in the U.S.A., and this tend to diminish the longer they live in the U.S.A.,” Dr. Janice Emanuel-Bunn, a Guyanese-born professor at the University of Phoenix, AZ told Caribbean Life.

Dr. Emanuel-Bunn, also who heads the Brooklyn-based Action, Performance, Commitment (APC) Community Services, said her group has been pushing Caribbean immigrants to take care of their health in light of studies that point to deteriorating health the longer they remain in the U.S.

“I am convinced that Caribbean immigrants can experience

## HEALTH

greater health outcomes by eating healthy, maintaining regular exercise, reducing stress and having a positive outlook on life,” she said, noting that APC Community Services has been holding annual symposia, health fairs and clinics, in collaboration with a number of health care institutions in Brooklyn, in addressing Caribbean health concerns.

Dr. Carla Boutin-Foster, a Haitian-born Associate Professor of Medicine in New York City, also said prospective studies of immigrants “demonstrate a decline in the health status with longer duration of residency in the U.S.

“Studies show that Caribbean blacks are less likely to rate their health as fair or poor than US born blacks,” she said. “However, this changes greater than four years in the U.S.”

Dr. Boutin-Foster attributed the decline to, among other things, the adoption of a “sedentary lifestyle and unhealthy diets, loss of major sources of social support, and greater stress to acculturate

with fewer resources.”

She said Caribbean-born residents are among the least likely to have access to care and to be uninsured, stating that, on average, 30 percent of foreign-born residents have Medicaid – a federal health program for families and individuals with low income and resources – compared to only 11 percent of immigrants.

“More recently, empirical studies have shown that at least some immigrant groups may experience better mental health than U.S.-born individuals,” according to the American Journal of Public Health.

“As they participate actively in American life, immigrants become more similar to U.S.-born individuals in their mental health status. That is, for some immigrant groups, their mental health becomes worse as they become more integrated with American culture, values, and lifestyles,” it adds in a recent publication.

“We have a time bomb that’s going to go off,” said Dr. Amelie G. Ramirez, a professor of epidemiology and biostatistics at the University of Texas Health Science Center in San Antonio.



“Obesity rates are increasing,” she added. “Diabetes is exploding.”

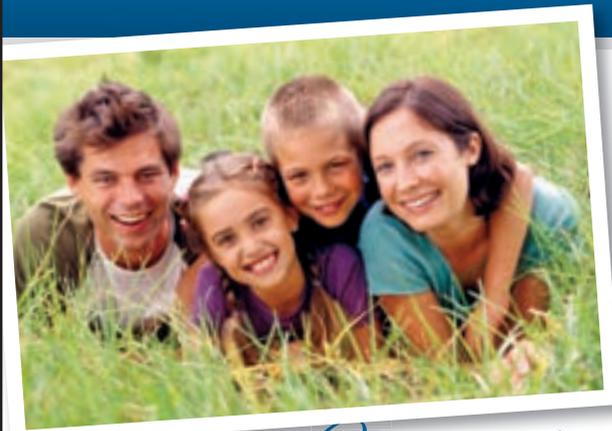
Still, some studies say that Caribbean and other immigrants, on a whole, have better health outcomes than the American-born.

Gopal Singh, a researcher at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and Robert A. Hiatt, a professor of epidemiology and biostatistics at the Uni-

versity of California, San Francisco, found that immigrants had at least a 20 percent lower overall cancer mortality rate than their American-born counterparts.

Mortality rates from heart disease were about 16 percent lower, for kidney disease 18 percent lower, and for liver cirrhosis 24 percent lower, Singh and Hiatt found.

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2003	Hyundai, 63k	H1088	\$2,995	2004	Nissan Sentra, 53k	UC16122	\$3,995	2005	VW Passat ndsmtr, 24k	69686	\$4,995
2001	Toyota Corolla, 73k	17062	\$2,995	2002	Ford Escape, 97k	67450	SAVE	2005	Toyota Camry, 65k	62871	SAVE
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2007	Chevy Impala, 28k	42370	\$7,995	2010	Chrysler Sebring, 38k	61787	\$9,995	2007	Lexus ES350, 53k	56974	\$14,888
2009	Chevy Cobalt, 56k	65308	\$7,995	2011	Ford Escape XLT, 25k	74493	\$9,995	2008	BMW 528xi, 33k	64068	\$15,490
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# Retailers urged to oppose anti-science campaign of fear

Continued from page 10

dangers, such as injuries due to fire, choking and food-borne illnesses.

We urge not just moms but all consumers to reject this fear mongering and tell these purveyors of junk science that they need to mind their own business.

\*\*\*

### Dear Retailers:

We are writing to share our concerns about the "Mind the Store" campaign which is aimed at pressuring retailers to remove thousands of products families rely on each day from store shelves. We urge you to stand firm against this well-funded, anti-science campaign of fear. Families don't need false alarmism; they need access to safe and affordable products that make their lives easier, safer, cleaner and more comfortable.

The Safer Chemicals, Healthy Families organization, which is leading the effort to ban these products, is notorious for spreading incomplete information about chemicals. While the organization portrays itself as a consumer "watchdog," it is better described as an attack dog determined to destroy free enterprise and consumer choice. The organization has a pattern of relying on junk science; it capitalizes on the natural anxieties of parents by

spreading scary stories about a long list of common products, such as cleaning supplies, furniture, children's toys, food packaging, water bottles, and other products commonly sold in stores today.

The organization's latest stunt is to pressure the nation's top 10 retailers into removing certain products that contain "hazardous" chemicals. The organization recklessly demands retailers "identify whether a specific list of hazardous chemicals are in the products they sell, and if so, to develop a plan to remove them."

Removing these products from the market will be a huge cost to shoppers and could even put consumers at risk. Among the chemicals the campaign wants removed from are phthalates, bisphenol-A, formaldehyde, and certain flame retardants. The campaign is quick to suggest these chemicals are hazardous at the level consumers are exposed, despite the significant body of scientific evidence to the contrary. Yet, the campaign fails to inform consumers that these chemicals often make products safer.

For example, flame retardants, which are now common in furniture and building materials, are largely responsible for the sharp decline in household fires

since the 1970s. Formaldehyde, which is used in personal care products, helps prevent bacterial growth. Phthalates are added to plastics to make toys less breakable. And bisphenol-A, a chemical used in food packaging, safeguards against deadly botulism in canned food.

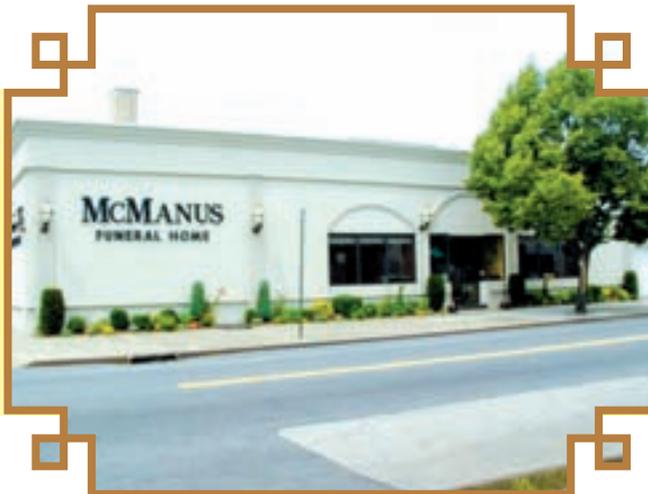
If retailers bow to this campaign, products won't just become less safe, they will be harder to find and much more expensive. Consumers are already facing higher prices for food, fuel, and everyday products. Consumers who want to purchase products free of certain chemicals are able to do so since there is no shortage of alternative products in the marketplace. Yet, those people should not dictate the informed choices the rest of us make.

Please join us in pushing back on these irresponsible organizations and stand firm in your commitment to continue offering Americans the products they choose, at a reasonable price.

*Sincerely,*  
 Julie Gunlock  
 Director, Culture of Alarmism Project  
 Independent Women's Forum

*Angela Logomasini*  
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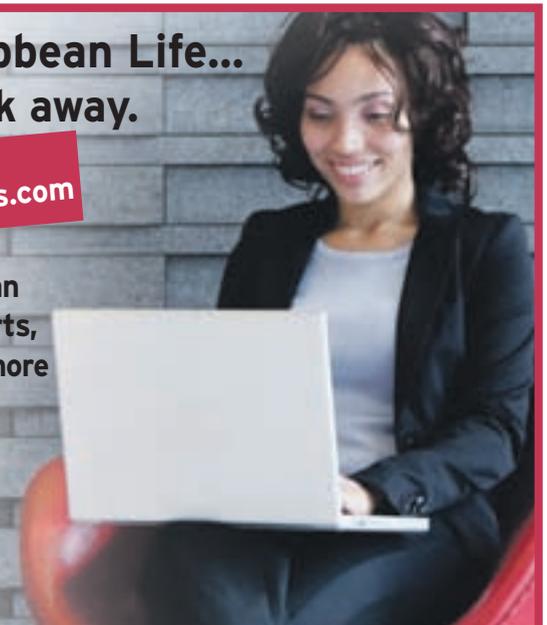
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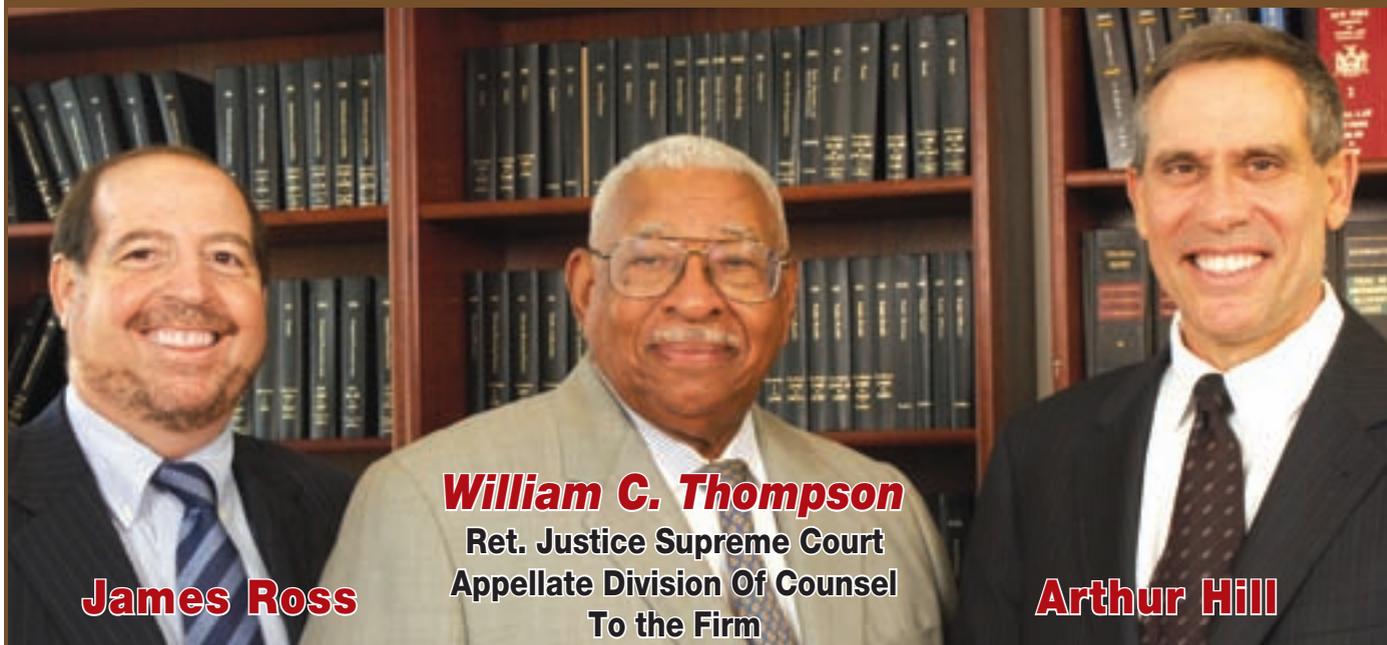


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# Jamaica's top chef to jerk Caribbean Week

By Vinette K. Pryce

Jamaica's top chef Brian Lumley is set to add his island flavor to the already spice-filled calendar of events planned during Caribbean Week in New York.

The reigning Chef of the Year will participate in the Caribbean Tourism Organization (CTO)'s Celebrity Chef Program which includes an in-store cooking demonstration on June 4 at Bloomingdales.

Lumley, a Jamaican gourmet prodigy has been making his mark on the local and regional culinary landscape in recent years and is keen to participate in many activities.

In addition to the cooking demonstrations, Lumley will also serve as guest of the resident chef for CTO's Allied Awards Luncheon on June 7 at The New Yorker Hotel.

A seasoned professional, Lumley has demonstrated excellence in his craft by winning the coveted Taste of Jamaica's 'Chef of the Year' award in 2008 (the youngest chef ever to win this prestigious honor at age 21) and



## Inside Life

By Vinette K. Pryce

most recently in 2012.

"We are pleased that Chef Lumley is able to showcase our culturally rich cuisine which visitors have grown to love and appreciate," John Lynch, Jamaica's Director of Tourism said.

Of the menu Lumley plans, the tourism advocate said: "Our jerk cuisine is world renowned and we welcome the participation of our home grown chef Brian Lumley during Caribbean Week to serve up some of his favorite jerked delights."

Caribbean Week runs from June 1-8 with a series of consumer and industry related events. They include: Students' Colloquium at which Caribbean students studying at the tertiary level present sustainable tourism projects that are practical and can provide a sustainable source

of income for Caribbean nationals; the Caribbean Diaspora Forum, developed in collaboration with the Caribbean American Chamber of Commerce and Industry; Caribbean Media Marketplace where CTO member governments and private sector exhibitors interact with leading journalists from trade and consumer press; the Media Awards Luncheon where the organization honors journalists for their award winning features on the Caribbean; the Avalon Invest Caribbean Now Breakfast, the annual investment power forum on the Caribbean; and the Caribbean Marketing Conference & Awards Luncheon - organized by the CTO Allied members, where the latest cutting edge marketing trends are presented and people who have made significant contributions to

the region's tourism development are recognized.

The 7-day fest end with its most exciting signature event, Rum and Rhythm™, the Ultimate Caribbean Cultural and Epicurean Experience at Tribeca 360, 10 Desbrosses Street, New York, on June 7 from 6:30 P.M. to 10:30 P.M.

Television and film star, Tamara Tunie (Law & Order: Special Victims Unit, As the World Turns, Flight) is the official spokesperson and will be present at some events.

## PROGRESSIVE JAMAICANS SLATE FATHERS DAY EXTRA

Jamaica Progressive League Inc., Jamaica's 75-year-old patriotic organization plan a festive and celebratory Fathers Day Extravaganza on June 15 when "fatherhood and the extraordinary contributions of our men and their influence in our society" will be regaled.

The acclaimed oldest Caribbean organization in the

United States is renowned for lauding individuals and groups that contributes to a better environment.

Next month's event will find the Bronx-based group hailing dads at Newbold Community Center located at 1966 Newbold Ave. in the borough. Beginning at 7:30 p.m. entertainment will be provided by True Fun.

Laughter, surprises, prizes and dinner will dominate the proceedings that will benefit JPL's Light St. headquarters. For more information call 347-524-8746 or 646-240-6610.

## HOPE FOR KINGSTON PON DI RIVER

Hope seems abundant for the third annual Kingston Pon Di River Literary Art & Music Festival. For starters, the capital city event will be headlined by poet and radio personality Mutabaruka, AKA Allan Hope. And while hope was high for another staging of the newest and most popular gathering of scribes

and intellectuals, organizers seemed late in presenting this year's program.

However, what is now official is that for the first time in its three-year history the diverse fest will be held at Hope Botanical Gardens, the largest in the entire Caribbean. The 200-acre space in Liguanea Plains near Hope Pastures is acclaimed for its tranquil and alluring fauna. Officially known as the Royal Botanical Gardens (after a visit by Queen Elizabeth II) Hope is located at the foot of the Blue Mountains.

The urban park encompasses a range of habitats including meadows, cultivated flower gardens, birds and a natural pond. At the historic gardens: a cactus garden, an orchid house, an ornamental pond, a "Palm Avenue" of sago palms, greenhouses, a forest garden, bougainvillea walk, zoo, fountains, bandstand, poets corner, lily pond, plant nursery and Ashanti (vegetable) Gardens adorn the landscape.

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**JUNE 30: AMERICA**

**JULY 7: CHRIS ISAAK**

**JULY 14: BLUES TRAVELER**

**JULY 21: THREE DOG NIGHT**

**JULY 28: KANSAS**

**AUGUST 4: LEANN RIMES**

**AUGUST 11: ROCK N BLUES FEST**

**AUGUST 18: KENNY ROGERS**

**AUGUST 25: TBA**

**SEPTEMBER 1: GAVIN DEGRAW**

**SEPTEMBER 8: KENNY LOGGINS**

**SEPTEMBER 15: SMOKEY ROBINSON**

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# ENTERTAINMENT

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## Vincenian cultural group on a mission

By Nelson A. King

One of the larger Vincenian cultural groups in the United States recently staged a successful “Tea Party with a Difference” in raising much-needed funds to help its annual medical mission to St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

Despite its many challenges, the United Vincie Cultural Group of Brooklyn (UVCGB) successfully hosted its 5th Annual Tea Party, at St. Anthony Baptist Church in Brooklyn, according to president Roxie Irish, a former national netball star.

She said there were “lots of entertainment,” including a hat competition, an impromptu song competition and a fashion show by children, ending with lots of prizes awarded.

“We are fully aware that we cannot do everything,



Okelia Holder performs a liturgical dance at the Tea Party. Photo by Nelson King

but we certainly can do something to make a difference,” she continued. “Life is about people, and we need to make ourselves available to minister to those who are in need.”

Since its inception in 2003, Irish said UVCGB has been purchasing and ship-

Continued on Page 36

## History of the Maroons on film

When you think of the Caribbean island of Jamaica, you think of Reggae, Rastas, rum and a whole lot of ganja – that is, marijuana. But underneath all the vices, the island has a rich history of Jamaican freedom fighters who fought for independence.

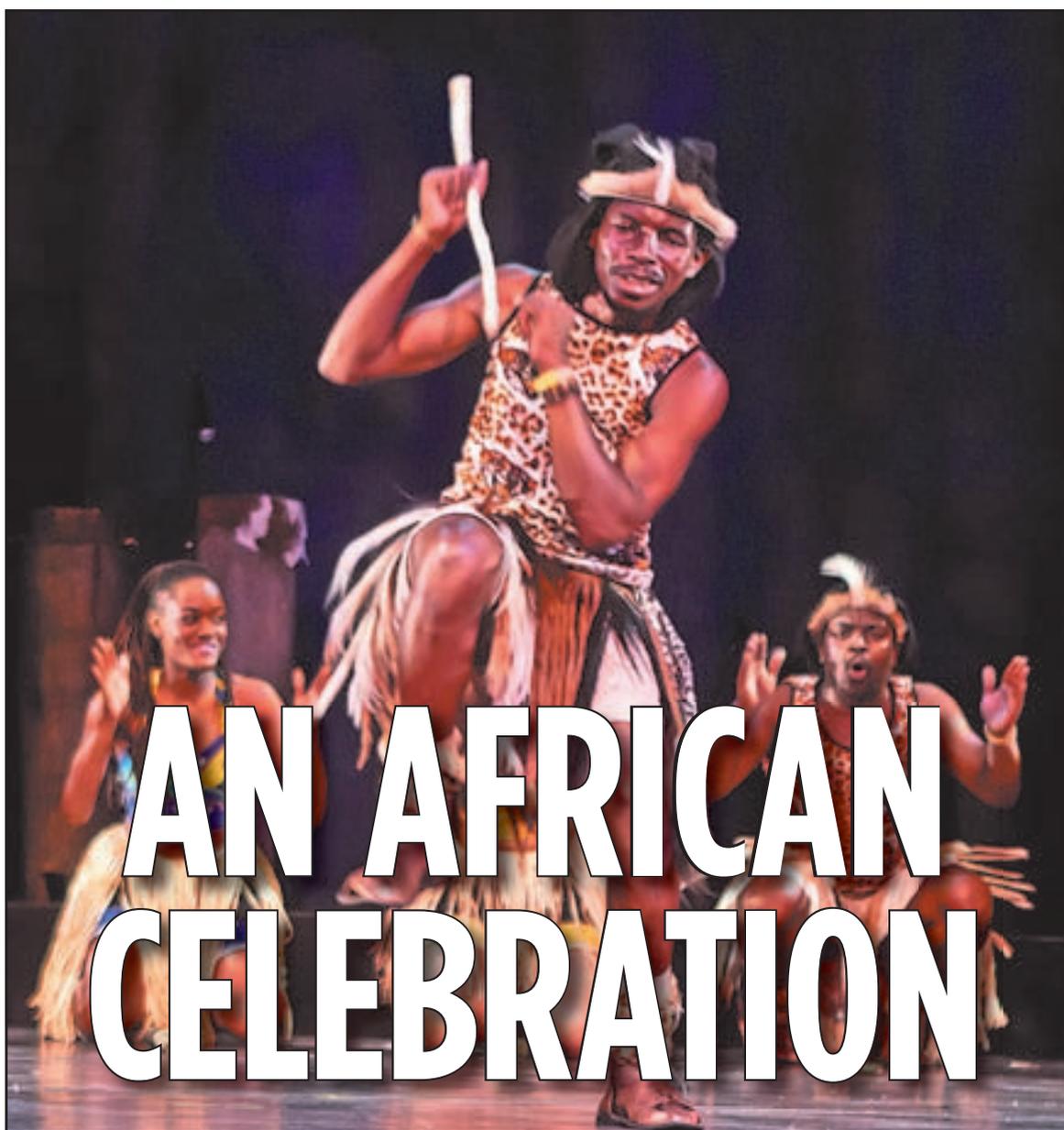
In the groundbreaking documentary, “Akwantu: the Journey,” Jamaican-born director Roy T. Anderson brings us the history of his ancestors, the Maroons – enslaved Africans and their 80-year battle that led



Roy T. Anderson  
Photo Credit: wrb public relations

to the defeat of the British Army. Although poorly armed and outgunned, the victory of these brave warriors led to two peace treaties

Continued on Page 36



Dancers from Zimbabwe's Umkhathi Theater Works onstage at BAM.

Photo by Amun/Ankhra House

## DanceAfrica lights up the BAM Stage

By Amun, Ankhra House

On its 36th anniversary, DanceAfrica opened the 2013 season with an excellent, well-executed performance that prepared New Yorkers for what was to come this summer. New York waited in anticipation all year for the arrival of the series of events and its delivery.

Some people waited to see and shop at their favorite merchants, who

they can only find at the DanceAfrica Bazaar poutside the Brooklyn Academy of Music, and some waited to see which dance company from abroad will be included in the DanceAfrica ensemble, and which domestic dance companies will make the cut.

DanceAfrica 2013, featured Umkhathi Theatre Works from Zimbabwe, Giwayen Mata from Atlanta,

Harambee Dance Company from the Bronx and BAM/Restoration DanceAfrica Ensemble from Brooklyn with performances that were nothing short of fantastic. The full-blown festival included: dance concerts, master dance classes, music performance, art installation, film, African ritual, a tribute to the ancestors and an outdoor African market.

Continued on Page 36

## TOP OF THE CHARTS

### TOP 10 SINGLES



- 1 **Mirrors**  
Justin Timberlake
- 2 **Just Give Me A Reason**  
P!nk Feat. Nate Ruess
- 3 **Can't Hold Us**  
Macklemore & Ryan Lewis...
- 4 **Stay**  
Rihanna Feat. Mikky Ekko
- 5 **When I Was Your Man**  
Bruno Mars
- 6 **I Love It**  
Icona Pop Feat. Charli XCX
- 7 **Heart Attack**  
Demi Lovato
- 8 **Feel This Moment**  
Pitbull Feat. Christina Aguilera
- 9 **Daylight**  
Maroon 5
- 10 **Suit & Tie**  
Justin Timberlake Feat. Jay-Z

### TOP 10 ALBUMS



- 1 **Modern Vampires Of ...City**  
Vampire Weekend
- 2 **The Great Gatsby: ...**  
Soundtrack
- 3 **Demi**  
Demi Lovato
- 4 **Love Is Everything**  
George Strait
- 5 **The 20/20 Experience**  
Justin Timberlake
- 6 **The Heist**  
Macklemore & Ryan Lewis
- 7 **Night Visions**  
Imagine Dragons
- 8 **Golden**  
Lady Antebellum
- 9 **Annie Up**  
Pistol Annies
- 10 **How Mercy Looks ...**  
Amy Grant



# Umkhathi Theatre

Continued from page 35

It truly was a celebration of the African spirit and a community favorite.

Baba Chuck Davis greets and welcomes the audience and introduces the dance performance, but before he did that he pulled the audience in and Africanized them by making them participants and not just a sitting watching audience. He called for the audience to respond to his West African, Agoo (are you listening) with Ameer (yes, we are listening). He had the audience stand and introduce themselves to one another and hug their audience mates. Baba Chuck Davis has great warmth, charm, humor, charisma and experience as a performer, a master of ceremony, teacher and director, and he brought it all together to make the audience feel welcomed and a part of the whole African experience.

Harambee Dance Company Musicians were the first to take the stage and they played a welcome, which preceded the entrance of the elders. Next was the memorial with the candle bearers and Baba Chuck calling out the names of people who had been associated with DanceAfrica who had passed on to join the ancestors. The audience was brought into the ritual

by naming family and friends who had also joined the ancestors.

The Harambee Dance Company sweep onto the stage in club clothes and fast paced African movement. The audience was wowed as they cheered, applauded and clapped to the rhythm of the drums. After this magnificent performance there was an intermission.

Giwayen Mata performed Perseverance: In My House followed by Umkhathi Theatre Works with Bam/Restoration DanceAfrica Ensemble performing: Setapa, a musical interlude, Chnyambere, another musical interlude, Isitshikitsha and then the finale with all the dancers and musician from all of the companies. Each company brought their own style of dance with leaps, jumps, turns and steps. It was an exhilarating experience and made for an excellent program. The audience left the theatre feeling spiritually feed, healed and rejuvenated from the drum rhythms, dance movements, ritual participation and a wonderful experience, which will carry them through several days ahead.

Outside of the Howard Gilman Opera House in an ante room to the right, is an altar to the ances-



Young girl gets her face painted at the Dance Africa bazaar

Photo by Amun

tors, especially those who were connected to DanceAfrica. There are photos of some of those who have passed on and joined the ancestors, raffia, African musical instruments, cloth, baskets, masks and other artifacts, jars with lids, fruit, flowers and a rug place in front of the altar for those who wish to salute to lie on as they pay their respect.

Outside on the street was the African market, the DanceAfrica Bazaar. There were long lines for jerk chicken and funnel cake. Peo-

ple crowded their favorite merchants booth purchasing jewelry, clothing, cloth, crafts, artifacts, oils, incense, food and refreshments. On Monday the weather was beautiful and it looked like a record crowd patronizing the bazaar.

BAMCafe hosted an array of performers from the Africa and the African Diaspora and concluded on Saturday with a late night dance party with Ralph McDaniels, the creator of Video Jukebox, which was jammed to the rafters.

## Vincy Gala

Continued from page 35

ping medical supplies to several rural clinics throughout St. Vincent and the Grenadines. To date, she said 28 clinics have benefited from the group's efforts.

Irish said the Milton Cato Memorial Hospital in Kingstown, the Vincentian capital, has also received supplies, as well as, most recently, the Lewis Punnett Home, a home for the aged.

UVCCB has hosted two medical mission trips to St. Vincent and the Grenadines, in 2010 and last year.

The trips were in collaboration with HealthCare International Reachout, Inc, a New York-based voluntary organization, whose goal is to give humanitarian and material assistance to children and adults who do not have access to medical or dental services in remote areas.

Irish said UVCCB is currently in the process of dispatching a shipment of supplies to St. Vincent and the Grenadines, adding that the next scheduled mission, next year, "will be much bigger and better."



Elizabeth and Lizzie Chapman won the Most Creative Hat.

Photo by Nelson A. King

On Sept. 7, UVCCB will host its first gala banquet at Antun's catering house in Queens, during its 10th anniversary celebration.

## Movie recounts the history of Jamaica

Continued from page 35

ties in 1738-1739, establishing the Maroons as a self-government in the New World. During this time, no other Africans in the New World enjoyed such a degree of autonomy, which came before the American revolutionary War in 1775 and the Haitian Revolution in 1791.

"Akwantu: the Journey" examines the triumphs and struggles of a proud and resilient people whose historical importance has been either ignored or misunderstood.

Through Anderson's lens, the film tells the story of an enduring people who possess an indomitable spirit to die fighting rather than remain in bondage. With towns and communities physically indistinguishable from that of their fellow Jamaicans. even today, the Maroons remain a "nation within a nation," fiercely protective of their ancestral legacy. Because

of its historical significance, the Jamaican government selected "Akwantu: the Journey" to participate in the historic 50th Anniversary of Independence Celebrations in 2012. To view the trailer on YouTube, visit <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IC0lg6j8iyQ>.

Beginning May 15th, "Akwantu: the Journey" will be featured in the Doc Corner of the 2013 Cannes Film Festival. It was also an official selection of the 2013 Pan African Film Festival, the 2012 Africa in Picture Film Festival and winner of the special jury prize for Best Feature Documentary at the 2012 Belize International Film Festival.

On May 31st, "Akwantu: the Journey" will be available through digital download on Vimeo On Demand at <http://vimeo.com/ondemand> For more information about the movie, visit [www.akwantuthe-movie.com](http://www.akwantuthe-movie.com)

# Summer sequel features action and comedy

Excellent (4 stars)  
PG-13 for sexuality,  
profanity, mayhem,  
violence and  
intense action  
Running time:  
130 minutes  
Distributor: Universal  
Pictures  
Fast & Furious 6

It's important to note that this edition of Fast & Furious is every bit as funny as it is adrenaline-fueled. Most of the laughs come courtesy of comic relief provided by Tyrese, who is back in an expanded role as trash-talking Roman Pearce, a card-carrying member of the fugitive gang of auto thieves led by macho Dominic Toretto (Vin Diesel).

Like a latter-day Stepin Fetchit, Roman revives a slew of offensive African-American stereotypes, behaving in an alternately shallow, jive, flamboyant, lecherous, felonious and cowardly manner, doing everything but put on a dress to make a joke work. To Tyrese's credit, the campy performance somehow works.



A scene from the movie, Fast and Furious 6.

Whether entertaining a bevy of scantily-clad beauties on his personal jet (with "It's Roman, bitches!" emblazoned on the fuselage) or making money literally rain out of an ATM to the delight of a crowd of appreciative strangers picking the bills up off the ground, the scene-stealing

cynosure is always the center of attention. Well, except during the action, chase and fight scenes when the muscle cars and muscle heads take charge.

Not to worry, this stunt driven-spectacular is all about the eye-popping special effects, and boy does it deliver in terms of the

wow factor!

The plot of F&F 6 is little more than a lame excuse to pit an army of bad guys against an army of worse guys, both as simplistically-drawn as tag teams of opposing professional wrestlers. Here's the storyline: Dominic coaxes his cohorts (Tyrese, Paul

Walker, Ludacris, Sung Kang and Gal Gadot) out of retirement for one last adventure, after rumors surface that his late-ex, Letty (Michelle Rodriguez), might miraculously still be alive.

They hatch a plan to rescue the damsel in distress who's suffering from amnesia and currently in the clutches of Owen Shaw (Luke Evans), a worthy adversary specializing in vehicular warfare. His posse's recent attack on a Russian military convoy explains why Diplomatic Security Service agent Hobbs (Dwayne Johnson) is desperately seeking the assistance of Dominic's crew.

They agree on the condition that, should this mission succeed, they'll be granted clemency for the host of crimes committed in F&F episodes 1-5. Hobbs okays the deal, and soon, a dogfight featuring fisticuffs, pyrotechnics and plenty of cartoon physics unfolds all over London, involving not only souped-up autos and state-of-the-art gadgetry, but a tank and a plane, to boot.

The epitome of a summer blockbuster, complete with a post-credits set-up of F&F 7 (already slated to be released in July of 2014).

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MUSIC BY NATHAN WHITEHEAD PRODUCED BY JASON BLUM WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY JAMES DE MONAGO  
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EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS JUSTIN LIN AMANDA LEWIS SAMANTHA VINCENT CHRIS MORGAN BASED ON CHARACTERS CREATED BY GARY SCOTT THOMPSON PRODUCED BY NEAL H. MORITZ P.P.A. VIN DIESEL CLAYTON TOWNSEND P.P.A.  
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WRITTEN BY CHRIS MORGAN DIRECTED BY JUSTIN LIN A UNIVERSAL PICTURE

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# SUN KULCHA

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

### FRIDAY, MAY 31

**CAREGIVER CONFERENCE:** The 4th annual Brooklyn Parent Center Conference for parents, grandparents and caregivers of children 3 to 21 years old with disabilities. FREE admission, continental breakfast, exhibitors, lunch with live music, raffle prizes and resource guide and workshops from 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Long Island University Brooklyn 1 University Plaza - Bklyn

### SATURDAY, JUNE 1

**HEALTH FAIR :** Greater Brooklyn Health Coalition's 5th Annual Health Fair "On the Plaza" from 11:00am-3:00pm. Brooklyn Public Library, 10 Grand Army Plaza.

### SUNDAY, JUNE 2

**HEALTH SCREENING:** There will be HIV testing at Mt. Pisgah Baptist Church, 760 Dekalb Ave., from 10:00 a.m - 2:00 p.m.

### WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5

**LUNCHEON:** Are you an entrepreneur or independent business owner?, join us for "Success Leaders Luncheon on Montague Street" from 2:30 p.m.-4:00 p.m. With Brooklyn and its 2.6 million populous ever-evolving into its own NYC brand, luring tech companies like Kickstarter; Barclays Center, Steiner Studios, Apple (slated for Metro Tech), film and TV productions and artists and actors the world over, the luncheon was founded in an effort to help bridge successful business persons with aspiring entrepreneurs of the borough. Register by emailing me (Roger French, CEO of Brooklyn Heights-based Roger French Media) a 1-page business plan at RogerFrenchMedia@gmail.com, contacting me at 646.662.9050 or via @Americas4Obama. Seating is limited and most promising business plans would be granted access to luncheon. Gandhi Palace, 140 Montague Street, Brooklyn Heights.

### THURSDAY, JUNE 6

**DICOVER BED-STUY:** The 7th annual neighborhood resource & safety expo will be held between 5 p.m.- 8:30 p.m. Over 80 tables of information will be available. You may also ask questions and take home materials to share. Boys & Girls High School 1700 Fulton St. Brooklyn. For more information visit , www.yestaskforce.org or call (718)622-6601

**JOB FAIR:** There will be a job fair held at Public School 375. 46 McKeever Place (b/w Sullivan & Montgomery Sts.) from 11 a.m.- 3 p.m. Bring resumes and business attire is strong recommended. For more information call, (718)284-4700.

### FRIDAY, JUNE 7-SUNDAY, JUNE 9

**PERFORMANCE:** Manhattan Youth Ballet and Manhattan Movement & Arts Center present June Shows: Made in America, a tribute to choreography crafted in the USA on Friday, June 7 at 7pm; and Saturday, June 8



**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.nhsofeastflatbush.org.

at 3pm & 7pm, at the Manhattan Movement & Arts Center, 248 West 60th Street, NYC (between Amsterdam and West End Avenues) in the Lincoln Center area. Advance tickets are \$20 for adults and \$15 for students. (\$25/\$20 for students at the door). Tickets can be purchased online at [www.manhattanyouthballet.org](http://www.manhattanyouthballet.org).

### ONGOING FRIDAY, MAY 3 - TUESDAY, JUNE 11

**ART EXHIBITION:** Come and see Siobhan McBrides exhibit at the Pelham Art Center. Siobhan McBride of Miami, FL, is the winner of the 2013 Alexander Rutsch Award and Solo Exhibition for Painting. This is the seventh year that Pelham Art Center is presenting the biannual award. The jury selected McBride from more than 650 applicants from across the country. Pelham Art Center, 155 Fifth Ave., Pelham, NY 10803. For more information, call 914-738-2525 or send email to [info@pelhamartcenter.org](mailto:info@pelhamartcenter.org). Hours: Tuesday – Friday, 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.; Saturday, 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Directions: Located five blocks from the Hutchinson Parkway exit 12 and two blocks from the Metro North Pelham stop.

### MONDAY, JUNE 24 - SATURDAY AUGUST 17

**SUMMER CAMP:** Treat yourself or your kids



**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.

to some creative exploration this summer with exciting Week-long Creative "Camp" workshops or summer art classes. Whether you are ready to jump right in, or just test the waters, we have classes for all ages and skill levels. Check us out online to view a full catalog of our summer offerings; from traditional painting, drawing and clay to digital media. Classes are fun, inspiring and the option of week-long workshops works nicely with your family's vacation plans. [www.PelhamArtCenter.org/Education](http://www.PelhamArtCenter.org/Education) For more information, or to register for our summer workshops and classes stop by the office, or call (914) 738-2525 x111 You can visit our website [www.pelhamartcenter.org](http://www.pelhamartcenter.org). Need-based scholarships are available to all students who qualify. Pelham Art Center 155 Fifth Avenue, Pelham, NY 10803,

**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.

**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.

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

**FAIRWAY MARKET SHUTTLE:** Fairway Market is now offering a free group shuttle bus to its Red Hook, Brooklyn store at 480-500 Van Brunt St., Mondays thru Wednesdays from 10:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. For pick-up reservations for groups of 10 or more, within a five-mile radius of the store, call Viola Williams or Marcy Rosenblum at (347) 750-1251. There will also be pickups on Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. at 589 Prospect Ave., between 11 and 10 avenues. All seniors get a five percent discount in the store. Each group will have an hour and a half to shop and/or enjoy a bite to eat in the picturesque cafe by the waterfront.

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

**REVERSE MORTGAGE COUNSELING:** Are you a senior homeowner struggling to make ends meet? A reverse mortgage may be an answer. NHS can help determine if this is the best option for you. All programs discussed are backed by the federal government. For information, call (718) 469-4679.

**MORTGAGE AND REFINANCE SERVICES:** If you're interested in obtaining a mortgage modification due to loss of income or other reasons, come in for free services and assistance. Referrals for other free assistance are also available. To make an appointment or for more information, call 718-469-4679. Sponsored by Neighborhood Housing Services of East Flatbush and the Center for New York City Neighborhoods, not-for-profit organizations. NHS is a HUD approved counseling agency. [www.nhsnyc.org](http://www.nhsnyc.org).

COMPILED BY NATALIE Y. HENRY

# Independent & Foreign films

## BIG BUDGET FILMS

After Earth (PG-13 for action violence and disturbing images) M. Night Shyamalan directs this post-apocalyptic, sci-fi saga about a military general (Will Smith) with a teenage son (Jaden Smith) who are the only survivors of a crash landing of an expedition to Earth a millennium after the cataclysmic event that forced humans to abandon the planet. With Sophie Okonedo, Isabelle Fuhrman and Zoe Kravitz.

The Kings of Summer (R for profanity and underage alcohol consumption) Coming-of-age comedy about three teenagers (Nick Robinson, Gabriel Basso and Moises Arias) who decide to demonstrate their independence by spending the summer living off the land while building a home in woods. With Nick Offerman, Alison Brie and Megan Mullally.

Now You See Me (PG-13 for profanity, sexuality and violence) Cat-and-mouse thriller about a French Interpol agent (Melanie Laurent) who



## Kam's Kapsules

By Kam Williams

teams with the FBI to catch a quartet of Robin Hood-style magicians (Woody Harrelson, Isla Fisher, Jesse Eisenberg and Dave Franco) who steal from corrupt businessmen before showering their audiences with money during performances. A-list cast includes Morgan Freeman, Michael Caine, Mark Ruffalo and Common.

## INDEPENDENT & FOREIGN FILMS

The East (PG-13 for violence, sexuality, partial nudity, mature themes and disturbing images) Espionage thriller about a private eye (Brit Marling) hired to infiltrate an anti-establishment organization suspected of sabotaging corporations who finds herself falling for the anarchist outfit's very charismatic leader (Alexander

Skarsgard). With Ellen Page, Patricia Clarkson, Toby Kebbell and Shiloh Fernandez.

The History of Future Folk (Unrated) Sci-fi comedy about a couple of aliens (Nils D'Aulaire and Jay Klaitz) sent to earth from a faraway planet who ignore their orders to wipe out humanity and instead form a band after falling in love with bluegrass music.

Shadow Dancer (R for profanity and violence) Turncoat drama, set in Belfast in the Nineties, revolving around a member of the Irish Republican Army (Andrea Riseborough) who becomes a snitch for the British in order to remain free to raise her young son after being caught with a bomb in her possession. With Clive Owen, Gillian Anderson, Aidan Gillen and Brid Brennan.



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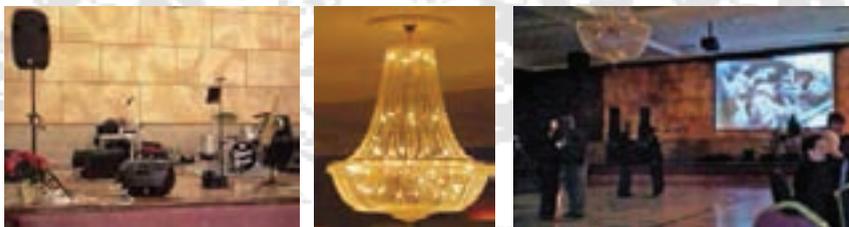
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# Jamaica's health and family life curriculum revised

**By Azad Ali**

Jamaica's Education Minister Ronald Thwaites has said that a positive, value-laden and age-appropriate Health and Family Life Curriculum has been revised by a broad-based working group for use in all schools.

Thwaites, making his contribution on Wednesday to the 2013/14 Sectoral Debate at Gordon House, in Kingston, made it clear that schools were not "rompin

shops", according to a report in the Jamaica Observer.

"Let it be clear, we will not be grooming children towards same-sex unions and we will not be distributing condoms in schools. Restraint must be taught by example and percept. Sex education, yes; condoms no," the newspaper quoted Thwaites.

The revision followed the pulling in 2012, of a controversial curriculum from local high schools because of its

graphic sexual content.

Addressing the issue then, Thwaites said at least two persons involved in the drafting of the curriculum, "had a particular agenda and were able to embed it in the curriculum".

That curriculum which, among other things, required grades seven to nine students to be quizzed on whether they had ever been involved in homo-sexual and hetero-sexual activities.

# Roberto Tapia arrested on drug charges

**By Azad Ali**

Federal officials say they have arrested the top enforcement officer for the US Virgin Islands environment agency on drug trafficking charges.

The US attorney's office in the Virgin Islands says in a statement issued late Saturday that Roberto Tapia

has been ordered held without bail pending a hearing tomorrow. Tapia is the director of environmental enforcement for the Virgin Islands' Department of Planning and Natural Resources.

A criminal complaint filed in district court says federal agents allegedly observed

Tapia using a government boat in a drug trafficking conspiracy. Federal agents allege that Tapia was armed, uninformed and in possession of a bag containing seven kilograms of cocaine when arrested on Friday.

It was not immediately known if Tapia had a lawyer.

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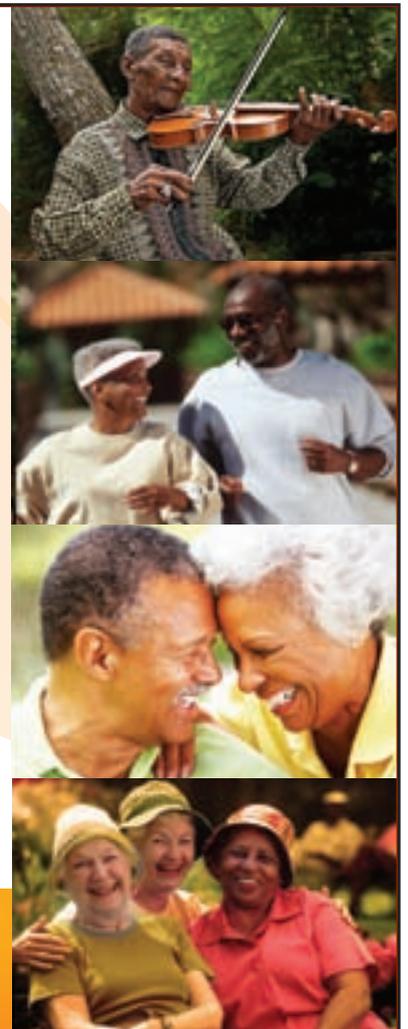
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# Charges of religious discrimination against rastas, muslims and voudon

Continued from page 14  
 ister and three other cabinet ministers.

The report says that the government never charged the men with any crime and released them after one week.

During the year, it says Muslims referred to this incident as "an example of bias against the Muslim community."

The report says several of those arrested claimed to be pursuing legal action against the Trinidad and Tobago government for wrongful arrest.

It says the U.S. embassy in Port-of-Spain, the Trinidad capital, increased outreach to the Muslim community with a social media training program "encouraging leadership and the free exchange of ideas among Muslim youth."

In addition, the report says embassy staff met regularly with Muslim religious

and civil society leaders.

In the Bahamas, the State Department says Rastafarians alleged that prison officials were responsible for "ongoing discrimination against detainees at Fox Hill Prison.

"Specifically, they reported that prison officials cut the dreadlocks of Rastafarians held in custody for possession of small amounts of marijuana," it says, stating that, under Bahamian law, "persons convicted for possession of as little as one marijuana cigarette face a maximum sentence of four years in prison."

The report says that the Bahamian government defended the practice of cutting Rastafarians' dreadlocks as "standard procedure for hygienic reasons."

But the report says Rastafarians contended "it was in fact based on discrimination rather than hygiene."

Washington also says

Rastafarians reported that Fox Hill Prison "failed to meet their religious dietary requirements," stating that, on Nov.19, The House of Rastafari, a Rastafarian group, declared its intention to appeal to the judiciary about these practices.

The report says that, on Dec.r 10, Human Rights Day, several Rastafarians held a peaceful demonstration in the inner city "to highlight acts of police harassment and brutality and the cutting of Rastafarians' dreadlocks."

The report also says there were "no arrests related to violations of the law against practicing Obeah (and Voodoo) during the year."

The State Department says Rastafarians in St. Kitts and Nevis "complained about the government's prohibition of marijuana use, which they described as integral to their religious rituals.

"Members of the group

stated they were being marginalized and were victims of religious intolerance," it says, noting that, on Aug. 17, the Nyabinghi Theocracy Order, a Rastafarian organization, held a march and rally in Basseterre, the St. Kitts capital.

"The prime minister affirmed that the government would not legalize marijuana," the report says, adding that Rastafarians continued to complain of discrimination, especially in hiring and in schools.

Rastafarians continued to complain of the same alleged practice in Antigua and Barbuda, and St. Vincent and the Grenadines, the report says.

In Dominica, St. Lucia, as well as St. Vincent and the Grenadines, it says Rastafarians also complained about the prohibition on marijuana use, "which was integral to their religious rituals."

# Cambria Heights

Continued from page 3

"She did not stand a chance," interjected Paula Rodriguez, the mother of the deceased "scholar child" she called "a beautiful sunshine" with sterling credentials as a high-school president and a beauty queen prepared to commence her doctorate degree at Columbia University. "Paulina worked so hard to save lives; and mom will not give up, we will seek justice," asserted the Trinidad-born mother, delicately lifting small car wreckage still scattered in the street from the November 18, 2012 date her daughter drove from the last showing of a movie.

"It was the Sunday before Thanksgiving," Paula Rodriguez details with clarity. "The cars hitting Paulina

were speeding. They were drag racing. Two cars hit Paulina. One driver was 19 and one 25. All they got was a speeding ticket. Paulina was my only daughter," said the discreetly inconsolable mother who has allegedly filed a wrongful death cause of action against the City of New York.

As in life and now in death, the accomplishments of Paulina Rodriguez are steadily accumulating. This time with the placement of a long overdue traffic light. "Hopefully this is the last tragic accident we have to deal with - this type," Councilman Comrie, said with bittersweet optimism at the close of the press conference, as the throng documents this final chapter in a young leader's life.

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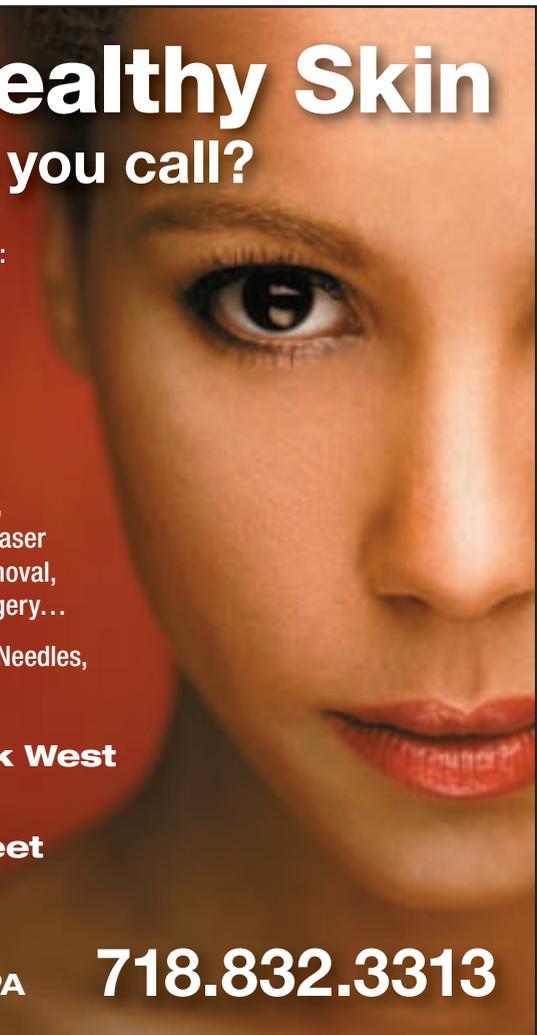
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# SPORTS

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## World Cup qualifiers

By Patrick Horne

The U.S. men's national team is gearing up for a crucial phase that includes international friendlies against Belgium in Cleveland, OH (May 29) and Germany at RFK Stadium in Washington DC (June 2) to prepare for the three crucial World Cup qualifiers in June, but all-time leading scorer Landon Donovan and former U.S. captain Carlo Bocanegra are MIA. Is Coach Jurgen Klinsmann ridding the squad of the old guard for 'his' young guns? Does he truly believe that the relatively inexperienced squad, which has struggled after three World Cup qualifiers in this six-team final round, would qualify for Brazil 2014? Klinsmann is walking a very fine line here that could be to the detriment of the team and himself.

Donovan, who took a three-month hiatus from the game earlier in the year and missed the first three qualifiers, could spark a sputtering offense that has produced a mere two goals in the three qualifier so far; the performance has the U.S. in a second-place tie with Costa Rica and Honduras, all on four points. Although the Americans have surrendered only two goals so far, the tougher games are yet to come. The intense Bocanegra has been the team leader and at the heart and soul of the defense for some time and is still sorely needed in the middle; Matt Besler and Omar Gonzalez are good young central defenders but lack the experience for the crucial qualifiers on the road. Klinsmann rails about the pair's performance against Mexico in the goalless draw, but the Tri-colors are a shade of their former selves and are at the bottom of the standings with Jamaica.

The German coach's reason for Donovan's exclusion, and the same used for Bocanegra at the start of the campaign and now, is a lack of fitness and rhythm, but midfielder Stuart Holden, who only recently resumed playing after a devastating knee injury that kept him out of the game for more than two years, and Brek Shea, the Dallas FC forward who is in a reserve role at English Premier League club Stoke City, were invited to the camp. Why not invite the veterans to camp if it's only a problem of fitness and rhythm? When Donovan and Bocanegra pull on the U.S. shirt, they make big contribution and fitness and rhythm become moot.

Continued on Page 46



Photo by Lem Peterkin

Women's 3000m Steeplechase

# RACE TO THE FINISH

## Queens track meet marked by rain

By Robert Elkin

All eyes were centered around some of the top male and female track and field athletes in the world, including past and present Olympians, plus a number of high school elite athletes who are trying to move up to the next level during the

recent Adidas Grand Prix Meet.

Last Saturday marked the ninth annual such meet combining professional and elite school boy athletes on the same grounds, competing in their own categories.

The weather for the most part was just

miserable as it was slightly raining on and off but it didn't interfere with competition on the all weather track. Most of the track and field performances were exciting. In addition, the kids got a thrill of their life competing in the same venue

Continued on Page 46



Warren Weir signing autographs.

Photo by Lem Peterkin

## Queens rainy day run

Continued from page 45

like past and professional athletes.

The fastest boy in the 100 meter dash turned out to be Xavier Donaldson, who in a close battle with Wesley Noble nosed him out in a time of 15:42 to 15:62. Thus Donaldson, won the event. Meanwhile Adaria Reaves' 15:32 earned her first place for the girls in their category.

In the high school boys 100 meter dash, Cameron Burrell, son of Leroy Burrell, emerged victorious in a time of 10:40. One might recall one day years ago when Leroy set a world record in the 100 dash on the same Downing Stadium, Randalls Island, track.

Last week's meet was contested on the same and renamed Icahn Stadium.

As for the distance events, there seems to be a future college all-American miler on the rise and he

is from the New York-New Jersey area.

Ed Cheserek of Newark and a senior at St. Benedict's High School is among the top milers in the country, and is ranked among the top five. He holds the national indoor high school two mile record of 8:39.15 and indoor schoolboy 5000 meter mark in a time of 13:57.04.

In a field of 15 top athletes, Cheserek finished third in 4:05.36, behind Ben Saarel (4:02.72) and Henry Wynne (4:05.04), and one place ahead of last year's winner Bernie Montoya (4:05.65).

Cheserek graduates after an outstanding high school career and expects to take his talent to the University of Oregon.

Originally from Kenya, Cheserek also holds numerous other records, made progress during his high school career, steadily improved, and came a

long way in his three years. Accustomed to the Icahn Stadium track, Cheserek ran for three years at this venue. He certainly enjoyed competing on this Randalls Island track.

He thanks his teammates, coaches and the community for his success in attending this New Jersey based school and make a name for himself in the nation.

Turning to another event, the 400 meter hurdles, Michael Tinsley, ran a 48.43 got first place, and for the females Veronica Campbell Brown of Jamaica just edged Annexsha McLaughlin also of Jamaica, 22.53 to 22.63 and Warren Weir, also of the same Jamaica, took the men's 200 meters in 20:11, and Tyson Gay easily captured the 100 meter dash in 10:02. Jamaica's Nickel Ashemeade wound up sixth in the same event in 10:31. It marked a disappointing race for him.

"I always wanted to be a champion (and I couldn't do it today and couldn't be part of history today)," Ashemeade said.,

Jamaica's Mario Forsythe led a 1-2-3-4 sweep for his native land in the 400 meter run in a time of 46.65.

The athletes agreed that since the track was resurfaced, it was a great feeling to run well on it. For the athletes not from the New York-New Jersey area, it felt awesome for them to just compete in compete at Icahn Stadium. For the athletes from this area it was nothing new for them to perform at Icahn Stadium.

Despite the weather, the meet turned out to be a success. However, the inclement weather prevented the athletes from turning fast performances and long distances. They tried their best under the inclement circumstances.

## Soccer

Continued from page 45  
Klinsmann should trust his proven players more and give them the benefit of the doubt. The coach called up German-born defender Tim Chandler, who recently had refused to play for the U.S.

"I think Landon is catching up," said Klinsmann. "He's just working himself back into shape and back into a playing rhythm. He will get sharper and more confident with every game he's going to play now. So we'll watch that, we'll monitor that and we'll decide then when to bring him back into our picture. It's not going to be for these upcoming games, but maybe later on we'll definitely expect him back in the team."

Klinsmann has a full contingent of players including goalkeepers Tim Howard and Brad Guzman, and Clint Dempsey, all of whom are coming off stellar seasons in England's Premier League; and there is forward Jozy Altidore, who scored over 30 goals in the Dutch Premier League. He has installed Da Marcus Beasley at left full back and it seemed to have revived his career; with the next game, the player will become one of only 13 U. S. players to get a 100 caps (100 appearances for U. S.).

The USA has qualified for all World Cup tournaments since 1994 and expectations climb with each tournament, especially since the success of MLS, which is approaching its 20th year next season and also with more Americans than in the past playing overseas.

The Red White and Blue is expected to qualify from the CONCACAF Zone, so it would be a devastating setback to the U.S. program if the country did not qualify. The USA plays World Cup Qualifiers at Jamaica (June 7), then host Panama (June 11, Century Link Park, Seattle, Wash.) and Honduras (June 18, Rio Tinto Stadium, Sandy, Utah) in a crucial three-game stretch that could determine its World Cup fate. Leaving out Donovan and Bocanegra now is tak-

ing a big gamble.

### Red Bulls tie

In last Sunday's MLS action, the New York Red Bulls twice rallied from 1-0 deficits to tie the Columbus Crew, 2-2, at Red Bull Arena in Harrison (NJ). Captain Thierry Henry equalized at 1-1 after the Crew took an early lead in the game; then Jamison Olave scored the final tying goal in stoppage time to the delight of the crowd to rescue a point. The Red Bulls (7-4-4, 25 pts.) sits atop the Eastern Conference and is undefeated in its last seven games.

Also last Sunday, the Houston Dynamo and Kansas City FC played to a 1-1 draw and Los Angeles Galaxy pummeled the Seattle Sounders, 4-0. Last Saturday, Rodney Wallace and Darling Nagbe scored to give Portland Timbers a 2-0 win over DC United; the Montreal Impact beat Philadelphia Union, 5-3, as Marco Di Vaio scored a hat trick and Andrew Wenger and Blake Smith all tallied to carry Montreal; Jack McInerney, Antoine Hoppenot and Sebastien Le Toux scored for the Union. Host New England beat Toronto FC, 2-1, on goals by Diego Fagundez and Juan Agudelo, while home team FC Dallas topped San Jose Earthquake, 1-0, on a Fabian Castillo goal. Colorado Rapids beat Chivas UAS, 2-0, on goals by Atiba Harris and Nathan Sturgis and host Real Salt Lake and Chicago Fire played to a 1-1 draw.

### Bayern win

Bayern Munich beat Borussia Dortmund, 2-1, to win the all-German Champions League final at Wembley Stadium in London; it was Bayern's fifth European club title.... Brazilian National team and Santos player Neymar signed to play for Spanish giants Barcelona...David Moyes, long time coach for Everton FC in the English Premier League, is the new coach for Manchester United. The last team to be promoted to the English Premier League is Crystal Palace, which beat Watford, 1-0.

# Major Windies sponsorship

## WICB gets Principal Sponsorship

The West Indies cricket board received a great boost when they got the news that Indian conglomerate confident group, the largest owner and operator of hotels in India and has its head quarters in Bangladore will be the main sponsor for the West Indies cricket team for the ICC champions trophy in the United Kingdom running from June 6 to June 23, 2013, also the 2014 ICC world Twenty 20 in Bangladesh will be sponsored by the same confident group. Confident group is the leader in hospitality, entertainment, infrastructure, education, health care and aviation. The West Indies are in group "b" along with Pakistan, India and South Africa.

Dr Royc J, chairman and managing director of confident group said "as a group we see and believe that there is the existence of tremendous value in being associated with a talented high profile and lively team like the West



## Eyes on Cricket

By George H. Whyte

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### Mumbai Takes IPL 2013 Trophy

The Mumbai Indians played some skillful and fascinating cricket in the final of IPL tournament to win the twenty 20 trophy. They defeated the chennaic super kinds by 23 runs. Mumbai Indians scored 148 runs for 9 wickets in their 20 (overs) with kieron pollard scoring 60 not out in 32 balls with 7 fours and 3 sixes. Ambati Rayudu 37 from 36 balls and Harbhajan Singh 14 from 8. Dwayne bravo was the pick of the bowlers for Chennai with 4 for 42 off 4 (overs), Abbie Morkelc2 for 12 off 3(overs).

Chennai Super Kings Batting Failed Miserably  
Salith Malinga removed

Michael Hussey and Suresh Raina in the first over for 1 an do respectively. Dwayne bravo went for 15 off 16 balls and Murali Vijay 18 from 29 balls tried to repair the early damage, captain Dhoni batting at number seven scored an exciting 63 runs not out from 45 balls with 3 fours and five sixes but that was not enough for his team to win they ended at 125 for 9 after 20(overs). Malinga got 2 for 22 off 4(overs), Harbhajan 2 for 14 off 3(overs) and Mitchell Johnson 2 for 19 off 4(overs).

### Dwayne Braco wins Purple Cap

Newly appointed West Indies captain for the one day international games Dwayne Braco has won the purple cap for taking the most wickets in this years Indian premier league. He took 32 wickets.

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**Caribbean Life**

# CROSSWORD BY STATEPOINT MEDIA, INC.

## THEME: SCHOOL'S OUT

### ACROSS

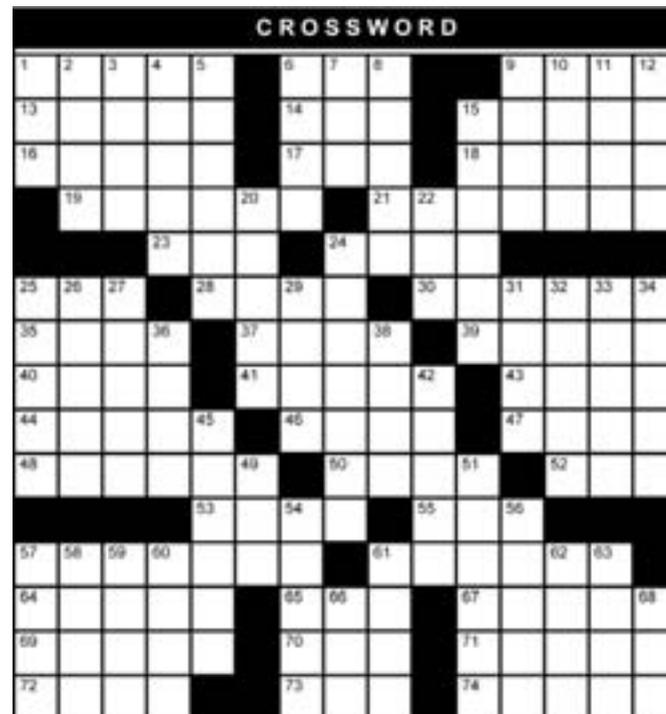
1. Enthusiastic approval
6. Network with an eye
9. Train track
13. Beamed or glowed
14. Atilla, e.g.
15. "Beats me!"
16. Shinbone
17. Tropical American cuckoo
18. America's singing choices
19. \*\*School's Out" singer
21. \*\*Diary of a Wimpy Kid: \_\_\_\_
23. Endorsement
24. Harper and Bruce, e.g.
25. A cool \_\_\_\_, as in money
28. South American Indian people
30. Raja's money, pl.
35. \*Essay's main \_\_\_\_
37. \*Truant officers
39. \*Done at the mirror before prom
40. Organization formed in 1949
41. Bone-chilling
43. Picked up by one of senses
44. Expels from community
46. Actresses Ryan and Tilly
47. Of higher order or level
48. 1/100th of a ruble

50. Like nay-sayers
52. Gas type
53. Sir Francis Drake's "Golden \_\_\_\_"
55. Approximated landing time
57. Individual
61. \*Final assessments
64. Santa Anna's siege site
65. Sarcastic
67. User ID + password
69. Letter's end
70. Canal locale
71. About to explode
72. Field worker
73. Caustic chemical
74. Yielded

### DOWN

1. PST plus three
2. All the rage
3. One of Los Lobos
4. Opposite of cation
5. Kitchen whistler
6. Blacken
7. Dog holder
8. Like a snicker
9. Paul of "This Is 40"
10. Dwarf buffalo
11. Inwardly
12. \*Summer learning \_\_\_\_

15. Excavates
20. Derive
22. "\_\_\_\_ the land of the free ..."
24. Helen Keller did this
25. Capital of Belarus
26. "Potato State"
27. Reduce pressure
29. \*Read in English class
31. \*Formal affair
32. Downy duck
33. Be theatrical
34. Wheel stopper
36. Blue-ribbon
38. \*Done to a yearbook
42. Poly- follower
45. \*For underachievers in summer
49. Kith partner
51. Right-leaning character
54. Handrail post
56. Love intensely
57. \*Colorful accessory to cap and gown
58. Assortment
59. Magician, in the olden days
60. Arab ruler
61. Swirling vortex
62. Exclamation of surprise, archaic
63. Surfer's stop
66. Bit of sunshine
68. Flanders of "The Simpsons"



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Email: classified@cnglocal.com

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## Employment Pgs 49-51



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

## Business Opps Pg 51



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

## Instruction Pgs 50-52



- **Career Training**
- Education Services
- Tutoring
- And More

## Merchandise Pgs 51-52



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

## Here's My Card Pgs 55-59



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

## Real Estate Pgs 54-55



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

## Services Pg 55



- Beauty Care
- Handymen
- Home Improvement
- And More

## Automotive Pg 55



- Autos For Sale
- Autos Wanted
- And More

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### ► MEDICAL HELP WANTED

### ► MEDICAL HELP WANTED

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Our sales approach is consultative, helping clients across all facets of online marketing by tailoring the best solution for them to succeed through our services and making them market leaders in their industry.

Located in Downtown Brooklyn, we are looking for self-driven and committed members to bring in new sales. This role will give you the opportunity to work alongside the best minds in the online marketing space and get regular training and mentoring.

## THE POSITION INVOLVES

- Previous sales experience. Media or digital sales experience highly regarded
- Taking notes and logging call summary in CRM.
- Qualifying the leads by asking discerning questions.
- Excellent written communication skills with attention to detail and presentation.
- Good knowledge of online marketing is preferred; SEO, Google AdWords, Social Media, Analytics.
- Great time management & organizational skills.
- Building rapport and trust.
- Participate in trade shows and expos, online training seminars

## POSITION OFFERS

- Base salary plus commission
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### ► MEDICAL HELP WANTED



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Certified  
HHA's



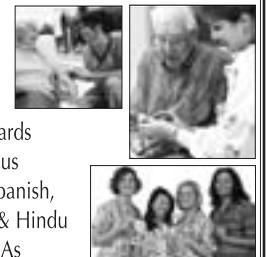
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## ► MEDICAL HELP WANTED

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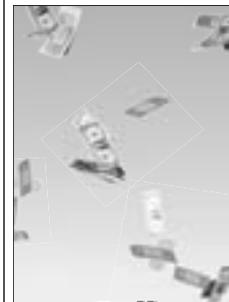


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**718-523-7733**  
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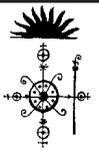
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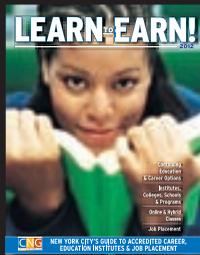
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