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Waiting For The Big Day

This happy duo, excited to showoff the headpieces for the upcoming Carnival, attended the Family Day carnival kick-off at Ronald McNair Park on Saturday. See story on page 6.

Photo by Natasha Andrews

Caught in the debate over reparations

By Peter Richards

PORT OF SPAIN, Trinidad, Jul 29 2013 (IPS) - As Caribbean countries prepare to observe Emancipation Day on Aug. 1, they are also caught up in an ongoing debate over reparations for slavery.

St. Vincent and the Grenadines Prime Minister Dr. Ralph Gonsalves, who has stated publicly that he will "take no quarter on those issues", told IPS, "We have in my view a very strong case to put to an appropriate tribunal."

Last week, as he addressed an audience in Cuba marking the 60th anniversary of the attack on the Moncada Barracks that launched the 1953 Revolution, Gonsalves said the Caribbean is

Continued on Page 4

WARNER BACK IN POWER

Wins big in Indian Territory

By Bert Wilkinson

A very politically interesting thing happened in Trinidad on Monday night when Afro businessman and former National Security Minister Austin Jack Warner took on the Hindu-dominated, governing People's Partnership (PP) in an Indian heartland constituency and won, triggering fears about his alleged larger ambitions to either severely weaken the governing coalition or bring it down altogether.

Until late April when Warner,

70, resigned his parliamentary seat in Chaguanas West, gave up the chairmanship of the United National Congress (UNC) and quit as national security minister in the wake of an international corruption scandal, he had been the most powerful person in the cabinet of Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar.

He had also been the man who had put together the PP and was one of its main financiers, draw-

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THE NEWS FROM BACK HOME

Antigua

A 73-year-old Italian national charged with murdering his 72-year-old ex-wife is to re-appear in court here this month.

Police said that Umberto Schenato, who appeared before Chief Magistrate Joanne Walsh, stabbed his estranged wife, Edda Schenato to death in the parking lot of a supermarket recently.

He was not asked to plead and the committal proceedings will determine whether or not the matter will go to trial in the High Court.

Schenato, who was remanded into custody, was told that he could apply for bail before a High Court judge.



Bahamas

Crime in the Bahamas dropped seven percent nationally between Jan. 1, 2013 and July 16, 2013 compared to the same period last year, according to figures released yesterday by Commissioner of Police Ellison Greenslade.

In New Providence, crimes against the person increased by four percent. Not all crimes are available in the statistical report.

In major crime categories nationally, 6,133 crimes were reported during this last year. This compares to 5,726 crimes reported this year.



Murder decreased by 21 percent (from 73 to 58) attempted murder decreased by 62 percent (from 13 to five) rape decreased by two percent (from 58 to 57) and attempted rape increased by 117 percent (from six to 13).

Police also recorded an increase in armed robberies is significant as that has been an area of concern for many years. While armed robberies decreased nationwide, in New Providence specifically it actually increased by five percent. There were 519 cases in 2012 compared to 543 cases recorded so far this year.

Police have recorded a reduction in the number of attempted murders in New Providence. Murders decreased by 11 percent (from 62 to 55) and attempted murders decreased by 75 percent (from 12 to three). Nationally, property



Rebirth of a Carnival tradition

A man dressed as Haitian national hero Jean-Jacques Dessalines performs during the "Carnival of Flowers," celebrations in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, Monday, July 29, 2013. Haiti kicked off its mid-year Carnival of Flowers Sunday in downtown Port-au-Prince, a three-day celebration President Michel Martelly has revived from the Duvalier era.

AP Photo/Dieu Nalio Chery

crimes decreased overall by seven percent.

Shop breaking increased by three percent while stealing increased by two percent. Burglary cases decreased by six percent; housebreaking matters decreased by 21 percent; stealing from vehicle by three percent and stolen vehicles by five percent.

Guyana

A joint meeting with senior management of the Guyana Police Force (GPF), together with its policy analysts as well the Crime and Social Observatory, it was emphasised that the police will win or lose the battle against crime, particularly in 'A' Division, of which Georgetown is part.

In a press statement the presentation, which was evidence-based, pointed to certain 'hot spots' in the city and other areas where crime can be anticipated and, from an operational perspective, the police should deploy its ranks and moveable assets to effectively deal with those specific areas fraught with potential criminal threats.



It noted that, at the end of the presentation, there could not have been a clearer message to the hierarchy of the GPF, especially to the acting commissioner, deputy commissioner (Law Enforcement), assistant commissioner (Operations) and the commanders of all divisions.

The statement said the Acting Commissioner has been requested, by the ministry, to adopt the appropriate operational posture to conform with the conclusions in the presentation with which all had agreed.

Further, the acting commissioner, with the support of the deputy commissioner (Law Enforcement), assistant commissioner (Operations) and, particularly commander 'A' Division, have been advised to inform the general public about actions contemplated by police to bring the situation under control, once again, the ministry said.

Jamaica

Jamaica could get assistance from Cuba to enhance its canine capability to combat illicit drug trafficking and the illicit arms trade. The National Security Min-

istry says it is one of the areas for improvement being looked at as the countries explore possible renewal of their Maritime and Police Cooperation Agreements.

National Security Minister, Peter Bunting recently returned from a three-day official visit to Cuba where he met with top security officials to explore the possible renewal of the agreements which expire in September 2013. The agreements speak to efforts by the countries to address the illicit trade in small arms and drugs, and trafficking in other forms.



St. Kitts

The seven Opposition parliamentarians have once again boycotted a session of National Assembly citing their refusal to "legitimize the proceedings."

The National Assembly convened recently with only the eight government parliamentarians. Last Monday the Opposition members turned up to a sitting of the Assembly but



left prematurely after the Speaker of the House, Curtis Martin declared he would hear no discussions relating to the Motion of No Confidence (MoNC) as the matter was still before the court.

Federal Opposition Leader Hon. Mark Brantley told The Observer he wrote to the Speaker recently inquiring if the Motion would be debated.

Martin said that the Opposition MPs had withdrawn the court case and thus there was no MoNC matter before the court brought by them.

Former government minister turned Opposition MP, Dr. Timothy Harris explained that his colleagues did not and would not participate in parliamentary proceedings as long as the "legitimate minority government of Dr. Denzil Douglas" and Speaker Martin "collude and refuse to bring the Motion of No Confidence to be heard for over seven months".

St. Lucia

Recently, the inaugural flight of United Airlines touched down at Hewanorra International Airport, Vieux Fort from Newark International in the U.S.

The flight was greeted with the ceremonial water salute by the Saint Lucia Fire Service. Passengers then disembarked to the sound of steel band music on the tarmac.

Among the hundreds of passengers on the flight were Minister of Tourism Lorne Theophilus, Director of Tourism Louis Lewis, Lorraine Charles St. Jules, Regional Manager North-East Region USA, as well as the Director of United Airlines. They were greeted by Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Infrastructure and Port Services Phillip J. Pierre and other tourism officials.

During a short ceremony in the VIP Lounge at the airport, Theophilus spoke of his elation with the arrival of the flight following months of negotiations. "This indeed shows the commitment of the government of Saint Lucia towards answering the needs of our hoteliers in Saint Lucia, one of those being the fact that we need to drive airlift to the destination," the minister stated. "And this effort between ourselves and



Continued on Page 14

Hurricane Sandy rebuilding plan

Wednesday July 31, a procession of New Yorkers, accompanied by music and visuals capturing the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy, marched from the Staten Island Ferry Terminal to City Hall to release a plan on post-Sandy rebuilding for the mayoral candidates to adopt.

The Alliance for a Just Rebuilding (AJR), a coalition of Sandy-impacted New Yorkers, labor unions, and community, faith, environmental and policy organizations, released a major new rebuilding plan developed by people working and living the communities hit the hardest by Sandy.

Key decisions on post-Sandy rebuilding will be made by Bloomberg's successor, and many AJR member groups and organizations today called on the mayoral candidates vying to succeed Bloomberg to make specific commitments to good jobs, affordable housing, sustainable energy, and community engagement to ensure an equitable rebuilding of our city.

The post-Sandy rebuilding plan, Turning the Tide: How Our Next Mayor Should Tackle Sandy Rebuilding, focuses on the fact that Sandy exposed deep inequities that existed long before the howling winds and flooding bore down on the city last fall, and reveals that our next mayor's legacy will be defined by whether those inequities are transformed or neglected.

"Making New York stronger and more resilient for all, and especially for the most vulnerable, is the single most important challenge facing our next mayor. This platform briefly lays out some concrete and realistic steps that Bloomberg's successor can employ...to redress and reduce the inequities that faced our city long before Hurricane Sandy," the AJR rebuilding plansays.

The plan lays out a four-point agenda for turning the tide away from inequality toward justice:

1. Our Next Mayor

Should Ensure That Sandy Recovery And Rebuilding Dollars Create Thousands Of Good Local Jobs.

2. Our Next Mayor Should Restore Lost Affordable Housing, and Create New Affordable Housing for Displaced Residents to Preserve Community Ties

3. Our Next Mayor Should Invest in Clean, Sustainable Energy Infrastructure that Values Communities and is Accountable to the Public.

4. Our Next Mayor Should Include and Engage Communities in Sandy Recovery – and in Planning NYC's Future.

Policy recommendations and proposals for each of the four areas are as follows:

"Those who were struggling the most before Sandy are still suffering the most in the recovery. For New Yorkers to fully recover, 'resiliency' must come in the form of good jobs, job training programs, and real affordable housing. Economic development in post-Sandy New York must lift all boats, not only the yachts of the real estate industry," Pastor David Rommereim of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church and a leader of Faith in New York.

"Hurricane Sandy left devastation and innumerable tragedies in its wake, but with rebuilding comes hope and opportunity. We can make our communities stronger. As we rebuild, the City must ensure that new housing is storm-secure and affordable to those who were displaced, and that the jobs created by the rebuilding allow our neighbors who were affected to lift themselves up with safe work at a family-sustaining wage," said Kyle Bragg, Secretary-Treasurer, 32BJ SEIU

"A lot of precious post 9/11 disaster money ended up going to big real estate and financial institutions to help build luxury apartments in lower Manhattan that not even the firefighters and first responders who valiantly rescued people when the towers fell could

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Vincy-Canada picnic a blast

By Nelson A. King

Heavy thundershowers and a tornado watch overnight and early morning on July 20 gave way to a lovely, sunny Saturday, as thousands descended on Brown's Bay Park on the shores of the St. Lawrence River in Western Ontario, Canada for the annual Vincy Unity Picnic.

For over 20 years old the annual event has attracted Vincentian nationals, their Caribbean counterparts and supporters from all walks of life in North America, the Caribbean and home. Nationals converged on the huge park, in the 1,000 Is. area, coming primarily by bus and car from major Canadian and United States cities, such as Montreal, Toronto, Ottawa, New York, Philadelphia, Boston and Washington, D.C.

The Brooklyn, New York-based umbrella Vincentian group in the United States, Council of St. Vincent and the Grenadines Organizations, U.S.A. Inc. (COS-AGO) and the Philadelphia-based St. Vincent and the Grenadines Organization of Pennsylvania (SVGOP) collaborated in organizing five buses for the massive picnic.

The spectacle, described as the largest event on any



Sections of the massive party crowd.

By Nelson A. King

given day on the shores of the St. Lawrence River, was organized by three Vincentian groups in Canada – the St. Vincent and the Grenadines Association of Montreal, the St. Vincent and the Grenadines Ottawa Association, and the St. Vincent and the Grenadines Association of Toronto.

"I'm feeling good!" exclaimed Montreal resident Sheroya Cole in a Caribbean Life interview.

"You get to meet a lot of people you didn't see in a

very long time," she added.

Mozica O. Bascombe, who is vacating in Montreal, intoned: "I love it. I'm enjoying myself – lots of people."

Kelly Richards, who also lives in Montreal, could not withhold her excitement.

"I love it," she said. "It's very, very interesting, because you get to meet a lot of people who you haven't seen in years."

As they "chewed down" corned beef, bakes and fried plantain, the Dallaway

family, said they have been attending the picnic for the last 20 years.

"How can I not support my country?" asked rhetorically Sandra Dallaway, a customer operations specialist with Alexion, a biopharmaceutical company in Toronto.

"It's a great opportunity to meet friends and family," added the Mississauga, Toronto suburb, resident.

Her mother, Isola Dallaway, said they love their country of birth to the hilt.

Bad review for New York City EMS

By Kingsley Dougan

The union representing 9-1-1 operators and EMS dispatchers urges the U.S. Dept. of Homeland Security to investigate the emergency system, calling recent failures a "threat to public safety."

Lillian Roberts, executive director of District Council 37 AFSCME, the city's largest public employee union, has called on the federal Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to investigate the New York City 9-1-1 emergency response system, citing recent failures and the fact that the \$2 billion system was funded, in part, by federal dollars.

Roberts said the present status of the 9-1-1 system upgrade, including "massive cost overruns, waste and allegations of fraud, serious operational issues and significant understaffing – poses a serious threat to public safety and is a significant drain on much-needed public resources," Roberts said, noting that shortly after the new system went on line, following a recent \$88 million upgrade, it began experiencing glitches and operational failures.

Roberts said the 9-1-1 operators "were forced to record emergency information by hand on slips of paper in order for runners to



DC 37 Executive Director Lillian Roberts.

Photo Credit: DC 37 AFSCME

race through the emergency call center's vast Brooklyn headquarters to deliver them to dispatchers charged with alerting the appropriate response team."

To date, there have been

three New York City Council hearings on the 9-1-1 system breakdowns, Roberts noted, but added that the city has not taken steps to correct the system's failures.

New York City Controller John Liu found, in a recent audit, that Mayor Bloomberg's project to upgrade the system was seven years behind schedule and \$1 billion over budget, with only one component of the system upgrade was presently up and running. Liu also indicted that the City's emergency 9-1-1 program was significantly impacted by the contractors' delays in meeting their contractual obli-

Continued on Page 6

Jack Warner in the driver's seat

Continued from cover ing millions from his personal wealth to swing it into power. All this has gone with the political wind that blew through Central Trinidad late Monday.

But that all changed when the prime minister said in late April that she had no choice but to boot him from her cabinet as investigative reports about his international financial dealings as a former vice-president for FIFA, the world governing body for soccer, had become too pervasive for her to ignore.

So Warner decided to resign and then campaign afresh for his seat in Chaguanas West in Central Trinidad, a district where the UNC, the largest of the coalition partners, has traditionally won hands down, being 80 percent Indo Trinidadian.

Warner won about 70 percent of the vote, whipping the coalition's candidate

by more than a two-to-one margin and in so doing, has exposed the soft underbelly of a grouping facing credible and widespread allegations of corruption, nepotism and political arrogance.

Now, just hours after his resounding victory and the fact that he would be going into the 41-seat parliament with his newly minted Independent Liberal Party (ILP), have laid bare uncertainties about the future of the coalition, possible defections to Warner and how tough it would be for the PP to rally-out untill general elections in 2015.

This is so because of lingering fears that some of the prime minister's legislators and cabinet members might defect to Warner's ILP, eventually forming a grouping that could severely undermine her as the *Express* newspaper reported this week.

Two coalition members, Rodger Samuel and Winston



Jack Warner.
AP Photo/Shirley Bahadur

"Gypsy" Peters have already publicly signaled as such on Wednesday.

Of the two, Peters was a bit clearer, saying that, "I don't know what would happen tomorrow or the day after. I am a member of the UNC now. That's what I am. And I am a loyal member of the UNC right now. But one never knows. Politics is a very fluid thing. One could never tell. One never knows what would happen in the future," he said.

For his part, Samuels noted that he plans to tell the PM first that he is likely to leave shortly.

Britain's Black debt

Continued from cover demanding reparations from Europe for native genocide and African slavery.

"The principal reason for underdevelopment in the Caribbean and Latin America is the legacy of native genocide and African slavery, and we do so with the spirit and with the examples, in this new period, of the combatants of Moncada," he said.

At the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) summit here earlier this month, Gonsalves presented his fellow leaders with three position papers, including one by Professor Hilary Beckles, the pro-vice Chancellor of the University of the West Indies, who recently published the book "Britain's Black Debt: Reparations owed the Caribbean for Slavery and Indigenous Genocide".

Gonsalves is pushing for a common position on reparations and has welcomed the decision to establish a committee under the chairmanship of the Barbados

Prime Minister Freundel Stuart to drive the issue.

The committee, which will oversee the work of a CARICOM Reparations Commission, will include Trinidad and Tobago, Guyana, Haiti, St. Vincent and the Grenadines and Suriname, the chairs of national reparations committees, and a representative of the University of the West Indies.

Kafra Kambon, chair of the Emancipation Support Committee in Trinidad and Tobago, told IPS it is important for non-governmental organisations and the Caribbean population in general to support the initiatives of regional governments.

Kambon, whose group organises the annual Emancipation Day activities here, said that the support is necessary since he believes "European governments are going to try to corral them [Caribbean leaders] or even pressure them to abandon the idea."

"We have to give the

strength to that call for reparations as a principle," Kambon told IPS, calling the slave trade "massive crimes that go beyond the human imagination".

"People have been damaged psychologically, we came out of slavery suffering extreme trauma," he said.

"We were not behind Europe at the time of the contact and some people think of slavery as a rescue mission. It was not," he said, adding that "slavery represents a generation of people that have been wiped out".

In the Dutch country of Suriname, the National Reparations Committee said it would seek consensus and awareness for the correct version of history.

"We're going to bring this dead information about reparations for slavery and about the genocide of our country's first inhabitants to life," said the committee's chair, Armand Zunder, who has applauded the move by CARICOM.

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Young people in a dance routine at Ronald McNair Park.

Photo by Natasha Andrews

WIADCA's first pre-Carnival Family Picnic was a hit

By Chudi Chukwudi

In its continuing effort to expand its year-round events for the benefit of the community, the West Indian-American Carnival Association (WIADCA) hosted its first Family Day picnic at Ronald McNair

Park in Crown Heights, between Washington Avenue and Classon Avenue, (across from the Brooklyn Museum) on Saturday, July 20 from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on a beautiful, sunny day that was right for the occasion.

The free event was a relatively new effort by WIADCA "to encourage strong family unity by way of spending time together in fun activities, games, food, and free health services," WIADCA spokesper-

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Failing grade for NYC EMS

Continued from page 3

gations, resulting in a \$362 million additional cost to the city.

"The overall cost of the glitch-ridden system," Roberts added, "has soared from \$1.4 billion to more than \$2 billion, and chronic understaffing under the Bloomberg administration nearly doubled annual overtime expenses since 2008 to \$4 million, with this year's tab expected to hit \$4.5 million."

Roberts' letter to DHS insists that the Bloomberg administration has "created a serious threat to public safety and wasted millions of dollars by contracting out the project to firms with questionable performance records, such as Intergraph Corp. which has been implicated in breakdowns of similar systems in San Jose, California and Nassau County."

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Haiti faces 'endemic cholera' for years

By Correspondents

PORT-AU-PRINCE, July 26 2013 (Haiti Grassroots Watch) - Lack of financing for a 10-year eradication plan means that cholera will likely be endemic to Haiti for years to come.

Cholera spreads via contaminated food, water and fecal matter. One of the essential parts of the government's 2.2-billion-dollar National Plan for the Elimination of Cholera in Haiti is financing for sanitation systems nationwide.

"Haiti is the only country in the entire world whose sanitation coverage decreased in the last decade." -- Dr. Rishi Rattan of Physicians for Haiti

The majority of Haitians -- about eight million out of the country's 10 million people -- do not have access to a hygienic sanitation system. They defecate in the open, in fields, in ravines and on riverbanks. The capital region produces over 900 tonnes of human excreta every day, according to the United

Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS).

"Haiti is the only country in the entire world whose sanitation coverage decreased in the last decade," noted Dr. Rishi Rattan, a member of Physicians for Haiti, an association of U.S.-based doctors and health professionals.

"Before the cholera outbreak or the earthquake, diarrhea was the number one killer of children under five and the second leading cause of all death in Haiti. Given that cholera is a water-borne illness that relies upon lack of access to clean water, it is highly likely that cholera will become endemic in Haiti without full funding of Haiti's cholera elimination plan by entities such as the United Nations," Rattan told Haiti Grassroots Watch (HGW) in an email.

Cholera, brought to Haiti in October 2010 by soldiers from the United Nations Stabilisation Mission in Haiti (MINUS-



A man crosses a bridge over one of Citffl© Soleil, waste canals that lead to the Port-au-Prince harbor.

Photo courtesy of HGW/Marc Schindler Saint Val

TAH), quickly spread throughout the country. Almost 3,000 are infected each month. To date, over 600,000 people have been infected and at least 8,190 have died.

An Ecological Alternative?

DINEPA is not the only organisation working on the sanitation issue in Haiti. The U.S.-based Sustainable Organic Integrated Livelihoods (SOIL) treats and transforms human excrement into compost that can be used as fertiliser.

SOIL supplies people and

institutions who pay a small monthly fee with special latrines. Every two weeks, the "Poopmobile" collects the excreta. So far, SOIL says their toilets in operation around the country serve about 10,000 people.

SOIL's compost installation is located at Trutier, north of the capital, not far from one of the two DINEPA waste treatment centres. Three people work there. One empties the Poopmobile drums into the piles that become compost after six months, while the others clean and disinfect the drums so they can be reused.

Haiti police: 183 hurt in fights at Carnival fete

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP) — A summer Carnival-like celebration in Haiti has turned violent.

Haitian police spokesman Gary Desrosiers says 183 people were injured in street fights on the first day of the "Carnival of Flowers."

One man also died when he fell off a float.

Haitian President Michel Martelly revived the "Carnival of Flowers" last year so the capital of Port-au-Prince could have its own Carnival-like party. His administration has moved February's Carnival fete to cities outside the capital in the hopes of developing the countryside.

The "Carnival of Flowers" began Sunday and drew tens of thousands of revelers to downtown Port-au-Prince. Many people painted their faces bright colors and wore flowing costumes as they marched through the streets. The festival ended Tuesday.

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Low minimum wage undermines economy

By Jon Cooper

As a business owner who runs a manufacturing company with 150 employees, I strongly support increasing the federal minimum wage, which has been stuck at just \$7.25 an hour since July 24, 2009. It will provide concrete benefits to businesses and will strengthen our overall economy.

Fair wages are part of the formula for success at my company, Spectronics Corporation, the world's leading manufacturer of ultraviolet equipment and fluorescent materials. Raising the minimum wage will help America succeed as well.

Consumer spending drives about 70 percent of our nation's economy. And wages drive consumer spending.

The single biggest problem faced by small businesses today is weak consumer demand. Increasing the minimum wage is a great way to spur economic growth by jump-starting consumer spending. It will allow workers to buy essentials they can't afford now, and most of the money they spend will go right back into local businesses.

That's also good for our tax base.

A higher minimum wage will also result in lower employee turnover. Turnover costs money, and reducing turnover means lower costs for hiring and training new workers. In addition, higher wages bring increased productivity. Employers who

invest in their workforce have employees who are more invested in the company and in satisfying its customers.

At my company, nearly 71 percent of employees have been with us for over ten years. Compare that to low-paying chains with continual turnover or the local retail store where one of my daughters worked for a year. She and many of her co-workers were paid minimum wage, and she saw that the biggest problem they faced was high turnover. Much time and effort was spent training the constant flow of new employees, which adversely impacted customer service since they made more mistakes due to their inexperience.

Raising the minimum wage encourages better business practices. An inadequate minimum wage fits the old adage, "Penny wise and pound foolish."

Fortunately, most business owners are already paying employees more than minimum wage. Those companies that do pay their workers poverty wages at or near \$7.25 are in effect being subsidized by other businesses and taxpayers, since low-wage employees are far more likely to turn to government assistance programs to get by. That's simply not fair.

Companies like mine, Costco and In N Out Burger, for example, which thrive with fair wages, show every day that companies

Continued on Page 12

Serious concerns about foreclosure practices

By Amy Bennett and Angela Canterbury

We already know that federal regulators have undermined accountability for the "systemic and widespread" abuses by mortgage servicing companies. In another disturbing development, the Federal Reserve and the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (OCC) are refusing to turn over information to Members of Congress that could help them prevent such abuses from happening again.

A recent study of the Independent Foreclosure Review (IFR) process by the Government Accountability Office (GAO) cited significant flaws, including a lack of transparency, in the design and implementation of the process. The IFR process was created in 2011 because several mortgage servicing companies and their affiliates were found to have regularly engaged in questionable, unsafe, and even illegal practices. People who lost their homes or were in danger of losing their homes

800,000 people and their families were hurt by the mortgage servicing industry's practices.

through foreclosure in 2009 and 2010 could use the process to ask for an independent review of the action, and could be compensated if the review found they had suffered financial injury due to an error or other problem. Before any payouts were made, though an agreement between federal bank regulators and 13 mortgage service providers ended the IFR review process for all but a handful of these companies.

A few of the serious concerns raised by the GAO are the quality of work done by some of the independent reviewers and the fact payouts are not correlated with the actual amount of financial harm. In addition to raising these issues, the GAO concluded that a lack of transparency about the process undermined confi-

dence in its findings. Despite the GAO's conclusions, however, the Fed and the OCC have decided to double down on the secrecy surrounding the process: refusing requests by Senator Elizabeth Warren (D-MA) and Representative Elijah Cummings (D-MD) for information about the IFR process, and about specific violations of law—including wrongful foreclosures, excessive fees, and fraudulent affidavits filed in court.

During the IFR process, about 800,000 files were identified for review. This is a dry and technical way to say that there was reason to suspect that about 800,000 people and their families were hurt by the mortgage servicing industry's practices. And, as we all know too well, the damage caused by these questionable and illegal actions extends well beyond just the people who lose their home. Foreclosures pull apart communities and can lower property values for the entire neighborhood.

Continued on Page 12

What rural voters want

To the Editor,

Most rural Americans believe the small-town way of life is worth fighting for and support government action to strengthen rural communities.

A poll of rural voters, conducted by the nationally respected bipartisan polling team of Celinda Lake of Lake Research and Ed Goetz of The Tarrance Group, found that rural voters think for themselves and don't neatly fit an ideological stereotype.

Over half said "owning my own business or farm is a big part of the American dream for me," and most agreed with helping small

business through cutting taxes, spending and regulation as well as through government loans, tax credits, training and antitrust enforcement. Three-fourths support tax credits and investments in new transmission lines for development of renewable energy generation in rural areas.

Eighty percent of rural voters polled support grants and loans to revitalize small towns through upgrades to water and sewer systems, roads and bridges. The same percentage support job training to improve earnings, Medicaid for health care coverage and other assistance to help the working

poor afford necessities of life such as the Earned Income Tax Credit. Eighty-five percent favor preschool programs to prepare lower-income children to succeed in school.

Rural voters support cutting farm subsidies to big mega farms to pay for some of these measures, while opposing general cuts in farm subsidies. They oppose across the board tax increases, but favor repealing the Bush tax cuts for those earning over \$250,000.

Thank you rural America, for speaking up, we're listening.

John Crabtree,
johnc@cfra.org, Center for Rural Affairs

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

Warner's trail of wrongdoing can't be ignored

At one time the buzz surrounding contemptible Jack Warner's remaining a member of Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar's cabinet in Trinidad and Tobago, despite the abundance of unsavory stuff swirling around him, was that he had "the goods" on Bissessar and her crew, enough so to bring down her government if she cut him loose. The weight of Warner's trail of questionable practices evidently reached critical mass for the prime minister with the release of a special investigator's report earlier this year on the affairs of CONCACAF, the Caribbean regional football federation, which detailed a pattern of dubious behavior with respect to the federation's finances. Relinquishing, as well, his parliamentary seat and post as chairman of Bissessar's party, the United National Congress (UNC), after he was forced out of the cabinet last April, Warner was presumably fueled by some "I'll show them" propulsion when he indicated he would run again for the seat he resigned, in the process announcing formation of a new party.

We don't consider Warner's winning of that central Trinidad seat, which he just did on Monday, to be quite the ethnic voting bombshell

some have suggested. The constituency being predominantly Indo-Trinidadian and thus in the heartland of the UNC's support base, Warner would not have won the seat back in 2010 had he not been aligned with the UNC. He was also, from all we've gathered, determined to be a Johnny-on-the-spot representative in dealing with constituent problems and reportedly spent liberally both from government resources and his own pockets in this regard. Of critical significance, too, in the Warner stratagem, he made a point of conveying a shared ethnic bond with constituents and frequently sported in public certain symbolic manifestations of an alleged conversion to the Hindu faith. Notably, some months ago when thousands took to the streets in protest against probably the most egregious of the current government's many abuses of power (the scandal known as Section 34), then national security minister Warner was constrained to remark derisively that Afro-Trinidadians were the only ones protesting.

Warner, for the three years he was in the Parliament as a UNC member, took pains to craft a very pro-Indo image and one that was at

Viewpoint

By Les Slater

times downright dismissive of what one presumed to be his own side of the ethnic divide. So the sweeping generalization made in some quarters that a Warner victory in the by-election is illustrative of some shifting in Trinidad and Tobago's ingrained tradition of ethnic voting is somewhat flawed, given Warner's political gyrations over time that have brought him to where he now stands.

It is very unlikely that any objective review of Warner -- during his long tenure in FIFA or in activities concurrent with or following this -- would conclude otherwise than here's an individual for whom moral high ground is seemingly a non-existent concept. An individual who might be the personification of the definitive artful dodger. But in routinely designating a small slice of his personal pie for "good works" display, he has cunningly created a deflecting mechanism. The tactic assures that there would always be

some few befogged and beguiled by the veneer of caring and/or benevolence and content to be blind to the slithery path that made it possible. It is, in the truest sense, finely tuned trickery.

Despite a song and dance about opting to work for his people, Warner's departure from his cushy position in FIFA was hardly voluntary. Neither he nor Bissessar had earlier seen the need for him to leave the FIFA post in the clear conflict of interest created when he was named a government minister. Warner's FIFA exit was obviously occasioned by an impending investigation into his role in the bribing of Caribbean football executives at a meeting in Port of Spain.

Questions have apparently remained unresolved over funds from FIFA entrusted to Warner for earthquake relief in Haiti, following allegations that the amount of the FIFA donation was considerably compromised by the time it got to the intended recipients.

Controversy endures also over the Centre of Excellence, a facility in Trinidad said to have been bankrolled by FIFA and supposedly intended primarily for football-related business. Warner contends

the FIFA funds were gifted to him; FIFA has insisted otherwise.

Some Warner apologists have, in bizarre fashion, attempted to rationalize these and other bouts of dirty dealing with the claim that Trinis or black folk have not been the ones victimized. The people of Haiti and the members of Trinidad and Tobago's 2006 World Cup squad, denied for years by Warner their rightful participation fees until it was quietly settled recently, would disagree.

Warner compounds this boundless avarice with being coarse, uncouth, altogether unprincipled. In this period of extended farewell to saintly Nelson Mandela, it behooves Trinidad and Tobago nationals to recall Warner's embarking on a trip to South Africa with then party leader Basdeo Panday during an election campaign to "hustle" Mandela for a photo op/endorsement.

The notion that Warner's by-election win magically makes of him a Puritan is fantasy. He is, as newspaper columnist Michael Harris once noted, "the prince of perfidy." That's not about to change. And there's no consideration more critical for Trinidad and Tobago's people in assessing this man.

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OP-EDS

Minimum wage increase overdue

Continued from page 10

like Walmart and McDonald's are choosing to take advantage of the low minimum wage and shortchange their workers – and our nation.

Whenever we talk about raising the minimum wage, critics claim that it will cause increased unemployment. But this has been carefully refuted in an extensive series of studies of the impact of actual minimum wage increases. For example, a study by the Institute for Research on Labor and Employment published in The Review of Economics and Statistics,

November 2010, compared every pair of neighboring U.S. counties that had differing minimum wage levels at any time between 1990 and 2006. It found no adverse employment effects from higher minimum wages.

The \$7.25 minimum wage comes to just \$15,080 a year for full-time workers. That's too low to live on and it's undermining our economy. If the minimum wage had been automatically adjusted for the cost of living since the 1960s, businesses would be paying \$10.74 today. The Fair Minimum Wage Act would

gradually increase the minimum wage to \$10.10 over three years, and then adjust it annually for inflation. These provisions are fair and reasonable.

Employers who pretend they cannot pay a minimum wage equivalent to what their counterparts paid in the 1960s should be ashamed of themselves.

Raising the minimum wage is an overdue investment in our economy.

Jon Cooper is the owner and president of Spectronics Corporation, based in Westbury, New York. He is also a member of Business for a Fair Minimum Wage.

Foreclosure practices

Continued from page 10

Why would the Federal Reserve and the help the mortgage servicing industry keep secret information about the "systemic and widespread" practices that contributed to the near meltdown of the financial industry in 2008? And why would they refuse to help Members of Congress who are interested in preventing the same kind of abuses from happening again?

The reasons cited by the Fed and the OCC for not turning over the requested information are specious. According to an April 10 letter sent by Senator Warren and Representative Cummings to Den Bernanke

and Thomas Curry, respectively the heads of the Fed and OCC, their staff cited their obligation to prevent disclosure of confidential supervisory bank examination information. Staff for the Fed and the OCC also referred to documents about illegal practices by a mortgage serving company as a "trade secret." As the letter concisely states, however, "Breaking the law is not a corporate trade secret."

The Fed and the OCC's decision to deny a Congressional request for information suggest that they are acting less as regulators of the financial sector than as protectors of industry. Considering that in the wake of the financial crisis, critics

often pointed to the seemingly cozy relationship between government regulators and the sector they were supposed to be overseeing, it is time for the Fed and the OCC to rethink their stance. Complying with the request for information is the best way to make sure those mortgage servicing companies that irresponsibly damaged lives and communities by engaging in illegal acts are held accountable, and to make sure similar practices do not happen again.

Bennett is the assistant director of OpenTheGovernment.org and Canterbury is the director of Public Policy of Project On Government Oversight – POGO

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CARIBBEAN ROUNDUP

Continued from page 2

United Airlines is in fact the realization of months of work which has gone into making this dream a reality," he added.

The minister went on to express the expectation that with increase in demand, the flight that is now once weekly, could increase in time to come. Millie Urinate, director of United Airlines said the airline was pleased to be launching its new weekly

service from Newark.

The flight will provide convenient connections to 22 key cities in the U.S., including Chicago, Boston and Washington DC. "We also connect to various Canadian destinations which is also great, bringing all that traffic Saint Lucia," said Urinate.

St. Vincent

St. Vincent and the Grenadines Prime Minister Dr. Ralph Gonsalves says recent

talks with the Trinidad and Tobago government to address the issue of the fuel subsidy given to Port of Spain-based Caribbean Airlines (CAL) have failed to resolve the matter.

Gonsalves is chairman of the regional shareholder governments that own Antigua-based airline LIAT, which has accused the administration

in Port of Spain of providing an illegal subsidy to CAL.

Trinidad and Tobago Finance Minister Larry Howai said recently that Port of Spain provided US\$40 million to CAL last year in subsidies

He said the issue had been raised in Port of Spain during the just-concluded Caribbean Community (CARICOM) summit and both LIAT and CAL maintained their respective positions. "I am of this view that this matter



is going to be resolved only through arbitration and/or the Caribbean Court of Justice (CCJ). I don't think that Trinidad and Tobago would want to settle this matter," he told a news conference.

Prime Minister Gonsalves told reporters that during the talks, the position of the different persons who spoke for Trinidad and Tobago was "to admit that they do give a subsidy then to deny that they give a subsidy, then that if they give a subsidy, it doesn't mean that it impacted negatively on LIAT."

Trinidad

Trinidad and Tobago has recorded four consecutive quarters – one year- of economic growth.

This was disclosed by Finance Minister Larry Howai at a recent press conference.

He also said Trinidad and Tobago had received a triple A rating from Caricris gives, the Caribbean credit ratings agency.

Howai said GDO (Gross Domestic Product) has been growing from July of last year.

Over the last three quarters to end of March, the GDP grew, he said.

Noting that T&T has the

largest GDP in the English-speaking Caribbean and is one of the wealthiest countries in Latin America and the Caribbean, Howai said.

He said Caricris indicated the rating reflected the country's strong external position as reflected by a healthy foreign exchange position (which at the end of June was \$9.4 billion) and the Heritage and Stabilization Fund (which at the start of July had US\$5 billion).

St. Lucia

Prime Minister Kenny Anthony has called on hoteliers to redefine their approach to the industry and do more to improve quality and mutually beneficial partnerships.

Addressing the 49th annual general meeting of the St. Lucia Hotels and Tourism Association, the Prime Minister said developed countries such as the United States and Europe, which are major source markets for the industry, are currently jostling for number one status as visitor magnets.

"The economic benefits of travel and tourism are immense and no country can afford to ignore this fact in their future developmental planning.

Compiled by Azad Ali



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Rebuilding after Hurricane SANDY

Continued from page 3

afford to live in. This cannot happen again. As Sandy money gets allocated, we need our new mayor to direct city entities, particularly the Economic Development Corporation, to put the needs of low-income and vulnerable New Yorkers first and ensure good jobs and affordable housing result from these new investments," said Bobby Tolbert, a member leader with VOCAL-NY.

"Public housing was suffering from neglect pre-Sandy, and the problems have gotten worse. Repairs aren't getting done and mold problems are expanding. There's rain coming through the 11th Floor, and the roof still has not been repaired. Money needs to get to public housing developments and residents need to be able to get the work. There needs to

be more involvement with the community to develop a plan. Public housing residents are being left out of the discussion and forgotten. If the real voice of the people was at the table, decisions and priorities would be different," said Vernell Robinson, a Community Voices Heard (CVH) member-leader and Carleton Manor resident in Far Rockaway, Queens.

"After Sandy, we were the first to help families remove water from flooded basements, clean up debris removal, demolition, and other home infrastructure repairs in the coastal areas of the city. As the city seeks to invest in the rebuilding, it is necessary to ensure responsible contractors are creating good job opportunities with justice, dignity and respect," Eudes Salas, a day laborer and member of the Workers Justice Project

Family fun day at WIADCA picnic

Continued from page 6

son Jean Alexander said.

A number of community businesses, including: National Grid, Healthfirst and Brookdale Hospital partnered as co-sponsors of the event and provided free HIV Screening, Asthma Clinics, Diabetic Screening, High Blood Pressure Testing, Nutrition education, as well as information on smoking cessation and how to access free and low-cost health insurance.

At the Healthfirst table, giveaways included toothbrushes, health-aid kits, flyers, fans as well as face-painting for the children, and National Grid provided fans and booklets on ways to conserve energy.

Carnival Mas bands gave a glimpse of their upcoming presentations and did some recruiting at the event, while two groups: Masqueraders and New Horizon presented masqueraders in full regalia, including Natasha Andrews, 14, as the



Attendees enjoy family fun day at WIADCA picnic.

Mc.Canan & Nia princess.

There was no shortage of live entertainment, including gospel, with renditions by Gwendolyn Etienne and Jamila Clyne; soca music by Jus J, Young Devlyn and Soca Motion; steel-band music by Metro Steel Orchestra, Vibez Evolution and dancing by Soca Vibes. Mas-man Randolph

Brewster held a costume-making class and Carnival games and balloons were distributed by Lucrecia Messiah.

Among the other donors were elected officials: Jumaane Williams, Letitia James and Marty Markowitz. The Caribbean American Center donated an assortment of toys and

community donors included William Howard, Carrie Ballah, Michelle Gibbs, Allyson Durrant, Deborah Benjamin, Beverly Craigwell, Marika McColin, Karen Williams, Elenor Serrette, Randy Babb, and the Department of Environmental Protection also contributed to the event in a variety of ways.

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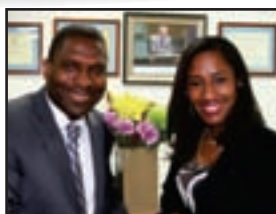
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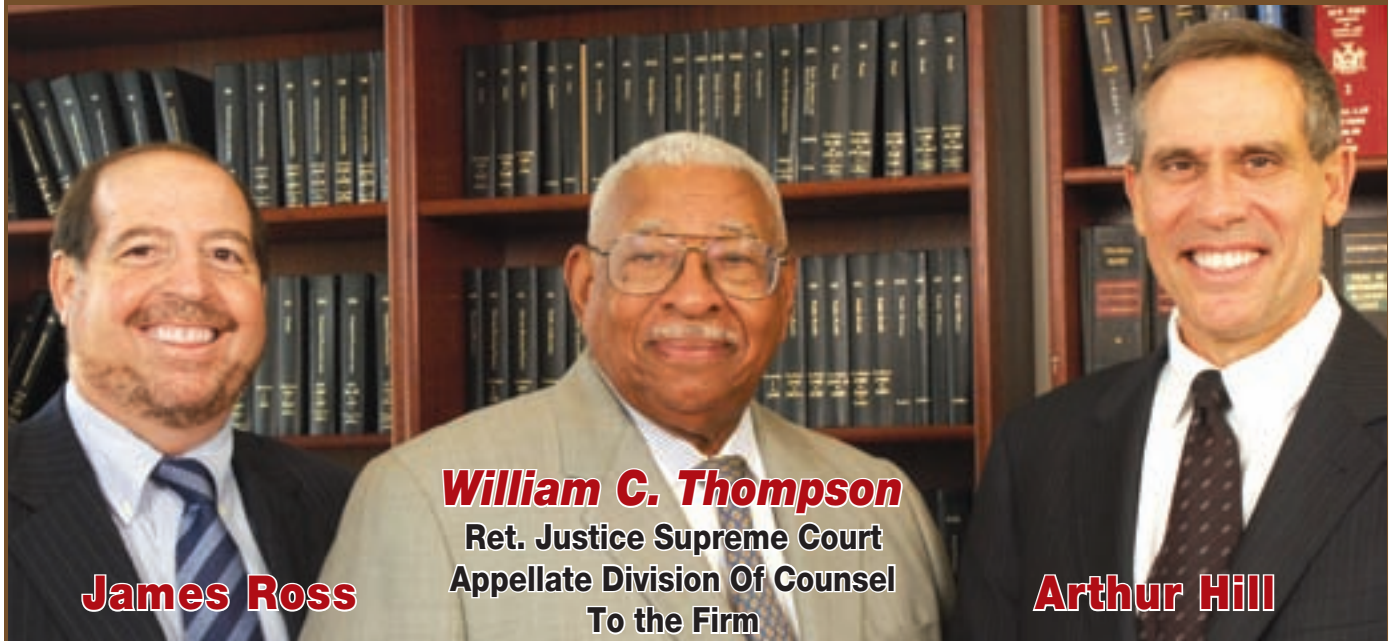
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THE CARIBBEAN BUSINESS REPORT

Dawn Skeete serves up healthy ethnic meals

By Tequila Minsky

Dawn Skeete arrived in New York in 1971 from Jamaica; she was 10 years-old and came of age here. Thoroughly American, she is still deeply embedded in Jamaican culture.

After a career for almost two decades as a management consultant at TIAA-CREF, the company relocated. Faced with: "What should I do?" Skeete turned to food.

Skeete is the founder and owner, with her mother and husband as partners, of Jamaica Grill, 321 Nostrand Ave., a catering and take out restaurant that has all the typical Jamaican foods that remind diners of home. The restaurant opened in 2009.

Her Bed-Stuy restaurant attracts folks from all races and classes and in addition to Jamaican style, she says, "I try to do a fusion with other cultures," like Rasta pasta, mixing Jamaican with Italian, or mixing it up with Chinese in jerk shrimp fried rice.

Jamaica cooking is not necessarily healthy, but that's not how Skeete sees it. "The ingredients are healthy," she says. And she wants to keep them so.

Like any small business, it has its ups and downs and Skeete found out about the



Salt can be substituted with seasonings says Skeete. She gave participants samples of Jamaica Grill's special seasoning and a hotter sauce.

Photo by Tequila Minsky

free business training courses offered by Flatbush-based CAMBA's Small Business Services and signed on for the 10-week "Entrepreneurial Assistance Program—Taking Care of Business (TCB)" that guides existing and start-up businesses in writing a comprehensive, investor-ready business plan. One of her goals: to grow the business.

More basic courses such as the month-long "Writing a Business Plan 101" are also offered. Contact: smallbiz@camba.org, 718-282-2500.)

Among her class of 15 participants there were formal and informal business owners and some looking to start a business. Some like herself had graduated college without a clue of financial management. "I fell into that category," she admits and that learning how to look at the finances of running a business was one of the most important lessons of the class.

Market Feasibility and Industry Analysis (how to use research to drive the business) was an integral

component in the program. This course requirement took time and investigation but, her research affected the trajectory of her business.

She discovered how high the prevalence of diabetes was in the geographic area of her business and also, how limited access was to healthy foods.

"What can we do to help people do better in ordering," she thought, wanting to offer a variety of menu items and provide a product to satisfy their needs.

For her final project in class—the pitch given on the last day, she described a diabetic and healthy menu she wanted to implement at her restaurant.

With zeal for healthy-eating and a passionate presentation, CAMBA tapped Skeete to give a three-session series in healthy cooking demonstrations—followed by enjoying the foods presented—to the central Brooklyn community, this summer.

The just-completed July series, held at the Dutch Reformed Church on Flatbush and Church, was part of Emblem Health's Live Healthy program partnered with Greater Brooklyn Health Coalition (GBGH), among others.

The first week menu included roasted chicken and vegetables; the second week, grilled salmon and salad, the final week included tilapia, rice and peas cooked with coconut milk and a mélange of cooked greens.

Skeete talked about healthy techniques in cooking—focusing on cutting down on salt with tasty seasonings.

Her mantra: when available, always use fresh herbs. She described her pepper sauce as a blend of thyme, ginger, garlic, onion and scotch bonnet pepper.

These aromatics, mixed in a blender, were cooked with the chopped mustard, kale and collard greens, adding incredible flavor.

Canarsie-resident Evalina Irish-Spencer anxiously awaited the last session, having also attended the previous two.

"Don't laugh," she answered to the question, what do you do? "I'm a dietitian (with a Masters degree). I give classes. I took these classes to be on the other side and relax and I'm having a blast."

What has she learned? "I learned about seasonings so you don't have to use salt. I'll use on my own at home." At the final demo, Skeete gave samples of her special (secret) seasoning and hot sauce.

Starting Aug. 8, Skeete will give a new three-part series of free healthy food demonstrations in Bed Stuy. To sign up <http://emblem-healthlivehealthy.com/register/>

In addition, GBHC and Emblem Health and CAMBA will also offer free Cardio Kickboxing, Afro Caribbean Dance, and seminars on the Affordable Care Act and Emergency Preparedness, Tuesday and Thursday evenings. To sign up call 1-866-653-1705.

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smallbiz.nypl.org

Small Business Services - Empire State Development New York

www.esd.ny.gov/smallbusiness.html

Small Business - Business First - New York State

www.nyfirst.ny.gov/ResourceCenter/SmallBizMenu.html

2013 New York, NY Small Business Resource

www.sba.gov/sites/default/files/files/resourceguide_3135.pdf

Business Resources: Internet Bibliographies: New York State Library

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

Start a Business in New York — Resources for New York Small Businesses

manhattan.about.com/od/careersjobs/a/nysmallbusiness.htm
Find resources and advice on starting a

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

Your Money New York - Help and Resources for Small Businesses

www.yourmoneyny.com/helpresource/smallbusiness/index.php
This section of Your Money New York is designed to help small business owners—and New Yorkers interested in starting a small business.

Small Business Resources - The Business Council of New York

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

Resources for Businesses in New York City - bfandapc.com

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

Small Business Resource Guide - New York - HUD

www.hud.gov/offices/osdbu/resource/guide/local/newyork.cfm
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Jamaican envoy says many challenges remain

By Nelson A. King

As Jamaicans in the United States begin celebrating their 51st anniversary of political independence from Great Britain, the country's ambassador to the U.S. says many challenges remain.

In his independence message to nationals in the Diaspora, Stephen Vasciannie said the Jamaican State "needs to develop its capacity not only to resist external economic shocks but also to tackle fully the serious problem of public indebtedness."

"The State must also enhance its ability to generate self-sustaining growth, even as efforts are made to ensure greater fairness and equity in the economic sphere," he said.

With these considerations in mind, Vasciannie said the government of Prime Minister Portia Simpson-Miller completed this year arrangements with the International

Monetary Fund (IMF) and other multilateral financial institutions "that are intended to lend stability to the Jamaican economy."

"The arrangements with the Fund, when coupled with aspects of the government's growth agenda, should help Jamaica to reduce some of its economic challenges in the near- and medium-term," the envoy said.

For these challenges to be fully overcome, however, Vasciannie said the country will need to "redouble its commitment to greater productivity and increased efficiency."

"In the drive for economic and social development, Jamaica will continue to benefit from the substantial contribution of persons in the Diaspora who look to the homeland for emotional and cultural sustenance," he said.

"The recently-concluded Diaspora Conference and the many contributions of

Diaspora groups to the country affirm yet again that the Jamaican people are determined to ensure that we find pathways to success," he added.

"As we enter the period of Independence, may we celebrate our achievements and recommit ourselves to prosperity in Jamaica, 'Land We Love,'" Vasciannie continued.

Jamaicans in the New York metropolitan area begin their independence anniversary celebrations on Sunday with a Service of Thanksgiving at Lenox Road Baptist Church on Nostrand Avenue in Brooklyn.

Flag-raising ceremonies will be held on Friday, Aug. 9 at Brooklyn Borough Hall, and East Orange and Paterson City Halls in New Jersey.

The grand 51st Anniversary of Independence Ball takes place on Aug. 17 at the Hilton New York in midtown Manhattan.



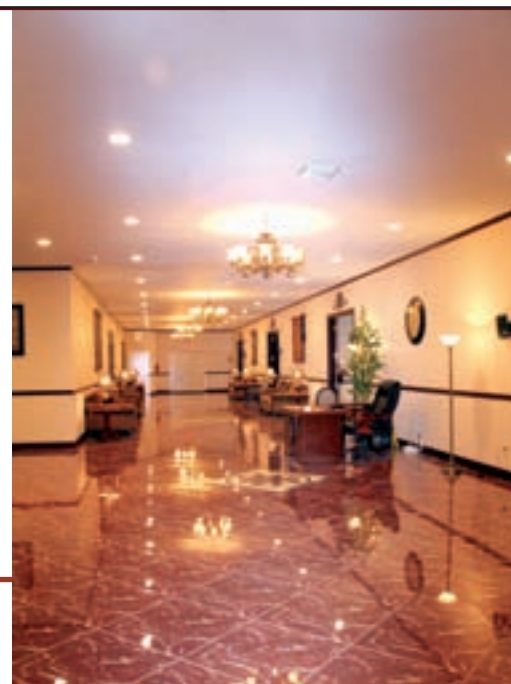
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WHO urges strong response against hepatitis

By Nelson A. King

On World Hepatitis Day, on Sunday, the World Health Organization (WHO) is urging Caribbean and other governments to act against the five hepatitis viruses that can cause severe liver infections and lead to 1.4 million deaths every year.

The Geneva, Switzerland-based WHO said some of these hepatitis viruses, most notably types B and C, can also lead to chronic and debilitating illnesses, such as liver cancer and cirrhosis.

The viruses can result in the loss of income and high medical expenses for hundreds of millions of people worldwide, the WHO said.

It said viral hepatitis is referred to as a "silent epidemic" because most persons do not realize that they are infected and, over decades, slowly progress to liver disease.

The WHO said many countries are only now realizing the magnitude of the disease burden and devising ways to address it.

"The fact that many hepatitis B and C infections are silent, causing no symptoms until there is severe damage to the liver, points to the

HEALTH

urgent need for universal access to immunization, screening, diagnosis and antiviral therapy," said Dr Keiji Fukuda, WHO Assistant Director-General for Health Security and the Environment.

"Many of the measures needed to prevent the spread of viral hepatitis disease can be put in place right now, and doing so will offset the heavy economic costs of treating and hospitalizing patients in future," he added.

This year, in the run-up to World Hepatitis Day, the WHO has released its first-ever country hepatitis survey, covering 126 countries.

The WHO "Global Policy Report on the Prevention and Control of Viral Hepatitis in WHO Member States" identifies successes, as well as gaps, at country level in the implementation of four priority areas.

The priority areas are raising awareness, evidence-based data for action, prevention of transmission,

and screening, care and treatment.

The findings show that 37 percent of the countries have national strategies for viral hepatitis, and more work is needed in treating hepatitis.

It also highlights that while most of the countries (82 percent) have established hepatitis surveillance programs, only half of them include the monitoring of chronic hepatitis B and C, which are responsible for most severe illnesses and deaths.

"Many of the measures needed to prevent the spread of viral hepatitis disease can be put in place right now, and doing so will offset the heavy economic costs of treating and hospitalizing patients in future," said Dr. Sylvie Briand, director, Pandemic and Epidemic Diseases at WHO.

"The findings underline the important work that is being done by governments to halt hepatitis through the implementation of WHO recommended policies and actions," she added.

The WHO said the challenges posed by hepatitis were formally acknowledged by the World Health Assembly in 2010, when it adopted

Hepatitis B and C, which are responsible for most severe illnesses and deaths.

its first resolution on viral hepatitis, and called for a comprehensive approach to prevention and control.

"This has promoted a new era of awareness with more governments proactively working to address the disease," the WHO said.

Reinforcing that call for action, the WHO said it has been collaborating closely with countries and partners to build a strong global response.

As a result, the new report notes, 38 percent of countries observe World Hepatitis Day, an annual event that began in 2010, with even more countries expected to mark the day this year.

In addition to collaborating closely with countries, the WHO said it has been working on developing networks and mechanisms that can deliver results.

The organization said it is

exploring with international funding agencies avenues that could allow hepatitis to be included in their current program of activities.


In June 2013, the WHO launched the Global Hepatitis Network. One of its aims is to support countries with planning and implementation of viral hepatitis plans and programs.

The WHO is currently developing new hepatitis C screening, care and treatment guidelines, which will provide recommendations on seven key areas, such as testing approaches; behavioral interventions (alcohol reduction); non-invasive assessment of liver fibrosis; and the selection of hepatitis C drug combinations.

"New, more effective medicines to prevent the progression of chronic hepatitis B and C are in the pipeline," said Dr. Stefan Wiktor, team lead of WHO's Global Hepatitis Program.

"However, these will be expensive, and therapy will require monitoring with sophisticated laboratory tests," he added. "To cure and reduce the spread of these viruses, medicines must become more accessible."




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MANY CURRENT TRENDS IN OUTDOOR LIVING AMENITIES ARE CAPTURED IN EASY TO INSTALL PRE-PACKAGED KITS

By Charles H. Gamarekian

Thanks to a whole new crop of outdoor living conveniences, homeowners now crave all the comforts of indoor spaces — only outdoors. Today's diverse lifestyles dictate what families want to add to patio plans. Among these are open-air kitchens, outdoor fireplaces and fire pits, and what are commonly referred to as "outdoor rooms". One factor that can easily raise the budget is the cost connected with installation, especially where quality, as it should be, is of paramount importance. As a manufacturer in the concrete pavingstone and wall systems industry, I have always helped do-it-yourselfers, landscape designers and professional contractors to address current trends in outdoor living and to turn "wish lists" into reality.

Cambridge Pavingstones with Armortec® and Cambridge Wallstones offers a comprehensive line of products for outdoor lifestyles that combine unmistakable quality, natural beauty and value with design versatility. However, we at Cambridge have eased the design/build factor with all-inclusive, pre-packaged design kits on our entire line of outdoor living products. For example, our fire pit kits are ready to install. Models are complete with grates for grilling, optional fire screens and galvanized, stainless steel covers while the outdoor fireplaces have dimensional cast stone surround options in a choice of col-



Caption A welcoming entrance to this sunken patio featuring an outdoor pizza oven and grill module with a bar module under a white pergola set on lighted Cambridge Columns built from Cambridge Pre-packaged Kits.

ors.

There is even an L-shaped, open-air kitchen kit with a stainless steel appliance package and a decorator-inspired, granite countertop included. More adventurous cooking enthusiasts can opt for a Cambridge Outdoor Pizza Oven Kit that also bakes bread and roasts veggies with an old world, brick oven flavor derived from an authentic wood-fired oven. Choose a pre-packaged Cambridge Patio Pub & Bistro Table for seating and gathering and/or a Grill and Bar Module Kit for food preparation, all with tops in matching granite.

A pergola is typically an open-sided, garden structure that consists of pillars that support a partially open roof structure, such as latticework or a trellis. In contrast, a patio pavilion also has



This 16-ft. x 20-ft pergola from Cambridge, constructed of high-strength, fiberglass with a factory-applied white finish, has the appearance of painted wood without the maintenance and is set on four Cambridge Wallstone Columns, which also come as pre-packaged kits.

open sides but a closed roof. Both can convert an open patio into a sheltered outdoor room. Columns (pillars) can be anchored into the pavement or set on columns (pedestals) a few feet above ground

level. If getting involved with building these kinds of structures seems to be a bit intimidating, Cambridge offers both pergolas and pavilions also in pre-packaged kits. The structures are set on any



A solid teak Cambridge Garden Gate (rear) opens to a raised patio complete with fireplace, L-shaped kitchen with pergola, outdoor pizza oven, and pub-style table along with a refreshment bar under a pavilion all designed and produced from time-saving Cambridge Kits.



This Cambridge Pre-packaged Bar Module (rear side shown) made of Cambridge Wallstones comes as a ready to install kit and includes a fully functional and well-appointed, stainless steel Bar Center Package and genuine granite countertop.

Cambridge wallstone columns (sold separately). For added convenience, a pre-packaged column kit is available in a variety of color options.

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About the writer:

Charles H. Gamarekian is the Chairman/CEO of Cambridge Pavers Inc., manufacturers of Cambridge Pavingstones with Armortec®, Cam-

bridge Wallstones and a full line of products for outdoor living. He is one of the founders and a current board member of the Interlocking Pavement Institute. Organized in

1993, ICPI is the North American trade association representing the interlocking concrete paver industry and considered by peer associations around the world as the leader in

development and dissemination of technical information for design professionals and contractors. Mr. Gamarekian is recognized worldwide as an expert in his field and

is a frequent speaker on the proper installation of pavingstones, wallstones and many outdoor living products.

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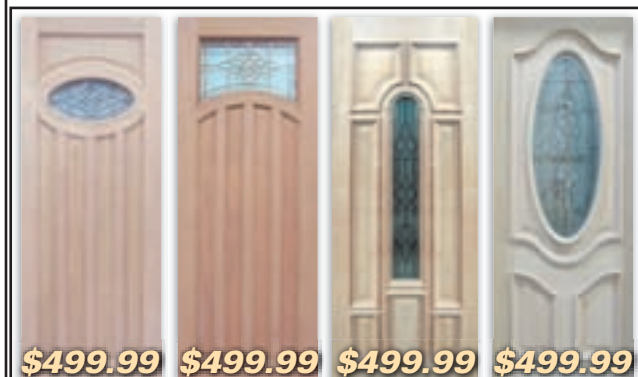
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By Tangerine Clarke

Scores of mourners celebrated the life, and bid farewell to Maurice "Mo" Braithwaite, a fascinating, brilliant, and humbled soul who departed this earth on July 20. Braithwaite died at age 72, after a valiant fight with cancer.

No tears were shed, instead, melodies from the saxophone, the violin, the African drum, the keyboard, and a liturgical dance, filled the room of the Arlington Funeral Home, in Queens, on July 22 to salute the extraordinary life Mo lived. His love of the arts, his charity work, and his indelible commitment to the youth, will forever be etched in the minds, of those who crossed his path.

Diane Haussermann, a former student of the debate and speech program at St. Frances Preparatory School in Queens, said that she benefited tremendously from Mo's coaching skill for four years, and returned to teach there because of his motiva-



Maurice "Mo" Braithwaite accepting a Civic Award from Queens Borough President; Helen Marshall some years ago.
Photo by Tangerine Clarke

tion.

"My fondest memories are the things he taught me. He was a great storyteller, he

loved life, and he treated everyone with respect," noted, Diane who, along with several current and former students

crammed into the funeral home to say goodbye to the dedicated teacher who, after 26 years, continued to travel four days a week, to richly impact the life of the students, despite his illness.

Maurice was remembered as a sharp dresser with great character, and someone who was very artistic in the community. "We have great affection for Mo, a leader who never pushed himself forward, yet when someone looked for guidance he was there to give it," said his brother-in-law, Trevor Phillips.

"He was a writer and a director that encouraged and enabled others to showcase their potential," added Phillips.

Maurice, who was married to his wife, Rosemarie for more than 35 years, was born in Georgetown to parents Wilfred and Alama, when opportunities were readily available to youngsters, all of which he took full advantage.

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BOOK REVIEW

Scandalous drama in 'A Family Affair'

"A Family Affair"
by ReShonda Tate
Billingsley
c.2013, Gallery Books
\$16.00 / \$18.99 Canada
321 pages

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

The first time he laid eyes on her, your father thought your mother was the most beautiful girl in the world.

She thought he was a pain in the neck, all gangly with legs going this way and that, asking her out until she couldn't say anything but "yes." It didn't take long for her to realize, though, that she couldn't lay her hands on a better man.

You know the story of how your parents fell in love, but there are a lot of things you don't know about them. And in the new book, "A Family Affair" by ReShonda Tate Billingsley, finding out could be a painful thing.

Olivia Dawson never wanted much.

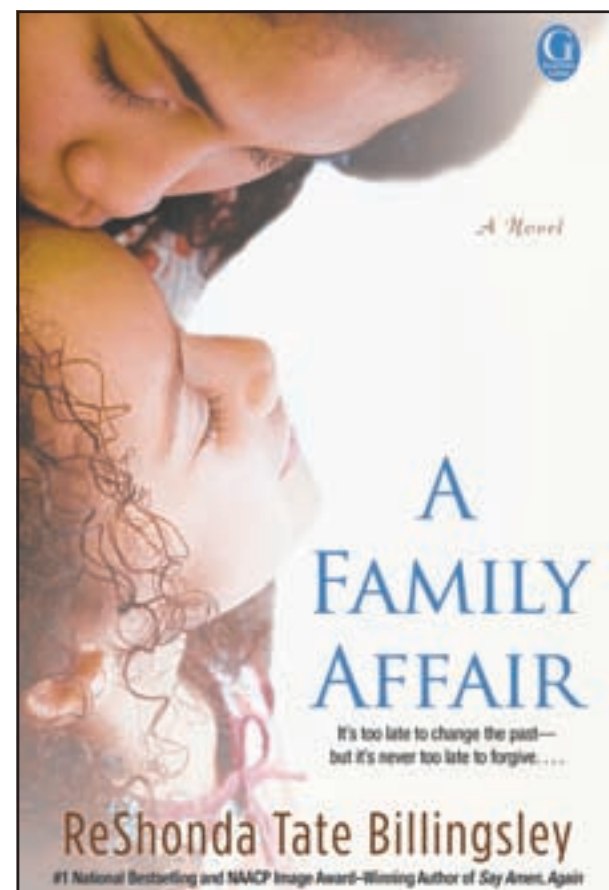
Since she was a child, she dreamed of going to Juilliard but she knew that was out of reach now. Her mother, Lorraine, was already working multiple jobs to keep a roof over their heads. Olivia hadn't had a new pair of shoes in ages. Even with a scholarship, Juilliard just wasn't in the budget.

But Lorraine knew where to get the money. Without telling Olivia where she was going, Lorraine rushed out the door of their apartment...

...and never came home. Lorraine had a fatal heart attack – but her last words to Olivia gave the young woman quite a start. Despite everything Olivia thought she knew, and despite that her Aunt Betty was reluctant to confirm it, Olivia's father was alive and living in California!

Bernard Wells was stuck.

Years ago, he'd given up love for money and he'd



Book cover of "A Family Affair" by ReShonda Tate Billingsley.
Photo by Gallery Books

regretted it for more than 20 years. His wife, Adele, was a shrew with no compassion but lots of cash; she was nothing like the woman he lost, the woman he thought about every day. His lovely mistress, Alyssa, couldn't give him comfort. He couldn't very well get a divorce. Bernard was stuck in a life he wished he'd never had.

Everyone assumed that Kendall Wells would take over the family business someday. It was his birthright, really, but there was one problem: Kendall didn't want it. No, he had other dreams of producing music and singing.

He also had memories of a nanny who loved him like a son. Memories of a sweet little girl he called Pinky. Memories of hugs, kisses, and bedtime stories, but no idea why they

disappeared...

Though it's a little predictable, "A Family Affair" ain't too bad.

Author ReShonda Tate Billingsley offers readers a bit of scandalous drama mixed in a story of forgiveness that spans over time. That goodness is wrapped a cast of mostly-likeable characters and scenarios that aren't too far-fetched for comfort. There's a chaste bedroom scene or two here, but I think you'll be happy to know that this novel is mostly on the tamer side, so you can Book Club it without worry.

If you're looking for something a little gentler, maybe something more genteel but not too mild, then I think this is your book. "A Family Affair" may be the perfect novel to lay your eyes on this weekend.

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Few children, even adult children, are ever prepared enough to help a parent deal with the loss of a spouse. In addition to coping with their own loss of a parent, many adults must find a way to help a parent who just lost the love of his or her life.

While it is never easy helping a parent in such a situation, there are ways to help a parent cope with such a significant loss.

Be mindful of your parent's health

Sadly, a common side effect of losing a spouse is showing less interest in one's own health. Kids must make sure their parents continue to eat regularly. Invite your parent over for dinner a couple of nights a week, and go over to your parent's home for dinner a couple of additional nights. If you have siblings, share this responsibility. Also, you can cook for your parent just like he or she used to cook for you.

While physical health is important, be sure your parent maintains his or her mental health as well.

Depression is common among those who have lost a loved one, so ask your parent about his/her feelings,

Depression is common among those who have lost a loved one, so ask your parent about his/her feelings.

and if she is getting enough sleep. If you have your own kids, bring them over whenever possible. Nothing puts a bigger smile on a grandparent's face than the sight of his or her grandchildren.

Allow them some space to be themselves

While you might want to stay as close as possible to your parent, you also need to give her some space to be herself. Your parent just lost her spouse, and it's perfectly natural for her to want some time alone. Afford her this opportunity, but be mindful to check in

with her regularly and not allow her to spend too much time alone.

Engage your parent as much as possible.

When both your parents were still alive, you might not have invited them along to the movies or when taking your own kids to a sporting event. However, it's important to engage your parent in such activities now, as she might not get a chance to do such things otherwise.

Another way to engage your parent is to talk to her about current events or even books you have been reading. Doing so will help her stay mentally sharp, and you will no doubt benefit as well from her point of view.

Take a trip with your parent

Initially, your parent might be reluctant to travel, especially if she had travel plans or dreams with her spouse. However, over time your parent will no doubt enjoy the prospect of traveling with the family, and it can be an enjoyable experience for everyone involved.

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Who is Claudia Gordon?

VKP: Growing up, who were your role models?

CG: My mother was my most influential role model. She was a woman of profound faith and perseverance up until the very day she lost her six year battle with ovarian cancer in 2000. Growing up, I witnessed her hard work and sacrifices as she struggled to raise my two siblings and me, all on her own, deep in the rural countryside of Jamaica, W.I. A domestic servant with only an eighth grade education, she literally scrubbed her way to America one garment at a time. My aunt Mildred is a teacher, and as such she instilled in us the importance of a good education.

At the age of 74, she is still teaching today.

There are scores of other individuals I could name because behind every successful person are plenty of people: role models, mentors, colleagues, friends and family members. No one gets here by him or herself so I am grateful to a lot of people.



Inside Life

By Vinette K. Pryce

VKP: How did you become interested in working for the Federal government?

CG: My interest in working for the Federal government was sparked while working as a Skadden Fellow and staff attorney at the National Association of the Deaf (NAD) Law and Advocacy Center from 2000-2002. The NAD operates on a shoe-string budget and the law center staff fluctuates from two to four full time attorneys working tirelessly to keep pace with incoming discrimination claims and requests for technical assistance from among the 36 million deaf and hard of hearing individuals in America. It was there that I confronted the truth that passing legislation is one thing but actual implementation

with enforcement is another. I felt that a job with the Federal government would more effectively allow me to affect the actual enforcement of laws such as the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, thereby alleviating the blatant discrimination that people with disabilities continue to face.

VKP: What inspired you to pursue your field of interest?

CG: When I suddenly lost my ability to hear at the age of eight, I was taken out of school and kept at home to perform chores. Friends slowly disappeared and what was usually a cheerful hello was replaced by an awkward smile, curious stares and even outright ridicule. There were also those long road trips on the bumpy Jamaican

roads to distant towns where healers would perform rituals in attempts to cure me. I thought I was the only deaf person in the world. I did not realize until years later that a woman who everyone in my town knew as “dummy,” and who children my age would incessantly harass with stone throwing, was deaf. Looking back, I wish I knew her real name. What I do know is that the life of this woman – ostracized as “dummy” – almost became my own but for my mother’s triumph in successfully bringing me to America by the time I was eleven years old.

By my junior year in high school, I made it known to all that I would go to law school and become an attorney. Many shrugged off my grand intention as wishful thinking. Some cited my deafness as an obstacle rendering it impractical if not impossible to pursue a law degree. Thanks to the values that were instilled in me during my formative years, I understood then that those voices of doubt neither



Claudia Gordon.

Photo courtesy of www.whitehouse.gov

dictated my worth nor my capacity. I want to contribute to a better society where there is more understanding and acceptance of people with disabilities and where the same opportunities are provided for all.

VKP: What keeps you motivated?

CG: I am motivated by knowing that although progress is being made towards inclusion and access, there is still a great deal more work to be done. Also, mentoring youth and young adults with disabilities keeps me motivated. I have an innate desire to give back. It is uplifting when you are

able to. It is uplifting when you are able to empower another and help someone to empower another and help someone discover a sense of self-worth and confidence in his or her abilities.

VKP: How do you balance work and family life?

CG: To be honest, I don’t. But I am blessed with supportive family and friends who know that the long hours I spend at work are spent doing something important. And I know they are proud, patient and ready to welcome me home when this tour of duty, in service of our country, is done.

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Brooklyn's MLK Concert Series

By Vinette K. Pryce

Caribbean Night is slated for the eve of Jamaica's 51st Independence when the 31st annual Martin Luther King Jr. Concert Series bills Morgan Heritage, The Kes Band and the Mighty Sparrow on Aug. 5.

Slated for that date, the mixed-music Caribbean event will also herald Trinidad & Tobago's milestone anniversary, achievement with revelry to start a carnival led by the king of calypso. With the royal family of reggae leading the call to rally 'round the black, gold and green, the mighty one will call out legions to get something and wave the colors of red, black and white.

The two anniversaries will be marked by colorful celebration.

The following week, pop diva Toni Braxton will take center stage on Aug. 12; and



The Mighty Sparrow.

Photo by William Farrington

r&b closes out the series with Gladys Knight and the O'Jays on Aug. 19.

Babyface and Joe launched the summer series into orbit last month at Wingate Field (between Rutland Road and Winthrop St).

Since that date, beginning at 7:30 p.m., every Monday, the musical series have been offering a myriad of varied treats. Old school

Continued on Page 34

Reggae awards to boycott Florida

By Vinette K. Pryce

Organizers of the oldest Caribbean music awards – International Reggae & World Music Awards (IRAWMA) announced protest of Florida's Stand Your Ground Law and support of Trayvon Martin by withdrawing a promise to host the honors next year in the Sunshine State.

"I feel very connected to Trayvon Benjamin Martin," Ephraim Martin, IRAWMA founder said. "Not only did my late father Benjamin Martin share a name with



Ephraim Martin.

Photo by Martin International

Trayvon, but I know what it feels like to be a Black man living in America and I want to do what's right."

Two months ago, Martin share a name with

Continued on Page 34



Dame Lorraine Angela Victor is confronted by Blue Devil Noel Curtis, at the Pagwah j'ouvert band launch of "Blue York" its 2013 presentation, which this year channels the folklore of roots of carnival through the blue devil character.

Photo by William Farrington

The Pagwah band celebrates its launch

By William Farrington

From behind a corrugated fence the churning beat of the rhythm night air. All one had to do was walk in and be transformed. There, in the yard at 112 Veronica Place in Flatbush, the Pagwah j'ouvert band was celebrating the launch of its 2013 presentation "Blue York."

It was the beginning of the build

up to Labor Day morning, when Pagwah will take to the street en masse led by the Something Positive Dance Company.

Sandra Bell compares the experience of playing mas with Pagwah to the original spirit of j'ouvert: "the feeling is magical, everybody grooving to the same beat early in the morning, a relaxed and energized feeling of oneness."

Close to midnight, in a ritual that goes back to those very origins of j'ouvert, Something Positive dancers in flowing white gowns and traditional mas characters, led by a blue devil jabbing a pitchfork, buxom dame Lorraine, and a jumbie, wove through the crowd.

All eyes then turned to an elevated runway where models in "Blue York"

Continued on Page 34

TOP OF THE CHARTS

TOP 10 SINGLES



- 1 Blurred Lines**
Robin Thicke Feat. T.I. + Pharrell
- 2 Get Lucky**
Daft Punk Feat. Pharrell Williams
- 3 Radioactive**
Imagine Dragons Night Visions
- 4 Mirrors**
Justin Timberlake
- 5 Love Somebody**
Maroon 5
- 6 Treasure**
Bruno Mars
- 7 Can't Hold Us**
Macklemore & Ryan Lewis...
- 8 Clarity**
Zedd Feat. Foxes
- 9 Same Love**
Macklemore & Ryan Lewis...
- 10 Just Give Me A Reason**
Pink Feat. Nate Ruess

TOP 10 ALBUMS



- 1 Magna Carta... Holy Grail**
Jay Z
- 2 The Blessed Unrest**
Sara Bareilles
- 3 Trials & Tribulations**
Ace Hood
- 4 Surfers Paradise**
Cody Simpson
- 5 Night Visions**
Imagine Dragons
- 6 Teen Beach Movie**
Soundtrack
- 7 Kidz Bop 24**
Kidz Bop Kids
- 8 The 20/20 Experience**
Justin Timberlake
- 9 Born Sinner**
J. Cole
- 10 Pitch Perfect**
Soundtrack

Presented by
verizon wireless

The Kes Band.



Concert Series

Continued from page 33

hip-hop featured Rakim, Whodini, Big Daddy Kane and Chubb Rock and gospel greats Marvin Sapp, Israel Houghton and the New Breed, Christian Cultural Center Choir provided a night of inspirational Christian repertoire.

Launch

Continued from page 33

outfits, skirts, tops, dresses and pants marched one by one. Solid fields of royal blue, emblazoned with Blue York Pagwah in white text, a stylish contemporary look completed by headwear, jewelry and body make up also in blue and white. It was easy to imagine the power of the whole band dressed in blue moving in unison J'ouvert morning. Pagwah designer Donna Dove, says she

channeled Peter Minshall and the blue devils folkloric roots of j'ouvert.

Like the Indo-Caribbean festival that it takes its name from, Pagwah uses color, to create a cohesiveness, and marchers end the morning blissfully multi-hued.

Registration of the band continues every Friday night at the 112 Veronica Place camp. All are welcome to pass by, see the costumes, photos by Vincent Victor, and listen to live music from SomKina Bakanaal and Village Drums of Freedom and DJs.



Karen Jenks dancing at the Pagwah j'ouvert band launch of Blue York, its 2013 presentation which this year channels the folklore of roots of carnival through the blue devil character. Registration of the band is Friday nights at the band,camp, 112 Veronica Place in Flatbush.

Photo by William Farrington

Boycott

Continued from page 33

tin who resides in Chicago -- returned his IRAWMA honors to the southern state where numerous talents performed.

Poet Mutabaruka, Romaine Virgo, Etana, Black Uhuru's Ducky Simpson and Calypso Rose celebrated the music from the region.

Attended by hundreds of fans from various parts of the United States, the Caribbean, Africa, Europe, Canada and Latin America, the Fort Lauderdale gala paid homage to the late Peter Tosh and Jacob Miller and also lauded numerous, local south Florida radio personalities.

Next year would have placed the state as one of the most visited for the awards which have also been held in Atlanta, Georgia, New Orleans, Louisiana, Chicago, Illinois and New York as well as internationally in Jamaica and Trinidad & Tobago.

According to Martin, "calls are mounting from music lovers and members" to reconsider next year's proposed location.

Last Saturday at a Trayvon Martin rally held at the Federal Building in Chicago and hosted by the National Action Network (NAN) and Chicago's talk radio station WVON AM, Martin was again asked to seriously reconsider taking the 2014 event to Florida. Since the acquittal of

George Zimmerman, recording and performing artists Eddie LeVert of the Ojays, Stephanie Mills, Dionne Warwick, Madonna, Rod Stewart, Mary Mary, Kanye west, Jay Z and others have followed the lead after Stevie Wonder led the charge by announcing his boycott in Quebec, Canada. Wonder's decision to abstain from performing in Florida also includes 20 other states whose similar laws are perceived to impact favorably to whites while disadvantageous to Black.

Martin said he will be heading to South Florida next week to meet with his Florida team and to make further announcements about the 33rd IRAWMA.

Initially known as the International Reggae Music Awards, the annual celebration was founded in 1982 in Chicago by then photojournalist and activist Ephraim Martin.

He said its mission was "to use reggae music as a vehicle of expression for the voiceless peoples of the world, to help free Nelson Mandela (who was in Prison), to end Apartheid and to honor reggae and world music entertainers who were making outstanding contributions to world music and to humanity."

Other categories of music were later added after nearly a decade of honoring the reggae genre and renaming it to IRAWMA.

Documentary about rise of Rwanda Cycling Team

"Rising from Ashes"
Very Good (3 stars)
Unrated
In English and
Kinyarwanda with
subtitles
Running time: 80 minutes
Distributor: First Run
Features

By Kam Williams

Over the course of a hundred days in 1994, the East African nation of Rwanda experienced an ethnic cleansing which consumed the lives of nearly a fifth of the population. The mass slaughter came as a consequence of a revolt by the majority tribe, the Hutus, against the Tutsis, a minority which, with the help of the country's European colonizers, had enjoyed a higher social and economic status for centuries.

A few years after the cessation of the civil war, American bike rac-

ing legend Jock Boyer was looking for a chance at redemption in the wake of being paroled after serving time in prison for lewd behavior. He found that opportunity he needed upon moving to Rwanda at the suggestion of a friend.

There, he took on the unenviable challenge of coaching the national cycling team. And over the next six years he trained them while teaching them how to compete on the level of World-Class athletes with the hope of one day qualifying for the Olympics.

That seemingly impossible quest is the subject of *Rising from Ashes*, an uplifting, overcoming-the-odds documentary directed by T.C. Johnstone. Narrated by Forest Whitaker, the film introduces us to the ragtag crew of raw recruits, including prima donna Abraham, mischievous Nathan and strongman Nyandwi, that Jock had to try to whip into fighting shape.

But besides athleticism, the



Olympian and Team Rwanda member Adrien Niyonshuti as seen in "Rising from Ashes."

intrepid coach had to worry about his young protégés equipment, since they were riding on quar-

ter century-old, brakeless, wooden bikes ordinarily employed as taxis or to deliver huge sacks of

produce. An even bigger hurdle had to do with the fact that each was also still suffering from deep, psychological turmoil caused by the mass slaughter they'd witnessed of a million fellow citizens.

For instance, the team's star, Adrien, had lost sixty members of his family, including six brothers and everyone on his mother's side of the clan. For that reason, besides salaries, health care and education, some of the squad's funds were devoted to addressing daunting mental health issues.

An inspirational illustration of how the Olympics came to serve as a unifying step in terms of exorcising the demons ever haunting Rwanda's grisly killing fields.

Independent & Foreign Films

The Artist and the Model (Unrated) Romantic dramedy, set in Occupied France during the summer of 1943, about an elderly sculptor (Jean Rochefort) whose zest for life is reignited by the attractive refugee (Aida Folch) who agrees to pose naked for him. With Claudia Cardinale, Chus Lampreave and Gotz Otto. (In French, Spanish and Catalan with subtitles)

The Canyons (Unrated) Lindsay Lohan stars in this psychological thriller about a Hollywood actress whose jealous, film producer boyfriend (James Deen) gets bent out of shape after discovering that she's been secretly cheating on him with a former co-star. With Nolan Funk, Gus Van Sant and Amanda Brooks.

Cockneys vs. Zombies (Unrated) Horror comedy, set in London, about a gang of bumbling bank robbers' struggle to survive an invasion by a horde of man-eating ghouls. Starring Rasmus Hardiker, Harry Treadaway and Michelle Ryan.

Drift (R for profanities and drug use) Hang ten drama, set in the Seventies, chronicling the daring exploits of a couple of brothers (Myles Pollard and Xavier Samuel) who



Kam's Kapsules

By Kam Williams

helped jumpstart the surfing craze in Australia. With Sam Worthington and Lesley-Ann Brandt.

Europa Report (PG-13 for action and scenes of peril) Sci-fi thriller about a half-dozen astronauts who find more than they bargained for when they embark on an expedition to Jupiter in search of signs of intelligent life. Ensemble includes Embeth Davidtz, Anamaria Marinca, Isiah Whitlock, Jr., Karolina Wydra, Daniel Wu, Christian Camargo, Sharlto Copley and Dan Fogler.

The Machine Which Makes Everything Disappear (Unrated) Bait-and-switch documentary in which aspiring actors answering a casting call are instead merely interviewed about what life is like in the former Soviet bloc nation. (In Georgian with subtitles)

Rising from Ashes (Unrated) Cycling documentary, narrated by Forest Whitaker, about biking legend Jock

Boyer's venturing to Rwanda to help train the nation's ragteam of genocide survivors for the 2012 Olympics.

The Spectacular Now (R for profanity, sexuality and underage alcohol abuse) Screen adaptation of Tim Sharp's novel of the same name about a just-dumped, party animal (Miles Teller) with no plans for college who turns over a new leaf after making the acquaintance of a straight-laced classmate (Shailene Woodley) with no social life. Support cast includes Jennifer Jason Leigh, Brie Larson, Kyle Chandler and Mary Elizabeth Winstead.

When Comedy Went to School (Unrated) Borscht Belt documentary revisiting the rise of legendary, Jewish comedians whose careers began at resorts in the Catskill Mountains. Featuring Sid Caesar, Jerry Stiller, Robert Klein, Mort Sahl, Jerry Lewis and Jackie Mason.

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CHECK LOCAL LISTINGS FOR THEATERS AND SHOWTIMES

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

CARNIVAL COUNTDOWN

Raw Essence presents 'Caribbean Gems'



Top right: Afiya Gray portrays Sunset Bliss.

Photo by Nelson A. King



By Nelson A. King

Raw Essence says it will portray "Caribbean Gems" this Labor Day, with the hope of capturing the Medium-size Band of the Year title after five years of competing.

"The reason is because we wanted to showcase and tell, with the costume, how beautiful our islands are, and how much we think of the Caribbean on a whole," head designer Trinidadian Cathyann Cuffie told Caribbean Life, stating that the band placed second in 2010 in the Medium Band category.

Cuffie said "Caribbean Gems" comprises 12 adult and five children sections, with two male sections for adults and one for children. The adult sections are: Midnight Jewel; Black Diamond; Sunset Bliss; Royalee Gems; Treasures of Spice; Jade Mist; Blue Diamond; Mystique; Pink Sapphire; Golden Topaz; Crystal Density; and Amazon Emerald.

Cuffie said the 500-plus

masqueraders this year come from "all the different Caribbean islands."

"We believe in a good chance placing this year just because of the fun team and supporters we

"It's not about the competition for us but for making sure our masqueraders get an amazing costume and have a fun."

have," she added, stating, however: "It's not about the competition for us but for making sure our masqueraders get an amazing costume and also that they all have a fun and fulfilling parade."

Cuffie said all hands are on deck in getting the costumes ready for the Parkway.

"This year masqueraders and the public can expect the full effect – colors, fun, food and

drinks; great music; amazing costumes at great prices; and so much more," she said, adding that production runs up to Labor Day.

In explaining the meaning of Raw Essence, Cuffie said "Raw" represents "men and the lion for their strength and power;" while "Essence" represents "flavor, passion, beauty and vibrant taste of women."

Besides Cuffie, the producers of Raw Essence include director Frankie Wharwood, coordinator Junior Lue, president Richard Gilkes, assistance designer Zoe Baptiste and representative Ryan Herbert.

Raw Essence is located at 245 E. 34th St., between Church and Synder Avenues in Brooklyn. Cuffie said members of the public can call at any time for more information: Cuffie at (347) 468- 5988; Wharwood at (347) 885- 0185; Baptiste at (646) 664- 5335; and Gilkes at (646) 288-7713.

'Blossom, D'Enchanted Garden'

By Nelson A. King

Sherzel Productions says it is portraying "Blossom, D'Enchanted Garden" for this year's carnival in trib-



Azarah Bethea, 8, portrays Rainbow Roses.

ute to the people who were severely affected last year by natural disasters in the Caribbean and eastern United States seaboard.

"The portrayal of nature's beautiful elements will come as a reminder of our planet's beauty and rebirth," said Trinidadian producer Sherzel Snell in a Caribbean Life interview.

Snell, who grew up in Picton Road, Laventille, then "Never Dirty Morvant" in Trinidad and Tobago, said "Blossom, D'Enchanted Garden" comprises 10 sections in the large band category.

They are: Hibiscus, Cascading Water, Jade Vine, Latana Bush, Orange Ras-cals, Rainbow Roses, Tulips,

Orchids, Tiger Lilly and Fuchsias.

Snell, who has been producing mas since 2008, said she is preparing for 300 masquerades, adding that "our children represent the diverse make up of the Caribbean."

"I do this for fun and the love I have for kids; and, once my kids are happy, it does not matter what we place," said Snell, who produced a section for former perennial Band of the Year champs Hawks International in 2008, before starting her own band a year later.

She said she has a full staff of volunteers – including her husband, Rodney Snell, who was born in the United States to St. James,

Trinidad parents – assisting with costume preparation, working 12-hour days, seven days a week.

"Masqueraders can look forward to an all-inclusive experience, unlimited supply of juice, water, snacks and foods, with T-shirts for all parents," Mrs. Snell said.

"I provide everything," she added. "The only thing you need is our kids' shoes; and, I take care of the rest, like no other."

Sherzel Productions is located at 568 Rogers Ave., between Hawthorne and Fenimore streets in Brooklyn.

For more information, call (718) 607-7712; or (917) 586-5332.



Reannia Snell, 8, portrays Latana Bush.

Photo by Nelson A. King



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Hours for Vending Registration:

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(between Sullivan Place and Montgomery Street)

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All spaces are measured 10 x10, please restrict your tent to that size. Every vendor must have 1 day general liability insurance before registering. Contact the office for insurance information. No spaces will be put on hold for anyone.

After August 23rd an additional mandatory late fee of \$25.00 will be added. Any questions or concerns, please contact us by email at: wiaadcainc@gmail.com. On-Line registration is available at: www.wiadcacarnival.org



SUN KULCHA

COMMUNITY EVENTS

MONDAY, AUGUST 5

NETWORKING: Hempstead Rebirth is calling new, existing and aspiring business owners to its second Meet and Greet Networking Event. Brian Michael Miller, New York Life marketing development director, will share important networking keys and tips. This Networking Event will be great for connecting people and opportunities for business and business relationships. For more information about the "Making the Connection" Meet and Greet Networking Event, log onto www.eventbrite.com and search "Hempstead Rebirth" and register. You can also register at the door. For more information on Hempstead Rebirth CDC, call Hempstead Rebirth at (516) 539-2210 or visit www.hempsteadrebirth.org.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 7

MUSIC: Enhancing its mid-week "Space for Grace" worship service with inspiring jazz melodies, The Riverside Church will host a pre-worship performance from jazz musicians at 6:30 p.m. in the Church's Assembly Hall, 490 Riverside Drive (bet. 120th & 122nd Sts.), Morningside Heights. The service will run from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. For additional information, call (212) 870-6700.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 2 - THURSDAY, AUGUST 8

DOCUMENTARY: Ahearn, Shabazz, Fab 5 Freddy, & David "Chino" Villorente in person in the infancy of hip-hop, Brooklyn-born photographer Jamel Shabazz documented the pioneers of music and style that would launch an enduring worldwide phenomenon. Ahearn, director of the seminal film *Wild Style*, pays tribute to both Shabazz and those who defined hip-hop before it had a definition. More than just vintage shots of kids rocking Puma Suedes, Kangols, and pinstriped Jordaches in Times Square and Fort Greene Park, Shabazz's photographs have hundreds of (often times tragic) stories behind them, and Ahearn gives voice to these images with dozens of interviews with Shabazz himself, graffiti pioneer and hip-hop historian Fred "Fab 5 Freddy" Brathwaite, legendary rapper KRS-One, and others. Ahearn, Shabazz, Fab 5 Freddy, hip-hop multihyphenate Bobbito Garcia, and artist David "Chino" Villorente, who designed a limited-edition poster for the documentary, will appear in person for opening weekend Q&As on Friday, Aug. 2 and Saturday, Aug. 3 at 7:00 p.m.

ONGOING

SUMMER MEALS: To find a location nearby that provides summer meals, parents can call 311, log onto the DOE's homepage, schools.nyc.gov or Share Our Strength's website, or contact NYCFood at www.nyc.gov/nycfood. Parents also may text "nycmeals to 877877", or visit the Parks Department's website for locations in parks and pools. Breakfast is served from 8:00 a.m. to 9:15 a.m. and lunch is served from



THE TRIP TO BOUNTIFUL

NOW-WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9

"The Trip To Bountiful," has been extended, adding five weeks. "The Trip To Bountiful" is playing at the Stephen Sondheim Theatre (124 W 43rd St) Tickets are available at the box office, www.Telcharge.com or by calling (212) 239-6200.



SUMMER CAMP: Exciting week-long creative "Camp" workshops or summer art classes. Check us out online at www.PelhamArtCenter.org/Education or to register for our summer workshops and classes stop by the office, or call (914) 738-2525 x111.



SUMMER MEALS: To find a location nearby that provides summer meals, parents can call 311, log onto the DOE's homepage, schools.nyc.gov or Share Our Strength's website, or contact NYCFood at www.nyc.gov/nycfood.

11:00 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. During the weekends only lunch is served.

FRIDAY, JULY 12 - FRIDAY, AUGUST 9

EXHIBIT: Pelham Art Center is pleased to present its highly popular Faculty and Student Showcase. This annual exhibition features both two and three dimensional work in a variety of media by the Art Center's distinguished teachers and enthusiastic students. Exhibited work ranges from charcoal to oils, black and white photographs to digital prints, and mixed media to ceramics. The Faculty and Student Showcase provides a great opportunity to view and collect original work from emerging and established artists. 155 Fifth Ave., Pelham, NY 10803, telephone (914) 738-2686.

MONDAY, JUNE 24 - SATURDAY, AUGUST 17

SUMMER CAMP: Treat yourself or your kids 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 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. Need-based scholarships are available to all students who qualify. Pelham Art Center, 155 Fifth Ave., Pelham, N.Y. 10803.

NOW-WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9

PERFORMING ARTS: "The Trip To Bountiful," has been extended, adding five weeks to its already extended engagement, giving audiences just a few more chances to see the legendary CICELY TYSON's in her Tony Award-winning performance of a lifetime. "The Trip To Bountiful" is playing at the Stephen Sondheim Theatre (124 W 43rd St) on the following schedule: Tuesday – Thursday at 7:00 p.m., Friday and

Saturday at 8:00 p.m., Wednesday and Saturday at 2:00 p.m., Sunday at 3:00 p.m. Starting the week of Aug. 20, 2013 the schedule will change to: Tuesday and Thursday at 7:00 p.m., Friday and Saturday at 8:00 p.m., Wednesday and Saturday at 2:00 p.m. and Sunday at 3:00 p.m. Tickets are available at the box office, www.Telcharge.com or by calling (212) 239-6200.

HOME HELP FOR DISABLED: If you are a disabled homeowner living in Brooklyn or have someone disabled living in your household, you may qualify for up to \$5,000 in home repair grants. Repairs must be geared toward making the home accessible and convenient for the disabled person. Sponsored by Neighborhood Housing Services of East Flatbush, a not for profit housing organization, and the New York State Housing Trust Corporation. For more information, please call (718) 469-4679.

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, Pam Stengel (732) 580-0075, Linda Altini (917) 578-4852. Phone: (732) 462-7429 or Fax: (732) 409-3496.

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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.

Compiled by Natalie Y. Henry

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THEME: SUMMER FUN

ACROSS

1. Website visitors
6. Had a meal
9. You, archaic
13. 1995 thriller starring Brad Pitt
14. Used in some salons
15. Some can be slippery
16. Naked protozoa
17. *Picnic crasher
18. Cliffside dwelling
19. *It lights the air
21. *Where many long to be in summer
23. Prompter's line
24. "The Sun ____ Rises"
25. U.K. broadcaster
28. Delhi wrap
30. Large sea ducks
35. Place of origin
37. *It's up?
39. Red Cross supply
40. Beige
41. High fidelity sound systems
43. As opposed to stereo
44. Tart
46. Poet Ogden ____
47. Skunk's defense
48. Edible corn part
50. Actress ____ Perlman
52. Compass reading
53. Sherlock Holmes' assignment

DOWN

55. Big time
57. *Summer nap spot
61. *Auto entertainment
65. Self-evident truth
66. *In high demand when heat hits
68. C  le de la Cit   locale
69. Twisted cotton thread
70. *Heat reliever
71. Unwelcome computer message
72. 90 degrees from norte
73. *Eggs do it on sidewalks in summer?
74. Dictation taker
1. Colorado Springs military school
2. Rig or truck
3. "____ and anon"
4. Renaissance instrument resembling a violin
5. Blunders or bloopers
6. Like a game not at home
7. *Many covet this look
8. Glorify
9. ____ off or started playing, as in golf
10. *Most blockbusters feature at least one
11. Assortment
12. Singular of #1 Across
15. Regional dialect of a language
20. Keep on a short ____
22. Don't waste

24. Price of flight

25. *Most students are on this in summer
26. Italian bowling
27. Core remover
29. The Colosseum, e.g.
31. Audition tape
32. Eat away
33. Kind of sentence
34. *Roasting treat
36. Change direction
38. *Drop a line
42. See-through curtain
45. Enter or assume a certain state
49. Lake to Louis XIV
51. Rebels
54. Small boat
56. Deflect
57. Fit
58. Around which something rotates
59. Atomizer output
60. Marlyn Monroe distinction
61. Say you didn't do it
62. Dublin's home
63. One who's ____ a secret
64. Adopted son of Claudius
67. *You put its top down in summer

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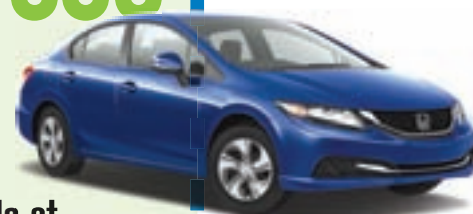
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B-ballers play 'street ball'

By Robert Elkin

What do the young men and college and high school students do during the off-season from the regular basketball schedule to stay in shape for the next level?

Most popular is the 'street ball' where they try to better their skills either by themselves or with other players of their own ability including their friends. They would join a league or a tournament or even just have 'choose up' games on their own. Three-on-three basketball or half court games are also popular in some areas of New York City.

Kids or adults, with or without supervision, can be found playing games using either full or half court at Tillery Park in Brooklyn. Such was the case on a recent late Saturday afternoon after competition in the Tillery Park league for 14 and 12 year olds and under.

Take for example, Shakeem Crum who resides in Bushwick, Brooklyn, working out in the park.

The 17-year-old Crum is working on his jump shot and on his drive to the basket so that he could better himself this fall as a junior at Christ The King High School or Xaverian High School as he is yet to make

Continued on Page 44

WI captain named ambassador

By Azad Ali

West Indies Test and Twenty20 captain, Darren Sammy, has etched his name into the history books by becoming the first West Indian sports personality to be named a brand ambassador for German automobile giant, BMW.

In accepting the role, the Windies skipper was presented with a BMW Sports Convertible from the St. Lucian BMW representative, Ultimate Automobiles.

"Darren Sammy is the first West Indian to ever be appointed on behalf of the BMW Group as a brand ambassador outside Germany," said Mario Reyes, managing direc-

Continued on Page 44



United States DaMarcus Beasley (7), center, holds the trophy as he celebrates with teammates after defeating Panama 1-0 during the CONCACAF Gold Cup final soccer match at Soldier Field on Sunday, July 28, 2013, in Chicago.

AP Photo/Nam Y. Huh

Secures bragging rights over rival Mexico

By Patrick Horne

The USA won the 2013 CONCACAF Gold Cup title on Sunday when it defeated a fighting Panama team, 1-0, at Chicago's Soldier. It was the second time the teams met in a Goal Cup final; the US topped Panama in a penalty shootout, 3-1, when

the 2005 final ended in a goalless draw. On Sunday, forward Break Shea tapped in a cross from Alejandro Bedoya in the 69th minute for victory in front of a crowd of 57,920.

The U.S. has now won the tournament five times, one less than Mexico, with

Canada the only other winner of the competition, which was played for the 12th time. U.S. midfielder Kyle Beckerman was named Man of the Match. American Landon Donovan was awarded the Golden Ball as most outstanding player

Continued on Page 44



Panama's Roberto Chen, left, and United States' Eddie Johnson battle for the ball during the second half of the CONCACAF Gold Cup final Soccer match at Soldier Field, Sunday, July 28, 2013, in Chicago. United States won 1-0.

AP Photo/Nam Y. Huh

Successful Gold Cup Tournament

Continued from page 43

tournament for his five goals and seven assists; American Chris Wondolowski and Panamanian Gabriel Torres also scored five goals. Panama's Jaime Penedo won the Golden Glove award as the best goal keeper in the tournament; he allowed only four goals. The award was the Penedo's second since he won it in 2005.

The Gold Cup was a success on many fronts and is surely becoming a popular fixture on the world scene. All the games were broadcast worldwide on television and just about all were played to sellout crowds in some of the best American stadiums by any standards. The tournament truly is one of 'color' and may well be the most ethnically diverse tournament among FIFA's six confederations.

The cultural diversity was not only evident off the field but on it as well, which added to the quality of the competition is reflective of the nature of the game. The Gold Cup had the Latin

touch from Central America and Mexico, the Caribbean speed and athleticism was on display while the USA and Canada showed the hard-working style that is representative of North America.

MLS

The New York Red Bulls fans were treated to a thriller at Red Bull Arena last Saturday night when the local team rallied from a deficit to beat Real Salt Lake, 4-3, in extra time. The Red Bulls (10-7-5, 35 pts.) are still in a win second-place tie with Montreal, just one point behind Eastern Conference leader Sporting Kansas City. Real Salt Lake (11-7-4, 37 pts.) is atop the Western Conference.

New York at one point in the game led Real Salt Lake, 2-0, on goal by Fabian Espindola and Tim Cahill, but three goals by Alvaro Saborio put the visitors ahead, 3-2, by the late stages of the game. Espindola scored his second penalty with only two minutes left in regulation to tie the game

at 3-3, then midfielder Dax McCarty came up with the late heroics - a header four minutes into extra time to give the Red Bulls victory.

"I'm still a little light headed now after what went on," said Red Bulls coach Mike Petke. "It was the agony and the ecstasy with nothing in between."

Espindola scored his sixth goal of the season, McCarty got his third; Saborio, who recently lined up for Costa Rica in the Gold Cup, was voted MLS player of the week for his hat trick

Real Salt Lake coach pondered the loss. Jason Kreis. "It's a really tough loss and it's going to stick with us for a day or so," said Kreis. "We were down two goals at someone else's place. If we came back to win, it would have been historic. But then we lose? I just hope it doesn't have a lasting mental effect on our players."

In other MLS games last weekend, Montreal (10-5-5, 35pts.) defeated Sporting Kansas City (10-6-6, 36 pts.), 1-0, on an extra

time goal by rookie Blake Smith; San Jose Earthquakes (7-9-6, 27pts) got goals from Victor Bermudez and Steven Lenhart to top Portland Timbers (8-3-10, 34pts.), 2-1, who got its goal from Darlington Nagbe, in a Western Conference showdown; Toronto FC (3-10-8, 17 pts.) edged Columbus Crew (6-10-5, 23 pts.), 2-1, to end a 16-game winless streak.

The Houston Dynamo (8-6-6, 30 pts.) and the Chicago Fire (7-9-4, 25 pts.) played to a 1-1 tie when goal by cam Weaver and Mike McGee, respectively, even the scoring; Hendry Thomas and Dillon Powers scored to lead Colorado (9-7-7, 34 pts.) to a 2-0 win over the Los Angeles Galaxy (10-9-3, 33 pts.); Philadelphia Union (9-6-7, 34 pts.) behind Antoine Hoppenot's goal, topped the Vancouver Whitecaps (9-7-5, 32 pts.), 1-0, while the New England Revolution (8-7-6, 30 pts.) knocked off DC United (2-15-4, 10 pts.) 2-1.

Street ball

Continued from page 43

up his mind. "I used to play here in the Tillery Park League and played in its under 14 league," he said while taking a break from a game. "Now I play in two other leagues in Brooklyn."

Last year Crum attended a public school. "I'm switching to a Catholic School because I think it's better than the public (ones) for basketball. I already met some of the coaches at Christ The King. I'll be playing on the varsity team there. One coach told me to work hard, never give up, and keep up my grades if I want to play. These games are challenging. And I'll be playing on MSG Varsity (Television.)"

"Right now I'm at a summer camp at Christ The King and then I'll be going to a summer away from home camp. I want to be highly ranked in the nation."

Take another young man working at his game. He is Rasean Bunn, who attended Truman High School in The Bronx last year. He said that he did not play good on its basketball team.

Now he is headed to Monroe College in New Rochelle for his freshman year,

"I have to improve (more so) on my offense," said Bunn, who lives in Brooklyn. After my time at Monroe, I'll finish my basketball at another (four-year) college."

The 6'7" Bunn comes to Tillery Park often (even though) he competes in four (leagues) in the City,

including the Nike Swish in the Bronx. All of them are good.

"Practicing in the leagues over the years got my confidence up," Bunn said. "When I first started to play two years ago, I wasn't that great of a player, and I could barely catch a rebound. Now I'm doing more than I did do."

Too bad, there is no league for high school and older players at Tillery Park like there used to be. It is strictly for the younger kids.

"Maybe it was five years ago that I played here in a league," said Joel Dash of Lafayette Gardens in Brooklyn. "This is my first time back here in five years. Now I play for Nike Swish."

Many people were disappointed when the (older) league at Tillery Park was dropped.

Now, Dash also plays 'street ball' and tournaments just for fun. He works in security in all the boroughs and just wants to get back into shape.

Ozone Park's Terrell Parker, 21, who used to play at Tillery Park returned to this site one Saturday to see if he could stay in shape by getting into a pick-up game. At the same time, he wants to relax and get better. He played for a short time in a league in Bay Ridge.

"I want to get back into the swing of things and hopefully play over seas," Parker said.

Basketball leagues and tournaments are bouncing all over New York City, including in suburbs and even in New Jersey.

Sammy

Continued from page 43

tor of St. Lucia's Ultimate Automobiles. Typically sportsmen such as golfers Bernhard Langer and Martin Kaymar and Rugby's Alex Cordisio, have been endorsed as brand ambassadors for BMW. Sammy disclosed the news on his official Twitter account.



West Indies captain Darren Sammy gestures during their One-Day International Cricket match against Australia

AP Photo/Rob Griffith, file

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Holding must be considered for Windies coach

Former West Indies fast bowler Michael Holding is more than qualified to be West Indies head coach if he should be interested in the job. It is more than necessary to have some change of tactics and a new implementation of renewed strategies for the West Indies cricket team to overcome their short comings. Holding will bring confidence, experience and comprehensive cricket knowledge to the team. His wealth of experience internationally will be an asset to the players. The West Indies team has been losing too many close games that it should have won. Since the West Indies won the Twenty20 ICC World Cup, the team has achieved anything significantly.

WEST INDIES 50-OVER ODI PREPARATION IS POOR

West Indies 50-over format has to be revised in order for any legitimate



Eyes on Cricket

By George H. Whyte

progress to be made. Some reshuffling of the batting order is needed and the focus should be a minimum of two vital partnerships. Chris Gayle has not been in the best of form but he should remain in the opening position. Johnson Charles, the aggressive opener, must be placed at number four ahead of Marlon Samuels at five.

STRENGTHEN THE MIDDLE ORDER BATTING

West Indies plan should be a strong middle order batting line up which should be the nucleus of the West Indies batting. Johnson Charles, Marlon Samuels, Lendl Simmons, Dwayne Bravo and Darren Sammy at eight should be enough strength for any position.

West Indies batsmen must perform much more credible. The talents and experience are all combined within the team. Why must the West Indies play at home and lose to Pakistan in both the 50-over ODI and Twenty20?

RAVI RAMPAL'S INJURIES

West Indies fast bowler Ravi Rampaul has been on the injury list constantly and that has caused some effect on the team because Rampaul is well known as a wicket-taker and an excellent team member. Tino Best, the pacer from Barbados, came into the team and he has improved with his bowling quite well. West Indies bowlers have been doing very well but their batting need to be improved.



West Indies' Darren Sammy hits a six off India's Umesh Yadav during their Tri-Nation Series cricket match in Kingston, Jamaica, Sunday, June 30, 2013.

AP Photo/Andres Leight

LIMACOL TWENTY20 TOURNAMENT IN ACTION

The Limacol Caribbean Premier League 2013 Twenty20 Tournament, which

began on July 30 ends Aug. 24. Six teams are participating and the final will be played at the Queens Park Oval in Trinidad with a prize of \$250,000 to the winning team. The most valuable

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Lots of wins have Clones moving up

Brooklyn's home team spikes the Spinners, routs the Renegades, and spansks the Yanks

Cyclones 3 Lowell 2

July 24 at Lowell

L.J. "Mini-Maz" Mazzilli completed his terrific day with an RBI double in the top of the ninth to score Ismael "T.J." Tijerina with the winning run.

Mazzilli went 3-for-4 on the day, with two singles and the double. The score remained 1—0 until the seventh, where the teams engaged in a seesaw game until the ninth.

After Tijerina got on base in the ninth on a leadoff walk, Mazzilli continued the seesaw game with his winning RBI double. Pitcher Johnny Magliozzi redeemed himself in impressive fashion in the bottom of the ninth striking out all three Spinners to get the save.

Cyclones 2 Staten Island 0

July 26 at Staten Island

Cyclones' catcher Eddie



SAFE!! L.J. "Mini-Maz" Mazzilli slides into home for the 1-0 lead over the Renegades. The team went on to win its fourth-straight game.

Photo by Steve Schnibbe

Rohan homered in the third and hit an RBI double in the fifth to score the only two runs and the Cyclones' pitchers retired 14 straight batters to end the game.

Rohan's homer is his fourth and the team's fourth. He joins Matt "Bright Eyes" Oberste, James "Papa" Roche, Juan Gamboa and Alex

Sanchez in the team's home run club.

Robert "Not-so-silent G" Gsellman and Ricky Knapp combined to retire 14 straight Yankees from the fifth inning on until Yeicok Calderon, the last batter of the game, recorded a hit and was thrown out trying to stretch it into a double. With the win over their

rivals, who have also lost five straight games, the Cyclones leapfrog the Yankees into third place in the division.

Cyclones 3 Staten Island 2

July 27 at Staten Island

Patrick "To Infinity and" Biondi played a part in all three runs, and three costly

Yankee fielding errors helped the Cyclones beat the hated rivals for the team's first sweep of the year.

Biondi scored in the first inning off a fielding error, one of three that would ultimately sink the Yankee ship on the day. After Staten Island took the lead, Colton Plaia reached on the second Yankee error of the game and Juan Gamboa singled, setting the stage for the tying run. Biondi hit his single to left and yet another fielding error allowed both Plaia and Gamboa to score, taking the lead for good.

Brooklyn's reliever Kevin McGowan did the rest, taking over in the seventh. He allowed a hit on the first batter he faced, but went on to retire the next nine in a row for the save.

Cyclones 4 Hudson Valley 2

July 28 at MCU Park

The Cyclones hit two

home runs and the pitching once again held the opposing offense at bay for the team's fourth straight win.

Alex Sanchez started the fifth inning off with a double to deep right field. Anthony Chavez then launched a home run well over the left field wall.

The two-run homer took the lead for good, but Sanchez increased the gap in the seventh with another home run, his second of the year.

The Cyclones used four solid pitching performances from starter John Gant and one inning of relief each from Tim Peterson, John Mincone and Johnny Magliozzi.

Cyclones 4 Hudson Valley 0

July 29 at MCU Park

Matt "Bright Eyes" Oberste homered, James "Papa" Roche added a two-run double, and the Brooklyn hurlers threw nine shutout innings.

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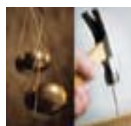
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► LEGAL

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STATE OF NEW YORK SUPREME COURT SUMMONS AND NOTICE Index No. 20992-10 Borough: Brooklyn Block: 1813 Lot: 52 NYCTL 1998-2 RESIDUAL TRUST AND THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON, AS COLLATERAL AGENT AND CUSTODIAN, Plaintiffs, vs. KARIM SARDER A/K/A KARIM SADER, if living, or if he be dead, his wife, heirs-at-law, next of kin, distributees, executors, administrators, assignees, lienors, creditors, successors-in-interest and generally all

► LEGAL

persons having or claiming under, by or through KARIM SARDER A/K/A KARIM SADER, by purchase, inheritance, lien or otherwise of any right, title or interest in and to the premises described in the complaint herein, and all creditors thereof, and the respective wives, or widows of his, if any, all of whose names and addresses are unknown to Plaintiffs; NEW YORK CITY TRANSIT AUTHORITY TRANSIT ADJUDICATION BUREAU; NEW YORK CITY ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL BOARD; CONSUMER SOLUTIONS REO, LLC; DEUTSCHE BANK NATIONAL TRUST COMPANY, AS TRUSTEE OF AMERIQUEST MORTGAGE SECURITIES, INC. ASSET BACKED PASS THROUGH CERTIFICATES SERIES 2005-R10 UNDER THE POOLING AND SERVICING AGREEMENT DATED AS OF NOVEMBER 1, 2005; CITIBANK USA, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, SUCCESSOR IN INTEREST TO CITIBANK (SOUTH DAKOTA), NATIONAL ASSOCIATION AND "JOHN DOE #1" THROUGH "JOHN DOE #100", the names of the last 100 defendants being fictitious, the true names of said defendants being unknown to plaintiffs, it being intended to designate fee owners, tenants or occupants of the lien premises and/or persons or parties

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having or claiming an interest in or lien upon the lien premises, if the aforesaid individual defendants are living, and if any or all of said individual defendants be dead, their heirs at law, next of kin, distributees, executors, administrators, trustees, committees, devisees, legatees, and the assignees, lienors, creditors and successors in interest of them, and generally all persons having or claiming under, by, through, or against the said defendants named as a class, of any right, title or interest in or lien upon the premises described in the complaint herein, Defendants.

TO THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANTS: YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to answer the Complaint in the above-entitled foreclosure action, and to serve a copy of your answer on the plaintiff's attorney within thirty (30) days after the service of this Summons, exclusive of the day of service or within thirty (30) days after completion of service where service is made in any other manner than by personal service within the State. The United States of America, if designated as a defendant in this action, may answer or appear within sixty (60) days of service hereof. In case of your failure to appear or answer,

► LEGAL

judgment will be taken against you by default for the relief demanded in the Complaint. Kings County is designated as the place of trial. The basis of venue is the location of the subject premises. Dated: November 28, 2012 TO THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANTS: The foregoing summons is served upon you by publication, pursuant to an Order of Honorable Francois A. Rivera, a Justice of the Supreme Court, dated June 5, 2013, and filed with supporting papers in the Kings County Clerk's Office. This is an action to foreclose certain tax liens (the "Tax Lien") covering the property known as 810 Marcy Avenue, Brooklyn, New York and identified as Block 1813 and Lot 52 (the "Premises"). The relief sought is the sale of the Premises at public auction in satisfaction of the Tax Lien. In case of your failure to appear, judgment may be taken against you in the sum of \$13,005.78, together with interest, costs, disbursements and attorney's fees of this action, and directing the public sale of the Premises. Anthony J. Iacchetta PHILLIPS LYTLE LLP Office and Post Office Address 1400 First Federal Plaza Rochester, New York 14614 Tel. No. (585) 238-2000

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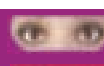
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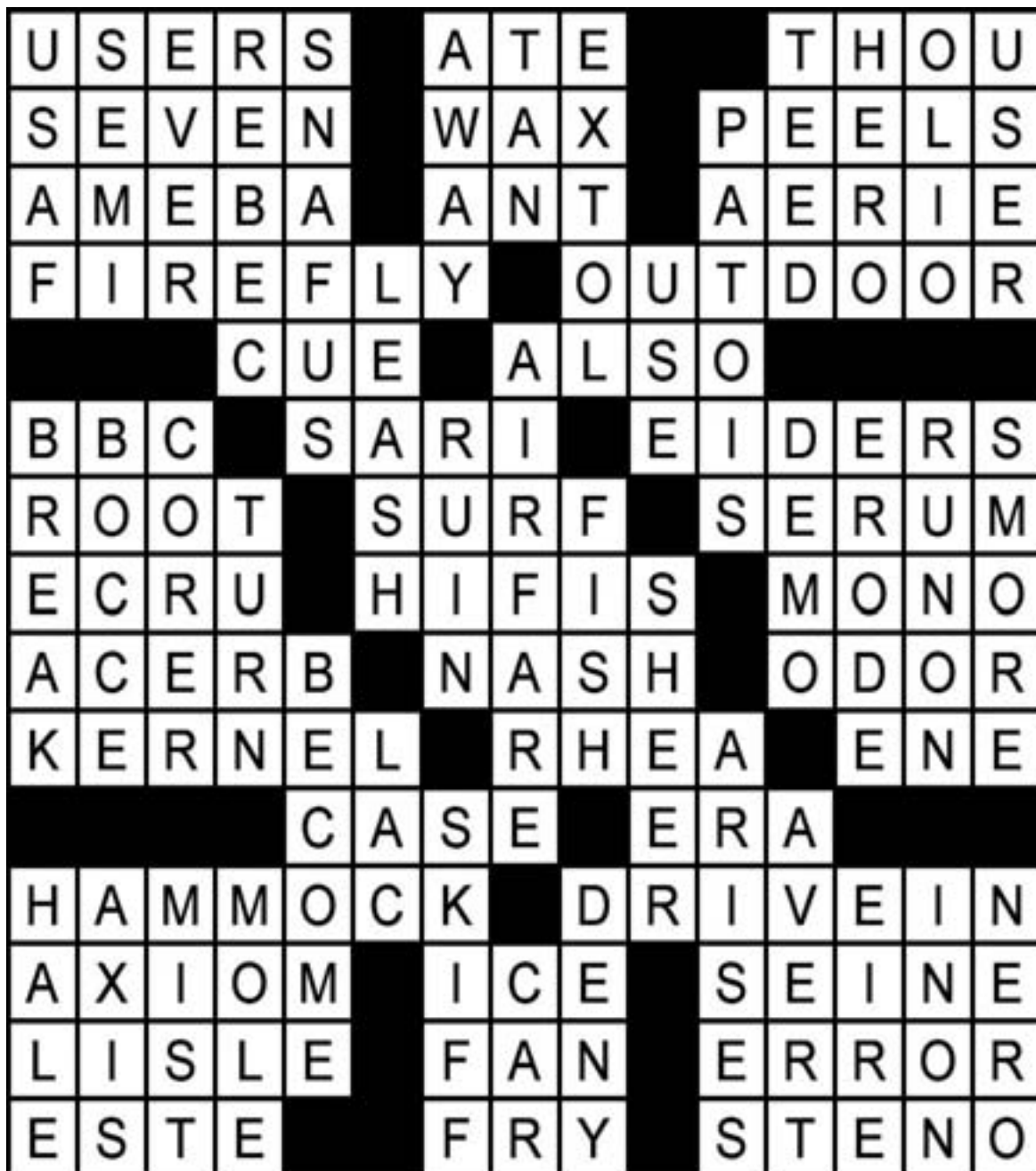
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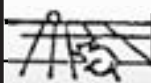
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