



## Writers stand for free speech

Poet Laureate Rita Dove reads one of her poems at the Writers Resist rally on Martin Luther King's birthday. see story on page 22.

Photo by Tequila Minsky

# DOLLAR SCHEME REVIEW

### Let CARICOM scrutinize economic citizenship applicants

By Bert Wilkinson

With their banana and sugar export industries having collapsed and revenues from tourism fluctuating yearly, the governments of the Eastern Caribbean sub grouping have been looking for additional ways to bring in state revenues.

Revenues have also declined because of their membership in the 15-nation single market free trade system, meaning that goods manufactured in the region enter ports largely duty free so little or no taxes

are levied.

The result is that most of the independent nations in the nine-nation sub region have turned to selling citizenship and local passports for a fee to supplement revenue shortfalls from the disappearance of banana and sugar.

But the highly lucrative Citizenship by Investment Program (CIP) came under unprecedented scrutiny recently when CBS's award-winning 60 Minutes program aimed an extended

Continued on Page 6

## Haiti faces rise in cholera deaths

By Alexandra Simon

Since the first reports of a cholera outbreak in Haiti, the number of deaths and cases have seen an overall improvement since 2010. But last year saw an increase in the number of cholera cases, according

to the Haitian Ministry of Health.

In 2016, there was a significant rise in cholera-related cases and deaths in the country, specifically in rural areas more prone to cholera outbreak and lack of access

to non-contaminated sources. After hurricane Matthew hit the country in October, there were 2,366 new cases and more than half of those in the southern region hit hard by the tropical storm. In total,

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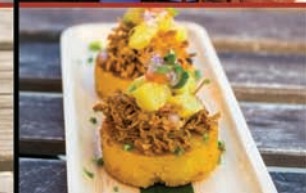
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# SVG ex-teachers honor nurse Bramble

By Nelson A. King

The Brooklyn-based St. Vincent and the Grenadines Ex-Teachers' Association of New York on Sunday honored retired Registered Nurse Celia Bramble at a gala ceremony marking the group's 34th anniversary.

The group also used the occasion to commemorate the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, which was actually celebrated on Monday, a public holiday in the United States.

"Congratulations to our honoree, Colonel Celia Bramble, a stalwart hard-working member of our community," said Jackson Farrell, the group's La Croix-born president, about Bramble, who is also a retired officer in the United States Army Reserve. "Her titles are highly deserved. We wish her good health and prosperity as she continues her endeavors in serving the Diaspora."

Bramble – who worked for the sprawling Kings County Hospital Center in Brooklyn, as part of New York City Health and Hospitals Corporation, for more than four decades – said she was "truly honored to receive this honor," stating that she accepted it with "a great sense of humility."

"The greatest award/reward is to know you've made a significant difference in someone's life," she said, stating that she was proud to have been affiliated with the Health and Hospitals Corporation and the US military, where, she said, she developed much of her teaching and leadership skills.

In an exclusive, post-ceremony interview, Bramble, the lone honoree, told Caribbean Life that "the glory and the honor belong to God."

"I have only done that which I have been ordained by Him to do," she said. "He has granted me the skills, ability and fortitude to be a blessing to others, so I use them to His honor and glory."

"To be honored by teachers is a special blessing because of the role they play in their everyday lives," she added. "They challenge, inspire, mentor, nurture, assess, and they evaluate. Who

then is better able to determine when a job is done well. I guess my evaluation was favorable, hence the reason they recognized me."

"It is also a great honor to be recognized during this historical period – the eve of the birthday of the late civil rights leader, the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., as well as at a time when power and leadership of this great nation have been transferred from one Commander-in-Chief (Barack Obama) to the other (Donald Trump)," Bramble continued. "I will always remember this great honor that has bestowed upon me by Teachers."

The St. Vincent and the Grenadines Ex-Teachers' Association of New York also recognized three nationals whom they said have been very supportive over the years: Leonie Conliffe, wife of the group's public relations officer, Edward Conliffe; Donna Collis; and Morrison Matthias.

Bramble said she began her nursing career at the then Colonial Hospital in Kingstown, the Vincentian capital, renamed the Milton Cato Memorial Hospital, and migrated to the US shortly thereafter for an opportunity to advance her nursing career.

She graduated from C.W. Post College, Long Island University, where she received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing, and the prestigious Columbia University in New York City, where she received Master of Arts and Master of Education degrees in nursing.

Bramble also holds certification in Nursing Education and Staff Development from the American Nurses Credentialing Center. She is featured in the International WHO'S WHO of Professional Management, Second Edition.

At Kings County Hospital, Bramble held numerous positions until her retirement in 2009 as Associate Executive Director, Training and Organizational Development.

During her tenure at Kings County Hospital Center, she said her vision for nursing education and nursing practice, as well



Hermina Ambris-Claxton (R) presents bouquet of flowers to Celia Bramble.

Photo by Nelson A. King

as her ability to work collaboratively with Deans and Chairpersons of Colleges and Schools of Nursing, led to the establishment of an on-site Master in Public Health, an on-site Associate to Bachelor of Science Degree program, and a generic Bachelor of Science Degree program in Nursing at Kings County Hospital.

In 1981, Bramble was commissioned as a captain in the United States Army Reserve. She held numerous positions in military training schools and hospitals, including Officer-in-Charge of Curriculum and Testing, Director of Staff Development, Assistant Chief Nurse, Executive Officer and Commander.

Over the years, Bramble said her devotion to duty, attention to details, and her clinical and leadership skills earned her the rank of Colonel, making her the first known Vincentian female officer to achieve that rank.

While Bramble retired from the US

Army Reserve after 22 years of service, she remains an active member of the Retired Officers Association, both locally and nationally.

Over the years, Bramble has received numerous awards, proclamations and citations for her outstanding military and civilian service from health care organizations and elected community leaders, including a Congressional Award from former US Congressman Edolphus "Ed" Towns; proclamations from The New York State Senate, the Brooklyn Borough President, Council Members of the City of New York 45th, 40th and 35th Districts in Brooklyn; awards from The Hospice of Greater New York, Health and Hospitals Corporation and the New York State Nurses Association; and the Caribbean-American Health Care Award from Caribbean Life, the largest Caribbean-themed newspaper in the US.

## Vox pop: Will Brooklyn's Carib community miss Obama?

By Alexandra Simon

The historic inauguration of President-elect Donald Trump is set to take place on Jan. 20.

The majority of Caribbean voters cast their ballots for Hillary Clinton, and as we reported in November, some were stunned when Trump won the presidency.

And with the end of an Obama era coming to a close, we asked Brooklyn's Caribbean community what they thought.

Will you miss Obama and why? Brooklyn's Caribbean community weighed in.



Kristen Tatum from Crown Heights. "Yes. He did so much for us, he was also the first Black President, and Obamacare was one of the biggest things to happen to this country."

Community News Group / Alexandra Simon



Celeste Saint-Jean from Mill Basin. "Yes. He was the most decent and not only was he intelligent and educated, but he was gracious under pressure. The billionaire with the bad hair won't be able to do that."

Community News Group / Alexandra Simon



Joel Johnson from Crown Heights. "No. I won't miss Obama because he didn't do anything for the community or society."

Community News Group / Alexandra Simon



# CARIBBEAN ROUNDUP

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THE NEWS FROM BACK HOME

## Antigua

The Antigua and Barbuda government will be moving at full speed in the fight against crime in 2017.

Attorney General Steadroy Benjamin in his end-of-the-year press briefing warned criminals that the government will flush them out and prosecute them in an effort to keep the crime rate down.

He warned them that "if you commit crime, then you will pay the time, if you make life unsafe, you will be sought after and prosecuted."

Benjamin said the government is determined to create a safe and secure environment and to ensure that all persons who seek to engage in criminal activity will be met with the full brunt of the law.



## Bahamas

Bahamas will host the Ninth Inter-American Meeting of Ministers of Education from Feb. 9 - 10 this year at the Atlantis Resort, Paradise Island.

Among the issues to be discussed would be regional developments and challenges in education.

The ministers will also chart a way forward for the 34 representatives of the Organization of American States (OAS), and observer states, during the ministerial forum.

Conference Chairman, Jerome K Fitzgerald, who is also the Bahamas' Minister of Education, Science and Technology said ministers of education from the OAS will gather in The Bahamas to discuss the Education Gender of the 34-member countries by extension the Latin American and Caribbean region.

He said The Bahamas has made significant progress in education and it has been at the helm of the global discussion on education.

The meeting is jointly organized by the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, the OAS, the Inter-American Council for Integral Development and the Inter-American Committee on Education.



## New airport gets final touches

The Argyle International Airport in St. Vincent and the Grenadines will be officially open on Feb. 14, 2017..

<http://voteulp.com>

## Barbados

Barbados recorded a 1.1 percent decline in its unemployment rate for the third quarter of 2016.

Official figures released recently showed that the unemployment rate for July to September 2016 stood at 10.2 percent down from 11.3 percent recorded for the same period in 2015.

The statistics derived from the Continuous Household Labor Force Survey, the unemployment rate among males stood at 9.7 percent and 10.8 percent among females.

In the review period, the number of persons employed totaled 132,100; of whom 66,400 were males and 65,700 were females. The total number of unemployed persons stood at 15,100; 7,100 males and 8,000 females.

In total, the number of persons in the labor force stood at 147,200.

During the third quarter in 2016 the Wholesale & Retail Trade Sector generated jobs for the largest number of



persons, employing 22,400, whole the Accommodation & Food Services Sector employed 16,500.

The Construction, Mining and Quarrying Sector generated employment for 14,100, while 9,500 were employed in the manufacturing Sector.

## Guyana

The Guyana government recently launched a National Drug Strategy Master Plan to combat the illicit drug use and trafficking.

Public Security Minister Khemraj Ramjattan told the ceremony that the figures coming out of the drug use in a school survey tells a worrying story.

He said the plan which will run until 2020 will "reduce drugs in the community and minimize the harm that they cause to individual users and the community at large."

The main objectives of the plan include the reduction of demand and supply of illicit drugs; providing treatment options; institutional strengthening and policy coordination to respond

to drug use; and strengthening international cooperation.

Ramjattan said the plan will undertake research to improve intervention and control, as well as monitoring the drug threat.



## Haiti

Several suspected cases of cholera in Haiti increased sharply from 2,377 in September to 4,980 in October in 2016.

The rise is being blamed on Hurricane Matthew, which struck the impoverished country during October.

Some 48 percent of these new cases were reported in the areas of Grand Anse and the South.

In November, the situation in areas affected by Matthew improved, with a 25 percent decrease in the number of suspected cases between October and November, from 2,400 to 1,800 suspected cases.

From January to November 2016 there were 39,439 new cases of cholera coming

Continued on Page 16



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# Economic citizenship

Continued from page 1

sive investigative piece on the scheme.

The conclusion from weeks of investigative work basically indicated that these small island nations lack the capacity to properly investigate the backgrounds of applicants, particularly those from flashpoint countries or regions such as the Middle East.

As the program was being aired, many in government in St. Kitts, Antigua, Dominica, Grenada, and St. Lucia shook their heads in frustration knowing that such global publicity will obviously cast a negative spotlight on a revenue scheme and bring unwanted attention to it. The current administration in St. Vincent has vowed never to involve itself in the CIP despite the demise of banana and fluctuating income from tourism as it looks down on any dollar scheme for local citizenship and passport privileges.

Critics say that the fact that applicants from around the globe do not even have to set foot on Dominica for example, might have triggered alarm bells for the CIP just as the Trump Administration is coming into office with its avowed anti-immigrant rhetoric and as similarly negative sentiments are sweeping through Europe, through Germany and the United Kingdom in particular.

Anticipating the possibility of increased pressure from western nations, governments are tacking to circumstances and looking for new ways of making the program credible and above board.

This week, the head of one of the world's leading citizenship advisory groups struck the first blow to ensure that the program survives for his clients, mostly Caribbean governments and the applicants the firm brings to them.

Chairman of Henley & Partners Christian H. Kalin is now suggesting

that governments should turn to the regional intelligence system to help authorities properly scrutinize applicants and ensure the future and longevity of the CIP.

"There should definitely not be any competing on that level but rather the Caribbean should strive to adopt common standards, such as ensuring each application is vetted and approved from the Joint Regional Communications Centre," he said.

The Antigua Observer reported the firm credited with pushing the scheme as saying that this should be the preferred route as the Trinidad-based body handles areas such as "the identification of and monitoring the movements of persons of interest, including those who may be a high security threat to the safety and security of the region." The intelligence agency also has expertise relating "to assisting regional law enforcement personnel in the detection of persons who are travelling with stolen, lost and fraudulent travel documents."



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# Haitian group to rally in Washington

By Nelson A. King

A Haitian group in Brooklyn is expected to be among nine busloads of immigrant activists from Brooklyn, Queens and Long Island, who will depart before dawn on Saturday for a trip to Washington, D.C., intent on making their voices heard, according to reports.

The Haitian Women for Haitian Refugees will be among demonstrators blasting protest playlists, while carrying posters and flags, from the familiar rainbow to the worn colors of Haiti, reported the New York Times on Thursday.

The paper said the groups are not going to the better known Women's March on Washington, planned for Jan. 21, the day after Donald J. Trump's inauguration.

Instead, they are heading to the nation's capital for a more modest rally focused on the rights of immigrants, called "We Are Here to Stay" and scheduled to start at 11 am at the Metropolitan A.M.E. Church, the Times said.

Ninaj Raoul, a founder and executive director of Haitian Women for Haitian Refugees, said she had seen the immigration rights movement focus on the ultra-organized Latino community since the 2012 election, according to the Times.

But she said Black immigrants, who are far less likely to be undocumented, have pressing issues of their own.

"Now, more than ever, it's important for the Haitian voice to be heard in this movement," Raoul said. "Not just for the incoming government, where we have so many reasons to be worried, but for the current government because of the actions they've taken on Haitian immigrants."

Over the last several months, she said more than 80 Haitian immigrants have walked into her Brooklyn office seeking help, anguished by the shifting American policy that has left them separated from family members, according to the Times.

She added that those living in New York, because of temporary protection granted after their country's 2010 earthquake, do not know how long that will last.

The Times said migrants from Haiti have flooded the southern border of Mexico since last spring, many making dangerous journeys through nine countries after fleeing South America.

# Fund-raiser shines light on Haiti's hurricane relief

By Alexandra Simon

Guests packed Space Ibiza in Manhattan to support the "Haiti Shines Bright" fund-raiser for Hurricane Matthew relief on Jan. 11.

Attending the fund-raiser were former prime minister of Haiti Laurent Lamothe, and the former tourism minister of Haiti Stephanie Villedrouin, who are both raising money in to financially assist projects of The Louis G. Lamothe Foundation which is currently rebuilding homes in towns destroyed after the hurricane.

Event organizer Jacques-Philippe Piverger said aside from raising money, he pooled together resources for the event to continue a missing conversation about Haiti in the aftermath of the earthquake, specifically people living in towns hardest hit by it.

"It didn't seem like there had been much attention placed on the issue of the hurricane and to the lives affected, and it didn't seem like there was much going in the form of providing assistance and trying to support people living there," said Piverger.

"I wanted to make sure I mustered the support in my immediate network, and try to focus on the small towns in Haiti particularly affected to provide the people with the things they need — like tools and equipment."

The towns of focus are Anse d'Hainault and Anse du Clerc, which are at the southern region of Haiti. Fishing nets for fishermen, gardening tools for farmers, and water filters, are a few of the many things The Louis G. Lamothe Foundation will supply them. And the foundation also has a renewable energy plan to help farmers, said the former PM.



Ralf Etienne, who survived the 2010 earthquake and hurricane Matthew tells guests at the fund-raiser about his life since losing a leg and becoming a humanitarian.

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"What we're trying to try to do is first ever smart village in Haiti," said Lamothe. "Our farmers are living in the darkness from 6 pm until 6 am with no light and we want to change that."

But the special guest of the night was not the PM, but a survivor of the recent hurricane and the 2010 earthquake. Ralf Etienne lost a leg in the

earthquake at the peak of his media career. He came to the United States afterwards to enroll in Anderson University of Indiana, and saw a positive side to his life-changing experience. The eye-opening turn of events of both disasters encouraged him into being a devoted humanitarian he is now, he said.

## Brooklyn politicians proclaim 'this land is our land'

By Nelson A. King

Four Brooklyn elected officials have united in writing a joint editorial piece, proclaiming that "this land is our land," referring to the Bedford-Union Armory "skirmish" in Crown Heights.

"We agree with the recent Crain's New York Editorial, 'The Armory skirmish shows it's time to think bigger in Crown Heights,'" wrote Congresswoman Yvette D. Clarke, State Sen. Jesse Hamilton, Assemblyman Walter T. Mosley, and Assemblywoman Diana Richardson.

"We enthusiastically reiterate Crain's statement that we need a broader vision to grow Crown Heights in a way that preserves its economic and ethnic diversity," they said. "We are duty bound as the locally elected officials of the Crown Heights community in which the Bedford-Union Armory resides, to work to achieve this

laudable goal since the project is on public, city-owned land. Ultimately, we are all the landlords."

However, before addressing this goal of growth and the preservation of economic and ethnic diversity, the legislators said they must have "good faith and transparency."

"For us, there remain a number of unanswered questions regarding the financials of the proposed project, the benefits and the burdens," they said. "We must be clear about the facts."

According to Crain's Business News, "the market-rate rentals and condominiums will subsidize the recreational center and leave enough profit to justify the risk to the city's chosen builder, BFC Partners."

"All of the locally elected officials have asked this question repeatedly: Exactly just how much profit are we talking about

here?" the legislators wrote. "And at what cost to the community? What exactly are the details of these finances?"

The politicians said BFC has not revealed that to any of them, nor has the City, "despite repeated requests."

"It would be interesting to know whether BFC has released this information to a news organization and not to us," they said. "For the sake of governmental, journalistic and business transparency, we request that BFC share that information with us as well."

"How can anyone validate a project of this magnitude without seeing the financials?" they queried.

Clarke, Hamilton, Moseley and Richardson said another very important concern that was omitted from the Crain's article was: What happened regarding Slate Property Group, formerly a partner in the project?



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# Grenada to open diplomatic mission in Russia

**By Azad Ali**

Grenada is moving to open a diplomatic mission in Russia which would bring to the Spice Island its developmental objectives through representation.

A government statement quoted Prime Minister Dr. Keith Mitchell as saying the mission would also facilitate communication with potential investors wishing to come to Grenada.

The prime minister recently met with Russian Ambassador to Grenada Nikolay Smimov to discuss a wide range of matters, including debt relief for the island.

Russia is hinting at a further debt relief for Grenada after the islands signed an agreement on settlement of its debt to the Russian Federation through the Paris Club in November 2015.

The statement said the debt amounting to US\$266,000 was signed on Nov. 19, 2015 and St. George's has been assured "that there may be even further total relief of debt owed by Grenada."

It went on to say that the debt issue will be followed up by both accredited missions for clarification and possible financial settlement.

The statement also quoted the Russian diplomat as indicating that the



Prime Minister of Grenada Keith Mitchell. Associated Press / Bryan R. Smith

main purpose of his visit was to discuss bilateral issues such as scholarships, training opportunities, debt relief, the establishment of a Diplomatic Mission of Grenada in the Russian Federation and the signing of a new visa waiver agreement in the not too distant future between both countries.

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# Traveling to Guyana is quite a hassle

## To The Editor:

First, let me commend Guyanese business owners who work diligently to offer low-cost, efficient, aviation service to Guyana. Except for Captain Ronald Reece and Roxanne Reece of Fly Jamaica Airways, who own their fleet of aircraft, others like Travel Span's Nohar Singh, and Roraima Tours' Gerry Gouveia, are continually disappointed, despite placing their trust in charter service carriers like Eastern Airlines, and Dynamic Airways, for guaranteed on-time, proficient service.

Issues of mechanical failure, late arrival and departure, lack of permanent positioning at JFK, inexperienced pilots who fail to navigate away from turbulence, lack of piloting skills during a storm, and incompetent customer service, are all failures Guyanese face in their journey home. We are left at the mercy of ill-prepared charters like Eastern Airlines, and Dynamic Airways that continue to disregard, and disrespect travelers who pay their wages.

Case in point, my Christmas trip to the homeland that left a bitter taste in my travel mouth. I recounted my in-bound on Easter Airlines (thank God I arrived safely), and hoped for a better return. I arrived as CJIA, three hours ahead of departure time, checked-in, and was pleasantly surprised with an upgrade to first class — Seat #1F. But before my departure, I was subjected to lackadaisical, incompetent staff at CJIA, who allowed me to pass through

immigration and customs, after which, I heard my name over the loud speaker being asked return to luggage check-in over and over again...I had already paid my new departure fee of GYD\$5000 (USD\$25.00), purchased duty free items, and at the gate waiting on boarding calls. I did not panic, however, because I knew I had nothing 'foreign' in my suitcase... except for my seasoned fish, black cake, Salara (redcake) and a few other Christmas delicacies, I had not broken any law.

I hurried back to the scanner, but while my suitcase was being examined, ...Again my name was shouted to return... etc...I was like?? I am right here.... my point is...a traveller must be present! as a suitcase passes through the scanner... that traveler should then be asked to open his / her suitcase there and then if something looks suspicious...not be called back over a loud speaker...I felt like a smuggler.. Of course...I was cleared and now had to go through the same process all over again...Duty Free items passing through the scanner... Fortunately after all of this... the flight left the gate 15 minutes later than its scheduled departure time of 4 pm and soared to the skies.

I have traveled to 26 countries, flying on the A-380, and many other aircraft to get to my many destinations... but never have I ever experienced such a shaky flight on a round trip. Maybe it's the instability

Continued on Page 12

# Recreational facilities at the Bedford Armory will be a win for Crown Heights

By Geoffrey Davis, Frank Johnson, Carlton Screen, Ty Grant and Dario Trujillo

The Crown Heights community is in desperate need of quality recreational facilities for youth sports leagues, senior activities and other neighborhood-based programming. While other more affluent communities have had access to many of these facilities for decades, we have been struggling to find adequate recreational space for far too long.

That is why we and so many other Crown Heights residents and stakeholders strongly support the city's plan to provide new recreational facilities as part of the redevelopment of the Bedford-Union Armory. While we greatly respect the local elected officials who recently weighed in on the project, we disagree with their claim that this planned rec center is a "Trojan horse" and we hope these elected officials will take the time to gather more community feedback regarding our support for this development.

The recreational facility proposed for the Armory will include three multi-sport courts, three hardwood basketball courts, an indoor athletic field and a 25-meter competitive swimming pool. These are the exactly the kind of resources needed for young people in Crown Heights — especially youth basketball and soccer leagues who simply cannot

**Seniors in our community will also greatly benefit from quality athletic space for exercise and other wellness programs.**

find the same kind of quality practice space enjoyed by the counterparts in other parts of Brooklyn and the city at large. Seniors in our community will also greatly benefit from quality athletic space for exercise and other wellness programs.

We also know that, unfortunately, many of Crown Heights' local public schools in District 17 have had no choice but to use cafeterias, auditoriums and other inadequate spaces for school athletic programs. Providing real sports facilities at the Armory would be a game-changer for these schools, especially because the planned pool is the proper size for athletic competition.

Additionally, we cannot overstate the value of these resources in efforts to decrease violence in Crown Heights. It is a sad reality that too many young people in our community fall victim to violence because they do not have a safe place to gather and play sports, especially with regard to after-school programming. By bringing these facilities to the Armory, we can provide Crown Heights with a

powerful new tool for keeping young people safe and empowering them to succeed in athletics and education.

Most importantly, the city has committed to ensuring that community members are able to utilize these recreational facilities at discounted rates at any time. The operator of the space will be required to partner local organizations and non-profit groups that provide the kind of sports and community programming that will take place there.

While we understand the concerns raised by some of our local elected officials, it is our sincere hope that they will consider meeting with us and others in our community who support new recreational facilities at the Armory because of the powerfully positive impact they will have. When our community voices are heard, we are confident that we will succeed in bringing this much-needed resource to Crown Heights and strengthening our community for generations to come.

*Geoffrey Davis represents the James E Davis Stop Violence Foundation; Frank Johnson represents the Ice-Tea Youth Development Program; Carlton Screen represents The Flatbush Youth Association, Inc.; Ty Grant represents Team First, Inc.; and Dario Trujillo represents the Central Brooklyn Soccer Club.*

## Caribbean Life

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

NEW YORK PRESS ASSOCIATION  
**NYPA**

CEO: Les Goodstein  
PRESIDENT & PUBLISHER: Jennifer Goodstein  
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EDITOR EMERITUS: Kenton Kirby  
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# Trump's AG rejected three decades ago by King

The saying "what goes around comes around" could well apply to Jefferson Beauregard Sessions and his assessment of being tapped to be the next attorney general.

Hand-picked three decades ago by President Ronald Reagan, the then state senator in Alabama, and ambitious Republican was nominated for ascendance to become a federal judge in the US District Court Southern District of Alabama.

His nomination never made it past the Senate Judiciary Committee.

Because of his blatant and racist anti-Black stance he was denied.

Although he aspired to the lofty position he was summarily rejected because of his bigotry.

That the next president of the United States now wants to overturn that decision by choosing him 30 years later to a cabinet position to decide the law of the land could well find application to a theory of vindication.

Sessions' long road to Trump tower is still pending and iron-



## Inside Life

By Vinette K. Pryce

ically the saying might also be suited to one of his principal detractor — Coretta Scott King — who wrote a nine-page letter to the committee in deference to his appointment three decades ago.

Addressed to then chairman, Sen. Strom Thurmond, the widow of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. penned a scathing reproach to his nomination. Written on stationery from the Martin Luther King Jr. Center for Non-Violent Social Change on March 19, 1986, when its corporate officers included vice presidents, Harry Belafonte, Walter Fauntroy and Andrew Young, the defiant letter stated:

"Anyone who has used the power of his office as United States attorney to intimidate and chill the free exercise of the ballot by citizens should not be elevated to our courts."

King did not mince her words, she said: "Mr. Sessions

has used the awesome power of his office in a shabby attempt to intimidate and frighten elderly Black voters. For this reprehensible conduct, he should not be rewarded with a federal judgeship."

"I do sincerely urge you to oppose the confirmation of Mr. Sessions."

Eighteen years after her husband was assassinated in Memphis, Tennessee, the widow punctuated the cover page of the passionate plea with a personal and final request.

Her words resonated deeply and may have been the nail that hammered rejection of Jeff Sessions' bid to become a federal judge.

According to CNN, such a decision has only been recorded twice in 50 years.

Although King asked that her statement be placed in the hearing record, until last week, the compelling document remained elusive to the



Coretta Scott King, widow of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., is shown in 1970. Associated Press

public.

Reportedly, the Washington Post unearthed the letter and published it in its entirety one week ago.

The publication revealed that King's letter and her opposition was definitely a key element that ended Sessions' ambitious path to the bench.

Allegedly, current Judiciary Chair Chuck Grassley (R-Iowa)

had the sole authority to release the letter.

Repeatedly King blasted Sessions' apparent behavior as a U.S. attorney, saying that "his politically-motivated voting-fraud prosecutions," and his apparent "indifference toward criminal violations of Civil Rights law, indicates that he lacks the temperament, fair-

Continued on Page 14

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# Guyanese face travel hassles to homeland

Continued from page 10

of the B-737 Airbus in the air. David Roberts please enlighten me about the mechanics of this plane. Flight EA 4213 arrived at JFK 20 minutes ahead of schedule. However, despite, the snowstorm that blanketed JFK, if Eastern had a permanent place at Terminal 7, the plane would not have had to sit on the tarmac from 10:35 pm on Saturday, Jan. 7, when it arrived, until Sunday, Jan. 8, at 4:35 am when passengers finally disembarked.

The pilot was asked to park at a Terminal 4 gate. I must say we had a sightseeing tour of JFK due to the airbus hours long ride along the snowy runways stopping ever so often, before arriving close to the terminal. Passengers then sat for another hour, before a stairway finally arrived, and angry passengers deplaned, and were then trans-

ported by bus to the terminal.

Guyanese were furious with disdain at the disrespect they suffered... many claiming that they would never fly Eastern again...comparing the airline to Dynamic... A passenger's wife suffered a medical condition and missed her appointment. Others recounted their ordeal, receiving only beverage, and later light snacks of cookies, after the long wait on the tarmac. Again, that infamous protein box of nuts, dried fruit, a can of tuna, a few crackers and a pack of Pita chips was up for sale at USD\$5.00. A businessperson in first class spoke out about the lousy food he said he received after paying a fare of \$1,200.00.

The mood onboard was sad and unfortunate for Guyanese who continue to place their confidence in these carriers that fail them. When it was all said and done, passengers were left to join lines with hundreds of other passengers to clear JFK. By then, I had decided that I would in the future fly a reliable airline...and enjoy the dignified greeting of, "Welcome Home" when I arrive at the TSA booth, and not have my luggage rummaged... I did not hit my pillow until after 9 am on Sunday, Jan. 8, 2017, more that 12 hours after I was airborne from Guyana.

*Sandra Clarke*

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# Cholera

Continued from page 1

there were 39,629 suspected cases and 433 related deaths in 2016, according to the United Nations (UN).

Despite several initiatives to provide health assistance to those infected, environmental issues played a substantial role in the cholera rise, said a justice group.

"It's still continuing to go down from its peak in 2010 and 2011, but in 2016 it increased compared to 2015 and 2014 because in those years little rain fell and there was a little drought," said Brian Concannon, executive director of Institute for Justice and Democracy in Haiti (IJDH). "There are other issues but the epidemic is throughout the country and worst in places like the central plateau and the Artibonite region — where it started."

Concannon said in addition to the drought, there have been other various and complex issues that could have led to an increase in cholera cases, such as the closure of UN clinics, which provided vaccinations, and the lack of funding for their initiative to end cholera, he said.

"A certain number of their clinics have closed, and the measures they implemented have saved hundreds of lives," he said. "Many have been saved by the medical efforts but the problem it is not enough and never enough. It has decreased steadily since the epidemic

and reduce fatalities but money ran out and so did international support."

The UN is implementing short and long-term initiatives to solve Haiti's cholera problem. A representative from the organization said immediate improvements to the country's sanitation infrastructure and water sources are needed, as well as vaccination and treatment availability. But these efforts come with a large price tag — originally the UN budgeted \$2.2 million but now it is higher.

"Last year, the Ministry of Health re-evaluated the economic needs with a mid-term review of the National Plan for the Elimination of Cholera 2013-2022 and for the period 2016-2018, with an estimated budget of US\$ 182 million," said Mourad Wahba, UN humanitarian coordinator.

But Wahba reported an advancement.

"Haitian and international efforts have succeeded in reducing the cholera cases and fatalities in Haiti by almost 90 percent since the peak in 2011," he said. "Although it is not enough. One single case is already too many cases."

The UN has not directly admitted fault for bringing the bacterial disease into Haiti, but did say in 2015 that their peacekeepers — who have been stationed in Haiti since 2003 — may have 'played a role' in introducing it to the country. As a result, they launched a billion-dollar campaign to end cholera, and the organization is trying to make amends with their current efforts.

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is a common complaint among darker-skinned patients with coarse curly hair. Patients present with skin bumps from ingrown hairs that can eventually result in darkening of skin and scarring. Both men and women are affected, and is not limited to the beard area; it may occur in any other area with thick, coarse curly hair, including the bikini area and underarms. Recent research has confirmed a genetic predisposition. PFB is due to shaving, particularly close shaving because the hair retracts beneath the skin. There are 2 scenarios of hair growth in of PFB, curly hair can grow straight into the side wall or you can have hair that grows out of the skin and curls and pokes back in. The trapped hair is made up of the protein keratin, which can cause severe inflammation leading to painful bumps and infection.

Treatment for pseudofolliculitis barbae depends on the severity of the condition. If possible, let the beard grow for 30 days to eliminate ingrown hairs. When ready to shave again, take the following precautions:

Apply warm compresses to the beard area prior to shaving. In addition, using a mild exfoliant or loofah or toothbrush in a circular motion will help allow any ingrown hairs to be more easily plucked or released at the skin surface.

Ensure the skin is well moisturised. No dry shaving. Edge Gel or Aveeno Therapeutic Shave Gel are effective hydrating shave cream.

Aim to have a 5 o'clock shadow immediately after shaving. Shave less frequently

Either use a single blade disposable razor, or use electric hair clippers or a razor with an attachment that leaves the cut hairs long. Recommend Bump Fighter Razor.

Shave in the direction of the follicle, not against it. Do not stretch the skin. Take short strokes and do not shave back and forth over the same areas.

Beyond grooming habits, medical management may be required. Clinicians at Skinworks Dermatology are experts in the treatment of PFB. Management may consist of topical antibiotics, retinoids, creams to minimize discoloration and scarring, and creams that slow hair growth (Vaniqa). Peels and microdermabrasion may be indicated to control skin discoloration.

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# Barbados reserves perilously low

By George Alleyne

A surprise Central Bank of Barbados admission that it is losing more foreign exchange than gaining, and that more losses would threaten the currency's exchange rate has sparked accusations that government's economic policies have failed.

In his statement of the economic prospects for 2017, Governor of the Central Bank, Delisle Worrell, in essence said that unless the country stops the bleeding of foreign exchange and retains a balance between inflows and outflows of internationally tradable currencies, the Barbados dollar would be devalued.

"The country has failed to achieve that balance since 2013, and there remains a need to dampen spending further in order to protect the country's reserves of foreign exchange. The reserves are what protect us against the devaluation of our currency," Worrell stated.

The Barbados dollar is pegged to that of the United States at a ratio of Bar\$1 to 50 cents US.

At the end of the third quarter of 2016, Worrell reported that the island's reserves, which are held in foreign currency, stood at \$900.3 million, a reduction of \$77.3 million compared to the end of September in the previous year.

He said that the September 2016 figure gave the island 14 weeks of cover for importation of goods and services needed to maintain the current standard of living.

With reserves for only 14 weeks of import cover, Barbados has come perilously close to the minimum 12 weeks benchmark, below which the island may be called upon to devalue its currency.

The Opposition Barbados Labour Party's spokesman on economic matters, Clyde Mascoll, almost immediately responded by saying that Worrell's admission means the governor and "the (Prime Minister) Freundel Stuart government are admitting failure of the fiscal measures that started in 2009 / 10."

Mascoll said the failure to achieve a balance in the

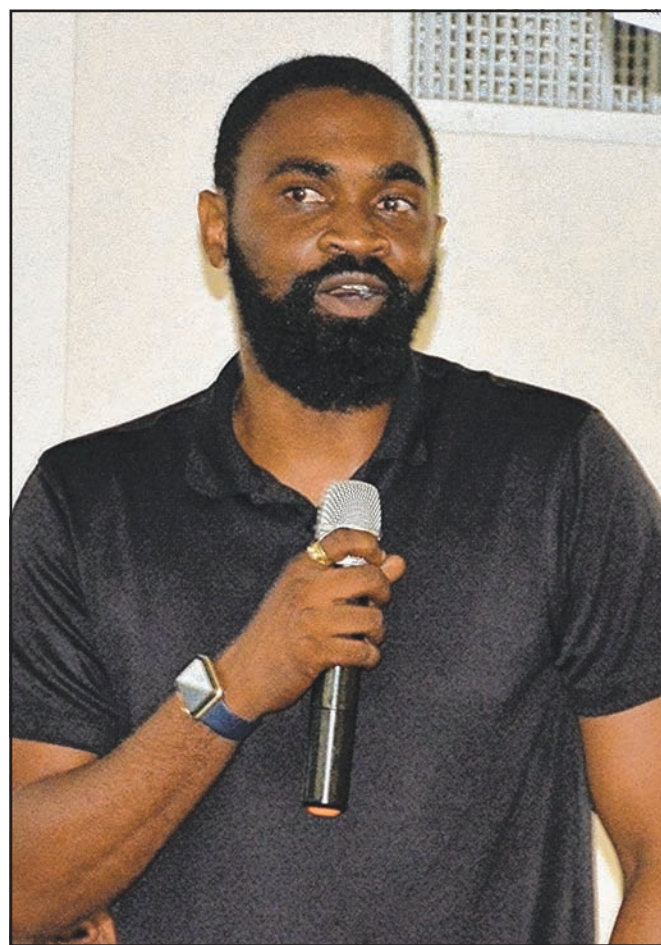
inflows and outflows of foreign exchange, "means the suffering Barbadians have been enduring for the last eight years has been in vain."

The BLP spokesman, who has a PhD in economics, accused Governor Worrell of seeking to intimidate Barbadians into agreeing that more taxes is the solution, "now that government's policies have failed as predicted, the governor is using the threat of devaluation to sell the need for more taxation and / or cuts in government expenditure."

Year on year, Barbados' foreign reserves have been on an agonizing slow descent, moving from \$1.477 billion in 2009 to a provisional figure of \$927 million in 2015.

In spite of these dire straits that the country finds itself because of the foreign exchange leakage, Worrell stated assuringly, "The Central Bank remains in a position to provide US dollars at the 2:1 exchange rate to meet all legitimate needs, if no other source is sufficient."

But Mascoll retorted,



Economist Jeremy Stephen.

Photo by George Alleyne

"Government, not the governor, needs to say clearly what measures will be implemented."

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## Trump's AG once rejected

Continued front Page 11

ness and judgment to be a federal judge."

Throughout the letter, King repeated her concern that "Sessions' nomination, if confirmed, would only prove to be a step backward for voting rights."

Sessions was born in Selma, Alabama.

An early supporter of Donald J. Trump, Sessions has been accused of calling a Black attorney "boy." He also allegedly referred to Civil Rights groups "un-American" and has been accused of saying that his only issue with the Ku Klux Klan is drug use.

The 69-year-old, four-term Alabama Republican is a hard-liner on free trade and immigration. One of his arguments against immigration is that prospective immigrants do not have constitutional protections.

Acclaimed to be a champion of anti-Muslim and anti-immigration extremists, Sessions' approval was described by New York Sen. Chuck Schumer this way:

"Given some of his past statements and his staunch opposition to immigration reform, I am very concerned about what he would do with the Civil Rights Division at the Department of Justice and want to hear what he has to say."

Sessions opposed all of Pres. Barack Obama's U.S. Supreme Court picks and also voted against the nomination of Attorney General Loretta Lynch, citing her support for the president's executive actions that shielded some undocumented immigrants from deportation.

Sessions "is a world-class legal mind and considered a truly great attorney general and U.S. attorney in the state of Alabama," the 45th president said in a statement nine days after his election.

"Jeff is greatly admired by legal scholars and virtually everyone who knows him."

Asian Americans Advancing Justice posted on their web portal that Sessions is unfit for the job.

"Sessions has opposed Civil Rights legislation and led anti-immigrant efforts throughout his Senate career. His record of disenfranchising and denying the rights of people of color, immigrants, and Muslim communities, as well as his overtly racist statements made during his career as U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of Alabama make him unfit for the position of attorney general of the United States."

During confirmation hearings last week Sessions faced a barrage of protestors some dressed in KKK outfits who jeered the Donald J. Trump nominee.

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# CARIBBEAN ROUNDUP

Continued from page 4

pared to the same period in 2015 and 420 new deaths, compared with the same period in 2015, health officials reported.

From October 2010 to November 2016, there have been 801,000 cases and 9,408 deaths from cholera.



## Jamaica

A Jamaican woman has been awarded J\$4million in compensation following a blood transfusion mistake at the University of the West Indies Hospital (UWI) 10 years ago.

In March 2006, Barbara Wright was accidentally given a blood transfusion with the wrong blood type.

She later sued the hospital claiming that she suffered both physical and mental injuries and hypertension.



She was supported by medical reports from two psychiatrists, which stated she needed future therapy in order to cope with the side effects.

While the hospital admitted liability, the institution challenged the amount of money being sought for compensation.

The Supreme Court found that Wright did suffer mental and physical injuries. In handing down the award, the court also made provisions for her future medical expenses.

## St. Vincent

The long-awaited Argyle International Airport in St. Vincent will open on Feb. 14, 2017 — five years behind schedule.



The announcement was made by Prime Minister Dr. Ralph Gonsalves who said the airport will be opened on Feb. 14, Valentine's Day- the day of love.

He said that the date of Feb. 14 had been hinted on social media and he held a meeting with all the stakeholders to make sure it was the right date.

There is speculation that the first commercial flight into the airport would be a chartered flight.

It is understood that regional carrier

LIAT and Amerijet, an American cargo airline, will service the new airport while the government works out details to continue to woo other carriers.

The EC\$729 million airport has missed construction deadlines annually since 2011 and has been a major issue in the 2005, 2010, and 2015 general elections.

## St. Lucia

Six people were killed recently in various incidents in St. Lucia, prompting Prime Minister Allen Chastanet to summon a meeting of top police officers.

The first murder was that of an unidentified man at Grand Rivere, Corinth, a community about four miles east of the capital, Castries.

The stabbing took place just hours after two men, identified as Gillian Charles, 37, and Dequan Joseph, 16, were shot dead at Jacmel, a west coast community, while a third was seriously injured and taken to hospital.

The third victim Kyle Richards later succumbed to his injuries at hospital.

Chastanet recently told reporters that criminals were the enemies of St. Lucia and he would meet with the Royal St. Lucia Police Force and officials from the Social and Family Development "to see how best we can deal with this alarming situation."



## Trinidad

Trinidad and Tobago oil company Petrotrin averted a major strike which could have disrupted the country.

After 30 hours of reconciliation talks with the Labor Minister Jennifer Baptiste, Petrotrin President Fitzroy Harewood and officials of the Oilfield Workers Trade Union (OWTU) last Monday the union decided to accept a five percent wage offer and pulled back the strike which was already started.

The increase in the workers' wages which will be applied immediately will cost the company TT\$80 million annually.

The company had offered the workers 0/0/0 percent over the three-year-period (2011-2014).

— compiled by Azad Ali

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# Online based thrift-shop offers style and grace

By Alexandra Simon

Get thrifty for the kiddies.

A Flatbush couple is giving Brooklyn parents an opportunity to thrift shop for decent kids clothing, and even sell back clothing that their youngsters no longer wear, with their children's thrift store Everything Jiggy. When David Dean and Angela Azorer began realizing that their daughter had a lot of unworn clothes attached with price tags, they chose to sell back to thrift stores. But in their search the pair found dead ends or thrift shops in northern Brooklyn, far from where they are based in Flatbush. They also noticed a lack of thrifting options for children.

"We knew of thrift stores for adults so we naturally assumed there was one for children's clothes, and when we did find places where we could trade the clothes, the locations weren't accessible to us," said Dean. "We would only see them in different parts like Greenpoint and Park Slope — none in Flatbush."

That is where the couple got the idea for EverythingJiggy.com, an online-based children's thrift store. Dean found himself constantly buying clothes to keep his daughter nicely dressed, but she never got to wear many of them before needing bigger sizes and other clothes. They figured other parents were experiencing a similar predicament,



The couple with daughter Zoe, and rack of clothes displaying the fashionable children's clothes. Everything Jiggy started a year ago when they realized Zoe outgrew many clothes still with tags on them.

Photo by Jordan Rathkopf

and probably searching to buy and thrift, and they discovered this fact when they officially launched last January, immediately noticing a lot of buzz.

"We weren't even telling everyone but once we had our plan down everyone was really receptive," he said.

Catering to children from 12 months to 12 years old, unused and used stylish clothes are priced with close to 85 per-

cent discount, and posted on the site. Parents can buy and trade with Everything Jiggy by inquiring through their site. Once a request is received from a trader, they arrange pickups for clothes, determine pricing on the spot, and reward the parents with either cash or store credit to buy at their store. The clothing they sell are current fashions such as distressed jeans, bomber jackets,

skinny jeans, and other trendy styles. They can be mid-range to even high-fashion brands, said Dean.

"We get everything from Old Navy to Burberry, and we recently got a pair of Gucci sneakers."

Clothing that is not high enough in quality is donated, but not because the clothing is not up to par. But to also give children in shelters in fashion-

able clothes to sport as well, said Dean.

"They have to be in great condition, even the clothes we decide to donate. We don't donate clothing that is faded or stained," he said. "They deserve the same respect we deserve for ourselves because we are all about helping families and people who are less fortunate."

Still in the early stages, the couple's business model priority is to look out for their community, and even take on an environmental approach.

"It's all about community for me, but it's tied together with an environmental aspect," said Dean.

"Tons of people have clothing they can't use or need but don't want to spend more on clothing, so they can buy, sell or trade — but we are recycling clothing and giving them a longer life."

The couple also hope to provide younger parents in lower or middle income parts of southern Brooklyn, an opportunity to thrift.

"We can't deny the fact that these stores are lacking in predominately West Indian and lower income areas," said Dean. "We see the need for these businesses and we hope to be in areas where they don't exist."

Thrifters interested in or trading-in or shopping for children's clothes can contact Dean or Azorer, at [everythingjiggy@gmail.com](mailto:everythingjiggy@gmail.com), or visit their web site at [www.everythingjiggy.com](http://www.everythingjiggy.com).

## Writers Resist rally: Standing up for Freedom of Speech

By Tequila Minsky

Brooklyn resident Jacqueline Woodson, National Book Award winner for her young adult masterpiece "Brown Girl Dreaming," was one of a cadre of recognized and lesser known poets and book authors who rallied Sunday at the main New York Public Library (NYPL) on Martin Luther King's birthday.

Almost 2000 crammed the library's steps and plaza, braving a sunny but cold afternoon, at the event subtitled: Reclaim Democracy. These writers were sending a message to the incoming administration in defense of freedom of expression.

Poet Erin Belieu who teach-

es at Florida State University got the ball rolling for Writers Resist. She told the attentive crowd that her son has physical challenges and when she saw Trump making fun of a physically challenged Pulitzer Prize winning journalist — Serge Kovalleski, she knew she had to step forward. (Actress Meryl Streep also addressed this particular campaign episode.) Fellow writers responded to her concern and her challenge on Facebook attracted 1800 followers.

PEN, a worldwide organization of writers, organized the Writers Resist event, mirrored simultaneously in 40 states across the U.S. and abroad with more than 90 Writers Resist

events taking place.

Lining the NYPL steps, protestors held up original portraits of writer-activists James Baldwin, Audrey Lorde, Junot Diaz, and Suheir Hammad.

PEN America compiled texts paying tribute to poignant works from their archive as well as foundational U.S. documents, and poems and prose from celebrated writers.

Congressman Jerry Nadler started off the program in tribute to the MLK weekend by reading "The Meaning of the Holiday" by Coretta Scott King.

At the afternoon literary feast, Barack Obama's inauguration and Sonia Sotomayor's

appointment were noted.

Angela Flournoy read Maya Angelou's inaugural poem, "On the Pulse of the Morning." U.S. Poet Laureate's Rita Dove and Robert Pinsky read inaugural poems. Adding historical context, a compilation of short quotes and the preamble to the constitution were read. Three local politicians read MLK's American Dream Speech.

Three women read "The Man" by Anna Deavere Smith.

Darker readings included George Orwell's "You and The Atomic Bomb" and Allen Ginsberg "War Profit and Litany." Also read were Harry Belafonte's "What do we have to lose? Everything" and Junot Diaz's

"Under President Trump, Radical Hope is Our Best Weapon."

Frank Zappa's song lyrics to "It can't happen here" were read by graphic novelist Art Spiegelman. And, the crowd was emotionally moved by the Sweet Honey and the Rock "Ella's Song," that starts: We who believe in freedom cannot rest. This refrain comes from Ella Baker's 1964 pledge.

Signs among the crowd expressed PEN's sentiments: Louder Together; Silence is not an option #resist; Free Expression=Free People, No tweeting bully can shut it up.

Supporting the power of the pen other signs read: Pens not Pence and The Pen is Mighty!



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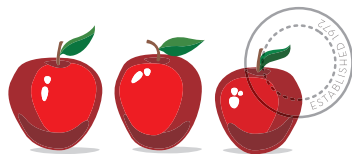


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BUSINESS, BROOKLYN STYLE - ADVERTISEMENT

# Brooklynites trust Sterling Optical for their eye care

BY CAMILLE SPERRAZZA

"Vision is the art of seeing what is invisible to others," said the Irish author Jonathan Swift.

Words of wisdom, for sure — but if your keen vision could use a little assistance, a pair of eyeglasses from Sterling Optical is a good place to start.

Sterling Optical, located in the Kings Plaza Shopping Center, has been caring for the eyes of Brooklynites for some 20 years. It offers an extensive selection of eyeglasses, contact lenses, and designer sunglasses for every budget. Brand names include Kate Spade, known for her vibrant colors, and Ray-Ban, maker of the best-selling sunglasses. You'll also find Cazal, Prada, Gucci, Bvlgari, and many other famous names.

Bring the entire family in for an examination, as annual exams can identify and correct vision concerns before they become serious. The store remains open late seven days a week, so that licensed optometrists can accommodate your family's schedule. The friendly staff offers excellent customer service. Glasses can be



(Left) Sterling Optical's Kings Plaza branch manager Maya Gutman can help you find the right pair of shades. (Right) The store carries a wide selection of eyeglass frames and sunglasses.



Photos by Jordan Rathkopf

ready to wear in as little as one hour, says Maya, the store's manager.

"Our technicians are excellent," she says.

The convenient location means you can get some shopping done at the mall while you wait; and because Sterling Optical accepts most insurance plans, you've got some spending money, too.

Feel confident about purchasing eyeglasses here because the Sterling Optical name dates back to 1914 when the first loca-

tion opened in Manhattan's Financial District. A pioneer in the optical industry, it would ultimately expand to other locations, and then go on to become one of the largest retail optical chains in the Northeast. It was one of the first to focus on developing a relationship with frame vendors worldwide.

Sterling Optical wants every customer to be a happy one, so ask about the store warranty for broken or damaged eyewear.

If you prefer contact lenses,

you've also come to the right place, as wearing contact lenses improves vision by maximizing your peripheral view, a great advantage. Fortunately, Sterling Optical offers all types of contacts, at affordable prices. Even if you suffer from dry eyes or astigmatism, the optometrist can advise about the right contact lens option for you.

A common complaint is that contact lens wearers feel like they have to make a choice between seeing up close or far away, but

new multifocal lenses eliminate that issue by offering the ease and convenience of being able to see clearly from any distance.

Don't overlook having some fun with your lenses, too. Want to dazzle friends with a new look? Wearing colored contact lenses is one way to do so, and

Sterling Optical can assist.

The multi-level Kings Plaza parking garage means you won't have to fight for a parking spot. But it's nice to know that when you return to your car, your new eyewear will allow you to find it, no trouble at all.

*Sterling Optical [5134 Kings Plaza Mall, between Flatbush Avenue and Avenue U in Marine Park, (718)253-0700]. Open Mondays through Fridays, 10 am-9:30 pm; Saturdays, 10 am-10 pm; and Sundays, 11 am-8 pm.*



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# A look behind Obama's presidency

**"Audacity: How Barack Obama Defied His Critics and Transformed America"** by Jonathan Chait  
c.2017, Custom House / William Morrow  
\$27.99 / \$34.99 Canada  
272 pages

**By Terri Schlichenmeyer**

If you can't say something nice...

Sometimes, it's hard to say nothing at all. There are times when you need to speak out, to confront, share your opinion, rant, or vent. And then there are times, as in the new book "Audacity" by Jonathan Chait, where you must praise.

For perhaps the last few months of Barack Obama's presidency, media outlets have debated about something that definitely matters: was he one of the best presidents, or one of the worst?

It's the former, says Chait, even though he admits there are times when it looks like the latter. Obama, he says, however, absolutely succeeded at what he set out to do, and this book follows that argument.

Though the Civil Rights movement was forty-some



Author Jonathan Chait.

years prior to the day a Black man moved into the White House, racial issues keenly split the country over the last eight years, not along lines of race, but on political lines. White America often denied it, but Obama forced a harder soul-search on racism.

He reportedly had a large agenda upon taking office in 2009, but it quickly became clear that his work would be to avoid, rather than fix, another Great Depression. He succeeded, but no President gets kudos for things like that. Instead, says Chait, there was — and still is — criticism about his actions, economically.

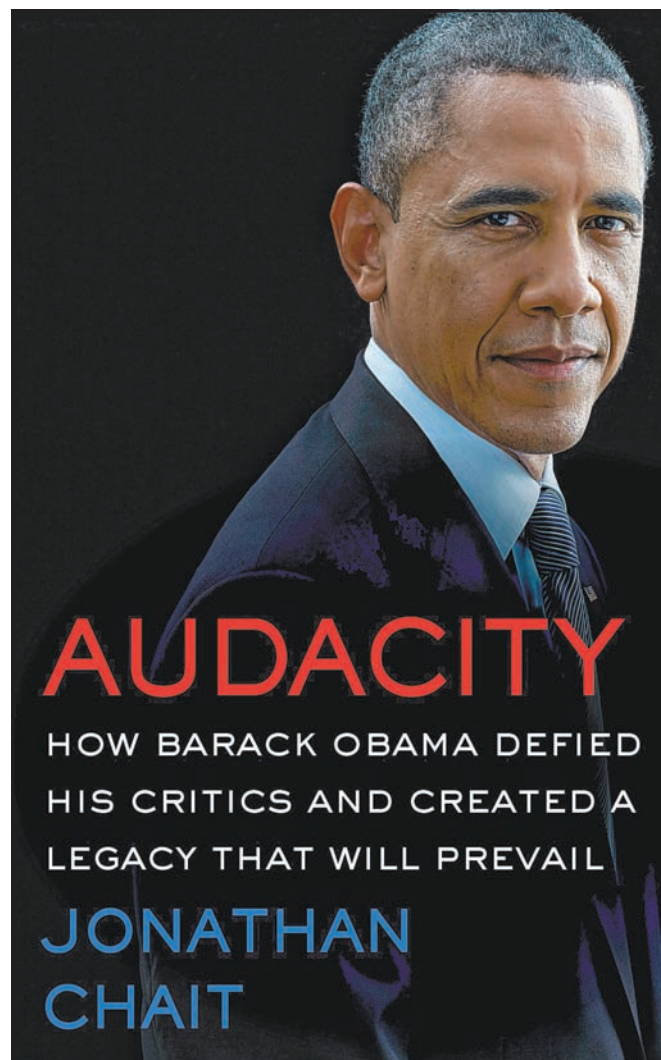
Health care legislation insured

millions of Americans who otherwise would have no coverage, thanks to Obama and a surprising number of ideas that first came from the Republicans. As a new President, Obama boosted the economy by spending money on green energy, with an eye toward global climate concerns. He helped restore America's world-wide "standing"; and foresightfully recognized China and India as budding superpowers.

So why is anyone questioning his audacity, or the legacy he leaves behind? The answer to that lies in the recent past, and in the history of Twentieth-Century American politics. Understanding both, and what happens from here, is enhanced by learning what's inside "Audacity."

Just know first that there's a lot to absorb.

Because author Jonathan Chait is also a political columnist, the goings-on behind-the-scenes in Washington are presented in great detail in this book. That can be both a good thing and a bad thing: good, because Chait is clear in reasoning and thorough in fact-finding, in favor of arguments for a stellar Obama legacy; bad, because this thoroughness becomes quite heavy at times.



Book cover of "Audacity" by Jonathan Chait.

## Lincoln's 'D' lifts Railsplitters over Iona Prep

**By Kyle Gorman**

It wasn't the offensive explosion either team was hoping for.

Lincoln and Iona Prep both struggled to hit their scoring stride in a non-league tilt on Jan. 15, but the Railsplitters managed to grab just enough momentum to pull off the victory, downing the Gaels 53-44 at the Martin Luther King Showcase in Coney Island. Mike Reid led the charge late, with a game-high 21 points and a shutdown defensive performance.

"I feel like I took over," said the senior. "I made some big shots, but it wasn't on me. It's a defensive team."

The Railsplitters had to rely on that defense as the offense sputtered in the second quarter, putting up just five points. Iona Prep's height advantage gave the Railsplitters problems all game long, clogging up the paint and making it difficult to sink shots. Lincoln did its best

to battle back, holding strong on the other side of the court and forcing a handful of Gaels turnovers.

"We try to play defense," said senior Donald Cannon-Flores, who racked up nine points and 11 assists. "Defense creates offense."

Lincoln (15-2) made some key halftime adjustments and came out on fire early in the third quarter, out-scoring Iona Prep 11-2 in the first five minutes of the period. Lincoln coach Dwayne "Tiny" Morton said spurring the offense after the half was simple as the Railsplitters were determined to turn the game around.

"Just had to be unselfish," he said. "Pass to the open man. Run the offense. Play basketball the way it's supposed to be played."

The team found a way to break through Iona Prep's defense throughout the second half, working the ball into the open floor and seizing control

of the game's tempo.

"Coach just said we need to pass the ball more," said Reid on what changed the match-up's momentum.

Iona Prep (9-5) was able to stay close throughout the game, thanks in large part to guard Bryce Willis. The Gaels standout racked up a team-high 15 points, including a pair of shots from downtown that gave his squad a bit of late-game confidence.

Iona Prep rallied late in the third quarter — going on a 7-1 run in the final three minutes — but Lincoln matched with its own scoring outburst to open the fourth. The Gaels made it a nine-point game with just over four minutes left, but that was as close as they'd get.

Lincoln held down defensively, and once again, hit shots when it had to. The Railsplitters wrapped up the victory with a seven-point run in the fourth quarter.

"They want to play to win,"



Bounding and leap: Lincoln senior Kclejuan Ferguson goes up for the rebound.  
Photo by Joshua Winata

said Morton on his team closing out the game. "They care more about winning than accolades."

It's a big-time victory for the Railsplitters, particularly against a top-tier team from

the Catholic High School Athletic Association, and while the offense wasn't picture-perfect, Lincoln walked off the court with a fresh burst of confidence.





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Guyanese-born, award-winning filmmaker, Colin Alwin Harris, right, strikes a pose with “King of Comedy” actor, talk show and radio host, DL Hughley. [Celebrityimages.org](http://Celebrityimages.org)

## Guyanese filmmaker wins award

By Tangerine Clarke

“My inspiration as a filmmaker and director is not for notoriety, or to jockey for a place in Hollywood. I just want to make great movies.”

These are the words of Colin Alwin Harris, a ferociously talented Guyanese-born artist, whose passion and hard work for entertaining audiences on the big screen, began with a

Continued on Page 36

## Musical message for Reggae lovers

Dancehall artist Karamanti has joined forces with Reggae’s living legend, Mikey General, to send a powerful message to Africans at home and in the diaspora. The message is being sent in the form of a song entitled “Back Against The Wall.”

“Back Against The Wall” is the first single from Karamanti’s upcoming EP, *THE BLACK GOD*, which is scheduled to be out in February, 2017 on her own Blakkwuman22 Music. D’Ave Production created the rhythm and the song was mixed and mastered by ODB. All vocals were recorded at Mixing Lab Studios in Kingston, Jamaica by Snysz (who also did the backing vocals).

On top of a roots reggae beat, both

Continued on Page 36



## REGGAE ROOTS

The New York City-based artist wrote his feature single “Mama” celebrating his Nigerian upbringing on a reggae-influenced track.

Shamel Ridley

## Nigerian singer revisits reggae’s roots

By Alexandra Simon

Nigerian-American Reggae artist T-Kross is connecting the music genre back to its roots. The singer who released his single “Mama,” says he wants to showcase to fans of the genre, where the popular Jamaican sound got its roots.

With the wave of West African artists producing and singing music in the Jamaican genre, the New York City-based singer says this not new nor a trend at all. In fact he says many Nigerians such as himself, were

raised on reggae, and the intercontinental fusion is a culmination of all African-inspired music.

“We heard it everywhere, from movies, to radio — we listened to reggae music and every genre. It’s never going to go away,” said T-Kross. “We understand it and we are also able to sing in our pidgin English. In our generation we are taking it a step further and are able to fuse it with more African elements.”

The 28-year-old singer who recently signed to VP Records wrote his

current single a few years ago celebrating mothers and recalling his childhood as the seventh of eight children. His song was remastered for a new release.

“This song is about mothers around world and I channel it to Africa and what it specifically means to us,” he said. “We have big families and being number seven in reality is being a hand-me-down child, and wanting to get attention from my mom — that’s what inspired me to

Continued on Page 36



## TOP OF THE CHARTS

### TOP 10 SINGLES



- 1 **Don't Wanna Know**  
Maroon 5 Feat. Kendrick Lamar
- 2 **Closer**  
The Chainsmokers Feat. Halsey
- 3 **Scars To Your Beautiful**  
Alessia Cara
- 4 **Side To Side**  
Ariana Grande Feat. Nicki Minaj
- 5 **Let Me Love You**  
DJ Snake Feat. Justin Bieber
- 6 **24K Magic**  
Bruno Mars
- 7 **Starboy**  
The Weeknd Feat. Daft Punk
- 8 **Black Beatles**  
Rae Sremmurd Feat. Gucci Mane
- 9 **Bad Things**  
Machine Gun Kelly x Camila Cabello
- 10 **Starving**  
Hailee Steinfeld & Grey Feat. Zedd

### TOP 10 ALBUMS



- 1 **Moana**  
Soundtrack
- 2 **La La Land**  
Soundtrack
- 3 **Sing**  
Soundtrack
- 4 **24K Magic**  
Bruno Mars
- 5 **Views**  
Drake
- 6 **Blurryface**  
twenty one pilots
- 7 **Hamilton: An American Musical**  
Original Broadway Cast
- 8 **4 Your Eyez Only**  
J. Cole
- 9 **Starboy**  
The Weeknd
- 10 **Blue & Lonesome**  
The Rolling Stones

*Presented by*



# T-KROSS FINDS HIS REGGAE ROOTS



Nigerian dancehall artist T-Kross sings reggae and dancehall music. He says his style of music takes reggae and dancehall back to it's African roots.

Kitchen Photography

Continued from page 35

write this. It got me thinking about mothers in general and what they go through," he said.

The track is sung over a common reggae beat, but with an emphasis on the bass and drum, which is also the Afri-

can origin of the music. His producer Stanley "Rellee" Hayden said when he produced the instrumental it was easy to find the sound he was looking for because of the similarities between the music styles.

"In Caribbean music, particularly dancehall and soca, and in African music — we all

have one phase instrumentation in the sound," he said. "We all have that similar sound and it's easy to build a reggae beat or a soca beat on layout of an African beat."

Hayden said he incorporated this while producing, and also added universal aspects for a more worldly sound. It

won't just be reggae-inspired, he said.

"What I'm doing with T-Kross is bringing him back to the foundation, but with world sound," he said. "We're bringing reggae back to it's authentic sound with a little bit of percussion and other instruments."

So far T-Kross said he is proud of where his career is now, and sees a bright future for it. Inspired by artists such as Bob Marley and Fela Kuti, he said it is not so much their music he is a fan of but the motivational ideas these artists integrated in their music which influences him to be the humanitarian artist he is trying to be.

"They have great voices no doubt, but it's the messages in their music and what they stood for," he said. "I don't want to do random music. I want to use my time and I want to stand for something. I want people to know the bigger we get, we're not gonna fade into a penthouse view, but we want to keep our relationship with our fans."

T-Kross does not have an album release date, but his debut album is expected to be released this year.

## Filmmaker

Continued from page 35

big win at the Central Florida Film Festival, last year, when he received an accolade for his directorial debut film "HAIMA," that he also wrote, and produced.

The film, about peace, love and good American values, said Harris, according to a clip, is also about a dark and gritty tale about a young woman who embarks on a journey, to discover the truth about her tragic childhood. While searching for answers about her mother's murder, her life changes dramatically as she is beaten into an amnesic state. The young woman battles for survival at the hands of her attackers.

The world premier of the 2016 film received rave reviews at the Central Florida Film Festival, cementing Harris' determination and what he called his vivacious imagination and admiration for the cinematic arts and made in honor of all the classic action thrillers he watched passionately and religiously while growing up, and

still watches today.

He was excited to make a movie filled with all the elements he found most compelling in film, richly layered with storytelling, action and suspense.

Harris, a young man, driven by his talent and inspired to showcase his brilliance, founded the Central Florida Institute of Technology, an educational institution that offers comprehensive and affordable certificate and degree programs in science and technology.

His stunning accomplishment after arriving in the United States from Georgetown, Guyana, just 27 short years ago, is a testament to his will to succeed.

After serving six years in the United States Air Force as a ground radar systems specialists / electronics technician at Eglin Air Force Base in Florida, Harris graduated with a degree in electronics technology and business, and a Masters of Science degree in Management from Troy University, in addition to a MBA certificate in Leadership from Post University.

## 'Back Against The Wall'

Continued from page 35

artists present some very serious concerns about the current state of the global Black population. They touch on a variety of things, including, but not limited to: religion, slavery, identity theft, division in the

Black communities and that is just to name a few. The chorus, which is done by Mikey General asks "Now that our back is against the wall, are we gonna beg? Are we gonna bawl?" The song can be streamed and / or downloaded from <https://karamanti.bandcamp.com>.



Dancehall artist Karamanti and Reggae's living legend, Mikey General.



# Portuguese priests search for missionary mentor

**"Silence"**  
Very Good (3 stars)  
Rated R for disturbing violence  
In English and Japanese with subtitles  
Running time: 161 minutes  
Distributor: Paramount Pictures

**By Kam Williams**

Portuguese traders first landed in Japan in 1543, followed soon thereafter by Francis Xavier and other Jesuits. So many locals started converting to Christianity that, less than a decade later, the emperor issued an edict banning Catholicism and ordering the expulsion of all missionaries.

Violators were forced to either renounce the religion or face crucifixion, which resulted in many of the faithful's going underground to avoid persecution. Consequently, when a cleric disappeared, it was often difficult to discern whether the missing person had been martyred or was merely in hiding.

This was the case with



Liam Neeson as Father Ferreira in "Silence."

www.rottentomatoes

Father Cristovao Ferreira (Liam Neeson) who had been spreading the gospel around Japan for close to a quarter-century before he suddenly vanished without a trace after

sending an ominous last letter to a friend. The ensuing silence prompted a couple of his proteges, Fathers Garrpe (Adam Driver) and Rodrigues (Andrew Garfield) to mount

a desperate search for their mentor, despite the fact that discovery of their identities might mean instant death.

In 1633, the perilous trek began, and that ill-advised

expedition is the subject of "Silence," a faith-based docudrama directed and co-written by Martin Scorsese. The movie represents a bit of a departure for the legendary Oscar-winner whose name is most closely associated with gory gangster flicks like "Goodfellas," "The Departed" and "Mean Streets."

Based on Shusaku Endo's 1996 novel of the same name, the film was a labor of love which took Scorsese almost three decades to bring to the big screen. The legendary filmmaker ostensibly identifies with the picture's protagonists questioning whether God even exists.

Clocking in at a patience-testing 160+ minutes, the deliberately-paced production could easily have shaved another half-hour off the final cut and still delivered the same emotional impact. Blessed with a trio of inspired lead performances, "Silence" is nevertheless apt to find an enthusiastic audience among Born Again Bible thumpers.

A thought-provoking, historical drama chronicling the ultimate test of faith.

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BASED ON THE NOVEL BY W. BRUCE CAMERON SCREENPLAY BY W. BRUCE CAMERON & CATHRYN MICHON AND AUDREY WELLS AND MAYA FORBES & WALLY WOLODARSKY  
DIRECTED BY LASSE HALLSTRÖM  
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## SPORTS

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Dave Cameron, center, president of the West Indies Cricket Board, speaks to press at City Hall, about the upcoming tour with Pakistan and the plans to bring cricket to the city on Jan. 12.

Community News Group / Alexandra Simon

## WICB prez announces US plans, tour

By Alexandra Simon

The West Indies Cricket Board (WICB) has announced plans to popularize and promote the sport of cricket in New York during a press briefing at City Hall in Manhattan on Jan. 12.

WICB President Dave Cameron said as one of the most popular sports in the world, especially in the Caribbean, they hope to build a cricket stadium in the city to increase playership and to also accommodate fans of the sport in the city's large Caribbean community.

Continued on Page 40

## Bolt focuses on 100 meters

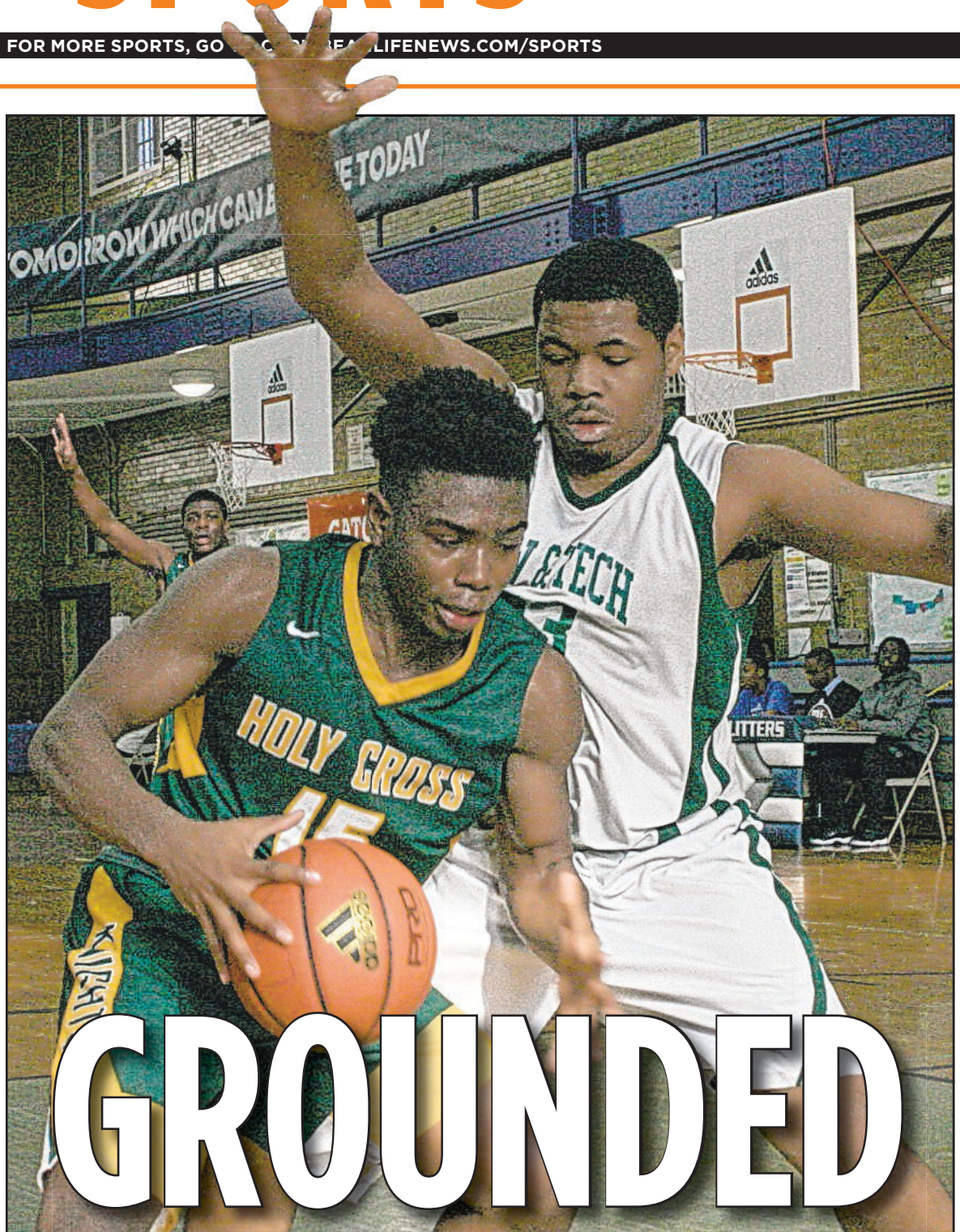
By Azad Ali

Sprint superstar Usain Bolt said he will be concentrating on the 100 meters in 2017, which will be his final decision in a glorious athletics career.

Bolt told Sky Sports News recently that his final competitive race will be in London this summer before quitting the sport he had dominated like no other athlete in its history.

Bolt said earlier this year that he was planning to pursue a late career in professional football after he retires from

Continued on Page 40



Power in the post: Brooklyn Law and Tech forward Victor Ogdobo (right) led the Jets with a team-high 22 points and 14 rebounds on Jan. 15.

Community News Group / Laura Amato

## Jets come up short against Holy Cross

By Laura Amato

It felt like a wake-up call — a very loud one.

Brooklyn Law and Tech's boys basketball team dropped a disappointing 55-52 showing to Holy Cross on Jan. 15, part of the Martin Luther King Showcase showcase at Lincoln High

School. The loss snapped a six-game winning streak for the Jets and left the team searching for answers after failing to produce on either side of the ball.

"It's a call to start paying attention to detail more," said Jets coach Kenny Pretlow. "We had sloppy turn-

overs, we weren't passing the ball efficiently enough, and we weren't making shots."

The Jets (14-2) got off to a slow start, but were able to turn things around late in the first quarter and even took a one-point lead after the

Continued on Page 40



Continued from page 39

The board is trying to garner support from local leaders to push for the construction of a cricket stadium to house future games.

"We see the United States as a potential host for a world event in the period of 2023 to 2031," said Cameron. "My objective is to try to help and to identify a suitable area and support them in bringing cricket to the state of New York and to build a stadium."

With the support from councilmen Alan Maisel (D-Marine Park) and Jumaane Williams (D-East Flatbush) in particular, they can lobby on behalf of the board with the Parks Department for building a stadium.

Cameron also announced the West Indies upcoming tour with Pakistan. The West Indies will play Pakistan on March 25 and 26 at Central Broward Stadium in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. This comes after a recent victory for the team.

But even as the West Indies cricket ranking has fallen over the years, their recent efforts show their improvement.

"Our performance has been better — we beat Pakistan for the first time in 21 years and it was the first time we beat a team ranked higher than us," he said. "We have made tremendous strides in the last four years."

And Cameron promises to see programs for cricket for children and they want to see it in schools, in the Caribbean and locally. He noted that the lack of cricket's popularity has denied them some advantages in that area as opposed to other sports.

"Part of the challenge with cricket now versus other sports in the region is that it is the least attractive in terms of educational opportunities," said Cameron. "The top advantages are track and field and basketball because they know they can get scholarships to the United States."

Cameron said it may be longer to implement programs for men, but the board is aiming to get things going for their female counterparts, as they want to lobby for college opportunities for women's cricket, which is easier to obtain, he said.

## Tribute to Sir Dwight

By Azad Ali

The West Indies Cricket Board (WICB) has paid tribute to the late Sir K Dwight Venner, the former governor of the Eastern Caribbean Central Bank (ECCB), who died on Dec. 22, 2016 in St. Lucia.

In a press release the WICB said Sir Dwight could be described as; "The quintessential supporter of West Indies cricket. He loved the sport and often admitted that to become a member of the West Indies cricket was one of his childhood dreams.



Not much Moreno: Jets guard Larry Moreno was held to just nine points in Brooklyn Law and Tech's loss to Holy Cross on Jan. 15.

Community News Group / Laura Amato

# JETS PREPARE FOR A TURN AROUND

Continued from page 39

opening eight minutes of play. That was, however, about as good as things would get for the squad.

Brooklyn Law and Tech was held without a point for the first four minutes of the second quarter, racking up turnovers and empty possessions.

"It was just frustrating because we knew we did it to ourselves," said junior forward Victor Ogdobo. "If we never put ourselves in that hole, we never would have been in that predicament — trying to work our way back."

It didn't get any better in the second half either, as Holy Cross opened the third quarter on a 10-2 run, taking a double-digit lead with 3:49 left in the period.

The Jets squad did its best to claw back, sparked by Ogdobo's presence on the block. He scored 16 of his team-

high 22 in the second half.

"I had to try and do what I can do for my team," said Ogdobo, who also hauled in 14 rebounds. "At first I wasn't playing all that well, but I did my best to kind of rally because I knew that the fire could make everyone else play better too."

Brooklyn Law and Tech made it a four-point game with just under four minutes to play, but Holy Cross' Elijah Perry drained a corner trey on the Knights' next possession and the Jets could never bounce back.

It was a disappointing game for Brooklyn Law and Tech, as the squad couldn't turn the corner in the non-league matchup, failing to settle into any sort of a rhythm.

"We went into our pressing style, and that got us back in the game, but even then we never really looked on top," Pretlow said. "Even when we

did get the shots, they just weren't enough."

The Jets racked up double-digit turnovers in the loss and failed to sink baskets from the free-throw line down the stretch. Brooklyn Law and Tech finished 9-of-20 from the stripe, upset with leaving points on the court.

"We usually make our free throws," Pretlow said. "But today, I just don't know what it was. We were a step slow."

Brooklyn Law and Tech is anxious to bounce back when the team returns to league play, but the loss showed some of the team's weak spots, and the Jets know there's still plenty to work on.

"It'll be a reference point," Pretlow said.

"When we're in the next game and we're playing like this, I can say it's just like the Holy Cross game. Turn it around."

## Bolt focuses on final run

Continued from page 39

track and field.

"Right now, it's my last season and I have to just go out there and enjoy," the Jamaican told the Jamaica Gleaner newspaper.

The 30-year-old Bolt dominated the sprint events over the past decade in the sport, winning the 100 meters, 200

Right now, it's my last season and I have to just go out there and enjoy

meters, and 4x100 relay at three consecutive Olympics.

He also holds the record in the 100 meters (9.58 seconds) and 200 meters (19.19) and has won 11 world titles.



Jamaican sprinter Usain Bolt.

Associated Press / Rebecca Blackwell



# PS 109 unveils new school gymnasium

By Alexandra Simon

Pupils at P.S. 109 got to finally play in their East Flatbush school's brand new gym unveiled on Jan. 12.

Students, school officials, and parents attended the ribbon-cutting ceremony of the hard-wood gym floor. After an unfortunate water damage during a school vacation, the gym was shut down for 16 months forcing teachers and administrators to use other areas of the school for recreational activities. But no more alternatives, said parent coordinator Laurentina Matthews. Excited students happily welcomed their new gym.

"They were very happy and they couldn't wait," she said. "Once we got the okay, the kids were in there the next day."

Councilman Jumaane Williams (D-East Flatbush) also attended the gym's debut and cut the ribbon with several students.

During the gym closure students still kept up with their physical activities in staircases, the school's lunchroom and when the weather allowed it — outdoor in the schoolyard.

Matthews said teachers found ways around the inconvenience, but some areas made it hard.

"They made it work so the kids could get to do gym activities," she said. "I'm very excited it's back up — we would also use any space and the library sometimes but there's only so much you could do in the library."

**"Once we got the okay, the kids were in there the next day."**

The new gym looked similar to the previous gym, but the new one has shinier parts and sports a personalized signature of the school such as the school's lion logo and name, said Matthews.

Now that the gym is open many events can resume.

"I'm very excited it's back up — now we can have our father's day game and meetings and all that good stuff, and on Fridays we have our parents and staff basketball games," added Matthews.



New day, new gym: Councilman Jumaane Williams cuts the ribbon during a ceremony for the unveiling of PS 109's new gym in East Flatbush on Jan. 12. Photo by Steve Schnibbe

## How does the BROOKLYN PAPER sound?

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The Community News Group is proud to introduce **Brooklyn Paper Radio**. Join Brooklyn Paper Editor-in-Chief **Vince DiMiceli** and the New York Daily News' **Gersh Kuntzman** every Tuesday at 2:00 pm for an hour of talk on topics Brooklynites hold dear.

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Consumer Affairs # Chevy/Cadillac: 1015293, Buick/GMC: 1189038. Financing thru GM Financial. To well qual buyers w/approved Tier 1 Credit (800 FICO). Not all buyers will qual. See dlr for details. \*Based on 24 (36 on Buick Envision/39 on Buick Encore) Mo Closed End Lease w/ 10,000 mi/yr excess mi @ \$.25 thereafter. Actual mileage will vary. Lessee resp for excess wear, tear, & mileage charges as stated. Lessee resp for tax, title, lic, dlr fees & optional equip extra. Other restrictions may apply. Price(s) incl(s) all costs to be paid by consumer, except for tax, title, lic costs, reg fees, dlr fees & optional equip extra. Pics are illustrative only. All manufacturer incentives applied. Equinox: 4-Cyl, AWD, Auto, P/S/ABS, A/C, Dual/Side Curtain Impact Air Bags. Stk#A7356, MSRP: \$28,290. \$2649 due at delivery incl(s). \$1,995 down pymt, 1st Mo Pymt, & \$595 Bank Fee. Til pymt(s): \$1416. Resid Value: \$18,671.40. Incl(s) \$2000 Conquest Rebate if qual. Incl(s) \$4,950 factory rebate. Acadia: 4-Cyl, FWD, Auto, P/S/ABS, A/C, Dual/Side Curtain Impact Air Bags. Stk#A8285, MSRP: \$33,770. \$2892 due at delivery incl(s). \$2100 down pymt, 1st Mo Pymt, & \$595 Bank Fee. Til pymt(s): \$4728. Resid Value: \$24,652.10. Incl(s) \$1500 Conquest Rebate if qual. Incl(s) \$1,500 factory rebate. Cruze: 4-Cyl, FWD, Auto, P/S/ABS, A/C, Dual/Side Curtain Impact Air Bags. Stk#A7145, MSRP: \$22,325. \$2955 due at delivery incl(s). \$0 down pymt, 1-time Pymt of \$2,360, & \$595 Bank Fee. Til pymt(s): \$2,360. Resid Value: \$14,957.75. Incl(s) \$2000 Conquest Rebate if qual. Incl(s) \$3,725 factory rebate. Terrain: 4-Cyl, FWD, Auto, P/S/ABS, A/C, Dual/Side Curtain Impact Air Bags. Stk#B346, MSRP: \$28,620. \$4589 due at delivery incl(s). \$0 down pymt, 1-time Pymt of \$3,997, & \$595 Bank Fee. Til pymt(s): \$3997. Resid Value: \$18,889.20. Incl(s) \$2000 Conquest Rebate if qual. Incl(s) \$4,450 factory rebate. Encore: 4-Cyl, FWD, Auto, P/S/ABS, A/C, Dual/Side Curtain Impact Air Bags. Stk#7477, MSRP: \$25,685. \$2499 due at delivery incl(s). \$1775 down pymt, 1st Mo Pymt, & \$595 Bank Fee. Til pymt(s): \$5031. Resid Value: \$14,383.60. Incl(s) \$2000 Conquest Rebate if qual. Incl(s) \$3,825 factory rebate. Envision: 4-Cyl, AWD, Auto, P/S/ABS, A/C, Dual/Side Curtain Impact Air Bags. Stk#B376, MSRP: \$38,830. \$2878 due at delivery incl(s). \$1995 down pymt, 1st Mo Pymt, & \$595 Bank Fee. Til pymt(s): \$10,368. Resid Value: \$24,074.60. Incl(s) \$1500 Conquest Rebate if qual. Incl(s) \$1500 factory rebate. This ad supersedes all other ads. Offers end 1/31/17. DMV# Chevy/Cadillac: 7059799, Buick/GMC: 7038819.





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**Kristal Discount: - \$1,807**

Buick/GMC Conquest Rebate: - \$2,000

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- 8" Touch Screen Navigation
- Bose 3.6



MSRP: \$35,825

**Kristal Discount: - \$2,894**

Bonus Tag Rebate: - \$3,000

Stk#A7199, V6, 4WD, Auto,  
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Curtain Impact Air Bags.

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## NEW 2017 CHEVY SILVERADO DOUBLE DR 4WD

- All-Star Edition
- LT Plus Pkg
- 8" Navigation



MSRP: \$45,055

**Kristal Discount: - \$3,677**

Factory Rebate: - \$2,500

Bonus Tag Rebate: - \$1,000

Chevy Lease Loyalty/Lease Conquest Rebate: - \$2,000

Stk#A7209, V6, 4WD, Auto,  
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MSRP: \$33,770

**Kristal Discount: - \$2,644**

Factory Rebate: - \$1,000

Buick/GMC Conquest Rebate: - \$1,500

Stk#8297, 4-Cyl, FWD, Auto,  
P/S/ABS, A/C, Dual/Side  
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**Buy For \$28,626\*\***

## NEW 2017 BUICK ENVISION

- Turn by Turn Navigation



MSRP: \$38,830

**Kristal Discount: - \$3,986**

Factory Rebate: - \$1,000

Buick/GMC Conquest Rebate: - \$1,500

Stk#8376, 4-Cyl, AWD, Auto,  
P/S/ABS, A/C, Dual/Side  
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## NEW 2016 GMC SIERRA 2500 HD

- Snow Plow Prep Pkg
- Trailer Pkg
- All-Terrain Tires



MSRP: \$44,640

**Kristal Discount: - \$4,107**

Factory Rebate: - \$1,750

Bonus Tag Rebate: - \$1,000

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**ARIES: Mar 21/Apr 20**  
Wishful thinking won't get you ahead, Aries. But hard work will. Don't shy away from an opportunity that comes your way, even if it seems less promising at first glance.

**TAURUS: Apr 21/May 21**  
Taurus, you find yourself in a leadership role this week and are asked to make a lot of decisions. Wield your power carefully as others are watching you intently.

**GEMINI: May 22/Jun 21**  
Gemini, a few variables are thrown into the mix once you think you have everything figured out. You will show your ability to problem-solve if you can handle the task.

**CANCER: Jun 22/Jul 22**  
Cancer, patience is required when a difficult situation presents itself. Resist the temptation to act before you get a full grasp of the situation and what you should do.

**LEO: Jul 23/Aug 23**  
Someone close to you puts their faith in your ability to get a job done, Leo. This week devote all of your effort to completing this work, and it will only enhance your résumé.

**VIRGO: Aug 24/Sept 22**  
Virgo, it may be in your best interest to remain out of the spotlight at the next social gathering. Afford others the chance to be the center of attention.

**LIBRA: Sept 23/Oct 23**  
It is easy to make promises and then not follow through with your intentions, Libra. But that is not the way you operate. If you say you will do something, you will.

**SCORPIO: Oct 24/Nov 22**  
Opportunities to travel present themselves in the near future, Scorpio. Pack your bags and be ready to depart at a moment's notice. You can certainly use some time away.

**SAGITTARIUS: Nov 23/Dec 21**  
Sagittarius, assess a situation before sharing your opinions with others. The surface details don't tell the whole story, so wait until you can get a full handle on things.

**CAPRICORN: Dec 22/Jan 20**  
Many positive things are on the horizon, Capricorn. You just have to get through a few rough patches before it is smooth sailing. Pisces is a pivotal player.

**AQUARIUS: Jan 21/Feb 18**  
Aquarius, resist the temptation to take the easy way out and challenge yourself this week. Who knows what strength you can find within yourself if you try new things?

**PISCES: Feb 19/Mar 20**  
Pisces, put your suspicions to rest as no one is trying to hide anything. This person has shown all of his or her cards. Offer help if they need it.

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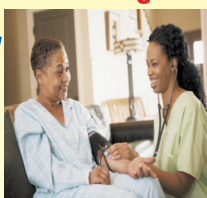
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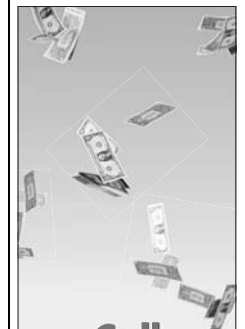
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