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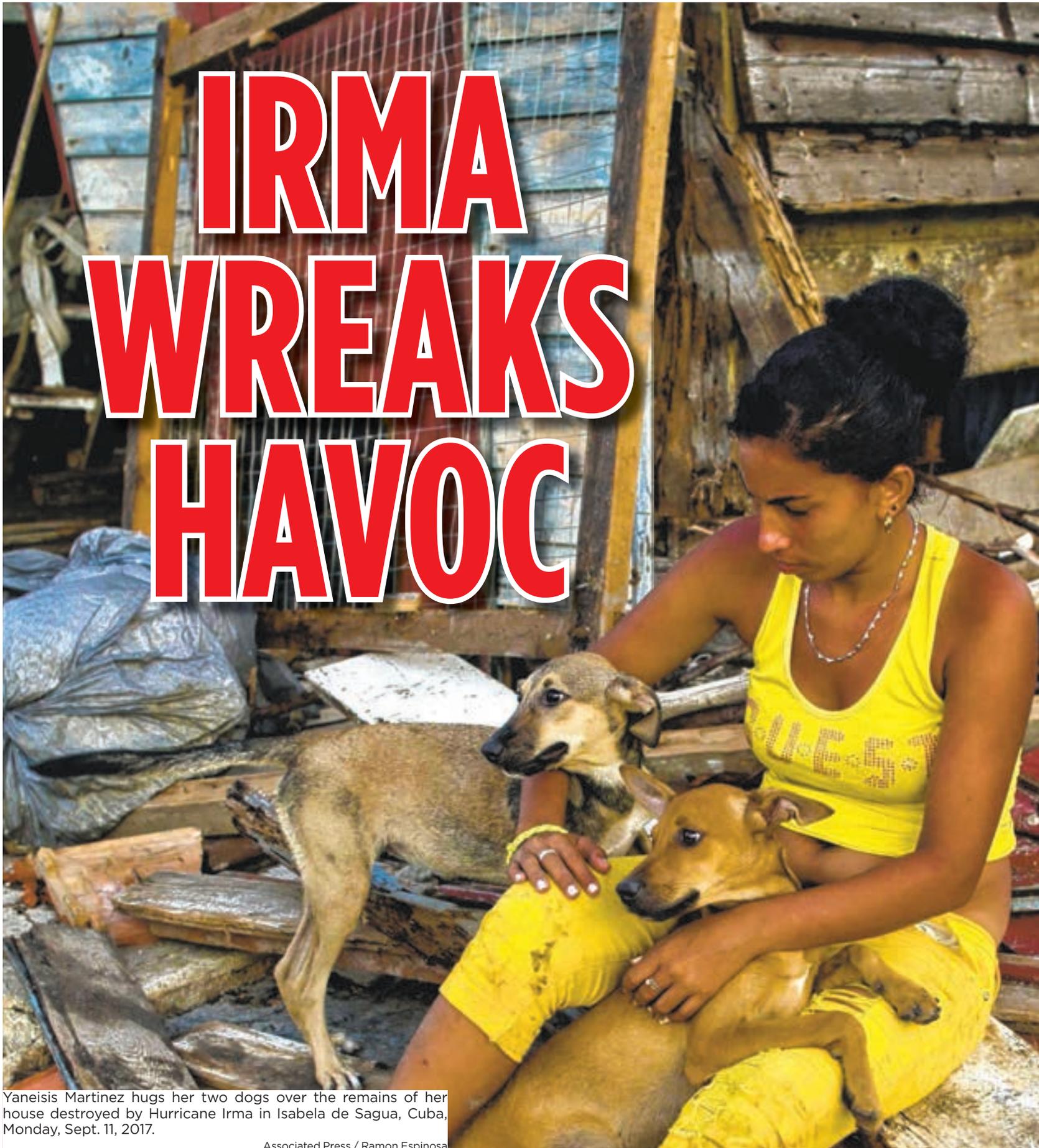
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# IRMA WREAKS HAVOC



Yaneisis Martinez hugs her two dogs over the remains of her house destroyed by Hurricane Irma in Isabela de Sagua, Cuba, Monday, Sept. 11, 2017.

Associated Press / Ramon Espinosa



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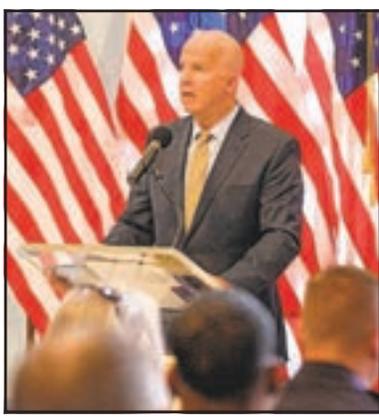
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# Popular Caribbean incumbents secure wins



Police Commissioner James O'Neill speaking to the audience at Brooklyn Borough Hall, on Thursday, Sept. 7, 2017.

New York City Police Department

## Sept. 11 victims' relatives vow to keep legacies alive

By Dawn Plummer

Sixteen years have passed since the catastrophic attack on Sept. 11. Many pledged during that time to “never forget” the horror. To honor that commitment, the Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams hosted a memorial service at Borough Hall on Thursday, Sept. 8, 2017 to stand with the relatives of some of the victims and to remind the community of the indirect effects that still haunt some first responders and the community at large since the fateful day.

In welcoming the group of invited guests, the New York City Police Department and the New York Fire Department, Adams hailed the first responders, as the best and the bravest, some of whom are still suffering as a result of illnesses they developed while working at Ground Zero and are now battling for their lives. Borough President Adams asked that the relatives of the victims keep the memories of the victims alive, “but most importantly turn pain into purpose.”

In addition to his welcoming remarks, the Borough President also made a personal contribution of \$5,000.00 to the Leon W. Smith, Jr. Foundation, a former New York City fire fighter and a victim of Sept. 11. The organization which was started by the mother of the late fire fighter is based in Brooklyn, and works to help students. In making her contribution to the event and thanking the borough president for the kind gesture, Mrs. Irene W. Smith, mother of the late Leon W. Smith, Jr. recommitted herself to continue the work of the 13-year-old organization, started in the memory of her son. According to Smith, the funds raised are given to students in high schools and colleges each year, and the funds are given based on the students' needs and their academic achievements.

By Nelson A. King

Two popular Caribbean incumbents were victorious Tuesday in New York City Democratic Primary Elections.

Haitian Dr. Mathieu Eugene, who represents the 40th Council District in Brooklyn, and Jumaane Williams, the son of Grenadian immigrants, representative for the adjacent 45th Council District in Brooklyn, were re-elected in the low-voter turn-out.

The winner in the Democratic Primary Elections is usually a shoo-in to win the November General Elections in New York, which votes overwhelmingly for the Democratic Party.

With 100 percent of the 104 precincts reporting, the first Haitian to ever win a seat in the City Council, received 5,414 votes, or 41 percent, in a field of three challengers.

His closest rival was Brian Christopher Cunningham, the son of Jamaican immigrants, who received 3,991 votes, or 30 percent.

ia Raymond received 2,956 votes, or 22 percent, and Jennifer Berkley, 822 votes, or six percent.

Williams won the Primary in a landslide with 100 percent of the 121 precincts reports. He received 8,588 votes, or 90 percent, to his lone challenger, Lou Cespedes, who garnered 904 votes, or 10 percent.

Renowned as “The Haitian Sensation,” Eugene said the main reason for his success is that he has dedicated his life to community service.

In Brooklyn, he has been well known and respected for more than a decade as a community leader, educator, health professional, local media personality and founder of the non-profit organization, YES (Youth Education and Sports).

Eugene said this organization, which served thousands of Brooklyn youth and their families from diverse backgrounds, promoted self-esteem, discipline, respect, and skill development in preparation for success in school and life.

Eugene said his priorities are “to ensure quality education with smaller class size, improve access to health-care for all people, expand employment opportunities, improve public safety services and police / community relations, improve affordable housing opportunities and support immigrant rights, as well as provide strong advocacy for neighborhood preservation and homeowners.”

Williams, who currently serves as deputy leader of the New York City Council and chair of the Council's Committee on Housing and Buildings, is also co-chair of the Council's Task Force to Combat Gun Violence.



Council members Jumaane Williams and Mathieu Eugene were re-elected  
Photo by Tequila Minsky

**Tonight, we make history. I look around this room and see what's beautiful about Brooklyn. I see the diversity.**

Additionally, Williams is the founding member of the Progressive Caucus, and is a member of the Black, Latino & Asian Caucus.

Williams said he is a fervent “advocate for affordable housing, anti-gun violence measures, fair policing, equity, and social justice.”

His major successes as council member include the Community Safety Act, which created the Office of Inspector General for the New York Police Department; the Fair Chance Act and co-chairing the taskforce, which created New York's Crisis Management System and Cure Violence Groups to combat gun violence.

In trouncing a field of five other candidates, Eric Gonzalez, who traces his roots to Puerto Rico, was triumphant in the Democratic Primary Election for Brooklyn district attorney.

With 94.4 percent of the precincts reporting, Gonzalez, who was acting Brooklyn district attorney, received

53 percent of the vote, with his closest challenger, Anne J. Swern, receiving 11.6 percent.

“I am so happy,” said Gonzalez at his victory party Tuesday night. “Tonight, we make history. I look around this room and see what's beautiful about Brooklyn. I see the diversity.”

The Brooklyn district attorney sets policies that affect the borough's 2.6 million residents, overseeing an office of nearly 500 prosecutors that handles almost 85,000 criminal cases a year, according to the New York Times.

In the 41st City Council District in Brooklyn, two Vincentian candidates were unsuccessful in a crowded field of nine candidates.

Moreen King, who placed fourth, received 915 votes, or nine percent, and Royston Antoine, who placed sixth, received 597 votes, or six percent, in the race that was won by Alicka Ampry-Samuel, who 3,320 votes, or 31 percent.

Other contenders in the race were: Henry Butler, 2,318 votes, or 22 percent; Jamaican American Cory Provost, 1,197 votes, or 11 percent; Deidre Olivera, 847 votes, or eight percent; Victor Jordan, 554 votes, or five percent; David Miller, 502 votes, or five percent; and Leopold Cox, 307 votes, or three percent.

## Caribbean

A United States medical company plans to sell Zika virus diagnostic to customers through the Caribbean upon completion of successful evaluation and validation studies.

Co-Diagnostics Inc. based in Utah, says its potential customer base across the Caribbean includes laboratories, regional health ministries, and hospitals interested offering a state-of-the-art molecular diagnostic for the mosquito borne Zika virus to their patients.

The company said to date, representatives and future product distributors have conducted on-site suitability assessment at dozens of locations across the region, with the understanding that these locations would be among the first to have access to the Zika virus test upon successful performance evaluation.

Co-Diagnostics Inc. is also an approved reseller of diagnostic equipment, to enable upgraded laboratory facilities for those locations which have not previously been able to offer molecular diagnostics.

The company said molecular diagnostics are the internationally gold standard in disease detection.

CEO of Co-Diagnostics Dwight Egan said; "we are uniquely positioned to assist the many overlooked and underserved populations in the region interest in a competitively priced, high quality diagnostic to assist in the detection of the Zika virus."



## Barbados

The Central Bank of Barbados (CMB) has implemented a two percent fee on foreign purchases and payments made using credit debit and travel cards.



This has gone into effect from Sept. 1, 2017, the CDB announced.

It said the foreign exchange fee (FXF) is applicable to purchases made while overseas, as well as to items purchased from companies outside of Barbados.

But it noted if the transactions are canceled, the fee is refundable.

The CBB said that the fee will be calculated on the Barbados value of the transactions using the exchange rate on the date that the transaction was processed, not on the date the bill is paid and will be applied even if customers choose to be billed in Barbados dollars.

The CBB stated that the foreign exchange fee does not affect a person's annual foreign currency allowance.

## Bahamas

The US-based agency, Moody's Inves-



## Hurricane Irma's destructive path

This photo provided by the Dutch Defense Ministry shows Dutch King Willem-Alexander, second left, visiting after the passing of Hurricane Irma, in Dutch Caribbean St. Maarten, on Monday Sept. 11, 2017. See story on Page 34

Gerben Van Es / Dutch Defense Ministry via Associated Press

tor Service has confirmed the Bahamas's Baa3 credit rating, after initiating a review for downgrade on July 6 this year.

The rating agency also left unchanged most of the risk ceilings for The Bahamas' long-term and short-term financial obligation.

In justifying its decision, Moody highlighted the positive prospects of the government's stabilization; consistency in the country's credit profile with other Baa3 rated-peers; and the limited liquidity pressures, despite higher borrowing requirements.

However, Moody's move to change the outlook from stable to negative reflects its assumptions about the potential downside risks to the implementation of the fiscal consolidation process posed by a less favorable growth outcome and any climate-related shocks.

In a statement, the Ministry of Finance said the Moody's decision, "while not surprising, is an endorsement of the Government's plan to deliver on its fiscal consolidation initiatives and eliminate any perceived risks to investor confidence."

## Guyana

Guyana President David Granger says his government is willing to work with US-based oil giant ExxonMobil,

to develop a long term relationship founded on transparency, accountability, openness and aligned interest for the good of the people.

During a recent meeting with a delegation of ExxonMobil, Granger said Guyanese must be able to view the development of a petroleum industry as one that is beneficial to the nation's interest.

The meeting was held to discuss matters related to the status of exploratory and appraisal work in the Stabroek Block as well as the relationship between the government and the company.

The president said the government was working to develop the requisite framework and strengthen capacity in areas, which established and maintains good governance.

## Grenada

Two Cabinet ministers in Grenada's ruling party government will be stepping aside for the upcoming general election, which is constitutionally due no later than May 2018.

Prime Minister Dr. Keith Mitchell informed the nation in a national address that Senator Brenda Hood and Minister Roland Bhola will be leaving the government but will be lending their support in other ways.

Hood, who entered politics for the

1999 general election and won the St. George's constituency, was retiring from Parliament, while Bhola, who entered the political arena for the 2003 general election, will be moving out of representative politics and transitioning to lead the work of the ruling New National Party.

As a result of the departure of both Bhola and Hood, Mitchell told the nation that a new senator will be sworn in to replace Hood in the Upper House, while the Cabinet ministerial portfolios will be adjusted.

Mitchell indicated that his party is preparing to continue as the government following the upcoming general election.

## Jamaica

Jamaica has recorded 1,005 murders so far for 2017 according to figures released by the Jamaican Constabulary Force's (JCF) — a 24 percent increase, or 197 more than for the corresponding period last year.

The statistics also showed that 114 people were murdered across Jamaica over a 20-day period that ended on Sept. 3, 2017.

Opposition People's National Party (PNP) leader Dr. Peter Phillips has called

Continued on Page 16



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# CARICOM setting up donors conference

By Bert Wilkinson

Caribbean Community governments were this week preparing to organize a major international conference of donors to help raise billions to rebuild member and associates states ravaged by Hurricane Irma and for those still being threatened by Jose which is expected to become a full-fledged storm in the coming days.

After touring the British Virgin Islands, Anguilla and Barbuda along with bloc Chairman and Grenadian Prime Minister Dr. Keith Mitchell, Secretary General Irwin LaRocque said the level of destruction on the ground was mind blowing and the beyond belief of reasonable thinking people.

"It is mind boggling what we saw coming in. To see it on the ground is something else. Pictures tell you something but to pass through it is something else," he said, sitting alongside Mitchell and Ronald Jackson, head of the Barbados-based Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA).

Mitchell, who was head of



Secretary-General of CARICOM Irwin LaRocque.

Caribbean Community

government when Hurricane Ivan devastated Grenada back in September 2004, said governments are mobilizing regional and international efforts to bring relief to member states, as he recalled the sense of national confusion when Ivan hit at that fateful afternoon 13 years ago. "I can tell you that I was in a daze."

He put the price tag to rebuild the BVI alone at more than \$1B dollars, while LaRoque

**When it shook Tortola as a category five and you have heard it being described as a nuclear hurricane, I now understand what they meant.**

said that plans will have to be stepped up "to have a donors conference to bring all the parties together to try and match your needs. The World Bank is coming on soon enough. The Caribbean Development Bank has also come forward. We have to know when is the right time," he said at a post tour media briefing.

As CDEMA, governments, the regional private sector and other mobilize relief efforts for affected member states and Caricom nationals in the Dutch, British and French colonies, a regional expert has put general the repair and rebuilding tab at close to \$13B.

"This is the highest costs ever for the Caribbean when you adjust for inflation," said James Daniel, a risk analyst

at the Center of Disaster Management and Risk Reduction Technology (CEDIM), based in Europe.

The previous most expensive natural disasters in the region were linked to Hurricane Ike in 2008 and Hugo in 1989 that bashed a number of islands the Antigua Observer reported.

Meanwhile, LaRocque noted that having been on the ground in some of the most affected islands, he now understands what occurred in the Virgin Islands.

"When it shook Tortola as a category five and you have heard it being described as a nuclear hurricane, I now understand what they meant. The damage is just overwhelming. One can shore up building codes as much as possible and there is always room for improvement I am sure but with a storm of that ferocity, that intensity and as large as it was the only thing that one could do is pray," LaRocque told Barbados Today online publication.

Mitchell for his part said that while Anguilla and Barbuda were hard hit there is "nothing to compare to what we saw in

BVI. It seems like we are going to have to place more focus on the BVI than what we had been thinking before. That is my estimation of the situation so far," Mitchell told Today.

But even as the economies of worst hit ones are going to be affected for months to come, others like Dominica and Antigua are cashing in on the misfortune of others.

Tourism Minister Robert Tonge said severe damage to St. Maarten and Sint. Martin now means that large cruise ships will alter venues and include Dominica. Antiguan official painted the same picture. More than 40 people have died.

Other less negative news relate to the reopening of airports on several island including the one in Anguilla and both in St. Kitts and Nevis.

But given the magnitude of Irma and the fact that the storm season does not end for another 10 weeks, it is unclear if heads of governments will arrange an emergency conference in the coming weeks to deal with the situation as Irma was for protracted periods the strongest storm ever recorded in the Atlantic.

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# Caribbean needs ‘Marshall Plan’ after Irma: British billionaire



Sir Richard Branson speaks to attendees after Virgin Galactic’s SpaceShipTwo space tourism rocket was rolled out, Friday, Feb. 19, 2016, in Mojave, Calif.

Associated Press / Mark J. Terrill, File

By Nelson A. King

In describing as apocalyptic and reminiscent of war the destruction suffered by Caribbean islands in the wake of the passage of Hurricane Irma, British billionaire Sir Richard Branson is calling for a “Marshall Plan” similar to what was instituted in Europe after World War II.

“The region needs a ‘Disaster Recovery Marshall Plan’ for the BVI (British Virgin Islands) and other territories that will aid in recovery, sustainable reconstruction and long-term revitalization of the local economy,” Branson wrote Sunday on the Virgin blog, his platform of choice since Irma passed over Branson’s Necker Island in the BVI.

“The UK (United Kingdom) government will have a massive role to play in the recovery of its territories affected by Irma – both through short-term aid and long-term infrastructure spending,” he added.

The European Recovery Program was a United States-led effort to inject US\$13 billion into the economy of 16 Europe-

an nations with agriculture and industrial production hollowed out by the war, according to the Washington Post.

It said the plan has been “forever linked” to then-Secretary of State George C. Marshall, who powerfully called for substantial aid to Europe during a speech at Harvard University in 1947.

By many measures, the plan was a success, with a 150 percent increase in standard of living over the next three decades in participating countries, according to the Marshall Foundation, and stronger ties with Europe on diplomatic and economic levels, the Post said.

Launched in 1948, the aid effort concluded in 1952.

“Over the coming weeks, we’ll have to assess exactly what is needed,” Branson said. “It is clear to me creating jobs is paramount. There will be a huge amount of rebuilding to be done, and people will need work to help rebuild their lives as well as their homes.

British Prime Minister Theresa May said the government is

allocating more than US\$41 million for hurricane relief efforts, according to the Post.

Britain’s international development secretary, Priti Patel, said that the British navy, along with several Royal Marines and a contingent of military engineers, had been dispatched to the Caribbean with makeshift shelters and water purification systems.

Prime Minister of Antigua and Barbuda Gaston Browne said the sister island of Barbuda was “barely inhabitable” and “literally a rubble.”

Branson, according to the Post, is looking to do his part to change that. His company will plant seeds in the recovery effort by tasking his foundation, Virgin Unite, to coordinate aid and supplies in the short term and reconstruction efforts in the months ahead.

Branson had said that his compound on Necker Island was built with reinforced hurricane blinds designed to withstand high winds.

But that wasn’t the case for the surrounding area or the rest

of 74-acre island, his property for four decades, the Post said.

“I have never seen anything like this hurricane,” Branson wrote. “Necker and the whole area have been completely and utterly devastated. We are still assessing the damage, but whole houses and trees have disappeared.

“Outside of the bunker, bathroom and bedroom doors and windows have flown 40 feet away,” he added.

Branson is the 324th wealthiest person in the world, with a net worth of about US\$5 billion, according to Forbes, which notes that he bought Necker Island for US\$180,000.

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# Alternatives to Deferred Action For Childhood Arrivals program

By Gertrude Onuoha, Esq.

On Sept. 5, 2017, President Trump's administration announced the end of Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program, which provides a level of amnesty to certain undocumented immigrants who came to the United States as children.

This announcement caused a lot of heart ache for about 800,000 young people who benefitted from the program. It is also very heart wrenching that the government has the information of these dreamers and they can now be prosecuted and placed on deportation.

Rather than worry, we encourage people affected to seek other alternative pathways to attain immigration benefit: You can still submit DACA request to USCIS:

USCIS will continue to adjudicate DACA application in a limited manner. Call for a consultation to know if you qualify.

According to the United States Citizenship and immigration service "DHS will provide a limited, six-month window during which it will consider certain requests for DACA and applications for work authorization, under specific parameters."

USCIS website further provides that:

"All DACA benefits are provided on a two-year basis, so individuals who currently have DACA will be allowed to retain both DACA and their work authorizations (EADs) until they expire.

USCIS will adjudicate, on an individual, case by case basis:

- Properly filed pending

DACA initial requests and associated applications for employment authorization documents (EADs) that have been accepted as of Sept. 5, 2017.

- Properly filed pending DACA renewal requests and associated applications for EADs from current beneficiaries that have been accepted as of the date of this memorandum, and from current beneficiaries whose benefits will expire between Sept. 5, 2017 and March 5, 2018 that have been accepted as of Oct. 5, 2017.

- Individuals who have not applied by Sept. 5, for an initial request under DACA may no longer apply. USCIS will reject all applications for initial requests received after Sept. 5."

DACA applicant may also apply for other immigration benefits, if they qualify. These benefits are asylum, Special Immigrant Juvenile status, U-Visa and Violence Against Women Act (VAWA). DACA beneficiaries who are married to United States citizens and have valid entry into the United States can seek for Green Card through marriage. There are very comprehensive eligibility requirements for these benefits, we there recommend that you call for consultation before applying for any benefit.

*The content of this article is intended for general information purposes only, and is not legal advice. Those seeking specific legal advice should contact Gertrude Onuoha Esq. at 575 Lexington Avenue, 4th Fl. NY NY 10022 (PHONE) 7326425605.*

# THE 800,000 human lives problem!

By Albert Baldeo

*"O thus be it ever, when freemen shall stand Between their loved homes and the war's desolation.*

*Blest with vict'ry and peace, may the Heav'n rescued land*

*Praise the Power that hath made and preserved us a nation!*

*Then conquer we must, when our cause it is just,*

*And this be our motto: 'In God is our trust.'*

*And the star-spangled banner in triumph shall wave*

*O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!"*

-The Star-Spangled Banner excerpt (The national anthem of the United States of America).

*"America isn't Congress. America isn't Washington. America is the striving immigrant who starts a business, or the mom who works two low-wage jobs to give her kid a better life. America is the union leader and the CEO who put aside their differences to make the economy stronger."*

-Barack Obama

The Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), was introduced by President Obama in 2012 and brought hope and structure to the lives of 800,000 young people to date with the opportunity to live, work, drive, and participate openly in society without fear of apprehension and deportation from America-the only country they call home. It gave these "Dreamers" a chance to live the American dream.

The program's termination is one of the most inhumane acts of disenfranchisement known to humanity and an affront to the highest principles of American civilization. We can no longer call ourselves "a nation of immigrants," or "the land of the free and the home of the

**The elimination of DACA without adopting an alternative solution is as tragic as it is draconian. It sends the wrong message to young people who grew up in our communities that they are not deserving of any rights, that they are inferior, and can be removed from that the US on a whim.**

brave." It will place hundreds of thousands of the young people directly affected in jeopardy and fear, and will collaterally affect their families, friends, and neighbors, as well as workplaces and educational institutions. It is most un-American. We have enough natural disasters affecting our lives to add more of our own creation!

The elimination of DACA without adopting an alternative solution is as tragic as it is draconian. It sends the wrong message to young people who grew up in our communities that they are not deserving of any rights, that they are inferior, and can be removed from that the US on a whim. The central requirement for strong, integrated societies-public trust in our government and laws, will be further eroded.

Trust me, I have personally experienced this abomination of laws and injustice. See, e.g. this Daily News article on how my American political aspirations were savagely abrogated: <http://www.nydailynews.com/opinion/errol-louis-nyc-campaign-finance-tangle-article-1.2403316>.

DACA, because of its basic goodness, has forged an

emotional connection with the broader US population, called the "DACamented" population-a sophisticatedly organized collection of sympathetic elements, with a presence in every corner of America. The time to act is now! It must flex its muscles, and mobilize resources and numbers. The DACA movement must never give up its collective rights to stay in America, and must not be silenced while forcing the legislative and executive branches to enact a permanent solution to a growing problem that can no longer be swept under the carpet.

A large number of states, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and DACA recipients have immediately petitioned the federal court to stop DACA's termination. Three lawsuits have been filed thus far. One lawsuit was filed by 15 states and the District of Columbia (D.C.), another by the state of California individually, and a third by a DACA recipient and Make the Road New York (MRNY), all seek to have the court declare the administration and Department of Homeland Security's DACA announcement unconstitutional. The widespread opposition to DACA's repeal around the country must be supplemented by urgent Congressional action to reinstate and / or make the program permanent.

Remember President Franklin D. Roosevelt's counsel to us, "Peace, like charity, begins at home."

*Note: Albert Baldeo is a civil rights activist and community advocate. As President of the Baldeo Foundation and Queens Justice Center, he has continued to fight for equal rights, dignity and inclusion in the decision making process. He can be contacted at the Baldeo Foundation: (718) 529-2300.*



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



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# Barbados chief justice snipes at Caribbean Court of Justice

By George Alleyne

Responding to a scolding from the Caribbean Court of Justice (CCJ) about delays in trials in Barbados, the island's Chief Justice Sir Marston Gibson has snapped back telling the CCJ to get its own house in order first.

Ruling last year on a case involving an appeal of four convicted drug traffickers in Barbados, the Trinidad based CCJ had overturned a Barbados Court of Appeal refusal to hear the matter and ordered that the men's case be heard.

At the same time the CCJ panel of judges had complained of 'inordinate systemic delay' in the Barbados judiciary and urged that steps be taken to correct the situation.

But the Nation newspaper reported Gibson saying Monday in an address to members of the legal fraternity at the opening of the 2017-2018 legal year of law administration, "I ask you to go on the CCJ website, look up a case called Mau-

rice Tomlinson, look at the last paragraph and see what it says. I quote, 'The court acknowledges the delay in the decision of this case,' so the CCJ has had its own problems with delay."

The chief justice added, "based on the frequency one sees the word backlog juxtaposed to the word courts in Barbados, one would believe that this was the only place on Earth with such a problem."

Further Gibson charged that Barbados is not alone with such delays in taking cases to trial, and pointed fingers at Guyana and Dominica where he said there are many holdups in the process.

But Sir Marston Gibson's retort to the CCJ, the court of last resort of Barbados, Belize, Dominica, and Guyana, comes against a backdrop of local complaints on the slowness of the island's judiciary system.

An offshoot of the slow pace at which cases are taken to court and trials are conducted has been the granting of bail to persons

charged with serious offences, including murder, mainly because of the time spent in jail awaiting trial.

The granting of bail for accused murderers in itself has prompted public outrage with Barbadians complaining of the added pain of seeing someone suspected of killing a relative or other loved one walking the streets freely.

Jurists have in vain sought to explain that persons accused of murder have not been found guilty of the serious offence as they have only been charged and remain innocent in the eyes of the law.

Here again rulings of the CCJ come into the Barbados picture with High Court judge Justice Jacqueline Cornelius explaining that accused persons — including suspected murderers — held on remand pending pretrial must be tried within reasonable time.

She pointed to a CCJ ruling that such persons must not be held for an 'unreasonable period' before trial.



Barbados Chief Justice Sir Marston Gibson.

Photo by George Alleyne

"It is the most serious offence and the public has a very strong feelings that men and women charged with murder should as much as possible be brought to trial as quickly as

possible," she said. Cornelius herself had granted bail to accused murderers, including bonded release last year to a man who had languished four years behind bars awaiting trial.

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# Chinese nationals doing well in Barbados

By George Alleyne

A chance remark by the outgoing Chinese Ambassador to Barbados may be pointing to a swing in the economic pendulum towards a growing presence of China on the island, and possibly the wider Caribbean.

Ambassador Wang Ke is now in the process of wrapping up a three years and eight months tour of duty in Barbados and at an official farewell ceremony this week she proudly boasted of her country having ascended to the position among the top ranked trading partners with the island.

"Bilateral trade of our two countries increased for five consecutive years which made China the fourth largest trade partner of Barbados," Wang Ke said to friends and well wishers Monday.

In fact statistics of the World Integrated Trade Solution of the World Bank shows that as of 2015 China held a favourable relationship with Barbados, exporting US\$91.4 million to the island.

This figure placed China as the third highest exporter country to Barbados behind the United States at number one, and Trinidad and Tobago at number

two. Canada is fourth in a table of 169 countries from which the island imports.

Barbados' exports to China for that year pales at \$12.4 million, but the imbalance is not in itself surprising as the Caribbean country is predominantly an importing nation.

What is noteworthy however is the trading inroads made by this Far East country into one of the leading Caribbean economies within 40 years of diplomatic relationships.

As a British colonial territory and since independence 50 years ago almost all of Barbados imports were sourced in the UK, the former British dominion of Canada, and the giant United States of America.

Barbados' trade with Caribbean nations boomed and continues to expand with a better import-export balance since the countries of the region devised their own free trade agreements.

But overall this island became a major importer with the decline of sugar and a rise in its movement towards services such as tourism and the offshore financing industry.

But China's entry into Barbados and becoming one of the dominating trading partners, and as a non-English speaking country, is remarkable.

"Barbados took the bold step of establishing relations with the People's Republic of China on May 30, 1977," the island's Foreign Minister Maxine McLean noted at that farewell function.

"As a small island developing state Barbados recognizes the importance of strategic alliances to assist us in achieving our development goals in this challenging international environment," McLean added. "I can attest to the benefits which Barbados has enjoyed as a result of this active partnership."

That so-called 'partnership' which sees a fast-growing world economic power take a firm trading root in the traditional backyard of the US certainly deserves a second look.

A deal coming out of that partnership is a Bds\$240 million (Bds\$1 = 50cents US) loan for the rebuilding of Sam Lord's Castle Hotel.

But that transaction is not without controversy.

While Finance Minister Chris



Outgoing Chinese Ambassador Wang Ke

Photo by George Alleyne

Sinckler had marveled at the low repayment interest rate of 2.5 percent saying that such favourable terms are not easily available to even developed countries, the political opposition complained that it was further indebting this country to China.

"All the government is getting

from the Chinese is a loan that you and I have to pay back, to the tune of around US\$170 million, because there was no one with the confidence in this government to decide that they would go and invest in that project," Member of parliament and Opposition spokesman on tourism, Ronald Toppin had said.

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I live in Brooklyn and although my background is in design and construction, I now provide in-depth psychic and medium readings for clients all over the world. I gained my gifts 20 years ago. I am compassionate to what you are going through. I have struggled with many health issues and heartache, but I always keep a positive attitude. Along with my inspirational readings, I also host Sicilian Cooking classes!

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# CARIBBEAN ROUNDUP

Continued from Page 4

on the government to do more to deal with the escalating crime situation.

He called on Prime Minister Andrew Holness to restore the two billion (Jamaican) dollars that had been cut from the 2017 / 2018 budget in the area of security.

Dr. Phillips said the funds are needed to bolster security force's anti-crime efforts, noting that they currently lack the manpower and resources to tackle the crime situation.

Phillips who took over the leadership of the People's National Party, following its defeat after the 2016 general election, said the government should immediately convene a national stakeholders group involving the private sector, churches and civil society to help develop a comprehensive crime plan.

## Trinidad

President Antony Carmona recently revoked the appointment of new Public Utilities Minister Robert Le Hunte after it was revealed through the Office of the Prime Minister that the career banker was a citizen of Ghana and unsuited to

hold the post of a Cabinet Minister in Trinidad and Tobago.

Le Hunte was sworn in as a senator and public utilities minister during a simple ceremony at President's House, St. Ann's last month.

He replaced Dr. Keith Rowley, who temporarily held the position of public utilities minister after Port of Spain South MP Marlene McDonald was fired several months ago from the post.

Le Hunte, who is a citizen of Trinidad and Tobago was also a citizen of Ghana and could not hold the Trinidad and Tobago position.

The former banker had to fly to Ghana recently to revoke his Ghanaian citizenship to be appointed a senator and public utilities minister.

Dr. Rowley cleared the air on the matter, saying that Le Hunte is a Trinidad and Tobago national who was on temporary assignment in Ghana.

He dismissed the recent faux pas surrounding Le Hunte's appointment as a "communication glitch."

- Compiled by Azad Ali



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This project was funded by the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene through a contract with Public Health Solutions.

# PAHO awarded for eliminating measles, rubella in the Caribbean



Carissa Etienne, regional-director for the WHO Pan American Health Organization.

Martial Trezzini / Keystone via Associated Press

By Nelson A. King

The Pan American Health Organization says it has been presented with the Measles and Rubella Initiative Champion Award for its work in eliminating measles and rubella from the Americas, including the Caribbean.

Measles was declared eliminated from the Americas in 2016, following the declaration of rubella and congenital rubella syndrome (CRS) elimination in 2015, PAHO said.

It said the region was the first in the world to have eliminated all three diseases, culminating a 22-year effort involving mass vaccination against measles, mumps and rubella throughout the Americas.

"We are extremely grateful for this award for measles and rubella elimination, but

we know we can't let down our guard yet. Cases of measles still circulate in other regions of the world," said PAHO Dominican-born director Dr. Carissa Etienne.

"Continued vaccination, strengthening epidemiological surveillance, and increasing communication with communities are the best way to prevent measles," she added.

Etienne accepted the award at the annual Measles & Rubella Initiative (M&RI) Partners' Meeting in Washington, D.C.

PAHO was nominated for the award by M&RI planning committee members, including the American Red Cross, the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the World Health Organization (WHO),

GAVI and UN Foundation.

"PAHO's accomplishments in measles and rubella elimination mark two important things," said Dr. Mary Agocs, senior advisor of the M&RI at the American Red Cross. "Firstly, they have shown the world that it is, indeed, possible to eliminate measles and rubella. Secondly, they have provided a blueprint on how it can be done."

Before widespread measles vaccination began in 1980, PAHO said measles caused 2.6 million deaths a year throughout the world, 12,000 of them in the Americas.

It also said that before mass-scale rubella vaccination, an estimated 16,000 to more than 20,000 children were born with CRS each year in Latin America and the Caribbean, while more than

158,000 rubella cases were reported in 1997 alone.

PAHO said its measles elimination strategy had recommended three lines of action for countries: Conduct a one-time national campaign to bring children between 1 and 14 years of age up to date

with measles vaccination; strengthen routine vaccination to reach a minimum of 95 percent of children every year; and undertake massive follow-up campaigns every four years, to reach a minimum of 95 percent of children aged 1 to 4 with a second dose of vaccine.

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# St. Rose's Alumni USA honors Hughes, Fly Jamaica

By Tangerine Clarke

The St. Rose's High School of Guyana Alumni Association USA Inc. commemorated the school's 170th Anniversary with a lavish awards gala, that included a silent auction of artwork by US-based Guyanese visual artist, Derek Browne, and a coming together of past students whose passion for educating future generations of students, was felt by the large turnout at Russo's on the Bay, on Aug. 31.

The school honored Minister of Telecommunications, Catherine Cholmondeley-Hughes, an alumna, for her continued support of her alma mater, and Fly Jamaica Airways, owned by Guyanese Captain Ronald Reece and Roxanne Reece, for their generosity and commitment to the institution, during a nostalgic evening in the spirit of the schools motto — "Serviam' — I will serve."

The camaraderie showed a special bond among the former students who enjoyed a cocktail hour, before emcees Cheryl Durant-Smith welcomed the audience and announced that the evening also celebrated the



Compton Grose (left) presents an award to Dr. Dawn Forde-Arno.

Photo by Tangerine Clarke

51st Anniversary of Guyana's Independence.

Before the awards presentations, Headmistress of St. Rose's High School, Ursuline Convent, Paula Yearwood Hamilton, who arrived from Guyana for the festivities, thanked the USA and Canada alumni associations for their unwavering support of the school back home, which she said, gives the faculty motivation to improve

the quality of education delivered to the students.

"Thank you for planning such an event for this noble institution. I bring you best wishes from the board of governors, parents, teachers' association, and students. I must emphasize, with all the changes and challenges we face, we continue to strive for excellence, said Hamilton, noting that for the first time in many years, 2017 has seen a 100 percent pass in English Language and French, due to help rendered for modern languages.

She applauded the improvements in this year's Caribbean Advanced Proficiency Examination (CAPE), and congratulated student Shawn Shewram, for securing grade one passes in eight units at one sitting of the examination.

"Your efforts have enhanced our school," said the educator, before she congratulated Minister Catherine Hughes and Fly Jamaica Airways, and recognized the school's 170th anniversary, by saying, "Thank you for your support of St. Rose's."

Alumnus Compton Grose then presented an Appreciation



Mrs. Catherine 'Cathy' Hughes, minister of Public Telecommunications, (left) accepting an award.

Award to Fly Jamaica Airways for its commitment in the field of education. He lauded the aviation company as a beacon

of corporate, social responsibility with its community out-

Continued on Page 21

## AVOID BACK AND NECK SURGERY

# Get relief now for back pain at Spine and Disc Center

BY CAMILLE SPERRAZZA

Back and neck pain make the simplest tasks nearly impossible.

You may be unable to walk, bend, work, or drive as turning your head to see the car behind you — a function we barely even think about under normal conditions — is not possible. This kind of debilitating pain impacts the quality of life.

It may be that you've tried to get help. You may have already seen doctors for traditional medical and chiropractic care, without results. Perhaps it appears the only possibility is surgery.

But this is not your only option.

Dr. James DiGiuseppi DC of the Spine and Disc Center of Brooklyn has been treating patients with these conditions for more than 35 years, reinstating their quality of life through nonsurgical treatment. No spinal injections or drugs are involved. Instead, he utilizes decompression ther-



Dr. James DiGiuseppi DC has been helping patients with debilitating back and neck pain for more than 35 years. Photo by Georgine Benvenuto

apy, a leading non-surgical, alternative treatment for serious neck and low back pain.

"This gentle treatment method has been shown to greatly reduce or eliminate back and neck pain," says Dr. DiGiuseppi. "It has helped

people who are at the end of their rope."

Decompression therapy effectively treats disabling low back, neck, and radiating leg and arm pain by reducing the pressure on spinal nerves, discs and joints.

"It renders quick, effective, and amazing pain relief that enables most patients to return to a more active lifestyle," says the doctor. "There is a 95% success rate — and those are pretty good odds."

Research to develop this procedure was conducted by prominent physicians, engineers, and technicians at major teaching hospitals, says Dr. DiGiuseppi, who is trained in these methods. The certification course was designed by the leading expert in spinal decompression, Dr. Jay Kennedy, D.C., who taught doctors worldwide and treated thousands of patients using a variety of decompression systems. To gain certification involves more than 40 hours of instruction, including hands-on training sessions, followed by certification examinations.

"We are pleased that we can serve our patients and others in the community with advanced spinal decompression therapy," says Dr. DiGiuseppi.

Decompression therapy begins with a series of sessions that typically run three or four times per week. It's all done while the patient is fully clothed, either face down, or face up, on the table. During each of these sessions, electrical muscle stimulation, ultrasound, or therapeutic laser may be applied to help relax muscles and promote further healing of injured tissues, says the doctor. In addition, patients may be asked to complete specific exercises designed to help strengthen muscles.

People with spinal stenosis, bulging, herniated, and degenerative discs, pinched nerves, and sciatica have found relief through this method.

**Spine and Disc Center of Brooklyn 8214 - 13th Avenue 11228 in Dyker Heights, (718) 833-3327. [www.SpineandDiscCenter.com](http://www.SpineandDiscCenter.com)**

Continued from Page 20 reach, and philanthropy, that has left an indelible mark in support of St. Rose's Alumni. Dr. Dawn Forde-Arno, an alumnus of Bishops High School, accepted the award on behalf of Mrs. Roxanne Reece of Fly Jamaica Airways.

Jennifer Branche in turn, reminisced about experiences on the St. Rose's debating team with Catherine Hughes, and in a lengthy heartfelt introduction, expressed the extraordinary relationship she shared with Hughes, a Member of Parliament, before presenting her with a plaque on behalf of their Alma Mater.

In keeping with the mission of St. Rose's to improve the quality of education and its environment, to raise funds to meet the needs of the faculty, staff and students, as well as to establish a network among past pupils, Hughes who has served on the board of directors for many years, and continues to be a passionate proponent, said it has been an honor and

privilege to have received the education, experiences, and friendships, while attending St. Agnes, and then St. Rose's.

The politician, who was welcomed by her siblings, close relatives and friends, evoked the spirit of her mother whom she recalled was very proud of her accomplishments at the two schools before going on to university.

"I cannot remember an exact moment or event that ignited my deep feelings to give back to my school, my community, or my country, my current path was never one that I thought I would traverse, but what I can remember is that St. Rose's provided the environment that nurtured my passion. From Sister Hazel's morning assemblies, to Mrs. Rosemunde Addo in class, in which she stated you must learn to enunciate your words," said Hughes.

Hughes, whose father Hugh Cholmondely, was a prominent broadcaster at Guyana's first radio station, Radio Demerara, and who graduated from the University of the West Indies,

Mona Campus with honors with a degree in Mass Communications, never knew back then that her teacher was preparing her for parliament, she noted.

Married for 24 years, to attorney-at-law Nigel Hughes, who listened proudly as Cathy, as she is fondly called — talked about them meeting in high school during debating sessions.

She told the audience that included Ambassador Michael Ten-Pow, and Consul General Barbara Atherly that students were encouraged to have a voice and saluted her mentor Sister Hazel Campayne, also sitting in the audience.

"We must find a way to our destiny to be our best selves, live, love, learn and each leave a legacy. Service to ourselves prepares us for the bigger purpose of serving others," said Hughes. "These qualities would help us to volunteer of our selves ensuring that those who come after us would be given the best."

"Let's never shirk our duty but continue to live by the charge contained in our motto 'Serviam' - I will serve."

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# A taste of the tropics

## Prospect Lefferts Gardens creamery serves island-inspired flavors

By Alexandra Simon

Savor the Caribbean, one scoop at a time!

A recently opened Prospect Lefferts Gardens creamery is churning out colorful home-made blends fused with popular Caribbean flavors that offer sweet-toothed patrons a taste of its owners' heritage.

"Our flavors reference childhood memories, which influence our creamery a lot," said Omar Thorpe, who owns the shop with his wife, Astrid. "We put a twist on standard ice cream by using the flavors of the Caribbean."

Thorpe and his wife — who are of Panamanian and Haitian descent respectively — tapped their passion for making ice cream as a way to reinvent a struggling coffee shop business, according to the proprietor. They began serving the island-inspired delights this July when Creme and Cocoa Creamery opened at 1067 Nosstrand Ave. between Lincoln Road and Lefferts Avenue, the site of their former café.

"We've always had a passion for making ice cream," Thorpe said. "And instead of selling other brands we thought of starting our own. That's where the idea came from."

The duo and their staff produce small batches of



Yum: Ajani Thorpe, enjoying a cone of cafe au lait ice cream.

Photo by Zoe Freilich

ice cream each week that include rum raisin, a traditional Caribbean variety they make using rums from several countries in the region in order to satisfy true aficionados, the owner said. Other unique confections include a tangy sorbet created using the herb sorrel and fruity flavors such as papaya, soursop, grapenut, passion fruit, and mango.

And the proprietors continue to introduce new varieties in addition to their staple scoops, Thorpe said.

"One of our new inventions is a bacon-bourbon ice cream, and another is our dark-chocolate stout," he said. "We're trying to create new flavors beyond the classic Caribbean ones."

Many of the creamery's customers are former coffee-shop patrons, but Thorpe credits a surge in new business to the area's substantial online foodie community. The owner also caters to the hip nabe's artsy crowd by hosting monthly in-store exhibitions that feature locals' work, he said.

And Thorpe hopes his sweet treats will continue to bring members of his diverse community together even in the face of its current gentrification.

"We're a product of the community. We grew up here, and now we're creating an economic system that employs people in a neighborhood that's rapidly changing," he said.

he said.

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smallbiz.nypl.org

**Small Business Services - Empire State Development New York**  
www.esd.ny.gov/smallbusiness.html

**Small Business - Business First - New York State**

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

**2013 New York, NY Small Business Resource**

www.sba.gov/sites/default/files/files/resourceguide\_3135.pdf

**Business Resources: Internet Bibliographies: New York State Library**  
www.nysl.nysed.gov/reference/busref.htm

Selected business-related web sites compiled by staff at the New York State Library for use in response to reference questions.

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

manhattan.about.com/od/careersjobs/a/nysmallbusiness.htm  
Find resources and advice on starting a business in New York City. Get information on New York business licenses and incorporation, free NYC resources for starting a business.

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

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

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

www.bcnys.org/inside/smallbusiness.htm

Capital Business Blog - Read about the issues.

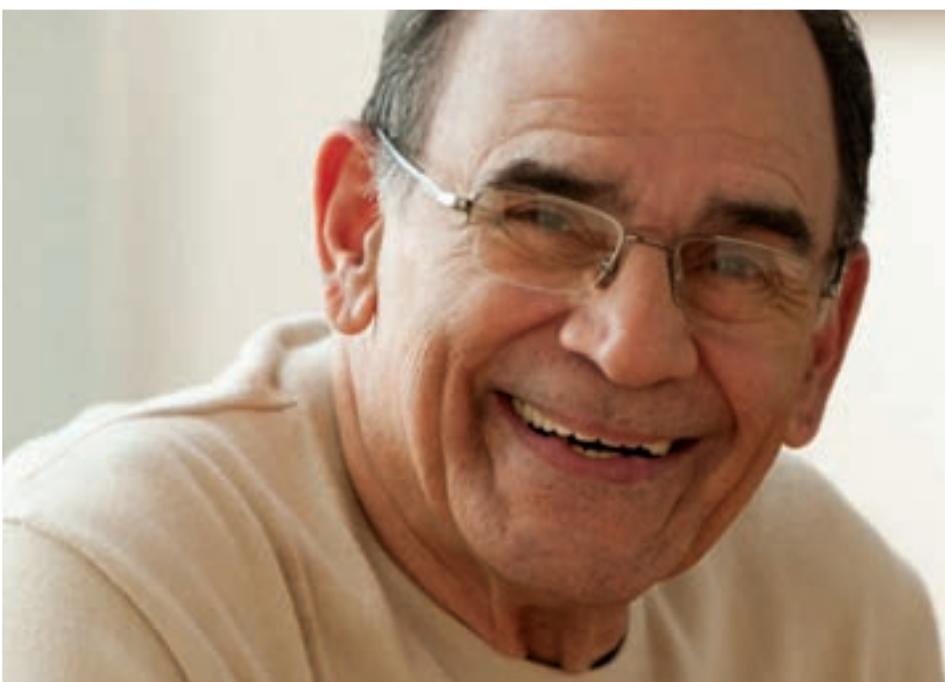
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# Vincetian NIS official promotes pension plan



Brooklyn resident Cheryl George testifies of the great benefits of the St. Vincent and the Grenadines' NIS Voluntary Pension Plan.  
Photo by Nelson A. King

By Nelson A. King

Clearly disappointed by the paucity of Vincetian nationals in the Diaspora who are taking advantage of the "generous" pension scheme at the National Insurance Services (NIS), NIS Deputy Director Dr. Mineva Glasgow has appealed to her compatriots overseas to "get on board" by joining the Voluntary Contribution Plan.

In addressing a seminar on the NIS plan last Thursday, at the Friends of Crown Heights Educational Center in Brooklyn, organized by the Brooklyn-based Club St. Vincent, Inc., Glasgow stressed that the program offers "an innovative option, especially for undocumented Vincetians who live in the Diaspora but who are unable to contribute to social security because of their status."

Glasgow, who has a Ph. D in Business Administration reminded them that by contributing at home, "you are making provisions for your



Dr. Mineva Glasgow addresses seminar in Crown Heights. Photo by Nelson A. King

retirement since you are certain to receive a pension on the attainment of pensionable age."

She also urged documented Vincetians to "get involved in the system, because it is a means of enhancing your future economic security," add-

ing that "one never knows what the future holds.

"Proper retirement planning is an integral part of your preferred future," Glasgow stressed at the seminar, the purpose of which was to sensitize stakeholders on the reform measures implemented by the NIS, to respect plan participants' right to information on benefits due to them and contributions paid by them, and to encourage Vincetians in the Diaspora to become members of the NIS.

In joining the Voluntary Contribution Plan, Glasgow said one must be a citizen of St. Vincent and the Grenadines and resides overseas, and must pay the minimum of weekly contributions before becoming eligible to receive a pension.

At the same time, she said prospective contributors can choose the form of payment suitable to their present income.

She said the NIS also offers survivor's benefits and a lump

sum funeral grant of \$4525.00.

Brooklyn resident Cheryl George, who first joined the Voluntary Contribution Plan over 12 years ago, said she is already benefiting from the program.

"I'm enjoying it," she told seminar participants, referring to the retirement benefits. "I don't regret it."

Voluntary Contributions forms are available on [www.nissvg.org](http://www.nissvg.org).



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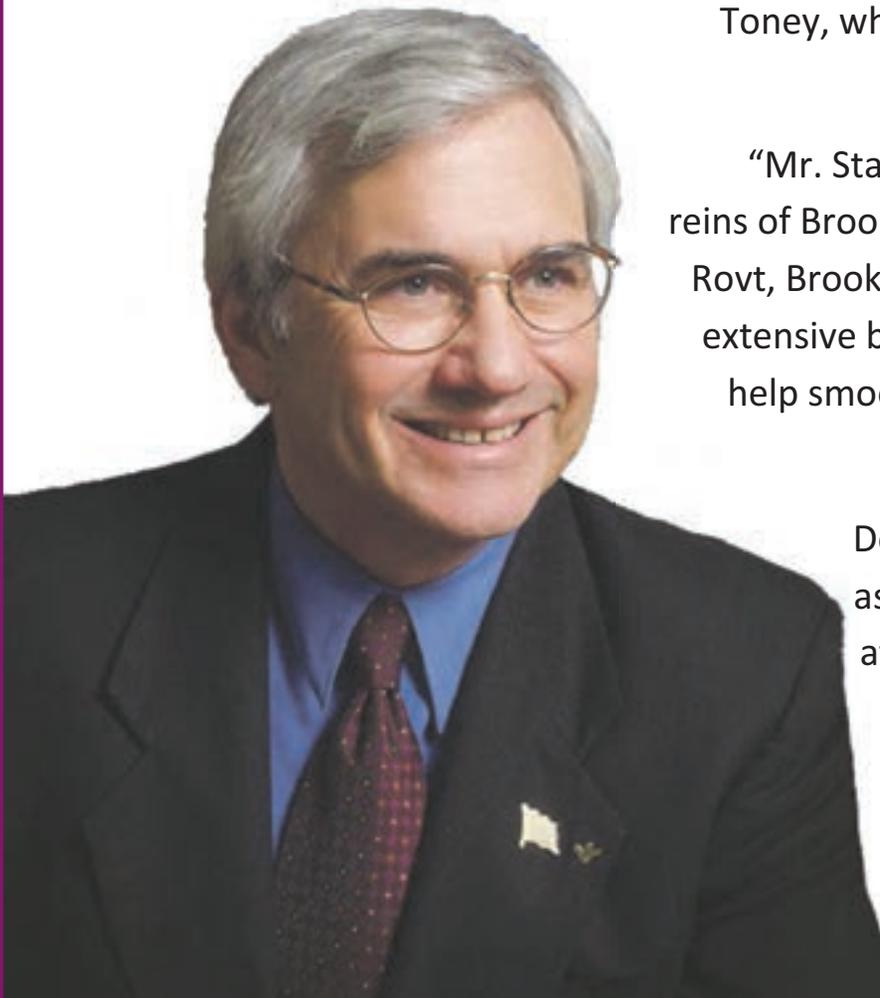
to our new President & CEO

### *Mr. Dominick Stanzione*

Dominick Stanzione has been appointed the new President and CEO of Brookdale Hospital and Medical center. He joined us on August 1<sup>st</sup> to replace Mark E. Toney, who has stepped down after five years in the position.

“Mr. Stanzione is the perfect candidate to take the reins of Brookdale at the critical juncture,” said Dr. Alex Rovt, Brookdale’s Chairman of Board of Trustees. “He extensive background in healthcare management will help smooth the transition as we integrate into One Brooklyn Health System.”

Dominic Stanzione, FACHE, previously served as Vice President and Chief Operating Officer at Maimonides Medical Center since August, 2011. Mr. Stanzione has over 30 years of senior management experience in community hospitals with large teaching programs.



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# CACNY honors Caribbean-American role models



Soca artists Lyrikal was honored as a role model at the CACNY's annual gala. Andre Mustapha

By Alexandra Simon

A celebration of the community's distinct.

The Caribbean American Center of New York (CACNY) honored 10 Caribbean Americans at their annual 2017 Role Models of Distinction Awards and Scholarship Benefit Gala at Grand Prospect Hall on Sept. 8. This year the organization is celebrating its 30th anniversary of its founding. Every year the event honors individuals making positive moves in their communities.

This year's honorees included Brookdale Hospital's Vice President Of External Affairs Khari Edwards, who became the first black VP to hold that position at the medical center, where he also heads an anti-gun program for the city's youth and musical artist Devon Martin, better known as Lyrikal, who was honored for sponsoring programs for children.

Both men exemplify giving back to their communities, said CACNY's Executive Director



Vice president of external affairs at Brookdale Hospital, Khari Edwards.

Brookdale Hospital

Jean Alexander.

"We are always looking for people doing things in the community to help children," said Alexander.

Lyrikal in particular supports children locally and internationally with several initiatives.

"A lot of people don't know

this but he's been doing a lot of fundraisers and free events for kids in Trinidad and Tobago and here in Brooklyn," said the executive director. "As a young artist, he encourages other artists to do what he's doing and not only focus on making money."

Other honorees included Supreme Court Judge Sylvia G. Ash, Vice President at Goldman Sachs Georgia Forbes, Founder of Blue Channel Films, Chauncey C. Chester, President of The Eagle Academy Foundation, David C. Banks, President and CEO of Caring for Others, Eslene Richmond Shockley, President and CEO of Trinitago Shipping, Pamela Lindsay, Vice President Of Government Affairs at Charter Communications Camille Joseph-Goldman, President and CEO of WIN TV Raquel Jaikaran, and General Counsel of Department Of Probation, Wayne S. McKenzie.

The event fundraises for scholarships and training programs targeted at kids.

## Democrats start legal assault on Trump's 'Dreamers' move

By Nelson A. King

A day after President Donald J. Trump's decision to end the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), an Obama-era executive action that shields young, undocumented Caribbean and other immigrants, known as "Dreamers," from deportation, a coalition of US Democratic attorneys general and others have renewed their legal assault on the move.

In an echo of the campaign against Trump's effort this year to ban travelers from parts of the Muslim world, a group of 16 attorneys general — all Democrats — filed suit in Federal District Court in Brooklyn, New York on Wednesday claiming that Trump had improperly upended DACA, according to reports.

Led by Attorneys General Eric T. Schneiderman of New York, Maura Healey of Massachusetts and Bob Ferguson of Washington, they alleged that Trump's shift was driven by racial animus toward Mexican Americans and that the Trump administration failed to follow US federal rules governing executive policy making, reported the New York Times.

Rather than making the



New York State Attorney General Eric Schneiderman said that DACA allowed immigrants to come out of the shadows. "Immigration has always been the lifeblood of this state."

Photo by Tequila Minsky

announcement himself, Trump, uncharacteristically, on Tuesday dispatched US Attorney General Jeff Sessions to deliver the bad news to the nation and the world.

"The program, known as DACA, that was effectuated under the

Obama administration is being rescinded," Sessions told reporters, claiming that "the policy was implemented unilaterally, to great controversy and legal concern."

Announcing the legal challenge Wednesday alongside a

crowd of young immigrants and immigration advocates, Schneiderman accused the Trump administration of using the threat of lawsuits as a "pretext" that hid the president's true motives: bias against immigrants and Latinos, the Times said.

The lawsuit said that "ending DACA, whose participants are mostly of Mexican origin, is a culmination of President Trump's oft-stated commitments — whether personally held, stated to appease some portion of his constituency, or some combination thereof — to punish and disparage people with Mexican roots."

Schneiderman said later on Wednesday: "We think the court will take a look at what's behind the change in policy and conclude that the rationales offered yesterday don't make any sense."

Attorney General Xavier Becerra of California, a Democrat, intends to file a separate challenge to Trump's plans, the Times said, adding that several major companies intend to join the lawsuits, and two, Microsoft and Amazon, have pledged to pay the legal expenses of any employees who become vulnerable to deportation.

Almost immediately after Tuesday's the DACA announcement, Caribbean American legislators in the United States strongly condemned the decision.

"This reckless and cruel decision constitutes a vicious attack on hundreds of thousands of young women and men who want to attend college, find jobs, and participate in our civil society," US Congresswoman Yvette D. Clarke, the daughter of Jamaican immigrants, told Caribbean Life. "Their contributions — and the contributions of all immigrants — to this nation are enormous, and will only increase in the coming years."

"Donald Trump has chosen, however, to punish them, in a misguided effort to undermine the proud legacy of President Obama and to satisfy anti-immigrant white supremacists who are afraid of our modern, diverse nation," added the representative for the predominantly Caribbean 9th Congressional District in Brooklyn. "Throughout the history of the United States, there are decisions we have come to regret. I am certain that future generations will deeply regret this terrible decision as well."

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Applications are available from your elementary school, religious education program, or by going to the TACHS Information Web site: [www.tachsinfo.com](http://www.tachsinfo.com).

<b>Fri, Oct. 6, 2017</b>	Deadline for submitting request and supporting documentation to Diocese for extended testing time accommodation.
<b>Mon, Oct. 16, 2017</b>	Deadline for Internet and telephone registration.
<b>Mon/Tues, Oct. 23-24, 2017</b>	Admit Cards mailed to Catholic elementary schools for distribution to students.
<b>Mon, Oct. 30, 2017</b>	Call 1-866-61TACHS (1-866-618-2247) if Admit Cards are not yet received.
<b>Sat, Nov. 4, 2017</b>	TACHS Administration
<b>Thurs, Dec. 14, 2017</b>	Last day to complete TACHS Applicant Records via the Internet for Catholic elementary schools. Students in schools (other than Catholic schools) must mail paper TACHS Applicant Records to their three high school choices, arriving by December 15, 2017.
<b>Fri, Dec. 15, 2017</b>	TACHS results to arrive at high schools.
<b>Wed, Jan. 10, 2018</b>	Release of admission notices by high schools.
<b>February 2018</b>	Response cards back to high schools – high school notification letters will include information relative to the date on which a student should return his/her acceptance letter to the high school of their choice.

## OPEN HOUSE DATES

DATE	TIME	SCHOOL
<b>September 2017</b>		
Sat. 30th	10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Cathedral Christ the King
<b>October 2017</b>		
Sat. 1st	10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Christ the King
Thurs. 5th	6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.	St. Saviour
Sat. 7th	1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	McClancy
Wed. 11th	5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.	Bishop Loughlin
Thurs. 12th	6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.	Bishop Kearney
Sat. 14th	10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. 12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.	St. Agnes St. Edmund St. Francis St. John
Sun. 15th	12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.	Bishop Loughlin Mary Louis Molloy Xaverian
Thurs. 19th	6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.	Nazareth
Sat. 21st	1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	Fontbonne
Sun. 22nd	1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. 12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. 12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.	Cathedral Holy Cross St. Saviour
Tues. 24th	7:00 p.m.	St. Edmund
Thurs. 26th	6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.	Nazareth St. Joseph
Sat. 28th	12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.	Nazareth
Sun. 29th	12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.	Bishop Kearney
<b>November 2017</b>		
Thurs. 9th	6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.	Cristo Rey
<b>January 2018</b>		
Thurs. 18th	5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.	St. Agnes

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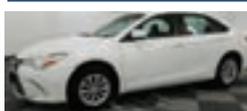
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# Vincetian cultural group honors icon

By Nelson A. King

The United Vincie Cultural Group of Brooklyn (UVCGB) on Saturday honored the cultural figure whose songs it has been using during its cultural performances in the past 14 years.

The UVCGB surprised Gordon "Don" Sutherland, during its Annual Cultural Show, at Meyer Levin Intermediate School on Beverly Road in Brooklyn, by bestowing the special award almost at show's end.

UVCGB President and Founder, Dr. Roxie Irish, who presented the award, told Caribbean Life afterwards that Sutherland is a "very gifted and talented" man.

She described him as, among other things, "honorable, humble, unselfish, giving, devoted, exemplary, team player and a great lover of culture."

"Don Sutherland, certainly, deserves this award for over 40 years of promoting Vincy culture," said Irish, an Evangelical Church Youth Minister and former national netball star in her native St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

"UVCGB is proud to salute

this champion of culture," she added. "It is such a blessing that he is part of our ministry."

Irish said that Sutherland, a member of the group, who plays the lead guitar in the UVCGB band, travels weekly from his home in Woodbridge Hills in Central New Jersey for rehearsals in Brooklyn.

She also disclosed that Sutherland's wife, Louise, despite her blind condition, helps him sell at least 30 tickets for the group's annual showcase.

"First of all, I must give thanks and praise to our Lord Jesus for keeping me alive and to continue to work as a team member with our UVCG of Brooklyn," said Sutherland, in a Caribbean Life interview, who suffered a heart attack a few years ago. "This was a surprise from Dr. Roxie Irish and our group to give me this recognition for over 40 years of writing original folk songs and still performing on stage."

"The love and dedication that I share with our group were given back to me," he added. "I'm blessed to be a blessing and to be honored by our UVCG of Brooklyn."

Sutherland, who taught elementary and secondary schools in St. Vincent and the Grenadines in the late 1960s to late 1970s, was one of the nation's folklorists in the 1970s. He is still very actively participating and writing folk and other songs.

As the musical producer, Sutherland wrote five of the 11 songs on UVCGB's first CD, "Keep We Culture Alive," which was released in May.

He was very instrumental in writing original folk songs and calypsos for a school in his native Georgetown in St. Vincent and the Grenadines, enabling it to win two consecutive years in the local music festival.

Sutherland said folk songs, such as "Ole Time Fashion Never Die" and "Vincetian Local Dish, are still being played on radio stations in St. Vincent and the Grenadines and sung in schools.

He was influential in forming the Georgetown Folk Creation group, of old and young singers, in the 1970s, and shares his talent freely with the John John String Band, among numerous groups and



UVCGB President Dr. Roxie Irish in cultural attire (right) presents award to Gordon "Don" Sutherland.

Photo by Nelson A. King

churches.

Sutherland was also one of the founders, lead guitarist and song writer for the popular, now defunct, Affetuosos Band in St. Vincent and the Grenadines in the 1970s.

He said one of the better songs he wrote, while a mem-

ber of the band, was "Children of the Caribbean."

In 2003, Sutherland said he and Ralph Nassan Browne formed the band, Second Generation, which played in Long Island and South New Jersey, which produced the CD, "Live in Harmony."



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# TOP DRIVER DISTRACTIONS

## Using mobile phones

Leading the list of the top distractions behind the wheel are mobile phones. Phones now do more than just place calls, and drivers often cannot pull away from their phones, even when driving. According to the California Department of Motor Vehicles, studies have shown that driving performance is lowered and the level of distraction is higher for drivers who are heavily engaged in cell

phone conversations. The use of a hands-free device does not lower distraction levels. The percentage of vehicle crashes and near-crashes attributed to dialing is nearly identical to the number associated with talking or listening.

## Daydreaming

Many people will admit to daydreaming behind the wheel or looking at a person or object outside of the car for too long. Per-

haps they're checking out a house in a new neighborhood or thought they saw someone they knew on the street corner. It can be easy to veer into the direction your eyes are focused, causing an accident. In addition to trying to stay focused on the road, some drivers prefer the help of lane departure warning systems.

## Eating

Those who haven't quite mastered walking and

chewing gum at the same time may want to avoid eating while driving. The majority of foods require a person's hands to be taken off of the wheel and their eyes to be diverted from the road. Reaching in the back seat to share some French fries with the kids is also distracting.

Try to eat meals before getting in the car. For those who must snack while en route, take a moment to pull over at

a rest area and spend 10 minutes snacking there before resuming the trip.

## Reading

Glancing at an advertisement, updating a Facebook status or reading a book are all activities that should be avoided when driving. Even pouring over a traffic map or consulting the digital display of a GPS system can be distracting.

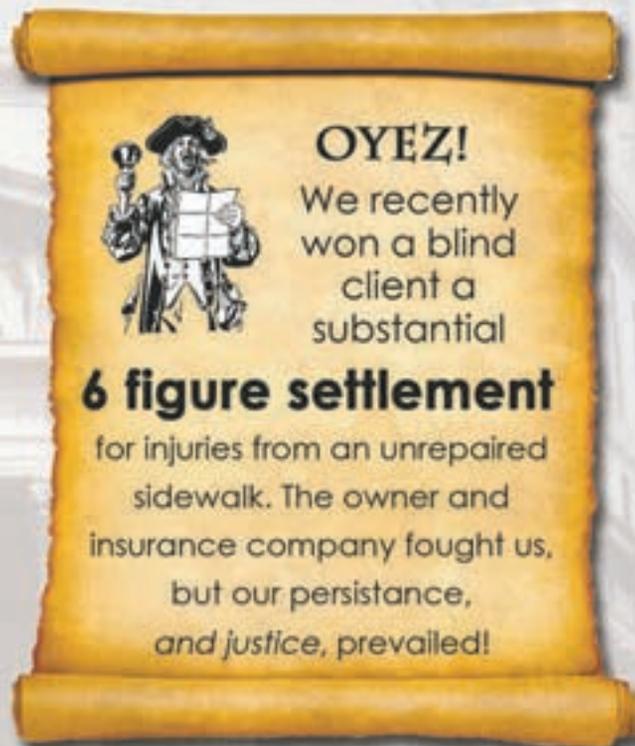
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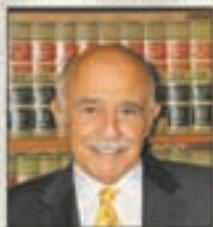
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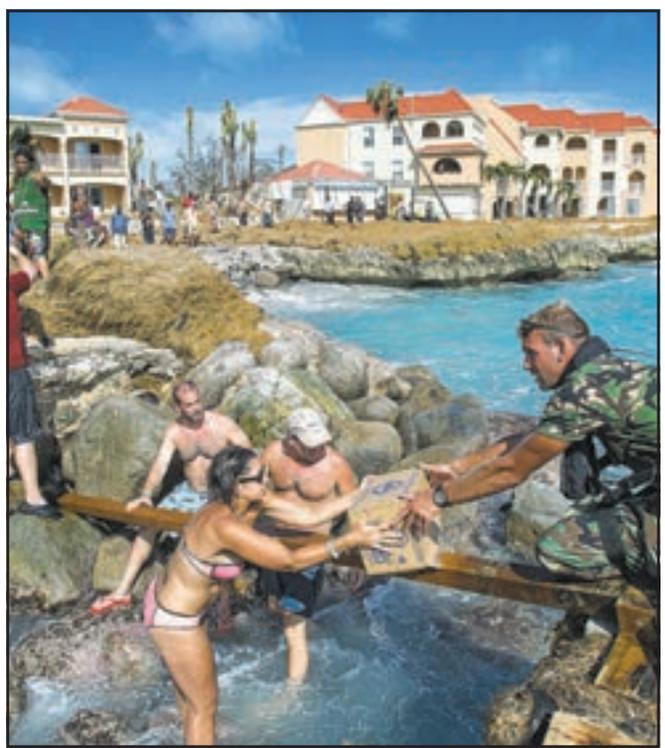
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# European officials visiting Caribbean islands hit by Irma



This photo provided by the Dutch Defense Ministry shows a human chain of residents passing supplies provided by a Dutch soldier, after the passing of Hurricane Irma, in Dutch Caribbean St. Maarten, on Sept. 8, 2017.

Gerben Van Es / Dutch Defense Ministry via Associated Press

By Nicolas Garriga and Sylvie Corbet

POINT-A-PITRE, Guadeloupe (AP) — France's president, Britain's foreign secretary and the Dutch king are visiting Caribbean territories hammered by Hurricane Irma, where residents have accused European governments of insufficient preparation or slow response to the storm's devastation.

French President Emmanuel Macron's plane brought water, food and tons of medicines and emergency equipment. His first stop was Guadeloupe, an overseas department of France, where he landed on Tuesday morning and was greeted by officials.

Macron will then head to the French-Dutch island of St. Martin, one of the hardest-hit islands where 10 people were killed, to meet with residents. He will finish off his trip in St. Barts.

The president is also being accompanied by doctors and experts who will be in charge of

evaluating the damage.

About 1,500 French troops, police and emergency workers are already on the ground to help islanders, and 500 others were expected to arrive in the coming days, according to French authorities.

Territories with links to Europe were battered by Irma, which left entire islands and tens of thousands of people without water or electricity and reduced many homes to splinters. The French, British and Dutch governments sent warships, planes and security forces to keep order and deliver aid.

British Foreign Secretary Boris Johnson will visit the British Virgin Islands and Anguilla to see the relief effort firsthand, according to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

On Monday, he defended the government's response amid claims it was slow to help the British overseas territories, saying there had been an "unprecedented" effort to deal with the

aftermath of the storm. At least five people died in the British territories.

Dutch King Willem-Alexander arrived on St. Martin on Monday and said the scenes of devastation are the worst he has ever seen. St. Martin is an island shared between a French territory and the former Dutch colony of St. Maarten, a largely autonomous part of the Dutch kingdom with a population of around 40,000.

In images broadcast by Dutch national network NOS, Willem-Alexander says, "I've never experienced anything like this before and I've seen a lot of natural disasters in my life. I've seen a lot of war zones in my life, but I've never seen anything like this."

Willem-Alexander said he was encouraged to see residents already working together to rebuild the shattered capital, Philipsburg.

"It's been very useful to see for myself what terrible damage this storm has done and in this way

to also show the population of St. Martin and the governor and prime minister that we stand together here as a kingdom and that we will solve this together," he told reports on the island.

Willem-Alexander was scheduled to fly Tuesday to the nearby Dutch islands of Saba and St. Eustatius, which also were hit by Irma, but suffered less damage than St. Martin.

# Caribbean female superhero saves her community

By Alexandra Simon

A new feature film following a Caribbean female superhero in the future is debuting at the Urban World Film Festival on Sept. 23. "Brown Girl Begins" is a fantasy set in the year 2049 in a dystopian Toronto, and follows Ti-Jeanne, a young teen living in the alternate world faced with the task of saving her community from evil people. The film itself visualizes one of the few tales where people of Caribbean descent are the main focus of a futurism story, and that is what sets it apart from most films with similar subjects, said the director.

"I can't name a dystopian film with Caribbean people, and I don't know any fantasy with a young black female protagonist that saves the world," said Sharon Lewis.

The story is inspired by author Nalo Hopkinson's book, "Brown Girl in the Ring."

Main character Ti-Jeanne grows up in the classist world and when her people are exiled to an island, she has to use her capabilities to put an end to the disenfranchisement.

To further highlight aspects

of island culture, well-known mythical spirits are a part of the main storyline via several characters, and it also how Ti-Jeanne uses her powers.

"It's a film about a young black woman who draws on the power of Caribbean spirits and saves her community from a drug lord and the wealthy who made all the poor people move to the island," said Lewis.

One of the plots in the story is the examination of classism. Lewis says however, the movie looks at the positive side of it with Ti-Jeanne being the savior to end the social ills.

The film stars main actress Mouna Traore and calypso musician David Rudder. His particular casting in the film was pivotal to the story at hand because of his stances on the issues tackled in the film, said Lewis.

"It was really important to have him in the film. I feel like when talking about Caribbean people and those who lose hope — to me his songs are so political yet so funny, you can't give up hope."

Working on a film with a black female protagonist is an



Ti-Jeanne (left) inspects a Burn village dweller, played by calypso musician David Rudder.

Marc Forand

essential part of Lewis' aspirations as a film director. She adds that being able to work with black actors on a film is always a privilege, as well as showcasing Caribbean people on screen.

"I love being able to work

with an all black cast. As a director it's so rare to work with all black cast," she said. "But for me the exciting part is showing a little Caribbean culture in there. This story is by us and for us and we understand the language we are speaking to each

other, and when it shows up on screen I get a sense of that connection."

Despite the film's fantasy plot, it is more about a young woman making realizations in life along the way and learning to take pride in her abilities.

# 'Mother of Jamaican culture' to be honored

Continued from Page 11

munity of Susumba Walk. The program garnered high ratings presenting an empowered woman who often outwitted the antics of her cunning husband.

Bennett wrote several books and poetry in Jamaican patois.

Her work influenced many other writers and poets among them — Mutabaruka, Oku Onuora, Linton Kwesi Johnson, Mikey Smith, and Yasus Afari — who published in the language of the majority of Jamaicans.

According to Wikipedia "She is credited with giving Harry Belafonte the foundation for his 1956 hit "Day-O" by schooling him about the Jamaican folk song "Hill and Gully Rider" (the name also given as "Day Dah Light.")

To the delight of her fans living in New York City, in

the 1980s Bennett performed at WIADCA's annual pre-Labor Day festivities at the Brooklyn Museum.

In 2001, she revisited her birthplace to accept the Order of Merit, the fourth highest award bestowed to nationals.

On that occasion, Dr. Basil Bryan, former Consul General to New York, praised Bennett as an inspiration to Jamaicans because she "proudly presented the Jamaican language and culture to a wider world and today we are the beneficiaries of that audacity."

She lived the last decade of her life in Canada and died there on July 27, 2006.

Following tributes in the North American nation, her body was returned to Jamaica for interment in the cultural icons section of Kingston's National Heroes Park.

Among her awards and honors are: Order of the British Empire (1960), Norman Manley Award for Excellence (1972) Order of Jamaica (1974) Honorary Doctor of Letters — York University (1998).

The permanent structure will be formalized as a Jamaica 55 Legacy Project in association with Miss Lou's estate, the Gordon Town Community Council, the Kingston and St. Andrew Municipal Corporation and the Jamaica 55 Steering Committee in Canada.

Last month to coincide with the retirement of Usain Bolt, Jamaica unveiled statues of the Olympic gold medal winner along with one of Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce, a fellow Olympian and track and field star.

— *Catch You on The Inside*

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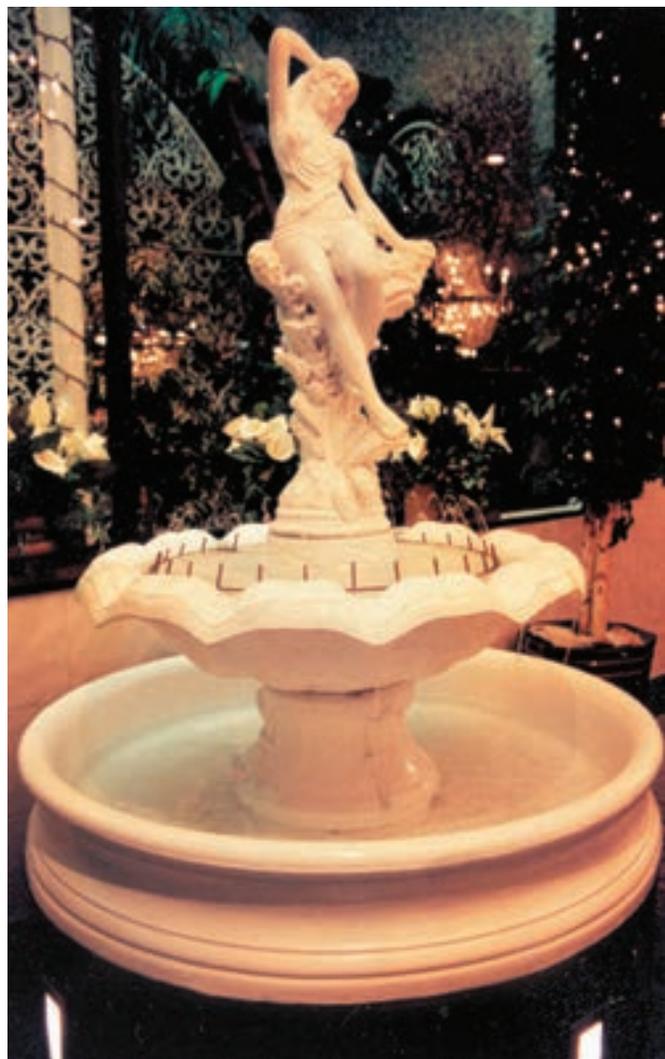
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# Caribbean faces long road to recover from Irma

By Nelson A. King

Caribbean nationals are facing a very long and hard road to recover from the destruction wrought by Hurricane Irma.

Reports indicate that Irma, a Category 5 storm, Irma killed at least 24 people across the region — estimates range from 24 to 28 dead — devastated housing, power supplies and communications, leaving some small islands almost cut off from the world.

European nations sent military reinforcements to keep order amid looting, while the damage was expected to total billions of dollars, according to the British Independent.

It said ex-patriot billionaires and poor islanders alike were forced to take cover as Irma tore roofs off buildings, flipped cars and killed livestock, raging from the Leeward Islands across Puerto Rico and Hispaniola then into Cuba.

US President Donald Trump issued a disaster declaration for Puerto Rico, where Irma killed at least three people and left hundreds of thousands without electricity.

Trump also expanded US federal funds available to the US Virgin Islands, which suffered extensive damage to homes and infrastructure, the Independent said.

It said, further east in the Caribbean, battered islands, such as St. Martin and Barbuda, were taking stock of the damage as people began emerging from shelters to scenes of devastation.

Dutch Prime Minister Mark Rutte said the death toll on the Dutch part of St. Martin had risen to four from two, and that 70 percent of homes had been damaged or destroyed, according to the Independent.

Following reports of looting, the Independent said the Netherlands would increase its military presence to 550 soldiers on the island by Monday.

Dutch authorities are evacuating other tourists and injured people to Curacao, where Dutch King Willem-Alexander and Interior Minister Ronald



People walk through flooded streets in Havana after the passage of Hurricane Irma, in Cuba, Sunday, Sept. 10, 2017. The powerful storm ripped roofs off houses, collapsed buildings and flooded hundreds of miles of coastline after cutting a trail of destruction across the Caribbean. Cuban officials warned residents to watch for even more flooding over the next few days. Associated Press / Ramon Espinosa

Plasterk were expected to arrive, the Independent said.

It said France, which oversees neighboring Saint Barthelemy and other half of St Martin, said the police presence on the two islands had been boosted to close to 500.

The French interior ministry said 11 people suspected of “malicious actions” had been arrested since Friday as television footage showed scenes of chaos on the islands, with streets under water, boats and cars tossed into piles and torn rooftops, the Independent said.

Irma killed at least 10 people on the two islands, the French government said. French President Emmanuel Macron was due to visit St. Martin on Tuesday, the Independent said.

Barbuda, home to some 1,800 inhabitants, faces a reconstruction bill that could total hundreds of millions of dollars, state officials said, after Irma steamrolled the island.

The prime minister of Antigua and Barbuda, Gaston Browne, said Irma had wreaked “absolute devastation” on Barbuda, which he described as “barely

habitable” after 90 percent of cars and buildings had been damaged, according to the Independent.

Irma also plunged the British Virgin Islands, an offshore business and legal center, into turmoil.

Yachts were piled on top of each other in harbor, and many houses in the hillside capital of Road Town on the main island of Tortola were badly damaged.

Both there and in Anguilla to the

Continued on Page 39



This undated photo provided on Sunday Sept. 10, 2017 by the British Ministry of Defence, shows the destruction in Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands left by Hurricane Irma. Joel Rouse / MOD via Associated Press



Residents walk near downed power lines felled by Hurricane Irma, in Caibarien, Cuba, Saturday, Sept. 9, 2017. Seawater surged three blocks inland in Caibarien. Associated Press / Desmond Boylan

# Irma: Storm of the century



Lyrikal on the Brooklyn Museum stage during Brassfest in 2011.

Photo by William Farrington

## Lyrikal to headline benefit concert

By Alexandra Simon

Using their talents to help those in need.

Caribbean musical artists Lyrikal and Kerwin Dubois will be performing at a Hurricane Irma benefit concert to help victims of the devastating cyclone in Queens on Sept. 17.

The soca performers have teamed up with the West Indian American Day Carnival Association (WIADCA) and the Caribbean American Center of New York (CACNY) to raise donations for the affected communities in the Caribbean.

The concert will be held at Mazi Night Club featuring performances from the soca artists, as well as appearances by Skinny Fabulous, Mr Legz, Problem Child, Twists, One Voice, Teddyson John, and Ricardo Drue. The night will be hosted by viral comedian Majah Hype.

Several countries in the Caribbean sustained a lot of damage and floods after Irma ravaged the region, particularly Antigua and Barbuda, the Virgin Islands, Turks and Caicos, Cuba, Anguilla, and Saint Martin. Other countries specifically Bahamas, Dominican Republic, Haiti, and Puerto Rico, were spared from the worst of the tropical storm but many residents were displaced due to severe flooding and loss of power.

Donations of items such as non-perishable foods, utensils, toiletries, sanitary napkins, canned foods, clothing, new undergarments, first-aid supplies, dental care and bathing products, are a few items that will be accepted to give away. Drop-offs of these donations can be made to the offices of CACNY, located at 195 Cadman Plaza and WIADCA at 323 Rogers Avenue.

All ticket proceeds will go to assisting victims of Hurricane Irma, and guests can make monetary donations of any amount.

Mazi Nightclub [130-35 91st Ave. between 130th and 132nd streets in Richmond Hill, Sept. 17, 5 pm-1 am.

Continued from Page 38

east, residents complained help from the British government was too slow in coming, prompting a defensive response from London, according to the Independent.

"We weren't late," Defense Minister Michael Fallon told BBC television on Sunday, saying Britain had "pre-positioned" an aid ship for the Caribbean hurricane season and that his government's response "has been as good as anybody else's."

British billionaire entrepreneur Richard Branson, who sought refuge in the wine cellar of his home on Necker island, called Irma the "storm of the century" on Twitter and urged people to make donations to help rebuild the region.

With ports mended and weather cleared, officials sent in more aid and arranged stepped-up evacuations Monday in remote Caribbean islands devastated and cut off by Hurricane Irma, ABC News said.

It said a Royal Caribbean Cruise Line ship was expected to dock near St. Martin to help in the aftermath, and a boat was bringing a 5-ton crane capable of unloading large shipping containers filled with aid.

A French military ship was scheduled to arrive Tuesday with materials to build temporary housing, ABC News said.

It said some 70 percent of the beds at the main hospital in the French portion of St. Martin were severely damaged, and more than 100 people in need of



Lucita Leonce, 71, complains in front of her home flooded by heavy rains brought on by Hurricane Irma, in Fort-Liberte, Haiti, Friday Sept. 8, 2017. Irma rolled past the Dominican Republic and Haiti and battered the Turks and Caicos Islands early Friday with waves as high as 20 feet (6 meters).

Associated Press / Dieu Nalio Chery

urgent medical care have been evacuated.

Eight of the territory's 11 pharmacies were destroyed, and Guadeloupe was sending medication, ABC News said.

Since Friday, Britain has also sent two transport planes carrying almost

20 tons of emergency supplies to its Caribbean territories, as well as 250 marines and two extra military helicopters, reported the New York Times.

It said Britain's largest warship will arrive in the Caribbean in around 10 days, carrying eight more helicopters.



This photo provided by the Dutch Defense Ministry shows storm damage in the aftermath of Hurricane Irma, in Dutch Caribbean Sint Maarten, on Sept. 6, 2017.

Gerben Van Es / Dutch Defense Ministry via Associated Press

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##### 10:30 am

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- Preventing fraud and scams against the elderly
- Recognizing elder care abuse

##### 11:30 am

Navigating home care options

##### 12:30 pm

What to do now to protect your family's assets later

- Estate planning
- Benefits and pitfalls of probate

##### 1:30 pm

Memory loss in seniors and the elderly

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# ENTERTAINMENT

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Trinidadian-American artist Weldon Ryan.

Calyпсо Fine Art

## Carnival inspired art

By Alexandra Simon

Carnival is coming back to life.

A Florida-based artist is showcasing his carnival-inspired artwork at Medgar Evers College library through Sept. 22. The second annual “Art of Carnival” exhibit is going to have 23 paintings on display — all based on images that Trinidadian-born artist Weldon Ryan took at various carnivals across the country. With the West Indian Day parade over until next year, he is keep-

Continued on Page 42

## Fit for fashion

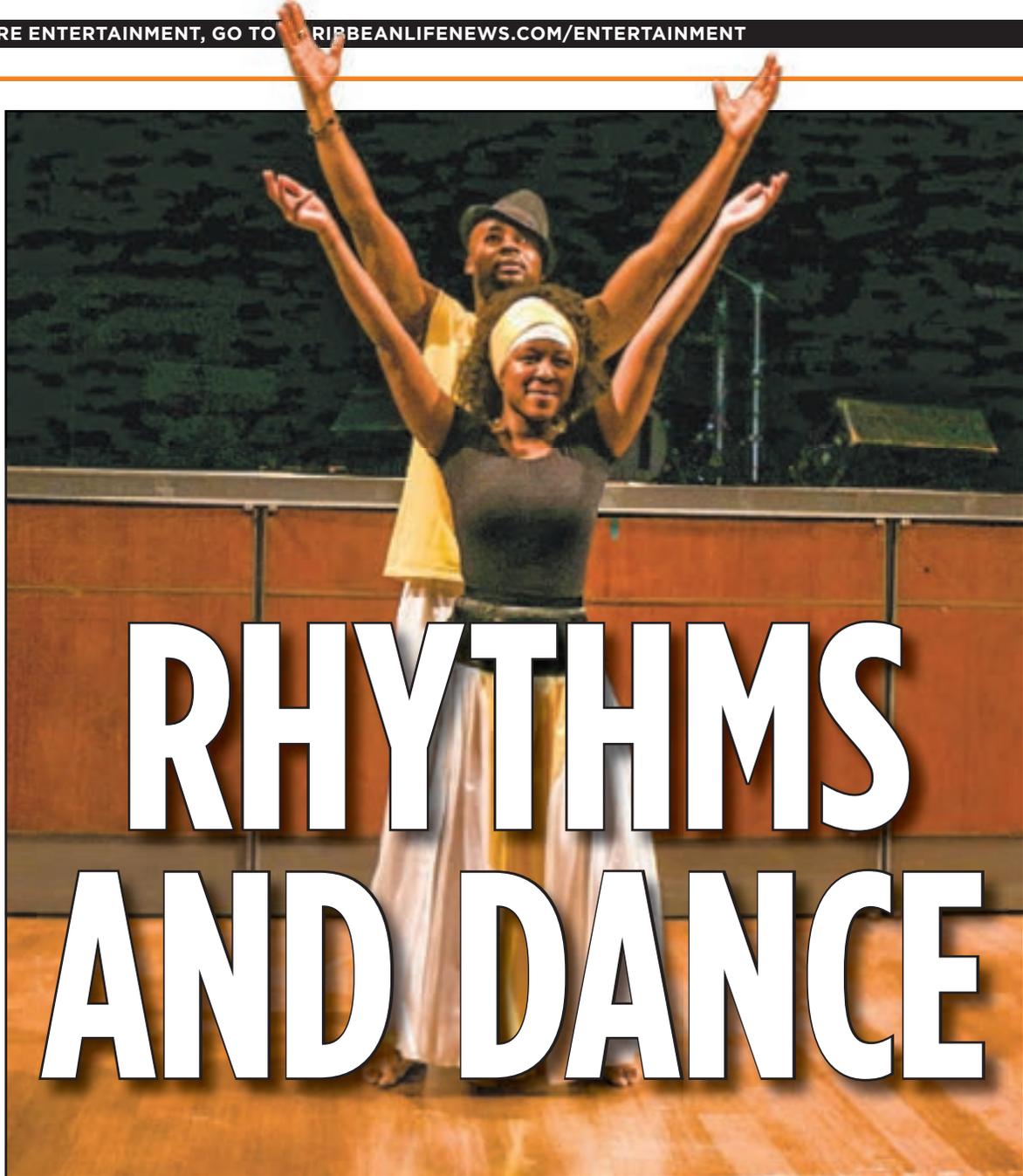
By Tangerine Clarke

Roger Milliner, deputy executive director of marketing of MetroPlus Health Plan, welcomed Guyanese-born fashion designer, Roger Gary, and other up-and-coming local designers to its first FASHnFIT event, during New York Fashion Week on Friday, Sept. 8 at CBS Radio Theatre on Hudson Street.

Gary, who has won countless awards for his elegant evening gowns and beauty queen outfits, glammed up the runway and garnered loud applause for his elegant swimsuits, some with cabana-style cover-ups in a colorful motif, others with whimsical throw-overs, accented with Chinese umbrellas to showcase his Asia inspired Aqua Couture collection, known for its use of luxurious fabric, practical with a hint of fantasy.

Gary’s collection was a great fit for the MetroPlus trendy fashion event

Continued on Page 42



# RHYTHMS AND DANCE

Garifuna dancers Mariano Martínez and Erlin Elizabeth Arana will perform with the Afri-Garifuna Jazz Ensemble opening the Oct. 6 performances. A drum workshop with the Garifuna Collective will take place at 7 pm. With roots in Belize, Guatemala and Honduras, the Garifuna Collective and Umalali will pay tribute to the rich heritage carried forward by Garifuna women.

Photo by Tequila Minsky

## Flushing Town Hall presents its Fall line-up

By Tequila Minsky

Flushing Town Hall has launched its fall season with something for everybody and for all ages.

Latin roots and Cuban rhythms (Sept. 22), Garifuna music from Belize, Honduras and Guatemala (Oct. 6), Afro-Venezuelan rhythms and dance (Oct. 21), Mexican folk dances (Dec. 3), and rhythms and dance movements from the Ivory Coast (Dec. 9) are on the schedule of

the Flushing Town Hall fall lineup.

Entitled “Global Arts for a Global Community,” jazz, world music, dance, family programs, exhibitions and workshops are all part of the fall programming that began last week and extends into December.

Council Member Peter Koo with other politicians who represent Flushing and nearby neighborhoods recently helped promote the upcoming season to the media. “They say

this is the Lincoln Center of Queens,” he touted,

referring to the programming held in Flushing Town Hall, the historic building on Northern Boulevard that was once the seat of government when Flushing was a village.

“Culture is a central part of life,” he said. “You can explore the world at Flushing Town Hall.”

Flushing Town Hall and Artis-  
Continued on Page 42

## TOP OF THE CHARTS

### TOP 10 SINGLES

- 1 **Attention**  
Charlie Puth
- 2 **There's Nothing Holdin' Me Back**  
Shawn Mendes
- 3 **Wild Thoughts**  
DJ Khaled Feat. Rihanna...
- 4 **Believer**  
Imagine Dragons
- 5 **Slow Hands**  
Niall Horan
- 6 **Shape Of You**  
Ed Sheeran
- 7 **That's What I Like**  
Bruno Mars
- 8 **Strip That Down**  
Liam Payne Feat. Quavo
- 9 **Unforgettable**  
French Montana feat. Swae...
- 10 **Despacito**  
Luis Fonsi & Daddy Yankee...

### TOP 10 ALBUMS

- 1 **Luv Is Rage 2**  
Lil Uzi Vert
- 2 **Villains**  
Queens Of The Stone Age
- 3 **Fifth Harmony**  
Fifth Harmony
- 4 **Happy Endings**  
Old Dominion
- 5 **17**  
XXXTENTACION
- 6 **A Deeper Understanding**  
The War On Drugs
- 7 **Guardians Of The Galaxy...**  
Soundtrack
- 8 **Cozy Tapes, Vol. 2: Too Cozy**  
A\$AP Mob
- 9 **All We Know Of Heaven...**  
PVRIS
- 10 **Heart. Passion. Pursuit**  
Tasha Cobbs Leonard

Presented by

**verizon**wireless

# RHYTHMS & DANCE

Continued from Page 41

Director Ellen Kodadek says, "There is always something to discover and something to inspire."

This year's schedule is filled with something for all ages. The season of performances presents Taiwanese folk-pop-alt rock music, Latin roots dance music with Cuban rhythms, classical music, monthly jazz jam sessions (Oct. 4, Nov. 1, Dec. 6), Garifuna melodies, rhythms and jazz, big band, Afro-Venezuelan music, jazz masters, Korean world music, and poetry, music and story. The Queens Opera Theater wraps up the season in mid-December.

In addition there will be an artist-presenter dialogue, a Moth story slam, a photography exhibit, an afternoon of poetry, music, and story, and a collage workshop.

"We also will present global arts for global kids," Kodadek

adds, referring to afternoon programs with family and children in mind.

These include, Oct. 15, one of the most kid-focused days, when families will sing and dance to rhythms in an interactive arts workshop (1 pm) followed by a performance (2:15 pm) from Latin Grammy-winning artist 123 Andres. On Oct. 29, the Hindu festival of lights Diwali will be celebrated. The Calpulli Community's children and adults will performing Mexican folk dances on Dec. 3 and Vado Diomande & Kotchegna Dance Company from the Ivory Coast on Dec. 9 will direct an interactive rhythm and dance workshop followed by a performance, with the joyful dances of the Ivory Coast.

A historic afternoon house tour and market shepherds in the holiday season on Dec. 10 by visiting (with the help of a mini-bus) seven sites that will offer special activities and refresh-



Celebrate Diwali (Oct. 29, 1-4 pm), the festival of lights with this all-ages festival and dance party featuring the Indian dance group from the Srijan Dance Center.

Photo by Tequila Minsky

ments.

In addition, this is the second season of the Teen Access Program. Flushing Town Hall is opening its doors to teenagers for free. All 13-to 19-year-old boys

and girls (whether a member or not) will be welcomed to attend any performance for free. This program is designed to appeal to students and help foster a greater love in the arts and culture.

## Carnival

Continued from Page 41

ing the spirit of the joyous celebration alive in his life-like representations of it — something not often found in Caribbean art.

"Even though Caribbean art is very big and there are so many forms — it's very limited when it comes to realistic art and this is the genre I've chosen to show my people," he said. "It makes me happy to be a leader in doing so because we are a very colorful people."

At his inaugural exhibit last year, Ryan had more than two dozen canvases portraying people from photos in carnivals from the late 90s to current. Many of those photos will be on display again including five recent ones from the 2016 carnival, he said.

"The new images I decided to add are more contemporary and realistic and they're representational," said Ryan.

In his art Ryan focuses on people in carnival costumes and even onlookers at the parades. He portrays people of all ages and tends to recreate the images that are more vibrant.

"Generally so many things that inspire me to paint but the one thing I look for is color — I guess what's most



One of Weldon Ryan's realistic artwork of a carnival-goer playing mas at a parade.

Calypso Fine Art

important and what I value in the image," he added.

With the help of his wife and son, the family can wind up with about 9,000 photographs of people they capture at carnivals in Miami, Orlando, Boston, and Brooklyn. As carnival enthusiasts, each use his or her own creative vision while taking pictures and not everything makes the cut to eventually turn into a painting, according to Ryan. And he compares the task to shopping.

"Normally we take thousands of shots so you can imagine the process takes a while," he said. "It has to fit my thought process because I look for hand gestures, faces, the background, and not every picture states something — communicating carnival can be intense."

## Guyanese designer shines at FASHnFit

Continued from Page 41

that included panel discussion, and a health and wellness exposition, which Milliner merged to inspire the audience to think healthy and live a healthy lifestyle.

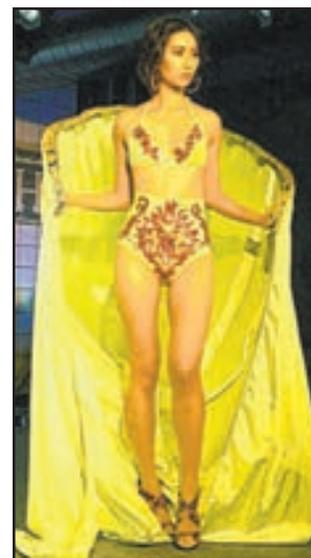
Milliner, himself, an award-winning professional used his skills to bring about meaningful discussion about health and wellness, with topics "My Healthy Empire, and the Business of Fashion and Health under the MetroPlus Health Plan brand. Health fitness enthusiast, Jets Cornerback Buster Skrine, an instructor, offseason, who raises funds for his foundation, Path Mentorship that helps single mothers and children in need was a guest.

Fitness brand EyeBike Starkli Fit Water showcased their products, while Athleta fitness wear started the unique fashion experience with stylish outfits.

The fashion show included the talents of Lady D' — a flirtatious line of little ladies outfits designed with lots of tulle fabric, and trimmed with sequins accessorized with bouquets. Douglas Says, brought elegance to the fashion event, with an

all-red evening gown collection that was simply enchanting.

Other fashion forward pieces included Rafi's lavish flair cut dresses, one with a pant underlay, others with trendy tie-dye designs. Duane Fish whose male collection of floral baggy pants and multi-colored shirts for the confident, sexy man, heated up the runway.



Yellow swimwear designed by Roger Gary.

Photo by Tangerine Clarke

# Kids hunt killer clown in creepy movie

"It"  
Excellent (4 stars)  
Rated R for violence, profanity and bloody images  
Running time: 135 minutes  
Production Studio: New Line Cinema  
Distributor: Warner Brothers Pictures

By Kam Williams



The sadistic clown who preys primarily on children in the movie "It." [www.rottentomatoes.com](http://www.rottentomatoes.com)

Written by master of suspense Stephen King, "It" was the best-selling book in the United States during 1986. The riveting page-turner was set in deceptively-serene Derry, Maine, where a sadistic clown living underground in the sewers disrupted the peace of the picturesque city by preying primarily on children.

In 1990, King's 1,184-page opus was turned into an Emmy-winning miniseries starring Tim Curry in the title role of It, better known as Pennywise. Now, the novel has been fairly-faithfully adapted

to the big screen with Bill Skarsgard playing the demonic harlequin.

As the film unfolds in the fall of 1988, we find 11-year-old Bill Denbrough (Jaeden Lieberher) busy building a small sailboat for his little brother, George (Jackson Robert Scott). One can't help

but notice a pair of observing eyes glowing ominously from a darkened corner of the spacious basement.

Then, during a heavy downpour, a grateful George launches his new toy in the freshet flowing along the gutter in front of his house. The "S.S. George" floats to the

corner of the block where it is promptly swallowed by the sewer.

And when the unsuspecting kid peers down the storm drain to retrieve it, he is greeted by an ingratiating stranger who playfully introduces himself as Pennywise, the Dancing Clown. After being promised

a balloon, popcorn and the return of his boat, George lets his guard down long enough to be dragged into the sewer, leaving behind only a blood-stained street.

Fast-forward to the last day of the school year. Still-grieving Bill is now the leader of the Losers Club, a motley crew of social outcasts who decide to spend their summer vacation solving George's mysterious disappearance. Of course, they have no idea they're up against a formidable foe in the elusive, shape-shifting Pennywise.

Instead of apprehending the perpetrator, the body count merely continues to rise as other names are added to the Missing Persons list. Eerie atmospheric, a talented ensemble of adolescents actors and the creepiest clown since Heath Ledger's Joker combine to create a macabre masterpiece that will continue to haunt you long after you leave the theater.

I can't pass a sewer anymore without half-expecting Pennywise's frightening face to appear!

## Independent & Foreign Films

Dayveon (Unrated) Devin Blackmon plays the titular character in this coming-of-age saga, set in rural Arkansas, about a 13-year-old, African-American

orphan who joins a gang in the wake of his big brother's death, when his sister (Chastity Moore) and her boyfriend (Dontrell Bright) can no longer afford to raise him. Cast includes Kordell Johnson, Marquell Manning and Shavidee Trotter.

Extraordinary Ordinary People (Unrated) Cultural documentary crisscrossing the country to chronicle the work of winners of America's National Heritage Fellowships which are awarded annually to musicians, dancers, craftsmen and assorted other fine and folk artists.

In Search of Fellini (R for nudity, sexuality and profanity) Fact-based docudrama about an ardent Fellini fan (Ksenia Solo) who embarks on a trip from Ohio to Italy with hopes of meeting the legendary film director. With Mary Bello, Mary Lynn Rajsakub and Nancy Cartwright (the voice of Bart Simpson).

Rat Film (Unrated) Theo Anthony wrote, directed and stars in this eye-opening documentary chronicling his frustration with inner-city Balti-



### Kam's Kapsules

By Kam Williams

more's rodent infestation.

Rebel in the Rye (PG-13 for profanity, sexual references, smoking and brief violence) Nicholas Hoult portrays J.D. Salinger in this reverential biopic about the reclusive author of "The Catcher in the Rye." Featuring Zoey Deutch, Kevin Spacey, Hope Davis, Eric Bogosian and Sarah Paulson.

Red Trees (Unrated) Marina Willer (Cartas da Mae) directed this Holocaust documentary exploring why her father's was one of the dozen Jewish families to survive the Nazi occupation of Prague during World War II.

The Show (R for violence, pervasive profanity and brief drug use) Veteran thespian Giancarlo Esposito (The Usual Suspects) directs and co-stars in this disturbing drama about a reality-TV series whose contestants are encouraged to commit suicide for the sake of ratings and entertainment. Featuring Famke Janssen, Josh Duhamel and Sarah Wayne Callies.

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# SPORTS

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West Indies player Kraigg Brathwaite, bats during the first day of the third test cricket match against India in Mumbai, India.

Associated Press / Rajanish Kakade

## Off-spinner reported to ICC

By Azad Ali

West Indies part-time off-spinner Kraigg Brathwaite has been reported to the International Cricket Council (ICC) for having a suspect bowling action, following the Caribbean's side humiliating 209-run defeat by England at Edgbaston, London recently.

The Barbadian vice-captain and first choice opener, bowled six overs during

Continued on Page 46

## Regional Under-19 champ

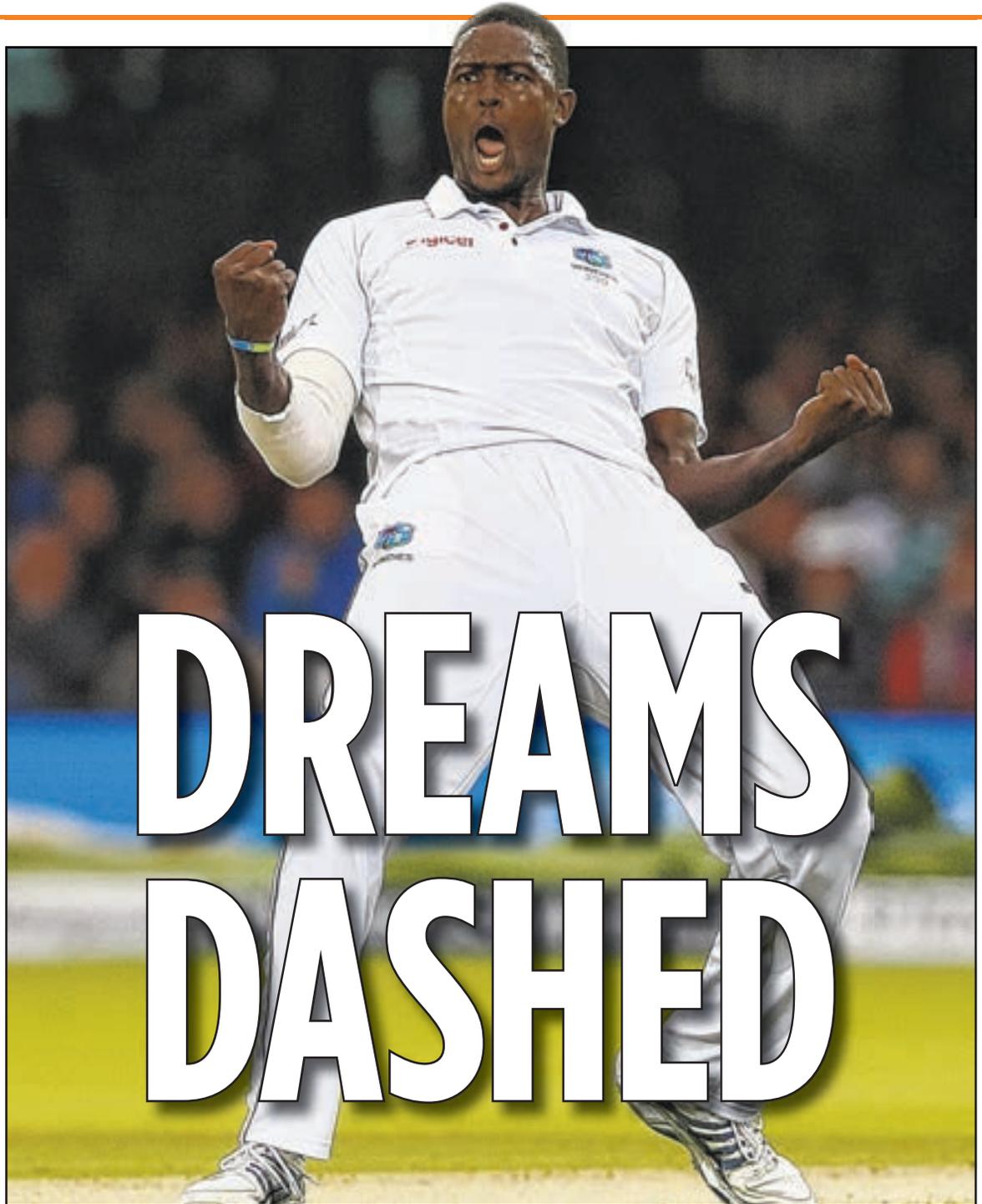
By Azad Ali

Guyana has clinched the one-day title in the Regional Under-19 Championship after beating the Windward Islands in their final round game at Warner Park, St. Kitts last week.

The Guyanese came away with a narrow six-run victory to ensure they finished unbeaten and remain on the top of the standings with 26.3 points.

Trinidad and Tobago, which lost just one game to Guyana, finished in second spot with 20.8 points after beating Jamaica by six wickets. Windward Islands ended up third on 12.9 points, while ICC Americas were fourth with 9.7 points.

Barbados which lost its first four matches, finished fifth on nine points, while Leeward Islands were one from the bottom with 8.9 points and Jamaica ended last on 5.2 points from their lone victory.



# DREAMS DASHED

West Indies' captain Jason Holder celebrates taking the wicket of England's Tom Westley for lbw on the first day of the third test match between England and the West Indies at Lord's cricket ground in London, Thursday, Sept. 7, 2017.

Associated Press / Kirsty Wigglesworth

## West Indies fails in quest for Test win against England

By Azad Ali

West Indies dream of ending their three-decade drought of winning a Test series against England, in England collapsed to a nine-wicket defeat in the decisive third and final Test at Lord's last week.

When the West Indies started

the third day in need of another special effort to win the series, the regional team failed to repeat their heroic win at Headingley a week before, were dismissed for a paltry 171 in their second innings.

Set a mere target of 107 for victory, England cruised to complete

a 2-1 series win, following their innings and 209 run victory in the day/night first Test at Edgbaston.

The result sent West Indies to their 16th defeat in their last 21 Tests in England and extended their dismal record of not having

Continued on Page 46

# Illegal bowling action

Continued from Page 45

England's first innings of 514 for eight declared, but finished wicketless.

In a statement, the ICC said the match officials report, "cited concerns about the legality of Braithwaite's bowling action."

The ICC said: "Braithwaite's bowling action will now be scrutinized further under the ICC process relating to suspected illegal bowling actions reported in Tests, ODIs and T20s."

According to the ICC regulations, Braithwaite will now be required to undergo testing within 14 days but will be allowed to continue bowling until the test results are returned.

Braithwaite has rarely had a heavy workload in his 38 Tests but has a best of 6 for 29 against Sri Lanka in Colombo two years ago.



England's Tom Westley plays a shot off the bowling of West Indies' Devendra Bishoo on the third day of the third test match between England and the West Indies at Lord's cricket ground in London, Saturday, Sept. 9, 2017.

Associated Press / Kirsty Wigglesworth

## ENGLAND WINS TEST SERIES

Continued from Page 45

won a series in England since 1988.

Resuming on 98 for 3 — a mere three runs lead — West Indies' fight depended on Barbadian Shai Hope who top-scored with 62. Captain Jason Holder scored 23 but the remainder of the batting surren-

dered without a fight as Windies lost their last seven wickets for 78 runs with two days to spare.

England's bowler Jimmy Henderson claimed 7 for 42.

Hope was voted Man-of-the Series for his 375 runs at an average of 75.

With a small target to win, England lost opening batsman Alastair

Cook for 17, missing a straight one from leg-spinner Devendra Bishoo, falling lbw for 35.

However, Tom Westley struck 44 not out off 72 balls with seven fours, while Mark Stoneman hit an unbeaten 40 off 74 balls with five boundaries, to take England to victory in a 72-wicket second-wicket stand.

## Grand Slam Champ

By Howard Fendrich

NEW YORK (AP) — Sloane Stephens' remarkably rapid rise from a ranking of 957th in early August to U.S. Open champion on Saturday began with the slow work of coming back from surgery on her left foot.

After being off tour for 11 months because of her injury, Stephens easily beat her close friend Madison Keys 6-3, 6-0 in the first Grand Slam final for both, becoming only the second unseeded woman to win the tournament in the Open era, which began in 1968.

"I mean, there is no words to describe how I got here — the process it took or anything like that," Stephens said, "because if you told someone this story, they'd be, like, 'That's insane.'"

After the operation in January, Stephens couldn't walk for a month. It wasn't until May that she would get back onto a tennis court — and even then she was off her feet, plopped on a wood table at a practice facility at UCLA while aiming her racket at balls tossed by her coach, Kamau Murray. From there, Murray said, Stephens progressed to sitting while rolling around on an armless office chair. Two weeks later, Stephens finally was able to stand in place while working on her swing. Another two weeks, and she was allowed to move.

## Gibson to coach Proteas

By Azad Ali

Former Barbados and West Indies fast bowler, Ottis Gibson, was appointed the new head coach of South Africa cricket team.

Gibson, 48, was given a two-year contract, which will see him preside over the Proteas until the end of 2019 Cricket World Cup in England.

Cricket South Africa's Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Haroon Lorgat said, "following a rigorous process, we are delighted to welcome Ottis Gibson as the new head coach for the Proteas."

"Having spent a great part of his playing career in South Africa, Ottis is familiar with our country and that should help him to settle in quickly with our

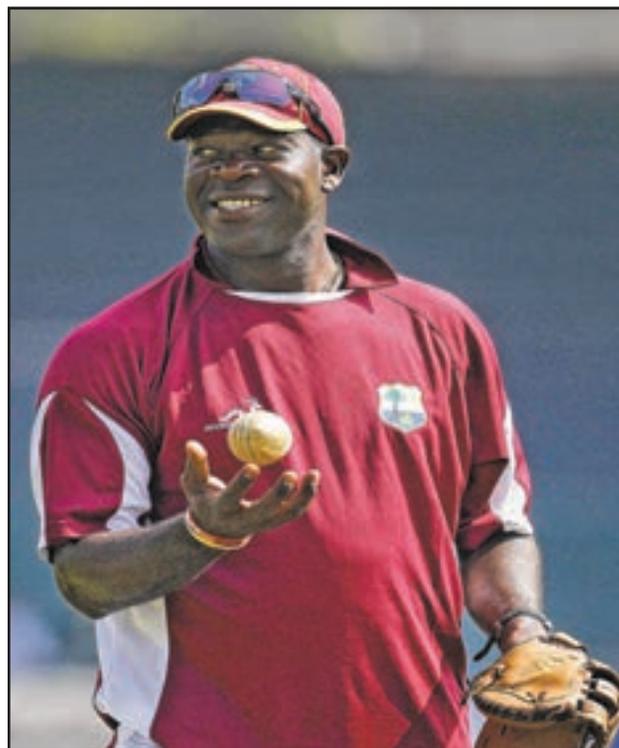
national team," he said.

Gibson is currently the England bowling coach but will be released from his duties following the end of the ongoing three-Test series against the West Indies.

He took up the role for the second time last year after previously serving in the position between 2007 and 2010.

Gibson also served as head coach of the West Indies team for four years, leading them to the capture of the Twenty20 World Cup in 2012, before being axed in 2014.

He was a former right-arm fast bowler, played two Tests and 15 ODIs for West Indies between 1996 and 1999. He finished with 659 first class wickets overall.



Former West Indies' cricket coach Ottis Gibson.

Associated Press / Eranga Jayawardena

# Brownsville football league awarded 5K

By Alexandra Simon

A Brownsville-based football league was presented with a \$5,000 grant from SportsNet New York (SNY) at Floyd Paterson field on Sept. 7. As part of the organization's Play Ball program, every year the organization provides local leagues with trips to NFL games, equipment, and reward some with money to support their teams. The Brooklyn United Youth Football League was this year's recipient of the grant and the young footballers could not have been happier, said the league's co-founder and coach.

"They were excited. Even though they're kids and don't really understand the magnitude of money, they were happy about the award anyway," said Elijah "Coach Loso" Waife.

The league has taken part in many of SNY's giveaway programs, giving their young players an opportunity to explore different aspects of sports.

"We actually went to see a Jets game and that was awesome for the kids to see," he

added. "This organization has been good to us and we're happy that our kids get to experience what they couldn't have if they weren't playing sports."

The team penned a letter to SNY about their dire need for assistance and the team's dedication won over officials at SNY to award them with the grant, said the senior vice president.

"They wrote an essay about being in a crime-ridden area and why their goal was to keep kids off the streets with football and that was partially the reason why we chose them — they needed some help," said Marie DeParis. "They are also playing on a field park department owns but doesn't upkeep, so they also need proper equipment and shouldn't have to turn kids away because they don't have it."

Founded in 2013, the team's coaches have mostly relied on money from parents, fundraisers, and even money from their own pockets to fund their expenses. Now with the prize money, they plan to pur-



Granted: The Brooklyn Youth Football league is awarded with a \$5,000 grant from SNY Play Ball in Brownsville on Sept. 7.

Photo by Erin Lefevre

chase more equipment and safety gear for their players, said Waife.

"We made ends meet and truthfully I don't know why

this organization did it but we are truly blessed," he said. "With this bonus check is a blessing because the kids will see the best of the situation.

We are not really looking for anything in return, we only want kids to have an outlet to come play, have something positive to do, and enjoy themselves."

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**ARIES: Mar 21/Apr 20**  
Aries, communication is essential in any relationship, including ones of a romantic nature. Learn to get your point across without being too forward.

**TAURUS: Apr 21/May 21**  
Taurus, you may have little desire to go above and beyond what is necessary this week. You may want to spend much of your time sticking to familiar routines.

**GEMINI: May 22/Jun 21**  
Gemini, you can probably use a good dose of peace and quiet right now, but there are too many things on your calendar for this to be possible anytime soon.

**CANCER: Jun 22/Jul 22**  
Cancer, enjoy a boost in ambition, stamina and overall energy in the coming days. This will help you initiate and complete projects with amazing precision.

**LEO: Jul 23/Aug 23**  
Intense desires are simmering just beneath the surface, Leo. But you're not sure how to express your feelings just yet. Usually you are direct, but this may require finesse.

**VIRGO: Aug 24/Sept 22**  
Hanging out with friends seems like a great idea, especially when all of your tasks at work and at home have been completed, Virgo. Don't let anything hold you back.

**LIBRA: Sept 23/Oct 23**  
Libra, spend some time relaxing at home in the coming days. The rest and relaxation will do your body good. Rise to action when you are called upon.

**SCORPIO: Oct 24/Nov 22**  
Pay careful attention to all details, Scorpio. They are trying to tell you something about your future. You just do not know where the road will bend.

**SAGITTARIUS: Nov 23/Dec 21**  
Sagittarius, it is not uncommon to feel on edge when leaving your comfort zone. Embrace this sense of adventure and uncertainty and make the most of a unique opportunity.

**CAPRICORN: Dec 22/Jan 20**  
Capricorn, you desire stability even though you take some chances in the coming days. You may appear sure-footed to others, but your nerves may be out of control. Take things slowly.

**AQUARIUS: Jan 21/Feb 18**  
Aquarius, thoughts keep tugging at your emotions and leaving you with lingering feelings of doubt. It is time to push away those feelings once and for all.

**PISCES: Feb 19/Mar 20**  
Pisces, find different ways to express your feelings to your partner. This can open the lines of communication and strengthen your bond.

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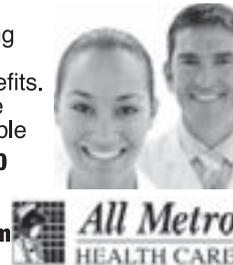
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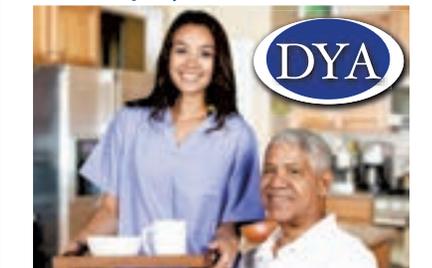
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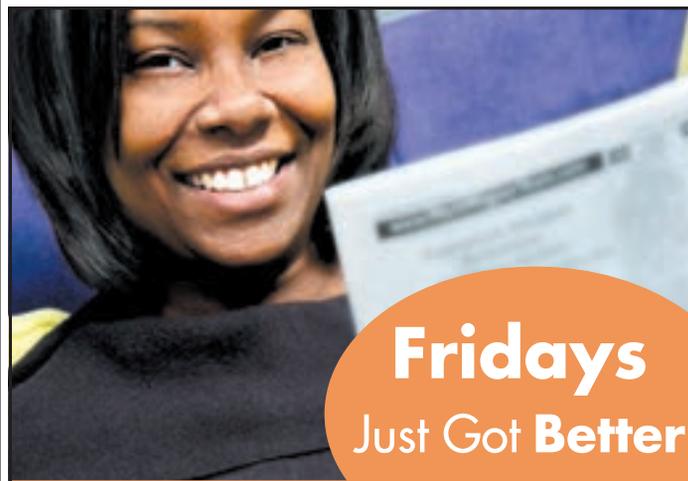
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