

Barbados Opposition Leader, Joseph Atherley.

Photo by George Alleyne

## Barbados government loses one

By George Alleyne

Not too long after the Barbados Labour Party bounded home to a resounding victory in the general elections, the veneer of unity and togetherness was shattered by the defection of a stalwart to become the official opposition.

Seven days following her leadership of the party to a historic win of all 30 seats in the House of Assembly in the island's Parliament, Prime Minister Mia Mottley was informed by a BLP veteran and one of the winning team, Joseph Atherley, that he was leaving the political group to

sit on the other side of Barbados' House of Assembly as leader of the opposition.

"This platform gives me an opportunity to speak a bit more broadly to the interests of the national community of Barbados," Atherley said after the governor general had sworn him into office as the leader and sole member of the opposition.

A minister of religion, Atherley said, "I come to this with an honest heart, I come to this moment as I have come to several moments in my life with a very serious reflection, with a sense of the leaning of God, and with a sense of pur-

pose and destiny and sometimes somebody has to make the step, sometimes it entails being the sacrifice, but the truth of the matter is that I am not in this for any personal motivation."

By his explanation Atherley saw it as his duty to the people of Barbados to cross the floor and become the voice opposing and putting checks and balances on the moves by a government that had virtually swept away the opposition through its 30-nil victory.

"We had a result in the election of 30 to one party, none on the other side, repre-

Continued on Page 10

# MAKE CSME WORK

## CARICOM unhappy with single market and economy system

By Bert Wilkinson

The review of the operations of the Caribbean Single Market and Economy system has long been overdue, but judging from the results of a high level workshop held in Guyana at the weekend, there is widespread dissatisfaction with the lack of enough progress made over the years, the slow pace of implementation of decisions in particular.

There were outright expressions of frustration from people across the political and administrative spectrum ranging from Prime Minister Ralph Gonsalves of St. Vincent and the Grenadines to former Jamaican Prime Minister Bruce Golding to incumbent Caribbean Community Secretary General Irwin LaRocque. Each and every one basically said that the status quo can't be allowed to continue for much longer.

The review of things relating to the single market and economy comes just three weeks before regional leaders meet for their

main summit in Jamaica. The results of the weekend review in Guyana are on the agenda for discussion but few appear to have faith that any significant changes will be made in the coming months.

PM Gonsalves, one of the longest serving leaders in the system and treasured for his institutional memory of things CARICOM, said the major differences in sizes of economies in the smaller Eastern Caribbean sub grouping compared to Jamaica, Trinidad and Guyana, means that the challenge for the region to operate as a single economy will be formidable.

"There are unevenly yoked units and the region is not going to move towards deeper integration if we remain so unequally yoked. Those who have a greater advantage in the integration movement need to appreciate that, and lessen the extent of the unequal yoking. These are prac-

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# Brooklyn Mechanics celebrate with gala luncheon



Council Members Debi Rose, Jumaane D. Williams, and Mark Treyger join students and advocates in calling for expansion of the Summer Youth Employment Program. Office of Council Member Jumaane Williams

## Rally for summer jobs

By Nelson A. King

A coalition of students joined elected officials and advocacy groups on the steps of City Hall on Thursday to support the Summer Youth Employment Program and to call for increased investment to allow for the expansion of the program.

The Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) currently provides six weeks of summer employment to 70,000 youth, aged 14-24 across the five boroughs, according to Brooklyn Council Member Jumaane Williams, who was among elected officials rallying with the students.

Williams, who represents the 45th Council District in Brooklyn, said SYEP also provides workshops on job readiness, career exploration, financial literacy, and opportunities to continue education and social growth.

But, he said, “the program does not currently have the levels of investment needed to provide universal placement for students badly in need of a summer job.”

The elected officials, advocates, and students, therefore, called on Mayor Bill de Blasio to expand funding for the program in the fiscal year 2019 budget currently being negotiated.

Besides Williams, City Council members who raised their voices at the rally in support of the program included Debi Rose, chair of the Youth Services Committee, and Mark Treyger, chair of the Committee on Education.

“For decades, the city’s Summer Youth Employment Program has connected young people with their communities, taught them financial literacy and prepared them for successful careers,” Rose said. “This is an investment in individuals and in the future well-being of our city, and our budget should reflect these values.



Gloria Zingwall, in red hat, receives a gift from IUOM officials at the International Union of Mechanics gala luncheon

Photo by Nelson A. King

By Nelson A. King

The Resource and Finance Commission of the Brooklyn-based Independent United Order of Mechanics (IUOM), Friendly Society, Western Hemisphere, Inc., on Sunday hosted its grand annual luncheon at Sirico’s Caterers in Dyker Heights, Brooklyn.

The gala ceremony was originally scheduled for Paradise Caterers on Avenue U in Brooklyn but was transferred a day before because of what organizers said were unforeseen circumstances.

The event featured, among other things, speeches, dancing, music and a “Ladies, Gents in the Hat” contest.

Grenadian saxophonist Brian Hurst performed several selections, and Millicent Bailey, daughter of the event coordinator, Jamaican Hyacinth Robinson-Goldson, danced to “God Provides,” evoking emotional response from patrons.

Native New Yorker Gloria Zingwall won the hat competition, with St. Lucian Theresa Mitchell taking the second runner-up prize.

Hats were judged on style, creativity and appeal of colors, Robinson-Goldson said.

Overall music was provided by “The Docta.”

Walter L. Benjamin, the Guyanese-born Most Worshipful Grand Master, urged Mechanics to heed the words



Vincentian Commissioner Casper Edwards of IUOM’s Resource and Finance Commission delivers a vote of thanks at the union’s gala luncheon at Sirico’s Caterers.

Photo by Nelson A. King

of St. Vincent and the Grenadines Consul General, Howie Prince, the featured speaker: “Set your buckets where you are.”

“Please be good messengers for the Order,” urged Benjamin in his brief remarks. “Things are changing. Yes, things are changing, and it’s time for the ladies to move up.”

Benjamin said in the program booklet that the annual luncheon

“brings together members of our fraternal family, friends, well-wishers, sponsors and distinguished guests in celebration of unity and togetherness.”

“Over the years, and under the leadership of various committee chairs, we continue to experience and enjoy the ambiance and comradery, which continue to lend financial assistance to the Order, so that we can help others within our communities,” he said.

“The work done by the planning committee continues to expand in and outside of our Order,” Benjamin added.

“May those of us who have the privilege and opportunity of serving and offering our talents on these committees never forget the objectives and especially the motto, which radiate from the center of our organization—that of ‘Friendship, Truth and Love.’”

Robinson-Goldson described the event as “beautiful,” adding that it was “another team effort to serve our beloved Order, and to lend our talents and resources to give back to our communities.

“We look forward to the continued support of all our members, supporters and friends in helping us to help others,” she told Caribbean Life.

Vincentian Casper Edwards is the commissioner of the Order’s Resource and Finance Commission.



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### Caribbean

Four CARICOM nations voted to suspend Venezuela from the OAS.

Four Caribbean countries — Jamaica, Bahamas, Barbados and Guyana — were among 19 countries who recently voted to support a resolution to suspend Venezuela from the 34-member Organization of American States (OAS).

But, Dominica, St. Vincent and the Grenadines voted against the measure, while Belize, Grenada, Haiti, St. Kitts-Nevis, St. Lucia, Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago were among 11-member states that abstained during the vote.



The resolution was spearheaded by the United States as it condemned President Nicholas Maduro's re-election last month.

OAS members have expelled only two nations in history.

Cuba was forced out in 1962 and Honduras was suspended briefly following a 2009 military coup.

The ban on Cuba was lifted in 2009, but the communist Caribbean country rejected re-joining the organization.

Venezuelan Foreign Minister Jorge Arreaza said Caracas rejected the OAS Assembly's decision and it would enable the United States to continue its "economic war" against the socialist government.

U.S. representative to the OAS, Carlos Trujillo, said he was pleased with the vote.

The resolution adopted at the OAS' fourth plenary session, states that the elections did not comply with international standards, failed to meet the participation of all Venezuelans political actors and were "carried without the necessary guarantee for a free, fair, transparent and democratic process."

### Antigua

Antigua and Barbuda Prime Minister Gaston Browne said he is disappointed by the participation by heads of the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECES) at a recent seminar on air transport in the region.

Browne was the only head of government at the seminar entitled "Air Transport Competitiveness and Connectivity."



An expert document was prepared by the Caribbean Development Bank, which identified the issues without answers but in terms of getting the leaders at the seminar to get a commitment, noting that without commitment, implementation would remain protracted.

LIAT is a majority-owned by 11 Caribbean governments, the largest share-



## Haitians hold education symposium

Adding humor to writing, caricaturist and author Castro Desroches holds up some of the books he was signing at the Queens Museum Haiti symposium. See story on Page 43. Photo by Tequila Minsky

holders being the governments of Barbados, Antigua and Barbuda and St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

Browne, who in the past has criticized other leaders for not supporting the airline said some are very narrow in their thinking about supporting LIAT financially.

He expressed hope that the CDB could bring all the heads together to fix the problem and ensure that there is economic resilience going forward.

The prime minister said LIAT is under-capitalized, suffering under a mountain of debt and lacking sufficient assets.

### Barbados

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) is sending a delegation to Barbados to assist the island in its plans for revitalizing the ailing economy.

Newly-elected Prime Minister Mia Mottle has already indicated that her administration would not be averse to seeing support from the Washington-based financial institution.

IMF Managing Director Christine Largade quoted Mottley as saying that the Barbados economy has been going through significant challenges for some years.

She said the authorities are developing an economic reform plan designed to address these challenges, and have asked the international community and the IMF to assist them as they put the

economy back on a part to recovery.

Largade said that an IMF team led by Bert van Selm will be visiting Bridgetown to start discussions on how the Washington-based financial institution can support the authorities.



"Our ultimate goal is to help Barbados achieve high living standards and more inclusive growth for the years ahead," she said.

Recently Mottley announced that her new Barbados Labor Party (BLP) administration would suspend payments due to domestic and external creditors.

### Grenada

The Grenada government has created a new ministry to deal with the effects of climate change.

Speaking at the recent opening of the Caribbean Development Bank's 48th annual board of Governors in Grenada, Dr. Mitchell said the Ministry of Climate Change, Environment, Fisheries, Forestry and Disaster Management is mandated to work to ensure that every area of Grenada development is up to speed on the question of addressing climate change.



Noting that the hurricane season began on June 1, 2018, Dr. Mitchell,

whose island was ravaged by Hurricane Ivan in 2004, said it is time for the Caribbean to adjust to the new normal and recognize that the super hurricanes of 2017 won't be the last time.

"Adjusting to the new normal requires comprehensive and coordinated efforts to mainstream climate change considerations in development planning. In practice, this will require a shift in focus. From sustainable development to climate-smart sustainable development," he said.

### Jamaica

The Jamaica Constabulary Force (JCF) has reported that up to June 3, 2018, all categories of serious and violent crimes have started moving down since the start of the year when compared to the same period last year.

A release from the JCF Communications Unit showed there is an overall 9.6 percent reduction in serious and violent crimes for the period under review.

It said murder is down by 16 or 2.6 percent when compared to the corresponding period last year, while 14 less shootings occurred — a reduction of 2.7 percent, 57 percent (24.8 percent) less cases of rape were reported and aggravated assault is down by 32.8 percent.



Police said the two divisions under a  
**Continued on Page 18**

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# Inaugural SVG Nurses Tea Party a success

By Nelson A. King

The president of the Brooklyn-based St. Vincent and the Grenadines Nurses Association of New York, Inc. (SVGNANY), Dionne Crichton-Bailey, has described as a resounding success the group's inaugural Tea Party, held on Saturday, June 9 at the Friends of Crown Heights Educational Center in Brooklyn.

"Feedback was very positive, and everyone enjoyed the ambience," Crichton-Bailey, a registered nurse, told Caribbean Life. "We would like to thank everyone who attended – supported to make this event the success it was."

The event, dubbed "Tea Party with a Difference," featured, among other things, drumming by Divine Drummers (comprising Anthony "TJ" Husbands, Jr., Kyle Bailey, 8, and Tyeshawn Porter); selections by recording artists Shanique and Hilton Samuel, and Erlene Williams-King, aide to former St. Vincent and the Grenadines Consul General Cosmus Cozier; trumpeters Gavin Carter and Christian Destine, both 10, students at P.S. 312 in Brooklyn; and modeling of African outfits, designed by

Brooklyn-based Chinyere Onyeizu.

"On reflecting on our profession, we as nurses encounter many various cultures, and embracing others' cultures makes our world a beautiful place," Crichton-Bailey said. "With that in mind, we thought it would be great to celebrate other cultures over tea, with an African theme, being the first [Tea Party]."

"This was beautifully highlighted by the lovely decorations of kente colors, modeling of African attire and drumming," she added.

The models — in casual, evening, business and wedding attires — were Tijana, Leezana, Stacey, Cristine, Kiana, Cassandra and Pamela [registered nurse and SVGNANY member].

Saxophonists Carter, of St. Kitts parentage, and Destine, of Jamaican and Haitian parentage, wowed the appreciative audience with "Dark Force," "Uptown Funk," "Trust" and "Covert Ops."

Williams-King sought the audience's participation with "In the Jungle" and "The River Come Down."



Models in African attire were featured at the St. Vincent and the Grenadines Nurses Association of New York, Inc., inaugural Tea Party, held at the Friends of Crown Heights Educational Center in Brooklyn.

Photo by Nelson A. King

Shanique rendered "Thank You Lord" and "I Can Do Anything"; while Tobagonian Samuel, sang "The Prayer," the title of his first CD.

DJ Bucks International pro-

vided music, while Vincentian Chef Lloni provided finger foods and pastries.

Crichton-Bailey said SVGNANY provides and/or participates in, among other things, health

fares; health teaching and counseling; scholarship awards; donation of medical supplies; and conduct of educational services in New York and in St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

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# CARICOM talks economy

# Atherly now in opposition

Continued from Page 3

an absence of a physical presence on the opposition benches. I want to constitute that physical presence on the opposition benches and to give critical support to the party in office and the government; to applaud them when they get it right, which I believe they will often; to put pertinent and pointed questions to them when necessary; to help to keep them on their toes," he said.

But his move was seen differently by some who noted that Atherley informed the prime minister about his decision to leave only after she had disclosed her picks of 26 government ministers, which did not include him.

Others argued that Atherley's decision to cross the floor and become opposition leader was opportunist not only because of the higher pay and prestige coming with the position, but also owing to him appearing to ride to victory on the BLP popularity, then jump off after victory.

The accusation of opportunism comes against the backdrop of Atherley having lost the 2008 and 2013 polls amid speculation he might have lost his political capital as an individual.

His two losses followed wins of a parliamentary seat in 1999 and 2003.



From left, former Prime minister of Jamaica, Bruce Golding, CARICOM Secretary-General, Ambassador Irwin LaRocque, and Prime Minister of St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Ralph Gonsalves.

www.caricom.org

Continued from Page 3

unequally yoked. Those who have a greater advantage in the integration movement need to appreciate that, and lessen the extent of the unequal yoking. These are practical matters of life, living, production and reproduction," he said, arguing for a more level playing field for the smaller economies.

Like other speakers, Gonsalves also said there is need for a reality check when it comes to free movement of people as the reality is that there are lingering fears by some nations about being swamped by migrants

from other member nations.

"Let us be practical about this," he argued, noting that governments in some nations take measures to protect local jobs and businesses despite the fact that free movement of people in the bloc is an entrenched right in the single market and economy system. "Let us be honest about that," he said, pointing to the fact that at least one government had to be taken to court to allow a Jamaican national to enter Barbados without being hassled and profiled. There are other negative instances relating to free movement in CARICOM.

Meanwhile, second term Secretary

General LaRocque said there is a large pile of unimplemented decisions dating as far back as far as 2004.

"We take too long to get things done. Why must it take so long for us to get vital things done? It is either we get it done or move on to other issues. We need to move the agenda along much faster. The time it takes to get things done is a cost to the private sector and it's a cost in terms of the credibility to the community at large."

Bruce Golding blamed governments rather than the Guyana-based secretariat for not implementing and or enforcing decisions, suggesting that pointed fingers at secretariat officials are misplaced.

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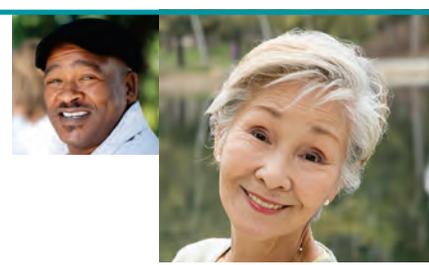
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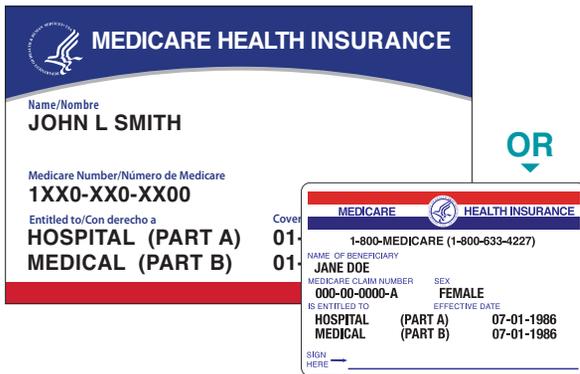


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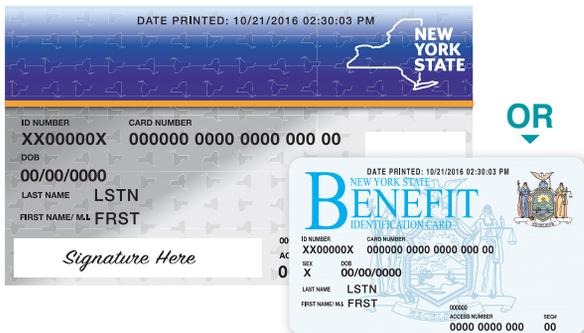
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# Belize governments have failed their dual citizens

By Wellington C. Ramos, adjunct history professor

Up until the late 1970's the largest ethnic group in Belize were Belizeans of African descent which comprised the Garifuna and Creole people. Belize also have a small population of East Indians, Native Mayas, Mestizos, Mennonites and Chinese that makeup its estimated population of about 390,000 people. During that period of time, the Creoles dominated the Civil Service branches of government and were prominent politicians in both the People's United Party (PUP) and the United Democratic Party (UDP) but that has changed to Mestizos.

Around that same period, civil wars were occurring in; Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador and Nicaragua. As result of these conflicts, the citizens of these countries began to migrate to the United States in huge numbers. Those from El Salvador and Guatemala who could not reach the United States, decided to settle in Belize. Due to the economic conditions in Belize and the demand by some Belizeans in Belize to join their relatives in the United States, Belizeans of African descent (Creole and Garifuna) were migrating to the United States in large numbers.

The United States President in the 1980's Ronald Reagan was afraid that most of these people will end up in the United States so he encouraged the Belize government to grant them refu-

gee status and later on Belizean citizenship. This was backed up by the United Nations granting additional benefits to the governments of Belize PUP and UDP to make them stay permanently in our country. In 1976 when the then Guatemala President General Kjell Laugurud Garcia was planning to invade Belize, they had Guatemalan and Salvadoran troops by our border. Now, we are giving some of these same people citizenship in our country without knowing their backgrounds. Under Belize constitution it is unconstitutional to grant citizenship to Guatemalan citizens until their country recognizes our independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity, which they have not done so far.

In all those years that our PUP and UDP governments were granting citizenship to the people in our country of birth, they did nothing for us to grant us; lots, lands, the right to invest, own homes, businesses, to vote by proxy and to run for office in Belize. All these benefits of citizenship that we are being deprived of, is being given to the people of Guatemala, El Salvador and other foreign citizens who live in Belize. I am not against the people of these countries because like I always mentioned my grandmother is from Guatemala. However, common sense tells us that this is not fair to us as natural born citizens. Now, is the time for these politicians to

Continued on Page 14

# Four lessons the NFL could learn from ABC

By Terrance Woodbury

Following Roseanne Barr's obscenely offensive comments about former Obama Senior Advisor, Valerie Jarrett, ABC took immediate and decisive action to demonstrate that her words describing an accomplished Black woman as an ape did not reflect the networks values. The network's cancellation of its highest rate show — a move that prioritized integrity and a commitment to decency over money, ratings, and even political expediency — surprised many. The NFL, as it faces continual media and public scrutiny, could stand to take a knee and learn a lesson from ABC.

To be fair, ABC faced well-deserved scrutiny regarding its decision to reboot Roseanne in the first place, given Barr's previous divisive and racist comments. The cancellation, nonetheless, has been generally well-received by the public, or at least Black Twitter, as a bold and affirming commitment to the diverse audience that ABC serves.

ABC and NFL — both massive media corporations - are at two ends of a spectrum with handling racism in the Trump era. Under pressure from President Trump and donors, the NFL recently decided to censor its players' peaceful protest by forcing them to stand for the National Anthem or to invisibly protest in the locker room. The new policy, set to go into effect in the upcoming NFL season, poses a serious question: How will this decision affect and fans who feel ignored

**Do not mistake the aggressive banter of a few loud racists as an erosion of American ideals and values**

by the League's aggressive stance against such a pervasive social justice issue.

A poll that I conducted earlier this year on behalf of BlackPAC, an organization committed to increasing political participation of Black voters, showed that in the previous NFL season, 21 percent of Black consumers watched less football and 14 percent stopped watching football all together due to the treatment of Colin Kaepernick's peaceful protest. This downtick in viewership should've served as a warning to the NFL. Instead, the League decided to censor the peaceful protest of every single player.

Many spectators, myself included, are waiting with baited breath to see how this decision will affect NFL ratings in the upcoming football season. But while we wait, there are a few lessons the NFL should have learned from ABC's decisive response to bias and racism.

Do not mistake the aggressive banter of a few loud racists as an erosion of American ideals and values. ABC understood the Barrfiasco for what it was: an opportunity to declare that the normalization of hateful and divisive language does not reflect the values of this

nation, no matter who they come from or how loudly they are tweeted.

The NFL had an opportunity to make a similar declaration about American values. Despite the feeble attempt of some to co-opt a movement about justice and dignity into a debate about white nationalism thinly veiled as patriotism...we still hold some truths to be self-evident. That freedom of both speech and protest are inextricably woven into the fabric of our nation. In the coming season, athletes that choose to accept punishment over censorship, as many undoubtedly shall, will be remembered on the right side of history and justice, just as Muhammed Ali has been honored for protesting the Vietnam draft.

Stand up for and defend the dignity of the people responsible for making your brand among the most valuable in the world. ABC built one of the most diverse audiences in entertainment by ushering in content that is created by, starred in, and catered to minority audiences. Blackish, Scandal, How to Get Away With Murder, and Grey's Anatomy — successful shows created and produced by women of color whose appearance Barr presumably equates to apes. ABC made the bold, or maybe just fiscally prudent, decision to stand in solidarity with its diverse audience and talent pool.

However, after multiple demands and complaints from Donald Trump, including that the "ungrateful son of a bitch" should be forced

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# Jamaicans cite STEM robotics for Vision 2030

While United States media outlets have been damning the abrupt ending of the G7 Summit in Quebec, Canada and the fact President Donald Trump abbreviated talks with Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, Jamaicans are celebrating the fact that the tiny island distinguished itself as the only English-speaking Caribbean country invited to join the talks with leaders of France, USA, the United Kingdom, Germany, Japan, Italy and Canada.

Heads of the European Union are traditionally asked into the conversations, however, beyond the core membership of the group few are ever asked to join in discussions with developed nations.

On this recent go round, Jamaica's Prime Minister Andrew Holness along with the leaders of Argentina, Rwanda, Senegal, Seychelles, South Africa, Vietnam, Bangladesh, Haiti, Kenya, Marshall Islands and Norway were invited.

The 12 countries and four international organizations were able to expand discussions beyond those that concern wealthy nations.

Unfortunately, little will be



## Inside Life

By Vinette K. Pryce

made public from the historic meeting except the excoriating remarks that Peter Navarro, a trade adviser to President Trump made saying Sunday that "there's a special place in hell" for the Canadian Prime Minister and any foreign leader who engages in "bad faith diplomacy."

His reference was to rebuke the northern leader for provoking Trump to bolt from the gathering prematurely in order to avert an international confrontation. Opting to arrive early for another summit, one that was controversial for its on and off and on again convening in Singapore, Trump traveled earlier than planned to mend fences with North Korea and hopefully win respect from Asian countries leery about his demand for de-escalation of nuclear weaponry.

Jamaicans in the thrust of celebrating Caribbean Herit-

age Month here bragged about the island's unprecedented invitation with cabinet minister Andrew Wheatley leading a chorus of cheer leaders touting the merits of the invitation.

"It's a big deal," he said, "not a small thing at all," he said about the G7 invitation.

The visiting minister of science, energy and technology here to accept a Griffy Award for his contribution to advancing scientific and technological transition of his country to become a world-class society through innovation amplified the historic achievement recently at the Jamaica Consulate.

As Trudy Deans, Jamaica's consul general to New York listened to him and members of the Jamaica College Old Boys Association of New York explain a collaborative alliance with the government for development of the STEM education proposal targeting 30,000 students for a



Jamaica's Robotics Team.

JC web portal

Vision 2030 Plan that will produce a scientific and technological workforce by the year 2030, another outstanding achievement revealed success with a robotics team of students.

Apparently, alums of the all-male high school often referred to as JC partnered with the

Kingston-based learning center on a project to improve conditions at the more than 200-year-old institution by creating a fully outfitted robotics lab. They also promoted practical applications of robotics being adopted into the school's science curriculum.

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# Unfulfilled promises

was done about it by both the UDP and the PUP governments. Writing about our problems only help to make our people aware of them. We as a people have no other choice but to organize ourselves to take action. The only way out of this dilemma, is to bring a court action against our government to cease and desist from granting citizenship to Guatemalans or to table the Article-7 Amendment.

Until, a constitutional amendment is made to fix this problem and to give us the right to vote by proxy, run for office and all the other items that I mentioned earlier. A Guatemalan, Salvadoran and all the other people who became naturalized citizens of Belize, will have all the rights as we the natural born citizens of Belize in their country and ours. While, we the Belizeans who were born there do not have those same rights just because of our dual citizenship status. A Belizean who go to Belize and live as an American citizen can vote in an election but cannot run for office, unless he or she gives up his American citizenship. There are several ambiguities that needs to be cleared up in our constitution so what are we waiting for?

Members of the PUP are quiet on this issue. While the UDP have been making unfulfilled promises for years now. We can no longer wait because we are going to die waiting in vain. I hope our Belizean politicians of African descent, read this article and think about what they are doing to their people. Race and politics go hand in hand and even if you do not think that it can influence a vote, the reality in the real world is that it does.

# NFL should take ABC lessons

Continued from Page 12

off the field, the NFL acquiesced and forced every player off the field or to their feet. Adding insult to censorship, they did so without condemnation of the President or the resentful fans who have used racial epithets in reference to protesting players. The NFL demonstrated zero allegiance to the players that made it the most profitable athletic enterprise in America. Not exactly the best way to inspire morale and loyalty.

Do not capitulate to a tyrannical President's attempts to use his political pulpit to bend the private sector to his will. Prior to Barr's insidious remarks, Trump raved about her ratings and boasted about their close relationship. Naturally, following her departure he did what we all expected... defended Barr and attacked ABC for previous statements made towards him. Many expect Trump's attacks toward ABC to continue and possibly escalate, but the network has remained unwavering, and I sure hope they continue to.

The NFL failed to demonstrate the same fortitude toward sustained attacks from Donald Trump, who has had the League in his crosshairs since they blocked him from buying an NFL team over a decade ago. Following sustained attacks against the players and encouraging fans

to boycott professional football, the NFL commissioner and team owners (a group of all white men with one single exception) made a unanimous decision to comply with Trump's demands.

This leads me into the final lesson the NFL could learn from ABC.

Put some women of color in charge at the NFL front office. It took less than three hours for ABC President Channing Dungey, a Black woman, to cancel the highest rated show on her network following Barr's comments. In today's atmosphere of heightened expectations of corporate responsibility many enterprises can learn from such decisive action. There is simply a greater social consciousness, sensitivity, and responsibility amongst communities that are most affected by oppression. And in American society, over the longest sustainable time, that community has been women of color.

A league that spent decades covering up irreparable physical and psychological trauma to its players, that shows more contempt toward peaceful protest than it does toward domestic violence, and that is more concerned with white comfort than it is with Black lives, is a League that can take notes from an institution that was bold enough to get it right... despite what it might cost.

Continued from Page 12

correct this unjust, unconstitutional and nonsensical policy that makes no sense when anyone is told that this is what is happening in Belize.

If we the people of African descent in Belize do not stand up for justice now, we are going to find ourselves as third class citizens in Belize. Giving people the right to vote and run for office is giving them power and that is what the Guatemalans and the Salvadorans are getting over us. Denying our people the right to vote and run for office is taking away power from us and that is what we are getting. Garifuna and Creole people need to stop their bickering and in the name of survival come together to address this problem now otherwise we are doomed.

This is not about PUP and UDP but more about our fundamental rights as citizens of Belize. This Redistricting is crucial because after this is done they will have total control over our country. In the southern part of Belize the Garifuna and Creole people are now the minority. An area where we were once the majority. Belize district is the only district with a majority of Belizeans of African descent and they will be coming there next. I have thought about and wrote about this issue for several years now but nothing

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# CG Atherly calls for Guyanese to recommit to ideals

By Tangerine Clarke

Consul General of the Republic of Guyana to New York, Hon. Mrs. Barbara Atherly called on Guyanese to recommit to Independence ideals and pledge to work selflessly with each other for their country, during her remarks to welcome fellow citizens a May 25, flag raising reception at Brooklyn Borough Hall.

She added, “may we continue the journey towards further progress of the country, towards a very blessed future as, “Six Peoples Working and Living together in Unity.”

The diplomat, who was presented with Citation from Brooklyn Borough President, Eric Adams, for our outstanding work in the diaspora, told expats at Guyana’s 52nd Independence Anniversary festivities, that they must continue the journey towards Guyana’s progress, and towards a very blessed future as six peoples working and living together in unity.

Mrs. Atherly extending warm greetings on behalf of the Government of Guy-

ana, the diplomat corps and consular corps, during an evening of pride celebrated in the Rotunda of the municipal building.

Mrs. Atherly, who served the United Nations Children’s Emergency Fund (UNICEF), in many parts of the world for over twenty years, and joined with other diplomatic offices to host the event, reminded the gathering of Guyana’s pristine beauty that abounds in its 83,000 square miles, adding that there is much to be proud of.

“Our delightful climates, our natural resources, the people, the progress, the strides towards development are all inspirations to resolve towards unity, said the diplomat who participated in many events to celebrate her country’s unity and pride.

Consul General of Guyana to New York, Hon. Mrs. Barbara Atherly, center, accepts citation from Brooklyn Borough President, Eric Adams, as Brooklyn State Senator Roxanne Persaud looks on.

Photo by Tangerine Clarke



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- Hosted citizenship drives in our 9th Congressional District to help eligible constituents establish their U.S. citizenship in their adopted home
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- Introduced the *Freedom for Refugees Escaping Enmity Act*, which aims to invalidate the Administration’s Muslim ban

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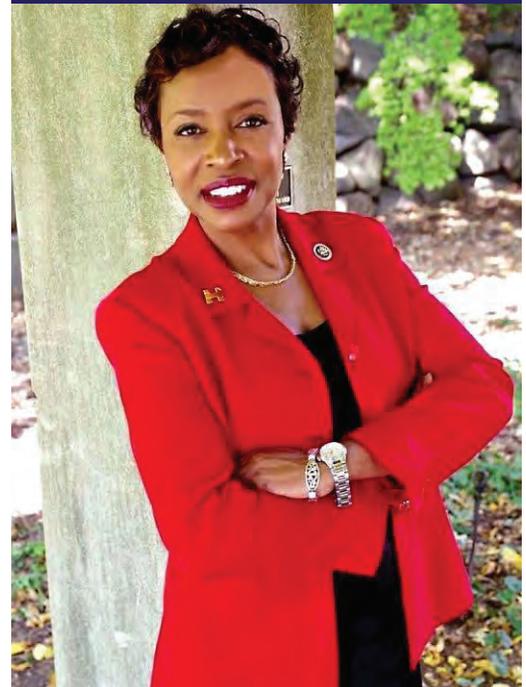
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## CARIBBEAN ROUNDUP

Continued from Page 6

state of public emergency continue to be positively impacted by the heightened presence of the security forces.

St. James, the release said, continues to record reductions in murder with 78 fewer murders (66.1 percent) reported over the period, while shootings went down by 45, a reduction of 49.5 percent.

The police noted that the St. Catherine North Division, for the first time this year, has recorded no increase in murders and is seeing less cases of shootings — 12.2 percent reduction, when compared to the same period last year.



“There have been 59 reported cases of murder in the division since the start of the year compared with the same figure for the comparative period, which represents no increase,” the release stated.

### St. Kitts

Commander of the St. Kitts-Nevis Defense Force, Lt. Col. J. Anthony Comrie, says there is a need for closer collaboration between security agencies across the Caribbean region, as he welcomed security and enforcement personnel to the start of Exercise Tradewinds 2018 (TW18).



The first phase of the annual exercise will run from June 4 to 23 in St. Kitts and Nevis and features troops and law enforcement officials from 20 partner countries, including several CARICOM member states, the United States, the

United Kingdom, France, Canada and Mexico.

Comrie said strengthening partnerships is particularly important given the growing proliferation of drugs and illegal guns in the region.

The theme for Exercise Tradewinds 2018 is “Capacity Development through Integrated Training and Exercises to Confront National Security Challenges of the 21st Century.”

### Trinidad

A High Court judge in Trinidad and Tobago is calling on the Ministry of National Security to provide training for police officers following the recent passage of the controversial Anti-Gang Act.



Justice Frank Rampersad said laws are only effective so far as they are properly enforced, adding that “the T&T Police Service needs highly trained units to investigate members of gangs.”

He noted that the state had been ordered to pay millions of dollars in compensation to dozens of others, who claimed they were falsely imprisoned without the option of bail before their charges were eventually discontinued by the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP).

Hundreds of suspected gang members were held when former Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar called a state of emergency in 2011 when the murder rate went out of control.

They were all freed as the police did not have sufficient evidence to successfully prosecute them.

— compiled by Azad Ali

## Father's Day brunch to benefit school in Guyana

### By Tangerine Clarke

Students of St. Rose's High School in Georgetown will benefit from an upgraded science laboratory and special projects at the school's campus, thanks to the United States Alumni Association that will donate funds raised at a Father's Day brunch celebration.

The Saturday, June 23 event will be held at the Marine Park Golf Club, 2880 Flatbush Ave., Brooklyn, from 11:30 am to 3:30 pm.

To purchase tickets (\$60.00) go to (<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/brunch-honoring-males-tickets:42587389027?aff=es2#tickets>).

Lorraine Croft-Farnell, president of St. Rose's Alumni Association USA Inc., said the planning committee is cordially inviting patrons to come out and celebrate fathers, and pay tribute to male relatives — grandfathers,

uncles, and males who make a difference in the everyday life of others.

“Just as precious as our mothers, grandmothers, aunts and females make a difference in our lives, males are worth equally special recognition. We will also have a surprise token for each male present,” said Croft-Farnell.

To mark this special event, the first of its kind, the organization will also create a souvenir journal to capture the spirit of the celebration. Patrons will be given the opportunity to purchase advertising space whether to say congratulations to fellow male alumni, relatives and friends, or to honor deceased male alumni relatives.

The journal would also advertise business, and expression congratulations or remembrance.

For more information, email [info@strosesalumni.org](mailto:info@strosesalumni.org) or call 917-569-6794, 917-504-6002.

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# Guyanese urged to build image in Barbados



Guyana Consul General Cita Pilgrim.

Photo by George Alleyne

By George Alleyne

It is possible to enhance the image of your country by contributing to the development of another, was the message delivered to Guyanese in Barbados as they observed their country's 52nd independence anniversary.

Dozens of Guyanese resident in the island came together Sunday in the Cathedral of St. Michael and All Angels in Bridgetown and heard a rallying call for them to answer to their home country's needs while upholding its image abroad.

Guyana's independence day is May 26.

The country's Consul General in Barbados, Cita Pilgrim, told her nationals who made up most of that Sunday morning congregation that among the best ways of enhancing their homeland's image is by contributing to the development of Barbados, their home away from home.

"It is expected that Guyanese

in Barbados will continue to contribute with distinction to the Barbados society. This is how you honor your country," she said at the service.

Like Barbados, Guyana attained its political independence in 1966, with that the island's moment of celebration coming on Nov. 30.

Pilgrim said that having people of Guyana working for developments in Barbados does not mean neglect of the land of their birth because by such effort they are exhibiting the Guyanese production ethic.

"Guyana looks to its citizens at home and abroad to show their commitment to country, support for projects and provision of expertise are ways to contribute to your homeland.

"But an even bigger responsibility for Guyanese living abroad is to uphold and enhance the image of Guyana in every way that you possibly can."

Pilgrim spoke of her country's 'huge strides' in educa-

tion, health, infrastructure, and advances in women, children, and workers' rights and human rights in general, and said that at 52 Guyana is still a young state with a far way to go.

She noted that the country is on the verge of a windfall from oil production and observed an International Monetary Fund's estimation that the country will be earning hundreds of millions in US dollars by 2020 if drilling proceeds on schedule to the tune of 500 barrels per day.

But she warned, "these vast earnings can, in themselves, provide serious problems for Guyana if not properly managed. But Guyana is receiving the best possible advice and everything is being put in place."

The top Guyanese official in Barbados said, "the occasion of independence always presents an opportunity for us to celebrate the very essence of Guyana, our diversity as a nation."

"We're a multi-cultural, multi-religious, and multi ethnic society. This has defined us as a people and as a nation for more than half a century.

"This diversity has created a society that is tolerant and

respectful of each other, and we must all continue to be vigilant and protect our independent rights so that we may proudly identify with our national motto: 'One people, One Nation, One destiny.'"



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# Beyond Hurricanes: How do we finance resilience in the Caribbean?

By Deodat Maharaj, (UNDP Senior Advisor for the Caribbean)

UNITED NATIONS, June 8, 2018 (IPS) - As a new hurricane season approaches in the Caribbean, I attended last week's dialogue focused on "Financing Resilience in SIDS" held in Antigua and Barbuda and sponsored by the host government and Belgium.

The gathering sought to identify the main risks facing Small Island Developing States (SIDS), especially in terms of financing and innovative solutions to the countries' challenges.

These vastly different SIDS have much in common. There was a clear recognition that the splendor of their beauty, wealth of their culture and vibrancy of their people mask a deep vulnerability to both natural disasters and economic shocks, which are further exacerbated by climate change.

This is true for Caribbean countries and beyond. In addition to the Caribbean, participants at the event last week also included representatives from

Africa, Indian Ocean and the Pacific, from their Permanent Missions to the UN.

The hurricanes of last September 2017 that devastated our host, Antigua and Barbuda, and other Caribbean countries provided a compelling testimonial to this "new normal." Dominica lost 226 percent of its GDP and a generation of development gains in a matter of hours with the passage of Hurricane Maria.

In our host country, the island of Barbuda endured a similar fate just 10 days earlier after Hurricane Irma left a path of destruction. The story is very much the same in other SIDS, such as Vanuatu and Fiji, which suffered massive losses from Cyclones Pam and Winston in 2015 and 2016 respectively.

Notwithstanding the compelling narrative of adverse weather events, there are also other challenges, which hamper the ability to build resilient Small Island Developing States. As a UNDP presenter, I emphasized that resilience in the context of SIDS should be holistic and not

exclusively associated with hurricanes and natural disasters.

The outcome document, "The St. John's Call for Action" clearly recognized that building resilience in the Caribbean is about managing the risks associated with natural disasters, but this entails much more than hurricanes, as our Human Development Report for the Caribbean also stressed.

One big challenge is accessing finance. SIDS are largely classified as middle or high-income countries with limited access to concessional financing and Overseas Development Assistance (ODA).

This is compounded by high levels of debt in places such as the Caribbean, which is one of the world's most highly indebted regions. Indeed, its debt burden stands at an estimated \$52 billion with a debt to GDP ratio of more than 70 percent. In some countries, debt levels are more than 100 percent of GDP.

At the same time, due to the small geographical and population size, SIDS invariably have a narrow tax base, limiting the



A woman walks in the street of Roseau, capital of Dominica, which has struggled to overcome the severe impact of two category 5 hurricanes which tore through the region in September 2017. UNICEF / Moreno Gonzalez

ability to mobilize resources domestically. Mindful of these constraints, the St. John's Call to Action made some specific recommendations.

The role and importance of innovation was placed at the forefront on the way forward. Peter Thomson, the UN's special envoy for Oceans made a compelling case for the blue economy — or boosting sustainable use of the ocean's resources for gains in the social, economic and environmental realms — as a viable policy option.

The example of Seychelles and the launch of the World's first Blue Bond was cited. Such Blue Bonds will help mobilize public and private resource to

advance the Blue Economy, including through sustainable fisheries.

It was also noted that UNDP has started preparatory work to help Grenada launch a Blue Bond as well, which will be the first in the Caribbean. The outcome statement was clear on the importance of focusing on the green economy and transition to renewables.

Recognizing that innovation is required in financing, a call was made to rethink the role the diaspora plays in building resilience and providing the financial resources. In the Caribbean, remittances exceed foreign direct investment and ODA combined.

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# Caribbean tourism group touts Rejuvenation



The Braata Folk Group (all performers from the Caribbean, here—ambassadors of Jamaican and Caribbean folk culture ) entertained through dance and song. Photo by Tequila Minsky

**By Tequila Minsky**

Hugh Riley of the Caribbean Tourism Organization greeted all those in attendance in lower Manhattan for Revival for the Caribbean: Rejuvenation, a gathering to kick-off Caribbean Week as well as spiritually launching it.

“What does it mean to be Caribbean?” Riley asked. “We are the people who declared 2018 The Year of Rejuvenation, to signal to the world that after the devastation of the 2017 hurricane season we intend to rebuild, recover, rejuvenate and revive.”

The late afternoon June 3 assembly was particularly aimed at refreshing spirits after the devastation wrought by Hurricanes Irma and Maria.

Christine Noel-Horsford of the

Grenada Tourism Authority gave a situation overview. Sept. 6, last year, Hurricane Irma first made landfall on the northeast Caribbean islands. Antigua, Anguilla, Bahamas, British Virgin Islands, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Haiti, Puerto Rico, St. Barthelémy, St. Martin, Sint Maarten, Turks and Caicos and the US Virgin Islands were affected. Barbuda was evacuated, completely devastated.

Days later, Hurricane Maria, caused catastrophic damage in the region. Sept.19, Maria made landfall in Dominica — the worst natural disaster on record there. On Sept. 20, the hurricane hit Puerto Rico, continuing to suffer from extensive damage. Antigua, US Virgin Islands and Guadeloupe still strive toward

recovery.

With the destruction of roads, bridges, and public utilities, needless to say, the economy in most of these countries came to a halt.

By way of this as a backdrop, the intent of Revival for the Caribbean “Rejuvenation” was to raise the spirits of all attendees with hope.

For the past twelve years, Caribbean Week New York (celebrated for 40 years) has been scheduled to coincide with Caribbean-American Heritage Month.

The U.S. House of Representatives adopted this heritage month commemoration in 2005 to recognize the Caribbean peoples’ contribution in the history and culture of the United States. Since then, in June the plethora

of Caribbean Week events complements the month-long tribute.

Hugh Riley said, “In the best of Caribbean traditions, a revival begins with giving thanks. Despite everything else, we give thanks. We are Caribbean!”

Native of Trinidad & Tobago Wendy Lewis, pastor of Regenerating Lives Ministries in Georgia served as the host and MC for the afternoon. A talented vocalist, in her own right, she comes to gospel after a career in song with great Calypso singers and as a cabaret artist. Pastor Lewis changed her life and music and ministers at homeless shelters, drug rehab centers, and nursing homes.

Messages of hope, ecumenicalism, thanksgiving and inspi-

ration readings were offered by Hindu, Jewish, Muslim and Episcopal faith leaders in the multi-cultural and religious vein that make up the Caribbean,

Gospel performances by Minister Janice Charles (Grenada) Kingdom Life Ministries Int’l; Brooklyn Faith SDA Church singers; and Min. Wayne Johnson (T&T) and Min. Cora Moore Williamson (Guyana) from Brooklyn for Jesus SDA moved attendees.

On the secular end, Carolyn Punter and Friends and the folkloric Braata Folk Group entertained the audience.

Pastor Lewis sang an offertory performance to benefit the CTO relief effort and closed the afternoon with a recessional song.

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[www.nysl.nysed.gov/reference/busref.htm](http://www.nysl.nysed.gov/reference/busref.htm)

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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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# Bourdain's love of Jamaica's Oxtail and Curried Goat

By Tangerine Clarke

Four years ago, late world-renowned chef and host of CNN's *Parts Unknown*, Anthony Bourdain said, "I love the food in this country. I must have Oxtail, whether in the Bronx or in Kingston." These were endearing words uttered by the storyteller and adventurer, while filming his series in Jamaica.

The 61-year-old beloved author of *Kitchen Confidential* and *Medium Raw*, who it was reported committed suicide in a French hotel while in Europe to film his hugely popular show, went on to say, "I must have curried goat and jerk chicken, with pigeon pea rice and callaloo, as he clicked glasses with locals, during shots of rum and local beer.

The chef of the beach front bar in Montego Bay, chatted with Bourdain about Jamaica's slowing economy and the challenges small restaurants were facing, to which Bourdain asked, "but why, this is a beautiful country with beautiful beaches and good food," and spoke about the foods that were brought to the Island by immigrants, that he called a good mix of African, and East Indian.

The episode that was seen by this reporter, a fan, in 2014, and recently viewed on YouTube, showed how much Bourdain connected with people during his many years of sojourns.

His exciting commentary, love of cultures, and exquisite cuisines, attracted millions of viewers to his show, and who will forever miss his effervescent personality.



Late chef Anthony Bourdain with locals at a beach front restaurant in Montego Bay beach in Jamaica, during a "Parts Unknown" shoot on the island. YouTube

Like this reporter who tuned in to CNN, religiously on Sunday evenings to get a glimpse into the life of this iconic master chef's knowledge and lifestyle, mixed with travel, Guyanese-American chef, Debra Charles, author of Guyana's "Tasty Exotic" cook book, said, "while Bourdain's palate for food and his love for travel was admirable, it was his style and deliverance that attracted so many, including myself."

Charles, who attended the French Culinary Institute where Bourdain was a dean, called Bourdain the quintessential rustic, figure.

"I admired him for not always saying popular things, but for what he deemed to be true, even if it was his truth. My Sunday nights are shattered by my heart-break at this great loss. How can I forget Vietnam, where he ate ramen noodle soup with President Obama, or Trinidad's street food, Jamaica's jerk, ice fishing in Quebec, and seaside jaunts in Peru."



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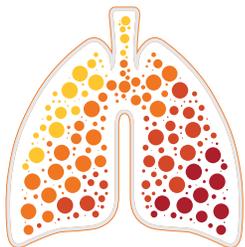
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# Queens author highlights carnival, folklore in children's book

By Alexandra Simon

A Queens-based illustrator and author celebrates Caribbean folklore and Trinidadian carnival in his children's book, "The Carnival Prince." In the book, creator Daniel O'Brien highlights the mythical entities and traditional stories he heard growing up, all through the perspective of a young protagonist on an adventure. He also wanted to revisit all the tales he knew, and repurpose them into a digestible content.

"The book is a combination of West Indian folklore and Trinidadian traditions, and I brought those two together in this book because I wanted to bring them together and tell it through the eyes of new characters," said O'Brien.

Born and raised in Trinidad and Tobago until eight years old, O'Brien said in his trips back to his native country he often participated in carnival festivities. Coming from a family of carnival enthusiasts he was very immersed in the culture. This exposure led to the inspiration for many of his illus-

trations, and eventually writing the book.

"I've always been a fan of folklore and traditional stories — it runs in my blood," he said. "I come from a family that designs carnival costumes and whenever I go back, I'm always attracted to the folklore, and I knew one day I would create a book of all the decades of illustrations I drew of Caribbean culture."

With illustrations on hand, O'Brien said he wanted to write a story surrounding the imagery he created.

"I'm an illustrator first and my work is geared more towards fantasy and Sci-fi with a Caribbean twist," he added. "So when I decided I wanted to write a book, I put together a huge collage of my illustrations and realized I had my story right there."

The main character in the 66-page book is of a young boy who travels from island to island, coming across notable characters such as Mama D'Lo and Papa Boi, and discovers fascinating people and mythical

creatures on his journey to discovering carnival.

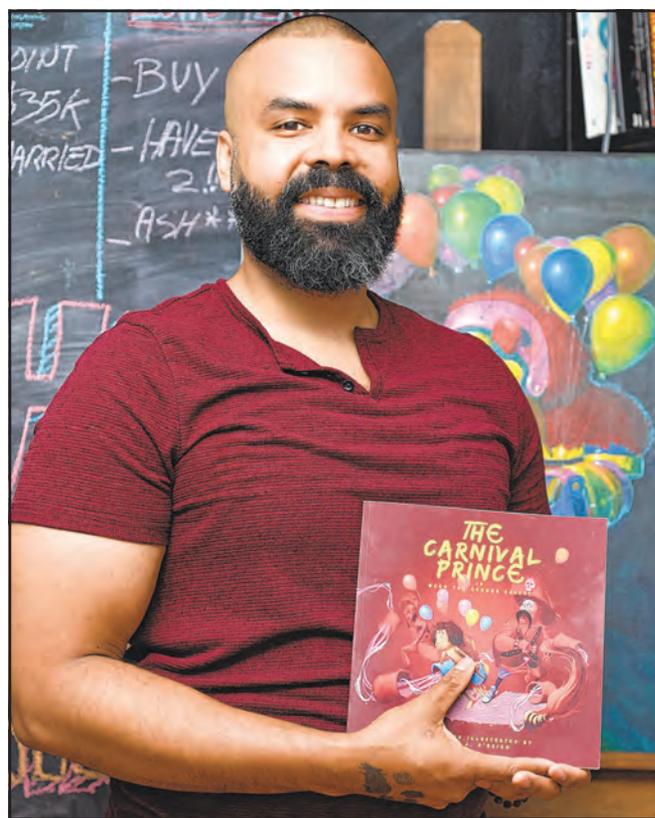
He also wrote and designed the book to be read in sections, and to be an engaging reading session for its target audience.

"It's a chapter book meant for young readers, and my dream was for it be read at bedtime and meant to be read out loud," said O'Brien. "Each chapter brings the characters together and in a particular arc, and it introduces a new part of the story."

A standout aspect in the book is a two-page glossary at the end of it, detailing all of the meanings of English-creole words used throughout the book. The intentional use of Trinidadian dialect and lingo is an effort to keep the story true to the culture, according to O'Brien.

O'Brien said his main goal with the book was to inspire interest in oral histories native to the Caribbean and tell a story in which young kids could relate too.

"This is a children's book, but it's also for anyone who has an inkling or curiosity towards the Caribbean or Trinidad and



Trinidadian-American author and illustrator Daniel O'Brien with his children's book, "The Carnival Prince."

Photo by Caroline Ourso

Tobago, or anyone interested in folklore and seeing through a different point of view," he said.

He said many readings on folklore were often told by people who were not tied to the

culture, and do not grasp the full comprehension of it. And he wanted to contribute in changing the narrative and highlight the youth who may also discover folklore.



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# Caribbean pride at Queens Pride Parade

By Alexandra Simon

Members of the city's Caribbean LGBT community celebrated pride in their identities at the 26th annual Queens Pride Parade in Jackson Heights on June 3. Thousands participated in the parade including Queens borough president Melinda Katz and other elected officials. Queens-based queer advocacy group Caribbean Equality Project (CEP), also took part in the festivity for the third year, happily displaying pride in their Caribbean heritage and identity, said the group's director.

"Queens pride is always exciting for us. We do a lot of our work in Queens, and when we do we always represent our identity and showcase our Caribbean culture," said Mohamed Q. Amin. "That's the message we want to send. We want to show people that we can be Caribbean, be prideful of our culture, and that includes everything from music, traditional wear, and carnival."

The group's grand display of culture won them the parade's well-respected Screaming Queen award. The prize is

given to participating groups that present a combination of culture and gay pride. Amin says he was thrilled they were bestowed the honor.

"They thought out of the 98 groups that marched and registered, we were the best," he said.

At the parade, dozens of members from the groups danced to music, while waving their ancestral flags, and sporting all types of traditional garb, from Indo-Caribbean to Afro-Caribbean clothing.

Amin says while the struggle for LGBT rights is an ongoing struggle, he is proud of the work his organization has established for Caribbean-Americans who are LGBT. He says seeing how much the group has grown is a testament to their hard work in creating safe spaces for the queer community and celebrating them.

"We are growing — the organization is growing and our base continues to get bigger because we are creating opportunities for the Caribbean LGBT to be who they are, be visible, and normalizing them," he said. "The



Caribbean LGBT advocacy group, Caribbean Equality Project converge down the parade route with Caribbean flags and rainbow flags. Photo by Michael Shain

parade is just one of the ways that encompasses that narrative and want folks to know they can celebrate their culture and their identities at the same time."

CEP will also be taking part in Brooklyn's pride parade in Park Slope, and hosting an interface at the Brooklyn Community Pride Center on June 9, 5:30–7:30 pm. And

they will be in Manhattan's pride festivities on June 24. Visitors interested in marching with CEP can meet at W. 17th St. between Seventh and Eighth avenues.



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Dominican-American singer Amara La Negra's digital billboard plays at a Link kiosk in Times Square. LinkNYC

## Link kiosks celebrate city's influential Caribbean-Americans

By **Alexandra Simon**

Celebrating June as Caribbean Heritage Month, the citywide WiFi service LinkNYC is commemorating the annual observance by gracing all of their kiosks with images of influential Americans of Caribbean descent. The campaign, which highlights several notable people born or living in the city, launched last year and was created in partnership with cultural hub, Caribbeing. And its returned for another year to celebrate it, said the commissioner of the city's Department of Information Technology.

"This month, New Yorkers will get to see some of the most influential Caribbean American icons of the past century just by walking by a LinkNYC kiosk," Samir Saini. "We're thrilled to collaborate with Caribbeing to showcase the Caribbean culture and heritage while shining a light on the figures who have positively impacted New York City."

The honorees included are comedian Majah Hype, dancehall artists Spice, writer and author Elizabeth Acevedo, famed artist Jean Michel Basquiat, Pan-African leader Marcus Garvey, activist and leader Malcolm X, actor Winston Duke, hip-hop pioneer Grandmaster Flash, salsa singer La Lupe, award-winning actor Sidney Poitier, singer Amara La Negra, author Roxane Gay, the city's first Caribbean-born elected official Dr. Una Clarke, politician and first black congresswoman Shirley Chisholm, and rapper Biggie Smalls.

All the aforementioned are of Jamaican, Trinidadian, Dominican, Puerto

Rican, Haitian, Barbadian, and Cuban descent. Many of them creating history not only for the city, but for themselves and the Caribbean Diaspora, said the service's director of community affairs.



Comedian Majah Hype will be one of a dozen Caribbean-Americans highlighted in LinkNYC's campaign for Caribbean Heritage Month. Doughboy

"Caribbeing chose figures who have impacted New York City's culture in so many ways, from artists and authors to activists and notable politicians," said Fasoldt. "We were thrilled to work with Caribbeing for the second year in a row to showcase these icons and their accomplishments throughout the city."

With one of the country's biggest concentration of Caribbean immigrants, this campaign is timely and complimenting of the city's Caribbean Diaspora.

"New York City is home to one of the largest, most diverse Caribbean populations in the world," added Fasoldt. "We are honored to use the LinkNYC platform to celebrate Caribbean American Heritage Month and recognize the many contributions Caribbean Americans have made throughout history."

A few of the icons in the campaign are deceased, but majority of them are living and thrilled to see their likeness represented through visual billboard across the city, according to Fasoldt.

"We have been delighted to see some of the artists — including Majah Hype and Amara La Negra — catch themselves on Link kiosks and share the images on social media with their fans," said Fasoldt.

Saini says this campaign is one of the many ways the city is working to use technology to help educate passerby and spread knowledge.

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# Popular Brooklyn church celebrates 37 years

By Nelson A. King

The popular Freedom Hall Church of God on Albany Avenue in Brooklyn celebrated 37 years in the ministry last week.

On Saturday, the church — in the heart of the Caribbean community — whose overseer is Jamaican-born Apostle Dr. Cecil G. Riley, began the celebration with an international cultural showcase.

Jamaica, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago, Guyana and the United States were represented, as congregants donned native colors and prepared mouth-watering national dishes “for everyone to enjoy,” according to Veronica Lyle, the church’s administrator.

“Complementing this festive occasion was cool, rhythmic steel pan music and Minister Caswell Daley’s dynamic roots lyrics,” Lyle told Caribbean Life.

She said the afternoon culminated with a “fabulous hat show competition,” featuring, in the male category, Dapper Don, Cool Clyde and Western wear.



Apostle Dr. Cecil G. Riley and his wife, First Lady Minister Eleanor Riley.

Photo by Nelson A. King

In the ladies’ category were: Glorious Hallelujah, Mad Hatter, Sophisticated Lady and Vintage 20s.

On Sunday, two worship services were conducted at 11:30 am and 6:30 pm.

“Freedom Hall, you made it possible with your love and support, and trust,” Apostle

Riley, who founded the church in April 1980, said in the anniversary journal. “You are the greatest.”

He acknowledged and thanked his wife and “help-mate for over 40 years,” Minister Eleanor Riley, “for believing in the ministry.”

“There were times when we were the only two people available to make the missionary journeys to the various churches abroad, and God saw us through,” Apostle Riley said.

“The work has just begun,” he added. “The communities in which the Freedom Hall churches are planted shall be inhabited with a Godly seed.”

Riley said the church was established with a membership of only five adults and four children.

Today, the sanctuary, at 620 Albany Ave., accommodates more than 500 worshippers, he said.

Over the years, Freedom Hall Church of God has established branches in Florida, Jamaica, and St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

Jamaica’s New York Con-



Jamaicans at the Freedom Hall Church of God celebration.

Photo by Nelson A. King

sul General Trudy Deans said Freedom Hall Church of God has achieved “monumental feats” by promoting social inclusion, community service and “fellowship within the community.”

She noted in her message that the church has made “tremendous contributions” to the Brooklyn and surrounding communities in, among other things, education, social and music ministries, and evan-

gelism.

“The Consulate General of Jamaica applauds you for all the work carried out by your church and the positive impact made on the lives of our society,” Deans said.

“The church’s immeasurable contributions to the promotion and maintenance of the spiritual and social development of their community members, especially our youth, are recognized and appreciated,” she added.

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# Have a party to remember at Sirico's

BY CAMILLE SPERRAZZA

When you've got 90 years of experience, you know how to throw awesome parties.

Their grandparents may have started Sirico's Catering, but two cousins, Hercules and Jim Sirico, are the ones that keep these parties going every night.

## Weddings

A bit overwhelmed with all to be done? Your life just got easier because everything you need is coordinated by Sirico's in-house wedding planner who directs the process.

**Ceremony:** Want to get married here? Say the word, and the planner will say, "I do."

**Food:** They get it. It's got to be good. With customized menus for every taste and budget, it will be. Guests enjoy drinks and food in a separate room for the cocktail hour, then make their way to another for dinner and dancing. Of course, there's a lovely bridal suite for the bridal party.

**Music:** The house DJ is young, hip, gets the party started, and keeps it moving all night long.

**Pictures:** Photos and videos will be treasured for a lifetime, so Sirico's works with proven photographers and videographers who make sure special moments are captured. The beautiful gardens and active fireplace in the lobby make perfect backdrops.

**Decorations:** Lighting sets the mood and atmosphere, so color-coordinate your event with an LED lighting package. It can match your wedding colors. Or, reach for the stars with specialized effects that include an image of a bright blue

sky. Sirico's has it all covered with chair draperies and sashes, too.

## Sweet 16s

Busy moms can relax because Sirico's party planner has your back.

Your daughter's party starts in the Entourage Room where the guest of honor can wait with friends before the introductions begin.

**Tropical Bar:** Say aloha to the place where teens enjoy drinks that include virgin pina colodas, strawberry daiquiris, and frozen sensations.

**Food:** A buffet loaded with fun food, customize designed to taste. Among the offerings: taco stations, a mashed potato bar, and sliders. For dessert, there's an ice cream sundae bar, candy tables, and Sirico's famous chocolate fountain.

**Decorations:** Select from in-house designs and decorations, tailored to teens. Balloon center pieces are always a hit.

## Other parties

Every special occasion calls for unique needs, and Sirico's accommodates them all. Whether it's an anniversary, retirement, Communion, Confirmation, corporate event, or other special occasion, Sirico's is the place to be.

There are party rooms that can accommodate up to 100, 200, and 300 people. Valet parking and a parking lot make it convenient for all guests.

Let's get this party started.

*Sirico's Caterer's [8023 13th Ave. between 80th and 81st streets in Dyker Heights, (718) 331-2900, [www.siricos.net](http://www.siricos.net)]. Open Tuesdays through Sundays, from 1:30 to 9:30 pm.*

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# Antigua hosting romantic giveaway contest for two couples

By Alexandra Simon

Only couples need apply. The Antigua and Barbuda Tourism Authority recently launched a romantic all-inclusive giveaway competition for couples. To observe the month of June as their obligatory month of romance, the agency is going to award two couplings with a chance for a three-night stay at their Sugar Ridge and South Point hotels, said a spokeswoman.

“So for the month of June every year we celebrate romance month, and Antigua and Barbuda is the only destination to actually have an entire month dedicated to romance and couples, and we’re essentially the romance capital of the Caribbean, we do romance like nobody else.” said Shermain Jeremy.

The twin-island nation has won the World Travel Awards as the region’s most romantic destination since 2015. And they hope to win it again this year.

“We’ve won that award for

three consecutive years in a row and we hope to have four time repeat this year,” said Jeremy.

And they are aiming to showcase two of their idyllic resorts for tourists, particularly pairings that are interested in the country to celebrate their nuptials.

“For romance month its all about highlighting our romantic attributes, and what we have to offer couples, both on the wedding side and honeymoon side,” she added. “So this year our big thing is these two very exciting sweepstakes being hosted on two separate social media platforms.”

The two contests are being held simultaneously on Facebook and Instagram. Entry requirements ask for couples to share, comment, and like posts to certify a spot in being considered. Jeremy says the two campaigns ongoing until July 4, will prize two couples with all-inclusive stays at two of their best resorts.

The prize is a three-night

stay at one of the lodges, airfare, travel VIP privileges, and transportation to and from the hotel are included in the package, according to Jeremy.

“Our Antigua and Barbuda romance is a giveaway to spend three nights at the Sugar Ridge Hotel, and on Instagram the trip there is one of our new properties — South Point Hotel,” she said. “It’s on the historic side of island, and not a lot of people know about it one of our beautiful romantic hotels. It’s hidden treasure.”

And all month, couples who have booked trips to the country for a special occasion will earn the opportunity to access special advantages, added Jeremy.

“One big thing also happening for this month is any couple traveling to Antigua between now and June will be expedited through customs when they arrive and for departure,” said Jeremy.

“So if you booked a wedding or honeymoon to Antigua through a travel agency, your



A pool deck with view at South Point Hotel in Antigua. The resort is one of two locations the Antigua and Barbuda Tourism Authority will prize two couples with the chance for an all-inclusive stay. South Point Antigua

travel agent will give you all the details on how to receive these services and courtesies.”

Jeremy says the country offers a particular travel experience not often found in neighboring islands, and this sets it apart as an ideal location.

“One of things that’s special and unique about Antigua and Barbuda compared to other Caribbean islands is I personally

think we offer an authentic Caribbean experience,” she said. “Although we’re pretty developed, when you come to Antigua you feel like you’re on an island with that authentic feel, the people are warm and friendly, and very hospitable, we have amazing cuisine and amazing resorts, and Antigua has a little bit of everything for everyone.”

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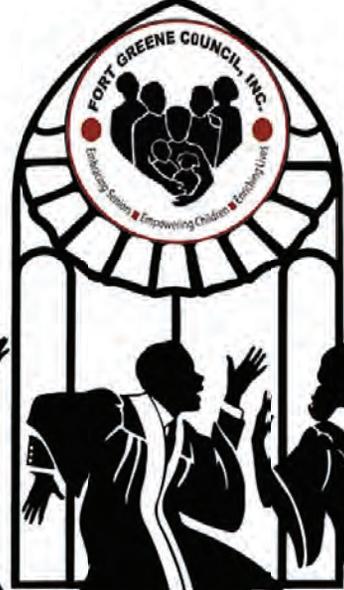
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# As evidenced on Dr Oz show

BY CAMILLE SPERRAZZA

When it's time to get serious about losing weight, Elite Health Center offers the tools.

Gennady Krupnikas, co-owner of Elite Health Center says, "It's not uncommon for our patients to lose up to one pound per day on our programs, utilizing powerful, yet safe, medical protocols."

This means going beyond providing patients with a diet and exercise plan. Instead, Elite Health Center offers the HCG (human chorionic gonadotropin) diet that involves hormone injections to help weight come off quickly - and keep it off. It's all supervised by a physician to assure safety.

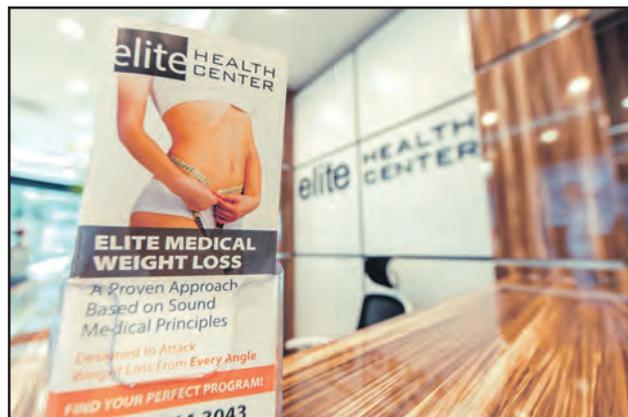
It starts with a free body composition analysis that provides the doctor with insight into each individual's needs. The doctor takes into consideration the lifestyle, weight, fitness levels, and eating habits of each patient. This allows the doctor, together with a nutritionist, to create a customized HCG diet. "By creating a medical weight loss plan suited to your individual needs, we give you the best opportunity to lose weight once and for all," says Krupnikas. "It's a proven approach, based on sound medical principles."

The Phentermine -Appetite Management Protocol is another "life-changing weight loss" plan to consider, he says. It's designed to assist patients who are looking to lose weight within a more flexible time frame as it involves appetite suppressants and healthy eating.

If you have had enough of fad diets, supplements, and expensive frozen foods that still leave you hungry, come in for a consultation. Krupnikas says that the plans at Elite Health Center are effective because:

1. They release energy from fat cells. The process of breaking down fat into useable calories is called "ketosis". This process works very efficiently at releasing stored energy and food value from your fat cells.

2. They reduce cravings and fatigue by breaking the sugar cycle. By elimi-



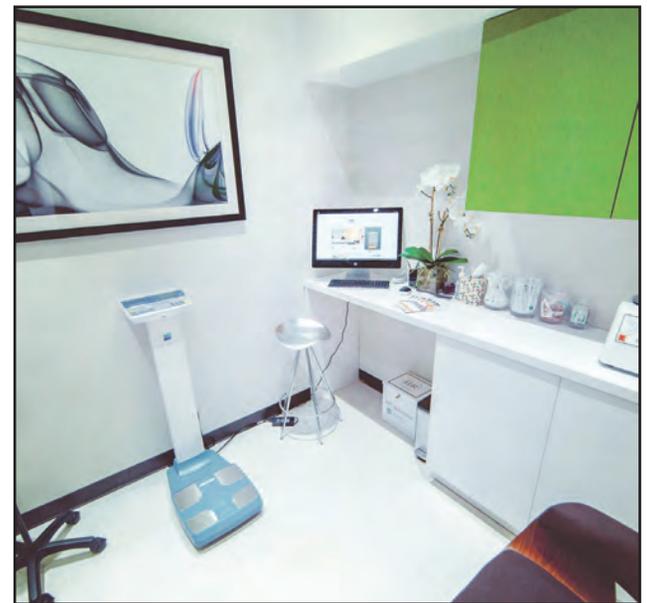
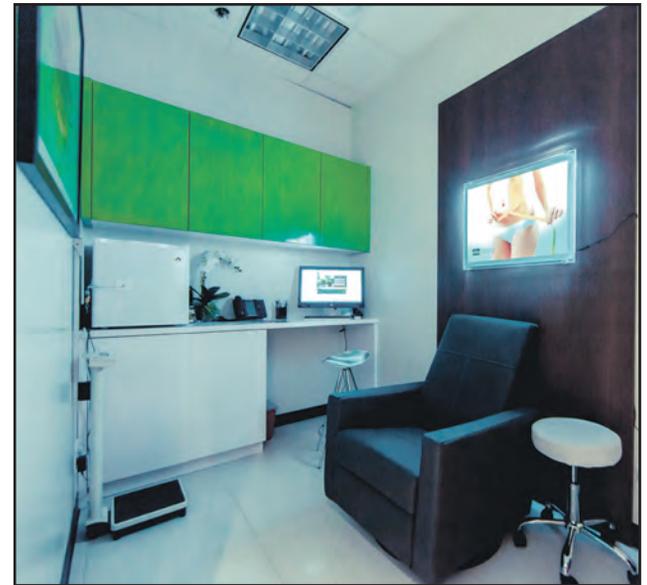
nating sugars and simple carbohydrates, the body enters the state of ketosis (fat burning).

3. They allow you to eat real food that you can buy at grocery stores. There's no need to buy costly pre-packaged meals, or artificial liquid diet products.

4. They prevent hunger, headaches, and irritability.

The plans assure that your body has adequate nutrition and sustained energy resources.

5. Elite Health Center offers one-on-one personal support. This helps you break out of old bad habits faster, while developing your new healthy eating habits, and long-term sustainable lifestyle changes.



6. Medical experts ensure that you lose weight safely and aggressively, and that all body functions are working normally, or are improving.

7. The goal is long-term weight loss. They are with you every step of the way, offering support and the tools to maintain a healthy weight loss for life.

8. No exercise is required in order to succeed. You will still lose weight.

Come in for a complimentary body analysis, and start making plans for a new you today.

Elite Health Center, [1316 Kings Hwy between E. 12th and E. 13th streets in Midwood, (917) 565-9360, www.elitehealthcenter.com].

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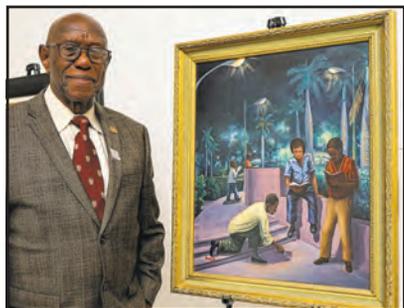


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Francois Ricles Gracia displays his painting of students studying by the light of a street lamp in the iconic downtown plaza, Le Champs de Mars.

Photo by Tequila Minsky

## Symposium on Haiti

By Tequila Minsky

The Queens Museum is a vital partner with the Haitian community and hosting topical symposiums is a good example.

Last week's L'Education du Regard (Educating for Deeper Understanding), an annual event has been held at the museum for more than a decade, initiated by architect and urban planner Etienne Telemaque and later joined in planning by artist Patricia

Continued on Page 46

## Trini soca star rising

By Azad Ali

Young Trinidad and Tobago soca star Nailah Blackman has been nominated for one of the 2018 Black Entertainment Television's (BET) Awards — the Viewers' Choice: Best New International Act. To have a good chance, she would need the help of all Trinidad and Tobago by voting and hashtagging her picture #ipicknailahb18. The awards show comes off on June 24 at 8 pm.

On her Instagram account, Blackman expressed excitement at having being nominated, writing: "OMG OMG, I am so excited."

"I am the only Caribbean artiste representing in this category. Winning

Continued on Page 46



Calypsonian Carlos 'Rejector' Providence performs onstage at Cafe Omar during preliminary judging in the semifinal round of the National Calypso Competition in Vincy Mas 2018.

Photo by Nelson A. King

## Dynamite calypsonians impress at preliminaries

By Nelson A. King

Eleven calypsonians from the Dynamite Calypso Tent in New York, considered the sole Vincentian calypso tent in North America, gave a good account of themselves Saturday night in the preliminary judging in the National Calypso Competition in Vincy Mas 2018.

Minister of Culture Cecil "Ces" McKie and U.S. Consul General Howie Prince joined the ebullient crowd at Café Omar on Nostrand Avenue in

Brooklyn, as five judges from home — Vin Stewart, Earl Paynter, Roddy Dowers, Aubrey Gould and Daniel Hall — screened the calypsonians for selection in the semifinal round.

The calypsonians, most of whom are veterans in the artform, had either qualified, in previous years, for the semifinals or made it to the grand finale at Carnival City, Victoria Park, in capital city Kingstown.

Perennial competitors — Denis Bowman, Carlos "Rejector" Provi-

dence, John "D Truth" Dougan, Ramon "Jose Juan" Diaz and Joel "Navel String" Bartholomew — as well as Oscar James, Allan "Field Marshall" Marshall, Kenroy "Jakie" Jack, Delahanty Isles, Daniel "Dan Radix" Providence and Michelle-Ann "Hibiscus" Hillocks were impressive in lyrical content and stage performance, for the most part.

James bemoaned the ravages of hurricanes in the region with "Hur-

Continued on Page 46

## TOP OF THE CHARTS

### TOP 10 SINGLES

- The Middle**  
Zedd, Maren Morris & Grey
- Psycho**  
Post Malone Feat. Ty Dolla \$ign
- Never Be The Same**  
Camila Cabello
- God's Plan**  
Drake
- Meant To Be**  
Bebe Rexha & Florida Georgia Line
- Nice For What**  
Drake
- Whatever It Takes**  
Imagine Dragons
- Wait**  
Maroon 5
- No Tears Left To Cry**  
Ariana Grande
- In My Blood**  
Shawn Mendes

### TOP 10 ALBUMS

- ye**  
Kanye West
- Prequelle**  
Ghost
- The Greatest Showman**  
Soundtrack
- This One's For You**  
Luke Combs
- DAYTONA**  
Pusha T
- Streams Of Thought Vol. 1 (EP)**  
Black Thought
- beerbongs & bentleys**  
Post Malone
- Shawn Mendes**  
Shawn Mendes
- God's Favorite Customer**  
Father John Misty
- Cinematic**  
Owl City

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# VINCY MAS STARS

Continued from Page 45

ricane," singing: "We in pain/ Don't come back again/We shall rise again."

Field Marshall was deeply concerned about the proliferation of "Guns" in St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

"I trying to understand/ What's going on in the land/ So much life at play/too much to bare," he sang to loud applause.

Bowman urged patrons to "Wake Me Up" with the "amount of murders ah seeing," adding: "Wake me up/cause ah sleeping."

Navel String, the five-time Union Island Calypso King, refused to eat "Saltfish," stating: "Yo saltfish too salt/I don't want it at all."

Jakie said he was "getting tired of all dem lions."

He recommended that they be thrown in the "Lions Den," the title of his rendition.

Singing about "Gonzitis," Rejector, a former national calypso monarch, bedecked in hospital scrubs, with a stethoscope hanging from his neck, evoked loud applause, claiming "so much pain/ Gonzitis in de place."

Delahanty, the daughter

of veteran calypsonian Earl "Exposer" Isles, queried: "What are we fighting for?"

"It's the country that suffering/What are we fighting for/You shooting you brother dead," she sang.

Despite the spiraling crime wave, Dan Radix said the nation was still a "Beautiful land/beautiful land of freedom."

Bespectacled Jose Juan appealed to "Light it Up," prompting co-Master of Ceremonies Hailes Castello to remark at song's end: "I thought it was weed he was referring to." The other Master of Ceremonies was Atiba Williams.

Hibiscus, a former winner in the New York "New Song Competition," who trekked from Philadelphia, urged nationals to "take action before you think," adding: "It's never too late.

"Just blame yoself/blame nobody else," she sang in "Blame Yoself."

D Truth was "Afraid," adding, however, that "we are in this thing together.

"It could be your father or your brother/So do what is right," he sang.

In a post-show interview, D Truth, president of the Dynamite Calypso Tent, told Carib-



Calypso songstress Michelle-Ann 'Hibiscus' Hillocks performs onstage during preliminary judging in the National Calypso Competition in Vincy Mas 2018, held at Cafe Omar in Brooklyn. Photo by Nelson A. King

bean Life that "the crowd reacted positively to the performers, because all songs were of a high standard."

He, however, said that, while the tent expects to be "heavily represented in this year's semifinals, we learned after the show that judges were having difficul-

ty hearing some of the lyrics.

"We hope this does not affect the selection process," he cautioned.

D Truth said Dynamite Calypso Tent continues to exist "to keep SVG [St. Vincent and the Grenadines] culture alive in the Diaspora."

## Museum

Continued from Page 45

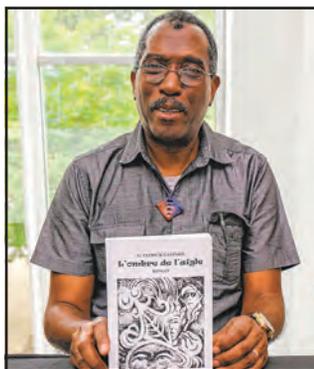
Brintle.

"I handle art and architecture and Etienne handles other content," says Whitestone resident and painter Brintle, who wrangles other artists to participate, so a mini-exhibition is also part of the symposium.

Brintle expounded on the topics of years' past — water systems, electricity, transportation, and sanitation. Historic gingerbread houses with World Monument experts participating were a topic one year. The symposiums all add breadth to understanding the issues.

One year, there was a heated discussion on the importance of parks with the focus on Martissant Park; the issue raised: Why put a park in the middle of a slum?

Experts reiterated how putting a park in a "terrible area" breathes air (and life) both literally and metaphorically into its neighborhood. It's also about saving the envi-



Artist George Patrick Gaspard signed copies of his novel (title translation: The Shadow of the Eagle). Photo by Tequila Minsky

ronment.

In the case of Martissant Park, situated in the poor, crowded neighborhood of Martissant, there is a medicinal garden, an educational environment center on the premises, and people can get cuttings from the gardeners there.

Peaceful and a conducive environment in the middle of noisy, hectic day-to-day Port-au-Prince streets is where students are also seen on benches and along the paths, books open, intently studying.

## Trini soca star rising

Continued from Page 45

an award like this will get our music and our culture recognized. I'm doing this for Sokah / Soca Music!"

She will compete with other world artistes for the award, including MC Soffia (Brazil), Miniola (Nigeria) NOT3s, and Prince Waly (France)

Blackman was born into music. Her grandfather, the

late Ras Shorty I, was one of the founders of soca music and her mother calypsonian Abbi Blackman was part of the extended family in music.

Last year she shot into the limelight with "Work Out," a collaboration with Kes Diefenthalier, a track that has received more than one million views on YouTube.



Trinidad and Tobago soca star Nailah Blackman.

# Trevor Jackson stars in Blaxploitation era classic

"Superfly"

Excellent (4 stars)

Rated R for pervasive profanity, graphic sexuality, violence, ethnic slurs, nudity and drug use  
Running time: 108 minutes

Production Studios: Columbia Pictures / Sony Pictures Entertainment / Silver Pictures  
Distributor: Columbia Pictures

By Kam Williams

"Super Fly" (1972) was one of the most profitable of the Blaxploitation Era flicks. Released during the genre's heyday, the picture revolved around its iconic title character, Youngblood Priest, a flamboyant cocaine dealer who dressed like a pimp, drove flashy cars and sampled his wares from a spoon shaped like a cross draped around his neck.

Overcoming a modest budget of just a half-million dollars, the film's phenomenal box-office success led to a couple of sequels,



Trevor Jackson and Jason Mitchell in "SuperFly" (2018).

www.imdb.com

("Super Fly T.N.T." (1973) and "The Return of Superfly" (1990). Nevertheless, the franchise is probably best remembered for the original's soundtrack by Curtis Mayfield, which enjoyed a long run at #1 atop Billboard's Top 100 chart.

Given its woeful production values, "Super Fly" is a movie almost begging to be remade.

And 2.0 represents an upgrade which does not disappoint in that regard. As overhauled by Julien Christian Lutz (aka Director X), the highly-stylized production bears a greater resemblance to McG's frenetically-paced "Charlie's Angels" (2000) and Baz Luhrmann's decidedly-decadent interpretation of "The Great Gatsby" (2013) than to

any blaxploits made back in the Seventies.

The setting has been shifted to Atlanta, but the basic plotline is otherwise faithful to the source material. The blow-by-blow is narrated by the picture's protagonist, played with perfect aplomb by Trevor Jackson (of TV's *Grown-ish*).

At the point of departure, a

beleaguered Priest informs us via voice-over that he's been selling drugs on the street since the age of 11. He now sits atop a gang caught up in an escalating bloody turf war marked by drive-by shootings with a flashy posse called the Snow Patrol.

Understandably, Priest wants out of the game, but first he has to do a bigger deal than he's ever attempted before. That involves going over the head of his supplier Scatter (Michael Kenneth Williams) and securing a huge shipment of narcotics directly from the South American cartel kingpin, Adalberto Gonzales (Esai Morales).

Somehow Lutz, a veteran director of music videos, manages to manipulate the audience into rooting for the sort of unsavory characters you'd cross the street to avoid in real life. Listen, the cinema has a long history of championing ruthless lawbreakers like "Bonnie and Clyde," "The Godfather" and more recently, the "Ocean's 8 crew."

The upshot: this incarnation of "Superfly" proves to be a riveting, slick and pulse-pounding reboot that easily blows away the original!

## Independent & Foreign Films

Eating Animals (Unrated) Agri-business expose, inspired by Jonathan Safran Foer's best seller of the same name, examining America's evolution over the past 40 years from a

traditional farming nation to one dependent on massive, industrial food complexes. Narrated by Natalie Portman.

Gabriel and the Mountain (Unrated) Bittersweet biopic about Gabriel Buchmann (Joao Pedro Zappa), the college-bound, Brazilian backpacker who perished in Malawi in a mountain climbing accident while spending his gap year crisscrossing Africa with his girlfriend (Caroline Abras). With Alex Alembe, Rashidi Athuman and John Goodluck. (In Portuguese, English and French with subtitles)

Gotti (R for graphic violence and pervasive profanity) John Travolta portrays John Gotti, Sr. in this revealing biopic chronicling the life and times of the flamboyant, New York City mob boss known as the Dapper Don. Co-starring Kelly Preston, Stacy Keach and Ella Bleu Travolta.

Loving Pablo (R for sexuality, profanity, drug use and graphic violence) Javier Bardem plays Pablo Escobar in this biopic chronicling the infamous, Colombian drug kingpin's rise and fall in the Eighties, as well as his volatile extramarital affair with an investigative journalist (Penelope Cruz). With Peter Sarsgaard, David Valen-



### Kam's Kapsules

By Kam Williams

cia and Julieth Restrepo.

Maktub (Unrated) Middle East dramedy, set in Jerusalem, about the sole survivors of a terrorist attack (Guy Amir and Hanan Savyon) who rededicate their lives to answering the prayers left by pilgrims in the Wailing Wall. Featuring Gal Amיתי, Chen Amsalem and Ami Anijar. (In Hebrew with subtitles)

Set It Up (Unrated) Romantic comedy, set in NYC, revolving around a couple of overworked and underpaid administrative assistants' (Zoey Deutch and Glen Powell) who play matchmaker by orchestrating a date for their lovesick bosses (Taye Diggs and Lucy Liu). Cast includes Wai Ching Ho, Meredith Hagner and Pete Davidson.

### WIDE RELEASES

Incredibles 2 (PG for action and brief mild epithets) Animated superhero sequel finds the Parr family and sidekick Lucius Best (Samuel L. Jackson) joining forces to defeat a diabolical villain (Bill Wise) hatching a plot to hypnotize humanity. Voice cast includes Craig T. Nelson, Holly Hunter, Catherine Keener and Isabella Rossellini.

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# How to outsmart prostate cancer!

*Prostate cancer is the second most common cancer in America, ranking only behind skin cancer — and it will affect one out of every nine American men during their lifetime. In fact, research has shown that more than half of all men in the United States over the age of 70 are now living with some form of prostate cancer.*

## Types and typical victims of prostate cancer

Most forms of the disease progress slowly and are highly treatable. However, prostate cancer is deadly, and it kills quickly. Once a patient's cancer reaches its fourth and final stage, the five-year survival rate is a dismal 29 percent.

Two groups of men are particularly susceptible to prostate cancer: those over the age of 70, and African-American men. The latter are 1.6 times more likely to develop the disease than white men, and 2.6 times more likely to experience prostate cancer than Asian-American men.

## Prostate cancer: Symptoms and diagnosis

Most alarming is that many patients with the disease don't experience any symptoms. Experts like Dr. Joshua Halpern of the Accord Physicians Group recommends that all men, especially African Americans, be screened regularly for prostate cancer by a doctor once they reach age 40.

Dr. Halpern is a certified radiation

oncologist who received his oncology training at Roswell Park Cancer Institute and MD Anderson Cancer Center, the nation's leading cancer treatment center. He has treated all forms of cancer for more than 40 years, and has had hands-on experience with thousands of prostate cancer patients. He explains the processes that urologists use to diagnose and confirm the disease.

The first step in the rigorous process of diagnosing prostate cancer is to draw blood and conduct a Prostate-Specific Antigen (PSA) test. PSA is a protein naturally produced in men's prostate glands, and abnormally-high PSA levels may indicate the presence of prostate cancer, although they could also be signs of other prostate issues such as inflammation or enlargement.

Normal levels of the protein are usually in the 0.0–4.0 range. But once the PSA levels are greater than 4.0, Dr. Halpern says, the normal procedure is to recommend a biopsy during which a small section of prostate tissue is removed and examined for signs of cancer.

Dr. Halpern explains that if

the biopsy results are positive for prostate cancer, the next step is to consult a radiation oncologist. At Accord Physicians Group, he and his fellow physicians work in close collaboration to decide on a course of action.

## Prostate cancer treatment

Dr. Halpern is one of the first oncologists to use a form of treatment called Image Guided Radiation Therapy (IGRT). It is completely non-invasive, and involves 45 10-minute sessions during which a short beam of radiation is targeted directly at the inside of the prostate.

"Published reports on IMRT/IGRT radiation, with careful administration, have shown the best results and the lowest toxicity," says Dr. Halpern. "In our experience, tumor control is very high and tolerance to our treatment is nearly universal."

Excellent results of the cancer control as well as the low side effect profile are due to the fascinating physics of this radiation therapy. The plan that's used to deliver the radiotherapy is individually and specifically designed for each

person. It takes into account the differences that all people have in relation to their size, muscle to body fat ratio, and the physical size of the prostate and the surrounding organs. It also takes into consideration any anatomic changes that may have occurred due to previous pelvic surgeries, trauma, and anatomic abnormalities such as inguinal hernias. After this detailed plan is complete, the treatment therapy begins. On a daily basis during the therapy, the equipment and the technician who delivers the radiation performs a daily minute adjustment to precisely deliver the radiotherapy despite differences such as contents of the colon and the amount of urine in the bladder at the time of treatment.

Once IGRT therapy has been completed, the patient usually exhibits dramatically lower PSA levels, indicating that the cancer is either gone or is fully in remission. In the occasional case when PSA levels remain extremely high, the oncologist will meet regularly with the patient to track progress and discuss options. All medical personnel at Accord Physicians

Group have received special training to ensure the patient's comfort during and after treatment, and to respectfully and compassionately assist him with the emotional effects of a cancer diagnosis and treatment.

## Accord Physicians Group and prostate cancer

Dr. Halpern states, "Over the last 10 years we treated hundreds of prostate cancer patients at Accord Physicians." He elaborates, that "Our cure and remission rates are between 93 and 95 percent over this 10-year period, and our side effect profile is well below the national average."

Dr. Halpern urges all men — particularly African-American men over the age of 40 — to be screened regularly for prostate cancer.

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# SPORTS

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Cricket West Indies President Dave Cameron.

## West Indies celebrates

By Azad Ali

West Indies cricket recently celebrated 92 years of being a full member of the International Cricket Council (ICC) as a Test playing nation.

Cricket West Indies President Dave Cameron said so much has changed, but the game of cricket remains an exciting and evolving business and social opportunities for many more cricketers and nations today.

In his message Cameron said: "Here in the West Indies, we maintain hope

Continued on Page 50

## Bolt loses ninth gold medal

By Azad Ali

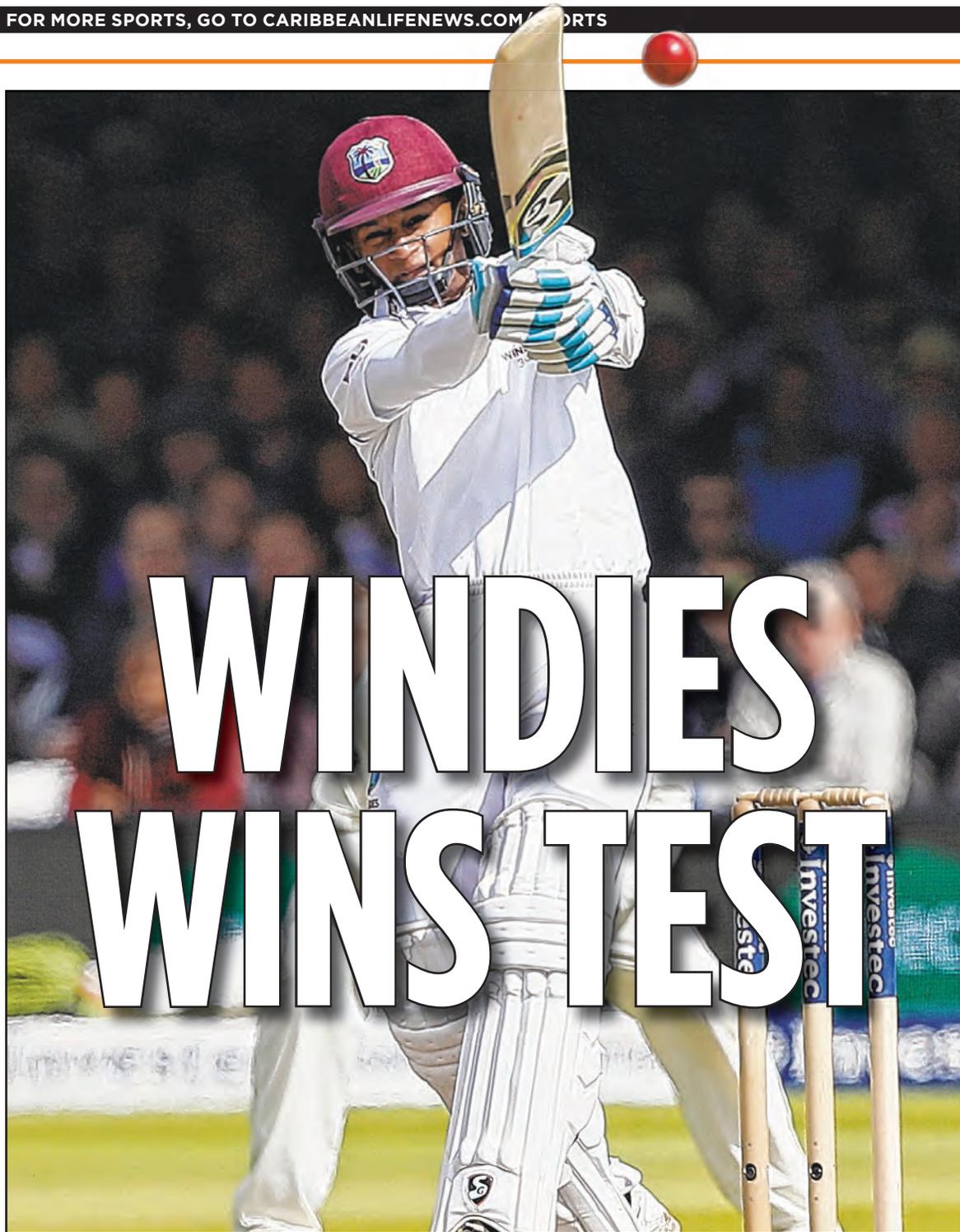
Former Jamaica super star athlete, Usain Bolt would not be getting back his ninth Olympic gold medal.

A Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) in Switzerland judging panel recently dismissed Jamaican sprinter Nesta Carter's appeal against disqualification from the 2008 Beijing Olympics for a positive doping test eight years ago.

Carter ran the opening leg in the 4x100-meter relay when Bolt took the baton third and helped Jamaica win a world record of 37.10 seconds.

In fresh analysis of Beijing samples by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) in 2016, Carter tested positive for a stimulant methylhexanamine, Jamaica was disqualified and stripped of the relay title.

Continued on Page 50



West Indies' Shane Dowrich plays a shot off the bowling of England's Toby Roland-Jones 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, File

## Team takes lead in three-Test series against Sri Lanka

By Azad Ali

West Indies took the first Test against Sri Lanka in the three-match series by a convincing 226 runs just before lunch on the final day (Sunday) at the Queen's Park Oval, Port of Spain, Trinidad.

Batting first West Indies posted

414 for eight with diminutive Barbadian wicketkeeper Shane Dowrich scoring 125 not out to put West Indies on top after they were reeling at 147 for five on the opening day.

Dowrich and spin bowler Devendra Bishoo (night watchman) put together a partnership of 102 runs.

Captain Jason Holder joined after Bishoo was out and with Dowrich and the pair took the score to 319 for six with Holder contributing 40.

Dowrich struck six fours and two sixes to place the host in a commanding position on the second day.

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Continued from Page 49

that we are on the right path even much closer to challenge for the World Cup 2019. We start this 92nd year with a full summer schedule in the Caribbean leading to the end of the year in India.”

He added that all categories of “our players and officials, including our umpires, will be fully occupied. This November, we will be the first host of the only standalone ICC Women’s World Cup Twenty20 Championship.”

Cameron said West Indies cricket is now an industry with 177 players and officials, employed all year round along with the hard-working team at the Secretariat.

The CWI president said: “We maintain a strong relationship with our fans and we intend to transform that passion and emotion which drives your support to one which is identical to the culture of excellence, while we balance our books.”

He added: “we look ahead..92 and more years, to continue to propel the game of cricket in the region not only for economic and social development but to use it as a catalyst to bring our beautiful island states even closer.”

The West Indies has been a full member of the ICC since May 31, 1926.



West Indies captain Jason Holder plays a shot during the first One-Day International cricket match between England and West Indies at Old Trafford in Manchester, England, Tuesday, Sept. 19, 2017. Associated Press / Rui Vieira, File

## WINDIES DEFEATS SRI LANKA

Continued from Page 49

Fast bowler Kumar Roach contributed with 39 and when he was out, Holder declared the innings at 414 for eight.

It was a disastrous start for Sri Lanka when they took the crease with three batsmen back in the pavilion with only 30 runs on the board.

The visitors struggled to cope with the bounce and pace of the wicket and were bowled out for 185.

Captain Holder did not enforce the

follow-on but his team was tottering on 131 for four wickets. He declared on 223 for seven, setting Sri Lanka 453 to win.

Sri Lanka closed the penultimate day on 76 for three, still trailing by 276 runs.

Opener Kusal Mendis struck 102 and with Angelo Mathews they put on 74 runs for the second wicket.

Mendis, who faced 186 balls struck nine fours and two sixes but was eventually out when he edged a ball from Shannon Gabriel to Dowrich behind

the stumps.

The West Indies spinners combined grabbed seven wickets in the second inning, with off-spinner Roston Chase snatching four for 15 in 8.2 overs and leg-spinner Bishoo taking 3 for 48 in 19 overs.

West Indies victory was witnessed by a poor crowd of about 600 fans at the Oval

Man-of-the-Match was Shane Dowrich for his 125 not out in the first innings.

## Bolt



Jamaican Olympic track star Usain Bolt, foreground, competing in the World Athletics Championships in August, 2017.

Associated Press / Matt Dunham, file

Continued from Page 49

The CSA panel said it; “could not accept any of the arguments raised by Nesta Carter that the test results should be ignored or the IOC (disciplinary) decision should be otherwise be overturned for certain alleged failures.”

The verdict has spoilt Bolt’s perfect Olympic career of three gold medals in the 100, 200 and 4x100 at three consecutive games in 2008, 2012, and 2016.

With Jamaica’s disqualification confirmed again, the gold medal will to Trinidad and Tobago 4x100 meter team.

Carter, 32, was also on Bolt’s team for three straight world championship relay gold medals, in 2011, 2013 and 2015.

## Jason Mohammed leads Windies A squad

By Azad Ali

Trinidad and Tobago all-rounder Jason Mohammed will lead a West Indies “A” squad for a Tri-Nation Series in England later this month.

The squad will include Test batsman Jermaine Blackwood and all-rounder Raymon Reifer, as Cricket West Indies (CWI) selectors continue to fine-tune their plans for next year’s World Cup.

Blackwood, 26, who played in the last of his two One-Day Internationals (ODIs) three years ago, was recently dropped from the Test squad to face Sri Lanka which has started in Trinidad.

He was included in the 13-man

CWI President’s X1 squad for the recent three-day tour match against Sri Lanka which concluded in Trinidad, but has not played.

Reifer played his only Test against New Zealand last December.

The 27-year-old is yet to play a One-Day International (ODI)

All-rounder Rovman Powell and Mohammed, both fixtures in the ODI side, are joined by fast bowler, 20 year-old Keemo Paul in the squad, which also sees the return of veteran wicket-keeper batsman Devon Thomas.

The tournament, which also involved India “A”, runs from June 22 to July2, with the final slated for the Oval.



Trinidad and Tobago all-rounder Jason Mohammed.

Associated Press / Kirsty Wigglesworth, File

# Another Bajan Tridents poor showing

By George Alleyne

Belize's football is currently ranked three places below Barbados but that Central American country's team has nonetheless managed to hold the islanders to a goalless draw in a friendly fixture played on the island.

The Bajan Tridents' failure to score was a let-down for Barbadian fans who suffered a similar indignity of seeing their country being held to a goalless draw back in March against Bermuda, another team ranked below Barbados on the FIFA scale.

Speaking after the match Sunday, May 3, Barbados Football Association Technical Director, Ahmed Mohammed said despite being held down by the two lesser ranked sides in the international friendlies, Belize and Bermuda must be seen as different opponents posing varied challenges and therefore they could not be compared.

"Those were two different games. We know how Bermuda was playing, and Belize is totally different. In the future, we must focus more on our

final third and as we know, that is mainly our weakness. But as you can see, we could keep the intensity, we could dominate the game and put a lot of pressure on our opponents," Mohammed said.

In spite of Mohammed's bravado the fact is that the Bajan Tridents are set to take on much stiffer competition in the Confederation of North, Central American and Caribbean Association Football [CONCACAF] Nations League that begins September 08, and their showing so far against weak teams is less than encouraging.

The Tridents still have a chance to make amends before the CONCACAF encounters as they are set to face the Belizeans in a return match on this Central American country's home turf in August.

Mohammed that said his boys need to work harder on finishing in the final third of games.

"When we go to Belize August 4th, our plan will be the same. It doesn't matter if they are home, strong or not because in October El Salvador is waiting on us



Barbados' Omani Leacock (left) on the ball with Belize's Krisean Lopez in hot pursuit in last Sunday's action. Photo by George Alleyne

[for the Nation League Competition] ...We are ready for them [Belize] and going forward we will work on our finishing and

it will come in time. The most important thing was to keep the intensity of the game and we did that," Mohammed said.

Barbados now sits at number 160 in the world in FIFA rankings with Belize at 163, and Bermuda 178.



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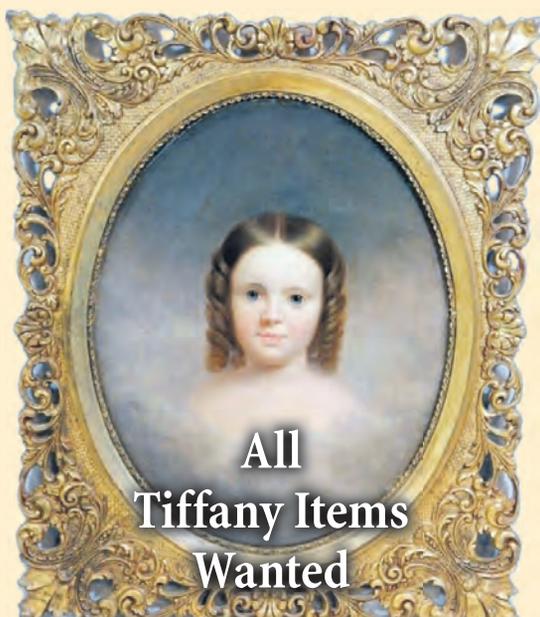
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**ARIES:** Mar 21/ Apr 20  
Opportunity is knocking, Aries. You must tune in and listen to it this week. Stay passionate in your endeavors, but exercise a little caution as well.

**TAURUS:** Apr 21/ May 21  
Taurus, honesty may be the best policy, but you may have to temper how much information you reveal at one time. Be a little stingy around sensitive people.

**GEMINI:** May 22/ Jun 21  
Gemini, this week may be off to a bumpy start, but you are perfectly capable of turning things around in a hurry. Just don't race too far ahead without a plan.

**CANCER:** Jun 22/ Jul 22  
Cancer, you are heading in the right direction, but you may have to fine-tune the destination this week. Your intended romantic target may not be the perfect fit.

**LEO:** Jul 23/ Aug 23  
Planning and project management seemingly takes over your life, Leo. Just when you think there is no time for fun, an exciting opportunity falls in your lap.

**VIRGO:** Aug 24/ Sept 22  
Virgo, your creative muse has come calling and you can't resist her siren's song. Dabble in any artistic or crafts project you can get your hands on in the next few days.

**LIBRA:** Sept 23/ Oct 23  
People often see you as even-keeled, Libra. But tempers may flare this week if you don't get your way. Others should watch when you're fired up.

**SCORPIO:** Oct 24/ Nov 22  
Scorpio, cater your plan and speech to the audience receiving it. You can gain more support if your message is well-received. Figure out new ways to communicate.

**SAGITTARIUS:** Nov 23/ Dec 21  
You do not have an argumentative nature, Sagittarius. So when you're bothered, it is probably for a good reason. Don't come out ready for a fight; instead, focus on mediating.

**CAPRICORN:** Dec 22/ Jan 20  
Capricorn, your energy is all over the map, so it may be best to schedule any major meetings or presentations for another time when you are more up to the task.

**AQUARIUS:** Jan 21/ Feb 18  
Aquarius, it may seem like you're feeling extreme highs or lows. Soon things will settle down. Enjoy some well-deserved escapism for the time being.

**PISCES:** Feb 19/ Mar 20  
This week you will have the ideal blend of patience and passion, which has people lining up to be on your team, Pisces.

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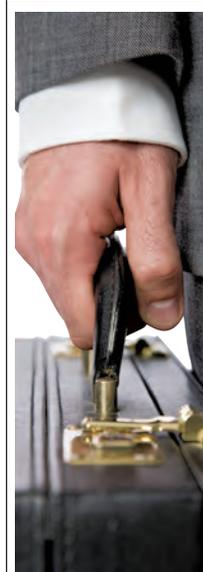
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## HELP WANTED

## HELP WANTED

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## HELP WANTED

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## HELP WANTED

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Office of the Public Advocate

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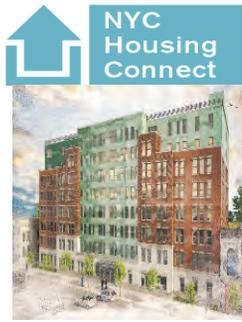
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**No application fee • No broker's fee • Smoke-free building**

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#### Who Should Apply?

Individuals or households who meet the income and household size requirements listed in the table below may apply. Qualified applicants will be required to meet additional selection criteria. Applicants who live in New York City receive a general preference for apartments.

A percentage of units is set aside for:

- Mobility-disabled applicants (5%)

Preference for a percentage of units goes to:

- Residents of **Brooklyn Community Board 14** (50%)
- Municipal employees (5%)

### AVAILABLE UNITS AND INCOME REQUIREMENTS

60% AREA MEDIAN INCOME (AMI) UNITS	Unit Size	Monthly Rent <sup>1</sup>	Units Available	Household Size <sup>2</sup>	Annual Household Income <sup>3</sup> Minimum – Maximum <sup>4</sup>
	3 bedroom	\$1,279	7		→
				4 people	\$43,852 - \$62,580
				5 people	\$43,852 - \$67,620
				6 people	\$43,852 - \$72,600

<sup>1</sup> Rent includes utilities.

<sup>2</sup> Household size includes everyone who will live with you, including parents and children. Subject to occupancy criteria.

<sup>3</sup> Household earnings includes salary, hourly wages, tips, Social Security, child support, and other income. Income guidelines subject to change.

<sup>4</sup> Minimum income listed may not apply to applicants with Section 8 or other qualifying rental subsidies. Asset limits also apply.

#### How Do You Apply?

Apply online or through mail. To apply online, please go to [nyc.gov/housingconnect](http://nyc.gov/housingconnect). To request an application **by mail**, send a **self-addressed envelope** to: **Crystal Towers, 87-14 116th Street, Richmond Hill, NY 11418**. Only send one application per development. Do not submit duplicate applications. Do not apply online and also send in a paper application. Applicants who submit more than one application may be disqualified.

#### When is the Deadline?

Applications must be postmarked or submitted online no later than **July 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018**. Late applications will not be considered.

#### What Happens After You Submit an Application?

After the deadline, applications are selected for review through a lottery process. If yours is selected and you appear to qualify, you will be invited to an interview to continue the process of determining your eligibility. Interviews are usually scheduled from 2 to 10 months after the application deadline. You will be asked to bring documents that verify your household size, identity of members of your household, and your household income.

**Español** Presente una solicitud en línea en [nyc.gov/housingconnect](http://nyc.gov/housingconnect). Para recibir una traducción de español de este anuncio y la solicitud impresa, envíe un sobre con la dirección a: **Crystal Towers, 87-14 116th Street, Richmond Hill, NY 11418**. En el reverso del sobre, escriba en inglés la palabra "SPANISH." Las solicitudes se deben enviar en línea o con sello postal antes de **6 de julio 2018**

**简体中文** 访问 [nyc.gov/housingconnect](http://nyc.gov/housingconnect) 在线申请。如要获取本广告及书面申请表简体中文版，请将您的回邮信封寄送至：**Crystal Towers, 87-14 116th Street, Richmond Hill, NY 11418**。信封背面请用英语注明“CHINESE”。必须在以下日期之前在线提交申请或邮寄书面申请 **2018年7月6日**

**Русский** Чтобы подать заявление через интернет, зайдите на сайт: [nyc.gov/housingconnect](http://nyc.gov/housingconnect). Для получения данного объявления и заявления на русском языке отправьте конверт с обратным адресом по адресу **Crystal Towers, 87-14 116th Street, Richmond Hill, NY 11418**. На задней стороне конверта напишите слово "RUSSIAN" на английском языке. Заявки должны быть поданы онлайн или отправлены по почте (согласно дате на почтовом штемпеле) не позднее **6 июля 2018**

**한국어** [nyc.gov/housingconnect](http://nyc.gov/housingconnect) 에서 온라인으로 신청하십시오. 이 광고문과 신청서에 대한 한국어 번역본을 받아보시려면 반송용 봉투를 **Crystal Towers, 87-14 116th Street, Richmond Hill, NY 11418** 으로 보내주세요. 봉투 뒷면에 "KOREAN" 이라고 영어로 적어주세요. **2018년 7월 6일**까지 온라인 신청서를 제출하거나 소인이 찍힌 신청서를 보내야 합니다.

**Kreyòl Ayisyen** Aplike sou entènèt sou sitwèb [nyc.gov/housingconnect](http://nyc.gov/housingconnect). Pou resewva yon tradiksyon anons sa a nan lang Kreyòl Ayisyen ak aplikasyon an sou papye, voye anvlòp ki gen adrès pou retounen li nan: **Crystal Towers, 87-14 116th Street, Richmond Hill, NY 11418**. Nan dèyè anvlòp la, ekri mo "HAITIAN CREOLE" an Anglè. Ou dwe remèt aplikasyon yo sou entènèt oswa ou dwe tenbre yo anvan dat **jiyè 6, 2018**

**العربية** تقدم بطلب عن طريق الإنترنت على الموقع الإلكتروني [nyc.gov/housingconnect](http://nyc.gov/housingconnect). للحصول على ترجمة باللغة العربية لهذا الإعلان ولنموذج الطلب الورقي، أرسل مظاروف يحمل اسمك وعنوانك إلى: **Crystal Towers, 87-14 116th Street, Richmond Hill, NY 11418**. على الجهة الخلفية للمظاروف، اكتب باللغة الإنجليزية كلمة "ARABIC". يجب إرسال نماذج الطلبات عن طريق الإنترنت أو ختمها بختم البريد قبل **6 يوليو، 2018**

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