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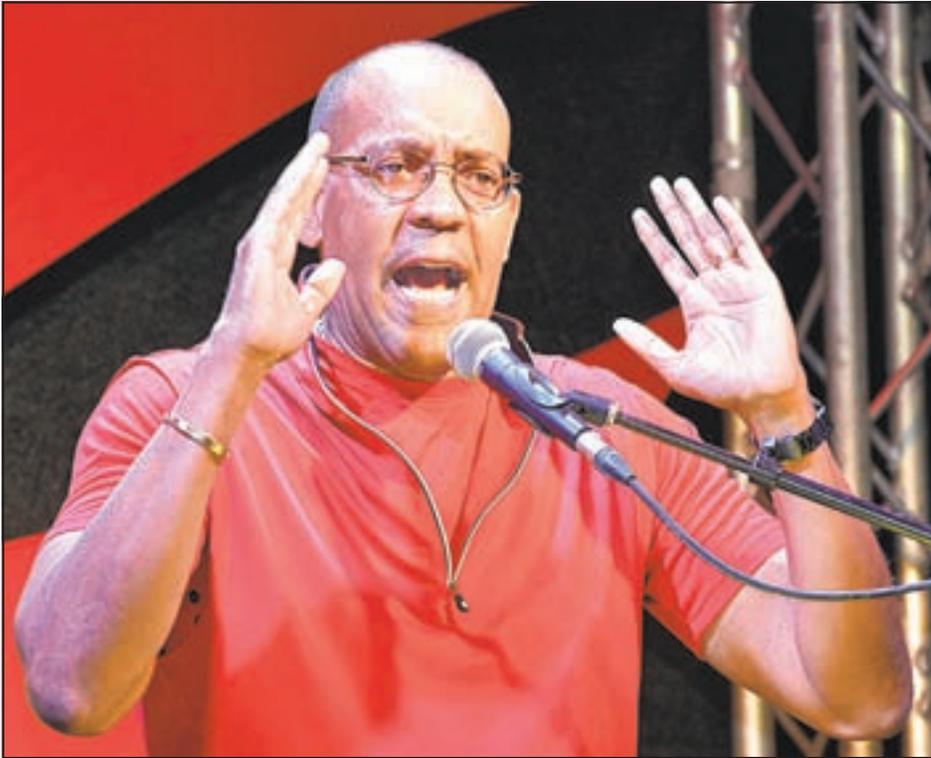


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Barbados Minister of Tourism Kerrie Symmonds.

Photo by George Alleyne

## Barbados closing tourism tax hole

By George Alleyne

Air BNB boasts a US\$2.6 billion haul from business worldwide in 2017, but despite Barbados being a principal player in that money build-up, the island received nothing in revenue and the new government has said this has to stop.

In fact, the recently appointed Minister of Tourism, Kerrie Symmonds, said this week that Air BNB is only one of a number of personal accommodation international businesses that have mushroomed over the last 13 years and are

making a tidy living in Barbados among other places, but paying no taxes.

Symmonds said that as far back as 2005 Barbados visitor-room accommodation began increasing in non-traditional ways.

“We’re not seeing it in the hotel sector, but in the privately-owned entities which may be houses that put up a room, the villa market, multi-tier accommodation, condominiums,” he said, adding that occupancy is fuelled by a peer-to-peer network in which owners attract guests,

through property managers, and as a result, “there is a significant (increase) in room inventory... are available for rent in Barbados for tourism purposes.”

He said government has identified 3,000 unregistered tourist accommodation units, which it will have licensed, and conservatively estimated that once those entities are brought into the tax stream by October “we should be in a position in the first fiscal year to get Bds\$8 to \$10 million (Bds\$1 = 50 cents US) into the cof-

Continued on Page 8

# MAJOR OIL FIND

## Guyana discovers even more oil offshore

By Bert Wilkinson

Two weeks after the company had told Guyana’s government that it was switching focus from exploratory to development wells, ExxonMobil on Wednesday announced yet another major oil find offshore Guyana as it races to make this Caribbean Community nation the latest oil producer in the regional grouping in early 2020.

From its Houston, Texas headquarters, the company said it had made its eight large oil discovery at a well it had named as Longtail-1, setting the stage for massive oil production from the southeastern section of now proven Stabroek Block. The block is located more than 100 miles north of the Guyana coast.

The announcement comes just days after Dr. Jan Mangal, the former Chevron professional the governing coalition had hired in the past year as an expert to advise it on oil and

gas, this week hurled stinging criticism at his bosses for not properly readying the country to prepare for an oil and gas economy.

Presidential adviser Mangal said authorities must move quickly to hire honest and competent professionals to help a country which is clueless about oil and gas and has been slow to build institutional capacity.

He warned that the poor will become poorer if the sector is not properly managed as cost of living is already rising, contending that this should not be the case as there are dozens of lessons about the so-called oil curse around the world for Guyana to learn from.

“We need technical people in the ministry of natural resources, in the revenue authority, ministry of finance and they are not appearing. It’s been over two years now. Go look at the natural resources and see how many foreign tech-

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## Caribbean American Healthcare Awards 2018

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# CARIBBEAN ROUNDUP

THE NEWS FROM BACK HOME

## Caribbean

Cuba's Deputy Foreign Minister Rogelio Sierra is moving to hold meetings with its Caribbean counterparts along with Cuban residents and Cuban state mission personnel in those countries.

Recently Sierra arrived in Trinidad and Tobago, the first Caribbean nation on his tour in the coming weeks to the Caribbean nations to strengthen diplomatic relations.

He will also visit Suriname, Barbados, Guyana and Jamaica, where Cuba established diplomatic relations on Dec. 8, 1972.



The Cuban minister aims to reaffirm the historic bilateral relations with the region; exchange ideas on topics of mutual interest and reaffirm Cuban solidarity to continue cooperation with the region.

## Bahamas

Civil aviation authorities are investigating a small plane crash that killed three American men recently on the island of Eleuthera in The Bahamas.

The plane, which authorities have identified as a private Cessna 421, took off from the Rock Sound Airport around 4 pm, en route to Ft Pierce, Fla. when it crashed moments after takeoff.

The accident was reported after a Bahamas Air plane flying over the crash site called the authorities to notify them of the crash. The aircraft went down in a wooded and underdeveloped island terrain.

By the time residents on the island arrived on the scene, the three men were already dead, with two of them burned beyond recognition. The aircraft had reportedly burst into flames upon crashing.



According to Bahamas Air Accident Investigation Department (AAID) chief investigator Delvin Major, the bodies of the victims have been flown to Nassau for positive identification and autopsies.

In January, an accident was reported involving a private plane that crashed just off North Andros, killing six passengers, including the pilot.

## Barbados

The Barbados government says it will continue to exchange views with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) as how to seek financial support from the Washington-based financial institution for its economic plan.

In a statement, the IMF — which spent three days in the country following days of discussions with the Ministry of Finance — said preliminary discussions were held on the key challenges



## Juneteenth celebration

Culture wrap: Vendor TJ of Fashions by TJ shows her headwrap designs during Juneteenth observances at Gershwin Park in Brooklyn. See story on Page 18.

Photo by Stefano Giovannini

faced by the government, including the country's very low level of international reserves, its unsustainable debt and the need to develop an economic plan designed to address current imbalances and create the conditions for sustained broad-based growth.

The statement said: "The Government and the IMF will continue to exchange views over the coming weeks and expects to be able to commence detailed discussions regarding Barbados' economic reform program in the coming weeks — a program that the IMF will be asked to support with financial assistance."

Prior to its departure, the head of the IMF delegation, Bert van Selm, said Barbados is in a precarious economic situation with its international reserves having dwindled to US\$220 million, while central government debt is unsustainable.

The IMF official said that the fiscal deficit has decreased over the last few years but remains large, at about four percent of gross domestic product (GDP) in the fiscal year 2017/2018.

## Grenada

A European Investment Bank (EIB) delegation recently visited Grenada to explore opportunities for financing new projects in the country and to meet high-level representatives from across

the region.

Head of the EIB Caribbean regional representation office, Rene Perez, and his colleagues discussed financing opportunities with senior government officials, private sector investors and project promoters with a view to providing loans to projects in Grenada.



The European Investment Bank has supported investment essential for private and public sector growth in Grenada and across the Caribbean.

CDB president Warren Smith and Jonathan Taylor, the EIB vice president responsible for climate action, recently signed a new emergency post-disaster reconstruction financing initiative during the UN Climate Change Conference (COP23).

## St. Lucia

The St. Lucia government was recently given information on the geothermal resource development project on what is needed to do to advance the project the next phase of exploratory drilling.

This comes a few weeks after Cabinet gave approval of the national energy transition strategy (NETS), which provides a guide on the least costly mix of renewable energy options available for St. Lucia to pursue a sustainable energy future.

Acting Prime Minister Ezekiel Joseph

said the geothermal talks are opportune as countries continue to grapple with sporadic increases in global oil prices.

He said the government is committed to exploring options that will provide stability in the energy sector and ultimately reduce the cost of energy to consumers.

The St Lucia government has also stipulated that investments be made to develop local capacity by training St. Lucians in key areas to help manage and run the project, once it's successful.

The World Bank and other global partners have made available US\$22.5 million in concessional and grant funding for St. Lucia to embark on the next phase of the project.

## Trinidad

The London-based Privy Council will decide whether the Trinidad and Tobago Law Association (LATT) has the authority to conduct an investigation into allegations of corruption against Trinidad and Tobago Chief Justice Ivor Archie.

The Appeal Court in Port of Spain, Trinidad, has granted leave, with consent of the LATT, to petition the British Law Lords in his



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# Guyana UN Ambassador named General Assembly VP

By Tangerine Clarke

Permanent Representative and Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Guyana to the United Nations, Rudolph M. Ten-Pow, has been elected by acclamation as a vice president to the UN 73rd General Assembly, scheduled for Sept. 18 – 30.

Ten-Pow who was recently presented with a citation from Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams, during Guyana's 52nd Independence Anniversary at Borough Hall, for his outstanding work in the community, is a long serving member of the Foreign Service of Guyana.

The diplomat, who has served as Guyana Permanent Representative to the UN since 2016, began his career in the Foreign Service of Guyana in 1980 as desk officer for Venezuela. He was later appointed head of the

Frontiers Division.

In 1986, Ambassador Ten-Pow joined the United Nations as a French and Spanish translator before serving at the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) in Santiago, Chile, according to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Georgetown.

Ten-Pow — who officiates and delivers speeches at many functions in the diaspora — upon his return to headquarters in 1991 served successively as reviser, training officer, chief of English Translation Service and acting director of the Documentation Division of the United Nations.

The multi-talented Ten-Pow joined the World Bank in Washington D.C. as senior program manager for Conference Services and served for two years, before returning to the UN as acting director of Documentation Division,

and later special adviser to the United Nations Coordinator for Multilingualism.

The diplomat, who earned Postgraduate Diplomas in Translation and Interpretation from the University of Geneva, Switzerland and a Master's Degree in Liberal Studies with a concentration in International Relations from the City University of New York, also served as special adviser to the United Nations Coordinator for Multilingualism.

Representatives from Algeria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cyprus, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Gambia, Iraq, Japan, Namibia, Panama, Qatar, San Marino, Spain, Sudan and Ukraine, along with five permanent members of the Security Council — China, France, Russian Federation, United Kingdom and the United States, were also elected to serve at the 73rd UNGA.



Rudolph M. Ten-Pow, Permanent Representative and Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Guyana to the United Nations, left, accepting a citation from Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams at recent Guyanese independence observances in Brooklyn. Photo by Tangerine Clarke

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# MAJOR OIL FIND OFF GUYANA

Continued from cover  
 nical experts are in there. It is zero. I am one person. Guyana can't rely on one person. Guyana needs to go and pull in a bunch of experts into government. My intention when I started was to build a team up, but unfortunately resources were not available," Mangal, contended.



The Noble Bobb Douglas oil rig offshore Guyana.

Photo by Bert Wilkinson

Exxon and partners Hess Oil and Nexen of China first announced a commercial oil and gas find back in May of 2015, holding back their announcement until after the local elections commission had declared the results or the general elections to avoid possible allegations that it was moving to influence the result.

Since then, only two of the 10 wells drilled so far have proven to be dry ones, a development Operations Manager Doug McGehee says is unprecedented for the company anywhere else in the world.

"We are going to be drilling non stop for a long time to come. Guyana is a marvel. In other places, may you get a successful well in one out of ten tries, maybe five, but what we have seen in Guyana we

have not seen anywhere else,' he told this publication during a media tour of the company's Noble Bob Douglas drilling ship in late April.

The company said it is planning to bring yet another drilling ship — a third — to work alongside the Bob Douglas and the Stenna Carron as it steps up activities to drill 17 wells in phase one of its development plans leading to "first oil" in 2020. Phase two which could kick off around 2022, would see close to 40 wells being drilled based on current estimates. Such is the extent of the massive "world class" oil find off the Guyana coast.

The latest discovery comes as nearly every oil major of repute is vying for concessions near Exxon's block or to buy into others which already have concessions.

Two massive floating production, storage and offloading vessels (FPSOs) are under construction in Asia. Ships carrying away fuel to markets will be fed from these two storage vessels.

When Guyana starts production, it will join Trinidad, Suriname and Barbados as producers in the 15 nation Caribbean grouping. Suriname and Barbados produce from wells onshore.

# Barbados closing tourism tax hole

Continued from cover  
 fers of Barbados."

"These entities that constitute the so-called sharing economy... they do not own any lodging. They come here and do business here and they act essentially as brokers, receiving a percentage of the service fee. They are the intermediary that allows the guests in Europe or in the United States to come here to a host accommodation.

The minister said, "Many of those entities are not registered," adding that they have been assessed to average US\$336 per night room rate.

"That is comparable to some of the five-star [hotels] on the West Coast of Barbados.

"Effectively, therefore, we have a substantive amount of business taking place, which is not registered," Symmonds said.

Striking the attitude of

an administration faced with the challenge of fixing an economy long in recession, Symmonds said that government intends to have such tourism accommodation homes registered and made to pay their fair share of levies, "and where there is non-compliance shut down the operator."

"We cannot allow entities of that nature to effectively dig a subterranean tunnel under the revenue of Barbados enroute to finding the bank that they do business with."

While making it clear that government does not "want to stifle entrepreneurial spirit" he argued, "but you can't talk about stifling something that has been existence since 2005."

He said the solution is to have a zero-tolerance approach to this type of business "if it is not registered and paying its fair share."

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# Trump is here to stay and change the world

By Roberto Savio

ROME, June 18, 2018 (IPS) - Donald John Trump, 45th and current president of the United States, has been seen in many illustrious circles as an anomaly that cannot last. Well, it is time to look at reality.

If we put on the glasses of people who have seen their level of income reduced and are afraid of the future, Trump is here to stay, and he is a result and not a cause.

In his year and a half of government, Trump has not lost one of his battles. He has changed the political discourse worldwide, established new standards of ethics in politics, a new meaning of democracy, and his electoral basis has not been shrinking at all.

His critics are the media (which a large majority of Americans dislike), the elite (which is hated) and professionals (who are considered to be profiting at the expense of the lower section of the middle class).

There is now a strong divide with the rural world, the de-industrialised parts of the United States, miners with their mine closed, etc. In addition, white Americans feel increasingly threatened by immigrants, minorities, corporations and industries which have been using the government to their advantage. At every election their number shrinks by two percent.

Let us not forget that Trump was elected by the vote of the majority of white woman, in a country which is the bedrock of feminism.

I know that this could cre-

ate some irate reactions. The United States is home to some of the best universities in the world, the most brilliant researchers as shown by the number of Nobel prizes awarded, very good orchestras, libraries, museums, a vibrant civil society, and so on. But the sad reality is that those elites count, at best, for no more than 20 percent of the population.

In 80 percent of cases, TV news is the only source of information on international affairs. Newspapers are usually only local, with exception of a few (Wall Street Journal, New York Times, Washington Post, Los Angeles Times, in all less than ten), and have a readership of 35 percent of the population.

You have only to travel in the United States hinterland to observe two striking facts: it is very rare to meet somebody who knows geography and history even minimally, and everybody is convinced that the United States has been helping the entire world for which nobody is grateful.

An investigation by the New York Times found out that Americans were convinced that their country has been giving at least 15 percent of its budget for support and philanthropy. In fact, in recent decades the real figure has been below 0.75 percent. At the same time, it has a number of institutes of international studies of the highest level with brilliant analysts, plus a large number of international NGOs. But only 34 percent of the member of the Senate, and 38 percent of members of the House of Representatives have a passport...

The country is divided into two worlds. Of course, the same happen in every country, and in Africa or Asia the division between elite and low-level population is even more extreme. But the United States is an affluent country, where for more than two centuries efforts have been made on the fronts of education and integration in a country which has also been called the "melting pot," and where it is widely believed that it is the best — if not the only — democracy in the world.

Trump, therefore, has an easy and captive electorate, made up of strong believers, and we cannot understand why, if we do not go over the history of American politics, which is in fact parallel to the political history of Europe. The calls for a lengthy analysis which is what is missing in today's media, and in which recent United States politics can be divided (very roughly) into three historical cycles.

The first, from 1945 to 1981), saw the political class convinced that the priority was to avoid a new world war. For this, institutions for peace and cooperation had to be built, and individuals were to be happy with their status and destiny.

Internationally, that meant the creation of the United Nation, multilateralism as a way to negotiate on the basis of participation and consensus, and international cooperation as a way to help poor countries develop and reduce inequalities. Domestically, this was to be done by giving priority to labour over capital. Strong trade unions were created and in 1979 income from labour accounted for 70 percent of total income. A similar trend was also the seen in Europe.

The second cycle ran from 1981 to 2009, the year Barack Obama was named president. On behalf of the corporate world, Ronald Reagan had launched the neoliberal wave. He started by shutting down the trade union of air traf-

fic controllers, and went on to dismantle much of the welfare and social net built over the previous four decades, eliminating regulations, giving free circulation to capital, creating unrestricted free trade, and so on.

That led to delocalisation of factories, the decline of trade unions and their ability to negotiate, and a very painful reduction of the labour share of wealth, which fell from 70 percent in 1979 to 63 percent in 2014, and has continued to decline ever since.

Unprecedented inequalities have become normal and accepted. Today, an employee at Live Nation Entertainment, an events promotion and ticketing company, who earns an average of 24,000 dollars would need 2,893 years to earn the 70.6 million dollars that its CEO, Michael Rapino, earned last year.

Reagan had a counterpart in Europe, Margaret Thatcher, who dismantled trade unions, ridiculed the concept of community and common goods and aims ("... there is no such thing as society. There are individual men and women and there are families ..."), partly followed by Gerard Schroeder in Germany. Globalisation became the undisputed new political vision, far from the rigid ideologies which had created communism and fascism, and were responsible for the Second World War. The market would solve all problems, and governments should keep their hands off.

Reagan was followed by Bush Sr., George H. W. Bush. who somewhat moderated Reagan's policies. While he started the war with Iraq, he did not go on to invade the entire country. And he was followed by a Democrat, Bill Clinton, who did not challenge neoliberal globalisation but tried to ride it, showing that the left (in American terms) could be more efficient than the right. To give just one example, it was Clinton who completed deregulation of

banks by repealing the Glass-Steagall Act which separated savings and investment banking. That led to the transfer of billions of dollars from savings to investments, or speculation, with the result that today banks consider customer activity less lucrative than investments, and finance has become a sector that is totally separate from the production of goods and services. There are now 40 times more financial transactions in one day than output from industry and services, and finance is the only sector of human activity without any international control body.

Markets are now more important than the vote of citizens given that, in many cases, it is they that decide the viability of a government. Furthermore, this has become a sector with no ethics: since the financial crisis of 2008, banks have paid a whopping amount of 321 billion dollars in penalties for illegal activities.

Clinton's conviction that the left could be successful also had its counterpart in Europe, like Reagan had Thatcher. It was Tony Blair, who constructed a theoretical design for explaining the submission of the left to neoliberal globalisation: this was the so-called Third Way which was, in fact, was a centrist position that tried to reconcile centre-right economic and centre-left social policies.

However, it became clear that neoliberal globalisation was in fact lifting only a few boats and that capital without regulation was becoming a threat. Social injustices continued to increase and legions of people in the rural area felt that towns were syphoning off all revenues and that the elite was ignoring them, and unemployed workers and the impoverished middle class no longer felt old loyalties to the left, which was now considered representative of the elite and professionals.

In the United States the Democratic Party, which also

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# 50 years of Jamaica's signature music

"Jamaica to UK, the Reggae Revolution" themes IRD's 2018 Celebration of 50 Years of Reggae & Synergy With England.

A mention of the word reggae and folks may conjure images of red, gold and green, Rastafarians, Jamaica, music, dance and maybe even scents from puffs of aromatic weed wafting in the air.

The varied interpretation to a genre of music that originated in Jamaica 50 years ago is far more comprehensive, interpretative and definitive.

Perhaps that is why, midway in its existence, one woman decided to dedicate an entire day to showcasing some of the elements that comprise the music that also celebrates culture, family, heritage and a long list of proud achievements.

According to founder Andrea Davis, it was seeing and hearing Winnie Mandela in Kingston, Jamaica in 1992 that motivated her to herald the genre.

The South African matriarch and freedom fighter had accompanied her husband Nelson to the island for a 'thank you' visit after his release from



## Inside Life

By Vinette K. Pryce

27 years of imprisonment in his homeland.

Davis was among the privileged audience invited to listen with other women in the capital city to the candid opinions Mandela lavished on the role reggae played in eradicating apartheid.

Davis explained that with that armor and the facts she had already laid claim to in Jamaica Arts Holdings (yes, JAH) she felt compelled to make a difference. She said she was convinced recording artists, scholars, music insiders and other like-minded individuals would share her vision of celebrating the revolutionary music.

Davis had also witnessed the impact of the music, working as an executive at JAMPRO, a governmental agency tasked with promoting the island.

Independent of government support or major sponsorship

affiliations, (and with little cash) the lone, young, entrepreneur, mother and reggae purist embarked on a project she envisioned to be a 24-hour global celebration of Jamaican music and culture.

Of all the days and months already claimed for various commemorations, she chose JulyOne as the likeliest to flaunt the beat and rhythm that coined a new word to the global lexicon.

Two years later, her vision became a reality, with food, fashion, dance and artistry dominating the proceedings. After eliciting an alliance with the University of the West Indies and a number of radio stations on the island, she was able to broaden her reach which extended like tentacles throughout the world.

"In a year which marks UK's role in the development of reggae in the last 50 years,



Andrea Davis with British reggae deejay Mixmaster J at IRD 2015 celebration. Photo by Vinette K. Pryce

the 2018 theme is 'Jamaica to UK: The Reggae Revolution,' Davis said. "IRD is the first ever annual calendar event to be officially proclaimed and dedicated to celebrating the best of Jamaica's lifestyle music and its impact on global culture."

WBAI-99.5 FM will laud the annual during a broadcast on the Global Black Experience hosted by Imhotep Gary Byrd on the eve of the anniversary.

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# Trump is here to stay and change the world

Continued from Page 10

held a neoliberal view with Clinton, began to change its agenda from an economic approach to one of human rights, defending minorities, Afro-Americans and immigrants, and advocating their inclusion in the system.

The fight was no longer between corporations and trade unions, and Obama was the result of that fight, the champion of human rights also as an instrument of international affairs. In fact, while he had a brilliant agenda on human rights, he did very little on the social and economic front, beside the law on national health. But his alliance of minorities and progressive whites was a personal baggage, who could not pass on to an emblematic figure of the establishment like Hillary Clinton.

That led to a new situation in American politics. Those on the left began to see defence of their identity (and their past) as the new fight, now that the traditional division between left and right had waned. Religious identity, national identity, fight against the system and those who are different, become political action.

It should be stressed that the same process happened in Europe, albeit in a totally different cultural and social situation. Those left out deserted the traditional political system to vote for those who were against the system, and

promised radical changes to restore the glories of the past.

Their message was necessary nationalist, because they denounced all international systems as merely supporting the elites who were the beneficiaries. It was also necessarily to find a scapegoat, like the Jews in the thirties. Immigrants were perfect because they aroused fear and a perceived loss of traditional identity, a threat in a period of large unemployment.

The new political message from the newcomers was to empower those left out, those who felt fear, those who had lost any trust in the political class, and promise to give them back their sovereignty, reject intruders and take power away from the traditional elites, the professionals of politics, to bring in real people.

Since the end of the financial crisis in 2008 – which brought about even further deterioration of the social and economic situation) – those parties known as populist parties started to grow and they now practically dominate the political panorama.

In the United States, the Republicans of the Tea Party, radical right-wing legislators, were able to change the Republican party, pushing out those called compassionate conservatives because they had social concern. In Europe, the media were startled to see workers voting for Marine Le Pen in France, but

the left had lost any legitimacy as representative of the lower incomes; technological change led to the disappearance of social identities, like workers.

In a period of crisis, there was no capability for redistribution. The left had now found itself in the middle of a crisis of identity and it will not emerge from it soon.

Let us now come to today. In November 2016, to universal amazement, (and his own) Trump was elected president of the United States, and just four months later, in March 2017, Brexit came as a rude awakening for Europe.

The resentful and fearful went to the polls to get Great Britain out of Europe. The fact that the campaign was plagued by falsehood — recognised by the winners after the referendum — was irrelevant. Who was against Brexit? The financial system, the international corporations, the big towns like London, university professors: in other words, the system. That was enough.

Here, I have deliberately lumped together the United States and Europe (the European Union) to show that globalisation has had a global impact. A United States, which had been the creator and guarantor of the international system, started to withdraw from it under Reagan when he felt that it was becoming a straitjacket for the United States.

This started the decline of the Unit-

ed Nations: on American initiative, trade was taken away from the United Nations and the World Trade Organisation (WTO) was created. Globalisation has two engines, trade and finance, and both are now out of the United Nations, which has become an institution for health, education, children, woman and other non-productive sectors, according to the market.

It is no coincidence that Trump is now fighting against the globalisation that United States invented, and one of its main enemies is the WTO.

An old maxim is that people get the government they deserve. But we should also be aware that they are being pushed by a new alliance: the alternative right alliance. In all countries it has the same aim: destroy what exists.

This network is fed at the same time by Russia and the United States. American alt-right ideologues like Steve Bannon are addressing European audiences to foster the end of the European Union, with clear support from the White House.

The populists in power, like Viktor Orban in Hungary or Matteo Salvini in Italy (as well those not in power, like Le Pen) all consider Trump and Vladimir Putin as their points of references. Such alliances are new, and they will become very dangerous.



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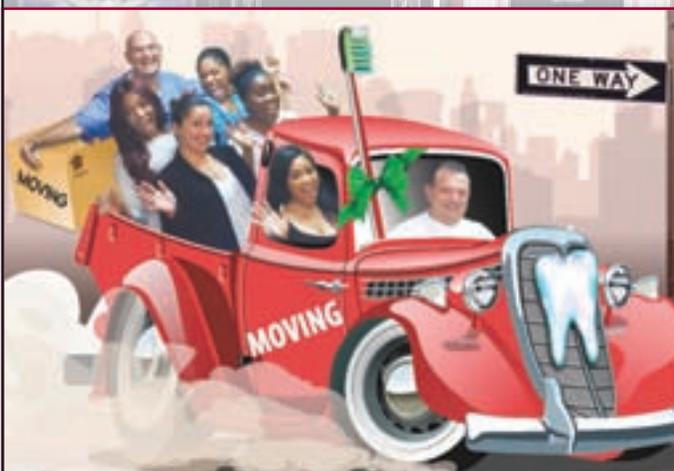
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# Barbados cracked an egg



Barbados Prime Minister Mia Mottley about to deliver the budget. Photo by George Alleyne

By George Alleyne

Barbados Prime Minister Mia Mottley has delivered on many campaign promises, brought almost immediate breaks to the nation that overwhelming elected her government, and set down sacrifices to me made for economic recovery, all in one fell swoop.

Coming to office to preside over a country facing a debt level of over \$15 billion ((Bds \$1 = 50 cents US), with public liability as a proportion of national income at 171 percent, Mottley Monday presented her first budget that had a mixture of relief measures and financial initiatives aimed at righting the economy.

Introducing what she dubbed a 'mini-budget' Mottley said it was intended to begin the process of stopping "the hemorrhaging and decay, and return our beloved nation to a status of pride and enjoyment by residents and the admiration of friends and nations, near and far."

Reflecting on a campaign promise to halt the island's decline and restore confidence and hope, she said, "I gave my word that a Barbados Labour Party Government under my

leadership would respond courageously to the social and economic crises now facing the country, and that we would make the tough choices between what is essential, what is highly desirable and what is optional."

True to her word Mottley announced repeal of the law for the National Social Responsibility Levy (NSRL) of 10 percent tax on all goods brought into this import-dependent country, that had so annoyed Barbadians they had taken to the streets in two mass protests against it last year.

Removal of this law should see price reductions for food and other essential items within months.

The one item that perhaps had irked Barbadians more than the NSRL was the last government's imposition of partial fees on university education from 2014. Since independence in 1966 Barbadians had been accustomed to free university study once they met the academic requirements and regardless of their economic position.

The 2014 fee imposition had seen an enrollment fall-off by thousands.

Among other relief measures

were an increase in old-age pensions and welfare of the most vulnerable, and a grant of a five per cent public servants wage increase that was frozen for 10 years.

Over the years of economic decline Barbados had suffered a wide range of infrastructural neglect and this budget, presented merely 18 days after elections, pumped millions of dollars into fixing the South Coast sewage spill problem that had embarrassed this island as a prime tourism destination.

Millions were also thrust into getting public transportation buses on the road and acquiring garbage trucks to deal with trash pile-ups that had become a feature of recent years.

These initiatives aimed at returning Barbadians to the standard of life to which they were accustomed, were coupled with new taxes on water and air travel along with a rearranging of several levies on transactions and other activities, some of which are optional thereby giving consumers choices while others represent increased contributions for badly needed national development.

"So, there is some sacrifice," Mottley said as she presented the budget standing in as the nation's first female prime min-

ister. "But we cannot promise to serve omelette down the road, if we refuse at this time, to crack the eggs."

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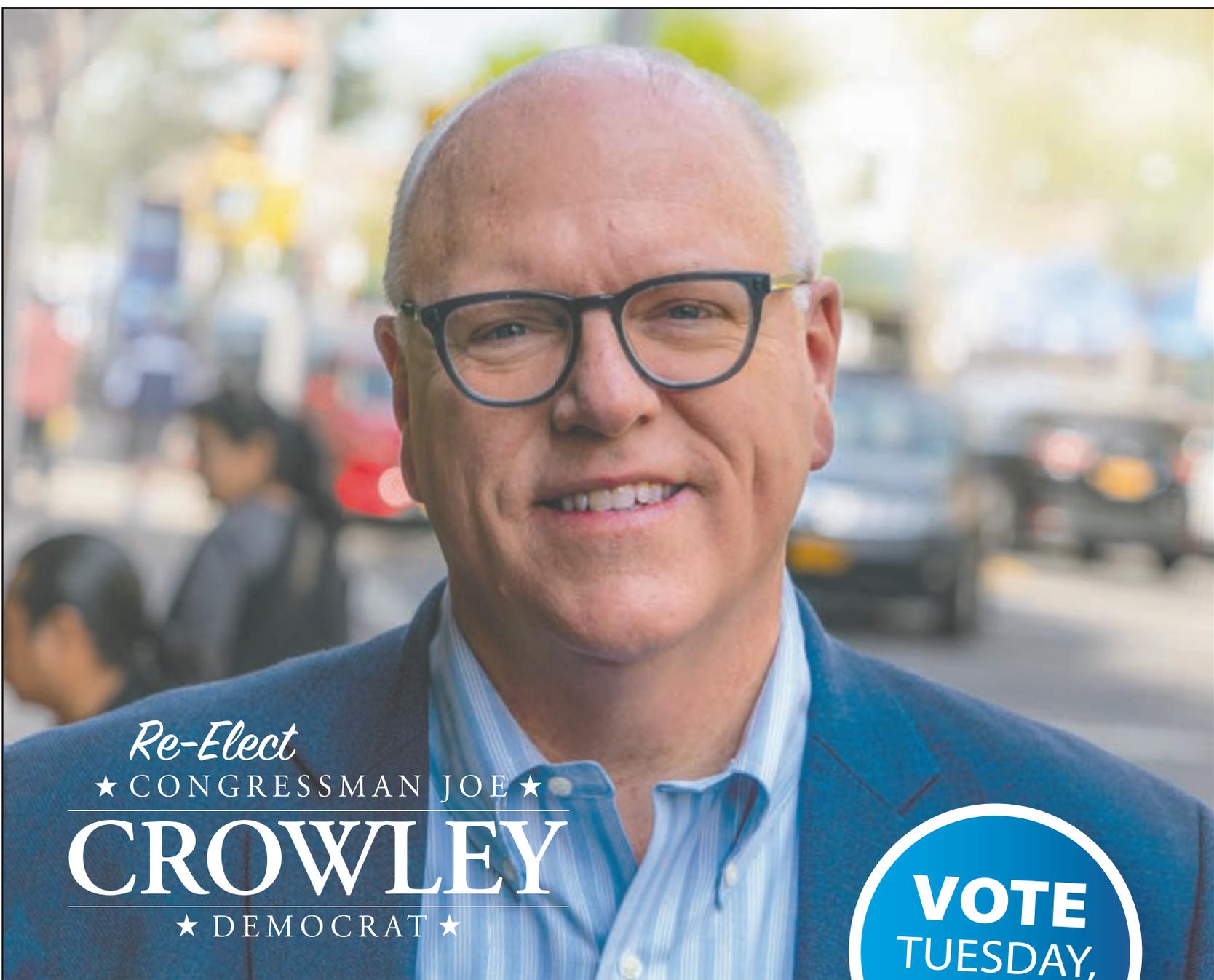
Dr. Melinda Keller, who treats serious back pain without surgery explains how the DRX9000™

works... "Over 10 years ago, NASA began to notice an unexpected result of space travel: Astronauts that left with back pain would come back without it. After investigated this now phenomenon here's what they found: During the anti-gravity state of the mission there were decompressive forces on the intervertebral discs and back pain was relieved. How? When you travel through space, the effects of gravity are removed and you are in a weightless state. All the pressure is taken off your spine and discs. Even better — and this is the key — a negative pressure is created. This negative pressure actually sucks the herniated material back into the disc and allows it to heal. Thanks to the

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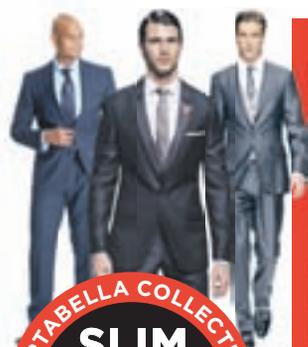
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## CARIBBEAN ROUNDUP

Continued from Page 5

bid to stop the organization from moving ahead with its investigation.

In addition to leave being granted, the LATT has also agreed to hold the special general meeting to discuss a report on the investigation and the advice given by two Senior Counsels (SCs) who were retained by the law body.

The Appeal Court has refused to grant an injunction preventing the associa-

tion's legal counsel — Dr Francis Alexis QC, of Grenada and Eamon Courtney, QC, of Belize — from continuing with their deliberations. The hearing is set to take place on July 23.

Archie is seeking to have the Privy Council overturn a ruling by three Appeal Court judges, who found that the LATT had the legal authority to carry out the investigation.

— compiled by Azad Ali

## Soft money coming to Barbados

By George Alleyne

Early indications that the new Barbados government is inspiring confidence in the international community are an International Monetary Fund undertaking to grant the island concessional loans, and a hemispheric bank's commitment to chip in also.

These positive signs emerged over the past few days despite the administration having suspended payments on the country's mountain of foreign debt, repayment of which threatened wipe out its international currency reserves and leave it still owing hundreds of millions.

An upbeat Prime Minister Mia Mottley last weekend returned from a Washington meeting with IMF Managing Director, Christine Lagarde, and spoke of the imminent loan from that organisation at a one percent interest rate to help Barbados begin meeting its debt obligations and start redevelopment projects.

An IMF team is due in Barbados from July 2 to 12 to negotiate the loan.

Though Mottley did not state the amount of money expected from the Fund, the one percent interest credit rate is a remarkable achievement itself when taken against the backdrop of Barbados over the past 10 years suffering some 22 international credit rating downgrades, which had caused lenders worldwide shy away doing business with the island, unless high interest repayment could be attached to any loans granted.

An example, a US\$225 loan that the past government had to accept from Credit Suisse AG Cayman Islands in 2013 at an interest rate ranging between 7.5 and 8.5 percent.

Mottley said that among the reasons for the positive outcome of her talks with the IMF last week is a recognition "there are things that the Barbados government must do because we have strongly fought for it and argued that this must be the basis upon which we move forward if we are to keep out country together."

The new Barbados prime minister's confidence was backed by none other than the IMF head, Lagarde, who tweeted, "it was a pleasure to meet Prime Minister @miaamormottley today. I reiterated our support for Barbados and its economic reform plan, which aims to put the economy on a sustainable path while protecting the poor."

Mottley reported to the nation, "we were able to discuss with her (Lagarde) and her team the framework that we put on the table. And we made it very clear that we had mission-critical issues that we have to deal with, that we inherited a government with infrastructure that was largely broken. Busses that Barbadians couldn't get. Garbage trucks that are not functioning. A sewerage system that is affecting the south coast".

But even before the IMF team touches down in Barbados for the concessional loan negotiations, a delegation from the Inter-American Bank arrived in Barbados for talks Wednesday.

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# Brooklyn doctor performs innovative hand surgery

By Nelson A. King

A doctor at Kings County Hospital in Brooklyn, officially known as NYC Health+Hospitals/Kings County, has become one of the first doctors in New York City, and likely the first in Brooklyn, to use an innovative method of hand surgery that allows patients to be awake during the outpatient procedure.

Known as WALANT, an acronym for Wide Awake Local Anesthesia No Tourniquet, Kings County Hospital said on Thursday that the surgical technique was first performed at the hospital on Nov. 3, 2017 — one of the first in New York City.

It is believed that Kings County Hospital has the first and only ambulatory facility dedicated to wide-awake hand surgery — with no pre-operative testing or post-operative recovery or monitoring — in the city.

While traditional hand surgeries require general anesthe-

sia and a tourniquet to stem the flow of blood through a vein or artery, the new technique requires neither, Kings County Hospital said. Dr. Steven M. Koehler, director of Orthopedic Hand Surgery at the hospital, performs WALANT surgery in the Ambulatory Care Clinic on patients who are awake during the entire process.

Kings County Hospital said the procedure lasts about 45 minutes from check-in to check-out.

The hospital said patients receive an anesthetic injected at the surgical site, epinephrine to stop bleeding and lidocaine to subdue pain — the same medications commonly used in simple dental procedures.

The most common conditions for which WALANT surgery is available at Kings County Hospital include carpal tunnel release, follow-up surgeries after amputation (often called revision surgery), the removal of cysts that develop on the wrist (dorsal wrist ganglion

excision), tendon repairs and transfers, reconstructive repair of wounds and the removal of dead tissue or foreign objects.

“When patients are not sedated during surgery, they are able to receive education and more readily participate in their care,” Dr. Koehler said.

“With the lack of sedation, their memory is not impaired, and they can leave right after the surgery, without having to recover from sedation or unnecessary opiates,” he added.

“They can ask questions and see a repair — perhaps a return of function — during the surgery,” he continued. “Educating the patient during surgery not only provides better outcomes and fewer complications but is beneficial to the overall patient experience.”

Kings County Hospital said patients also benefit in other ways from WALANT surgery.

It said patients don’t need pre-operative procedures, such as EKGs or chest X-rays, nor



Dr. Steven M. Koehler performs hand surgery on patient Manny Felt, assisted by registered nurse Olivia Ross at Kings County Hospital in Brooklyn. Kings County Hospital

do they need an anesthesia consultation. There’s no fasting or changing medication schedules beforehand, which is particularly important to those with diabetes.

Kings County Hospital said the procedure is quicker, and, because the surgeon can perform more surgeries each day, there is typically less time to wait for an appointment than for traditional hand

surgery. Importantly, Kings County Hospital said there are also fewer complications. In some cases, the hospital said WALANT offers a treatment when traditional surgery is not an option.

It pointed to a recent example of a woman who needed repairs for cut tendons and nerves in her hand, but open surgery was contraindicated because she is pregnant.

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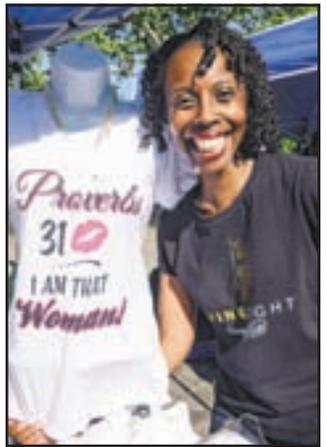
# East New York observes annual Juneteenth celebration

By Alexandra Simon

Hundreds participated in the festive ninth annual Juneteenth celebration at Gershwin Park in East New York on June 16. The yearly event celebrating June 19, also known as Juneteenth — the emancipation of slavery in Texas, honors that milestone with an all-day community get-together. Featuring a talent show, music, arts and crafts, and dancing, the day was especially filled with a lot to see for newcomers, according to one attendee.

“It was my first time going to this and it turned out very well,” said Canarsie designer Nicole Brown. “I’ve heard of Juneteenth over the years to the extent where it peaked my interest, but when I found out about this — I thought ‘Wow it’s a great idea.’”

Brown, who came to vend and sell several of her religious empowerment tee shirts, wishes she got to take part in more activities, particularly tasting some of the cuisine.



Empowering tees: Designer Nicole Brown of Living Light Designs poses with one of

“I didn’t get to sample as much food as I wanted, but nonetheless it was very pleasant,” she said.

One of her favorite moments of the day was an appearance by a mature musical dance troupe, which marched and danced.

“I’m a music girl and anywhere there’s a stage and

music I gravitate to, and when they had a marching band with a more senior group line dancers doing the electric slide, I thought that was so cool,” said Brown.

She said she was already planning her second return to the event because she loved how it brought people of different backgrounds to celebrate a significant event for the African Diaspora.

“I think they’ve done an awesome job with Juneteenth,” said Brown. “Umoja events has been doing this for nine years and will be going on to its tenth year, and they’re bringing different cultures, ethnicities, and creatives together on one platform.

“We are people of ingenuity and to have a platform to be open, allows us to express our creativity through dance, art, music, jewelry, and use our own history to create an awesome experience for it.”



Recognizing community: Umoja Events presented several community members with recognitions.

Photo by Stefano Giovannini

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# NYC Comptroller honors Caribbean Americans

By Nelson A. King

As part of his Caribbean American Heritage Month celebrations, New York City Comptroller Scott M. Stringer on Tuesday honored three Caribbean Americans in a grand celebration at Tropical Paradise Ballroom on Utica Avenue in Brooklyn.

Stringer bestowed the honor on Haitian educator, community organizer and activist Dr. Monalisa Ferrari, US Virgin Islands (USVI)-born pastor Gilford T. Monroe, and Panamanian roots DJ Norie.

Norie was not present to accept the award, but Stringer told the packed crowd, to huge laughter, that he was bestowing the award whether or not he showed up.

"We have three amazing honorees," Stringer said. "Our City has long been a beacon of hope for immigrants. From Canarsie in Brooklyn to Gun Hill in the Bronx, Caribbean-American New Yorkers' vibrant energy, strong community,



Jamaican Andrew Clarke, of Braata Productions, performs "Rivers of Babylon."

Photo by Nelson A. King

and entrepreneurial spirit have become part of the very fabric of our city.

"Our nearly one million Caribbean-American citizens have made this city what it is today," he added. "You've helped build our boroughs, you've lifted up our neighborhoods, and you've served New Yorkers as nurses, doctors, police officers, law-

yers, firefighters, and entrepreneurs.

"You're our neighbors, friends, colleagues, family members," he continued. "And immigrants enrich us in ways that can't be counted."

He noted that more than 670,000 New Yorkers — over 20 percent of the city's immigrant population — are eligible for naturalization, but haven't applied, because of the cost.

Dr. Ferrari works at the NYC Department of Education as a professional development coordinator, and has previously served as a dean, middle school director, lead teacher and mentor.

Pastor Monroe has been a religious leader and community activist since moving to NYC in 1999. He serves as chaplain for the Metropolitan Transportation Authority, and director of Faith Based and Clergy Initiatives at the Brooklyn Borough President's Office.

DJ Norie is considered "America's most influential



Dr. Monalisa Ferrari received an award from Comptroller Scott Stringer.

Photo by Nelson A. King

radio personality for dance hall reggae."

The honor ceremony was preceded by two selections

from Andrew Clarke, of the Jamaican folklore group, Braata Productions: "Rivers of Babylon" and "Smile Jamaica."



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Alicia Bárcena, Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) Executive Secretary, during the European Union seminar held in Panama. Courtesy: EU

# Call for 'new narrative' for Caribbean development

By Nelson A. King

The Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), Alicia Bárcena, has called for a "new narrative" on international cooperation for the region's development.

In addressing a high-level meeting in Panama City, organized by the European Union (EU), Bárcena said there was need for "rethinking development and generating a new consensus, based on greater regional integration, international cooperation that effectively supports the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean in their transition to development, and investments and industrial policies that favor the environmental push toward more sustainable growth for equality."

Bárcena was one of the main speakers at the EU's Regional Seminar for Latin America and the Caribbean, convened by the Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development of the European Union (DG DEVCO). The seminar concluded last Friday.

Bárcena participated in the panel "Opportunities for cooperation with Latin America and the Caribbean in the context of the EU Consensus," along with Stefano Manservigi, Director-General of DG DEVCO; Jorge Familiar Calderón, Vice President of the World Bank; and Mario Pezzini, Director of the Paris-based Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development's (OECD) Development Centre.

In her remarks, ECLAC's Executive Secretary said that, "in light of the deep tectonic shifts currently defining globalization — the technological revolution, the future of work in view of robotics, climate change, geopolitical changes, the crisis of mega-agreements, migration and the aging population — it is urgent that we seek new patterns of production and consumption.

"In this scenario, the United Nations

2030 Agenda and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) represent a paradigm shift; it is a civilizing agenda that requires better international and regional governance," Bárcena underscored.

"In this uncertain international context, international cooperation plays a key role, particularly for nations in transition or middle-income countries," she added.

Currently, Bárcena said 85 of the countries in the region are included in this category, "which classifies them according to per capita gross national product (GNP), without considering the deep structural gaps that many of them present.

"These countries have 'graduated', so to speak, and are no longer eligible to receive official development aid (ODA), but this does not guarantee their access to other sources of financing and eliminates trade preferences," she said.

"In the case of small island developing states (SIDS), especially in the Caribbean, the size and isolation of their economies are a significant restriction to the mobilization of national resources, in addition to their vulnerability to the effects of climate change and debt accumulation," Bárcena added.

She reiterated that although Latin America and the Caribbean have managed to significantly reduce inequalities in recent years, it continues to be the most unequal region in the world.

Bárcena said that this reduction of inequalities has led to "a transformation in the structure of societies, pulling a large number of households out of poverty."

She pointed to figures that show that the middle classes are increasing at a greater rate than the average for OECD countries.

"Nevertheless, these middle classes have been left more vulnerable to the setbacks of development, which could return them to a situation of poverty," Bárcena said.



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# Jamaica reaffirms infrastructure investment

By Nelson A. King

Jamaica's Minister of Industry, Commerce, Agriculture and Fisheries, Audley Shaw, has reiterated the Andrew Holness government's commitment to providing an enabling infrastructure for investment.

In addressing the opening ceremony of the third staging of the nation's premier investment event, the Jamaica Investment Forum (JIF), at the Iberostar Convention Centre in Montego Bay, Jamaica, Shaw said Jamaica is fast becoming the regional poster child for fiscal prudence and economic growth, according to the Jamaica Information Service (JIS).

Shaw said this is buoyed by "a skilled and talented workforce with current and relevant legislative framework supporting established, as well as fledgling industries."

Shaw, who has portfolio responsibility for JAMPRO, after previously serving as Minister of Finance and Public Service, noted that having provided macro-economic stability, he is now charged with micro-economic mobilization.

JAMPRO is an agency of the Government of Jamaica's Ministry of Industry, Commerce, Agriculture and Fisheries (MICAF) that promotes business opportunities in export and investment to the local and international private sector.

In reiterating the Jamaican government's commitment to attracting investments, Shaw told the gathering of business leaders, investors, entrepreneurs and media that his administration has sought to build "a strong and robust landscape in which businesses can thrive, recognizing that comprehensive and supportive business facilitation frameworks are essential for investments and business develop-



Audley Shaw, Jamaican Minister of Industry, Commerce, Agriculture and Fisheries.

ment," the JIS statement said.

Shaw said the Government of Jamaica has begun to develop two complementary electronic platforms designed to allow the investment and exporting community a more efficient service.

"The National Business Portal will be the central point through which all investment projects are routed, giving

access to all relevant public stakeholders and thereby providing transparency and government cohesion while the National Trade Portal will serve as a precursor to the Electronic Single Window, aimed at fast tracking information sharing, facilitating online application submissions and enabling back office interface among Government's Border

Regulatory Agencies," he said.

Shaw said the trade portal was approved by Cabinet in the 2017/18 budget under the overarching Trade Facilitation Initiative. The World Bank is supporting both projects as part of its Foundations for Competitiveness & Growth Project, GIS said.

During his address, Shaw noted that Jamaica's move toward coordinating its development as a premier investment hub began with the coining of the National Investment Policy, approved for development by Cabinet in February 2017.

"This pivotal blueprint is the overarching policy framework by which the Government of Jamaica will attract and facilitate investments and will guide the development, administration and monitoring of the investment community, to ensure cohesion among all related initiatives, programs, incentive regimes and stakeholder contributions," Shaw said.

During the current fiscal year, it is expected that the Green Paper will be tabled in Parliament as well as a series of national consultations toward "shoring up" the legislation, JIS said.

It said also pivotal to this investment infrastructure is the National Outsourcing Strategy, which forms part of the moves toward aligning Jamaica's offerings in an attractively packaged and well supported framework with the needs of the overseas investor market.

This is a five-year strategy being rolled out between 2015-2020, aimed at developing and advancing the outsourcing industry in Jamaica, JIS said.

Shaw stressed that in support of this initiative, the Special Economic Zone (SEZ) Regulations were passed in Parliament in October 2017.

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By Tangerine Clarke

Major Dietrich Heath is Senator Roxanne Persaud's 2018 New York State Senate Veterans' Hall of Fame nominee, a military woman who has served with distinction in the United States Air National Guard, while wearing many hats in her long illustrious career.

Caribbean Life caught up with Major Heath, a daughter of Jamaican immigrants, at the Canarsie Annual Memorial Day Parade on May 28 where she was the grand marshal of the age-old march, which she said she was honored to be a part of.

"It is an honor to be in this parade in the community where I grew up and love. I attended Canarsie High school, and it is certainly an honor to be among my peers, friends, and family in this march," said the woman in uniform who enlisted in the Air Force Reserved on March 3, 1993 as a mental health specialist, and was commissioned in June 2000 in the Medical Services Corps, as a second lieutenant.

A 25-year veteran, Major Heath said it was the best decision she had made to serve a country that she loves. "I am committed to services for veteran with mental health illness, who are committing suicide at an alarming rate, 20 to 25 a day. This is something that I am passionate about," said the officer who serves as co-chair for Black Veterans



Major Marlene Dietrich Heath holds flags representing her heritage before joining the Canarsie Memorial Day Parade.

Photo by Tangerine Clarke

for Social Justice on the Council for the State University of New York, Downstate Medical Center. She is also a member of the African American Clergy Elected Officials Coalition.

"The military has laid a foundation for me in both my civilian and military careers. My goal is to always promote a healthy culture, and morale within the organization. Happy people are productive, and loyal to an organization," she noted.

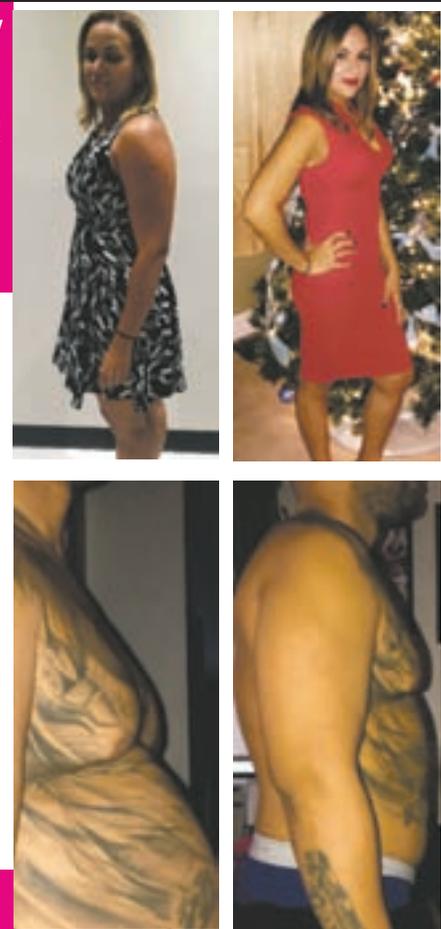
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# Young girls' 'Dreams'

By Alexandra Simon

It's a dream of the past and present.

A show inspired by the musical "Dreamgirls" will tackle modern issues, including racism and school shooting, when it plays the Kings Theatre on June 24. "Dream Abundantly" uses tunes and themes from the Broadway musical (and later film) to shine a light on issues facing kids today, said its creator.

"This show pays some tribute to social and economic experiences going on today, the tensions and how it relates to history," said Karisma Jay. "I did my research to explore those themes and what it really takes to manifest the dream by pushing back."

This production skips the musical's girl-group drama, she said, moving the story to the American South during the civil rights movement and featuring four leading ladies in a social justice singing group.

"In our story we start in Birmingham, Alabama after the bombing of the four little girls in the church that Sunday, but we have a grandmother figure in our story who educates her four little girls on what happened to them and inspires a girl group called 'Dream,'" said Jay.

She was inspired by headlines about mass shootings and killings by police officers, she said.

"The whole idea stems from children



The young stars of the show "Dream Abundantly," inspired by the musical "Dreamgirls." Kendell Hinds

getting their dreams cut short, whether by police brutality or school shootings, and we really explore those emotions when a dream is cut short," she said.

The show includes songs from the original musical, including "I'm Telling You," and "Step into the Bad Side."

"Dream Abundantly" at Kings Theatre [1027 Flatbush Ave. between Tilden Road and Duryea Place in Flatbush, [www.kingstheatre.com]. June 24 at 6 pm. \$65-\$80.

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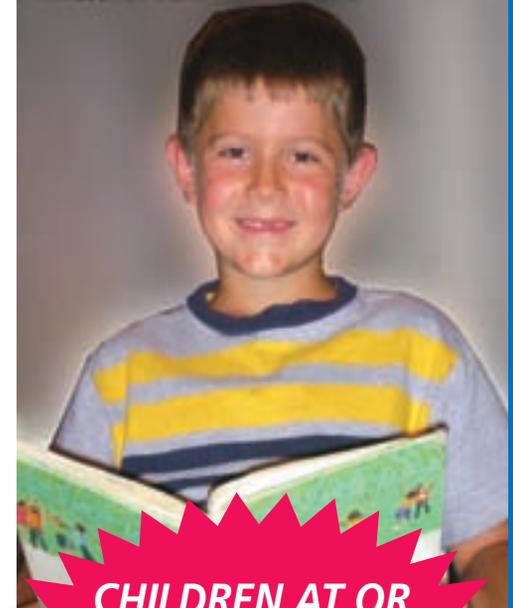
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# CARIBBEAN AMERICAN HEALTHCARE

# Awards 2018

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# We salute these Caribbean Americans who help keep our communities healthy

The healthcare facilities of tomorrow will be more compact and efficient, and more spread out, as healthcare providers transition from traditional, centrally-located hospitals to smaller, community-based clinics, making it all the more essential for caregivers to adopt a grassroots approach.

It's this standard of practice that has been the hallmark of the Caribbean Americans who make up such a large portion of our caregiving population, and are in the vanguard of the healthcare advances we have made — and will continue to make — in the 21st Century.

Caribbean Americans are often pioneers on the cutting edge of diagnostic services, disease prevention and treatment, and healthcare delivery:

Examples include Jamaican microbiologist and pathologist Louis Grant [1913–1993] who helped to isolate the deadly dengue virus, and his compatriot Mary Seacole [1805–1881], who brought her mother's herbal remedies to the Crime-

an War's battlefields, spending her own money to trek to the Black Sea peninsula to treat wounded soldiers after being passed over by Florence Nightingale.

Caribbeans have become naturalized United States citizens at higher rates compared to other immigrant groups, and those that have gravitated to the health care systems of the United States in general, and New York in particular, have brought with them a legacy of hard work, loyalty and compassion.

Caribbean Life and Community News Group are proud to honor 25 healthcare professionals in the 2018 edition of our Caribbean American Healthcare Awards, culminating with a gala on June 27 at which we will formally salute these exceptional New Yorkers for all they do, and have done, to advance our healthcare system to its best possible outcome.

Our awardees are as diverse as the myriad cultures that course through the veins of their ancestral lands:

- A Trinidad-born man who has transitioned from a career as a public servant in his native country to a long career as a financial counselor at Brooklyn's Kings County Hospital.

- A registered nurse from Guyana who began her healthcare career as a home health aide, and now trains healthcare professionals in a Brooklyn school she founded.

- A woman who left her native St. Vincent and the Grenadines when she left high school, and began studying to become a nurse as soon as she arrived in Brooklyn.

Their stories are uplifting and inspiring:

- A Jamaican-born nurse practitioner who as a young girl wrote in her journal that she would become a nurse some day.

- A Guyanese-born woman who, after working for many years in the insurance industry, decided that nursing was her true calling.

- A Haitian-born psychiatrist who is constantly giving back, whether its to earthquake survivors in his native country, or medically-underserved villagers in southeastern Africa.

Our other honorees are just as outstanding, and together they continue to leave an extraordinary combined footprint in our thriving city of limitless opportunities.

They have all surmounted unique obstacles along their personal and professional journeys, and demonstrated a commitment to hard work, an attention to duty, and a love of community while healing and uplifting innumerable people and paving the way for our next generation of healthcare providers.

We are pleased to share their stories with our readers, and express our gratitude to them for being an integral part of New York's essential healthcare industry.

— *Caribbean Life Publications and Community News Group*



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AWARDS**

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## Patricia Abrams

By Dawn Plummer

Life has a way of taking us sometimes through experiences that we would have avoided under normal circumstances. Early in Patricia Abrams' life her mother wanted her to become a nurse, Patricia wanted that too, but as life shapes its part for young Patricia Abrams she first had to work as a secretary at St. Vincent's Hospital. Ms. Abrams also had to work at five other New York City hospitals as a mental health worker before she realized her dream of becoming a registered nurse.

While she worked at St. Vincent's Hospital in Lower Manhattan, Adams knew that she could become the nurse she wanted to be if she worked at it and she started doing classes in college. Her first task was to complete an associate degree, her next action moving towards her education was writing for an undergraduate degree in nursing. She completed that degree and a short time later she ventured to do her Masters Degree in Nursing and in a short time was able to complete it. This all happened while Abrams was taking care of her three small girls. "I was able to do this because of the strong support and encouragement of



my parents who assisted me with child care. My mother was supportive," Abrams said, as she pondered.

The years have passed and today, Abrams has all the credentials and the accolades to complement the position she now holds at Kings County Hospital Center, work-

ing as the assistant director of nursing. Never forgetting that some days were turbulent she recalled the time when she became seriously ill while working at St. Vincent's Hospital. Abrams had a severe asthma attack but because she lived in Brooklyn she was rushed to Kings County Hospital for medical care.

According to Abrams, she was intubated for a long while and although the medical staff at Kings County assiduously cared for her, there were signs that she may not live through this health crisis. The medical staff administering her at Kings County as well as her family members all thought that she would have died. But there was a twist of fate for Abrams, her journey had not ended and for Abrams, life was peaking. Her health vastly improved and when normalcy was restored in her life 25 years ago, Abrams decided she would "give back" to the hospital that helped saved her life.

## Luella Alberga-Murdock

By Dawn Plummer

Stability in a person's life is one good way to help conclude your opinion of the person. Now if you were looking for stability at the work place you could find it in Luella Alberga-Murdock, a retired registered nurse / midwife. She has always wanted to help others since her earlier days in Jamaica, West Indies where she was born. She reminisced on the former days when she would help any one who was injured even through she was not yet a trained nurse but knew she wanted to enter the nursing profession.

Alberga-Murdock finished high school and went off for training at the University of the West Indies Nursing School in Jamaica. After completing her studies she stayed on for a while and worked at the University Hospital and was in line for a promotion but declined the offer because she wanted to join her husband who was living in the United States and working at the Bronx Lebonon Hospital. She later migrated and joined her husband. Not long after she arrived, Alberga-Murdock started working at the Bronx Lebonon Hospital also. Already a qualified nurse, she was offered a nurs-



ing position in the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) as her first assignment.

Nearly 43 years has passed since she made that fateful journey and has worked over the lengthy period only at the Bronx Lebanon Hospital. During those years, she has been assigned to other departments at the Bronx Lebanon Hospital some of which included the Recovery Room, Life Treating Emergency Care and as a clinical nursing specialist where her functions were doubled.

In her capacity as a clinical nursing specialist, she taught patient care and worked as a nursing professional. Her work at Bronx Lebanon Hospital also included duties in the Utilization Case Management Department. In that capacity, she was an agent for the Bronx Lebonon Hospital and an advocate for the patients in the hospital in the interim. "It was an interesting and challenging time as I moved up the ladder," Alberga-Murdock recapped.

Despite spending more than four decades in the nursing profession working at one hospital, the Bronx Lebanon, Alberga-Murdock who is retired still believes there is more work for her to do and there is someone else that she can help.

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## Ingrid Alleyne-Green

By Dawn Plummer

Registered Nurse Ingrid Alleyne-Green, a Guyanese-born native, is an enthusiastic supporter of health and wellness, the nursing industry and especially the Caribbean Diaspora.

Alleyne-Green said she migrated to the United States in order to make her mark on the world.

After working many years in the insurance industry, she decided that nursing was her true calling. She attended Kingsborough Community College, where she graduated valedictorian in the nursing program.

She has since applied her strong nursing skills in hospitals, including the Long Island College Hospital (LICH). There, she served as an assistant nursing care and quality assurance coordinator.

At LICH, Alleyne-Green said she learned that the greatest gift of nursing was the ability to provide quality care for patients.

She is the associate director of Utilization Case Management at NYC Health + Hospitals / Kings County.

Never shy of public service, she plays active roles in several organizations that provide services to her



community and the Guyanese / Caribbean Diaspora. Alleyne-Green is an executive member of the New York arm of the Tutorial High School Alumni Association and is a vestry / health guild member at St. Albans Episcopal Church.

She said her greatest public service achievement to date was serving as president of the Guyanese Nurses Association of America, Inc (GNAA). As president, she led successful endeavors in carrying out GNAA's mission of fostering excellence in nursing and coordinating development of high standards in health and wellness.

Renowned as being "quite the talker," Alleyne-Green often serves as the Mistress of Ceremonies in church and organizational gatherings.

She has raised two successful sons, imbuing in them the love for Guyana and people in general.

Alleyne-Green prides herself in cooking the best pepper pot, a popular Guyanese dish that is made primarily at Christmas.

She was an executive secretary in the insurance industry, a reinsurance broker and eventually an underwriter on Wall Street.

## Jocelyn Alleyne

By Winnie McCroy

Growing up with her grandmother in Trinidad and Tobago was instrumental to young Jocelyn Alleyne going into nursing. Back then, Alleyne was involved in a youth organization that was dedicated to assisting those in need. But she could never guess it

would lead to her becoming a Registered Nurse with a Master's Degree in Health Administration MSA/RN with 50 years' experience under her belt.

"I always loved helping people out, even if it was just handing out water to people at fairs," said Alleyne. "It's why I chose to go into nursing school in Trinidad in 1965."

By 1970, Alleyne had graduated. But at that point, her family had relocated to New York City's Bedford-Stuyvesant neighborhood. She didn't want to be away from her mother and siblings, not to mention her beloved grandmother, so she joined them. Over the years, she lived in Bergan Beach and Marine Park, where she now lives. Her mother still resides in East Flatbush.

While in New York City, Alleyne began specializing in Nephrology Nursing, helping people who were going through



kidney dialysis and transplant. She attracted a lot of dialysis patients from the Caribbean community here.

"Because of my specialty, friends would send people over from Trinidad for consulting or recommendations, and I did a lot of that among the community," said Alleyne. "Some people came up here and

went to SUNY Downstate for dialysis, some went back to Trinidad, and some stayed. I always heard them say, 'Ask Jocelyn, because she's in the field of dialysis.' I would help them navigate the care."

Starting in 1991, Alleyne worked her way up over the course of 26 years to become the associate administrator in the Nursing Department at SUNY Downstate. She was instrumental to them opening a dialysis unit at Parkside Avenue. She tried to retire — but SUNY called her back for two more years of service. There just were insufficient people to fill those specialty nursing positions.

"I'm a Baby Boomer and now a lot of us are retiring, so it is difficult for them to get people who know all those different federal and state regulations," said Alleyne.



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Ingrid Alleyne–Greene	Dr. Bienvenido Fajardo	Dr. Andre Peck
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## Deborah Anglin

By Nelson A. King

Registered Nurse Deborah Anglin, the Guyanese-born founder and director of Beacon Healthcare School (BHS) in Brooklyn, brings more than 25 years of experience in the health-care field to the very challenging position.

Anglin began her career as a home health aide in 1986 and quickly enrolled, graduated and began employment as a Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) at Coney Island Hospital.

While working as an LPN, she completed her associate degree in Applied Sciences (AAS) and graduated with the Steven S. Frauenthal Leadership Award from the Helene Fuld College of Nursing.

Within two years, Anglin was promoted and transferred to the Surgical Intensive Care Unit (SICU), where she found her niche in nursing as a critical care nurse.

She is also a graduate of St. Joseph's College in Brooklyn, where she earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing (BSN) and is a graduate of State University of New York (SUNY) Downstate College of Nursing with a master's degree in nursing as a clinical



nurse specialist.

Anglin has completed her studies to become a licensed proprietary school instructor with the New York State Education Department, Bureau of Proprietary School Supervision, and is a registered health educator and a subject matter expert

with the National Health Career Association.

She has a wealth of experience in home care, having worked as a field supervisor for more than eight years and was later promoted to director of clinical services. She has taught adult education classes both in the home care field and at the college level for paraprofessionals.

In 2003, Anglin joined the staff at Kingsborough Community College's Office of Continuing Education, where she single-handedly pioneered the Healthcare Professional Institute in coordinating paraprofessional health-care classes.

As a coordinator, she was not only responsible for hiring and training instructors but also mentored thousands of students in their quest of a health career and brighter tomorrow.

## Dr. Pierre Arty

By Lauren Gill

As a psychiatrist, activist, and author, Dr. Pierre Arty has spent his nearly three decade career working to use his Haitian background to help people who are underserved in the medical field. Because of his Caribbean heritage and ability to speak creole and some Spanish and French, he said he was able to connect to patients of color and better understand their needs.

"I think the more you're able to reach out and connect to different people and their cultures, the better you are as a person," he said. "There's a strong need for diversity in the health field, especially in psychiatry where people's culture has an impact on the manifestation of their illness."

The Bay Ridge resident studied internal medicine and psychiatry, opening a psychiatry practice in Downtown Brooklyn after his graduation from SUNY Downstate College of Medicine. He said his work has been rewarding, explaining that there's a dire need to understand people's life and culture in order to understand their problems, something that isn't necessarily prevalent for people in Caribbean communities.



Dr. Arty shared some of the stories from his family and patients in his 2017 nonfiction books, *Life and Death and Things in Between*.

"It's a way of writing about the significant events in the lives of people I've treated, people who have been depressed, anxious, going through psychotic episodes or even using substances," he said. "It's a way of documenting their lives and I'm proud of that."

When he is not treating patients in New York, Dr. Arty does mission work, traveling around the world to locations including Palestine, the Philippines, and his home country of Haiti, which he visited to offer his assistance after the tragic 2010 earthquake. Recently, he and several others started a clinic in the African country of Malawi, helping to ensure that it could operate independently.

Dr. Arty may keep a busy schedule but he said it was necessary because he would not have it any other way than to help those in need.

"When you're dealing with somebody who is in the bowels of depression and all they see is despair, to be able to provide a change in mindset, I'm grateful to be able to help with that," he said.

## Congratulations Sophia L. Isaac



on your recognition as a  
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Your hard work, commitment and dedication are a tremendous inspiration to us. Thank you for being a great role model!

Love,  
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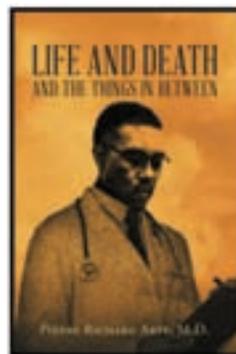
## Congratulations Pierre Richard Arty, M.D.

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-Your loving wife, Wendy

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## Dr. Carla Boutin-Foster

By Winnie McCroy

As associate dean at Downstate Medical College — the very same medical school she graduated from in 1994 — Dr. Carla Boutin-Foster is working hard to identify and implement preventable factors to diseases that plague communities of color, from diabetes to heart disease to hypertension. It is all part of her goal to make her community healthier.

“Walking around my neighborhood with eyes wide open and seeing how these diseases affect my community and even my family... motivates me to do something to help this community of talented and beautiful people who are losing their lives much too early,” said Dr. Boutin-Foster.

While genetics play a part in predisposition, the doctor knows that when you add in stress, poverty, malnutrition, obesity and racism, the results can be deadly. Since early in her 20-year career, Dr. Boutin-Foster has worked toward this goal.

After completing her residency in internal medicine at the New York Presbyterian Hospital of Weill Cornell Medical Center, she obtained an Master of Science in Clinical Epidemiology at the



Weill Graduate School of Medical Sciences (where she later worked as an adjunct professor). She researched the psychological and social determinants of health outcomes and the social epidemiology of health disparities in patients with cardiovascular disease, winning the inaugural Nanette Laitman Clinical

Scholar in Public Health and Community Health award.

As she forwarded her career, Dr. Boutin-Foster continued to amass accolades, among them a program project grant funded by the National Heart Lung and Blood Institute to identify attributes in the doctor-patient relationship most associated with health behavior modification among patients with coronary artery disease. She also received the Harold Amos Medical Faculty Development Award from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to study the role of social support in outcomes of patients with coronary artery disease.

Dr. Boutin-Foster works hard to increase diversity not only in medical school, but among hospital administrators. She figures while she might not be the one to find a cure for HIV or cancer, she can get kids interested in medicine.

## Shantay Carter

By Lauren Gill

When Shantay Carter was growing up, she wanted to be a neurosurgeon. Her grandmother died of a rare brain cancer for which Carter wanted to help find a cure.

But because she hated mathematics, her guidance counselor recommended a different career in the healthcare field: nursing.

“I said okay, no problem I’ll do that. It was the best decision ever,” Carter said.

Since making the leap into medicine, the Long Island resident has been working as a registered nurse for 18 years, now employed by Northwell Health System. Although the hours may be long, she said the rewards come each day as she sees her patients improve.

“Just seeing the progression of having the person when they first get out of surgery and caring for them and encouraging them each day and seeing their improvement, that’s rewarding,” she said.

“Just knowing you’ve helped and touched their lives in some ways.”

Along with nursing, Carter is the



founder of Women of Integrity Inc., an organization she started in 2010 aimed at helping young women.

“I wanted them to be better than I was,” she said.

The group puts on an annual prom dress giveaway so every girl can wear her dream dress to the big dance.

It also hosts workshops in etiquette and financial education as well as brings in speakers and connects the young women to mentors.

“Our goal was to help at least one girl,” Carter said.

“It’s one of the greatest things to be able to affect some change because it starts when they’re young and if you can get them when they’re young, you can teach them the tools to succeed.”

“Being from low income households, these girls lack the resources to make their dreams a reality and Shantay steps in to ensure their wishes are granted,” said Claudette Whyne, Carter’s niece.

When she is not nursing or giving back to her community, Carter is also a member of the NAACP and Black Nurses Rock, a group aimed at empowering nurses of color.

*Caribbean Life congratulates the  
2018 Caribbean American Healthcare  
Award Honorees*

We salute  
your tremendous contributions  
to the health and wellness of New Yorkers

**Caribbean Life**

## Kimberly Campbell

By Dawn Plummer

Ms. Kimberly Campbell is a 31-year-old nurse practitioner. The young Jamaican came to the United States at 11 years old and is the eldest of seven siblings. Ten years prior to college, Kimberly wrote in her journal that she would become a nurse some day. Although her academic performance in high school earned her the Bill and Melinda Gates scholarship for outstanding work, Campbell no longer thought of becoming a nurse through the years.

After high school, Campbell went off to college with the intention of becoming an attorney, but according to her “that was not my calling.” As fate would have it, her two suite mates in college were both nursing students and this helped in rekindling the passion for Kimberly to become a registered nurse.

Almost immediately, the interest aroused and Kimberly switched her major to nursing and Spanish and a minor in musical theatre. Two years after completing her undergraduate degree, she took one step further and completed a Masters Degree in Nursing. Her zealously for the profes-



sion and her sturdiness propelled her to achieve the highest and Ms. Campbell is pursuing her Doctorate of Nursing Practice, (DNP).

As a nurse practitioner working in a geriatric setting at United Health Care (Optum Clinical Services) for the last six years, Campbell became more passionate about the healthcare of the elderly and has decided to continue on her medical route as she climbs the healthcare ladder working with the elderly. “I had an excellent relationship with my grandparents while I was growing up in Jamaica,” she stated as one of the reasons she wanted to care for the elderly.

Campbell has already demonstrated that she will do just great with her goal and is volunteering as a community health nurse on a part-time basis at a New York State Veterans Home in Oxford, New York. She participates in several medical missions annually as a volunteer to other nations, specifically the Dominican Republic, Ecuador and Uruguay where she works mostly with the elderly.

## Pauline Claxton

By Lauren Gill

Since becoming a nurse in her home country of Guyana 31 years ago, moving to the United States, and becoming specialized in pediatric hemodialysis nursing, Pauline Claxton has devoted her life to one thing — children.

Calling herself a “voice for the voiceless,” the Canarsie resident works in the pediatric unit at SUNY’s Downstate Medical Center in Brooklyn but also has strong ties to the youngsters in South America and is currently working on building a children’s home to help disadvantaged youths.

Claxton has no explanation for her passion for helping children other than it’s what she was meant to do.

“I guess that’s my calling, there’s no other way I can explain that to you,” she said.

“That’s where I get my satisfaction — seeing these kids getting nursed back to health.”

Many nurses don’t want to get into pediatrics because of the emotional toll that comes along with sick children, Claxton said, admit-



ting that she still struggles with seeing children in pain.

But her important work helping kids dealing with kidney failure goes far beyond nursing as she talks with the children and the families she’s helping treat to offer encouragement and help them cope.

“They have a lot of struggles but it’s important to let them know that their kidney failure doesn’t define who they are,” she said.

And in Guyana, she and her husband are in the process of building a home that will host approximately 32 abandoned children as they await adoption.

“What we really want to do is get them groomed and prepped and give them a normal home,” she said.

She has been hosting fundraisers for the home in Brooklyn, putting on tea parties and breakfasts.

In what’s left of her very little spare time, Claxton runs the children’s department at church, helping lift up the congregation’s youngest.

“It’s a lot of work and it takes me beyond just doing a job, it’s my life’s work,” she said.

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## Khari Edwards

By Winnie McCroy

As vice president of External Affairs at Brookdale University Hospital and Medical Center, Khari Edwards works hard with hospital administration, elected officials and the community to improve the image of the hospital first opened in 1921 to serve the people of Brownsville, East New York and Canarsie.

And he has the background for it. For 20 years, he worked with elected leaders to improve healthcare. From 2009–2013, he was special advisor to the Democratic Leader in the New York Senate. And from 2007–2009, Edwards was regional representative for the Office of New York State Executive Chamber.

“The governor’s office came to former Majority Leader John Sampson and said ‘There’s a health crisis in Brooklyn; several hospitals will have to close within the next five years.’ They wanted me to help educate the community on healthcare reforms,” remembered Edwards. “So, they put me on the job of healthcare policy for the state Senate as it pertained to Brooklyn, and when the leadership changed, a few hospitals offered me



a job to do public relations working with the government. Brookdale made the best offer, but they also presented the biggest hurdle for me to overcome, the biggest challenge.” It didn’t hurt any that two of his three children attended school in the neighborhood.

That tapped into the reason Edwards got into politics: to help people in his community. Said Edwards, “A simple phone call from the right place opens so much access and opportunity for folks.”

As their first C-Suite executive of color, Edwards is working to ensure others follow in his steps. His programming reaches out to the community to make Brookdale a resource for more than just the sick. His goal is to make it an inviting place, so he holds job training seminars and Dress For Success sessions. He also started a quarterly “scared-straight” type program with the morgue called, “It Starts Here,” trying to make teens aware of the results of gun violence.

Edwards is the child of two Caribbean immigrants, his mother from Trinidad and father from Guyana.

## Dr. Bienvenido Fajardo

By Dawn Plummer

When Dr. Bienvenido Fajardo landed in the United States in 1982 he was already a medical doctor arriving from the island of the Dominican Republic in the Caribbean.

His medical training was done at the University of Santa Domingo and as one means of working to complete his training, Dr. Fajardo went into an internship program at the Bronx Lebanon Hospital, in New York City shortly after his arrival.

Upon the completion of his internship, the doctor moved into his Internal Medicine Residency Training at the Catholic Medical Center of Brooklyn and Queens. While continuing to establish his career and certification, Dr. Fajardo also did a fellowship in Nephrology at the Metropolitan Hospital Center. His intensions, however, was always to work with the underserved and provide good medical care to the people he served, managing his work in the interim as he pursued his studies.

Since the last 30 years, Dr. Fajardo has been providing medical services to foster and improve the health and wellbeing of individuals who seek his services. However, for 20 of those years, he has been operating his own private practice in New



York City. He is committed to uplift and promote good health. While Dr. Fajardo is fully aware that medical attention must always be given to the sick, his recommendation to the patients is always ‘stay away from smoking, it is a risk factor, maintain good weight, no alcohol, exercise and eat well.’

Dr. Fajardo has helped to enhance medical programs, to open doors for others in the medical profession as well as providing medical attention to the community. He is always active in the profession, a clinical instructor at Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons. He is a member of the American Medical Association and in the Bronx, Dr. Fajardo is the chief executive officer of Bronx United Independent Practice Association (IPA). The IPA works with the objective of assisting physicians members.

His suggestion for the young doctors is to “step in and help the community, help the elderly.” With this magnitude of medical activities, Dr. Fajardo still finds time to be a member of the Medical Society of New York, a member of the Bronx Medical Society, an affiliate with New York Presbyterian Hospital and is a board member and former chairman of the Dominican Medical Association.

## Mary Gordon-Coltherst

By Dawn Plummer

Mary E. Gordon-Coltherst launched into the nursing profession when she started attending the Kingston School of Nursing in Jamaica, West Indies where she was trained. Her first place of employment was the Kingston Public Hospital (KPH). While at KPH, she realized early her decision to be a nurse was right. “You need to help in every aspect. I have always wanted to help, and nursing was the way I could go,” Gordon-Coltherst said as she reflected on the early stages of her nursing career.

Several years later Gordon-Coltherst left the Kingston Public Hospital and migrated to the United States. Upon arriving in the United States she began working as a nurse and did not shy away from the thoughtfulness and helpfulness that comes with her profession. She later joined the United States Army Reserved and performed duties as a critical care nurse for 15 years.

During those years as a critical care nurse, her work in the United States Army also took her into other assignments such as chief nurse, intensive



care nurse and infection control nurse. On three occasions, Gordon-Coltherst was deployed to other countries. She spent time in Honduras, Afghanistan and Iraq where she has immensely impacted lives.

She has provided nursing care to more than 20,000 soldiers, coalition forces, contractors and local civilians through her assignments. Gordon-Coltherst reflected on her days in Honduras when she helped some Hondurans build their houses. “You have to see the person as a whole being that you are trying to make well again,” she said.

Gordon-Coltherst is employed at the Brooklyn Hospital Center as a critical care nurse in the Intensive Care Unit. This position she has held for the last 25 years. “Nursing is a rewarding profession. I like to communicate with the patients and their family members as well,” she stated. Amid her work at the Brooklyn Hospital Center, Gordon-Coltherst is also a part-time family nurse practitioner at Complex Care Solutions. She also volunteers as a community health nurse at her church, Harvest Time Tabernacle in Brooklyn.

## Angela Grant

By Nelson A. King

Angela Grant was born in Georgetown, the Guyana capital, to French Guiana and St. Lucian parents.

From 1975–1980, she lived in Castries, St. Lucia with her grandparents and attended the Ave-Maria Girls Catholic School.

She then reunited with her siblings in Guyana from 1980–1990, during which time she attended the George’s Primary and High School.

As a young talented youth, Grant, from 1981–85, was a member of the Guyana Red Cross Society, where she lectured as a Cadet Officer.

She also offered services to Children’s Convalescent Home in Georgetown, caring for children.

In addition, Grant assisted with adult “Meals on Wheels” for the sick and shut-in.

From 1985–1990, she worked at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Guyana as a nurse assistant, and returned to St. Lucia from 1990–1996 to reunite with her grandparents in assisting them with the family business.

In 1996, Grant migrated to the United States; attended the Allen School of Nursing in 2001; got mar-



ried to Louis Grant three years later; and worked at Cabs Nursing Home, caring for the elderly from 2003–2006.

Since that time, she has been employed at Brooklyn Hospital Center as a nurse technician/phlebotomist.

Grant is currently pursuing studies towards a bachelor’s degree in nursing at Medgar Evers College.

As a strong and active believer in Christ, she attended the New Hope Family Worship center from 1996–2007, then I transferred to the World Outreach Christian Center.

Ten years ago, Grant says she began conducting outreach evangelism to the sick and shut-in and reaching out to those who need help in the community.

After losing three of her siblings to HIV-AIDS, Grant says she started distributing food and clothing and offering counseling services “whenever possible to adults in Guyana living with HIV-AIDS and drug abuse.”

Currently, she says she is affiliated with two clinics in Guyana – Artistes in Direct Support, headed by Desiree Edghill, and “FACTS” Berbice, led by Annette Jaundoo.

## Angela Guthrie

By Winnie McCroy

**B**orn in Jamaica, Registered Professional Nurse Angela Guthrie moved to New York City in the 1970s, and attended Brandeis High School on the Upper West Side. She has lived predominantly in Brooklyn since then, close to her Caribbean community. And despite her 27-year-career in nursing, she admits that she did not originally aim to go into healthcare.

"When my mother brought me here, I didn't start out wanting to be a nurse," said Guthrie. "To be an actress and a model was my dream! And I did a little bit of that — some commercials and some work on Broadway. I let people know that, because have a lot of respect for hard work in every community. If a young person comes to me and says they want to be in the arts, I just encourage them to do their best."

It wasn't until her own mother got sick that Guthrie decided to become a nurse, saying, "I was able to see the compassion someone gave to my mother, and so I entered into that practice. My passion was to take care of the elderly."

Guthrie began in 1991 as a licensed practical nurse and worked at Brookdale Hospital as a medical surgery nurse, and



with mothers and their children. By 2001, she was a registered nurse, working as a certified lactation consultant, teaching new parents to care for and feed their infants. Guthrie always took the time to motivate teens and college students, encouraging them to take their education seriously, to dream big and to succeed.

"Everyone needs someone to mentor them, someone who has gone the path before," said Guthrie. "Being the senior one in my field, it is our duty to usher newcomers into what we call 'the profession.' That's one of the reasons I mentor young nursing students and new nurses."

In addition to grooming the next generation of healthcare professionals, Guthrie also devotes a lot of her time to taking care of her Caribbean community here in New York City and back on the islands.

"I don't complain anymore when something goes wrong; I say, 'How can we fix it?'" said Guthrie. "I'm from Jamaica and we have problems where family members died over simple things that a blood pressure check could reveal. I work on how to get equipment into hospitals there, and organising training for doctors."

## Sophia Isaac

By Lauren Gill

**W**hen Sophia Isaac starting working as a temp for Meals on Wheels, she never imagined that it would launch her two decades-plus career in healthcare.

Since becoming temporary human resources worker at Kings County Hospital in 1990, Isaac has risen to become the the director of human resources at Woodhull Hospital, spending her days helping improve the skills and experiences of the medical center's employees.

"I'm going to help them increase their potential and capacity," she said. "I believe we're all a work in progress and there's much more to do as long as you're willing."

Barbados-born Isaac's path into the healthcare field is an unlikely one. The Crown Heights resident was working for Meals on Wheels when a friend who was working at Kings County Hospital for the same temp agency told her she was about to be fired and encouraged her to call the agency to take her place. The following day, she began working at the hospital performing tasks like filing and getting to know the system. Two years later, she got a permanent job and started moving



up through the ranks.

"I was eager to learn and always willing to assist people," she said.

After being passed over for a promotion, Isaac looked within herself to better her shortcomings, eventually becoming a driving force at the Dr. Susan Smith McKinney Nursing and Rehabilitation Center,

which partners with Kings County. She was promoted to associate director for human resources and chair for cultural change, interacting with families and residents to help change the culture of the home. As one of her accomplishments, she changed the names of the units to represent flowers, which can still be found in the home today.

Isaac also got her masters to become a nursing home administrator at Long Island University, preparing her to sit within a year to take her nursing home administration exam. And in March 2017, she took the job at Woodhull, overseeing training and development. Although it may have been an unusual start, Isaac said she hopes her career path will help inspire others.

"I've received so many opportunities in my career," she said. "I believe if they see me grow they'll see that they can grow too."

## Dr. Kathie-Ann Joseph

By Winnie McCroy

**B**orn in Jamaica, Dr. Kathie-Ann Joseph was raised in Brooklyn and lives in the house she grew up in, with her husband, who is also West Indian. The child of a Pan Am manager and a nurse, Dr. Joseph was taught the value of education at an early age.

"Part of the reason my parents came here from Jamaica was they wanted more for their kids," said Dr. Joseph. "We lived in Flatbush, and I'm not even sure how they managed the public school system. They enrolled my older sister in the local school, which was not the best. By the time my older brother was ready, mom told the principal, 'We're not sending our son here; he has to go somewhere else.'"

Her brother was bused to Bensonhurst, where he was the only black kid in class. He didn't complain; he just took Italian. Said Dr. Joseph, "I ended up following him there, and when he went to Brooklyn Tech, I went to Stuyvesant High, where everyone was so smart it didn't matter what you looked like, you could just be yourself."

Wanting to be a doctor from a young age, Dr. Joseph devoured books about the body, volunteered in a hospital



during high school, and participated in PREP, a weekend premed program at Columbia University.

Dr. Joseph attended Harvard University, earning a bachelor's degree in sociology in 1991. She was hit hard in her freshman year when her mother died of cervical cancer. It inspired her to devote her life to treating women with cancer.

During the summer between her junior and senior year, she worked on a breast and cervical cancer screening project at Harlem Hospital, for elderly African-American women. The experience taught her "not everyone is exposed to the same health care." This work became the basis for her undergraduate thesis, which won Harvard's Hoopes Award.

Dr. Joseph earned a joint M.D. / M.P.H. at the Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons. She graduated in 1995, specializing in general surgery, thanks to the encouragement of her instructor, Dr. Ken Ford, their first African-American surgical resident. She completed her seven-year surgical residency at New York University Medical Center, taking time to give birth to two sons, Devon and Justin.

## Cheryl Kilkenny

By Nelson A. King

**G**uyanese Cheryl Kilkenny has described herself as "a loving family woman who's married to the handsome Olston Kilkenny, deacon at God's Battalion of Prayer Church" in Brooklyn.

Kilkenny, who resides in Valley Stream, Long Is., said her "blissful union produced four awesome children, Andre, Jason, Ruth and Briana."

Kilkenny is the executive treasurer and executive board member of God's Battalion of Prayer Ministries Inc (GBPM). GBPM has locations in various countries around the world and in the United States.

An ordained minister at God's Battalion of Prayer Church, Kilkenny serves as the director of the Stewardship Department. Being a committed member of the church for the past 35 years, Kilkenny has also served in various capacities, such as Sunday School superintendent and Children's Ministry teacher.

In 1997, Kilkenny graduated from Brooklyn College with a bachelor's degree in accounting. In 2008, she graduated from The New School with a degree in non-profit management and



obtained her license as a certified public accountant.

Kilkenny was employed by New York City Department of Education for nine years as an auditor, conducting audits of Special Education and UPK programs.

For the past eight years, she has been employed as director of internal audit at SUNY Downstate Medical Center and University Hospital of Brooklyn.

Kilkenny is also licensed to provide financial solutions for families and businesses in the state of New York.

As the owner of her own accounting business, Kilkenny provides, among other things, accounting, bookkeeping and auditing services primarily for non-profit organizations and churches; tax preparation for individuals and businesses; and process reviews and financial advice.

She said her goal was to retire and expand her business where she can continue to provide financial and tax assistance to individuals and businesses.

Since she enjoys helping people, Kilkenny said her other goal is to form a non-profit organization that educates people in her community to manage their financial resources.

## Lynette Marshall

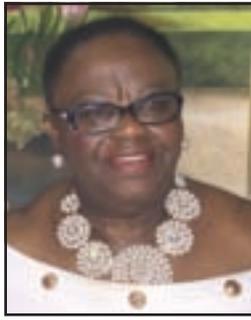
By Dawn Plummer

Since her childhood days in her native land Guyana, Mrs. Lynette Marshall, held the idea deep in her thoughts that she someday wanted to become a nurse.

She was inspired to take up the challenge by her mother and once she

completed her high school years. Marshall went directly into nursing school in Guyana and fulfilled her dream as a young woman practicing her nursing skills.

In the 1960's Marshall migrated to the United States after Maimonides Medical Center in Brooklyn, New York sponsored her to work in their hospital as a registered nurse. She arrived at Maimonides Medical Center in 1967 and began her assignment there as a nurse. During her tenure at Maimonides Medical, Marshall was assigned to work in various departments within the hospital. This motivated her to develop more skills in the profession and she completed an undergraduate degree in nursing and a masters degree in nursing as well. Marshall has been in the nursing profession for more than 40 years and the hospital industry has seen many changes and she



will hasten to add that, "the health industry has been technically revolutionized, everything is different, new ways to diagnose with high technology equipment to enhance the work," she commented.

Marshall knows the nursing profession requires dedication so to

the young professionals in the health industry she asked that they aspire to be patient and "realize that negligence and impatience should not be a part of their skills. Pay attention to the patients and their relatives to help determine what is wrong," she suggested.

Her dedication to the profession was so vital to her and that propelled her while at Maimonides Medical Center to give something back to the community. She became a volunteer at the St. Stephens Church and worked as a summer camp nurse in its Brooklyn location.

Although Marshall is retired, she is still active in the community and volunteers for the Guyana Ex-Prison Officer Association, The Guyana Nurses Association, The Guyana Tri-State Alliance and the Guyana Consulate Volunteer.

## Heather Mitchell

By Winnie McCroy

Nurse Practitioner Heather C. Mitchell, OB-GYN, has completely dedicated her life to providing healthcare at the Women's Health Clinic in the Bronx, also known as Dr. Emily Women's Health Center. She considers it a privilege to provide women's healthcare, and approaches patient care with compassion, humility and patience. It is all part of her healthcare philosophy of mutual respect, trust, and dignity, to effect optimal health and well-being.

"I have been a nurse for almost 40 years," said Mitchell. "I started out as an registered nurse and did a lot of my training in England. When I came here, I wanted to be a midwife. But I discovered that I would have had to start my training all over again from the bottom. So I did my certification board for the United States, the foreign graduate boards and the New York State board, and started working as a medical-surgical nurse, doing critical care and trauma nursing."

After years of doing that, Mitchell finally was able to get a scholarship to study midwifery, and in 2000, she became a midwife. Because it allowed for dual certification, she also became an obstetrician and gynecologist. But she



soon discovered hospitals were looking for obstetrics and gynecology specialists a lot more than midwives.

"Most of the hospitals in New York are teaching hospitals, so residents are the ones trying to catch all the babies that are born," said Mitchell with a laugh. "It's so hard to practice as a midwife at a

hospital."

Mitchell lived in Guyana until she was about 15 years old, moving to England after high school to begin nursing school, figuring, "If I could go out on my own and at the same time get my career moving, that would be a good thing. So that's what I did!"

After eight years in England, she was ready to return home. But by then, her family had relocated to New York City. So she joined them in the Bronx. Now, Mitchell lives in New Jersey, but she always remembers her roots.

She began working with communities in the Bronx, treating Dominican patients, African-Americans, and many West African patients. Mitchell enjoyed giving back to her community — so much that she became part of a medical relief group that travels to Guyana twice a year to provide full-fledged medical services.

## Dr. Andre Peck

By Nelson A. King

Dr. Andre K. Peck is the Haitian-born executive director of Haitian American Community Coalition, Inc. (HCC).

He studied medicine in Haiti at the "Faculte de Medecine et de Pharmacie."

He has been the director of L'Ouverture Residence since 1998, which is a congregate supportive housing program, providing services to people living with HIV/AIDS and their families in New York City.

Dr. Peck is renowned for providing seminars and educational sessions on medical topics, such as diabetes, metabolic syndrome, obesity, nutrition, HIV/AIDS and other infectious diseases.

He often participates in radio and TV shows discussing very important medical topics affecting the Caribbean and American communities.

Dr. Peck says he enjoys teaching, and has been teaching anatomy and physiology at Kingsborough Community College in Brooklyn for over 12 years.

He is one of the creators of FITBK, which offers no-cost, community-based health and fitness programs to Brooklyn residents.



Dr. Peck says FITBK was created in an effort to decrease the incidence and prevalence of obesity in central Brooklyn.

He is an active member of the Association des Medecins Haitiens a l'Etranger (AMHE), the Aesclepius Medical Society, and is very much involved in all matters concerning Haiti, the Caribbean and the United States.

The doctor is the recipient of many awards in his line of expertise, working as a doctor in his homeland Haiti, as well as the work that he actually fulfills as HCC's executive director.

Peck said he considers himself fortunate to have been surrounded by family members, teachers, friends and others, who helped him through the different phases of his life.

"I can say that I have been privileged to be born in Haiti surrounded by parents who were very well educated and also had very high moral standards," said Dr. Peck, who is from a family of six and is the youngest and the only boy.

Peck said all his sisters are college graduates and are also mostly involved in the medical field. There are three physicians, two nurses and one accountant in the Peck family.

## Jessica Sinclair

By Nelson A. King

Jessica Sinclair, of Jamaican parentage, is known for being a fearless risk-taker. Her go-getter attitude and ability to communicate effectively have allowed her to achieve greatness.

Sinclair's journey is very unique. She graduated from The City University of New York (CUNY), The City College in 2007, with a concentration in public relations. She worked as a publicist for a few years and changed direction during the recession.

Sinclair has worked as a unit clerk at South Nassau Hospital. She said doctors and nurses there motivated her to attain a degree in nursing, because of her natural ability to put people first. She graduated from Nassau Community College with an associate degree in 2014.

On completion, Sinclair was the recipient of the Nassau Community College Alumni Association Scholarship Award, the Nassau County Executive Recognition Award and the Presidential Scholarship and Citation Award.

Sinclair currently works as a medical surgical nurse at South Nassau



Communities Hospital, where she helped create the "Quite Time" initiative that promotes patient healing during the busiest time of day.

Her compassion to patients is evident in her bedside nursing style. Her patients look forward to her jokes and big smile.

Sinclair graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in May from Farmingdale State College.

When Sinclair is not furthering her education, she advocates for girls and women as a member of the National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Inc.

She said ambition fuels her to strive for greatness in every facet of her life.

Sinclair is also a gifted public speaker and chief executive officer of Sinclair Master of Ceremonies (SMC). "SMC is a special event hosting corporation that brings events to life with excitement and attention to detail," Sinclair said.

Sinclair said her parents have been very influential in her personal and professional career pursuits.

She said her mother is a natural-born entrepreneur, who sewed and sold women's clothing in Brooklyn for many years.

Sinclair said she started helping her mom at a young age.

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## Dennis Stanberry

By Nelson A. King

Registered Nurse Dennis Stanberry — a philanthropist, building contractor and president of Mocho Village, Inc. — was born and raised in Mocho, Clarendon, Jamaica.

As a child, he suffered from severe headaches and reduced vision, which resulted in his inability to read. As a result, he was placed in a remedial class during his first year at Lennon High School.

With the help of dedicated staff, and hard work and determination, Stanberry learned to read at 14.

In his fifth year in high school, he was appointed head boy. He taught himself accounting, and tutored peers and adults in math and accounting.

Stanberry graduated valedictorian of the class of 1987 and was awarded the most academically-astute student, except in English.

Shortly after graduation, Stanberry relocated to Kingston, the Jamaican capital, and enrolled at the University of Technology, formally the College of Arts, Science, and Technology (CAST), in an accounting technician course.

But he said ongoing family feuds shattered his dream of earning a bach-



elor's degree in accounting.

He said his only viable option at the time was to drop out of college and work long hours as a Spanish Town taxi driver.

At 24, Stanberry received a chance of a lifetime with a visa to the United States. On arrival in the United States, Stanberry began working as a construction worker in Harlem and enrolled in an evening class to become a nurse's aide.

Following his completion of the nurse's aide course, Stanberry said he began a correspondence certification course for pharmacy technician. He said it was this new certification that lent itself to a permanent position at Riker's Island and then Montefiore Medical Center.

Stanberry said he was jailed for 18 hours, house emptied and his beautiful marriage to his high school sweetheart started to crumble.

He said he used every educational opportunity that Montefiore offered through the 1199 Union. In December 2004, he graduated valedictorian with the highest nursing index from Bronx Community College's Nursing Program.

## Albon Waldron

By Lauren Gill

After retiring from his public service job in Trinidad and Tobago, Albon Waldron wasn't ready to give up on helping others. He moved to the United States with the goal of finding job where he could work among people. Waldron landed a position as a financial counselor at Kings County Hospital and has been working for the last 16 years to help people meet their medical needs no matter their budget.

"They are more confident when knowing they can not afford medical treatment financially but there is an opportunity for them to get help and meet that expense and take care of their health," he said.

Waldron's passion for public service is rooted in his childhood. He lost his father as a baby and said he was was "one of those people who is a child of the village," growing up benefiting from the help of many. Always striving to better himself, he attended the University of West Indies and graduated with a bachelor in government science.

This translated to his career in public service and then to his job



at Kings County Hospital, where he finds satisfaction in knowing he's passing on what he learned about helping others as a youngster.

"The work matters because it means something to make the community healthier," he said. "This is what it's about, it's about my dedication to public

service."

As a resident of East Flatbush, Waldron is an important part of the community — his neighbors seek him out for help with financing their medical care, telling one another to find him for assistance. And showing his humility, he reiterated that he sees his Caribbean Healthcare Award as an honor for the entire community he is working to improve.

"I want to dedicate the honor the healthcare community," he said. "It has to go back to them. I enjoy serving them immensely."

And the feelings are mutual, as those in the community said they are grateful for his service, praising his commitment.

"He remains humble and dedicated," said Allison Cummings, a friend of Waldron's.

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## Cheryl Whatley

By Nelson A. King

Cheryl Whatley received her formal training as a registered nurse and registered midwife at the Georgetown School of Nursing in her native Guyana.

Her teaching potential was recognized by the then Principal Tutor and colleagues who encouraged her to pursue the Nursing Educators' Program. After much persuasion Ms. Whatley who had her mind set on industrial nursing, joined the faculty of the Georgetown School of Nursing and later successfully completed the Health Sciences Educators' Program, with the major emphasis on nursing and psychiatry at the University of Guyana.

Whatley soon became engrossed in teaching that, she says, in retrospect, was the best decision she had ever made in her career.

She had spent eight years preparing students for the State Registered Nurses' Examination, sometimes working in remote areas of the country on community health projects with students under her tutelage.

After 22 years of unbroken service, Whatley left Guyana as a sen-



ior nursing tutor and migrated to the United States with her family.

In the United States, she attained the Bachelor of Science in Nursing. She worked with the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH) as a public health nurse in the NYC public schools.

Later, she transferred to the Bureau of Immunization, DOHMH, where she has been managing the only remaining DOHMH Immunization walk-in clinic.

As one of the city's first responders, Whatley guides staffers who service about 29,000 clients annually, regardless of their socio-economic status. As a member of the Medical Reserve Corps, she plays a leadership role in PODs when a health emergency is declared in the New York City.

Whatley profoundly believes that nursing extends far beyond the bedside and the community.

"We, as nurses, help to determine the pathway for our future and that of our clients, through our involvement in decision-making at the local and national levels," she said.



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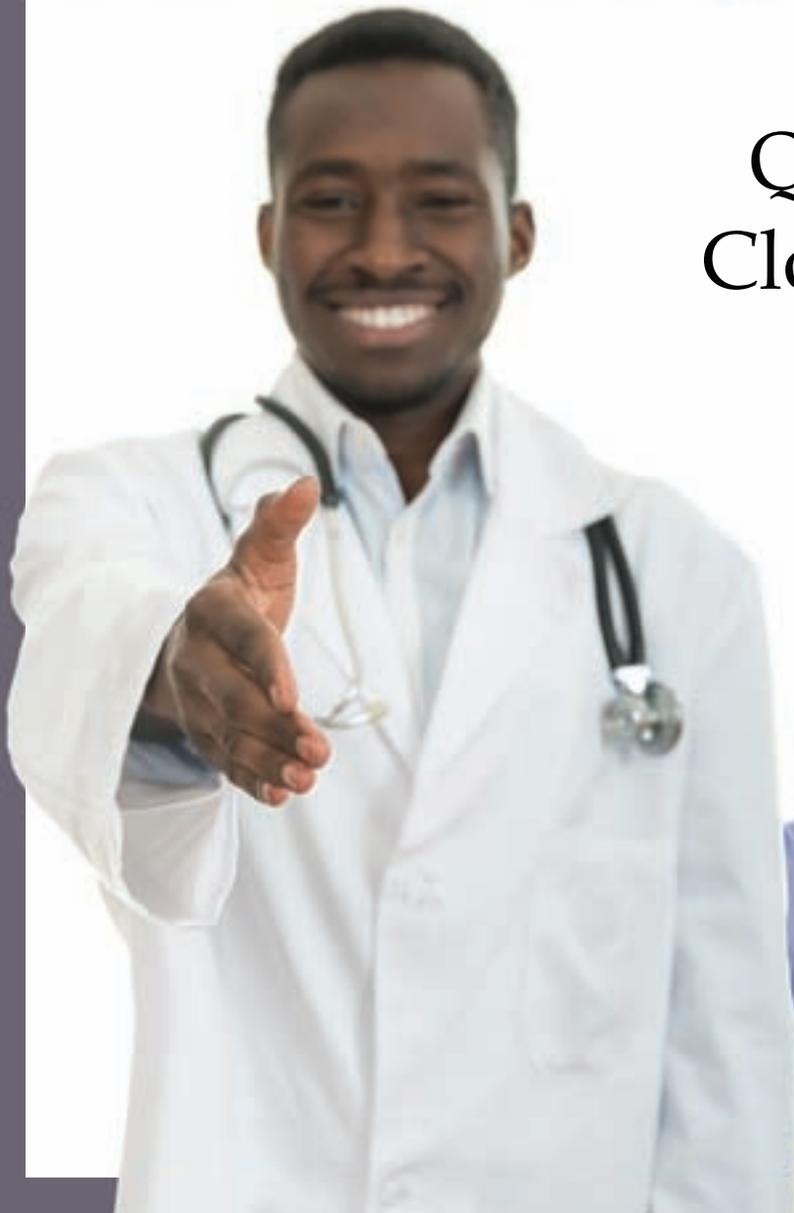
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# Labor peace emerges in Barbados

By George Alleyne

An atmosphere of conciliation appears to have overcome some elements of the leadership in Barbados, with trades unions curbing their wage demands for workers and the private sector jumping on board government's recovery plan.

The two common denominators that can be identified for this switch from an antagonistic relationship between these bodies and the past government appears to be repeal of the law supporting the National Social Responsibility Levy (NSRL) and the frequent meaningful meetings they are having with the new administration of Prime Minister Mia Mottley.

"We have a government now that the first Monday in office, the first item on her agenda was to meet with the Social Partnership (unions and private sector). In those three hours, we did more than we did in any eight-hour meeting with the previous government," said Charles Herbert, chairman of the Barbados Private Sector Association.

He added that this government which came to office on May 25 has been making encouraging signs.

"We have been signalled that once again we are going to be seen as active participants in where Barbados goes, and the challenge is on us to grasp it," Herbert said.

Imposition of the NSRL, a 10 percent tax that swept across almost all goods brought into this island that is more than 70 percent import dependent, had last year triggered the unusual situation of the private sector employers, the workers and their unions coming together in protests through the streets of Bridgetown.

Mottley has already begun the process in parliament to repeal that controversial tax.

The fruitful meetings and discarding of the draconian tax seem to have softened the two leading public service unions into accepting a five per cent pay increase effective from April 2018, to March 2019.

Public service employees had not received a pay increase in the past 10 years and prior to Mottley's Barbados Labour Party winning the May elections, the leading unions for these workers had demanded double-figure increases to cover eight of those years. The Barbados Workers Union was insist-



Barbados Labour Minister Colin Jordan.

Photo by George Alleyne

ing on a 15 percent salary raise, and the National Union of Public Workers wanted a 23 percent increase.

But with the new atmosphere they agreed, in the interest of rebuilding the economy, to forsake demands for retroactive payment covering the past seven years and accept the five percent figure.

BWU President Toni Moore said that her union and the NUPW were at all times willing to compromise on level of their wages increase demands, but the problem was that the Ministry of the Civil Service was not holding a meeting with them.

Instead of meeting to negotiate that, ministry had issued a letter to the unions in March this year making it clear that their demands "cannot be accommodated at this time."

"The increase that was eventually derived is one that is fairly consistent that the BWU viewed as the zone of settlement as far back as almost a year ago," Moore said of the five per cent

that the unions agreed to with the new administration.

Newly appointed Labour Minister Colin Jordan said employers need to recognize that unions usually set bargaining positions for their workers, then negotiate.

"Those involved in the [trades union] movement understand that where you start is not where you expect to end. That goes not just for workers and their representatives. It also goes for employers, business people. Where you begin is not where you expect to end. Trades unions have a method."

"We could not give to the public servants what we believe was their full deserts because of the situation, and the public servants to their credit understand that and have accepted the agreement for five percent," he added.

With this government starting off in agreement with the workers representatives and the private sector, it stands a better chance of achieving the economic recovery mandate it was given.

## Dominica PM wants marijuana debate

By Azad Ali

Dominica Prime Minister Roosevelt Skerrit has called for a debate on the use of marijuana for religious and medicinal purposes, but the discussions must first be held with local and international stakeholders before any legislation is brought to the Parliament.

The call has come a week after a senior Cabinet minister called on Dominicans to begin a debate on the issue of decriminalizing of marijuana for medicinal purposes or otherwise.

Speaking on a radio program recently, Skerrit told listeners that he supports the use of marijuana for medicinal and religious purposes. He

said there are many people in the country who have proclaimed that marijuana oil is helping them fight cancer and treat issues relating to suffering from cancer.

"I believe that the citizens of Dominica need to seriously engage on this matter for marijuana for medicinal purposes," Skerrit said.



The audience at the 2017 Tropicalfete Caribbean Cultural Showcase.

Tropicalfete

## Tropicalfete to unveil costumes

By Nelson A. King

The Brooklyn-based Tropicalfete, Inc. will host its annual Caribbean Cultural Showcase on Sunday, June 24 in Brooklyn to unveil its 2018 costumes under the theme "The Carnival Jungle — Sweet Fuh Days."

Tropicalfete said this event will further highlight the Caribbean culture with masquerade, stilt dancing, steel pan, theater, spoken word, live music, singing, and visual arts, among others.

"The multi-faceted theme represents the jungle as an arena of color and beauty, where as 'Sweet Fuh Days' by Patrice Roberts is the song that Tropicalfete's Steel Band Ensemble will perform for Junior Panorama," the band said.

Tropicalfete said it prides itself in re-introducing traditions that have recently been absent from the Caribbean culture.

"This year, its street theater production will bring back some old carnival characters, incorporate steel pan, stilts (moko jumbie) and masquerade for the Labor Day Parade," which is held the first Monday of September in Brooklyn, Tropicalfete said.

The Caribbean Cultural Showcase will be held on Sunday, June 24 at 3 pm at Von King Park – Almira Kennedy Coursey Amphitheatre, 670 Lafayette Ave., Brooklyn.

This event is free and open to all members of the public.

Established in 1999 as an online publication and cultural resource center, in 2011, Tropicalfete became a not-for-profit corporation.

It said its mission is to develop the community in the areas of arts and social services with a focus on educating the global community on Caribbean culture.

Tropicalfete said it established a reading program with Barnes and Noble for Caribbean Heritage Month in June.

For the past seven years, it has been a part of the various parades, "creating marvelous masquerade presentations."

# ASCAC pays tribute

By Vinette K. Pryce

Loyalists devoted to the aim and purpose of the Association of Classical African Civilizations in the eastern region will repeat an annual tribute they have been marking for 20 years by honoring the storied legacy left by revered Pan-African educator Dr. John Henrik Clarke.

Guided by principles adopted by their council of elders and an executive committee, the significance of paying homage to the revered ancestor will be manifested on June 23 from 2 p.m. at Countee Cullen Library, 104 West 136th St. in Harlem, when the 21st annual event presents a keynote address by Reginald Mabry titled "The African at the Crossroads."

Mabry, who has been affiliated with ASCAC for more than three decades, is expected to present his honest assessment of the path the continent will embark on given the examples set by "male and female great elder warriors" in the association.

Also acknowledging positive leadership from those in Africa, Mabry might even echo sentiments expressed by founding fathers Dr. Asa Hilliard, Dr. Yosef Ben Jochannon, Prof. Leonard Jeffries and his wife Rosalind, Jacob H. Carruthers, Maulana Karenga and Dr. Clarke who mobilized in 1984 to form a study group devoted to Africa.

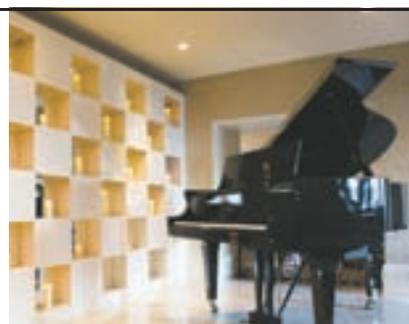


Pan-African educator Dr. John Henrik Clarke.

Throughout that decade the scholars travelled throughout Africa gathering and disseminating information to keen ears and curious ears.

"We have to remember the past so that we can mold and shape the future. Reshape the future in view of the errors of the past. You can't do it without learning from the mistakes you made." Rosalind Jeffries previously stated.

"We have the authority to affect others because everything is connected," Jeffries reportedly told a convening group of participants.



## One Wedding at a Time



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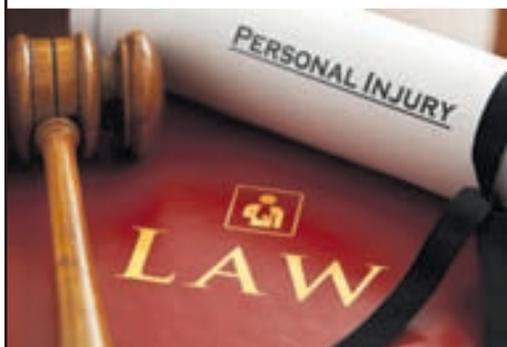
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# Hot spot: P.C. Richard & Son among businesses joining the community in rapidly changing Harlem

BY CAMILLE SPERRAZZA

The Harlem of the early 1900s was jumpin' with jazz clubs, speakeasies, and the famous Cotton Club.

It introduced us to musicians like composer and pianist Duke Ellington, who became the bandleader of a jazz orchestra. It was, and still is, home to the famous Apollo Theater, where so many singers and comedians got their start. People would come to Harlem to listen to the sounds and socialize — and they would dress to impress. This exciting and energizing part of New York history was known as the Harlem Renaissance.

It's no secret that Harlem has been experiencing a second renaissance for a while now, with lots of new restaurants and retail stores opening in the area. P.C. Richard & Son is proud to join the neighborhood, contributing to this revitalization. It opened its newest store at 125th Street on June 1.

Missed the June 1 opening? Don't worry, Gregg Richard, President and C.E.O. of P.C. Richard & Son, says grand opening celebrations will be ongoing for months. Now is the time to buy whatever you need — air conditioners, washers, dryers, ovens, mattresses, bedding, computers, printers, mobile phone accessories, and lots more. While every P.C. Richard store will be joining the celebration, there will be some special promotions specific to this new location.

The construction of the store has been in the works for more than a year.

"We saw there was a void in the area," says Richard. "Customers were asking for us to come to Harlem, and we wanted to make it convenient for them." As a result, the company decided to build its fourth Manhattan store.

P.C. Richard has a total of 66 stores, of which 21 are located throughout the boroughs. There are 17 in New Jersey, seven in Connecticut, and there's one store in Northeast Philadelphia. The rest are located throughout the New York area. The very first store opened in Benson-



(Clockwise from top) P.C. Richard & Son opened its newest store on 125th Street. Grand opening deals will be ongoing for months. The two-story building carries everything customers need — filling a void the company says it saw in the area. President and C.E.O. Gregg Richard is the company's fourth-generation top executive, and his son is following in his footsteps.

hurst, about 108 years ago. That's when Peter Christian (P.C.) Richard — Gregg Richard's great-grandfather — an immigrant from Holland, decided to open a hardware store.

It has been a family-owned and operated business since then, making Gregg Richard

the company's fourth-generation top executive. This long history will continue as Richard's son, Scott, currently works in the business, securing its reputation as an establishment that has lasted for five generations, and continues to thrive. There are few, if any, companies that can say

the same.

On any given day, Richard estimates that the company knocks on about 5,000 doors. This takes into account its home deliveries, installation, and repair services.

"We have 150 technicians," says Richard. "We fix over 1,000 appliances a day."

The company does its own installations and its own deliveries because when you buy from P.C. Richard, it wants to make sure customers are happy. It's not about one sale. It's about service before, during, and after that sale. It's why people continue to shop here each time they need something for their homes. Such dependability is surely a reason to be loyal, but P.C. Richard manages to do all this, and it offers the very best prices.

"If you see something being sold for less, we match that price, no questions asked," says Richard.

The importance of establishing a loyal base was the concept of Richard's grandfather, known as A.J. (Alfred J.).

"He was a true entrepreneur," says Richard.

A.J. would assist around his father's shop from the time he was 6 years old. It was he who would eventually expand the hardware store inventory to include electric irons, toasters, ranges, washers, refrigerators, and radios. Then, when he learned how to repair radios, he offered that service to clients, too.

In 1943, A.J. placed a 10-inch GE television in the window of the Ozone Park showroom so the neighborhood could watch the Friday night fights that were broadcast from Madison Square Garden. He believed customer satisfaction was essential to success. This remains the company's philosophy.

P.C. Richard & Son offers conveniences such as next day deliveries, and its own credit card. The sales staff is knowledgeable, and service is fantastic.

"Our customers have high expectations," says Richard. "We want to exceed those expectations. We want them to enjoy what they buy."

*P.C. Richard & Son [309 W. 125th St. between Frederick Douglass Boulevard and St. Nicholas Avenue in Harlem, (646) 556-8049, www.PCRichard.com]. Open Mondays through Fridays, 9 am-9:30 pm; Saturdays, 9 am-9 pm; and Sundays, 10 am-7 pm.*

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# ON THEIR TOES

## Impressions Dance Theatre's annual recital



Damian Marley performs during the "Catch A Fire Tour 2015" stop at The Paramount in Huntington, Long Island on Tuesday, Sept. 1, 2015, in New York.

Donald Trull / Invision / Associated Press

## Groovin' returns with longer show, bigger lineup

By Alexandra Simon

The reggae and rhythm and blues music festival, Groovin' in the Park returns to Roy Wilkins Park this weekend on June 24. The annual concert is debuting a few new additions to the program, and is also prolonging its runtime for an extended show, said the concert's co-founder.

"For the first time in the history of the festival, a reggae superstar, Damian Jr. Gong Marley, will bring the curtain down on the festival," said Joan Lewis. "This comes the same year that we have a written commitment from the park's department that the show will go until 9:30 pm, which is 90 minutes longer than our traditional 8 pm cut off time."

And the festival will be a lot more interactive for its young attendees. Lewis says in partnership with the local community board, they have partnered to create a rare opportunity for fans to meet some of their favorite artists, and learn a few things about putting together a show.

"This year we are also working with the community board in Queens and our production team to put together a Groovin In The Park 'behind the scenes tour, and this will happen on the day before the festival," she said.

"Ten lucky teenagers will have an opportunity to get a behind the scenes tour of Groovin' In The Park. They will get to talk with the artists, the production team and Groovin executives and see a live sound check with Kenny 'Babyface' Edmonds or Damian Marley. When it is all done, the youngsters will have a true understanding of the behind the scenes operation and other intricate details of what it takes to produce a world class festival of this kind."



Students of Impressions Dance Theatre on stage at a previous recital.

Photo by Tangerine Clarke

By Tangerine Clarke

Guyanese-American Verna Walcott-White, an award-winning choreographer, educator and CEO of Impressions Dance Theatre, will welcome fans to the group's 15th Annual Dance Recital on Sunday, June 24 at 4 pm.

Tickets cost: Kids \$10.00, Adults \$25.00.

The students from as young as five years old, will twirl, pirouette, bop, rock, and boogie, when the curtains open at Public School 9207, 175th Street, Jamaica, (Jamaica Avenue / 175th St.) under the theme "Still WE Rise — 3 The Journey Continues."

The recital, that is being co-sponsored by the Health Education Research Organization / Cancer Inc., headed president, Lorna Welshman-Neblett will incorporate all genres of dance, choreographer by seasoned dancers, Bobby

Carter, Jade Schott, and Victor Brown.

White, a passionate performer who began dancing at the tender age of three, under numerous famous Guyanese and International Instructors, was trained at the Guyana School of Dance, from its inception. Lavina Williams, Haitian-American dancer and director, was one of her first instructors.

Ms. Verna, as she is fondly called, went on to become an instructor, in the Guyana National School of Dance. She also choreographed for the Guyana National Dance Company where her work was shown around the world on the company's tour.

Her goal is enrich the lives of children, by promoting skills that enhances multi-cultural and creative dance, and provide services to the community, to enable children to enjoy a posi-

tive learning experience, as they build self-esteem through the discipline of dance.

White is the recipient of numerous accolades that include, proclamations and citations, from late Queens Borough President Helen Marshall, and Queens Borough President Melinda Katz, then, Councilwoman Yvette Clarke, Senator John Sampson, Council Member Mathieu Eugene, Councilman Leroy Comrie and others.

She was also presented with the Guyana Cultural Association Award, the Extraordinary Woman's Award through renowned Vissi Dance Theatre, the Golden Arrowhead Award of Distinction from Brooklyn Borough Hall, in recognition of years of service and mentorship to community including the Guyana missions, consulates and the Guyana Tri-State Alliance Inc.

## Councilman Williams pays tribute to Flag Day

By Nelson A. King

Brooklyn Council Member Jumaane Williams last week paid tribute to National Flag Day, saying that it is "an important opportunity to reflect on what our flag represents to the nation as a symbol and on the ideals that all Americans profess to uphold.

"This past year has demonstrated that there are many on the Right, with the President leading the way, who have subscribed to a perversion of patriotism that leads them to label acts

of protest and dissent as disrespectful, unpatriotic, and un-American," said Williams, of Grenadian heritage, who represents the 45th Council District in Brooklyn.

"The professed patriotism of the President, literally wrapping himself in the flag while expressing hatred toward people on the basis of race, religion, acts of peaceful protest, or even basic dissent, belies what America, and our flag, should represent," he added.

"We should stand for the ideals of independence, of free thought and free expression, of equity and justice," Williams continued.

He said acts of protest that are "demonized as 'against the flag' or, more bafflingly, 'against the troops' are in reality a recognition of our failure to uphold these ideals.

"On Flag Day, let us make a different kind of pledge — to live up to the ideals we claim to elevate," the outspoken legislator said.

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Author Edwidge Danticat

## Author gets intimate

By Alexandra Simon

A little Haiti is coming to this book lender!

A celebrated Haitian-American author will discuss how such polarizing issues as immigration and terrorism influence her craft during a free lecture at the Brooklyn Public Library's Central branch on Sunday.

Reading-room leaders invited Edwidge Danticat to deliver the second installment of the book lender's "Message from the Library" — a lecture

Continued on Page 39

## ARNSTAR'S fame is rising

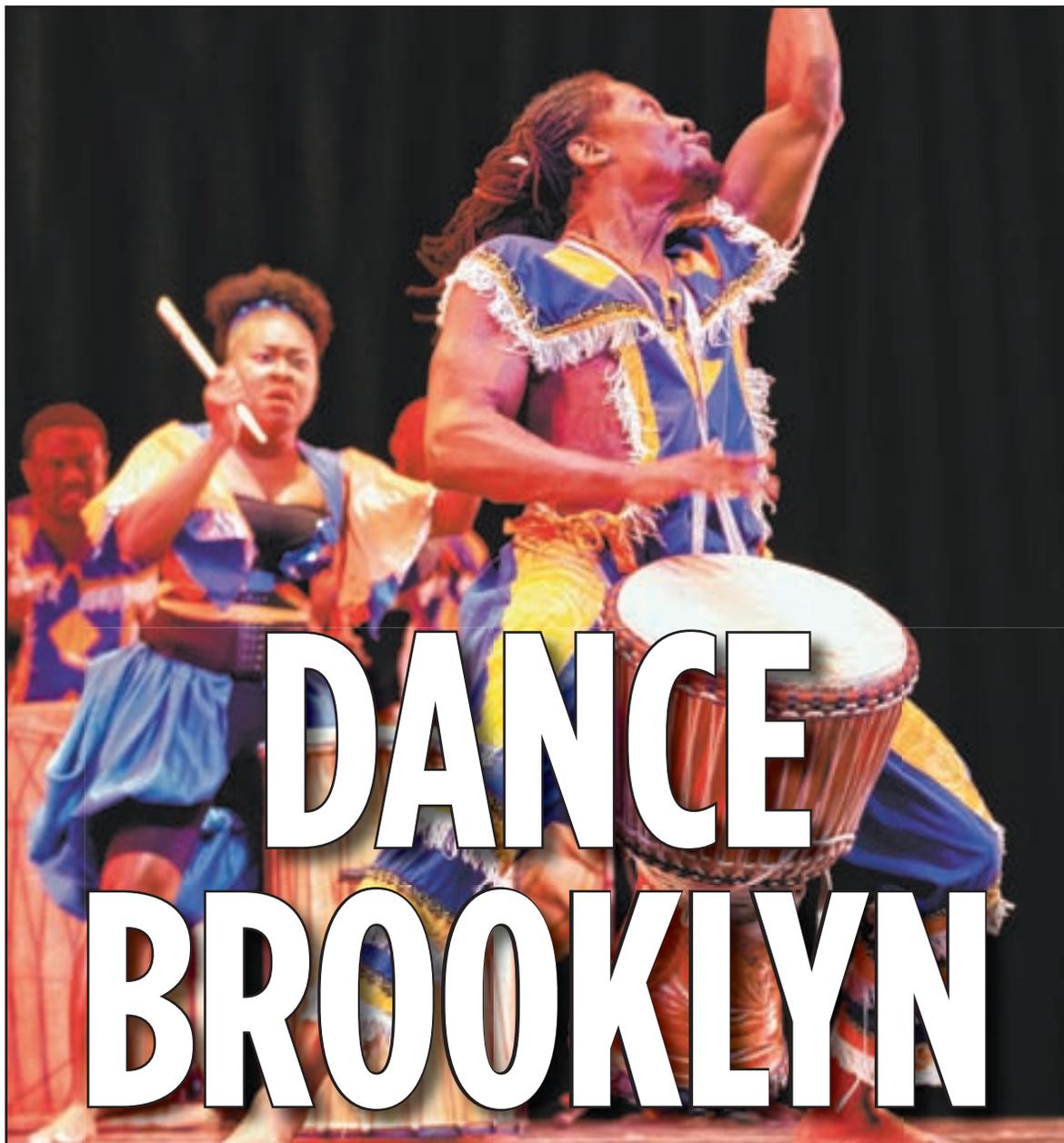
By Alexandra Simon

He's a triple threat of talent.

Brooklyn-born and Harlem raised actor, rapper, and dancer Sean "ARN-STAR" Kirkland, is making a lot of moves for himself in the entertainment world. The 27-year-old recently starred in the Netflix film "Roxanne, Roxanne," and went viral for a dance video he and a few friends did for a challenge headed by singer Neyo, while also highlighting Harlem's vibrant dance culture and scene. The video was reshared and picked up some traction, shedding light on a revival he wants to bring to the forefront of hip-hop.

"We were doing our response to Neyo's 'Pushback' challenge and we loved his energy, and we ended up going further with the challenge and we out-

Continued on Page 40



# DANCE BROOKLYN

Drum away: Musicians of Asase Yaa Cultural Dance Theater play drums at "Dance Brooklyn! A World Celebration" at Kings Theatre last Friday. Ian Lyn Photography

## Show features different dance troupes

By Alexandra Simon

A blend of cultures performed at a free community concert at Kings Theatre on June 15. At "Dance Brooklyn! A World Celebration," the event featured dance groups from various cultures and dance styles to celebrate diversity. Organized by East New York-based dance company Purelements, an Evolution in Dance, the company wanted the show to foster cultural connections and dance available to more people.

"We wanted to show togetherness,

and I think right now we're in a sensitive period where there's an effort to separate us, so the glory of Dance Brooklyn in particular has been a wonderful blend of various people and cultures," said Lakai Worrell.

He said the much needed show allowed people to explore things about one another.

"If we can identify similarities in our cultures we can expand on knowing each other better," added Worrell. "So we wanted to showcase the possibility of people coming into the same

space and celebrate each other."

About a thousand people attended the free show, and it was their chance to experience something not often available to non-theater goers. Worrell said this allowed people unable to afford regular showings with a rare chance to see a good show.

"We like the idea of being free and sometimes when it comes to places like Kings Theatre, people will often associate it as being out of reach for particular prices," he said. "But

Continued on Page 40

# TOP OF THE CHARTS

## TOP 10 SINGLES

- 1 **Havana**  
Camila Cabello Feat. Young Thug
- 2 **Perfect**  
Ed Sheeran Duet w/ Beyonce
- 3 **Thunder**  
Imagine Dragons
- 4 **Bad At Love**  
Halsey
- 5 **Rockstar**  
Post Malone Feat. 21 Savage
- 6 **Too Good At Goodbyes**  
Sam Smith
- 7 **What Lovers Do**  
Maroon 5 Feat. SZA
- 8 **Feel It Still**  
Portugal. The Man
- 9 **New Rules**  
Dua Lipa
- 10 **Love.**  
Kendrick Lamar Feat. Zacari

## TOP 10 ALBUMS

- 1 **Revival**  
Eminem
- 2 **Pressure**  
Jeezy
- 3 **The Beautiful & Damned**  
G-Eazy
- 4 **Saturation III**  
Brockhampton
- 5 **Star Wars: The Last Jedi**  
Soundtrack
- 6 **Divide**  
Ed Sheeran
- 7 **BooPac**  
Boosie BadAzz
- 8 **A Pentatonix Christmas**  
Pentatonix
- 9 **Reputation**  
Taylor Swift
- 10 **The Greatest Showman**  
Soundtrack

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Up in the air: Members of Purelements: An Evolution in Dance, perform during a segment at the free community show held at Kings Theatre on June 15. Ian Lyn Photography

# DANCE BROOKLYN

Continued from page 39

some people are unaware of the value of presentations that exist there, and we want to be attractive to people who know us and new audiences and give opportunity to experience.”

It was the fourth time for the annual concert, but this time at a new venue, added Worrell. He said after three

previous shows at St. Paul Community Baptist Church, he and co-founder Michael Joseph wanted to expand to a wider audience and bring. Previously called “East New York in Motion,” Worrell said it was a timely change.

“We’ve been doing this in East New York because our objective is to use arts as way to enhance and change the

narrative of places like our neighborhood,” he said.

“But we also wanted to make sure more people came to see this, so we felt this would be great in central Brooklyn, and this is part of our mission to reach a much larger and expansive audience.”

Worrell and his group performed three different dance pieces displaying their diverse

dance styles and talent in West African, hip-hop and contemporary styles.

Other performing groups included Ninja Ballet, Asase Yaa Cultural Dance Theater, Something Positive, Allure Latin Dance Company, an Evolution in Dance, and solo performances by dancer Trent Kowalik and poet Jaime Lee Lewis.

## Author

Continued from page 39

series it began last December that asks writers of all backgrounds to share their world views with patrons — because of the award-winning author’s ability to approach hot-button topics with compassion, and a little comedy, according to a bigwig.

“She can talk about important issues in a way that she exposes herself, but also protects herself with irony and humour,” said Jakob Orsos, who oversees arts-and-culture initiatives for the library system. “And she has an incredible sense of humanity. We knew that she would be an interesting choice because of her state of mind.”

Danticat, a two-time National Book Award nominee who took home the American Book Award for her novel “The Farming of the Bones” in 1999, will focus part of her talk, titled “How Not to Die,” on how she keeps sane amidst the often-emotional current events unfolding around her, helping listeners learn to face

the world — and the range of feelings that doing so can inspire, Orsos said.

“This is a moment to listen to an intellectual who can help us navigate our concerns, fears, and joys,” he said. “She is going to discuss what she thinks are the most-sensitive issues of our lives.”

Following the lecture, attendees moved by Danticat’s words will have a chance to discuss them in smaller groups before the event concludes, according to Orsos, who said the library stages the ongoing series to introduce Brooklynites to new ways of thinking, as well as some of their favorite wordsmiths.

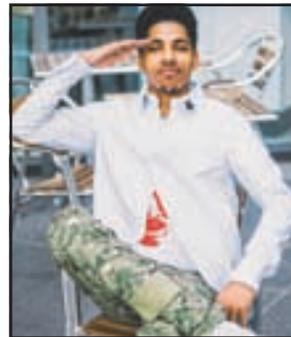
“This is a way to deeply engage with our patrons,” he said.

“We do not shy away from uncomfortable issues, because it is important to be honest about everything — whether its immigration, life, or death.”

Edwidge Danticat’s “Message from the Library” at Central Library [10 Grand Army Plaza at Flatbush Avenue in Prospect Heights, (718) 230-2100, [www.bklynlibrary.org](http://www.bklynlibrary.org)] on June 17 at 7:00 pm. Free.

## ARNSTAR’s fame rising

Continued from page 39



Kirland landed the role to play MC Shan in the Netflix film “Roxanne, Roxanne.” Krispy Photography

the years, it’s grown with the culture, and it’s plugged into hip hop’s true values,” he said. “It’s not a commercial dance for us — it’s what you see for yourself and that’s what makes LiteFeet powerful.” He says the culture surrounding the eye-catching dance is bringing light to Harlem’s roots in hip-hop music and a newfound appreciation for it.

“The movement is so infectious that it causes someone to stop in the middle of the street to record, and that’s what’s keeping the viral buzz going,” said Kirkland. “It’s like it’s being revamped and this is our way of expressing it.”

did ourselves,” said Kirkland.

In the viral video, Kirkland and his Waffle crew — an acronym for We Are Family For Life Entertainment, are seen performing the dance, which began in Harlem circa 2005-2006. He says the dance represents an aspect of hip-hop culture in its early form without the commercialization.

“LiteFeet started with a handful of dances from over

Prior to going viral, Kirkland made his acting debut in the biopic film “Roxanne, Roxanne,” which is about Queens rapper Roxanne Shante. His casting in the film was a perfect opportunity for him to further explore the genre of hip-hop and his own personal connection to it through his father, who was a member of breakdance group, the legendary Rock Steady crew.

# BFFs play cutthroat version of kids' game

"Tag"

Very Good (2.5 stars)

Rated R for pervasive profanity, crude humor, sexuality, drug use and brief nudity

Running time: 100 minutes

Production Studios: Broken Road Productions / New Line Cinema



Jon Hamm, Ed Helms, Jeremy Renner, Hannibal Buress and Jake Johnson portraying the protagonists in 'Tag.'

Warner Brothers Pictures

By Kam Williams

As kids, five BFFs from Spokane, Washington began playing Tag with no idea that, over the intervening years, an innocuous children's game might gradually morph into a cutthroat version where each would go to extraordinary lengths to pass on or avoid becoming "It." Several decades later, despite bearing all the responsibilities associated with adulthood, the guys remain ever vigilant for another tap on the shoulder.

The competitive quintet came to the attention of Wall Street Journal reporter Mark Steilen who wrote an article

about their imaginative antics entitled, "It Takes Planning, Caution to Avoid Being It." Soon thereafter, Hollywood came-a-callin' seeking to retain the rights to their story.

The upshot is Tag, the least likely of sports flicks since Dodge Ball

(2004). The movie marks the feature film directorial debut of Jeff Tomasic, who had previously only been at the helm of assorted TV show productions. Tomasic assembled a big-name cast, with Jon Hamm, Ed Helms, Jer-

emy Renner, Hannibal Buress and Jake Johnson portraying the protagonists of the bawdy buddy comedy.

At the point of departure, we find Hoagie (Helms), a veterinarian by profession, taking a job

as a janitor at an insurance company just to be able to shock a rival, Callahan (Hamm), the firm's CEO. That gives you an idea of the elaborate ruses involved.

While this novel adventure gets an A for creativity, its characters frequent resort to unnecessary cursing proves to be a self-sabotaging distraction. After all, Tag is still a little kids' game, even if it's big kids playing it. So, in this critic's opinion, the film would've worked better with a squeaky clean script.

Nevertheless, the series of screwball stunts held my interest for the duration, despite the profusion of profanities. Best of all, were the priceless clips which ran during the closing credits of the real-life pals pulling off their pranks.

A nostalgic walk down Memory Lane courtesy of the ultimate game of Tag. You're it!

## Independent & Foreign Films

Boundaries (R for profanity, sexual references, drug use and nude sketches) Intergenerational dramedy about a single-mom (Vera Farmiga) who has to drive

cross-country to relocate her estranged father (Christopher Plummer) with the help of her son (Lewis MacDougall) after the rebellious geezer is kicked out of his retirement home for dealing marijuana. Support cast includes Christopher Lloyd, Peter Fonda and Bobby Cannavale.

Brain on Fire (PG-13 for mature themes, brief profanity and partial nudity) Adaptation of New York Times reporter Susannah Cahalan's (Chloe Grace Moretz) best-selling memoir of the same name about her month-long battle with an undiagnosed case of encephalitis. With Tyler Perry, Carrie-Anne Moss and Janet Kidder (Margot's niece).

The Catcher Was a Spy (R for sexuality, violence and profanity) Paul Rudd plays Major League baseball player Moe Berg (1902-1972) in this biopic about his double life during World War II. Cast includes Paul Giamatti, Jeff Daniels, Connie Nielsen and Sienna Miller.

Damsel (R for violence, profanity, sexuality and brief frontal nudity) Mia Wasikowska plays the title character in



### Kam's Kapsules

By Kam Williams

this comic Western, circa 1870, revolving around a wealthy pioneer's (Robert Pattinson) perilous trek across the frontier to marry the love of his life. With Robert Forster, and David and Nathan Zellner.

Izzy Gets the F\*ck across Town (Unrated) Mackenzie Davis handles the title role in this romantic dramedy as a jilted girlfriend who makes her way across L.A. in order to crash her ex's (Alex Russell) engagement party. Cast includes Haley Joel Osment, Annie Potts, Lakeith Stanfield, Brandon T. Jackson, Jr. and Alia Shawkat.

The King (R for profanity) Politically-tinged musical retrospective chronicling Elvis Presley's rise from humble roots to the King of Rock & Roll at the same time America devolved from a democracy into an empire. Featuring commentary by James Carville, Alec Baldwin and Chuck D.

Never Steady, Never Still (Unrated) Poignant character study, set along the shores of British Columbia's Stuart Lake, where we find a widow with Parkinson's disease (Shirley Henderson) caring for a troubled teenage son (Theodorin Pellerin) struggling with his sexual identity. With Mary Galloway, Nicholas Campbell and Hugo Ateo.

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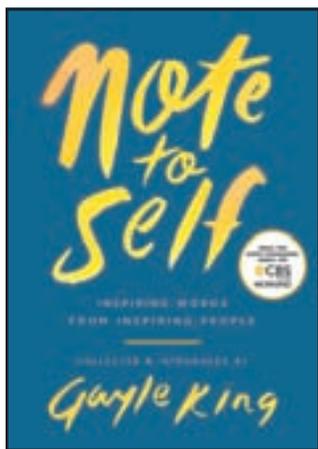


NCUA

# Oprah's BFF writes: The best advice could be self advice



Gayle King, host of 'CBS This Morning' and author of a new book, 'Note to Self.'  
John P. Filo (CBS)



'Note to Self' is a new book of 'inspiring words from inspiring people,' collected and introduced by Gayle King, co-host of the Emmy-nominated morning television series 'CBS This Morning.' Courtesy Simon & Schuster

Emmy-nominated series for "CBS This Morning," she gives opportunities for others to do the similar.

Beginning with Oprah,

King's best friend, there are words of comfort for a young woman who was dating the wrong man: "I use the word beautiful because... that's never a word you would call yourself."

Kermit the Frog admits that he's "green with envy" for the possibilities ahead for the frog he once was. Former Vice President Joe Biden advises his 12-year-old self to look forward, because there's great adventure ahead. NFL player Ryan O'Callaghan advises his younger self to "Breathe." From Dr. Ruth, who was orphaned by the Nazis: "... your bravery will be rewarded."

Tyler Perry thanks his young self for thriving. Architect Frank Gehry says, "Once you find your passion... work your tail off..." John Lewis advises himself to always remember the words of Dr. King: "We must learn to live together as brothers or perish together as fools."

Surround yourself with those

you love. Hug often. Examine your mistakes. Have fun. And remember that people can be "meaner or crueller or wetter or prettier... but they can't be more human than you." If you could, would you become 18 years old again?

"Note to Self," collected and introduced by Gayle King  
c.2018, Simon & Schuster  
\$20.00 / \$27.00 Canada 162 pages

Listen up.

Pay attention. Eyes forward, ears open. You've heard those things before in your life, and now you say them to yourself, your kids, and your employees. But do they hear what you say now... or, as in the new book "Note to Self," collected and introduced by Gayle King, will your words ring back in the future?

When she was just nine years old, a classmate told Gayle King that she would be his slave, were it not for Lincoln.

Stunned, she ran home to tell her mother, who comforted her with words King still remembers — but it made King wonder what she, as the woman she is today, would tell that "skinny little nine-year-old girl..." if she could send her young self a message. In her

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# TOP DRIVER DISTRACTIONS

## Using mobile phones

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

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

## Daydreaming

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

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

## Eating

Those who haven't quite mastered walking and

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

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

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

## Reading

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

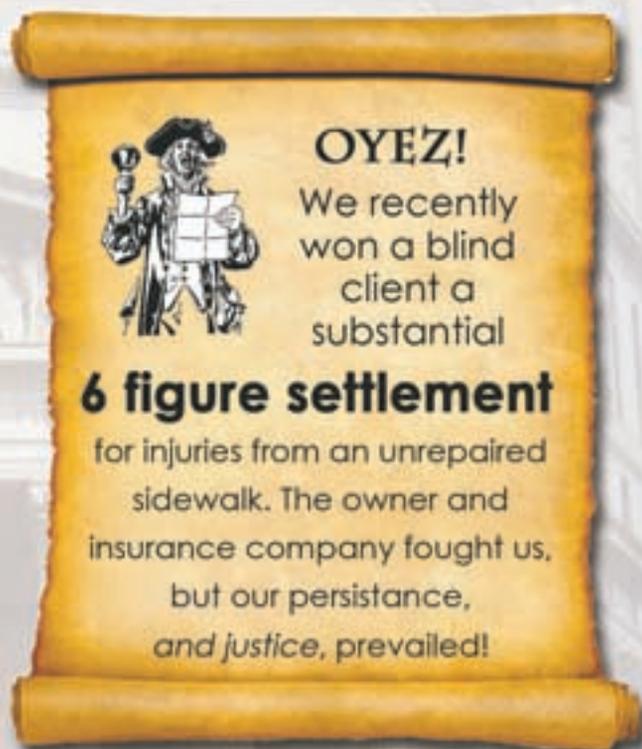
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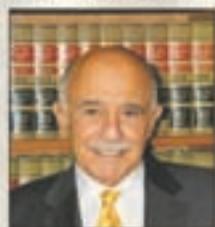
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# SPORTS

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West Indies' Shane Dowrich plays a shot in a match between England and the West Indies at Lord's cricket ground in London.

Associated Press / Kirsty Wigglesworth, File

## Keeper rises

By Azad Ali

West Indies wicket-keeper Shane Dowrich, who scored a century in the First Test against Sri Lanka at the Queen's Park Oval, in Trinidad recently has pushed him up 20 spots in the latest ICC Test batting rankings. In the latest rankings released last week, Dowrich, 25, had improved his position to 66th, one of the biggest movers.

The right-hander scored 125 not out — his second Test century — to put West Indies out of trouble in the first innings at the Oval to help set up an

Continued on Page 48

## Historian is optimistic

By Azad Ali

Cricket historian Professor Sir Hilary Beckles believes the “tide is turning” in West Indies cricket.

He is contending that the excellence of the “Jason Holder generation” could lead to a revival of the former World Champions.

Speaking during a public lecture series in Barbados titled “Fire in Babylon: Cricket as Popular Culture,” Sir Hilary noted that a new consciousness existed in the young generation of current West Indies cricketers and as a result, they were now attempting to reconstruct previous high standards of excellence.

He also argued that the development of Caribbean society and West Indies success were intertwined and

Continued on Page 48



# ON THE BRINK

Brazilian football player Marcelo (right) and Swiss footballer Granit Xhaka (left) chase the ball during a FIFA World Cup match in Rostov, Russia, on June 17.

Dmitry Lebedev / Associated Press

## Brazil's World Cup hopes in peril

By TALES AZZONI

SOCHI, Russia (Associated Press) — This is unfamiliar territory for five-time World Cup champion Brazil.

The last time it didn't win its first game in a World Cup, Pele had just retired from soccer. The

“Selecao” had won every one of its opening matches since 1978, a year after “The King's” farewell.

Brazil drew Sweden 1-1 back then, the same score of its match against Switzerland in Rostov-on-Don on Sunday, when all the hype surrounding Neymar and his team-

mates turned into disappointment and concern.

The result that ended Brazil's nine-match winning streak in opens left the national team two points behind group leader Serbia, which defeated Costa Rica 1-0 ear-

Continued on Page 48

# Mexico's faithful wishing for another win

By Ronald Blum

MOSCOW (Associated Press) — Green-clad fans, many with oversized sombreros as big as their hopes, filled the streets outside St. Basil's Cathedral, packed the Metro and made the long walk into Luzhnik Stadium. They and millions back home have one wish, a demand really: for Mexico to play that "quinto partido," the fifth game of a World Cup.

What seemed like fantasy is now possible.

El Tri sliced the German defense over and over with counterattacks, and Hirving Lozano cracked it open, cutting back to spin around Mesut Ozil and beat goalkeeper Manuel Neuer from about 10 yards in the 35th minute.

When the final whistle sounded in an improbable 1-0 win over the defending champions on Sunday night, oft-disparaged Mexico coach Juan Carlos Osorio turned to the crowd and pumped both arms in the air a half-dozen times. He pounded a fist over his heart over and over, then raised those arms a few more times.

Exultant supporters who seemed to outnumber Germans



Mexican fan enjoy the atmosphere before the 2018 FIFA World Cup match between Germany and Mexico at Luzhnik Stadium in Moscow, Russia on June 17.

Andrew Surma / Associated Press

in the crowd of 78,011 sang "Cielito Lindo (Lovely Sweet One)," the well-known lilting refrains of "Ay, ay, ay, ay, cantay no llores," imploring everyone "sing and don't cry."

Well, one side of the stadium was crooning and the other sobbing and stunned.

"The phrase today was to play for the love of winning, not

for the fear of losing," Osorio said through a translator. "We played with bravery when it was needed, and we also defended with all our hearts."

North American soccer has always been magnitudes below Europe and South America's best. But this milestone victory, Mexico's first over Germany in a competitive match — and first in any game since 1985 — gave hope El Tri could one day rise to the top.

Osorio's strategy against the four-time champions was speed on the wings with the 22-year-old Lozano, his fastest player, and Miguel Layun. He wanted them to go wide and cross to the space in front of center backs Mats Hummels and Jerome Boateng, and behind midfielders Sami Khedira and Toni Kroos. Even though Germany outshot Mexico 25-12, had 61 percent possession and completed 519 passes to Mexico's 224, El Tri was the most dangerous team for much of the night. If Javier Hernandez and Carlos Vela had been sharper, Mexico could have won by several goals. Confident Mexican fans chanted "Ole!" after each completed pass, like they



Mexican players celebrate after scoring a goal during the 2018 FIFA World Cup match between Germany and Mexico at Luzhnik Stadium in Moscow, Russia on June 17

Andrew Surma / Associated Press

usually do against CONCACAF rivals.

"We looked nervous and were not able to play the way

we wanted to play," Germany coach Joachim Loew said. "We will have to analyze why that was the case."

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# Barbados rising in FIFA world

By George Alleyne

While much cannot be said of its play on the field, Barbados is quietly moving up the FIFA organizational and administrative ladder by becoming home to the regional training office, then having a national elected as Caribbean boss.

Opening of a FIFA Regional Development Office on the island in late May catapulted Barbados to the central administrative point for growth of the game in the Caribbean, and less than two weeks later Barbados Football Association President Randolph Harris beat USVI's Hillaren Frederick 27-3 in voting for the Caribbean Football Union (CFU) presidency for the next four years at a FIFA meeting in Moscow, days before the 2018 World Cup.

The June 10 vote happened merely hours after Harris won another election — that of Confederation of North, Central American and Caribbean Association Football [CONCACAF] vice president — for the next two years.

Harris' two elevations place him in direct control of the 31-member associations that make up the CFU, and as the number two administrator for football, covering the 41-member associations of that comprise CONCACAF.

**"I have the responsibility of looking after the region and I have good support from the executive council and members of the CFU." - Randolph Harris**

He had been acting as interim CFU head since suspension of Antiguan, Gordon Derrick, from FIFA last year.

"I have the responsibility of looking after the region and I have good support from the executive council and members of the CFU and hopefully I could give them the kind of service that they expect from me," Harris said.

"Right now there is a lot of

stuff going on within the Caribbean," he said while speaking of "a sense of separation" within the CFU member associations. "Some of the members don't like the direction the CFU is going, and I was asked to think about it."

Along with the expectation that Harris will change the regional organization's direction, there are also demands from his Barbados home.

As the Barbados Nation newspaper noted in an editorial, the island "is not a powerhouse in soccer by any stretch of the imagination. Indeed, we struggle even at the sub-regional level, which puts us very much in the shadow of regional leaders in the sport, Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago."

"Mr. Harris' elevation to these high regional positions in the sport may be a good launch pad for Barbados to evolve a well-defined football culture," the newspaper stated, as it conceded, "admittedly, he can't do it alone."



Caribbean football czar Randolph Harris

Photo by George Alleyne

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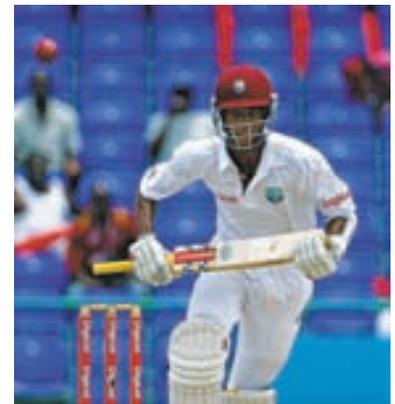
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Continued from Page 48



West Indies opener Kraigg Braithwaite  
**Associated Press / Andres Leighton, File**

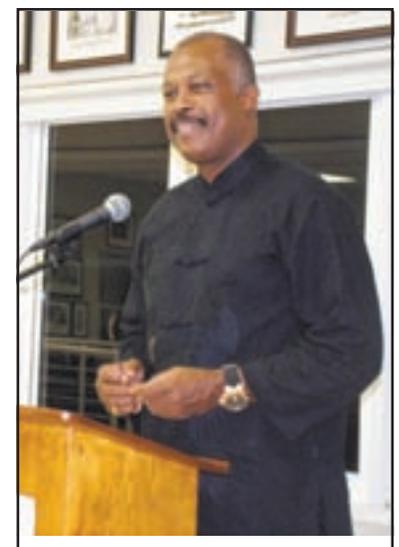
emphatic West Indies 226 victory on the final day after lunch.

Opener Kraigg Braithwaite, who failed twice in the Port of Spain Test, has slipped to 17th but is the highest-ranked West Indies batsman in the rankings topped by Australian stroke-maker Steve Smith.

In the bowling rankings, part-time off-spinner Roston Chase's second innings haul of four for 15 has earned him a four-place jump to 51st.

Fast bowler Shannon Gabriel has moved up one place to 23rd as the highest ranked Windies bowler while Holder also jumped one place to 35th.

## Historian



Sir Hilary Beckles. Photo by George Alleyne

Continued from Page 45

once societal issues in the region were addressed, he could foresee the emergence of a strong West Indies in "seven and eight years."

"I believe that the current generation of young cricketers who are coming up — I call them the Jason Holder generation," he said.



Swiss football player Ricardo Rodriguez (left) and Brazil football player Gabriel Jesus (right) chase the ball during a 2018 FIFA World Cup match in Rostov, Russia on June 17.  
Dmitry Lebedev / Associated Press

## ON THE BRINK

Continued from Page 45

One of the main title favorites, Brazil suddenly sees itself having to come from behind to keep alive its hopes of winning the team's first world title since 2002. But although the result felt like a loss, there was no reason to panic just yet, as Brazil remains heavily favored to advance. Switzerland, No. 6 in the world, was considered Brazil's toughest opponent in Group E.

Another consolation was the fact that in 2010, Spain lost its opener against Switzerland but went on to win the title anyway. Also, Argentina and Germany also failed win in their openers in Russia, while Spain and Portugal drew when they played each other in their initial match.

"Nobody can win or lose the World Cup in the first match," Brazil forward Gabriel Jesus said. "We have two decisive matches ahead of us. Of course we didn't want to draw, but we also didn't lose. We are more alive than ever."

Brazil next faces Costa Rica on Friday in St. Petersburg and anything but victory will be a disaster. But three points would put Brazil

right back in position to advance from the group. Its final game will be against Serbia on June 27 in Nizhny Novgorod.

"This is only the beginning," defender Miranda said. "We knew it wasn't going to be easy. We have to move on and keep going match by match. We'll try to win the three points in the next one."

Brazil now hasn't won in three straight World Cup matches, following the 2014 losses to Germany in the semifinals and to the Netherlands in the third-place match at the home tournament. It's a winless streak that hadn't happened since 1978, when it reached four World Cup games without a victory.

Brazil followed that 1978 draw against Sweden with a scoreless tie against Spain before defeating Austria 1-0 in the last group match to survive and advance to the second round. It eventually finished the tournament in third place.

Brazil has conceded goals in six straight World Cup matches, going back to a 0-0 draw against Mexico in the second match of the group stage in 2014.

The Brazilians complained of two

key refereeing decisions that went against the five-time champions Sunday: A push on Miranda that aided Switzerland's goal, and a no-call they felt should have produced a penalty.

But coach Tite acknowledged his side could have played better. "This team can produce more," he said.

Brazil made too many mistakes with the ball, missing easy passes throughout the field and failing to capitalize on the chances it created, especially in the second half after conceding the equalizer.

Switzerland marked Neymar well and didn't let him play by making several fouls on the Paris Saint-Germain star. He was limping when he talked to reporters after the match but said it was nothing serious.

Team doctors also dismissed any significant problem with Neymar, who was out for about three months earlier this year because of a foot injury.

Tite said Neymar might not be fully fit until the team's third match in Russia.

A fully fit Neymar will be needed if Brazil can't turn things around and arrive for the deciding match against Serbia on the brink of elimination.

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**ARIES: Mar 21/Apr 20**  
Aries, you might feel like you do not measure up to others this week. How others see you is completely different from your perception. Don't be too hard on yourself.

**TAURUS: Apr 21/May 21**  
Taurus, letting go is a hard lesson to learn this week. You may have to retire a plan that just can't come to fruition. But don't worry, new ideas are in the works.

**GEMINI: May 22/Jun 21**  
Gemini, try not to hold onto negative emotions. Focus on all of the happy memories you have made with others and your mood will instantly brighten.

**CANCER: Jun 22/Jul 22**  
Honesty is the best policy, Cancer. So have that frank conversation with someone even if full disclosure can be a bit uncomfortable. Afterward, you'll be glad you did.

**LEO: Jul 23/Aug 23**  
Don't underestimate your abilities, Leo. You are imaginative and creative when the mood suits you, as it will this week. Look for your muse and get started.

**VIRGO: Aug 24/Sept 22**  
Virgo, stay open to external influences and you may be able to infer some things about the future that can guide you in the days ahead. It's good to stay ahead of the curve.

**LIBRA: Sept 23/Oct 23**  
Libra, this is a good week to take stock of the people who mean the most to you. Express your feelings to these people and spend some time with them.

**SCORPIO: Oct 24/Nov 22**  
A little dose of being naughty might do you some good this week, Scorpio. Call in sick from work and enjoy a day shopping or simply indulging in a little entertainment.

**SAGITTARIUS: Nov 23/Dec 21**  
You have basic needs that have to be met, and a strong network of friends and coworkers can get you through any rough patch, Sagittarius.

**CAPRICORN: Dec 22/Jan 20**  
Capricorn, although you can't narrow it down just yet, something doesn't feel right in your world. Keep investigating and trust your instincts.

**AQUARIUS: Jan 21/Feb 18**  
Aquarius, you have reached a crossroads where everything you have dreamed and worked for has finally converged. This is the time to enjoy the fruits of all your labor.

**PISCES: Feb 19/Mar 20**  
Pisces, rather than looking at the differences between you and someone else, look at the similarities. This is a great way to begin a friendship.



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## HELP WANTED

## HELP WANTED

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Applicants must be organized, self-motivated and multitask.  
Open position are 8am-4pm, 3:00pm-12:00am, 12am-8:00am  
Weekend & weekdays  
Full-time and Part-time available.  
**SERIOUS APPLICATIONS ONLY**  
Email resume to:  
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fax 718-236- 4396

## HELP WANTED

## JOB INFORMATION

### Letitia James Warns Consumers About Classified Ads

Toll numbers may be a direct line to trouble. Classified ads are intended to help people by facilitating communication and advertising available services; however, some of the hotlines & service numbers in classifieds actually hurt the people who rely on them by cheating them of their hard-earned dollars. "Most newspapers print a disclaimer in their classified ad section to warn readers about numbers that are a direct line to trouble. Any number starting with 900, 540, 595 or 871 charges a fee beyond a local call. In some instances, ads initially advertise calls to a local number, but then direct callers to a second number starting with one of the paid exchanges. "Consumers must also question the legitimacy of vague classifieds because they too could be a scam. Before responding to an ad, consumers should verify the source of all information & always be wary about sending money or signing a contract with an unknown party."

**Office of the Public Advocate**

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## HELP WANTED

### Front Desk Staff

Front Desk Receptionist wanted for a Bensonhurst Assisted Living Facility.  
Applicants must be organized, personable, self-motivated, able to multitask and manage busy phones.  
Open positions are 8am-5pm and 3:00pm-12:00am full-time and part-time available. Serious applications only.

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## HELP WANTED

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- Lot # 208 Cornelius Skiff
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- Lot #229 David R. Quick
- Lot #143 Timothy Crawford
- Lot # 133 L.L. Bartlett
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This building is being constructed through the **Extremely Low and Low-Income Affordability (ELLA)** program of New York City Housing Development Corporation and the **Supportive Housing Loan Program (SHLP)** of the New York City Department of Housing Preservation and Development. Supportive housing is permanent, affordable housing with on-site support services to serve the needs of the most vulnerable New Yorkers, including the formerly homeless and disabled. Sixty percent (60%) of units in supportive housing are set aside for low income or formerly homeless individuals or families with special needs, who are referred by city agencies. The remaining 40% of units in the building are made available to referrals from the New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) and the general public. The units listed in this notice are only those made available to the general public.

#### 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> <i>Minimum – Maximum<sup>4</sup></i>
	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的简体中文版，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 보내주십시오. 봉투 뒷면에 "KOREAN" 이라고 영어로 적어주십시오. **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 resevwa yon tradiksyon anons sa a nan lang Kreyòl Ayisyen ak aplikasyon an sou papye, voye anvlop ki gen adrès pou retounen li nan: **Crystal Towers, 87-14 116th Street, Richmond Hill, NY 11418**. Nan dèyè anvlop 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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