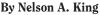


CHEERS FOR 45TH US applauds Bahamian independence anniversary



The Trump administration on Tuesday congratulated the Bahamas on its 45th anniversary of political independence from Great Britain.

"On behalf of President Trump and the people of the United States, I congratulate the people of The Bahamas on 45 years of independence," said U.S. Secretary of State Michael R. Pompeo in a statement.

"The United States and The Bahamas share an enduring partnership built on maritime cooperation, regional security, long-standing exchanges of university students, and tradeand investment-driven prosperity," he added.

This partnership continues to deepen, as evidenced by the successful 2018 Tradewinds exercise and regional security efforts through Operation Bahamas Turks and Caicos.

'Today, we reaffirm our commitment to supporting The Bahamas as we together harness opportunities to build a safe and more prosperous world for the next generation, as underscored in the Caribbean 2020 strategy," Pompeo continued. "On this joyous occasion, the United States wishes the people of The Bahamas many years of peace and prosperity."

On Tuesday, the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) joined Bahamians in celebrating the country's 45th anniversary of independence.

Secretary-General Ambassador Irwin LaRocque extended the Caribbean Community's best wishes in a congratulatory message to Bahamian Prime Minister Dr. Hubert Minnis.

"The Bahamas has made great progress in the 45 years since nationhood, making its mark particularly in the services sector and in sports," the Secretary-General said.

"Prime Minister, your role within the CARICOM Quasi-Cabinet in the area of tourism is greatly valued given that sector's significant importance to the economy of the region," he said.

"The Community also looks forward to the continuing leadership of The Bahamas in its capacity as the current Chairman of the Council for Foreign and Community relations (COFCOR)" he added.

LaRocque said the theme for this year's independence festivities, "Celebrate Bahamas: We've Come This Far by Faith," is "a call to highlight the achievements of the nation and the vast capabilities of the most valuable resource, its people."

The Bahamas became an independent Commonwealth realm in 1973, retaining the British monarch, then and currently Queen Elizabeth II. as its head of state.

"The way we regard our flag serves to demonstrate to the world how committed we are in maintaining the profound aims and objectives of The Bahamas as one united nation," said Gov. Gen. Dame Marguerite Pindling at National Pride Day & Flag Raising festivities in Rawson and Parliament Squares on July 6.

"So, wherever we are in our homes, our schools, our churches or in our communities we must always remem-

Continued on Page 8



Barbados Prime Minister Mia Mottley, left, with Attorney General Dale Marshall. Photo by George Allevne

Barbados government targeting country's corrupt officials

By George Alleyne

The new Barbados administration intends to pursue and prosecute public officials suspected of corruption as far up the ladder as former government ministers, and will retake assets gained illegally wherever in the world they are placed.

Attorney General Dale Marshall made clear this intention when he spoke in parliament Tuesday of millions of taxpayer dollars siphoned out of

the National Treasury in dubious contracts that could have been permitted only by ministers of a past government, some who openly enjoyed the benefits.

"They need to take warning. I know that people can find all kinds of ways to try to hide anything but we also know that in time ... every single one of those individuals who we can identify, they're going to have to give an explanation to the

people of this country as to how they came by those ill-gotten gains and prove to the people of this country that they were come by honestly," Marshall said signalling that since the May 24 emergence of a government led by Prime Minister Mia Mottley, there is a new sheriff in town.

As he introduced an Integrity in Public Life bill for anti-corruption legislation, Continued on Page 8

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All for culture: Committee members celebrating pictured next to models from Sesame Flyers International at a Caribbean heritage at Brooklyn Supreme Court on June 27. From top left, Sharifa John, Hon. Robin Sheares, Hon. Sylvia Hinds-Radix, Hon. Michelle Weston, Hon. Dena Douglas, Charles Small, Esq. Chief Clerk Supreme Court Civil. Bottom left, Celeste Felix, Hon. Rosemarie Montalbano, Hon. Ruth Shillingford, and Hon. Cenceria Edwards.

COURTING CARIBBEAN HERITAGE Kings County courts laud island immigrants' contributions

By Alexandra Simon

The normally quiet courtrooms and hallways of Brooklyn Supreme Court erupted with a display of colorful carnival costumes and Caribbean pride and culture on June 27.

Kings County Courts' Caribbean-American Heritage Month Celebration honored the contributions immigrants from the islands have brought to Brooklyn and how they have shaped and impacted the borough and the city. One of those examples, said an organizer, was displaying the vibrancy of Caribbean culture and how each country in the region offers something different.

'Every year we try to do something different and this year we wanted to show the costumes for people to see," said Betty Matondo-John, secretary to State Supreme Court Associate Justice Sylvia Hinds-Radix, herself a native of the Caribbean island of Barbados.

Very often just a few facets of Caribbean culture are well-known and celebrated, Matondo-John noted, and this Caribbean heritage event was yet another opportunity to share a variety of what the region's nations have to offer.

"A lot of people of other cultures don't know what Caribbean culture is like and think we're all the same but we wanted to show what makes different and all the aspects that make us unique," she added.

As part of the ceremony in the Downtown Brooklyn courthouse, about a dozen court officers of Caribbean descent were honored for their service the courtroom with brilliantly-colored





to the court system. The entertainment was provided by the Brooklynbased carnival and mas band, Sesame Flyers International, which brightened (Above) Honorable Sylvia G. Ash sporting a carnival headdress at the courthouse Caribbean heritage celebration (Left) Honorable Sylvia Hinds-Radix at the event on June 27. Photos by Stefano Giovannini

carnival-themed costumes and headdresses

Matondo-John added that a highlight of the event were the remarks by the keynote speaker, social justice educator Jamila Lyiscott, that so resonated with some attendees that they became emotional.

'Up to now a lot of people are still talking about this program and this was best the court has ever seen," said Matondo-John. "I've been getting noth-

Pol busted protesting nominee

By Nelson A. King

Brooklyn Councilman Jumaane Williams was arrested this week for protesting United States President Donald J. Trump's nominee for the U.S. Supreme Court.

New York State Lt. Gov. candidate Williams, the son of Grenadian immigrants, who represents the 45th Council District in Brooklyn, was arrested Monday night outside Trump Tower in midtown Manhattan as he protested Trump's nomination of District of Columbia's Court of Appeals Judge Brett Kavanaugh to the highest court in America.

Williams was charged with disorderly conduct and released from New York Police Department (NYPD) custody shortly after midnight.

Before being arrested with a group of protesters, Williams called on Democrats to find the moral conviction to stand up to Trump and what Williams characterized as Trump's "extremely conservative Supreme Court nominee."

"My message is to the Democrats who think resistance is just a hashtag," he said to protestors outside of Trump's skyscraper on Fifth Avenue and East 56th Street. "We have fought for protections for so many, fought hard for black, brown, LGBT, for women.

"All of that is now at risk, not because of bigoted Republicans, but because of Democrats who refused to step up because they were afraid," he added. "I am begging all Democrats - all those who claim leadership - to take a risk, show courage. If you are in your comfort zone, you are not doing enough."

During the rally, Williams emphasized his concern that the right-leaning Supreme Court could overturn Roe v. Wade, a landmark 1973 ruling that made abortion a constitutional right.

He also criticized New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo for "failing to advance legislation that would protect women's rights on the state level by empowering the right-leaning Independent Democratic Conference (IDC)'

"Establishment Democrats, like the Gov. Cuomo and Lt. Gov. Hochul have led us to where we are today," Williams claimed. "They have had every opportunity to pass progressive legislation that ensure women have access to safe and legal abortion, but lacked the moral courage to advance what's right, putting their own personal political gain ahead of those Continued on Page 16

Caribbean Life, July 13-19, 2018



THE NEWS FROM BACK HOME

Antigua

The Antigua and Barbuda government has renewed diplomatic ties with Venezuela.

Prime Minister Gaston Browne has reiterated solidarity with the Government and People of Venezuela after he held talks with his South American ally.

In a statement the government said that the meeting was held "as part of Venezuela's For-

eign Minister tour of countries across the region."

Venezuela Foreign Minister, Chancellor

Jorge Arrenza, along with his diplomatic team including Resident Ambassador Carlos Perez, recently met with Browne, the Minister of Foreign Affairs Chef Greene and other officials in the Office of the Prime Minister.

Browne used the opportunity to highlight ways in which Antigua and Barbuda and Venezuela could strengthen and deepen their cooperation and diplomatic ties, along with possible projects for collaborative implementation, according to the statement.

"The government and people of Antigua and Barbuda stand in solidarity with the government and people of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela," it said.

The main focus of the meeting was to find ways of strengthening the relationship between the two countries.

During the high-level meeting, Venezuela also pledged to assist in the cost of rebuilding hurricane-damaged Barbuda, the statement said.

Barbados

Under newly instituted procedures, airline passengers would no longer be able to carry powder-like substances

on flights departing Barbados from the Grantley Adams International Airport. Members of the pub-

lic have been advised

about the new procedures that started from June 30, 2018, which affect travelers with powder-like substances and granular material over 350 grams, or 12 ounces.

They will be required to place such items in their checked luggage and not in their carry-on bags, in order to reduce the chance of aviation security authorities having to confiscate and dispose of these items at the checkpoint and/or gate.

Powder-like substances are described as fine dry particles caused by the grinding, crushing or disintegration of a solid substance.

These substances include flour, sugar, ground coffee, spices, powdered





Guyana's First Lady speaks

At the Conversation and Fundraiser Luncheon at Tropical Paradise Banquet Hall were, from left, Burchell Marcus; James Richmond; Dr. Candane Cummings; Roxanne Reece; H.E. Sandra Granger, First Lady of Guyana; Consul General Hon. Barbara Atherly; Brian K. Roberts; Sharif Barker Fraser; Doris Rodney, and Burgette Williams-Forde. See story on page 24. Photo by Tangerine Clarke

milk, baby powder, foot powder, cooking powder, bath salt, sea salt, sand, and cosmetics, among others. However, baby formula, and medically necessary powder are not included in the new restrictions.

Grenada

Trinidad and Tobago's national airline, Caribbean Airlines Limited (CAL), is partnering with Spice Mas Corporation of Grenada as the official airline of SpiceMas 2018. The SpiceMas street parade takes place on

August 13 and 14. CAL chief executive officer, Garvin Medera said this is the second year that CAL is part-



nering with the SpiceMas Corporation and the first year as the official airline.

"As an airline, we are committed to supporting culture and this year we have been privileged to partner with most of the regional carnivals and other festivals in the destinations we serve," he said.

Kirk Seethalal, chief executive officer of SpiceMas Corporation said, "we are delighted to partner with Caribbean Airlines again this year. Caribbean Airline has been an excellent partner to Grenada, providing Grenadians and visitors access to our shores with a safe, reliable and economical service.'

The airline offers daily service to Grenada's Maurice Bishop International ley Shaw said that while Jamaica has

BQ

Airport, with easy connections to other destinations in the Caribbean Airlines network.

Haiti

Former Haitian coup leader Lieutenant General Henri Namphy has died

in the neighboring Dominican Republic after a long battle with cancer. He was 85. Namphy, who lived



in exile in the Dominican Republic, headed Haiti's military government after the fall of the Duvalier family dictatorship.

He became head of the interim National Council of Government that took charge of Haiti in 1986 when Jean-Claude "Baby Doc" Duvalier fled into exile in France.

Nampy also served as Haiti's president before he was ousted in a coup in 1988. His presidency lasted only three months after which he fled Thed to the Dominican Republic.

Jamaica

The Jamaica government is moving to ensure that it will not left behind

in the growing global medical marijuana industry. Jamaica's Minis-

ter of Industry, Com-



merce, Agriculture and Fisheries Aud-

only decriminalized the use of up to two ounces of marijuana and issued a few licenses for production and processing, the product is now legal in Canada and 31 states in the USA have been producing and using it for medicinal and recreational purposes.

Shaw said the country needs to move quickly to take advantage of opportunities in the growing of cannabis and manufacture of the products.

The minister said he is working with the Ministry of Health and the Cannabis Licensing Authority (CLA) "to move faster and more aggressively to get up to the level of world competition.'

Shaw was at the time addressing an Agricultural Technology Symposium under the theme "Sustainable Growth in the Agriculture Sector with Science and Technology Engineering" recently held at the Isratech Jamaica Limited Group of Companies, in the parish of Manchester.

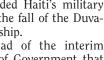
St. Lucia

Thirty-six St. Lucians have been deported from the United States, the United Kingdom and Martinique since the start of this year.

This was revealed by the head of the Immigration Department, Assistant Superintendent, Sean Alexan-



der, who said the deportations stemmed Continued on Page 16



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В

Building powerful women in Jamaica

Inside Life

By Vinette K. Pryce

embers of an organization dubbed Empowering Future Minds (EFM) exemplified a mission to help young women in Jamaica by hosting a fund-raiser at Markie B's Jamaican Cuisine in Jamaica, Queens recently.

Their total membership comprises just more than a handful Jamaican women — residing in Silver Springs, Maryland, Long Island, N.Y. and Fort Lauderdale, Fla. yet they are amplifying the phrase that many are called but few are chosen.

According to their web portal, together the women for women project is "a group of friends and associates all connected by our love of Jamaica and our desire to make a change. For many of us, our lives have been enriched by the amazing experience we had going to high school in Jamaica. We have all had fond memories and built lasting friendships, but it was not always easy for our parents to pay the expenses. As Jamaicans living abroad, we recognize that fact and as such, have made a commitment to help change the lives of the many tal-



ented young ladies attending our and some of your alma maters."

In just four years board members Jacqueline Archer; Suzane Archer, president; Sheree Miller, public relations specialist; Patricia Gascoigne, treasurer; Solea Morris, secretary; Karen Hutchinson, marketing executive and Georgia Lee, event planner seem to be making a difference by empowering youths on the island to pursue education against all odds.

In order to raise funds to help the ambitious young women in the homeland, the committed ensemble traveled from various locations on June 30 to raise funds and awareness about the plight of many disfranchised students.

Brandishing a banner bearing a quote from Brigham Young saying "you educate a man, you educate a man; you educate a woman, you educate a generation," they personified aims and purposeful examples of how a few can help the least empowered gender in the Caribbean nation.

The women believe "every mickel make a muckle" and have invested time, energy and creative fundraising methods to raise funds to aid in the education of students from Ardenne High School, Holy Childhood, Alpha Academy, St. Hugh's, Queens High, Tivoli Gardens Primary, St. Andrew High, Immaculate Conception High, Peter Claver Primary and Wolmers High School.

Employing simple methods to aid in the process, they have assisted in providing backpacks, school supplies and even reading glasses to needy students.

To that end, in the past they have held a dominoes tournament, hosted a fund-raising gala in Florida, sponsored raffles,



Members of an organization dubbed Empowering Future Minds (EFM) exemplified a mission to help young women in Jamaica by hosting a recent fund-raiser at Markie B's Jamaican Cuisine in Jamaica, Queens. Behn Goldis

and this latest effort in New York City offered dinner, cocktails, dancing and prizes to patrons.

"We want to make a difference," Archer said.

Despite lacking of a travel budget, the committed women

limited time

peel

per session

traveled from various locations on the eve of the July 1 anniversary birthday of Dennis Emanuel Brown and the Independence Day holiday week to fulfill their commitment.

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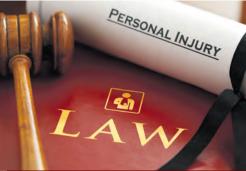
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Bahamas' 40th anniversary celebration

Continued from page 1

ber to show respect for ourselves," she added.

As Bahamians celebrated, she admonished that they always show respect to this "sacred" symbol, according to Bahamasweekly.com.

It said Bahamians, including children enrolled in summer camps, clad in the gold, aquamarine and black colors of the Flag, "filled Parliament Square and beamed with pride as they clapped, danced, and waved their Flags in celebration.

"Government officials, diplomatic community representatives and Bahamians of all walks of life joined in the festivities," the online publication said. It said the colorful flag-raising ceremony, led by the Governor-General, was among the activities organized by the 45th National Independence Committee to mark National Pride Day.

Activities included announcement of the winners of the 45th National Independence Essay Competition, organized by the Ministry of Education, which was held for students in the primary, junior and senior high school divisions; entertainment by the Bahamas National Youth Orchestra, Charlie da Yellow Bahamian, the Police Youth Band (Mt. Moriah Transformers), the Scorched Conch Band, and Tropical Depression.

The people's choice and the judges' choice winners of the 45th National Independence Recording Artists Search, organized by the Ministry of Youth, Sports and Culture, were also announced, Bahamasweekly.com said, adding that the finalists in the song competition demonstrated their talents to the audience with performances in Rawson Square.

Court

Continued from page 3

ing but positive feedback — everyone loved it, and from what I understand our speaker was absolutely amazing. She moved people so much that some were moved to tears."

Matondo-John says she and other how we're going to outdo next year."

members of the Caribbean heritage committee are already planning next year's festivities, adding that this year's display honoring Caribbean culture has set the bar high.

"The whole thing was awesome. It was a wonderful event attended by a lot of wonderful people and it was phenomenal," she said.

"We outdid last year, and I wonder ow we're going to outdo next year."

Fighting Barbados' corruption

Continued from page 1

Marshall recapped sordid accounts of public officials okaying construction and other million-dollar contracts behind closed doors and ignoring the law stipulating that any such deal valued over Bds\$200,000 (BDS\$1 = 50 cents US) should go to public tender.

He spoke of a high-rise housing construction contract valued around Bds\$18 million being awarded without going to public tender, and informed the nation that there were many others.

Among those on file he said is "a project that was in our view unlawfully awarded for Bds\$18 million, [and] had its price increased less than a year later to Bds\$27 million without explanation".

Marshall said that the new government also discovered in the files "that a contract in excess of Bds\$190 million was awarded ... for the building of a [mooring] berth without going to tender".

The Attorney General also alleged that two public officials "are still driving, two BMW 5-series vehicles that are registered to the company that received Bds\$28 million of Transport Board taxpayer funds without a contract and without going to tender."

In vowing to go after the wrongdo-

ers Marshall said, "We have to make it clear to all people, either in Barbados or coming into Barbados, that all people are going to be treated fairly and with all possible dispatch, and therefore the concept of a bribe will not help you."

"We have to find a way to reverse the mindset of Barbadians and the people who come into our shores to do business, which says that the way to get your process completed quickly is to pay a bribe."

He cited a case of an attorney general of Belize suing past government ministers and the case reaching the Caribbean Court of Justice in 2011 and then CCJ president Michael de la Bastide ruling that such action is correct, stating that in such a case the attorney general is entitled to seize "all personal profit and advantages gained by use or abuse of the men's status as public servants to be for the benefit of the state."

"For so long as I am attorney General of this country. I intend to strain every sinew of mine to the point of breaking.

"I intend to engage every agency of the Crown, either inside Barbados or outside of Barbados.

"I intend to do everything that I can to bring the perpetrators of that dishonest activity to heel," Marshall swore.

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OP-EDS

Developing nations need democracies

By Buddy Hoosein

I read recently about the interest showed in becoming Guyana's president among many young, insurgent candidates, and the recent resounding success of many candidates in the USA. My heart goes out to them, and I salute them. They should have the right to compete, and voters will have an equally important right to elect a candidate of their choice, not one that is foisted upon them. Let the people decide whose leadership exudes integrity, passion and vision, not party bosses. That is the hallmark of democracy - the freedom to choose who should represent the electorate.

Guyana, and other developing countries, must implement a similar process to the USA, where any candidate can run in a primary, and the winner can compete against the winners of other party's primaries. No one, or no committee, should have a monopoly on who should represent the masses, via any party designation process. Exclude recycled candidates also. Let the people truly decide.

This is how Albert Baldeo, an immigrant from a small village called Better Hope in Guyana, became a harbinger for continuous change and upset the political establishment, energize and inspire other grassroots activists like Councilman Eric Ulrich, incoming Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, and others in America. Why can't similar inspiring and energized candidates be allowed to exercise the fundamental right to run for public office, or allow voters the fundamental right to choose a candidate of their choice globally? These reformers would have been suffocated elsewhere.

In America, insurgent candidates have shaken up the establishment because the system allows changes, albeit reluctantly. Albert Baldeo was elected to represent the largest, diverse immigrant community in the USA, called "Little Guyana" and "Little India", as a district leader, an elected position. Baldeo won by a landslide — 80% of the votes cast, without any party or institutional backing.

Baldeo had been denied becoming a New York State Senator by ousting a 30 year incumbent chairman of the Republican Party, Serf Maltese, by a 500 votes margin in 2006, (0.5% of the votes), when his victory was rolled back after he had been declared the winner. The party bosses came together and prevented what would have been the biggest upset in Queen's political history.

He was pulled off the ballot in a seat he was poised to win, along with five other candidates for the vacant New York State Assembly seat a year later, and lackey insider, Assemblyman Mike Miller, was installed as a place holder for Joe Crowley's cousin Elizabeth Crowley, a safeguard to preserve their institutional power if she lost the then-City Council election Continued on Page 12

 Constant
 Constant

Contributing Writers: Azad Ali, Tangerine Clarke, Patrick Horne, Nelson King, Tequila Minsky, Vinette K. Pryce, Bert Wilkinson, Lloyd Kam Williams

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Action needed to protect St. Lucia's biodiversity

By Desmond Brown

CASTRIES, St. Lucia, July 9, 2018 (IPS) - Wildlife conservationists consider it to be one of the most striking parrots of its kind. Saint Lucia's best-known species, the endangered Amazon parrot, is recognized by its bright green plumage, purple forehead and dusty red-tipped feathers. But a major conservation organization is warning that climate change and a lack of care for the environment could have devastating consequences for Saint Lucia's healthy ecosystems and rich biodiversity, including the parrot.

Sean Southey chairs the Commission on Education and Communication (CEC) of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). He told IPS that urgent action is needed to safeguard the eastern Caribbean island nation's biodiversity, which is under constant threat.

"With climate change, countries like St. Lucia [experience] significant weather events. The increase in hurricanes, the increase in bad weather and mudslides — these are incredible consequences of climate change," Southey said.

"As you drive across the landscape of St. Lucia, you see a landscape strewn with old plastic bags," Southey said.

Though less than 616 square kilometres in area, St. Lucia is exceptionally rich in animals and plants. The island is home to more than 2,000 native species, of which nearly 200 speThe category 5 hurricane wreaked havoc on Barbuda's world-famous frigate bird colony.

cies occur nowhere else. Species of conservation concern include the pencil cedar, staghorn coral and St. Lucia racer. The racer, confined to the nine-hectare island of Maria Major, is thought to be the world's most threatened sake. Also at risk are mangrove forests and low-lying freshwater wetlands, Southey said. But he added it was not too late to take action, and he urged St. Lucia and its Caribbean neighbors to take advantage of their small size.

"The smallness of islands allows for real society to get involved. What it means is helping people connect to the environment," Southey said.

"It means that they need to know and feel and appreciate that their individual behaviors make a difference. Especially the biodiversity decisions [like] land use planning.

"If you are going to sell your family farm, do you sell for another commercial tourist resort, do you sell it to make a golf course or do you sell it to [produce] organic bananas? These are the type of individual decisions that people have to make that protect an island or hurt an island," he said.

Southey added that thoughtful management of mangroves and effective management of shorelines, "can create natural mechanisms that allow you to cushion and protect society from the effects of climate change."

The CEC chair said recent extreme weather events have forced people in the Caribbean to understand climate change more than inhabitants from other countries in the world do.

"If you're over the age of 30 in the Caribbean, you've seen a change in weather patterns. It's not a story that you hear on the news, it's a reality that you feel during hurricane season every year. So I believe there is an understanding," he said.

In September 2017, Hurricane Irma tore through many of St. Lucia's neighboring islands, including Barbuda.

The Category 5 hurricane wreaked havoc on Barbuda's world-famous frigate bird colony. Most of the 10,000-frigate bird population disappeared in the immediate aftermath of the hurricane, which destroyed the mangroves in which they nest and breed.

While many countries in the Caribbean are working on building natural barriers and nature-based solutions in response to climate change, Southey still believes there needs to be a greater strengthening of that sense that people can actually do something to contribute.

Reducing plastic waste

In June 2016, Antigua took the lead in the Caribbean with a ban on the com-Continued on Page 12

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

College's food pantry feeds students in need

BY LAURA HANRAHAN

The free public-school lunch is off to college.

Administrators at a city community college are nourishing the minds — and bodies - of its most vulnerable students with a newly created food pantry where those in need of something to eat can stock up on essential groceries for free.

Leaders of Borough of Manhattan Community College which serves more students from Brooklyn than its home borough, according to a spokesman — opened the Panther Pantry inside the school's Single Stop student-resource center in Manhattan in April, and stock its shelves with items including pasta, beans, canned fruits and vegetables, cereal, tins of tuna and chicken, and milk and milk alternatives, all of which they offer to students who can't afford to buy the goods on their own

"We have on a sheet of paper all of the items that are in



The BMCC mascot is a cheerleader for the college's new Panther Pantry. Louis Chan

a choice," said Deborah Harte, who runs Single Stop and its pantry named for the college's mascot. "They can come to the pantry and actually see the things, or can check the list off in the office, and we'll go pack a bag for them."

The need for such a facility the pantry, and students have was extremely apparent, according to another college administrator, who said the institution has assisted more than 600 students with food insecurities in recent years, either by helping them apply for New York State's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, or by giving them gift cards to local supermarkets that are subsidized by the school's emergency fund.

Many of the students come from public high schools, where meals are often provided for food-insecure pupils, making it difficult to fend for themselves when they arrive on campus, the administrator said.

"When they leave the high school and they come to us, we've decided we don't handle food insecurities, which is irresponsible because we know it has to do with retention and graduation," said Dr. Marva Craig, the c ommunity college's vice president of student affairs.

And the pantry doesn't just feed students themselves — its stewards ask eligible users how large their households are, allo-



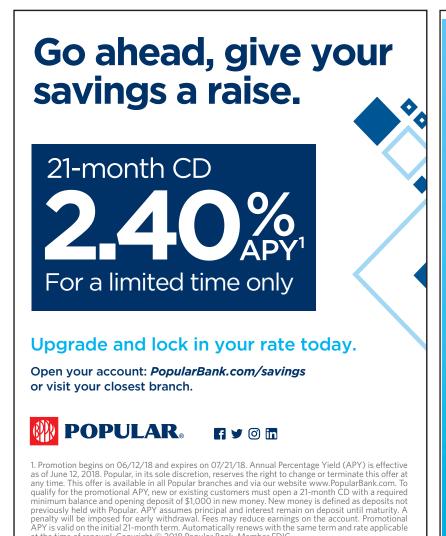
In the BMCC Panther Pantry are, from left, Deborah Harte, director of Single Stop; Marva Craig, vice president of student affairs; Karrin Wilks, provost and senior vice president; and BMCC President Antonio Pérez. Louis Chan

cating provisions based on that number, Craig said.

"A mother may come, but it's not the mother alone who's hungry in the household," she said. "One student may be walking out with two bags, and one may be walking out with a halfbag because of the household."

But the purpose of the operation isn't to offer a quick hunger

Continued on Page 18



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ВQ

OP-EDS

Developing nations need open democratic systems

Continued from page 12

to Tom Ognibene. The party leaders and institutional leaders saw Baldeo's independence as a threat to their hold on power. His agenda as a modern day Shirley Chisholm, who was "unbossed and unbought," was a major factor in them "running scared" of her worthy protégé and compatriot, Albert Baldeo.

But Baldeo never gave up. He created a movement, a veritable blueprint, that has inspired and helped others to advance the progressive and liberal cause, and Americans now bask in his reform movement, where he led the charge for free health care, free college tuition, better schools and after-school programs, more wages and better jobs, improved governmental services and accountability, senior centers and more. (www.AlbertBaldeo.com). Congressional nominee Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez carried the torch, and — utilizing the progressive policies he envisioned and implemented — she inflicted a monumental defeat on the 20-year Queens

Party leader Joe Crowley, who had done everything to preserve the status quo and clubhouse like a modern day Boss Tweed. Now this mafia organization is crumbling. The progressive blueprint sent him packing, albeit by a surrogate opponent, all kindred souls. Karma eventually caught up with both Republican and Democratic Party bosses —Joe Crowley and Serf Maltese — as it will with Guyana's and other countries' also.

Guyana, and developing countries, have been saddled for decades with the same, recycled politicians, who jealously guard their selfish interests, as if divinely bequeathed, in vicious cabals. The door is shut to new voices. Change cannot come from such an archaic system that suffocates, rather than encourages, fresh thoughts and ideas. Give insurgents an equal chance to compete.

Buddy Hoosein, Chairman, United Communities Alliance

Action needed to protect St. Lucia's biodiversity

Continued from page 10

mercial use of plastic bags.

The island's environment and health minister Molwyn Joseph said the decision was made in a bid to reduce the volume of plastic bags that end up in the watercourses and wetlands.

"We are giving our mangroves a fighting chance to be a source of healthy marine life, that can only benefit us as a people," he said.

Antigua also became the first country within the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States and the second within the Caribbean Community, to ratify the Nagoya Protocol to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).

The Nagoya Protocol provides a transparent legal framework for the effective implementation of one of the three objectives of the CBD: the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources.

On July 3, one of the Caribbean's largest supermarket chains launched a campaign to discourage the use of single-use plastic bags for bagging groceries at its checkout counters, while actively encouraging customers to shop with reusable bags as a more eco-friendly option.

Managing director of Massy Stores can make a huge difference."

St. Lucia, Martin Dorville, said the company is focused on finding more permanent solutions to reducing plastic waste and its own demand for plastic bags.

He said the decision to encourage customers to use less plastic was bold, courageous and will help manage the adverse impacts of single use plastic on the environment.

"I am very thrilled that one of the number one supermarkets has decided to ban all plastic bags.

It's a small behaviour but it helps everyone realise that their individual actions make a difference," Southey told IPS.

"As you drive across the landscape of St. Lucia, you see a landscape strewn with old plastic bags, so I was very appreciative of that. But what I really liked is that when I spent over USD100, they gave me a recyclable bag as a bonus to encourage me to use that as an individual so that my behavior can make a difference," he said.

He added that if schoolchildren could understand the importance of mangroves and complex eco-systems and the need to protect forests, wildlife and endangered birds "then I think we can make a huge difference."

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BQ

New challenge for head of Caribbean insurance facility

By George Alleyne

Timothy Antoine, Eastern Caribbean Central Bank governor this month took over leadership of the Caribbean Catastrophe Risk Insurance Facility amidst a challenge to widen disaster insurance for a natural calamity-prone zone.

Antoine became Chairman as of July 1, replacing retired chief executive Milo Pearson, at this special purpose disaster relief fund which was set up by regional governments since Hurricane Ivan in 2004 with the intention of providing insurable financial relief for hurricanes and earthquakes originally, but has in recent times added coverage of damage owing to excessive rainfall among its portfolio of insurable financial products.

CCRIF stated that during Antoine's tenure, it will "place a strong focus on scaling up the Facility."

According to the Cayman Islands-based organization, "this focus has been given added impetus as governments and citizens in the region have witnessed first-hand the impacts of extreme geophysical and climate events – most notably Hurricanes Matthew, Irma and Maria in the past two years – and have been encouraged by CCRIF's rapid response and payouts".

CCRIF has taken pride in its rapid response to disasters in the region with last year being a shining example when payments were quickly issued in September after passage of the Hurricanes.

Withinashortperiodafterbeing damaged from the storms, to the Turks and Caicos Islands received US\$14,864,633; Antigua and Barbuda cashed in US\$6,794,875; Anguilla, US\$6,687,923; St Kitts and Nevis, US\$ 2,294,603; the Bahamas, US\$397,598; and Haiti US\$162,000.

Additionally, US\$19,294,800 went to Dominica.

The payments had been made with there being still two months of the 2017 hurricane season left.

Since it began payouts some 10 years ago CCRIF was quietly shining a bright light in the continuous darkness of massive storms and catastrophes along with threats of these disasters that bedevil the Caribbean from

June to November of each year.

The Facility recently stated that over the time of its insurance compensation it, "made payouts of a little more than US\$100 million to 12 of its 17 member countries – all within 14 days of the event."

Payments crossed the \$100 million mark with the disbursements in September 2017.

But the test for the ECCB Governor is to steer this organization into spreading its compensation capacity as the current insured payout amounts do not cover much of the cost of recovery of disaster-struck Caribbean territories, especially those who are repeated victims of Hurricanes that are a threat for six months of every year.

This Caribbean-owned facility had itself has urged members "not to view the organization as a silver bullet for managing disaster risk but rather a complementary tool in addressing the much broader issues of disaster management and climate change adaptation within the state."

In issuing a similar warning to governments of the region Carib-



Timothy Antoine, the new head of the Caribbean Catastrophe Risk Insurance Facility Photo by George Alleyne

bean Development Bank Director of Economics, Dr Justin Ram, has said that despite CCRIF being critical and relevant to the territories there is a need for individual countries to strengthen their financial management in preparation for disasters.

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WHITENING





CARIBBEAN ROUNDUP

Continued from page 4

from several offenses, including illegal entry, possession of drugs, traveling to Martinique with invalid insurance documents and over staying the allotted time.

He said local authorities are usually alerted when St. Lucians are being deported from the U.S.A, the U.K. and Canada.

Alexander noted that on arrival, the deportees are interviewed by immigration officials and members of the police Special Branch.

He said the deportees are then monitored for some time, in cases where they had a criminal conviction.

Trinidad

The U.S. Senate has approved 80-year-old attorney and university professor, Joseph Mondello as the next Ambassador to Trinidad and Tobago.

He would replace Ambassador John Estrada, who left Trinidad in January 2017 after Donald Trump won the U.S. Presidency.

Busted

Continued from page 3

they represent.

"Now that the political winds have swayed and more progressives are demanding action, I would not be surprised to see the establishment follow our lead," Williams added. "But, come September, New Yorkers will decide if they want elected officials who follow or lead at the helm of our state's government." Trinidad-born Estrada was former President Barack Obama's choice for ambassador but was in office for less than a year before having to relinquish his post.

In March, Mondello was nominated by Trump as Trinidad and Tobago's Ambassador, but this had to be approved by the U.S. Congress Relations Committee chaired by Sen. Marco Rubio.

A statement from the U.S. Embassy in Port-of-Spain said; "President Donald Trump in March

and frump in March announced his nomination of Mondello, who endorsed the then-New York City reality star



and entrepreneur early in 2016 before most politicians of either majority party took him seriously."

A former Nassau County Republican leader, Mondello testified that he would seek to improve economic relations with Trinidad and Tobago and work to reduce ISIS recruitment on the two islands. — *compiled by Azad Ali*

Williams on Tuesday participated in a rally in Union Square in lower Manhattan calling urging New York State legislators to advance reproductive justice measures, such as codifying Roe v. Wade and passing the Reproductive Health Act and the Comprehensive Contraception Coverage Act.

Just before Trump announced his nominee for the Supreme Court Monday night, Cuomo unveiled a new campaign calling on the State Senate to codify Roe v. Wade into New York law, "or be voted out of office."



BQ

St. Kitts music fest 'a rousing success'

By Nelson A. King

Tourism officials in St. Kitts have described as "a rousing success" the 22nd Annual St. Kitts Music Festival.

The festival, which took place from June 27 - July 1, drew "record numbers of attendees and an amazing response to all the performers.

In addition, for the first time in the event's history, its hashtag #SKMF2018 was trending on Twitter.

"I was extremely pleased to see such a positive reaction to our diverse range of performers this year, both in person and on social media," said Lindsay F.P. Grant, Minister of Tourism, International Trade, Industry and Commerce.

"We had a record number of nightly attendees, including visitors from all of our key source markets, who came to see both the local artists and acclaimed international acts on the roster," he added.

"Now having completed 22 consecutive years and maintaining our position as one of the largest and longest running music festivals in the Car-

ibbean, we look forward to continuing to raise the bar as we approach our milestone 25th anniversary in 2021," Grant continued.

Chief executive officer of the St. Kitts Tourism Authority, Racquel Brown, said it was "gratifying to see our planes arriving at full capacity and our hotels sold out.

"Further, with the earlier nightly conclusions to performances, local establishments had the benefit of additional business from after-parties," she said. "The St. Kitts Music Festival continues to have a positive impact on our tourism sector year after year."

The festival kicked off with the Grammy-nominated Nailah Blackman giving a "soulful and energetic performance that set the tone for the remainder of the event," Brown said.

"None other than the Queen of Bacchanal herself followed, wowing the crowd with many of her well-known and much beloved songs, including her top hit 'Lucy'", she added.

Brown said KES the band "had attendees singing along to his songs, especially his most recent top hit that's climbing the music charts, 'Hello"'.

She said Spice brought everyone to an "enraptured stand-still during her performance while local bands Nu Vybes International and Small Axe Band closed the show with a bang.'

Friday night was reggae night, with industry greats such as opening act Chakademus & Pliers and the evening's closing act, Sizzla Kalongi, keeping the crowd on its feet throughout the evening, Brown said

She said the second performer of the event, Isahwna, brought her unique talent to the stage that had fans cheering her along.

"Wayne Wonder and August Alsina kept the energy going, while upcoming local talents Byron Messia and Dejour had everyone singing along to their music," Brown said.

On Saturday, she said Rhythm of the Beat started the action off with a mix of original songs and cover hits that drew an early attendance.

The incredible Grammy Hall of Fame, Hollywood Walk of



Patti LaBelle headlined a galaxy of performers at the 2018 St. Kitts Music Festival. Courtesy St. Kitts Music Festival

Fame and Songwriters Hall of Fame artist Patti LaBelle was next up, performing many of her top hits, including "Lady Marmalade," "Right Kind of Lover," "When You Talk About Love" and more "to the absolute delight of the audience," Brown said.



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College's food pantry feeds students in need

Continued from Page 11 fix, according to Harte, who said school staffers want to help pantry users pinpoint why they can't make ends meet, and work toward permanently solving those problems.

"Our goal is not only to address the immediate hunger issue," she said. "We also want to be sure we're helping the students to devise a more sustainable plan. Sometimes it's unemployment that put them in the situation, so we put them in the career-development department."

One theater student who recently graduated from the college cheered the pantry and its creators for providing her with groceries — and the necessary tips to prepare them in meals with higher nutritional values.

"I've struggled with the fact I could either pay for my tuition or eat," said vegetables I could use. So it Mia, who requested anonymity and did not give her last name. "I would do this trick where I would just have water and bread. Having the pantry, I've now learned how to make food that could last for three or four days."

And another student studying early-childhood education at the school said its pantry helped her through a recent financial emergency, after an unexpected move forced her to pay a deposit and rent for a new apartment, leaving her with little cash left over for food.

"It became a very tight budget," said Panagiota, who also requested anonymity and did not give her last name. "Obviously, the food pantry didn't cover my whole month, but it gave me my breakfast. It gave me juice for a week. more information, visit It gave me pasta and some

gave me a little bit of room not to worry about 'Am I getting some food?""

Mia said the Panther Pantry is the first one that she's felt comfortable enough to use — feedback not lost on its founders. who said a focal point in launching it was to reduce the stigma often associated with having to stand in line at public food banks.

"We enjoy food, we love food, but when we're in need of food, it's not a comforting feeling," said Craig. "There is no pride in not being able to afford it. So what we've done is we've brought everything to the college campus where there's no stigma."

The Panther Pantry is open to Borough of Manhattan Community College students Mon-Fri, from 9 am to 5:30 pm. For www.bmcc.cuny.edu.





THE CARIBBEAN BUSINESS REPORT Marketing Jamaica's castor oil products

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Bv Alexandra Simon

It's the tropical way to live.

The skin and hair care brand Tropic Isle Living, is a staple in many homes across the United States. The Jamaican black castor oil-based line was created by its Jamaican-American co-founder Lois Hines — who launched it with her late husband Michael. When she immigrated to the states, Hines says she desperately longed for a personal use product that catered to her grooming needs but also reminded her of home. That is where the idea was born to bring her native country's beloved version of castor oil - a potent and pungent processed oil used for hair, skin, and minor ailments - to the U.S.

"When you migrate to the United States you're always looking for things to relate to back home, and I was looking for a fusion of my culture when I came here to use," said Hines.

One of those home products was Jamaican black castor oil, nicknamed by its acronym JBCO — a multi-use beauty product. Hines says she was constantly importing the oil and real- with it.

ized its was not a cost-effective solution. Soon after, the idea for Tropic Isle Living arose. Hines says she wanted other Jamaicans and Caribbean Americans to also access a product that they used in their native land.

"The Tropic Isle Living was created to sell a natural and traditional product and to bridge the Caribbean and the United States, and show what can Jamaica and the Caribbean can offer in terms of beauty and a holistic approach to living," she said.

But when she started the brand in 1992, she was met with criticism about selling castor oil. Critics often told her that

the oil was too smelly, and she would including the recently created Strong not be able to form a lucrative business Roots collection. As part of the criticism

However, Hines stuck to her guns and partnered with Jamaican farmers to provide her with castor seeds. Then, when the natural hair movement began

attracting a large following, interest in natural products increased, including those based with Jamaican black castor oil.

"When I started it was strictly castor, but nobody wanted to buy that thing and people would say it stinks - it was a humbling experience," she said. "But it's become so much the rave in the beauty space, and I'm thankful to have started this and to finally see the fruits of my labor."

Tropic Isle Living now carries over 31 products,

and hesitance due to its odor. Hines says castor oil products infused with essential oils were created strictly for buyers who want to tolerate the smell.

"When we started, the only negative feedback we got was from people who said they can't stand the smell, and it forced us to really mask the scent but still have valuable effect on ones hair and skin when paired with carrier oil," said Hines.

As a result, there are now castor oil products mixed with lavender, coconut, sage, and rosemary oils, and aloe vera. She also says that while those ingredients not only disguise the smell of castor oil, they also add a multitude of benefits for users that relieve stress, aging, and hair loss.

Hines says the growth of her brand will continue to expand to adapt to the way the world changes our bodies.

"I really do believe global warming change on us and our bodies, and as our bodies change our needs change and I will create products as circumstances change," she said.

Barbados implements new tourist tax on hotels

By Azad Ali

Barbados, one of the popular holiday destinations, has implemented a mandatory "room rate levy" to all hotel bedrooms per night on the island effective from July 1, 2018.

The Ministry of Tourism and International Transport said that the levy will be paid by guests. It said the levy will be fully disclosed to guests through signage at the front desk, or

by email or written correspondence in bookings. the absence of front desk facilities.

The new surcharge, which went into effect recently, is to raise money to reduce Barbados' overwhelming deficit.

The additional fees range from US\$2.50 to US\$10 per room per night, depending on accommodation class. The money will be collected in the resort and is applicable to all existing

The new levy follows the introduction of an airline travel and tourism development fee of US\$70 to be imposed on travelers leaving the country from Oct. 1, 2018, while Value Added Tax (VAT) in the tourism sector will rise from 7.5 percent to 15 percent in 2020.

Tourism contributes up to 40 percent of Barbados gross domestic prod-

uct (GDP), the 14th highest percentage in the world.

The set of new taxes will hit the pockets of more than 200,000 British tourists who visit Barbados each vear.

Prime Minister Mia Mottley, who came into power recently in a landslide victory in May, floated the taxes in her recent austerity budget last month.

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

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

www.nyfirst.ny.gov/ResourceCenter/ SmallBizMenu.html 2013 New York, NY Small

Business Resource

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

Business Resources: Internet Bibliographies: New York State Library

www.nysl.nysed.gov/reference/busref. htm

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

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

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

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

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

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

www.bcnys.org/inside/smallbusiness. htm

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

Small Business Resource Guide - New York - HUD

www.hud.gov/offices/osdbu/resource/ guide/local/newyork.cfm 100+ items - to assist the small business community in the State of New York.

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 nearcrashes 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. Perhaps 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

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Cruise execs buoyed by USVI harbor plans

By Nelson A. King

The United States Virgin Islands (USVI) Department of Tourism says cruise executives in Miami are "buoyed" by plans for their harbor ports.

The tourism department said executives of the ports of the USVI group recently completed their quarterly update with the Florida-Caribbean Cruise Association's (FCCA) Operations Committee

The department said cruise executives were "briefed and provided feedback on port improvements, including the introduction of transportation to the Charlotte Amalie Harbor this year."

The USVI team included Commissioner of Tourism Beverly Nicholson-Doty; Commissioner of Public Works Nelson Petty; Executive Director of the Virgin Islands Port Authority (VIPA) David Mapp; Assistant Executive Director and Director of Engineering Damian Cartwright; and Clifford Graham,

West Indian Company Limited (WICO).

Petty outlined progress on implementing harbor transportation and updated the FCCA group on the Main Street and Veterans Drive projects, while Mapp and Cartwright spoke about the proposed dredging of the Charlotte Amalie Harbor, its adjacent channel as well as cruise ship berths at WICO, to accommodate larger Oasis Class vessels, according to the statement.

It said the dredging design for Crown Bay and a new mooring dolphin to accommodate Quantum Class vessels on the north berth were discussed, along with plans for a Christiansted dredge project for St. Croix.

Graham shared with cruise executives a revised concept for proposed new berths in Charlotte Amalie, while Nicholson-Doty outlined the department's updated Crisis Communications preparedness plan and the we've been pushing as an indusdepartment's new Purpose in

chief executive officer of The Paradise voluntourism program, the tourism department said.

"The program was met with enthusiasm by the executives present, who also complimented the U.S. Virgin Islands team for sharing helpful updates in the aftermath of last September's storms," it said.

Nicholson-Doty said "having an ongoing dialogue with the FCCA, as we upgrade our infrastructure and visitor experience is a key component of our destination strategy."

She underscored that the safe and free movement of visitors and traffic complements growth plans as cruise sector activity revives in the territory.

Carlos Torres de Navarra, chairman of the FCCA Operations Committee and vice president, Commercial Port Operations of Carnival Cruise Lines, noted that the FCCA was "very happy with the honest and frank discussions.

"One of the big things that try — and the territory has

The Ports of Virgin Islands team met with cruise ship lines leaders in Miami to discuss plans for improving harbors on the islands USVI Department of Tourism

agreed that it was important — was this whole issue of water transportation to add another element to what is the beauty of the USVI.

hear that potentiality," he said. "We're looking at a fourth-quarter installation start of those operations. It's just one more thing that's going to make the "So, we (are) really happy to USVI great."



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Barbados branded negligent on human trafficking

By George Alleyne

As it relates to Barbados, the United States Government's 2018 Trafficking in Persons report cites a case of a new year, same issues, same negligence resulting in the same ranking.

Barbados has for years been placed in Tier Two among countries in the U.S. annual report on trafficking in persons, which means the island's government is regarded as not fully meeting the American Trafficking Victims Protection Act's minimum standards but is making significant efforts to bring itself into compliance with those standards.

The above paragraph represents the analysis of the report, covering 2016, and it remains the same for the report of 2017 that was released in June of this year.

"The Government of Barbados does not fully meet the minimum standards for the elimination of trafficking," the American release stated, but reported that some steps towards improv-

ing the situation compared to the previous reporting period.

The government demonstrated increasing efforts by conducting a raid on a nightclub suspected of trafficking, providing anti-trafficking training for government officials and NGO leaders, and conducting public awareness campaigns."

The Barbados government was accused of initiating no new prosecutions for the fourth consecutive year, and has not yet secured a trafficking in persons conviction.

The American State Department claimed that the Barbados authorities "conducted five investigations in 2017, compared with three in 2016, six in 2015, eight in 2014, and three in 2013".

According to the report, "one of these investigations stemmed from a raid on suspected trafficking activities in a nightclub, compared with two raids in 2016. Police found no evidence of human trafficking in these five investigations."

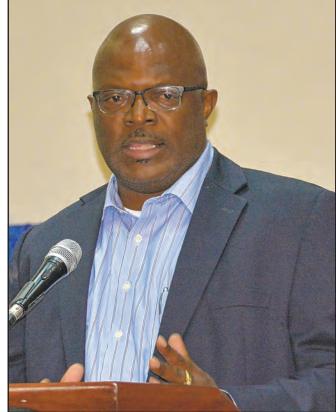
"The government has not reported initiating a prosecution since 2013.."

But against this backdrop of Barbados not identifying cases of human trafficking leading to successful prosecution, the State Department — as it has done for the past five years -

contended that "Barbados is a source and destination country for women and children subjected to sex trafficking". It stated "foreign women have been forced into prostitution in Barbasos.

Legal and undocumented immigrants from Jamaica and Guyana are especially vulnerable to trafficking," the report said, "although individuals from additional countries in the Caribbean and South America are increasingly vulnerable."

Responding to the 2016 report, the then-Home Affairs Minister, Adriel Brathwaite, had fumed: "it does annoy me, in all seriousness, that someone sits in Washington, writes a report every year, changes very little in the report and then determines



Former Barbados Minister of Home Affairs Adriel Brathwaite, a frequent foe of his country's record on human trafficking. Photo by George Allevne

the fate of [almost 300,000] citizens here by a stroke of a pen."

Since his comment last year, the government of which Brathwaite was part has been voted out of office, but the TIP report this year covers the 2017 period when he still held the post, and little was done, at least in the eyes of the Americans.

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Caribbean Life

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Guyana First Lady talks about domestic violence

By Tangerine Clarke

First Lady of Guyana H.E. Sandra Granger, who has made domestic violence a top priority in her mission to enrich the lives of Guyanese at home, was the guest speaker at a Conversation and Fundraiser luncheon at Tropical Paradise Banquet Hall in Brooklyn recently. She expressed deep concern for the high rate of women being murdered at the hands of their partners, and called for national dialogue and research to end the scourge.

During the hours-long conversation and Q&A, organized by the Coalition of Guyanese Woman — headed by Sherif Barker-Fraser — Mrs. Granger spoke passionately about the empowerment of teenage mothers through education, in collaboration with Women Across Differences.

She outlined projects such as the Buxton Youth Development Initiative, and Caring for the Elderly, initiatives, her ongoing work as a member of the CARICOM First Ladies Round Table on reducing adolescent pregnancy in the Caribbean, and her philanthropic projects, including Science Technology and Mathematics – STEM Guyana.

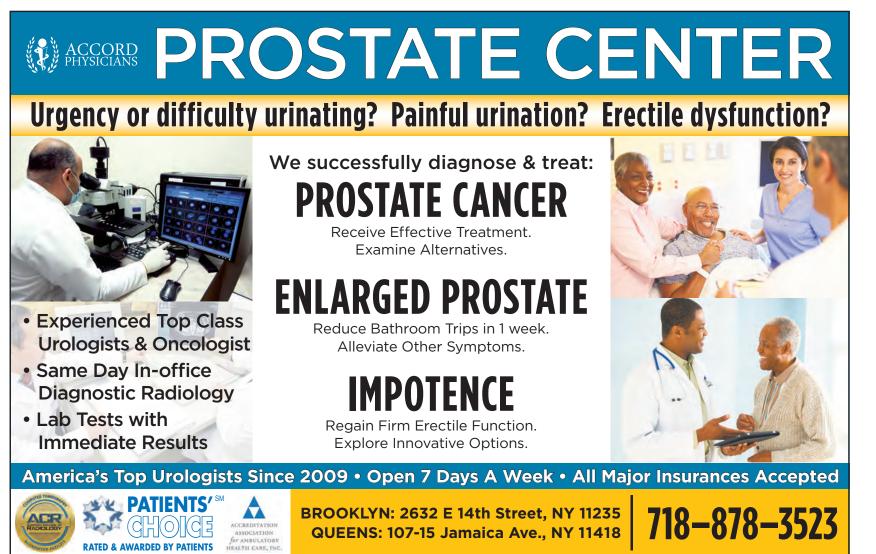
Patricia Jordon-Langford, president of the Guyana Tri-State Alliance Inc., said she was delighted to present several Robotics kits to Mrs. Granger, with thanks and great appreciation for all that she does. "Thanks for your vision for a successful Guyana through education, literacy and STEM and for giving a voice to the voiceless," said Jordon-Langford.

Consul General of Guyana to New York, Mrs. Barbara Atherly, welcomed Mrs. Granger and outlined wide a range of services offered to Guyanese at the diplomatic office.

Mrs. Granger, who arrived in the U.S., via Fly Jamaica Airways, presented a plaque to Mr. Roxanne Reece, owner of the airline, on behalf of the Guyana Unity Movement (GUM). She also congratulated the group for their outreach efforts in the Brooklyn area.

Mrs. Reece and her husband, Capt. Ronald Reece, who also owns Wings Aviation, operated in Guyana, also received a Citation from New York City Mayor, Bill DeBlasio, presented by community liaison, James Richmond.

Reporter-photographer Tangerine Clarkewas also presented with a plaque from GUM, a proclamation from New York state Sen. Kevin Parker, and a citation from Brooklyn Councilmember Jumaane Williams, for her continued support and dedication in the field of journalism and photography. Clarke was also recognized for her past service as a member of the Guyana National Service.



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Self-proclaimed "Original dancehall master" Barrington Levy performs at free reggae concert.

Reggae on Coney Island

By Vinette K. Pryce

On the most comfortable day of the summer reggae supergroup Third World and "self-proclaimed original dancehall master" Barrington Levy sizzled inside the Ford Amphitheater at Coney Island when City Parks Summerstage treated enthusiastic reggae fans to an unprecedented free concert inside the venue.

Temperatures dipped to a sweatless 80 degrees last Sunday following a string of blistering heat wave that consecutive-

Continued on Page 34

Prison drama goes on tour

By Alexandra Simon

Her show is back, and she's taking it on the road!

Playwright and actress Liza Jessie Peterson's one woman show, The Peculiar Patriot" is going national. Her play critiquing the American prison system was recently awarded a \$100,000 grant by philanthropist Agnes Gund's, Art for Justice Fund. It returns to the National Black Theatre July 13-29 and its debut tour will kick off nationally later this year. The actress says she is happy about the support for the play, and the chance to bring her message to more people.

"I'm very grateful to have the opportunity to bring the message of the show to a national audience and a broader audience," said Peterson.

She adds that her show is very mean-Continued on Page 34



RAM lead singer Lunise Morse belts out a song to a mesmerized crowd during the group's Summerstage concert in Springfield Park in Springfield Gardens, Queens. Photo by Tequila Minsky

Haitian voodoo-rock band rocks Queens

By Tequila Minsky

You didn't need to be in Haiti at the Hotel Oloffson last Thursday night to hear the voodoo-rock band RAM.

For more 25 years, every Thursday night, through thick and thin, calm and upheaval, when they're not touring — RAM legendarily performs at the Oloffson in Port-au-Prince.

But on Thursday, July 5, RAM played the grass-filled Springfield Park, located in the middle of Springfield Gardens, Queens, practically beneath the flight path to JFK.

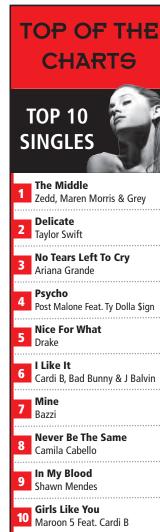
The nine-piece band of Haitian musicians, playing traditional and adapted rhythms and melodies, infused the atmosphere, totally engaging the crowd obviously starved for music from their homeland. Loyalists traveled from Long Island, Brooklyn and even Manhattan in addition to coming from the neighborhood and nearby Cambria Heights.

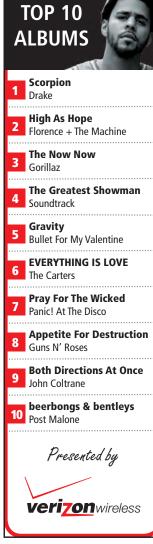
Ancient folkloric polyrhythms intertwined harmoniously with punk

ВQ

rock guitar riffs (an influence from its founders' Max's Kansas City days) and swinging Caribbean keyboard melodies combine for the experience of RAM.

This summer 2018 tour is also part of the band's CD launch "RAM 7 August 1791", their seventh album, but the first in over a decade — harnessing all the elements that came together and led to the country's unprecedented founding — the African and the Creole, the rural and the **Continued on Page 34**





Continued from page 33 urban, the Christian and

urban, the Christian and the vodou, the traditional and the exploratory.

RAM is named from the initials of founder Richard A. Morse who with Lunise Morse, his wife and the band's lead singer and dancer, performed new songs as well as leading the audience while they danced and sang to favorites.

Decked all in white and glowing, Lunise mesmerized the crowd. A few years back, their son William returned home after college and joined RAM, playing guitar.

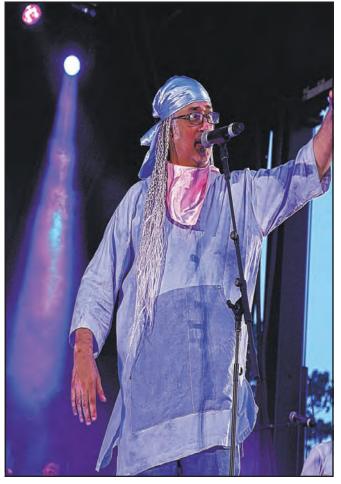
Two of the band's musicians play vaksins, the distinctive multiple one-tone horns typically heard in street and carnival processions. "They're playing our music — rara," beamed one happy attendee.

Musician and musicologist Ned Sublette, who's been attending gigs since Morse started performing in the U.S., a good 24 years ago, was among those in the crowd. "RAM is a unique band, in Haiti and the world," he said. "Simply unique." RAM has played international concerts and festivals in the U.S., France, the United Kingdom, Mexico, and Brazil, and, earlier this year, Abu Dhabi in the United Arab Emirates. This road trip commenced in Queens, went on to Baltimore, Washington D.C., and Pennsylvania, and is scheduled to play in Massachusetts, Detroit and Jackson, Mich., before heading home.

On last week's perfect summer evening, while Haitian music lovers filtered into the park, DJ Hard Hitting Harry warmed up the crowd spinning Haitian racine "roots" music, its amplified sounds drifting out over the streets.

Also on the program, singer and multi-instrumentalist Paul Beaubrun, son of Boukman Eksperans, and his band playing Haitian, Afro-roots, and blues, opened the evening.

The performances are part of the City Parks Foundation SummerStage series with many more scheduled in Central Park and neighborhood parks citywide throughout the summer.



Robert A. Morse, leader of the Haitian voudou-rock band RAM, exhorts the crowd at Springfield Park in Springfield Gardens, Queens, as the band entertains there.

Photo by Tequila Minsky

Reggae concert

Continued from page 33 ly found New Yorkers sticking closely to cooling centers and air conditioners for relief.

When it happened a love fest ensued recording a capacityfilled venue where crowds echoed and anticipated every lyric and line from vintage catalogues groups recorded decades ago singing and dancing with revelry that will certainly be documented among the listings of classic reggae showcases.

Reggae Ambassadors Cat Coore, AJ Brown, lead singer; Richard Daley, bass; keyboardists Maurice Gregory and Norris Webb proved the group a unit that has endured 44 years and is still able to move a crowd of thousands.

Their "96 Degrees In The Shade," "Forbidden Love," "Sense of Purpose" and "Try Jah Love" authentically reprised an enduring catalogue of hits with nostalgia reflecting the heydays of a reggae reign marked by beats, rhymes, reason and a percussive acrobatic display from Carrot Jarrett that this time was



Reggae singer AJ Brown belts out a tune on Coney Island. Photo by Vinette K. Pryce

sampled by Tony "Ruption" Williams when he drummed African rhythms into an already superlative set.

Coore, the classically accomplished cellist and bandleader treated "Redemption Songs" and even shouted out greetings to B-Boys— Bob Marley, Buju Banton, former lead singer Bunny Rugs and Barack Obama.

"I miss that boy,"the reggae ambassador said in reference to the former President of the United States.

For a reggae group to even hail the leader of a nation many from the genre often refer to as Babylonians seemed a rare and noticeable departure from usual critical repudiation.

Prison drama on tour

Continued from page 33

ingful because it confronts the prison industry in a way many people don't, and examines how it reflects and impacts many facets of American life.

"I think it's an important piece of art that touches on an issue that millions on people are affected by," added Peterson.

The show features only Peterson playing a character named Betsy LaQuanda Ross, visiting loved ones and close friends at an upstate New York correctional facility. It sheds light on the prison industrial complex, how it affects families, and tackles some honest truths about the growth of prisons and incarceration. The comedic yet powerful play explores the conversations inmates have with relatives and friends, and tackles the criminal justice system's flaws head on.

With the financial support, the show is going to different states and cities starting in October. Peterson says her first stop may be in Boston, but is still in the finalizing process for tour dates and locations. Other than multimedia adjustments, no changes were done to the show's writing, and the playwright adds that she doesn't plan on making any additions.

Having worked at Rikers Island for two decades and setting the play in a prison visiting room, Peterson has yet to perform her show in any jail, but says she looks forward to it when the chance comes.

"I don't have plans to it bring to Rikers or other correctional facilities, but I think all facilities need to have cultural enrichment programs, and wherever the door is open I will go," she said.

Peterson says her show will be interpreted and received differently depending on the viewer, but hopes that audiences become well-informed and knowledgeable about her message.

"I never have an idea of what effect the show is going to leave on people but I hope it's received with the intention to enlighten and inspire people," she said.

Count Dracula is enticed by cruise ship diva

Excellent (4 stars) Rated PG for action and rude humor Running time: 97 minutes Production Studios: Columbia Pictures / Sony Pictures Animation / Media Rights Capital Distributor: Columbia Pictures

By Kam Williams

The first two installments of this popular animated franchise were set at a hotel dedicated to creating a safe space for monsters to unwind.

But what about when the resort owners themselves need a break?

That's the question posed at the outset of "Hotel Transylvania 3: Summer Vacation," an entertaining animated adventure revolving around proprietor Count Dracula (Adam Sandler) and company's getaway on a luxury cruise for ghouls.

At the point of departure, we find Drac's daughter Mavis (Selena Gomez) making reser-



Johnny (Andy Samberg), Vlad (Mel Brooks), Mavis (Selena Gomez), Drac (Adam Sandler), Griffin (David Spade), Crystal (Chrissy Teigen), Frank (Kevin James) and Eunice (Fran Drescher) are featured in Sony Pictures Animation's 'Hotel Transylvania 3: Summer Vacation.'

vations for the family aboard the Legacy, a boat headed for the infamous Bermuda Triangle in search of the mythical island of Atlantis.

En route, however, the plot thickens when the widowed

Count finds himself being charmed by the ship's seduc-tive captain (Kathryn Hahn).

What Drac doesn't know is that Ericka is the great-granddaughter of his archenemy, the legendary monster hunt-

er, Abraham Van Helsing (Jim Gaffigan).

In fact, he's already under her spell by the time Mavis and her hubby (Andy Samberg) finally figure out that the attractive captain's up to 10 good.

Can the hopelessly-smitten Count be saved from the temptress' plan to spike his guacamole with garlic oil?

Or might her mind be changed about the need to subdue the reformed, bloodsucking vampire?

Thus unfolds Hotel Transylvania 3, a kid-friendly comedy directed by Genndy Tartakovsky, who also helmed Hotel Transylvania 1 and Hotel Transylvania 2.

The principal cast members all reprise their roles, including Adam Sandler, Selena Gomez, Andy Samberg, Mel Brooks, and Fran Drescher, as well as Kevin James, Steve Buscemi, Molly Shannon and David Spade.

Even in a third go-round, the humor-driven cartoon is laced with lots of side-splitting slapstick and sight gags that are fun for the whole family.

But what really makes this blockbuster morality play memorable is its timely universal message about tolerance.

Hey, it's okay to be different, and please pass the popcorn!

Independent & Foreign Films

By Kam Williams Dark Money (Unrated) Eye-opening expose' examining the

expose' examining the influence of money on American elections since the Supreme Court's landmark decision in Citizen

United allowing unlimited corporate contributions to political causes. **Don't Worry, He Won't Get Far on Foot** (R for sexuality, nudity, alcohol abuse and pervasive profanity) Gus Van Zant (Milk) directed this adaptation of John Callahan's (Joaquin Phoenix) bittersweet memoir of the same name about his adjustment to living in a wheelchair in the wake of a catastrophic car accident. Cast includes Rooney Mara, Jack Black and Jonah Hill.

Eighth Grade (R for profanity and sexuality) Coming-of-age comedy chronicling a tormented 13 year-old's (Elsie Fisher) disastrous last week of middle school. With Josh Hamilton, Emily Robinson and Missy Yager.

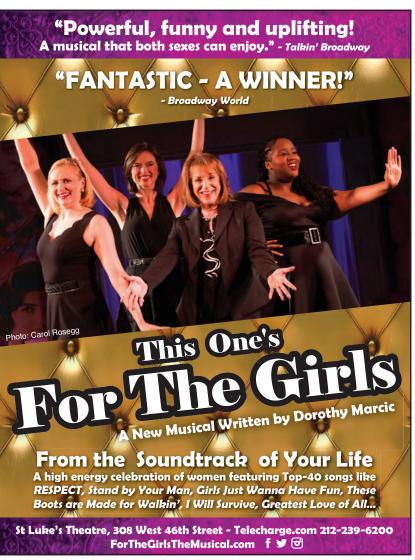
Gauguin: Voyage to Tahiti (Unrated) Romance drama, set in 1891, recounting French painter Paul Gauguin's (Vincent Cassel) abandoning his wife (Pernille Bergendorff) and five kids for a nubile native girl (Tuhei Adams) he met while finding himself on an exotic island. With Malik Zidi,



Marc Barbe and Paul Jeanson. (In French and Polynesian with subtitles) **Milford Graves: Full Mantis** (Unrated) Reverential retrospective chronicling the career of avant-garde jazz drummer/percussionist Milford Graves.

Over the course of an enduring sixdecade career, Graves has led his own band and also played in star-studded

groups. Robin Williams: Come Inside **My Mind** (Unrated) Intimate post mortem painting a revealing portrait of the late comedian via archival footage and interviews with some of his closest colleagues and confidantes. Featuring commentary by Billy Crystal, Whoopi Goldberg, Steve Martin and David Letterman. Shock and Awe (R for profanity and sexual references) Fact-based drama recounting five Knight-Ridder reporters' skepticism about the Bush Administration's claim that Saddam Hussein was in possession of weapons of mass destruction during the buildup to the War in Iraq.



ΒQ



BUSINESS, BROOKLYN STYLE



Have a party to remember at Sirico's

BY CAMILLE SPERRAZZA

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

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

Weddings

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

Ceremony: Want to get married here? Say the word, and the planner will say, "I do." Food: They get it. It's got to be

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

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

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

Decorations: Lighting sets the mood and atmosphere, so color-coordinate your event with an LED lighting package. It can match your wedding colors. Or, reach for the stars with specialized effects that include an image of a bright blue sky. Sirico's has it all covered with chair draperies and sashes, too.

Sweet 16s

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

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

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

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

Decorations: Select from inhouse designs and decorations, tailored to teens. Balloon center pieces are always a hit.

Other parties

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

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

Let's get this party started.

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

Caribbean Life



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West Indies captain Jason Holder plays a shot during a match between England and West Indies in 2017. Associated Press / Rui Vieira, File

Holder's best

By Azad Ali

West Indies Captain Jason Holder has jumped to a career-best 25th spot in the International Cricket Council (ICC) Test bowling ranking, following his outstanding performance in the recent day/night third Test in Barbados.

Holder, 26, finished with career-best figures of nine for 60, though the effort proved futile as West Indies lost the match by four wickets inside four days at Kensington Oval.

He moved up 11 spots, climaxing a series that saw him take 12 wickets

Continued on Page 38

West Indies out of Tri-Nation Series

By Azad Ali

West Indies A was "bowled" out of the Tri-Nation series when they were beaten by India in their final match at Kia Oval Northampton, England, recently.

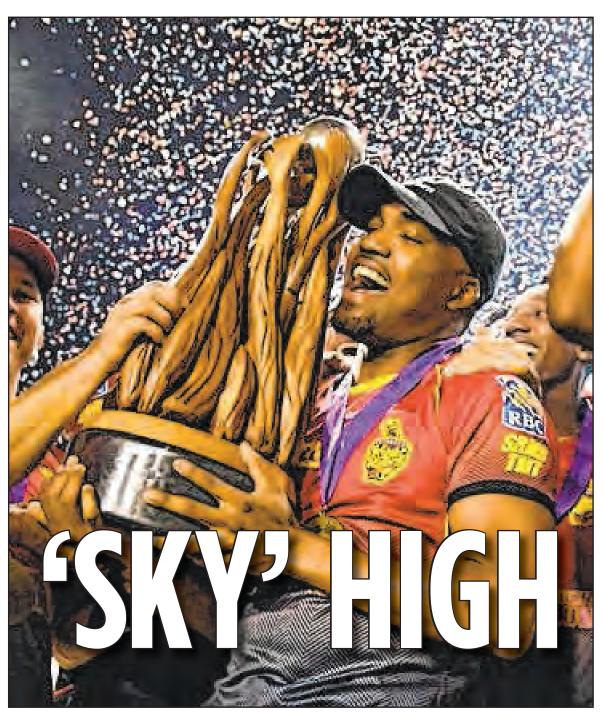
They failed to win a single match in the series, crashing to their fourth straight loss last weekend.

Chasing India's challenging total of 354 for six off their 50 overs, Windies crumbled for just 151 in 37.4 overs, to lose by a mammoth 203 runs.

They were beaten by England Lions by nine weeks at the same venue two days before.

Windies needed to win to stay alive after losing their two previous matches, but they could only muster 162 runs.

The Lions then romped to 163 runs in 25 overs.



Darren Bravo of Trinbago Knight Riders holds the trophy during the team's celebration after winning the championship of the 2017 Hero Caribbean Premier League. Sky Sports

Sky Sports to broadcast Hero Caribbean Premier League

By Nelson A. King

The British-based Sky Sports says it will show all 34 matches of the 2018 Hero Caribbean Premier League (CPL) live in the United Kingdom (UK) and Ireland.

"This year's tournament, which

runs from Aug. 8 to Sept. 16, will once again see some of the best cricketers in the world take part in a competition that in 2017 attracted a combined broadcast and digital viewership of over 197m fans," said Sky Sports in a statement on Sunday. It said Caribbean cricketers Chris Gayle, Andre Russell, Sunil Narine, Dwayne Bravo and Kieron Pollard will be joined by global superstars, including David Warner, Chris Lynn, Brendon McCullum, Martin Guptill

Continued on Page 38

Sky Sports to broadcast **Premier League**

Continued from page 37

and more, in this year's tournament, "which is set to be the biggest yet."

"Broadcasting Hero CPL further cements Sky Sports' commitment to bringing the best action from around the world on their dedicated cricket channel," the statement said.

Damien O'Donohoe, chief executive officer of the Hero CPL, expressed delight that Sky will be a broadcast partner in 2018.

"Sky Sports has an unrivalled heritage and portfolio of sports in the UK and Ireland," he said.

"As the number one sports broadcaster in the region, they are the perfect home for cricket fans to enjoy the 'Biggest Party in Sport' this year," he added.

Trinbago Knight Riders are the current Hero CPL champions after beating St. Kitts and Nevis Patriots in the 2017 final, Sky Sports noted.

The defending champions will kick off the 2018 edition of the CPL against last season's cellar-placed team, the St Lucia Stars, on Aug. 8.

The championship runs from Aug. 8 to Sept. 16, with 30 league games



David Warner will play in the 2018 Hero Caribbean Premier League. Associated Press / Halden Krog

scheduled to be played, followed by three playoff matches and the final.

Three league games will be played in Florida, as compared to four last year. All the matches in Florida will be hosted by Jamaica Tallawahs, Cricbuzz said.

It said the CPL, set to enter its sixth chapter, has been won twice each by Trinidad and Tobago, and Jamaica, with the other won by Barbados Tridents.

Meanwhile, former Australia vice-captain, David Warner, will replace fellow Australian D'Arcy Short in this year's CPL after signing up with St. Lucia Stars. D'Arcy Short became unavailable for the franchise after he was called up to the Australia A squad for their tour of India in August and September, ICC.com said.

Holder hits career best

Continued from page 37

overall in the three-Test series, which was drawn 1-1.

Holder has also moved up in the 54th, following his top score of 74 in er's rankings to sixth.

the first innings.

The all-rounder scored 198 runs in the series at an average.

The Barbadian effort has also seen batting rankings, leaping 10 spots to him jump three spots in the all-round-

W. Indies stuck in ninth place

By Azad Ali

in the International Cricket Council (ICC) Test rankings after their drawn three-match Test series against Sri Lanka in the Caribbean recently.

The regional team won their opening Test in Trinidad by 223 runs, drew the second Test in St Lucia and then lost the third in a low-scoring game by four wickets in Barbados.

Windies will now go into their second phase of the home series against Bangladesh with 72 points.

Sri Lanka came into the series ranked sixth and maintained its spot and will now carry 91 points into the team's next encounter which is against England.

Bangladesh which is currently West Indies is still ranked 9th in the Caribbean will play two Test matches, one in Antigua and another in Jamaica.

They will also play three ODIs and two Twenty20s in Florida in the U.S.

The West Indies will have an opportunity to move up the rankings ahead of eight- place Bangladesh if they win the series.

If Windies win the series 2-0 they will move to 77 points and Bangladesh will slip to further 67 points.

If the series ends in a draw only Bangladesh will lose as they will move down to 75 points and the West Indies will retain 72 points which they currently have.

If Bangladesh wins the series they will narrow the gap on seventhplace Pakistan.



FIFA bans president of SVG soccer in ticket sales scandal

By Nelson A. King

The adjudicatory chamber of the independent Ethics Committee of FIFA, the world governing football (soccer) authority, has banned Venold Coombs, the president of the St. Vincent and the Grenadines Football Federation (SVGFF).

FIFA said on Tuesday that the ban is for two years, adding that it involves "all footballrelated activities (administrative, sports or any other) at both national and international level."

The investigation into Coombs was opened on June 9, 2016, focusing on "the resale of tickets for the 2014 FIFA World Cup Brazil," FIFA said.

"The investigatory chamber analyzed allegations that Mr. Coombs had sold tickets purchased by the SVGFF and by him personally, in his capacity as a FIFA standing committee member, for a profiteering mark-up," the statement said.

"The adjudicatory chamber found Mr Coombs guilty



Venold Coombs, the newly banned head of the SVG Football Association.

of having violated articles 21 (bribery and corruption), 19 (conflicts of interest) and 15 (loyalty) of the FIFA Code of Ethics," it added.

"Mr. Coombs is, therefore, banned for two years from all football-related activities (administrative, sports or any other) at both national and international level," the statement continued.

FIFA also imposed a US\$40,000 fine on Coombs.

"The decision was notified to Mr. Coombs today [Tuesday], and the ban comes into force immediately," the statement said.

On Thursday, Coombs denied being banned by FIFA. "I don't know what you are

"I don't know what you are talking about," he told the Barbados-based Caribbean Media Corporation.

CMC said Coombs is the latest Caribbean soccer official to be sanctioned by FIFA, following a number of high profile cases in recent years.

Last year, Antiguan Gordon Derrick, president of the Caribbean Football Union (CFU), was banned for six years on similar bribery and conflict of interest charges, and fined US\$31,000, CMC said.

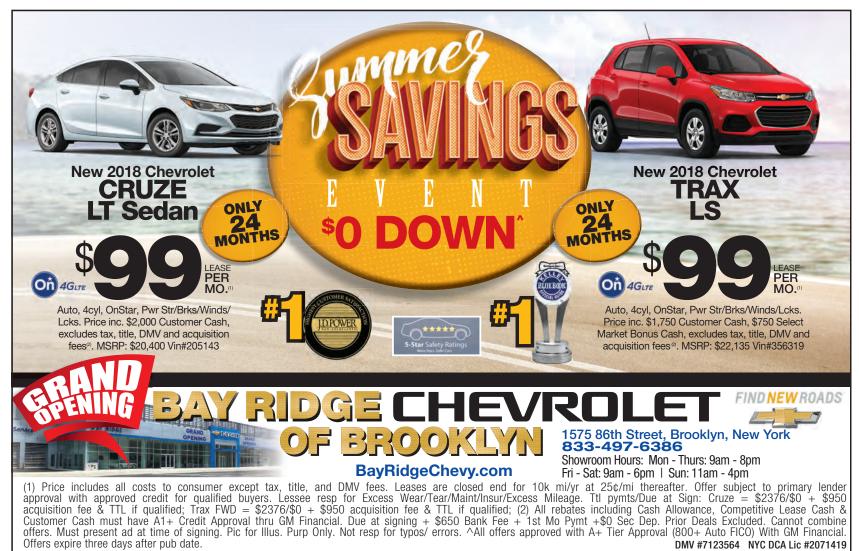
Also in 2017, FIFA dished out life bans to the former presidents of the Guam, Nicaraguan and Venezuelan football asso-



FIFA, the international soccer conglomerate, has banned St. Vincent and the Grenadines Football Association president Venold Coombs for two years in a ticket sales scandal.

ciations for corruption.

Former Guam Football Association boss Richard Lai , former Venezuelan FA chief Rafael Esquivel and ex-Nicaraguan FA president Julio Rocha were all banned after they pleaded guilty to fraud charges.



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ARIES: Mar 21/Apr 20

Aries, others appreciate all that you do for them. But sometimes they must take matters into their own hands so they can get a learning experience to build upon.

TAURUS: Apr 21/May 21 Taurus, all of your plans may turn entirely in an different direction at the last minute. You'll need to roll with the punches to get through everything unscathed.

GEMINI: May 22/Jun 21 **GR** You may have an inkling of what is around the corner, but you aren't sure of the finer details, Gemini. Patience will be rewarded with a worthwhile surprise.

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CANCER: Jun 22/Jul 22

LEO: Jul 23/Aug 23

sail through all of your tasks.

8

you haven't already done so, make a list of your health

disappear, even if you hide beneath the proverbial

covers. Tackle this week with ferocity and you'll

they will need to be resolved at some point. Change

VIRGO: Aug 24/Sept 22

Leo, responsibilities do not magically

Virgo, complex issues keep coming up and

goals and then schedule a consult with your doctor.

YOUR WEEKLY HOROSCOPE JULY 16TH TO JULY 22ND

LIBRA: Sept 23/Oct 23 Make health a priority this week, Cancer. If

Revealing your true feelings about a situation may induce some anxiety, Libra. However, others value your honest opinions on things and want you to voice your concerns.

SCORPIO: Oct 24/Nov 22

Finding time to get all of your work done and pursue your hobbies can be challenging, Scorpio. Fortunately, you have helpers waiting in the wings to lend a hand

SAGITTARIUS: Nov 23/Dec 21 Mull over your opportunities for travel, Sagittarius. You will unwind as long as you are escaping the daily grind. Make an effort to find something you'll enjoy doing.

CAPRICORN: Dec 22/Jan 20 Something may be irking you this week and you absolutely need to get to the bottom of it, Capricorn. Do your research and work out an acceptable resolution.

AQUARIUS: Jan 21/Feb 18 Take some time off for yourself, Aquarius. Sometimes change can do a body good, and you have earned some time for rest and relaxation. Enjoy the solitude.

PISCES: Feb 19/Mar 20 Pisces, perfection may require a few rough drafts. Don't let a failed first attempt derail you from trying again. Persistence pays off.



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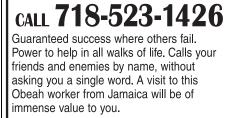


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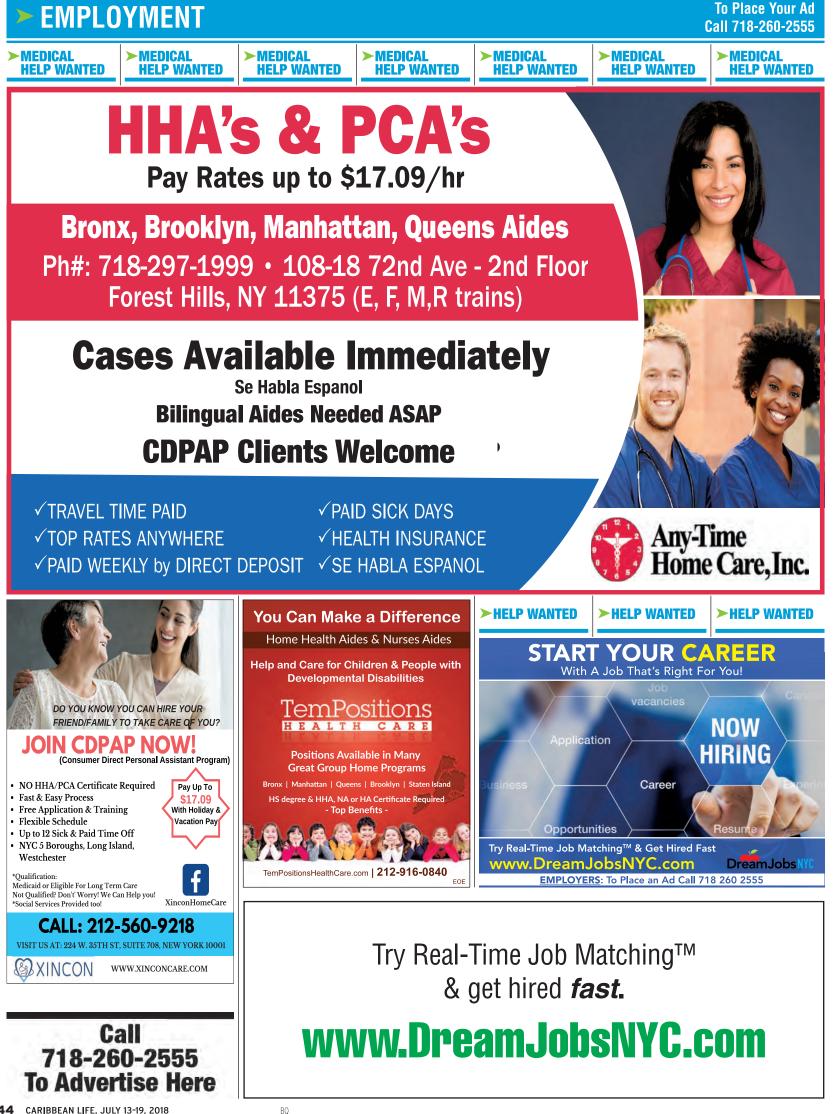
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	1 bedroom	MEDIAN II UNITS	\$2,270	6	+	1 person	\$77,829 - \$95,030
1 bourboint	MED UN	<i>42,210</i>	Ũ		2 person	\$77,829 - \$108,550	
		AREA				2 people	\$93,703 - \$108,550
	2 bedroom	130% /	\$2,733	15	→	3 person	\$93,703 - \$122,070
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When is the Deadline?

Applications must be postmarked or submitted online no later than July 18, 2018. Late applications will not be considered.

What Happens After You Submit an Application?

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Español	Presente una solicitud en línea en <u>nyc.gov/housingconnect</u> . Para recibir una traducción de español de este anuncio y la solicitud impresa, envíe un sobre con la dirección a: Lincoln Park Apartments c/o The Wavecrest Management Team, 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 18 de julio 2018.
简体中文	访问 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:Lincoln Park Apartments c/o The Wavecrest Management Team, 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18日。
Русский	Чтобы подать заявление через интернет, зайдите на сайт: <u>nyc.gov/housingconnect</u> . Для получения данного объявления и заявления на русском языке отправьте конверт с обратным адресом по адресу Lincoln Park Apartments c/o The Wavecrest Management Team, 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 18 июль 2018.
한국어	<u>nyc.gov/housingconnect</u> 에서 온라인으로 신청하십시오. 이 광고문과 신청서에 대한 한국어 번역본을 받아보시려면 반송용 봉투를Lincoln Park Apartments c/o The Wavecrest Management Team, 87-14 116th Street, Richmond Hill, NY 11418.으로 보내주십시오. 봉투 뒷면에 "KOREAN" 이라고 영어로 적어주십시오. 2018년7월18일까지 온라인 신청서를 제출하거나 소인이 찍힌 신청서를 보내야 합니다.
Kreyòl Ayisyien	Aplike sou entènèt sou sitwèb <u>nyc.gov/housingconnect</u> . Pou resevwa yon tradiksyon anons sa a nan lang Kreyòl Ayisyen ak aplikasyon an sou papye, voye anvlòp ki gen adrès pou retounen li nan: Lincoln Park Apartments c/o The Wavecrest Management Team, 87-14 116th Street, Richmond Hill, NY 11418. Nan dèyè anvlòp la, ekri mo "HATIAN CREOLE" an Anglè. Ou dwe remèt aplikasyon yo sou entènèt oswa ou dwe tenbre yo anvan dat jiyè 18, 2018.
العربية	تقدم بطلب عن طريق الإنترنت على الموقع الإلكتروني <u>nyc.gov/housingconnect.</u> للحصول على ترجمة باللغة العربية لهذا الإعلان ولنموذج الطلب الورقي، أرسل مظروف يحمل اسمك وعنوانك إلى: Lincoln Park Apartments c/o The Wavecrest Management Team, 87-14 116th Street, Richmod Hill, NY 11418 على الجهة الخلفية للمظروف، اكتب باللغة الإنجليزية كلمة "ARABIC". يجب إرسال نماذج الطلبات عن طريق الإنترنت أو ختمها بختم البريد قبل 18 يوليو، 2018.
	Mayor Bill de Blasio • HPD Commissioner Maria Torres-Springer

Affordable Housing for Rent



1511 BEDFORD AVENUE APARTMENTS 29 NEWLY CONSTRUCTED UNITS AT 1511 BEDFORD AVENUE, BROOKLYN, NY 11216 CROWN HEIGHTS NORTH

Amenities: On-site parking*, roof deck, gym, recreation room*, bicycle storage* (* additional fees apply) **Transit: Trains** - 2,3,4 & 5, **Buses** - B44, B45, B48, B49, B65

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

This building is being constructed through the Inclusionary Housing Program and is anticipated to receive a tax exemption through the 421a Tax Incentive Program of the New York City Department of Housing Preservation and Development.

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 applicants with
 - disabilities:
 - Mobility (5%)
 - Vision/Hearing (2%).
 - - (50%)*
 - Municipal employees (5%)

* Up to half of CB preference units may be allocated through

referrals of applicants from city agencies.

AVAILABLE UNITS AND INCOME REQUIREMENTS

Unit Size	NCOME	Monthly Rent ¹	Units Available		Household Size ²	Annual Household Income ³ Minimum – Maximum ⁴
Studio	AN ST	\$816	8	→	1 person	\$30,480 - \$43,860
1 Bedroom	A MEDIAN MI) UNIT	\$877	7	Ļ	1 people	\$32,675- \$43,860
					2 people	\$32,675- \$50,100
	60% AREA (A	\$1,064	14		2 people	\$39,120- \$50,100
2 Bedroom				→	3 people	\$39,120- \$56,340
					4 people	\$39,120- \$62,580

¹ Tenant responsible for gas and electric

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

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

⁴ 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 <u>nyc.gov/housingconnect</u>. To request an application <u>by mail, send a self-addressed envelope to</u>: 1511 Bedford Avenue Apartments c/o Wavecrest Consulting LLC, 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 August 27, 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 <u>nyc.gov/housingconnect</u> . Para recibir una traducción de español de este anuncio y la solicitud impresa, envíe un sobre con la dirección a: 1511 Bedford Avenue Apartments c/o Wavecrest Consulting LLC, 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 27 de agosto 2018.
简体中文	访问 <u>nyc.gov/housingconnect</u> 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: 1511 Bedford Avenue Apartments c/o Wavecrest Consulting LLC, 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 8 月 27 日。
Русский	Чтобы подать заявление через интернет, зайдите на сайт: <u>nvc.gov/housingconnect</u> . Для получения данного объявления и заявления на русском языке отправьте конверт с обратным адресом по адресу 1511 Bedford Avenue Apartments c/o Wavecrest Consulting LLC, 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 27 август 2018.
한국어	nyc.gov/housingconnect 에서 온라인으로 신청하십시오. 이 광고문과 신청서에 대한 한국어 번역본을 받아보시려면 반송용 봉투를 1511 Bedford Avenue Apartments c/o Wavecrest Consulting LLC, 87-14 116th Street, Richmond Hill, NY 11418. 으로 보내주십시오. 봉투 뒷면에 "KOREAN" 이라고 영어로 적어주십시오. 2018 년 8 월 27 일 까지 온라인 신청서를 제출하거나 소인이 찍힌 신청서를 보내야 합니다.
Kreyòl Ayisyien	Aplike sou entènèt sou sitwèb <u>nyc.gov/housingconnect</u> . Pou resevwa yon tradiksyon anons sa a nan lang Kreyèl Ayisyen ak aplikasyon an sou papye, voye anvlòp ki gen adrès pou retounen li nan: 1511 Bedford Avenue Apartments c/o Wavecrest Consulting LLC, 87-14 116th Street, Richmond Hill, NY 11418. Nan dèyè anvlòp la, ekri mo "HATIAN CREOLE" an Anglè. Ou dwe remèt aplikasyon yo sou entènèt oswa ou dwe tenbre yo anvan dat out 27, 2018.
	تقدم بطلب عن طريق الإنترنت على الموقع الإلكتروني <u>nyc.gov/housingconnect.</u> للحصول على ترجمة باللغة العربية لهذا الإعلان ولنموذج الطلب الورقي، أرسل مظروف يحمل اسمك وعنوانك إلى: Bedford Avenue Apartments c/o Wavecrest Consulting LLC, 87-14 116th Street, Richmond Hill, NY 11418. على الجهة الخلفية للمظروف، اكتب باللغة الإنجليزية كلمة "ARABIC". يجب إرسال نماذج الطلبات عن طريق الإنترنت أو ختمها بختم البريد قبل 27 أغسطس، 2018

Mayor Bill de Blasio • HPD Commissioner Maria Torres-Springer







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Affordable Housing for Rent



618 BUSHWICK AVENUE APARTMENTS 30 NEWLY CONSTRUCTED UNITS AT 618 BUSHWICK AVENUE, BROOKLYN, NY 11206 **BUSHWICK SOUTH**

Amenities: laundry room*, parking lot*, bicycle storage*, public roof deck (*additional fees apply). Transit: Trains: J/M, Buses: B15, B38, B46, B57, B60 No application fee • No broker's fee • Smoke-free building

This building is anticipated to receive a Tax Exemption through the 421-a Tax Incentive Program of the New York City Department of Housing Preservation and Development.

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. Preference for a percentage of units goes to: Mobility-disabled applicants (5%)

- Vision or hearing-disabled applicants (2%)

Applicants who live in New York City receive a general preference for apartments.

AVAILABLE UNITS AND INCOME REQUIREMENTS

Unit Size	s	Monthly Rent ¹	Units Available		Household Size ²	Annual Household Income ³ Minimum – Maximum ⁴
studio	II) UNITS	\$2,013 ⁺⁺	2	→	1 person	\$69,018 - \$95,030
1 bedroom		s1 007 [†] 3 -		1 person	\$68,469 - \$95.030	
r bedroom	(AMI)	\$1,997 ⁺	3	→ 	2 people	\$68,469 - \$108,550
1 bedroom	130% AREA MEDIAN INCOME	\$1,997	1	+	1 person	\$68,469 - \$95,030
r bedroom					2 people	\$68,469 - \$108,550
1 bedroom			10		1 person	\$72,960 - \$95,030
T bedroom			1	2 people	\$72,960 - \$108,550	
2 bedrooms		\$2,400 [†]	5	+	2 people	\$82,286 - \$108,550
					3 people	\$82,286 - \$122,070
					4 people	\$82,286 - \$135,590
		\$2,564 ^{††}	7	→	2 people	\$87,909 - \$108,550
					3 people	\$87,909 - \$122,070
					4 people	\$87,909 - \$135,590

Tenant responsible for electric, electric hot water and cooking gas

[†]eight (8) apartments have an electric heating system ("Electric")

**** ONE (1) apartment has 2 separate heating systems for different areas within the apartment (one gas, one electric).

++twenty-one (21) apartments have a gas heating system ("Gas")

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

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

⁴ Minimum income. listed may not apply to applycants with Section. 8. or other aualifying rental subsidies. Asset limits also apply

How Do You Apply?

Apply online or through mail. To apply online, please go to nyc.gov/housingconnect. To request an application by mail, send a self-addressed envelope to: 618 Bushwick Avenue Apartments c/o Wavecrest Consulting LLC, 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 September 5, 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 appointment to continue the process of determining your eligibility. Appointments 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

Presente una solicitud en línea en nyc goy/housingconnect. Para recibir una traducción de español de este anuncio y la solicitud impresa Españo envie un sobre con la dirección a: 618 Bushwick Avenue Apartments c/o Wavecrest Consulting LLC, 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 5 de septiembre 2018.

简体中文 访问 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:618 Bushwick Avenue Apartments c/o Wavecrest Consulting LLC, 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9月5日

Русский Чтобы подать заявление через интернет, зайдите на сайт: <u>nyc.gov/housingconnect</u>. Для получения данного объявления и заявления н русском языке отправьте конверт с обратным адресом по адресу 618 Bushwick Avenue Apartments c/o Wavecrest Consulting LLC, 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 5 сентябрь 2018.

한국어 nyc.gov/housingconnect 에서 온라인으로 신청하십시오. 이 광고문과 신청서에 대한 한국어 번역본을 받아보시려면 반송용 봉투를 618 Bushwick Avenue Apartments c/o Wavecrest Consulting LLC, 87-14 116th Street, Richmond Hill, NY 11418으로 보내주십시오. 봉투 뒷면에 "KOREAN" 이라고 영어로 적어주십시오. 2018년9월5일까지 온라인 신청서를 제출하거나 소인이 찍힌 신청서를 보내야 합니다.

Aplike sou entènèt sou sitwèb <u>nyc.gov/housingconnect</u>. Pou resevwa yon tradiksyon anons sa a nan lang Kreyòl Ayisyen ak aplikasyon an sou papye, voye anvlòp ki gen adrès pou retounen li nan: **618 Bushwick Avenue Apartments c/o Wavecrest Consulting LLC, 87-14 116th Street, Richmond Hill, NY 11418.** Nan dèyè anvlòp la, ekri mo "HATIAN CREOLE" an Anglè. Ou dwe remèt aplikasyon yo sou Kreyòl Avisyien entènèt oswa ou dwe tenbre yo anvan dat septanm 5, 2018.

تقدم بطلب عن طريق الإنترنت على الموقع الافتروني nyc.gov/housingconnect. للحصول على ترجمة باللغة العربية لهذا الإعلان ولنموذج الطلب الورقى، أرسل مظروف يصل اسمك وعوائك إلى: 618 Bushwick Avenue Apartments c/o Wavecrest Consulting LLC, 87-14 116th Street, Richmond Hill, NY 11418 على الجهة الخلفية للمظروف، اكتب باللغة الإنجليزية كلمة "ARABIC". يجب إرسال نماذج الطلبات عن طريق الإنترنت أو ختمها بختم البريد قبل 5 سبتمبر ، 2018.

Mayor Bill de Blasio • HPD Commissioner Maria Torres-Springer

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