

Caribbean Life

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QUEENS/LONG ISLAND/BRONX/MANHATTAN

Dec. 14-20, 2018



Santa brings some cheer

Santa's blessing: Santa Claus and Don Morock pose with a young attendee at the Christmas Giftback event. See story on Page 36.
Micheé Lazarre and Danyell Goss

\$3 M for low income housing

By Nelson A. King

Brooklyn Borough President Eric L. Adams on Tuesday celebrated his Fiscal Year 2019 (FY19) capital budget allocation of \$3,026,000 for affordable housing across the borough, supporting the development and maintenance of more than 550 new and existing units across Brooklyn.

The funding, which brings his affordable housing capital investment since the beginning of his administration to more than \$20 million, includes grants to create and preserve

low-income housing for seniors, formerly homeless individuals and families, as well as to help develop community facility, communal and green roof spaces.

Adams made the announcement in Sea Gate at the site of Abraham Residence I, a 75-unit single room occupancy independent living facility for formerly homeless seniors 55 years of age and older.

Adams said the residence is managed by Met Council, the country's largest Jewish community organization providing

support for those in need.

"Brooklynites need more than a home for the holidays; our borough needs affordable housing year-round," he said. "We need to protect our vulnerable populations fighting to stay in their homes, like the elderly, the poor, veterans, and the disabled."

"People should not have to be forced to leave their homes, because they cannot afford to live in their neighborhoods where they have lived for decades," he added. "My administration will continue to robustly

Continued on Page 20

PUT TO THE TEST

Guyana's government faces no confidence vote

By Bert Wilkinson

Just as the country is preparing for the start of oil production in the last quarter of 2019, Guyana's multiparty coalition government will first have to survive a spirited opposition parliamentary no confidence motion that is set for debate before Christmas if it wants to enjoy the financial windfall from its fledgling petroleum sector.

Since it won general elections in May of 2015, the administration of President David Granger has been running the Caribbean community's largest member state with a wafer thin, one seat majority in the 65-seat assembly.

But its resolve to stay together as a government for its full five-year term until 2020 will be tested to the maximum when the assembly debates the motion brought by the opposition People's Progressive Party

(PPP) in the week before Christmas.

The opposition had been pushing to have the debate and vote held before lawmakers had considered the 2019 budget but lost in its bid. The two weeks of budget debates ended last Friday and all attention will now be turned to preparations for the no confidence debate and vote. Government officials are giving every indication that the opposition bid will fail but they are nevertheless keeping a watchful eye on every single lawmaker to ensure that they vote no.

Every representative, especially those from outlying regions in the interior, will be brought to the city and housed in a hotel, if necessary, to ensure they are physically present and prepared to vote for survival. Others who were on the coalition's list of electors back in

Continued on Page 20

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Vincy group launches scholarship fund

By Nelson A. King

In an elaborate ceremony at Brooklyn's Medgar Evers College, the Brooklyn-based St. Vincent and the Grenadines Diaspora Committee of New York, Inc. recently launched the Maxwell Haywood Scholarship and Development Fund.

The fund was established after the passing, on Nov. 17, 2017, of the group's founding chairman, Maxwell Haywood, a Vincentian community activist in Brooklyn and an alumnus of Medgar Evers College.

According to Haywood's widow, Sherill-Ann Mason-Haywood, who succeeded Haywood as chairperson of the St. Vincent and the Grenadines Diaspora Committee of New York, Inc., the fund seeks to advance Haywood's work and to "preserve his legacy through the provision of scholarships to secondary school and college students in St. Vincent and the Grenadines and New York."

Mrs. Mason-Haywood also said the fund's goal is aimed at "the delivery of informational and educational lectures, forums and workshops focused on the issues of Diasporas, migration and development."

Scholarships from the fund have already been distributed to two young students in St. Vincent and the Grenadines — Trevon Paul, attending the St. Vincent Grammar School, and Alfredo Lampkin, attending the Thomas Saunders Secondary School, for the academic year 2018-2019, Mrs. Mason-



Sherill-Ann Mason-Haywood addresses launching ceremony.

Photo by Nelson A. King

Haywood said.

Several dignitaries were on hand at the launching ceremony. They included Justice Adrian Saunders, president of the Caribbean Court of Justice (CCJ); Rene Baptiste, speaker of the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) and president of the St. Vincent and the

Grenadines Bar Association; St. Vincent and the Grenadines Ambassador to the United Nations I. Rhonda King; St. Vincent and the Grenadines Consul General to the United States, Howie Prince; Consul General designate of Trinidad and Tobago, Jerome LaVoe; and Associate Provost, Medgar Evers College, Dr.

Gladys Schrynemakers.

Before delivering the inaugural Memorial Lecture, at the official launching of the Maxwell Haywood Scholarship and Development Fund, Vincentian-born Justice Saunders, Haywood's friend, noted that Haywood was "a livewire in the Vincentian community in New York."

"As chair of the SVG (St. Vincent and the Grenadines) Diaspora Community, he worked tirelessly on behalf of SVG," he said. "He was at the forefront of recognizing those in the Diaspora who had contributed to building up our small country."

Justice Saunders recalled that, in 2016, when the the Diaspora Committee honored stalwarts in the Vincentian community, during its Heritage Awards, "Maxwell appreciated this and made sure to recognize these men and women."

"This evening, we recognize Maxwell, and we give thanks for his service," he said.

In bringing greetings from Medgar Evers College President Dr. Rudolph Crew and Provost and Senior Vice President, Dr. Augustine Okereke, Associate Provost, Dr. Gladys Schrynemakers, said the predominantly Black college, with an overwhelming Caribbean and Caribbean American student population, was "delighted to host the SVG Diaspora Committee of New York to start a tradition that will honor one of Medgar Evers College's sons, Maxwell Fitz-Osbourne Haywood."

New group wants to close educational disconnect

By Alexandra Simon

A newly formed organization is trying to close a gap between the school system and parents with hands-on informative workshops. The Brooklyn-based group, No Rest Until Success, is a generous organization that aims to raise educational awareness, by assisting families struggling to provide their children with schoolwork with resources.

Co-founded earlier this year by East Flatbush-raised educator, Dr. Anesha Fuller, the creation of the organization was inspired by the high school teacher's desire to fix a flaw she noticed, and observations she often made throughout her years as a public school teacher.

"Part of my doctorate dissertation was geared towards a literacy curriculum and to see if a school's literacy program was rigorous enough to match the common core and learning standards, and as I did my research I saw that there was a growing crisis with reading and writing," she said.

After increasingly witnessing repeated instances in the literacy habits of many students, she realized that several factors were likely contributors to the trend.



Founder of the No Rest Until Success Foundation, Dr. Anesha Fuller.

No Rest Until Success Foundation

"In my overall experience as teacher, I started to see a massive crisis in students not writing properly," she said.

She said the daily use and growth of the smartphone are beneficial in many ways, but it comes with several cons that changes how everyone, and particularly the youth, communicate both online and to a great extent in school.

"Many people struggle with writing standard English, and they've become so effective with high-tech phones and everything social media, that they are so reliant on the many apps that do it," said Fuller. "But when it's time to do the work, they can't produce it because they don't have the app." And the downside is students are continuing down this path from elementary school into high school, according to Fuller.

"They are transitioning into high school and they don't have the proper fundamentals to succeed in high school because they can't read or write properly," she said.

She said this was partly the reason why high schoolers were taking state tests such as the Regents examination, more than once, when these assessments were designed to be taken and passed on the first try. But for Fuller, she believes in the power of community philanthropy and says her organization not only wants to help students achieve great success, but more importantly wants to also help the people that can guide them at home — the parents. She said some parents need help too.

"What I realized is that parents want to help their kids, but their number one problem is they don't know how," said Fuller.

Often times, other community-based organizations are more focused on gun violence and shelter housing, and not enough are geared to education, said Fuller. But feeling like more could be done, she decided to form a non-profit that would be committed to offering free workshops and programs for families.

The format of the workshop includes teacher and volunteers showing attendees information that teachers know and apply in the classroom, and how they too can use for themselves. She uses word of mouth and social media to get the word out about the organization and what services they provide.

Fuller said she was well-versed in this subject and felt others should be too.

"I see the need and I'm able to do it, so I do it and share what I know," said Fuller. "It's not taking anything from me to share the knowledge that I have because our children aren't reading or writing properly, and they're failing and struggling, and no one is saying anything about it."

THE NEWS FROM BACK HOME

Barbados

President of the Barbados' Prison Officers Association pleaded not guilty of encouraging four other prison officers to stay off the job in May this year when he appeared in court recently.



Trevor Browne, who has been in the Prison Service for 34 years was granted Bds \$1,000 bail when he appeared in court.

It is alleged that between May 1 and 9, he maliciously endeavored to seduce prison officers Shanell Ellis-Vaughn, Ophneal Austin and Stephenson Trotman from their duties.

Browne was charged under Section 27, Chapter 168 of the Prison Act, which states that, "any person, who directly or indirectly instigates, commands, counsels or solicits any meeting, sedition or disobedience to any lawful command of a prison officer or seduce any prison officer from his allegiance or duty, shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to imprisonment for one year.

Browne will return to court on Feb. 18 next year.

Caribbean

The Caribbean Court of Justice (CCJ) based in Port of Spain, Trinidad said it has this year delivered the highest number of judgements in a calendar year since it began its operation in 2005.

The CCJ, which was established in 2001 to replace the London-based Privy Council as the regional final court, said that it had issued 34 judgements and reasons for decisions in 2018.

"Throughout that period, the CCJ also heard 28 new matters in both its original and its appellate jurisdictions," the court said, noting that its term ends on Monday, Dec. 17, 2018.



The CCJ said its last hearing for the year was involved a case from Barbados, where Renaldo Alleyne, who was convicted of manslaughter after six young women died when the Campus Trendz all was firebombed during a robbery in 2010, is appealing the six concurrent life sentences imposed by the court in Barbados.

The CCJ said that it is also preparing for the staging of its fifth biennial conference to be held in Jamaica from Dec. 13, in partnership with the General Legal Council.

The conference is being presented with the support of the Judicial Reform and Institutional Strengthening Project, the Caribbean Development Bank, CaribExport and Scotia Bank of Jamaica.

CCJ President Justice Adrian Saun-



Guyana gov't receives crash report

A Fly Jamaica Boeing 757-200 aircraft, which overshot the runway, sits at the northeastern takeoff end of the runway at the Cheddi Jagan International Airport, in Georgetown, Guyana, Friday, Nov. 9, 2018. An airline spokesman said the plane, which was on its way to Toronto, reported a hydraulic failure emergency shortly after taking off and returned after less than 20 minutes. Several people were injured.

Associated Press / Adrian Narine

ders will deliver the feature address.

Guyana

The Guyana government has received a copy of the report on the Fly Jamaica landing incident at the Cheddi Jagan International Airport recently, Minister of State Joseph Harmon said.

The plane, carrying 118 passengers and eight crew members, was forced to make an emergency landing on November 9, 2018, minutes after it had taken off for Canada.



The plane had on board 35 Guyanese, one Trinidadian, 82 Canadians, one Pakistani and 11 American citizens. Six passengers suffered minor injuries and were treated at hospital and later discharged.

Harmon said the Minister of Public Infrastructure David Patterson had presented the report to Cabinet.

Meanwhile, passengers on the aircraft have filed a class-action lawsuit against the airline alleging physical harm and loss of personal belongings.

The lawsuit, which was recently filed, calls for "just compensation" for passengers and their families — 82 of them

Canadians — but did not specify how much the group is seeking.

Jamaica

The Jamaica government is moving to ban the sale of sugary drinks at schools across the country from next year.

The government has issued guidelines, which will facilitate the sale of beverages in schools that contains sugar.

According to the Interim Guidelines for Beverages in School which as laid in Parliament recently, as of 2019, beverages containing more than six grams of sugar per 100 milliliters will no longer be allowed at public educational institutions.

The guidelines, which will take effect from Jan. 1, 2019, will prohibit sugar-sweetened beverages being sold or served to students up to 18 years-old in and around early childhood, primary and secondary-level educational institutions.



The guidelines also covers companies and groups involved in the provision of beverages to public schools, including canteen operators, vendors and teach-

ers.

Health Minister Dr. Christopher Tufton, told legislators that beverages brought from home are not included in the guidelines and that the restrictions on sugar-sweetened beverages will be applicable during school hours and special school activities.

St. Vincent

The St. Vincent Geothermal Company Limited (SVGCL) has signed a contract with the Iceland Drilling Company, IDC (Jardbornir hf) to drill four wells on the island.

The wells are intended to supply steam for the geothermal power plant SVGCL is constructing.

The project aims to deliver a 10 megawatt geothermal power plant transforming SVG energy sector, reducing its dependency on imported fuel and providing a new sustainable and affordable course of energy based on an indigenous resource.

Once operational, the plant will supply all of the island's baseload power and bring renewable energy sources to 73 percent of total power



Continued on Page 16

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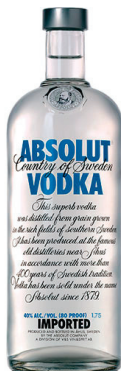
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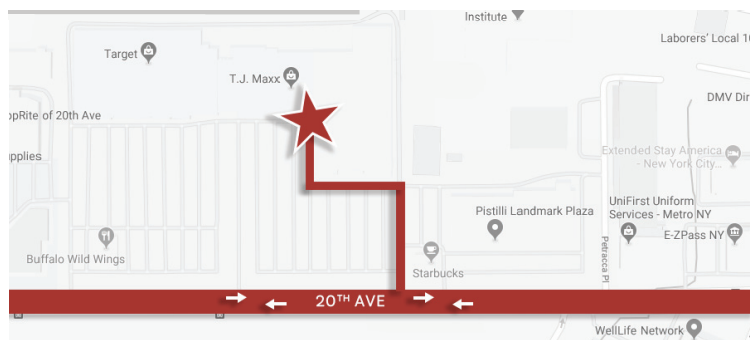


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Justice Ingrid Joseph proud to sit on judicial bench

By Nelson A. King

Guyanese-born Justice Ingrid Joseph says she's "privileged and blessed" that she gets "to do work that I love" by sitting on the judicial bench in Brooklyn and Queens.

Joseph — who was elected as a Supreme Court Justice of the State of New York during the Midterm Elections on Nov. 6, for a 14-year-term, which begins on Jan. 2, 2019 and ends Dec. 31, 2033 — said her plan, as a judge, is "to do justice wherever I can."

"To give everyone who appears before me an opportunity to be heard and to render decisions that are thoughtful, fair, balanced and in keeping with the law," she told Caribbean Life in an exclusive interview on Friday, Dec. 7.

"I choose the law as my career because I like helping to solve problems, and I wanted to be a judge because the courts are often the only avenue some people have to address societal issues," Justice Joseph added. "I also like the intellectual challenge of mastering new areas of the law and using it to render justice."

"When I sit on the bench, I represent first and foremost the members of the Joseph family; then I am a woman, a Caribbean / South American / Afro American / and a five-footer; but, mostly, I represent someone who wants to help to resolve the issues of the community," she continued.

Joseph was first elected as a countywide judge to the Civil Court in 2008. That Civil Court seat was slated as vacancy 18 on the ballot in the Democratic Primary Election on Sept. 13.

There were two incumbents (current sitting judges) seeking re-election to Countywide Civil Court seats: Joseph and Loren Bailey. The contenders for those seats were Sheryl Orwell and Saul Cohen.

According to the Board of Elections' Unofficial Election Night Results, a total of 388,119 votes were cast. Joseph received 133,372 votes; Bailey 118,520; 88,366 votes and Cohen 45,995 votes; with 1866 write-in votes.

After her first election in 2008, Joseph said she began her tenure as a judge in January 2009, serving for nine years



Justice Ingrid Joseph.

Roderick E. Randall

and nine months before her re-election.

During her 10 years in Civil Court in Brooklyn and Queens, Joseph said she presided over cases (personal injury trials and motions, name changes and small claims); Family court in Brooklyn (custody and visi-

tation); and the Supreme Court in Brooklyn (matrimonial).

In addition to her duties as a civil court judge, Joseph said she was appointed acting justice of the Supreme Court in 2012, working for seven years in that capacity.

She was promoted to super-

vising judge of the Civil Court in January 2017.

Prior to becoming a judge, Joseph was a principal law clerk, primarily for two Supreme Court Justices, Nicholas Clemente and Mark Partnow, working primarily in the areas of medical malpractice and personal injury.

Joseph, who resided in Georgetown, the Guyanese capital, before migrating to the US, graduated with honors from Prospect Heights High School in Brooklyn.

She was awarded a Bachelor of Arts Degree (cum laude) from John Jay College of Criminal Justice, City University of New York, and received a Doctor of Jurisprudence degree from New York Law school.

She began her legal career at two law firms, where she handled wills and provided legal estate planning services to clients.

Justice Joseph said she also served as an adjunct professor at Borough of Manhattan Community College, where she shared her knowledge and love of the law with students.

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Medical ganja for Barbados

By George Alleyne

Barbados is suddenly and rapidly moving towards legalising use of marijuana in the medicinal form, but its recreational uses will have to take a back seat until the entire population has a formal say in the matter through a vote.

Following years of resistance mainly by the religious community supported by some in the legal fraternity and educators, all who were loud in condemnation at the notion of ganja use in any form, the Prime Minister of Barbados of just under six months has announced that a mechanism is being put in place for medical marijuana to be legally prescribed on the island.

"There is no doubt that we will put a framework in place for medical cannabis within the next week or so. In fact, we have ... taken a decision, we just need some refining and training with practitioners," the Barbados TODAY newspaper reported Mottley saying over the weekend.

Against the backdrop of a customary loud disdainful reaction by the powerful religious community in this traditionally devoutly Christian community,

Mottley's announcement served as a broadside on the ganja naysayers.

She added that legal use of the plant for recreational purposes will be decided down the road through a referendum.

Her announcement of the imminent introduction of medicinal marijuana should come as relief to many Barbadians who have publicly complained of their inability to get access to this drug for therapeutic relief despite having it recommended by their doctors.

But Mottley is also seeing the business side of granting the plant, or its extract legal status in Barbados, the domicile of many offshore companies that are funding marijuana start-up corporations in other countries where its use is legal.

"You cannot have your primary market which is Canada, the international business and financial services sector moving rapidly into new areas of investment and you can't match as a domicile, the ability to accommodate those new areas of investment because if you don't what are they going to do? Go elsewhere," she said.

Two days following that online publication's revelations the Nation newspapers reported acting Chief Medical Officer, Dr. Kenneth George confirming that the authorising agency, the Ministry of Health, was well on its way to approving medicinal marijuana.

George reportedly said that cannaboids, a marijuana extract is the first drug to be granted legal use on the island.

Cannaboids are associated with pain relief and elation that help a patient in recovery.

"The ministry [of Health] will be focused on the use of cannaboids in very specific conditions," Dr. George said, adding, "research has shown there is some therapeutic benefit. And with any drug, we realise there needs to be a predictable mechanism, duration of action and predictable side effects."

"We expect medical marijuana will be given the same type of safeguards (as Schedule 1 drugs) to protect the population and the persons who will dispense the drug," George said.

"We prefer to have a core group of persons who are recognised by the fraternity to be the



Barbados Prime Minister Mia Mottley. Photo by George Alleyne

initial gatekeepers with respect to the prescription and dispensing of medical marijuana," he said.

The Nation also reported that the list of ailments for which

medical marijuana will be used comprises anorexia, nausea, chronic pain, seizure disorders in children, wasting syndrome, and elasticity in multiple sclerosis.



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Petrotrin cries felt by fired UTT lecturers

By Dr. Kumar Mahabir

The heartbreak felt by ex-Petrotrin workers was the same that was experienced by retrenched University of Trinidad and Tobago (UTT) lecturers who were sent home earlier this year.

On May 11, 2018, the only national university in Trinidad and Tobago (T&T) sacked 59 of its lecturers as part of a reported restructuring exercise. Six months later, on November 30, the national oil company was officially closed and all of its 8,000 workers were sent packing.

UTT lecturers were the first casualties of a state entity this year. Petrotrin workers were next, followed by Telecommunications Services of Trinidad and Tobago (TSTT) employees. In all three state entities, workers were sacrificed due to poor decisions made by Board members and managers.

Richardson Dhalai of Newsday (1/12/18) reported: "The day began on a sombre note as Petrotrin employees reported for duties for the last time, gloom etched on their faces as they drove hesitantly through the gates leading to the company's administrative offices. The atmosphere could almost be likened to a wake [vigil] as there was no chatter with Petrotrin's estate police officers who traditionally manned the gates."

Dhalai added that "temporary worker Khalifa Phillip could hardly contain her grief and her voice cracked several



Dr. Kumar Mahabir.

times while her eyes welled with tears as she said temporary workers had been thrown on the pavement by the company."

"There has been no communication to us on a personal level, not a phone call, not an email, not a letter saying that there will no longer be a company. No respect. We are not being treated with dignity, we have the same bills as everybody. We have rent, we have children to feed, this was our livelihood."

"We were told nobody would be thrown in the bamboo, nobody would be on the pavement. That is exactly where I feel I am today. I am one of the 600 who they said would [not] have to suffer. I am one-month shy of 14 years in Petrotrin and I really feel neglected and ignored by the state."

Dhalai wrote: "Two other temporary workers who were sitting in the audience echoed Phillips's words as tears rolled down their faces."

Continued on Page 12

Power and sexual abuse: The danger of doubling

By Jan Lundius

Stockholm / Rome, Dec. 10, 2018 (IPS) — Several celebrities use their power to insult or take advantage of women. We read about sexual abuse from men like Harvey Weinstein, Bill O'Reilly, Leslie Moonves, Jeffrey Epstein, Bill Cosby, R. Kelly, Dennis Hastert, Robert Packwood, Roger Ailes, James Levine, Hans Hermann Groër, Marcial Maciel, Justin Forsyth, Ruud Lubbers, Dominique Strauss-Kahn, Bill Clinton, Silvio Berlusconi and Donald Trump. The list is just a sample of an extensive catalogue of Western men accused of abusing women, using their fame, fortune and power to exploit and humiliate them. Unfortunately, misogyny, contempt of and prejudice against women and girls, may even be characterized as a cultural universal, an element, pattern, trait, or institution that is common to all human cultures worldwide.

Humans are herd animals. We depend on relations with other humans, a dependency that seldom is equal. Every moment of our lives we suffer subjugation – under parents, teachers, colleagues, bosses and government officials, at the same time as we might have power over others. Power may act as poison. Several persons I have been acquainted with and who reached powerful positions have changed completely, poisoned by their elevation above other human beings. Several imagined they earned their position through intelligence, hard work and charm; outstanding qualities that distinguished them

Misogyny, contempt of and prejudice against women and girls, may even be characterized as a cultural universal, an element, pattern, trait, or institution that is common to all human cultures worldwide.

from others, especially those who are dependent on these formidable leaders.

Endorphins, oxytocin, dopamine and serotonin constitute a blissful quartet of neurotransmitters that make us content. Feelings of well-being increase levels of serotonin, which stimulate our appetite and general contentment, while low serotonin levels trigger stress hormones. Powerful beings benefit from serotonin streaming through their bodies, creating feelings of a refreshing exhilaration. Powerful men become supermen, assuming their behaviour cannot be equalled to that of inferior beings, whose blood and brains are acidified by stress hormones.

This blissful state of mind has to be protected. Power-drunk sex abusers are generally safeguarded by others, who like them fear that their power, and that of their sheltering organizations, will be weakened if voices of abused victims are taken seriously. Maybe a reason to why even the Catholic Church and United Nations, organiza-

tions supposed to care about evil and social injustice, so often have proved reluctant to address abuse committed by powerful men and women within their own domains.

While in Paris working at the gender division of UNESCO, Dominique Strauss-Kahn, former head of the IMF, went to trial in Lille, accused of pimping. He was acquitted from all charges, though I found his defence deplorable. He admitted that he was a "libertine" and liked to participate in orgies, though he had not realized that his partners in those excesses had been prostitutes. He assumed they were "libertines" like him. He was contradicted by several women who had shared his "pleasures." One of them told the court: "No other customer would have dared to do what he did. Does he assume that he can behave like that just because he does not have the same social status [as women like me]?" Fabrice Paszkowski, one of several arrangers of Strauss-Kahn's nightly pleasures, used to text him messages about planned sexual encounters. The nature of these messages reflects opinions of men like them. Strauss-Kahn: "So, who will you have in your luggage?" Paszkowski: "I have some very beautiful and new things for my trip to DC!!!"

While reading about the trial in Lille I found that another of Paszkowski's clients had been the strapping sailor, author and artist Titouan Lamazou. A frequent visitor to UNESCO's gender division. He was actively

Continued on Page 14

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Caribbean nationals kicking up spectacular Christmas

Tourists visiting the Big Apple during this holiday season are no different from residents of the state who since 1932 make Radio City Music Hall the destination families are guaranteed a spectacular fun-filled showcase.

It's a bucket-list item that features scenes spotlighting Santa Claus, the Nativity, a visit to the North Pole, Dancing Bears, Parade of the Wooden Soldiers, New York at Christmas — offering an eye-opening New York City tour highlighted by real-live ice-skaters in Central Park; a glimpse of Rockefeller Plaza and its angels and illuminated tree as well as digital enhancements, drones and added surprises each and every year.

While every segment offers spectacle, the most anticipated moments have always been the times the Rockettes dance shoulder to shoulder and in cadence kick high with precision to the highest height. As a matter of fact some patrons have declared that if all they did was line up and kick it would be worth the ticket.

Featuring dancers from virtually every state, Canada, and South Korea some of the best



Inside Life

By Vinette K. Pryce

dancers annually make the rigorous audition process to star as one in the spectacular line of Rockettes.

Considering the fact the Caribbean comprise French, English, Dutch and Spanish territories it is no wonder at least one region would claim at least one of the 32 slots. For the past four years along with fellow Rockettes, Latina Sophia Michelle Anthony has been holding firm on the spot she earned.

Look for her towards the end of the line at stage right.

A Florida native, Anthony was born in Miami but moved to Orlando when she was just a tot.

As young as she was she recalled that from as far back as she can remember she declared her ambition as a dancer.

Her father who was born in Cuba and her mother, a proud Puerto Rican national encouraged her aspiration. They spared no expense sending

her to dance classes where she learned tap, ballet, contemporary, pointe and salsa.

How this Caribbean offspring made it to the great holiday stage is her fairy tale reflected from her early years when her parents joined the long queues formed by tourists while on visits to the Big Apple during the Christmas season.

"From the first time I saw them (the Rockettes) I knew that was what I wanted to do," Anthony said.

Like the mantra many repeat as the path to getting to Carnegie Hall, Anthony said she "practiced, practiced, practiced."

The Orlando resident —(where Disneyworld is headquartered) — auditioned in her state and was an easy fit. She was a teenager but was on her way to dance utopia.

Anthony's talent for dance quickly placed her to feature in "Beauty and the Beast", "A



Costume designer Emilio Sosa pose with Rockettes in the new costume for the 2018 Radio City Christmas Spectacular.
Carl Scheffel

Totally Tomorrowland Christmas" and "Celebrate the Season."

She even toured the nation as a hip-hop dancer with Disney Live's "Nuclear Cowboyz" arena tour.

However, although she scored a major conquest at the world renowned all-year landmark adventure destination her quest to become a Rockette

never ceased.

The teenaged, five-foot six-inch jazz / hip-hop hoofer boldly auditioned to become one of the unique New York dancers.

Unfortunately on her first trial she did not make the cut.

Her determination and those of her parents and older brother Joshua kept her feet solidly aimed at kicking in New York City.

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Petrotrin workers in tears

Continued from Page 10

Loss of a job and a way of life

Sascha Wilson of the Guardian (1/12/18) reported: "As workers packed up their things and began leaving the workplace yesterday morning, they expressed sadness and uncertainty over their future."

A similar article on the same page by Rishi Ragoonath stated, "Wiping his tears as he walked out the gates of Petrotrin after 30 years of service, worker David Jadoonanan lamented, 'This is so hard. It hurtful. I don't know what I will do.' ... Several workers, particularly temporary workers, were reduced to tears."

Ragoonath added: "[Gabriel] O'souna said workers were also concerned about their medical plans and pension plans. Workers, he said, 'have been sold to hell in a hand basket.' They claimed that other companies don't want to hire them because they have been demonised and portrayed as greedy, lazy and unqualified."

Sandhya Santoo of the Express (1/12/18) reported: "For the workers, many wept openly as memories were shared with co-workers who had become friends and family. Men and women, many of them second and third generation Petrotrin employees, assembled at various locations with their bags of office belongings, ready to head home."

studied for about 15 years, having been successful at GCE / CSEC, A'Levels / CAPE, BA/BSc, MA / MSc, and the Ph.D. These academics had spent an enormous amount of dedicated time and money to study, prepare for exams, conduct original research, write a thesis and dissertation, publish in academic journals, and present papers at international conferences.

To which place of employment can they now turn? And in May (when they were fired) when universities hire lecturers long before the academic year begins in September? Administrator Judy Rocke dismissed lecturers in the Bachelor of Education (BEd) Programme who were specialists in teacher training. They taught students to be the primary and secondary school teachers of tomorrow, guiding their minds for the challenges of the changing classroom.

Through experience and studies, they were specialists in teaching Theories in Education, Curriculum Studies, Pedagogy / Teaching Methods, Assessment and Evaluation, Psychology of Learning, Classroom Management, Instructional Design, Research Methods, Written Communication and Contemporary Issues in Education.

In our court case against Rocke and UTT President Sarim Al Zubaidy, our attorneys are contending that, in the circumstances, our dismissal was "unjustified, unlawful, harsh, punitive and oppressive." In their considered view, our attorneys are also arguing that our arbitrary dismissal was an "abuse of power and/or misfeasance by public officers in a State institution. In Petrotrin and UTT, industrial relations procedures were neglected in the haste to retrench specialists and professionals."

The sacrifice of becoming a professional

Preparing to become a lecturer was no easy feat for those who were wrongfully retrenched by UTT without a fair, equitable, objective and transparent criteria. The assistant professors had

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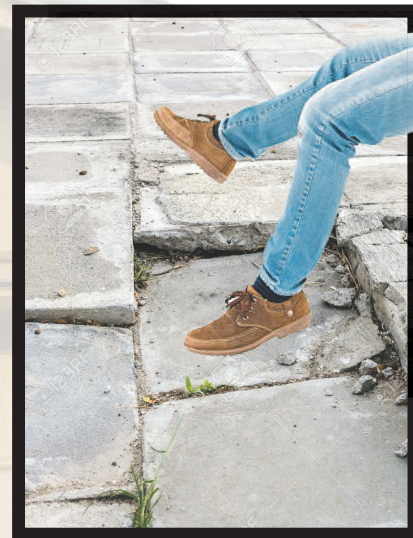
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Power and sexual abuse

Continued from Page 10

involved with charitable organizations defending the rights of women and children and had in 2003 been appointed as "UNESCO's Artist for Peace." Lamazou's defence was the same as Strauss-Kahn's: "I did not know that these women were prostitutes."

The case of Titouan Lamazou made me remember when I was working for The Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) and once listened to a lecture by Karl Göran Lindberg, lawyer, police chief and former rector of the Police Academy. Lindberg was project manager of an EU project called Genderforce, aiming to improve international efforts to include a gender perspective in all police work. In 2010, Lindberg was by the Swedish High Court sentenced to a long prison term for repeated serious rape and sexual abuse of under-aged girls.

Lamazou and Lindberg might have been victims of what the psychiatrist Robert Jay Lifton in a book about Nazi doctors called doubling. A psychological trait enabling a person to invoke evil potentials and forbidden urges, at the same time as s/he considers them to be completely alien to her / his true humanitarian and philanthropically inclined self. Jay Lifton stated:

To live out the doubling and call forth the evil is a moral choice for which



Painting by artist Titouan Lamazou.
Titouan Lamazou

one is responsible, whatever the level of consciousness involved.

If we, our laws and our society accept and condone doubling, we identify with the perpetrators and pave the way for immorality, injustice and violence.

Jan Lundius holds a PhD. on *History of Religion from Lund University and has served as a development expert, researcher and advisor at SIDA, UNESCO, FAO and other international organisations.*

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CARIBBEAN ROUNDUP

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generation, well in excess of St. Vincent and the Grenadines Energy Action Plan target of 60 percent by 2023.

The commissioning of the plant will be in approximately two years. The development of the plant has been ongoing for some time with civil works starting in the second quarter of 2018. The turbines are expected to be tendered out in 2019.

SVGCL is a public-private partnership owned by the St. Vincent and the Grenadines government and Teykjavik Geothermal, an Iceland company focusing on geothermal power development with projects in East Africa, Mexico and the Caribbean.

Trinidad

Trinidad and Tobago ranks third among Caribbean countries in the latest Human Development Indices and Indicators, which was recently released by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP).

Highest ranked among the Caribbean nations in the groupings is the Bahamas at 54 out of 180 countries, surveyed,

Bahamas has Human Development

Index (HDI) of 0.807, a life expectancy rate of 75.8 years and a gross national income (GNI) of US\$26,681.

Barbados is second in CARICOM with a ranking of 58 and HDI of 0.800, a life expectancy of 76.1 and a GNI of US\$15,843, while T&T is ranked 69th with an HDI of 0.784, a life expectancy rate of 70.3 and GNI of US\$28,622,

Haiti is the lowest ranked in CARICOM and is described by the UNDP as belonging to the Low Human Development Index.

Most of the 14-member CARICOM countries, with the exception of Guyana and Haiti, are ranked in the Very High Human Development Index. Guyana is listed in the Human Development category.

Other countries in CARICOM that are ranked include Antigua and Barbuda at 70 with an HDI of 0.780, a life expectancy rate of 76.5 and a GNI of US\$20,764.

The UNDP said most people today live longer, are more educated and have more access to goods and services than ever before.

- Compiled by Azad Ali

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Celfie Cosmetics: A beauty brand celebrating selfie culture

By Alexandra Simon

A Brooklyn-based entrepreneur created a cosmetics line for the fast-forwarding thinking woman. Celfie Cosmetics is a family-run business headed by its Jamaican-American CEO and founder, Nicole Harding. She said in today's selfie-driven culture, she yearned for a beauty line that invested in celebrating self-love, and celebrated women who personify success.

"I wanted to create a beauty hub for women who have influence within their respected industries, and it's also a beauty brand that empowers people to love the self they are in," she said.

The name of the brand is inspired by the growth of the self portrait, known as the 'selfie.' Harding said she wanted to create makeup products that people would associate with the act.

"We live in a selfie world and I wanted people to love a beauty product just like they love taking a selfie," she said.

And because of that, Celfie Cosmetics has continued to grow



Founders of Celfie Cosmetics. Celfie Cosmetics

as a popular name as many popular celebrities, such as reality-television stars, Renee Graziano of "Mob Wives," Yandy Smith of "Love and Hip Hop New York," and Claudia Jordan of "Real Housewives of Atlanta."

Many of these notable women have also inspired some special collections.

And a plus is that they are all great friends of Harding and supporting her venture.

"All of the celebrities and influencers signed to Celfie Cos-

metics are people I know in my personal network and they all were willing to work with Celfie Cosmetics and they love it," said Harding.

The brand carries a variety of beauty products that makeup enthusiasts and everyday women love, including foundation, eye-shadow palettes, contour kits, lipsticks and lip glosses, and eye-lash sets.

Since launching the line in 2015, Harding said new products are continually added. She is in the process of introducing applicator tools and lip scrubs.

A makeup aficionado herself, Harding said she enjoys seeing the power of makeup and the burst of satisfaction she feels while experimenting with it.

"I love how makeup makes me feel, and it's fun to see the enhancements and transformations when using makeup," she said.

Harding wants her line to not only be a statement for the current beauty trends, she hopes to grow internationally and make the brand into a staple product



CEO Nicole Harding. Celfie Cosmetics

like other big brands.

"My mission is to become one of the largest beauty brands that caters to women and makeup lov-

ers globally and to get acquired for hundreds of millions of dollars and make Celfie Cosmetics a household name," she said.

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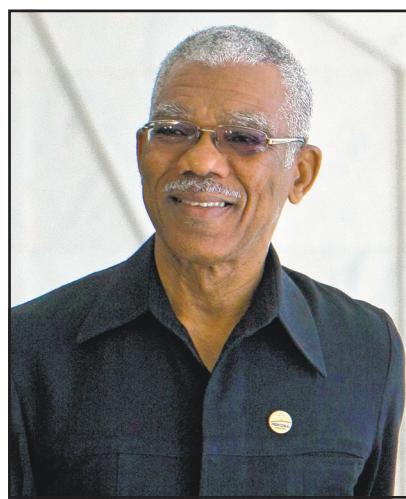
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Guyana's government to be tested



Guyana's President David Granger.
Associated Press / Joedson Alves

say they moved in to capitalize on a government that appeared to be leaderless with Granger's illness. A win for the PPP will trigger fresh elections by the first quarter or next year. A tie means the motion would have failed but it will nevertheless translate to a successful effort to damage or weaken the coalition in the eyes of the public.

Back in 2015, the PPP dissolved parliament and called for fresh elections rather than debate a similar no confidence motion that had been put forward by the coalition. The PPP thinks that this is pay back time and now appears to have the coalition on the run. House Leader and Prime Minister Moses Nagamootoo says the entire attempt will fail spectacularly

Continued from Page 1
2015 but were not selected as MP's will also be present on standby in the event someone is absent, ill or suspected of being a snitch at the 11th hour. House leaders also have the option of recalling an elected MP and replacing them at the very last minute with someone whose loyalties are not in question or under suspicion.

The move by the PPP to try to topple the administration via the same route that the coalition did back in 2015 was prompted in large part by the government's abysmally poor showing at local government elections in mid November.

The coalition, for example, lost a whopping seven council seats to the PPP in its city stronghold. The national turnout was barely 30 percent. This was widely interpreted as a vote of no confidence in the performance of government, especially by its supporters who had stayed away in droves. The move also came at a time when President Granger flew to Cuba for cancer treatment. Locals had long suspected that the president was not that well. Confirmation came last month. PPP officials

Affordable housing grants

Continued from Page 1

invest in affordable housing creation and preservation, because every Brooklynite deserves a safe place to call home that they can afford regardless of their income or background."

"Thanks to Borough President Adams' investment, Met Council will be able to help house the most vulnerable New Yorkers," said David G. Greenfield, chief executive officer of Met Council. "This allocation will allow the 75 residents of Met Council's Abraham I, who have formerly experienced homelessness, to continue to reside in beautiful accommodations in Sea Gate."

Adams' FY19 affordable housing capital budget also included \$1 million to Love Fellowship Tabernacle for the

construction of a 189-unit, mixed-use, 11-story building at 2435 Pacific Street in Brownsville; \$526,000 to Catholic Charities Progress of Peoples Development Corporation for the construction of the communal and green roof spaces at Our Lady of Loreto Project Phase 2 in Brownsville, which will deliver 102 units of housing; and \$500,000 to the Hanson Place Church Support Corporation for the development of 100 affordable housing units and a community facility space at Hanson Place Community Plaza in Fort Greene.

Recipients of FY19 budget allocations participated in a presentation of ceremonial checks, including an oversized check made out to One Brooklyn for affordable housing across Brooklyn.



Brooklyn Borough President Eric L. Adams (far right, front) joined non-profit developers and residents of Abraham Residence I, to celebrate his Fiscal Year 2019 (FY19) capital budget allocation of \$3,026,000 for affordable housing across the borough supporting more than 550 new and existing units across Brooklyn..

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ENYMKT-0450-18

Doctor inspires others to share at Christmas, life

By Tangerine Clarke

Losing his parents at a very young age, Dr. Sean Doorn, a Georgetown, Guyana-born educator, views this time of the year as his least favorite, simply because his mother died a few months before the Christmas season, and later, his father died, memories, despite sad, helped him to toughen-up, and strive for excellence during his life's journey.

A school psychologist with the New York City Department of Education for the past eleven years, Dr. Doorn remembers spending most of his younger life constantly ill, to the point, where he was hospitalized, and at home in bed, missing out on his formal years of education.

His mother back then, was a staff member at the Georgetown Public Hospital, and not afforded time-off to spend much time with her ill son, after doctors gave up on him and sent him home on many occasions. During those times however, young Sean, fantasized about

what his life would be like.

As he laid in bed, he told his younger self that when he was out of his situation, he would accept his past, embrace the present, anticipate his future, and work on these fantasies to make them realities, and do whatever it takes to ensure that anyone he came into contact with, "I would engage them, and ask them in return, to do the same for the next person."

After migrating to the United States, and with the help of relatives and friends, he worked through the hardships his parents experienced, like, not having the financial means to send him to college, yet holding on to a traditional Guyanese Christmas.

Now a graduate of Touro College, New York, with Master's Degrees in Psychology and Mental Health Counseling, this young man is determined and committed to sharing his skills to help others like him, who experienced difficulties while growing up.

Dr. Doorn who has been a behavior intervention specialist for the past 11 years for various New York City nonprofit agencies, thanked Caribbean nationals for paving the way for future generations, like his parents did for him.

"My parents could not afford to send me to college, but if the love they had for me could have converted to money, I would have paid for Harvard University in one week," he stated.

An inspiration to youths, the adjunct professor at Touro College Graduate School of Education and Psychology, and part-time lecturer at the Adelphi University Graduate School of Social Work, called on compatriots to appreciate their living parents, and reach out to help those in need.

Dr. Doorn, who captivated the audience during his keynote speech at the recent Caribbean American Social Workers Association's 15th Annual Christmas event, has served on a Mental Health Awareness



Dr. Sean Doorn after inspiring an audience in Brooklyn.

Photo by Tangerine Clarke

Month panel that focused on the Black Community.

He presented his research, titled "What are the Lived Experiences of Parents Regarding Special Education Service Decisions For Their Children, and Their Interactions with School Officials" at the Society for Social Work Research (SSWR) Conference in Washington, D.C., in January 2018. He is also a life-member of Alpha Phi

Alpha, Fraternity Incorporated, and chapter member of the Pacesetters chapter of Lion's International.

His whole life slogan "Optimistic Soul - Accepted past, embracing the present and anticipating future, as I turn boyhood fantasies into manhood realities," are principles he uses to influence young men and women to strive for excellence, despite their adversity.

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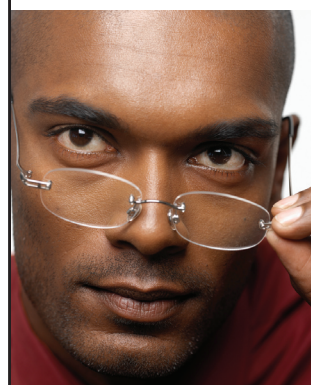
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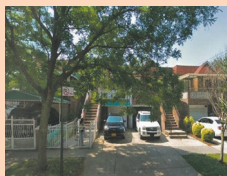
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The neighborhood is filled with similar dwellings, much of which were constructed in the 1930s and '50s.

The major street near the

home is Utica Avenue, which is served by the B46 local bus line with select bus service. The highly commercial street offers dozens of businesses — including fast food, car service, hair salons and barbershops, pharmacies, hardware, and a supermarket.

And there is also Flatlands Avenue, which can connect residents to other bus lines and transfers that can take them to the either the 2 and 5 trains via the B41 at Flatbush and Flat-

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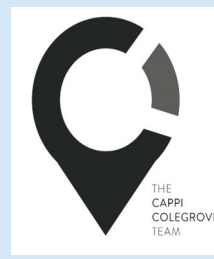
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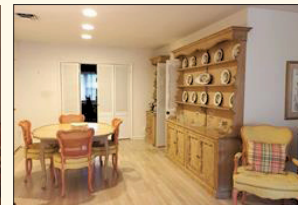
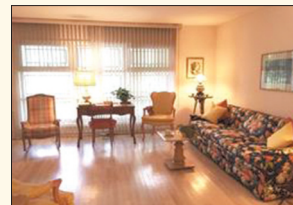
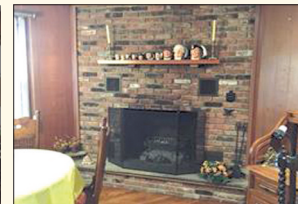
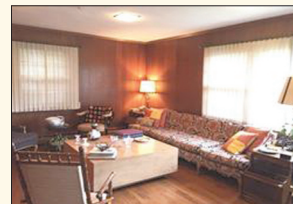
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McKinney lights up for holidays

By Nelson A. King

Several residents, healthcare workers, officials and members of the community were on hand Friday, Dec. 7 for the annual Holiday Lighting Ceremony at NYC Health+Hospitals McKinney on Albany Avenue in Brooklyn.

"The Christmas / holiday season is one of the most popular and cherished holiday customs," said Angela Cooper, the Trinidadian-born assistant director, hospitals, at McKinney, who also served as Mistress of Ceremony, at the foyer of the major rehabilitation center.

"Each year, in the United States alone, millions of families celebrate the season in a culturally-sacred style, and the lighting of a Christmas tree, Hanukkah and Kwanzaa candles are some of those traditions that are very fashionably accepted and celebrated at McKinney," she added.

"In the real spirit of such a festive time of the year, and for the past 11 years, McKinney not only lights a tree, but we also light the Menorah and Kwanzaa candles," Cooper continued. "As light emanates energy, we are optimistic that this energy will transmit the greatest expectation of love."

She said the love represents "hope for tomorrow, the prosperity of permanent peace, the universal gift that keep on giving, the innate gift of infinite love, and the glory and honor of the revela-

tion of the light of life."

Cooper said McKinney remains "that symbolic ideal of hope for all who look to us for quality service and care, as we continue to encircle our birthright of this love and light all year round."

During the lighting ceremony, she reminded the audience to remember "those in our community who might only have one little candle or none at all.

"Let us send the energy of hope, forgiveness and love, and all the principles of grateful living," she urged. "Let us leave here with the knowledge that a gift isn't a gift unless it has meaning."

Some of Cooper's gift suggestions include forgiveness (to an adversary); tolerance (to an antagonist); your heart (to a friend); service (to a customer); charity (to everyone); a good example (to every child); an experience (to your residents); and happy holidays (to our self-respect).

The McKinney Angels, McKinney Expressions, Lisa Bates, Veronica Kaninska, Shoran Legendre and Hilton Samuel were among serenaders and speakers at the event.

David Weinstein, McKinney's chief executive officer, as well as Stephen Catullo, deputy executive director, and Maria Teresa Cuevas, assistant director of nursing, were also among others who brought holiday greetings.



Trinidadian Angela Cooper leads serenade at McKinney. Photo by Nelson A. King

"I'm pleased as to how they put everything together and to include the residents in their festivity," Dr. Ionie Pierce, the Jamaican-born president of the Brooklyn-based West Indian American Day Carnival Association (WIADCA) told Caribbean Life afterwards.

"It's an atmosphere for them (residents) to enjoy," she added.

Victoria Glasgow, a Vincentian-born patient care associate at McKinney, described the event as "beautiful."

"It's multicultural," said Glasgow, Local 420 union chapter chair, who has been working at the facility for 21 years. "We're making sure the residents are happy and comfortable. I know Dr. Susan Smith McKinney (after whom the center is named) will be proud."

Rapper Young M.A wows guests at toy drive

By Alexandra Simon

More than 100 kids and families attended the 500 Men Christmas Tree Lighting and Toy Drive at Herbert Von King Park in Bedford-Stuyvesant on Dec. 8.

Guests attending the fourth annual drive, also got to meet hip-hop artist Young M.A, who was the highlight of the day for many older kids, said one local mom.

"My daughter didn't want to take any toys and she was happy to see Young M.A, and my son got to take a picture with her," said Starrett City mom, Nefertiti Leach.

Leach said she stayed at the two-hour event for its entirety and kept warm with hot chocolate that organizers served.

She adds not only was she pleased with the atmosphere and Christmas spirit of the event, she enjoyed listening to the artist talk about creating Kweenz — her newly formed foundation for the families who lost loved ones to violence.

"It was a great kick off for my holiday. I loved it because it's a great thing for the community to see," she said. "And one thing that really hit



Family spirit: From left, daughter, Isis Smith, her younger brother, Chase Ausar Leach, and their mom Nefertiti Leach, at the 500 Men Christmas Tree Lighting and Toy Drive at Herbert Von King Park on Dec. 8. (Right) All the gifts: A variety of toys were given during the toy drive.



Photos by Stefano Giovannini,

home about Young M.A was when she talked about losing her brother and her mother losing a son — it was really profound."

Guests were enthusiastic about the recording artist's presence, said the group's publicist.

"This was first time we had a celebrity come through to the drive, and they loved her," said Sharon Dev-

onish Leid of 500 Men.

Leach also said that each child received one toy, and her 11-year-old son was thrilled to get the bicycle that he was most eager about.

"He was ecstatic about getting the bike, especially because he didn't think that he would get it," said Leach.

Since the community-oriented organization began the drive, it con-

tinues to draw larger crowds annually.

"Every year it gets bigger and bigger, and the kids get really excited about getting new toys," said Devonish Leid. "We wanted to bring back community engagement to the community because it shows camaraderie in the community. This year Young M.A was the nice twist that got everyone excited."



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'Triple Threat' laced with romance and drama

"Triple Threat" by Camryn King
c.2018, Dafina
\$12.95 / \$13.95 Canada
320 pages

By Terri Schlichenmeyer

You dig, and you dig, and you dig.

Like a dog with a bone, you're all in when presented with a tiny scrap of intriguing information. You don't let go until you know everything there is to know about it, searching and uncovering and digging until, as in the new novel "Triple Threat" by Camryn King, you've dug yourself into trouble.

There had been absolutely no reason for Leigh to have killed herself.

Award-winning journalist Mallory Knight knew that about her best friend. Just days before her body was found, bruised and nude, Leigh had been happy and laughing with Mallory. There was just no way she was suicidal, and Mallory had tried to keep the police

focused.

But it had been a year since the supposed-suicide-maybe-murder and now Leigh's case was considered closed. In Mallory's mind, though, nothing had been settled; even less so when Leigh's mother gave her a duffel bag of mementos with a mystery inside.

Leigh had left a journal with what appeared to be coded words; some were senseless, but others led Mallory to a few shaky conclusions. Leigh was dating New York Navigators basketball player Christian Graham when she died, and his name was in the diary; to Mallory, that made him a suspect. And as it happened, her editor, Charlie, gave her an assignment to write about Christian's charity organization. It was the perfect opportunity to find out more about the man Leigh seemed drawn to.

To her surprise, Mallory learned that Christian was a truly nice guy, but her investigator's background nagged

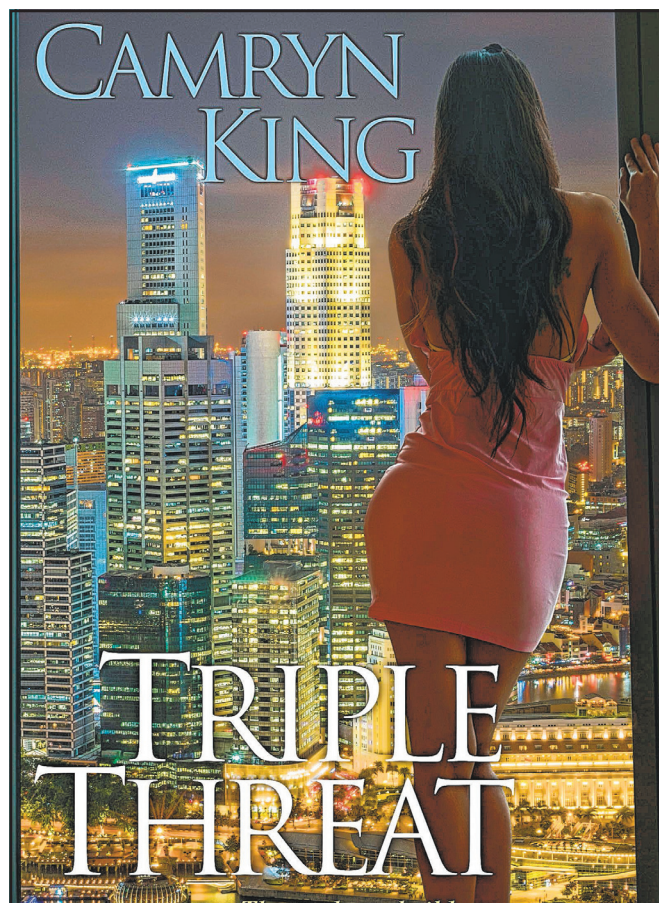
her to dig deeper. She knew that he strongly mentored a kid enrolled in his charity, and that he had a soft spot for the boy. Rumor was that the teen had been sick but Mallory also heard there was violence involved. There was something about the boy and Christian's relationship with him that made her act rashly.

One ill-considered act, and Mallory's entire life crashed.

And that was just fine. It gave her more time to figure out what happened to Leigh and whether Christian Graham was involved her death. Leigh once called Christian a "triple threat": smart, handsome, and successful. But was he a killer, too?

In the beginning of "Triple Threat" and until about 20 pages in, the temptation to quit the book may be strong. It's slower than chilled honey, which happens in small pockets throughout this novel.

When it heats up, though, it's on fire. Author Camryn



Book cover of "Triple Threat" by Camryn King.

King tells a fine mystery that'll keep you engaged and eager to solve, in part because there's also a bit of romance inside and enough drama to satisfy. There

are a couple of heart-pounders, too, and a character that does some really dumb things, which makes her seem more relatable.



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2019 New Year's Resolutions for Caregivers

Taking care of a loved one is difficult, time-consuming, and often heartbreaking labor. It takes a physical and also emotional toll on those providing care. For this reason, caregivers often feel they cannot take time, especially around the holidays, to work on their wellness.

"More than half of the caregivers we serve report high or very high levels of emotional stress," says Sheila Williams, Program Director for Sunnyside Community Services. The program Ms. Williams' directs, CARE NYC, focuses on caregivers whose loved ones have Alzheimer's or dementia—an estimated 390,000 New Yorkers care for a loved one with these conditions.

Caregivers: In 2019, make a resolution that helps you reduce this stress.

1) Resolve to make sure you share

one fun activity with the person you're caring for each week. Make sure you balance stressful caregiving tasks with enjoyable ones.

2) Make time for the doctor's appointment for yourself that you've been putting off. Remember: you need to be physically well to ensure the person you care for is, too.

3) Join a support group or seek out other caregivers in your community. Finding others who share similar experiences can provide comfort.

4) Ask for help. There are organizations across New York City that exist to serve caregivers, including Sunnyside Community Services, which assists caregivers of loved ones with Alzheimer's and other forms of dementia in all five boroughs. You can learn more about this free program by calling 877-577-9337.



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Needy families celebrated at holiday giftback party

By Alexandra Simon

Two Brooklyn groups held a generous Christmas party for needy families at P.S. 5 on Dec. 8.

Organizers from Don't 4Get Me — a support organization for teenage mothers, and We Say What They Can't — an independent radio show, held their third annual Christmas Giftback event to help the families living in shelters last weekend.

Dozens showed up to attend the supportive party, and many left in good spirits, said one of the organizers and host of 'We Say What They Can't.'

"I'm glad that we can bring a bit of Christmas to those who may not have been able to celebrate it otherwise," said Don Morock. "The fact that we were able to put smiles on so many people's faces, makes me happy that I can use my platform to continue to give back."

More than 100 families attended the event and partied to music with food and Santa Claus. Young children and teens at the gathering also received early Christmas gifts.

The event was a chance to show appreciation to families likely going through a tough time of being without a home during the holiday season. The founder of 'Don't 4Get Me,' Simone Goss, said having firsthand experience of being in that situation is why she fully supports the mission of giving back.

"It's so important for me to be able to give back because I was once in a homeless shelter for teen moms," she said. "I understand how being in that situation can make it difficult to look forward to the holidays."



Gifted: Young kids at the third annual 'Christmas Giftback' event pose with their gifts and organizers Simone 'Goss' of Don't 4Get Me, and Don Morock and Michael "Pyro" Marshall of 'We Say What They Can't,' at P.S. 5 in Bedford-Stuyvesant on Dec. 8.
Michee Lazarre and Danyell Goss

Elmont boy spearheads presents for sick children

By Alexandra Simon

Like mother, like son!

A Long Island mom and her son are hosting a giftback event for sick youngsters at a Queens children's hospital on Dec. 21. Elmont-based mom, Natalie M. Joseph — co-founder of Caribbean jewelry company, Trinihaitia Bijoux — and her 12-year-old son Schneider, organized their inaugural "Toys for Tots," for kids at St. Mary's Hospital for Children in Bayside. Every year the family helps the needy for the holiday season, but with the encouragement of her son, this time around they are also extending that service to ill youth.

"This is our first year doing 'Toys for Tots,' because we usually do something like this for homeless families, but my son insisted that we do something special for the kids," said Joseph.

After reaching out to several hospitals nearby, she chose St. Mary's Hospital because it was the only facility that agreed to allow guests to visit some of the children, and personally gift them with donated toys. She said it was crucial for givers and receivers to interact with each other at charitable events as opposed to just dropping off gifts.

"It is the only hospital willing to let



From left, Steevie, Schneider, and Natalie Joseph. The founders of Trinihaitia Bijoux and their son, who organized a Toys for Tots event. Trinihaitia Bijoux

us see some of the kids, and that's an experience we want to have," she said.

The one-hour event will include a tour of the medical building and a meeting with select patients who are part of the hospital's children's coun-

cil, according to Joseph. Accompanying the tour will be Schneider, a few of his peers, other guests, and celebrity guest, Azia Toussaint from the BET reality-television show, "The Hustle in Brooklyn."

The young and budding Schneider has always been a generous and giving child who often looks out for his peers, and continues to exemplify a very caring and philanthropic attitude at his tender age, said Joseph.

"When he was in elementary school he really loved to read to kindergarten kids, and would always volunteer," she said.

At an early age she and her husband often instilled positive reinforcements in the household, which in turn helped shape the charitable person he has grown to become. And she feels that it is a vital quality for people to practice to benefit people who are not as fortunate.

"I was raised to believe that in order to receive, you must give. I also have a reward program in my house that rewards if you do well, or deal with consequences if you don't," she said. "Some kids are very unfortunate, and we feel in order to receive more, you also have to do more."

"Toys for Tots" at St. Mary's Hospital for Children [29-01 216th St. between 28 and 31st roads in Bayside, (718) 281-8800, www.stmaryskids.org]. Dec. 21 at 2 pm. Free.

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Bronx councilman awards young chess players

By Alexandra Simon

Councilman Andy King (D-Baychester) gave awards to several kids at a chess tournament at MS 390 last Saturday.

At the Chess in Schools' Fernando Cabrera Chess Challenge on Dec. 8, the politician presented more than a dozen winners and teams of the challenge with medals and trophies.

The tournament is part of the Chess In Schools initiative, which brings the game of chess into schools across the city, to reach the children often underserved by how-to workshops geared towards the strategy game. But with the program, educators and children are exposed to the chess board and learn how to play it. The centuries old game requires problem solving skills and patience that these children will use in their day-to-day lives, said the councilman.

"Thanks to chess, these youngsters have become critical thinkers," said King. "The game pushes them to make decisions on how to be one up on their opponent, protect their queen, plan strategic moves and go for the king. Much like life itself,



Councilman Andy King (D-Baychester) with the winners of the Chess In Schools tournament at M.S. 390 on Dec. 8.

Office of Council Member Andy King

you have to plan, protect your home, work with others and pursue your goals."

At the tournament, some teachers were given a crash course on learning how to apply

chess into their teaching, and the best ways to show their students how to play chess through the Chess In Schools Teacher Training Institute.

King said as a strong advo-

cate of the program, he was thrilled to see how much the program has grown.

"I want to commend the winners of the Chess in Schools' Fernando Cabrera Chess Chal-

lenge and participants of the CIS Teacher Training Institute," he said. "I am proud to have fought for the expansion of this important program in the City Council."



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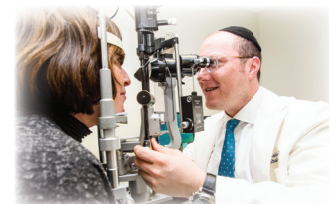
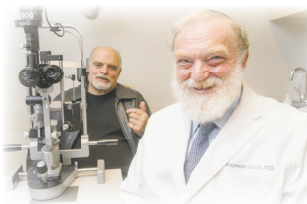


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Jamaican gospel artiste, Croswell Daley. Photo by Nelson A. King

Gospel artiste honored

By Nelson A. King

The Bronx-based Vincentian charity group, St. Matthias Charities, Inc., two Saturdays ago bestowed special honor on popular Brooklyn-based, Jamaican gospel artiste, Croswell Daley.

Daley received the distinguished award during the group's annual fundraising prayer breakfast at the Friends of Crown Heights Educational Center in Brooklyn. He was the sole honoree.

"Well deserved!" said Pastor Rob-

Continued on Page 42

Buju Banton returns home

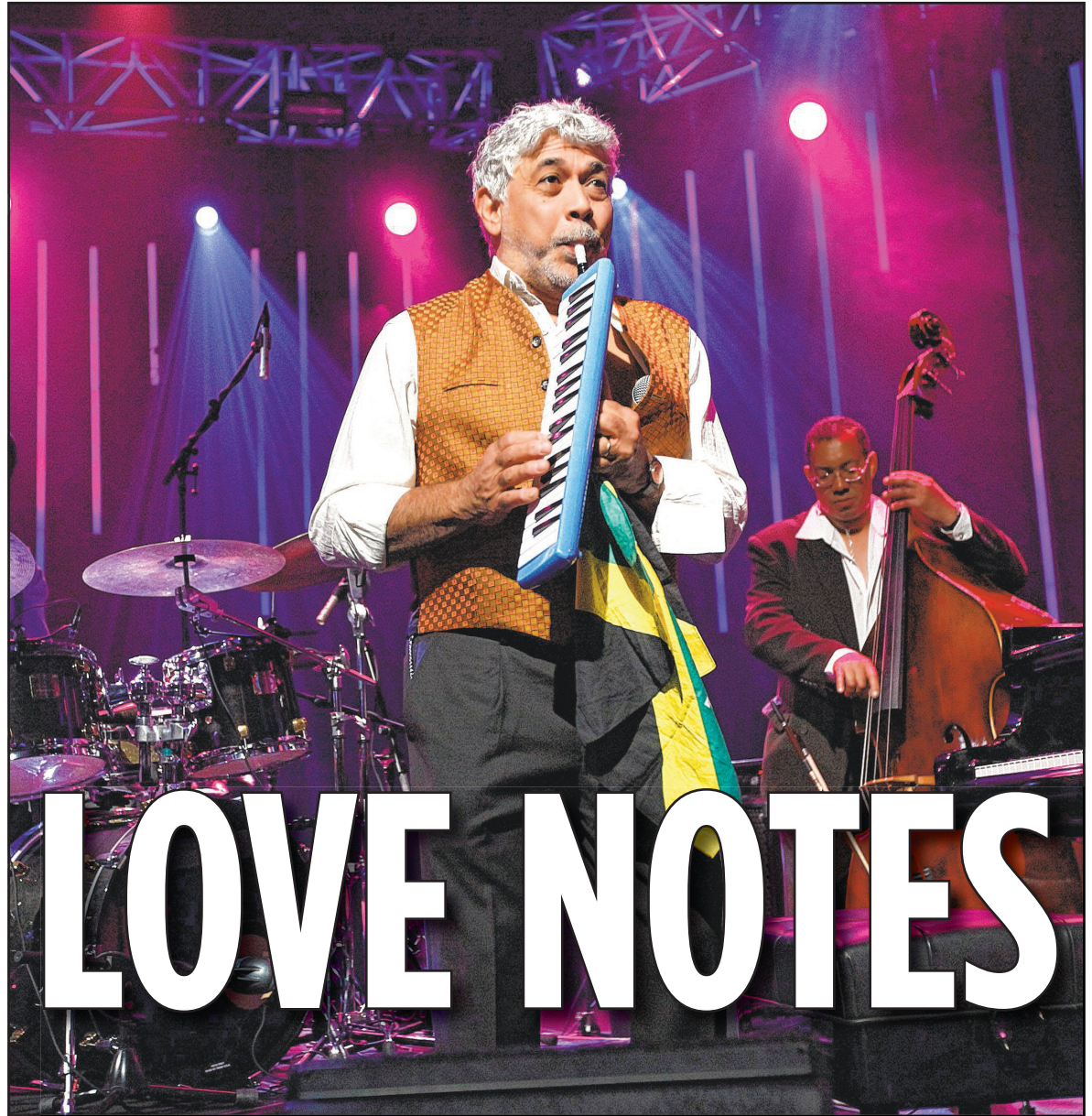
By Alexandra Simon

Legendary reggae artist Buju Banton was released from prison after serving seven years in a federal facility in Georgia on Friday, Dec. 7. The Jamaican singer was convicted in 2011 and sentenced to 10 years for drug and gun charges in a Florida bust in 2009. His sentence was later reduced to seven, but the Grammy-award winning artist's absence in the music industry was strongly felt in the reggae music community.

He was released from prison — one day early — and accepted voluntarily deportation back to Jamaica where many of his fans awaited him at the Norman Manley International Airport.

Buju Banton recently released a statement explaining that his main

Continued on Page 42



Jamaican jazz pianist, Monty Alexander & Harlem Kingston Express perform on the Stravinski Hall stage at the 43rd Montreux Jazz Festival, in Montreux, Switzerland, Friday, July 10, 2009.

Associated Press / Keystone / Jean-Christophe Bott, file

Jamaican jazz maestro in Queens

Jamaican-born, Grammy-nominated international jazz maestro, Monty Alexander, CD, is set to make his first United States performance this holiday as a newly-minted honorary Doctorate of Letters of the University of the West Indies, Mona Campus.

Alexander, who has made his mark globally for his own brand of jazz, will celebrate the holidays at the Jamaica Center for Arts and Learning, (JCAL), 153-10 Jamaica Ave., Queens, NY 11432, on Dec. 15, 2018 at 7 pm.

under the theme "Love Notes."

The performance is expected to feature the maestro's mashup of jazz with calypso, reggae, mento and other island music from his Grammy-nominated album, and leave many fans tapping their feet, straight up dancing or make converts of the staid.

Born Montgomery Bernard Alexander on D-Day in Kingston, Jamaica in 1944, the musical virtuoso has five decades of performances and over 70 CDs under his belt. He began his musical career at age four by playing

Christmas carols by ear.

Alexander is now most widely known as an upper echelon master of the swinging piano trio function as he has demonstrated with several top-shelf groups, including iconic units with bassist John Clayton and drummer Jeff Hamilton, and with the legendary bassist Ray Brown and guitarist Herb Ellis.

He also performs frequently with Harlem-Kingston Express, a double trio in which he coalesces his love

Continued on Page 42

TOP OF THE CHARTS

TOP 10 SINGLES

- The Middle**
Zedd, Maren Morris & Grey
- Psycho**
Post Malone Feat. Ty Dolla \$ign
- Nice For What**
Drake
- Never Be The Same**
Camila Cabello
- Delicate**
Taylor Swift
- No Tears Left To Cry**
Ariana Grande
- In My Blood**
Shawn Mendes
- Meant To Be**
Bebe Rexha & Florida Georgia Line
- God's Plan**
Drake
- Mine**
Bazzi

TOP 10 ALBUMS

- EVERYTHING IS LOVE**
The Carters
- Nasir**
Nas
- Youngblood**
5 Seconds Of Summer
- Liberation**
Christina Aguilera
- Post Traumatic**
Mike Shinoda
- The Greatest Showman**
Soundtrack
- SQUARE UP (EP)**
BLACKPINK
- Redemption**
Jay Rock
- ?**
XXXTENTACION
- KIDS SEE GHOSTS**
KIDS SEE GHOSTS

Presented by



Vincy group honors Jamaican Gospel artiste

Continued from Page 41

ert McBarnett, the Vincentian-born founder and president of St. Matthias Charities, Inc., about Daley in a Caribbean Life interview.

"He's been with us for the very first time — from 2013 — and he's always been there for us," he added. "From the time he came to our event, he was really in the ministry."

"And this is the way of giving back to folks," McBarnett continued. "This is our way to say 'thank you' — to show our appreciation on behalf of the people of St. Vincent and the Grenadines."

Daley and popular Vincentian gospel artiste LaFleur Durran — who frequently collaborate at gospel concerts and other events — brought the house down with heart-wrenching gospel songs during the prayer breakfast.

Durrant gave enthusiastic patrons an appetizer with "Look to the Father," "In the Sweet," "I know the Lord Will Make a Way" and "In the Cross."

She later returned, after the sumptuous breakfast, with "I am Your Child," "Lord, You are King," "I Sing Hallelujah" and



Jamaican gospel artiste Croswell Daley receives award from St. Matthias Charities, Inc. president Pastor Robert McBarnett (4th from left), flanked by Daley's wife. Others in photo are St. Matthias Charities, Inc. members, L-R: Joan Moore; Hanna Reid; McBarnett's wife, Sharon; Pat Moore; and Zita Adams. St. Vincent and the Grenadines' New York Consul General Howie Prince is at far right.

Photo by Nelson A. King

"I would not be Denied."

Daley transfixed patrons with "Without Love," "At the Altar," "The Source of my Life," "Take Your Flight," and "Forward March."

"I give thanks for the man (Jesus), who likes to give more than he receives," said Daley after receiving a plaque.

"A lot of times, we give flow-

ers when we're in our graves," he added, before singing a "Thank You" song "to tell you what love is like."

Daley, who was born in May Pen in the Jamaican parish of Clarendon, said he started singing at the tender age of 5.

But, he said, his musical journey actually began at 11, when he formed his first reggae

group, The Fire Kings.

At 16, Daley said he migrated to the Jamaican capital, Kingston, where he recorded his first single at Randy's Recording Studio.

There, Daley said he met a singer, identified only as Stanley, in forming Stanley and the Turbines, which gained national recognition.



Jazz maestro, Monty Alexander.

Jazzy Love Notes

Continued from Page 41

for hard-swinging jazz with musical flavors that reflect his Jamaican heritage, shifting between an acoustic trio and master Jamaican practitioners of electric bass and drums.

At 74, he continues to tour the world relentlessly with various projects, delighting a global audience drawn to his

vibrant personality and soulful message.

For more on the Monty Alexander and his amazing brand of jazz, visit him on YouTube or at montyalexander.com. You can also like him on Facebook at facebook.com/officialmontyalexander or keep up to date on his performance on Twitter at @montyHKE.

Buju thanks fans

Continued from Page 41

focus upon his release is his music.

"In light of the adversity I have encountered, I feel the need to stress that my only desire going forward is peace and love. I only want to be associated with my craft. Having survived, I want to share the good news and strength of my music. I just want to continue making music, which I've devoted my life to. I look forward to the opportunity to say a personal thanks to my fans and everyone who supported me," Buju said.

Ephraim Martin of the IRAWMA (International Reggae and World Music Awards), Chicago Music Awards, African/Caribbean International Festival and the JSVFest wished Buju all the best. "Buju is now home in Jamaica, after serving a lengthy time in the penal system. He paid a price, he achieved a lot (academically), and now that he is out, he is poised to be a powerful leader in the area of music



Jamaican reggae star Buju Banton.

Asso-

ciated Press / Yesikka Vivancos, File

and culture," he said.

The 45-year-old father of five, born Mark Anthony Myrie in Kingston, Jamaica, rose to stardom in the early 90s with several dancehall hits. Known for chart toppers like "Bogle," "Champion," and "Wanna Be Loved," the Rastafarian was also popular for his roots reggae songs that often celebrate black pride, spirituality, and the African Diaspora.

Windy City backdrop for Brit crime series

"Widows"

Excellent (4 stars)

Rated R for violence, sexuality, nudity and pervasive profanity

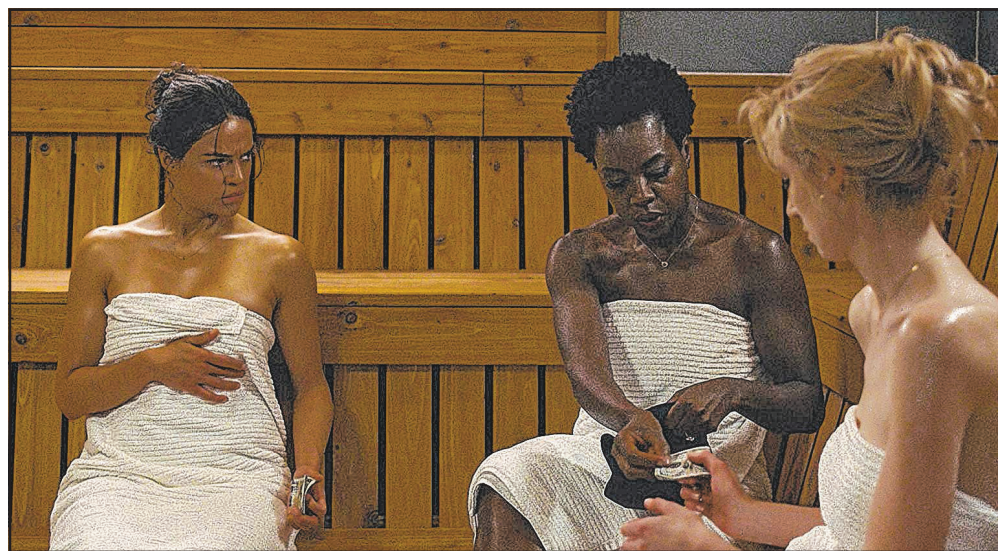
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Studio: 20th Century Fox

By Kam Williams

"Widows" was a British TV series, which enjoyed a two-year run from 1983 to 1985. Created by legendary English author Lynda La Plante (Prime Suspect), the popular crime show was nominated for a BAFTA award in the Best Television Drama category. In 2002, ABC turned Widows into a four-part miniseries starring Brooke Shields and Rosie Perez, but that substantially-revised overhaul failed to resonate with the American audience.



Viola Davis, Michelle Rodriguez, and Elizabeth Debicki in "Widows" (2018). Twentieth - © TM & © 2018 Twentieth Century Fox Film Corporation

Now, Academy Award-winning director Steve McQueen (for "12 Years a Slave") has brought a much more faithful adaptation to the screen, although the setting has been shifted from London to Chicago. The crime caper revolves around a trio of widows who opt to follow in their late husbands' felonious footsteps in the wake

of a botched bank heist.

McQueen assembled an A-list ensemble featuring Oscar-winners Viola Davis (for Fences) and Robert Duvall (for Tender Mercies), as well as nominees Liam Neeson (for Schindler's List), Daniel Kaluuya (for Get Out) and Jacki Weaver (for Silver Linings Playbook and Animal Kingdom). The impressive

cast also includes Colin Farrell and Michelle Rodriguez.

Not long past the point of departure, veteran bank robber Harry Rawlings (Neeson) masterminds a robbery in which he and his partners perish. Trouble is, Harry died indebted to a couple of South Side mobsters (Kaluuya and Brian Tyree Henry) to the tune of \$2

million.

Given a month to come up with cash (or else), Harry's widow Veronica (Davis) hatches a plan to raise the money by burglarizing a safe in the mansion of a well-connected family headed by corrupt, Windy City Alderman Tom Mulligan (Duvall). To that end, she recruits a couple of the other grieving widows (Michelle Rodriguez and Elizabeth Debicki) and a getaway driver (Cynthia Erivo) with promises of a multimillion-dollar payday.

The plot proceeds to thicken in convincing fashion while touching on such timely themes as politics, loyalty, race and class. Since it would be a crime in itself to spoil the ensuing developments even one iota, suffice to say McQueen slowly ratchets up the tension in a searing, multi-layered suspense thriller not to be missed.

With the help of a delicious script expertly executed by a coterie of her talented co-stars, the incomparable Ms. Davis steals the show and delivers yet another Oscar-quality performance. Vintage Viola!

Independent & Foreign Films

Capernaum (R for profanity and drug use) Coming-of-age tale about a young Lebanese boy (Zain al Rafea) who sues his parents (Fadi Yousef and Kawsar Al Haddad) for

neglect while serving a five-year sentence for attempted murder. With Yordanos Shiferaw, Cedra Izam and Nadine Labaki. (In Arabic and Amharic with subtitles)

The House That Jack Built (R for nudity, profanity, grisly images, sadistic behavior and disturbing violence) Matt Dillon plays the title character in this suspense thriller about an architect/serial killer reflecting upon each of the murders he had painstakingly-planned over the course of his 12-year spree. Supporting cast includes Bruno Ganz, Uma Thurman and Riley Keough. (In English, German and Italian with subtitles)

The Second Time Around (Unrated) Romance drama about a couple of senior citizens (Linda Thorson and Stuart Margolin) who fall in love upon meeting at a retirement home. With Alexis Harrison, Jayne Eastwood and Don Francks.

The Wedding (Unrated) Romance drama, set in NYC, about a virgin bride-to-be (Nikohl Boosheri) who has no idea her orthodox Muslim fiancé (Sam Abbas) has a gay lover (Harry Aspinwall). With Hend Ayoub, James Penfold and Mihir Chitale. (In English and Arabic with subtitles)



Kam's Kapsules

By Kam Williams

WIDE RELEASES

The Favourite (R for profanity, nudity and graphic sexuality) Olivia Colman portrays Queen Anne (1665-1714) in this biopic revolving around the bitter battle between the Duchess of Marlborough (Rachel Weisz) and a servant (Emma Stone) for the frail monarch's friendship and affections. With Emma Delves, Faye Daveney and Paul Swaine.

If Beale Street Could Talk (R for profanity and sexuality) Adaptation of James Baldwin's classic novel, set in Harlem, revolving around a pregnant teenager's (Kiki Layne) efforts to free her fiancé (Stephan James) falsely accused of rape. With Regina King, Teyonah Parris and Colman Domingo.

Mortal Engines (PG-13 for action and violence) Post-apocalyptic sci-fi about a fugitive assassin (Hera Hilmar) who joins forces with an outcast (Robert Sheehan) and an outlaw (Jihae) to lead the resistance when the city of London morphs into a giant predator on wheels. With Hugo Weaving, Stephen Lang and Leila George.

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RACE, MYTH, ART, AND JUSTICE

EXHIBITION: Caribbean Cultural Center African Diaspora Institute, 120 E. 125th St. between Lexington and Park avenues, Manhattan; (212) 307-7420; www.cccadi.org; Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 1-6 pm, Thursdays, 1-8 pm.

An exhibition exploring the ideas of race, myth, art, and justice through the lens and unique interpretations of twelve inter-generational photographers.

FRI, DEC. 14

BEST DRESSED PLATE: United Nations Headquarters, 46th Street at First Avenue, Manhattan; bestdressedplate@gmail.com. 11:30 am-2:30 pm; \$30-40. New York blog Best Dressed Plate is presenting the Caribbean Holiday "Guest Chef" series in partnership with United Nations Delegates Dining Room. Chefs from the Bahamas, Haiti and Jamaica will be featured.

SCREENING OF "IF BEALE STREET COULD TALK"

AMC Loews Lincoln Square 13, 1998 Broadway at W. 68th Street, Manhattan; (212) 336-5020; www.amctheatres.com; 1:30 pm.

Reel Sisters of the Diaspora and Consider it Black Lit will be hosting a screening of award-winning director, Barry Jenkins, film. Guests should purchase movie tickets in advance, then RSVP at Consider it Blacklit website. The first 35 RSVP's will receive a free gift.

COOL SCIENCE: Crown Heights Public Library, 560 New York Ave. between Maple Street and Lincoln Road, Brooklyn; (718) 773-1180; www.brooklynpubliclibrary.org; 4 pm; Free.

Learn how to make instant snow on hot, sunny movie sets and ice cream that freezes in your hands! Event begins promptly at 4 pm, and no latecomers will be admitted.

LITTLE CARIBBEAN FOOD POP-UP:

Caribbeing, Parkside and Ocean Avenues, Brooklyn; hello@caribbeing.com; 4-8 pm.

The annual holiday pop-up shop hosted by Caribbeing — the Caribbean cultural center housed in a shipping container, offering guests a chance to try out and purchase imported and locally-made food products from all over the Caribbean.



SOUSOU

SAT, DEC. 15

HOLIDAY SOUSOU! COMMUNITY CIRCLE CELEBRATION: Caribbean Cultural Center African Diaspora Institute, 120 E. 125th St. between Lexington and Park avenues, Manhattan; (212) 307-7420; www.cccadi.org; 11 am-3 pm; Free. The Caribbean Cultural Center African Diaspora Institute (CCCADI) hosts their last SouSou! event of the year, featuring a screening of "The Wiz", art-making workshop, and Bomba dance workshop.

FIRST WORLD MUSIC PARTY: Milk River, 960 Atlantic Ave. between Grand and Washington avenues, Brooklyn; (718) 636-8600; www.milkriverbrooklyn.com; 10 pm; \$20.

Kickoff your Caribbean Christmas season to the best songs in Soca, Reggae, Dancehall, Zouk, Compa, and AfroBeat music.

SAT, DEC. 15

TOY DRIVE: Acumen Building, 630 Flushing Ave. at Tompkins Avenue, Brooklyn; (718) 636-6611; noon-4 pm.

THE 79TH PRECINCT COMMUNITY COUNCIL IS HOSTING ITS ANNUAL TOY DRIVE AND CHILDREN'S HOLIDAY PARTY.

HOLIDAY COMMUNITY EVENT: P.S. 198, 4105 Farragut Rd. at Albany Avenue, Brooklyn; mwaterman@flatbushvillage.org; noon-3 pm; Free.

THE EAST FLATBUSH VILLAGE INC. IS HOSTING THEIR COMMUNITY HOLIDAY GATHERING.

LITTLE CARIBBEAN FOOD POP-UP: noon-8 pm. Caribbeing. See Friday, Dec.

14.

GET CIVIC MINDED: M.S. 61, 400 Empire Blvd. between New York and Nosstrand avenues, Brooklyn; (718) 774-1002; district43@nyassembly.gov; 2 pm; Free.

JOIN ASSEMBLYWOMAN DIANA C. RICHARDSON (D-CROWN HEIGHTS) DISCUSS THE IMPORTANCE OF GETTING A COMMUNITY ENGAGED.

MONTY ALEXANDER CONCERT: Jamaica Center for the Arts & Learning, 153rd St. and Jamaica Ave., Queens; (718) 658-7400; www.jcal.org; 7 pm; \$20 (\$15 for students).

THE JAMAICAN-BORN GRAMMY WINNER IS GOING TO PERFORM A THE HOLIDAY CONCERT, "LOVE NOTES," AT THE JAMAICA CENTER FOR ARTS AND LEARNING.

WEEDIE BRAIMAH SHOW: Harlem Stage, 150 Convent Ave. at W. 135th Street, Manhattan; (212) 281-9240; www.harlemstage.org; 7:30-9:30 pm; \$25.

"UPTOWN NIGHTS: Weedie Braimah and The Hands of Time," presents the folkloric singer and special guests, Christian Scott Atunde Adjuah, and Pedrito

Martinez.

SUN, DEC. 16

LITTLE CARIBBEAN FOOD POP-UP: 1-5 pm. Caribbeing. See Friday, Dec. 14.

FRI, DEC. 21

TOYS FOR TOTS: St Mary's Kids, 29-01 216th Street, 11360, Queens; (800) 270-2478; www.stmaryskids.org; 2 pm. Founders of Trinihaitia Bijoux, Steeve and Natalie Joseph, are hosting a toy giveaway event with their son Schneider, for children hospitalized at St. Mary's Hospital for Children.

SOLSTICE SOULTRAIN: Caribbean Cultural Center African Diaspora Institute, 120 E. 125th St. between Lexington and Park avenues, Manhattan; (212) 307-7420; www.cccadi.org; 3-6 pm; Free.

The Caribbean Cultural Center African Diaspora Institute (CCCADI) partners with Uptown Grand Central to hosts its second annual Solstice Soul Train featuring a holiday Market and a live performance by Kumbakín.

LITTLE CARIBBEAN FOOD POP-UP: 4-8 pm. Caribbeing. See Friday, Dec. 14.

SAT, DEC. 22

LITTLE CARIBBEAN FOOD POP-UP: noon-8 pm. Caribbeing. See Friday, Dec. 14.

TOY DRIVE: Rochdale Village Grand Ballroom, 169-65 137th Ave. at 170th Street, Queens; 3-7 pm; Free.

STATE SEN. LEROY COMRIE'S (D-BRIARWOOD) CHRISTMAS PARTY AND TOY DRIVE.

SUN, DEC. 23

LITTLE CARIBBEAN FOOD POP-UP: 1-5 pm. Caribbeing. See Friday, Dec. 14.

WED, DEC. 26

KWANZAA CRAWL: Brooklyn; 12:30 pm-11 pm; \$25-40. The third annual Kwanzaa Crawl returns to support black businesses in Brooklyn and Harlem on the first day of the Pan-African holiday.

FRI, DEC. 28

KWANZAA BOOK READING: Calabar Imports, 2504 Frederick Douglass Blvd. at W. 134th Street, Manhattan; (646) 964-5062; www.calabargallery.com; 6-8 pm. On the third day of Kwanzaa — Ujima, which represents collective work and responsibility, join a book reading and signing event with Malika Iman and Cathie Wright-Lewis.

-Compiled by Alexandra Simon

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West Indies batsman Chris Gayle hits the ball to the boundary during their Cricket World Cup Pool B match against Zimbabwe in Canberra, Australia, Tuesday, Feb. 24, 2015.

Associated Press / Rob Griffith, File

Gayle wins law suit

By Azad Ali

West Indies cricket star Chris Gayle was awarded US\$221,000 in damages by an Australian judge, three months after a jury found he was defamed in an Australian newspaper, which claimed he had exposed himself indecently to a female masseur.

Justice Lucy McCallum levied the damages recently in a long-awaited ruling. **Continued on Page 48**

West Indies ranks eighth

By Azad Ali

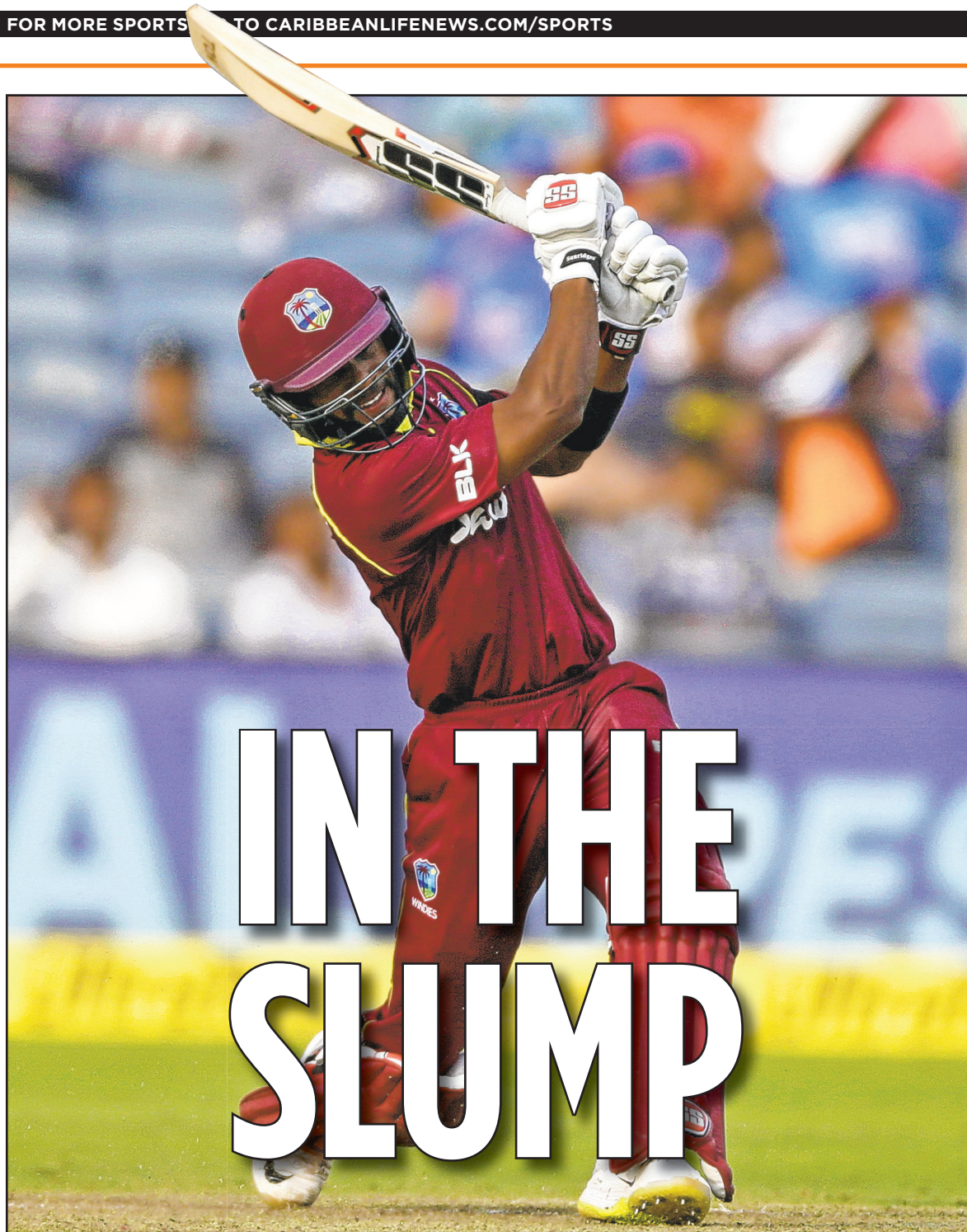
West Indies' historic series defeat recently has left them a single point from joining Bangladesh in ninth spot, in the International Cricket Council (ICC) Test team rankings.

In the numbers announced recently, West Indies is still eighth but lost six points to slip to 70 rating points. Bangladesh is ninth on 69 points after picking up eight points.

India remains number one ahead of their much-anticipated series with Australia which started recently in Adelaide.

West Indies have slipped further in

Continued on Page 48



West Indies' Shai Hope bats during the third one-day international cricket match between India and West Indies in Pune, India, Saturday, Oct. 27, 2018.

Associated Press / Rajanish Kakade, File

West Indies suffers five-wicket defeat

By Azad Ali

West Indies slumped to a five-wicket defeat to hosts Bangladesh in the first of the three-match One-Day International series (OD) in Dhaka on Sunday, Dec. 9.

A change in format made no difference to the Windies fortunes as

another poor batting display.

Rovan Powell was brought in as interim captain (captain) (Jason Holder is on the injury list) and middle order batsman Darren Bravo was recalled to the team for the first time in two years since his controversial banishment from interna-

tional cricket, while Roston Chase has found his way 18 months after a failed start to his One-Day International career.

Choosing to bat first at the Shere Bangla National Stadium, West Indies stumbled their way to an uncompeti-

Continued on Page 48



Bangladeshi bowler Mashrafe Mortaza gestures as he adjusts the field during the first Twenty20 cricket match between Bangladesh and Sri Lanka in Colombo, Sri Lanka. Associated Press / Eranga Jayawardena, File

Chris Gayle

Continued from Page 47

ing after a four-member jury in the New South Wales High Court found in October 2017 that Fairfax had not establish that Gayle had exposed himself in a team dressing room during a Sydney training session at the 2015 World Cup.

The jury also found Fairfax was motivated by malice, rejecting the media group's defense of qualified privilege, which argues the organization acted reasonably by publishing information, which is in the public interest.

Justice McCallum awarded Gayle a single sum for a series of articles published in January 2016 in the Sydney Morning Herald, Canberra Times and Melbourne Age.

Aggravated damages were not awarded and the figure was at the lower end of recent defamation payouts.

The judge found imputations in the articles published by Fairfax "went to the heart of Mr. Gayle's professional life as a batsman," but she agreed with Fairfax, the allegations were "not at the most serious end of the spectrum."

The judge said Gayle's evidence that the articles had hurt his feelings was "surprisingly compelling."

She said a particular source of hurt were calls for Gayle to be banned from international cricket.

The newspaper said it would appeal the judgment.

WINDIES SUFFERS ANOTHER BLOW

Continued from Page 47

tive 195 for nine of their 50 overs, with opener Shai Hope top-scoring with 43.

The regional team crawled to 79 for three at the halfway stage of the innings and they needed heavy scoring knocks from Keemo Paul (36) and Chase (32) down the order to lift the tempo.

Bravo, plying in his first One-Day

International in two years, also found himself bogged down and his 19 runs came from a 51-ball labor at the crease in a 36-run second wicket stand with Hope that required 76 balls.

Seamers Mashrafe Mortaza (3-30) and Mustafizur Rahim (3-35) kept the West Indies in check, limiting them to their fourth-lowest total against Bangladesh.

In reply, Bangladesh overcame the loss of early wickets to coast to their target in the 36th over, with wicket-keeper Mushifur Rahim hitting an unbeaten 55 and Linton Dass gathering 41.

Having suffered a 2-0 whitewash in the preceding Test series, West Indies is now staring at yet another series defeat.

West Indies ranks eighth in Test

Continued from Page 47

the ICC Test rankings.

The regional team's misfortune in the latest rankings stems from their 2-0 whitewash at the hands of the Tigers — their first ever on Bangladesh soil.

The team lost the first Test in Chittagong by 64 runs before suffering a humiliating innings and 184-run defeat in Dhaka inside three days recently.

The latest rankings come as a huge blow to the Windies, especially on the heels of decent results in the Test format earlier this year.

West Indies drew 101 with Sri Lanka in a three-test series in the Caribbean and beat Bangladesh 2-0 in the subsequent two-match series.

The West Indies decline in Tests has been a steady one, having lost 11 of 19 matches, won six and drew two, over the last two years.

Cricket West Indies, players agree on health plan

By Azad Ali

Cricket West Indies (CWI) and the West Indies Players Association (WIPA) have come together to secure a health insurance plan for retained players from all six regional franchises and all CWI contracted international players (men and women).

The comprehensive health insurance health plan being offered through Excelf Universal Medical Insurance Brothers and VIP Universal Medical Insurance, will in addition to health insurance, provide critical illness coverage.

The plan is an international health card, which is accepted worldwide.

Players have coverage related to playing injuries as well as illness and injuries outside of cricket, dental optical, and prescription, diagnostic and even emergency non-medical evacuation.

The plan is offered at no cost to players and can be continued after their playing careers are over.



Cricket West Indies (CWI) President, Dave Cameron.



(R) WIPA President, Wavell Hinds.

CWI President, Dave Cameron said "we want to provide the best possible support for our players and this initiative goes with our mandate to ensure that our players are given the best tools and support so that they can perform at the highest level on the world stage."

WIPA President, Wavell Hinds said

"We believe that it is important to provide health insurance coverage for our players. This gives them the opportunity to go out and perform at an optimum level knowing that they are covered for injuries and illness anywhere in the world."

CWI and WIPA will take up the US\$253,000 annual premium.

Barbados forfeits game against Guyana

By George Alleyne

Administrative errors cost the Barbados football team points in the CONCACAF Nations League qualifier competition and shot Guyana up the standings ladder giving the South Americans a fair chance of making the final cut for the prestigious Gold Cup next year.

Owing to Barbados fielding two ineligible players, the Confederation of North, Central America and Caribbean Association Football's (Concacaf) Disciplinary Committee has slapped Bajan Tridents with a forfeiture penalty for the match played against Guyana on Sept. 6, meaning that the one point they had earned from the 2-2 draw is now reduced to zero, and the Guyanese were awarded three points.

CONCACAF declared that owing to the Tridents' infringement, the Tridents had in fact lost the game played in Guyana. The violation did not merit a disqualification of the Bajan side from this competition involving 34 teams across the Caribbean and Central and North America.

This means that Guyana has catapulted up to number eight in the standings, moving from a previous position of 15th, and demoted Barbados to 23rd from 18th.

According to Concacaf, this qualifying phase of the 2019-20 Nations League is a one-off tournament among 34 teams that is being played from Sept. 6, 2018, to March 26, 2019. This tournament will determine seeding for the group phase of the inaugural Nations League competition next year, as well as select the remaining 10 teams which will qualify for the 2019 Concacaf Gold Cup, the regional senior men's football championship.

Both teams have their last and final games in this competition set for March, which puts Guyana in with a strong chance of making the Gold Cup competition.

The Tridents on the other hand will be playing for exposure as their current standings give them no chance of ending in the top 10.

The Guyana Jaguars take on Belize on March 23, and Barbados comes up against

Nicaragua the following day.

The Guyanese had protested the Tridents' inclusion of one overseas-based player in the fixture against Guyana, but in agreeing with the Jaguars CONCACAF found that not one but two players were improperly documented before taking the field for Barbados.

CONCACAF stated, "after due examination of the evidence, the committee determined that the Barbados Football Association infringed the applicable articles ... to the eligibility of players to play for representative teams by fielding ineligible players Hallam Hope and Krystian Pearce.

"In accordance with Articles 55 and 31 of the FIFA Disciplinary Code, the Barbados Football Association is considered to have lost the match against Guyana by a score of 3-0."

The Tridents accepted and appeared resigned to their fate as Barbados Football Association President, Randy Harris, briefly commented, "CONCACAF made a decision and we have been notified about the ruling."



BFA President, Randy Harris.

Photo by George Alleyne



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ARIES: Mar 21/Apr 20

Aries, diversify your investments if you are trying to boost your bottom line. As the saying goes, "don't put all of your eggs in one basket." Boost your odds.



TAURUS: Apr 21/May 21

You need to take a day or two for yourself, Taurus. It seems like you have been doing much for others but little energy is devoted to your needs and desires. You've earned a break.



GEMINI: May 22/Jun 21

Think about how to look at a problem from a new angle, Gemini. Only then can you get a real grasp for the situation at hand and how to tackle it. The answer may be right there.



CANCER: Jun 22/Jul 22

Cancer, get together with a spouse or romantic partner and work through a running list of what you'd like to do together. It is important to spend quality moments with one another.



LEO: Jul 23/Aug 23

Leo, even though you may be tempted to draw attention your way, you may be better served by letting others grab the spotlight this week. Campaign for another's recognition.



VIRGO: Aug 24/Sept 22

Fitness becomes a priority for you in the weeks ahead, Virgo. Focus your efforts toward your fitness goals and lean on others if you're tempted to veer off course.



LIBRA: Sept 23/Oct 23

Libra, you like to play super sleuth and get to the bottom of sticky situations. Remember that not all information is accurate, and be careful what you share.



SCORPIO: Oct 24/Nov 22

You have a strong desire to make some major changes, Scorpio. Think about an extensive vacation, a potential relocation or a large home renovation.



SAGITTARIUS: Nov 23/Dec 21

You may have gotten in over your head with a certain home project, Sagittarius. It just doesn't seem to be moving along as anticipated. Call in some reinforcements.



CAPRICORN: Dec 22/Jan 20

Capricorn, sometimes staying silent is the best way to get notice. Others may appreciate that you take the time to think over an issue before chiming in, and that bodes well for your future.



AQUARIUS: Jan 21/Feb 18

Even though you may want to find the answers to all your questions, sometimes you have to accept what you cannot change, Aquarius. Focus your attention on something new.



PISCES: Feb 19/Mar 20

It will only take a few more days until your goal has been reached, Pisces. That will be an exciting time worthy of sharing with friends.

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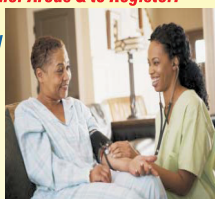
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NOTICE OF FAMILY COURT DEPENDENCY AND NEGLECT CUSTODY ACTION

TO: Derion Braxton DOB: 6/1/87 : Respondent
FROM: Jasmine L Johnson, DIVISION OF FAMILY SERVICES, CPI NO 18-16927

X Minor Female,
DOB: 7/14/07
X Minor Male,
DOB: 1/17/10

A hearing has been scheduled at Family Court, 500 North King Street, Wilmington, Delaware, on January 14, 2019 at 1:30 p.m.

➤ **OBITUARIES**

➤ **LEGAL NOTICES**

If you do not appear at the hearing, the court may grant custody of your children to the Division of Family Services without your appearance.

IF YOU WISH TO BE REPRESENTED BY AN ATTORNEY IN THIS MATTER BUT CANNOT AFFORD ONE, YOU MAY BE ENTITLED TO HAVE THE COURT APPOINT AN ATTORNEY TO REPRESENT YOU FOR FREE. FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT THE CONFIDENTIAL CLERK AT FAMILY COURT, (302) 255-0239.

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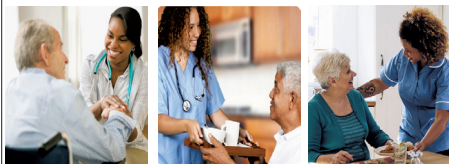
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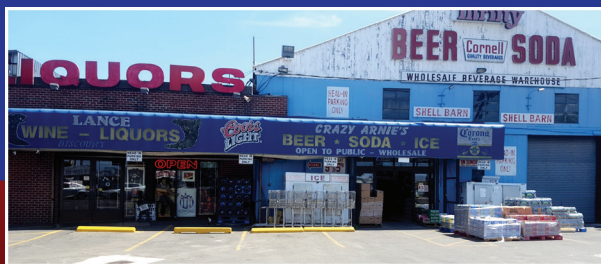
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