

THE LABOUR SPOKESMAN

St. Kitts and Nevis

SOUND SPEECH THAT CANNOT BE CONDEMNED ... *Titus 2:8*

Year 54 NO. 48

BASSETERRE, ST. KITTS, W.I.

FRIDAY, MAY 04TH, 2012

EC\$2.00

At The Pumps This Weekend Maximum Price ULG per gal 23/11/11

DELTA \$16.37 / SOL \$14.11 / TEXACO \$15.91

2012 LABOUR Week-end kicks off tomorrow night with a bang

The 2012 LABOUR Week-end programme of activities kicks off this evening with the staging of the annual Miss LABOUR Queen

Pageant at Carnival City, Warner Park, Basseterre – starting at 8

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PHOTO: (Left to right) - Shenequa Powell, St. Christopher #1; Natacia Claxton, St. Christopher #2; Nichelle Henry, St. Christopher #3; Reigning Miss Labour 2011/2012, Ziesha Joseph (St. Christopher #4); Prime Minister the Rt. Hon. Dr. Denzil L. Douglas; Kwahne' Wharton, St. Christopher #4; Jah'Neska Williams, St. Christopher 5; Patricia Clarke, St. Christopher #6; Nahilah Watson, St. Christopher #7. Absent is Caley Greaux, St. Christopher 8, who fell ill.

(Photo by Erasmus Williams)

Government Pensions Bill Amended; Auxiliary workers now entitled to a pension

The sitting of the National Assembly concluded here o Wednesday afternoon of this week, May 2nd, after three (3) days of extensive debate on several Bills before Parliament.

Topping the list was the Pensions (Amendment) Bill, 2012, and the Government Auxiliary Employees Bill, 2012 which were piloted through Parliament by the Prime Minister and Minister responsible for Finance, the Rt. Hon. Dr. Denzil Douglas.

The Bill provide mainly for new government workers

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- * EARL CLARKE
- * SOTTO VOCE



LABOUR

PUBLIC MEETINGS

SUN. MAY 6TH

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THE LABOUR SPOKESMAN

THE SPOKESMAN - ESTABLISHED MAY 1957

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Editorial

Eighty years of dedicated service

The Federation of St. Kitts-Nevis is causing raised eyebrows and intense interest throughout the international community, not as in the Nineteen Eighties through drug related and mafia type connections with Colombian drug cartels and other shady entities, but through the bold efforts of its beloved and dynamic Leader, Dr. the Right Honourable Prime Minister Denzil Llewellyn Douglas to establish rapport with many other nations.

His latest outreach to the rapidly emerging powerful nations of India and Brazil, underpins his determination to place our country, minuscule though it may be, into the forefront of world development and assure our citizens of whatever political spectrum they may be, an opportunity to pursue their aspirations and be a part of the new order which is emerging as the world recovers from its greatest economic upheaval.

He is seeking on the one hand to expand the range of offshore university education available in St. Kitts-Nevis by inviting the participation of Indian Universities to set up schools here and on the other hand, to follow up on an initiative taken years ago to establish a niche in the Brazilian market for industrial components produced by our highly skilled and gifted workers in our local establishments.

Such initiatives constitute a logical extension of the programme of empowerment of a down pressed people undertaken eighty years ago, through the formation of the Workers' League and continued through its successor organisation, the St. Kitts-Nevis Labour Party (SKNLP) in partnership/collaboration with the St. Kitts-Nevis Trades & Labour Union (SKNT&LU) to the present day.

We are all aware that eighty years ago the political and economic landscape was very, very different from what obtains today. However, the qualities of leadership needed to maintain the momentum of progress are as crucial as ever and Dr. Douglas has amply demonstrated his capacity to rise to the occasion and seize whatever opportunities present themselves to enable the empowerment of our people.

The achievements of the Labour Movement over the years have amounted to nothing short of revolutionary in certain sectors.

Take education for example. The story is told that when our late hero the most Excellent Sir Robert Llewellyn Bradshaw was a boy, he was asked by his mother's employer – a sugar baron – what he would like to become when he grew up. The boy promptly replied that he would like to be a lawyer.

The estate manager told his mother to beat that idea out of his head, for he wanted people to work on his estate.

Many parents subsequently steered their children away from plantation work and into many other avenues of employment which offered greater dignity and was much more lucrative.

The revolutionary thrust of the Labour Party was the introduction of the comprehensive system of secondary education and the abandonment of the elitist Grammar School system. Subsequent to that development was the introduction of the Early

2012 LABOUR Week-end kicks off

(cont'd from page 1)

o'clock.

Eight (8) charming, eye-catching and multitalented teenage beauties will be gracing the stage tonight as they vie for the coveted title of Miss LABOUR 2012.

The contestants for tonight's show will be Shenequa Powell, representing Constituency #1 (East Basseterre); Natacia Claxton Constituency #2 (Central Basseterre); Michelle Henry, Constituency #3 (West Basseterre); Kwahne Wharton, Constituency #4; Jahneska Williams, Constituency #5; Patricia Clarke, Constituency #6; Nakilah Watson, Constituency #7 and Caley Greaux, Constituency

#8.

The keenly contested competition will see the girls making three (3) appearances on stage following the Fan-Fare.

Firstly the Introductory Speech and the Creative Wear, then the Performing Talent and finally, the Evening Wear.

The House Band for the evening's programme is the Grand Masters and the side show will be a to class act, featuring a number of leading local artistes as well as a guest artiste from overseas.

The 2012 LABOUR Week-end celebrations will culminate with the grand parade on Labour Day, Monday May 7th, through the streets of Basseterre.

The Labour Day March is scheduled to commence at 10

o'clock on Monday morning, at Wigley Avenue, following the laying of wreaths on the graves of the Rt. Excellent Sir Robert L. Bradshaw and other distinguished departed Labour Leaders.

The March ends on the grounds of the Patsy Allers Playing Field (Wigley Avenue), where the Prime Minister and Labour Party Leader, the Rt. Hon. Dr. Denzil Douglas will address the mammoth crowd.

The day ends with the Annual Picnic at the same venue where Union and Labour Party Leaders will socialize and interact with the workers, and their families and friends.

It's time again to rumble with your Union and Party. Come out in your numbers and show your solidarity with the masses and your visionary and people-oriented Labour Government.

Childhood Development Programme and the basic groundwork was laid for local tertiary education through the setting up of the Sixth Form College and the extension of the Technical Training Centre.

In the meantime, banks were encouraged to lend freely for educational purposes, especially the Development Bank where educational loans formed a substantial part of its loan portfolio.

The secondary education system enabled thousands of students to gain matriculation status and pursue further education abroad with outstanding achievements.

It is this kind of empowerment that the Labour Party has been about and its revolutionary aura has been mirrored by achievements in labour administration, in social development spheres such as social security pensions, injury & sickness benefits, severance pay and holiday pay.

In recent times, the agricultural sector has come under renewed focus as the thrust in hospitality capability intensifies. Growth in one must vary in direct proportion to the other. This means a whopping increase in agricultural production of a wide range of crops and related commodities.

The answer to this challenge is also revolutionary in the sense that the Labour leadership, Dr. Douglas and Dr. Timothy Harris, the current Minister of Agriculture have seen the wisdom of embracing technological change to bring about the needed impetus in agricultural production.

The widespread use of shade houses, irrigation dams, water gardens, etc, represent a significant departure from traditional practice and augurs well for the long term prospects of the industry and the fortunes and welfare of those engaged in it.

In our situation as a liberated colony, aiming for the highest plane of existence in the global arena as captured in the vision of our astute and very capable leader, Dr. Denzil Douglas, we also need revolutionary thinking to escape the yoke placed on our development by our dependence on fossil energy.

Accordingly, his championing of our attempts to harness renewable sources such as wind,

solar, and geothermal is also in the realms of revolutionary thinking. Such thought processes focus on our strengths, our local resources. They offer new vistas, new opportunities to be part of the wider green revolution which is necessary to save our earth from early extinction.

They provide new avenues for our young people to develop into a cohesive vibrant generation adapted to the changing global environment to which we belong.

No wonder then do we have a prospect of a thrilling, exciting Labour weekend of Activities ahead of us.

Our public meetings designed to sensitize the populace, have already been drawing massive crowds and that slated for Sunday 6th May in Central Basseterre will be no exception.

The beautiful assembly of young Labourites, who will vie for the Miss Labour Queen Title at Warner Park, on Saturday evening, is generating widespread interest. They will woo the public on Friday 5th May in a spectacular mini-motorcade through the streets of Basseterre. They will demonstrate one of the reasons for the longevity of this great party in the passion and excitement they will display as they count down to the defining moments when the Queen and Runners-up are chosen.

The sight which many travel miles to see, the event which many hundreds look forward to once per year, the experience which many thousands are drawn to in solidarity with millions of workers around the world will take place on Monday 7th May, labelled as Labour Day in this country.

For the many reasons that make this event the greatest spectacle on the calendar apart from Carnival, thousands of Labour Party supporters, Trade Union Members and Workers moved by a sense of gratitude, solidarity and appreciation for the sacrifices made over the years by many stalwarts to enable workers to enjoy enhanced benefits and working conditions, will march along the usual route.

They will reflect their pride in the achievements of their great organisation, the St. Kitts-Nevis Labour Party which has been activist for eighty years in the interests of all.

They will move triumphantly through the streets behind the great and indefatigable Dr. Denzil Douglas with an eye on that fifth term of office looming in the distance, but still several marches away.

They will march exuberantly and shout "80 years and still going strong. 80 more years will come along". More power to the People.

Search for missing Nevisian teen continues

By Drizel Hanley

Police officials, family and friends are searching tirelessly to locate of 17-year-old Dylon Clarke of Church Ground, Nevis who was reported missing on Sunday, April 29 by family members

The police were alerted Sunday morning and an official search was launched sometime during that same afternoon.

A press release from Press and Public Relations Officer of the Royal St. Christopher and Nevis Police Force, Sgt Stephen Hector, stated that according to family sources, the young man left home sometime after 2pm on Saturday, April 28 'to go for a walk' and has not returned since.

"It was noted by family members that it was not customary for the young man 'to sleep out' so an alarm was raised as early as Saturday evening when he did not return home," the release stated.

It was reported that the teenager was seen in the vicinity of Moon's Bar, located at Church Ground, up to about 6pm, the release said, wearing a yellow polo shirt, a short jean pant and Nike black and white sandals.

Searches are being carried out under the coordination of the Royal St. Christopher & Nevis Police Force, in conjunction with Fire & Rescue Services, Nevis Disaster Management Department personnel and other volunteers.

The police and the family are urging members of the public who may have information as to the whereabouts of Dylon Clarke to call their nearest police station.

Dylon Clarke is a fifth form student at the Charlestown Secondary School, Nevis.

...Auxiliary workers now entitled to a pension

(cont'd from page 1)

entering the Civil Service (Public Service) as well as (for the first time) Non-established workers, now referred to as Government Auxiliary Workers who previously were not qualified for any pension from government, other than their Social Security Pension.

The Bills which were debated for two days, Thursday of last week, April 26 and Tuesday of this week, May 1st, received the full backing of Government Parliamentarians and Opposition Parliamentarians.

The other Bills that were debated by Parliament were:-

The Interception of Communications (Amendment) Bill, 2012 and the Bio-Safety Bill, 2012 which were presented by the Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, the Rt. Hon. Denzil Douglas; The Immigration (Amendment (No.2) Bill and The Equal Pay Bill, by the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister responsible for Home and Security and Labour, Hon. Sam Condor; the Metals (Amendment) Bill, 2012 by Senior Minister of International Trade, Dr. the Hon. Timothy Harris and The Bail Bill, 2012, by the Attorney and Minister of Justice and Legal Affairs, the Hon. Patrice Nisbett.



St.Kitts-Nevis to be represented by Ms. Venetta Zakers at the 2012 Miss Caribbean World Pageant

By Drizel Hanley

Ms. Venetta Zakers of Main Street, St.Paul's is in Tortola, BVI to represent the Federation of St.Kitts-Nevis in the 2012 staging of the Miss Caribbean World Pageant to be held at the Multipurpose Sports Complex on Saturday May 5, 2012.

Zakers, who is not a stranger to pageantry, has already captured two local titles; in 2008 she was crowned Miss Silver Jubilee and Miss World St.Kitts-Nevis 2009.

The 25-year-old beauty enjoys Writing Poetry and Short Stories, Pageants, Runway and Print Modeling.

Other participants for the much anticipated regional pageant includes-Anguilla, Olufunmike Banks Devonish; Antigua & Barbuda, Jnoure Smith; British Virgin Islands, Abigail F. Hyndman; Cuba, Alina Rodriguez Roberts; Curacao, Marvia Laurence; Dominica, Narda Lando; Dominican Republic, Suzan Castano; Guyana, Celeste Dolphin; Jamaica, Roneisha James; Margarita Island, Rosairym Machado Noguera; St Lucia, Consuelo Dupal; St. Maarten, Trumane Trotman; St Vincent & the Grenadines, Aviar Charles; Trinidad & Tobago, Wendy Thomas; US Virgin Islands, Emisha Libert and Venezuela, Greisel Rivero Sojo.

For the first time in the pageant's history Miss St. Vincent & the Grenadines and Miss St. Maarten will be among the young contestants competing for the prestigious title of Miss Caribbean World.

The interview section took place at the Eileene L. Parsons Auditorium at the H. Lavity Stoutt Community College on Wednesday May 2nd.

The beauties will compete in five segments-Swimwear, Costume, Talent, Evening Wear and Interview.

Sudeakka Francis is the reigning Miss Caribbean world having ended a two year win streak by Dominica.

Daughter of Centenarian, Mrs. Janet Akers says THANKS

"With long life will I satisfy Him and show Him my salvation" (Psalms 91: 16). This is what Mrs. Janet Akers is experiencing. As her proud daughter, I wish to thank all

those who participated in the celebrations on her birthday on Sunday 29th April, 2012.

First, thanks to God for sparing Mrs. Janet Akers' life to see 100

(cont'd on page 4)

No major injuries in bus collision

By Drizel Hanley

No major injuries were reported in a two bus collision which occurred on the Island's Main Road in the vicinity of Christ Church bridge on Tuesday, May 1 shortly after 9:00am.

The early morning accident involved HA73, driven by Ervin Hughes of Stone Fort Project, who was travelling westerly towards the Basseterre area and H8821, driven by Glenford "Carp" Henry of Back Street Saddlers Village, who was travelling in the opposite direction.

Sergeant Calvin Amory of the Traffic Department said that HA73 was travelling behind another passenger bus which stopped and while Hughes was attempting to overtake the bus it collided with H8821.

H8821 was damaged on the front right portion while HA73,

was severely damaged on along the entire right side portion, especially the front and rear.

A unit from the Emergency Medical Services and officers of the Tabernacle Police Station were summoned to the scene.

There were no serious injuries reported however a pregnant woman was seen lying on the ground while complaining about back and lower abdominal pain.

She was transported to the hospital where she was examined and subsequently discharged



Photo of vehicles involved in collision

A Memorial Service

FOR

ELSIE VANIER

A Memorial Service

will be held in St. Kitts on Wednesday, 9th May, 2012,
at St. George's Anglican Church, Basseterre, at 3:00 pm.
Interment of the Ashes will follow at Springfield Cemetery.
Elsie died peacefully in Paris - aged 94 years and 10 months.
Was cremated quietly on 4th February, 2012.
Many members of the Vanier Family will attend,
and will welcome the opportunity to share the occasion
with all those who remember Elsie.

TRADE UNION NEWS

By: Batumba Tak - General Secretary

Labour Day, 2012

As we continue to make preparation to celebrate Labour Day on Monday 7th May, 2012 many other countries have already marked the occasion on May 1st, 2012, while some other countries are making their preparation for later in the year.

For instance, in Trinidad and Tobago Labour Day is celebrated in June, and in New York it is celebrated on the first Monday in September every year.

It is said that the origins of the first Labour Day (May Day) is traced back to 1856 in Australia as a means of attaining the eight (8) hour day.

At that time the workers had decided to organize a day of complete work stoppage together with meetings and entertainment as a demonstration in favour of the eight hour day.

In fact the Australian workers only intended it for the year 1856, but because the celebrations had such a strong effect on the masses of Australia, enlivening them and leading to new agitation, that it was decided to repeat the celebrations every year.

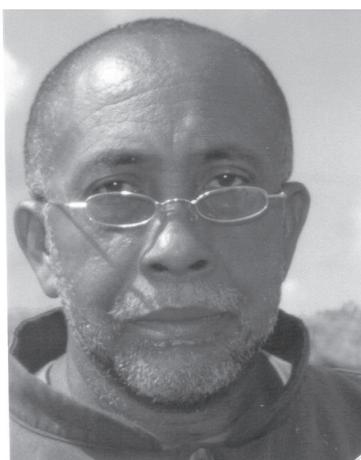
It is also said that the first to follow the example of the Australian workers were the Americans, who decided in 1866 that May 1st should be the day of universal work stoppage. One of the main matter that the workers were demanding was the eight-hour day, but because of the police and legal harassment the celebrations did not take place for some years.

However, in 1888 the workers decided that the next celebration would take place May 1st, 1890.

In St. Kitts our first official Labour Day celebrations took place on the 1st May, 1955, and have continued every year since, making it about fifty seven (57) years since we start to officially celebrate Labour Day.

However, this year's Labour Day celebrations is in no way an ordinary Labour Day, because while tens of thousand of people around the world are taking to the streets to mark the occasion the question that is being asked is, What else is new? And the answer is plenty.

The continuing financial Crisis is hitting hard the ordinary workers hardest than any other class of workers. Some persons are pointing fingers at the macroeconomic policies of the past decades having



significantly downgraded the meaning of decent work, and somehow, lost in translation is the fact that equality work is a source of personal dignity, family stability, peace in the community, and, certainly, a source of credibility for democratic governance.

The St. Kitts/Nevis Trades & Labour Union will start off its Labour Day March with the traditional laying of wreaths on the graves of its fallen leaders in remembrance of their uncondition contribution to the working class people, the economics, social and industrial development of the entire Federation.

In addition, the Union is calling on its entire membership and by extension, all workers to come out in their numbers and march in solidarity with workers around the world for job security, increases in wages to meet today's cost of living standard, improve working

grateful to you".

To Mr. Winston Zack Nisbett who wrote the life story of the celebrant, he must be commended.

To Miss Rose Boyd who played an important role in bringing to pass this auspicious event and to all those who donated the birthday cakes, namely, Mrs. Sephlin Lawrence and the Caines Family such as Dr. Ismay Taylor, Mr. Adina Payne and Mr. Richard Caines.

The final thanks go to the St. Kitts Marriott Resort and Staff for hosting the celebrations with its decorations, food and for rolling out the red carpet for Mrs. Janet Akers.

Daughter of Centenarian, Mrs. Janet Akers says THANKS

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years, for good health and a sound mind.

Thanks also to the Wesleyan Holiness Church, for conducting a wonderful and orderly service and the committee that managed it.

It is noteworthy to thank Mr & Mrs Ray John for overcoming the challenges and obstacles they faced as they pursued success in locating a venue for the luncheon. It was an overwhelming achievement.

To Miss Brenda Sutton for making all of those corsages for the celebrations at the church and at the Marriott Hotel, "I am very

Make certain that you reach
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info@sknunion.com

conditions at the workplace, freedom of association and collective bargaining, an HIV/AIDS and other Disease Workplace Policy, a Labour Code that will gain the confidence and acceptance of the tripartite constituents, the high cost of electricity and water bills, security and many other issues that affect you, your family and your co-workers, as well as issues in your communities.

It is high time that the workers;
"Rise like Lions after slumber,
In unvanquishable numbers,
Shake off their chains to earth like dew,
Which in sleep had fallen on them -
Ye are many - They are few."

As I take my leave today I leave you with a few words of Mr. Samuel Gompers, founder and longtime President of the American Federation of Labour and a song by Howard Haney, 1927, and I again encourage all workers to join the march on Labour Day.

Keep on the Firing Line

By Howard Haney

1. If you're in the battle for the Lord and right,
2. God will only use the soldier he can truse,
Keep on the firing line;
3. When we get to heaven, brother, we'll be glad,

If you win, my brother, surely you must fight,
If you'll wear a crown then bear the cross you must, keep on the firing line,
How we'll praise the Savior for the call we had,

There are many dangers that we all must face, If we die still fighting it is no disgrace;
Life is but to labour for the Master dear, Help to banish evil and to spread good cheer;
When we see the souls that we have helped to win, Leading them to Jesus, from the path of sin,

Cowards in the service will not find a place,
Great you'll be rewarded for your service here, So keep on the firing line;
With a shout of welcome, we will all march in,

Refrain:

Oh, you must fight, be brave against all evil, Never run, nor even lag behind;
If you would win for God and the right, Just keep on the firing line.



IN LOVING MEMORY OF
our Dear Beloved Husband, Father, Grand-
Father, Brother, Uncle and Friend

Lanval Clarke

Who departed this life on April 20th, 1993

*We do not need a special day
To bring you to our minds
The day we do not think of you
Is very hard to find
Memories are things no one can steal
Death is a heartache only God can heal*

Gone but definitely not forgotten

Signed: Louisa Clarke(wife) on behalf of the entire family.

JOIN NOW The St. Kitts-Nevis Trades and Labour Union
Before Adversity Befalls You.
Apply at: Masses House . Church Street . Basseterre
Tel: 869 465-2229 Email: sknunion@sisterisles.kn

PAM's/CCM's calling for INTEGRITY Legislation is purely playing politics

What is INTEGRITY? What is Integrity in Public life? What is Integrity in Private Life? What is Fraud? What is Fraudulent Conversion? Can a person who is unable to demonstrate Integrity in private life be able to demonstrate Integrity in public life?

The PAM hierarchy seems to be hopelessly confused over the matter of Integrity. The PAM hierarchy appears to be concerned not with Integrity in general or with Integrity in private life, but only with Integrity in public life.

But this is so hypocritical, so false and so insincere. PAM should be interested in INTEGRITY, full stop, and not try to give aid and comfort to those who in their private life lie to, steal, rob and defraud others.

PAM is shouting and screaming, together with the CCM/PAM cabal, that the party demands "Integrity in Public Life" legislation. However, while PAM is shouting and screaming concerning "Integrity" legislation, PAM is unwilling to chastise or castigate those of its membership who fail to walk uprightly and in the paths of Integrity in their daily lives.

Integrity must first be practised in our ordinary daily lives and then it would become easier for us to practise it in our public lives. But what sort of message PAM seems to be sending to the nation? That must be oral, and ethical and virtuous only in public life, but we can be scamps and vagabonds in our ordinary daily lives.

The deceitful and misleading PAM party, and its confused and conniving side-kick, the CCM party, are blaming the Labour Party Government for the delay in passing Integrity in Public Life legislation.

What these besotted sons of Belial are not telling the public is that the PAM Government introduced the "Integrity in Public Life" Bill into the National Assembly on September 12, 1994, and gave the Bill its first reading.

PAM was voted out of office on July 3, 1995. PAM had roughly 9 months, after the first reading on September 12, 1994, to pass the Bill into law. The Hon. Vance Amory was a Member of Parliament at the time, and he never raised his voice, inside or outside of Parliament, to urge PAM to pass the "Integrity in Public Life" Bill.

The Hon. Vance Amory of the CCM is one of those who is harassing the Government to enact "Integrity in Public Life" legislation. What manner of man is he? Why is he allowing the Sheriff and the other members of the CCM/PAM cabal to pull and haul him in every direction? He ought to show some impartiality and objectivity. They are making him look like a pappy show.

How could a person like him, in all honesty and decency, have stood by idly for 9 months while PAM took no further action on the INTEGRITY Bill which had been given its first reading in Parliament on September 12, 1994?

Such performance, or non-performance, on the part of the Hon. Vance Amory shows that he is not really interested in the enactment of INTEGRITY legislation, but only in the harassment of Dr. Douglas and the Labour Party Government to please PAM and the members of the CCM/PAM cabal.

What I would like to point out at this stage is that during the period 1994-1995, no one in the CCM party organised any marches or rallies or demonstrations to promote INTEGRITY in public life, or principle, or good governance; nothing at all. The PAM Government was able to give a first reading to the "Integrity in Public Life" Bill and leave it there and vacate office without doing anything further about the matter.

Jamaican Kittitian (JAMKIT) Association General Meeting in Nevis

The Jamaican Kittitian (JamKit) Association, the Association of Jamaicans and Friends of Jamaicans in the Federation of St Kitts & Nevis, will have a general meeting on Saturday, 5 May 2012 at the Red Cross Building, Charlestown, Nevis starting at 1.00pm.

Jamaicans and friends of Jamaicans living in Nevis as well as those in St Kitts are asked to come out to continue discussions relating to Jamaica 50 St Kitts & Nevis Celebrations.

Please pass the word along to your friends/relatives.

We look forward to seeing you there!!

The Thinking Citizen

We have a very telling situation in evidence at this time, where PAM and the CCM are claiming to be protectors and promoters of Democracy and Good Governance and yet both parties have been found to be defenders and up-holders of a political activist who has been found guilty of "Fraudulent Conversion" by a High Court Judge and jury. You see how much PAM and the CCM value and respect INTEGRITY?

INTEGRITY is only of value to PAM and the CCM when they are out of power. The CCM party is fighting tooth and nail to prevent the Nevis Commission of Inquiry from proceeding. Clearly the CCM party has something to hide. The party has rejected the idea of Accountability and Transparency.

The leaders of the CCM do not want to give an account of their stewardship during their 12 years in government and neither do they want the public to know the details of the sweetheart deals which they made.

Just before the January 2010 General Elections, the leader of PAM attended a meeting at a hotel over at Frigate Bay with a total stranger. During the meeting, the stranger made, and the PAM leader

accepted an offer of a bribe for the sale and purchase of a large area of our sugar cane lands. Here again, not a soul in the CCM/PAM cabal cried out, although the members of the cabal claim to be honest, decent and principled people.

The members of the cabal re-acted the same way they reacted after the Donley Saunders case. That is, they dragged in all sorts of red herrings into the matter and then blamed Dr. Denzil Douglas. The public has grown tired and weary of this monotonous response from PAM and the CCM.

I think that I have said enough concerning PAM's insincere and hypocritical clamour for the establishment of "Integrity" legislation. The CCM/PAM cabal has joined in with PAM and the Democrat to pressure the government to enact "Integrity" legislation. But this is only because they believe that such action would make the Labour Party Government look bad.

If PAM and its allies really wanted "Integrity" legislation they could have had such legislation on our statute books since 1994. PAM gave the legislation a first reading on September 12, 1994 and left it at that. PAM is, as usual, just playing its low-down, gutter-snipe politics.

C.H. Caribbean Construction Company Ltd.

NOTICE

Mr. Hank Hofford of Bennett Hofford Construction Co., Inc., 17 Lockwood Drive, Rice-Mill Building Suite 401, Charleston SC 29401-1155 has divested all interest and rights in C. H. Caribbean Construction Company Ltd. and does not represent the company in any respect effective March 1st, 2012.

Kindly direct all inquiries to the attention of the Operations Manager, Mr. Michael Tatem or Mr. Bill Morrison, the chairman of the Board of Directors.

Please be guided accordingly.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD

FOR SALE BY MORTGAGEE

Offers in writing are invited for the purchaser of the following property:-

At **Central and College Streets, Basseterre** – approximately 1,500 square feet of land with two storey residential building thereon.

Separate bids in sealed envelopes should be mailed or hand-delivered to

Legal Unit

St. Kitts Nevis Anguilla National Bank Limited
P. O. Box 343
Central Street
Basseterre
St. Kitts

and marked "**Private & Confidential – Re Offer of Sale**" to reach no later than Friday 4th May 2012.

NOTES:

- The Mortgagee does not bind itself to accept the highest or any offer.
- Sale will be subject to all rates, taxes and other charges that may be outstanding and payable at the time of sale.
- Bidders must include their names, home address and a contact number on their bids.
- Properties are to be viewed before offers are submitted. For appointments to view call the Legal Unit at 465-2204 ext. 1631 and 1635.
- All sales subject to contract.

info@sknunion.com

Sandy Point Benevolent Society's 2nd Annual Awards Banquet to be held under patronage of PM Douglas

BASSETERRE, ST. KITTS (CUOPM) – The New York-based Sandy Point Benevolent Society's 2nd Annual Awards Banquet Fundraiser will be held under the distinguished patronage of St. Kitts and Nevis' Prime Minister the Right Hon. Dr. Denzil L. Douglas.

The September 1, 2012 event is set for the Maestro Banquet Hall, 1703 Bronxdale Avenue, Bronx, New York from 8 p.m. to 2 a.m.

Spokesman Mr. Alrick V. Warner said this year the keynote speaker and honoree is Dr. Simon Jones-Hendrickson, University of the Virgin Islands Socio-Economics Professor, prolific author and writer.



Photo: Alrick V. Warner

The other two honourees are Past Principal of the former Sandy

Point High School (now the Charles E. Mills Secondary School), former Chief Education Officer and Chairman of the Public Service Commission, Dr. Joseph Halliday and Veterinarian and Distinguished Alumni, Dr. Hannah Guishard.

Mr. Warner said the Dinner/ Buffet features Caribbean and Italian food and desert, live music from the Breakaway Brass Band and the Annual Sandy Point Benevolent Raffle Drawing of a Grand Prize of a seven-night cruise.

Proceeds from the non-profit group will go towards the Sandy Point area school district.

More information is available at www.spbsinc.org or telephone 240 463 9079.

From Where I Sit

By xSpeaks

College Woes:

For those of you who have chosen or are in the process of choosing the right college/university, the experience might have been or might be a stressful, exciting or wearying one. When I started searching for the right university, there were so many details and realities that I overlooked or was unaware of that I wish I had paid attention to or known. From Where I Sit.. brings you College Woes, a bi-weekly (or tri-weekly, or however often) section that maps the writer's journey to and through University, that will hopefully enlighten future college-goers on university realities.

Choosing the right college/university:

I'm no expert on this. All information here is based solely on the writer's own experience and/or research and is in no way, shape or form, the right or only way to select a college. (Had to throw that disclaimer in.)

Selecting a university is no easy feat. It's time-consuming, annoying, and all those other words that look like they mean "stress". Here are some tips that I picked up during (or after) my college search.

Pay attention to factors that are most important to you in the selection of a university. Factors probably would include cost, location, courses offered, social life, climate, size of school, etc.. It also would help to rank the factors in order of importance. If you need to attend a school that has an amazing party scene, or a wide range of extra-curricular activities, or that offers athletic scholarships, or is in the middle of a major metropolis, then do not overlook those factors. Don't assume you'll "be fine wherever" if you know you definitely want to be in a particular area. At the same time, don't reject a good school because it isn't next to a shopping mall. (Even though when I was researching schools and had narrowed my options, I checked the location of the school and its proximity to shopping malls or centres.)

Cost: Cost will probably be one of the deciding factors in your ultimate selection of a university. Harvard, Yale, Princeton, Oxford and Cambridge no longer own the monopoly in the world of higher education. In a growing techno-everything age, more and more public and technical universities are gaining recognition for their high standards, freshman retention rate, exceptional performance, students receiving prestigious awards/scholarships like the Rhodes Scholarship, and research. Price alone no longer determines quality. So, there's absolutely no reason why your mother or father should have to take a second mortgage on their home in order for you to be able to stick an ivy-league bumper sticker on your vehicle. If your parents truly cannot afford the high price tag on your dream school, it is not impossible for you to find a school you'll love equally that puts less of a dent in your parents' pockets. But

if you're bent on wearing a Princeton jersey, many ivy leagues offer generous scholarship awards. Some ivy leaguers even offer need-blind financial assistance to qualifying international students! (Yay!)

Location: To some people, the location of the school may be insignificant. To others, it may be first in their ranking. I wanted to live smack-dab in the middle of hustle and bustle. I wanted to be thrown in between opera houses, cinemas, theatres, fancy as well as under-the-radar restaurants, major shopping districts and petite, vintage outfitters. I wanted to become part of a place that seemed like the world around me, and be forced to the edge of my potential by the pressure of twenty jobseekers always waiting in line to interview for my position; hovering over me; clinging eternally to the possibility of gaining my pay cheque. If location is one of your determining factors, it becomes helpful if you search for schools by region or state. Certain websites provide you with a list of schools that are confined within a specific geographical region and you are better able to see what your choices in schools are in terms of their physical placement. Then, with the awesomeness of Google Earth and Google Maps, you're able to get aerial views and see what your school choice is surrounded by! Great, right? I know.

Universities want you: that's how they make their money, and if you have something extraordinary to add to the present student body, the chances of getting into your preferred school are improved.

So Tell Me

By Jean Thomas

Is whisky cheaper?

I would like to suggest from the outset that this could be true. However, I am not purporting that you go out and buy a bottle of whisky and start drinking, get drunk and then go out to drive a vehicle. I am not suggesting that at all.

What I am saying is that once ago, there was this saying which simply stated "talking is cheap – but whisky costs money".

As a matter of fact there are not too many advertisements around for whisky drinking, but check out the advertisements for cell telephone providers. They are numerous, all soliciting and encouraging you to spend your money on the telephone.

Some persons have gone as far as removing their landline telephone in favour of using the cell phone because they think it would be cheaper to maintain and that they could control it and how much money they spend for telephone services. Check out the amount of times cell phone users require a "top up". It seems like always.

Yet it seems to me, that people just love to use a cell phone. It may be a status thing – just to show that they have one. But in my view they are so popular, it can no longer be a status statement. Be "nosey", and listen to those who would use it anywhere and everywhere and check the dialogue from what you can hear from the person, who is on the phone close to where you are. In fact your do not even have to be inquisitive since many of them speak rather loudly, so you do not have to try too hard to get the gist of the conversation.

By the time the users are through, they would have used up a large amount of their credit. When you consider the amount of "top ups" they credit to their telephone, they spend quite a fair bit of money.

So tell me, don't you agree with me that talking is no longer cheap and could cost more than whisky? I wish that I had share in all the telephone providers - I would be sitting pretty!

Local Officials Attend Meeting To Raise Special Profile

Basseterre, St. Kitts, April 27, 2012 (SKNIS): Representative of the St. Kitts Nevis delegation to a Special Olympics Caribbean Business Meeting held in St. Lucia April 20-21, Lloyd Lazar emphasized the need to introduce a Special Olympics Caribbean Week of Activities.

Suggesting further, the need for the revival of the Special Olympics Caribbean Games, Mr. Lazar Chairman of the Special Olympics Board (St. Kitts and Nevis) told SKNIS the primary objective of the meeting was to discuss issues related to the development of Special Olympics within the region.

Other delegates on the St Kitts Nevis delegation were National Director, Mrs. Clarice Cotton; and Board Secretary Mrs. Debra Hellouch, who reported that the meeting was also attended by Caribbean stakeholders as well as participants from Special

Olympics Connecticut in the USA.

A healthy discussion on sports development and a practical demonstration in Bocce played by Special Olympics Athletes from St Lucia were among activities which formed the meeting. Bocce is one of the Special Olympic sports favorites.

Mr. Lazar reported that the concept of Special Olympics Caribbean Week of Activities and Caribbean Games was well accepted and it was agreed that a formal presentation should be proposed to the Caribbean Board.

The St. Kitts Nevis delegation expressed much satisfaction with the outcome of the meeting as it also helped to strengthen relationships between Caribbean territories in the overall interest of the holistic development of Special Olympics Athletes.

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Hyundai Accent Beauty Is Also On The Inside - Winner Of 'Ward's 10 Best Interiors'

In the U.S., the Hyundai Accent has been included in this year's "Ward's 10 Best Interiors" list by the editors of WardsAuto.com. The Accent also recently won a Ward's 10 Best Engines award for the 1.6-litre Gamma petrol engine.

The Wards Auto editorial staff spent two months selecting the 10 winners from a field of 40 vehicles with new or significantly improved interiors. There was no price cap on entries. The Hyundai Accent was also joined on the list by the Hyundai Azera model which is not available in the Australian market.

In Australia, the Accent hatch and sedan are positioned in the light car segment, offering the distinctive and modern "Fluidic Sculpture" design, surprising interior space and an abundance of comfort and safety features while maintaining the delivery of advanced technology, fuel efficiency and performance. Accent's interior can be further enhanced with features such as leather/leatherette trim, climate control and an integrated reverse camera all fitted to the Premium model.



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Jamaica 50 St Kitts Nevis Essay Competition Launch

Basseterre, St Kitts, 1 May 2012: The Jamaican Kittitian (JamKit) Association, an Association of Jamaicans and friends of Jamaicans living in St Kitts & Nevis (SKN), is in the process of planning a series of activities in the Federation to commemorate Jamaica's 50th Anniversary of Political Independence.

The first public Event on the Calendar of Activities for Jamaica 50 St Kitts Nevis Celebrations will be the Launch of the Jamaica 50 SKN Essay Competition which will have three (3) categories of participants/entrants – Primary School Students, High School Students and Young Adults (16 to 25 years old).

Also included on the Schedule of Activities for Jamaica 50 SKN Celebrations is a Study Tour by a group of nineteen (19) students from the University of Technology (UTech), Jamaica who are pursuing the MSc Built Environment Programme and two (2) lecturers. They will arrive from Antigua & Barbuda, which is the first leg of their Study Tour, on Saturday, 12 May 2012 at

(cont'd on page 21)

Remarks by Dr the Hon Timothy Harris, Senior Minister and Minister of Agriculture at the Department of Agriculture's 19th Open Day on April 26, 2012



It is a pleasure for me to participate in my third Annual Open Day since I assumed responsibility as the Minister of Agriculture in 2010.

The 2012 Agricultural Open Day is undoubtedly a special feature in the Department of Agriculture calendar of activities and a special occasion for the stakeholders that are involved in this noble profession. The theme, "Transformation of the Agricultural Sector: Farm to fork Approach" is not only appropriate but timely as we work to transform the post sugar agricultural landscape. Participants of the 2012 Open Day involve the entire spectrum of the farming community: farmers, agro-processors, Cooperatives, allied agencies, lending institutions and teaching institutions just to name a few.

It has been brought to my attention that the Plant Quarantine Unit would be showcasing the various aspects of pest management and the areas of emphasis are Citrus Greening disease, exotic fruit fly surveillance, sweet potato weevil, mango seed weevil, Red Imported Fire Ants. Information would also be available on Lethal Yellowing and Bud Rot which are diseases that affect palms and coconut trees.

I am happy that since 2010 we have seen an increase in agricultural output every year. Output in 2011 increased by 4% over 2010. The agriculture sub sector was a shining light in the context of a decline in overall economic growth in GDP in 2009, 2010 and 2011. For the first quarter of 2012 we have very good output of carrots (41,100kg), onions (25,500kg), a near three fold increase over 9000kg recorded in 2010, pineapple output was put at 17,500kg in 2012 compared to 15,500kg in the first quarter of 2011. Watermelon output was 18,900kg in 2012 against 16,500 kg for the first quarter of 2011. Yams were up at 16,500 kg in the first quarter of 2012.

Clearly then the agriculture sector is making a positive contribution to the socio economic development of our country and our farmers are doing a commendable job for which we thank them and applaud their efforts.

If we are to continue on this positive path of agricultural growth we definitely must do more to transform the agricultural sector. The areas of action are well known. They include greater investment of technology on farm. Such elements of technology as green houses, shade houses, hydroponics, irrigation and other water management systems have to be more widely used in our farm sector.

Our food security challenge requires more than land. Farms like hotels and residences require passable roads, access to water, electricity, etc. The monkeys and stray animals are a threat to our food security.

As we move forward then, national planning must provide for water and power for our farms.

Celebrating Our Farmers

Today we are here to celebrate our farmers as producers. I hope that as you walk around this compound, you will get an appreciation of the agricultural landscape. You will see quality supplies of cabbages, carrots, peppers, potatoes, onions, pepper sauce, tea bushes and be persuaded that there is no better product than what you will find here. Hopefully, as you interact with our farmers and agro processors you will appreciate the need for consistent support to our farmers. All of us must give support to agriculture even as agriculture supports us in meeting our food security and nutrition challenges.

Our hotels from the largest (Marriott) to the smallest (Ottleys Plantation) must give maximum support to the farmers. Farming is hard,

dedicated work. It is made more challenging by monkeys, stray animals, including cattle, pigs, dogs and an acceptably high level of praedial larceny. We must not add to these threats and risks the failure of local support.

In this regard, I am cautiously optimistic that my entreaty to Marriott to stand in support of our farmers is bearing fruits. I thank the new Manager for his commitment to buy more local produce and to work cooperatively with the agricultural community. We are persuaded that such an approach will be a win-win one for all of us.

For 2012 we are seeking better

patronage from the Marriott. I commend Mr Jacques Hammor of the Marriott Hotel for his initial outreach and support to the agricultural community. I will continue to insist that the beneficiaries of national concessions – duty free, VAT waiver, etc must give support to the national community. I will insist on justice for farmers, however uncomfortable some may become. In the meantime, I want to commend all our hotels, in particular, OTI, Ottleys Plantation, Bird Rock Beach and many restaurants and bars for their consistent support to local community over the years.

It is good that we give honour, commendation and recognition to all to whom it is due. Many are deserving and over time we in agriculture intend to do right by these persons and entities. For now I thank all who in any way support the agricultural sector. I must especially thank our many friends in the media such as Toni Fredrick at WINNFM. Last year at CARICOM Agriculture Week, Ms Fredrick was honoured by CARDI for excellence in agricultural reporting. Today I hail her and WINNFM for their work and I also add Freedom Radio, KYSSFM and the print media including the Observer.

The Awardees

As we celebrate and showcase some successes and opportunities in agriculture, we want to recognize some who have made a significant contribution to agriculture and the transformation of the sector overtime.

In this regard I thank and congratulate the following persons whose contribution we recognize today: Mr Dodridge Huggins, Ms Louise Brudy, Mr Valdemar Warner, Mr Keithroy Matthew and Mr Ian Chapman.

I wish each of these awardees continuing success, good health and a blessed life.

May God continue to bless our farmers. Long live our farmers. Long live St Kitts and Nevis.



Employment Vacancy

Applications are invited from suitably qualified persons to fill the post of Accountant at PDV St. Kitts Nevis Ltd.

Duties & Responsibilities include but not limited to:

- To fulfill the accounting functions of the company.
- To develop monthly analytical reports on fluctuations relating to income and expenditures (graphical portrayal is also recommended).
- Review and analyze accounting records and fiscal activities to ensure accuracy and compliance with accounting/program/legal requirements, and identify issues, trends and patterns.
- Establish and maintain general and subsidiary accounts and related ledgers including revenues and disbursements. Reconcile various accounting reports to the company's general ledger. Gather, compile and prepare financial statistical reports.
- Review financial documents such as vouchers, purchase orders, and invoices to ensure proper cost centers are charged, that expenditures and revenues are recorded in the proper classification, and that purchases and other transactions by the company are proper in accordance with the approved budget.
- Provide up-to-date detailed cost accounting information for budgeting and cost control purposes. Analyze and explain variances, report on irregularities, and prepare correction action plan for over-runs.
- Prepare bills and reports for disbursements for Social Projects and agreements to which the company is party.
- Any other task assigned from time to time by the Management.

Experience

Candidates must possess ACCA qualification or a degree from a recognized university; at least 3 years of practical experience working in a reputable financial institution; competency with the QuickBooks System of accounting; computer literate; able to meet deadlines and possess the ability to communicate in Spanish.

Salary - Commensurate with qualifications and experience.

All interested persons are asked to send application with Curriculum Vitae to the Management of PDV St. Kitts Nevis Ltd, Building 105, Suite 202, Port Zante **to reach not later than Friday 18th of May, 2012.**

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LIFELINES

“LifeLines is a monthly column dedicated to addressing issues of mental, behavioural, and social health. The column appears on the 1st weekend of the month, and is written by professionals in the field of social work, mental health, and community medicine”.



Exercise and its Benefits for Mental Health

It's almost 6 months since many of us set our New Year's Resolutions. This is a common half-way point to look back and see if we have been meeting our goals. A common resolution is to lose weight and get in better health. There many aspects of health; mental health being one of them. Most people are aware of physical health and focus on how to improve it, but fewer people focus on bettering their mental well-being. There are many simple, healthy ways to focus on and improve your mental health. One of these ways, that actually combines improving your mental and physical health, is exercise. Exercising, especially aerobic exercising, for a small amount of time each day has been shown to decrease mild to moderate depression, anxiety and stress and to increase happiness, confidence, self-image and a general sense of peace.

Depression, anxiety and stress are conditions that many people experience. Depressed feelings cause a loss of energy which may lead people to isolate themselves, which then furthers the depression. If depression becomes severe, it can cause persons to become neglectful of their obligations (e.g job responsibilities, taking care of children), as well as contribute to suicidal thoughts and actions. Similarly, anxiety can create an overwhelming feeling that makes life seem impossible and difficult to deal with. Even every-day stressors, such as meeting new people, are hard to manage with anxiety. If you are not in good mental health, handling these stressors can create a greater sense of depression and anxiety.

Being depressed, overwhelmed, stressed and anxious are mental states that most of us try to avoid, even to the point of pretending that everything is 'fine and good'. However, just because something is pushed to the side does not mean it will go away. If we choose to deal with challenging emotions that we may face, we can become more balanced and healthy. Exercise is one way of practicing a balanced lifestyle and a healthy way to begin dealing with these conditions.

Although all exercise is good for your health, aerobic exercise has been shown to:

- Relieve stress and mental fatigue
- Provide a natural energy boost
- Improve sleep
- Lessen anger, hostility and frustration
- Lessen anxiety and feelings of mild to moderate depression
- Improve self-esteem and confidence
- Improve overall quality of life
- Provide a sense of achievement and self-control
- Improve happiness
- Decrease alcohol intake and dependence

So how do you begin? Exercise does not have to be overly rigorous to make these improvements to mental health. It's important that you first pick an exercise that you will be able to stick with. There are many classes offered at various gyms in St. Kitts that offer everything from yoga to Zumba. Sometimes, it's easiest to start with a walk with friends for 30 minutes, 3-5 times a week and build up from there until you are able to workout at a moderate pace for 30 minutes 5 times a week. Having a friend with you may also help improve your relationship skills and social life. Pick a time of the day that you can commit to. If you are not a morning person, go in the afternoon or evening. If you enjoy the crispness of the early morning, then a sunrise workout may be for you. Remember, this is not a competition. Exercising for your mental health is something for you to do just for you. You do not have to set competitive goals, or get 'stressed out' if you do not reach your fitness ideal. Just enjoy the time you are setting aside for you and allow yourself to think about what you are really feeling.

By focusing on exercise as a way to build up your mental health, you are also helping your physical health by improving your cardio strength and utilizing your muscles. Work outs are more enjoyable because you are not just focused on looking a certain way or losing weight, but paying attention to your mental health as well. Therefore, if you set a resolution to exercise, you will be getting to the benefit of both improved physical and mental health. Exercise will not solve all of your problems, and you may want to consider seeking help from a counselor or other mental health professional for issues that you might need additional support with. Although exercise cannot cure all mental health issues, it is beneficial as a part of maintaining your mental health and can help you achieve a sense of balance and wellness.

Submitted by, Katharine Collier, MA, LPC, LCDC



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- Develop reports using Crystal Reports
- Must be able to create Relational Databases with Normalized tables.
- Modify, repair, test and enhance existing applications
- Must be able to work hand in hand with other software developers to develop applications and databases.
- Perform projects and other duties as assigned.

REQUIRED SKILLS

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- Experience in ASP.net
- Experience in Javascript
- Experience in Ajax
- MS SQL Server 2005 and above
- Experience in ADO.net
- Experience in Crystal Reports

SALARY

- Commensurate with qualification and experience.

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The following items must be sent with the letter of application:

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- Certified copies of certificates and awards.

Applications should be addressed to: The Executive Manager
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St. Kitts- Nevis- Anguilla National Bank Limited
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To reach no later than 18 May 2012.

PM Douglas says agriculture is important to economic diversification

BASSETERRE, ST. KITTS (CUOPM) – Government has made it abundantly clear its seriousness in the diversification of the St. Kitts and Nevis economy.

Prime Minister the Rt. Hon. Dr. Denzil L. Douglas says evidence of this was visible at last week's agricultural exhibition although there are still some outmoded attitudes toward agriculture still exist in the minds of many.

"All over the world, agriculture means business. Agriculture means security. Agriculture means independence. People in other countries know and understand this, and this Government is determined that the people of St. Kitts and Nevis will know and understand this as well," said Dr. Douglas.

"No longer must we see agriculture as an old man heading to his mountain-ground, all alone at five in the morning or a frantic mother rushing to tend a few crops before dawn, on some distant plot, before heading out for a hard day's work elsewhere. No. That old man and that old woman did what they had to do, they did the best that they could, and we honor and respect their hard work in the face of grueling, unrelenting adversity," said the Prime Minister.

Dr. Douglas said that agriculture moves forward and in St. Kitts and Nevis, it must be seen as a multi-faceted, dynamic and key to the security of countless economies around the world.

He commended Minister of Agriculture, Dr. the Honourable Timothy Harris, for all that he and his ministry have been doing to ensure that the people of St. Kitts and Nevis will understand the tremendous opportunities inherent in agriculture.

"Last week's Agricultural Fair made that point abundantly clear. As that event showed, not only is this Government determined to change our people's attitudes toward agriculture, but the Ministry has skillfully revolutionised its approach to the "selling" of agriculture. No longer is its Agricultural Exhibition simply a day when one looks at farm produce and livestock. It has now been transformed into a lively, activity-packed



A Verchild's High School student speaks with St. Kitts and Nevis' Prime Minister the Right Hon. Dr. Denzil L. Douglas during his tour of the Agricultural Fair.

Photo by Erasmus Williams

period of days, with entertainment and other attractions that more effectively reminds the public of the many positive dimensions of, and possibilities associated with, the agricultural sector. We were called Liamuiga by the Kalinago for a reason. And last week's Agricultural Exhibit forcefully reminded us why," said the St. Kitts and Nevis leader.

Dr. Douglas used the opportunity to urge those with an

entrepreneurial bent to undertake the necessary research, initiate the relevant discussions, think in terms of inputs, markets, yields, packaging, and so on and most of all - see agriculture as business.

"Think about and approach it with the seriousness that it deserves, and you can be assured that for those who are serious about investing the same time and energy that any other entrepreneurial enterprise

demands, agriculture constitutes an open and positive path to social and economic stability. Where agriculture and other fields are concerned, we need dynamism. We need imagination. We need determination. But we need skills as well. Real-world, twenty-first century, marketable and competitive skills," said Prime Minister Douglas.

Agriculture Open Day was an eye-opener, says Development Bank official

BASSETERRE ST. KITTS — An official of the Development Bank of St. Kitts and Nevis is of the opinion that the two-day Department of Agriculture Open Day exposition, held April 26-27 at LaGuerite, was testament to the nation's ability to feed itself.

"Held under the theme 'Transformation of the Agricultural Sector: Farm to Fork Approach', we at the Development Bank are satisfied that the Federation of St. Kitts and Nevis is on the threshold of achieving total food security," said the bank's head of the Business Support Unit, Mr Shavon Douglas.

"This year's theme is not an empty cliché as some people might think," observed Douglas. "We as a major player in the agricultural sector took part in the two-day event where many of the bank's clients and potential clients visited our stand wanting to know how the bank could help them. The event was an eye-opener."

The Development Bank of St. Kitts and Nevis has been the leading player in development and financing over the years and

agriculture is one of those key developmental areas, commented Mr Douglas. To ensure that the sector is on the right track, the bank has sought to further interact with the farmers.

"Aside from the financing aspect we have taken on new roles where just last year we partnered with the Ministry of Agriculture in putting on a workshop," said Douglas. "That workshop was basically designed to enhance the capacity of farmers where we

wanted to help them to better understand and compute their costing because costing is one of the primary elements in any business."

The Development Bank has fulfilled its mandate in ensuring that the country has proper food security, said the bank official. To ensure that there is continuity the Development Bank has sought and succeeded in sourcing cheaper financing for the farmers, which include the SIDF

partnership that has sought to lend up to \$50,000 at a more affordable rate of three percent.

"As a lending institution, we believe that St. Kitts and Nevis has the full potential to feed itself," said Douglas. "What needs to happen though is that farmers, by and large, have to take the leading role in terms of upgrading and developing themselves because farming has now taken on a new direction, where it is a lot more science and technology based as opposed to the traditional back-breaking farming."

The Development Bank official concluded by saying that the country could easily get to the next level, where it could become a full commercial export market to some countries in the region, which are

not endowed with the fertile soils the Federation of St. Kitts and Nevis has.

"The awareness that the Department of Agricultural is creating through avenues like the Open Day exhibition, has a double edge result as the common man also gets to learn that locally produced food is better nutritionally and cheaper to buy," said Douglas.

Since the Development Bank is mandated to develop the country, "we will work closely with the Ministry of Agriculture to ensure the country moves to the stage where we are fully self sustainable and become a major player in the production of our local produce."



Mr Eldean Huggins (right) of the Development Bank of St. Kitts and Nevis mans the stand at LaGuerite.



Development Bank's head of the Business Support Unit, Mr Shavon Douglas, addressing farmers at Sandy Point earlier this year.

PM Douglas toasts Miss Labour contestants at Marshalls

BASSETERRE, ST. KITTS (CUOPM) –St. Kitts and Nevis Prime Minister the Right Hon. Dr. Denzil L. Douglas says his governing St. Kitts-Nevis Labour Party has been mostly responsible for the development of young people during its 80 years of existence.

“The St. Kitts-Nevis Labour Party is about the development of young people. We have been doing that for 80 years. It is through this Party that we have seen the development of gifted young people showing talent honed over the years and which will be on display on the evening of the Miss St. Kitts Queen Pageant on Saturday 5th May,” Prime Minister Douglas told the contestants, their chaperones, Ministers of Government and officers and executive members of the Labour Party Executive during a reception at Marshalls, Frigate Bay.

In raising a toast to the contestants Dr. Douglas noted that the Pageant is of historical importance as it is one that

celebrates the 80th anniversary of the founding of the Labour Party as a political organisation.

“It is expected to be one of the greatest shows at Carnival City spiced with local and international

artistes,” said Prime Minister Douglas.

The teens, who represent each

of the eight constituencies in St. Kitts, will vie for the Miss Labour crown.



PHOTO: (Left to right) - Shenequa Powell, St. Christopher #1; Natacia Claxton, St. Christopher #2; Nichelle Henry, St. Christopher #3; Reigning Miss Labour 2011/2012, Ziesha Joseph (St. Christopher #4); Prime Minister the Rt. Hon. Dr. Denzil L. Douglas; Kwahne' Wharton, St. Christopher #4; Jah'Neska Williams, St. Christopher 5; Patricia Clarke, St. Christopher #6; Nahilah Watson, St. Christopher #7. Absent is Caley Greaux, St. Christopher 8, who fell ill.

(Photo by Erasmus Williams)



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Brimstone Hill, one of 10 best places to see in the Caribbean



BASSETERRE, ST. KITTS (CUOPM) – St. Kitts' Brimstone Hill Fortress National Park has been listed as one of the 10 must see places in the Caribbean.

Caribbean Cultural Editor, Nick Marshall listed the fortress first in his BellaOnline article.

"A UNESCO World Heritage Site which dates back to the 1690s. A fortified citadel that marks St. Kitts' importance as a strategic island during the naval wars between the French and the British," wrote Marshall

He declared it is "beautifully preserved with majestic views over the neighboring islands."

The other places listed are Castillo San Felipe del Morro,

San Juan, Puerto Rico; Pitons, St. Lucia; Shoal Bay Beach, Anguilla; The Baths, Virgin Gorda, British Virgin Islands; Punda, Willemstad, Curacao; English Harbour, Antigua; Maho Beach, St. Maarten; Malecon in Havana, Cuba and El Faro a Colon, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic.

CEF-6 To Create Awareness On The Green Economy

Basseterre, St. Kitts - The green economy within the context of the Caribbean is so important that it should be a requisite for all development strategies.

This is according to Patricia Aquing, Executive Director of the Caribbean Environmental Health Institute (CEHI) who was in the Federation as part of a two-member team assessing the preparations being made for the 6th Biennial Caribbean Environmental Forum (CEF) & Exhibition and the 16th Annual Wider Caribbean Waste Management Conference scheduled for May 21 to 25, 2012 at the St. Kitts Marriott Resort.

The combined event, which is also termed CEF-6, is being held under the theme: "The Green Economy: Challenges and Opportunities in Managing Health, Water, Waste, Land, Climate Change and our Natural Resources."

"The important thing is that our governments and our planners and our economists and social scientists really look at this greening issue not as a side event, to economic planning," Ms. Aquing emphasized. "Not as something we do on the side because it sounds good and it sounds snappy and people are going to catch on to it, but it should be a way of changing our economic development pathway in the Region. So if we decide for instance we are going for renewable energy – what does that mean? How do we orient ourselves? How do we orient our people? Our trained students and scientists? Our business people especially? How do we get them on board in terms of these green issues?"

The CEHI Executive Director noted that CEF-6 would address issues such as "waste to wealth," water scarcity and agricultural practices. Pertaining to the theme, she outlined that a green economy has a low or reduced carbon footprint.

"It is resource efficient, making the best use of the

resources around us," Ms. Aquing explained. "It is socially inclusive ... In the case of the Caribbean, our countries have a very low carbon profile. We don't have big industrialization where we produce a lot of pollutants and green house gas emissions, nor do we impact significantly on the issues of climate change. However, we are impacted and although we have a low carbon profile, we are very rich in our natural capital and in terms of the resources that we have and our natural and cultural assets."

It was also stressed that all individuals have their part to play in the "greening" of the economy. Governments would be responsible for providing incentives to use green initiatives through tax rebates or exemptions while the Private Sector, including small businesses, would be encouraged to make use of available green technologies in their operations ranging from the

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
FEDERATION OF SAINT CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS
TITLE BY REGISTRATION ACT, CAP 10:19
SAINT CHRISTOPHER CIRCUIT
A. D. 2012

SKBHCV2006/0051

ST. KITTS NEVIS ANGUILLA NATIONAL BANK LIMITED - Applicant
and
JOSEPH SYLVESTER JAMES - Respondent

NOTICE OF SALE

The Property described below will be offered for sale by The Registrar of the Supreme Court by public auction at Sir Lee Ulewellyn Moore Judicial and Legal Services Complex, East Independence Square, Basseterre, St Kitts, on the 17th day of May 2012 at 3.00 p.m. o'clock in the forenoon.

The successful bidder will be required to pay at the time of sale a deposit of one fourth of his accepted bid and the balance within one month from the day of sale.

Possession of the property will be given to the purchaser on payment of the deposit. Any taxes due on the said property must be paid by the Purchaser.

The Purchaser will, after payment in full of the purchase price, obtain from the High Court of Justice, a Certificate of Title to the property.

The Property will be available for inspection prior to the date of sale by appointment with the Registrar of the Supreme Court.

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY

ALL THAT lot piece or parcel of land situate at Bloody Point Housing Development in the Parish of Trinity, in the Island of Saint Christopher known as Lot No. 16A bounded and measuring as follows, that is to say:- On or towards the North West by a Development Road, 114.19 feet; On or towards the North East by lands of Stone Fort Estate, 52.07 and 47.96 feet; On or towards the South East by lands of Stone Fort estate, 51.52 feet and 38.30 feet and On or towards the South West by Lot No. 16, 111.96 feet and containing by admeasurement 9,485.84 square feet,

UPSET PRICE

The Upset price for the above land shall be EC\$65,000.00

Dated the 23rd day of March 2012


Registrar of the Supreme Court

UK visa mobile biometric clinic in Antigua

The United Kingdom Government is introducing a new service in Antigua on 18 May 2012, providing an opportunity for UK visa applicants from the Eastern Caribbean to provide biometric information in Antigua, without having to travel to Barbados or Jamaica to apply.

Authorised by the United Kingdom Border Agency (UKBA) and facilitated by the Governor's Office of Montserrat and the

Antigua and Barbuda Immigration Department, this "Mobile Biometric Clinic" event will be run by UKBA's commercial partner for the Americas Region - CSC.

The clinic is to be held in the ground-floor conference room of the office of the Antigua and Barbuda Immigration Department at Long & Thames Streets in St John's, Antigua. UK visa applicants wishing to attend

the clinic are required first to apply and pay the applicable visa fee online by [visiting www.visa4UK.fco.gov.uk](http://www.visa4UK.fco.gov.uk) and then visit CSC's website at www.visainfoservices.com to pay the biometric clinic fee (US\$150.00 + tax of 17.5%) for each applicant and book each applicant's biometric clinic appointment. The clinic fee must be paid in advance on www.visainfoservices.com, and attendance is by appointment only.

conservation of water to reduced use of energy.

The CEHI team also included Christopher Roberts, Chief Finance Officer who also emphasized the importance of the private sector in the overall green initiative.

"A very significant component of the Conference is not simply providing training or the exchange of ideas but there's also the exhibit

component," Mr. Roberts stressed. "Agencies get the opportunity to display work that they have done through various projects and programmes through poster displays and otherwise. So it is very important to showcase the best practices and it is key that the private sector come on board."

Ms. Aquing revealed that among presenters who had already confirmed their

participation in CEF-6 are Sir K. Dwight Venner, Governor of the Eastern Caribbean Central Bank; Minister responsible for Sustainable Development of St. Lucia Dr. James Fletcher and Minister of Agriculture of Guyana Dr. Leslie Ramsammy. There would also be discourses from representatives of the private sector on Waste Management and Recycling as well as on Solar Energy.

VIEW POINT

BY
V. E. INNISS



The Loins of our mind

Here is a contemporary, relevant and timely admonition: "Gird up the loins of your mind, be sober ... (1 Peter 1:13). The pictorial language used here by the Apostle Peter arrested my attention and inspired this discussion today. Please join me for its developments.

The picture word used here is rather interesting and instructive. "Gird your minds, be exhorted". What he was trying to portray was just as men of by gone years would gird their loins so that their robes wouldn't get caught in obstructions as they walked, so we are to gird the loins of our minds. We must remain focused and sober.

Considering there is a relentless and ferocious battle going on around the clock to capture our minds, doesn't that admonition make sense? Most men in everyday life in Israel wore a loin cloth around their waist and a shirt or robe under their outer clothes. Pilgrims but shepherds in particular, understood and appreciated the significance as a preventive measure against getting caught on obstructions as they walked along their journey.

There are so many obstructions these days for our minds to contend with that it behoves us to "gird up". The mind covers more ground than the heart, but goes less far. Furthermore, the direction of our mind is more important than its progress. Here is another pungent pointer: the mind on mankind is more intuitive than logical; and comprehends more

God Is Judge Of The World



All Christians should believe in Divine judgment. We believe that our God acts in every situation and makes the right decision every time. We are aware that some people do not believe that God is judge. Yes, if we talk to them about God as father, friend, helper, guide and protector they are at home; they are all smiles because we are on their wavelength. Just change the conversation to, but God is also judge, rejection takes over. Their minds are not prepared to grasp such an idea. For them this part is repelling and unworthy.

Judge is a word applies to God. Abraham, interceded for Sodom, that sin-filled city that God was about to destroy; he cried "Will not the judge of all the earth do right? (Genesis 18:25). Jephthah, concluding his ultimatum the Ammonite invaders, declared, "I have not sinned against thee, but thou doest me wrong to war against me: the Lord the judge be judge this day between the children of Israel and the children of Ammon" (Judges 11:27). "It is God who judges," declared the psalmist (Ps. 75:7); "Rise up, O God, judge the earth" (Ps. 82:8). In the New Testament the writer of the Hebrews speaks of "God the judge of all" (Hebrews 12:23).

When we speak of God as judge, we are not merely using a word; the reality of Divine Judgment as a fact, is set forth on page after page of Bible history.

God judged Adam and Eve. He expelled them from the garden, and too pronounced curses on their future earthly life (Genesis 3). God judged the corrupt world of Noah's day. He sent a flood to destroy humankind (Gen. 6-8). God judged Sodom and Gomorrah, engulfed them in a volcanic catastrophe (Gen. 18-19). God judged Israel's Egyptian taskmasters, just as He foretold He would (see 15:14). He unleashed terrors of the ten plagues against them (Exodus 7-12).

Those who worshiped the golden calf, God judged. He used the Levites as His executioners (Ex. 32: 26-35). Judgement came down upon Nadab and Abihu for offering Him strange fire (Lev. 10:1-3). Later He judged Korah, Dathan and Abiram who He swallowed up in an earth tremor. God judged Achan for sacrilegious thieving (Judges 2:11-15; 3:5-8; 4:1-3).

Before Israel entered the Promised Land, God threatened His people with deportation as the ultimate penalty for impiety, and eventually, after repeated warnings from the prophets, God judged them by fulfilling this threat. The northern Kingdom (Israel) fell victim to the Assyrian's activity and the southern Kingdom (Judah) to the Babylonian's captivity (2 Kings 17: 22: 15-17; 23: 26-27). In Babylon God judged both Nebuchadnezzar and his son Belshazzar for their impiety. Nebuchadnezzar was given time to amend his life (see Daniel 5:5-6, 23, 28, 30).

Less we think that God's divine judgment is confined only to the Old Testament, let me remind all of us that this is far from the truth. In the New Testament judgment fell on the Jews for rejecting Christ (Matthew

than it can coordinate.

One Bible dictionary has this insight on the mind. It contends that mind is an English translation of various Hebrew and Greek words used to describe the human capacity for thinking, judgment and intention. We find expressions about the mind like, "corrupt and reprobate minds" (2 Tim 3:8), "Sound minds" (2 Tim 1:7), "fleshly mind" (Col 2:18), "sober mind" (Titus 2:6).

It was Einstein who wrote: "We should take care not to make the intellect our god. It has, of course, powerful muscles but no personality". Hence men are not prisoners of fate, but only prisoners of their own mind – one compelling reason to gird up.

Why do you suppose the battle is raging to capture our minds? Because as the Good Book says "As a man thinketh in his heart so is he. Be not deceived Satan and his minions are doing everything possible to control our minds for the purposes of manipulation, brain washing, and such like. With the multimedia available at their disposal today, their job is easier than ever before and are more effective.

REASON TO GIRDP UP

Never mind the clarion calls and drum beat to be "open minded" and don't be "narrow minded" there are good reasons for us to gird up our minds and be sober.

It was Albert Joy Nock who penned these sobering lines: "The mind is like a stomach. It is not how much we put into it that counts, but how much it digests."

In researching this article, I made a discovery in my Bible Dictionary, and it is this" Heart is often used as an equivalent of mind. For example, "Keep thy

21: 43-44; I Thessalonians 2: 14-16). Ananias and Sapphira were judged for lying to God (Acts 5:1-10). Herod suffered judgment for his pride (Acts 12: 21-23). Elymas suffered God's judgment for opposing the Gospel (Acts 13: 8-11), and many Christians fell under God's wrath when they were afflicted with much illness at Corinth. Those Christians showed gross irreverence for the Lord's Supper (1 Corinthians 11: 29-32).

Let us remember that this is only a selection of the abundant account of Divine acts of judgment mentioned in the Bible.

A switch from Bible history to Bible teaching, we see, the Law, the prophets, the wisdom writings, the word of Christ and the teachings of the apostles all give the thought of God's action judgment overshadowing everything. The Mosaic legislation has given a picture of God as the just judge who will not hesitate to inflict penalties by

heart/mind with all diligence for out of it are the issues of life". (Prov 4:23).

It suggests that we must keep a watchful eye and a strict hand upon all the motions of our inward man. God, who gave us these souls, gave us a strict charge with them. We must set a strict guard, accordingly, upon all the avenues of the inner man. Keep our hearts from doing hurt and getting hurt.

Keep out bad thoughts, keep up good thoughts. Keep the affections upon right objects and in due bounds. The admonition is to keep our mind and heart with all keepings (so the word is). There are many ways of keeping things – by care, by strength, by calling in help, and we must use them all in keeping our mind and heart in check

I take the liberty to describe the environment around our minds to that of Outer Space with junk and debris floating around risking calamitous consequences. You get the picture I'm sure. Imagine if you can, the stress and pollution our minds are inundated with on a daily basis from social commentators, left-wing radical thinking and speaking groups, politicians and others clamouring for occupancy in our minds. It calls for mature analytic thinking and monitoring of our mind/heart gates. The mind has great influence over our body and maladies often have their origins there.

GUIDELINES AND LIMITS

God has set boundaries for our thinking and within those boundaries we have tremendous freedom. Where do we start? What are the limits? The Bible gives us the answers.

"Finally brethren, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever

is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable – if anything is excellent or praiseworthy – think about such things". (Phil 4:8).

If our thought life is to be controlled, we must agree to these limits and guidelines for our thinking. We must be willing to bring them into conformity and within those parameters. God has set the boundaries for our thinking. Those boundaries offer us all the area we need in which to move and think, grow and live honourably.

As to specifics, re-examine the text quoted above. The first boundary is TRUTH. Scarce as truth is these days, the supply has always been in excess of the demand.

The second boundary is NOBILITY. Noble means to be honourable, dignified, honest and excellent.

The third limit set on our thinking is RIGHTNESS. Is it fair and equitable? How often do we allow ourselves to think unfair, unjust thoughts about others? Shame on us!

The fourth boundary in our thoughts must be PURE. They must contain no evil. This is a challenge to what we hear, read and view on television and print media in particular. Allied to that is LOVELY. Is our thought life full of love, inspiring love and affection? Many times our thoughts may pass the other tests, but they will fall short on this point. Lovely thinking is caring; compassionate and gentle.

Let us gird up the loins of our mind and be sober. God demands it. Our society is yearning for it. Satan would cease to make inroads if we deny him access. May God strengthen us!

direct providential action if His people break His law.

The prophets take up this theme as the greater of their recorded teaching which contains exposition and application of the law, and threats of judgment against the lawless and impenitent. They spent a good deal of time preaching judgment than they did predicting the Messiah and His Kingdom.

In the Wisdom literature, the same viewpoint appears: The one basic certainty underlying all discussion of life's problems in Job, Ecclesiastes and all the practical maxims of Proverbs is that "God will bring every deed into judgment, including, every hidden thing, whether it is good or evil (Eccles. 11:9; 12:14).

Those who fail to read the Bible confidently often believe that when we move from the Old Testament to the New, the theme of Divine judgment fades. When we examine the New Testament even in the most cursory way, we readily see that the Old Testament emphasizes God's action as judge, far from being reduced, it is actually intensified.

The entire New Testament is overshadowed by the certainty of a coming day of universal judgment. "The day of judgment," is "The day of God's wrath," - "The wrath to come."

The Lord Jesus Christ is the One who is designated by God as judge of the living and the dead (see Acts 10:42), and, God has already appointed a day for that judgment (see John 5:27-29). Let us remember that, Jesus who is the world's savior is its judge as well.

Humbly Submitted by
Alson B H Percival (Rev Canon Dr)
Chair Nevis Regional Council
And Nevis Christian Council

**ADDRESS BY
HON. SAM T. CONDOR
MINISTER OF LABOUR &
SOCIAL SECURITY
TO COMMEMORATE
WORLD DAY FOR SAFETY
AND HEALTH AT WORK
28 APRIL 2012**

Fellow Citizens, Residents...All

April 28th is celebrated annually as World Day for Safety and Health at work. This is an International Campaign to promote safe, healthy and decent work.

The International Labour Organisation (ILO) began to observe World Day in 2003, focusing on the prevention of accidents and illnesses at work, making use of its traditional strengths of tri-partisan and social dialogue.

The celebration thus, is an integral part of ILO's Global Strategy, involving all stakeholders in the world of work, in Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) issues, which promote the creation of a preventative Safety and Health culture, with an emphasis on emerging Occupational Safety and Health trends; and on the magnitude of work-related injuries and fatalities.

This day, April 28th is also the Day that the World's Trade Union Movement, has long associated, with commemorating victims of Occupational Accidents and Disease.

This year, 2012, Director General of ILO, Juan Somavia, is using the opportunity to promote Safer and Healthier Workplaces, as part of Decent Work Strategies, in the transition to a "Greener" Economy, under the theme: "Promoting Safety and Health in a Green Economy"



The theme has been advanced, in light of the shift worldwide, to a "greener" and more sustainable economy. It is a fact, that the world currently faces numerous challenges to the environment, inclusive of Climate Change; which for most part, is caused by pollution and anti-green practices. These changes are known to have catastrophic impact on Human existence.

Hence, the shift worldwide to greener and more sustainable economies. Questions are being asked however, as to the safety and health of workers, as a result of employed "Green" technologies, which may protect the environment, but are still not safe nor healthy for workers.

The theme for this year's celebration juxtaposes safety and health, the environment and the economy. ILO and experts in the field of Health and Safety, like John Henshaw, articulates that we cannot go green, promote decent work, or sustain our economy, unless it includes Health and Safety.

Workers must go home to their families safe; workers can become more productive, more active, and increase their

value in society, in an atmosphere where development occurs and the environment is protected.

We must be mindful that, while the main economic growth model, focuses on increasing gross domestic product (GDP) above all other goals, a "green economy" promotes a triple bottom line of sustaining and advancing economic, environmental, and social well-being.

Thus the move to creating a "green economy", with the "greening" of current industries, production-processes and jobs, as a key element for achieving environmentally sustainable economic and social development.

In this context, social inclusion, social development and environmental protection, should be closely linked to safer and healthier workplaces and decent work for all.

ILO in collaboration with United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the International Organization of Employers (IOE) and the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) has generated a Green Jobs Initiative, which supports concerted efforts by governments, employers and trade unions, to promote, in a climate-challenged world, environmentally sustainable and coherent policies; and effective programmes that are also aimed at generating "green jobs" and decent work for all.

I want to speak to a few areas in which "green" jobs can be incorporated:

Renewable energy such as solar, hydropower, wind, or geothermal. Already, a number of households are moving towards the trend of solar energy and have refitted their homes with solar panels. The Government is also exploring alternative means of energy such as solar energy, wind energy and geothermal energy.

It is envisaged that these processes will not only create jobs, but provide a cheaper, renewed source of energy, while protecting the environment.

- Waste management and recycling inclusive of the careful disposal of waste; and recoveries, such as recycling for usage as other products, while conserving the environment. It is in this sector that we see the fastest growing sources of green employment.

- Land management in agriculture which sees the integration of environmental health, economic viability and social equity, in the management of natural resources. In this management, the promotion of reduction in the use, substitution or elimination of agro-chemicals such as pesticides, fertilisers and other agents; and the use of soil protection measure like zero-tillage, when enrichment with organic matter etc could be advanced.

Land management also calls for the conservation and restoration of urban parks, and land and soil stabilization. Recently, Government has set aside a portion of land along Kim Collins Highway, for land preservation and conservation.

- Water management. Water is one of earth's most vital natural resources. The current status encourages reclamation and reuse of water from the rainwater systems, low-water landscaping, water purification and storm water management systems.

The International Labour Organisation visualises, that in order to transition toward a green economy, we will need to project a vision of a "greener", but also of a "fairer", economy and society. This is projected to lead to net gains in decent employment, by the creation of new jobs and the upgrading of many existing and traditional ones, across the economy; while at the same time, protecting workers' health and the environment. However, coherence between economic, social, labour and environmental policies, will be needed to maximise opportunities and to buffer the social cost of the transition.

The ILO through its Global Decent Work Agenda and its numerous International Labour Standards on Safety and Health, promote universal principles which are germane to any type of economic system or workplace, as well as to sustainable development.

Here in St. Kitts and Nevis, our transition toward a "green" economy, implies that we must set higher standards for environmental protection and for the creation of "green" jobs, while at the same time, ensuring that the safety and health of our workers' is an essential of our "green" strategy.

I use this opportunity to encourage all stakeholders in the world of work, to promote the principles of "decent work is safe work" and embrace the concept of "greening" the Federation's economy. **God bless.**

Nevis multipurpose Performing Arts Center officially opened

By Charles Miller Jr

Artistes, dignitaries and citizens of the twin island Federation turned out in their numbers for the official opening of the Nevis Performing Arts Center (NPAC) on Saturday afternoon, April 28th.

The opening which was also streamed live via the internet started out with musical and theatrical presentations before officials spoke to the crowd about the building.

The state of the art facility, located in Pinneys Estate is said to seat 400 patrons, and also includes and multiuse theater, a multifunctional courtyard, 3 conference rooms which is said to hold 180 people and a 2 multiuse indoor spaces which can be used for dance or band rehearsals.

Architect and consultant from IXI Designs out of St. Maarten, John Baker stated that the arts center was planned to be built within 1 phase, however due to financial restraints, it was then split



into 2 phases.

Nevis Premier Hon. Joseph Parry later made his statement to the public, and during this, he revealed that the theater of the arts center will be named in memory of well respected Nevisian musician, Michael Herald Sutton.

Sutton, more known as "Maestro" of Butlers Village, Nevis was born on May 10th, 1966. He later grew up to be an extremely talented well known

keyboard and organ player and an all around musician that would dwell in genres such as Jazz, Blues and Calypso.

It is said that he introduced and taught the Recorder in Nevis schools and also taught music theory to both children and adults.

On February 18th, 2007, Sutton died suddenly, leaving behind a legacy and a void many musicians felt could not be filled.

Parry stated that they were not only looking at hosting performances for Kittitians and Nevisians, but for international and regional such as those from Jamaica and Trinidad.

Parry thanked everyone who took part in the creating of the magnificent building including the Rt. Hon. Dr. Denzil Douglas and his Labour Government and the Government of the Republic China (Taiwan) to which the center was funded primarily by.

DIABETES MELLITUS or SUGAR – Dreaded Disease! – Part I

Dear Reader: As a young man, I used to be showered with compliments by the fairer sex, telling me how sweet I was. It was fair comment coming from them and it bolstered my image, my prestige and my manhood. It did not bolster my image at all, when, at the age of 60 years young, I began to feel lethargic, although I was this big exercise man. So I visited Dr Mervyn Laws at his office in East Cayon Street who examined me, and tested my sugar.

He discovered that it was high. He pronounced that otherwise I was in good health, but enquired if I had any family with a history of diabetes. It was then that I remembered that my grandmother, with whom I slept as a little boy on her grass bed, used to complain of feeling lazy, had a lot of itching and sweated a lot. She visited a Dr. Griffin around Fortlands, who diagnosed her as having sugar, which I later on in life learned was the same as diabetes mellitus.

In my grandmother's time, the belief in bush medicine led her to use gum bush tea, cattle tongue, maiden apple or lizard food, sour sop bush and privy hedge bush tea. It was also the belief at that time that the raw sugar used was responsible for the rise in the sugar content in the body and that brown sugar was better to use than white sugar.

It was also the belief of the day that if you ceased from using the brown or white sugar and instead used a lot of fruits, it would be better because the fructose in the fruits was a different kind of sugar than the raw brown or white sugar. It was even believed that using honey instead of the raw sugar would improve your chances of not getting diabetes. The belief was that the fructose in fruits and honey was less dangerous than the sugar in cane and beet sugar.

Continued research later discovered that sweet is sweet and, whether from fruit, honey or beet and cane sugar, it raised the sugar levels in the body. This means that when sugar apples are in season, bananas are available or we have a good mango crop, we cannot go on an eating spree and gulp down six and twelve. We have to eat one or a half.

Diabetes is a poor black people's disease. Those who enslaved us believed that, by feeding us a large belly full of carbohydrate or starchy foods, would give us the energy to cut their sugar canes or work in cultivating the same sugar canes until they mature for harvesting. That is why Captain Blythe in the Mutiny on the Bounty's fame, was transporting the breadfruit vegetable from the Pacific to the Caribbean to feed the slaves. The original breadfruit tree is in St. Vincent in the Windward Islands. Yams, potatoes, tannias, eddoes, dasheens are all starchy foods, but they provide us with energy.

As slaves, we could not suffer from diabetes or sugar, because we burnt off all those starches or carbohydrates by toiling so hard. Even when we were so-called emancipated, because there were no vehicular transportation, we were compelled to walk (physical activity) from village to village; from St. Pauls to Sandy Point or to Basseterre; or from Phillips to Cayon and Cayon to Basseterre; from St Peter's (Monkey Hill), to Basseterre to work as Domestic Servants or to work at the Basseterre Sugar Factory.

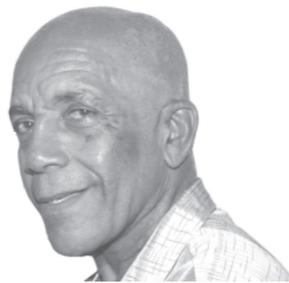
We burnt off most, if not all of the starch foods which we ate. Those foods gave us the energy to walk five miles from Cayon to Basseterre, three miles from St. Peter's (Monkey Hill) to Basseterre, ten miles from Sandy Point to Basseterre, fourteen miles from St. Pauls to Basseterre and sixteen and quarter miles from Dieppe Bay to Basseterre going through Saddlers, Tabernacle, Mansion, Christ Church, Molineux, Cayon, Keys, Conaree.

I am only writing or mentioning a one way journey. After conducting their businesses in Basseterre, they still had to walk back home. So, you see, dear reader, why they could have eaten large amount of carbohydrate foods.

Our physical activities enabled us to burn off what we ate. As the struggle for better wages waged on, and conditions improved, our oppressors accumulated vehicles while we bought bicycles which still presented a form of physical activity; riding from Basseterre to the country side and from the country side to Basseterre to work and return home. This latter activity later led to bicycle racing on Easter Monday at Warner Park, sponsored by Mr. Basil Henderson and others.

On Sundays and Public Holidays, people could be seen in groups riding from Basseterre, riding their Raleigh, Sunbeam or Hercules bicycles, man-frame with the bar across where you could allow someone to sit while you peddle or the lady-frame without the beam, which, if you are giving someone a ride with you, the rear axle is extended outward on both sides, they could stand on it provided they wore shoes or slippers to ease the soles of the feet.

Transporting an extra person meant more physical activity for the rider, especially going up Cayon Hill or Lodge Hill or coming up



BY EARL CLARKE

Bourryeaux long path. All these activities helped to burn off the excessive carbohydrates or starches we ate, because in those days, our older folks believed that the more one ate, the healthier he or she came. As I said before, the amount eaten did not matter due to the physical activity of the era.

Coupled with this was the fact that you could not eat and go to sleep right away, because most folks slept on the floor. The mother and the father, who owned a bed, could not eat and retire to their bed immediately. They had to make sure that their children, after returning from playing the game called hoop or completing their home work under the lone lamplight in the street, washed their feet, say their "Our Father" and "Gentle Jesus Meek and Mild" prayers before retiring to sleep on their lodgings on the floor.

Even if supper was served late in the evening and it always did, the hoop and the many challenges of running races from the top of the road to the bottom of the road, burnt off the dumplings, the green figs, the sweet potatoes or white potatoes we ate; the starches burnt off before we retired to bed.

Of note is the fact that the only available tin stuff that was used was tinned milk when no cows or goat milk could be supplied by the owners of these animals. To eat

tinned beef was a rare delicacy when someone sent us a parcel from Curacao or a neighbour's family sent them a parcel from America and they shared. To stretch that tin of beef, it had to be heated in the frying pan, herbs, thyme, garlic, onions (if available) and water added, both to season and to stretch, so that the eight (8) of us, plus our mother could smell the tinned beef on the food.

Playing football with a softened breadfruit and wind ball or tennis ball in the streets, helped to burn off the pig snout, the pig tail, the salted mackerel, the salt fish and the big ball of corn meal which we ate and filled our bellies. There was no electricity in the homes so we were denied the luxury of watching television, listening to radio, playing video games, or working the computer. These technological gadgets were unknown to us and, perhaps rightly so, because we were totally involved in physical activities.

Our food was natural. No additional whatsoever. There were a lot of fruit trees in abundance. Sugar Apple, Custard Apples, Sour Sop, Manny-Support (Mansiport), Gennips, Sour Orange, Guava, Stinking Toe, Fat Pork, Sea Grapes, Grapefruits, ripe Bananas.

In those days when sugar was king and every piece of available land was cultivated in the crop, Nevis was the supplier of fruits, vegetables and coconuts to St. Kitts. Those of us who were famished from playing games and had nothing at home to eat would journey down to the Bay Front (Irish Town) and eat coconut meat from those who only wanted to drink the coconut water to, as they said – "Strengthen up their backs".

I have, dear reader, touched on the historical way of life lived before the so-called modern day way of life. It could rightly be said that many advances have been made both in medicine and modern conveniences, but it can be rightly said as well that we have been paying a great price for all these technological advances have affected our health.

Where before have we ever heard of so many modern diseases which are incurable? These incurable diseases are called Chronic Diseases and one of them is Diabetes Mellitus or commonly called Sugar in the blood. There are, in our modern world, high incidence of High Blood Pressure (Hypertension), Heart Attacks, Cancers and many other modern diseases unheard of when we were all younger folks. There are no cures for many of these modern day diseases. Instead of financing research to find cures, we are dead set on producing modern weapons of mass destruction in order for us to impose our will on others.

Of all the destructive chronic diseases visiting mankind today, is Diabetes or Sugar. It is dangerously deadly and many of us are unaware of its presence within us until it is too late. This late awareness could be detrimental to our very way of life on planet earth. A lot of us are totally ignorant of what it actually is. The question posed is, "What is Diabetes Mellitus or Sugar?"

Diabetes Mellitus results when the pancreas no longer produces significant amounts of the hormone insulin, because the insulin producing beta cells of the pancreas are destroyed. In other words, when the pancreas in the body does not produce enough insulin, high amounts of sugar called glucose are built up in the body.

(To be continued).



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Mark the soldiers: Is Political English Hon Brantley speaking

By Llewellyn Parris

Local calypsonian Mr Clement Gordon (De Unexpected) gave people in the Federation food for thought when he said, in the lyrics of one of his songs, 'English is a funny language'. The phrase 'English is a funny language' captured the nation's attention and soon became the vehicle to get people out of tight situations when they fail to understand what is being told to them.

Experts of English Language appreciate the fact that someone might say one thing but it ends up being understood in different way. West Indian English speakers easily fall into this trap either because the person addressing them does not understand the metaphoric meaning of the words, or the other way round, giving credence to the phrase 'English is a funny language'.

In his book 'Is English We Speaking?' (Ian Randle Publishers 1999), University of the West Indies Professor Emeritus of Creative Writing and West Indian Literature, and eminent writer, Mervyn Morris, made the following observation on page 2:

"People using West Indian English and people using English are mutually intelligible, most of the time. But because, in a sense, we share a language, it is easy to overestimate the levels of understanding.

"If I may give a trivial example - for years I had wondered why the English ate mince at Christmas time, only when I first spent Christmas in England did I learn at least that the Christmas mince pie of my reading is a sweet!"

An example closer to imagination is when a person says that they want to eat Johnny cake and salt fish. Others have erroneously referred the bake as 'journey cake'. Nothing unusual about eating a Johnny until a Jamaican walks in and orders his favourite 'festival'. You wonder what this 'festival' is a grown man wants to eat until it is put on the table and you say to yourself, "that is a Johnny cake he is calling a festival."

But it was a different ball game when the Deputy Leader of the opposition Concerned Citizens Movement (CCM) party the Hon Mark Brantley elected to go on the Voice of Nevis (VON) radio on Wednesday April 18 on his weekly live show 'On The Mark' to give an interpretation of what Nevis' Deputy Premier, the Hon Hensley Daniel had said in a community announcement.

"And interestingly Mr Hensley Daniel (note: not Hon Daniel)...., was heard to say in the media publicly, that he is calling on his soldiers to come out," said Hon Brantley. "He's called on the NRP



soldiers to come out, and as a friend of mine said to me, and as I heard here last night you call soldiers to fight wars."

Speaking in his characteristic impeccable English Language intonations, he went on: "Soldiers are called to fight wars, and so how can you call on your soldiers on Saturday night and then say to us (CCM) on Monday morning, join us in fasting and prayer for healing?"

"You can send to the CCM a letter on Friday inviting us, but I do not even know if it was an invitation, saying to us there will be this event, that is how it was described and if we wish to participate we should indicate and then you will decide what role we will play.

"And then, at one and the same time go into the airwaves to call on your soldiers to come to town on Saturday to deal no doubt with your perceived political enemies and yet on Monday you say you want us to sit and fast and fold hands and pray in unity and for healing."

A simple question to Hon Mark Brantley: Is that how funny English Language is? That is not funny. How unfortunate.

The honourable scholar Brantley is, the language he used on his show was intemperate and gratuitously disrespectful to the

people of Nevis. He believes they have no right to speak metaphorically; or worse they do not understand English as a spoken language.

'Onward Christian Soldiers' is a 19th century English hymn. The words were written by Sabine Baring-Gould in 1865 and the music was composed by Arthur Sullivan in 1871. Sullivan named the tune 'St. Gertrude', after the wife of his friend Ernest Clay Ker Seymer, at whose country home he composed the tune.

The Salvation Army adopted the hymn as its favoured processional. The hymn's theme is taken from references in the New Testament to the Christian being a soldier for Christ, for example II Timothy 2:3: "Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ."

Fast forward to the 21st Century, and in Nevis one Hon Mark Brantley has no problem reading in his Bible of the gallant Christian soldiers; has no problem singing 'Onward Christian Soldiers' in Church. He is however mortally afraid when his political rival, Hon Hensley Daniel, uses the word soldiers metaphorically and accuses him, on national radio and the world-wide-web, of arming NRP soldiers to fight wars.

Come off your high horse Hon Brantley. Are you suggesting that Christians should tear off from their hymn books all pages with the song 'Onward Christian Soldiers'? Your explanation can rightly be interpreted to suggest that Christians have been carrying guns and all manner of arsenals to church because they are soldiers on the march. If Hon Brantley's interpretation holds water, then Commissioner of Police Mr Calvin G. Walwyn needs to talk to somebody as there are dangerous soldiers on the loose.

CCM's political leader, the Hon Vance Amory, is a respected church elder. He ought to have advised his junior that in the Church Language the word 'soldier' is not offensive. If that had happened, it would have stopped Hon Mark Brantley from marshalling the CCM team to partake of the now infamous boycott of the prayer and fasting session, as no offensive soldiers were in presence.

As far as the word soldier is concerned and in the context Hon Hensley Daniel used it, if it is English Hon Mark Brantley is speaking, then it is not English English. It is not Caribbean English that Hon Mark Brantley is speaking either. Is Political English Hon Mark Brantley speaking.

At the rate where things metaphoric are mowed down to suit the whims of the beholder, then the advice to be given to animal lovers is never use the metaphor 'it is raining cats and dogs'. This might be interpreted to mean that whoever is saying it would go to all villages rounding up cats and dogs to launch them into the atmosphere so that when gravity kicks in they will fall back to earth — of course as cats and dogs.

No one should masquerade to be the gate keeper of things English. It does not augur well to exercise selective interpretation of the age old English Language to satisfy ones whims. Call a spade a spade. After all, to borrow from Mervyn Morris, "All the same, is English we speaking."

Japan Official promises speedy delivery of new fisheries complex in Nevis

NIA CHARLESTOWN NEVIS — Chief Representative of the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) Mr. Shoji Ozawa the mega quake which rocked Japan in 2011, reminded his organisation of the importance of reciprocal help through international cooperation and promised a speedy delivery of the Charlestown Fisheries Community Complex.

He spoke of his country's unwavering commitment to the project on Friday April 27, 2012, at a Grant Signing and Notes Exchange ceremony between the Governments of Japan and St. Kitts and Nevis, at Gallows Bay in Charlestown.

"JICA has strongly decided to continue our efforts to contribute mutual understanding and development in the world. In that regard, I promise that this project will be completed successfully without any delay and trouble and deliver it to you on time," he said.

Mr. Ozawa explained that JICA had worked with St. Kitts and Nevis and for the past 30 years they were mindful of people to people and face to face cooperation. In so doing, they had invited personnel from various sectors to Japan for JICA's technical training programme and shared experiences and knowledge.

"So far, over 50 personnel from your country have utilised this programme and they have

established an alumni association for taking advantage of their experience in Japan for this country," he said.

The Organisation's Chief Representative further explained, that JICA had emphasised collaboration with the Fisheries Departments through projects which included the construction of fisheries centres and fish markets in Basseterre and Old Road (St. Kitts), which had contributed to economic growth because of the excellent management of those facilities.

He added that the Organisation had also dispatched JICA fisheries experts in fisheries extension, for the provision of further technical training assistance to fishers in acquisition of the relevant gear, equipment and methods technology.

"According to the Budget Address in 2012, it is reported that fish landings increased by 29.8 percent to 394,390 pounds with a value of \$3.9 million, when



Chief Representative of the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JIAC) Mr. Shoji Ozawa delivering remarks at the Grant Signing and Exchange of Notes ceremony between the Governments of Japan and St. Kitts and Nevis for the Charlestown Community Fisheries Complex at Gallows Bay on April 27, 2012

compared to the same period in 2010.

"I believe that collaboration between you and JICA people have contributed to that kind of achievement. The Charlestown fisheries centre must be able to lead multiplier for future progress,"

he said.

In conclusion, Mr. Ozawa stated he was hopeful that the project would help further solidify the mutual goodwill and friendly relations between St. Kitts/Nevis and Japan.

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LADY JANET AKERS

A WOMAN OF SUBSTANCE

CELEBRATING HER 100TH BIRTHDAY

29TH APRIL 1912 - 29TH APRIL 2012

BY WINSTON 'ZACK' NISBETT
CULTURAL PRESERVATIONIST

When reflecting on such venerable matriarchs - the likes of **Ada May Edwards, Mary Charles George** and **Lady Annie Locker Allen**, one would have no other alternative but to say that **Mrs. Janet Akers** exemplifies those phenomenal traits possessed by those three distinguished ladies.

Certainly all three would have created a psychological impact on the lives of each and every conscious-minded citizen within our historical, cultural, educational and social affairs.

Obviously, this woman of substance epitomizes true moral, ethical values which had been instilled by disciplined parentage, which she exhibited throughout her lifespan.

The Parish of St. Mary's Cayon to be exact, where the old cotton industry gained prominence, should be proud to know that this was the birthplace of this outstanding centurion.

In my book of virtuous women, **Lady Janet Akers** will be regarded as a Christian Queen who lived a very quiet God centered life: one who might not have made any special mark on the world stage at large, but whose good examples were displayed to others by her gentle influence, especially those who had the privilege of being around her.

As a student of the Cayon Elementary School she was able to transform her life to be a self-reliant individual, giving her the impetus to advance herself in a positive manner, attending church and Sunday school, which in those days was a must. Both mother and father worked assiduously to make ends meet.

An unfortunate accident occurred with her father who was an overseer on the estate as well as the family's main food provider, which resulted in his death.

After the death of her father, her mother, with twelve children, that is, Janet and her eleven older siblings, was asked to vacate the estate house, mainly because none of her brothers and sisters worked for the sugar industry. This meant that her entire family had to seek employment instantaneously, so as to alleviate the financial burden they were encountering.

In an extensive interview with Lady Janet and her daughter, Sylvia Manning it was outlined to me that because of that spiritual awareness within her she was able to win the hearts of many, including her pastor Reverend Cedric Lanyon Thornton out of England, who gave her the opportunity to work for his church through the ministry looking after the babies and other domestic duties.

In view of the economic crisis at that time she was forced to migrate to Antigua shortly after, in search of 'greener pastures'.

Surely! Greener pastures were met when she got married to a Kittitian counterpart who went to Antigua to seek work the same way she did.

While there in Antigua she was able to accept the Lord Jesus Christ as her personal Saviour through the Pilgrim Holiness Church, which she is still a member of up to this present day, apart from when she attended the Pentecostal Church in Tabernacle, (which is still called the New Testament Church of God).

With that short stint of four to five years in Antigua, life began to get more and more complicated, and in 1946 both she and her husband decided that it was necessary to return to St. Kitts, their 'born in land', with a determined desire to make things work for the better.

On her return to St. Kitts, she spent some time with her sister Eglantine who encouraged her to return to home, and later moved to Tabernacle. During the period of about 20 years of her residence in Tabernacle, she established a reputable business making tarts, pastries, sugar cakes, conkies as well as sewing and a variety of



other products, including the numerous items of clothing she had perfected and items which she bought for resale.

Shortly before moving to Tabernacle she had become the Guardian of her said sister's children, bringing them up in a Christian environment of attending church and instilling a sense of discipline, and the qualities of good manners and behaviour in all of them.

There in Tabernacle she was able to socialise not only with the people in the village but the general populace within its environs and beyond. This, a woman of such impeccable character, whose exemplary qualities are priceless, was able to serve with distinction as a role model in community development and its enhancement, which paved the way for many celebrities: doctors, lawyers, nurses, teachers, religious ministers, whom she counselled and gave good sound advice when needed.

Even when marriages were broken up, she was able to mend them back! And when there seemed to be no way out she was able to give comfort, wisdom and hope, especially to the sick and down-trodden.

Since coming to Basseterre from Tabernacle, after the death of her husband in 1974, her home has always been a nesting ground for many celebrities and members of her family: the likes of His Excellency Mr. Cedric Lanyon Harper, Ambassador to Cuba; Mrs. Doreen Harper Taylor; Gloria Mitcham and Verna Isaac Hazel; not forgetting nurse Sylvia Manning, her daughter, who gave tirelessly of her time and affection, making sure that she achieved this most significant milestone of this her hundredth anniversary.

In her Pilgrim Church, now called the Wesleyan Holiness Church, she has been a stalwart member and a tower of strength for many years, and has encouraged many persons to accept the Lord. It is the first time in the Basseterre Wesleyan Holiness Church that

World Health Day: With a growing population of older adults, the challenge is to ensure healthy aging

Increased life expectancy and a growing population of older adults in the Latin American and Caribbean region present both challenges and opportunities. With the theme "Good health adds life to years," PAHO/WHO has chosen aging as the focus of this year World Health Day (7 April), in order to show how lifelong good health can contribute to a full and productive life in later years.

In 2020, the Americas will have 200 million older adults, almost twice the figure for 2006, with more than half living in Latin America and the Caribbean. Within the next five years, for the first time in human history, the number of adults aged 65 and over will outnumber children under the age of 5. The countries with the fastest aging population are from the Eastern Caribbean. This is the result of the successes of the region in reducing mortality, especially infant mortality.

PAHO/WHO promotes governments and public in general to remember that healthy ageing is linked to health in earlier stages of life. Undernutrition in the womb, for example, may increase the risk of disease in adult life, such as circulatory diseases and diabetes. Respiratory infections in childhood may increase the risk of chronic bronchitis in adult life. Obese, or overweight, adolescents run the risk of developing chronic diseases, such as diabetes, circulatory disease, and cancer, respiratory and musculo-skeletal disorders, in adult life.

It is also important to remember that the way we age depends on many factors. The functional capacity of an individual's biological system increases during the first years of life, reaches its peak in early adulthood and naturally declines thereafter. The rate of decline is determined, at least in part, by our behaviours and exposures across the whole life course. These include what we eat, how physically active we are and our exposure to health risks such as those caused by smoking, harmful consumption of alcohol, or exposure to toxic substances.

PAHO/WHO recommends countries to consider the following priorities:

- Ensure good health in each life stage
- Ensure access to primary health care and a range of options for long-term care
- Create and develop healthy and sustainable places and communities
- Promote the continuing participation of older persons

World Health Day is held each year on 7 April to commemorate the founding of the World Health Organization in 1948. In observance of this day, PAHO/WHO invited countries in the Region to join the celebration of World Health Day and conduct activities that raise awareness on how good health contributes to a productive life at older ages.

On April 12, PAHO/WHO headquarters in Washington, D.C. brought together the health authorities of various countries in the region as well as experts to discuss ways to include healthy aging on the region's development agenda and in public health policies. Countries throughout the Caribbean joined in this important celebration.

Ministry of Health and Social Services

The Ministry of Health and Social Services will be scheduling monthly events for the elderly commencing in April under the theme 'Ageing and Health' culminating in the Healthy Ageing Month of September and the Month of Older Persons in October.

a member has reached 100 years. It is undoubtedly an auspicious occasion. She held the position in the church of Deaconess and Treasurer. This Woman of Substance should be highly commended for a job well done. The many awards you have won is ample testimony of your renowned stewardship with respect to your dedication, application, inspiration and motivation.

On this celebration of your 100th anniversary we give you special thanks and continue to express our appreciation for impacting our lives so emphatically, attaining your hundredth anniversary. We are very proud of you and we wish u continued happiness, peace and joy! To all the family and friends who came from far and near, we thank you for sharing this wonderful day of thanksgiving with us. HAPPY HUNDREDDTH BIRTHDAY, LADY JANET AKERS! YOU HAVE SERVED AND

WITNESS WITH DISTINCTION!

ECCU Accounting Professionals Receive training on IFRSS

By Drizel Hanley

Over 70 accounting professionals from across the Eastern Caribbean Currency Union (ECCU) member countries are currently participating in the second Train the Trainers Workshop on the International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs), at the ECCB Headquarters.

The workshop, which officially opened on Monday, April, 30 is part of a World Bank sponsored project and is being executed in partnership with the Institute of Chartered Accountants of the Eastern Caribbean (ICAEC), the IFRS Foundation and the Eastern Caribbean Central Bank (ECCB).

Speaking at the opening ceremony, Managing Director of the ECCB, Mrs. Jennifer Nero, said that the foundation for the project was arranged in 2006 when the World Bank completed a Report on Standards and Codes (ROSC) on the quality of accounting and auditing infrastructure and practices in the OECS.

“In 2010 the World Bank

approved a grant of US\$455,000 to assist with addressing the deficiencies identified; the ICAEC was then given the mandate to deliver three core deliverables before 2013” she added.

President of ICAEC, Mr. Frank Myers, in his remarks said that the workshop would help to prompt the region’s accountants to think more deeply about the application of the IFRSs rather than following past procedures.

Mr. Michael Wells, Director of the IFRS commended the ECCU accounting professionals for their consistent application of the accepted standards in the region.

Areas to be covered during the five-day workshop include: the main principles of each IFRS and the main applicable estimates and judgments; accounting for insurance contracts and financial instruments; and reporting

financial performance in accordance with the IFRSs.

The IFRSs are a set of accounting standards developed by the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB), which are being adopted globally for the preparation of public company financial statements.

Mr. Michael Wells and Mr. Andrew Hyland of the IFRS Foundation, and Mr. Darrel Scott, Member of the International Accounting Standards Board, are conducting the sessions.

Accounting for insurance contracts and financial instruments and reporting financial performance in accordance with the IFRSs are two areas of study for the five day workshop.

The first of such workshops was conducted during the period 16–20 May 2011.



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having made sworn deposition that policy number **59300 on the life of Thajif Robinson has been lost**, and having made application to the directors to grant a special policy, notice is hereby given that unless objection is raised within one month of the date hereof, the special policy asked for will be issued.

Dated: May 4, 2012

By order,

Judith Attong
General Manager

Jamaica 50....

(cont'd from page 7)

6.30am.

The group will be in the Federation until Saturday, 19 May 2012 and will be exposed to various study topics by presenters on Nevis and St Kitts and will experience guided tours of both islands.

During the visit of this group of 21 persons, the JamKit Association will also host the Launch of its Jamaica 50 SKN Essay Competition on both islands as follows:

St Kitts - Monday, 14 May, 7.00pm - St George’s Anglican Church Hall (Old Girls’ School)

Nevis - Thursday, 17 May, 10.30am - Charlestown Methodist Church Hall

Jamaicans and friends of Jamaicans are invited to attend the Launch Ceremonies and support JamKit Association’s thrust to make a contribution to the community through conducting the educational activity of an Essay Competition as part of our Jamaica 50 SKN Celebrations. Representatives of the Ministries of Education, Culture, Youth and Tourism have been invited to these Ceremonies.

An overview of the Study Tour will be presented in St Kitts at 8.45am on Monday, 14 May 2012 (St George’s Anglican Church Hall) and in Nevis on Thursday, 17 May 2012 at 8.45am (Charlestown Methodist Church Hall).



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The TDC Group of Companies is now inviting applications from the public for the Michael L. King Scholarship Grant.

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Michael L. King Scholarship Grant
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The truth about Sammy

By Garth Wattley

Story Updated:

May 1, 2012 at 11:00 PM ECT

Being the West Indies captain is like being the holder of high political office.

You have a constituency to answer to, their expectations are very high and some will be detractors no matter how much good you do. You will also be judged on performance.

Since taking over one of the highest profile jobs in Caribbean society from Chris Gayle in late 2010, Darren Julius Garvey Sammy has experienced first-hand the effects of all the above. Especially the judgement on performance part.

Strictly on bald figures, a record of two wins and six losses in 16 Test matches and 13 wins, 19 losses, a tie and a no-result in 34 One-day Internationals does not present a case for an extended stay in office.

But with good reason, the expression "damned lies" often is mentioned in the same breath with statistics.

For the past week, I have been thinking about Sammy and his record and his critics.

He was not obligated to take the job when the West Indies Cricket Board (WICB) offered it to him, and no one can say that he campaigned to be captain. But at the same time, it is hard to imagine that any past WI skipper has come to the job with a greater degree of scepticism hanging over him.

In so insular a place as this, the fact that he is a St Lucian under a board with a St Lucian president and CEO has not helped him ease into the job. His modest record with bat and ball made an even stronger case for the opposition. By popular consensus it seemed, Sammy was a man not worth his place in the team and should never have been captain. As he gets ready for what will surely be another difficult experience in England this week, he still cannot shake the "loser" tag.

I wonder however if he is not a victim of a thing being repeated often enough until it is accepted as fact. It does not seem to matter what the evidence may show in the case of Sammy. But consider a few things, please.

When it comes to having a losing record as West Indies captain, Sammy has plenty of company. Since Richie Richardson gave up the job after the 1996 World Cup, no West Indian captain has won more than he has lost. Excluding Ridley Jacobs, Dwayne Bravo and Floyd Reifer who were stop-gaps, we are talking about eight men.

Sammy's record is comparable and in some cases better than his predecessors. Shivnarine Chanderpaul for instance won one, lost 10 and drew three in his tortuous 14 Test matches in charge. In 15 games, Jimmy Adams won four and lost eight, Carl Hooper won four and lost 11 in 22, while Gayle's 20 Tests at the helm brought three wins but also nine losses. Already however, Sammy's teams have drawn as many matches in 16—eight—as Gayle managed in his 20. And it is unlikely that Sammy will be allowed to stay in charge for 47 matches like Brian Lara did in three spells and lose 26 games while winning just 11.

Of course, there are many variables, like strength of the teams and the quality of the opponents against whom wins were achieved. The point is though, that Sammy's team—a currently very green side—is doing no worse than the ones that have gone before.

And what about the captain's own cricket?

Ad nauseam, it has been said by experts and John Public alike that Sammy as all-rounder (a very loose description) is not worth his place in the side, that he unbalances it, that he is keeping a more deserving player out. Who exactly, on current form is that more deserving player?

Since they both fill the same role, let us use Dwayne Bravo as a comparison. There can be no question about Bravo's ability and overall value to the teams he plays for. But in his last five Tests (2010) he averaged 19.10. In Sammy's last five he averages 24.44 which is higher than his overall 19.09. With the ball, Bravo got five wickets in his last five games, Sammy took nine in his last five.

If the time gap makes you

suspicious, then check what happened in the last ODI series against Australia. Sammy averaged 53.33 with the bat in those five games and took four wickets (36.75) and Bravo 18.80 with the bat and six wickets (34.16) with the ball. Just by extension, Andre Russell averaged 28.25 with the bat and took six wickets (26.33).

Numbers sometimes are useful. In this case, they show the captain is contributing more runs to the team now, in both forms of the game. In the just concluded Test rubber against Australia, a difficult series for batsmen on both sides, Sammy averaged over 31 and was third behind Shivnarine Chanderpaul and Darren Bravo only among West Indians. And while his bowling has not been as penetrative as he no doubt would like so far this year, last season he contributed 30 wickets in Tests while Devendra Bishoo got 39, Fidel Edwards 32 and Ravi Rampaul 31. Sammy also had the satisfaction of actually winning a match for his team—the first Test against Pakistan in Guyana—with his seam bowling.

This season, Sammy's runs surely played a part in West Indies' sharing the ODI and Twenty20 series with Australia, the No.1 ranked ODI side. Those results were unexpected and represented an improvement on results in the corresponding ODI series last season when WI lost to both Pakistan and India.

Even in losing 2-0 to the

Aussies in the Tests, the Windies so far in 2012 have mirrored the spirit of their skipper who never stops trying. Sammy is a man who recognises his limitations and plays within them. He keeps working for improvement and this year, has been reaping some reward. So have the Windies.

In separate interviews in Dominica, both Australian captain Michael Clarke and coach Mickey Arthur were moved to speak of the improvement they saw in the Windies as a team.

To stay in the job, Sammy will have to keep getting good results against the better teams, especially in Test cricket. But it would be disingenuous of the naysayers to downplay the improved results this year, even if they are limited, or to brush aside his own contributions to the side.

And at a time when it is the norm to question the commitment of players to West Indies cricket, is it not a bonus to have a leader of Sammy's disposition?

Watching him handle the media in this recent series, I noted the greater poise he seems to have, the bits of humour he allowed himself. He was a credit to the office, a man handling a very difficult job with all the grace he could muster.

Eventually, this West Indies team will outgrow Sammy. But that time has not come yet.

So in the meantime, as the song says, keep doing what you're doing Sammy.

Notice

The Goi Peace Foundation (UNESCO) is accepting submissions for its annual essay competition under the theme "Creating the Future We Want".

Essays of 600-800 words:

- may be submitted by anyone up to 25 years old in one of the following categories: Children (ages up to 14) Youth (ages 15-25).
- must be original and

unpublished.

- must have a cover page

Entries must be submitted by June 30, 2012.

Prizes will vary from U.S.\$ 1,300 to consolation prizes.

The 1st prize winner will be invited to the award ceremony in Tokyo, Japan scheduled for November 2012.

For further information please consult our website at www.goipeace.or.jp or www.unesco.org/youth.

STEP programme for marginalised and at-risk youth successful to date

BASSETERRE, ST. KITTS, APRIL 24TH 2012 (CUOPM) - A comprehensive update on the progress of the Skills Training and Entrepreneurial Programme (STEP), designed to deliver agricultural and entrepreneurial skills to marginalised and at-risk youth in St. Kitts was presented to Cabinet on Monday.

The STEP programme is being jointly coordinated by the Ministry of Social Development, the Ministry of Education and the STEP Foundation. More particularly, the STEP Foundation is comprised of a number of

leaders from the private and public sectors, with varying skills and levels of involvement in business, education and training, and agriculture.



Minister of Social Development, the Hon. Marcella Liburd was immensely pleased

with the success of the programme to date and took tremendous pride in the development and the advancement of the young persons involved in the programme.

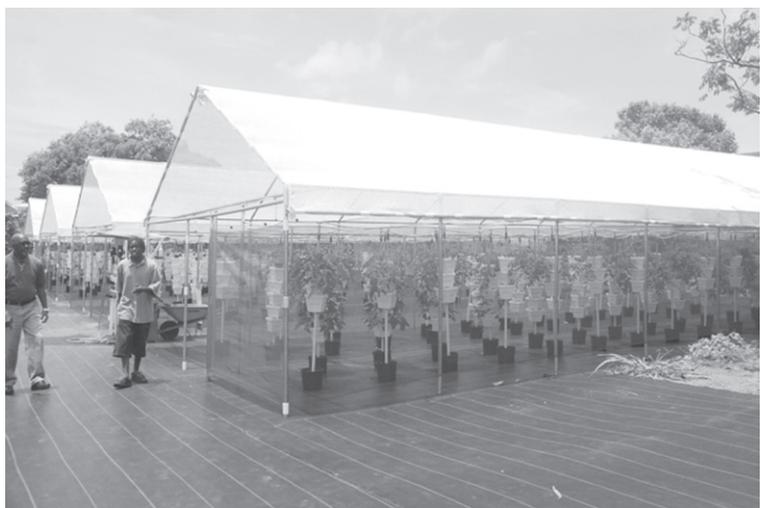
"The Minister (Liburd) revealed that over 15 shade houses equipped with technology for hydroponic agriculture had been built and that the trainees were displaying high levels of mastery of the technology. Moreover, Cabinet was pleased that the first crop of lettuce produced under the project was recently harvested and successfully marketed," said Minister of Information, Sen. the Hon. Nigel Carty.

He said Minister Liburd emphasised that the STEP

programme was designed to be a tool to help change risky behaviour into productive behaviour, and that such a programme needed critical day-to-day oversight and supervision.

He said that Minister Liburd informed Cabinet that Mr. Leroy Greene, former Agricultural Science Teacher and former Director of Sports, had been selected from among a number of interested candidates to supervise the project whilst receiving ongoing programmatic support from the Ministry of Social Development and Gender Affairs, the National Skills Training Programme (NSTP) in the Ministry of Education, and the Ministry of Police and Defence Force.

(Photo by Erasmus Williams)





By: Vigilante

* A recent poll carried out by PAM has confirmed that Dr. Douglas is by far the most popular leader in this country and that Lindsay Grant is certainly not a viable alternative to our beloved Prime Minister, the Rt. Hon. Dr. Denzil Douglas.

* The poll also confirmed that PAM is in total disarray and is no viable alternative either to this Labour Government, despite the economic and financial challenges currently facing the country.

* Since the findings of the poll, the call for Lindsay Grant's resignation as the PAM leader has doubled and intensified, but the pompous Little Bo Peep fellow is adamant that he is not stepping down.

* He say he got "de founding family" and the man with more money than God firmly behind him, and he going fight to the very end to hold on to power at all and any cost.

* And he say he's fortified in his view that he is doing the right thing and he will not be distracted by the detractors in his party who are calling for his immediate removal.

He not backing down, to he done spend too much money on de party to give up de leadership now.

* But dey say that the dissidents in the party are not easing up either in their campaign to get rid of the joker; and he does not trusts none of his two deputies, who he claims are behind the relentless campaign to get rid of him.

* The month of April has now passed and hopeless Little Bo Peep can't announce his full slate of candidates for the 2015 General Elections – as he promised weeks ago.

* Dey say "De Anointed One" is afraid of the political backlash he will receive in Central Basseterre and so he is spending lots of money in the Bars in New Town and testing the waters in East Basseterre, claiming he can win the Frigate Bay boxes because of his profession.

* But dey say he was told by de Rusty Chairman that anywhere he run as a PAM candidate – Central Basseterre or East Basseterre – he going lose bad. Marcella will eat him up and Asim will eat him up too.

* We are reliably informed that PAM and their Rescue Crew allies have been giving out tons and tons of money to discourage people from participating in the Labour Day March on Monday.

* And the Voices programme was used to its fullest this week to assist in the PAM/Rescue Crew campaign to prevent people from marching and showing their solidarity with the workers of this country.

* But people ain't tekking dem on at all. They tekking dey money and the more they talk or do to dissuade people from marching on Monday, the more Labour supporters and the workers of this country will rally behind their Union and Labour Party leaders.

* All de talk in big business circles is about the fellow who likes to talk a lot 'bout integrity, transparency and accountability. Dey say he get a property (house) at staff rate and sell it to a white man for millions of US profit.

* And dey say he got 'til de end of the year when he leave to settle it (pay back the profit he mek). He may have to pay it back from the \$3.5 million he getting for he gratuity or else....

Labour Day is for ALL Workers. PAM Day is for Criminals

By: Sotto Voce

The Labour Day March held annually on the first Monday in May continues to be a big problem for PAM, even after their 47 years of PAM's existence. No other country in the world has any political entity that makes a workers' day march a problem. On their daily political shows on radio their mercenaries can be heard advertising their ignorance of the true meaning of Labour Day (or May Day).

This is the day each year when workers all over the world celebrate all their achievements made over the years. It is not a political day. Our main union, the St. Kitts-Nevis Trades & Labour Union, has always been in the forefront of uplifting and propagating the gains that our workers have made. The PAM, on the other hand, has always been known as the enemy of workers here. They do everything in their power to be offensive to those who would represent workers.

Some countries celebrate it on the 1st May, while others do so on the first Monday in May. This Labour Day March is a tradition held all over the world by the working classes for decades. Efforts to divide the workers here in St. Kitts among political lines are puerile and foolish at a time when workers gains are being celebrated.

It's a burning shame here in St. Kitts the way the PAM, over the years, has sought to fight down our workers. While in government, PAM had people taking down the names of Civil servants who marched on Labour Day to fire them. So PAM's anti-Labour day stance is well known here.

Most of the gains workers have made since the abolition of slavery have been achieved long before now. So what really is PAM's problem? Why they still fighting so hard to fight down workers and to keep their own supporters in ignorance? It's pathetic the way they keep peddling garbage about Labour Day even now in enlightened times. Why all this antagonism and venom against our Workers Day? Their deliberate efforts to bad-talk Labour Day and its real significance are ridiculous.

I read an article by one of their supporters in last week's Observer that suggested the people of Newton Ground, St. Pauls, Dieppe Bay, Parsons and Saddlers were all moomoo to vote Labour. And because of their love for Comrade Bradshaw they vote for anybody put up by Labour. How stupid can some supposedly intelligent people be for partisan politics? He will soon say the same thing about Village people in Constituency #3 too. Because he jumps like a yoyo among the different Parties from time to time, he expects others to follow his lead.

Not for the first time in our history, the 2011-2012 Carnival celebrations 40/40 were run at a loss. The government will have to make up the difference between what was collected and what is to be paid out. The accounts will have to be audited and then published, after they have been laid in Parliament.

The unaudited figures disclosed by the relevant Minister shows that about \$750,000.00 was collected from gate receipts and sponsors; while total pay outs due amount to about \$1.2 million. This means that just under \$1/2 million has to be found by our government to make up the deficit.

That \$1/2 million, that has to be found to balance the Carnival Committee accounts, was the subject of much PAM/Rescue bashment on the "Voices of PAM" for days last week, and on the "Curse the Prime Minister" Saturday show as well. The Minister and the Government were subjected to a politically contrived attack, the like of which I have not before seen or heard coming out of a wonderful Carnival Season.

It was all hands on deck by the continued PAM/Rescue choir and chorus, as they sang all the negative possible – real or imagined – on this issue. All the political woodlice came out in the open to vent their propaganda.

Among the expenses the Carnival Committee incurred, was that of the Calypso Tents. These tents are usually organised by musical bands and individuals. When Ellie Matt was around, he promoted one for many years with some success. These are hard times now for all. Even the Tents organised are singing the monetary blues and cannot make ends meet. The Committee stepped in to rescue one of the pillars on which any Carnival must lean.

Strangely enough, the political bashers are not saying that the Tents need to be self-sustaining and pay their own way; Not at all. But the Committee that offers to bail them out of their difficulties is to blame. What a thing! Ingratitude flourishes high on their agenda at this time. The government has its challenges too. The committee did not manage the Tents. But some Tent organisers can mismanage and be heroes for the bashers. And the benevolent hand that offers assistance gets cursed.

Our National Carnival celebration each year is not a political event.

It's a burning shame here in St. Kitts the way the PAM, over the years has sought to fight down our workers.

All our people get involved. The benefits derived from Carnival are not limited to the profit and loss financial statements. The hotels, guest houses, night clubs, businesses and shops of all kinds all benefit. All our local artistes get opportunities to display their talents and to benefit from the sales of CDs, T-Shirts and other paraphernalia. It is a time when our locals make some money.

Well, I am sure our government will pay the money to resolve the Carnival issue, turned political by the PAM/Rescue pipsqueaks, in short order.

The PAM had started its campaigning for the 2015 General Elections the moment it lost the one in 2010. They have been beating to the all-out political trail on radio with the help of its sidekick, the Rescue Crew, on their FM. That has now been intensified with additional radio PAM programmes to the "Voices" and the Saturday "Curse the PM" shows. Their leader says he is rolling out his full slate of candidates soon.

Their mercenaries on radio are fast becoming irrelevant to an intelligent public. The characters who dominate the airwaves bring stale and unconvincing stories to the public. And the passion with which some relate their foolishness has become legendary.

They allege that we have this demon of a dictator as our Prime Minister, yet their ability to go on radio and curse him inside out was made possible by the very same man. When their idols ruled the roost between 1980 and 1995 such was not possible

One of their supporters was recently convicted in the High Court and, amazingly, they have found a way to blame the Prime Minister for it. They are so filled with spite and rage that the threats have begun. They have warned that the Labour Leader must wet his hand and wait for them "when they win the next elections". They are clearly signalling their unreadiness to hold any responsible public office and they think St. Kitts people stupid.

I'll end as I began – There are special days here that have been fixed by custom over the years. Labour Day will always be celebrated on the first Monday in May regardless of what the PAM/Rescue pipsqueaks think or say. PAM Day on the other hand is the 10th June. That's the day they brought in criminals into St Kitts to assist them to overthrow a lawful government by force of arms.

Do you think you will ever hear them on their "Voices" talking about that day?

LABOUR ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★



1 Shenequa POWELL



2 Natacia CLAXTON



3 Nichelle HENRY



4 Kwahne WHARTON



5 Jahneska WILLIAMS



6 Patricia CLARKE



7 Nakilah WATSON



8 Caley GREAUX

2012 Miss Labour
Queen Pageant

SAT. MAY 5, 8PM
CARNIVAL VILLAGE
BASSETERRE
CHILDREN PAY \$15

\$25
OVER AGE 12