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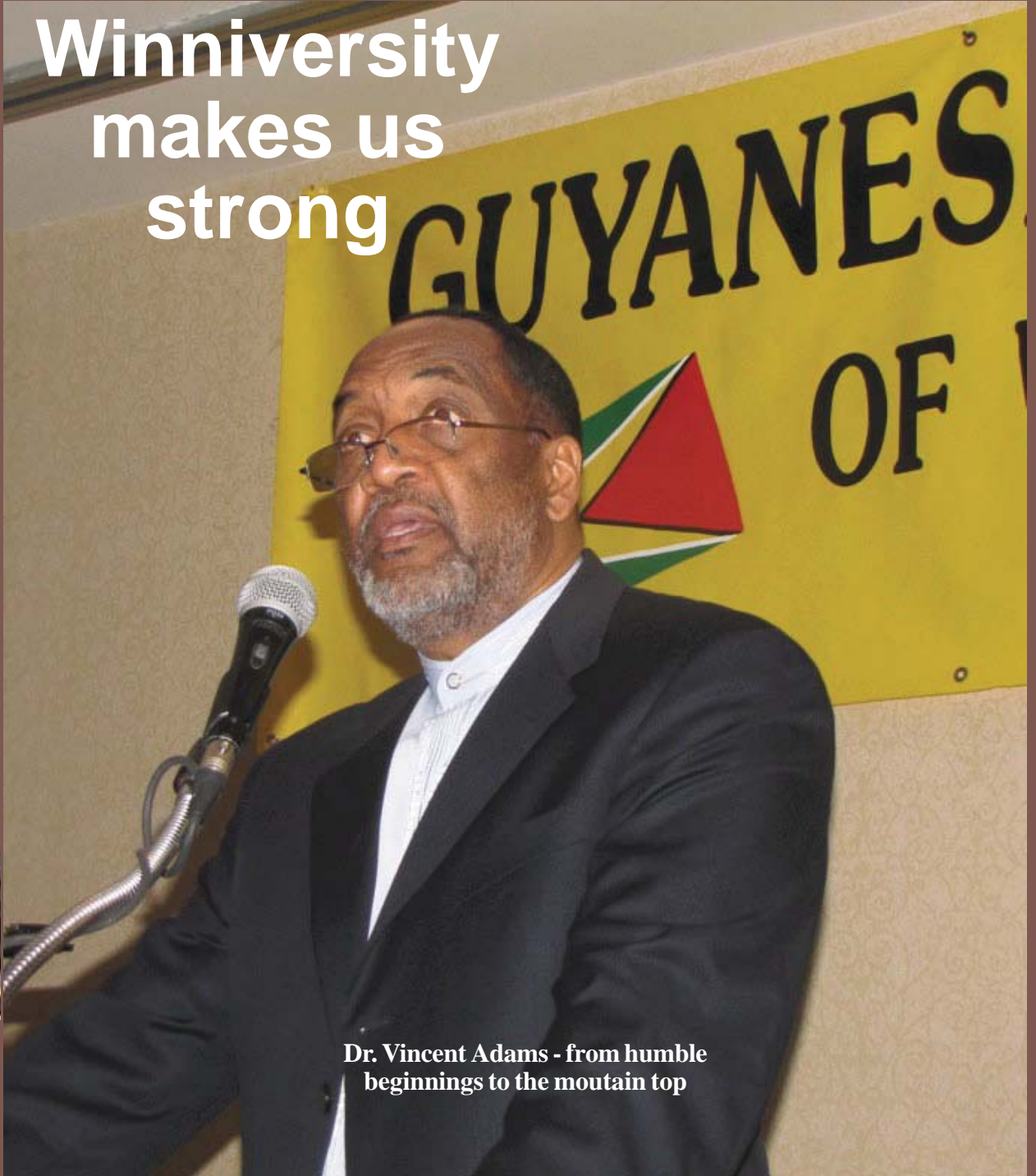
Summer Edition

gl obal eyes

Manitoba African and Caribbean Quarterly Magazine



Winniversity makes us strong



Dr. Vincent Adams - from humble beginnings to the mountain top

Brian Cline, Aboriginal Hoop Dancer, Marty Dolin, Champion for Refugees Retires, Chilean Dancer, Middleeastern Dancer, Indian Daners, Ethiopian Dancers, Inuit Throat singer Nikki Kimaksiutiksak, Rwandan Dancers

Global Eyes Summer Reading Selections - Integra Archer

“The Brief and Wonderous Life of Oscar Wao” by Junot Diaz

This charming (Pulitzer-Prize winning) novel follows a Dominican-American family’s epic journey back through the generations as young, “ghetto nerd” Oscar seeks to understand the legendary curse on his family, which he beings to blame for his strong desire for romance which has proven impossible to fulfill. This high-energy story is filled with all kinds of details about life in the Dominican Republic; politics, Spanish sayings and myths, that are told in a fantastic way that is both casual and vibrant. Filled with unстереotypical, rich characters that are definitely flawed, but always passionate, this is a fun and quirky novel that slowly wins your heart.

Excerpt from “The Brief and Wonderous Life of Oscar Wao”:

“His affection—that gravitational mass of love, fear, longing, desire, and lust that he directed at any and every girl in the vicinity without regard to looks, age, or availability—broke his heart each and every day. Despite the fact the he considered it this huge sputtering force, it was actually most like a ghost because no girl ever really seemed to notice it. Occasionally they might shudder or cross their arms when he walked near, but that was about it.”

“The Thing Around Your Neck” by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie

This powerful collection of short stories is perfect for reading under the sun. Adichie’s writing style is

calm, precise and sensitive, and show you why this young writer is worthy of all her critical acclaim. She has the ability to take the reader into of some of life’s smallest moments, with such honesty and insight, that you have to, at times, rest the book down and close your eyes and just, stay there for a minute. Each story is full, beautifully crafted and unforgettable. Adichie has a gift for taking us into worlds many are unfamiliar with, but into feelings our hearts can recognize as their own. She has a deep understanding of her characters, and skillfully and thoughtfully reveals them.

Contemplating the spaces between Nigeria and America; between men and women, and parents and children, between beauty and sorrow, Adichie navigates the human desire to find balance between two opposing forces. And she does so with both sharp wit, and broad, yet subtle grace.

Excerpt from “Imitation” in “The Thing Around Your Neck”:
“I love you”, she says, although the phone is already dead. She tries to visualize Obiora, but she can’t because she is not sure if he is at home, in his car, or somewhere else. And then she wonders if he is alone, or if he is with the girl with the short curly hair. Her mind wanders to the bedroom in Nigeria, hers and Obiora’s, that still feels like a hotel room every Christmas. Does this girl clutch her pillow in sleep? Do this girl’s moans bounce off the vanity mirror? Does this girl walk to the bathroom on tiptoe as she herself had done as a single girl when her married boyfriend brought her to his house for a wife-away weekend?”



Top: Victor Mager Boys and Girls Club doing the Congo line at its **Multicultural Festival** (inset- Glen Williams Manager)
Right Rwandan dance group performing at Immigrant’s Women’s Assoc. **Multicultural Expo** March 2011.

Beatrice Watson

Champion of Equality for Blacks

While visiting Toronto last March 2011 I heard about the passing of Dudley Laws a distinguished black activist and role model to many blacks in and out of the Ontario prison system.

Laws' life was about fighting for the rights of youths and to keep as many black youths as possible out of the prison system and to rehabilitate those were in the system. That was his life's work.

Highly respected in the Toronto community Laws passing made the front page of many community and mainstream publications around Toronto. Parts of Toronto streets were closed off to the public to allow community to honour the man they called friend, father, husband, rock, mentor, rights fighter among others. The community's love and appreciation poured out in numerous letters to the editors.

I read somewhere that the day before he passed, he held a meeting in his hospital room - taking care of business.

For the giant he was, Laws was soft spoken and had an air of humility. His jet white beard against velvet black skin gave him a distinguished statesman look, which he was.

Laws will be remembered most for his bull-dog approach for justice and respect from the Toronto police for African Canadians.



Speaker of the House is Moving on

"The first Inuit to be elected to the Manitoba legislature is calling it quits.

George Hickes, who represents the constituency of Point Douglas is retiring and won't seek re-election in the upcoming election on October 4, 2011.



He has served as the MLA for Point Douglas since 1990. Mr. Hickes was the also the First Speaker to be elected by the legislative assembly in a secret ballot election in 1999 and again in 2003 and 2007.

He will continue to serve as MLA until the writ is dropped for the October 4th

election and will continue to serve as Speaker until a new Speaker is elected by members.

George is planning on spending more time with his family, most of whom live in Nunavut."

Globaleyes takes this opportunity to wish Mr. Hickes a happy and fruitful retirement from the Legislature.

Keturah Matheson celebrated 100 years on June 4, 2011 surrounded by family and close friends.



Originally from the Island of Jamaica, Ms Matheson lives with her daughter Carmen Reynolds. Carmen said her mother attributes her long life to hard work, good food without poisonous fertilizers and a clean life.

She said her mother became a Pentecostal Christian since the age 30 and has lived a Christian life ever since. She never drank

or smoked but worked at several jobs to maintain her seven children as a single parent, Carmen said and added that her mother worked until she was 75 years old. Among the jobs her mother held were Nurse's Aide, Public Works and owner of a grocery store where she cooked and sold food.

Carmen said her mother appreciates her long life but that she is ready to go to her eternal home. Carmen said that a long life has benefits and disadvantages as well. She said her mother is not as mobile as before, all her friends have passed away and she has outlived three of her own children and two great grandsons. "It is very difficult to lose a child at any age. Her two great grand sons were of tender ages" Carmen informed.

Carmen has been taking care of her mother for the last 12 years.

Carmen said she does not want to live that long but she might not have a say in that as she has good genes on both sides of her family. Congrats Mama Matheson!



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Global Eyes is an independent magazine devoted to promoting cultural awareness of the African and Caribbean communities of Manitoba and to highlight the issues and concerns of these communities. It also aims and promoting cultural diversity and appreciation. Its mandate is to be a quarterly publication featuring articles, and the achievements of local, national and international personalities that are of interest to the African/caribbean community, promoting healthy living by providing healthtips and recipes as well as editorials with African/Caribbean sensibilities and letters to the editor. The Magazine is produced under a volunteer editorial committee that assists with proof-reading, publicity and distribution.



Winnipeg seniors kicked off **Seniors Month** with a walk around the Legislative grounds. Minister of Healthy Living, Youth and Seniors Jim Rondeau led the walk after the seniors were properly warmed up. Each participant received a pedometer to track their steps.

You remember me?

There are so many things in this world that I consider a blessing, the fact that I was born in Canada, that I was able to have a good education, that my family is healthy and happy and the fact that my mom makes the best apple pie in the world. The other thing that I think is great is that I live in such a diverse city as Winnipeg.

If you look in the dictionary you will find the definition of diversity is; the state or fact of being diverse; different, unlikeness. How many of us have thought of ourselves that way at one time or another? I know I have and when I do I smile. I recently had a cable guy visit my home on a service call. When he came in the first thing he asked me was if I graduated from this specific high school. To my amazement I said "yes I did", then he said "you graduated in 1995 right?" and again my answer was yes. Well it turned out that I graduated with this person. The first thought that I had in my mind was "you remember me?" We had a pretty large graduating class and I thought it was funny that he recognized me but I didn't remember him. When I told a friend this story she commented that it was probably because there weren't very many black people in your graduating class, because you were different people will sooner remember you. A light bulb clicked on at that moment...she's probably right!

At that point I decided to look at some of my old class pictures and realized what a diverse group of people that I was learning with over the years, it was pretty amazing the different faces that stood beside me from elementary school growing up in the North End of the city to the limited number of different faces once I got into high school.

Winnipeg continues to embrace its diversity as a city with so many amazing festivals, exhibits, gatherings and events that showcase such a variety of cultures and backgrounds. We are proud of our title of Cultural Capital of Canada and with events like Folklorama, which continues to be one of the biggest (and longest running) premiere cultural events anywhere, we embrace our diversity wholeheartedly. How diverse are you? What have you learned about another culture, religion, or ethnicity lately? No matter how old you are you never stop growing mentally and your wisdom can be shared with the younger generation around you. Manitoba welcomes over 30,000 immigrants every 5 years. Those are 30,000 diverse, unlike, different people who have one thing in common – they have chosen to live in this country and this province.

If you haven't been to some of the festivals that we have in this great city over the course of a year make an effort to take one in whether you visit one of the 46 Pavilions of Folklorama, check out the pow wow on Aboriginal Day, take in the music and food at Multiculturalism Day, Icelandic Festival or Festival Du Voyageur, or try one of the hundreds of different restaurants in this city you will never be at a loss for something new to try here in Winnipeg. And who knows you might run into someone you know!



GLOBAL EYES MAGAZINE

Out and About

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Special thanks to Nadia Thompson and Integra Archer, who have contributed to this issue.



GEM's Regular Contributors



Neil Pitamber, Caribbean Shield
A prolific writer, poet and owner, Caribbean Shield



Robin Dwarka, Board Member, Community Vibe



*Lara Badmus, LLB
Discipline Counsel
The Law Society of Manitoba*



Several Manitoba **LEAF Board** members joined Betty Hopkins, Chair, at a small reception to meet the new LEAF National Executive Director Sheryl Hoshizaki. There was information sharing, laughter among this group of awesome women - committed to making the world a better place. (Front l to r Sheryl Hoshizaki, Betty Hopkins, Beatrice Watson, Cyndi Forcand, Buchi (Back l - r Onye Nnadi, Susan Burns, Jan Perchal, Maxine McCrae.

Local briefs

VICTOR MAGER SCHOOL MULTICULTURAL PROGRAM

Victor Mager Boys and Girls Club held its 15th Annual Multicultural Festival at Victor Mager School on March 25, 2011 where more than 200 people participated. "We are proud to share this celebration of cultures. Through our festival we hope to encourage a respect and a celebration of many different cultures that exist in our very own community" stated Glen Williams, Club Manager.

The event was celebrated with cultural dinner, cultural performances by Chin Wu Athletic Association, B&G Dancer Crew, McConnell School Dance, Ballet Folklorico Raices de El Salvador, Coffie Evans and Magdaragat Philippines and also music by Rocalypso.

We wish the Club continued success in organizing this important festival for the Boys and Girls Clubs and their families.



Multiculturalism Day was a Big Hit



Natalie Reynolds and Renee Batson

The Forks came alive with cultural dances, songs, poetry and music that reflected the diverse nations in Winnipeg. There were also cultural displays and artworks by Congress of Black Women promoting arts by black women and immigrant students from Grant Park and Gordon Bell High Schools.

The Congress of Black Women partnered with the Manitoba Association of Rights and Liberties (MARL) in organizing this year Multiculturalism day celebration at the Forks. The Congress of Black Women held a preMulticulturalism Social at the Inn at the Forks with Bubba as MC and DJ Nulight and Sounds. Hon. Flor Marcelino was on hand to give her blessing to the event. She was also at the Forks the following day and brought greetings on behalf of the .Manitoba Government. The event was held indoor for fear of the rain predictions but there was no rain. It was beautiful day with lots of beautiful different people intermingling.

Spearheaded by Cindy Murdoch, Executive Director of MARL, the program ran smoothly and chairs provided were always occupied in spite of the comings and goings of the people.



CCOM (Council of Caribbean Organizations of Manitoba Inc.) held a **Thanksgiving Service** to give thanks for the Organizations 30 year- Anniversary at the Caribbean Culture Centre on Fife Street with three officiating pastors including Pastor Cornish, Chaplain Supt. Devon Clunis and Father Henry Falconer. Musician Larry Strachan played on the donated piano. Andrew Junior, a youth from the Anansi Performing Arts Group was one of the readers at this event.

Chaplain Superintendent Devon Clunis thanked the community for being there for him as a youth. He said he owed his success to them also to two teachers who believed in him. He said it is the people who take time to see the potential in others who make a difference. "Through your hardwork you've made it easier for people like me to succeed."



Pastor Cornish
Pastor Henry Falconer,(r)
Chaplain Supt. Devon Clunis, (l) participants



Editorial - Take One



Manitoba's premier celebration of cultures is upon us again. It is the time when we appreciate each other and celebrate what we brought to this country, our food, our ways and our stories. Folklorama gives us the opportunity to wear our pride on our sleeves and for a moment we feel totally accepted at home and proud to call Canada home.

How has Folklorama changed Winnipeg? Many people seem to think that after the flurry of eating strange foods and seeing strange dances people return to their cocoons but whether we see it or not there are shifts in the consciousness of Winnipeg residents. The new generations that are growing up do not know any

different than a diverse City with people from all walks of life and privilege is becoming not based on colour but on who you know just like in the old countries. We all are familiar with the phrase is not what you know but who you know. We newcomers have a responsibility to get out there and network, join mainstream organizations and help others to understand us and feel comfortable with our differences. Unless we stretch our arms out in friendship and love we will not feel the hands that are reaching toward us. Let's do our part and spread the love and feel the love in return that we get from our compatriots.

See you at a pavilion near you.

Black Odyssey - by Dr. Marion James (Second Instalment)

The first wave of black emigration was engineered by Governor Denonville (1688) who requested the right to import Blacks by 1720 the citizens themselves petitioned for the same right. In 1759 more than 1000 slave black slaves landed in New Francis. Half lived in Montreal the other s went to Louisburg in Cape Britain Island and Nova Scotia. In Montreal the slaves worked as domestic servants in



the homes driving carriages or served as butlers.

Despite the conquest of New France by Britain slavery did not end. To the contrary, the articles of capitulation guaranteed to French and Canadian residents the right to continue d ownership of black and Indian slaves.

The second wave was just over a100 years late came in two phases in 1793 marked the arrival of United Empire Loyalists from the revolutionary American War. That is the war which began after the Boston Tea party a revolutionary uprising the slogan chant: "no taxation without representation," was one of the primary beefs for the Americand. In the War of Independence those who supported Britain were called the United Empire Loyalists. Britain promised freedom for slaves if they join the British effort. They fought alongside British or

in the all Black Corps called the Black Pioneers. There is now a country called the USA. In other words the British lost the war. Consequently there was an influx of black and white loyalists comprised of free black men who came into Canada then called British North America.

It was estimated than 35000 free black men women and children were transported to Nova Scotia which at the time included New Brunswick. The white loyalists brought 2000 slaves, many of the slaves with their loyalist owners settled in Nova Scotia. A few hundred went to Lower Canada and about 500 and their masters went to Kingston Niagara Peninsular (Upper Canada). The rest went to Prince Edward Island, New Found land. In other words, there was a black community all over North America, free men and slaves. (To be continued in the next issue)

COMMUNITY RESOURCES

If you are a student and looking for help with your education, the following organizations provide annual scholarships to deserving students:

*Horace Patterson Foundation
Congress of Black Women*

These scholarships are earmarked for youths of African ancestry. Call the respective organizations to find out about their deadlines.

From Humble Beginnings to the Top of the World

Thanks to the internet and the constant sharing of information which brings us closer to each other on a daily basis, a Guyanese National came across a newspaper article featuring an impressive Guyanese personality living large in the USA and found out she knows him, tracked him down and brought him to Winnipeg.

Guest speaker at 45th Independence Anniversary banquet sponsored by the Guyanese Cultural Organization, Dr. Vincent Adams to all appearances was a coup. He delivered the goods in Guyanese style and he reminded in look and substance of LFS Burnham, the late Prime Minister of Guyana who was known for his oratorical command.

Guyana is having elections this year, and half of Dr. Vincent's speech urged Guyanese to tell their contacts in Guyana to get out and participate in the electoral process. He said it is mandatory if democracy is to prevail. He argued that Guyana's blight is its race politics and said unless that is set aside there will be no solid growth for Guyana.

Bi-racial with a mixture of Indo and Afro Guyanese



GCO Board members with
Dr. Vincent Adams

(the two dominant races in the country), Dr. Vincent could well be Guyana's Obama but he does not plan to run for office, at least not now.

While Dr. Adams has been written up in various newspapers in Guyana and elsewhere for his brilliance and excellence in academics and his career, lauded as a "Son of Guyana" he told the audience "there is another side to me and I want to share that with you tonight."

Tall, imposing with a commanding presence, looking over his glasses, he spoke about the woman he loved without whom he

would not be where he is today. His mother.

Masters' Degrees in Groundwater Hydrology and Geological Petroleum Engineering respectively after which he completed a PhD in Environmental Engineering at the University of Tennessee. He is currently the Site Manager at Portsmouth Uranium Enrichment Plant; Chief Engineer at Savannah River Nuclear site with thousands under his overall supervision, yet there is an air of humility and ordinariness about him.

Scholar and professional public servant, Dr. Adams said his mother did not know how to write but



she knew the value of a good education which she inculcated in him from a young age.

He said he grew up in an area what might be known in North American sensibility as the ghetto or the projects but said he was lucky to be surrounded by good people who took an interest in him.

Dr. Adams is one of those people who appear to be born under a lucky star, destined for success. If not for an accident he would have had a career as a professional cricketer.

Mentored by the one of the greatest West Indian cricketers, Basil Butcher, Dr. Adams was about to sign a contract with a professional team when the accident occurred and being the lucky guy he is, was allowed to enter university in the middle of the year.

Dr. Adams never looked back. He took to academics as he did to cricket - like a duck to water.

He is a man of values and he said he has learned some valuable lessons in life. One such value is never to forget your roots and the importance of paying it forward.

"We have all become successful because we were helped by other and received good grounding in Guyana I want to be that village to others.

NATURAL MUSTIQUE

'...Sunday morning! Hey backslider!; Iyin' on yu belly li' a black spider monkey!; yu head pon di wrong rock; tie up in a money; chook yu fingers in yu ears?; den yu must ha' to feel; daily bread is di sweetest Caribbean meal; so when yu see yu l'il share; no mus' squeal; man belongs in God house; mouse belongs in di field; a man pon Orange an' King ha' he little basket; hustlin' fi pack out a fresh crop a 'wisdom'; an' di final product eem place under eem tam; 'It a di birthright of Rasta in Jah kingdom; El Shaddai!; Eem wi' always provide for I an' I; Elohim!; Hail eem, oh Haile Rastafari!'; buh di point a di lesson is did man belee' in; a time fuh every pu'pose an' season; Friday aft'noon! Hey chamar!; Nisbet Plantation no ha' no species like yu; bury yu head in di ground; sin still a find yu; close yu mind to di world; buh yu must ha' to think; daily wine is di sweetest Caribbean drinks; dis teacher wey me know a di University; never stop fuh worship, only fuh degree; she ha' diploma in she office display pon di wall; buh love doh bless she none at all; El Shaddai! Eem wi always provide for yu an' I; Elohim; Hail

eem, Oh Highly Most High!; di point a di lesson yu must try to belee' in; fuh every action He ha' He reasons; yu creeping aroun' li' a bush dog a night; a black panther widout a real cause in he life; a camoudi wrap up in di wrong set a ting; salipenta wey pent up in a di wrong pen; capuchin wey a sing li' Adrian Dutchin; jagurundi wey a run ting buh carry di wrong swing; kinkajou wey look cute but a steal fowl egg; grison wey a scowl buh all when he see yu he fled; ent nothin' sweeter dan a mango in rainy season; dey ent nothin' meeker dan a man; ent nothin' meeker dan a man; widout somethin' to belee' in; El Shaddai!; Eem wi' always provide for yu an' I; look fuh di Star of David; amongst all di kings in di sky; dey is but one; Elohim!; Hail di Father an' di Son; Almighty God!; King of Kings; oh Highly Highly High!; doh wan' to hear?; den yu must ha' to feel; daily bread; yes, me fren'; ent no better Caribbeanmeal



Devon

When you reap the fruits never forget who planted the seeds. Dr. Adams is continually giving back in the US and Guyana. He adopted a class in Brooklyn and got the students to spend a day with the Nobel Prize Winner in Physics which changed their view of future possibilities for themselves. The Guyanese community in Winnipeg showed their pride shamelessly and one couldn't miss that satisfied look on the faces of all who heard him.



Kadeja

Congratulations to Guyanese Award Winners

Dr. Adams also helped in presenting awards to three Guyanese youths who have excelled in their careers or academic pursuits

Hayden Haley (mom Debra Bristol receives the award in his absence), Devon Duncan and Kadeja Duncan

Nuptials

Congratulations to Marcella Ann Austin and Sterling Normal Anderson who were wedded in Toronto on February 5, 2011. Youngest daughter of Rita Austin of Guyana Cultural Organization (GCO,) Marcella is an Assistant Manager in the advertising field. Sterling hails from Cincinnati, Ohio and is an award-winning writer. He wrote a teleplay called *The Simple Life of Noah Dearborn* for CBS starring Sidney Poitier, which received three Emmy Nominations and won an Image Award. He began writing on network television shows, such as CBS's *The Unit*, as well as NBC's *Medium* and



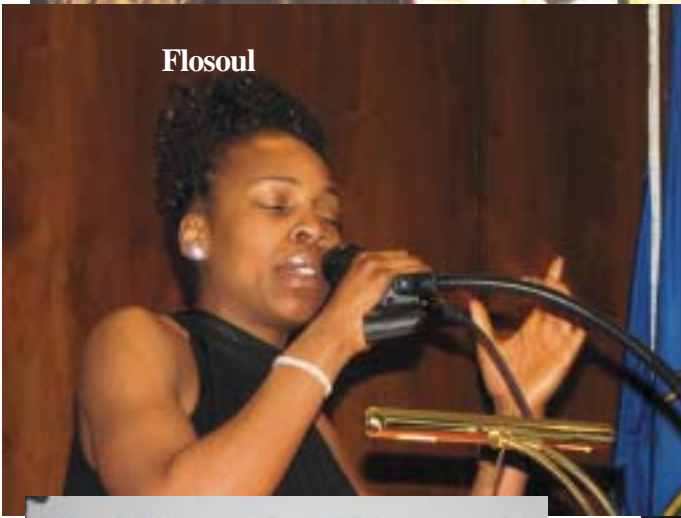
Heist. Sterling has written two books on writing, *Writing Without Fear* and *Beyond Screenwriting*. Sterling presently guest lectures and panels on screenwriting at film schools and festivals around the country. *Globaleyes wish the couple a long and happy life together*

Manitoba Lt. Governor hosts reception to celebrate CBW's 30th Anniversary

Congress of Black Women members pose with Hon. Philip S. Lee and Her Honor Mrs. Anita Lee



Flosoul



Kenny McLaren



Natalie Reynolds



Participants at Congress of Black Women AGM

The Congress of Black Women celebrated its 30 year anniversary in style at a reception hosted by the Lieutenant Government Hon. Philip S. Lee and Her Honour Mrs. Anita Lee in May 2011.

The event was marked with speech by then President, Lisa Hackett who presented a brief history of the organization's achievements.

Local entertainers, Flosoul who recently opened for Lauryn Hill, Kenny McLaren, and Natalie Reynolds, lent their talents to make the evening more special.

The Past Presidents were recognized as well as the current Board members.

Congratulations to **Antoinette Zloty** who has been elected the new Congress President at its 2011 AGM and Lois Archer, freshly minted Vice President

Letter to my children

A lot has happened over the past few months. It's like the world has been turned upside down. There have been earthquakes, floods, tornados, volcanic eruptions and other pestilences that have taken a toll on life and personal and community properties. These natural disasters leave us feeling helpless, confused and wondering what's going on. We may not know but nature does. It is doing its work, we're just in the way. We have to accept it is what it is. The upside to this downing situation is the opportunity we get to see the display of human affection in action. We get to see the best in each other as neighbours pitch in to help one another; people leave their own work to voluntarily help those in worse situations. This is the human spirit at work. These are solid proofs that we came from a source of goodness and that's

all that really matters in this world. All the stuff can be replaced but we cannot replace lost lives. Saving a life, or offering comfort and generosity to another is worth a lot. I heard on the radio one day where a woman offered her home to people who had lost everything and had no where to live. When I witness this level of kindness something moves in my heart. I feel the energy that connects us all surge within me. I try to look at the good side because if I focus on all that is bad it just leaves me feeling worse, I encourage you to do the same, look for the good in anything and you will find it and you will feel good even in times like these.
Love mom

Global Counsellor

Dear global counselor,
I am tearing up with guilt because I betrayed my girlfriend. She has this cute boyfriend who really likes her and he thinks she's so special. He always says nice things about her to me and my friends. He thinks she is so great. My boyfriend does the opposite, sometimes I think he doesn't care about me. I am jealous of my girlfriend. I asked her boyfriend if he would think she is so special if I told him she had an abortion two years ago. He was stunned; he looked like a lost dog and I felt my

stomach hurt.

I begged him not to tell my girlfriend, to keep it a secret. "Why are you doing this?" he asked me. I thought you guys were friends," he added and walked away.

I feel like a rat. I feel so horrible inside I cannot begin to tell you how much I wish I had kept my mouth shut, how much I wished I was not so jealous of my best friend. Most of all I feel ashamed of myself and sad because I know I have lost some important people who were in my life.
Please help me
Rat

Dear Rat,
Jealous is said to be one of the deadly sins. You've said it yourself, you have betrayed a friend and most of all you've betrayed yourself - the good part of you. You're a good person who gave in to your lower self.

There is nothing that is beyond repair although some repairs take longer than others. This one might be one of those.

Because your boyfriend does not pay you the compliments that your girlfriend

boyfriend does that made you jealous.

You misplaced your anger from your boyfriend and placed it on your friend.

Perhaps you might want to rethink your relationship with this boyfriend of yours. If he is not meeting your needs, find someone who does.

Remember when you gossip about others you're hurting yourself, you're showing yourself to be someone who likes to gossip and thereby putting yourself down. Give in sometime and confess to your friend and ask for her forgiveness.

cont'd on p18

In Your Back Yard

Happy Birthday Desiree Richard

Desiree Richards recently celebrated a significant birthday with family and friends within the Caribbean and larger community. Held at the Caribbean Cultural Centre, 1100 Fife Street the event featured an array of cultural foods potluck style and delicious desserts including sex-in-the pan, absolutely to die for.

The celebration included a powerpoint presentation highlighting the birthday girl's important milestones from the little girl in St. Vincent Catholic School to wife and mother. It was a fun and entertaining evening with karioke and dancing until midnight. It was fun watching people let loose the singers in them.



Desiree and hubby

Ah We Kine a Food
 The Women's Social Group of St. Vincent and The Grenadines Society of Winnipeg celebrated 25 years of cooking up a storm of delicious mouthwatering goodies that typifies Caribbean cuisine and this year was no exception.

Held at the Caribbean Cultural Centre, 1100 Fife, the event as usual attracted a full house and was celebrated with dance, poetry and songs.

The serving sizes were large and in Caribbean parlance was a "belly full" meal.



Coconut tarts, pholouri, coconut buns and more



Grenada Choir



Birthday Party emcee



Mrs. Angela Cupid



Johh Jack, getting into the music like a pro



This is not Val Fraser but her look alike sister from BC



Dennis Cupid



Desiree and contestant

Desiree gets a big birthday hug from her hubby. (Top) Grenada choir, Desiree's friend who was the emcee, The birthday girl's daughter doing the belly dance. As you can see people were really serious about their singing.

Happy birthday to **Veronica Joseph** who also celebrated a significant birthday recently ***

Birthday wishes to all those who celebrated their birthdays during the last three months, may your days be many and your health be perfect.

Congratulations to Karon and Sherrod Chester who became parents again to a bouncing baby boy on none other than Father's Day 2011. What greater blessing could there be!

Forty-five years after Barbados supposedly won its independence from the United Kingdom, we are still celebrating the Queen of England's birthday and nominating outstanding Barbadians for honours that are dispensed by this most English of queens on her birthday.

We Barbadians seem to be so devoted to this Caucasian queen- the leading representative of an institution that participated intimately in the enslavement and oppression of our ancestors- that we would seemingly do anything to continue clinging to her royal cloak-tails.

But perhaps, the real source of this seeming devotion to Elizabeth II is an ingrained Barbadian regard for the institution of monarchy in general, rather than any particular love for the distant octogenarian who currently sits on the throne of England.

Well, if this is the case, perhaps Barbadians might be interested in exploring the story of the great black man who should have been King of Barbados- almost exactly 336 years ago.

It was the year of 1675, and the 50 year old British slave colony of Barbados had settled into a routine of importing large numbers of enslaved Africans from the Upper and Lower Guinea coasts of West Africa- the present day nations of Guinea, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Ivory Coast, Ghana, Togo, Benin and Nigeria- and working them to death on the island's burgeoning sugar plantations.

At the time, Barbados was firmly in the grip of an elite class of white plantocrats who, having survived the revolutionary year of 1649- the year in which both the white indentured servants and the black slaves made unsuccessful attempts at rebellion- were in a state of over-confident complacency about their dominance over the oppressed labouring class.

You see, what the white Barbadian slave masters had failed to take proper note of was that increasingly, a much higher proportion of the newly imported enslaved Africans were so-called "Coromantees" from the Gold Coast region of the Lower Guinea Coast- present day Ghana.

In Dr. Richard Allsopp's "Dictionary of Caribbean English Usage" it is explained that "Coromantee" was a "name used to identify a particular kind of slaves from the Gold Coast noted both for their sturdiness and fidelity on the one hand and for their fierce vengefulness when ill-treated."

Well, needless-to-say, it was not long before the tremendously ill-treated "Coromantees" of Barbados

decided to take matters into their own hands! Finding the travails and indignities of slavery to be unbearable, they hatched a plot to rid Barbados of the vile slave masters, and to establish a black monarchical system of government with a Gold Coast elder by the slave-name of "Cuffy" to be elevated to the throne as King of Barbados.

The story of "Cuffy" (the man who would be King of Barbados) and of the slave rebellion of 1675 has come down to us via a 1676 pamphlet that was published in England under the title- "Great Newes from the Barbadoes, or A True and Faithful Account of the Grand Conspiracy of the Negroes against the English". The pamphlet records that a rebellion was plotted by many "Coromantee or Gold-Coast Negroes" over a period of years, in such secrecy that even the wives of the plotters were unaware of it. And the central role of "King Cuffy" in the enterprise was explained as follows:-

"An ancient Gold-Cost (sic) Negro called Cuffy was chosen as King, and he was to be crowned on June 12, 1675, in a Chair of State exquisitely wrought and carved after their mode with bows and arrows to be likewise carried in State before his Majesty their intended King: trumpets to be made of elephants' teeth and gourdes were to be sounded on several hills to give notice of their general rising, with a full intention to fire the sugar-canes, and so run in and cut their masters, the Planters', throats in their respective Plantations..."

Unfortunately, the meticulously planned rebellion was sold out two weeks before the commencement date by a young 18 year old slave who had lost his nerve. This led to Martial Law being declared by the governor- Governor Atkins- and to the conspirators being arrested en mass. A summary court of "oyer and terminer" was appointed to examine and try more than 100 suspects, and at the end of it all, some forty-two slaves were executed, five committed suicide in jail, and seventy were either deported or sent back to their owners after a savage flogging.

What, you may ask, became of "King Cuffy?" Well, no-one can say for certain, but it is likely that he was one of the executed martyrs. The truth is that we don't know a lot about Cuffy, the man who should have been King of Barbados, other than that he was African (Gold Coast) born, and was of advanced age.

Second Annual Cookout a Smash Hit - Robin Dwarka



Enriko

Community Vibes' held its second annual Cookout on June 4th in Central Park in Winnipeg's downtown. The event was originally conceived by the members of Community Vibes as a way to "bring back the days of family oriented block parties and make people feel good" said Troy Osiname, President and founder of Community Vibes. The event was co-sponsored by Food Fare, CNDC, Manitoba Multiculturalism Secretariat, Assiniboine Credit Union and Streetz 104.7FM with support from



Flosoul

Portage Place, University of Winnipeg Wesmen and Junior Wesmen Inner City Basketball Program, Higher Level Fitness, and several local businesses.

This year, the entertainment program was emceed by Streetz 104.7FM's Miss Melissa and included performances by Flo, Ericko, and other local performers with sound by DJ Vibesman. Other activities included a free community BBQ and games for the whole family including a soccer clinic. Local artists and vendors brought a market feel to the cookout.

Community Vibes is now in its third year and continues to bring innovative ideas and events to the community. For more information or to get involved with Community Vibes visit their website at www.communityvibes.ca or contact Community Vibes at communityvibes@gmail.com. (Photos by Robin Dwarka)

NICCOM Mini Folklorama a Hit

Participants swelled the Burnell Street community Centre where NICCOM (Nigerian Canada Community Organization of Manitoba Inc) hosted its 2nd annual mini-Folklorama. There were representatives of the all the political parties and a plethora of vendors with products for sale.

The event was marked by a combination of cultural performances and fashion show featuring Nigerian couture.



Participants in the African Fashion Show



Minister of Justice, Hon. Andrew Swan joins Coffie in producing some flavorful African music.

THE MAN WHO SHOULD HAVE BEEN KING OF BARBADOS - Davida Commisong

Forty-five years after Barbados supposedly won its independence from the United Kingdom, we are still celebrating the Queen of England's birthday and nominating outstanding Barbadians for honours that are dispensed by this most English of queens on her birthday.

We Barbadians seem to be so devoted to this Caucasian queen- the leading representative of an institution that participated intimately in the enslavement and oppression of our ancestors- that we would seemingly do anything to continue clinging to her royal cloak-tails.

But perhaps, the real source of this seeming devotion to Elizabeth II is an ingrained Barbadian regard for the institution of monarchy in general, rather than any particular love for the distant octogenarian who currently sits on the throne of England

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In his definition of the word "Coromantee", the late Dr. Allsopp goes on to tell us that the word was derived from the "name of a coastal Fante town...about 80 miles west of Accra" in modern day Ghana. So, in all likelihood, King Cuffy, like so many of his early fellow black Barbadians, belonged to the Fante ethnic group of modern day Ghana. The Fante speak the language known as "Twi" and are a constituent ethnicity within the broad Eastern Akan culture system. They are therefore closely related to such ethnic groups as the Asante, Bron, Wassa and Denkyira.

cont'd on p20-21

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Curried Chicken Kebabs

Ingredients

- 16 to 20 small wooden skewers
- 1/3 cup (75 mL) barbecue sauce
- 2 tbsp (30 mL) Indian curry paste
- 1/2 tsp (2 mL) salt
- 4 skinless, boneless chicken breasts
- 1/3 cup (75 mL) chopped fresh coriander (optional)

1. Preheat oven to 500F (250C). Soak skewers in water. Line 1 or 2 rimmed baking sheets with foil and brush with vegetable oil or coat with cooking spray. In a large bowl, stir barbecue sauce with curry paste and salt. Cut chicken lengthwise into 1/2-inch- (1-cm-) thick strips. Toss with sauce to coat. Thread 1 strip of chicken onto each skewer. Spread out on baking sheets. If using one sheet, bake in centre of oven. If using two sheets, bake in top and bottom thirds of oven until chicken is firm to the touch, 8 to 10 minutes. Sprinkle with coriander. Good with mango salad.

•Kebabs on the bcue

Prepare as above. Cook, covered, over a medium-hot grill.

Asparagus and Salmon Roll

Ingredients

- 1 big bunch asparagus
- 1 tbsp butter
- 3 tbsp chopped fresh tarragon
- 1/8 tsp salt
- 1 Snap and discard tough ends from 1 big bunch of asparagus. Slice stalks in half diagonally. Melt 1 tbsp butter in a large frying pan over medium. Add asparagus, 3 tbsp chopped fresh tarragon and 1/8 tsp salt.

Stir-fry until asparagus is tender-crisp, about 3 to 4 min. s (1). 1. Partially fill a large frying pan with water and bring to a boil over high heat. Snap tough ends from asparagus and discard. Boil asparagus until tender-crisp, about 2 min. Drain and rinse under cold running water to stop cooking. Pat dry with paper towel. Squeeze 2 tbsp (30 mL) juice from lemon. Place 1 tbsp (15 mL) in a small bowl, then stir in mayo and Dijon. 2. For dipping sauce, pour remaining 1 tbsp (15 mL) lemon juice into a small bowl. Stir in vinegar, oil, salt and sugar until dissolved. Add shallot and capers. 3. Lay a damp kitchen towel on counter. Fill a medium-sized bowl or pie plate with lukewarm water and place beside towel. Line up smoked salmon, mayo mixture, asparagus and chives near towel. Dip 1 rice-paper round at a time into water and leave until very pliable, about 30 seconds. Gently lay wet round on towel. Tear a slice of salmon in half and place along the bottom third of round. Spread

Colorectal Cancer and Jamaicans

Colorectal cancer deemed a silent killer appears to take a special liking to Jamaicans and have been showing up in increasing percentages among the population according to recent research.

Dr. Mike Mills, gastroenterologist and university lecturer urges men and women of Jamaican ancestry to get tested before it is too late. Mills said in a recent interview with *Jamaican Observer* that during the four years spanning 2003-2007, occurrence among males was 17 per 100,000. This is up from a ratio of 13 per 100,000 males recorded four years earlier, between 1998 and 2002.

Colorectal cancer he said, showed up in 13 women per 100,000 in this earlier period and has remained constant over the four-year period up to 2007.

Colon cancer begins in

the colon or large intestine, where waste material is stored. Most patients will show no symptoms until it has reached an advanced stage, which makes it a silent killer.

A **telltale sign** of the dreaded disease is the presence of bright red or dark blood in the stool. Other symptoms include continuous or cramping abdominal pain; a change in bowel habits (diarrhoea or constipation which lasts for more than a few days); weakness and tiredness; nausea and vomiting; unexplained weight loss; loss of appetite; pelvic pain; and anaemia.

If you are between the ages of 55 to 75 ask your doctor to test for colon cancer.



Dr. Mike Mills

a scant tsp (4 mL) of mayo mixture over salmon. Lay 4 asparagus spears on salmon. Top with 4 or 5 chives. 4. Lift rice-paper edge closest to you up and over filling, then roll tightly toward the centre. When you reach the centre, fold in sides. Continue rolling to form a log. To seal, dip a finger in water and rub over seam. Set roll, seam-side down, on a platter. Repeat with remaining ingredients. If rice-paper rounds curl before being soaked, don't worry. As soaking water cools, replace with lukewarm water. Serve right away or cover and refrigerate up to 4 hours. Slice rolls in half diagonally and serve with caper sauce for dipping.

(Tried and tested from *Chatelaine Magazine*)



Leg Up

SALNAM Celebrates 50 Years of Community Building



How do you establish a community organization to become an effective force in n building bridges for successful integration of newcomers in a new culure and country?

It was the big question the Sierra Leone National Association of Manitoba (SALNAM) tackled on Saturday May 14, 2011 at the Chalmers community centre to coincide with its 50th Anniversary.

First of its kind organized by SALNAM, the symposium entitled “Strategies for empowering the African Canadian Community in Manitoba attracted a cross-section of African and Caribbean organization representatives as well as representatives from the Provincial and Municipal governments.

The symposium’s goals were to identify, assess and evaluate strategies needed to maximize its potential contribution to the social, economic, political and cultural life of the African community and the community at large.

Mr. Matt Wiebe, MLA for Concordia brought greetings on behalf of the Minister of Education. He congratulated the SALNAM community for the progress it has made and its contribution to Manitoba and Winnipeg in particular.

The topics discussed and presented included Community Organization and Leadership by Dr. Marion June James, Education and Training by Dr. Ed Onyebuchi, Family Life

by Beatrice Watson, Workplace Safety by Lance Brenna, Economic Power and

Entrepreneurship by Dr. Lana Adeleye Olusae and Youth issues by Hassan Kamara and Ms Miata Musa.

“The African Canadian communities need to form partnerships with other ethnocultural groups to address the challenges facing our community,” said Mr. Allieu Sesay, SALNAM President in his opening remarks.

Mr. Richard Schroeder CEO of First Step Economic Zone made a presentation explaining the nature of his company’s economic involvement in Sierra Leone and spoke of lucrative investment opportunities in the country for the right entrepreneur. He announced that the first mango juice processing plant begun operation and is totally staffed by local people. Schroeder said that one of the requirements of the investment is that the businesses create jobs for local people at all levels of the organization and the salary has to be reasonable.

Dr. Lana was passionate about the need for Africans to support businesses started by Africans and he encouraged Africans to start businesses on the side. He calculated that those who come to this country past 35 years might not be able to retire with a comfortable pension so a side business is one of the ways to provide for one’s retirement years. *Cont’d on p21*

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r-Youth presenters, Hassan Kamara and Miata Musa participants, Randolph Gorvie & Ken Abu, MC (r)

Zizi - The Continuing Story

So where did you say you were from?"

"I did not say anything," Zizi shrugged.

"Who are you hiding from?"

"Everybody. Let's keep this at the business level," Zizi sounded tough.

"At the business level I would have to frisk you down."

"What?"

"Yes. I've been betrayed. I've seen things. How do I know you're not a cop eye?"

"Cop what?"

"Watching out for the cops."

"Those are the last shifts I'd work for. I have no respect for those dogs. I've seen my share of troubles with those people and am not interested in helping them."

"What did they do to you?"

"The latest was assault with a weapon, threatening somebody's life. I'm trying to mind my own business and feed my habit and do whatever I can to make a buck for myself. Is that so bad – isn't that what any decent person does?"

"Hey I'm with you man. All these criminal stuff is just made

up. The police turns good people into criminals. Why can't we be free to do what the hell we like with our own bodies – smoking this shit is not hurting no one. I'm not a bad person but if the police finds out I'm making a living selling drugs to my friends, I'll be sent to jail. I'm only the littlest cog in the goddam wheel. I don't bring this stuff from South America. Folks with money, lots of money, travel in planes and boats to get the stuff from source and then bring it here. I guess this is what they call trickledown economics, huh?"

"Why don't you ask your dealer to take you on a trip to the source?"

"Ha, ha, ha, are you serious?"

"Yeah. Can you hook me up as a retailer? I've got to eat and I gat friends. I know people."

"Yeah?"
"Yeah."

"How about if I retail to you? I'll order more and I'd sell you what you need call it our little pyramid scheme."

"Yeah this whole shit is illegal. Remember?"

"Whatever."

"You have to do something for me if you want me to do something for you."

"What do you want?"

"A little bit a sumtn, you know wink wink, nudge, Nudge."

"Can't help you there, I am a lesbian trans-gendered person."

"Really, what a shame. You look so real."

"That's an insult. Okay Now that that's out of the way we can be friends as equals. I just want to make some money so I can pay my bills and eat."

"We can be friends but don't mess with me or else I'll take you out like that," Johnny snapped

his fingers. "I don't work alone; I have my people who will do whatever I tell them. I'm a king around here because no one can cook like me. I got connections to big people. No hanky panky."

"Are you trying to scare me, it's not working. Let's cut to the chase. How soon can I get some stuff from you?"

"Nothing is on credit here. You have to bring cash."

"Duh like this is Walmart of something. How much cash you're talking about?"

The phone rings and he picks up the phone.

"Yoh, it's me"

"Just hanging out... I'll have it ready for you. Don't worry man, everything's under control. Got a new run-ner! Looks clean enough. Okay, okay. Hey you don't have to go there. I will." Johnny looks at me.

"Okay you got to go but pick up your supply tomorrow. Bring \$300.00 and ID. I want to know who I'm dealing with here. My people want to run a check on you. "Scoot, see you tomorrow."

King Cuffy - from p15

Cuffy would have been brought to Barbados some time around the middle of the 17th century. And if we consult Volume V of UNESCO's General History of Africa we learn that around the beginning of the 17th century the Akan were a people who primarily lived in towns ruled by kings and queens, and in villages ruled by chiefs. Akan society was therefore a fairly evolved and sophisticated mechanism that had already become stratified, with a ruling aristocracy consisting of priests and Kings, ordinary subjects, and a relatively small number of domestic serfs or slaves. Thus, Cuffy may very well have sprung from the ruling or aristocratic strata of his Fante town or village!

It is also interesting to speculate on what type of occupation Cuffy might have pursued in the Gold Coast. The Akan engaged in a wide variety of economic activities, including farming (plantain, bananas, yam and rice), collecting of kola nuts, livestock raising (poultry, sheep, goats and pigs), fishing, salt-making,

textile weaving, gold-mining and last but no means least, trading. Indeed, the Akan had long traded with the neighbouring Ewe and Ga people, with fish, salt, pottery, gold, chewing sticks, ivory, iron or metal wear being the main items of trade. They also carried on an external trade with the Western Sudan region, particularly during the heyday of the great Mande empire of Songhay in the 15th and 16th centuries.

And so, we know for certain that Cuffy came from a very sophisticated and industrious society, and he must therefore have found it very different to countenance the status that slave society sought to impose upon him in Barbados- the status of a soul-less thing, a chattel, a beast of burden, a hewer of wood and drawer of water in perpetuity!

This Akan King refused to accept any such slave status, and was willing to risk making the ultimate sacrifice in an heroic bid to destroy slavery and to establish some

cont'd on p21

Concrete Splinters - By Neil Pitamber

I decided once that I would not set my pen to defining our friendship with Dino's for public scrutiny. However, there are too many inaccuracies, many of them of questionable intent. I am therefore contributing this editorial for public record. My ire has been raised by a Jamaican woman who stood before me recently, telling her friends, among them a Vincentian, 'Did you know that Dino's told Neil to charge tax on phone cards?.... I, having a Popeye moment, broke my silence to tell her the facts. Dino has never said or done anything as a detriment to the succession or debilitation of Caribbean Shield.

The impression I was given, deceitfully perhaps, was that Dino was a Punjabi; I imagined a mauve turban, light yellow shirt, and brown corduroys. I placed him as a man of his forties - not too easy-going, not too receptive to questions, not too overly involved. I thought his shop had more depth to it, but only a third the width; I could see a wall of glass door freezers aligned militantly opposite his register. There were commercial fans and a galvanized ceiling; in other heights, water stained fibre tiles. The floor appeared as the kind typically found in school foyers, and the edges toward the wall were black and as stiff as hardened oil. That is a lot of imagery for just hearing a man's name, isn't it? I have denied a number of times that I have been in Dino's shop; it has been a cardinal rule of mine for years to never draw ideas from competitors - couple that with a small measure of shame, for fear of recognition, and you should understand why we have remained as an entity limited to the retail of West Indian foods. The truth is I have been in there once, but I was in too much of a hurry to have absorbed anything useful.

Dino has a beautiful shop; nothing typical or methodical about the setup, as it resembles anything only remotely, in the wide expanse of ethnic grocery stores. The product line is impressive, if not cumbersome at times to maintain, and is multilateral. The prices appear exorbitant but in comparison to what? I am surprised so many of you are that naive to believe Dino could 'stop' Super fresh from

stocking yams; maybe I can believe a man might buy out the stock of a product that is reasonably below his cost, like Ackee, from another venue. Open your minds Winnipeg; it is not just some monopolizing tactic - you have no idea how strenuous it is for ethnic stores to remain relevant and competitive.



Dino and my wife had a fantastic relationship prior to moving here. She worked for a wholesaler that sells Caribbean products; she was also very reluctant, when we began to settle into the idea of impinging on his territory. She feared resentment, for what could have been regarded as duplicity, but Leia went on maternity leave four months shy of our first discussions about opening this shop. I think, if Dino was upset it would have been for the sake that we did not immediately introduce ourselves. He has always been humble, and there is a mutual respect between Dino and my father. I have never fed into the 'accusations of obeah', or that Dino should own the fault as to why so many shops have failed. It is a lot easier to blame a man, than to address a gambling problem, a flamboyant lifestyle, a lack of interest, an unhealthy respect for money, or a frugal and fickle clientele, when the doors finally close. Just as it is difficult to admit that many were crash projects to begin with.

The belief in a story that black powder, sprinkled around the perimeter of a building can cut the progress of a business dwelling within in, reminds me of a Tibetan proverb. 'The wise understand by themselves, fools follow the reports of others.' Whether or not Caribbean Shield has been referred to as a 'matchbox operation' is no longer a preoccupation of mine. Who am I to challenge a mythos whose entrepreneurial longevity has surely inspired variant names like Dino's Storage, Dimo's Laboratory, Deno's Pawn, Deen's Caribbean, and has, by virtue of habit even caused customers to greet me as 'Dean'? What we have achieved in a short five years well surpasses the average six-month expectation; just ask him.

King Cuffy from p 20

semblance of the Akan civilization right here in Barbados!

All conscious Barbadians should therefore lift up and revere the name of Cuffy, the "king-man" who our ancestors selected to be the true monarch of Barbados! Can any such claim be made for Queen Elizabeth II?

Sierra Leone Symposium



Dr. Lan Mr. Andre Doumbe, Mr. Matt Wiebe, MLA and Mr. Alley S

UN WOMEN CHAPTER LAUNCHED IN WINNPEG

Congratulations to Mary Scott and UN Women members for establishing the Winnipeg Chapter for the National Committee for UN Women Canada on May 9th at the University of Winnipeg Campus.

“It was special to have Madam Justice Deborah McCawley speak on Why UN Women, and Almas Jiwani President of UN Women Canadatell us more about UN Women - its purpose and plans. (Both these presentations are on UN Women website). The Winnipeg Chapter donated \$1,000.00 towards UN Women - to show their support for this new United Nation’s agency that has a big challenge ahead, Mary said.



left to right: Florence Okwidili; Mary Scott, Muriel Smith; Carolyn Hoeschen. Back Row: left to right: Ariana Yaftali, Marilou McPhedran, Almas Jiwani, Justice Deborah McCawley, Nikki komaksiutiksa , Alanna Grey, Tricia Schers.

NEW DIRECTOR OF MIIC

Congratulations to Wanda Yamamoto who was selected by the hiring committee to fill the large shoes of Marty Dolin as Executive Director of the Manitoba Interfaith Immigration Council, (MIIC) Welcome Place. Wanda has been with the organization for 25 plus years and the Board is confident that she will be an asset to the organization in this new capacity. Wanda is the current chair of Canada Council for Refugees.



Innuithroatsinger Nikki Kimaksiutiksak (l)

(r) Muriel Smith presents cheque and gift to Almas Jiwani



George Hickes

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Correction.

In February Global Eyes p23 it was incorrectly stated that Graham Boyd was Paula Hamilton’s son. In fact Paula Hamilton is Alexander Bynski’s mother and Graham is Alexander’s friend who went to St. Lucia with Alexander’s family. (Above is Alexander and Graham presenting their donation to the school in St. Lucia)

A MEMORY OF FUCHSIA - Neil Pitamber

I feel very hurt today; my employee Eric Edwards has announced that he is moving on to a full-time position at his part time job. This time I don't feel betrayed; just briefly forced back into a cocoon, maybe, that usually and temporarily shelters me from the facts of life. The fact is people are always up for better and he has been good to me. That I have been a giving employer, and gone beyond the call of duty for him, is a compliment should learn to pay to myself and not feel upset for doing favours when I have never been asked to. Eric has a good heart and I will miss his company; he reminds me a lot of my son, and while he is older he is just as naive, just as innocent, just as easy to hurt. I know eventually that my masculine instincts (pride) will creep up and prevent me from further publishing him with such indulgence. But that is the kind of resolve every man must, and can only settle with God; there is, after all, a time and season to courage. Especially courage that involves bit of humility.

This event actually falls in line with a series of regrets I have had lately. I have never been able to shake off the guilt of ruining so many good friendships in my youth. There are so many thoughts I wish I could have the chance to re-think, so many doings I wish could be undone. To spiritual man a conscience is the compass to Heaven; a man of science may succumb to regret if, after several years he is still unable to unify that which makes him God-like in

capability, yet only human in ability; to a man in-between the two, choosing to follow the compass only comes in lieu of statistical evidence to the contrary - that there is no Heaven, and fear of respite, that he has not embraced that truth his entire life. It is hard to believe that hearing the words, 'I forgive you,' can have a man carrying around a mental burden like an anchor stuck in its rut.

You can forgive yourself, just as easily as you validate praying; once you are able to get past your own hypocrisy. It's not hard to do. I am not there yet; an ounce of prayer, from my friend Desmond Garvey for example, is worth as much as a pound of gold to me. Forgiving myself is not as easy to do when I know I was traitorous and weak-kneed. I know the morning will soon come, for both Eric and I, when his days at Caribbean Shield will be nothing but a passing thought (short-term memory is disservice to most young men, anyway); both of us consumed by recurring bouts of responsibility; anything I may have taught him will probably have little value until he is shocked into it. I'm sure he is sad to see us go, doubting though that it will be on his priority list to be there for the launch - when we finally ship out. I never quite understood why 'fading red' is used in films, to project past sequences, relevant to the storyline but not as prominent; it is not that you may remember it fondly, but that you remember



**LOLA'S
Premier
Beauty
Gallery
for all
your
Beauty
Needs**

An advertisement for Lola's Beauty Gallery & Supplies. The background is a vibrant blue and yellow diagonal stripe. Three women are featured: a woman with long dark hair on the left, a woman with long blonde hair in the center, and a woman with long dark curly hair on the right. The text 'Lola's Beauty Gallery & Supplies' is written in a cursive font at the top. Below it, in a smaller font, is 'A Full-Service Salon & Beauty Product Supplier'. Further down, the address '567 Portage Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada R2B 2G2' is listed, along with telephone and fax numbers: 'Telephone: (204) 774-3505 Fax: (204) 774-2266'. The website 'http://www.lolabautygallery.com/' and email 'lolam@lolabautygallery.com' are also provided. The year '2011' is written in a large, white, stylized font at the bottom right of the advertisement.

www.patmartin.ca

Please contact
me if you need
help with a
federal issue.



**Pat
Martin**

Winnipeg Centre Constituency Office

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Senior Program Report by By Sharmela S. Rambally

Guyanese Association of Manitoba in conjunction with the Manitoba Arya Samaj Inc. & Manitoba Hindu Seniors, Inc., has done a spectacular job with the launch of the Senior program and managed to maintain the program quite well. The open house brought our more than 50 seniors from both the East and West. The evening was friendly and joyful which gave a burst of enthusiasm to all and the next event was put into plan right away, and that was agreed upon to be a movie night and birthday celebrations.

April 1st, is usually not a good day for anyone due to the fact that it is April fool's day, but this April 1st no one was played for a fool. In fact everyone that came out to join us that evening were winners because of the successful

choice of movie that was chosen. The movie chosen is a very beautiful and touching Indian movie Baghban. The movie was not only dramatic but realistic and heart wrenching. The evening started out with a brief forum with announcements and acknowledgements, a delicious snack (channa) provided by Mrs. Padmini Kaidnath, coffee & tea provided by Kamta Roy Singh and pop & water provided by Mohamed Alli. Throughout the entire movie, tears were streaming down almost everyone face even those who played tough, but at the same time there were also laughter amongst the room, along with the crackle and crunches of popcorn. I myself could not stop the tears from flowing throughout the entire movie because of the plot and realism of the movie, certain scenes spoke to all in the room and even to some that were not. It made you think of your life and the choices we make that afflict others. At the end of the movie, there were a small discussion of how the movie has touched and/or influenced everyone and their lives.

The evening concluded with a cake bought by the organization and presents gladly donated by myself to celebrate birthdays of all present, from January to April. The next event was also named and put into planning stages. It was agreed upon by all to have a BINGO night.

Guyanese Association of Manitoba Annual Family Fund Day

Saturday, April 23 2011 started out to be a chilly and



cloudy day but you would not have known that if you were at the Guyanese Association of Manitoba, annual family fun day & AGM (annual general meeting) held at Elwick Community center, 30 Maberly Street. From early noon, kids and adults eagerly came out to enjoy the day with their fellow country people, family and community neighbours. There was activities for all ages, that kept everyone

present busy from start to finish. The kids were busy scurrying around looking for hidden treats of Easter eggs, while the adults played dominos and cricket. Teams with hometown names such as Abi, Iyu, and JJ were amongst the participants in the domino tournament. Kids also enjoyed an old Guyanese Easter tradition of kite flying but used self made gliders instead, but there was one brave soul that came out with his own man made kite and flew it proudly amongst all the gliders.

There was a clown and pirate to entertain the kids by making balloon animals, there was Easter bunnies and eggs to decorate, and food galore to enjoy. Throughout the day, everyone kept themselves busy with activities that made them feel like they were at home (in Guyana). The day was a great success and ended with many acknowledgements, prizes and awards for the winners well doers (volunteers). To conclude the day, the organization held their annual general meeting with some surprises. President re-elect Kamta Roy Singh, was not a surprise for anyone, but for Vice President, newcomer Somdnath Kaidnath was a landslide win. To Mr. Kaidnath astonishment, he felt honoured and privilege to be acknowledged for his efforts and achievements within the community, his peers, fellow country people and our organization. With the full support of everyone present, the Association is now ready to take on anything thrown their way, including a joint endeavour with their fellow country people and community organization GCO (Guyanese Cultural Organization) to celebrate Guyana's 45th Independence on May 27, 28 & 29, 2011. With the success of the past year, President Kamta Roy Singh is more eager and determine to bring all his country people together to reach one goal and a vision that this organization has strived for, and that is to have a building they can call home. Now with a strong board

and community support he feel extremely positive that this goal can be achieved in the near future.

I personally feel that with the new attitude within our Guyanese Community and its people, and the support of our surrounding communities and neighbours we are on our way to great achievements and accomplishments.

I am proud and privileged to be in such company and honoured to be re-elected in the organization.

Seniors Progrzm cont'd

April 15, brought out more that 25 seniors to take on the bingo challenge. Equipped with the bingo cards, dabbers and willingness to yell out BINGO, the night began shortly after coffee and snacks, gladly provided by Mr. K. R. Singh, Mrs. Padmini Kaidnath and Mrs. Bibi Hanif.

Then the main event started with everyone anxiously waiting for their numbers to be called my myself and recorded by Mrs. Kaidnath. B-5, N-33, I-17, G-55 & O-69, in a gasp of excitement BINGO was called out by our first winner and it did not stop there. Several winners and games into the evening, everyone was getting a bit weary and restless resulting in several attendants yelling out several times BINGO just to get the crowd going and alert. Overall the entire evening was extremely joyful with laughter and smiles. Several winners voiced their thanks and enthusiasm for the event and evening and was looking forward to the next time we all meet. Then and there an announcement was that the next event would be a night of food, entertainment and songs, dated for Friday the 29th of April, from 6pm to 10pm. Everyone was encouraged to get their voices and songs ready for their Guyanese Idol debut. A sense of excitement and eagerness was felt within the room for everyone voiced their feelings openly not only to myself but also to others that they would gladly be attending that night.

I would like to again extend thanks to all the members within the 3 organization sponsoring these special nights and events, and say congrats to the success of the program. Keep up the good work!

Thank you and enjoy!

Gaffin wid Buddy



Is dat time again to dus out de ole hibiscus flowered shirt and me Bermuda shorts to celebrate ahwe culture.

Wha culcha did you seh please? Is it African, Mexican, Latinamerican? Dis multiculturalism mek me realize meh nah gat cultcha you know. Wha

me gat round me neck is slave culcha and colonial culcha. Sometime me a try fuh dissect de ting an meh kiant grab anto anything at all. Some people dont like to hear me talk like dis but is truh. Dis is naat bout anybody but it's meh ting man. Dis cultcha we a celebrate as Caribbean Afro and Indo is a bunch a crap.

Meh Indian frien from India seh de Indo-Caribs cultcha is far from wha he know. He seh de Indians are lack up in time, de in a time warp. De Afro Caribs are also in a time warp. We continue to promote European cultcha - de won de create fuh we. We should all change we names to reflect owa history from Africa. We carry around dese very British names like a banna. At least de Indo-Caribs got dat part right - deh gat real names man.

De wan ting me know is part ohwe natural nature is owa joyde vire, nobody can tek owa spirit of laughta, fun, cooking good food. I'm wid yuh deh.

Let de party begin, leh we connect wid where we are now not when we come from an when we a go. Leh we do it man, nat dat lickle ole me could stap meh people from someting fun and someting cultural. Show meh de money eh? Leh we call a spade a spade - it's all about de money. Dis is big bisness fuh everywan invalved. Happy Folklorama.

We bin in dis country lang, lang time. We gat ole people now, senior citizens organizations an ting. Now some ah we ah go home back fuh holidays like snow-birds. We come full circle but kiant give up de life in Canada - excellent medical care an ting. Dis is huge. Back home dere's many ah dem hospitals using second-hand equipmnt and we know it and we dont trust it so we come back hey fuh good care. Nutin wrong wid dat. We gat to try harder to help channel bisness from hey to back home dat will bring about lasting change dat is good enough fuh all ahwe we too.

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THE ROAD TO ELDORADO Neil Pitamber



'...Hey yu dere! rumdelero!/yu mek alcohol t'un yu schupidee-ro; yu go t'un yu back fass on a job/when da-ro get yu bad; an' swear tomorrow morning yu finish wid dat/ finish wid what! yu ole' rockingchair, yu?; yu tink rum fear yu?!/fear who?!; Trini is a man wey never nuetral/ he dipping he sprig from di barral; ole bandara man a wedding social/a tell ee people; fi go serve dem ooman a front/dey gowuk dem drunk mana back a Rosehall; back a Rosehall!; Bee-Gee a man ca'an see El Dorado; he GPSa trace pon 'am like signal; if he no get it he a drop pon di ground/li' a shingle he get; naa one single gal he get/a bend, binge an' a fret; an' after he drinks dun still he deman' mo' rum/wid sada roti an' eddoe; curry eddoe!; Hey yu dere! jamdelero!/doan feel fi a secondah fuhget yu!;yu deh pon 'am as Rumdass call yu/ Mohabeer doan even have fi hail yu; as yu sightdi paper bag/yuhand up li' a flag; 'Hey Mister! di red floor polisher/is 'I' man elixir!'; bring out di mentholated

spirits/'I' manis yu visitor!';heng a left a Half Way/heng a right a Cross Roads; an' ifunnu hear from me wife/lehshe hengshe mouth pon di corna; once me have me vodka!; me vodka!'; (hey Sadna; ah get to understand yu invite Cholley an' Sandra; over by yu house fuh dinner; an' Cholley is a man wey doh nyam anything; 'less it good fi kill him liver; him notoo clever!; ah hear yu had was to serve pint-tart over tea; an' rum-balaya fuh di main course;rum-aine lettuce fuh salad; wid motts clamato an' sa-wine fuh dessert;an' when it near ova; him call for a Corona; an' as eem nearly fall ova; di wiffee say, 'So, yuent hear di man? Call fuh di coroner!'; he even ask fuh a two Red Stripe; buT Sandra say, 'is a medical crosses!'; Cholley say, 'ah ca'an even hold a Banks?'; Sandra say, 'every bank me ever see yu hol', yudoes bruk!; hurry up an' dead to rotted!; yu does tell people yu born a Cummings Lodge?; ah believe yu gwine perish from dat same condition!; a lie?; dem no easy at all, yu see?)...

Let's Get physical



The Horace Patterson Foundation raised more than \$3,500.00 at its 2011 Annual walk at St. Vital Park on June 7, 2011 to raise scholarships funds for students of African ancestry pursuing post secondary education. A small diverse group of committed people from various walks of life participated vigorously in the warm up exercises by Mr. Olsen Jarvis-Reid before the walk. The young at heart hung in there alongside the spirited youths.

Organizers expressed appreciation to those who made the trip and for those who contributed but could



not physically be there. Mrs. Angela Cupid, a jolly go-getter of a woman won the prize for bringing in the most pledges. Many walked away with prizes from the lucky draws, enjoyed fresh fruits, Tim Horton's coffee and donuts.

The Foundation encourages Winnipeggers especially those from the Caribbean and African communities to come out and support the cause and also it is a chance to engage in some physical activity

Thirty Years and Going Strong

- Council of Caribbean Organizations of Manitoba Celebrates 30 Years of Serving the Community - *Robin Dwarka*



Sweet Silver Flute Choir

Since 1981, the Council of Caribbean Organizations of Manitoba (CCOM) has been recognized as the umbrella organization for several island and special interest organizations. It has provided a forum for discussing and resolving concerns and representing the views of the Caribbean community. It also hosts the Caribbean Pavilion at Folklorama annually. This year, CCOM celebrates its 30th anniversary and it has planned a series of events to mark this milestone.

Events so far have included a thanksgiving service, a multicultural concert and a conference entitled "Embracing the Future". The ecumenical service held on May 15 opened the year of celebrations and included representatives from many local churches. The concert held on June 10 featured performances from cultures around the world including Bola, a Nigerian storyteller, singer Ericko Nduwinany, the India School of Dance, Music and Theatre, Scottish dancers, and members from the Sweet Silver flute choir. The Caribbean community was also well represented by the Hi Life Steel Orchestra, singer Queen, Mavis



Bola



Jean Thonpason

McLaren performing poetry in the Jamaican dialect, Calypsonian Enigma and the Jamaican Ensemble, a favourite at Folklorama's Caribbean Pavilion. Members from the community attended the "Embracing the Future" conference on June 11 to reflect on the past 30 years and discuss ways of moving forward into

the next 10 years. Duane Brothers, Assistant Superintendent at Seven Oaks School Division, opened the conference with words of inspiration which included the powerful poem "And Still I Rise" by Maya Angelou. The workshop on Embracing Volunteerism was led by Beatrice Watson, Outreach Coordinator for the Manitoba Human Rights Commission and stalwart volunteer in not only the Caribbean but the wider Winnipeg community and Hymie Ali of the Canadian Muslim League Institute. They talked about the passion that volunteers have for the work that they do and the need to recognize and celebrate volunteers in the community. Watson also reminded attendees that our "young people are growing up here. They have self esteem and they need to feel needed and be treated with respect" if we want them to be actively involved in the community. The second workshop, Capacity Building, was



Diane Dwarka and Hymie Ali



Mavis McLaren

led by Kwabena Osei-Bonsu, coordinator for the City of Winnipeg's Citizen Equity Committee and Robin Dwarka, Director of Finance at Legal Aid Manitoba and avid volunteer within the Caribbean community. They talked about the unique role that CCOM has to play in Winnipeg and stirred conversation about reaching the community directly given its current organizational structure. The conference was rounded out by a



Dr. Duane Brothers

A Prescription for CCOM's Future Success

Dr. Kwabena's presentation to CCOM on the topic of capacity building was so precise Global Eyes Magazine decided to print his recommendations in its entirety for all those who did not attend.

What is a community?

- According to the Cambridge International Dictionary, the word community could be used to describe any group of people living in one particular area or people who are considered as a unit because of their common interests, background or nationality.

Definition of community capacity building:

- Community capacity can be a broad concept, touching on a wide range of issues that relate to the ability of existing internal knowledge, expertise, skills, know-how or resources at the disposal of a given community to execute any development activity in line with its objectives. In other words, any deliberate effort by a given community to enhance its internal capability for effective execution of its activities, can be considered to be towards capacity building.

Granted that the objectives of CCOM are the following:

- To promote socio-cultural cohesiveness of the Caribbean community
- Enhance the image and integrity of Caribbean people in Manitoba
- Improve the quality of life of members of CCOM
- Inculcate the spirit of self-help and volunteering

What could be the objective of CCOM capacity building then?

Develop CCOM's internal capability for effective and efficient execution of its stated or identified goals and objectives

It is in keeping with this broad objective that in my opinion, CCOM should be addressing itself to three main areas of capacity building.

These are:

- Ability to respond to multiculturalism imperatives in Manitoba:-
Showcase the vibrant rich culture of the Caribbean people
Host national days and special events of members of CCOM
Advocacy for inclusivity and social justice

cont'd from p28

plenary session focusing on looking at how CCOM could adapt to the changing environment and continue to be a driving force in Winnipeg in the years to come.

"The biggest event planned" says CCOM President, Rupert Forde, "is yet to come". The Caribbean Peoples' Distinction Awards and Banquet will be held on Saturday, September 24, 2011 at Victoria Inn, 1808 Wellington Avenue. Says Forde, "not just the Caribbean community but the wider community should come out and celebrate our best and brightest. Over the years, Caribbean immigrants and our children have made great contributions to Manitoba". Nomination forms for the Distinction Awards are available at <http://communityvibes.ca/ccom.html>. Dinner tickets are \$85 each or purchase a table of 8 for \$640 available by email at carib@mymts.net.

Active participation and articulation on equity and diversity issues in public discussions

Community sustainability and survival:-

Consensus building and conflict resolution

Community human resource development strategy, particularly for the youth (education, training, internships, career guidance)

Ability for financial resource mobilization (fundraising, special donations, etc)

Community economic development through social investments, enterprise development and patronage of members businesses

Self-help and volunteering spirit among members

- Socio-psychological confrontations

Racism, Discrimination, Faith and spirituality

Build horizontal and vertical partnerships

Inter-community solidarity, cooperation and collaboration

Public policy analysis and change mechanisms.



Dr. O. Kwabena and Robin Dwarka presenters



Some of the Participants at CCOM Conference

JAMAICAN HIGH COMMISSSIONER TO CANADA A BIG HIG IN WINNIPEG

The Jamaican community welcomed H.E. Sheila Sealy Monteith Jamaica High Commissioner to Canada in the style of royalty. The Jamaica hall was packed to capacity with mostly Jamaicans eager to meet her and to hear what news she brought from Jamaica.

The wine and cheese reception, spearheaded by the Jamaican Honorary Consul Carmen Nembhard, was a celebration of Jamaicans have for Jamaica.

Ms Monteith stood at the entrance of the hall and shook the hand of all those who entered.

The High Commissioner spoke to the audience as if she was speaking to each individual directly and people appeared to hang onto every word uttered from the lips of this dynamic and beautiful speaker.

Pleased with the large turnout, the best she has had outside of Toronto, the HC profusely thanked Ms Nembhard for making her visit possible.

Ms Monteith noted the palpable spirit of generosity in Winnipeg. She thanked the Winnipeg community for all that they do to help Jamaicans from those who send barrels to family members to the Medical Assistance Jamaica which fundraises for medical equipment for Jamaica hospitals.

She reminded the audience of the historically strong connection between Jamaica and Canada with the marriage of Jamaican born Susan Agnes Bernard to Sir John A MacDonal in 1867. Another trivia which resonated with the audience was the story of a group of maroons who were brought to Nova Scotia from Jamaica as a punishment. She joked how many Jamaicans would like that kind of punishment today. "It is not easy to convince your family that Canada is not lined with gold," she acknowledged.

The HC encouraged Jamaicans to do the right thing by becoming Canadian citizens and to work with their original homeland to develop Jamaica.

"It's not easy. We have a ways to go to emerge from the global economic depression," she said adding "every dollar in remittance is critical. A rising tide lifts all boats."

Ms Monteith acknowledged that while things may not be perfect in Jamaica, Canadian of Jamaican background must not "bad-talk" Jamaica as it could affect tourism, the economic life blood of the country. Jamaicans are the best ambassadors for Jamaica. She said the Jamaican government was pleased with the consistent tourism from Canada.

Ms Monteith announced that in 2012 Jamaicans all over the world will celebrate Jamaica's 50th

anniversary of independence and alluded about investment opportunities for the entrepreneurial minded people during this period.

She praised Jamaicans for their excellence in sports, music, academics and for their hard work in striving to be the best wherever they are. She praised the Jamaicans who defied all odds by walking away with medals in both the winter and summer Olympics. She congratulated Winnipeg youth Oswald Barnes who won the Internationally Trained High Achiever Award honouring Manitoba's outstanding new Journey person in the Trades Qualifications category.

Barnes arrived in Manitoba about a year ago and attended Red River College. He credits his teacher and mentor for his success. Barnes already landed a job at Destination Mazda as a mechanic.

"When those youths who won the Olympics shook my hand, I felt it in my heart," she said and urged the community to work with the youths and not to be too hard on them. "We too were young at one point. Let us love and support our youths and be generous in forgiving their errant ways... the opportunity to learn from each other is getting more challenging but we have to find a way."

The HC ended her presentation by asking Jamaicans to join her in reciting the Jamaica National Anthem which she described as a prayer.

Oswald Barnes, Winner of the Internationally Trained High Achiever Award , below: Carmen Nembhard, Doug Martindale MLA and H.E. Sheila Sealy Monteith



Mr. Winnipeg Marty Dolin Retires from Paid Labour

"I am a failure. I feel I should have been feared rather than love. I feel the love and I return it," said Marty Dolin to a rousing applause, after listening to the warm and loving farewell speeches by those who worked with him, those he helped and colleagues with whom he share the passion of working with the refugee population.

Marty Dolin is a Winnipeg symbol according to Tom Denton with whom Marty had shared an office at International Centre. He is known for his bluntness, his T-shirt and his unwavering passion to get refugees to Canada and to help them settle as quickly as possible. In recognition of his service the MIIC has established a Memorial Fund in his name and encouraged people to donate in his name for the cause that is important to him.

It was an evening of celebration of the end of a chapter in Marty's life with celebrity emcee **Terry McLeod** of CBC, jazz musicians **Devon Gillingham** and **Carter Graham** good food at the Viscount Gort Hotel and friends from far and wide even from out of Province - Franciso Rico, former chair of Canadian Council for Refugees came to celebrate with Marty.

After 21 years, Marty retired as Executive Director of the Manitoba Interfaith Immigration Council's Welcome Place. Under Marty's tenure, the Council improved its fortunes tremendously from building an apartment for refugees to securing funds to build a brand new office and apartment complex for new refugees to live. Without doubt Marty with the help of his team has achieved a lot for refugees and he has been the strongest advocate for Canada to bring more refugees.

Marty's way of dealing with funders and politicians has sometimes been seen as disrespectful and rude but Marty made it clear that people should earn respect not be respected for doing what they do. He said people like Sister Eileen who has sponsored more people to Manitoba as a single individual deserves respect.

"It is time for us to say people are more important than paper," Marty said and lambasted inefficient immigration officers out in the field who hold the fate of desperate people in their hands. Marty said he had no respect for such people and their stupidity should be exposed.

"Canada as one of the largest countries of the world can accommodate a lot more people. To say that we cannot afford more people is ludicrous," he said adding Canada has only 32 million people and it is one of the largest countries in the world geographically speaking.

Several speakers paid tribute to Marty and each highlighted different aspects of his contribution to the

community including Former Prime Minister, Ed Schreyer who said Marty's work could be summed up in the words of Eleanor Roosevelt who said that "the real test of our



progress is not to add to the lives of those who have much but to add to the lives of those who have little or less". He concluded by saying that Marty's retirement does not mean no more work because he is eyeing Marty to work with him to help those with mental illness.

Minister of immigration, Jennifer Howard "No doubt that your life has impacted thousands of people and that your life has equally been impacted by those people."

Connie Johnson on behalf of John Nychek said Welcome Place is a leader in refugee settlement and integration work all over Canada.

Councillor Harvey Smith said with Marty you know where he stands on any issues. He will be missed. Ahmad, on behalf of the Afghan Association said it was hard to say goodbye to Marty because he showed them so much love.

Ghirmay Yeibo, President Eritrean Association of Manitoba said Marty is a dependable friend in need. "Marty reminded me of the beauty of humanity."

Marty is man who came from the Bronx New York and became a typical Winnipegger - his larger than life quality, a real character - tough, direct, punches a lot of weight, he has a great heart, accepts others, tolerant, non-elitist, gruff but kind, - with these qualities Marty reflects the character of Winnipeg City, Tom Denton said adding "Marty brought these qualities with him to Winnipeg. He's a perfect fit. He's Mr. Winnipeg".

In the Mix



Marty Salutes to Cpl Dave O. Ogungbemi



Photo op at Mary's farewell with former MP Judy Wasyleceleis (r) and Monika Feist, Success skills (second from L)

Its picnic season why not see how many you can hit up this summer

July 23rd Prefolklorama social at Caribbean Cultural Centre 1100 Fife

July 24 Guyana Cultural Organization picnic at Birds Hill Park Site 5

July 24th Guyanese Association of Manitoba picnic, Labaria Park, ,starting at noon

July 24 Trinidad and Tobago Society Annual Golf Tournament Cottonwood Ste. Anne

July 24th St. Vincent & the Grenadines Assoc of Wpg Annual picnic 1:00 p.m. Crescent Park

July 24th Barbados Association Picnic Hyland Park

July 31st Opening of Caribbean Pavilion at Franco Manitoban Cultural Centre

Aug 19 and 20th Caribbean Day Celebration at 1100 Fife Street

Sept. 10th Grenada Independence Day Celebration at 1100 Fife 3:00 p.m.

Sept 11 – Jamaican Seniors Community Brunch – Jam Hall

Sept. 18 - 1:00 p.m. Horace Patterson Foundation Scholarship Brunch

Assiniboine Gordon Inn tickets call 254-1744

September 24th 30th Anniversary of Council of Caribbean Organizations of Manitoba Award of Distinction and banquet. Get your tickets early

Note: All events are open to the general Winnipeg Community - you are encouraged to come out and get to know your neighbours.



Top 3 Bajan sisters: Judy, Jean and Antoinette, Jean (l) Sirrissa and Bubba (r) Jamaican glamourgirl check out the ring



Above group picture of audience at Jam Hall to see the High Commissioner below is pictorial of Awe Kine A Food



Maiko Watson in Concert
Mark this date - December 2nd -
West End Cultural Centre

Photo credit: Pink Elephant

Sweet

Vibration

Music for all ages



R&B, funk, Reggae, neosoul

An evening of eclectic vibes - guaranteed to please!

Watch for more info