The move by United States President Donald Trump to recognise Jerusalem as the capital of the State of Israel, has been condemned by the Vincentian government.

A Declaration from the Foreign Affairs, Trade and Commerce Ministry released last Tuesday made this country’s position known.

“Any such recognition would imperil the internationally-agreed Two-State Solution, destabilise the Middle East region, and invalidate the important role of the United States as an honest broker and driver of the Israeli peace process,” the communique from the Vincentian government outlined.

The Foreign Affairs Ministry expressed concern with attempts “to deviate from the settled parameters governing the delicate quest for peace between the State of Israel and the State of Palestine.”

The Vincentian authorities applauded the USA on recent efforts to “reinvigorate the Israeli-Palestinian peace process,” but urged that “such efforts focus om cessation of illegal settlement activity in Palestinian territory, the removal of impediments to movement and commerce within the State of Palestine, and the fostering of an environment of trust and good will that can

Continued on Page 3.

Paletine Solidarity: Seated: Prime Minister Dr. Ralph Gonsalves (L) with Imad Al-Zuhairi - Director General from the State of Palestine’s Foreign Ministry. Standing L-R: Eyad Abu Ali, Her Excellency Linda Sobeh - Palestinian Ambassador to Venezuela, Jihad Mohammed and Hany Elqutub.
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Former Culture Minister recognizes Starlift

STARLIFT STEEL ORCHESTRA celebrates 50 years of existence this year, making it the longest existing and active Steel orchestra in St. Vincent and the Grenadines. And it was for this reason and the contribution that Starlift has made through those five decades, that former Minister of Culture, Rene Baptiste recognized the Orchestra with the presentation of a token of appreciation. On Tuesday, Baptiste handed over a trophy, saying that 50 years was a long time to remain committed to the development of steel band music in the country.

This commitment was evident in the over 500 young participants that have taken part in Starlift’s summer programme since its inception, she said. She also recalled the performance put on by Starlift when they attended the World Travel Market in London during her time as the Minister of Culture, describing it as a wonder to see.

They were also present during the visit of Prince Harry, when he took the baton from arranger, Kingsley ‘Hero’ Roberts.

“That is the spirit of engagement, and this is why Starlift is known for,” Baptiste said.

The depth of the repertoire was worthy of mention – the band’s ability to play all genres of music on pan, she said.

The group had now expanded, Baptiste continued, and has produced and continues to produce a number of outstanding players. Captain Roddy Dowers, in his remarks following the official handover, acknowledged the respect that the band has had for Baptiste over the years, and spoke of how appreciative they were over the years.

“Being a part of a cultural organization like this, we don’t normally get any recognition. Ms. Baptiste has done this for us over the years, and this the 50th anniversary is no different,” he said. (DD)

Palestine and SVG deepen relations

Continued from Front page.

representing a consortium of investors, met and signed agreement with Prime Minister Dr. Ralph Gonsalves.

In reviewing the new agreements, Dr. Gonsalves alluded to aspects of “general cooperation... in health, agriculture, education, that will form the basis of relations going forward.”

Ambassador Sobeh praised this country’s Ambassador to Venezuela - Andreas Wickham, and spoke of St. Vincent and the Grenadines as being her third home, boasting that she could go “everywhere without guards,” while here.

“We are interested in strengthening the youths,... the future”, Ambassador Sobeh declared, adding, “We are part of St. Vincent and the Grenadines. We are here to stay and work together.”

Foreign Ministry Director General Al-Zuhairi observed that their presence was “proof of the friendship and solidarity” which has been a hallmark of SVG-Palestinian solidarity.

He acknowledged that St. Vincent and the Grenadines has been consistent in supporting the Palestinian peoples’ right to a peaceful existence, and cited the signing of cooperation between the two countries as “our way to express gratitude and appreciation for your principled support.”

Tangible evidence of that interaction will be unveiled by January 2018, according to Al-Zuhairi.

As far as co-operation in the area of agriculture was concerned, the Director General described it as being “...about to move from solidarity of friendship to having something on the ground.”

Jihad Mohamed described it as a “new chapter” here, and he, having adopted the role as “writer,” will be producing a publication dubbed ‘St. Vincent and the Grenadines’.

He preferred to remain quiet on his proposals, but hinted that 10,000 jobs in five years will represent more of a direct impact. And while Mohamed opted for the suspense line, Prime Minister Dr. Ralph Gonsalves was keen to disclose that JM Investments’ was slated to take up the operations of the Buccament Bay Resorts.

There are also plans for their involvement at Mt Wynne.

Budget set for early 2018

SENATOR JULIAN FRANCIS has hinted that the Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure and 2018 Budget will take place in the middle of January.

He said on his radio programme on Tuesday night that the estimates and budget will not be taking place this month, and that the government was currently engaged in the discussion aspect of the budgetary exercise.

In February this year, Prime Minister Dr. Ralph Gonsalves, in his capacity then as Minister of Finance, presented an EC$976.4 million budget in Parliament.

This time around, it is expected that newly appointed Minister of Finance, Camillo Gonsalves will make the presentation. (DD)

Not Jerusalem, SVG tells Trump

Continued from Front page.

stimulate meaningful negotiations between the parties.”

The Vincentian government alluded to the lives lost in the conflict, but that “decades of painstaking work, demand mature, responsible and measured action.”

The Vincentian government is warning that “to acknowledge any unilateral declaration regarding the status of Jerusalem will not in any way advance the cause of a just, peaceful and lasting solution to the dispute between the peoples of Palestine and Israel.”
Convicted cocaine dealer awaits sentencing

Stories by HAYDN HUGGINS

HEAD of the Narcotics Unit of the Royal St. Vincent and the Grenadines Police Force, Assistant Superintendent (ASP) Foster Scott, shook the hand of Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP) Colin Williams, and told him, “Thanks”, following the successful prosecution of a major cocaine matter, at the High Court Criminal Assizes on Wednesday.

A nine-member mixed jury had found 35-year-old Anthony ‘Ipa’ Edwards guilty of having 32,785 grams of cocaine with intent to supply. Edwards was also found guilty of having the drug for the purpose of drug trafficking.

He will be sentenced on January 29, 2018 at a sentencing hearing, during which the court will hear the presentation of a Social Inquiry Report on Edwards, from the Ministry of National Mobilization, and a mitigation plea from his lawyer Grant Connell.

Evidence presented by the prosecution, at the trial, showed that a party of officers from the Narcotic Unit, led by ASP Scott, acting on information received, went to the Wallibaou Mountains at the North Leeward end of the country, on the evening of January 12, 2015 and intercepted Edwards. According to the evidence, on arrival, the party took up duty, split up in teams, and hid for hours in the bushes, using devices to communicate. The officers had gone there after midday, but did not make the bust until about 6:20 p.m. Edwards was seen going up a track, but the officers did not stop him then; he came down some minutes later, carrying a sack on his head.

Scott said that he stepped out from the bushes and shouted, “Police, don’t move!”, and the man dropped the sack next to him (Scott) and ran back into the mountains, but was caught.

Edwards told the police, “I see a job I get I was just holding it for someone”. But during cross-examination, Connell suggested that the man who dropped the sack was not the accused. He suggested that that man ran towards the sea, his head.

While cross-examination, Edwards told the police that he had gone to the mountains that morning, changed his animals, and while on his way down, shortly before 6 p.m., he saw a back wearing a sack on his head. Edwards said he was “a distance” from the man, and walked behind him for about 35 minutes, but could not see his face. According to Edwards, he heard two gunshots, and hid for about half an hour. He did not see where the man went.

Edwards added that the packages should have been to him when he was taken into custody of 29 bags, but the next day before the court had six bags and two ticks.

Scott had admitted in his evidence that warning shots were fired when Edwards ran back into the mountains. Connell’s request for the court to visit the locus in quo was turned down by presiding Judge Brian Cottle, who agreed with the DPP that if Connell wanted to visit the scene, he could have said so during the case management hearing.

When the Judge asked how is the visit to the locus in quo going to improve the understanding of the case for the prosecution or for the defence, Connell said that sometimes you see things there that are at variance with the evidence given.

In his closing arguments, the DPP pointed out that Edwards did not give the police the version of events he gave at the trial.

The DPP noted that during an electronic interview, which was shown at the trial, Edwards told the police he had nothing to say, and gave no defence at the Preliminary Inquiry (PI) at the Magistrate’s Court. The DPP contended that the prosecution’s evidence was clear that Edwards was positively identified.

But Connell, in his submissions, argued that there were major discrepancies in the prosecution’s evidence, and asked the Court to believe his client.

In relation to Edwards not giving a defence at the PI, Connell said there was nothing unusual about that, adding that the Magistrate usually tells accused persons at PIs that they have the option of reserving their defence, “trust that you will make the right decision and set this man free”, he told the jury.

The jury did not agree.

Dishonest St. Lucians’ fate still unknown

ST. LUCIANS Jammy Harry, Aaron Kadoo and Mario Chitolie were found guilty of theft; they were slapped with sentencing last Wednesday, on several charges of dishonesty, will spend a while longer to know their fate.

The men, charged in connection with a series of fraudulent activities at Automotive Teller Machines (ATMs) belonging to the General Employees Co-operative Credit Union Ltd (GECCU), and the Bank of St. Vincent and the Grenadines, amounting to thousands of dollars, March this year, were charged with going equipped to steal, while Kadoo was charged with, going equipped to steal, and the officers did not see where the man went.

According to the evidence, on the evening of January 12, 2015 and intercepted Edwards. According to the evidence, on arrival, the party took up duty, split up in teams, and hid for hours in the bushes, using devices to communicate. The officers had gone there after midday, but did not make the bust until about 6:20 p.m. Edwards was seen going up a track, but the officers did not stop him then; he came down some minutes later, carrying a sack on his head.

Edwards and the sack were taken into custody at the Narcotics base at Arnos Vale.

The sack was found to contain 29 packages, and a field test carried out by the officers revealed that the substance in the packages was cocaine. Scott, who said he knew Edwards for several years, insisted, under cross-examination, that Edwards was the man who dropped the sack, and that he ran back into the mountains, and not towards the sea.

Scott was one of three police officers who testified for the prosecution.

In his defence, Edwards said he had gone to the mountains that morning, changed his animals, and while on his way down, shortly before 6 p.m., he saw a back wearing a sack on his head. Edwards said he was “a distance” from the man, and walked behind him for about 35 minutes, but could not see his face. According to Edwards, he heard two gunshots, and hid for about half an hour. He did not see where the man went.

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Ganja man discharged, without record

Stories by HAYDN HUGGINS

A 21-YEAR-OLD former student of the St. Vincent Grammar School who pleaded guilty to marijuana possession, has been given a second chance to put his ability and skills into practice, having been discharged by the Court, without a criminal record.

The youngster, who appeared before the Serious Offences Court on Wednesday, admitted having 256 grams of marijuana with intent to supply, on Tuesday, December 5 at Rose Hall.

However, responding to questions from Chief Magistrate Rechanne Browne, the defendant told the Court he had obtained seven Caribbean Secondary Education Certificate (CSEC) passes, including English, Social Studies, Food and Nutrition and Home Management. He said he got a One in Home Management.

The boy added that he was also a student of the St. Vincent Technical College where he graduated in Air Conditioning and Refrigeration; but he was not given the opportunity to make a living, using his ability and skills.

However, the Magistrate, noting that the defendant said he had a One in Home Management, advised, “Sometimes we don’t wait on others to give us the opportunity. When you have the talent, you have to create it”.

Senior Prosecutor Adolphus Delpleche agreed with the Magistrate, and expressed the view that the issue of youngsters not being creative in seeking employment opportunities, was a problem in this country. Delpleche then asked the Court to be excused, and went outside. On his return, minutes later, he told the Magistrate that he made some social inquiries, and based on the report he got, he was recommending that the youngster be reprimanded and discharged.

But the Magistrate went further and applied Section 37 of the Criminal Code, and discharged the defendant without a criminal record.

Browne’s last words of advice to the youngster was to use his talent, and do well. “Use it. If you don’t use it, you will lose it. Make sure the environment is clean for consumption. Do well”, she concluded. “Thank you”, the boy replied.

Police on mobile patrol, had arrested the defendant around 12:40 p.m. on the date in question, while patrolling the Rose Hall public road. A search of a black plastic bag he was carrying revealed the marijuana. When cautioned, he told the lawmen, “Is a brethren give me dat as payment for a phone”.

DPP lauds police in major drug bust

DIRECTOR of Public Prosecutions (DPP) Colin Williams has commended police officers from the Narcotics Unit for excellent work in a major drug operation on January 12, 2015 which resulted in 35-year-old Fitz Hughes farmer Anthony ‘Ipa’ Edwards being convicted on two charges.

A nine-member jury at the High Court on Wednesday, found Edwards guilty of having 32,795 grams of cocaine with intent to supply, and having the drug for the purpose of drug trafficking.

Speaking with THE VINCENTIAN on Thursday, the DPP said the officers carried out the operation in a very tactful way. “They (officers) got good intelligence, and they did extremely good police work to transform that intelligence into a major drug bust”, the DPP said.

He pointed out that the lawmen, having to hide, camouflaged and disguised, in a particular position, in an inhospitable environment, for hours, was not easy. He noted that the officers went on the scene minutes to midday, but did not make the bust until about 6:20 p.m.

“The quality of their work, and the time they put in is commendable”, the DPP stressed.

Assistant Superintendent of Police Foster Scott heads the Narcotics Unit, and led the operation.

CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY SECRETARIAT

STAFF VACANCIES

Applications are invited from interested and suitably qualified nationals of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Member States and Associate Members of the Caribbean Community to fill the following positions:

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Applications in English Language with full curriculum vitae details, including nationality, work experience, educational qualifications and/or expertise, language proficiency, coordinates (including email addresses) of three referees (at least two of whom must be familiar with the applicant’s work), and other relevant information, should be addressed to the Human Resource Management, Caribbean Community Secretariat, Turkeyen, Greater Georgetown, Guyana and sent by email to applyhrm@caricom.org.

The deadline for the submission of applications is 5 December, 2017.
Starlift: Impacting a new generation

The Montrose-based Starlift Steel Orchestra is well into celebrating its 50th Anniversary – 1967 to 2017.

The attendant activities, spread throughout 2017, focused on not only reconnecting with Alumni of the last 50 years, recognizing those (founders) who courageously took the idea from ‘concept to reality’ but, more importantly, by solidifying the orchestra’s connection with the Old and New Montrose communities, out of which the orchestra morphed.

Its particularly significant Heroes Month (March) “Founders Recognition Event”, a community clean-up effort and a Church Service served to jumpstart the year’s activities, which also included: special outreach programmes to the elderly in the Old Montrose community; full involvement in Vincy Mas 2017; and an Independence Concert.

The Golden Year’s activities will climax with a December 18, 2017 50th Anniversary Christmas Concert, appropriately dubbed ‘We Fifty’. This is the third such concert to be staged by the Steel Orchestra – providing an evening of pan, voices, wind and electronic instruments, all on the same stage, that cascades a range of genres from classic to pop, from reggae to calypso.

Without question, the very first of these concerts, ‘Celebrate with Starlift and Friends’, ushered in a new era – an awakening of sorts – of the far-reaching potential and impact of the steel pan and steelband music.

But Starlift’s 50th Anniversary is more than an opportunity to showcase the talent and ingenuity of its pan players. It is a year that has focused on reflecting and celebrating Starlift’s birth, growth and evolution.

From a mere twenty players, Starlift has grown into an institution of men and women who, inspired by the discipline that characterizes them as pan players and musicians, have gone on to become national scholars and solid and upright citizens who, with their attainment of qualification in a variety of worldly disciplines, have positioned themselves as major contributors to the development of their country, and to fostering a Caribbean Civilization that can impact the world stage.

Of particular note are those who have stayed the path of five decades, or have shared in one way or the other a period of association through those 50 years, is the fulfilment of the Orchestra’s motto, ‘Men will Come! Men Will Go! But Starlift Forever Remains!’; through, in particular, a training programme for young men and women.

It is through that ongoing programme that the band has not only contributed directly to ensuring a cadre of pan players for the next few decades, but more that it has delivered on an otherwise subliminal mission to inculcate positive attitudes among those young people.

Attitudes that relate to: respect for self, family, others and community; a sense of organization and discipline that guides their pursuits in education, sports and culture; and an embracing of a desire to achieve excellence, not only in music but in all their pursuits and endeavours.

In effect, Starlift has embraced the concept that musical activities and the skills developed therein, are transferred to other activities; that, for example, learning to play an instrument - the steel pan in this case - has a direct result of the discipline inherent in learning music and how to play a musical instrument.

In addition, those who are involved in the leadership of Starlift speak to how the training Programme has encouraged self-expression – i.e. that it has provided motivation for learning in general, the nurturing of ‘inquiring minds’, and enhanced attainment.

All in all, Starlift’s leadership is assured that their focus on a Youth Training Programme has promoted: friendships among like-minded people; self-confidence; self-discipline; social skills; social networking; a sense of belonging; team work; a sense of accomplishment; co-operation; responsibility; commitment; mutual support; and an outlet for relaxation.

Given the demands made and challenges faced, as far as raising and guiding the development of young people away from the attractions of the seemingly glamorous trends towards instant gratification that encourages miscreant behaviour, Starlift seems to have hit on a right path towards offering a positive, meaningful alternative for young people.

Stand and take a bow, Starlift. Your pathway through another overwhelming successful 50 years seems assured, in more ways than one.
Bone-headed parking!!

IN THE PAST WEEK, I had cause to shop in Kingstown and intended to use the facilities of the Solidarity Car Park. I duly joined what I thought was the car park queue, becoming the 4th in line. After some time had elapsed, it dawned on me that I was not 4th in line for the car park, but had parked behind 3 illegally parked cars that were blocking the car park entrance and in effect causing a “false” queue. I discussed this matter with the very kind, courteous and professional car park staff, and discovered that this was not an isolated incident, but happens with the utmost regularity on a daily basis.

I can only assume that there are two reasons for this: first, that the offender has a poor sense of propriety that they cannot read the NO PARKING SIGNS, even though they are printed in 3ft high letters in bright yellow paint. If this is the case and their eyesight is so poor, then they are a menace to themselves and all other road-users, and should cease driving and get their eyesight checked!!

Rather, I think the case is that these crotinous, moronic, self-centred individuals have the assumed arrogance to believe that they have the God-given right to park where they like, regardless of any applicable parking restrictions, that may apply to us lesser mortals!!

What makes this situation 10 times worse is the proximity of these offences to the Traffic Office situated in the main Police Station. Can any high echelon member of the Police Force explain why it is impossible for any member of the Traffic Police to get off their backsides at given intervals, perhaps every 30 or 60 minutes, and walk a few yards from their office and move on, ticket or better still clamp those illegally parked as I have described. I would have thought that such action would get the attention of the local car owners, who would perhaps react by enforcing the parking regulations so diligently painted on the roadsid-esteemingly.

Road users

Mr. Editor, While I am now confined to be a passenger, having given up driving for well over two years, I am appalled by what I witness on our roads.

First, there is definitely a lack of knowledge by our pedestrians. No longer does it seem that pedestrians employ the golden rule of looking right, looking left, looking right again, before crossing. They hardly have regard for an oncoming pedestrian. Those lessons stuck with me.

And now to those mini-buses. I know this matter has been abounded upon by many and for some time now. But the fact that we continue to labour on it, is clear indication that the mini-buses continue — some if not most of them — to be nuisances and threats on the road. Here is an example: A mini-bus stops without pulling off, to either allow passengers to disembark or to allow persons to get in. They keep their indication light on as though they are moving on but do not. The person behind them is made to come to a stop until that unmannerly mini-bus driver decides it’s time for him to move on.

Further, the rate at which they continue to ply their trade on our roads, and their total disregard for care and attention for other road users, leave me to wonder whether they live in the same world as I do.

And the ridiculous thing about this is that some of them give away with their nonsense because they have friends in .. you know what.

I understand that some insurance companies have taken a decision not to insure any new mini-buses. This must tell us something about the risk involved.

This country was once the pride of the region, when it came to good manners and courtesies on the road. I must say, sadly, that we have lost ground in this regard.

Who Vex Dead!!

Learning from Miss Jamaica

I AM NOT a lover of Beauty Pageants, so when a girlfriend of mine told me she should watch the Miss Universe Contest on TV, I smiled, told her a quiet yes, and went on my way.

But she called the day of the Contest and again encouraged me to watch the show, saying that I would be impressed with one of the contestants.

Not wanting to lose a friend, I decided to watch the show, and man, was I glad I did!

Take it or leave it, Miss Jamaica, sporting an Afro, was my choice. Miss Jamaica, Davina Bennett, had a clear message for all black women, i.e. that there is something called natural beauty.

What a pleasure it was to see this beautiful black woman showing all the pride in showing off her natural beauty — her natural hair, not some black woman showing all the pride in showing off her natural beauty — her natural hair, not some fawning, foreign hairstyle that these days mean you have to borrow or buy hair.

All black women should take a leaf from Miss Bennett’s book. That leaf is all about appreciating their (our own) Afro-Caribbean identity.

'Sextoys' contraband in SVG

WHEN I FIRST heard, several months ago, that “sex toys” were considered contraband in St. Vincent, I was rather amused: no doubt some tourists would be slightly inconvenienced by such seizures at the airport, but would humorously recount the experience to their friends upon returning to their home countries in a few days, and then repurchasing same - a minor inconvenience.

But then I read the lengthy defense of the ban by a Government employee, citing the support and enforcement of public morality as the basis for the restriction. I have found nothing in the writings of Luther, Knox, Calvin, or the Bible (old or new testaments), or the papal encyclicals, that address the notion of sex toys.

What right, in a democracy, does any government have to tell you or me what consenting adults may do in the privacy of their bedroom? This is not “Leonidas at the pass”, protecting his countrymen, it is King Canute, willfully, ignorantly, futilely commanding the tides to cease.

Fortunately, all of my children have taken citizenship abroad, in Europe and North America, where they have free access to whatever devices may provide sexual satisfaction for themselves and their spouses. My friends and I have hidden our sex toys under our mattress; the Government will need a warrant to come in and seize them.

Just wait until you see the letter that results from that!

Sanger

Letters

THE GUAYNA & TRINIDAD MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE CO. LTD.

NOTICE

Ishmael Josiah Shortte, of Stubbs, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, having made sworn deposition that policy number SV1795 issued by The Guyana and Trinidad Mutual Life Insurance has been lost, and having made application to the underwriter to grant a duplicate of same.

Notice is hereby given that unless objection is raised within two weeks of the date hereof, the duplicate policy asked for will be issued.

Dated: December 6th, 2017
By Order
Collin Cambridge - Principal Representative

THE GUAYNA & TRINIDAD MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE CO. LTD.

NOTICE

Peter Nathaniel Ollivierre, of Cane Garden, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, having made sworn deposition that policy number SV2340 issued by The Guyana and Trinidad Mutual Life Insurance has been lost, and having made application to the underwriter to grant a duplicate of same.

Notice is hereby given that unless objection is raised within two weeks of the date hereof, the duplicate policy asked for will be issued.

Dated: December 6th, 2017
By Order
Collin Cambridge - Principal Representative
The senatorial issue

Last month, the NDP announced that it was replacing Dr. Jules Ferdinand as opposition Senator, with lawyer Kay Bacchus-Baptiste. Leacock clearly had other ideas, and felt that there should be a clean sweep, a new party. The same day, the other Senator, Zita Barnwell, should have been replaced by Israel Bruce, a lawyer, who is interested in running in South Central Windward. And so Leacock was moved to make some public comments about the appointment.

This caused anger in the NDP, but it was not the leader of that party who was most upset. It was the former leader, Arnhim Eustace, who took to the airwaves to administer a public scolding of “the Meant”. All this of course led to a public response from Leacock, in which he took a swipe at Eustace for being the NDP. Leacock suggested that Eustace “was parachuted” into the NDP, while he had to work his way up from the bottom.

All this drama makes for good listening by persons who are interested in that sort of bananaish thing; but it also sends a strong signal, the NDP is in disarray, that the party is in disarray. It is clear that whatever systems were established under former leader Sir James Mitchell to give effect to consultation and decision making in that party, have gone awry. Leacock complains that as a Vice President, he had no input into the appointment of the new Senator, hence the spat over Israel Bruce.

The senatorial issue

The senatorial issue questioned his commitment to that “Just Another Look”, was at pains to when Keith Joseph on his programme Leacock felt aggrieved that he was four political defeats at the polls, close to sixteen years, and through the overall issue of leadership is a bitter party, and his frustration forces him then Lorraine Friday. Clearly, “the leadership, first Arnhim Eustace, and his party, and in particular the 2015, Leacock has been at odds with the New Democratic Party. because of his years of service in the 2015 General Elections

The 2015 General Elections

Of interest to most persons, is the statement made by Leacock in relation to the performance of the NDP, in the 2015 general elections. He said “Even now we don’t know why we have done badly in some of the seats. We say “yes they thief, they thief, they thief”, but the evidence is that there were serious irregularities in the campaign. But it is for us to determine and define it, or history will repeat itself again”.

Recently, party leader Lorraine Friday saw it fit to appoint Arnhim Eustace, to oversee the proceedings in the opposition benches. And yet that party has two Vice Presidents in St. Clair Leacock and Patel Mathews, and they both sit in Parliament. Now the NDP leader, Lorraine Friday, heads to New York for a town hall meeting, and he is taking the two junior members of his executive group, Senators Kay Bacchus-Baptiste and Zita Barnwell. Kay Bacchus-Baptiste has not yet taken the oath in relation to her senatorship. Zita Barnwell is the Senator for the Grenadines who Leacock wants to replace. She is the most junior on the NDP benches, and is struggling to make any significant mark on the proceedings of the House of Assembly.

The NDP, 42 and growing stronger

THE NEW DEMOCRATIC PARTY (NDP), the oldest political party in St. Vincent and the Grenadines, was founded by Sir James Mitchell. It was officially launched on 5th December, 1975. In 1984, Vincentians demonstrated that their government continued to be the government of the working people; opposition and corruption of the St. Vincent Labour Party. And the quality of leadership, the team and message that the NDP presented propelled it to victory in the general elections of that year. During its seventeen years in office, the NDP led St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

The main objectives of the NDP are: to rid the people of St. Vincent and the Grenadines through the development of the economic resources of the country, to pass legislation that guarantees equal opportunity for all; to ensure the highest standard of rectitude in public life and to guarantee the maximum expression of democratic liberties by all citizens, and to lead in the building of a dynamic society. In addition, the NDP government shall be made up of progressive-minded people of any race, colour, or creed who are dedicated to the principles of democracy and who are interested in the sound and orderly development of the political, moral, social and economic welfare of the people of St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

The objectives of the party, a clear vision, sound policies and astute leadership of the NDP; it governed St. Vincent and the Grenadines for seventeen years. Having won general elections in 1984, 1989, 1994 and 1998; in 1989, it won all fifteen seats. During the period 1984 to 2001, the economy was blooming; there was an average of 5% economic growth with the NDP in power. The NDP contributed significantly to the economic development. Agriculture continued to dominate the economy, in particular the banana industry. In 1990, St. Vincent and the Grenadines earned $120 million, and in 1992, $148 million also from bananas. When the NDP began and contributed to the government of the country. In 1990, St. Vincent and the Grenadines enjoyed an improved standard of living. A middle class was developed, and unemployment was at its lowest.

However, the flag ship of the NDP was its land reform programme, where lands were given to the landless. A number of estates were distributed, including: Rabbacca, Colonnier, Sans Souci and Diamond to the poor and working class. There were also major developments to the infrastructure of this country, such as the construction of feeder roads which assisted farmers tremendously. Vincentians showed great appreciation to the development of the village roads which the Labour Party called ‘goiti tracks’. There was a marked improvement to housing stock as well.

Moreover, Vincentians saw the transformation of the Central Water and Sewerage Authority and the St. Vincent Electricity Services Ltd. When the NDP left office, 90% of the utility sector was nationalised; they were doing a good job of getting the new development of the political, moral, social and economic welfare of the people of St. Vincent and the Grenadines. The NDP shall be made up of progressive-minded people of any race, colour, or creed who are dedicated to the principles of democracy and who are interested in the sound and orderly development of the political, moral, social and economic welfare of the people of St. Vincent and the Grenadines. The NDP shall be made up of progressive-minded people of any race, colour, or creed who are dedicated to the principles of democracy and who are interested in the sound and orderly development of the political, moral, social and economic welfare of the people of St. Vincent and the Grenadines. The NDP established under former leader Sir James Mitchell, was at pains to when Keith Joseph on his programme Leacock felt aggrieved that he was four political defeats at the polls, close to sixteen years, and through the overall issue of leadership is a bitter party, and his frustration forces him then Lorraine Friday. Clearly, “the leadership, first Arnhim Eustace, and his party, and in particular the 2015, Leacock has been at odds with the New Democratic Party. because of his years of service in the 2015 General Elections

The 2015 General Elections

Of interest to most persons, is the statement made by Leacock in relation to the performance of the NDP, in the 2015 general elections. He said “Even now we don’t know why we have done badly in some of the seats. We say “yes they thief, they thief, they thief”, but the evidence is that there were serious irregularities in the campaign. But it is for us to determine and define it, or history will repeat itself again”. 8. FRIDAY, DECEMBER 08, 2017. THE VINCENTIAN
Dispelling darkness through kindness

In Touch

Jules Ferdinard

“Dispelling darkness through kindness is thus our responsibility as citizens in the world despite the darkness that surrounds us.” – Dr. Sherene Kalloo-Deyalsingh, specialist gynecologist, obstetrician, and newspaper columnist.

We continue to be encouraged by the number of individuals and organisations that regularly make the time to show acts of kindness. In their own way, they are making a large contribution. It is still so much good in the world despite the evil, the darkness, that is so often portrayed in our print and electronic media. The darkness of rape, theft, corruption, spousal abuse, and various forms of prejudice appear to fade away as the light of kindness and generosity shine through. We are reminded that this is still a beautiful world. We bask in the glow of appreciation of those who make the time and exert the energy to dispel darkness through kindness.

There is a lot of good that still exists in our world, in our region, in our Caribbean countries. Many people are often appalled by the increasing crime rate and the apparent callousness of so many of our citizens, as postings on Facebook and Twitter reveal a variety of heinous acts taking place “in our backyard”, we draw strength and courage from the many acts of kindness that emerge from among us.

Unfortunately, many of these kind gestures never make the front pages of our media (print or electronic, for that matter). They are seldom featured as television news items. And yet, they may touch the lives of many as they encourage recipients to keep hope alive. We think of those individuals, firms, and organisations that go out of their way to contribute to various school feeding programmes. We appreciate the caring neighbours who refuse to be considered as mere spectators of an incident. Those who would venture out to assist needy children to secure their school books and uniforms. We think of the retired nurses and “regular educator” who selflessly give of themselves to ease the pain and burden of those that they come into contact with. Imagine, if you will, the sense of appreciation that emanates from a patient whose relatives may not have visited (or have they no relatives at all) but a total stranger, who genuinely cares for mankind, would lend a listening ear or share some encouraging words as they (the patient) battle with a debilitating disease or the trauma of an incapacitating accident. We cannot put a value to such acts of kindness and sacrificial giving.

We commend the many caring individuals who visit hospitals and unburdenedly converse with patients there. On occasions, they also encounter medical staff and the various carers. A value cannot be placed on such acts of kindness. These encouragers blow no trumpets. They may not cause medical papers or television journalists. They smile for no television cameras. They selflessly give of themselves to ease the pain and burden of those that they come into contact with. Imagine, if you will, the sense of appreciation that emanates from a patient whose relatives may not have visited (or they have no relatives at all) but a total stranger, who genuinely cares for mankind, would lend a listening ear or share some encouraging words as they (the patient) battle with a debilitating disease or the trauma of an incapacitating accident. We cannot put a value to such acts of kindness and sacrificial giving.

Many of this column’s readers are regularly engaged in dispelling various forms of darkness in your respective communities. We commend you. Whether to continue the efforts to engage in acts of kindness as we seek to build better homes, neighbourhoods, workplaces, communities and the nation, to commit, and re-commit, to dispelling darkness through kindness.

Send comments, criticisms & suggestions to julesferdinand@gmail.com

Deadly monopolies and the HPV Virus

Jomo Thomas

‘Think your body is your own to control and dispose of as you wish? Think again. If you have been granted at least 40,000 patents on genes controlling the most basic processes of human biology, if you own your own media hospitals, you must sign away ownership rights to your excised tissues, even if they tumour is normal, and recompense the clinic. Life itself is rapidly becoming a wholly owned subsidiary of the medical-industrial complex. Harriot Washington, medical ethicist and author of Deadly Monopolies and Medicaid gravy.

I have long been a sceptic. I became even more suspicious of the western medical establishment when my mother was ‘diagnosed’ with pancreatic cancer in 2007 (she is still alive), and even more so after Hurricane Katrina. Washington’s Deadly Monopolies. In Deadly Monopolies, Washington demonstrated persuasively how the US government provided the legal framework for big pharmaceutical companies to control people’s lives and health in their mad quest for profit. So when the new broom that we were about to acquire all the tender girls to take the Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) vaccine was first marketed, my mind immediately went back to the battle in the United States to vaccinate all school-age teenagers. At first, the fight was to vaccinate all teenagers because it was claimed that boys developed pre-cancer and then go on to a faster rate than girls because they were involved in oral sex.

The claim was particularly taken aback by the complete unanimity of the medical community in SVG regarding this issue. Often when we hear the hype that vaccines save lives as we know from polio, smallpox and measles. We are taught that vaccines are safe, we are well, vaccines save lives. To do as the majority of medical professionals suggest was to put children at risks. Parents and social services agencies will also have undue stress as children sued for damage to the dreadful effects of HPV.

There is no truth in the statement that HPV vaccines are safe and without risk. In recent years, Australia, New Zealand, Spain, India, Japan and Spain have filed criminal suits against Merck, the manufacturer of HPV Vaccine. There has been no criminal suit in the United States. That means monocidal vaccines cannot be sued criminally in the United States. Yet, in 2016, the US Vaccine Court ordered Merck to pay US$62 million to victims who suffered after using Gardasil, the HPV vaccine.

In most suits, Merck is charged with the following:

• fraudulent marketing and/or administration of an inadequately tested vaccine;
• failure to inform the public about the potential risks of using Gardasil;
• clear infringement of the right to informed consent;
• the administration of medical conditions in those who used Gardasil despite the similarity of their symptoms and the requirement of a short period of time between vaccine administration and the onset of symptoms;
• ignoring established and new scientific evidence indicating the potential harmful effects of Gardasil; and manufacturing methods;
• callous disregard for those suffering new medical conditions post-Gardasil;
• failure to inform the public that HPV infection is one of the risk factors involved in the development of cervical cancer;
• and failure to form the public that 90% of all HPV infections clear on their own without medical intervention;
• submission of false information about alternative methods of controlling cervical cancer; and
• responsible for the injuries resulting from the administration of Gardasil.

For four years of patient and the health of your children, pay attention to Dr. Diianne Harper. Dr. Harper helped design and carry out the Phase II and Phase III safety and effectiveness studies to get Gardasil approved, and authored many of the published scholarly papers about it. She has been a paid speaker and consultant to Merck. Dr. Harper says young girls and their parents should receive more complete warnings before receiving Gardasil vaccine to the cervical cancer. Dr. Harper questions the vaccine’s risk-versus-benefit profile, and says data available for Gardasil shows that it lasts five years; there is no data showing that it remains effective for long.

Therefore, why do nine-year-old girls need vaccinations for symptomless diseases that their immune systems kill anyway?

But there is more. In 2013, the Journal of Investigative Medicine revealed that the Gardasil vaccine after health officials recorded nearly 2,000 adverse reactions in one week. Pfizer, that has been recognized that the whole-cell pertussis vaccine was causing brain damage in babies worldwide, had stopped using it and equally as effective vaccine in 1981, a full 16 years before American health officials also recognized that whole-cell pertussis vaccine was causing brain damage in babies worldwide.

Across Europe there is alarm. In the United Kingdom, there is the Allen report. In 2009, leading scientists studying the Gardasil vaccine after health officials recorded nearly 2,000 adverse reactions in one week. Pfizer, that has been recognized that the whole-cell pertussis vaccine was causing brain damage in babies worldwide, had stopped using it.

There is another safer way. According to the American Cancer Society, there is no evidence that cervical cancer is to have testing (screening) to find pre-cancers before they develop into cancers. There is another safer way. An international team of distinguished researchers in a published report stated ‘Persistent infection with oncogenic human papillomavirus (HPV) is necessary but not sufficient for the development of cervical cancer. The factors promoting persistence and the pathways by which HPV infections go away are incompletely understood. Infection with the human papillomavirus (HPV) is linked with infections with antibiotics and vaccines to their peril and our grief. The time to take another look is now.

Send comments, criticisms & suggestions to jomosanga@gmail.com
SVG ‘enclave tourism’ is modern day apartheid

WE MUST salute the people of Taiwan as they celebrate another year as an independent state. They do so in the same month that we here in St. Vincent and the Grenadines celebrate our 38th year of independence.

Taiwan, is like St. Vincent and the Grenadines, an island state; but while their Chinese culture has been fashioned by a history that stretches back thousands of years, we in St. Vincent and the Grenadines are yet in the stage of infancy, comparatively speaking. Over a period of just over one hundred years, Taiwan has asserted itself, so that today it is an undoubtedly an important player in world affairs, and her position ought to be respected. In that regard, Taiwan merits the support of the state of St. Vincent and the Grenadines, on any fora that so accommodate and provide opportunities for that expression.

On the other hand, it is important that our government had indeed handed over all our licences to fish in the Atlantic Ocean, to the Taiwanese, with the result that, Vincentians who have the expertise and are prepared to invest in fishing in the Atlantic Ocean, cannot get in on that lucrative trade. This is an important issue on which we urgently need to do something about before the stagnancy of the economy.

Recently, we heard from minister Stephenson that almost five hundred persons had their names added to the “Poor Relief List”, and we heard another minister say, that we were adopting the plan of the poor was a prominent element of this administration’s socio-economic thrust. This brings into focus the strange approach of the ECCB in excluding agriculture from their “Eight Point Stimulation and Growth Plan”, of 2009. We must not forget that the sectors that were targeted for this stimulation experienced negative growth for three successive years after the implementation of the “Plan”. The point bears repetition, that even then that plan was drawn up, the 6,000 banana farms then in SVG had the capacity to employ at least 20,000 workers almost overnight. Is there any better way to fight poverty than to provide gainful employment? In the absence of adequate data as to how exactly the Plan was executed by the ECCB, I am unable to say why the agriculture sector should be left out of this plan, given that the agriculture sector had been appropriately addressed, we might have had the publicizing of Taiwan’s assistance.

It is understood that the Taiwanese are going to be assisting us with the restoration of our banana industry, and their effort must be appreciated, for if we are successful, there would be a tremendous improvement in our economy. The farming community is however skeptical about the sincerity of the support, since the persons who have themselves been recognized as the agents responsible for the crippling of the banana industry, including the “St. Vincent Banana Growers Association”, the farmers’ organization which had for decades provided vital services to the farmers, those persons still remain prominent in the scheme of things.

The farmers’ lack of faith is understandable, as the Ministry of Agriculture is reasonable, when one takes into account, that for several years we have had the publicizing of plans, which were to see the export of bananas to the U.K. None of those bore any fruit.

In last one we had, was the plan to plant 250 acres of new bananas between the months of April and July of 2016. That plan followed the course of the five that preceded it; it got nowhere. How could the farmers be expected to have confidence in such persons?

It is understood that the Taiwanese assistance is bearing fruit for the banana industry in St. Lucia. So if they are prepared to assist us similarly, let us organize properly. We cannot afford any more of these games of empty talk, that our administrators have been playing at our expense. There is serious work to be done to save our country.

We can learn from the Taiwanese in that regard. They plan properly, and with great unity, they pursue their goals with energy. That is why they can celebrate one hundred and six years, as an independent nation.

Long life and prosperity to them!

Le Roy Providence
‘It’s Flow’s Nine Mornings’!

Flow’s Country Manager Wayne Hull
THAT IS THE TUNE SUNG by
Marketing and
Communications Lead
Nikala Williams, when
asked what is in store for
the remainder of the 2017
Christmas season.

Williams emphasized
that in an effort to further
lift the Vincentian Society
through culture this
Christmas season, she
stressed that Flow will not
be disappointing persons
where creativity,
innovation and
entertainment are
concerned.

Come this Sunday,
December 10th, Williams
stated, would be the
staging of the first ever
Flow Christmas Talent
Competition which is set
to take place on the Flow
promenade.

Explaining that it is not
the regular caroling
competition, she
elaborated that persons
will be engaged in
performances ranging
from dances to drama.

Keeping in tune with
tradition, Williams noted
that the entertainment of
the Rose Bank Drummers
on Flow’s Christmas
launching on November
17th, laid the ground-work
for bringing about an
authentic ‘Vincy
Christmas’. The
Marketing and Comms
lead noted that she was
thrilled to see that even
tourists were awed by the
launching celebrations.

NOTICE TO TENDER: TUG BOAT HIRE

The Port Authority of St. Vincent and the Grenadines invites tug owners/operators to
tender for a Harbour Tug Operations in the Kingstown and surrounding harbours. The
tug will be required by April 2018 for a period of approximately two (2) years in the first
instance and used mainly for berthing and unberthing of vessels in the Harbours.

Only companies with vessels that meet the minimum criteria below will be considered:

1) Horse Power - approx. 3,500 BHP
2) Bollard Pull - not less than 45 tons
3) Age of Tug - maximum 25 years old
4) Configuration: Bow shape suitable for pushing, with adequate fendering, super-
structure and wheelhouses adequately set in with good tumblehome.
5) Class Status: Vessel to be classed with an IACS member and in possession of valid
class certificates.
6) Experience in Harbour Tug operation of at least five (5) years. Companies must also
meet the following local requirements:

a) Must be registered with the Commercial Intellectual Property Office (CIPO)
b) In possession of a valid Tax Compliance Certificate (TCC).

Information on the CIPO & the TCC may be viewed on the following websites:

* http://cipo.gov.vc/cipo/
* http://www.finace.gov.vc/

Copies of these certifications will be required to be submitted with the tender.

Deadline for application submission: Wednesday 13th December, 2017.

VACANCY

Applications are invited from suitably qualified persons for the position of Accountant.

RESPONSIBILITIES INCLUDE BUT NOT LIMITED TO:

* Financial reporting
* Internal control
* Staff management
* Strategic and business planning
* Management accounts
* Risk Management
* I.T. skills
* Regulatory compliance

OTHER SKILLS:

* Good communication
* Team oriented
* Experience of at least three years in finance management

ACCOUNTING QUALIFICATION:

* CA, CPA, ACCA

Part qualification at the final level would be considered.

Send applications to:

CEO
P.O. Box 1533
Kingstown

Deadline for application submission: Wednesday 13th December, 2017.
THE 2017 NINE MORNINGS Festivities - unique to St. Vincent and the Grenadines - were officially launched last Sunday, December 3.

The festivities, which run from December 16 to 24 annually, will be staged this year under the theme 'Christmas 2017 — Spreading the Love'.

And in keeping with the trend of the recent past, Kingstown was awash with people, and filled with an atmosphere of celebration as the festivities were launched with a lighted parade, the official turning on of lights at Heritage Square and a concert at the said square.

There was the usual groups parade — Pan-round-the-neck steelbands, church groups, community groups — but this year they were joined by a delegation from the visiting Book Ship, MV Logos, parading in the national dress/cloths of the various ethnic groups/nationalities that comprise the ship's complement.

Once at their final destination, Heritage Square, the large crowd heard an address by Lennox Bowman, Deputy Chairman of the Nine Mornings Committee. Bowman recognized the support of government, the business sector, the many artistes and persons in the Diaspora for their continued support of the festival.

Then it was time for the entertainment, featuring, among others, Luta with his 2017 Nine Mornings release, ‘In De Morning’, which, in Luta inimitable style and fashion, ‘brought the house down’.

And while the major activity will be centred in capital Kingstown, Nine Mornings related activities and typically Vincentian Christmas type celebrations are slated for a number of rural communities.

Luta was simply Luta – energizing, rhythmic and innovating with his new number ‘In de Morning’. (Credit: Sydney Morgan – Facebook)

Retired Commissioner of Police Michael Charles leads a group in the parade. (Credit: Carlos Williams – Facebook)

The Green Hill Sports and Cultural Club transferred their J’Ouvert skills to the Nine Mornings Parade. (Credit: Carlos Williams – Facebook)
The “opportunity” Gregory mentioned, was the training of thirty primary school teachers of the Langley Park Government and Dickson Methodist Schools in Georgetown, in CPR and First Aid. So, on Friday, 24th November, five members of the SMS, led by President Michael Seiferth, journeyed to the Langley Park Government School. Mrs. Vivian Hazzard, a trained nurse, accompanied them.

The resolve to conduct the training came from SMS’ belief that as future physicians, it is natural to want to help those in need. The essence of help in this activity was that the teachers involved had never had any training in CPR or First Aid. The information and practical sessions were starting points to instruct the teachers on the importance of being prepared for any emergency scenario; understanding how to recognize an emergency; and knowing what to do in response to an emergency.

Therefore, with the teachers divided into groups, the training began. Each group went through theoretical sessions on the following topics: What is CPR; Responding to a choking victim; Responding to someone suffering from an asthma attack; Assisting someone who is having a seizure; Treatment of broken bones; Treatment of minor and deep cuts; Treatment of bee stings and insect bites; and Treatment of heat exhaustion and heat shock. During the practical session, there were demonstrations on how to perform CPR; how to splint a broken bone and bandage a deep wound; and how to assess a choking victim. The teachers then practised procedures on each other. They also had a chance to practice CPR on an adult mannequin and an infant mannequin under medical students’ supervision and direction.

During the training, there were many laughs shared between those learning and those volunteering, the overall atmosphere was one of deep respect. The teachers felt grateful that they were learning skills that could potentially save someone’s life whether in the classroom, within the family setting or elsewhere in the community.

Nurse Vivian Hazzard expressed pleasure in her participation. “The overall reception by the principal and teachers was professional and warm. The group exhibited verbally and by demonstration, their comprehension of the material and ability to apply the information,” she reported. “By the time the “hands on” learning session began, the room was buzzing with excitement, animation, and a high level of engagement. It was great to see the eager atmosphere among the staff of both schools. The commitment of the school leadership to prepare the staff with as much useful information as possible, on behalf of their students, is motivating and encouraging.”

Another SMS member, Caleb Ackerman, added his take with, “I was glad we were able to help the teachers in Georgetown. It appeared they had never received any sort of instruction on First Aid before, so they should be able to benefit from the knowledge. They were eager to learn, and it was encouraging to see, as a result, that the Principal was planning on purchasing First Aid equipment for her school.”

Equally important, student Spencer Allen, acknowledged, “It was a nice opportunity for me to give back to the island by sharing some of my skills and experience.”

By the same token, President of SMS, Michael Seiferth, looked at the advantage of being afforded such an opportunity as a student of Trinity. “By allowing students to get out of the classroom and away from the campus setting,” he affirmed, “Trinity provides practical use of the knowledge learned at school, and allows us to pass this knowledge on. It also opens an avenue to foster a strong relationship with an underserved area in St. Vincent that could lead to providing more teaching, training, and volunteering in the future.”

The Trinity Society of Medicine and Surgery will continue with similar outreaches in the New Year.

CPR techiques being demonstrated.
The Police Christmas Caroling will take place on Friday December 15, 2017 on the grounds of the Central Police Station commencing at 7:30 pm.

Since 2003, the Police Christmas Caroling Contest has been playing an invaluable and instrumental role in fostering a more harmonious relationship between members of the Constabulary and the general public.

The aims of the contest are as follows:

1. To nurture the creative abilities of members of the Force
2. Foster and enhance team spirit among members
3. Strengthen relations with the public and;
4. Assist in building a celebratory atmosphere during the festive season.

There are thirteen (13) choirs participating in this year’s competition – seven in the senior category namely – Western Carolers, Eastern Carolers, Coast Guard Carolers, CPS Blasters, Auxiliary Police Carolers, CID Carolers and Traffic Angels. In the junior category, the choirs are - Barrouallie Police Youth Club Carolers, Bequia Police Youth Club Carolers, Sandy Bay Police Youth Club Carolers, Georgetown Police Youth Club Carolers, Petit Bordel Police Youth Club Carolers and Questelles Police Station Youth Carolers.

There will be guest appearances from very exciting artistes including Man Zangie (debuting his Christmas single), Genesis Steel Orchestra, the Police Drama Club, the Police Band and more.

This year’s contest is being held under the theme “Spreading Joy and Peace throughout the season”. A cordial invitation is extended to the public to join us in this wonderful time of celebration.

Sponsors

The Police Cooperative Credit Union (PCCU) who has been a sponsor since 2002, has once again partnered with the Royal St. Vincent and the Grenadines Police Force in sponsoring the contest.

On Tuesday December 4, 2017, Bro. Michael Charles, Treasurer to the Board of Directors of the PCCU handed over a sponsorship cheque in the sum of $7,800 to Assistant Commissioner of Police, Mr. Carlos Sampson to offset expenses for this year’s contest. Bro. Michael Charles stated that the PCCU board is committed to the sponsoring the Police Caroling Contest because it is one of the most tangible ways in which the Credit Union can give back to the Police Force, which is responsible for the birth of the Credit Union.

ACP Sampson expressed gratitude on behalf of the Police Force for the sponsorship over the years. The Assistant Commissioner said that the Police Force values the commitment of the Credit Union in sponsoring the contest over the years and gave the assurance that the monies will be well spent.
Honorees highlighted at VincyCares gala luncheon

**V**

**Diaspora**

Sherrill-Ann Haywood and her daughters Njeri (R) and Makeda, flanked by members of the St. Vincent and the Grenadines Diaspora Committee of New York.

**Story and photos by NELSON A. KING naking@verizon.net; kingnaking21@yahoo.com US CORRESPONDENT**

THOUGH THE SPOTLIGHT was primarily on the late Vincentian community activist Maxwell Haywood, the other honorees were highlighted Sunday at the gala 8th Annual Luncheon of the Brooklyn-based Vincentian group, VincyCares.

Maxwell Haywood, a United Nations Development Officer, died last Wednesday after ailing for most of this year. He was 54. His wife, Sherrill-Ann, received the award posthumously during the grand ceremony at El Caribe Country Club in Brooklyn, New York.

The other honorees included veteran Vincentian broadcaster Ferrand Courtney “Randy D” Lawrence Dopwell (Lifetime Achievement); disc jockeys Joseph Caiphas “SupaEyes” Joseph Cuffy and Jonell “Yung Hova” Goodluck (Vision Award); Curtis M. King, Headmaster of the St. Vincent Grammar School; and the Brooklyn-based Garifuna People’s Community (GIPSVG, Inc).

Dopwell’s primary school education started at the Wesleyan Methodist School in capital Kingstown and completed at the Kingston Preparatory School; his secondary school education was at the St. Vincent Grammar School, which was completed in 1969.

Soon after his secondary school education, he gained employment with the St. Vincent and the Grenadines Government at the Division of Customs and Excise before migrating to the USA in 1971 to attend the New York Business School.

He spent two years at the New York Business School before realizing that his choice of career was no longer business but to become a radio announcer.

Dopwell then migrated to Canada and attended Humber College of Applied Arts, where he completed his certification as a radio announcer in 1976.

“Randy D,” as he is affectionately known, is a very popular radio personality globally. He currently freelances on NICE Radio in St. Vincent and the Grenadines with his Vibes Caribbean radio program, aired on Saturday mornings.

He is not only an on-air announcer, but has produced and hosted other programs such as “Snap Soul,” a Saturday afternoon–evening cultural show on the grounds of the St. Vincent and the Grenadines Grammar School.

Randy D said this program showcased many young talents in St. Vincent and the Grenadines and also provided quality clean entertainment for many onlookers.

He said “Vibes Caribbean” television program highlighted the Caribbean market place, “where many small businesses in a Caribbean market, be it locally, regionally or internationally, got a chance to promote their business on television.”

This program was aired on stations as SVD Television; Carib Vision in Barbados; Cable Vision and Direct Television in the US, and Rogers Cable, Belle Television and Asian Television Network in Canada.

Cuffy has had a long and illustrious career as the “People’s DJ,” which began not in New York but in his early years in St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

In his homeland, he was originally known as “Living Eyes.” But, as time passed and the demands got greater, he said “it became necessary to put a team of workers together to help with the movement of equipment, etc.” thus forming “Eyes Connection”.

On migrating to the US, Cuffy said he continued to hone his craft. As a result of not having his original team with him, he said he chose to change his name once again, assuming the sobriquet “Supa Eyes.”

He pledges once again his “unwavering support and commitment to the people and nation of St. Vincent and the Grenadines in whatever way and at whatever time” his services are requested.

Goodluck embarked on his journey to New York from St. Vincent and the Grenadines in 2007 to further his studies in accounting and finance. Prior to his departure, he studied accounting and economics for a short time via The University of The West Indies and the British Accounting program called “A.C.A.”

Before moving to New York, Jonell founded an entertainment business in St. Vincent and the Grenadines, called “Iowa Lynx Entertainment.”

He said Iowa Lynx Entertainment highlighted the works of major local and regional artists, and promoted high profile events.

Goodluck said his natural ability to adapt to change, and his determination to succeed prompted him to use his school laptop to download and post ads on Craigslist as a DJ.

Through these ads, he said he acquired a weekly position as a DJ at a well-known Manhattan bar. A few years later, Goodluck said he went back to work in his field, working for an auditing company, but later decided to quit and concentrate on his brand and businesses.

With his knowledge of business, marketing, networking and hard work ethics, Goodluck said he has managed to expand his brand “Yung Hova,” “which is currently well known within the entertainment industry and a household name among party goers in NYC.”

King received his early education at the Belair Government School, the St. Vincent and the Grenadines Grammar School, the St. Vincent and the Grenadines Teachers Training College and the Commonwealth Caribbean Youth Center in Georgetown, Guyana.

He taught for 13 years (1983-1996) at the Gomea Methodist and CW Prescod Primary Schools in St. Vincent and the Grenadines before attending the University of the West Indies (UWI), St. Augustine Campus in Trinidad and Tobago in the 1990s. He graduated from UWI with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in History, with honors.

King also holds a post graduate diploma in educational management and leadership from the University of Technology of Jamaica.

On his return to St. Vincent and the Grenadines, King was assigned to the St. Vincent Grammar School as Graduate History Teacher.

He has since served as Deputy Principal (Ag.) of the JP Eustace Memorial Secondary School and the West St. George Secondary School; and Deputy Head master of the St. Vincent Grammar School. He currently holds the post of Headmaster of the institution.

GIPSVG, Inc. said its primary mission is geared towards assisting the development of the communities located north of the Rabacca River on mainland St. Vincent.

The Brooklyn-based group said these communities play a major role in “the history and culture of our forefathers, who first settled in St. Vincent and the Grenadines.”

They include: Orange Hill, Overland, Sandy Bay, Point, Owia and Fancy.

GIPSVG Inc. was legally incorporated on Feb. 28, 2015, as a non-profit company. Its membership includes individuals born of Garifuna lineage and also individuals who are married into a Garifuna family.

They have a mission: “To preserve our culture, history, heritage, and values in the communities of Orange Hill, Overland, Sandy Bay, Point, Owia and Fancy.”

The group holds the vision: “To be the leading organization linked to the development of the Garifuna communities.”

Jonell “Yung Hova” Goodluck receives a Vision Award from VincyCares’ President Gillian Arthur.

Curtis King, Headmaster of the St. Vincent Grammar School (L), receives award from VincyCares’ public relations officer Michael Alexander.
ON FRIDAY November 24, 2017, an advertisement was published in the Vincentian Newspaper captioned, “Private Attorney Assisted Adoption – Children of Any Age: All Inquiries Confidential - Call or Whatsapp 498-2262.

Based on the foregoing, the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Unit (ATIPU) hereby informs the general public that the aforementioned advertisement is in contravention of the Children (Care and Adoption) Act (No. 10 of 2010). Section 133 (1) states “a person shall not publish or cause to be published in any form or by any means an advertisement dealing with the placement of a child for adoption”. Subsection (2) further states “a person who contravenes subsection (1) commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding ten thousand dollars or to a term of imprisonment not exceeding six (6) months”.

What does the law say about who can place a child for adoption?

Section 92 (1) (2) and (3) point out who are duly authorized to place a child for adoption.

Subsection (1) states “A child may be placed for adoption in St. Vincent and the Grenadines only by the Adoption Committee”.

Subsection (2) states “A natural parent of a child or other person having the custody of a child may, in a manner which may be determined by the Committee, select a single person or a couple with whom he or she is to have his or her child placed for adoption as prospective adopter or adopters”.

Subsection (3) states “The Adoption Committee may only place a child for adoption with a prospective adopter if the Committee is satisfied that the child ought to be placed for adoption”.

While adoption is a legal process and is permissible in the state of St. Vincent and the Grenadines; the ATIPU advises persons who are contemplating placing their child/children for adoption to use wisdom and always seek guidance from the Adoption Committee before doing so. Adoption in itself is not a bad thing, but people with bad intentions can exploit the adoption process. While there are many good outcomes in adoption; regrettably, it is also one of the many forms of human trafficking. Prospective adopters may apply for an adoption order and succeed in adopting a child - but it is what happens to the child after the adoption that really matters!

After adopting a child, you have to ensure that the best interest of the child is always taken into consideration. On the contrary, the prospective adopter can exploit, abuse or traffic the child, as is the ongoing case in many countries. Be wise, be assertive - if you think it’s too good to be true, then it probably is.

IN THE MATTER OF BRITISH-AMERICAN INSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED (JUDICIAL MANAGER APPOINTED)

NOTICE OF FIRST DISTRIBUTION UNDER THE PLAN OF ARRANGEMENT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN by the Order dated 7 November 2017, that the Plan of Arrangement (“Plan”) proposed between the Company and its Plan Creditors was sanctioned by the Supreme Court of The Commonwealth of The Bahamas (“the Court”) and that said Order has been lodged with the office of the Registrar of Companies. The Plan is now effective.

The first distribution of the Plan is scheduled to begin the week of December 18, 2017. Plan Creditors eligible for a distribution under this phase of the Plan of Distribution are asked to receive their payment at the office of the Judicial Manager, Brian Glasgow, c/o KPMG, First Floor National Insurance Services Headquarters, Upper Bay Street, Kingstown St. Vincent.

Distribution will be made in the following order by policyholder last name beginning with:

— December 18th, 2017 – A through G
— December 19th, 2017 – H through N
— December 20th, 2017 – O through T
— December 21st, 2017 – U through Z

Distribution will commence from 09.00 to 16.00 daily, LOCAL TIME (ATLANTIC STANDARD TIME).

Policyholders are required to provide copies of valid identification in order to receive payments. Persons authorized to receive funds on behalf of policyholders are required to provide appropriate documentation and copies of valid identification for both the policyholder and the authorized personnel.

Telegraphic transfers will be made as instructed by policyholders on their Final Claim Form submitted on or before December 21st, 2017.

If you have any questions, please contact one of the helplines listed below or email baikcom@kpmg.com.bs.

St. Vincent Helpline: +1-855-256-1448
USA/Canada Helpline: +1-800-803-9079

DATED this 06 December 2017

Leacock says he remains loyal

Continued from Back page.

in the NDP camp, and, according to Friday, some of the NDP’s supporters had contacted him to indicate that they needed to deal with the matter internally.

“And we had a meeting this morning, and we will go forward to put the focus on the people of St Vincent and the Grenadines and the unity of the NDP because that is the best way for us to go forward for all our members,” the Leader of the Opposition said.

He emphasized that the differences exhibited were not differences that broke the party.

“We have come together always in the best interest of the country...so for those who may be rejoicing that the NDP is in shambles and breaking, that is not so.”

According to Friday, the people were number one, and the members of the party know that they can effectively lead the people; history demonstrates this, the party’s leader said.

“This is why the NDP is indivisible. We are the ones to bring prosperity to St Vincent and the Grenadines,” he concluded.
FORM F7: ADVERTISEMENT OF APPLICATION FOR GRANT
Rule. 15
THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN SUPREME COURT
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES
PROBATE DIVISION
NO. 203 OF 2017

IN THE ESTATE OF HARRIS DUBLIN HOYTE AKA EDWIN CORNELIUS HOYTE, DECEASED

ADVERTISEMENT OF APPLICATION FOR GRANT
FIRST PUBLICATION

TAKE NOTICE that an application has been filed by JUDITH BROWN of 11 Avon Drive, Bedford MK417AE, England.

for a grant of:

(a) Probate of the will of HARRIS DUBLIN HOYTE AKA EDWIN CORNELIUS HOYTE deceased, who died on the 23rd day of July, 2016 without revoking a will bearing the date of 23rd day of February, 2012, wherein the applicant JUDITH BROWN is named sole executrix.

Any person having an objection to the grant of Probate to the Applicant shall file an objection within (14) fourteen days of the publication of this Notice.

Dated this 5th day of December, 2017

Filed by:

Vynnette A. Frederick
Fredericks Attorneys and Notary Public
 Solicitor for the Applicant whose address for service is: -
Beachmont
Kingstown
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
Tel: 784-436-2145
Email: fredericksattorneys@gmail.com

THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN SUPREME COURT
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

CLAIM NO: 44 OF 2017

IN THE MATTER OF AN APPLICATION BY NEAL WOODS and MARCELLE WOODS FOR A DECLARATION OF POSSESSORY TITLE TO LAND
APPLICATION FOR THE DECLARATION OF POSSESSORY TITLE

NOTICE
AMENDED SECOND PUBLICATION

Whereas NEAL WOODS and MARCELLE WOODS Evangelist and Housewife respectively of Richland Park in the State of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, by their application filed in the High Court on the 17th day of October, 2017 claim to have acquired title by twelve years adverse possession of the lands described in the schedule to this Notice and have applied to the Court for a declaration of possessory title.

NOW ALL persons claiming an interest in the said land are required to enter an appearance in the Registry in person or by his Legal Practitioner, within one (1) month from the date of the last Publication of this Notice which is being published twice in the newspapers.

SCHEDULE

ALL THAT LOT PIECE OR PARCEL OF LAND situate at Richland Park, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines containing by admeasurement FOUR THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED AND TWENTY-THREE square feet (4,223 sq. ft.) and abutted and bounded on the North by an Existing right of way, on the South by a river, on the East by Lands of Judy Bacchus described as Lot Number 2 on Survey Plan C26/17 and on the West by a river as the same is shown on Plan Number C95/97 drawn by Corliss Murray, Authorised Land Surveyor approved and lodged at the Land and Surveys Department on September 28, 2017 or howsoever otherwise the same may be hitted bounded known distinguished or described together with all buildings and erections thereon and all ways waters watercourses rights lights liberties privileges and easements thereto belonging or usually held used occupied or enjoyed therewith or reputed to belong or be appurtenant thereto.

SEND SEALED BIDS TO: Fleur Nichols
Country Manager/Branch Manager
RBTT Bank Caribbean Ltd
Kingstown
ST. VINCENT

CONDITIONS OF SALE:

1. Vehicles are to be sold “as is where is”
2. The Mortgagee does not bind itself to accept the highest or any offer.
3. Unacceptable bids would not be acknowledged.
4. Bids close December 29, 2017
Dear George,

I had a relationship with this guy, but we got to part ways rather unfortunately after I caught him lying to me. He said he was afraid to tell me the truth because he was afraid I would have left him, so he chose to lie to me. We met about three weeks ago and hit it off immediately. It took us a little over a week before we got involved sexually. It so happened that as he was taking this pants off, his wedding band fell to the floor, and when I asked him about it, he lied to me, saying that he was not aware such a ring was in his pocket. He continued to lie about it, until he finally admitted that it was his wedding band, and he took it off because he did not want to scare me. He said he was still married, but was in the process of getting a divorce, and that he and his wife do not sleep together although they live in the same house. I got very mad at him and literally chased him out of my house. Since then, he has been calling me and leaving messages begging me to forgive him and to believe his story. I have not budged, and really want to get your take on whether I should believe him and take him back into my life. I do not want to get hurt, which is why I asked him not to bother me anymore. Have I done the right thing?

Disappointed

If this man is in the process of getting a divorce like he said, then let him get back to you about your involvement in his present wife have been cut and he is free, single and disengaged and available to you totally. It is strange that he would hide his wedding band, knowing that he is on the way out of his present marriage. His reluctance to be forthright with you leaves much doubt about his sincerity, as you did the right thing to send him on his way until he can present himself with a different marital status. This one looks, walks and quacks like a duck, therefore it is safe to conclude it is definitely a duck. Quack, quack!

George

Is she playing games?

Dear George,

I have been dating this girl; it has been one year now, and every time we get together, there is always the same problem. At least, every time we get together, there is an issue that has been one year now, and I have been dating this girl; it has been one year now, and every time we get together, there is always the same problem. At least, every time we get together, there is an issue that has been on the table. She seems not to be bothered about this guy, but we had to part ways rather unfortunately after I caught him lying to me. He said he was afraid to tell me the truth because he was afraid I would have left him, so he chose to lie to me. We met about three weeks ago and hit it off immediately. It took us a little over a week before we got involved sexually. It so happened that as he was taking this pants off, his wedding band fell to the floor, and when I asked him about it, he lied to me, saying that he was not aware such a ring was in his pocket. He continued to lie about it, until he finally admitted that it was his wedding band, and he took it off because he did not want to scare me. He said he was still married, but was in the process of getting a divorce, and that he and his wife do not sleep together although they live in the same house. I got very mad at him and literally chased him out of my house. Since then, he has been calling me and leaving messages begging me to forgive him and to believe his story. I have not budged, and really want to get your take on whether I should believe him and take him back into my life. I do not want to get hurt, which is why I asked him not to bother me anymore. Have I done the right thing?

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If this man is in the process of getting a divorce like he said, then let him get back to you about your involvement in his present wife have been cut and he is free, single and disengaged and available to you totally. It is strange that he would hide his wedding band, knowing that he is on the way out of his present marriage. His reluctance to be forthright with you leaves much doubt about his sincerity, as you did the right thing to send him on his way until he can present himself with a different marital status. This one looks, walks and quacks like a duck, therefore it is safe to conclude it is definitely a duck. Quack, quack!

George

Not her wedding

Dear George,

I am engaged to this wonderful man and we have agreed to be married in the middle of next year. There is one problem though. His mother is deeply involved in his life and wants to plan the entire wedding ceremony. I want us to have a small wedding, but his mother insists that we have a big wedding, and yet does not want to financially contribute to make it so. She wants to invite all of her people, and has ignored our wishes to not have certain people at the ceremony. I love my fiancé dearly, but if he cannot stand up to his mother and take charge of his own wedding, then I do not care to risk my life fighting with her over her son. My mother is around, but she is not the one to impose and, added to that, she is not in a financial position to help out. All I want is for both of us to fund our own wedding and to have the kind of wedding we want. His mother is welcome to give ideas etc., but she has to understand that this is not her event.

Trying to be cool

Dear trying to be cool,

Your fiancée should take the lead and have a sit down with his mother, letting her know that her suggestions and assistance are welcome, but she has to back up a bit. The standard he sets now in terms of the charge of his own affairs will pretty much set the tone for future communications between him and his mother, and the boundary lines he sets down now will also determine the degree of her involvement in both of your lives. Mom just needs a gentle reminder that this is not her event, and she ought to allow you both to design it just the way you want. It will be a good idea to further discuss this in your premarital counseling sessions, assuming that you will sign up for that.
Visitors may drop by unexpectedly, resulting in tension with your lover. Plan a day of enjoyment with them. You don’t want to give anyone fuel for the fire. Don’t let coworkers interfere with your objectives.

口头英语 may lead to walkouts; don’t make any rash statements you may regret later. Your colorful conversation may attract new mates. You may find travel to be most rewarding. Your competitive nature will enable you to win any contest you enter.

Make sure you concentrate if operating machinery or vehicles. Pleasure trips or...
Barrouallie secures Football League title

Bank of SVG Barrouallie- Inter- Community League Football champions.

BANK OF SVG BARROUALLIE took hold of the Senior Men’s division of the St Vincent and the Grenadines Football Federation (SVGFF) Inter-Community League Football title last Sunday night at the Victoria Park, beating arch-rivals and defending champions Layou, 2-1. But it was a come from behind win for Barrouallie, as Myron Samuel had put Layou in front with a free kick, as early as the 3rd minute of the match. Trivis Fraser equalized for Barrouallie in the 27th minute. Then, in the 38th minute, Chavel Cunningham slipped past his marker, to rocket a shot from an acute angle, with Kenyon Lynch in goal, having no chance.

Neither team was able to put themselves in a better position, with Layou having a clear chance, but Myron Samuel’s feeble shot did not trouble the Barrouallie custodian. The Barrouallie team dedicated the win to its former captain Roy “Chicken” Richards, who was shot and killed last July.

In getting to the final, Barrouallie had a 3-1 win over Calliaqua in the first semi-final, with Layou edging out Sion Hill 1-0 in the other semi-final. Calliaqua went on to take the third place, beating Sion Hill 3-2. Calliaqua’s goals came from Lelzo Mc Kenzie - two and Omar Cupid the other. Sion Hill’s goals were netted by Delano Webb and Juma Gilkes.

Shandell Samuel secures Football League title

Patrons at the Victoria Park last Sunday night, saw the last of Shandell Samuel in that format of national competition, as he announced his retirement.

Samuel, who turns 35 later this month, said he has also ended his representation for St Vincent and the Grenadines, having debuted at this level in 2002. He was granted the opportunity to captain the Layou team in his last match, and was given a guard of honour by his team mates, when he was substituted in the 66th minute. He had gained the sobriquet “ Bound to Score”, as in his heyday, his goal scoring ability made him one of St Vincent and the Grenadines’ top goal scorers of all time.

Samuel has played semi – professional in Barbados and Trinidad and Tobago, and had a short professional stint in Malaysia.

THE BALL REVOLUTION made its mark on the Ottley Hall football programme, held last weekend at the Ottley Hall sub-station. A major contributor to the event, the Grassroot Tennis Club’s Ball Revolution left an imprint on the community with the donation of a set of balls.

The provision of the balls will ensure that the programme at the suburban village’s playing facility will be sustained by the members of the constabulary who are assigned to the facility, thus ensuring more sanitary conditions for the weekend’s activities and beyond”, Connell highlighted.

Connell thanked all those who contributed to the Ball Revolution event. He named Nikolai Boyea, Dr John Frederick, Wayne Alexander, St Vincent Motors, Shorn Gun-Munro, Thomas Wholesale, Paradise Beach Hotel, Be Fit Movement, Boom FM, Third Element Sounds, DJ Diago, Roger Adams, Aeropost and Deron Grant, among those who made an input to the activity.

“I must single out Garth Saunders of the Central Water and Sewerage Authority for his understanding, and ensured that water was connected to the facility, thus ensuring more sanitary conditions for the weekend’s activities and beyond”, Connell reinforced.

“The presence of the two established football coaches from Trinidad and Tobago added aura to the occasion, where they were able to share their knowledge, and made donations of apparel... It was also good to have on hand parliamentary representative for West Kingstown Hon. Daniel Cummings and former area representative- Rene Baptiste, who graced the occasion with their presence”, Connell highlighted.

Dillon Moore (right), one of the stand outs, gets a pair of boots from Rafer Ross.

Connell noted that linkages have been made with Kenrick “Scrambler” Alexander, a Vincentian who coaches in the USA, where it is being explored for him to source gear to further enhance the Ball Revolution programme.

The Ball Revolution has touched down in Calliaqua, Sharpes, South Rivers, Bequia, Fancy, and ended last Saturday at Ottley Hall.

Through the initiative, the Ball Revolution has generated over 100 balls to the various communities. Connell projected more exciting times ahead for 2018, when the Ball Revolution restarts.
**LENNOX JOHN COMPLETES FIRST STINT**

AFTER nine months of coaching, the Lennox John Cricket Academy completed its first stint last Saturday with a ceremony, where the players were presented with certificates of participation.

The Academy accommodated twenty players, which included three females. The 34 sessions covered technical skills, mental and physical preparation, matches, as well as in-house sessions dealing with topics on life style.

In the individual awards, Alison Antoine was the Most Improved Player, Jereme Layne the Best Batsman, Jaheil Walters the Best Fielder, and Luke Wilson the Best Bowler.

Irvin Warrican, Head Coach of the Academy, said he was pleased to see the progress some of the players made during the period. “Some of the players went on to represent SVG and the Windward Islands, so that’s a very good start, where we look at a holistic development of the players”. The head coach also believes that getting parents involved in their kids’ life where a cricket career is concerned, critical. “Most of the players are talented, but some lack the commitment, and here is where the parents need to come in to support them”. Warrican also expressed thanks to the coaches Bertrum Stapleton, Samantha Lynch, Alston Bobb, Kenroy Martin and Kenroy Peters, coordinator Cleton Barnet as well as the SVGCA.

Kishore Shallow, President of the SVGCA, also praised everyone who shared ideas of this initiative, stating “This is a start, we have gone past looking at sports as a recreation. The statistics show that cricketers are one of the highest paid sports professionals in the Caribbean, and our players who are on a franchise system earn more than a graduate lawyer, in addition to their match fees. It is a tremendous opportunity for our players, hence we at the SVGCA will continue to facilitate the process to help players get to that stage, so this is really the foundation”. The President, however, cautioned the players against complacency. “In the past, once you divorce academics and sports, you don’t really achieve your true potential in life, just the discipline from studying will help with sports. In fact, as part of the criteria for next year’s players’ enrolment in the academy, the association will monitor the players’ progress in school, and if the grades go down, we will reach out to the parents with a warning or two, in an effort to get the kids’ grades back up to standard before he/she be accepted back in the academy”. The President also stated, that “The budget for the Academy is currently approximately over $40,000 and we will be looking to attract some sponsors next year to continue the academy.”

Lennox John said he has always been a humble person, and is honored to have the Academy named after him. “I have given over 50 years of my life to cricket, and I don’t know if I’m worth it, but I am honored by the decision taken by Dr. Kishore Shallow, one of my students at the Grammar School, and his executive. When you do something and you do it in sheer love, you don’t do it for any high praise and expectation of high pay, and that’s what I live for in this life,” the stalwart sports administrator and educator added. John, while congratulating the players, expressed continued support for the Academy. “If it can help in any further way to see this academy grow and grow, my hope is to join the presentation party next year and have something presented in my name”.


The next phase of the programme will begin in February 2018.

**SVG ANNOUNCES UNDER-15 TEAM**

THE NATIONAL YOUTH selectors have named a 13-man squad to represent SVG in the upcoming Windward Islands Under-15 Tournament, which is scheduled to bowl off here in SVG from Sunday, December 10th to 17th.

Randy Joseph, son of former Windward Islands leg spinner Orlando Jackson, will lead the team. He will have off spinner Luke Wilson as his deputy for the limited overs tournament, which will be played at the Park Hill and the Cumberland playing fields. SVG will be looking to capitalize on the home advantage, turn their fortunes around and capture the title, which has eluded them for over a decade.

Fixtures for the tournament are as follows: December 10th SVG vs. Dominica at Park Hill and St. Luca vs. Grenada at Cumberland. December 11th Grenada vs. SVG @ Park Hill and Dominica vs. St Lucia @ Cumberland. December 12th rest day. December 13th SVG vs. St Lucia @ Cumberland and Dominica vs. Grenada @ Park Hill. December 14th Dominica vs. St Lucia @ Park Hill and SVG vs. Grenada @ Cumberland. December 15th rest day. December 16th SVG vs. St Lucia @ Park Hill and Dominica vs. Grenada @ Cumberland. December 17th Dominica vs. SVG @ Park Hill and Grenada vs. St Lucia @ Cumberland.


Bertrum Stapleton, former Windward Islands batsman, will coach the team, and will be assisted by Orlando Jackson and Kenroy Martin. Samuel Holder is the manager.

**I.B.A. ALLEN**
Junior squash players get good Barbados outing

KAI BENTICK led the St Vincent and the Grenadines' fortunes at the World Junior Circuit. He defeated Darrien Benn of Barbados, 11-3, 11-6, 11-4, 11-2, 15-13, 11-7. Meanwhile, Mikhail Quashie took the bronze in the Boys Under-15, after he defeated Kemar Lord of Barbados 11-4, 11-5, 11-6, as the two squared off for the third place.

Back row from left: Nadira Morgan, Kai Bentick, Mikhail Quashie. Front row from left – Jayden George, Jaydon Williams and Mikhail Quashie.

The six players are part of the St Vincent and the Grenadines Junior Development Programme. They were accompanied to Barbados by coach James Bentick.

Winlott Inc/WICBC Under-15 Cricket Tournament bowls off soon

ST. VINCENT & The Grenadines Cricket Association (SVGCA) will host the 2018 edition of the Winlott Inc/WICBC Under-15 Cricket Tournament, which takes place from Sunday December 10th to Sunday December 17th, 2017. Matches will be played at the recently reconstructed Cumberland and Park Hill playing fields. The tournament was originally slated to be held in April 2018, but was rescheduled to accommodate the Cricket West Indies (CWI) Regional Tournament which will now take place in April 2018.

Winlott Inc has been sponsoring both the Windwards U15 and U19 Tournaments annually since 2015, under their brand Super 6, at approximately EC$160,000 per tournament. Prior to 2015, Winlott Inc sponsored the Windwards T20 Tournament from 2010 until 2013, when it was dropped from WICBC's calendar of events.

Winlott Inc/WICBC Under-15 Cricket Tournament bowls off soon

Executive Director of Winlott Inc Ms. Allison Thomas presented cheque of $100,000.00 to Secretary of SVGCA Inc Mr. Samuel Holder in the presence of Winlott Inc Chairman Mr. Murray Bullock.

Executive Director Ms. Allison Thomas and the Chairman Mr. Murray Bullock of Winlott Inc presented a cheque of $100,000.00 to Mr. Samuel Holder, Secretary of the St. Vincent & the Grenadines Cricket Association Inc. on December 5th, 2017 towards sponsorship of the tournament.

In addition to cricket, Winlott Inc has sponsored the annual Windwards Island Schools Games, since the late 1990s to date, and more recently the just concluded Windwards Islands Senior Female Football competition which was held in St. Vincent in November 2017.

The Windatts Inc/WICBC Under 15 Competition will commence this Sunday December 10th, with host St. Vincent & The Grenadines taking on Dominica at Park Hill, and defending champions St. Lucia facing Grenada at the Cumberland Playing Field.

LANDS FOR SALE

Lands at Chapman's Village near Grace & Truth Church.

Lots:
14,821 sq. ft.
15,631
432-0337

FOR SALE

For Rent
4 - 1 bedroom apt. at New Montrose
593-8674

For Sale
Land at Chapmans Village near Grace & Truth Church.

Lots:
14,821 sq. ft.
15,631
432-0337

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Online now! Check us out today!
FOR SALE
House for sale by owner at Baibou - 4 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, 1 laundry room, excellent view, very reasonable price. For more information call 434-2144/454-0376

FOR SALE
One self-contained one-bedroom furnished apartment located at New Montrose. Call: 493-2923 for information

CLICO LIFE INSURANCE

NOTICE
Barbara Soso having made sworn deposition that Policy No: IV001229070 issued by CLICO in the name of Raul Soso has been lost and having made application to the underwriter to grant a duplicate of the same, notice is hereby given that unless objection is raised within two (2) weeks of the date hereof, the duplicate policy asked for will be issued.

Dated: 30 November, 2017
By Order
The Underwriter

Notice
Check out the National Treasures of St. Vincent and the Grenadines Website on Friday 8th December 2017 at 1:00 p.m.
http://nationaltreasuressvg.com

EVER-READY FUNERAL HOME

Our Services include:
- Embalming, Lowering Device Service,
- Carpeting, Grave Mattresses, Wreaths, Vaulted Tombs, Head Stones (Marble & Granite), Shipping to any part of the world, Cremation arranged upon request.
- Hymn Sheets, Video Taping, Memorial Books.

JUDITH ELIZABETH MULRAIN
Roman Catholic Cathedral Of The Assumption According to Anglican Rites Tuesday 5th December, 2017 2:00 p.m.

RICARDO FITZGERALD " RICKY " DE SHONG
Faith Temple Church New Montrose Monday 4th December, 2017 2:00 p.m.

DOROTHY JOHN
Cathedral of The Assumption Kingstown Monday 4th December, 2017 3:00 p.m.

WORREL MAPP
St. Paul's Anglican Church Calliaqua Saturday 2nd December, 2017 3:00 p.m.

WELBY ALEXANDER BULOCK
Mt. Coke Methodist Church Saturday 2nd December, 2017 3:00 p.m.

JONATHAN NATHANIEL WILLIAMS
St. Paul's Spiritual Baptists Church Sion Hill Thursday 5th November, 2017 2:30 p.m.

“Service Above Self”
Frenches, Kingstown, St. Vincent
24 Hour Service Tel: 456-1494/457-1044 Fax: 457-2559
LEACOCK SAYS HE REMAINS LOYAL

by DAYLE DASILVA

PARLIAMENTARY Representative for Central Kingstown St Clair ‘Major’ Leacock has indicated that he has no fear that the comments he made regarding his own suitability for the leadership of the New Democratic Party (NDP) will have any adverse effect on his political career.

He further told THE VINCENTIAN in a telephone interview on Wednesday, that he remained “loyal and committed” to the NDP.

The opposition Parliamentarian occupied most of the discussion this week, after he made comments in public how he felt about the appointment of the leadership of the party, comments he made during a radio programme.

And this followed on him speaking publicly against the appointment of attorney Kay Bacchus-Baptiste as a senator, replacing Dr. Julian Ferdinand about a week ago, and for which former Leader of the NDP, Arnhim Eustace took him to task. But on Monday, Leacock was heard ‘venting’ about the selection of Dr Friday, and who eventually was voted in as the party’s new leader in 2016.

Since then, Leacock has made his feelings known in the public, saying that he believed that he was the better person to lead.

He told the Dwight Joseph on Boom 106.9 FM, that he still believed that he was able to provide the best leadership.

“I thought I had done enough to be the person to replace Mr Eustace as the leader of the New Democratic Party,” he said.

“If you ask me how I feel inside, I still feel and I genuinely believe I can provide the best leadership to the New Democratic Party going into an election campaign.”

However, on Tuesday, following a meeting between Friday, Leacock and the NDP’s other Vice President, Roland Patel’ Mattheus, he (Leacock) said on the New Times programme, that he was in full support of the party’s leader.

“The President has spoken, and spoken well of the historical nature of the party,” Leacock said.

He explained that the idea to meet with the two vice presidents and party leader was the initiative of Friday.

“We spoke frankly together; it was a chance to understand the basic principles which guide and define each of us.”

“It’s not time for finger-pointing, for one-upmanship for either of us to feel that either of us has to give way or concede or compromise what is good for the party,” Leacock said.

He spoke to those whom he described as rejoicing over the seeming rift in the party, that his loyalty to the party had not dissipated, and that he wore proudly the commitment to the NDP.

And that he was ready now, more than ever to serving the people.

“At any one time, there can only be one leader, and we have an effective leader, and as part of my job is to work with him and ensure that he succeeds,” Leacock said.

Friday, who addressed the programme first, said that the NDP had a strong foundation; “We have had ups and downs.

“We are a political party and a lot has been said recently about us washing our linen in the public,” he said, but it was his belief that with dialogue, the party would be able to grow stronger.

“Today we had a meeting at the headquarters and had a lot of frank discussion about issues of concern. The NDP is a united force going forward to build St Vincent and the Grenadines.”

He further noted that there was a common cause that existed among the members of the party, and that was to remove the ruling Unity Labour Party (ULP) from office.

There were some people on the other side saying that there is Continued on Page 16.