WATCH ATTITUDE

WATCH your attitude and behaviour when it comes to littering on the beach.

This is the advice that the National Coordinator of the Caribbean Youth Environment Network (CYEN) Barbados, Waynelle Collymore-Taylor, is sending out to all persons, both locals and tourists, who frequent the various beaches across this island.

Speaking to the Barbados Advocate in an interview yesterday after their organisation participated in a beach clean-up, which is part of the annual International Coastal Clean-up, she said that she finds the main reason why some persons continue to throw their garbage on the beach is because they simply do not care.

She said that if these persons continue with this attitude and behaviour, then the beaches of Barbados would continue to generate large quantities of litter. “Persons need to look at their attitude and behaviour. If these issues are not tackled, then the problem of littering on the beaches would persist and even get worse. Stop thinking ‘This is not my house’, litter and then forget about it.”

Collymore-Taylor said that persons also need to be mindful of the fact that they are not the only persons who use the beaches and therefore, their actions affect others who would go to those beaches.

Convention now in effect

By Patricia Thangaraj

THE Maritime Labour Convention 2006 is now in effect.

This was revealed by Acting Prime Minister Richard Sealy, who is also Minister of Tourism, as he delivered remarks at the Celebration of Seafarers last evening at the Bay Street Esplanade.

“Last year, I reported to you that the Government of Barbados had deposited the Instrument of Ratification for the Maritime Labour Convention 2006. This year, I can report that the Convention is now in force for Barbados with effect from June 20, 2014.”

He stated that this Convention addresses important elements for seafarers such as ensuring that there are good working conditions.

“The Maritime Labour Convention addresses the conditions of employment and the minimum requirements for seafarers to work on ships. I cannot overemphasize the importance of this Convention, oftentimes called the Seafarers Bill of Rights to the promotion and securing of safe and secure working conditions.”

He said that all of this is part of the Government of Barbados’ efforts to “ensure that all Barbadian seafarers and those who crew Barbados flagged vessels receive, experience and have access to decent and secure working and recreational facilities.”

Sealy said that assisting various educational institutions such as the Samuel Jackman Prescod Polytechnic (SJPP) in providing training would also be high on their agenda.

“It is my understanding that the Samuel Jackman Prescod Polytechnic, in collaboration with the Caribbean Fisheries Training and Development Institute of Trinidad and Tobago, will provide both basic safety and advanced training to 27 Barbados Port Inc. staff members from Monday September 22, 2014. My Ministry supports the Polytechnic in its efforts to enhance its maritime programme and stands ready to assist where possible,” he said, noting that seafaring has tremendous working opportunities for MARITIME on Page 3.
More research needed on persons living with dementia

There is a lack of formal quantitative and qualitative research on the prevalence and care of persons living with dementia within the Caribbean, and this needs to change.

This is the view of Catherine Brown, an intern at the Healthy Caribbean Coalition (HCC), who has made the observation just ahead of World Alzheimer’s Day, celebrated on September 21st.

“A more precise perspective as it relates to the Caribbean is warranted, not only due to the significance of the topic as society ages and dementia rates increase, but also for the Caribbean’s unique culture, traditions, and societal opportunities and limitations, which shape the lived dementia and care giving experience,” Browne has noted.

“Ultimately, this information can help guide healthcare in becoming a facilitator to desired care approaches, by streamlining their services with what is needed – whether emotional, financial, or instrumental,” she also observed.

Noting that dementia refers to the loss of cognitive function, and is caused by more than one hundred degenerative brain syndromes, Browne pointed to estimates that show that 35.6 million people worldwide lived with dementia in 2010, with numbers expected to almost double every 20 years.

This threat, she said, is heightened in the Caribbean, given its aged population.

“The Caribbean has one of the fastest growing older populations in the developing world. For instance, Barbados’ 2014 estimates showing an aged population, 10.2 per cent of the population are aged 65 years and over, and there is an elderly dependency ratio of 15.5 per cent,” she explained.

“Rates are just as daunting in other islands. The proportion of the population aged 65 years and over in Grenada and Trinidad and Tobago are 10.4 per cent and 9.1 per cent, respectively, with elderly dependency ratios of 18.7 per cent and 13.3 per cent,” she added.

“This begs the question as to how we, both as a region and as a global community, are dealing with this dilemma.

Unfortunately, while there exists a multitude of international research on epidemiology, interventions, and care giving of dementia, there is a paucity of formal quantitative and qualitative research on the prevalence and care of persons living with dementia within the Caribbean,” Browne concluded. (RSM)
No decision made yet

MINISTER of Transport and Works, Michael Lashley, has made it clear that his Ministry has not made any commitment as yet regarding the purchase of buses.

He made the point to the media on Friday afternoon, as he expressed concern about comments that were made on a local call-in programme yesterday, which questioned why the Ministry had not sought to purchase locally assembled buses. However, Lashley told the media he is not choosing dealerships over local bus manufacturers, he said, that information will be acquired. Once that is determined, he said, over 100 buses that are required to provide the Barbados Port Inc. will be determined by the board of management of the Transport Board to determine which companies were successful in their bids to provide the over 100 buses that are required.

“If I had my way, there would be some mix of local suppliers and overseas suppliers, because we would need buses supplied at a particular rate, but I’m in favour of local companies getting involved in supplying buses and building the buses. “We can import the chassis and we can ask ten or 15 bodywork shops to build the bodies upon these chassis, which would really open up a new form of work shops to build the bodies. “If there is room for suppliers of local labour and building the buses, there is no reason why the Barbados Ferry, which is committed sponsors, but he said, that information will be taken to Cabinet for approval.

“We sent out an expression of interest for 110 buses, and as I said, we cannot buy 110 buses in one fell sweep. We certainly would have to phase it – whether we need 20 buses the first year, another 25 the next year, but certainly we will have to phase them in,” he said.

Lashley maintained that there is room for suppliers of locally built buses to get in on the action, and he is keen on this, because it provides the opportunity for skilled and unskilled workers to secure employment and save foreign exchange. He said that this concept is not foreign to Barbados, and should not be difficult to execute.

He said, “If I had my way, there would be some mix of local suppliers and overseas suppliers, because we would need buses supplied at a particular rate, but I’m in favour of local companies getting involved in supplying buses and building the buses. “We can import the chassis and we can ask ten or 15 bodywork shops to build the bodies upon these chassis, which would really open up a new form of business person, and it would really support employment,” he said. (JRT)

Polytechnic offering maritime programme

We believe that seafaring and shipping, as a whole, offer tremendous opportunities for those choosing career paths, but achievement of a successful maritime career needs the requisite training.

“Our neighbours in Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago offer advanced maritime programmes, and even though Barbados does not currently offer many of these advanced courses, the Samuel Jackman Prescod Polytechnic is playing its part by offering Basic Safety Training for maritime operations, in accordance with the international standards established by the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers.”

Samsung tablets issued to primary school pupils in the North

By Regina Selman Moore

CLASS three pupils, from all four Government primary schools in St. Lucy, now have Samsung Galaxy 4 tablets to aid them in their educational pursuits, thanks to the Aron and Christina Foundation.

Students of St. Lucy, Half Moon Fort, Ignatius Byer and Selah Primary schools received the tablets on Friday from Aron and Christina Truss, founders of the Aron and Christina Foundation, during a handing over ceremony held in the auditorium of the St. Lucy Secondary School.

Addressing the students, Aron Truss noted that the Foundation, formed by himself and his wife, was started back in 2009, with the aim of promoting and facilitating children’s education at the primary and secondary level, since they both believe that this will be the best means of ensuring the country’s social, economic and political stability in the future.

He urged the students to care the tablets given and to view them as a tool that can be used in the teaching-learning experience, even as they prepare for the upcoming Common Entrance Exam.

Acknowledging that Half Moon Fort and Ignatius Byer have already been beneficiaries of the tablet project, Truss noted that the Foundation was delighted to add St. Lucy Primary and Selah Primary to the current project, which will overall provide 350 tablets to students at 12 government primary schools.

“Today, the Class 3 students of all four schools will each receive a Samsung Galaxy 4 tablet. We have selected students in Class 3, as we feel that you are old enough to handle the responsibility of taking care of the tablet, and will have it assist you with the two years of preparations for the Common Entrance Exam,” Truss told the students.

“We are confident that the tablets will improve your academic results at school, and hope that the teachers will use them as a teaching tool and will incorporate their use into the curriculum. As a result, we will also provide one extra tablet per class, so that teachers will also have a tablet in the classroom, to assist them with their teaching,” he further commented, while adding that letters to parents will also be issued, so they are fully aware of the initiative.

Acknowledging that XO tablets were presented to students last year, Truss noted that the switch to Samsung Galaxy tablets was all made possible with the help of Columbus Business Solutions, which operates FLOW.

Noting that the aim is to present tablets to the new Class 3 students at the start of each academic year, Truss noted that the Foundation is trying to find committed sponsors, but he openly thanked Keith Morris for sponsoring three of the schools present, noting that many of the approximately 115 tablets presented on Friday, were paid for by a donation from Morris.
Call the Fire Service first
– for indiscriminate burning

By Marsha Gittens

CITIZENS are being urged not to take matters into their own hands when dealing with neighbours who burn indiscriminately rather contact the Barbados Fire Service or the Royal Barbados Police Force.

This suggestion came from Fire Officer, Patrick Edwards who spoke on the topic 'Indiscriminate Burning of Garbage Can Be Hazardous to Health and Heritage'. He did so during a lecture organised by the St. Peter Parish Independence Committee in conjunction with the Readers & Ushers Guild of the St. Peter Parish Church on Wednesday night at the St. Peter Parish Church.

Speaking to the Barbados Advocate on the side-lines of this event, he explained why persons shouldn’t confront their neighbours.

“Really and truly you can’t stop a man from burning rubbish on his property. However, if the burning of the rubbish is a problem to the neighbours then really and truly the neighbours have the right to seek help from either the fire service or the police or further legal action. They could get a lawyer to write to that individual.” Edwards further said that indiscriminate burning is indeed a major problem and can lead to significant damage to property when the blaze gets out of control. He not only urged persons not to engage in this practice but also explained how authorities can handle the matter when contacted.

“We know that we can’t stop you from burning rubbish on your property but if we get there and we recognise that it is a problem to the community then we are going to ask you to put it out. We are trying to use moral suasion at this particular point. If you refuse then we are going to say to you that we are going to put it out and if you don’t want us to come on your property then we can seek the assistance of the police. That is one of the way we can look to deal with the problem.”

Acting Station Officer and Deputy Officer in Charge of the St. James Fire Station, Denton Foster (far left), Fire Officer attached to the Bridgetown Fire Station, Patrick Edwards (centre) with members of the St. Peter Parish Independence Committee following Wednesday’s lecture.

FEES:
Adults $30 | Children under 12 $15
Corporate Groups (10 or more entrants) $25 per person | Youth/Community Groups (10 or more entrants) $15 per person

ALL REGISTRANTS WILL RECEIVE A T-SHIRT AND OTHER CORPORATE GIVEAWAYS IN THEIR PACKAGE

ROUTE:
From Dalkeith Road to Aquatic Gap via Belleville

TO REGISTER FOR THIS EVENT PLEASE CONTACT:
The Barbados International Business Association
#19 Pine Road Belleville, St. Michael
Or call us at (246) 434-2422
Or email us at biba@bibab.bb

LEX CARIBBEAN ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW
INVEST BARBADOS
**Litter worry**

THE kinds of things that people would throw on the beach continues to amaze persons who participate in the International Coastal Clean-up every year.

This is from the National Coordinator of the Caribbean Youth Environment Network (CYEN) Barbados, Waynelle Collymore-Taylor who spoke to the Barbados Advocate via a telephone interview yesterday.

Aside from the usual things that persons would expect to find littered on the beach such as bottle caps and cups, there are also other things that one would not expect to find littered on the beach such as building materials like wood.

Collymore-Taylor said that one would normally expect persons to take their unwanted wood to a recycling centre or some other place, but they continue to throw them on the beaches.

One thing that the clean-up crew from CYEN were shocked to find on Long Beach, Christ Church yesterday was "a large oil can that still had thick, black oil in it. That was obviously dumped there on purpose."

Other items that were found on Long beach include ropes, boxes, buoys, cigarettes, forks, newspapers and plastic items among others.

Meanwhile, last year on this same beach, they found things left back from a boat wreckage such as fibre glass and wood. Approximately 7509 pounds of garbage was collected in 2013. The amount collected this year was not available up to press time.

In spite of the types and large quantities of garbage collected, one of the things that continues to please her is the number of organizations that come out to support them. Each beach that they chose to clean up has what is known as a beach captain, which is the particular organization that is designated to clean up that beach.

The Barbados Boys Scouts cleaned up Batts Rock Beach in St. Michael; the St. Peter Parish Independence Committee cleaned up the Six Men's Beach in their parish; the St. Michael Parish Independence Committee cleaned up Pile Bay Beach and the staff of Radisson Aquatica Resort cleaned up Browne's Beach.

Other faithful participants include the Leo's Club of Bridgetown, the Girl Guides and the Barbados Recycling Centre among others while new participants included the Irving Wilson School.

Governmental groups such as the Barbados Defence Force (BDF) and the Barbados Coast Guard and youth organizations such as the Harrison College Environmental Club and the Junior Earth Helpers also participated in the beach clean-up.

**Beach-goers should consider the effect of their actions**

NO LITTER from Page 1

“When you throw out garbage and leave it there, it creates problems for others who use the beach. For example, glass bottles can get broken and then when people walk along the

beach or sit on the beach, they can accidentally get cut. Even children use the beach and can get cut.”

In addition, littering can also affect the animals that make the water their home. “People leave nets on the beach and when the

sea turtles come in, they can get trapped in those nets. There are also micro-plastics which the fish can digest and we eat the fish.”

The CYEN National Coordinator stated that if persons were to take these things into consideration, then there would be little to no garbage on the beaches of Barbados. She stated that each person has a role to play in this regard.

“Be considerate. Understand that even the trash of one person can affect many other persons who use the beach. Think of other people and bear in mind that if you come and see the beach clean, then you have a responsibility to leave it that way when you go home.” (PJT)
THE University of the West Indies (UWI) Open Campus is determined to be one of the organisations that are committed to giving back and assisting those in need.

Recently, they made a presentation to the West Terrace Primary School of at least four boxes of school supplies, some of which were books, stationery items and other supplies that students may need as the school terms go on.

As noted by Aisha Estwick, Human Resource Officer, UWI Open Campus, this ‘Back-to-School’ presentation was because they realised that there were too many parents who may be struggling financially at present, and they wanted to help take some of the pressure off of them as it pertained to obtaining those supplies.

"Here is a little start. You can come to the Principal, your Headteacher, whoever and there are supplies at the school to help you make sure the children are in school, to help them not to feel as if the children have to stay home because they don’t have all the supplies,” she said.

Explaining that they would be carrying on this kind of work, she further noted that they would be rotating the schools and will be presenting to different schools. However, they will be starting with the schools that were near to UWI first.

"Of course we are starting with schools near to the UWI, because that is our immediate community, but we just want to have a presence in the community more than anything,” she noted.

“We hear the saying, ‘It takes a village to raise a child’ People say it all the time and we hear about this crime, but you know what, we want to be one of the organisations that steps up and says, ‘Yes, we are going to go into the community. Yes, we are going to do something for children. Yes, we are about education and it starts at the bottom and it starts with organisations, it starts with parents and everybody has to come together. So we are a small organisation, but we still want to try to do our part, so that is what we are about,” she added.

When asked about the donations at the school, Principal Beverley Burrowes noted that they were very appreciative, as items of stationery were always needed.

“When communities come together and do things like this, it is always appreciated,” she stated.
Time to invest in Africa

By Ashlee Cox

THERE has been a call for the Government of Barbados to invest in the continent of Africa. This call comes from Vice Chair of the Non-State Actors Reparation Commission Inc., Hermon "Ras Bongo Spear" Lowe, as he spoke to the media about his sojourn to Ghana and England six weeks ago.

"We would encourage Barbados as a whole to look to Africa. We are encouraging the Government to seek to invest in the continent of Africa. Ghana stands as a good example, where there is economic growth of 11.5 per cent per year, so I'm saying very strictly and with the finding of oil and so on, that Barbados has to change its marketing trajectory in terms of tourism, in terms of investment and seek to ... recognise that there is an ancestry, there is biologi-cal connections and ethnic connections between Barbadians as people de-scendant from Africa, Ghana, the Akan," he noted.

Continuing, he stated, "The Government has a right of duty, by virtue of the establishment and maintenance of the commission of Pan African Affairs, to seek to bring the people, the African continent together with the Barbadian Diaspora to provide the healing that is necessary for this society.'"

Explaining that during his visit, he had not wit-nessed any violence or crime in Ghana, he noted that it seemed that despite the poverty, the violence that was being perpe-trated in the Caribbean, was a direct result of being transplanted and our cul-ture being corrupted.

"The violence that we see being perpetrated in the Caribbean is the direct result of the taken away and the 'deculturising' of the people and Christianity obviously has not 'culturalised' the people in any regard, and that healing can be brought to this Nation, particularly to the youth who are very restless and influenced by the whole Western way of living, which is incomp-atible with the African DNA and that is why we see the youths reverting to a lot of reckless violence and this kind of stuff," he opined.

"Let us bring suitable healers, priests and so on from the African continent who can illustrate to the people in Barbados the missing link. This is what is missing – culture, knowledge of self, opportu-nity, hope and with that restlessness, this is why our society is continuing to deteriorate," he added.

Meeting next Sunday

ALL members of the Barbados Cage and Aviary Bird Association are invited to a meeting to be held on Sunday, September 28, 2014 at 3:30 p.m. by the Clock Tower, Garrison to discuss a Draft of the new consti-tution.

Fire officer: Don’t charge cell phones, laptops on beds

By Marsha Gittens

THOUGH it may be commonplace for persons to have their laptop or cell phone on the bed while it is charging, Fire Officer Patrick Edwards says such a practice should be discouraged.

He told the gathering at the St. Peter Parish Church on Wednesday night where he gave a talk on the topic, "Indiscriminate Burning of Garbage Can Be Hazardous to Health and Heritage", that practices such as this can be dan-gerous and may result in a fire in the home.

"As it relates to the charging of laptops, if you have to charge your laptop make sure that you have it charging in an area that is non-com-bustible. There is always a big risk when you put your laptop on a bed or inside of a chair ... what we call an ordinary com-bustible, to charge because the breathing pores under the laptop create a certain amount of heat and the possibility of the particular material igniting by just the initial tem-perature, you can have a fire starting easily. So we are saying that if you are going to be charging your cell phone, charge it on a non-combustible surface. Either put it on the ground, on a concrete surface, a tile but not on carpets, not in the bed, not in chairs [or] nothing like that."

Edwards also spoke to the safety element of re-moving cell phone and laptop chargers from their socket after use. He said that carrying out such an act could not only prevent a fire, but could save a life because a toddler may insert an object into the charger, which was plugged in and left lying across the floor or a chair, and could be shocked.

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*Digicel terms and conditions apply*
Editorial

Looking forward to major road repairs

MANY Barbadians will definitely be pleased with the announcement that Government will be increasing the allocations for road repairs in the coming weeks while improving many, if not all, of the bad roads scattered across the country. While this will definitely be the sentiment with most Barbadians, it is perhaps more so with those who either reside or work in St. Andrew, St. Joseph and parts of St. Thomas, where the road network is not as well maintained.

The Minister of Housing, the Honourable Michael Ashley, revealed quite recently that at least $6.4 million will be spent to effect road repairs throughout the island. The amount allotted here is a minor one, given that at least $10 million was set aside for the programme but, as he said, funds had to be diverted to complete projects, leaving the $6.4 million. The other component to the announcement is that a loan of about $140 million is being sought from the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) for a broad-based programme for road and highway rehabilitation.

The Minister mentioned roads in St. Michael, St. Lucy, St. Philip, St. George and Christ Church, and promised that within “two weeks or so” the country will see activity taking place in getting the road improvement on track.

Around the time or even prior to when the Minister spoke, Barbadians were told that there will be a programme to rebuild/repair/replace many of the bridges in St. Andrew and in St. Joseph since their time is up for remedial work.

At times it can be a nightmare for motorists and even the umpires are afraid to move. Both the baby’s biological mother and father as well as the biological mother’s female partner requested that their names be written on the child’s Birth Certificate.

Here is where the wicket gets sticky and even the umpires are afraid to move. Both the baby’s biological mother and father as well as the biological mother’s female partner requested that their names be written on the child’s Birth Certificate.

A judge, Rafael Pagnon Cunha, in the southern state of Rio Grande do Sul, decided that the mothers had a right to form a stable legal union, and the father did as well. He ordered the baby’s civil registry to be adjusted to reflect “…What life has reserved for her: a multi-part nest, full of love and affection.”

The head of the diversity committee of the lawyers’ association in the state heralded the “historic” decision and added that the law should adapt to changes in society.

Did anyone consider the child’s reaction when it reaches the age of understanding and “learns” that it has two mothers – a biological impossibility?

There was a somewhat different case in Britain some years ago involving two lesbians and two gay men who live in the same building. One of the lesbians requested one of the “men” to attend a fertility clinic and give some of his semen. Subsequently, she visited the clinic and had an intrauterine process which was successful. There was no problem with double fathers or mothers.

However, a social worker stated that the child should be doubly happy since unlike other children, it would have two fathers and two mothers.

The response from the judge and head of the lawyers’ association in Brazil, as well as the social worker in Britain, demonstrate both acceptance and commendation for the act of homosexuality.

Every adult should know that reproduction of the species is dependent on the sexual interaction between the male (sperm) and female (ovum). Even in artificial insemination this principle holds firm. The bull need not be present with the heifer but his semen is still inserted to produce the next generation of cows.

Two gay men or two lesbian women cannot reproduce children. They enter a homosexual relationship fully aware of this principle. Having chosen their unnatural, unproductive, homosexual position, it is really fair for them to rear a child that is the product of the same heterosexual relationship which they have rejected?

This principle underpins the original plan of God where it takes a couple, male and female, to engage in sexual relationships. As the 21st century marches on, country after country is surrendering Biblical standards and legitimizing same-sex partnerships.

Unfortunately, it is the Christian nations that are lowering their guard. Some lunatic fringes in Islamic countries are guilty of the most heinous crimes including beheading their “enemies”. They may be cruel and insensitive, but they have not capitulated to same-sex relationships.

Rather than bowing their knees to this unnatural conduct, they apply the maximum penalty to those found guilty.

One should note that heterosexuals are declared STRANGERS TO GOD. However, some persons behind the LGBT agenda give the impression that being “straight” is the impecunious relationship. As the LGBT train travels across the human tracks it is encouraging more and more of its passengers to publicize their same-sex orientation. Well-known persons and celebrities, including politicians, athletes, sportsmen and women, and radio and television personalities have gone public. This embarrassment is now “coming out” and state their same-sex prophecies. It is interesting to state that the Republic of South Africa is the sole country in the African continent that has legalized same-sex relationships. The apartheid history of that country speaks for itself.

This column concludes with reference to the Rev. and Mr. Lucy Lashley’s comments with the report which appeared in the Advocate on Wednesday, September 10. The reverend gentleman referred to a news item which stated that gay marriage was knocking at the doors of Barbados. After making his own case against same-sex marriages he questions: “Will Barbados open its doors to gay marriages?”

The jury is out.

Palestinian-Israeli talks soon

CAIRO – Egypt will host talks between rival Palestinian factions within days, followed by indirect negotiations between Palestinians and Israelis on the ceasefire in Gaza that ended in August, a government official and head of the Palestinian delegation to last month’s talks, confirmed to The Advocate on Wednesday.

The official said Palestinian negotiators would then meet with their Israeli counterparts starting on Wednesday to continue talks on a ceasefire in Gaza which resulted from Egypt-mediated talks in Cairo last month.

Abid Roza, a Fatah official and head of the Palestinian delegation to last month’s talks, confirmed to The Advocate on Wednesday that negotiations will begin this week.

He said he expected negotiated talks to finalize those talks, in comments reported by the Palestinian WAFA news agency.

Fifteen days of conflict in Gaza between Hamas militiamen and Israel, which ended in August, has left large parts of the Mediterranean enclave in ruins.

Last month’s talks did not involve direct meetings between the negotiators. Israel continued to label Hamas a terrorist organization while Hamas refused to recognize Israel’s right to exist. Egyptian officials shuttled between the two sides.

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The eternal quest for happiness

by Henry S. Fraser

Secondly, the environment, and specifically the natural environment. An interesting study by the British National Trust has just been reported, showing that a seasonal stroll is for many people the key to calm and happiness...perhaps serenity? A poll of more than 1,000 people found that 71% of interviewees said that an autumn walk helped to fend off the “winter blues.” It’s suggested that the combination of fresh air, exercise, and the sense of getting away from it all combine to improve the sense of wellbeing. Bright autumn colours may help, while the scenes, the sounds and the smells of nature have inspired and calmed people for generations. People in particular lack the moral compass instilled by Sunday School and family prayers in the past. Britain is such a country, where many churches are now back abandoned or converted into pubs, restaurants, offices and residences.

For example, Martha Washington said: “I am determined to be cheerful and happy in whatever situation I may find myself. For I have learned that the greater part of our misery and unhappiness is determined not by our circumstances but by our disposition.”

Denis Waitley, American motivator and author, says: “Happiness is the spiritual experience of living every minute with love, grace and gratitude.”

And these sentiments come very close to so much in Christian beliefs, prayer and practice, from the Golden Rule to the prayers of St. Thomas Aquinas and St. Ignatius of Loyola and the Serenity Prayer: “God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference.”

(American theologian Reinhold Niebuhr)

Let the last words go to one of the greatest thinkers and writers in all time, Leo Tolstoy: “If you wish to be happy,...

Professor Fraser is past Dean of Medical Sciences, and past Emeritus of Medicine. Website: profrhenfrasyer.com
New employment opportunities for young people in ICT

PRIME MINISTER Freundel Stuart expects new employment opportunities for young people in Barbados will be found in the area of information and communications technology (ICT).

Mr. Stuart expressed this view Wednesday during a meeting at Supreme Court with President and Chief Operating Officer of Columbus Communications Inc., John Reid and Managing Director of Columbus Telecommunications Barbados Ltd., Niall Sheehy.

Mr. Reid said the focus of Columbus for young people was to provide more training opportunities for young people. He described Columbus’ entry into the market as successful and stated that the local team was doing a great job.

He added that the company would continue its growth in the region and render necessary assistance to the countries. Prime Minister Stuart commended Columbus for recognising its corporate social responsibility and said he was pleased with its work in Barbados.

Life cannot be sustained without moments of leisure

MUSIC from Page 9

likely to stir hostile emotions than to soothe. An occasional soothing touch is essential.

Theatrical productions may be as invasive as music, but are a fantastic source of entertainment, while opening a window into the lives and minds of others. A night of good theatre and red wine would be a lovely Barbadian experience for a visitor, but no less so for Barbadians with an appreciation for such things.

Life cannot be long sustained if it is lived at an unrelenting pace without moments of rest and leisure. Just as the physical body needs to rest from labour, so too does the mind. We need moments of meditation and easy tones on our ears. Dieticians tell us that we are what we eat. Higher spiritual teachers tell us it is true that we are what we eat, but the food that shapes us is spiritual enlightenment. To all of this, I add that we are what we hear.

Our view of life is informed by what we absorb through our five senses. The portal through which most of our information comes is our hearing. We can all remember the significant words that were said to us at an early stage of our lives that remain with us to this day, and will remain until we die. When those words are recalled now, they still evoke the emotions that were associated with them when they were first used. Many a spirit has been broken, or healed, by the well placed words of a parent, teacher or friend. Music may be as effective as well appointed words. I believe that there is a strong correlation between the music our young people consume and the behaviours they act out in their daily lives.

Many of us point to the nastiness that is served up on mini buses, but some of the music played on main stream radio stations is right up there with the underground offerings, in terms of the debauchery and negative world view it promotes.

One expects that the promotion of the December classical event will bring more classical music to our radio, even if only in the promotion of the event. With it, we hope that it will re-introduce to our people, a softer way of thinking and living. Not all life is about hard-wine. We can wine softly as well.

Life cannot be sustained without moments of leisure
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

 visitor to the Barbados Advocate newspaper of September 21.

Challenges and questions for Ministers

MANY persons have been critical of this government’s performance or lack thereof and I have to agree that it continues to stagger. Promises which were given to the populace have been changed and it would appear that only one set of persons are continuing to benefit.

We cannot pay the tuition fees for the poor people’s children to attend University, but can put them through the bursaries and scholarships. Whose children are those concessions. Are they the half of the hoteliers. Not recognising it as one of the poorest in the island? It is very unreliable and no one seems to be able to do anything. It is not uncommon having to wait for two to three hours in the terminal with the busses can be traced to the inability of some of those whose duties are to schedule. Some of them are afraid to tell the drivers to go this route and some of the drivers are likely to report sick. We cannot have that, Mr. Minister.

Fix road on Mapp Hill

I RESISTED rising to the charge made by the Mr. William Faulkner (1897 - 1962)

Critical thinking is a crucial practice

I resisted to the highly provocative and troubling letter to the editor in your paper of Thursday September 18, but recognising it as one more installment in the dangerous scapegoating our one indigenous University, I decided it should not be ignored. I hope you give me space to engage readers, particularly as the scapegoating continues in the DLP column for its justification for the Government’s actions re the Cave Hill Campus in Advocate newspaper of September 19.

The letter in the Nation is headlined “Critical Thinking still lacking” and takes umbrage with a quote from lecturer Tennyson Joseph that supports UWI liberal arts programming for its development of critical thinking skills in students. I am happy to accept Michael Ray’s unspoken assumption about his own critical thinking skills, although as a teacher of logic in the Faculty of Humanities of Education at the Cave Hill Campus, I should point out that of his four pieces of evidence offered as proof of his central argument, none of them actually do support it.

Just briefly as regards the latter point, neither the responses by unions to industrial relations matters over the past decade, failure in improvements of “service excellence”, continuing struggles to raise productivity levels in the economy, nor the silence of the Human Resource Association of Barbados prove that students leave the UWI liberal arts programme lacking in critical skills. These are Mr. Ray’s proofs.

As I sometimes do with materials from local newspapers, I will give students Mr. Ray’s letter to analyse for fallacies as a method of raising critical thinking skills. They will find them.

My more significant interest here is to highlight a major assumption made by Mr. Ray and the DLP writer, surely we owe ourselves as Barbadians a wider scope for critical thinking than that. One cannot separate education of our people at the highest levels from national priorities, else we return to being only hewers of wood and drawers of water.

I can only imagine from the positions offered that we should use critical thinking to satisfy other’s profit making needs only. Or that we should not use critical thinking to ask the DLP columnist where were the Minister’s of Education in the periods when the university was causing the budget to “runaway” and with such actions “threatening the collapse of the entire education system”.

My knowledge of these things imagines regular scheduled meetings happen between the university management and Ministers of Education to ensure such threats do not arise. If indeed such reckless financial management happened and no Principal was sacked, some Minister should have resigned. This is unlikely to happen if a columnist for a party purporting to explain an unpopular wise Government decision.

Political parties should not be used to explain Government policies. The two do not share the same objectives. Political parties try to become governments, and governments aim to show they give a damn about citizens, at least they should. For a government to turn on a people’s institution for the reasons proffered by the DLP columnist is cynical in its worst sense. It is the same as turning on workers for the only source of productivity problems.

Thank God I was taught by UWI to think critically. Young people I teach are questioning the value of voting again.

Guidance and better times.

MARGARET D. GILL

LET GOD SPEAK TO US

"Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others." Philippians 2:3-4 NV

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Sunday September 21, 2014 • 11

FAX:

"Service excellence", concerning a programme lacking in critical thinking, is headlined "Critical thinking is a crucial practice". The Barbados Advocate, September 21.

"Every morning, from 6:00 a.m. until 7:00 a.m., a goat corps are paraded on the streets and what is the SSA doing to alleviate this untenable situation?" William Faulkner (1897 - 1962)

LEWIS T. HINES

"Exercise in median line literally. Just like a pill reliably changes brain function by altering the activity of key brain chemicals and hormones." Stephen S. Hardi PhD Clinical Psychologist, Author

WORDS OF WISDOM

LISTEN

Be a good listener. Your ears will never get you in trouble.

"The artist doesn’t have time to listen to the critics. The ones who want to be writers read the reviews, the ones who want to write don’t have the time to read reviews." William Faulkner (1897 - 1962)

WRITERS, NOBEL Prize Laureate

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Variety receives assistance from Stansfeld Scott

The Children’s Charity of Barbados got a major boost recently when long-time corporate supporter Stansfeld Scott presented Haliborange Backpacks complete with a Seven Seas tote bag for games, Haliborange vitamins, Ovaltine Malt Powder and Haliborange pencil cases to the charity for its ever growing Back-to-School programme.

The charity has assisted close to 300 children through its Back-to-School programme this year as compared to last year where the charity assisted 198 children. With the number of children needing assistance on the island increasing with every new school year, the charity is extremely grateful to Stansfeld for their generous donation.

According to Executive Director of Variety the Children’s Charity of Barbados, Donnah Russell, “Stansfeld Scott has been responsive to Variety’s requests for assistance for many years now. Variety is happy to receive these back bags on behalf of the many children who would have to otherwise go to school with books in hand or in a plastic bag! We encourage other corporate entities to come on board with us so that we can fulfil this demand for backpacks for the kids.”

According to Tanja Harris, Sales & Division Manager of Stansfeld Scott, “Nelson Mandela quoted: ‘There can be no keener revelation of a society’s soul than the way it treats its children.’ This quote depicts the very essence of what the Variety Club stands for and we at Seven Seas, in association with Stansfeld Scott, are delighted and proud to be able to support and contribute. As many families face the struggles and challenges life has to offer, the innocence of our children can bring so much joy, sunshine and hope for the future. Sometimes we all just need a little help from our friends, neighbours and our community. We feel truly blessed to be able to assist with the Back-to-School programme and look forward to continue supporting the efforts of the Variety Club.”

Library to host lecture in honour of Senior Citizen’s Month

“GROWING Old Gracefully” is the title of an interactive lecture to be hosted by the National Library Service on Monday, September 22.

Part of Senior Citizen’s Month celebrations, the lecture gets under way at noon at the Main Library, Fairchild Street, Bridgetown.

The presenter will be Ms. Penelope Howell, part-time lecturer at the Barbados Community College. All are invited to this free event.

Barbados Alzheimer’s Association hosting seminar and discussion on dementia

In recognition of World Alzheimer’s Day on Sunday, September 21, the Barbados Alzheimer’s Association will host two public events next week.

The first is a seminar on “Dementia: Can We Reduce The Risk?”, which will be hosted in collaboration with the National Committee on Ageing on Wednesday, September 24, at the Lloyd Erskine Sandiford Centre, Two Mile Hill, St. Michael.

The seminar runs from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Speakers will include Dale Goldhawk, a Canadian broadcaster and Board member of the Alzheimer’s Society Canada and Mike Spline, an advocate for health and long-term care issues in Canada.

To register and for more information, interested persons may call the Barbados Alzheimer’s Association at 429-8077 or visit its offices at Strathclyde Crescent, St. Michael.

The second activity is a public lecture and panel discussion on dementia at Solidarity House, Harmony Hall, St. Michael on Thursday, September 25, starting at 7 p.m. Panellists include Dale Goldhawk, Dr. Ambrose Ramsay and president of the Barbados Alzheimer’s Association, Pamela Brereton. All are invited.

Watson regards career at UWI Cave Hill as rewarding

A THRILLED, yet humbly approachable Elizabeth Watson beamed as in front of a crowd of family members, friends and former work colleagues, she unveiled a plaque forever attaching her name to the Audiovisual Unit at the Cave Hill Campus of the University of the West Indies.

The former Campus Librarian was recognised for her contribution in not only being the longest-serving member of the institution, having first joined in 1968, but also for revamping the library’s interior, establishing a cashier system to manage the collection of money owed to it and creating a cell room which allowed students to work together in groups.

In addition, she developed the Medical and Cultural Studies collections, established the Richard B. Moore and George Lamming collections and also implemented the Liaison Librarian programme to serve the needs of faculty and students, and created the Kerryann Ifill Unit for the Visually Impaired.

“My career at Cave Hill has truly been rewarding. To be able to state I was a founding librarian of a significant collection is an opportunity and an experience that few librarians can claim. That collection has become such an integral part of the life of the campus is the best reward that one can have as a professional. To be part of a novel academic initiative that redounds to the benefit of students, teaching staff and researchers and the wider community is testimony not only to my own work, but also recognition of all those who have contributed to the creation of this unit,” she outlined.

(JMB)
Southern parishes shine positively

THE youth of the South have positively displayed their talents and proudly represented their parishes once again.

Last Saturday, as patrons in their supportive colours flocked to the Parkinson Memorial School for the Spirit of the Nation – Southern Zone Talent Show, they wore white in support of St. Michael, purple for St. Philip and orange for Christ Church.

Each participant received a certificate of participation for his or her contribution during the programme.

In an interview with the Barbados Advocate, Mary Forde, the Public Relations Officer for the St. Philip Parish Independence Committee lauded the initiative as it continues. She said that this element of the competition “gives the youth something positive to focus their energy and time on”, when outside of school, if they are still to school age. For the older ones, she said “it helps keep them occupied and away from negative influences “as they work to make their communities proud”.

On the night, as the talented individuals entertained and wowed the spectators, they showcased a diverse range of talents, to rousing applause in the school’s hall.

But when the curtain came down on the evening’s proceedings, bragging rights went to three performers who stole the show and will now have the privilege of representing their community at the Spirit of the Nation Show, in the Parish Talent Segment, when it is held later this year. Representing the parish of St. Philip will be Hashim Durant who did an instrumental piece entitled ‘Sweet Soca Fusion’. St. Michael will be ably represented by dramatist Wayne Harewood with his work titled ‘Reflections’. While Christ Church sends forward the KLA Dance Group for their dance ‘Barbados Down but not Under’.

The runners-up spots for St. Philip, St. Michael and Christ Church are singer Jesse King, dance group Issachar Arts Ministry and singer Abiosay Morrison respectively.

The crowd also saw St. Batholomew’s Primary, Beulah Liturgical Dance Ministry, Shonna St. Juste, Jessica Green, Meckka Gill, Zico John and the instrumental duo of Myles Gittens and Debra Rowe vie for the top spots in the South this year.

An evening full of entertainment from start to finish, additionally, there were guest appearances by Shelby Lyte, Bliss Elite Model Management, Cherish Maynard, Reactive Dance Squad and Coopa Dan to close the Southern Kaleidoscope. (KG)
The Scotland Referendum: Democracy Won

The winner of Scotland’s agonising referendum on September 18 was undoubtedly and impressively democracy.

By the manner in which the Scottish Nationalist Party (SNP) and its leaders approached the fight for the independence of Scotland from the rest of the United Kingdom (UK), they set an example to nationalists in Northern Ireland and the rest of the world. The SNP did not plant bombs in London; they did not arm their supporters; they did not attack government buildings; they did not stage an illegal campaign of terror was mounted to intimidate and paralyse the rest of the UK.

On the flip side, the UK government did not send troops into Scotland; no SNP leaders were arrested and detained; no person in Scotland was stopped from openly vociferously and stridently denouncing the UK government and the UK Parliament based in England.

There was not a drop of blood shed in the hard-fought campaign; no children were left maimed, their lives unalterably marred; no areas of either country were destroyed; commerce and trade were not disrupted; and there was no long-term destruction of the economy of Scotland or the UK as a whole.

Advocates of each side of the contest over whether Scotland should become an independent, sovereign state or remain part of a union with England, Wales and Northern Ireland, campaigned alongside each other using the emotional lobbies of nationalism and self-government against the cold logic of the overall benefits of staying together. The different positions of the Scottish people, permeated into families, but it did not, for instance, stop a father and daughter who live together in the same house setting-off to vote at the same polling station — for independence and leaving their remaining in the Union.

In the end, 84.59% of the 2,483,392 people in Scotland entitled to vote, chose to reject independence with 55.3% voting no and 44.7% voting yes.

The pugnacious leader of SNP in Scotland conceded defeat by saying: “Scotland has by a majority decided not at this stage to become an independent country. I accept that verdict of the people,” and five million Scottish people went to bed peacefully — some disappointed and frustrated for sure that nationalist sentiment did not win the day; others relieved and thankful that life has not been irrevocably disrupted.

It could have been very different as the United Kingdom — some disappointment of contending with nationalists in Northern Ireland for decades attest. The nationalists in Northern Ireland — led by the IRA — left a trail of death and destruction in their wake and, by their creation of insecurity and fear, they damaged the UK economy and the well-being of millions of people.

By contrast, on the morning of Friday, September 19 — the day after the referendum — shares on the London stock market rose and the pound, which had weakened in recent weeks amid fears that the referendum would give Scotland a mandate for separation from the UK, rallied against the US dollar and the euro. The business community welcomed the peaceful and orderly result of the referendum with large financial institutions such as RBS and Lloyds, which had said they would leave or withdraw from Scotland, announcing that they would now be remaining. Asset managers also greeted the “end of uncertainty” and looked forward “to growing the economy”.

The lesson that the Scottish referendum has given to the world is that it is possible to resolve tribal, ethnic, religious and political differences peacefully and orderly — however strongly felt and deeply embedded such differences might be. What is required is the will and maturity on both sides of the divide to resolve issues peacefully by the creation of transparent machinery that gives voice to the people and by accepting the verdict once it is given. In setting this example, both the SNP in Scotland and the political authorities in London deserve the admiration and acclaim of the rest of the world, including societies in Europe, Africa, Asia and the Caribbean where ethnic conflicts and lack of political maturity stymie their progress.

Of course, there is now much work to be done in the UK to continue to address the deep concerns of a large number of the Scottish people over their governance from London. For, while the vote to stay within the UK was won, the margin was only 5.9% or 10%. This means that there is residual unhappiness with accountable government in London and the politics that leave communities feeling excluded. It also means that the voters, who were undecided in the run up to the vote on September 18, were willing to give the UK government an opportunity to fulfill the promises they made to devolve greater powers to the Scottish Parliament on matters such as tax, spending and welfare.

The political parties in the UK can now breathe a sigh of relief that Great Britain remains intact and there can be no efforts by its enemies and detractors in the international community to dialogue it from the dominant position it holds in the UN Security Council, the European Union and the global financial institutions. But this depends on the political class in London devolving the new powers they promised — powers that according to Gordon Brown the Scottish-born former Prime Minister of the UK pledged would be “as ambitious as possible”.

If the devolution of these powers do not occur soon and convincingly, there is every possibility that the question of separation would rise up again and the UK would be faced with ‘never-end-ums’ with all the instability, uncertainty and volatility that threatened it over the last few months.

The world is a safer place today for the maturity of the leaders of the United Kingdom and their political leaders — all of them Scot, English, Welsh and Northern Irish — for adhering to democracy and the will of the people to overcome a major challenge to their national cohesion.

It should be a lesson to all other nations — large and small.

(Sir Ronald Sanders is a Senior Fellow at London University and former Caribbean diplomat. Responses and previous commentaries: www.sirronaldSanders.com)

Scotland’s ‘no’ vote will change the UK

The lesson that the Scottish referendum has given to the world is that it is possible to resolve tribal, ethnic, religious and political differences peacefully and orderly.

The way the United Kingdom, the Caribbean’s onetime colonial power, manages its affairs is unlikely ever to be the same again.

The decision by the Scottish people on September 17 to vote decisively against independence, and the British Prime Minister’s subsequent announcement that greater powers will now be devolved to the regions of the United Kingdom, and even major cities, means perhaps paradoxically, that even the ‘no’ vote in the Scottish referendum, is set to change the nature of the United Kingdom.

This is because when it first appeared that Scotland would vote ‘yes’ by a slender margin, the British establishment and the Westminster political class appeared to panic. In a truly extraordinary development, Gordon Brown, the former war Prime Minister, announced that if the Scots voted no, they could anyway have greater powers; implying that they would be granted this before the next UK General Election due in May 2015, and would obtain a version of what all in London had previously rejected: the so-called ‘devo-max’ option.

Despite the fact that none of the leaders of Britain’s other political parties or the Cabinet had signed up to this, they all saw this as the best way to secure a Scottish ‘no’ vote.

The consequene, as Prime Minister Cameron has now made clear, is that Britain as a whole is now under a significant constitutional change; the detail has so far not been spelt out, let alone explained to the electorate or their elected representatives.

Takin at face value the settlement for Scotland would appear likely to devolve most powers other than defence, foreign policy and monetary policy to the legislative assembly in Edinburgh and to the Scottish government. This would mean that Scotland will in future have the power to raise its own taxes, develop and control further its health care, education and social provision, and in a curious way become more like one of Britain’s overseas Associated States of the Caribbean or the Associated States of the
Decision has implications for all parts of UK

NO VOTE from Page 14

1970s: albeit with a kind of permanent...columns can be found at www.caribbean-council.org

Decision has implications for all parts of UK

Scottish vote was an outcome – to change the
parliamentary powers and who votes
in greater regional autonomy.

One immediate consequence is that a crucial part missing from this national discussion is England. We have heard the voice of Scotland - and now the millions of voices of England must also be heard.

He also spoke about a debate about how to empower our great cities.

In short, what appears to have happened is that the 'no' vote - by 55.3 per cent to 44.7 per cent of Scottish voters on a massive turnout of 85 per cent - has triggered, irrespective of the outcome, recognition of the democratic inequity between the parts of the United Kingdom and the desire of significant numbers of voters desire in England for greater regional autonomy.

What this also means is that for a possibly prolonged period the UK will become engaged in a constitutional debate of unknown proportions.

In some senses what has happened also speaks to the lack of leadership and foresight among Britain focus group-led politicians, who unlike the Scottish leader, Mr Salmond, and his UKIP counterpart, looked increasingly uneasy when faced with real people asking questions that mattered on the streets or at gatherings of a non-staged nature about matters that touch their lives.

So much so that as the campaign went on, it became clear that in future the new politics will be for those politicians, like those in the not too distant past, who can carry people with them and speak and look normal in public debate rather than being a figment of a spin doctors imagination.

The huge vote in Scotland also indicated that when it matters reasoned debate, democracy and democratic principles are alive and well.

Internationally, in Washington in particular, there is relief as there was a fear that a 'yes' vote would diminish the UK’s capacity to act and its standing in the world at a time of growing global insecurity. The outcome has also been welcomed in Europe where other separatist movements, particularly in Spain, would have seen a Scots vote for independence as supportive of their cause.

Despite the sense that the UK’s role in the region is now much diminished, the Caribbean too, for the same reasons, should welcome the outcome of the decision by a majority of Scots to stay within what looks likely to be a much changed United Kingdom.

David Jessop is the Director of the Caribbean Council and can be contacted at david.jessop@caribbean-council.org

Previous columns can be found at www.caribbean-council.org

CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY SECRETARIAT

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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 Executive Director, Human Resource Management, Caribbean Community Secretariat, Turkeyen, Greater Georgetown, Guyana and sent by email to applhm@caricom.org

The deadline for the submission of applications is 19 October 2014.
Marijuana has potential to be C’bean’s economic panacea, says USVI legislator

ST THOMAS, United States Virgin Islands – A United States Virgin Islands (USVI) legislator has told Caribbean tourism officials that it is time for them to “admit and adopt” marijuana as a Caribbean commodity, saying it has the potential to become a panacea to the region’s economic problems.

“We have so far succeeded in getting it on the ballot for the senate committee to approve the motion to place the decriminalisation of marijuana on the ballot,” said Senator Terrence Nelson, an economist, who has been seeking to have marijuana decriminalised in USVI.

The matter has been debated in November in the Senate.

“If successful we would decriminalise up to an ounce of marijuana. This means for that amount it will not be a criminal offence, but one punishable by a fine. One would still pay a fine of US$100 for having marijuana out in public.

“A US$100 fine and US$200 for a repeat offence. If the quantities increase beyond an ounce, then you would fall back into a criminal violation,” he said.

Nelson was responding to the executive director of the Caribbean Tourism Organization’s (CTO) Tourism and Interstate Relations Division, Dr. Paul Llewellyn, who urged regional countries attending the Caribbean Tourism Organization’s (CTO) Seminar at the Spanish Court Hotel in New Kingston recently.

He told the Ambassador that he was anticipating the meeting of CARICOM and SICA in the margins of the 49th UN General Assembly later this month, as an opportunity to deepen the relationship.

“Ambassador, going forward, the Community looks forward to working with your government on key issues which I strongly believe that El Salvador can successfully engage in order to find common ground and to facilitate advances within the international community. These include the definition of the Post 2015 Development Agenda, the continuing global climate change negotiations and the fight against the scourge of Non Communicable Diseases,” the Secretary-General said.

In response, the newly accredited Ambassador said: “The portfolio of our government is to strengthen diplomatic ties and cordial relations with the organization and all of the countries of the Caribbean Region. Undoubtedly, the Caribbean Community has set its own standard of liberty and union with an unimpeachable tradition of social and moral standards.”

The Salvadoran Plenipotentiary Representative said his government was keen on the resumption of talks between CARICOM and SICA towards a free trade agreement.

Caricom, El Salvador enter new era of cooperation

CARICOM Secretariat, Turkeyen, Greater Georgetown, Guyana – What was described as a “new era” of diplomatic relations between the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and El Salvador began Friday, May 30th, when Ambassador Irwin LaRocque, CARICOM Secretary-General accredited a new envoy belonging to the Central American country.

His Excellency Raymundo Ernesto Rodriguez Diaz, Plenipotentiary Representative of San Salvador to CARICOM presented his Letters of Credence to the Secretary-General, at the Georgetown, Guyana Headquarters of CARICOM.

Ambassador LaRocque said that while direct relations between the Community and El Salvador were still in their formative years, through the country’s membership of the Central American Integration System (SICA) and the ACS, the Community has had the opportunity to engage with it on issues that spawns regional security, disaster mitigation and management, renewable energy, health and disaster management.

He lamented that the police and the prosecuting authorities are grappling with she described as the dysfunctional moral compass within the public psyche.

Llewellyn says this has resulted in many persons becoming indifferent to rising crimes.

She quoted the lyrics of a popular dancehall which embraces the informer fi dead culture and says this had seeped into the consciousness of potential witnesses who may come from a particular stratum of society.

Llewellyn was addressing a Criminal Justice Seminar at the Spanish Court Hotel in New Kingston recently.

JAMAICAN Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP) Paula Llewellyn is urging Jamaicans to rise above the ‘informer fi dead’ culture and become responsible citizens in support of the fight against crime.

Llewellyn noted that the police cannot solve crimes without the assistance of members of the public and urged citizens to be courageous and come forward and not be intimidated by criminal elements.

Virus tally nears 500,000 in Dominican Republic

SANTO DOMINGO, Dominican Republic – The mosquito-borne virus known as chikungunya has sickened nearly 500,000 people in the Dominican Republic, including 109 newborn babies, an official with the Caribbean country’s health ministry said Friday.

The virus was transmitted to the mother’s parents, who had the illness when they gave birth, said Carmen Adames, who is coordinating the Health Ministry’s response to the outbreak.

None of the infants died, she said.

The Dominican Republic has been particularly hard hit by chikungunya since the first locally transmitted case was documented in the Western Hemisphere in late 2013. The first cases in the Dominican Republic appeared in March.

The Pan American Health Organization said there have at least 1 million cases throughout the hemisphere. Symptoms of the illness include high fever, severe headache and joint pain that can last for months. There is no vaccine for the illness, which is rarely fatal, and most cases clear up without complications.

Health authorities have launched campaigns to encourage people to remove containers of standing water to control the two species of mosquitoes that transmit the virus.

DPP urges J’cans to rise above ‘informer fi dead’ culture
Gov’t to sign agreement for 120 room hotel

THE Dominica Government has announced plans for the construction of another hotel in the town of Portsmouth.

"Next week we’ll be signing the final agreement with Range Developments, a Dubai company, under the Citizenship by Investment Programme. "Of course you can appreciate the number of jobs that would create in the economy for the citizens of Dominica," the Prime Minister said.

The other hotel, the Morocco-funded Cabrits Resort and Spa which includes fifty-eight (58) rooms and ten (10) suites with a pool and restaurants, a conference facility with the capacity to host one hundred (100) or more people is about seventy-five percent complete.

"We are doing everything possible to attract the investment, to make funding available, to continue expanding our public sector investment programme whether it is in agriculture, whether it is in infrastructure, whether it is in infrastructure, we’re in fact doing that," he continued.

The Prime Minister also revealed that the government is in discussions with a company in regard to the exportation of bulk and bottled water.

Rowley hits back

TRINIDAD – “Political Mischief”. That’s Opposition leader Dr.Keith Rowley’s take on Prime Minister Kamla’s ordering of a Commission of Enquiry into the Las Alturas apartments in Morvant.

The project, which was supposed to be composed of 134 apartments constructed in two phases, was never completed due to land slippage.

Dr. Rowley says, while it’s a real shame the project was never finished, he is not liable and any enquiry would be a waste of time and money and could even harm any chance of the HDC recovering funds.
Afghan presidential rivals reach unity deal after disputed vote

THE rival candidates in Afghanistan’s messy election for a new president have struck a long-awaited power-sharing deal, aides said yesterday, after more than two months of tension over a vote in which each side accused the other of fraud.

The prolonged crisis has fuelled instability and violence-plagued Afghanistan, just as the US-led military coalition prepares to withdraw most foreign troops at the end of the year, leaving Afghan forces to fight the Taliban insurgency.

A spokesman for front-running candidate Ashraf Ghani said on condition of anonymity last night that “100 per cent” of outstanding issues had been resolved, and both camps had initialled a power-sharing agreement.

Aimal Faizi, a spokesman for President Hamid Karzai, confirmed the agreement had been finalised and initialled by both sides. He said the deal would be formally signed today, the same day that the final results from a recount of the election are to be announced.

Representatives of the other presidential contender, former cabinet minister Abdullah Abdullah, could not immediately be reached late yesterday.

WASHINGTON – An intruder made it through the front door of the White House after scaling the mansion’s fence, before Secret Service agents apprehended him. The first family was not in the residence.

The embarrassed agency promised a full review while new questions arose about its ability to protect the president.

President Barack Obama and his daughters had just left the White House on Friday evening for Camp David, when a man, identified by the Secret Service as Omar J. Gonzalez, 43, of Copperas Cove, Texas, climbed the north fence, darted across the lawn and into the residence.

The breach triggered a rare evacuation of much of the White House, Secret Service officers drew their guns as they rushed staff and journalists out a side door.

But First lady Michelle Obama had travelled separately to the presidential retreat in Maryland.

Rep. Jason Chaffetz, chairman of the House Oversight and Government Reform subcommittee on national security, called the incident “totally unacceptable” and said it was just one of a string of security failings on the Secret Service’s watch.

“Unfortunately, they are failing to do their job,” said Chaffetz, R-Utah. “These are good men and women, but the Secret Service leadership has a lot of questions to answer.”

“Was the door open?” he added incredulously.

Yesterday morning, Secret Service agents could be seen walking shoulder to shoulder across the North Lawn, apparently combing the turf for anything the intruder may have dropped during his sprint the night before. The Secret Service said only that the activity was related to the previous night’s incident.

The intruder, in jeans and a dark shirt, appeared to be unarmed when he scaled the fence shortly after 7:00 p.m. Friday, ignoring commands from officers to halt, Secret Service spokesman Ed Donovan said. The intruder was tackled just inside the doors of the North Portico, the grand, columned entrance that looks out over Pennsylvania Avenue. A search of the suspect turned up no weapons.

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Gonzalez was charged with unlawful entry into the White House complex and transported to a nearby hospital complaining of chest pain.

Donetsk

bombs as Kyiv,

rebels cut deal

THE Ukrainian city of Donetsk was rocked by blasts yesterday, even as government forces and pro-Russian separatists prepared to create a buffer zone to separate the warring sides.

Participants at Ukrainian peace talks in Belarus agreed yesterday to create a buffer zone 30-kilometres wide, moving artillery on the front line to separate Ukrainian government troops and pro-Russian separatists.

Several powerful explosions were heard in Donetsk in the morning. A plant producing munitions and industrial explosives had been hit, municipal authorities said.

Explosions heard

Explosions were also heard from the direction of the main international airport, which government forces are still clinging to despite rebels’ attempts to loosen their control.

One Ukrainian soldier was killed and seven others were wounded in overnight violence, a military official told journalists.

“According to the text of the memorandum, each of the sides must pull back its heavy equipment and arms from today,” Volodymyr Poltovy, an official of Ukraine’s national security and defence council, told journalists yesterday.

On Friday, a third round of talks between representatives of Ukraine’s government and pro-Russian separatists opened in Minsk, amid reports that renewed shelling in eastern Ukraine had claimed several lives.

Attending the latest meeting in Belarus’ capital were Ukraine’s former president Leonid Kuchma and several officials of the rebels’ self-declared Donetsk and Luhansk “people’s republics,” along with Russia’s Ambassador to Ukraine Mikhail Zurabov and representatives of the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe.
ANKARA, Turkey – Turkish authorities say they have freed 49 hostages from one of the world's most ruthless militant groups without firing a shot, paying a ransom or offering a quid pro quo.

But as the well-dressed men and women captured by the Islamic State group more than three months ago clasped their families Saturday on the tarmac of the Turkish capital's airport, experts had serious doubts about the government's story.

The official explanation "sounds a bit too good to be true," said Sinan Ulgen, a former Turkish diplomat who chairs the Istanbul-based Centre for Economics and Foreign Policy Studies. "There are some very legitimate and unanswered questions about how this happened."

The hostages – whose number included two small children – were seized from the Turkish Consulate in Mosul after the Islamic State group overran the Iraqi city on June 11. Turkish leaders gave only the broadest outlines of their rescue yesterday.

Prime Minister Ahmet Davutoglu said the release was the work of the country's intelligence agency, rather than a special forces operation.

"After intense efforts that lasted days and weeks, in the early hours, our citizens were handed over to us, and we brought them back," Davutoglu said.

Davutoglu was the star of the homecoming ceremony yesterday, flying the hostages back to Ankara on his plane and delivering an impassioned address to the crowd. Families rushed the aircraft to greet their returning loved ones. The ex-hostages emerged wearing clean dresses and suits and showed little sign of having been held captive by fanatic militants for more than three months.

The hostages' joyous reunion at the airport came as an enormous relief after the Well-dressed men and women captives had been held at eight separate addresses in Mosul and their whereabouts were monitored by drones and other means.

The Iraqi government said it had no information about the rescue. The Iraqi security forces have increased their operations against the militants in recent days.

The agency said the hostages had been held at eight separate addresses in Mosul and their whereabouts were monitored by drones and other means. The hostages declined to answer all but the most general questions, although a couple hinted at ill treatment or death threats.

Ex-hostage Alptekin Esirgun told Anadolu that militants held a gun to Consul General Ozturk Yilmaz's head and tried to force him to make a statement. Another former hostage, Alparslan Yel, said the Islamic militants "treated us a little better because we are Muslims. But we weren't that comfortable. There was a war going on."

Yilmaz thanked Turkish officials but another former hostage, Alparslan Yel, had been involved in a decade-long conflict with the Sunni- dominated government, fighting for more control and territory in the north.

Prominent figures from the mainly Sunni Muslim clan, one of the most powerful tribes in Yemen, hold senior positions in the armed forces and the government.

"The Houthis, who belong to the Zaydi sect of Shi'ite Islam, have been involved in a series of clashes and political turmoil have grown in Yemen since Arab Spring protests ousted Saleh. The Houthis insurrection is one of several security challenges in Yemen, which borders oil exporter Saudi Arabia and is struggling with a secessionist movement in the south and the spread of an al Qaeda insurgency.

The Houthis, who belong to the Zaydi sect, have a deep history of conflict with the Sunni government. They have been involved in a series of clashes with the Saudi-led coalition in Yemen, which borders oil exporter Saudi Arabia and is struggling with a secessionist movement in the south and the spread of an al Qaeda insurgency.

Friday marks the third day of clashes in which at least 25 people have been killed, according to officials and witnesses. The fighting continued overnight.

Yemen's higher security committee said late yesterday a curfew would be imposed in four areas of the capital starting 9:00 p.m. local time to 6:00 a.m. The state-run television building, which is near other vital state institutions, was hit by a mortar attack yesterday after weeks of protests and clashes, appeared to be the biggest challenge yet to the UN-backed transition to democracy launched, after veteran ruler Ali Abdullah Saleh stepped down in 2012.

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New Zealand’s ruling National Party is re-elected

AUCKLAND, New Zealand – The dominant centre-right National Party was re-elected yesterday to a third term in government with a historic level of support, despite an election campaign tainted by political scandals and resignations.

The party’s large lead became apparent early in the evening’s vote-counting process. When counting finished, it had won 48 per cent of the vote, the strongest result for a single party since New Zealand adopted a proportional election system in 1996, according to preliminary results from the national Electoral Commission. The commission estimated voter turnout at 77 per cent, up from 74 per cent in 2011.

“Ladies and gentlemen, this is a victory for those who kept the faith,” John Key, the prime minister and leader of the National Party, said in a televised speech at the party’s election celebration in downtown Auckland. The jubilant audience responded with a chant of “Three more years!”

The result gives the National Party 61 of the 121 seats in Parliament, enough to govern alone, although Key said he would work on forming a coalition with the three smaller parties that are part of the existing coalition: ACT New Zealand, United Future and the Maori Party.

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A short time earlier, the leader of the left-leaning opposition Labour Party, David Cunliffe, said he had already telephoned Key to concede defeat. But he insisted that he did not intend to resign, even though his party had won only 25 per cent of the vote.

New Zealand Prime Minister John Key, his wife and son place their votes in the ballot box on September 20, 2014.
For photography nuts, Photokina in Cologne, Germany has provided us with a host of new gear options. For Appleites (cult of Mac) the new iPhone and iWatch have been launched. And while these two things have captured this writer’s attention, they are not the only new products available to consumers with the required capital.

Upon the launch of Apple’s new product line, an interesting discourse began on a social media feed, to which I was privy, discussing the tax evasion techniques of the company, the sweatshop conditions in its Chinese manufacturing plants and a host of other atrocities that apparently assist in the success of this tech giant. While the discourse targeted Apple, discerning members of the conversation soon pointed out the tragic reality that this single company was not alone in this horrific reality.

Guilty of complicity in this situation that affects the manufacture of many of the “made in China”, “Made in Taiwan”, etc. items that we all take for granted, Apple was dragged over the coals for a reality that faces most major companies mass producing items for global sale.

We are all complicit. We are the ones who purchase the items after all. Without our cash flow, there would be no success and no need to place workers in horrific conditions to reach the bottom line.

I will never forget the topic of “Blood Diamonds” that gained fresh light in the wake of a Hollywood film of the same name, starring Leonardo DiCaprio and Djimon Hounsou, back in 2006. In horror, we watched as an ongoing situation of slavery and exploitation was carefully painted for us on the silver screen. Then we talked about it for a little while before going back to the way things were, many of us purchasing diamonds for ourselves or our loved ones in very short order.

Are all diamonds brought to stores for sale the result of violence? No. Are all products manufactured in China guilty of sweatshop conditions and child labour? No. But the reality still exists, and as consumers, none of us are capable of knowing one from the other.

Did your new pair of sneakers enjoy the labour of a seven-year-old in slave-like conditions? Did your latest gadget, which you show off with pride, involve the labour of people working 15-hour days for $40 a month in salary?

These questions are not meant to stop the flow of consumerism, but simply to slow it. None of us are willing to give up life’s luxuries for the atrocities being meted out to individuals we’ve never met living across an ocean. Of course, this would have been the same thinking employed when individuals were sweetening their tea in England back in the 18th century.

It’s food for thought, isn’t it? Slavery continues today, wearing a different mask to the one that once dressed the face of its cousin here in the Caribbean. As we all know, money now makes the world go round, and as a result, is the ultimate control. The whip has been replaced by “the debt”.

There will always be new items being rolled out and new companies creating the wealthy one per cent, who appear untouchable as a result of their material gains. And tragically, we all appear powerless to stop the rolling tide, as we always have been throughout history. You need only look as far as Haiti to understand the reality of fighting against the status quo.

Comfortably then we will trudge along, worrying less about the atrocities enjoyed by our brothers and sisters, oceans and continents away, as we download a new app to our smartphone to assist us in better organising our lives.

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Comfortably then we will trudge along, worrying less about the atrocities enjoyed by our brothers and sisters, oceans and continents away, as we download a new app to our smartphone to assist us in better organising our lives.
The island of Barbados was settled by Europeans in 1627. At that time it was heavily forested but by 1647 nearly half of the forest was cleared for the production of extensive crops like cotton and tobacco.

In Richard Ligon’s “A True and Exact History of the Island of Barbadoes” (1657) the export of timber, notably Fustic, Maclura tinctoria; Lingnum Vitae, Guaiacum officinale; Logwood, Haematoxylon campechianum; and Cedar, Cedrela odorata is well documented. Others such as Mastic, Sideroxylon foetidissimum; Locust, Hymenaea courbaril; Bully Tree, Manilkara bidentata and Red wood (Coccoloba swartzii) were used for buildings and part of machinery for sugar production.

Sugar cane was introduced to the island around 1637 and with this came an accelerated and unregulated destruction of the island’s forested areas. Land has to be cleared not only for the production of export crops but also to grow crops for consumption. The forested areas could not sustain the export of timber since many of the trees were not of the right species or quality. By the end of the century, virtually the whole island was under cultivation. David Watts in his book “Man’s Influence on the Vegetation of Barbados 1627-1800 (1966)” indicates that by 1665 “all but the most isolated patches of forest on steep gully sides and in the Scotland District has been cleared”. Coals were imported from England for fuel and later wood from New England and from adjacent islands. Turner’s Hall Wood is regarded as the only remaining pre-European forest on the island and some plants are found in this area only. In fact, after 1665 Turner’s Hall Wood is reported as the only forested area on the island. After realising the folly of the unregulated removal of the island’s vegetation, the government of the day from as early as 1656 put in place legislation to protect and preserve trees.

Legislation to regulate the cultivation and preservation of trees In 1656 an Act of Council was passed to halt the “Abuse of boundaries”. Landowners were encroaching on their neighbour’s boundary and harvesting many marked and timber of good value in the guise of securing their own boundaries. The penalty for illegally felling of timber or boundary trees was set at 500 pounds of sugar and 100 pounds of sugar for any other tree. One can only imagine that the destruction of the remaining forest after 1656 was done legally for establishment of large sugar estates, since by 1665 most of the forested land had been cleared. Parish ordinances controlled the removal of timber on unoccupied or common land. The church regulated these ordinances. There seems to be little evidence of state control or regulation of tree destruction, probably because there was very little to regulate after 1665. The Laws of Barbados 1667-1875 does not indicate any major legislation except that of 1875. The Index and Appendices to the revised edition Laws of Barbados 1667 – 1 to 1942 – 8 (1946) indicates Larceny of Tree 1867-8, Damage to Tree 1868-8, Lopping of Trees near Highways 1900-5 and the Preservation of Trees Act 1907 – 10. The Cultivation and Preservation of Trees Act – 1875-C.I was established in February, 5 1875. This act set in place very comprehensive legislation to govern the cultivation and preservation of timber trees. Provided in this legislation were the following: (1) Preservation: Exemption of lands growing trees from all taxation. The exemption applied to lands one acre or more with any kind of forest or other large trees standing at no more than sixteen feet apart or otherwise so as to overspread the land below;
Conserving trees must become a priority

Apart from the Scotland District, there is a need for forested spaces in the urban area, but the opportunity cost dictates that land with trees will become land with buildings. Therefore, the law must be enforced and a proper land use policy developed where spaces with trees can be maintained and expanded in our changing environment.

This Act dealt more with the cultivation of approved fruit trees but a tax contribution (tax exemption) was paid for approved non-fruit trees. The Chief Agricultural Officer determined the list of both fruit and non-fruit trees that were eligible for such payments. No payment was made unless the Chief Agricultural Officer issued a certificate to the effect that (a) the trees were being grown in such a number and such distances from each other as he has prescribed or approved;

(b) the trees were being cultivated in accordance with the rules and practice of good arboriculture;

(c) the area of land on which the trees are grown is not less than half an acre.

It would appear that the Act only protects trees of one metre or more in circumference. There are numerous species of trees that reach maturity with trunks of less than one metre in circumference. This unwanted and widespread destruction has led the Sanitation Services Authority to find landfill space specifically for trees, a new form of garbage.

Over the last ten years there has been a great demand for land, particularly to provide housing and tourism projects. Even in the Scotland District where the land is protected by the Soil Conservation Act, there are some intrusions for more housing and large hotel projects. The Soil Conservation Unit has started to work closely with landowners in this area in an effort to develop the land for forestry. Apart from the Scotland District, there is a need for forested spaces in the urban area but the opportunity cost dictates that land with trees will become land with buildings. Therefore, the law must be enforced and a proper land use policy developed where spaces with trees can be maintained and expanded in our changing environment.

(Compiled by Jeff St. A. Chandler)
**Environmental benefits of trees**

Trees are beneficial to the environment in a variety of ways. The most obvious of course would be that they provide oxygen for us to breathe. But there are other benefits as well.

- **Soil conservation**: Soil erosion is a serious problem. Soil erosion reduces levels of nutrients needed for crops and other plants, and decreases the diversity and abundance of soil organisms. Trees help prevent soil erosion in 2 ways. Tree roots hold soil in place, and tree branches also absorb the amount of carbon dioxide generated by the average person. They absorb the amount of carbon dioxide, they store carbon dioxide as they grow. 30 trees can absorb the amount of carbon dioxide generated by a typical home per year. There are other benefits as well.

- **Energy conservation**: Trees are energy savers. Planting trees around homes and buildings reduces the need for air conditioning. Energy conservation helps reduce global warming. By saving energy, they also save money. Just 3 trees planted around your home can cut your air conditioning bill in half. Trees planted around public buildings also help save tax dollars.

- **Pollution**: Trees help control air and water pollution. Excess man made carbon dioxide contributes to global warming. Trees naturally absorb carbon dioxide, they store carbon as they grow. 30 trees can absorb the amount of carbon dioxide generated by the average American. They also absorb other pollutants, such as excess fertilizers and pesticides produced by farms.

- **Wildlife Conservation**: Trees provide natural habitat for Wildlife. Trees are the natural habitat of birds, lizards and other animals. They also provide habitat for many endangered species.

**What you can do:**

- **Plant a tree**: Plant a tree if you can. It may not seem like you are making a big difference, but you are. Knowing the positive impact trees have on our environment, think what we could accomplish if each person planted just one tree.

- **Conservation**: Support conservation of forests. Contact legislators and let them know you support conservation of national forests.

- **Recycling**: Recycle paper products. Paper products are made from wood. Recycling paper helps reduce the need to cut down trees. You can also help by using products made of recycled paper.
Growing up, there’s always been this preconceived notion that upon surviving adolescence, one will begin to ‘discover’ oneself. Once you hit that magical number of 18 years of age – the official number of adulthood, of course – that from henceforth means you will begin to uncover your true calling and being in this world.

In actuality, your sense of identity has been en route since before you could even count to three, as the mind develops rapidly from an early age – so your path to ‘discovery’ was already being laid years ago. Unfortunately, many of us will grow with the enigma of being in our adult years and still feeling that sensation of being lost and unsure of our future and purpose, when our truth has been staring back at us for our entire lives.

There’s only one ‘you’ in this entire world. How crazy is that? There are over seven billion people resident on this planet, but just ‘one’ of you in existence. This is something that only a minority of people ever really think about, but if you do the maths, that means you are a pretty rare species.

And just like that, the doubts start to sink in. You ask yourself, “Why be an entertainer when I can be a doctor?” Then the family gets involved, and at the end of it all, you’re never quite happy.

You know what you truly want to be, it’s just that it sounds crazy to everyone but yourself. That is the reason that sensation of feeling lost and unsure lingers – it’s because you are not yet living your truth. Let me tell you, the truth may be difficult at times, but it is liberation, and knowing it is half the battle won.

Living your truth means that you know what you are capable of becoming – the best version of yourself. So while you may not be where you hope to be right now, forever keep your eyes on the prize.

What are you thankful for today?

By Alicia Jarvis

THE Internet has been running wild with “challenges” in the last few weeks, probably stemming from the explosion of ALS Ice Bucket videos everywhere. However, one that caught my eye recently was the gratitude challenge.

Persons tagged were asked to state one thing they were thankful for over a specified number of days. I was actually surprised to see people participating in this, because negativity usually garners far more support than anything positive. I’ve also grown very accustomed to seeing people use their various social media outlets to rant and complain rather than sharing the good in their life. Maybe this is because they have observed that when others do, they’re titled show-offs or generally not well-received.

At this point, though, to all you readers, I’m encouraging you to take a minute out of your not-so-busy Sunday and think to yourself, “Wow, I really do have a lot to be thankful for!” and reflect on just what a few of those things might be.

Need some help to get the ball rolling? Well, firstly, if you are reading this, that means you have blood running through your veins, which also means that you are alive! The sun might be shining a little too brightly, or the rain might be pouring down to your dismay, but neither should put a damper on your day, simply because you have life.

Now, just look around you. You have a roof over your head. That annoying family member in the next room might get on your nerves from time to time, but think about what life would be like without their presence and support.

Is there water running from your faucet? Food in your fridge? How often do you stop and realize that these simple things are a privilege, not a guarantee in life?

As you go about your day, I want you to observe more. Everything you see, everything you touch, take a brief second to appreciate, not only their existence, but your ability to experience them.

Now, I will leave you with this quote, so that even when the going get tough, you can find solace in the little things: “Cultivate the habit of being grateful for every good thing that comes to you, and to give thanks continuously. And because all things have contributed to your advancement, you should include all things in your gratitude.”

By Paul Husbands

Instead of finding yourself, look in the mirror

Growing up, there’s always been this preconceived notion that upon surviving adolescence, one will begin to ‘discover’ oneself. Once you hit that magical number of 18 years of age – the official number of adulthood, of course – that from henceforth means you will begin to uncover your true calling and being in this world.

In actuality, your sense of identity has been en route since before you could even count to three, as the mind develops rapidly from an early age – so your path to ‘discovery’ was already being laid years ago. Unfortunately, many of us will grow with the enigma of being in our adult years and still feeling that sensation of being lost and unsure of our future and purpose, when our truth has been staring back at us for our entire lives.

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That’s really awesome. You are kind of irreplaceable, and that’s the key in life – people never really change, they just become more of who they really are.

Chances are, you knew deep down what you really wanted in life all along, but you just never found the time to achieve it. Some of us grow up thinking we want to be firemen, cartoonists, actors and musicians, to name a few, but somewhere along the line, someone recommended we should do something ‘better’. They told you, “Hey, why not just be a doctor, or a lawyer, you know, something respectable that makes money.”

And just like that, the doubts start to sink in. You ask yourself, “Why be an entertainer when I can be a doctor?” Then the family gets involved, and at the end of it all, you’re never quite happy.

You know what you truly want to be, it’s just that it sounds crazy to everyone but yourself. That is the reason that sensation of feeling lost and unsure lingers – it’s because you are not yet living your truth. Let me tell you, the truth may be difficult at times, but it is liberation, and knowing it is half the battle won.

Living your truth means that you know what you are capable of becoming – the best version of yourself. So while you may not be where you hope to be right now, forever keep your eyes on the prize.

What are you thankful for today?
Meet George Brescia, a long-time fashion insider who has worked for big names like Ralph Lauren and Tommy Hilfiger, turned personal stylist and feel-good clothing guru. But the best thing about Brescia is that he's about much more than just telling you which colours look good together. His new book, Change Your Clothes, Change Your Life, looks at the connection between our feelings and the clothes we put on our body. Brescia has even coined the term “conscious dressing” to appeal to those who have convinced themselves that what you wear just doesn’t matter. Even better, his how-to guide culminates with a check-list of must-have items for your closet (sneak peak: it runs from "the classic little black dress" to “three to four quality bras”).

Brescia wants to be your fashion fairy godfather and psychiatrist at the same time, using your style woes as a way to diagnose how your day-to-day struggles with clothes relate to issues that go beyond your wardrobe. Some of his advice might feel time consuming at first – he recommends eschewing sales and shopping online in lieu of hitting the stores in real life – but chances are you’ll end up feeling a little more aware of how your clothes affect every aspect of your life. Here, tips from Brescia about how you can make your clothes work for you:

1) **What you wear matters.**

“It’s never about just wearing the clothes. People get so overwhelmed when they think about what to wear. So they just fall asleep at it, they just pick and they don’t think about what they're wearing. And some people get really freaked out by it. They want to hide and not be seen, no matter what. But you’re required to wear clothing by law. So the key is that no matter what you do, other people are going to see you and think about what you're wearing. And you’re going to think about them. Take that experience and work it to your advantage.”

2) **You are your closet.**

“Your closet is like the window to your soul. Your closet says everything about you. But I still see this all the time: What do you not wear 80 per cent of the clothes that you own? People don’t know what to do, so they get overwhelmed and buy things they think they should. Which means a lot of people go into their closet and feel dread. You should go in and feel joyful.”

3) **Learn from the likes.**

“Go into your closet and start by going through piece by piece. We all know what these pieces are in terms of what you get compliments on. Don’t you have a sweater or a dress or a suit that people always say, ‘OMG! You look amazing!’ Take those pieces and start to gather them. But don’t just think about the superlatives – it’s time to learn from them. What colour are they? How do they fit your body? If you’re getting compliments every time you wear green, green is a good colour for you. This is a way to teach yourself about silhouettes, colours you look good in, fabric. And then go back to gather the things you’re not wearing. Make a pile and take it to a consignment shop or thrift store.”

4) **Care about what you wear.**

“Getting dressed isn’t superficial. It’s not for [other people], it’s for you. It makes you feel good by taking the time and making it an important thing, then you’re going to attract what you want in your life. If you take the time to figure out for yourself how you want to feel, dressing right can help. You can’t just try hard when the stakes are high. You’re making an impression whether you realise it or not.”

5) **Throw away your old casual wear.**

“Casual dress freaks women out the most. Figure out what you want to say – do you really want to be wearing your boyfriend’s basketball shorts on the treadmill at the gym? And you don’t have to pay a lot for casual clothes. You can get basics at amazing prices. There’s no excuse – it’s not costly! When you’re walking the dog, you don’t know who you’re going to bump into. No one is asking you to go out in a cocktail dress. If you’re grabbing something, it might as well be cute.”

Continued on Next Page
3 surprising reasons you’re burned out at work

Y ou’re so over your job: the endless stream of e-mails, catty co-workers, unpaid overtime – the reasons go on and on. But a new study published in the journal Social Psychiatry and Psychiatric Epidemiology found it’s not only office problems that wear you down (though on-the-job factors can definitely affect you, too). Here, three other things that may be causing your work burnout:

You’re not getting enough support at home
Feel like you can’t vent to your partner about your day? Turns out having an understanding significant other is just as important as having a supportive boss in preventing work burnout, the Canadian researchers found. If you feel like your partner doesn’t get where you’re coming from, be it at work or at home, have a sit-down with them and talk about how a little listening can go a long way.

You’re not social enough
And we’re not talking about Facebook. People who had the support of a social network outside the office had fewer mental health issues associated with job burnout, the study also found. So take the time to meet with your friends for coffee or a drink after work, even if you’re not in the mood after long day. And if most of your friends are your officemates, consider joining a social group that synchs with a hobby or pastime (think hiking or reading) that’s well-removed from your work social circle.

You’re not taking a lunch break
Well, at least not away from your desk. A separate study from the University of Toronto found that skipping your lunch break can make you less motivated and less productive. Researchers say this habit can drain your psychological energy by lunchtime and doesn’t give you time to recharge. So while you may think you’re being an office star by eating your salad at your desk, you may actually feel more sluggish and get less done (potentially leading to later nights on the job).

6) Don’t break your bank.
Everyone has their own budget. When you know what you look good in, and are using your closet as a toolbox, you can shop anywhere. It’s personal preference. Just be mindful. You don’t have to spend a lot of money on basics. Fashion and style are for everyone.

7) When to spend.
“Splurge on things that are timeless, like a handbag or a watch. Pick a beautiful accessory. If you get an item of clothing like a great blazer, make sure there’s a longevity to it, because you can wear it with different things.”

8) Know your trend.
“When you know what you look good in already, you can choose the trend that’s right for you. If there’s a trend out there that you like, figure out how to do it so that it works for you and your colour. You never want to just go out and buy trendy items. The challenge is to know what you have to work with while knowing what you should camouflage. If you don’t love your legs, don’t wear short skirts. If you have a fab back, wear something backless. A lot of times trends are going to naturally happen, so when you see something while you’re shopping, just try it on.”

9) The one thing we should all stop doing.
“Wearing clothes that don’t fit. It’s so unflattering. When the clothes start to wear you and you’re not wearing the clothes, something isn’t working. Make sure your clothes fit. Take them to a tailor. Women especially are uncomfortable if they think clothes are too revealing.”

10) Pull yourself together every morning.
“People freak out in the morning because it messes with their confidence. They second guess themselves and spiral out. They haven’t taken the time to be conscious about it and stop and say ‘no, I’m going to take control and feel and look amazing.’ Take that time.”

11) Treat every day like you’re dressing for a big meeting.
“When people are getting dressed for a day that’s really important, they pull it together. They stop their lives, they take the time and they know it’s important. When it’s just a regular day, that’s when they get overwhelmed. You’re being seen everyday whether you want to be seen or not. There’s so many different levels, so much subtext in the workplace and a lot of politics to deal with. If you really put yourself together, it brings in a whole different experience to work.”

You’re so over your job: the endless stream of e-mails, catty co-workers, unpaid overtime – the reasons go on and on. A separate study from the Draugiem Group takes it one step further: They found the most productive people got up once every 52 minutes (for 17-minute breaks, but that seems like a bit much). Try starting with an actual lunch break, and go from there.
Milan rang in its fashion week with something old, and something new, and some still on the cusp.

Tried-and-true designers like Gucci opened up five days of womenswear previews for next spring and summer, alongside some hot, young talent – Stella Jean and Fausto Pugleri, to name two – who have gotten a firm leg up in recent seasons as Italy’s fashion city has sought to energise the moda Milanese with new names.

Vogue Italia dug deeper into the talent pool, showcasing a new generation of designers from their “Who’s on Next” competition, showing off the creations during a cocktail hour.

Anna Wintour, the editor of Vogue US, toured each stand greeting the young designers. On hand were winners Salvatore Piccione, whose delicate looks in robin-egg blue incorporates appliques of bees onto romantic floral prints, and Aliza Shalali Deizy, who creates eye-catching bold prints, feathery skirts and sequined tops for her two-year-old Daizy Shely brand. “I want to empower women through my clothes,” Deizy said at the event.

Some highlights from Wednesday’s previews:

**GUCCI’S HIPPY CHIC**

Charlotte Casiraghi, the face of Gucci’s new cosmetics line wearing a black leather timed cocktail dress, and Kate Moss, in a python leather coat over a black jersey dress, were front and center for Gucci’s preview of its hippy chic collection for next summer.

Baggy boyfriend denim was one of the touchstones of the collection that is an updated ode to the 1970s, designer Frida Giannini’s favorite bygone era. The denim is relaxed and never binding, from the wide-legged cropped mariner jeans with big gold buttons, to the bloousy denim dresses with lacy, eyelet panels.

That the looks are versatile is highlighted by the choice to send out the denim looks alternating with short, printed silk cocktail dresses, sometimes worn with wispy fur vests, or featuring military brocade detailing, or as a kimono cut.

It’s a collection that is full of separates that can form the backbone of wardrobes for a long time to come: relaxed cropped jeans, suede coats and tunics, braided leather belts, a soft version of the Jackie bag and Gucci boots – to the ankle or knee. The palate is likewise easy to adopt: pearl white, denim, brown, burgundy and burnt orange.

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**STELLA JEAN**

Italian-Haitian designer Stella Jean has remembered what many of her designing cohorts have forsaken or left to their resort collections: the swimsuit. Perhaps of her Caribbean-inspired looks that are mindful of the refreshing promise of swimwear, speed with the swim-suit clad bevvy of models that appeared at the end of the runway show made it clear that they were easily incorporated as undergarments into Stella Jean’s colorful tropics-meet-Europe collection.

The looks translate easily into street fashion, with, say, a mermaid skirt paired with a football jersey for team Port-au-Prince. While Stella Jean takes inspiration from her Haitian roots, she also takes tailoring and styling cues from her native Italy. Plaid, button-down shirts accompany more flamboyant pants or skirts out of printed fabrics that recall Gaughin’s Tahiti paintings.

The silhouette ranges from long, sheer flowing shirt-dresses, to puffed-out bubble skirts with oversized blouses with three-quarter sleeves that is kept in proportion with a neat striped belt.

The designer emphasizes the ethical nature of her textiles, which she has made in Africa through flagship program that brings together artisans living in poverty with brands and designers. The baubles that complemented the collections hail from Haiti.
Fashion icon Anna Dello Russo gushed expletives backstage for Fausto Puglisi’s new collection.

“Wickness on the runway,” Dello Russo explained. “It’s really refined, with a fierce vibe.” Puglisi, who worked in the United States before returning to Italy to launch his brand and who is also Ungaro’s creative director, called the collection Suburban Gladiator. That’s part of the story.

Puglisi said he was inspired by Stanley Kubrick’s “2001: A Space Odyssey,” gladiators and Pierre Cardin. “I mixed together all my icons for this show,” the designer said backstage.

Energy permeated the looks, deriving partly from the wild optical illusions and trompe l’oeil in the black-and-white patterns, enhanced by Swarovski crystals even for day wear, creating an almost armored effect.

Puglisi’s creations are meant to be layered and patterns both mixed and clashed, to allow women to customize the look. So target-and-checked patterned mini skirt can be worn over leggings and pared with a midriff-baring shell top. On the simpler end of the spectrum, one of the more striking looks was a series of long sleeveless dresses with a zip-straight down the front and back.

The color palate was mostly black and white, with flashes of orange, lime green and gold lame. Shoes were gladiator-style sandals that wound up the leg to mid-calf or knee, or bejeweled flip-flops.

Haitian designer Stella Jean remembered what her designing have forgotten, or left to their collections: the suits. It is her mixed-inspired and kept her promise of the streetwear. The which model at the end of the runway show wear that they incorporated garments into Jean’s colorful tropics—Europe collection.

The looks translate easily into street with, say, a mermaid skirt paired with a football jersey for Port-au-Prince. While Stella Jean takes inspiration from her roots, she also takes tailoring and styling cues from her culture. Plaid, button-down shirts accompany more flamboyant skirts out of printed fabrics that recall Gauguin’s Tahiti.

Silhouette ranges from long, sheer flowing shirt-dresses, to bubble skirts with oversized blouses with three-quarter but is kept in proportion with a neat striped belt. The designer emphasizes the ethical nature of her textiles, which are made in Africa through flagship program that brings artisans living in poverty with brands and designers. The that complemented the collections hail from Haiti.
10 behaviours that could end your relationship before it begins

If you’re a certain age – or possess any semblance of a romantic history – you likely carry around a laundry list of relationship red flags to be wary of. Does he have mommy issues? Not interested in going down that road again. Are her feelings on having kids the polar opposite of yours? At this point, why even waste each other’s time?

Some dating dealbreakers are more common than others. On Tuesday, Redditors shared the one dating dealbreaker they refuse to tolerate, and there definitely were some trends. Below, 10 of the most agreed-upon red flags.

1. You’re a stage-five clinger.

“T’ll end it if a guy is clingy/ needy or tries to escalate the relationship at an inappropriately early stage. Last time this happened, a guy I’d gone on two dates with invited me to go on vacation for two weeks in Mexico with his entire extended family and wouldn’t let it go after I politely declined.”

2. You’re unfaithful.

“If you cheat on me, you’re out. I don’t care how much it might hurt me, I don’t care what you have to say about it, I want you gone. I know in the long run it’ll hurt me more if I don’t try my best to always identify the times when I am in the wrong and acknowledge it (usually by apologising). If the other person can’t do the same, then I feel like I am the only one trying to make it work.”

5. You’re bad with money.

“I’m out if your financial management skills sucks. I’m not trying to be a gold digger or anything like that, but if you’re just pissing away money and in constant debt, that’s a big deal-breaker to me. It tells me you’re not responsible nor do you have long-term goals.”

6. You’re still chatty with your ex.

“I’ve broke it off with my last SOs because of this. I’m fine with my SO having guys and girls in her life – I have girls in mine. But c’mon, talking to your ex on a basically daily basis even though you hate him? Get real.”

7. You’re rude to waiters.

“They’re a dick to other people, like waitstaff. Screw that – your partner’s like that, you’re out.”

8. You can’t empathise with your partner.

“My ex had this problem. I told her that shouting ‘cook my dinner, b****’ was offensive and she got really upset because she took it as an assault on her worth as a girlfriend. She couldn’t handle criticism, even when she had been wrong or not trying to be a gold digger, because it destroyed the perfect image of herself. Needless to say, it was a very early red flag that I woke up.”

9. You’re lackadaisical about your health.

“Someone who doesn’t care about their health. I understand and am more than willing to chew down on some nosh and stuff here and there but to have no regard for your well-being, and being inactive on top of all that? No thanks.”

10. You’re not willing to give your partner a little ‘me time’.

“If I say I need some alone time for a night, and she interprets that as me not being into her anymore, then there’s a problem. I’ve spent most of my life alone. It’s comfortable to me. Sometimes I just want to sit on the couch like a slob and be a disgusting human. That’s not a group activity. Sometimes I need to be alone with my thoughts. Don’t take it personally.”

How to tell your children you’re dating

Many kids, no matter how old they get, never give up the dream that their divorced parents may someday get back together.

For this reason, the subject of dating may be a burn that your kids are not yet ready for. It is important to be patient, loving, and understanding as you help them navigate the post-divorce dating waters with you.

**Handle with care**

Kids may be extremely sensitive about the subject of dating, so, when you bring it up, remember to be the subject with care. The key to a successful conversation about dating is to understand your child’s feelings. Go into the conversation with the understanding that your children may have many questions, may react with anger, or may reject the subject completely.

- **Expect a range of emotions**
  
  All of the emotions that your child feels – from sadness, to happiness, to anger – are very normal and should be respected. You may be ready to date, but your child may not be ready to hear about or see you with someone other than your ex.

- **Keep it age appropriate**
  
  Remember, the way you approach the dating conversation should be based on the age of your children. Studies show that younger children tend to deal with divorce and the dating process much better than older children. Younger children really do not have a strong grasp on what is going on; they know something is wrong, but they do not have enough life experience to know just exactly what that something is.

- **Honesty is the best policy**
  
  Honesty is so very important. With all that is changing in their lives, the one thing that your children should always be able to count on is their ability to trust you! Talk to them about your desire to date, your desire to get to know someone new, and make it clear that spending time with someone other than mom/dad does not ever take away from the LOVE that you or your ex have for your children.

- **Set some guidelines**
  
  Assure your children that they will not ask them to meet anyone that you are not serious about and that you will always have their very best interest at heart. It is also very important that you do not allow your kids to control your decisions with temper tantrums, threats to move in with the other parent, or just general “UGLY” behaviour. Your kids need to understand that you are the adult, you call the shots, and you have the right to be happy! Establish these ground rules in a loving and patient way.

It has been my experience both personally and professionally that children really just want both parents to be happy. They may be angry, sad, and jealous at first, but with much love, patience, and understanding they will come around.
15 rules to foster good behaviour in children

1. Play (and work) with them often. This is the best way to teach children co-operation and self-restraint. The best way to help children learn to co-operate, when there is work that needs to be done, is to work with them.

Every moment of interactive play with an admired adult offers an opportunity for children to learn rules and limits. In the course of this play (and work), children come to understand that rules are necessary – for safety and for living with others. To the dismay of many well-intentioned parents, most children do not learn good behaviour from repeated talks or lectures.

A generation ago, developmental psychologist Alan Kazdin points out, the effects of such talks or lectures are limited. Instead, we should provide children with an opportunity to learn how to do something useful and enjoyable.

A recent study of French parents, by French researchers, showed that children who are allowed to have fun while doing something useful and enjoyable tend to be the best at the game.

2. Express enthusiastic interest in your child’s interests, even if these are not the interests you would choose.

Enthusiastic interest in our children’s interests is a first principle of strengthening parent-child relationships – and of fostering co-operative behaviour. At the risk of being somewhat crass, we can think of enthusiastic interest as the deposit that we draw on when it is time to set limits. (Or, as the behavioural psychologist Alan Kazdin points out, the effectiveness of our time-outs depends largely on the quality of our time-ins.)

3. Repair moments of anger and misunderstanding.

When feelings of anger and unfairness linger, children are far more likely to become irritable, uncooperative and disrespectful. We should therefore set aside some time, every day, to repair angry interactions.

4. Engage them in problem solving.

Most common behaviour problems are best solved proactively. Place the problem before your child and ask for her ideas. (For example, “We seem to have a problem every morning, when it’s time to get ready for school. What do you think we can do about this?”) Then, together, develop a plan. When we enlist children in solving problems, we change the channel. Instead of thinking about how they can get what they want, they begin to think, even if just for that moment, about how to solve a problem.

5. Teach them a language of emotion regulation and emotional intelligence.

Children behave well when they have learned to handle (or, as we now say, “regulate”) the anxieties, frustrations and disappointments of everyday life – when they come to learn that disappointments are disappointments, not catastrophes. They develop this ability through emotional dialogue.

Acknowledge their disappointments and frustrations. Talk with them about your own frustrations and disappointments – and how you coped with them.

6. Teach them to wait.

Pamela Druckerman, in her entertaining account of parenting in contemporary Paris, observed that French parents, from a very early age, do not immediately meet a child’s demands. Instead, they stress the importance of teaching children to wait.

7. Offer encouragement, not criticism.

When you need to criticise, criticise thoughtfully and gently. Persistent criticism breeds resentment and defiance, which then undermines a child’s initiative and sense of responsibility.

If we are frequently angry and critical, our children will not be well behaved, no matter how much discipline we provide.

8. When you have to say “No,” say “No” calmly. Then, insist that they speak to you calmly.

Our mantra should be, “Johnny, when you’re calm, we can talk about this.”

9. Begin your sentences with “When...” or “As soon as...”

Too often, we begin our sentences, “If you don’t...” This simple change of tone is not giving in. When we compromise with children, we teach them to compromise – to think about how their needs and the needs of others can be reconciled. Is there a more important lesson for children to learn, for all their future relationships?

10. Teach them the importance of other people’s feelings.

Respect for the needs and feelings of others is the foundation of moral behaviour. In a series of important studies, psychologist Ross Thompson and his colleagues found that the mothers of children with strong moral development spoke to their children in an emotion-rich language and made frequent references, not to rules and consequences, but to other people’s feelings.

11. Give them responsibilities.

Across cultures, children who are given responsibilities (for example, when they have chores or teach younger children) show more helpfulness and caring behaviour towards others.

As a side benefit, they also begin to experience our point of view. They learn, firsthand, how annoying it is when you are trying to get things done and someone doesn’t listen.

12. Teach them the importance of other people’s feelings.

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13. Let them know when their behaviour is over the line.

Then, take a brief time-out. But it is really a time-out, with an opportunity to start over, to try again, to do better the next time.

14. Let them know that you are proud of them.

Especially for the good things they do for others.

15. Take time to listen.

Hear their side of the story. Tell them what is right about what they are saying or doing before you tell them what they are doing wrong.

When children feel that their concerns and grievances have been listened to and understood, they will make fewer, not more, demands. And we will have an easier time when it is time to say no.
Things to consider when dealing with adult acne breakouts

By Truneal Kwang

BEING a teenager seems to be a license to live life at full throttle. The days seem endless, happiness is only a corner away and the only thing that may pose a problem is when acne comes to pay a visit. But, while facing the mirror to squeeze the latest addition to your face, a hopeful thought begins to form – getting older means no more pimples! Reality then sets in when it turns out that your sprinkling of pimples have made a comeback, along with those dreaded wrinkles. A 2012 health study found that acne affects nearly half of all women ages 21 to 30, a quarter of women ages 31 to 40, and 12% of women ages 41 to 50. No matter the age, pimples are usually formed in the same way: pores, which contain oil glands, are blocked. This allows dirt, bacteria and old cells to build up and form a plug. For most women, hormonal changes, either around the time of your monthly cycle or during a menopausal shift is usually responsible. However, dietary imbalances and stress can also cause flare-ups. Adult acne usually indicates that your body is not functioning at its peak and a change in diet and lifestyle may provide some assistance. You might want to start consuming fewer refined carbohydrates. Eating chocolate or a lot of junk food isn’t the sole culprit that causes acne, but not having a balanced diet and eating too many refined carbs can cause problems.

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Say goodbye to your end-of-summer cold

In the placebo group, 31 of 167 children caught the flu compared to only 18 of 167 in the Vitamin D group. Also, asthma children had a reduced risk of an asthma attack while receiving Vitamin D, only two in the Vitamin D group had an attack compared to 12 children in the placebo group.

Eating chocolate or a lot of junk food isn’t the sole culprit that causes acne, but not having a balanced diet and eating too many refined carbs can cause problems.

In a recent study of 120 healthy subjects who took either garlic or a placebo for 40 days, garlic extract was shown to have enhanced the body’s immune function. The group who took garlic reduced a 21 percent reduction in cold and flu symptoms that lasted for half as many days. They also had a 58 percent drop in cold and flu incidences, resulting in half as many missed work and school days. Ingesting 1,200 units of Vitamin D per day significantly reduces the risk of seasonal flu, according to a study involving 334 schoolchildren. In the placebo group, 31 of 167 children caught the flu compared to only 18 of 167 in the Vitamin D group. Also, asthmatic children had a reduced risk of an asthma attack while receiving Vitamin D, only two in the Vitamin D group had an attack compared to 12 children in the placebo group.

Eating chocolate or a lot of junk food isn’t the sole culprit that causes acne, but not having a balanced diet and eating too many refined carbs can cause problems.

The Echinacea herb effectively reduces the incidence and duration of colds, according to a meta-analysis of 14 studies published in 2007. It was found to cut the incidence of colds in half, and also decreased the average lengths of colds by 1.4 days. Along with Vitamin C and zinc, Echinacea significantly reduced the severity and duration of cold symptoms in people with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. In a randomized, double-blind, placebo controlled study published in 2005, 279 participants with a history of colds took either 400mg of gingko extract or a placebo daily for four months. The gingse group had fewer colds and their severity of symptoms dropped as well. Another systematic review and meta-analysis of randomized controlled trials recently examined the role of zinc in treating the common cold. The authors included 17 trials involving 2, 121 participants and concluded that those receiving zinc, compared with those given the placebo, had a shorter duration of cold symptoms. Ask about these and the other variables of healthy, preventative formulas available at your local health store. Remember, an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. (TK)
Angelina Jolie surgery sparks surge in female cancer tests

A ctress and campaigner Angelina Jolie arrives at a summit to end sexual violence in conflict, at the Excel centre in London June 13, 2014. Hollywood star Angelina Jolie’s decision to make public her double mastectomy more than doubled the number of women in Britain seeking to have genetic breast cancer tests, according to a study released on Friday.

Jolie, 39, who has become a high-profile human rights campaigner, announced her surgery in May last year, saying she acted after testing positive for a mutation of the BRCA1 gene that significantly increases the risk of breast cancer.

She said she was going public with news of her surgery as she hoped her story would inspire other women to fight the life-threatening disease.

Researchers studied 21 clinics and regional genetic centers and found there were 4,847 referrals for testing in June and July last year compared to 1,981 in the same period of 2012.


“Angelina Jolie ... is likely to have had a bigger impact than other celebrity announcements, possibly due to her image as glamorous and strong woman,” researcher Gareth Evans of the charity Genesis Breast Cancer Prevention said in a statement.

“This may have lessened patients’ fears about a loss of sexual identity post-preventative surgery and encouraged those who had not previously engaged with health services to consider genetic testing.”

Breast cancer is the most common cancer in women worldwide. The World Health Organization estimated that more than 521,000 women died of breast cancer in 2012.

Angelina Jolie’s decision to make public her double mastectomy more than doubled the number of women in Britain seeking to have genetic breast cancer tests, according to a study released on Friday.

Oscar-winning Jolie has in recent years drawn nearly as much attention for her globe-trotting work on behalf of refugees and victims of sexual violence in conflicts as for her acting.

Jolie was named a Goodwill Ambassador for the UNHCR in 2001 and promoted to be Special Envoy to High Commissioner Antonio Guterres in 2012. Since 2012 she has also led a campaign against sexual violence in conflict zones.

Sedentary lifestyle linked to depression

NEW YORK – A new analysis of previous studies ties too much sitting at the computer or lying around watching TV to a greater risk of depression.

Based on dozens of studies covering hundreds of thousands of participants, Chinese researchers found that sedentary behavior was linked to a 25 percent higher likelihood of being depressed compared to people who were not sedentary.

The research has limitations, Long Zhai, of Qingdao University Medical College in Shangdong, and his coauthors write, but it suggests that physical activity would be a good prescription for preventing depression.

Although it was a thorough investigation of a relatively new research area, a number of unanswered questions still remain,” said Teychenne from the Centre for Physical Activity and Nutrition Research at Deakin University in Melbourne, Australia.

Among these, whether sedentary behaviour increases the risk of depression, or whether it is that those with depression are just more likely to engage in sedentary behaviours such as computer use or television viewing, said Teychenne, who wasn’t involved in the study.

For their report, published in the British Journal of Sports Medicine, Zhai and colleagues combined and re-analyzed the findings for a total of 193,166 participants from 24 previously published observational studies that looked at levels of sedentary behavior and risk of depression.

Two of the studies were conducted in Australia, four in Asia, seven in the Americas and 11 in Europe.

Across continents, the researchers found that people with the most sedentary behavior were 25 percent more likely to be depressed overall compared to those who were the least sedentary.

The study team also saw differences depending on people’s preferred type of inactivity. Those whose most frequent sedentary behavior was watching TV were 13 percent more likely to be depressed, while those who spent their sedentary time using the computer or Internet, had a 22 percent higher depression risk.

The analysis didn’t look at the reasons behind the links. And, the study team points out, most of the included studies accounted for other factors, like illness, that might explain the sedentary behavior, the depression, or both, but those studies may not have taken every possible factor into account.

“Sometimes people read: people go on the Internet, and unfortunately, the measures that were used in the reviewed studies didn’t always differentiate what we can call healthier sedentary behaviors versus unhealthy sedentary behaviors,” Brunet pointed out.

Still, she said, there’s clear evidence that physical activity is good for the management of depression symptoms as well as clinical levels of depression.

There’s not enough good evidence to suggest that any one specific form of physical activity is best, she added, but research indicates that moderate exercise is most effective.

“I often tell people to pick activities that are enjoyable, and that’s the key to it,” she said.

“We don’t want to pressure people to do physical activity, we want them to choose it and one way of choosing it is if they feel it’s an enjoyable activity.”
Cardinals debate marriage before crucial meeting

Currently, we, like many others worldwide, are living in a financial matrix that is founded on economic austerity. It tends to spawn some dramatically strange and remarkably innovative ways for people to use in an attempt at survival. But whatever befalls us, it must always be foremost in our minds and attitudes that God, while not having promised to take us out of our tough situations, has promised to bring us through them; and, by faith, as we follow our postcard, must rest in that assurance while remaining faithful to your Christian principles and tenets. This is not a time for prideful self-preservation at any cost. We may be tempted to keep up appearances, but it is so much wiser to be honest with ourselves and others while we adjust our level of living downwards.

It is a good time to practice, if we can, forgiveness of debt when faced with those who may find it impossible to meet a repayment owed to us. It is an opportunity to give a brother a helping hand rather than loaning him a helpful sum of money. I have experienced the act of forgiving debt and it is as once exhilarating and liberating. I, myself, have also been at the receiving end of a forgiven indebtedness, and I need not iterate here wherein an employee ought to give debt and it is at once excusable for us to move from the position of right that we have been taught by our forefathers and our claim to be Christian. What does that mean in practical terms? It means that, yes, we may sometimes find ourselves at a disadvantage because we cannot offer a bribe for winning a bid or for pushing through payment quicker once we have finished a project. That is our lot and indeed good reason for drawing closer to Jehovah Jireh, our Provider as we chart our journey through the perilous waters of business in such times as we currently find ourselves. We have to pray to the Lord to show us innovative and yet fair means of increasing our incomes without falling off the base of our involvement and the struggle of being surrounded by sharks willing to do whatever comes to mind in order to satisfy their needs and desires. It is up to us not to compare ourselves with others. As older folk like to say: “You never know whose wings some other one is flying with.” Meaning, of course, that seeing someone prospering from the outside is not necessarily being privy to what nefarious means are being used to maintain the prosperity. These are times in which we must be ever so careful to hold fast to the doctrines taught to us in the Word of God, depending daily on Him to supply our need for food, shelter and clothing, and, should he further bless us, a measure of wealth. If we are so blessed then we ought to be mindful to look to see how we can help others and engender the furtherance of the Gospel.

We are journeying through the temporal reality of life now, but also journeying to the greater realisation of eternal life where all good things are preserved for us in perpetuity. “When a man becomes rich, either God gains a partner or the man loses his soul.” (Brian Kluth).

So be prepared in this period of temptation to be stronger in giving of your work, self and generosity whether you are an employer or someone has employed you. Your eternity depends on it. Peace!

VATICAN CITY – The battle lines are being drawn before a major church meeting on family issues that represents a key test for Pope Francis.

Five high-ranking cardinals have taken one of Francis’ favourite theologians to task over an issue dear to the pope’s heart: Whether Catholics who divorce and remarry without an annulment can receive Communion.

They have written a book, “Remaining in the Truth of Christ,” to rebut German Cardinal Walter Kasper, whom Francis has called a wise and solid Sunday blessing after he was elected pope as a “great theologian” and subsequently entered a high-conflict fray.

The book, set for May 21 release, set the agenda for the two-year study on marriage, divorce and family life that opens Oct. 5.

Pope Francis drinks from a mate gourd, he was offered as he arrived for his weekly general audience on St. Peter’s Square

For a decade the Vatican’s top official dealing with internal church business, Kasper has been one of Francis’ key confidants and is regarded by many as the pope’s intellectual equivalent.

Kasper, for a decade the Vatican’s top official dealing with internal church business, delivered his remarks to cardinals earlier this year on the issues to be discussed during the synod. At the pope’s request, he asked whether these divorced and remarried Catholics might be allowed in limited cases to receive the Eucharist after a period of penance. The outcry that ensued has turned the 81-year-old Kasper into the biggest lightning rod for internal debate that the Catholic Church has seen in years.

Conservatives, including the five cardinal authors, have vehemently opposed Kasper’s suggestion as contrary to Christ’s teaching on the indissolubility of marriage.

The second most powerful man in the Vatican has backed their view: Cardinal George Pell, one of Francis’ key advisers, wrote in another new book that debate over Kasper’s ideas is peripheral to begin with and so clear in church teaching amounts to “a counterproductive and futile search for short-term consolations.”

“Every opponent of Christianity wants the church to capitulate on this issue,” Pell wrote. “We should speak clearly, because the sooner the wounded, the lukewarm and the outsiders realise that substantial doctrinal and pastoral changes are impossible, the more the disappointment (which must follow the reassessment of doctrine) will be anticipated and dissipated.”

Francis, however, seems to think otherwise. He praised Kasper’s speech, calling it “a profound theology” that did him much good and represented a true union for the church.

Church leaders say that Francis is none too pleased by the war of words that has ensued, such that he instructed one of the Vatican’s most persuasive and knowledgeable scholars, Gerhard Mueller, the Vatican’s top doctrinal chief – not to promote it.
THE Bridgetown Diocese of the Roman Catholic Church is preparing for the first Synod in its 44 year span. Catholics are being asked to rally around the theme ‘Word, Eucharist and Service’ as they work to build a better church together.

The Catholic Church has a rich and long history here in Barbados. As the church looks to the future in its mission to form disciples of Christ Jesus, it also revisits the path it has taken to reach its present position.

The history of the Catholic Church took centre stage when Monsignor Vincent Blackett recently delivered a lecture on the topic ‘The History of Catholicism in Barbados’, on Wednesday September 10th 2014 at the St. Patrick’s Roman Catholic Cathedral, Bay Street.

The lecture formed part of the Synod 2014 communication outreach program. Monsignor Vincent pointed to the role the early Irish Catholic settlers played in establishing a Catholic church in Barbados. Records show that thousands of Catholics were amongst an exodus of Irish people who were transported to Barbados as slaves and indentured servants during Oliver Cromwell’s time.

In his journey and studies on the history of the local Catholic Church, Monsignor has travelled to Ireland and England to do research. It is there that he says he got a better understanding of the history of Barbados and the influence of the Irish Catholics in shaping the church.

He discovered that even before the St. Patrick’s Cathedral was a place of worship, many early Catholics like the Irish would use the Drill Hall Garrison as a venue for worship.

The Catholic Church has also made an invaluable contribution to this country’s educational system. The Ursline Convent School was opened over 120 years ago and remains till today a school of choice for many parents. It was also noted that the recent opening of the St. Francis Boys’ School is testimony that the church continues to build on a long and rich history.

The Catholic Church started the first credit union in Barbados with the launch of the Shamrock Credit Union in 1947.

Through its various church ministries, the Catholic Church has been active in the spiritual, social and cultural lives of Barbadians over the years.

Monsignor Vincent suggested that more needs to be done to bring the rich history of Catholicism to the fore and he hopes that his research will motivate persons to have a deeper interest in the contributions of the Roman Catholic Church in Barbados.
ARIES (March 21-April 19). There are some tricky logistics to figure out, and you’ll definitely need help. Take your time in deciding the right way to ask. Design your approach by focusing on the needs of the other person, and you can’t go wrong.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Sometimes you’re the caretaker; sometimes you’re the one who gets cared for – at least that’s the way it should be. Avoid relationships that are so one-sided that the other person never quite gets around to caring for you.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Make your move when you get a clear sign that the timing is right. Otherwise, you’re bound for a false start or to waste hours on unnecessary happenings and efforts.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). You don’t have to do trust exercises to know whom to trust. Real life has taught you all you need to know about the subject. Someone will be as faithful to you as the tide is faithful to the moon.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You are futilely trying to resist an attraction that is not going away anytime soon. You may as well investigate further instead. That will help to wear down the glossy fantasy sheen that’s making the situation so enticing for you.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). You and another person are working at cross-purposes, and this is making both of you hit the “easy button” on your whole life.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22). The walls that were meant to protect you may be making you feel isolated and alone instead. Consider an internal renovation that will allow you to let a few more people inside.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). You were grasping at something, and it just wasn’t working out. This is your moment to let it go. There is something much better coming your way – you can believe it.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You don’t need to work too hard to hide the less-than-perfect stuff. In fact, you’ll come off as truly confident if you don’t even attempt a cover-up. Also, you’re part of a dysfunctional family, count yourself in the majority.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You don’t take things terribly personally, but not everyone is like you. The one who reacts so strongly to your suggestions and opinions may be suffering from low self-esteem. Be sensitive and take it in stride.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). When others have a problem today, you feel that you have the problem, too. Is this healthy empathy or unhealthy codependency? If it makes you feel better to help, it’s probably healthy enough.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). The time you spend anticipating and preparing for the demands of the day won’t be wasted. Even if you don’t use every tool or supply you bring along, you’ll be better off for the preparation process.

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**Horoscopes by Holiday**

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**Bible Challenge**

1. When talking about cares of this world, Christ said to seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness.  
   - A: true  
   - B: false

2. We are told to worry about what tomorrow might bring.  
   - A: true  
   - B: false

3. If a person has a sin that they always commit, they should rid themselves of it before they try to help someone that does the same sin.  
   - A: true  
   - B: false

4. We should tell as many people as we can about the good news of God’s Word even if they don’t want to hear about it.  
   - A: true  
   - B: false

5. The gate that leads to eternal life is strait and wide.  
   - A: true  
   - B: false

6. Christ said, “Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves.”  
   - A: true  
   - B: false
The Barbados Advocate

SUNDAY ADVOCATE

Jump Start

BY ROB NETTLES

Starring Joe & Marcy

Last year, somebody stole my bike...

This year, some kid is stealing my identity!

You must be new here.

My name is Roger Kirby.

I just moved here from Kansas City.

I'm very smart, but insecure in the classroom!

clearly, you're new to this school, as well!

I can tell by the way you slouch down in your seat!

I'm Dexter. I've been here for years.

Sit up straight, Dexter. You're drawing attention to me.

Archie

Archie, don't forget this Saturday were taking family portraits.

I can hardly contain my excitement.

Flash!

We've been taking family portraits for 3 hours.

Flash!

Ok, folks, that's it.

That wasn't so bad was it?

You can stop smiling now.

I think he's stuck.
Pardon my Planet
by vic lee

It is my personal mantra that true love has no limits. It has no boundaries and it has no rules or pre-set regulations. Ironically, my court-appointed restraining order has all four.

Pros & Cons
by Kevin Methan

Well, well, well. If it isn't defoe. Last time we met, you sucker-punched me.

I'd like to see you try that again.

Only this time I'll be...

Ready?
E! HAS come to a decision on the fate of “Fashion Police”, saying that the fashion-focused talk show will continue despite the passing of co-host Joan Rivers.

“We are deeply saddened by the loss of Joan Rivers and, for the last two weeks, have turned our attention to honouring her memory on all of our platforms,” the network said in a statement.

“We have also thought long and hard about what Joan would have wanted as it pertains to the future of ‘Fashion Police’. We decided, with Melissa Rivers’ blessing, that Joan would have wanted the franchise to continue. Fashion Police will return in 2015 commencing with Golden Globes coverage on Monday, January 12.”

Since 2010 “Fashion Police” has hosted a celebrity fashion commentary surrounding red carpet events, with Rivers offering critiques alongside E!’ personalities such as Giuliana Rancic, Kelly Osbourne and George Kotsiopoulos. The series is also in the midst of a writers strike that has been ongoing since April 2013. Writers for “Fashion Police” filed claims that E! and Rivers’ Rugby Prods. had not paid $1.5 million in wages and overtime. The WGA sanctioned the strike, spurring disputes among Rivers, E!, the writers and the union, that have yet to be resolved.

LOS ANGELES – Actress and filmmaker Angelina Jolie has been hired to direct “Africa”, a feature film about paleoanthropologist and conservationist Richard Leakey and his campaign against ivory poachers that threaten Africa’s elephants.

The film, Jolie’s fourth directorial effort, is from Skydance Productions, the company behind recent “Terminator” and “Mission: Impossible” films. The screenplay is from Eric Roth, who won an Oscar for “Forrest Gump.”

“I’ve felt a deep connection to Africa and its culture for much of my life,” said Jolie in a statement.

Leakey, she said, emerged from the violent conflict with elephant poachers “with a deeper understanding of man’s footprint and a profound sense of responsibility for the world around him.”

Skydance Chief Executive David Ellison, son of Oracle Corp. founder Larry Ellison, said: “It is very close to my heart, and I know that it will exceed my expectations in Angelina’s hands.”

Jolie will be joined by cinematographer Roger Deakins, who also worked on her next release “Unbroken”, a Universal Pictures biopic of Louis Zamperini, the Olympic runner turned war hero that opens in December. Universal said in July that it acquired worldwide rights to Jolie’s “By the Sea”, a drama in production, written and directed by the actress who is also co-starring with husband Brad Pitt.

AUSTRALIAN rapper Iggy Azalea paid tribute to her loyal fans at a gig in London on Wednesday and thanked them for supporting her following “an awful, terrible week”. The “Fancy” hitmaker took to the stage at London’s Shepherd’s Bush Empire amid a raging scandal over reports porn bosses have obtained a sex tape featuring her and ex-boyfriend.

Azalea, who denied the existence of the tape, has now spoken out to thank her fans for standing by her, telling the crowd in the UK capital, “I’ve had a hell of a week,” and later adding, “London, seeing all your beautiful faces, it’s an amazing end to an awful, terrible week.”

During the show, Azalea was joined on stage by pop star Rita Ora for a surprise performance of their hit collaboration “Black Widow.”

The hip-hop star is currently embroiled in a legal battle with her former lover Maurice Williams aka rapper Jefe Wine, amid the sex tape scandal. She is suing him for allegedly copying files and footage from her computer while they were dating.
Don’t expect too much from leaders at climate summit: experts

BARCELONA – World leaders attending a UN summit on Tuesday are unlikely to offer a new action on climate change that is ambitious enough to keep global temperature rise to safe levels – but opinion is divided on whether that matters.

The one-day event in New York, called by UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, is intended to mobilise political will for a global climate deal due to be agreed in Paris in December 2015, and to launch initiatives bringing together businesses and other groups to reduce planet-warming emissions and strengthen climate resilience.

But development charity Oxfam warned on Friday that the 125 leaders scheduled to speak “are expected to bring little to the table”.

“Voluntary action by the private sector will not be enough on its own. We need strong political leadership and ambitious government regulations to catalyse the global action that both the science and a growing number of people around the world demand,” said Oxfam’s Executive Director Winnie Byanyima. “World leaders are behaving as if we have time to play with, but they are ultimately playing with people’s lives.”

Governments have promised to try to limit temperature rises of 2 degrees Celsius, but experts say current commitments to curb greenhouse gas emissions put the world on track for a temperature rise of between 3 and 4 degrees.

Aid agency CARE pointed to extreme weather events in recent weeks, including devastating floods and landslides in India, Nepal, Pakistan and the Balkans, drought in Ethiopia, Somalia and Sri Lanka, and storms that hit Vietnam and the Philippines. The charity vowed on Friday it “will not rest” until the vulnerable people it works with in those countries “have a clear signal from leaders that the world is serious about winning the war on climate change”.

“The UN summit must be a historic turning point, and leaders meeting in New York have a unique opportunity to reverse the trend of growing climate disruption,” said Robert Glasser, CARE’s secretary general.

Time is right for global focus on forest land rights

RECOGNISING the land rights of local people could provide cost-effective protection for many of the world’s tropical forests, a report says.

But existing initiatives to tackle deforestation were not being sufficiently dealt with the issue, it added.

However, there was an “unprecedented opportunity” to act as more companies were willing to acknowledge indigenous peoples’ rights to own and control land.

The report will be presented at the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples.

The document, produced by the Rights and Resources Initiative (RRI) and the Indigenous Peoples’ International Centre for Policy Research and Education, warned that growing pressure for land and resources was threatening the long-term future of communities that depended on tropical forests for their livelihoods.

“As customary owners and stewards of large areas of the world’s forests and drylands, threats to the rights of these communities place undue risk on the ecosystems that must be preserved to mitigate climate change and provide global environmental benefits,” it warned.

But it said that the plight of some of the world’s poorest and most marginalized communities was being more widely recognised, presenting an “unprecedented opportunity” to act.

Helping hand

Campagners have had a long-standing suspicion of climate mitigation schemes, such as Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation (Redd), saying indigenous communities would not benefit, or possibly be worse off. Redd schemes offer financial incentives to encourage governments and companies in developing countries to offset their CO2 emissions against forest protection, conservation and afforestation projects.

However, campaign groups feared that without recognised tenure rights to their land the schemes would leave indigenous communities vulnerable to exploitation or eviction.

RRI co-ordinator Andy White told BBC News he was hopeful that a new mechanism – the International Land and Forest Tenure Facility (ILPTF) – would help increase the clarity and security of the communities’ rights.

The facility, which has received US$15 million of funding from the Swedish government, will provide funding and technical support for tenure reform projects in developing countries.

St. Lucia government moving to develop geothermal energy sector

THE St. Lucia government says it will use a two million US dollar grant from the World Bank to fund surface exploration, transactions and negotiations as it seeks to develop the island’s geothermal potential.

The Kenny Anthony administration said it is encouraged by the recent receipt of grants from the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and the Small Island Developing States Renewable Energy project (SIDS DOCK), facilitated by the World Bank.

The GEF and SIDS DOCK, through the World Bank, have approved the two million dollars towards the first phase of geothermal development assistance project.

“Funds will provide support for surface exploration, as well as for transaction and negotiations assistance in order to help the government of St. Lucia reach a fair and equitable concession agreement with the geothermal developer.

“It will also facilitate agreements on off-take to enable utility delivery of geothermal power within the domestic power market, for which LUCELEC (St. Lucia Electricity Company) currently has exclusivity,” a government statement said.

It said the funds would also go towards developing and issuing several key policies and associated regulations, including mainstreaming the National Utility Regulatory Commission (NURC) as the primary regulatory body for electric generation and supplying electricity.

The government said the funds would also be used to undertake environmental and social impact assessments for the scheme to go ahead.

The government says the second phase of the geothermal project is estimated at US$20-25 million.

Guyana reports slight drop in deforestation rate

GEORGETOWN, Guyana – Guyana’s environment ministry says the country saw less deforestation in 2013 thanks to a decrease in gold mining activity.

The ministry said in a statement yesterday that some 12 700 hectares (31 380 acres) of forest were cleared in 2013. That’s a decrease of nearly 15 per cent compared to the previous year.

Gold mining commonly requires companies to clear forests. Officials noted that gold production has dropped by at least 20 per cent this year.

The ministry said the report will now face two independent reviews, including one by Norway. In 2009, the Norwegian government promised to give the South American country a grant of US$250 million to encourage it to protect its forests and uphold sustainable mining.

Guyana already has lost 20 million of that funding because of increased deforestation in 2012.
Facebook’s Oculus unveils new virtual reality prototype device

LOS ANGELES – Facebook Inc.’s Oculus VR unit announced an upgraded prototype of its virtual reality headset that has higher resolution and built-in audio, but the company said it is not ready to sell a device to consumers. The new Crescent Bay device also is lighter than the most recent prototype of the Oculus Rift headset the company has made available to developers, Chief Executive Brendan Iribe said yesterday at an Oculus developers conference in Hollywood. “This is not the consumer product,” Iribe said. But he added that “it is much, much closer.” Facebook, the world’s largest social network, acquired two-year-old Oculus in July for $2 billion, making a bet that the untested technology will emerge as a new social and communications platform.

Apple faithful line up for latest, larger iPhones

NEW YORK/SAN FRANCISCO – Apple Inc.’s (AAPL.O) latest phone lured throngs of gadget lovers, entrepreneurs and early adopters to its stores in New York, San Francisco and other cities around the world in the latest sign of strong initial demand for the new, larger generation of iPhones.

Dozens upon dozens of people waiting in line outside Apple’s flagship Fifth Ave. store in New York City, to get the iPhone 6 and iPhone 6 Plus.

Even the night before the phones’ Friday debut, nearly 70 people were waiting in line in front of the Apple store in downtown San Francisco. Some eager to get their hands on the iPhone 6 and iPhone 6 Plus, which feature larger screens and longer battery life, had been there since the night before.

At the Apple store on Fifth Avenue in New York, the line of would-be buyers stretched for more than 10 blocks. Apple employees led them in a New Year’s Eve-style countdown to herald the store’s opening at 8 a.m. EDT and high-fived customers as they entered the glass cube leading to the underground store.

In Atlanta, police were called in before 5:30 a.m. to assist with crowd control at one mall location because of worries about trampling; the Atlanta Journal-Constitution reported.

While it has become customary for swarms of people to greet Apple product introductions, Friday’s long lines were still a sign of healthy demand for the new models. The phones drew more than 4 million pre-order requests in the first 24 hours on Sept. 12, more than double the 2 million for iPhone 5s in the same period two years ago.

The enthusiastic crowds gathered despite signs that Apple’s legendary “cool factor” may be dimming with some consumers, according to a recent Reuters/Ipsos poll.

Sales predictions from investors tend to be optimistic. Apple watchers tracking the early sales of the new iPhones noted that the precise number of units sold in the first weekend will depend on the strength of the supply chain. A Friday report from Barclays cited the long lines outside stores as a positive sign for demand, suggesting that combined first-weekend sales for the new phones could rise as high as 11 million units.

Despite the high demand, sales could be choked by a limited number of iPhone 6 Pluses available immediately. A T-Mobile US Inc. (TMUS.N) spokeswoman said on Friday that demand for the new phones was “tremendous”, but the larger model would not be available yet.

Paul Terrebonne, a 26-year-old cook who had pre-ordered his space-grey iPhone 6, said the size of the new devices had been enough to lure him back to Apple from his previous phone, a Motorola Moto X.

“It’s all about screen size, plus I missed the iPhone’s camera,” he said, adding that he had shunned the iPhone 6 Plus because it was “a bit too big.”

The launch attracted buyers from farther afield. Flavio Gondim, a 40-year-old Brazilian public sector employee, said he was buying an iPhone 6 in New York because “back home these are, maybe, 50 per cent more expensive”.

In Asia, many who lined up to buy the new phones in Singapore, Hong Kong and Australia said they planned to resell the devices in China, where regulatory hurdles are holding up the new phones’ debut.

It remains to be seen whether the renewed iPhone mania will extend to Apple’s other big product introduction, the Apple Watch, which will not be available until early next year.

Raj Kaur, who was comfortably waiting in line in San Francisco in a folding chair, said she did not plan to repeat the vigil for the new watch.

“I’ll wait for the second edition,” she said, “when they’ve worked out the kinks.”
WI hit summit; Anisa leads charge

THE West Indies won all four ODIs against New Zealand, with the first three matches counting towards the ICC Women’s Championship, an event that has been introduced to create a more extensive and meaningful bilateral playing programme for women’s cricket, with the top four sides from this competition qualifying for the ICC Women’s World Cup 2017.

The victories not only helped the West Indies up to second in the points table, but seven for New Zealand at seven-all from 15 ODIs to date, it also put the ICC Women’s World Cup India 2013 losing finalist on top of the table on net run-rate. World champion Australia also won its matches against Pakistan and is on six points, but West Indies’ convincing victories has put it ahead by +0.35 on net run-rate. With six more rounds to be played in the tournament, plenty of movement at the top of the tree is on the cards.

The first round of the ICC Women’s Championship will conclude next month when South Africa will travel to Sri Lanka for a four-ODI series, with the first three to count towards the ICC Women’s Championship. The championship matches will be played in Colombo on October 15, 17 and 19. Meanwhile, the West Indies’ five wickets, 65 runs, eight wickets and four runs victories in the series have meant its players have also made gains in the player rankings.

Left-arm spinner Anisa Mohammed has led the charge in the bowlers’ rankings when she has jumped seven places to claim a career-high second position. Anisa captured 12 wickets in the four-match series, including eight wickets in the three ICC Women’s Championship matches. Her series best was in the second ODI when she bagged four for 32.

Anisa’s rise means the West Indies now boasts the top two-ranked bowlers, with Stafanie Taylor leading the pack. Shanel Daley in fifth position is the other West Indies bowler to feature inside the top 10.

Medium-pacers Tremayne Smartt and Shakera Selman are the other notable West Indies bowlers to head in the right direction. The medium-pacer returned figures of five for 24, one for 40, one for 14 and none for 20, for which he has been rewarded with a jump of 10 places that has put her in 21st position.

Amongst the batters, Deandra Dottin returned to the top 10 after a consistent performance in the series in which she aggregated 176 runs in four matches. For this, she has been rewarded with a rise of three places that has put her in ninth position.

Stafanie Taylor has also gained one place and is now in fourth position, following her 159 runs in the four matches.

The good news for New Zealand is its batters Sophie Devine and Rachel Priest have made upward movements. Devine has achieved a career-best 19th position after rising 11 places following her contribution of 161 runs in four matches, while Priest has also achieved a career-high 33rd place (up by six places).

The batting table is headed by India captain Mithali Raj, who leads England’s Charlotte Edwards by 12 ratings points.

In the all-rounders’ category, Daley has leapfrogged Australia’s Ellyse Perry into second position.

Cameron congratulates Windies Men and Women

PRESIDENT of the West Indies Cricket Board, Whycliffe ‘Dave’ Cameron, sent congratulations to the West Indies men’s and women’s team on their recent outstanding performances at home.

The Windies team dominated Bangladesh 3-0 in the Dhaka Bank One-Day International Series and 2-0 in the Dhaka Bank Test Series. The series ended on Wednesday as West Indies won by 296 runs to record an historic victory in their 500th Test match.

The Windies women were equally impressive with a 4-0 series sweep over New Zealand Women in the four-match ODI Series at St Kitts. The series ended on Friday as the West Indies won a thriller by four runs.

“On behalf of the WICB, our various stakeholders and fans I want to offer congratulations to the players and members of the support staff of the West Indies men’s and women’s team following their brilliant performances recently. The men demonstrated the true spirit of team-work and unity to play unbeaten against Bangladesh in the Dhaka Bank Series and this is a huge boost as we prepare for the tour of India in a few weeks,” Cameron said.

“In the ODIs we saw a superb, record-break performance from Denesh Ramdin which helped complete a well-deserved clean sweep. In the Test matches, Kraigg Brathwaite and Shiv Chandepaul were outstanding with the bat, while Sunilman Benn and Kemar Roach stood out with the ball – and have all made significant strides up the ICC rankings.”

President of the West Indies Cricket Board, Whycliffe ‘Dave’ Cameron.

Cameron congratulates Windies Men and Women

Points Table

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<td>NZ Women</td>
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Women’s Rankings, which were released yesterday morning.

The good news for New Zealand is its batters Sophie Devine and Rachel Priest have made upward movements. Devine has achieved a career-best 19th position after rising 11 places following her contribution of 161 runs in four matches, while Priest has also achieved a career-high 33rd place (up by six places).

The batting table is headed by India captain Mithali Raj, who leads England’s Charlotte Edwards by 12 ratings points.

In the all-rounders’ category, Daley has leapfrogged Australia’s Ellyse Perry into second position.

Cameron congratulates Windies Men and Women

PRESIDENT of the West Indies Cricket Board, Whycliffe ‘Dave’ Cameron, sent congratulations to the West Indies men’s and women’s team on their recent outstanding performances at home.

The Windies team dominated Bangladesh 3-0 in the Dhaka Bank One-Day International Series and 2-0 in the Dhaka Bank Test Series. The series ended on Wednesday as West Indies won by 296 runs to record an historic victory in their 500th Test match.

The Windies women were equally impressive with a 4-0 series sweep over New Zealand Women in the four-match ODI Series at St Kitts. The series ended on Friday as the West Indies won a thriller by four runs.

“On behalf of the WICB, our various stakeholders and fans I want to offer congratulations to the players and members of the support staff of the West Indies men’s and women’s team following their brilliant performances recently. The men demonstrated the true spirit of team-work and unity to play unbeaten against Bangladesh in the Dhaka Bank Series and this is a huge boost as we prepare for the tour of India in a few weeks,” Cameron said.

“In the ODIs we saw a superb, record-break performance from Denesh Ramdin which helped complete a well-deserved clean sweep. In the Test matches, Kraigg Brathwaite and Shiv Chandepaul were outstanding with the bat, while Sunilman Benn and Kemar Roach stood out with the ball – and have all made significant strides up the ICC rankings.”

President of the West Indies Cricket Board, Whycliffe ‘Dave’ Cameron.

Windies Women squad named for T20Is against New Zealand Women

ST. JOHN’S, Antigua – The selection panel of the West Indies Cricket Board announced yesterday a 13-member West Indies Women’s squad for a series of three Twenty20 Internationals against New Zealand Women in St. Vincent.

SQUAD (with jersey numbers, surnames capitalised)

11. Merissa AGUILLEIRA (Captain)
7. Stafanie TAYLOR (Vice Captain)
30. Shemaine CAMPEBELLE
46. Shashia CONNELL
31. Britney COOPER
35. Shanel DALEY
5. Deandra DOTTIN
42. Priya GAWAN
50. Hayley MATTHEWS
14. Anisa MOHAMMED
43. Shaquana QUINTYNE
32. Tremayne SMARTT
5. Shakera SELMAN

Team management unit: Sherwin Campbell (Head Coach), Ann Browne- John (Manager), Ezra Moseley (Assistant Coach), Jacqui King (Physiotherapist), Shannon Lashley (Fitness Trainer), Trent Sargeant (Video Analyst).
NZ collapse gives WI 4-0 whitewash

A BATTLING collapse from New Zealand women handed West Indies women a four-run victory and a 4-0 whitewash in St. Kitts.

Set 215 to win, New Zealand were comfortable at 176 for 2 in the 39th over, thanks to an opening stand of 114 between Suzie Bates and Rachel Priest. However, they lost their last eight wickets for just 34 runs and were bundled out for 210, with none of their last six batters contributing more than 7.

Offspinner Anisa Mohammed claimed 4 for 41 to wreck New Zealand’s top order, while medium-pacer Shakera Selman chipped in with two late wickets and also effected the run-out of Morna Nielsen to secure the win for West Indies.

After being inserted, West Indies had made 214 for 8. Their innings was built on Stafanie Taylor’s 86, and thirties from openers Kycia Knight and Natasha McLean. Regular blows from Georgia Guy and Nielsen (2 for 27) pegged West Indies back to 183 for 8, but Shanel Daley provided a late impetus by striking three fours during an unbeaten 29.

Regional business executive and Director of the West Indies Cricket Board, Don Wehby, said yesterday that the professionalization of First Class cricket in the West Indies will revolutionise the game in the region.

The WICB is about to roll out a full Professional First Class Franchise System in which a cadre of 90 players will be engaged in a professional cricket structure on a day-to-day basis, year round.

“This professional structure and environment is geared towards, and certainly will, revolutionise cricket in the region and contribute significantly to the repositioning of the West Indies team in the upper echelons of international cricket,” said Wehby who is the Chief Executive Officer of the Jamaican headquartered multi-national company, GraceKennedy Limited.

“I am excited by the prospects for the success of this professional structure and I urge that it receive the support of regional governments, corporate Caribbean, fans, the tourism sector and all the facets of our society which hold cricket dear,” urged Wehby, a former Minister in the Ministry of Finance and Public Service in the Jamaican government.

The WICB has committed to partner with the six territorial boards to fund six First Class Franchises in the region, which will compete in the annual Regional First Class and Super50 tournaments.

Each franchise will retain 15 players who will work as a unit on a day-to-day basis in each territory under a Head Coach and support staff. The six franchises will be based in Barbados, Guyana, Jamaica, Leeward Islands, Trinidad and Tobago and Windward Islands.

“I am extremely pleased that the WICB is about to introduce this historic and long overdue initiative of properly professionalizing West Indies First Class cricket. Our regional game has suffered for a protracted period from not having our best players being engaged on a continual basis in fine-tuning and upgrading their skills,” Mr. Wehby said while speaking during a break of a WICB Meeting of Board of Directors in Barbados yesterday.

“This initiative is projected to significantly lend to the improvement of performance of the West Indies team on the international stage as a large cadre of players will now be engaged, on a day-to-day basis in working as professional cricketers. It is the first time this will be happening in the region,” added Wehby.

“Equally important is that the profile of regional First Class cricket will be raised with the overall standards being lifted, increased competitiveness and the parity among teams likely to be much closer,” Wehby concluded.

Professional first class franchise system will revolutionise West Indies cricket, says Wehby

Don Wehby

Wehby was appointed GraceKennedy Group CEO in 2011 and a WICB Director in 2013.
A FOUR-MEMBER team turned in commendable performances earlier this month as the ‘Broken Trident’ at the 2014 edition of the Pan American Cycling Championships in Aguascalientes, Mexico.

Returning without any medals to their names, Darren Matthew, Javed Mounter and Juniors – Liam Lovell and Edwin Sutherland, all showed marked improvement at their back and joined some of the toughest competitors in the territory to achieve new personal bests and national records.

Matthews rode the 1K leg of the omnium in a respectable 1 minute and three seconds to eclipse the old national mark of 1 minute and 5 seconds set some time ago by Shane Weeke. He also bettered his own 4K individual pursuit record 3 minutes 44 seconds with a blistering time of 3 minutes and 32 seconds. This was his first omnium for the year.

Mounter rode 10.6 seconds in the flying two hundred qualification (a period to go into the elimination rounds. Lovell fell just short of the national junior record in the flying two hundred with a time of 10.7 seconds. Sutherland rode the 1K in a new junior record 0.72 seconds, enough to eclipse the old mark of 1.07.905 seconds set by Javed Mounter.

Mounter, along with Lovell and Matthews, rode the team sprint in 48 seconds to narrowly beat the time posted by the Commonwealth team this year. The performance of these young cyclists, especially that of Lovell and Sutherland, augurs well for them as individuals as well as for the future of the sport locally.

Miller, Akshar ace Kings XI chase

THE Kings XI Punjab production line of batsmen was under threat of being shortcircuited but Akshar Patel strode in at No 4 and clouted 23 off 13 balls

Arsenal blow away Villa with first half blitz

DANNY WELBECK opened his Arsenal account as three goals in four minutes helped the Gunners beat Aston Villa.

Arsenal opened the scoring when Welbeck put Mesut Ozil through on goal and the German slotted home calmly. Ozil repaid the favour by crossing for Welbeck to sidefoot in from close-range as the England striker scored for the first time in 16 club games.

Villa defender Aly Cissokho turned a Kieran Gibbs shot into his own net and the Midlands side failed to recover.

Arsenal were fortunate to escape with only a 2-0 defeat from Borussia Dortmund in the Champions League in midweek, while they had drawn three Premier League games before the trip to the Midlands.

They ended that stutter in form with devastating goal blitz in which two of their more critical stars in Ozil and Welbeck did the damage as the Gunners made it

16 games at Villa Park without defeat.

Villa had been this season’s surprise package and a win would have moved them top of the Premier League, but they are now third with the Gunners moving up to fourth.

The defeat was the first in the league suffered by Villa this season as a combination of Arsenal’s first-half performance and a virus that had swept through their camp proved too much for them to handle.

Villa boss Paul Lambert had lost defender Nathan Baker and midfielder Ashley Westwood to the illness but said that, despite other players “not feeling the best”, his side would “go for it”.

The same side were initially true to his word as Arsenal keeper Wojciech Szczesny had to palm a Fabian Delph shot around a post and then save a Ciaran Clark header at point-blank range.

But when Arsenal click into gear they are difficult to stop, which a stunned Villa found to their cost as they conceded three goals in quick succession.

Ozil put the Gunners in front when he ran onto a beautifully-weighted Welbeck pass before sliding a left-foot shot past keeper Brad Guzan.

The World Cup winner went from goalmaker to provider when he crossed for Welbeck to score on a first-time sidefoot from six yards, before a Gibbs shot was turned into his own net by Cissokho.

The pressure was on Welbeck before the game after he had missed glorious chances against both Manchester City and Dortmund but he helped relieve it the same venue where he scored twice for former club Manchester United in a 3-0 win last season.

Wenger had been forced to defend Ozil after some low key performances from the World Cup winner so far this season and the playmaker repaid his manager’s faith as Arsenal comfortably closed out the game after their goal burst.

Villa boss Paul Lambert on virus sweeping through side: “I don’t know what kind of virus it is but it is certainly doing its rounds at the training ground so we will clear that place for a couple of days.”

The players have been brilliant at the start of the season and if somebody had said we would have 10 points by this time I would have taken it.

To play Arsenal you need everyone fit and we never had that, but all credit to them for the second half – the lads were running on empty.

“The players have been brilliant at the start of the season and if somebody had said we would have 10 points by this time I would have taken it.”

Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger: “We had a good work-rate and concentration from the start. We had a very good first half when we were in control and dominated the game.

They [Danny Welbeck and Mesut Ozil] combined very well, especially in the first half. Our plan today was to play Mesut behind their midfield and it worked.

“I’m confident we will go from strength to strength now.”
LIVERPOOL suffered their third defeat in five Premier League games this season as West Ham emerged victorious at Upton Park.

Early goals from Winston Reid and Diafra Sakho proved too much for the visitors, who pulled one back through Raheem Sterling before the break. Liverpool pressed hard after half-time. However, Hammers' keeper Adrian made a succession of saves and Morgan Amalfitano wrapped up a first home win for West Ham in the 88th minute.

Sam Allardyce's men had lost both previous home games this season and taken just four points from their last eight games against these opponents. But they could not have started much better against Liverpool. Reid's first goal since October 2013 was a close-range effort after James Tomkins had headed Stewart Downing's free-kick into the six-yard box. West Ham's second was more speculative as Sakho floated the ball over Simon Mignolet from the right, the ball dropping into the corner before Enner Valencia could reach it.

A difficult start for the visitors also included a yellow card for Mario Balotelli, who had a head-to-head confrontation with Hammers' goalkeeper Adrian. And the exit of the injured Javi Manquillo, who was replaced by Mamadou Sakho.

Liverpool were trying to shrug off the exertions of their successful midweek return to the Champions League. And they did have hope through their remarkable scoring record away from Anfield. When Sterling lashed home the rebound for his third goal of the campaign after Balotelli's shot had initially been blocked, it was their 34th goals in the last 12 away games and created a club record of scoring in 17 successive top-flight matches on the road.

Valencia forced Mignolet into a good save just after Dejan Lovren had been patched up to play on following a heavy collision with his own team-mate. Sakho. And they did have hope through their remarkable scoring record away from Anfield. When Sterling lashed home the rebound for his third goal of the campaign after Balotelli's shot had initially been blocked, it was their 34th goals in the last 12 away games and created a club record of scoring in 17 successive top-flight matches on the road.

The introduction of Adam Lallana at half-time for Lucas – and the consequent tactical switch – suggested Brendan Rodgers was unhappy with his team's efforts. Fabio Borini made little impact until a low shot at the start of the second half brought a low save from Adrian.

Raheem Sterling was introduced for the last push forward. However, Liverpool were vulnerable on the counter-attack and as time ticked down, Downing's pass released Amalfitano, who applied the clinical finish.

It was the first time the visitors had lost successive league games since last December.

Diafra Sakho (second left) Increases Liverpool’s problems with West Ham’s second after just seven minutes

Raheem Sterling pulls one back for the visitors.

West Ham defender Winston Reid gives his team an early lead against Liverpool at Upton Park.
JUST as the pace was picking up, today's action will be given a miss in the Barbados Football Association's Women's Premier League. With three games originally scheduled to be played at the Emmerton ground in the City, the competition is slated to resume next weekend.

At present, it is yet early days and still too soon to say if defending champions, National Sports Council Women's Football Team, will be completing a third straight win of the league. They, however, are on track as they are tied for first place with last year's runners-up, Mavericks Football Club.

With only two games played between the two sides, they both took wins on both occasions to be on six points each. Mavericks hold the edge on goal-difference as they have five scored with none conceded (5), compared the the NSC who have seven scored and three conceded (4).

Third in the standings are the University of the West Indies Women Football Club and they are on three points after getting off the mark in their second game. Losing their first encounter to Mavericks, the UWI girls picked up their first win this past Wednesday as Empire Women were a no-show at Emmerton. Empire are fourth with a single point in two games after breaking even with Genesis who are next in line in the standings with one point as well.

Closing out the bottom of the barrel are Technique and Edens Stars/Unity 1 Women. Both teams are yet to get any points after playing one game each.

This evening's first game was set to pit Technique and Empire against each other while Genesis and Eden Stars/Unity 1 were to contest the second game. The final game of the day was to be a top of the table clash between the NSC and Mavericks.

Real Madrid smash eight past Deportivo; Cristiano Renaldo nets hat-trick

CRISTIANO Ronaldo's hat-trick and Gareth Bale's brace helped Real Madrid thrash Deportivo La Coruna in La Liga. Portugal forward Ronaldo struck either side of James Rodriguez's stunning goal to put Real 3-0 up half-time.

Haris Medunjanin scored a penalty for Deportivo six minutes into the second half before Bale scored twice. Ronaldo then completed this hat-trick, and there was still time for Deportivo's Jose Verdu Toche to score before Javier Hernandez's late double.

Real had beaten Swiss side Basel 5-1 in the Champions League during the week, but had underperformed in La Liga so far this season. Carlo Ancelotti's side lost 2-1 to champions Atletico Madrid in their previous two matches.

But the hosts were no match for the expensively-assembled side at the Riazor, and were brushed aside as Real scored eight goals in an away match in La Liga for the first time.

Ronaldo, linked with a return to former club Manchester United recently, put Real ahead with a 29th-minute header before Colombia forward Rodriguez curled home a superb effort from distance.

Deportivo goalkeeper German Lux made a mistake just before the interval which allowed Ronaldo to score a simple third. Medunjanin pulled a goal back for Deportivo from the penalty spot in the 50th minute after the referee ruled Sergio Ramos had handled in the area before Bale squeezed a low shot in off the far post in the 66th.

The Wales forward notched his second 16 minutes from time when he ran on to a pass from substitute Isco and clipped the ball over Lux into the far corner.

Ronaldo completed his hat-trick four minutes later, Toche headed a second for the hosts in the 84th and Hernandez, who joined on loan from Manchester United on deadline day, came off the bench and scored a quick-fire double.

Barbados Water Authority Tender Notice

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that PHILIP EVAN SERRAO, QC, MICHAEL NEIL FITZWILLIAM, QC and KIM ALLISON PARRIS carrying on business in partnership as Attorneys-at-Law under the name or firm of “FITZWILLIAM, STONE & ALCAZAR” have admitted JEHAN RODERICA PATRICIA LASHLEY to partnership from the 1st day of October, 2014.

The said PHILIP EVAN SERRAO, QC, MICHAEL NEIL FITZWILLIAM, QC, KIM ALLISON PARRIS and JEHAN RODERICA PATRICIA LASHLEY will continue to carry on business in partnership as Attorneys-at-Law under the name or firm of “FITZWILLIAM, STONE & ALCAZAR” at Fitzston House, Pine Plantation Road in the parish of Saint Michael.

Dated this 21st day of September, 2014.

FITZWILLIAM, STONE & ALCAZAR
Lewis Hamilton: Relationship with Nico Rosberg is ‘back to normal’

LEWIS Hamilton says his relationship with team-mate and title rival Nico Rosberg is back to normal.

The two will resume their championship fight in today’s Singapore Grand Prix, for which Hamilton is on pole by 0.007 seconds from Rosberg.

The two collided in Belgium two races ago, for which the team blamed Rosberg.

Hamilton said: “It seems to be nice and relaxed. Of course it was difficult after Spa but things look like they are back to normal.”

Rosberg added: “The atmosphere in the team is very good. It is a great feeling at the moment.

“Yes, we have difficulties – there have been several during the year. That’s natural; we’re fighting for race wins every single weekend.

“But we discuss and then we move on. We have managed to do that very well this year. Of course it is intense internally and it will remain that way but it is being managed and it works OK at the moment.”

Mercedes F1 boss Toto Wolff said he did not expect the drivers to have a similar incident in Singapore.

Hamilton heads into today’s grand prix 22 points behind Rosberg in the championship and a win for either would mark a potentially decisive shift in momentum.

If Hamilton triumphs, he will narrow the gap on Rosberg by at least seven points – the difference between first and second places. But if Rosberg beats him, the gap will open out to at least 29 points with only 150 remaining in the final five races of the season.

The Singapore race is the toughest of the season, with a long lap on a bumpy and demanding street circuit surrounded by concrete walls in hot and humid conditions that runs close to the maximum two-hour time limit.

F1 strugglers still targeting 2015 participation

SINGAPORE – As speculation grows about the imminent exit of three struggling teams from Formula One, two of the under-pressure outfits have said they intend to still be in the sport in 2015.

Sauber, Caterham and Marussia are struggling both on and off the track in the vastly expensive sport, with many predicting they will not have the resources to continue in F1 beyond the current season.

Sauber team principal Monisha Kaltenborn acknowledged the difficulty of trying to find new investors and sponsors after a highly disappointing season in which the Swiss-based outfit has not scored a single point.

“We are having the worst season of our history, of our team, and yet at the same time, we are more than 21 years in Formula One and we do get that question often and every time we say, ‘well we’ll be around’,” Kaltenborn said. “I’m going to answer the same way, we’ll be around next year as well.”

Caterham’s situation is even more critical. Founder and Air Asia impresario Tony Fernandes sold the team mid-season to a group identified only as Middle Eastern investors, though the team’s refusal to identify them has raised questions about where the money is coming from.

“The ownership behind our team is a group of investors, it’s a club of investors,” new team principal Manfredi Ravetto said. “They just want to make the best out of their investment and they don’t need to have any kind of personal visibility or publicity. By the way, it’s something they refuse.”

The sudden departure of Christijan Albers as the first team principal under the new ownership hinted at continuing problems with the England-based team, and Ravetto said 2015 participation was a goal rather than an expectation.

“We inherited a situation which was more than critical,” Ravetto said. “The situation was difficult to such an extent that previous ownership decided to pull the plug and therefore whatever we do we see it as an achievement. ... Of course we want to be on the grid in Melbourne next year; that is definitely our goal.”

Doubts over the future of the three teams raise the possibility of there being only eight teams remaining in F1 next year, and the sport’s regulations allow for expansion to three drivers per team as opposed to the long-standing two if team numbers get to that level.

F1’s commercial chief Bernie Ecclestone said he would welcome three cars per team, even if there are more than eight teams next year.

“It’s always been on the cards that if we lose up to three teams then the other teams will run three cars,” Ecclestone said. “We should do it anyway.

“I would rather see Ferrari with three cars, or any of the other top teams with three cars, than having teams that are struggling.”
Chris Husbands chasing Paul Nolan for jockey title

BARBADIAN jockey Chris Husbands, better known by his riding mates as 'Chins', is in a down to the wire battle for the jockey title this year with two time riding champion, Paul Nolan, at the Assiniboia Downs track in Winnipeg, Canada.

After last Friday’s meeting, Husbands finds himself one win behind Paul Nolan, who is no stranger to winning titles in very close finishes, as two years ago he was in a battle with Jennifer Reid and Rohan Singh, and in the end he won 75-75 although Reid had won four on the final day.

Last year the 52 year old champion was in another close battle, this time with Adolfo Morales, and again prevailed, winning 76-68.

Husbands knows that he will have to pull out all the stops if he wants to finish with the Assiniboia Downs title for 2014, as Nolan has seen it all and been there, although going through many injuries in his career.

Over the years he has had a punctured lung, broke a shoulder, and a leg along with having broken his back, so he is no push over even at 52 years old.

Husbands, himself, has had his share of injuries, and on Boxing Day 2009 at the Garrison, he took a horrible fall that left him in a coma for weeks. That looked like it would be the end of his riding career, but like Nolan he has picked himself up with the help of his mother Paula Haynes, and his dad Roy Hughes, and has bounced back. It must be very satisfying to him to be now in a battle for the jockey title this year.

Husbands, at 25-years-old, has a total of 201 wins in Canada, along with what he has won in Barbados and Trinidad. When only 17-years-old he won the $250,000 Royal Oak Derby in Trinidad. The 112 pound rider said "I just want to see the finish line, and I am really going to try, and we will see how it goes."

Nolan has 66 wins from 301 rides, while Husbands has 65 from 290.

Should Husbands be able to win the title, it would be the first time a Barbadian jockey has won the Assiniboia Downs Championship.

Ravens knew about Rice video within hours

THE Baltimore Ravens knew about the video of star running back Ray Rice knocking out his then-girlfriend in an elevator within hours of the assault and the NFL team later sought leniency for him, ESPN reported on Friday.

ESPN’s “Outside the Lines” said it spoke to more than 20 sources for the report, including team officials, current and former league officials, NFL Players Association representatives and associates, and advisers and friends of Rice.

It said it found "a pattern of misinformation and misdirection" employed by the Ravens and the league since the incident at an Atlantic City, New Jersey, casino on Valentine's Day in February.

ESPN said the Ravens’ director of security learned of the video when he reached an Atlantic City police officer by phone. The officer described the footage of the assault within hours of it happening.

In response, the Baltimore Ravens said the ESPN report contained "numerous errors, inaccuracies, false assumptions and, perhaps, misunderstandings."

"The Ravens will address all of these next week in Baltimore after our trip to Cleveland for Sunday's game against the Browns," the team said in a statement on Friday.

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Invitation for Bids (IFB)

Barbados

Water and Sanitation System Upgrade

Loan 2255/OC-BA

The Rehabilitation of the Bownamston Well

BWA-IDB/B016

1. This Invitation for Bids follows the General Procurement Notice for this Project that appeared in Development Business, issue no. IDB435-776/10 of May 2010

2. The Government of Barbados has received financing from the Inter-American Development Bank toward the cost of Water and Sanitation Systems Upgrade, and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this loan to payments under the Contract for “The Rehabilitation of the Bownamston Well”

3. The Barbados Water Authority now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for “The Rehabilitation of the Bownamston Well”

4. Bidding will be conducted through the National Competitive Bidding (NCB) procedures specified in the Inter-American Development Bank’s Policies for the Procurement of Works and Goods financed by the Inter-American Development Bank, and is open to all bidders from Eligible Source Countries as defined in the Policies.

5. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further clarifications from The Barbados Water Authority Project Execution Unit: Lawrence Cumberbatch, Lawrence.Cumberbatch@bwa.bb and inspect the Bidding Documents at the address given below from 08:30a.m. to 04:30p.m.

6. Qualifications requirements include: A minimum of five (5) years’ experience in the design and construction of concrete structures such as retention structures/walls, dams or reservoirs. A minimum of three (3) years’ experience in the removal of accumulated sediment in gullies, caves or reservoirs/tanks is required. Experience with the successful management and execution of projects where appropriate scheduling of the various tasks was crucial. A margin of preference for eligible national contractors shall not be applied. Additional details are provided in the Bidding Documents.

7. A complete set of Bidding Documents in English may be purchased by interested bidders in electronic form upon payment of a non-refundable fee of one hundred (BDS 100.00) Barbados dollars or equivalent amount in a freely convertible currency. The method of payment will be a cashier’s check to the Barbados Water Authority or wire transfer. Please note that all transaction costs are the responsibility of the bidder. The bidding documents may also be sent by airmail for overseas delivery and surface mail for local delivery. The request for the bidding documents can be a written application or an email to the below stated addresses.

8. Bids must be delivered to the address below at or before 2:30 p.m. on November 04, 2014. Electronic bidding will not be permitted. Late bids will be rejected. Please note that a pre-bid conference will be held at the address below at 10:30 a.m. on October 07, 2014. Bids will be opened in the presence of the bidders’ representatives who wish to attend in person or on-line at the address below at 3:00 p.m. on November 04, 2014. All bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security as listed on page 33 of the bidding document.

9. The addresses referred to above are: The Barbados Water Authority Project Execution, Manor Lodge Complex, Lodge Hill, St Michael, Barbados. Telephone: +1-246-417-3050, Fax: +1-246-417-1303, Email: poul@bwa.bb
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1 Bathrooms
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$950,000.00

Husbands, St. James
3 Bedroom 2 Bathroom two-
storey building 5,783sq ft.
$600,000.00
Bourne’s Village, St. George
4 Bedrooms, 3 Bathrooms
2 storey building 3,191 sq ft.
$471,000.00
Grazettes Court, St. Michael
3 Bedrooms 2 Bathrooms build-
ing,10,842sq ft. $550,000.00

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$900.00 monthly
Sea Grape Drive, St. Philip
2 Bedrooms, 1 Bathroom Apart-
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WE WILL SELL BY AUCTION ON THURSDAY 25/09/2014
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One 2002 MAZDA TRIBUTE
One 2000 BMW 325i
One 2008 NISSAN Tiida
One 2001 TOYOTAondo
One 2008 KIA CERATO
One 2002 KIA CARNIVAL

WE WILL SELL BY AUCTION ON TUESDAY 22/09/2014
THE FOLLOWING WORKING & NOT WORKING VEHICLES:

One 2007 KIA CEATORO
One 2007 CHEVROLET CAPTIVA
One 2007 NISSAN CEFIRO
One 2005 KIA CERATO
One 2005 KIA CEATRO
One 2000 SKODA OCTAVIA
One 2003 FORD FOCUS
One 2003 AUDI A4
One 2002 MAZDA TRIBUTE
One 1999 BMW 318i

ONE 2004 NISSAN SUNNY
ONE 2007 DAIHATSU HI JET
ONE 2005 FORD SIERRA
ONE 2000 DAIHATSU HI JET
One 2001 SUBARU IMPREZA

WE WILL SELL BY AUCTION ON THURSDAY 25/09/2014
THE FOLLOWING DAMAGED & WORKING VEHICLES:

We will sell by auction on Thursday 25/09/2014.

The Barbados Advocate
SAGICOR LIFE INC

Caroline Moore of 57 Wanstall Heights, St. James having made sworn deposition that Policy No. C5520120 & C5251951 issued or assumed by Life of Barbados Limited prior to its amalgamation with Sagicor Life Inc on her life has been lost and having made application to the Directors to grant a duplicate of the same, notice is hereby given that unless objection is raised within one month of the date hereof, the duplicate policy asked for will be issued.

Dated: September 15, 2014
By Order
Althea C. Hazzard
Corporate Secretary

SAGICOR LIFE INC

Caroline Moore cares for the elderly seeks work. Monday - Sunday, Day or Night.

Tel: 435-6868/250-1985

SAGICOR LIFE INC

Harriette Leacock of Gemswick, St. Philip having made sworn deposition that Policy No. C55310483 issued or assumed by Sagicor Life Inc on her life has been lost and having made application to the Directors to grant a duplicate of the same notice is hereby given that unless objection is raised within one month of the date hereof, the duplicate policy asked for will be issued.

Dated: September 16, 2014
By Order
Althea C. Hazzard
Corporate Secretary

SAGICOR LIFE INC

Christopher Hill of Lot #425 St. James having made sworn deposition that Policy No. C55302469 issued or assumed by Life of Barbados Limited prior to its amalgamation with Sagicor Life Inc on her life has been lost and having made application to the Directors to grant a duplicate of the same, notice is hereby given that unless objection is raised within one month of the date hereof, the duplicate policy asked for will be issued.

Dated: September 17, 2014
By Order
Althea C. Hazzard
Corporate Secretary

SAGICOR LIFE INC

Henry Skoote of Ilti Brevett Plantation, St. Peter having made sworn deposition that Policy No. C55216532 issued or assumed by Sagicor Life Inc on his life has been lost and having made application to the Directors to grant a duplicate of the same, notice is hereby given that unless objection is raised within one month of the date hereof, the duplicate policy asked for will be issued.

Dated: September 18, 2014
By Order
Althea C. Hazzard
Corporate Secretary

SAGICOR LIFE INC

John Shepherd of Emily House, Morgan Terrace, St. Michael having made sworn deposition that Policy No. C55210445 issued or assumed by Sagicor Life Inc on his life has been lost and having made application to the Directors to grant a duplicate of the same, notice is hereby given that unless objection is raised within one month of the date hereof, the duplicate policy asked for will be issued.

Dated: September 19, 2014
By Order
Althea C. Hazzard
Corporate Secretary

SAGICOR LIFE INC

Bank of Nova Scotia, Black Rock having made sworn deposition that Policy No. C55210445 issued or assumed by Sagicor Life Inc on his life has been lost and having made application to the Directors to grant a duplicate of the same, notice is hereby given that unless objection is raised within one month of the date hereof, the duplicate policy asked for will be issued.

Dated: September 19, 2014
By Order
Althea C. Hazzard
Corporate Secretary

NOTICE

Joyce Lin of #5 Enterprise Drive, Keizer Hill, Christ Church, Barbados having made sworn deposition that Policy No. C55210445 issued or assumed by Sagicor Life Inc on his life has been lost and having made application to the Directors to grant a duplicate of the same, notice is hereby given that unless objection is raised within one month of the date hereof, the duplicate policy asked for will be issued.

Dated: September 17, 2014
By Order
Lorenz Watson (Ms.)
Operations Manager
PAN AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL INSURANCE CORP.

SAGICOR LIFE INC

Kristen Hunt of #5 Enterprise Drive, Keizer Hill, Christ Church, Barbados having made sworn deposition that Policy No. C55210445 issued or assumed by Sagicor Life Inc on his life has been lost and having made application to the Directors to grant a duplicate of the same, notice is hereby given that unless objection is raised within one month of the date hereof, the duplicate policy asked for will be issued.

Dated: September 17, 2014
By Order
Althea C. Hazzard
Corporate Secretary

CARIBBEAN EXAMINATIONS COUNCIL HEADQUARTERS

EXECUTIVE SEARCH

Caribbean Examinations Council (CXC®), the regional examining body, is seeking a talented professional to join its team in the capacity of Executive Registrar, Webmaster, Office of the Registrar.

The position, based at CXC’s Headquarters in Barbados, will be responsible for the daily management of the Council’s Website and e-intrinsics, including its implementation and management of web pages and its functionality to drive traffic and increase sales, while utilizing best practices to ensure security, integrity, and good customer experience. Additional information can be accessed from the CXC Website, www.cxc.org.

Interested applicants should e-mail their applications to: job-applications@cxc.org

The Deadline for submissions is October 4, 2014. Only suitably qualified applicants will be contacted.

ONLY ELECTRONIC APPLICATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED
Favourites cruise to easy victories

FAVOURITES in the Barbados Volleyball Association’s Goddard Enterprises League, Deacons, tried a few things differently, but still managed to defeat Carlton in straight sets at the Garfield Sobers Sports Complex recently.

As they get set to play Warrens today at the same location, Deacons were in cruise control during the week, as they racked up two more victories to add to their total.

Carlton was the latest. With veteran Julia Lewis on the bench for most of the game, Deacons’ only problem came with how fast they could wrap up the match against an up and down Carlton team.

Carlton showed brief moments of matching the Queens of Volleyball, but went down in the first two sets 25-21, 25-17.

In the third set, there were some formation changes for Deacons, with Lewis playing in an unfamiliar position, which was the middle.

However, with Carlton threatening to sneak out the set, Deacons moved Lewis back to the outside for the attacks, to ensure a 25-23 victory.

Earlier in the week, Deacons also closed out a straight sets victory – this time it was over Rockets, 25-21, 25-19, 25-21.

The Club United bounced back from their defeat earlier last week at the hands of Warrens, to defeat the Toners 25-13, 23-25, 25-18, 26-24.

On the men’s side, Deacons have regained their stride, as they defeated Carlton 25-21, 25-17, 25-23. Earlier in the week they also defeated Cawmere 30-28, 25-14, 25-16.

Cawmere continued their losing woes, as it was Progressive’s turn to hand them a defeat, this time the scoreboard read 25-19, 25-22, 25-16.

Tonight’s games at the Garfield Sobers Sports Complex will feature, on the women’s side, Rockets against Toners, while Deacons take on Warrens.

In the Men’s Division the Juniors will face off against Foundation United, while the Chargers battle Progressive.

Deacons’ Mona Crawford (right) hitting through the Carlton blockers.
Paula Reto takes LPGA Tour lead in Alabama

Paula Reto hits during the second round of the LPGA Classic golf tournament.

PRATTVILLE, Alabama – South Africa’s Paula Reto birdied her final hole on Friday for a 6-under 66 and a three-stroke lead in the Yokohama Tire LPGA Classic.

Reto had five birdies in a six-hole stretch on her opening nine – the back nine on Capitol Hill’s Senator layout. The 24-year-old former Purdue player finished with eight birdies and two bogeys to reach 13-under 131.

“I was just really patient with myself,” said Reto, playing her first season on the LPGA Tour, after a year on the Symetra Tour.

“I hit a couple good irons, especially early in the round. I hit a couple close, 5 feet, so that was nice, got the momentum going pretty early. It was nice to birdie the last hole yesterday as well as today, that was really nice. Just trying to stay patient and not think too much, just simple things.”

She started playing golf when she was 16.

“I moved from South Africa with my family in ’05,” Reto said. “We moved to Florida and I used to play field hockey and ran track. So I tried to start a team over here in Florida, and the track and the field hockey wasn’t as good, so my dad used to play golf and he said, ‘So, why don’t you just try golf.’

“So got in my freshman year of high school and tried golf. I liked it and ended up just dropping track and field hockey and just kept playing and loved the game.”

South Korea’s Mi Jung Hur, tied for the first-round lead with top-ranked Stacy Lewis at 84, was second after a 70. Hur had four birdies and two bogeys.

“I had a cold last night, so it was really hard to focus today,” Hur said. “I finally wake up on the back nine and had a good nine holes.”

Lewis, the 2012 winner in the event that was dropped from the schedule last year after losing its title sponsor, was third at 9 under after a 71. She had five birdies and four bogeys.

“Just got in trouble a couple times off the tee and made some bogeys that I shouldn’t have,” Lewis said. “Really just got in some bad places where I couldn’t make par.”

Newton Daisley is the leader in the senior men’s division.

Final day of Massy United Insurance Barbados Open

GOLF from Back Page

recent Agostini Open in Trinidad, is hoping to press the leaders over the last 18 holes today, after playing the course for the first time yesterday.

Fourth among the women was former Jamaica player, Leiza Munn-Blakeley, who shot 81 off a nine-handicap, while another 15-year-old Trinidadian Sabrina Mitchell shot 83.

Over at Apes Hill, where other divisions in the Massy United Barbados Open were contested yesterday, and also hit by rain, Trinidadian Ravi Desmarne registered 84 and was making a bid to win the men’s first flight (11-19 handicap). He was followed by Barbadians Malcom Hunte (85) and Richard Edghill (87).

Among the Seniors (50 years and over), Newton Daisley and Terry Nanton were tied for the lead on a gross 82, while Bill Weir was seeking to defend his Super Seniors (60 years) title and was making a bid to finally wake up on the 18th to narrow Luiten’s advantage.

Jamie Donaldson is the leading European Ryder Cup player on eight under par.

Fellow team members Lee Westwood and Thomas Bjorn had mixed rounds.

Westwood shot a three-under-par 68, including a birdie, eagle finish, but Bjorn’s struggles continued as he could only manage a level-par 71.

Stephen Gallacher missed the cut after shooting six-over-par in the first two rounds.

Luiten, who was considered for a Ryder Cup wildcard by European captain Paul McGinley, started the day one shot off the lead.

He holed from 10ft for a birdie on the first and 30ft on the third before finishing with back-to-back birdies on the closing two holes.

It was a continuation of form for Luiten, who finished fourth in the Italian Open, the last qualifying event for the Ryder Cup, and fifth in his defence of the KLM Open title on home soil last week.

“If you had these last couple of events counting for Ryder Cup qualification, maybe I have a chance,” he said.

“But you know when the date ends and the qualification stops and you have to play well before that, and I didn’t do that.”

Wales Open: Joost Luiten takes lead at Celtic Manor

DUTCHMAN Joost Luiten takes the lead after a two-shot lead going into the final round of the Wales Open at Celtic Manor.

A six-under-par round of 65 ensured the 28-year-old moved to 14 under par and took over from Shane Lowry (-12) at the top of the leaderboard.

Ireland’s Lowry shot a three-under-par 68 to remain in contention, but missed a birdie putt on the 18th to narrow Luiten’s advantage.

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Wozniacki, Ivanovic make final at Pan Pacific Open

TOKYO – Second-seeded Caroline Wozniacki of Denmark beat Garbine Muguruza of Spain 6-4, 6-3, 6-2 yesterday to reach the final of the Pan Pacific Open.

The US Open finalist lost the first two games of the third set, but took advantage of an increasingly erratic Muguruza and won when her opponent sent a forehand wide on match point.

Wozniacki, who won here in 2010, will meet third-seeded Ana Ivanovic of Serbia in today’s final. Ivanovic ousted top-seeded Angelique Kerber of Germany 7-5, 6-3.

Muguruza had beaten Wozniacki in their two previous encounters, in the third round of the Australian Open in January and in Miami last year.

Wozniacki broke Muguruza’s serve five times, but lost hers four times in the two-and-a-half-hour match that featured plenty of long rallies. She faced 23 break points in all but saved 19, including all nine that she faced in the first set.

“I was shocked. It is sad that I can’t see her play anymore,” Nishikori told reporters in Hong Kong, where he helped launch the ATP tour’s Asian swing of tournaments.

“I think Li Na and some other Chinese ladies have done so many amazing things for Asian tennis.

“They won grand slams that we have never done before. I hope she can still be involved in tennis and I hope I can be the next one to lead Asian tennis.”

Having become the first man from an Asian country to reach a grand slam final, Nishikori would appear a worthy successor to the 32-year-old Chinese, who became the continent’s first grand slam title winner with her breakthrough at the 2011 French Open.

Li’s late-blooming career – she won at Roland Garros when 29 and at Melbourne Park this year as a 31-year-old – should also give Nishikori some confidence that his best tennis is ahead of him.

With Li out of the picture, Nishikori is also far and away the continent’s top earner, ranked ninth in the sport’s top 10 overall, according to an annual survey released by Forbes.com last month.

The value of Brand Nishikori has soared with his grand slam success, marketing experts say, and he can expect to rise further up the Forbes list to compete with the likes of Roger Federer, Rafa Nadal and Maria Sharapova.

Hand-in-hand with that will be endless demands on his time from sponsors, media and tennis officials, an off-court whirlwind that Li struggled to deal with in the wake of her maiden triumph at Roland Garros and blamed, in large part, for a dip in form that lasted more than a year.

THE retirement of China’s Li Na may have robbed Asian tennis of its brightest star, but US Open finalist Kei Nishikori has put up his hand to fill the breach.

With Li’s departure, the 24-year-old Japanese is now Asia’s top player, having reached a career-high ranking of eight after his fairytale run at Flushing Meadows.

“I was shocked. It is sad that I can’t see her play anymore,” Nishikori told reporters in Hong Kong, where he helped launch the ATP tour’s Asian swing of tournaments.

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Nishikori says hopes to fill Li void in Asia

ANNA IVANOVIC overcame a slow start to beat top seed Angelique Kerber 7-5, 6-3 in the semi-final of the Pan Pacific Open yesterday, to set up a title clash against second seed Caroline Wozniacki.

World number 10 Ivanovic, seeded third in the US$1 million event, was down 5-3 in the opening set, but went on to win 10 of the next 13 games to seal her victory against her eighth ranked German opponent.

“In the beginning, it really took me some time to adjust to her game. It wasn’t like my previous matches,” Ivanovic said.

“But once I adjusted and got more aggressive, it started to go my way, and I’m really happy with the win today, because she’s always such a tough and challenging opponent.”

The win boosts the former world number one’s bid to qualify for the season-ending WTA Finals in Singapore, as it did for her opponent in Sunday’s final.

“Ivanovic, also a former top-ranked player, was the first to book her spot for the final after a tough match against an aggressive Garbine Muguruza.

The Danish player saved 18 of the 23 break points she faced in the match, including all nine in the first set, to win 6-4, 2-6, 6-2, against the 20-year-old Spaniard.

Muguruza gave it her all, hitting 53 winners in the match, but was hurt by the 50 unforced errors she committed.

“She was playing really, really well, and very aggressively, but I just kept fighting and staying in there, and I think at the end I had just a little bit more energy than she did.”

Ivanovic is currently number eight in the race for Singapore, ahead of Wozniacki, and both are leading contenders for a spot in the five places left for the event.
DEFENDING champion, James Johnson, was fending off show- ers and rival Barbados players, Julian Jordan and Carlisle Leacock, on the first day of the 2014 Massy United Insurance Barbados Golf Open, at Royal Westmoreland yesterday.

After the first 18 holes, Johnson was two strokes off the pace, as Jordan, who showed good form on the fairways and greens on a testing day, posted even par 72 to lead the championship con- tenders. One stroke behind him was the experi- enced Leacock, who shot a gross 73.

Johnson shot 74 for third position, while an- other Barbados player, Scott Stollmeyer, was fourth on 76.

The male and female championship divisions (featuring players with 0 to 9 handicaps) are being played at Royal Westmoreland, and the tournament is being con- tested over 36 holes, after the scheduled first day on Friday was washed out by rain.

Following some encour- aging hours of sunshine early yesterday, players were forced to contend with intermittent show- ers in the afternoon, which tested their pow- ers of concentration and caused the course to play somewhat longer.

Jordan, who led the field with a 3-under-par 33 after the first nine holes, seemingly enjoyed the conditions, and will be hoping for another round of steady play today to give the 12-time cham- pion something to think about.

Among the women, vet- eran Sally Schofield was holding off the challenge of two teenagers, while posting a 3-over-par 75. She was three strokes ahead of 13-year-old Mavi Vergos, who shot a gross 78, and five strokes better than 17-year-old Trini- dadian Ysabelle Law- rence, who posted 80.