



NationWIDE



SATURDAY AUGUST 29, 2015

WEEKLY

Saint Lucia Over-the-Top in Beijing!



Our hearts go all out to all affected, in any way, by the death and destruction in Dominica; and we join all who have expressed sympathy and solidarity, here and elsewhere, with the Government and People of our neighbouring sister-isle to the north (See Page 2 for more). Until the disaster struck in our fellow OECS member-state, we were fixed on the debate and discussion that has followed the historic presentation of the Report and Recommendations of the Constitutional Review Commission (CRC) in both Houses of Parliament in the past week (See Reports on Page 5 and a Full Account of the PM's Contribution in Centre Pages 6 and 7). Saint Lucians have also during the past week been preparing for this weekend's national celebrations of the 2015 La Rose ('La Woz') Flower Festival (Reports and Updates on Pages 3 and 11). But above all and everything else, all of Saint Lucia and all Saint Lucians at home and abroad spent the past week beaming with pride at the performance of our two dear Saint Lucians at the World Athletic Championships in Beijing. On their way to Beijing, Leverne Spencer and Jeanelle Scheper defied all the odds in regional and hemispheric athletic competitions in Latin America and the Caribbean (held in Canada and Costa Rica). And they defied the rest of the world to become the only two Caribbean women to qualify for today's Women's High Jump Finals in Beijing. By the time you read this, we will have known whether our two High-Jumping Olympian Athletic Queens scaled the Greatest High Wall they will ever have jumped in Beijing. But, win or lose, we continue to be proud of Leverne and Jeanelle for flying the Saint Lucia Flag as high as they did in the People's Republic of China. They already deserve another Red Carpet Welcome on their next return home – just for beating all the rest to rank among the very best at the 2015 World Athletics Championships. Once again, like they have done so many times before, these two high-flying local ladies have made Saint Lucia proud on the world athletic stage. Our congratulations can never be enough. Hip Hip Hooray! Bravo Leverne! Bravo Jeanelle! Meanwhile, enjoy this entire issue of Nationwide and remember not to forget to view NationwideTV on NTN and browse the Nationwide Website at stlucianationwide.com

Happy Reading! Happy Viewing! Happy Browsing!

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WHAT'S INSIDE

Saint Lucia reaches out to Dominica following Erika's death, destruction and devastation!

There was much sad news of death, destruction and devastation in Dominica, after the island was hit by a tropical storm Wednesday night.

Saint Lucia had just been spared from Hurricane Danny a few days earlier, but Tropical Storm Erika visited Dominica like a thief in the night on Wednesday and left death and destruction in its wake on Thursday.

At least four persons are so far confirmed dead and several more are still reported missing, with countless infrastructural damage recorded across the mountainous island.

The Met Office reported that nearly nine inches of rain overnight Wednesday brought severe flooding and mudslides, washed out roadways and caused the collapse of several buildings, including family homes, across Dominica.

Saint Lucians and other OECS citizens are in sympathy and solidarity with their Dominican neighbours, with many Saint Lucians recalling how both Dominica and Saint Lucia were devastated by Hurricanes Allen and David in 1980.

Saint Lucians also remember the island being visited by Hurricane Tomas in 2010 and the Christmas Eve Trough in 2013.

In the wake of the devastation in Dominica, expressions of sympathy, solidarity and support started flowing from the rest of the OECS.

St. Lucia's Prime Minister Dr. Kenny Anthony reached out to his counterpart Prime Minister Roosevelt Skerrit of Dominica, extending sincere sympathies on behalf of the Government and people of Saint Lucia.

He said the grim scenes of devastation in Dominica witnessed on local TV hit very close to home; and even though Saint Lucia was not directly affected by the passage of Erika, any disaster that size naturally impacts throughout the Caribbean.

Dr Anthony called on all Saint Lucians to pray for Dominica.

He said many of Saint Lucians have friends and family living and working there, so they should monitor what is happening in Dominica, as well as in the other territories in the Lesser Antilles that have been affected by the Tropical Storm.

The St. Lucia Prime Minister said the Government here is also working with the Government and emergency authorities in Dominica 'to confirm the extent of damage and determine how best the Saint Lucia Government can support them in this their time of need.'

At the regional level, the OECS Commission says it is mobilizing regional and international support to reduce Dominica's plight, as that country rebuilds after the passage of tropical storm Erika on Thursday.

The directorate of the OECS Commission says it is very con-



There was much infrastructural damage across Dominica as a result of Tropical Storm Erika on Wednesday evening

cerned about the situation in Dominica and is communicating with heads of other OECS Member States, the international donor community and organizations, to ensure the best possible actions.

Although limited in resources, the OECS says, it is strengthening its response to Dominica by working towards a coordinated response from agencies such as National Emergency Management Organizations, CEDEMA, ECLAC and USAID.

The Commission says it is confident that the spirit of community and resilience for which Dominica is well known, will restore that country's glowing physical and socioeconomic landscape.

The OECS headquarters in Castries says it will continue to update the public it's coordinated response to Dominica's needs.

Meanwhile, people with flights to and from or through Dominica and the Leeward Islands have been put on alert by LIAT.

LIAT has posted an urgent regional notice that due to flooding of the runway at the Douglas-Charles Airport, all flights into and out of Dominica have been cancelled until further notice.

The airline says several other airports in the LIAT network also remain closed at this time due to the passage of Tropical Storm Erika.

The VC Bird International Airport in Antigua remained closed until 4:00 am on Friday 28th August and all flights north of Antigua remained cancelled.

However, there was some good news for Saint Lucia among the bad news from neighbouring Dominica earlier this week: parents and relatives of a group of students from the Choiseul Secondary School attending a camp in Dominica will be pleased to know they are all safe and sound.

Some 26 students Saint Lucian students are attending the Duke of Edinburgh camp in Dominica. Some have contacted parents, but there's been no word since, as telephone communications are still down in most places.

St. Lucia News Online says it was contacted and told by concerned local parents and relatives that most have not heard from the students, causing growing con-

cern and anxiety.

However, the local online news agency the leaders of the Duke of Edinburgh Award programme in Dominica have confirmed that all the students are doing okay, so parents don't need to worry.

The students, who are between 13 and 17 years old, left St. Lucia on August 22 and are scheduled to return next week on Wednesday, September 2.

Meanwhile, despite the good news for Choiseul parents, Director of the National Emergency Management Organization (NEMO) Velda Joseph is urging Saints Lucians not to become complacent about tropical storms.

Joseph said while Saint Lucia missed two storms in less than one week -- Danny and Erika -- citizens must ensure that they listen to the reports and the advice from the relevant authorities.

The NEMO Director says Saint Lucia has been spared somewhat, but she is hoping persons are really taking note and making sure that their preparations are in place.

The NEMO Director said persons should be reminded to check for rising water levels in the area and keep a disaster survival kit close by, as additional bad weather systems may be experienced, as the hurricane season is still on.



A floating plane tells the full story of the ravage caused by the tropical storm when it visited Dominica Wednesday night.

Editorial

Solidarity!



As seen in this rare photo accompanying this editorial, Prime Minister Dr. Kenny D. Anthony and his counterpart Prime Minister of the Commonwealth of Dominica, Roosevelt Skerrit met here earlier this week after Tropical Storm Denny devastated the island Wednesday evening.

Prime Minister Skerrit updated Prime Minister Anthony on the current state of affairs in Dominica and Dr. Anthony extended condolences on behalf of the Government and People of Saint Lucia and pledged recovery assistance.

The Dominica leader left Saint Lucia on a helicopter supplied by the Government of Trinidad & Tobago.

This is precisely the type of immediate regional solidarity that any Caribbean small island or other developing state will want in any time of need following any type of disaster, whether the result of Climate Change, Natural or Man-made.

Saint Lucia has had our share of hurricanes and tropical storms, so we well know how Dominica feels. We shared Hurricanes Allen and David with Dominica 35

years ago and more recently we felt Hurricane Tomas (2010) and the Christmas Eve Trough of 2013.

The OECS has activated its mechanisms to seek and garner global support or Dominica. CARICOM and the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) will be called upon, as will the regional disaster insurance facility established to fast-track assistance to countries hit by disasters. The United Nations, OAS, CELAC, ALBA and Petrocaribe will also be expected to come to Dominica's help.

But for reasons more than just good neighborliness, Saint Lucia and the OECS will be expected to fast-track whatever little or much we can muster for Dominica's help.

Yesterday was us, today it's Dominica. We don't know where next - or when next will be our turn.

That's why 'Solidarity' must always be our watchword and instinctive reaction whenever disaster strikes anywhere, especially in and around our Caribbean region. That way, we'll all be able to ensure Dominica bounces back earlier, rather than later!

Saint Lucia National Awards 2015

Take part and nominate someone for a National Award.

Details & Nomination Form at:

<http://governorgeneral.govt.lc/honors-and-awards>

Deadline for the nominations is 30 NOVEMBER, 2015

In Touch LIVE
with Jadia JnPierre-Emmanuel
9:00pm
Mondays
CHOICE

YSPEAK
with MAUNDY LEWIS
6:30 PM
MONDAYS ON NTN
yspeak758@gmail.com
<https://www.facebook.com/YSpeakSLU>
@yspeak758
712-5794/468-4992

Castries now brighter by night!

by: Marius Modeste

Residents of the city of Castries and surrounding areas are happier with brighter streets lights these days – and nights!

The word from people who normally walk in Castries at nights is that “Finally, we can see the light.”

One hotel worker remarked, “Now people can see who is coming when you walking on the road.”

The pleased hotel worker went on to say, “I have been robbed here on Chisel Street by the old Linmore building. Now, with the new installed lights, one can see who is coming from afar. Thanks to the government!”

Government plans to replace the approximately 20,000 street lights currently placed all over Saint Lucia.

These are installed and maintained by LUCELEC, but the electricity that they consume is paid for by the Government of Saint Lucia.

LUCELEC and the Government of Saint Lucia are discussing the time frame for the replacement, given that the existing lights have not reached the end of their useful life and the cost of replacing the entire stock will run into the millions of dollars.

The move towards the LED lights is in keeping with the pro-



One of the new LED street lights that have made Castries a brighter city by night.

visions of the National Energy Policy for improving energy efficiency and reducing carbon emissions and the use of fossil fuels.

LED lights are more environmentally friendly, consume less

electricity, require less maintenance and last longer than HPS lamps.

Replacing HPS lamps with LEDs will also assist with reducing Government’s – and taxpayers -- expenditure on electricity.

Pedi Gwes weight loss campaign launched!

Minister for Health, Wellness, Human Services and Gender Relations, Hon. Alvina Reynolds on Thursday formally launched the Ministry of Health's inaugural and billed-to-be-exciting national weight loss competition dubbed "Pedi Gwes Sent Lisi, Bon Sante Pou Lavi."

The event brings together 90 participants from the 9 health regions around the island, 10 participants per region, who will

compete for the top prizes of biggest individual loser per region, biggest overall loser and region to lose the most collective weight, among other exciting prizes.

Participants were on Thursday measured for their starting weight and body mass index. A before photo was also taken to be placed against their after photo at the end of this two-month-long competition.

Health, nutrition and exercise workshops, a walk, hike and ob-

stacle course challenge will form features of this competition.

Each region will be identified by a unique colour coded t-shirt and will select mentors who will spur their regional team on.

A logo and theme song have been created for the Pedi Gwes competition for branding and excitement.

Members of Parliament, the Taiwanese Ambassador, government officials, health practitioners and sponsors were in attendance for the launch.

Taiwan Youth Ambassadors to visit and perform here next week

The 2015 Youth Ambassadors delegation from the Republic of China (Taiwan) will be hosting a culture show at the National Culture Center at Barnard Hill next week.

The 20-member delegation will be here from September 5 to 9 and includes 16 college students from music, dance, performing arts, and other fields; and one professor from performing arts. It will be led by Director General Mr. Chen Bor-Show of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of China (Taiwan).

The students will conduct a stage performance that combines dance, music, and Mandarin language themes, so as to introduce Taiwan to the people of Saint Lucia.

The performance entitled "Energetic New Taiwan" is divided into 12 acts and focuses on six main aspects: natural environment, LOHAS (Lifestyles of Health and Sustainability), cultural heritage, cuisine, cultural creativity, and warmth. The performance will be held at National Cultural Centre on Sep. 7, from 7 to 8:30 p.m.



Young Taiwan Ambassadors in concert.

The program is open to public. During their visit, the delegation will also meet with government officials and the students of the Sir Arthur Lewis Community College in the theme of culture exchange.

The Republic of China (Taiwan) has conducted the International Youth Ambassadors Exchange Program since 2009. (More on Page 9)

To further enhance the outcome of the program, the theme for the 2015 delegation is “Youth from Taiwan, Compassion for All.”

The Taiwan Embassy says the goal is to not only highlight the vitality and kindness of Taiwanese youth, but also reiterate their commitment to issues of global concern such as humanitarian aid and sustainable development.

La Woz 2015 being celebrated with Gwan Fet, festival-style this weekend!



Director of Events and Production of the Cultural Development Foundation (CDF), Drenia Frederick, says the La Woz Festival should be preserved and secured.

La Woz is celebrated annually on August 30 with a host of events. It is one of two flower societies in Saint Lucia (the other being La Marguerite) that mock the royal family administration during the slavery era. It provides participants the opportunity to play the roles of police man, king, queen and the judiciary.

Director of Events and Productions at the Cultural Development Foundation (CDF) Drenia Frederick said there is need to strengthen the festival and to appreciate its significance.

“It is a cultural form that we can build on to innovate. When we listen to Jamaican dancehall music, we mimic Jamaican dance. [But] we don’t realize that the particular culture has evolved from the indigenous forms and they are still going back to the indigenous forms to build on what we term as contemporary culture.”

Frederick said the CDF wants to ensure that young people embrace the celebration and also hopes to

strengthen the festival to ensure its long term development.

She said, “This year, the CDF has collaborated with the Folk Research Centre, which has a wealth of knowledge.

“We are also thinking of a strategic plan for the next two years which highlights specific areas towards the festival needs and education, not just education in terms of what La Woz is, but a general education of people on the island.”

Other initiatives include steps to enable more private sector support for La Woz. This year’s activities include a Gwan Seyans which was held in Rodney Bay as well as a Gwan Fet in Vieux Fort tomorrow (Sunday, August 30).

Tomorrows Gwan Fet commences with a church service at the Vieux-Fort Catholic Church from 11 am, followed by a parade to the Vieux-Fort Square culminating in performances by various groups island wide. There are approximately thirteen La Woz groups in Saint Lucia.

Three communities to benefit from Flood Early Warning and Siren Systems

Moves are afoot locally to help protect and save lives of residents who may become at risk to intense flooding.

The possible loss of lives is a shocking reality for St Lucia and other Small Island Developing States (SIDS) that will be most affected by Climate Change, which will fuel a greater intensity and frequency of adverse weather systems like hurricanes and flash floods.

St Lucia’s Water Resource Management Agency (WRMA) within the Ministry of Sustainable Development, Energy, Science and Technology (MSDEST) is implementing an Early Warning System and Hydrological Monitoring for Water Management and Disaster Risk Reduction project, funded by the Australian Government.

There are three components to the project with one component specifically focused on enhancing meteorological and hydrological data collection, as well as establishing flood early warning systems in Castries, Anse la Raye and Canaries.

This component will utilize data captured by rain gauges and automatic weather stations.

The data will be communicated via Very High Frequency (VHF) to a control station and will be monitored by staff of the Saint Lucia Meteorological Services (SLMS) and the WRMA.

When rainfall has reached a threshold to trigger warning for flood, the software from the control station will communicate to the siren via VHF to produce the audio alarm. Two thresholds for flooding will be set: warning of possible flood; and flood evacuation. Over time, data from stream gauging stations will be analysed with rainfall data in order to improve the flooding threshold.

Community meetings with residents of Castries, Anse la Raye and Canaries are scheduled to take place between 24th August and 11t

On Wednesday August 26, 2015 residents h September, to discuss the establishment of the Flood Early Warning and Siren Systems. of Canaries were invited to join the discussion at the Canaries Community Centre from 6:30pm.

Consultations will be held with residents of Anse La Raye on September 3 & 24 at the Community Parish Hall from 6:30pm.

Minister says ICT brings added opportunities to education

Minister for the Public Service, Sustainable Development, Energy, Science and Technology, Senator Dr. James Fletcher has highlighted the opportunities available in the field of Information and Communications Technology.

During innovation night, an activity scheduled as part of the recent Caribbean Regional Communication Infrastructure Program (CARCIP) ICT fair, Dr. Fletcher noted the potential of Information and Communi-

cations Technology in sectors such as education.

"The other part of my portfolio that really excites me is the ICT sector, and it excites me for all of the reasons that were articulated in Mr. Perez's presentation," he said.

He continued, "This evening when he showed you the things that Google is doing and all the things Google can do, particularly in the education sector which for me is a sector where we have to look at ICT and see

how we can get ICT to transform the way in which we teach our children, from pre-school all the way to post secondary and tertiary, that is an area that we are a little deficient in, and an area that we must focus attention."

Aside from the possibilities of ICT in education, Dr. Fletcher made note of the penetration of new technology in everyday lives and business.

He said, "There was a time when everyone wanted a smaller and smaller phone, now

everyone wants a bigger and bigger phone, so it shows you how the technology is evolving but it is because our phones are so much more than phones for us and these devices can do so much for us in business, in school, in networking, and socially communicating with our loved ones."

Dr. Fletcher also reiterated the various opportunities available to young entrepreneurs in the ICT sector. (*More ICT News on Pages 8 and 10*)



Dr. James Fletcher

Lecture to examine Saint Lucia's Relations with Mexico yesterday, today and tomorrow!

The UWI Open Campus Saint Lucia will on Thursday (3rd September) host a lecture in collaboration with the Embassy of Mexico to The OECS States at its Morne Fortune site.

The lecture starts at 7:00 pm and is entitled "Saint Lucia/Mexico Bi-lateral Relations: Past, Present and Future".

Next week's lecture cel-

brates the 10th Anniversary of the Opening of the Embassy of Mexico to the OECS Member States with residence in Saint Lucia and will be delivered by Ms Maite Narváez Abad, 3rd Secretary of the Mexican Embassy in charge of Co-operation and Cultural Affairs.

Born in Oaxaca, Mexico, on October 25th 1976, Ms Maite Narváez Abad, holds a Bsc

in Human Sciences from the University of The Americas in Puebla, Mexico. Her dissertation project was entitled: Proposal for a Postmodernist Ontology of Silence.

She also has a Diploma in French to Spanish Translation from El Colegio de Mexico. Besides Spanish her mother tongue, she is also fluent in English, French and Italian.

Her career as a Mexican Diplomat began in 2007 when she commenced work with the Mexican Foreign Service and has been at the rank of Third Secretary from 2012 to present where she has worked in three different missions:

At the Mexican Ministry of Foreign Affairs' Headquarters in Mexico City (2011 -2014), she was part of a team who super-

vised the affairs of Mexico with Southern neighbours to strengthen their relations (2011-2012) and bilateral relations with the English speaking Caribbean (2011-2014).

She assumed her current post at The Embassy of Mexico to the OECS almost 9 months ago and is currently in charge of Cooperation and Cultural Affairs. (*More on Page 10*).

OECS and CBU cooperating to build Caribbean film industry

Two-day script writers retreat was hosted last week as part of a multi-phased program executed by the OECS Competitive Business Unit (OECS/CBU) in collaboration with the Independent Association of Cinema of Guadeloupe (APCAG).

The program aimed to enhance the skills of regional screen writers for the development of the cinema and television industry in the OECS and the French West Indies.

The activity, part of the CBU's Creative Industries Sector Devel-

opment Program, is funded under the 10th European Development Fund (EDF) Regional Integration and Trade for the OECS and the Regional Council of Guadeloupe.

Head of the Dominica-based OECS Competitive Business Unit, Vincent Philbert, has expressed delight at the staging of the retreat and called for greater effort and collaboration among audiovisual professionals to create a truly OECS film industry.

"This retreat represents a major step towards building the capac-

ity needed to tell our own stories in the OECS and the French West Indies and to create an indigenous film industry.

"Our collaboration with the FCORs in this exercise is a strong indication of the cooperation that is being forged between the OECS and our French speaking neighbours especially in the Creative Industries Sector.

"We hope that our film industry professionals will seize on the moment and use this as a platform for continuous action in

building our film industry."

Eight writers from the OECS and five from Martinique and Guadeloupe attended the retreat which focused on the progress made by the script writers since the initial workshop in Guadeloupe, in January.

The retreat allowed for a review of the work done so far and for those writers who completed the process, to present their final script to a panel of judges for selection.

The OECS Commission and the

APCAG will provide technical and financial support to the top screen plays in an effort to have their works developed for regional and international exposure.

It is hoped that the Regional Script Development Retreat will serve as a further impetus for developing a cadre of screen writers and in building the film and television industry in the OECS and the French West Indies.

The retreat was held in Antigua and Barbuda at the Jolly Beach Resort and Spa on August 21 and 22.

'A Summer for the Arts' comes to an end

For the Cultural Development Foundation (CDF), the months of July and August are ideal for creating summer bucket lists: a time to explore and learn; to be creative; to accomplish and engage in fun-filled experiences with far-reaching and life-long benefits. Summer of the Arts (SOTA) is a summer collection of activities reaching a diverse cross-section of Saint Lucians through training, discussion and exposé in the arts and cultural sector.

The programmes took place at various locations around the island, reaching artists: seasoned and hopefuls. They included training exercises in Pan Music Theory, Pan Tuning, a Summer Dance Workshop, the Youth Summer Arts Platform and an Emancipation Art Exhibition, among others.

Following five weeks of intensive training and rehearsals, CDF's Summer Dance workshop culminated on Friday 14th August with the performance of an engaging new contemporary dance work, "Freedom to Dance". Choreographed by local dance artists Charma Philgence, Skyla James and Casandra Justin; "Freedom to Dance" was performed by young dancers from Vieux Fort and environs.

"Freedom to Dance" encompassed the idea of slavery and emancipation. Confronting these issues, the dancers sought to answer the questions: How do we deal with this subject matter through dance? How can we survive? Do we struggle or surrender?

Commenting on this year's project, Mrs. Barbara DuBoulay,

Senior Officer, Training Promotion and Development of the CDF, says "The CDF's Summer Dance Workshop is a continuation of work done in the communities of Laborie and Castries during the Easter break earlier this year.

It provides an opportunity for the youth in the communities of Vieux Fort and environs to connect with the professional dance community here...this Summer Dance workshop provided a great opportunity for the young dancers, giving them the drive, energy and initiative to succeed and for the audience to witness some of our emerging talent.

On Wednesday 19th August, participants of the Youth Summer Arts Platform staged, as their grand finale a production "Behind the Masq". The play takes onlookers on a journey through the forest where devious plotting and secret scheming among the creatures threatens the peace and harmony enjoyed in the kingdom and ultimately the survival of the age-old tradition of masquerade throughout the region.

One hundred and eighteen (118) participants from Anse la Raye and Castries during the period July 22nd to August 18th were provided with the opportunity to develop skills in the visual and performing arts in the main training areas of Public Speaking, Dance, Music, Theatre Arts, Stage Design, Creative Writing, Costume & Theatre Makeup, Art (Graphic Design), Drumming, Film & Animation and Photography.

"What you see here today is entirely the work of the participants of this workshop, with a guidance from the facilitators",

said Celeste Burton, Director of Training, Promotion and Development. Samples of the enthusiastic participants remained on display in the Conference Room of the CDF to the delight of beaming parents for two (2) days after the grande finale.

Thirty-Six (36) youth were on Friday 21st August, awarded for completion of training in Music Theory (25 youth) and Pan Tuning (11 youth) at CDF's Conference Room.

The focus of this year's programme was the development of the technical competency of the participants and building capacity in Steel Band among the youth with special potential in this particular area.

Youth from Laborie, Vieux Fort and Castries participated in training, during which they learnt practical skills and music theory. "The participants that focused on music theory learnt the principles of music and thus were able to internalize the structure and essence of songs" says facilitator Gregory Piper. "Although comprehensive and focused, the course is a fun and easy way to master music fundamentals. It is designed as a workshop, using three senses of visual, auditory, and kinesthetic (physical) learning".

CDF's inaugural Pan Tuning Workshop provided training in the requisite knowledge and skills for the selection of drums, sinking, marking and grooving the notes for a steelpan. Over ten youth from various steelpan groups registered for this workshop and are expected to complete the full spectrum of this programme when the intermedi-



Participants were quite excited about the two-month event.

ate and advanced levels are offered.

The Pan Tuning Workshop was facilitated by Mr. Gabriel Robley of Trinidad who very succinctly remarked, "We need continuance in this pan thing. It took me a year to learn how to hold the hammer...and here we had only two weeks."

The Music Theory workshops were held during the period July 27- August 20, 2015 in Laborie and Castries, whilst the Pan Tuning Workshop was held between August 10-21, 2015 at the Courts Babonneau Pan Yard in Grande Riviere.

The celebration of Emancipation will always remain relevant to the CDF and its activities as Emancipation in a very broad sense speaks to Saint Lucian history, explains aspects of our culture and establishes a foundation for our future, as a people. It was against this background that an art exhibition one of the activities to mark the observance of this significant occasion was aptly chosen as "Beyond Emancipation".

The exhibition which runs un-

til September 5th on the second floor of Blue Coral Mall in Castries, highlights the role which the arts can play in captivating the attention and thoughts of the masses.

The work of three remarkable artists are on display in what has been described as "a phenomenal display of artistic genius": Francis "PhoTobias" Tobias, who has chronicled Saint Lucia's social and political history, capturing decades of history and recorded through photographs; John Phulchere, used and interpreted politics and social issues brilliantly through caricature; and Ted Sandiford uses contemporary art through new media to speak on social issues.

Through Summer of the Arts, a genuine contribution is made to strengthening the cultural and performing arts industries in Saint Lucia: The skills learnt and experience gained will not only enable the participants to become skilled practitioners, but also advocates of Arts and Culture as drivers of self and community development..

Reports from the Houses of Parliament

History made in the House

History was made in the House of Assembly on Tuesday morning, after Members of Parliament agreed to suspend the Standing Orders to allow members who have spoken and wish to speak again, to do so.

Castries Central MP Richard Frederick was the first to make use of that accommodation, when he was given thirty more minutes, on request, to speak a second time. All members agreed. He said he had reflected and needed to speak on two matters re Recommendation 25.

Frederick said that because saint Lucians don't read, but they don't know their rights and entitlements under law need to include protection and redress against being discriminated for 'political allegiance'.

The Castries Central MP also commented on recommendation 28 re 'illegitimate children'. Frederick calls for total abolition



Hon. Richard Frederick

of the term 'illegitimate child' from all our laws, including Civil Code and especially in relation to rights of succession.

He also noted that under law a so-called illegitimate child is only allowed a maximum of \$200 per month due from unmarried fathers, while there's no limit for so-called 'legitimate children'.

Right of Recall on Recommendation 88 25% of eligible voters can sign a petition for "non-performance of constituency duties".

Frederick sees "a danger" in this because in a close call vote, the losing candidate can have more than 25% of those who voted.

In this case, he said, all MPs would be recalled.

Recommendation 102: Requisite qualification of an AG must be at least a high court judge. He says he agrees because too many attorneys general

Recommendation 154: calling for CCJ to replace Privy Council. He says he thinks given the sensitivity of that issue, a referendum will be necessary as it is sensitive due to the smallness of the countries where everyone knows everyone.

He says he hasn't taken a position as yet, but he believes people still feel that they have better chances of justice in the hands of people who don't know them than people who do.

He recommended establishment of a parliamentary subcommittee to look at and make recommendations.

Jn Baptiste against changing minimum age for St. Lucia Prime Minister

Age limits for the post of prime minister and in some cases presidents vary from country to country and while some believe these positions should attract people of a mature age, others think it should be open up to younger people with vibrant energy and fresh ideas.

During his contribution to the debates on the report of the Constitutional Reform Commission on Tuesday, Member of Parliament for Vieux Fort North and Minister of Agriculture Moses Jn Baptiste said he is not in support of the recommendation which suggest that a prime minister should be between 35 and 75.

The MP said that he does not think that someone who is 35-years-old can accept such a huge challenge and is capable enough to deliver.

Jn Baptiste said the position should instead attract someone of a mature age and with more experience that can handle the affairs of the country and lead Saint Lucia to prosperity. The Constitutional Re-



Agriculture Minister and Vieux Fort North MP Moses Jn Baptiste.

form Commission has recommended 35 years, as the minimum age for someone to be elected prime minister of Saint Lucia. This recommendation has been met with mixed views.

However, the Caribbean region has witnessed young leaders emerged, in the persons of Prime Minister of Dominica Roosevelt Skerrit who assumed office at the age of 32 and former President of Guyana Bharrat Jagdeo who assumed office at the

age of 35.

Skerrit was elected to Dominica's parliament in 2000, he eventually became the education minister, before becoming prime minister in 2004. Skerrit remains the youngest head of government in the Western Hemisphere and the third youngest in the world.

Meanwhile, Jagdeo served as President of Guyana for 12 years after winning two elections, one in 2001 and another in 2006. He was the first President of Guyana to relinquish office in accordance with term limits he signed into the Guyanese Constitution. He holds a number of global leadership positions in climate change.

Some of the youngest leaders of the world both past and present include: President of the Democratic Republic of the Congo Joseph Kabila (30), Prime Minister of Macedonia Nikola Gruevski (36), President of Nauru Marcus Stephen (38) and President of Georgia Mikheil Saakashvili (37). (From: St. Lucia News Online)

Senator says Constitution Order is outdated

The Senate met last Thursday to debate the Constitutional Review Commission's Report.

During the debate, Minister for the Public Service, Sustainable Development, Energy, Science and Technology, Senator Dr. James Fletcher, said that the Constitution should always reflect the will of the people.

"The constitution must speak to who we are as a people and -- sad to say -- this current version of the constitution - the Saint Lucia Constitution Order 1978 - does not represent who we are as a people."



Dr. James Fletcher said that the Saint Lucia constitution order 1967, governed Saint Lucia in associated statehood.

He explained that the Saint Lucia Constitution order 1967, Statutory Instrument Number 229 of 1967, governed [Saint Lucia] in Associated Statehood. But, he noted, "If you were to look at that document and this document, you would see very little philosophical difference between the two."

The Senator noted that "The Constitution should reflect needs of today's Caribbean citizen. This is a document that governed our transition from colonial period to independence, so it was still very much a colonial document."

PM says Public Service crippled by chronic absence of leadership!

Prime Minister Doctor Kenny Anthony has said that there is a "chronic" absence of leadership in the Public Service Commission (PSC) and the agency has lost its will to engage in disciplinary proceedings.

"Heads of department are unwilling to report their peers for wrongdoing," Anthony said while wrapping up debate on the report of the Constitutional Review Commission.

According to the Prime Minister, corruption is an issue in the public service as it is an issue elsewhere.



Prime Minister Dr. Kenny Anthony

"It is easy to point fingers at politicians, but nobody wants to talk about the issue of whether there

are public servants who are openly manipulating decision-making to benefit particular individuals," he asserted.

He said he could not hide his disappointment with the proposals of the Report of the Constitutional Review Commission on the matter of the Public Service.

"I think they are unhelpful. I believe that this was a unique opportunity for the Commission to do a thorough review of the public service and to address what is wrong with the Public Service in Saint Lucia," the PM said.

MPs on both sides reject proposal to legislate politicians out of existence!

Leader of Her Majesty's Loyal Opposition, Dr. Gale Rigobert, has condemned the report of the Constitutional Reform Committee for denigrating the role of the politician and its contribution to Saint Lucian society.

She echoed Deputy Prime Minister Philip J. Pierre's sentiment that to adopt the recommended system of governance would be "to legislate politicians out of existence."

"When I go through recommendations 64 through to 82, I can sum up those recommendations as somehow suggesting that there needs to be a separation of the intellect of the political directorate and the politicians who take maypwis," Dr. Rigobert said.



Dr. Gale Rigobert

"I don't know that I should necessarily have a hand in crafting my own demise. I think this amounts to political suicide."

Earlier in the discussion, Mr Pierre disagreed with the recommendations on a hybrid governance structure, saying it belittles the role of an elected

parliamentarian.

He said, "The fact is, what you must understand is, that the people are the ones who must tell us how to run the country and not any group of men or women who believe they have the better brains or who do not want to take the hassle and pressure of running political office, but who want to constitutionalize that position of being able to tell people what to do, because they believe -- probably because of their education or their background, their education, their class or their financial situation -- that they have a right to dictate what is happening in this country."

The debate in the House of Assembly ended Tuesday.

PM calls for making Magistrates more accountable

Prime Minister Doctor Kenny Anthony wants Magistrates to be made more accountable. In his view, the way they work does not do justice to the region's judicial because they seem accountable to no one.

He asks: "Do they work eight hours a day? How many cases have they heard? How many cases have they disposed of? What is the situation with the performance of these functions?"

The PM asked these questions during his presentation in the House of Assembly while summing-up the debate on the Report of the Constitutional Commission on Tuesday.



The PM is calling for magistrates to be made more accountable

According to the Prime Minister, "People judge our legal system on what is taking place in the Magistracy."

While acknowledging that there were problems with infrastructure in the court system, he noted that "In the case of the Magistracy the problem can be resolved, because the solution lies in the

power of the appointing agency, which is the regional Judicial and Legal Services Commission."

He said the Commissioners should have looked at the issue of strengthening the accountability requirements of magistrates, without interfering with their independent judicial powers. (See center spread.)

PM in the House on CRC Report and recommendations

PM in the House on CRC Report and recommendations

PM urges parliamentarians on both sides of both Houses to continue the bipartisan journey of Constitutional Reform

'We must not close that door!'

Prime Minister Dr Kenny D. Anthony delivered his much-anticipated contribution to the parliamentary debate on the Report and Recommendations of the Constitutional Review Commission (CRC) on Tuesday, bringing an end to two days of debate between the two sides of the House of Assembly.

A similar debate had taken place last week in the Saint Lucia Senate, with both the Upper and Lower Houses discussing the voluminous report and its 190 recommendations.

The Prime Minister had indicated on the first day of the debate on August 18 -- which coincided with the first anniversary of the death of the CRC's late chairperson Madam Justice Suzie d'Auvergne -- that he would have held his contribution until last so as not to influence how other MPs thought and talked.

Now ready to talk, the Prime Minister indeed went on for all of ninety minutes, requesting added time to say all he wanted to while at the same time responding to other statements by fellow MPs.

Dr Anthony started off by pointing out that "This constitution was not drawn by us." He noted that it was "a statutory instrument", which is at the lowest level of British law. In his view, he said, the Saint Lucia Constitution Order of 1978 "was done for us by people who didn't trust us and who felt they should make it impossible for even them to change the constitution they gave us."

In the PM's view, "The fact that this Constitution served us well does not mean it does not have imperfections." He noted that "The members for Castries East and Castries South East have said it has served us well, but you do not need a crisis to assess whether the constitution has served us well." But while he was critical of the process, he encouraged fellow MPs to continue the process that started almost seven years ago.

"We cannot and must not close the door on constitutional reform. Otherwise we would have disappointed the people and those who participated," he said.

He continued, "I want us to concentrate on the positives. But we must note, like Castries North MP (Stephenson King) did, that succeeding UWP administrations embraced the CRC and made the resources available to keep it going."

The PM said the work undertaken by the commission was also historic "because it showed that we can work together. One party created the CRC, another came in and supported it



Prime Minister Dr. Kenny Anthony

and provided resources and participated and allowed the work to continue."

He noted that this unusual form of bipartisan cooperation was ALS significant as it came just before another remarkable reality: how the two sides met and decided to proceed on economic citizenship. In that regard, he said, "it shows that we as government and opposition can work together in defining our strategic interests."

"All our people are asking," he added, is that we extend these examples to show we can agree together on how to pursue our constitutional change together." The PM went on to describe what he called "a third positive element" in the fact that "our people, who we consulted, have all accepted the possibility of change."

He quickly pointed out that "I am not suggesting that the commission has reflected the views of the people, but I want to emphasize to our colleagues that a

powers, not substitutes for democracy. "We have to be careful not to import principles that will cause constitutional paralysis.

"Consider that parliament will be responsible to appoint Ministers to Cabinet. In every system where they have needed to get parliament support, it has always been paralysis because opposition parties have always used that leverage to paralyze the government.

"Just look at recent history of Haiti of late, regarding the disagreements between the President of Haiti and the other institutions." Addressing the Report, the Prime Minister said, "I think there are weaknesses in these proposals that I will refer to as signposts." But, he added, "There was excessive preoccupation with the powers of the Prime Minister."

He noted that "The commission failed to make a clinical assessment about what needs to be done to answer concerns expressed." On page 38, the Report says Westminster Democracy "will be a thing of the past." But the commissioners should have analyzed clinically instead of depending on isolated historical events."

He continued, "The commission makes recommendations, but does not define a clear path to reform. "This constitution is a noose around our necks, because those who framed it did not trust us -- or even themselves -- and felt they had to give us a constitution to ensure that in all circumstances, no one could tamper with it, including themselves, because they always believe that we natives can never rule ourselves."

"People must have real rights and

Dr Anthony pointed out that "It's not easy to change provisions in the constitution" given us by Britain, "because it has entrenchments that deny future generations any chance to change it."

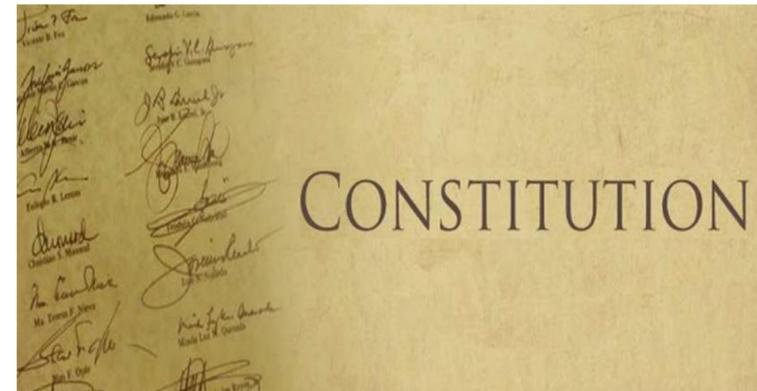
According to the PM, "They put in it onerous conditions," the lightest of which is two-thirds majority." But, he noted, that is "only the lowest" of the inbuilt requirements, "because it requires three quarters -- and even more in some cases -- to change certain entrenched provisions."

It was the Prime Minister's considered view that "This constitution was constructed on the foundation of political distrust." The Prime Minister then proceeded to make the startling revelation that the commission seemed to have dismissed or simply not considered his own submissions.

He said, "I submitted views, but the commission did not take it in." He felt "as if they wanted to ensure that those in political life had to be excluded from certain main parts of the discussions."

"They never made use of the collective wisdom of the politicians. But this exclusionary process took place and several MPs are reacting to that. "But if the boundaries were widened and the commission wasn't afraid to tell people what the politicians said about the issues at hand, that would have been better.

"And here again," there was too much concentration on the powers of the Prime Minister, including several that don't exist." Dr Anthony noted that David Cox, one of the commissioners (who just happens to also be his nephew) "understood that very well



-- and he said so in his dissenting submission, in which he said the recommendations are set to emasculate the Prime Minister and exchange one constitutional monster for another."

Addressing the recommendations for the Public Service, Dr Anthony said, "I will not hide my disappointment with proposal for Public Service. There is a chronic absence of leadership. The Public Service Commission has lost its will to punish, Heads of Department refuse to act, and the commission's proposals were benign and singularly unhelpful."

According to Dr Anthony, "The commission is recommending a hybrid of the British system and the US system and fixed-term elections that will de-nature the Westminster model and prevent us from modeling our own constitution in our own image and likeness."

Nonetheless, he added, "I think it is merely a proposal for consideration." The Prime Minister noted that "We are hybrid with both Common Law and Civil Law." And since the term 'Hybridization' was mentioned, "that attracted me initially, as a student and teacher of Constitutional Law."

He warned, however, that "The commission is recommending paralysis." Returning to the Recommendations he wished to comment on, the Prime Minister indicated,

"There are some views I welcome -- and I only speak for myself. "I agree with all who said there must be a statement of patrimony regarding the Queens Chain, because Cabinet is considering this and I will share it with Opposition, because the intention is to tell all that it is ours."

On another recommendation regarding the process itself, he said, "I also share that this constitutional reform must be done in our own likeness, for our children for today and the future, because that single act is important for self-affirmation. That chain that ties and bind us to British heritage must be broken."

On the recommendation that the Governor General be replaced by a President, the Prime Minister said, "I support replace-

ment of the Governor General by a President appointed by the government."

He explained that his position was not in regard to the bolder of the position, "because Dame Pearllette Louisy has been perfect." "But," he explained, "there are fictions associated with her post that St. Lucians don't understand up to today, including people who think the Governor General can't be removed by a Prime Minister."

"So," he continued, "it's a constitutional fiction that we have believed all along." Turning to another section of the Report, the Prime Minister said, "I don't know whether describing recommendations as 'the will of the people' is accurate.

"I know it reflects the views of some people here and abroad, but I would be curious to find out for example, whether the recommendation to replace the Governor General with a President represents the view of the majority."

"I rather suspect that if that proposition is put to the public in a referendum, they will not accept breaking with the monarchy." Regarding the recommendation to merge the Elections and Boundaries Commissions, the Prime Minister said, "I support merging the Elections and Boundaries Commissions and I will fight for it and defend it."

On the contentious matter of breaking with the Privy Council and making the Caribbean Court of Justice the island's final Court of Appeal, the Prime Minister referred to the earlier remarks of his immediate predecessor.

He indicated, "I accept that former Prime Minister Stephenson King has an open mind on the CCJ." But he was perplexed about the position of the leader of the major opposition party on the issue.

According to the PM, "I find it strange that current UWP leader claims to pay homage to Sir John Compton when he opposed to the CCJ, while Sir John was one of the first Caribbean Leaders to come out and say we have to get rid of the Privy Council.

"He says he will oppose Saint Lucia joining the CCJ, so that will be the test." Approaching the

conclusion of his contribution, the Prime Minister then focused on some of the things he would like to see.

He asked, "So, what do I really want?" For starters, he said, the process must be allowed to continue. "We have to open the door to reform." And again he found common ground with the MP for Castries North, Stephenson King.

According to PM Anthony, "I share the position of the MP for Castries and former Prime Minister that The Prime Minister should be elected by all the people and not the creature of a constituency, or have one vote that the whole of Saint Lucia should decide whether we want whoever as PM."

"The PM must emerge from a party that puts him of her up, but it must go to an electorate." On a related issue, he said, "I also feel that term limits undermine the people's will to decide who they want for how long."

He quipped, "We are not the USA; and the Prime Minister-ship is not a sou-sou." Dr Anthony says he also believes the Prime Minister's power to appoint ministers must be widened from just the House and Senate. He further explained, "I do not support the enlargement on the Senate. I favour its abolition. It is an anachronism, an unnecessary layer of government." He said he just "cannot remember when the senate ever submitted a proposal that changed anything." For example, he explained, "a bill can emanate from the senate, but that has never happened." Regarding his preference, he said, "I favour a unicameral system as in St Kitts and Nevis, Dominica and St Vincent and the Grenadines."

Further, he said, "I don't believe in Independent Senators. "And I think too that they (senators) should exist next to MPs in House and have a voice as well." Regarding the Senate, he said, "It is a copy of House of Lords. That's all."

The Prime Minister then turned to a matter he'd earlier indicated he had a definite position on. Describing it as "a controversial matter," he said he'd opted to "tread carefully and slowly for everyone go understand."

But, returning to the process

Dr Anthony urged his fellow MPs to "Look at independent positions appointed by constitution, like that of the Director of Audit, the Director of Public Prosecutions and others... Their offices are necessary, he said, but, in his considered view, "independence must never mean lack of accountability for what you will do." He said such officer "have independence, but they are not accountable."

The PM added, "Government gets blame for everything they (the 'independent' offices) are responsible for -- like the Lambirds case, where we have no say but if we talk we'll be accused of political interference, so we suffer in silence." "Same with the magistrates," he said, accusing the magistracy of "giving our legal system a bad reputation."

He asked, "How do they work and perform? How long do they work? How many cases do they hear per day? The Commission should have looked at that and fixed it without interfering with their independence."

On yet another matter, the PM didn't find common ground with the CRC. He said, "The Commission has not done a good job on Bill of Rights." He said what is proposed "is based on the European Commission for Human Rights." And on the matter of the language of the proposals, the Prime Minister made known his position in favour of not ignoring communicating the message in Kweyol.

He said, "Since the commission made a huge issue of the simplicity of language, I also think the report can be translated into Kweyol. We have shown it can be done by introducing Kweyol in Parliament, which has improved our vocabulary in this House."

Turning to the Report, as is, he said, "It is complex, unwieldy and bewildering." But, he added, "Its contents must be understood and people have to know that they have rights, but their rights are only as much as they do not infringe others' rights."

On the proposal for establishment of a Human Rights Commission, Dr Anthony said, "I do not support creation of a Human Rights commission to compete with the court that grants us redress." He asked, "Why do we want to create another layer of government?" And he again referred to Commissioner David Cox's dissenting view, which is also published in the report.

PM Anthony said, "Take what David Cox says at Page 62 regarding the appropriateness of the Human Rights Commission proposal: he says it will be an expensive constitutional extravagance."

Regarding the post of Contractor General, the PM said he would prefer that "it should not be constitutional, but provided for in law." He noted that several MPs and Senators had spoken on the matter of citizenship, but he said, "I will leave Citizenship matter for a wider debate."

But, returning to the process

that had bed. Started and was still under way, the PM said, "We have a unique opportunity so let us keep that door open. "Our people want changes, but in the debate we have a responsibility to tell them what is possible and what is not, as people are not always sufficiently well informed." The PM said, "We have commenced a journey, so we must pledge to the people that we will complete it."

"We started by joining hands with the opposition and if we continue to do that we will continue that journey. And if there are those who think change cannot come, this is a powerful statement that if can happen."

Noting that previous administrations all supported the CRC and the reform process from the beginning almost seven years ago, he said, "We have to appreciate the fact that Prime Minister Stephenson King saw the need to support and continue something Labour started."

In his view, "Nothing said in this House tells me anyone is against constitutional reform. They accept that all views must contend. I think it is vital we seize that opportunity of having politicians speak to the country and go the people who elected them."

Dr Anthony continued, "I am proud that I catalyzed an amendment to the constitution to allow young people to be appointed to the senate at 21... But the amendments wasn't done for me because I was already 30 when it happened."

He said, "We have to embrace this historic opportunity and invite the people to come with us. We have elections soon in a year and a few months time, but we have to embrace this process." According to the Prime Minister, "Something good has happened in this debate. We had a very short resolution and all we stated was that we will adopt and consult on it. "We have now reached that point and following this debate we will be able to move on together. "And I am glad the Member for Castries North has embraced the process."

The Prime Minister concluded, "There are those who have no hope, so they cannot see where it lies and where it exists, but by our agreement and debate we have said to the people that we have hope in the future of this country, which is why I support Motion and urge all to so support it." The PM then moved that House stand adjourned "Sine Die", until next week Tuesday, September 2nd 2015.



Acting Fire Chief visits Soufriere Fire Station

Acting Chief Fire Officer Lambert Charles paid a visit to the Soufriere Fire Station earlier last weekend, to hear the concerns of fire personnel in the west coast village. On Friday (August 21), in the aftermath of an incident in Soufriere where members of the public caused serious damage to an ambulance responding to an emergency, the Acting Fire Chief got a first-hand opportunity to speak to the crew who had been on duty at the time and to provide reassurances to them.

Mr. Charles says he was happy to find the officers in good spirits.

He explains, "The incident has had a traumatic effect on the



Acting Fire Chief Lambert Charles

responding fire officers as they did not expect to be rendering the service that they are trained

to deliver, under conditions that would put their lives in danger.

"Having said that, I have personally spoken to them and despite this unfortunate turn of events, they are willing to carry on with their duties,"

Mr. Charles has expressed empathy with all parties adversely affected by the incident in Soufriere.

He noted, however, that attacking persons or public property is unacceptable.

He called for the speedy return of calm and civic responsibility in the tourism-dependent town.

"We want to urge calm and level-headedness. Let the rule of law take its course and let us act as responsible people who genuinely care about the community" urged Mr. Charles.



Ambulances are important for all emergencies and Soufriere will soon have its damaged one repaired or replaced.

He gave the assurance that the damaged ambulance is being feverishly repaired in order to be returned to the station.

The town of Soufriere is ser-

viced by two fire ambulances. The Acting Fire Chief says both are required to provide adequate coverage to both visitors and nationals.

Creative Industries boosts local artistes through grand funding and training

The Ministry of Creative Industries' Grant Funding Program is reaping desired rewards. Savieon Georges is a musician, songwriter and music producer. He applied for a grant from the Ministry of Creative Industries because he found it difficult work efficiently without the necessary tools.

"I did not have an establishment where I could [work], so it was always a constant strain," he explained.

"I would call a producer or songwriter and nobody would be ready at the time when I was ready, or there were times when you call producers and they don't know who you are, so they

don't want to work with you."

Georges received grant funding for audio production and vocal recording equipment.

Since receiving the grant and training from the Ministry of Creative Industries, Georges said, he was able to start a profitable business enterprise.

"It worked out well, in the sense

that anything I needed was immediate. If an artist called me two days before, I could actually set up the studio time.

"It all just flowed - and, of course, revenue [flowed] as well because I get paid to record and write and I had a place where I could do so and not have to go somewhere else and pay rent.

"Everything was coming to me. "I actually have a business." In 2012, Georges was writing for himself and two artistes. Presently, his base has expanded to include a number of collaborations including Saint Lucia's Stratosphere Music, Trinidad and Tobago's Sherwin Winchester and Jamaica's Christopher Martin.

Saint Lucians assist guardians to purchase school supplies for orphan student



Citizens resident in Canada contributed the equivalent of EC\$1328 to help 11-year-old Hossein Constantine's guardians procure books, uniforms and school supplies ahead of his return to school next month. The Prime Minister and MP for Vieux Fort South, Dr Kenny D. Anthony, was happy to be on hand to hand over the donation during a brief ceremony.

Prime Minister and Member of Parliament for Vieux Fort South Dr. Kenny D. Anthony joined Vieux Fort Mayor Winall Joshua for a special presentation ceremony at the Vieux Fort South Constituency Council Office on Wednesday, August 20.

Born in Vieux Fort in 2004, Hossein Constantine had lost his mother by his first birthday. In early 2015, his father passed away as well. The soon-to-be 11-year-old has been taken in by his aunt and grandparents, with whom he lives at Bruceville.

Cognizant of the unanticipated burden that Hossein's family would be facing at this time, Mayor Joshua orchestrated

a fund-raising effort to support the young man, who will be entering Grade 6 at the Plain View Combined School in September.

To help Hossein's guardians procure books, uniforms and supplies, Mr. Joshua and his wife, Christine, rallied a number of Saint Lucian citizens resident in Toronto, Canada, who contributed the equivalent of \$1,328.35 to the resilient student.

Mr. Joshua and Prime Minister Anthony presented a cheque in that amount to young Hossein at a brief ceremony.

During the course of that ceremony the young man, who is also a fine singer, pledged to continue doing his best in school to honor his late parents.

CDF welcomes new Executive Director

Staff of the Cultural Development Foundation (CDF), on Monday 17th August, 2015 welcomed a new Executive Director to head the affairs of the organisation. This, following a commendation from the Board of Directors' Selection Panel.

The new CDF chief, Melchior Henry, will serve for a period of 2 years in the first instance.

Mr. Henry comes to the organization with a wealth of experience as a leader and manager. He is an educator and taught at the Vide Bouteille and Marchand Combined Schools between 1974 and 1980.

He was a part time lecturer at the Sir Arthur Lewis Community College between 1998 and 2007, in the area of Management Information Systems.

From 2010 until his recent appointment Henry served the Government of Saint Lucia as Project Manager on the National Health Information Systems Project and his expertise in this sphere, will be put to work towards achieving the goals of the restructured CDF.



New CDF Executive Director Melchior Henry.

Melchior Henry was a member of the now defunct "One Love Theatre", under the direction of Kennedy "Boots" Samuel. He was also a member of "Lighthouse Theatre".

The new ED is a member of the Folk Research Centre (FRC) and has published "Creative Writing: Book of Poetry" and co-edited with Kendel Hippolyte and contributed to a collection of essays entitled "PULSE".

The new Executive Director also involved in the publication of the now defunct Literary Magazine "Konte". His work has also been published in the anthology "Roseau Valley and other Poems for Brother George Odium", and the anthology "Confluence: Nine St. Lucian Poets", edited by Kendel Hippolyte.

His experience and involvement within the cultural and artistic community, without doubt, will augur well for the Institution as it continues to be both a champion for cultural preservation and a development change agent.

Since its establishment in 2002 (CDF ACT OF 2000), as the agency responsible to align the aspirations of cultural and creative individuals, groups, communities, policymakers and civil society through the implementation of the National Cultural Policy of Saint Lucia, the Cultural Development Foundation has been headed by Executive Directors Gabriel "Teddy" Francis and Kennedy "Boots" Samuel.

Talents emerge at ICT fair

CARCIP's maiden ICT Fair has been declared a resounding success.

The fair consisted of a week of activities including a digital marketing symposium aimed at the private sector, and a "hack-a-thon."

The "hack-a-thon" was an activity geared towards sensitizing young persons in the art of software and mobile applications development, as well as computer graphics and animation.

Project Coordinator for CARCIP Christopher Roberts said the turnout indicates high interest in the field.

He explained, "We made arrangements to accommodate 100 persons and on each day we had at least 75 attending.

"That is a significant number and the only complaint was that it is too short.

"Persons have obviously been extremely interested and a lot of talent has been unearthed. We are impressed with the turnout and with the talent we witnessed at this fair."

Roberts hopes the fair will inspire young entrepreneurs to pursue new avenues for economic development.

He continued, "Information

and Communications Technology represents a different way of doing things, an enhanced way of doing things but it is an opportunity to break free from the traditional models of business.

"You've heard terms like crowd funding and crowd sourcing, these are business models that can be applied and leveraged using ICTs so it is not a case anymore where you need to have a physical building to do business.

"You can do these things at home and have a very successful business." The fair was held from August 10-14.

The Diplomatic Courier

Simple Help Foundation donated supplies from Los Angeles



The Simple Help Foundation donated clothing and school supplies with an approximate value of \$70,000.

The Embassy of the Republic of China (Taiwan) has made a presentation to the Government of Saint Lucia on behalf of Simple Help Foundation, a Taiwanese non-profit based in Los Angeles, California.

Ambassador of the Republic of China (Taiwan) to Saint Lucia, His Excellency James Chang, presented donations of clothing, toys, and school supplies to Prime Minister and Minister for Finance, Economic Affairs, Planning and Social Security, Dr. Kenny D. Anthony.

"You spoke of building bridges of friendship between our country and the Republic of China (Taiwan). I would say the bridges have already been built; the bridges have very solid foundations, impregnable foundations -- and I'm really very pleased.

"Now, it is a question of ensuring that both of us utilize the bridge for our mutual interests as our friendship deepens in the days, weeks and months ahead," Dr. Anthony said.

"We are very grateful for your generosity, for your kindness, but I ask that you convey our thanks to Simple Help Foundation," he continued.

"The people of Saint Lucia are very generous people, but they also know how to say thank you for the things that are done for them. And I think all of us would feel a little disadvantaged if our thanks were not conveyed."

The Prime Minister also took the opportunity to extend his sympathies to the people of the Republic of China (Taiwan) following the recent passage of Typhoon Soudelor, which left, in its wake, eight dead, hundreds injured and millions of dollars in damage.

The donation comprised shoes, boots, bags, luggage, toys, clothes, fabric and school supplies at an approximate value of \$70,000. It will be handed over to the Ministry of Social Transformation, Local Government and Community Empowerment, to be distributed to persons in need.

Also present at Thursday's ceremony were Minister for Social Transformation, Local Government and Community Empowerment, Harold Dalsan, staff of the Office of the Prime Minister and staff of the Ministry of Social Transformation.

2015 Youth from Taiwan Compassion for All
外交部國際青年大使交流計畫
青年有愛 全球關懷

Energetic New Taiwan 壯遊新天地

Embassy of the Republic of China (Taiwan)

**Time: 7 p.m.
Date: 7th September, 2015
Venue: National Cultural Centre
Free Admission**

2015 Youth from Taiwan Compassion for All
外交部國際青年大使交流計畫
青年有愛 全球關懷

YOUTH AMBASSADORS TAIWAN ROC

Energetic New Taiwan

中華民國外交部
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Republic of China (Taiwan)

Delegation Members

 團長 / 陳柏秀 外交部 總領事館副領事 Director / Chen, Bor-Shou Ministry of Foreign Affairs	 副團長 / 潘莉君 國立臺灣體育運動大學 副教授 Deputy Director / Pan, Li-Chun Associate Professor, National Taiwan University of Sport	 隨團秘書 / 洪欣隆 外交部 簡任科員 Secretary / Hung, Hsin-Lung Ministry of Foreign Affairs	 舞臺執行助理 / 林光毅 國立臺灣藝術大學 Stage Assistant / Lin, Guang-Yi National Taiwan University of Arts
 團員 / 蔡婷育 國立臺灣師範大學 Tsai, Ting-Yu National Taiwan Normal University	 團員 / 呂秉桂 慈濟大學 Lu, Bing-Kuei Tzu Chi University	 團員 / 林冠廷 長庚大學 Lin, Kuan-Ting Cheng Gung University	 團員 / 黃曉暉 國立臺灣藝術大學 Hung, Hsiao-Hsuan National Taiwan University of Arts
 團員 / 賈鈞漢 國立國防大學 Chia, Chun-Han National Defense University	 團員 / 陳亮昶 中華民國海軍軍官學校 Chen, Liang-Yun R.O.C. Naval Academy	 團員 / 林均桓 國立高雄師範大學 Lin, Jun-Huan National Kaohsiung Normal University	 團員 / 李振豪 國立臺灣藝術大學 Li, Chen-Hao Taiwan National University of the Arts
 團員 / 吳易庭 國立臺灣師範大學 Wu, Ting-Ting National Taiwan College of Performing Arts	 團員 / 吳舜文 輔仁大學 Wu, Shun-Wen Fu Jen Catholic University	 團員 / 吳展孫 國立政治大學 Wu, Chen-Sun National Chengchi University	 團員 / 凌文婷 國立臺灣藝術大學 Ling, Wen-Ting National Taiwan University of Arts
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The Diplomatic Courier

Mexico to host international business forum

The forum's objective is to promote economic development and regional competitiveness through the increase of trade and investment.

Ambassador of Mexico in Saint Lucia, Luis Manuel Lopez Moreno, recently met with Executive Director of the Saint Lucia Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture, Mr. Brian Louisy, to discuss the upcoming International Business Forum which will be held in Cancun, Mexico from September 9 to 11.

The event is being organized by ProMéxico in collaboration with the Government of the State of Quintana Roo, the Secretariat of Foreign Relations and the Secretariat of Economy.

ProMéxico is the Mexican Government's trade and investment promotion agency that supports the export activity of companies established in the country and coordinates actions to attract foreign direct investment to national territory.

The forum will consist of a series of business meetings, seminars, sectoral panels and

the exhibition of Mexican global companies with the principal objective of promoting economic development and regional competitiveness through the increase of trade and investment between Mexico and the countries in the Caribbean basin.

It is anticipated that the Cancun Forum will include the participation of approximately 500 business owners, 50 buyers from the Caribbean basin, 150 Mexican export companies not to mention participation of Mexican Trade Commissioners from Guatemala, Miami, Cuba, and Colombia, accompanied by their buyer missions.

Products and services to be promoted in the business meetings will be focused on articles for the home and decoration; fresh and processed foods and beverages; construction materials; pharmaceuticals, healthcare and health and beauty; textiles and apparel; and infrastructure projects.

GITS receives ISO certification

The Government Information Technology Services (GITS) formally Computer Centre Limited, has acquired ISO 27001 certification for its Information Security Management Systems (ISMS) Project.

The Information Security Management Systems (ISMS) Project aims to help government manage information in a secure way.

Minister for the Public Service, Information and Broadcasting, Senator Dr. James Fletcher said the Government of Saint Lucia is determined to ensure that its information systems are secure.

At a certificate presentation ceremony last Thursday, certificates were presented to the ISO team comprising staff of GITS, and the ISO internal audit team comprising staff of the Division of Public Sector Modernization.

Taiwanese Ambassador James Chang said the Taiwan ICDF's ICT Technical Cooperation Project in Saint Lucia has drawn on Taiwan's information se-

curity management technology and capacity in providing consultancy and guidance to GITS.

"As part of this project, the Taiwan ICDF invited Taiwanese vendors to assist the Computer Centre Limited in conducting an intensive internal review and to provide detailed education and training," he said.

"They were also able to complete improvements to information security management systems and four-tier file information security, ensuring that the Saint Lucian government's ICT operations take place within a safe and secure information environment."

The four-tier security system incorporates Information Security Policies at level one; Standard Operating Procedures at level two; Operating Guidelines at level three; and Management Forms at level four.

The presentation ceremony was held on August 20.

The ISMS project received \$287,787 in funding from the Government of the Republic of China (Taiwan).

'Simón Bolívar' naval school vessel to visit St. Lucia next month

On May 23, the naval school vessel "Simon Bolivar" - the Naval Standard of the Bolivarian Armed Forces - sailed from Port Marítimo José María Vargas in Vargas State, Venezuela, to commence its XXVII Foreign Training Cruise called "Caribbean 2015".

The vessel is expected to dock at Port Castries from 18th to 22nd September. After a tour of the vessel conducted by the Naval Captain Gines Enrique Añanguren Santana, President of the Republic of Venezuela, Nicolás Maduro, accompanied by Minister Carmen Meléndez from the Ministry of the Office of the Presidency, Monitoring and Management of Government saw the ship and its crew of 170 persons (among which are cadets, sailors and officers of the Bolivarian Navy and invited officials of the Armed Forces of Brazil and Uruguay) off on its mission to strengthen the union amongst Latin American and the Caribbean nations through the exchange of expertise and culture -- a tradition initiated by the Eternal Commander Hugo Chavez and the Bolivarian Government, simultaneously, in keeping with the objectives of the academic curriculum of the Military Academy of the Bolivarian Armed Forces.

Also known as the Venezuelan "Ambassador without Borders", the vessel is one of four of its type which were built in 1978 at



The 'Simon Bolivar' is a special flagship of the Venezuelan Navy dedicated to spreading friendship in the region, earning it the added name of Venezuela's naval 'Ambassador without Borders'.

the Celaya de Bilbao shipyard in Spain and launched on 21st November 1979.

It flew the Venezuelan flag for the first time on the 12th August 1980. Manuel Felipe Rincón, a distinguished Venezuelan visual artist designed the ship's figurehead, which depicts a woman wrapped in the national colours of Venezuela and in her right hand she holds a sword symbolizing "Our Freedom" -- priceless -- from the chains of oppression.

This instruction voyage is being carried out in two phases. Phase 1 included Barbados, Belize, Havana, Jamaica, and returning to Venezuela on the 24th July to participate in the naval parade for the celebration

of the Day of the Armed Bolivarian.

On the night of the 24th July the "Simon Bolivar" set sail again, and as part of the second phase of instruction it will visit Honduras, Bahamas, Santiago de Cuba and finally St. Lucia on the 18th September, returning to Port La Guaira, Venezuela the 26th September 2015.

The Embassy of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela in St. Lucia extends an open invitation to the St. Lucian public and visitors alike, on the Friday 18th September at 8:30 am at the Castries Harbour, to welcome the "Simon Bolivar BE-11" naval school vessel, as it makes its entrance into the Castries Harbour.

Petrocaribe and FAO promote good living through food security in the region



Participants at the Saint Lucia meeting reported progress in assistance for school feeding programs, as well as assistance to farmers.

As part of Phase 2 of the information tour of the Commander Hugo Chavez Action Plan to eradicate hunger and poverty, the Petrocaribe Executive Secretariat, together with representatives of the Cooperation Program Venezuela-FAO Food Sovereignty and Security for Latin America and the Caribbean (SANA) and members of PDV Caribe, visited Antigua and Barbuda and Saint Lucia to meet with high-level representatives and point persons in both countries.

During the meetings, they presented the work methodology for agro-industrial projects and the financing mechanism for these Caribbean countries.

The goal is to strengthen food sovereignty and security among the peoples of the Caribbean and Central America.

While the scope of the plan was being presented, representatives from the government of Antigua and Barbuda raised critical issues which pertain to their country such as water availability and storage capacity of products.

They considered it important to focus on the improvement of technological tools, generation of new capacities, staffing and personnel training, improvements in storage infrastructure and pest control, which so affects domestic crops.

The members of the delegation

of Saint Lucia said that they have made a significant effort in the execution of projects according to the Action Plan's guidelines.

Worthy of note is the support to the farming program for the supply of food to schools in populations living in poverty.

Additionally, they have provided agricultural tools and equipment to small producers, developed technology for processing agricultural products and lent their support to livestock projects.

The Commander Hugo Chavez Action Plan advances through the implementation of projects that provide Caribbean nations with food security and 'buen vivir' (good living) for the peoples.

Coconut Bay Resort provides more needed financial support to St Jude Hospital

Last week's Charity Rubber Duck Race was used as the backdrop for yet another donation from Coconut Bay Beach Resort & Spa to St Jude Hospital. The weekly Rubber Duck Race serves as the main opportunity for resort guests to support local charities of which St Jude Hospital is one of the primary beneficiaries.

The hotel's monetary assistance to St Jude Hospital is dedicated to the hospital's Pediatric Ward, as part of Memorandum of Understanding between the medical institution and Coconut Bay established in October of 2013.

During last week's presentation, a cheque in the amount of \$10,000 was presented to the CEO of St Jude Hospital Dr. Chierry Poyotte by Coconut Bay Ag General Manager, Mr. Karl

Hallberg and President of the hotel's Sports and Social Committee, Ms. Leona Constable.

With this latest gift, the total contributions provided to St Jude Hospital has exceeded \$40,000 since the partnership began in 2013.

Over the course of the resort's support, the hospital has been able to utilize funds received to acquire equipment such as: a Cardiac Monitor, Portable Pulse Oximeter and a Pediatric Scale for use within the Pediatric ward.

Supporting St Jude Hospital forms part of a broader philanthropic mission by Coconut Bay to give back to the community and the island through the health and education sectors.

The Comfort Bay Senior Citizens Home in the south and on a national level, all Pre Schools on



St. Jude Hospital CEO Dr. Chierry Poyotte (third from right) received the cheque from Coconut Bay Acting General manager Karl Hallberg, while the President of the Sports & Social Club and other members of staff look on.

the island are among the many beneficiaries of the generous efforts of Coconut Bay guests, owner, management and staff.

Mr. Karl Hallberg, Hotel Acting General Manager, in

his remarks during the brief ceremony noted: "We are indeed honored to join with our guests to make such a valuable contribution towards the upkeep of St Jude Hospital and

in particular the health of our children.

"Our commitment is unwavering and a reflection of our genuine desire to improve the welfare of all of our island's citizens."

Corporate Saint Lucia pitches-in with CDF to bring La Wòz to All!



LUCELEC, Baywalk Mall, JQ Rodney Bay Mall, Consolidated Foods Limited, Scotia Bank and LIME were among the corporate entities that contributed to this year's La Woz festivities organized by the CDF. In photo, the CFL representative hands over a cheque to CDF's Drenia Frederick while other sponsors look on.

The season of the Rose is here again - Viv La Wòz! And once again, the Cultural Development Foundation has teamed up with Corporate Partners and the La Wòz groups around the island to enable more and more people to enjoy the wonderful celebration that brings revelers of all ages - from toddlers to great-grand parents together in an age-old tradition.

On Saturday 22nd the Rodney Bay Strip came alive between the Baywalk and JQ Rodney Bay Malls, both sponsors of the event:

From around 6pm, traditional music by popular folk band Mamai La Caye filled the air and Jason 'Bachelor' Joseph led somewhat timid spectators, soon joined by members of the La Wòz groups, through a session learning a variety dances: Omans Duple, Maynan, Kwadril and Lakonmèt dances.

The crowds began to gather and smiles began to be seen all around.

This was the start of the Rodney Bay La Wòz Séance, the first ever to be held in Rodney Bay. Once the dance class was over the real Séance began - the members of the groups each lined up as the Chantwél and band took the stage.

The Séance is a tradition that the La Wòz groups used to raise funds for the main event of the tradition: the Gwan Fèt. Here the groups dance and sing in an endless circle while on one side sit the Magistwa (Magistrate) and in the centre is a table bearing tempting sweets.

The members of the group try to steal sweets and if caught by

one of the 'Police' also circling the event, they are brought to explain themselves to the Magistwa who then fines them and puts the money in the kitty for the group's savings.

At this Séance, fundraising was further helped along as several of the groups had prepared tasty traditional foods in the CFL La Wòz Kitchen; Consolidated Foods Limited sponsored ingredients to give the groups an extra boost in their fundraising activities.

The evening was a resounding success; crowds lined both sides of the street laughing, singing, dancing - some joined in the revelry fully including being arrested and paying their fines. Members of the groups 'fainted' 'overcome' by their exertions and were swiftly attended to by 'Doctors' and 'Nurses'.

Even the Queen was overcome at one point and there were calls for someone to 'Bring a Rose! She must take the scent of the Rose! And indeed, she was miraculously revived.

For those who missed this wonderful evening, the main event the Gwan Fèt La Wòz takes place this Sunday the 30th August at Vieux Fort with a Church service followed by the Gwan Parade at 2pm joined by a visiting group from Martinique "En bel pa Lamantinwa".

The Cultural Development Foundation wishes to thank all those who made this year's La Wòz celebrations possible - LUCELEC, Baywalk Mall, JQ Rodney Bay Mall, Consolidated Foods Limited, Scotia Bank and LIME.

Small businesses honoured at 2015 SLISBA awards



The St. Lucia Industrial and Small Business Association (SLISBA) Awards presentation took place at the Coconut Bay Resort and Spa last Saturday, celebrating the best in small, micro and medium enterprises. SLISBA President Flavia Cherry reported that a record number of nominations were received, a process which began eleven months ago. Twenty-two awards were presented of which ten were special awards. The main awards category saw Viking Traders receiving the award for Manufacturer of the Year with Cost U Less Boutique winning the Entrepreneur of the Year trophy. The Special Awards recognised Leslie Jn Baptiste as Youth Entrepreneur of the year with Jacqueline Ann Christopher as Roadside Vendor of the year. Photo shows winners lined-up after receiving their worthy prizes.

Saint Lucia hosted UN Workshop on Sustainable Development and Human Settlements

Representatives from Caribbean countries met here on Monday and Tuesday (August 24-25) in Saint Lucia to identify opportunities for collective action on the path towards the full implementation of access rights to information, public participation and justice in environmental matters, enshrined in Principle 10 of the Declaration of the 1992 Rio Summit.

The meeting was organized by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) and the World Resources Institute (WRI). Participants include representatives from Caribbean countries, experts and members of civil society organizations, who will address the main challenges the sub-region faces on this matter.

The gathering was inaugurated on Monday, August 24 by Diane Quarless, Director of ECLAC's Sub-regional Headquarters for the Caribbean; Turkessa Benjamin, OECS's Senior Legal Officer; and Karetta Crooks-Charles, representative from the public of Saint Lucia.

The speakers included Carlos de Miguel, Head of the Policies for Sustainable Development Unit at ECLAC's Sustainable Development Division; Senator Maureen Payne, Junior Minister of Justice and Legal Affairs in Antigua and Barbuda; Judge Winston Anderson of the Caribbean Court of Justice; Chateram Sinanan, Chairman of the Environmental Commission of Trinidad and Tobago (environmental court); and Damian Cox, Director of the Access to Information Unit of the Jamaican Prime Minister's Office, among others.

At the meeting, ECLAC presented a preliminary version of the Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters, drafted at the request of countries from the Negotiating Committee on the regional accord.

In addition, during the meeting participants analyzed the challenges seen in terms of strengthening capacities and cooperation as well as countries' specific needs for the implementation of the Bali Guidelines.

This event was followed on Wednesday (August 26) by a workshop on climate change, natural disasters and coastal vulnerability in the Caribbean, where participants discussed topics such as access to information on climate change and the measurement of the effects of disasters and their impact on the sub-region.

St. Lucia Makes World Sports History -- Again!

Leverne Spencer and Jeanelle Scheper are the only Caribbean and Latin American athletes in the Women's High Jump Finals at the World Championships in Beijing today.

by Terry Finisterre

The women's high jump qualification took place on Wednesday evening Caribbean time, Day 6 of the IAAF World Championships in Athletics, at the Bird's Nest Stadium in Beijing, China.

Among the 28 women entered, Saint Lucia was one of a few countries with at least two athletes. Other countries included Spain, Sweden, Great Britain, Ukraine, Russia and Croatia.

The task was 1.94m for the best 12 athletes. Of course, both Saint Lucians had gone past that 1.94m mark on multiple occasions in their careers and certainly this year as well.

In Group A, veteran jumper Leverne Spencer, 31, started at the opening height of 1.80m and cleared it on the first attempt. Her younger coun-

terpart, 21-year-old Jeanelle Scheper, did the same in Group B.

At 1.85, it was the same story, with some of the casualties by this time including Chaunte Lowe of the USA, a former World Indoor Champion. Priscilla Frederick of Antigua-Barbuda would exist at the next height.

Scheper, meanwhile, would encounter difficulty at that height, 1.89m. With her mother, Sheryl, celebrating her birthday in Saint Lucian time (a day earlier for Jeanelle) she cleared the height on the third try to stay alive.

At 1.92, the crop thinned even more. Just five women in Group A cleared at the first attempt, including Spencer, World Leader, Ana Chicherova of Russia and former World Champion, Blanka Vlasic of Croatia.

In Group B, Scheper was one of six over at 1.92 on their opening trial, along with young Commonwealth champion, Eleanor Patterson of Australia and veteran Ruth Beitia of Spain. Two more ladies cleared subsequently.

With 13 women over at 1.92, it was decided to take the baker's dozen to the final, 6:30am Saturday, Caribbean time.

Saint Lucia is one of just three countries with two women among the top 13, besides Russia and Croatia.

Both women from Sweden and Great Britain were knocked out, so too the three from Ukraine. Only one of the Bulgarians made it.

Tiny Saint Lucia had made history once again. (Courtesy: Saint Lucia News Online)



Jeanelle Scheper (left) and Leverne Spencer left home with much confidence and more public support.



Leverne Spencer in action on her way to being the first of only two women from the Caribbean and Latin America to survive for the women's High Jump finals today.



Jeanelle Scheper prepared well for the women's High Jump qualification of the Beijing 2015 IAAF World Championships at the National Stadium, also known as Bird's Nest, in Beijing, China.