



Surprise Shopping Mall Christmas Video Hallelujah Chorus - Must See! [Play video](#)



[Play video](#) < click here

This is the most watched Christmas Video this year

On Nov.13 2010 unsuspecting shoppers got a big surprise while enjoying their lunch. Over 100 participants in this awesome Christmas Flash Mob. This is a must...00:04:57 - <http://www.AlphabetPhotography.com>. This video was filmed in a mall in Toronto. Canada

Fifty percent chance of oil in 12 months – says Sully of CGX Energy

NOVEMBER 26, 2010 [Stabroek News](#)

There is a 50% chance of oil being discovered here within the next 12 months, according to CGX Energy Inc's President, Kerry Sully who said that a find could treble Guyana's economy.



Kerry Sully

Sully, speaking to local businessmen at an awards dinner last night, told them that with preparations for drilling underway locally, there are several opportunities they can tap into.

Apart from tripling the size of the economy, an oil find would have a multiplier effect through local services, Sully said at the Guyana Manufacturing and Services Association's (GMSA) 15th Annual Presentation Awards Dinner at the Princess Hotel.

CGX and its partners including Spanish oil giant, Repsol are preparing to drill the deepest well in the region offshore Guyana next year. Following the drilling of the 'Jaguar 1', CGX will then drill for oil at its Eagle location in the Corentyne.

Sully said that if there is a discovery next year, production can begin within four years. CGX had attempted to drill at the Eagle location in 2000 but was forced off by Surinamese gunboats. The United Nations has since resolved the maritime border between the two countries, largely in Guyana's favour.

TOP10- Guyanese Online Blog- November 2010

The Guyanese Online Blog gets over 10,000 visitors per month. The monthly newsletters reach is estimated at over 30,000 per month. In November, the Newsletter downloads were among the highest. They were followed by these other Blog entries. You can view them by clicking on the entries below:-

1. [Home page](#)
2. [Tradewinds - Dave Martins - 3 videos](#)
3. [Living in Guyana – slide show](#)
4. [Real Old Guyana Calypso - Bill Rogers](#)
5. [Diwali Celebrations Around the World](#)
6. [TAKUTU BRIDGE - Rupununi. Guyana](#)
7. ["THE TRADEWINDS" - Guyana Medley](#)
8. [CBS TV boost for Guyana tourism - Videos](#)
9. ["Your Barbados" Presents Merryman Medley](#)
10. [On the Street Where I lived in B.G.](#)

Inside this issue:

Pg 1	Shopping mall Christmas video	Pg 9	Guyanese wins award in Belize.
	50% chance of oil in 12 months		GT scientist featured in GQ mag.
	Top 10 on Guyanese Online Blog	Pg.10	COFONA _ New Amsterdam group
Pg. 2	"The new Reality"; Videos on Education. Article on the US.	Pg 11	COTAB– Toronto's Buxton group
Pg 3	Future		Boxing day Dance in Toronto
Pg 4	WikiLeaks - good for Democracy?	Pg 12	BHS Toronto Alumni –25 years
	Guyana News. Development re		Guyanese Association of Manitoba
Pg. 5	T&T Growth reported by IMF	Pg.13	Tutorial Toronto Reunion—2011
Pg. 6	Brazil keen on Hydro, Lethem road		Raisin Bread for Mom
Pg 7	Skeldon Factory issues with GAWU		The Arts Forum & Arts Journal
Pg. 8	CBS-TV visit boost for Guyana's tourism—Videos	Pg.14	PODCASTS by Muriel Glasgow
		Pg 15	Celebrating Creative Personalities
			Remembering Edgar Mittelholzer
		Pg 16	Conservation by Amerindians

The Newsletter and Blog for Guyanese Individuals, Associations and Groups Worldwide

Welcome to the Guyanese Online Newsletter

By: Cyril Bryan, Editor and Publisher

This is the **tenth edition** of the Guyanese Online Newsletter. The newsletters and Blog have been well received and reach thousands of Guyanese and their friends worldwide. I must thank all those who have commented and sent personal e-mails. Thanks also to the associations, and advertisers.



Cyril Bryan

EDITORIAL - Decade One – “The New Reality”

This is the end of the first decade of the 21st Century.

As we celebrate the Holiday Season, we may look at the positive and negative changes of this first decade and be amazed and also concerned. We look forward to a more stable 2011.

The ten years since 2000 have been difficult. Many of the largest world economies, especially the US, (see article on this page) are in trouble. Stability and security in good jobs is no longer possible. The rate of change has increased and many people, companies, organizations and governments are economically bankrupt and in deep structural and economic trouble. The next decade will not be easy, unless we understand what is happening and see the trends and plan.

We had been forewarned, as early as the mid-1960's, about the effects of electronic technology on our societies. For instance, [Marshall McLuhan](#), the great Canadian thinker and author, explained that all technologies are “extensions of man”, and that multi-tasking computer technologies - extensions of the brain - would wreck the constructs of the linear thinking Gutenberg's mechanical age we have lived for over 500 years. We now know that the changes are revolutionary and have completely changed the world we live in, irrespective of where we live. McLuhan said in 1968 that we would be living in a “Global Village”. The Internet's power and the recent USA WikiLeaks leaks prove this. (see page 3)

Another effect we are also seeing is the great divide, especially in mutual respect, between the three generations: born after 1940+ (baby boom); 1960+ (Generation X) and 1980+ (Generation Y). The baby boomers of my generation created the computers, the Internet and the first communications products of this “New Age”. They are now retired or not involved, except in some older high-tech companies. Later generations (X and Y) are now fully immersed in this new Internet Age, creating Google and social networks, and the scientific discoveries that will change business, governments, and people as they communicate. Time, space and location are not major issues in today's world.... and this is just the beginning.

The shrinking job markets of “low-tech” have many in a quandary. Some people have problems relating to technological change, changing their jobs, and living in a world that requires lifelong learning and adaptation to changed environments. Their education has not prepared them for this new world.

On this page, I have featured two videos on “Education” that explain some of the issues we face today in preparing our present and future generations for the world of rapid change and transformation. The need for creativity and flexibility are paramount today in this new “Age of Google”. More later!

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays. Happy New Year!

SEND YOUR COMMENTS TO THE BLOG

If you would like to comment on this newsletter or Blog please go to comments for [December Newsletter link HERE](#) < click.

You do not have to use your actual name. In your comments. You can also write Cyril at guyaneseonline@gmail.com

VIDEOS - Education and Development

Promoting Greater Creativity in Education

FEATURE VIDEOS FOR THIS ISSUE

EDUCATION IS IN CRISIS

Here are two related videos on Education that highlight the effects of rapid change on our society. “Production Line Education” stifles creativity and there is a need to transform our ideas relating to educating the future generations.

RSA Animate - Changing Education Paradigms

[Video # 1- This animate was adapted from a talk given at the RSA by Sir Ken Robinson, world-renowned education and creativity expert and recipient of the RSA's Benjamin Franklin award.](#) < click here

Sir Ken Robinson - Differentiated Thinking

[Video# 2: This is an edited version of Ken's longer 20 minute talk. The items isolated in this talk tend to support the notion of multiple intelligences.](#) < click here

The Decline and Fall of the American Empire

by: [Alfred W. McCoy](#) | [TomDispatch](#) | Sunday 05 December 2010

[Read complete article by clicking here](#) < click

A soft landing for America 40 years from now? Don't bet on it. The demise of the United States as the global superpower could come far more quickly than anyone imagines. If Washington is dreaming of 2040 or 2050 as the end of the American Century, a more realistic assessment of domestic and global trends suggests that in 2025, just 15 years from now, it could all be over except for the shouting.

Despite the aura of omnipotence most empires project, a look at their history should remind us that they are fragile organisms. So delicate is their ecology of power that, when things start to go truly bad, empires regularly unravel with unholy speed: just a year for Portugal, two years for the Soviet Union, eight years for France, 11 years for the Ottomans, 17 years for Great Britain, and, in all likelihood, 22 years for the United States, counting from the crucial year 2003.

Future historians are likely to identify the Bush administration's rash invasion of Iraq in that year as the start of America's downfall. However, instead of the bloodshed that marked the end of so many past empires, with cities burning and civilians slaughtered, this twenty-first century imperial collapse could come relatively quietly through the invisible tendrils of economic collapse or cyberwarfare. [more](#)

Why WikiLeaks Is Good for Democracy

by: [Bill Quigley, truthout | Op-ed](#)

Information is the currency of democracy.
-Thomas Jefferson

Since 9/11, the US government, through Presidents Bush and Obama, has increasingly told the US public that "state secrets" will not be shared with citizens. Candidate Obama pledged to reduce the use of state secrets, but President Obama continued the Bush tradition. The courts, Congress and international allies have gone meekly along with the escalating secrecy demands of the US Executive.

By labeling tens of millions of documents secret, the US government has created a huge vacuum of information.

But information is the lifeblood of democracy. Information about government contributes to a healthy democracy. Transparency and accountability are essential elements of good government. Likewise, "a lack of government transparency and accountability undermines democracy and gives rise to cynicism and mistrust," according to a 2008 Harris survey commissioned by the Association of Government Accountants.

Into the secrecy vacuum stepped Private Bradley Manning, who, according to the Associated Press, was able to defeat "Pentagon security systems using little more than a Lady Gaga CD and a portable computer memory stick."

Manning apparently sent the information to Wikileaks - a non-profit media organization that specializes in publishing leaked information. Wikileaks in turn shared the documents to other media around the world, including The New York Times, and published much of the documents' contents on its website.

Despite criminal investigations by the U.S. and other governments, it is not clear that media organizations like Wikileaks can be prosecuted in the U.S., in light of the First Amendment. Recall that the First Amendment says: "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or of the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances."

Outraged politicians are claiming that the release of government information is the criminal equivalent of terrorism and puts innocent people's lives at risk. Many of those same politicians authorized the modern equivalent of carpet bombing of Baghdad and other Iraqi cities, the sacrifice of thousands of lives of soldiers and civilians and drone assaults on civilian areas in Afghanistan, Pakistan and Yemen.

Their anger at a document dump, no matter how extensive, is more than a little suspect.

Everyone, including Wikileaks and the other media reporting on what the documents reveal, hopes that no lives will be lost because of this flood of information. So far, it appears those hopes have been met: McClatchy Newspapers reported November 28, 2010, that "US officials conceded that they have no evidence to date that the [prior] release of documents led to anyone's death."

The U.S. has been going in the wrong direction for years by classifying millions of documents as secrets. Wikileaks and other media that report these so-called secrets will embarrass people, yes. Wikileaks and other media will make leaders uncomfortable, yes. But embarrassment and discomfort are small prices to pay for a healthier democracy.



WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange of Sweden

Wikileaks has the potential to make transparency and accountability more robust in the U.S. That is good for democracy.

Bill Quigley is legal director at the Center for Constitutional Rights and a law professor at Loyola University New Orleans. He is a Katrina survivor and has been active in human rights in Haiti for years with the Institute for Justice and Democracy in Haiti. He can be reached at quigley77@gmail.com.

Source: <http://www.truth-out.org/why-wikileaks-good-democracy65549> You may see comments here as well.

WIKILEAKS HAS 380 GUYANA CABLES

By December 1, **Wikileaks** had [posted only 505 of the 251,287 messages](#) it says it has obtained. However, all of the messages have been made available to five publications, including the New York Times and the Guardian.

The Wikileaks.org website shows 380 documents for Guyana but these have not been uploaded as yet. Several news organizations have been delivered the entire lot and they have been serializing the contents. Some of the ones already reported on pertain to a Saudi demand for the US to root out the Iranian nuclear programme, China growing disaffected with North Korea over its military antics and US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton questioning the mental health of Argentinean President Christina Fernandez de Kirchner.

The Wikileaks website said it began on November 28th publishing 251,287 leaked USA embassy cables, "the largest set of confidential documents ever to be released into the public domain. The documents will give people around the world an insight into US Government foreign activities."

It said that the cables, which date from 1966 up until the end of February this year, contain confidential communications between 274 embassies in countries throughout the world and the State Department in Washington DC. Of these 15,652 of the cables are classified as Secret.

The website said that the embassy cables will be released in stages over the next few months. "The subject matter of these cables is of such importance, and the geographical spread so broad, that to do otherwise would not do this material justice."

Jagdeo to ANSA McAL execs: Guyana a land of opportunities

[Stabroek editor On November 5, 2010](#)

(Trinidad Guardian) Guyana's President Bharrat Jagdeo yesterday told a group of ANSA McAL executives that there were huge business opportunities in his country. Speaking yesterday at the Tatil boardroom before a business luncheon with the conglomerate's executives, Jagdeo said his country had emerged as a "basket case" in the Caribbean to become one of the safest. Noting that he hoped to stimulate the already high interest the group has in his country, Jagdeo said ANSA McAL Group Chairman Norman Sabga had visited Guyana recently and left with a very good impression of how things were going.

"Guyana had a very difficult time. Our debt situation was one of the worst in the world," he recalled. "There was a sense of hopelessness in the country. A report from the Caribbean Council of Churches said there was no sense of identity in Guyana." He said he had fixed the economy and improved infrastructure. Jagdeo said his government has spent quite a bit on infrastructure, fixing 800 of the 1200 schools and con-

structing eight new hospitals. He said his government had given out 80,000 house lots in Guyana where there are 200,000 households.

"Everybody is building, even the cleaners and security guards. Interest rates have gone down and the country is becoming more politically stable." One area of opportunity lies in Guyana's connection and growing relations with South America, in particular, Brazil. He said Guyana has a free trade agreement with Brazil and has extended the list of items they can export into that country. He said there were plans to build a bridge connecting the two countries, as well as a huge power plant and a deep-water harbour in Guyana.

"I am seeing several Guyanese firms and some foreign ones building warehouses," Jagdeo said. Further, there were plans to expand the rice industry and move peasant farming to large scale agriculture. "We are exploring for oil and gas now," he added. After he concluded his address, Sabga moved a vote of thanks and presented a token to Jagdeo and minister in the Guyana government, Irfaan Ali, who accompanied the President on the trip to T&T.

Guyana registers 'robust growth' for fifth straight year -IMF

International Monetary Fund (IMF)

In a statement released yesterday (November 19, 2010), Therese Turner-Jones, chief of a recent IMF mission to Guyana, said that real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth is projected at just shy of 4%, which is above last year's figure. This was underpinned by increased activity in the gold and services sector.

The statement also mentioned an uptick in sugar though figures on the ground do not support this. Even in the backdrop of risk including concerns about the sugar sector, Turner-Jones said the team expected "growth to continue on a steady path, supported by expansion in the mining and construction sectors." It also noted that despite a small increase in food prices inflation remains relatively low. Talks between the two sides focused on strategies to preserve fiscal and debt sustainability over the medium term in the context of the Low Carbon Development Strategy and to further boost economic flexibility and resilience to shocks, while continuing to reduce poverty. "Fiscal consolidation remains a priority, consistent with the authorities' commitment of maintaining a sustainable medium term debt path.

Staff recommended strengthening ongoing efforts to improve the fiscal outturn, given existing challenges in the sugar sector. Maintaining the strong fiscal stance would also help to support external sector stability.

Staff welcomed the continued improvements in public financial management and tax administration, especially with respect to compliance and risk management. It welcomed the increase in the gross foreign reserves position, to about five months of imports at present," Turner-Jones added.

She said too that while the banking system remains liquid and well capitalized, continued vigilance is necessary, particularly in the backdrop of the ongoing housing boom. She noted that recent enhancements in financial sector supervision and regulation, including new guidelines on risk management, are welcome.

Turner-Jones also commended the dissemination of financial sector indicators, which now appear on the Bank of Guyana's website

The IMF Executive Board is expected to discuss Guyana's Article 1V consultation in January 2011. Turner-Jones expressed the mission's gratitude "for the open communication and close collaboration enjoyed over the past two weeks not only with government officials but with all Guyanese stakeholders, with whom it had the privilege of exchanging views."

Commentary

The annual ritual of the Auditor General Report

By: [Christopher Ram](#)

Introduction

Sometimes around now, sometimes later, the press and the public are excited when the report of the Audit Office on the accounts of the ministries, departments and regions is tabled in the National Assembly. They feed on reports of Contingencies Fund abuse, unreconciled bank accounts; single sourcing of drugs from the New Guyana Pharmaceutical Corporation; vehicle log books not maintained and improperly kept stock records. More recently a disproportionate amount of time was devoted in the 2008 and 2009 audit reports on expired air fresheners and Baygon and overpayments of \$30,000 and \$50,000 for the acquisition of purchases.

Not that these things are not important. They are. But the danger to which the press and the public fall prey is that they displace some of the really crucial issues of accounting and accountability that cost the nation billions of dollars annually, paid for by exorbitant rates of VAT and personal taxes. Perhaps a bit too subtly to be noticed, the Audit Office has been downsizing the report even as the causes and cases of wastage and misuse of public funds become more obvious. [More-read full article](#) < click

Brazil keen on hydro, Lethem road

Nov 26, 2010 Stabroek News—

In a parting speech which signalled Brazil's continued interest in bolstering relations with Guyana, outgoing President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva said that his successor is ready to advance and expand the bilateral agenda with an immediate focus on Guyana's hydro project and the paving of the Linden-Lethem road

Brazilian funding is available to advance both projects, he said, noting that they are "ready to support the move to the next phase" as both governments work towards cleaner and cheaper energy. He identified movement in these areas as critical as Guyana and Brazil strengthen their close partnership.

The Brazil/Guyana bilateral agenda remains a priority according to Lula, who said his country is interested in "consolidating the continental destiny of Guyana".

His comments came shortly after the Order of Excellence was conferred upon him at a special ceremony at the National Cultural Centre yesterday; the event was scheduled for the UNASUR summit which wraps up in Georgetown today (November 27, 2010).

The Order of Excellence, this country's highest honour, was



President Bharrat Jagdeo conferring the Order of Excellence on Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva last night at the National Cultural Centre. (Jules Gibson photo)

awarded to the Brazilian President for his commitment and active involvement in promoting and strengthening relations between Guyana and Brazil, in addition to his efforts in pursuit of regional integration.

President's Bharrat Jagdeo speaking on Lula's imminent exit from office said, "As we deepen ties yet further in the years ahead, we will miss President Lula's wise counsel, but we are also delighted to see in President-elect (Dilma) Rousseff someone who shares President Lula's commitment to building a better continent and world for us all".

President Jagdeo said also that Guyana has benefited from Lula's solidarity over the years, noting that the physical, economic, social and personal links between the countries are stronger than ever, and are "laying the foundations for the full realization of Guyana's South American destiny".

He continued that Guyana and Brazil are working closely in the international fora, including those that address climate change. In particular, he said the two countries are working to advance a global solution to addressing deforestation.

Lula also mentioned how bilateral relations have progressed between Guyana and Brazil, pointing to the Takutu Bridge and the "rapid increase in economic activity" since it was opened; he said there has been a positive impact on both sides of the border.

The prospects for trade are tremendous, Lula said, pointing to the bridge and the potential which lies in the Linden-Lethem highway. He said also that Brazil will help with capacity building for local exports, noting that the opportunities for expanding the relationship are immense.. [more](#)

Chinese— citizenship after 7 years



President Bharrat Jagdeo on Friday December 3, 2010 announced that Chinese nationals resident in Guyana legally for seven continuous years and more will be automatically entitled to citizenship.

He made the announcement at a meeting with some 375 Chinese nationals from across the country at the Guyana International Conference Centre, Liliendaal.. (SN-Dec4,2010) [Read the Stabroek News Editorial on this announcement here](#) < click

Guyana— Suriname Bridge

Technical Team being set up— bids later

Sunday, 21 November 2010- Guyana and Suriname may seek Chinese investment to bridge a border-river between the two neighbouring South American. The decision was taken during two days of bilateral talks between Guyana's President, Bharrat Jagdeo and the President of Suriname, Desi Bouterse.

As part of plans to bridge the Corentyne River, the two leaders also agreed that a technical team from both countries would meet within two weeks to explore possible locations of the bridge and other technical specifications before seeking bids.

"We have defined the work of the committee that we agreed when we met in Guyana, so the committee will proceed now to look at the technical options available; where would be the best site to locate the bridge," said Jagdeo. The Guyanese leader wants the proposals from investors to include financing and repayment options.

When constructed, the Corentyne River bridge is expected to significantly reduce the length of time it takes to travel by a European Union-funded ferry service between the two countries.

Due to the time-factor, many people choose to travel across the river in rickety wooden boats, several of which have capsized in the past resulting in deaths and injuries.

The bridge could be a boost for the free movement of goods and people between the two countries which are members of the Single Market of the 15-nation Caribbean Community (Caricom).

The building of river bridges and roads between South American countries is part of the Initiative for the Integration of Regional Infrastructure of South America (IIRSA).

Brazil last year constructed a bridge across the Takatu River to link northern Brazil with southern Guyana. (Demerara Waves)

GuySuCo's Skeldon Factory



The New Skeldon Factory was opened a year ago - Cost over US\$200M

"Its performance has diminished significantly from crushing about 210 tonnes cane per hour to between 90 and 120 tonnes owing to severe worn-out hammers and leaking boiler tubes. Repair works on the lone boiler and the hammers commenced this morning (November 18, 2010) at about 06:00h and are expected to conclude at 18:00h this afternoon. In the meanwhile, 800 punts of canes are paralysed in the dock and another 600 punts which are being transported to the factory would also be held up in the dock till the factory recommences operations". (GAWU-Nov 17, 2010) [more](#)

Feature— Pomeroun Farmers

-see great need for cannery, depot

In his laden citrus grove in the Pomeroun, Rudolph Gobin fixes a shirt on a stick and clangs a crude bell. To scare away parrots, he explained, pointing to the numerous fallen half-eaten oranges and carambolas, their green vibrant against a brown earth.

There are other 'scarecrows' placed within the vast field at Lord Robert Grant but still the parrots come. In farms along the Pomeroun River, some farmers place nets around their laden fruit trees and employ watchmen to chase away parrots but the noisy, colourful birds still snip and destroy the fruits. It is just one of the challenges farmers in the area face, Gobin, 68, said.

But while showing tangerine trees so heavy with fruit that the branches have to be propped up with sticks, he echoes a major concern of farmers in the fertile land along the River in Region Two. "We nah get market", he said. "We nah getting price." He boasts that he plants 34 different crops ranging from citrus to coffee and cherries. He sells wholesale to hucksters within the Region and some who come from Georgetown. The prices he gets, particularly when the crops are 'in season' are low, he lamented saying that it was the middlemen who make all the money.

In Grant Macedonia, Martindale, Parsram Persaud called 'Indal' says the prices they get for their produce do not compensate, moreso given the high input costs. "What you ah do can barely buy food fuh you eat", says David Cozier in Playfair, Lower Pomeroun. "Sometime you ain't get the market, sometime the rainfall come and take away everything. Is luck and chance" says Lloyd Garraway in Burn Bush, Lower Pomeroun. "Sometimes nuff left back. Sometimes people roundabout you got to give them cos nuff gon spoil". [more](#)

GAWU disgusted over Skeldon factory

'It is time that the corporation truthfully advise the nation on the state of affairs of the new Skeldon factory which continues to hemorrhage the industry's treasury'

The Guyana Agricultural and General Worker's Union (GAWU) has criticized operations at the Skeldon factory pointing to repeated mechanical breakdowns which have resulted in down time and a dismal production record.

The main sugar union issued a statement yesterday saying "It is time that the corporation truthfully advise the nation on the state of affairs of the new Skeldon factory which continues to hemorrhage the industry's treasury". This follows a recent call from union president, Komal Chand for an inquiry into the Skeldon factory.

GAWU's statement came ahead of a scheduled meeting with GuySuCo officials today to discuss the issue of wages and salaries. The sugar corporation has proposed a maximum five per cent across-the-board wage hike in the industry tied to production. That offer among others comes as the industry remains 73,000 tonnes shy of its twice-revised target: 264,000 tonnes.

GAWU reported that Skeldon's production for the year is heavily under target; more than 20,000 tonnes as of yesterday. The union said that since the second crop started on August 13 Skeldon has experienced a number of mechanical breakdowns which halted production as recently as Tuesday-operations ceased from around 4 am until 4 pm due to a fault in the factory's lone boiler. [more](#)

GuySuCo mulls temporary shutdown

Stabroek News: Nov 20, 2010:

In the wake of a crippling seven-day strike called by GAWU, the Guyana Sugar Corporation said that it may cease all operations across the industry, delivering the latest blow in a dismal production year.

GuySuCo made the announcement shortly after the workers represented by the Guyana Agricultural and General Workers Union (GAWU) went on strike across all estates; the industrial action is expected to last until next Thursday. Wage talks between the corporation and the union broke down earlier this week, triggering the action from workers. "...The Corporation will be incurring heavy overhead expenses in some areas, without any revenue being generated, and as a consequence it may decide to temporarily cease all operations, except in cases of essential services, until the situation becomes normal," GuySuCo said yesterday, in a lengthy statement which severely criticised the union over its decision.

Chief Executive Officer at GuySuCo Paul Bhim told Stabroek News that GAWU's decision was unfortunate, adding that the union "is not making it easy for us." Bhim said the action will obviously hurt production and impact negatively on the second crop, which will likely suffer a more severe production deficit than the first crop earlier this year.

Bhim said that the industry was facing tough times ahead as a result of the action, noting that the year has been difficult given the problems of the Skeldon factory.. [more](#)

[CBS TV boost for Guyana tourism – Videos](#)

CBS-TV's Joey Stevens, as he arrived in Guyana with his puppet parrot, his trademark on his TV Weather show – One Caribbean weather Channel. He is accompanied by Mr Brian Lilly, owner of One Caribbean Weather and WSEE TV, on his right.



Here are two videos, each about 28 minutes, by a CBS-TV team led by weather forecaster Joey Stephens. The videos feature various aspects of Guyana's geography, its people, forests, and eco-tourism.

By Nathalene De Freitas - Sunday, 11 July 2010

CBS TV BOOST FOR GUYANA TOURISM - VIDEOS

Videos: <http://www.onecaribbeanweather.com/guyana.html> < click

A TEAM from the popular 'One Caribbean Weather' and WSEE TV, including weather forecaster Joey Stevens and his puppet parrot, Bob, arrived here yesterday to produce shows on Guyana's tourism that will be aired on CBS and the 'One Caribbean Weather' channels.

They did an aerial shoot of Georgetown yesterday, and are to tour the city today as part of the one-week stay to produce two half-hour shows for a United States audience estimated at some 30 million.

Bob with THAG President Paul Stephenson, will visit the Kaieteur Falls, the Iwokrama Rainforest Centre, the Essequibo Islands and other parts of the country, officials said. Mr. Stevens, WSEE's Chief Forecaster, on the website [onecaribbeanweather.com](http://www.onecaribbeanweather.com), describes Guyana as "The Lungs of the World," noting that it is doing great with a low-carbon development strategy, and that President Bharrat Jagdeo was recently conferred with the United Nations 2010 'Champion of the Earth' award.

Stevens told reporters at the Cheddi Jagan International Airport that featuring a country on his weather show helps to boost its tourism sector, and give positive recognition to what tourists can expect when visiting. What was important, he said, was that the rest of the world will be seeing what Guyana is all about and the One Caribbean Weather programme will put Guyana at the forefront so that others can experience its rich flavour and culture.

"We will be showing the world what is here in Guyana to entice them to visit and experience Guyana for themselves. I have been told that many people visit Guyana to see all the natural things here, like the waterfalls and rainforest. Guyana is different from the rest of the Caribbean with its natural beauty," he noted.

Stevens, who has been honoured with numerous awards and citations, said one of the best compliments is that people love to see which country is being featured on the show. He said it is amazing to highlight the rich culture of the people, the many exotic sites, and at the same time offering accurate weather information.

Director of the Guyana Tourism Authority (GTA), Mr. Indranauth Haralsingh, said inviting the team to Guyana will help build the country's destination and awareness images.

He said this simple investment will be huge for Guyana, since it will allow about 30 million people to view various attractions as well as Guyana's unique culture. "The more people get familiarized about us, the more it will help to create a demand for the country's tourism industry," he said.

Also in the visiting team is Mr. Brian Lilly, owner of One Caribbean Weather and WSEE TV. They were invited to visit Guyana by Mr. Brian Yong, owner of the local Movie Star cable channel, in partnership with the Ministry of Tourism, the GTA and the Tourism and Hospitality Association of Guyana (THAG). **more here**> : [cbs-tv-boost-for-guyana-tourism](http://www.cbs-tv-boost-for-guyana-tourism)

Website Links Hotels, Eco-resorts, Interior Lodges, & Tour Operators

[Adel's Rainforest Resort](#)

[Ariantze Sidewalk Hotel Café and
Jazz Club](#)

[Banganara Island Resort](#)

[Blue Wave Apartment Hotel](#)

[Bradsville Apartments](#)

[Cara Hotels](#)

[El Dorado Inn](#)

[Evergreen Adventures](#)

[Grand Coastal Inn](#)

[Herdmanston Lodge](#)

[Hurakabra River Resort](#)

[Hotel Tower – Emerald Tower
Resort](#)

[Iwokrama Canopy Walkway](#)

[Iwokrama Forest -](#)

[Kanuku Suites](#)

[Le Grand Penthouse Hotel](#)

[Pegasus Hotel](#)

[Princess Hotel](#)

[Radisson Apartment Suites](#)

[Regency Suites Hotel](#)

[Rock View Lodge, Rupununi](#)

[Roraima Airways, Hotels and
Companies](#)

[Sleepin International Hotel](#)

[Splashmins Resort](#)

[Surama Eco-Lodge Rupununi](#)

[Timberhead Eco-Resort](#)

[Trans Guyana Airways](#)

[Wilderness Explorers](#)

[Zoom Inn Hotel](#)

Barbados Shines in Human Development Index

By Tony Best | Mon, November 08, 2010

Without the riches of the United States, Canada or Britain, Barbados has joined the ranks of the world's "developed" nations, albeit only in terms of providing people with an excellent quality of life. Often called the "Singapore of the Caribbean", Barbados, according to the United Nations, joins such countries as Israel, Hong Kong, Singapore, Slovenia, Cyprus, Malta, Lichtenstein, Bahrain, oil-rich Qatar, Andorra, San Marino, Brunei Darussalam, Monaco, United Arab Emirates and Estonia on the list of "developed" countries, based purely on the Human Developed Index (HDI).

The HDI, now in its 20th year, measures performances in health, education, income and other quality of life indices. The classification was contained in the 2010 UN Human Development Index released worldwide a few days ago. But that wasn't all about Barbados. With the exception of the Bahamas, it outspends all of its Caribbean neighbours when it comes to providing health care for each resident and it has one of the lowest murder rates in the Caribbean and Latin America.

Barbados was the only Caribbean and Latin American state to be labelled "developed". It's among 16 states which don't belong to the rich nations' club in Paris, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), but which were placed in a grouping set aside for "developed non-OECD members". Mexico, the lone Latin American and Caribbean country which belongs to the OECD, wasn't included in the ranks of the "developed" states but was placed among the 32 "developing" nations in the Western Hemisphere.

Barbados had previously articulated its desire to be classified as a developed country, but it didn't set an exact deadline for achieving that goal. Trinidad and Tobago says it wants to reach that level by 2020.

In the latest report, Barbados was listed among the nations worldwide with a "very high" level of human development. It was third on the list of members of the OAS that had attained that ranking. The others were the United States, fourth, and Canada, eighth. Barbados was ranked 42nd. Narrowly missing the top classification was the Bahamas, which was 43rd. All of Barbados' CARICOM neighbours, including energy-rich Trinidad and Tobago, the Bahamas and Antigua and Barbuda,

Jamaica, St Lucia, St Vincent, Suriname, Haiti, Guyana, Suriname and Grenada were listed as "developing" states.

So too were such emerging economic giants as India, Brazil, Chile, South Africa, Saudi Arabia, Russian Federation and China.

As the UN Development Programme's top administrator Helen Clark saw it, success wasn't simply about money. "On one crucial point the evidence is compelling and clear: there is much that countries can do to improve the quality of people's lives even under adverse circumstances," she said.

"Many countries have made great gains in health and education despite only modest growth in income, while some countries with strong economic performance have failed to make similarly impressive progress in life expectancy." In the vital area of health, the UN report put Barbados' per capita expenditure on health care at US\$1 265 in 2007, a figure that was only surpassed in the region by the Bahamas with US\$1 987. Trinidad and Tobago had a per capita expenditure of US\$1 178.

Barbados' per capita spending on health was at least three times greater than Jamaica's (US\$357); about six times higher than Guyana's (US\$197) and at least US\$400 per person more than Chile, Kuwait, Mexico and Brazil. Barbados invested more per capita in the provision of care for individuals than such rich countries as Saudi Arabia, Venezuela, Libya, Kuwait and Algeria. And its outlay was ten times greater than India's and about US\$300 more than Poland.

St. Vincent elections-Dec 13

KINGSTOWN, St Vincent, Monday November 15, 2010 – The St Vincent and the Grenadines Parliament was dissolved today to pave the way for polls to elect a new government, on December 13, 2010.

Prime Minister Dr Ralph Gonsalves of the United Labour Party (ULP) will be seeking a third consecutive term in office

Leader of the Opposition New Democratic Party (NDP) Arnhim Eustace will hoping to defeat Mr. Gonsalves by offering "change" in these difficult economic times.

Gonsalves says that he was confident his ULP administration would be returned to office based on its accomplishments since taking over the government in 2005.

CARICOM to launch multi-state travel document

10 member states to join initially



The CARIPASS will allow CARICOM citizens and legal residents of Participating States over the age of 16 years to access a safe and secure automated self-processing gate within selected airports.

CARICOM SECRETARIAT -December 2, 2010 – The Caribbean Community (CARICOM) will soon launch one of the world's first automated multi-state travel documents (CARIPASS) for use within 10 member states that will not only make regional travel easier, but help crack down on identity theft and illegal migration.

Participating countries will include Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, St Kitts and Nevis, St Lucia, St Vincent and the Grenadines, and Trinidad and Tobago.

Installation of the CARIPASS System began last month and specific launch dates in each participating country is now dependent on the passing of relevant legislation.

The CARIPASS will allow CARICOM citizens and legal residents of Participating States over the age of 16 years to access a safe and secure automated self-processing gate within selected airports. Cardholders will benefit from the ease of expedited processing through immigration checkpoints when using the CARIPASS, which is the size of a credit card.

"The CARIPASS will also assist the region in the global fight against identity theft and illegal migration, given that the document is matched to the cardholder using both biometric and biographic data captured upon enrolment," a statement from the CARICOM Secretariat said.

Under the coordination of the Implementation Agency for Crime and Security, the CARIPASS is another step in the movement towards standardized border control facilities within CARICOM, including training, entry and exit procedures and travel documents.

(Source: Caribbean360)

Guyanese won "Teacher of the Year Award" in Belize

Another Guyanese earlier this year, won a 'Teacher of the Year' award, this time in the Central American country of Belize.

Indradeo Mohabir, 51, received the 'Excellent and Outstanding Teacher of the year Award – 2010' at the school, district and at the national levels for secondary schools in the former British colony. The announcement of the National Award was made during a ceremony at the ITVET Courtyard, Belize City on May 13 and Mohabir had no idea until his name was announced. "He was very surprised and grateful and felt a great sense of achievement," a close relative said. Mohabir received the Award from Belizean Minister of Education, Patrick Faber.

Currently, Mohabir is Head of Department, Campus Minister and Religious Studies and Life Skills Teacher at the Stann Creek Ecumenical College in Stann Creek District, Belize. According to information provided by a relative, Mohabir grew up in Lusignan and moved to Logwood Enmore after he got married.

He started teaching in 1976 when he was 16 and taught at the Lusignan Primary School and Enmore Hope Primary School. Mohabir completed training at the Cyril Potter College of Education in 1984 and in September 1991 travelled to Belize to take up an offer to teach at the Grace Primary School. He also taught at Light of the Valley Baptist School from 1991-2004 and started teaching at the Stann Creek Ecumenical College from 2004.



Belize's 'Outstanding Teacher of the Year', Guyanese Indradeo Mohabir (right) receives the award from the Central American country's Minister of Education Patrick Faber earlier this year.

Following his receipt of the award, Mohabir was featured on Belize's Channel 5 TV morning show 'Open Your Eyes'. He was also featured as role model teacher in a music video by Tania Carter for the song "I am Belize" which was released for Belize's Independence Celebrations in September this year. [more](#)

Guyana born Dr. of BioInnovation is GQ's Rock Star of Science

Dr. Frank Douglas, native of Guyana and noted innovator in the pharmaceutical industry, compares launching a new Akron medical institute to climbing Mt. Everest.

AKRON -- A nationally-renowned medical researcher will be featured in next month's issue of "GQ Magazine" as a 'Rock Star of Science.'. Frank L. Douglas, Ph.D., M.D., says the honor was unexpected, but "a thrill.". Dr. Douglas, 67, is founder and CEO of Austen BioInnovation Institute of Akron.

Since joining ABIA in September 2009, Douglas has led an organization that is working to improve the health and economy of the region through an unmatched alignment of institutional, state, federal and philanthropic support.

Douglas was nominated for the 2010 Rock Stars of Science distinction by the leaders of the R.A.R.E. Project, in recognition of his decades of innovative and important research and development in the pharmaceutical industry.

He has led teams of scientists toward the discovery, development and/or registration of more than 20 drugs, including Allegra, Actonel and Lantus

During his time at MIT as professor of the practice in the Sloan School of Management and the Harvard-MIT Division of Health Sciences and Technology, Douglas founded and served as the first executive director of the MIT Center for Biomedical Innovation.

"Dr. Douglas says recognition by GQ and the Geoffrey Beane Foundation is a different kind of honor, but one to raise awareness just the same. As a scientist, you don't think of yourself as a rock star, but what an honor. I'm really delighted to have been selected," Douglas said.

At the Los Angeles photo shoot for inclusion in the annual Rock Stars of Science edition, Douglas was featured with musician Jay Sean, along with Dr. Geraldine Dawson of Autism Speaks; Dr. Catriona Jamieson of the University of California; Dr. Emil Kakkis of the Kakkis EveryLife Foundation; and Rear Admiral Dr. Susan J. Blumenthal.

He hopes the feature article sends a message to GQ's young male readers that a career in science can be just as rewarding as a career in music

"You have a responsibility in a sense to let young people know this is not only important, this [career] is a lot of fun. I have a lot of fun every day," Douglas said.

[See Video](#) <click here to view TV video

[Article Source #1](#)

[Article Source #2](#)



TORONTO, CANADA
PRIVATE OFFICES FOR RENT
FULLY FURNISHED, ALL-INCLUSIVE
STRATEGIC LOCATION
4544 SHEPPARD AVENUE EAST
\$309 PER MONTH

A. RUPERT DE CASTRO, CMA
 C: 416-817-7604
 B: 416-298-2800
 adecastro@trebnet.com
 CHECK US OUT @ www.vpike.com



Council of Friends of New Amsterdam (COFONA)

On Saturday, November 6th Members of the Council of Friends of New Amsterdam (COFONA) assembled to strategize on plans to assist the town of New Amsterdam. Several meetings had been held after the September Forum to formalize the organizational structure of COFONA.

At that November meeting, representatives of several affiliated organizations described the programs their organizations were involved with in New Amsterdam. COFONA plans to begin by working with existing projects in New Amsterdam and build on those experiences to make them successful.

Several fund raising events are being planned for 2011 to support projects that will be identified for assistance. The President of COFONA explained that COFONA's mission is to establish an organization that focuses on helping to create the conditions that are conducive to job creation, programs that encourage and promote education, and those that focus on health issues.

Representatives of COFONA will visit New Amsterdam within the next few weeks to meet with the Town Council, business leaders, educators, civic organizations, community leaders, and other stakeholders. In addition to identifying needs and discussing ways to address those needs, a counterpart representative group would be organized in New Amsterdam to monitor programs and projects and liaison with the town council and other stakeholders.

COFONA will soon establish a Memorandum of Understanding with the Mayor and Town Council of New Amsterdam to define the organization's relationship with the Mayor and Town Council. COFONA intends to establish and promote a long-term relationship with the town in order to effectuate change over time.

Persons who expressed an interest in New Amsterdam were invited to become Founding Members of COFONA. Founding membership was open to all persons who signed up for membership up to the end of October, 2010. Over 54 persons signed up as Founding Members of COFONA. These Founding Members include persons from various states within the United States, as well as persons who reside in Canada.

Additional information on COFONA could be found at the website at www.cofona.org.

COFONA Organizing Committee

- Leonard Lewis
- Sharon Bender-Lewis
- Leslie Howard
- Aubrey Bender
- Claire Floris
- Wilberforce Johnson
- Keith London
- June Welch Raphael

[CONTACT US](#)

[Click on this box for contact information and contact form](#)

[MEMBERSHIP FORM](#)

[Click here for form](#)

[ABOUT COFONA](#)—History and Purpose, FAQ's, Associations, About New Amsterdam

[PHOTO GALLERY](#) < click

Latest News from the COFONA's website:
www.cofona.org

[Business slow in New Amsterdam, worries Chamber president](#)

[The Champ!!! Mr. Universe Master over-50 winner Hugh Ross](#)

[Volleyball Competition on in Berbice today](#)

[Continuing Promise 2010 kicks off in Berbice with impressive ceremony](#)

[Food poisoning still affecting Berbicians](#)

[Contractor mobilizing for Berbice street lighting project](#)

[US medical ship for 10-day Berbice mission](#)

[Banks Light Beer cricket tourney launched](#)

[Namilco Football Festival launched](#)

[Waitress jailed, fined \\$2.7M over ganja in New Amsterdam home](#)

[Organisers dub New Amsterdam Town Week 2010 a success](#)

[Berbice investors looking for diversification boost](#)

[Guyana Classics distributed to Sixth Form schools](#)

[Exhumed Berbice man had blunt trauma, cirrhosis – relatives](#)

[Council of Friends of New Amsterdam \(COFONA\) Inaugural Forum](#)

Sites in New Amsterdam

[By The National Trust of Guyana < click here for website link for more pictures](#)



The New Amsterdam Town Hall : this imposing structure was erected in 1868 after the establishment of the Board of Superintendants in 1844. The tower encircled by a 'widow's walk is one of the main architectural features of this edifice

COTAB— TORONTO'S BUXTON GROUP— BOXING DAY DANCE

By Michael Parris and Victor Moses

Following on the heels of its participation in the recently held 170th year observances of the purchase of Buxton, the Committee to Assist Buxton/Friendship (COTAB) is finalizing arrangements for its annual Boxing Night Party. The event will be held on December 26 at the Toronto East Masonic Temple, 15 Chisholm Ave. (W of Main St., N of Danforth Ave.)

COTAB, one of the overseas-based Buxton organisations, was established and registered in Toronto in 1990 and has been contributing to various projects in the twin-village of Buxton/Friendship, Guyana. COTAB mission and mandate allows it to direct its funding to education, health and sports projects.

To date, its contribution portfolio include: providing computers, books and stationery for all the schools and well-deserving students; uniform to needy students; scholarships; equipment and gears to sports clubs; street lights; photo copiers for the schools; financial assistance for medical treatment; financial and material relief during the 2006 flood, etc.

COTAB obtains its funding primarily from two (2) annual events - Caribana Saturday Night and Boxing Night, respectively. The former brings together Buxtonians from the North America and other parts of the world to Toronto to participate in the world-renowned carnival and festivities around August Monday week-end.

For Buxtonians, Boxing Night however dates back to sixty or more years of Buxton/Friendship tradition initiated by "Teacher George" Younge who staged possibly the most popular dance day and night long event in Guyana. It was the only occasion on which the three (3) bands with the largest following - Tom Charles' Syncopaters, Al Seales' Washboard, and Eddie Nelson's New Luckies- played at the same event.

Teacher George was involved in village and national politics and was well-known in all sections of the Guyanese population. His patrons were from all walks of life, and it was something to behold the ladies in their finery. But it was the men who took to heart Teacher George's proclamation of the event as 'Examination Day'. Men, worth their salt, changed into as many as three suits, casual in the day, and formal in the evening, so as to be hailed as 'sportsmen', a term then used to describe men who were popular with the ladies, and who presented themselves quite personably.

Boxing Day however is a Victorian tradition in the United Kingdom which became a custom of the 19th century. Then, tradesmen would collect their "Christmas boxes" or gifts on the day after Christmas in return for good and reliable service throughout the year. The employers gave each servant a box containing gifts and bonuses (and sometimes leftover food). In addition, churches opened their alms boxes where people place monetary donations. These boxes were always opened the day after Christmas, which is why that day became known as Boxing Day.

Boxing Day is not an official holiday in the United States. It is listed in the Canada Labour Code as an optional holiday. Only in the province of Ontario has it been made a statutory holiday where all workers receive the time off with pay.

Apart from the fund-raising aspect, the organisers are seeking to bring together persons of Buxton heritage, their offspring, friends and well-wishers, in a spirit of conviviality and oneness. The overarching objective is to seek financial and other support for COTAB's projects while recapturing the true joys of dancing and merriment.

During the night, they will be staging a dance competition - a prominent feature of past Boxing Night dances, and hope that members of the younger generation will be able to uphold the standards for which their forebears were renowned.

The Executive and members of COTAB would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the support you gave over the last 10 years. We look forward to your continued generosity.

COTAB Executive:

President Ingrid Ifill-King
 Vice-President Ena Ageda
 Secretary Victor Moses
 Treasurer Shirley Seaforth
 Executive Committee Members Michael Parris, Charis Newton-Thompson, George Culley
 Fund-Raising Committee Patsy Adams, Cedric Reid, Brentnold Blair, Dawne McKenzie, Jenny Wills (Peters), Nelga Charles (Marshall)
 Past Presidents Victor Moses (Immediate), Maxey Seaforth



Front L-R: Victor Moses, Nelga Azonwanna, Patsy Adams, Jenny Wills-Peters. Back L-R: George Culley, Ingrid Ifill-King, Shirley Seaforth, Michael Parris

COTAB is committed to assisting with the revitalization of Buxton.. We can be contacted at: **1 Bigwood Court, Scarborough, Ontario M1H 1Z7. Phone 416-431-0273 and e-mail Ingrid Ifill-King at- iv.king@rogers.com.**

President's Message : [COTAB President's Message](#)

COTAB Dance Flyer: [Flyer link on Blog](#)

Bishops' High School Alumni Association (Toronto Chapter) celebrates 25 years



Fay Mendoza, Derek Moses, Denise Archer, Jennifer Singh, Lynette Spence, Aileen Morgan Thomasson, Sharena Annamunthodoo, and Pat Moore cutting the cake at the Bishops' High School Alumni Association Toronto Chapter's 25th Anniversary celebration.

Cocktails, Commemoration, Cuisine and Cabaret

"That was the best fun I've had in a long time. The food was delicious, not to mention the drinks. The entertainment was absolutely "knock out, bruck down perfect". From one of the delighted guests

On Sunday, October 24, the celebrations began at 3:00PM and the last of the guests were exiting the dance floor of the Grand Baccus Banquet Hall in Toronto, after 10:00PM. We needed every minute because there was so much to celebrate. The BHS Alumni Association (Toronto Chapter) had grown from the "dream" of a trio of graduates who came together in 1985 to an organization that serves as a model for so many alumni and community organizations in the Greater Toronto Area.

Master of Ceremonies Fay Mendoza welcomed invited guests who represented the "crème de la crème" of Guyanese society to an evening of Commemorative moments, a three-course sit down dinner and a Cabaret followed by dancing. The event had a touch of everything for everyone and began with commemorative moments, giving thanks to the alma mater - Bishops' High School in Georgetown, Guyana. This segment included the BHS Singers singing a medley of verses from the school's House hymns as well as a medley of some Guyanese national songs.

Toronto Chapter President Sharena Annamunthodoo used this occasion to express thanks to Guyana's Honorary Consul General in Toronto, Danny Doobay, who would soon be demitting office.

Dr. Joy Mighty gave an inspirational talk highlighting the concept of "ubuntu" and how it relates to the Association's priorities. The first President of the Association, Aileen Morgan, together with a past President Lynette Spence, and another founding member Patricia Moore offered a historical tribute to the association through the presentation of a nostalgic, humorous poem covering highlights from the idea of an alumni association conceived in a backyard in 1985 to the present day.

There was a pre-dinner cocktail treat of our own Guyanese son George St Kitts singing to an appreciative crowd of approximately 310, his rendition of Satchmo's, "Wonderful World" and other rhythm and blues classics. The Richard Whiteman Jazz Trio entertained the gathering with a variety of cool jazz pieces.

The Ceremonial 25th Anniversary Cake, donated by Terry Headley of *Headley's Party Rentals & Catering Service*, was cut by Present & Past President(s) & Founders of the Association.

The Cabaret performers included many young stars of Guyanese heritage, some of them offspring of BHS alumni, who sang up a storm, played up a storm and danced up a storm.

Congratulations for a truly special event must go to the 25th Anniversary Celebrations Committee. They believe in our school motto "Labor Omnia Vincit", and worked tirelessly to stage this event. They are: Lynette Spence - Chair, Diane Akai, Sharena Annamunthodoo, President, Barbara Bacchus, Peta McRae, Patricia Moore, Nancy Rickford, Beverly Stephenson, Verna Thomas and Ornette Willis. Here is the [Program Cover](#) < click

Here is the Program: [BHS - Toronto Alumni 25th Anniversary](#) < click

Guyanese Association of Manitoba

Domino Competition -2010

The Guyanese Association of Manitoba's 8th Annual knockout Domino Tournament was held at Maples Community Centre 434 Adsum Drive on Nov 7 from 6pm to 1am. Nine teams participated in this year competition and over 125 attended.

There were other games for children and other adults: Cards, Draughts, Poker, Chinese Checkers and arts and crafts for the children.

The Champion for the 2010 Domino Tournament was West Coast Connection. Second Place went to Lions Sports Club and Third place to Terminator. There were several individual awards and consolation prizes. The highest individual in score for male was Ganga Singh with a maximum score of 30 points and most sixes. The highest individual score for females went to three females, namely Pammy Persaud, Padmini Kaidnath and Merlin Singh with a total of 27 points each. The consolation Trophy went to the Guyana Cultural Organisation. "This has been our most successful tournament". (Kamta Roy Singh, President).

[LionsSports Club Cricket Report - 2010](#)

[Report written by Sharmela S. Rambally.](#) < Click to download

WINNIPEG GUYANESE- DEREK DABEE- MAKES HISTORY IN CITY 2010 ELECTION



Wednesday Oct. 27th, 2010 will be a day that newly elected Winnipeg School Trustee (Seven Oaks School Division) will never forget, nor will his fellow Guyanese and Canadians.

As a long-time community advocate and well known volunteer, Derek Dabee's leadership and hard work has resulted in the building of two community centers, several tennis courts, two cricket fields, a hockey rink and basketball courts. Derek is also a founding member of the vibrant Guyanese Association of Manitoba Inc.

With encouragement from Kamta Roy Singh - President of the Guyanese Association - and other community leaders, Mr. Dabee decided to take the plunge and ran for a seat on the School Board. With Derek's win, beating out three other candidates, he made history as the first Guyanese /West Indian to be elected on a Manitoba School Board. [more](#)

Tutorial High School Reunion - 2011

11TH INTERNATIONAL TRIENNIAL REUNION

DATE: July 31 to August 7, 2011

**HOSTED BY: TUTORIAL HIGH ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
(TORONTO CHAPTER)**

PLACE: TORONTO, ONTARIO CANADA

THEME: "SURGING AHEAD WITH COMMITMENT"

In this vein, we shall begin the festivities with a Church Service in the afternoon of Sunday, July 31, 2011 and close 7 days later with a Family Fun Day.

Commencing as this does in the wake of Toronto's Caribana festivities, will enable 'early arrivers' in Toronto to catch a bit of the carnival fever. Time for a second generous serving of our unique brand of Canadian hospitality.

We already have in place a prestigious venue for our Highlight Dinner and Dance. Other committees are hard at work in a sustained effort to align other planned events with suitable venues.

Note: Please continue to check this web site for up-to-date schedule information. A complete listing of activities, with times and locations, is also available in our online Events Calendar.

WEB SITE : <http://www.thaatoronto.org/>

Membership in the THAA (Toronto Chapter) includes all former students, staff, faculty and friends.

Alumni of Tutorial High School now resident in Canada are encouraged to become members of THAA. A link is provided below to the Registration Form which can be printed, downloaded or completed online. [Download Registration form from the website.](#)

[Information on Tutorial High School—Toronto Chapter and their plans for their 11th International Triennial Reunion \(click to download\)](#)

ARTS and CULTURE

[The Arts Forum](#) - By Aameena Gafoor

[CHINESE ORIGINS: KEN CORSBIE](#)

[KEN CORSBIE: THE ARTISTIC TEMPERAMENT: GROWING UP IN GEORGETOWN](#)

[KEN CORSBIE: "A WILD AND WONDERFUL RIDE"](#)

THE ARTS JOURNAL

[Volume 5 Numbers 1&2- March 2010](#) <click here for link to contents

The Editor of The Arts Forum's Page, Aameena Gafoor, can be reached by E-mail: theartsjournal@live.co.uk or by phone: 592 227 6825.

THE ARTS JOURNAL is available at all leading bookstores in Georgetown or from Bernadette Persaud, E-mail: bernadettepersaud5@hotmail.com or by phone: 592 220 3337. Website: www.theartsjournal.org.gy



Raisin bread for mom

by Cynthia Nelson

October 16, 2010 "Tastes Like Home"

Hi Everyone, last weekend, during my weekly telephone conversation with mommy, she expressed a desire to have a slice or two of raisin bread. She explained that she called around to various places in Georgetown to enquire if they made raisin bread but alas, she could not find anywhere that sells raisin bread. Sorry mom, wish I was there to bake you some raisin bread.



Picture by Cynthia Nelson

I don't recall raisin bread being made and sold at any of the various bakeries when I was growing up or even as an adult. Every time I had eaten raisin bread it was always baked at home. I understand that when Campsite had first opened they used to make raisin bread. Here in Barbados, the largest bakery, Purity, makes a fruit loaf – it's a round whole-wheat bread with raisins. One of the larger supermarkets with its own bakery section also makes raisin bread.

I like raisin bread but I steer clear of the commercial variety because the breads never have in enough raisins. You cut a slice and find about 2 to 3 pieces of the raisins embedded. In other words, raisin bread is simply not bread with a few raisins mixed into the dough. There should also be flavour to the dough, spiced from the cinnamon added. I like each slice of my raisin bread bejewelled with raisins and the scent and flavour of sweet cinnamon. Oh gosh, a slice of freshly baked raisin bread and a hot beverage could immediately bring calm to your day. [more](#)

E-Mail :: Cynthia@tasteslikehome.org

Website: www.tasteslikehome.org

HANSIB PUBLICATIONS LTD

Celebrating 40 years in publishing, 1970 - 2010

[Hansib Book Catalogue –2010](#)

Download : Catalogue of Books, bookstores & order online.

PO Box 226, Hertford, Hertfordshire SG14 3WY. U.K.

Ph:+44 (0) 208 523 0888. Fax: 0208 523 1155

E-Mail: info@hansib-books.com Website: www.hansib-books.com

Muriel Glasgow Visits with Magda Pollard



Magda Pollard
Photo: Neil Marks

Listen Now

Podcast # 1

Listen Now

Podcast # 2

Listen Now

Podcast # 3

Download podcasts and play

At the height of the second wave of feminism the world saw Magda Pollard emerge as the face of Guyana and the Caribbean in the struggle to end all forms of discrimination against women, for which, it can be agreed, she has left a lasting legacy.

Despite the prevailing mindsets believing that the world operates on the psyche of men, Magda Pollard believes, some progress has been achieved in influencing this mindset, though women are yet to hit the glass ceiling as they should.

In 1993, it was the recognition of her work to create a liberating and sustaining environment for women that earned her the Caribbean Community's Triennial Award for Women, which she shares with other Guyanese greats such as Justice Desiree Bernard and the late President Janet Jagan.

At home, she received two of the country's highest national awards – the Cacique Crown of Honour and the Arrow of Achievement.

It was in 1980, one year after the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) was adopted by the UN General Assembly, that Ms Pollard was appointed the first Women's Affairs Officer at the CARICOM Secretariat and worked to get Caribbean government to agree to sign on to and ratify the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW). It was Ms Pollard's task to get governments in the region to put in place such national action plans.

She moved into the arena of women's rights after a similarly admirable career in another area – home economics. Magda Pollard was born in Buxton, East Coast Demerara to Fitzgerald and Muriel Pollard, both teachers, with her father being the head teacher of the Buxton Congregational School.

When she was seven years old, the family moved to Georgetown. She later enrolled at Bishops' High School which would prepare her for the future. "It stood for a high level of academia as well as a full understanding of one's social responsibilities," she says.

Music, drama, religion, and community service were all part of the life at Bishops'. In fact, music is still part of her life. She joined the legendary Woodside Choir and participated in the first British Guiana Music Festival, which was held in 1952. Today, she continues as a choral singer with the Woodside Choir.

Ms Pollard began to demonstrate a penchant for loyalty, discipline and for influencing the status quo and this elevated her to the status of Head Girl (Head Prefect) in the last two years at Bishops'. She would leave school with the coveted Fidele Collier Medal, which was given to students who had contributed significantly to the ethos of the school.

When she left school in 1950, Ms Pollard followed in the footsteps of her parents and after four years of teaching, she went off to Scotland to attend the Glasgow and West of Scotland College of Domestic Science.

About the Yakkers' Corner

Muriel Glasgow's interviews: .. We yak about development and humanitarian issues and we promote the United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).



Muriel Glasgow

Read and listen to interviews with other interesting personalities on her PODCAST at <http://unitednationsyak.com/>

"It was a case of everything had to be perfect that you produced," she related. If a biscuit was burnt or slightly tinged with the wrong colour, you had had it." While there, she earned two special prizes

She later pursued the Postgraduate Certificate Course at the Queen Elizabeth College, London University, in Home Economics related to Community Development, gaining a distinction. She enjoyed a close relationship with the girls at the college, and right up to two years ago, 11 of a group of 16 attended a special meeting.

Muriel features Shakoor Manraj

Listen Now

Podcast # 1

Listen Now

Podcast # 2

Download podcasts and play



Shakoor Manraj Q.C.

Shakoor Manraj was born in Georgetown, Guyana, (formerly British Guyana) and received part of his education in Guyana. After earning the London University Matriculation Diploma, he then went on to Universities in the United States, England, France and Canada to pursue his studies in Law. He also holds the Diploma in International Jurisprudence and the B.A. (Hons), and LLB (Hons) Degrees.

He was called to the Bar at the Middle Temple Law School in London, England, on 9th February, 1954. He developed a very successful practice in both the criminal and civil law jurisdictions. In 1969, he was appointed Queen's Counsel by Her Majesty the Queen, for distinguished service to the legal profession.

During his 50 years, Shakoor has practiced in over 35 different jurisdictions in the various Caribbean Islands, Canada, Europe and Asia. He excelled as a criminal defence attorney and successfully defended 330 murder trials. He also appeared on several occasions before the Privy Council, the Highest Court of Appeal, in England. He has also practiced in Canada and the U.S.A., with great success.

In all, Shakoor Manraj has written 5 Books – 4 Law Books and the last one, "IN PURSUIT OF JUSTICE", which is not a law book but rather a very straightforward and unpretentious account of his experiences, court-room dramas and other encounters while IN PURSUIT OF JUSTICE. This Book is replete with Court humour and the funny and unexpected answers that are so often given by witnesses while under cross-examination.

"IN PURSUIT OF JUSTICE". By A. SHAKOOR MANRAJ, Q.C.

The Book is available only from:- A. SHAKOOR MANRAJ, Q.C., Barrister/Attorney-at-Law, 1021 S.W. 100 Terrace, Pembroke Pines. Florida, 33025. Reduced price, now \$20.00, plus cost of postage within the USA \$7.50 (via air-mail).

Celebrating our Creative Personalities

By Dr. Vibert C. Cambridge, PhD

Dr. Cambridge wrote these articles from 2004-2007, for publication in Stabroek News. They were later published on the web site "Land of Six Peoples". We link this listing to that site where you can access the articles. You will have to go click on the link below to get to the articles:- [Celebrating our Creative Personalities](#) < click to access articles

This entry is on the Guyanese Online Blog. You can make your comments there by clicking this link >- [Comments](#)

1. Valerie Rodway: Epitomizing grace and generosity February 5, 2006
2. James 'Jimmy' Woodrow Weekes: A multidimensional musician January 15, 2006
3. Kim Clark: A Caribbean heritage December 25, 2005
4. Bertram DeVarell-the father of steel band in British Guiana November 27, 2005
5. The Pilgrims: A Century of Creative Service November 13, 2005
6. Charwin Burnham October 30, 2005
7. Pita Pyaree October 9, 2005
8. The golden days of steel band A conversation with Winston Edgar Beckles - September 11, 2005
9. Scots, British Guiana and Andrew Watson September 11, 2005
10. Alan Bush: The English composer and Guyanese politics July 24, 2005
11. The Valz family reunion and Guyana's creative personalities July 10, 2005
12. Hilton Hemerding: Celebrator of 'Beautiful Guyana' June 26, 2005
13. Derry Etkins: An inquisitive musical mind June 12, 2005
14. 'Dougl'a' Elsie and 'Kaytie' of Grove May 29, 2005
15. George Simmons: Technique is the secret of success April 24, 2005
16. Joyce Aaron-Elcock: Music was her muse April 10, 2005
17. Phil Madison: Guyanese impresario March 27, 2005
18. James Ingram Fox: 'A treasured composer' March 13, 2005
19. Rannie Hart: A virtuoso by many names - February 27, 2005
20. Frank Holder: 'One hell of an exciting journey' January 30, 2005
21. David Campbell: A keeper of the fire January 1, 2005
22. Guyana and music at Christmas December 12, 2004
23. Michael Currica: 'Little Man' had an important part in a big project—November 28, 2004
24. Winston Ewart Smith (Sir Wins): A promoter of Guyanese music October 31, 2004
25. W Herbert L Allsopp: Mobilizing entertainment for social change in the early 1950s—October 10, 2004
26. Joyce Ferdinand-Saunders September 19, 2004
27. Rudy Seymour: A multi-talented pioneer September 5, 2004
28. Rudolph Dunbar: 'A fascinating person, composer, musical conductor, musical journalist August 22, 2004
29. Wilfred Robert Adams July 25, 2004
30. Remembering Monty Douglas July 11, 2004
31. Ray Charles, British Guiana, and my generation June 27, 2004
32. Wordsworth McAndrew June 13, 2004
33. Rajkumari Singh May 30, 2004
34. Rector Malcolm Schultz: Making music from Canje Creek to New York
35. Nigel Hoyow: Musical success on both sides of the Atlantic
36. Cy Grant: Doing it his way
37. Maseelal Pollard: 'King of the Sitar'
38. Ernest Alstrom: An unsung musical hero
39. Hubert (Bert) and Edward (Eddie): The Rogers brothers - musical giants
40. 'I Want To Build': An important Guyanese musical achievement
41. Aubrey Cummings: A musician of a generation
42. Stanley Greaves: The Guyanist
43. Happy Holiday: Al Seales, Billy Moore and music at Christmas
44. Dorothy Taitt (circa 1896-1956): An exceptional Guyanese woman
45. Percy A. Brathwaite
46. John 'Bagpipe' Fredericks - there is more to the name
47. Dr. Joycelynne Loncke
48. Charles Knights, LRSM, ARCM (1927 -)
49. Vesta Lowe (1907 -1992)
50. Monica Chopperfield
51. Vincent De Abreu: a pioneer
52. The Mutoo (Mootoo) Brothers Calypso Orchestra
53. Eusi Kwayana
54. James Alexander Pheonix and the British Guiana Police Male Voice Choir
55. Kenrick Johnson
56. Nesbit Chhangur

Remembering Edgar Mittelholzer

"The 24 novels and two works of non-fiction by the late Guyanese writer **Edgar Mittelholzer (1909-65)** — the majority of them published in a 15-year period — was a remarkable achievement. With the exception of 1964, he had a new book out every year from 1950 to 1965, sometimes more than one. There were two in 1952, 1954, 1960, 1963 and 1965 and three each in 1958 and 1961". - Colin Rickards

Here are the articles written since his centennial in 2009:-

- [On centennial, Mittelholzer hailed as pioneer](#)
- [Mittelholzer: Obsession with being an artist](#)
- [Remembering Edgar Mittelholzer: Part I](#)
- [Remembering Edgar Mittelholzer Part II](#)

Rainforests, wildlife preserved by Guyana's indigenous spiritual beliefs

Keith Rozendal, special to mongabay.com - November 15, 2010

New research within the native Wapishana and Makushi communities of Guyana suggests that indigenous cultural beliefs such as shamanism help preserve tropical forests and wildlife.

The analysis, published in the September 2010 *Journal of Latin American Geography*, draws from a massive data set that tracks wildlife populations, hunting kill sites, and spiritually significant features of the landscape within a 48,000-square-kilometer area in southern Guyana. The authors recruited the hunters themselves to record much of the data.

The data show that hunters avoid spiritual sites, potentially creating animal refuges. More than 99 percent of their kills occurred more than 500 meters away from spiritually significant sites

The scientists used geographic methods to rule out other influences over kill locations, such as distances from villages or roads, vegetation types, and the abundance of food for the hunter's main prey: deer, rodents, peccary, and other small mammals.



A spiritually important mountain outside the Wapishana village of Shiriri. Hunters and other community members avoid this site, despite its proximity to the village. Photo by: Jeff Luzar

"These sites are usually considered to be dangerous," said co-author Jeff Luzar, a visiting scholar of anthropology at Stanford University, in an interview with mongabay.com. "Maybe it's a mountain that has some kind of story associated with it, or a spring, that people will avoid."

Shamans and elders located the spiritual sites on maps of the region for the scientists, and they recounted the cautionary tales associated with the sites.

One shaman told the researchers of an angry dragon-like spirit locked under a mountain just outside the village of Shiriri. The shaman said earth tremors occurred the one time he climbed the mountain, so hunters never go there to hunt.

Through the stories they tell, shamans appear to regulate "who goes hunting, why they go, how long they follow the proscriptions, and how that influences their diet and hunting practices," said co-author Jose Fragoso, a biologist at Stanford University, in an interview with mongabay.com.



Ewell (front of canoe) and Wycliff, two indigenous technicians from Rewa Village, head out to collect animal population counts for the study. Photo by: Jose Fragoso

"Shamanism is a fulcrum around which a lot of environmental use is mediated," Fragoso said.

The new data should spur more comprehensive studies of hunting and indigenous resource use, said anthropologist Neil White head of the University of Wisconsin, who was not part of the research. Whitehead has studied the Patamuna and other Guyanese indigenous groups.

"Choices during subsistence hunting are more complex than they first appear," Whitehead told mongabay.com. "It incorporates lots of cultural values."

The scientists trained dozens of indigenous hunters, usually men, to conduct wildlife population counts. Intergenerational teams paired each of the more experienced hunters with a younger hunter. The teams walked along specially crafted paths in the forest, systematically recording any animals and animal signs they saw. Collectively, the hunters have walked more than 25,000 miles (40,000 km) to date, gathering data.

"We train them in scientific methods of collecting information, combining the traditional skills of hunters with the ability to record and think of things in a scientific way," said Fragoso.

These techniques yield better wildlife population estimates than those typically gathered by visiting scientists, according to Fragoso. The counts show that hunting practices in these communities are sustainable, he stated.

"Because of their societal and cultural rules, their hunting is not as intense as it could be," said Fragoso. "They seem not to have caused any extinctions or major population reductions."

Added Luzar: "The Wapishana and Makushi seem to be very good stewards of their resources."

—Citation: Read J, Fragoso J, Silvius K, Luzar J, et al. (2010) *Space, Place, and Hunting Patterns among Indigenous Peoples of the Guyanese Rupununi Region. Journal of Latin American Geography* 9(3): 213-243. doi: 10.1353/lag.2010.0030

Keith Rozendal is a graduate student in the Science Communication Program at the University of California, Santa Cruz.