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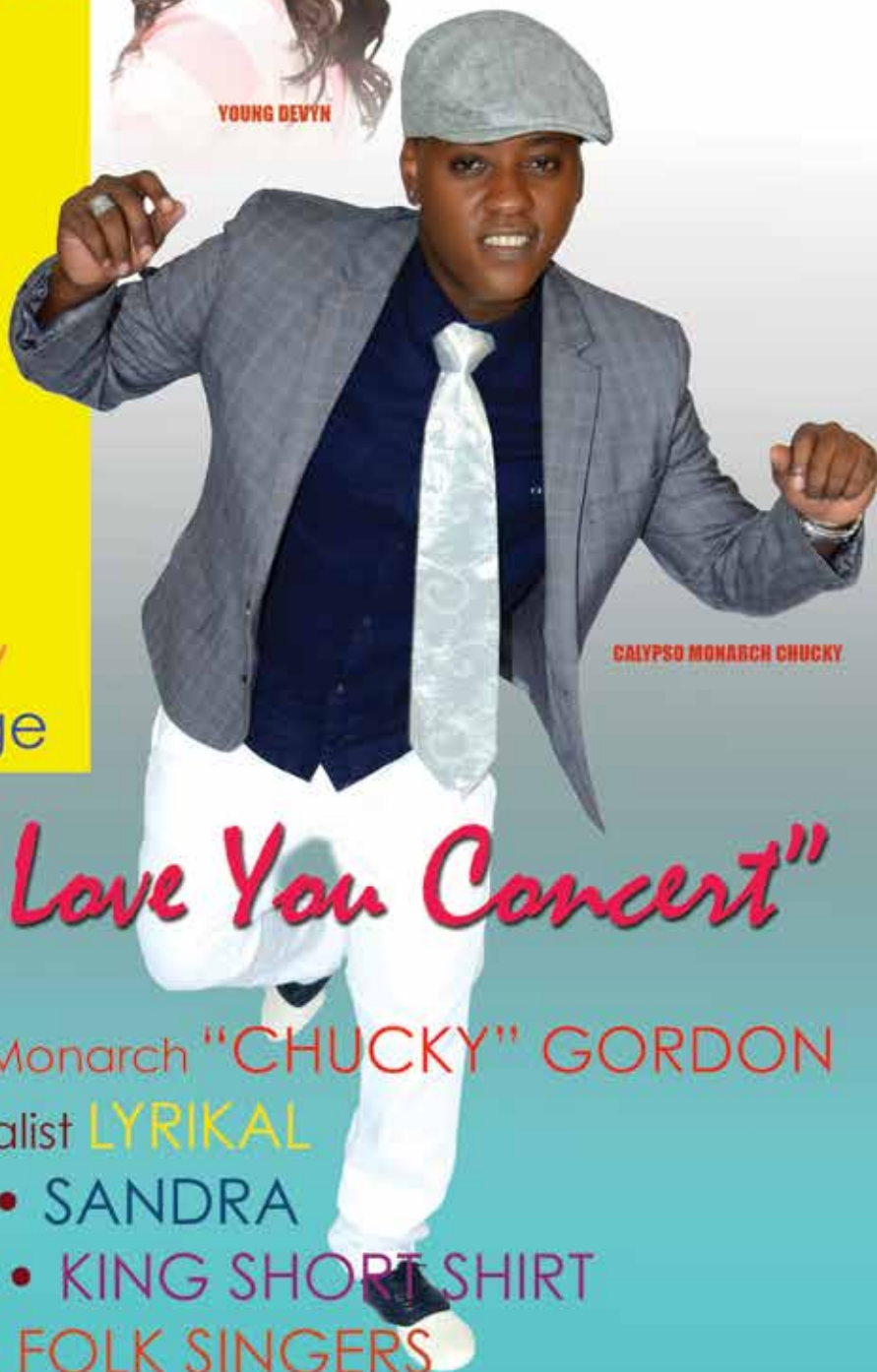
Chirlane McCray
Caribbean Heritage



YOUNG DEVYN



LYRIKAL



CALYPSO MONARCH CHUCKY

"Mother We Love You Concert"

Starring at Brooklyn Center

2014 National Calypso Monarch "CHUCKY" GORDON

2014 Soca Monarch Finalist LYRIKAL

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Sandra and to meet the young stars, Lyrikal,
Chucky Gordon, Braata Jamaican Folk singers
and Young Devyn. What a concert!"

MAY 10

Brooklyn Center



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Mother We Love You

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MOTHER'S DAY SATURDAY

MAY 10TH * 8:00 PM

Chucky

T&T National
Calypso Monarch
2014

Lyrikal

T&T International
Soca Finalist
2014

Shadow

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Bravo! Thank you for publishing the 2014 Caribbean-American calendar. I am dependent on your annual calendar so when you did not provide one for 2013, I was like a fish out of water.

Jocelyn Baptiste
Springfield, MA

Last year I called your magazine to complain that I did not receive my 2013 calendar and I was extremely disappointed when told that the magazine did not print one after 35 consecutive years of presenting it. I was informed of the

zine was receiving from readers and you pledged to do one for 2014. Thank you for keeping your promise. I rely on EVERYBODY'S Caribbean-American calendar to know of Caribbean festival dates.

Lynn Frederick
Tampa, FL

Glad you gave us the 2014 Global Caribbean Calendar. The carnival dates you provide annually are helpful but I have a bone to pick with your editor. I notice you did not include San Francisco Carnival in this year's calendar. Why?

Mark Chin
San Francisco, CA

Glad you changed the name "EVERYBODY'S Caribbean-American Calendar" to "EVERYBODY'S Global Calendar." You have now included me. I reside in the UK but I cherish your calendar for carnival dates and other festival events in the Caribbean Diaspora and I am a faithful subscriber of your magazine. I'm glad you recognize your magazine is not only appreciated by readers in the US but those of us living in other parts of the Caribbean Diaspora.

Johnson Bennett
Manchester, England

In your September issue, I was in disbelief when you said that the reason you did not print a 2013 Caribbean-American calendar was the lack of support by Caribbean tourism executives and one tourist board not paying for its advertising insert. I have been a reader of your magazine for over two decades and I cannot understand why a business in the Caribbean that markets its products and services in North America would not advertise or lend its support to a magazine that is relevant to Caribbean people living in the US.

Michelle Granderson
Brooklyn, NY

Lol! Nice 2014 calendar!

xxx@gmail.com

Thank you for providing the Caribbean carnival dates worldwide.

xxx@gmail.com

PERSON OF THE YEAR

Your choice of Prime Minister Baldwin Spencer as Person of the Year is a wonderful one and well deserved. I visited Antigua a couple of weeks ago and talking to the grassroots people they are very pleased with his leadership especially in the area of education.

Gordon Daniel
Grenada

How much were you paid for having Baldwin Spencer as your Caribbean Person of the Year?

xxx@yahoo.com

I have always respected EVERYBODY'S magazine and read it frequently when I lived in Westchester, NY. I am living back home in Antigua. Regretfully, I must say to you: Shame on you! Shame on you for declaring Baldwin Spencer as your esteemed magazine, "Person of the Year;" tell me, what has he done for our nation since becoming prime minister.

xxx@gmail.com

Your choice of Prime Minister Baldwin Spencer as the magazine's Person of the Year was a wise decision and I agree with your rationale. He has brought back Antigua and Barbuda from the pit of moral decay and international ridiculing to a highly respected and admired nation by world leaders and the international business community. Furthermore, he has been successful in spite the downfall of the global economy.

A.C. Joseph
Atlanta, GA

As a proud Jamaican and avid reader of EVERYBODY'S, I regret to lodge my disappointment for not having Shelly Ann Fraser as your Person of the Year. During 2013, she remained one of the top female athletes in the world. Olympian Shelly Ann Fraser success has been consistent over the years. She is a woman of class and a true ambassador of Jamaica and the region. I have nothing against Baldwin Spencer. He is unknown and leads a small nation. Shelly Ann, on the other hand, represents the now generation of Caribbean people. Wake up and smell the coffee!

Eurah Brown
Bronx, NY

ALLAN'S BAKERY ON COVER

Why do you always put Allan Bakery family on your calendar cover?

xxxx@yahoo.com

Those people and children from Allan Bakery again dominating the cover!!!

xxxx@optonline.net

Why Allan's Bakery always highlighted on the cover and given so many pages in the calendar?

xxxx@gmail.com

EDITOR RESPONSE: To the reader in San Francisco and to other people living in cities in the US and Canada who complained that we did not list their annual carnival in the 2014 calendar: We do not list events that cannot be confirmed and events without an annual consistent date. Years ago, there was a change of date in Toronto carnival and St. Vincent and the Grenadines carnival. One organization chartered buses to Toronto based on the date we published. In the case of St. Vincent, a few persons requested vacation to go to St. Vincent and the change of date of carnival screwed up their vacation time. We list events we are confident will happen.

Allan's Bakery: Allan's Bakery is the major sponsor of the calendar. The bakery purchases thousands of calendars to give its customers as a thank you gift. Although Allan's is prominent many small businesses such as daycare centers, barbershops and church organizations purchase the calendar in bulk from 10 to 100 to give their clients.

Instead of decrying us for featuring the business that presents the annual calendar, you should write your tourist offices, airline and other Caribbean companies that sell their products abroad asking them: Why are they not in the magazine?

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR: email them to editor@everybodysmag.com. We do not recommend phone calls because we want to share your views, praise and criticisms with other readers.

EVERYBODY'S in printing 5 issues per year and 6 digital or paperless per year. The 6 digital/paperless issues are not in print but the 5 print issues are in digital/paperless format.

Calypso *is back*

Calypsonians and Jamaican Folk Singers To serenade Mothers

By Matthew Wise

There's a feeling that calypso is back. Since calypso never went away, perhaps some fans are referring to calypso as presented in Trinidad & Tobago. Once upon a time, the winning tune of the calypso king or calypso monarch in Trinidad & Tobago instantly became a hit across the calypso islands and in the Caribbean Diaspora.

Times have changed. Islands that present a carnival now have highly developed carnival structures including steelpan, calypso and soca events and they are no longer dependent on Trinidad & Tobago for cultural leadership.

Moreover, clever compositions, witty songs and social commentaries once the hallmark of the Trinidad brand is flourishing in islands such as Dominica and Barbados.

Calypso couldn't be back. It never went away.

The decision, and an unwritten one, for calypsos mainly focusing on domestic political affairs and ridiculing or praising political parties and their leaders are the criteria for getting into, and winning, the National Calypso Monarch of Trinidad & Tobago may have turned off fans. Many cannot relate to those compositions including nationals of Trinidad & Tobago residing abroad.

The talk about soca killing calypso is just as baseless. The advent of rock 'n' roll and pop music were once said to be murdering jazz; jazz is alive and well. The possibility of calypso killing soca is farfetched but more realistic than soca killing calypso. Calypso will survive without soca but soca cannot survive without calypso.

The truth is that the soca artist is a calypsonian and the calypsonian is often a soca artist.

Bunji Garlin, one of the powerful emperors of soca, sang a calypso to win his first International Soca Monarch. Shadow, a veteran calypsonian, was the International Soca Monarch of 2001. Machel Montano who has created a vast soca empire started off singing calypso as a pre-teenager.

Young Roderick "Chucky" Gordon and other emerging calypsonians gave a good account of themselves in the 2014 calypso tents and competitions.

Perhaps they are the reason why people are saying calypso is back.

Chucky Gordon, the 2014 National Calypso Monarch and a 2014 International Soca Monarch semifinalist, will be serenading mothers at this year's "Mother We Love You Concert" on Mother's Day Saturday, May 10, Brooklyn Center for Performing Arts in Brooklyn, NY.

Chucky Gordon Trinidad & Tobago National Calypso Monarch To Charm Moms

Roderick "Chucky" Gordon won the Lord Brynner National Independence Calypso Monarch in 2012, a competition organized to commemorate Trinidad & Tobago 50th Anniversary of Independence (1962-2012).

Calypso
is back



*Roderick "Chucky" Gordon, 2014
National Calypso Monarch; T&T 50TH
Anniversary of Independence Calypso
Monarch and rising soca star.*



Lyrikal, Brooklyn's Artiste, and 2014 International Soca Monarch Finalist.

Calypso fans worldwide expected a veteran artist to walk away with the Lord Brynner title, named in honor of the late Lord Brynner who captured the first independence calypso crown in 1962 when Trinidad & Tobago became a sovereign nation. Instead, a 24-year created a footnote that future historians will include when they write about the 50th anniversary of Trinidad & Tobago independence celebrations.

Two years later, 2014, Chucky Gordon, at 26 years, became one of the youngest artists to win the National Calypso Monarch.

The media brands him a "young-generation calypsonian." The pundits have been saying that calypso is dying and it is overshadowed by soca. Chucky Gordon is proving them wrong.

Chucky also sings soca. Remember! He was a semifinalist in this year's International Soca competition.

The Mother's Day Saturday Concert is Chucky Gordon's first appearance in NY since attaining the prestigious 2014 National Calypso Monarch of Trinidad & Tobago.

Lyrikal

By Natasha Andrews

When we hear the word "lyrical," right away we think of someone who is excellent in expressing his emotions in an imaginative and beautiful way. But for Trinidad and Tobago Carnival 2014, anytime the name Lyrikal was mentioned, partygoers and soca music enthusiasts all over the world thought of only one guy: International recording artiste, Devon Martin, popularly known as Lyrikal.

"What makes this artiste so special?" his growing fans frequently ask. This is an easy question to answer. Apart from being an exceptional act, he represents so much to so many. Lyrikal is a Trinidad and Tobago national who resides in Brooklyn, New York. He started his career singing in the Brooklyn Caribbean scene and then traveled back to his homeland to try his hand at a very difficult music industry. Now, we have heard of the struggles of new artistes trying to break in to the soca industry, but doing so is even harder for Caribbean American artistes. What Lyrikal continues to accomplish year after year has opened many doors for other artistes who are based internationally and are trying to get recognized in a tough business.

Dubbed "Brooklyn's Artiste," Lyrikal has managed to be a consistent voice on Trinidad and Tobago radio for the last four years and one of the most sought after performing artistes for about ten years. For 2014, his music releases landed him a spot in the finals of the International Soca Monarch competition. He continues to climb the musical chart as he begins a tour that will take him to London, the Cayman Islands, Canada, the US Virgin Islands, and elsewhere.

Mother's Day of 2014 is very special for Lyrikal. His Mother usually patronizes the annual Mother's Day Saturday Concert at Brooklyn Center for the Performing Arts. This year her son is one of the concert's star attractions at the popular concert. What a thrill for mother and son!

Continued on page 12

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Braata Jamaican Folk Singers

Braata

Jamaican Folk Singers

Are they really Jamaican folk singers? "Someone who saw them in concert quipped. The person was mesmerized by the wide selection of Caribbean music, not just Jamaican music, Braata Folk Singers rendered.

People at the Mother's Day Saturday concert and those who are bringing their mom, grandma, wife and sweetheart can expect to hear the group take them back in time to hear Lord Kitchener, the Roaring Lion and other vintage as well as the songs of Bob Marley and Harry Belafonte.

The Braata Jamaica Folk Singers are fast becoming one of the Caribbean's leading performing arts ensembles. The group has established itself among Jamaicans and others in the wider Caribbean Diaspora for its unique

and dynamic presentation of the region's folk music, combining new choral arrangements with intricate choreography, design elements and costumes. The result is a theatrical presentation best described as "choral theater."

Singing Sandra

The Perfectionist Performer

When Singing Sandra won the National Calypso Monarch of Trinidad & Tobago in 2003 she became the first, and still the only, woman to win the title twice. Her first victory, in 1999, was achieved almost two decades after Calypso Rose shattered the barrier that protected men to control the calypso crown as if it was only created for male artists.

Sandra DesVignes was born in East Dry River, Trinidad & Tobago. Her family roots are in Gouyave, St. John's. St. John's is the birth place of Mr. Killa, The Mighty Sparrow



Singing Sandra

and Olympian Kirani James. Almost every June 29, Sandra goes to Gouyave to perform in the town's biggest festival, Fisherman's Birthday.

Although Sandra is now a solo artist, during her early career she teamed with other female calypsonians to form the singing group known as the United Sisters. Others in the group were Tigress, Marvellous Marva and the late Lady B. "Woe Donkey" was a massive hit of the United Sisters.

Sandra is an immaculate performer but her trade mark is her powerful lyrics. Her songs such as "Song for Healing," "Ancient Rhythm", and "Voices from the Ghetto" are calypso classics.

Her tribute to Nelson Mandela was one of the most educational and meaningful calypsos of the Trinidad & Tobago 2014 carnival season. It is hoped that she will render it during the Mother's Day Saturday concert in New York.

Guyana's Tony Ricardo Of Trinidad Troubadours

Tony Ricardo is one of Guyana's most famous artists but few people except Guyanese know he is Guyanese. The reason is, for many years, Tony Ricardo was associated with the famed Trinidad Troubadours band as its featured vocalist. His love ballads and other hits including "Mother, We Love You," "West Indian Men Could Duck," "Tell Them I Am Not Home," and "Please Come Back" are on his new CD, The Best of Tony Ricardo Vol. 1.

Expect Tony Ricardo to make every mother happy at the Mother's Day Saturday concert when he sings for them, "Mother, We Love You" and he may even collaborate with Sparrow on one of his classics.



King Short Shirt

King Short Shirt

Sir McLean Emanuel

To Sing to Moms

Someone wrote, "King Short Shirt is the most underrated calypsonian in the region." The writer is correct. King Short Shirt is the reason why Trinidad & Tobago enacted laws stating that only nationals of Trinidad & Tobago are eligible to compete and win the Road March and Calypso Monarch titles. If legislation was not hurriedly passed King Short might have won the 1976 Road March with his hit, "Tourist Leggo."

Yet calypso fans believe that Short Shirt no longer performs. That's not true. He does not perform in NY frequently preferring to work in the Caribbean and avoid the hassle of immigration and long distance flying.

Short Shirt remains Antigua and Barbuda's most revered and popular entertainer. McLean Leroy Emanuel known as the artist King Short Shirt has been given one of the highest citations Antigua and Barbuda. He is now Sir McLean Emanuel.

"When Short Shirt gets on a stage, [or should we say Sir Emanuel,] he controls the stage. He knows how to talk to the audience and how to perform for them," another person wrote.

King Short Shirt will sing and talk to moms on Mother's Day Saturday in Brooklyn. They'll love it.

Shadow

Shadowlingo

In March 2014, Lawrence Waldron, a Shadow fan created a blog <http://shadowlingo.wordpress.com/> to celebrate Shadow's unique contribution to calypso, philosophy and society. The blogger, evidently a scholar, wrote "The following are excerpts from a paper 'Shadow Farm: Animal Cruelty as Allegory in the Music of Shadow' that I presented at the annual conference of the Caribbean Studies Association in Barbados, 2010. They have been edited slightly to be presented together here.

"...One of Shadow's chief concerns is the question of intelligences other than humanity's. Numerous songs about spirits, extraterrestrials, robots and computers punctuate Shadow's oeuvre and stand out as some of his most popular Calypsos, especially among the cultish



Shadow



Roland Hyde photo

Calypso Rose

horde of Shadow fans who feel rightly that they are privy to a body of secret knowledge that goes entirely missed on the dance floor of the Carnival fete. Shadow's favourite tactic in his conjuring of exogenic intelligences is to employ a role reversal between humans and those other beings, be they jumbies, space aliens, sentient machines and, in one infamous Calypso, Shadow's own reflection in a mirror. Humanity itself is critiqued through many such mirrors provided by these alternative intelligences of Shadow's. And often we humans find ourselves stripped bare and laid low beside the piled tissues of our conceits.

"Here we might consider one of the most beloved categories in Shadow's aforementioned arsenal of exogenous consciousnesses: **animals**, and the dark glass they hold up to humanity's idea of itself and its place in nature.

"Shadow has many Calypsos on the topic of animals, including 'Story of Life' (1973 and 1976) as previously explored, 'Animal Kingdom' (1975), 'Evolution' parts I and II (1979), 'Frisco Donkey' (1984), 'Donkey Days' (2000), 'Hop Rabbit' (2000), and the popular single, 'Cook, Curry and Crow' (1980).

"Many of these songs feature sentient and even talking animals, usually serving some kind of allegorical function. Few present more symbolic levels than 'Cook, Curry and Crow.'"

What the blogger focused on is one strand in Shadow's vast compositions on the human condition.

Expect Shadow to sing about love and togetherness on the Mother's Day Show.

Calypso Rose

Sweeter Than Ever

Although it is the policy of EVERYBODY'S to invite different artists each year to perform at the Mother's Day Saturday concert. The magazine is breaking its own rule. By popular demand Calypso Rose was invited back. The sterling performance she gave last year had the audience in a trance.

Tanty Rose, as the young generation of female calypsonians calls her, is hotter than them, stronger than ever and sweeter than ever. She is always on tour. Recent performances included venues in China, Europe and Latin America.



Dr. Slinger Francisco

“Take Mom to See Me and Come Too”

Dr. Slinger Francisco who is to be presented the highest award Trinidad & Tobago can bestow on its citizens, Order of the Republic of Trinidad & Tobago, and the man who built the original Mother’s Day Caribbean concert is performing at this year’s Mother’s Day Concert.

“What a treat for calypso fans and for mothers whom Sparrow plans to sing to,” says Michelle Young, a mother and a Sparrow fan.

Sparrow who is still recuperating from ill health says, “I am very happy to be back on the Mother’s Day concert card.”

Susan Kennedy

Actress and Comedienne

Fresh from the World Laugh Festival in Trinidad & Tobago, Susan Kennedy is the MC of the May 10, 2014, Mother's Day Saturday concert.

Susan first love is acting. She appears in many Caribbean-American productions. When she is not acting, she performs comedy skits.

In 2011, EVERYBODY'S Magazine knowing that Susan had more talents stored away hired her to MC its calypso and soca tent in Brooklyn. She did a phenomenal job in the Tents of 2011, 2012 and 2013. Fans discovered she is a fantastic MC-comedian. Today, other promoters and producers are seeking Susan to MC their events.

Expect Susan to do a magnificent job on May 10, 2014 concert.



Susan Kennedy







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DEVYN

Devyn (L) with friends and family enjoy a popular scenic location overlooking Port of Spain, Trinidad & Tobago. (Inset Young Devyn)

The Precocious Young Devyn

By N. Arthur

"If this music thing doesn't work out for me I'm going to be the first African American Woman President of the US," Devyn Tyson proclaims. She sounds like an ambitious and mature person old enough to understand the importance of choices. If the first choice did not work out there is a second one to pursue.

Devyn Ashli Millicent Tyson known as the entertainer, Young Devyn, was born on December 28, 2001, in Brooklyn, three months after 9/11. Though not yet thirteen, Devyn has graced the same stage with Beres Hammond, Machel Montano, Bunji Garlin, Beenie Man, Movado, her all time favorite Patrice Roberts and other top Caribbean entertainers.

Devyn is a straight A student at one of the gifted and talented schools in Brooklyn, NY. She loves reading, writing, public speaking, and of course, entertaining/singing.

It is not surprising that little Miss Tyson is the youngest spokesperson for Juvenile Diabetes and does a lot of community work. She inspired many of her peer group in

Trinidad & Tobago when she visited schools during this year's Trinidad's Carnival.

Growing up in a Trinidadian-American household affords Devyn exposure to all genres of Caribbean music and dance. She listens to, and

learns from, her grandmother singing ole time calypsos such as The Mighty Sparrow's "Jean & Dinah" and Lord Kitchener's "Sugar Bum Bum." She appreciates gospel and spiritual music instilled in her by her aunts and uncles who are ministers. Singing to the Lord comes natural for the child star.

Natasha, her mother, says, "When Devyn was two years old she became very sick and almost died but hummed her way back to life. The doctors and nurses couldn't stop talking about the little girl in ICU that hums all day and all night. At age five, she was asked to sing at her 'Step up Ceremony' and even though it was a school song she left everyone in amazement. Singing is Devyn's passion, her best friend, her everything."

Professional management is essential for a successful life in show biz. When EVERYBODY'S Magazine called in October, 2013 to invite Young Devyn to perform at the upcoming Mother's Day Concert, the promoter was referred to Young Devyn's manager. Young Devyn has a manager and booking agent. That's a wise decision and further proof that Young Devyn is exposed to the business side of show biz.

Although Devyn's back up plan is to be the first African-American woman to become president of the U.S. she can achieve both aspirations of being president and an accomplished entertainer. After all, Ronald Reagan was a popular actor who starred in many Hollywood movies before he became president of the United States. So can you, Devyn Ashli Millicent Tyson.

When NY-One TV interviewed Young Devyn at last year's EVERYBODY'S Calypso & Soca Festival & Tent, the crew spellbound by her ability to listen, evaluate questions, and articulate like a professional and seasoned performer. Little did they know that she has her own television show on her YouTube channel called "Devyn T.V."

She can be followed on:

Face Book: www.facebook.com/youngdevyn1

Instagram: @youngdevyn

Twitter: @youngdevyn1

Keek: Youngdevyn

MAYOR DE BLASIO WIFE

Chirlane McCray



“...My maternal great grandmother, my maternal grandfather and my maternal grandmother all traveled from Barbados to the United States...”

CHATS ABOUT HER CARIBBEAN HERITAGE

By First Lady Chirlane McCray

Although, the yearend/Caribbean-American 2014 calendar edition gave the Caribbean background of New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio wife, Chirlane McCray, many people frequently call EVERYBODY'S Magazine about her heritage. First Lady Chirlane McCray recently detailed her Caribbean connection during a speech delivered at the Women's Initiatives Networking, a diverse forum of New York City-based women's groups, organized by the New York Coalition of One Hundred Black Women. Excerpts:

MAYOR DE BLASIO WIFE

Chirlane McCray

"I have this question that I've been wondering about for some time.

'Who exactly are the 100 Black Women?'

Such a powerful name! And you all have been such a mystery to me. I'm not talking about your names on paper, not your professional affiliations and what you've achieved.

I've just wondered how it feels to be in a room with you all!

Well, I can say it's feeling pretty good... I like the company.

And I feel so lucky to be alive and standing here with you.

I love the way you have come together to support one another and do the kind of work that you're doing for our young people.

You know people ask me how I can live this crazy political life - Giving up so much of our privacy, living in a fishbowl - the pace - with no two days ever alike - traveling from the Bronx to Staten Island to Queens, Manhattan and Brooklyn, and then doing it all over again.

And I have to tell people that everything I've been through in my life has helped to prepare me for this moment.

I'm sure most of you follow the news pretty closely, so you've probably come across an article or two about me.

But you're also savvy enough to realize that what you read in the newspaper is only one part of my story.

So let me tell you just a little more - of my version of my story - in condensed form.

Because there is definitely something interesting, some spirited blood flowing through my veins.

I'm the granddaughter of immigrants. My maternal great grandmother, my maternal grandfather and my maternal grandmother all traveled from Barbados to the United States.

The farthest back I can trace is my great grandmother, Louisa Parris Edwards. And let me tell you, that woman had a lot of gumption. The short story is that she was a widow, working on a mail ship that traveled between the islands in the Caribbean. A wealthy family took a liking to her and invited her to work for their family in Claremont, New Hampshire.

She could not have known how cold it would be. Anyway, she accepted the offer. And one by one she brought her children over and eventually bought the house my mother was born in. Then Louisa, after raising her family in Claremont, packed her bags and moved to Harlem. And there, she joined the Marcus Garvey Back to Africa movement.

GraceKennedy®

IT WAS A WINNING YEAR!

In the fourth quarter of 2013 GraceKennedy (Trinidad & Tobago) Limited continued its unbeatable trend of putting customers and communities first. Whether through Christmas, Divali or customer initiatives, GKTT closed 2013 in celebration with the people of T&T

GIFT GIVING AT GRACE COMMUNITY COMPLEX AND SYLPHIL HOME OF LOVE

For Christmas 2013, the GKTT team paid a visit to the Complex, bringing warmth, gifts and holiday cheer to the children of the Grace Community Complex and Sylphil Home of Love. Established 20 years ago in the borough of Chaguanas, the Grace Community Complex for the Challenged is well known as a place "to educate children and civil society on the potential and abilities of the students... resulting in a better quality of life for the children."

Located in Tobago, the Sylphil Home of Love which has been in operation for more than fifty years recently relocated to Pascal Village in Lambeau where there is better accommodation to provide for more children in need of help and support.



Sharon Blackberry, Human Resource Assistant with Graham Porter



Josephine & Michael Stokes are of order after receiving gifts



Jessica David, Technical Support Officer with Food Network

CELEBRATING DIVALI THROUGH SERVICE

For Divali 2013, Western Union recognised the significance of the season with a unique promotion. Any customer sending the equivalent of TT\$1,000 or more to India, Guyana or Suriname saved 50% of their transfer fee. Western Union also took part in Divali Nagar activities, distributing prizes and tokens to members of the public.



Sharon Blackberry, Human Resource Assistant with Graham Porter



The people who have had their first Divali at GKTT



At GKTT and in the community, Divali is celebrated with a special touch

CHRISTMAS PRESENTS FOR CUSTOMERS

Western Union observed Christmas 2013 with a grand and generous promotion. Over 20,000 customers of the leading money transfer service provider (Western Union) were given a chance to win prizes such as iPad Minis, \$500 vouchers to the Hyatt Regency Trinidad, and discounts at various stores nationwide.



Sharon Blackberry, Human Resource Assistant with Graham Porter



The people who have had their first Divali at GKTT



At GKTT and in the community, Divali is celebrated with a special touch

CUSTOMER APPRECIATION DAY IN PALMISTE

It was a day of live music, games and fun-filled activities for the entire family as Western Union and Bill Express joined with agent owners Parkview Supermarket in Palmiste to celebrate Parkview's 10th anniversary. Thousands of residents came out and participated in the various activities. Attendees received gifts courtesy Western Union and Bill Express.



GKTT staff members and residents of Park View Supermarket



L.R. McLean, Customer Service Representative of GKTT



GKTT staff members of Park View Supermarket

SWEET VOICES, SWEET FX TRADER

Four songbirds who listen to Sweet 100.1 FM used their golden voices to win goodie-packed FX Trader Christmas Hampers. The winners of the "Christmas Radio Karaoke" contest took home the hampers filled with Grace Foods items thanks to FX Trader, the foreign exchange place from GraceKennedy.



L.R. McLean, Representative of GKTT, one of the lucky winners, receiving her FX Trader hamper

CONGRATULATIONS FOR SERVICE EXCELLENCE

Demonstrating its commitment to recognizing service excellence - GKTT takes this opportunity to congratulate Maria Raymond - one of the team members at Western Union who received special commendation for service excellence in a recent article in the print media. GKTT applauds Maria and holds her up as an exemplar of true commitment to customer satisfaction.



L.R. McLean, Representative of GKTT, one of the lucky winners, receiving her FX Trader hamper

GraceKennedy
MONEY SERVICES

Western Union

Bill Express

FX Trader

MAYOR DE BLASIO WIFE

Chirlane McCray



*L to R: Chiara, Dante, mom and dad Chirlane and Bill de Blasio after he was sworn-in as the 109th Mayor of New York City.
(Photo Roger Hayden Celstin)*

She invested in the Black Star Line and the Parent Body of the Universal Negro Improvement Association Construction Loans. And, she invested in the Negro Factories Corporation. And I know that when she died, she had one of the biggest funerals ever held in Harlem. That's the activist blood I have flowing through my veins!

My parents had a mixed marriage. My mother folks came to this country from Barbados and my father's parents came from the south. And they brought me up in Springfield and Longmeadow, Ma. which was about a million miles away, culturally, from Harlem.

I was always the only black student in my class, and there was a stretch when I was the only black student in the entire school.

It was tough – emotionally and psychologically. I was teased, I was chased, and yes, I even was spit at. But I was the first girl in my family to go to college.

So for me the real mystery is: How my parents managed to achieve what they did and my grandparents too? How did they all do it? This is something I spend a lot of time thinking about these days.

So when people ask me, how does I do what I'm doing, I tell them that, everything I have experienced has helped to prepare me. And I had help.

I had afterschool and weekend programs — at the Girl's Club, West African and jazz dance and theatre at the Dunbar Community Center, youth group at St Peter's Episcopal Church, the YMCA. I had piano lessons, swimming lessons and swim team. And every week we'd go to the library and I'd find refuge in the tall stacks of books. I would check out as many of them as my little arms could carry.

And there were adults who encouraged me ... I drew

strength from them.

Once I started writing, poetry, in high school, the writing was my skill and it sustained me. It was my therapy and my outlet.

At Wellesley, where I went to college, I teamed up with some other students to launch Brown Sister, a publication celebrating the voices of women of color. And I had professors there who encouraged me.

And then I moved to New York City in 1977, with two possible job contacts, a place to stay and about 35 dollars in my pocket.

My first job was with Redbook magazine. My first freelance assignments were with Essence magazine. It was challenging to be in that industry, when so many people were still claiming that Black people did not read. And there were so few people of color in NY publishing houses.

Outside of Essence and Black Enterprise magazines there was only a handful.

But when I started an organization called Black Women in Publishing, the editor in chief at Redbook made sure we had a space for our first meetings. He encouraged me.

But it was not easy. When I finally decided to leave publishing and work full-time as a writer, I learned firsthand the challenges of being a single artist without a lovely benefits package!

Those were the years when I learned what it was like to live in a building with drafty windows and not enough heat.

Those were the years I learned how to get by with second-rate medical care because I couldn't afford a good doctor. And I learned what happens when you land in a hospital with a newly diagnosed, severe chronic disease and you have no health insurance.

And thanks to a job, I took as a substitute teacher, those were the years when I gained a fuller appreciation for why my parents sacrificed so much for my education.

I eventually landed a position in the Dinkins administration, as a press person. And that's where I met my very tall and very handsome and very smart husband. The spot where we met is just a few yards from where his office is now.

And we were married nearly 20 years ago. We celebrate our anniversary is in May and we have the two fabulous children you've heard about – Chiara and Dante.

Since then I've worked in communications and as a speechwriter — in government and politics and health-care. But I've never forgotten the lessons I learned during my youth.

I know that government has a powerful role to play in the lives of everyday people. And has powerful tools to help protect people and keep the doors of opportunity open."

02-22-79



Sir John Compton

Father of Saint Lucia Independence

By Prime Minister Kenny Anthony

Prime Minister Kenny Anthony of Saint Lucia recently paid tribute to the late Sir John Compton who led Saint Lucia into independence on February 22, 1979.

Anthony's speech, "Celebrating Our Past," was given at the unveiling of a statue of John Compton at Constitution Park during this year's Saint Lucia's 35th anniversary of independence.



The late Sir John Compton



*Prime Minister
Kenny Anthony*

Here is an edited version of Prime Minister Anthony speech:

"Think of the Taj Mahal of India, the Sphinx of Egypt, the Mona Lisa held in the Louvre Museum, Mount Rushmore and its presidential features, the Statue of Liberty in NY. Statues abound in every city square around the world. They tell a tale of achievement, of courage and of honor. They proclaim the progress of nations and identify the character of the people they represent.

This statue of Prime Minister John Compton is part of the story that is our history – that long road from discovery to self-determination; of our achievements from colony to independent statehood; of our progress from underdevelopment to a developing and diversified country; of our character from a politically tribal to a maturing democracy. This unveiling is helping define a new Saint Lucia which is at peace with its past.

Here in the heart of Castries, this place of honor we unveil today should not be conjured or confused in our minds as the summation of the man, the leader, the statesman, that was John Compton.

No! Saint Lucians know better. He was and will always be more than a park and a monument.

Saint Lucians are cognizant that this monument does not indemnify

or repay the untiring, unyielding will that this soul from Canouan, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, carved into the landscape of Saint Lucia and in the psyche of its people.

This monument will remind all Saint Lucians of the life and stories which can be told of John Compton. It will allow the story to be retold more often to those who did not know him, who were not of his era.

Some stories about Compton are facts of history. Some might be myth or legend; some more skewed and tinted red, yellow or blue, dependent on the bard. Either way, his history cannot be diminished or denied.

Sixty years ago, a young John George Melvin Compton was immersed into what would be his baptism of Saint Lucian politics, into what would become a life-long, unequivocal vocation. A decade on from then, in 1964, and following his sojourn and irreconcilable differences with the Saint Lucia Labour Party of the day headed by Sir George F.L. Charles, he branched out boldly to form the National Labour Movement (NLM) which merged with the People's Progressive Party (PPP) to form the United Workers Party; an entity through which he championed his vision for Saint Lucia. As such, this year is perhaps a fitting one within which to unveil this lifelike epitaph of bronze.

John Compton was the 'Father of Independence.' He completed a process of self-determination that stretched from the resistance of the Amerindians against the arrival of Europeans, the rebellions of the slaves against slavery and the rejection by George Charles against colonial disenfranchisement. George Charles fought for our right to vote and have our own political leadership effectively ending direct white rule. John Compton completed the circle of decolonization by leading us to achieve the right to decide our own destiny.

But more than carrying us over the line of self-determination where we could proudly state we are now independent, able to stand and join other nations as an equal, John Compton gave his life pursuing a vision for the development of Saint Lucia. His achievements in leading Saint Lucia from a colonial backwater to a developing state, speak of a man who was resolute, committed, and relentless in his efforts. It took a lot of character, dedication and visioning to tackle the colonial ills of poverty, illiteracy, malnutrition, disease and backwardness.

This park should be rightfully seen as a place of respect and honor for a man who gave so much of his life in the service of Saint Lucia.

Saint Lucians have come together as a nation to publicly honor the life of service of John Compton. We are mindful enough of the tribulations that are the theatre of politics and the troubles, tragedy and toils of its actors.

Yet, our politics, this clashing of contending sides within our country must be noble enough, courageous enough – and courteous to a fault – so that we might embrace such moments of undeniable unity.

In truth, I trust that we should know that there lies no shame or hypocrisy in the leader of one political party paying homage to the honor of another leader, even as

they might once have been political adversaries. At the end of things, if such homage is due, then it should never be denied. All politicians have faults, but such blemishes should not deny the goodness of character and strength of heart of each.

If we cannot emulate this, then what sense is there when we meet only a few yards from this place in Parliament, to speak to the honorable business of the people?

On this joyous moment honoring John Compton, I ask you not to perceive yourself as a member of the Saint Lucia Labour Party; or as a member of the United Workers' Party, or of any political group for that matter. We are here to declare we are Saint Lucians gathered to celebrate one of our heroes.

Indeed, this applies not only for today. Rather, on all days, we should think first of country and its well being before political hue.

This monument reminds us not just of the man, Sir John Compton. Instead, it is a reflection of ourselves, a mirror of our heritage and achievements. This monument is not for Sir John Compton, nor even is it for his family. It is primarily for the people of Saint Lucia, for those who might not have known his form and feats of fame.

It is to remind us all of our past, of our struggles, of our stern and starved nights of pain, and then of our triumphs, to trace our dawns of brighter, more peaceful, more beautiful morns.

It is this past which Compton so undeniably shaped and caused to alter from the dark days of colony to our maturing years of statehood and independence. We owe it to our youth as a tool of learning and instruction.

This monument serves to the child, to the school group, to the passer-by, to the many who find Constitution Park their place of rational thought, of worship or preaching or of diatribe, as an aide memoire of all these indelible moments and institutions that we must cherish.

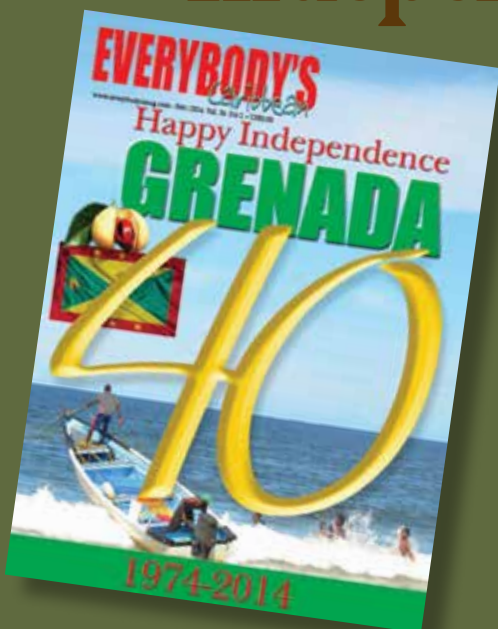
I speak of independence. I speak of our right to govern and determine for ourselves, as best we can. I speak of our cherished values enshrined in our Constitution, for which we must hold onto dearly.

Sir John cherished these for he undoubtedly fought for their realization.

This landmark brings to focus our memory of this courageous man. He did walk through here without fear, interacting with people whether in moments of calm or of political turmoil and upheaval.

And so, this statue completes Constitution Park, with the bearer of the constitution document in his hand. Perhaps he might have suggested we plant a banana tree nearby as a memory of him, but I am sure Lady Janice would agree only if it maintains the aesthetic and character of this green space. And while he might have preferred us to remember him by his simplicity and humanity- his green F.A.R., his voice always filled with prose, his kindness and humor, we are duty bound for our own posterity to remember him for his national legacy.

Salvaging Grenada's Independence Edition



Call this section salvaging EVERYBODY'S edition on Grenada's 40th anniversary of independence.

Like our 2008 edition commemorating Grenada's 34th birthday as a nation, and we still get orders for it, we were optimistic that an edition to celebrate the country's 40th year of independence will be welcomed by the public and private sector in Grenada.

Plans for the edition were unveiled in late August and an official letter sent via email to one of the highest officials in the nation. The response to us was sent by snail mail which we received from the post office in December ... a bit too late for an edition scheduled for end of January.

Due to deteriorating domestic and global economy, the private sector was reluctant to advertise especially when institutions charged to promote Grenada as a tourist and carnival destination ignored our invitation.

We are happy to publish some features that were created for a Grenada independence edition including one of the cover designs.

The article on the next page featuring the Grenada National Museum summarizes the thought process for an annual independence magazine whether by EVERYBODY'S magazine or another publication. "At the basis of creating a national identity are institutions like museums, libraries and archives that house our collective memories ... Without the written records, artifacts, historical sites and oral history of who we are and where we have journeyed, we are at the mercy of outside cultural, technological and political influences that can have a detrimental effect on our cultural future," writes John Angus Martin, Director of the Grenada National Museum. "The establishment and maintenance of institutions like museums and archives are major undertakings because of their cultural value. Though costly, the decision not to invest in them will prove more costly later on ..."



Female officers of the Royal Grenada Police at the 2014 Independence Day parade celebrating the nation's 40th anniversary of independence.
(Photo John Charles)





During colonial times Bathway Beach, in the north, mainly attracted the dark skin working class and Gran(d) Anse Beach in the south were mostly frequented by the elite. Today, Bathway attracts all Grenadians and tourists.



*Approaching the sister island of Carriacou.
(Photo John Charles)*



Salvaging Grenada's
Independence Edition

Grenada National Museum

Integral For Nation Building

By John Angus Martin



An outdoor exhibit at the Grenada National Museum

The establishment and maintenance of institutions like museums and archives are major undertakings because of their cultural value ... We, whether in Grenada or the Diaspora, cannot feign ignorance and allow the stories of our past to disappear...



The building was constructed by the French as a military base in 1704 when France owned Grenada. In the 1880s, England used it as a prison for women when the British ruled the colony. In the early 20th century, an entrepreneur converted it into the island's first hotel; it later became a warehouse until 1976 when visionaries converted it into the Grenada National Museum.

Throughout 2014 Grenada celebrates 40 years of Independence. Grenadians, at home and abroad, can take courage in their strong desire to create a national identity as part of our continuing development. At the basis of creating a national identity are institutions like museums, libraries and archives that house our collective memories. Yet, as the global village becomes a reality, we are witnessing, on a large scale, the disappearance of our national heritage as the older generations pass on and the memory of who we are fade away. Without the written records, artifacts, historical sites and oral history of who we are and where we have journeyed, we are at the mercy of outside cultural, technological and political influences that can have a detrimental effect on our cultural future.

The establishment and maintenance of institutions like museums and archives are major undertakings because of their cultural value. Though costly, the decision not to invest in them will prove more costly later on. We, whether in Grenada or the Diaspora, cannot feign

ignorance and allow the stories of our past to disappear. As each piece of the puzzle disappears so too does a part of who we are, as individuals, and as a people. As Grenadians, we owe it to ourselves, but more so to our children and grand children who may one day wish to know where they came from, only to be told that the stories are all lost or scattered far and wide. Without a national identity, we are lost as a nation!

The Grenada National Museum (GNM) can play primary roles in two very important aspects of the islands' development. As one of a few functioning historical and cultural institutions, it is a primary part of the tourism



Salvaging Grenada's Independence Edition

industry. Visitors rely on the Museum as an introduction to the history and culture of Grenada. Probably more importantly is the role the GNM can play in the education of the islands' young people.

I am amazed at the positive comments from visitors who see the Museum as the only place where they can get a glimpse of the islands' heritage and learn something, no matter how small, about Grenada. The GNM is the first place visitors expect to learn about the islands' history and culture, providing them with an accurate portrayal of the people and culture. It is therefore imperative that as we invest in tourism we equally invest in our heritage and the GNM as it is home to the multiple stories of our valued heritage.

I believe that the primary reason for the existence of the GNM is providing access to Grenada's history and culture to the local community, particularly students. The GNM is currently developing a product that can enhance the education of our children in the areas of culture, science, civics and art. It is our goal to provide interactive displays that challenge students to think critically, but overall increase our visibility within the school system by expanding our role in education. We believe we have

a significant part to play in our children's development and want them to see the Museum as a place to come and learn.

The GNM stands ready to assume its role as the foremost institution of its kind to lead the struggle to preserve, interpret and display the islands' rich heritage. Though its present state may be discouraging to some, we need to credit those who have kept its doors open these past 38 years, despite tremendous setbacks and limited resources. It is quite clear that if needed resources are directed to the Museum we will see a marked difference in a few years. It remains a significant challenge for us, especially in the face of dwindling financial resources, but we believe that a concerted effort on everyone's path will lead to positive results.

As we begin this new journey, we appeal to you to join us, and welcome any and all input because our goal, like yours, is to see the GNM live up to its name. I hope that many of you will share my enthusiasm in looking forward to April 2016 when we celebrate our 40th anniversary and the rebranding of our national museum.

**John Angus Martin is Director of the Grenada National Museum and author of Grenada A-Z.*



*The bell and grinding stone on the former Belmont estate, Hermitage, St. Patrick are flashbacks about life on estates during the 18th to 20th centuries. The Grenada National Museum should be the home of artifacts scattered across the nation.
(Photo John Charles)*



Salvaging Grenada's
Independence Edition

Parish of St. John

Home of Olympian Kirani James

By Collis De Coteau



Olympian Kirani James attended the famed St. John's Anglican School in Gouyave.

Many visitors assume that when one speaks about Grenada, the parish of St. George and its town, the nation's capital, St. George's, is all that matters. His or her perception quickly changes upon visiting the evergreen parish of St. John and its vibrant town, Gouyave.

The parish of St. John has been giving definition to Grenada as early as the days of the famed Julien Fedon, and much more since Grenada's independence in 1974. Fedon was the only person in the entire 18th century

British West Indies to wage war against the English, freed the enslaved and never captured dead or alive. He simply vanished. Fedon's headquarters was located in one of the most mountainous areas of the parish, Belvidere, and Fedon and his French supporters declared Gouyave, the provincial capital of Grenada. Yes, Gouyave was once the provincial capital of Grenada!

Of Grenada's six governors general since nationhood in 1974, Gouyave has provided two, Sir Paul Scoon and Sir Carlyle Glean. Like Fedon, Scoon's name will remain

Continued on Page 30



*Concord Waterfall is located in St. John. Petroglyphs probably by the Ciboneys are on a large stone in the river leading to the two waterfalls.
(Photo John Charles)*



Salvaging Grenada's Independence Edition

Continued from Page 28

prominent in Grenada's history for centuries. The late Sir Paul Scoon served as governor general for 14 consecutive years. He experienced the coming and ending of several governments including the People's Revolutionary Government of Prime Minister Maurice Bishop. He was the symbol of authority before, during and after US led invasion/rescue mission. The Governor General from Gouyave is credited for restoring constitutional rule.

In August 2012, while the world was astounded, the people of Gouyave and parish of St. John were not! Kirani James of Gouyave won a gold medal in the London Olympic Games. Everybody from Gouyave and St. John's whether they lived in Grenada or overseas were confident that James would bring Grenada its first



Soca star Mr. Killa took Trinidad & Tobago by storm during the 2014 carnival hails from Gouyave, St. John's.

Olympic medal thereby making Grenada the smallest country ever to win an Olympic gold medal. Yes, Kirani James, the world's present 400-meter Olympian champion hails from the Gouyave. And let's be reminded that he is also the youngest person to win the 400 meters in the 2011 World Championship held in Seoul.

About three miles from Gouyave is the historic Village of Grand Roy, sometimes spell by its French name Gran Roi, the birth place of the world's greatest calypsonian, The Mighty Sparrow. Need anything more be said!

Close to Grand Roy is the Village of Concord, the ancestral home of Lewis Hamilton, the British Formula One race driver, and the 2008 Formula One World champion. Lewis Hamilton's Grandfather, an agriculture officer in St. John's, migrated to the UK in the late 1950s.

Agriculture is the mainstay of St. John's. The parish is famous for its production of nutmegs, cocoa and bananas. The Nutmeg Pool in Gouyave is a popular tourist lure.

As if that's not enough some of the most breathtaking scenic attractions in Grenada are in St. John's. A visit to Grenada's second highest mountain peak, Fedon's Camp, named in honor of Julien Fedon, provides a



The world's greatest calypsonian, The Mighty Sparrow, was born in Gran Roi, (Grand Roy), St. John. (L to R:) Mighty Sparrow, Calypso Rose and fellow Gouyave-man, H. Hall. (Photo Sharon Bennett)

bird's-eye view of the entire island and the dependency of Carriacou and the Grenadines

While fishing is popular in each parish, Carriacou and Petite Martinique, it is Gouyave that Grenada recognizes as the center of the fishing industry. Traditionally, Fisherman's Birthday, celebrated on June 29, has been a day festivities. Fisherman's Birthday has blossomed since independence. Today, Grenadians from all over the island and foreigners congregate in the "town that never sleeps" to celebrate St. Peter's Day (Fisherman's Birthday) with Gouyaverians. There is a parade from the Roman Catholic Church to the fishing section of Gouyave, De L'Ance, the blessing of fishermen, boats and nets by priests, boat racing and picnics culminating in an unofficial carnival.

And to further emphasize the importance of fishing, every Friday night, Fish Friday, Gouyave is filled with visitors coming to enjoy fish prepared Gouyave style. Even Vernon Winfrey, the father of Oprah Winfrey, and actor Morgan Freeman, couldn't resist its temptation. So too are tourists who leave their posh hotels in St. George on Friday nights to visit Gouyave for Fish Friday.

There are many things to see and do in Grenada, but one's visit would be highlighted by taking the picturesque western roads from St. George's to see the parish of St. John, and spending some time in the town of Gouyave.

An old 17th, 18th and 19th century custom has been somewhat restored, traveling between Gouyave and St. George's by boat. Some tourists now go to Fish Friday from St. George by boat.

*Collis "Tony" De Coteau is the author of "A Place Called Gouyave." It is available from Amazon.com. The De Coteau family has been in Gouyave since the 18th century and supported Fedon against the British.



Photographer John Charles captures sunset from St. David.

ST. DAVID

Most Magnificent Parish

By Gloria Rennie

St. David is the most magnificent parish in Grenada. And, this is not a boast but a fact.

A friend told me that during the 1950s while attending the St. John's Anglican School, in the town of Gouyave, Parish of St. John, headmaster Eli Peters would ostentatiously stress that St. David is the only parish in Grenada without a town. My friend, then about eight, thought St. David had to be a

backward parish. It had no town! Yet when Teacher Eli took them on a bus excursion to St. George's, in 1955, to welcome Princess Margaret, a visit to the Parish of St. David was the other highlight of the tour.

"Coming to think of it," my friend said, "Teacher Eli always included St. David on the itinerary of all school trips." The old headmaster was most excited about



Salvaging Grenada's Independence Edition

Westerhall Station, an area in St. David, where imported livestock such as pigs, turkeys and Rhode Island fowls were raised. My friend believes that the late Teacher Eli knew St. David is the most beautiful parish in Grenada.

I agree wholeheartedly. So do most Grenadians and visitors!

Today, many Grenadians who lived overseas and have returned, and people who made Grenada their homeland reside in St. David. The reason is simple: St. David is the most magnificent parish in Grenada. And, this is not a boast but a fact.

The truth is St. David's coast is lined with hidden coves and gorgeous, secluded and unblemished beaches. I am ready to relax any time on Requin Bay, Petit Bacaye, Marlmount, La Tante and other romantic beaches in the parish.

Given its pristine beauty, one may believe that St. David thrives on tourism. Not exactly! Agriculture flourishes too. St. David farmers are amongst the best.

Westerhall Point, the Westerhall Estate (formerly a sugar plantation), the Spice Factory, La Sagesse Nature Center and Beach are all landmarks to behold. Westerhall Point, the only gated community on the island, is a small peninsula which is a private, residential, middle-class development with many beautiful homes with landscaped grounds, private beach fronts and private roads.

Given its pristine beauty, one may believe that St. David thrives on tourism. Not exactly! Agriculture flourishes too. St. David farmers are amongst the best. In the heyday of agriculture, St. David agriculture workers were employed on estates across Grenada. One Byron Hagley of Vincennes was the overseer of Belvidere estate, in St. John's Parish, at that time the largest nutmeg estate in the world. St. David is famous for its rich harvest of cocoa, nutmegs, bananas, spices, and sugarcane.

For centuries, St. David has been producing the best rums in Grenada if not in the entire world. Smooth La Sagesse Rum and Westerhall Rums come to mind.

I believe the Parish of St. David is the ancestral home of the Grenada Dove, the National Bird of the nation. It is frequently seen in a border section between St. George and St. David. The Grenada Dove, I prefer to say the Grenada Dove of St. David, is an endangered bird, and world wildlife preservation teams have developed programs to prevent its extinction.

Some of the best villages in Grenada are in St. David. With vibrant villages such as Vincennes, Corinth, La Tante, Requin, Bellevue, Petit Bacaye, Perdmontemps and La Sagesse, who needs a town?

St. David did have a town, Megrin, but that was more than 200 years ago when France owned Grenada. The French established all the parishes and towns. Upon capturing Grenada, the British retained the parish boundaries. On February 10, 1764, the British renamed each parish and town. The "Paroisse Du Megrin" officially became the Parish of St. David. Evidently, the British did not bother to give the tiny town of Megrin a new name nor recognize it as a town. The population, mainly French speaking mulattos and the enslaved, continued calling the parish Paroisse Du Megrin and its town, Megrin.

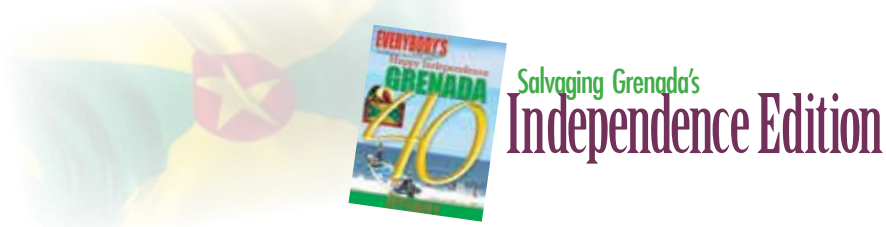
St. David is hardly in the conversation about parishes that sustained the Fedon's Revolution of 1795-1796 when a French Mulatto, Julien Fedon, rebelled against British tyranny and freed the slaves. Praise is frequently heaped on the "Paroisse Des Sauteurs (St. Patrick), Paroisse Du Grand Pauvre (St. Mark), Paroisse Du Grand Marquis (St. Andrew) and Paroisse De L'ance Goyave (St. John). Few historians realize that St. David was of strategic importance to the Fedon's Revolution.

French vessels sailed into the rugged coast and hidden bays of St. David to supply food and arms to Fedon. During the wee hours of May 22, 1795 as British soldiers slept in the French founded Roman Catholic Church in Megrin, over 500 of Fedon's revolutionaries attacked the British. The church and the tiny town were destroyed. You may say that was the end of Megrin. It was not rebuilt.

The revolutionary spirit continued. St. David was a cardinal reason for the success of the Eric Gairy Revolution of 1950-53 when the young labor leader who would lead Grenada into nationhood won better working conditions for laborers. Laborers in the parish were amongst the first to support Gairy.

Modern day St. David has given the nation great citizens such as Unison Whiteman, an architect of the 1979-1983 Grenada Revolution. Whiteman would be assassinated with Prime Minister Maurice Bishop. The renowned British statesman, Baron David Pitt was born in the Parish. St. David has also produced Baroness Rosalind Patricia-Anne Howells, Her Excellency Ruth Rouse, High Commissioner in the United Kingdom and Francis Redhead, Grenada's first consul general and ambassador to the UN. A head of state, former Governor General Sir Daniel Williams and the late Prime Minister George Ignatius Brizan were also born in St. David.

*Gloria Rennie, active in the Grenadian community of New York, was born and raised in St. David.



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Adrian & Carmen	Simmons	Cambria Heights	NY
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Annette	Merrill	Brooklyn	NY
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Daisy	Raye	Brooklyn	NY
Diane	Lazzaroni	Manteca	CA
Erna	Collymore	Brooklyn	NY
Esther	Joseph	Brooklyn	NY
Eugene & Lisda	Sawney	Bowie	MD
Eulis Sawney & Taevaughn	Reyes	Hyattsville	MD
Gail	Prescod	Jamaica	NY
Grace	Glover	Hempstead	NY
Ian, Sydney and Liam	Joseph	Temple Hills	MD
Inez	Lambert	Brooklyn	NY
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Outstanding Grenadians In the Diaspora

Edited by Andy Pilgrim

Lisda Sawney
Maryland-Washington, DC

"With great alacrity, I say Lisda Sawney is the hardest working person for Grenada causes in the Washington, DC and Maryland areas," remarked a Grenadian diplomat. "But, do not release my name for fear of making other industrious Grenadians in DC and MD jealous."

Numerous Grenadians, from New York and Toronto, to London and elsewhere, consistently help worthy causes in Grenada regardless to what political party is governing Grenada. Lisda Sawney is one.

In 2010 Mrs. Sawney gathered three sickle cell hematologists at her then workplace, Howard University Hospital, to participate, via the web, in a Grenada-based conference on sickle cell disease.

The conference was symbolic as it was the centennial of the first research presented about sickle cell disease. In a 1910 medical paper, Chicago-based internist James Herrick, evaluated case reports of examinations by intern Dr. Ernest Irons on patient Walter Clement Noel (1884-1916). At the time Clement was a Grenadian student attending dental school in Chicago and became the first person diagnosed with sickle cell disease as documented by Herrick.

Today Sawney is advocating that a lab be built in Grenada to test newborns for sickle cell disease and is seeking funds to launch the project.

That's not all! She coordinated with the Washington-area based Grenada Cultural and Social Association (GCSA) to support the Grenada National Patient Kidney Foundation. Through this collaboration, the GCSA contributed \$3000 in 2011 and another \$3000 the following year.

Mrs. Lisda Sawney has made outstanding contributions for the betterment of Grenadian communities at home and abroad. The woman with a generous heart works with the Grenadian Embassy in Washington, DC to implement projects the Embassy wants the community to be part of. She is also a member of the Grenada



Lisda Sawney

Independence Ball Committee.

Born in the Village of La Digue, St. Andrew, Lisda Neckles attended Holy Innocents Anglican School and St. Andrew's Secondary School before immigrating to the US to receive her university education.

She is a go to person who makes things happen in DC-MD.

Disappointed but not disheartened when the promoter of the play, "Happy Hour," informed her that they were bringing the play from Grenada for performances only in NY she sprung to action. Unable to convince the promoter that a DC-Maryland performance was vital, she simply chartered a bus and brought 48 Grenadian-Washingtonians and Marylanders to see the play in NY.

"I have been participating in cultural, educational, health and other projects since 1969 when I arrived in the US," explains Sawney "and I do not intend to stop."

So, what's her latest project? Reopening, the Grenada Public Library in St. George's.

The library has been closed for two years because the building needs a roof. "Books and historical records are still in the building and deteriorating," says Sawney. "Rain is destroying the books. We are fundraising to pay



Salvaging Grenada's Independence Edition

rental space for storing the documents until the building is renovated." Mrs. Sawney is part of a committee of Grenadians in NY, MD, DC and other regions bent on assisting government reopen the library.

As the saying goes, "the apple does not fall from the tree," her two daughters, Eulis and Julia, both born in the US have followed in the footsteps of their parents, Eugene and Lisda Sawney. They, too, participate in Grenadian-American goodwill efforts.

Good deeds are sometimes recognized. In 2001, the International Honor Society of Nursing recognized Sawney as one of the "100 Extraordinary Nurses" in the Washington area for "Superior Achievement and Commitment to the Ideals of Nursing."

In 2012, she received the Government of Grenada Homecoming Award for contributions toward the development of the health care sector. The following year Sawney was presented with an award by Gillian M.S. Bristol, then Ambassador of Grenada to the OAS and US, in recognition of her "Steadfast Commitment to her homeland and for her unswerving partnership with the Embassy in service of the People of Grenada."

Gemma Raeburn-Baynes Montreal, Canada

"Ms. Gemma Baynes, you immigrated to Canada at 13 and lived here all your life. Most people who reside here for so long are bonded to Canada, have faint memories of the land of their birth and are not tied emotionally to the old country. Your dynamic leadership in the Montreal-Canadian community makes you different; one may think you recently arrived" the reporter remarked to Gemma Raeburn-Baynes.

"Which of these three places you consider your homeland (1) Canada (2) Grenada (3) the Caribbean?" the reporter posed to Gemma Raeburn-Baynes.

"Grenada!" Gemma instantly exclaimed. Canada is number two.

"Why is the Spice Island number one? You left Grenada in 1964 when you merely became a teenager. You got your education in a Canadian high school, college and university," the reporter teased Gemma.

"Because my nable string is buried in Sauteurs, Grenada, to be exact in Madeys," the witty Raeburn-Baynes proudly explained.

There's no question the woman who cofounded Montreal Carnival (Carifesta) in the early 1970s is Grenadian to the bone and still relishes Oil Down, Grenada's national dish.

When Hurricane Ivan destroyed Grenada in 2004, Gemma came up with a unique fundraising drive to



Prime Minister Keith Mitchell and Gemma Raeburn-Baynes; she presented him his portrait at dinner held in her honor.

help – it was not the usual dinner-dance thing where most of the money raised goes to pay the caterer – she sold bricks. "I organized a brick campaign. Buy a small brick as a reminder of the Grenada disaster raised \$45,000 and each dollar went to Grenada."

Gemma conceived another brilliant idea. Months after Hurricane Ivan, as the nation struggled to survive, she brought a Canadian TV crew to Grenada to show the resilience of Grenadians. Two documentaries were broadcast on a Canadian national TV program. The idea paid off because the government and people of Canada were inspired and gave additional assistance to hurricane-torn Grenada.

Gemma is excited about May 18, 2014. It is "Taste of the Caribbean Festival," another major Montreal event cofounded by Gemma Raeburn-Baynes.

This lady does not think small. She plans to have President Barack Obama personal chef at this year's Taste of the Caribbean Festival. "Like President Obama, he is young, handsome and intelligent," Gemma laughingly says.

Capturing the scene at an event honoring Gemma Raeburn-Baynes, Robert Frank writing in the **Montreal Suburban**, notes: "Montreal's Caribbean populace has



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fallen on fertile ground, judging by the crowd ... [that] packed the ballroom at the posh St. James Club downtown, [on] March 8,[2014] to honour Gemma Raeburn-Baynes for 50 years of community service in Canada ... They included representatives of Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper and Montreal Mayor Denis Coderre ... The evening culminated with a moving speech by Grenada's Prime Minister Dr. The Right Honorable Keith Mitchell, who reminded listeners of the pivotal role that Raeburn-Baynes played in rallying support for Grenada, especially after Hurricane Ivan devastated the country."

Although Grenada is her first love, her husband, Bernard Baynes, is Vincentian.

Canadians in general and Caribbean-Canadians in particular recognize Gemma as a genuine Caribbean person who serves the entire Caribbean community of Montreal and beyond.

This recognition encourages her to do more. As she said at the tribute in her honor at the St. James Club, "I feel this not as a reward but as a catalyst to motivate me to make an even more meaningful contribution to my country, my people and my community."

Matthew Rae Brooklyn, NY

Sep. 11, 1924-Sep. 27, 2013

By Herman Hall

It was 1967. Flying to and from Grenada by Grenadians abroad for carnival, birthday celebrations, funerals, to vacation and for other reasons were not yet routine. Grenadians residing in Europe and North America still grilled the newly arrived to get the latest news in the homeland. Facebook, email, web radio and twitter were not even conceived. Goodwill Grenadians already settled in Toronto, New York, Washington, DC and other cities helped arriving Grenadians acclimatized. Matthew Rae of Birchgrove, St. Andrew's, Grenada, living in NY since 1947 assisted many.

Although Rae dwelled in Brooklyn every few weeks some Grenadian students attending Howard University in Washington, DC would spend the weekend with Rae and his family at 67 Granite Street, in the Bushwick section of the borough. They did not return to Washington, DC without Rae reminding them, "Working and studying come first. Running after the ladies and partying could wait until graduation. You came in this country to better yourself."

One Keith Mitchell and Denis Antoine were two Washington based students who visited Rae. Keith



Rev. Matthew Rae

Mitchell is today Grenada's Prime Minister and Antoine is a distinguished diplomat. Other Rae visitors later became dentists and marketing executives.

Rae and his family always found room in their home for the newly arrived that opted to reside in NY. In late spring of 1967, a young student in his early 20s arrived in NY on a student visa to

join his other two Grenada schoolmates who immigrated a few months before. They were the only two persons the student knew in the US.

He met Rae at a meeting of the now defunct Grenada Mutual Association in Harlem. Rae sought information from the student about his welfare. Rae later rented him a room. The student in turn told Rae of other struggling Grenadian students and Rae rented them space too.

"Looking back I have to admit the time I rented from Rae, 1967-1969, was one of the most important periods during my early days in NY," the person remarked at Rae's funeral. "True, he wanted his rental of \$8 per week paid to him on time but he monitored my movements to ensure I followed the correct path. He encouraged me to work and study. He knew when I skipped a class at Brooklyn College or did not go to work; he encouraged me to get involved in NY-Grenadian organizations."

He continued, "Matthew Rae was far ahead of his time. He ate no meat. Uncooked carrots and fresh vegetables were his primary meals. His discussion of 'living a healthy lifestyle' was not yet trendy."

Until his death, Rae remained steadfast in his life-long policy of reaching out to the homeland whether sending books, pencils and notebooks to students, or beds and medical supplies to hospitals through his two organizations, Grenada Health, Hospital and Education Association and Universal Association of Mental, Physical and Spiritual Culture.

For decades Rae wrote a column for Grenadaian newspapers.

After his retirement as a microbiologist at Bellevue Hospital in Manhattan, Rae became a minister, wrote books about herbal medicine and spent more time assisting Grenada.

I am the person who lived in Rev. Dr. Rae's apartment for two years, 1968-1969, as a renter and I am indebted to him for his guidance and help.

The Making of the Grenada Revolution 1979-1983

Reviewed by Herman Hall

We Move Tonight



The Making of the
Grenada Revolution

Joseph Ewart Layne

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“We Grenadian revolutionaries ... Each of us in and out of prison at different moments must have felt that it was not worth it.”

On the morning of March 13, 1979, the Caribbean and the world woke up to hear that the elected government of Prime Minister Eric Gairy in Grenada was overthrown. Although many people in the Caribbean and some Caricom leaders were relieved that the eccentric Gairy was gone people were concerned about the violent overthrow since such action was viewed as ‘alien’ to the Anglophone Caribbean. Almost everyone was hopeful that the new Grenada regime would call national election to legalize its power. The new regime, the People’s Revolutionary Government (PRG), never did. And, this period in Grenada’s post-independence history dubbed the Grenada Revolution, which commenced optimistically 35 years ago, March 1979, ended tragically four years later in October 1983.

There are several “first and only” associated with the Revolution. It remains the first and only successful coup d’état in the English speaking Caribbean. The Revolution or “Revo” ended violently in October 1983 when Prime Minister Maurice Bishop became the first and only sitting Caribbean head of government to be assassinated; Prime Minister Maurice Bishop remains have not been accounted for. And, Grenada became the first and only English speaking Caribbean nation the mighty U.S. invaded.

Joseph Ewart Layne observes in *We Move Tonight* that almost 70% of today's Grenadians were born after the 1979-1983 period. Suggesting a major reason for the book he notes: "I owe it to our people, and in particular the young generation and those still unborn, to put the story in the perspective of subsequent events ... I hope it will assist them to detect potential pitfalls from an early stage and to avoid our mistakes." Layne is correct. His narrative and other accounts by creators of the Revolution are vital for posterity.

Much has been written about the Revolution, especially by foreigners, for quick financial benefit but Ewart Layne is not a foreigner. He is Grenadian and one of the architects of the Revolution. He was active in the pre-1979 planning and participated in the actual overthrow of the Gairy Government by lethal force. He was a senior member of the People's Revolutionary Government and after the Revo collapsed he spent 26 years in prison, including five years on death row, for his role in the assassination of Prime Minister Maurice Bishop and others.

We Move Tonight is important because it is one of the first books to give an eyewitness account of the events of 1979-1983 by a core partaker. This places Ewart Layne in the group of Dr. John Hay, Rev. Francis McMahon and Gordon Turnbull. All three wrote personal accounts as victims or participants in the Fedon's Revolution of 1795 when Julien Fedon assassinated the head of government Lieutenant Governor Ninian Home and 46 others. More than 200 years later, the narratives of Hay, McMahon and Turnbull remain valuable to researchers. Layne's *We Move Tonight* is vital for dissecting the Grenada Revolution.

We Move Tonight first and foremost focuses on the planning and execution of the March 13, 1979 overthrow of Gairy. It is an immaculate "ball by ball" commentary. Layne substantiates what are open secrets--and included in Sir Paul Scoon book, *Survival for Service: My Experiences as Governor General of Grenada*--that the plotters smuggled arms into Grenada in grease barrels, carefully befriended sympathizers from the police and military to customs and the telephone company. They implemented the tactics they learnt while receiving military training and indoctrination into Marxist-Lenin ideologies abroad.

The first section of the book was written in prison and a visitor smuggled out the manuscript. The paragraphs read like a suspenseful novel. Even those who know the outcome of March 13, 1979 episode may read on breathlessly to know if the revolutionaries will defeat Gairy or if Gairy will annihilate them.

In a chapter, in Part B, written after he was released

from prison, Layne's evaluates Grenada in the late 1940s and early 1950s when Eric Gairy created his own revolution. Layne describes how Gairy evolved into a "dictator." And, according to Layne, it was Gairy's brutal dictatorial tendencies which justified his overthrow. It is widely accepted today, 35 years after Gairy's removal, that Gairy resorted to violence and rigging of elections to remain in power. Although Gairy may not have risen to the level of leaders such as Idi Amin in Uganda and President François 'Papa Doc' Duvalier in Haiti the book suggests that his actions warranted removal. Layne nevertheless admits that the children of the working class whom Gairy won better conditions for in the 1950s were the ones who opposed Gairy in the 1970s and drove him from office by the gun.

Layne says he was in his teens when he joined the clandestine section of the New JEWEL Movement and was twenty when he assisted in overthrowing Gairy. This leads one to wonder if Layne ever had a dialogue with Gairy or experienced the wrath of Gairy before he joined the Jewel. Did he know Gairy well enough to develop deep animosities against him?

The violence and victimization by Gairy is pale in comparison to the barbarity and atrocities Layne's PRG and People's Revolutionary Army inflicted on Grenadians even on ringleaders who helped them overthrow Gairy.

Layne's harsh description of Gairy takes away a bit of the sympathetic feeling one may have for Layne especially in 2014 when Gairy is acknowledged as the Father of Grenada's Independence.

Layne is pleased that the Revolution created some meaningful results such as the construction of the international airport. Both Gairy and Blaize Governments considered the need for one and experts had already agreed that the Point Saline area was the only place to construct a large airport in mountainous Grenada.

A quick and brilliant public relations strategy by the Revolutionary Government to implement the plans was effective and everyone is thankful to them for constructing what is today, The Maurice Bishop International Airport.

We Move Tonight reveals Ewart Layne has made peace with himself. He asked Grenadians for forgiveness and he is thankful to them for accepting him back into society without recriminations.

Was the Revolution worth the price people paid for with their lives? Addressing this issue in a moment of candor, Lane avers: "We Grenadian revolutionaries ... Each of us in and out of prison at different moments must have felt that it was not worth it."

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