



[Parliament Buildings, Georgetown, Guyana](#)

**GUYANA INDEPENDENCE DAY - MAY 26 2011  
- 45 years as an Independent Nation**



President Bharrat Jagdeo inspecting the guard of Honour at the eve of the 45th Independence anniversary celebration

Georgetown, GINA, May 25, 2011

Guyana is on a stable developmental pathway, with an economy that is one of the strongest in the Caribbean, having experienced the sixth consecutive year of strong economic growth, in addition to being one of the fastest growing economies in CARICOM for the past five years. President Bharrat Jagdeo in his final independence address at the National Park, this evening as Guyana observed its 45th anniversary since having gained its freedom from Great Britain, told a packed park of the country's unwavering development.

He noted that if the country is to craft a Guyana that can take its rightful place among the nations of the world, then the vision beyond what might have seemed innovative just 10 years ago needs to be upgraded. "Our vision for Guyana still includes the need for an expanding, broadly based economy. That is why our sustained economic growth and the prudent management of public finances is enabling us to keep inflation low, our currency stable and to build our national reserves to

their highest level ever, all while dealing with the greatest global financial crisis in our independent country's history," he said.

That vision, he said, needs to support the development and expansion of a vigorous and globally competitive private sector; it still needs to stay the course in modernising the traditional economic sectors, especially sugar which continues to recover from the major trading shocks of recent years; it still needs to capitalise on the increasingly valuable mining sectors and also to enshrine the principle that economic success must be combined with social justice. [more—read complete article](#)



Youths from Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sport performing "Jewel of the Earth" during the 45th Independence anniversary celebration

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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 **16th edition** of the Guyanese Online Newsletter. Here is my editorial for this month.

Thank you for your comments and support.



Cyril Bryan

Please send your comments to the Blog

If you would like to comment on this newsletter please go to the comments for the **June 2011 Newsletter** on the Blog. You do not have to use your actual name in your comments.

You can also write Cyril at [guyaneseonline@gmail.com](mailto:guyaneseonline@gmail.com)

## Guyana's Development—Taxation reviewed

**Looking Inward:** Since the 1950's, most residents have looked outside of Guyana for their betterment. However, in today's changing world, Guyana's residents have to "look inward" rather than "outward" to achieve sustained development; but changing their outward looking attitudes will not be easy. The world's economic downturn has slowed the emigration process, but in essence, nothing has changed - the brain and expertise drain has continued as salaries and wages are too low.

It is my belief that the best way to ensure the economic growth of Guyana is to make it attractive for private investment. The first requirement is the solving of the racial divide, which is now used for economic/political advantage. The second is the reduction of government controls and the restrictive policies seen in uneven taxation and discriminatory practices when they are applied. Here are some of my ideas on the matter of Taxation.

**Guyana's Economy:** Although Guyana's economy has shown economic growth in the last five years, it was growth from a fragile base. The country is still indebted for over US\$1Billion, and the recent 2011 budget reflected continued borrowings (Expenditure = G\$161.4B versus Income of G\$112B, of which the Guyana Revenue Authority collected G\$104B (G\$10B-Customs; G\$44.1B-Inland Revenue/PAYE; G\$50.2-VAT; Non-Tax G\$7.2 B.

The sugar industry has had low productivity due to bad weather conditions; strikes and Skeldon factory breakdowns. Rice production is now stable but suffers from unreliable regional CARICOM markets, although the recent Venezuela agreements should help.

In both 2009 and 2010, it was reported that gold mining earned more export revenue than sugar and rice combined. This means that monitoring must be further strengthened in the gold mining industry to ensure that declarations are made and taxes paid, since the Brazilians now control most of this industry. Gold production was up 27% to 317,316 ounces in 2010, the highest ever.

**Taxation in Guyana:** Tax avoidance and tax evasion are standard in most countries. It is the same, but more so, in Guyana. There is a large underground economy estimated at over 50% of business transactions. There is also the smuggling of goods from Venezuela (mostly oil, beer), Suriname and Brazil. The borders are porous and all attempts to control smuggling have failed. Most of all the bribery of officials is reflected in the discriminatory implementation of the laws to their personal benefit, as the Customs Department is riddled with corruption.

**The solution—A Duty Free Zone:** At present, Customs collect only G\$10Billion or US\$50M/yr. For some, Guyana is already a duty-free zone and they are getting rich, as they hold a competitive advantage on those who pay duties. The solution is to scrap the duties on all goods coming in the country and make Guyana a duty-free zone as it basically is now for some in the Corentyne and Lethem areas. Trade would explode, the country will attract regional and international investment and the engrained corruption in the Customs Department would be largely eliminated.

**Value Added Tax (VAT):** The lost Customs revenue of US\$50M could be recouped in a lowered threshold and VAT rate—basically a sales tax on all businesses. Today, too many companies avoid taxes as the VAT threshold is too high. Make it a sales tax at a lower rate like 10% (easy to compute), and make ALL businesses pay taxes on their sales. There are businesses today selling millions of dollars but pay no tax, yet they demand government services. Many of these businesses sell smuggled goods but are below the VAT taxation threshold.

**Personal Income Taxes:** There are some regional countries that have no personal income taxes e.g. The Bahamas, Cayman Islands, Bermuda and St Kitts/Nevis. In Guyana there are many in the "underground and drug economies" who make millions but pay no taxes. However, the poorer folk who work for a salary have to pay taxes on salaries of over \$200 US/month. Something is definitely wrong with this picture.

Having tax deductions on low salaries suppresses wages. It also encourages the underground cash economy. Most people on wages do not make a "living wage" and this encourages internal theft, bribery and low productivity. Most people have two or more "jobs" to pay their bills or await their monthly remittances and barrels from relatives overseas. A serious analysis has to be paid to personal taxation and Guyana does not have to look far to copy a workable and equitable solution.

**Company Taxation:** Recently, taxation on company profits has been reduced but they are still 30-40%. High taxes on profits are usually not reflected in high taxes collected, so why have these high taxes on company profits? Companies move their profits and assets around to avoid taxation. A better solution is to use the flat tax on all worldwide sales similar to that applied to "Offshore Business Companies. Having a flat tax of about 2% on all sales would ensure greater revenue and also attract "offshore businesses" to Guyana.

I believe that the systemic changes suggested here will increase investment in Guyana and lessen the government's stranglehold on the economy. There has to be more efficient and transparent governance, less ministries and duplication, and stringent controls of government spending and borrowings. Irrespective of which party(ies) are in power, it will require the re-thinking of government policies and implementation processes, with a focus on attracting and promoting private investment to Guyana.

The **Guyanese Online Newsletter** and the **Guyanese Online Blog Website** are independent publications that have been designed, edited, produced and published by **Cyril Bryan**.

Individuals, Organizations, Associations and Guyanese groups should send e-mails with their announcements, features, news, pictures, event reports and advertisements for publication to the editor: **Cyril Bryan** at: [guyaneseonline@gmail.com](mailto:guyaneseonline@gmail.com)



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

## The Guyanese Online Blog

The **Guyanese Online** blog has over 450 articles and videos on various subjects. Your comments, articles and ideas are welcome. Thank you for your readership and support!!

You can also write Cyril Bryan at [guyaneseonline@gmail.com](mailto:guyaneseonline@gmail.com)

## Read and make your Comments

The Blog now averages over 20,000 hits or views/month The highest daily total, of 1569, was recorded on February 23, 2011. In May, we had a total of 20,753 hits ....

**Thanks for visiting!**

## TOP 20 – Most Popular – May 2011

"Go Brave! - Obama" by Singing Francine

A nostalgic look at Guyana's cinemas

Bill Maher - Killing of Bin Laden and "Republican Crackers"

NOSTALGIA....Wismar/Christianburg/Upper Demerara River

Guyana Family Fun Day - Orlando, Florida - May 29, 2011

(Comedy Spoof) Pres. Obama on Death of Osama bin Laden

"Empire Of Cricket" - The West Indies

Upper Demerara River Many Years Ago

"Little Richard" - the entertainer

Obama vs Trump by Cheddie (Joey) Jagan

Guyanese Online

Guyanese Online Newsletter – May 2011

'Ave Maria' - video

TAKUTU BRIDGE - Rupununi. Guyana

GUYANA PERSONALITIES 1970-1971

Guyana: 45 Years of Independence - 2011

Mother's Day Speech

Letter: Cheddi Jagan (jr) on Bin Laden's death

Old Jet Magazines - from 1950 onwards

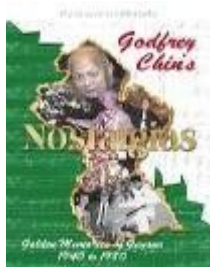
Guyanese Parrots - comedy

## Celebrating GT&amp;T—1991-2011

Nostalgia 375 – by Godfrey Chin....[godchin1@aol.com](mailto:godchin1@aol.com)....

## Written for the World Telecommunications and Information Day May 17th

The Guyana Telephone & Telegraph Co celebrated its 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary February 2011, with much fanfare, and a record of outstanding accomplishments significant to the advancement of Republic Guyana. ([Read full article here](#))



Order your copy of "Nostalgias" - Golden Memories of Guyana 1940-1980

Click picture at left and go to Godfrey Chin's website and order online

## New Blog Entries for May 2011

**During May we published 42 new entries:**

**Click on the title to view :-**

Guyana 45th Independence Festival – Toronto – June 19, 2011  
 Open-sourced blueprints for civilization  
 Tribute to steelbands before Mash 1970 – Godfrey Chin  
 India's Got Talent Show – Hula Hoop Dance video  
 Guyana Music Festival – Caribana Saturday July 30 – Toronto  
 Observing Guyana's Politics of Race – Dr. Odida Quamina  
 Guyana: 45 Years of Independence – 2011  
 Exhibition -"Influences of our African Forefathers..."  
 Farrakhan Cleric Wants Guyana Government to Apologise  
 COTAB Annual Caribana Dance – July 30, 2011 – Toronto  
 Spring Caribbean Dinner & Dance! – May 27 – Vancouver  
 "Little Richard" – the entertainer  
 Farrakhan Warns, Advises Obama on Libya  
 GCA – Folk Tales & Storytelling from Guyana – June 1, NYC  
 GCA – Annual Literary Hang – June 5, 2011 – NYC  
 Yup, Still Here – Not Judgement Day! – (Updated)  
 St. Stanislaus Annual Golf Tournament – 2011  
 St. Stanislaus – CARIBJAM – Toronto – Friday July 29, 2011  
 Guyana Christian Charities Dance – May 28, 2011 – Toronto  
 Q.C. Alumni -Toronto: Father's Day Brunch  
 Cricket: West Indies vs Pakistan – TV/reports  
 GUYFEST – Cultural Festival – July 2/2011  
 Change required in Guyana – Look to the USA – "Joey" Jagan  
 "Arrivals, Encounters, Exchange" Symposium: Call for Participation  
 GUYANESE PROVERBS  
 Bob Marley- 30 years later  
 Guyana Association of Georgia – Events  
 Letter: Cheddi Jagan (jr) on Bin Laden's death  
 Bill Maher – Killing of Bin Laden- video  
 Q.C. Alumni -Toronto: Father's Day Brunch  
 (Comedy Spoof) President Obama on Death of Osama bin Laden  
 Guyana Day 2011 – May 15 – NYC  
 Hundreds in Buxton interact with Windies cricketers  
 The Flower Garden  
 Mother's Day Speech  
 Guyanese Online Newsletter – May 2011  
 Celebrating Black History 365  
 NOSTALGIA....Wismar/Christianburg/Upper Demerara River  
 Upper Demerara River Many Years Ago  
 Bin Laden Dead, Says Obama  
 Hard to Believe – but true  
 Yokohama Steel Pan Fests 2010 / Tropicarib

**April 2011 – 36 New Blog-Website Entries <List**

**Caribbean Style and Culture**

Landover Maryland USA June 24, 2011



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INFO: CORNEL JONES 240 770-8937 - ROGER GARY DESIGNS 917 334-2183

**GUYANA CULTURAL FESTIVAL 2011**



KARIB NATION'S second annual Guyana Cultural Festival, "GUYFEST 2011" will be held on Saturday July 2nd @The Anne Arundel County Fairgrounds in Crownsville, Maryland. Drawing from the fervor, excitement and high energy performance by Guyanese premier entertainers last year, this year promises to be bigger and better. Last year the event brought together the colorful diversity of the nationals who celebrated the event greeting each other with hugs and handshakes, while enjoying more than eight hours of pulsating performances. This year's festival will feature, EDDIE NEBLETT, SHELLY G., FOJO, WATA-FLO, TERRY GAJRAJ, JUMO & ADRIAN DUTCHIN (X2), SHATTA YOUTH, KEYSHA FRESHH, LIVIA PRESCOTT, GEETA BISRAM, ANGELS CARIBBEAN BAND, SHAHARA DANCERS, AUNTY COMSEE, TASSA DRUMMERS, FOLK DANCERS, MAYPOLE PLAITING, FACE PAINTING, CLOWNS, MASQUERADE DANCERS, ARTS & CRAFT VENDORS.

**SATURDAY JULY 2/2011**  
From 10.00 AM - 10.00 PM  
**ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS**  
1450 GENERALS HIGHWAY, CROWNSVILLE, MARYLAND 21032  
**GENERAL ADMISSION \$10.00 CHILDREN 10 & UNDER FREE**  
www.guyanafestival.com www.karibnation.org

VENDORS INFO: 240 770-8937



**GUYANA CULTURAL FESTIVAL**  
**SATURDAY JULY 2/2011**  
@ ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS, 1450 Generals Highway, Crownsville, MD. 21032  
**MUSIC - FOOD - ART - GAMES**

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EDDIE NEBLETT, WATA-FLO, GEETA BISRAM, ANGELS CARIBBEAN BAND, SHAHARA DANCERS

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**St Stanislaus College**  
**Alumni Assoc - Toronto**  
 presents  
**19<sup>th</sup> Annual Caribjam**  
**FRIDAY JULY 29th 2011**  
 Time: 8:00 pm to 2:00 am  
**Thornhill Community Centre**  
**7755 Bayview Avenue,**  
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Welcome to Last Lap Lime online

Come live the experience!

The Last Lap Lime (LLL) is an annual event held jointly by five non-profit Guyanese Alumni Associations resident in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. It is the largest congregation of Guyanese outside of Guyana.

This social event ensures that Guyanese culture remains vibrant in the Diaspora by celebrating what it means to be Guyanese through entertainment, food, drink and 'liming'. The event pro-vides a taste of Guyanese culture to the children, grandchildren and friends of Guyanese living in the Diaspora.

Contact list for the [five Alumni Associations](#) <click here>, associated with Last Lap Lime: Bishops High School; Queen's College; St. Joseph's High; St. Rose's High; and St. Stanislaus College.

**The Last Lap Lime 16th Anniversary**

1995-2011

**Monday August 1st, 2011**

Location: [Woodbridge Fairgrounds](#) 100 Porter Avenue Woodbridge, Ontario, Canada. Kipling Avenue & Highway 7. - Large Parking area !

Tickets: Early-bird purchase - \$15.00.

At the event- \$25.00.

Ticket [Ticket Outlets](#) here.



## "A Taste of Guyana" - in Toronto



Under the Auspices of the Consulate General of Guyana

### "A TASTE OF GUYANA"

A Guyanese Community event for the entire family.  
Come Celebrate With Us.....

One Day Only - June 19, 2011

All Events at  
L'Amoreaux Community Centre

#### UPSTAIRS OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES:

##### FLAG RAISING & OPENING CEREMONY

12 NOON - Live Broadcast into Guyana

##### FOOD FESTIVAL

10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

##### CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

#### UPSTAIRS INDOOR ACTIVITIES:

TRADE SHOW /  
TOURISM DISPLAY /  
ART & CRAFTS FAIR

10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

##### HISTALGIA ROOM

10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

#### LOWER LEVEL OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES:

##### DOMINOES TOURNAMENT

1:00 p.m. SHARP

##### CULTURAL SHOW

2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

##### GUYANA INDEPENDENCE LIME

4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

All Events at  
L'Amoreaux Cricket Ground

#### SOFTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT

BEST OF  
THE EAST VS THE WEST

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.



TEAMS:  
ONTARIO MASTERS  
ONTARIO SOFTBALL LEAGUE  
CANADIAN SOFTBALL LEAGUE  
ROUNDARM SOFTBALL TEAM

#### 40 OVERS KNOCKOUT COMPETITION

Best of  
Berbice  
VS  
Demerara



12:30 p.m. SHARP

Lots of Prizes to be won.....!!!!

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FOR GENERAL INFORMATION CALL:  
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## Victoria Village - Creole Breakfast Brooklyn. New York. June 25, 2011

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• ROSE OCTOBER-EDUN - 718 755 4956 • MICHAEL CHARLES - 646 875 1269

The Alliance of Guyanese Canadian Organizations has teamed up with Prostate Cancer Canada to host a Father's Day Walk/Run for the Cure of Prostate Cancer

Location: Malvern Community Centre Track

June 19, 2011

30 Sewells Road at Neilson Rd. TORONTO. Free parking.

Event Day Registration: 8:00 a.m.

Event Start Time: 10:00 a.m.

Additional Information: 5K walk/run, kids' fun run, stories.

Visit [www.fathersdayrun.ca](http://www.fathersdayrun.ca) click on SCARBOROUGH

1. Create a personal or team fundraising page.
  2. Learn fundraising tips, track your team and personal fundraising progress and share your stories. Instant tax receipts will be issued when donations are made online .
- Visit [prostatecancer.ca](http://prostatecancer.ca) for more information or to view our early detection guidelines.

Contact: Ingrid King - President Phone: **416-431-0273**

Download this document : [Father's Day Walk-Run](#)

Download: [Scarborough brochure.2011](#)

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## Tutorial High School Reunion - 2011

Toronto. Ontario. Canada

**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.

We already have in place a prestigious venue for our Highlight Dinner and Dance. Other venues are also being arranged.

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 at our website: <http://www.thaatoronto.org/>

[Download Registration form from the website.](#)

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

## Queen's College Alumni - Toronto - Brunch

**QUEEN'S COLLEGE OF GUYANA****ALUMNI ASSOCIATION (TORONTO)***Celebrating 20 Years (1991-2011)***ANNUAL FATHER'S DAY BRUNCH****June 12, 2011****12.00 pm to 5.00 pm** (Brunch served from 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.)

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Stanley Chan Choong (416) 499-1787, Audrick Chung (905) 839-6816,  
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Ron Wharton (519) 756-6731, Syed Rayman (416) 284-1055,  
Victor Moses (905) 791-3412, Kemahl Khan (416) 267-7227

Download > [FathersDay2011FLYER](#)

**GTLIME 110**  
TORONTO, CANADA

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**REMBRANDT BANQUET HALL**  
**930 PROGRESS AVENUE, TORONTO**  
**7 P.M. - 2 A.M.**  
**TICKETS: \$ 65.00**

**ADVANCE TICKET DEADLINE JULY 5th, 2011**

**FOR TICKET INFORMATION/PURCHASE CALL:**  
Clive: SCARBOROUGH: (416) 706-2816  
Judy: TORONTO: (905) 864-4737  
Mark/Lauren: FLORIDA: (407) 699-5121  
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[www.gtlime.ezreunions.com](http://www.gtlime.ezreunions.com)

TICKET REQUESTS TO [gtlime@yahoo.com](mailto:gtlime@yahoo.com). - Website: [www.gtlime.ezreunions.com](http://www.gtlime.ezreunions.com)

## Scholarship Awards Banquet

### GUYANA KAIETEUR GROUP, INC.

P.O. BOX 7545 / BLOOMFIELD, CT 06002

## 15<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS BANQUET

Saturday June 11, 2011 – Time 7:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m.

Admission: \$65.00 per person

Hartford Hilton Hotel, in Hartford, Connecticut, USA.

To award scholarships to deserving 2011 High School Graduates going on to higher education at a University, College or Trade School

Over the years, The Guyana Kaieteur Group Inc. has awarded fifty two (52) scholarships and is very proud of the high achievement of its recipients. Our major fundraising activities are the Banquet and Souvenir Journal. A donation, purchase of space in our Souvenir Journal or purchase of ticket/s to the Banquet can help.

**Download Order Form:** [Guyana Kaieteur Group Souvenir Journal](#)

The above advertisement order form and flyer provides detailed information about our Scholarship Awards Banquet and Souvenir Journal. Please mail the completed order form to P.O. Box 7545, Bloomfield, Connecticut 06002.

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## Buxton News and Events

**CO TAB**  
 COMMITTEE TO ASSIST  
 BUXTON FRIENDSHIP

# ANNUAL CARIBANA fundraising dance

**SATURDAY,  
 July 30, 2011**

**\$20**

**DJ solid gold**

**15 Chisholm Ave.**  
 Toronto East Masonic Temple  
 (W of Danforth, W of Main St.)

(Behind the the Kentucky Chicken Restaurant)  
 401 to Victoria Park Ave. S to Dawes Rd. (R) to Danforth Ave. (R) to Chisholm Ave. (R) or  
 QEW to Lakeshore E to Coxwell Ave. (L) to Danforth Ave. (R) to Chisholm (L) or  
 DVP to Don Mills S, to O'Connor Dr. (L) to Woodbine Ave. (R) to Danforth Ave. (L) to Chisholm Ave. (L)

V. Moses: 905-791-3412 + I. King: 416-431-0273 + P. Adams: 416-752-4562  
 M. Parris: 416-636-2961

## BUXTON BUSH COOK

June 18, 2011

454 Vermont Street  
 Brooklyn, NY 11207

(between Blake & Sutter Avenues)

[Download Flyer here](#)

## Buxton-Friendship Heritage Week 2011

24th July - 1st August

International Year for People of African Descent

170th Anniversary of Purchase of Friendship

173rd Anniversary of Emancipation

International Year of Youth

[Download flyer here](#)

## Tipperary Hall Rising – update

Construction of the new Tipperary Hall in Buxton is progressing rapidly



Picture of Tipperary Building construction  
 taken on May 29, 2011



## GUYANA FOLK FESTIVAL 10TH ANNIVERSARY AWARDS

Awards Ceremony on August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2011 Brooklyn. New York USA.

In 2011, GCA Will Celebrate its 10th Anniversary  
We ask for your on-going support.



### GUYANA FOLK FEST

GUYANA CULTURAL ASSOCIATION OF NEW YORK  
1368 E. 89 STREET SUITE 2, BROOKLYN  
NEW YORK 11236, U.S.A.

TEL: 718.209.5207 FAX: 718.209.6157

WEBSITE: [www.guyfolkfest.org](http://www.guyfolkfest.org)

E-MAIL: [info@guyfolkfest.org](mailto:info@guyfolkfest.org)

### Dr. ALLYS' 6<sup>th</sup>. Donation to University of Guyana's Library



The sixth set of items were handed over to the Vice-Chancellor Prof. Lawrence Carrington by Dr. Ally in the Library's Foyer on November 1, 2010.

**"EDUCATION is PIVOTAL and opens the door to FREEDOM".**

Guyana born Dr. Shamir Andrew Ally, President/CEO of International Consulting and Financial Services in Pennsylvania & Professor, and his wife, Dr. Maryann Renee Beebe-Ally living in Pennsylvania, USA, and the Central Demerara Lions, donated 143 Accounting, Marketing, and Project Management Textbooks and CD-Rom's, to the University of Guyana Library, valued at G \$2,628,600: (US \$13,143).

To date, the Allys' have made 6 Donations totaling 1,020 Textbooks & CD-Rom's valued at G\$16,486,800: (US \$82,434) to the U.G. Library.

UG Alumni E-News Bulletin No. 2 February 2011



**FOLK FESTIVAL 2011**  
**10TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATING**

**FOLK FESTIVAL FAMILY DAY 2011**

**SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 4, 2011**

Location details later

### Haynes Foundation gives aid to four projects in Guyana

May 17, 2011 - Report from Paul Haynes - Co-Founder

Dear Friends and Supporters,

As I returned safely from my 10 day (April 29th - May 9th) mission trip to Guyana, South America, I am once again humbled by the everyday struggles of the children in Guyana. I can assure you that it placed my everyday hurdles in prospective. I am pleased to report that the Haynes Foundation's visit to Guyana was a tremendous success as we were able to complete all projects on time, in scope and on budget.

As part of our commitment towards enhancing the lives of Guyanese children, the goals of the mission trip were to:

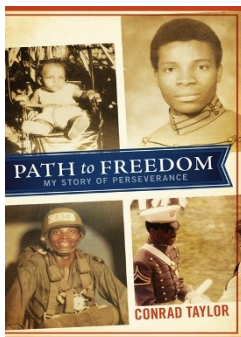
1. Restore the fire damaged area of the Ruimveldt Children's Home and Care Centre,
2. Rehabilitate the Guysuco Training Centre-Port Mourant basketball and volleyball court,
3. Distribute hygiene supplies to the children and care givers of the Ruimveldt Children's Home and to
4. Distribute sports equipment to the Chess, Table Tennis, Badminton and Basketball associations in aid of the Foundation's PROJECT PLAY campaign to keep children involved in physical activities and decentralizing sports.

Read the full report here: [Haynes Foundation Report](#)



## PATH to FREEDOM

My Story of Perseverance by Conrad Taylor



### What is PATH to FREEDOM?

By Conrad Taylor.....

Website: [www.tcfbusgroup.com](http://www.tcfbusgroup.com)

E-mail: [conrad@tcfbusgroup.com](mailto:conrad@tcfbusgroup.com)

It is a coming-of-age memoir, which follows my unlikely move from a remote mining town in Guyana's Amazon jungle to the wind-swept plains of West Point - and back. It has a simple proposition – fly or die!

### What is PATH to FREEDOM about?

It is about my sometimes-humorous journey through trials, tribulations, and triumphs. It sums up rude awakenings, especially after Cold-War-Era West Point - because of West Point. My government had turned repressive, anti-American, and paranoid during my four years at the United States Military Academy. The Soviet-leaning dictatorship feared regime change. Its leaders obsessed about my being in cahoots with the United States. Mine was the impossible task of proving that I was not – or else!

### Where can you buy PATH to FREEDOM: MY STORY OF PERSEVERANCE?

Buy the eBook\* Edition (ISBN: 9781617925047) at:

- [Amazon.com Kindle Store](http://Amazon.com Kindle Store) in store NOW
- [Apple iBookstore](http://Apple iBookstore)\*\* in store NOW
- [Barnes & Noble Nook Book Store](http://Barnes & Noble Nook Book Store) in store NOW
- [Sony Reader Store](http://Sony Reader Store) in store NOW

\*Viewable on Kindle, Nook, Sony Reader, iPad, iPhone, iPod Touch, Blackberry, Android, and most PC and Mac computers with installation of FREE eBook reading downloads such as: [Kindle downloads for PC, Mac, Sony Reader, and other Devices](#); [Nook downloads for PC, Mac, Sony Reader, and other Devices](#); [Sony Reader download for PC and Mac](#); and [Adobe Digital Editions](#).

\*\*Only viewable on iPad, iPhone, and iPod Touch.

The eBook price of PATH to FREEDOM? \$3.99-\$4.99.

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## “The Seawall”

Filed in Guyana: at Cannes Film Festival

The Seawall , a short film written and directed by Mason Richards, has been selected to be part of the 64th Festival de Cannes. Held from May 11th–22nd in Cannes, France.



### About The Seawall

*The Seawall* is a narrative short film shot entirely on location in Georgetown, Guyana, and centers around Marjorie, a Guyanese woman, as she prepares for her 10-year old grandson's move to America to be with his mother. Struggling with loneliness, abandonment, audiences watch as Marjorie sacrifices her happiness for her grandson's future. The cast and crew consisted of local Guyanese non-actors, non-professionals and students working alongside Mason and his crew from Los Angeles. The film offers a rare glimpse into the day-to-day lives of a Guyanese family and stunningly captures how emigration affects those left behind. Although heartbreaking,

*The Seawall* is a fundamental story about hope and optimism. In addition to being Mason's graduate thesis project at the renowned Film Directing program at Cal Arts, the film allowed Richards to return to his home country, Guyana, to share what he has learned about filmmaking and tell a story "in the community - with the community... Guyana is a beautiful country with good people. I wanted to make a tonal film that captures the essence of a few people's experience in the country I love so much."

*The Seawall* was made possible by fundraising and donations totaling \$20,000 through a non-profit fiscal sponsor affiliate with Friends & Returned Peace Corps Volunteers of Guyana (FROG), based in Washington, D.C., was created in 2007 by a group of Returned Peace Corps Volunteers who wanted to create a community of people interested in Guyana, the small, English speaking country in South America. Through a grassroots grants program, FROG implements projects in and about this beautiful and largely unexplored region of the world.

Guyana has millions of acres of rainforest, thousands of kilometers of rivers and a diverse ethnic make-up of African, Indian, Amerindian and Portuguese cultures. Today, the country itself has a modest population of 750,000 but additional hundreds of thousands live outside of Guyana - in the United States, Canada, Europe and Caribbean. The topic of emigration discussed in *The Seawall* highlights the important issues that are changing and challenging Guyanese culture within its borders and across the globe.

- <http://www.scribd.com/doc/55090924/The-Seawall-Cannes-Press-Release-May-9-2011>
- <https://www.facebook.com/pages/The-Seawall-A-Film-by-Mason-Richards/125619950825368>
- <http://www.guyfrog.org/>



## THE ARTS JOURNAL

Volume 6 Numbers 1 & 2 published

**The Arts Journal** is an independent, refereed Journal that provides fresh critical perspectives on the contemporary literatures, arts and culture of Guyana, the Caribbean and their Diasporas. ([read announcement for Vol 6 1&2](#))

The first thing to say is that prior to the launching of **The Arts Journal** in 2004, there was virtually no critical material published in Guyana that students of the humanities could easily access. Students of the visual arts would trundle around the country trying to contact artists and interviewing them on their own to fulfill their SBA assignments. Literary criticism was mostly to be found in overseas journals, often written in technical language and often economically prohibitive to students. In addition, there was need for more space for regional scholars and creative writers to publish their work on Caribbean themes and issues.

During the last eight years **The Arts Journal** has filled all of these gaps by providing affordable and very readable analytical material on Caribbean works of literature and the visual arts, and on aspects of its social history and culture.

The aims of **The Arts Journal** are, first, to foster a culture of critical thinking at home and in the wider Caribbean society; secondly, to look afresh at our intellectual heritage from a culturally relevant perspective; and, thirdly, to help individuals towards a sense of identity and belonging through the arts and cultural artifacts. **The Arts Journal** also seeks to bridge the gap between home and the Diaspora so that their scholarly and creative works are not lost to us.

While **The Arts Journal** recognizes a tradition of critical debate across the disciplines on Caribbean themes it aims to extend the debate to embrace the plurality of Caribbean peoples, particularly those whose works have been neglected and under-represented. The Journal sets out to discover and illuminate such works and does so through critical essays, interviews, book reviews, travel writing, the short story, poetry and the visual and traditional arts. In addition, the consequences of globalization and its rendering of national borders fluid and porous will demand more critical space for debates.

Now in its sixth Volume, this Journal is widely subscribed to by the libraries of secondary and tertiary learning institutions, community colleges, public and private libraries, art galleries and museums, and other such institutions in Guyana, throughout the Caribbean region, North America and the United Kingdom. **Download: [The Arts Journal Flyer](#)**

Please visit the **Arts Journal's website** at: [www.theartsjournal.org.gy](http://www.theartsjournal.org.gy) to see reviews and responses to this publication, Editorial and Contents of each issue and composition of the Editorial and Advisory Boards. For Subscriptions and Submission of Articles, contact the editor, Ameena Gafoor, at: [theartsjournal@live.co.uk](mailto:theartsjournal@live.co.uk) or Bernadette Persaud at [bernadettepersaud5@hotmail.com](mailto:bernadettepersaud5@hotmail.com)

## History of the National Alliance of Postal and Federal Employees 1913-1945

By Paul Nehru Tennessee

### History of the National Alliance of Postal and Federal Employees 1913-1945

#### Treat Us Right Not White

By Paul Nehru Tennessee, Professor of History and Political Science. University of District of Columbia

This is a must read book on the history of National Alliance of Postal and Federal Employees (NAPFE) between 1913 and 1945. It deals with a part of American history that has long been ignored by historians. Because racism was high and mighty, African American postal workers were not allowed to join the all white Railway Mail Association. This 32-year of NAPFE history shows that where there is a will there is way. □ African-American workers did not wait for the Whites to change their minds. They instead organized their own union and became active in the civil rights movement.

NAPFE emerged as a strong union that endured the test of time. Throughout the years since its inception in 1913, NAPFE has been an independent voice defending the rights of American workers and promoting racial equality and social justice for all. This book is well written and well documented. It tells a story that has never been told before. It should be of interest to scholars and students who are studying or researching American social history, especially labor and trade unions.

*Mohamed El-Khawas, Ph.D.*

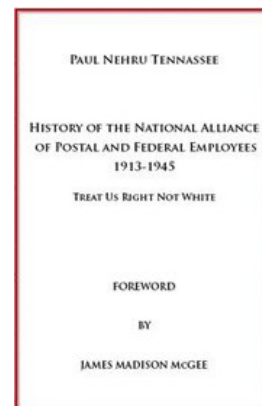
**Paul Nehru Tennessee**, Historian and Political Scientist at the University of the District of Columbia, discusses his book on the History of the National Alliance of Postal and Federal Employees between 1913 and 1945. It is a part of history long ignored by historians. ....([read more](#))

**Paul Nehru Tennessee** is a bi-lingual Historian and Political Scientist at the University of the District of Columbia (UDC) where he focuses on International Education and Glo-Local Affairs.

He was Director of the World Confederation of Labor (WCL) Washington Liaison Office and its Permanent Representative at the United Nations (WCL is now merged with the world's largest international trade union, ITUC).

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## Own a piece of Guyana's history - the "Berbice chair"

By Bernard Ramsey

There isn't a single piece of furniture in Guyana's history perhaps with the exception of the Morris chair a much later arrival to have been a standard fixture in more homes be it Demerara, Berbice or Essequibo than the Berbice Chair.

This unique piece of furniture has been around longer than any of us living today can remember, adorning galleries, sitting rooms, verandas and even bedrooms. Every time the Berbice Chair, also referred to as an arm chair and easy chair is mentioned, you are sure to evoke memories of a parent or grandparent who had one and who will almost always remark on how very comfortable they were.

Yes, almost every home had one, and some would even have a pair as part of the furniture mix in which several hours would be spent relaxing with a good book or just listening to the radio and much later the television. The Berbice Chair was even found in clubs and hotel rooms and lounges for the comfort of their patrons and guests who would often put-up a leg or two on their extended arms.

But from where did this fabulously comfortable and unique piece of furniture originate? Well, research insofar as its history in Guyana is concerned leads to the Dutch, the first Europeans to settle to what would later become British Guiana. Although the Dutch had first settled in Essequibo it was Berbice their second settlement that the chair would take its name from. This piece of Dutch furniture was also found in the Southern USA and parts of the Dutch Caribbean and later to a lesser extent the English Caribbean.

In places other than Guyana the chair was popularly known as a Planter's chair or Plantation chair. It was in Guyana however that this Dutch icon was to leave its most indelible mark and be christened the Berbice Chair by the British who eventually colonised Guyana.

Its shape varied slightly from place to place while in Guyana it more or less retained a standard shape with only one of its features, the lower pair of foot rests almost completely disappearing sometime around the mid 20th century. This second pair of foot rests was apparently a specially added feature for the modesty of ladies. The early Guyana versions had seating made of carpet material tacked to its frame while a few were of basket weave.

Today Bernard Ramsay, a former graphic artist by profession, now living in Florida keeps this piece of Guyana's history alive with his custom built Berbice chairs that can be specially ordered by anyone who shares the passion for this beautiful piece of Guyana's history.

The Chair's frame is hand crafted from prime furniture grade pine to its original specifications in the traditional way and finished in Dark or Red Mahogany. The upholstery however is of fabric in colours of choice with foam and polyester padding on a sturdy and stable 3' webbing base to ensure years of comfortable support.

Shipping in the US and Canada is by UPS Road Service and is in a knock-down form with simple to follow assembly instructions. Order now to own a piece of Guyana's history and relive those wonderful days spent in its all absorbing comfort.

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**Size:** 34"H X 48"L X 24"W

**Weight:** Approximately 40 lbs.

**Material:** Top Choice Furniture Grade Pine

**Colour:** Natural Pine, Red or Dark Mahogany

**Upholstery:** Sheet Foam & Poly-Fill Combo

**Seat Construction:** Sturdy 3" wide Webbing

**Arms:** One Fixed, One Extended

Extended arm (optional)

**Shipping :** Anywhere unassembled

DHL Ground Service to US & CAN.

**Assembly:** Simple instructions supplied

**Assembly Time:** Approximately 1 hour

**Delivery:** 2-6 Weeks from order

**Order:** 954-636-7527 or 954-260-3877

## The History of Plantation Friendship - Buxton's Sister village

By Fitzroy 'Rollo' Younge

As we celebrate the 170<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Purchase of Plantation Friendship, I'll like to reflect on these words by a fellow Buxtonian: *"Pride of a country and loyalty are generated by knowledge of the past. We cannot ignore the past, or turn our backs on our own history. It has fashioned us and conditioned us. Therefore we must seek as a nation to know why we are what we are"* (Winifred Ivy Thierens-Gaskin - opening ceremony of Library Week 1966). As a Guyanese, Winifred Gaskin recognized the role of our history in helping to shape a national identity. She felt that our history must be known and understood if we were to progress as a people. I am a firm believer that knowledge of the past informs the present to plan for the future.

When slavery was abolished throughout the British possessions on August 1st 1838 (after a number of transitional years known as apprenticeship), large numbers of plantations were no longer economically viable and were sold off to groups of ex-slaves by planters anxious to cut their losses. Plantation Friendship was no exception; starting with Victoria, Buxton and other former Plantations, such as Litchfield, Friendship became part of the "Village Movement."

The purchase of these Plantations by the ex-Slaves was an extraordinary achievement because Africans had been enslaved in Guyana for centuries; first by the Dutch and then British prior to emancipation on August 1, 1834. Although chattel slavery ended on August 1, 1834, a system of "apprenticeship" was instituted for another four years in an attempt to continue the system of slavery under another name and guise. The white slave holders and plantation owners were compensated for the loss of their property by the British Crown, while the Africans were forced to continue working on the plantations where they had been enslaved. The period of "apprenticeship" compelled the Africans to work without pay for 40 hours a week and then they were grudgingly paid a pittance for any work they did after 40 hours. The Africans were compelled to pay rent for the very inadequate housing they were allotted on the plantation grounds. Surprisingly, out of this situation, they were able to save enough money to purchase their own land, and purchase the estates.

In 1841, 168 former slaves came together to purchase Plantation Friendship, a 500-acre Plantation adjacent East of Buxton for \$80,000. A down payment of \$35,000 was lodged. A second \$5,000 was paid down. The balance of \$40,000 was paid off in time. The people who bought Friendship and other Plantations did so because of determination and commitment. For nearly 200 years, these enslaved people worked for no money. Only after the 1823 East Coast rebellion that laws were passed and allowed them to sow and reap or catch fish and sell produce for money. Although the village started out with 168 proprie-

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tors, in 1844 the count was 595 and in 1848 it was 1561. By 1871, the population of Friendship was 1757. It should be noted that Plantation Friendship had began to change hands around 1838 (transport #21 of 1838). A transfer was made to G. Austin. In 1839, Transport # 139 of 1839 showed that the same Plantation was passed to R. Henderson. In the same year, by transport 192, one Nicol Martin bought the property. My research showed that Pitt Hughes and others were the original proprietors of Plantation Friendship.

Shortly after Plantation Friendship was bought, the two villages of Buxton and Friendship were amalgamated to form the largest village in the country. The founding fathers laid out housing lots at the front of the village with corresponding farm lands at the back. With the emergence of the communal and proprietary village, villagers had to address several problems such as water control in the form of sea defenses, drainage and irrigation and also road repairs and bridges. There was periodic flooding and such was the situation that any drained village at the time was aptly described as "an inhabited swamp." During the initial stage of the village movement, Governor Henry Light adopted a laissez-faire approach. This seemingly negative attitude could be seen as giving support to the 'Plantocracy' in thwarting the efforts of villagers. [More- read whole article](#)



## The City of Georgetown has to be saved

There is growing concern by residents as well as visitors to Georgetown that something drastic has to be done about saving the city from its gradual destruction—flooding, garbage, fires, beggars, animals, crime, etc. There are new buildings and “development” but there is garbage all around, flooding as well as deteriorated roads and infrastructure.

This is the first of a series on Georgetown. We start here with a short history taken from Wikipedia but we will be featuring various buildings and monuments in each issue. Here we feature the City Hall of Georgetown, with comments.

**A country is measured by the state of its cities. Georgetown is therefore a reflection of the state of Guyana.**

**Georgetown**, estimated population 239,227 (2002 Guyana census), is the [capital](#) and largest city of [Guyana](#), located in the [Demerara-Mahaica](#) region. It is situated on the Atlantic Ocean coast at the mouth of the [Demerara River](#) and it was once nicknamed 'Garden City of the Caribbean.'

The city of Georgetown began as a small town in the 18th century. Originally, the capital of the [Demerara-Essequibo](#) colony was located on [Borselen Island](#) in the [Demerara River](#) under the administration of the [Dutch](#). When the colony was captured by the [British](#) in 1781, Lieutenant-Colonel [Robert Kingston](#) chose the mouth of the Demerara River for the establishment of a town.

It was the [French](#) who developed this town and made it their capital city when they captured the colony in [1782](#). The French called the capital La Nouvelle Ville. When the town was restored to the Dutch in [1784](#), it was renamed [Stabroek](#) after [Nicolaas Geelvinck](#), Lord of Stabroek, and President of the [Dutch West India Company](#). Eventually the town expanded and covered the estates of Vlissengen, La Bourgade and Eve Leary to the North, and Werk-en-rust and La Repentir to the South. Brickdam,.

It was renamed Georgetown on [29 April 1812](#) in honour of [King George III](#). On [5 May 1812](#) an ordinance was passed to the effect the change from Stabroek, with districts extending from [La Penitence](#) to the bridges in Kingston, shall be called Georgetown. It was expanded in stages, later.

Georgetown is laid out in a north-south, east-west grid, interlaced with canals protected by [kokers](#), or sluices, built by the Dutch and later the British that provide drainage to a city that lies 3 feet (0.91 m) below high-tide level. A long sea wall helps prevent flooding. The city has avenues and contains many wooden colonial buildings and markets.

Most of the main buildings are centred around the western region of the town. Around the western-central area is Independence Square and [Promenade Gardens](#), the [Walter Roth Museum of Anthropology](#), the [National Library](#) (built by [Andrew Carnegie](#)), the Bank of Guyana, the [National Museum of Guyana](#) and [State House](#) (built 1852) where the President resides, and [St. George's Anglican Cathedral](#). There are many churches, mosques and [mandirs](#) in Georgetown.

The [Georgetown Cenotaph](#), at Main and Church Streets, was built in 1923. It is the site of Remembrance Day (Remembrance Sunday) services in November each year.



The **Georgetown City Hall**, located in [Georgetown, Guyana](#), was completed in [1889](#). Its [architecture](#) is described as [Danube Gothic](#) in timber, largely due to its stylized [tower](#), with [wrought-iron crenelations](#) at the very [apex](#).

The building is open to the public, and the once-handsome [concert hall](#), on the third floor, is a curious sight to behold – It is now the “temporary home” of the Department of Environment and Health. (Wikipedia)

### Commentary:

The Georgetown City Hall built in 1889 need refurbishing and on-going maintenance. It could be one of Guyana main tourist attractions if properly maintained and managed. It should only be used for government offices but only or the display of historical artifacts and documents. Relating to Guyana and the City of Georgetown.

Every effort should be made to ensure that this building is properly protected from fire and other damage.

The Central Government of Guyana recently voted G\$20M towards the repairs of this building. This sounds like a lot of money but is really only \$100,000 US, a miniscule amount. Much political play –Central vs City Government - is made about this as is also made when the streets, and now the Le Repentir Cemetery is cleaned up.

The main reason for Georgetown's problems is Central Government under-funding over the years. Also, companies, residents and even Government entities refuse to pay their taxes. They, however expect services like garbage collection, drainage, road repairs and fire protection.

To the south of this region is where the neo-[Gothic City Hall](#) (1889) is to be found, as well as the [Victoria Law Courts](#) (1887), the [Parliament Building](#) (1829–1834), the large [Stabroek Market](#) (1792) containing the prominent cast-iron clock tower that dominates the city sky line, the [Roman Catholic Brickdam Cathedral](#), City Engineer House, the Magistrate's Court, [St. Andrew's Kirk](#) (1818) and [Independence Arch](#).

## FULL LIST OF NATIONAL AWARDEES - 2011

### ORDER OF EXCELLENCE

Prime Minister Samuel A. Hinds

### ORDER OF RORAIMA

Charles R. Ramson  
Carl Ashok Singh

### CACIQUE CROWN OF HONOUR

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Lennox Montague Benjamin  
Donna Marie Yearwood  
Clyde Raymond Roopchand  
Ian Chang  
Khurshid Sattaur  
Professor Eon Nigel Harris  
Professor Clement Sankat  
Malcolm Parris  
Phillip Moore  
Miles Fitzpatrick  
Dr. Desrey Fox (posthumous award)  
Clinton Collymore

### ARROW OF ACHIEVEMENT

Dr Edward Green  
Dr Cyril Solomon  
Karshanjee Arjun  
Thakur Danny Doobay  
Brentnold Fitzpatrick Randolph Evans  
Elisabeth Anne Harper  
Courtney Benn  
Brian K. Tiwari  
Capt Gerry Gouveia  
Deo Persaud  
Alfro Alphonso  
Chunilall Baboolall  
Sean Hopkinson  
Edmond Vieira  
Glen Khan  
Aubrey Stephenson  
David Dabydeen  
Dunstan Barrow  
Carvil Duncan  
Dr. Arlington Chesney  
Swami Vidyanand

### MEDAL OF SERVICE

Yvonne Hinds  
Dorothy Faria  
Diane Ferreira- James  
Nicolette Fernandes  
Victor Fereira  
Winslow Craig  
Ameena Gafoor  
Stephanie Fraser  
Don Gomes  
Hugh Ross  
Michael Charles  
Ramnaresh Sarwan  
Dr Vindhya V. Persaud  
James Wren Gilkes  
June Griffith  
Aliann Pompey  
Andrew Lewis  
Michael Parris  
Elfrieda Bissember

Frank Woon- a- Tai  
Paloma Mohamed  
Phillip Gajadhar  
Al Creighton  
Egbert Alexander Carter  
Shirley Edwards  
Parbhu Dyal Sattan  
Yvonne Pearson  
Bishop Juan Edghill  
George Subraj  
Ramnarine Ramroop  
Indra Chandarpal  
Randy Cho- She – Nam  
Derek Williams  
Vibert de Souza  
Reuben Gilbert  
Aleema Nasir  
Gharpaul Persaud  
John Palmer  
Jenny Ribeiro  
Irene Wilson  
Pooran Persaud  
Joycelyn Anderson  
Desiree Wyles-Ogle  
Yvonne Raghoo  
Mohandatt Goolsarran  
Juliet Persico  
Dr. Faye Clarke  
Ann Greene  
Ulric Donald Jacobs  
Mohamed Osman Ali  
Wilfred Success  
Yvonne Hercules  
Maydha Persaud  
Deeneshwar Persaud  
Monica Fraser- Carmichael  
Ramdat Nankishore  
Colleen Anderson  
Marva Hawker  
Dr. Holly Alexander  
Panday Persaud  
Cedric Smith  
Richard Verbeke  
Ramsahai Ramnarine (Hardat)  
Ramesh Ramlakhan  
David Mangra  
Keith Emmanuel Crawford

### GROUP AWARDS (MS)

Help and Shelter  
Food for the Poor Guyana Inc.  
Sisters of Mercy  
Guyana Relief Council  
Salvation Army Guyana Division  
Pheonix Recovery  
Mothers in Black  
The National Library  
Guyana Women Artists Association

### President's Youth Award Republic of Guyana

Kashiff and Shanghai  
Indian Religious, Cultural and Social Organization of West Demerara (IRCSOWD)

## Freedom of Information Act to be tabled in Parliament soon

2nd June, 2011 - The long-awaited Freedom of Information Bill (FIB), will be tabled in the National Assembly within the next two weeks as it has had Cabinet approval.

Head of the Presidential Secretariat, Dr. Roger Luncheon at a post-Cabinet media briefing On June 1, stated that access to information is the most significant aspect of the Bill, since it paves the way for hassle free access to information.

The Bill, which was tabled by the Alliance for Change (AFC), Leader Raphael Trotman, has some conventions with regards to what information is available and what will not be available.

It will also impose the process of how to apply for detailed information as well as what rights an individual can enjoy as a result of an application. The FIB Bill also boasts penalties which will be apply to an individual if information is withheld or destroyed. (GINA)

## National Awardees (Cont'd)

### MILITARY SERVICE STAR (MSS)

Commodore Gary Best

### MILITARY SERVICE MEDAL (MSM)

Colonel Julian Lovell  
Colonel Mark Phillips  
Captain (CG) John Flores  
Colonel George Lewis  
Lieutenant Colonel Francis Abraham  
Commander Godfrey George  
Lt Col. Windee Algernon  
Lt Col Khemraj Persaud  
Lt Col. Enoch Gaskin

### DISCIPLINED SERVICES STAR (DSS)

Commissioner of Police Henry Greene

### DISCIPLINED SERVICES MEDAL (DSM)

**Guyana Police Force**  
Assistant Commissioner Leroy Brummel  
Assistant Commissioner Seelall Persaud  
Assistant Commissioner Gavin Primo  
Assistant Commissioner George Vyphius

### Guyana Fire Service

Chief Fire Officer Marlon Gentle

### Guyana Prison Service

Senior Superintendent of Prisons,  
Colin Howard



## Guyana moves towards US-shipping container compliance

By: Denis Chabrol -Demerara Waves

After years of cocaine finding itself in shipments of almost all major exports, authorities have invested in a US\$1 million container scanner to stem the flow of the illicit substances and using containers as weapons of terror.

Under the four-year old United States Container Security Initiative, CSI proposes a security regime to ensure all containers that pose a potential risk for terrorism are identified and inspected at foreign ports before they are placed on vessels destined for the United States.

“Due to certain factors including international requirements where the United States of America has initiated a process of mandatory certification requirement for all exports arriving at its port, in addition to the volume of illegal drugs, narcotics being found concealed in containers leaving port Georgetown ,its mandate was extended to include profiling and scanning of containerized exports,” the agency said.

The purpose of the scanner has been shifted from solely revenue generation for imports to exports as well.

The RapidScan-made scanner was purchased with funds provided largely by the Millenium Challenge Account of the United States, as part of efforts by the Guyana Revenue Authority (GRA) to standardize and modernize its Law Enforcement and Investigations Unit.

## Wendy's/Arby to expand in the Caribbean

**Guyana is on the radar of Wendy's/Arby's International, a popular United States restaurant chain.**

As part of a 10-year Caribbean drive set out in a 'long-term agreement', the company which has existing franchises in Puerto Rico and the Bahamas said it will open 24 Wendy's restaurants in the region starting with , Trinidad and Tobago next year.

Other countries on the Wendy's radar include Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Grenada, Guyana, St Lucia, St Maarten, St Vincent and the Grenadines and Suriname.

“This agreement will enable us to expand Wendy's brand presence throughout the Caribbean basin,” Wendy's/Arby's Group president and chief executive officer Roland Smith said in a statement.

“In the north, our franchise restaurants in Puerto Rico and the Bahamas generate some of the highest annual unit volumes in our international system; and, in the west, we have a growing presence in Central America,” he added.

He said that the company has struggled to keep up with its competitors in the United States domestic market and is hoping to emulate the Caribbean success of the KFC brand, where McDonald's has failed to take off . (CMC)

## Private sector seems to be upset with current Administration - Granger



PNC Presidential candidate Granger addressing the business community at the Pegasus Hotel on Wednesday May 11, 2011

May 17, 2011: (Guyana Press)

The private sector community is expecting a lot from the next administration that takes over the reins of government and they're not hiding some of their wishes.

The laundry list of wishes for the business community was unveiled when PNC Presidential Candidate David Granger met with members of the business community on Wednesday at the Pegasus hotel. Many of the business men gathered raised questions about how a Granger government would put systems in place to see growth in the private sector

Granger told those gathered that he doesn't intend to micro manage the private sector once he gets into office.

He said that development of the economy will have to be fueled by the private sector and the sector ought to let its voice be known. He believes he could be the one to develop the business climate in Guyana by creating a safer and more secured environment.

## Private Sector paid \$21.4B in income tax in 2010 - PSC's Ramesh Dookhoo

June 3, 2011: Kaieteur News

“In the year 2000, income taxes paid by companies amounted to some \$8B and by fiscal year 2010 this amount had grown to \$21.4 billion, a 159 % increase,” says Chairman of the Private Sector Commission, Ramesh Dookhoo.

Policy changes and the prominence given to the private sector over the last 20 years have allowed this growth. He stated that, “The policy changes in Guyana over the years have been focused and targeted to facilitate this current and unprecedented level of confidence that the private sector has in exploiting business opportunities in Guyana.”

Dookhoo made those remarks yesterday (June 2) at the 19th General Annual Meeting of the Commission. [more](#)

## REDjet appeals to CARICOM to intervene

Low cost carrier has problems getting approval to fly to Trinidad and Jamaica



**BRIDGETOWN, Barbados, Thursday June 2, 2011** – Amid continuing delays in starting operations in Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago, REDjet's CEO and Chairman Ian Burns has turned to CARICOM for assistance.

He has written to acting Secretary General Lolita Applewhaite saying that due to the critical nature of air transport infrastructure and "the widely reported obstructionism REDjet has faced trying to enter many regional markets", the airline wanted consideration given to a motion to support open competition for inter-regional travel, as exists in much of extra-regional travel through open skies agreements.

### Guyana's Could Become Tourism Force If Managed Correctly

Guyana has a lot to offer visitors and many that have traveled enjoyed the experience of the lush rain forest and adventurous environment, however some experts are of the opinion that the tiny South American country is under-managing and under utilising its full potential to become a tourist economy.

Experts has cited in the Caribbean Investment Forum that Guyana can become an excellent place to invest providing a stable economy, especially in the field of Eco-tourism. Ever since the Caribbean Tourism Organisation (CTO) awarded Guyana's Surama Village Eco-Lodge for environmental excellence, investors have turned their eyes to this country.

Tourism in Guyana is still in its infancy, and some lodges, particularly on native lands, have limited ways of communicating with outsiders said some tourist experts, they recommended the country should be working experienced tour outfits in the region for the best experience.

Many multi-national financing organisations have emphasized the changes that Guyana has to make to become a hub in trade relations between surrounding nations. Only with these changes will the country become a tourist force, but it seems that Guyanese officials did not get the memo. ([Source: Guyana Press](#))

"The motion would include an aspect that positive political support be given to all carriers within the region to have access to every state in accordance with the Treaty of Chaguaramas insofar as it pertains to fair treatment of businesses from a Member State, as would be granted to a business resident in that state," he wrote.

REDjet has so far been unable to secure approval to begin services to Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago. It is currently only flying between Barbados and Guyana, having started that service on May 10. [more](#)

### REDjet made inaugural flight to Guyana on May 10, 2011



GEORGETOWN, Guyana--The Cheddi Jagan International Airport (CJIA), Timehri was buzzing with excitement as REDjet's inaugural flight from Barbados to Guyana landed Tuesday morning (May 10) and passengers declared their satisfaction.

The low-rates flight, which accommodated approximately 149 persons, arrived in Guyana at 11:25am, and was greeted by Minister of Tourism Manniram Prashad, members of the media, and executive members of Digicel (Guyana) Incorporated.

Passengers said they were required to pay a fare of Bds\$200, which is equivalent to US\$100 or \$20,000 in Guyana currency. Passengers said the flight was affordable as well as comfortable.

Following the arrival there was a media briefing, during which CEO of the airline Ian Burns assured that REDjet intends to fly the Barbados-Guyana route for many years to come. [more](#)

#### 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](#)

[Iwokrara 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 aims for 100% free wireless Internet

Companies and individuals unlock their internet connections and offer free services to others nearby

The Barbados Entrepreneurship Foundation's (BEF) mission to provide free Wi-Fi service across the island by November 11 this year has received another boost with the active participation of a leading law firm.

LEX Caribbean, which also has offices in Trinidad and Tobago, Jamaica and London, is the latest company to unlock their Wi-Fi in furtherance of the BEF initiative. LEX Caribbean now provides free access via a signal that extends approximately a kilometre to the West and North of their offices in the south of the country.

Realization of the BEF's island Wi-Fi vision will mean that entrepreneurs and people everywhere can continue to communicate and transact effectively as they move around Barbados, without being constrained by a specific geographical or physical location, a statement from the Foundation said.

The BEF said this was good for visitors to the island as well as locals, domestic commerce, international business and tourism.

"The rendering of Barbados into a Wi-Fi island will make Barbados truly competitive in the global arena and show that it is serious about embracing technology and affording people connectivity to an extent that many other nations have yet to do. The success of this initiative will thus play a major role in the development of Barbados as the number one entrepreneurial hub in the world by 2020 which is the vision of the BEF," it added.

LEX Caribbean along with all the other businesses which have also chosen to unlock their Wi-Fi connections have been posted on a map online at <http://www.wifispottr.com/> The website also provides accurate directions which guide the user from their exact location to the Wi-Fi location of their choice. (Source- Caribbean360)

## Hats off to Gibbs for reducing crime in Trinidad



**TOP COP Dwayne Gibbs** yesterday received two thumbs up from Attorney General Anand Ramlogan for his role in managing this country's murder toll.

Minister in the Ministry of National Security Subhas Panday said statistics have shown that there has been a decline in this country's murder toll, as compared to the same period last year.

Panday said 167 murders were recorded up to May 2 last year, and for the comparative period this year there have been 30 fewer homicides.

[more](#) (Trinidad Express)

## Time is running out on Caribbean countries

May 10, 2011- (Barbados Advocate). A leading economist is blaming the high cost of living across the region on inefficient ports, monopolistic transport systems, and high fees and taxes

Professor Avinash Persaud made the assertions on May 10, while telling Barbados and the other Caribbean states that time is running out for them to get cracking in moving their countries forward.

"The cost of living is high – ratched up by inefficient ports, monopolistic transport markets, high fees and taxes. The appearance of openness hides protectionism and stock markets and capital markets are moribund and the recession has led to substantial crowding out of private sector investment," he said in a lecture presented on May 10, at the Ministry of Economic Affairs, Warrens, St. Michael.

"Now that the rest of the emerging world has shaken off excessive political uncertainty and excessive liberalism, the much vaunted stability of the Caribbean is seen as more handicap than asset," he said arguing that things are the way they are because they suit enough people with influence. [more](#)

## IMF: Caribbean economic recovery beginning

**WASHINGTON, United States, Thursday May 5, 2011** – The Caribbean is beginning to turn the corner after a long and deep recession, according to the International Monetary Fund's (IMF) 2011 Regional Economic Outlook for the Western Hemisphere.

The IMF said that weak external demand and high public debt levels have held back economic activity in much of the region for the last two years. But the Caribbean economy, excluding the Dominican Republic and Haiti, is projected to expand by an average of about two percent this year, following a contraction of about ½ percent last year.

The report pointed out that tourism is recovering gradually, with the Bahamas, Barbados, Dominican Republic, and Jamaica observing a faster and earlier pickup in tourist arrivals than the smaller islands of the Eastern Caribbean.

"However, rising commodity import prices present a clear downside risk for most countries (with the exception of Trinidad and Tobago, which stands to benefit from higher oil export prices)," the report said. [more](#)

[Source- Caribbean 360](#)

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Letter to the Editor:

## Shared Governance - by Cheddi 'Joey' Jagan

June 6, 2011 Dear Editor,

What's wrong with having a vision of unity through shared governance and a new dispensation, which, as President Jimmy Carter indicated, can bring an end to racial divisions in our country, a festering sore still haunting our political, social and economic life; a vision of governance where, as the Mahatma said, there is the presence of the Kingdom of Heaven in its inner workings to bring morality, honesty and courage; a vision to end majoritarian rule, which, as the Mahatma said, is evil and has afflicted this country since independence to this day, denying the unity and purpose which our ancestors and eld-

ers bequeathed us; a vision of government which recognizes, as the Queen of Great Britain said right in Guyana, the primary role of the private sector as the real engine of growth and which has not occurred since independence; a vision of decentralism of governance where local and regional authorities have much more say and power to get things done for the regular citizens, along with a national revitalization of our villages and village life; a vision of sensible taxation, transparency of all government transactions, decent minimum wages, even development to all strata of our society, opening the doors wide open to legitimate foreign and local investment

with major incentives and a clean and healthy environment for all our children; a vision of great things to come for the betterment of our dear country and its honest, hard-working citizens.

Editor, when will we wake up and see the light? Where are we really going as a nation? Have we lost our way? Do we really think of our children's future? Do we cherish the sacrifices of our ancestors?

Editor, do we have to wait another five years?

Yours faithfully,

**Cheddi (Joey) Jagan (Jr.)**  
**cbj-ahimsa@hotmail.com**

Comment re Letter to Editor

## HOORAY, HOORAY, HOORAY, - by Herbert Earl Hintzen re: Joey Jagan's letter

**HOORAY, HOORAY, HOORAY,** Finally somebody in the politics of Guyana who sees the vision and has the true knack of good Government, and somebody who I can wholeheartedly support to put the Home country back on its feet. I think young Cheddi Joey Jagan has the correct political approach for Guyana's current needs, and should be urged and supported to run for President. I would hope that his views never change and that the big Western Governments would come in and give him the support he would need to pull Guyana out of the mud of racial, drug infested, and financial greed politics. I totally agree that the Private sector is indeed the real engine of growth in any country (as is evidenced here in the U.S.A.) as we have seen our loss of manufacturing jobs take wing to China and India. Even Japan and South Korea realized that the Ameri-

can auto worker is the best when it comes to production, hence the building of factories here in the USA by Toyota, Honda, Nissan, Hyundai, Kia, and even the German BMW.

I love the quality and tone of young Cheddi's letters to the Editor and I sincerely hope he stays true to this vision since that would bring many very qualified Guyanese from the Diaspora to assist in the Re-Development of Guyana. As I have said before, there is no neighboring Caribbean country that could stand next to Guyana in its total production capabilities — Sugar, Rice, Bauxite/Alumina, Manganese, Gold, Diamonds, Cattle (are you aware people that Guyana has/had at one point in time the second largest cattle ranch in the world — Dadanawa in the Rupununi District) We could also develop and compete with any country for fruit production. We

grow a cherry that is a first cousin to the American cherry and so I am sure we could grow that too, and let's not talk about things like mangoes and avocados, soursop, we can grow more pineapples than Hawaii, and did you know that in the Rupununi District along the banks of the Ireng and Takutu rivers Cashews grow wild in huge groves that have never been cultivated and exploited for cashew nuts (which in fact is not a true nut, but the seed of the fruit that grows on the outside of the fruit.)

Oh, the possibilities are endless, just takes a Government with vision and not greed along with the cooperation of the total population. One more important facet of the regrowth of our home is the total repair of the Infrastructure, canals, kokers/sluices originally put down by the Dutch to alleviate the flooding we now see every time rain clouds

set. That also means work. Repair of the roads and for access to the hinterland portion of Guyana fast rail service. With the preponderance of "The Land of many Waters" all the huge rivers we do have in Guyana coming off of high mountain promontories, why not Hydro-electricity?

But most of all while we are pursuing all these possibilities we must protect one of (if not the last) great rain forest in the world, the Amazon Basin which Guyana's forest are a part of. May I also ask while I know I took up a bit of your time with my ramblings of the 'Promise of Hope for Guyana', that you share this and the attachment from young Mr. Cheddi Joey Jagan with as many people as you can within the Diaspora, and I end with a prayer of THANKS.

Hubert Earl Hintzen

E-mail: [hhintzen@hotmail.com](mailto:hhintzen@hotmail.com)  
 June 6, 2011