



Book to Enrich Caribbean History



Congratulatory Messages - Page 2



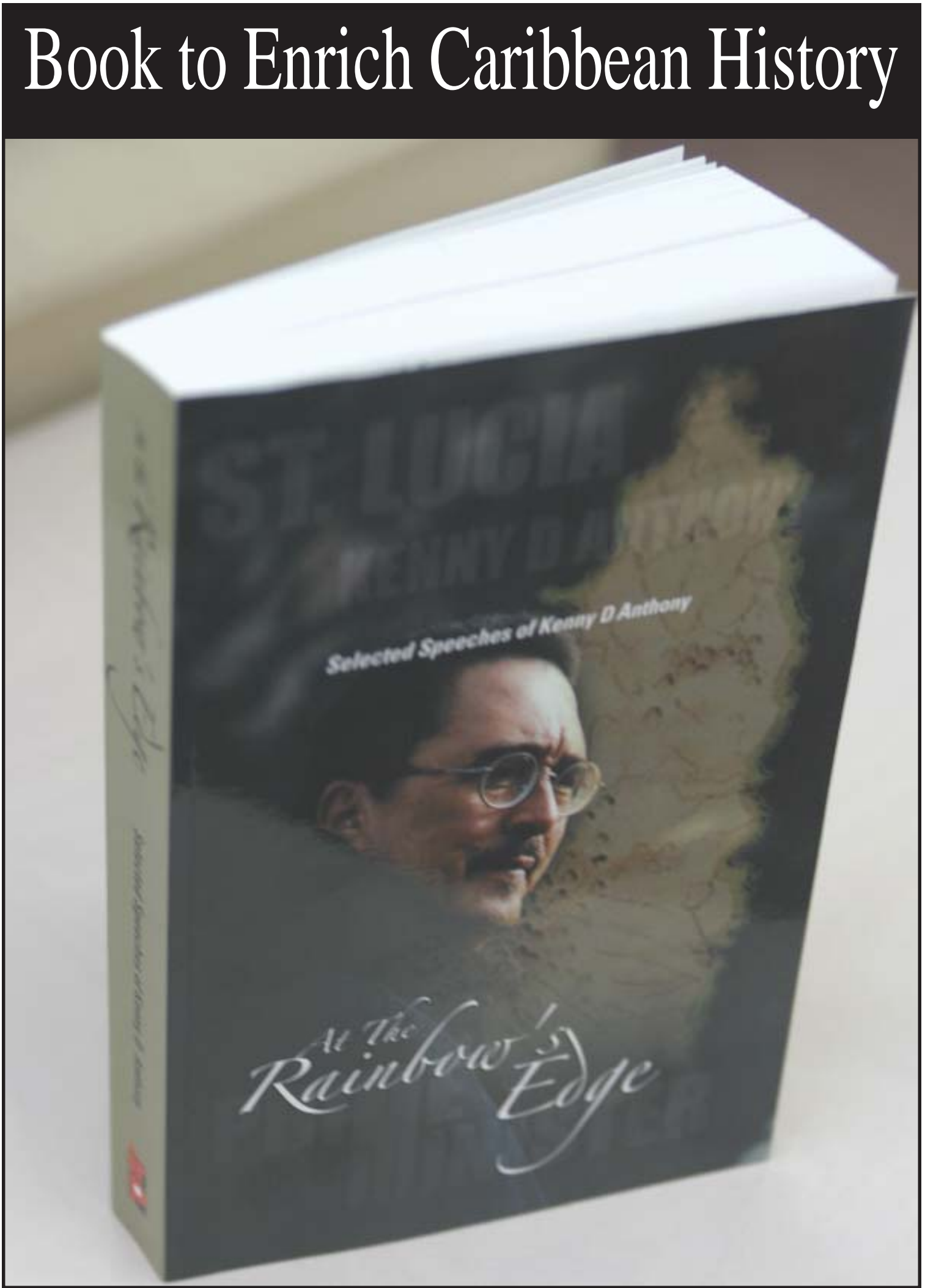
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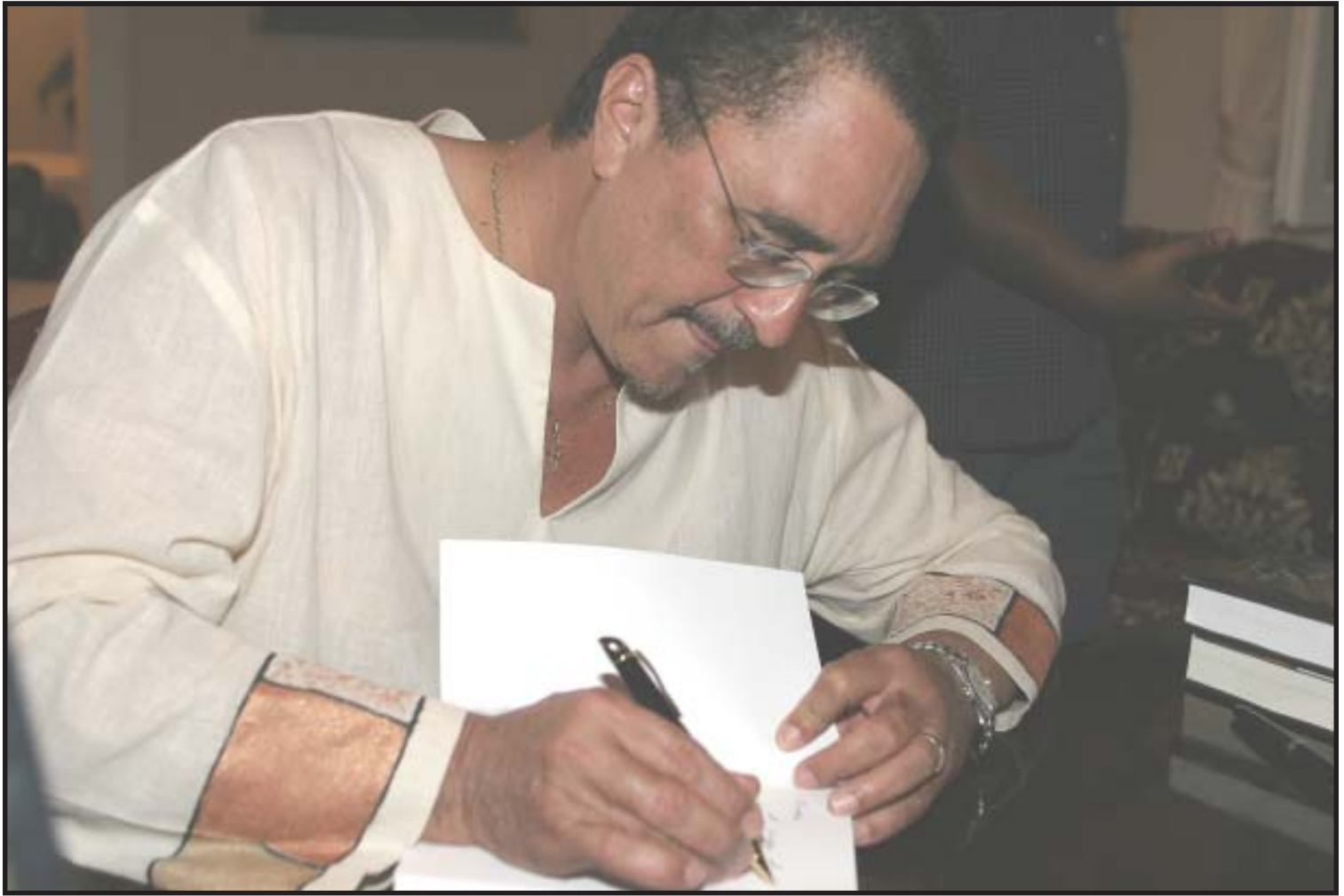
PM's 'At the Rainbow's Edge' to Enrich Caribbean History

By Claudia Monlouis

The region has a long way to go in developing a full appreciation of the importance of books, reading and intellectual property rights.

This view was amplified by Ian Randall, owner of one of the most reputable Publishing Houses in the Caribbean. His company recently published Prime Minister, Dr. Kenny Anthony's first book 'At the Rainbow's Edge', which was launched last Friday, March 5. Mr. Randall described the launch of the book as a celebration of the process of publishing development in the Caribbean.

Mr. Randall contends that there is a lesson in the contents of Caribbean history books that should serve well for contemporary Caribbean leaders, who owe it to future generations to record their contributions for the purposes of history, education and research material. He lamented that due to limited writings in earlier times, little is known about the sterling contributions made by past Caribbean pioneers, such as Norman Manley, Grantley Adams, and Alexander Bustamante, among many others, whose legacy remains sketchy to the generation of today.



Prime Minister Honourable Dr. Kenny D. Anthony signing copies of his book entitled "At the Rainbow's Edge".

Honourable Prime Minister Kenny Anthony registered a historical first, as the only sitting prime minister in the region to have published a compilation of his

speeches. Three Hundred hard and soft cover copies of the book were printed in the first publication. Limited copies of the soft cover version of 'At the rainbow's

Edge' can be obtained from the Prime Minister's Office, Fifth Floor, Sir Stanislaus James Building, Waterfront at \$50.00 per copy.

Congratulatory Messages Continue to Pour in on the Occasion of Saint Lucia's 25th Independence

Several international bodies and nations from around the globe, continue to extend congratulatory

messages to the Government and People of Saint Lucia, on the occasion of the landmark achievement of 25 years of Independence.

Congratulatory messages have also been addressed to Her Excellency Dame Pearllette Louisy, on behalf of the Government and People of Saint Lucia. Messages have been received from the Government and citizens of the Republic of Croatia, the President of the Republic of Cyprus and country men, and the permanent Mission of Cyprus to the United Nations.

Congratulatory Messages have also been expressed on behalf of the

Government of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela. Venezuela's Ambassador to



Prime Minister of St. Kitts and Nevis Dr. Denzil Douglas

Saint Lucia Her Excellency Carmen Aponte, took the opportunity to reaffirm her country's intention to continue to strengthen bilateral relations with Saint Lucia. Venezuela and Saint Lucia are this year, marking twenty years of cooperation and solidarity.

Closer to home, Prime Minister of St. Kitts and Nevis, Dr. Denzil Douglas has taken time off to pen a special salutation for the nation, on the occasion of its silver jubilee of independence. In the words of Prime Minister Douglas: 'Even as you celebrate and evaluate your country's achievements since independence, I am certain that you will continue to seek new strategies and innovations to grapple with the challenges of this new century'.



At the Rainbow's Edge: A Book of Direction

By Claudia Monlouis

“Much of what is in this exciting book frames a direction”. That’s how Professor of Social and Political Change in the Department of Government at the University of the West Indies, Mona Campus, Brian Meeks described the recently launched book “At Rainbow’s Edge”.

The book is a collection of speeches by Prime Minister, Honourable Dr. Kenny Anthony.

Professor Meeks was at the time delivering the feature address at last weekend’s launch. “Prime Minister, Honourable Kenny Anthony writes on Caribbean Unity - broad based, broadly conceived. He’s right on rethinking the state and bringing the people back in unprecedented ways to government. He’s right to search for spaces in the uneven system that is, the global capitalist system and to explore them to our advantage”, said professor

Meeks, adding that “where we need to go even further, is to think through the ethos that guides us through all of this”.

For his part, Dr. Anthony explained that through the book of speeches he can reflect on what he may have said many years ago. “It is one thing to engage in theory, to define and share a vision, but it is a totally different thing when you are faced with the day-to-day practice of government and

politics, the inevitable stresses, yes to the joys accompanying the experiences. So for me, it is an opportunity to reflect on the past and like each and everyone of you, who will go through the pages of this book, I too, over the next few days will go through those speeches again and ask myself whether I have been faithful to the vision that I have shared with the people of Saint Lucia”. ■



Prominent St. Lucians line up to have thier copy autographed by author Prime Minister, Honourable Dr. Kenny D. Anthony

EDITORIAL

At the Rainbow's Edge: A First

Prime Minister, Dr. Kenny Anthony registered a first on March 5, 2004 when he became the only seating regional leader to have his work published in the form of a book. The publication entitled "At the Rainbow's Edge," is a compilation of some of the most memorable speeches delivered by Dr. Anthony within the local, regional and international fora since assuming the leadership of the Saint Lucia Labour Party and as Prime Minister of Saint Lucia.

Launched at the Prime Minister's official residence at Vigie, critics say the publication is arguably the most comprehensive overview of the current administration's policies on some of the major domestic, regional and international issues. The book is published by owner of one of the most reputable publishing houses in the Caribbean, Ian Randle. He says the achievement of the St. Lucian leader emphasises the fact that the region has a long way to go in developing a full appreciation of the importance of books, reading and intellectual property rights. He however described the launch of the book as a "celebration of the process of publishing development in the Caribbean".

He went on to say, "unlike the first generation, this new generation has a public responsibility as your Prime Minister has recognized in putting his speeches together."

The regional based publisher contends that this lesson should serve well for contemporary Caribbean leaders, who owe it to future generations to record their contributions for the purposes of history, education and research material.

His sentiments were echoed by Lecturer of Social and Political Change in the Department of Government at the University of the West Indies (UWI) Mona Campus, Professor Brian Meeks. "The writings of Prime Minister Anthony shows that he is right on Caribbean unity, broad base, broadly conceived and popular," said Professor Meeks. The Prime Minister, he says, was also correct in his views on rethinking the State, while attempting to bring the populace back in unprecedented ways to government.

A clearly emotional and unassuming Dr. Anthony explained that the book of speeches would allow him, the nation and

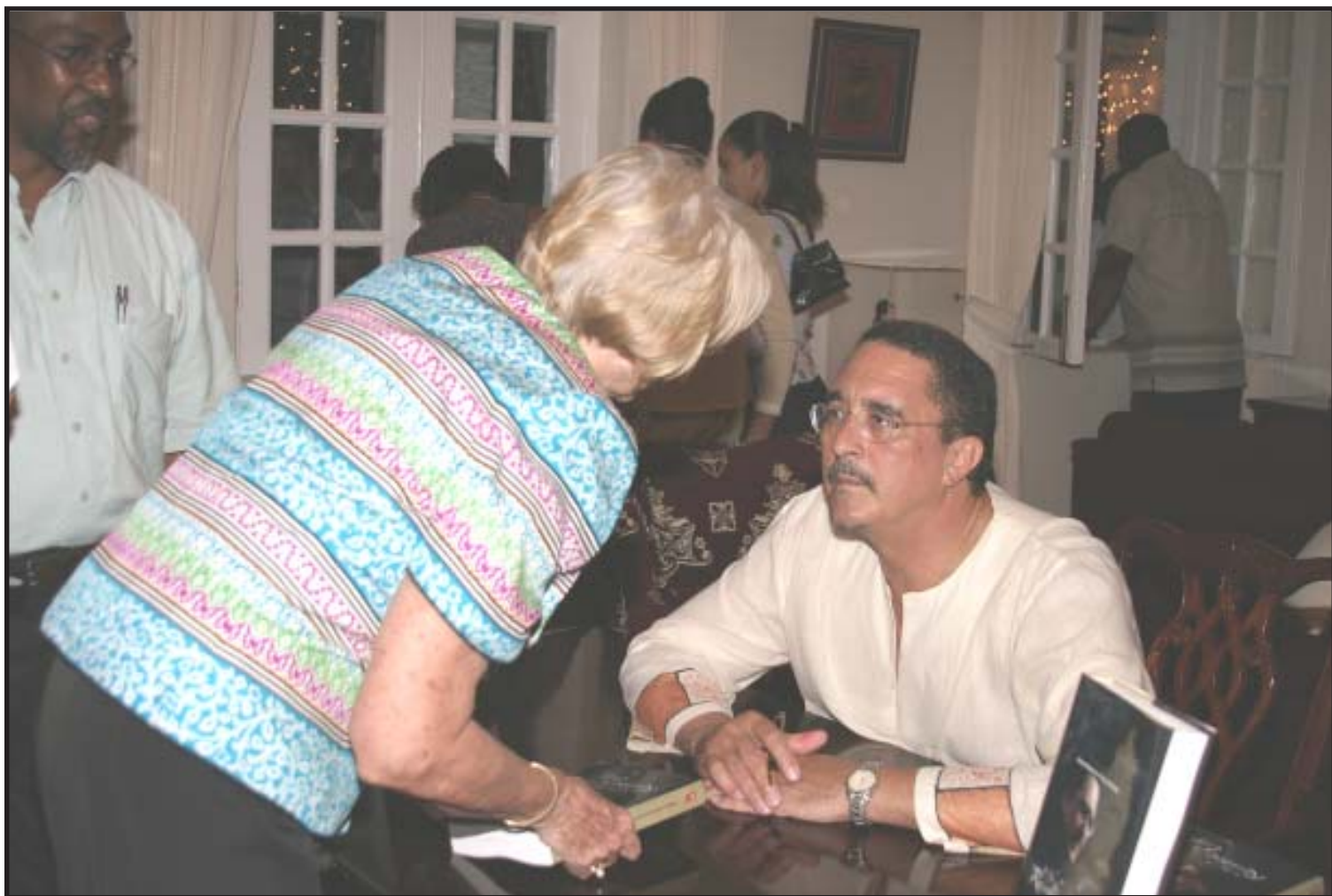
the region, to reflect on what has been said over the years in light of what has been accomplished. "I too, like many of you will go over these speeches again over the next few days and ask myself whether I have been faithful to the vision that I shared with the people of St. Lucia."

The book provides an insight into the Government's overall vision for Saint Lucia, as well as providing by way of explanation the general thrust behind the Government's social, economic and political agenda. The overall idea for the publication, said Dr. Anthony, emanated from Permanent Secretary in the Department of Education and Human Resource Development, Dr. Didacus Jules, who together with former administrative attaché Dr. Tennyson Joseph served as editors for the publication.

Reading this book is a must.



Prime Minister Dr. Kenny D. Anthony signing copies of his book



Prime Minister, Dr. Kenny D. Anthony in conversation at the launch of his book 'At The Rainbow's Edge'. The book provides an insight into the Government's overall vision for Saint Lucia, as well as providing by way of explanation the general thrust behind the Government's social, economic and political agenda. The overall idea for the publication, said Dr. Anthony, emanated from Permanent Secretary in the Department of Education and Human Resource Development, Dr. Didacus Jules, who together with former administrative attaché Dr. Tennyson Joseph served as editors for the publication.

NCF and Catholic Church Assist Rose Hill Fire Victims

By Claudia Monlouis

The homeless victims of a recent fire in the Castries Community of Rose Hill, have been assured of the full support of the National Community Foundation (NCF) and the Catholic Church, as they strive to rise out of the ashes, despite the loss of all of their possessions, when the apartment building they called home, went up in flames.

On March 8, five families, who are housed at the Rose Hill Community Centre following a fire, which destroyed their homes were presented with items of clothing and toiletries provided by the Catholic Church/Caritas Antilles, a Catholic charity and relief organisation of Latin America and the Caribbean. The assistance came as a response to the NCF's plea on behalf of the

victims during its telethon on February 29. Head of the NCF's Homeless Committee Andrew "Secra" Gibson told the fire victims to take comfort in the level of concern the public was showing in their time of need.

Father Michel of the Cathedral Archdiocese told the families that all was not lost, as they were all alive today. "A fire destroys

everything, even important memories, photographs and special things that have been given to you and we understand that, but I think what we have to be most grateful for is that there was no loss of life involved", he said

Members of the public are being asked to reach out to persons in the community, who have encountered unfortunate circumstances.



Positive Response to Telepoll Survey

The national telepoll survey undertaken by the Saint Lucia Solid Waste Management Authority has been met with overwhelming public cooperation. So says Acting Public Relations Officer for the Authority, Emlyn Jean.

On Wednesday March tenth, Ms. Jean told the GIS that at the half-way mark, the telephone operators conducting the survey had not encountered any difficulties in soliciting information from the targeted households. The telephone operators begin interviews at 8:00 a.m. daily, covering some 50 households, island wide.

Ms. Jean explained that the information gathering exercise would assist the Solid Waste Management Authority in determining the public's level of satisfaction on the issues of garbage collection, regularity of service, waste management practices displayed by residents of their communities and the problem of illegal dumping. The Authority

would also seek the feedback of residents on the issues of derelict vehicles and waste management, she said.

The findings of the survey will enable the authority to build on its strengths and address any weaknesses in the service offered to the public. "We think it's also an opportunity for the public to be part of the decision making process, because the service that we offer at the Authority is really an essential service, and if not adequately met, could have serious implications for our health and the health of our environment".

Residents throughout the island are asked to continue to give their full cooperation to the week-long survey which ends on Sunday. The Authority has given the assurance that all information obtained will be held in strict confidence. The survey is being conducted via the telephone and is facilitated by Cable and Wireless.



Rose Hill Fire

Investment Promotions is Everybody's Business - NDC

By Virnet St. Omer-Fontenelle

The National Development Corporation (NDC) began the first of a three stage process for the development of a strategic plan to guide its work for the next three to five years.

The first event, a two-day strategic planning retreat opened at the Royal St. Lucian Hotel today. The meeting brought together representatives of all sectors of the economy for what NDC's General Manager, Wayne Vitalis says should be frank and open discussions for the beginning of an aggressive investment promotion policy to guide the work of the corporation.

Mr Vitalis promised the exercise would not be another talk shop, but would inform a final policy document in keeping with the NDC's

mandate to set goals closely related to the broad development objectives of the Government of St. Lucia. He said that the retreat was a first step to building meaningful relationships foremost with local partners, as investment promotion was everyone's business.

The NDC General Manager said that the challenge was great in a competitive and expensive investment promotion environment.

Mr Vitalis said that the 2-day retreat would survey the critical elements of the investment promotion process, with a view to identifying strengths and weaknesses, and opportunities and threats for St. Lucia.

The National Development Corporation was established over 30 years ago.

Issues Affecting Women To Gain Greater Prominence

By Julita Peter



Health Minister
Damian Greaves

The fourth World Conference on women, which was held in Beijing in 1995 was concerned that the successful implementation of any plan of action to improve women's health required the integration of gender concerns into mainstream health policies. The Ministry for Health, Human Services, Family Affairs and Gender Relations has fully endorsed this principle, which will be given due consideration in the National Health Policy.

In a televised address to the nation on the occasion of International Women's Day on Monday, March 8th, Health Minister Honourable Damien Greaves said that the Ministry of Health remained committed to addressing the many issues affecting women. The issue of violence against women was cited as one requiring special attention as a public health problem.

"There is abundant evidence on the impact of violence on women in a range of adverse health effects", said Minister Greaves, informing that specific patterns of injuries had been identified, such as



Ministry of Health personnel informing of the danger of HIV/AIDS at the Health Fair

head, face, neck, breasts and abdomen. "These are the most frequently targeted parts of the body", he said.

The Ministry of Health is also focusing strongly on the raging problem of sexually transmitted diseases and in particular, HIV/AIDS among women, which

remains a major challenge to the health sector.

The highlight event to mark International Women's Day was the staging of a health fair at the Castries City Hall, organized by the Department of Gender Relations. The fair showcased the skills and

talents of women in several areas and also focused on some of the services available to them in helping to maintain healthy lifestyles. The local theme chosen for this year's International Women's day was "Healthy Women, Healthy Families a Healthy Nation".



Health Officials providing information on Family Planning



Health Personnel speaking about a Healthy Diet

Work Continues on an Integrated Export Strategy for St. Lucia.

By John Emmanuel

The Ministry of Commerce, Investment and Consumer Affairs has joined forces with the St. Lucia Chamber of Commerce Industry and Agriculture and other stakeholders, in an attempt to put in place an Integrated National Export Development Strategy for St. Lucia. The process, which has been underway for the past two-years, was taken one step further on Monday, 8th March 2004 with the staging of a national symposium at the Green Parrot Hotel situated at La Toc.

Addressing participants, who came from a wide cross section of the industrial and manufacturing sector, Executive Director of the Chamber Mr. Brian Louisy, said that the grouping remained convinced that one of the things impacting negatively on the local economy has been the slowdown in export. He pointed out that one could trace from as far back as the days of sugar, coal, bananas and tourism, St. Lucia's export led growth.

This, he told his audience had changed not entirely due to a noticeable lack of export, but because "export-led growth was no longer sexy". Mr. Louisy made it



Government Officials attending the Export Strategy Workshop

clear that the rationale behind this latest initiative was to make export-led growth the theme and driving force behind St. Lucia's future economic development. "This process, we are hoping will make such terms and ideas sexy once again so that people can buy into it", said the Chamber's long serving Executive Director.

The preparation of the strategy comes at an opportune time for St. Lucia, as the island through the Ministry of Commerce and Investment continues trade negotiations with groupings like the Caribbean

Single Market and Economy, (CSME), the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA) and wider Europe.

Commerce and Investment Minister Honourable Philip J. Pierre said that given the changing face of trade the world over and its impacts on the local agriculture export market, new methodologies and modalities needed to be developed, if the country was to survive and remain competitive in this era of free trade.

St. Lucia he lamented, finds itself having to compete with countries that possess

greater economies of scale, coupled with large and wide open spaces and relatively cheap labour. Such conditions he noted, had led to cheaper bananas flooding the world market and curtailing growth in the local banana sector. "We cannot lie down and die", he told some of the country's leading manufacturers at the one-day symposium.

As a remedy, the Commerce Minister indicated that the country needed to speed up its efforts at diversification, which in itself had given rise to initiatives leading to the development of a national export strategy. "We must find ways and means to make St. Lucia's export competitive, placing them at an affordable price", he said, noting that success on that front was contingent on the country's ability to deal with the vast world market and the phenomenon of free trade.

Last year some 38% of St. Lucia's manufacturing output, specifically food and beverage were exported, with officials hoping to up that figure significantly come the next five years. Monday's exercise received assistance from the International Trade Centre (ITC) in the person of consultant Anton Said.

Better Health for Women linked to Financial Freedom

By Virnet St. Omer-Fontenelle

Women are being urged to make a commitment to change the way they use money if they want to be happy and healthy. Former bank manager Mrs Mary Popo, says financial freedom is one way women can be rid of stress, focus on their families and develop trusting relationships both at home and at work.

Mrs Popo made the remarks at the St. Lucia Civil Service Association (CSA) Luncheon Lecture held at the Sandals Golf Resort and Regency on Monday March 8th. The lecture was part of CSA's activi-



Mrs. Mary Popo

ties to mark International Women's Day. This year, the theme for the observance is 'Healthy Women, Healthy Families, and a Healthy Nation.

Mrs Popo implored women to begin immediately, a financial planning programme, which she says will include budgeting, differentiating between wants and needs and investing in insurance and other financial instruments.

Mrs Popo also called for a re-thinking of their attitude to change. She reminded the audience of the tide of change now sweeping the world, which was forcing countries to become creative to meet new employment demands. The family is also facing the challenges of change in the face of redundancies she contends, and warns of complacency, as "nobody owes you anything".

Inland Revenue Department

Income Tax Instalment Notice

All Companies, Traders, Partnerships, Joint Ventures and other self-employed persons subject to tax under the Income Tax Act of 1989, Section 101 - "ADVANCE PAYMENT OF TAX" are reminded of the instalment of Income Tax due for the Current Income Year and payable on or before MARCH 25, 2004 on Income other than emoluments.

This instalment shall be equal to one-third of the tax on the estimated chargeable income for the preceding year.

Where an instalment of such tax is not paid by the due date a sum of 10% (per centum) shall be added thereto, and interest at the rate of one and a quarter per cent per year above the prevailing prime rate of interest shall be applied if any taxpayer fails to pay by the instalment due date.

Comptroller Inland Revenue

Cruise Industry Alive and Well – Minister Pierre

“St. Lucia’s cruise industry is poised for continued growth and we must feel good about that”, said Minister of Commerce, Tourism, Investment and Consumer Affairs, Phillip J. Pierre.



Minister Pierre

And on what evidence does Minister Pierre’s feel good sentiments hold? Statistics from 1999 to 2003 show continued improvement in the numbers, particularly in the size of the ships and the number of passengers they bring. And since the start of this year, the figures continue to hold their own, with some 64 cruise ships calling in January and 53 in February. In March, when traditionally, the numbers begin to fall, some 38 ships are expected to make calls, and by May through to September the average number of calls dwindles to approximately 10 a month.

Moreover, there have been assurances from the cruise association in Miami that the cruise tax is not the issue. “What the executives are saying”, Minister Pierre said “is that we want you to continue to give us a good product, diversify it, we need security, attractions and we need playfields where they (cruise passengers) can enjoy themselves. We want to be able to purchase souvenirs and St. Lucian products”.

Minister Pierre said further, “They were not telling me about the cruise levy; that was not the issue. I want to tell you that the cruise industry is alive and well in St. Lucia. What is happening to us is that there are some home porting problems in Puerto Rico. We sit here and make pronouncements not understanding that St. Lucia is part of a global picture. St. Lucia is not alone in the world. What the cruise association in Miami is saying to me is that the problem with the cruise industry is that the home port is in Puerto Rico”.

Citing two types of cruises, the 7-day cruise and the 14-day cruise, Minister Pierre informed that the 7-day cruise

comes from Puerto Rico and down to the Eastern Caribbean and “they (the cruise association in Miami) are saying to me that there are problems in Puerto Rico. That is why the carnival vessel may not make the calls in St. Lucia that it ought to. It is not because of the cruise levy or tax; it is because of the logistical situation in Puerto Rico that makes the cruise unable to come to St. Lucia”.

Minister Pierre said however: “But they (the cruise association in Miami) assured me that the St. Lucia product is fine; the cruise industry appreciates what St. Lucia is doing, and the Government’s commitment to the process of cruise conversion, whereby we can get our passengers to come and visit St. Lucia. So I want to allay all the fears in the country that the cruise industry is alive and well and the tourism industry will develop between stay-over visitors and cruise visitors; we need both of them”.

He contends that St. Lucia will be better off when it can create value-added products for the cruise industry, in terms of money staying in St. Lucia. He called for a feel good attitude in St. Lucia instead



Frooty’s value added products

of “that air of negativity blowing in St. Lucia”, which he said must stop. “This year we had the largest number of stay-over visitors to ever visit St. Lucia, amounting to 276,000 and that has never happened before. That is a record we have to be proud of”, Minister Pierre said.

The Tourism Minister cautioned however, that there was a lot of work needed to be done, including the issue of product standards, which needed to be lifted to world standards. He stressed: “We have to make them world class; we have to be able to compete; we have to compete



Cruise Ships in the Castries Harbour

with the world; we cannot become myopic or insular; we cannot tie ourselves in a particular mindset; our competition is the world and we have to have standards”.

Speaking at the launch of Frooty’s new product line at Point Seraphine, Minister Pierre informed that at the highest

standards mark on it a cruise passenger will spend on it, thereby adding value and that is where we have to go instead of dealing with the negativity or what sounds good”. He believes that there is clear indication that St. Lucia is going in the direction of using agricultural products and adding value to it.

NTN **THIS WEEK ON NTN**

Highlights: Week of March 13-19, 2004

Monday March 15th: 6:15 pm *Voices of Young Women*

Monday March 15th: 8:00 pm *Issues and Answers: The GIS speaks with officials from the Ministry of Commerce on Consumer Issues*

Tuesday March 16th: 7:30 pm *Integrate or Perish: New Challenges for the Caribbean Region*

Wednesday March 17th: 8:00 pm *Highlights of Book Launch of Dr. K. Anthony’s Selected Speeches*

Thursday March 18th: 8:30 pm *The OECS – Poised For The Future*

Friday March 19th: 8:30 pm *National Violin Festival 2003*

Tune in Weekly For:

Regional News & Sports with GIS News Breaks and Kweyol News daily from 6:30 pm

Issues & Answers (Discussion Programme) Mondays at 8:00pm

Interview/Tuesdays at 6:15pm

Konsit Kweyol/Tuesdays at 6:15pm (Kweyol Discussion)

Your Right to Know/Thursdays at 6:15pm

Take 2/Fridays at 6:15pm (Week in Review - English)

Weflechi/Fridays at 6:40pm (Week in Review—Kweyol)

KiddiCrew.com/Saturdays at 9:30 am

For the complete programme guide, log on to our website at www.stlucia.gov.lc and then click on the **NTN** icon.

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