



No. 43. Friday, May 21, 2004



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Dr. Kenny D. Anthony is New Chairman of OECS



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Caribbean Internet Fiesta 2004
 May 24th to 29th

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 IT and Teachers Open Forum - NIC Conference Center: May 24th, 8:30 p.m.
 Coding 'After' Party - Sir Arthur Lewis Community College: May 25th, 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.

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Cricket VAT Coming - page 4

2007 ... A Nation Prepares

St. Lucia World Cup Bid Book Cover: Bid Committee Encourages Use as Wall Paper Screen Saver as Part of the National Mobilisation Effort.

See Website Address: www.gov.gis.lc



"Take 2" - A fifteen minute news review of the week.
 Every Friday at 6.15 p.m. on NTN, Cablevision Channel 2.

Government Notebook
 A fresh news package daily
 on all local radio stations



Prime Minister Dr. Kenny D. Anthony is New Chairman of OECS.

St. Lucia's Prime Minister, Honourable Dr. Kenny Anthony on Wednesday, May 19, 2004 took over the Chairmanship of the St. Lucia headquartered Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS), when OECS Heads of Government meet in neighbouring St. Vincent and the Grenadines from May 19th – 21st.

Wednesday's opening ceremony carded for the Peace Memorial Hall, will hear from Prime Minister Anthony, who succeeds out-going Chairman,

Montserrat's Chief Minister, Hon. John Osborne. Antigua & Barbuda's new Prime Minister Hon. Baldwin Spencer, host Prime Minister Hon. Dr. Ralph Gonsalves and Director General Dr. Len Ishmael will also make presentations at the opening session.

The ceremony will also include the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between the OECS member states and Puerto Rico, to facilitate closer collaboration in economic, social and cultural matters.

Heads of the nine-member grouping, during their plenary sessions scheduled for the Conference Room of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, will deliberate over a packed agenda on the 20th and 21st. Among items for discussion are measures to advance the OECS Economic Union process, including a proposed OECS passport; and economic development issues impacting on the sub-region, with emphasis on tourism, agriculture and information and communications technology.

The meeting will tackle several social and sustainable development issues, including an assessment of the OECS Schools System and the Grenada-headquartered Caribbean Knowledge and Learning Network. Talks will also be held on the OECS position on ongoing external trade negotiations involving the CARICOM Single Market and Economy (CSME); the Free Trade Area of the America (FTAA); World Trade Organization (WTO); and Economic Partnership Agreements with the European Union (EPA/EU).

Mobile Library Services coming to Rural Areas

The Central Library this week embarked upon a new chapter of library services and community outreach, with the launching of its Mobile Library, in Foresstiere, on the 17th of May.

Foresstiere is one of the many communities that will be provided with mobile library services. In recognition that knowledge and books play a critical role in the educational, social and personal development of citizens, Director of Library Services, Ms. Brenda Paul says, the Department of Library Services is proud of this attempt to provide everyone with access to library services, particularly those persons who do not have a library located within or near their communities.

She notes that it has always been the intention of the Library Department, which falls under the umbrella of the Ministry of Education, Human Resource Development, Youth and Sports to address the need to provide rural and isolated communities with library services, to promote reading as a tool for personal development and to promote positive reading habits, not only to children but also the adults.

"We in the Department of Library Services recognised that a number of communities were without the services of libraries and we also recognised that we could not at this time establish full time libraries in all those communities, so we decided to pursue the idea of mobile library services which would be able to serve a number of communities at a time," remarked Ms. Paul.

As explained by Ms. Paul, the initial concept of the project was to serve ten communities. However, the project will be executed in two phases. The first phase will include the communities of Foresstiere, Ti Rocher, La Croix Maingot, Ti Rocher and Bexon, and later it will be expanded to include more communities.

The mobile library will operate as a pseudo library, providing most of the regular services offered by libraries, and

will subscribe to the same rules. The unit will be managed by a librarian and an assistant, who will make several weekly stops in various communities.

Funding for the project was provided by the Organisation of American States, the OAS, to facilitate the purchasing of the vehicle which has the capacity to hold over one thousand books on shelves and standing room for about three adults. However, the mobile library will in the main operate outside of the vehicle, using a classroom to create a makeshift library, where persons can conveniently sit to read

or carry out research using the library's reference material.

The Library will consist of two main categories for Adults and Children respectively, featuring a range of fiction to non-fiction books. The Director also made special mention of a special series of "How To" books which she hopes persons will use to enrich their lives.

Overall the mobile library project which coincides with Reading Extravaganza Month is pitched at enriching the lives of both adults and the youth. Ms. Paul says the library is equipped with books and

electronic materials for persons of all age groups, covering a wide range of categories, subjects and interests.

Residents in each respective community are invited to orientation sessions and to access the mobile library services on the following days :

Day	Venue	Time
Monday	Forestierre	3:00 – 5:30 PM
Tuesday	Bexon	3:00 – 5 :30 PM
Wednesday	La Croix Maingot	3:00–5:30 PM
Thursday	Ti Rocher	3:00 – 5:30 PM
Friday	Odsan	3:00 –5:30 PM



Mobile Library

Jazz Bigs Up St. Lucia

Saint Lucia Jazz Dedicated to the memory of Desmond Skeete



Desmond Skeete

Saint Lucia Jazz was opened at the Mindoo Phillip Park in Marchand Castries by Minister of Tourism Honourable Phillip J. Pierre. He says the 7-year life of the opening at Marchand is testimony of the loyalty and commitment of the late Chairman of the Tourist Board, Desmond Skeete, to the success of the official launching introduced 6 years after the Saint Lucia Jazz first began.

The Friday, May 7th 2004 launching featured Kassav, Third World, local band X-Tent, reggae artiste Daddy Twan and Emrand Henry.

Tourism officials say it was the largest crowd in the 7 year history of the opening at the Mindoo Phillip Park. The board was successful in the management of traffic with the help of the police, as well as crowd control through well marked entry and exit points at the park.

Security at the launching was at an all time high, with the police personnel augmented with private security men and women from the events security firm "Men in Black." The event was incident-free.

Huge Crowd follows Jazz on the Square



Jazz on the Square

Thousands of music lovers turned out to revel in the day and night session of Jazz on the Square, filling the Derek Walcott Square to capacity, on each occasion.

The day performances saw such grates as Arturo Tappin, Speed, Ronald "Boo" Hinkson, Nachito Herrera, with Barbara Cadet & Friends and Tony De Winton All Stars.

The night line-up included Lucian Fusion featuring Ten-90, which is made up of Monty Maxwell and Mervyn Wilkinson. Also on the cards thrilling the large but well controlled crowd was the Royal St. Lucian Police Band along with Patsy Cadet. The second and final evening performance on Tuesday featured the entertaining Jazzcotech, Tommy Joseph and Vincent Small Lewis and Trinidadian great Timothy Watkins - The Baron.

Since becoming a fringe event six years ago, Jazz on the Square has taken a firm position on the Jazz calendar.

Teatime Jazz started with a bang



Teatime Jazz

One of the main fringe activities on the Jazz calendar, 'Teatime Jazz' kicked off with a bang last Monday afternoon as scores of patrons, wanting to get more of the afternoon jazz lime flooded the La Place Carenage venue in downtown Castries.

Inside the well adorned venue, patrons were treated to the melodious sounds of Harvey Millar, while sponsors provided light refreshments and product tasting. The Caribbean Pirates Restaurant on the top floor overlooking Port Castries provided an ideal setting, as patrons took in the music.

"This place is really beautiful; I spent much of my time browsing the duty-free shops, looking for jewellery and perfume, while listening to the sounds of the band; it filled the air; what a great idea to have teatime jazz; I'll miss home when I return after jazz", said a St. Lucian here on vacation.

'Jazz on the Pier': The Newest Fringe Activity on Jazz Calendar



Tasting at Jazz on the Pier

The newest fringe activity on the St. Lucia Jazz calendar dubbed "Jazz on the Pier" kicked off last week Friday at Duty Free Point Seraphine. The two-day event carded for Friday, May 14th from 3pm - 6pm and on Monday May 17th from 10 am - 1pm, was presented and sponsored by the National Development Corporation (NDC), owners and operators of Duty Free Point Seraphine.

Among the big local names who performed at the event were, Barbara Cadet and the band X-TENT, Emerson Nurse, Carl Gustave, Sally and KK Elwin, Rebel Soul, Quiet Fire, Diamond Steel Orchestra and "10-90" featuring Monty Maxwell and Mervyn Wilkinson.

Corporate Services Manager of the NDC, O'Donovan Yarde said "Jazz on the Pier" boasted a distinct variation from the other fringe activities, offering patrons 'last lap jazz,' on May 17th, the day after the main stage performances at Pigeon island.

According to Mr. Yarde most patrons to St. Lucia Jazz used the Monday after the festival ends to purchase souvenir items from Point Seraphine. He says 'Last Lap Jazz' is the NDC's way of giving visitors a memorable send-off.

Other sponsors of Jazz on the Pier included Pine Hill Dairy, Diamonds International, Courtesy Taxi, DCG Properties, Caribbean Metals Ltd, Bryden and Partners Ltd, M&C Insurance Brokers, Consolidated Insurance Consultants St. Lucia Ltd, Mayers Printing, and SMJ Beverages.



Governor General (left) chats with Grace Michel wife of Deputy Prime Minister Mario Michel (right) at Pigeon Island Jazz



Prime Minister Dr. Kenny D. Anthony and his wife at Pigeon Island Jazz (center)

Primary School Students to Sharpen their Public Speaking Skills

PPrimary schools students island-wide from grade 4 to 6 are being targeted for an Effective Public Speaking Competition. The competition is being organised by the Water Resources Unit (WRU) of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, as part of its Schools Water Network and in collaboration with the Ministry of Education, Human Resource Development, Youth and Sports.

The participating students will be expected to speak on the topic "Water and Disasters," the theme for World Water Day 2004, which is observed on March 22nd annually.

Communications Assistant, Jeanne Joseph says the district level of the competition got underway on Monday May 10th and was to end on Friday, May 14th. However, schools have been given until the 20th to prepare for the finals on Friday, May 21st, where they will choose one school to represent their particular district.

According to Ms. Joseph, the aim is to offer primary schools students the experience of speaking on a public platform, the incentive to formulate ideas on an important subject, in that case, "Water and Disasters", and the discipline in dealing with a topic in a limited time.

The adjudicators will attach great importance to the content of the speeches and the logic and weight of the arguments developed, along with the impact created on the audience.

Prizes will be awarded to both the participating schools and students. The winning school and student will receive the MAFF-WRU Trophy, while each member of the winning, second and third

place teams will receive an individual award and an award for their school. Some of the prizes will include book vouchers, a TV-VCR, Internet Cards and Dinner Vouchers.

This first ever Effective Public Speaking Competition for Primary Schools will above all, provide the participants the opportunity of learning and practising high standards of expression and presentation.



School Debate

World Cup Cricket Valuation Assessment Team visits St. Lucia

The Venue Assessment Team (VAT) for the Cricket World Cup 2007 (CWC2007) arrives in St. Lucia on Sunday May 23rd to conduct a verification tour as part of the

evaluation of St. Lucia's bid to host matches and events in the CWC2007.

The thirteen-member team, including specialists in various areas relating to the hosting of the events will arrive at the

Hewanorra International Airport and met on arrival by an official welcoming party including Prime Minister, Dr. Kenny Anthony, Hon. Mario Michel, joint chairman of the St. Lucia World Cup Bid

committee, President of the St. Lucia Cricket Association, Trevor Philip and the Chairman of World Cup St. Lucia Incorporated Dr. Jimmy Fletcher.

Following a brief reception at the airport, the team will travel by air to Castries. The evaluation of the country bid will continue in earnest on Monday morning with a multi media presentation on key aspects of St. Lucia's submission. The team will then hold discussion with government officials to discuss the Host Venue Agreement (HVA), which is the agreement between CWC 2007 Inc. and the successful Bid Committee's Local Organising Committee in relation to hosting of matches and events in CWC2007.

Special presentations will be made on the status and plans for the Beausejour Cricket Ground, other infrastructure and services being proposed for the cricket world cup. The team is also expected to tour selected facilities proposed for use. Wide ranging discussions will be held on other issues including transportation, security and media facilities.

A press conference has been scheduled for 11.00 a.m. at the Royal St. Lucia hotel.

St. Lucia is the first venue to be evaluated by the VAT. Following their twenty-four hour visit, the team will depart from George F.L. Charles airport for their next destination, and will tour all venues ending with Barbados on June 11th 2004.



Displaying Crowd Management

Moroccan Ambassador Presents Letters of Credence

Ambassador of The Kingdom of Morocco to Saint Lucia, His Excellency Dr. Brahim Houssein Moussa presented his letters of Credence to Governor General, Dame Pearlette Louisy on Thursday, May 13, 2004 at Government House.

During the brief formal ceremony, Ambassador Moussa had high praise for St. Lucia's handling of the Presidency of the General Assembly of the United Nations, a position being filled by External Affairs and Civil Aviation Minister, Honourable Julian Hunte.

The Governor General indicated St. Lucia's anticipation in terms of

consolidating and expanding the bi-lateral co-operation between the two states. Dame Pearlette expressed her gratitude to Ambassador Moussa for expressing kind sentiments in favour of St. Lucia's handling of the Presidency.

"It is indeed a source of great pride for us and our CARICOM partners that we are able to make that type of contribution on the international stage." Dame Pearlette said.

Since establishing diplomatic relations with The Kingdom of Morocco 16 years ago, this is the first Ambassador to be designated to St. Lucia.



Caption

SLBWA Enters Era of Computer Technology



SLBWA Computer Room

Blindness in Saint Lucia has launched into the realm of computer technology, through a special Poverty Reduction Fund/ Blind Welfare Association Project, which was formally handed over to the association on Thursday, May 6th. The project, which began in 2003, centred upon capacity building and empowerment of visually impaired persons.

Jessica Jacobie, facilitator in the new computer lab, which the Poverty Reduction Fund equipped explained that the computer software was specially designed to enable blind and visually impaired persons to access the internet, bringing to them new experiences as they are trained in email, word processing, information searches, and much more.

The lab is equipped with five new IBM computers, boasting today's most modern screen reading and reader software used

for the training of the association's clients and employees. A sixth computer will be used for students to hone their keyboarding skills. The computer lab is also equipped with a Braille printer referred to as 'embosser' used for reproducing printed information into Braille, which is the writing and communication form of the blind.

Equipped with leading software such as JAWS, which stands for Job Access With Speech, clients of the SLBWA are expected to acquire new skills, making themselves more marketable to the work force.

Under the project, costing in excess of \$300, 000 the headquarters of the association was renovated, while a low vision room, lab and multi handicapped room were also installed to broaden the scope of support and development that the Blind Welfare provides to its clients.

CDERA to Review New Strategic Plan

Barbados, May 17 (CDERA) - A new strategic plan to guide the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Response Agency (CDERA) through the next five years will be one of the major items on the agenda of the 14th Annual Board of Directors meeting this week.

Coordinator, Jeremy Collymore, said that the time had come to re-examine the Agency's blueprint for "risk-sensitive development" in the Caribbean within context of the global agenda.

The three-year Strategic Work Programme which the Board is being asked to consider is structured around five key results which are designed to enhance Comprehensive Disaster Management (CDM) within the 16 Participating States of CDERA.

"Taking into consideration the growing concern about terrorism and our preparation for the 2007 Cricket World Cup we need to look more aggressively at mass crowd contingency planning as well as terrorism consequence management and disaster preparedness"

One of the major initiatives expected to be rolled out is the application of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) in disaster

management - an aspect which is vital important as the region moves rapidly towards e-Government and e-Commerce. The issue of terrorism as it relates to

disaster management will also be discussed by the Board.

"Taking into consideration the growing concern about terrorism and our preparation for the 2007 Cricket World Cup we need to look more aggressively at mass crowd contingency planning as well as terrorism consequence management and disaster preparedness," said the Coordinator.

CDERA will be participating in a counter-terrorism exercise to be held shortly in Barbados.

The 14th Annual Board of Directors meeting will be held in Kingstown, St Vincent on May 20 and 21, 2004.

The meeting will be officially opened by Prime Minister The Hon Dr Ralph Gonsalves.

News out of NEMO

National Emergency Management Organisation (NEMO) shall attend a morning session designed to review regional institutions and agree on the structure of a national coordinating mechanism that will allow IICA to benefit from them. IICA will seek to incorporate the National Agricultural Advisory Committee (NAAC), in a manner that improves its effectiveness. The meeting is scheduled to take place on Monday, May 17th, 2004 at the Green Parrot Conference Room.

The Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) is collaborating with the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries to enhance the benefits to Saint Lucia of two (2) regional mechanisms, the Caribbean Alliance for Sustainable Agriculture and the Rural Milieu (The Alliance) and the Regional Agricultural Policy Network (RAPN).

The Alliance was launched in Jamaica in 1999, and comprises the Forum of Ministers of Agriculture in CARICOM and their constituents, Caribbean Agri-Business Association (CABA), Caribbean Agriculture Forum for Youth (CAFY), Caribbean

Network of Rural Women Producers (CNRWP) and the Caribbean Council for Higher Education in Agriculture (CACHE). The RAPN was launched in Guyana in October 2003, during the Caribbean Week of Agriculture.

A National chapter of The Alliance was launched in Saint Lucia in 2003. There



NEMO's Office in the Red Cross Building at Vigie, Castries

are also Local Chapters of CAFY, CNRWP and CABA. Saint Lucia participated in the training and launch of the RAPN organized in Guyana by the Centre for Technical Assistance (CTA), the Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute (CARDI) and IICA.

Following are the goals of The Alliance:

1. To provide an opportunity for dialogue on the implications of emerging issues, particularly those related to economic development, trade, science, technology

and management of biodiversity, environment and natural disasters, and securing consensus and commitment on actions to develop national and regional agriculture in the medium and long term.

2. To identify areas for collection and recommend policies strategies and actions which are in harmony with regional policies.
3. To promote programmes that will accelerate agriculture's integration in the wider national, regional and international economies whilst simultaneously minimizing the negative impact on vulnerable industries and groups and adjustment costs.
4. To encourage the formation and implementation of national policies, strategies and actions which are in harmony with regional policies.
5. To explore possible options for the reorganization of agriculture, including the administrative structure(s) and private/public sector relationships required for the efficient and sustainable management of the agricultural development.
6. To strengthen the bargaining positions of individual Ministers at the national and international levels.

Unpleasant Trend may Lead to Overflow of Communal Bins.



Outsider using Communal Bins

The entity responsible for the management of waste on the island has been expressing deep concern regarding an unpleasant trend, which has been unfolding. As explained by the Acting Public Relations Manager of the Solid Waste Management Authority, Emlyn Jean, persons using bins that are outside of their own communities to dispose waste is at the root of the

problem. Ms. Jean indicated how clearly unfair this practice was to persons who live in these communities, as they are deprived of the use of the bins, which were meant to serve them.

"We would like the public to know that the placement of bins is not a haphazard activity that we undertake along with our waste disposal contractors. These bins are intended for persons who live in

communities where the waste cannot be collected at their doorstep. What we do is conduct a count of households in order to determine the location and the number of bins to be allocated to the various areas. Now, if we have persons from outside carrying waste to the communities, it means that no provisions would have been made for the storage of the excess waste generated from the communities", commented Ms. Jean during a discussion with the Government Information Service.

To compound the problem, some motorists have been seen indiscriminately flinging bags of waste in the vicinity of communal bins. SLWMA authorities suggest that the problem stems primarily in the north of the island. The Authority is appealing to persons who are responsible for such conduct to desist from this type of behaviour and follow the waste disposal schedule for their own communities. The seriousness of the problem has prompted the Authority to advise concerned members of the public to write down the registration number of motorists caught in the act.

together expertise within government to deal with low cost improvements, particularly in areas that are in need of slope stability.

The MOSSAIC programme is targeted primarily at communities in the Castries basin where houses are built on very steep slopes making drainage a serious problem with the potential for landslide risk. Professor Anderson indicated, that as a result of that particular situation, the community of Skate-town, which is nestled between the upper Sunbilt area and Bois Patat in Castries was identified. "We have developed a very inexpensive way of forming drains that in-fact, almost any of the residents could afford to implement round the house", Professor Anderson said.

The MOSSAIC project involves constructed drains consisting of plastic overlain by a wire mesh to keep the plastic in place. "This type of drainage is approximately a tenth of the cost of concrete drains," said the Professor, adding, "residents can themselves construct these drains around their properties to keep away water, channelling it instead, into concrete line culverts."

According to Professor Anderson, the residents of Skate-town were able to construct forty feet of drainage in approximately two hours.



Professor Malcolm Anderson

An Inter-Ministerial group has been formed to take ownership, inter-change ideas and effect improvements to the management of slope stability in communities (MOSSAIC).

MOSSAIC is the brain child of Professor Malcolm Anderson of the University of Bristol in the United Kingdom. The main objective is to establish joint research, development and

training activities in the areas of slope stability and hydrology in Saint Lucia. The project was implemented on the basis of a Memorandum of Understanding signed between the Government of Saint Lucia, through the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, and the University of Bristol.

Speaking on the GIS television programme "Interview", Professor Anderson says, the intention is to bring

**St. Lucia
Taking Steps to
Improve Slope
Stability**

Greater Foreign Investment Looms Following Overseas trip by NDC officials

St. Lucia may be in store for some major hotel and tourism investment opportunities in the months and years to come. This opportunity arose out of the 8th Annual Caribbean Hotel and Tourism Investment Conference, which was held in Jamaica from the 10th to the 13th of May, 2004. A 3-member team, comprising General Manager of the National Development Corporation (NDC), Wayne Vitalis, NDC's representative in New York, Carl Pilgrim and Chairman of the NDC, Michael Chastanet.

Mr. Vitalis in a press conference on Tuesday, spoke about the links his organisation had made with Spanish investors and developers, who were at the just concluded conference. "We are now dispatching one of our officers to join Pro Invest on a road show, which will be held from the 27th of May. At that event he is expected to meet and hold further discussions with two Spanish hotel developers we made contact with at the

last conference. He is also expected to meet in Punta Majoka, some major players in the hotel industry from Spain", he said.

The NDC general manager also raised the point that Spanish developers were quite impressed by the incentives offered by the Government of St. Lucia, especially with regard to the Cricket World Cup scheduled for 2007. Mr. Chastanet said the team visited the RIU Hotel development in Negril, Jamaica, which was built by the Spanish. The Chairman said the team was very impressed with the project and in turn made additional efforts at attracting Spanish investment.

"Because of our efforts, we have encouraged the developers to visit St. Lucia, where we will make proposals to them as far as additional lands are concerned, and we are keeping our hands crossed that we can have RIU come into St. Lucia as soon as possible", Mr. Chastanet said.

At Tuesday's Press Conference, Mr. Chastanet made mention of a hotel to be



Potential Hotel Site

built at Bwa Chadon in Vieux-Fort. According to him, drawing of the hotel plans will commence soon, since all the necessary pre-requisites for construction of the hotel have been met. The hotel, which is expected to have a capacity of 360 rooms will be a Beaches Hotel owned

by the National Development Corporation. Whilst in Jamaica, the 3-member team visited a number of sites and locations, including the two companies E-services and Induca Global, both of which will be investing in St. Lucia.

Coubaril and Ciceron to be sensitized on new General and Psychiatric Hospital

A massive community sensitization campaign is to get under way in the areas of Ciceron and Coubaril in the coming days. The rationale is to heighten the awareness of the residents of those and surrounding areas to the necessity for them to understand the role, which they can play in ensuring the successful implementation of the new General and Psychiatric Hospital Complex earmarked for construction along side the new Millennium Highway.

This public sensitization and awareness initiative is part of the planning and designing process for this new General and Psychiatric Hospital, which is expected to serve the health demands of the population in the foreseeable future.

According to officials of the National Authorising Office (NAO) of the European Development Fund (EDF) which has overall responsibility for securing finance for the new hospital, it is important for residents of the two

communities to be made aware of a number of environmental and social issues they are likely to be confronted with, due to the implementation of this project.

Among the issues to be highlighted are, construction impact, such as noise and pollution; operational impact, including the care of mental patients, sirens and biomedical waste disposal; and traffics issues and real estate investments, threats and or opportunities. The community meetings will, among other things stimulate

discussions on these issues; provide relevant information on the background, scope and time frame for the implementation of the project, as well as the Government's overall health sector reform programme.

The meeting for the Ciceron residents will be held at the Ciceron Community Centre on Thursday, May 27th at 6.30pm while the meeting for the Coubaril residents will be held at the Mount of Prayer Monastery on Tuesday, May 25th at 5.30pm.

Dr. Yates Introduces Graspmatyx to St. Lucian Students

Graspmatologist, Dr. Richard Yates has been promoting the perception of Graspmatyx, a simplified method of practicing mathematics. Speaking on the Government

Information Service (GIS) Interview programme Tuesday, Dr. Yates emphasized the necessity to help students overcome the fear of maths. According to Dr. Yates, the British and



Dr. Richard Yates (left) talking to GIS' Primus Hutchinson

American math systems are base on concepts and not perception.

According to Dr. Yates, when one looks at the way the European do maths in comparison to the Chinese, to the Japanese and most aborigines and indigenous peoples of Africa or whether it be Australia or even the Caribs and Arawaks it is found that the European maths is based on Greek mysticism and concepts.

Dr. Yates says based on his research, he has discovered that most people, who are exposed to the European way of doing maths, fear maths; but people who learnt the Asian way of doing mathematics do not have a fear of it because it is taught based on perception and not conception.

"In essence, this programme that I have called Graspmatyx is designed to help adults, teachers, educators and students overcome the apprehension, intimidation and fear of maths." Dr. Yates said.

According to the esteemed educator, "different islands in the Caribbean are

showing appreciation for this approach to maths because they are failing their maths exam terribly." Dr. Yates is of the view that fear exist "because no one has bothered to find out why math is not appreciated." Math he notes should be taught as a language incorporating perceptions as oppose to conceptions.

Dr. Yates defines perception as one's view (insight, awareness, discernment) of things as they are. However, the generally accepted mode of thinking or conception, according to Dr. Yates denotes a false view of a thing that is accepted as reality. By applying perception Dr. Yates says one can learn through Graspmatyx the composition of numbers.

Dr. Yates teaches the original symbols for the composition, arrangement and selection of numbers and letters in all languages universally.

For additional information, log on to graspmatyx.com

Caribbean Internet Fiesta 2004 Coming

It's New, It's Exciting, It's Informative!... It's for YOU!

Free Computer Orientations and Hands-on Introductory Sessions on the use of the Internet, including setting up e-mail accounts.

Free Internet access with Multi-media Internet Displays and Special Cyber Attractions. (the list of locations will be

available at the Castries Town Hall on Monday, May 24th).

Open Forum on "IT and Tourism" on Monday, May 24th from 6:30pm-9:00pm at the NIC Conference Center. There will be presentations from key players in the private and public sector on the use and potential of Information Technology and the Internet in the Tourism Industry.

Exciting Competitions:

Web Builder's Challenge

School IT Lab Competition

Coding Competition- a programming marathon between Martinique and St. Lucia.

Please see <http://www.caribbean-internet-fiesta.org> or <http://www.stlucia.gov.lc> for further details on the above events.

Internet Fiesta activities will commence from 10am on Monday, May 24th with an opening address by the Patron of the event, the Hon. Prime Minister Dr. Kenny D. Anthony. Activities continue throughout the day, until 6pm, at the Castries City Hall and until 3pm on the following day, at the same venue.

Internet Fiesta activities will also be held in the communities of:

- Gros-Islet on Tuesday, May 25th;**
- Vieux-Fort on Wednesday, May 26th;**
- Laborie on Thursday, May 27th; and**
- Soufriere on Friday, May 28th.**

All venues will be open from 10am to 6pm.

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Multi Media Internet Displays and Special Cyber Attractions Islandwide

Castries at the Town Hall - May 24th

Gros Islet Gros Islet Primary School - May 25th

Vieux Fort Technical Institute - May 26th

Laborie Girls Primary School - May 27th

Soufriere Computer Academy - May 28th

VENUES OPEN FROM 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Caribbean Internet Fiesta 2004

May 24th to 29th

Special Features:

IT and Tourism Open Forum - NIC Conference Center: May 24th, 6:30 p.m.

Coding 'After' Party - Sir Arthur Lewis Community College: May 29th, 8 a.m - 8 p.m

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NTN THIS WEEK ON NTN

May 22nd – May 30th, 2004

World Cup 2007 Press Briefings in St. Lucia and Barbados – Sat. May 22nd 8p.m.

- The GIS speaks with Dr. R. Yates on an innovative but simple method to teach mathematics - Monday May 24th 6:15 p.m.
- Jazz Files 2004 – featuring performances at the Pigeon Island National Landmark – Monday May 24th, 9:00 p.m.
- The St. Lucia Solid Waste Management Authority Presents A Short Feature on Composting – Tues. May 25th, 6:15 p.m.
- The GIS speaks with an official of the Department of Continuing Education of the SALCC - Wed. May 26th, 6:15 p.m.
- KiddiCrew.com – Thursday May 27th, 8:00 p.m.
- Special hour long discussion on the Environment – Panellists: David Vitalis, Gregor Williams and Vincent Sweeney. Moderator: Barbara Jacobs Small - Thursday May 27th 9p.m.
- Remember to tune in for:
- GIS News Breaks and Kweyol News daily from 6:30 p.m.
- Issues & Answers/Mondays at 8:00pm:
- Interview/Tuesdays at 6:15pm :
- Konsit Kweyol/Tuesdays at 8:00pm (Kweyol Discussion):
- Your Right to Know/Thursdays at 6:15 p.m. (Min. of Ed. Prog).
- Take 2/Fridays at 6:15pm (Week in Review)
- Weflechi/Fridays at 6:40pm - (Week in Review—Kweyol)

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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