



# NATIONWIDE

A publication of the Department of Information Services



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**Julian Robert Hunte makes his  
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**\* Pope John Paul II recognises  
his contribution**



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# Julian Hunte Receives Award from Pope John Paul II



**H**is Holiness the Pope, John Paul II has given a major recognition to Julian R. Hunte, Minister for External Affairs, International

**Trade and Civil Aviation, and President of the Fifty-eighth Session of the United Nations General Assembly.**

Minister Hunte is to receive the

Knight of the Grand Cross Pian Order, in recognition of his accomplishments at the United Nations, during his Presidency of the General Assembly.

Mr Hunte is especially commended for the major role he played in the consensus adoption of the General Assembly resolution entitled “Participation of the Holy See in the work of the United Nation’.

In accepting the award, Minister Hunte acknowledged the tremendous support his Presidency has received from Prime Minister, the Honourable Dr. Kenny D. Anthony and the Government and people of Saint Lucia; the members of his Cabinet; the Governments of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM); and other States of the Latin American and Caribbean Group.

The award will be bestowed on Minister Hunte by His Eminence, Cardinal Angelo Sodano, Secretary of State of the Holy See, at a ceremony to be held on September 19, 2004, in New York.

In making the announcement, Dr. Anthony said, “The Government and People of Saint Lucia are justifiably proud of Minister Hunte’s accomplishments, and for the commendation he has received from His Holiness the Pope”. He noted that the award would serve to strengthen the already close ties between the Government and People of Saint Lucia and the Holy See.

Mr. Hunte, this week, addresses the role and relevance of the United Nations and shares his experience, during a two-day official visit to Surinam.

The visit comes amid concerns in the Caribbean over the United Nations’ capacity to face the challenges of globalization, poverty, or the spread of pandemics affecting the region today.

President Hunte will meet with Surinam’s President, Runaldo Ronald Venetiann; Vice-President, Jules R. Ajodhia; and the Speaker of the Surinamese National Assembly, Ramdien Sardjoe.

Mr. Hunte will be the keynote speaker at an event to be hosted by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Surinam, Maria Levens on Wednesday evening, July 28. He and Minister Levens will also hold a joint press conference earlier in the day.

In the last few months, Mr. Hunte has proposed a series of reforms of the 191-member inter-governmental body. These reforms were unanimously accepted by the General Assembly and hailed as a significant step to increasing the Organization’s effectiveness and better enable it to face the challenges of the 21st Century.

Mr. Hunte has also stressed the need to implement the United Nations Millennium Development Goals, one of the priorities of the 58th Session. “It is where our real battle lies”, he has repeatedly said, noting, “This is war against poverty, against disease, instability, and for human rights and fundamental freedoms”.

In addition to his UN post, Mr. Hunte is St. Lucia’s Minister of External Affairs, International Trade and Civil Aviation; a Senator; a Justice of the Peace; and a business executive. He has had extensive experience in the multilateral process, and has a keen interest in the issues of regional cooperation and the role of small states within the United Nations.

President Hunte is to leave the city of Paramaribo on July 29.

past three years. Last year, the group hosted performances of the popular musical Sarafina. In 2002, it organised

a panel discussion on the theme “1834-2002: Rights and Freedom. What have we gained? What do we still need to gain?”

## Emancipation Day Celebrations Feature Master African Drummer

**M**aster traditional drummer, Bou Mohammed Ndiaye from Senegal, West Africa will perform in the Laborie Village Square this Sunday, August 1, 2004, from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m., as part of Emancipation Day celebrations, which will involve musical performances, speeches and other cultural presentations.

The activities are being organised by Labowi Promotions, with support from the Cultural Development Foundation and the Alliance Française.

Mr. Ndiaye’s performance will be the highlight of the evening. He is a member of one of the most prominent drumming families in West Africa, where the art of drumming and storytelling is passed on from generation to generation, and where only a few families are recognised as performers.

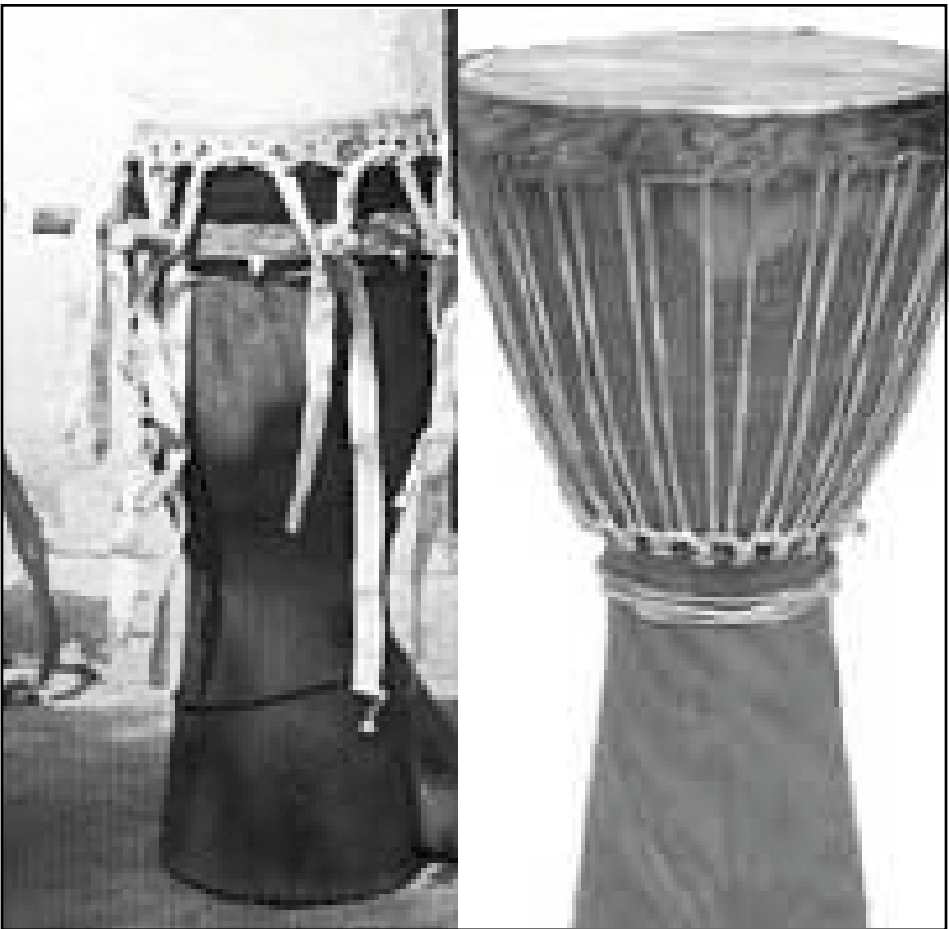
Initiated to music by his father, a guitarist and singer, and his mother, a singer and dancer, Mr Ndiaye has performed internationally, sharing the scene with some of the world’s greatest

musicians, including Stevie Wonder, Miles Davis, the Rolling Stones and Stanley Clarke.

Music in general, and drumming in particular are part of everyday life in Senegal, and each ethnic group has specific styles and specific musical instruments. One of the most common drums used in Senegal is the Djembé, which comes from the Mandingo land, but is now used all over West Africa. In his performance on Sunday, master drummer, Bou Ndiaye will present the various drums that are used in his country, and illustrate some of the main rhythms.

The theme of this year’s Emancipation Day in Laborie is “Celebrating All Freedoms”. It has been chosen to commemorate the abolition of slavery, but also to relate this commemoration to the liberation of all citizens and to the need to preserve freedom in all aspects of modern life.

Labowi Promotions has been commemorating Emancipation Day for the



African Drums

# PM Anthony discusses Projects with USAID

**Adolfo Franca, head of the Latin America and Caribbean Bureau of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), paid a courtesy call on Prime Minister, Dr. Kenny D. Anthony on Tuesday, July 27, 2004.**

Mr. Franca pledged USAID's continued support to the development of St. Lucia. He and Dr. Anthony discussed a variety of development issues affecting the island, ranging from trade and competitiveness to the HIV/AIDS pandemic, and in particular, Dr. Anthony emphasised the need to increase employment through higher levels of investment.

His trip to the region will give him the opportunity to see, first hand, some

of the activities in which USAID is involved. Mr. Franca hopes to build on public/private-sector alliances in the region and in the U.S. to increase investments in critical development areas in the region.

Emphasis during Mr. Franca's visit will be placed on issues relating to trade, HIV/AIDS, and the environment. These are areas in which USAID has played a critical role with both government and non-governmental agencies (NGOs) in the region.

USAID's five-year (2000-2004), US \$64.3 million Caribbean Regional Program (CRP) focuses on four strategic themes: Economic Growth; Environmental Management; Administration of Justice; and Managing HIV/AIDS.

Funding to date for St. Lucia is estimated at US\$4.6 million, which includes both direct assistance to St. Lucia and regional CARICOM-wide activities.

## **ECONOMIC GROWTH - US \$1.8 million to date**

St. Lucia benefits from programs that are helping the island become more competitive and more prepared for trade liberalization.

**Telecommunications:** Legislation developed through the Reform of the Telecommunications Sector project helped transform the telecommunications industry in the countries of the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS). The legislation enabled new providers to enter the market resulting in lower prices for telephone service, increased investment and job creation in the sector.

**Business Development:** Technical assistance from USAID's Small and Medium-sized Enterprise Development Project (SMED) helped several firms in St. Lucia — working in areas such as agro-processing, food and beverage production, metal works, and garment manufacturing — become more competitive, as well as increase their pro-

ductivity and export sales.

**Training:** The Caribbean Regional Internship Scholarship Program (CRISP) is building the region's human resource capacity in business-related topics, thus helping enhance competitiveness. Students who work in areas of finance, law, banking, trade and economics are benefiting from short-, medium- and long-term training in the US and the region. The region's preparation for trade liberalization is also being augmented by the recently initiated Masters in International Trade at the University of the West Indies, Cave Hill campus.

In addition, St. Lucia's teachers are improving their skills in the teaching of reading to primary school students

metrology systems and improvements in standards through the Caribbean Regional Organization for Standards and Quality (CROSQ). USAID is supporting CARICOM's effective participation in global trade negotiations through its assistance to strengthen the capacity of the Caribbean Regional Negotiating Machinery (RNM), which plays a pivotal role representing CARICOM in various international trade arenas such as the World Trade Organization (WTO) and the Free Trade Areas of the Americas (FTAA).

## **ENVIRONMENT - US\$1.1 million to date**

USAID is assisting private sector businesses in St. Lucia's tourism sector to recognize the importance of "greening" their operations and then to imple-

ment specific "greening" practices.

## **ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE - US \$0.7 million to date**

USAID is helping modernize the region's legal processes to strengthen the rule of law in the region.

**Dispute Resolution:** St. Lucia is a pilot country for the Alternate Dispute Resolution project through which over 100 disputes have been satisfactorily resolved. Best practices emerging from St. Lucia will be applied throughout CARICOM.

## **Court Modernization:**

St. Lucia's legal processes have been made more efficient under the Regional Case Reporting Program, the Modernization of the OECS Judiciary and the Modernization of Court Reporting Program. For example, courtrooms have been networked, thus facilitating real time filing and retrieval of cases. Every judge and registrar was provided with computers and/or laptops that are also linked to the court's network. USAID support to the Justice Education Institute of the OECS Supreme Court is providing training for OECS judges and masters.

## **Regional Legislative Drafting Facility:**

To facilitate timely implementation of the Caribbean Single Market and Economy (CSME), USAID is supporting CARICOM's Regional Legislative Drafting Facility, which is drafting or modifying laws addressing (1) CSME implementation at national and regional levels; (2) justice and security; and (3) HIV/AIDS.

## **HIV/AIDS - US \$1.0 million to date**

St. Lucia benefits from USAID support to regional programs implemented by the Caribbean Epidemiological Center (CAREC), the Caribbean Coalition of National AIDS Program Coordinators (CCNAPC), and Pan Caribbean Partnership Against HIV/AIDS (PANCAP). These programs are strengthening national surveillance systems; supporting development of national HIV/AIDS strategic plans; and strengthening HIV/AIDS clinical and diagnostic services.

Mr. Franco's July 25 to 30 visit, will take him to the islands of Barbados, St. Lucia, Dominica and St. Vincent and the Grenadines.



**Dr. Anthony in foreground listens to Adolfo Franca (R). With him are Karen Turner and Kevin McGlothlin. St. Lucia's Finance Director Tracey is at extreme left**

through the Centers of Excellence for Teacher Training (CETT) program. Under this initiative, in January 2004, St. Lucia's Sir Arthur Lewis Community College received 5,164 books valued at US\$56,000 that have been distributed to the seven primary schools participating in the program.

**Public Sector Modernization:** USAID's support to the multi-donor funded Caribbean Regional Technical Assistance Center (CARTAC) helped develop internationally sound off-shore banking laws and regulations. USAID is also supporting other assistance for St. Lucia through CARTAC in the areas of public expenditure management, financial sector management, tax and customs modernization, as well as strengthening of statistical databases. USAID-supported Food, Animal and Plant Health Legislation is helping St. Lucia increase its economic competitiveness, improve its access to export markets, and ensure the safety of imported and exported food products.

**Trade:** St. Lucia is benefiting from support through USAID's Caribbean Trade and Competitiveness (C-TRA-DECOM) program that is strengthening

ment specific "greening" practices.

## **Information Dissemination:**

Through a walk-in resource center in St. Lucia developed under the Small Tourism Enterprises Project (STEP), vital information is being disseminated on topics such as environmental management systems to tour operators, hoteliers, tourism officials, and others in the tourism sector. The information helps businesses identify and implement sound environmental practices in their operations.

**Environmental Management Systems (EMS):** Through the Caribbean Hotel Environmental Management Initiative (CHEMI) program, numerous tourism enterprises received training in EMS and requirements for environmental certification that helped them achieve significant cost savings by using more environmentally sound operating practices.

**Training Environmental Journalists:** Training in radio feature production and photography under the Caribbean Environmental Communications Initiative (CECI) helped improve regional reporting on environmental is-



# Politicians and Calypso: Our Best on Display

By Prime Minister Dr. Kenny D. Anthony in Conversation with the Nation



Dr. Anthony delivering his weekly radio address to the Nation

Hello St. Lucia,

Today and tomorrow, the best of all the colour and creativity from the Mas Camps and Calypso Tents around the island will be paraded before us. Our world will reflect a chorus of music and lyrics and a kaleidoscope of carnival colours. The competitive spirit will reign, but we'll have fun – just for fun --whether in sun or rain. The melodies of our musicians, the lyrics of our calypsonians and the costumes will culminate with a friendly but exciting clash of sound and song, colour and splendour. Such is the spirit of St. Lucia Carnival.

**No Carnival without Kaiso**

But we cannot talk about carnival without talking about calypso.

People always ask me how I feel when calypsoes are sung about me. As you know I am a big calypso fan. So too are the Ministers of Government. Mario Michel, for example, is an unfazed fan. He attends all the tents! So too does Ignatius Jean, Felix Finnisterre, Ferguson John and our own Damian Greaves.

I never miss the finals, for example. I guess at first, it was a little strange to listen to a song about myself. At the shows, I catch people sneaking glances at me, trying to see how I will react when the song is about me or the government. To be honest, sometimes I wonder - should I clap loudly? Should I smile, or should I keep a straight face? Should I clap for a song that denigrates me, my family or persons who occupy high office in our country? But, generally, the song gets the better of you. You can't help applauding if it is good, or laughing out loud if it is funny.

**Humour, Wit And Picong**

You know, as with other types of calypsoes, I appreciate humour and wit. I enjoy good picong. To me, that is the real spirit and uniqueness of kaiso. For example, my wife and I love Bingo's calypso, "Kenny an' Tony." It was a very clever calypso. So too, we love Invader's "Take My Money" (better known as "Lajan"), and the gem "Pin Dook."

**Genuine Commentary**

I think most politicians appreciate fair and genuine political commentary

- whether it is in the calypso arena, or in the media generally. That is part of our democratic process, a part which we have redefined with our own calypso culture. Of course, calypsonians tend to be given more leeway, whether by us politicians, or by the public at large. Calypsonians tend to get away with a lot more. Actually, all entertainers do, although it can backfire on some occasions. Remember what happened to Janet Jackson when she bared her breasts. Look at the controversy surrounding Whoopi these days. But, I do think that, even with calypso, there is a line to be drawn. I don't think, for example, that a public figure, whether a politician or otherwise, should have his family held up to ridicule, just to score cheap points.

The public is generally turned off by those antics, anyway. And too, there is something to be said for respect for an office. I have seen it happen often in Trinidad - just as the public is turned off by raw smut, so too they get turned off by crude disrespect. They much prefer sauciness and innuendo.

So again, I come back to the point that much of the beauty of calypso has to do with the skill of the calypsonian --how he or she uses words, wit, humour, double entendre and so on.

**Calypsonians Need Politicians**

Of course, I am aware that once you become a politician, you grant the licence for every budding and established calypsonian to sing about you. After all, where would calypsonians be without politicians? Calypsonians need politicians. We are their prime fodder. Whenever a calypsonian is stuck, can't get an idea for a calypso, he or she can always rely on the politician. For sure, he knows that he will always get a response there. At least, I am happy that politicians are able to

provide them with an opportunity to explore their talents - no complaints there!

**Which is Worse**

I often wonder which is worse - being a politician who all the calypsonians completely ignore - or are afraid to sing about, or being the butt of every calypsonian's pen.

Not all of these calypsonians are political opponents, as some people assume. It is all part of the show. Some of them meet me and say "Boss, I will be singing a calypso on your head this year but don't worry, I still support the party".

It is just not fashionable to praise politicians who are in office. I suspect that it is not an accepted part of the game. Even if someone wanted to sing a complimentary song, his fellow calypsonians and indeed, the "Tent Pinez" might invite him off the stage. It is simply not acceptable to praise the government of the day.

**Positive Political Calypsoes**

But, then again, there are positive political calypsoes in a broader sense. Politics is not just about politicians. Occasionally, there are some inspiring calypsoes which speak to the broader

political process - where we should be heading as a people - our responsibility as citizens of our country - to contribute, to build, and not to break down. Remember Robbie's song, "I know, there will be mountains to climb . . . I am gonna make it . . . With God on my side . . . I am gonna make it." Those

calypsoes are just as precious gems, or perhaps, even more precious, as the funny ones, the critical ones. They uplift even us politicians, who are faced with the daily, uphill battles of trying to make a difference - to improve the



Robbie

lives of our people. They remind us that we are not alone.

**Calypsoes Can Guide**

Sometimes, calypsoes say what many others want to say, but cannot, or are afraid to. And, don't think for one moment that calypsoes only speak for the general public. Sometimes, calypsonians are able to say what public figures, and even politicians, want to say, but cannot. Perhaps calypsonians are able to say it more frankly -- without offending anyone and without losing the message. Remember this line: "Little black boy - stay home and learn." Or what about this line: "You doh have no money - yuh getting a wife - Somebody go horn yuh..."

Then too, they can often explain political issues much more clearly - speak directly to what matters to people and speak with authority - and others listen because it comes from their own experiences and fears. Listen, for example, to how the public responded to Lady's Spice's song on the abortion debate.

So, calypsoes have important educational roles, not just to expose, or to make society aware, but also to instruct - to guide. Calypso is great fun - great entertainment - but it can also be a powerful force, a unifying force, a positive force.

**Long Live Calypso!**

May you have a wonderful Carnival – And, by the way, support our local entertainers too!



Bingo



Lady Spice



# Wake Up To the CSME

## — PM in Conversation with the Nation



Dr. Anthony at Caricom meeting

Hello St. Lucia,

I am actually abroad attending to the business of the OECS as I speak to you, today. This time, I am in the UK meeting representatives of the British Government and the Office of the Chancellor of the Judiciary. Our talks are about the decision by the British Government to abolish the post of Lord Chancellor of the Judiciary. You see, the Lord Chancellor plays a key role in the appointment and discipline of our Chief Justice.

Earlier this month, I also attended the 25th Caricom Summit in Grenada, where, along with other Heads of Government of our regional community, we deliberated on several matters of importance to the future of the Caribbean Community. One of the important issues discussed in Grenada had to do with the Caribbean Single Market and Economy, otherwise known as the CSME. So, every time you hear the CSME, it means the Caribbean Single Market and Economy.

### A Most Significant Development

When the CSME is established, it will be one of the most significant developments in Caribbean regional integration in recent years. It will have a major impact on regional economies, as well as on regional economic development. The CSME will bring dislocation, but it will also bring new opportunities and benefits to the people of Saint Lucia. It will also bring unparalleled competition in goods, services, manufacturing and trade. It is important, therefore, for us to try to understand it and prepare for it, as it will be a fact of life for each and every one of us from very early next year. Our lives and our economy will be changed by the CSME. We must prepare!

### One Regional Economy

When it is established, the CSME will lock all our national economies together and turn them into one economy. The CSME will remove all restrictions and barriers to trade and economic activity between member states for nationals of the region. This larger, unified economic space will make a positive difference to our economic growth. We will therefore have to stop

thinking of economic opportunities in terms of Saint Lucia alone. Instead, we will have to see the entire CARICOM region as a common economic space to be exploited by us all.

### Free Movement of Goods

The CSME will allow for the free movement of goods within the community. Goods produced in the CARICOM region, for example in Jamaica or Barbados, will not be subject to import duties, tariff and quantitative restrictions in any member state. Equally, our products will be able to enter other Caricom markets on similar terms. That means our producers and manufacturers in St. Lucia will now be able to sell their products more easily in the regional market. Greater penetration of the regional market by Saint Lucian entrepreneurs will lead to greater economic activity here at home.

### Free Movement of Capital

The CSME will allow for the free movement of capital. Our people will now have the right to move capital from one member state of the community to another -- from Saint Lucia to another member state and vice versa - - to invest in any member state, to buy shares in companies in any member state without having to obtain permission to do so or having to be subject to restrictive requirements. A wider capital market will now be available for our businessmen and business places to raise funds for investment. In other words, businessmen will be able to raise loans in Barbados or Trinidad & Tobago if better rates of interest are offered in those islands. Just imagine, it will become possible for a Barbadian or Jamaican to use a Charge Card at a store in St. Lucia and have his or her

account debited immediately in his or her home country.

Our nationals will now have the right to acquire land, and other property in any CARICOM member state without the restrictions that currently exist, such as Aliens Landholding Licences. Nationals of other Caricom states will have similar rights in Saint Lucia.

### Free Movement of People

The CSME will provide for free movement of people across the region. This has already involved the removal of work permits across the region for University Graduates and Media Workers. It will be extended to musicians, sportspersons, artists, other skilled service providers, businessmen, self-employed persons, thereby allowing such persons to be employed in any member state of the CARICOM community. Procedures are already in place to recognize degrees and certificates. The free movement of persons will, in time, be facilitated by a common travel document that will do away with the current hassles that many CARICOM nationals now encounter when travelling through the region. Complementing the free movement of persons and workers is a social security agreement that allows for the transfer of social security benefits from one CARICOM country to another. St. Lucian graduates who are unable to find employment in Saint



Len Ishmael, Director General, OECS

Lucia can now move freely to another Caricom country in search of employment. Likewise, graduates from other islands will be entitled to seek employment here in St. Lucia. We have to put our dislikes and prejudices aside.

### No Discrimination

Under the CSME, we cannot discriminate in favour of our local people. We have to treat Caricom businessmen and companies the same way we treat our businessmen and companies. So, for example, we cannot compel CARICOM companies to obtain a trade licence to do business in Saint Lucia if we do not require Saint Lucian businesses to obtain a trade licence. Likewise, we cannot exempt locally produced or manufactured goods from consumption taxes and charge or levy consumption taxes on CARICOM goods. All domestic and CARICOM products must be treated identically.

While these arrangements will present a challenge to our local entrepreneurs to be competitive, opportunities will also abound, as there will be a wider economy in which they may trade.

### Our State of Readiness

In terms of Saint Lucia's readiness for participation in the CSME, there are approximately forty pieces of discriminatory legislation that must be repealed or amended. Administrative measures will have to be put in place for Saint Lucia to be part of the CSME. Saint Lucia has already started to take action on these. A Task Force on the CSME has been established by the Cabinet of Ministers under my Chairmanship to finalise the process of Saint Lucia's participation in the CSME, and that Task Force has already begun its work.

Over the course of the year, the Task Force will be accelerating its programme to make Saint Lucia CSME-compliant by 2005. Public education programmes will also be undertaken to ensure that our people fully comprehend the CSME and what it will mean for us.

### A New Vista of Opportunity

We must not be afraid of the CARICOM Single Market and Economy. It will be challenging, but it is a challenge we must confront. If we want to compete in today's global market, we must prove ourselves in the regional arena and form regional partnerships and alliances for the international stage. The CSME is the platform for this. We must go boldly forward and seize the advantages that it can bring us.

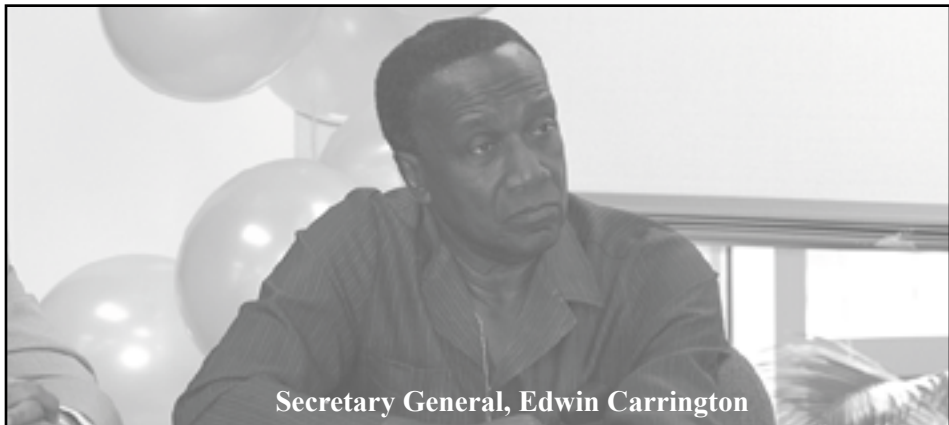
### We Are Part of the World

Having said all that, let me say that I also know that as a people we sometimes pretend that the rest of the world does not exist. But the rest of the world has news for us. We simply cannot expect to exist as if we are in a world of our own, on our own. The experience with our bananas should always remind us that we cannot hide from the rest of the world.

The tasks we face in the weeks and months ahead are many. We have lots to prepare for, including the Cricket World Cup 2007. But the CSME comes much earlier, before the World Cup. Indeed, according to the schedule, it will be here in just five months time, in January 2005.

We must put our shoulders to the wheel as we move from one phase of national and regional development to the next.

Once again, do have a nice day and enjoy the rest of the week. But please take care until next Monday.



Secretary General, Edwin Carrington



# Sir Dennis Byron Appointed to Privy Council

**Sir Dennis Byron, Chief Justice of the Eastern Caribbean, who spearheaded the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court Justice Reform Project, including the establishment of a Criminal Division as a pilot project in St. Lucia has been appointed to Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council.**

News of the appointment has been communicated to Sir Dennis by Britain's Prime Minister, Tony Blair.

Sir Dennis is currently on leave from the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court, serving as a Permanent Judge of the international Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, which operates from Arusha, Tanzania.

The title of Privy Counsellor is the latest to be conferred on Sir Dennis in recent times. Earlier this year, he was appointed as an Honorary Bencher of the Honourable Society of the Inner Temple.

Sir Dennis was appointed to the Court of Appeal of the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court in 1990. Before that, he had served as a High Court Judge in Antigua, Montserrat, Dominica and St. Lucia. In April 1999, he was appointed Chief Justice.

In recent years, Sir Dennis' reputation in the fields of Judicial Education and Judicial Reform has attracted attention in the international community. He is also the President of the Commonwealth Judicial Education Institute which is based in Halifax, Canada.

Although the Privy Council is a United Kingdom Institution, Members are appointed from some Commonwealth countries. Membership of the Privy Council is for life, and all Privy Counsellors are entitled to be styled "The Right Honourable".



The Right Honourable Dennis Byron

## Condolence Messages Continue to Pour in on Death of Sir George



Mary Kramer

**Messages of Condolence have been pouring in from regional and international friends on the passing away of St. Lucia's first Chief Minister, Sir George Frederick Lawrence Charles.**

The letters to Prime Minister, Dr. Kenny D. Anthony expressed sorrow, and hailed Sir George: the champion of democracy and welfare of workers.

Members of staff of the United States Embassy in Bridgetown, Barbados expressed sympathy. Ambassador Mary Kramer said, "His contributions to St. Lucia during its infancy clearly had a positive influence on the development of democracy in St. Lucia ... our thoughts and prayers are with the people of St. Lucia as they mourn the passing of this great hero".

Secretary of State, Colin L. Powell said, "Sir George helped to bring democracy to St. Lucia with courage and distinction. His country and the world community will greatly miss him".

The Government and People of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago extended heartfelt sentiments to the

family of the late Sir George.

Prime Minister of Grenada, Dr. the Honourable Keith C. Mitchell conveyed the sympathies of his Government and people to St. Lucia and to Sir George's bereaved relatives.

The Embassy of Japan has written to Prime Minister, Honourable Dr. Kenny D. Anthony upon learning of the passing of Sir George.

Vicente Fox Quesada, President of the United Mexican States has ex-

pressed deepest condolences, describing the late Sir George as a "renowned personality".

The Embassy of the Republic of Korea in Santo Domingo sent condolences to the nation on the death of Sir George F.L. Charles.

## Banjo Man: A Portrayal of Saint Lucia's Rich Cultural Heritage

**The Cultural Development Foundation in collaboration with the Jubilee Trust Fund is gearing to present a revival of the 1956 musical by Roddy Walcott, Banjo Man. This musical is one of the activities, marking Emancipation Month, which begins on Sunday, August 1, 2004. Banjo Man opens August 26, 2004.**

At a press launch on Wednesday, July 28, 2004, Executive Director of the Cultural Development Foundation, Teddy Francis described Banjo Man as a play that exposes and provides a deeper understanding of the island's rich cultural heritage, particularly to the present generation.

"We are confident that this production will serve, through the participation of the cast, they are really now for the first time understanding the very richness of this aspect of our culture, and we are happy to have this so concretise."

Monsignor Patrick Anthony, representing the Jubilee Trust Fund called upon the cast of Banjo Man to feel that they part of a national tradition: "It is not just a production of Banjo Man. Robert (Roddy Walcott) has

given you the history; that history is part of a long history of cultural resurgence; of a cultural renaissance that we hope will one day culminate in a national theatre here in St. Lucia."

Local Playwright and Consultant to the cast, Kendel Hippolyte said that the tremendous effort, which went into reviving and staging Banjo Man would manifest into some of the most eye-catching features of St. Lucia's architectural traditions.

Said Mr. Hippolyte: "Everything from the set design, which I think, when we see it, when the world sees it, when you as cast members see it, bring

together some of the architectural features of St. Lucia - the old time Jalousie, the eaves, and so on. When people look at this production visually, just to see the set and to see the costuming, before somebody speaks a word, before some one sings a line, we will be seeing St. Lucia celebrating ourselves with the rest of us."

Banjo Man is directed by George "Fish" Alphonse, with music by Barbara Cadet. The original music was composed by Charles Cadet.

The play is sponsored by AT&T Wireless to the sum of \$20,000 dollars.



Cast of Bajo Man at the launch

# Young People called upon to Engender Pride for things St. Lucian



Margot Thomas

**St. Lucia's rich heritage may be placed in jeopardy, if the younger generation does not engender pride for things St. Lucian.**

The observation was made by National Archivist, Margot Thomas. She said that younger persons might be more inclined to appreciate the heritage of European and other first world countries, while they denigrate their own St. Lucian heritage.

Mrs. Thomas who was at the time addressing the opening of the 16th Annual General Meeting of the Museums Association of the Caribbean now underway in Saint Lucia, believes that the youth need to be educated in this respect, with emphasis placed on national pride.

Says she: "It is clear to me that, much more needs to be done to instil

pride in our young people for their heritage, and to educate them on the whole concept of heritage. Apparently, we have been taking much for granted. We cannot ignore or denigrate our past and be whole or complete citizens, nor can we convey to the future generations a sense of pride for who we are as a people and the uniqueness of our place in the world."

Mrs. Thomas is of the view that the onus to promote, preserve, protect and engender pride in local heritage should not be the endeavour of any one particular group. She emphasised that each citizen should demonstrate pride in St. Lucia's historic documents, artefacts and sites.

The 16th Annual General Meeting of the Museums Association of the Caribbean will conclude here on July 31, 2004.

## Future Tourism Growth depends on Media Practitioners

**The survival and growth of the island's tourism industry depends largely on the reporting of various issues related to the industry by members of the local press.**

So said Director of Tourism, Mr. Hilary Modeste at the Second Annual Media/Tourism Conference on Tuesday, July 27th, 2004. He called on media managers to ensure that issues of tourism receive greater prominence.

Mr. Modeste is of the view that this can only be positively manifested with established specialised media practitioners at all media houses. "I know we are a small country and we do not have the resources that large countries have with large newspapers, and can have specialised correspondence and even travel correspondence. Nonetheless, once you are providing information, you must be knowledgeable about the situation from which that information is coming," he said.

Notwithstanding the mandate of the Saint Lucia Tourist Board to provide information and knowledge, media practitioners must be in a position to make comments, which can help the Saint Lucia Tourist Board and the wider society understand the mandate of the industry.

Mr. Modeste reminded the media workers that the tourism industry belonged to the wider society, as it earmarked to become the industry that would become the main force for economic growth in the future. "I think we all have a responsibility to under-

stand the dynamics of the tourism sector and this is what we are going to do this morning - to bring to you some of the main issues affecting the tourism sector," he said.

During Tuesday's Tourism Media workshop, a number of presentations, including The Tourism Industry Machinery; the Role and Work of the Saint Lucia Tourist Board; the Role and Work of the Ministry of Tourism; and Issues facing Caribbean and Saint

Lucian Tourism for the next ten years were on the drawing board for discussion.

There was also a panel discussion on "Issues Facing Caribbean and Saint Lucian Tourism for the next ten years."



## St. Lucia hosts Conference of Society for Free Radical Research-Africa

**Over thirty (30) renowned scientists from the international community have joined their counterparts in St. Lucia, along with other medical personnel for the 5th International Conference of the Society for Free Radical Research - Africa (SFRR-A).**

**"these diseases are very prevalent in the Caribbean and consume substantial financial resources in our health care budgets"**

The meeting, taking place at the Royal St. Lucian Hotel, seeks to establish among other things, science base relationships within the African, Caribbean and Pacific grouping. The overall objective is to build capacity for sustained growth in scientific research, in specialized areas focusing on medicinal plants and traditional medicines.

Former Agriculture Minister and now Minister for Home Affairs and Internal Security, Senator the Honourable Calixte George said that given the particular interest of the region in the chemistry of natural products, convening the four-day conference here was significant.

"It is clear that many important aspects of current research in the mechanisms of free radical antioxidants, along with interactions of oxidative stress

also play a critical role in the physiology of numerous diseases, such as hypertension, stroke, diabetes, cardiac diseases and cancers," he said, noting that "these diseases are very prevalent in the Caribbean and consume substantial financial resources in our health care budgets".

With increased medical challenges facing the scientific community, Senator George, himself a scientist has appealed to governments in the region to be more cognizant of the needs of medical researchers.

His sentiments have been fully endorsed by President of SFRR-Africa Dr. Okezie Aruoma, who is of the view that more resources must be allocated in terms of providing well equipped laboratories and an overall conducive environment for conducting research.



# Calypso Monarch Jany to Meet with Government Officials



St. Lucia's 2004 Calypso Monarch Jany Williams

**P**rime Minister, Dr. Kenny D. Anthony is to meet with St. Lucia's 2004 Calypso Monarch Jany Williams, as she prepares to launch her activity programme for the next three months.

The meeting with Dr. Anthony is part of a series of courtesy calls to various government officials and other interest groups, with the aim of lobbying the support for projects planned under the banner of her group, Caribbean Vizion.

Her first stop will be a visit to the Attorney General, Petrus Compton at 10 a.m. on Thursday, and at 11:30 a.m. she will meet with Minister of Social Transformation, Culture and Local Government, Hon. Menissa Rambally. Other officials scheduled to meet with Jany includes Minister of Education, Hon. Mario Michel; Governor General, Dame Pearlette Louisy; Minister of Tourism, Phillip J Pierre; Minister of

Health, Damien Greaves; the Poverty Reduction Fund; St. Lucia Hotel and Tourism Association (SLHTA); and the Cultural Development Foundation (CDF).

Issues to be raised include HIV/AIDS and its effect on the youth, Education and Culture, Tourism, Teenage Pregnancy, West Indies Cricket, Piracy, Cultural Exchange, Caribbean Vizion Educational School Tour, and the prospect of securing a multi-million dollar contract with a major recording company.

Performer/Composer Kurt Allen and Arranger Timothy Mondesir will also form part of Jany's entourage.

In the month of August, Jany will feature in an emancipation concert "Sisters and Brothers of Calypso in Concert" and a victory jam fete, and in September – October, the Caribbean Vizion Educational School Tour.

## Carnival Tuesday: Some of those who were there



### THIS WEEK ON NTN

July 30th – Aug. 6th, 2004

Special Emancipation Day Programming – Sun. August 1st, from 6:30 p.m.

- The Ministry of Education Presents "Technical Vocational Education in Action" – Friday July 30th, 7:10 p.m.

- The GIS speaks with Director General of the OECS – Dr. Len Ishmael – Saturday July 31st, 6:30 p.m.

- KUTUMBA – African Influences on St. Lucian Culture – Sunday August 1st, 6:30 p.m.

- The GIS speaks with General Manager of BELfund – Marcellus Joseph – Monday August 2nd, 6:15 p.m.

- The GIS discusses the pros and cons of the Caribbean Single Market and Economy (CSME) – Monday August 2nd, 8:00 p.m.

- Know Your Notes – Learning the features of the EC Dollar – Tues. August 3rd, 6:15 p.m.

- The Works of Dr. Joseph Edsel Edmunds – Wed. August 4th, 8:00 p.m.

- Nouvelle Nous Menm (An up-to-date Edition of Government News in Kweyol) – Thursday August 5th, 7:00 p.m.

- Disaster Management – A Key to Economic Development – Thursday August 5th, 7:30 p.m.

- Sports in Action with Joseph "Reds" Pereira – Friday August 6th, 8:00 p.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](http://www.stlucia.gov.lc) and then click on the NTN icon.

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