



# NATIONWIDE

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Cricket at Beausejour - Tourism and economic opportunities - pages 1 & 8



\$7.70M to improve Saint Lucia's water supply - page 2



Integrity Commission on Public Awareness Drive - page 4



Building friendship with China - page 6



The CARICOM Single Market  
Educating Saint Lucians on the CSME - page 7

## HEADING TO IRELAND TO DISCUSS INVESTMENT

**S**aint Lucia's Prime Minister Honourable Dr Kenny Anthony has been invited to participate in the launching of the Sapphire Cove Resort Project in Ireland.

Earlier this month the prime minister presided over the sod turning ceremony for the hotel project to be constructed in Laborie. The five-star resort is being constructed by Premiere Resorts to the tune of US\$380 million dollars.

Dr Anthony has described the project as a great and extraordinary partnership, indicating that Saint Lucia can now confirm that the island possesses a high end quality tourism product.

Premiere Resorts the Irish Corporation doing the Sapphire Cove Resort Project in Laborie will be hosting the Prime Minister in Ireland. Dr Anthony has also been invited to speak with investors in Ireland about opportunities for investing in Saint Lucia.

Prime Minister Anthony will leave the island on Sunday May 28th and will return on June 3rd.



Prime Minister Kenny D. Anthony with Irish Investors at the ground-breaking in Laborie



## CRICKET AT BEAUSEJOUR - TOURISM AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES

Saint Lucia hosted two One Day International Cricket matches against Pakistan on Saturday May 21st and Sunday May 22nd. The result of the game is now history, with the West Indies losing both games to Pakistan. During the recent games, the organising committee which included members

of the Saint Lucia National Cricket Association and Cricket World Cup Saint Lucia. A series of new measures including the park and ride and transportation plans and an enhanced security system for both match operations and officials were successfully tested. The organising committee will embark on

an extensive review process which will provide the information for the adjustment of operational plans to be implemented for future games at the Beausejour Cricket Ground. Saint Lucia will be hosting games in the Blue Group during Cricket World Cup 2007.



"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  
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# \$7.70M to improve Saint Lucia’s water service

**T**he World Bank has approved a \$7.70 million loan for St. Lucia to improve water service in the country. The announcement was made in Washington on May 19, 2005.

The project will improve the reliability of the water supply system of the Roseau Dam, the island’s only large reservoir, by increasing the flow of water to the north of St. Lucia as required to meet the current shortfall in water capacity in that area. Some components that would require upgrading include the Roseau Dam system pumping system, the system’s raw water transmission, the Theobalds Treatment Plant and the Morne Bocage distribution pipeline that will connect the Roseau system to the Hill 20 system.

“The project will help avert a worsening water supply crisis in the north

of the island, reduce the possibility of abandonment of the system by resorts and hotels, and help entice the equity contribution of private investors into the water utility sector, said Jordan Schwartz, World Bank task manager of the project.

The World Bank views improving access to water supply as essential for sustainable poverty reduction and critical for reaching the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in 2015. The St. Lucia Water Supply Infrastructure Improvement Project seeks to achieve the objective of the Bank’s Country Assistance Strategy for St. Lucia of creating an enabling environment for continued or increased private investment in sunrise industries and improving living conditions through increasing the efficiency of infrastructure provision.



**The TR Theobalds Treatment Plant**

The St. Lucia Water Supply Infrastructure Improvement Project will support an urgent investment program to carry out critical works to achieve two main objectives.

The first is to alleviate the water shortage in the north of the country, the most densely populated and developed region of the island. The infrastructure works proposed will allow the utility to supply the entire north of the island with a more efficient, continuous and reliable service.

The second objective is to implement urgent investments that will result in additional revenues, reduce the likelihood of commercial users abandoning the system and improve the potential of a successful partnership between the government and the private sector.

“A better water system will have im-

portant economic and social benefits for St. Lucia,” said Caroline Anstey, World Bank Director for the Caribbean. “A more reliable and continuous water supply will greatly improve the quality of life for the citizens of St. Lucia. Since the area impacted by this project not only contains the majority of the island’s residents but also the primary tourism development centers, the improved services will support economic growth and job creation as well.”

The \$7.70 million operation includes a \$3.85 million credit from the International Development Association, the part of the World Bank that provides interest-free loans, with a 35 year maturity and 10 years of grace, and a \$3.85 million, fixed-spread loan from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development with a 15 year maturity and a five-year grace period.



**A portable treatment plant**

## Managing marine species in the Caribbean

**T**he people of the region are to be further sensitized on the broad issues of sustainable use of the Caribbean’s marine resources. A two-day media sensitisation symposium held recently at the Marriott Resort in the St. Kitts and Nevis, drew representation from over two dozen regional journalists, who were brought up-to-date on the latest data coming out of research conducted by regional marine experts.

St. Lucia’s Chief Fisheries Officer Vaughan Charles, one of the resource persons to the symposium says the new data, currently being collected via a five-year Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) funded project in the OECS, will play a critical role in solidifying the Caribbean’s position at international fora such as the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) and the International Whaling Commission (IWC).

“We have to abide by what the science tells us and not by emotions,” the career fisheries official commented. “For a long time the other side and by that I mean the anti-whaling groups, conservationists and the like, lean and play on the emotions of the peoples of the region. They take whatever marine species that is important to us and turn them into cartoon characters in order to appeal to young people and others with various sensitivities to cause them to reject our traditional positions on the use of marine resources. However the science is what will dictate how we manage the resources of the region and this is why the research is so important,” says Mr. Charles.



**Chief Fisheries Officer  
Mr. Vaughn Charles**

St. Kitts & Nevis for its part is already laying the ground work for its historic hosting of next year’s IWC 58, one of the highest decision making fora affecting fisheries management the world over. With Caribbean states having been accused of “selling out” to Japan and other major whaling countries, regional Agriculture Ministers say now more than ever, the region’s position on whaling and other sustainable marine activities must be brought home to Caribbean folk.

St. Kitts and Nevis Minister for Housing, Agriculture, Fisheries and Consumer Affairs Honourable Cedric Liburd, believes that the media must play a significant role in national de-

velopment. As his country prepares to stop production and export of sugar cane with the 2004 harvest being the last, and having overheads of over three hundred million dollars (EC\$300 million), Minister Liburd says moves towards diversification of which fisheries will play a major role, can only succeed if all stakeholders, including the media, are keenly aware of all the issues and their impacts on the Caribbean.

Similar sentiments were expressed by Antigua/Barbuda’s Minister for Agriculture, Lands and Fisheries Honourable Joanne Massiah. According to Minister Massiah, “As an island which naturally is surrounded by water with a strong fishing tradition, we see such

a symposium in our best interest so that our people at home can understand in greater detail the issues which the international community are concerned about and why it is that we have formed certain alliances in the interest of the people of Antigua/Barbuda and in the interest of the people of the Caribbean.”

One of the co-ordinators of the symposium, fisheries expert Daven Joseph of Antigua and Barbuda says anti-whaling groups and conservationists have lobbied vigorously and in some cases resorted to threats of intimidation, tourist boycotts and violence against Caribbean fishers for the region’s position on whaling and its support for other nations who harvest marine mammals for commercial use. Mr. Joseph says the region’s efforts at defending its position should be taken up with similar determination.



**Sustainability - appropriate fishing technology**

# “Literacy” the theme for reading month 2005

## Address by the Minister of Education on reading month 2005

Every year at this time we celebrate Reading Month in St. Lucia to focus the attention of the nation on the importance of reading. We do this because we believe that reading is the key to open the door of knowledge.

One of the mandates of the Ministry of Education is to contribute to the emergence of a learning society in St. Lucia, that is, a society in which learning never stops, a society in which everyone is continually seeking to improve his or her level of skill and knowledge. And the most important element of this is reading.

At the present time the challenge of literacy is not simply about being able to read a book, it extends well beyond that and includes being able to communicate electronically, via the cell phone, the computer and the internet. But, notwithstanding the technological revolution of the last two decades, the simple ability to read and to understand and interpret what one has read is the core skill that one has to acquire.

When you are able to read properly you have the basic tool that is needed to continue learning; you can continue building your academic foundation; it is easier to acquire any skill; and you



Hon. Mario Michel, Minister for Education, Human Resource Development, Youth and Sports

library service to rural communities in the north of St. Lucia. The library bus is equipped not only to deliver books in areas where there are no public libraries but also to bring access to the internet and to multi media to these areas.

seven schools throughout the island and is already resulting in significant improvement in the reading ability of the children involved. What is most encouraging thus far is the progress being made by the boys in the pro-

celebration of Reading Extravaganza. The theme for this year’s celebration – “Literacy, the key to personal development and success” – is intended to help students, as well as adults, reflect on the importance of literacy as the foundation of learning, success in school and ultimately success in life.

As Minister of Education I want to encourage all students to participate in the activities that are planned at the school, district or national level. I also want to appeal to parents and well wishers to support the schools in their attempts to equip students with literacy skills. It is encouraging to note that several schools have organised workshops for parents to assist their children with reading and have included the media, the private sector and the general public in their celebration of Reading Extravaganza. It is also encouraging and indeed commendable that the Think Caribbean Television Network has given our secondary school students the opportunity to read the four o’clock news on a daily basis during Reading Month, while Radio St. Lucia has aired the views and comments of our primary school students on matters related to reading. Literacy is everybody’s business and it is always very



Children start reading at an early age



A reading session with infant school children

can assimilate knowledge about anything that suits your interest. Reading not only provides the basis for learning to learn, but it is also a window of the imagination that opens up the mind to the great thinking of all the ages. When we read the thoughts of the great men and women of history our minds participate in a dialogue with theirs that helps to build our own intellects. When we read novels, poetry and creative works, our minds imagine new possibilities and we strengthen our own ability to think creatively. When we read about different people and different cultures we build a better understanding of these people and cultures and with better understanding comes greater tolerance.

It is for all of these reasons we have placed so much importance on reading. The Ministry’s efforts have been geared to helping the schools to place a renewed emphasis on these fundamentals. There are several initiatives that we have undertaken in recent times towards this end, including:

Firstly, the introduction of a mobile

Secondly, we are part of a US-sponsored regional project called CETT (Centre for Excellence in Teacher Training) aimed at improving teacher excellence and student ability in reading. This project is now operating in

gramme, since they have been shown to be weaker in reading than the girls. We will be seeking to apply the lessons learnt from this experience to the rest of the education system.

And, of course, there is the annual

encouraging to see various persons and entities participating in the drive for literacy.

I want to commend those teachers and school principals who have been really committed to strengthening literacy in their schools and who have exercised so much effort and displayed so much creativity in helping our children to master the fundamentals.

I also want to commend the parents who have been involved and to appeal to those who have not been to play an active part in Reading Month by reading to and with your children as a regular daily practice at home.

Reading is the key to open the door of knowledge. Reading is the window that opens the imagination to unseen vistas. Reading is the foundation on which all learning is constructed. Reading is the vehicle that drives us down the highway of learning. Let us all keep reading and learning.

I thank you and wish you a happy Reading Month.



An activity for reading month



# Integrity Commission on Public Awareness Drive

**T**he Integrity Commission, set up to monitor the income, assets and liabilities of persons in public life has embarked on a major awareness and sensitization campaign to inform government officials and members of the public of its role and functions. The five member bipartisan commission, established under the Integrity in Public Life Act No. 6 of 2004, is appointed by the Governor General Her Excellency Dame Pearlette Louisy on the advice of the Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition.

The commission was established to:

- (a) Receive, examine and retain all declarations filed with it under this Act;
- (b) Make such enquiries as it considers necessary in order to verify or determine the accuracy of the declaration filed under this Act;
- (c) Receive and investigate complaints regarding non-compliance with or breach of this Act.

Commissioner Mr. Emmanuel Theodore, a city businessman and retired banker, says persons in public life, which include parliamentarians encompassing Members of the Upper House or Senate, chief technical officers and senior government officials should acquaint themselves with the Integrity in Public Life Act to ensure compliance with the law.

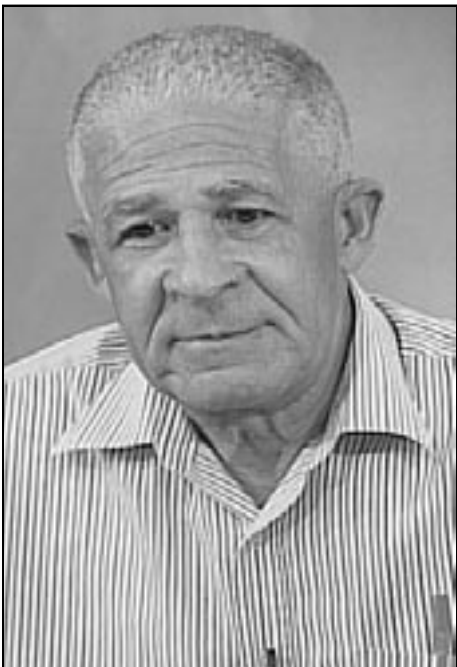
Mr. Theodore says to date, two-thirds of the persons required to file declarations under the law have done so. According to him, “If they familiarize themselves with the provisions and they know what is required of them, then the interaction between the Commission and the person in public life would be much easier and that in turn would facilitate a more willing attitude on their part to submit their declarations in accordance with the Act.”

A handbook detailing the functions and scope of operations of the Integrity Commission has been published. Commissioner and journalist David Vitals says for the past six years, the Commission has attempted to lay the appropriate infrastructure that would effectively fulfil its mandate of helping to maintain integrity in the life of public officials.

The commission’s work, Mr. Vi-



**Mr. David Vitalis**  
Commissioner



**Mr. Emmanuel Theodore**  
Commissioner

report, then you should document it in the best way you can and get it to the secretary of the Commission, who will initiate the appropriate action,” says Vitalis.

Under the Act the public is encouraged to participate in the work of the Commission, but all information, including the submissions by public officials will be treated with the strictest confidence.

“Every member of the Commission and every person performing any function in the service or as an employee of the Commission shall treat all declarations, records or information relating to such declarations as secret and confidential and shall not disclose or communicate to any unauthorised person or allow any such person to have access to any such records, information or declarations.”

The following “persons in public



**Government Buildings - main Government Offices in Castries**

tals says, however depends heavily on public participation. “If they, meaning members of the public, realize that there is wrongdoing and that somebody is in violation of the Act, then they have

to make a formal complaint. A true and formal complaint no matter how vague it may sound is really a complaint in good faith. If you have reason to believe that there is something you must

life” are required to file declarations with the Integrity Commission: (1) Member of the Senate and of the House of Assembly; (2) Ministers of Governments; (3) Parliamentary Secretaries; (4) Chief Technical Officers in Government Ministries and Heads of Department; (5) Speaker of the House of Assembly; (6) President of the Senate; (7) Secretary to the Cabinet; (8) Attorney-General; (9) Permanent Secretaries and Deputy Permanent Secretaries; (10) Parliamentary Commissioner; (11) Heads of Diplomatic Missions of Saint Lucia accredited to any country or any international organization; (12) Commissioner of Police, Superintendent of Prisons, Chief Fire Officer and their deputies; (13) Managing Directors and Managers of banks in which the State has a controlling interest; (14) Chairperson, Managing Director, General Manager, Chief executive Officer and departmental head of a public corporation, company or public institution in which the State has a controlling interest; (15) Director of Audit; (16) Director of Public Prosecutions

The Integrity Commission is chaired by Archdeacon Randolph Evelyn and the secretariat is housed on the first floor of the Sir Stanislaus James Building on the Waterfront.



**Members of Parliament top the list of persons in public life**

# Beijing Officials welcome Saint Lucia Friendship Delegation

**T**he establishment of the St. Lucia-China Friendship Association (SLCFA) and its agreement with the foremost non-governmental friendship association in the People's Republic of China has been welcomed as a positive and progressive step that will enhance people-to-people relations between the two countries and serve as a model for other Caribbean countries.

That's the view of Madame Li Xiaolin, Vice President of the Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries (CPAFFC). Addressing a signing ceremony at which she signed a Memorandum of Understanding for Joint Cooperation between the SLCFA and the CPAFFC, Madame Li noted that the establishment of the SLCFA was the first of its kind in the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS).

She said that while similar associations already exist in Guyana and Jamaica, "this first association of its type in the OECS will serve as an example for other OECS



**Hon. Velon John**  
Vice President CPAFFC



**Mr. Earl Bousquet**  
President CPAFFC

established relations with the mainland. The St. Lucia delegation heard similar sentiments expressed at China's two leading international media houses, China Central Television (CCTV) and the Xinhua News Agency. Deputy Editor in Chief of CCTV Sun Bingchuan said he was pleased to learn that St. Lucians were learning more about China through CCTV-9, the station's international English-language channel, which is viewed on St. Lucia's National television Network (NTN).

Members of the delegation toured the giant TV station and met with some of the news presenters whose faces grace their screens at home on CCTV-9. At Xinhua, the St. Lucia delegation met the agency's Deputy Editor in Chief Mr. Liu Jiang and Ms Cao Yang of its Foreign Affairs Department. Mr. Liu noted that China now has diplomatic relations with 12 of the 15 independent member-states of Caricom and said the increasing contact will eventually result in greater coverage of the region by his agency, which still covers the Caribbean out of its regional offices in Mexico and New York.

While in Beijing, the St. Lucia delegation also met with the Deputy President of the Bank of Beijing, Mr. Zhao Rui An, whose institution is only 10 years old, but employs 3,600 staff at 118 branches in the nation's capital, with a total asset base of US \$600 billion. Chairman of the Bank of St. Lucia Mr. Victor Eudoxie, who is a member of the SLCFA delegation, explained to his counterpart that while the two banks were not of the same size, they shared a common history as they both emerged from mergers and each had emerged successful in 2004 after eight lean years.

While in Beijing, the SLCFA delegation also participated in several visits to places of interest, including the Beijing Planning Exhibition Hall, where they saw scale models and three-dimensional (3-D) audiovisual displays of how the city evolved, what it looks like today and what it will look like when construction of new facilities for the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games are completed.

The delegation visited several places of global touristic interest in Beijing, including the Badaling Section of The Great Wall of China, the Forbidden City, Tian'an Men Square and the Summer Palace. They also attended a special show at the Beijing Opera and visited the Beijing Zoo. After three days and four nights in Beijing, the St. Lucia delegation left for Xiamen Island on May 21 for the second leg of their 10-day stay in China. The delegation from the SLCFA comprises: Earl Bousquet (President), Velon John (Vice President), Victor Eudoxie (Treasurer), David Vitalis (Public Relations Officer), Michelle Charles (Secretary) and Lucy Alexander (Assistant Secretary).



**Prime Minister Dr. Kenny Anthony on a visit to China**

and Caribbean Community (Caricom) states of what can be achieved in bringing distant peoples together in the interest of friendship and solidarity." Madame Li is also Vice President of the China-US Friendship Association and President of the China Friendship Foundation for Peace and Development and her sentiments were echoed by other Chinese leaders met by the SLCFA delegation during their five-day stay in the Chinese capital, Beijing.

Luan Yutao, who is a top official of the Chinese Parliament, the National People's Congress (NPC), told the visiting St. Lucia delegation that the establishment of the ties of friendship and solidarity between the SLCFA and the CPAFFC "will certainly help bring the people of the two countries closer through activities aimed at fostering closer understanding based on peace, friendship and cooperation for development." Mr. Luan, who met the SLCFA delegation at the reception hall of the Great Hall of the People in Beijing, said he was also pleased that the delegation from St. Lucia included a legislator, Mr. Velon John (the Member of Parliament for Laborie and the island's Minister of Labour relations, Public Service, Public Sector Reform and Cooperatives).

Hon. Velon John said there was wide scope for increased contact between the two countries and their respective people at both governmental and non-governmental levels. The Deputy Head of the Chinese Parliament (who is also the deputy Secretary General of the China-Oceania Friendship Association) said the NPC was pleased that relations were developing between the parliaments of St. Lucia and China.

He noted that a delegation from the NPC visited St. Lucia towards the end of 2004

and expressed pleasure that a reciprocal visit will be made next week by the Speaker of the St. Lucia House of Assembly Mr. Joseph Baden Allain and the President of the Senate Mr. Hilford Deterville. The visit to China by the two top parliamentary officials from St. Lucia, said Mr. Luan, will open the way for closer contact and co-operation between the parliaments of the two countries. The six-member St. Lucia delegation also met with senior officials of China's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, including Mr. Zeng Gang, Deputy Director General of the Ministry's Department of Latin American and Caribbean Affairs.

Mr. Zeng said the existing relations at a

governmental level between China and St. Lucia were strong, "but they will certainly be reinforced by the establishment of the SLCFA and the activities to be undertaken under the agreement between the SLCFA and the CPAFFC." Welcoming the SLCFA delegation at a special dinner hosted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Zeng said: "China holds special value for its relations with St. Lucia," which has seen several other Caribbean territories follow St. Lucia's lead in following a One China policy.

He noted that since St. Lucia and China established diplomatic relations in 1997, Dominica and Grenada have followed suit and broken relations with Taiwan and es-



**Saint Lucian delegation on visit to China**



# Building friendship with China

*The following is an address by M. Earl Bousquet, President of the St. Lucia-China Friendship Association at the Signing Ceremony of the Agreement Between the SLCFA and the Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries (CPAFFC) on May 18, 2005*

**D**ear Colleagues, my delegation and I are very happy to be here to sign this Accord of Friendship between the people of our two countries. It is like a tropical ant stretching a hand of friendship to a Giant Panda. But what could be a more symbolic act of genuine friendship?

Our Association was established on January 27, 2004. That was after a series of meetings and activities that followed a visit to the People's Republic of China in September 2003 by two members of our delegation. One led a group of Caribbean journalists and the other represented our Government at the China International Fair on Investment and Trade (CIFIT) which took place in Xiamen that year. On September 9, 2003, the entire day at that CIFIT was dedicated to the Caribbean. We, the 21 journalists from 12 Caribbean states, we so impressed with the hospitality we received that on the bus to the airport in Shanghai,



Chinese Ambassador addresses launch of the China-St. Lucia Association

ken relations with Taiwan and established ties with the People's Republic of China. Like us, they too have come to understand and accept that there is only one China; and like us, they too have never regretted making that move.

But let me tell you a bit more about our Association. We have been able to attract interest from all sections of our society. This is reflected in the nature of our delegation, which comprises the Executive Committee elected by our members. Our

or another; and, as I like to tell persons who ask why they should be members of our association, at any time of any and every day, each and ever one of us in any country in the world must be wearing or using something marked "Made in China". Truly, China is the world's factory. But more than that, economically speaking, China is the main mover of things on the world stage today. Indeed, we concur with the sentiment expressed in the editorial of the May 12, 2005 issue of the Beijing Review which says: "...in view of globalization and China's increasing role in the global arena, and Chinese progress can be interpreted as advantage to the international community. Economically speaking, when China gallops, the whole world may come along for the ride."

Colleagues and Friends, our Association shares the objectives of the Chinese People Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries. Like you, we too are committed to the aims of: enhancing people's friendship, furthering international cooperation, safeguarding world peace and promoting common development. These are noble goals to which we ascribe because, as a nation only 26 years old, we have come to understand and accept that there can be no progress anywhere in the world without friendship, cooperation, peace and development. These are the main factors that drive our country's relations with the rest of the world; and that is why we were able to

The Memorandum of Understanding or the Agreement which we sign today will further open doors for the broadening and deepening of our friendship between two countries and peoples a world apart, but united by our common goal and aspiration for world peace, solidarity and friendship. The avenues that have been created in the past year will certainly open roads that will bring our people even closer.

We know of the existence of friendship association in only two other Caribbean Community (Caricom) states (Guyana and Jamaica) and we are certainly glad to be the third in Caricom. But we are the first in the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) which comprises the six smallest Caricom member-states and we have no doubt that our example will be followed in the other islands and territories of the Caribbean. Indeed, with your support, we hope to be able to engage in activities that will bring together interested persons and organizations in the other Caribbean islands who may be interested in taking similar steps to organize national associations for friendship with China.

Our visit to China takes us to Beijing, Xiamen and Shanghai. As the host country for the 2008 Olympic Games, we look forward to St. Lucia's participation in and attendance at the Games of the next Olympiad in Beijing. Similarly, we look forward to St. Lucia's participation in the World Expo in Shanghai in 2010. In Xiamen, which exhibits similar island features as our own, we look forward to continuing St. Lucia's participation in the annual Caribbean Day at the China International Fair on Investment and Trade (CIFIT).

Before leaving St. Lucia, we were overwhelmed with inquiries as to what could be done to arrange for visits to China by members of our private and commercial sector who are interested in developing trade, economic and tourism ties with China. We have invited them to join our Association and promised that the recent agreements between China and five Caribbean countries signed in Jamaica in February at the first China-Caribbean Economic and Trade Cooperation Fair and Forum ought to re-



Section of the audience at the opening ceremony

we pledged before leaving China that we had to do something to reciprocate. It was on that bus to the Shanghai airport that we decided that the best way to say thanks would be to establish a Friendship Association. Here we are today as testimony to the seriousness of that pledge.

Our Association is proud of what we have achieved in our first year. We have hosted several activities that have attracted the interest of many people in our country. Our membership comprises over 130 persons. This is obviously just a handful in the context of China, but in an island of 238 square miles and 160,000 persons it is a significant number – and that number is growing. Almost every day we receive application forms or expressions of interest. This is because our people have seen and appreciated the value of our relations with China in the seven years since diplomatic relations were established with your country. We have seen the material value of our diplomatic, political and economic ties, but we have also shared the warmth of friendship with the small but growing Chinese community on our island. In the past two years, two other small Caribbean territories have followed St. Lucia's example and bro-

delegation comprises a minister of government, two journalists, a banker, a weather forecaster and a security guard. But that is not all. The Patron of our Association is the former President of the United Nations General Assembly, who is our country's Permanent Representative at the United Nations and who has since been appointed as St. Lucia's non-resident Ambassador to the People's Republic of China. Several members of our Cabinet of Ministers have signed application forms for membership of the Association and just before leaving our First Lady, the wife of our Prime Minister, indicated her interest in joining the association.

This high level of interest in our Association is a direct result of how and what people think of China today. The image of China has changed radically over the years, from the images we got from Mao Tse Tung's "Red Book" and the karate movies that featured Wang Yu and Chen Sing, to the country that moves the world today. As I have often noted at public functions sponsored by our association, not a day passes without China being featured in the world news; not a day passes without people commenting on China in one way



A St. Lucian delegation visit to China

get the support of the majority of members of the United Nations for the candidacy of St. Lucia for the position of President of the United Nations General Assembly for the year 2004. It is also for these reasons that we in St. Lucia have followed recent developments in China with interest; and it is for these reasons that we felt good about the fact that relations between China and Taiwan across the Strait now seem to be at a historic, positive turning point.

Today also marks a historic turning point in the relations between the people of our respective countries. Political, diplomatic and economic relations between the Government of our respective countries have developed and increased positively in the past seven years; and in the past year our Association has taken serious steps to deepen the friendship and solidarity between the people of our respective countries.

sult in closer ties between our respective countries. We look forward to increased tourism ties between St. Lucia and China and our Association, through the agreement we sign today, affirms before you that we will continue to promote cultural, sporting and social ties and exchanges between the people of our respective countries.

On behalf of the members of our delegation, I thank you our hosts for this visit and we pledge to fulfill the provisions of our joint agreement in the mutual interest of friendship and solidarity between the peoples of St. Lucia and the People's Republic of China.

Long Live the friendly relations between our two peoples and countries.

Long Live the ties between the St. Lucia-China Friendship Association and the Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries.



Governor-General meets Chinese delegation

# EDUCATING SAINT LUCIANS ON THE CSME

St. Lucia’s spokesperson for the Caricom Single Market and Economy Mr. Titus Preville has been highlighting some of the key principles enshrined in the Revised Treaty of Chaguaramus, in the continuing efforts to educate the public on the Caribbean Single Market and Economy (CSME). An important component of the provisions that must be made known says Mr. Preville, is that of the “National Treatment and Most Favoured Nation Treatment Principle.”

Mr. Preville explains that “a firm wishing to establish a business in another Caricom country must not face conditions any more stringent than a national of that country would face in the setting up of a similar business .So if a person wants to set up a broadcasting network in St.Lucia whatever the rules are that apply to a St. Lucian who wishes to set up a radio or television station, a caricom national wishing to do the same, should not face conditions any different to a national.”

The Revised Treaty Preville says, allows the business sectors within Cari-



CSME logo

com to enjoy equal treatment. “The most favoured ‘National Treatment Principle’ basically says that the government of St Lucia cannot extend to any other government in Caricom conditions that are more favourable than it would extend to another government in Caricom so for instance, if the government of St. Lucia were to extend to the government of St. Vincent some

special privilege with respect to how Vincentian businessmen can conduct business in St .Lucia, from the moment the government of St. Lucia does this, it automatically extends that privilege to every member of Caricom.”

This principle, he explained, serves to eliminate the issue of favouritism and bolster the issue of equality. Mr. Preville says notwithstanding the

‘Most Favoured Nation Treatment Principle” where a group of countries have formed themselves into one bloc, the ‘Most Favoured Nation Treatment Principle Nation” was waived.

The Caribbean countries including Saint Lucia have for the past few months been educating their various publics on the many aspects of the CSME.



Prime Minister Dr. Kenny Anthony (Saint Lucia) and Prime Minister P.J. Patterson (Jamaica)

## The status of Kweyol in Saint Lucia

Promoters of the French based Kwéyòl language met in Martinique recently to examine emerging trends in the language. The participants gathered under the umbrella of the “Standing Workshop on Kwéyòl,” which is organised by the International Research and Development Institute, the University of the French West Indies and the University of Haiti.

Two members of the St. Lucia Kwéyòl Committee represented the island at the conference which focussed primarily on the Socio- Linguistic Status of Kwéyòl Language. The conference drew Linguists, Writers and Educators among many other Kwéyòl professional practitioners to dialogue on the issues affecting the growth and development of Kwéyòl in the Kweyolphone Caribbean.

One of the representatives Ms. Lindy Alexander says the conference

served as a platform for participants to increase knowledge and understanding of issues, examine the reasons behind newly emerging trends of the language and renew or build new contacts.

“The main items down for reflection at the workshop first of all an update on the Linguistic and Socio Linguistic situation concerning French Kwéyòl in the Caribbean area and looked at how the Kwéyòl has evolved both quantitatively and qualitatively. We also looked at how the language is being normalised and standardised.”

She says one of the concerns arising during dialogue refers to the trend of borrowing words from the official language by persons when they’re supposed to speak strictly in Kwéyòl. This practice was highlighted as a serious threat to the preservation of the language.

The St. Lucian delegation reported on several progressive strides made

in the recognition and development of Kwéyòl, particularly in government business, the media and the arts.

“Well we have a lot more good Kwéyòl programmes in the media especially. We have the Government Information Service, we have the Konsit Kwéyòl and most of the private

stations have Kwéyòl Programming. The Kwéyòl is being spoken; it is now in Parliament and that’s a very big step - that the Standing Orders have been modified in order to present the opening speech by the Governor General in Kwéyòl.” Ms. Alexander said

Kwéyòl Language producer at the Government Information Service and Radio St .Lucia Mr. Michael Gaspard was the other Saint Lucian representative at the conference.



Kweyol - the language of many Saint Lucians

## NATIONAL MUSEUM Plans in the Pipeline

Plans are ongoing for the construction of a permanent home for the St. Lucia National Trust. The new site for the Trust Headquarters on Manuel Street was made possible through the donation of land from the Government of St. Lucia.

Director of the Trust Mr. Bishnu Tulsie says given space constraints, the Head Office, previously located at Vigie, has been temporarily relocated to the Pigeon Island National Landmark. He says the construction project, which is currently in the pipeline, will mean the Trust will eventually have a permanent home on Manuel Street.

“The National Trust) will be located in Castries, but it wouldn’t be a

‘Castries museum’ it will be national museum and we will be working on this in partnership with the Archaeological and Historical Society and a number of other partners. It will be a national museum requiring input from a number of key stakeholders”

In terms of artefacts to be displayed in the museum, Mr Tulsie says this will be determined through a process of consultation.

“We are also getting some guidance from the Director of the Barbados Museum Ms. Alexandra Cummings, who is also the president of the World Association of Museums; she is working for us in terms of guidance and advice on the way forward.”

## The Office of the Ombudsman

Several government departments and statutory bodies are now more familiar with the roles and functions of the Office of the Parliamentary Commissioner commonly known as the “Ombudsman.” This was achieved through a familiarization seminar conducted last week by Parliamentary Commissioner Mr. Madison Stanislaus.

The primary function of the Office is to investigate, issues involving government departments, statutory bodies, and public sector agencies among others. The office also has the power to review the performance of government agencies and summon witnesses to appear before the Office on a particular case.

According to Mr. Stanislaus, despite this authority, there are limits to

investigative powers of the Ombudsman. “The Ombudsman concept is a paradox in its own way – on one hand he/she could be very powerful and on the other hand he might have absolutely no power. One of the shortcomings of the ombudsman is that he has no enforcement or disciplinary powers. He has no power to make orders or to reverse administrative action. All I can do is investigate, and whatever I come up with, I make recommendations for change.”

Mr. Stanislaus reports to the Senate and the House of Assembly annually. He can also submit special reports to these bodies, at anytime, on particular cases. Mr. Madison Stanislaus is the island’s fourth Parliamentary Commissioner since the office was opened in 1981. He was appointed in 2003.



# FORMER CABINET SECRETARY LAID TO REST

**F**ormer Cabinet Secretary Hon. Creswick Winville “Winnie” King was laid to rest on Monday May 23rd 2005. The funeral ceremony was held at the Minor Basilica of Immaculate Conception in Castries with Msgr. Dr. Hon. Patrick Anthony as the celebrant. Among the list of public officials present were Governor General Dame Pearlette Louisy, Prime Minister Dr. Kenny D. Anthony, and former Governor General Sir Stanislaus James.

Cabinet Ministers present were Hon. Mario Michel, Hon. Felix Finisterre, Hon. Philip Pierre, Sen. Calixte George, Hon. Damian Greaves and Hon. Ignatius Jean.

Also at the funeral service were former Prime Minister Sir John Compton, founding members of the Saint Lucia National Trust and the Archaeological and Historical Society and the Folk Research Centre.

Following the announcement of the death of Mr. King on Sunday May 15th, after a short illness, the Government of Saint Lucia issued the following statement.

“The Government of Saint Lucia has received the sad news of the passing away of Hon. Creswick Winville King, SLC (Saint Lucia Cross), CBE, OBE, MBE. Mr. King or ‘Winnie’ as he was affectionately called was a true example of selfless national service and worked tirelessly in the pursuit of numerous causes in the interest of the development of Saint Lucia.



**Hon. Winville King**

Born in Soufriere on July 23rd 1917, he attended the Methodist Infant School and St. Mary’s College where was an all round athlete, a foundation which led him to become a cricket umpire and commentator. His association with the media and broadcasting in particular included stints as newscaster and outside broadcast commentator with the Windward Island Broadcasting Service (WIBS). This career climaxed with his appointment as the first chairman of the St. Lucia Broadcasting Corporation where he pioneered several revolutionary policies in media development in Saint Lucia.

Mr. King’s sojourn with Civil Service started in 1935 having responsi-

bility for the introduction of local government. He held a number of senior positions in the public service including Elections Supervisor and he was responsible for introducing Adult Suffrage in 1951 “to all nooks and crannies of Saint Lucia, teaching what it meant to be able to vote and how to vote”. He was also a founding member of the Saint Lucia National Trust.

Hon. Creswick Winville King first retired from the Civil Service in 1962 but was recalled to serve as the first secretary to the Cabinet of Ministers of Saint Lucia following the attainment of Associated Statehood in 1967, a position he held until his second retirement from the public service in 1971. He then joined the private sector serving

in senior executive positions with the firm of Peter and Company until 1992.

“Winnie” was an avid supporter and participant in the development of all aspects of the creative arts and was an avid member of the Creative and Performing Arts Society. He was invested with the Saint Lucia Cross in 2003.

The Government of Saint Lucia extends deep and sincere condolences to his wife Thelma, a retired educator, children June and Junior and the entire family of Hon. Creswick Winville King on the passing of this illustrious son of the soil, one who had a passion for his country, a dedication to service and a love for people. May he rest in peace.



## A CRICKET WEEKEND



**West Indies players greet fans after second ODI**



**The media team (Saint Lucia) and the media and tour operators team (UK)**



**Tony Paul hits a huge six**



**Mr. Claudius Francis, Chairman, Sports St. Lucia Inc. on the run**



### THIS WEEK ON NTN

**Sat. May 28th – Fri. June 3rd, 2005**

Sir Arthur Lewis Lecture 2005 – Regional Unity & Constitutional Reform - Sat. June 4th 8:30 p.m.

• National Youth Awards 2005 - Sun. May 29th, 7:30 p.m.

• The GIS speaks to the subject of Common Entrance Exams with students – Mon. May 30th, 8:00 p.m.

• The GIS discusses the sustainable development of our environment Carnival St. Lucia Style - Tues. May 31st, 8:00 p.m.

• Take Over Tent 20th Anniversary Bash – Part 1– Tues. May 31st, 9:00 p.m.

• Talvern Water Catchment Rehabilitation Project – A Model – Wed. June 1st, 6:15 p.m.

• Take Over Tent 20th Anniversary Bash – Part 11– Wed. June 1st, 9:00 p.m.

• It Could Happen to You – Perpetrators & Victims of Sex Abuse – Thurs. June 2nd, 8:30 p.m.

• The National Learning & Enrichment Programme – Charting A New Direction – Fri. June 3rd, 7:30 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/Mondays 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.

**[www.stlucia.gov.lc](http://www.stlucia.gov.lc)**

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