



LE FLORIDIEN

SOUTH FLORIDA'S MOST TRUSTED HAITIAN NEWSPAPER

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Haiti Marks 209 Years of Independence

GONAIVES, Haiti -- Haiti celebrated 209 years of independence Tuesday, January 1, 2013.

As part of the celebrations, a sizable government delegation led by Haiti President Michel Martelly visited the city of Gonaives to participate in independence ceremonies.

The proclamation by Jean-Jacques Dessalines declared Haiti independent from France on Jan. 1, 1804, making Haiti the first independent nation in Latin America and the Caribbean and the first black republic.

... continued on page 4



On Tuesday, January 1, 2013, Haiti celebrated 209 years of independence.

Happy New Year 2013 From The Publisher! PAGE 3

Haiti "Vehemently Protests" New US, Canada Travel Warnings PAGE 4

Le Floridien Becomes First Haitian Newspaper Member of Florida Press Association PAGE 8

Les couples Delva et Luxama, de beaux exemples de longévité conjugale PAGE 13

La rupture du lien Pipo-Nu Look crée la panique PAGE 14

Haiti: 22 convoqués pour affronter le Chili le 19 janvier à Concepcion PAGE 19

South Florida's Haitian Community: 2012 - The Year In Review

MIRAMAR - It doesn't seem that long ago that we were counting down (10...! 9...! 8...!) to midnight, January 1, 2012. Year 2012 has passed so quickly and here we are in January already! Yet over the last 12 months, a lot of things have happened in our community.

Even though it is not an easy task to review the past year for our community, as the tradition must be respected, and as the only reliable Haitian print news serving South Florida's Haitian Community, we feel that we have an obligation to do so, by looking back in our last 24 issues to recap some memorable events.

Funeral of "AtoZ"

The year 2012 starts with a painful event: the funeral of a popular radio talk-show host, Erick François Cadet, better known as "AtoZ," who died on December 29, 2011. The 47-year-old promoter had been diagnosed with an incurable cancer, according to family sources. Hundreds of people paid their respects to him at his funeral on January 7. He was buried at Southern Memorial Cemetery in North Miami.

Azure College Opens Two New Campuses

Azure College celebrated the grand opening and ribbon cutting of its new campus in the Town of Sebring on Friday, March 9. The grand opening

marked the college's second campus in Florida.

About one month later, on April 13, 2012, Azure College celebrated the grand opening of a new Branch Campus in the City of Boca Raton. A ribbon-cutting ceremony was attended by local elected officials, college administrators, employees and guests.

As one of the fastest growing private-sector colleges in Florida, Azure College provides career-oriented diploma and degree programs that prepare students for careers in demand or for advancement in Allied Health, Nursing and Information Technology.

... continued on page 2

Les Etats-Unis échappent à une catastrophe budgétaire



Congressman John Boehner et Président Barack Obama

WASHINGTON -- L'année 2013 aurait pu commencer de plus mauvaise manière. L'accord intervenu mardi 1er janvier, à Washington, sur le budget américain évite une catastrophe. Il faudrait être un esprit bien chagrin pour ne pas s'en féliciter. Si démocrates et républicains ne s'étaient pas

entendus au Congrès, les Etats-Unis risquaient de rechuter dans la crise - enfonçant un peu plus une Europe déjà encaimée dans la récession. 2013 eût pris départ calamiteux.

Mais il ne faut pas s'y tromper. L'accord budgétaire de mardi relève du colmatage de court terme.

Suite à la page 12

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South Florida's Haitian Community: 2012 - The Year In Review

... continued from cover

Francois sentencing

Paul Francois, a Haitian resident of Fort Lauderdale, was sentenced to 10 years in prison for swindling two New York women, each of whom he promised to marry, out of roughly \$400,000. Francois was convicted in February on grand theft and fraud charges. He had faced up to 90 years in prison. At his sentencing on Thursday, March 8, in Broward County Circuit Court, Francois said he was sorry and apologized about everything.

Shooting at Haitian Wake

On March 16, 21-year-old Haitian-American Morvin Andre died one day after he jumped from the 4th to the 2nd floor of the Aventura Mall parking garage in an effort to escape pursuit by Bloomingdale's loss prevention employees. The Medical Examiner ruled his death a suicide because he chose to jump rather than be apprehended, according to Aventura Police Sgt. Chris Goranitis.

At his viewing two weeks later at the Funeraria Latina Emanuel Funeral Home [14990 W. Dixie Highway], fourteen people were shot. Two of them died as a result of what may be one of the worst mass shootings in South Florida history. One of the victims, a 43-year-old man, died outside the funeral home. The other, a 27-year-old man, died at the hospital. Witnesses at the funeral home had said one of the two people killed was shot in the chest.

A senior police commander told CBS4 investigative reporter Jim DeFede that Andre had some connection to several South Florida gangs, and some of those gang members attended his wake to pay their respects.

The commander said someone at the wake touched Andre's body in the casket in a way that other gangs took as disrespectful. This led to an argument inside the funeral home that spilled out to the street. Members of one gang retrieved an assault rifle and a handgun from a car and opened fire on other gang members in front of the funeral home, according to the CBS4 source.

CHS Celebrates Its 23rd Year of Serving Community

On March 23, the Center for Haitian Studies held an open house to celebrate its 23 years of serving the Haitian community. Addressing an estimated audience of 100 people during the celebration, Dr. Laurinus (Larry) Pierre, MD, MPH, Executive Director, said: "CHS has created a large presence for itself in helping the

Haitian immigrants in the health department. We believe in the continuity of health care and will ensure it for them. The clinic not only provides health services free of charge the last past 23 years, but also provides patients with a culturally sensitive atmosphere. The clinic accepts, respects and takes care of anyone who needs medical attention."

Haitians Rally for Trayvon Martin

Several hundred members of Miami's Haitian community marched early Wednesday, March 28, calling for an arrest in the shooting death of teenager Trayvon Martin. The group, led by Concerned Haitian American Citizens (CHAC), marched south to 54th Street and then circled back to 62nd Street for a rally. On stage, at the statue of Toussaint L'Ouverture, a sign with a photo of Martin read: "Haitians for Trayvon. Justice = Liberty = Peace."

Marchers held printed and handmade signs reading "Justice For Trayvon" and "Haitians For Trayvon" and wore printed shirts with the teen's photo. Both Haitian and American flags waved as cars drove by honking. Though Martin did not live in Little Haiti, one community leader said that was not important.

North Miami Hosts Women's History Month

The same Wednesday, March 28, North Miami Mayor Andre D. Pierre and Councilwoman Marie Erlande Steril hosted a Celebration of Women in honor of National Women's History Month. The event, held at the Museum of Contemporary Art (MOCA), saluted outstanding women in the community for their service and leadership in a variety of fields, from Arts and Entertainment to Youth Empowerment. Two women received the Key to the City for their leadership and dedication to their work: Florida Lieutenant Governor Jennifer Carroll and Agenoria Powell, principal of Linda Lentin K-8 Center. Four Haitian-American women were among the honorees: Bernadette Pierre (education), Nicole Brise (faith-based community), Gepsie Metellus (social services) and Kettia Monestime (youth empowerment).

Grand Opening of K Café Bar-Restaurant & Club

A brand new bar-restaurant club owned by Haitian businessman Kitt-Chance Marcellus opened for business on April 13 in Pembroke Pines. K Café, located at 9940 Pines Blvd. (former location of Marabou Café), opened its doors with an official ribbon cutting on a beautiful Friday afternoon.

At the inaugural event, Marcellus

said it had taken him just less than three months to get the space open. "I've been in the restaurant business for the last past 25 years," Marcellus said proudly. "I already opened more than a dozen restaurants serving Continental cuisine, including my delicious Creole recipes, and this is my second in Pembroke Pines."

Pembroke Pines Mayor Frank Ortis, who called the place "beautiful," told the Haitian entrepreneur he was excited to have K Café among the ranks of Pembroke Pines' great restaurant offerings. Mayor Ortis was on hand to help cut the ribbon and signed a commemorative plate to mark his visit.

A Diplomatic "Faux Pas" by President Martelly

In an interview on Thursday, May 3, with friend Alex Saint-Surin, talk-show host of "Carrefour" on RADIO MEGA 1700 AM (WJCC), a local Creole-language radio station, Haiti's President Michel Martelly called on Haitians to unite and support candidate Rudy Moise, a physician who was running in a contentious Miami primary race with incumbent Frederica Wilson in the new Florida 24th Congressional District.

"It is very important for Haiti to stand behind Rudy Moise," Martelly said in Creole. "When I say Haiti, Haitians in Haiti; Haitians in the diaspora."

Wilson swiftly blasted Martelly's comments, saying she didn't appreciate "efforts to divide her Congressional district into Haitians versus African Americans" in the Aug. 14 primary race.

"With the myriad of problems that Haiti is experiencing at this time, it's amazing that President Martelly would have the time, energy and resources to discuss a political situation in Florida," Wilson told The Miami Herald. "He needs to spend his time, energy and resources solving the many crises in Haiti."

But the public endorsement of his friend Moise by Haiti's president did not mean big results. As in 2010, Wilson easily beat Moise to keep her seat in Congress for a second consecutive term. Many observers at that time were worried about potentially reigniting tensions between local ethnic communities, saying that Martelly committed a breach of protocol, and the Haitian president should not have inserted himself in U.S. politics, as he must know.

Martelly's diplomatic faux pas was heard all the way to Washington. According to credible sources, one high-ranking official from the State Department called Haiti's president to let him know how upset they were by

his attitude. According to The Miami Herald, U.S. State Department officials wondered what Martelly meant when he told Saint-Surin during the live broadcast that he was "ready to help (Moise) in any way that I can."

Haitian Heritage Cultural Month Celebration in Dade County

May 2012 marked the 12th year that Miami-Dade County celebrated Haitian Heritage Cultural Month. The first county recognition of Haitian Heritage Cultural Month was in May 2001, through Resolution R-452-01.

The theme for 2012 was "Rediscovering the Pearl of the Caribbean: Celebrating an Explosion of Culture." This was a month-long celebration of the arts, culture and cuisine of Haiti, with a kick-off ceremony on May 1, 2012, in the lobby of the Stephen P. Clark Government Center, 111 N.W. 1st Street, Miami, Fla.

During this special month, Miami-Dade County paid tribute to the many contributions the Haitian people have made to the county, the state of Florida and the nation, through many events.

The month's celebrations concluded with a closing reception on May 29 at the City of North Miami Beach McDonald Center, 17051 N.E. 19th Ave, North Miami Beach, Fla.

School Board of Miami-Dade County Recognizes Johnson Napoleon

At the School Board of Miami-Dade County meeting on May 16, the board council recognized Johnson Napoleon, CEO of Azure College School of Nursing, under Resolution No 12-091, for his commitment to education and social services in the County of Miami-Dade.

Before presenting the recognition to Mr. Napoleon, Dr. Dorothy Bendross-Mindingall, representing District II on the Commission, congratulated the CEO of Azure College for his outstanding work in the field of education, including increasing the number of graduates in the field of nursing since the opening of its first campus, in 2006.

Jean Rene Duperval Sentenced to Nine Years in Prison

On Monday, May 21, 2012, Florida Federal Judge Jose E. Martinez sentenced Jean Rene Duperval, the former director of international relations for Telecommunications D'Haiti S.A.M. ("Haiti Teleco"),

... continued on page 7



Dessalines Ferdinand

I hope you enjoyed your holiday season and that the turn of the calendar passed smoothly, happily and healthily for you and yours.

2012 is now in the books, and 2013 is upon us. 2012 was a hardship financial year for **LE FLORIDIEN**. As some of you may have realized, the recession in United States of America still is making it more difficult for small businesses, especially for print media companies, and more than that, in a community where the majority of entrepreneurs don't have any sense of a marketing plan for their businesses. Some of them even are claiming paradoxically that Haitians don't read, just to cover their unfounded belief, and they are not adapting themselves to the business reality in the new society of America.

Thankfully, we escaped the devastation suffered by so many publishers in 2012. While I always take a little time at the end of the year to reenergize myself and work on a new plan for the New Year, I seem to come to the conclusion that I have conquered an extremely

Happy New Year 2013 From The Publisher

serious personal struggle, and therefore I don't really see too much to come up with as new progressive ideas. 2012 was like an airplane in distress, and only the faith of the pilot in God could help to land it successfully. That is why I feel that I was fortunate enough to see that the newspaper made it to the last quarter of this past year.

2012 brought me a little comfort. It was also a time for new collaborations, as our family welcomed three new members: the young and smart Haitian-American lawyer, Patricia Elizée, who last September started a very informative new column titled "Immigration Corner"; Jude Etienne, who also joined us with his Creole column "Konsèy Pratik," written in a form of practical health advice, and Mrs. Nephtalie Hyacinthe-Dauphin, a journalism student at Barry University, as one of our new local reporters.

Of course, I do not want to leave out our part-time contributing authors, Hudes Desrameaux and André Fouad.

While the paper went through some serious financial problems last year, we are proud to take a wonderful step forward by becoming the first Haitian media to be an active member of the Florida Press Association (FPA), as are The Sun-Sentinel, The Miami Herald, The Palm Beach Post and The Orlando Sentinel. It was a very long process, but our patience paid off at the end.

In the New Year, I intend to focus more on community and local news. I am working to expand and upgrade the website. Discussions over layout and using the latest in technology have us a bit overwhelmed, but we are nearing the launch of a new live front page. We will continue to publish Le Floridien on a semi-monthly basis and begin to offer more news, updates and solutions daily and weekly on our website.

Aside from my goals for Le Floridien in 2013, I have a few personal matters that I intend to address in the near future, which our God

above will certainly help me accomplish. We will be coming back with our Entertainment section, not limited to the Haitian music industry (or "konpa dirèk"), and looking to showcase some young Haitian talents and featuring Haitian-Americans who are making news in the United States.

Lastly, I want to take this time to thank God for allowing me to continue to live. That is why I have been able to serve my community with pride and integrity for the last twelve years through Le Floridien. I also want to thank those who have faith in our publication for supporting us with the little paid advertising they could provide us. It is very important for you readers to support them by purchasing their products or services.

Our thousand readers who take time every fifteen days to pick up a free copy of the paper also have a special thanks in our heart. Our readers have relied on and contributed much to Le Floridien. Some of you have been following us since we began in January 2001. Thank you for making us one of your trusted news sources. We at Le Floridien pledge to you that truth and honesty will remain our top priority in publishing news and providing accurate information.

We hope you have enjoyed reading Le Floridien for the past twelve years, and learning about the issues we face and the people who make our community what it is. We encourage your letters to the editor; our opinion page is your platform in which to stimulate a dialogue about our community, and to offer ideas about how we can improve our neighborhoods.

On behalf of Le Floridien staff, I wish each one of you a healthy, safe and happy New Year 2013.

Dessalines Ferdinand
Publisher

Haiti Marks 209 Years of Independence

... continued from cover

Dessalines made the proclamation in Gonaïves.

On the Place d'Armes in Gonaïves, the President of the Republic, Michel Martelly delivered a speech to the Nation, and invited the large crowd to get back into the memory of January 1, 1804, to draw of it the fundamental Unity and "to resume our march of conquest, towards this Haiti of Peace, justice and progress, that all the son of this land, would like to see emerge and impose [...]"

There is an urgent need to devote time and energy to reduce the vulnerability of our environment, which exposes us to the devastation and mourning, caused by the mood swings of nature.

It is imperative that we work to boost our agricultural production, so that we were able to reduce our dependence on food.

Our environment must be rehabilitated so that any bad weather, no longer mourns us, no longer disturbs our economy.

The year 2013 will be declared Year of the Environment, said President Martelly.

Haitian people, we have to take advantage today, to once again honor our ancestors who fought for us to leave us this country. The courage and self-sacrifice of our ancestors, allows today to have an independent state. To follow in their footsteps and continue the dream they had for us,

continued on Page 4



Haiti Marks 209 Years of Independence



View of the participants at the Cathedral St. Charles Borromée of Gonaïves. Haiti Marks 209 Years of Independence, Jan. 1, 2013. Credit photo: facebook/Michel Martelly

... continued from page 3

we must continue to hold our heads high, to achieve great things, in agriculture, environment, economy, health, in education and democracy.

Let us together, to keep Haiti, beautiful, clean, attractive and pleasant. To get there, we will have a lot of sacrifices to do. In the same way that our ancestors, the duties and responsibilities of our generation, ask that we

take the example on their courage and determination to remove Haiti from the darkness, poverty, illiteracy, hunger, unemployment and exclusion.

[...] We must work to see the development on the whole territory. It is this battle that we must lead today, is the battle that we must win [...]

My countrymen, political crises, economic problems and natural disasters, already give us too much late, on the path that must lead us towards

the development and democracy. The day has come to unite you, to set aside your differences, to show the world that you deserve the legacy of Independence, that our ancestors have left us.

The day has come to use your strength and courage to build another country [...] a country that is respected by the other peoples of the Earth.

[...] I want to make one with all sectors of society [...] throughout the country, to make a large mobilization, so that we embark together in the machine of change. There is much work to do indeed, identify ways is not easy, you all know, but together we must do it, we can do it and together we will do it.

Haiti First Lady Sophia Martelly said that, on the occasion of 209 years of Haiti's independence, it was an opportunity for all "sons and daughters of Haiti" to renew their commitment to themselves, their community and their country.

US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, who has been in the hospital the last couple days with a blood clot

in her head, issued a statement to mark Haiti's independence.

"On behalf of President Obama and the people of the United States, I am delighted to send best wishes to the people of Haiti as you celebrate your 209th anniversary of independence this January 1," said Clinton, who was in the hospital when the statement was released.

"As the second-oldest republic in the Western Hemisphere, Haiti blazed a trail of independence that has inspired others seeking freedom and dignity. For more than two centuries Haitians have met and overcome challenges, even in the most difficult circumstances.

"The United States is proud to be Haiti's neighbor and partner today and in the years to come supporting Haiti's work to ensure that every Haitian is able to live up to his or her god-given potential. May this year, and many to come, bring peace, prosperity and stability."

Clinton remains in the hospital, but her doctors say that they are optimistic the former first lady will recover fully.

Haiti "Vehemently Protests" New US, Canada Travel Warnings

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti -- Haiti's government said it "vehemently protests" the recent decision by the United States State Department to issue a new travel warning for the country, Prime Minister Laurent Lamothe's office announced in a statement Wednesday.

Haiti said it wanted to "reassure" the Haitian diaspora and foreign travelers that they can do so "peacefully," pointing to efforts the government said it had taken to strengthen security institutions.

The government said its development plan for 2012 to 2016 would increase the number of Haitian National Police officers by more than 50 percent and other measures aimed at strengthening police institutions.

According to the statement, such projects challenged the "travel warnings" recently published by the US and by Canada, who, Haiti said, were the largest funders of the police force

in Haiti.

The US travel warning had cited warnings of kidnappings in the country, including several of US citizens.

In response, Haiti's government asked "who from the national or international community did not applaud the dismantling of a large kidnapping network led by a powerful Haitian businessman as the beginning of the end of this practice in the national territory?"

That statement appeared to refer prominent businessman Clifford Brandt, who was arrested (and later confessed) to kidnapping charges in the autumn of 2012.

The US also mentioned the continued incidence of cholera in the country, something Haiti's government said had seen a "marked regression of the disease."

That has been the case, although a

pair of recent hurricanes in the country led to a resurgence of the disease, according to international organizations like the UN.

"As paradoxical as it may seem it is clear that these warnings are incom-

patible with progress made in the field and are definitely harmful to the image of the country at a time when the Martelly/Lamothe Administration combines every effort to place Haiti on the international map," the statement read.

Employment Opportunities



The American Red Cross, in partnership with AmeriCorps Florida, is recruiting to fill four positions beginning terms of service with the Red Cross Palm Beaches -Treasure Coast Region in January 2013. Creole/English or Spanish/English bilingual skills are highly preferred. Showing initiative and being a self-starter is also important. If selected you will receive training in a variety of emergency services skills and have the opportunity to serve as part of our Disaster Action Teams. You will work in a variety of areas including Disaster Preparedness and Response, Community Outreach and Volunteer Outreach all while educating the public and serving across our diverse region that includes Indian River, Martin, Okeechobee, Palm Beach and St. Lucie counties. These 10-month positions may include a living stipend and a scholarship for college student members. For detailed information and to apply call Samuel Pierre (Creole/English) at 561-994-2060 or Lizzette Romano (Spanish/English) at 561-650-9143.

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Ralh Gilles: From loading trucks to kissing Vipers, his latest baby, which he presented at the New York Auto Show

Jil McIntosh
Special to the Star

One thing all car designers have in common is that they love cars. But for Ralph Gilles, vice-president of design at Chrysler, it's more of an obsession.

"I love cars, and I've been sketching since the tender age of 6," says Gilles, who is also president of the company's performance SRT and motorsports division.

Born in New York in 1970, Ralph's Haitian parents emigrated to Montreal, where he was raised from a baby to 17. It was there that his creative spark appeared early on. Passionate about cars as a child, he and his brother made a game of trying to guess the names of various cars by listening to their engines.

"With the Grand Prix visiting every year, and my neighbourhood was Trans Ams everywhere, I was surrounded by enthusiasm and it bites you when you're a kid."

Even so, Gilles says his path wasn't a direct one. He initially focused on engineering, guided by his high-school counsellors. It was his aunt who realized he needed a career with cars.

It was the 1980s, and Chrysler president Lee Iacocca was a well-known public figure.

"My aunt said, 'You should write to Chrysler,' " Gilles says. "We attached a few pictures that I drew, and they wrote back and said, 'You should consider these four schools.' I wonder if they did that to a lot of people. But I followed their recommendations."

But he still hadn't found his calling. "I started going to college, but it just wasn't turning me on. I was bored and still sketching cars instead of listening to trigonometry. So I dropped out and worked at a hardware store, loading trucks.



While most corporate heads would be less than comfortable wrenching on cars, let alone working on an assembly line, Gilles relishes time spent getting his hands dirty. When Doug Gouin, head of Viper production, invited Gilles to spend a day spinning wrenches with folks on the line, the brand leader embraced the opportunity.

"Finally, my brother, who was halfway through med school, came home and said, 'What are you doing with your life?' So I applied to the College for Creative Studies in Detroit, and I got accepted."

He joined Chrysler in 1992 and has remained there ever since, including through its darkest days.

"There were times when I wondered if I should make a move," he says. "I've had seven CEOs in my short career, and the companies have changed dramatically. This particular era is by far the most progressive, daring, and functional that the company has ever been in, and I'm glad I wasn't lured away."

He rose to prominence with the LX-platform cars, which marked the switch from front-wheel to rear-wheel drive in the company's full-size lineup in 2005, with the Chrysler 300 and the Dodge Magnum and Charger.

"That was a great time for me," Gilles says. "I literally went from a kid on a sketching board to a manager in those 3-1/2 years. I learned more than just design.

"People underestimate how complex a vehicle is to create. The 300 was such an oddball at the time, and wasn't the obvious move to make. I learned a lot about

networking and campaigning a vision, not just designing a car."

Gilles' latest baby is the Viper, which he presented at the New York Auto Show by kissing the car when it was driven onstage. The company almost lost the Viper in 2008 when Cerberus, the investment firm that bought Chrysler from Daimler, put the sports car unit up for sale. It remained unsold when Chrysler moved to Fiat. The last Viper was built for 2010, but Fiat chief Sergio Marchionne put it back in production for 2013, now badged as an SRT rather than a Dodge.

"When I saw it was going to be sold, that was truly a nightmare for me," Gilles says. "I saw this as a show car, as part of Chrysler's mojo, and it was like selling one of our children. Sergio drove a 2010 model and, a few weeks later, said, 'Let's protect the brand.'

"It's a spiritual piece. It's one of those vehicles that ends up on the cover of just about every book. We're going racing with Porsche, Ferrari, Mercedes, and it's so cool to see our brand with those."

Despite the exclusivity of the car, Gilles says it pays for itself: Viper customers become "freakishly loyal" to the company, and tend to buy three or four other Chrysler vehicles in succession.



Born in New York in 1970, Ralph's Haitian parents emigrated to Montreal, where he was raised from a baby to 17. In 2001, at the age of 31, he was named Design Director, and has steadily continued to rise within Chrysler's ranks. In 2005 he designed the 300, rejuvenating the company amid skyrocketing sales. (The 300 was voted "Car of the Year" by Motor Trend Magazine in 2005, and made Car and Driver magazine's Top 10 list, three times.) Ralph's imprint can also be found on the Dodge Magnum (2005), the Dodge Viper (2003, 2005), and the Jeep Liberty (2002).

Although Gilles' hand was in the design, he wasn't the only one.

"We opened the Viper to the whole office, and we had six finalists," he says. "We had

one guy lead it, but it was a combination of six designers, plus my work. It was a family project. It wasn't fair to have one guy have so much fun."

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A journey of the heart leads to the real Haiti



Boca Raton residents Jean-Endy Pierre-Louis (left) and his wife, Diana (right), both 29, proudly display a hand-beaded emblem from the Haitian flag given to them by the President of Haiti in the State of the Country address in Miami. In May, Diana won a national contest for creating a new slogan to re-brand Haiti, her adopted country, for the Tourism Ministry. Original Haitian artwork, created by Endy's cousin, hangs on their wall. (Kimberli DiMare, FPG / December 14, 2012)

By Marci Shatzman

When Diana Pierre-Louis entered a contest to rebrand her husband's native country of Haiti, she didn't know she would win, let alone be a guest of the president. Twice.

Now this Fort Lauderdale native turned West Boca media guru is helping the tourism ministry pro bono. She wants the world to know that most of Haiti is open for visitors and business, after the January 2010 earthquake left only those images. "Actually, most of the island was unaffected," she said.

That's her slogan Experience It! in the new logo with the red hibiscus. "The logo designer is Xavier Delatour [who] lives in Haiti. I was the slogan winner and they combined his logo with my slogan," she said in an email,

after a visit to the couple's home off U.S. Highway 441.

There's even a billboard with the new logo on Interstate 95 at 79th Street in Miami, Pierre-Louis said, showing an image on her iPad. She started TheRealHaiti.Com, a website that grew out of her blog, and has her own line of island jewelry. "Every piece tells a story," she said.

Pierre-Louis was surprised to have found herself on the front row at the business forum on the Haitian diaspora at the North Miami Beach Library. She received the invitation from Haiti's vice consul in Miami, Guy Francois, she said. Her husband, Endy, was allowed to come later for President Michel Martelly's State of the Country address from the nearby Gwen Margolis Amphitheater on Dec. 10.

The first lady knew her name, she said.

Now both 29, Endy is a registered nurse in the ER at Delray Medical Center. She has degrees from Florida Atlantic and Lynn universities, and is the digital media specialist for Palm Beach State College. She works on the Boca Raton campus once a week.

Diana met Endy through a fix up, and they were a couple for years before they married a year and a half ago. He has been in the U.S. since 1998, a native of Petit-Goave, a coastal town. His nickname is the Haitian Sensation, he said laughing.

It took her immediate family awhile to come around. The T-shirt she's wearing on her business cards says: "What do you mean I don't look Haitian?"

But their differences were more than skin deep. "It took a while for me to understand the cultural differences," she said.

"The hardest part for her was, we're more laid back," he said.

But it wasn't until her a visit to Labadee, a private resort, aboard a cruise ship in 2008, and a 10-day trip with Endy's relatives that included the ruins of the mountaintop fortress La Citadelle that she became all things Haitian. She loves to show off photos of the stunning views. "It couldn't believe my eyes," she said.

So in March, she entered the contest she saw on the ministry's Facebook page, and in May discovered she had won via a website. "I saw my name and I freaked out," she said. In June she and Endy flew to Haiti to meet Martelly, receive her plaque and hand-beaded flag emblem, and in August they used the hotel package she won.

"This can't be the end. I want to continue promoting the country," she remembers thinking. Then in October, "they made me an official partner..."

The couple knows they're on a journey and they're excited at where this could take them. Endy is proud of his wife's commitment to his country and the Haitian people. "When you stay at a hotel, you feel like you're at someone's home," she said. "By the end of the trip, you're friends."

S : Sun-Sentinel.com

Paul Farmer Appointed As U.N. Special Adviser For Haiti Cholera Efforts

U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon "has appointed renowned United States physician Paul Farmer to help galvanize support to eliminate cholera in Haiti, where the disease has already claimed over 7,750 lives," the U.N. News Centre reports.

"He will also be charged with advising 'on lessons learned' from the epidemic and 'how those can be applied in Haiti and other settings,'" according to a U.N. statement, Agence France-Presse notes, adding, "Farmer, 53, heads Harvard's department of global health and social medicine. From 2009 to 2012, he also served as deputy to the U.N. special envoy for Haiti under former U.S.

President Bill Clinton" (12/29). "The naming of the Special Adviser for Community-Based Medicine and Lessons from Haiti comes just weeks after Mr. Ban launched a new initiative to help eliminate cholera in Haiti and the Dominican Republic, the two nations that make up the Caribbean island of Hispaniola," the U.N. News Centre writes (12/28).

Haiti to Post Caribbean's Fastest Growth in 2013, Jamaica Slowest: Report

By the Caribbean Journal staff

Haiti is projected to lead the Caribbean in GDP growth in 2013, according to a new report from the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean.

Haiti had been projected to lead the region in GDP growth in 2012, with growth of more than 6 percent, but its estimated growth for 2012 was lowered by ECLAC. That followed a similar downward projection by the International Monetary Fund, which cited a series of damaging storms as a major factor (along with a low execution of public capital spending). Haiti grew by 5.6 percent in 2011.

Jamaica is projected to post the Caribbean's slowest growth in 2013, at 0.1 percent.

With Haiti's lowered projection, Belize posted the highest estimated growth in the Caribbean in 2012, with a rate of 4.2 percent.

ECLAC said the region as a whole would see stronger economic growth, despite "ongoing uncertainties" at the international level.

In the wider Caribbean basin, Panama is projected to lead with growth of 7.5 percent in 2013.

The Latin American and Caribbean region as a whole will end 2012 with GDP growth of 3.1 percent, the report said. The Caribbean subregion (Cuba, the Dominican Republic and Haiti were not included by the UN in this region) was projected to grow by 2.0 percent in 2013.

"The challenge for Latin America and the Caribbean is still to increase and stabilize investment growth, and not to depend exclusively on consumption as a means of driving structural change with equality, incorporating technical progress and delivering sustainable growth," said Alicia Barcena, executive secretary of ECLAC.

See the full estimates and projections for the Caribbean for 2012 and 2013 below.

Country	2012 (Estimate)	2013 (Projection)
Antigua and Barbuda	0.9	2.4
Bahamas	2.5	3.0
Barbados	0.2	1.0
Belize	4.2	2.3
Cuba	3.0	3.5
Dominica	1.6	1.7
Dominican Republic	3.8	3.0
Grenada	0.2	1.2
Guyana	3.8	4.9
Haiti	2.5	6.0
Jamaica	-0.2	0.1
St Kitts and Nevis	-0.8	1.8
St Lucia	0.9	1.9
St Vincent and the Grenadines	1.5	1.5
Suriname	3.6	4.7
Trinidad and Tobago	1.0	2.5

South Florida's Haitian Community: 2012 - The Year In Review

... continued from 2

the Haitian state-owned telecommunications company, to nine years in prison for his role in a scheme to launder bribes paid to him by two Miami-based telecommunications companies. The sentence was the latest in the very lengthy sentences imposed on the participants in the Haiti Teleco scheme, and marked the second sentence of a foreign official in the case. Dupreval's sentence was more than twice as long as that of his predecessor, Robert Antoine, who was sentenced to 48 months in prison in June 2010.

Duperval, 45, of Miramar, Fla., was sentenced by Judge Martinez in the Southern District of Florida. Judge Martinez also ordered Duperval to forfeit \$497,331.

Jean Monestime Named to the U.S. Electoral College

The Florida Democratic Party selected Jean Monestime as one of the state's 29 Electoral College members. The first Haitian-American elected to the Miami-Dade County Commission, Monestime made more history by becoming the first Haitian-American to be part of the Electoral College that chooses the U.S. presi-

dent every four years. Monestime was elected in November 2010 as commissioner for District 2.

Reached by phone on August 3, by one of our reporters after the news came out, Commissioner Monestime said: "It's with great pleasure that I represent not just the state of Florida and the Haitian-American community in the Electoral College."

Rep. Julien Loses Florida Primary in District 107 by 13 Votes

John Patrick Julien, (Democrat, North Miami Beach, District 104), who was trying to win the Democratic nomination for Florida House of Representatives for the new District 107, lost the battle to his opponent, Rep. Barbara Watson (Democrat, Miami Gardens, District 103), by only 13 votes.

The former North Miami Beach Council member (2005-2010) blamed his former collaborator, Carline Paul ("Teacher Carline"), the Executive Director of the Miami-based nonprofit organization Haitian American Youth of Tomorrow, Inc. (HAYOT), as one of the Haitian-American personalities responsible for his defeat, citing her own campaign against him as the cause. Paul did not seem to care about

Julien's accusations. The longtime educator said Julien deserved to lose the election because of his failure to keep his constituents updated on current issues being debated in Tallahassee.

Julien challenged the primary election results in court, claiming that fraudulent absentee votes might have been cast at a North Miami nursing home. But Leon County Chief Circuit Judge Charles Francis rejected the effort by the Haitian-American candidate to reverse the results of the Aug. 14 election. Francis ruled that Julien failed to present evidence to prove his allegation that Watson won as the result of fraudulent absentee ballots.

Dr. Larry Pierre Appointed as the Interim Chair of the DHACF

Florida Democratic Party Chairman Rod Smith appointed Dr. Larry Pierre as the interim chair of the Democratic Haitian-American Caucus of Florida (DHACF), which is being established in compliance with Democratic National Party regulations.

A statement exclusively obtained by Le Floridien also revealed that Pierre, who is the Executive Director of the Center for Haitian Studies, a not-for-profit Little Haiti-based organization, will serve in that position until May

2013, when the organization will call for an official election.

Pierre's appointment came on after former president and founder Evelyn Garcia of Palm Beach County resigned from the DNC, after she admitted to sending anti-Israeli emails to a legislative aide.

Commissioner Monestime Recognizes and Honors Haitian Local Businessmen

Miami-Dade Commissioner Jean Monestime, District 2, recognized with a "Certificate of Appreciation" a number of Haitian businessmen for their work in South Florida's Haitian community.

The event (Commissioner Monestime's Business Breakfast) was held Friday morning October 5 at the newly renovated MOCA Café & Lounge in North Miami.

Addressing the audience of about 100, Commissioner Monestime said: "These honorees have been doing some good works for the past many years. They have contributed significantly to the South Florida Haitian community. It is a great privilege for me to honor them for the good work they do around."

... continued on page 9

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Le Floridien Becomes First Haitian Newspaper Member of Florida Press Association

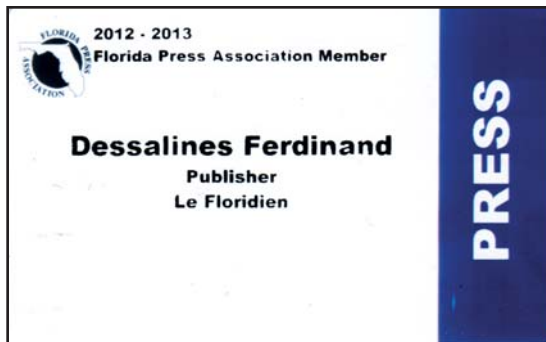
MIRAMAR (LF) - Le Floridien has become the first Haitian media to be admitted into membership in the Florida Press Association.

"Congratulations! On September 21, 2012 the Florida Press Association (FPA) Board of Directors met and reviewed the submitted membership application from Le Floridien and approved the application for admission as an active member," said the association's President and CEO H. Dean Ridings, in a letter of confirmation to the publisher, Dessalines Ferdinand.

"Good journalism takes many forms, and this sort of partnership helps FPA support the highest standards of good reporting and paves the way for the reading public to access great journalism - wherever it appears."

"On behalf of the Florida Press Association Board of Directors, we would like to welcome you to the family. We look forward to seeing you and your staff at our Annual Convention in Orlando on July 18-19, 2013."

The Florida Press Association was founded in 1879 as a nonprofit corporation to protect the freedoms and advance the professional standards of the press of Florida. It is a 195-member newspaper advocacy organization



for Florida newspapers.

FPA's purpose includes the promotion and encouragement of higher standards of journalism to the benefit of the industry and the public; the aid and advancement of the study of journalism; the encouragement of a better understanding between the public and the press; the encouragement of better business methods and practices within the industry; the encouragement of positive fraternal relations within the press, and the representation of the common interests of the press on issues of general welfare and mutual concern.

The Florida Press Association includes all of the daily and most of the weekly newspapers in the state in its membership.

Le Floridien, which was launched in January 2001, has been recognized by media organizations statewide for its in-depth coverage and investigative reporting about South Florida's Haitian Community.



"Good journalism takes many forms, and this sort of partnership helps FPA support the highest standards of good reporting and paves the way for the reading public to access great journalism - wherever it appears."

H. Dean Ridings, President and CEO of Florida Press Association (FPA).

Since its launch, the Haitian Community Newspaper of South Florida, which covers three of the most populated counties of the state, where large Haitian populations live, has published about 300 issues (publication period: twice monthly).

Like other free of charge publications, Le Floridien is funded only through advertisements. Though there are more than a dozen Haitian-American politicians in office, it rarely receives an advertisement from city, county or state government. The paper is not too well-appreciated by some Haitian-American personalities for its rigidity and impartiality in news coverage, especially those who always want to

use their position to pocket money that should be on behalf of the community for personal gain.

"We appreciate that the Florida Press Association recognizes the value and importance of our newspaper, the only one which has been serving South Florida's Haitian and Haitian-American readers," said the publisher, Dessalines Ferdinand.

He added: "We look forward to continuing to build our network with the association's membership and continuing to show that in-depth, informative reporting is a vital service to the citizens of South Florida's Haitian community."

South Florida actress makes big screen debut Sharon Pierre Louis plays Little Jody in 'Django Unchained'



Haitian-American actress
Sharon Pierre-Louis

LANTANA, Fla. - At 13 years old, Sharon Pierre Louis joined the drama club at Lantana Middle School to get the attention of a boy she liked. Instead, she ended up finding her true love: acting.

"I never did talk to that boy," said Pierre Louis.

Now, Pierre Louis can officially call herself a Hollywood film actress. She debuted in Quentin Tarantino's "Django

Unchained" on Christmas Day, alongside actors Leonardo DiCaprio, Samuel L. Jackson, Jamie Foxx and Kerry Washington.

Pierre Louis said the big name stars made it fun and Washington was very supportive of her after filming an extremely difficult scene.

"Kerry Washington came up and hugged me after we filmed my scene and said you are doing a beautiful job," Pierre Louis told Local 10's Neki Mohan.

Django Unchained is set on a Louisiana plantation and is a story of love and struggle. Something the 28-year-old actress could relate to because of her family's own humble beginnings in Haiti.

Both of Pierre Louis' parents escaped poverty to raise their six children in the U.S.

"As an actress, I was so grateful for their sacrifice," said Pierre Louis. "I was so grateful because my father came here on a boat."

Pierre Louis was born in the U.S. and attended Palm Beach's Richard Dreyfoos School of the Arts then went on the Florida State University. She left for Hollywood after college and like most

starting actors, needed a way to support herself while going to auditions.

Pierre Louis decided early on that waiting tables wasn't for her, so she turned to a skill she learned at home: sign language. Pierre Louis' older brother Wolnick is deaf. She first learned to sign from a book, and out in Los Angeles, she went back to school to perfect the language and is now certified to interpret for universities and in an official capacity.

For her, it's a chance to experience another culture.

"Being able to sign is a gift. It is a not a handicap," said Pierre Louis.

Pierre Louis can currently be seen in ABC Family's "The Lying Game" and guest starred on shows like "Lincoln Heights" and "CSI Miami."

While home for the holidays, Pierre Louis looked forward to playing the roles of daughter, sister, and aunt. Her family times keeps her grounded and motivated.

"Being out in LA, acting is the one job where they can say I don't like you because you are too light or too dark, you are too skinny or you are too fat, or you look like my ex-wife," chuckled Pierre Louis. "I feel like the most important

thing to have is your sense of self and knowing what you are worth."

S:local10.com

A Little about Haitian-American Actress Sharon Pierre-Louis

Pierre-Louis was born and raised in Florida to Haitian parents. Her parents had immigrated to the United States during the 1980s and was their first child born in the states. She has five other siblings, three of which were born in Haiti, also including an older brother who is deaf.

She is a multilingual Haitian-American fluent in Creole, American Sign Language, and conversational French. She is a classical/Opera singer. She became interested in acting in the 6th grade later attending a performing arts middle/high school.

Her first major acting role was in the television film Miss Little CEO (2008), which was television pilot that was not picked up to series. In 2008, she had three-episode stint as Stacy Kingston, a lesbian character in the ABC Family drama Lincoln Heights. In 2009, she guest starred in an episode of CSI: Miami, had a small role in the film Fame and appeared in the short film Eckford.

In 2011, She was cast as Nisha Randall on the ABC Family series The Lying Game.

Application deadline for TPS has been extended to January 29, 2013!



By Patricia Elizée, Esq

On December 27, 2012, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) announced that there will be another extension of the re-registration period for Haitian nationals who have already been granted Temporary Protected Status (TPS) and seek to maintain that status for an additional 18 months. USCIS will accept applications until January 29, 2013!

According to the press release, the reason behind the extension is the impact Hurricane Sandy had on regions where Haitians reside. USCIS believes that the Hurricane may have stopped eligible Haitians from re-registering for TPS before the old deadline of November 30, 2012.

Under this extension immigration will accept applications that were submitted past the old Nov. 30, 2012 deadline and will continue to accept applications through Jan. 29, 2013. According to USCIS, approximately 60,000 Haitian nationals are eligible for TPS re-registration. TPS is not available to Haitian nationals who entered the United States after Jan. 12, 2010.

By applying to re-register for TPS, the applicant will receive an extension of his TPS status for a period of 18 months. Without this extension TPS for Haitians

would have expired on January 23, 2012.

Those who apply and qualify for the extension will be able to extend their status until July 22, 2014. The extension is available to Haitians who already have the TPS status, resided in the United States since at least January 12, 2011, and who apply during the time allotted. Those seeking to re-register for TPS must do so during the 60 day registration period. U.S.

Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) already started applications. Applicants should register as soon as possible. The applicant has the ability to request an Employment Authorization Document (EAD) while applying to extend their TPS status. The EAD will allow the recipient to work legally in the US while they have TPS. It is recommended that an applicant requests an EAD. The EAD card that is sent with the approval notice can be carried as proof of having TPS.

EADs of current Haitian TPS holders are automatically extended for an additional six months and will now expire on July 22, 2013. TPS is a temporary immigration status that was approved by congress and given by the Attorney General to immigrants who are temporarily unable to safely return to their home country because of extraordinary conditions such as armed conflict and natural environmental disasters.

During the time that a country is designated for TPS, that country's nationals may remain in the United States without fear of deportation and obtain work authorization. Haitian nationals living the United

States first become eligible for TPS on January 21, 2010, after the devastating earthquake that hit Port-au-Prince, Haiti's capital.

Fees:

Re-registering and Requesting an EAD.

Younger than 14
\$0 \$0 \$380 \$380

14 and older
\$0 \$85 \$380 \$465

Re-registering and Not Requesting an EAD.

Younger than 14
\$0 \$0 \$0 \$0

14 and older
\$0 \$85 \$0 \$85

Documents Needed for Application Process:

1. Proof of identity and Haitian nationality
 - a. Passport
 - b. Birth Certificate
 - c. Any national identity document from your home country
2. Proof of US residence since January 12, 2011
 - a. Employment records
 - b. Rent receipts and utility bills
 - c. Hospital records
 - d. Attestation from churches, unions, or other organizations

To contact the author of this column:

Patricia Elizee at patricia@elizeehernandez.com
Tel: (305) 371-8846

South Florida's Haitian Community: 2012 - The Year In Review

... continued from 7

Among those honored by the commissioner were Carmelau Monestime, former host of South Florida's first Creole-language radio show that first aired in late 1970s, "Express Publicite"; Dessalines Ferdinand, Publisher and Chief Editor of the semi-monthly newspaper Le Floridien; Dr. Alphonse Dufresny; Dr. Daniel Cedent; Justin Manuel (real estate agent); Jean Coty Ridore (educator); Pastor Enock Milien, and Jean Bien Aime Samuel (owner of Samuel's Flowers).

Two Haitian TV Networks Launching

November 2012, a new Haitian TV network debuted in South Florida, broadcasting mainly in Creole to fast-growing Haitian communities from Delray Beach to Florida City.

Film producer and TV veteran Claude Mancuso, who ran a local 24-hour Haitian cable TV channel that closed in 2006, is one of the investors behind the new project. The new digital channel is free in South Florida, available to viewers with simple TV antennas that can be bought for \$40 or less.

Mancuso and his partners, including Manuel Sanchez, a Cuba-born entrepreneur, see a solid business opportunity to offer Creole digital TV in South Florida and sustain it with ads.

The investors are leasing digital channel 8.3 from Miami's Spanish-language GenTV, part of Colombia's Caracol media group. It's one of many new digital channels starting up since analog TV ended and broadcasters began dividing their bandwidth into more over-the-air channels to earn extra money.

Haitian Broadcasting Network of America (HBN) is the name of the other Haitian TV network also launched last year on Channel 12.1 DTV, with the main studio in Miramar. Economist François Leconte owns the license for Channel 12.1, which is available to viewers with simple TV antennas from Kendall to Port Saint Lucie.

Viter Juste Dies at Age 87

Considered the father of Miami's Little Haiti area, Viter Juste (aka Pere Juste), a Haitian community pioneer and leader, died on November 19 at an assisted-living facility in North Miami at the age of 87. He was widely known for establishing the name "Little Haiti." Many people would tell you that this man deserves much of the credit for helping South Florida's Haitian community become the thriving group it is today.

Mr. Juste wanted Haitians in South Florida to build a vibrant community. According to family, Mr. Juste wrote an article to The Miami Herald and named it "Little Port-au-Prince." However, The Miami Herald edited the title, calling it instead "Little Haiti."

Over the past several decades, Mr. Juste was very happy to watch the positive transition of the Haitian community in Miami, moving from Haitian immigrant boat people to become a force politically and economically in South Florida.

Mayor Andre Pierre Controversies

North Miami Mayor Andre Pierre's troubles continued through the Year 2012. The lawyer was involved in a lot of controversies. The Miami Herald featured him repeatedly in the news for questionable ethics.

In November, the Miami-Dade Commission on Ethics and Public Trust released a report alleging that Pierre exploited his position when he used a municipal athletic field without paying almost \$40,000 in rental fees.

Pierre's other controversies for the year 2012 involve calling councilmen's relatives names at city meetings, allegedly giving a city contract to a known racketeering suspect, and being involved in a Haitian business venture linked to the lead developer of Biscayne Landing, according to the Miami Herald.

Mayor Pierre and Councilman Jean Rodrigue Marcellus didn't get along on many issues during 2012. Councilman Marcellus, who already has declared his candidacy to succeed Mayor Pierre, said the mayor is not happy with him because he has refused to support his

motion to spend \$5 million (of the \$15 million placed in the city's general fund reserve) to do some work at MOCA Museum, repair sidewalks in some sections of the city and upgrade the city's vehicle fleet.

Culture & Entertainment

2012 marks the 14th annual edition of the **Haitian Compas Festival** presented by Noel & Cecibon Productions. Since the beginning of this festival held in the heart of Downtown Miami, thousands of compas lovers have come every May from New York, Boston, Paris, Canada and Haiti to enjoy great performances by many artists and bands. Despite 2011 having the lowest attendance in the history of the event, the promoters kept with the tradition.

KLASS, a new compas band created by the former drummer of Zenglen, Richard Jean Herard (aka Richie), made its grand premiere on Saturday, September 1, at Marco Polo Beach Resort Ramada Plaza - Sunny Isles Beach.

On Saturday, Dec. 8, Radio Haiti Amerique International and Les Productions Yole Derosé presented for the first time in South Florida, at the Mizner Park amphitheater in Boca Raton, the concert "**Haiti Heart of a Woman**," a truly new experience, with special invited guest Emeline Michel and world renowned pianist Yayoi Ikawa. The concert drew more than 2000 people.

After some weeks of a contract dispute, singer Pipo officially decided to resign from Nu Look in a written statement that included well wishes for the holidays. The singer made that decision less than three days before the band was heading to Haiti for its traditional holiday tour. Rumors had begun circulating as early as August about the possible rupture in the band. In his letter, Pipo said the rumors and contract dispute contributed to his departure. According to some sources close to the vocalist, three scenarios are possible, such as him recruiting members to form his own band, going back with his former band Beljazz or even joining the new band KLASS of Richie.



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Florida Republicans Split On Fiscal Cliff Vote

By William March

TAMPA -- Florida's congressional delegation split along political lines, but not strictly party lines, in the vote on the "fiscal cliff" budget compromise.

At least some Florida Republicans may have cast their votes with an eye to the 2014 election, hoping to avoid either a primary challenge from the right or a tough general election battle with a Democrat, political experts say.

All six Florida Democratic House members, including Kathy Castor of Tampa, voted for the deal backed by President Barack Obama and by Senate and House leaders of both parties.

They were joined by Democratic Sen. Bill Nelson and five House Republicans, including C.W. Bill Young of Indian Shores and Vern Buchanan of Sarasota.

Among Republicans, 14 Florida House members voted against the deal, bucking their party's leadership. So did GOP Sen. Marco Rubio. The House members included Gus Bilirakis of Palm Harbor, Richard Nugent of Brooksville and Dennis Ross of Lakeland.



Congresswoman Ileana Ros-Lehtinen of Miami, voted YES

Democrats and the yes-voting Republicans focused on tax fairness for the middle class, while no-voters focused on a need to cut government spending.

Young, in a statement, called the measure "a less than perfect solution," but said it "avoided a pending fiscal cliff that would have raised federal income taxes on millions of American families and small businesses," and "temporarily delays the across-the-board sequestration that would harm our national defense."

Castor called it "a balanced plan" and said, "Greater tax fairness is the hallmark of the bipartisan compromise."

Ross, on the other hand, said in a release, "Our country is going bankrupt ... This proposal does nothing to address our biggest



Congressman Allen West of Palm Beach Gardens, voted NO

problem, which is the out-of-control spending that runs rampant in Washington."

Bilirakis said the bill "did not include the spending reforms our country desperately needs" to fix a debt that "places a heavier burden on our children and grandchildren."

Retired University of South Florida political scientist Darryl Paulson, a Republican, said the legislators may also have been keeping an eye on demographics and the 2014 election.

The no-voting Republicans, he said, are more likely to be from rural or suburban districts, and could fear a primary challenge from a tea party-style conservative.

Outgoing Rep. Cliff Stearns of Ocala, with a rural-suburban

district stretching north from Leesburg to Interstate 10, is leaving office because he lost such a challenge to tea party-backed challenger Ted Yoho in this year's primary, Paulson noted.

The yes-voting Republicans "all represent primarily big-city districts," Paulson said. "In the 2012 election, all the big urban counties voted for Obama."

They may have more to fear from a Democrat in the general election, Paulson said.

University of Florida political scientist Stephen Craig, who's politically neutral, said primary challenges pose the greatest threat to most Florida Republican legislators.

"Some (Congress members) might have been willing to support this deal," Craig said, "but the environment of Republican primaries has become frightening if you are not on board with the conservative wing of the party."

Craig said Rubio, who ran and won in 2010 as a tea party champion, has been taking "baby steps" toward moderation with an eye to a 2016 run for president, but probably viewed the debt ceiling vote with an eye to a Republican presidential primary.

"It's a balancing act for him -- maybe what it takes to win the nomination isn't what it takes to win in November," Craig said. "He may be willing to go so far toward moderation, but no further."

Here's how the vote went among Florida's 25 House members:

*** Yes-voting Republicans:** Ander Crenshaw of Jacksonville; Ileana Ros-Lehtinen and Mario Diaz-Balart of Miami; Buchanan and Young.

*** No-voting Republicans:** Sandy Adams of Orlando; Connie Mack IV of Fort Myers; Jeff Miller of Chumuckla; John Mica of Winter Park; Bill Posey of Rockledge; David Rivera of Miami; Tom Rooney of Tequesta; Steve Southerland of Panama City; Dan Webster of Winter Garden; Allen West of Palm Beach Gardens; Bilirakis, Nugent, Ross and Stearns.

*** Democrats, all voting yes:** Corinne Brown of Jacksonville, Ted Deutch of Boca Raton, Alcee Hastings of Miramar, Debbie Wasserman Schulz of Weston; Frederica Wilson of Miami; Castor. ____

The Tampa Tribune

Haiti welcomes 2013 with Bold Strategic Alliance with Vietnam

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti -- The governments of Haiti and Vietnam are demonstrating that South-South cooperation can lead to the fruitful exchange of resources, technology and knowledge. A series of significant agreements signed in late December 2012 provide the framework for a novel form of long term cooperation that will allow Haiti to address food security, one of its key challenges.

The government of Haiti hopes that these agreements will enable Haiti to leapfrog development stages as it attempts to create a resilient agricultural production system. As 2013 rolled in, these agreements were already translating into concrete positive benefits including lower prices for rice, Haiti's key staple food.

According to Haitian Prime Minister Laurent Lamothe, "The principal goal of the agreements we have signed with Vietnam is to find innovative ways to insure food security for all of our citizens." Lamothe's strategic plan identifies ways to mitigate the impact of natural disasters on Haiti's food supply and to reduce its reliance on the import of agricultural products such as rice. The Haitian government's goal is to achieve self-sufficiency in the production of food.

The Vietnamese experience is particularly relevant to Haiti which imports most of the rice its citizens consume. In the past thirty years this small Southeast Asian country has gone from facing peri-

odic food shortages in the aftermath of the war with the United State and being a net importer of rice, to becoming the world's second largest exporter of rice.

Improvements came by increasing land under cultivation, relying on technology to improve seeds and mountain rice production techniques, and by depending on smallholders rather than on large farming estates. In 2011 Vietnam produced 40 million tons of rice a year, most of it grown on 7.2 million hectares by some 10 million farming households each cultivating between one half to one hectare.

Vietnam will provide Haiti with technical cooperation to address the production of rice and other agricultural products. It will send experts to help introduce a progressive system of mountain rice production that includes the mechanization of agriculture, soil erosion prevention techniques, and the introduction of drought resistance rice varieties.

The agreements include a few immediate benefits for Haiti. Vietnam will supply Haiti with 300,000 tons of rice annually, which will address periodic food shortages. As part of the new relationship with Vietnam's Vietell, the state owned mobile network company donated 400 tons of rice. As a result, Haitians are welcoming 2013 with the price of rice 33 percent lower than last year.

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Les Etats-Unis échappent à une catastrophe budgétaire

... suite de la page 1

Un peu de mercurochrome sur une plaie qui reste béante. Il contourne le mal plus qu'il ne le soigne. L'Amérique - qui s'est beaucoup moquée de l'incapacité des Européens à venir à bout de la crise de l'euro - n'a toujours pas de stratégie pour attaquer de front la pathologie qui la mine : une dette publique géante.

Démocrates et républicains s'étaient mis d'accord en 2011 pour se lier les mains. Faute de compromis sur le budget 2013, un "paquet" de hausses d'impôts et de coupes dans les dépenses publiques entrerait automatiquement en vigueur. C'est ce que l'on a appelé "la falaise budgétaire" : la brutalité du choc eût été de nature à étouffer la reprise de l'activité dans le pays.

Il fallait l'éviter à tout prix. Le Sénat, à majorité démocrate, a voté lundi (31 décembre) un compromis laborieusement négocié avec la Maison Blanche. La Chambre des représentants, à majorité républicaine, l'a adopté le lendemain mardi. Soulagement général. Barack Obama est reparti en vacances à Hawaï. Les Bourses ont salué, à la hausse, la sagesse des législateurs américains.

L'accord est pourtant a minima. Le taux d'imposition passe de 35 % à 39,6 % pour les foyers fiscaux aux revenus supérieurs à 450 000 dollars par an. Chacun a fait un pas vers l'autre. Les républicains ne voulaient pas de hausse d'impôts du tout ; les démocrates voulaient appliquer ce nouveau taux aux foyers de plus de 250 000 dollars.

Le débat sur la réduction des dépenses publiques est

repoussé à deux mois. La question du relèvement du plafond légal de la dette - pour éviter une nouvelle baisse de la note que les agences accordent au Trésor américain - n'a pas été abordée.

Autant dire que la Maison Blanche et le Congrès n'ont toujours pas de carnet de route crédible pour enrayer dans les cinq à dix ans l'inexorable montée de la dette du pays. Elle devrait vite atteindre les 100 % du produit intérieur brut pour flirter avec les 300 % d'ici au milieu du siècle. Intenable, même avec un dollar qui reste, plus que jamais, la grande monnaie de réserve mondiale.

Très vite, le service de la dette et les deux grands postes de l'Etat-providence - santé et retraites - vont engloutir l'ensemble du budget fédéral. Sauf à financer autrement l'Etat-providence, à augmenter les impôts et à diminuer les autres dépenses publiques... cette grande réforme, qui bouscule autant de tabous démocrates que républicains, M. Obama aimerait la mettre sur les rails d'ici à la fin de son mandat. Cet accord relève du même remède : le courage politique.

Le FMI demande des efforts budgétaires

L'accord budgétaire validé est bienvenu mais insuffisant, a jugé le Fonds monétaire international (FMI) en demandant aux élus américains de se mettre d'accord sur un "plan complet" d'assainissement des finances publiques.

"Nous nous réjouissons des mesures prises par le Congrès américain pour empêcher des hausses d'impôts et des réductions des dépenses publiques



Si démocrates et républicains ne s'étaient pas entendus au Congrès, les Etats-Unis risquaient de rechuter dans la crise

brusques", indique un porte-parole du Fonds, Gerry Rice. "Néanmoins, précise-t-il, il faut en faire encore davantage pour remettre les finances publiques américaines sur la voie de la viabilité sans nuire à la reprise économique, fragile".

Le plafond de la dette doit être relevé

"Il faudrait en particulier, note le porte-parole du Fonds, que soit adopté aussi vite que possible un plan complet permettant d'assurer à la fois une hausse des ressources de l'Etat et une maîtrise des dépenses de sécurité sociale à moyen terme".

Il est également "essentiel" que les Etats-Unis relèvent "rapidement" la limite légale de leur dette publique, qui a été atteinte lundi, et que les élus fassent disparaître "les incertitudes restantes" "relatives à l'évolution du budget de l'Etat fédéral à court terme.

La loi sur le budget militaire 2013 est promulguée

Barack Obama a promulgué mercredi soir la loi sur le compromis budgétaire qui écarte à

court terme la menace d'une cure d'austérité forcée aux Etats-Unis, ainsi que la loi sur le budget 2013 du Pentagone pour un montant de 633 milliards de dollars.

En plus de couvrir les dépenses habituelles de fonctionnement de l'armée, la loi

prévoit un durcissement des sanctions économiques contre l'Iran, le dégagement de fonds supplémentaires pour financer la guerre en Afghanistan et renforce la sécurité dans les missions diplomatiques américaines à travers le monde.

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53 et 60 ans de mariage : les couples Delva et Luxama, de beaux exemples de longévité conjugale

MIRAMAR (LF) -- À l'occasion de la Fête de la Sainte Famille de Jésus, Marie et Joseph, qui coïncidait avec la dernière messe dominicale de l'année 2012, célébrée par la communauté chrétienne haïtienne de l'église catholique Saint Barthélemy de Miramar, le 30 décembre écoulé, un couple en or et un couple en diamant, se sont retrouvés en première loge, à l'invitation de l'équipe liturgique de la Communauté haïtienne de la dite paroisse, pour fêter en commun un très bel événement: le record de longévité conjugale.

Cette dernière session liturgique de la communauté catholique haïtienne de Miramar, était l'occasion pour les couples Félicien et Yvette Luxama, ainsi que Prophète et Altagrace Delva, de se faire applaudir par la belle assemblée qui participait à la célébration eucharistique.

Chose très rare dans la société haïtienne. Félicien et Yvette Luxama (mariés en 1952), Prophète et Altagrace Delva (mariés en 1959), ont respectivement 60 et 53 ans de mariage. Les heureux couples ont été invités, l'un après l'autre, par Madame France Martine Alcena, l'un des plus dynamiques membres de la communauté chrétienne haïtienne de cette paroisse, à se présenter à l'autel, pour recevoir chacun une belle plaque d'Appréciation, qui leur a été offerte par la Communauté haïtienne.

Le père Jean Jadotte, qui célébrait la messe, en a profité pour bénir séparément les deux couples, tout en leur félicitant pour avoir fait preuve d'amour entre eux aussi longuement, prenant pour modèle la Sainte Famille de Nazareth.

Les visages rayonnant de joie, un membre de l'église a pris le temps de les prendre en photo pour



Monsieur Félicien Luxama et son épouse Yvette Luxama (3è et 4è de la gauche), mariés depuis 60 ans, posent pour une photo-souvenir, avec deux de leurs filles, Jacqueline Daniel (1ère de la gauche, tenant son fils Jonathan Champagne), et Beatrice Voltaire (2è), et le père Jean Jadotte (extrême droite). Photo: courtoisie France Martine Alcena



Monsieur Prophète Delva et sa femme Ertha Delva (53 ans de mariage), posent pour une photo-souvenir, en compagnie de l'une de leurs filles, Marie Lou Delva (gauche) et le père Jean Jadotte (droite). Photo: courtoisie France Martine Alcena

immortaliser un bel instant de la vie de ces deux couples exemplaires. Ces derniers étaient accompagnés de quelques membres de leurs familles respectives. Ils ont tour à tour reçu une valse d'applaudissements à leur descente de l'autel.

Il faut dire que les joyeux couples sont des habitués de la paroisse. Les Luxama et Delva sont souvent

remarqués dans les messes dominicales haïtiennes chantées dans l'après-midi, entre 3 hr et 5hr.

"50 ans sont les noces d'or, 60 ans sont les noces de diamant, 60+ ans forment véritablement un mariage inébranlable ", selon l'auteur de l'ouvrage "Comment réussir sa vie de couple ?"

Aujourd'hui, se dire " oui " ne semble plus si facile. Et le constat est accablant : il y a moins de mariages, plus de divorces. L'engagement est également pris plus tardivement, et ceci, tant chez les hommes que chez les femmes. En effet, une femme, qui se mariait aux alentours de 22 ans en 1972, se marie aujourd'hui en moyenne à 29 ans. Chez les hommes, l'âge moyen pour la même période est passé de 23 à 32 ans.

Apparemment la crise de la quarantaine y serait pour beaucoup dans l'augmentation du nombre de divorces. Selon les statistiques officielles, le plus grand nombre de séparations survient à l'âge de 41 ans. Pour ce qui est de la durée, le plus fort taux de divorce se situe après quatre années de mariage. Peu sont les couples qui divorcent après 50 ans de mariage.

De nos jours, il est rare de trouver des couples se vanter de fêter leurs noces d'Or.

À l'heure où le nombre de mariages diminue, parallèlement à celui des divorces qui augmente, on s'interroge : est-il encore possible d'aimer une seule et même personne pendant de si nombreuses années ?

Les couples Prophète/Altagrace Delva et Félicien/Yvette Luxama, qui viennent de fêter respectivement 53 et 60 ans de mariage, doivent avoir de petites recettes miracles.

Malheureusement après la messe, nous n'avons pas eu le temps de dialoguer avec eux, pour connaître un peu de leur secret de longévité conjugale.

DF/ Le Floridien

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La rupture du lien Pipo-Nu Look crée la panique

Par Robert Noël

Tout ce qui est physique ressort du temporel et doit être considéré éphémère. Cependant, les prédictions ou prophéties des Mayas qui avaient fait croire que la fin du monde aurait lieu le 21 décembre 2012 n'ont pas été confirmées. Je n'y croyais pas non plus. D'ailleurs, le mot M'y? en langage sanskrit signifie ensemble des illusions qui constituent ce monde. Cette question de fin du monde demeure une énigme qui défie la science et cela depuis la plus haute antiquité. La vie continue et le monde se réveille encore avec ses problèmes : les guerres, la famine, les maladies, le chômage, la misère, la discorde, la haine, la division, l'insécurité, les crimes, etc.

Au sein de l'industrie musicale haïtienne, les problèmes se multiplient sans changer de nature. Le vedettariat n'est qu'illusoire. Pipo Stanis avait décidé de ne pas accompagner le groupe musical Nu Look dans sa grande tournée pour la saison des fêtes. Cette brusque séparation crée la panique dans l'industrie musicale haïtienne. C'est une situation très difficile pour le Nu Look. Aujourd'hui, tout le monde parle de l'affaire Pipo versus Nu Look qui prend une tournure beaucoup plus sérieuse. On dit souvent qu'après la pluie c'est le beau temps. Mais aujourd'hui, après le beau temps c'est la pluie en plein cœur de Nu Look. Quelle triste fin d'année pour Nu Look, disent ses fans et les mélomanes!

Les mêmes causes produisent les mêmes effets

Aujourd'hui, le groupe Nu Look se trouve entre l'enclume et le marteau. Il doit gérer une crise qui risque d'affecter son bon fonctionnement et son existence. D'ailleurs, il a des contrats à honorer. Les promoteurs profiteront de cette affaire pour se démarquer de Nu Look. Une mauvaise gestion a causé tout ce hic. L'administration de l'orchestre Nu Look n'a pas acquitté sa dette envers le chanteur. D'après une source digne de foi, le groupe lui doit plus que \$15, 000. Cette même source confirme que Pipo n'a eu aucune augmentation de salaire depuis son intégration au Nu Look. Certains parient que Ederse " Pipo " Stanis ne recevra pas le montant qui lui est dû en un seul versement, ou bien ne le recevra jamais s'il ne fait plus partie de Nu Look.

On se souvient que Pipo avait abandonné son propre groupe " BelJazz " pour faciliter une sortie de crise du groupe Nu Look. Il a été sévèrement critiqué à la suite d'une telle décision. Depuis, le maestro de BelJazz, Ralph Ménélas, est assis confortablement sur sa petite chaise d'enfant (ti chèn ba) observant avec grand intérêt le déroulement de cette crise. Il sut, peut-être, qu'un beau jour Pipo arriverait à ce point de litige avec Nu Look. Il connaît le terrain mieux que Pipo. Il est probable que Ménélas



Le chanteur Ederse "Pipo" Stanis

détienne son billet lui permettant de se placer en première loge (kat pelouz) pour assister à ce spectacle qui ne finira pas de si tôt. Il y a possibilité de prolongation.

Cette nouvelle épisode qui se déroule aujourd'hui au sein de cette formation musicale nous reconduit dans un passé pas trop lointain et fait émerger une grande question ayant à voir avec la séparation de Gazzman Couleur du Nu Look. Sans vouloir donner raison à celui-ci, l'on se demande aujourd'hui si le conflit qui a existé entre lui et Nu Look n'était pas de cette même nature. C'est un fait que Couleur n'avait pas dévoilé comme Pipo l'a fait aujourd'hui. Il avait peut-être eu peur des critiques, puisque, quand tout allait bien entre lui et Arly, le linge sale se lavait bien en famille, et à l'eau de Javel. Contrairement à Gazzman, Pipo a, sans court-circuiter la voie-san wout pa bwa, révélé la vraie raison qui le porte à prendre congé du groupe.

Trop tard dans un monde trop vieux

Analysons les faits. Nous sommes en période de fêtes. Tout le monde a grand besoin d'argent. Nos amis et parents vivant en Haïti attendent les transferts de la diaspora. Nu Look a un horaire très surchargé en contrats. Le public spéculé sans réserve. Déjà, des fans du Nu Look font semblant de ne plus besoin du service de Pipo. Ils l'ont accusé de tous les maux du monde. Ingrats et hypocrites, ils le sont et le seront toujours. Pourtant, lors de la récente crise Gazzman-Nu Look, ils faisaient l'éloge de Pipo et l'avaient même appelé " Le Messie ", le " Prophète " ou le " Leonel Messi " de Nu Look. Piyay pou Pipo, ils répétaient souvent!

L'on se demande si cette nouvelle décision de Pipo a été bien pesée, bien réfléchi. Aller en tournée avec Nu Look serait pour lui l'opportunité de gagner quelques dollars " Obama " de plus, des dollars américains, pour la saison des fêtes. Pipo aurait intérêt à accompagner ses collègues en tournée de fin d'année. Le chanteur sait peut-être que le comité d'administration du Nu Look, ayant les poings serrés, ne

lui aurait pas versé son salaire, le fruit de son travail, pour les nouvelles prestations. Il a préféré décliné l'invitation. Pour comprendre un plaignant, il faut qu'on se mette dans sa peau, c'est-à-dire se placer dans sa situation. Pour mieux connaître un ami, il faut remonter dans son enfance. Et pour mieux connaître un manager, il faut visiter et réviser son passé sous microscope.

Si Pipo a décidé de ne pas accompagner le groupe, au cours des tournées, il doit avoir un motif valable. Cependant, je lui reproche son indolence puisqu'il a intégré le groupe Nu Look sans un contrat légal bien rédigé. Il n'a même pas un avocat capable de défendre sa cause. Et j'ai toujours dit que les musiciens doivent réclamer un contrat renouvelable de l'administration d'un orchestre avec lequel ils comptent s'associer. Je le redis aujourd'hui à qui veut l'entendre : un contrat écrit est une pièce à conviction qui permet de traduire en justice son employeur si celui-ci ne respecte pas les termes du contrat.

Pipo doit se rappeler qu'après l'heure n'est plus l'heure. La semaine dernière, il exigeait un contrat du Nu Look. Il est trop tard. Après que le chevreau s'est échappé de l'étable, l'éleveur demande de verrouiller barrière -kabrit finn pase la p rele bare. Pipo est pris au piège du vedettariat fictif. Vraiment, il jouait à la vedette au lieu de défendre ses intérêts immédiats. Je veux aujourd'hui partager un secret avec tous les musiciens haïtiens. L'avaloir / le premier versement que reçoit le manager c'est pour payer les musiciens en partie ou en plein. Attention !

Le droit de légitime défense

Je crois que Pipo défend ses droits les plus légitimes, même s'il ne peut traduire le groupe Nu Look en justice, parce qu'il n'a pas en sa possession des documents légaux pouvant lui permettre d'entreprendre une telle démarche. Comment va-t-il prouver que les patrons de Nu look ont une dette envers lui? Le chanteur était en pleines négociations avec l'administration du groupe, qui n'ont pas abouti. Pipo fait bien de revendiquer ses droits. Connaissant la façon d'opérer des chefs d'orchestre et des membres des comités d'administration de nos groupes musicaux, ils allaient trouver un alibi pour mettre Pipo en disponibilité durant un certain temps. Cela aurait constitué une mesure disciplinaire pour insubordination, malgré la dette non acquittée. Cela n'affecterait Pipo en rien puisqu'il a d'autres alternatives qu'il garde encore secrètes. Surprise!

Pipo caressait un rêve depuis bien des mois -li fè rèv li, li ret nan kè l. En plus, il ne se sentirait pas à l'aise au sein du groupe, considérant la froideur entre lui et Arly Larivière, et que lui témoignent aussi d'autres musiciens du groupe. D'ailleurs, la note de presse de Nu look traduit bien

la situation: nous ne pouvons pas prendre le risque de partir en tournée avec un chanteur indécis et inconfortable. C'est une opinion que je partage, puisque la musique est une affaire de sincérité, d'honnêteté, de joie, de cœur, d'âme et de sensibilité.

On reproche aussi à Pipo son tempérament, que certains de ses frères musiciens jugent indésirable. Il devait comprendre qu'il avait simplement intégré Nu Look et qu'il n'a pas été cofondateur du groupe. Il faudrait qu'il respecte aussi les normes et principes déjà établis depuis la création de cette formation musicale. Il y a certaines choses que le chanteur n'a pas pu comprendre pendant son association avec le Nu Look. Il ne pouvait et ne devait pas s'imposer en maître ou se considérer un ayant-droit dans toutes les affaires du groupe. Il a simplement rejoint un groupe qui a existé avant son arrivée.

À malin, malin et demi

Je sais que le Nu Look avait un plan B à exécuter, alors que Pipo préparait un contre coup, au cas où l'affaire aurait mal tourné. Il a pris les dirigeants de Nu Look de vitesse. Il a jeté l'éponge, ayant officiellement annoncé sa démission le vendredi 21 décembre 2012. À malin, malin et demi, pense Pipo. Il fait bien de revendiquer ses droits. Son absence va certainement affecter les contrats de Nu Look dans le futur. Ce n'est pas la fin du monde, ni de Nu Look, ni de Pipo, mais bien la rupture de ce lien qui existait entre le chanteur et le groupe musical.

Pipo avait déjà fait son lit avant de se coucher, chose que beaucoup n'ont pas su et ne peuvent connaître ni comprendre. D'après une source digne de foi, le groupe D'Zine lui laisse la porte grande ouverte. Ce sera pour lui le retour au bercail. Pipo regarde à travers la fenêtre, et il est au courant de toutes les activités de D'Zine. Pipo pourra t-il conceptualiser un quintet " Pipo and Friends " à la manière d'" Arly and Friends " ? Je le doute fort. Pourra t-il créer son propre groupe compas-direct? Oui, mais c'est risquant. Je n'y vois pas l'ombre du succès.

Une chose est sûre, Pipo ne donnera pas l'accolade au groupe Klass de Richie. Tout le monde connaît la vraie raison qui l'avait poussé à se joindre au Nu Look: le vedettariat. Il l'avait vu comme une promotion avec possibilité d'avancement. Tel n'a pas été le cas puisqu'Arly lui a volé la vedette en se plaçant au premier rang comme chanteur. Depuis, une lutte de pouvoir et une compétition ont commencé entre les deux artistes. Arly veut aussi gérer son vedettariat. Pipo semble ne pas comprendre un tel fait. Je profite de l'occasion pour dire à Pipo qu'il n'existe pas de mauvaises expériences dans la vie, pourvu qu'on apprenne d'elles.

.. suite Page 15

Pipo se retire de Nu Look

On dirait que la saison des fêtes de fin d'année n'apporte pas bonheur depuis un certain temps au maestro-keyboardiste-chanteur du groupe Nu Look, Arly Larivière. Après le retrait fracassant de son ancien associé, le chanteur Gazzman Couleur, suite à une tournée du groupe en Haïti en décembre 2009, trois ans après, le même scénario se reproduit chez Nu Look. Ce mois de décembre 2012, c'est le remplaçant de Gazzman, le chanteur Edersse "Pipo" Stanis qui, à son tour, a rendu son tablier.

À en croire une note envoyée dans la presse, le désormais ex-chanteur de Nu Look, serait déçu de la façon de faire du staff managérial du groupe. Le chanteur n'aurait pas été informé de la décision des responsables d'annuler toutes les affiches du groupe prévues aux Etats-Unis le mois de décembre, et ce serait à travers les médias sociaux qu'il en a été informé.

"Tous les musiciens du groupe ont reçu un message texte pour les informer de cette annulation, sauf pour moi," a relaté Pipo dans sa note.

"Un communiqué de presse émanant de la direction de Nu Look a fait état de "recrutement de nouveaux talents", ce qui a déclenché des rumeurs selon lesquelles le groupe aurait fini par reprendre leurs activités sans moi. Pour tenter de résoudre cette question en privé, et de façon professionnelle, je me suis abstenu à faire des commentaires au sujet de mon statut au sein du groupe," a-t-il expliqué.

"J'ai pris contact avec la direction du groupe, non seulement pour clarifier certaines choses, mais aussi pour tenter de résoudre les divergences financières entourant ma situation au sein du groupe. J'ai demandé à ce qu'un nouveau contrat soit rédigé, pour la sécurité financière des deux parties. Alors que j'avais l'impression que la situation serait sur le point d'être dénouée, j'ai plutôt appris à travers les médias que le management du groupe aurait même refusé de tenir compte de mon contrat. Par conséquent, aucun contrat avec moi ne serait honoré et le groupe partira sans moi en tournée pour les vacances en Haïti," a ajouté Edersse "Pipo" Stanis.

"Avec la paix de l'esprit et beaucoup d'optimisme, je laisse le passé derrière moi afin de me concentrer sur mon avenir. Je prendrai le temps de partager les fêtes de fin d'année avec ma famille et rédiger mes résolutions

pour le nouvel an," écrit plus loin Pipo, tout en se disant très reconnaissant envers le maestro Arly Larivière de l'avoir offert l'opportunité de mettre en valeur ses talents de chanteur au sein de Nu Look.

"Ce fut un plaisir de collaborer avec le maestro Arly Larivière sur l'album "Confirmation", ainsi que sur scène. Je suis aussi fier d'avoir performé aux côtés de tous les musiciens de Nu Look au cours de ces années passées. Je reste convaincu que Nu Look est une institution qui continuera à faire valoir le "konpa dirèk au plus haut niveau. Je souhaite bonne chance à toute l'équipe," conclut Pipo dans sa note.

Des rumeurs persistantes font déjà croire que l'ancien chanteur de Passion de Montréal pourrait réintégrer sous son ancien groupe Beljaz, ou s'aventurer au sein de la nouvelle formation KLASS du batteur Richard "Richie" Jean Herard.

Zenglen lance un nouvel album

REZILTA, c'est le titre du nouvel album de la formation Zenglen. L'opus monté de 11 pièces disponible sur le marché discaire haïtien depuis environ deux semaines, attire l'attention des mélomanes dès la première écoute. À en croire les commentaires faits par de nombreux membres du réseau social Facebook et plusieurs sites culturels haïtiens, ce nouvel album pourrait aider le groupe à remonter la pente raide du monde compas, après plusieurs mois de faible présence scénique.

Kenny Desmangles, Jean Brutus et Dener Ceide sont les principaux concepteurs des nouvelles compositions du groupe. Deux anciens membres (les keyboardistes Nickenson Prud'homme et Jude Sévère), ainsi que James Momplaisir aka Ti Lunet, ont aussi participé à l'élaboration de l'album.

Contrairement au chanteur Reginald Cangé, dont son "input" n'est qu'un simple ajout dans les lyriques de la chanson "Zenglen Nan Baz", figurée en première position sur le nouveau CD, pas moins de cinq des dix nouvelles pièces portent la signature de Kenny Desmangles, au niveau musiques, textes et arrangements.

Notons que l'ancien chanteur du groupe Zin, Alan Cave, a participé en tant que invité sur la pièce #5 "PROMISE". Certes, l'album a reçu jusque-là un accueil très positif dans le milieu compas, mais reste à savoir combien de temps cette euphorie va durer. Un bon plan de marketing

pour une forte promotion dans les médias est essentiel pour la survie de ce produit dans les bacs haïtiens, ont fait savoir plusieurs fins connaisseurs de l'industrie musicale haïtienne. Toujours est-il que les responsables du groupe sont loin de marcher dans cette logique.

Michel Martelly partage la scène avec Julio Iglesias

Le président haïtien Michel Joseph Martelly a partagé la scène avec le chanteur espagnol Julio Iglesias, lors d'un concert déroulé le vendredi 28 décembre 2012, à l'amphithéâtre Altos de Chavon, La Romana (Est de la République Dominicaine).

Julio Iglesias a commencé sa performance par un temps frais, une nuit humide, dans laquelle il a fait plusieurs références aux relations entre la République Dominicaine et Haïti, deux pays voisins.

Ma vie est étroitement liée à ce pays appelé Haïti, que je souhaiterais voir grandir plus vite», a dit Julio Iglesias, avant de se diriger vers le président Michel Martelly, qui était assis à la première rangée dans la section des VIPs. «Président, Haïti a besoin de vous pour réussir», déclara ensuite le célèbre chanteur espagnol Iglesias au président haïtien

Invité par l'organisateur du concert George Nader, le chef d'Etat haïtien, ancien chanteur populaire de son nom de scène "Sweet Micky", a interprété pas moins de deux chansons, sous les applaudissements nourris de la foule estimée à près de 1,500 personnes.

Les fonds amassés au cours de ce concert serviront à financer des projets d'une organisation humanitaire: La Fondation Rose et Blanc (FRED) du président et de son épouse Sophia St Remy Martelly, selon ce qu'a fait savoir M. Nader. Le prix du billet variait de 2.000 à 40.000 pesos (50 à \$ 1.000).

La Première dame Sophia Saint-Rémy Martelly, le Premier ministre Laurent Salvador Lamothe et la ministre du Tourisme, Stéphanie Balmir Villedrouin, faisaient partie du nombre des VIP haïtiens de ce spectacle grandiose, riche en couleurs.

Notons aussi que les concepteurs Oscar de la Renta et Donna Karam, le magnat du pétrole vénézuélien Gustavo Cisneros et l'ancien secrétaire d'Etat américain Henry Kissinger étaient également présents à ce concert.

La rupture du lien Pipo-Nu Look crée la panique

... suite de la page 14

Le groupe Nu Look a besoin d'un remue-ménage

Je pense qu'Arly ferait mieux d'adopter une nouvelle configuration constituée de deux chanteurs, pour éviter que ce problème se répète au sein de cette formation musicale. Une fois est loin d'être coutume et l'habitude est une seconde nature. Chat échaudé doit craindre l'eau froide. Je souhaite aussi que le personnel de Nu Look utilise une nouvelle stratégie pour remédier au gâchis administratif qui fait projeter une très mauvaise image du groupe, en plus du problème de ponctualité aux soirées dansantes du maestro de l'orchestre.

On ne peut pas parler de négociations entre Nu Look et Pipo à l'heure actuelle. Il faut que Nu Look acquitte sa dette d'abord envers lui, puis ils pourront négocier et offrir un contrat renouvelable au chanteur. Ils pourront repartir à zéro, s'ils pensent renégocier. Il faut bien que les deux parties en litige soient satisfaites. Que les deux protagonistes mettent leur orgueil et rancune de côté pour sauver ce qui peut l'être et rendre le public heureux. Nu Look doit continuer sa mission, qui consiste à divertir les mélomanes et travailler à l'avancement de la musique populaire haïtienne. Si Nu Look veut aller loin, qu'il ménage sa monture. Il a besoin d'un remue-ménage sérieux au sein de son administration. Autrement, il sera toujours pris entre l'enclume et le marteau.

Actuellement, le groupe Nu Look flotte dans l'air. Une mesure doit être prise au plus vite, avant que la pesantueur agisse. Arly doit se ressaisir pour éviter que le groupe ne disparaisse en un clin d'œil. Je sais qu'il envisage un format réduit "Arly and Friends", qui, à mon avis, ne pourra seulement fonctionner que dans les heures creuses de Nu Look, sans conflit d'horaire et d'intérêts. Quelle sera la position d'Arly si toutefois son quintet "Arly and Friends" est engagé le même jour que Nu Look? Laquelle des deux formations musicales sera victime du "No Show" du maestro? Est-ce Nu Look ou "Arly and Friends"? Voilà le nœud gordien. Une question à laquelle Arly doit répondre avec sincérité sans bifurquer sur une autre voie truquée -pa gen wout pa bwa.

Il faut bien qu'Arly se rappelle que Nu Look est pour lui une source sûre de revenue. Comme tout le monde, il doit répondre à ses besoins immédiats et à ceux de sa famille. Quant à Pipo, je lui aurais conseillé de bien réfléchir avant de s'aventurer dans ce circuit dangereux où tout est pêle-mêle. Plus la situation change, plus c'est la même chose. Qu'il réclame un contrat légal bien rédigé du groupe avec lequel il compte s'associer dans un futur proche ou lointain. Il lui faut aussi un bon conseiller juridique.

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Tropicana d'Haïti, l'Orchestre le plus populaire de l'année

À la veille de son 50e anniversaire, l'Orchestre Tropicana d'Haïti, la fusée d'or, appelé par ses fans, " l'Orchestre de toutes les générations ", est au top de sa forme et ne cesse de multiplier ses prestations tant en Haïti qu'à l'étranger.

L'Orchestre Tropicana est issu de l'Orchestre CARAÏBES qui vit le jour dans les années 50. L'histoire raconte que c'était un mercenaire cubain, Basile COTTY qui, paradoxalement, a suggéré le nom : Tropicana au maestro Claudin ou Glaudin. L'histoire du Tropicana paraît quelque peu singulière et étonnante. Qui aurait pu imaginer que cet Orchestre, aujourd'hui une référence nationale, connaîtrait des moments noirs peu après sa création.

L'aventure a commencé au mois d'août 1963 au Cap-Haïtien, dans la métropole du Nord avec son premier maestro, Emmanuel Turenne, rejoint plus tard par Charlemagne Pierre-Noël, le directeur musical. L'Orchestre a eu du mal à fonctionner tant les pressions sociales étaient fortes. Il ne pouvait pas se produire dans les milieux intellectuels, huppés qui étaient considérés comme la chasse gardée du Septentrional. Tropicana était l'orchestre des déshérités, donc il était relégué à l'arrière plan. Si jamais il devait jouer quelque part, en milieu défavorisé bien sûr, c'était pour une pitance.

À cette époque, la musique française et la musique latine étaient très populaires en Haïti. Il fallait venir avec quelque chose de meilleur pour arriver à s'imposer dans une zone qui vous est déjà très hostile. La présence de Tropicana avec son fameux chanteur Pierre Féquière Joseph, plus connu sous le nom de Giordany Joseph (Gros monsieur), allait-elle changer les choses ?

Celui-ci excellait en chansonnettes françaises, boléros et pots-pourris spécialement. Il était une référence sûre, sa voix remplissait l'Orchestre dans tous ses compartiments. Il était devenu un chanteur de charme avec les chansonnettes françaises et ses boléros, dont lui seul avait le secret. Dans son style, il était unique. L'artiste était un parolier extraordinaire. Il a ajouté au répertoire du Tropicana des textes mémorables comme: " Rosemarie ", " Marie Madelaine ", " Rosie " et " Philomise " que Charlemagne Pierre-Noël et Daniel Larivière avaient orchestrés. Son texte de prédilection était " Le Nègre ", arrangé par le professeur Jean Janvier Muselaire.

Ces compositions aidaient beaucoup l'Orchestre à se faire connaître, à s'imposer et à explorer d'autres régions du pays. Avec l'aide de certains médias, le Tropicana d'Haïti commençait à faire sa popularité. Des animateurs de radio comme Joseph Solon et Denis H. Mathurin ont beaucoup contribué à la popularisation de l'Orchestre. D'autres émissions populaires comme

le club Tropic de Port-au Prince répandaient ses compositions à travers le pays et les rendaient ainsi populaires de jour en jour.

Selon Djecce de *kitelmache.net*, " Le nom de l'Orchestre Tropicana d'Haïti recèle aujourd'hui un trésor d'histoires fabuleuses pour les générations présentes et futures. Groupe musical mythique et légendaire dont la gestion et la solidarité entre les musiciens font de lui une véritable institution. Le professionnalisme de ses musiciens, l'ingéniosité de ses compositions, jamais en déphasage avec le temps, doivent servir de modèle aux musiciens et aux entrepreneurs locaux. "

L'Orchestre Tropicana d'Haïti a produit plus d'une quarantaine d'albums, à partir de 1970, soit sept ans après son existence. Le premier hit est la composition " Zoklo ", suivi de " Ti zo. " Mais n'en parlons pas parce qu'on trouve sur chaque album produit par l'Orchestre, au moins un hit et d'autres compositions sur des sujets populaires qui retiennent l'attention et qui sont matière à réflexions.

En termes de gestion, l'Orchestre Tropicana est un modèle, une véritable institution qui tient compte du bien-être de chaque membre qu'il soit actif ou non. Toutefois, cela ne veut pas dire pour autant que tout va bien au quotidien. Quand l'orchestre a démarré en 1963, il y avait des difficultés de toutes sortes. Au Cap même, le groupe n'était pas le bienvenu. Réaliser une kermesse ou une soirée dansante était chose difficile ou impossible. D'ailleurs, rares étaient les night clubs qui voulaient accueillir l'orchestre car le public avait du mal à apprécier le travail rythmique qui lui paraissait nouveau.

Le groupe ne gagnait pas assez d'argent, il était confronté à pas mal d'inconvénients qu'il devait surmonter coûte que coûte pour arriver à subsister. Heureusement, l'Orchestre était uni, les musiciens, solidaires les uns des autres, jouaient avec leurs cœurs amenant ainsi le groupe à prendre son envol au cours des années 1970, notamment en décembre 1973 après des tournées à l'étranger, notamment aux États-Unis d'Amérique, au Canada et aux Antilles, selon M. Augustin Antoine. C'étaient des tournées à succès. La nouvelle arrivait aux oreilles des plus entêtés et les portait à regarder l'Orchestre autrement. Depuis, les prestations devenaient de plus en plus fréquentes et les mélomanes réticents commençaient à venir faire sa connaissance.

Une autre page est tournée et il faut voir l'avenir

Au commencement, il n'y avait pas beaucoup de musiciens à gérer, explique M. Antoine. Aujourd'hui, c'est plus complexe dit-il. Il y a les retraités, les musiciens actifs et les stagiaires. Maintenant le Tropicana est une machine avec plus de deux cent (200) contrats de bals et de ker-



L'Orchestre TROPICANA lors de sa prestation le samedi 1er décembre 2012, à Tatiana Night Club, Hallandale Beach. Photo archives: Le Floridien

messes par année, des dépenses exorbitantes, conclut notre interlocuteur. Le respect de ses fans, le professionnalisme des musiciens et la discipline qui y règnent, constituent la force de cet Orchestre et expliquent en partie son succès.

Le Tropicana et le social

L'Orchestre Tropicana ne se contente pas seulement de jouer et de gagner de l'argent. La " Fusée d'or ", s'investit aussi dans le social. Il y a la fondation, " Fonda Tropic " qui en 2008/2009 a planté 87 000 plantules à travers les communes du Cap-Haïtien et du Limbé. La fondation s'occupe aussi des enfants nécessiteux en les aidants à payer leur écolage.

La tradition des soirées dansantes
Les soirées dansantes de l'Orchestre Tropicana d'Haïti, sont devenues une tradition dans beaucoup de régions du pays, à commencer par Port-au-Prince où l'on a l'impression que la " Fusée d'or " est même trop populaire. Les fans résidant dans les quartiers sud de la région métropolitaine de Port-au-Prince savent que chaque 2 janvier, ils

ont rendez-vous avec le Tropicana au Méridien night club, et c'est le même constat chaque 31 décembre au club International, à Pétion-ville, à la faculté d'Agronomie avant la Noël et au club Distinction à Damien, au Nord de Port-au-Prince. Ce n'est pas tout, dans les villes de province, l'orchestre par ses soirées dansantes attirent beaucoup de fans et même ceux de Port-au-Prince. Les résidents de la capitale n'ont aucun mal à se rendre jusqu'à Ounaminthe, dans le Nord-EST, pour danser leur orchestre.

Avec l'avènement de son 50e anniversaire, l'Orchestre Tropicana va intensifier ses activités en Haïti et à l'étranger. Le dernier album du groupe " Pran san nou ", qui est sorti depuis plus d'une année, est une preuve que l'Orchestre Tropicana d'Haïti reste en contact avec le temps et entend perpétuer sa tradition de marcher avec le temps.

Walter Cameau
S : Le Matin

Ti Ribrik Konsèy Pratik



JUDE ETIENNE

Bonjour/Bonswa

2012 ale, 2013 rantre, nap di tout ayisyen kèlkeswa kote nou ye sou latè BON ANE, LA REZONE! Kòm nou ka remake li, non Ti ribrik la chanje. Mwen chwazi rele li pito: RIBRIK SANTE N SE LAVI N...yon non ki pi sanble sa nap pale yo. Nap di bon Dieu mèsi pou favè ke li fè nou. Li pèmèt nou rete vivan, menm lè pwoblèm sante, ekonomik, famiyal, e sosyal ap tripote lavi nou. Nou konnen yon jou kon Jodi a pwoblèm nou yo va trouve yon vrè solisyon definitif, paske Jeyova Dye, se yon Bon Dye ki gen repons tout pwoblèm.

Wi ! Nou sot pase yon lanne nap pale sou prekosyon, remèd natirèl, fason nou dwe konpòte nou pou nou kapab rete an sante menm lè nap viv nan yon anvivonman ki chaje ak chokèt maladi. Jodi a se jou

poun pran yon gwo desizyon nan lavi nou..., se jou tou poun mare fache ak: Manje ki gen pwodwi chimik, manje fast food, manje konsè, manje vant plen lè nou pral dòmi, bwè soda, fimen sigarèt, plede bwè tafya, fimen ou byen rale dwòg, bat night, frekante plizyè fanm ou byen plizyè gason. Se lanne pou nou mete lòd nan dezòd.....bon Dieu bay nou yon chans, an nou bay pwòp tèt nou an retou yon chans, yon chans, yon chans, sèlman sa " YON CHANS ".

Se vre nou konnen gen anpil nan nou ki pa prezan jounen jodi, gen ki malad, gen ki nan prizon, e gen ki mouri.....konnen byen ke RIBRIK SANTE N SE LAVI N pap janm bliye nou, lap toujou ak nou an èspri kèlkeswa kote nou ye. Kanmarad Jude Etienne e jounal Le Floridien ap di nou tout mèsi pou ankourajman nou, sipò moral nou. Nan non Jeyova Dye nap kontinye kenbe chèn lanmou an pandan tout lanne 2013 la e menm pi lwen toujou.

Li rete a wou menm ki derefizè pran yon desizyon serye ak santew e sante fanmiy ou pouw pwofite pran desizyon sa jodia menm, pa tann demen, paske DYABET, TANSYON, KOLESTEWOL, KANSE, OPRESYON, RIMATIS, ANEMI FALSIFOM,

FOLI, MALKADI, SINIZIT, TIBEKILOZ, SIFILIS, SIDA, KOLERA, ENFEKSYON, elatriye pap neglije yon fraksyon de segonn pou mete nou kouche plat. Pa tann se lè nou frape pou nap di sim te konnen. Chanje lavi nou jodia menm, paske sante n se lavi n !!!

Li pa ko twò ta, wou menm ki deja malad OGANIZASYON ZANMI LANATI AYITI – ZALAY ap lonje lamèn ba wou ane 2013 sa. Vinn jwenn nou nan gwo fanmiy sante natirèl la ke nap bati ansanm nan. Si tout fwa wou menm ki malad e ou santi ou pou kont ou Zalay se yon bon plas pou wou. Wou menm tou ki pa malad e ki ta vle rejwenn yon òganizasyon sante natirèl, tanpri kontakte nou: OZETAZINI/KANADA/FRANS Jude Etienne: 305-709-7612. AYITI Odelain Joseph 509-3759-7195. SANTYAGO/REP. DOM. Hamlet Alexandre 1809-306-7564

Oganizasyon Zanmi Lanati Ayiti/ZALAY et le journal Le Floridien vous souhaitent une bonne et heureuse année 2013. Que Jéhovah Dieu vous protège toujours! Jude Etienne (LANDSCAPIST/HORTICULTURIST) ZANMI LANATI AYITI-ZALAY.

La bataille de succession a commencé au Venezuela

Par Patrick Bèle

Très malade, Hugo Chavez pourrait ne pas revenir de Cuba. Trois hommes peuvent prétendre à sa succession.

L'après-Chavez a commencé à Caracas. Depuis que le chef de l'État a subi sa quatrième opération en moins de deux ans pour un cancer dans la région abdominale, il paraît de plus en plus probable qu'il ne soit plus capable d'exercer le pouvoir. Réélu triomphalement le 7 octobre dernier, il est même douteux désormais qu'il puisse rentrer de Cuba pour sa propre cérémonie d'investiture, qui devait avoir lieu le 10 janvier 2013.

Les chavistes tentent de préparer le pays en expliquant que cette cérémonie peut être reportée, mais leur principale obsession aujourd'hui est de définir un processus de transition acceptable par l'ensemble des Vénézuéliens. Hugo Chavez, avant de retourner à Cuba le 9 décembre dernier, a semblé désigner son successeur lors d'une allocution retransmise autoritairement sur toutes les télévisions et radios du pays: "Nicolas Maduro doit terminer le mandat, comme le prévoit la Constitution... Si une nouvelle élection est nécessaire, vous devez voter pour Nicolas Maduro comme président."

Elias Jaua représente la tendance dure du chavisme

Le scénario de la transition pourrait pourtant être plus compliqué. En réal-

ité, il existe au moins trois prétendants à la succession, représentant chacun trois tendances fortes du chavisme, qui n'ont pas renoncé à leurs ambitions.

D'abord bien sûr, Nicolas Maduro, désigné au lendemain de l'élection présidentielle du 7 octobre dernier, à la fois ministre des Affaires étrangères et vice-président. Cet ancien chauffeur de métro appartient à la tendance cubaine du chavisme. Depuis longtemps dans l'ombre de Chavez, il n'a jamais cherché à briller par son charisme ni par ses initiatives.

Le second prétendant possible est Elias Jaua. Prédécesseur de Nicolas Maduro au poste de vice-président, Hugo Chavez l'a envoyé au "casse-pipe" en lui demandant de se présenter à l'élection de gouverneur de l'État de Miranda contre le candidat malheureux de l'opposition à la présidentielle, Henrique Capriles. Si ce dernier a gagné, le score obtenu par le candidat chaviste est



Actuel ministre des Affaires étrangères et vice-président du Venezuela, Nicolas Maduro a été désigné par Hugo Chavez comme son successeur. Crédits photo : HO/AFP

plus qu'honorable et lui permet de rester un homme qui compte dans le PSUV (le Parti socialiste unifié du Venezuela) où il représente la tendance dure du chavisme.

L'armée en position d'arbitre

Le dernier prétendant à la succession est Diosdado Cabello. Il est aujourd'hui président de l'Assemblée nationale. Ancien lieutenant de l'armée, il représente la tendance militariste du chavisme et, à ce titre, pèse d'un poids très important dans la vie politique vénézuélienne. Hugo Chavez a pris soin dernièrement de placer de nombreux ex-gradés à des postes clés de l'administration du

pays: trois ministres viennent des rangs de l'armée et surtout il y a 11 militaires parmi les 22 gouverneurs élus le 16 décembre dernier. "Les Cubains n'ont pas d'influence sur la succession de Chavez, déclarait-il y a quelques jours Heinz Dietrich, ancien idéologue du chavisme, au quotidien brésilien Folha de Sao Paulo. Les militaires fidèles à Chavez sont le facteur clé" de la succession.

Hugo Chavez a voulu construire un équilibre des pouvoirs, en désignant Nicolas Maduro, "le Cubain", comme successeur et en mettant parallèlement l'armée dans une position de force. Mais ce schéma pourrait se modifier après l'annonce de la disparition du leader de la révolution bolivarienne, si l'armée vénézuélienne ne se contentait pas d'un rôle d'arbitre. "Ici, il y a une révolution militaire en marche", a-t-on pu entendre dans une déclaration attribuée à Chavez et lue par Nicolas Maduro devant les forces armées vendredi dernier.

S: Le Monde

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Haïti: 22 convoqués pour affronter le Chili le 19 janvier

Après la troisième place acquise dans la coupe Caraïbes des nations le 16 décembre écoulé, les Grenadiers (39e) dans le dernier classement mondial de la FIFA sont au repos et doivent reprendre les séances d'entraînement le lundi 7 janvier 2013 pour préparer leur test match prévu douze jours après à Concepcion face à l'équipe Chilienne.

Avec quatre joueurs appelés, l'équipe championne du dernier championnat national de D1, le Valencia FC de Léogâne est l'équipe la mieux représentée dans cette sélection; suivent les équipes du Victory SC, Don Bosco FC, Tempête FC et de Baltimore SC de Saint-Marc avec chacune trois joueurs convoqués.

En revanche, Peter Germain (Baltimore SC), Péguero Jean Philippe (Don Bosco) et Léonel Saint-Preux (AS Capoise) qui selon plus d'un, seraient les trois têtes de pont du mot d'ordre de grève observé par les Grenadiers pour réclamer leurs primes de qualification pour la Gold Cup avant de jouer contre l'équipe cubaine en 1/2 finale de la coupe Caraïbes des nations, ont été tous écartés dans le groupe des 22 joueurs convoqués pour préparer le match

amical devant mettre aux prises l'équipe haïtienne et celle du Chili le 19 janvier à Concepcion.

Toujours est-il, que les expatriés ont de fortes chances d'intégrer l'équipe nationale dans la mesure où la rencontre se jouera lors d'une journée mondiale de la FIFA.

En partance à Cuba en vue de passer les fêtes de fin d'année, le sélectionneur national, Israel Blake Cantero a, dans un rapport soumis aux dirigeants de la Fédération Haïtienne de Football (FHF), clairement signifié aux autorités fédérales que certains joueurs de l'équipe nationale ont un grave problème d'éducation.

En attendant la réaction des autorités fédérales, particulièrement le Directeur technique national, la reprise des entraînements des Grenadiers est fixée au lundi 7 janvier 2013, à compter de 3h PM au Centre FIFA Goal situé à la Croix-des-Bouquets.

Les 22 convoqués :

Gardiens: Frandy Montrévil (Valencia) et Guerry Romondt (Tempête)



Les Grenadiers (39e) dans le dernier classement mondial de la FIFA doivent reprendre les séances d'entraînement le lundi 7 janvier 2013. Ils affronteront la sélection chilienne le 19 janvier à Concepcion.

Défenseurs: Jean Charles Canès, Orlish Saurel (Don Bosco FC), Rubbin Jean Garry (América FC), Raymond Edneron (Baltimore SC), Foreste Sonthonax (Cavaly AS), Mackendy Duverger, Jean Robert Jean (Valencia FC), Vaniel Sirin (Tempête FC).

Milieux de terrain : Saint-Louis Wislet (Don Bosco FC), Monuma Constant Junior (RCH), Nicodème Beaugé, Bony Pierre (Victory SC),

Alexandre Junior (Baltimore SC), Géraldy Joseph (Valencia FC), Gérald Charles Bradley (Tempête FC).

Attaquants : Toussaint Philippe Junior (Victory SC), Fritznel Louis (Baltimore SC), Bendjy Macajoux, Joseph Kersly (FICA), Sandro Doréus (ASC)

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Placide a signé à Reims

Après douze années de bons et de loyaux services rendus au Havre (Ligue 2), le portier international haïtien, Johnny Placide, (1m81 pour 82 kg), né le 29 janvier 1988 à Montfermeil (France), révélé lors de la dernière phase des Jeux Olympiques de Pékin (Chine) 2008, Carson (Californie/USA), a rejoint la Ligue 1, et s'est engagé ce mercredi 2 janvier 2013 avec l'équipe du Stade de Reims.



Comme nous vous l'annoncions la semaine dernière, Johnny Placide s'est engagé mercredi en faveur du club champenois, actuellement 15e de Ligue 1, Reims, où il a paraphé un contrat de trois ans et demi. Le gardien de 23 ans était jusque-là le gardien du Havre et va remplacer provisoirement Kossi Agassa, qui est pour le moment blessé à un ménisque.

Pendant l'intersaison, Placide a été très demandé. Nommé pour le titre de meilleur gardien de L2 aux Trophées de l'UNFP, le portier du Havre Johnny Placide (sous contrat jusqu'en juin 2013) a finalement quitté son club formateur. L'ancien international Espoirs avait intéressé beaucoup de clubs, tels : l'AS Monaco, L'Aj. Auxerre, le Stade de Rennes et l'AS Saint-Étienne.

Avant de s'engager avec l'équipe du Reims, Placide qui n'a joué que six matches cette saison comme titulaire soit (540) minutes a été relégué au rang des remplaçants par l'entraîneur du Havre, Christophe Revault.

Johnny Placide qui avait participé au come back des Grenadiers dans la Gold

Cup qui aura lieu du 7 au 28 juillet 2013 aux USA porte à trois, le nombre de joueurs de nationalité haïtienne évoluant dans la ligue 1 française. Les deux autres sont respectivement, Romain Gènevois (OGC Nice) et Jeff Louis (AS Nancy).

L'AS Petit-Goâve champion national de D2

Le Racing Club Haïtien (RCH) n'aura pas connu la même réussite qu'en 2008, l'année où il avait remporté le trophée récompensant le vainqueur du championnat national de la Deuxième division, en battant non sans peine au terme d'un match spéculaire l'AS Saint-Louis du Nord (4-3). Hier dimanche 30 décembre au stade Sylvio Cator, le vieux Lion a été battu aux tirs aux buts (5-4) par la pimpante équipe de l'AS Petit-Goâve alors que les deux protagonistes étaient à égalité (1-1) au terme du temps réglementaire.



Ainsi, l'AS Petit-Goâve rentre dans la cour des grands, et ce par la grande porte. La question à se poser, est ce que les Petit-Goaviens auront les moyens de leurs politiques pour tenir leur place en D1 l'an prochain ?

Tout compte fait, on connaît l'identité des 12 équipes évoluant l'année parmi l'élite du football national. Ce sont respectivement : l'América FC des Cayes, l'AS

Petit-Goâve, le Valencia FC et le Cavaly AS de Léogâne, le Victory SC, l'Aigle Noir AC et le Racing Club Haïtien de Port-au-Prince, le Don Bosco de Pétion-Ville, l'AS Mirebalais, le Tempête FC et

le Baltimore SC de Saint-Marc et le FICA du Cap-Haïtien.

Aucune date n'est encore retenue pour le coup d'envoi de la nouvelle saison.

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