

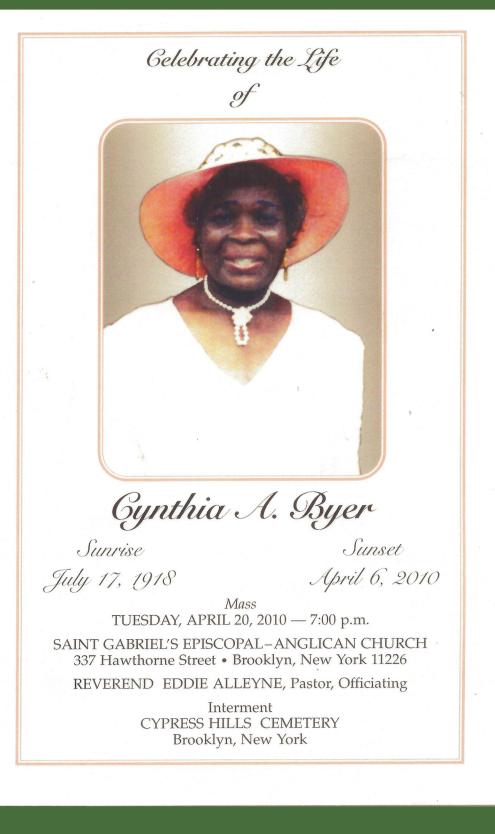
## Gail Adams

#### Gail A. Adams, Esq., WGE

Gail A. Adams, Esq. was born in Guyana, South America. She migrated to the United States in early 1983. Ms. Adams obtained a Law Degree from Touro College Jacob D. Fuchsberg Law Center and a Bachelor of Arts Degree from Colgate University.

Ms. Adams manages her private practice Adams, Sampson & Associates, LLC. where she handles cases ranging from criminal law, real estate transactions, landlord and tenant, probate, wills and trusts. Before starting her own law firm, she worked as a Criminal Defense Attorney, was Program Advisor for the African Caribbean Cultural Center, a Teaching Assistant and a Student Representative to the Faculty while in College.

Ms. Adams is actively involved with her church, St. Lydia's Episcopal Church, which she considers the foundation of her life and upon which she stands. She is married to Jesse and they have two children, Jonathan and Brandon. These three men in her life share her dream and gives radiance to each day.



## Cynthia A. Byer Posthumous Award

Cynthia Byer, WGE

Cynthia "Sis" Byer was born on July 17, 1918, she was the second of two children born to Evangeline Hinkson in Barbados. Cynthia attended the St. Jude's grammar school and later studied dressmaking with noted dressmaker, Mrs. King of Mt. Hill, St. George.

Cynthia was a tireless warrior for over fifty years in her pursuit of advancement and justice for all. Beginning in her little "rural" community in Barbados and then to the United States upon her migration in 1950. She always championed the cause of those in need and never ignored her commitment to her religion, being a Sunday School Teacher and Choir Member, both at the St.Jude's Church in Barbados and at the St. Georges Episcopal Church in New York, for many years.

Cynthia was a fearless and fearsome warrior who traveled around this country in the quest for human rights and dignity for her people. In Memphis she marched with Dr Martin Luther King Jr. for the rights of the Sanitation workers in that city. At the famous march on Washington, or the march for the rights of minorities to be hired as Artisans during the building of Downstate University Hospital here in Brooklyn, she appealed vigorously. Her demonstrations at the United Nations, demanded the end of apartheid in South Africa. All being done while she was a member and instrument of her beloved Union, DC37. Cynthia proudly served her Union in many capacities over forty years. Finally reaching the position of Chapter Chairperson of Local 420 at the Kings County Hospital from which she retired several years ago.

Many richly deserved accolades were awarded to her which she greatly treasured and appreciated. However, nothing warmed her heart more than the joy and contentment she exhibited when she would recall some of the many successes which had resulted from her extraordinary leadership and efforts. Cynthia lived a long, productive, rich and fertile life. She has left a magnificent legacy for the generation that follows. Let us all follow her lead, be the keepers of our brothers, and always speak out against injustice!



# Karlene ChinQuee

#### Karlene ChinQuee, MD, FACOG, WGE

Dr. Karlene ChinQuee is a Board Certified Obstetrician/ Gynecologist who practices Integrative Age Management and Preventive Medicine in New York City. She specializes in Age Management, Functional Medicine, Bioidentical Hormone Therapy, Nutrition and Fitness, Bioregulatory Medicine, Environmental Medicine and Bariatric Medicine. Dr. ChinQuee has been in private practice since 1990 and is an Attending Physician with privileges at Lenox Hill Hospital North Shore LIJ in New York City, and Chief Medical Officer of The ChinQuee Center for Health and Wellness on Fifth Avenue in Manhattan.

A graduate of Brown University and SUNY at Stony Brook School of Medicine, she trained in Internal Medicine; and in Obstetrics and Gynecology at St. Vincent's Medical Center, Staten Island, New York. where she received the "Intern of the Year" Award. She is an expert in women's health and has lectured extensively on women's health issues in the United States and abroad. She has frequently appeared as a medical expert on major television newscasts, including ABC Eyewitness News, Fox News and USA Live and most recently on WPIX News; and was designated as one of New York City's best doctors in Essence Magazine under "Caring and Capable Female Doctors in the U.S.".

While in private practice, Dr. ChinQuee has been awarded the 2008 Ellis Island Medal of Honor. It recognizes distinguished Americans from various ethnic backgrounds who have made significant contributions to our nation's heritage. In 2010, Dr. ChinQuee received the prestigious Vice Chancellor Achievement Award from The American Foundation for the University of the West Indies (AFUWI) for her high levels of achievement within the field of medicine and for her humanitarian efforts.



## Paula A. Cox

#### THE HON. PAULA A. COX, JP, MP, WGE

The Hon. Paula A. Cox, JP, MP was elected as Leader of the Progressive Labour Party and by ascent, in accordance with the Bermuda Constitution Order 1968, Premier of Bermuda, on Thursday, 28 October 2010.

She was first elected to Parliament in October, 1996 when she won a Devonshire North by-election (Constituency 14). Premier Cox, then in her 30's, became one of the youngest members of the House of Assembly. In her subsequent fourteen years as a law-maker for the governing Progressive Labour Party, Premier Cox has garnered wide-ranging experience in Governance having held a number of Cabinet portfolios.

Premier Cox assumed the Finance portfolio exclusively in January 2004, succeeding her late father, the Hon. C. Eugene Cox, CBE, JP, MP and retains the Treasury portion of that portfolio as part of her present Cabinet responsibilities.

Ms. Cox earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science from McGill University in Canada, and a post-graduate Diploma in International Law from the University of Manchester. She trained as a Solicitor at the College of Law, Chancery Lane, London and was called to the Bermuda Bar in January 1992. She received an honorary Doctorate in Education at the May 2004 Commencement Exercise of Wheelock College (USA) and more recently, in 2009, was made an honorary alumnus of Dalhousie University.

Premier Cox was chosen as Regional Female Leader of the Year in April 2011.

Premier Cox was formerly a Corporate Counsel at ACE Limited and has been employed as Vice President and Senior Legal Counsel of Global Funds Services at the Bank of Bermuda Limited.

This impeccable background along with her expertise in the field of international law and international business has allowed her to give the PLP Government a strong voice in international financial matters. It is unquestioned she has gained respect throughout the country and across party lines for her brilliance as an articulate lawyer, administrator and politician.

Premier Cox is married to Mr. Germain Nkeuleu and they share a son, Stephane.



# Alix Boyd Knights

### Hon. Alix Boyd Knights, WGE DOMINICA

Hon. Alix Boyd Knights, Speaker of the House of Assembly since April 17th 2000, grew up on the beautiful island of Dominica in the 1950s. At the age of 16, she left for England to pursue her education. After her studies, she got married and started a family.

Several years later, Hon. Alix Boyd Knights enrolled at The University of the West Indies (UWI) distance-learning programme for non-campus territories where she availed herself of that opportunity and was able to complete her 1st year of law off campus. She credits an advertisement put out many years ago by the American United Negro College Fund: "A mind is a terrible thing to waste" as being her main motivating factor.

On completing her law studies, she returned to her homeland, opened her law practice and began advocating for the rights of women and children with an interest for the less privileged and the vulnerable. She was instrumental in bringing Domestic Violence Laws to the attention of women's groups on the island, securing more adequate maintenance for children. She has also been involved locally, regionally and internationally in workshops, seminars and meetings on Domestic Violence, women and the law, abuse of children and post-election seminars both as attendee and facilitator.

At the meeting of Women Parliamentarians held during the 56th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference in September, 2010, in Nairobi Kenya, Hon Alix Boyd Knights was elected to serve as Commonwealth Women Parliamentarians Chairperson for a term of 3 years.



## Geneive Brown Metzger

### Dr. Geneive Brown Metzger, WGE

Dr. Genieve Brown Metzger holds an M.A. from Columbia University and was awarded an Honorary Doctor of Laws Degree from the University of Technology, Jamaica, in acknowledgement of her notable contributions to bilateral relations in tertiary education.

Her appointment as Jamaica's eight Consul General to New York follows thirty years of experience in corporate communications, government/international affairs, and community relations, as an executive, entrepreneur and partner at one of the world's largest public relations agencies, Ruder Finn. Dr. Briown Metzger is a founding member of the Caribbean American Chamber of Commerce and industry and the Union of Jamaica Alumni Association (USA), Inc.

Dr. Brown Metzger received the Minority Business of the Year Award from the National Minority Business Council (NMBC), and the Achievement Award from the Office of the Mayor of the City of New York. She has been featured in the New York Times, Upscale Magazine, Fox NY Television, BET, The Jamaica Gleaner, The Network Journal, Westchester Magazine and in several other US and Caribbean print media.

Dr. Brown Metzger is an amateur classical violinist and a devotee of the Arts, serving over the years on the Caribbean Steering Committee of the Brooklyn College Center for the Performing Arts, the Board of Directors of the Paramount Center for the Arts and special committee of the Brooklyn Academy of Music. She is the founder of the Amadeus Circle, and the One World Arts and Culture Fest, multi day cultural celebration on the Hudson River in Northern New York.



# Shari Lee Sugarman

#### Shari Lee Sugarman, Esq., WGE

Shari Lee Sugarman Esq. received her J.D. in 1997 from Touro College, Jacob D. Fuchsberg Law Center, *cum laude*, and her B.S. in Paralegal Studies from Rivier College in 1988. She is admitted to practice before all state courts in New York, as well as the Eastern and Southern Federal District Courts. She was also on the staff of the Touro International Law Review and was instrumental in reviving the Touro Student Women's Bar Association.

Ms. Sugarman interned at several of Long Island's larger firms, and was hired immediately upon passing the bar in 1998. After several years, she started her own practice, Shari Lee Sugarman, P.C. Here, she has had the opportunity and flexibility to represent clients who cannot always afford an attorney. Her clients range from financial institutions to homeowners struggling to keep their homes from foreclosure.

Ms. Sugarman has been very active with the Suffolk County Women's Bar Association ("SCWBA"), a chapter of the Women's Bar Association of the State of New York ("WBASNY"), since law school. Recognizing the importance of this Organization to the legal rights of women and families; Ms. Sugarman has chaired various committees, including the Breast Cancer Awareness Committee. Ms. Sugarman has always understood the need to mentor younger attorneys and students. She volunteers to mentor high school students in Islip Terrace; as well as law students at Touro College, allowing these students to shadow her at the office and in court.

Most recently, Ms. Sugarman was instrumental in putting together a program entitled "Ready, Set, Lead! Empowering Women in the Political Process". This program was a joint effort between the Suffolk County Women's Bar Association, the Nassau County Women's Bar Association, the Suffolk and Nassau Bar Associations and the League of Women Voters.

Ms. Sugarman and her husband David live in Babylon, New York with their young son, James.