

### Wise Saying

Justly to discriminate, wisely to prescribe, and honestly to award, should be the aim of all criticism.

# Security Chiefs Warn April 12 Protesters



Minister of National Defense, Brownie Samukai

Liberia's Defense Minister and Police Chief have all vowed to deal drastically with anyone who takes part in the upcoming protest scheduled for April 12, 2013 opting for the resignation of President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf for placing her children in high positions of trust in the Country. Addressing the Ministry of Information regular press conference on Capitol Hill on Thursday, the Minister of National Defense, Brownie Samukai and Liberia National Police boss, Chris Massaquoi, said they will do all in their constitutional powers to deal with anyone who will venture in the streets of Monrovia in order to protect the sovereignty of Liberia and its citizens. "We will deal with them, and chase them wherever they are found in the streets of this capital, we will carry rattan (whip) and beat whosoever is found amongst the protesters," the

## Citizens Oppose NGOs Negative Propaganda On Sime Darby Operations



A Patient at SDP Hospital

The impromptu visit by our staff to the Sime Darby plantation site situated in both Bomi and Cape Mount Counties; helping to empower Liberians through job creation in that part of the Country, saw dozens of its workforce, many of whom hailed from these Counties, heaping praises on this Malaysian owned Company for its support towards the growth and development of their beloved Counties. The citizens speaking to a team of journalists from the Labor Times, angrily debunked numerous negative media reports by the Company's detractors with the sole objective of promoting their selfish aims, stressing, "What this Company is doing for us by providing free medical care to us, and our children must be appreciated. No amount of smear campaigns by detractors can make us to betray this Company," an employee, Anthony Musa who is also Store Keeper of the Company, said in a chat with journalists noted. Mr. Musa who is in charge of the Company's monthly distribution of rations (7,000 bags of rice) to employees and non-employees in both counties, also spoke highly of the effort by the company to improve

Cont'd On Page 4

## "People With Down Syndrome Are Not So Different From Us" -Says Dr. Cooper Barnes

By Yandae B. Jath



Miss. Titima

Dr. Dawn Cooper Barnes

Dr. Dawn Cooper Barnes has said that the difference between people with Down Syndrome and other individuals is only one tiny chromosome-they have 47 instead of the usual 46. Serving as Keynote Speaker at programs marking the observance of World Down Syndrome Day, Dr. Barnes said that the difference between people with Down Syndrome and other

Cont'd On Page 6

### THE LABOR TIMES

#### Security Chief

two security officials told the media at a well attended news conference. This day, April 12, 1980 was the day Liberia's democratically elected President of Liberia, William R. Tolbert was overthrown by the then Master Sergeant of the Armed Force of Liberia, Samuel Kanyon Doe who later became Liberia's 20th President.

Police Chief Chris Massaquoi, speaking at the press briefing, reminded the organizers of the planned April 12 demonstration that while their right to march or assemble is guaranteed under the Liberian Constitution, the Liberia National Police which is the arm of government given the mandate to enforce all laws and statutes of the country, will not hesitate to restore law and order if such assembly is not orderly and peaceful.

He used the occasion to appeal to the Liberia Council of Churches (LCC), the Inter-religious Council, traditional leaders and civil society organizations, among others, to prevail of the organizers of the planned demonstration to call off their pending street protest in the interest of the country.

The LNP Boss warned that if the organizers of the planned demonstration fail to adhere to these appeals, the Liberia National Police will be deterred or will it shy away from its statutory duty to protect life and property and ensure that law and order prevail.

#### Down Syndrome

Day in Monrovia recently, Dr. Barnes who spoke on the theme: "Love" said, individuals with Down Syndrome have their challenges but with medical intervention, education, training and with the sincere love of others they can become productive members of society.

She noted that some of the greatest individuals in the world are not always the smartest or most intelligent, but rather, those who love unconditionally and therefore she challenged all to love others despite their physical or mental challenges, stressing that if "we love them, we will see them as we see ourselves."

Dr. Barnes further emphasized the need for Liberians to intervene by speaking out against every form of injustice meted out to those who are physically or mentally handicapped and helping but rather empowering them so they can live a worthwhile life by being productive citizens.

Down syndrome is a generic condition that causes delays in

physical and intellectual development of an individual, meaning a person is born with it and cannot contract it after birth.

This year's World Down Syndrome Day under the theme "Right to Work" was organized and sponsored by My Heart's Appeal Inc.(MHA).

MHA was birthed out of a vow the founder Mrs. Lovetie Major, made to her sibling Titema who was born with Down syndrome, that she would help her learn.

Mrs. Major who has a Masters Degree in Education believes that all individuals should have equal opportunity to learn and is of the conviction and principle that as a true educator one must promote the structure that will help all people. See pictorial on page three.

Foreigner Intimidates shareholders (Amos Brosius and Cyril Jones) are spelled out in the Article of Incorporation.

MOTC which is a foreign owned company in its claim to justify ownership of DPI alleged that it own 90% share, but what ponders many Liberians is why should a foreigner own 90% shares in a Liberian owned company? Our investigation continues.

#### Nelson Mandela

Nelson Mandela is 'fine' and 'getting better and better' according to his wife Graca Machel - adding to positive updates on the former South African president's recovery from pneumonia.

Her comments are the latest good news on the 94-year-old's condition following his week of hospital treatment in Pretoria.

It is the third hospital visit for the former anti-apartheid leader since December when he underwent treatment for gallstones and a lung infection.

'He is in hospital

simply because the doctors want to be absolutely sure that he is strong enough to go home and nothing is going to recur.'

Mr Mandela was admitted to a Pretoria hospital at about midnight on Wednesday. The nation, and his supporters around the world has waited anxiously for news of his condition.

The iconic former leader's health has become increasingly fragile in recent years.

Mr. Mandela became South Africa's first black president in 1994 after elections were held, bringing an end to the system of white racist rule known as apartheid.

Reclusive: Mr Mandela last made a public appearance on a major stage when South Africa hosted the 2010 World Cup.

Reclusive: Mr Mandela last made a public appearance on a major stage when South Africa hosted the 2010 World Cup. He is pictured here with his wife Graca Machel during the closing ceremony in Johannesburg.

Treatment: Mediclinic Heart Hospital in Pretoria where Mr Mandela is reportedly being treated for pneumonia

Treatment: Mediclinic Heart Hospital in Pretoria where Mr Mandela is reportedly being treated for pneumonia

Following his release from prison in 1990, he was widely credited with averting even greater bloodshed by helping the country's transition to democratic rule.

The Nobel Peace Prize laureate has been vulnerable to respiratory problems since contracting tuberculosis during his 27-year imprisonment for fighting white racist rule in his country.

The elderly are especially vulnerable to pneumonia, symptoms of which can include fever, chills, a cough, chest pain and shortness of breath.

#### Women Participation

participation in decision-making and leadership roles is critical to national development and sustainable socio-economic advancement.

She said that increasing African women participation in leadership roles throughout the African Continent cannot

# News Beat

## "People With Down Syndrome Are Not So Different From Us" -Says Dr. Cooper Barnes- A Pictorial

