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MONDAY - SEPTEMBER 18TH, 2017

75 CENTS

Crime Spikes in Fox Hill

BY LICEC BASTIAN
 Journal Staff Writer

The country's murder count climbed up a notch, reaching triple digits, according to The Bahama Journal's records, when a teen succumbed to his injuries in hospital following a shooting in Fox Hill on Saturday evening.

According to police reports, shortly after 6 p.m. a 17-year-old male was walking on Johnson Road, Fox Hill with another male when two males in a gray coloured vehicle approached and shot at them before speeding off.

The victim, who was rushed to the hospital in critical condition, later died while his mother watched him take his last breath, according to a close family relative.

See CRIME SPIKES / page 2...

CARICOM TO SUPPORT HURRICANE RECOVERY



► CARICOM Chairman and Grenada Prime Minister Dr. Keith Mitchell (right) and Bahamian Prime Minister Dr. Hubert A. Minnis (centre) addressed members of the media following Dr. Mitchell's return from Ragged Island where the CARICOM Chairman viewed the destruction caused by Hurricane Irma. Dr. Mitchell was accompanied to Ragged Island by a team of senior Bahamian and Caribbean Community officials. (BIS Photo/Patrick Hanna)

arrival, Dr. Mitchell commented that he was happy to be in The Bahamas, but regretted the circumstance which prompted his visit.

"I am happy to be here, but not necessarily in these times when you are under the weather, so to speak," Dr. Mitchell said.

"The Bahamas has good memories for me. This is where I spent my honeymoon, so I don't want to see anything [bad] happen to The Bahamas.

"But, let me say this on behalf of the CARICOM community that we are very happy that we have the opportunity to be here with you in this difficult time.

"The Caribbean family of nations have

come to terms with the fact that this family unity is so vital for us."

Dr. Mitchell said in his years of witnessing natural disasters, he has experienced many Caribbean countries coming to the aide of each other and at this time with such a catastrophic storm he and CARICOM felt compelled to bring some type of relief.

"Over the years we have witnessed a number of disasters and every single country and people in those countries have come to individual aide and support," Dr. Mitchell said.

See SUPPORT HURRICANE on PAGE 2...

Mitchell Wants Govt to Fight Fox Hill Crime

• Teen Murders Concern Former MP

BY LICEC BASTIAN
 Journal Staff Writer

Former Fox Hill Member of Parliament Senator Fred Mitchell weighed in on the recent teen homicides in the area and called on the Free National Movement (FNM) government to implement or put resources in place to curb shootings that occur in the area.

Through a Whatsapp video the former MP sent a clear message to the office of the commissioner of police, the minister of national security and the FNM administration.

See FIGHT FOX HILL CRIME on PAGE 2...



► Former Fox Hill Member of Parliament Senator Fred Mitchell (Journal file photo)

Acklins Residents Return Home after Irma

BY ONIKE ARCHER
 Journal Staff Writer

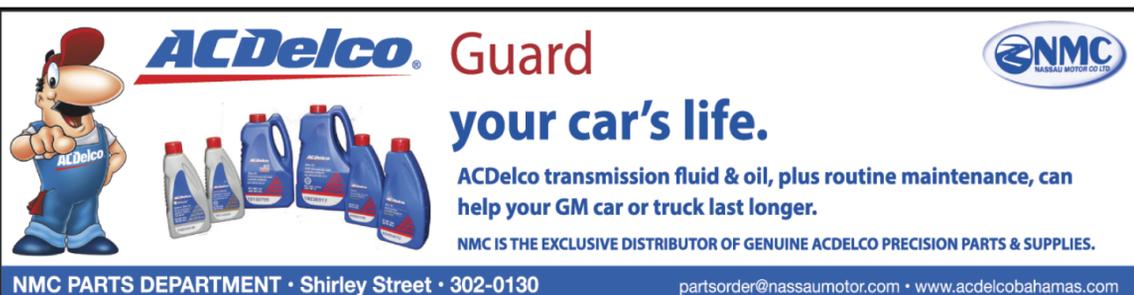
Anxious to assess the condition of their homes, Acklins residents returned to the storm stricken settlements, Salina Point and Lovely Bay last Friday.

Residents boarded their flight from the Lynden

Pindling International Airport (LPIA) after evacuating to New Providence prior to Hurricane Irma's arrival.

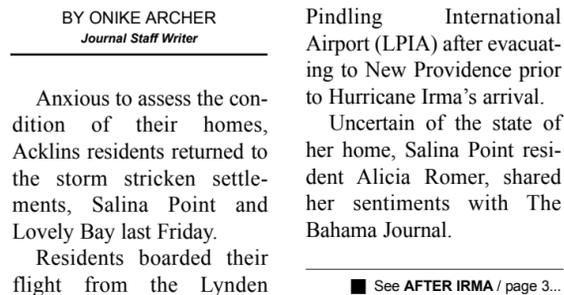
Uncertain of the state of her home, Salina Point resident Alicia Romer, shared her sentiments with The Bahama Journal.

See AFTER IRMA / page 3...



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CARICOM TO SUPPORT HURRICANE RECOVERY

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"Therefore, in your hour of need, we feel compelled and very happy to respond to what has taken place here and to offer all the support CARICOM can give in this difficult time.

"We are very happy to be here. The leadership of CARICOM, we know we have people on the ground, but the leadership of CARICOM felt that we had to be here to demonstrate that at the highest possible level of CARICOM that we are here with you and that we are going to be there supporting you in the immediate needs

that you have and of course the reconstruction effort.

As CARICOM chair, Dr. Mitchell said he and his team from the Caribbean community are too assessing damage in other countries affected by Irma and that there is a need to see small countries be given more finances when faced with challenging times such as the onset of natural disasters.

"We just came from the Turks and Caicos and we saw the damage there," Dr. Mitchell said.

"We were in BVI [British Virgin Islands] and it was completely destroyed with one major building the hos-

pital, which is where the premiere is holding his office

"We were in Anguilla where a lot of destruction we noticed [again] and also in Barbuda where literally there is nobody there except when we went there we met a few horses and a lot of mosquitos.

"So, we know what these things are all about. That's why we have been stressing that what we have to do in every forum is to restate the position which we have taken that to graduating countries because of so called per capita, that formula is a farce.

"Because in one stroke of the pen, one three hour notice in Grenada for example and the same thing can happen here, where you can have so much disaster that can take you years to recover and especially in a country like The Bahamas, you have so many islands even if you have one that is spared so many other destruction can take place in so many of the islands that you have."

Speaking in his capacity as Prime Minister of Grenada, Dr. Mitchell reminisced on the time when his country was destroyed by Hurricane Ivan and the assistance that The Bahamas government rendered to his island.

"Bahamas, when Grenada was destroyed in 2004, the people of The Bahamas not just the government, but the people of The Bahamas came forward with the family and friends and other people there and provided enormous support," Dr. Mitchell said.

"People took individual initiative and brought goods and services to our country.

"And so, we feel compelled to respond."

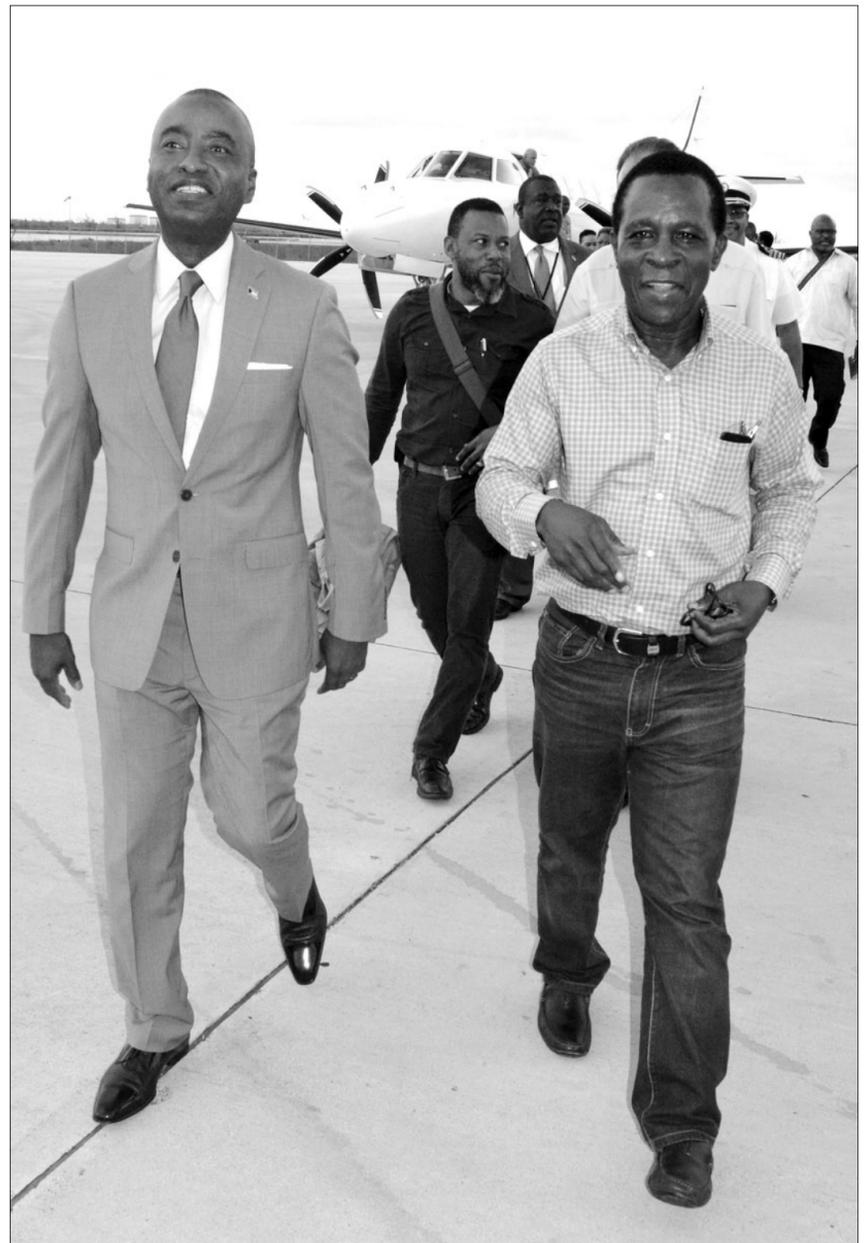
Dr. Mitchell further went on to say that even now, Grenadians are making preparations to assist family and friends in the capital.

"The people home in Grenada have been calling

different media houses asking how can they get some of the services to The Bahamas to the friends and family in The Bahamas because there is a lot of connection between Grenada and The

Bahamas," he said.

Dr. Mitchell toured Ragged Island on Saturday with Prime Minister Dr. Hubert Minnis and a team from both CARICOM and the Bahamas government.



► Minister of Foreign Affairs Darren Henfield, left, escorted CARICOM Chairman Dr. Keith Mitchell, prime minister of Grenada, right, from his plane upon Dr. Mitchell's arrival in Nassau on Friday evening, September 15, 2017 for a CARICOM assessment of the impact of Hurricane Irma. (BIS Photo/Peter Ramsay)



FORM B Notice of Intended Marriage (Section 7(3))

The persons named and described hereunder have given notice to me of their intended marriage, namely --

Stephen Glenn Melvin, Divorced,
of 11 Deedes Cres. Bushland Beach, QLD 4818, Australia

and

Amanda Colleen Carrick, Divorced,
of 11 Deedes Cres. Bushland Beach, QLD 4818, Australia

Any person knowing any just cause or impediment why this marriage should not be allowed should enter caveat forthwith in the office of the Registrar of Marriages.

Dated this 11th day of September, 2017.

Registrar of Marriages



FORM B Notice of Intended Marriage (Section 7(3))

The persons named and described hereunder have given notice to me of their intended marriage, namely --

Richard James Mason, Single,
of 35 Cumberly Croft, Shard End, B34 6TU, United Kingdom

and

Sharon Elaine Daniel, Divorced,
of 13 Harold Road, Edgbaston, B16 9DN, United Kingdom

Any person knowing any just cause or impediment why this marriage should not be allowed should enter caveat forthwith in the office of the Registrar of Marriages.

Dated this 11th day of September, 2017.

Registrar of Marriages

Crime Spikes in Fox Hill

Continued from / PAGE 1...

Police have not officially identified the body. However, reliable sources told The Bahama Journal that the 17-year-old is Mitchell Munroe, the father of a two-year-old.

The other male victim was not injured in the incident.

Former Member of Parliament for

Fox Hill and Progressive Liberal Party Senator Fred Mitchell in a video, circulated on Whatsapp, stated that something must be done to curb crime in the area.

Just four nights prior to this latest incident 16-year-old Jeffery Wright was shot and killed on Brice Street, Fox Hill.

The 11th grade student who attended Government High School was shot

multiple times and killed late Tuesday night while hanging out in the back of his Fox Hill home.

This latest homicide pushed the country's murder count to 104, according to The Bahama Journal's records.

Police are searching for two male suspects who they believe are behind the shooting incident of 17-year-old Munroe.

Mitchell Wants Govt to Fight Fox Hill Crime

Continued from / PAGE 1...

Mr. Mitchell's recent video was in response to two shootings of teenage boys that took place in Fox Hill only days apart.

"Last night I got a call and I could hear the screams of a mother at the hospital because her 17-year-old son had just been killed in the Adderley Street area, Adderley Street and Johnson Road," Mr. Mitchell said in the video.

"This is the second killing [in as many weeks] in the Fox Hill area.

"Somebody, who is a teenager, that the kid before was 16-years-old and he is dead, supposedly over a chain.

"Before that I've written the

commissioner of police asking for additional resources to be put in to Fox Hill to fight this crime epidemic and the gun shots that are being fired every night and people having to crouch in their homes.

"No response from the commissioner of police, no response more importantly from the minister of national security who campaigned, beating up his gums saying that oh yea, they had the solution to all of this and the situation has gotten worse.

"And the minister of national security is silent. Has nothing to say. He needs to step up to the plate and the government needs to put the resources in Fox Hill to get this problem resolved."

Standing in Fox Hill Park, at the roundabout of Bernard and Fox Hill Roads, Mr. Mitchell

alluded to the fact that since the FNM administration took office nothing has been done to upkeep the conditions of the park.

"If you look even at the environment that we are on, this brand new park, that I put before I left as member of parliament, the grass isn't even cut and the environment isn't kept properly; that's the legacy of this FNM government," Mr. Mitchell said.

He further stated, "Now enough is enough."

After lambasting the FNM administration, Mr. Mitchell said something must be done, as he did when he was the member of parliament for the area to tap down the issues the area is plagued with.

"The fact that you have now a 17-year-old got killed, in Fox Hill

plus two shot, plus gunshots every night, that's what's going on here," Mr. Mitchell said.

"We must do something about it and don't tell me that I was the MP and blah blah blah that has nothing to do with what is happening now.

"We need to put resources to do something now.

"When I was MP I did what was necessary to tap these issues down. I'm saying bring the resources FNM government do something about it."

Just four days apart, 16-year-old Jeffery Wright and 17-year-old Mitchell Munroe were shot in the Fox Hill area.

Wright died on the scene in the backyard of his home, while Munroe succumbed to his gunshot wound hours later at the Princess Margaret Hospital.

BAHA MAR ASSISTS WITH HURRICANE RELIEF



▶ Baha Mar associates prepare care packages for persons affected by Hurricane Irma. (Photo/Baha Mar)

Bahamian Boaters Rescued Near Bimini

Acklins Residents Return Home after Irma

Continued from / PAGE 1...

“What are we going home to?” Ms. Romer said. “According to the information coming from Salina Point, Acklins where I’m from, the settlement is nowhere for anybody to be at this time, especially for children.”

Ms. Romer has a seven-year-old son who did not accompany her travelling back to Acklins.

“I’m not going to take him back until I assess my damage,” she said. “I’m not going to take him to get sick until they get Salina Point back on track.”

Ms. Romer further expanded on conditions she may meet once she returns.

“It’s filthy, and coffins are coming out of the graves. There are dead dogs, dead goats and cesspits opening up to the public,” she explained.

“Where in the heavens are we supposed to be go?”

Ms. Romer added that she had to

travel back because she operates her business from her house.

However, she is aware of the roof damage her house sustained.

“A piece of the roof in the back came off. I can’t live there,” she said.

Although not ecstatic about travelling back home to face the realities of wreckage wrought by Hurricane Irma, she expressed her gratitude toward the government’s unprecedented decision to evacuate persons from the southeastern islands and ensured accommodations were provided for persons needing shelter.

Ms. Romer said, “First of all, I want to say thanks to everybody who donated items like, food, clothes and the shelter on Blake Road. I want to say thanks to them because they made sure the persons who were there, were fed and had a place to sleep.”

Forty-three-year-old Lovely Bay, Acklins resident, Clarence Oneil

Williams also travelled back to his home last Friday.

Travelling with his three sons, Mr. Williams encountered unexpected challenges at the LPIA airport.

“It’s been a little frustrating getting back because they telling you one thing to come, and when you reach here your name is not on the list and that is really frustrating to me,” Mr. Williams said.

“You don’t need that kind of stress right now after going through all of this with the hurricane. I didn’t want to come, but I realized it was best and I just want to hurry up and get back to see what’s going on.”

Although Mr. Williams admitted he knew he some minor damage, he was still concerned about his home.

“Knowing the size of the storm, I just want to get back to see what’s going on and that’s my biggest fear,” he said.

Several Bahamian boaters were rescued by a joint effort by members of the Royal Bahamas Defence Force (RBDF), Police Force and Operations Bahamas and Turks and Caicos (OPBAT) and Bahamas Air Sea Rescue (BASES - Freeport) in two separate incidents on Saturday.

According to RBDF officials, in the first incident which occurred around 6 p.m., OPBAT reported that a 25-foot white Ranger vessel named ‘Whiplash’ experienced mechanical problems two miles south of Bimini.

A vessel from the Police Marine Division in Bimini was dispatched with a police officer along with two Defence Force marines on board. The disabled vessel, along with a male occupant, was safely brought into north Bimini.

According to officials, in

a second incident which occurred around 8:25 p.m., a 19-foot skiff was being towed by a 17-foot skiff in the area of Brown’s Boat Basin near the Poop Deck, East Bay Street.

A 26-foot vessel named ‘Raptor’ collided into the tow rope, resulting in minor damage to one of the vessels.

Officials said Defence Force Patrol craft P-115 went and assisted the vessels, which were all escorted to the Defence Force’s Harbour Patrol Unit.

None of the occupants on the vessels were injured.

GOT NEWS?
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The Bahamas Agriculture & Marine Science Institute

WEEKLY PRICE REPORT

WEEK BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 4th, 2017

Wholesale Crop	Weight	Size	BAMSI			USDA-AMS		
			Price	HIGH	LOW	Retail Weight	BAMSI Price	USDA-AMS HIGH LOW
Banana	40lbs		18.00	20.00	20.00	1lb.	0.49	0.72 0.49
Papaya	10lbs		14.00	18.00	16.00	each	1.59	1.57 1.57
Habanero Pepper	8lbs		40.00	15.00	12.00	1lb.	5.50	1.88 1.50
Avocado Pears						each	1.50	2.50 1.82
Avocado (small)						each	0.75	2.50 1.82
Limes	40lbs		38.00	23.00	21.00	each	0.20	0.30 0.58
			Wholesale Prices Weight			Retail Prices Weight		
Abaco Big Bird						1 lb	2.39	
Whole Chicken	Per lb.		2.14			10lbs	8.49	
Leg Quarters	40lbs					10lbs	19.24	
Wings	40lbs							

Source: USDA-AMS Miami
United States Department of Agriculture Market Service



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CARICOM TO FOCUS ON CLIMATE CHANGE

BY LICEC BASTIAN
Journal Staff Writer

Of the many pressing global issues, climate change is one that the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) hopes that more emphasis can be placed on, especially in countries where natural disasters occur as a result of change in atmosphere, CARICOM Secretary General Ambassador Irwin LaRocque told reporters during his visit to the country on the weekend, adding that climate change affects all.

Mr. LaRocque, who toured Ragged Island with CARICOM Chair and Prime Minister of Grenada Dr. Keith Mitchell said climate change is indeed here and the finances needed for restoration of natural disasters caused by climate change should not be based on per capita incomes.

"Bahamas was hit by Matthew [last year] and we went and saw the destruction on two of the islands, Andros and Grand Bahama," Mr. LaRocque said.

"We saw total destruction again. It repeats itself and the previous year before that I think we had it.

"So, this sort of destruction compounds itself and well climate change is here. These are climatic events that no doubt in our minds that we are living through the climate change and climate change as you know doesn't pick per capita income or who's rich and who's poor."

Mr. LaRocque said based on their assessment of many of the Caribbean islands devastated by Hurricane Irma, most of the poorer neighborhoods were impacted.

"When we drove through Provo [Providenciales Turks and Caicos] we saw in some of the poorest neighborhoods that were most impacted," Mr. LaRocque said.

"We have consistently been seeing everywhere we go that the assistance that we get post hurricane and generally speaking under the climate change and green climate change fund must not be based on per capita income."

Dr. Mitchell, as CARICOM chair, said with the recent natural disasters that occurred, the argument of climate change and the need for a better resolution has only strengthened their argument.

"Right now CARICOM holds the chair of small states forum and that is very significant because with a major aspect of small states forum with a \$10 billion program that we are now chairing there is enough for enormous opportunities for us to place the issues of climate change and disasters as a key component, as far as aide is concerned," Dr. Mitchell said.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS HOSTS LUNCHEON FOR CARICOM CHAIRMAN



► Minister of Foreign Affairs the Hon. Darren Henfield (third right) hosted a small luncheon for CARICOM Chairman and Grenada Prime Minister Dr. the Rt. Hon. Keith Mitchell (third left) on Saturday (September 16, 2017) following the delegation's return from Ragged Island where they toured the devastation caused there by Hurricane Irma. Dr. Mitchell was accompanied by a number of senior Caribbean Community officials, among them, CARICOM Secretary-General, His Excellency Ambassador Irwin LaRocque (far right). Bahamian Prime Minister Dr. the Hon. Hubert A. Minnis also attended the luncheon. Pictured from left: Minister of Labour Senator the Hon. Dion Foulkes; Foreign Affairs Acting Permanent Secretary Donna Lowe; Dr. Mitchell; Minister Henfield; Director-General Ministry of Foreign Affairs Sharon Haylock; and Ambassador LaRocque. (Photo/BIS)

"I think therefore all of us collectively in CARICOM, all our institutions the OACS secretariat, and all institutions must work together.

"In fact, with all of the disasters that have just occurred, it's strengthened our hand and strengthened our case that the whole issue of climate change and special resources available for small states like The Bahamas and Grenada and other countries in the Caribbean must be given top priority."

In July of this year, CARICOM and the United Nations (UN) held a meeting to strengthen cooperation between the two organizations discussing several issues including climate change.

A conference is scheduled for October in Washington.

Man on Bail Found with Firearm

BY LICEC BASTIAN
Journal Staff Writer

A man on bail for murder was arrested over the weekend for an illegal handgun that he had in his possession.

Consistent with Commissioner's Policing Plan for 2017, the Selective Enforcement Team (SET) of the Royal Bahamas Police Force (RBPF) seized an illegal firearm from a man who is being monitored electronically.

According to police reports, shortly after 1 a.m. yesterday morning, the officers assigned to SET were in the area of Apache Alley, off Kemp Road, and noticed a man acting and behaving suspiciously.

The man was subsequently searched and was found with a .40 Glock pistol with seven rounds of ammunition.

The man was then taken into police custody for possession.

An hour later, a Police Operation Team took a nightclub owner into custody following the seizure of an illegal handgun he had

in his possession.

Police said shortly after 2 a.m. the special ops team, acting on information, conducted a search of the man's nightclub on East Street and Gibbs Corner.

Upon search of the nightclub, police uncovered a Smith and Wesson pistol and a pistol magazine with 14 rounds of ammunition hidden in a toilet bowl.

The owner was subsequently taken into police custody in relation to the discovery.

Police reports indicate that on Saturday shortly after 10 p.m. a man was on Dawson Street when three males in a gray Ford Explorer approached him while he was in his Honda Civic and robbed him of his cell phone, cash and his vehicle before speeding off.

In a separate incident, shortly before 2 a.m. on Sunday, a woman, who had just arrived at her home in Kennedy Subdivision, was approached by three males in a red Honda Fit car.

Armed with a handgun, the men robbed the woman of her silver Nissan Fuga, license plate AF 3436 before

speeding off.

Investigation into these matters are ongoing.

With a busy weekend, police are also investigating an intentional hit and run incident.

According to a police report, shortly after 2:30 a.m. on Sunday morning, two women were involved in an altercation in the parking lot of a local bank on Baillou Hill Road South that led to one of the women intentionally being struck by a vehicle.

The victim of the hit and run was rushed to the hospital where she is listed in serious condition.

Police confirmed that they are following significant leads for the female suspect who struck the victim and fled the scene in an unknown vehicle.

Investigations are also ongoing in this incident.

In an island wide operation conducted over the weekend, police arrested 28 persons for a number of criminal offenses and outstanding court warrants.

Additionally 386 drivers were ticketed for various traffic violations.

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The Silence of The Former Prime Minister

We covered the start of this war with articles describing the battle over easement rights, the mysterious burning of a home, the blocks to rebuilding, and countless questionable court filings. This series of articles asks the needed questions and presents the arguments in full.

Why did the former Prime Minister of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas not ever speak out against attacks on our democratic processes?

It is a strange matter when a leader of a country remains silent on issues that strike at the core of that country's constitutional democracy.

Yes, these are matters from our past—though, our recent past—but it can never be too late to examine such issues, issues that greatly impacted and continue to impact the well-being of our nation.

For example, the blight on our name still stands internationally: When the 'Save The Bays 5' went to the international human rights associations and filed false—as far as we are concerned—claims that their lives were in danger and condemned The Bahamas in the process, did the former prime minister say one word?

How could the former Prime Minister not speak out when our country was put on a list along side rogue nations who kidnap, torture, and kill its citizens?

When Save The Bays' financial information was disclosed in the Parliament of The Bahamas revealing that millions were being passed through Save The Bays' accounts reportedly through their chief funder, hedge-fund billionaire Louis Moore Bacon, and pointing to attempts to illegitimize the Government, the former Prime Minister was silent.

How could a leader of a government possibly be silent facing attempts to invalidate his Government?

When Save The Bays took hypocritical action to thwart government functioning, taking the Government to court in attempts to destroy Louis Bacon's enemy, fashion mogul Peter Nygard, once again the former Prime Minister was silent.

But, why?

When Fred Smith, attorney for Save The Bays and Louis Bacon, took members of the Parliament of The Bahamas to court, challenging their right to parliamentary privilege over revealing Save The Bays' financial information—information deemed public by the United States Treasury department's rules for 501(c)(3)s—causing a near constitutional crisis in The Bahamas, what did the former Prime Minister of the Commonwealth of The

THE CLIFTON REVIEW

By P. J. Malone

The Clifton Review is a bi-weekly column that examines the question of the Clifton project along with the evolution of the war between two billionaires, the links to unsavory characters, the use of the courts for personal agendas, the involvement of the Government opposition party (the FNM), and the attacks on the Government of The Bahamas.

Bahamas say? Nothing!

This is such an indictment. The question is why?

Was the former Prime Minister of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas so dense that he had no clue what was going on? No. The Former Prime Minister is a very intelligent man.

So what then? Some have claimed he was compromised: what that compromise looks like is uncertain. But here are some related facts:

The former Prime Minister has never spoken out against Louis Bacon and what Bacon has done through Save The Bays to harm the country. In fact, the former Prime Minister praised Bacon for his supposed efforts in the Clifton Cay fight thereby supporting Bacon's claim to have led the Clifton Cay fight to protect the land that house the now Clifton Heritage Site—much to the chagrin of the real defenders of the Clifton heritage site.

Louis Bacon has been a long-time client of Graham Thompson & Associates law firm.

One of Graham Thompson's senior partners is a long-serving advisor to the former Prime Minister.

So the question remains, why would the former Prime Minister not speak out to protect our democratic processes, as was his sworn duty to do?

What kind of leader would allow challenges to our constitutional rights and democratic structures and not once speak out about it?

What are we to make of this?

Was the former Prime Minister compromised or extremely incompetent?

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E D I T O R I A L

FINDING GOD IN THE STORM

The residents of Ragged Island – they have been so devastated. Their homes are unlivable. The Prime Minister of The Bahamas, Dr. Hubert Minnis says that because of health and safety conditions, they should move to the capital or some other island like Exuma. In Salina Point, Acklins there many people who lost their homes as well.

Many years ago after 9/11 – incident in the United States the Chaplain of Harvard University, Dr. Peter Gomes, in describing what took place in the United States on 9/11, when people questioned where was God, Gomes said the question is not where was God in the midst of tragedy, but where were you?

We have heard of thirty-six people being killed in the Caribbean as a result of Hurricane Irma. We had no one killed in The Bahamas, despite the tremendous damage to property.

It is important for us to define what faith is. Faith would be that personal connection with God that is reflected in one's ethics, reflected in one having a certain meaning for life. Notwithstanding the challenges that we have here as Bahamians, historically and now, we are still informed by the Christian faith as a populace. It is our point of reference for ethics.

It is still our primary point of reference in terms of spirituality – our connection with God. In terms of a point of reference for our nation, the Christian faith has been that point of reference. And by default, religion has been our point of reference for understanding life and our ethics.

We are all challenged to arrest crime, especially violent crime. Notwithstanding violent crime, if one were to remove the experience of healthy spirituality from The Bahamas, one would see that the situation in our Commonwealth would get even worse. So yes, we have faith as that primary point of reference, the experience of God expressed in our ethics, and The Bahamas is better we have that understanding of God, that experience of God, that experience of ethics. Now those persons who turn away from God, who embrace ways that are not of the Christian faith – sadly we would have to include those who are engaged in violent acts in that category.

The human person reaches for a source beyond themselves to get grounding. At times that is called superstition, but it is not fair or appropriate to say that healthy spirituality – the Christian faith – is the same thing as superstition.

There is quite a bit of difference between superstition and a conjunct religious system that has stood the test of time. The Christian faith would fall into that category, as would the other world religions. So it is not unusual to find a sincere Christian who is

healthy in his or her spirituality with a degree of superstition. However, that is quite different from saying that the Christian religion is superstition and therefore we should leave it behind.

It is said that prayer is the soul's sincere desire, uttered or unexpressed; and the power of prayer in these things. Could a good and gracious God listen to the prayers of the faithful and turn a hurricane away?

We see this witnessed in the sacred scriptures where the weather changes. We see this in one instance in the first chapters of Joshua. In Joshua chapter ten when the sun stands still for a day because Joshua goes before God, and with faith fueling is words and disposition says to God, we need you do to something here.

The texts says that God responded. We also see this in the Gospels, where Jesus Christ is asleep and the storm comes, and the Son of God – in the midst of the storm with frightened disciples – He spoke to the storm and some power was released and he rebuked the storm and there was calmness. What does that mean? It affirms that in creation, we have an all-powerful God who moves with divine freedom to do what God would want to do. That God and superintend and intervene as God selects, as God chooses, and can cause the natural order of things to be apprehended, to be stopped. God is moved to do this – the Christian faith affirms, Judaism affirms this – all of the Abrahamic faiths affirm this. At different times God is moved to do this. We see it in the case of Jesus, we see it in the case of Joshua, we see it in the case of Moses; and He continues to do this. No this does not mean that there is a mechanical, sequential process saying that whenever a person of faith prays, God responds in a certain way.

We do not turn God into a celestial robot. There is mystery with God, even as God has that divine freedom. So yes, God can intervene in the natural process, not only with weather, but with the human body, with the human mind, with the human spirit.

What we have in the Christian faith is the understanding that in the mundane, through the technology of prayer, one becomes open to the supernatural. And the supernatural is God. We as Christians understand that that God is expressed fully in Jesus Christ. The understanding is that that God owns all of creation and all of the processes; and that God has an exclusive right to manage – that is why He is call Sustainer – manage the processes in a natural way and to intervene supernaturally when He chooses because every part and particle of creation belongs to Him. The Earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof and those who dwell therein.



THE BAHAMAS

Sun, Sand, Sea and the

The Bahama Journal

NO BETTER READING



FORM B
Notice of Intended Marriage
(Section 7(3))

The persons named and described hereunder have given notice to me of their intended marriage, namely --

Matthew Andrew Taylor, Single,
of 37 Middlecroft Road, Chesterfield, United States of America

and

Sarah Louise Widdowson, Single,
of 11 Belmont Drive, Staveley, Chesterfield, United States of America

Any person knowing any just cause or impediment why this marriage should not be allowed should enter caveat forthwith in the office of the Registrar of Marriages.

Dated this 6th day of September, 2017.

Registrar of Marriages



► Last Thursday, protesters in Bimini gathered to send a clear message that they want all further development on the island to cease. (Photo/Sherard Campbell)

Residents Protest to Stop Bimini's Development

BY C. JILLIAN GRAY
Journal Staff Writer

Protesters in Bimini are calling for all further development on that island to cease.

Prime Minister Dr. Hubert Minnis and his delegation met a team of protesters in Bimini on Thursday, who was in no way concerned about hurricane assessments, but about environmental protection.

Leader of the group Save Our Home Bimini Jenny Cook said the environmental impact of the developments on that island caused the storm to affect the island even more.

"The resort has already destroyed 458 acres of mangroves, which is why we had so much storm surge on top of the bay during the hurricane," Cook said.

She said they don't want any further development as

they believe that the current development has destroyed 450 acres of mangroves and as she understands it, the resort seems to have plans to rip out the whole of the north end of this island to develop more hotels, golf courses and homes.

The prime minister allowed Cook to join him at Resorts World Bimini where they had a brief impromptu meeting with Rafael Reyes, president of Rav Bahamas development group, and Missy Lawrence president of Resorts World.

Reyes said he thinks that it is crucial to find a formula to rejuvenate the beach and improve it as quickly as possible.

He said, "We've had a special assessment that was about to be passed for the home owners to fix that whole seawall and we can even implement a major rejuvenation system to it as well."

Lawrence said, "We want the environment to be right, but we also want the economy of Bimini to be right, that is the only way that this island gets back on its feet."

The prime minister said the government will facilitate everything within the law to ensure that what needs to be done gets done and told them that he's an environmental protector.

Cook, leader of the

activist group, said she thinks their protest was a success.

"I think I did get my message across to the delegation here today, Dr. Minnis has definitely given us hope that it is the people's time and we have faith that some steps are being taken now to right some things on the island for the future."

Minister of Tourism Dioniso D'Aguliar said he thinks the hotel is a beautiful property and that the environmental issues are something that can be sorted out.

"I completely understand their concerns and I encourage people who don't approve of economic development to state their concerns. They're very vocal and vociferous on social media and they are absolutely right. They keep us focused on the environmental issues," D'Aguliar said.

He added that he doesn't want economic development to the point where it deteriorates the environment.

D'Aguliar said, "North Bimini has the wonderful mangroves and some say the development thus far may have caused degradation of those mangroves and significant environmental impact thus it's important that we balance it. People need jobs, but we must work within our environment."

Govt Issues Exigency Order

Minister of Finance and Deputy Prime Minister Peter Turnquest, pursuant to the Tariff Act, has declared an Exigency Order for the tax exemption on goods imported for rebuilding purposes following the destruction caused by Hurricane Irma.

According to a statement issued by the National Emergency Management Agency, the exigency qualifies for the purposes of the urgent need for goods specified, which the minister of finance is satisfied are intended for the relief of residents in the affected islands and whose claims or application in respect of such goods are certified by NEMA's director.

Those islands are: Acklins, Bimini, Crooked Island, Grand Bahama, Inagua, Long Cay, Mayaguana, Ragged Island and South Andros.

The goods are building materials, electrical fixtures and materials, plumbing fixtures and materials, household furniture, furnishing and appliances, bottled water and generators.

According to NEMA, the declaration covers a period of 180 days (except for bottled water) commencing September 11, 2017 and ending March 10, 2018, or for such period as the minister of finance may specify by notice.

The declaration also covers the waiver of departure tax for non-commercial flights bringing in relief goods and customs processing fees on imports to the islands mentioned for the same period.

"Customs duty and VAT exemption will be granted on donations to registered charitable organizations and on acquisitions by individuals whose loss by Hurricane Irma has been verified by NEMA. All other authorized donations will be deemed a gift to the government and will be received and distributed by NEMA," the statement read.

"Any person who knowingly imports any goods, pursuant to this declaration, but for a purpose other than as specifically provided for under this declaration, commits an offence and is liable to penalty and forfeiture of goods in accordance with sections 268 and 292, respectively, of the Customs Management Act (No. 32 of 2011)."



FORM B
Notice of Intended Marriage
(Section 7(3))

The persons named and described hereunder have given notice to me of their intended marriage, namely --

Zachary Otto Arnold, Single,
of 12515 Waddell Creek RD SE, Olympia WA 98512, United States of America

and

Marie Yvonne Graham, Single,
of 1720 West Marine View Dr. #139, Everett WA 98201, United States of America

Any person knowing any just cause or impediment why this marriage should not be allowed should enter caveat forthwith in the office of the Registrar of Marriages.

Dated this 24th day of August, 2017.

Registrar of Marriages



FORM B
Notice of Intended Marriage
(Section 7(3))

The persons named and described hereunder have given notice to me of their intended marriage, namely --

Frederick Hewitson, Divorced,
of Calle Falua 9, Apt.18, El Rincon, Los Cristianos, Tenerife 38650, Spain

and

Paula Carol O'Callaghan, Widowed,
of Calle Falua 9, Apt.18, El Rincon, Los Cristianos, Tenerife 38650, Spain

Any person knowing any just cause or impediment why this marriage should not be allowed should enter caveat forthwith in the office of the Registrar of Marriages.

Dated this 6th day of September, 2017.

Registrar of Marriages



FORM B
Notice of Intended Marriage
(Section 7(3))

The persons named and described hereunder have given notice to me of their intended marriage, namely --

Glen John Back, Single,
of 16 Jesmond Mews, Hartlepool, England

and

Alexandra Emily Gibson, Single,
of 16 Jesmond Mews, Hartlepool, England

Any person knowing any just cause or impediment why this marriage should not be allowed should enter caveat forthwith in the office of the Registrar of Marriages.

Dated this 1st day of September, 2017.

Registrar of Marriages



FORM B
Notice of Intended Marriage
(Section 7(3))

The persons named and described hereunder have given notice to me of their intended marriage, namely --

Aaron Samuel Bailey, Divorced,
of 100 Anderson Street, Apartment 7411, Pittsburgh, PA 15212, United States of America

and

Cheryl Lynn Demko, Divorced,
of 100 Anderson Street, Apartment 7411, Pittsburgh, PA 15212, United States of America

Any person knowing any just cause or impediment why this marriage should not be allowed should enter caveat forthwith in the office of the Registrar of Marriages.

Dated this 24th day of August, 2017.

Registrar of Marriages

ALIV Assists in Aftermath of Hurricane Irma



► More supplies going to the Southern Bahamas on September 13. (Photo/ALIV)



► Chief ALIV Media Champion Johnny Ingle on the ferry to Bimini with ALIV care packages which includes battery chargers and hurricane relief supplies. (Photo/ALIV)

ALIV, The Bahamas' newest mobile network, has begun assisting those throughout the county affected by Hurricane Irma. Senior executives from the telecommunications company travelled to several of the affected islands once the "all

clear" was given to assess the damage and see how best the company could assist.

Chief ALIV Officer Damian Blackburn said the company remains committed to quickly delivering on its mandate to assist Bahamians whenever they

are in need.

"We at ALIV stand for helping the people of The Bahamas in their time of need," Mr. Blackburn said. "We will stand alongside the government to assist where and however we can. The people of The Bahamas are

important to us and it is important for us to be there for them in their time of need. The restoration process throughout The Bahamas will take time, but ALIV remains committed to working with the government, our customers and

communities to recover and rebuild."

Blackburn along with Chief ALIV Media Champion Johnny Ingle travelled to Bimini on Monday and assisted Biminities by immediately giving out care packages. Chief ALIV Innovator Dwayne Davis travelled to Ragged Island and Chief ALIV Business Developer Gravette Brown travelled to Inagua, both making assessments and assisting where there was a need.

"Senior executives will travel throughout the rest of the week to ensure that ALIV can accelerate its roll-out plan to the islands with greatest need for communication and setup the necessary ALIV infrastructure to assist the residents in the south with communication," Mr. Blackburn said. "They will also assist with handing out hurricane relief items."

Over the next few weeks, ALIV has made additional plans to assist those most affected by Hurricane Irma.

Last week, ALIV began assisting evacuees from the southern islands by provid-

ing them with a care package upon their arrival to New Providence. The package included a free smart-phone with a free phone plan for a week among other ALIV branded items.

ALIV network and infrastructure assessments began immediately upon the 'all clear' and to date, no damage has been found on any ALIV-owned or operated equipment. Assessments are ongoing.

Mr. Blackburn noted however, that ALIV customers experienced no service interruptions.

ALIV currently has network service in New Providence, Grand Bahama, Abaco Eleuthera and most recently Bimini, and currently a total of 142 live towers throughout these islands.

Through national roaming, ALIV subscribers can use their devices throughout the entire Bahamas.

ALIV is planning to launch in all the major Family Islands by the end of 2017 and throughout the entire Bahamas by early 2018.

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BY APPOINTMENT TO HER MAJESTY CHARLES III

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Trade Unionist Idena Burrows Dies

Former President of The Bahamas Communications and Public Officers Union (BCPOU) Idena Burrows died recently.

Minister of Labour Dion Foulkes expressed his condolences to Mrs. Burrows' family yesterday.

Mrs. Burrows served as both president and vice president of the BCPOU.

"She played a critical role in the fight for women's rights in the trade union movement in The Bahamas and in the wider Caribbean," Mr. Foulkes said.

"She was a champion for the trade union movement for which the National Congress of Trade Unions (NCTU) honoured her during the 2015 Labour Day celebrations. Mrs. Burrows made a significant contribution to the BCPOU and to the trade union movement in The Bahamas. She served in many capacities in the movement. Her death is a loss to the trade union movement and to the NCTU.

"Mrs. Burrows served as a consultant for the government of The Bahamas and on a number of national boards as a trade unionist. She was instrumental in developing



► Former President of The Bahamas Communications and Public Officers Union (BCPOU) Idena Burrows

young trade union leaders, investing heavily in education and training. She was an avid church-goer, a member of Evangelistic Temple and a family woman. Her role in developing young people in the church and trade union community was exemplary.

"On behalf of the government of the Bahamas, and on my own behalf, and that of the Ministry of Labour, I extend sincere condolences to her husband Stanley, her children, grandchildren, other family members and to the wider trade union community.

"May she rest in peace."