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75 CENTS

MINISTER BACKS POLICE IN SHOOTING DEATHS

BY BERTHONY MCDERMOTT
 Journal Staff Writer

He accepts it was unfortunate situation, but according to National Security Minister Marvin Dames officers did what they had to do in the case of Friday's police involved shooting that ended fatality for three suspects.

"It was an operation carried out by the police, unfortunately some persons would have lost their lives.

"I believe the police may have recovered some five weapons from that scene in addition to a quantity of drugs and according to the police, they were fired on and in a situation like that by law, they did what they had to do," Minister Dames said.



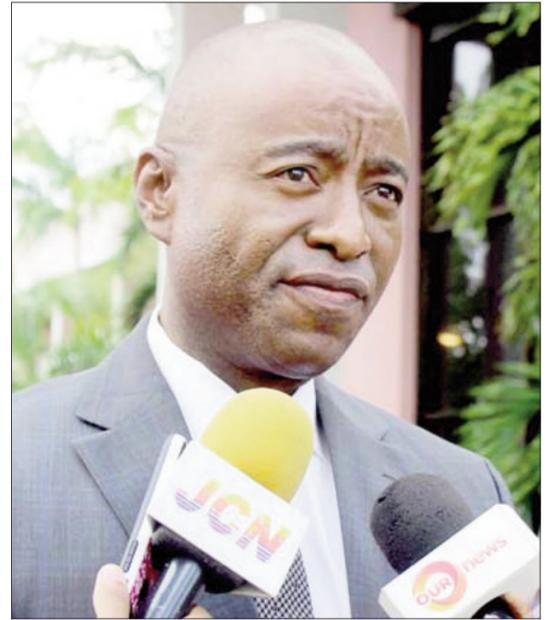
▶ National Security Minister, Marvin Dames

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Henfield Wants China U.S Trade War Settled

BY BERTHONY MCDERMOTT
 Journal Staff Writer

The Bahamas has apparently been dragged into the worsening trade dispute between The United States and China, according to one medium reporting on the issue. While the Bahamian government and the Opposition may not always see eye to eye on many issues, they share the same view when it comes to One America News Network's recent report alleging that China is using the absence of a U.S Ambassador to



▶ Foreign Affairs Minister, Darren Henfield

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NIB WORKERS PEEVED

BY LISA KNOWLES
 Journal Staff Writer

Employees of the National Insurance Board (NIB) throughout the country reportedly used their morning tea break yesterday to vent their

frustrations. Speaking on the front lawn of the Corporation's Baillou Hill Road Headquarters, the President of the Union of Public Officers, Marvin Duncombe told the Journal that the major bone of contention is an

unsigned five-year Industrial Agreement.

Mr. Duncombe said, "We are dissatisfied with the operational practices of National Insurance and the disingenuous nature in which the Board is operating. We continue to see,

every single day, that whatever they put on the table or offer our offer to people, is removed off very quickly, and we don't understand exactly who's leading the NIB.

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VEHICLES RESTRICTED FOR LABOUR DAY PARADE

BY BERTHONY MCDERMOTT
 Journal Staff Writer

The week of labour activities is scheduled for June 2 to June 7, culminating with the annual Labour

Day parade under the theme, 'One for All, All for One: Securing the Protection of Bahamian Workers for Future Generations.'

According to Bahamas

Financial Services Union President Theresa Mortimer no trucks will be allowed on this year's parade.

"We are so pleased that we would have had a

meeting with the police on Friday past and we're happy to say that the Police Force will be emphasizing safety and

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DAVIS CALLS PM'S NATIONAL ADDRESS "A FLOP"

BY LISA KNOWLES
 Journal Staff Writer

The Leader of the Opposition, Philip "Brave" Davis yesterday said, "the national address of the Prime Minister was a flop and fell flat, just like the hopes and dreams of thousands of Bahamians who were duped by this deceitful Minnis FNM into believing it was their time."

In a press statement Mr. Davis said, "for the suffering and struggling Bahamians who tuned in to listen to the national



▶ Leader of the Opposition, Philip "Brave" Davis

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ALL THE NEWS YOU NEED TO READ IN THE MORNING

300 Graduate From BTVI

BY LICEC BASTIAN
Journal Staff Writer

The Bahamas Technical and Vocational Institute (BTVI) has improved its quality of education, having received regional awards and examination accreditation.

President of BTVI, Dr. Robert Robertson, addressing graduates at the Institute's Commencement Ceremony yesterday, said the institution continues to build its brand to address the skills gap, having received two top Regional awards and City and Guilds accreditation.

"In 2016, when I delivered my inaugural graduation speech as BTVI's President, I said to that graduating class that BTVI is 'not a dumping ground for low-achieving students or

those who are not college material'.

"Three years later, two consecutive Top Regional Awards and the attainment of City and Guilds accreditation, not only in my view remained the same, it has been proven by our many success stories," Dr. Robertson said.

Three hundred skilled and trained students from BTVI entered the job market yesterday following their graduation from the institute.

Dr. Robertson told the class of 2019 that they now begin their individual journeys.

"Class of 2019, welcome to the first line in your stories of success to build your brand and that of BTVI. Congratulations!

"Though this Commencement Ceremony for some of

you mark the end of your journey at BTVI, the word commencement itself means the beginning of something.

"I don't want you to believe that this is where the hard work ends or this is the time to become complacent. In fact, it is quite the opposite; this is the moment where all your hard work and persistence mean the most.

"It is now that you will put those salon management, practicum and entrepreneurial workforce prep lessons to the test; those coupled with your internship experience," Dr. Robertson said.

With BTVI former students working throughout the United States of America, Dr. Robinson said BTVI's vision goes beyond just The Bahamas.

"This week the Wall

Street Journal ran a series of articles titled 'What Employers Want From Young Hires'. Specifically, employers are looking for communication skills, listening skills, numeracy and adaptability.

"The skills gap is global; it is real, and it is particularly about technical and vocational skills...we live in changing times.

"We have graduates like Princeton Boston, who graduated from our Auto Mechanics program in 2012 and is now a Mechanical Engineer at Benteler Automotive, a German manufacturer for exhaust systems in Michigan.

"Like Princeton, the possibilities for you became endless the moment you submitted your application and decided that technical and vocational training was

your ticket to success," Dr. Robertson said.

BTVI's Chairman, Kevin Basden, applauded the Class of 2019, adding that the stereotype about technical and vocational training must be eradicated.

"You are graduating at a time when the skills gap in our Bahamas needs to be filled. Properly trained plumbers, electricians, welders and other trades in the construction industry are needed.

"The same is true in the IT, business, cosmetology, message therapy, fashion and design and other technical and vocational areas.

"You are also graduating at a time when productivity needs to be improved. Be at work on time, whether you are an employee or as an employer who has an appointment with a client.

Give it your best and display excellence at all times. Good customer service is vital," Mr. Basden said.

Established in 1949, and originally known as The National Technical School, BTVI is a publicly funded institute, garnering support from community supporters including the D'Aguilar family, and William Birchall, who at BTVI's Freeport graduation, agreed to donate "\$70,000 per year for two years to assist the Freeport campus in developing a formal Co-op Program to prepare students for the work force".

BTVI has developed and executed training programs for big name employers such as the Grand Bahama Shipyard, Freeport Container Port and Commonwealth Brewery.

Young Entrepreneur Challenges Graduates

BY LICEC BASTIAN
Journal Staff Writer

Chief Executive Officer of Jetlink Adventurers, Lincoln Deal yesterday told graduates of the Bahamas Technical and Vocational Institute that despite the odds and disappointments, they can achieve what they want.

As a young entrepreneur, who has first hand experience of defying the odd and attaining his dreams, Mr. Deal gave the graduates timely advice.

"As I look into your faces and I see sheer determination, an unquenchable thirst for success and an unrelenting spirit of self discipline. I am reminded of the traits that define my entrepreneurial journey.

"It brings such joy to my heart to see current and future entrepreneurs. So many young people determined to define their own lives by using their own talents and unique gifts.

"Graduates you cannot have the promise without the process. Often times you become anxious in the middle of the process. We want the degree, but not the courses in between. We want the skills, but not the training involved.

"We want to be our own boss, but not with the sacrifice needed to make it happen, and without the process, you will not learn how to appreci-



► Chief Executive Officer of Jetlink Adventurers, Lincoln Deal

ate the promise," Mr. Deal said.

Having been rejected on several occasions, before obtaining his business license, Mr. Deal told the graduates that he may not have been where he is, if he was not persistent.

"Without all those courses, you could not appreciate the success of graduation. Without those exams and practicals, you wouldn't be the great technician you are today. It's all a part of it, so build character," Mr. Deal said.

"God isn't just preparing the blessing for you,

but he is preparing you for the blessings," he added.

Mr. Deal encouraged the graduates and told them that all things are possible.

"No matter how strong your opposition is, if God be for you, who can be against you.

"I want to admonish you to first and foremost, be bold and take risks. Life is about risking it all for a dream that no one else can see but you.

"The hardest part about chasing your dreams graduate, is in being bold. In being bold, it's trying to understand if God is giv-

ing you signs to stop or if he's testing your faith to keep going.

"Don't let the no's of life

hold you back. As you be bold and take risks, there may be failure, but failure is not final," Mr. Deal said.

BTVI graduated 300 students in their 2019 Class, 50 more than it did in 2018.

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MINISTER BACKS POLICE IN SHOOTING DEATHS

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Based on the report Police gave the media, they were tipped off that the suspects were at the Newgate Road home early Friday morning.

According to Chief

Superintendent Solomon Cash, once on the property, they were confronted by two of the suspects, who opened fire on the officers.

In fear of their lives, the officers returned fire, fatally injuring the two.

A similar chain of events reportedly played out in the case of the third suspect.

"These are the times that we're living in today and unfortunately you're going to have from time to time situations like

this, but we'll see what happens.

"The matter is being prepared for the coroners court and we'll allow the evidence to come out and the determination made as to what happened, why it happened and to

get the outcome," he said.

In the days following the incident, there have been growing arguments that the suspects were not armed at the time police stormed the Eastern Road home.

Meantime, four adults were on Monday charged in the Magistrate's Court with two counts of possession of an unlicensed firearm and possession of dangerous drugs with a street value of \$23,000.

Henfield Wants China U.S Trade War Settled

Continued from / PAGE 1...

influence The Bahamas.

"The Bahamas government would like to see any trade issues between the two largest economies in the world settled as quickly as possible, because it doesn't bode well for the economic situation anywhere in the world.

"Invariably it will impact negatively on The

Bahamas, as I understand some reports are indicting that it's impacting negatively on those two countries at the moment," he said.

Hitting back at the assertion that China's many investments in the local economy is being used as influence, Foreign Affairs Minister Darren Henfield stressed that The Bahamas is an ally of both

countries, adding that a large portion of our economy comes from foreign direct investment.

"The Bahamas has been a long time historical and traditional partner with The United States of America. Bahamians feel an absolute right to be able to go to America on a daily basis and to be able to interact with Americans.

"Americans form a large part of the economic development of The Bahamas through tourism and since 1992, The Bahamas has recognized China's One China policy.

"We are friends with both nations, we are friends with both China and the United States of America. A large platform of our economy comes

from Foreign Direct Investment and we consider Foreign Direct Investment from anywhere in the world.

"If it's good for The Bahamas, we will look at it seriously and consider whether or not we will accept it," Minister Henfield said.

As for The Bahamas being without a U.S Ambassador, Minister

Henfield said the government's hoping the U.S ratifies someone as soon as possible.

The last person nominated to assume that position was U.S Real Estate Investor and Billionaire Doug Manchester.

However, Mr. Manchester has encountered issues with his nomination.



THE PORT DEPARTMENT, MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT & LOCAL GOVERNMENT

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between the hours of 9:00 am and 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday, with effect from the 15th of April 2019.

Tenders are to be submitted in triplicate (3 copies) in a sealed envelope marked "Tender for the Port Department Vessel Decal System" and addressed to:

The Chairman of
Tenders Board
Ministry of Finance
Cecil V. Wallace Whitfield Building
Cable Beach
P.O. Box N-3017
Nassau, The Bahamas
Tel: (242)372-1530

no later than 5:00 pm on the 31st of May 2019.

Tenders will be opened at 10:00 am on the 4th of June 2019 at the office of the Tender's Board, Ministry of Finance.

*THE GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL TENDERS.



THE MINISTRY OF FINANCIAL SERVICES, TRADE & INDUSTRY

PUBLIC NOTICE

The following persons are invited to contact the Ministry of Financial Services, Trade & Industry and Immigration with respect to pending applications at the Department of Immigration:-

1. Armbrister, Theola Ann
2. Bain, Desmond Walter
3. Brice-Okharobo, Joya N.
4. Chanan, Renald Allan
5. Cockburn, Corradon A.
6. Delva, Edney
7. Deparpaigne-Jackson, Jaquelin Ollarvides
8. Dorettres, Petra D.
9. Eaton, Mark Price
10. Harrison-Mackey, Mispah Angela
11. Kelly-Jones, Jamie Albertha - **Freeport**
12. Keswani, Jitender
13. Lloyd, Daron
14. Lopex Alarcon-Bevans, Rosina Elvira
15. Lordeus, Maudelene More
16. Martinborough, Nedley Aloysius
17. McPhee, Delmar Lee
18. Mellor, David
19. Nonhomme, Earle Vado
20. Pettiford, Elke Alexandria
21. Porter, Adina
22. Rahini, Sarah S.
23. Rolle, Elvis Jerome
24. Scanterbury, Anthonette
25. Simmons, Tamala Tamara
26. Wanklyn, Julia Anne

DAVID R. DAVIS
PERMANENT SECRETARY
MINISTRY OF FINANCIAL SERVICES, TRADE & INDUSTRY
AND IMMIGRATION

NIB WORKERS PEEVED

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"I can tell you our people, we are presently in negotiations, and we've been negotiating for the last six weeks, and it appears to me as if every time they offer something, they are being disingenuous and taking it back from the people."

Mr. Duncombe claimed that NIB is prepared to give the Union nothing in

years one through four of the Agreement and perhaps in the fifth year, a \$2,000 lump sum payment.

"They had initially put a much more decent offer on the table, but the night after they made the offer, I got a call from the Director to say that they had made a bad mistake and that that offer is no longer available. We had already written to our

membership to say that we are prepared to meet with them and to discuss the offer. We find that it is very disingenuous for them to do what they have done, this continues to be the modus operandi of this particular Director," said the Union leader.

NIB workers are also said to be peeved over a slow processing claims system.

Mr. Duncombe said,

"we're standing up and saying that we are not prepared to allow The Board to treat us as if we are mistakes or illegitimate children. We have worked very hard. We have carried our system, the V-3 System, three years ago, what was brought to us. It does not work, people are not able to get their claims, and yet we are bearing the burden of it, trying to help the claimers get their ben-

efits and yet, they continue to say that they are going to fix it. It has not been fixed.

"We are not prepared to work with this system anymore. They must fix it, or make a decision on what they're going to do, whether they are going to get a new one or not, but we are not prepared to work with it, while they continue to tell us that they're making mistakes

after mistakes, after mistakes. We are standing up strong and firm in this matter," he said.

Mr. Duncombe has promised that his members will continue to do whatever is necessary to ensure there is a decent offer on the table and their concerns are addressed.

Calls were made to NIB Director Nicola Virgil-Rolle, those calls were not returned up to press time.

VEHICLES RESTRICTED FOR LABOUR DAY PARADE

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enforcing the rule of no vehicle in between the workers on the parade.

"There will be vehicles at the back of the parade and there will be buses taking folks that cannot march," she said.

This year, several activities are planned in honour

of the four who lost their lives in last year's parade- Tabitha Bethel- Haye, Tami Williams- Gibson, Dianne Gray- Ferguson, and Kathleen Rodgers- Fender.

Also being honored is the late Jacqueline Fawkes, wife of the late Sir Randol Fawkes.

"On Sunday June 2nd at 11am, there will be a

church service at Zion Baptist Church, East and Shirley Street."

"Immediately following the church service, an unveiling ceremony of the memorial plaque on the eastern wall of the church in dedication of the four honourees will take place.

"Her Excellency the Dame Marguerite

Pindling will join us at the church service and the unveiling. The service is open to the public," said Sherry Benjamin, Third Vice President of the National Congress of Trade Unions.

The honorees night will take place in June 4th at the BCOPU's Willamae Bridgewater Convention Center and a

lecture series on the WTO on June 5th at the Harry C Moore library at the University of The Bahamas. Then the parade in June 7th which will start at 8am.

"This year's parade will leave the historic Windsor Park at 8:00AM traveling north to East Street to Bay Street, West on Bay Street to Navy

Lion Road, south on Navy Lion Road turning onto West Bay Street, west on Bay Street and concluding at the site on Arawak Cay," she said.

As their will be no trucks with music this year, parade organizers are appealing all marching bands to come out and participate in this year's parade.

DAVIS CALLS PM'S NATIONAL

Continued from / PAGE 1...

address by the Prime Minister, they walked away as hopeless as they were before watching his address.

"In the end, half of Bahamians earning \$30,000 or less still cannot make ends meet. The speech changed nothing for them.

"No doubt many of those affected Bahamians turned in, looking for hope and help, only to have those hopes dashed," said Mr. Davis.

He said, "the Prime Minister presented nothing

new, transformative or empowering for the hopeful masses of Bahamians."

"We abhor the use of scarce government resources to announce routine infrastructure works and general day to day operations such as road paving and construction of public buildings that were long overdue. This comes across as abusive.

"While we welcome the announcement at long last of the construction of the \$2.5 million clinic in Ragged Island, I call on the Prime Minister to

explain the status of the clinics in Cat Island started under the PLP, but cancelled by the FNM government for no apparent reason."

The PLP leader said, "the Prime Minister offered no timelines for many of the public projects announced and did not say broadly how his government expects to pay for these big ticket items."

"I note that in the current fiscal year, revenue collection in down, the government will miss its revenue target by at least \$400 million and has

intentionally starved national public capital works to meet some elusive deficit target."

"He now comes to the Bahamian people with an ambitious and aggressive capital works agenda. In light of the forgoing, the Prime Minister does not come across as credible or believable."

"The Solar Farm at the Thomas A. Robinson National stadium and the carbon war room challenge for renewable energy for our family islands were all negotiated by the last PLP government when then Environmental

Minister, Kenwood Dorsett, served as the co-chair of IRENA," said Mr. Davis.

He said, "many of the projects announced were old PLP projects that the Minnis Government intentionally delayed. The \$14.7 million roadworks announced for North Andros is a prime example. Those road works started several program for North Andros including the construction and establishment of BAMSII.

"In Grand Bahama where the FNM won all five seats, last night's

words from the Prime Minister ring hollow. There is a mass exodus of people leaving that island to find work elsewhere in The Bahamas," said the Cat Island and San Salvador MP.

Mr. Davis appealed to the Government again to ensure that this 2019/2020 national budget works for the Bahamian people and not for foreigners, the FNM donor class and not to appease international agencies.

"Our resilient people deserve much more," he said.



NOTICE REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS EXTERNAL AUDIT SERVICES

The Utilities Regulation and Competition Authority (URCA) was established on 1 August 2009, as a corporate body, under the Utilities Regulation and Competition Authority Act, 2009.

As the independent regulator, URCA's regulatory remit of the Electronic Communications Sector (ECS) covers radio and television broadcasting, radio spectrum, internet and data, pay-TV and voice telephony; and oversight of Electricity (ES) Sector which includes entities or persons who generate, transmit, distribute or supply electricity throughout The Bahamas.

The Utilities Regulation and Competition Authority (URCA) invites interested entities to submit proposals for the provision of audit services. The term of the audit engagement is for three (3) years - reporting on the financial statements for the years ending 31 December 2019, 2020 and 2021.

The deadline for submission is 14 June 2019 at 4:00pm. A copy of the Request for Proposal (RFP) may be downloaded from URCA's website at www.urcabahamas.bs/



NOTICE REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS SOLAR CANOPY SYSTEM

The Utilities and Regulation and Competition Authority (URCA) is the independent regulatory authority with responsibility for the electronic communications sector (ECS) and electricity sector (ES) in The Bahamas. In the electricity sector URCA's primary role is regulation of the sector in accordance with the goals, objectives, and principles underpinning the national energy and electricity sector policies. These policies mandate the use of renewable energy as a form of generation in The Bahamas.

URCA requests proposals for the engineering, procurement, construction, commissioning and maintenance of a solar canopy system (SCS) at its carpark located on Frederick Street in Nassau, Bahamas. The RFP document - ES: 01/2019 - can be collected from URCA's offices on Frederick Street or by writing to info@urcabahamas.bs. The deadline for submission is 4.00 pm on Friday, 31 May 2019.