

STANDARD SERVICES SUPPLIES LTD.
 Shirley & Church Street
 Phone: 322-4635



Shop at STANDARD SERVICES where you can get **20% OFF** Houseware, linen, lamps and draperies. and much, much more

The Bahama Journal

Quo Vadis, Bahamas?

DEAN & ASSOCIATES PROFESSIONAL INSURANCE AGENTS & BROKERS
 "Meeting Your Needs Efficiently and Professionally"



BUILDINGS (COMMERCIAL & RESIDENTIAL)
 LIFE - GROUP - MEDICAL - ANNUITIES - LIABILITY - MARINE - HOMEOWNERS - AUTO

Tel: (242)-356-0986 Fax: (242)-356-0987
 Deal's Plaza, Mackey Street
 P.O. Box CB-13952 Nassau, Bahamas
 8:30am - 4:30pm

VOL. 31 - NO. 126

THURSDAY - AUGUST 8TH, 2019

75 CENTS

Investor's Threat Called 'Silly'

BY BERTHONY MCDERMOTT
 Journal Staff Writer

Minister of Tourism Dionisio D'Aguilar called the treat made by Compass Point owner Leigh Rodney to leave The Bahamas 'silly' and said he is not threatened by it and doesn't want to meet with Rodney because he has exhausted all of his routes as minister.

"I just think the threat is so nonsensical. It's so ridiculous," D'Aguilar said yesterday.



▶ Minister of Tourism Dionisio D'Aguilar

■ See page 3...

Gov't Won't Issue Travel Advisory

BY EARYEL BOWLEG
 Journal Staff Writer

Minister of Foreign Affairs Darren Henfield said he will not issue a travel advisory following the recent mass shootings in the United States that occurred in El Paso, Texas and Dayton, Ohio. Although Opposition



▶ Min. Darren Henfield

■ See page 3...

'Business Owners Lack Social Safety Nets'



▶ Marcellus Taylor

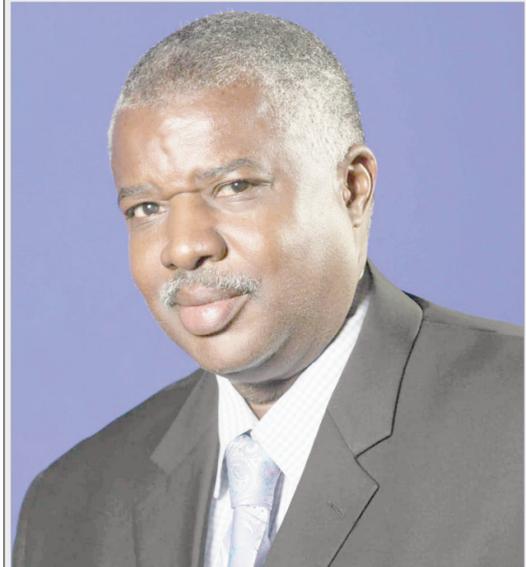
BY LEAH COOPER
 Journal Staff Writer

Director of Education Marcellus Taylor said recently that Bahamian business owners do not take big risks because The Bahamas has no social safety nets in place.

"Like in America, for instance, you can go bankrupt. When you go bankrupt, there's a process for that. You're

■ See page 3...

Senators Mourn Loss of Parliamentary Media Colleague



▶ Colin Trotman Jr. (1961 - 2019)

BY DEANDRE WILLIAMSON
 Journal Staff Writer

Senators expressed their condolences following the death of The Broadcasting Corporation of The Bahamas Acting General Manager Colin Trotman Jr., who died on Wednesday morning at

the age of 57.

"Mr. Trotman was a very nice person. He would always try to encourage workers to see their potential and to make it a reality. He was one of the understanding ones," Senator Jamal Moss, who had the

■ See page 4...

Rolleville Police Station Reopens

BY EARYEL BOWLEG
 Journal Staff Writer

The newly renovated Rolleville Police Station reopened in Exuma on Wednesday after several years of no police pres-

ence.

At the station's opening ceremony, Prime Minister Dr. Hubert Minnis said the renovation was a part of the government's pledge to meet the crime-fighting demands of the

21st century.

"My government remains committed to improving infrastructure and providing the good men and women of the

■ See page 4...



▶ Prime Minister Minnis cuts the ribbon, along with National Security Minister Marvin Dames, at the official re-opening of the newly renovated Rolleville, Exuma police station, August 7, 2019. (BIS Photos/Yontalay Bowe)



**Don't sweat it.
Stay cool.**

ACDelco air conditioning parts along with routine maintenance can help you keep your cool. Stop In! We stock a complete line of quality ACDelco air conditioning parts for most GM model cars and trucks.






NMC PARTS DEPARTMENT • Shirley Street • 302-0130 partsorder@nassaumotor.com • www.acdelcobahamas.com

ALL THE NEWS YOU NEED TO READ IN THE MORNING

Junkanoo Summer Festival Resumes This Saturday



Photo: Kemuel Stubbs

The Ministry of Tourism and Aviation is proud to resume Junkanoo Summer Festival this Saturday at Arawak Cay.

The event that culminates all aspects of Bahamian culture is the ministry's most anticipated signature event of the season and is a delight for both locals and visitors.

Patrons of the event enjoy mouthwatering

Bahamian dishes from 21 vendors, marvel at authentic Bahamian arts and craft, dance and sing along with local musicians and bands and are moved by the heart thumping sounds of Junkanoo from both A and B groups.

There is also a lively kiddie corner featuring games, bouncing castles, toy shops and a magic

man along with heritage games for locals and visitors to enjoy.

The ministry's Director of Events Charity Armbrister said officials were overwhelmed with the level of support from patrons over the first two weeks of the event.

She added that it is hoped that the momentum continues.

"Bahamians and visitors from all walks

of life showed up and supported over the first two weeks. We've had successful years in the past, but this year we can see how much the event has grown significantly. We are hoping that people continue to come and support us as we close out the summer Bahamian-style," she

said.

This week, there will be musical performances from Gernie Flower and Caribbean Express; Gawain Clarke - one man band; Sky Juice Band; Falcons band; La Chic dancers; Elon Moxey; Funky D and Junkanoo performances from Body of Christ and the Saxons

Superstars.

Junkanoo Summer Festival is being sponsored by REV, Kalik, the Nassau Guardian Group of Companies, John Bull and Little Switzerland.

The festival ends August 17. For more information, contact the Ministry of Tourism and Aviation at 302-2000.

Environmentalists Continue Fight to Preserve Lighthouse Point

BY BERTHONY MCDERMOTT
Journal Staff Writer

In a statement yesterday, environmental groups said Disney Cruise Line Island Development's June 12 letter was a dismissive response to the detailed letter sent by the groups on the inadequacy of Disney's environmental review.

In that letter, Disney reiterated that the company will only move forward with the development if it could in an environmentally responsible manner.

Yesterday, environmentalists said Disney still hasn't replied to the specific questions in the stop Disney- Last Chance

campaign's petition.

The statement said DCL continues to downplay the impact of this massive project, the centerpiece of which is a \$250 million, .6 mile-long pier that would cut across coral reef and would be used to transport up to 20,000 passengers a week to its exclusive facilities.

In just three weeks, the campaign gathered more than 40,000 supporters and continues to climb.

Meantime, Minister of Tourism Dionisio D'Aguilar maintained that this project will go on.

"First of all, this is to do with The Bahamas, so how many of them are Bahamians? How many of them are citizens of this

country? Secondly, what is the opinion of the people on the ground in South Eleuthera most importantly?" he asked.

"Don't focus on how many people sign a petition. Many of them I'm sure don't even live in The Bahamas and everyone is concerned about The Bahamas and trust me, we are concerned about the environment too."

The government feels comfortable he said that Disney will do everything in its power to ensure that the environment is protected.

Disney plans to develop a \$400 million cruise port and entertainment facility at Lighthouse Point.

RBDF Recovers Stolen Vessel

A stolen vessel was recovered after being found by members of the Royal Bahamas Defence Force (RBDF) Harbour Patrol Unit (HPU) over the weekend.

Calls made by Royal Bahamas Police Force (Cable Beach Police Station) indicated that a

white 17-foot Boston Whaler named First Knight was stolen from Sandals dock sometime between Saturday evening and Sunday morning.

A search was subsequently conducted by HPU patrol craft RB-01 coxswained by Leading Seaman Anthony Hall and

assisted by Marine Seaman Samuel Lewis.

Their efforts eventually led to the recovery of the vessel Sunday afternoon in waters North of Delaporte.

The vessel was handed over to the Cable Beach Police Station and Sandals Hotel Authority.



► The 17-foot Boston Whaler named First Knight recovered by the RBDF. (Photo: RBDF)

Centreville Residents Have Proper Toilets

BY LEAH COOPER
Journal Staff Writer

Centreville Member of Parliament Reece Chipman said the issue of outdoor toilets has turned out a little different than he anticipated as most residents in his constituency have toilets with proper plumbing.

Back in March of 2018, Mr. Chipman would have indicated that he intended to rid his constituents of the longstanding practice, but he said that he realized a distinct difference between pit latrines and outdoor toilet

facilities.

He said, "When you go around the neighborhood, you realize that the pit latrines that people used way back when are not in existence anymore."

"Now you have toilets on the outside where there is some form of plumbing. In those cases, you pretty much just have to determine whether there is adequate plumbing or not."

In fact, Mr. Chipman said he has given his constituents the option of removing or keeping these facilities.

He said that educating

the masses on the difference between the two forms of outdoor toilet facilities is extremely important considering the politicization of the long-standing issue.

"Most places in Centreville, if the toilet is on the outside, they have plumbing facilities. However, there are cases where pit latrines would have existed. In those cases, we would have asked residents or landlords if they would like us to remove them if they're not using it for something that is environmentally safe," he said.



▶ Centreville Member of Parliament Reece Chipman

Threat Called 'Silly'

Continued from / PAGE 1...

D'Aguilar's comments came after Mr. Rodney expressed in a local daily that he wanted to meet with the government to address his concerns.

However, D'Aguilar said he met with Mr. Rodney several times in the past and now he feels that discussions are at an impasse.

"He operates a hotel in this country and he had issues with the licensing process, how it's done and he has numerous other issues," he said.

"It's probably better served and requires a better level of detail to be better served at the level of the Hotel Licensing Board. That's why we appoint the board."

In Tuesday's edition of

The Bahama Journal, Mr. Rodney placed an ad noting that the Free National Movement administration promised to make it easier for businesses to operate in The Bahamas, but that after two years in office nothing has changed.

The ad further noted that if the FNM wins the next election and nothing changes, Rodney would be forced to close

Compass Point and leave the country.

To that, the minister of tourism asserted that he will not be threatened adding that it's not the way business is conducted in The Bahamas.

"He has to do what he has to do. If he feels he has to shut his hotel down because the government hasn't succeeded at his demands, then that's what he has to do," D'Aguilar said.

"I told him that because

he's rich and he could afford to do that. He has to also consider the lives of his 60 Bahamian employees.

"It's inappropriate to come in to The Bahamas, build a business and threaten the government that he is going to close it down if his demands are not acceded. That's not the way to negotiate.

"I would never ever dream of going into The United States and going to the local officials saying,

'Look, if you don't change your ways I'm going to pull down my business.' They will laugh at me and tell me to go shut it down."

When asked if compass point closing will effect on the country's tourism product D'Aguilar said, "Well of course, everything does, but that doesn't mean that an elected official of this country is going to roll over and play dead if someone comes and threatens them."

Travel Advisory

Continued from / PAGE 1...

Leader Philip Davis believes a travel advisory against the U.S. is warranted, Henfield told The Bahama Journal that it is not a necessary measure.

"We have spoken to the Americans about the advisor effect of travel advisories on the Bahamas and the reasons which focus on tourism," Mr. Henfield said.

"The prime minister has spoken to the president at his level and I have spoken the security of state at my level. We don't see this as an opportunity to pile on."

Instead, he wishes to use this opportunity to caution Bahamians when traveling.

"I think this is the time for us as the government to say to Bahamians wherever

you're traveling in the world, we live in a paradigm where terrorism, domestic or international, we must continue to be watchful. We must continue to be cognitive of our surroundings. If you see something, say something," Mr. Henfield expressed.

On Monday, the government issued a statement extending condolences to families of the victims in last week's mass shootings and said the country is praying for the recovery of those injured.

Uruguay and Venezuela have both issued travel warnings.

In a statement, the Venezuelan foreign minister suggested its citizens "postpone travel" to the

U.S. in light of "hate crimes".

Uruguay advised its citizens to avoid U.S. cities like Albuquerque, Detroit and Baltimore.

The Uruguay government also advised citizens to stay away from theme parks, shopping centers and sporting events.

American officials slapped the Bahamas with a level two travel warning back in March of this year which advised visitors to "exercise increased caution".

According to the warning, American government personnel are not permitted to go in "Over-the-Hill" areas. They're also barred from using jet ski rentals in New Providence and Paradise Island.

Business Owners Lack

Continued from / PAGE 1...

workers in the New York area that get two months' worth of salary just because construction doesn't really go on that much."

Mr. Taylor insisted that when people know they have the support of others, they would be able to take more of a risk, than compared to having no way to recover.

"Compound that with a society where if I fail, everybody knows me. So, I can't escape that. If I turn here, you're looking at me and laughing at me. There's a lot of envy for persons who dare to take a

chance," he said.

"So, this social component is one we can't overlook. People respond to the society that they are in and if people ridicule me, I would prefer to be safe and fit into my society than to go out there on a limb and if I crash everybody ridicules me."

He added that this is why education is imperative for national development, as persons would get a better understanding of what a society requires to move forward and how a government should design programs for that society.



ALL THE PERKS OF COMFORT SUITES
ALL THE PLAY OF ATLANTIS



- Free access to all pool and beach activities at neighboring Atlantis
- Complimentary full American buffet breakfast
- Kids 11 and under stay free in room with parent**
- Free Wi-Fi

- Free parking
- Air conditioned Jr. suites with king size or two double beds
- Pool with swim up bar
- 32 inch flat screen televisions
- Complimentary In-Room Safe



GREAT FOOD! GREAT PRICES!
Taste Perfection

Join us for lunch & dinner at
Comfort Suites Paradise Island
Ext: 6376 or 6404

Maximum 4 persons per room, additional fees apply for mandatory taxes, mandatory housekeeping gratuities and utility service fees. Quoted rates are based on standard room category and subject to availability. Full American buffet a \$58 value per room per day based on double occupancy. Free Wi-Fi a \$22 value per room per day. Free parking a \$16 value per day. Cancellations must be received 72 hours prior to arrival or a 1-night penalty will apply. **Kids under 11 years of age stay and eat free in room with parent - breakfast, lunch & dinner.

ComfortSuitesPI.com | (242) 363-3680

  /ComfortsuitesPI

Over-the-Hill Residents Equipped with Economic and Social Skills

The Over-the-Hill Unit of the Office of the Prime Minister equipped residents with knowledge to empower themselves economically and socially in a recent town hall.

A 'Connecting to Empower Town Hall Meeting' was recently staged under the Over-The-Hill Community Development Partnership Initiative, which attracted some 100 residents from

Ministry of Labour; Chrystal Ginton, the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) and Dr. Esther de Gourville, Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO).

Residents heard about the availability of jobs and were encouraged to register online at jobseekers.bahamas.gov.bs.

Environmental Health

Bahamas by PAHO/WHO in a number of areas, the need for green spaces to encourage physical activities, the need for more affordable foods such as fruit and vegetables and backyard farming, more water consumption which leads to overall good health.

In Ms. Ginton's presentation, she reminded residents that the Hurricane Season starts June 1 and



▶ Resident receiving information during Connecting to Empower Town Hall Meeting under the Over-The-Hill Community Development Partnership Initiative at Salem Union Baptist Church Hall, Taylor Street on July 30, 2019.
(BIS Photo/Lindsay Thompson)

the Bain and Grants Town community and vicinity.

Assembled in Salem Union Baptist Church Hall on Taylor Street on July 30, 2019, residents heard from SallyAnn Chisholm, the Department of Environmental Health Services; Patricia Rolle,

services focused on bulk waste collection, the clearing of properties of abandoned buildings and derelict vehicles, vector control and penalties for environmental infractions.

Dr. de Gourville outlined the technical assistance granted to The

ends November 30 and that residents should take responsibility for their readiness. She also explained the role of NEMA and its supporting agencies, which coordinates in the event of any disaster, natural or man-made.

Senators Mourn Loss of Parliamentary Media Colleague

Continued from / PAGE 1...

opportunity to work along with Trotman at ZNS, said.

"Mr. Trotman was a worker. He loved doing what he came to ZNS every day to do. He was an inspiration to not just myself, colleagues at ZNS or the media industry, but to regular folk. He was a good man.

"Our last conversation was at the Senate and we spoke about some stuff and as always, telling me how proud he was to see me finally where I am today and to don't stop because I have more to offer for the future."

Trotman was responsible for all technical television productions at The Broadcasting Corporation of The Bahamas until the time of his death.

He dedicated his life to his work at the corpora-

tion and played an instrumental role over the many years in the success of TV-13, Radio Bahamas and the Parliamentary Channel.

Senator Fred Mitchell also expressed condolences yesterday and said he is saddened to learn of Trotman's untimely passing and described him as a good man.

"In his work at ZNS, he was a consummate professional and helpful in every aspect," Mitchell said.

"His cheerful presence was a lift for those of us who worked around him in Parliament. We shall all miss this supporter of the progressive cause."

A statement released by The Broadcasting Corporation of the Bahamas said Trotman had an iconic presence at ZNS and he was respected by many colleagues

and clients over the years.

"His commitment and loyalty to ZNS was in the category held only by a few," the statement read. "He will truly be missed!"

Trotman joined the corporation on August 15, 1978 and held various titles within the corporation.

He worked on various national committees for the Broadcasting Corporation including the National Emergency Management Agency and The Independence Committee.

He played a pivotal role in many major broadcasts such as The Commonwealth Heads of Government Meetings, state funerals, CARIFTA, IAAF, and the Ministry of Health's Bio-Diversity Conference.

May his soul rest in peace.



▶ The Over-the-Hill Unit in the Office of the Prime Minister held a Connecting to Empower Town Hall Meeting at Salem Union Baptist Church Hall, Taylor Street on July 30, 2019. Pictured from left: Captain Stephen Russell, Director, National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA); Italia Johnson, former Speaker of the House of Assembly who received a hurricane kit; Chrystal Ginton, Deputy Permanent Secretary, NEMA; and Samita Ferguson, Executive Manager, Over-the-Hill Unit, Office of the Prime Minister.
(BIS Photo/Lindsay Thompson)

Over-the-Hill project manager Rocky Nesbitt explained the responsibility of Environmental Monitors to ensure that areas are free from environmental infractions such as illegal dumping, and that monitors target areas daily, file weekly reports and present evidence that could lead to offenders being charged in a revived environmental court.

Samita Ferguson, Executive Manager of the

Over-the-Hill Unit in the Office of the Prime Minister, underscored the importance of the partnership initiative.

The Over-the-Hill Community Development Partnership Initiative, officially launched in May 2018, is built around six key pillars designed to fully restore the Over-the-Hill community communities. These areas include: Social Empowerment; Economic E m p o w e r m e n t ;

Rejuvenation; Smart Technology; Green and Sustainable Technology; and Programmes for the Youth and the Elderly.

The Over-the-Hill Community Development Partnership Initiative is the brainchild of Prime Minister the Most Hon. Dr. Hubert A. Minnis, whose goal is to transform those communities into cleaner and safer environments, while economically empowering residents.

Rolleville Police Station Reopens

Continued from / PAGE 1...

force with the necessary equipment to perform their duties optimally and professionally," Dr. Minnis said.

"The importance of proper police equipment, functioning vehicles and well-maintained stations cannot be overstated."

Also attending the opening ceremony was Minister of National Security Marvin Dames, who said the police station is a part the government's initiative to better

serve Family Islanders.

"As a government, when we came into government more than two years ago, we recognized the importance of committing to the people of the Bahamas," Mr. Dames said.

"To ensure we guarantee their safety, but as well to ensure that we as a government to take care of our law enforcement and to provide the best in service, equipment and resource to them so they will be able to better serve you"

To meet the demands of Rolleville and the rest of the Exumas, the police station is now equipped with an interview room and proper cells.

According to the prime minister there are plans to renovate other police stations throughout the Bahamas in New Providence, South Andros and Eleuthera.

He noted that the FNM government has invested over \$17 million in equipment and technology for the Royal Bahamas Police Force.



▶ Newly renovated Rolleville, Exuma, police station, August 7, 2019.
(BIS Photos/Yontalay Bowe)

GOT NEWS?
call The Journal
TIP LINE at 356-7254