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Frustrated Consumers

BY DEANDRE WILLIAMSON
Journal Staff Writer

Over the Emancipation holiday weekend, thousands of Bahamas Power and Light (BPL) consumers were left frustrated as load shedding intensified causing electricity to go off intermittently in several areas throughout New Providence.

Some Bahamians, who were annoyed by the vexing load shedding issue, complained that they were not properly notified prior to the power outages.

Since last Friday, BPL posted a number of mes-

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▶ BEWU President Paul Maynard

No School Repairs Shock Exuma MP

BY DEANDRE WILLIAMSON
Journal Staff Writer

After touring schools in his constituency, Exuma and Ragged Island Member of Parliament Chester Cooper said he is "shocked and dismayed" that school repairs have yet to begin.

This past weekend, Cooper toured public schools in Exuma to

determine their readiness for the upcoming school year, but he believes they are being neglected.

"I visited the schools at Black Point, Mount Thompson, The Forest and L.N. Coakley High School, all of which are desperately in need of repairs that have not started," Cooper said.

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▶ Chester Cooper MP

SENATOR AND GG ATTEND EMANCIPATION DAY LUNCHEON



▶ Senator Fred Mitchell greets Governor General CA Smith at Fox Hill Community Center where they both attended the Emancipation Day luncheon yesterday. (Photo: Fred Mitchell - Minute by Minute)

'Do Not Cower Spirit of Murder'

BY DEANDRE WILLIAMSON
Journal Staff Writer

Following the country's latest homicide, New Covenant Baptist Church Pastor Emeritus Simeon Hall warned Bahamians that they should not "cower" the spirit of murder and accept it as the

"new normal".

"A demonic culture of deadly violence increases not merely because some are set on criminality, but because of the comfortable, so-called 'good people' who remain passively silent or are complicit in

■ See page 6...

Two Murders Mar Holiday Weekend

BY LICEC BASTIAN
Journal Staff Writer

The Emancipation holiday weekend was marred by two murders in less than 24 hours in the capital.

Police are investigating and looking for the triggermen responsible for the fatal shootings that

happened only nine hours apart.

The latest homicide occurred shortly after 1 p.m. on Sunday, when a male was sitting behind his home and was confronted by an armed man.

Police reports indicate that the victim was shot

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'NCDs Too Serious to be Trivialized'



▶ Dr. Duane Sands

BY LICEC BASTIAN
Journal Staff Writer

Minister of Health Dr. Sands said chronic non-communicable diseases (NCD) in The Bahamas are "too serious of a matter and should not be trivialized by petty political gamesmanship".

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ALL THE NEWS YOU NEED TO READ IN THE MORNING

Woman Dies in Abaco Traffic Accident

BY LICEC BASTIAN
Journal Staff Writer

An early morning drive in Abaco, on Sunday, resulted in the death of an adult female, bringing the total number of traffic fatalities for the country to 23, according to The Journal

records.

Police in the Northern Bahamas are investigating the circumstances surrounding a two car collision on Don McKay Boulevard that claimed the life of the female passenger while injuring the drivers of both vehicles.

Reports indicate that shortly after 1 a.m., police were called to a traffic accident on Don McKay Boulevard involving a Toyota Passo and a silver Jaguar.

Further investigation revealed that both vehicles were travelling on Don

McKay Boulevard when a head on collision occurred.

Both vehicles received extensive damages and both drivers and passenger received injuries.

All persons were transported to the Marsh Harbour Health Center, where they were treated.

The driver of the Jaguar, according to police, was treated for non-life threatening injuries and later discharged.

The male driver of the Toyota Passo was also treated for non-life threatening injuries and was

later airlifted to New Providence for further medical attention.

The female passenger of the Toyota Passo, unfortunately, later succumbed to her injuries.

Police have not revealed any identification of the victims.

Water Pipe Burst at Post Office

BY BERTHONY MCDERMOTT
Journal Staff Writer

Tests to the fire extinguishers and sprinkler system at the General Post Office at the Town Centre Mall led to what's known as a water incursion in the mail sorting

area on Friday morning. Minister responsible, Renward Wells explained in a release that prior to the Post Office occupying the premises, the sprinkler system was successfully tested for adequacy and integrity.

Subsequent to that

test, it was determined that even though the existing system was acceptable, a more modern and reliable one would be best.

However, upon conducting hydrostatic tests, the pressure caused pipes to separate.

This in turn led to

water damage to some of the mail and two employees having to go home and change.

"My concern was and I did ask, 'Why did they choose to test the line while persons were in the work environment?' I am now understanding that there could have

been some impact from testing the lines," Bahamas Public Service Union President Kimsley Ferguson said.

"That was my only concern. However, nobody was injured and we're satisfied that the situation is going to be corrected."

According to Minister Wells, the pressure value was immediately shut down, the integrity of the system has been assured and the affected mail has been dried.

Persons whose mail was affected are reportedly being notified individually.

Mangrove Cay Clinic to Relocate

BY BERTHONY MCDERMOTT
Journal Staff Writer

A less than satisfactory rental facility coupled with long term renovations to its current location has left health officials with little

choice but to relocate the clinic in Mangrove Cay, Andros.

According to Minister of Health Dr. Duane Sands, the plan is to follow through with that before the end of the year.

"We have agreed not to renew the lease, but to identify another temporary facility until such time as the renovations are complete. They have not yet moved because we have not yet identified nor pre-

pared the new temporary facility," he said.

While the current facility is admittedly not the best, Dr. Sands said at this point, no new places are in mind.

"We're looking at

Mangrove Cay, so you have to find a place from the available inventory of commercial buildings and as you can imagine there is not an unlimited supply."

During a February tour of health facilities in

Andros, officials discovered that renovations to the Mangrove Cay clinic were not progressing as quickly as they should.

Those renovations come at a cost of some \$2 million.

Salary Increases Pending for BPSU

BY LICEC BASTIAN
Journal Staff Writer

Bahamas Public Services Union President Kimsley Ferguson is making the push to secure increased salaries for public servants, adding that he will not allow civil servants to be "taxed to death".

Mr. Ferguson told the reporters this past Friday, that having discussed briefly with Prime Minister Dr. Hubert Minnis concerning salary increases, he intends to meet with the prime minister to further discuss the move forward.

"After we would have concluded all the non-financial aspects of the agreement, we go back to see him (Dr. Minnis) sometime on the 12th of this month to find out what the position of the government is going to be regarding the salary increases," Mr. Ferguson said.

"And so, we just want to cause our members to rest assured that we are feverishly working and agitating to ensure that they get some sort of



► BPSU President Kimsley Ferguson

funding in their hands to assist with back to school for the children."

Mr. Ferguson added that he wanted to be in a definitive position before heading into that meeting slated for next week Monday and not speculate as to what the outcome of that meeting would be.

He noted however, that although he understands that the country is in a particular financial position, and amidst numerous increases in value added tax, and the cost of living, he is quite concerned about keeping workers'

heads above water.

"I would have done some calculations of a person whose salary would have been some \$1,800 per month, minus 12 percent for, hence another 5 percent for cost of living increases, that reduced that persons salary to \$1,504," Mr. Ferguson said.

"So, we need to ensure that those persons head can be brought back above water. That's a concern for the union.

"We are not going to sit idly by and allow people to be taxed to death."

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Poaching Pinches Seafood Vendors

BY EARYEL BOWLEG
Journal Staff Writer

Small seafood vendors have been experiencing a decrease in quantity and quality of fishes due to poaching.

It's having a domino effect on restaurant owner Richard Rahming of Junkanoo Bar and Grill on Junkanoo Beach. "Naturally, it increases

my cost and in the long run, it passes on to the customer," Mr. Rahming said.

"If the numbers are less, we naturally have to automatically have to increase our pricing on it sometimes because certain situations where one plate sizes would be able to suffice for a meal we have to put two."

Size is not a problem

for all restaurants. Byron Austin, owner of Tiki Bikini Hut, has been able to get a stock by ample vendors to supply all year.

"We've been fortunate. We have been thriving, our business. I don't know if they make us a priority, but the vendor that we deal with have always been consistent and they basically look

out for us," Mr. Austin said.

"So many people coming to purchase, we always make sure to have an ample stock base on our volume."

Rahming, on the other hand, called for harsher consequences for foreigners who are caught stripping the Bahamas of natural resources.

"My thing is the

biggest industry is the fact that how we regulate our fishermen here locally is one thing, but how do we deal with international poachers who come into our waters and basically strip us of our natural resources and take it to wherever they're from," Mr. Rahming explained.

"We have to make sure any international poach-

ers who we come into contact with who may necessarily be catch in our waters be dealt with the strictest law."

Minister of Agriculture and Marine Resources Michael Pintard announced last week that any foreign vessels caught poaching will be destroyed and the offender will face harsh consequences.

Three in Custody for GB Break-in

BY LICEC BASTIAN
Journal Staff Writer

Three men were arrested in Grand Bahama on Sunday, after they were caught in the act of shop-breaking and stealing, according to police on that island.

Police said the alleged thieves broke into a business establishment on Settlers Way, shortly after 3 a.m. on Sunday.

Officers were alerted to the break-in when an alarm was activated at the establishment. Once officers

arrived on the scene, they observed items being tossed from the establishment and a male exiting.

Officers demanded that the man stop, however he did not, but instead motioned an object in the direction of the officers.

The police then shot at the suspect, hitting him in the upper thigh. He was subsequently transported to the Rand Memorial Hospital where he is listed in stable condition.

The other two male suspects, according to police,

were arrested.

Meantime, police in Grand Bahama are also looking for a suspect alleged to have committed an armed robbery of a Downtown business.

Reports said on Saturday, shortly after 4

p.m., a lone gunman entered a business establishment in the Downtown area brandishing a firearm and demanded cash not related to the business.

He fled the area on foot. Police are active investigating both matters.

American Man Shot in Altercation

BY LICEC BASTIAN
Journal Staff Writer

Police in Grand Bahama are investigating a shooting and stabbing incident that has left three males with injuries.

Reports are that shortly after 12 a.m., Emancipation Monday, police responded to a report of a shooting incident at a resort on Silver Point Drive.

On arrival, officers met an American male with gunshot wounds to the hand, who reported that

he was involved in a physical altercation with a group of males.

The American male was transported to the Rand Memorial Hospital for medical attention.

A short time later, two Bahamian males presented themselves at the Rand Memorial Hospital suffering from stab wounds about the body.

Police said both men are under doctor's care and are listed in serious but stable condition.

Police are actively investigating this matter.

Police in New Providence are also investigating a stabbing incident which left an adult male detained in hospital.

According to reports, shortly before 11 p.m. on Saturday, a man was at East Street South, when he got into an altercation with another man, who stabbed him about the body.

The injured man was transported to hospital and is listed in stable condition.

Investigations are ongoing.

Frustrated

Continued from / PAGE 1...

sages on its Facebook page advising consumers of load shedding in three hour intervals in many areas around the island.

The messages and electricity updates were posted continually until Monday.

In an interview with The Bahama Journal yesterday, Bahamas Electrical Workers Union (BEWU) President Paul Maynard said three generators are down, which caused BPL to increase and intensify load shedding throughout this past weekend.

"G5, G7 and G10 are down. That's 60 megawatts. Plus, Aggreko messing a damn round. They are not providing what they are supposed to provide. So that's why we got to do a lot of load shedding this weekend, as simple as that," Maynard told The Bahama Journal.

He suggested that BPL executives should tell Aggreko "carry they ass".

"But you know that's their call not mines," he added. "Three generators represent 60 megawatts. That's a lot and it's hot."


The BEWU president said he understands that generator G10 should be

back on by Thursday and G7 would be ready by the weekend.

However, Maynard said G5 would be out for a month or two and stressed that load shedding will continue until December.


"The point is if units go down, we got to load shed and Aggreko, the kind of money we paying them and they still are not giving us the demands," Maynard explained.

Currently, BPL rents \$2 million generators from Aggreko and promised a few months ago that the generators would bring relief to the load shedding issue.




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Police Probe Armed Robberies

BY LICEC BASTIAN
Journal Staff Writer

Police on the Island of New Providence are probing a slew of weekend armed robberies and are seeking assistance in identifying and locating other persons responsible.

Police said on Sunday, shortly before 3 p.m., an armed male entered a business establishment on John F. Kennedy Drive and robbed the cashier of an undetermined amount of cash, before making good his escape on foot.

On Saturday August 3,

several incidents occurred, leaving police looking for several suspects.

According to reports, shortly after 12 p.m., a woman was at a residence on Blyden Road, off Cowpen Road, when she was approached by an armed man who robbed her of her handbag which contained cash and other items, before getting into a gray Nissan Sylphy with another man and speeding away.

An hour later, shortly before 1p.m., a woman was at a residence on

Boatswain Hill Road, when she too was approached by an armed man, who robbed her of her handbag containing cash and other items, before getting into a blue Nissan Sentra, license AP5466, and speeding away.

Prior to these incidents, police said on Friday August 2, shortly before 7 a.m., a woman was at a residence on Jasmine Drive, off Prince Charles Drive, when she was approached by two men, one armed with a firearm, who robbed her

of her handbag and a red 2007 Nissan Note, license AH0045.

However, officers of the Central Detective Unit Officers (CDU) apprehended one of the alleged suspects a short time later when they intercepted this vehicle while on Bernard Road.

A 24-year-old male was taken into custody in connection with this incident.

In a separate incident sometime later, according to reports, shortly after 12 p.m., a female was at a residence on Cowpen

Road, when she was approached by an armed man, who robbed her of her handbag, which contained cash and other items before running away.

Two hours later, two females were at a residence on Ocean View Drive, West Ridge, when they were approached by an armed man, who robbed them of their handbags, which contained cash and other items, before running away.

Investigations into these matters are ongoing.

Police also took a quantity of illegal drugs off the streets after searching a bushy area in southeastern New Providence.

South Eastern Division officers, acting on information, on August 2, conducted a search of a bushy area on Holiday Drive, South Beach and recovered a quantity of suspected marijuana.

The drugs weighed five pounds and have an estimated street value of \$5,000. No one was arrested.

Gov't Offers Condolences after U.S. Mass Shootings

The Bahamian government expressed condolences following the mass shootings that took place in the United States this past weekend.

"The government and people of the Commonwealth of The

Bahamas are deeply saddened to learn of two mass shootings that occurred in the states of Texas and Ohio, over the weekend," a statement issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs read.

"We convey to the gov-

ernment and people of the United States of America our profound condolences on the tragic loss of life and the assurance of our continued prayers for the recovery of those injured."

The Bahamian government stands with all right-

thinking individuals in condemning all forms of violence, especially such acts that are founded in hatred and race supremacy.

"Our thoughts and prayers remain with our American brothers and sisters during this distressing

time," the statement read.

Nine people were killed and 27 others were injured when a 24-year-old gunman opened fire in a popular nightlife district in Dayton, Ohio, early Sunday.

On Saturday, 22 people

were killed and dozens injured in a shooting in a Walmart and parking lot near an El Paso, Texas shopping mall.

American police continue their investigations into both shooting incidents.

'NCDs Too Serious to be Trivialized'

Continued from / PAGE 1...

Dr. Sand's comment was in response to Englerston Member of Parliament Glenys Hanna-Martin's statement that called for the minister and the Ministry of Health to respond to the crisis of NCDs in the country.

In a statement released on Friday, Mrs. Hanna-Martin said the country is "facing a national health emergency as a result of deaths caused by chronic non-communicable diseases," adding that "the response must now be commensurate to the seriousness of this crisis".

Mrs. Hanna-Martin, in her statement, also called for the minister of health to "mobilize public health teams on the ground, door to door, raising awareness," adding that the minister of health "should stop worrying about the 'numbers boys' and the Progressive Liberal Party and whatever political flavour of the day rolls up his sleeves and get real".

Her comments were as a result of recent statistics by the World Health Organization (WHO) which revealed that in 2016, some 1,800 people in the country would have died from NCDs.

The WHO stats also revealed that 74 percent of deaths in The Bahamas

were as a result of diabetes and cancer.

In his response, Dr. Sands was blunt, telling The Bahama Journal that there is nothing new about the WHO's findings that have not already been addressed publicly.

"I don't know whether the honourable member for Englerston has been under a rock or just distracted for the last two years because there is nothing new or startling about the WHO findings that hasn't been conveyed to the public either by me, directly, or by our health team -repeatedly!" Dr. Sands said.

"But, you know, we are grateful that she has now embraced the agenda spelled out and made pellucidly clear by the Ministry of Health and this administration."

Mrs. Hanna-Martin also called for "assured access to medical attention (with tracking) whether at public clinics or in-house due to immobility to treat and manage these diseases with an enlightened approach to wholistic health not just pharmaceuticals.

"A memorandum of understanding with BAMSII for the production of healthy foods at preferential prices, VAT free, it must be expressly stated that one of the roles of BAMSII is to enhance and assure access to healthy foods (fresh fruit and vegeta-

bles) for all people especially working class Bahamians who might not ordinarily be able to afford such foods," Mrs. Hanna-Martin said.

She further stated that exercise programmes should be initiated through the Ministry of Youth, Sports and Culture for all ages, and an all-out campaign that would address alcohol and cigarette use.

To that Dr. Sands said his ministry will continue educating the public on the reality of NCDs.

"From our point of view we are going to continue to educate the public on the reality of NCDs and the horrible burden borne by the Bahamian people," Dr. Sands said.

"We will continue to advocate for healthier diets that are available and affordable and promote increased physical activity.

"Our campaigns like the successful 'Whatcha Cookin' will continue for a second season. We will soon reveal the encouraging results of our wellness programs promoting healthy choices.

"But ultimately, what we really look forward to is a real partnership with all Bahamians, irrespective of political ilk or bias.

"You know such a serious matter ought not to be trivialized by such petty political gamesmanship."



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The Golden Jubilee Review

It's not an everyday occurrence to discover an individual who has pulled himself up by his bootstraps to achieve phenomenal success with a business that's still breaking barriers, still achieving firsts, and still innovating fifty years later. What does it take? How did he achieve it all? And how can we achieve similar successes?

That's what we'll explore in this tri-weekly series. We'll break down fashion mogul Peter Nygard's achievements and look at how his accomplishments can serve as practical applications to others in business and life.

Why?

You may have experienced great achievements, be sought after to give advice to your country's leaders, given high accolades from leaders around the world, and share millions of dollars of your wealth; yet, the haters will seek to tear you apart every chance they get.

Why?
A local publication recently wrote a very hate-filled article demonizing fashion mogul Peter Nygard and accusing him of leaving his daughter, Bianca, jobless and her and her two children homeless because Nygard closed one of his stores and sold one of his houses in Nassau.

We won't address how ludicrous of a claim it is against a person who owns seven or eight homes around the world open to all of his kids and grandkids. And we won't even discuss the fact that it's a senseless claim to say that his 44-year-old daughter is jobless when her father has job opportunities for her anywhere in countless countries around the world.

Suffice it to say that a little research on the publication's part would have revealed the truth. And that truth is that Bianca and her 17-year-old and 15-year-old children are not homeless in Nassau; nor is she unemployed. She'll tell you herself that her father has always supported her and his grandchildren.

Obviously, the publication never wanted to know the truth. So why?

Why can't we as a people just celebrate the success and the goodness of others instead of denigrating them?

Why can't we simply learn from the successes and examples of others instead of being resentful?

Why would you want to rip apart someone who has been so generous of spirit to Bahamians throughout The Bahamas? What would you have to gain?

Obviously, there's nothing to be gained. It's simply a matter of being mean-spirited and small-minded.

In Oprah's O Magazine, there's an article about the meanness of people written by Martha Beck, where she suggests that we shouldn't tolerate meanness:

"The moment we begin tolerating meanness, in ourselves or others, we are using our authorial power in the service of wrongdoing. We have both the capacity and the obligation to do better." (Oprah.com: "Why Are People Mean?")

Beck offers this definition of meanness that makes sense:

"One definition of the word mean is 'small.' Mean people live small, think small, and feel small—the smaller, the meaner."

That makes sense doesn't it? Since small people don't have the courage to go out there and make significant achievements, positively impact the world, or transform the lives of others themselves.

Instead, they would prefer to pull others down rather than face the fact that their own lives leave a lot to be desired.

Senselessly attacking Peter Nygard and denigrating him doesn't help any Bahamian. Why not figure out how we can learn from his successes? Why not show gratitude and appreciation for the many ways he has helped our fellow Bahamians?

Why not say thanks for the ways he has transformed the lives of hundreds of our youth and set them on a positive path to make great achievements of their own?

Why not acknowledge how these acts of Nygard alone have the potential to positively and exponentially impact the future of our country through the achievements of the young Bahamians inspired by Peter Nygard's achievements?

What good are these small-minded people doing for The Bahamas with their incessant propensity to vilify others, especially those who've had significant achievements and seek to better their lives and those of others?

Wouldn't the Commonwealth of The Bahamas be a much better place if those seeking to disparage the character of achievers work on making significant contributions of their own instead of creating a cesspool of resentment, toxicity and venom?

Of course it would!

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E D I T O R I A L

INSPIRING THE NATION

In the Bahamas, we have to do a better job in the overall education of our people. There are far too many Bahamians who do not know their country. In the main, they do not know the people of the country, nor are the youth knowledgeable about the history of the development of the country. This is dangerous for the overall growth and development of the nation. A people who don't know who they are would have great difficulty in finding out where they are going.

As a nation, we must determine how we are educating our people and what we are educating them for. Many years ago, the Father of the Nation, the late Sir Lynden Pindling who always sought to inspire the Nation gave a lecture on the relevance of education to a forum sponsored by The Bahamas Union of Teachers. There have been very few politicians who were connected as Sir Lynden was to the aspirations of the Bahamian people.

It can very well be argued that these are different times since he addressed the subject almost 30 years ago. However his perspective on education and nation-building is worth reading today.

Sir Lynden asked the following questions: "Does the education that our children get today in school have a logical connection with what they will be doing out of school tomorrow? Is it germane to the occupations that they will have to perform? Is it material to the problems that they will have to solve? Is it pertinent to the changes in the social conditions in which they will find themselves in five, ten or fifteen years' time? Indeed, is the education of our children relevant to their being Bahamians? Are we teaching enough Geography – Bahamian Geography in Bahamian schools? Are we teaching enough Bahamian and Caribbean History in Bahamian schools? ...Are the subjects that are being taught relevant to the Bahamian children in 1970, in 1975 and in 1980? Whatever is being

taught to the children today, is it relevant to the Bahamian culture? Is it relevant to the region's culture? Are we more concerned with the Russian Ballet than the Bahamian jumping dance; are we more concerned with the American tap dance than the Bahamian Junkanoo beat? What we are promoting, is it relevant to the Bahamian child so that he will grow up to be a more meaningful Bahamian, more knowledgeable of things Bahamian, so that he could expand and produce in his Bahamas? Do we teach Bahamian children civics?

Not the civics of North America, not the civics of Western Europe, not the civics of Eastern Europe, but do we teach Bahamas children the civics of The Bahamas, the civics of the region in which they live so that they understand the political and economic systems into which they were born, into which they will be catapulted after they leave school, and in which they will be expected to succeed?

How can we expect them to succeed if they do not understand the system in which they will live, in which they will grow and in which they will work? They must be failures if they are thrown into a system not having been fully prepared by a thorough understanding of that system. That may be the reason why so many of us are not able to compete when we have left school because we are thrust into a highly competitive system and materialistic system not being fully prepared even by knowing how it works or what it means, much less know how to get on. Is education in The Bahamas today relevant to The Bahamas, to the Bahamian children to fit it and them for The Bahamas today and for The Bahamas tomorrow?"

The current Minister of Education, Jeffrey Lloyd is putting in place certain initiatives to ensure that the children of the nation are better educated in civics of the Bahamas. We trust that he is able to get the full support of Bahamian educators in both the public and private sectors.

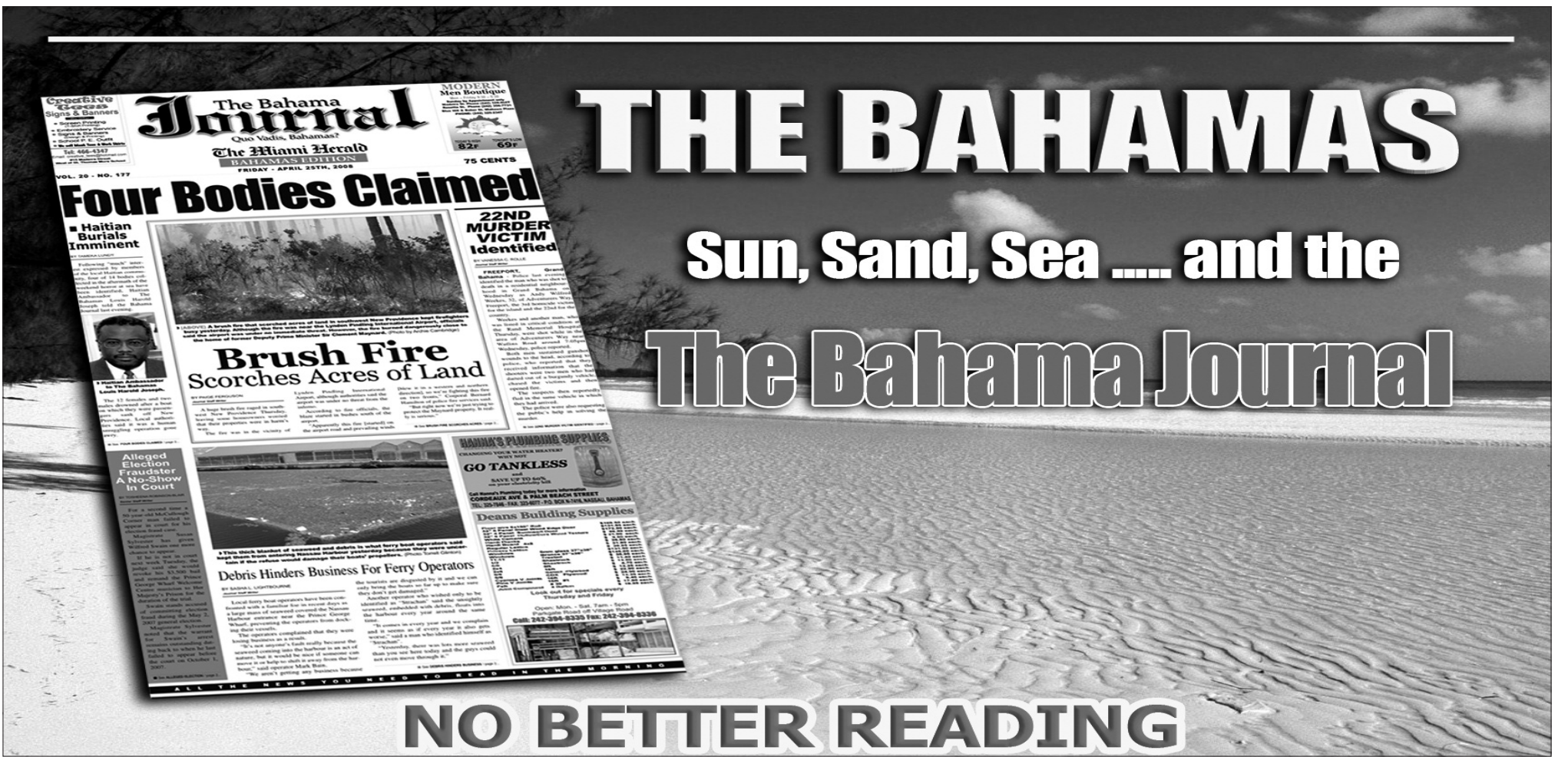
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THE BAHAMAS

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The Bahama Journal

NO BETTER READING



Repairs Shock Exuma MP

Continued from / PAGE 1...

"I have confirmed with several contractors that though they have signed contracts, the government has not sent mobilization money or any funding for the work."

Last week, Minister of Education Jeffery Lloyd toured several public schools in New Providence that are undergoing repairs and promised that the schools would be ready for the upcoming school year.

However, Cooper said it is "ridiculous" that the government has yet to disburse the needed funds for school repairs after

announcing that schools would be ready.

"I have brought the situation to the attention of the minister of education and the minister works. The minister of education promises he will look into it," Cooper said.

"It is ridiculous that Exuma and her people are once again being neglected.

"Exumians pay taxes like everyone else in this Bahamas. What is the point of those taxes being paid to the public treasury are not used to maintain public buildings and further the public good?"

"School opens on the same schedule every year.

This level of neglect is alarming."

Cooper urged the government to deal with the situation speedily so that students, teachers and staff can have a productive school year.

"Also, I would note that there is still no provision for a temporary school on Ragged Island despite there being a suitable building on the island," he added.

"Ragged Islanders could have had school in September, had the government cared.

Instead, Ragged Island children will once again be sent away from their parents."

'Do Not Cower Spirit of Murder'

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criminal activities," Bishop Hall said yesterday.

"Politicians, preachers and appointed public officials who engage in asinine diatribe must be told that they fan the flame of violence, sometimes unwittingly.

"Ignorance leads to fear. Fear leads to hate. And hate is so insidious, that all it lacks is the opportunity to kill."

According to Bishop Hall, the news of the assault and murder of another person has lost the shock and dismay it caused a few decades ago.

"Civilized and well-

thinking Bahamians and residents must continue to believe and work for all that can be done to rediscover the beautiful community we once enjoyed - where life was seen as precious from the womb to the grave," he said.

"More than 50 lives have been ended senselessly this year by this demonic culture of murder. The good work of the police notwithstanding, some Bahamians embrace a romance with violence which continues to end in young black men and women being mowed down like animals."

On Sunday, a man was shot dead while standing outside his home on

Roland Street, Ridgeland Park.

According to police, the incident occurred shortly before 4 a.m. Paramedics responded to the scene, but were unsuccessful in reviving the injured man, who was pronounced dead at the scene.

Also on Sunday, a man was sitting outside a home on Lucky Hart Corner, off East Street when he was fatally shot by an assailant.

Police said the incident occurred shortly after 1 p.m. Paramedics were called to the scene, but the man was pronounced dead.

Investigations into both incidents are ongoing.

Letter to the Editor

TRIBUTE TO DR. CLEVELAND "FRITZIE" ENEAS JR.



By Allyson Maynard-Gibson QC

Dear Editor,

The passing of Dr. Cleveland "Fritzie" Eneas Jr. made me reflect on old fashioned values that make The Bahamas so special. This reflection was amplified by the gospel reading in church, this past Sunday morning, from Luke Ch. 12 about the foolish man who, rather than sharing his blessings, gathered his riches in bigger barns and never lived to enjoy them. Fritzie gave every day. No storing his talents in barns. He used every opportunity to serve.

I can remember the days when our elders would mention certain family names, like Eneas, while saying, "that's a family with a legacy that Bahamians should emulate". Why? Because that family, for generations, has a legacy of service.

Bishop Eneas, Fritzie's Grandfather, was an iconic leader in the Bain Town community. He is the person after whom Eneas Jumper Corner is named and it is he that started his own church, a landmark, on East St. Bishop Eneas' son, former Senator, Dr. Cleveland Eneas Sr., was one of the first black dentists in The Bahamas (along with Dr. Jackson Burnside Sr.). He attended Tuskegee and Meharry Universities, at a time when few black Bahamians attended university. After qualifying as a dentist, he came back home with his wife, Mrs. Muriel Eneas, to help build The Bahamas, then a colony. I feel so proud when I see the picture of Dr. Eneas, and so many other men, including my Father, as Directors of the

People's Penny Savings Bank, chartered in 1951. These were black men who knew that "pennies make pounds" and that black people could come together to create a strong economy. They were visionaries and trailblazers. Mrs. Eneas moved from being a teacher, to the Headmistress of St. Anne's School. She also helped to develop Bahamians through her involvement in numerous charities, including The Bahamas Girl Guides' Association. Most people who passed through her hands recount wonderful stories of how she encouraged them and gave them unforgettable life lessons. Their children are doctors and all serve in the Church and in the Community. Their legacy is one of service - love of God, service above self, patriotism and loyalty.

Fritzie was very proud of his heritage. This enabled him to honour and develop, for the next generation, his family legacy. Just like his forebears, Fritzie, a well-educated man, was able, wisely, to relate to and serve all people. Like his parents and grandparents, he served, without seeking reward. He gave many people dental care although they could not afford to pay for his professional services. Many of his fraternal brothers attest to how Fritzie quietly guided, mentored and encouraged them. The Bahamas Dental Association can speak of his commitment to excellence.

When I was in frontline politics, someone told me, "girl, I have new respect for you. I was someplace

where people were complaining about the PLP. Fritzie Eneas told us about you and your community service. He made it clear that nothing negative about you could be said in his presence because you are a family friend". I was so happy. I'll never forget it. In today's world, people far too often allow artificial barriers like politics, religion, skin colour, etc. to get in the way of relationships. Our parents taught us to treasure friends. Fritzie, by example, taught us how to respect people and be a loyal friend and brother. He had a big heart and an enormous capacity to love. This is a part of his legacy.

As people will continue to say, Fritzie gave everything he had to serving his community. Simply put, "he would give you the shirt off his back". This was the message of the above-mentioned gospel passage. This what Maya Angelou meant when she said, "... people will never forget how you make them feel."

As we honour Fritzie, we also honour the Eneas family, one of the many Bahamian families to whom we can point and say to our children, "they are role models".

Thank you Fritzie. You ran an excellent race and stayed the course. Take your much deserved rest.

Yours truly,
Allyson Maynard-Gibson

Two Murders Mar Holiday Weekend

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multiple times to the body as he sat outside his home on Lucky Hart Corner, off East Street.

Paramedics were called to the scene and attempted to revive the man. However, they were unsuccessful and he was subsequently pronounced dead.

Just nine hours before this homicide, a man was shot in Ridgeland Park West, just after arriving home.

In that incident, police reported that it was shortly before 4 a.m. when a man was standing outside a home on Roland Street, Ridgeland Park, when he was approached by a group of men.

He was shot multiple times about the body. Paramedics responded to the scene, but they were unsuccessful in reviving the injured man. He was pronounced dead at the scene.

These latest homicides

bring the country's total homicide count to 56, according to The Journal's records.

Police are also investigating a shooting incident which occurred on Friday leaving an adult male in hospital.

According to reports, shortly before 8 p.m. a man was walking on Spence Alley, off Wilson Track, when he was approached by a group of men, one armed with a firearm, who shot him multiple times about the body before running away.

The injured man was transported to hospital and is listed in serious condition.

Police are appealing to members of the public, who may have information that can assist with this investigation, to contact the Central Detective Unit at 502-9991/2, Crime Stoppers at 328-TIPS (8477) or the nearest police station.

Investigations are ongoing.

Toastmasters Club Celebrates 50th Year with Installation at Government House



► Governor General, His Excellency the Most Hon. Cornelius A. Smith (standing, centre) hosted the installation ceremony of executive officers of the First Bahamas Branch of Toastmasters Club 1600 in celebration of its 50th Year Anniversary, at Government House, August 1, 2019. (BIS Photos/Patrick Hanna)