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New Disaster Ministry

BY DEANDRE WILLIAMSON
 Journal Staff Writer

The government established the new Ministry of Disaster Preparedness, Management and Reconstruction and appointed Central Grand Bahama Member of Parliament Iram Lewis as minister of state to lead the ministry.

The formation of the new ministry was announced by Prime Minister Dr. Hubert Minnis during a press conference yesterday at

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Central Grand Bahama MP Iram Lewis

'New Ministry Brings Incoherent Confusion'

BY DEANDRE WILLIAMSON
 Journal Staff Writer

Opposition Leader Philip Davis said the announcement of the new Ministry of Disaster Preparedness, Management and Reconstruction brought an "incoherent dose of confusion that will fuel more delays and deepen the level of dissatisfac-

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Opposition Leader Philip Davis

ECONOMIC RECOVERY ZONES DESIGNATED

BY DEANDRE WILLIAMSON
 Journal Staff Writer

Restoring commerce is vital to the islands of Abaco and Grand Bahama and to facilitate the social and economic recovery of those islands affected by Hurricane Dorian, the government identified them as special economic recovery zones.

"I am pleased to announce that East Grand Bahama, Abaco, and the Abaco Cays will be designated as special economic recovery zones for an initial period of three years," Prime Minister Dr. Hubert Minnis said during a press conference yesterday at the Office of the Prime Minister.

"This designation, modeled after what is already in place for the Over-the-Hill initiative, will enable the communi-

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Prime Minister Dr. Hubert Minnis announced the establishment of the new Ministry of Disaster Preparedness, Management and Reconstruction during yesterday's press conference at the Office of the Prime Minister. Central Grand Bahama MP Iram Lewis was appointed as minister of state for the new ministry. The prime minister also designated East Grand Bahama, Abaco and the Abaco Cays as special economic recovery zones. (Photo/BIS)

PM to Sign Carnival HOA

BY DEANDRE WILLIAMSON
 Journal Staff Writer

Prime Minister Dr. Hubert Minnis is expected to travel to Grand Bahama on Wednesday and during this trip, Dr. Minnis said he will sign a heads of agreement (HOA) with Carnival Corporation for

a new cruise port on the island.

"It is more vital now than ever to continue with our economic developmental program for Grand Bahama," Dr. Minnis said yesterday during a press conference at the Office

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1.5 Billion Pounds of Debris Removal Begins

BY BERTHONY MCDERMOTT
 Journal Staff Writer

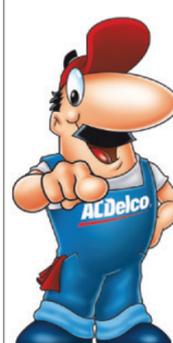
It's a mammoth task, but according to Minister of the Environment and Housing Romauld Ferreira, the process of removing the estimated 1.5 billion pounds of debris left behind by Hurricane Dorian has begun.

"Notwithstanding the

tens of millions of dollars, there are volunteer agencies here on the ground. There are private citizens on the ground that have begun the debris removal, certainly from their homes and their premises," Ferreira said last Friday.

"Another facet of debris removal would

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ALL THE NEWS YOU NEED TO READ IN THE MORNING

China Donates \$500,000

BY EARYEL BOWLEG
Journal Staff Writer

The Chinese government donated on Friday \$500,000 to The Bahamas for Hurricane Dorian relief efforts.

Speaker of the House of Assembly Halson Moultrie was meeting with the Vice-Chairman of the Standing

Committee of the National People's Congress of the People's Republic of China Dr. Cai Dafeng at the Senate when Dr. Dafeng announced the donation.

Previously, China gave \$120,000 and the Chinese Embassy donated emergency supplies of \$20,000 to the National Emergency Management Agency

(NEMA).

United States Senator Marco Rubio voiced his fears recently in an American newspaper that Hurricane Dorian will be an opportunity for China to increase its presence in The Bahamas if the U.S. Defense Department does not offer "logical assistance".

"By targeting the Bahamian government in this period of crisis, Beijing would be making the same opportunistic play to access critical foreign infrastructure," Rubio argued.

"In recent years, China has sought to expand its presence and influence in the Bahamas. With many

airports no longer operational and ports rendered unnavigable, the post-Dorian situation is tailor-made for Chinese exploitation. Beijing's predatory mercantilist international strategy, the Belt and Road Initiative, is predicated on offering other nations assistance with infrastructure projects.

"The level of destruction that Dorian caused is unprecedented, and Americans, as regional partners and global leaders, have both moral and national security imperatives to lend our logistical resources to help the Bahamas and defend our own hemisphere from China's encroachment."

China Discusses Advancement Opportunities with House Speaker

BY EARYEL BOWLEG
Journal Staff Writer

House of Assembly Speaker Halson Moultrie met with the Vice-Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress of the People's Republic of China Dr. Cai Dafeng in the Senate on Friday.

According to Moultrie, Dr. Dafeng extended a courtesy call at the speaker's office to open the parliament doors to increase communication between China and The Bahamas and seek opportunities to enhance the two countries' bilateral relationship and diplomatic relationship.

"China is deepening its democracy and The Bahamas is in the process of deepening our democracy. We both believe in the rule of law and so the purpose really is to seek beneficial opportunities to advance the people of The Bahamas while also the people of China will be benefitting from the mutually beneficial relationship," Moultrie said.

"We see opportunities

of the remainders of the archipelago to develop as we restore and develop Grand Bahama and Great Abaco so that it could be a greater population distribution."

The speaker gave a list of key areas for development which include scientific research on the impact of global warming on the apparent increase in intensity and frequency of tropical cyclones.

In addition, the key areas also include scientific research and development of marine industries as well as education and industrial development in the southeast Bahamas infrastructural restoration and throughout our archipelago.

Moultrie suggested building a maximum security facility in Little Iguana as it is "strategically positioned at the gateway to The Bahamas from the South".

He said, "We seem to have more problems coming from the South, way in respect to illegal immigration and with respect to poaching of our Bahamian waters and so we believe if we put



► His Excellency, Dr. Cai Dafeng, Vice-Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress of the People's Republic of China made a call upon Speaker of the House of Assembly, the Hon. Halson Moultrie on Friday, September 20, 2019 at the Senate. Dr. Cai was accompanied by Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to The Bahamas His Excellency Huang Qinguo. (BIS Photos/Derek Smith)

the proper faculties at that gateway, we can better protect ourselves and our sovereignty."

Dr. Defeng said China takes the relationship with The Bahamas very seriously as it is beneficial and the Bahamian government can expect their cooperation in areas such as culture, tourism and port development.

He added that the two

economies are highly complementary. He even invited The Bahamas to

join China's Belt and Road Initiative – China's global development strat-

egy for international trade and economic growth.



► From left: HE Huang Qinguo, HE Dr. Cai Dafeng, the Hon. Halson Moultrie, the Hon. Don Saunders, and Mr. David Forbes. (BIS Photos/Derek Smith)

Legal Notice

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to the public that **Zeneta Archer-Deveaux**, the heiress-at-law of the estate of the late Pearl Tucker, who died on the 20th day of September, 1980, is the legal fee simple owner of the property described herein. Any person or persons claiming any right, benefit or interest in the same, must present his or her claim, in writing, along with the appropriate documentation, to the aforementioned Zeneta Archer-Deveaux, within twenty-one (21) days of the publication of this notice at the expiration of which time, no further claim will be entertained.

The plot referred to comprise six thousand six hundred and eight (6,608.00) square feet on the southern side of Laird Street two hundred and sixty seven feet east of Blue Hill road in the southern district of New Providence **bounded on the north** by Laird Street and running thereon fifty two and thirty three (52.33) hundredths feet **on the south** by property of various owners and running thereon fifty-eight and sixty nine hundredths (58.69) feet, **on the east** by property of Sadie Curtis and running thereon one hundred and eighteen and twenty seven hundredths (118.27) feet, and **on the west** by property of one Dorsette and running thereon one hundred and twenty and forty four (120.44) hundredths feet.

Zeneta Archer-Deveaux

ZENETA ARCHER-DEVEAUX
Phone No. 242-818-7911



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 --

Terence James Ellis, Divorced,
of Aelbryn Pentregat, Liandysul Ceredigion SA44 6HN, Great Britain (UK)

and

Tara Claire Howells, Single,
of Aelbryn Pentregat, Liandysul Ceredigion SA44 6HN, Great Britain (UK)

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 17th day of September, 2019.

Sally Platt

Registrar of Marriages

Bahamas Joins Global Fight Against Climate Change

BY BERTHONY MCDERMOTT
Journal Staff Writer

The Bahamas has joined the global strike advocating for more to be done by the government to end climate change.

The recent fires in the Amazon, scorching summer temperatures across Europe and closer to home, deadly hurricanes with a record breaking six additional named storms active in the Atlantic and Pacific, all signs that more must be done to address climate change.

Leading a global strike is a 16-year-old Swedish girl Greta Thunberg, who has the full support of The Bahamas.

Citing the climate crisis declaration last Friday, were young representatives of the Cat Island Conservative Institute, who called for immediate, bold action be taken by The Bahamas, other small island developing states and the international community to address this crisis.

Minister of the Environment and Housing Romauld



► Greta Thunberg (AFP/GETTY IMAGES)

Ferreira agreed.

“The success of this is not really going to be measure in how many homes are destroyed. It’s actually the opposite,” he said.

“It’s going be measured in how many homes are not destroyed, how many homes are not ruined, how many lives are not lost.”

Founder and Executive Director of the Young Marine Explorers and the Cat Island Conservative Institute Nikita Shiel-Rolle issued a call to action for everyone to join the cause.

“It is through harnessing the collective powers that we will be able to combat climate change and rebuild our island

nation capable of surviving the changes in our climate and ensuring that the people of The Bahamas and every small island developing state thrives, as this is our inherent human right,” she said.

In addition, to the 2020 plastic ban, Minister Ferreira said the government will soon

bring environmental legislation to parliament to make The Bahamas more environmentally friendly by year’s end.

“The attorney general promised, I don’t know if you remember sometime back, a sweep of environmental legislation and he has delivered a lot of them in draft that we are reviewing,” he said.

“One of the two fundamental things that we want to do in addition to the plastics ban legislation is to amend the Bahamas National Trust Act, amend the Bahamas Protective areas fund. We want to introduce an act to establish the Ministry of Environment which is very important and we also want to introduce an act to establish the Department of Planning and Protection which is also very important.

“These are things that will put into bear and take us down the road of better environmental stewardship and give us the ability to levy the kinds of fines that should be proportionate with the sort of event that we generate and cause the fine to occur.”

Further, what’s next in addressing this crisis is for the prime minister to make a declaration on an international level.

Additionally, he said he would suggest the speaker of the House of Assembly declare that The Bahamas is in a climate crisis once parliament resumes.

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'New Ministry Brings Incoherent Confusion'

Continued from / PAGE 1...

tion, anger and frustration" among Bahamians.

"The PLP is deeply concerned about this lack of leadership in articulating a clear direction and vision through a practical policy response by the government in the aftermath of the country's latest disaster and crisis," Davis said yesterday in a statement responding to the prime minister's announcement of the new ministry.

"NEMA is the statutory authority and executing mechanism to manage all national emergencies. We do not agree that another layer of bureaucracy with another political head will solve the myriad of challenges facing the government in this national effort."

Davis is calling on Prime Minister Dr. Hubert Minnis to do his job because the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), he said, must be structurally and functionally transformed from a coordination body to a fully resourced corporate sole entity.

"It has been almost

three weeks since Dorian made landfall and left and the government does not appear any more prepared to deal with this national emergency than it was in the days leading up to and after Dorian's landfall," Davis added.

"There was sufficient for a recall of parliament to debate much of the details and to chart a collective course going forward.

"No doubt, the disaster is the substantive minister, which is the Most Hon. Hubert Minnis himself."

Central Grand Bahama Member of Parliament Iram Lewis was appointed as the minister of state responsible for the new ministry.

However, Davis has many questions concerning the role of the new Ministry of Disaster Preparedness, Management and Reconstruction.

"One of the leaders of the legislative branch of government is now subject to the executive? The recently announced storm coordinators report to the NEMA executive director? Does NEMA report to this new ministry? What is

the state minister for Grand Bahama doing as relief and restoration should be the major focus of that ministry?" Davis asked.

"On the major issues of security and public safety, are the security forces subject to this new ministry?"

"How do these new and combined reporting relationships make for a smoother and more efficient operation?"

"Clearly the government is shooting from the hips and the seat of their pants as a result of the strong pushback and criticism from the ill-advised appointment of Senate President Kay Forbes-Smith. Her decisions have created long lines and unacceptable delays in receiving relief supplies. We decry these long lines as deepening the frustration and an affront to the dignity of those affected, many of whom have lost everything including the lives of loved ones.

"This is another unhelpful example of political waste with another permanent secretary and all the structure which goes with a new ministry."

PM to Sign Carnival HOA

Continued from / PAGE 1...

of the Prime Minister.

"We remain committed to the restoration and redevelopment of Grand Bahama. Grand Bahama must be restored and be made stronger and more vibrant."

The cruise port will be the largest Carnival cruise port in the world and would make Grand Bahama and The Bahamas one of the best cruise destinations in the Caribbean.

The cruise port is expected to cost at least \$100 million and would provide more than 1,000 jobs.

Also during the trip, the prime minister will review the progress of Grand Bahama's recovery efforts following Hurricane Dorian.

Dr. Minnis also announced that a shelter and housing plan has been developed to relocate the evacuees living in shelters in New Providence so that they will be able to return to Abaco and Grand Bahama.

"Temporary housing options will be available for staff and many residents," he added.

Dr. Minnis also pointed out that he met with the leadership of the Abaco

Chamber of Commerce last week.

"I have talked to many residents and friends of Abaco since Hurricane Dorian. The people of Abaco are ready to rebuild. Abaconians are a resilient and strong people. Marsh Harbour, the Abaco Cays and Central and North Abaco will be built stronger and more resilient," Dr. Minnis said.

"The Hope Town lighthouse must also be restored as an enduring symbol of the resilience of the people of Abaco, the people of Grand Bahama and all the people of our Commonwealth."

1.5 Billion Pounds of Debris Removal Begins

have to be the insurance adjusters, particularly for those homes and businesses that were insured. They would go through that process and the larger scale debris would take a little bit more time."

The Ministry of Public Works is expected to travel to Abaco on Monday to start removing larger debris on that island. A team is already there identifying laydown sites and to assist in sorting.

"During Hurricane Matthew, there were laydown sites in New Providence and there were no attempts made to really sort and sometimes that creates a bigger problem in the end, so we intend to manage the process," Ferreira said.

The minister has



► Min. of the Environment and Housing Romauld Ferreira (BIS Photo)

revealed that it's an exercise that will take tens of millions of dollars, money the public treasury does

not have.

However, international partners stand ready to assist.



PUBLIC NOTICE

MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL PLANNING

The public is hereby notified that an application for Building Permit Approval (BL # 126731) on behalf of Michael Carey is presently being reviewed by The Department of Physical Planning for presentation to the Town Planning Committee.

The applicant proposes the development of a commercial building in Joan's Heights Subdivision in Block 3 on Lots 101-104. Lots 102 and 104 are located along East Street, south of Starkist Lane. Lots 101 and 103 are located directed behind along New Hope Drive. Therefore, the applicant requests rezoning of lots 101 and 103 from duplex to commercial land use. The proposed development consists of a two-unit commercial building with drive-through facilities.

A public meeting will be held on October 3, 2019 at 7pm at C.V. Bethel Senior High School for all interested parties to discuss and address planning issues related to the proposed commercial development.

The building permit application for the proposed development is available for viewing at The Department of Physical Planning, located in the Aventura Plaza on John F. Kennedy Drive, during working hours of 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Interested persons and organizations are invited to review the information on file and provide written comments prior to the meeting. Comments should be directed to the Acting Director of Physical Planning. Submissions can be made via P.O. Box N-1611, Nassau Bahamas or fax (242) 328-3206. Further inquiries can be made to the Acting Director via Tel. (242) 322-7550/1/1 OR (242) 328-3202 or CHARLESZONICLE@BAHAMAS.GOV.BS

Signed
Charles B. Zonicle
Acting Director of Physical Planning

KEY MAP

