There is great consternation in the public over the proposed Scramble of the Cabinet of The Bahamas. In addition to the movement of some Ministers, there is also uncertainty on how Permanent Secretaries would be affected.

In time for the opening of a new session of the Parliament in early October, Prime Minister Philip Davis is expected to reassess some Ministers and Permanent Secretaries to ensure his government to carry on with its goals.

A source close to the Prime Minister told the “Bahama Journal” that “there will be significant changes from ministers and members of the governing Progressive Liberal Party and that the Cabinet decision in the matter affects the activities of Ministers and their departmental administrations.”

The Ministers to be most affected by the reorganization include Tourism, Labour and Immigration, Agriculture, and Local Government, Housing and Foreign Affairs and the Public Service.

It has been well known that Minister Alfred Bain will be moved from Immigration to the Department of Works. While Mr. Bain has fulfilled some promises made in that Ministry, it is believed that he is unable to fulfills the operations at the level of the Secretary.

“Minister needs to be cleared up,” the source says.

There is no doubt that the Immigration portfolio will be taken away from Mr. Bain—mainly because of the fast pace trade relating to presenting citizenship papers to the Italian family at the Embassy. While Minister Bain did not break any law, it was a bad judgment which he has reportedly accepted.

DENGUE CASES INCREASE

“Since the beginning of the year, there has been a variety of dengue fever in the Bahamas,” Dr. Michael Dorville, in an update Tuesday, said the increase in cases is due to the increase in mosquitos.

“Since the beginning of the year, there has been a variety of dengue fever in the Bahamas,” Dr. Michael Dorville, in an update Tuesday, said the increase in cases is due to the increase in mosquitos.

In the last week, a case of dengue fever in The Bahamas has grown up to 21, with one of those cases being confirmed in New Providence with a suspected case in Abaco awaiting results.

At the time, the minister, also noted that there is an increase in cases in hospitals with one in the Inspectors Unit (ICH) in Abaco awaiting results.

“The increase of cases in The Bahamas is due to the increase in mosquitos,” Dr. Dorville, in an update Tuesday, said the increase in cases is due to the increase in mosquitos.
Dengue Cases Increase

Stacy Corte, Pg. 1

"That one person is now on the medical ward, thank God."

"But I also want to report that we have five cases in hospital now."

"Of the five, one is a pediatric case. We're monitoring all of them closely and we are in the intensive care unit."

Dr. Davielle encouraged residents to practice prevention measures to reduce breeding of these mosquitoes.

"Yes, fogging will continue, but the environmental experts made it very clear that fogging is only one element, fogging basically addressing the mosquito that is airborne," he said.

"But if we have no breeding, if we fog today and we do not address the breeding sites, we end up having the same situation the following day."

"So, it's important for residents to walk around the home to look for areas of potential breeding ground.

Air Conditioning Issues Delayed Uriah McPhee's Reopening

Kelle Campbell, Page 1

Uriah McPhee Primary School was expected to reopen on Thursday for the current school year after being postponed because of issues with air conditioning and ventilation, according to Acting Director of Education, Islam D. Russell.

"We are hopeful, we've gotten an update, but it is expected that school will open for Thursday," Russell said.

"Staggered, of course because we want to ensure we only have the first graders returning one day to the environment, so, hopefully by tomorrow we have those in school," Russell said. D. Russell said in an interview.

The contractor is that some of the issues that have been encountered are with the students. They discovered other things, other issues within the building, working in the preschool area, but they also determined the A/C unit was not working.

"The A/C was actually on, one of the contractors said, but until the environmental part was fixed, they might think they were putting their students in a potentially unsafe environment.

An interview, he gave a preview of what he said could be a new-look school and revealed that though he has been working on other Caribbean schools so they may go to a different ventilation system.

"Carbons are not being brought in, there is also increasing, I think perception have to be right now, we find that some of the manufacturing companies like maybe a percent or two can go into a fund to help our own country, but we have to look into the consequence of climate change. For example, we need to consider whether or not legal action can be taken against the companies that industrialized countries, and we're likely, to say, that contributes to being carbonic in the air and the discrimination, whether or not there's liability there. At the moment, we are agonizing a warning advice from the International Court of Justice to see whether we can make counter-point for responsible emissions." Mr. Davis said.

The prime minister listed a number of factors men he wants to bring in to the country, particularly to address climate change and water.

"A lot of other issues dealing with those areas that are the climate change, damage, liability, in respect to, that climate change, also, of course, is awareness and architecture for access funding is needed to be assured that we don't have our funding out from borrowing because this is the people's money. To be our own people's country because [are] our per capita income [are] the lowest in the country and therefore, we don't have access to import and the kind of concessional lending and the fight is to change that model to have more emphasis on the development of our people with a per capita income. "COP26" will take place in November to December 12.

Uncertainty Arouses

Stacy Corte, Pg. 1

The Minister of State for Public Service Hon. F. Valerie Coke is expected to be presented to the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Public Service Honor. The Labour Minister, S. B. A. B. "Valerie" Coke is also more the Ministry of Labour. She has walked out of the current cabinet, however, they have not been extremely busy and engaged in foreign affairs, it is clear that all and most of the Ministry that has been revitalized The Bahamas having the United States, having the Bahamas in the Caribbean and Americas, and the Bahamas having a branch in the United States of America.

Transport and Housing, In order to be given the portfolio of aviation now held by Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Tourism, Investment and International Relations, E. A. "Valerie" Coke is also Minister of Tourism and Investment and International Relations.

The State of Environment is of major concern to both the Minister of the Environment and the Minister of Labour. The Minister of the Environment, however, has not been in the current cabinet, however, there is aggregation for decisive action to be taken to curb pollution and the maintenance of the environment in New Providence and the Out Islands.

"There are interconnected measures going on in the Ministry of Environment, for the removal or immediate action of a number of Permits and the reduction of pollution, I'm sure the Minister is aware of some of those who are in the process of reducing the pollution and public discussions are perhaps back program," said the source.

"There has to be a balance between the government, the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Tourism and Investment, and the Ministry of Environment. When it comes to policy making, it is important to consider the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Tourism and Investment, and the Ministry of Environment. It is important to consider the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Tourism and Investment, and the Ministry of Environment. We should not make decisions that are affecting the environment and those that are affecting the economy. It is important to consider the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Tourism and Investment, and the Ministry of Environment.

The next meeting date of many of them will be.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Parliamentary Registration Registration (Voters Registration)

will resume on Monday 28 September 2023 from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm and Saturday’s 10:00 am to 4:00 pm.

Acting Parliamentary Commissioner

Budding Meteorologists Selected to Attend COP28

Kelle Campbell, Page 1

Though the 2023 United Nations Climate Change Conference, otherwise known as COP28, is scheduled to start this year, the Small Meteorology Caucus Programme introduced 12 Bahamians for the summer-long program that they will be attending in July. The programme is to host 12 Bahamians selected from The Bahamas expected to attend COP28.

"It was a program by the British Meteorological Society and the British Meteorological Society. The program was expected to do in the summer, honestly, and it did grow so that it became a better program," said one of the participants.

"It became a better program, because we were able to focus on the programme, the data, and the atmosphere, rather than just the environment, and some of the atmosphere."

"There will be a lot of technical issues, but we are not there yet and we are not there yet and we are not there yet and we are not there yet."

A program was launched that is better. We want to see how it went, we just saw on TV, we got into personal interactions with the Tropical Air Traffic Office here in New Providence and the Grand Bahama."n
"It is very amazing and knowledgeable that they saw it to be in this award and some, to be among us. The climate conference and the Ministry of Development, so that is something to look forward to."

During his address to the building meteorologists, Prime Minister Philip Davis warned it may be sooner than they might think when they put their own initiative into play.

"It may be sooner than they might think when they put their own initiative into play."

We are assessing a reaction of what was made by the International Court of Justice to see whether or not we can make counter-point for responsible emissions," Mr. Davis said.

The programme was launched that is better. We want to see how it went, we just saw on TV, we got into personal interactions with the Tropical Air Traffic Office here in New Providence and the Grand Bahama."

"It is very amazing and knowledgeable that they saw it to be in this award and some, to be among us. The climate conference and the Ministry of Development, so that is something to look forward to."

During his address to the building
Social Services Helps Students Prepare for Back to School

As most children are back in the classroom, the Ministry of Social Services and Urban Development is continuing to ensure students are ready for the classroom.

Minister of State for the Social Services Lisa Rahming said school attendance is a priority commitment for the ministry.

“As we always do, you know, persons were given uniform assistance,” she said. “Of course, that is and of course the I would speak to the Urban Renewal part of it.

“Every day they are in the schools helping with the kids, crossing the streets, talking to the teachers and ensuring that they’re safe and they’re usually there doing the whole day.

“We have police officers from Urban Renewal and so our job is to ensure that the kids are going to school and that they’re getting the proper care that they need in terms of supplies and books.

“We have everything that we have distributed to them, and so yes, and we’re looking forward for a safe and happy first year back to school.”

PM’s Wife Explains Warning Signs of Domestic Violence

An expert on domestic violence and violence against women and girls is on the rise in the country and around the world. Wife of the Prime Minister Ame-Marie Davis explained the signs of an abusive during a rally on Saturday.

The South Bahamian Conference of Seventh-Day Adventists Women’s Ministry Department held a women’s rally under the theme: “Wolves in sheep’s clothing, one voice, one heart.”

Mrs. Davis was the keynote speaker during the event and warned attendees to pay attention to the patterns of domestic violence.

“Domestic Violence follows a pattern. Remember the word a pattern?” she said. “The pattern of physical or emotional abusive behaviors, which is done to maintain control over an intimate partner or even a family member. They often abuse.

“They are fear, guilt, shame, intimidation, techniques to keep victims under control. Abusers often escalate from verbal abuse and threats to physical violence. The beatings. Showing you out making you sick. Beatings escalating all the time until sometimes you die.”

Mrs. Davis also expressed her concerns about teenage relationship abuse that she said is also on the rise.

“No, I would specifically look at teen violence and teen relationships and indicate that you could use to spot these wolves in sheep clothing,” Mrs. Davis said.

Minister of State for the Social Services Lisa Rahming

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**PM’s Wife Explains Warning Signs of Domestic Violence**

**Former Corrections Officer Granted $20K Ball**

**Public Notice MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL PLANNING**

**Pig's Wife Explains Warning Signs of Domestic Violence**

**Former Corrections Officer Granted $20K Ball**

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**BGCST Results Decline for Poor Performance Shows Learning Loss and Long-standing Issues**

**Story Cont., Pg. 1.**

"We are interested in every step of the way, to ensure we have best can. It’s a tough task that’s ahead of us. It’s huge, because we have historic educational legacy. So, if we have a grade at 10 and he did BC and didn’t get it, we will do interventions with that student if there are literacy issues, he might be special education, or he doesn’t know what’s going on, doing now is bringing a significant and specific meaning to our teaching performance."

Minister Reina Martin explained that the purpose for the learning loss assessment testing and the collaboration with Renaissance Learning was to see the status and severity of learning loss of every student at every level in the public sector.

She expedites on what is being done to make it more apparent as it has commonly referred to as a “crisis.”

"What we seek to do now is to intervene. So, when there’s a learning loss issue, which is a phenomenon, then we will seek to close the gaps in the nearest past. Sometimes the gaps are just historical passions, but we’re working through the system. And that’s happened a lot of education. So, we work together with parents. We don’t have a 17-year-old leaving school and saying, ‘I can hardly read.’" Minister Harrold Martin said.

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**Mother of Pain Becomes New IC**

**Research and Review Journal Staff Writer**

A retired corrections officer was granted bail in the sum of $20,000 on Monday after his attorney Bijan Ferguson made an emergency bail application. Sixties-and-four-year-old Jeffrey Sherman was arrested after allegedly shot his 65-year-old girlfriend, Margaret Ingman during a domestic dispute last Thursday.

According to police reports, sometime around 10:30 p.m. on August 24, Sherman and Ingman, whilst at her home on Soperdale Boulevard, Penwood Gardens, got into a heated argument. As the argument ensued, Sherman produced a firearm and shot her in the leg, went inside the house, took the firearm, and fled the area in an unknown direction. Ingman was transported to the hospital via EMS.

When he appeared before Magistrate Raquel Wynn, Sherman was charged with two counts of attempted murder as during the attack, he allegedly also held an unlicensed firearm at an unknown location. He was also charged with possession of a firearm with intent to injure another.

Sherman was not required to enter a plea and although the Magistrate denied him bail during the summary, Justice Cheryl Grant Thompson granted bail in an emergency hearing. Sherman must report to police Station 606, three times a week — Monday, Wednesday and Friday. His wife will be electronically monitored.

Sherman returns to court on October 31 with the possibility of a full bail-informal which will fast track his case to the Supreme Court.

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**Former Corrections Officer Granted $20K Ball**

**PUBLIC NOTICE MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL PLANNING**

The public is hereby notified that an application for Preliminary Support of Application Approval (PA3/83/2023), on behalf of Estelle C. Kerr (C/O) S.G. Phillips and Johnson Counsel and Attorney-at-Law, is presently being reviewed by the Department of Physical Planning for presentation to the Town Planning Committee.

The applicant is seeking planning approval to remove portions of Lots 12 and 13 in the Ocean Bay Colony Subdivision from Multi-family residential to Commercial. The site is located on the southern side of Coral Boulevard in the Coral Harbour neighborhood. The site is approximately 25,798.8 ft² and a residential building currently exists on the site. The applicant proposes to remove the site to Commercial for the use of a professional/medical office.

A public meeting will be held 21st September, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. in the Hearing Room of the Department of Physical Planning, JFK Drive, for all interested parties to discuss the planning issues related to the proposed Commercial development.

Preliminary plans for the proposed development are available for viewing at the Department of Physical Planning, located in the Avenues Plaza on John F. Kennedy Drive, during working hours of 7 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Interested persons and organizations are invited to review the information on file and submit any formal written comments to the Director of the Department of Planning within twenty (21) days of the date of this Notice. Submissions can be made via P.O. Box N-1611, Nassau, Bahamas. Further queries can be directed to Ms. Inez Robert (O. 32), 3130 or DEPARTMENTPLANNING@GRANDAMAS.BS.

Signed

Charles Ramon, Director
Department of Physical Planning

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**Pin’s Wife Explains Warning Signs of Domestic Violence**

**Story Cont., Pg. 3.**

"Does he criticize what you wear? Does he criticize what you do? Does he criticize your friends? Does he get jealous when you talk to others? Does he act jealous when you talk to your friends? Does he get jealous when you talk to others? Does he get jealous when you ask someone else to go out with you? Does he get angry or violent very easily?"

"Young people, listen, these are the warning signs. Get out. Get out. Get out."

Senator President J. Lashley Adderley, who is a practicing lawyer and is the Antiquities Advisor, was also in attendance.

"She said it is essential for organizations to get involved with important causes.

It is extremely important to denounced all forms of violence in the Bahamas," he added.

"We live in a country where violence against women and girls in particular continues unabated and there is exceptional need for the church to take the lead in this regard."

"It’s a complex issue. I know it’s a sensitive issue. I know it, but it’s very important that the church steps up and the people of the Bible, especially the Arab, Anglican, and others who are involved in the Bible."

"Senator Adderley said he hopes more denominations will get involved in the cause to end violence against women and girls.

The Department of Social Services will continue to assist until all students are fully supported with all the materials they need."
Abortion has been an emotional and controversial issue for all of our lives. I cannot help but chuckle at those who have stood on the sidelines and stayed silent with such vehemence. They cannot get pregnant or face the challenges and effects of the same. They will not understand what we want and what we feel is best. There are those who have chosen to exercise their reproductive rights, and there are those who have not. We must respect each other's choices.

There have been numerous debates on the topic of abortion, with different viewpoints and emotions involved. It is important to approach the conversation with empathy and understanding, acknowledging the diverse perspectives and experiences.

The impeding announcement of a Cabinet reshuffle in the Bahamas has become a topic of discussion within the country. With a new leader at the helm, the idea of a Cabinet reshuffle has sparked significant interest. The announcement was made by the Prime Minister, who is reportedly seeking to make changes to his Cabinet team. The reshuffle is expected to bring new faces to the leadership of the Bahamas, potentially affecting various portfolios such as education, health, and infrastructure.

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Ministry of Works Gets New Equipment

DESTINY JOHNSON
Journal Staff Writer

The Ministry of Works has acquired new heavy-duty equipment for continued road maintenance and flood mitigation for the first time in over 20 years.

Minister of Works and Utilities Alfred Sears and the road equipment cost a total of $500,000.

"This is the first time in 20 years I've advised that the ministry has gotten a serious load of tools to deal with road repair, road realignment and flood relief," he said, "we have a 426,700 cubic meter as well as a skid steer, and these are vital tools," he added on Monday.

"Currently, the ministry relies on a number of contractors, but there needs to be the capacity within the ministry itself, so it could be readily available.

"We can respond to emergency needs much more quickly and efficiently, as well as utilizing the road contractors."

In addition to the machines, the ministry has also acquired 32 additional road staff for the road construction.

"Young people, who will have an opportunity to pursue a career in road construction and they are currently deployed, working with our existing staff who are present, such as Mr. Francis Clark and also Mr. Morse, with respect to the flood mitigation area, so this is a critical turning point in terms of building the capacity of the ministry in this in these two important areas," he said.

In terms of flood mitigation, the ministry has also invested $700,000 into pumps for the hydroelectric pumping system.

Senior Drainage engineer Henry Money said the pumps can move 1,300 to 1,500 gallons of water per minute.

"It meant that we were the first in a very long time that we have actually made such an acquisition so it relates to pumps, you would have read in the background," Mr. Money said.

"We had to make sure that it was one of seven pumps that were procured with the intent on addressing some of the flooding concerns that we have been on the island of New Providence.

"We're optimistic that with this acquisition and with the use of them here on New Providence that this similar process would be actually replicated on the Island of Eleuthera.

"Mr. Money said his department is seeking to target areas like Rosewood Gardens, the Grove, South Beach, the East Bay Street area.

"These are all in full operation as early as next week, but be emphasized that they are only supplementary.

"So, we have been looking at new systems in place just a few that we've already been looking at along Bay Street," Mr. Money said.

"Bay Street has its dedicated directly to the ocean, so whenever you have a tidal impact, it actually brings water back into the system.

"So, what we have on the west side to the back is a system that we have begun to implement in areas that are prone to flooding so that we won't have to intervene.

"What I have here in my hand is what you call a whopper valve, 1020 it's a little bit like this. What this does is allows storm water to not pass through and come up into our drainage infrastructure.

"What this does is suppresses the high tide, but it allows storm water that is already in the drainage system to pass out and out fall which ought to go into the sea or whatever drainage out fall point that we have.

"So, we've begun to use them in areas like this, we just yesterday - we've installed some in the Glenmore Garden area, in the area near the Old Bill Abes Grove area.

"Mr. Money asserted that this new equipment has been thoroughly necessary to help with the work that they have been doing in the areas where they are already installed.

Study Reveals Married Women More Likely to Have Non-Consensual Sexual Intercourse

A new study from the University of The Bahamas (UB) has found that married women are more likely than single women to experience non-consensual sexual intercourse. The peer-reviewed research paper, led by Assistant Professor Dr. Nurmey Campbell-Day, is entitled "The Bahamas: She must give it up: Sexual abuse of women in heterosexual relationships by their intimate partners" and is based on data collected from 566 married and 1,054 single women in intimate relationships.

The study also found that married women who disclosed being victims of non-consensual sexual intercourse with their husbands were more likely to have suffered physical harm at the hands of their partners compared to those who had not experienced such abuse.

The data also highlighted higher incidences of psychological abuse among married women in comparison to unmarried women.

That said, as the government is still assessing the implications of the Sexual Offences and Domestic Violence Act, 2020, the UB study is a critical step to accept, but again, the legislation is but one step in addressing these issues.

We need many more things to be done to really address these issues, why we understand why we have to address this and what's causing these issues in our country.

We need a number of issues that's obviously troubling and obviously causes tremendous pain but not all have mothers, have sisters, have uncles, have aunts. We need many more things, so we want nothing to happen to any of us, but we need to do the process as we have and the law Reform Commission has been doing the work that's appropriate as we need. I think we're bringing it to the people Bahamas and I think.

More School Resource Officers Added to Increase Safety

Deborah Emmanuel
Journal Staff Writer

The Ministry of Education and Technical and Vocational Studies, in conjunction with the Royal Bahamas Police Force, added 27 new School Resource Officers (SRO) to school campuses following a graduation ceremony last Friday at the Pan-African Conference Center, police headquarters.

Coordinator of School Policing and Officer is charge of the Southeast District, Division Chief Superintendent Charles Hamon said since the nine new officers have entered, schools' safety has improved tremendously.

"We see a decrease in the fighting," he said.

"Particularly after school, and you know, we've put in place the school liaison officers. We have have them now to catch bus after school.

"They are going to pick up right off the school campus to avoid the opportunity to get themselves into those fights after school."

"They have been able to prevent students from getting involved in fights and to prevent students from getting involved in fights.

"What happen if they get worried of some amount going on and prevent it from happening.

"We are happy to see that the indicators are showing that school safety is indeed improving and one of the main reasons for that is the partnership, not only the SROs, the principals, the teachers, the other security officials [and] staff members of the school environment working together to ensure that school is safe that we are happy, we see what we are for."n

Chief Superintendent Charles Hamon said the effort is very diverse as officers have come from all islands and work to expand the protection of students whilst on school campuses.

"As a whole, in addition to the indicators, you know these kids are looking up to those SROs as mentors. "He said.

"Some of them, they don't have a father figure in the house, which we understand is very important.

So, these kids look at those as our role model, our positive influence, so do all about preventing, as I said earlier, you know, the victims of the crime. So the victims and the crime suspect are young people, tremendously affected.

"And now, if we could intervene and divert them from the same and put them in high, in some cases, the primary school level where we see those red flags, we could prevent, divert them from getting into a life of crime and this is why school policing program is so important to reducing crime."
“What Is One Thing You Would Change?”

Dear Editor:

We believe the Commonwealth of The Bahamas is in need of cultural shifts. We do not seek to dehumanize, disfigure, or undermine any political, religious, or any colorways Bahamas expresses itself.

However, we do suggest that the mentality of one people as is much of a course correction.

Our cultural spirit of community is unfortunately disappearing, instead of thinking about what is best for all of us, many simply want to “watch the road” and stay in our own lanes, and those communal and humanitarian borders on these issues.

The growth of social media has highlighted the separation we feel from each other as human beings. Our social lives are displayed daily at the latest viral video, this morning’s headline and tomorrow’s off-color gossip.

Violence against women/girls and between young men is steadily on the rise, which is particularly troubling for our organizations.

Though we did not live through “the good old days,” we are repeatedly told it is not how things always were in The Bahamas. If we can change our culture, perhaps we will see these things change as well.

We need strong Bahamas, partners of strong character, who can uphold moral principles, see ethically, and display honesty, respect, and compassion in all matters.

A people of strong character are disciplined, hardworking, and compassionate, and the enemy of the world.

As we all discuss the culture, we believe individual culture, we believe in ourselves and contribute to a society that stands on a foundation of trust and respect.

In our pursuit of a cultural transformation, we must recognize that change takes time. We must each do our part.

Our future is a vision where our people are highly regarded for their talent qualities and not as an idol of destructions.

It’s not about tearing our past or discarding our identity; it’s about evolving our minds to be the four pillars of our national mission.

"See how the world marks the manner of your bearing!"

Sincerely,

TeenBears Youth Association

Study Reveals Married Women More Likely to Have Non-Consensual Sexual intercourse

Dr. Corin P. S. Smith

The Secretary General of the Commonwealth Patricia Scotland also claims in her views on marital rape. She said this is an issue of human rights.

"When you see that one in four women in the United Kingdom was subjected to domestic violence, we made an estimate that was costing the country £25 billion a year in terms of economic cost, but the cost in lives was much greater than the economically calculated Social Cost."

"And probably, whether in or outside marriage, is abuse, and we certainly took the view that women needed to be protected and they have been protected.

“Every county, of course, has its own laws, but in the UK’s decision, this is really an issue of human rights and whether a woman is entitled to have control over her body and be able to consent to who has access to her body."

US’s research is set to be published in the upcoming 25th volume of the International Journal of Bahamian studies (IJS) in October.

Civil service reform

Dear Editor:

Before I delve into the primary reason for writing this letter, I feel it is important to establish that all Bahamians, both male and female, have actively contributed to make any Bahamian what it is today. There are numerous men and women who have gone beyond the call of duty to serve this nation.

Let us address the main issue that has become a regular concern. Can we trust the culture we see around us in our society? Must we always be under suspicion?

The issue of trust comes into the public eye when some expect misconceptions to be repeatedly true. The more we move towards culture, the more we expect our interactions to be designed by mistrust.

Mistrust takes suggestions to technocrats who often find agreements. Their opportunity slowly shuts the door to show their disdain for attitudes interfering to daily operations. People sent.

In situations to receive services they rightly deserve can result in the public service administration’s potential.”

The traditional way of operating has kept The Bahamian culture strong towards services. This outdated mindset persists, but we now replace these inefficiencies with prompt, courteous service.

On another note, some individuals aim to scrutinize the resources, even the true priorities for the time remnant, much more polarized. Their goal is to build a quest where people get frustrated.

A few responses are positive results or enhancing the design. Classical information provided above are needed, much more (Beloved).

This government nation aims at objectives that those responsible for implementation are making up before this. This gives the impression that this government is not as corruption as it is well-wishing. The ability is the government mandate to remove any obstacles that hinder its mission.

The reason is for a better quality of life for Bahamians.

Pride patterns and unparalleled approaches join the team, needs to cease. Program is mandated by facilitating an acceptance and acceptance of new and innovative changes. We must create.

Let us never again undermine our people’s efforts.

Let us respect our nation’s people’s strength.

Let us continue to be a role model.

"The core issue lies in making decisions for the greater good, even if they are unpopular."

Now, an opportunity for the nation to break through better decision-making to create a better environment where all Bahamians can feel a positive change.

Let’s not forget Bahamians are people’s优先．

On the good side, in the end, some of those have stood still, & Oracely went well.

So, as a nation Methodist, I conclude with a quote by James W. Morin (On the good side). We can all live the better."

Sincerely,

Jowina W. Ingram

Senator

Permanent Secretary

VACANCY FOR ASSISTANT SOCIAL WORKER

Ministry of Social Services & Urban Development

Applicants are invited to apply for the position of Assistant Social Worker, Scale III, within the Department of Social Services.

Department of Social Services

Applicants should:

• Be a Bachelor’s degree from an accredited institution, approved by the Bahamas Department of Education, Social Services, Psychology, Counseling Services, Employment Services, Child Welfare Services, Family Services, or a Certificate in Social Services.

Note: The only entry level for a Social Worker with a Bachelor’s degree in Social Work or Sociology is a Social Scientist plus a Certificate in Social Services.

Specific duties of the position include:

1. Investigation of eligibility of aged and abused cases reported either by individuals or in public;

2. Investigation of cases when children may be in care and protect cases as necessary;

3. Security for children in adoptions or on waiting list for adoption or foster care;

4. Conduct home visits and updates the data of clients in the Department's cases of service;

5. Contact clients to provide follow-up and follow-up on cases;

6. Maintain a client list of records of involvement, involvement and more;

7. Prepare case summary, including status reports, defenses, and behavior notes, as necessary;

8. Prepare court documents (court reports, court orders, withdrawal, search and production orders, search and production orders);

9. Meet clients with on-site and in-person services necessary and necessary;

10. Have access to other professionals (for example, family counseling, counselors, physicians, nurses and other related contacts); and


Interested persons must apply through the Human Resources Department.

Applicants are required to submit a letter of application, resume and contact information.

Interested persons must apply through their Heads of Departments. Applicant forms may be obtained from the Department of Social Services, Baha Mar Road, New Providence, or online at www.bahamas.gov.bs. They must be returned, complete with original signatures, to the Head of Department, Social Services, P.O. Box 613, Freeport, Grand Bahama or by email to dhl@bahamas.gov.bs.

Gloria Thompson M.B.
Permanent Secretary
A8

Friday, September 1st, 2023

NationalNEWS

Student Learning Loss Assessment Post-Covid19

Students will be pulled from classes an hour a day for a literacy and numeracy sessions

ERIC LEANON
Journalist

During her annual back to school nationwide address in September 2023, Education, Technical, and Vocational Training (ATT) Minister, Honourable Ms. Muriel Martin said “there is a bit of ground to recover and recover it in the 2023/2024 academic year to where students did not in fact just go up with the time. “Education is human rights and is critical to the future of our nation. It dictates how young people will enter the future and what our country looks like in the years to come,” Minister Hanna-Martin said. For the second academic year post-Covid19, students have returned to face-to-face exercising in the public school system. Minister Hanna-Martin said officials within her ministry are "determined to push and take a critical look" at the country’s educational system, "assess past outcomes, measure current results and research, and study strategies for refinement and progress," as students continue to struggle with the impact of learning loss. “All of the research globally, in both developed and developing countries, has shown massive learning loss suffered by students at all levels, with children from poorer communities being hardest hit. These countries are facing challenges with how to reduce these deficits,” the minister said. “It was mandatory that The Bahamas has a well-understanding of 30 years of public and private young people have been affected so as to do away with how to address the challenges and become potentially catastrophic to many young people all over the world and in their respective countries. “In light of what we seek to achieve, we therefore cannot simply accept status quo. We have clearly reviewed what our multi-schools system must manifest and therefore much work must and is being done at various levels of this review, test, analyze and refine strategies and approaches to address the critical effectiveness for achieving these goals and objectives. A concept of this process is nearing completion and we expect urgently a preliminary report to be delivered to the ministry from the Government of Bahamas.” This preliminary report emanates from research commissioned by the ministry to investigate the causes which influenced learning outcomes for our children in The Bahamas and will assist in the formulation of the educational system and a review of policies so as to maximize student learning outcomes and improve student research.” Studies conducted by officials at the start of 2023 to assess the learning challenges faced by students post-pandemic, indicated substantial learning loss. Minister Hanna-Martin revealed that over 80,000 children at all learning levels in public schools across the country including primary and secondary total. “This testing has yielded empirical data which every teacher can access for every child in his or her class. This is the first of its kind and universal standardized testing has revealed that nationally 40% of our students require intervention. This is a significant finding which requires accurate and sustained interventions for all students affected,” Minister Hanna-Martin said. “Remediation efforts by the ministry, as carried out as early as May 2023 in all schools, with ongoing assessments being completed to outline effective and lasting solutions. The ministry will provide personalized, customized support to address the learning gaps. We will also provide tutoring for free. These efforts target students who have fallen behind, and students will be pulled out of classes for an hour each day for literacy and numeracy sessions.” Parents are to position themselves on the shoulders of their children, as their children should not only monitor their progress and interact more with their teacher during the hour a day, but all that is necessary to help your child be ready for tomorrow and always be a step ahead in all things, so you are up and on track.” The English and Math teachers in the school, Minister Hanna-Martin says her ministry has introduced, "a comprehensive reading and mathematics study which will analyze teaching methods and instruction additionally, at the start of this school year, all grade levels in students, at the start of the year, will concentrate on literacy and numeracy readiness. “This is to ensure that the curriculum at the lower primary level is aligned to meet the critical need of students of varying foundational skills. We will monitor the performance of every student with a view of providing targeted support. Every Child Counts, and NO Child will be Left Behind,” the minister said. Further, as part of the commitment to track and interest and achieve necessary, new protocols have been implemented for the GLAT exam. Beginning with this year’s results which students will be awarded a point system, a communication strategy will be deployed to ensure information flow with all stakeholders, especially with the relevant teachers and parents. Appropriate interventions will promptly follow, which will identify students with low performance information where necessary move interventions which have been provided, will be intensified. Priorities will be monitoring and tracking of students’ progress as they move to succeeding grades. We will not accept a state of affairs where children are simply moving through the system feeling “lost” and frustrated with diminished self-esteem in what may feel like “elimination environment.” “The declared target of the Ministry of Education working externally, our administrators are working hard, our teachers are working hard. We will not accept that. As teachers, we will not contemplate defeat. We believe in our young people and have high expectations of our students. We will fight for the future of our children. In this, there can be cooperation.”

PUBLIC NOTICE

COMMUNIQUE OF THE BAHAMAS
New Providence
City of Nassau

IN THE MATTER OF THE PLANNING AND SUBDIVISION ACT 2020

IN THE MATTER OF SUBDIVISION & DEVELOPMENT

APPEAL BOARD RULES, 2017

The following APPELLANTS and interested members of the PUBLIC are hereby notified of a sitting of the Subdivision and Development Appeal Board on Friday the 8th day of September, 2023 commencing at 9:30 a.m. in the afternoon at the Hearing Room/ Main Meeting Room, located in the Avenue of the Americas Building and John F. Kennedy Drive, New Providence.

The intended sitting will be subject to the provisions of the said hearing taking place on the 15th day of September, 2023 in the Supreme Court of The Bahamas (New Providence) at the courthouse.

Subject to postponement in the event of the any Bahamas Government Hurricane Alert for the Island of New Providence.

The following APPEAL will be heard:

1. APPEAL NO. 8 of 2022 – being an Appeal by Edward Hoffler

By Notice of Appeal dated 29 July Day A.D. 2022.

APPEALING the decision of the Town Planning Committee made on the 12th day of July, 2022 under Town Planning Application Number PSA/54/2022 to granting Approval for Goldenwyn Wynned Development, New Providence to Goldwyn Wynned Development

2. APPEAL 2 OF 2022 – being an Appeal by Valentine Gardner – By Notice of Appeal dated 21st day of December 2020

APPEALING the decision of the Town Planning Committee on the 14th day of March 2017 under Town Planning Application Number PSA/106/2016 – refusal of Rezoning for Phoenix Markets – Lot 1, Block 1, Bamboo Boulevard, South Beach Estates

3. APPEAL NO. 8 OF 2019 being an Appeal by Annette Gittens-Roibe

By Notice of Appeal dated 15th day of September, 2019

APPEALING the decision (refusal) of the Town Planning Committee made on the 11th day of September 2019 under Town Planning Application Number PSA/28/2019 refusing an application by Annette Gittens-Roibe to subdivide a pre-school and nursery facility to be called “It Takes A Village To Raise a Child” at Kemp Road, Eastern District, New Providence.

4. APPEAL NO. 8 OF 2020 being an Appeal by Sean Farrington/Simone Gibson/Diamond Consultant Group

By Notice of Appeal dated 3rd of May 2020

APPEALING the decision by the Town Planning Committee made on the 26th day of March 2023 under Town Planning Application Number PSA/37/2023 – refusal for rezoning Lot 6, West Plaza, Atlantic Drive, New Providence from Single family to Multi-family

5. APPEAL NO. 8 OF 2020 being an Appeal for Peraza Lambros Moses V/A Eladia Restaurant

By Notice of Appeal dated 9th October 2020

APPEALING the decision by the Town Planning Committee made on the 17th day of September 2020 under Town Planning Number REP/20190045354 – Rejection being refused for rezoning

CURRENT HEALTH PROTOCOLS INCLUDING SOCIO DISTANCING

Shelley B. BERNARD

PARTIES MAY CONTACT Ms. Carol E. Martinborough, Secretary to the Board, for a schedule of proposed hearing times for the respective appeals and to collect Appeals Records or for other information at the Subdivision & Development Appeal Board Office located at Avenue Plaza, Bethel Avenue & John, F. Kennedy Drive, Nassau, Bahamas.

Dated the 18th day of August, 2023.

MR. R. DAWSON MALONE

CHAIRMAN

SUBDIVISION AND DEVELOPMENT APPEAL BOARD

SUBDIVISION AND DEVELOPMENT APPEAL BOARD

Avenue Plaza
Corner of Bethel Avenue & John, F. Kennedy Drive
Nassau, Bahamas.
The issue of abortion has been a hot button topic in the country following a 43-year-old mother being charged with aborting her 13-year-old daughter. Baby after the child was allegedly raped by her mother’s 43-year-old boyfriend.

Mr. Social Services Minister Obie Wichelma worked on whether the government is inclined to changing the abortion laws in the country. He said it is something the government must think about instead of reacting. The truth is, globally, other countries have had to take the same course of action and they’ve had to make a few sacrifices.

"If the right to be yourself is to have you to explore your pregnancy. There has to be some issue with the law itself. It’s very difficult when you consider stereotypes that could affect somebody’s life forever. And we have to think about that because you’re thinking about about it when it’s been there for that long.

"But there’s a psychological impact and everything else it relates. So, we have to think about it, you know. Sometimes we make reactionary responses as opposed to understanding the depth of the issue. And so, we have to look at it and we cannot ignore it.”

He went on to say that there are many issues that are just recorded but can only be addressed if women are listened to and understood.

"When I became minister responsible, so many things I never heard about, never even discussed, he told reporters.

"Now it’s in the forefront, now we are discussing it. So, we have to find ways to address and take action. And it’s about thinking about the issues. What are the issues facing women? What are the issues that women have to deal with?”

"Do you know that in the tourism industry, it’s revealed today by Guy, the Chamber of Tourism, that 30 percent more than women are paid in the tourism industry. That is something we ought to talk about, that’s something we’re never talked about, never even discussed.

"So, we’re hearing a number of things and we’re realizing a number of women who have to deal with. Cinnamon Hannah-Martin made a strong argument today about existing women. And she said something today that was quoted later in the program which was this: ‘Think it through’.

"That’s powerful. Because we’re men, we don’t know it, but you we want to answer for women. I think that’s correct. I think we have to speak for women, and we should know the impact of it."

Last week, Prime Minister Philip Davis made an announcement to the nation when the government would consider changing the abortion case of rape.

He said the laws are the tools.

"Abortion is still a crime, and carrying very hefty, hefty penalties,” the prime minister said.

"The laws that the government has now put in place are a medical matter, he should consider this to be a medical matter, the prime minister said.

When pressed on the matter again, she rejected any personal choices, adding that changing the law so who someone is a victim of a crime is a ‘medical matter’ he would ‘have to consider.”

Sex Offender in Protective Custody
12-Year-Old Girl Almost Abducted

Lirec Bexton
Journal Staff Writer

Sex offender Sidney Cooper is in protective custody after resident in the Coconut Grove area reported that he was in the area of Royal Palm Street, the victim was involved in a physical altercation with another male, who produced a knife during the fight and stabbed multiple times about the body.

Emergency medical technicians were summoned to the area where the victim was reported to be at Royal Palm Street and Cocoanut Road.

According to preliminary reports from police on Monday, August 28, “The victim, along with family members, was sitting on the front porch of a residence situated in the area. Drive when a male occupant exited a white sedan vehicle and opened fire on the group of people in the residence.

Due to quick response by police, the suspect was apprehended in the area of West palm Street and a weapons investigation continues into this matter.

The British High Commissioner paid a farewell courtesy call on the Governor General

The British High Commissioner paid a farewell courtesy call on the Governor General

On Friday, August 26, 2022, His Excellency, Sir Stanley, British High Commissioner (left), paid a farewell call on Governor General His Excellency Sirthank on Friday, August 26, 2022. The Governor General, Sirthank (right) and His Excellency, Sir Stanley, High Commissioner (left) are pictured.

Remilda Rose Designs pays a courtesy call on the Governor General

Remilda Rose Designs pays a courtesy call on the Governor General

On Friday, August 26, 2022, Remilda Rose Designs paid a courtesy call on Governor General His Excellency Sirthank, on Friday, August 26, 2022. The Governor General, Sirthank (right) and Remilda Rose Designs (left) are pictured.

Another Juvenile Shot
8-Year-Old Girl Shot in Leg

Lirec Bexton
Journal Staff Writer

In less than a week, another juvenile has been wounded.

An eight-year-old girl was in hospital after being shot in the leg after a gunman, indiscriminately opened fire near a group of people in Flamingo, Garden, Coral Reef.

Carmichael Road

According to preliminary reports from police on Monday, August 28, “The victim, along with family members, was sitting on the front porch of a residence situated in the area. Drive when a male occupant exited a white sedan vehicle and opened fire on the group of people in the residence, resulting in the child being shot.

“The suspect returned to the vehicle and fled the area, making good his escape. Emergency medical technicians were summoned to the scene and transported the victim to the hospital, where she remains stable.”

For the past seven months, gun violence has worsened on New Providence.

Last week Thursday a fourteen-year-old boy was shot to the left leg in a triple shooting at Rupert Lane and Ferguson Street. Two other victims, both 15-year-old males, received multiple gunshot injuries to the upper body. They were all transported to hospital.

Where one of them, whose police identified as 14-year-old Dario Darwood, a resident of Rupert Lane Drive, received multiple injuries.

In late July of 2022, fourteen-year-old Keshon Kennedy died in hospital where he was shot by stray bullets while with his parents in the area of West and Fleming Streets.

Prime Minister Philip Davis has lamented over the issue of gun violence adding the country and called for the “heinous acts of the acts that are committed on our streets” to stop.

The prime minister, earlier this year at the "Violence a Public Health Issue" symposium in Trinidad and Tobago, urged United States lawmakers to solve the gun trafficking issue and preventing gun violence in the country.

“Do not manufacture guns in the Caribbean. We have asked the U.S. government and U.S.-based gun manufacturers to cooperate with CARICOM member states when it comes to identifying weapons purchasers in the U.S., as well as a wider effort is to hold weapons dealers and traffickers accountable for the many lives lost to gun violence each year,” he said.

Back in June, State Minister for Social Services and Urban Development Lisa Rahman called for a gun violence annex as part of the Urban Rescue and Police Force’s “Say No To Guns” campaign.
Blue Lagoon Island Partners With BREEF And The Island School To Provide Hands On Learning For BESS Scholars

"I’ve always had a strong passion for the environment, and I know I want to work in the field. These weeks at Blue Lagoon Island have been amazing as it really pulls me into the physical aspect of what it is I’ve been studying all along," she said of her immersion at Blue Lagoon Island.

The Blue Lagoon Island immersion is led by the company’s education supervisor, Trisha Clarke. She explains that the partnership with BREEF and The Island School is a natural fit for the company.

“We all have the same mission——education and the protection of our natural marine environment. One of the best ways to accomplish this is by exposing our youth to the importance of taking care of our incredible marine habitat. At Blue Lagoon Island we have a strong internship programme, so it is a natural fit for us to host the BREEF BESS scholars, she said.

Clarke was particularly excited to work with Maya, given her academic and career goals.

“We are governed by environmental policy and laws, our accreditations are based on all of that, so having a Bahamian focus on that would be incredible," she said, "It’s a great opportunity for Maya to have this sort of practical experience as she works towards her career goals.”

BEISS Scholars spend a day working with each of the different types of animals and their trainers as well as a day with the veterinary team at Blue Lagoon Island during their first week, and the second week they work closely with Clarke to decide which aspect of the business they would like to focus on.

Maya was excited to spend time getting a better understanding of the company’s sustainability initiatives after spending a week learning about the company’s dolphins, sea lions, stingrays and nurse sharks, getting tips on how to tell the dolphins apart, assisting with meal prep in the fish kitchen and participating in program training sessions with some of the young dolphins.

“Living in the Bahamas you can see right in front of you what you’re fighting for, and the impact hurricanes and climate change have on our islands, so it’s such a great opportunity for me to see first-hand what a company like Blue Lagoon is doing to help protect our environment and operate in a sustainable way.”

Blue Lagoon Island Partners With BREEF And The Island School To Provide Hands On Learning For BESS Scholars

As her peers write into their college dorms, Window School’s class of 2023 graduate, Maya Lindeman, has chosen a distinctive path. Instead of heading straight to college, Maya has embarked on a transformative year to gain practical experience—a decision she believes will significantly enhance her college journey.

She was one of two students to be named a Bahamas Environmental Stewards Scholar (BEISS) program awardee. The year-long program is offered in partnership by the Bahamas Reef Environment Educational Foundation (BREEF) and The Island School in Eleuthera.

Maya has her sights set on a degree in Environmental Policy and Law and is confident that the hands-on experience gained during her gap year will provide her with an invaluable foundation for her ambitious academic pursuit.

The 18-year-old is spending two weeks working side by side with the educational and zoological teams at Blue Lagoon Island, learning about marine species, husbandry, which is the care of animals, animal training and the company’s sustainability practices.

BEISS scholars spend a semester at the Island School and participate in a paid four-month internship with BREEF. As part of the internship, scholars spend two weeks working alongside organizations including Bahamas Marine Mammal Research Organisation, IDEA Relief and Blue Lagoon Island.

BEISS Scholar Maya Lindeman at Blue Lagoon Island Education Supervisor Trisha Clarke with a ‘ silently chit on Denny the dolphin.

From humble beginnings to a trusted financial institution, Fidelity stands as a catalyst for progress as a proud Bahamian-owned bank. We take pride in our unwavering commitment to the Bahamian people and continuously aim to fuel economic growth in our Bahamaland.

As we celebrate our country’s Golden Jubilee and Fidelity Bank’s 45th anniversary, we affirm our commitment to the development and prosperity of the Bahamian people through service.

Thank you Bahamas, for 45 years of patronage. May we stride toward the next half-century of growth in love and unity.
Special Needs Students Get Equitable Focus

Parents of children with special needs will be happy to know that greater emphasis will be placed on special education this academic school year, according to Education Minister Glenn Hanna-Martin. An education official embarks on curriculum reform, which is central to the goals the ministry seeks to accomplish, Minister Hanna-Martin said, "I am proud that we are bringing equitable access to children with special needs.

"The ministry has also recast more speech pathologists, guidance counselors and school psychologists to give support to our students and to help them progress and thrive," Minister Hanna-Martin said in his back-to-school message this past Sunday.

The Ministry of Education and Technical and Vocational Training (MOETV) has designed catalogs of special needs in schools across the country for integrating children with special needs, enabling education officials to eliminate a waiting list for placement of students with special needs.

Back in December of 2022, MOETV signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Berry University which offered scholarships to teachers for the preparation of Master Teachers in the area of special education.

Minister Hanna-Martin, at the time of this "important report," said he would work to address the "critical shortage in special education.

"Once we begin to build and expand capacity, this will have tremendous impact on so many young people who we have to say are falling between the cracks. We don't want our children to fall between the cracks. We want them to have every opportunity, likewise bimonthly meetings to address the full potential," Minister Hanna-Martin said.

"We believe that within 18-24 months we will begin to see the roll out of special needs teachers who will be dispensed nationwide and we also hope to provide instruction to children who may be at that moment off the radar for us. Two hundred new Special Education teachers have been recruited and are now being posted in schools throughout the country. An additional 14 teachers are near completion of the Master's Degree Program in Special Education with Berry University.

"Some of the teachers posted will start self-contained programs where the need exists."

Minister Hanna-Martin also revealed that a wellness program in the public school system is in the works for May of this year. "That was spearheaded by a dynamic committee of personnel at the ministry to address the needs of the whole child, by introducing a national health and wellness initiative to augment the work of the guidance and counseling department, with a goal to provide psychological help for students and staff," Minister Hanna-Martin said.

"We are governed by the philosophical commitment that 'Every Child Matters'. Therefore, it is as humane and possible given the necessary resources, we will assure that each child is given a fair opportunity to develop his or her potential."

BTC Bolsters Technology Team

On Wednesday, the 13th WAMM encourages Global Liberation of Women

DESTINY JOHNSON
Journalist

The 13th Commonwealth Women's Affairs Ministerial Meeting (CWMAM) is now in the history books as the meeting ended on Wednesday evening in Baltimore, USA. The meeting, which is traditionally held on the 13th of every month, has been a platform for women from across the globe to come together and discuss issues affecting women in the Commonwealth.

The meeting was an opportunity to discuss issues affecting women in the Commonwealth, such as gender equality, women's rights, and sustainable development.

"We must as women, continue to prioritize gender equality and women's rights in all our decisions and actions," the Secretary General said. "We must also continue to work towards creating a more inclusive and equal society for all women and girls."
Seabreeze MP Miller Brice Hosts Back to School Jamboree

Hundreds of young students who live in the Sea Breeze constituency received back to school gift bags, thanks to Member of Parliament Leslie Miller-Brice and her team. In addition, more than 40 educators who live in the area also received back to school gifts, as their MP wanted to “thank them for being amazing and a true inspiration to the children.”

Miller-Brice hosted the Sea Breeze Back to School Jamboree to motivate the youth to start school on a high note, while providing them with some of the necessities for back to school. The event was free for all residents of Sea Breeze and included bouncing castles, face painting, kite paper art, egg and spoon race, basketball three-point shoots, bowling, tug-o-war, balloons, music, chair rides and more.

“The Sea Breeze Back to School Jamboree was amazing,” Miller-Brice exclaimed. “What a day of non-stop fun, laughter, and unforgettable memories! From awesome activities to exciting gifts and prizes, both the kids and adults had a blast.”

“Shoutout to the incredible Sea Breeze volunteers and event staff for their efforts in making the event a success. A heartfelt thank you to Sea Breeze - your answering support and infectious enthusiasm made this day truly magical!”

The Sea Breeze Back to School Jamboree was held at the Charles Carter Park on Saturday, August 19 from 6pm to 7pm.

Students Explore Androsian Mangroves & Coral Reefs at BREEF Kamalame Cay Summer Camp

BREEF held a successful 2023 Sea Camp in Andros. Twenty-five students aged 8-14 years from North Andros participated in the annual Kamalame Cay Sea Camp where they engaged in an immersive outdoor learning experience. Sea Camp is an empowering, educational event in which students embrace the natural environment while having fun. The outdoor classroom is used as a teaching tool, helping students to understand the value of protecting and caring for the ocean.

Attendees had the chance to understand the critical role that mangroves and coral reefs play in the Bahamas environment—especially for fisheries, tourism, and shoreline protection. Enlightening presentations about local sea creatures were followed by excursions and boat expeditions where students were able to identify the marine areas and organisms they learned about during the presentations. They also learned about the impact of our marine environment on the world's oceans and the importance of protecting them.

Camp Director Dwayne Munnings age age 16, shared his thoughts about the amazing educational excursions the students participated in.

“I had a lot of fun learning about the mangroves and fish, and I found all of the interesting things in the ocean,” he said.

Another camper, Samuelique Johnson, age 16, said that she enjoyed snorkeling with others and learning about new types of fish she had never seen before.

“When we went into the mangroves I didn’t know there were so many fish here, but when I saw them I found a lot of interesting things that my teacher told me all about,” she said.

Leading camp activity, BREEF Outreach Assistant, Headlin Beckwith said he got great ways to ensure that students get the opportunity to interact with our marine environment.

“We really like engage kids from other islands, we want them to enrich and see what’s under the water and feel comfortable while they are doing it.”

Black continued: “If young people are exposed to the environment they will care more about it and spread the word, not only to their parents but to the community, and see that opportunity to make a difference for the future.”

BREEF Program Director, Caribbean Mickey-Lanier noted “95% of the territory of The Bahamas is underwater. There is such a tremendous opportunity to use the underwater world as a living classroom and expose children to career opportunities connected with the ocean.”

BREEF extend their gratitude to Kamalame Cay who hosted camp and all the BREEF volunteers who assisted during the duration of the camp.