

EDITORIAL See Page 4

GOVERNMENT TO UTILIZE BAHAMIAN CONSULTANTS



PM Dr. Hubert Minnis

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YOUR WEATHER

88°F

SUNRISE: 6:56 a.m.
SUNSET: 7:030 p.m.
HIGH TIDE: 7:49 a.m. - 8:15 p.m.
LOW TIDE: 1:48 a.m. - 1:57 p.m.
WINDS: E at 7 mph

Clouds and sunshine with a shower or t-storm in the area in the afternoon

See Page 10 for full round-up

The Freeport News

BUSINESS PROFESSIONALS & SERVICE GUIDE

Whatever you're looking for, these local businesses ask you to consider them first.

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Strong police presence observed as GB students return to schools

SEYMOUR ADVOCATES NETWORKING WITH TEACHERS

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Grand Bahama-based Royal Bahamas Police Force (RBPF) officers were out in full force at schools on the island on Monday, the first day of school in the Government System. Emrick Seymour, Deputy Commissioner of Police in the Grand Bahama District & Northern Bahamas, spoke about RBDF's goals for the new school year during a press conference in front of St. Georges High School.

He pointed out that police could be found in all school zones on Grand Bahama, Bimini and Abaco to ensure the safety of students, and faculty. The Police also handed out flyers with safety tips for students.

"We are handing out certain tips and reminding the children, if they're walking, don't take any shortcuts, that type of thing. The police want to make sure both private and public schools are free from the crim-



NICE TO SEE YOU – Deputy Commissioner of Police Emrick Seymour and other senior officers were on hand to greet students at St. Georges' High School and maintain law and order on the streets, as the students made their way to school. (Photo: Jenneva Russell)

"We are handing out certain tips and reminding the children, if they're walking, don't take any shortcuts, that type of thing. The police want to make sure both private and public schools are free from the criminal element. We will continue to police the areas to our satisfaction."

~ **Emrick Seymour**
Deputy Commissioner of Police

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"We want to remind members of the public, we want to remind our children's parents who bring them to school to also leave home early with sufficient time so there would be no need to speed," said Seymour.

He further advised persons to follow all the rules of the road such wearing their seat belts.

According to Seymour, in order to develop a closer connection to the school scene, the Police intend to converse with principals and teachers to strengthen their partnership with the schools. However he hastened to address any concerns that their presence would not interrupt the school system.

"The administrators are in charge of the schools. We are here to lend whatever support that we can but we are not going to take over the schools," he said.

Seymour commended parents and students and urged the parents to be more involved in their children's education.

"We want parents to take a vested interest in their children's education. I suggest that they communicate with teachers and administrators to find out what their children are doing in school," he said.

Seymour also took the opportunity to advise the public to prepare for Hurricane Irma. There is the expectancy that the hurricane will make contact with the island by the end of this week.

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Pineridge MP on hand for Hugh Campbell opening day



SPECIAL ASSEMBLY – Member of Parliament for Pineridge Frederick McAlpine joined students and teachers of Jack Hayward Junior High School for their first assembly for the new school year.

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Member of Parliament for the Pineridge constituency Hon. Frederick McAlpine on Monday, along with his wife Tracey, joined in the early morning back-to-school welcome, at the Hugh W. Campbell Primary School, which is located within his constituency. In conjunction with the learning institution's principal, Carolyn Rolle, McAlpine greeted the students.

The students all seemed eager to start the 2017/2018 school year.

With a highly visible police presence throughout the school zones on the island of Grand Bahama, students were escorted into their respective schools without incident.

McAlpine pointed out the importance of taking the time to

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SONYA BROWN

PACE workshop gets enthusiastic response

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PACE Foundation President Sonya Brown recently traveled to Grand Bahama to spearhead the 2nd Annual Character Day Bahamas Training Workshop at the Bahamas Union of Teachers (BUT) Headquarters.

Educators representing schools throughout the community along with civic groups, non-profit organization representatives, churches and human resources professionals, were invited to participate in the workshop, which kick-started just ahead of the 2017 new academic semester with a singular focus to assist in the development of good character. Key objectives include help-

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TRACKING HURRICANE IRMA

Irma has strengthened to a Category 4 hurricane, and additional strengthening is forecast in the next day or two.

According to Met reports up to press time, Irma will move close to the Leeward Islands and Puerto Rico into midweek, and then near Hispaniola, the Turks and Caicos, Cuba and The Bahamas late week into this weekend.

(See Page 6 for update up to press time)

