

EDITORIAL

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GB PREPARES FOR HURRICANE IRMA

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YOUR WEATHER



89°F

Periods of sun and clouds with a shower or thunderstorm

SUNRISE: 6:53 a.m.
SUNSET: 7:38 p.m.
HIGH TIDE: 8:31 a.m. - 8:55 p.m.
LOW TIDE: 2:27 a.m. - 2:40 p.m.
WINDS: SSE at 7 mph

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BREAKING NEWS

Lewis Yard man succumbs

A Lewis Yard man, reportedly in his 30s succumbed to injuries after a fatal shooting incident in that southern community, early Tuesday evening.

According to unconfirmed reports, the victim is believed to be a former police officer.

Details of the shooting were sketchy up to press time; however, a full account will come in Thursday's edition.

Prepare now!

Schools ready for business, despite approach of "Irma"

JAIMIE SMITH
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While the category five Hurricane Irma with winds maxing at 185 miles per hour, churning in the Atlantic, heading towards the islands of The Bahamas and expected to impact most if not



DIANE JONES
Principal, GBASDA

the entire Archipelago, schools across the country remain open. However, administrators continue to follow the monster storm (Continued on Page 3)

Man pleads guilty to seven shop breaking charges

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In the Northern Bahamas crime news, a male suspect pleaded guilty to seven counts of Shop breaking in Abaco, according to Royal Bahamas Police Force (RBPFF) Assistant Superintendent of Police and Public Affairs and Communication Officer (PACO) Terecita Pinder.

Chris Tyrone Ferguson age 31 years, of the Mudd, Abaco, was arraigned on Monday (September 4) before Magistrate Ancella Evans at the Magistrate Court in Abaco.

He was arraigned on seven counts of shop breaking, seven counts of stealing from a shop and one count of stealing from a vehicle. He pleaded guilty to all the offenses and was sentenced to three years for each count of shop breaking, nine months on each count of stealing from a shop and six months for stealing from a (Continued on Page 2)



CROWDED STORES – After Hurricane Matthew's devastating impact on Grand Bahama last year October, residents are not taking any chances in making hurricane preparation with the expected approach of Hurricane Irma, a Cat 5 storm. Residents flocked to local stores yesterday to purchase supplies.

(Photo: Shayne Stubbs)

Hurricane Irma makes landfall as Cat 5 storm

Bahamians not taking Irma's approach lightly

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Having endured extreme devastation at the mercy of Hurricane Matthew less than a year ago, Grand Bahama residents are not taking the threat of Hurricane Irma lightly.

Now packing a whopping 185 mph wind speed, Irma has now made history as being the largest, most developed system to form in the Atlantic.

Over the weekend and into Monday and Tuesday, residents scrambled to local hardware and food stores, purchasing necessities for the storm.

This daily travelled to both

Dolly Madison Home Center as well as Kelly's Freeport Ltd. True Value on Tuesday afternoon, where scores of customers lined the aisles seeking to pick up items in preparation for Irma.

General Manager of Dolly Madison Home Center, James Rolle revealed that there has been a steady flow of customers in an out of the store since Monday morning.

"We have had a steady flow of customers coming in since yesterday, persons coming in and buying hurricane supplies, which is a good sign. It is an indication that people are taking storms seriously, especially after our experience with Hurricane (Continued on Page 3)



PM: Emergency evacuation of Southern Islands begins this morning

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With Hurricane Irma posing a threat to the Islands of The Bahamas, as early as Thursday, September 7, Prime Minister Dr. Hubert Minnis said that the government made the decision, "to institute an emergency evacuation to New Providence for the residents of MICAL and Ragged Island."

The prime minister in a national address yesterday (Tuesday, September 5) described the storm as, "one of the potentially severest natural disasters in the modern history of The Bahamas."

Following is the prime minister's address in its entirety.

"Fellow Citizens and Residents:
Good evening.

I report to you this evening that we are facing one of the potentially severest natural disasters in the modern history of The Bahamas.

Hurricane Irma may be one of the strongest hurricanes ever recorded!

On its current path, Hurricane Irma, which is currently a dangerous Category Five storm, with sustained winds of approximately 185 mph, poses a dire threat to Mayaguana, Inagua, Crooked Island, Acklins, Long Cay and Ragged Island.

The wind speed, rain and expected storm surge make this a



DR. HUBERT MINNIS
Prime Minister of The Bahamas

potentially catastrophic hurricane. Accordingly, we must act quickly to protect lives, with a particular emphasis on the residents of the southern Bahamas,

who are at the greatest risk. I note that Irma may also bring severe weather to the Central Bahamas. Leave has been suspended for

members of the Royal Bahamas Police Force and the Royal Bahamas Defence Force. Because of the potentially cat- (Continued on Page 2)

Lloyd commits to improving quality education

SHARELL LOCKHART
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Ascribing to the adage that "education is the passport to the future," Minister of Education, Science and Technology Jeffery Lloyd recently revealed his keen commitment to improving the professional quality of education provided throughout The Bahamas.

Transforming the educational landscape of any nation is a role only educators are genuinely equipped to fulfill, especially as they are the ones who prepare the future leaders of the world today.

Maintaining a clear-cut standard of excellence across the board in education is one of the key focuses of Minister Lloyd, who declared, "Certainly as the Minister of Education, Science (Continued on Page 3)