



EDITORIAL

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Junkanoo 2018 a splendid affair



Monique Leary

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YOUR WEATHER

71°F

Breezy; cloudy in the morning with a little rain

SUNRISE: 7:04 a.m.
SUNSET: 5:35 p.m.
HIGH TIDE: 8:37 a.m. - 8:55 p.m.
LOW TIDE: 2:08 a.m. - 2:58 p.m.
WINDS: WSW at 18 mph

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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New Year's Day homicide

GB records first murder in the country for 2018

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Residents of the quiet neighborhood of Gladstone Terrace were awakened by the screaming screams of family members of the country's first murder victim for 2018.

The heart wrenching scream of a female family member could be heard some distance away from the duplex, where the victim was found, suffering from what authorities revealed appeared to be gunshot wounds. When the team from *this daily* arrived at the scene, officials of the Royal Bahamas Police Force (RBPF) were seen canvassing the area, looking for any and all information that may assist them with their investigations.

Chief Superintendent Wendell Smith, OIC (Officer-in-Charge) of the Central Division spoke to media at the scene, disclosing that police officials are engaged in an extensive investigation to determine what may have transpired, resulting in the death of the male on the first day of the year.

"Shortly after 11:00 p.m. the police control room in Freeport received a report of gunshots in the Gladstone Terrace area. Officers responded, located the scene where they met a male lying on the ground, suffering from what appeared to be gunshot wounds to the body. Emergency Medical Services (EMS) were summoned and upon arrival they examined the body and found it to be lifeless. "We are in the preliminary stages of our investigation;



NEW YEAR'S DAY HOMICIDE – Police were called to the Gladstone Terrace neighborhood after receiving reports of gunshots in the area that resulted in a male being fatally shot. This incident marks the first murder for Grand Bahama. (PHOTO: JENNEVA RUSSELL)

firstly, we are trying to determine a positive identification on the male, additionally trying to gather some information to what may have led to the shooting incident here tonight.

"Officers are currently on the scene conducting door-to-door investigations and any other information that will help in bringing this matter to a close," said Smith.

Not willing to release too much details of the crime scene, Smith did say that the victim was found directly outside of the front door of the duplex.

"We are actively trying to get a positive identification of the male; as soon as we have that and pending notification of next of kin, that information will be passed on to the media."

As this is the first reported (Continued on Page 3)

Platinum Knights go 2-straight

- Showtime wins B Category
- Group leaders have 48 hours to contest the results

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anoos leaders that they have 48 hours to contest the results and commended all groups for a job well done.

Overjoyed with the two-straight victory, Curry said, "We did our best to ensure that we adhered to the rules so that we would not get any penalties, we executed on time and did that which was necessary to demonstrate culture at its best here in Grand Bahama.

"We began preparations for the 2018 New Year's Day Parade from February of last year and honestly, anyone who really knows me, I am dedicated to Junkanoo all year round and do my best to keep the young men off the street and involved in positive activity in the Platinum Knights shack."

He added, "Certainly, I tip my hat to all of the sponsors of the Platinum Knights and definitely by the grace of God we were able to defend our title and pull off another win.

"In one or two categories, as far as judging is concerned, we did fall short, particularly during the first lap of the parade. However, by the second lap we pulled everything together going in to turbo drive almost capturing a clean sweep, which stands as an indication that the Platinum Knights are serious about taking Junkanoo to another level.

"Furthermore, as long as sponsors and community support us and we remain positive there is no doubt that the Platinum Knights is going to be around for a very long time."

Pointing out that the Platinum Knights comprise of a group of talented young persons with great and brilliant minds, Curry vowed to continuously improve upon their success.

Commending the leaders of the Superstar Rockers, Swingers and Kingdom Culture that competed in the Category A Division of the parade as well as Showtime, the (Continued on Page 2)



TWO STRAIGHT – Thomas Curry (right) and the Platinum Knights learned that they successfully defended their New Year's Day Junkanoo Parade title, following the unofficial score announcement by the GB Junkanoo Committee late Tuesday (January 2) afternoon. Thomas and his wife are pictured on the parade route Monday, January 1. (PHOTO: JENNEVA RUSSELL)