

**LOCAL NEWS**

# YOUNG LADIES CELEBRATED AT 29TH ANNUAL 20 PEARLS FASHIONETTA

Pi Upsilon Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. celebrated its 29th Anniversary of its signature program Twenty Pearls, "A Salute to Excellence" at the Regency Theatre on April 9, 2017, under the theme 'Powerful Dreams Inspire Powerful Actions.'

For the last 29 years, the ladies of Pi Upsilon Omega Chapter have hosted the Twenty Pearls program, a Character Developmental Program that involves young ladies in Grades 9 to 12 that possess high scholastic and moral standards from 10 of the local high schools on the island.

The culminating exercise entitled the 'Fashionetta®' highlights the talents of the young ladies and beautiful evening gowns while being officially presented to society. The evening began with an opening step choreographed by local dancer, Colette Parker.

The ladies then proceeded to introduce themselves to the audience. After the introductions they displayed their talents to the audience in the form of songs, dance, drama, musical instruments and selections on the piano.

The final segment showcased the beautiful cocktail dresses and evening gowns of all of the pearls.

The co-hosts of the evening Donovan Bowe and Kerel Pinder, who did an excellent job in engaging the audience in an exciting evening.

At the conclusion of the evening, pearls from each grade level were rewarded for their outstanding involvement with the program over the past year. The young ladies were educated on various topics throughout the year.

Their participation in weekly meetings, attendance and involvement in community service, fundraisers, special events and leadership seminars determined to a great extent which of the young ladies were rewarded at the end of the evening.

The sorority was able to award over \$16,000 in scholarships to the winners



**NINTH GRADE Pearls along with 20 Pearls Chairperson, Jourdan Bowe and Co-Chair Stefanie Collie.**

of the evening.

**Below is a list of the night's winners:**

**Best Talent 9th Grade - Jordyn Morley, BMES**

**Best Talent 9th Grade Runner-up- Chrishell Pinder, BMES**

**Best Talent 10th Grade – Deazure Nicolls, BMES**

**Best Talent 10th Grade Runner- up- Novelet Rolle, BMES**

**Best Talent 11th Grade – Ebony Maycock,**

**Best Talent 11th Grade Runner- up- Tonae Farquahson, Mary Star**

**Best Talent 12th Grade – Jalecia Strachan, St. Georges**

**Best Talent 12th Grade Runner- up- LaKeisa Saunders, BMES  
Most Poised Pearl – Charde Adderley, Mary, Star**

**Logo Competition Winner – Pateva Curtis- BMES**

**Essay Competition 9th Grade- Hannah Burton, Sunland**

**Essay Competition Runner-up 9th Grade- Chrishell Pinder, BMES**

**Essay Competition 10th Grade- Deazure Nicolls, BMES**

**Essay Competition Runner-up 10th Grade- Vashinique Pickstock, BMES**

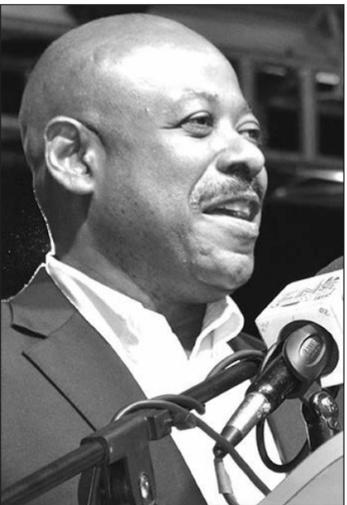
**Essay Competition Winner 11th - Viore Bosfield, St. Paul's**

**Essay Competition Runner-up 11th Grade-Delvonae Beckles, St. Paul's**

**Speech Competition Winner 12th Grade – Gabrielle Edwards, BMES**

**Speech Competition Runner-up 12th Grade- Jalecia Strachan, St. Georges**

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**OBIE WILCHCOMBE**



**DR. MICHAEL DARVILLE**



**JULLIAN RUSSELL**



**NORRIS BAIN**



**REV. PRESTON COOPER**

# PLP GB TEAM NOT PERFECT BUT BEST FIT TO SERVE

After a mass island-wide motorcade on Easter Monday (April 17), the Progressive Liberal Party 2017 General Election candidates, Ministers Obie Wilchcombe, West End and Bimini and Dr. Michael Darville, Pineridge; Senator Julian Russell, Central Grand Bahama; Preston Cooper, East Grand Bahama and Norris Bain, Marco City, issued a joint statement claiming that momentum is with the PLP because fair minded Bahamians are taking stock of the party's record and keen eyes are starting to see the Free National Movement (FNM) for what they really are, "a disconnected leadership bunch, hungry for power." There is no suggestion on the part of the Progressive Liberal Party's Grand Bahama Forward Team that circumstances and or this government have been perfect. More has to and will be done. What we met back in 2012 was worst than we had ever imagined. The FNM ruined our economy and literally squandered the economic achievements marked by Perry Gladstone Christie's leadership, the statement furthered.

"We have now taken away the full control once assumed by the Grand Bahama Port Authority – licensees and representatives of the people's government will now play an active and pivotal decision making role. We remind the residents of Grand Bahama that it was the FNM that gave Hutchison certain

rights and legal privileges that strained economic expansion and advancement.

The PLP has worked tirelessly and amicably with stakeholders to fix this. While the FNM would wish to down play the record breaking capital projects here on Grand Bahama - work on the Fishing Hole Road, Smith's Point Sea Wall, Rand Memorial Hospital, West End Clinic and the likes – these ongoing, significant items have

**“We do not and will not apologize for creating opportunities for our people. We have pumped millions of dollars into our local economy to realize restoration and recovery.”**

placed food on many tables and improved the quality of life for thousands of average Bahamians.

"We do not and will not apologize for creating opportunities for our people. Hurricane Matthew was an unexpected setback for residents. We have pumped millions of dollars into our local economy to realize restoration and recovery. Our efforts and the efficient and compassionate work of government agencies proved productive, but again, not perfect. There is much work to be done. We continue to focus on the

wellbeing of our people. There is clear evidence of development, progress, growth and forward thinking. We are not moved or distracted by a FNM, with a leadership on chaotic and unstable ground.

"We motorcade with a spirit of thanksgiving and praise for a people who and a government that refuses to forget how far we have come and intend to go. We are together with a forward driven purpose. Be it the cruise port

set for East Grand Bahama that will empower local Bahamian business people, investor interest to bring exciting opportunities in the west, the potential sale and reopening of all the Lucayan strip resort properties, the construction of a government complex and school also in the west and youth programs that are making and will make a difference, we remain humbly confident of a win at the polls. We, the PLP, believe in Bahamians and from majority rule to decades of independence, Bahamians have come to continue to believe in the PLP."

**Bahama Rock**



Bahama Rock Ltd. is currently accepting resumes for the following positions at our Freeport Quarry.

**Utility/Maintenance Personnel**

Must have 3 - 5 years experience in utility/maintenance in an industrial or construction environment. Job duties include, but are not limited to cleaning, greasing, and painting on conveyors, crusher screens, and mobile equipment. Heavy equipment maintenance, welding, and industrial maintenance experience preferred.

**Heavy Duty Equipment Operators**

Must have 3 - 5 years experience in operation of heavy duty equipment in an industrial or construction environment. Job duties include, but are not limited to operation of loaders, trucks, and dozers.

The successful candidates for both positions need to be dependable and self-motivated persons, who can work in a busy quarry atmosphere. Ability to work a flexible schedule including Saturdays and Sundays. High school diploma or GED required.

**Excellent Pay and Benefits**

Please submit résumé in person to:  
**Bahama Rock Ltd.**  
Warren J. Levarity Highway  
Freeport, Grand Bahama  
The Bahamas

Applicants must pass pre-employment drug test and post-offer physical exam.