



Buxton-Friendship

Express

December
2018

Best Wishes
For Love, Peace & Joy
Merry Christmas
Happy New Year!



Published by Buxton-Friendship Heritage Fund, Inc.

Merry Christmas



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Pupils and teachers of the Eastville Nursery School at Annandale South celebrate their first Christmas at the new school.

(Photo, compliments of Mrs. Paula Gulliver-Spencer)



Thank You for Another Good Year

Wishing all our villagers, friends and supporters the best during this holiday season and throughout the New Year! And as we say goodbye to 2018, we would like to express our gratitude and appreciation for your donations and support this year. Thank you!

Buxton Heritage Fund Operations Report October 1, 2017 - September 30, 2018

Jan 1, 2018: Balance brought forward	\$1,885.90	
Fundraising Activities	\$6,046.30	
Donations	<u>\$4,805.00</u>	
TOTAL RECEIVED		\$12,737.20

DISTRIBUTION & EXPENSES

Education

Students: Backpacks, Learning Aids & Supplies	\$3,452.55	
Scholastic/Bursary Awards	\$2,480.13	
Schools: Equipment & Teaching Aids	\$1,685.92	
Enrichment Programs & Workshops	<u>\$ 725.00</u>	
		\$8,343.60

Community Organisations

Training & Development Tools		\$ 990.70
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Community Outreach

St. Augustine's Anglican Church (Patronal)	\$ 500.00	
Arundel Congregational Church	<u>\$ 100.00</u>	
		\$ 600.00

Medical Outreach		\$ 300.00
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Operating Expenses

Overseas Shipping Costs	\$1,098.37	
Mailing/Communication Services	\$ 557.64	
Guyana Customs & Delivery Fees	\$ 462.20	
Bank & other Service Fees	<u>\$ 42.00</u>	
		<u>\$2,160.21</u>

TOTAL DISTRIBUTION & EXPENSES		<u>\$12,394.51</u>
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BALANCE

\$ 342.69



Supporting Our Schools & Students

Students and teachers of Friendship Primary (Roman) School welcomed the installation of four industrial cooling fans and a water dispenser in the auditorium. These items were donated to the school by the Buxton-Friendship Heritage Fund (USA), which also paid to upgrade the electrical wiring to accommodate the modern appliances.



Some of the students of Buxton Secondary School's 2019 Caribbean Secondary Education Certificate (CSEC) class show off their package of school supplies donated by Buxton-Friendship Heritage Fund earlier this month.

Each student was presented with a geometry set, scientific calculator, English dictionary, magnifying glass, a set of notebooks, filler paper, folder, pens, pencils, sharpeners and erasers.



NEW PUMP STATION COMMISSIONED

- ⇒ Facility will increase drainage coefficient in Buxton/Friendship
- ⇒ Capacity to drain 1200 gallons of water per second
- ⇒ 859 households to benefit



Minister of Agriculture, Mr. Noel Holder, is seen examining the new pump facility

Department of Public Information, Guyana / Friday, November 30, 2018:

More than 5,000 residents, including some 100 farmers, will now sleep easier during the rainy season. This is as a result of a \$376.9M pump station at Buxton/Friendship that was commissioned today.

The Buxton/Friendship Pump Station, which comes under the Ministry of Agriculture through the Flood Risk Management Project, will address the threat of flooding within the Buxton and Friendship villages. It will collect water from the drainage network and discharge it directly into the Atlantic Ocean. The discharge capacity has now increased by more than 100 per cent from approximately 80 cubic feet of water per second under the former system to 200 cubic feet per second.

Speaking at the commissioning ceremony at the Construction Site, Company Road Buxton, East Coast Demerara, Minister of Agriculture, Noel Holder said that the project is in keeping with the government's holistic approach to drainage and irrigation, to create an enabling and sustainable Drainage and Irrigation System by increasing Guyana's resilience to floods and droughts. He explained that while the facility would not eliminate flooding, the people's exposure to flooding during extreme events would be considerably reduced.

"The mere fact that you are beneficiaries of this project means that the population, infrastructure, and agricultural activities were classified as high-risk, and the area flood-prone, on the East Coast of Demerara. As you are no doubt aware, flooding results from a combination of events, including heavy rainfall, malfunctioning drainage structures, river/seawall overtopping, breach of sea defences and conservancy dams and, or high tides causing an accumulation of water inland."

(Continued on page 5)



NEW PUMP STATION

(Continued from page 4)

Minister Holder is confident that the National Drainage and Irrigation Authority (NDIA) will effectively coordinate all the relevant resources for the maintenance and sustainable functioning of the pump station. He urged the residents to ensure that their drains and channels are clear of weeds since the efficient operation of the entire drainage system is also dependent on regular maintenance.

The NDIA Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Frederick Flatts reiterated that the country's coastal system is severely affected by the effects of climate change and it is the responsibility of the government to ensure systems are in place to discharge larger quantities of water within a short space of time.

To this end, he said, in January 2019, another pump station will be commissioned in Herstelling and seven additional pump stations are slated for construction in that same year in areas such as Den Amstel, Mora and Rose Hall. Further, pump stations will also be constructed in Liliendaal and Ogle in the near future. These initiatives, he said, would significantly increase the draining coefficient on the East Coast.

Earle Lambert, Vice Chairman of the Regional Administration-Region Four, committed to continued collaboration between the regional administration and the communities to ensure the drainage canals are cleared at all times.

Outgoing Chairman of the Buxton/Foulis Neighbourhood Democratic Council, Deon Abrams noted that for too long the people of Buxton had suffered as a result of flooding. He expressed gratitude to the government for the flood risk management project that will bring significant relief to the people. "There are immense benefits from this project, and therefore the people must be happy for it and must demonstrate a great degree of responsibility on the way they treat it."

The pump station catchment area is Buxton and Friendship villages, which were traditionally dependent on the cultivation of sugar cane, ground provisions, cash crops, and orchard crops. It covers some 712 hectares (1,760 acres). Furthermore, it will benefit 859 households in Buxton and a proportion of the 552 households in Friendship.

"There are immense benefits from this project, and therefore the people must be happy for it and must demonstrate a great degree of responsibility on the way they treat it."

Mr. Deon Abrams,
Former Chairman, Buxton-Foulis NDC



Mr. Frederick Flatts
C.E.O., National Drainage and Irrigation Authority



The project was designed and supervised by E and A Consultancy, and constructed by General Engineering Supplies and Services.

This is the fifth such station commissioned this year: the Ministry of Agriculture commissioned the Lusignan Pump Station in April, the Friendship/Vigilance Pump Station in May, the Enmore Pump Station in July and the Three Friends Pump Station in Essequibo in October.

...Synieka Thorne

Image: Jameel Mohamed



BUXTON UNITED FOOTBALL CLUB Takes On Den Amstel

By Stabroek News * December 30, 2018



Buxton United will tackle Den Amstel in the Guyana Football Federation [GFF] 'Stag Beer Super 16 final following unlikely semi-final wins over Fruta Conquerors and Western Tigers respectively on Friday.

Staged in front of their large home support at the Buxton Community Centre ground, the Buxtonians upset highly touted Western Tigers by a 2-1 score line in the feature semi-final, following a 89th minute penalty conversion.

Locked 1-1 and seemed destined for extra time, Buxton United was presented with a penalty kick opportunity, after Raphael Edwards hacked down his opposing number inside the box.

Tasked with the responsibility from the mark, Shemar Fraser made no mistake as he calmly converted to send the crowd into a frenzy. Prior to the aforesaid conclusion, Dillon Wright broke the deadlock in favour of the home side in the 37th minute.

A moment of lapse by the backline led to the aforesaid conversion, as a cross from a corner-kick, evaded the entire defense inside the six yard area, allowing the onrushing Wright to lash his effort into the net.

The lead proved to be brief, as Kelsey Benjamin restored parity to proceedings four minutes later. Cutting in from the right flank, Benjamin rifled a left foot shot into the far right corner.

Meanwhile, Den Amstel downed Elite League champion Fruta Conquerors by an identical score in the opening semi-final. Versatile attacker Jamal Harvey crafted a double for the West Demerara outfit to seal the win.

It was a fortuitous opener for Harvey in the 14th minute, as his curling free-kick from the top of the 18 yard area, inexplicably slipped through the grasp of the goal-keeper and settled into the back of the net.

The advantage quickly grew, as Harvey tallied his second six minutes later. There was nothing fortuitous about this conversion, as Harvey raced onto a through pass from Leo Lovell, before dribbling the final defender and finishing into the far corner.

This commanding lead was maintained heading into the halftime interval. The TucVilleville-based unit eventually recorded a consolation goal in the 85th through Eon Alleyne.

The nippy attacker latched onto a lobbed ball which sailed over the rearguard, before clinically finishing past the advancing goalkeeper during a one on one situation.

The venue for the January 1st finale is yet to be announced. The two losing semi-finalists will match skills in the third place playoff.



Buxton Secondary School Graduation Flow

Congratulations & Best Wishes to Buxton Secondary School's Class of 2018!

This year's valedictorian is Malcolm McGarrell, who finished as the top student with his nine subjects at the Caribbean Secondary Education Certificate (CSEC) examinations. He is now pursuing a Bachelor's degree in Entrepreneurship at the University of Guyana.

The school held its graduation exercises on 30th November.



WELL DONE!

*It's time for
THE PROM
And the Girls
just want to have
FUN!*

RECOGNISING A CHAMPION

REPORT FROM INSIGHT ON FOUR (REGION 4)



Akella Dover

On 3rd December, Company Road Primary came alive when its student, nine-year-old Akella Dover, was given a surprised hero's welcome by her teachers and the Regional Education Department of Region Four. The occasion, which was a red carpet affair for Akella and her parents, were as a result of her exceptional performance at the just concluded National Schools Athletics and Track and Field Championships held at the Leonora Track.

Akella, running in the Under-10 category convincingly won her four races, which were the 100, 200, 400 and 1000 meters, thus capturing the Champion Girl title in that category.

The young lady, who was greeted with screams, shouts and applause from teachers and students, was evidently taken aback by the event. Her father, Michael Dover, said his daughter's discipline and determination are the primary reasons for her success. He pointed out that he and her mother, Carol Adams, support the young athlete in many ways and remain committed to her talent, which they said was discovered since she was in nursery school.

Head teacher of the school, Ms. Arita Stephen-McKenzie, was emotional as she expressed congratulations and thanked the petite nine-year-old for letting people know that talent abounds at Company Road Primary.

She thanked the parents for providing the environment and support so that the young lady can excel at the championships, urging them to continue giving their support in every way possible.

Meanwhile, Regional Education Officer (REDO), Ms Tiffany Favourite -Harvey, said that she is still very elated over the energised and electrifying performance of the young lady who left many in awe with her performances.

She said that the region is very proud that young Dover represented very well and for this the region feels indebted in making a meaningful contribution to her for the stellar performance.

As such, she was presented with a significant financial contribution towards her educational pursuits while her school presented her with a similar contribution for her to spend during the Christmas holidays.

"We at Company Road Primary are exceptionally happy as we are very impressed and overwhelmed by the performance of Akella. We are confident that she will continue to excel and that is why we are proud to say thank you to her and her parents because they have once again highlighted that this school possess some great talent and come next year I am confident that this young lady would increase the gold medal tally."

HM Arita Stephen-McKenzie



Akella Dover receiving hamper from an Education official, while her proud parents, Carol Adams and Michael Dover, look on.



Wah dih story seh?

What's In The Sound of Silence

By Dr. Pauline F. Baird

Silence is hardly ever an absence of coding and encoding messages—the giving and receiving of messages. The way silence is practised and understood during communication differs widely from culture to culture and within cultures.

Silence in adult-children relationship in Buxtonian-Guyanese contexts is rife with richness and complexity. For example: One way to understand silence is to observe and reflect on child-adult relationships. If you grew up Guyanese and Buxtonian, you know the protocols for childhood behavior. Where discipline is concerned, it entails silence in many forms and to varying effects.

In my own family, for instance, I think of the interplay of silence in my grandmother's and my sister's relationship. When my grandmother had cause to discipline / spank her, my sister would neither cry nor make a sound. My sister's go-to response was to remain silent, no matter what.

Her silence evoked language from my grandmother thus: "Suh yu nah cry?" My grandmother would get frustrated and stop spanking. My grandmother would also remark, "I don't know why they name you after me—you so stubborn!"

Let me remind you. If you are getting disciplined, you ought to know well that if you cry or don't cry you will be asked to provide a reason.

If you so cry, you may be asked, "What you're crying for?" And therein is the catch!

To the unwise, the above question ought not to be interpreted as an invitation to mount a verbal defence or propose a reason while licks are underway. Timing is of the essence. Further, the question is merely rhetorical. To children, the rhetorical question appears to be code for "shut your mouth" and take what is coming, whether it's a little bit of licks or scolding.

If you grew up Buxtonian, you also know that "licks" is punctuated by advice from the adult. This is a popular adult way of providing a reason for your crying.

Like this: When [licks] I [licks] tell [licks] you [licks] do [licks] some[licks]thing [licks] you [licks] do [licks] it!

At other times, you may suffer a lengthy scolding punctuated with brief bouts, heavy bouts of silence and long looks, both coming from the adult.

Silence appears to be a go-to method in a no-win situation and a test of wills among adults and children. Children locked in voiceless contestations with adults can wield silence like a cutlass. Sharp and dangerous to the adult ego.

I find that, silence is transactional and a prudent response on the child's part. Silence thwarts the adult's satisfaction and gives the child enormous power. Sometimes, silence is wielded with great effect to resist and frustrate adult authority. Sometimes, the power is short-lived and may be grounds on which parents and children establish different methods to communicate and discipline. I watched my grandmother just give up the spanking thing and resort to reasoning. Some parents and children do not allow silence or licks to be responses to disagreements and infractions. Children must take responsibility for their behavior and parents don't allow them to cop out in silence. Rather, children are led to do something about their behavior and come up with solutions.

And then again, in my childhood, I used to hear some children state a preference, "I rather tek dih licks!" And, by default, maintain their silence.

Quiz Whiz

Buxtonian Members of Parliament

- ◆ Winifred Gaskin (PNC)
- ◆ Charles Ramkissoon Jacob, Snr.
- ◆ Anthony Martin Fredericks (UF)
- ◆ Charles Jacob, Jr.
- ◆ Marcellus Fielden Singh (UF)
- ◆ Mr. Durant (PPP and PNC)
- ◆ Joyce Gill (PNC)
- ◆ Myrtlene Munroe-Foster (PNC)
- ◆ Eusi Kwayana (WPA)
- ◆ **Martin Zephyr (PPP)**
- ◆ Dr. Moti Lall (PPP)



The late Martin Winslow Zephyr
Former Speaker of the House

Winslow Martin Zephyr was one of three sons born to Sophia Zephyr. His brothers were Walter (Bengeysey) and Joseph (Mantool) Zephyr. They once lived in a small cottage along Willis Street, between Old Road and Joseph Street. He grew up in the Buxton Front neighbourhood and attended Buxton Congregational School. He went on to study Law in England and, on his return home, he went into private practice. His wife, Pearlle Zephyr, née Ramkissoon, was also a daughter of the village.

Martin Zephyr passed away in June, 2009. He was 78 years old.

SPEAKER OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY:

MARTIN WINSLOW ZEPHYR, also known as “Peckatoo”, served as Speaker of Guyana’s National Assembly from 23rd October 2000 until the 4th May 2001. His appointment came upon the death of then Speaker of the House, Derek Jagan. Mr. Zephyr had also previously served as Deputy Speaker of the House (1998–2000). He was a British-trained barrister-at-law, and a longstanding member of the People’s Progressive Party (PPP).



PHOTO: Some incoming secondary school students from Buxton pose in and around the Speaker’s Chair during a 2014 Buxton-Friendship Heritage Fund organized-tour of the Parliament Building.

Next Month’s Quiz ?

Buxtonians honoured with streets, schools or other landmarks (outside the village) named after them?



Quintin's 2018 Notables

Can you imagine, we are about to ring in a fresh year? Many of us are in the process of making those New Year's Resolutions with the expectations of achieving them. For most of us, getting in shape, eating healthier, exercising, going to church, increasing our tithe, and stopping procrastinations are atop the list. Many of us would go through this yearly tradition, reminding ourselves that we have challenges and shortcomings which we need to work on to improve our lives. This yearly ritual of contemplation makes us spiritually resilient during tough times. It's time to be thankful for our blessings and take stock of our many achievements in 2018.

The year 2018 was a blessing in so many ways for so many of us. We survived! Our friends and loved ones have been there for us during some trying times. As a people, we, Buxtonians, are unique in having the blessing of a community of friends and families who always find creative ways to rally us to a path of prominence. Yes, we have a lot to be thankful! Thank God for keeping Buxton safe. We must never forget the carnage that our innocent Buxtonians experienced a few years ago when we failed to seek Him first. Buxton is now a peaceful place. "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God." Don't matter how you look at it, our blessings have been enormous. "Praise God, from whom all blessing flow."

My acknowledgements to those many organizations and individuals for their charitable giving to those in need:

On that point, let me submit my top Buxtonian for 2018, before I forget. I know this individual hates to be signaled out in this manner, but I must say, I call it like I see it. This woman is the glue that holds together the Buxton-Friendship Heritage Fund, Inc., a non-profit organization whose main mission is to provide support services to fellow villagers of Buxton/Friendship. She is a real Buxtonian who really cares. Her most remarkable achievement has been her ability to bring people together. She has demonstrated this quality time and time again. A few years ago when Buxton was in turmoil, she was the one who was responsible for the creation of the Buxton - Friendship Heritage Fund, Inc. that helped to stem the rising tide of violence in the village. Due to her leadership and activism, this organization has spearheaded many educational projects that are responsible for improving the academic performance of children in Buxton. She continues to be the pivotal player in putting the village scholastic system "back together". There are not enough superlatives to truly express the monumental contribution this paragon of excellence has made to Buxton. From every circle, she is the embodiment of selflessness who never tries to be the centre of attention, but will always be exceptional due to her brilliant mind and boundless heart. She has a nonpareil history of being committed to any mission that improves the life and circumstances of the underprivileged. This person is Sister Lorna Campbell.

On that same note, allow me to take the opportunity to extend my sincere thanks and admiration for a few more Buxtonians:

Pauline Baird - Her relentless effort to keep her fellow Buxtonians well-grounded with her monthly narrative: "Wah di story seh?" It is always entertaining and edifying. God bless you; keep up the great work!

John Newton - His committed leadership of Buxton-Friendship Heritage Fund, Inc., the organization that is responsible for helping hundreds of Buxtonian children. John P, we are proud of you. The behind-the- scene work you do is amazing. Thanks!

My godson, Christopher Arthur - He recently graduated with a four-year degree in Marketing. I am really proud of you! You have joined the elite class of academia.

Last, but not least, my loving 96-year old aunt, Lillian Booker - serving God is the secret of her longevity. Still alert and totally oriented.

Let me fast-forward and exude a sense of hopefulness for 2019. I know somethings would never change when it comes to Buxton. Buxton would remain the premier village and Buxtonians, abroad and home, would continue to participate in supportive provisions. Not to be glib about it, 2019 could be more chaotic than 2018. Trump will continue to throw temper tantrums, while the political morass in Guyana could get worse. Whatever the outcomes, we will have to continue to persevere with courage and deep faith. And, when all is said and done, the year 2019 will be your year based on what you put into it. that is what you will get out of it. Start it off by cooking a scrumpious dish of black-eye cook-up rice on Old Year's Night.

Happy New Year to my Buxton Posse!

...Quintin Bacchus

OBITUARIES*Cyril Oswald Fredericks*, DSM,

retired Senior Assistant Commissioner of Police, passed away on 14th December, 2018, at the Georgetown Public Hospital. He was 74 years old.

He is survived by his children: André, Robin, Simone, Avis, Dexter, Dwayne, Denisha, Nadia, Natasha, Imogene, Dean and Dionne, while he was predeceased by Collin and Denis Moffat. His loss is also being mourned by his 14 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren.

He was the husband of Gem Pembroke and the late Joy Fredericks; brother of Bridget Roberts, Pauline Currie; the late Cyrilene, Lloyd and Juliet Curry; uncle of Debra, Marlon, Dawn, Dwayne, Darwin, Devon, the late Bevon Currie and many more; cousin of Reuben & Paulette Charles, Patricia, Tessa and Kwesi Charles, Patrick McCullay, Caprice, Jean and Joan Telesford.

Following funeral service at St. Augustine's Anglican Church, his remains were interred in the church cemetery, 20th December, 2018.



Cyril "Poppy" Fredericks
25 September, 1944 — 14 December, 2018

Myrtle D. Fox, also known as "Sissy Marcus"

She was born on 3rd August, 1941, and departed on 18th December, 2018.

Myrtle was the daughter of the late Louisa & Albert Marcus; Wife of the late Glenny; Mother of: Jennifer (USA), Randolph & Martin, the late Eric and the late Debbie; Grandmother of: Tunco, Rondle, Abalene, Masymba, Chino, Ronata, Mahwana, Eric and others; Great-grandmother of: Trinieya, Alwin & Royheem; Mother in law of: Stanford; Sister of: Alphonso, also known as Fanso (USA), the late Randolph, the late Stanley and the late Eva; Aunt of: Elsa, Juliet, Karen, Floyd, Lorraine, Treon, Robin & Charles of the USA; Trevor & Roland of Canada; Babyline, Jacqueline, Donna, Desiree, Floyd, Carlton, and many others too numerous to mention; Relative of: The Matteson, Morgan, Gill, Thomas, Fox, Simon, McGarrell, Marcus and many others.

Funeral and interment for the late Myrtle "Sissy Marcus" will take place on 5th January, 2019 in Buxton.

*Marcelle Vanessa Hiles-Philander*

Also called "Cellus", Marcelle transitioned to the ancestral world on 18th December, 2018, and is reunited with her loving husband, the late Tony Philander.

Marcelle was born on 27th May, 1973 to Robert & Shirley Hiles. She was the sister of Ingrid, Winston, Courtney, Michelle, Terrence, and Vibert Hyles.

Funeral service takes place on 30th December, 2018, followed by interment at Friendship Cemetery.





Joyce Marie Gardner

On 10th December, 2018, in Ontario, Canada, our sweet Joyce Marie Gardner was released into the ancestral realm. She was 86 years old, and was lovingly surrounded by her daughter and son-in-law, Marilyn and Eon Sinclair Sr., and her grandchildren — Eon Sinclair Jr. and Matthew Sinclair, as she passed peacefully from this life.

Joyce was born on 18th May, 1932 in Friendship, Village East Coast Demerara. She was the daughter of the late Charles and Grace Gardner. She is also survived by her cherished great-grandson, Ayankojo Sinclair, and granddaughter-in-law, Rema Tavares.

She was sister of the late Maude Gardner and Geraldine Marcus, and is survived by siblings, Christine and Robert (Charles) Gardner. She was the caring aunt of Walter (Charlie) Marcus and Cheryl Gardner; aunt-in-law of Roxanne Caleb-Marcus; great-aunt of Shaundell, Myles and Maya Marcus, Leyton Mark and Kenya Brown; great-great-aunt of Jay, Jayel and Jaden Evans. She was the special friend of Angela Jons-son. Known as "Aunt Joyce," and also had many honorary nieces and nephews.

Joyce loved her family and was cousin to a strong, extended lineage including: the Gardner's, Elaine McNeil and the Hatton's; Vicki Creavelle and family; Mildred, Corey and Carol Baker; the Jordan's, Iveleen Thomas, Gloria Campbell and the Thomas family; Fabian, Dennis, Grace, Terrence Holder and the Holder family; Beryl, Aubrey, Robert Stephenson and the Stephenson family; Myrna Wilson, the Hamers, Holland's, Truman's, Waithe's, Payne's, Savoury's, Liverpool's, Bhola's, Profitt's, Elgin's, and others.

On Saturday 15th December, 2018, a celebration for the life of Joyce Marie Gardner was held at St. Paul's on-the-Hill Anglican Church in Pickering, Ontario. She was subsequently laid at Pine Ridge Memorial Gardens Cemetery in Ajax, Ontario.

Benjamin Agard

Benjamin Augustus Agard, also affectionately known as "Benji" Agard, passed from this earth on 4th December, 2018, in Brooklyn, New York. He was 90 years old.

He served as Deputy Headmaster of St. Augustine's Anglican/Friendship Government School (circa 1960) and, later, as a Secondary School Headmaster/Principal and Assistant Chief Education Officer in Guyana. Mr. Agard had received a Bachelor of Arts Degree from the University of London.

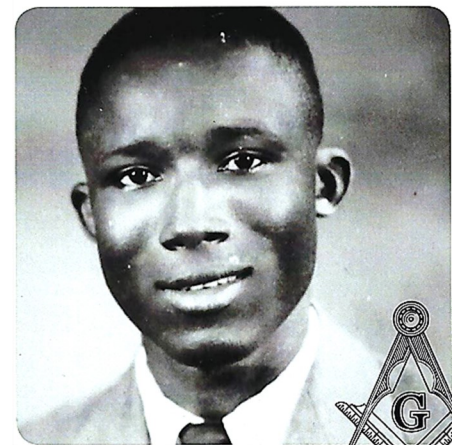
He was the son of the late Charles (Charlie) Agard (first Headmaster of Buxton Government Secondary School) and Rosaline Ottley. Benji was born on 17th May, 1928 in Meten-Meer-Zorg, West Coast Demerara. He was the brother of Natalie Stephenson (nee Agard), Megan, Wendell, and Dr. Claire Agard.

He is survived by his wife of 62 years, Waveney Agard, and their eight children: Victor, Helen, Mark, Carl, Raoul, Mincia (Minky), Charwin, and Wayne; 14 grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

The long and distinguished life of the late Benjamin A. Agard was celebrated at a funeral service on 17th December, at St. Gabriel's Episcopal Church, Brooklyn, New York.

"Condolences to the [Agard] family! While a Pupil Teacher at Friendship Government School, Mr. Agard was Deputy HM. He tutored all of us who were Pupil Teachers at that time. He was dedicated. May his soul R.I.P. and rise in Glory!"

...Ms. Marie Stoby



Bevon Oslyn Currie, formerly of Annan-

dale South, succumbed to cancer on 4th December, 2018 at the Mt. Sinai Hospital in New York City. The 42-year old popular political and Youth activist lived a fulfilling life as a devoted son, brother, nephew, uncle, cousin and friend.

He was the eldest child of the late Juliet Curry. His early education was nurtured at Lusignan Nursery School, where his mother was a teacher. He went on to Lusignan Primary School, from where he passed the Secondary School Entrance Examination to attend St. Stanislaus College. Bevon later attained a Bachelor's degree in Business Management from University of Guyana.

He commenced his work career as a lab technician at the Guyana Geology and Mines Commission, and proceeded to serve the government agency for 12 years. He subsequently became Programme Manager for Guyana Volunteer Consultancy, Inc. — a business advisory entity for micro-enterprises, NGOs and community organisations. This led him to join the Board of Industrial Training as a lecturer in Micro-Enterprise, conducting programmes in Buxton, and other communities, in collaboration with First Lady, Sandra Granger's Youth Development Project.

Mr. Currie was an active member of the People's National Congress Reform party. He once served as the National Secretary of the party's youth arm, Guyana Youth and Student Movement (GYSM). He also served as the Secretary of National Youth Development Network, an organization he founded.

As noted in a eulogy delivered by his brother, Anandel, *"Bevon lived his life to the fullest and touched many people during his time. He took all the roles in his life to heart and strove to honour, support, guide and, most importantly, protect his family. He was at his happiest when he was surrounded by his family. His devotion to his family was the foundation of his actions — the anchor that defined and shaped his life."*

He is survived by his father — Desmond Scotland, several siblings, including Anandel Crandon, Raynaud, Gavin, Wilmont, Sharon, Roxanne, and Andre Crandon, Marcel and Tafawa Scotland. He was the foster-son of Winston Crandon; nephew of Pauline Curry, the late Cyrilene Curry and Cyril "Poppy" Fredericks; cousin of Clayton Charles, Patsy Cato (Morrison), and many more.

Bevon Currie was honoured with a home-going celebration of his life at a Brooklyn funeral chapel. Following a funeral service at the Annandale Assembly of God church, he was laid to rest at Buxton Cemetery.



Bevon Oslyn Crandon Currie
3rd February, 1975 — 4th December, 2018

Rondell Celestine Rodney, aged 29, formerly of Buxton Front and later



Den Amstel, WCD, passed away on 1st December, 2018. She was the daughter of the late Paulette Rodney ("Pone") and Colin Bastiani of Golden Grove, ECD.

Rondell is survived by her two children — Anthony and Angel Braithwaite. She was the sister of Ludell Miller, and granddaughter of Sinclair Rodney and the late Geraldine Rodney. She also leaves to mourn her loss, her reputed husband, Winton Braithwaite of Den Amstel, and numerous other relatives and dear friends.

The late Rondell Celestine Rodney was laid to rest at Buxton Cemetery on 7th December.



Shurcina Victoria Hope-Hinds



She was born in Springlands, Corentyne Berbice, the first child of the late Magdalena Hope (nee Esseboom) and Hugo Fitzgerald Hope (aka Hugo Moses). She was raised in Buxton Village, East Coast Demerara by her great Aunt, the late Laura Lovell (nee Moses), and her uncle, the late George Lovell. Shurcina attended the St. Augustine's Anglican School (now Buxton Secondary School) and pursued secretarial studies privately after high school. Her Aunt Laura raised Shurcina as a Christian in the Brethren community, worshiping at the Christian Brethren Church on Buxton Middle Walk. She married (and later divorced) Godfrey Hinds [Sumner]. They were blessed with four children: Ayodele, Attiola, Abioseh (deceased) and Aluko.

Shurcina served for many years as secretary to the Chief Education Officer at the Ministry of Education. She later continued her service in administration at the University of Guyana, and used these years at the University to complete two Bachelors of Science degrees, in Social Work and Sociology.

After graduating from the University of Guyana, she worked as the residential Administrator of House Services and Student Welfare at President's College, Guyana's first boarding high school. Shurcina loved being "house mother", loved interacting and caring for the students, often taking great pride in sharing stories about her own niece and nephew who had attended President's College years earlier. She served President's College for many years and retired in a managerial position. After her retirement, she continued to serve as a house warden at President's College until her death.

Known for her strong Christian faith and her love for the Bible, Shurcina was a trustworthy friend to many. As our amateur genealogist, she could always be depended on for a suitable funny story from her family lore.

Shurcina is survived by: her children: Ayodele, Atilola, and Aluko Hinds; her grandchildren: Gabriela Wills, Akambi and Allia Hinds; and great granddaughter, Saryah Luma.

She was the Sister of: Floreen in Guyana; Wilbert, Alwyn, Patricia, and Grace in the USA; Romen and Owen in Holland; Joan, Trudy, Rhonda, Edmund, Lucien and Olivia in Suriname; Lynette in Barbados; and Holly in the United Kingdom.

She was the Aunt of: Syndie, Omotola, Abidemi, Aluko, and Ruramai in the USA; Latoya, Victor, Ortwin, Hakeem and Jaheer in Suriname; Shanie in Holland; Wander, Alison, Jonnel, Carl, Farham, Rodwell and others.

She was a Cousin to: Pat Peters (UK), Megan Hassanah (nee Moses), Barbara Carter, Denese Hope, Patsy and Brenda Moses, Carol Earle, Carol Hope, Frankie More, Collin Esseboom, Godfrey and Ann Frank, and many others.

A Niece of: Ileen Frank, Leonie Hope, and Theodore Esseboom.

She will also be remembered by: The staff at President's College; The Guyana Association of Professional Social Workers; The staff of the University of Guyana; Members of the Friendship Methodist Church; Members of Fruits of the Cross Ministries in Guyana; and Members of the Grace Assembly of God Church in Buxton.

Submitted by Aluko Hope and Wilbert Hope



Jacqueline Elizabeth "Gem" Cummins

We also join the family of Jacqueline Elizabeth "Gem" Cummings, in mourning her Loss. "Teacher Gem", who formerly resided at Vigilance North, passed away on 15th December, 2018. She was 69 years old.

She was the daughter of the late Doris "Captain" and Phillip Cummins; sister of Darrell "Junie" Cummins, and Veronica Clark (Teacher V). She is survived by her children: Lonsdale Peters and Leotta "Susan" Cummins-King.

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Senior Citizens' Christmas Social

Organized by the Ambassadors of Christ Ministries, led by Pastor Terry Thomas, scores of senior citizens of the village were entertained with a delightful programme for the holidays. Below is a section of the gathering.



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DATE	EVENT	VENUE	TIME	FEATURES
Saturday April 27	Buxton Scholarship Banquet & Heritage Awards Presentation	St. Gabriel's Golden Hall Brooklyn, New York	6:00 p.m.	
Saturday June 29	Summer Soirée	St. Gabriel's Golden Hall Brooklyn, New York	6:00 p.m.	
July 15 to August 16	Children's Learning Enrichment Vacation Programme	Buxton, Guyana		
August	Children's Art Workshop	Buxton, Guyana		
Saturday August 3	COTAB Caribana Dance			
Friday August 30	New York Patronal Dance	American Legion Hall Brooklyn, New York	9:00 p.m.	
Sunday October 13	Autumn Sizzle			

Buxton: Guyana's Premier Village