

Volume 10, Issue 28 March 2013 A Publication of the Communication and Customer Services Department "Faving the Way"



April 17, 2013: His Royal Highness Prince Michael of Kent (centre) points to one of the monitors in the NWA's Traffic Management Centre. The ocassion was a presentation by the Intelligent Transportation Specialist, Michael Saunderson on the use of Information Communication Technology in solving/reducing some road safety issues. Also present in picture are Minister of Transport, Works and Housing, Dr. the Hon. Omar Davies (2nd right), Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport, Works and Housing, Hon. Richard Azan (1st right), and Dr. Morais Guy (2nd left), Minister without Portfolio with responsibility for Housing in the Ministry of Transport, Works and Housing. See pictorial on pages 2 & 21

Micro-Surfacing alive in Manchester ... pg 5 Westmoreland Bridge nears completion ... pg 11

Serving with Pride ... pg 15



"Paving the Way'

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"Greeting Party" from left: Minister without Portfolio with responsibility for Housing in the Ministry of Transport, Works and Housing (MTWH)-Hon. Morais Guy; Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport, Works and Housing - Hon. Richard Azan; Permanent Secretary, MTWH -Mrs. Audrey Sewell; Chief Executive Officer, National Works Agency, NWA - Mr. E.G. Hunter; Deputy CEO/Senior Director, Project Implementation and Special Project, NWA - Mr. Earl Patterson; Director, Planning and Research, NWA - Mr. Patrick Rose; and Intelligent Transport System Specialist, NWA - Mr. Micheal Saunderson.



JEEP Off-Loading multi-million dollar projects in St. Catherine

<complex-block>

Several roadways in the Portmore communities of St. Catherine are being repaired under the Jamaica Emergency Employment Programme (JEEP) Phase Two, amounting to over 60 million dollars.

In south St. Catherine, rehabilitation of Jacaranda Close and White Lane (Naggo's Head) is 50% complete. A collapsed drain wall being repaired along McPherson Drive in Greater Portmore is 55% complete, while patching of the roadway is underway. At Two East Greater Portmore cleaning of an open space and removal of garbage and debris is complete.

The resurfacing of Road Parking areas in Westmeade Block 9, Garveymeade Block A, Garveymeade Block 2E and Garveymeade Block 2F, south east St. Catherine has been completed.

In east central St. Catherine, removal of zinc fences and construction of block walls have been completed at Daniel Circle; Tower Avenue; Aeron Crescent and Portmore Terrace, while in Christian Pen construction of two sidewalks is overall 60% complete.

Repairs to the Port Henderson roadway which collapsed in 2010 is complete, as well as River Training works along a 300 metre of a collapsed section of the Rio Cobre. These damages occured during the passage of Tropical Storm Nicole. Costing almost 100 million dollars, this project was completed at the end of March this year.

Meanwhile, river training and protective works are now underway to realign another section of the Rio Cobre, in the vicinity of the LASCO Warehouse, at White Marl in St. Catherine. These works are expected to be completed by the end of August 2013 at a cost of approximately 160 million dollars.

J.E.E.T. Thase two paving the way ... The Parish of Hanover Benefits from Multimillion Dollar Investment in Road Infrastructure

There is much activity across the parish of Hanover as the second phase of the Jamaica Emergency Employment Programme (JEEP) is rolled out. Travelling throughout the parish one gets the distinct sense that the government is serious about the development of the road infrastructure in these communities. What is even more interesting about the programme is that several community roads which have long been neglected are receiving some much needed attention. Currently six road and drainage rehabilitation projects are currently being undertaken at a cumulative cost of approximately \$45 million.

WESTERN HANOVER

In Western Hanover, work is on in earnest along West Avenue (Cemetery Road), East Avenue (Family Court Road), and Pump House Road. The East and West Avenue roadways are located just outside the town of Lucea, while the Pump House Road is located in the Logwood community.

These projects involve drain cleaning; the construction and repair of kerbs and channels; base works and the overlay of the roadways using Double Surface Dressing. They are being executed by contractor Asphalt Construction and Paving Solutions Ltd.

EASTERN HANOVER

Significant ground has been covered in Eastern Hanover as the Miles Town road rehabilitation project is now complete. This project involved the cleaning of drains, and the rehabilitation of approximately one (1) kilometre of roadway using double Surface Dressing. Work now continues with the construction of a retaining wall along a section of the Bamboo Drive and the rehabilitation of the Chester Castle Gully.

The programme is indeed fulfilling its objectives as not only are roadways and drainage systems being upgraded, but it is providing much needed employment for residents, which is especially important in these challenging economic times. A survey of the projects revealed that approximately 102 persons have been employed under this phase of the programme in Hanover



West Avenue in Hanover where significant emphasis is being placed on the improvement of the drainage infrastructure along the corridor.



A section of East Avenue which is being rehabilitated under the JEEP. Workmen are pictured here scarifying the roadway in preparation for the application of Double Surface Dressing .



A view of the Chester Castle Gully, in Hanover where extensive Gabion works is being undertaken by the National Works Agency. The gully is being rehabilitated under the JEEP at a cost of \$6.8 million.

ROADSTER "Paving the

Paving the Way"



Micro-surfacing mix being applied to existing pavements by a specialist machine which carries all components, mixes them on site, and spreads the mixture onto the road surface.



Workers preparing the surface for the application of Micro-surfacing material along the Williamsfield to Mile Gully corridor.

Micro-Surfacing Alive in Manchester and St. Elizabeth

As the government attempts to arrest the deteriorating state of the main road network, the menu of approaches, including Asphaltic Concrete, Spray Patching, Micro-surfacing and Double Surface Dressing continue to be served up to many communities. Residents of Manchester and St. Elizabeth have recently been the beneficiaries of the National Works Agency's effort at utilizing the micro-surfacing technique to improve our roads.

Micro-surfacing is a tough and durable thin overlay material which can restore the original service properties to worn but structurally sound pavements.

Micro-surfacing was applied recently to approximately three (3) kilometres of the Williamsfield to Mile Gully corridor. The project, which got underway towards the end of January was completed within a month. The scope of works included, bushing, patching and paving of the roadway. This project facilitated by the Road Maintenance Fund, was completed at a cost of approximately J\$41 million.

This project was heralded as of great significance to commuters. This road serves as a connection point for four parishes linking towns such as Mandeville and Christiana, Manchester; Balaclava, St. Elizabeth; Cave Valley, St. Ann; Toll Gate and Spauldings, Clarendon and Albert Town, Trelawny. Her Worship the Mayor of Mandeville, Councilor Brenda Ramsay who toured the Williamsfield project stated that: "there is now a vast improvement on the road surface creating a smooth transition for students and other passengers across Northern and Central Manchester."



Microsurfacing on the Ridge to Exton Road

Minster Azan cutting ribbon to officially open the Ridge to Exton roadway

Micro Surfacing Alive ... contd. on pg 6



A section of the Rio Cobre River - White Marle, St. Catherine where River Training is taking place

The National Works Agency has joined forces with the Lasco Group of Companies to execute a project in White Marl, St. Catherine, which will result in hundreds of jobs being created both in construction and in manufacturing. Lasco's major warehouse and manufacturing plant is located near the a section of the Rio Cobre in White Marl. Over the years, the river has eroded sections of the Lasco property. The erosion has caused expansion plans by the company to be put on hold. It is against this background that Lasco has partnered with the NWA for the re-alignment of approximately 100 meters of the river. The project is being jointly funded by the NWA and Lasco to the tune of 160 million dollars. River Training works began on March 8, 2013. The plan is to divert the river from the existing channel in order to construct a new alignment and carry out needed protective works.

These works involve the use of heavy equipment, tractors and excavators, which will be used to divert the river and create a new channel. The existing channel will then be backfilled to form part of the new embankment on the warehouse side of the river. The material will then be protected in the form of a Bund, using galvanized wire, rubble stones, as well as wild cane and Bump Eye for vegetation. This project is expected to be completed within five months.

Micro Surfacing Alive ... contd. from pg 5

Micro-surfacing was also used in South Eastern St Elizabeth. The Exton to Ridge parish council road was rehabilitated at a cost of over J\$25 million. The Road Maintenance Fund (RMF) was also responsible for funding this project. The scope of works included the construction of V-drains, cleaning of drains, base course, formation and micro-surfacing.

A road opening ceremony was held at Ridge Square on March 7 to celebrate the completion of work done by the NWA Force Account teams. Councilor for the Southfield Division at the St. Elizabeth Parish Council, Gregory Myers, who spoke the event, remarked that the partial rehabilitation of the Exton to Ridge Road "could not have come at a better time, as such work has been in the pipeline for years." This development has added a new life to the area as it offers more opportunities for the growth of businesses and easier access to the fast growing town of Junction.

Major Road Improvement Projects underway in Westmoreland

Residents of Westmoreland have consistently complained of a lack of a sustained effort aimed at improving the road network in the parish. Such residents at various fora have expressed the sentiment that the parish was seemingly 'forgotten' by the government. This perception is certainly changing as evidence of the government's commitment to the development of the road infrastructure in the parish can be seen in the number of road improvement projects which are currently underway.

These projects are certainly improving the safety and ease with which persons travel throughout the parish. The projects focus on road safety, road rehabilitation and drainage improvement. Residents across several communities have expressed their satisfaction with the latest efforts by the government. Such residents are especially pleased with the emphasis which is being placed on not only the main roads but also community roadways, which have been neglected for some time.

NORMAN MANLEY PEDESTRIAN INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT



A view of a section of the Norman Manley Boulevard, in Negril Westmoreland, where pedestrian actuated traffic signals were recently installed. The signals were installed in a bid to reduce vehicular speeds and increase pedestrian safety and comfort.

In the western end of the parish, approximately \$18 million is being spent to improve the safety along the Norman Manley Boulevard in Negril, Westmoreland. The roadway is located in the heart of Negril's tourism district and also extends to the neighbouring parish of Hanover which also is home to several tourist accommodations. This corridor was targeted due to high incidents of traffic accidents, some of which have been fatal. The project involves the installation of pedestrian signals, the construction of medians and the construction of sidewalks.

To date three pedestrian actuated signals have been installed and commissioned into service along critical points of the corridor. These are located at the Time Square Plaza, Rondel Village, and Couples Swept Away. Additionally, medians and crosswalks have been installed in the vicinity of Traveler's Beach Resort, Gran Pineapple Hotel, Beachcomber Resort and Sea Wind Resort. The signals are expected to assist in reducing vehicular speeds and separating vehicular and pedestrian movement.

The National Works Agency is now moving forward with plans to construct 1.5 km of sidewalks from the Negril Community Centre to the Gran Pineapple Hotel.

JAMAICA EMERGENCY EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMME (JEEP)

The Jamaica Emergency Employment Programme (JEEP) is improving the face of several communities throughout the parish through the improvement of road infrastructure and the provision of much needed employment. At the end of the last quarter of the 2012/13 financial year, 27 roadways had been targeted for rehabilitation. The projects involve road repair, the improvement of drainage systems and the construction of sidewalks.

The NWA has completed the rehabilitation of the Cedar Grove roadway which is located in Eastern Westmoreland. The Agency is now focusing on several other roadways including Church Lincoln, Ashton and Bastard Cedar Walk.

Major road improvement projects ... contd. from pg 7

JAMAICA DEVELOPMENT INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAMME

The Berkshire roadway which is located along the Seaford Town to Pisgah corridor is receiving some much needed attention under the Jamaica Development Infrastructure Programme (JDIP). This roadway is currently being rehabilitated at a cost of approximately \$38 million and involves the construction of a retaining wall, the improvement of drainage systems and the rehabilitation of the roadway using Double Surface Dressing. Much ground has been covered with the roadway now being completed up to prime surface.



A view of the Three Miles River Road in Westmoreland which was recently rehabilitated under the JEEP.



Landillo Phase 5, Westmoreland: The roadway was rehabilitated under the JEEP

A view of the Ashton Parish Council roadway in Westmoreland. This roadway was rehabilitated under the Jamaica Emergency Employment Programme (JEEP).

St. James Round Up

The parish of St. James is certainly poised for even further development, especially in light of the government's continued effort to invest in the parish's road infrastructure. This commitment is immediately evident as one travels throughout the parish and observes first-hand the numerous road improvement projects which are currently being undertaken and also projects which have been recently completed. Some projects are in varying stages of completion and already have begun to change the faces of several communities throughout the parish. The projects are also serving to improve the overall safety and ease with which persons can traverse the corridors.

JEEP II

Several roadways within the parish were severely battered following successive storm events. This resulted in some thoroughfares being heavily eroded, many of which were reduced to single lane. The situation created much difficulty for road users who tried to navigate their way along these roadways.

The NWA through phase two of the Jamaica Emergency Employment Programme (JEEP) was able to construct seven retaining walls in the southern end of the parish. Seven areas were targeted among these are the Garland, Kensington, Popkin Spring and Grandi Corner roadways.

Current records suggest that a total of twenty roadways have been earmarked for rehabilitation under phase two of the JEEP. Construction work has begun on several of these projects. To date the NWA has completed the patching and local rehabilitation of sections of the Cornwall Courts Boulevard and the Mount Salem main road. Several other road rehabilitation projects are now underway. These include the stretch of roadway between Shortwood and Catadupa; the Palmyra to Paisley corridor and the Over River to Hurlock roadway.

JDIP

Through the Jamaica Development Infrastructure Programme (JDIP) nineteen roadways have been targeted for complete rehabilitation. Since the start of the year, the Agency has had much success with this programme and has substantially completed projects such as the rehabilitation of the Francis Isabella and Bogue Heights roadways. This brings to a total of nine roadways which have been substantially completed.

Work now continues with the rehabilitation of several other corridors. These include, but are not limited to the stretch of roadway between Wiltshire and Lethe, and the Granville to Retirement corridor. These projects are in an advanced stage of completion and are expected to be completed by the end of June.



Granville St. James – The NWA is now in the final stages of rehabilitation of this corridor, under JDIP



A section of the Francis Isabella road located in Mount Salem, St. James. The roadway was rehabilitated under the Jamaica Development Infrastructure Programme (JDIP)



A view of a section of the Wiltshire to Lethe corridor which was recently rehabilitated under the JDIP.

NWA Restarts JDIP Projects in Southern Trelawny.

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In 2011, the NWA commenced works on these roadways, as well as two others located in the northern end of the parish. These are the Martha Brae to Peru and the Martha Brae to Kinloss roadways. The Agency was able to complete the projects in Northern Trelawny; however works came to a grinding halt in Southern Trelawny, following numerous setbacks which were encountered along the way. This situation left a sense of despair among many residents who were anxiously awaiting the completion of these projects. The situation was especially vexing in the Clarks Town Area where unrest, created by a select few, resulted in the contractor having to abandon the project.

"Finally!" - this is the sentiment being expressed by many residents in sections of Southern Trelawny where the National Works Agency has resumed work on three projects under the Jamaica Development Infrustructure Programme.

The projects are located in the hilly interior of the parish which is best known for its production of yams, sugar cane, citrus and other cash crops for both the local and international market. The parish is also renowned for being the birthplace of home grown track and field greats such as Usain Bolt, Veronica Campbell- Brown and Warren Weir. Among the roadways currently being targeted are the stretch of roadway between Wait-A-Bit and Joe Hut; as well asthe roadway between New Hope and Lodge and the Clarke's Town to Hyde corridor. Additionally, plans are in high gear to restart work on the Warsop to Thompson Town Roadway.

To date much ground has been covered on the Wait A Bit and New Hope projects.

The Agency has now risen above the challenges and has put the necessary plans in place to have the projects restarted and on their way to completion. These projects are being executed at a cost of approximately \$168 million and involve the reshaping and resurfacing of roadways, significant improvement of drainage systems, and the construction of retaining walls. Work is now on in earnest with a view to having these projects completed in short order.

To date much ground has been covered on the Wait A Bit and New Hope projects. The roadways have been prepared up to prime surface and will be asphalted by the end of the month.

This is welcome news to residents, who are so far pleased with the progress of works and anxiously await their completion.



A significantly completed Westmoreland Bridge, St. Mary

It has been some time that the Westmoreland Bridge in St. Mary was decommissioned, August 2008 to be exact, during the passage of Tropical Storm Gustav. Since that time, residents and other commuters have had to travel several kilometres, extra, to access the town of Highgate and its environs. This is soon to be a thing of the past, however, as in February 2012, the construction of a new bridge began and now fourteen (14) months later, an almost complete structure is in place. The project was initially scheduled to last for 18 months, but a revised schedule date of completion has been set for the end of May 2013.

The new Westmoreland Bridge is being constructed under the Jamaica Development Infrastructure Programme (JDIP) at a cost of US\$13,486,561.83. It will be 180 metres long with 440 metres of approach roads. It is made from steel and reinforced concrete with a pavement consisting of hot mix concrete on top of a new base and embankment fill that is designed to last 100 years. It will boast two driving lanes with sidewalks for pedestrians, light emitting diode (LED) lights and metal rails.

The progress of the bridge construction is well advanced with the piling works, abutments, piers and the launching of the girders all completed. Work is in progress on the deck of the bridge, on the base and embankment fill, on the rails, as well as on the approach roads. Overall progress is estimated to be well over 90% complete.

Overall, the bridge is seen as a symbol of hope and unity for the parish and is lauded by some as the beginning of the revival of St. Mary's infrastructure and economy.

NWA to Restore Access to the Moreland Hill Roadway in Westmoreland



Curious onlookers observe the massive breakaway along a section of the Moreland Hill roadway in Westmoreland.

Residents and other road users in Moreland Hill, Westmoreland and surrounding areas are already expressing delight at the prospect of having access restored to the Moreland Hill roadway. This roadway is the main route for road users travelling from Albany to Moreland Hill and on to the neighbouring parish of Hanover. The roadway was closed following the passage of Tropical Storm Nicole in September 2010. Tropical Strom Nicole resulted in a section of the roadway being severely undermined and falling to a depth of approximately five metres. This situation was deemed unsafe for road users; hence the corridor was officially closed by the National Works Agency. The Agency moved swiftly to rehabilitate the nearby Delve Bridge Old Road, to be used as the alternative route during the period of closure. This was met with mixed reactions from the public most of whom found it easier to use the original route.

The NWA in March 2013 began work to restore access to the corridor. Since then work has steadily progressed and the team is on track to having access restored by May of this year. The project is valued at approximately \$33 million and involves the installation of a new box culvert, the construction of retaining walls, filling and compacting the affected section of the roadway with base material and asphalting with Asphaltic concrete.

This project is being executed under the Agency's Capital A programme by local contractor Alcar Construction.

Sea Defence and River Training works making a difference in St. Thomas

A popular adage claims that "water is life." In some areas, though, and in particular in the eastern parish of St. Thomas, water can be said to be an agent of destruction and fear. Such is definitely the case at Yallahs and Roselle in the parish, where water had caused so much destruction, and threatened to do so much more, that something had to be done.

YALLAHS RIVER TRAINING PROGRAMME

In the case of Yallahs, a bridge was constructed over the Yallahs River and was completed in July 2008. Since then, two phases of River Training was done upstream of the bridge, with the last phase being completed in August 2012. In Phase One, 1.4 kilometres of the river channel were re-established and the side slopes and embankments were protected with wire bunding. In Phase Two, the river bed was de-silted, the channel was realigned and the embankments were re-established. Both phases of river train-



ing activities were funded by a loan from the Inter-American Development Bank at a total cost of just over US\$4 million.

This type of protective work was necessary, as over time sections of the embankment have deteriorated, partly as a result of counter mitigation activities such as improper mining practices. Such activities continue and have, since the last phase of works, severely undermined some of the river training works and threatens the integrity of the bridge. As such restorative action is necessary. There is a plan in place to address these issues. In fact, a third phase of river training activities are scheduled for implementation later this year.

ROSELLE SEA DEFENCE WORKS

In the coastal area of Roselle, the sea has, for many years eroded the seashore and threatened the main roadway into Morant Bay from Kingston. As such, it was necessary to protect the shoreline from further deterioration in an effort to protect the main thoroughfare. The Roselle Sea Defence works were initiated in 2008, where boulders were strategically placed along 1.2 kilometres of coastline and drainage were improved. That phase was completed in early 2009.

A second phase of sea defence works began in October 2012. Under this phase, an additional 700 metres of shoreline were protected with the use of boulders. This phase is over 95% complete, however, an additional 100 metres were identified as being in need of protection and there is hope among residents, and citizens alike, that this supplementary work can be undertaken.



Evidence of Revetment Works being undertaken at Roselle, St. Thomas

Serving with Tride for over Five Years -Office Attendants



JENNIFER MURRAY

Ms. Murray is assigned to the office of the Chief Executive Officer and also assists in the Major Projects Directorate. She is hard working, very meticulous and a go-getter. A no-nonsense person who takes her work very seriously and strive to complete her given tasks on time and without reservation. She is sometimes seen by others as feisty, but this characteristic is what plays out in her attitude towards her work and getting the job done.

An 'old girl' of the Public Works Department (PWD) from 1994, she can relate stories about Managers, Directors and staff members who have crossed her path during that era, which will have you in stitches . She is a mother and grandmother of two children and believes in discipline and hard work.

Her motto: "hard work pays".



MAUREEN HANSON

Assigned to the Major Projects Directorate & Information Technology (IT) Unit Ms Hanson is the embodiment of calmness - very few things ruffle her feathers. She is considered easy going by her peers, hardworking and dedicated. Also an old girl from the PWD days, she assists in the childcare facility and can always be seen with a toddler near or on her lap in the afternoons.

Whenever there are excursions or 'happenings' in the Information Technology department, Ms. Hanson's presence is felt as she is considered the 'head cook' and 'bottle washer' and the mother for the unit. Never one to tell you no when asked to assist in any form or situation that may arise. Her motto is: "do onto others as you would have them do onto you."



DEZRENE RAPLEY

Ms. Rapley is assigned to the Technical Service Directorate and part of Directorate of Regional Implementation & Special Projects. An individual, who is always on the move, doesn't waste time and always has something to do.

Ms Rapley has been with the organization from inception and has served well. She is considered a very secretive person, but fun lov-

ing, never a dull moment when she is around. Her desire is to start a retail business.



IRIS BUCKNOR

Jean as she is affectionately called is assigned to the Lobby as well as the Estate/Property Unit. This individual is jovial, very emotional, talented and cool.

Jean displays considerable talent in the area of art and craft and pieces of her work can be seen on display in the Child care facility where she engages with the children in the af-

ternoons. She believes that, "the youth are the future."



GLORIA WOOLLERY

Ms. Woollery is a no-nonsense individual who speaks her mind no matter what. Considered to be the 'hot pepper' of the group, she is a dedicated and hard worker who attends to the National Contracts Committee (NCC) staff on Fridays, making sure that the meeting is served. She is assigned to the Physical Planning Unit and assists in the Property Unit.

An individual who is willing to as-

sist when called on to do so and lobbies for the needs of her

ROADSTER "Pavin

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peers. A Public Works 'old girl' from 1992. She loved those days as they were one of contentment and fairness no matter who you were.

Her belief is "working honestly and giving it your all."



BARBARA FAULKNOR

"Ms. Walkathon", a jovial individual who will go all the way to Negril Point, if asked. She is always on the move and can be seen with piles of paper, receipts and bills which she is delivering to the various Departments for sorting. She is easy going and meticulous in her mode of dress, she believes her environment should be a reflection of this characteristic; a hardworking and committed employee. Ms. Faulknor at times can be seen very

late in the afternoon doing her chores as she believes that a clean office environment creates an atmosphere conducive to working for her peers. She asks for no reward just that persons respect and adhere to the housekeeping rule of being tidy.

A Public Works 'old girl' from 1986 but loves her job at the Agency. She loves people and is willing to assist individual staff members no matter what is asked. She is a Christian and loves the Lord.

Her motto is "loving people without compromise no matter who they are."



YOLA INGLETON

She likkle but she tallawah - a new bee to the Agency having joined in 2007, Yola is the primary caregiver for the Child Care Facility. She is a quiet, calm and an active individual who demonstrates a wealth of knowledge in any field of choice. Ms Ingleton is currently pursuing a degree in Early Childhood Education. Now in her third year of training, we wish Yola well, as she goes off to do her first stint in teaching practice.





YVONNE WEST

Standing tall above her peers, Yvonne is someone who does her duties to the best of her ability. She is willing to assist when and wherever she is needed. She is assigned to the Information Resource Management Unit and also assists in the Material Testing and Evaluation Unit. If you ever need a pepup to keep you until lunch time or thirst killing you, just call Ms. West and she will definitely have something to fill your needs.

DONNA BENJAMIN

Assigned to the Accounts Department, Mrs Benjamin wears several hats in the performance of her duties. Always seen going around the Agency with her glasses on her head and a pencil in hand to write down something. Mrs Benjamin just loves to write. To her fellow staff members she is considered to be the "salary lady" as one of her duties is to make sure that the lodgments reach the banks on time for pay day.

She is humble but if provoked will make her presence felt. Works well and assists when a need arises. A very active and dedicated Sabbath Keeper, Sabbath School Teacher and Women's League Co-ordinator.

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Improving the "Bread Basket".... Road Rehabilitation in St. Elizabeth



The Dalintober to Font Hill PC Road is located in South West St.Elizabeth near to the border of Westmoreland. Rehabilitation of this busy thoroughfare started in November 2012 and was projected to cost approximately J\$79 million. The scope of works include bushing, application of sub base and base course, formation, rock excavation, stone clearance, construction of retaining walls and the application of Double Surface Dressing as the wearing course. The project was 45% completed at the end of March 2013.

The rehabilitation of this road is a "dream becoming a reality" according to Councillor Sandra White of the Brompton Division. She stated that a combination of about 200 farmers and fishermen are domiciled in the community. However, the rehabilitation has offered a new lease on life especially for returning residents.

The Emmaus to Nain main road was started on February 18, 2013 and is projected to cost over J\$12 million. The scope of works includes bushing, patching, wall construction (Head and Random Rubble Wall) and drainage. The project was 30% completed at the end of March 2013. This road is the link between Santa Cruz and Myersville, Alpart, Nain, Lititz, Russell's and Junction.

The Middle Quarters to Jacks Gate main road is 14.5 kilometres in length, spanning the constituencies of North West and South West St. Elizabeth. The main road was patched under Phase two of the Jamaica Emergency Employment Programme (JEEP), contractor, Brighton Engineering Company Limited, costing approximately J\$17 million. Fifty-nine thousand metres squared (59,000m2) of hot mix patching was used to undertake the works.

Citizens and business operators are delighted with the benefits of the newly patched roadway which is a 'shortcut' between St. Elizabeth and St. James.

NWA completes Fort Henderson Road restoration and River Training Works



River Training Works being undertaken at Port Hederson Road, St. Catherine

Located off the Spanish Town Bypass in St. Catherine, the Port Henderson main road was one of several corridors that were damaged during the passage of Tropical Storm Nicole in 2010. During the flood rains, a 300 metre long section of the embankment that formed the road, as well as that of the Rio Cobre, was undermined and collapsed.

Repair works commenced in June 2011 and were scheduled to be completed in ten weeks. However it proceeded in fits and starts as the weather hampered the progress of repairs. Work on this project stalled due to disagreements between residents from the nearby community and individuals who were engaged on this project. Despite these unexpected obstacles, the project was completed in March 2013.

The works included diversion of the river; 'push-up' of river bed material to form a bund and protective works using galvanized wire, rubble stones and Gabion baskets. Engineering fill-material was used to restore the collapsed road section. Surfacing of the roadway was carried out by one of the Agency's Force Account Teams.

Residents of the community expressed satisfaction with the project, which cost just under \$100 million and are grateful for the restoration of this important roadway within their community.



We sometimes observe motorists on our roadways 'running the light' and view this with great annoyance because we recognize how dangerous the practice is. The regulation provided by traffic signals are absolutely necessary if motorists are to travel in today's traffic safely. They are also an important means of ensuring smooth traffic flow along our roadways.

There are signalized intersections in the Corporate Area that have been in operation for many years and are now in need of repairs or replacement. The National Works Agency is now engaged in a major programme of works to overhaul or replace these signals. Signal equipment, signal poles, pole foundation, underground duct/conduits and cabling are the items that are being replaced.

Over fifty locations in the Corporate Area have been identified to be in need of major rehabilitation. Works have commenced since December of 2012 at intersections along Harbour Street and Port Royal Street in downtown Kingston. All traffic signal poles along both roadways have been replaced with overhead signals and new cabling. These changes and improvements are being made in an effort to improve visibility of traffic signals along both roadways and reduce outage due to bad cables. The traffic signal rehabilitation programme downtown will target additional intersections that are in need of new underground ducts, cabling and poles.

NEW SIGNALS

Six new signals are currently being installed within St. Andrew. These are located at Old Hope Road/United States Embassy (Standpipe), Old Hope Road/Golding Avenue, Old Hope Road/University of Technology, Lakes Pen/Municipal Boulevard, Mandela Highway/Caymanas Crossing, Bay Farm Road/Olympic Way and seven at other locations across the island. Of particular note are three pedestrian signals that were installed on the Norman Manley Boulevard in Negril, Westmoreland. This area has been identified as a major 'black spot' for accidents involving pedestrians. New signals are also located along the Linstead Bypass/Highway 2000, St. Catherine; Montego Bay Convention Centre, St. James; Holiday Inn along the Elegant Corridor, Montego Bay St. James; and along the roadway in the vicinity of Jamaica National Building Society, Ocho Rios, St. Ann.

The programme is ongoing and at some point will include the installation of vehicle detectors which will automatically adjust the 'green time' based on actual demand at the intersection.



"Paving the Way"





Director of Regional Implementation and Special Projects - Varden Downer (centre) shares a light moment in conversation with some Administrative Professionals from the National Works Agency. The occasion was a special luncheon at the Four Season's Hotel, held in tribute of the Agency's Administrative Professionals. All Administrative Staff and their Managers were present. Seated from left (partially hidden) are, Director, Quality Assurance - Orlene Nembhard-Rowe, Director, Corporate Services – Sharon Morgan-Grindley, and Administrative Assistant, Corporate Services – Ionie Budram. Right: Administrative Assistant, Technical Services Directorate – Janice Richards, Administrative Assistant, Planning and Research Directorate – Caroline McHugh, and Administrative Manager, Central Region – Sonia Cole.



Mr. Vivian Blair, Manager – Materials Testing and Evaluation Unit at the NWA, explains aspects of the operations of the Materials Testing and Evaluation Unit to these students at the Mathematics Expo, which was held at the University of the West Indies – Mona campus. The Expo was an initiative of the Ministry of Education aimed at showing students the practical application of mathematics in a wide range of careers.



At the National Works Agency, it is required for officers to go out and take photographs of road works, however sometimes our eyes will catch other interesting scenes to record. One such, is this endangered Manatee, spotted by Senior Communications Officer, Colin Morrison while on tour at Foga Road in Clarendon. The manatee or sea cow feeds 6-8 hours a day, tearing off plants with its flexible upper lip. They are known as 'gentle giants', because of their huge size and peaceful nature. They would not attack humans.

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BIG UP TEAM NWA!!

April 2, 2013

Mr. Everton Hunter Chief Executive Officer The National Works Agency 140 Maxfield Avenue Kingston 10

EG Dear Mr. Hunter,

I returned to the JIM office today, Tuesday 2^{nd} of April and was delighted to see what the National Works Agency had done to the craters that were on Maeven Avenue.

It was a wonderful Easter present and we are all delighted at how the road has been fixed.

I had called your office to request your help sometime ago and in addition, to wish you well as you took on this new position at the National Works Agency. You were not in office at the time

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I know you will do well and I personally am very proud of your many achievements.

With warm regards.

Yours sincerely Alfred Sangster, O. P. D., FJIM Former Chairman

From: Karecia Lyttle Sent: Monday, May 06, 2013 10:15 AM To: Everton Hunter Cc: stepheineisaas@nwa.gov.jm; Subject: Re: Urgent Perimeter Fences Needed - Dunrobin Primary School

Dear Mr. Hunter,

We the parents, Teachers and the school Administration want to take this opportunity to thank you and your team for the installation and completion of the missing fence on the gully bank at Dunrobin Primary. We appreciate you honouring your words and for that we all say thank you.

Warmest Regards From: Karecia Lyttle



It does not mean to be in a place where there is no noise, trouble, or hard work. It means to be in the midst of those things and still be calm in your heart.





"Paving the Way"

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Prince Michael being escorted by Minister of Tranport, Works and Housing, Dr. the Hon. Omar Davies (centre) and Minister without Portfolio with responsibility for Housing in the Ministry of Transport, Works and Housing, Dr. Morais Guy (right) and Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport, Works and Housing - Richard Azan (back right).



15 Summer Volunteer Ideas For Kids And Teens



For most kids, summer means a break from school and plenty of summer days awaiting to be filled with fun ideas. Using some of your newly acquired free time to volunteer in your community will leave you feeling good inside and will leave a good impression on others. For teens, another addition to feeling good about helping your community is the ability to put down your volunteer experience on your college applications! Just a couple hours of volunteering a week can greatly improve your community overall. The hardest part is actually getting out and doing it! This list will cover 15 different ideas for volunteer and community service projects to get you motivated in your area. Remember, volunteering isn't just for summer, it can be done year round!

- Volunteer your time at a local soup kitchen to help feed the 1. homeless
 - Sign up to read to children at your local library
- Donate time to your local animal shelter 3.
- Volunteer at a local retirement or nursing home. The elderly 4. love the company!
- Plant a community garden 5.

2.

- Grab some friends and organize a community clean-up pro-6. ject clearing trash and debris from a beach, lake, park, or neighborhood!
- 7. Gather your old toys and clothing and donate them to your local homeless shelter.
- 8. Deliver bagged lunches to homeless living on the street. (Have a parent accompany you for this one)
- 9. Help clean up a neighbor's yard who is unable to
- Teach a young child to read 10.
- Teens can volunteer to do office work at a non-profit agency 11.
- Help neighbors paint and repair their homes 12.
- Organize a neighborhood car wash for your favorite charity 13.
- 14. Grab some friends and have a garage sale with proceeds going to your favorite charity
- 15. Volunteer to teach a class on something you know like karate, crafting, dance, Art, Microsoft Office etc. at your local community center

http://www.squidoo.com/50-summer-volunteer-ideas-for-kids-and-teens