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The Scott Report

A COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER FOR MT. HOPE AND ENVIRONS



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IN WITH THE NEW...RESIDENTS THAT IS...

by Scott Report reporter

SO IT HAS BEEN quite a while since the people of Mt. Hope found out that the government was going to build new housing in the area. For many new residents it is approaching a year that they've been here in some cases more. In fact as of the date of this piece, Thursday, September 06, 2007 only one of the three areas that have been built is without occupants; that would be the townhouse units in front of YTEPP and the match factory. The contractors are still doing some last minute touches on them and the road into that housing area is still to be paved.

The residents of the new housing moved in without any announcements or fanfare and there has been no noticeable change in the community. In fact things have been rather boring but in many ways that's a good thing.

Part of the reason that the new residents seem to well-behaved one

inward. We tried to find out if this was planned but we're still waiting for a response from the relevant authorities.

It is a bit disappointing that no amenities have been put in place for residents in the way of a small park area or basketball court or something for small businesses or anything of the like.

The new residents of one area made up of apartment buildings have held Christmas and Old Year parties and appear to be a well knit group according to at least one source from among previous Mt. Hope residents. One might say that living in such close proximity, that this would be inevitable; especially since they have one major thing in common i.e. that they're all the "new kids on the block." However several residents said that they don't really spend much time outside their residences. They're basically just in and out.

From walking around and speaking



source says is reportedly because they were specially selected as potential residents. They appear to be upstanding solid citizens and in many ways, based on the criteria that were used to choose them, perhaps even examples for the community.

The new housing areas aren't continuations of the old community. They are a bit set off from the original houses. For the most part they are mostly self-contained. Not in the sense of having their own recreation areas or shopping or anything like that but in the sense of mostly facing

to the new residents, they all appear to be very grateful for the housing. One person made no bones about the fact that the current administration would have his vote because at the end of the day they actually came through with the housing.

Another grateful resident had no problem at all with the traffic situation because he says it was much better than his experiences in the West where he was originally from.

Someone from the new townhouses commented that he saw something that he rarely sees in other communities

among the old residents, a sense of camaraderie and community that doesn't yet exist within the section where he lives. It might be a case that the grass is always greener since one long time Mt. Hope resident suggested the exact opposite. However since many people have lived in the area for more than thirty years perhaps the new resident words hold more truth. This resident also mentioned that the older community seemed to be more or less free of delinquents and prevalent drug abuse which was definitely a positive for him

If the new residents we spoke to have any issues at all it would be garbage collection and security. At the time of writing the ones we spoke to said there seemed to be no set days that the bins are emptied, garbage tends to pile up quite a bit and they seem to be emptied whenever the responsible persons feel like it residents indicated. From my eyes it is also quite a walk for those people who live on the far end of the new area, since all the residents of the housing area I visited appear to empty their garbage in the same place.

Regarding security, residents mentioned that all times of the day and night people who do not live in the housing area simply stroll in unobstructed. They say the housing was supposed to have been secured with guards at both

entrances but they didn't know why things had been allowed to falter. In truth when the very first residents had moved in I recall guards at either entrance restricting the traffic of non residents but that is no longer the case even though the guard booths remain. Home owners say they believe security will return eventually, probably after the elections.

Apparently in some of the apartments leaks have formed between the concrete and the steel girders. The residents we spoke to did not have this problem but said they had heard of some people that were affected and pointed to one empty apartment that usually leaks they say. They did not believe it was an endemic problem.

By and large all the residents I spoke with were very pleasant to speak to except in one apartment building where a lady refused to respond to my greetings but that was just one person.



THANK GOODNESS FOR ELECTIONS



Petit Bourg has also happened before in the same place. Of course before this year these problems went much longer periods between repairs.

“onto its chassis”

Another problem that is probably not addressed but came immediately to the fore when it befell my mother, is what happens when a new coat of pitch keeps getting slapped onto the roads every few years. One of the tires on my mother’s car fell about six inches off the side of the road, into a space between the road and the drain. Water had scoured away part of the road and the car dropped off the edge right onto its chassis with one wheel hung over the edge. This was the second car I had seen fall into the same spot. Some helpful neighbours and I ended up piling stones underneath the tire for the wheel over the edge to run up on.

St. Joseph has the same problem but much worse on the same road leading up to its park. It appears

it’s a problem that occurs on inclines.

Of course what should happen is that the road surfaces should be scraped off several inches deep and then resurfaced. Until recently through ignorance, lack of funds or something else I never saw that being done in Trinidad. Even now I’ve only seen it done on the Lady Young Road and Wrightson Rd. When I did, I thought “Finally progress, great!” but now more than a year later things seem to be unchanged. In the US it seemed every other day a different road was being scraped and resurfaced. It was a slight nuisance, something of a rough ride for a day or two and then it was over. Hopefully we can achieve that level of maintenance at some point.

by Scott Report reporter

IT’S BEEN rather surprising how quickly some of the roads have been repaired in recent months. One can assume it is because elections are this year as was candidly suggested by Colm Imbert on television a while ago.

“quick fixes”

In Petit Bourg, in spite of recent work laying new piping, again presumably because of it being an election year, the roads haven’t become muddy potholes and traps waiting for unwary motorists as they

sometimes have been in the past.

In Mt. Hope, the underground piping that is continually breaking in several different places on Gordon St., at the corner of Gordon and Maingot Streets and on Maingot St. are being quickly repaired and the road repaved. Of course they quickly break again but at least the turnover is fast.

The problem is though that many of the fixes may be quick fixes rather than permanent solutions. For one thing as I mentioned pipes on Maingot and Gordon Streets keep breaking and the excavation and repair on the main road in



Above: Work being done at Gordon St.

Below: The edge of the road where at least two vehicles became stranded





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A THURSDAY AT THE MOVIES

by Scott Report reporter

SO I DECIDED TO take in a couple of movies at the closest cinema to our area, Palladium. Since Presidente closed a while ago it's the only "theatre" aside from Cinema 8 that's relatively close; just about ten minutes away via a bus route maxi.

The movies on the bill were Rogue, for me an almost must see movie starring two of action movies "baddest" boys, Jet Li and Jason Statham ("The Transporter") and one of the latest coming of age comedies "Super Bad". Between the two of these movies I was preparing to be highly entertained.

Unfortunately, between a slightly confusing plot with none of the signature "Ouu Goooud!!" moments and a replacement movie that no one at Palladium saw fit to mention, my evening of entertainment took a turn on its head.

First off, "Rogue" started interestingly enough with Mr. Statham and another guy having an ordinary conversation that quickly escalated into a full fledged fire fight (not between them though), "yum" just how I like my action movies!!

It's the typical story line; top FBI agent and his partner go after the Japanese Triad when a mythical assassin drops in on the scene and messes things up. You know the partner has to die because the actor isn't famous and after the obligatory is-he-really-dead initial disappearance of the assassin, things come to pass as we expect. Then of course comes the flash forward three years so the hero has time to recover from his wounds and ponder his vendetta against the assassin, Rogue.

And that really is the problem with the movie, everything that we expect to happen, happens. Aside from the again obligatory plot twist at the end of the movie, everything has "paint by numbers" simplicity. I actually starting falling asleep during the movie; there wasn't anything that captured my attention.

As for the plot twist, which turned out to be double-sided, it was interesting but it didn't make up for the loss of what I and I'll bet many others actually wanted to see, a drag down, out and out fight or series of fights rather, between Jet Li and Jason

Statham. That's for me the whole point of going to see a movie with Jet Li; that's what was in "Cradle 2 the Grave" with DMX and that's what I wanted to see there.

Regrettably it didn't happen to my satisfaction and the movie ended with a whimper rather than a bang, even though there was an actual bang.

The next movie was supposed to be "Super Bad" though, pun intended, I've heard reviews that it was super-good. Unhappily Palladium replaced it with "The Protector" a movie about a Thai martial artist who goes to Australia to track down two elephants, stolen from him and his father by poachers.

Honestly the movie felt like the opposite of "Rogue"; where Rogue was missing in over-the-top action this movie had plenty to spare and they probably should have spared some, and where Rogue had some complexity this movie needed some. But once you got past the initial nonsensical beginning and peeled that away it actually got down to the serious job of being a decent "kick up" movie.

There was one extremely long continuous scene, where the hero runs up perhaps four long flights of stairs, one at a time, beating anyone who dares resist. It must have lasted literally three minutes, seemingly without a single cut away and he must have fought twenty different people along the way. I have no idea how hard that must have been to film especially if they had to do it a number of times.

It looked great though, a lot like a first person shooter video game, without the shooting, excellent.

At one point however enough was enough and I started falling asleep again. It was probably when he went up against literally "I kid you not", nothing less than fifty different people one after the other. This was in addition to another horde in a different



scene, the six foot eight, invulnerable body builder who was eventually joined by three other six foot eight body invulnerable builders, plus the lady with the whip and a bunch of other fight scenes that I'm leaving out. There comes a point when hard as it is too believe there can be too much action especially the way it was served in this movie. Oh, but I'm leaving out the scene with the capoeira martial artist, that was a good scene.

All in all if stars be the means of rating these movies I'd give both movies two and a half stars which is good for the "Protector" because one may not expect too much and bad for Rogue from which much more was expected.

And the reason why Palladium replaced the movie? It was because the reel for "Super Bad" hadn't arrived yet. That's why I should have gone on Tuesday for five dollars but at ten dollars for two movies which is almost as cheap as two bootleg DVD's when you add in transport, was still a steal of a deal!

Coming Soon the movies, that we hope will rock!

"I am Legend" from the main man Will Smith

"Beowulf" with the ever attractive

Angelina Jolie

And way off with a possible release date of

Christmas day 2007

"Aliens VS Predator 'Requiem'"



WATER, WATER EVERYWHERE BUT...

by Scott Report reporter

THE BIG “WATER TANK” or reservoir in Mt. Hope seems to have been there for as long as I can remember, a big greenish grey squat structure sitting high up on a ledge on the mountainside. I thought that it supplied water to the area but the problem with that idea was that in the early and mid nineties at times there would be no water for twelve hours or more on occasion, so much so, that for the sake of convenience all our neighbours purchased water tanks and in the end so did we. It could still have been supplying water to the area in spite of those shortages but we live less than a mile from the tank I can’t see how it could have missed us.



The reservoir from outside its gates

different shapes and sizes adorned with a variety of advertisements.

One Mt. Hope resident told me that the tank was meant to serve as a water supply for the Mt. Hope Medical complex when its site was closer to the area. This seems feasible because of the reasoning above i.e. the water doesn’t seem to come here.

Whatever the case residents of at least one of the new housing areas in Mt. Hope need never fear a return to the days of 12 and 24 hr lock offs. In case of water trouble this group of apartments should be able to count on eight massive tanks to tide them over.

In truth we haven’t had to use



The eight tanks of one housing area

Recently I thought that perhaps the tank wasn’t there as a source of water, so much as being a means of maintaining the water pressure when water was available. In the US one can’t travel very far in any direction before coming across some sort of water tower which maintains the water pressure in the area. If one travels north on I-95 from Miami one can’t help but come across them in

our own private tank in some time probably since most of the housing was finished. If the reason is because of the new housing and the residents I would like to say thank you.

PS It seems I spoke too soon, we have recently gone without consistent pipe borne water for several days. Our tank is currently only half full.



The sign on the road to the reservoir

TROUBLING TIMES FOR MT D’OR



began to recruit individuals for his own ends. Our Mt. D’Or resident says Carmine would say things like “Nobody could lime wid me unless they could done a man.” Eventually criminal enterprises such as robberies, car thefts and the like began in earnest.

his hands on a gun and so a tit for tat of violence began.

The authorities’ response has been a series of police and army patrols and better lighting in the area. This activity is likely to help but there are no easy answers to dealing with problems that have grown up over a period of time.

Conceivably the real solution to this crime will take a similar amount of time to produce results in this community.

by Scott Report reporter

THERE HAS BEEN A rash of killings in the Mt. D’Or area for the year and it seems as with everything else the roots of this violence go back much further than recent events. To hear from a longtime resident, things started in the early to mid nineties when just one violent individual came into the area.

This individual, let’s call him Carmine, in between a bout of prison and several arrests,

In time Carmine left the area but his legacy remained. Recently what remained of his group decided they would “tax” some of the other enterprises in the area such as small time “weed” sellers, gambling, taxi drivers etc. Unfortunately for them no one seemed to take note. So people in the community began to get roughed up, chopped and so on. It is reported that one young man who had been on the wrong end of a “rough up” got

Scenes of Mt. D’Or from the reservoir in Mt. Hope



TALES FROM THE DRIVER'S SEAT

by Scott Report columnist

WE RECENTLY HAD to change the water pump in our vehicle, twice in less than a year. The first time I thought the place my mother

preferred was a little too expensive so I shopped around and found two local mechanics that would do it for considerably less. One of them would do it the same day and was a little more expensive, but I wanted it done sooner rather than later so I chose the mechanic who would fix it the same day. I went and purchased the part at a dealer close to San Juan and was able to finally get the part put on the same day.

Unfortunately a number of months later when I wasn't around the pump broke

again. I don't know if it was the fact that an apprentice worked on the car or if there was a problem with the part but my mother had to have someone come to the house

and repair it. I've since been told by someone that the dealer I purchased the part from may sell shoddy parts; other purchases I've made there really didn't inspire confidence either. The previous parts I bought there seemed to be make shift or for another model

vehicle since they gave me more than one to try before I got a fit. At least since then we've had no problem with the pump.

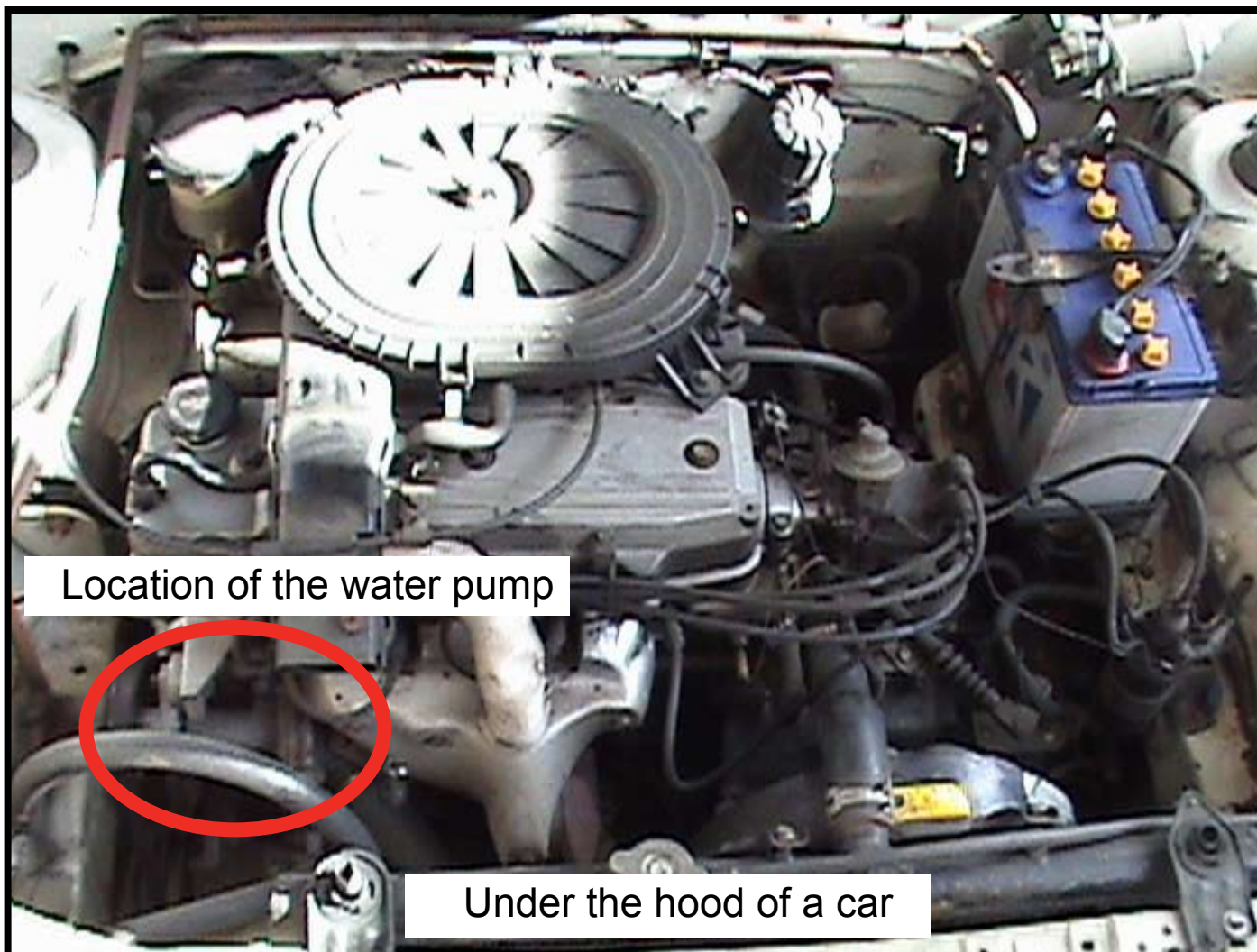
By and large I have learnt

the fact though sometimes in the moment, I've caught some professionals, mostly mechanics in outright lies.

Sadly in the case of the pump I'll never know for sure because I wasn't there when the part failed and my mother only knows that it broke but it's a good idea sometimes to pay a little extra and get a warranty of some kind.

In upcoming editions we can discuss some other car care issues and perhaps I'll tell you some of the adventures with cars that I've had.

Send in your own stories that might help other readers.



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ANIMAL LIFE



by Scott Report reporter

ONE OF THE COOL THINGS about living somewhat close to the forest in Mt. Hope is that one sometimes has the opportunity to see wild creatures. I've seen an opossum, a family of agoutis, a "morocoy", grass snakes and of course lots of different birds.

I recently had the opportunity to photograph these cute little nestlings in their nest which was relatively low to the ground in a croton shrub at

the front of our yard. Unfortunately the neighbourhood cats may have gotten to them. By the next morning the nest was empty and the body of one nestling was strewn some distance from the nest.

As it turns out one of the nestlings looked pretty sickly the day before and didn't even open its mouth like the other one when they mistook me for their mother. That was the body we found. Maybe the cats didn't like the taste of that one.



the front of our yard. Unfortunately the neighbourhood cats may have gotten

TREASURE YOUR TEETH

by Scott Report reporter

I TRY TO TAKE CARE OF my teeth, so every once in a while I try to make a visit to the dentist to make sure everything is going alright. Usually when I go to my "regular" dentist in Port of Spain I feel like I'm a statistic, a widget to be quickly machined and sent out the factory door so they can start working on the next widget. The penultimate breaking point for me was when I went to my dentist prior to taking a long trip to make sure everything was kosher so I wouldn't need to make a much more expensive visit to a foreign dentist while I was out of the country.

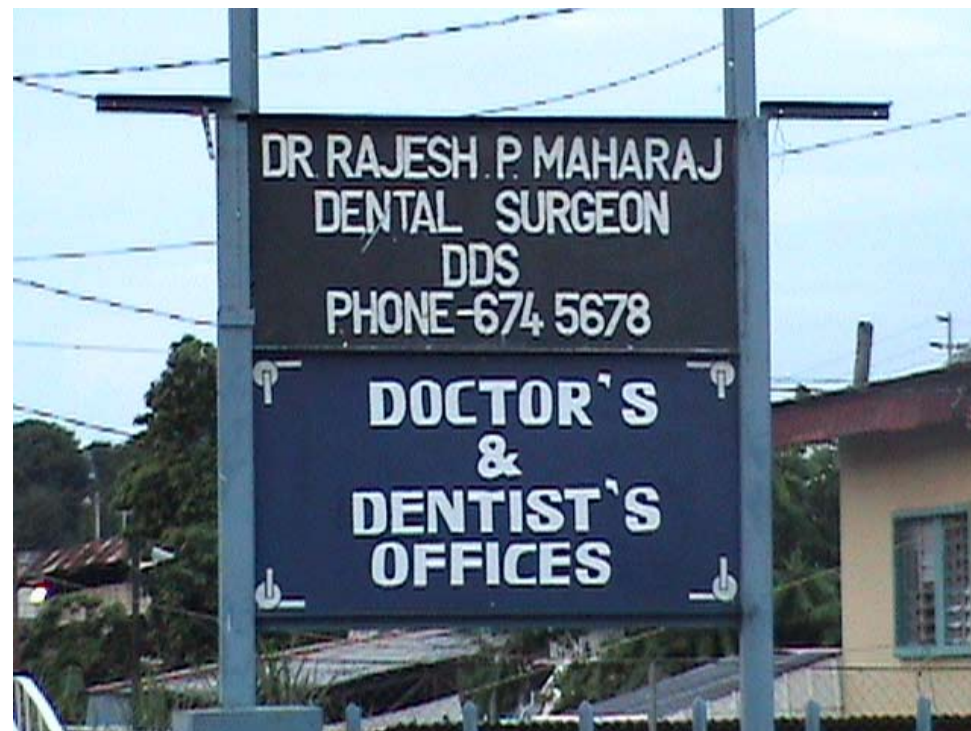
When I told my dentist and staff my concerns I just didn't feel like they were really taking heed. The dentist examined me and pronounced that everything was fine, no problem. I believe I even took a spot X-ray to see how one irritating tooth was doing but they couldn't develop it at the time. They told me if they saw any problems they would call me back to have work done before my trip. They didn't so I uneasily assumed everything was indeed ok.

Imagine how upset I was when while on my trip, I had a problem with a tooth. I couldn't believe it. That had been the whole point of my visit to the dentist before I left! I decided that I would wait until I returned to Trinidad to fix the problem.

Even though I was upset I still went back to the same dentist to have the problem remedied but by then I was shopping for another dentist.

I asked around and a friend recommended a dentist. I asked my friend if I should mention his name. He said no, and he wouldn't say why but he still claimed the dentist was good.

Not a very good sign but since I was just shopping around and not going to the dentist



for anything more than a checkup to see if they were any good, I still went. The dentist was not that bad but he didn't inspire my confidence so I kept looking.

By this time I had had another problem with a tooth and I decided to take things into my own hands and get a full mouth X-ray on my own. No dentist I had ever gone to had ever done or requested a full mouth X-ray for me and I knew for a fact that many problems can only be diagnosed by X-ray. Enough was enough, if the dentists I had been to weren't

doing the proper thing I was going to have to do it myself.

Unfortunately the X-ray place seemed to be staffed by non professional attendants and my X-ray came out blurry. They didn't even seem to realize it even though it only took one look for me. Scratch one more business I won't be patronizing.

In the end I decided to try a dentist in Mt. Hope, just because he was so close, Dr. Rajesh Persad Maharaj. Again it was just a checkup, if he didn't know his stuff I was just going to keep looking. Yes I was spending money visiting different dentists but I believe

it was worth it to find one I was comfortable with and had confidence in.

First of all imagine my surprise when his receptionist said that the dentist had all new patients take a full mouth X-ray. I already had my X-ray but it seemed like a good sign. During my visit I asked him a question about my teeth that no other dentist I asked had been able to answer. I had done research myself and already knew the answer. He didn't skip a beat; he answered correctly which to me was great. Better than that he wasn't hurrying me out of his office after a couple cursory questions and a quick examination, he actually discussed several issues with me and put me completely at ease about his competence and knowledge. I didn't feel like a car part on an assembly line.

Since then I've gone back another time and I intend to keep returning for checkups and anything else I need. Honestly, and I've said it to him, out of the five other dentists I've ever been to including one from the US he is the best and I would unreservedly recommend him to anyone. His place isn't posh or upscale, next door to Real Value Supermarket but it doesn't bother me in the least. He's a good dentist and that's my concern. If he has any fault it would be that he spends as much time as it takes to get the job done or to put patients at ease and as faults go that's a good one to have.

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A BIT OF NOW AND AGAIN

by Scott Reporter reporter

I WANTED TO FIND out a little more about how Mt. Hope used to be in the past, especially in the light of the new housing developments in the area so I decided I would speak to Mrs McMillan a longtime resident who lived in Mt. Hope as a child before there were any housing developments. She left for a short period as an adult and then returned as one of the very first residents of the housing development we all know as Mt. Hope.

Mrs McMillan and her family moved to the area at the bottom of Mt. Hope Road when she was only seven from El Socorro. In fact her family still lives there to this day. In those days the area where she now lives at the top of Mt. Hope road was a Lover's Lane Mrs. McMillan says; a secluded area like the hill leading to the reservoir in Mt. Hope or like Lady Chancellor's hill around the savannah. People would sometimes get robbed or beat up in the vicinity. The whole place was overrun by bamboo patches.

Mrs McMillan remembers there was an influential marijuana dealer who used to live close to her even in those days. The police would raid the dealer's address from time to time and he and his associates would scurry through the neighbourhood houses trying to escape to the Eastern Main Road. Eventually,



Mrs. McMillan

Mrs McMillan remember, the dealer ending up serving a substantial prison term.

Eventually Mrs McMillan grew up, got married and left the area and went to live in Morvant with her husband. They were renting though and when they heard that houses were for sale in the new development of Mt. Hope they decided to come to Mt. Hope so they would eventually be able to own their own home. They've since had many good years here.

When I enquired about if their home had ever been broken into or anything like that Mrs McMillan said no but apparently one day some young men did try to hold them up at their home. When one of Mrs McMillan daughters realized what was happening she

belted out a scream and in turn so did Mrs McMillan when she came to check on the commotion. This was enough to traumatize the assailants into giving up their robbery attempt and they quickly left Mrs McMillan said. Her daughter mentioned that the gun may have been a toy but the incident was still scary I am certain.

Mrs McMillan told me about some of the more well to do people who lived in the area. She mentioned one individual who reared chickens commercially on Mt. Hope road. Unfortunately one day all the chickens died of some mysterious disease and the farmer decided to abandon chicken rearing. The chickens were apparently still edible though Mrs McMillan couldn't say what they had died from. So the farmer gave them all away and retired.

Mrs McMillan also mentioned a multi-millionaire from Mt. Hope who had won the lottery. She remembers going shopping with him one day at American Stores and how the guy just bought a bunch of appliances that same day in cash. The sales people were astounded she said.

As many of the longtime residents I spoke to she didn't know anyone from the new housing areas. Most long time residents only

knew for the most one person from the new residences but it's still very early I imagine.

Regarding the bloody death of a supposedly prominent criminal figure in Hope Place a couple months back, Mrs McMillan mentioned a theme I have heard before from other residents. As shocking as it seems Mrs McMillan said that people in the area seemed to celebrate the passing of this person. She didn't know them directly person.

Another person I met confirmed the fact that this figure's passing was not lamented among many who knew him.

Mrs. McMillan used to be an enrolled Nursing Assistant at the Substance Abuse & Prevention Treatment Centre in Caura and she also worked at the Centre for Socially Displaced People. She has seen the effect of and knows quite a lot about how drug abuse has affected our society. All of her stories about the characters she met while working at these places give an insight into how some parts of society really work. As usual it was very interesting talking to her

THINGS A BIT BETTER CRIMEWISE



Gordon Street corner, where I encountered two sets of would be bandits

by Scott Report reporter

COMPARING THE NUMBERS year to year, murders are down this year as compared to last. The same can be said of kidnappings for ransom according to stories in the dailies. As of August there were only 7 for the year. If I had to guess I'd say that robberies and

deaths, because of the recent activities in Mt. Hope Road Extension and Mt. D'or, but in other aspects, yes.

Until 2004 I had only ever been close to being robbed once. I may have been about twelve walking with a dollar in my hand when a vagrant decided I would be an easy "mark."

o t h e r violent crimes are also down across the board.

S o does this mean that crime is also down here in our area? Personally I would say yes. Perhaps not with respect to murders and violent

A police car passed by and he thought better of it. That was in St. James

In less than four years of returning to Mt. Hope I was almost robbed twice, both times within feet of each other at the corner of Gordon Street and the Eastern Main Rd. After the second incident I heard that my neighbour had also escaped being robbed around the same place a couple days before. I also found out that a shop keeper, a couple doors away from me was also robbed by a group of men.

It has been quite some time since these incidents; perhaps more than a year and I haven't heard or experienced anything similar. Sure my evidence is anecdotal and not based on hard numbers but numbers can easily lie. Sometimes people under-report crimes and sometimes they over-report them. When crime is "up" everyone wants to show how bad things are and may be more likely to report crimes. When crime is down people may take a what-yuh-go-do attitude.

So why is crime down at least statistically? Well for one thing since the first time I was "accosted" there's better lighting at the corner of Gordon Street and the Eastern Main Rd. The first time I was approached I could barely see my hands in front of my face or the faces of the individuals who wanted to rob

me. The street light would flicker on every ten seconds or so for about a second and then die away. The second time I was approached the street light was working and even though they still tried the attackers were a lot less brazen.

The second reason crime may be down is because like me people may have started being more careful. Both times I was almost robbed I was wearing an attractive Citizen wristwatch that on each occasion I had forgotten to take off and aside from probably drawing the attackers attentions I knew if they could it would be one of the first things the robbers would take. Case in point is the robbery and murder of Tommy Joseph's son who reportedly was wearing a \$10,000 necklace when he was approached.

Other reasons why crime may be down is because criminals and especially kidnappers are afraid that they will be caught perhaps because some of the allegedly most active criminals have already been caught. The high profile arrests of members of the army and the police force who were allegedly involved in cases of kidnapping may fall into this category.

Tell us your stories. Write in

CHANGES AT THE MT. HOPE JUNIOR SEC



perhaps this might also have been a stop gap measure but as it turns out, one source close to the school informed us that these were actually out of school gatherings provided for the students to get support for doing homework and also as a bit of a security net for students who might otherwise be unsupervised before and after school depending on their shift.

These “Homework Assignments” gatherings are no longer being implemented since the new term began a source said.

Since there are currently “extra” form classes at the form two and three levels as per sources, in order for the school to be able to function in the upcoming years as a five year school some students will be diverted to other institutions as they progress beyond form three. Mt. Hope Junior Secondary more than likely has accepted fewer form ones because of the changeover.

Since there hasn’t been a flurry of new schools being built that I have heard of more than likely while we are waiting for the old schools to be expanded or new schools to be built, the government will have to lean on private institutions to support the students

diverted from Mt. Hope and other Junior Secondary school across the country that may be in the same position.

In the long term, sources suggest that Mt. Hope will be building new permanent school structures on the playing field, hopefully before 2009 when things may finally be regularized number of students in each form etc.

It would be a loss for both future students and the surrounding community if the playing field is eventually completely annexed. Many events are held there from time to time and the children would lose a field. However when the choices are constrained one can’t please everyone and at the end of the day the goal is to help better educate the nation’s children.

Scott Report has heard other reports that a different location entirely was selected for the school but this was not corroborated by sources close to the school.

by Scott Report reporter

MT. HOPE JUNIOR SECONDARY is becoming a “whole day” school as many of us know. Unfortunately that means that they don’t have enough space to hold all their nine form three’s and nine form two’s all at once sources say. In the past

obviously only half the total number of students would be at the school at any given time, now everyone is supposed to have class at the same time.

In order to get around the lack of space, students are being assigned specific days of the week to come to school on and in

the meantime what looks like temporary classrooms built from what appears to be Styrofoam are being assembled to try to make ends meet.

Some members of the community had mentioned that they had seen “classes” being held at the community center so I had speculated that



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FOUNTAIN OF HOPE CLOSES DOORS

by Scott Report Reporter

FOUNTAIN OF HOPE, a project by the Living Waters Community, closed its doors in the community on Friday the 27th of July after seven and a half years. It was located on Gordon St. Extension and its mission was Personal and Business development for people who needed it the most.

The Fountain of Hope operated on property that had been provided by the ANSA McAl group of companies, however the area has now been set aside for other purposes and The Fountain of Hope has packed up and moved its operations to another location.

The program targets primary and high school drop-outs, single mothers, the unskilled, unemployed mothers and marginalized groups in depressed urban communities. Candidates for the program become apprentices and attend sessions over the better part of a year.

The two units being taught of late are Food preparation and Garment Construction. There are three main goals to the apprenticeship, spiritual development, skills training and personal and business development. These goals are aided by individual and spiritual counseling.

The program was launched in Marion House in October of 1988 with sewing and doll making. The next month the Arts and Craft unit began to take form with wooden plaques being made. Then in January of 1989 the program moved into the residence which it has just now left on Gordon St. Mt. Hope provided by the Mc Al foundation.

Two warehouses on the property were renovated and one became the Food Preparation Unit and the other



became the Sewing, Hope-ee Dolls and Art and Craft Unit.

Over the the years the program has changed and developed and its duration for apprentices has gone from being 24 months to 36 weeks.

Even though the Fountain of Hope has left the community all is not lost, as mentioned by Ms Denise Subero, the person in charge when we first passed by the property, much of what Fountain of Hope did in the area is

being duplicated to some degree by YTEPP

Practically all of the information in this article came directly from a manual provided by Ms Subero so the historical information is sure to be accurate unfortunately the manual was created in 1995. This reporter was unable to obtain anything at all in the way of an interview with Ms Subero or anyone involved with the program even though one was scheduled.

Ostensibly this was because everyone was busy packing but more likely because of an unfounded fear of being misquoted or some other reason since no other time could be arranged for an interview. Attempts to contact certain personnel at YTEPP proved similarly futile.



DON'T KNOW COMPUTERS? READ THIS

by Fitzgerald Scott

WHAT IS THE MOST important part on the computer for the average user, if not all users? The hard drive, remember this people. That is the place where all your papers, music, pictures and movies are all stored. If this part fails do not repeatedly ask the technician if he can still save your files because he can't do a thing. Unless you have a couple thousand U.S. that you don't mind spending on the chance you might retrieve something.

To repeat the hard drive is your most important part. Why? Because besides the reasons above if something else goes bad you can take your hard drive and put it into another "computer" and everything will be almost back to before you had a problem. All of your files and folders with pictures, music, papers and video will be right there good as new.

it turns out, this mixture of memory types matches up with our concepts of short term and long term memory respectively.

So to simplify, human beings process and store information in the same organ, the brain. Computers need at least two parts, the CPU and memory to do the same thing. Memory within a computer comes in two types relevant to this discussion: RAM which is very fast operating, requires constant power to work and is relatively expensive and hard drives which only need energy to write and retrieve information and are much cheaper but as much as a million times slower than RAM.

Since the RAM is really fast but needs constant power, all the quick stuff is done there like the music you're playing right now or the file you have open. Since the hard drive doesn't need energy to remember, permanent things are stored there like a permanent copy of that same music or a copy of a word document file from the last time you saved it. The two types of memory operate together as best they can.

The last part we mentioned above is the mother board and that part is a bit like the spine, it joins the CPU and all the other parts. Without it the various parts of a computer would not be able to talk to each other.

Finally the great thing about hard drives is it's a lot easier to clone them and therefore all your information than it is to clone a human being. A cloned hard drive can be a very strong component of a sound backup strategy because if a problem comes up with the first hard drive potentially everything can be retrieved very quickly. To clone a hard drive you'd need an empty hard drive equal to or greater than the first in size.

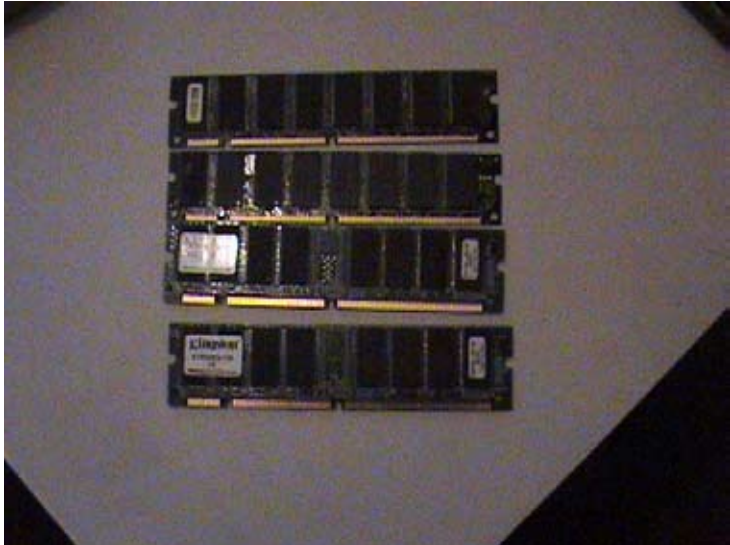
Now for some general information, just like a human brain, if human brains could be transplanted, you do not want to agitate a hard drive. If you drop a hard drive on a hard surface when it is outside the "computer" and it still works, you have just witnessed a miracle or you have just reduced it's lifespan to less than a year, one or the other. The same result will occur with a hard knock.

The main reason people have trouble understanding computers and what a hard drive, CPU and memory do is because a while a computer collectively works like a human brain it is very different in structure.

What one human brain can do it takes a hard drive, a CPU, parts of the motherboard and memory to try to accomplish in a computer.

In the simplest terms a human brain, stores and retrieves both long term and short term information. It processes that information and outputs the resulting signals to accomplish various tasks. It is able to process this information by communication between various neurons that make up the brain and body.

Unfortunately or fortunately if you are afraid that computers may one day enslave mankind, scientists cannot figure out yet how to combine memory storage and processing power into one part. Furthermore in order to make computers affordable and more resilient scientists and manufacturer have chosen to make computers with a mixture of types of memory storage, RAM (Random Access Memory) and hard drives. As



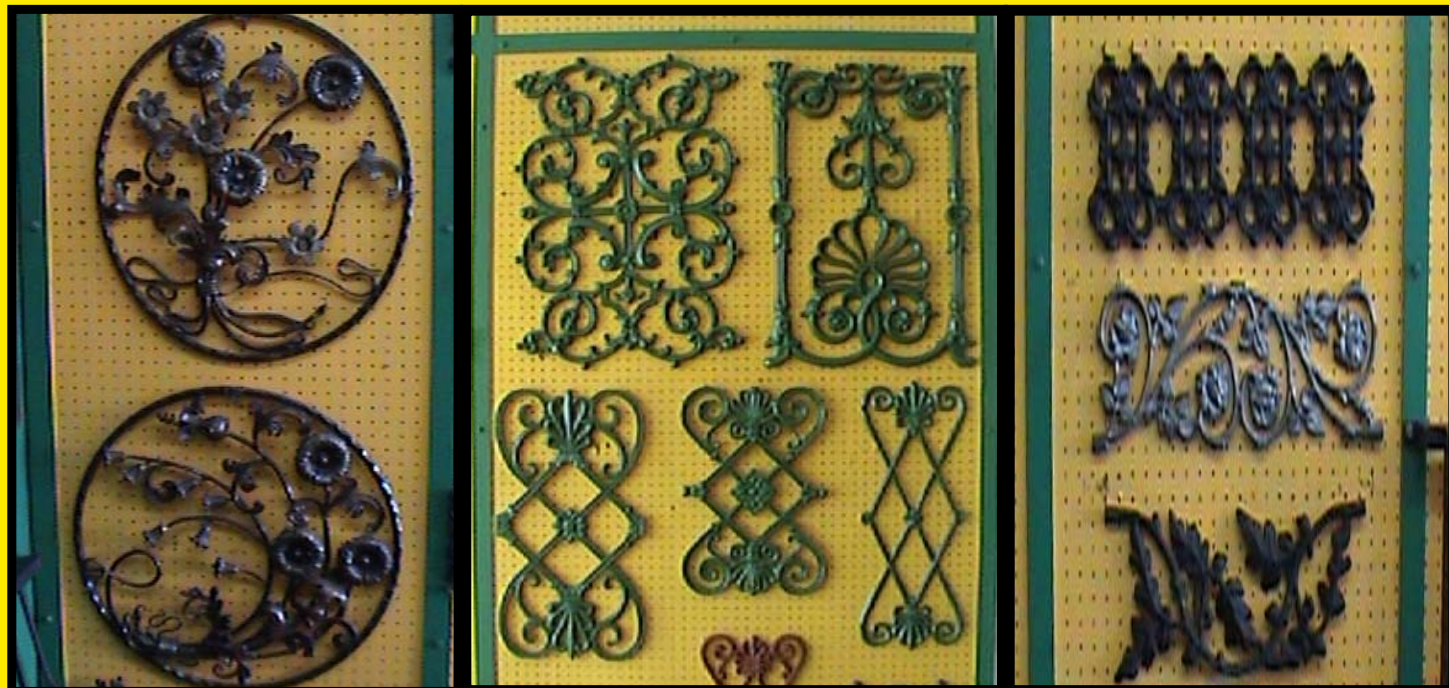


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The Scott Report

A COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER FOR MT. HOPE AND ENVIRONS

SO WHAT IS **The Scott Report**? It's anything that enough of you in the community want it to be. You want a page devoted to what is going on in your specific area or street? Just ask. Write something yourself and maybe take some pictures and send it over or we'll listen to you and take some pictures. Want to say happy birthday to Tante Mirle and your granny and mommy go ahead. You want to advertise your house party, your house, your car whatever go ahead. Do you want to congratulate someone on a job well done? You want to get quotes to build a wall or put up a roof, here is the place. Contact us and get what you need!

We are not affiliated with any party, group or purpose other than community development and being a successful publication.

LETTERS

Thur. 4th Oct. 2007

Public Utilities Services,

Thank you T.S.T.T for finally coming to my aide and repairing my land line telephone. First, it was off for months, people kept calling wondering if I was away or had died. They heard it ringing and I heard nothing.

I couldn't even call out and I have been a good paying customer. Eventually after several complaints it was restored, but only for a short while. It was soon out of order again.

Now people called thinking I was always on the line or hadn't hung up the phone properly as all they got was a busy tone. Again I had no dial tone, nothing.

Some more months went by without my telephone, along with other neighbours in my area. We could not phone each other if we saw strangers lurking around each other's homes, or even phone if we saw smoke coming from a distant neighbour's house.

Again thank you T.S.T.T. Hope my land line is here to stay. Now I'm hoping WASA will come to my assistance soon.

I've got a water-meter which has a leak within the meter. Again several complaints were made to W.A.S.A. Eventually early one morning a gentleman from W.A.S.A. called.

This was on Friday 28th September 2007. The gentleman came and just looked at the leak and said he will put in the worksheet for Monday 1st October to have it repaired.

Today Thursday 4th October, 2007 to the time of writing nothing is done. When I think of the many without water and so much is wasted down the drain, it hurts it's sad. The treated water has destroyed some of my plants.

In these modern times complaints should be acted upon as soon as possible. Please W.A.S.A Help! I am a good paying customer. I hope I don't require a canoe soon; I may tip over. Thank you

V.B.R

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