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The Bahama Journal

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THURSDAY - SEPTEMBER 21ST, 2017

75 CENTS

Govt Fires PowerSecure



▶ Minister of Works Desmond Bannister (Journal file photo)

Dames Says Crime Down 19%

• Murders Up 41%

BY RANECHEA ELLIS
Journal Staff Writer

The latest crime statistics presented by Minister of National Security Marvin Dames revealed that the country's murder count for the past five years has remained steady and overall crime is down by 19 per cent, but murders are up by 41 per cent.

Mr. Dames revealed the crime statistics yesterday during his contribution to the debate in the House of Assembly.

He said while there are numerous solutions, the issue of crime especially murder will not be eradicated overnight.

Mr. Dames explained that the issues the country faces today with regards to crime did not mysteriously disappear when the Minnis administration took office and are a manifestation of years of abdication of responsibility.

■ See DAMES SAYS / page 2...



▶ Minister of National Security Marvin Dames (Journal file photo)

BY ONIKE ARCHER
Journal Staff Writer

In a shocking revelation, Minister of Works Desmond Bannister revealed that Bahamas Power and Light Company (BPL) and PowerSecure severed ties.

Mr. Bannister made the shocking revelation during a Power Breakfast held at the British Colonial Hilton yesterday, where he explained that the ties were severed on Monday September 18.

"Effective two days ago, BPL and PowerSecure have amicably agreed to sever their business relationship," Mr. Bannister said.

"In the period ending 25th July, 2017, BPL has spent some \$9,198,738.68 with PowerSecure. We shall have much time to reflect on the value of this investment."

■ See GOVT FIRES / page 2...

ACP FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE MINISTERS MEETING



▶ Prime Minister Dr. Hubert Minnis (second left) and Minister of Agriculture and Marine Resources Renward Wells (third left) chat with a delegate of the Fifth Meeting of ACP Ministers in charge of Fisheries and Aquaculture, September 20, at Melia Nassau Beach Resort. Also pictured is Parliamentary Secretary in the Office of the Prime Minister for Information and Communication Pakeisha Parker-Edgecombe. (Photo/Yontalay Bowe - OPM Media Services)

Dames Outlines Plan to Tackle Guns and Gangs

BY C. JILLIAN GRAY
Journal Staff Writer

As crime continues to be a plague to the nation, Minister of National Security Marvin Dames announced that the government has established a new multi-agency operation across law enforcement departments to deal with the challenges of guns, gangs, drugs and human trafficking.

Dames' announcement came during his contribution to the debate in the House of Assembly where he discussed plans the Ministry of National Security has implemented to combat crime and in particular firearm trafficking.

"This multi-agency taskforce will focus much of their

attention on those individuals and organizations responsible for the trafficking of firearms into our country and disrupting their method of operation wherever they may exist; this will be intelligence lead," he said.

Dames added that given the composition of The Bahamas, 700 islands spread over 100,000 square miles of sea, the challenges faced with finding those weapons can be daunting.

He said it is known that firearms come into the country through courier services, pleasure crafts, airports and sea ports thus the government have increased security at those locations.

■ See DAMES OUTLINES / page 2...

TOTAL COST OF IRMA'S DAMAGE REMAINS UNKNOWN

BY LICEC BASTIAN
Journal Staff Writer

No estimate of what Hurricane Irma will cost the country in damage on the heels of another major storm that is threatening to hit southern islands impacted only two weeks ago by a category five hurricane, according to Minister of Labour Dion Foulkes.

Mr. Foulkes told The Bahama Journal yesterday that the largest expense so far, in the absence of damage assessment figures, is what would have been incurred through the evacuation process.

"We are beginning to receive all of the invoices, especially from the air transit part, which is the largest of the expense," Mr. Foulkes said.

"All of the shelters and all of the foods supplies, clothing, toiletries were donated, including the shelter itself.

"So, we have incurred very little expense from that point of view.

"Out of the close to 1,500 persons who actually evacuated, about 90 percent of them were housed by family and friends, so there was



▶ Minister of Labour Senator Dion Foulkes (BIS Photo/Derek Smith)

absolutely no expense."

■ See COST OF IRMA'S DAMAGE / page 2...

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ALL THE NEWS YOU NEED TO READ IN THE MORNING

Govt Fires PowerSecure

Continued from / PAGE 1...

Affirming his confidence in BPL's new board, he then said, "Whilst PowerSecure undoubtedly meant well, there is much to be said for cultural knowledge. Placing an otherwise successful entity in the midst of an alien culture generally operates to

the detriment of both.

"There is also much to be said for familiarity with business norms, and for immunization from local political influence. I have every confidence that this new board satisfies both of those tests in a manner that will ensure to the benefit of BPL and the Bahamian populace."

PowerSecure, now a part of Southern Company, held a five-year operating agreement, which it signed in early 2016. That agreement provided provided for a maximum \$25 million payout; it was signed in early 2016.

Since taking the helm, PowerSecure's efforts at

restructuring the cash-strapped utility provider has been marred by island-wide power outages in the capital and on some Family Islands.

Electricity bills have also increased under PowerSecure's management.

"Our mandate, as set forth in section nine of the 2015

Electricity Act is clear. We are looking forward to working with all of you to ensure that The Bahamas secures a safe, least cost, reliable and environmentally sustainable supply of electricity within the Bahamas. Each of us has a role in ensuring that that objective is attained," Mr. Bannister said.

Dames Says Crime Down 19%

Continued from / PAGE 1...

"The total crime figures to date compared to the same period last year, are down by 19 percent and that would be the overall crime figures for this year," Dames said.

During his contribution, Mr. Dames sought to bring clarity via statistics on where exactly the country stands when it comes to murders.

He noted that murder for the past five years has exceeded 100 and has shown no signs of slowing down.

"Although there were decreases in certain areas, the murder count continues to increase and the level of violent crimes remain at levels far too high for such a small nation as ours," he said.

"The fear of crime remains an all-time high and has the potential to stifle productivity and impact the quality of life of far too many residents and Bahamians."

The statistics revealed showed that murders are up by 41 percent, with 103 incidents. Attempted murder decreased by 20 per cent with 12 incidents compared to this same time period last year.

Not only did the study focus on the numbers of murders, but the motives as well.

The study read by Mr. Dames found that out of the 719 murders during that six-year study period, conflict and retaliation killings were made of the majority of motives.

More specifically he said those murders involved ongoing feuds between gang members.

"Robbery related murders made up 14 per cent of the incidents. A total of 10 per cent stemmed from domestic violence, nine per cent were drug related. Thus far, for 2017 we found similar trends," he said.

"These motives suggest that we must focus more of our attention to young people who gravitate towards gang violence in the home and drugs."

Finally, the study also revealed the make-up of both murder suspects and victims.

"A total of 89 per cent of murder victims were male and 64 per cent of them were between the ages of 18-35. Sixty per cent had prior criminal records, 31 per cent were involved in gangs and 18 per cent were on bail at the time of their death," he said.

"Ninety-seven per cent of murder suspects were male, 82 per cent were between the ages of 18-35 and the study showed a similar profile for those charged with murder."

Ninety-seven per cent of the suspects charged, he said, were male and 82 per cent were ages 18-35.

He added that 58 per cent held prior criminal records, 42 per cent were involved in gangs and 39 per cent were on bail at the time of their death.

He also noted that earlier studies found that 64 per cent of murder victims and 71 per cent of murder suspects were unemployed.

"A recent study done by The University of The Bahamas at the Department of Corrections showed 54 per cent of inmates dropped out of school and 48 per cent were expelled," Mr. Dames said.

"Considering the evidence, if the government will have any success, its programs must be designed to aggressively address root causes and risk factors."

They include education attainment, poverty, poor parenting and mental disorders which the minister stated have a profound impact on the socialization of the country's youth.

Additional statistics revealed in the study showed that rape is down 15 per cent, but attempted rape increased by 15 per cent and unlawful sexual intercourse decreased by 25 per cent with 91 incidents.

Armed robbery he said decreased by 35 per cent with 380 incidents and attempted robbery increased by 17 per cent with 14 incidents.

TOTAL COST OF IRMA'S DAMAGE REMAINS UNKNOWN

Continued from / PAGE 1...

Mr. Foulkes said the airlines that evacuated persons from the southern islands will be submitting invoices to the appropriate office.

"So, basically, we are waiting for the cost for the airline. The airline is the main thing," he said.

When asked, considering the damage and devastation that Hurricane Irma left across the southern islands and the Caribbean and the fact that Hurricane Maria followed closely behind almost following Irma's path, what the country will receive from the Caribbean Catastrophic Risk Insurance Facility (CCRIF), Mr. Foulkes said he is confident that The Bahamas will receive its

share of relief efforts.

"The majority of the contributions that are coming in from NGOs and the other countries of the Caribbean region are going directly to CARICOM," Mr. Foulkes said.

"The chair of CARICOM, the Prime Minister of Grenada, as you know came to The Bahamas and he did a site inspection especially of Ragged Island and he will make his report and his recommendation.

"I don't want to presume what he is going to say, but I'm sure that The Bahamas will get our representative share of any contributions coming in from the relief effort."

Southern islands of Mayaguana, Acklins, Crooked Islands, Long Cay, Samana Cay, and the Turks and Caicos Island are preparing yet again for another major hurricane.

Dames Outlines Plan to Tackle Guns and Gangs

Continued from / PAGE 1...

Dames also warned public officials who may be facilitating the trafficking of firearms.

To put into perspective what they are up against, Dames said for 2017, a total of 234 firearms and 7,821 rounds of ammunition have been seized.

He added that out of the 157 firearms that were traced by police thus far for the year, 124 or 79 percent of them originated out of the state of Florida and the remainder was traced to 20 other states across the United

States.

"We will intensify our efforts by building our intelligence capacity and capability and aggressively pursuing those responsible on a 24/7 basis on every street corner of this country," Dames said.

He also noted that they will continue to work with their partners in the U.S. and will improve the synergy between local law enforcement stakeholders to expose the trafficking methods and bring those organizations responsible to justice.

This announcement comes one day after the acting commissioner of police

announced that the Royal Bahamas Police Force have implemented the Anti-Gang and Firearm Tracing and Investigation Unit at the Central Detective Unit and the Rapid Response Unit in the Fox Hill community.

Both initiatives were highlighted by Dames in his contribution in the House of Assembly and he added that he has requested that performance targets be included in the police commissioner's annual policing plan for the purpose of measuring the yearly performance of the police against their previous record.

RBDF DELIVERS EMERGENCY SUPPLIES TO INAGUA



► Royal Bahamas Defence Force craft HMBS Durward Knowles delivered relief supplies and emergency equipment to the southern islands of The Bahamas early Tuesday morning. Electrical transformers along with other electrical equipment arrived on the island of Inagua, which suffered damage as a result of Hurricane Irma. These items will assist in reparation of utility poles that resulted from the impact of Hurricane Irma. Other essential relief supplies were also sent by the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) for persons on the southern islands. (Photo/ HMBS Matthew Town)



FORM B Notice of Intended Marriage (Section 7(3))

The persons named and described hereunder have given notice to me of their intended marriage, namely --

Stephen Glenn Melvin, Divorced,
of 11 Deedes Cres. Bushland Beach, QLD 4818, Australia

and

Amanda Colleen Carrick, Divorced,
of 11 Deedes Cres. Bushland Beach, QLD 4818, Australia

Any person knowing any just cause or impediment why this marriage should not be allowed should enter caveat forthwith in the office of the Registrar of Marriages.

Dated this 11th day of September, 2017.

Registrar of Marriages



FORM B Notice of Intended Marriage (Section 7(3))

The persons named and described hereunder have given notice to me of their intended marriage, namely --

Richard James Mason, Single,
of 35 Cumbury Croft, Shard End. B34 6TU, United Kingdom

and

Sharon Elaine Daniel, Divorced,
of 13 Harold Road, Edgbaston, B16 9DN, United Kingdom

Any person knowing any just cause or impediment why this marriage should not be allowed should enter caveat forthwith in the office of the Registrar of Marriages.

Dated this 11th day of September, 2017.

Registrar of Marriages



Member of Parliament for Exuma and Ragged Island Chester Cooper yesterday declared his bid to offer himself for the office of Deputy Leader of the Progressive Liberal Party. (Photo/Sherard Campbell)

Cooper Declares Bid for PLP Deputy Leader

BY LICEC BASTIAN
Journal Staff Writer

Member of Parliament for Exuma and Ragged Island Chester Cooper in a big announcement yesterday, declared his bid to offer himself for the office of Deputy Leader of the Progressive Liberal Party (PLP), promising that he will seek to return core values and principles the party once had.

Yesterday at a press conference in the Rum Cay Room at the British Colonial Hilton, Mr. Cooper told the media and party supporters that he wanted to “lend” his talent to whomever the leader would be.

“After much thought and prayerful consideration and

discussions with my family and those whose counsel I value, I have decided to offer myself for deputy leader of the Progressive Liberal Party at the upcoming October convention,” Mr. Cooper said.

“Given the challenges and opportunities facing the party at this time, I am confident that I can lend my talents to the leader and leadership of the party to help reform, rebrand, reenergize and reinvigorate the PLP as we seek to return to our core values, regain the confidence of the majority of the Bahamian people and return as the government of the Bahamas in 2022 or whenever or whenever election is called.”

Mr. Cooper specified what he intends to do as a deputy leader for the party, transforming it to one that will regain what the party once had.

“As deputy leader, I can and will play a deliberate role in rebuilding and transformation of the party, but I will also focus intently on the constituency that I have pledged to help transform with my E-vision 2030 plan,” Mr. Cooper said.

“I am very focused on making progress happen for the people of Exuma, Exuma Cays, and Ragged Island.”

He told party supporters present that in order to achieve the goals set out, there must be participation by all PLP supporters

“We will need all hands on deck, if we as a party and its leaders are to demonstrate to the nation that we are capable of rebounding from our recent loss and can become stronger, more efficient, and more effective,” he said.

Mr. Cooper further told supporters present that in order to make progress happen for Bahamians of all class and to move the country forward in social mobility, education must become a priority.

“To even begin to do this and to address many of the social ills that plague us like crime, we must get back to prioritizing education, properly resourcing it and making it the great equalizer that it can and should be,” Mr.

Cooper said.

Mr. Cooper further said that a sense of pride must be reestablished in Bahamians.

“As deputy leader, I commit to executing a plan to bring disaffected voters back home to the PLP, attract new voters and expand our base with engagement and commitment to swiftly confronting the woes that stifle our party and endanger our nation,” he said.

Mr. Cooper told party supporters present that the party had been in existence too long to fade into history.

“The Progressive Liberal Party has come too far and has been propped up by the sacrifices, prayers, hard work and tears of resilience of our past and present lead-

ers and our members, to fade into the annals of history now,” he said.

“We must be resurgent. We must not falter. We will not fail.”

And with that he petitioned the support and vote of delegates, stalwart counselors and party supporters.

Mr. Cooper had the support of his immediate family, former Member of Parliament for Exuma Rubyann Cooper-Darling, former parliamentarians Ryan Pinder, Kendal Major, Senators Clay Sweeting, Jobeth Davis, Progressive Young Liberals and party supporters from Exuma.

The PLP’s National Convention is scheduled for October 22-25.

The Bahamas Agriculture & Marine Science Institute WEEKLY PRICE REPORT WEEK BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 4th, 2017

Wholesale Crop	Weight	Size	BAMS I			USDA-AMS		
			Price	HIGH	LOW	Retail Weight	BAMS I Price	USDA-AMS HIGH LOW
Banana	40lbs		18.00	20.00	20.00	1lb.	0.49	0.72 0.49
Papaya	10lbs		14.00	18.00	16.00	each	1.59	1.57 1.57
Habanero Pepper	8lbs		40.00	15.00	12.00	1lb.	5.50	1.88 1.50
Avocado Pears						each	1.50	2.50 1.82
Avocado (small)						each	0.75	2.50 1.82
Limes	40lbs		38.00	23.00	21.00	each	0.20	0.30 0.58
			Wholesale Prices Weight			Retail Prices Weight		
Abaco Big Bird	Per lb.		2.14			1 lb	2.39	
Whole Chicken	40lbs					10lbs	8.49	
Leg Quarters	40lbs					10lbs	19.24	

Source: USDA-AMS Miami
United States Department of Agriculture Market Service

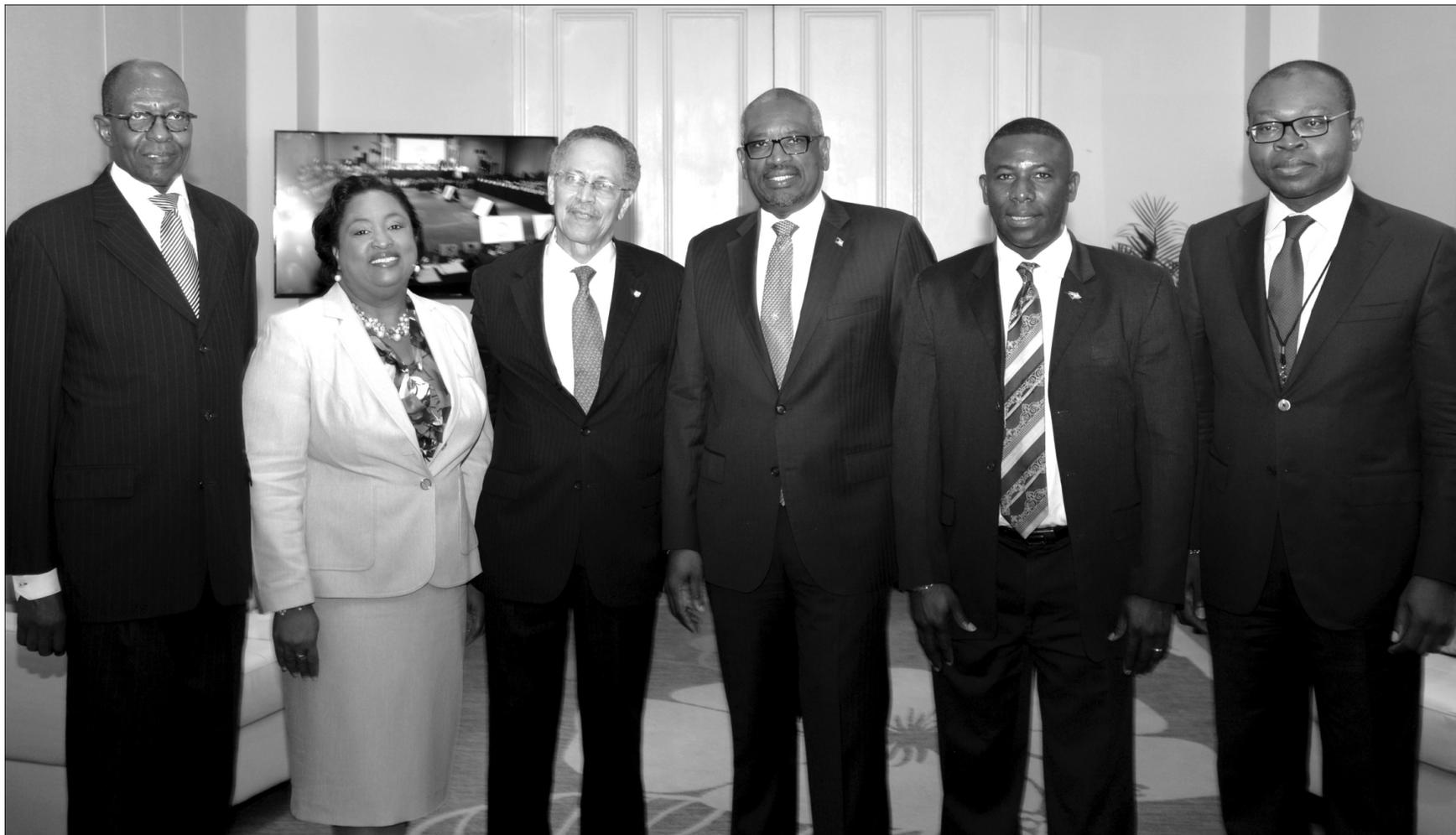


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► Prime Minister Dr. Hubert Minnis and Minister of Agriculture and Marine Resources Renward Wells assemble with delegates of the Fifth Meeting of ACP Ministers in charge of Fisheries and Aquaculture, September 20, at Melia Nassau Beach Resort. (Photo/Yontalay Bowe - OPM Media Services)

Govt to Promote Aquaculture Investments

BY C. JILLIAN GRAY
Journal Staff Writer

Prime Minister Dr. Hubert Minnis said private and public sector investments are required if the aquaculture sector is to develop in a viable manner and promised to promote such investments.

Dr. Minnis' comments came during his address at the opening session of the Fifth Meeting of ACP (Africa, Caribbean and Pacific) Ministers in Charge of Fisheries and Aquaculture at the Melia Nassau Beach Resort yesterday.

"We will promote investment in aquaculture, mariculture and modern sea farming strategies and promote the study of the country's marine resources with a view to creating opportunities for the artificial propagation and enhancement of local fishing stocks," Dr. Minnis said.

He added that The

Bahamas will also create additional protected marine areas with a view to achieving the stated national goal of protecting 20 percent of the national seabed by 2020.

Dr. Minnis said The Bahamas will seek assistance of international organizations to provide ongoing technical and financial support to ensure the growth, protection, viability and sustainability of The Bahamas' marine resources.

He also pointed out that the import of fish and fisheries products shows a steep rise, with an increase of 35 percent in just over a decade.

"Fish imports are currently about 10 times higher than aquaculture production," Dr. Minnis said.

The Minister of Agriculture and Marine Resources Renward Wells was also in attendance and encouraged delegates to not only think about the chal-

lenges faced today, but the challenges that may arise during the next 15 years and beyond.

"It is imperative that you share the successes that you have experienced in your

respective countries and share what you have learnt with fellow small states," Wells said.

He also urged the delegates to take their experience at the conference and contin-

ue to engage in action research, in order to provide sound documentation to drive the campaign for bilateral engagements, networking and developing partnerships for sustainable devel-

opment of fisheries and aquaculture.

Other topics discussed during the opening session were climate change, pollution, habitat destruction and technical market barriers.

RBDF DELIVERS EMERGENCY SUPPLIES TO INAGUA



► Royal Bahamas Defence Force craft HMBS Durward Knowles delivered relief supplies and emergency equipment to the southern islands of The Bahamas early Tuesday morning. Electrical transformers along with other electrical equipment arrived on the island of Inagua, which suffered damage as a result of Hurricane Irma. These items will assist in reparation of utility poles that resulted from the impact of Hurricane Irma. Other essential relief supplies were also sent by the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) for persons on the southern islands. (Photo/ HMBS Matthew Town)



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CONTINUOUS ATTEMPTS TO MUZZLE THE PRESS

We covered the start of this war with articles describing the battle over easement rights, the mysterious burning of a home, the blocks to rebuilding, and countless questionable court filings. This series of articles asks the needed questions and presents the arguments in full.

“The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy.” Martin Luther King, Jr.

This battle in the heart of Clifton launched by hedge-fund billionaire Louis Bacon and Save The Bays—the so-called environmental group—against fashion mogul Peter Nygard has seen a number of casualties in terms of individuals and organizations sued by lawyers working on behalf of Bacon and Save The Bays.

Even now there are matters outstanding in the courts against any and everybody who has criticized Bacon and Save The Bays in some way; some of these court cases go as far back as 2013.

In fact, practically everyone in media, with the exception of the Tribune, has been sued by Graham Thompson and Associates (or Graham Thompson Attorneys as they are now called) on behalf of Louis Bacon.

But why the exception? Why is the Tribune the only media company not sued by Fred Smith, Graham Thompson or any other Bacon attorney? I think one need only read any article written concerning Louis Bacon or Peter Nygard published in the Tribune to discover the answer.

In the mean time, most of the media have been muzzled as a result of the conniving of Fred Smith, Louis Bacon and Save The Bays.

Since the Nassau Guardian issued that very strange apology some time back, they won't even mention Bacon's name. At the same time, it's important to note that an Administrator for the guardian is the spouse of an attorney from Bostwick and Bostwick, the law firm currently taking legal action against a media company on behalf of Louis Bacon. That fact may also speak to this issue.

While the worldwide idea of 'Freedom of the Press' was meant to protect against a government's interference with the media's right to criticize and publish opinions, it certainly should extend to protection from organizations and individuals being called out for wrongdoing.

THE CLIFTON REVIEW

By P. J. Malone

The Clifton Review is a bi-weekly column that examines the question of the Clifton project along with the evolution of the war between two billionaires, the links to unsavory characters, the use of the courts for personal agendas, the involvement of the Government opposition party (the FNM), and the attacks on the Government of The Bahamas.

ing. It's a matter of principle for the media to speak out and not allow misconduct to stand without addressing it.

We should not allow anyone to muzzle the media and prevent them from speaking out on pertinent issues. The Clifton Review certainly will not be muzzled despite constant threats of lawsuits and even threats of harm.

The Clifton Review column became necessary and continues to be necessary to shed a light on their dark corners so that the public will always be aware of what they are doing. Even if it is the lone 'voice crying in the wilderness' it must! It must continue to do so, to question any attempts to subvert proper Government functioning, to question any attempts to silence those that call attention to their improper behavior, and most especially, to question any attempts to ruin our democracy.

To those media companies and individuals who remain silent or have acquiesced to the pressure brought to bear, know that: "The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy," as so eloquently stated by Martin Luther King Jr.

Your right as media is a precious one in our democracy. The Bahamas is not subjected to kidnapping, torturing, and killing of journalists. So it should be a lot easier to do what is right by the citizens of The Bahamas. Speak out against those wanting to control your voice.

Media of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas have a responsibility to its citizens to speak out when necessary and not allow anyone to bully them into silence.

Always remember, you speak for the people.

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The Bahama Journal Quo Vadis, Bahamas?
Wendall K. Jones Publisher/Chief Executive Officer
Kimaley P. Jones Vice President/Operations

EDITORIAL

FAILING SYSTEMS

Of the current crises currently roiling these islands, none is as daunting as the one which we collectively face as we sit back, pay big bucks and watch as failing school and education systems churn out thousands of failing students.

As interesting is the fact that:- As we look in on other aspects of life in this bruised and battered place there is really no way we can miss seeing how most of these problems are themselves derivative of school and education systems that cost so very much and which – paradoxically – produce so very little that is of any real value to the Bahamian people.

One of the more interesting questions that must be answered by today's newest prime minister and his new team has to do with the extent to which past British Slave and Colonial systems of education and schooling in a post-colonial Bahamas continue to inflect school out in our country.

Here would proffer that the British-based systems whether in preparing cadres to lead and govern in a neo-colonial way have been a smashing success for our erstwhile owners, and a bevy of happy-to-new lords lording over the masses of the people!

Those ways led directly to the founding and institutionalization of schools and facilities for the education and training of boys and girls; and thus such institutions, The Dundas Centre and The Government High School [1925-1975].

Sad to say, once the new Majority Rule cadres and comrades took control and saw how challenging things really were on the morning after, they tacked towards harbors where change came slowly and where they who were once slaves would – in the main – wait for the quiet arrival of their own 'quiet revolutions'.

The wait continues! And as it slouches in some among us espy chaos since – as they arrive – we note that some of them are our children; that they have blood in their eyes; and that, they are prepared to kill and die; all of this in the main because our key systems and institutions are failing them.

And thus today, our conclusion that:- The Hon. Jeffrey Lloyd is now to be seen as he has been sown, planted or pruned as but another Minister of Education who has bought deeply into that idea which suggests that: Something is

wrong with the country's educational system—and thus the so-called D Average.

Whilst this may seem the case since as one year follows the other, the results achieved seem to remain the same.

In their collective aftermaths, chaos piled upon chaos to thrive; but yet, we counsel and caution that whilst there is a 'certain' something that has gone awry; whatever it is has done so bears little or nothing to do with the outputs of the currently dominating system.

Now take note of the fact that: In any given school year thousands of students come out of schools [say that they have been graduated]; but who know it better than anyone else that they are functionally illiterate; mathematically incompetent and oft-times, they leave school environs woefully and poorly socialized.

This IS a national disgrace; but yet, we aver that:- Of the current crises currently roiling these islands, none is as daunting as the one which we collectively face as we sit back, pay big bucks and watch as failing school and education systems churn out thousands of failing students.

As interesting is the fact that: As we look in on other aspects of life in this bruised and battered place there is really no way we can miss seeing how most of these problems are themselves derivative of school and education systems that cost so very much and which – paradoxically – produce so very little that is of any real value to the Bahamian people.

Evidently, these sad results have practically to do with big ideas like capitalism or socialism; but with human greed and stupidity so tied together that – as we wake to the light of day – we find that so very many of our schools are busy transforming wonderful promise-filled youth into a species of feral gangsters intent on destroying any and all who dare cross their wicked paths.

And clearly, then: This lack of detailed BGCSE statistics raises questions over how students fared in individual test subjects and highlights challenges this country faces regarding the readiness of youth to adjust to life after high school where they are expected to transition into the work force or college.

Heaven help us all!



FORM B
Notice of Intended Marriage
(Section 7(3))

The persons named and described hereunder have given notice to me of their intended marriage, namely --

Matthew Andrew Taylor, Single,
of 37 Middlecroft Road, Chesterfield, United States of America

and

Sarah Louise Widdowson, Single,
of 11 Belmont Drive, Staveley, Chesterfield, United States of America

Any person knowing any just cause or impediment why this marriage should not be allowed should enter caveat forthwith in the office of the Registrar of Marriages.

Dated this 6th day of September, 2017.

Registrar of Marriages



► From L to R: Hands for Hunger Executive Director Zeleka Knowles and ALIV Events and Sponsorship Manager Bianca Bethel-Sawyer on September 20 at ALIV Headquarters on Soldier Road. **(Photo/ALIV)**



FORM B
Notice of Intended Marriage
(Section 7(3))

The persons named and described hereunder have given notice to me of their intended marriage, namely --

Zachary Otto Arnold, Single,
of 12515 Waddell Creek RD SE, Olympia WA 98512, United States of America

and

Marie Yvonne Graham, Single,
of 1720 West Marine View Dr. #139, Everett WA 98201, United States of America

Any person knowing any just cause or impediment why this marriage should not be allowed should enter caveat forthwith in the office of the Registrar of Marriages.

Dated this 24th day of August, 2017.

Registrar of Marriages



FORM B
Notice of Intended Marriage
(Section 7(3))

The persons named and described hereunder have given notice to me of their intended marriage, namely --

Frederick Hewitson, Divorced,
of Calle Falua 9, Apt.18, El Rincon, Los Cristianos, Tenerife 38650, Spain

and

Paula Carol O'Callaghan, Widowed,
of Calle Falua 9, Apt.18, El Rincon, Los Cristianos, Tenerife 38650, Spain

Any person knowing any just cause or impediment why this marriage should not be allowed should enter caveat forthwith in the office of the Registrar of Marriages.

Dated this 6th day of September, 2017.

Registrar of Marriages



FORM B
Notice of Intended Marriage
(Section 7(3))

The persons named and described hereunder have given notice to me of their intended marriage, namely --

Glen John Back, Single,
of 16 Jesmond Mews, Hartlepool, England

and

Alexandra Emily Gibson, Single,
of 16 Jesmond Mews, Hartlepool, England

Any person knowing any just cause or impediment why this marriage should not be allowed should enter caveat forthwith in the office of the Registrar of Marriages.

Dated this 1st day of September, 2017.

Registrar of Marriages



FORM B
Notice of Intended Marriage
(Section 7(3))

The persons named and described hereunder have given notice to me of their intended marriage, namely --

Aaron Samuel Bailey, Divorced,
of 100 Anderson Street, Apartment 7411, Pittsburgh, PA 15212, United States of America

and

Cheryl Lynn Demko, Divorced,
of 100 Anderson Street, Apartment 7411, Pittsburgh, PA 15212, United States of America

Any person knowing any just cause or impediment why this marriage should not be allowed should enter caveat forthwith in the office of the Registrar of Marriages.

Dated this 24th day of August, 2017.

Registrar of Marriages

PARADISE PLATES TO COME ALIV

In an effort to continue expanding its corporate responsibilities, ALIV, The Bahamas' newest mobile network, has made a significant donation and is a presenting sponsor for Paradise Plates 2017.

Paradise Plates is in its eighth year and is hosted by the Hands for Hunger Organization, a non-profit humanitarian organization focused on eliminating unnecessary hunger and significantly reducing food waste through the creation of meaningful and engaging partnerships formed among all sectors of the Bahamian community.

According to the Hands for Hunger website, their inspiration was "founded on the critical realization that an incredible amount of edible food is thrown away every single day by restaurants, hotels, cruise ships, markets, bakeries, and other local vendors."

"ALIV will continue to fasten its increasing commitment to the people of The Bahamas. A key part of the ALIV brand encompasses creating meaningful experiences not only for customers but also for those in our communities. This marks a shared effort to grant every man, woman and child three nutritious meals a day through Hands for Hunger," ALIV Events

and Sponsorship Manager Bianca Bethel-Sawyer said.

Hands for Hunger Executive Director Zeleka Knowles said she is grateful for the donation from ALIV and hopes for continued support from the company in the future.

"The most fulfilling part about planning Paradise Plates is the amount of support Hands for Hunger receives," she said. "Our partnership with ALIV is exemplary. ALIV has proven to be dependable. They care about our mission and they invest in our programs even beyond this one event. Partnerships like the one we have with ALIV will leave a lasting impact in the community and will inch closer to a hunger-free Bahamas."

Paradise Plates is the largest fundraiser for Hands for Hunger and is a unique evening of gourmet food, wine, beer and cocktail tastings, complemented by an assortment of live entertainment, a thrilling live and silent auction and a raffle.

Paradise Plates is scheduled for September 30 at Atlantis Grand Ballroom, Paradise Island beginning at 7 p.m.

For more information about Hands for Hunger, please visit <http://www.hands-forhunger.org/>.

GOT NEWS?
Please call The Bahama Journal's News TIP LINE at 356-7254 and let us know!

FOULKES OPENS ILO WORKSHOP



► Minister of Labour Senator Dion Foulkes officially opened a two-day workshop sponsored by the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the Department of Labour on Wednesday at the Department of Labour. Minister Foulkes is pictured addressing the forum. **(BIS Photo/Derek Smith)**

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CTO Launches Hurricane Relief Fund

The Caribbean Tourism Organization (CTO) has activated its "CTO Relief Fund" through GoFundMe to help families and countries rebuild after hurricanes, particularly in the wake of the massive category 5 Hurricane Irma, which has impacted a number of member countries.

All of the money raised through the CTO's Relief Fund will be sent directly to CTO-member destinations affected by the catastrophic storm, which hit some countries with winds up to 185 mph.

"The damage caused by the force of Hurricane Irma is an important example of why we must do whatever is possible to provide financial relief to those who need it most. It's through this fund that the CTO channels monetary assistance to our impacted member states," CTO secretary general Hugh Riley said. "The CTO appreciates all donations to assist in the recovery efforts in these countries."

For more information on CTO's Relief Fund or to make a donation, visit www.gofundme.com/hurricane-relief-fund-cto.

LOMBARD ODIER EXECUTIVES VISIT MINISTER SYMONETTE



► Lombard Odier & Cie (Bahamas) Ltd. executives paid a courtesy call on Minister of Financial Services, Trade & Industry and Immigration the Hon. Brent Symonette, recently, at the ministry. Pictured from left: Angelique Sawyer, Ministry of Financial Services; Latoria Symonette Tinker, Consultant, Ministry of Financial Services; Sherrylee Smith, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Financial Services; Minister Brent Symonette; Raquel Wilson, Legal Officer and Vice-President, Lombard Odier; and David Garrido, Group General Counsel, Executive Vice President /Lombard Odier. **(BIS Photo/Derek Smith)**

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