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VOL. 30 - NO. 18

TUESDAY - OCTOBER 10TH, 2017

75 CENTS

MELTDOWN

The principals in the leading law firms in the Bahamas and Managers of Banks and Trust Companies in the financial services sector are increasingly worried about an ongoing meltdown of that sector.

See MELTDOWN / page 2...

Development Bank Given Ultimatum

BY RANECHEA ELLIS
 Journal Staff Writer

The government has given The Bahamas Development Bank (BDB) three years to get its financial housing in order.

Within that time frame Minister of Finance Peter Turnquest said the government intends to pull the plug on the \$3million dollars it gives in support to the BDB's bond interests.

"We want to make sure that we have in place the controls, that we have in place the right management and structure to ensure that the institution removes itself as another burden upon the public purse," he said.

As for the bank's delinquent loans, The Deputy Prime Minister is encouraging those persons with outstanding payments to make arrangements as soon as possible.

See BANK GIVEN / page 4...

PLAQUE UNVEILING



► Prime Minister, Dr. the Hon. Hubert A. Minnis, was in West End, Grand Bahama on Friday, October 6, 2017 for the Commissioning of the West End Community Clinic. Shown from left are: Pakesia Parker-Edgecombe, Parliamentary Secretary for Information and Communications in the Office of the Prime Minister and MP for West Grand Bahama and Bimini; the Hon. K. Peter Turnquest, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance; Prime Minister, Dr. the Hon. Hubert A. Minnis; and Minister of Health, Dr. the Hon. Duane Sands. Seated is the oldest resident of West Grand Bahama, 99-year-old Aleisha Thompson. (BIS Photo/Lisa Davis)

NEW OPPORTUNITIES IN BANKING, SAYS FORMER AG

Former Attorney General, Allyson Maynard-Gibson says there are tremendous opportunities in the financial services industry. She says, "whenever there is a crisis and we are in a state of crisis at the moment, but not just we, the world is in a state of crisis, a tremendous change and with that comes tremendous opportu-

nities."

Mrs. Maynard-Gibson said, "just as an example, banks that have been banking in an old fashioned way, shutting down in some of the family islands, well here is an opportunity. Look at India, remote parts of India and in remote parts in certain countries in Africa, all of their banking is

being done on a cell phone. India is a part of our commonwealth, and look at its technology. It's a technological world leader. These are opportunities here for us to think differently about how we will conduct commerce.

See NEW OPPORTUNITIES / page 2...

FINANCE MINISTER "RAISES RED FLAGS", SAYS COOPER



► Opposition Shadow Minister of Finance, I. Chester Cooper (Journal file photo)

Opposition Shadow Minister of Finance, I. Chester Cooper says the Minister of Finance, Peter Turnquest has "raised numerous red flags with his statements" on the budget deficit.

The MP for Exuma and Ragged Island in a scathing attack on Mr. Turnquest said, "having taken two months to respond to Her Majesty's Loyal Opposition's queries on the difference between the Minnis administration's initial deficit figures and those of the Central Bank of The Bahamas (CBOB), the Minister of Finance came to the House of Assembly on Thursday to advise the country that the new deficit is not \$500 million for fiscal year 2016/2017 as previously reported, but is actually \$695 million.

The Ministers has a lot of questions to answer. "Rather than give clarity on why the government spent \$381 million in the month of June alone, and why that data is still not finalized in the CBOB's reports, while patting himself on the back for the July numbers, the minister raised numerous red flags with his statement.

See RED FLAGS / page 3...



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MELTDOWN

Continued from / PAGE 1...

A prominent offshore banking executive who spoke with The Bahama Journal on the condition of anonymity, said the decline in the sector is due to difficulties encountered in the conduct of what were heretofore regular banking transactions and excessive compliance demands.

Professionals in the industry are now calling on the government to address these matters with a sense of urgency as the employment of thousands of Bahamians is at stake.

"The fiduciary assets under management by private bank and trust companies in the Bahamas have declined to \$80 billion. This represents a decline of 64.5 per cent of the assets under management just a few years ago", said

the Banker.

He said, "the issues of derisking (the process by which correspondent banks onshore seek to minimize their exposure to potential money-laundering) have the potential to upend the Bahamian economy, with it becoming an extreme challenge for Bahamians to secure foreign currency to pay simple expenses, such as university tuition.

"It is now becoming routine for the average Bahamian to have a small U.S dollar bank account outside the country to make their lives easier," said the source.

In a survey of the Central Bank of the Bahamas in 2015, it was reported that 244 Bahamians lost their jobs in Banking. In 2016 the bank noted that there was a further reduction in employment of four per cent in

commercial banking.

In addition, over the past two years, the number of licensed Bank and Trust operations declined by 19. It is said that operational costs in the Bahamas for these banks continue to rise. The compensation for the employees of these institutions declined by approximately 3 per cent during the same period.

"The Bahamas and other offshore financial centres are victims of a calculated disinformation campaign by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) countries and their bureaucrats, whose conduct has been more like a war machine than reasoned negotiations.

"They have not taken into consideration that success on their part to bully and force regula-

tions on the financial centres would result in the destruction of these economies.

"They have employed only the stick and have forgotten about the carrot. There has been no consideration of allocating resources towards an effort to prevent the crumbling of these financial centres. The result of this insensitive campaign has left those countries, including the Bahamas, that were offshore countries potential beggars, rather than the proud global citi-

zens that they once were," said the offshore banker.

He said, "one of the trends in the banking industry generally is that banks through the use of technology and outsourcing continue to shed jobs. There are some persons who think that banks deliberately allow long lines to develop at their counters in an attempt to force customers to use online banking," the source said.

(See Editorial on page 5)

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NEW OPPORTUNITIES IN BANKING, SAYS FORMER AG

Continued from / PAGE 1...

"So, if we think along these lines; let's get out of the box and see how we can make things happen and look at what's happening elsewhere in the world as well. We can continue to meet the highest international standards and very importantly tap into the creativity of our young people for using information communication technology.

"We are seeing the end of financial services conducted in accordance with the old model, just like we've seen the end of using fountain pens," said Mrs Maynard-Gibson, who also served at one time as Minister of Financial Services.

"When the new is emerging the old dies. I don't want to make things overly simplistic because it is a complex situation; but I think to understand it and not to be crushed by it, we have to try and keep it simple. Look at India, the remotes parts of India you have commerce and thriving and they do not have a place where you can go and say here's my money in the ATM or here's my cheque I'm cashing at the bank. They are conducting commerce on their cell phone," she said.

Mrs Maynard-Gibson made these comments as she appeared last Friday on the Radio Love 97 Show "On Point." When asked if the Bahamas had acquiesced to pressure from the OECD countries, she responded:

"I will not call it acquiescence. I think that what is happening is that we are recognizing the realities

of the world of commerce today. We have to get on with recognizing 21st century realities and meet the exciting challenge of creating 21st century opportunities in the Bahamas while meeting the highest international standards.

"Our young people are absolutely up to this task. We older ones who are grounded in private banking, like I said to you a fountain pen is a communications instrument, but it is really a fancy quill; a smart phone is a communications instrument, but it is very different quantitatively different from a fountain pen. So we are talking about unleashing especially the talent that is within our young people to create an entirely different reality," said Mrs Maynard-Gibson.



► Former Attorney General, Allyson Maynard-Gibson (Journal file photo)



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 -

Craig Thomas Rogers, Single,
of 21 Kinsella Court, Kellyville, NSW 2155, Australia

and

Cathy Anne McGuiness, Single,
of 21 Kinsella Court, Kellyville, NSW 2155, 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 21st day of September, 2017.

Allyson Maynard-Gibson

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 -

Daniel Matthew Holloway, Divorced,
of 2307 NW 26 St., Cape Coral, FL 33993, United States of America

and

Karleen Kay Kudla, Single,
of 2307 NW 26 St., Cape Coral, FL 33993, 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 21st day of September, 2017.

Allyson Maynard-Gibson

Registrar of Marriages



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GOT NEWS?
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Ministry of Youth, Honours Capt. Fernely Palmer

• More Than five Decades In Boys' Brigade

BY LICEC BASTIAN
Journal Staff Writer

A 74-year veteran of the Bahamas Boys' Brigade, Captain Fernely is this year's Ministry of Youth Sports and Culture National Youth Month honoree, and will have bestowed him the Lifetime Achievement Recognition for his outstanding service.

With October being recognized as Youth Month, under the theme VOICE (Vehicles Of Initiative, Change and Excellence), the Ministry

has chosen Capt. Palmer for his years of service as Captain of the 14th Company of Boys' Brigade, attached to Zion Baptist Church, East and Shirley Streets.

Capt. Palmer, who recently returned from Antigua and Barbuda just weeks before Hurricane Irma, told the Journal in an exclusive interview, that he was enrolled in the Boys Brigade company by his father who wanted to instill in him discipline.

"In 1943 my father took me to Wesley Methodist Church, and

enrolled me in the Boys Brigade.

"My father was a Jamaican police officer, and I think that he wanted his son to be disciplined, so he enrolled me in the 1st Nassau Boys' Brigade Company, and I stick with the Boys Brigade from then," Mr. Palmer said.

"I got to like the PE, and the drill part of it, the physical part of it and I fell in love with the Boys Brigade and here I am 74 years later, still a member of the Boys Brigade," he said.

Capt. Palmer grew

within the Brigade and received a leadership rank in 1958.

"On the 9th of September 1958, the late Rev. Talmadge Sands made him a captain of the 14th Nassau Company of Boys Brigade connected with Zion Church along with six other officers.

"From the 9th September 1958 until this day, I remain the captain some 59 years later," Capt. Palmer said.

Coining his own phrase, that is now copyrighted, Capt. Palmer

said that he stayed active in Boys' Brigade because of his passion to mold young lives.

"In Scotland in 1962 a New Zealand officer, Kingsley Shakespeare, asked me why I liked the Boys' Brigade, and instantly I said to him because 'I'd rather Build a Boy than to Mend a man'.

"It is now copyright, and it is used almost throughout the world, in particular in the Caribbean.

"Every country in the Caribbean I gave them the right to use that," Capt. Palmer boasted.

When asked what makes Boys' Brigade a great organization, Capt. Palmer said that the ingredients incorporated into the organization makes for cultivating good seed.

"The ingredients we put into Boys' Brigade is discipline and religion.

"Any country, any home, any business without religion and discipline they must fail.

"The Boys' Brigade was started in 1835 in Glasgow Scotland by William and Alexander Smith, on the twin pillar of religion and discipline and we started in the Bahamas 13 November 1909 and until now the Boys' Brigade has flourished.

"We are disciplined and punctual," Capt. Palmer said.

Capt. Palmer also said that he has seen more than 3,000 boys pass through his Brigade Company.

"If I can calculate, and

average about 60-64 per year for 59 years, so those who can do the Math, they can see.

"Some brilliant men passed through the Boys Brigade in general, but in particular 14th company, Ken Strachan ACP, Stephen Dean ACP, Supt. Shawn Smith, ASP Walter Henderson, RBDF Shawn Thurston," Capt. Palmer said.

As he deemed it a privilege to serve as captain of the Boys' Brigade, Capt. Palmer said that words could not express his gratitude to the Ministry of Youth, Sports and Culture for the honour.

"Let me take this opportunity to say thanks to Prime Minister Minnis and his entire Cabinet in particular Mr. Pintard who is the Minister of Youth and Mr. Turnquest and their entire staff.

"I cannot find words to express my gratitude for what they have done for me and what they will continue to do for me in the month of October, it is greatly appreciated.

"Mr. Minnis and your government, I cannot find adequate words to say how grateful I am for their honors bestowed upon me during this month.

During the month of October, a host of activities will take place that will honour Capt. Palmer's service to Boys' Brigade, which includes the presentation of the Lifetime Achievement Award during the 31st National Youth Recognition Ceremony on October 25, 2017.

FINANCE MINISTER "RAISES RED FLAGS", SAYS COOPER

Continued from / PAGE 1...

"Though he gave a list of things he claims the government paid for in June, he did not explain the specific nature of these bills, why the government decided to make these payments in full rather than stagger them as is customary and which ministries these payments originated from. Further, if the proverbial "cupboard was bare" as he pronounced in May, where did the Minister find \$381m during the month of June?" asked Mr. Cooper.

He said, "in the interest of transparency and accountability, the minister of finance must reconcile and explain his new deficit figures. While he is at it, perhaps the minister could indicate when, indeed, the year-end for the last fiscal year will finally be closed, as we are now in the second quarter of the current fiscal year.

"The continuous change by a wide margin each time the minister speaks accompanied by parti-

san rhetoric does not inspire confidence in our economy or our country generally.

"The purpose of the request for information was not to do a political dance with the minister, but to make sure that the government is being transparent with the public's funds - the most basic of public expectations.

"As shadow minister of finance, I have no time for political football, and will make no attempt to explain the minister's numbers for him as the details are resident in the Ministry of Finance, to which I have not had access at any point," said the freshman PLP MP.

Mr. Cooper said it is noteworthy that last month, the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) of the House requested, in writing, of the minister, an explanation for these variances; a request to which he has yet to respond.

"In the interest of transparency, accountability and credibility, I urge him to comply promptly.

"While he is at it, the minister must explain, in detail, what he means when he says that \$42 million of the \$150 million the government borrowed and placed in the consolidated fund last year for hurricane relief 'cannot be found'.

"This is no time for nonsensical talk. The minister well knows he has a fiduciary duty to reconcile the government's accounts.

"This is money the people of The Bahamas will have to pay back with interest. It is incredibly irresponsible to say that the government cannot locate \$42 million of the public's money.

"However, to blithely say he has no idea where the money is, is shocking, unacceptable and the innuendo is again language unbecoming of a Minister of Finance", said Mr. Cooper.

He said since the FNM took office, no significant foreign direct investments (FDI) has materialized and the government has presented no plan of any kind to spur life into the economy.

The Bahamas Agriculture & Marine Science Institute

WEEKLY PRICE REPORT

WEEK BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 25th, 2017

Wholesale Crop	Weight	Size	BAMSI Price	USDA-AMS		Retail Weight	BAMSI Price	USDA-AMS	
				HIGH	LOW			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 Green	8lbs		16.00	15.00	12.00	1lb.	2.50	1.88	1.50
Habanero Orange	8lbs		40.00	15.00	12.00	1lb.	5.50	1.88	1.50
Okra						1lb.	3.00	N/A	N/A

Wholesale Prices Weight	Per lb.	Price	Retail Prices Weight	
			1 lb	Price
Abaco Big Bird				
Whole Chicken	Per lb.	2.14	1 lb	2.39
Leg Quarters	40lbs	28.36	10lbs	8.49
Wings	40lbs	66.04	10lbs	19.24

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



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NJC PAYS COURTESY CALL ON PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY



Officials of the National Junkanoo Committee (NJC) and the Ministry of Youth, Sports and Culture Wednesday (October 4, 2017) paid a Courtesy Call on Parliamentary Secretary for Information and Communication in the Office of the Prime Minister, Mrs. Pakesia Parker-Edgecombe (centre), at the Cecil V. Wallace Whitfield Centre, West Bay Street. The NJC officials updated Parliamentary Secretary Parker-Edgecombe on a number of the new initiatives they have planned for the upcoming Junkanoo season at both the Junior Junkanoo and Adult Parades levels. Junkanooers are "in the heart of their seasons" preparing for the upcoming parades. Pictured (from left) are: Ellery Deveaux, Cultural Officer, Ministry of Youth, Sports and Culture; Adrian Carter, Director of Communications and Public Relations, National Junkanoo Committee; Mrs. Parker-Edgecombe; Kishlane O'Brien, Co-Chairperson, National Junkanoo Committee and Dr. Dwight Marshall, Co-Chairman, National Junkanoo Committee. **(BIS Photo/Kristaan Ingraham)**

Davis/Hanna-Martin in Battle for PLP Leadership

BY AMAJAHL KNOWLES
Journal Staff Writer

Progressive Liberal Party leader Philip 'Brave' Davis officially announced his candidacy for the party's leadership during a prayer breakfast on Saturday morning at the Baha Mar resort.

Mr. Davis currently serves as the party's interim leader following the resignation of former prime minister Perry

Christie after the PLP's overwhelming defeat in the May 10th general election. Under what seems to be his campaign's theme, "Be Brave," Mr. Davis is promising change under his leadership.

He said that the party and its supporters must get ready for the journey ahead. "In the coming days, weeks and months, let us begin to ready ourselves for the journey ahead and get ready to

rebuild and renew our great organization with compassion, common purpose and a renewed zeal to fight for the betterment of our brothers and sisters.

Mr. Davis set to oppose Englerston MP Glenys Hanna Martin for the party's top post. Hanna Martin announced her bid several weeks ago.

The PLP's convention is set for October 22nd-25th.



► Progressive Liberal Party leader Philip 'Brave' Davis **(Journal file photo)**

Development Bank Given Ultimatum

Continued from / PAGE 1...

We have no interest again in forcing businesses out of business or taking away businesses, but we have an obligation to the wider Bahamian people to ensure that The Bahamas Development Bank fulfills its mandate," he said.

As for what's happening with the bank of The Bahamas, the minister deemed it a "halfhearted rescue" package. He says the government is getting a grip on the loans.

"As you are aware, we would have transferred a lot of the old non reforming loans from The Bank of the Bahamas to The Bahamas Resolve in a second transaction," he said.

"A lot of those loans should have been included in the first rescue package, because having kept them on the books of The Bank of the Bahamas and having had them continue to be non-performing, dragged down all of the credential ratios of the bank and really put it in a very untenable position."

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Bahamas Against Crime



The AG's Flawed ARGUMENT

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 Government of The Bahamas' Attorney General, Carl Bethel made several statements that were contradictory when he accused the former Administration of overreach with respect to requirements of non-profits to submit information in compliance with new regulations and legislation.

In the **Tribune** article "Ag Blasts Christie Govt For Save The Bays 'Overreach'" it included several quotes from the Attorney General:

"Our predecessors seem to have been somewhat selective in the non-profits they went after and got sued for it," the Attorney General told **Tribune Business**.

Wait a minute; how could the previous Government have been selective if the Registrar General's Department required more than 100 non-profits to submit information?

And, how could the previous Government have been selective if the Registrar General's Department's requests to non-profits continued after the General Elections in May?

As stated in the article,

"However, the Government's efforts to impose tighter regulation on non-profits through the Companies (Non-Profit Organisation) Regulations 2014 and other companies-related legislation continued after the May 10 general election.

"A July 19 newspaper advertisement gave hundreds of non-profit organisations just two weeks to supply details of the organisation's purpose, objective and activities; identity of persons who control or direct the activities of the organisation, including senior officers, directors, and trustees; annual financial statements and records that show and explain transactions within and outside the Bahamas, and show that monies have been used in a manner consistent with its objective and activities; and the source of gross annual income of the organisation."

Well, there you have it Mr. Attorney General.

In the article, the Attorney General was also quoted as saying,

"The only basis on which you can demand to see the accounts for those entities is if you have genuine reasons to suspect them of money laundering or terror-

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.

ism financing."

But Attorney General Carl Bethel turned around and confirmed the reasons for the non-profit organization regulations, which require records from non-profits. The article reads,

"Mr Bethel yesterday confirmed that the enhanced non-profit organisation regulations were intended to ensure the Bahamas meets international standards for combating money laundering and terrorism financing. 'All of these steps we've been taking incrementally are all part of a broad-based effort to address each and every concern,' he told **Tribune Business**."

The article goes further in clarifying the need for the new regulations for non-profits that were enacted by the previous Administration:

"The Bahamas' concerns were heightened after the latest Mutual Evaluation Report (MER) by the Caribbean Financial Action Task Force (CFATF) (see other article on Page 1B), which found numerous deficiencies and weaknesses in this nation's defences against financial crime."

The Bahamas new non-profit regulations in response to the concerns serve no purpose if they are not acted upon.

In his accusations against the previous Administration, the Attorney General was also quoted in the article as saying, "'An inability to show you have legitimate reasons to demand the accounts is what led to the Save the Bays lawsuit, which is now settled,'"

How was it settled exactly? So Save The Bays doesn't have to comply with the new regulations but all of the other non-profits do?

Let's put aside the new non-profit regulations for a moment: Know that Save The Bays is a United States 501(c)3 organization. According to their regulations, any one can demand to see their financial records!

Mr. Attorney General, your arguments don't make sense. You are dangerously close to the edge, if not over the edge, in showing preferential treatment to Save The Bays.

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The Bahama Journal
Quo Vadis, Bahamas?

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E D I T O R I A L

CHALLENGES FOR BANKING IN THE BAHAMAS IN 2017

For the average Bahamian, banking in the Bahamas has become a nightmare with customer service ranking last on the concerns of the largest service providers. Two or three tellers serve upwards of forty clients. Most of us dread a visit to the bank, which can take well over an hour.

The opening of an account takes upwards of two weeks if they open it at all. The father of a newly minted doctor bemoaned the hassle that his child was having trying to open an account. The due diligence requirements can discourage the most intrepid individual. You can however, fly to Miami and open a US\$ account in twenty minutes. The world is then your oyster as payments can be made anywhere in the world online. No central bank bureaucracy

Algorithms reject transactions without reference to a human arbiter who can consider the circumstances and context of transactions. The brunt of the pain is borne by persons and companies involved in international transactions, where perceived vulnerability to abuse can trigger the closure of accounts which have no improper history.

The assumption is that the account holder is suspicious and she or he has to prove their innocence to maintain the relationship. That is grossly unfair, but is caused out by the fear of banks of the huge fines extorted by onshore regulators when a case of money laundering is discovered. These can range in the billions of dollars and so there is a culture of fear. This has resulted in so called "derisking" as banks try to eliminate any possibility that they can facilitate (even unknowingly) any act of money laundering.

As banks restrict their activities the small independent countries are fighting to survive. Colonies like the British Virgin Islands and the Cayman Islands exist under the protection of the United Kingdom who can seek to mitigate some of the more extreme initiatives.

The European countries wish to close all offshore financial centres. It was a source of amusement that after declaring his intention to close us down that former British Prime Minister (David Cameron) discovered that his families wealth had grown untaxed in the Bahamas for decades, and that one of his family's directors was a prominent bishop (now deceased).

Earlier this year a parliamentary debate in the eastern Caribbean revealed that the European demands for transparency on corporate ownership were hypocritical, because they were not forcing it on their jurisdictions. In deed it was alleged that clients were leaving our jurisdictions to go to an onshore banking system which provided

the confidentiality which many wealthy persons desire. So they are profiting from their attacks on our systems. There is also an attempt to crack the administration of Asset Protection Trusts by Bahamian trust companies.

Many banks have left the Bahamas. While not publicly acknowledged, it is concluded that the regulations are too onerous and expensive. Note to mention the settlements which can severely impact the viability of a financial institution. It is not-worth that HSBC closed its Nassau operation after a huge fine in a money laundering settlement with the US justice Department (the Bahamas office was not culpable yet almost fifty jobs were ultimately lost).

Banks are contracting their operations and shedding staff. They are also utilizing many part-time staff.

So schizophrenic are their operations that they seek to void transactions which they have been involved in for years. Banka have been a law unto themselves for years. How can Royal Bank charge \$16 to cash a cheque? They collect from the account holder and the payee when he cashes the cheque. This is their mechanism to force people to open accounts with them.

In the Bahamas banks will hold a US\$ cheque for twenty-one days although it clears in five. They then have the use of the client's money for the intervening period

There is no consumer legislation which protects the account holder, and the contraction of operations, and consolidation across the Caribbean, have made governments afraid to rein them in for fear of losing jobs. In other jurisdictions the laws require that the account be credited as soon as the cheque is paid, but the local banks hold it for the specified period of time unless one appeals to management. Those times were in place long before the implementation of automated internet operations. It serves the interests of the banks not to update the "hold" times.

There is also a need for consumer legislation on mortgages as banks are often predatory in the event of a dispute or when exercising the power of sale often leaving lives bereft and wrecked.

The various task forces have essentially forced countries like the Bahamas to draw the knife across its own throat.

They take the view that they will determine what happens in the offshore financial centres, and that we should stick to serving cool drinks on a hot beach.

Bank confidentiality is important because public knowledge of a family's wealth leaves them exposed to many predators who are prepared to behave unethically or criminally.

THE BAHAMAS
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The Bahama Journal
NO BETTER READING

The advertisement features a collage of newspaper clippings from The Bahama Journal. The main headline is "Four Bodies Claimed" with a sub-headline "Haitian Deaths Imminent". Other visible headlines include "Brush Fire Scorches Acres of Land", "22ND MURDER VICTIM Identified", "Debris Hinders Business For Ferry Operators", and "Alleged Election Fraudster A No-Show In Court". The background of the advertisement is a scenic view of a beach with waves crashing against the shore.

Capt. Fernley Palmer Solicit Public's Help

• Boys' Brigade Headquarters Needed

BY LICEC BASTIAN
Journal Staff Writer

Planted 74-years ago in what he termed the good soil of Boys' Brigade, Capt. Fernley Palmer gets

set to make his grand exit next year from an organization in which he gave the greater part of his life to; however, not before he makes a special request to Bahamians.

Capt. Palmer said that before he retires next year he wants to help the Bahamas Boys' Brigade to build their headquarters.

"Some 59 years after

being a captain, I met with my officers and they plan that I must go next year under normal circumstances and if the Lord tarries and I live.

"Of course, it will put

me 75 years in the Boys' Brigade and 60 years as a captain.

"Before I go I want to do something big for the boys brigade, not for Captain Fernley Palmer

but for the Boys' Brigade.

"So, I am coming to the public to ask the public to help me build the boys brigade headquarters on Dolphin Drive," he said.

The headquarters, which was started some time back was put on hold, according to Capt. Palmer; however, he said that it is now his goal to see the building complete.

"We started the headquarters, but ran into a little problem and it is now ceased but it is my goal to go out and solicit from the general public, but in particular the thousands and thousands of young men who have passed through the Boys' Brigade during the past 74 years, in particular those from my Boys' Brigade Company, the 14th Company, Zion Baptist Church East and Shirley Streets," he said.

Capt. Palmer also called on the men he boasted of who have become influential leaders in the country, that passed through his Boys' Brigade.

"We boast about the Boys' Brigade because at one time, Mr. Roderick Bowe came out of 14th Bahamas Boys' Brigade company, I teach him to right and left turn and he wound up being the Commodore of the Defence Force.

"The Rev. Reginald Ferguson from the 13th company at St. Johns Baptist church, the Boys' Brigade had two men, the Police Commissioner and the Commodore of the Defence Force came from the Boys' Brigade, they ruled the country and was in charge of security in this country and so we boast about that.

"I boast about 22 ministers of the gospel, Rev. Dr. Simeon Hall was the first one, Father Jimmy Moultrie, Father Crossley Walkine, Prince Bodie who was chaplain of the Defence Force, Apostle Clifford Smith, all those men came from the 14th company, my company.

"I boast about Dr. Frankie Walkine, and Calvin Johnson both members of Parliament. I boast about four lawyers, Dr. Peter Maynard, all those came from the 14th company of Boys' Brigade," Capt. Palmer said.

Capt. Palmer said that positive thinking drives the organization and that they remain steadfast in everything that is done as the Boys' Brigade is good soil.

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**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 --

Rogério Tomanini, Divorced,
of 239, Gabriel Dos Santos Street, Sao Paulo/Sp, Brazil

and

Gabriela Arbex Buono, Divorced,
of 239, Gabriel Dos Santos Street, Sao Paulo/Sp, Brazil

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 20th 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 --

John Fortescue Hoare, Widowed,
of 21 Hampton Grove, Norwood, South, Australia

and

Diana Jane Sage, Divorced,
of 21 Hampton Grove, Norwood, South, 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 20th 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 --

Daniel Mathew Krulce, Single,
of 3059 Atherton Dr., Santa Clara, California 95051, United States of America

and

Daria Marie DeCair, Divorced,
of 3059 Atherton Dr., Santa Clara, California 95051, 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 28th 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 --

John Thomas Campbell, Divorced,
of 16 Ingleside Ave, Cranston, RI 02905, United States of America

and

Tisha Ann Glynn, Divorced,
of 32 Smith Rd., Harrisville, RI 02905, 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 27th day of September, 2017.

Registrar of Marriages

AMMC LIVING HISTORY AWARDS CEREMONY PLANNED



► Executive Chairman of AMMC Reece Chipman, right, addresses a press conference on Thursday to announce a Living History Awards ceremony for December. Pictured at AMMC from left: Graphic Artist Reuno Pratt, AMMC Assistant Director Dr. Michael Pateman, and AMMC Director Dr. Keith Tinker. Also present were AMMC Board Member Dr. Gail Saunders, Event Manager Kinara Lloyd, and AMMC Secretary to the Corporation Kim Burrows. (BIS Photo)

BOIPB Creates Opportunity For Travel Writers

BY LICEC BASTIAN
Journal Staff Writer

To promote the Bahamas through traveling writing, the Bahamas Out Islands Promotion Board (BOIPB) and the Domestic Tourist have teamed up to inspire and empower Bahamian travel writers to exclusively promote Family Islands.

Hosting a press conference to announce plans for the internship, Noelle Nicolls of the Domestic Tourist said that the intent is to help young writers unleash their talents.

“We want to find the young, talented writers, all across our islands that are looking for an opportunity to develop their talent, build their portfolios and

gain exposure on an international travel platform.

“We want to build a network of writers who can help tell stories, create content and promote the Out Islands.

“The BOIPB blog provides first hand, insider perspectives on the experiences that define a Bahamas vacation,” said Ms. Nicolls.

The expectation is that ten writers from across The Bahamas will be selected to write for the BOIPB blog, which will promote Family Islands, member hotels and travel service providers.

The BOIPB launched the “Island Time” blog earlier this year, with Ms. Nicolls, at the helm as managing editor.

BOIPB Executive Director, Kerry Fountain said that the successful intern writers will help BOIPB and the Domestic Tourist to catalog the differences in vacation destinations to the islands of The Bahamas.

“The Bahamas is unlike any other tourist destination in the world. Here we have dozens of islands, each with their own unique offerings.

How can a visitor know the difference between a vacation in Nassau and one in Cat Island, or between Long Island and Bimini? The writers who participate in our writing internship will help us to educate visitors and motivate them to visit the Out Islands,” Mr. Fountain said.

“We want the Blog to speak to the myriad of questions visitors tend to have when they choose to travel to the Bahamas and we want to give them an insider’s perspective on questions they might not even know to ask,” he said.

Ten writers are expected to be selected to participate in the 12-month internship. Each writer will have an opportunity to be published on MyOutIslands.com.

The website is seen by hundreds of thousands of visitors ever year.

The top writers will have an opportunity to win various awards such as island-hopping press trips, scholarships for online travel writing courses and to attend international blogging conferences.

**NEW OPPORTUNITIES
IN GRAND BAHAMA**

BY C. JILLIAN GRAY
Journal Staff Writer

Grand Bahama is set to get an economic boost within the coming months.

Iram Lewis, Member of Parliament for Central Grand Bahama said they are developing seven theme parks to attract visitors to the islands.

While he said there is no specific dollar value as to how much this will cost, however he did say that they have secured a few corporate sponsors who pledged to the project.

“Some of the corporate partners in the industrial park like Buckeye Bahamas Hub and Bahama Rock have already pledged financial support and in the meantime we are structuring our authority where Bahamians will also be able to buy shares in the authority so that it will be operated as a cooperative,” Lewis said.

He added that they are currently negotiating to get the corporate sponsors to agree not only to the initial start-up cost, but also to maintenance fees where each year they will invest in the maintenance of the parks.

Lewis said investment

opportunities are in place for Bahamians as well and they propose that this project will employ hundreds of Grand Bahamians.

“We’re now creating business opportunities where vendors will now be able to get their peddlers license to sell drinks, souvenirs and food items. Also there will be a signature logo shop that will be owned by the authority where we will sell the authority’s t-shirts, hats, sandals and other items like they do Disney World,” Lewis said.

As for the exact date that the parks will be fully functional, Lewis said that they are are looking at starting the first one early next year or sooner.

“Perhaps even before the end of this year we will start some land clearing, particularly at the Lighthouse point, The Mermaid Pond and possibly the Boiling Hole,” Lewis said.

He said they are serious about the project and think it’s going to be a ‘game changer’ in Grand Bahama.

Lewis says he expects this model to be repeated throughout the archipelago so that other family islands too can benefit from the idea.