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The Bahama Journal

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A Losing battle for Healthcare

BY RANECHEA ELLIS
Journal Staff Writer

An increase of Bahamian nurses heading north (North America) for jobs continues to pose serious issues for the country's healthcare system and it is only one piece of the issue, according to Health Minister Dr. Duane Sands.

Accepting the reality of this, Dr. Sands on Wednesday told Parliament that the number of registered nurses leaving the country has exceeded 400.



► Health Minister Dr. Duane Sands (Journal file photo)

Additionally, he said, if you were to include trained clinical nurses and other skilled staff, the national deficiency at this time is well over 800 professionals.

These issues have left officials with little choice but to shut down critical care beds to ensure patient safety.

"This challenge is ongoing and it is real. To that end, my senior management team at the ministry has been charged with identifying a creative, tangible and sustainable program for nursing retention and physician redeployment across our system..

■ See HEALTHCARE / page 2...

WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION COURTESY CALL



► The newly-elected members of the Women's Association of the Free National Movement paid a courtesy call upon Governor General Her Excellency Dame Marguerite Pindling at Government House on Wednesday, October 4, 2017. **BIS Photo/Letisha Henderson**

Deficit Increased By \$195 Mil

BY LICEC BASTIAN
Journal Staff Writer

"They ran us into a proverbial ditch", was the statement made by Minister of Finance and Deputy Prime Minister Peter Turnquest just after he revealed that the previous administration's projected deficit of \$100 million was false, as the current deficit now stands at \$695 million, \$195 million more than was projected in May of this year.

During his contribution in the House of Assembly yesterday, Mr. Turnquest said that he wished to apologize for the fiscal incompetence of the PLP, as well as to the Bahamian people for what he had presented in Parliament in May as the projected deficit, which was incorrect.

■ See BY \$195 MIL / page 2...

Davis laments "loose lips" of MP

BY RANECHEA ELLIS
Journal Staff Writer

Pointing fingers at Finance Minister Peter Turnquest in The House of Assembly yesterday was Opposition Leader Phillip Davis called out the government for hypocrisy, specifically noting Mr. Turnquest's dismal outlook of the country's economy during his Budget Communication.

Referring to Mr. Turnquest, The Opposition Leader said, "East Grand Bahama knows how buck toe feels. The entire Bahamas felt the backlash wielded by Moody's in response to his Budget Communication. Even the international rating agency responded to the doom and gloom.

"Of course, that sent East Grand Bahama into a scramble. Ouch!!! Bucking your toe really hurts! Grammy used to say, "What you give to the world, you can't take back," he said.

Mr. Davis further took issue with the current state of the Interception of Communications Bill commonly referred to by many as the Spy Bill.

"It is confounding that the Bill now proposes this power should reside with politicians. This cannot be right and it is certainly not progressive or forward looking," he said.

■ See "LOOSE LIPS" on PAGE 6...



► Minister of Finance and Deputy Prime Minister Peter Turnquest (Journal file photo)

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BAF GENERAL & HEALTH INSURANCE BROKERS & AGENTS LTD.

ALL THE NEWS YOU NEED TO READ IN THE MORNING

THE BAHAMAS GIRL GUIDES ASSOCIATION COURTESY CALL



► The Bahamas Girl Guides Association started 'Cookie Month' with a Presentation of Cookies to Her Excellency the Governor-General Dame Marguerite Pindling at Government House on Wednesday, October 4, 2017. Pictured from left: Caden Smith, Trinity George, Miranda Logan, H.E. Dame Marguerite Pindling, Keranya Simmons and Antavia Mackey. **BIS Photo/Letisha Henderson**

A Losing battle for Healthcare

Continued from / PAGE 1...

"I am advised that a recent recruiting exercise in the last month, as many as an additional 60 nurses may have been poached by a wealthier nation to our north. We are a player in a massive geo-political chess board, where country sucks talent from us and we in turn recruit for other nations." If this was not enough, the minis-

ter said similar challenges are being faced in Mayaguana, Sprint Point, Acklins; Crooked Island, Spanish Wells, North Eleuthera, Fresh Creek, Andros; Sandy Point, Abaco and George Town, Exuma. "We have now identified physicians who may be placed in the family islands, but each of these physicians will require a period of orientation and training which takes about three months," he said.

The minister said he anticipates recruitment will be completed by the end of December 2017 and placement to commence by April 2018. "Simultaneously, we have begun the process of redeployment of skilled physicians to facilitate longer hours of service," he said. The minister stressed though, that no healthcare sector could undo bad health choices.

DEFICIT INCREASED BY \$195 MIL

Continued from / PAGE 1...

"I do want to apologize to them and to the Bahamian people for underestimating the depth of their fiscal incompetence, my words," he said. Mr. Turnquest's comments came after questions were raised as to why the Central Bank's report differed from what he presented in Parliament in May of this year, during the Budget debate. "Considering the serious hemorrhage of red ink under their watch, obviously they just don't understand it.

"But let me try to break it down to them. The Central Bank reports actual expenditure paid out on a cash basis up to the date that it gives the report, not for a full year. "The projected deficit presented in Parliament in my Budget Contribution of \$500 million was for a full year taking into account actual bills left behind by the previous administration and identified at the time that I made the contribution. "Two uniquely different concepts, and you know again the member for Exuma and Ragged Island, he is a financial professional in a way, so he should know about looking at year to date numbers versus an annual projection, Mr. Turnquest said.

Admitting he was wrong in his projection, Mr. Turnquest said there were several reasons to his underestimating the extent

of the deficit. "I am willing to admit that I was in fact wrong with my projection of \$500 million, I was wrong

in the sense that I actually underestimated the extent of the deficit.

See BY \$195 MIL / page 6...



**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.

M. Mayoral

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.

M. Mayoral

Registrar of Marriages



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 - D. Junkanoo Vest

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GRAY SAYS FNM IS HYPOCRITICAL

BY ONIKE ARCHER
Journal Staff Writer

Former Minister of Agriculture and Marine resources, V. Alfred Gray has accused members of the Free National Movement (FNM) of speaking with a duplicitous tongue by allowing Transport and Local Government Minister Frankie Campbell to have possession of two passports.

After the recent disclosure he made on Darold Miller Live Show earlier this year, Mr. Campbell proudly informed Mr. Miller that he has two passports.

Since Mr. Campbell said that his mother came to the Bahamas from Haiti illegally, Mr. Gray claims that under the Haitian Constitution any child born to a Haitian national anywhere, is a Haitian.

Amidst comments circulating on this matter, Mr. Campbell affirmed that he has never pledged allegiance to any country other than the Bahamas, which he stated in The House of Assembly this week. He held up in his hands for parliamentarians two Bahamian passports; a red diplomatic passport and a regular blue passport.

However, Mr. Gray was not content with Mr. Campbell's statement. On Love97's Issues of the Day yesterday, Mr. Gray explained his stance and the hypocrisy of the present FNM administration, suggesting that Mr. Campbell is also a Haitian.

He said, "the same FNM government marched, kicked up a breeze, pranced up and down when they thought that Ryan Pinder had two passports."

"They demanded that he relinquish one, in order to run and become a Cabinet Minister; they demanded that."

Mr. Gray continued, "When Ryan Pinder was about to run, they (FNM) raised eternal hell that he was an American and the American Embassy had to make a statement to say that he had to renounce his American citizenship in order to work in the government in The Bahamas."

Mr. Gray challenges the FNM to say that they indeed did not object to Mr. Pinder running, because he obtained American citizenship, as well as, being in possession of a Bahamian Passport.

"If it's good for the goose, it's got to be good for the gander" Mr. Gray emphatically said on Issues of the Day.

Mr. Gray feels that allowing one Cabinet Minister to be in possession of two passports but not allowing another Cabinet Minister from the former PLP administration to have two, the message that is being sent to Bahamian Citizens is convoluted.

He said, "what messages are we sending to the Bahamian People. It's good for some, but it's not good for others. All I'm saying is don't be hypocritical."

"Why do we have double standards, causing our people to be confused and maybe in the end of the day, talk foolishness?"

Mr. Campbell has not broken any Bahamian laws and is openly proud of his Haitian heritage.

BAHAMASAIR SET TO LOOSE \$22MIL

BY C. JILLIAN GRAY
Journal Staff Writer

Tourism Minister Dionisio D'Aguilar said Bahamasair is projected to lose over \$22 million this year.

In his address to the House of Assembly on Wednesday, Mr. D'Aguilar said this loss is due to a \$1.9 million increase in training cost for pilots to learn how to fly the five new ATRs which cost \$120 million via a loan that Bahamasair took out to acquire the aircrafts.

"Bahamasair currently employs 690 people for 8 aircraft and staffing costs represent 42% of total revenue, which is almost twice as much as the industry average of 20-25%," Mr. D'Aguilar said.

He added that they must reduce the enormous losses and given that the loss will go up even further when they start to repay that \$120 million loan in September 2018, it is completely 'within the

realm of any right-thinking Bahamian to ponder when enough is enough.'

He said that when politicians control companies, there is a tendency to over staff under the belief that somehow that secures votes. However, he says, that has been proven wrong and he wishes that all politicians would stop meddling in the workings of state owned companies to the detriment of the tax payer.

He then back peddled on that statement saying, "My views on Bahamasair have changed. Having been intimately involved in the airlift evacuation from the southern islands, I thank the great God above that we had Bahamasair to assist," Mr. D'Aguilar said.

Speaking on the facilities at the Lynden Pindling International Airport, the Minister of Aviation said he appreciated the enormous opportunities that Bahamasair provides Bahamians to be

intimately involved in the aviation sector.

"My private sector background, may have caused me to lean towards not supporting Bahamasair because of its enormous burden on the state, I do now understand that it has a vital, national security and nation building role to play," Mr. D'Aguilar said.

Furthering the conversation on economic opportunities, he added that the enormous subsidies to Bahamasair is allowing them to keep prices artificially low to the detriment of the private operators that are struggling to survive in the air transport business in the Bahamas.

"I intend to sit down with all parties to see how they can all operate and remain financially viable despite the subsidies passed on to Bahamasair by the state," Mr. D'Aguilar said.

Speaking about the state of family island airports, he said that 28

family island airports require over \$ 200 million in infrastructural improvements and he noted that securing airlift into these islands is the key component to the development of touristic development.

"The Inter-American Development bank has provided us with funding to begin the improvement of these airports and top of the list is Exuma, North Eleuthera, Bimini and San Salvador; recognizing that the busiest airport in the country, Marsh Harbour, has already been upgraded; although it does need rather frustratingly, a longer runway," D'Aguilar said.

He added that the Minister of Finance has already tabled a resolution to borrow \$ 35 million from the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) to begin the improvements and he said he can report that plans are being finalized on the airport in Georgetown, Exuma.

A. F. ADDERLEY HIGH SCHOOL HONOUR ROLL COURTESY CALL



► A. F. Adderley High School Honour Roll and Prefect Students called upon Her Excellency the Governor-General Dame Marguerite Pindling at Government House on Wednesday, October 4, 2017. **BIS Photo/Letisha Henderson**

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		
Abaco Big Bird		
Whole Chicken	Per lb.	2.14
Leg Quarters	40lbs	28.36
Wings	40lbs	66.04

Retail Prices Weight	
1 lb	2.39
10lbs	8.49
10lbs	19.24

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



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\$175 MILLION in education loans owed

BY RANECHEA ELLIS
Journal Staff Writer

Seventy-five per cent of recipients of the government's education loan programme that has been suspended for the past eight years, have failed to either keep up with payments or make any at all, according to the Chairman of the Education Loan Authority, Michael Foulkes.

During his contribution in The House of Assembly yesterday, Mr. Foulkes said what was most alarming is that some of those who fail to pay are back at home and occupy well-paying positions of employment.

"In fact there are in excess of 4,400 delinquent loans and of this group, the vast majority of the students are right here at home working. But Mr. Speaker, they are not paying their loans.

"Mr. Speaker it may be hard to believe that we have brothers and sisters among us who obtained loans as much as \$99,000 and never made one single solitary payment. They signed for the money, their guarantors or co applicants also signed, they received the money and never looked back," he said.

The chairman however also took the time to thank those who were adhering to

their commitments.

"I want to congratulate and say thank you to the 25 per cent of the students who have either paid in full and there are some of those or are current.

"They are meeting their commitment and making it possible when others join them to enable the authority to re commence loans to deserving persons seeking tertiary education just as they did, said Mr. Foulkes.

Moving forward, as for those who wish to set up payment arrangements, Mr. Foulkes said to call 323 6322 or they can visit #97 Collins Avenue.

Without doing so, Mr.

Foulkes noted that legal action may take place.

"The board of the Education Loan Authority met recently and it is thoroughly and fully committed to availing itself of every legal avenue at its disposal to ensure as best it can that all of the loans are repaid," he said.

"Furthermore the board has determined consistent with the education ministers' earlier comments on the matter to continue whenever and wherever possible to commence legal action in The Supreme Court against borrowers and their guarantors," said the Golden Gates MP.

Commonwealth Bank Donates to Hurricane Relief

BY C. JILLIAN GRAY
Journal Staff Writer

As the southern islands of the Bahamas struggle to gain its footing in the wake of hurricane Irma, one organization said they are here to help.

Commonwealth Bank gave a \$25,000 donation to the Bahamas Red Cross yesterday to assist them in their aid to the southern islands.

Vice President of Internal Audit and Credit Inspection at Commonwealth Bank, Jacqueline Farrington said one of the ways the Bank seeks to help is through the donation of funds to institutions who assist the community in the aftermath of natural disasters, thus their generous gift.

"If you have been impacted and you have heard our messages, please call or come in and speak with our repre-

sentatives if you need to extend a loan repayment to borrow funds for repairs for your home, school, church or small business. Please contact us, we are here to work with you," Farrington said.

She added that Commonwealth Bank is committed to standing by all residents affected by the storm.

Director of the Bahamas Red Cross Caroline Turnquest thanked the bank for their generous and consistent donation.

Turnquest said they have already sent out care packets and this donation will help to assist so much more.

"The assistance will be ongoing. We did not just ship parcels and that's it. The assistance will be ongoing because their economy would have been impacted in those areas. We will be able to assist with specific requests such as with Ragged Island, who will need mattresses and other items as

they rebuild," Turnquest said.

She added that since as far back as hurricane Joaquin they have not stopped helping and are still working closely with NEMA to provide help to the devastated islands.

Although they are still helping those locally who were devastated, Turnquest said they will still be reaching out to hurricane ravaged Caribbean islands.

"We're seeking to assist the Red Cross in Dominica. We want to partner with the defense force vessel that will be carrying supplies to Dominica and send some food parcels and water because those persons are in need," Turnquest said.

She added that as the Dominican Red Cross is their sister national society, thus the local Red Cross Society wants to partner with all other Caribbean countries in assisting them.

BPL Disconnection Workers Accused of taking bribes

BY ONIKE ARCHER
Journal Staff Writer

The Bahamas Electrical Workers Union (BEWU) demands that the Executive Chairman of Bahamas Power and Light (BPL) stops the malicious accusations that members from the disconnection department of the Company are taking bribes and are being dishonest.

The Secretary General of BEWU, Astrid Bodie said as a result of this accusations, members are being threatened by the public while performing their duties. She explained that with the absence of 'fundamental tools' which are needed for members to perform an effective disconnection, the Executive Chairman should compliment the members for carrying out their duties professionally.

Ms. Bodie said, "There are no disconnection locks available to do a proper disconnection, due to Executive Management discontinuing the ordering of disconnection locks.

"Therefore, switches are pulled down and a sticker is left on site, which makes it easy and convenient for customers to restore their own power by pulling up the switch without having to bribe anyone to restore their power."

Additionally, there is a shortage of vehicles, which makes it challenging for workers. Now, four disconnectors have to ride in one vehicle everyday which is very unproductive because normal practice is one disconnector per vehicle.

Ms. Bodie also indicated that Bahamas Power and Light (BPL) violated their rights and breached the industrial agreement with the dismissal of three members, without presenting any evidence or allowing them an opportunity to defend themselves.

She further said, "Our members were suspended weeks before the CFO and her two Managers were; this makes BPL's audit investigation in the Accounts Department look very suspicious."

BPL apparently allowed the same Senior Staff accused to assist the auditors with the investigation before they suspended them, according to Ms. Bodie.

"Both Junior and senior staff should have been sent home at the same time in order for the audit investigation to be fair.

"The Union feels that it was unfair because those same senior staff had enough time to vindicate themselves by removing and tampering with the evidence," said Ms. Bodie.

It is understood that BPL has sent employees off island to perform work duties without any stipend and upon returning, employees must wait weeks before they're reimbursed by the company.

Ms. Bodie articulated, "This is a disgrace because no employee should be asked to travel on behalf of the company and have to pay out their own pockets to maintain themselves while away on Company business."

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Bahamas Against Crime



Peter Nygard's Generosity Knows No Bounds

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.

Fashion mogul Peter Nygard's generosity knows no bounds. Nygard isn't just generous with his money; he is generous in spirit.

A NYGARD fashion show to preview the company's new fall fashions featured cancer survivors as models. You would have to be someone who is always thinking of others to choose to have non-professional models present your new fashion line, especially given the fact that fashion is such a cutthroat industry. Not only was it a big-hearted decision; it was a smart decision because all of the ladies looked stunning walking down the runway!

What a gift Peter Nygard gave to these breast cancer survivors!

Breast cancer is not simply a disease that can have a major impact on a woman's body; it also has psychological and social implications. Some women suffer severe depression, high anxiety levels, and extreme fear during and after the experience. A major fear many cancer survivors face is the possibility of recurrence of the cancer.

Anxiety levels can also be high because these women may have to deal with changes in their appearance ranging from hair loss to physical changes in their body, and may suffer from body image and sexuality issues. They have to become comfortable with their bodies all over again especially if they have had a mastectomy.

So imagine, if you are a cancer survivor who went through a harrowing experience that has led to major changes in your body, imagine what such an invitation from designer Peter Nygard to participate in his fashion show would mean to you.

It certainly is a confidence booster. It sends the message that 'you are special and you are beautiful just the way you are!' That message would uplift any woman, but for cancer survivors who may suffer from body image issues and a loss of self-confidence, it must mean the world!

The event was held on September 15th in Manitoba, Canada and had almost 500 people in attendance. Mr. Nygard will donate all the ticket proceeds from the fashion show to Cancer Care Manitoba.

Peter Nygard gives millions of dollars

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.

for cancer-related initiatives. He gives two million dollars alone to the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation every year. He gives millions more to foundations for breast cancer research, cancer awareness, mammogram screening, and other 'cure for cancer' projects.

Nygar has a charitable platform called NYGARD for Life. Past and ongoing projects encompass a number of initiatives including NYGARD for Life fashion shows featuring cancer survivors, as the Sept 15th fashion show, and an annual endowment to CancerCare. They sponsor a symphony orchestra to play for breast cancer patients while they receive treatment.

Other initiatives include NYGARD International Molecular Biology Breast Cancer Research Unit and Breast Cancer Tumor Bank, and a Mobile Mammography Unit.

Nygar's organization sponsors and participates in a number of other cancer awareness initiatives that raise money for cancer research like 'Climb for The Cure' where participants summited Mount Kilimanjaro in Tanzania, which is the highest mountain in Africa, and like 'Run for the Cure'.

Peter Nygard is known for his commitment to giving back and has given to countless charities, organizations, and individuals throughout his life. However, what's near and dear to his heart and is an ongoing commitment for him is eradicating cancer.

Hilkka Nygard, Peter Nygard's mother is Nygard's motivation as his lifelong personal hero and cancer survivor, though now deceased. He demonstrates that eradicating cancer is an important goal to him by his extremely generous and continuous giving to cancer awareness, cancer research and cancer cure initiatives.

Kudos to Peter Nygard for all of his generous giving and for helping cancer survivors to celebrate the beautiful women that they are!

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The Bahama Journal Quo Vadis, Bahamas?

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EDITORIAL

AS WE LAMENT

As we have previously suggested in any number of commentaries:- Violence – whether individual or systemic – blights lives and undermines health.

Note also that:- The World Health Organization defines violence as the intentional use of physical force or power, threatened or actual, against oneself, another person, or a group or community, that either results in, or has a high likelihood of resulting in, injury, death, psychological harm, mal-development, or deprivation.

In acknowledgement of this situation and these facts:- In 1996 the 49th World Health Assembly adopted a resolution (WHA49.25) declaring violence a major and growing public health problem across the world.

For better or worse, we now reside on some of the smaller of islands in this violently-sick world where regrettably, the beat goes on!

And as it does, some among us are now given to the venting of lamentations; and thus they cry out for the loss of what once seemed an earthly paradise; and thus, their cries for that Bahamas of yore; but which – sad to say – is lost in in the winds that have been blown hither by any number of illicit trades – whether they involve the smuggling of human contraband; guns, drugs or counterfeited goods.

We also lament the advent of times such as these which are said to be modern; but which – in reality – signify the resurgence of a species of neo-paganism; a time when men and women, boys and girls routinely give themselves over to the worship of any number of 'other gods'.

In sum, then, we now live in jive time revelry of confusion; itself but one expression of what can happen when a place goes funky; where practically no one cares for anyone but the ego-driven self.

And so today, young men – some of them little more than dead-men walking – now vent their fury on each other; thus the booming business now being done by a bevy of intrepid morticians who make their living off the carnage that now besmirches so very many of this land's meanest of mean streets.

Those who have tears remaining could yet wake to find that, they must cry even more as even more of their children are swallowed up in the maw of that whirlwind which seems to be growing fro

strength to even more ferociously savage strength in a deeply divided Bahamas where –step by dreadful step – we have collectively reached that point where some among us life is so very cheap.

In a sense, then, some among us now have their existence on the cusp of death; and thus zombie-like in their nether-world they negotiate some of this land's meanest of mean streets.

On occasion, Death greets and they are no more!

At the core of this cruelly-banal phenomenon, we find a situation and condition where people are not loved for themselves and where life itself is defined and measured in terms of things consumed and things worshipped.

In the meantime, life is left so cheapened that few among us say much about values such as pride in life and the urgency in the moment for both love and liberation.

Interestingly, then: Tina Turner has a ribald response as she begs to know:- Who needs a heart when a heart can be broken?

The very same Tina Turner – yet again in song – insists that love is just but one other second-hand emotion.

But yet – despite this artist's myriad of successes – we know that love IS the answer!

We also know that they who so often profess Christianity are called not only to embrace the stranger; but also that we should love our neighbor as we love ourselves.

This leads inevitably and inexorably to that point where we should all be concerned with assisting in helping find the common good that would – policy-wise – conduce to the finding and funding the achievement of wealth held in common for all the people in The Bahamas.

This remains our dream and aspiration for all our people.

But sad to say: There are Bahamians 'out-there' who routinely revel in hustling, shuffling, jiving and living parasitically off some of their fellow-Bahamians; and then, there are all those other Bahamians who are mired in distress, who see no way out and who – from time to time – become criminals.

In turn, this leads to a situation where community disintegrates, people become distressed and where they are obliged to live in neighborhoods that are crime-ridden and inherently unhealthy.

THE BAHAMAS
Sun, Sand, Sea and the
The Bahama Journal
NO BETTER READING

BAHAMAS GIRL GUIDES ASSOCIATION



► The Bahamas Girl Guides Association started 'Cookie Month' with a Presentation of Cookies to Her Excellency the Governor-General Dame Marguerite Pindling at Government House on Wednesday, October 4, 2017. Pictured from left: Caden Smith, Trinity George, Miranda Logan, H.E. Dame Marguerite Pindling, Keranya Simmons and Antavia Mackey. **BIS Photo/Letisha Henderson**

Davis laments "loose lips" of MP

Continued from / PAGE 1...

"In its current form, it must be rejected by right thinking freedom loving Bahamians as a rank and arrogant invasion of privacy. In its current form, the Bill violates the civil liberties and privacy by opening the door to political abuse and persecution. I daresay, it takes away rights from Bahamians when we in this place should be about deepening and expanding democ-

racy through the expansion of civil liberties and rights of privacy," said the Cat Island MP.

Echoing a sentiment his colleagues had during the debate, Mr. Davis said the Minnis administration has no plans to improve the country.

"We have lost opportunities to bring more Bills to this Place. Our primary purpose in this Place is the passage of laws for good governance.

"Apart from Money

Bills, we are with only a Bill that expands the powers of the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions and another that the side opposite labelled the "Spy Bill" when we tabled it in February of this year," he said

The opposition leader raised several other questions to the government during the Opposition's wrap up.

He asked, "when will Bahamians receive selective catastrophic care under NHI? When can Bahamian students expect free tuition at the University of the Bahamas? When will ordinary Bahamians receive tax relief on breadbasket items? And When can Bahamians expect the program that will lead to a unified busing system?"

Mr. Davis said hypocrisy and victimization remains the hallmarks of the Minnis administration.

GOT NEWS?

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

DEFICIT INCREASED BY \$195 MIL

Continued from / PAGE 2..

"The problem is not all the bills had been presented, not past me and my budget team, at the time that I did the budget.

"Bills are still coming and I am not just talking about \$2 I wouldn't mind \$2, I'm talking big bills, we are still getting bills," Mr. Turnquest said.

Mr. Turnquest said that only in being truthful with the Bahamian people that 'problem' could be fixed.

"The actual provisional deficit projected as of yesterday is not \$ 500 million, as I projected and I am afraid to say this number, but I committed to the Bahamian people and all those who rely upon the numbers that I give, to be as truthful as I possibly can.

"It's only in being truthful that you can fix the problem that you have, you can't deny the problem exist, you have to deal with it.

"But as of yesterday, the projected deficit for 2016/17 is \$695 million, that is the deficit. That's \$595 million more than the previous PLP government projected in their 2016/17; absolutely incredible," Mr. Turnquest said.

Mr. Turnquest further revealed that the expenditure for the month of June was \$381 million, which included some of the unpaid expenditures left by the Christie Administration.

However, Mr. Turnquest also stated that there was \$9 million surplus in the month of July.

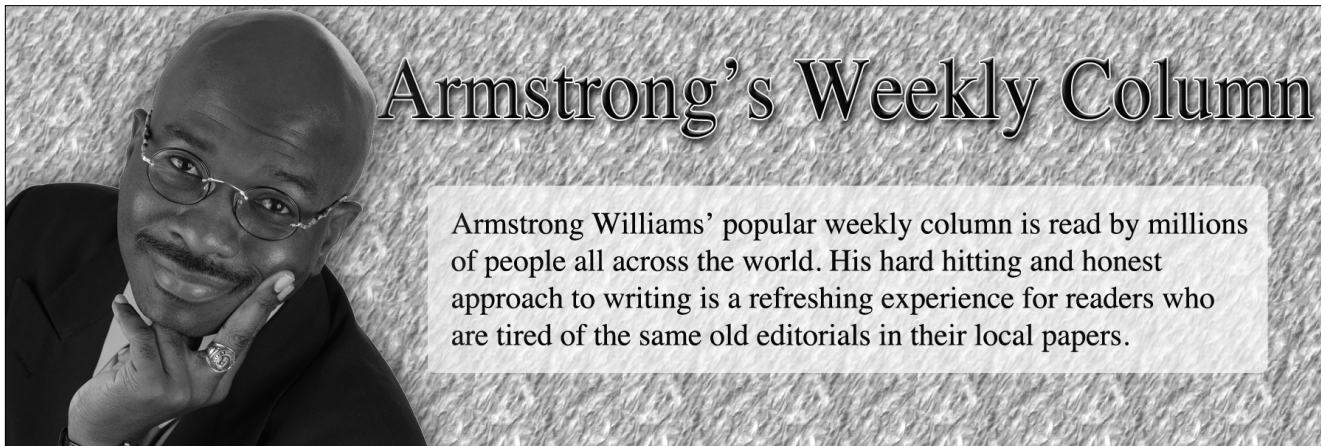
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We are all to Blame for the Las Vegas Shooting

The videos circulating on social media and playing repeatedly on the newscasts are the stuff of nightmares. The audio is chilling; the sheer panic in the air is palpable. Who among us cannot imagine ourselves in that same scenario—at a crowded concert, sporting event or other enjoyable activity when the unspeakable happens and deadly bullets slice through the air destroying families? It will be hard to forget the rapid fire staccato of automatic gunfire raining down on the innocents. But let's be serious, only for a handful of days until life returns to "normal." And then we will go about our daily routines until we are interrupted again by the next tragedy, the next senseless mass assault, the next horror show that eclipses all previous attacks in size and scope. In Las Vegas last night one sick and savage man pulled the trigger. His name is Stephen Paddock and his ultimate cowardice was displayed when he committed suicide rather than face justice or be help to account. But we are all to blame.


Every single day in America we are given clues that something like what took place last night near the Mandalay Bay Hotel could be in store. Often, we are too busy entrenched in the mundane or the minutiae of our own lives to even notice what is happening around us. Like the proverbial ostrich with its head in the ground, we are hunched over our cell phones and tablets totally absorbed in games, mindless chatter and texts, scrolling through social media feeds and whiling away the hours of our lives.

But around us we are missing unmistakable clues that should be sounding alarms. Most of us probably know or have seen somebody we should know is capable of a destructive act of domestic terrorism. We don't need to profile for radical Islamic terrorists, dark-skinned people born outside our borders or illegal immigrants from Mexico. American has its own terrorists. The monsters are already among us. First we have to recognize that fact. And then we have to act. Since the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, security experts have warned us repeatedly about the dangers of large-scale attacks on soft targets. And sadly, they have come to pass. Young people dancing away the night in a club in Orlando, people enjoying a country music concert near the Las Vegas Strip. Our world is a study in tumult, our nation is in chaos, and what we continue to witness is the death not just of our fellow citizens, but also life as we used to know it in the United States. The type of weapon used in the Las Vegas attack was obviously a factor in how quickly the assailant was able to murder his victims. But the government could ban assault weapons, take away as many guns of all sizes and shapes as possible and still we would see such tragedies. Evil finds a way, and bombs would replace bullets.

The men and women of law enforcement, who put themselves in harm's way to respond to these events but also to prevent them, could catch 99 potential assailants. And yet the 100th would still exploit our free and open society to wreak havoc and commit acts of unspeakable horror. When it comes to preventing terrorism and stopping such assaults the odds are not in our favor, and we cannot ever realistically expect to prevent these attacks 100 percent of the time. So what can we do? What must we do? The answer is to become more vigilant, more aware of what's going on around us. Instead of ignoring, mocking or laughing off the people in our society who seem disgruntled, angry or somehow "off" we must report them. We need to take a more active role in not just paying attention to the people who give us an uneasy feeling, but to take the next step by alerting law enforcement even when we have no evidence of a crime, but have uneasy feelings or are worried about a person's potential for violence. Law enforcement needs private citizens to help prevent these attacks from occurring. The families, friends, associates and neighbors of people who seem troubled cannot afford to ignore warning signs. There are always clues. Threats posted online, angry or violent sentiments conveyed in conversations, guns purchased, ammunition stockpiled.

The shooter at Virginia Tech had worried his classmates and displayed signs of mental illness. The Columbine killers forecast their slaughter on websites and violent journal entries. Even lone wolves leave footprints. We also must take a hard look at our laws and consider much more stringent penalties for making terrorist threats. Given the crisis we face, perhaps we should abandon the mentality that mass murderers and terrorists are innocent until proven guilty. Threats alone should be as intolerable as actions. Promising to commit these abhorrent acts should be grounds enough to bring them to swift and harsh justice before they act.

Our society itself is sick, and each and every one of us has a role to play if we ever hope to recover. Otherwise, the best we can do is plod about our day-to-day lives—and merely hope that we are not next.



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 --


Adam Michael Albert, Divorced,
of 417 Edna May Dr., Murfreesboro, TN 37128, United States of America

and


Michelle Lynn Gibbs, Divorced,
of 417 Edna May Dr., Murfreesboro, TN 37128, 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 19th 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 --

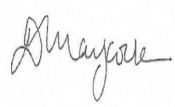
Daniel Mathew Krulac, Single,
of 3059 Atherton Dr., Santa Clara, California 95051, United States of America

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