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Gov't To Appoint Commission For Citizenship Approval

BY AMAJAHL KNOWLES
 Journal Staff Writer

Amid public outcry in the aftermath of the government's immigration ultimatum, Prime Minister Dr. Hubert Minnis announced yesterday that his government will establish an independent Commission to approve citizenship applications. Since independence citizenship applications were approved by the Cabinet.

Dr. Minnis' comments came while he and Minister of Transport Frankie Campbell attended a church service at the Haitian Metropolitan Church of the Nazarene.

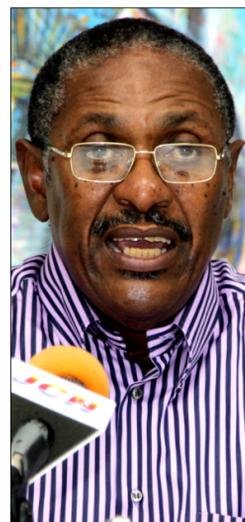
"We must be fair and just toward those who have contributed in so many ways to The Bahamas.

■ See GOVT TO / page 2...

HAITIAN METROPOLITAN CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE



► Prime Minister Dr. The Hon. Hubert A. Minnis and Min. Frankie Campbell worshipping At The Haitian Metropolitan Church Of The Nazarene, East St South.



► Progressive Liberal Party Chairman Bradley Roberts (Journal file photo)

"Ground Swell Of Discontent Evident," Says Roberts

BY AMAJAHL KNOWLES
 Journal Staff Writer

Progressive Liberal Party Chairman Bradley Roberts lashing out at the current administration for what he says is a clear build up of frustrations from the Bahamian public.

In an address to a Prayer Breakfast meeting of the PLP yesterday Mr. Roberts said there is "a ground swell of discontent" in the country as the governing Free National Movement has done little to improve the country since coming into power.

■ See DISCONTENT / page 3...

BTC EMPLOYEES MADE REDUNDANT

BY AMAJAHL KNOWLES
 Journal Staff Writer

Several employees at the Bahamas Telecommunications Company have been let go as the company conducts changes to its operations.

This was revealed by BTC Interim Chief Executive Officer Dexter Cartwright in a press statement.

"As part of our strategic approach to transform to a more customer-centric, high performing organization, we are making adjustments to how we run our business," said Cartwright.

"We are carrying out necessary network upgrades, giving more focus on training and development and improving back office support to better serve our customers.

"As part of this broader program, we have adjusted our team structure, and as such, a few positions at BTC have been made redundant.

"We reaffirm our commitment to building a more effective team structure to deliver the best products and services to The Bahamas," Mr. Cartwright said.

The Company has not revealed the number of employees being made

redundant.

This revelation comes three months after former BTC CEO Leon Williams left the company.

Earlier this year, Cable and Wireless Communications (CWC) a part owner of BTC reported that the company lost 24,000 mobile subscribers since mobile competitor Aliv entered The Bahamas' telecoms market last November.



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■ See DAVIS SAYS / page 3...

In the midst of a heated battle or leadership of his party Cat Island, San Salvador and Rum Cay MP Phillip Davis is not letting up on his fierce criticism of the government, saying the country is in peril as Bahamians are in a state of hopelessness and terror.

In a statement Mr. Davis criticizes the FNM's campaign slogan "The People's Time" saying since the FNM has come to power little has been done.

HAITIAN METROPOLITAN CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE



▶ ▶ Prime Minister Dr. The Hon. Hubert A. Minnis and Min. Frankie Campbell worshipping At The Haitian Metropolitan Church Of The Nazarene, East St South.



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 Joseph Boehm, Divorced,
of 6330 Stockwell Drive, Indianapolis, IN 46237, United States of America

and

Cheryl Anne Vaughn, Divorced,
of 6330 Stockwell Drive, Indianapolis, IN 46237, 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 12th day of October, 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 –

Eric Donald Frank, Single,
of 3921 NE 24th Avenue, Lighthouse Point, FL 33064, United States of America

and

Jessica Marie Hill, Single,
of 3921 NE 24th Avenue, Lighthouse Point, FL 33064, 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 12th day of October, 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 –

Stephen Anthony Brannon, Single,
of 2511 Brown Noddy Lane, Apt 201, Tampla, FL 33619, United States of America

and

Ashley Brianna Dupree, Single,
of 2511 Brown Noddy Lane, Apt 201, Tampla, FL 33619, 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 2nd day of October, 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 –

Christian Rodrigo Foncillas, Divorced,
of San Jose De La Sierra 93, DPTO 117A, Las Condes, Santiago, Chile

and

Anya Loreto Araya, Single,
of San Jose De La Sierra 93, DPTO 117A, Las Condes, Santiago, Chile

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 12th day of October, 2017.

Registrar of Marriages

Gov't To Appoint Commission For Citizenship Approval

Continued from / PAGE 1...

“This means that we must be fair in terms of our immigration practices and policies. It is not fear, nor just, for so many of our young people to be marginalized, isolated or placed in no man’s land. Many cannot open bank accounts, attend universities, or travel in spite of finishing our high schools and in some instances performing at the top of the class.

“My Government will act in accordance with our Constitution, and the demands of human dignity and social justice, to grant residency and citizenship for eligible individuals, who qualify for such status.

“To the press, “No, I am not opening flood gates, but I will, and all of The Bahamas will respect and enforce the laws of our country. Too many people have been waiting a long time to be granted permanent residency,” Dr. Minnis said.

Pundits have also questioned how the government will deal with the large amount of cases that have been backlogged or remain “in limbo” The Prime Minister also revealed that a commission will be established to address this.

“There are also questions about the grant of citizenship. My Government will create an independent commission to approve applications for citizenship in accor-

dance with the Constitution and our laws. There must not and will not be any political interference in our constitution.

“Except for cases of national security, we will remove the approval of applications for citizenship from the Cabinet.

“A few weeks ago, I made an announcement about illegal migration to The Bahamas. The FNM’s immigration policy is not a policy about individuals from any one country.

“It is not a policy solely about individuals from the Republic of Haiti, people of Haitian descent will not be especially targeted.

“The policy is about individuals from any country who are not legally in The Bahamas. The policy is also concerned with Bahamians who illegally employ individuals from anywhere in the world.

“The Bahamas must be a country that upholds the law. We must uphold the law in terms of the grant of permanent residency and citizenship,” Dr. Minnis said.

Last week Immigration Minister Brent Symonette and Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance Peter Turnquest said they are looking at how to fund the increased repatriation exercises that will come in response to Prime Minister Dr. Hubert Minnis’ goal of more stringently enforcing the country’s immigration laws.

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

'PRICEWATERHOUSE COOPERS EXECUTIVES MAKE COURTESY CALL ON MINISTER OF LABOUR'



► Executives of Pricewaterhouse Coopers, one of the country's leading and trusted accounting firms made a courtesy call on the Minister of Labour, Senator the Hon. Dion Foulkes on Thursday, 19 October, 2017 at the Ministry of Labour on Shirley and Charlotte Streets. Pictured from left to right with Minister Foulkes who is shown at center is: Mrs. Shavonne Symonette, Administration Officer, Ministry of Labour; Ms. Cecilia Strachan, Permanent Secretary (Acting), Ministry of Labour; Mr. Kevin Cambridge, Director PwC; Mrs. Claudene Lofters, Senior Manager, PwC and Mr. Adrian Tait, Partner Advisory-Consulting, PwC.

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"Ground Swell Of Discontent Evident," SAYS ROBERTS

Continued from / PAGE 1...

"It has been five months and thirteen days since the FNM assumed the reins of government of this country and the ground swell of discontent is already evident. Crime and unemployment have increased and the consensus is that the FNM has no plan for this country. Grand Bahama's economy is in a wheel chair will all tires flat.

"Their rather thin legislative agenda has resulted in less rights for Bahamians and a consolidation of power in the hands of a few politicians and the consolidation of wealth in the hands of a few rich families and party donors. This cannot be right as we are clearly moving in wrong direction as a country and it is the responsibility of the Progressive Liberal Party to be the

moral conscience of this country," Mr. Roberts said.

Mr. Roberts further urges members of his party to come out of their three-day convention revitalized and stronger than ever.

He told PLP Convention delegates, "as you campaign for and debate the merits of the various candidates of your choice, I beseech you to do so in a spirit of mutual respect. Please be tolerant of opposing views and voices of dissent as these expressions are part and parcel of the democratic process and fully protected by the party's constitution.

"We must make this case to the Bahamian people with alternative informed public policy proposals that appeal to the most basic sensibilities of the Bahamian people – those of respect, inclusion, fairness and

empowerment.

"As we seek divine guidance from Almighty God and thank Him for all of His many blessings, let us ask His divine intervention in our vigorous debates and deliberations, our robust exchange of ideas and our innovative policy proposals during the course of this convention all for the betterment of our fair Commonwealth and improved quality of life for our people.

"When we emerge from this convention fellow delegates, I am confident that we will be stronger and more united as a body politic, re-energized for the singular task ahead which is to return the great Progressive Liberal Party to the governance of this country as we fight for the soul of this great Commonwealth," Mr. Roberts said.

Davis Says "The Country is in Peril"

Continued from / PAGE 1...

"While the FNM Government is consistently boasting about this era being 'the people's time,' the PLP leader is revealing the opposite as many Bahamians are experiencing a time of hopelessness and terror.

"It is not the people's time, Davis reiterated, explaining that the people's time for this uncaring Government is not the time for all people. He stated that, since this so called people's time began, many jobs have been lost with individuals being laid off from places like National Health Insurance (NHI), Tourism and Urban Renewal. Legitimate contracts have been cancelled, the cost of electricity has doubled without justification and residents of Grand Bahama are experiencing the worst state ever in their economy," Mr. Davis said.

Mr. Davis also urged members of his party to remain united on the heels of their convention.

"The country is in peril, we must become united, and we must stand together, no divisions, no friction. A time for change to come is, in his opinion, truly the people's time," Mr. Davis said.

The PLP's first night of their convention begins tonight at the Melia Nassau Beach Resort.

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

Abaco Big Bird
Whole Chicken
Leg Quarters
Wings

Wholesale Prices Weight

Per lb. 2.14
40lbs 28.36
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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CULMER: It's Time for the PLP to Face Reality

BY AMAJAH KNOWLES
Journal Staff Writer

Newly elected Free National Movement Chairman Carl Culmer wasting no time hitting out at the opposition, saying the Progressive Liberal Party needs to come to grips with reality.

In statement before of the PLP leadership race in its Convention this week, Mr. Culmer says the PLP was soundly rejected by the Bahamian Electorate and should face this fact.

"The last election the Bahamian people soundly rejected the failed leadership of the PLP. They watched for five years as the PLP Government systematically destroyed our country through wanton neglect and rampant corruption. The people watched as the PLP misappropriated their money, gave out government contracts to their chosen loyalists and most of all created a culture of corruption at every level of

"Bahamians are rightly asking what the PLP misunderstood after the last general election? How the PLP can seem so tone deaf to the will of the people? Brave Davis and Glennys Hanna-Martin are still more concerned about holding onto whatever power, instead of listening to the people. Change has come to most of the Bahamas, but it seems to have skipped over the woebegone PLP," Mr. Culmer said.

government.

"May 10th's message was loud and clear but very simple, 'No More!' No more corruption. No more fiscal mismanagement. No more allowing a Government to put themselves before the people they were elected to serve. Apparently not everyone heard that message. The same two persons, who served as the embattled Perry Christie right hand man and the other as his enabler, are seeking to seize power and take the reins of the PLP. The same persons at every turn, turned a blind eye to the rampant corruption in his Government and a deaf ear to countless Bahamians struggling to get by.

"Bahamians are rightly asking what the PLP misunderstood after the last general election? How the PLP can seem so tone deaf to the will of the people? Brave Davis and Glennys Hanna-Martin are still more concerned about holding onto whatever power, instead of listening to the people. Change has come to most of the Bahamas, but it seems to have skipped over the woebegone PLP," Mr. Culmer said.

Culmer was elected chairman of the Free National Movement (FNM) last week.

He received 104 votes in the election staged by the Central Council. Howard Grant, his only challenger, received 18 votes.

Man Found Dead In GB

BY AMAJAH KNOWLES
Journal Staff Writer

Police in Grand Bahama are investigating a possible homicide.

Reports are that shortly after 2:00pm on Friday, Police in Grand Bahama responded to report of a man found dead at Bimini Place Hawksbill. On arrival at the scene, officers discovered the lifeless body of a male with injuries inside an abandoned house.

The man was pronounced dead on the scene.

Investigations are on going.

If confirmed, this would be the 116th homicide for this year according to the Bahama Journal's records.

Last Thursday several local pastors called on the government to institute a variety of initiatives, including a 30-day amnesty period for guns, in order to curb the escalating homicides in the country.

The pastors, including Bishop Simeon Hall, Bishop Victor Cooper, Bishop Gregory Minnis and Reverend Doctor J. Carl Rahming, claimed the "political rhetoric and pronouncements" made by politicians "have done very little" in the last 25 years to curb the escalating use of illegal guns throughout the country.

PRIME MINISTER & MRS MINNIS ATTENDS THE 2017 GRAND BAHAMA HOPE SOCIETY BALL



► Prime Minister Dr. The Hon. Hubert A. Minnis and Mrs Minnis Attends The 2017 Grand Bahama Hope Society Ball at Grand Ballroom, Our Lucaya, Grand Bahamas. (Photographer: Yontalay S. Bowe)

CENTURION SIR DURWARD KNOWLES HONOURED BY ROTARIANS AND ONE BAHAMAS

BY ONIKE ARCHER
Journal Staff Writer

The Bahamas' National Hero, Gold Medalist and the oldest living Olympian, Sir Durward Knowles was honored at a luncheon last Friday by Rotarians from Rotary Club East Nassau at the Nassau Yacht Club in celebration of his 100th birthday on November 2nd.

All smiles, Sir Durward accompanied by his wife, Lady Holly Knowles and their children, he gleefully stated to the Journal, "I feel exceptionally good and life is great. I feel 100 percent perfect."

A well-known humanitarian and philanthropist, Sir Durward Knowles has been involved in almost every aspect of Bahamian society. The Rotary Club in collaboration with the One Bahamas Foundation and ALIV came together to celebrate the momentous occasion.

The Journal spoke with Fred Munnings Jr. and Chief ALIV Champion Johnny Ingle about their roles with One Bahamas as the countdown to Sir Durward Knowles' Birthday on November 2nd moves forward.

Starting a subcommittee in Sir Durward's honor '100 days to the

100 years of Sir Durward's life', Mr. Munnings detailed the events which have taken place up to this point.

"We were responsible for organizing that activity on a 100 day countdown. We started 100 days ago and we are now down to 14 days. We have also planned a series of activities.

"In the last month alone, we have done a virtual essay competition where we included primary school children and junior and senior high school children, so they may know about this great man, a Bahamian icon."

Detailing ALIV's contribution, Mr. Munnings expressed thanks to ALIV for partnering with the subcommittee and flying in any of the family island contestants who are among the winners into Nassau for the final competition.

The One Bahamas Foundation partnered with ALIV one year ago. Since then, ALIV has sponsored all activities and endeavours of One Bahamas Foundation.

Mr. Munnings also shared the debut of his song "Throughout my lifetime" he released on Friday specially written for Sir Durward Knowles which depicted the contribution he has made to the world.

Mr. Ingle sharing his thoughts about partnering with the One Bahamas Foundation said, "One can never forget the tradition of the One Bahamas Foundation and we must always acknowledge the work they have done over the many years in this phenomenal country.

"We are coming out from a position of respect and humility. We support One Bahamas because it is an organization that has one central theme and goal, which is the unification through character, humility and respect of everyone in The Bahamas.

Extolling ALIV's contribution to Bahamian communities, Mr. Ingle stated, "in our own small way, ALIV is doing the same thing; connecting communities and connecting Bahamians with the best value, choice and network. We are making an investment in The Bahamas' community."

Sir Durward Knowles is a successful businessman and one of the driving forces behind the One Bahamas Foundation which strives to unite all Bahamians.

Also unveiled during the luncheon was a statement Prime Minister Dr. Hubert Minnis commemorating November 2nd, Sir Durward's Birthday, as Sir Durward Knowles Day.



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Sir Durward Knowles, through his involvement with One Bahamas Foundation, has exemplified the mandate of the Foundation by his ability to encourage, love and promote unity among all Bahamians throughout our nation;

AND WHEREAS, the One Bahamas Programme, which was established in 1992, was the brain child of the Honourable Algernon Allen, former Minister of Youth, Sports and Culture;

AND WHEREAS, in 1993, three outstanding individuals were elevated to the apex of the One Bahamas Foundation, Sir Orville Turnquest, former Governor General, became its Patron, while Sir Durward Knowles and Mr. Obie Ferguson became the organization's Co-Chairpersons;

AND WHEREAS, Sir Durward has the distinction of becoming the first Bahamian to win an Olympic Gold Medal in Sailing at the 1964 Olympic in Tokyo, Japan;

AND WHEREAS, Sir Durward's lifetime achievements in Sports, Rotary, Philanthropy and National Development are testaments to his legacy as a man for all seasons and a true Bahamian national hero;

AND WHEREAS, in celebration of Sir Durward Knowles' 100th Birthday, which falls on 2nd November, 2017, the One Bahamas Foundation has organize a schedule of events celebrate the life and work of this outstanding centenarian;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Hubert A. Minnis, Prime Minister of The Commonwealth of The Bahamas, do hereby proclaim the 2nd November, 2017, as **"SIR DURWARD KNOWLES' DAY"**.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my Hand and Seal this 16th day of October, 2017.

HUBERT A. MINNIS
PRIME MINISTER

“WHERE IS MR. NYGARD’S SWIFT JUSTICE” to rebuild his house?

Environmental Activist, Vivian Whyllly while being interviewed on JCN’s The Platform television show, opined that fashion mogul Peter Nygard has been denied justice because at four years he has yet to have been given permission to rebuild his home on Nygard Cay.

Mr. Whyllly expressed that The Government of The Bahamas needs to grant Mr. Nygard a permit and allow him to rebuild his home.

When asked by the show’s host, “Wouldn’t the Government be in contempt of court since this matter is under judicial review?” Mr. Whyllly responded, “A lady in Old Fort Bay was charged and convicted with killing her husband, and sentenced in a shorter time than it takes the Government to make a decision on Nygard.

“You have to be able to reasonably expect due process to be done in a timely manner. It’s been 4 years of wasting time.”

Mr. Whyllly also expressed the view that the public doesn’t know a lot about the injunction, and that they are simply aware that there is an ongoing feud between two neighbours.

Save The Bays has taken the Government of The Bahamas to court for a judicial review concerning the decision to issue permits to Mr. Nygard to rebuild his home after it was mysteriously burned down a number of years ago. Mr. Nygard is still waiting to be granted permission to rebuild.

About the Bahamian people, Whyllly states: “All they know is a feud. That’s how bad this is—the newspaper ads and all the rest of that have nothing to do with the court moving on the case.”

Mr. Whyllly feels that the court can deal with any contempt of court matters while at the same time dealing with the substance of the case on the injunction.

He went on to use this analogy: “If you pay your light bill and they turn your light off, they breach the contract. Peter [Nygard] pays his taxes. Make a decision. That’s all the Government should concentrate on and do.

“Where’s Mr. Nygard’s Swift Justice?” Whyllly asks.

“You see, criminal matters are not the

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.

only matters in front of the court. There are civil matters also. And if it takes you four years, 48 months,” The show’s host finishes the statement, “for a court to do a judicial review, there is no swift justice. And justice delayed,” Mr. Whyllly completes the statement, “is justice denied.”

Mr. Whyllly reiterates that Peter Nygard has been denied justice.

Additionally, Mr. Whyllly expressed these views:

“I believe that Mr. Nygard has been attacked repeatedly, and is continuously being attacked. Lyford Cay is not a sovereign country. Nygard is a friend of The Bahamas. The people who don’t like Mr. Nygard live in Lyford Cay, and they’re trying to dictate to The Bahamas how they should deal with Mr. Nygard.

“The [Bahamian] people know that this is a bunch of money by Save The Bays to make Mr. Nygard look bad. For what? That’s what the Bahaman people need to know. Why are they doing all of this to make Nygard look bad?”

“People read the newspaper and come to me on the streets and they say, ‘Mr. Whyllly, thank you for explaining what’s going on.’ Mr. Nygard has been almost a ragdoll in the pitbull’s mouth when it comes to their attempt to discredit him.

“Mr. Peter Nygard has been unfairly treated in The Bahamas because of undue influence by Save The Bays. I am saddened that the people in The Bahamas are not being allowed to benefit from being able to go in Lyford Cay, and being able to use the doc at the park.

“The Government should act. They should act in favour of granting Mr. Nygard these things. Because he hasn’t done anything not to be granted that.”

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E D I T O R I A L

BEYOND REVENGE!

No amount of talk; no amount of outraged chatter—and therefore, no amount of prayer without requisite work and purpose-infused effort can ever lead to any reduction in the rate at which Bahamians routinely [and in most times] get away with ripping-off, hurt, and sometimes even killing this person or the other.

This point we make as but one rejoinder to comments recently attributed to New Covenant’s [Emeritus] Bishop Rev. Dr. Simeon B. Hall and a bevy of other Ministers of the Gospel.

As reported—these fine men insist that: “Every facet of society must enlist in this war against those who have declared war on a civilized Bahamas. Draconian measures must set fear in the hearts of criminals. The fear and dread felt by Bahamians must be transferred to the criminal-minded.”

Of note, too, is their artfully based appeal to both pity and revenge when they recite that sad story concerning a youth man who was—as they say on the street—head-shot as he sat [innocently...doing his homework.

As the Bishop and his colleagues conclude—“... We must declare WAR on those without regard for human life...”

And thus their call for bloody revenge on people like they who would – advertently or not – would kill a youth-man who was ‘innocently’ doing his home-work.

This is obviously an appeal not only to pity; but also a dog-whistle call for bloody revenge.

For emphasis we call on Echo as these dread words reverberate in mind:

DRACONIAN MEASURES MUST SET FEAR IN THE HEARTS OF CRIMINALS. THE FEAR AND DREAD FELT BY BAHAMIANS MUST BE TRANSFERRED TO THE CRIMINAL-MINDED.

There we see it in BLACK AND WHITE -- - “...Draconian measures must set fear in the hearts of criminals. The fear and dread felt by Bahamians must be transferred to the criminal-minded...”

As we sit back, watch and observe the signs and times in these last and evil days we are daily reminded of certain principles and facts that should always be taken to heart when we seek to help steer fallen humanity on to paths that would lead to more abundant life for all of our people, inclusive of the stranger at our gates.

In this regard then, we make note of but one factoid concerning the relationship between incarceration and human rights vio-

lations extant in our own prison lock-up located in Fox Hill and but one key Nelson Mandela observation concerning how, why and when people learn to hate.

As regards prison conditions in the Bahamas, note has been made to the effect that: “...The harsh conditions under which the inmates are forced to live have turned many into hardcore criminals. Some ex-convicts have admitted that they have become hardened criminals by being incarcerated in an overcrowded prison...”

Simply put, then: Hurt people learn how to hurt and hate other human beings --- and thus the quantum of human suffering can and will expand exponentially.

And as we revert to Nelson Mandela, take note that he once insisted that: “No one is born hating another person because of the color of his skin, or his background, or his religion. People must learn to hate, and if they can learn to hate, they can be taught to love, for love comes more naturally to the human heart than its opposite...”

Love remains the key to human flourishing!

This we know and this we shall continue to trumpet until all who can hear and see are resolved to be up and doing in order to make the Bahamas a more loving and caring society – one where each comes to understand that: We are all bound together in a skein of mutually and reciprocally interactive social relationships.

But since facts are stubborn things, we do realize that: As night follows day – the bloody report of crime rampant and on the hoof will continue apace and thus it follows that: Even more ripping off and hurting and killing among the down-trodden of this bruised and battered society will continue.

And just as true is the fact that, the hardmen and women who import the guns; who use false weights and measures when they treat with the widow and her orphans and of course, who sometimes also short-change the working poor who labor for a measly pittance will [as they usually do] bemoan how lawless the so-called ‘criminal’ classes have hereof late become.

Alas! These hypocritically self-righteous ones amongst us are precisely those high society types who now yearn for the soon-coming of that day when some of the poor and the down-trodden so-called ‘criminal’ elements can be led to the gallows to swing and die.

This is so very hate-full and spite and revenge-saturated; and therefore [as such] not befitting a so-called ‘civilized’ people.

Letter to the Editor

SUPPORT FOR HANNA-MARTIN

Dear Editor,

In a matter of days the Progressive Liberal Party will convene to slaughter Glenys Hanna-Martin in her bid to become the first woman leader of the Party; just as the Free National Movement Massacred Loretta Butler-Turner in her avant guard attempt to become the First Woman Leader of any Political party in the Commonwealth of the Bahamas.

The Old Boys Club is alive in both the PLP and the FNM and will not tolerate any woman who challenge male leadership, no matter how brilliant and capable the female leadership might be. The Old Boys Club will settle for male mediocre leadership to steer the Bahamas instead of solid Female leadership. Although we all know that women in the Bahamas excel in every Professional Field. They lead in every segment of society. Why can't

women get it through their heads that they could lead in the Political arena?

Clearly, Loretta Butler-Turner is the standard by which opposition Political leadership is measured in the Bahamas. Glenys Hanna-Martin is holding her own as the PLP female leader in the present Parliament. But convention will vote Brave as leader of the PLP.

Therefore, this time, women who comprise the majority of voters must vote in their own interest.

- (1) This time, women must recognize their voting power.
- (2) This time, women must realize that they control the nation by the families that they raise.
- (3) This time, the women must

assert their Political power.

- (4) This time, women must make amends for two failed referenda where they voted against their own leadership.
- (5) This time, women must have regard for unborn generation and vote in strong woman leadership.
- (6) This time, women must support woman leadership.
- (7) This time, women must STEP NOW.
- (8) This time, women must stand up and challenge the OLD BOYS CLUB.

- (9) This time, women must do it themselves. The old boys club despises you.

- (10) This time, women must vote for GLENYS HANNA-MARTIN as PLP-leader.

CONCLUSION

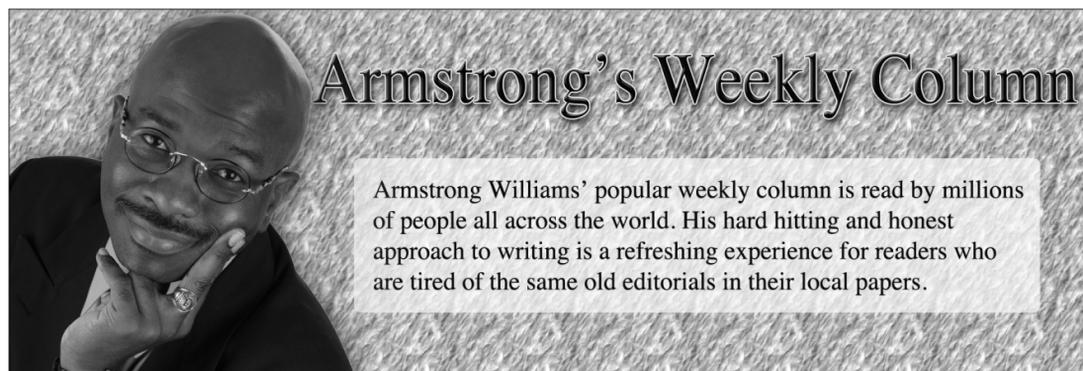
Like the PLP women who fried fritters to liberate the Nation from the UBP, women must STEP NOW to liberate the Nation from mediocre male leadership, lest they, like Hillary Clinton, would be asking the question what happened?

A GLENYS
HANNA-MARTIN
Supporter

THE DODGY DOGMA OF PUBLIC DISARMAMENT

In a major setback to anti-gun activists – and a significant advance for Second Amendment advocates – a three-judge panel of the Federal Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit ruled in July that the District's "good cause" requirement for firearm licensing was unconstitutional. This past week the U.S. Supreme Court declined to hear the D.C. Government's appeal of the District Courts' ruling.

The High Court's punt should put the issue to bed, for now at least, of whether a citizen has to seek justification from the government to exercise her constitutionally granted rights. In light of the recent tragedy in Las



Armstrong's Weekly Column

Armstrong Williams' popular weekly column is read by millions of people all across the world. His hard hitting and honest approach to writing is a refreshing experience for readers who are tired of the same old editorials in their local papers.

Vegas, Nevada, in which an evil, deranged gunman killed 58 innocent civilians and injured hundreds of others in a barrage of automatic gunfire at an unsuspecting crowd at a country music concert, it would be appropriate to celebrate the court's upholding of the second amendment, not as a victory for 'gun rights' per se

- but as a win for freedom.

Much of the ground for advocating Second Amendment freedoms has been covered in the media, but at times like this, when a major tragedy places the second amendment under intense scrutiny, the basic point bears repeating. The Second Amendment to

the Constitution is not about granting rights to citizens to carry guns; it is about denying to government the exclusive monopoly on the use of force, and ensuring the preservation of our freedom. Though much debated, the Constitutional text is simple. "A well-regulated Militia, being necessary

to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed."

The Constitution explicitly forbids the government from 'infringing' upon the rights of 'the people' to keep and bear arms. Why would the framers envision such a statement to be necessary, not on the first drafting of the Constitution, but in hindsight? It is precisely because they knew that they had created a powerful new system of Federal government – and they feared that the government could in theory be corrupted and turn against the people. They knew this because they had escaped from despotic regimes in Europe, where corrupt kings and monarchs issued edicts that specifically prohibited citizens from bearing arms and thus challenging their tyranny.

Some would argue that the Second Amendment is no longer practical in today's society, where civil remedies at law are available to citizens who have been abused by the government. Others argue that the harm of allowing firearms in civil society outweighs the good. These arguments are factually and legally indefensible. As a nation of laws, we do not and cannot merely fail to enforce laws that we no longer think are practical. The failure to enforce a law here or there for reasons of mere convenience or 'practicality' leads gradually and yet inexorably to a state of lawlessness. If 'the people' decide that the government can infringe upon their rights to keep and bear arms, there is a well-organized process for changing the Constitution and amending the law. Absent that occurrence, arguing that the law is impractical is pretty much moot point.

The second point – that citizen ownership and bearing of firearms – causes harm has become the sticking point of dogmatic arguments on all sides of the debate. The anti-gun dogma rests on dodgy foundations. Its

proponents argue that the legal ownership of guns causes more violence. And when a tragedy like the Los Vegas mass shooting occurs, they are quick to jump on the bandwagon of heavily restrictive gun reform.

I live in the District of Columbia, where up until 2008, legal gun ownership was strictly prohibited. And yet, during the period of time beginning in the mid-1980s through the early 2000s, gun violence in D.C. occurred at an alarming rate. In some years during the 1990s, D.C. per capita homicide rate was the highest in the nation. Other major metropolitan centers – New York, Detroit, and Chicago in particular – with strict gun control ordinances, also experienced dizzying rates of gun homicides. The overwhelming majority of this violence was committed by criminals wielding illegally obtained firearms.

Once the U.S. Supreme Court declared D.C.'s ban on gun ownership unconstitutional in 2008, the District Government immediately set about implementing regulations that would make gun ownership all but impossible. The D.C. government sought, for example, to restrict the right to concealed carry. Again, that's a victory for the criminals, not law-abiding citizens. Small business owners who carried large sums of cash, and law abiding citizens living in areas victimized by high crime rates basically found themselves at the mercy of armed criminals who ran rampant and terrorized residents. And the government, seemingly oblivious to the obvious power disparity between lawless criminals and defenseless citizens, pushed blindly forward with its anti-gun dogma. That state of affairs constitutes the very essence of an encroachment of tyranny which the Constitution's framers sought to forestall.

Let's allow common sense to prevail for once. Legal gun ownership with common sense regulations promotes peace and prosperity. Are some regulations necessary in order to prevent criminals and murderers from obtaining stockpiles of deadly automatic weapons? Yes. Does that mean we should toss out the considered wisdom of our nation's founders who planned to protect the populace from government overreach? Absolutely not!

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SOCIAL MEDIA PLAYS ROLE IN TEEN RELATIONSHIP VIOLENCE

BY LICEC BASTIAN
Journal Staff Writer

Crisis Center Psychologist, Ayla Roberts, at a recent workshop with law enforcers on gender based vio-

lence, revealed that one out of three young women will experience dating abuse or relationship violence before the age of eighteen.

"Snapchat, FaceBook, Whatsapp, Instagram,

among others are a part of this landscape of violence.

"We are often looking at what's happening face to face, we're looking for the visible bruises, we're looking for the visible

signs, but on these platforms it is rampant," Ms. Roberts said.

"We don't realize that it starts there and it expands, because when the child gets to school they have to avenge their

personal character," she said.

Speaking at the Women's Initiative for Non-Violence and Development (WIND) Project, Ms. Roberts told police officers who were a part of the workshop that teens are not fully aware of what a they are getting into when they enter a relationship.

"Teens are entering into and forming relationships and they are not clear as to the signs and symptoms of unhealthy relationships, which we know could quickly escalate to abuse, because violence is on the spectrum.

One out of three young women will experience dating abuse or relationship violence before the age of 18," Ms. Roberts stated.

"That statistics is far too high and its telling us that something needs to be done," she said.

Ms. Roberts said that although males can also be the subject of gender based violence, it is more prevalent in teen girls because of the culture and the differences in the rearing of the two sexes from birth.

"How is this happening? The way that we raise our boys and girls, how we socialize them to see themselves, how they think and feel about themselves, their roles and responsibility, as well as the expectations we have, that is critical in how they begin to think about the relationships that they are in and how they perform in those relationships," Ms. Roberts said.

Ms. Roberts said that the psychological effect of

violence in teen relationships is not always visible.

"It's not always seen, so we also have realize that a lot of these perpetrators are crafty in public, they are neatly dressed, and they will never be violent in public.

"You look at the couple walking down the street or eating at a restaurant, or the boy taking the girl to the movies and little do you know that young lady is battling him psychologically or the boy is doing the same to her.

"You see them on Instagram and all of these social media pages. At this point, this makes teen violence even more significant in the population when we look at is the social pressure, the pressure to present oneself to the world to be a part of something," Ms. Roberts stated.

Peer pressure is also a key factor according to Ms. Roberts.

"They are figuring out who they are and what they want, but peers have a part in it.

"Their peers are dating so they cannot be the boy in school with no girlfriend, so they have to man up and get a girlfriend.

"Or for they young lady, her friends are in intimate relationships and, so she feels that she needs to, at this point, navigate a relationship, not knowing what is healthy, what is unhealthy or what is abusive," Ms. Roberts said.

"We, have to teach red flags, to show what they should be looking for, what they should accept and what they should simply turn away," she said.

Children Affected By Domestic Violence, Police Officers told

BY LICEC BASTIAN
Journal Staff Writer

In an effort to increase the ability of law enforcement to better respond to the needs of communities and victims of gender-based violence, the Pan American Development Foundation conducted a workshop through the Women's Initiative for Non-Violence and Development (WIND), fully explaining what gender-based violence is and how to respond.

Director at the Department of Gender and Family Affairs, Gaynell Curry told officers of the Royal Bahamas Police Force that "Domestic violence, gender based violence is a major concern on the Bahamas as it is globally.

"The project looks specifically at gender-based violence in the Family Islands and a lot of the officers came in from the Family Islands

"Gender base violence affects everyone and children unfortunately are no exception. We have found children, seven and eight years olds are subjected to gender-based violence," Ms. Curry stated.

She also noted that adults target children and that is something the department is looking to bring an

end to.

"The challenge that we have is that many adults prey on children and that's what we really want to make sure that adults are not harassing children.

"I know we all teach our children about inappropriate touching, but I think it is important for us to teach our children about what makes you feel uncomfortable in what someone may say to you.

"They may speak about your hips, or they may say that you are now having breasts, all of those things that suddenly make you feel uncomfortable about being a girl is harassment," Ms. Curry said.

To begin to put an end to adult harassing children, the spotlight must be shone on the harasser.

"I think we have to put the spotlight on the harassers and not make little girls or little boys feel like they are doing something wrong by just being little girls or boys," Ms. Curry said.

Psychologist, Dr. Barrington Brennen, spoke to the officers on the impact of gender-based violence and domestic violence on the victims.

He stated that although this type of violence happens to females and males; females take on more of a psychological effect.

"Psychological abuse can cripple

women emotionally. They don't know what to do, what to say, they're trapped, they cannot eat well not sleep well and they have high levels of stress which can impact them physically.

"They can feel lonely or isolated although they are actually free, literally free, but they are trapped they can't go anywhere. It's like the door's actually open, but they can't get out," Dr. Brennen said.

As for children and men, Dr. Brennen added that they too are effected, whether abused themselves or see the abuse on loved ones.

"For children it can mean sleepless nights, trauma, bed wetting, not studying well, not caring about life, acting out using drugs, alcohol all of those kinds of stuff depending on their age.

"Men have a built in negative impact that (suggests) we don't supposed to be impacted, so we stay. Men do stay because of denial and fear, because they need the woman," Dr. Brennen said.

The workshop targeted police officers who mostly encounter gender-based violence or domestic violence through community policing. According to Ms. Curry, this is the beginning of possible solutions to curbing gender-based violence and domestic violence.

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