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GRAND BAHAMA IN CRISIS

PLP Must Change, Says South Andros MP

BY LICEC BASTIAN
 Journal Staff Writer

"Rebuilding trust and the 'old ways of doing things must change' is what Progressive Liberal Party (PLP) needs to do in order to regain the confidence of the Bahamian people," says

Member of Parliament for Mangrove Cay and South Andros, Picewell Forbes. He told the party's 53rd convention last night that politicians work for the people and not vice versa.

"One of the tasks we clearly have is to rebuild trust. Yes, we must make sure the people are in control, and that we remain cognizant of the fact that the politicians are always their servant and never their masters," Mr. Forbes said.

■ See SAYS SOUTH ANDROS MP on PAGE 2...

Former Minister of State for Grand Bahama Doctor Michael Darville says the Grand Bahama economy has taken a turn for the worse. Addressing the 53rd annual Convention of the Progressive Liberal Party last night, Dr. Darville said, "we are in crisis in Grand Bahama as countless businesses are closing their doors and the Free National Movement government has failed to act. He claims the PLP is the only party that has a vision for Grand Bahama. He said the "three cabinet ministers from Grand Bahama have no plan for Grand Bahama and they are chanting fix Grand Bahama. It is ringing loud and clear even by their own FNM supporters."

■ See IN CRISIS / page 2...



▶ Former Minister of State for Grand Bahama Doctor Michael Darville (Journal file photo)

NURSES PAY COURTESY CALL ON THE PRIME MINISTER IN OBSERVANCE OF 33RD NURSING ANNIVERSARY

▶ Nurses observing their 33rd Nursing Anniversary paid a courtesy call on Prime Minister Dr. the Hon. Hubert Minnis recently at the Office of the Prime Minister. Greeting the Prime Minister were Dellareece Carroll, Anya Symonette, Aubynette Rolle, Shirley Burrows Smith, Aneka Johnson, Deborah Johnson, Melverne Symonette, Sonia Miller, Julie Thompson, Karol Mackey, and Cheryl Munroe. (Photo/Yontalay Bowe, OPM Media Services)

GB To Become Technology Hub

BY LICEC BASTIAN
 Journal Staff Writer

Grand Bahamians will begin to see a boost in their economy, as promised, by next month according to Press Secretary Anthony Newbold. He made the announcement yesterday during a press briefing at the Office of the Prime Minister.

Referencing the Speech from the Throne, Mr. Newbold said that this initiative begins to answer the question many have been asking regarding the Minnis administration's plans for the country.

■ See TECHNOLOGY / page 2...

SENATOR SWEETING SAYS PLP WILL EMERGE STRONGER

BY LICEC BASTIAN
 Journal Staff Writer

Progressive Liberal Party (PLP) Senator Clay Sweeting says a 'New Perspective and the day of reckoning' has come for the party and that only from learning three lessons that contributed to the downfall of the party at the May 10th General Election will the party see change.

■ See WILL EMERGE / page 4...



▶ Leaders of the Progressive Liberal Party attending the 53rd annual Convention at the Melia Resort, Cable Beach.

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GRAND BAHAMA IN CRISIS

Continued from / PAGE 1...

Reflecting on the PLP losing the general elections on May 10th, the former Pineridge MP said, "nowhere was the loss of trust and our straying away from core values more evident than in Grand Bahama. The proof is there for us to see. We lost all five seats in Grand Bahama. In fact many of our stalwart counselors and supporters voted against us. I assure you that your message has been received.

"On reflection, we had many right polices to turn Grand Bahama around, but we failed to make these polices real for our people. We were focused with the big picture and failed to keep in contact with the small man. The sober reality of a crushing defeat at the polls has driven us back to our core vision and values in our party.

"We must now pick up the pieces and with God's help use the talents of our organization and the support from others outside to once again turn defeat into victory," said Dr. Darville.

He said, "we understood that 5 years was a short time to execute our transformative agenda for the people of GB, but we know and still understand that the real challenges would come when we meet our stakeholders who would be responsible for stabilizing our economy and place us on a projected path for growth and economic recovery.

"Despite the economic instability and disasters in the past 5 years our administration faced, we were forced to deliver our promises to diversify economy for GB inject real capitol on the ground for our local businesses, improve health and educational infrastructure....

"We invested heavily

and with great pain in the economic reform and provided additional funding for a number of our social safety net programs lead by a well abled minister, but ultimately we were not effective as we should have been in articulating our message to our people and to ensure that the impact was tangible for Grand Bahamians," said the Senator.

Dr. Darville said, "despite the FNM promises on the campaign trail to bring immediate relief to GB, to grow local economy and get the tourism sector back on track, all we are hearing now is the sudden revelation that the economic recovery for GB is no quick fix and will take time and collaboration."

He told the party delegates and supporters, "this week we gather with a purpose to renew and reignite. We gather to renew our commitment to

building a better and more progressive Bahamas. We gather to listen to you our supporters to reignite our passion for our party and embrace new ideas for our country as we chart a new course guided by our PLP core vision and values.

"I personally pledge that the PLP will return to the streets of GB to regain your confidence and trust one person at a time.

"We are bound to our moral responsibility to empower the small man. To give him a hand up and not just a hand out.

"These are the values and ideas on which our fore fathers have built this great party and which our platforms and polices must stem going forward, as we march forward upward onward together to rebuild our party and form the next government of the commonwealth of the Bahamas," Dr. Darville said.

PLP Must Change, Says South Andros MP

Continued from / PAGE 1...

Mr. Forbes told a packed convention room at the Melia Nassau Beach Resort that the old way of doing business must change and that the party must return to core values.

"There are some people who have been in the forefront of this party politically, civically, religiously, and otherwise – whose time has come.

"If we are going to rebuild, change cannot only appear to happen, but the discerning Bahamian electorate demands real, evidential and tangible change in the PLP.

"Respect for people, Respect for time, Respect for law and order, Respect for family values, Respect for those who have given much, and their children can't be a candidate or senator," Mr. Forbes said.

"The core values of the original PLP, that formed our foundation, must be returned to," he told the delegates.

During his address, Mr. Forbes also told the crowd that change and rebuilding only comes through unity.

"Real change and rebuilding will only come when we, every one of us, pulls together, comes together, works together, where we all exercise our responsibilities to ourselves, our families, our communities and to our fellow Bahamians," he said.

He further stated that one of the changes that need to happen is that a sense of entitlement must be done away with.

"The PLP must move away from Bahamians feeling a sense of entitlement without hard work, but we must renew in our people a new sense of national responsibility.

"The days of being a PLP, and one thinking that you have a right to a contract, high paying job and all its accoutrements, without being accountable and responsible are gone----Yes Sir ----they are gone," Mr. Forbes said.

"We must rebuild this party and this country through the values of freedom, values of fairness, and values of responsibility," he said.

GB To Become Technology Hub

Continued from / PAGE 1...

"All anyone who is interested has to do is open a copy of the Speech from the Throne and start reading!" he said.

"My government will focus on the development of Freeport as an offshore technology hub," Mr. Newbold quoted from the document.

To begin the process, Grand Bahama will be the host to a summit in November that will see participation from many international corporations.

"The country will see the beginning of what the Prime Minister believes will be the blossoming of a new industry for The Bahamas, and one that citizens will be happy and proud to participate in.

"The Grand Bahama Technology Summit will take place for two days.

"It begins the dialogue with key industry stakeholders, policy makers and the general public in shaping the policy to govern how this new initiative and industry will work," Mr. Newbold said.

Stakeholders for the summit includes Google, Hewlett Packard (HP), Microsoft, Dell Samsung, and Huawei.

Mr. Newbold also revealed that during the two-day Summit, November 9th and 10th,

"One of the highlights of the Summit will be the Blue Marlin Business Innovation challenge

where potential entrepreneurs will get to showcase their inventions.

"We are providing opportunities and access for entrepreneurs; bringing Silicon Valley to Grand Bahama.

"That's creating the environment for private businesses to flourish instead of the government trying to run a business," Mr. Newbold said.

Now to establish Grand Bahama as the technology hub, there will be a legislation; a bill for an act for the designation of specified commercial enterprises and specified commercial zones in The Bahamas.

"The bill seeks to liberalize the granting of work permits to an enterprise that wishes to establish itself in The Bahamas and requires work permits for its management team and key personnel," Mr. Newbold said.

Scheduled to participate in the Summit are a number of Grand Bahamians who are currently living abroad. They include Dr. Gadrin Higgs, who is involved in development in Silicon Valley, USA; Mr. Laron Burrows, a 26-year-old inventor of medical devices; and Ms. Aisha Bowe, a former employee of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), who now serves as Chief Executive Officer of STEM Board in Washington, D.C.



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 --

Maxwell Duncan Leslie, Single,
of 620 Lee Street, Blacksburg, VA 24060, United States of America

and

Casey Nicole Heiar, Single,
of 620 Lee Street, Blacksburg, VA 24060, United States of America

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

Dated this 6th day of 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 --

Michael Edward Carpenter, Single,
of 104 Kirpatrick Way Leduc, AB T9E 0Z2, Canada

and

Michelle Lee Stratton, Single,
of 104 Kirpatrick Way Leduc, AB T9E 0Z2, Canada

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

Dated this 6th day of 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 --

Timothy Wade Lindsey, Single,
of 8721 Escabosa Dr., Austin TX 78748, United States of America

and

Leigh Ann Thompson, Single,
of 8721 Escabosa Dr., Austin TX 78748, 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 10th 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 --

Lee Quai, Divorced,
of 4 Red Fold, Aughton, Ormskirk L39 4TX, United States of America

and

Lynn Marie Alderdice, Divorced,
of 4 Red Fold, Aughton, Ormskirk L39 4TX, 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 10th day of October, 2017.

Registrar of Marriages

NURSES PAY COURTESY CALL ON THE PRIME MINISTER IN OBSERVANCE OF 33RD NURSING ANNIVERSARY



► Nurses observing their 33rd Nursing Anniversary paid a courtesy call on Prime Minister Dr. the Hon. Hubert Minnis recently at the Office of the Prime Minister. Greeting the Prime Minister were Dellareece Carroll, Anya Symonette, Aubynette Rolle, Shirley Burrows Smith, Aneka Johnson, Deborah Johnson, Melverne Symonette, Sonia Miller, Julie Thompson, Karol Mackey, and Cheryl Munroe. (Photo/Yontalay Bowe, OPM Media Services)

PLP Headquarters To Be Transformed

BY C. JILLIAN GRAY
Journal Staff Writer

The Progressive Liberal Party will modernize their headquarters.

MP Philip Davis said

Davis said the PLP is

charting a new course of action for change within the Progressive Liberal Party and that starts with transforming the party's National Headquarters into a fully operational 'Battle Station,' to ensure it becomes modernized and retooled, making it a place through which information flows.

In a statement yesterday, Davis said that adequate

equipment and capable personnel will be put in place.

"A full-time professionally staffed Public Relations Department will also be present with the mandate to aggressively articulate the party's position. These individuals are expected to come from the party's membership and will be fully resourced to be effective," Davis said.

He added that the

revamped national headquarters will also conduct periodic question and answer sessions with the local press.

Davis said he envisions a new era of openness to be cultivated through this initiative and believes that in order for the national headquarters to become reactivated and expand the PLP, social media platforms must be utilized.

Confident that he will emerge victorious in the PLP's leadership race, Davis said that when he is reinstated as leader, he will invest and encourage the use of social media to share the PLP's message, including the establishment of regular interactive live online shows and discussions to showcase party leaders, emerging leaders and potential candidates.

MAN ARRAIGNED FOR MURDER OF EIGHT YEAR OLD

BY ONIKE ARCHER
Journal Staff Writer

Evidence of the horrific murder of eight year old Eugene Woodside Jr which shocked the nation back in September might be heard soon, as a man was brought before the Chief Magistrate court on two counts of murder yesterday.

Lloyd Minnis of Coral Harbour allegedly committed the crime along with the killing of Dennis Moss which occurred on September 25th on Rosebud Street, Chippingham.

Twenty-five year old Minnis stood before Chief Magistrate Joyann Ferguson-Pratt facing two counts of murder of intentionally causing the deaths of Dennis Moss and ultimately killing Eugene Woodside. A stray bullet entered home of the eight year while he was completing his homework.

Minnis was not required to enter a plea and was denied bail. He was remanded to the Bahamas Department of Corrections until December 7th through the presentation of a voluntary bill of indictment. Minnis is represented by Attorney Ian Cargill.

"THE PLP IS COMING IN 2022," Says Senator

BY C. JILLIAN GRAY
Journal Staff Writer

Progressive Liberal Party Senator Jobeth Coleby Davis electrified the crowd with the statement "We Coming for You in 2022" which was directed at all seats lost in the May 10th general election.

Davis Coleby was one of six speakers at night two of the convention which focused on various areas that the Progressive Liberal Party (PLP) can rebuild.

With shouts in agreement, the PLP crowd gladly rallied behind Coleby-Davis who said as the party rebuilds, they will send a clear message to the Prime Minister, that when the election bell is rung, they will reclaim votes, the people and the country.

She admonished the PLP to rebuild by developing a clear mandate, an understanding of the challenges of constituencies and real opportunities for the downtrodden.

Coleby said PLPs cannot expect people to return to the party if they will receive the same type of treatment and neglect that they suffered in the past.

"Rebuilding not only requires regaining our people, but ensuring that we build a system that recognizes the core values, respects our philosophies and rejuvenates our PLP brand, while at the same time aligning ourselves with the fast paced ever-changing and modern world, to equip us for the future. We must ensure we are focusing on community developments," Coleby-Davis said

As a suggestion, she said that the PLP Headquarters should operate as an information hub, thus creating a domino

effect of how information to be dispersed within the party.

Scolding supporters while promoting unity, she said, "we cannot demand the outsiders or onlookers to respect us and mind their business; when we are the ones sharing and disclosing our party information. We cannot expect anyone to hear us out, if we do not present our case humbly to the masses."

Coleby added that she believes that PLPs must foster ideas and a governing plan that will create more Bahamian millionaires!

"The Bahamas cannot survive if we continually weaken our middle class. As we rebuild, our governing plan must speak to how to ensure a better way of living for Bahamians with real opportunities for the downtrodden and strengthening of the middle class," Coleby-Davis said.

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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ISLAND LUCK CARES GRANTS UB ITS FIRST ENDOWMENT SCHOLARSHIP

BY ONIKE ARCHER
Journal Staff Writer

A lucky University of the Bahamas (UB) student was the first recipient of the Island Luck/Island Luck Cares (IL Cares) Foundation endowed scholarship yesterday, receiving \$35 thousand dollars to complete her studies.

Arnesha Frazer, a junior studying accounting,

is the first person in her immediate family to attend a University.

Expressing her gratitude Ms. Frazer told the Journal, "I am very grateful for it because this makes it real now that I can do it without having to worry about how I'm going to have to pay for it."

UB's Vice President of Institutional Advancement and

Alumni Affairs, Mrs. Davinia Blair spoke about the importance of having a helping hand and how far that hand can reach, specifically for academic studies. She stated that there is a responsibility to keep the upward momentum of education in The Bahamas.

"We all have a responsibility to continue this inertia, to keep the pressure, the upward momentum of the value of education one receives, particularly here at the University of the Bahamas."

Island Luck / Island Cares Foundation partnered with UB to specifically grow their student's scholarship endowment fund. For the first time ever, first generation students now have the opportunity to apply for a 'First Generation Students' Scholarship.

Rodney Smith, UB's President said, "This particular endowed scholarship fund for first generation students is an investment in the future of the entire country."

"We're talking about young people who may not have parents who

went to college or university; students who don't have any older brothers or sisters who went to college as well."

Mr. Smith said "this is an opportunity to help hundreds and hundreds of families by awarding first generation scholarships to students."

Island Luck/Island Cares Foundation CEO Sebastian Bastian also shared with the press his story about his academic plights.

Mr. Bastian said, "being a person that was not fortunate enough to complete my college education, I know first-hand the power and importance of a sound education."

"I strongly believe had I completed my education in college, my journey to success would've been a much easier one," he said.

Furthermore, IL Cares Foundation is guided by the fundamental belief that education holds the

key that unlocks the door to entrepreneurship, economic empowerment and economic growth.

Mr. Bastian also conveyed the importance of the partnership with IL Cares and UB. "This donation today serves to deepen the bond between both organizations as we work together to cultivate and environment of learning and innovation for the next generation and generations to come," he said.

SENATOR SWEETING SAYS PLP WILL EMERGE STRONGER

Continued from / PAGE 1...

Addressing the delegates in the 53rd annual convention of the party under the theme 'We will Rebuild Beyond the Base', Senator Sweeting said that the party will emerge stronger than before.

"While our party may have taken a significant loss and some may be weakened and our confidence shaken, I want every PLP to know this, we will rebuild, we will recover, and the Progressive Liberal Party will emerge stronger than before," he said.

Senator Sweeting said that in order for the PLP to become the government in 2022, there will be a need for lessons to be learnt and that the party needs to go back to basics.

"In order for the Progressive Liberal Party to become the next government of this country, we must change a few things and focus on what made us the great party that the Bahamian people fell in love with.

"Lesson One: Base and swing voters are both crucial. Even in the inner cities of Nassau where the PLP were supposedly strong, the Progressive Liberal Party were defeated.

"This proves one of two things. The party has lost some of its base, or the party forgot from whence we came.

"I believe that the Progressive Liberal Party has a very stable base, but we must once again connect with the people of this country. We serve the people, the people does not serve us. Once we remember this, we will once again gain the trust of our voters because if you represent the people, they will represent you.

"Lesson Two: Connect year-round and on the ground. The all-too-familiar refrain that PLP's show up only at election time certainly rang true in 2017.

"Despite consistently high levels of support for PLP's, some of these communities felt that they needed more governmental attention whether it be educational, economic, or criminal justice.

"Progressives must be on the ground year-round, reaching out to all people, millennials, men and women. We must connect with our Family Island communities and impress upon them that the PLP cares about their needs, concerns and issues.

"The Bahamian people want to feel us," Senator Sweeting said.

He said that the third lesson that the party must learn is that boldness is needed if the PLP is to help heal the nation.

"Lesson Three: Think big and be bold.

"PLP's, we must fight harder than ever before. We must be bold, be courageous. Move into every home, every island, and every constituency proclaiming the good news that the Progressive Liberal Party has been rebranded and is willing to work along with the people of this country to heal our nation.

"If we take these lessons to heart, the PLP can reverse the route of 2017," Senator Sweeting said.

"Campaign 2022 starts now—not a few months before the next election—we can counter the FNM's noise machine that was so crucial during the last election.

"Through our work over the last years campaigning and moving around, we have seen that when we talk face-to-face with voters, we build a real base for our party. And when PLPs connect with those voters, we can win," Senator Sweeting told the delegates.

Senator Sweeting told the convention that "the party that must become the party that will chase away the clouds and let the sun shine through. The sun of honor and truth. The sun of freedom, fairness and equality.

"We must connect and empower all Bahamians," he said.

AMBASSADOR OF ARGENTINE REPUBLIC PAYS COURTESY CALL ON MINISTER SYMONETTE



► Minister of Financial Services, Trade & Industry and Immigration, the Hon. Brent Symonette (left) welcomed His Excellency Ariel Fernandez, Ambassador of the Republic of Argentina to the Commonwealth of The Bahamas, in a courtesy call, October 19, 2017 at the Ministry. (Photo/Courtesy Ministry of Financial Services)

Former Senator says PLP must focus on branches

BY RANECHEA ELLIS
Journal Staff Writer

Speaking on the theme of "reconnecting", Former Senator Robyn Lynes admonished the Progressive Liberal Party (PLP) to get back to basics. She said in order to do so, it must take a step backward and that starts with the people.

"We have to recognize and honor the power of our branches and empower our branches. We can no longer be the party to dictate to the branch.

"We empower the branch, we order the branch, we give the branch what they need, we tell the branch to organize and then the branch comes to us," she said.

A part of the party's constitution, she said, states the branch is a key element to the parties' progression.

Speaking on the first night of the PLP Convention, she said that on the FNM's best day they cannot beat the PLP as a political organization.

"We have people coming to this organization asking us to nominate them as candidates and we cannot say what they have done for this party," she said.

"Where do you think you are going in 2017? When you come this time around, don't tell me where you are, tell me where you've been and what you were doing while you were there."

Ms. Lynes made a stern call for PLPs to come back and reclaim the government in 2022.

"I'm saying to you

PLPs, we're coming back for you after this convention. Whatever it takes,

we are coming back to get you.

"And together we are

going to get rid of this crew, long before 2022," she said.



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 Whyly 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. Whyly 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. Whyly 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. Whyly 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, Whyly 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. Whyly 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?” Whyly 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. Whyly completes the statement, “is justice denied.”

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

Additionally, Mr. Whyly 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. Whyly, 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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The Bahama Journal
Quo Vadis, Bahamas?

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E D I T O R I A L

PRIORITY & URGENCY

If we are to make The Bahamas a much better place we must – as a matter of the most urgent priority – make the Bahamas a more welcoming place.

Indeed:- We should search everywhere for the best and the brightest.

Evidently, Haiti, Jamaica and any number of Caribbean places would find themselves in this sweet mix!

This is precisely how we can and should make the Bahamas one of the greatest little nations in the world.

It therefore follows that: Instead of succumbing to a spirit of dread infused by fear, we should – as a matter of the first order – review our country’s ‘new-blood’ – immigrant relevant policies.

In this regard, then, we now suggest albeit: In that same-old same old ‘there we go again’ department we now find Tourism’s Joy Jibrilu who recently addressed the 10th annual Exuma Business Outlook conference where she noted that: “Skilled labor will become very competitive, as a number of school leavers continue to enter the labor force with minimal qualifications...”

We agree with Ms. Jibrilu!

And so by way of necessary extrapolation, it follows [as regards Exuma] that: Its’ greatest limitation will [perhaps] be what she describes as “a disproportionate growth between Exuma’s economy and the supply of skilled labor.

Here we are obliged to also suggest that as goes Exuma so does the rest of The Bahamas; and herein we find lodged like a fish-bone in the throat one of this country’s greatest dilemmas.

Put as succinctly as we can: whilst we know that we do not have the capability of making any real dent in this currently intractable problem.

And yet we now have a situation on our hands where reality now demands that we ease up on foreigners wishing to make the Bahamas their home.

But yet, the reality on the ground is that practically no one seems up to the challenge of explaining how and why new blood is so desperately needed if today’s Bahamas is to thrive in a highly competitive environment.

And yet again as Jibrilu confesses that: “...As a number of school leavers continue to enter the labour force with minimal qualifications. That means [as we repeat]: That Exuma’s greatest limitation will be a disproportionate growth between Exuma’s economy and the supply of skilled labor...”

This is just no way to grow and/or develop a thriving economy!

Interestingly enough, Jibrilu [to her credit] suggest that: “...The Government has signaled its intentions to aid small business development through financial and technical support programs and initiatives to attract skilled Bahamians working abroad, and the concept of public-private partnerships (PPP)...”

Herein we find lodged a major problem.

In this regard, we would note that: Some pundits in one of this nation’s tribe of so-called learned ones would have the public believe that somewhere out-there we can find – if only we took the time to really search – any number of skilled-Bahamians-working-abroad.

We suspect that even where such a crew exists, such a recruitment effort would yield few good fruits.

These conclusions we reach because we do believe that practically any and all who would have decided to leave this jurisdiction are [in all likelihood] productively engaged.

Plucking up these types and thereafter transplanting them to a land they once upon a time decided to abandon might well prove to be a calamity in the making.

What is needed [and so do we suggest] are strategies and plans designed to making The Bahamas far more receptive not only to finance capital; but also to that most valuable of all the factors of production.

The reference we make has to do with human capital; human ingenuity and human desire and need to search out new lands and with them also to search, explore and therefore also to find new opportunities.

Such a reservoir exists throughout our region and furthermore throughout the world!

The sum of the matter then has to do with the fact that:- There are today any number of Bahamians who would – if they only could escape this jurisdiction as they search for climes and places that would recognize them not for how well-connected they are; but would appreciate them for the savvy and expertise they bring to the table.

Successive administrations have pursued policies which have led to both bloat and waste in the public sector; thus that sad, sad situation currently prevalent the state is obliged to pile debt upon debt in order to meet the pay-demands of workers in the employ of the state itself.

This is precisely how you behave when all you want is a very quick fix!

Bahamians Want One for One in Our own GB Power Company!

BY FREDERICK SMITH QC

The hostile Takeover of Grand Bahama Power Company by a 100% foreign owned company, (Emera) which The Free National Movement Government approved without consultation with Bahamian shareholders of ICDU and without reference to any public policy conversation with general Bahamian public about foreign Company owning Power generation plant is wrong. More specifically, they did not consult with land owners, residents and licensees of the Grand Bahama Port Authority in Grand Bahama, the people most affected by its impact under Hawksbill Creek Agreement and primary obligations of GBPA to provide and maintain Utilities.

This is the Peoples' Power Company; The FNM is Selling the People Out

Currently, the Bahamian shareholders in ICDU own something which initially generated dividends at 10 % pa for many years.

If the FNM government allows this transaction to go through, after November 8, 2017 Bahamians will own nothing.

Why doesn't Emera simply trade us one share of GB Power for 1 share of ICDU?

This is how Emera operates in the Eastern Caribbean, where the people of each country directly own shares in the Emera power company operators, and those shares are traded on the Eastern Caribbean Stock Exchange.

So why not repeat the same formula in the Bahamas?

If this transaction goes through, Bahamians will own nothing; we will own no shares in any company only depository receipts (DRs) and we may or may not get dividends in the future.

Our rights will be governed by the Toronto Stock Exchange.

Any litigation will have to occur in Canada.

GB Power is the most profitable subsidiary of all of Emera's galaxy of Canadian and international companies.

We will be deprived of receiving profits from our local power company.

We will only get, maybe some dividends from Emera International, which averages out all

profits and losses from its corporate galaxy.

- Shareholders of ICDU are frustrated because we have not been getting dividends for years.

- Freeport is hurting and Shareholders of ICDU will be motivated to sell because they need money and haven't even been able to get dividends.

- By not paying dividends, the value of the ICDU shares on BISX has been intentionally depressed over the years; compare the increase in value of shares over the same years in eg Emera in Canada or other energy companies.

- Thus allowing KPMG to "value" shares low!

- And once Emera owns 100%, rates in GB will increase and residents and businesses of Freeport and GB will pay for all the increased value of electricity plant growth investments etc without reaping any of the benefits, i.e. Bahamians will pay for infrastructure growth for Foreign capital gains and benefit, with a small return, after losses of all other locations taken in to the equation

- Note how cautioned all of the contents of their original email are about profits from DR in future.

- The approved transaction is complicated and convoluted and not in the national interest of the Bahamas and especially the residents and business in Grand Bahama.

Currently if GB Power makes profits, Bahamian shareholders and regulators will see those on the books and can go to a shareholders meeting and can be consulted and can speak and can agitate locally and politically and can make a local difference.

Once our shares are converted into international depository receipts, we become corporately and politically completely impotent in respect of our own local power company.

This is social, political, economic and cultural suicide.

We are giving up our sovereignty over our power generation in the industrial capital of the Bahamas!

Let me try and simplify it even further:

Right now, Bahamians



especially the residents of Freeport invested in their future nearly 20 years ago, actually own and are entitled to accountability from GB Power that runs the local power station.

If this transaction goes through, Bahamians will now own nothing other than a big promise of possible dividends from a foreign entity unrelated to GB Power with no accountability.

There may never be dividends; there is no longer any transparency of the financial value of GB Power; the profits of GB Power never have to be shared; it will no longer be listed in the Bahamian stock exchange.

It's a complete rip-off

Even if Emera is 80% owner of GB Power (which it is not)

What is the government of the Bahamas doing secretly approving transactions in which the owners of the shares haven't even been consulted about an arrangement between the government and Emera

In which they are going to forcibly take the shares owned by Bahamian citizens.

The whole object of the original sale was for GBPA to remain in control of GB Power.

The construct was always that the board of directors of GB Power would be equally appointed by GBPA/ICDU.

And also because of the Hawksbill Agreement that GBPA would have management control of GB Power.

This is how it operated until Edward St George's death and a few years after.

When the Saint Georges sold their 25% of ICDU; then the Haywards sold 25% of ICDU, that left 50% of the Bahamian owners.

And of course Emera has proceeded to acquire

bit by bit more of the Bahamian shares.

But it was always the premise that the Bahamian power company was owned by a Bahamian company which had management control of GB Power through ICDU and GBPA under terms of HCA.

And also that Bahamians especially residents of Freeport would be able to benefit from profits generated from the local power company (not averaged profits and losses for all of Emera's activities all over the world)

So to create a construct in which Bahamians and residents no longer have any direct or indirect ownership and GB Power; and

GB Power is no longer under control of GBPA on its obligations under the Hawksbill Creek Agreement et cetera; and

What they're doing is putting Bahamians into non-share ownership of some international entity or Caribbean entity which may never give dividends on the depository receipts, and has no accountability to the securities commission, or any kind of financial scrutiny by the Bahamas government to look after the interests of Bahamian shareholders,

Until Edward St George's death, all Bahamian shareholders in ICDU received 10% on their investment.

Dividends were always 10% of the value of the investment until just a couple of years after Edward died.

So, by converting the ownership from shares directly or indirectly in GB Power,

GB Power can be delisted from the BISX and will no longer have to file any financial statements;

And because GBPA doesn't have any interest in it any more through St George and Hayward they are basically going to let GB Power rape the community on rates

This is exactly what happened when Hutcheson and GBPA negotiated a 20 year extension of all of the tax provisions under the HCA under the PLP in 2015, but, all other licenses had to pay real property tax et cetera unless they came

to some kind of agreement with the government under GB incentives act.

Basically the Hayward and St George families which own 50% of the GBPA have once again sold GBPA licensees and residents out and our PLP and FNM governments who have secretly approved this from early this year have been complicit in selling "The People" out!

GB Power is the most profitable centre for all of Emera International and Caribbean affiliate.

They make a huge profit;

And now by converting the shares of ICDU into

Depository Receipts in some other affiliate of the Caribbean, whatever dividends or returns might come along are dependent upon the profits averaged from all the companies as opposed to Bahamian residents who previously owned shares in directly of GB Power through I see the utilities of the local power company.

What they're doing is further capitalizing on the profits of GB power.

Whereas until this arrangement, because profits and dividends to ICDU shareholders were directly related to the profits generated from GB Power in Grand Bahama they would generally receive dividends.

Now, by removing GB Power from the formula, the residents and owners of shares in ICDU that convert their shares into depository receipts of the international or Caribbean Emera may never get any profits and

What profits we may get do get by way of dividends are not directly related to GB Power.

It's just another way of making more money from Grand Bahama.

It's just a big rip-off.

The government is too blind to see that.

The simplest and most honest process is for Emera to offer to buy out anybody who wants to sell at whatever price they want of the shares in ICDU.

But whoever wants to keep their shares should be able to swap it equally for a share in GB Power.

We Want One for One in Our own GB Power Company!

Grand Isle Villas Reports Back to Back Record Years in Exuma Boom

One of The Bahamas' most exclusive resorts is reporting back-to-back record years, crediting a combination of factors including the famed swim-

ming pigs of Exuma.

The positive news came from Grand Isle Resort, located on Emerald Bay. The 78-villa luxury retreat, representing more than

\$100 million in total investment, earns the highest ratings on TripAdvisor and is poised at the highest peak of the resort enclave with sweeping views of the Greg

Norman Golf Course and a mile-long stretch of white powdery beach.

"It has been amazing," said Sandra Grisham-Clothier, General Manager at Grand Isle. "Four years ago, as the resort was trying to get back on its feet after financial challenges locally and globally, we were averaging 15% occupancy and operating on optimism about the future. Each year since, we have seen improvement. In the last three years, that improvement has been dramatic and we have just experienced two consecutive record years with a year-round occupancy in the 70% range. It has truly been a great turnaround, thanks to a number of factors, including partnership with an award-winning premier hotel operator with more than 25 years of experience and the fascination with pigs that swim."

With unexpected Family Island luxury including villas that average 2,400 square feet, world-class amenities, infinity pool, spa, fitness center, full restaurant and bar, concierge service and water sports pavilion, Grand Isle is a linchpin in the island's economy. It remains the second largest tourism offering on Exuma with a local workforce of more than 130 Bahamians. Despite over-the-top TripAdvisor reviews like 'first resort that looks as good as its website' and 'amazing hotel, amazing people', occupancy levels were not what they should have been until the irony of pigs that enjoyed a good swim made worldwide headlines. Now for the first time, Grand Isle Resort is finding itself exceeding 100% occupancy on occasion even in summer, traditionally the slower period.

"We have had quite a few periods with 100% occupancy and we have worked with new inquiries to see how best we could accommodate them or if their schedules allow for flexibility," said Grisham-Clothier. "If you have to have a problem in this business, that is a good problem to have, especially in the Family Islands."

Peter Nicholson, who purchased 31 villas in May 2014, pulling the development out of receivership, credits a number of factors for the dramatic turnaround.

"Increased airlift with Delta coming in from Atlanta, direct flights from Toronto, a new weekly direct flight from Charlotte and of course American and Silver serving the Florida market has been a big part of the picture. The economy has also experienced an upturn and we have engaged a respected management company, Trust Hospitality, which has overseen resort upgrades, food and beverage and booking," said Nicholson. "But the single largest contributor to the explosion of interest in Exuma is the fascination with the swimming pigs."

Nicholson said the resort recently completed a survey of visitors asking, among other questions, what brought them to Exuma.

"More than 50% said the swimming pigs," he added. "Now because of that attraction, the number of other excursions is growing and there is so much more to do in Exuma. Today when you come to swim with the pigs, you can also take in the world-class water, the beaches, historic harbor tour or enjoy more snorkeling or diving

options. So the pigs have actually spun off economic activity and the best part is without knowing it, of course, they have kick-started improvements including much-needed promised expansion of the international airport. With a loan from Inter-American Development Bank, the government of The Bahamas has announced that the Exuma airport is number one on its priority list of airport repairs and improvements and that is welcome news."

The swimming pigs' rise to stardom has impacted every corner of the island's economy from cab drivers to tour operators, from restaurants to resorts of all sizes. New offerings have sprung up nearby, including Lumina, a resort on Stocking Island and Sandals Emerald Bay just down the beach from Grand Isle Villas continues to draw a loyal market. Peace & Plenty, one of the oldest hotels in the heart of Georgetown, is now under contract after years languishing on the market. Real estate agents are suddenly concerned about a lack of beachfront inventory to meet demand.

"We are thrilled that the occupancy levels are so high and we are committed to retaining the quality of accommodations, personal service and amenities at Grand Isle. We believe it is that unexpected luxury in the Family Islands that makes us unique," said Grisham-Clothier. "When you are here, you don't just stay in a hotel room - these are luxurious villas, built to the highest quality and on a breathtaking stretch of beach. Our staff makes you feel like family, and our villas make you feel like you're home."

PLP ELECTIONS TODAYRecord Nominations

Some two thousand delegates and stalwart councilors of The Progressive Liberal Party will be voting today to elect the officers of the party. The elections are taking place in the third and final day of a three day parley at the Melia Hotel, Cable Beach.

Some time in the late afternoon the results will be announced on who will lead the organization.

Interim leader Philip "Brave" Davis is being challenged for the leadership of the party by Mrs. Glenys Hanna-Martin. Mr. Davis, a former Deputy Prime Minister became the interim leader following the defeat of former Prime Minister Perry G. Christie at the polls in the May 10th general elections. Mrs. Hanna-Martin is a former Minister of Transport and the only PLP to win election in New Providence in the last elections.

A large number of persons received nominations yesterday to fill the positions of Officers of the Progressive Liberal Party. They are as follows:

Chairman

Frederick A. Mitchell
Glendon Rolle
Obediah Wilchcombe

Deputy Chairman

Erecia Slavonnia Thea Hepburn
Robyn Dawn Lynes

Treasurer - Unopposed

Paul Bevans

Leader

Philip Brave Davis
Glenys Hanna Martin
Troy Garvey

Deputy Leader

I. Chester Cooper
Ricardo Smith

Vice Chairman

Ruby Saunders
Pamela Rodgers
Obie Roberts
Sharine Poitier
Oscar McPhee
Ramadan K. McKenzie
Lamar Oshane Matthews
Alphonso Major Jr.
Leslie Lightbourne
Rudolph Tenor Knowles
Reneika Knowles
Bradley D. Kemp
Peter Johnson

Lawrence Harrison
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Danielle C. Gibson
Tevin R. Ferguson
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