

**STANDARD SERVICES SUPPLIES LTD.**  
 Shirley & Church Street  
 Phone: 322-4635



Shop at STANDARD SERVICES where you could get **20% OFF** Houseware, linen, lamps and draperies, and much, much more

# The Bahama Journal

Quo Vadis, Bahamas?

**DEAN & ASSOCIATES PROFESSIONAL INSURANCE AGENTS & BROKERS**  
 "Meeting Your Needs Efficiently and Professionally"



BUILDINGS (COMMERCIAL & RESIDENTIAL)  
 LIFE - GROUP - MEDICAL - ANNUITIES - LIABILITY - MARINE - HOMEOWNERS - AUTO

Tel: (242)-356-0986 Fax: (242)-356-0987  
 Deal's Plaza, Mackey Street  
 P.O. Box CB-13952 Nassau, Bahamas  
 8:30am - 4:30pm

VOL. 30 - NO. 30

MONDAY - OCTOBER 30TH, 2017

75 CENTS

# Minnis: "The PLP Cannot Change"



► Prime Minister Dr. Hubert Minnis (Journal file photo)

BY AMAJAHN KNOWLES  
 Journal Staff Writer

Prime Minister Dr. Hubert Minnis lambasted the progressive Liberal Party for what he described as "chaotic" events at the party's convention last week.

■ See PLP CANNOT / page 2...

## Opposition on revocation of fly fishing industry regulations

The Progressive Liberal Party is concerned about reports circulating in the fly fishing community that the Government plans to revoke the regulations which protect the fly fishing industry for Bahamians.

In a statement yesterday the Party said, "We advise the Government not to do so."

In January of this year, the PLP government introduced Regulations to protect the Bahamian guides in the Fly Fishing Industry by prohibiting Non-Bahamian nationals from acting as guides. The aim was to protect the sector for Bahamians and avoid the unlicensed access to the resource thereby damaging the fishing stocks.

■ See OPPOSITION / page 2...

## BTC SUPPORTS DEBATERS AT NINTH ANNUAL SPEECH COMPETITION



► Team BTC was on hand at the Ninth Annual High School Speech Competition where students from seven Grand Bahama High Schools put their skills in speech and elocution to the test. As the country's premier telecommunications company, BTC was pleased to support the talented group of students in their bid to become effective communicators. The students tackled the issue: "The Americanization of the Bahamian Society, how our proximity to the United States of America compromises our identity". Pictured are the top three debaters, first place winner D'Asia Russell of the Eight Mile Rock High School, Second Place Winner Virol Bosfield of St. Paul's Methodist College and Third Place Winner Blazztin Bowe of Bishop Michael Eldon High School. BTC PR Lead Leteasha Lord presented the winning students with their additional prizes from BTC, which included Smart Devices for the 2nd and 3rd place contestants and a five-hundred-dollar cash prize for the first place contestant. Pictured along with the students are event organizers Carolyn Hanna and Angela Gibson. (Photo Courtesy of BTC for Barefoot Marketing)

## MAN SHOT IN BOTCHED ROBBERY

BY AMAJAHN KNOWLES  
 Journal Staff Writer

Police reporting that a was suspect shot in botch armed robbery attempt over the weekend.

Reports are that shortly after 11:30pm on

Saturday, a man was about to enter his home located at west Dennis court, Yellow Gardens, when he was approached by two males armed with a handgun who attempted to rob him.

However, the victim fought back, struggling with the male carrying a gun. During the struggle, the gunman suffered a gunshot wound and fled on foot along with his accom-

plise into a waiting blue Honda vehicle with gold rims.

Police reportedly recovered a handgun used in the attempted robbery from the scene. The suspect who was shot later turned up at the hospital suffering from a gunshot wound.

He was taken into custody and detained under heavy police guard.

## Realtor Calls For Review of Downtown

BY C. JILLIAN GRAY  
 Journal Staff Writer

The President of C.A. Christie Realty, Charles Christie is calling for a review of downtown Nassau.

In a press release Christie said the city of Nassau, from East Street to the Sir Sidney Poitier bridge is a stark reminder of the consequences of neglect.

"The area has steadily declined over the past 30 years to its current shameful state. Ninety-five percent of the of the buildings are unkempt and shuttered, with degraded exteriors adorned with a kaleidoscope of peeling paint and rotting wood," Christie said.

He added that as a significant segment of key commercial areas in the downtown area remains underutilized, he is not surprised that the Bahamas has failed to maximize the potential of the millions of cruise passengers who visit annually.

■ See REALTOR CALLS / page 2...

## Protesters Berate Banks Over Fees

BY ONIKE ARCHER  
 Journal Staff Writer

Protesters have joined together to peacefully voice their concern over the rise in bank fees over the last five years.

■ See PROTESTERS / page 2...



**NMC PARTS DEPARTMENT**  
 Shirley Street • 302-0130  
 partsorder@nassaumotor.com  
 www.acdelcobahamas.com

## ACDelco dexos<sup>1</sup> Engine Oil— Designed for your GM vehicle\*

ACDelco<sup>®</sup> SYNTHETIC BLEND MOTOR OIL is formulated to improve fuel economy, engine protection and provide the performance modern engines need. ACDelco dexos<sup>1</sup> synthetic blend has excellent wear protection and outstanding resistance to thermal breakdown at operating temperature.

AVAILABLE NOW AT NMC PARTS DEPARTMENT, SHIRLEY STREET.

\* The dexos<sup>™</sup> Specification and Trademarks are Exclusive to General Motors, LLC.



NMC IS THE EXCLUSIVE DISTRIBUTOR OF GENUINE ACDELCO PRECISION PARTS & SUPPLIES



Is your family prepared for the inevitable?

### The BAF Final Expense Plan

Coverage up to \$50,000\* for your final expenses.

\*Based on eligible plan



**BAF FINANCIAL & INSURANCE (BAHAMAS) LTD.**

Contact us today for more information 242-461-1000  
 www.mybafolutions.com

BAF Global Group | The Bahamas | Cayman | Turks & Caicos

# Minnis: "The PLP Cannot Change"

Continued from / PAGE 1...

Dr. Minnis comments came while he was giving remarks on Saturday at The Free National Movement's Meritorious Council Members Celebratory Ball.

"The PLP cannot change, The PLP will not change; look at the chaotic convention they had last week.

"If they can't run a convention, they certainly can't lead a country.

We have 55 additional Meritorious Council Members whom we revere for their service to our country and to our party.

"The PLP can't even keep track of the

number of Stalwart Councillors they have. The number may be around 2500. They had to keep extending the voting last week because of the massive confusion in their party.

"What we saw in the PLP in the last five years was no different than how they act whenever they are in government. They rule for themselves. They believe they are the only ones who should have opportunity in our country," Dr. Minnis said.

Dr. Minnis also highlighted comments by the daughter of former Prime Minister Sir Lynden Pindling as to why the PLP has not evolved.

"The daughter of Sir Lynden told the PLP what the FNM had been saying for years about the last PLP government.

"Her indictment of the PLP is clear and compelling. Sadly, the PLP cannot and will not change, especially given their Leader.

"We are a distinctly different party. Very early in the movement for majority rule, many of you saw the tendency toward gross corruption and the cult of personality.

"A courageous, patriotic Dissident Eight led the way in combatting such a mindset. They included Sir Cecil Wallace Whitfield, Sir Arthur Foulkes, Warren Levarity, Maurice Moore, George Thompson, Curtis McMillan,

Jimmy Shephard and Dr. Elwood Donaldson.

"By historic circumstance, the majority of those who were elected to form that first majority rule government either helped to form or later joined the Free National Movement," Dr. Minnis said.

The voting process for party officers during the Progressive Liberal Party's 53rd national convention was fraught with chaos and disorganisation, with the vote delayed by nearly three hours due to protests raised over the official register of eligible voters.

The convention site at the Melia Nassau Beach Hotel was plagued by several power cuts as well.

## Realtor Calls For Review of Downtown

Continued from / PAGE 1...

"Instead of restaurants, shopping, art galleries and other creative outlets for locals and visitors to congregate and find entertainment, the deplorable state of the area screams - decay. No wonder our cruise passengers are opting to remain on-board and even when onshore are signifi-

cantly under-spending in our destination, compared to some of our neighbours in the region," Christie said.

He says that the fundamental problem is one of economics, as high land values, particularly on the waterfront side, coupled with the restrictive zoning, make any land redevelop- ment proposals almost impossible to make feasible for

financing.

"Considering the the maximum square footage that can be accommodated under the present zoning, investment proposals are unlikely to meet the feasibility requirements for institutional financing. To turn around the situation and increase development immediately, new height restrictions (between 12 to 20 storeys) must be adopted

to create more developable square footage," Christie said.

If these changes are made, Christie says a number of advantages will emerge, including all property owners immediately gaining an appreciation in land values, which he says, will create a number of new millionaires.

See REALTOR CALLS / page 3...

## Protesters Berate Banks Over Fees

Continued from / PAGE 1...

During a protest last Friday held in front of Scotia Bank and Royal Bank of Canada (RBC) Bay Street, protest organizer Dr. Denotrah Archer-Cartwright told The Journal she has an issue with all the commercial banks.

"I have an issue with most of the commercial banks, in particular the foreign commercial banks. There's been an increase in rates of 187 per cent in their fees.

"Some of their loan practices are very predatory and very difficult for Bahamians; Scotia Bank in particular."

Aside from regular banking fees, Dr. Archer-Cartwright also stated that the approval of loan mortgages have become almost impossible for the average Bahamian.

Expanding on Scotia Bank rates, Dr. Archer-Cartwright stated, "they start at 30 per cent down for their mortgages and then you have to qualify to get 15 per cent or 20 per cent.

"These are extremely high barriers for Bahamians seeking to do something. We know that they don't lend money for start-up businesses, so Bahamians are struggling with looking for capital for start-ups."

Additionally, Dr. Archer-Cartwright chastised the government for seemingly favouring foreign investments.

"If you look at the Central Bank regulations and rules, you will find that they favour the foreign banks."

Although Credit Unions appear to be a better banking choice for Bahamians, they are also limited in their capacity to truly assist Bahamians in their banking endeavours.

"It's also very difficult for our credit unions, as they don't have access to a lot of things that would make them easier for Bahamians to use them solely; so you're forced to use these banks with their rising fees and taxes." Dr. Archer-Cartwright emphatically articulated.

Protestor, Celi Moss also shared his views behind the hike in banking fees stating that shareholders want more money.

"The shareholders of the banks want more dividends. They want to buy another jet, they want to buy another town house in the Bahamas; its money, money, money; so you try and nickel and dime and squeeze wherever you can get a dollar from." Mr. Moss told the Journal.

Suggesting that crime is a symptom of the increase in bank fees, Mr. Moss said, "this is a National Security risk. When you allow the bank to arbitrarily raise fees, you are raising inflation in the Bahamas.

"So, that guy who only could've afforded one tin of tuna, today, he can't afford any. So he resorts to robbing. Therefore crime goes through the roof."

Mr. Moss strongly feels this is a major priority for the government and they need to take a serious look at the banking practices in the Bahamas.

Another protestor compared banks in the Bahamas to Cartels in respect to the money they make off Bahamians.

## Opposition on revocation of fly fishing industry regulations

Continued from / PAGE 1...

The statement said, "The Progressive Liberal Party will not support the repeal of the regulation that safeguards local guides.

"The Free National Movement has a pattern since 10th May of eroding policies and programmes which were put in place by the PLP to protect Bahamians. A repeal of these Fly Fishing Regulations would be contrary to the interests of

Bahamians and not in the economic interest of our Family Island Communities.

"The Progressive Liberal Party will carry out its responsibility to vigorously oppose any legislation that seeks to undermine Bahamian economic interests. We urge the Government to proceed carefully and not to proceed with the repeal of any legislation that protects fly fishing for Bahamians," the statement said.



### 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

# New Police Commissioner TO BE INSTALLED TODAY

BY AMAJAH L KNOWLES  
Journal Staff Writer

Acting Commissioner Anthony Ferguson is expected to officially assume the Royal Bahamas Police Force's Top Post in a handing-over ceremony later today.

The ceremony is expected to take place at Police Headquarters this afternoon.

Ferguson takes over from former Police Commissioner Ellison Greenslade who earlier this month was appointed High Commissioner of the Bahamas to the United Kingdom and as Permanent

Representative to the International Maritime Organization.

He was referred to in the press release as "former commissioner," although the government had not previously announced his resignation.

Some politicians in the Progressive Liberal Party (PLP) and the Free National Movement (FNM) have privately expressed concern about the handling of his departure.

A handing-over ceremony is accompanied with the pomp and pageantry typical for departing commissioners.

The PLP politicians contend that the Minnis Administration hasn't duly explained why it wants Mr. Greenslade removed, with allegations of tension between Greenslade and National Security Minister Marvin Dames.

Mr. Ferguson was previously responsible for the RBPF's Disciplinary Tribunal, Complaints and Corruption Branch, and Force Inspections and Review Branch at Police Headquarters in New Providence.

Ferguson was pressured by members of the press and

public this year after he failed to confirm the country's murder count.

In his first official press briefing he said his team is not too focused on counting bodies, but preventing the act from occurring in the first place; something that drew the ire of many citizens.

To combat the rising rate of crime in the country last month, Mr. Ferguson revealed two new crime fighting strategies including the Anti-Gang and Firearm Tracing and Investigation Unit which will operate out of the Central Detective Unit.



▶ Anthony Ferguson (Journal file photo)

# BAHAMIAN CERAMICS ARTIST GOES GLOBAL

BY C. JILLIAN GRAY  
Journal Staff Writer

Bahamian ceramic artist, Alistair D. Stevenson was featured at the Jingdezhen International Ceramics Fair in China.

Stevenson who is pursuing a degree in ceramics in Jingdezhen, presented a series of over 20 porcelain sculptures in his "Creative Nassau" booth.

The sculptures were themed "The Fragility of Life" which is a continuing theme in his "Fragility" series that was on display locally this summer at Doongalik Studios Art Gallery.

The Creative Nassau booth won the attention of many visitors to the ceramics fair and was the focus of television, newspaper and magazine journalists of Jiangxi Province.

The booth also had the honour of being visited by the City of Jingdezhen's Mayor, Mrs. Yi Mei, to whom Stevenson

presented one of his works as an expression of gratitude for the opportunity to represent The Bahamas at the exposition.

Pam Burnside of Creative Nassau and Doongalik Studios Art Gallery said as a creative entity, Creative Nassau looks forward to continued participation in this expo and others around the world.

"It is through such networking opportunities with other creative cities in the UNESCO Creative Cities Network (UCCN) that The Bahamas can continue to expose and define its world class artistic presence as a partner of the global creative economy," Burnside.

She said the use of ceramics as the primary medium for the display emphasized the delicacy of life itself, suggesting that human beings should cherish both their own lives as well as the lives of others.

"With the variety of surface decoration, curving edges and overall elegant movements, the work automatically brought a sense of nature into a space, reminding audiences of the importance of embracing life outside of everyday work, and of finding enjoyment from family, friends, love, tradition and contemporary ideas," Burnside said.

Let Your Advertising Dollar  
Go A LONG WAY....

Advertise In The Bahama Journal  
Call Our Sales Team At: 356-9071-3



# Realtor Calls For Review of Downtown

Continued from / PAGE 2...

He added that the entire area will become extremely attractive for investment, resulting in an increase in developable square footage and facilitating the rejuvenation of the area in to a modern city of Nassau within a decade.

"The charm and historic importance of the area extending west of East Street, from Government House to the British Colonial Hilton, should be preserved as 'Old Town Nassau' with the current zoning restrictions maintained. However, east of East Street would become a new, modern city centre, a perfectly feasible endeavor given the absence of any historic buildings in this area," Christie said.

He added that what is needed is a way forward to enliven the city of Nassau, bolster new development, increase land values and inspire commercial, recreational and residential development in the desirable waterfront area.

"It is time to reclaim the beauty and charm of the city centre and rekindle the spirit of adventure, art, life and prosperity that has been allowed to decay for too long," Christie said.

## The Bahamas Agriculture & Marine Science Institute WEEKLY PRICE REPORT WEEK BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 25<sup>th</sup>, 2017

Wholesale Crop	Weight	Size	BAMSI		USDA-AMS		Retail Weight	BAMSI		USDA-AMS	
			Price	Price	HIGH	LOW		Price	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	Per lb.	2.14
Whole Chicken	40lbs	28.36
Leg Quarters	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



**STORE HOURS**  
Mon - Sat / 8am - 4pm

Find out how BAMSI is creating a modern and prosperous Bahamas. Come grow with us.

facebook.com/BAMSI242

**BAMSI Distribution Centre**  
Levy Building, East Bay Street  
(242) 322-3411 or 325-0226

# Former MP Accuses Gov't of Segregation

BY LICEC BASTIAN  
Journal Staff Writer

Former Progressive Liberal Party (PLP) member of parliament for Tall Pines, Leslie Miller threw heavy blows at the Free National Movement (FNM) administration accusing them of being bias toward "white Bahamians".

Mr. Miller openly accused the Minnis led administration of segregating against Bahamians based on color.

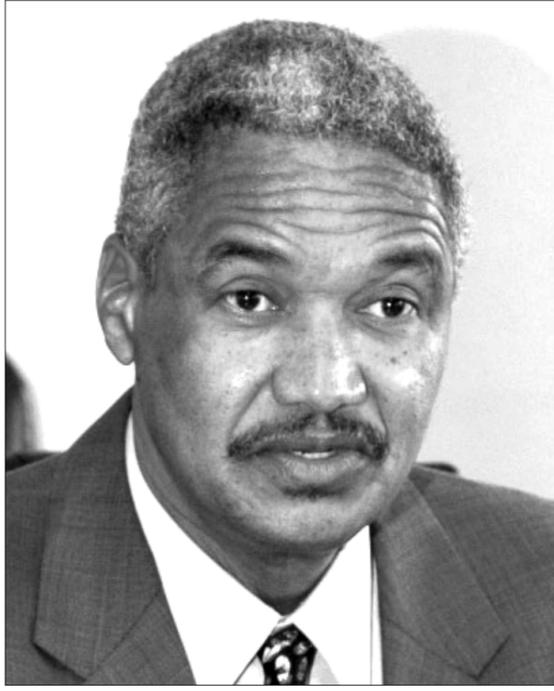
Referring to owners of Webshops, Miller said, "You go after the lil black 'fella' cause it hurts you that the 'fellas' came up from nothing and created an industry from their own imagination, from their own fortitude, from their own ingenuity and you don't like it."

The remarks came as a result of Mr. Miller claiming that the FNM went after the small man both in gaming and the rental of property and spaces, once they gained the government five months ago.

"Who were the first people they went after? the 'fellas' in the gaming business.

"We got to do that without even checking the record of what contribution they are making to our country.

"They got over 4,000 people employed. In fact, I dare say that they have made a greater contribution not only



▶ Former Progressive Liberal Party (PLP) member of parliament for Tall Pines, Leslie Miller (Journal file photo)

to the economy, but to the social welfare of our country than most of the banks in this country, if not all of them combined," Mr. Miller said.

Continuing his defense of Webshop Operators, Mr. Miller said that they assist families every year.

"They assist whenever called upon to do so. They make contributions; just this week they made a contribution to the University of the Bahamas. They have schol-

arship funds.

"They go to schools, assist the school kids every time schools are opening; they assist with uniforms, with having books and pencils, to every school in New Providence and yet you go after them," Mr. Miller said.

Mr. Miller defended the former PLP administration in its decision to rent space at Penn's Builders Square compound.

"They went after Mr. Penn

because the government happened to rent his building during the hurricane. But whoever said it, forget to say that the rent that is paid to people of color is \$25 per square foot.

"The rent that is paid to the big white boys at the building out West on go slow bend is \$65 a square foot and \$200 for each vehicle that you park a month. But yet you go after the one of color saying he making half million dollars a year.

"Yes, he might be, but it depends on the square foot you have times \$25.

"When you compare the \$65 that they have, they make two or three times as much; but nobody talks about that because they are sacred," Mr. Miller said.

Recently Minister of Works Desmond Bannister, revealed that the Christie government spent hundreds of thousands of dollars on rent to one tenant and entered a seven year agreement to lease Penn's Builders Square.

The Penn's Builders Square houses two public offices - the National Recovery and Reconstruction Unit (NRRU) and the National Empowerment Programme.

Mr. Miller's comments came when he appeared as a guest on Love 97's radio show On Point.

## ANDROS POISED FOR ECONOMIC GROWTH, SAYS BUSINESSMAN

BY C. JILLIAN GRAY  
Journal Staff Writer

"Break barriers! Promote success" was the theme of the 5th annual Andros Business Outlook

The event which featured many speakers seeks to bring awareness to the challenges of Androsian economy.

One of the speakers Jeff Birch, past president of the Bahamas Out Island Promotion Board, said given the history of Andros, there is an amazing opportunity there for economic growth.

"Andros is well poised, we're not fixing a problem in my opinion; as we've not done something wrong. We just don't have a lot of development. So, if we start development and we do it in the right way, with transparency and with the government, I think we can really have Andros to grow to be what it needs to be," Birch said.

Birch said he thinks that every Androsian is not against development, but simply very protective of Andros' environment.

Noting that Andros holds a gem, in that it has one of the few great barrier reefs in the world, he said Andros should be known as the nature island and not just an out island.

Birch told participants that the most fundamental thing is to educate the public on the wonders of the Bahamas as a whole, then move to out island promotions, which will in turn bring business to Andros.

## Press Club President Pushes For Freedom of Information Law

BY ONIKE ARCHER  
Journal Staff Writer

Under the leadership of the former Prime Minister, Hon. Hubert A Ingraham, the Free National Movement (FNM) failed to enact the Freedom of Information bill (FOI) they passed in 2007 during their time in office from 2007 to 2012.

The Bahamas Press Club president Anthony Capron called for the enactment of the bill subsequently passed on FOI during a Press Conference held at The Shoal Restaurant last week.

Mr. Capron said, "We all know that the FNM administration that came in 2007 passed a freedom of information bill, but in the end failed at enactment; it never became law."

Furthering his concerns of the FOI bill being at a standstill, Mr. Capron additionally complained, "In the 2012 through 2017, a term of a Progressive Liberal Party (PLP) administration, another FOI bill was passed, but still, there is no law."

Now, under new leadership, the FNM administration has promised (again), to enact

the FOI bill.

"This present FNM administration, under the leadership of Prime Minister Minnis, is again promising to enact Freedom of information.

"And in that regard, the Bahamas Press Club will continue in the pursuit of having the government implement the FOI." Mr. Capron concluded.

The Bahamas Press Club's main mission is to promote the growth and development of the media, thus keeping the public at large informed about news events.

The club is not meant to be just another group of civil society, or nonsensical advocacy gathering, but to further the aspirations of all the people who would seek to make The Bahamas a model country, where there is honesty and transparency in government and where it is easy for investors to conduct business.

As such, the enactment of the FOI is important to the Bahamas Press Club.

The FOI bill will ensure that not only the media, but the general population would have free access to information.

## Police Warn On "Fake News"

BY AMAJHL KNOWLES  
Journal Staff Writer

Police cautioning members of the public on spreading 'fake news' regarding a recent homicide on the island of Abaco.

The body of the 25-year-old mother of three Harderia Bootle, was discovered partially covered in bushes in Marsh harbor, Abaco, on Thursday.

In a statement Police said this stems from the contents of a WhatsApp message that insinuates that the family of

the young woman who was killed has apparently taken matters into their own hands.

Police are urging members of the public to desist from spreading malicious rumours on people who are targeted, which they say is causing undue grief to family members and panic in the community.

An adult male relative of the missing woman is in custody assisting police in the investigations.

Relatives have said the community has suffered a great loss and all the family

wants is justice for the death of the young mother.

Harderia's death marks the 117th for the year according to The Journal's records.

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



### 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' 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday, which falls on 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> November, 2017, as "SIR DURWARD KNOWLES' DAY".

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

HUBERT A. MINNIS  
PRIME MINISTER

# Save The Bays' Preposterous Obsession Costing Us Millions

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

Save The Bays launched these farcical judicial reviews against the former Progressive Liberal Party Government of The Bahamas to ensure that fashion mogul Peter Nygard was unable to rebuild his home after a mysterious fire burned it down.

Why should the Bahamian people have to pay for Save The Bays attorney and Director, Fred Smith, Save The Bays chief funder, hedge-billionaire Louis Bacon, and Save The Bays' game?

We know it's a game because if it wasn't a game, Save The Bays would have taken the Government to court to stop them from granting permits every year to the Lyford Cay company that dredges the sand out of the Jaws Beach Channel and does who knows what with it.

If it wasn't a game, Save The Bays would have taken the previous Free National Movement Government to court for committing the egregious act of giving Louis Bacon a permit after he excavated the seabed without the proper permissions. What could be more grievous than that?

Where is the logic in stopping a man from clearing the sand out of his marina every time the sand piles up? How is he supposed to get his boat in and out? And if he can't do it, shouldn't you stop every single marina owner in The Bahamas who dredges the sand in their marinas from doing it also? And where do they put the sand that they move out of their marina? Does Save The Bays even care?

And how did Fred Smith beach size increase? How has his property increased in mass? Doesn't Save The Bays care about that?

Everyone knows that Save The Bays is singling out Peter Nygard acting on behalf of their chief funder Louis Moore Bacon. That is so patently unfair to the Bahamian people.

Save The Bays is using taxpayer funds to the tunes of millions in countless court cases, finding every way possible to attack Peter Nygard just to please Louis Moore Bacon who is supposedly funding environmental projects, but who looks instead like he is simply paying legal fees—that is, when the Bahamian people aren't paying it.

So because of Bacon's vendetta against Nygard, we the people have to pay millions in court fees for them to tie up our courts and waste time over a period of several years now.

## 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.

When will this madness stop? And when they are not taking the Government to court, taking Peter Nygard to court, they are suing any and everyone who ever mentions Louis Bacon's name in a negative light.

Why do we stand for these things from this pseudo environmental group?

In fact, they are so obsessed with destroying Nygard that their first statement concerning the recent ruling of the court case was to tell the media that they won a "huge victory in Nygard case" and he would have to pay their legal fees. Isn't a judicial review against the Government? Why is the headline about Mr. Nygard?

Then Save The Bays had to turn around and make a correction, noting that the Government is the one who has to pay their legal fees. Here are their exact words:

Dear media colleagues,

"Please allow us to make a slight but important correction to our earlier message, in which it was stated that "Nygard will have to pay the full legal costs incurred by STB since the JR case was first launched in 2015." In fact, as JR4 was filed against the Director of Physical Planning in connection with his decision to grant Nygard a dredging permit, it is the government of The Bahamas, and not Peter Nygard, that is to pay the costs."

You better believe that the people of The Bahamas will be paying many millions in legal fees to Fred Smith and his cohorts for their protestations.

But the bigger question is when will the courts address the fact that you cannot even have a judicial review against a private individual? That is the mess that still needs to be sorted out.

The Bahama Journal Is An Independent Newspaper - Published Week Days  
By The Communicators & Associates In Affiliation With Jones Communications Ltd.  
East St. North - P.O. Box N-8610  
Telephone: 242-325-3082 - Fax: 242 -356-7256



Wendall K. Jones  
Publisher/Chief Executive Officer

Kimaley P. Jones  
Vice President/Operations

## EDITORIAL

# SPEAR-HEADING CHANGE

Having thought long and hard about the so-called 'Haitian' problem in the Bahamas, we are – at long last – beginning to understand that, this so-called 'problem' might well be fictive; meaning both wrong and mistaken!

By this, we wish to suggest that, they who would demonize Haitians do so not only out of their abundance of fear; but because of the fact that, they have been taught to fear men and women who have not done them any harm; but who – as the records would show [if only were they to be examined]: That the relations between the African-descended people in Haiti and their African-Bahamian counterparts have always been reciprocally beneficial.

And thus, so might they come to be as we decide to deepen our relationships with the region and with the wider world.

And thus it follows that: Better schooling in History and in Civics and in Economics and by – necessary extrapolation – Trade and Commerce is to be highly recommended.

This is work that must be spear-headed by the University of The Bahamas in conjunction with its counter-parts in The United States of America, Europe and Africa, et cetera!

And so today, we insist that: Despite the passage of centuries – as measured in terms of all those years now lost in the vaults of memories – suppressed, there are countless numbers of

Bahamians, their regional brothers and sisters and tens of millions of others- such now marooned in the innards of The United States of America – and of course – also those millions of oppressed others who have their marginalized existence in a wider displacement of peoples who continue to yearn and struggle for freedom, for justice and for their rights as human beings.

Evidently, these sentiments do apply with direct force and relevance to the deeply troubled relationship between any number of men, women and children [of Haitian-ethnic extraction and their Bahamian counter-parts, many of them who are totally oblivious of their own direct kinship to the Haitian people in their midst.

This ignorance has its deep roots not only in what some observers as a particularly virulent case of xenophobia running amok; but which is

also deeply rooted in a set of schooling of the masses project designed to sow discord between men, women and children who – in the absence of such brutal mistreatment – might have seen the value inherent in all of these wretched people banding together for the achievement of the common good.

Indeed, were they who are now not only in office, but also they who are in direct command of the commanding heights of this nation's economy were to really know and appreciate the extent to which trade back-in-the-day between Haiti and The Bahamas was mutually and reciprocally beneficial to both peoples—the relationship between them today would clearly not be as fraught as it is currently.

And clearly, too, there is today a crying need for Bahamians to get a better fix on the extent to which our Bahamas is deeply saturated not only with British- oriented traits and features – ranging from the official use of Standard English in the realms of officialdom and business; but also the extent to which today's Bahamas is being socially transformed as more and more 'strangers' meet on these shores to engage in any number of businesses, all catering to the needs of THE PEOPLE!

And thus, we now have on our collective hands that newest of realities where THAT BAHAMAS which existed back-in-the-day is fast disappearing: thus the need for this nation's leaders [whether found in Academic, Religious, Social or Political circles] to be up and doing with understanding and reporting on how these dynamics – when taken all together – now conspire to usher in a truly new Commonwealth of The Bahamas.

And thus, today we dare speculate that the sum of the matter as what we now – with fear and trepidation – view as this society's death rattles might well be seen as the birth-pangs of a new age dawning for a Bahamas that is currently struggling not only with demons rooted in its slave and colonial past; but which – paradoxically – is directly engaging with a world that is increasingly accessible thanks to the ubiquity of communications and social media which now conspire to make a brand new commonwealth of mankind and for mankind where the common good and human flourishing would be the order of the day.

**THE BAHAMAS**  
Sun, Sand, Sea ... and the  
**The Bahama Journal**

**NO BETTER READING**

**SHUT-EYE**  
**DEY FOUND "JERRY ROKER."**  
(ELLISON GREENSLADE)

I ONLY BEEN TER DER BATHROOM.

REPORTING FOR DUTY!  
... FINALLY.

MISSING SLAVE WANTED

FOR DA QUEEN

CONCH SALAD

KFC KFC

FRAGILE THIS SIDE UP

LONDON HERE I COME

PENSION CHECK

RBBP IN 80

CHIEF FORCED OUT

MISSING REPORTS

HE WAS FORCED OUT

LONDON HERE I COME

E. Dorsett 12/10/17

# Youth Apiculture Commercial Initiative Has Successful Launch

**FREEPORT, Grand Bahama** -- "I didn't come here to offer any of you a job, even though I know that for

us here in Grand Bahama, that's not something that you want to hear."

With those words,

Minister of State for Grand Bahama in the Office of The Prime Minister, Senator Kwasi Thompson welcomed participants of the first ever Youth Apiary Business Venture, which got underway on Thursday, October 26, 2017, at the Bahamas Union of Teachers Hall.

"One of the things that we must be able to do is to continue to create that entrepreneurial spirit and bring that spirit back to Grand Bahama. I don't want to give any of you a job. I don't want you to just think about where you can find a job, because in this economy and in this Grand Bahama, that is simply not just enough. It is not enough for young people to continue to come to events like this and believe that it's enough for them to just go out and look for a job.

"That may seem like a very harsh statement for a Minister to make, but today, I want to give you an opportunity to start your own business. So you don't just provide a job for yourself, but you provide a job for other people as well."

That opportunity could come in the form of a new business venture in the field of beekeeping, or 'apiculture,' an initiative geared toward the development of entrepreneurs in Grand Bahama. A week ago Minister Thompson had announced the Government's intent to start the programme

and invited interested persons to sign up to be a part of the opportunity to own a business.

Just over a week later, Minister Thompson was on hand to welcome the first group of participants: more people than expected turned up, which Minister Thompson was excited about. Thursday was the first of a two-day seminar for all of the participants; it was designed to give them an in-depth look into the world of beekeeping.

Although only 30 individuals will be chosen to form the new company, there were over 100 individuals who showed up for the primary launch on Thursday morning.

"Today is really the beginning of a package deal for you," Minister Thompson told the participants who had gathered for the first day of the programme. "I don't know of many programmes that provide the kind of package deal you will be getting today -- you will be trained in a skill; a skill [with which] you will be able to make money; in a skill where there is a genuine need in Grand Bahama, in The Bahamas and even a genuine need in the world.

"I don't want you to just think about having a business on the side where you can make a couple dollars -- take that out of your mind. I don't even want you to just think

about having this business to help you make a product just for Grand Bahama or maybe even provide a product for The Bahamas. I want you to take that out of your mind too.

"Today could be the start of you producing a business that can provide honey to the rest of the world and in the process become a multi-million dollar company. It is possible."

Minister Thompson added that producing such a company, although possible, will not be an easy task. He reminded them that it will take commitment, hard work and a desire to succeed.

The group that will eventually be chosen to set up this new company venture will go through a 14-week training programme and be paid a stipend. At the end of the 14 weeks those individuals will be provided with funding from the Bahamas Development Bank to get the business started.

Once the company is set

up, the business owners will go through more training to give them insights into business management, marketing, distribution, and sales.

The apiculture programme is a partnership of the Government of The Bahamas, the Bahamas Development Bank, and the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture.

"I want you to really grasp this opportunity before you and drive at it with passion, because the government is very aware of the economic situation in Grand Bahama and we have to be very creative in our approach to dealing with solving this dilemma," said Minister Thompson. "This is one of the creative ways we are confident will yield exceptional results, not just for now, but far into the future.

"At the end of the day, somewhere sitting in this very room, I expect to see successful businesses coming out of this."

## No Damage Caused By Sunken Barge

BY AMAJAHL KNOWLES  
Journal Staff Writer

No spilled oil or environmental damage was caused by the abandoned barge, left broken up at Gray's Bay in Long Island, as was reported by numerous concerned residents.

A Government delegation with an assessment party of eight persons to visit the abandoned barge site, which included Minister of Transport and Local Government, the Hon. Frankie Campbell, and Minister of the Environment and Housing, the Hon. Romauld Ferreira, as well as Long Island M.P., Adrian Gibson.

They arrived to document the real damage inflicted on the area, to calculate a cost for the clean up of the cargo contents spilled from inside of the damaged barge and assess the mitigation of any environmental threats caused by spoils and debris.

The group was accompanied by the Defence Force, the Royal Bahamas Police Force, Public Hospitals Authority (PHA) Clinic Nurses, as well as Local Government officials who all proceeded in assigned vehicles to the beach site.

At the time of its discovery, Mr. Gibson said the barge appeared to be carrying approximately 7,000 gallons of fuel, along with relief supplies, heavy machinery, cell phone towers, utility poles, bucket trucks, and a crane. The items were purportedly earmarked for St Vincent and the Grenadines, Anguilla and the British Virgin Islands, Mr Gibson said.

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

# Hanna's

## Plumbing & Electrical Supplies

### We ship to the family Islands

#### We Carry:

- |                    |                          |
|--------------------|--------------------------|
| Toilets            | * Water Pumps            |
| Lavatories         | * Faucets                |
| Heaters            | * Gas Fittings           |
| Tubs               | * PVC & CPVC Fittings    |
| DWV Fittings       | * Kitchen Sinks          |
| Water Tanks        | * Tankless Water Heaters |
| Faucet Repair Kits |                          |

### Complete line of Plumbing Supplies

Tel: (242) 325-7846  
323-1494 or 356 - 0946  
Fax: (242) 323-6077

Cordeaux Ave, & Palm Beach St.  
In God Almighty Whom We Trust  
P. O. Box N -7416, Nassau, Bahamas



# Gov't must resist this hostile foreign takeover

- *The proposed GB Power buy-out represents a shameful rip-off of Bahamians and violates both the country's laws and our national sovereignty*

BY FREDERICK SMITH, QC

The attempted forcible buy-out of Grand Bahama Power Company by a 100 per cent foreign-owned entity is nothing less than an aggressive hostile takeover which is clearly not in the best interest of The Bahamas.

The proposed move contravenes Bahamian law on a number of levels and raises serious questions about the strength of our sovereignty and the integrity of our public institutions. All Bahamians who care about their rights and are committed to national self-determination should call on the government resist this ill-conceived plan. We have until November 7 to make our voices heard.

## OPERATING BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

Emera has been very secretive about its scheme to compulsorily acquire the roughly 20 per cent of GB Power currently owned by Bahamians. The deal is highly convoluted and difficult to wrap one's head round, but essentially it amounts to a scenario where, depending on the results of a shareholder vote next month, Bahamians will be forced to give up their ownership stake in the company – whether they like it or not.

This deal has been negotiated without any consultation with the citizens and residents who own the shares and without the negotiations even being made a matter of public knowledge. The Minnis administration came to office promising public consultation and transparency. If they are to be true to their word, they must acknowledge that this hostile takeover is no different from the clandestine, cloak-and-dagger maneuvers sanctioned and even encouraged by their PLP predecessors – a practice which, incidentally, helped ensure Christie and Co were comprehensively and unceremoniously booted out of office on May 10.

## A NATION FOR SALE?

If the deal goes through, what sort of precedent will it set in terms of the preservation of our sovereignty and autonomy as a nation? Going forward, can any public utility or BISX-traded company be acquired by a foreign entity that has the buying power to force Bahamians into a corner? Will our government stand by and watch as economic invaders work to undermine Bahamian empowerment and wealth acquisition for their own selfish gain?

Throughout the years since independence, a crucial theme of our public policy has been the promotion and protection of Bahamian ownership in key infrastructure and utilities as a symbol of our nationhood and commitment to self-determina-

tion. It would be most unfortunate if on their watch, the Minnis administration were to allow this principle to be betrayed on behalf of self-interested international bullies with deep pockets.

## NO BASIS IN LAW

Emera has concocted this clandestine deal by applying to the Bahamas Investment Authority (BIA) for approvals, which it appears have indeed been granted. However, as this is not a body that exists by any law, the approvals have no legal basis. Though this practice of foreign entities applying to the BIA for permission to conduct business in The Bahamas is a long-standing one, it is simply not binding in legal terms and would crumble if challenged in the courts.

Furthermore, in tying the hands of shareholders and essentially forcing them to sell their interest in GB Power, the deal contravenes the basic property rights of citizens and residents as outlined in the Constitution. Prime Minister Minnis and his colleagues must not be seen to facilitate and condone a deal what would violate the fundamental rights of Bahamians.

## ABDICATING RESPONSIBILITY

Under the Hawksbill Creek Agreement, the documents which sets out the administrative structure for Freeport, the Grand Bahama Port Authority (GBPA) is responsible for all utilities within the port area. The Agreement states that: "The Port Authority shall have the sole right to construct and operate utilities" including electrical supply. This does not mean that the Port cannot assign another entity to run the day-to-day operations of GB Power, but nowhere in the Agreement is permission given for the GBPA to downright abdicate its responsibilities to the detriment of licensees and the residents of Freeport.

The GBPA must step up and fulfill the role for which it was created – managing the economic and administrative affairs of Freeport for the benefit of those who live and work there. Instead, the Port seems poised to stand aside and allow an external entity to monopolize a key infrastructural asset of the city.

## BREAKING A FINE BALANCE



The entire point of the original arrangement with Emera, was to ensure that the GBPA remained in control of GB Power. The board of directors was to be equally appointed by GBPA and ICD Utilities (ICDU) the parent company of GB Power, and because of the Hawksbill Agreement, the GBPA would retain management control. Most importantly Bahamians, especially residents of Freeport, would be able to benefit from the profits generated from the local power company.

This is how matters stood for nearly two decades. Now, Emera is seeking to turn all of this on its head and create a construct in which Bahamians and residents no longer have any direct or indirect ownership and GB Power. Going forward, the company will no longer be in the control of the GBPA and can ignore its obligations under the Hawksbill Creek Agreement.

## A SHAMELESS RIP OFF

More than anything else, the move represents a shameless rip off and disempowerment of Bahamian citizens. Currently, local shareholders in ICDU own a slice of the company which gave them a 10 per cent return on their investment each year for many years. If the transaction is allowed to go through, after November 8, 2017 Bahamians will own nothing.

Former shareholders will be

given only depository receipts (DRs), will be deprived of receiving profits from our local power company, and may or may not actually get dividends in the future. In fact, quite ominously, the company has made a point of cautioning about the possibility of any future profits from DRs. Henceforth, the fortunes of the company will be governed by the Toronto Stock Exchange and any litigation to assert the rights of Bahamians will have to occur in Canada.

GB Power is the most profitable subsidiary of all of Emera's plethora of Canadian and international companies. But any dividends that are paid out to Bahamians will come from Emera International, which averages out all profits and losses from its corporate galaxy. And, a 25 per cent tax will be deducted on any dividends issued on DRs in Canada, so

Bahamians will get even less, while the tax money siphoned off from us will not go to benefit The Bahamas, but rather Canada.

This move comes at a time when shareholders of ICDU are already frustrated because dividends stopped being paid out a number of years ago. Freeport is hurting and shareholders will be motivated to vote in favor of the move because they need money and haven't been getting their due for some time; especially just before Xmas!

The lack of dividend payments has led – almost certainly intentionally – to a depression of the value of ICDU on BISX. Meanwhile, other power companies both within and outside of Emera's galaxy have seen increases in value. This in turn, has led to auditors valuing the shares as low, but once Emera owns 100 per cent, electricity rates in GB will no doubt increase and residents and businesses of Freeport and Grand Bahama will pay for any power plant upgrades or other infrastructural improvements, without reaping any of the financial benefits.

So, Bahamians, especially residents of Freeport, who invested in their future nearly 20 years ago and actually own part of GB Power and are entitled to accountability from the company, will end up with nothing but an unenforceable promise of less valuable and highly taxed dividends from a foreign entity unrelated to GB Power. There will be no trans-

parency of the financial value of GB Power as it will no longer be listed on the Bahamian stock exchange, so the shareholders will never know if they get what is owed to them. The company will file no financial statements here, and there will be no accountability to our local Securities Commission or any kind of financial scrutiny by The Bahamas government to look after the interests of Bahamian shareholders.

## A FAIR DEAL FOR BAHAMIANS

If Emera would like to acquire the all of ICDU, they could simply trade shareholders one share of GB Power for one share of ICDU. This would be the simplest and most honest process. This is how Emera operates in the Eastern Caribbean, where the citizens of each country where the company operates own direct shares in the local operator, which are traded on the Caribbean Stock Exchange.

Why are they not seeking to repeat the same formula in the Bahamas? For two reasons: 1. Because it is more profitable to Emera, which already makes massive profits out of GB Power, to pay local shareholders a lower dividend based on the average performance of its many companies (or possibly no dividend at all); and 2. Because the Canadians know they are operating in a country with a long history of clandestine deals that unfairly privilege foreign interests.

Nevertheless, we as Bahamians must stand up for our fellow citizens. We must defend our rights and our economic independence from this type of dangerous encroachment. Anything less than a share-for-share swap that leaves local investors with an active stake in GB Power is totally unacceptable and we simply must demand that our government firmly reject the deal currently on the table.

For my part, I strongly urge the Minnis administration to stand up for sovereignty, self-determination, empowerment of Bahamians and a direct piece of our economic pie!. I urge them to use this opportunity to bring an end to the culture of secret deals and the privileged position of wealthy foreign entities in our economy. Through this attempted hostile takeover, Emera has presented the government with a wonderful opportunity to live up to its election promises of promoting transparency, encouraging fairness and ushering in "The People's Time". They must confront Emera and stop this deal in its tracks before it is too late. November 7 is right around the corner. So is May 9, 2022!