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Foreign Investors By-Pass The Bahamas

BY LICEC BASTIAN
 Journal Staff Writer

For the economy of The Bahamas to regain strength there must be some external investment. However, according to the Managing Partner of Deloitte Bahamas, Raymond Winder, many of these investors are not prepared to

invest in the local economy. "In our national investment policy, for too long we have governed our country through a group of men and women called the cabinet. "It is time that we get serious about what we need to be in place to attract investors. "Too many investors are not prepared to come to the Bahamas, because they are not sure at the end of the day

what those policies are going to be," Mr. Winder said. "One Cabinet comes in and they say the policy is this, a next Cabinet comes in and they change the policy. "We've got to engrain in law what we would like to see relative to attracting investors," he said. Mr. Winder, who made his comments during a JCN Roundtable discussion, described reasons as to why

there is a lack of international investment, stating that one so critical, is one that also affects Bahamians. "I have identified a couple of things that is critical that we look at in the short term in order to stop some of the concerns, like energy cost. "Energy cost is a huge problem for this country. The average Bahamian is just paying too much in

electricity and we don't have that cost to a point where we can attract any kind of investors. "Anyone looking at The Bahamas as a possible place for investment has a concern with energy. We've got to fix that; not next week, not next year; that has to be on the agenda today," Mr. Winder stated.

■ See BY-PASS THE / page 2...



▶ The late Sir Arlington Butler

Sir Arlington Butler Dies

The first Speaker of The House of Assembly in an Independent Bahamas, Sir Arlington Butler, passed away last night. He was 79. A former Educator, Sir Arlington entered politics as a candidate for the Progressive Liberal Party in the 1967 general elections. While he was unsuccessful, the Progressive Liberal Party was victorious at the polls and became the government. In the 1968 snap election, Mr. Butler was elected to the Honourable House of Assembly where he served as its Speaker until 1977, earning the distinction of becoming the first Speaker in an Independent Bahamas, July 10, 1973.

■ See BUTLER DIES / page 7...

PM SELLS GB AS POTENTIAL TECH HUB TO INTERNATIONAL BIG-NAME TECH COMPANIES



▶ **PM AND DELEGATES** – Prime Minister, Dr. the Hon. Hubert Minnis (centre), along with Minister of State for Grand Bahama, Senator Kwasi Thompson took time out during a break on day one of the Grand Bahama Tech Summit to take a photo with some of the key delegates and speakers. Joining the Prime Minister was Minister of Transport and Local Government, the Hon. Frankie Campbell; Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Hon. Darren Henfield; Minister for the Environment and Housing the Hon. Romauld Ferreira; President of the Senate, the Hon. Katherine Forbes-Smith; along with Parliamentary Secretaries, Members of Parliament, Grand Bahama Port Authority officials, and other dignitaries. (BIS Photo/Lisa Davis)

Umbrella Union Wants Constitutional Reform

BY ONIKE ARCHER
 Journal Staff Writer

Constitutional Reform was the agenda behind the National Congress of Trade Unions of the Bahamas (NCTUB) as the organization is amending its constitution for all Union affiliates to align with international standards. "There are changes we've made in the constitution to ensure that affiliates fall in line with international standards to be more unified," says Bernard Evans, President of NCTUB and Bahamas Communication Publics Office Union (BCPOU). told The Journal yesterday during the opening ceremo-

ny of the Union's 2017's Special Convention. Due to the amount of different Unions in The Bahamas and each one of them yielding to a different constitution, unifying all the unions is the primary goal. Mr. Evans told The Journal at the opening of the Union's 2017 Special Convention, "there are so many affiliates out there and each affiliate has its own constitution. "We figure that if we revise our own constitution for the congress, which is the umbrella unit for all the affiliates, that will set the tone now for each affiliate to fall in line to get their constitution reformed."

■ See CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM / page 4...



▶ Bernard Evans, President of NCTUB and Bahamas Communication Publics Office Union (BCPOU). (Journal file photo)

Audit reveals COMPANIES Under-Reporting

BY C. JILLIAN GRAY
 Journal Staff Writer

An audit report of the Royal Bahamas Defense Force reveals that five vendors under reported the amount of payments received from the government by over one million dollars. The 27-page report which was tabled in the House of Assembly on Wednesday, stated that the payments the government made to these vendors exceeded the gross revenue they actually reported to the business license unit.

■ See AUDIT REVEALS / page 2...

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Foreign Investors By-Pass The Bahamas

Continued from / PAGE 1...

Mr. Winder said that in order to attract these kinds of investors, the legislation will need to be addressed.

"The legislation has been around

for quite some time. What has to happen that will begin to attract some investors who have just passed by the Bahamas?" Mr. Winder asked.

Concurring with former Central Bank Governor, Julian Frances, dur-

ing the discussion, Mr. Winder said that in order for the economy to grow, there must be some form of competition.

"I think it goes back to competitiveness.

"We live in a global world. It's

going to be a long time before internal investment becomes a major driver of wealth in the Bahamas.

"Today and for some time to come that wealth is going to be driven primarily by external forces. So, we need to have certain things in

place so we can spread what I call the wealth throughout the country," Mr. Winder said.

Mr. Winder added that external investments are unlikely until the cost of energy, land reform, as well as tax incentives are addressed.

Audit reveals Companies Under-Reporting

Continued from / PAGE 1...

Under-reporting revenue is an offense.

The auditor general report also discovered that the companies either did not have a business license or were

only able to obtain a license just before conducting business with the RBDF.

According to the report, "There appears to be a lack of interconnectivity within the government system that allows internal and external

perpetrators of fraud to manipulate weaknesses in internal control for their gain."

It recommended then that the RBDF ensures that it only conducts business with legitimate businesses and

that a copy of each company's current business license be kept on file.

It's further recommended that those companies found to be in contravention to the business license act be reported with immediate

effect.

The report also found that during the period October 14, 2014 to June 26, 2015, \$275,000 was spent with a home-based business that was rejected for a business license.

On its invoice, this business quoted a tax identification number, charged and received value added tax (VAT), but was not even registered with the VAT office.

It was also determined that the vendor identification appears to be missing a number.

It is unfathomable, according to the report, as to how 18 invoices from this company could be processed without the accounting section verifying whether this

company was legitimate.

The report pointed to collusion and a lack of oversight during the approval phases and processing of these invoices over the nine months during which these transactions occurred.

This manipulation of the system led to losses for the government and revenue not collected in customs duties, but also business license and vat fees.

The report recommends that an investigation into these transactions with the RBDF be performed; government funds recovered and the relevant authorities to take action.

The auditor general's report covers the period July 1st 2013 to June 30th, 2015.



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 --

William Jarvis, Single,
of 49 Thompson Lane, Shipley BD17 7LX, United Kingdom

and

Cheryl Louise McMahon, Single,
of 33 Western Fold, Bradford BD6 2BU, United Kingdom

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 November, 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 --

Mark Thomas Niekamp, Divorced,
of 1918 Autumn Sage Dr., Dacula, GA 30019, United States of America

and

Shelly Marie Scordato, Divorced,
of 1918 Autumn Sage Dr., Dacula, GA 30019, 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 November, 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 --

James Donald Wobith, Single,
of 809 East Klingsley #20, Ann Arbor, MI 48104, United States of America

and

Alia Grace Wesala, Single,
of 809 East Klingsley #20, Ann Arbor, MI 48104, 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 3rd day of November, 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 --

Jose Antonio Kato Kobashigawa, Single,
of 14 Halycon Street, Point Cook Victoria 3030, Australia

and

Chandelle Elizabeth Macklin, Single,
of 14 Halycon Street, Point Cook Victoria 3030, Australia

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

Dated this 3rd day of November, 2017.

Registrar of Marriages

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IMPACTS SCHOOLS

BY C. JILLIAN GRAY
Journal Staff Writer

Health Minister Dr. Duane Sands said although it's usually behind closed doors that domestic violence occurs, it's that type of behaviour that often translates into behavioural problems in children at school.

Speaking the Bahamas Crisis Center's symposium yesterday, Dr. Sands said a 2013 department of statistics report revealed that 1,200 women are abused annually. According to the department of social services, 500 children are abused which he says is still probably doesn't show an accurate account of what is taking place.

For the Bahamas to effectively address this problem, the minister suggests added emphasis be placed on creating guidelines to prevent violence such as conflict resolution, better communication skills and crafting policies that investigate and document occurrences of violence... policies and procedures to prevent violence as well as educating the public on the issues and its effect on victims.

He added that some changes must be made at the Princess Margaret Hospital as well.

"Our plans are to renovate and redevelop the accident and emergency department paying deliberate attention to the Agape area from a single cubicle to an area more suited to our countries needs," Sands said.

Dr. Sands further stressed that the health care system, social services and law enforcement must speak with one voice, move as one body, act as one force and stand in solidarity in a campaign to eradicate violence and advocate for the protection of victims of violence.

The Crisis center's symposium brought together law enforcement, medical practitioners, lawyers, psychologists and community organizers.

It addressed topics such as masculinity and violence, sexualization of the Bahamain girl, raising children in a toxic society and managing conflict.

THE GOVERNOR GENERAL AND PARLIAMENTARIANS PAID RESPECTS TO THE LATE CALVIN JOHNSON



▶ The Governor General, Her Excellency Dame Marguerite Pindling, pictured, paid respects during the Viewing of the late Parliamentarian Calvin Johnson at Butler's Funeral Home & Crematorium on Wednesday. Members of Parliament also paid their respects -- among them, pictured signing the Book of Condolence is Minister of Public Works the Hon. Desmond Bannister, and, viewing the body, Minister of Agriculture and Marine Resources the Hon. Renward Wells. A State-Recognized Funeral for Mr. Johnson is being held today at St. Francis Xavier Cathedral. (BIS Photos/Letisha Henderson)

Dangerous Drugs And Guns Seized

BY LICEC BASTIAN
Journal Staff Writer

Police on the island of Eleuthera have seized a large quantity of drugs in an unoccupied residence.

According to police reports, around 2:30pm yesterday, a joint operation conducted by officers from the Eleuthera Division and Drug Enforcement Unit (DEU) assisted by US Drug

Enforcement Agents, resulted in the seizure of 77 bales of marijuana during a search of an unoccupied residence in Governors Harbour. No one was arrested in connection with the matter.

Meantime quick action by police officers in the New Providence resulted in a number of illegal firearms, ammunition and dangerous drugs from entering the streets.

Police reports indicate that shortly after 10am yesterday, the Mobile Division Officers along with the K-9 Unit Officers conducted a search of a property at Quarry Mission Road and discovered a quantity of marijuana.

A Bahamian male is in custody assisting the police with the investigations.

In a second incident shortly before noon, DEU Officers executed a search

warrant on a residence Gibbs Lane and found a black Sky CPX handgun and 53 round of ammunition along with a quantity of marijuana.

Three suspects were taken into custody in connection with this seizure.

A short time later, officers of the Anti-Gang and Firearms Investigation Unit conducted another seizure.

This time, shortly after 1pm, officers of that unit,

acting on information, went to an Auto Body Repair Shop on Zion Boulevard, South Beach, where they conducted a search of a 2015 Chevy Malibu. During the search two magazines and 34 rounds of ammunition were discovered.

No one was arrested in this matter and investigations are ongoing.

Police also took into custody two men for questioning

on a number of armed robberies.

According to reports, shortly after 10am officers from the Mobile Division were on routine patrol, and while acting on information, went to Armstrong Street and Dowdswell Street where they intercepted a blue Nissan vehicle with two men who were wanted in connection with a number of recent armed robberies.

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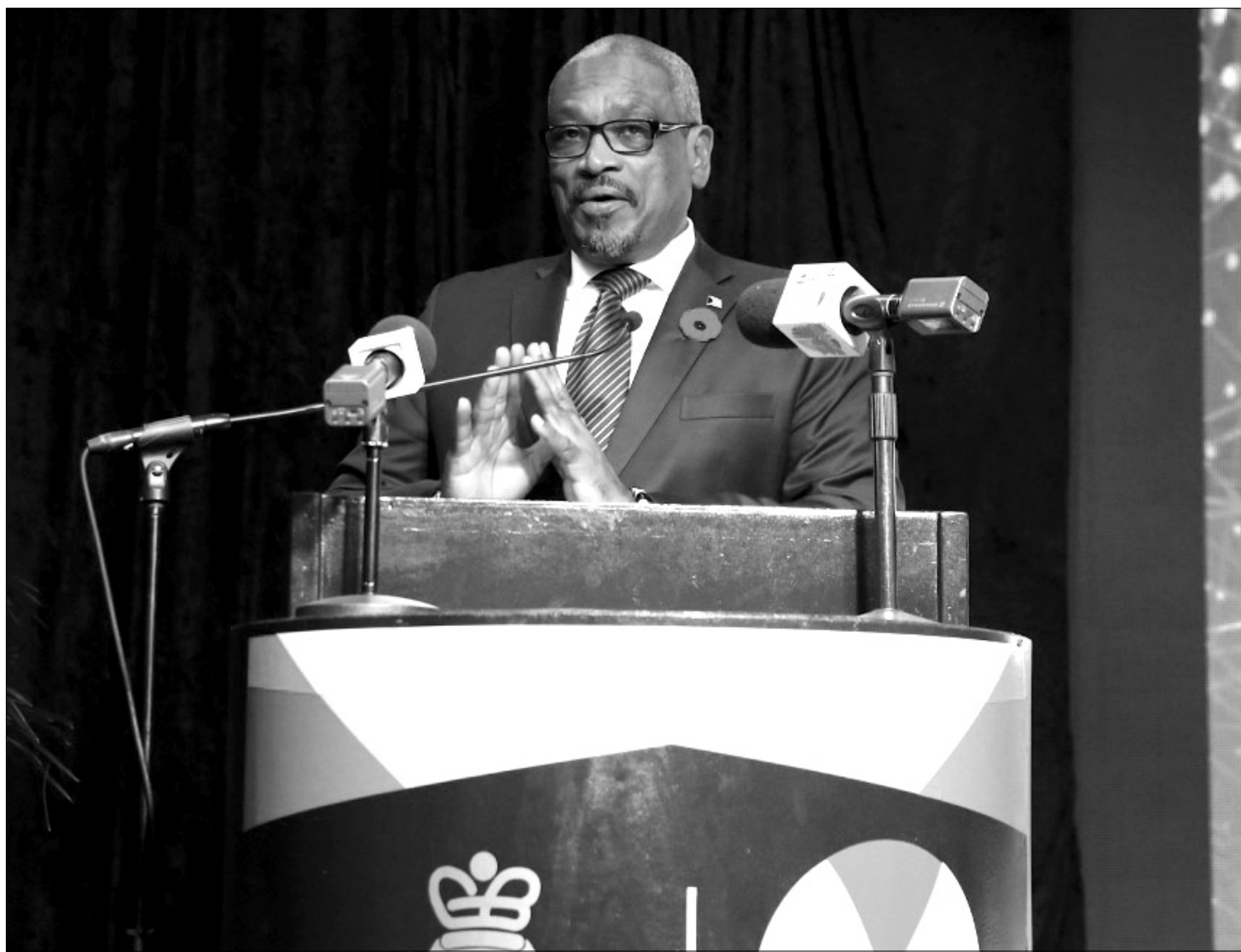
PM Sells GB as Potential Tech Hub to International Big-Name Tech Companies

FREEPORT, Grand Bahama -- "A new day is on the horizon for Grand Bahama," says Prime Minister of The Bahamas, Dr. the Hon. Hubert A. Minnis. "This island has endured many struggles, but today there is the promise of a new and exciting future for Grand Bahama."

The Prime Minister's remarks came during the official opening of the Grand Bahama Tech Summit at Grand Lucayan resort on Thursday, November 9, 2017. The first Tech Summit will lay the foundation for establishing Grand Bahama as a Tech Hub for The Bahamas.

The summit boasts an impressive list of speakers, including tech innovators and IT developers from Google, Microsoft, Hewlett Packard and others; the conclave runs November 9-10.

As the keynote speaker for the summit, Prime Minister Minnis took time to sell The Bahamas, particularly Grand Bahama, to tech companies present as a favorable place in which to set up business. He noted that the Government of The Bahamas has embarked on a mission to establish Grand Bahama as a world-renowned technology hub. "Today, through this first ever Grand Bahama Technology Summit, we are starting on the path to realize this goal," said Prime



► **PM OPENS TECH SUMMIT** – Prime Minister, Dr. the Hon. Hubert Minnis was the keynote speaker at the official opening of the Grand Bahama Tech Summit on Thursday, November 9, 2017 at Grand Lucayan resort. In his remarks Prime Minister Minnis told delegates that Grand Bahama was ideally suited to become the Tech Hub of The Bahamas. (BIS Photo/Lisa Davis)

Minister Minnis.

"We are pleased to play host to this distinguished gathering of some of the finest minds in technology. Indeed your meetings over the next two days will be instrumental in the strategic planning process of promot-

ing the information, communication and technology industry."

The Prime Minister noted that the island of Grand Bahama is uniquely suited to being an internationally-recognized Science, Technology and Innovation

hub. Noting the island's proximity to the United States (68 miles off the East Coast of the United States), he pointed out that Grand Bahama is conveniently located for international business.

To further prove his point,

the Prime Minister highlighted the island's modern and superior infrastructure, as well as a reliable electricity supply and high-speed Internet.

"The Freeport Container Port boasts the deepest container terminal in the region," the Prime Minister noted. "Our 24-hour-a-day facility serves as a major transshipment hub between the U.S., Latin America and Europe.

"The Bahamas is a stable democracy, committed to the rule of law, with one of the best banking systems in the region."

An important part of establishing Grand Bahama

as a Technology Hub will be the development of human capacity through education and training. As a result, Prime Minister Minnis said he was pleased to note that the Grand Bahama campus of the University of The Bahamas is playing an active role in this first ever Tech Summit.

The Prime Minister encouraged the many students who attended the opening of the Tech Summit to explore careers in the fields of science, technology, engineering, mathematics and information technology. "Grand Bahama should be a place where Bahamians can confidently pursue careers in these fields and know that there will be an avenue for their skills to be utilized," said Prime Minister Minnis.

"Grand Bahama is already becoming a manufacturing center for cutting-edge technology, as exemplified in the recent soft opening of Carnival Corporation's Ocean Medallion Project. Grand Bahama will now be the place where industry meets technology. In many ways, it is a new beginning.

"Grand Bahama is certainly open for business and welcomes international business representatives, particularly those from Google, Microsoft and HP to discover what this island has to offer. I also want to encourage Bahamian professionals and aspiring entrepreneurs, at home and abroad, to establish your businesses here at home."

In closing the Prime Minister extended a special invitation to all international tech companies represented at the Tech Summit to consider The Bahamas in general, and Grand Bahama in particular, for their ICT conventions, annual meetings and corporate retreats.

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Umbrella Union Wants Constitutional Reform

■ Continued from / PAGE 1...

Women's equality is also another factor that the NCTUB is going to focus on; equality across the board, says Evans.

"What's important to us too is the women's branch. We want to officially make the women's branch enshrined in our constitution, for them to have from a gender perspective, equal rights.

He said, "in every aspect, we want to ensure that women are recognized and appreciated. We feel that having them indoctrinated in our constitution guarantees them that right."

Mr. Bernard also spoke to the importance of making the youth aware of the governance of unions and its role it plays in society.

"The best way to carry on any organization is to have youth participation," NCTUB President stated.

Rather than wait until one is old enough to enter the workforce, Mr. Bernard aspires to reach out to high schools to teach high school children about the importance of organized labour, so them may have an appreciation of why adults participate in unions.

The Special Convention will be held over two days at the Willamae Bridgewater Convention Centre, BCPOU; yesterday was the first day and today marks the second day.

Mr. Bernard concludes, "Over the next two days the discussions we will have would bring even more recommendations, of how we can better strategically place the congress, make it more viable, more representative of the workers of The Bahamas and their concerns."

Why Does He Hate Him So Much?

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.

Can you imagine being big-hearted enough to give millions of dollars to a nation and then be mistreated in return?

Think about it. You have a man spending millions of his hard earned money in The Bahamas simply because he loves the people and he loves the place, and yet has been disappointed and frustrated at every turn.

The thing is, with this fight between two billionaires having gone on for so many years, you would think by now we would have heard what fashion mogul Peter Nygard did to hedge-fund billionaire Louis Bacon to cause Bacon to hate him so much. He has to hate him for all the things he has tried to do to Peter Nygard. Yet we have heard nothing as to why.

Alternatively, what we have seen is reported evidence of a neighbor concocting and plotting all manner of devious deeds against Peter Nygard. Thank goodness for all of the recordings of Bobo and Toggie and other Bacon representatives and cohorts' misdeeds or they might have gotten away with their scheming and attempts to destroy Peter Nygard's name.

Bobo and Toggie aside, this is very serious business. Take a serious look at what these unscrupulous cohorts have done:

● Bacon and others got together and formed a supposed environmental group called Save The Bays—for which Bacon is the chief funder—whose sole purpose, it appears, was to go after Peter Nygard. Evidence of this is the fact that Bacon himself and Fred Smith himself did the same things Nygard did. Yet, Nygard is described as a villain, while Fred Smith blames the acts of nature for the expansion of his own property.

● Save The Bays on behalf of Bacon took the former Government to court to stop any approvals for Peter Nygard to rebuild his home after it was mysteriously burned down.

● There are countless court cases launched by Save The Bays, Fred Smith and Louis Bacon lawyers suing any individual that opposes them in any way. But, it is the Bahamian people footing the bill to the tune of millions of dollars while they tie up the courts, get their political cronies in the new

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.

Government to stop cases against them, and wield the power to do as they please.

● Then there are the individuals that are being recruited and allegedly paid by Bacon representatives to go against Peter Nygard in any way they can to make up stories and tell lies as demonstrated in the court evidence of tapes of them allegedly looking for girls to accuse Peter Nygard of misconduct of one kind or another.

● Or in the example of one young man online, who couldn't get any money out of Peter Nygard, attempting to wreak havoc on social media spreading the most disgusting of lies because he has to be worthy of the hundreds of thousands allegedly being spent on him to live in Canada.

● Then of course you have the Bobo and Toggie affair where only a diabolical mind can try to set someone up to accuse them of attempted murder, when there is evidence that no such thing ever happened.

While all of Bacon's acts against Peter Nygard are egregious, the most egregious acts involve paying former Nygard associates reported millions to tell lies on him.

What kind of individual does it take to want to so badly destroy someone's life that they would falsely accuse that individual of a murder plot and allegedly pay individuals to give false testimony to support that accusation?

Peter Nygard has expressed in previous interviews that he loves The Bahamas and all he ever wanted was, not special treatment, but to be treated fairly.

What has Peter Nygard done but help Bahamians and help The Bahamas to be set up in such a way and be denied fairness and just treatment?

What does it say about us as a people that we have allowed this to happen?

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E D I T O R I A L

BRAVO TO GATEWAY FINANCIAL

Notwithstanding that whiff of melodrama which accompanies some good news coming our way; suffice it to say that: We are sufficiently impressed with what one financially successful company has been doing to help bring much-needed relief to citizens under threat of losing 'their' mortgaged homes and/or business ventures.

As Ms. Rosel Moxey claims: "We've seen grown men cry, we've seen husbands and wives saying nothing but joining hands. This is what Sunshine is about. Of course we have to be profitable. We're a business; we have to survive. But we believe in national development, we believe in being trustworthy for our creditors and profitable for our shareholders."

Ms. Moxey works for Gateway Financial which – as we have learned – got its start when it purchased a portfolio of "several hundred" delinquent mortgages from Scotia Bank (Bahamas) in summer 2016.

Of some note is information to the effect that: Gateway paid between 25-28 cents on the dollar for the distressed assets and that, the low valuation enabled it to subsequently restructure borrower obligations to a monthly debt service payment they could afford, with – as an example – an \$800 repayment falling to around \$200.

As a direct consequence, therefore, we now have scenarios where: Apart from rescuing Bahamian borrowers and keeping them in their homes, Gateway's intervention also aided Scotia Bank.

In passing, we might hereby note that: As one nugget of folk wisdom would have us note and remember has it that: Talk is cheap; money buy land!

In addition, we believe with all our heart and soul that there is much truth in that old saying which would let it be known that: Promises are but comfort to fools!

And so it now goes today as we take note – albeit in passing- of the very many times when politicians of all known stripes and colors have decided to feed their followers – especially those who can be called 'true-believers – with the moral equivalent of cold porridge; thus that plethora of sweet-talk and lies which can always be relied upon to persuade tens of thousands that their leaders are the best thing since sliced cheese.

And thus, we are today so very happy to bring

forward this piece of eminently good-sense saturated business decision!

The sum of the matter, then, also follows that: We now live in a day and in a time when most people who would be informed about matters political tune in either to relevant talk-shows or to the parliamentary channel where they can feast on talk piled upon even more talk; and thus, they can mull over this or that matter that politicians who are paid to chat-and-talk and who also propose, oppose and off-times, they also decide to second the motion.

As we all know, talk is cheap.

With that said, known and agreed upon: We have decided that today's commentary will leave the politicians and the pundits to their myriad of chat-saturated devices and [instead] focus on a real-world business solution which seems to be a very fine thing, to wit, a financially sound commercially-grounded scheme which promises to help many who now labor under debt burdens that [to say the least] are quite daunting.

And thus today's reference to a product that has been developed by a firm known as Gateway Financial; which – as we learn – is run by Ms. Rosel Moxey, Sunshine Holdings' vice-president of business development.

We are being made to understand that, this Gateway Financial 'vehicle' has proven an "integral part of the solution" to the Bahamas' mortgage crisis; in that: Besides saving the biggest investments many Bahamians will make, Gateway Financial's purchase of non-performing mortgages also promises to boost the [national] economy by freeing up commercial banks to lend again.

This is most laudable!

A case in point, [as we have learned] is Scotia Bank which – as suggested in media- are privy to results that: "...Proved how the restructuring of delinquent mortgage loans, and their removal from balance sheets, could reduce loss provisioning and free-up commercial banks to get the economy moving by extending new credit..."

As Ms. Moxey exudes: "...I sincerely believe we are an integral part of the solution to mortgage relief for individuals, but also from the banks' point of view..."

And thus she concludes: "...Everyone wins, and we're changing many people's lives..."

Bravo to Gateway Financial!

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MINISTER THOMPSON: 'Our Future Success Must Be In Innovation and Technology'

FREEPORT, Grand Bahama -- Minister of State for Grand Bahama, Senator Kwasi Thompson says that Grand Bahama remains high on the government's agenda, and the launch of the first ever Technology Summit on GB is evidence of such a commitment.

During his welcome remarks at the first Tech Summit at Grand Lucayan resort on Thursday, November 9, 2017, Minister Thompson said that one of the promises in the Free National Movement's Manifesto was to make Grand Bahama a Technology Hub, similar to Silicon Valley.

Minister Thompson admitted that when the idea for hosting a Technology Summit first came about, he had no idea what a Technology Hub was or what it meant.

"However, I believed in our Prime Minister's vision for Grand Bahama," said Minister Thompson. "It didn't take me long to realize that the technology industry is the way forward for our country and that Grand Bahama is ideally-suited for its development.

"While our past success has been in industry, our future success must be in innovation and technology. We recognize the importance of tourism in Grand Bahama, but I believe that today is a new day for Grand Bahama. Today, I believe that we can re-brand Grand Bahama. Today we cease to be the capital for industry; now Grand Bahama will be a place for industry and innovation."

Minister Thompson asked those attending the summit's official opening how can Grand Bahama get to the point of becoming a Technology Hub? "How do we let the world know that we are open for business?"

This is why we are here today: Our government must shape the right policies and provide the right incentives and remove all obstacles in order to nurture and grow the tech industry."

The Minister of State for Grand Bahama confessed that the idea for a Tech Summit started as a small conference for industry stakeholders to shape policy. However, he noted that the more they talked about it and the more word about a proposed small tech conference got out, the more Grand Bahamians began to believe in the idea.

"So today... we have over 450 people registered for this first ever Technology Summit," said Minister Thompson. "We have people from the United States, Canada and as far away as Africa.

"Back then, when we were planning just a small summit, we joked about the possibility of getting some people from Silicon Valley to come and talk with us here in Freeport. We even joked about getting some people from Google and Microsoft. But during this conference you will hear from people from Silicon Valley, from Google, Microsoft, Hewlett Packard and others.

"Say what you will about the state of the economy of our island, the leaders and the giants in the technology world, have not just come to The Bahamas, they have come to Grand Bahama."

Minister Thompson noted that in addition to inviting tech companies to come to Grand Bahama, the Government of The Bahamas must also provide opportunities for tech business entrepreneurs. In order to achieve that, a part of the two-day Tech Summit will be what is called a 'Blue Marlin

Challenge,' where Bahamian tech business entrepreneurs will make their business pitch to representatives from Google, Microsoft and to Silicon Valley experts.

Those who are successful will be awarded a \$10,000 prize from the government to assist with the startup of their proposed business.

"This is only just the start,"

added the Minister. "Our Grant Program will also continue next month... with our micro and small business economic empowerment program. Our sponsors will be providing the winner of the Blue Marlin Challenge, courtesy of the Grand Bahama Port Authority, [with] one-year business license exemption.

"So, who knows, after these

itches have been made, maybe Google or Microsoft will partner with a Bahamian to make their business idea a reality in Grand Bahama. It is a new beginning for Grand

Bahama -- and this is just the beginning!" Minister Thompson called on all technology companies, or those interested in starting a tech company, to set up shop in Grand Bahama.



► **WELCOME REMARKS** – Minister of State for Grand Bahama, Senator Kwasi Thompson welcomed delegates to the first ever Grand Bahama Technology Summit, which opened on Thursday, November 9, 2017 at Grand Lucayan resort. Minister Thompson and his office were the force behind making the Tech Summit a reality. (BIS Photo/Lisa Davis)

POLICE ARREST MEN FOR DRUGS

BY ONIKE ARCHER
Journal Staff Writer

Quantities of dangerous drugs were seized this week. According to Police on Wednesday shortly after 7pm, Mobile Division Officers on patrol on Wulff Road and in the area of Mackey Street, spotted a white Toyota vehicle with the driver looking apprehensive.

Once the driver spotted the officers, he began acting strange and in a suspicious manner. Police then stopped the vehicle and conducted a search and the search revealed two plastic wrapping with marijuana.

The suspect, adult male resident of Monastery Park was taken into custody and is expected to be charged this before week end.

Additionally, one male was arrested with stolen property. Around seven Wednesday evening, police received information of a male in possession of potential stolen items.

Again, Mobile Division officers on routine patrol on Rosewood Street, Pinewood Gardens were dispatched to a residence of that street where he was found in possession of two 250 Yamaha engines which were reportedly stolen. Investigations are ongoing.

Twenty-six year old Antonio Johnson of Limewood Lane, Grand Bahama and 20 year Meichilano Bridgewater of Weddle Avenue, Grand Bahama were both arraigned on before Magistrate Renkin Johnson in Magistrate Court yesterday.

Johnson and Bridgewater were arraigned with one count possession of a Firearm with the intent to endanger life and one count of attempted murder charges.

Both men pleaded not guilty to the charges and were remanded to the Bahamas Department of Corrections where they will await trial until February 5th 2018.

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FORM B Notice of Intended Marriage (Section 7(3))

The persons named and described hereunder have given notice to me of their intended marriage, namely --

Anthony Dwight Stone Jr., Single, of 180 Bridges Rd., Polk City, Florida 33868, United States of America

and

Kelsey-Lynn Rossetti, Divorced, of 180 Bridges Rd., Polk City, Florida 33868, 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 3rd day of November, 2017.

Signature of Registrar of Marriages

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 --

Keith Roza, Divorced, of 32 Foster Creek Dr., Newcastle Ont. L1B 1G2, Canada

and

June Mary Ellen Burke, Divorced, of 32 Foster Creek Dr., Newcastle Ont. L1B 1G2, 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 3rd day of November, 2017.

Signature of Registrar of Marriages

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 --

Nikolay Nikolaevich Boykov, Divorced, of 109 Schorsa Str., apt 204, Yekaterinburg, 620144, Russian Federation

and

Ekaterina Vladimirovna Romanova, Divorced, of 109 Schorsa Str., apt 204, Yekaterinburg, 620144, Russian Federation

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 November, 2017.

Signature of Registrar of Marriages

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 --

Anthony Jay Nadeau, Single, of 710-H Greenridge Parkway, Brownsburg, IN 46112, United States of America

and

Jennifer Lynn Simpson, Single, of 710-H Greenridge Parkway, Brownsburg, IN 46112, 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 3rd day of November, 2017.

Signature of Registrar of Marriages

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 --

Richard Louis Orsini, Widowed, of 68 Jardin de Mer Place, Jacksonville Beach, FL 32250, United States of America

and

Lauri Ann Owens, Divorced, of 125 Yucca Place, Neptune Beach, FL 32266, 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 November, 2017.

Signature of Registrar of Marriages

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 --

Zhenkun Xie, Single, of 1/16 Carrington Ave, Hurstville NSW, Australia

and

Ying Jia, Single, of 1/16 Carrington Ave, Hurstville NSW, Australia

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

Dated this 6th day of November, 2017.

Signature of Registrar of Marriages

Registrar of Marriages



The Hon. Lanisha Rolle, Minister of Social Services and Urban Development, speaks at Living Waters Kingdom Ministries. Photos/Lisa Russell, Ministry of Social Services

Parents Called On to Do Their Part in Rehabilitating Children

The Hon. Lanisha Rolle, Minister of Social Services and Urban Development, has sounded an appeal to parents and the wider community to "share the load" in the journey of rehabilitation.

"Social workers cannot do it alone; psychiatrists cannot conduct therapy in isolation. Family support is crucial; when the children return home from therapy they cannot return to the same dysfunctional situation. Parents must choose to make the sacrifice for the children and bring the family up together," said Minister Rolle.

She addressed a Church Service at Living Waters Kingdom Ministries, Warren Street, Monday, November 6th, 2017, one of the activities organized by the Department of Rehabilitative & Welfare Services to observe Rehabilitation Week - November 6th - 13th. The theme for the week is "Redefining Life through Rehabilitation."

Minister Rolle remarked that the divisions within the Department of Rehabilitative & Welfare Services assist persons in the journey of rehabilitation.

"Our probation team monitors and counsels offenders to prevent further offence and possible incarceration; our counseling services facilitate grief and victim counseling; our parenting classes provide a workshop-style guide to sound parenting; our juvenile centres, the Simpson School for Boys and Willimae Pratt Centre for Girls, facilitate programmes removed from the child's ordinary environment in an attempt to curb deviant behavior and influence positive decision making and acceptable conduct."

She said if restoration is indeed the goal of rehabilitation then it is vital that the programs and service offerings are built on a spectrum of programs with rehabilitation on one end and

restoration on the other. The Department must ensure that clients are fully equipped to "press on."

She acknowledged and thanked the church for counseling services, and to professional entities and other non-governmental organizations for their support in the quest to rehabilitate and to restore individuals to a healthy, physical, social and mental state.

As an Attorney and a former Police Officer, Minister Rolle is of the view that the system must consider multiple remedies for varying levels of criminal activity.

"Placing the uncontrollable child or recently aged adult with hardened criminals and repeat offenders is counter-productive to rehabilitation efforts; our system needs substantive upgrades and as a people, we must press on for a better system together."

"Our communities should not be left alone to groups of idle males that terrorize street corners and keep residents in fear. Truth is, street tyrants threaten students from attending school and abuse those who attend. It is our duty to rid our communities of gangs or the appearance of gang activity. We must restore our communities to a state of peace and safety, and it is incumbent upon each of us to restore this nation together."

Minister Rolle reminded offenders, ex-offenders, re-offenders and others who are suffering from traumatic experiences to "press on."

"Every day is another opportunity to take another breath, to live a new life, to make a better decision, to press on and live your best life," she said.

Other activities for Rehabilitation Week are: Juvenile Forum, Wednesday, November 8th; Parenting Workshop, Saturday, November 11th; and Staff Motivational Seminar, Monday, November 13th.

Sir Arlington Butler Dies

Continued from / PAGE 1...

During his early years, Sir Arlington became an Articled Law Clerk, qualified as a lawyer and was called to the Bahamas Bar in 1974. He has served as a member of the Bar Council and was twice elected Vice-President of the Bahamas Bar Association. He was Senior Partner in the law firm Butler and Company.

In 1977, he severed his relationship with the PLP and ran as an independent candidate; however, he was unsuccessful. He contested the 1982 election and lost again. In the August 19, 1992 general election, Sir Arlington captured the Salem seat as a Free National Movement candidate. On 24th August, 1992, he was sworn in as a Minister in the government of the Honourable Hubert Ingraham.

Apart from being Speaker and Minister, Sir Arlington was appointed Chairman of the Broadcasting Corporation of The Bahamas, the Gaming Board of The Bahamas and the Hotel Licensing Authority. As a Cabinet Minister, he held the portfolios of Minister of Public Works and Minister of Immigration.

Mr. Butler was knighted in 1996 by Her Majesty the Queen as Commander of the Order of St. Michael's and St. George (KCMG).

Having served as President of the Bahamas Olympic Association, Sir Arlington developed an outstanding reputation in the Olympic movement and served as Vice-President of the Commonwealth National Olympic Committee and the International Olympic Committee's Solidarity Commission.