

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. 41

TUESDAY - NOVEMBER 14TH, 2017

75 CENTS

Post Office Workers Strike

• *Protesting over hazardous conditions*

BY C. JILLIAN GRAY
 Journal Staff Writer

Shout "they have the gold we have the mold," employees of the general post office took to the streets yesterday to protest the working conditions they say are hazardous to their health.

Rat infestation, heat from a broken air-condition and alleged rashes from handling mail are just a few of the problems the workers were protesting.

Some of the employees said they have already experienced health issues amounting in large doctor bills.

Post office worker Sharon Rolle said, "we're working among rats and snakes. We are tired of this, enough is enough."

Another employee, Lauren Bethell said, "since last year April I was hospitalized with a collapsed lung due to the mold infestation. From then to now, I am still going to the doctor with mounting a medical bills and with conditions worsening. One week supply of medication is \$96."

Bethell said there has been no help, compensation or concern shown for the medical well being of the employees.

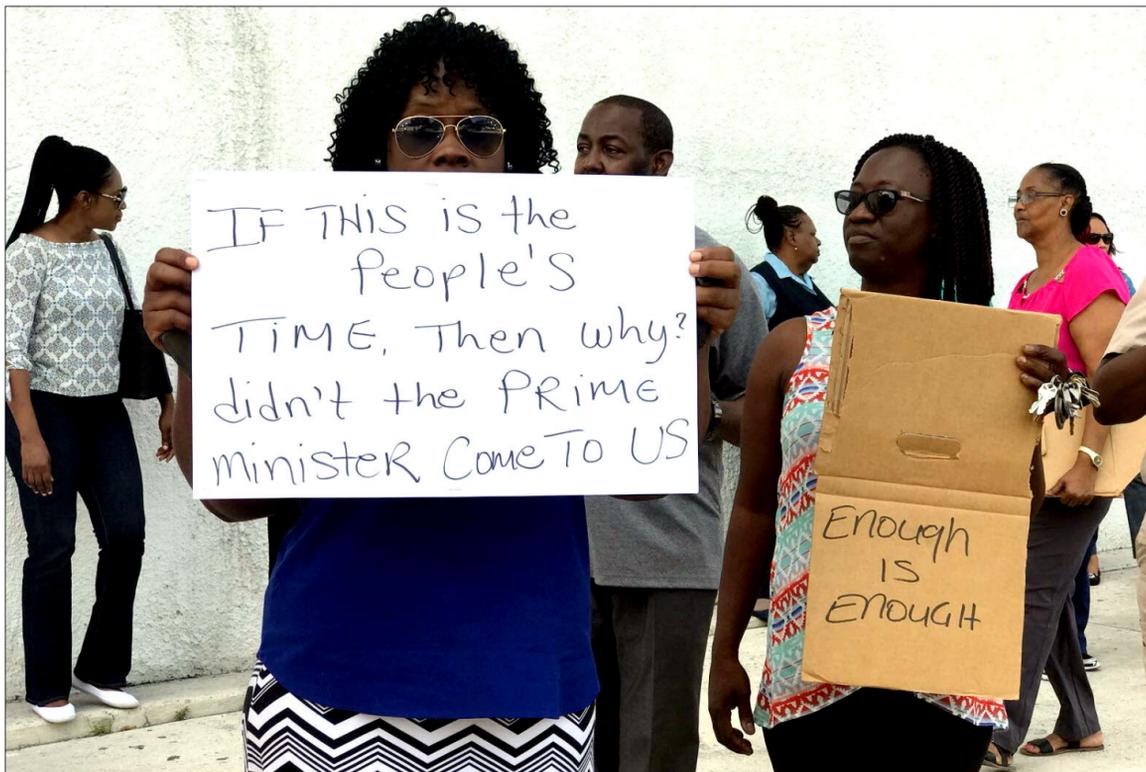
She said that though persons say mold does little harm, the effects are lasting as some of the employees are experiencing; hair loss, dizziness and other challenges.

She said she was present to protest to show support so that other persons won't go through the same thing.

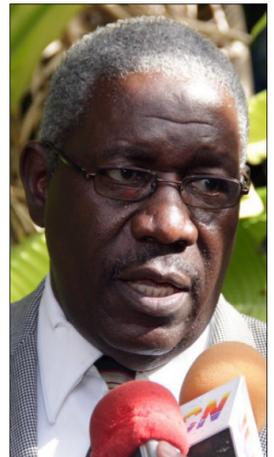
Danielle Watkins said she came to work normal yesterday morning, but by mid morning she was covered in red, itchy blotches.

"I have been to the doctor before for a shot as this is not the first time this has happened. Everyday I come I'm normal, but these red blotches reoccur as I have to be in here daily," Watkins said.

■ See **POST OFFICE** / page 3...



▶ Post Office employees protesting working conditions yesterday.



▶ Bishop Simeon Hall (Journal file photo)

Bishop Hall Tells Haitian Pastors "Turn In Illegals"

BY LICEA BASTIAN
 Journal Staff Writer

Amidst the landing of an alleged Haitian sloop in the Adelaide area this past Saturday, outspoken clergyman, Bishop Simeon Hall is calling on Haitian pastors to turn illegal immigrants in and not allow them to break the laws of the country.

■ See **TELLS HAITIAN** / page 2...

THE BAHAMAS PREPARES TO CELEBRATE NATIONAL WOMEN'S WEEK



▶ The Hon. Lanisha Rolle, the Minister of Social Services and Urban Development, is pictured in the centre along with senior government officials in the Ministry, members of the Women's Advisory Board and representatives of the Department of Gender and Family Affairs. (BIS photo/Patrick Hanna)

Man Jailed for Gun and Drugs

BY AMAJAHN KNOWLES
 Journal Staff Writer

A man was given a three year sentence yesterday after pleading guilty to possession of an unlicensed firearm and possession of dangerous drugs.

Also appearing in court on charges were ,twenty-one year-old Livingston Pratt, 27-year-old Valentino Pratt, their mother 56-

year-old Georgiamae Gardiner and 21-year-old Chastity Scott who is the girlfriend of the elder Pratt

The group appeared before Chief Magistrate Joyann Ferguson Pratt facing one count of possession of an unlicensed firearm and ammunition and one count of possession of dangerous drugs with intent to supply.

■ See **FOR GUN AND DRUGS** / page 2...

UB is Expanding

BY C. JILLIAN GRAY
 Journal Staff Writer

Since switching to university status the University of The Bahamas (UB) has made a number of changes. However, there's still more to come.

Provost Linda Davis said they have begun program reviews and will continue to expand in an effort to attract both international and local students.

"I think in large measure the

kind of programs we're going to begin to roll out will attract a wider cross-section of persons and when parents and guardians hear about the fact for example that there will be more International programs, exchange programs, faculty-led experiences, there will be an appeal for Bahamians to have an international experience locally and for a very reasonable price," Davis said.

■ See **EXPANDING** on PAGE 2...

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



THE BAHAMAS PREPARES TO CELEBRATE NATIONAL WOMEN'S WEEK

► Senior officials in the Ministry of Social Services and Urban Development at the Press Conference to announce plans for National Women's Week. **BIS Photo/Patrick Hanna**

Bishop Hall Tells Haitian Pastors "Turn In Illegals"

Continued from / PAGE 1...

"Pastors themselves, who have been naturalized into the Bahamian community and particularly those who serve

as pastors of Haitian churches, do not give refuge to anyone who would try to break the laws of The Bahamas.

"We are sympathetic to plight our Haitian brothers

face, but we must uphold the laws and there is no way that Haitians can continue to find refuge and comfort in The Bahamas when they come illegally, and they are lost and

amalgamated into our country.

"So, I want to call plainly on pastors, Haitian pastors, regularized, not to give refuge to people who will break our

laws and impunity," Bishop Hall said.

Speaking with this Journal, Bishop Hall said that the fact that a Haitian sloop landed unnoticed, speaks volumes about the protection of the country's borders.

"How can that be, what do we say with our Defence [Force]? Is it functioning well enough that it could happen right in the face of the Defence Force?"

"I do not know the particulars, but all I'm saying is that we got to do a better job," Bishop Hall said.

Bishop Hall further said that although his call comes at a time when Prime Minister Dr. Hubert Minnis

has given immigrants an ultimatum, he believes that those who were born here and have been here for years, should be regularized.

"I think based on what the Prime Minister said the other day, they should be regularized with haste.

"I would like that to be emphasized. Persons who have been here for some years, particularly our Haitian brothers should be regularized," Bishop Hall stressed.

The Minnis administration has given illegals of all nationalities a December 31st deadline to voluntarily leave the country or faces consequences.



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

Man Jailed for Gun and Drugs

Continued from / PAGE 1...

Three of the defendants, namely Gardiner, Scott, and Livingston Pratt pleaded not guilty to all the charges, while Valentino Pratt plead guilty to all the charges.

The particulars are that on November 9th Drug Enforcement Unit officers, executed a search warrant on a residence situated at Gibbs Lane, and found one black sky CPX 9mm handgun, fifty- three rounds of ammunition, and a quantity of marijuana namely Indian Hemp with a street value of roughly one thousand dollars.

The family was represented by Taveras Laroda, Keith Bell and Ian Cargill.

During a plea mitigation for his client Valentino Pratt, Mr. Bell told the judge that his client had no previous criminal record, was gainfully employed and was from a church going family.

He added that the marijuana was for his personal consumption and he bought the firearm for self-defense as he was robbed twice once at gunpoint earlier this year.

In her summation of the case Chief Magistrate Ferguson Pratt said she took these things into consideration, but said she could not believe that the marijuana was for his personal consumption as they were wrapped in individual pieces of foil and added that because of the high prevalence of firearm related deaths in the country, a custodial sentence was warranted.

She also admonished Pratt to apologize to his mother, brother and girlfriend for dragging them through the courts, as she could not imagine how he felt.

The judge sentenced Pratt to three years in prison and a fine of \$5,000.

UB is Expanding

Continued from / PAGE 1...

As the University of The Bahamas just celebrated their one year anniversary, Davis said strategic partnerships with both corporate Bahamas and tertiary institutions are important for further growth.

"We're extremely interested in partnering with post-secondary institutions. Not only The Bahamas Technical and Vocational Institute, but also the Lowell J Mortimer Maritime Academy. We've already reached out to

Bahamas Baptist College to partner with them to allow access points and seamless entry for more persons who would like to access higher education," Davis said.

She said partnerships regionally and internationally are underway to bring joint degrees and dual degrees.

These steps, she said, will assist in growing UB and eliminating the need for universities from abroad to come here and offer programs.

Gov't Partners With UAE For Solar Car Park

BY LICEC BASTIAN
Journal Staff Writer

The implementation of a solar car park at the Thomas A. Robinson National stadium will bring The Bahamas one step closer to realizing its goal of 30 percent renewable energy penetration by 2033. The government and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) have ventured into a partnership that will construct a 1 megawatt parking structure to help in the fight against climate change.

Minister of Environment Romauld Ferreira, during a contract signing yesterday, said that the partnership between The Bahamas and the UAE will facilitate the reduction of the use and cost of fossil fuels.

"The governments of The Bahamas and the UAE have partnered in the fight against climate change to reduce our collective dependence on fossil fuels by the introduction of this large scale solar car park.

"In addition to the high cost of fuel, country's like The Bahamas, are experiencing the negative effects of climate change even now, as our sea levels rise, our oceans acidify and as temperatures rise, we can still shine as a beacon for others to see as we move to mitigate these effects.

"And so, this project goes a long way towards reducing the nations carbon footprint and we think it's a good thing," Mr. Ferreira said.

Mr. Ferreira further stated that this goal of renewable energy will trickle down to



► From left to right -- Vaughn Roberts, National Sports Authority Chairman, John Caruso, Project Manager MASDAR (UAE), the Hon. Michael Pintard, Minister of Youth, Sports & Culture, the Hon. Romauld Ferreira, Minister of the Environment & Housing, and Janice Miller, Permanent Secretary (Actg.) of Environment & Housing. (BIS Photo/Gena Gibbs)

all government agencies.

"This initiative is one of many in the pipelines to introduce safe, affordable, renewable energy across The Bahamas, beginning with government assets.

"We must lead by example. With over 300 solar array days, The Bahamas is perfectly positioned to sustainable resources, one of our greatest assets the Sun, to reduce one of our greatest liabilities, our dependence on fossil fuels," Mr. Ferreira said.

Also on hand at the signing was Minister of Youth, Sports and Culture, Michael Pintard, who shared similar sentiments, stating that the idea behind renewable energy is a good one.

"With respect to the

Thomas A Robinson Stadium, the goal is to put in place a car park facility that is completely powered by solar and this is obviously consistent with the government's objective which is essentially to move increasingly towards renewable energy.

"Our goal really is to develop this country in a sustainable way and you will see it in a number of ways with respect to what is done in Ragged Island and what will be done with government buildings.

Mr. Pintard further noted that the private sector is also encouraged to look at using solar energy.

"We're encouraging the private sector to look at renewable energy as a way to

bring down energy cost, but also to develop the country in a sustainable manner," Mr. Pintard said.

The UAE is an ally in the war against carbon dioxide and has committed \$50 million to the Caribbean Region.

The Bahamas is the recipient of \$4 million.

In a statement by the UAE Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, the UAE expressed they hoped to do more in its joint venture with

The Bahamas.

"The Bahamas, of course, has a highly compelling business case for renewables, positioned for rapid commercialization.

"We hope that this joint project will provide an additional proof point for all stakeholders in the market, showing the immediate cost savings and other benefits of renewables.

"The UAE-Caribbean Renewable Energy Fund marks a milestone for our

cooperation- and an economically-smart, sustainability-minded precedent for the coming years.

"Both UAE and Bahamas also hope very much to use this project to build a better understanding of each other's priorities and economies.

"This hands-on experience, and history of joint delivery, will lend itself to even more projects, including in other sectors," the statement said.

BAHAMAS REPRESENTED AT AFRICAN, CARIBBEAN AND PACIFIC STATES CULTURE MINISTERS MEETING



► BRUSSELS, Belgium -- (From left) Director of Culture Rowena Poirier Sutherland, Minister of Youth, Sports, and Culture the Hon. Michael C. Pintard, Secretary-General of the African, Caribbean, and Pacific Group of States (ACP Group) Dr. Patrick Gomes, and Assistant Secretary-General (Political Affairs and Human Development) Ambassador Léonard-Emile Ognimba pose with a commemorative copy of "From Georgetown to Sipopo and Beyond: The African, Caribbean and Pacific Group at 40," during the recent 4th Meeting of ACP Ministers of Culture, held in Brussels, Belgium. (MOYSC Photo)

Post Office Workers Strike

Continued from / PAGE 1...

Bahamas Public Service Union (BPSU) president Kimsly Ferguson called for there to be better security measures for inspecting packages like microscopic lights which would ensure no harmful substances are present.

He said they are seeking compensation for their workers who would have accumulated medical bills as a result of the hazardous conditions.

He added that though the government has identified a new facility for the post office staff, they need immediate

attention until the relocation is complete.

"We're suggesting that some temporary fixtures be put in place so that the people can work comfortably; namely the mold, air conditioning and the rodent infestation. If these cosmetics can be taken care of, then persons would be comfortable until such time as that building is squared away," Ferguson said.

Ferguson added that while the minister did say a rush would be put on relocating the staff, his main concern is the health of the workers.

Past BPSU president John Pinder showed support at the protest and said that workers must continue to put fire under the government until conditions improve.

Most of the building has exposed ceilings and broken leaky pipes as a result of renovations halted after the changeover in government.

The accounts department of the ministry of finance that was stationed at the post office has moved due to the horrible conditions.

The employees say they will continue to strike until they see results.

Soldanza
NOW AVAILABLE
**THE GOOD
NATURAL SNACK!**

milobutler
RESPECT, QUALITY AND VALUE GUARANTEED.
(242) 677-6380
PEACH STREET OFF MONTROSE AVENUE



► The Hon. Lanisha Rolle, Minister of Social Services and Urban Development is pictured third from left. Also shown from left are: Erica Moxey, Coralie Adderley, Chairperson of the National Women's Advisory Council; Minister Rolle; and Cora Bain-Colebrooke, Acting Permanent Secretary. **Photo/Patrick Hanna**

Teenage Girl On Cocaine Charges

BY AMAJAHN KNOWLES
Journal Staff Writer

A teenager appeared in court over a serious drug matter yesterday.

Nineteen year-old Brittany Neymour appeared before magistrate Samuel McKinney facing one count of possession of dangerous drugs with intent to supply.

The particulars are that on November 11th while at the Lynden Pindling International Airport, authorities conducted a search of Ms. Neymour and found 90 ounces of cocaine "on her person" she was subsequently taken into custody.

Neymour pleaded not guilty to the charge.

She was not granted bail and was remanded to Bahamas department of Corrections until her trial begins on the 1st of December.

She was represented by Krysta Mason Smith.

THE BAHAMAS PREPARES to Celebrate National Women's Week

The Minister of Social Services and Urban Development, the Hon. Lanisha Rolle, has proclaimed November 26th through December 9th, 2017, 'National Women's Week 2017' in The Bahamas. To commemorate this period, the Department of Gender and Family Affairs has organized activities to reflect on the progress of Bahamian

women, celebrate their accomplishments and address social issues impacting them in The Bahamas.

Minister Rolle announced plans at a press conference at the Ministry, Aventura Plaza, JFK and Bethel Avenue, Friday, November 10th. Among those present were: Cora Bain-Colebrooke, Acting Permanent Secretary; Lillian Quant-Forbes, Acting

Director of Social Services; Gaynel Curry, Director of Gender and Family Affairs; Coralie Adderley, Chairperson of the National Women's Advisory Council; and representatives of non-governmental organizations and partners including Zonta Clubs of The Bahamas. The theme for National Women's Week is "Strong Women, Strong Communities, Strong Families."

Minister Rolle, who is the Chairman of the local branch of the Commonwealth Women Parliamentarians Association of the Americas and the Atlantic Region, said National Women's Week is an opportunity to celebrate the achievements of women who have and continue to embed indelible marks in the history of the Bahamas Parliament and the nation.

"It is also an occasion where we must remind ourselves that while we are not there yet, we are well on the way," she said.

Activities include the following: A forum on women's issues, special school assemblies at primary and secondary schools throughout New Providence and the Family Islands at which sitting female parliamentarians will

speak.

Sunday, November 26th – Church Service at Most Holy Trinity Anglican Church, Stapleton Gardens, Trinity Way, 9 am

Tuesday, November 28th – Awareness Raising/Report Sharing Session on the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) in the Department of Physical Planning Hearing Room (Aventura Plaza, JFK Drive and Bethel Avenue) 10 am-2pm. Mrs. Marion Bethel, the first Bahamian to serve as a member of the Expert Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women will give an address.

Monday, December 4th – CWP Introductory Luncheon – Commonwealth Women Parliamentarians will hold an introductory luncheon at Luciano's Restaurant, West Bay Street for sitting female Parliamentarians and the wives of male parliamentarians. The theme is "Strong Women, Leaders United".

■ See WOMEN'S WEEK / page 7...

TWININGS™
OF LONDON

Make the perfect iced tea
with any one of your favourite Twinings flavours!

1. Brew 1 tea bag for 3-4 minutes.
2. Transfer infused tea to a glass full of ice.
3. Add lemon and honey/sugar.
4. Mix well and you have the perfect iced tea!

DISTRIBUTED IN THE BAHAMAS BY
milo butler™
RESPECT, QUALITY AND VALUE GUARANTEED.

(242) 677-6380
PEACH STREET OFF MONTROSE AVENUE

MEN ARRAIGNED FOR 400 POUNDS OF MARIJUANA

BY AMAJAHN KNOWLES
Journal Staff Writer

Two men were arraigned yesterday for that major drug bust that took place in Exuma last week.

Thirty-six year-old Bartholomew Pinder and 29-year-old Billy Robinson appeared before magistrate Derece Rolle-Davis yesterday facing one count of possession of dangerous drugs and intent to supply and four counts of assault with a deadly weapon.

The particulars are that around 3:00am on Wednesday November 8th, when a team of officers assigned to the Drug Enforcement Unit and the Police Marine Support Unit,

assisted by U.S drug enforcement agents, were conducting a maritime drug interdiction operation in the area of Highbourne Cay, Exuma, when they spotted a go-fast vessel with two Bahamian adult males onboard.

Police say a chase ensued, during which time they observed the two males throwing packages into the water. The vessel was later stopped and the two male suspects were arrested.

The officers were able to retrieve six (6) bales of marijuana from the water which was later valued at over 400 pounds.

The pair plead not guilty to all the charges and were remanded to the Bahamas Department of Corrections until January 8th 2018.

We Cannot Forget

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.

Previously, we outlined how Save The Bays was using millions funded by a foreigner to engage in seemingly subversive acts in the Commonwealth of The Bahamas.

Now that Save The Bays' associates have been successful in helping to oust the previous Government and successful in electing the Government of their choice, they appear to be reaping the rewards.

The appeal to a court case against Save The Bays was dropped by the new Government as soon as they came into power; and Save The Bays no longer has to be accountable as a non-profit organization spending the millions of dollars from a foreign national to be able to implement their nefarious schemes. In other words, it's all still a big secret to Bahamians even though any American citizen can request Save The Bays' financials and they will have to comply as a part of United States Treasury regulations for 501(c)(3)s.

So how did Save The Bays achieve their objective? By spending millions of dollars on advertisements against the Progressive Liberal Party before and during the elections, and they weren't even allowed to do that as a United States Treasury 501(c)(3) organization.

You see, Save The Bays established itself as an environmental group in The Bahamas and applied for United States Treasury 501(c)(3) status in order to be able to receive donations from United States citizens. However, Save The Bays Director and attorney, Fred Smith, later said that Save The Bays is a political organization.

Save The Bays has demonstrated the fact that they are a political organization by engaging in a number of political acts in the Commonwealth of The Bahamas, which is in conflict with U.S. Treasury regulations.

According to Treasury regulations in the United States, organizations are not allowed to have both a 501(c)(3) status and engage in politics. Yet Save The Bays was and still is engaged in political action.

So, are they an environmental group or are they a political organization? Which is it really?

You have a political organization funded by a foreigner—this situation is already suspect; then when you look at Save The Bays' activities and core focus, it makes their dual agenda very clear to anyone looking.

Most of Save The Bays environmental

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.

attacks have been targeted at one individual—namely, fashion mogul Peter Nygard.

Save The Bays has attacked Mr. Nygard for doing things to protect his property that Save The Bays' Director and attorney, Fred Smith, did as well to protect his property. Save The Bays has also attacked Mr. Nygard for removing the sand that keeps piling up and blocking his boat in the harbor. Save The Bays has never once mentioned their funder's (hedge-fund billionaire Louis Bacon) dredging of sand without the proper approvals beforehand to create an entire marina at his home next door to Mr. Nygard.

Everyone knows that Louis Bacon has a personal vendetta against Mr. Nygard. So clearly, Save The Bays going after Peter Nygard in this way is personal and appears to be a part of Louis Bacon's agenda to destroy Peter Nygard.

The other part of Save The Bays' agenda appeared to have been to get rid of the Progressive Liberal Party (PLP) Government. In addition to Save The Bays running countless ads against the PLP Government of The Bahamas, Save The Bays opposed the former PLP Government at every turn taking them to court on numerous farcical matters. Now they appear to have the new Government wrapped around their finger.

On a past Love 97 Issues of The Day radio show, a caller asserted, "At some point, a determination has to be made, particularly when they want to involve themselves in anti-government efforts, that if you are accepting money from someone who is not a citizen of this country to go and do things to effect political change, then you should have to declare yourself as an agent of a foreign organization."

Well, Save The Bays succeeded. We should be very concerned especially considering that Save The Bays has already got the Attorney General's office to drop one case against them and to stop the Registrar General's Department from holding Save The Bays accountable.

The facts of the situation point to very obvious conclusions.

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

The Bahama Journal Quo Vadis, Bahamas?

Wendall K. Jones Publisher/Chief Executive Officer

Kimaley P. Jones Vice President/Operations

EDITORIAL

MICAL IN DISTRESS

As we have both insisted [and suggested]: We must stop with all of the dreaming as regards food security for the Bahamas.

It is as true today and tomorrow and clearly as things were just yesterday that: Many hands will make a burden light—and thus it follows that the development of the islands in the southern part of the Bahamas will have to await that great day in the morning when both capital and labor can come together to make that development-thing happen!

Indeed, then: We must – if it is at any time either possible or probable – get on with the foundational work needed if ever we are to have manpower sufficient to the current challenge of seeing to it that: In short order, we become far more self-sufficient in producing more of the foods we all so love to consume.

This, in turn, also reflects and respects the need for us to have access to even more nationally-owned resources; inclusive of the people needed to make 'this thing' work; and by extension, therefore focus must be placed on seeding these Non-Nassau places with man-power drawn from this or that country or place that must 'export' some of its 'surplus' population.

Haiti and Jamaica come to mind. For better or worse, today's Bahamas is Nassau and New Providence centered; this being so precisely because – as fate would have it- this place [as home to the vast majority of Bahamians is also that hub or node that is in closest contact with the rest of the world.

In other words, today's highly urbanized New Providence – as home to most Bahamians and to the businesses that sustain our people now finds itself on the minds of a broad cross-section of the Bahamian who understand that logic which is at the heart of a capitalistic economic ordering of all things deemed immediate and therefore of moment to many Bahamians who have opted to stay out of the fray.

In the meantime: Let it also be understood and agreed that the model of development in and for the Bahamas that was developed in the mid-twentieth century and thereafter perfected in the sixties, seventies and eighties, is now exhausted.

Evidence for this thesis is to be found throughout the length and breadth of today's Bahamas where place after prosperous place is today being replaced by a crime-ravaged urban centre in New

Providence, a blighted Freeport, Grand Bahama and a youth-depleted southern Bahamas where homesteads now fail.

Whether we trek northward to Freeport, Grand Bahama or whether we go to Inagua and Mayaguana in the southernmost quadrant of this archipelago, we find that there is everywhere a looming sense that things are somehow or the other not quite right; that we are not quite right and that – as well – we are also losing our way in a brave new world.

Nowhere is this sense of anachronism as severe as it now finds itself expressed in and by that free-port model of development that once upon a time in the distant past gave Freeport, Grand Bahama both name and fame.

Those halcyon days are gone with the wind. The time, then, may well be nigh for our leaders and people to be up and doing with envisioning and envisaging new roles for not only Grand Bahama [and Freeport] in the north, but also for places like Inagua and Mayaguana which – for better or worse – are little more than ghost-towns.

But even here there are differences that make a crucial difference.

From one perspective, then, Freeport, Grand Bahama was once upon a time a very strange place due to the fact that, having been originally designed as home for hundreds of thousands, at its highest point it welcomed no more than forty five thousand people.

But yet, it proved quite successful for its owners and managers.

Sad to say, this number is now plummeting as able bodied men and women flee Freeport, Grand Bahama in search of earning a dollar as they best they can elsewhere in their Bahama Land.

An even worse scenario now inflects life in the southern Bahamas where – as in the very sad case of Acklins Island, Bahamas – depopulation and economic stagnation now cavort.

In time, then, Acklins Island, Bahamas runs the very real risk of becoming home to fewer and fewer; another ghost-town in today's modern Bahamas.

This sad situation which now troubles this island and its handful of remaining residents is endemic in all of that district we know by the acronym: MICAL—Mayaguana, Inagua, Crooked Island, Acklins and Long Cay!

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

NO BETTER READING

SHUT-EYE
JUSTICE DELAYED IS NO JUSTICE.

SWIFT JUSTICE COURT

SIGH!!

SSSLOW!! DDDDRAG!!

© clorsell

Government to Implement New Accounting System In Order to Better Monitor Country's Finances

The Government of The Bahamas is in the process of moving away from the cash-based form of accounting it presently employs to an accrual based accounting system, Prime Minister Dr. the Hon. Hubert A. Minnis said Monday.

The move, which is foreshadowed to be implemented at the end of June, 2022 for full central government transitioning to accrual accounting and then 2023 for the public sector at large, is expected to better strengthen the Government's accounting framework by ensuring greater transparency and accountability in public sector finances, while allowing officials to better monitor government debt and liabilities.

An accrual method of accounting records revenues and expenses when they are incurred, regardless of when cash is exchanged. The term "accrual" refers to any individual entry recording revenue or expense in the absence of a cash transaction.

Prime Minister Minnis said the new system would also allow for government's use of high-quality information to make informed and sound spending decisions, while properly managing the nation's assets and liabilities.

Addressing a Bahamas Institute of Chartered Accountants Seminar Monday (November 13, 2017) at Melia Nassau Beach resort, Prime Minister Minnis said the current system of accounting employed is "woefully lacking" in providing



► Prime Minister Minnis addressing Bahamas Institute of Chartered Accountants Seminar, November 13, 2017 at Melia Nassau Beach. (BIS Photo/Peter Ramsay)

government with a complete and accurate view of financial activities and reporting.

"As many of you know, the Government still uses the cash basis of accounting in compliance with IPSAS (International Public Sector Accounting Standards); cash basis is woefully lacking in providing us with a complete and accurate view of financial activities and reporting," Dr. Minnis said.

"As policymakers, we value the importance of financial reporting that meets international standards. It is essential that we are in a position

to utilize high-quality information to make informed and sound spending decisions, while properly managing our assets and liabilities.

"This is critical to us securing more sustainable public sector finances, achieving greater credibility in policymaking and building a more durable economic future for our country. It is also vital to delivering on acceptable levels of transparency and accountability in government's financial management," Prime Minister Minnis added.

Dr. Minnis said the Government's resolve in this regard

is underscored by the prominence it has given to fiscal responsibility, transparency and accountability in its governing mandate.

"To provide an update to our efforts, the Government's Working Group produced a concept paper outlining the road map for the implementation of accrual-based accounting and the implementation of International Public Sector Accounting Standards for budgeting, accrual accounting and financial reporting.

"Moving to accrual-based accounting will ensure greater transparency and accountability in public sector finances, as well as, a better monitoring of government debt and liabilities.

"The potential harm of the absence of these prudent practices were exposed in our recent assessment of the fiscal outcome for Fiscal Year, 2016/2017. As you know, high levels of unbudgeted expenditure arrears are poised to elevate the actual overall fiscal deficit some five times higher than originally budgeted. The lack of transparency and accountability inherent in cash basis accounting is unsustainable and breeds mistrust," Prime Minister Minnis added.

Prime Minister Minnis said coincident with the exercise to improve financial reporting, the Government also has a roadmap to modernize and align the existing chart of accounts (COA) with best practices and the International Monetary

Fund's Government Finance Statistics reporting standards.

Work on the COA re-design, which commenced in 2014, is expected to be completed and fully implemented, for July 1, 2018. (A chart of accounts [COA] is a financial organizational tool that provides a complete listing of every account in an accounting system.)

"In the 2017/2018 Budget Communication, the Government announced plans to introduce fiscal rules as a means of achieving a credible and sustainable reduction in the fiscal deficit and the debt position," Prime Minister Minnis said.

"With the assistance of the IMF, we are making progress in defining a sound framework that will include controls on certain recurrent expenditures; taking more decisive steps with pension reform and better managing subsidies to our state-owned enterprises.

"Successful implementation of this framework depends on our ability to measure our performance which is contingent upon having the proper financial management systems to provide the data needed for analysis, but transitioning public financial reporting to accrual-basis accounting is no small feat. We have targeted a date of end of June 2022 for full central government transitioning to accrual accounting and then 2023 for the public sector at large," Prime Minister Minnis added.

Hanna's

Plumbing & Electrical Supplies

We ship to the family Islands

We Carry:

Toilets

Lavatories

Heaters

Tubs

DWV Fittings

Water Tanks

Faucet Repair Kits

* Water Pumps

* Faucets

* Gas Fittings

* PVC & CPVC Fittings

* Kitchen Sinks

* Tankless Water Heaters

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





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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

Registrar of Marriages

The Government has Vested Interest in the Sustainability of the Nursing Workforce

Minister of Health the Hon. Dr. Duane Sands said being fully cognizant of the value of Nurses, and the essentials of having a strong, viable complement of nurses and nursing professionals, The Bahamas Government has a vested interest in the sustainability of the Nursing workforce and the advancement of the Nursing profession.

"Therefore, The Bahamas Government is presently placing as a major priority, focus on areas of career paths, salaries and improved working conditions as a means to retain and increase the employ of trained nurses," Dr. Sands said during the Nurses' Association of The Commonwealth of The Bahamas (NACB) 40th Annual Educational Conference held at the School of Nursing and Allied Health Professions, Grosvenor Close Campus, November 9, 2017.

He also noted that focus is being given to the training and education of nurses, for increased scholarship opportunities and stipends for nursing students, support for specialised post-basic nursing programmes and advanced training of nurses.

"With the mobilisation of these initiatives brought forward by my Ministry, I can say with confidence, this Government is committed to offering its support [of] these initiatives which will optimistically retain our Nurses and buoyantly enhance the recruitment process.

"Doing so will also provide the necessary support to nurses bringing about a greater awareness and recognition of the value of Nurses in our society."

Dr. Sands said during his term in office, he will seek to further the Government's commitment to advancing the Repeal of the Nurses and Midwives Act, which will allow for nurses to practice to the fullest extent of their education, training and expertise, thus strengthening the country's ability to provide improved access to high quality, easily affordable, modernised health care services for the people of The Bahamas.

The Health Minister said that he wished to publicly

applaud the innovativeness of the NACB for having a sustained annual educational forum, which is geared towards achieving its mission - "to promote the highest standard of nursing practice, encourage professional and educational advancement for nurses, and to ensure that all people irrespective of their nationality, race, colour or social origin may have optimal nursing care."

He said, "Many will agree that Nurses are indeed 'Champions for Health' as they play a vital role in the delivery of quality health care service to the citizens and residents of The Bahamas.

"As a physician, I can personally attest to the quality of Nurses here in The Bahamas and rank them as 'Champions' as they are some of the best in the region."

He said this proven fact is evident as the nation's neighbours in the North are aggressively recruiting Bahamian Nurses as a result of their qualifications, high level of expertise and world-recognised competence, which stems directly from the vigorous, but excellent training programme at the School of Nursing and Allied Professions.

The Health Minister also noted that The Bahamas can boast of being on a steady trek to health care excellence having achieved many gains in the delivery of quality health care over the past 40 years most of which came as a result of the work and leadership of Nurses.

"Most recently, Nurses to their credit, played an intricate role with the implementations of the Direct Observation Treatment Shot Course (DOTS) Programme, the mother-to-child transmission of Human immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), and the Expanded Immunisation Programme."

He added, "Nurses also provided much-needed guidance in the development of other maternal and child health programs that are ongoing in a number of our public health institutions. The success of each of these programmes is definitely attributed to the contributions of Nurses."



► The Minister of Health Dr. the Hon. Duane Sands brings remarks at the Nurses' Association of The Commonwealth of The Bahamas (NACB) 40th Annual Educational Conference held at the School of Nursing and Allied Health Professions, Grosvenor Close Campus, November 9, 2017. **(BIS Photo/Kristaan Ingraham)**

THE BAHAMAS PREPARES to Celebrate National Women's Week

Continued from / PAGE 4...

The newly appointed members of the National Women's Advisory Council, headed by Coralie Adderley, were introduced. Minister Rolle thanked them for accepting their appointments. Their duties include recommending programs that will enhance females, monitoring the status of women and providing recommendations for improvements to legislation that affect women and their families.

The Bahamas will celebrate International Day to end Violence against women on November 25th and International Women's Day on March 8th, 2018.

National Women's Week commemorates the anniversary of women who, for the first time in The Bahamas, exercised their right to vote equally with men. The right to vote was attained on November 26, 1962 as a result of the efforts of the Women's Suffrage Movement.

The week incorporates the annual observance of National Women's Day on November 26, which began in 1985 with the recognition of the 25th anniversary of that day. This year in The Bahamas, the observance has been extended to an additional week. The color for the 2017 celebrations is orange.