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# The Bahama Journal

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VOL. 30 - NO. 62

TUESDAY - DECEMBER 19TH, 2017

75 CENTS

# Immigration Policies Under Scrutiny

BY AMAJAHN KNOWLES  
 Journal Staff Writer

**T**HE BAHAMAS' IMMIGRATION POLICIES have come under serious scrutiny in a major international declaration for its continuing practice of deporting people to Haiti without due process.

The Declaration of the Second

Forum on Haitian Migration specifically criticized the migration policies of The Bahamas, the Dominican Republic and the Trump Administration as key examples of a growing tendency towards criminalization of irregular migration, discrimination against Haitian migrants and a deterioration of their human rights.

The Declaration is signed by more than 20 international organizations and human rights activists,

including the Washington Office on Latin America; the Americas Network on Nationality and Statelessness; the Center for Justice and International Law; the Hope Border Institute and the National Lawyer's Guild of the United States.

The Catholic Church was also actively involved in the declaration and several affiliates are among the signatories, including the Jesuit network for Migrants in Latin America and the Caribbean.

The Declaration underscored the fact that Haiti is currently not in a condition to receive and integrate deported Haitians. The reasons for this include the effects of successive natural disasters (the 2010 earthquake and 2016 Hurricanes Mathew/Maria), the cholera epidemic that was introduced to the country and persistent weakness of national institutions.

■ See UNDER SCRUTINY / page 2...

## Internal Auditors Get Certified

BY C. JILLIAN GRAY  
 Journal Staff Writer

Over 50 participants received certification in internal auditing yesterday as a part of a collaboration with the Jamaica National Agency For Accreditation (JANAAC) and the Bahamas Bureau Of Standards And Quality's (BBSQ).

Minister of Labour Dion Foulkes who brought remarks said program created a unique opportunity for improved business performance.

■ See AUDITORS / page 2...

## ANNUAL ROYAL BAHAMAS POLICE FORCE BEAT RETREAT HERALDS CHRISTMAS SEASON FESTIVITY



► The Annual Royal Bahamas Police Force Beat Retreat drew an appreciative audience on Sunday evening in Parliament Square, downtown. The Governor General Her Excellency Dame Marguerite Pindling, Prime Minister Dr. the Hon. Hubert Minnis and members of his Cabinet also enjoyed the exciting parade, which every year heralds an official launch of Christmas Season festivity. (BIS Photo/Patrick Hanna)

## BAHAMAS MARITIME CEO RESIGNS

BY EARYEL BOWLEG

The Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director to the Bahamas Maritime Authority Commodore Davy Rolle has resigned after eight years of service.

The announcement was made by the Chairman of the Bahamas Authority Denis Lewis-Johnson at a press conference with details on the transition process.

"The BMA has established a Transition Committee made up of the Authority's Deputy Directors, and led by Captain Dwain Hutchinson, who has been engaged with BMA for the past 21 years. During the past five months there has been an in depth transfer of information between the Transition Team and CEO Rolle to assure a smooth and seamless transition and handover," said Lewis-Johnson.

■ See CEO RESIGNS / page 2...



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## JUNKANOO, JUST AROUND THE CORNER

► With Junkanoo just around the corner, craftsmen are focused on cutting and pasting to create costumes, new fangled or old fashioned -- as were these young students of L. W. Young Junior High School yesterday, using their own brand of styling for the holiday fanfare. (BIS Photo/Patrick Hanna)

# Immigration Policies UNDER SCRUTINY

■ Continued from / PAGE 1...

“Forcibly returning Haitians to these conditions will only destabilize the country. It will fuel in the short and long term the phenomena of trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants and dangerous forms of migration.

“These persons’ human rights will deteriorate,

they are likely to become more vulnerable socio-economically, to face increased racial discrimination and a deepening humanitarian scenario,” the document states.

The Declaration is the latest in a series of public expressions of concern by international observers regarding the Bahamas’ controversial immigration policy. Last week, a sen-

ior United Nations official has warned that the Minnis Administration’s impending crackdown on irregular migrants discriminates against Haitians and risks the expulsion of people legally entitled to status in the country.

Dubravka Šimonović, the UN’s special rapporteur on violence against women, during her inau-

gural country visit to the country, said the Prime Minister’s December 31 ultimatum to migrants to leave the country or face being rounded up and deported will lead to the “detention and quick deportation of hundreds of individuals, targeting the Haitian descent community disproportionately, some of whom may be born in the Bahamas.”

## Internal Auditors Get Certified

■ Continued from / PAGE 1...

“The aim of this training exercise is to equip participants with an understanding of internal auditing based on requirements of international standards. It is hoped that all participants will leave with an appreciation with the value of internal audits to their respective organizations,” Foulkes said.

He added that the training had significant benefits in adding to the Bahamas’ national development.

JANNAAC facilitator Sharonmae Shirley said that accreditation and quality infrastructure is what stimulates businesses and economies.

“The balance of trade is important, it is an important game changer and we believe that accredited based performance assessments is the vehicle that will take us toward our desired destination; that of strong economies across the Caribbean region,” Shirley said.

The one day seminar covered fundamentals of internal auditing and attracted participants from around the archipelago.

## BAHAMAS MARITIME CEO RESIGNS

■ Continued from / PAGE 1...

The transition team will act as a handover team for the new CEO to maintain The Bahamas brand and service the ship-owners. Captain Hutchinson will not be replacing Commodore Rolle. In fact, BMA has not made any decision on a replacement at the moment.

The former CEO says he is open to do anything to promote the maritime industry.

“I welcomed the opportunity to service The Bahamas again in 2010 and I voluntarily use the occasion to demit office. I’ve come home to enjoy some of the fruits of my labour as well to enjoy The Bahamas itself, having been away for the past nine years. I think there is lots I can offer. I’m available at no cost. I will volunteer to speak at schools to do whatever I can to promote this industry,” Commodore Rolle said.

BMA is also on board

for creating awareness of the maritime industry in The Bahamas. They are planning a maritime week to educate young people about opportunities available in the industry.

Mr. Rolle is the first Bahamian managing director of BMA. He has been in the maritime industry for 38 years, but worked for the government for 45 years.

Some of his accomplishments include managing The Bahamas IMO Member State audit, overseeing the strengthening of The Bahamas’ presence in Greece, the world’s largest ship owning country, through establishing a BMA office in Piraeus, Greece and in Hong Kong. He also assisted with efforts to enhance The Bahamas’ yachting industry, and chaired the committee which oversaw the development of The Bahamas’ National Maritime policy.

His last day in office is January 12th of next year.

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# Youth Minister Tours Grand Bahama's BTVI Campus

**FREEPORT, Grand Bahama** – Minister of Youth, Sports and Culture, the Hon. Michael Pintard, toured Grand Bahama's campus of Bahamas Technical and Vocational Institute (BTVI).

Accompanied by Youth Coordinator, Carla Brown-Roker, the Minister was able to not only tour the facility and see students participating in various subject

areas, but he had the opportunity to say a few words of encouragement with respect to each discipline.

Minister Pintard sat in on a presentation during the Office

Procedure class, observed the Welding, Electrical, Wood Work and Plumbing classes, and saw a demonstration during the Food and Beverage class.

The Fresh Start programme is

open to people between the ages of 17 and 25 who, after participating in the four-month course, are placed into the public and private workforce on internship. **(BIS Photos/Andrew Miller)**



(WELDING)



(PLUMBING)



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# COMMUNITY CENTRES FOR OVER THE HILL

The Government of The Bahamas will develop multi-purpose community centres in phased action in a number of the Over-The-Hill Communities to help address a number of social challenges facing residents living in those communities.

The facilities will be expanded in phases to include space for churches and other civic organizations to provide on the ground counseling services within the community for residents; proper basketball, volleyball and netball facilities, and finally tennis courts and swimming pools.

The move is part of the Minnis Administration's plans to improve the inner cities of New Providence as part of the Over-the-Hill Community Development Partnership Initiative.

Prime Minister, Dr. the Hon. Hubert A. Minnis said the development of community centres in the

inner cities should positively impact those communities – particularly when it comes to addressing the needs of single parents, the elderly and the youth.

"Many of our births within this country (67 percent) are to a single parents – including myself," Prime Minister Minnis said. "Many of our mothers refuse to take jobs because they have nowhere to leave their children. We will ensure that we have a multi-purpose community centre with proper daycare facilities so that as you go to your jobs you can leave your kids within an environment that will not only change diapers, but one that will also provide instruction for them.

"The multi-purpose facility will also boast facilities for the care of the elderly, so that your parents and grandparents whom you may not necessarily want to leave at

home (while at work), can be left in proper facilities where they are cared for," said Dr. Minnis.

Prime Minister Minnis said the multi purpose community centre will also have facilities for counseling so that the churches and other civic organizations will have proper facilities to offer counseling assistance, be it conflict resolution "and/or whatever is necessary."

"As we expand the facility in Phases, we will introduce proper basketball, volleyball and netball facilities, and finally tennis courts and swimming pools.

"Many of you will be very shocked to learn the amount of individuals who live in the inner-city who cannot swim. That should not be the case in today's world. They should have proper swimming pools so that they can learn to swim properly, so that one day we can have someone com-

ing from the inner city who will not only represent us at the Olympics, but hopefully become an Olympic medalist or Olympic champion," Prime Minister Minnis added.

Officials of the Economic Development and Planning Unit of the Office of the Prime Minister held a Town Meeting Thursday, December 14, 2017 at the Grants Town Wesley Methodist Church to launch Phase One of the Initiative that will focus on the Bain and Grants Town and Centreville communities. Statistics show that the two are the most impoverished communities within New Providence.

Phase Two of the Initiative will focus on the communities of St. Barnabas and Englerston, ranked third and fourth according to statistics provided by the Department of Statistics through its 2010 Census.

## Juvenile Among Trio Charged with Murder

BY AMAJAHN KNOWLES  
Journal Staff Writer

A 17-year-old was among a trio sent to jail yesterday following their alleged involvement in a recent homicide.

The trio appeared before Chief Magistrate Joyann Ferguson Pratt to face numerous charges including murder, armed robbery and in the juvenile's case accessory.

It is alleged that the young man – knowing 18 year olds Keith Barr and Toriano Cummings to be parties to an offense – assisted them for the purpose of enabling them to avoid the law. This in connection with them unlawfully causing the death of Louines Naissance on December 10th of this year.

The juvenile was subsequently remanded to the Bahamas Department of corrections until February 22nd, 2018.

Barr and Cummings are scheduled to return to court on the same date facing one count of murder and two counts of armed robbery.

It is alleged that on the day in question, the pair - armed with a handgun – allegedly robbed Canes Fleurescar of \$126 and Saintmat Joseph of a \$100 Samsung phone along with \$200 cash.

The men were not required to enter a plea and we're remanded to The Bahamas Department of Corrections.

# Bain and Grants Town Library Receives Books • Jones Communications Donates To Library

BY LICEC BASTIAN  
Journal Staff Writer

Representatives of The Bain and Grants Town Library and Museum have received several books donated by Jones Communications Network (JCN) to enhance its library and museum.

Chief Executive Officer of JCN, Wendall Jones, said that the books donated present a wealth of knowledge.

"On behalf of the management of Jones Communications, we are pleased to offer these books to the Bain and Grants Town Library and Museum committee, because we are proud of the work that this organization have been

about over the years, The Bain and Grants Town Development Association.

"Rev. Dr. C. B. Moss and his team in that organization have been doing a wonderful job in educating the people of our country.

"Dr. Moss has a program on Love 97 every Thursday evening and many people talk about the amount of education they get from that particular program. And indeed, he has used some of our books, to impart some knowledge to the people who he has as audience.

"And so, we thought it was fitting to present all of the books to the library in Bain and Grants Town," Mr. Jones said.

President of The Bain and Grants Town Development

Association, Rev. Dr. C.B Moss said the books are a treasure trove and the finest collection he has ever seen.

"We are just so glad that Mr. Jones has consented to make this presentation to us today.

"We are from the Bain and Grants Town Library and Museum and we are here to

receive copies of these most outstanding books.

"We are grateful to be receiving these books. These books will not only be put in circulation, in our library for the use of our clients, but we will also be show-casing these books because this is a collection of some of the finest books

I've ever seen.

"I've read most of them. They were produced here at Jones Communications Publishing house, an excellent media organization, which is providing a yeoman's service for the education of Bahamians," Rev. Moss said.

The books donated by

JCN include, The One Hundred Most Outstanding Bahamians of the Twentieth Century, Forty Years of Independence, Fifty Years of the Growth of the Tourism Industry, Fifty Years of Majority Rule, Bahamian Legends and one called Hurricanes, A Force of Nature.



► Rev. Dr. C.B Moss, (fourth from left) and Executives of the Bain and Grants Town Library and Museum receiving books produced by Jones Communication from CEO Wendall Jones.

## Teen Facing Murder Charge

BY AMAJAHN KNOWLES  
Journal Staff Writer

Nineteen -year-old Travis Lockhart of Yellow Elder gardens appeared before Chief Magistrate Joyanne Ferguson Pratt yesterday accused of killing Anthony Anton McKenzie on October 12th 2017.

The accused indicated that he was represented by Glendon Rolle, but Mr. Rolle was not present at the arraignment.

Lockhart told the court he wears an ankle monitor - as required from a previous offence - adding that the bracelet should indicate that he was at home in Yellow Elder, as opposed to Fox Hill where the incident is alleged to have taken place.

The magistrate said she took this factor into consideration. However Lockhart was not required to enter a plea and was remanded to the Bahamas Department of Corrections until February 23rd when his matter will be fast tracked via a voluntary bill of indictment.

This is the second time Lockhart has appeared in court this month.

On Dec 9th,, Lockhart was charged with disorderly behavior, obscene language, resisting arrest, assaulting a police officer and causing damage.

It is alleged that on December 7, 2017, while at the Central Detective Unit, Lockhart behaved in a disorderly manner, used obscene language, and caused damage to an officer's \$80 shirt.

Lockhart pleaded not guilty to all five charges.

He was awarded \$1,500 bail with one surety. His attorney, Glendon Rolle, alleges that Lockhart was beaten while he was in custody.

# PM: Enterprises Bill Will Liberalize Economy

BY AMAJAHN KNOWLES  
Journal Staff Writer

Prime Minister Dr. Hon. Hubert Minnis continues to tout the prospects of the passed Commercial Enterprises Bill saying the bill will ensure the ease of doing business in the country.

The Prime Minister was addressing a reception for Bahamians and friends of the Bahamas residing in Washington, Northern Virginia and Maryland on Saturday.

His comments come on the heels of the Bahamas receiving a stable outlook from credit rating agency Standard and Poor's.

Dr. Minnis said the new bill allows those major businesses that do not currently exist in the Bahamas – such as aqua-



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

culture and biotechnology -- to be brought into the Bahamas.

"We are stabilizing public finances and reforming government. We are ensuring the greater ease of doing business for Bahamians and foreign investors.

"I am excited at the prospect of Bahamians as well as individuals of Bahamian heritage, who are not Bahamian citizens,

but who have family ties in The Bahamas, utilizing the new Commercial Bill to invest in The Bahamas.

"We are committed to making The Bahamas a more fair, more just society, less burdened by violent crime and less burdened by corruption by public officials," Dr. Minnis said.

He added that the Bahamas is a highly favourable investment

regime and administration officials are cutting the red tape and too-often-long waiting times for international investment projects to be vetted and approved.

The bill was passed in the House of Assembly on November 22, 2017 and in the senate on December 4, 2017, but not without its fair share of opposition from the Bahamian public.

The Bahamas' sovereign credit rating was affirmed as BB+/B, a rating which S&P said reflects its expectation of robust political institutions to "anchor fiscal consolidation" and higher, although still low, economic growth over the next one to two years — another positive sign for The Bahamas as it avoided blacklisting from the European Union.

# The Rough Cut

By Felix F. Bethel

## “...throat, knock & teeth...”

Say what you like: We live in very dangerous times—and quite clearly, such is the tenor inherent in this day of rage and despair—===== On occasion, this despair in turn leads the rankest expression—=====o

At other times, rage can and does manifest its self=====in the sordid disguise known as murder!

We live in a time and in a place where —sad to say—most commentary concerning ‘crime’ has become fixated on the dread work being done by any number of young thugs who seem intent on looting, shooting and killing as if they really and truly have nothing to live for.

In truth and in fact, then: Some Bahamians benefit from things as they are; while others must wait their turn; must fight, must struggle and otherwise they must also put their faith in the idea that a better day is on its way.

Some others focus the bulk of their attention and resources on keeping things the way they are as some fight to see the coming of that day when the legacies of slavery and colonialism are swept away.

There are all those benighted ones who are blithely unaware of the fact that, things as they are can or even should be changed.

These are the types who are bathed and washed in feelings either of superiority or inferiority based on class, race, sex, religion, and nationality; with all of these inculcated in us as children and which shape our assumptions about us and the world.

These learned attitudes and values conspire to convince us this is not only the way things are; but the way they should remain.

This is really and truly no just basis upon which we can ever build a progressive Bahamas!

This is why — try as we might — to keep alive the idea that, there is far more to the phenomenon of crime and wrong-doing than that which involves the ‘murder-count; we now must confess defeat in the face of what seems the widely held view that crime is only really-real when blood and death are merged.

Interestingly enough, this idea meshes easily and readily with that other idea and understanding that

wrong-doing such as robberies, burglary and [perhaps] even rape can never be treated or understood as being as important as murder.

Whilst we do appreciate the awful finality that comes with murder; we are constrained to insist that there are any number of wrongs and hurts which routinely push some of our people — especially our youth — to the precincts of any number of dark places; environs which threaten to hurt, maim and undermine the best of their efforts at being and becoming good citizens!

One of the more striking examples of how deeply segregated today’s Bahamas has become in the past four decades since Independence and so-called Majority Rule, you need look no further than at the deep extent to which Bahamians of different means have not only totally different life chances; but to the extent to which vitally important goods germane to health, education and safety are differentially allocated in a society where there is so very much chat concerning how ‘together’ we can make a great little nation of The Bahamas.

Evidently, this and dreams like this are fated to be the stuff of which despair and challenge are made; and for sure, it also explains precisely how it arises that some Bahamians have decided that ‘enough is enough’ and thus their pell-mell flight to places like Canada, The United States, Europe and even further afield.

And then, of course, there are all those others who cannot take such a departure and thus their oft-made decisions to opt out psychologically — thus that hardy number who revel in indolence; routinely game the system and who — in time — become dependent on others for their daily bread.

I’m old school...I’ll knock you in your throat and make your teeth click!

As said by one Black Bahamian Woman concerning her child—the apple of her eye—

I’m old school...I’ll knock you in your throat and make your teeth click!

If the truth be known—this is precisely how so very many of our demented brothers and sisters, fathers and



mothers behave towards their children—thus most of the violence that now courses through today’s deeply troubled Bahamas.

And thus: The time will surely come when what is happening now will be characterized as being quite backward—and old-fashioned—that is why the fine lady — a frickn’ blast from the pit of hell—located right out there under toilet hole number-2 — is talking fool about beating her child—this — even as she [in her profoundest ignorance—conflates discipline with raw-savage punishment—As she said and As I shall repeat ad nauseam: :I’ll knock you in your throat and make your teeth click”!

So I’m watching a video of a father disciplining his daughter after she had a tantrum in Walmart! He does an excellent job and also says that he doesn’t beat her, he said he takes things away. Hey if it works for him then great, I’m old school...I’ll knock you in your throat and make your teeth click!

Anyone ever had one of these slaps? Lol! I have had and I have given, it’s the circle of life! I’ll knock you in your throat and make your teeth click

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The Bahama Journal  
Quo Vadis, Bahamas?

Wendall K. Jones  
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Kimaley P. Jones  
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E D I T O R I A L

# DIGNITY & DIVINITY

Regrettably, dear brothers and sisters: That bloody beat continues in these last and evil days as so very many so-called ‘Christians’ routinely avert their eyes from the visages borne by the least, the lost and the marginalized men, women and children who live in the shadows of their malls, their stately homes and who — on occasion — might be glimpsed as they trudge through what is left of their miserably hurtful existence.

Indeed, then: As these waning days of December 2017 tick their way into their own eternity, very many of our people now eagerly anticipate the coming of their version of Christmas; we say ‘their version’ precisely because of the fact that there is a myriad of people out-there who have their own particular and peculiar take on what this season is all about or should be about.

Evidently some among us — especially the merchants [great and petty] who know that this is that time of year when they can make some big dollars; and clearly there are all those others — especially the working poor who see this time for the short vacation it provides some of them a respite from their drudge-like existence — and then, there are all those gluttons — rich and poor alike — who see this season as a time for the excessive consumption of food, drink and whatever else comes with such swinish excesses.

And yet, there remains that remnant of people who shall surely remember and recognize that, this is Advent—that time when — as we are taught and which we do believe— prophecy was fulfilled in the birth of Jesus Christ—that same new Adam who — though reviled; though mocked; though scorned; and who though murdered [albeit sacrificially] was resurrected—thus conquering Death itself—This we believe — and thus it follows that: Christmas [Advent] is for us one of the greatest feasts of the living Church of God.

Note also that: As we all get set to celebrate Christmas [Advent], we would all be well-advised to know and recognize that this season has been perverted and that in very many ways, Christmas has become a time when rank materialism and its twin the purest worship of consumerism now

run things. And thus it now transpires that few among us take time to remember that the real reason for the season is tied up in the person of Jesus Christ-God’s own begotten Son.

Evidently, few among us care to know that whilst in prophecy — especially that of Isaiah — that there would come a time for the advent of that man who as we are told “...grew up before Him like a tender shoot, And like a root out of parched ground...”

We also learn that: “... He has no stately form or majesty That we should look upon Him, Nor appearance that we should be attracted to Him...”

The truth in the matter is that he was fated to be: despised and forsaken of men—A man of sorrows and acquainted with grief—He was despised, and we did not esteem Him—surely our griefs, He Himself bore, And our sorrows He carried; Yet we ourselves esteemed Him stricken, Smitten of God, and afflicted... Isaiah 53:3

We make this as-prophesied-point in aid of underscoring a truth which must be both recognized and respected, namely that: Christ is crucified day in and day out as so very many of our Bible-toting fellow-Bahamians routinely ignore or neglect to feed the hungry; welcome the stranger; give drink to the thirsty food to the hungry or shelter to the homeless—or for that matter-aid to bring much-needed relief and succor to the poor widow and her orphaned children!

And thus we repeat and echo the prophet’s cry—Woe be unto you!

In this regard, then—we dare insist that all who have ears to hear and eyes to see that: They who would truly celebrate the living Christ Jesus would do well by do more to emulate the example He Himself showed as He witnessed and as He healed; and as He exhorted; and as He also did when he supped and dined with both the high and mighty as He also did with the lowliest.

In other words, we should — like Him — take to heart that wisdom-knowledge which teaches that human beings are made in the Image and likeness of the Almighty; and as such—they are endowed with both dignity and divinity.

## Letter to the Editor

### Carnival and Political Duplicity

Dear Editor,

Recently, Minister of Youth, Sports, and Culture Michael Pintard confirmed that the FNM government will continue the PLP government’s ill-conceived carnival, but with a few changes. While I’m truly disappointed by the announcement, I’m honestly not surprised. My lack of surprise is based on the fact that I have long come to realize that many Bahamian politicians take positions on issues while in opposition that are based on convenience, not conscience. Their true position is revealed when they hold the reins of power, as is now being seen with Minister Pintard and the FNM government’s new-found position on carnival.

When he served as Chairman of the FNM, Mr. Pintard was very vocal in his opposition to the PLP government promoting carnival instead of Junkanoo. Prior to the first carnival, in the February 4, 2015 issue of the Guardian, Mr. Pintard said, “As we spend millions of dollars on the international market promoting carnival in The Bahamas, we are intentionally or unintentionally helping to create a greater appetite for things carnival.” Further, in the same news story, Mr. Pintard is reported as saying that the word ‘carnival’ has already influenced the costumes and music that Bahamians were creating and that anyone can see that ideas are being borrowed from other countries such as Trinidad. Mr. Pintard even admitted that in carnival “we are promoting sexuality even more so than we are promoting culture.”

After the first carnival event, in the May 19,

2015 issue of the Guardian, Mr. Pintard is reported as saying that it is his hope that the festival undergoes another name change to eliminate “carnival” in favor of “Junkanoo Festival”, “Bahama Fest”, etc. In addition, pointing the glaring immodesty displayed in our streets, Mr. Pintard said “the costumes should reflect the sensibilities and modesty of our people.”

Having made those objections to carnival while in opposition, now that they are in government, why is Mr. Pintard and the FNM continuing to advance carnival and thereby continuing to create the same greater appetite for all things carnival and promote sexuality more than culture? And now, Mr. Pintard does not have to hope for a name change to drop the word “carnival”; he and his government have the authority to change it. So, why don’t they?

In my view, the reason that Mr. Pintard and the FNM are not using their power to make the carnival changes they wanted the PLP to make is political duplicity. While in opposition, their objections to the carnival name and content were based on convenience, not conscience. They evidently see nothing wrong with continuing to spend taxpayers’ money to promote a foreign festival to further diminish Bahamian culture. Even if the dollar amount is less and is called a subvention, it is still a waste of taxpayers’ money to promote carnival when Junkanoo is in desperate need of affirmative action by the government.

■ See AND POLITICAL DUPLICITY / page 7...



# Appeasing STB Is Costing Taxpayers About 1 Million

## 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.

*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.*

What did the new Attorney General and the Minnis Administration expect when they dropped the appeal leaving the constitutional crisis unresolved?

One of the first things the Free National Movement Government did when they came to power in May of this year was to drop the appeal in the most important case of our nation's history. The new Government of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas allowed Save The Bays, an organization operating in The Bahamas with United States Treasury 501(c)(3) status, to dictate that their 'deemed-public' financial information cannot be discussed under parliamentary privilege, and thereby creating a constitutional crisis in our country.

Goodness knows how many other countries are ridiculing The Bahamas for its Government stopping the appeal process on a matter that upended our parliamentary constitutional practices.

Now, the Attorney General has a nerve to be surprised by Fred Smith acting as if they won, which they did since The Bahamas Government handed them the victory once they dropped the appeal, and asking to be paid their exorbitant fees.

Well, if you were foolish enough to drop the appeal, live with the consequences. Except, there is one problem with this: The Bahamian taxpayer is the one to deal with the consequences and pay the price of such a dumb move.

The Attorney General dropped the appeal in the parliamentary privilege court case and gave Save The Bays and Fred Smith all of this power to now turn around and demand almost a million dollars in attorney fees. The Attorney General is saying that those fees will have to be reduced, but that's not the way it works, is it?

Once you lose, and the court says you have to pay the other side's fees, you have to pay. What grounds does the Attorney General have for not paying what Fred Smith is demanding? Is Fred Smith going to listen to him and not charge the full amount because the new Government appeased him by dropping the appeal?

In a Nassau Guardian article discussing the matter, it stated, "the court granted STB a permanent injunction prohibiting the then education minister from disclosing or publishing any private information belonging to the group without its consent."

When will they get that Save The Bays is a United States Treasury 501(c)(3) organization. It has no private information!

Save The Bays has bamboozled everybody. It is a pseudo environmental group funded mainly by hedge-fund billionaire Louis Moore Bacon. Save The Bays' sole purpose in life seems to be to destroy fashion mogul Peter Nygard and tangentially the Progressive Liberal Party Government, at all cost.

They've put a check mark next to the box of 'getting rid of the Progressive Liberal Party Government'. They leave no stones unturned with their efforts to annihilate Peter Nygard.

Now the new Government has gotten rid of several cases against Save The Bays. Obviously, they did not think of the consequences of dropping the appeal in the parliamentary privilege case. They should have thought about the consequences and the cost. Appeasing save the bays is costing Bahamians almost a million dollars and Save The Bays thinks nothing of demanding it from their new favorite Government.

My grandmother always said, 'when you lie down with dogs you get fleas'.

The Bahamian people did not elect the Free National Movement political party to give the Bahamian people fleas. But unfortunately, it is too late.

In this matter, the Bahamian people are the biggest loser—a million times the biggest loser.

**GOT NEWS?**  
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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 --

Richard Thomas Dunlop, Divorced,  
of 109 Anchorage Drive, Bethany Beach, DE 19930, United States of America

and

Sally Cannon, Divorced,  
of 209 Belmont Circle, Townsend, DE 19734, 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 14th day of December, 2017.

*Malone*

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 --

Semiuel Klimovskii, Divorced,  
of 20-72, Narymskaya Str., Novosibirsk, 630132, Russian Federation

and

Diana Lider, Divorced,  
of 20-72, Narymskaya Str., Novosibirsk, 630132, 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 14th day of December, 2017.

*Malone*

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 Lee Jones II, Single,  
of 13659 Joyce Dr., Warren MI 48088, United States of America

and

Adrienne Marie Couwlier, Divorced,  
of 13659 Joyce Dr., Warren MI 48088, 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 14th day of December, 2017.

*Malone*

Registrar of Marriages



**FORM B**  
Notice of Intended Marriage  
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The persons named and described hereunder have given notice to me of their intended marriage, namely --

Timothy Darrell Anderson, Divorced,  
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and

Krystle Lynn Gaehle-Rapp, Divorced,  
of 7713 W. Ranken Ave, St. Louis, MO 63117, 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 14th day of December, 2017.

*Malone*

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 --

Ryan Christopher Chen, Single,  
of Suite 504-489 Interurban Way, Vancouver, BC, V5X 0C7, Canada

and

Flora Jacqueline Phung, Single,  
of Suite 504-489 Interurban Way, Vancouver, BC, V5X 0C7, 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 14th day of December, 2017.

*Malone*

Registrar of Marriages

# WSC TO IMPROVE WATER SUPPLY IN LONG ISLAND

BY ONIKE ARCHER  
Journal Staff Writer

Water and Sewerage Corporation (WSC) gets a loan of \$23.33 million dollars from the Caribbean and Development Bank (CDC) and a 13.3 in counterpart funding from The Government.

Long Island MP and Chairman of WSC, Adrian Gibson stated yesterday during a press briefing held at WSC headquarters.

In his efforts to advance water production in the family islands, particularly Long Island, Mr. Gibson said,

"The Corporation is presently executing a Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) Water Supply Improvement Project funded by a \$28.33 million loan from the Bank and \$13.3 million in counterpart funding from the Government of The Bahamas.

"This Project includes two projects in New Providence and projects on six different Family Islands including Long Island," The MP told the media.

Mr. Gibson's team will also be introducing two new water tankers to Long Island which will further improve potable water supply throughout the family islands.

Spanning over nineteen miles, Long Island will be outfitted with new water mains.

Expanding on the water supply project, Mr. Gibson indicated that such project is projected to provide a piped potable water supply to 300 plus homes and businesses on the island for the first time.

"This project will also include the expansion of the existing Deadman's Cay Desalination Plant and the supply of additional water storage facilities to ensure that the plant can produce sufficient potable water to meet the needs of all, I stress all, residences and businesses from

Thompson Bay to Lochabar on a 24hrs a day 7 days a week basis.

"This multi-million dollar project bringing about a world class potable water system for that part of Long Island," Mr. Gibson affirmed.

Mr. Gibson also informed the media that the corporation is also planning to begin a non-revenue water project.

"I want to notify customers of the existing Central Long Island System that the corporation is planning to commence a Non-revenue Water Project in the coming weeks to reduce the amount of leakage on that system," Mr. Gibson expressed.

He continued, "The Corporation's team is committed to minimizing disruptions to customers and they will be using local resources as much as is possible.

"While I am greatly pleased that the Central Long Island System Extension works will finally commence by the first quarter of 2018, I am also painfully aware that too many residents in other parts of Long Island have had to endure the lack of piped potable water for much, much too long."

Drawing from his personal experience in Long Island, Mr. Gibson said, "For years, I was bathing in salt water, I wouldn't even call it brackish, where their residue is left on your skin.

"When there's a hurricane, the wells are muddy and leaves are in the well and if you don't have water stored up, you're unable to do the usual things that you could do, except, perhaps use the toilet."

Project Coordinator for the CDB project, Leslie Hutchinson added, "The Corporation as a whole recognizes an issue with well water. The key thing is our water supply is tested on a regular basis. We check to see whether it's contaminated, we check to

see ensure there is sufficient residual chlorine.

As it relates to sicknesses derived from contaminated well water, Mr. Hutchinson explains, "If you have a private well, nobody checks and typically what happens is, when somebody gets sick, there is a rush then by the public health officials to discover what has made this particular individual sick.

"The sad part is if you look at a typical family, the person who typically gets sick or ill is that child who is less resilient to the contamination on the water supply."

The family islands are not the only sufferers of water contamination; there is a dense population in New Providence that suffers from it as well.

Providing some imagery of how well water may get contaminated, Mr. Hutchinson offered an example; he describes,

"You have persons who are on a relatively small property and they have a septic tank and a well on that same property.

"So, even if you say your property is one hundred by one hundred and your septic tank is in the far corner over there and your well is over here, you need to consider where is your neighbor's well is located," Mr. Hutchinson explained.

Cross contamination is also a result of limestone cracks and fishes in the ground; it can contaminate your water from afar.

Decreasing such cross contamination risk, WSC will be including a check valve for each service connection installed. Private Wells pose many dangers and WSC is trying to educate people on such so they will become more informed that well water has its risks.

Ayla Isaacs, WSC Engineer and Project

Manager for Infrastructure told The Bahama Journal about the global ties WSC has joined.

"We have signed on to be partners with our global entity to incorporate the seven millennial development goals, one of them being ensuring that we provide potable water to as many persons as possible; that's part of this goal with signing on with CDB to ensure that we meet that millennial

goal," Ms. Isaacs told The Bahama Journal.

Furthermore, Mr. Gibson expressed that water is a basic amenity, "As we progress, I'm hoping to bring the entire country into the 21st Century with respect to water. I think that water is more important than electricity, more important than telephone, more important than cable.

"You need water and this is

one of the cries of long island," The MP emphatically expressed.

It has yet to be determined which company will be granted the contract for this Water Supply Project, as the tendering process has not begun; it will commence at 10:00 am on Thursday, December 21st, 2017.

It is expected that whoever wins the bid will immediately begin work by spring 2018.

## Carnival and Political Duplicity

Continued from / PAGE 5...

Concerning the so-called road march (which is nothing more than public debauchery and a pornographic street parade), Minister Pintard is reported as saying, "No government, in my view, has the right to cancel any private enterprise initiative." While the Minister is free to hold that view, his view is flatly wrong. Not only do governments have the right to cancel some private enterprise initiatives, in some cases they have a duty to do so; and the so-called road march is a case in point. Why should the government permit public streets to be used by people to parade and debase themselves on their "worst behaviour", virtually having sex in the streets while abusing alcohol? And why should children and morally sensible adults be assaulted by government facilitated public immorality, in total disregard for our public decency laws?

Clearly, the government has a duty to uphold our public decency laws and not let the carnival band owners do as they please on public streets. The fairest solution is to allow the band owners to take their pornographic parade to private property where they and their participants can debase themselves in private, and those who wish to view such debasement can join them. But for the government to permit such vulgar conduct in public is not governing; it is a dereliction of duty.

I remind Minister Pintard that, in addition to culture, he also has ministerial responsibility for youth. And I urge him to

consider the message he would be sending to our youth if he facilitates carnival conduct in our streets for countless numbers of young people to be exposed to alcohol abuse and inappropriate sexual conduct, as they watch from their yards and the sides of the road.

A few months ago, a video went viral with girls at a local junior high school dancing in a vulgar manner. There was widespread outcry against it. But what was the outcry really against? With the introduction of carnival, far more vulgar dancing with far less clothes on has taken place in our streets. And it was facilitated and funded by the government.

I continue to lament the fact that we as a country are unable to connect the dots. Our children do not go astray in a vacuum. We lead them astray by our bad examples and our boldfaced hypocrisy. But there is hope for our nation if we repent and reform our ways. So, on behalf of an overwhelming majority of Bahamians who still believe in public decency and truly desire a better Bahamas, I implore Minister Pintard and the FNM government to implement the carnival changes they proposed while in opposition. In addition, I further implore them not to permit our streets to be used to facilitate the so-called road march and the debauchery and live pornography associated with it. Let the band owners use private property for such indecent conduct.

Yours truly,  
Pastor Cedric Moss



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