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# The Bahama Journal

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THURSDAY - DECEMBER 14TH, 2017

75 CENTS

# Income Tax Coming?

BY C. JILLIAN GRAY  
 Journal Staff Writer

**T**he government will be looking at the possibility of introducing income tax in an effort to further comply with the regulations of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).

Prime Minister Dr. Hubert Minnis revealed in the House of Assembly yesterday that the Bahamas has been saved from the threat of being blacklisted after The Bahamas was invited to be the coordinating body of the (OECD) multi-lateral convention, but this comes with concerns.

■ See INCOME TAX / page 2...

## PM reveals National Honours Regulations

BY C. JILLIAN GRAY  
 Journal Staff Writer

The Prime Minister Doctor Hubert Minnis tabled the regulations yesterday for a National Honours System.

The Prime Minister said that the system would honour persons who have sacrificially given in areas such as culture, politics, athleticism, charity and artistry, among other areas, from both the public and private sector as well as uniformed branches of government.

■ See PM REVEALS / page 2...



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

## MAN ARRAIGNED FOR COCAINE

BY ONIKE ARCHER  
 Journal Staff Writer

A young man was arraigned on a number of drug related charges yesterday after an arrest which took place at the Lynden Pindling International Airport (LPIA) on Monday.

Twenty year old Shaquelle Moss of Garden Hills Number Two, appeared before Deputy Chief Magistrate Andrew Forbes.

Moss faced one count each of possession of dangerous drugs, taking preparatory steps to export dangerous drugs from the Commonwealth of The Bahamas, conspiracy to export dangerous drugs from The Bahamas and

conspiracy to possess dangerous drugs.

The particulars are that shortly after 7am on Monday, a Bahamian man was travelling to the United States when United States Customs and Boarder Protection Officials detained him in the U.S Pre-Clearance departure lounge at LPIA after a quantity of cocaine was discovered in his luggage.

The estimated weight of the cocaine seized is one and a half pounds. Moss was then handed over to Drug Enforcement Unit Officers.

Moss pleaded not guilty to all charges and was denied bail.

His matter was adjourned until February 15th 2018.

## POINSETTIAS FOR THE GOVERNOR GENERAL



▶ Her Excellency Dame Marguerite Pindling (centre), Governor General, received an array of Poinsettias from the Grounds and Beautification Division of Bahamas National Pride organization, at Government House, on Tuesday, December 12, 2017. (BIS Photo/Letisha Henderson)

## Manhunt for Eleven Wanted Criminals

BY LICEC BASTIAN  
 Journal Staff Writer

Police have released the names and sketches of eleven criminals who they say are on the loose and roaming the streets. They are appealing to the public to assist them in nabbing these men.

Police say they are targeting organized criminal groups and have so far arrested twelve suspects who have already been arraigned.

At a press conference held at the Central Detective Unit (CDU) yesterday, Chief Superintendent of Police, Solomon Cash, said that in response to concerns of members of the public concerning armed robberies, the Royal Bahamas Police Force (RBPF) is tackling four areas where they see organized criminal groups.

■ See MANHUNT / page 3...

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# Income Tax Coming?

Continued from / PAGE 1...

"The group advised that the absence of a corporate income tax or a nominal corporate tax structure in The Bahamas is a matter of concern and the lack of substance of some legal arrangements was highlighted," Dr. Minnis said.

The Prime Minister said those issues were being looked into and a plan of action will be formulated to allow the Bahamas to remain off the OECD blacklist.

Dr. Minnis said the assistance of professionals in the financial sector was solicited in an effort to address the regulatory group's concerns.

The OECD's multi-lateral convention is a freestanding multi-lateral agreement aimed at promoting international cooperation for the better operation of tax laws.

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance Peter Turnquest and Minister Of Financial Services Brent Symonette left the country for Paris, France with the purpose of signing the multilateral convention, but were invited to San Marino where they signed another regulatory convention.

"One of the areas of the European Union's (EU) Base Erosion and Profit Shifting

(BEPS) initiative was that of The Bahamas becoming a signatory to the OECD convention in tax matters (MAC) and the companion multilateral competent authority agreement (MCAA)," Dr. Minnis said.

The Prime Minister stressed that despite the significant progress made to date, there's still much to be done to mitigate other pending threats to the local financial services sector.

"Following receipt of a letter on November 7th 2017, forwarded to the government from the BEPS Code of Conduct Group, advising that the country had been govern a reprieve from

blacklisting by the EU until February 2018, a series of industry briefing meetings were sponsored by the Ministers of Finance and Financial Services and the Office of the Attorney General, with the assistance of the CRS working group, senior officials and regulators, to focus on the issues listed in the letter. A letter was signed on the 11th of December 2017, and issued by the Ministry of Finance to the OECD Code of Conduct Group confirming that the Bahamas commits to complying with the minimum standards," Dr. Minnis said.

Those minimum standards

involved the prevention of the harmful nature of preferential tax regimes and a transparency framework that will apply to tax rulings, an action on treaty abuse, prevention of tax-treaty shopping, country by country reporting and other documentation requirements to give tax administrators a global picture of where multinational enterprises profit.

Just last week, several Caribbean countries were named on the European Union's blacklist of tax havens including Barbados, Grenada, Panama, Saint Lucia, and Trinidad and Tobago who are all at risk to losing access to EU funds.

## GG HOSTS ANNUAL LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON



► Governor General Her Excellency Dame Marguerite Pindling (seated centre) hosted the Annual Leader of the Opposition Christmas Luncheon at Government House on Tuesday, December 12, 2017. Pictured from left: Senator, Dr. the Hon. Michael Darville; Leader of the Opposition, the Hon. Philip Davis; H.E. Dame Marguerite Pindling; Deputy Leader, Mr. Chester Cooper; Senator, the Hon. Clay Sweeting and Senator, the Hon. Jobeth Coleby-Davis. (BIS Photo/Letisha Henderson)

## PM reveals National Honours Regulations

Continued from / PAGE 1...

"There are a number of honours called Societies of Honours, pursuant to section 5 of this Act. These honours include, The Order of National Hero, The Order of The Nation, The Order of The Bahamas, The Order of Excellence, The Order of Distinction, The Order of Merit, The Order of Lignum Vitae and any other honour that may be constituted by the Governor General by order at a later date," Dr. Minnis said.

He added that the development of a Bahamian system of National Honours will greatly enhance the ability to recognize a wider cross-section of fellow-citizens who have offered exemplary public, national and community service.

"It is important to note that a national honours system must be jealously guarded to prevent over-indulgence and potential misuse. There must be balance and prudence in the grant honours. A National Honours System must not become a partisan political system, given mostly to awarding certain categories of individuals," Dr. Minnis said.

A committee of 10 per-

sons would be appointed to advise both the Prime Minister and the Governor General on individuals worthy of recommendation and awards.

Each society will have its own rules and rights and privileges.

All awards would be announced by July 10th with confirmation taking place the second Monday each October.

Prime Minister Minnis said the Act will not exclude those who would have been honoured by Her Majesty the Queen.

"The National Honours Act clearly states: 'For the avoidance of doubt, any honour conferred upon any citizen of The Bahamas by Her Majesty the Queen shall not be extinguished by reason of this Act coming into force or the appointment of such a person to an order or the award of any other honour prescribed by this Act,'" Dr. Minnis said.

He added that the Act will not cause a person who has been awarded with an honour by Her Majesty The Queen, or any other honour to be ineligible for award of an honour under this Act.

The first set of honourees should be announced next year.

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# Manhunt for Eleven Wanted Criminals

Continued from / PAGE 1...

“We at the Central Detective Unit have conducted extensive investigation into several organized criminal groups which were perpetrating these armed robberies in four distinctive areas throughout New Providence.

“One [area] being the Eastern and the Western shores of New Providence; second, what is being referred to as the bump and rob armed robberies; third, armed robberies involving residents of the Eastern communities, and fourth armed robberies that were connected to schools; the breaking and robbery of security officers,” Mr. Cash said.

Mr. Cash stated that as a result of the efforts undertaken by the force they have disrupted the four of these arm robbery groups.

“We have taken into custody eleven suspects who have been charged and arraigned before the courts on various counts of armed robberies.

“In total we have 12 matters that are pending trial,” Mr. Cash said.

“We also want to say that we remain committed to all of our endeavours to disrupt this sort of behaviour and to remove the fear from these communities that these armed robberies are impacting,” he said.

Police are making an appeal to the public for the arrest of 10 suspected armed robbers, six of whom they have no actual photographs on and are relying on sketches.

The four remaining wanted armed robbery suspects include: 23-year-old Theron Taylor of Sutton Street, 25-year-old Jamaal M. Ferguson of Blue Berry Hill, Fox Hill, 35-year-old Dario Tinker, who also goes by the name ‘Geico’ of East Street, and Aaron Clarke, of Buttonwood Avenue.

Police are also on the hunt for 25-year-old Perry Pickering of Dorsette Alley who is wanted for murder.

Police advise that the wanted men should not be approached, but instead, members of the public should contact the police immediately at 919, or Crime Stoppers at 328-TIPS.



► 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.

## 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 organi-

zation 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.

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# Transport and Local Government Minister visits Cat Island and meets with Local Government and other officials

The Hon. Frankie Campbell, Minister of Transport and Local Government, recently led a delegation of senior officers to Cat Island where he met with Local Government practitioners and other stakeholders.

Accompanying the Minister were: Permanent Secretary, Lorraine Armbrister; Director of Local Government, Cephas Cooper; Contoller of Road Traffic, Ross Smith; Port Controller, Cyril Roker; Director of Meteorology, Trevor Basden; Post Master General (Actg), Jennifer Johnson; and Chief Training Officer in the Department of Local Government, Lashanta Greenslade.

This is the third in a series of Family Island visits by Minister

Campbell and his team, having completed similar visits to Grand Bahama and Abaco.

While in Cat Island Minister Campbell visited each respective office and listened to concerns of staff of the Administrator's Office, the Post Office and the Port Department.

Minister Campbell met with members of the Cat Island District Council and assured them of his Ministry's commitment to work with them in their efforts to provide quality service to the residents of Cat Island. Moreover, he met with members of the various Statutory Boards including Road Traffic, Town Planning, Hotel and the Port.

A Town Meeting was held at the

Media Centre in Knowles' settlement and attended by local government, civic, religious and community leaders.

A highlight of the visit was a debate between the Local Government Junior Councilors of Old Bight And Arthur's Town High Schools, under the theme, "Building Communities through Transparency, Accountability, Integrity and Productivity." Arthur's Town High School was named the winner of the competition. Minister Campbell presented certificates to the participants and the local coordinators of the program.

It is the Minister's intent to visit all remaining Family Island districts during the course of 2018.



► The Minister of Transport and Local Government, the Hon. Frankie Campbell, addresses a District Council meeting.

# TWO MEN ARRAIGNED OVER MURDER

BY ONIKE ARCHER  
Journal Staff Writer

Two men in their thirties were arraigned in Magistrate's Court yesterday in connection with the murder of Javan Lynden Forbes which occurred on December 8th.

Thirty two year old Jamaal McSweeney and thirty one year Jamaric Green, both of Dorsett Alley, faced charges before Chief Magistrate Joyann Ferguson-Pratt.

It is alleged that both McSweeney and Green on the date in question, by means of unlawful harm did intentionally cause the death of twenty seven year old Forbes.

According to police reports, shortly after 9:30pm last Friday, four men were sitting in a white Honda when another car pulled up behind them and a lone gunman got out of the second vehicle and shot one of the four men; now known as Javan Forbes.

Both men are represented by Attorney Ian Cargill. They were not required to enter a plea.

Their matter was adjourned until February 21st 2018 when they will return to Magistrate's Court. At that time a Voluntary Bill of Indictment (VBI) will be read to fast track the case to Supreme Court.

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

**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 --

Charles William Selwyn, Single,  
of Ridge Barn, West Chillington Lane, Coneyhurst, West Sussex, RH14 9DN, United Kingdom

and

Georgina Rose O'Shea, Single,  
of 10 Elmstead Close, Epsom, Surrey, KT19 0EA, 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 December, 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 --

Bradley James Waldoch, Single,  
of 1218 Lynrose Ln, Neenah WI 54956, United States of America

and

Marla Leslie Judnick, Single,  
of 1218 Lynrose Ln, Neenah WI 54956, 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 December, 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 --

George Vincent Sipp, Single,  
of 68 Maine Trail Medford, NJ 08055, United States of America

and

Jessica Leigh Scola, Single,  
of 68 Maine Trail Medford, NJ 08055, 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 December, 2017.

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# 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—

At other times, rage can and does manifest itself—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 frick’n 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

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

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’ll knock you in your throat and make your teeth click!

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The Bahama Journal Quo Vadis, Bahamas?

Wendall K. Jones Publisher/Chief Executive Officer

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## EDITORIAL

# TRUMPING D. TRUMP

“...Roy Moore's loss broke through one of the most impenetrable walls in American politics: partisan polarization...” As reported by CNN.

As it now turns out—President of The United States of America Donald J. Trump has awakened to a new reality in that America he would make—as he promised—great again; with that reality being—as reported: Trump lost big in Atlanta—His man—Ray Moore, the bigot, lost big time in their joint bid to win a seat in the Senate of the United States of America.

Put simply: the struggle over that Alabama seat in the Senate was also a tacit referendum on Donald J. Trump’s failing presidency—!

This we believe to the maximum degree possible!

As one of our columnists wrote last year: “...The record shows, Donald Trump did his brutal thing his brutal way; and that, his supporters cheered and roared their approval of each and all of his deeply troubling plans, proposed policies and projects for his agenda once he got their approval.

“And thus it came to be this Tuesday past that I became sick to my stomach—as it dawned on me—that America the Great had set its sights on becoming great again as that once upon a time great place where freedom reigned to becoming a morbid reminder of that other set of facts which—taken and shaken together—revealed that there is that other America where bigotry, racism, hate, misogyny—mixed in with the filthiest of bloody lucre—could and did spawn genocide, murder and blood-red terrorism as it paraded itself with its burning crosses and their myriad of memories of Black men and women crucified on this or that lynching tree...”

Clearly, this columnist was on the right side of those times as Donald J. Trump tasted the sweetness inherent in his victory/victimization of Hillary Rodham Clinton.

And as that pundit had indicated: Put simply, the entrance and ascension of Donald Trump is little more than an announcement to the effect that, there is out-there that other rabid America that would consume itself in hate; that would ride rough-shod over any and all who would dare shout ENOUGH!!!

Eleven months later, the word in the wind [as reported by both Reuters and CNN] shouts:—President Donald Trump should be sweating after the shocking outcome in Alabama’s special election. Roy Moore’s defeat is a huge blow to him personally and to the GOP as a party.

The fact that this seat, in one of the most deeply red states in the country, just flipped to the Democrats is going to generate immense anger and angst among Republicans who are feeling the bite of the Trump presidency in a very visceral way.

Roy Moore’s loss broke through one of the most impenetrable walls in American politics: partisan polarization.

Our guess is that Donald J. Trump might yet face his own Waterloo!

“Trump was the one who got Jones within firing range, and Moore allowed Jones to win,” said Kyle Kondik, a political analyst at the University of Virginia.

Even as Democrats lost several special congressional elections this year, they consistently showed higher levels of turnout and engagement, which is attributable to Trump.

The Alabama race showed there were limits both to Trump’s endorsement power and his judgment.

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - In backing Roy Moore in Alabama’s U.S. Senate race even though the candidate faced allegations of sexual misconduct with teenage girls, President Donald Trump made a risky bet - and lost big.

The victory by Democrat Doug Jones over the Republican Moore in the Alabama special election on Tuesday was a catastrophe for Trump, portending a Democratic wave next year that could cost Republicans control of one or both houses of Congress.

The stakes in Alabama were that high. Democrats already were confident they had a strong chance to retake the U.S. House of Representatives in next year’s congressional elections. Jones’ narrow victory increases their once-long odds of retaking control of the Senate as well.

If Democrats were to recapture both chambers, they would serve as a check on Trump’s agenda and might even initiate impeachment proceedings against him.

“That Republicans lost in one of the most Republican states in the nation is a wake-up call no matter how flawed their candidate was,” said Jesse Ferguson, a Democratic strategist and former aide to Democrat Hillary Clinton’s presidential campaign.

Democrats never expected to have a chance in Alabama, where they had not won a U.S. Senate race in 25 years. But the combination of Trump’s unpopularity, the sexual misconduct allegations that erupted against Moore in November, and Trump’s enthusiastic support of him anyway gave them the opportunity.

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\$ PETER \$

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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 --

Samuel Evans Love, Single,  
of 47 Regina Close, Worcester, WR2 4DF, United Kingdom

and

Philippa Jane Cheshire, Single,  
of 47 Regina Close, Worcester, WR2 4DF, 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 December, 2017.

Registrar of Marriages



► **IT'S PRETTY SIMPLE** – Programmer, Alex Cameron explain to students at Sunl and Baptist Academy that coding is not as difficult as some people make it out to be. He helped to launch the Global Initiative in Grand Bahama. **(BIS Photo/Lisa Davis)**

# GB Students Join Global Technology Initiative Called “Hour of Code”

BY ANDREW COAKLEY  
Bahamas Information Services

**FREEPORT, Grand Bahama** -- With Grand Bahama's first Tech Summit only a month in the past, already, some positive effects from the Summit are being felt among the students of Freeport.

On Monday, December 11, students from Sunland Baptist Academy and Jack Hayward High School participated in what is called “an Hour of Code,” simultaneously with children around the globe. In fact, Sunland and Jack Hayward were pacesetters in officially establishing Grand Bahama as part of the worldwide Program.

The Global initiative was brought to The Bahamas through the efforts of Kristie Powell, a Bahamian working at Google, who was one of the guest speakers at the first technology summit. The program was taught to over 20 million students around the world on Monday, the same time students in Grand Bahama were going through the program.

The program, “Hour of Code” is a global movement reaching tens of millions of students in over 180 countries. One-hour tutorials are available in over 45 languages and is geared towards students from ages four, upward.

On Monday, both Sunland and Jack Hayward were introduced to the program by another guest speaker of the first Tech Summit, Alex Cameron, a programmer.

Cameron introduced the students to the world of coding and set the foundation for what is expected to become a future career for many of Grand Bahama's youngsters.

“This is a program about which the Minister for Grand Bahama is very excited,” said Harcourt

Brown, Permanent Secretary in the Office of The Prime Minister, during his visit with the students at Sunland Baptist Academy. “This is one of the suggestions that was put forth during the GB Tech Summit. This is an embodiment of what it is we hope to accomplish here in Grand Bahama in the very near future. As some of you may know the purpose of the Tech Summit was to help establish Grand Bahama as a Tech Hub. This is part of that starting point.

“What you're about to do this morning is extremely important; during a meeting with the executives of the Steering Committee, one of the discussions that came out of that meeting was what was happening with education in The Bahamas. The question was ‘are young people preparing themselves for what is taking place as it relates to the development of Grand Bahamas a Technology Hub.’”

Mr. Brown said that the ‘Hour of Code’ program could not come at a better time, as Freeport pushes to follow up on its plans to make GB the Tech Hub for The Bahamas. He encouraged the students to take full advantage of the program. Alex Cameron reminded the students that technology is about making life better for people, while at the same time making a good living by those who are proficient in it. He assured the students that learning how to code was not as difficult as it seemed.

“In fact, coding, technology can help to fix all of the problems Grand Bahama presently face,” said Cameron. “All it takes are people willing to put in the time and begin the process. It's not about just talking, it's about doing and making the world better.”



**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 --

Kenneth Hamilton, Divorced,  
of 10 Lincoln St., Gateshead NE8 4EE, United Kingdom

and

Sheila Diana Knight, Widowed,  
of 10 Lincoln St., Gateshead NE8 4EE, 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 7th day of December, 2017.

Registrar of Marriages



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

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

Michael Cody Snare, Single,  
of 37898 Mallast, Harrison Twp, MI 48045, United States of America

and

Emily Marion Mazure, Single,  
of 37898 Mallast, Harrison Twp, MI 48045, United States of America

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Dated this 7th day of December, 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 --

David Alan Ripley, Divorced,  
of 413 Hamilton Road, Coogee, Western 6166, Australia

and

Cynthia Mosca, Single,  
of 413 Hamilton Road, Coogee, Western 6166, Australia

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

Christopher John Kelly, Single,  
of 3a/725 Wellington Street, Perth, WA 6000, Australia

and

Hoi Yan Tang, Single,  
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# Governor General Makes Annual Christmas Visit to Grand Bahama's Rand Hospital

BY ROBYN ADDERLEY  
Bahamas Information Services

**FREEPORT, Grand Bahama** – A message of thankfulness was shared on Wednesday, December 13, by Governor General Her Excellency Dame Marguerite Pindling during the 19th Annual Governor General's Visit to the Rand Memorial Hospital, under the theme "Celebrating our Health Partners."

"I am aware that the hurricane which affected Grand Bahama, Abaco and Bimini earlier this year has been a source of deep concern because of the resulting damage and disruption this natural disaster brought to some. Notwithstanding this, we must ever be thankful that no lives were lost, and that we are enabled to press forward to recover and renew our activities and our communities."

She further added, "This is the time of the year when our hearts and minds begin to swell in anticipation of the coming celebrations, and when we focus our minds and hearts on the miracle of our salvation, and the real meaning of the events which took place some 2,000 years ago in Bethlehem."

The Governor General commended the staff for the reports of high calibre

service and their devotion to providing service selflessly. "Your service to the Grand Bahama community and the nearby islands is indeed commendable, and I know that you have earned the respect and gratitude of all."

Gathering at Christmas to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ is always spe-

cial, she said. As people are exchanging greetings and celebrating, Dame Marguerite urged them to remember the love given through the birth of our Saviour, and as such, they should share and spread love with all those they come in contact with.

"As we exchange greetings and gifts, let us be

conscious of the real meaning of the season, and seize the opportunity to focus on the many blessings received and given."

Also giving brief remarks during the ceremony were Acting Minister of Health, the Hon. Michael Pintard and Minister of State in the

Office of the Prime Minister, Grand Bahama, Senator the Hon. J. Kwasi Thompson.

The Public Hospitals Authority of Grand Bahama Health Services used the opportunity to honour Pioneer Health Partners (physicians and nurses) in the West End Community Clinic and

retired and deceased health partners.

Many local businesses and service clubs were also honoured for their assistance to GBHS.

Following the official ceremony, Her Excellency was taken on a tour of the hospital, when she had the opportunity to stop and visit with a few patients.



► **MERRY CHRISTMAS** – Dame Marguerite Pindling, Governor-General, was on Wednesday, December 13, in Grand Bahama for the 19th Annual Governor-General's Visit. Following a ceremony, Dame Marguerite toured the Rand Memorial Hospital, accompanied by Hospital Administrator, Sharon Williams; Acting Minister of Health and Minister of Youth, Sports and Culture, the Hon. Michael Pintard; and Minister of State in the Office of the Prime Minister, Grand Bahama, Senator the Hon. Kwasi Thompson. The group stopped in and visited with an expectant mother, Nickita Campbell and presented her with the gift of a baby carrier. (BIS Photo/Andrew Miller)

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