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THURSDAY - MAY 3RD, 2018

75 CENTS

"CARNIVAL CAUSES MORAL DAMAGE"

• Pastor Blames Both governments

BY LICEC BASTIAN
 Journal Staff Writer

"The government has facilitated the moral decline of the country with Carnival." This is the firm position Pastor Cedric Moss of Kingdom Life Church. The Pastor's statement comes just days before the three-day Carnival Experience, scheduled for this coming weekend in New Providence. He said that although the Free National Movement government is not funding the event, it is still facilitating moral and social decline in the country. The outspoken Pastor said, "in a few days, barring

divine intervention, the moral sensibilities of an overwhelming majority of Bahamians will be assaulted by the public nudity, brazen vulgarity and unbridled debauchery of carnival.

"Thousands are planning to descend on our streets and in our public spaces, determined to be on their worst behaviours, as they debase themselves without any regard for the young or respect for the old. And once again, they will put on pornographic parades and shows in breach of our public decency laws, as the police look helplessly on."

■ See MORAL DAMAGE / page 2...



▶ Pastor Cedric Moss of Kingdom Life Church (Journal file photo)

BUSINESS OWNERS EXPRESS CONCERNS ON GOV'T INITIATIVE

BY JAMEELHA MISSICK
 Journal Staff Writer

Business owners in New Providence are applauding The Over the Hill Community Development Partnership Initiative of the Minnis administration. However they say there are many concerns that must be addressed and clarified in the incentive.

■ See GOV'T INITIATIVE / page 4...



▶ Minister of Health, Dr. the Hon. Duane Sands (Journal file photo)

SANDS: "Nurses Under Appreciated"

BY LICEC BASTIAN
 Journal Staff Writer

Despite the challenge the country faced on Monday, when public sector nurses chose to stage a sick out, Health Minister Dr. Duane Sands has acknowledged that nurses have been under appreciated, and that they should be shown that their services are valuable.

■ See NURSES UNDER / page 2...

BOATMAN MISSING OFF ELEUTHERA

BY JAMEELHA MISSICK
 Journal Staff Writer

Eleuthera police are searching for a man reportedly missing at sea.

According to reports, shortly after 9:00am on Tuesday, a man, believed to be a Haitian National, left Spanish Wells in a 17' white Carolina skiff en route to neighbouring Max Patch Cay and has not been seen or heard from since.

Shortly after 9:00am Wednesday, the boat was recovered washed ashore on Max Patch Cay, with the personal belongings of the missing man.

However, he was not located. Police are appealing to boaters in the area of North Eleuthera to be on the lookout for the man. Investigations are ongoing.

Meanwhile, Cat Island police have a man in custody after recovering 1 kilogram of cocaine in his possession.

According to reports, shortly after 9:00am on Wednesday, Cat Island Division Officers, while at New Bight Airport, conducted a search of a man and his belongings and recovered a quantity of suspected cocaine.

The man arrived on a flight from New Providence.

He was taken into custody and is expected to be formally charged before Magistrate's Court later this week.

Police in New Providence also have three men in custody after recovering illegal firearms.

According to reports, shortly after 1:00pm, yesterday, Southeastern Division Officers conducted operation "Red Strike" in the Southern part of New Providence.

Officers conducted a search of a home on Pine Crest Drive, Pinewood Gardens and recovered a Smith and Wesson 9mm pistol and 9 rounds of ammunition.

Two men and a woman who were found in the home, were taken into custody and are expected to be formally charged before Magistrate's Court later this week.

The purpose of the operation was to target prolific offenders and search for wanted suspects.

COURTESY CALL ON PRIME MINISTER MINNIS BY THE HON. MARCO RUBIO, SENATOR OF FLORIDA



▶ U. S. Senator, The Hon. Marco Rubio representing Florida paid a Courtesy Call on Prime Minister Hon. Dr. Hubert A. Minnis today at Cabinet Office, Churchill Building. Prime Minister Hon. Dr. Hubert A. Minnis & U. S. Senator The Hon. Marco Rubio exchange of gifts. (Photo: Yontalay Bowe - BHS/ OPM)

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“CARNIVAL CAUSES MORAL DAMAGE”

SANDS: “Nurses Under Appreciated”

Continued from / PAGE 1...

Dr. Sands was responding to questions of whether the group put together to address nurses leaving had come up with a solution.

“As you would have known, I have tried to suggest to the Bahamian public that as a group, nurses play a very important role in the delivery of health care.

“And as such, I agree that they have been under appreciated and that we need to show them as a country that their service is valued.

“I think that we need to look for the medium and long term and that we put this aside and try to make this country an even better place. And to make our health care system even better,” Dr. Sands said.

More importantly however, Dr. Sands said that in order to achieve a better health care system, Bahamians must become more confident that they are independent, or the country will continue to walk the same road.

“We ought to be saying to our young people, men and women, that there are wonderful careers in health care, in nursing in occupational therapy, in physical therapy, in radiography.

“To achieve self-sufficiency, ought to be the goal of a nation which is almost 50 years old.

“At what point are we going to become self-sufficient?”

“So, while I appreciate the people from the Philippines, Jamaica and Barbados and Africa and India, we need Bahamians, Bahamian young people to be doctors and nurses and health care professionals across our entire system; that means we have finally matured as a country,” Dr. Sands said.

Dr Sands in February told reporters that a high-level panel had been convened to look into the root causes of exactly why Bahamian nurses are leaving the country in the hundreds.

Continued from / PAGE 1...

“No doubt, in a few days Minister Michael Pintard will be gloating over the fact that the FNM has been far more fiscally prudent than the PLP in minimizing the financial cost of carnival to the nation. But what about the moral cost to the nation?”

“I guarantee he will be silent on that. Yet, the moral cost far outweighs the fiscal cost, because while we can recover from the fiscal damage of carnival, recovering from the moral damage of carnival is not so easy,” Pastor Moss said.

The pastor in a Letter to the Editor of this Journal, said that “the FNM government is still in fact funding carnival with thousands of dollars in kind through free advice to the so-called private owners of carnival, free police security, and free clean up of the mounds of garbage that will be left on our streets and on Clifford Park and Arawak Cay—garbage that should be cleaned up by the so-called private owners of carnival”.

Pastor Moss’ letter indicated that the Free National Movement is no better than the Progressive Liberal Party.

“While the Minnis-led FNM government can rightly say that it has separated itself from the Christie-led PLP government and its fiscal irresponsibility regarding carnival, the same claim cannot be made about the moral irresponsibility of carnival.

“Regarding the moral irre-

sponsibility of carnival, Peter (the Minnis-led FNM government) is no better than Paul (the Christie-led PLP government). Both of them see nothing wrong with groups of men and women frolicking in our streets and public spaces and engaging in sexually degrading and lewd conduct.

“Both of them see nothing wrong with the government promoting and facilitating an environment of excessive alcohol consumption and disregard for public decency laws, where virtually naked women erotically wine, gyrate, and have virtual sex in public with characterless men inflamed with lustful passions.

“Yes, regarding the moral irresponsibility of carnival, Peter is no better than Paul,” Pastor Moss said.

Several listeners who called into the Love 97 Issues of the Day show, agreed with the pastor.

“It is facilitating that indeed, I want to applaud Mr. Moss for taking a stand; I wish he had a bigger mic. It is so preposterous and hypocritical of us as Bahamians to condone this kind of thing and I applaud the government for not funding it as well.

“When you look at the level of rape and all these other social ills that come about as a result of things like this and it goes further to the television what the children are seeing, so I want to applaud him.

“I am surprised that the Christian Council is not being vocal as they should be in issues such as this,” the caller said.

One caller said that he considered Carnival “pure evil”.

“Jesus told us to beware of covetousness, because a man’s life, and that goes for country, consists not in abundance of the things which we possess. We grow up in a country where you couldn’t even see a woman’s leg and even in your house you couldn’t look on your parent’s nakedness or even your sister.

“So, for children to be viewing those types of things, in our country and parading on the road like that, that is outrageous,” the caller said.

Yet another caller added that most Bahamians do not support Carnival.

“When it first came out, I remember they were trying to have this conservative type of uniform where you were well covered, but I knew that in a matter of time it was going to change, to that of Trinidad or Brazil.

“See because the nature of the beast, it could not be tamed. The word Carnival comes from the word carnal, which means fleshly, and the nature of the beast cannot be made moral,” the caller said.

However, not all callers to the show agreed with Pastor Moss’ contention that Carnival will bring a moral decline.

“I am just appalled at are

hypocrisy in this matter and many other matters. I think it is becoming cultural, that we seek to choose the things that we want to and the things that we don’t want to which may be equally as bad or even worse. We put under a bushel.

“We have ministers speak against the Carnival, yet in this same beautiful country, where it is better in The Bahamas, we have so many things that are going on that are biblically immoral and it states in plain in big bold letters in the Bible that we shouldn’t do, yet they either harness it, host it or don’t speak out about it,” the caller said.

In closing to the letter, Pastor Moss urged that, “Those of us who belong to Jesus Christ need to pray that God will give us and our leaders a true sense of national, godly shame that we should have about carnival and other evidences of moral decay in our nation”.

Bahamas Carnival is scheduled for this weekend, May 4-6.



Fidelity Bank Apprenticeship Program

Across The Fidelity Group, we are driven by a clear purpose – making a positive difference in the lives of our colleagues so they can make a positive difference in the lives of customers and in the communities we serve! Therefore, in keeping with our guiding principles, and in support of our continued growth, we are seeking to attract PHDs to join our team. Job applicants who are Passionate, Highly Motivated & Driven to Succeed and wish to become Banking and Finance Apprentices should apply.

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- One year in Deposit Administration, Business Development, and Customer Service
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We hire for attitude and potential, then train for skills. So what skills and qualifications will participants need? Because our training is extensive, participants will not need any previous experience in Banking or Finance. However, to succeed in this program requires that you already possess the following attributes:

- Ability to persevere and commit to a three (3) year program
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- An Associate’s Degree with a GPA of 3.0 or above , and four (4) BGCSEs with a ‘C’ grade or above or
- A High School Diploma with a GPA of 2.8 or above , and four (4) BGCSEs with a ‘C’ grade or above and five (5) years working experience in any capacity

Participants will be assessed on a quarterly basis and must meet all the requirements of the program to be retained in the Apprenticeship Program. Come Grow With Us! Because at Fidelity “We’re Good For You!”



PLEASE SUBMIT RESUME AND TRANSCRIPT BEFORE: April 20th, 2018

HUMAN RESOURCES

Re: Apprentice Program

51 Frederick Street | P.O. Box N-4853 | Nassau | F: 328.1108
careers@fidelitybahamas.com

MAN CHARGED WITH ATTEMPTED MURDER

BY LEAH COOPER
Journal Staff Writer

Fifty-seven year old Wilfred Armbrister was arraigned in the Magistrate's Court yesterday in connection with a stabbing on Marshall Road last Friday.

Armbrister of Marshall Road was formally charged with attempted murder in connection

to the incident.

Police responded to a domestic complaint around 11am on April 27th and discovered a woman suffering from injuries.

The woman was taken to hospital and was reported to be in serious condition.

Armbrister was remanded to Bahamas Department of Corrections until 20th June, 2018.

DR. SANDS WELCOMED PAHO DELEGATES AT MINISTRY OF HEALTH RECEPTION



► The Ministry of Health on Monday hosted a Welcome Reception for visiting Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) Delegates attending a Regional Sub-Committee Meeting in The Bahamas. The group held opening day sessions at Atlantis, just prior, addressed by Minister of Health, Dr. the Hon. Duane Sands. The Minister is pictured welcoming the delegates and local health officials to the Reception held at the Ministry. Dr. Merceline Dahl-Regis, former Chief Medical Officer of The Bahamas's Ministry of Health, will receive the prestigious PAHO 'Public Health Hero' Award this evening at Government House, addressed by Prime Minister, Dr. the Hon. Hubert Minnis. PAHO will also have a breakfast meeting with Parliamentarians on Thursday at Atlantis. **(BIS Photos/Raymond A. Bethel, Sr.)**



GOT NEWS?
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▶ Able Seaman Dasmend Bowe and Marine Seaman Philip Hanna, and 3 concerned citizens onboard the abandoned vessel which ran aground. **(RBDF Photos by Marine Seaman Michael Turner)**

DRIFTING FREIGHTER CAUSES DAMAGE

BY LEAH COOPER
Journal Staff Writer

The Royal Bahamas Defense Force Managed to prevent a great amount of damage last Tuesday due to a few quick thinking marines.

Able Seaman Warren

Godet and Marine Seaman Dion Dames assisted with securing one of three Haitian breakaway freighters near Potter's Cay Dock.

After receiving information around 1pm, Patrol Craft P-115 discovered a 68ft freighter drifting east of the Sidney Poitier Bridge.

Attempts were made to anchor the vessel into shallow waters west of the Bay Street Marina.

No one was onboard the freighter, but it reportedly caused some degree of damage to two boats in its path.

The Port Department will be conducting further inves-



▶ Able Seaman Warren Godet and Marine Seaman Dion Dames working hard to secure the freighter before any further damage is caused.



▶ After climbing onboard the abandoned vessel which was adrift, Able Seaman Dasmend Bowe, Chief Petty Officer Pedro Rolle and Marine Seaman Dion Dames (listed as pictured) from the Defence Force Harbour Patrol Unit attempt to secure a rope to tow it away from other vessels in the Nassau Harbour to safety.

BUSINESS OWNERS EXPRESS CONCERNS ON GOV'T INITIATIVE

Continued from / PAGE 1...

Douglas Bain, Owner of Cravings Bakery says, "You can always amend, but you have to start at some point. You have to start somewhere, and the starting point right now is to allow people who have some type of profession to open a business in the Over the Hill area, and allow them to bring whatever they need to bring in duty free."

Further, the local entrepreneur said that while the economic empowerment initiative is a good one, there must be room for the initiative to successfully take place.

"In order to run a successful or to operate a business in this area, it has to be someone who is closing down, going out of business and someone comes along and use that same building to do their business. But as far as extra properties, there is none," said Donald Dorsett, Owner of Dorsett's Food Centre.

Kiffer Morris, Owner of

Englerston Pool Room said, "we can't continue trying to reinvent the wheel with the same established type of businesses we have in each community, meaning that if we say the business initiative is one that would be a new type of business coming into the area; that could probably help and enhance the area also."

"We have to think outside the box when we talk about the initiative that we're talking about, because if you saturate the market then what happens?"

"Too much of anything is not good; too little of anything is also not good. So we have to figure out a balance when it comes to what kind of businesses they're really looking forward to coming into our community," Morris said.

The businessmen also expressed their opinions about foreign business owners in the community.

"We find that most of the businesses around here, the

smaller businesses are owned by the expatriates of this community. They seem to have made inroads in our area. But all the same, persons like myself who operate a business and who have been in business for quite some time, we're holding our own," said Dorsett.

"Notice all the Chinese are moving Over the Hill. There's a reason why they're moving Over the Hill. There's plenty money to be made, but it should be made by people who live a strive in these communities," Bain added.

The objectives of the Over the Hill Initiative are to ensure a safer and cleaner community and to encourage the inclusive economic and social empowerment of residents through community development.

A town hall meeting for The Over the Hill Initiative was held last evening at Bethel Baptist Church, on Meeting Street.

US Embassy Charge d'Affaires Pays Courtesy Call at OPM, Grand Bahama

FREEPORT, Grand Bahama – Minister of State for Grand Bahama in the Office of the Prime Minister, Senator the Hon. J. Kwasi Thompson welcomed Stephanie Bowers, US Embassy Charge d'Affaires, on her first official visit to Grand Bahama, April 27, 2018.

Minister Thompson said the United States is an important partner with The Bahamas, and he was pleased to welcome her to Grand Bahama.

Senator Thompson presented Ms. Bowers with a gift basket and explained its

significance. He said the products were all made in The Bahamas by Bahamians -- produced by participants of the Youth Apiary Programme, which has educated and trained 30 young people in the honey making business, and assisted them in forming companies.

"They are now in the beginning process of selling their products. This is a basket they produced with candles, soaps, honey.... We are very proud of them and we just wanted to present to you something that was made in The Bahamas, by Bahamians."

Ms. Bowers noted while this was her first trip to Grand Bahama, she hoped to be able to meet the young business people. She added that she was honoured to be in Grand Bahama and having recently arrived in The Bahamas, looks forward to continuing the strong partnership between The Bahamas and the United States of America: "I think the United States and The Bahamas have mutually aligned goals, and we look forward to strengthening our partnership and moving forward together," she said.



► **A GIFT FOR YOU** – During her first visit to Grand Bahama, US Embassy Charge d' Affaires, Stephanie Bowers paid a courtesy call on Minister of State for Grand Bahama in the Office of the Prime Minister, Senator the Hon. J. Kwasi Thompson on Friday. Minister Thompson presented Ms. Bowers with a gift basket of Bahamian products made by Youth Apiary Programme participants. The basket contained candles, soap and honey. **(BIS Photo/Lisa Davis)**



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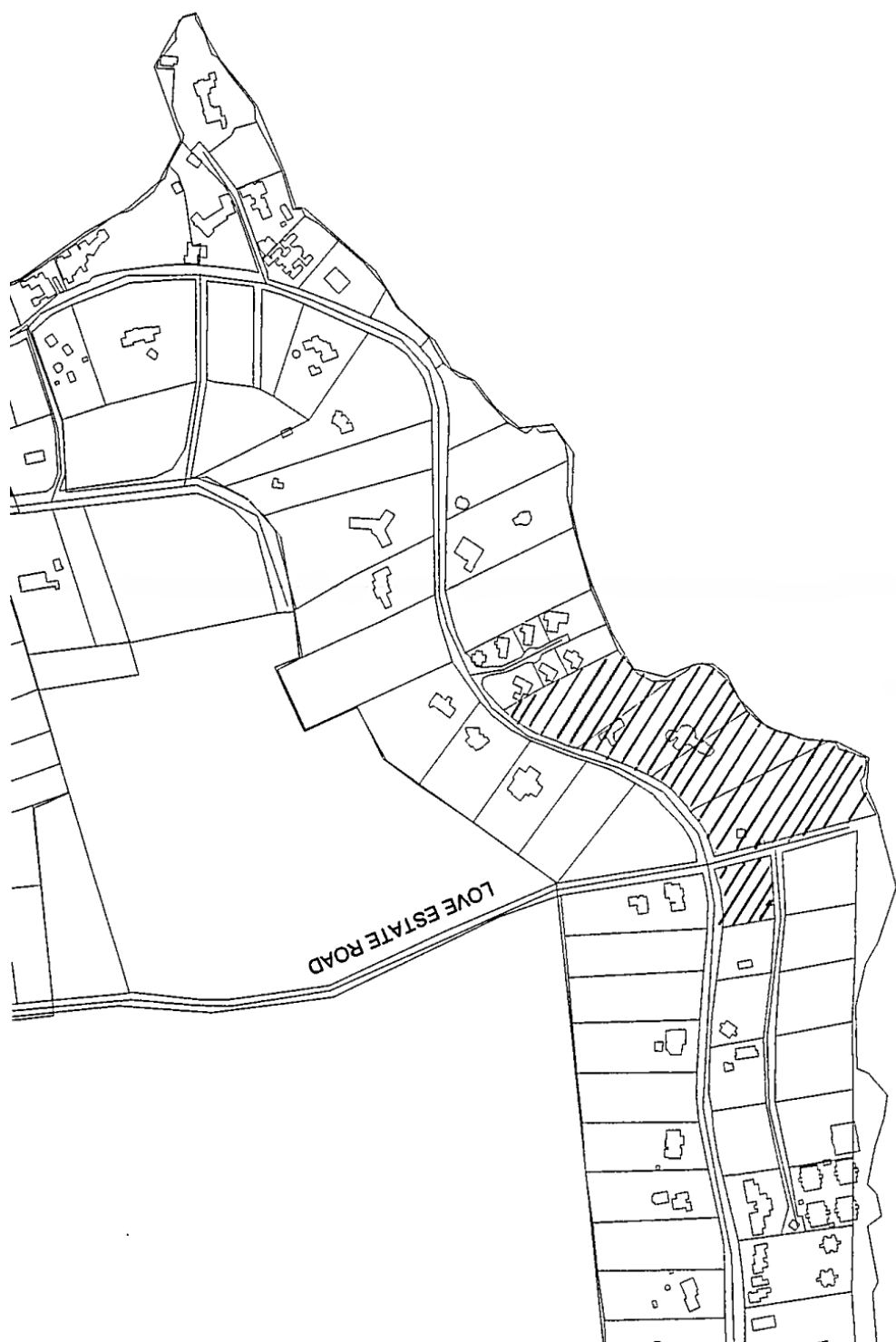
The public is hereby notified that the Town Planning Committee is considering a preliminary application (PSA/55/2018) on behalf of Hucknall Limited and Argon Limited to permit multi-family residential land use on Lots 6,7,8,9 and 10A in Love Estates.

The subject lots are situated on the northern side of West Bay Street and immediately east of Garden of Eden.

The file for the proposed change of land use is available for viewing in the Department of Physical Planning at the Aventura Plaza, John F. Kennedy Drive. Interested persons and organisations are invited to provide written comments to the Acting Director of Physical Planning within twenty-one (21) days of the date of this notice.

Submissions should be made via P.O. Box N-1611, Nassau, The Bahamas, or fax (242)328-3206. Further inquiries should be made to the Acting Director via Tel. (242)322-7550/2 or (242)328-3202 or CHARLESZONICLE@BAHAMAS.GOV.BS

Signed
Charles B. Zonicle
Acting Director of Physical Planning



WILLAMAE RENAE MCKAY SWORN IN AS JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT



► Willamae Renae McKay (left) was sworn in and received her Letter of Appointment as Justice of the Supreme Court from Governor General Her Excellency Dame Marguerite Pindling during a brief ceremony at Government House on Wednesday, May 2, 2018. **(BIS Photos/Letisha Henderson)**

