

STANDARD SERVICES SUPPLIES LTD.
 Shirley & Church Street
 Phone: 322-4635



Shop at STANDARD SERVICES where you could get **20% OFF** Houseware, linen, lamps and draperies, and much, much more

The Bahama Journal

Quo Vadis, Bahamas?

DEAN & ASSOCIATES PROFESSIONAL INSURANCE AGENTS & BROKERS
 "Meeting Your Needs Efficiently and Professionally"



BUILDINGS (COMMERCIAL & RESIDENTIAL)
 LIFE - GROUP - MEDICAL - ANNUITIES - LIABILITY - MARINE - HOMEOWNERS - AUTO

Tel: (242)-356-0986 Fax: (242)-356-0987
 Deal's Plaza, Mackey Street
 P.O. Box CB-13952 Nassau, Bahamas
 8:30am - 4:30pm

VOL. 30 - NO. 171

TUESDAY - JUNE 19TH, 2018

75 CENTS

"Budget of Betrayal"

Opposition Leader Philip Davis says the Prime minister's attempt "to justify the unconscionable and massive increase in taxes on the backs of ordinary Bahamians, fell abysmally flat."

In a statement released after the Prime Minister spoke in the House of Assembly winding up the budget debate, Mr. Davis said the contribution by Doctor Hubert Minnis "was most unimpressive and lacked a basic grasp of his own budgetary initiatives and what underlying economic principles informed such programs. It represented a complete about face from his campaign promises recalling that taxing is the lazy way out."

"This is not the People's budget. This is not the People's time."

"The thrust of his contribution is in stark contrast with that of the budget communication and the contribution by his Minister of Finance. The only common denominator between the two being to blame the PLP, continuing the campaign political rhetoric," said Mr. Davis.

See BETRAYAL / page 2...



► Opposition Leader Philip Davis

DAVIS: VAT Increase Oppresses Poor And Provides For Rich

Opposition Leader Philip 'Brave' Davis says he cannot support the presentation of the 2018/2019 budget as its various increases in areas like VAT only oppresses the poor and provides for the rich.

He noted that the increases in VAT being proposed is 'symtomatic' to the disease of mismanagement, but not the root cause. The root cause, he explained, is more frightening as it is simply the inability of those who have responsibility for the Bahamian people's fiscal well-being, to manage it in a responsible manner. Therefore, Davis said as a responsible Opposition, his party cannot support any of

the increases which have been proposed as it oppresses the poor and provides for the rich.

"Without notice and without consultation, the government has increased VAT to 12 per cent, a whopping 60 per cent and cannot explain credibly why it has had to do so," he said. "The Government says it met unpaid bills of around \$750 million, but has gone out and raised \$2 billion. It is the worst of times because the government cannot credibly explain what it has done with these borrowed funds."

See POOR AND PROVIDES FOR RICH on PAGE 2...

"VAT INCREASE PROTECTS BAHAMIANS", SAYS PM

BY JAMEELHA MISSICK
 Journal Staff Writer

Prime Minister Dr. Hubert Minnis outlined the various options that the government had on Value Added Tax (VAT), saying that it took a decision to protect future generations. He spent a full three plus hours wrapping up debate on the 2018/2019 budget, which has found both the opposition and several government MP's declaring that they cannot in good conscience support the government's bid to increase

VAT to 12 per cent from 7.5 per cent come July 1st.

Free National Movement Long Island MP Adrian Gibson's suggested the government forestall the hike until perhaps the third or fourth quarter of the fiscal year.

However, the government showed no signs of leaning in that direction.

The Prime Minister yesterday, sought to lay to rest arguments against upping value added tax.

See BAHAMIANS / page 2...



► Prime Minister, Dr. the Hon. Hubert Minnis making his Contribution to the 2018/2019 National Budget in the House of Assembly, June 18, 2018. (BIS Photo/Yontalay Bowe)

PM TO MPs: "VOTE YOUR CONSCIENCE"

BY JAMEELHA MISSICK
 Journal Staff Writer

It has been no secret, the Minnis administration has received fierce push back to its decision to increase Value Added Tax (VAT) and that came from outside and inside the governing party; particularly from Free National Movement Members of Parliament Reece Chipman, Vaughn Miller, Frederick McAlpine and Travis Robinson. In hopes of getting the Members of Parliament to see things his way, Prime Minister Doctor Hubert Minnis yesterday urged MPs to vote their conscience, charging that a no vote means sacrificing the future of the country.

"If your conscience tells you that you do not want a future for young people, then you will vote no," he said.

"Much of this budget may not be expedient, nor popular, nor safe, nor politic, but conscience tells me that we are doing the right thing for the

people that I love, with all my heart and soul.

"We are doing the right thing for current and future generations," he added.

The Prime Minister stressed that the budget is not about VAT, but more about the future of Bahamians.

However, the opposition contended that Dr. Minnis has failed to persuade even his own backbenchers to vote yes.

"It is clear that they have not been able to persuade their back benchers that what they're doing is right, and I dare say that there are a number of them who are sitting right in there, had it been for any other reason probably were saying no to themselves, said PLP Leader, Philip Davis.

"I'm happy that he called on the conscience, and see whether or not those people will yield toward what their conscience is telling them today," he added.

See CONSCIENCE / page 2...

RBDF IN SEARCH OF POACHERS

BY JAMEELHA MISSICK
 Journal Staff Writer

The search is on for a group of Dominican poachers.

Crewmembers aboard the HMBS Durward Knowles were on routine patrol in the southern Bahamas when they came across a 50ft vessel in the Great Bahama Bank.

On board were four Dominican fishermen along with a quantity of fish.

At last report, authorities were searching for the other poachers who reportedly left the area on several skiffs.

Saturday's apprehension follows the arrest of two drug suspects along with the

discovery of 168 pounds of marijuana, an estimated street value of \$168,000.

The suspects have since pleaded not guilty to the crime.

The duo was remanded to The Bahamas Department of Correctional Services.

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

POLICE PROBE DROWNING INCIDENT

Police are investigating the drowning of a child that occurred shortly after 3:00pm yesterday.

According to reports, a male child was at the beach at Arawak Cay, along with a family member and other children. As the family was about to leave, they discovered the child missing. A search of the beach was made and the child was discovered lying face down at the water's edge. Paramedics responded to the scene and transported the child to hospital in critical condition; however, he was pronounced dead a short time later. Investigations are ongoing.



ACDelco

The 'way to go' batteries.

- 12 month warranty
- Meets or exceeds manufacturer's specifications
- Available for most passenger vehicles and light-duty trucks

AVAILABLE THROUGHOUT THE BAHAMAS.

NMC PARTS DEPARTMENT • Shirley Street • 302-0130 partsorder@nassaumotor.com • www.acdelcobahamas.com



LOVE CASH N'GO

CASH N'GO 322-CASH (2274) simplycashngo.com

STAY WITH THE FOLKS YOU KNOW.

- PAY BILLS • SEND MONEY
- PURCHASE AIRLINE TICKETS
- PAY INSURANCE
- VISA PAYMENTS

“Budget of Betrayal”

Continued from / PAGE 1...

“This is not about the PLP, it is about the FNM and Dr. Hubert Minnis’ lack of ability to govern. It is about the obstinance and arrogance of this administration not to yield to the voices of reason that is now a crescendo from all aspects of the community.

“There has been no support for what they

are doing. This budget oppresses the poor by unconscionably increasing VAT by 60 per cent and provided no credible basis for doing so. This is borne out by all former Ministers of Finance who have all cast doubt on the approach of the FNM. The Minister of Finance has cast aspersions on all former Ministers of Finance by suggesting that they were all fiscally irresponsible and not trans-

parent. Last year the FNM gave millions of dollars of revenues to large companies with turnovers of above 50 million dollars and now they are refunding millions of dollars to multinationals. Now the Bahamian people must pay for this,” said the leader of the Progressive Liberal Party.

He said, “the only fact is that the Bahamian people will be taxed more than they can bear.

12 percent VAT. A discriminatory tax against gaming operators. The fixing of the economy for the rich. His tax increases support giveaways for the rich. No news for Grand Bahama to help them up off the ground and there are heavier burdens for the poor.

This budget is a colossal betrayal of the Bahamian people, that will lead to a double dip recession,” said Mr. Davis.

DAVIS: VAT Increase Oppresses Poor And Provides For Rich

Continued from / PAGE 1...

Davis warned that an increase of 12 per cent in VAT will result in an increase in hotel operational costs, driving up room rates and food and beverages prices. “I note that the minister is postponing the 12 per cent effect until for this sector,” he informed. “The fact that this postponement was necessary

speaks volumes of the ineptness of your decision making process and incompetence in not being able to discern the impact that decision will have on the industry.”

The Cat Island, Rum Cay and San Salvador MP said investors are looking for jurisdictions where they can make a profit and where the cost of doing business is reasonable. This, he added, was

exactly the course in which the PLP administration was headed when they implemented VAT at 7.5per cent.

In fact, he revealed that the PLP government had been able to arrest the challenges of revenue growth which it met when taking office in 2012 by the successful introduction of VAT at 7.5 per cent. He stressed that it was this new form of taxation by

the PLP that can point to a progressive reduction of the deficit.

“I say....that the focus on tax increase, in particular the outrageous increase in VAT, runs a high risk of reducing economic growth and the real possibility of plunging The Bahamas into a recession, a double-dip recession if you will,” he said. “It is a proven

fact of economics that tax increases in a flat economy always leads to a slow down and a down turn in economic growth.”

The increased taxes on Bahamians as proposed by the FNM government, he pointed out, will have a negative impact on their disposable income. This, he continued, together with a low eco-

nomical growth, will result in there being a substantial shortfall in VAT projections.

The FNM government, he advised, should create a better plan as their rush to balance this budget through the policy instrument of taxation, is unfortunately being done at the expense of increased human hardship and suffering.

“VAT INCREASE PROTECTS BAHAMIANS”, SAYS PM

Continued from / PAGE 1...

His reason was that there are very few feasible options available within the time-frame required to fully address a fiscal gap of the country’s magnitude.

“We would have looked at doing nothing, what impact it would have had on our country, that was not an option. We would have destroyed our future generations, Minnis said.

“We would have looked at 10 per cent and the result was still not good for future generations, the result may have been good for us, but was bad for the future.

“We looked at 15, that was not an option, that is too much a pain for anybody to burden and we looked at 12 but we realized there would be some challenges even with 12, but we know how to overcome those challenges,” said the Prime Minister.

The 4.5 per cent hike in VAT is key to

the government’s three-year plan to eliminate its arrears, provide the right budgeting for known commitments, funding for its socio-economic growth agenda, significant reductions in customs and excise duties in the second and third years of the plan and attain critical deficit targets.

The Prime Minister, however, accepts that a sharp contraction in economic activity, as a result of the VAT increase, is not inevitable.

“Any possible temporary impact needs to be weighed against the potential negative effects of not closing the fiscal gap and meeting the deficit target, thereby facing the prospects of further downgrades in our credibility and credit rating, he said.

“We should also not lose sight of the fact that the government has been mindful in the development of its plan to provide tax relief to the most vulnerable of our society,” he added.

BAHAMAS AND MEXICO PARTICIPATE IN MONDAY'S TRADEWINDS 2018 MILITARY DRILL



Trade Winds 2018 military training participants from the Royal Bahamas Defence and Police Forces, and Mexico, performed a drill with the scenario of a possible car bomb attack on June 18, 2018, in Nassau, The Bahamas. The uniformed forces drilled on area protection, searching suspicious vehicles, detaining and pursuing opposition personnel, and providing assistance and protection to injured comrade. Trade Winds 2018 is an annual regional military training exercise that is being held in The Bahamas June 14-21; this year's exercise focuses on Countering Transnational Organized crime in the region. The main objective of the military event is to foster training for security forces that is “tailored for the region by the region,” and is sponsored by the United States Southern Command. Twenty-two partner nations of the Caribbean region, wider Americas and Western Europe comprising over 800 troops are participating in the exercise. The Bahamas last hosted the event in 2009. (BIS Photo/Eric Rose)

PM TO MPs: “VOTE YOUR CONSCIENCE”

Continued from / PAGE 1...

“Obviously it appears to be some messaging to the back benchers, but it was interesting how the reference to his conscience rose to the

top and then the pressure appears to have come to bear on those who were saying they’re going according to their conscience,” said Member of Parliament for Englerston, Glenys Hanna-

Martin.

“So we’ll see how the conscience thing plays out upstairs.”

The Progressive Liberal Party MPs said they are voting no to all tax increases.



MINISTRY OF FINANCE

PUBLIC NOTICE

The public is hereby notified that a Public Auction will be conducted by the Customs Department on non-entered goods at the places and times listed below:-

No.	LOCATIONS	DATES	TIMES
1	Airfreight (GFT)	18 th July, 2018	9:00am – 12:30pm
2.	Airfreight LPIA (GFT)	18 th July, 2018	9:00am – 12:30pm
3.	Airfreight Odyssey (GFT)	18 th July, 2018	9:00am – 12:30pm
4.	Tropical Shipping - John Alfred Dock (GFT)	18 th July, 2018	2:00pm – 5:00pm
5.	MSC – Arawak Cay (GFT)	19 th July, 2018	9:00am – 12:30pm
6.	Mailboat – Arawak Cay (GFT)	19 th July, 2018	9:00am – 12:30pm
7.	Betty K. – Arawak Cay (GFT)	19 th July, 2018	2:00pm – 5:00pm
VEHICLES (NEW PROVIDENCE) CUSTOMS HEADQUARTERS			
8.	Betty K – Kelly’s Dock – Arawak Cay (HQ)	20 th July, 2018	9:30am – 12:30pm
9.	Inchape Shipping (HQ)	20 th July, 2018	9:30am – 12:30pm
10.	Island Maritime (HQ)	20 th July, 2018	9:30am – 12:30pm
11.	United Shipping (HQ)	20 th July, 2018	2:00pm – 5:00pm
12.	R. H. Curry & Co. Ltd. (HQ)	20 th July, 2018	2:00pm – 5:00pm
ARAWAK CAY			
13.	Mailboat – Fiesta Mail (Arawak Cay)	23 rd July, 2018	10:00am – 5:00pm
FAMILY ISLAND			
14.	George Town, EXUMA	16 th July, 2018	10:00am – 5:00pm
15.	Marsh Harbour, ABACO	25 th July, 2018	10:00am – 5:00pm
16.	Governor’s Harbour, ELEUTHERA	30 th July, 2018	10:00am – 5:00pm
17.	Matthew Town, INAGUA	2 nd August, 2018	10:00am – 5:00pm

The above goods will be sold under the Provision of Section 201 of the Customs Management Act and the Auction will commence at 9:00 am daily with the exception of

Tropical Shipping, Betty K. Agencies, Arawak Cay (GFT), which will commence at 2:00 pm.

Vehicles (New Providence) Customs Headquarters, will commence at 9:30 am daily with the exception of Fiesta Mail, Arawak Cay East which will commence at 10:00 am. United Shipping and R.H. Curry & Co. Ltd will commence at 2:00 pm.

Family Islands will commence at 10:00 am daily.

A list of the goods to be auctioned can be viewed at Customs Headquarters, Betty K. Agencies, Gladstone Road Freight Terminal, Air Freight, Arawak Cay East.

The right is reserved to accept or reject any or all bids tendered.

Marlon Johnson
(Acting) FINANCIAL SECRETARY

New Crop Box Technology Introduced To Bahamian Agricultural Sector

(Editor's Note: The following are the remarks of Mr. Godfrey Eneas, President of Collective Development Cooperation at a seminar held recently to introduce new Crop Box Technology to the Bahamian Agricultural Sector. The one-day seminar was held in the in the Media Theatre of Jones Communications Network on University Drive.

Also making special presentations were Dr. Omar Thomas and Mr. David Feng of Collective Development Corporation. Attendees included the President of BAMS, Mr. Tennyson Wells and other members of the Bahamian Agricultural community).

"The Bahamas, as an archipelago, is challenged, like most Small Island Developing States (SIDS) in this Region, the Pacific and the Indian Ocean, with the reality of Climate Change. Our geographical location has made us vulnerable to the threats of hurricanes, which seem to be intensifying each year, Tropical storms, extreme temperatures, flooding, drought, invasive pests and diseases which wreaked havoc on our flora and fauna, sea level rise. Coastal erosion resulting from these natural disasters has inflicted considerable damage to coastal infrastructure like roads, residences and buildings on many of our islands.

In today's Bahamas, the food production season is ill defined. Fifty years ago when I was appointed an Agricultural Officer in the Department of Agriculture, farmers knew the growing season. Our small farmers were practitioners of traditional farming which was based on a labour intensive, pot-hole technology in the Southeastern Bahamas. Their source of information was either from indigenous knowledge, from

McDonald's Almanac or, as some did, planted by the moon and the tide. There was no extension service to introduce them to new farming practices or technologies.

Growing Season

Because of the predictability of our growing season, an OFFSHORE FARMING industry developed here as Florida agribusinesses sought the sub-tropical climate of The Bahamas as an environmentally secure locale for the production of winter vegetables and citrus in order to hedge against the possibilities of freezes in Florida. These OFF-SHORE growers introduced the new technology of mechanized farming which they had developed in the Pine areas around Homestead in South Florida. The technology was successful transferred to The Bahamas by these Off-shore growers thereby making our Pine Forests in the Northern Bahamas the most agriculturally productive locale in our archipelago. This resulted in the adoption of mechanized farming by Bahamian farmers on the Pine Islands of Andros, Abaco and Grand

Bahama.

Today in the era of Climate Change, the production season is unpredictable. I will give you some examples. Andros and Abaco have been experiencing cold winter nights with low temperatures in January and February, this has retarded growth and development of bananas and papaya. There have been unseasonal winter rains in the Northern Bahamas. Two or three years ago, 100 acres of onions were flooded out as result of winter rains. In addition, farmers lost their tomato crop and BAMS lost its five acre pineapple crop.

The climatic disruption to banana production sensitized us to revitalize banana production on Eleuthera and Long Island where banana production had been stifled for years as result of hurricane damages and the unavailability of improved planting material to offset the devastation of Black sigatoka to the banana fields.

In Long Island, salt intrusion has set back production substantially. Last year, L.I. was cut in half at the mid-section of the Island because of flooding from the hurricane causing salt water

dispersal in farming areas.

South Eleuthera has been facing drought conditions and pineapple and tomato production which have been staple small farmer cash crops are in serious decline.

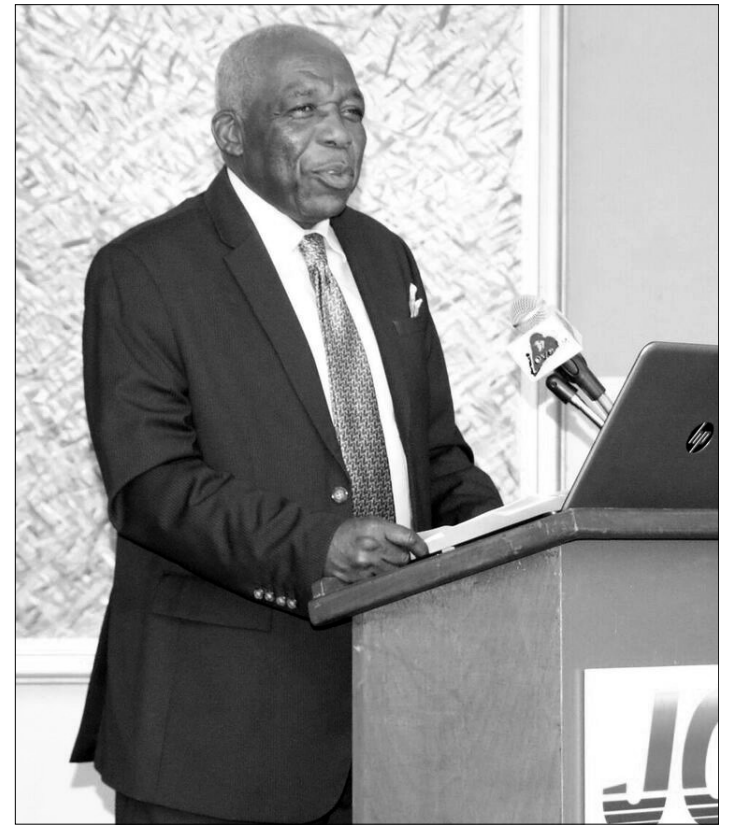
Agriculturally, Cat Island today is at the same technology level as it was when I joined the Department fifty years ago. High temperatures, droughts and invasive pest and diseases like Black sigatoka have threatened subsistence farming. In most of these islands and Cat Island in particular, women are the farmers. Technology has left these islands behind.

State of Food Production

When the Europeans arrived in 1492, they met the Tainos and Arawaks engaged in shifting cultivation. In the SE Bahamas that system is still prevalent in many farming communities and farmers in these communities do not want their children to follow in their footsteps as farmers.

In 1978 the first Census of Agriculture revealed that there were 9700 people engaged in Agricultural Sector. The 1994 Census of Agriculture showed a decline to 6900 and by 2012 it down to 1500.

The Sector has shrunk to a state where there is virtually no Layer or egg production, one broiler facility of Abaco, no citrus production on Abaco and Andros, no commercial food processing facilities to create value



▶ Mr. Godfrey Eneas

added from tomato, pigeon peas, guava and pepper crops as the Sector remains a fresh crop producer. Plus, there has been a dramatic drop in crop acreage from almost 90,000 acres in '78 to 50,000 acres in '94 to less than 10,000 in 2012. This is what the Christie Government inherited, hence the establishment of BAMS. This situation stems from the fact that our Agricultural Sector has lacked policy direction and not technologically driven.

If we as a people are serious about achieving food and nutrition security for our country, we have look at the above scenario dispassionately and analytically. Realistically at this juncture

in our socio-economic development, we will never get back to '78 level of 90,000 acres in crop production when the population of The Bahamas was about 250,000 and the economy was receiving 1.7 million visitors. Today the population is about 400,000 and there are between 7.5 and 8 million visitors.

The cost of developing 90,000 acres is prohibitive. The only mechanism to achieve at a minimum the '78 level is through technology.

The purpose of BAMS was to fix this scenario via the exposure of our young people to new technologies. The last major infusion of new technology was by American OFFSHORE agribusinesses in winter vegetable and citrus production respectively, a quarter of a century ago.

Food production is one of the most technologically driven sciences today. The world is calling for a second green revolution to feed billions. Currently the global population is 7.3 billion, in 12 years (2030) the population will increase to 8.5 billion and by 2050 there will be 9.7 billion humans on this planet.

Feeding The Global Population

How will they be fed? The amount of arable land is declining and falling out of production. Millions in China, India, Brazil, Sub-Saharan Africa, Asia and Latin America are graduating out of poverty into the middle-class, hence there is a global dietary change taking place and there will be a greater demand for the same foods that we eat.

The global population will be fed through new technologies like the Crop Box. Dr. Norman Borlaug's first green revolution centred around gene manipulation to produce high yielding crops in conjunction with chemical fertilizers and synthetic herbicides and pesticides. Gene manipulation influenced the development of genetically modified organisms (GMO) in a range of commodities. That breakthrough technology changed the economic development paradigm of India and China, the two most populous countries in the world as they were now able to feed millions.



▶ Members of the Bahamian agricultural community and the general public attended the one-day seminar on Crop Box Technology.



► Minister of National Security the Hon. Marvin Dames speaks, on June 17, 2018, during a press conference addressing law enforcement's response to recent homicides and other crimes, at the Paul Farquharson Conference Centre, Police Headquarters. Pictured (from left) are Commissioner of Police Anthony Ferguson, Minister Dames, Acting Permanent Secretary Eugene Poitier and Commander of the Royal Bahamas Defence Force Commodore Tellis Bethel. **(BIS Photo/Eric Rose)**

Minister Dames States Law Enforcement Response to Recent Homicides

BY ERIC ROSE

Minister of National Security the Hon. Marvin Dames said, on June 17, 2018,

that the recent string of murders over the past two weeks, including that morning's homicide, must be very alarming to the Bahamian public, and right-

fully so.

"The loss of any human life is a tragic and heartbreaking experience particular for family members and, at this time, I would like to extend my condolences and that of the Bahamas Government to families of all victims of violence in this country," Minister Dames said, during a press conference at the Paul Farquharson Conference Centre, Police Headquarters. "Rest assured that the Royal Bahamas Police Force, and all law enforcement agencies, has the full support of the Ministry of National Security and by extension the Government of The Bahamas in providing necessary human capital and resources in the fight against crime fight."

■ See **HOMICIDES** on PAGE 7...

Post Office Workers Under Stress

BYTIA THOMPSON
Journal Staff Writer

Another day of no lights and heat at the East Hill post office. It is no secret that staff members of the East Hill post office location have undergone stress in an unpleasant working environment.

Over the years they had to contend with leaking ceilings, rat infestation and constant power outages. The plan for betterment of the employees at the East Hill location is to relocate the building and its staff to the Gladstone road area where the old Phil's food store once was.

Even though the post office has already reduced its hours to be opened until 2pm instead of 5pm, the east hill location had its staff go home yesterday at 11 am because of another power outage.

They were given instructions to return to work this morning in hopes that the generator will be back up and running.

In April 2018, Transport and Local government Minister Frankie Campbell said that the relocation of the general post office to an existing building on Gladstone road will be nowhere near as costly as pumping money into the many fixtures at the current location.

Mr. Campbell, in April said that it would take \$4.5million to fix the existing facility and twice as much as that to purchase another location they had in mind.

The issues at the post office go beyond the constant malfunctions, it's the time frame that is being taken to better these conditions.

UB STUDENTS GET ASSISTANCE

BYTIA THOMPSON
Journal Staff Writer

The University of the Bahamas will be providing financial backing for students that are unable to afford the expense of attending the prestigious university. Making good on this promise, Prime Minister Hubert Minnis announced that UB students who meet certain entry requirements will receive free tuition. This will take effect as of Fall 2019. The details about this venture are being kept secret until more planning are finalized.

The Prime Minister said, "this major investment in education will help scores of young people to realize their dreams as we build a more effortful society..." and that while talent is evenly distributed, opportunities are not. He ensures that all citizens will have fair opportunities regardless of their financial

background.

The FNM has made provisions to assist family islanders who find it equally difficult to afford accommodation while attending the university. This arrangement does not exclude UB students who rather rent apartments or share facilities.

He said, "qualifying students from family islands will be afforded \$500 a month for an accommodation allowance and UB will maintain its proper housing register ensuring that homes which students reside meets safety and other requirements."

The Prime Minister noted that this new housing register will increase housing opportunities for students. With this now venture and the free tuition at the Bahamas Technical and Vocational Institute, all Bahamians will now have to the chance to further their education and experience university.



SPOTLIGHT ON BAIN GRANTS TOWN

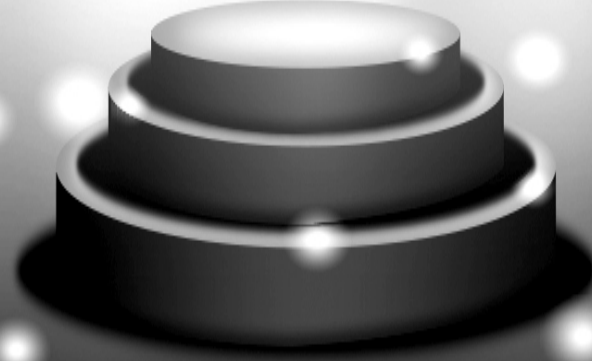
THURSDAYS 7:30 P.M.
SATURDAYS 9:00 A.M.

LOVE 97

HOST; REV. DR. C. B. MOSS

THE MOST UNIQUE SHOW ON RADIO

DON'T MISS IT



ALL THE PERKS OF COMFORT SUITES, ALL THE PLAY OF ATLANTIS...



There is no place quite like Comfort Suites Paradise Island. Our guests, whether traveling for business or leisure, enjoy the best of both worlds. Steps away from the world famous Atlantis Paradise Island, we provide all the recognizable amenities of the Comfort Suites brand, in addition to exclusive access to the Atlantis. Comfort Suites Paradise Island is well suited for the relaxed family vacation, and also offers all the necessities of modern business travel. Our award winning property, with unique value added amenities, is truly the Gem of Paradise Island.

- Complimentary access to all pools, the spectacular water parks, pristine beaches and activities at neighboring Atlantis.
- Complimentary full American buffet breakfast
- High Speed free Wi-Fi access in all rooms and public spaces
- Newly renovated, air-conditioned junior suites with parlor lounge, pull out sofa bed and your choice of king or double beds.
- Value added amenities include free parking, free in-room safe, 32 in. flat screen tv's, mini in-room refrigerators, fully equipped business center and coin operated laundry facilities.
- A la carte lunch and dinner prepared by our award-winning chefs available at our very own Crusoe's Restaurant where indoor & outdoor dining awaits. Swim up service available at our Pool Bar

The ultimate vacation or business trip awaits. Join us and experience All the Perks of Comfort Suites and All the Play of Atlantis.



Comfort Suites Paradise Island
For Reservations Call (242) 363-3680
www.comfortsuitespi.com
Email: info@comfortsuitespi.com



WHEN YOUR BUSINESS IS IN TROUBLE

The 2018 series salutes fashion mogul Peter Nygård's Golden Jubilee detailing his rags to riches story and incredible business success over these past fifty years. The Clifton Review will take an inside look at how he did it.

Are you facing business challenges and looking to change course but you're unsure where to begin?

Having an agile business to be able to change course in business is a solution. The business facing high risks is the problem. So before you get to the point of changing course and ensuring your business is agile enough to do so, you have to be sure that you are properly assessing the risks that you might be facing.

Risk assessments can involve simple basic considerations or entail a very comprehensive look at your business conditions. Either way, it requires an analytical review.

In assessing business risks, there are various types of risks to consider: Examples include,

- **Direct threats to the viability of the business—like market conditions**
- **Business threats impacting the financial wellbeing of the individual**
- **Business threats to the physical, mental and emotional wellbeing of the individual.**

The reason distinctions matter is that it can impact your business decisions and thus, the business. You may have launched a business that may be facing challenges to keep it going financially, but you may have deep pockets so there is little risk to your personal financial wellbeing. On the other hand, you could be personally risking everything financially.

Another example of why the distinctions are important to consider is in a situation where you are absolutely essential to the business and it requires you to work twenty hours, for example, to keep the business going. That is not sustainable physically, mentally or emotionally for a long period of time and therefore, presents a risk to the survival of the business also.

In addition, there are several levels of risk: Is the risk being considered,

- **A Low-Level Risk**
- **A Mid-level Risk**
- **A High-Level Risk**

For example, if your business is in trouble and losing money, that aspect may be a low to mid-level risk if you have deep pockets. While

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.

nobody likes to lose money, there is less of an impact if the loss of that money does not impact your ability to care for yourself or your family, and may not weigh as heavily on the decisions that you make about the business.

Conversely, if you've invested your life's savings into your business with no additional income at your disposal with a wife and five children to take care of financially, your business failing financially is an extremely high risk. Everything is on the line financially and will affect your decisions accordingly.

So all of the various factors are to be considered when assessing risk. In terms of how this applies to a business, here's an example:

If you are already contributing 20 hours a day to making your business work, but you are facing challenges that require you to change course, you should know that whatever strategies you consider should not require you to work even more hours. That is a recipe for failure.

It is of paramount importance to understand the risk factors before deciding on strategy for improving your business prospects.

To illustrate, when fashion mogul Peter Nygard saw a threat to his business viability in the late 80s and early 90s because polyester, from the department stores' perspective, was no longer en vogue, as the 'King of Polyester' he had to consider all of the risk factors to his business.

He knew that he was facing risks on two fronts: Going along with the department stores meant he might lose his customer base who loved his polyester pants. Not going along with the department store meant he might lose out on store space for his products.

His strategy idea was to open his own retail stores. Nygard knew from his intuition that the key to his success was with his core customer base and opening his own stores was necessary, but no department store would allow him to compete with them and also continue selling his clothes.

This compounded the risk and presented a dilemma. So what did he do? Find out next time.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Minnis Government "DOES NOT CARE FOR THE POOR"!

Dear Editor,

I confess that I supported the FNM and believed everything that Hubert Minnis said. He promised that they would make life better for all. He even used his fictitious story about him being poor. We all know his father was one of the few successful business black businessmen for decades.

But after hearing Minnis paint such a grim picture of the PLP, I convinced my family and friends to vote FNM. He said all PLP was corrupt.

Today he has "heaped more taxes" on our backs, even when he fired my sister who is a single mother of four.

HE lied that the PLP could not find the VAT money. WHICH IS A LIE! He has lied about many things.

He lied about BAHAMAR TOO!

Now he plans to DROWN US IN MORE TAXES.

He sat right there and allow HELICOPTERS AND AIRPLANES to be "Duty free!" But he did not make used cars duty free. He refused to make fruits and vegetables duty free.

HE DOES NOT CARE FOR THE POOR.

So Thursday 14 June, me, my children, family and friends marched. We will not

be voting FNM this time.

Minnis could care less about us from over the hill. He is busy helping his RICH WHITE FRIENDS.

Any FNM who cannot see that they are being shafted will feel it sooner or later. "But if I only did know" - always comes too late!

We will not be fooled by spin doctors. We know better. Minnis must not be allowed to do any more damage to this country.

I am embarrassed to be an FNM. Don't be fooled, many FNM was on the march. MANY

Sandra Cleare-Thompson
An FNM.

The Bahama Journal Is An Independent Newspaper - Published Week Days
By The Communicators & Associates In Affiliation With Jones Communications Ltd.

East St. North - P.O. Box N-8610
Telephone: 242-325-3082 - Fax: 242 -356-7256

The Bahama
Journal
Quo Vadis, Bahamas?

Wendall K. Jones
Publisher/Chief Executive Officer

Kimaley P. Jones
Vice President Operations

E D I T O R I A L

STRATEGIES & RESULTS

The current administration like the one it displaced is now battling issues which are so deeply embedded and entrenched in our country that blame as they might each other, the facts show that they both have been and continue to be stymied by thugs of many stripes, some sophisticated and others decidedly crude, coming and going.

These are the dread ones who would shoot a man in eye, in the head or if needs be—straight through the heart—BLAM-BLAM—“YOU DEAD!”

And thus today: If ever we could or would say we knew one thing that matters it would be that conclusion which preaches and shouts that no matter what the police do or not do in their so-called 'war' against street-level thugs and gangsters, nothing of any real value will come of these efforts, strategies and clever tactics so long as they either refuse or fail to deal with criminals ensconced in their suites.

No matter what any minister might wish the public believe, the fact remains: -- Today's crime-challenged Bahamas has achieved a most dubious distinction which is most concerning; with that alarm to the effect that: -- "...AN international travel site has listed The Bahamas as the sixth out of ten most dangerous places for unaccompanied women travellers to visit..."

The name of that travel site is Trip.com which -- lo and behold -- listed The Bahamas just behind Peru and ahead of Colombia on its "Least Safe Countries for Solo Female Travellers.

Of some real concern is that: -- The survey noted while women travellers reported "no issues" and encountered "very friendly people" in The Bahamas, it is "better" for them to "stay in populated areas".

If ever there was a no-brainer available; this advice is it, hands down.

It is on this note irony-laden that: -- We note some of what The Hon. Marvin Dames has to say about crime, with especial reference and focus on the incidence of street-level thuggery, itself umbilical-linked to criminal wrong-doing perpetrated from the heights, so to speak.

Of some note is the fact that: -- Dames is clearly one of the more loquacious members in today's People's Time Free National Movement-dominated administration.

And thus today, we can echo some of the news

he brought some police-friendly information to the attention of the public.

Here we suspect that, Dames is himself persuaded that if he could just list some of the all he and his colleagues are about as they take on the gangsters who would rape, steal, maraud and even kill, if that was their wish.

And thus, just recently: -- Mr. Dames announced the planned enrolment of some 105 new recruits, the roll out of a new crime reporting app, the long-awaited roll out of the Marco's Alert planned for this week, and the incorporation of new crime fighting equipment.

And with this, the Minister of National Security Minister Marvin Dames [also] announced a series of new crime fighting strategies geared towards the blanket coverage of specific hotspot areas in New Providence.

Thus we now know, there are so-called hotspot areas in New Providence!

Perhaps like the shanty-town eradication project, what is to be rolled out has been depicted as being geared towards the so-called blanket coverage of specific hotspot areas in New Providence.

And as if all of this eloquently phrased stuff was not enough, Minister Dames announced the purchase of an updated fleet of squad cars valued at \$6.9m.

As grandiose as all of this might appear, this is all part and parcel of a plethora of other such beefing-up of the force; this notwithstanding Dames' recitation as to how "...The Royal Bahamas Police Force's recently published Manpower Audit, which noted that for every 100 officers recruited and deployed there should be a three percent decrease in crime statistics..."

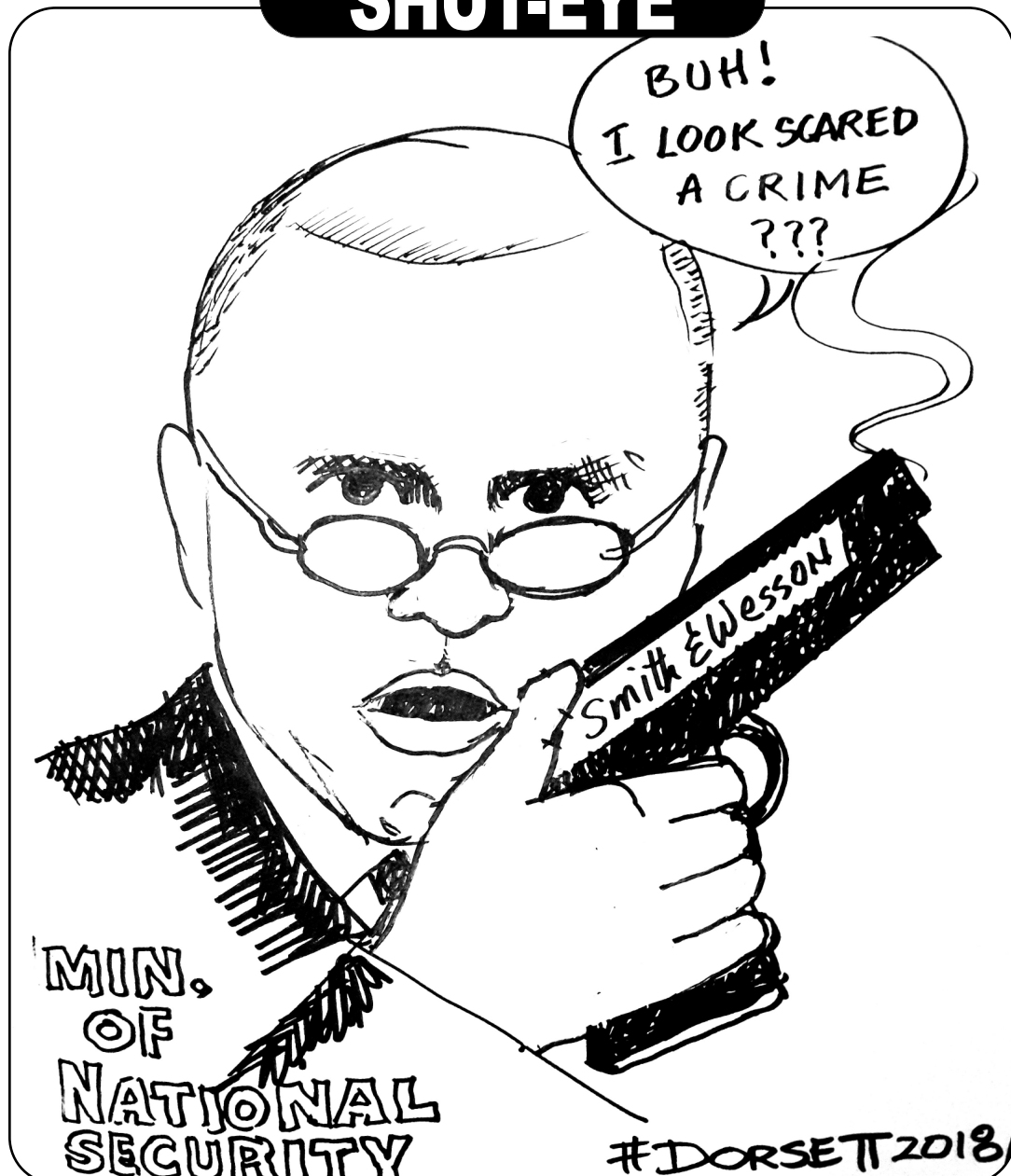
And with that point made, Dames could freely contend that: -- "More personnel, paired with cutting-edge technology [all] working in tandem, law enforcement agencies are consistently making inroads to cut crime..."

As far as talking points are concerned, assertions such as the above-captioned stuff about making so-called inroads are just so much syrupy stuff.

In the meanwhile, thugs on the street do their killing, raping and robbery-tinged escapades!

As it was in the past, so too in these dread times: -- Same strategies---Same results!

SHUT-EYE



New Crop Box Technology Introduced To Bahamian Agricultural Sector

Continued from / PAGE 3...

In the 2016 Global Agricultural Productivity Report which was produced by the US based Global Harvest Initiative(GHI) stated that global agricultural productivity must increase by 1.75 % annually in order to meet the demands of an estimated 9.7 billion people in 2050.

WTO

Apart from the technology issue, there is membership in the World Trade Organization (WTO) by, possibly, the end of next year. In all the talk on the WTO, I have heard nothing about one of the critical components of the WTO and that is the Agreement on Agriculture(AOA). The AOA is responsible for rules and regulations for trade in food. The AOA is comprised of four components- Market Access, Domestic Support, Export Subsidies and Phyto- sanitary and Sanitary Measures. In 1969, my first promotion was to Marketing Officer and from then and until now, Bahamian agriculture has been plagued by Market Access issues. It is this plank of the WTO that killed the poultry industry both eggs and broilers, food processing companies like Sawyers Food Products and PW Albury and Sons, and export agriculture of some

of our produce. The reason is due to the fact that the Bahamian market is controlled by food importers and US fast food franchise operators. Unless the gamut or array of Market Access issues are addressed, Bahamian Agriculture will not flourish.

e-Marketing

In this project we have built in the aspect of e-marketing based on output and demand data that is generated not only nationally but also regionally through a network to facilitate national and regional trade. This is the one mechanism or tool to compete with non -regional food exporters.

Competitiveness with imports can be achieved because we demonstrated it at BAMSI, hence the success of the BAMSI Store when compared to the Produce Exchange and its modus operandi. In the BAMSI Store, we operated on the policy of zero inventory because of our reliability and ability to supply the market with quality commodities.

The Way Forward

The Bahamas has to re-set its food production agenda. The Agricultural Sector has not only to move to a technologically driven agenda but to a technologically based food produc-

tion system. This would mean revolutionizing the way in which our crops are grown, our livestock are reared and the processing of raw materials for valued added purposes.

In some instances, it would call for tinkering, for example, with the techniques which the small farmer uses in pot-hole farming, our agribusiness sector will face transformation and the conversion of our marketing system to one connected to ICT.

In Jamaica and Trinidad, wholesalers, food store chain operators and consumers are now buying on the Internet from local producers. Internet buying in the region is a reality we need it here.

Whether we recognize it or not, The Bahamas is a technologically backward country agriculturally. We lack the WTO infrastructure to properly adhere to the rules and guidelines of the AOA. There is no fully functioning Bureau of Standards; Haiti is more advanced in this area than we are. Mankind is in its fifth Industrial Revolution; as a country, we are still operating in the third Industrial Revolution.

Being where we are has negatively impacted our competitiveness, our productivity, our effectiveness and, in the case of food production, our output or our ability to feed ourselves. The reduction of our national



► Messrs David Feng, Sr. and David Feng, Jr.

food import bill should be a policy goal.

The time for talk is over; the UN's 2030 Agenda on the 17 SDGs (Goal 2: End hunger, achieve food security, improve nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture) will end in a dozen years. We need to act in

upgrading our technological capacity. This region has depended on the small farmer to feed us. In the age of Climate Change, this is a risky business as Agricultural Sectors throughout the region are being challenged. Technology is the way forward for The Bahamas and the Region.



► Mr. Tennyson Wells, President of BAMSI



► Members of the Bahamian agricultural community and the general public attended the one-day seminar on Crop Box Technology.

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.

What can Participants in our Apprenticeship Program expect and what will they be doing?

We have a reputation for being a training bank. So naturally, we will be providing great personal and professional development with the opportunity to advance to supervisory and managerial positions in an accelerated program.

We will help participants to develop an in-depth knowledge of our products, services and processes; enhancing their communication, leadership, and people skills.

Our Apprenticeship Program is comprised as follows:

- One year in Deposit Administration, Business Development, and Customer Service
- One year in Loan Administration and Lending
- One year in Operations, Compliance, and Special Projects

To service our customers while being trained, coached and mentored requires that participants in our Apprenticeship Program can work flexible hours in any of our branches in New Providence, Freeport or Marsh Harbour, and are available to work on Saturdays as required. Fidelity offers Saturday Banking at most of its branches.

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
- Ability to learn quickly in a fast paced environment
- Ability to receive constructive feedback
- Giving "EXTRA", with a passion for providing exceptional customer service
- Professional in demeanor, deportment, and dress
- High ethical standards in your work and personal life
- A passion for sales and solicitation in a strong sales culture

Additionally participants will need to possess either of the following qualifications:

- Bachelor's Degree with a GPA of 3.0 or above or
- 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

Minister Dames States Law Enforcement Response to Recent Homicides

Continued from / PAGE 4...

Minister Dames pointed out that, as crime is a fluid phenomena and much work is needed in the fight, law enforcement officials were making consistent inroads to reduce this menacing occurrence. To date for 2018, he noted, there were 51 homicides reported which for the same period the previous year was 70 reported homicides – which reflected a 27.1 percent decrease.

“Although overall crime and murders are down we cannot take comfort in the fact that people are still losing their lives,” he said. “We cannot sit back while murders occur as one life is one too many.

Minister Dames added that the fight against crime and violence has to and will continue to be approached holistically.

“As the National Security Minister I am fully committed to providing the necessary legislative and policy framework which will allow our respective law enforcement agencies to improve upon their tactical approaches as we address crime within this 21st century,” he said. “A key to the holistic approach to combating crime is the networking of all law enforcement agencies -- locally and internationally.

“In fact, over the past week, The Bahamas is hosting Tradewinds 2018, which has brought together regional CARICOM and international law enforcement agencies so as to devise transnational strategies that will have a direct and indirect impact on The Bahamas.”

Minister Dames pointed out that The Bahamas does not manufacture guns or produce illicit drugs on a large scale; but the violence that had erupted over the past two weeks was directly linked to those illicit trades. He noted that the Royal Bahamas Police Force (RBPF), which was the first line of defense in the detection, deterrence and prevention of crime and violence was at that time undergoing organizational structural changes and all should begin to see the positive impact, in the near future.

“The recently published Manpower Audit noted that training of officers is too basic and does not meet 21st century standards in order to tackle crime trends in the country,” he noted.

“According to the 2011 study by Bradford entitled ‘Police Numbers and Crime Rates: A Rapid Evidence Review’, for every 100 officers recruited and deployed there should be a three percent decrease in crime statistics. Beginning with the recruitment of 105 recruits entering the Force, we will begin to employ some of the organizational strategies to remedy this vexing problem.”

Minister Dames revealed that he met with the Commissioner of Police and his Senior Command, and Commodore of the Royal Bahamas Defence Force and his Senior Command earlier that afternoon to address the recent increase in homicides and to get their strategic input moving forward.

“I am pleased and confident that the strategies articulated will address the current problems we face and there will be no let up,” he stated. “The new strategy calls for the blanketting of New Providence which is increasing visibility, intensifying efforts against prolific offenders and continuing an all-out presence of hot spot areas with the intent to dismantle gangs and drug operations in particular.

“An investigative and intelligence component to bring closure to these most recent matters is also a part of the overall strategy,” Minister Dames added. “I am pleased to say that the police have made a tremendous amount of inroads in these most recent matters and will continue to work to bring them all to closure.”

Minister Dames issued a stern warning to parents of young men roaming Bahamian streets.

He said: “We cannot have a society where young men are roaming our streets and taking out lives of hard working Bahamians. This will not be tolerated. We will use every tool at our disposal under the law of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas, to ensure that every hard-working and law abiding Bahamian is kept safe.”

“If you choose to take on law enforcement with a firearm then there are consequences,” he added. “The police without question will abide by the law, but one thing the police will not allow is for innocent people to fall victim at the hands of gun-toting thugs.”

'Afar' Travel Magazine Representatives Pay a Visit on the Governor General



'Afar' experiential travel magazine and guide executives and staff paid a courtesy call on Governor General Her Excellency Dame Marguerite Pindling on Friday, June 15, 2018 at Government House. They were accompanied on the visit by Director General of Tourism Joy Jibrilu. The travel media group enjoyed a performance by the Royal Bahamas Police Force Band while at historic Government House. Governor General Dame Marguerite is pictured seated, centre, and Director General of Tourism Joy Jibrilu, seated third from right. (BIS Photos/Kemuel Stubbs)



MINISTRY OF FINANCE PUBLIC TENDER

VESSEL FOR PURCHASE

The Ministry of Finance advises that the following vessel has been forfeited to the Crown following breaches of the Fisheries Resources Jurisdiction and Conversation Act and resulting in the selling by Tender:

Vessel	Description
Name of Vessel: Sheyla	
Manufactured By: Unknown	
Make: Cummings	
Model Year: Unknown	

*The Sheyla is a 67ft. single steel hull fishing vessel outfitted with a second top-deck located aft. This vessel is powered by a (K-19) 6 Cylinder Cummings Single Screw engine.

Interested persons may view the vessel by visiting the Royal Bahamas Defence Force Base, located on Coral Harbour, between the hours of 9:00a.m. to 4:00p.m., Monday to Friday from May 28, 2018 to June 22, 2018.

Bids should be addressed in a sealed envelope to the Financial Secretary, Ministry of Finance, 1st Floor Cecil Wallace Whitfield Building, West Bay Street by 5:00p.m. on June 22, 2018.

The face of the envelope should bear the words “Tender For Confiscated Vessel”.

Each successful bidder will be required to make full payment to the Public Treasury, Nassau, The Bahamas by cash, certified cheque, or credit/debit cards for the vessel being purchased within ten (10) working days of being notified by the Ministry of Finance. The successful bidder will be responsible for making full arrangements for the removal of the vessel within two (2) working days after full payment has been made.

The Ministry of Finance reserves the right to reject any or all bids and the item is being sold “as is where is” with no warranty to be implied or inferred. For vessels that are not registered in The Bahamas no guarantee is given as to its eligibility for registration elsewhere.

Marlon Johnson
(Actg.) Financial Secretary

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

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