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TUESDAY - JULY 24TH, 2018

75 CENTS

Wig Wearing Robbers

BY JAMEELHA MISSICK
 Journal Staff Writer

Straight out of a movie – Police in Grand Bahama confirmed yesterday that just after 10:00am, two people entered John Bull's Port Lucaya location, smashed the showcase glass and grabbed several pieces of expensive jewelry of an undetermined amount.

According to reports, the perpetrators, were men dressed as women.

Surveillance videos circulating on social media, show the men dressed in ripped jeans, padded chests, hand-

bags, sunglasses and long flowing dark colored wigs.

The two men can be seen on the purported surveillance camera running through Port Lucaya as they made their escape.

One of the suspects can even be seen trying to hold on to the hair piece as he took off.

At last report, police had very little details on jewelry heist. However it is understood that several Rolex watches were stolen.

Police were however appealing to anyone with information that could assist with them making an arrest to give them a call.

John Bull has been the

■ See **ROBBERS** / page 2...

PLP Astounded By AG's Decision

The Chairman of the Progressive Liberal Party Senator Fred Mitchell says the party is simply astounded that the Government has announced through its Attorney General that it has decided to refer the matter of the information alleged on a social media voice note to the Director of Public Prosecutions. The Party was

■ See **DECISION** / page 3...



► The Chairman of the Progressive Liberal Party Senator Fred Mitchell (Journal File Photo)

HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE DRUG RECALLED

BY JAMEELHA MISSICK
 Journal Staff Writer

Officials clearing up some recent misinformation about valsartan, a drug used to treat high blood pressure.

Novartis (the original manufacturer of valsartan) issued a letter stating that the recall did not affect all brands of the drug.

In several countries batches of Valsartan and Valsartan HCT film-coated tablets that do not meet with international quality standards have been recalled.

The company said the quality assessments confirmed impurities in some batches of these products manufactured by an external supplier.

Novartis said it wishes to emphasize that the active ingredient detected with the impurity is not used in the manufacturing process of Diovan, Codiovan, Exforge, Exforge HCT and Vymada, and can confirm that none of these batches have been imported and/or distributed in the countries of this region.

The company added that the safety of their patients is and will remain their top priority.

New CCJ President Returns Home Special Sitting

The Caribbean Court of Justice (CCJ) sat in St. Vincent and the Grenadines last Friday for the first time in its 13-year history. The Ceremonial Sitting concluded the Court's inauguration activities for its recently sworn-in President, the Honourable Mr. Justice Adrian Saunders. Hosted in the House of Assembly, Kingstown the sitting was attended by various members of local government including Dr the Honourable Ralph Gonsalves, Prime Minister of St Vincent and the Grenadines, Leader of

the Opposition Dr Godwin Friday, Speaker of the House of Assembly Mr Jomo Thomas and Heads of regional judiciaries, Court of Appeal judges, diplomats and numerous local attorneys.

During his presentation, the CCJ President explained the decision to host the Sitting in St. Vincent and the Grenadines. He stated that it resulted from a desire "to provide an opportunity for the people of St Vincent and the Grenadines to see and meet with the Judges of the

■ See **CJJ PRESIDENT** / page 3...



► Judges of the CCJ along with the Chief Justices of Jamaica and the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court during the Ceremonial Sitting held in St Vincent & the Grenadines in honour of the CCJ President, a citizen of St Vincent and the Grenadines. Praised for his intellect and integrity, Mr. Justice Saunders he was hailed by speakers as a mentor, friend, teacher. In his response, Mr. Justice Saunders acknowledged the support he has received saying "Each has served to encourage and to inspire me; to bring home to me that there are many who have invested their hopes and expectations in my success and that of the CCJ. I will not disappoint you. We shall not disappoint you"

K.B. WANTS COMMISSION OF INQUIRY ON CARNIVAL

Bahamian Entertainer K.B (Kirkland Bodie) says he is still waiting for the forensic report to be tabled in the

House Of Assembly concerning the fiasco of a 'carnival' for the past three years of 2015, 2016 and 2017.

He said another year has

gone by and he is baffled that "not one word is being said in any quarters about \$30 million that was spent, wasted or pocketed on the so-

called Bahamas Junkanoo Carnival."

He is calling for a

■ See **K.B. WANTS** / page 3...



► Bahamian Entertainer K.B (Kirkland Bodie) (Journal File Photo)

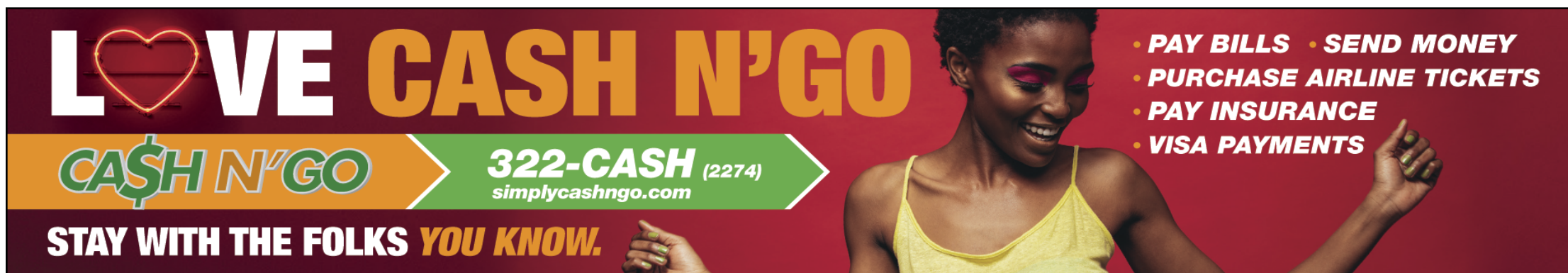


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GOVERNMENT PUSHING ANTI-PLASTIC INITIATIVE

BY LEAH COOPER
Journal Staff Writer

Minister of Environment and Housing Romauld Ferreira yesterday spoke of the need to cease the use of plastic in the country with a target date set for some time in the year 2020.

Mr. Ferreira told attendees of a town meeting that it is estimated by 2050 that there will be more plastic in the ocean than fish if the country continues to use plastic and Styrofoam products.

He said, "Our government has decided that this is the best course of action. To prevent plastic from entering the ocean using a two prong bifurcated approach."

The first on the list would be to ban the use of plastic and Styrofoam like take-out

food containers, for example. The second would be to introduce generational change to the way landfill is operated in the country.

The minister advised the audience that this plastic ban will be "the fight" for this generation.

He also urged them to rise to the occasion as this is "an urgent and pressing situation".

Since the Plastic Ban 2020 initiative launched back in April, the minister said that his team has been working with great care and perseverance having engagements with the private sector.

He said that some of the needs that they discovered through their discussions was the need for alternative options concerning plastic and Styrofoam products and

the need for financial incentives.

"Nothing in environment works unless the money is right. It is the economics behind it. So, in order for this plastic ban to work, we understand that the economics has to be right.", he said.

He added, "On the other hand, there are some things that are bigger than economics. Some issues are larger or as large as life itself and threaten our very existence, and the time has come for us to make that decision on what is important to us."

He also urged the audience to think of the legacy they wish to leave behind for future generations, and encouraged the country to support and fully participate in the initiative.

WIG WEARING ROBBERS

Continued from / PAGE 1...

target of a similar heist in the past.

On November 7, 2012, Jonathan Armbrister, was sentenced to 25 years imprisonment.

This, after a jury found him guilty of conspiracy to commit armed robbery for

the role he allegedly played in the May 22 2011, armed robbery of John Bull's flagship store on Bay Street.

According to reports, the perpetrators smashed the store's showcase with a hammer and stole a number of Rolex watches.

The hammer was left

behind at the scene.

However, the Court of Appeal dismissed the conviction and sentence of Armbrister in 2017, due to "prejudicial evidence" produced during trial and the judge's permission of an "unsafe" out-of-court statement against the appellant.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS
REDEVELOPMENT OF THE SOUTHERN RECREATION GROUNDS

The Government of The Bahamas through the Ministry of Public Works seeks to engage suitable contractors for Phase 1 of the Redevelopment of the Southern Recreation Grounds located Baillou Hill Road, and Cockburn Street.

Schedule for Tender Opening

Companies interested in tendering may obtain Tender Documents at:

Architectural Section
Department of Public Works
1st Floor North Wing
Ministry of Public Works
John F. Kennedy Drive
Nassau, Bahamas

A compact disc containing the Tender documents may be collected between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. for a non-refundable fee of \$25.00 as of Tuesday, 25th June, 2018. Applicants will be responsible to print hard copies of the Tender Documents for their use. Documents are to be completed in accordance with the instructions therein. The non-refundable fee must be paid in cash at the Accounts Section on the 3rd floor of the Ministry of Public Works Building, John F. Kennedy Drive.

All tender bids **must** include the following:

- Completed Tender Document
- Completed pre-qualification document
- Current Business License,
- Current National Insurance Compliance Letter
- Value Added Tax Registrant Number or Tax Identification Number (T.I.N.) Registrant Number.
- Current Tax Compliance Certificate.
- Proof of ability to obtain Contractors All Risk Insurance for the contract value and period.

Sealed Tender submissions should be addressed to the **Permanent Secretary Ministry Of Public Works** and are to be deposited in the Tender Box located at:

Tenders Board
Ministry of Finance
Ground Floor
Sir Cecil Wallace Whitfield Building
West Bay Street
Nassau, Bahamas

Tender submissions will be received no later than 10:00 am, Tuesday 24th July 2018.

All persons who submit bids are invited to attend the Tender opening at 10:00am, 24th July 2018.

Please note the Ministry Of Public Works reserves the right to reject any or all tenders.

PLP Astounded By AG's Decision

Continued from / PAGE 1...

responding to an article in yesterday's Tribune.

"What a complete and utter waste of police and prosecution time.

"Not to mention the fact that the Director of Public Prosecutions is supposed to be an independent creature. We

look forward then to the specific directions being gazetted according to the law that the Free National Movement has now passed and brought into force," said the Senator in a press statement.

The statement said, "the problem for us is that on what we see, no

offence is disclosed. This is a simple social media, political war of "you say and I say".

That is now to be elevated to the use of the state's apparatus to investigate some phantom alleged criminal behaviour.

"We think the real story here is the prose-

cutions that were unleashed on PLP MPs; this is now victor's justice again.

"This reference to the DPP is designed to intimidate PLP partisans in their social media warfare against FNM trolls who continue to defame the PLP and its leaders. It is shameful

and nakedly political. Nothing more; nothing less.

"If however, the FNM persists in this folly, the PLP has a litany of complaints against FNM trolls on line and Save The Bays, all engaged in smear campaigns against the PLP. We recall that in the case of Save The

Bays, the FNM shut down the investigation into their conduct and funding. We are prepared to so inform the Director of Public Prosecutions as well about our suspicions so that there is balance in his investigations," said Mr. Mitchell.

New CCJ President Returns Home Special Sitting

Continued from / PAGE 1...

CCJ. And, naturally, it gives the Judges, only one of whom is Vincentian, the opportunity to experience the flavour and nuances of the rich diversity of the Caribbean and SVG in particular."

In an afternoon in which, speakers quoted various regional musicians, poets, eminent academics and jurists; there were many who both lauded the character, temperament and integrity of the CCJ's third President and who also called upon regional nations to complete the circle of independence and accede to the Appellate Jurisdiction of the CCJ.

In a stirring presentation, Dr the Honourable Ralph Gonsalves noted that "he never thought he would see the day that the Caribbean Court of Justice sat in St Vincent and the Grenadines." Defending the independence of the CCJ, he dismissed the notion that the Court is susceptible to political interference, insisting that those

responsible for setting up the Court made certain to put in place features like the CCJ Trust Fund and the Regional Judicial and Legal Services Commission (RJLSC) to safeguard the Court's independence. Pledging to work to make the CCJ the country's final court of appeal, the Prime Minister extended an invitation to the Leader of the Opposition to work together to "strive for the seemingly impossible."

The Honourable Mr. Justice Bryan Sykes, Chief Justice of Jamaica, acknowledging the increased efficiency of the Court in his presentation, noted the impact of the CCJ in the region, not just because of its judicial work but also because of its championing for increased access to justice for regional citizens. He further stated that he and "all the judges of Jamaica look forward to the continued growth and expansion of this Court under the presidency of Justice Saunders. We pledge unreservedly, our support for the President and the

Court and will do all within our power to continue to make the case for this Court to become our final appellate court."

Echoing the sentiments of the Prime Minister, Ms. Rene Baptiste, President of the Bar Association of St Vincent and the Grenadines also called for the Eastern Caribbean state to make the Caribbean Court of Justice its final court of appeal as she recalled the distinguished career of Mr. Justice Saunders.

In his response, Mr. Justice Saunders stated "I am extremely proud of this Court. We have a fine complement of judges. The Court's judgements can withstand the closest scrutiny. Indeed, our stakeholders consistently credit the Court with a high quality of reasoning in our judgments. Our Court staff are hard-working and efficient. The Court has no backlog. Our electronic filing system is the envy of Courts in the Western Hemisphere."

K.B. Wants Commission Of Inquiry On Carnival

Continued from / PAGE 1...

Commission of Inquiry on the matter.

Bodie said, "most of us broke Bahamians cannot fathom what a million dollars is, so let's make this as simple as possible. A million dollars is a thousand, thousand dollars, so going forward let's put this in perspective. The Bahamas Festival Committee spent thirty million dollars, plus, in three years of carnivals. Everything I am saying is what they have said in the news media, except I am going to break it down somewhat for those who don't understand the entertainment business and I welcome the Bahamas Festival Committee to refute my words.

"In the first Junkanoo Carnival they paid Machel Montano, One Hundred Thousand Dollars, again, these are their words. They said they paid Baha Men,

Sixty Thousand Dollars. The Music Masters Competition paid out a total of Fifty Thousand Dollars, each year, so for three years that equals One Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars. The following year they paid Wyclef Jean and Destra a total of One Hundred Thousand Dollars, again their words, so give or take a few thousand dollars here or there. So far that's a total of only Four Hundred and Ten Thousand Dollars.

"Artists like Tarrus Riley made a few thousand dollars, but no where in the vicinity of what Machel, or Wyclef received. I'm not sure of the T-Connection Band's salary, but they are Bahamians, and we can only guess how they fared," said the popular entertainer.

He said, "the final year of Bahamas Junkanoo Carnival (2017) was crippled and the numbers were even more dismal. The reason I have not brought up the Bahamian entertainers is

because they were disrespected and paid "peanuts" compared to the foreign artists, throughout the three years of Bahamas Junkanoo Carnival. That also includes the few foreign bands that were brought in on the first year, they also received chicken feed. For the three years of Bahamas Junkanoo Carnival's existence, with all of the artists and entertainers put together, foreign and local performers, they were all paid less than one million dollars, in total. I drew attention to the highly paid artists to let the readers grasp where the so-called lion share of that money paid out to the entertainers went.

"So my question is, where is the other twenty-nine million, plus, dollars? Who and what was it spent on? I would give them the benefit of the doubt and even throw in an extra

See K.B. WANTS / page 7...

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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

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Minnis asks Church to Help Build a Better Bahamas

Prime Minister, Dr. the Hon. Hubert A. Minnis said that his vision and mission is to provide opportunities for residents to experience a better Bahamas.

He was addressing the 36th Annual Convention of Calvary Deliverance Church on Sunday, July 22, 2018.

The church celebrated under the theme: "The Year of New Beginnings, Revelations, Declarations & Manifestations – The Year to Live and Not Die".

The Prime Minister told the church that its theme is very timely as it evokes "the God of new beginnings, the God of rebirth and restoration."

"Dear Brothers and Sisters, I ask for your prayers and your help as we work together to build a country committed to a greater Culture of Life, with

more hope and opportunity for more of our people," the Prime Minister said.

He noted that the late Pope John Paul II often spoke about the Culture of Life and the Culture of Death.

"He spoke of the need for the Church and the State to collaborate in the promotion of a Culture of Life, and to work together to address the attitudes and practices which give rise to a Culture of Death," the Prime Minister said.

According to the Prime Minister, the dignity of every human being, made in the image and likeness of God, must be a shared and fundamental value for both Church and State.

"When we defend or uphold human dignity we promote a Culture of Life. We are all brothers and sis-

ters and equal in the sight of Almighty God," he said.

In this vein, he said that the fight and struggle for equality throughout history is essential in promoting and building a Culture of Life.

The Prime Minister also shared his vision for and mission for the country which is "to promote a greater Culture of Life by greatly expanding access to opportunity and hope for more Bahamians."

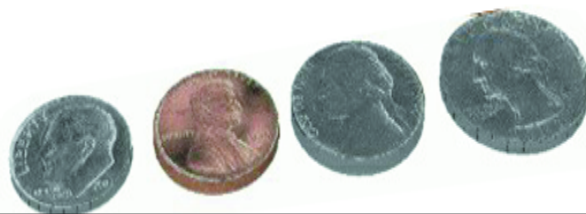
He added: "I want more of our young people to realize their dreams and to develop their talents."

According to the Prime Minister, access to quality education and training are fundamental in building a more prosperous and

■ See MINNIS / page 8...

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PUBLIC NOTICE OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER

TENDER INVITATION FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF A SERVICE PROVIDER TO CONDUCT A LAND AUDIT WITHIN THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS

The Office of the Prime Minister invites tenders for the appointment of a Service Provider to conduct a Land Audit within the Commonwealth of The Bahamas.

All companies are invited to visit the Notice's section on the Government's website at www.bahamas.gov.bs, or to collect the Terms of Reference for the tender between the hours of 9:30 am – 4:00 pm Monday through Friday from:

Office of the Prime Minister
Cecil Wallace Whitfield Centre
Nassau, N.P., The Bahamas

Office of the Prime Minister seeks the services of a Service Provider to conduct a Land Audit throughout the Commonwealth of The Bahamas in order to establish all land that is owned, leased or licensed for use by the Government. The Land Audit will build upon the work executed under The Bahamas Land Use, Policy and Administration Project, 2009 (LUPAP).

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Government will engage the Service Provider to conduct the Land Audit which will:

- i) Spatially identify land and give ownership information within the study area in coordination with the Surveyor General;
- ii) Conduct a comprehensive assessment of all properties within the study area;
- iii) Create a user-friendly GIS database with ownership categories with useful fields that will assist in the planning and packaging of interventions;
- iv) Create a Land Audit report (maps, tables and graphs, as applicable) for each island; &
- v) In particular regarding Crown Lands and Treasury Lands, to determine:
 - a) What Government Land has been alienated for use by others, either in the form of lease holds, licenses, authorizations, joint ventures and contractual obligations;
 - b) What Government Land is presently under commitments to be alienated, either via grant, lease holds or other means which has not yet been perfected;
 - c) What Government Land is presently under consideration to be divested either via grant, conveyance, lease or other means which has not yet been perfected; and
 - d) Whether Government Land leased to third parties is being used for its agreed upon purpose.

DELIVERABLES

- i) A Land Audit report containing methodology and Land Audit findings and recommendations;
- ii) A Land Audit database with Title Documents as applicable and information on structures in the study area, submitted in Microsoft SQL or IBM Data base 2 format;
- iii) An A0 map size with an overlay of subject land parcels; and
- iv) 2x copies of DVDs/ CDs with GIS spatial datasets (WGS84 USRI or ITRF shapefiles) of the above.

Bids must be submitted and sealed in an envelope clearly marked: APPOINTMENT OF SERVICE PROVIDER TO CONDUCT A LAND AUDIT WITHIN THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS. All Tenders must be received no later than 4:30 pm on Friday, 3rd August, 2018, and addressed to:

Chairman, The Tender Board
c/o Acting Financial Secretary
Ministry of Finance
Cecil Wallace Whitfield Centre
P. O. Box N-3107
Nassau, N.P., The Bahamas

No increase, decrease, discount, reduction or any other changes to initial bid price(s) or conditions will be permitted after the opening of bids. Clarification of bids, as requested by the Office of the Prime Minister, may be accepted provided that the substance and prices of the bid remain unchanged.

Information submitted becomes the property of the Office of the Prime Minister, who reserves the right to reject any or all bids received.

Permanent Secretary



MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS BUILDINGS REGULATIONS ACT, 1971

NOTICE OF DEMOLITION ORDER IN RESPECT OF THE FOLLOWING ORDER

To: Mr. Jerry Pratt
Nassau, Bahamas

REF: A SINGLE STOREY WOODEN BUILDING LOCATED ON RUPERT DEAN AND PRATT ALLEY NASSAU, BAHAMAS

File No. 2046

1. TAKE NOTICE that the Minister Of Public Works in pursuance of the powers conferred upon the Minister by Section 10 (1)(b)(i) of the *Buildings Regulations Act Chapter 188*, has made an Order dated the February 20, 2018 copy of which has been affixed on the premises requiring you the owner of the respective premises described above to remedy the cause of the said building or structure being in a ruinous dilapidated state, by demolishing the said building and removing any rubbish resulting from the demolition within sixty (60) days from the date of the Order.


Craig Delancy
Buildings Control Officer

March 15, 2018

MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS BUILDINGS REGULATIONS ACT, 1971


NOTICE OF DEMOLITION ORDER IN RESPECT OF THE FOLLOWING ORDER

To: Mr. Mario Newbold
No. 37 Hospital Lane & Dunmore Street
Nassau, Bahamas

REF: A TWO STOREY WOODEN BUILDING LOCATED ON NO. 37 HOSPITAL LANE & DUNMORE STREET NASSAU, BAHAMAS

File No. 2047

1. TAKE NOTICE that the Minister Of Public Works in pursuance of the powers conferred upon the Minister by Section 10 (1)(b)(i) of the *Buildings Regulations Act Chapter 188*, has made an Order dated the February 20, 2018 copy of which has been affixed on the premises requiring you the owner of the respective premises described above to remedy the cause of the said building or structure being in a ruinous dilapidated state, by demolishing the said building and removing any rubbish resulting from the demolition within sixty (60) days from the date of the Order.


Craig Delancy
Buildings Control Officer

March 15, 2018

MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS BUILDINGS REGULATIONS ACT, 1971

NOTICE OF DEMOLITION ORDER IN RESPECT OF THE FOLLOWING ORDER

To: Ms. Beryl Brown
No. 3 Dumping Ground & Ferguson Street
Nassau, Bahamas

REF: A SINGLE STOREY WOODEN BUILDING LOCATED AT NO. 3 DUMPING GROUND CORNER & FERGUSON STREET NASSAU, BAHAMAS

File No. 2045

1. TAKE NOTICE that the Minister Of Public Works in pursuance of the powers conferred upon the Minister by Section 10 (1)(b)(i) of the *Buildings Regulations Act Chapter 188*, has made an Order dated the February 20, 2018 copy of which has been affixed on the premises requiring you the owner of the respective premises described above to remedy the cause of the said building or structure being in a ruinous dilapidated state, by demolishing the said building and removing any rubbish resulting from the demolition within sixty (60) days from the date of the Order.


Craig Delancy
Buildings Control Officer

March 15, 2018

Eneas Files

By Godfrey Eneas

The Economic Challenge of The 21st Century For The Bahamas: What Is It?

A thriving Agricultural Sector is key to the socio-economic development of The Bahamas. After World War II, commencing in the '50s, the Bahamian economy was transformed from a fishing village-type economy dominated by farming and fishing.

THE MODEL

By the late 60s, the Stafford Sands model of tourism and financial services converted the Bahamian economy to the most dynamic in the region, causing other Caribbean countries to duplicate the model. This resulted firstly in The Bahamas and the Caribbean becoming the number one cruise destination in the world as well as one of the major offshore banking centres in the world. This model carried The Bahamas for virtually all of the second half of the 20th Century and created a new Bahamas.

ECONOMIC SHOCKS

Since the year 2000, The Bahamian economy has been in a state of decline stemming from economic shocks – some global – others induced by acts of God due to the location of The Bahamas in the hurricane belt.

In 2001, there was the 9/11 incident in the United States where terrorists bombed the Twin Towers in New York City and the Pentagon Building in Washington, D.C. This incident brought economic activity to a halt and negatively impacted our tourism and the movement of goods, specifically food stuffs, throughout the Caribbean region.

Blacklisting episodes by the OECD and EU countries respectively, were launched at the Financial Services Sector in the 1990s and again in 2017. Both episodes have weakened this sector, causing serious contraction in its economic growth and development.

Then there was the global economic meltdown in 2007/2008. This meltdown ushered in the greatest global economic recession since the Great Depression of the 1930s.

Climate change has wreaked serious infrastructural damage to Grand Bahama, North Andros, southwestern New Providence and on Family Islands like Long Island, Ragged Island, Crooked Island and Acklins, causing Bahamian governments to spend hundreds of millions of dollars in hurricane relief measures apart from the economic disruption of the Tourism Sector.

The Bahamas is at a point where it is facing unprecedented levels of unemployment in Nassau and Freeport, specifically in certain demographic groupings like youth.

NEW REALITIES

The second half of the 20th

Century was perhaps the period when there was the most prolific growth in the history of The Bahamas. The 21st Century calls for a paradigm shift from that of the 20th Century because the 21st Century has brought with it new realities.

Some of the new realities are firstly, the emergence of China as a global economic power with the second largest economy in the world. Only the American economy is larger.

China has displayed expansionist policies, specifically in the area of economic development in Third World countries like The Bahamas. The biggest foreign direct investor in The Bahamas today are the Chinese.

The second reality is the apparent policy of the OECD and EU to eliminate off-shore banking jurisdictions, so the financial services sector which is oriented to wealth management are in jeopardy. The Bahamas is one such jurisdiction.

Thirdly, there is an anti-immigration attitude globally, particularly in the United States and Europe. Developed countries are attracting skilled professional like our nurses and University of The Bahamas graduates, not the unskilled. Bahamians are also developing a xenophobic behaviour towards illegal immigrants from Haiti.

Fourthly, President Trump has changed the image of America. Many believe that America has lost its moral authority to lead the free world in areas where American values were touted as examples to the world. Today, America, under the President Trump, has an image problem.

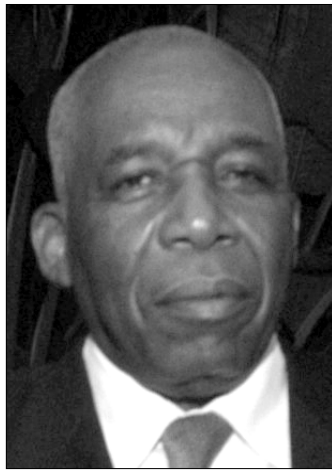
Fifthly, The Bahamas, according to the government's timetable, will join the World Trade Organization (WTO) by the end of 2019. This would call for The Bahamas to participate in the global economy and adhere to WTO rules and regulations. One of the cornerstones of the WTO policy is trade liberalization which calls for the elimination of excise duties. This will require a steep adjustment for a country whose main source of revenue was customs duties, thereby requiring the development and implementation of new revenue sources. VAT is the first initiative to offset customs duties reduction.

The sixth reality is to develop a more diversified economy and one which engages in global trade. This is The Bahamas' challenge in the 21st Century.

COST OF LIVING

The Minnis Administration has highlighted the importance of Pindling's policy on the introduction of bread basket items during the period of Price Control.

Price Control was the mechanism which was used to make food affordable for



the low-income socio-economic segment of our population. The duty reduction policy of the Ingraham Administration put food in the hands of the importers rather than farmers and agribusinesses. Food imports skyrocketed to excess of a billion dollars and became unaffordable to that socio-economic segment for whom bread basket items were established. This policy also resulted in the destruction of the Agricultural Sector and ushered in the era of non-communicable diseases which are the basis for the huge health bill that The Bahamas is grappling with because nutritious food is unaffordable. The Bahamas has the highest health care costs in the region because food is unaffordable, and Bahamians are eating non-nutritious processed foods of high sugar and salt content.

17 SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

The Bahamas as a member of the United Nations, has signed on to the 17 Sustainable Development Goals of which Goal Number Two is to end hunger. Food is a right, so countries are obliged to provide their citizens with healthy and nutritious foods. Food and Nutrition Security should be a fundamental ingredient in the national policy agenda of any country.

The Christie Administration recognized this responsibility, hence the establishment of The Bahamas Agriculture and Marine Science Institute (BAMS). This was the commencement of one of the transformation initiatives to face the new realities of the 21st Century and address one of the main challenges of food production.

A constraint to the utilization of Agriculture as one of the tools of diversification is the inability to transform food production into an attractive, modern and sustainable livelihood. There is the need to sensitize our people to initiatives in technology and the sharing of actionable knowledge. Steps should be taken to advance food and nutrition security, prosperity, climate resilience, youth employment and gender equality. This is the new mantra to propel any Agricultural Sector in the 21st Century. The Bahamas should follow the norm.

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Wendall K. Jones
Publisher/Chief Executive Officer

The Bahama Journal
Quo Vadis, Bahamas?

Kimaley P. Jones
Vice President Operations

EDITORIAL

VIOLENCE AS CANKER

The Inter-American Development Bank and the World Bank currently consider violence and insecurity to be the major obstacles to development.

In health terms, intentional violence is the first cause of death in many countries of the region and it is estimated that there are 120 000 homicides a year.

In the year 2000, the Americas suffered the loss or transference of 14.2% of gross national product (GNP) — US\$ 168 billion — because of violence. Moreover, 1.9% of GNP is lost in human capital, an amount equivalent to the region's total expenditures on primary education.

Additionally, 30 to 60% of all emergency visits to hospitals are due to violence. About 60% of all violent acts, whether murders, child abuse, family abuse, assaults, or felonies, are associated with the consumption of alcohol.

This is astounding. And thus, let it also be known that Prime Minister the Hon. Dr. Hubert A. Minnis has declaimed as follows:—If it was up to him, people convicted of murder would be hanged without any remorse on his behalf.

The fact of the matter is that:—This bloody matter is not up to him! Thank God for all His comfort and all His blessed assurances!

What is particularly salient in this regard has to do with how obvious the dilemma becomes when we allow ourselves non-key entrance to that mad man's land where vengeance [and thus also vendetta] is the order of the day.

Now let's be clear:—As all right-thinking Bahamians know so very well, matters germane to law and order, inclusive of criminal wrong-doing, are subject to the ministrations of the judiciary.

This is precisely why we are obliged to conclude that the prime minister's recent glorification of hanging is simply irrelevant from a legal point of view.

In truth, whether the nation's prime minister wishes to have capital punishment revived is in and of itself of little import to how we all go about the business of staying alive in this

deeply challenged land.

But for sure, what is truly of some moment has to do with a nagging suspicion that tells us that this kind of talk and chat at this peculiar juncture has more to do with politics and some of the games that some in our land now play.

For as much as we know or care to know, it sure seems a most strange return to such barbaric kill or be killed rhetoric now riding high on the hoof as more and more Bahamians wake to the reality that they are cash-strapped; that they are troubled by a spiralling crime-rate and that, it sure seems as if murder is now the crook's favourite past-time.

But yet as The Inter-American Development Bank and the World Bank have so wisely advised:—When you think of violence and how to control it, often the first thing that comes to mind is security; and thus our prime minister's bluster and fluster as regards his deep approval of hanging—and thus this life and death matter is relegated to the police and the criminal justice system.

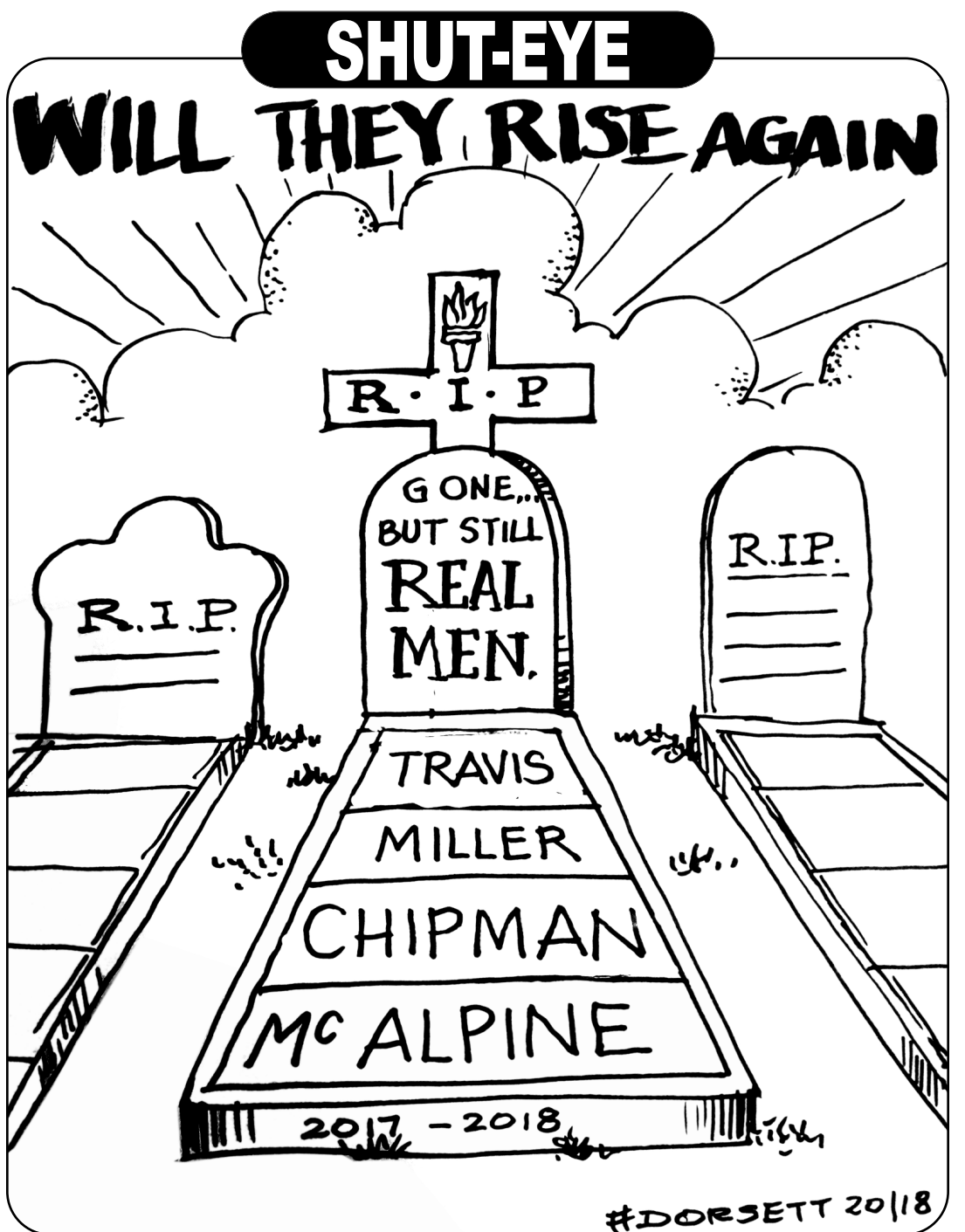
We should have none of this wicked ideation; and instead, we should understand that:—Violence has become a public health issue.

Once we wrap our heads around this new way of looking at the issue, we would come to the realization that once put under the rubric of public health we might yet help decrease some of the more morbid expressions of violence committed at all levels of society, inclusive of the havoc wreaked by so-called law-enforcement officials.

Evidently:—They who kill —under the cover of state-granted authority- are as guilty as hell when they [as the authority that would deter killing] decide that they would [in cold-blooded-calculation] kill people who have killed people.

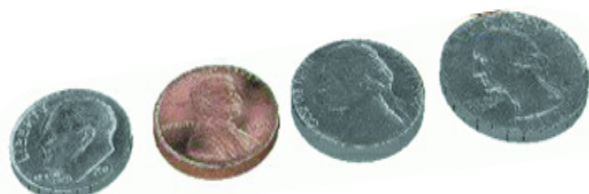
All that happens is this:—The bloody beat continues as death rides high on the hoof!

There must be a better way—and just perhaps, that right way might be the one which suggests that violence should be treated for what it is—a canker on the soul of a land and its people.



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NOTICE

MINISTRY OF LABOUR

DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR

Please be advised that the following trade unions are in compliance with Section 30 (1), (2), and (3) of the Industrial Relations Act Ch321, Statue Law of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas:

- Bahamas Educators Managerial Union (BEMU)
- Bahamas Electrical Utility Managerial Union (BEUMU)
- Bahamas Electrical Workers Union (BEWU)
- Bahamas Financial Services Management Workers Union (BFSMU)
- Bahamas Hotel and Restaurants Employers Association (BHEA)
- Bahamas Industrial Engineers Managers & Supervisory Union (BIEMSU)
- Bahamas Musicians Entertainers Union (BMEU)
- Bahamas Utilities Services & Allied Workers Union (BUSAWU)
- Commonwealth Union of Hotel Services
- Union of Central Bankers (UCB)
- Union of Public Officers (UPO)
- Union of Tertiary Educators of The Bahamas (UTEB)

Signed
Mr. John Pinder
Registrar of Trade Unions
THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS



NOTICE

DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR

NOTICE OF CANCELLATION OF TRADE UNIONS

The public is hereby notified that the Registration of the following Trade Unions has been cancelled pursuant to section 15(b) of the Industrial Relations Act Chapter 321 Statue Laws of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas.

- BahamaLand Construction & Allied Workers Union
- Bahamas Casino Employees Association
- Bahamas Cement, Marine, Maintenance Building Construction & Allied Workers Union
- Bahamas Marine Dock Construction & Refinery Workers Union
- Bahamas Maritime Port & Allied Workers Union
- Bahamas Petroleum Retailers Association
- Bahamas Security Allied Workers Union
- Commonwealth Transport Distributive & Allied Workers Union
- Commonwealth Transport Union
- Eastside Stevedores Union
- Optometric Association of The Bahamas
- Public Service Drivers Union
- The Bahamas Containers Port & Allied Workers Union
- United Brotherhood Long shore Union

Mr. John Pinder
Registrar of Trade Unions



GOVERNMENT NOTICE

MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND HOUSING
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

INVITATION FOR TENDER

Residential Waste Collection New Providence

The Government of The Bahamas is inviting Tenders for the weekly collection of residential waste in New Providence.

Interested parties may obtain further information, including eligibility to participate and may collect the bidding document(s) upon payment of a non-refundable fee of \$100.00 per document, as of July 2, 2018 from:

The Department of Environmental Health Services
Farrington Road
Nassau Bahamas
Tel: (242)-302-5150, 322-8037

Between the hours of 9:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Monday to Friday.

The method of payment will be certified cheque or cash. Tenders are to be submitted in triplicate (3) in a sealed envelope(s) and addressed to:

The Tenders Board
c/o The Financial Secretary
Ministry of Finance
Cecil V. Wallace Whitfield Centre
P.O. Box N-3017
Nassau, The Bahamas

No later than 4:30 p.m. on the 13th August, 2018

Tenders will be opened at 10:00 a.m. on the 14th August, 2018 at the office of the Tenders Board, Ministry of Finance. The Government reserves the right to reject any and all Tenders.

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K.B. Wants Commission Of Inquiry On Carnival

Continued from / PAGE 3...

million on entertainment, so like I said before, you can take away a thousand here, and give a few hundred there, but the numbers don't add up.

"A million dollars is a lot of money, in fact, at the press conference for this year's 2018 privatized carnival organizers said they could pull off their event at a cost of Eight Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars, that was also in the news media reports. What do these guys know that the Bahamas Festival Committee did not know? And who will be held to

account for wasting our monies? The Cabinet of the Bahamas at the time approved the millions of dollars that were released to someone or some group.

"Answers need to be given. The Bahamas Treasury needs to be reimbursed for the people's funds that were wasted on the Bahamas Junkanoo Carnival event. Some folks need to be held to account. This could be easily fixed if only we have the will to do so. The Bahamas Festival Committee, or the Cabinet of the Bahamas, only has to bring forth the receipts and records from those past three carnival events and show us the proof," says K.B.



**PUBLIC NOTICE
MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS
DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL PLANNING**

The public is hereby notified that a Site Plan Application (SPA/5/2018) on behalf of Mosko Group Limited is being reviewed by the Department of Physical Planning for presentation to the Town Planning Committee.

The applicant is requesting preliminary approval to develop a cemetery on a 7.76-acre tract of land, situated on the southern side of Soldier Road and immediately east of Kennedy Subdivision. The proposed site also is bounded in part on the eastern boundary by Windsor Place Subdivision.

The preliminary site plan and file for the proposed development are available for viewing at the Department of Physical Planning, located in the Aventura Plaza on John F. Kennedy Drive, during normal working hours.

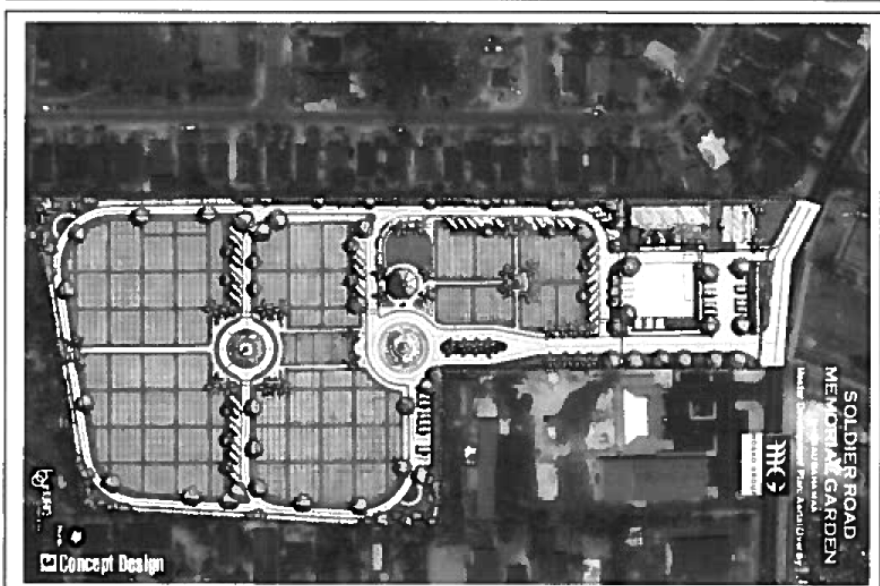
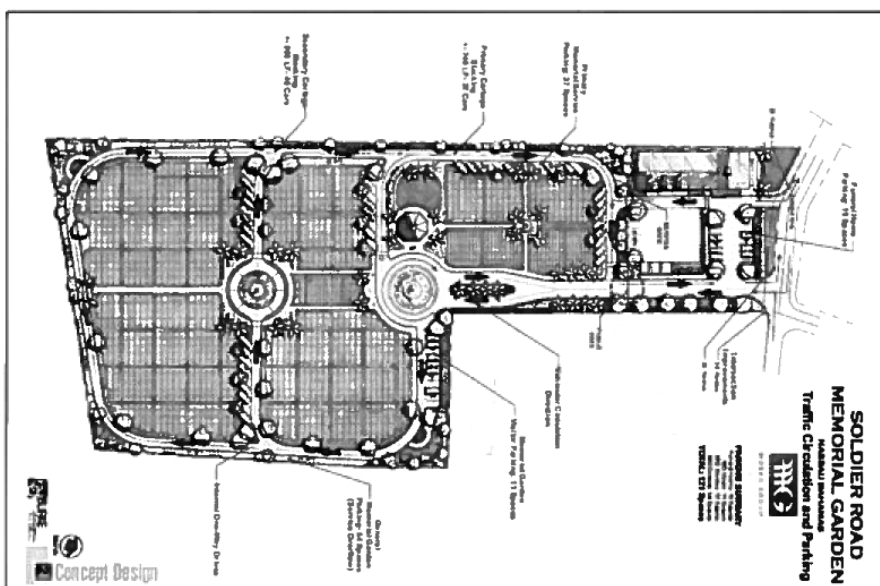
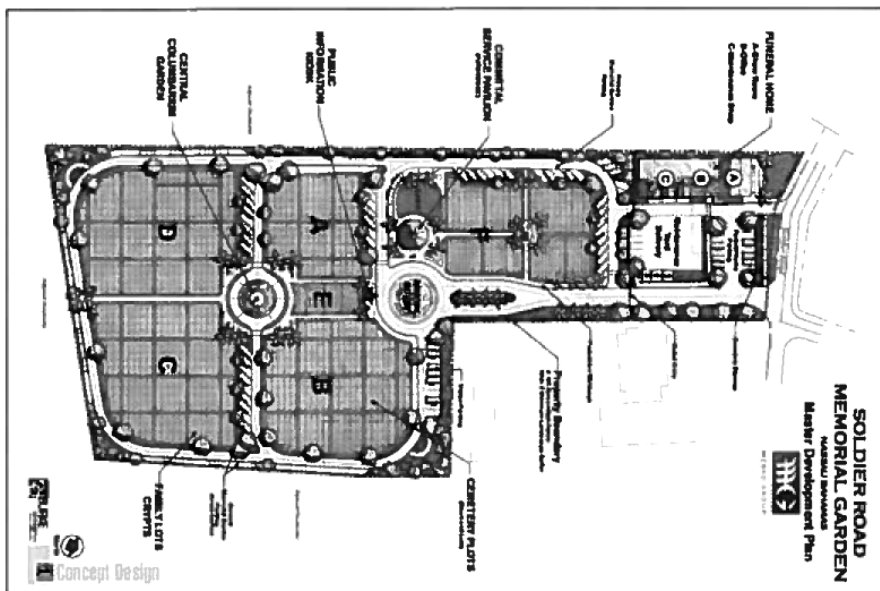
Interested persons and organisations are invited to review the information on file and provide written comments to the Acting Director of Physical Planning within twenty-one (21) days of the date of this notice.

Submissions should be made via P.O. Box N -1611 Nassau, 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

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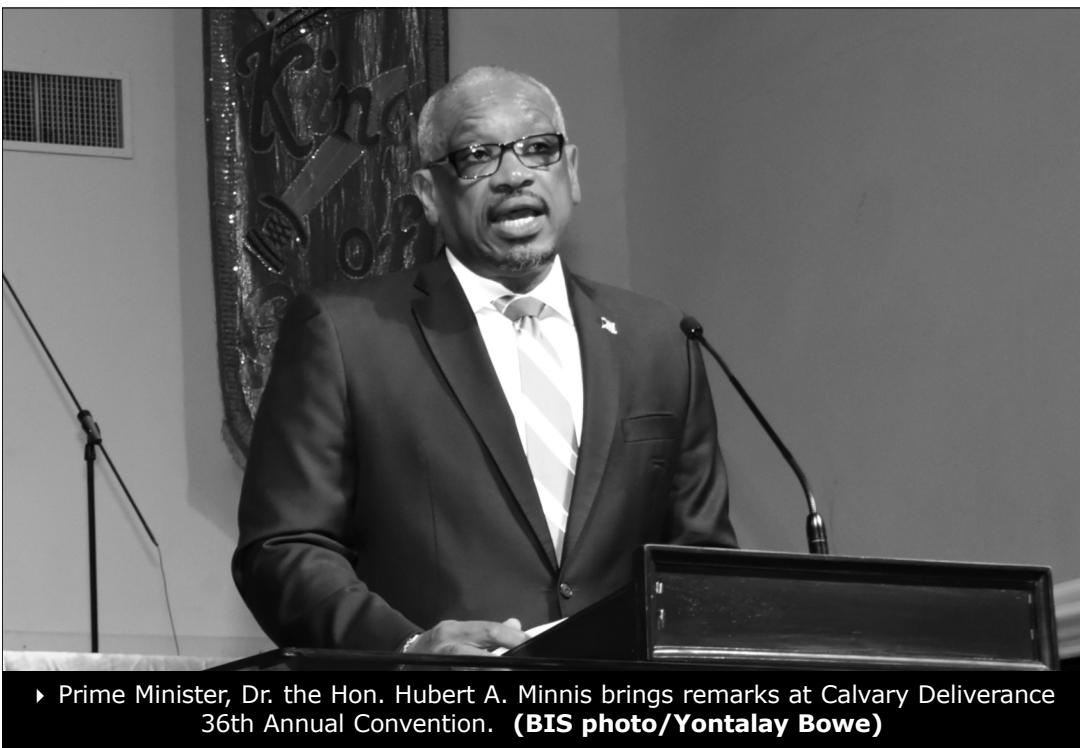
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CHOICE
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Minnis asks Church to Help Build a Better Bahamas



► Prime Minister, Dr. the Hon. Hubert A. Minnis brings remarks at Calvary Deliverance 36th Annual Convention. (BIS photo/Yontalay Bowe)

Continued from / PAGE 4...

productive, and a fairer and more just society.

Toward this end, beginning in September, those young people who meet the necessary qualifications will be able to attend BTVI for free, he said. In addition, beginning next year September, those young Bahamians who meet the necessary qualifications will be able to attend the University of The Bahamas tuition-free.

"This is a revolution in education in The Bahamas," he said. "Indeed, it is one of the biggest advancements in education in our history."

Another dream for many

Bahamians is to own their own home, the Prime Minister said, adding that, "We promote the Culture of Life when we help to improve family life."

Scores of qualifying Bahamians will be able to purchase fully serviced-lots from the Government at extremely reduced rates. In some cases, the lots will be sold at a value 70 per cent less than market value. The lots will already include the infrastructure to start construction, including electricity, water and paved roadways.

In the area of crime, the Prime Minister said particularly violent crimes and gang violence need to be addressed. These, he added,

help to fuel a Culture of Death.

Last year, the Citizen Security and Justice Program was launched, which is specifically designed to help reduce crime.

"We want to give hundreds of young people the opportunity to help build a Culture of Life instead of being involved in behaviours which often lead to early deaths," the Prime Minister said.

He also noted that the Over-the-Hill Redevelopment Project and the Economic Empowerment Zones Bill seeks to help reduce poverty and provide opportunity for more Bahamians.



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