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THURSDAY - AUGUST 30TH, 2018

75 CENTS

Dialysis Patients Upset

BY JAMEELHA MISSICK
 Journal Staff Writer

An internal memorandum in the Public Hospitals Authority approving a fee on dialysis wheelchair service stirred up quite a hornet's nest, with one opposition politician demanding that the policy be reversed immediately.

Responding to an August 9th communication from Jeffrey Henfield, Superintendent of the Transport Department, Princess Margaret Hospital Administrator, M.E.



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

PHA CLARIFIES MEMO

The Public Hospitals Authority wishes to advise that contrary to information circulating on social media, the PHA has not implemented a new fee structure for Dialysis Wheelchair Services at the Princess Margaret Hospital.

Presently, transport services are being provided via private services at prices determined by the private contractor. Additionally, the Dialysis Treatment fee per session has not increased from its gazetted fee of \$275.

The Public Hospitals Authority apologizes for any inconvenience caused as a result of the circulation of this information and assures the public that the Authority remains committed to its mandate of delivering the best in quality healthcare.

LANDFILL BIDDER AWARDED

BY LEAH COOPER
 Journal Staff Writer

The Ministry of the Environment yesterday announced Providence Advisors Waste Resources Development Consortium as the selected bidder for the landfill's investment and management services.

This job includes the deconstruction, remediation, and operation of the New Providence landfill. The landfill in the cap-

ital has been a vexing problem over the years, and in keeping with their promises the government is now making headway to ensure that this issue remains in the past.

Minister of Environment and Housing Romauld Ferreira said, "this is a watershed moment for the Bahamian society. The number one issue facing



Minister of Environment and Housing, Romauld Ferreira
 (Journal file photo)

Bishop Promotes Medicinal Marijuana

BY LEAH COOPER
 Journal Staff Writer

While the public is still unable to put names to most of the faces on the government's proposed Marijuana Committee, Bishop Simeon Hall yesterday told the Journal News Team that he is still ready to serve in this

regard.

The government has yet to announce when the proposed marijuana committee would be formed following cabinet's approval last month.

Last month the Prime Minister also indicated that the make-up of this committee and other operational details would be

fine-tuned the following week.

Bishop Hall said, "My position is from a pastoral perspective. I believe that we should facilitate helping people who cannot afford medical insurance as best as we can.

See BISHOP / page 2...

See LANDFILL / page 2...

"Gov't Desperate On Housing", Says MP

The Member of Parliament for South Andros, Picewell Forbes says the government's housing programme "is woefully inadequate, under resourced, if not non-existent. It is shameful that all the Housing Minister can tell us is how the majority of people who applied for their service lot programme could not qualify".

He said "the picture of the Prime Minister and his Minister of Housing laying a plaque to pro-

See HOUSING/ page 3...

PAGEANT CALLS UPON GOVERNOR GENERAL HER EXCELLENCY DAME MARGUERITE PINDLING



The Executive Members and Delegates of Miss Bahamas Universe Pageant 2018-2019 called upon Governor General Her Excellency Dame Marguerite Pindling at Government House on Wednesday, August 29, 2018. (BIS Photo/Letisha Henderson)

Fatal Industrial Accident in Bimini

BY JAMEELHA MISSICK
 Journal Staff Writer

A man is dead after an industrial accident in Bimini.

According to reports, shortly after 9:00am yesterday, Police were called to a construction site at a resort on North Bimini.

A male Dominican worker, was operating a crane and lifting a 40ft beam from a barge to the dock, when the cable of the crane allegedly snapped, causing the beam to fall.

The fallen beam landed onto the crane cabin that the victim was inside.

The man was pronounced dead at the scene by a doctor from the Bimini clinic.

Police are actively investigating this matter.

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ALL THE NEWS YOU NEED TO READ IN THE MORNING

Dialysis Patients Upset

Continued from / PAGE 1...

Lightbourne Walker, indicated that a request for the above proposal had been "reviewed and supported" - albeit with stipulations.

Those stipulations include that there be a one-way charge of \$25 and that's to or from the dialysis unit.

There'd be a \$50 roundtrip charge to and from the unit, translating to a weekly fee of \$150.

There's a proposed start date of Monday, September 3rd.

The letter further stipulates that customers desirous of using the service must pay at the business office and provide their receipt prior to transport.

A number of dialysis patients or those with relatives on dialysis called into the Love 97 Radio daily talk show "Issues of the Day" bemoaning the new charge.

"I have a wife on dialysis, I know what the situation is with a person on dialysis, I know what they go through, because I deal with my wife everyday with that sickness," one caller said.

"This government they need mercy man, if the Prime Minister's listening to this today, Mr. Prime Minister, let me tell you something, people in Grand Bahama, they are hurting," he added.

Another caller said, "I feel saddened to hear what's happening over there."

"Hebrews 9:27 says its

appointed unto man once to die, after this judgement, so these rascals who doing people like that have to realize that, one day they have to stand before God and give an account," he said.

"A person got to pay \$50, who got to come to you in the first place to get free service, they're coming to you for free service, but they got to pay \$50 to get from point A to point B," said another caller.

Progressive Liberal Party, MP Glenys Hanna-Martin also registered her disgust and dismay, charging that it is becoming clear that more and more life is becoming brutish and bitter for many at the bottom of the economic pile in the country. "What message is this government sending to

very sick and poor people?" she asked.

"How can any group in good conscience, she questioned, sit around a cabinet table and accord to themselves more benefits and turn around and add unbearable pressure on the most vulnerable. This is wrong," said Mrs Hanna-Martin.

Health Minister Dr. Duane Sands called into the "Issues of the Day Show" to defend the decision on the fees.

The Minister claimed (unlike the PHA letter stated) that the fees related to transportation to and from the homes of patients.

He said, "the gazetted fees for dialysis that has existed since the services have been provided is sup-

posed to be \$275 per dialysis session per patient, which for all intents and purposes works out to just shy of \$1,000 a week," he said.

"We collect less than, I'm advised, less than \$500,000 for the \$ 25 million worth of dialysis services. The transportation is not one of the mandated services," he said.

Dr. Sands added that a van was donated to collect dialysis patients to receive treatment.

However, that van fell into disrepair prior to the current administration taking office.

The government is seeking to re-establish a concierge service to assist dialysis patients.

Dr. Sands added that

while he would love to be able to provide services at no cost, this year he has a \$50 million shortfall.

"I am in agreement that if we provide a service which is unbudgeted, then the only way that we can provide that service is if we have the revenue to match the service, and what that service costs is to be determined and that is why a leaked internal document does not further the transformation of our health care system," he said.

Some 463 people are reportedly on dialysis at a total cost of between \$50,000 and \$80,000 per patient a year, that's a rough total of some \$25 million annually to taxpayers.

LANDFILL BIDDER AWARDED

Continued from / PAGE 1...

The Bahamas was the New Providence Sanitary Landfill and that was because of the risk of fires at that site."

He added, "you would remember that under the Christie-Davis administration in March 2017 that there was a fire that raged for almost four weeks. Schools had to be evacuated. Residents had to be evacuated. It was a man-made disaster.

"So, what we hope to accomplish through this process is bringing the skill sets, the resources, in association with the 'awardee'[winning bid-

der] to resolve the long standing issue.", he said.

Tall Pines Member of Parliament Donald Saunders said that yesterday marked historic day in both the island and his constituency.

He said, "I promised that I will agitate on their behalf to address this issue, and that I've been doing. I've been making sure that the government never forgets its commitment, in terms of making sure we put in place a company that is properly able to manage the dump."

CEO of Providence Advisors Kenwood Kerr told The Journal that the company plans to trans-

form the current landfill into what will be known as the New Providence ecology park.

This project's projected cost stands at \$130 million.

One half of the project will consist of landfill remediation, operations, and management.

The other half will feature renewable energy generation using the waste streams from the land fill.

The site will also feature a public mini-golf course, fitness circuit and ecology park within a buffer zone to provide a "clean and serene oasis for neighbours and visitors.

Bishop Promotes Medicinal Marijuana

Continued from / PAGE 1...

"I think its egregious that in the 21st century we have people dying because they cannot afford medicine or insurance. If you can find the remedy growing in your backyard, then I have no problem with it," he said.

Bishop Hall said he believes that there should be extensive study into the matter before the proposed matter hits the benches of parliament.

He said he is not one to smoke neither does he suggest it, but he does want the drug to be decriminalized to keep undeserving individuals out of jail.

He also recalled a recent incident this past week where a young man was punished for a small amount.

He said, "I stood with a young man who had a spliff in his socks, and he was charged x amount of dollars. All I'm saying is that I got the court to sentence him to counseling at New Covenant. That's pastoral duty, as far as I'm concerned."

Bishop Hall also pointed out that this controversial herb is grown on every island in the Caribbean.

He also implied that there is much more to gain from the plant's decriminalization than lose.

He said, "the Europeans

exploited us with corn and sugar. We must not let them exploit us again with cannabis, and that's what I'm for without apology."

He added, "I'm not saying to go out and smoke marijuana. I'm saying if it can help people, if people can find medicinal value, why not decriminalize it?"

In the coming weeks Bishop Hall is scheduled to speak with a number of clergymen from a number of denominations on the matter.

He said he is very pleased with the incremental response he has been getting and as far as the local/national commission is concerned, he says he's ready.



PUBLIC NOTICE OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER

EXTENSION OF 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 has extended the invitation for tenders for the appointment of a Service Provider to conduct a Land Audit of Government Lands within the Commonwealth of The Bahamas.

All companies are invited to visit the Notices 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

Tenders 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 5:00 pm on Friday, 31st August, 2018**, and addressed to:

Chairman, The Tender Board
c/o Acting Financial Secretary
Ministry of Finance
Cecil Wallace Whitefield Centre
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.

There will be a Public Briefing on Wednesday, 15th August 2018, at the Ministry of Finance, at 10:00 am. During the Public Briefing questions regarding the Project and Terms of Reference will be addressed.

Permanent Secretary



Ministry Of Transport and Aviation

Road Traffic Department

Please be advised that The Controller of the Road Traffic Department in accordance with the provision of the Road Traffic Act Chapter 220, hereby publishes his intentions to grant available, **Self-Drive Car/Scooters and Private Scheduled (School Bus) Franchises and Variations**.

Accordingly, the Department is presently accepting applications for the available licenses.

All application forms **MUST** be accompanied with the following documents:

SELF-DRIVE CARS/SCOOTER FRANCHISE

- A copy of the first (4) pages of a valid Passport
- A copy of National Insurance Card
- A current police record
- A letter of Intent (or Business Plan if Available)

PRIVATE SCHEDULE (SCHOOL BUS) FRANCHISE

- A Tentative agreement or contract from a recognised institution
- A copy of the first (4) pages of a valid passport
- A copy of National Insurance Card
- A current police record
- A copy of Driver's Public Service Badge

All applications should be submitted to the Franchise Unit, Road Traffic Department at The Thomas A. Robinson National Stadium no later than 4:00p.m. Friday August 10th 2018.

“Gov’t Desperate On Housing”, Says MP



▶ MP for Mangrove Cay & South Andros, Picewell Forbes
(Journal file photo)

Continued from / PAGE 1...

mote the sale of a mere ten lots shows how desperate this government is for good news. Unfortunately, there is no good news there either.”

The Opposition’s spokesman on housing said “the FNM has this unfortunate way of glorying in the misfortunes of its citizens. The Minister should have instead been boasting about how they are working with each applicant to ensure that they do qualify.

“Next, we find it amusing what the FNM is promoting. Their announce-

ment is in fact that of a PLP project designed and approved before the 2017 General Election.

“We can’t believe the Minister and the Prime Minister put down a plaque to promote the sale of the 10 Lots created in the Sunset Close extension by the PLP and he has not sold them. I am advised that all these lots were all assigned prior to the election and because of their size, specially designed houses were to be constructed there to complement the existing subdivision. The persons who got the assignments were pre-approved so why

are the applicants now failing to qualify?” he asked.

Mr. Forbes said in his budget statement he warned the Government that their programme was flawed. “I did not believe that applicants who needed affordable housing would have the resources to take advantage of service lots. What I predicted has come true. The programme has fallen woefully short of the mark.

“The FNM must go back to the drawing board. They can simply go to the files and follow the blueprints left by the PLP,” said Mr. Forbes.

ACCUSED WEBSHOP MURDER ARRAIGNED

BY JAMEELHA MISSICK
Journal Staff Writer

A man was yesterday arraigned before Deputy Chief Magistrate Subusola Swain on one count of murder.

26-year-old William Etienne, whose address is unknown, was charged in connection with the August 24th web shop killing of Alvin Strachan.

Reports are that around 10:00 that morning, Etienne allegedly entered the FML Webshop East Street and Balfour

See ACCUSED / page 8...



MINISTRY OF LABOUR
THE PRICE CONTROL ACT, 1971
CHAPTER 339
THE PRICE CONTROL (GASOLINE & DIESEL OIL)
(AMENDMENT) () REGULATIONS, 2011

The public is advised that prices as shown in the Schedule for LEAD FREE GASOLINE sold by Freeport Oil Company Limited (FOCOL) became effective on Wednesday, July 25, 2018.

SCHEDULE

PLACE	ARTICLE	MAXIMUM WHOLESALE SELLING PRICE PER U.S. GALLON		MAXIMUM RETAIL SELLING PRICE PER U.S. GALLON (VAT INCLUSIVE)
		MAXIMUM SUPPLIERS' PRICE \$	MAXIMUM DISTRIBUTORS' PRICE \$	
PART B FREEPORT, G.B.		INCLUDING SEA FREIGHT		
Freeport Oil Co. Ltd.	LEAD FREE	4.41	4.41	5.01

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TO OUR VALUED CUSTOMERS

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August 13th to August 25th, 2018

And will REOPEN

August 27th, 2018

We apologize for any inconvenience caused.

- Management -

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!”

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



PUBLIC NOTICE

THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE & MARINE RESOURCES

INVITATION FOR TENDERS

TENDER FOR THE PROVISION FOR SECURITY SERVICES FOR THE
GLADSTONE ROAD AGRICULTURAL CENTRE

The Ministry of Agriculture & Marine Resources invites Tenders from interested Companies for the provision of Security Services for the Gladstone Road Agricultural Centre.

All persons/companies are invited to collect the Tender Document between the hours of 10:00a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday from:

Ministry of Agriculture & Marine Resources
East Bay Street
Out Island Traders Building
Nassau, Bahamas
Telephone No. 397-7444

All Tendered documents are to be submitted in triplicate (3) in a sealed envelope marked "TENDER SPECIFICATIONS FOR THE PROVISION FOR SECURITY SERVICES FOR THE GLADSTONE ROAD AGRICULTURAL CENTRE" and addressed to:

Chairman
The Tenders Board
c/o Financial Secretary
Ministry of Finance
Cecil Wallace Whitfield Centre
P. O. Box N-3017
Nassau, N.P., The Bahamas
Telephone No. 327-1530

The deadline line for submission of Tenders is Thursday August 30th, 2018.

Persons/companies submitting Tenders are invited to be present for the Tender opening on Tuesday 3rd September, 2018 at 10.00am to the meeting of the Tenders Board at the Ministry of Finance.

The Ministry of Finance reserves the right to reject any or all Tenders.

Phedra Rahming (Ms.)
Permanent Secretary

MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS
BUILDINGS REGULATIONS ACT, 1971NOTICE 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, 1971NOTICE 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, 1971NOTICE 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

PUBLIC NOTICE
OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTERTENDER 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:

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

DELIVERABLES

- A Land Audit report containing methodology and Land Audit findings and recommendations;
- 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;
- An A0 map size with an overlay of subject land parcels; and
- 2x copies of DVDs/ CDs with GIS spatial datasets (WGS84 ESRI 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

The Rough Cut

By Felix F. Bethel

“...nothing is isolated...”

Now that plagiarism has become chic---please note:---every word [excluding these confessional words now being used and abused] are taken directly from a piece written by some dude named Simon Mont.

As for who this Simon dude really is, all I know is this---He writes so clearly and beautifully and thus --with no thanks to him [because I am a Bahamian] I lift heavenward his oh-so-very-pithy words:----Nothing is isolated. Every act of violence is a reminder of the complete transformation required. Along with these winds that carry violence through the atmosphere there are waters of healing flowing through rivers, raining down from above, and flowing forth from the deep wells that reside in all of our hearts.

There are trees of truth, justice, and righteousness that stand undaunted, no matter how hard the wind blows. There is Earth that constantly fruits all the medicine we could ever need, fire that burns the infections of our psyche, and an infinitely dimensioned universe in which we can create any society we can imagine.

A gun problem, a shooter problem, a racism problem, a mental health problem, a human problem.

A violence problem. Violence. It's not just a bullet or a knife.

It's an infection that permeates through people, relationships and society.

Imagine: You're bullied by a boss, it leaves you with a charge, that leads you to lose your temper at dinner, and then your baby cries. That makes your partner tired and irritated, so they say something rude to a friend, who brings it home to dinner with their own family. Passing along the pain because we don't know how to process it. We've all done something we regret, because we were struggling with a feeling we could not manage, given to us by a world we did not choose. It's a simple and familiar process we all experience nearly every day.

Now imagine: The boss is an enormous institution funded by trillions of dollars bombarding you with the message that you are not good enough. The boss is constellation of military manufacturers that prof-

its from every bomb they convince us to drop. They train us to think murder is a solution and safety requires warfare.

Now the boss is a police system that guns down citizens in the street and calls it protection; puts lost souls in cages and calls it justice. Now the boss is an economy that leaves folks without jobs and provides a thin veil of meritocracy that shames them for not being able to take care of themselves.

Now the boss leaves people in desperate need of help, and convinces them to hate anyone who receives government assistance, including themselves. What is the charge we are left with? What tools and support do we have to cope? How constantly are we passing this along?

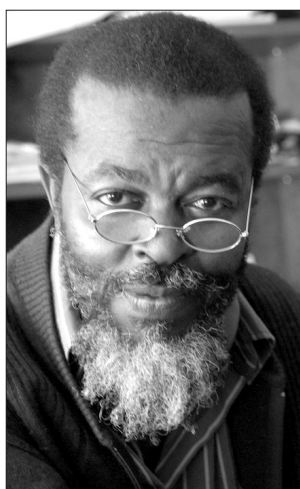
This is all violence. Physical, economic, structural, systemic violence. It traumatizes its way into our psyche and burrows into our selves. Once infected, we barely imagine any way to cope with our existence and struggles but to lash out on some other. Violence is a contagious disease that permeates the culture we breathe. We are being wounded by each other, and told that it is normal. It's the great capitalist gas lighting and we can't feel the pain if we are all on OxyContin.

Denial. Shame. Repression. Powerlessness. Hatred. Fear. Repeat. It's the American way of life.

We are lost souls trying to build our lives but America the colonizer has given us only wrecking balls and fire. It convinced us that we can make a dream real with a bullet and told the same lie from Columbus to Jackson to Trump.

This is America. Where we build shopping malls on indigenous burial grounds; where we wear clothes still moist with the sweat and blood of the children that stitched them. This is America, where we poison people's water supplies and label civil rights leaders as terrorists; where we drive cars fueled by oil pirated at gunpoint.

This is America, where our idea of success is to climb to the top of a hierarchy so that we can subject others to our will, where human worth has a price tag, where we build smartphones from con-



flict minerals mined by children. Where we criminalize or 'pathologize' any warning sign, including peaceful protest, and push opioids on the populace so that we can avoid confronting the shadow of our nation.

This is America. The world's leader in violence and self delusion. We are sick here, and we need to heal. Every. Single. One. Of. Us.

Nothing is isolated. Every act of violence is a reminder of the complete transformation required. Along with these winds that carry violence through the atmosphere there are waters of healing flowing through rivers, raining down from above, and flowing forth from the deep wells that reside in all of our hearts. There are trees of truth, justice, and righteousness that stand undaunted, no matter how hard the wind blows. There is Earth that constantly fruits all the medicine we could ever need, fire that burns the infections of our psyche, and an infinitely dimensioned universe in which we can create any society we can imagine.

Luckily, everything we need is right here.

We just need to figure out how to notice it, connect with it, organize around it, and manifest the abundance of love, healing, and compassion that infuses every moment with the potential to be more sanctified than the last. We can create institutions, policies, and economies that reflect and cultivate the most generous, healing, united, and humble natures of our beings to replace the systems that inflict violence in the name of profit.

The first step is to notice the depth of the problem. The second is to recognize that transformation is not only possible, but already in progress. The third is to cultivate that lovely mixture of hope, vision, stubbornness, and a dash of arrogance that lets us believe we actually can remake the world.

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EDITORIAL

Leniency Nixed

For your information:---Synonyms and Antonyms of leniency:---kind, gentle, or compassionate treatment especially towards someone who is undeserving of it; as in: the defence requested leniency in light of their client's lack of a prior criminal record.

In addition and therefore also for your information: Mercy described and defined-- Compassion or forgiveness shown towards someone whom it is within one's power to punish or harm. Synonyms:--- leniency, lenience, clemency, compassion, grace, pity, charity, forgiveness, forbearance, quarter, humanity, humaneness, humanitarianism.

Against this backdrop: We report some brand new information: Deon Ferguson, of Asphalt Street in Pinewood Gardens, has been sentenced by Magistrate Samuel McKinney in connection with the discovery of a .9mm Taurus pistol, a .38 revolver and 13 live rounds of ammunition.

This man will spend time in jail and clearly, then, he will be exposed to conditions in Her Majesty's Lock-up that might leave him traumatized and brutalized.

Clearly, this would profit neither him, his neighbors, family any abiding good.

And thus, we advise all who would dispense justice to be reminded that when you are powerful, you would be well-advised to be merciful!

But yet, we are sufficiently realistic about how things really run in this place to know that: There are those times in life when [as the word in the wind would exclaim] you can't win for losing!

Echo exclaims: You can't win for losing! And thus we move on to some matters that are true by definition!

Obviously:--Possession of any unlicensed firearm is a serious offence given the nature of gun violence in this deeply troubled Bahamas!

Obviously: Very many of our youth are savagely misguided, thus some of the misguided things they do!

And clearly: There are locales and neighborhoods that are now being marred and scarred by what some describe as 'a history of violence'.

And for sure: There are times in life when might and power could and should be tempered with ample doses of leniency and mercy!

Evidently, Deon Ferguson was not so

lucky---and indeed, we would humbly suggest that the four year custodial sentence he got might just do him and the rest of us more harm than good.

For all that we could care to know, such a sentence should be considered par for the course in a land where gun violence is clearly a major scourge.

But yet, we are quite concerned as regards what seems a clear mismatch between how this case was settled and another which went another more lenient way.

Something is wrong with this kind of picture!

One such bad time now belongs to Deon Ferguson.

This thought and this conclusion recently came to mind as we tuned into the sad case of that one youth-man, Ferguson, who was charged and convicted for having in his possession a gun and some bullets.

In this regard, this youth-man's offence was quite like that of another man who [unlike him] was quite well-connected!

Evidently, this is a place where different strokes apply to different folks.

Interestingly enough: That recent case serves as clear illumination of the extent to which judges judge differently and thus, on occasion, they seem to use differing standards as they decide the fate of this convict or the other.

In Ferguson's case: The learnedmagistrate sentenced this youth-man to four years in prison for possession of a .9mm Taurus pistol, two years for the 12 unfired rounds found with that pistol and on top of that: Two more years for possession of the .38 revolver and one year for the unfired round found with that revolver.

And wonder of wonders, word has it that: The sentences are to run concurrently at the Bahamas Department of Correctional Services.

Would to God that this matter was dealt with differently; but since it was not done as we might have wished, we surely hope Deon Ferguson will live long enough to cope with that reality where different strokes are thought to be due folks who [whilst guilty of identical offences] are treated with leniency, mercy and the greatest of humane considerations.

Apparently, none of this is obvious to some who now wield power without mercy in today's deeply troubled Bahamas.

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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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