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75 CENTS

# New Rules For Fiscal Responsibility

BY JAMEELHA MISSICK  
 Journal Staff Writer

After months of consultation debate yesterday opened on the **Fiscal Responsibility** Bill with the government announcing new rules.

The proposed legislation essentially sets guiding principles and rules for how a government spends and accounts for taxpayer's money.

The Minnis administration is seeking to ensure it meets fiscal gains set out in its budget.

It calls for lowering the deficit and maintaining a

sustainable fiscal balance, lowering debt to sustainable long term levels and maintaining current expenditure growth.

"The Fiscal Responsibility Bill strives to provide a strong, depoliticized institutional framework for fiscal policy—so as to ensure that no future Government ever again engages in flagrantly irresponsible fiscal policies that could once more threaten the future prosperity of our nation," said Minister of Finance, K. Peter Turnquest.

"To this end, the proposed Fiscal Responsibility legislation contains legally binding



▶ Minister of Finance, K. Peter Turnquest (Journal file photo)

■ See **NEW RULES** / page 2...

## Senior Doctors To Take Strike Poll

BY BERTHONY MCDERMOTT  
 Journal Staff Writer

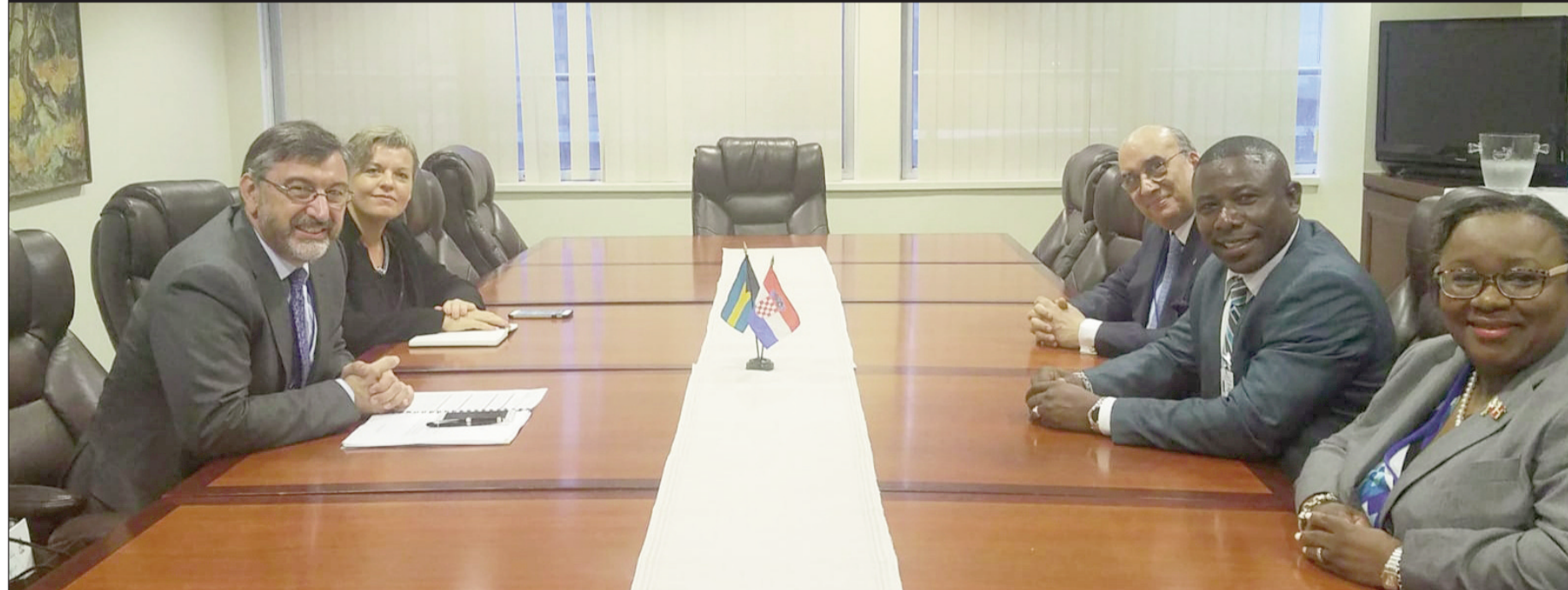
The President of the Consultant Physician Staff Association (CPSA) Dr. Locksley Munroe said that he accepts that the PHA may be financial constrained, but some of its spending habits are questionable.

Dr. Munroe expressed the association's dissatisfaction with the process of negotiations with the Public Hospital's Authority in a press conference yesterday.

He said that they are also

■ See **SENIOR** / page 2...

## TRANSPORT MINISTER'S BILATERAL MARITIME MEETING WITH CROATIA AT UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY



▶ Minister of Transport and Local Government's Bilateral meeting at UN General Assembly this week with the Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Croatia (first left) to discuss Croatia's support of the Bahamas' continued election to remain on the Group C Board of the International Maritime Organization (IMO). In Bahamian delegation at right, Vice-Chairman of Bahamas Maritime Authority Peter Goulandris; Minister of Transport and Local Government the Hon. Renward Wells; and Chairman of Bahamas Maritime Authority Denise Lewis Johnson.

## Tourism DG Calls For Disaster Risk Mitigation

The cost of super storms Hurricanes Irma and Maria on the Caribbean estimated at more than \$5Billion US Dollars, highlights the importance for the region to allocate resources to disaster risk mitigation and preparedness "in order to ensure that

the respective destinations rebound as quickly as possible" Director-General at The Bahamas' Ministry of Tourism, Joy Jibrilu said.

Ms. Jibrilu said the recent onslaught of hurricanes (particularly Hurricanes Irma and Maria in 2017) have had

the most significant impact on the socio-economic development of the region. The most affected sectors were tourism and housing respectively.

"While it is prudent that we pay attention and develop effective strategies to man-

age and mitigate the many risks with the potential to bring disaster to our destinations, the onslaught of hurricanes in our region has had the most significant impact on socio-economic development," Ms. Jibrilu added.

Addressing a Bahamas

Ministry of Tourism/Caribbean Tourism Organization/Caribbean Development Bank Sustainable Tourism Policy Framework/Disaster Risk Management Workshop at

■ See **TOURISM** / page 3...

## Bahamians Arraigned For Murders and Stealing

BY BERTHONY MCDERMOTT  
 Journal Staff Writer

It was a busy day in the courts as six persons stood before Chief Magistrate Joyanne Ferguson- Pratt on a for a number of offenses.

In the first case 38-year-old Mark Kemp of Cox Street who was charged with intentionally and unlawfully causing the death of Lamon Johnson on September 7th.

Kemp also attempted to cause the death of Pedro Henfield. Mr. Kemp was not required to enter a plea and was remanded to the Bahamas Department of Corrections until December 4th for the service of a voluntary bill of indictment.

In the second case Rashad Reid was charged with intentionally and unlawfully causing the death of Keiria

■ See **BAHAMIANS** / page 2...



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# New Rules For Fiscal Responsibility

Continued from / PAGE 1...

fiscal rules that places limits on the annual fiscal balance and the debt-to-GDP ratio," he added.

The government has made little secret of what it met on the books upon taking office last May, a situation the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, said cannot be repeated.

The bill introduces the special reporting requirements of a pre-election economic and fiscal update.

"The Minister of Finance must, no earlier than 30 working days nor later than 20 working days before polling day, arrange for such an update to be published on an official website of the Government," he said.

"The Minister is also obliged to ensure that the Update is a technical and objective document.

"So there should be no more surprises to governments coming in to power or succeeding another government."

Once passed, the bill

takes effect this Monday, October 1, 2018.

However, The Fiscal Responsibility Council will not come into force until July 1, 2019.

That council will be a five-member team appointed by the Governor General on the advice of the Speaker of the House of Assembly.

One member will be nominated by the Bar Association, another from the Chamber of Commerce, the University of the Bahamas, the Bahamas Institute of Chartered Accountants and the

Certified Financial Analysts Society.

From that body, one person will be appointed chair.

The Minister however stressed that despite its provisions, in order for the legislation to truly be effective, public participation and vigilance is important.

"You must do your part to hold us, the current government accountable to the provisions of it.

"But you must also ensure that any successive governments whether it be the Free National Movement, the PLP or any

other party, that you hold the next government accountable to these legislations so that they do not attempt to change it," said Mr. Turnquest.

The opposition's spokesman on finance, the MP for Exuma and Ragged Island, Chester Cooper, argued that many in civil society still have concerns.

While he supports the potential the legislation has upon and to bring some benefits to Bahamians, the bill he said, talks about doing many things without consequences for doing so.

"In the current fiscal environment, the legislation represents a potential serious threat to the economic stability potentially, of The Bahamas fiscal model, in my view," he said.

"Now what do I mean by that? The Government, through its recent increase in the rate of VAT has taken a potentially great fiscal risk, in that it may or not collect what it believes it will. I say they won't.

"We asked for the modeling, which was never forthcoming."

## Senior Doctors To Take Strike Poll

Continued from / PAGE 1...

dissatisfied with the way in which their concerns have been handled.

"It is acceptable possibly that they are saying that they have financial constraints and we accept that it may be so, although when we listen to all those contracts of \$1.9 million and all the other stuff that they do,

it raises questions to be honest.

"However, despite what may be their deficits, as Senior Physicians in this organization, we continue to work for the benefit of our patients despite all the deficits that we speak of," Dr. Munroe said.

He added that while he and his colleagues do what they can with what they have, they question whether

the PHA's still committed to their mandate.

The Surgeon said, "in the past 10 years, obviously I think all of you know that we have had recessions, the cost of living has gone up significantly, natural disasters like hurricane Matthew and Joaquin, and governmental changes.

"However, despite the disingenuous comments, we have remained commit-

ted to our mission, but it is questionable whether or not the PHA is committed to its mission which in 1998 was to improve the health care in the tertiary level organization of the Ministry of Health."

The CPSA President promised that doctors will be calling an urgent meeting next week during which a strike poll will be taken.

"It is stated that we live

in a regulatory and statutory environment, we have laws and so forth and our group is actually in consultation with legal counsel.

"So that steps that we take are synchronized with what will be found in the Industrial Relations Act and with the International Labor Organization.

"These are their recommendations. If you have some form of disagreement

with your employer, there won't be any illegal things. I can tell you that flat out.

"All the necessary steps will be taken, guided by what our legal counsel is saying to us," he said.

The CPSA said they will stand with the nurses union and the doctors union until this process comes to a polite end.

The CPSA represents well over 100 senior doctors.

## Bahamians Arraigned For Murders and Stealing

Continued from / PAGE 1...

Musgrove between June 30th and July 1st.

Reid was also charged with the attempted murder of Austin Taylor. He was also not required to enter a plea and was remanded to the BDC until December 4th for the service of a voluntary bill of indictment.

Also being arraigned today was 44-year-old Andre Kikivarakis of Zion Blvd, Murphy Town, Abaco and 31-year-old Liniska Cornish of Christie Street, Dundas Town, Abaco.

The pair was charged with one count of possession of an unlicensed firearm and one count of possession of illegal ammu-

nition.

It is alleged that on September 25th while in Abaco they were found in possession of a black .9mm Beretta pistol, not being the holder of a special license.

The pair was also found in possession of 18 live rounds of .9mm ammunition not being the holder of a special license.

They pleaded not guilty and were remanded to Prison until December 18th.

Christina Taylor was arraigned before Magistrate Derrance Rolle- Davis on 6 counts of stealing by reason of employment.

It is alleged that Taylor while employed at Island Luck on Monday April 30th

stole \$3, 262. Between Tuesday May 5TH and May 30th she allegedly stole \$39,067.50, between June 4TH and June 27th she allegedly stole \$38, 187.68.

It is alleged that between Tuesday July 3rd and Monday July 30th she stole \$30,016.56, between Thursday August 2nd and Monday August 20th \$53,005, and lastly on Tuesday September 4th \$2,350.

Taylor allegedly stole a total of \$165,888.74 over the past 4 months.

Ms. Taylor pleaded not guilty to all count and was remanded to the Bahamas Department of Corrections until October 16th.



### 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 Conservation Act and resulting in the selling by Tender:

Vessel	Description
Name of Vessel: Brailyn	Brailyn
Manufactured By: Unknown	Unknown
Make: Unknown	Unknown
Model Year: Unknown	Unknown

\*The Brailyn is a 53ft. fibreglass hull fishing vessel with extensive modifications. This vessel is equipped with Twin Detroit 6V Marne Diesel engines and one (1) four cylinder Cummins 35kw generator.

Interested persons may view the vessel by visiting the Royal Bahamas Defence Force Base, located on Coral Harbour, between the hours of 9:00 am to 4:00 pm Monday to Friday from September 10, 2018 to September 28, 2018.

Bids should be addressed in a sealed envelope to **The Financial Secretary, Ministry of Finance, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Cecil Wallace Whitfield Building, West Bay Street by 5:00 pm on September 28, 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, Bahamas by cash, certified cheque, or credit/ debit cards for the vehicle 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 items are 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

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# NINE DECADES OF SWEETS AND PEANUTS

From the Eyes of the Founders Youngest Daughter

Winifred and Ulric Mortimer Founders of Best Ever Candy Company now known as MORTIMER CANDIES LIMITED

## DECADE #1==1938

Winifred Caroline Gibson-Mortimer moved from Savannah Sound, Eleuthera to Nassau. She accepted a nursing scholarship from The Bahamas General Hospital to what is now Princess Margaret Hospital. Ulric, moved from Matthew Town, Inagua at age ten, with his mother and sister. Ulric and his family's move from Inagua came after the accidental drowning

death of his father. Ulric tried his skills at many jobs while becoming exceptionally well read and knowledgeable in biology, chemistry, religions of the world and mathematics. Most of all, he loved reading mystery books.

Ulric was accepted and attended Boys Central School based on his intellectual skills. However, he had to leave the school to work full time, in a shoe store, to take care of his mother and sister. While working in the

shoe store, one of his teachers from Boys Central School offered him a position as a full-time school monitor today is known as a full-time substitute teacher. Ulric left the shoe store and began teaching at Boys Central School, as a monitor/substitute teacher. While teaching, he enrolled in numerous mail order classes including medical, legal, self-improvement, religions of the world and candy making as a hobby. Each course

Ulric took he received a mail-order certificate. Ulric expanded his teaching skills by observing court cases and working part-time in one of his friend's law firm.

Ulric and Winifred met at a friend's home, and eighteen months later they were married in St. Mary's Church. A year later Ayres was born. Ayres is the oldest biological child of Winifred and Ulric's. Upon the birth of Ayres, Winifred gave up her nursing career to become a full-time

professional homemaker. Ulric continued teaching in the day and studied at night. Winifred contributed to the family's income by making and selling pound cakes, cookies, benne, coconut cakes and crocheting furniture decorations to enhance her and Ulric's income.

Approximately two years later, Ulric and Winifred announced to Ulric's mother and sister that he will leave Nassau to attend a New York's Candy School to study the art in making candies. To save funds, Winifred and Ayres moved in with Ulric's mother and sister. Winifred continued to develop her pastry and candy business. Ulric's mother, who methodology cut the coconuts with measured precision, was responsible for making all the coconut candies. While in New York, Ulric lived with his Inagua relatives. After school, Ulric worked as an elevator and delivery person, part-time at one of New York's larger department store.

Upon completion of the candy school program, Ulric returned to Nassau three years later. He and Winifred rented a storefront in Hospital Lane. The location was perfect as there was an abundance of foot traffic

from the tourist and people visiting the hospital. Approximately ten months after his return, Bernard was born, and the following year, Lester was born.

Ulric and Winifred continuously experimented with the chemistry of making unique candies. On one occasion Ulric felt that all a peppermint needed was to be transparent or white and full of peppermint. However, Winifred felt that peppermint should have a little strawberry to off set the mint. Today, both peppermint candies are favorite sellers. Other sweets were also selling well. At times it was challenging for Ulric and Winifred to keep up with the many requests. Winifred and Ulric also realized that there were no other candy makers in Nassau like them in Nassau. Thus, finding an appropriate and unique name that was original became an hourly taught. Ulric and Winifred's customers eventually opened their imagination to the original name by continually stating that "there will never be any candies better than Winifred and Ulric's candies." The return customers constantly said, "these are the best candies I have ever

## Tourism DG Calls For Disaster Risk Mitigation

Continued from / PAGE 1...

Breezes SuperClubs Resort, on Tuesday Director-General Jibrilu stated the workshop was an important regional initiative that was intended to "protect an industry that is a major contributor to our livelihood."

She said: "With the recent impacts of Climate Change on global

economies, it is imperative that regional communities such as the Caribbean region begin to recognize the enormous threat that this phenomenon has, not only on our tourism economy, (but) on our very standard of life, and urgently develop effective strategies to mitigate its impact on life, property and infrastructure.

"These workshops are

critical activities which underpin the project, 'Supporting a Climate Smart and Sustainable Caribbean Tourism Industry.' I congratulate the Caribbean Tourism Organization for spearheading this important regional initiative. To protect the image of our respective destinations, we must all be vigilant of the various threats that can adverse

impact on our economic lifeblood – our tourism economy."

The workshop, she affirmed, will reinforce the importance of collective efforts in mitigating and effectively responding to the threat of disaster whether it be natural, fire, health outbreak or any other that puts at risk the safety of citizens or visitors.

See NINE DECADES / page 4...

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### MINISTRY OF HEALTH

#### NOTICE

#### INVITATION TO BID

The Ministry of Health, Department of Public Health invites Tenders for the provision of Janitorial Services during the evenings, five (5) days per week at South Beach Health Centre, East Street South.

Interested persons can contact the Administrative Officer at the said facility for permission to inspect the premises. To obtain a copy of the Scopes of Work and additional information, please contact any of the following telephone numbers: 502-47004780/4831.

All Tender documents are to be placed in a sealed envelope marked: "To Tenders Board" Janitorial Services at South Beach Health Centre, East Street South c/o Financial Secretary Ministry of Finance Cable Beach Nassau, Bahamas

Companies should submit bids no later than Monday, October 1, 2018. Only persons with a valid Business License, Tax Compliance letter, Registration Certificate and Letter from National Insurance (NIB) stating your company is in Good standing need apply. Bids will be opened on October 2, 2018. Bidders or Representatives will be requested to be in attendance.



# NINE DECADES OF SWEETS AND PEANUTS

From the Eyes of the Founders Youngest Daughter

Winifred and Ulric Mortimer Founders of Best Ever Candy Company now known as MORTIMER CANDIES LIMITED

Continued from / PAGE 3...

tasted." With Ulric and Winifred's heads together thus, came the original name of Mortimer Candies became BEST EVER CANDY COMPANY.

## DECADE #2==1948

As the candy business increased, so did the Hospital Lane storefront rent. The owners of the storefront informed Ulric that the increase in rent was not negotiable. Eventually, Winifred and Ulric could not stay in the busy storefront because of the escalated rent was too high for them to cover all their expenses. So, they moved the candy shop from what was a high tourist area and a convenient location for locals to Nassau Street.

BEST EVER CANDY COMPANY transfer to Nassau Street where the community warmly and wholeheartedly welcomed them. Ulric constantly reiterated, " ... this move was one of my wisest decisions", and "...God had his hand in this move...". The candy shop grew as horse and carriage drivers brought many, many tourists to the only true, true Bahamian candy shop. Locals took pride in riding their bicycles and walking to the candy shop in Nassau Street. Purchasing candies from "Mr. Mortimer" became a Saturday ritual for the working-class Bahamians with their families. Parents rewarded their children's "good" report cards with treats from BEST EVER CANDY COMPANY.

Ulric used his children Ayres, Bernard, and Lester to assist him in the Nassau Street shop. No child was too young, and each child had a job responsibility. Ayres was charged with wrapping and decorating the candies. Bernard and Lester were assigned milk can cover to cut out the chocolate pieces. Meanwhile, Winifred continued her cake baking which now included coconut and pineapple tarts and small catering jobs. Ulric's mother continued fine-tuning her coconut skills by cutting the coconut with uniform precision to make the coconut candies. Many of these items that were not identified (Ulric's standards) as candies were sold in an off section of the candy shop and they sold. Eventually, the shop in Nassau Street became too small to make and sell sweets and pastries. Ulric identified a location on the top of East Street hill that he bought. Ulric and Winifred moved their growing family to a lovely single-story home in Mason Addition near the Tinker's shop and the Butler's home. Their immediate next-door neighbor was Ms. Jestina Ferguson, a beautiful kind and caring single grandmother, who was bringing up her grandson Amos. Ms. Ferguson cared for Amos alone, with minimal financial assistance. The two neighbors became very close, although separated by their individual rented homes cement wall and a vast quinep tree. Amos' grandmother asked Ulric if Amos could work in the candy shop on East Street after school. Ulric agreed. Shortly after Amos started working at the candy shop, his grandmother became seriously ill. On her deathbed, she asked Winifred and Ulric if they would take her grandson because he had no other family. Amos's grandmother continually emphasized in a feeble voice, "...take the boy, he is a good boy...". She died shortly after making the request. Amos was about seventeen years old when his grandmother died. Winifred saw Amos as an older sibling for the large family which she and Ulric planned. Thus, Amos immediately became my oldest most compassionate brother.

Ulric and Winifred started building their dream home near Collins Wall in Mason Addition. The new home will provide space for their growing family and be near the East Street candy shop. The six-bedroom, three bath two level home, included a unique self-contained room with its private entrance for Amos. A maid quarters was built at the very back of the property.

Winifred and Ulric moved into their new home just in time to give birth to their fourth child Ulric, Jr. Dr. C.R. Walker delivered Ulric, Jr. in the new house. Subsequently, every other year after that Winifred and Ulric gave birth to a child. Each child was delivered by Dr. Walker. Following Ulric, Jr. Esther arrived, then Weston, then Joan, then Lowell, then Hugh (died during his first year of life), then Ann, and then Phillip. All twelve children plus Winifred and Ulric lived in Winifred and Ulric's dream home during a specific period.

## DECADE #3==1958

As the candy business grew Winifred and Ulric saw a need to move closer to the business. Winifred saw a lovely home on a hill which was less than half a block from the candy shop. To Winifred, the beauty of climbing approximately thirty steps from East Street to the front door of the home added to the charm of the house. Winifred and Ulric purchased the home and the surrounding property, which connected to the candy shop. Growing up Mortimer was laden with expectations, that I felt was designed for everyone else except me. Case-in-point, growing up Mortimer and living near the candy shop, all breathing healthy offspring of Winifred and Ulric Mortimer were expected to work their minds, hearts, bodies, and souls in the candy shop, during Christmas, Easter, special occasions and super large orders like the Red Cross Fair on Government Hill, St. John's College Fair, or the numerous church fairs.

The intensive labor work in the candy shop began with going to bed early the night before and waking up around twelve thirty in the morning to start working in the sweltering kitchen of the candy shop. There was no point in complaining, because if we wanted an allowance of one shilling and a bonus of six pence we had to work and be pleasant while working.

Well, we all woke at twelve thirty in the morning with plenty of bib-b's in our eyes. We walked down the thirty steps towards East Street. Some siblings were complaining, some siblings stating what they wanted to do when they arrived at the candy shop, and some siblings declaring what their allowance ought to be. By the time we got to East Street and standing on the last step, everyone was awake and began teasing each other and laughing loudly. The older siblings would dictate what each person should work on immediately when they get to the shop.

As for Phillip and I, the two youngest, we were quiet, and we scurried our little feet as we tried to act as grown up like the others. Although we were still half asleep, we felt grown-up, we felt important, and most of all we saw where the older siblings needed us... because Daddy told us so. Our Mamma said to me that I was required to check on the older siblings. We had our "marching" orders from Mamma and Daddy, so we adhered to their rules if we could. An hour into being in the shop Phillip and I would fall asleep on the mountain bags of sugar or peanuts. Sometimes Joan and Lowell would try to squeeze us out so that they could sleep.

Arriving at the candy shop, we were greeted by the night watchman and then Daddy, Amos, Bernard, Lester, and Ulric, Jr. The sibling's entourage consisted of Ayres, Esther, Weston, Joan, Lowell, me and Phillip. Our entrance to the shop was through the shop's side entrance door. This side door was used for candy supply deliveries such as peanuts, sugar, syrup, lard, paper, paper bags, and cream. I loved the side entrance because it was surrounded by lots of exciting hiding and explorative places. Across from the side entrance door was a cave, yes, a cave in which Daddy stored coal. The coal was used to cook the candies. One of my siblings will remain nameless, told me that gold was hidden under the piles of jet-black coal. I spent many days helping the candy shop coal workers shoveling coal. I even observed the trucks delivering the coal, so that I could go into the cave when it was empty to look for the gold. The cave is closed today, and to my knowledge, no one has found the gold at the bottom of the black coal.

The side entrance of the candy shop also provided me with the ability to climb three feet elevated portion of the of the candy shop yard This elevated portion had a poinciana tree, a tamarind tree, a worn-out, tired looking guava tree and a deep well, which I thought was deeper than any ocean. The back of the candy shop was more interesting than the thirty-pound brown bags of sugar piled to the inside ceiling of the kitchen, the crocus bags of American and Haitian peanuts next to the sugar bags, and the barrels of lard and syrup stacked closer to the coal stove and heavy iron pots.

What I did not mention earlier was how often we had to fight with the bees trying to make a home near the sugar bags. I know the sugar bags looked like a luxury condo to the bees and Winifred and Ulric's children. However, Winifred and Ulric's children controlled the



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# HOW TO SET THE RIGHT FOUNDATION

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.

Ensuring business effectiveness isn't always an appealing process but there are steps that can make all the difference in the world to your business success.

As a critical step in aligning employees with your business purpose, goals and strategies, here are the steps for setting the right foundation with employees:

\* You have to start by seeing employees as business partners—as employee partners.

\* You have to share with employees everything they need to know to help the business achieve its goals.

\* You have to tell employees what the business is about.

\* You have to tell employees what you are trying to accomplish or what direction you wish to go in.

\* You have to tell employees what strategies you feel will get the company to the end goal.

**You have to start by seeing employees as business partners—as employee partners.**

Now that employees are partners, you have to treat them as such in terms of communicating relevant and necessary information. If something changes in the business, just as you would update a partner, you need to update your employee-partners. This will avoid the error of the financial services company where employees turn customers away because they didn't get updates on new products.

**You have to share with employees everything they need to know to help the business achieve its goals.**

When you are ready to do this, make it a formal process that is planned. A formal process communicates the message that this is important. If you were doing this with a business partner, you would not do it haphazardly. So have this discussion in the same planned setting as you would a business partner.

## 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.

**You have to tell employees what the business is about.**

To trigger your thinking on what information will be helpful to share with employee-partners, begin your reflection process by asking yourself the following:

- \* Why did I start this business?
- \* What are we all about?
- \* Who do we serve?
- \* How do I want customers to see us?
- \* What processes, systems, procedures, help us to be most effective?

**You have to tell employees what you are trying to accomplish or what direction you wish to go in.**

While each of these steps is important, this is especially important. Remember, you don't want employees 'rowing to Miami' while it is your intent to have them 'row to New York'. So think about the business goals: Are you trying to increase sales, improve customer service, expand the business?

**You have to tell employees what strategies you feel will get the company to the end goal.**

Consider what strategies you are employing to move forward as a company.

- \* Is it to 'wow' the customer with world class service?
- \* Are you trying to increase your customer base with new product offerings?

We will continue to share how you can set the right foundation in your company in an upcoming article.

## Letter to the Editor

I am an environmental proponent but I am also of the opinion that where there appears to be a conflict between protecting the environment at the expenses of creating sustainable jobs/employment opportunities for real people that the latter should take precedent. The cries of the so called environmentalists and their misguided allies, in most cases, are ow starting to come out of the wood works in agitation against the proposed development of Light House Point by Disney Cruise Lines.

Light House Point is privately owned and I fail to comprehend, as a lawyer by training, just how and why any Bahamian government could; would or should interfere in a private transaction between The Related Group (the current owner of the land in question) and Disney. A few years ago, the then Christie led administration approved building plans and development for Light House Point. I do not recall any public protest being launched by anyone or any so called environmentalists. Where were they at that time or it was not fashionable or possibly 'lucrative' back then?

The economy is still in the doldrums as far as I am concerned. No one, I submit, really knows or is even checking for the 'true' statistics on unemployment and under employment. Some say that here in New Providence it hovers around 14.5% In Grand Bahama some opine that unemployment is beyond 16% Whatever the true figures are, it is clear to all that jobs; jobs and more jobs must become the mantra of all Bahamian politicians, across the board.

I would encourage Disney to do three things if it wishes its proposed project to

advance. One, a town hall style series of public meetings should be held in Eleuthera and here in New Providence to allow the wider public to have an input; two, local media related companies (print;radio and television) should be engaged and three, competent and well connected Bahamian lobbyists must be consulted and retained.

It is noted that there are several 'private' environmentalist groups are echoing the same sad refrain.....'save Light House Point' which sounds good and may well be sincere. What will these individuals and groups say or offer as alternatives to real human beings with financial and other commitments? What gives a handful of people to determine the overall 'good' of the nation? COMMON CAUSE , my nonprofit community based organization welcomes Disney's plan of action to transform the Eleuthera economy and to make available employment and business opportunities for Bahamians.

It is also to be noted that there is a Bahamian organized consortium, led by Sir Franklyn Wilson, which has a development plan on the board for Eleuthera but, for whatever reasons, this project seem to have stalled. The good people of Eleuthera and other Bahamians cannot wait any longer for this to emerge from out of it's foundations. We need jobs and business opportunities now rather than later. To God then, Who in His wisdom, has presented the PM and his administration with a win/win situation unlike the 'fake' OBAN deal, in all things, be the glory.

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## E D I T O R I A L

# The Real Corruption

It now seems so very long ago.

Please allow some explanation: That to which we reference has to do with how election rhetoric has happened to morph into what now seems a boondoggle in the making!

In this regard, then: Our thoughts on this blessed Friday, September 28, 2018 now float in that still-redolent space where corruption of the rankest sorts was said to have had its residence and lair.

And for sure, all we can say that might matter is this: In time the truth will out—and thus, like so very many other right-thinking Bahamians: We know that however this corruption-cookie crumbles, nothing thence revealed can or will surprise us.

In truth, then: Evidently, neither party nor person in the singular or plural disguise [whether Free National Movement identified or by way of the same; The Progressive Liberal Party has a sure and ready portion of truth pristine.

For that matter, then, what sometimes unites people has to do more with race, class ethnic derivation, sheer chance and those deviations that come with such larger issues.

And thus, today we recall some of those heady days back-then-when, a triumphant the Hon. Dr. Hubert A. Minnis – this nation's newest prime minister –revealed in the House of Assembly that Johnathan Ash had been awarded multiple contracts totaling over \$8 million for hurricane clean-up.

We also remember how it was that:-- During his contribution, Minnis outlined a series of payments to Ash. A little over a month after Minnis revealed those payments, Gibson, a former Minister of Labour, was charged with receiving \$610,000 in kick-backs from Ash.

Note also: It is alleged that Gibson, between January 2, 2017 and April 30, 2017, accepted \$610,000 in bribes from Ash for using his influence to approve outstanding payments owed to Ash by the government.

As he did then, so today we learn:--Gibson has denied the charges. He is currently awaiting trial in the Supreme Court.

At this juncture, then, whilst we have no views on how this trial will ultimately go; suffice it to say that we are ever-mindful of

some of those pitfalls, put in our way by our historical ancestors.

There are times in life when [quite frankly] new information coming is so very strange!

In this regard, we cite that strange report which –stranger still-came from the lips of Attorney General Carl Bethel who has confirmed that Jonathan Ash, who is at the center of the Crown's case against former Cabinet minister Shane Gibson, continues to be paid by the government.

This is really strange!

And perhaps also, we have some other stuff which seems stranger still; with this being the Attorney General's considered opinion that there was nothing, repeat NOTHING that was untoward about the said payments.

And with this the Hon. Attorney General went on about how there was really nothing to that matter concerning either the money paid or to Johnathan Ash who has been described as a whistle-blower.

As Bethel insisted: The government is simply meeting its obligations. They are instalment payments on an acknowledged debt that the Ministry of Finance met on its books when we came to office. However, this raises a wider question that we as a society must come to grips with – how do we treat whistle-blowers."

Evidently, what began as a discourse on how certain strange matters can and do come before the public now moves from that realm of strange to that other one where curious holds sway.

In this regard, then: No matter what or how the Attorney General might seek to frame the issue at hand, there is no doubting a conclusion which might well be on its own slow way to the public's attention.

What we suspect is that one fine day, we shall all have a much better idea as to what real corruption is really all about in a place and in a time when some see corruption and its progeny in some of the unlikeliest of places!

In time, we shall see revealed the real corruption riding high on the hoof in all its tawdriness.

**THE BAHAMAS**  
Sun, Sand, Sea .... and the  
**The Bahama Journal**  
NO BETTER READING



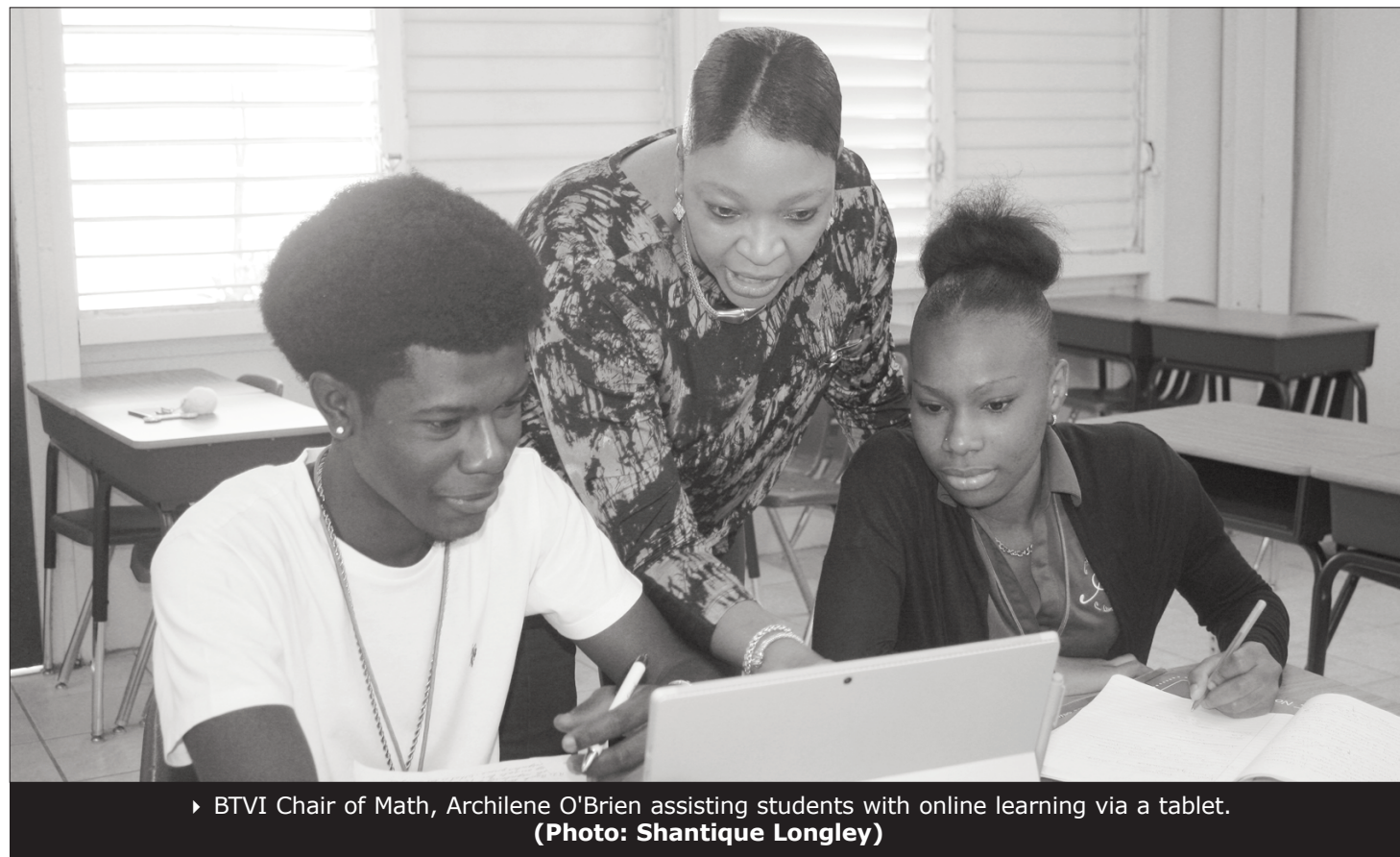
# Artificial Intelligence Helps Boost Math Skills of BTVI Students

The idea of math was always daunting for Darian Smith. He always struggled with the subject and that fear followed him into the classrooms. Though Darian has had several Math teachers in his academic life, he always felt like he was struggling alone. It was not until he was introduced to the Assessment and Learning in Knowledge Spaces (ALEKS) system at BTVI, that he began to understand and appreciate Math.

"The idea of having to take Math at BTVI really intimidated me. After doing my prep classes and being introduced to ALEKS, it was smooth sailing from there", said the Information Technology Management major.

ALEKS is a web-based, artificially intelligent assessment and learning system. It uses adaptive questioning to quickly and accurately determine what a student knows and does not know in a Math course.

The system allows instructors to create lessons based on their course outlines. On the students' initial log in, they are given a knowledge test to assess what topics they have mastered and what topics they need to work on. Based on those results, ALEKS creates a personal learning plan that teaches and assesses students' mastery of content and skills. The system also regularly tests and retests the same skills to make sure that students retain knowledge.



▶ BTVI Chair of Math, Archilene O'Brien assisting students with online learning via a tablet. (Photo: Shantique Longley)

Because of ALEKS, Darian is much more confident in his Math skills and has even become a tutor for BTVI Math students who face the same struggles he once did. He tutors students from Prep Math to College Algebra.

"A lot of the students I tutor don't understand the fundamentals and that's what ALEKS helped me with," said Darian who has now completed all levels of Math at BTVI.

Like Darian, Ashley Wright also had a fear of Math that followed her from high school.

"With Math, I just completely never understood what was going on. Even after having tutors I didn't know what was going on,"

said the Cosmetology student.

Using ALEKS awakened an appreciation in Ashley for Math that she never knew she had. Not only that, but she prefers using ALEKS, as opposed to sitting in the classroom.

"ALEKS alleviated some of the pressure in Math for me because I actually thought I was going to fail my last Math class and I ended up getting an 'A' - thanks to ALEKS. It's even still helping me in my current Math class," said the 22 year old.

"I feel as if the foundation is what I was really missing and because of the constant practice in ALEKS, Math is easier for me now," said Ashley, who

no longer needs a tutor for the subject. She is confident that with ALEKS on her side, she can conquer Math.

BTVI instructor, Ron Clarke credits ALEKS for changing his students' attitudes towards Math and making it easier for him to focus on those who need special attention.

"I have been teaching Math at BTVI for the past eight years and ALEKS is the best program that has ever happened to us," said Mr. Clarke.

"In ALEKS, I can see every mistake the students make and how many times they've made it, so I can then go and give individual attention to students with problems. So everybody moves at their own pace,"

he said.

"Students love technology. They can get on to ALEKS from their smartphones or tablets and sit around campus and just practice Math. They love it," he added.

Mr. Clarke has noticed a substantial increase in the percentage of passing students during the past two semesters using ALEKS.

Since the implementation of ALEKS in spring 2017, the overall Math pass rate has steadily increased from semester to semester with an overall increase of 11%. In BTVI's Math Prep course alone the average initial knowledge test score was 57% and at the end of the semester the average score increased to 98% - all

thanks to the assistance of ALEKS.

BTVI's Chair of the Math department, Archilene O'Brien is passionate about using technology with Math and is proud of the progress she sees in students. She is also impressed with the change in their attitudes towards Math and their excitement to use ALEKS in every class.

"A few semesters ago, there were a few students whose Math gaps were so extensive that we contemplated recommending that they be transferred to another institution. After two semesters on ALEKS, the students have moved from a dismal "F" to "C" average - an achievement that would not be possible without their long hours of persistence and commitment to working on ALEKS," said Ms. O'Brien.

In April, the Math department held an awards ceremony for all those who received passing certificates from ALEKS. Over 80 students received awards.

In spring 2018, the Math withdrawals decreased by 50% from spring 2017. This is the lowest the withdrawal rate has been and it is accredited in part to the students' success in ALEKS.

ALEKS is used to assist students in BTVI's Prep Math, MAT 0100, MAT 1100, College Algebra, Statistics, and Business Math courses, and is available 24/7 for students to learn at their own pace and in their own environments.



## Request for Marine Surveyors

The Ministry of Finance is seeking experienced marine surveyors to conduct appraisal reports on vessels that have been confiscated and awarded to the Crown following breaches of the Fisheries Resources Jurisdiction and Conservation Act and the Dangerous Drugs Act.

Please note that submissions from interested persons should include the following:

- Qualifications
- Experiences

Also persons responding to this request should possess the following:

- A valid business license
- A Valid Identification
- Tax Compliance Certificate (TCC)
- A valid letter from National Insurance stating contribution status
- Copy of VAT Registration Certification (TIN)

The expression of interest should be sent electronically via e-mail or post/ delivered in a sealed envelope. Electronic submissions must be circulated to [leronneely@bahamas.gov.bs](mailto:leronneely@bahamas.gov.bs) with the subject of "Marine Surveyor".

Conventional mail submissions should be delivered to the following address:

Mr. Marlon Johnson  
Actg. Financial Secretary  
Ministry of Finance  
Cecil Wallace- Whitfield Centre,  
West Bay Street,  
Nassau, New Providence

The envelope must be identified with "Marine Surveyor".

Responses to this request must be submitted, using one of the submission methods described above, by 5:00 p.m. September 28, 2018.

# Hundreds Turn Out For Eighth L.O.T.B. Job Fair

Hundreds of eager Bahamians turned out on Saturday, September 22, 2018 for the Department of Labour's Eighth 'Labour on the Blocks' Job Fair at the C.V. Bethel High School on East Street South. The Job Fair started at 11:00 a.m. and concluded at 3:00 p.m.

During a press briefing the Minister of Labour, Senator the Hon. Dion A. Foulkes while flanked by senior officers of the Ministry and Department of Labour said, "We have so far processed 450 job seekers, and we did it all in about three to four hours."

Minister Foulkes said, "I would like to thank all of the employers that are here today. We have some 20 service establishments here today. For the first time we have the marine industry represented. We have Aquamarine and Campbell Shipping here today and I am

very pleased that they have come out... The Prime Minister has directed that the Ministry of Labour and the Ministry of Education focus on the marine sciences and the marine opportunities, so we are very pleased."

Minister Foulkes pointed out that all of the businesses represented at the job fair had vacancies.

The Labour Minister announced that the Ministry and Department of Labour will hold two specialty job fairs later this year, one of which will include a 'Labour on the Docks' event. He noted that this will address the shortage of Bahamian divers in the country.

The other 'Labour on the Blocks' Job Fair according to Minister Foulkes will be held at the Department of Corrections to assist inmates who are about to be released from prison and are in search of a job. "We have

spoken to 10 construction companies who are prepared to come into the prison ...and interview some of those inmates who are about to be released," he said.

Some of the companies represented at the Job Fair included Diamonds International, Purity Bakery, Wemco Security, CIBC First Caribbean, John Bull, Campbell Shipping, Aquamarine, Fusion, Air Conditioning Refrigeration Mechanical, Enviroescape, Coca Cola and the National Training Agency.

Also in attendance at the job fair were Ms. Cecilia Strachan, Permanent Secretary, Acting in the Ministry of Labour; Mr. John Pinder, Director of Labour, Acting; Mr. William Pratt, Under Secretary, Acting and Mrs. Patrenda Russell-Brice, Deputy Director of Labour.