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# The Bahama Journal

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# Disney "Doing The Right Thing"

## President Calls For Dialogue On Lighthouse Point

The President of Disney Cruise Line Jeff Vahle is calling for a dialogue to find "common ground in his company's efforts to develop Lighthouse Point in Eleuthera.

In an effort to counter negative criticism of Disney's bid, Mr. Vahle says, "simply put, we want to work with The Bahamas to create an international destination that protects and sustains the natural beauty of this historic location; that creates quality jobs and opportunity for Bahamians; that celebrates the culture, and that strengthens the community in Eleuthera."

A number of Environmental groups including The Bahamas

See DISNEY / page 7...



President of Disney Signature Experiences, Jeff Vahle

## Doctor Tells PHA, "Just Be Honest"

BY BERTHONY MCDERMOTT  
 Journal Staff Writer

Consultant Staff Association President Dr. Locksley Munroe said the Public Hospitals Authority should just be honest with what's going on between both parties.

He said that the PHA can fix the infrastructural problems at the Princess Margaret Hospital, but not the salaries of doctors. The Union claims that consultant doctors have not had salary increases in

the last ten years.

Following the walkout staged by the CPSA on Friday, the PHA in a swift response sought to bring some clarity to the issue.

In a brief release, the PHA noted that at the end of a July 6th meeting, both sides agreed to further discussions on financial matters.

They also noted that within the last two months, the Authority began to review in an

See DOCTOR / page 8...

## LABOUR MINISTRY SEEKS TO CLOSE SKILLS GAP

BY LEAH COOPER  
 Journal Staff Writer

The Ministry of Labour this past Saturday launched its eighth installment of their "Labour on the Blocks" initiative processing some 450 jobseekers.

Some 20 businesses were in attendance on the grounds of the C.V. Bethel Senior High School in search of qualified individuals to take their business to the next

See LABOUR / page 7...

## PHA Financially Constrained

BY BERTHONY MCDERMOTT  
 Journal Staff Writer

The Public Hospitals Authority has revealed that it does not have the financial capacity to meet the demands of the Bahamas Doctors Union and the Consultant Physician Staff Association.

In a press conference on Friday past, PHA Managing Director Catherine Weech sought to bring clarity to the walk outs staged by both the

See PHA / page 8...



PHA Managing Director, Catherine Weech

## New Fire Station Opens in Grand Bahama



Prime Minister Dr. Hubert Minnis, Deputy Prime Minister, Peter Turnquest, National Security Minister Marvin Dames, Minister for Grand Bahama, Senator Kwasi Thompson, police Commissioner Anthony Ferguson, other Parliamentarians and police officials stand in front of the Albert J. Miller Complex Fire and Police Station, following official opening ceremonies on Friday, September 21, 2018 in Freeport, Bahamas. (BIS photos by Lisa Davis)

BY ANDREW COAKLEY

## Men In Custody For Drugs

Three men are in Police custody after a quantity of dangerous drugs was allegedly found in their possession and recovered from the streets of New Providence,

in two separate incidents on Saturday. In the first incident, shortly after 4:00pm, Drug Enforcement Officers conducted a search of a residence at Hawthorne Road,

Oakes Field and recovered 4 plastic wraps with suspected marijuana. The drugs weighed 4 lbs. 12 oz. with a

See MEN IN / page 8...

Prime Minister, Dr. Hon. Hubert A. Minnis says that crime in the country, including the number of homicides, is trending downward.

"Because of this, we owe

a debt of gratitude to the leadership and to the men and women of the Royal Bahamas Police Force for their dedicated fight in protecting their fellow citizens," he added.

The Prime Minister's remarks came during the

official opening of the Royal Bahamas Police Force Albert J. Miller Complex, Fire Station, on Friday, September 21, 2018 on Cathedral Boulevard, Freeport, GB.

See FIRE STATION / page 2...

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ALL THE NEWS YOU NEED TO READ IN THE MORNING



# Advisory Board Seeks Public feedback on NP Local Government Implementation

The Local Government National Advisory Council (NAC) has mounted an extensive campaign to gauge widespread public opinion for the implementation of a local government structure in New Providence. Since its formation back in April of this year, the body, led by Chairman Senator Ranard Henfield has worked to engage Bahamians at various levels; from the public, media, the local business community, NGO's and stakeholders already working as Local Government practitioners.

As the NAC works toward the creation of a solid legislative framework and the 2020 implementation of Local Governance in the capital, they are seeking even more engagement from Bahamians in hopes of fielding viable suggestions that would make the final legislation most effective.

Last week, members of the team began the first in a series of radio appearances to engage the public on the way forward, share some of their research and considerations along with revealing its short to long term goals for implementation.

"Members of this NAC have been very dedicated to this work" said NAC Chairman Ranard Henfield the entire team has worked quickly and brought their



Local Government NAC Team Members Ed Fields, Ranard Henfield, and Matt Albury pose along with noted Talk Show Host Wendell Jones following a spirited discussion on the proposed implementation of a local government structure for new providence. (Photo courtesy of Ronnie Archer for Barefoot Marketing)

varying degrees of expertise to the initiative to ensure that all aspects of this process are managed properly."

The public media campaign follows last week's stakeholder meetings with local government practitioners from Eleuthera, Abaco

and other islands who have lent their voices to the process, highlighting challenges and successes experienced in the family system.

Up first on the NAC media tour was a visit to Guardian Radio Show "Connected" with host

Lester Cox, a well-known proponent of city, and local governance. Cox facilitated an enthusiastic discussion on the committee's proposed plans which include among other things, ensuring that all local government practitioners in New Providence live

within the districts and communities they wish to represent.

"The problem is people who run for these areas have no idea what the issues are in those communities because they don't live there," expressed one caller. "How

can you help a community if you don't even know what's going on there" he noted.

The NAC team then moved on to "Issues of the Day" with host Wendell Jones who, with the help of his listeners, challenged the committee on similar issues as well as the issue of true autonomy.

Another major concern expressed is the need for true autonomy. "Is this going to be real local government, with autonomy and transparency?" asked one caller.

As a means of filtering and answering these kinds of questions, the NAC has also facilitated the creation of a Facebook page where citizens can send their questions, concerns or reservations to be reviewed @locgov242. Persons can also send in emails to LGNP2020@gmail.com and are asked to send in their concerns, ideas or more.

"We realize we can't speak to everyone" said Brenda Bullard-Colebrooke, Acting Director of the Ministry of Local Government. "But we want to engage as many as we can so that Bahamians can be heard, before we launch our New Providence system."

The team will resume their media campaign on Monday with an appearance on Darold Miller Live on the ZNS Broadcasting Network.

## New Fire Station Opens in Grand Bahama

Continued from / PAGE 1...

The Prime Minister encouraged those in attendance and the Bahamian public overall to work with the police in countering crime and promoting safety.

"When the police and community collaborate, crime and the incidence of violence are reduced," said Prime Minister Minnis. "Let us continue to produce partnerships, to promote peaceful communities across our Bahamas and throughout Grand Bahama.

"In addressing the quality of life of our citizens, from

Inagua to Grand Bahama, safety and security are of paramount importance."

The Prime Minister said that he was especially pleased to be in Grand Bahama for the inauguration and dedication of the new state-of-the-art fire and police station, named in honor of the late Sir Albert Miller, whom he referred to as a great Bahamian, who made a tremendous contribution to nation-building and to Grand Bahama.

"I am pleased to welcome the family and colleagues of Sir Albert, who himself rose through the ranks of the

Royal Bahamas Police Force to become Deputy Commissioner of Police," added Prime Minister Minnis.

"He was instrumental in ensuring that the property for this facility was donated by the Port Authority. Sir Albert left us with a great legacy of community and government partnership. Let us always cherish his enormous contributions to his country and to Freeport and Grand Bahama."

The new fire station sits on three acres of land and occupies 22,000 square feet of office and living space. It

also comprises a dormitory for single officers, an exercise and indoor gymnasium and a full size outdoor basketball court.

The new facility is expected to be staffed with a team of well-trained and efficient police officers and fire fighters, who are strategically positioned to respond quickly to emergencies.

The Prime Minister said that the facility is a part of his Government's commitment to ensuring that the Royal Bahamas Police Force is well equipped with the facilities, the high mobility transportation, cutting-edge technology

and other resources needed to deal with both minor occurrences and major catastrophes.

"This includes natural disasters such as hurricanes. This facility will be integrated into our national emergency and disaster preparedness program."

The prime Minister thanked all who were involved in bringing the dream of the complex to life, including the architect, Livingstone Forbes; the contractor, Patrick McDonald and Bellevue furniture and everyone who worked hard to build and furnish the new fire station.

## THE GRAND LUCAYAN PURCHASE: A BAD BAD DEAL

COMMENTARY BY BRADLEY B. ROBERTS

The Sale Purchase Agreement (SPA) for the beleaguered and closed Grand Lucayan hotel property was signed on 15th August and sale completed on 12th September. This purchase deal on a hotel property that was not a going concern, was a done deal by the 19th September Parliamentary debate. Simply put and try as the FNM may, this is a bad deal.

This deal left more questions than answers in its wake and further, Bahamians know this deal was very bad when the Prime Minister exhausted much of his debate time talking about the PLP rather than on the value of this deal.

We know that Grand Bahama is economically depressed; unemployment is high; tourism is in severe decline; a number of hotels had closed; there is inadequate airlift; the hotel owner sustained heavy losses and listed the property for sale for a long time without success.

This raises the initial question of what proprietary knowledge the government has that will ensure the suc-

cess of the property this time around. This pertinent question remains unanswered.

Since the people's monies are involved, it is vitally important to know how the Government arrived at a purchase price of \$65 million. The record shows that the pre-Hurricane Matthew appraisal placed the market value of the hotel property at or around \$57 million. With substantial hurricane damage sustained by Matthew, how could the market value of the now partially closed hotel increase by \$8 million or 14% to \$65 million? This question also remains unanswered.

This is voodoo economics and voodoo finance. There are dark clouds of secrecy and the spectre of malfeasance surrounding this deal. I certainly smell a rat. SOMETHING IS ROTTEN IN DENMARK!

It is imperative that the Government fully disclose the 'all-in' cost of this deal to the Bahamian people, inclusive of refurbishment costs and subsidies on "pre-determined" operational losses.

Further, how were the operational losses 'pre-determined'?

Why is the Minnis government secretive about who negotiated the deal?

Under the PLP, everybody knew that Sir Baltron Bethel, the senior policy advisor to then PM Christie, was the government's chief negotiator.

A government has a right to borrow money and acquire assets in the public interest, but it has a constitutional responsibility to protect the public interest and demonstrate the same by being transparent, accountable and honest with the Bahamian people. This government has not demonstrated any of these qualities nor has it been forthcoming or forthright with this deal, causing a fundamental breach of public trust in the minds of many.

If both Michael Scott and the Prime Minister insist that The Government has identified interested buyers and are entertaining offers, what is preventing The Government from putting both buyer and

seller together to consummate a deal? The Prime Minister has admitted that his government is not in the hotel business and only intend to "flip" this property.

The government has ignored this question too. THIS MINNIS GOVERNMENT IS ADMITTEDLY IN THE BUSINESS OF 'FLIPPING' HOTEL PROPERTIES AT SIGNIFICANT FINANCIAL LOSS TO THE TAXPAYERS!!

It would have been significantly more cost effective and fiscally prudent than spending \$65 million if the government had agreed to subsidize the hotel's current operational losses to save the 400 or so jobs there until a private purchaser could be identified and a deal completed.

This advice was offered by the Opposition PLP but was met with smugness, divisiveness and scorn.

I contend that Government hotel ownership is a bad idea. In its current form, this is a bad deal and Grand Bahama cannot bear yet another bad deal.

THE DEAL IN ITS CURRENT FORM MUST BE REJECTED!

In opposition, Dr. Minnis assailed what the FNM called the 'secret deal' involving Baha Mar. In his House debate Minnis shamelessly defended the CONFIDENTIALITY of the Grand Lucayan deal.

I say, PHYSICIAN, HEAL THYSELF! KARMA IS INDEED A B#\$!H!

According to the Sale Purchase Agreement (SPA), The purchase does not even include inventory, used and new, or inventory on order. What about the intellectual property, the company's vehicles and golf carts? The government gets none of these assets from this bad deal.

Where is the engineer's report on the structural soundness of the buildings? Certainly, such a report would significantly influence the purchase price. Is it necessary to raze any of the buildings? The tax payers would wish to know all of

this before their monies are committed.

There is no revelation on a strategy to reduce the cost of fuel, handling and other airport charges to competitive levels, essential measures in attracting much needed airlift into Grand Bahama.

I endorse the assertion of the Leader of the Opposition that "the three vital ingredients of the tourist product - the hotel brand, airlift and major tour operator supply of guests to fill hotel rooms - are pivotal to a successful resort operations and spin-off revenues."

NONE OF THESE WERE ARTICULATED BY ANY OF THE FNM PARLIAMENTARIANS!

The deal lacks vision! The deal lacks direction! The deal lacks leadership! As a patriotic Bahamian who loves the Bahamas and desperately wants the best for her, my proverbial fingers remain crossed as I hope, pray and wait with bated breath for the next chapter in the life of this now albatross, the Grand Lucayan.





**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:

<u>Vessel</u>	<u>Description</u>
Name of Vessel:	Brailyn
Manufactured By:	Unknown
Make:	Unknown
Model Year:	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



**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.

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**NOTICE**

The Royal Bahamas Defence Force invites bids to the Tenders Board for insurance coverage for The Royal Bahamas Defence Force's Building, Musical Instruments, and Warehouses.

2. Specifications and schedules of assets can be obtained from the Ministry of Finance, Monday through Friday between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

3. The quotes must be itemized to show the following:  
a) Increased Value  
b) Protection and Indemnity

4. In providing quotations, reference the Buildings, the Musical Instruments and Warehouses for the Royal Bahamas Defence Force, the date for commencing coverage is the 30th September 2018 to 30th September 2020. The final date for submission is Friday 14th September 2018.

All submissions are to reach the Ministry of Finance by 5:00 p.m. on or before the above-mentioned date and to be addressed to the:

**Financial Secretary**  
Cecil Wallace-Withfield Centre  
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# SETTING 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.

When organizational strategies, systems, processes, and human resources are not aligned not only can it result in lack of organizational effectiveness, it can cost a company money, just like in the following example with a financial services company.

An organization development consultant was called in to do a review of the organization because the executives felt like the company somehow was losing out on business opportunities. The organizational review discovered a number of problems impacting the business.

One of the discoveries made was that the company grew very quickly, in terms of adding new services and products, and they didn't make it a point to ensure that all of the employees were aligned with even what the company was all about.

If a potential customer called the company to find out if the company offered a particular financial service, very often they were told "no" simply because those answering the telephones were not aware of the new services being added to the company's list of financial products.

Clearly these employees were 'heading to Miami' while the company was trying to 'go to New York' (as discussed in a previous article).

Fundamental to the intent of aligning human resources with company strategies, objectives and processes is setting the right foundation. That means communicating to employees not just your company's purpose, it's goals and objectives and business strategies, but also what services are offered especially new ones being added.

One of the things fashion mogul Peter Nygard will tell you is that he often relied on his instincts when identifying strategies for achieving business objectives. When you assess his business, you'll observe that this has worked really well for Nygard. He has instinctively implemented effective business strategies, which have created his phenomenal success.

Peter Nygard has created a system within his organization that ensures that the right foundation is set for new employees in their week-long orientations.

During their orientation, Nygard's new employees learn about the history of the company, the company's structure, purpose

## 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.

and goals, the company's core values, and the development of its product lines; they are trained on its communication systems, processes and procedures and made aware of company policies. While we don't know all of the details of their orientation process, suffice it to say that it is very detailed and covers all of the bases.

And Nygard doesn't stop there: there are weekly ten to twenty-minute update meetings held by division to keep all employees informed about company news and developments including new staff joining their ranks. When there is no news, those sessions are used for short trainings as reminders to support employees in their job functions.

This explains why when asking any employee about the company's purpose, they will each tell you that it is about making the woman feel beautiful from the inside out.

This is also smart strategy. Every employee in your company is a potential sale. Imagine the possibilities for increase in sales if employees always know what's going on. They can and will excitedly tell friends and relatives of new products their company is producing, just like they were excitedly told about it in company updates.

One can only imagine the excitement and buzz in the NYGARD weekly updates once SLIMS came on the market. (SLIMS is the revolutionary pant designed by Peter Nygard that offers an Exclusive Slimcurve Technology™ with compression that lifts and curves the butt, eliminates muffin top and creates a slimmer look.) Employees, no doubt, spread the word on this revolutionary pant.

It doesn't matter what your company's purpose, mission, or goals are; as long as you work to ensure that everyone is singing from the same hymnal. Once that happens, your company is better aligned and more likely to achieve your business goals.

Next, we'll discuss ways to set the right foundation.

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Wendall K. Jones  
Publisher/Chief Executive Officer

Kimalee P. Jones  
Vice President/Operations

## E D I T O R I A L

# Can You Imagine?

One of those facts which now matter so very much to very many right-thinking Bahamians has to do with what now seems a deepening fiscal crisis which threatens the social well-being of all Bahamians.

Evidently, the troubles and travails now being experienced by nurses, doctors and the public at large are but one set of parts to an even deeper set of distresses in this country.

Here we need only re-cite the deep malaise currently being experienced by our people in Freeport and in the larger sphere of Grand Bahama.

In truth, then, whilst it might not be said that the sky is falling, the reality on the ground is one where poverty is riding high and is rampant on the hoof.

As we have previously asserted:--Poverty is on the march and this phenomenon is nothing more and nothing less than a type of social death on the installment plan where day by dreadful day more and more of our people find themselves reduced, diminished and humiliated.

It is perhaps this factor – among others such – that might explain some of the rage that currently saturates social life in not only today's Bahamas; but that of any number of other societies in our region.

And thus it follows: Even as some of this nation's elite classes now bemoan the fact that things are not as good as they once were, there are very many other Bahamians who are – for the first time in their lives – being introduced to poverty's harsh lash.

Note also:--There are those among us who could be categorized as 'the working poor' who are being troubled and beset by rising prices for practically everything they must consume and thus, while most Bahamians are today fixated on the extent to which enraged Bahamians are turning their pent-up wrath on each other, there are other Bahamians – ourselves included – who are focused on other matters that seem more germane to the lives of the vast majority of their fellow-Bahamians.

While some of these matters are not usually discussed when reference is made to crime and violence, we do believe that there

is space in that dialogue for a closer look at the violence done practically everyone by the rising cost of living.

Thus now we ask: Can you imagine the beauty that would be emergent in that time when they who are ranged against each other would put it in their hearts and minds a resolve to study war no more?

What a beautiful place this would be if differences between worker and employer could be 'worked' out in such a way that all could see their way clear to do the right-thing by and for each other?

And clearly, that other question arises:--What a wonderful country ours would become were we to welcome the strangers; show them a measure of hospitality and thus [in the flow of time] remember that the earth is the Lord's and fullness thereof?

These questions welled up in us as we reflected on some comments recently made by the Pope as he visited Lithuania.

As the Holy Father observed:---"...All conflicts presently emerging will find lasting solutions only if those solutions are grounded in the concrete recognition of [the dignity of] persons, especially the most vulnerable," he said.

Pope Francis went on to say:---"...If we look at the world scene in our time, more and more voices are sowing division and confrontation ... and proclaiming that the only way possible to guarantee security and the continued existence of a culture is to try to eliminate, cancel or expel others. You have suffered 'in the flesh' those efforts to impose a single model that would annul differences under the pretense of believing that the privileges of a few are more important than the dignity of others or the common good..."

And thus, we affirm that we are on all fours with the Holy Father when he asserts: "All conflicts presently emerging will find lasting solutions only if those solutions are grounded in the concrete recognition of [the dignity of] persons, especially the most vulnerable," he said.

We say Amen!

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



# “Celebrating Older Human Rights Champions”

► The Ministry of Social Services and Urban Development and the National Council on Older Persons held a press conference Thursday at the Ministry to announce activities to celebrate Older Persons Month 2018, under the theme "Celebrating Older Human Rights Champions," to be observed in October. Among activities are a church service, a picnic, a workshop and a Nation Builder's Award ceremony. The month is used to celebrate the older citizens of the country and let them know they too are loved and respected by the people of the nation and the government.



► The Hon. Frankie Campbell, Minister of Social Services and Urban Development, addressed the press conference. He is pictured at the podium, and also as he took a few moments to greet 104-year-old Abigail Poitier-Rolle, and Pat Moxey of Pat's Senior Citizen's Home. **(BIS Photos/Raymond A. Bethel, Sr.)**



## PUBLIC NOTICE

### MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL PLANNING

The public is hereby notified that an application for Site Plan Approval (SPA/7/2018) on behalf of Sterling Hurricane Hole Limited is presently being reviewed by The Department of Physical Planning for presentation to the Town Planning Committee.

The development is located on approximately 13 acres of land on the southern shore of Paradise Island along Harbour Drive and Marina Way. The proposed project includes the redevelopment, renovation, refurbishment of the existing structures on the site and the expansion of The Marina itself. The Master Plan includes the expansion of the marina to approximately 6,000 linear feet and construction of 300,000 square feet of buildable real estate with buildings dedicated to residential, retail, office and commercial space. Buildings on the site will not exceed 7 storeys or 89 feet above existing grade. The development is broken down into three phases over the next five years.

A public meeting will be held on October 15, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Planning Hearing Room at The Department of Physical Planning John F. Kennedy Blvd.

Preliminary plans 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 working hours of 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Interested persons and organizations are invited to review the information on file and provide written comments prior to the meeting. Comments should be directed to the Acting Director of Physical Planning within twenty-one (21) days of the date of this notice. Submissions can be made via P.O Box N-1611, Nassau Bahamas or fax (242) 328-3206. Further inquiries can be made to the Acting Director via Tel. (242) 322-7550/1/2 OR (242) 328- 3202 or [CHARLESZONICLE@BAHAMAS.GOV.BS](mailto:CHARLESZONICLE@BAHAMAS.GOV.BS)

Signed  
Charles B. Zonicle  
Acting Director of Physical Planning



## 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





# LABOUR MINISTRY SEEKS TO CLOSE SKILLS GAP

Continued from / PAGE 1...

level.

Labour Minister Dion Foulkes announced that a few businesses were making their debut that day.

He said, "for the first time we have the marine industry represented and we have both Aquamarine and Campbell's Shipping here today. I'm very pleased that they have come out because, as you know, the Prime

Minister has directed that the Ministry of Labour and the Ministry of Education focus on the Marine Sciences and other marine opportunities."

Minister Foulkes said he and his ministry spoke with all the businesses present at the event and discovered that some plan to hire as much as 40 candidates.

He said, "I'd like to thank the business community for participating. The Ministry of Labour feels very upbeat

about the economy. We know that this is the best tourism year we've had in a very long time. Tourism is up 15 per cent nationally, and that is going straight down to the average man in his community."

He added, "so there are jobs out there. We'd like to encourage Bahamians to seek jobs and to be prepared. Training is a vital thing that we're doing."

The government is also

helping jobseekers that aren't quite ready to enter the job market.

The Journal spoke with Tonika Stubbs of the Citizen Job Core, which plans to fill the skill gap that exists in the country.

She said, "it is an IDB funded program that works along with the Ministry of National Security Now, a part of our project, we also have four components, and in total we have about 7 or 8

ministries that we do work with."

She added, "for our second component we're actually tackling youth employability. We created the Citizen Job Core which is where we'll collaborate with the NTA to provide soft skills training, literacy, and numeracy training."

Stubbs said they are expecting to host a 12-week program as early as next month.

The first four weeks will be dedicated to soft skills, literacy, and numeracy while the remaining 8 weeks will be on the job training.

Participants will be offered a small stipend with the 8-week portion and they are currently looking for individuals that have no high school diploma, no BGCSE's, and are in desperate need of work.

The program officially kicks off on October 9th.

# Disney "Doing The Right Thing"

Continued from / PAGE 1...

National Trust, residents of Eleuthera, including students from the Eleuthera Central High School have impressed upon the government their disagreement to allow Disney to develop Lighthouse Point.

In a statement to the media, Mr Vahle said, "from an environmental perspective, we are absolutely committed to doing the right thing – and would never risk the natural beauty of Eleuthera or our long-standing commitment in this space by doing otherwise.

"What has often been forgotten in discussions about our plans is that the property is privately owned and has been on the market for quite some time. We are committed to giving more than 170 acres of what is currently privately-owned land to the Government for conservation. We also plan to preserve the more than 100 acres of salt ponds on the property.

"This focus on conservation means that only approximately 20 percent of the property will be developed,

much of it for low-density use like the placement of beach chairs and umbrellas and the creation of small support structures for things like restrooms, shops, and dining. We have no plans to develop the southern-most point of the property or to allow our Disney guests to visit it.

"Furthermore, we will use sustainable design and building practices for the areas we do intend to develop. For example, current plans include the construction of an open-trestle pier that would have a much smaller footprint and impact on natural ocean currents than a traditional pier design and that requires minimal, if any, dredging. We also intend to use solar power for much of our operation," Mr Vahle said.

In addition to providing full access to the property for Bahamians, the company plans will create 120 to 150 permanent, quality employment opportunities, encompassing a breadth of disciplines, as well as management positions and opportunities for career advancement.

The President stated: "At our other Disney destination, Castaway Cay, the current average wage is more than 50 per cent higher than the Bahamian minimum wage and employees receive health benefits and work full-time schedules with the opportunity for overtime. With guests expected to be in port three to five days per week year-round and the need to complete a variety of projects on non-port days, these roles will provide much needed employment stability.

"Beyond these employment opportunities, hundreds of indirect jobs will be created, along with positive economic impact through construction, port adventures hosted by Bahamians showcasing Eleuthera's unique sites, opportunities for the sale of Bahamian goods, and relationships with Bahamian vendors and other partners."

He stressed that the commitment of the Disney goes beyond our plans for this property.

He said, "as in all the communities in which we do business, we will work to strengthen the settlements in

Eleuthera, with a special focus on children and families. We also will work with Government and community partners to maintain and restore significant historical and cultural sites and integrate Bahamian voices and artistic expression into the design. Together, we will make sure it is rooted in the same kind of Bahamian stories and traditions I learned about during my recent visit.

"It is because of this broader commitment to Eleuthera and to The Bahamas that I believe we will find common ground with those who question our plans. But, we can only find that common ground when we use facts as the basis for dialogue.

"We have never been more committed to The Bahamas and its people, and we hope that our proposal for Eleuthera will become a model for sustainable development. In the meantime, we remain open and willing to talk, especially if we can meet under a Poinciana tree in Bannerman Town.

"The people of Eleuthera are truly one of a kind," said Mr. Vahle.

He said, "during my recent

trip to the island, we stopped in Bannerman Town on the way to Lighthouse Point. Under a Poinciana tree, a few people were gathered, and we walked over to introduce ourselves. We were invited to sit and talk and against the backdrop of the most beautiful island day, we talked of Eleuthera and its unique history.

"The crowd grew, and there were lots of questions about the project Disney would like to bring to the island. I am sure there were a few skeptics about our true intentions, especially given what some people and groups are saying. Skeptics or not, people talked, and they stopped to listen.

"We are humbled by the warm welcome that Eleutherans have shown us and for the strong support we have received for our proposed project from so many on the island."

He said, "the history between Disney and The Bahamas is a long one, 20 years in fact. And it is a relationship that benefits us both in some important ways – from the \$40 million we contribute directly to the econo-

my each year to the 150 quality employment opportunities we provide for Bahamians to the nearly \$3 million we have invested in environmental conservation programs.

"In turn, the beauty and hospitality of The Bahamas has contributed to our success. Seventy-five percent of our cruises visit here each year to the enjoyment of countless families. It is only natural we would first invite The Bahamas to be part of our expansion plans – plans that will also increase visits to New Providence.

"In Eleuthera, we plan to give our guests the opportunity to relax, spend time with family and to explore the stories of this special place. While the previously approved development for this property included plans for hundreds of homes, condominiums, villas, a hotel, and 140-slip marina constructed in the salt ponds, what Disney wants to do is different. Very different. In fact, our development is designed to have as little impact as possible on the natural environment," said Mr. Vahle.



GOVERNMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS

THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE

THE PUBLIC FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT AND PERFORMANCE MONITORING REFORM PROJECT (PFM/PMR)

IT SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT MANAGER POSITION AVAILABLE



**Title:** IT Systems Development Manager

This notice is placed on behalf of The Ministry of Finance to provide background information regarding the objectives of the PFM/PMR Project to enable interested persons who meet the stated and other criteria to determine their eligibility and respond to this advertisement to offer their services under the requirements of the project. The Government of the Commonwealth of the Bahamas (GoB) has received financing from the Inter-American Development Bank (IADB) under loan #3340/OC- BH to partially/fully fund the contract cost.

**SUMMARY OF BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

PFM/PMR will improve the Financial Management and Performance Monitoring capabilities of the Public Sector. Component IV: Public Procurement will modernize the public procurement system, promote efficient market competition & deliver value for money. The GoB is seeking a consultant to act as the focal point for overall development and delivery of complex internal/external IT system development projects across a variety of products and technologies.

**DESCRIPTION OF ENGAGEMENT**

The consultancy will take place over a 12 month period in Nassau, Bahamas. A detailed work plan with timeline to achieve the deliverables must be submitted 7 working days after contract signing.

**FUNCTIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

Specifically, the consultant, in coordination with the Chief Procurement Officer, and the PFM/PMR Component IV Coordinator, shall

- Manage the delivery of multiple complex simultaneous system development projects from design through to release.
- Understand and contribute to technical solutions from design through to code level.
- Provide progress updates and work closely with outsourced providers to ensure the management of any delivery risks or issues.
- Define, document and report on project delivery phases including activities, sub-activities, milestones, event log, issues and risk log.
- Ensure awareness, involvement and support from the key stakeholders and participants by building strong project teams robust communication on the project status throughout its life cycle.
- Participate in reviews and meetings and provide updates on project progress.
- Take responsibility for ensuring that risks/issues are identified and managed closely and drive all stakeholders to deliver on time and to the required quality standards.
- Work closely with relevant teams internally to ensure alignment and coordination across operations as part of the seamless implementation of existing and new systems.
- Contributing to post-implementation reviews helping to demonstrate success or otherwise of projects and to introduce processes to yield more predictable results.
- Drive major and significant stability and performance improvements.

**EDUCATION SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE**

- Bachelor level in Software Development, IT, or other similar disciplines
- At least 5 years of relevant experience in the private sector, non-profit or public sector (preferred)
- Experience of people management and the ability to lead and influence others including, formal personal development planning and individual, team and process performance management
- Experience in a variety of software development approaches and methodologies including Agile and Waterfall
- Experience in the development of software using open source platforms as Apache, PostgreSQL, Java-based technologies and open contracting data standards, and usage of UML.

**SELECTION PROCESS**

The individual for the consultancy will be selected in accordance with the Quality and Cost for National Individual procedures set out in the Inter-American Development Bank Policies for the selection and contracting of consultants financed by the Inter-American Bank (Document GN-2350-9). Note that the Government of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas has the authority to reject any and all proposals without an explanation. Procurement notices will be posted online at [www.bahamas.gov.bs](http://www.bahamas.gov.bs) CVs must be delivered by e-mail by 5:00pm, Friday, September 28th, 2018 to [pfmpmr@bahamas.gov.bs](mailto:pfmpmr@bahamas.gov.bs).



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# PHA Financially Constrained

Continued from / PAGE 1...

BNU and the CPSA.

Ms. Weech noted that the PHA continues to be fiscally challenged.

"At present, our approved funding from the government of \$216 million and our projected collections from patient revenues of \$13 million still results in a \$25 million shortfall of our projected operating costs for the current fiscal year of \$254 million.

"Presently, Personal Emoluments which include salaries and related benefits, account for \$169 million of our actual expenditure.

"Put more simply, 80 cents of every dollar allocated to the PHA is consigned to the payment of salaries and benefits for physicians, nurses and support staff," she said.

Ms. Weech added that coupled with the increase in procurement of drugs, vaccines and medical supplies which accounts for another \$32 million, leaves little to no room for the additional upkeep and expansion of PHA facilities.

"Many of you would be familiar with the fact that the challenged and aged infrastructure at the country's main tertiary hospital

requires immediate and ongoing repairs and upgrades so that the Public Hospitals Authority is able to deliver on its primary mandate of providing health care services to the citizens of our country."

"While we concur with the positions proffered by both the physicians and nurses that the present state of our physical plant is wanting, it is simply not sustainable to continue to expand salaries and benefits whilst neglecting our responsibilities to modernize and repair our health care facilities," Ms. Weech said.

With regards to the CPSA, Ms. Weech said that while they have negotiated in good faith within the past 9 months, conflicting schedules have resulted in them not having any further meeting.

As for the BDU, Ms. Weech noted that the PHA is of the opinion that there are no outstanding matters relating to maternity benefits.

An invitation was extended to the BNU, but Ms. Weech said the invitation is still awaiting a response.

She stressed that the PHA has always honoured existing industrial agreements and that will not change.

# Men In Custody For Drugs

Continued from / PAGE 1...

street value of \$4,600.00.

In the second incident, shortly before 9:00pm, Drug Enforcement Officers, while on patrol on Cowpen Road, stopped and searched a white minivan with two male occupants, and recovered two packages with 15 pounds of suspected marijuana with a street value of \$15,500.

The men were taken into custody and are expected to

be arraigned before a Magistrate Court later this week.

Police are investigating a shooting incident Saturday, which left an adult male detained in hospital. Shortly after 10:00pm, a male as walking through a track road off Nigeria Drive, Flamingo Gardens, when he was approached by a man armed with a firearm, who shot him. The victim ran to a nearby residence and was assisted to hospital, where he is listed in stable condi-

tion.

Police are also seeking the public's assistance with any information that can assist in solving an early morning armed robbery. According to reports, shortly after 4:00am Sunday, a man was in his vehicle in the parking lot of a business establishment on Soldier Road, when he was approached by two armed men who robbed him of his of his silver Nissan Cube license number AT1976. Investigations are ongoing.

Officers from the Mobile Divisions conducted road checks in various parts of the island. Their efforts, which were intended to educate, reduce crime, and to minimize the ability of criminals to commit criminal activity, resulted in the arrest of nineteen (19) persons for outstanding criminal warrants, breach of bail conditions, assault and drug possession, over the past 24 hours. Additionally, 23 drivers were ticketed for various traffic violations.

# Doctor Tells PHA, "Just Be Honest"

Continued from / PAGE 1...

attempt to move forward - at least as far as the PHA's financial constraints would allow.

As for the CPSA's concerns over key infrastructural issues, the PHA said it has engaged in a comprehensive review of PMH's air conditioning systems and the phased renovation of its radiology area.

As a result, the air conditioning systems in the hospital's operating theatres and ICU are functioning normally following a temporary repair.

Then there is the promise of a more permanent solution in the coming months.

Meantime, the Radiology Department is undergoing a major renovation that includes the installation of two state-of-the-art digital X-Ray machines and a 64 slice CT scanner.

However, CPSA President, Dr. Locksley Munroe thinks the PHA should just be honest.

"The PHA should just be honest with the fact that the last meeting we had was on the 16th of July and we had a meeting scheduled for Monday July 30th which

they canceled.

"They have never gotten back in contact with us concerning the continuation of our negotiations. They have never done it," he said.

Dr. Munroe said the association has already made the necessary recommendations to the PHA to help fix the issues.

"The statement has been made to them by the CPSA that we need a health fund that is independent of those bloody politicians who fill their pockets.

"We need a proper funding for the healthcare system not no consolidated fund that

according to (Michael) Halkitis is used at the discretion of the government," Dr. Munroe said.

The CPSA President forewarned that unless the PHA truly meets all the requirements, its band aid approach to addressing the issues will continue to fail.

Dr. Munroe added, "yes, it is nice to know that they can fix the air condition in one week, that they can fix the CAT scanner in three months and that they can fix the roof of the hospital after more than three years, but they cannot fix the doctors salary."

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**Further information and application forms can be obtained from:**

Mrs. Katie Clarke  
Nassau Branch Manager  
Bahamas Maritime Authority  
**Website: [www.bahamasmaritime.com](http://www.bahamasmaritime.com)**  
**Email: [scholarship@bahamasmaritime.com](mailto:scholarship@bahamasmaritime.com)**  
**Tel: +1-(242)-356-5772**  
**Fax: +1-(242)-356-5889**

Completed applications must be submitted in person or by post, with copies of academic certificates/transcripts and proof of Bahamian citizenship, no later than Friday, 28th September 2018. Qualified applicants will be contacted for interviews.