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# The Bahama Journal

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VOL. 30 - NO. 217

TUESDAY - SEPTEMBER 11TH, 2018

75 CENTS

# Sands Confessed to Breaking Rule

BY JAMEELHA MISSICK  
 Journal Staff Writer

**H**ealth Minister Doctor Duane Sands confessed that he deviated from the normal procedures of awarding a contract to Magic Touch Cleaning Company in the Frank Smith extortion and bribery trial yesterday in the Magistrates Court.

Evidence coming out of the high profile case has

revealed that Dr. Sands awarded a nearly \$2 million contract to Barbara Hanna's Magic Touch Cleaning Company for the Princess Margaret Hospital, without board approval.

Mrs. Hanna contributed \$300 to Dr. Sands' 2017 election campaign.

Former PLP MP Smith, is alleged to have extorted tens of thousands of dollars from Mrs. Hanna after awarding a cleaning con-

tract for PMH's critical care block.

In court yesterday, Dr. Sands testified that he didn't award a contract to Hanna, but approved the award of the contract to Magic Touch Cleaning Company.

Dr. Sands said the contract had board approval, but lead defense counsel, Keith Knight QC, argued that Dr. Sands said the

■ See SANDS / page 2...



► Minister of Health, Dr. Duane Sands

## BPL'S CLIFTON PLANT ENDURES ANOTHER BLAZE

BY LEAH COOPER  
 Journal Staff Writer

**N**ew Providence firefighters faced a busy weekend tackling blazes Friday, Sunday and yesterday morning at Bahamas Power and Light's Clifton Pier Power Plant.

While this fire proved to be just as large as the others, it again warranted the attention of the fire department's management team.

Fire Chief Walter Evans said late Friday night his team met heavy smoke emanating from the plant's basement level housing its major generator.

He explained that four units and four hours later, the blaze was brought under control and extinguished.

After a break on Saturday, Sunday night saw a similar incident with fire coming from the same area.

On Monday just before 9:00am another

■ See CLIFTON / page 2...

## STOP-OVER VISITORS NUMBERS UP

BY JAMEELHA MISSICK  
 Journal Staff Writer

Stop over visitors – those who spend 20 per cent more than cruise passengers – have increased by 15.7 per cent over the first six months of this year.

According to Tourism Minister, Dionisio D'Aguilar, on the domestic side of things, New Providence, Eleuthera and Abaco are all doing well.

"Exuma is about the same, but I think they're just maxed out," he said.

"They need more rooms, they need more hotel infrastructure to grow, and obviously we're going to put the new airport down on that island.

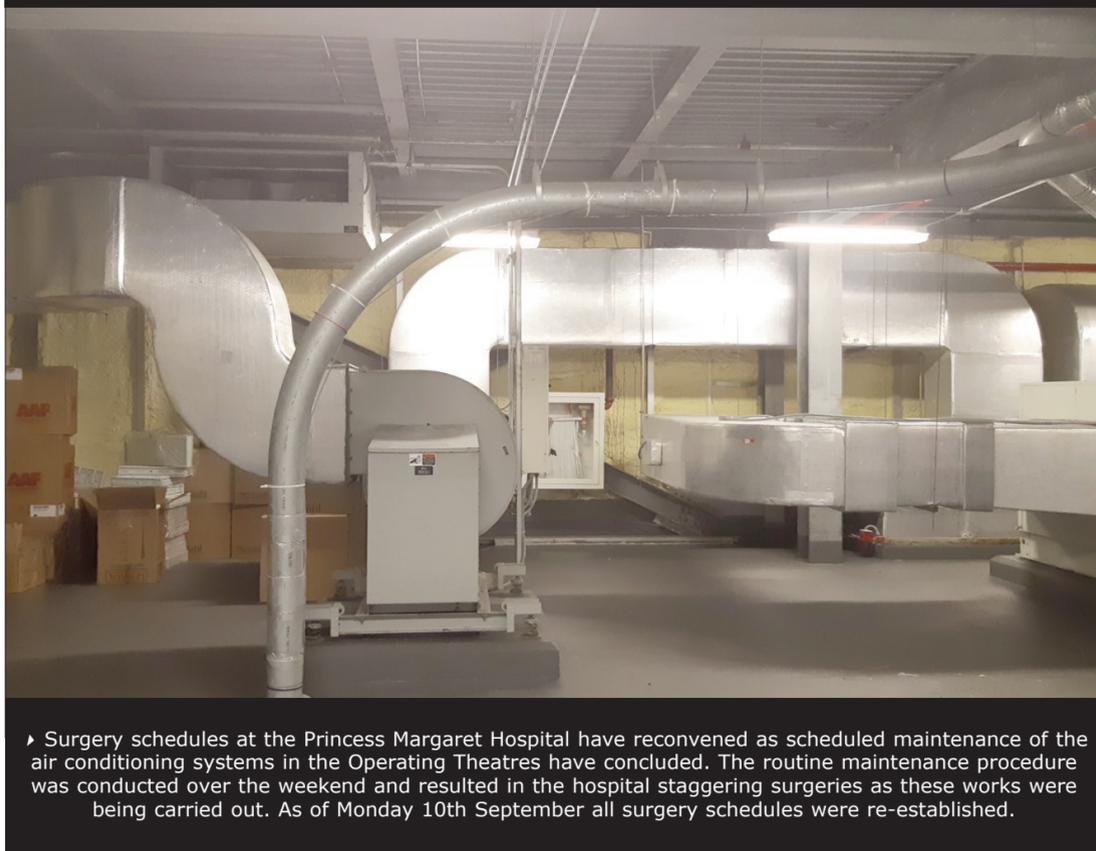
"San Salvador is up, the only island that isn't up and we know why, is Grand Bahama."

While the islands are experiencing if not double digits, high single digit increases year over year, admittedly, the Minister said there are challenges.

"If you speak to the

■ See VISITORS / page 2...

## Surgery Schedules Restored at PMH



► Surgery schedules at the Princess Margaret Hospital have reconvened as scheduled maintenance of the air conditioning systems in the Operating Theatres have concluded. The routine maintenance procedure was conducted over the weekend and resulted in the hospital staggering surgeries as these works were being carried out. As of Monday 10th September all surgery schedules were re-established.

## Bahamians Warned of Suicide Crisis

BY LEAH COOPER  
 Journal Staff Writer

As World Suicide Prevention Day kicked off yesterday, Health Minister Dr. Duane Sands made the opening address to Sandilands's Rehabilitation Center's

Suicide Prevention Symposium urging Bahamians to pay close attention to their loved ones.

According to global statistics, approximately one million people die

■ See BAHAMIANS / page 3...

## Teen Behind Bars for Murder

BY JAMEELHA MISSICK  
 Journal Staff Writer

A teen was yesterday charged before Magistrate Cochina Marshall, for one count of murder.

It is alleged that the 17-year-old,

Rock Crusher resident is behind the February 3rd murder of Okell Solomon.

Solomon was shot late that night on Brougham Street, off East Street after

■ See TEEN / page 3...

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ALL THE NEWS YOU NEED TO READ IN THE MORNING

# Sands Confessed to Breaking Rule

Continued from / PAGE 1...

matter did not go to the board. Mr. Knight asked Sands if he had approved any contract awarded without board approval, to which Dr.Sands replied that he did.

Attorney Knight asked if he recommended or approved the award of any contract emanating from the PHA without the board,

since Magic Touch Cleaning Company, and Dr. Sands said no he has not.

The lawyer further questioned Sands about his encounters with Hanna.

Dr.Sands said he doesn't think he told Hanna to go to the police the first time they spoke about the alleged bribery and extortion, but instead he took note of what she said.

He said it was not until several complaints to him about the same issue did he tell her to take it to the police.

Previously, Sands said he received several calls a day from Hanna and would return the calls.

However, yesterday Knight questioned Dr. Sands about how he was able to return Hanna's calls if he said when she called,

the number was blocked.

He argued that Dr.Sands could not possibly know it was Hanna calling if it was blocked.

The Minister attempted to clarify by saying the number was blocked on a regular call, which means he wouldn't know who it was unless he answered the call.

He added that most of the calls were WhatsApp

calls which weren't blocked because Hanna's number was saved in his contacts.

In response to the question of why wasn't the matter taken to cabinet, considering a cabinet decision is based on a cabinet paper, the witness responded that some matters are discussed at the table and cabinet does not have a paper on a decision of this matter.

When asked if this was a deviation of a policy, Dr. Sands said his intent was to show an example of deviation from the process, admitting that he did deviate from the normal procedures.

Dr. Sands said there is no requirement of the PHA to take financial matters to cabinet.

The trial resumes on November 13th at 10am.

## Leadership Learningshop held for SJC administrators and department heads

On August 24, 2018, St John's College campus, in Stapledon Garden, hosted a Leadership training-shop, as the school prepared for the commencement of the new academic year.

It was deemed critical that members of the leadership team be exposed to best practices and the challenges of teambuilding and teamwork.

The Learningshop took the format of a pre-workshop exercise, then major presentations by Hazel Manning, a former Minister of Education in Trinidad and a principal in The Leadership Firm, a training group, and Dr. Lincoln Marshall, a university professor at The University of Missouri, and a principal in Marshall Associates, and an alumnus of St. John's College.

The Learningshop com-

bined sharing presentations with team building exercises, along with two special presentations by Anglican Bishop Laish Boyd and The Minister of Education, Hon Jeff Lloyd.

Mrs. Hazel Manning, a Certified John Maxwell Trainer, set the tempo for the workshop with a series of introspective and critical analysis of the participants. The theme of her presentation was "Developing the leader within you."

The proposition posed was "If you develop yourself to become the leader that you are, you have the potential to grow".

Participants were taken through the five levels of leadership by John Maxwell, namely: Position, Persuasion, Production, People development and Pinnacle.

.....The born leader theo-

ry was debunked. ....Title and seniority theory was debunked.

... .. W o r k experience...makes an automatic leader was debunked.

.....Wait until I get a position to start developing as a leader...was rejected.

There was great emphasis placed on the participants' personal leadership style, namely:

- Leading with influence
- Leading with values
- Leading wit strategic thinking
- Leading with skills
- Living in our comfort zone
- Benefits of Tension/stretching
- Identifying 17 irrefutable laws covered the focus of Dr. Marshall's presentation., namely: The law of significance

See LEADERSHIP / page 8...



Chris Smith (Marshall Associates), Samantha Smith (Ministry of Education), Brendan Foulkes (Hospitality Management), Dr. Nev Evans (Principal St. John's College), Hazel Manning (The Leadership Firm), Winston Marshall (Marshall Associates), Dr. Lincoln Marshall (Marshall Associates),



The Minister of Education, Jeff Lloyd treated the participants with a thorough analysis of the Education portion of the Bahamas' National Development Plan.

# STOP-OVER VISITORS NUMBERS UP

Continued from / PAGE 1...

family islanders, especially in the northern Bahamas, they're doing very very well.

"As you get further down south in the chain, the numbers are not doing

very well primarily because of lift," he added.

"We got to solve that lift problem, getting people there and addressing their aviation concerns.

"If you speak to the marinas, gang busters, never had a better year.

"So there are a lot of mariners coming to The Bahamas and experiencing our family islands that way," said Mr. D'Aguiar.

The minister said he's very excited, very encouraged and very optimistic.



Tourism officials at Friday's press conference, from left: Director General of Tourism Joy Jibrilu, Minister of Tourism & Aviation the Hon. Dionisio D'Aguiar, Caribbean Tourism Organization Communications Specialist Johnson Johnrose, and Ministry of Tourism General Manager/Global Communications Anita Johnson Patty. (BIS Photo/Kemuel Stubbs)

## BPL'S CLIFTON PLANT ENDURES ANOTHER BLAZE

Continued from / PAGE 1...

fire erupted.

Superintendent Evans declined to speak to reports of sabotage, and said only that the matters are all under intense investigation and that in every instance, the focus was on ensuring that the fires did not spread further.

Following Friday's fire, BPL officials explained that customers in that part of town would experience load shedding over the next few days.

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(AMENDMENT) ( ) REGULATIONS, 2011

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

SCHEDULE

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

ACTING PERMANENT SECRETARY

# Bahamians Warned of Suicide Crisis



► Sandilands Rehabilitation Centre in partnership with Pan American Health Organization held a Suicide Prevention Symposium on September 10, 2018 at Church Of God Auditorium, Joe Farrington Road. In the photo, Dr. the Hon. Duane Sands greets Public Hospitals Authority representatives at the symposium. (BIS Photo/Patrick Hanna)

Continued from / PAGE 1...

from suicide, and this translates to one suicidal death every 40 seconds.

In fact, the World Health Organization's (WHO) predicted that in two years the rate of death by suicide will increase to one every 20 seconds.

Dr. Sands said, "these figures are not meant to cause alarm or panic. They are meant to strike the crit-

ical need for each and every one of us to sit up and pay attention.

"Let's sit up and pay attention to the warning signs that a friend or loved one may be contemplating suicide, or maybe that we ourselves may be harbouring thoughts of suicide.

"The theme, 'Working Together to Prevent Suicide', is perfectly fitting when it comes to the actual work that must be done if we are going to

reduce the rate of suicide in The Bahamas," he said.

Experts say signs of a loved one that may be at risk are often unclear and difficult to interpret.

Dr. Sands said, "Some people facing suicidal crisis may not appear obviously distressed. Others may show changes in behaviour and nothing alarming or even indicative of the personal crisis that precedes suicide."

He added, "then, there are others who openly talk about taking their own lives, but some of us just push it aside as drama or as attention seeking behavior.

"It is usually a combination of factors that leads to suicide. It could be debt, living alone or loneliness, bereavement, bullying, a breakdown in the family structure from divorce or death. All of these things can play a

part," said Dr. Sands.

While many may find discussing suicide difficult, similarly those contemplating suicide are trapped by silence.

He said, "Information sharing is a key in our collective approach, and we must be our brother and sisters' keeper. This year's World Suicide Prevention Day theme should be more than a slowly forgotten slogan, but it should become a creed to

live by."

The Minister said, "It should inspire us to take care of our neighbours, to take care of our friends, to take care of our family, to take care of our colleagues, and anyone that we come into contact with."

The symposium featured presentations from health care professionals, law enforcement, urban renewal workers, and community workers.



► Dr. Esther de Gourville of PAHO/WHO. (BIS Photo/Patrick Hanna)

## Teen Behind Bars for Murder

Continued from / PAGE 1...

two men approached him demanding his vehicle.

When he refused, he

was shot.

Solomon died in hospital a short time later.

His alleged killer was not required to enter a plea and was remanded to The

Bahamas Department of Corrections until December 11th for service of a voluntary bill of indictment.

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



## 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  
P.O. Box N-3107  
West Bay Street  
New Providence, The Bahamas

**NOTICE OF SITTING FOR NEW PROVIDENCE PORT AUTHORITY BOARD TO CONSIDER APPLICATIONS FOR LICENCES UNDER THE BOAT REGISTRATION ACT CHAPTER (277) & COMMERCIAL RECREATIONAL WATERCRAFT ACT, CHAPTER 278 A**

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the New Providence Port Authority Board for New Providence and the Family Islands will be held at the Port Administration Building, Prince George Wharf on **TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 25<sup>th</sup> 2018** at 2:00 p.m, for the purpose of granting Licences under The Boat Registration Act Chapter 277 & Commercial Recreational Watercraft Act of Chapter 278 A.

Any Person entitled to and wishing to object to any application, should do so at least **six (6) days** before the date of the hearing, by submitting his/her objections in writing to the Board and to the applicant.

Persons attending the meeting on behalf of an applicant must produce written authorization at the meeting.

Applicants for renewals are not required to attend, unless they have received written notification from the New Providence Port Authority Board.

The under mentioned persons have applied for the grant of licences and renewal as specified below.

**BOAT REGISTRATION ACT  
NEW MASTER'S LICENCE-NEW PROVIDENCE - 2018**

REG NO.	NAME	CLASS
NB/01/18	Brown Wilton Nassau, Bahamas	B
NB/02/18	Burrows Burnest Nassau, Bahamas	B
NB/03/18	Burrows Marcus P.O. BOX N-9886 Nassau, Bahamas	B
NB/04/18	Coakley Joel T. P.O. Box EE-17821 Nassau, Bahamas	A
NB/05/18	Farrington Gaston Nassau, Bahamas	B
NB/06/18	Flowers Nico P.O. BOX N-448 Nassau, Bahamas	B
NB/07/18	Hunt Ellis Keisha P.O. Box EE-17553 Nassau, Bahamas	B
NB/08/18	Leach Justin P.O. Box N1702 Nassau, Bahamas	B
NB/09/18	Lowe Bronson P.O. Box N-4427 Nassau, Bahamas	A
NB/10/18	Miller Ramond Allan Drive Nassau, Bahamas	B
NB/11/18	Rahming Edrin P.O. Box EE-15670 Nassau, Bahamas	B

1

REG NO.	NAME	CLASS
NB/12/18	Russell Gromiko P.O. BOX SP-62792 Nassau, Bahamas	B
NB/13/18	Wallace Gianni P.O. Box EE-17413 Nassau, Bahamas	B
NB/14/18	Wells Craig P.O. Box N-10386 Nassau, Bahamas	B

**BOAT REGISTRATION ACT  
NEW OPERATOR'S LICENCE-NEW PROVIDENCE - 2018**

REG NO.	NAME	CLASS
NB/20/18	Miller Aldeon D. Sea Breeze Nassau, Bahamas	D

**THE BOAT REGISTRATION ACT  
NEW BOAT LICENCE - FAMILY ISLAND -2018**

REG NO.	APPLICATION	BOAT NAME	CLASS	PASS	USE
NB/01/18	RAV Bahamas Bimini Bay Resort & Casino Bimini Bahamas	"Dorado" 139'x35'x7.5 Tug Barge	B	0	Tug-Barg
NB/02/18	Cartwright Roger T/A Long Island Boat Rentals Mangrove Bush Long Island, Bahamas	"Summertime" 19ft Sundance	B	4	Rental
NB/03/18	Cartwright Roger T/A Long Island Boat Rentals Mangrove Bush Long Island, Bahamas	"Sea Ya" 13ft Boston Whaler	B	4	Rental
NB/04/18	Cartwright Roger T/A Long Island Boat Rentals Mangrove Bush Long Island, Bahamas	"Let's Go" 19ft Sundance	B	4	Rental

**THE BOAT REGISTRATION ACT  
NEW BOAT LICENCE - NEW PROVIDENCE -2018**

REG NO.	APPLICATION	BOAT NAME	CLASS	PASS	USE
NB/54/18	Alliea Campbell Nassau, Bahamas	"No Name" Cycle Boat	A	16	Tours
NB/55/18	Sunshine Cruises Limited Nassau, Bahamas	"Missy" 65ft Bonner Yacht	B	100	Charters

2

REG NO.	APPLICATION	BOAT NAME	CLASS	PASS	USE
NB/56/18	Ramatar Narine & Newbold Arjay Nassau, Bahamas	"Proud" 32ft Center Console	B	12	Rental

**NEW COMMERCIAL RECREATIONAL WATERCRAFT ACT  
NEW PROVIDENCE - 2018**

REG NO.	APPLICATION	BOAT NAME	CLASS	PASS	USE
NB/85/18	Smith Feodor St. Vincent Road Nassau, Bahamas	"No Name" 11ft Crystal Kayak	D	1	Rental
NB/86/18	Smith Feodor St. Vincent Road Nassau, Bahamas	"No Name" 11ft Crystal Kayak	D	1	Rental
NB/87/18	Smith Feodor St. Vincent Road Nassau, Bahamas	"No Name" 11ft Crystal Kayak	D	1	Rental
NB/88/18	Smith Feodor St. Vincent Road Nassau, Bahamas	"No Name" 11ft Crystal Kayak	D	1	Rental
NB/89/18	Smith Feodor St. Vincent Road Nassau, Bahamas	"No Name" 11ft Crystal Kayak	D	1	Rental
NB/90/18	Smith Feodor St. Vincent Road Nassau, Bahamas	"No Name" 11ft Crystal Kayak	D	1	Rental
NB/91/18	Smith Feodor St. Vincent Road Nassau, Bahamas	"No Name" 11ft Crystal Kayak	D	1	Rental
NB/92/18	Smith Feodor St. Vincent Road Nassau, Bahamas	"No Name" 11ft Crystal Kayak	D	1	Rental
NB/93/18	Smith Feodor St. Vincent Road Nassau, Bahamas	"No Name" 11ft Crystal Kayak	D	1	Rental
NB/94/18	Smith Feodor St. Vincent Road Nassau, Bahamas	"No Name" 11ft Crystal Kayak	D	1	Rental
NB/95/18	Smith Feodor St. Vincent Road Nassau, Bahamas	"No Name" 11ft Crystal Kayak	D	1	Rental

**RENEWAL OF JET SKI  
UNDER THE COMMERCIAL RECREATIONAL WATERCRAFT ACT  
NEW PROVIDENCE - 2018**

REG NO.	APPLICATION	BOAT NAME	CLASS	PASS	USE
PIW 338	Wright Frankie Nassau, Bahamas	"No Name" 9ft Jet Ski	D	2	Rental

3

**BOAT REGISTRATION ACT  
RENEWAL MASTER'S LICENCE-FAMILY ISLANDS - 2018**

REG NO.	NAME	CLASS
8881	Rolle Alfred Farmer's Cay Exuma Bahamas	A

**BOAT REGISTRATION ACT  
RENEWAL MASTER'S LICENCE-NEW PROVIDENCE - 2018**

REG NO.	NAME	CLASS
8993	Burrows Brent J. II P.O. Box EE-16551 Nassau, Bahamas	A
9405	Major Mario P.O. Box SS-5702 Nassau, Bahamas	A
8230	McKenzie Jerrad P.O. Box SS-5545 Nassau, Bahamas	B
9135	Miller Joevonte J. Star Estates Nassau, Bahamas	A
9200	Nixon Julian P.O. Box N-10359 Nassau, Bahamas	B
9604	Patton Peter Buttercup Lane Nassau, Bahamas	A
9409	Poitier Rashad A. P.O. Box N-969 Nassau, Bahamas	B
1145	Smith Ellis H. P.O. Box N-7776 Nassau, Bahamas	A
9355	Wallace Phicol Nassau, Bahamas	A

  
E. Raymond King EdD  
Commander, RBDF  
Acting Port Controller

Letter to the Editor

“BE WHO WE IS”

Dear Editor,

As I sit here at the beginning of a new month and reflect on the newspaper articles of the past several weeks, I can but shake my head in frustration and ‘bogglement’ as our country appears to be settling into the same ol, same ol formula of leading us nowhere fast!

A dearth of inactivity is descending upon the new government, blanketing the promise of change and hope that accompanied them on their arrival into office. It appears sadly that this government is on its way to also turning into a ‘gubment’ - thus leading me to take pen to paper once again to try, and try hard, to ask them to please ‘see what dey lookin’ at’. We have answers to some of these challenges staring us right in the face, but they still ain’ getting it!

Credit ratings continue to loom dark and threateningly on our horizon, requiring the country to show significant progress in economic activity. But the same ol’ formula persists of waiting with beholden hands thrust forward towards foreign direct investment to solve the problems of the nation. Same story, different day...which leads to the conclusion that slavery will remain alive and well as long as we retain our role as colonial dependants relying on any outside master to save our souls!

This came into stark realization recently during a conversation with a learned friend as he adamantly bemoaned the fact that government suffers because not enough ‘good’ people are offering for political office. I promptly refuted this premise by saying that one did not need to be in political office in order to promote positive change. In fact it is my firm belief that a strong, passionate and committed civil society can offer and contribute so much more to their country by remaining out of political office with the freedom to contribute more effectively, unfettered by the constraints and red tape of ‘politricks’.

In addition, governments are saddled with a huge civil service, the majority of whom are deeply and historically entrenched in a silo-like mentality that they guard and protect relentlessly, resisting change, and throwing up whatever blocking mechanisms are needed to ensure that their way remains the only way. Thus the wheels of the government train continue to turn ever so slowly (and often grind to a halt), as the various cars go sluggishly on their inefficient way in all sorts of directions, ne’er to meet as one in order to work together effectively.....and meanwhile the people suffer.

Yes, governments might be elected to make and affect policy, but how is that policy arrived at, and how is it put into action? Talk is cheap and though it can be made to sound so exciting - it is, in essence, hot air....talk does not execute - actions execute, and actions speak louder than words! The essential element that is needed for progress and development is creativity. Creatives and civil society should be sitting around every policy table because they are the ones on the ground, and they are the ‘thinkers outside the box’ needed to identify a challenge and offer suggestions and solutions to address it and promote positive change! By working together, creatives and civil society are the essential links that strengthen the chain of government.

The government’s plans to offer affordable lots to the uniformed forces have hit a roadblock apparently because their applicants cannot qualify for a mortgage. So why aren’t we offering beautifully designed clapboard houses for affordable housing purposes? The clapboard house is a unique gift from our ancestors and an important

part of our heritage as Bahamians. We have completely ignored this resource because of the misguided shame and stigma attached to the clapboard house as being a house of the poor Bahamian from ‘over-the-hill’. What an utterly stupid notion! We must recognize what an important resource the clapboard house is, as the Forestry Unit in the Ministry of Environment and Housing prepares to protect our important native pine forests - a resource that is literally growing in our backyard. The milling of the pine trees is in itself an industry which can provide the materials for the clapboard homes - yet, at our peril, we ignore this obvious source of industry and economic independence!

In the same vein, we are losing our Bahamian straw industry resources in the persons of our amazingly talented straw weavers, and thereby failing to pass on this intangible heritage skill to the next generations of Bahamians - something that was unheard of a few decades ago when I was growing up.

I was aghast to hear a young Bahamian student from UB state that ‘ain nobody checking for no straw job - dat finish!’ Who can blame him for this attitude when we ourselves have failed to tell our own success stories from yesteryear, and we have failed to celebrate with pride those straw pioneers who have turned generations of Bahamians into white collar professionals by sending them to study at university from the monies placed in the coffers from a highly profitable straw industry. So staring right at us, is yet another vibrant industry that can be revived with the proper technology to service our modern society - which will entail training a new generation of entrepreneurs to embrace a mass production/industrial mindset - and provide much needed economic empowerment to thousands of Bahamians throughout our entire archipelago!

Are we going to sit idly by and lose this important part of our culture as well? Do we feel so ashamed of our heritage that we will refuse to embrace these opportunities, and instead cut off our nose to spite our face! How stupid is this!

The Bahamas needs to assess its strengths, re-examine its vision, determine its future course, and execute it. We have to be ready to compete in a 21st century global marketplace. The longer we take to start, the longer it will take for us to implement this change.

Efficiency and effectiveness are sadly and badly lacking in this society from the top down - and this insidious lethargy continues to pervade our progress since mediocrity is the norm, and meritocracy is MIA...it is no small wonder that our brain drain is so real and frightening!

When will we direct our resources to correct these shortfalls? When are we going to implement viable forms of economic activity to anchor our country’s stability? I submit that the straw and clapboard house industries can provide what we need for economic activity - it is ours to own since the raw materials are right here; we can implement it right away using our own skilled technicians to train others; it can provide profitable employment throughout the archipelago for generations of Bahamians; it is sustainable and not harmful to the environment; it is a win-win enterprise that is staring us right in the face.

Are we ready to ‘be who we is’?

Yours sincerely,  
Pam Burnside

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

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The Bahama  
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Quo Vadis, Bahamas?

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E D I T O R I A L

Wilderness Days

One of the more interesting aspects of politics as it is understood in The Bahamas has to do with that great extent to which very many people in this country identify their struggles and their myriad of redemption dreams to the Jewish people who are also identified as God’s Chosen people.

This is quite understandable in the clear light of history which links The Atlantic Slave trade and its plethora of Maafa-defined sorrows to the time-immemorial trials of the Jewish people; with special reference to that 1939-1945 Holocaust when they were threatened with a so-called final solution.

And thus in these hard times, very many Bahamians continue to yearn for the soon-coming of their long-promised land; thus some of their current woes as they despair in these VAT+ crime-challenged times.

In a sense, then: These are times when some of our leaders in civil society are—as their predecessors did some fifty-plus years ago- looking into the Scripture for guide as they imagine a better future for our Bahamas.

And thus, we too feel obliged to be reminded of that time when—as we have concluded—God’s command to Moses and Aaron was direct and to the point: “...Speak ye unto the rock before their eyes; and it shall give forth his water, and thou shalt bring forth to them water out of the rock...”

Note well: When the Hebrews were thirsty and could find no water, they became impatient and did not remember the power of God which had, nearly forty years before, brought them water out of the rock.

Instead of trusting God, they complained of Moses and Aaron, and said to them, "Would God that we had died when our brethren died before the Lord!"

And as we read: They angrily inquired, "Why have ye brought up the congregation of the Lord into this wilderness, that we and our cattle should die there?"

As the Word so solemnly declaims: AGAIN the congregation of Israel was brought into the wilderness, to the very

place where God proved them soon after leaving Egypt. The Lord brought them water out of the rock, which had continued to flow until just before they came again to the rock, when the Lord caused that living stream to cease, to prove His people again, to see if they would endure the trial of their faith or would again murmur against Him.

And the Lord spake unto Moses, saying, Take the rod, and gather thou the assembly together, thou, and Aaron thy brother, and speak ye unto the rock before their eyes; and it shall give forth his water, and thou shalt bring forth to them water out of the rock...

As Holy Scripture reveals: Moses disobeyed the Almighty.

In short, Moses sinned.

And thus today, we note that: One of the more interesting lessons that is to be gleaned from Holy Scripture has to do with how it sometimes arises when Leaders defy both God and Man; and thus find themselves mocked and scorned by the people they would lead from slavery into promised lands of freedom.

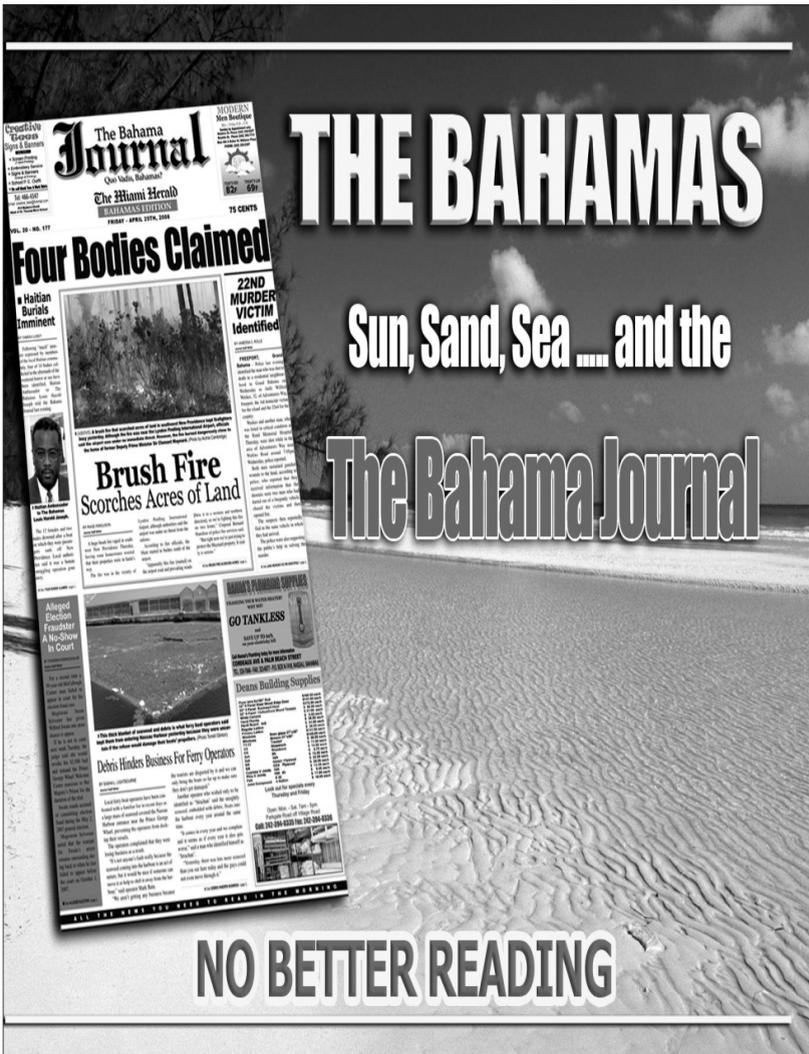
And thus today, we can also report—as fact revealed: Very many right-thinking Bahamians are murmuring their complaints as to how they are currently being led and promised.

In sum, then: As we look in on some of our current woes and challenges, we now remember [from Holy Scripture] that time when God’s people wearied of their leaders and when as a consequence they teetered on the edge of despair.

And the Lord spake unto Moses and Aaron, Because ye believed Me not, to sanctify Me in the eyes of the children of Israel, therefore ye shall not bring this congregation into the land which I have given them."

And thus as the struggle in these Bahama islands for bread, freedom, dignity and justice continues in these wilderness days—The Bahamian people—in their hundreds of thousands-still believe in the healing and salvific power of Daniel’ God.

GOT NEWS?  
The Bahama  
Journal TIP  
LINE is here 356-7254



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

Four Bodies Claimed  
22ND MURDER VICTIM Identified  
Brush Fire Scorches Acres of Land  
Debris Hinders Business For Ferry Operators  
GO TANKLESS  
Deans Building Supplies



## PUBLIC NOTICE

THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE &amp; MARINE RESOURCES

## INVITATION FOR TENDERS

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

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

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

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

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

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

The deadline line for submission of Tenders is Thursday August 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

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

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

Phedra Rahming (Ms.)  
Permanent Secretary

MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS  
BUILDINGS REGULATIONS ACT, 1971NOTICE OF DEMOLITION ORDER  
IN RESPECT OF THE FOLLOWING ORDER

To: Mr. Jerry Pratt  
Nassau, Bahamas

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

File No. 2046

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

Craig Delancy  
Buildings Control Officer

March 15, 2018

MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS  
BUILDINGS REGULATIONS ACT, 1971NOTICE OF DEMOLITION ORDER  
IN RESPECT OF THE FOLLOWING ORDER

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

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

File No. 2047

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

Craig Delancy  
Buildings Control Officer

March 15, 2018

MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS  
BUILDINGS REGULATIONS ACT, 1971NOTICE OF DEMOLITION ORDER  
IN RESPECT OF THE FOLLOWING ORDER

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

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

File No. 2045

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

Craig Delancy  
Buildings Control Officer

March 15, 2018

PUBLIC NOTICE  
OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTERTENDER INVITATION FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF A SERVICE PROVIDER  
TO CONDUCT A LAND AUDIT WITHIN THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS

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

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

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

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

## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

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

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

## DELIVERABLES

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

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

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

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

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

Permanent Secretary

# Kiwanis Club, Over the Hill Aid in Family Islanders' Education



▶ Standing left to right: Kiwanis Club of Over the Hill Distinguished President, John Clarke; BTVI Associate Vice President of Fund Development, Alicia Thompson and Kiwanis Club of Over the Hill President Designate, Victor Grant. Sitting left to right: Kiwanis Club of Over the Hill President, Bradley Thompson and BTVI President, Robert W. Robertson. (Photo: Shantique Longley/BTVI)

The Kiwanis Club of Over the Hill recently made a scholarship donation of \$2,000 for a family island student to attend the Bahamas Technical and Vocational Institute

(BTVI).

In the past, the club focused on Old Bight High School graduates and active Key Club members on Cat Island. They have decided to broaden their

reach and make the scholarship available to all family islanders.

The funds to support this donation were derived from the club's annual cook out.

BTVI President, Dr. Robert W. Robertson is grateful to organizations that continue to invest in the future of today's youth, thus investing in the country's future.

## Senior Officials in Discussions over Public Financial Management Draft



▶ Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, the Hon. K. Peter Turnquest

Senior Officials in the Public Service are meeting over this three-week period to start intensive interactive consultative discussions over the Draft Public Financial Management Bill (PFM).

The initiative is being supported by the Caribbean Regional Technical Assistance Centre (CARTAC), one of the 10 International Monetary Fund Regional Technical Assistance Centers (RTACs) located around the world.

Their purpose is to help countries strengthen human and institutional capacity to design and implement sound macro-economic policies that promote growth and reduce poverty.

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, the Hon. K. Peter Turnquest said during the first day of consultations at Melia resort, Monday, September 10, 2018 that as the government continues to push forward with the modernization of the Public Service, a priority of the Ministry of Finance is to shape a new culture of transparency and accountability in public finances.

He said the PFM Bill will do just that, along with the soon-to-be-enacted Fiscal Responsibility Bill, proposed Public Debt Management Bill, and Public Procurement Bill.

"These signature pieces of legislation represent

■ See SENIOR / page 8...



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# Senior Officials in Discussions over Public Financial Management Draft

Continued from / PAGE 7...

key pillars in the broader public financial management reform agenda. They will reinforce the government's commitment to the promotion of efficiency, effectiveness, accountability and comprehensive financial reporting."

The DPM said they will also bring the country in line with international best practices governing public financial management.

"In reality, our current legal framework for public financial management is outdated and inadequate to meet the demands of good governance. Pushing forward with this major leg-

islative overhaul is, therefore, a must.

"Some of you may recall that during the preparation of the Fiscal Responsibility Bill, numerous shortcomings were identified in the Financial Administration and Audit Act (FAAA)."

He said because of the need for extensive revisions, the government made a decision to replace the FAAA with a more modern and appropriate legislation, which will be the ultimate result of this process: A PFM Bill that aligns with standards such as the IMF's Code of Fiscal Transparency; and is supportive of the other

body of legislation aimed at securing the proper management of the country's public finances and promoting fiscal discipline.

DPM Turnquest said broadly, the PFM Bill will help to develop a new institutional and regulatory framework for managing public finances.

He said it will provide the coherent legal framework necessary to support the broader introduction of the Integrated Financial Management Information System (IFMIS), inclusive of process improvements that will strengthen accountability, oversight, management and control of public funds.

The DPM explained that in a material respect, the PFM Bill will seek to:

- enhance, clarify and adequately specify the roles and responsibility of persons/positions entrusted with management and control of public funds, assets, liabilities and other resources.

- build out provisions related to financial management, including the requirements for the preparation of cash flow forecasts.

- enhance adequacy of reporting provisions, especially in-year reporting of fiscal information;

- specify accountability expectations for govern-

ment agencies;

- include provisions related to sanctions for financial misconduct, financial crimes, institutional sanctions, recovery of losses other than by surcharge and publication of offences;

- consider improved oversight provisions for government agencies;

- and expand provisions related to annual budget information disclosure requirements.

Deputy Prime Minister Turnquest said he wanted emphasize that the senior public servants' participation in the process is greatly appreciated, not only because of the intrinsic value of the work involved

but also because the outcome of these legislative changes will impact their work in a material way.

He said the PFM law will set new standards and hold public servants to a higher standard of accountability, including those elected by the people.

"The Bahamian public deserves a government that understands its responsibility to be accountable. To fulfill this obligation, we need the tools to support our work, and the legislative reform is all about that. These changes will create tools for you to use, for us all to use, to serve the Bahamian people better," DPM Turnquest said.

# Leadership Learningshop held for SJC administrators and department heads

Continued from / PAGE 2...

The law of the big picture  
The law of the niche  
The law of Mount Everest  
The law of the chain  
The law of the catalyst  
He law of the compass  
The law of the bad apple.  
The law of countability  
The law of the price tag

The law of the scoreboard

The law of the bench  
The law of identity  
The law of communication  
The law of the edge  
The law of high morale  
The law of dividends.

During the afternoon, the Learningshop was graced with two special

presenters.

Anglican Bishop, Laish Boyd shared with participants, the historical role of the Anglican Church in education in the Bahamas....and reminded all that: "The church is the school....and the school is the church."

He further underscored the opinion that 'change is constant.' Additionally, the Bishop challenged all...."We must learn to become comfortable...with the uncomfortable."

The Minister of Education Jeff Lloyd treated the participants

with a thorough analysis of the Education portion of the Bahamas' 'National Development Plan,' - Vision 2040, and how the government was implementing it. He further highlighted the fact that technical and vocational education must be embraced as a matter of

priority and urgency. He further confessed that there were many challenges facing education in the country....and private institutions are being asked to assist with the program of taking in pre-schoolers, so that they can get an early start.

HOLY FAMILY CHURCH

## Grand Bazaar & Raffle

Saturday, September 29th, 2018  
12 noon - 10 pm

Church Grounds, Robinson & Claridge Roads

### Lots of Food & Games for All Ages!

<b>Stalls</b>	<b>Games</b>
HOME COOKERY	PUNCH BOARD
JERK (CHICKEN & PORK)	TIC-TAC-TOE
CONCH FRITTERS	LOLLIPOP SURPRISE
CONCH & FRIES	WHEEL OF FORTUNE
HOT DOGS & HAMBURGERS	HOOPLA
SNOW CONES & DAIQUIRIS	CLOWN FACE
SODAS & ICE CREAM	DRESS FOR LESS
CAKES & SWEETS	BINGO
CHICKEN WINGS & FRIES	SPLAT BALL
TEA PARTY/FASHION SHOW	COTTON CANDY
SORBET & RELIGIOUS ITEMS	BODY ART
INTERNATIONAL CUISINE	BOOKS & PLANTS
DUCK POND	

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