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THURSDAY - OCTOBER 4TH, 2018

75 CENTS

Broader Brand Needed In Tourism

PM Challenges Regional Leaders



► Prime Minister, Dr. the Hon. Hubert Minnis gives the keynote address at the official opening of the State of Tourism Industry Conference, October 2, 2018 at Atlantis, Paradise Island. (BIS Photo/Kemuel Stubbs)

DR. SANDS TELLS OPPOSITION, "SIT SMALL"

BY LEAH COOPER
 Journal Staff Writer

The Minister of Health Doctor Duane Sands has fired back at Opposition Leader, Philip Davis, who yesterday criticized the Elizabeth MP's performance.

Dr. Sands response to the opposition was, "they know what they have done. They should just sit small and shut up."

He added, "the last people to open their mouth and talk about the management of the PHA is this crew on the other side, who have basically committed tens of mil-



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

BY BERTHONY MCDERMOTT
 Journal Staff Writer

Prime Minister Dr. Hubert Minnis made a call to broaden the Caribbean's brand in tourism – a region to be known for extraordinary visitor experiences and services.

It was the central theme of the Prime Minister's address to regional tourism stakeholders who will spend the next few days at Atlantis, Paradise Island exploring the possibilities and opportunities to rejuvenate, recreate and reconnect for new directions in Caribbean tourism.

According to the Dr. Minnis, to do so, one of the core objectives must be to help create greater economic benefits from tourism for micro- small- and medium-sized businesses. The training and education

■ See DR. SANDS / page 2...

■ See BROADER / page 4...

Spike In Delinquency Rate At Mortgage Corp

BY JAMEELHA MISSICK
 Journal Staff Writer

There has been an upward spike in its delinquency rate of the Bahamas Mortgage Corporation (BMC) over the years.

According to its former chairman, Dr. Duane Sands, who spewed numbers in the House of Assembly yesterday, 42 per cent of the loans were delinquent.

"By 2010, the BMC had a total of 3,119 loans on its portfolio, for a total book value of just under 180 million dollars," he said.

"When I say delinquent, meaning more than 90 days, this was 2010, by 2017 the delinquency rate was 42 percent."

Housing Minister,

Romauld Ferreira, in his address, also gave insight into why the BMC is in the financial state it is in today.

The Minister cited cases of clients who continue to owe one of the country's major lending agencies.

"A client is granted a mortgage in May 2003, for \$78,837.00, the client is passed due \$76,965.22; foreclosure proceedings commenced on April 2012 and a vacate order was granted in December 2015.

"The customer was given four months to vacate in 2015 and additional time and refused to pay anything toward the mortgage.

"This is a small sample, but they all read the same,

■ See SPIKE / page 4...



► Housing Minister, Romauld Ferreira (Journal file photo)

No Political Interference In Sands' Resignation, Says PM

BY BERTHONY MCDERMOTT
 Journal Staff Writer

Prime Minister Dr. Hubert Minnis says there was no political interference regarding the resignation of Former Bahamas Contractors Association President Leonard Sands.

According to Mr. Sands, it

was political interference forced him to resign as president of the Bahamas Contractors Association.

In fact, in an interview with reporters, he said board members were warned that the BCA would face dire repercussions and exclusion from efforts to improve and regulate the industry unless

he stepped down.

The Prime Minister responded to the issue of political interference as well as the appointment of outspoken social media commentator and no stranger to the police and the courts, Omar Archer, who now sits

■ See NO POLITICAL / page 6...

EXUMA MP SLAMS GOV'T ON 4C'S REPORT

BY LEAH COOPER
 Journal Staff Writer

Deputy Opposition Leader and Exuma MP Chester Cooper said that the report into the Four C's boating tragedy is an indictment

on the government, the Port Department, both of whom are lax and negligent in their oversight.

His comments came off the heels of the report's damning findings which found that of the 18 commer-

cial charter boat companies operating from Exuma, only six are registered.

It also discovered that the Port Department lacked enough resources to properly

■ See EXUMA / page 7...



DONATE A DOLLAR FOR BREAST CANCER WITH BAF IN OCTOBER

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ALL THE NEWS YOU NEED TO READ IN THE MORNING

CTO BOARD OF DIRECTORS AT STATE OF TOURISM INDUSTRY CONFERENCE 2018



► Caribbean Tourism Organization (CTO) Board of Directors are pictured, October 2, in the lead up to opening ceremonies for 2018 State of Tourism Industry Conference at Atlantis, Paradise Island this week. Bahamas Minister of Tourism & Aviation, the Hon. Dionisio D'Aguiar, is pictured seated fifth right; CTO Chairman Dominic Fedee (St. Lucia), sixth right; and CTO Secretary General, Hugh Riley, seventh right. Bahamas Director General of Tourism Joy Jibrilu is pictured standing sixth right. **(BIS Photo/Kemuel Stubbs)**

DR. SANDS TELLS OPPOSITION, "SIT SMALL"

Continued from / PAGE 1...

lions of dollars for edifices to their egos in various communities all over The Bahamas, thereby, making it very difficult to pay bills.

On the longstanding grievances of the Consultants Physicians Staff Association (CPSA), the Minister reiter-

ated that he understands the concerns, however, one question that remains is, how do we arrive at a comprised position that is acceptable to all? Senior physicians do yeoman's work in the provision of healthcare services in The Bahamas, the overwhelming majority of them," he said.

He added, "when you look at their compensation package, it deserves improvement. That said, we also need to figure out exactly how we are going to get that done.

"I have said many, many times that we have to strengthen the revenue stream for our hospitals, because it is impossible if

people continue to get medical services and not pay for it, or if you have health insurance paid for by the people of The Bahamas and it benefits Jackson Memorial

Hospital, and the Cleveland Clinic and other private facilities, but our own national healthcare facilities are getting increasingly run down.", he said.

Dr Sands said it's a matter of defining the policy, then making it happen.

He added that this will require significant policy changes.

Hutchison Ports FCP Donates to Us TOO Grand Bahama



► Pictured L-R: Averelle Mortimer, Chapter Leader, UsToo Grand Bahama; Don Mitchell, Chairperson, Prostate Cancer Screening, UsTOO Grand Bahama; Monique Coakley, Donations Committee Member, Hutchison Ports FCP; and Sherlen Williams, Donations Committee Member, Hutchison Ports FCP (Journal file photo)

Hutchison Ports FCP demonstrated its concern for the health and welfare of the local community with a recent donation to Us TOO Grand Bahama.

The generous donation from Hutchison Ports FCP helped the organization to provide the invaluable service of prostate cancer screening to hundreds of men at an affordable cost.

"We at Us TOO would like to thank Hutchison Ports FCP for its generous donation," said Averell

Mortimer, Us TOO Grand Bahama Chapter Leader.

"We greatly appreciate it because we are beginning to save the lives of men who otherwise could not afford to be treated and to be tested for prostate cancer." Mortimer further expressed the important role that assistance such as this, permits the organization to execute its goals.

The organization served 800 men during its annual screening event in early September. "The donation

will assist in defraying the cost of our screening," he said, adding that the cost of screening is approximately \$50 per person. "We're looking at a total cost of anywhere between \$32,000 and \$40,000."

"We are very grateful to Hutchison Ports FCP for their generous donation, year after year, to our efforts in bringing awareness and relief to the men of Grand Bahama as we fight this dreaded disease.

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GOVERNMENT NOTICE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION TENDER FOR SCHOOL/FACILITY SECURITY SERVICES

NOTICE

The Ministry of Education invites sealed bids from eligible persons to provide security services at the following schools in New Providence:

SCHOOL/FACILITY

Anatol Rodgers High School
C.C. Sweeting Senior High School
Doris Johnson Senior High School
D.W. Davis Junior High School
T.G. Glover Primary School

Tender documents may be collected from the Ministry of Education in New Providence between the hours of 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

All bids are to be submitted in duplicate in a sealed envelope bearing no identity of the bidder and clearly marked as follows: "Bid for Security Services – Ministry of Education." Companies must provide two officers per shift – 4:00 p.m. to 12:00 midnight and 12:00 midnight to 8:00 a.m. – for all locations.

Bids must also be accompanied by copies of a valid Business License and a Letter of Good Standing from the National Insurance Board.

Bids may be delivered in person or sent mail/courier to the following address: **The Chairman, Tenders Board, Ministry of Finance, Cecil Wallace Whitfield Centre, West Bay Street, P.O. Box: N-3017, Nassau, The Bahamas, Telephone Number: (242) 327-1530.** All hand delivered bids must be deposited in the Tender Box provided in the Ministry of Finance not later than 4:00 p.m. on or before **5th October, 2018**. Bids sent by mail/courier must also be received in the Ministry of Finance not later than 4:00p.m. on or before **Friday, 5th October, 2018**. Late bids will be rejected and returned unopened.

Bids will be opened at 10:00 a.m. on **Tuesday, 9th October 2018** at the Ministry of Finance, Cecil Wallace Whitfield Centre, West Bay Street, Nassau, New Providence, The Bahamas. Bidders or their designated representative(s) may attend the opening.

The Ministry of Education reserves the right to reject any or all bids' submissions.

Lorraine Armbrister
Lorraine Armbrister (Mrs.)
PERMANENT SECRETARY

St. Andrew's International School Wins Top National Arts Festival Award



► Minister of Youth, Sports and Culture the Hon. Lanisha Rolle (center) photographed with students of St. Andrew's International School with their top prize trophy. (BIS Photo/Eric Rose)

The St. Andrew's International School achieved the Governor General's Award at the 59th Annual E. Clement Bethel National Arts Festival Awards Ceremony and Honours Concert, on September 27, 2018, in the Grand Ballroom of Grand Hyatt, Baha Mar.

Minister of Youth, Sports and Culture the Hon. Lanisha Rolle, Acting Permanent Secretary Rhoda Jackson, Director of Culture Rowena Poitier-Sutherland, Senior Cultural Officer with responsibility for the Festival Sonovia Pierre, Senior Youth

Officer John Darville, Director of the National Art Gallery of The Bahamas Amanda Coulson, and other culture and youth stakeholders joined the audience of about 700 persons in attendance, enjoying performances from various disciplines.

According to Ms. Pierre, approximately 5,500 students from 25 islands and cays took part in the recent Festival.

Along with St. Andrew's, students and teachers earned a number of other special awards. Those winning for Grand Bahama received their awards at a ceremony prior.

In the area of Music, The Pauline Glasby Award for Most Outstanding Music Vocal went Jermia Munroe; The Meta Davis-Cumberbatch Award for Most Outstanding Music Instrumental went to C.V Bethel Senior High Concert Band; The Kayla Lockhart-Edwards Award for Most Outstanding Director Music (Primary) went to Rashad Cunningham of E. P. Roberts Primary School; and The Cleophas R. E. Adderley Award for Most Outstanding Director Music (Senior) went to Shaquita Stubbs and Keith Saunders of St.

George's Sr. High School, Grand Bahama.

In the area of Drama, The Winston Saunders Award for Most Outstanding Drama Student went to Ajhona Wildgoose, of Grand Bahama; The Keva Cartwright Award for Most Improved School in Drama went to Gregory Town Primary, Gregory Town, Eleuthera; The James Catalyn Award for Most Outstanding Director (Drama) went to Laurie-anne Wilchcombe, of Gregory Town, Eleuthera; and the Dr. Nicolette Bethel Award for Most Outstanding School

went to Bartlett Hill Primary School, Grand Bahama.

In the area of Dance, the Hubert Farrington Award for Most Outstanding Student went to Charlotte Nevins of St. Andrew's International School, New Providence; The Shirley Hall-Bass Award for Most Outstanding School went to St. Andrews International School; and The Alex Zybine Award for Most Outstanding Choreographer went to Erica Weir of Walter Parker Primary, Grand Bahama.

In the area of Art, the Brent Malone Award for Most Outstanding Primary

Student went to Timberley Morley, Tarpum Bay Primary, Eleuthera; the Brent Malone Award for Most Outstanding Senior Student went to Raquel Albury, of Agape Christian Academy, Marsh Harbour, Abaco; the Sandra Illingworth Award for Most Outstanding School went Rock Sound Primary School; Jackson Burnside Award for Most Outstanding Individual Work went to Natandra Lewis, a Community entrant for Grand Bahama; and the Kendal Hanna Award for Most Imaginative Work went to Gia Morley.

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GOVERNMENT NOTICE INVITATION FOR BIDS: SALE OF TUGBOATS

The Government of The Bahamas is inviting bids on the following vessels owned by the Port Department, Ministry of Transport & Local Government.

-Sale of the Tugboat "Snapper" and Tugboat "Amberjack"
Sold Where Is, As Is

Interested parties may view the said vessels at the following location from 24 September 2018 to 5 October 2018 between the hours of 9:00 am and 5:00 pm, Monday thru Friday:

Port Department
Prince George Dock
Nassau, The Bahamas
Telephone No. (242) 322-8832

Bids are to be submitted in triplicate (3) in a sealed envelope marked: "Bid for the Sale of Tug Snapper and Tug Amberjack, addressed to:

The Chairman
Tenders Board
Ministry of Finance
Cecil V. Wallace Whitfield Building
Cable Beach
P. O. Box N-3017
Nassau, The Bahamas
Telephone No. (242) 372-1530

No later than 5:00 pm on the 12th day of October, 2018.

Bids will be opened at 10:00 am on the 16th October, 2018 at the office of the Tender's Board, Ministry of Finance.

THE GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS.

E. Raymond King, EdD
Commander, RBDF
Port Controller (Acting)
Port Department

Broader Brand Needed In Tourism

PM Challenges Regional Leaders

Continued from / PAGE 1...

of a new generation of entrepreneurs is also key.

He said, "by this I mean access to all kinds of opportunities that those who have traditionally succeeded in our economy often take for granted including: good advice, help with planning and executing contacts, and networking and of course critical access to capital.

"Access so often separates success from failure.

Governments play an essential role in helping entrepreneurs to gain access to the skills and resources needed for success.

"If we can give birth to a generation of new entrepreneurs, we can move Caribbean tourism to greater heights and in many new directions.

"One of these new directions is a greater global involvement in tourism by the people of the Caribbean. "How is it that the world's

most tourism blessed region and the world's most tourism dependant region is not the world's tourism leading region by greater array of measures?" asked Dr. Minnis.

Closing in on the constant cry of a brain drain in the region, the Prime Minister stressed the need for the Caribbean to be more than just a place to visit, but rather, the world should relish in what it may bring to the global commons.

"When we look at global travel companies involved in packaging and selling travel, they have hundreds of thousands of employees outside our region, yet their annual returns depend quite heavily on their sales to our region.

"Only a very tiny fraction of their hundreds of thousands of employees are involved in local service delivery.

"Most of them, are involved in other sophisticated aspects of tourism that

could engage the minds and talents of many of our very bright and energetic young people, including in marketing, software development and other services.

"How can we attract more of the development and management of global tourism to our region to accelerate and increase the range and variety of those sophisticated jobs available for our young people?" Dr. Minnis asked.

The Prime Minister reminded SOTIC partici-

pants that while the region must keep pace with innovation, it must also be the drivers of global innovation.

"In considering the state of tourism in the Caribbean our answer is clear: it is good, but it can be even better."

"Even as we celebrate our accomplishments, I invite you this week to explore new and perhaps ground-breaking dimensions for our region," he said.

Spike In Delinquency Rate At Mortgage Corp

Continued from / PAGE 1...

and it speaks of the reticence of some borrowers who refuse to pay their mortgage."

The Minister stressed that the corporation must do what needs to be done for its continued survival.

"I'd like to remind the public that the BMC has a

\$4.2million bond interest payment that they must service in order to meet their obligations.

"They must adhere to the ten financial command-

ments that deal with all scenarios that will prevent them from achieving their goals.

"Mr. Michael Barry once said that one of the risks for anyone in the lending business is that being conservative can harm your competitiveness, therefore if the BMC is to survive, it must deal with its bad loans and bad mortgages," said the MP.

Both ministers were contributing to debate on a resolution for the BMC to obtain four parcels of land on East Hill Street for the

sum of \$10 million.

On the site sits a 200-year-old building, the former home of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, which is now being extensively refurbished.

"The management of BMC began searching for better accommodations to house their services," Ferreira said.

"In 2016, the management expressed an interest in acquiring the historic building on East Hill Street formerly known as the Ministry of Foreign Affairs building, as its new home

and submitted a request to the ministry of the environment and housing.

"Cabinet then approved the building to be acquired and housed by the BMC at its 12th meeting in 2017," he said.

"Soon thereafter, a resolution was prepared and the treasurer was authorized to sell the building on East Hill Street to the Bahamas Mortgage Corporation."

The renovations are being entirely funded by the Bahamas Mortgage Corporation.

STATE RECOGNIZED FUNERAL FOR FORMER MP

The Cabinet Office has announced that a State Recognized Funeral will be held for the Late Mr. Earl Thompson Sr., former Parliamentarian, on Friday, 5th October, 2018 at 11:00 a.m. at St. Francis Xavier Church, West Hill

Street. Interment will follow at St. Augustine's Monastery Cemetery, St. Augustine Road, Prince Charles Drive.

Further, the body will lie-in-state in the foyer of the House of Assembly, Parliament

Square, from 9:00am on Thursday, 4th October until the body departs for the church on Friday.

Viewing for the general public will be from 1:00 pm - 7:00pm on Thursday 4th October, 2018.

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The Rough Cut

By Felix F. Bethel

“...blue flies & murder...”

As the days on my clock wind down, I sometimes wake with a start: Wondering to myself about my own now tired self; and about the sins I have committed in word, thought and deed; and for sure, my mind sometimes tries to wander in direction of what kind of world is in store for my four blind sons, their siblings and for sure, those other children of mine, born to women who had either good or bad fortune to have their God-given lives mixed in with mine, also as provided by the ever-living, all-knowing, magisterially omnipotent ALL-IN-ALL.

For it all and for them all, I shout Glory Hallelujah!

But for now, listen in as I share some found words with you; they go as follows: If someone would have told the Honourable Arthur William Hodge, Esq., graduate of Oriol College, Oxford, a Gentleman Commoner, Lawyer and one described as possessing substantial elegant manners, that he would leave this life with his head in the hangman's noose, over the death of a mere negro slave, he would have never believed it. But that's exactly what happened.

Arthur William Hodge Esq., was an absentee slave owner who had decided to settle his plantation, on the island of Tortola, in the British Virgin Islands, in order to ensure its success.

But when he got there, Hodge apparently left all of his British manners back in England. As highly educated as he was, Hodge felt himself superior to the whites he found there on Tortola, and almost a god to the negro slaves he owned. Hodge became abusive beyond all measure and reason.

Now witness all of you: re: THE TRIAL AND HANGING OF THE HONOURABLE ARTHUR WILLIAM HODGE, ESQ.

A white man, a Gentleman, was hanged for the murder of a slave, during slavery. For this to happen, Arthur Hodge, Esq., despite his high education, must have been hated by the whites on Tortola.

Hodge must have been a sadist.

Hodge must have committed acts of such

depravity that even slave owners, during slavery, in the British colonies, were appalled. There must have also been a fear of slave uprising. Something was happening within the British colonies at that time for a man like Hodge to be hanged in the public square, like a common nobody, over the death of a nobody slave.

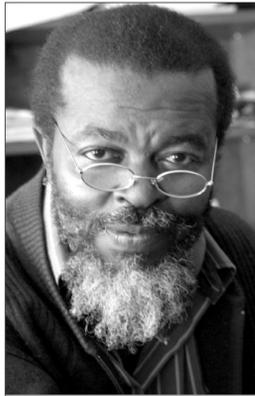
Note also that: Stephen M'Keogh, a white man, who had lived as manager on the Mr Hodge's estate, deposed, that he saw the deceased Prosper after he had been so severely flogged; that he could put his finger in his side; he saw him some days before his death in a cruel state; he could not go near him for the blue flies.

What I do know in these last and evil days is that:---In the long ago years, that is to say in those hard days which existed --as it were-- in that myriad of days before this past yesterday when I was reminded of my entrance, some 69 years ago, to the light of day and to that sweet symphony of tastes inherent in bitters and sweets; I now remind you that in those long-ago years, a real scum-bag of a man, The Honourable Arthur William Hodge was found guilty of murdering one of his slaves, a man named Prosper.

Prosper was my great-great, great grand-father on my father's side.

As I recently discovered, Hodge, the white, scum-bag/ man/master addressed the jury as follows:-- "Gentleman, As bad as I have been represented, or as bad as you may think me, I assure you, that I feel support in my affliction from entertaining a proper sense of religion. As all men are subject to wrong, I cannot but say that that principle is likewise inherent in me. I acknowledge myself guilty in regard to many of my slaves; but I call God to witness my innocence in respect of the murder of Prosp...I am sensible that the country thirsts for my blood, and I am ready to sacrifice it..."

And thus, I read: It wasn't long before Prosper's head fell back. No moans or wails could be heard from him, who was now barely human,



but more just strips of hanging flesh. Prosper was dragged to the sick house and chained to two other negro slaves.

The sick house was nothing more than a filthy hot boarded up hut where slaves were chained to the dirt ground. Either they recovered from the beatings or whatever disease had inflicted them, or they died in chains.

After five days, unable to take the stench of Prosper's rotting flesh, while he still drew laboured breaths, the two slaves chained to him, broke away.

When Prosper was found, not a piece of black flesh could be seen. The maggots had eaten him before he even died.

Prosper was tied to a tree and flogged for almost an hour.

The Honourable Arthur William Hodge, Esq., graduate of Oriol College, Oxford, the man of immense good manners and being the Gentleman that he was, whipped Prosper himself.

It wasn't long before Prosper's head fell back.

No moans or wails could be heard from him, who was now barely human, but more just strips of hanging flesh. Prosper was dragged to the sick house and chained to two other negro slaves.

Great God from Zion: [as I read somewhere]--- "...After five days, unable to take the stench of Prosper's rotting flesh, while he still drew laboured breaths, the two slaves chained to him, broke away."

And for sure, I read: "...When Prosper was found, not a piece of black flesh could be seen. The maggots had eaten him before he even died..."

That was then! This is now.

What troubles me is this: After all these years, the sadism continues.

Come now, Lord Jesus—set the captive free!

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Journal
Quo Vadis, Bahamas?

Wendall K. Jones
Publisher/Chief Executive Officer

Kimalee P. Jones
Vice President/Operations

E D I T O R I A L

Facts that Matter

We have previously suggested that today's Bahamas—like many other micro-states— is a price-taker in a world which remains dominated by macro-sized states like the United States of America, the People's Republic of China and [of course, by regionally-based coalitions like the European Union.

It therefore remains one of those facts that cannot and should not ever be denied where—as it has always been in an international ordering of politics and power— the weak yield when are where circumstances demand compliance of them.

This is really what it is all about in a realm where raw power counts for so very much.

But, yet, there remains that strain of domestically-driven set of political demands and pressures conducing to what might be deemed a massive pretence of power as such influence is wielded by this or that partisan-based faction which happens to be in office at any one time.

And thus, today's long windy exchanges between leaders and followers of both the now-ruling Progressive Liberal Party and the currently still-reeling-from defeat Progressive Liberal Party.

This struggle can be traced back to schisms and differences which back-in-the-day arose between factions and fractions of leadership belonging to the late Lynden O. Pindling and Cecil Vincent Wallace-Whitfield, erstwhile comrades in arms, so to speak.

What is particularly compelling about this narrative has to do with the continuing extent to which these factions and fractions routinely vilify each other; thus that rich vein of tribalism riding high on the hoof which continues to hinder the onward progress of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas.

This we sincerely regret; and for sure, this we also lament!

In sum, then: One of the real challenges we face is that one where—try as we might—we seem either unwilling or unable to understand that—like very many other small-island developing states— we live in a world where choice is constrained.

It therefore follows that—no matter how hard we try— there are goals we have which might well be unattainable.

As the record shows: In today's Caribbean, which encompasses 28 independent states and other dependent territories, globalisation's impact is on size, dependency and fragmentation among the nations of English, Spanish, French, Dutch and Danish heritage.

This is precisely why and how it can be concluded: The differences in production, structure and external associations lend itself to contradictory short-term interests among countries and marked divergences in economic policy. These lead to increased marginalisation, inter-state competition and regional disintegration.

These are the facts that matter.

All of this we now lament.

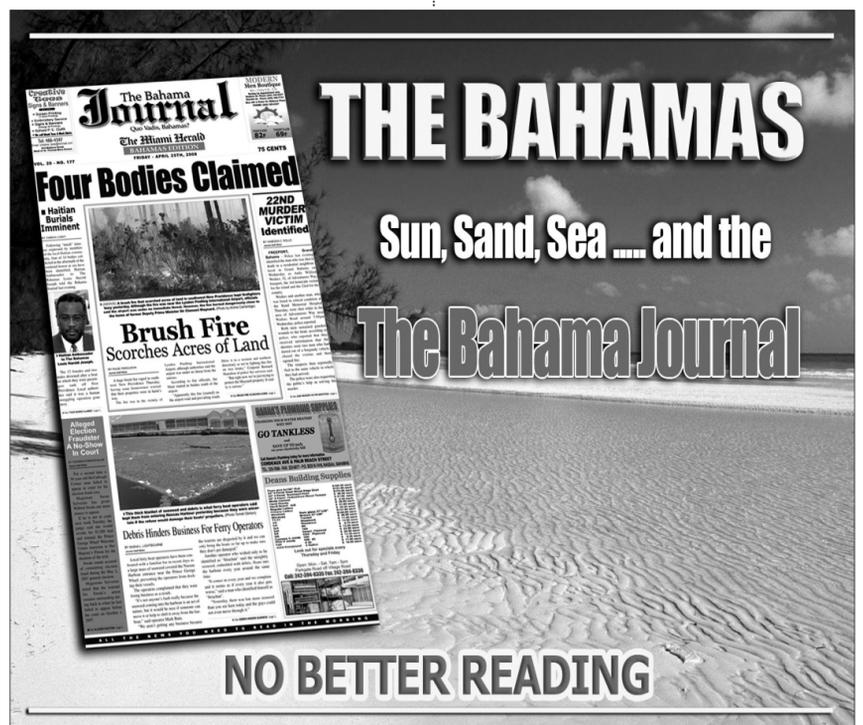
But yet, there is that other side of the ledger where as Norman Girvan has posited in his 1999 article, Globalisation, Fragmentation and Integration: A Caribbean Perspective: "... The Caribbean has benefited from the global project with regards to tourism and offshore banking centres..."

Girvan goes on to suggest: "...With regards to the former, the tourist industry has expanded the growth of travel internationally and has become the principal foreign exchange earner in the majority of Caribbean countries while it continues to be the fastest growing export industry for the region as a whole during the 1980's and 1990's..."

Similarly, the globalisation of finance has allowed for the growth of the offshore banking industry in the Caribbean. Territories such as the Bahamas, Barbados, Antigua, Aruba and the Netherlands Antilles, together with the Cayman Islands have successfully exported their financial services.

It is therefore also quite clear that—as part of a wider Caribbean region— today's deeply challenged Bahamas [as part of the Southern region] has been impacted by globalisation in myriad ways. Girvan (1999) posits that the effect has been deleterious both in the past and in the present day. The initial impact he states was the decimation of indigenous populations, mercantilism, slavery, the plantation system and rivalry amongst colonial powers.

Fragmentation and disintegration-combined has become the legacy that binds us to them.



Sterling Bank & Trust Appoints New Managing Director



► Todd M.J. Beneby
Managing Director, Sterling Bank & Trust Limited
(Journal file photo)

Sterling Bank & Trust Limited, an affiliate of Sterling Global Financial, today announced the appointment of Todd M.J. Beneby as the Bank's Managing Director. Mr. Beneby will be responsible for formulating the Bank's overall direction, identifying strategic initiatives and leading policy development in the areas of standards, compliance and customer care. "We are pleased to announce the appointment of Todd Beneby as Managing Director of Sterling Bank & Trust as the bank enjoys unprecedented opportunity for expansion in its core areas of property development financing and wealth management," said David Kosoy, Chairman and CEO.

"Mr. Beneby is no stranger to us having worked with Sterling's executive team for more than 15 years in various transactions in his previous role with a major Canadian financial institution. With his familiarity with Sterling combined with nearly 30 years' experience in the financial services industry, including leading his last firm's private client and wealth management group and contributing to its profitability and market share, he is an ideal fit, bringing experience and culture compatibility for a seamless assumption of his new role." According to Mr. Kosoy, the appointment of the bank's managing director coincides with its funding for several

large projects, including assistance with transformations of iconic neighbourhoods in Boston and the UK, improvements near Florida International University in Miami and, in The Bahamas, the renovation and re-opening of Sky Beach Resort in Eleuthera and the \$250 million Sterling Hurricane Hole project on Paradise Island. Both of those projects are slated for imminent start-up. Sterling Global Financial's various real estate funds have earned it top ranking and numerous international awards. Sterling has offices in Nassau, Bahamas where its private banking division is headquartered and the Cayman Islands, home of its trust company. The firm is on the cutting edge in

preparing for real estate transactions in a digital world. "Sterling Bank & Trust Limited has an unparalleled reputation for regulatory controls", said Mr. Beneby. "The Bank provides a solid, secure platform designed for high net worth individuals, non-residents and international institutions to access avenues for lending, asset management and investment. I am delighted to be joining Sterling Bank & Trust Limited and look forward to further strengthening the bank's policies and procedures to protect our clients' assets while offering them the most competitive banking solutions." The appointment is effective immediately.

Cornèrtrader platform well-received by the market

One week after the official launch of the Cornèrtrader platform allowing Bahamians direct, individual access to international securities markets for the first time in history, the bank's CEO reported today

many inquiries will translate into business, we can say without reservation that the phones have been extremely lively and the questions people are asking demonstrate the seriousness of their interest."

the Association of International Banks and Trust Companies Bruno Roberts and executives from Cornèr Bank, Lugano, Switzerland. The milestone for Bahamians to participate in

to market with a product designed to let Bahamians benefit from the change. During the launch, Russell noted that the trading platform would allow Bahamians to move beyond the role of consumer to that

ing and as a committed partner to The Bahamas, Cornèr has seized the opportunity to offer international trading to Bahamians. Our trading offering provides a one-stop shop service because we know how valuable your

worldwide currency and commodities markets, companies and trends to provide continuous updates. Part of the attraction lies in the convenience, noted Russell, with Cornèr handling all regulatory require-



► Financial celebrities on hand to celebrate the launch of Cornèrtrader, allowing Bahamians to invest in international securities include l-r, James Smith, former Governor of The Central Bank, Linda Beidler-D'Aguiar, Partner, GSO, AIBT co-chair Bruno Roberts and Cornèr Bank (Bahamas) Ltd. CEO Christine Russell. Less than two weeks after its introduction, response to the trading platform has exceeded expectation. (Journal file photo)



► Senior attorney Jerome Pyfrom, Holowesko Pyfrom Fletcher, far right, discusses potential for Bahamians to invest in international markets with Central Bank Governor John Rolle, 2nd from right, Securities Commission Chairman Robert Lotmore, 2nd from left and his son, Elliott Pyfrom, private banker. (Journal file photo)

the public's reception has exceeded all expectation. "We had prepared for this for more than one year and our internal discussions and reviews led us to believe that the Bahamian public would welcome the capability to trade on international stock exchanges," said Christine Russell, Chief Executive Officer, Corner Bank (Overseas) Ltd. "I don't think any of us realized just how great the appetite would be. While it is too early to predict how

Cornèr Bank unveiled the local version of its online trading platform, Cornèrtrader, at a well-attended reception and launch at BahaMar September 13. Among those on hand for the event were civic and business leaders along with financial services regulators and policy-makers including Central Bank Governor John Rolle, former Central Bank Governor James Smith, Securities Commission Chairman Robert Lotmore, co-chair of

global markets was paved by a series of increasingly relaxed exchange control regulations by Central Bank under succeeding governors. It was the gradual liberalization of Central Bank B\$ exchange control policy and a major leap in February of this year that opened the door for international trading at costs that were not prohibitive for Bahamians. Cornèr Bank, which has had a low-key presence in The Bahamas for more than two decades, was the first prepared to go

of investor. "We could buy a Samsung phone, but not easily invest in Samsung stock. Even more glaring as an example, we can purchase items easily through a click of a mouse on Amazon, but not readily invest in Amazon; tradeable securities on the international markets," said Russell. "However, with the reduction in fees and the liberalization of exchange control, a new world of possibilities has opened up and as a leader in progressive bank-

time is and how important convenience is to you. We facilitate all the regulatory exchange control requirements on behalf of the client thereby ensuring the ease of business and the client's only role is to start trading." Once clients open an account, they are able to access information instantly on hundreds of companies on the open market whether they are traded through the New York Stock Exchange, London, Hong Kong, NASDAQ or elsewhere. Cornèr investment analysts study

ments. It is also a portable platform, allowing the individual to enter buy and sell orders directly from desktop, laptop or smart phone. There is no middleman and trading fees, which are not onerous, are transparent. The first mock trades took place at the launch with guests expressing interest about trading outside the local stock exchange being offered demo passes to access and experience the trading platform for a trial period.

No Political Interference In Sands' Resignation, Says PM

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as Registrar of the Ministry of Works.

"There has been no political interference with anything to my knowledge, why would we interfere with anything?"

"As for Omar Archer, he is a Bahamian like everyone else. Is he not entitled to sleep? Is he not entitled to eat?" The Prime Minister asked.

The question asked of Press Secretary Anthony Newbold during Tuesday's briefing, was whether Mr.

Archer qualified for this new position?

Well, the Prime Minister brushed it off, charging that people have questioned his (qualification) as well.

Dr. Minnis was also asked about Mr. Sands' follow up decision to quit the Free National Movement, as did

Darnell Osbourne following her resignation as Bahamas Power and Light Chairman.

"He resigned from the party, he resigned when we had him as a candidate and that's all I have to say.

"He is not an official, he is not a council member, he's not an executive mem-

ber, he's not associated with any branch nor organization that I know of within the party, so what's the big issue?" He asked.

Despite the party's resignations, the Prime Minister is certain that his support hasn't waned.

He said, "I know I still

have the party's strong support. So, it's not a matter of if I think, because I know."

The Prime Minister's comments came on the sidelines of the opening ceremony of last night's State of The Tourism Industry Conference.

Fourteen Percent of the Global Burden of Disease Attributed to Mental, Neurological and Substance Abuse Disorders

Minister of Health Dr. the Hon. Duane Sands said according to the World Health Organization, 14 per cent of the global burden of disease is attributed to mental, neurological and substance abuse disorders.

"Despite this, most of the people affected, 75 per cent in many low income countries do not have access to the treatment they need," Dr. Sands said at the Opening Ceremony of the Mental Health Global Action Programme MHGAP training workshop held at the Public Hospitals Authority (PHA), Wednesday, October 3, 2018.

He explained that MHGAP aims at scaling up mental health services most particular in countries with low and middle income, and The Bahamas has been an active participant in the programme since its inception.

The Health Minister said the programme is a collaborative effort of the Ministry of Health, Department of Public Health, Public Hospitals Authority (led by Sandilands Rehabilitation Centre), and is supported by

the Pan American Health Organization.

"Since 2013, we have taken aggressive steps to expand access to mental health services through improved linkages with primary care facilities in our communities. Sandilands has taken the lead in integrating mental healthcare into primary healthcare by launching its MHGAP training sessions."

He noted that the programme has introduced training to staff at primary care centres and community clinics, which continue to be a frontline detection method of mental health challenges and episodes.

"This incorporation of mental health treatment in all primary healthcare facilities ensures that Bahamians who present for treatment of any complaint should have the presence of emotional or mental issues detected and addressed, and if necessary referred for further treatment."

Dr. Sands explained that some 91 physicians have already completed training through the MHGAP

Programme, some 35 from the Department of Public Health, some 55 from the PHA as well as one physician from the Department of Corrections.

He added that 134 nurses have already received training through MHGAP, some 51 nurses from the Department of Public Health and 79 nurses from the PHA in addition to four nurses from the Department of Corrections.

The programme also allowed for the training of a PHA psychologist and pharmacist from the Department of Public Health.

The Health Minister said, "I believe these numbers reflect the depth of our continued commitment to the MHGAP programme across our healthcare system."

"With this programme we have been able to expand access to mental health services within The Commonwealth of The Bahamas.

He said, "We have also enhanced the promotion of the health and well-being of the whole person: physical, mental and social by build-



► Minister of Health, Dr. the Hon. Duane Sands addresses Opening Ceremony of the Mental Health Global Action Programme MHGAP training workshop held at the Public Hospitals Authority (PHA), Wednesday, October 3, 2018. (BIS Photos/Derek Smith)

ing comprehensive services within primary care settings; and we have been able to

provide access to specialist advice, support and professional guidance for

improved mental healthcare delivery in the primary care setting."

EXUMA MP SLAMS GOV'T ON 4C'S REPORT

Continued from / PAGE 1...

control and regulate commercial water craft operating on the island and in doing so, was unable to enforce the requirements of the Commercial Recreational Watercraft Act.

Further, the Exuma MP said that an exact cause of the June explosion cannot be determined due to the significant damage sustained during and after the explosion.

The report said, unfortunately without technical

drawings, electrical circuit diagram and a schematic of the permanently installed fuel system, an exact model of the 37ft boat cannot be achieved, preventing any attempt to reconstruct the exact scenario.

Mr. Cooper stressed that

if the industry is to survive and thrive, it must be made sustainable through the responsible efforts of government and operators.

This, he said, includes proper oversight of licensing and safety protocols.

The PLP MP also believes

that the sector will have to be continually enhanced by promoting marine parks.

For his part, he said he's working with tour operators to formalize and advance the tour owners association to deal with intra-industry oversight and coordination.

Further, he renewed the call to establish a port of entry in Black Point/Staniel Cay.

Maleka Jackson died in the boating explosion, while several others were injured including Jackson's husband, Tiran.



GOVERNMENT NOTICES

MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

ROAD TRAFFIC DEPARTMENT

P.O BOX N-1615

THOMAS A. ROBINSON NATIONAL STADIUM

NASSAU, N.P. BAHAMAS

The Road Traffic Department would like to remind all Franchise Holders – Taxi, Tour, Public Schedule, Private Schedule, Private Charter, Livery, Self-Drive Cars and Scooters that we are now accepting registration documents for the Bi-annual inspection period of October 2018 to May 2019.

The Following documents are required:

1. Passport/Voters Card and N.I.B Card (for holders not registered in the new system)
2. Up to date Franchise Receipt
3. Up to date Business License
4. Inspection Slip/Copies of expired Inspection Discs
5. Completed Inspection Forms for Companies with five (5) or more Vehicles that require On-site Inspection (forms Can be picked up at the Road traffic Department Franchise Unit).
6. Up to date Insurance Certificates
7. Vehicle Color and right/left hand drive (for new vehicles)

All Franchise Holders with a fleet of five (5) or more vehicles are invited to submit their packages to the Road Traffic Department, Franchise Unit Section 3 Eastern Grandstand of the Thomas A. Robinson National Stadium. All Packages will be processed on a first come first serve basis.

Please note that the Department will only receive payments in the form of:

- a. Certified cheques payable to the Public Treasury (No personal or company cheques)
- b. Visa, Master, Debit, Credit Cards
- c. Cash


Controller

Road Traffic Department



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