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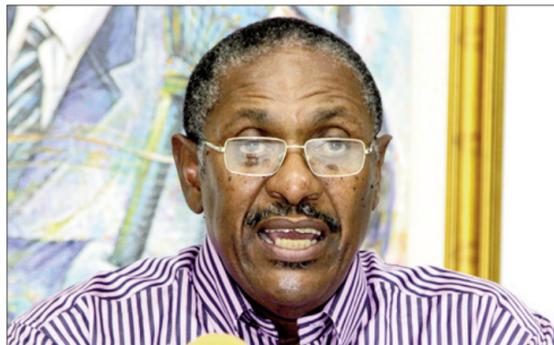
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GOV'T ACCUSED OF NAKED CORRUPTION

Former Cabinet Minister Bradley Roberts says "the decision of the government to lease the premises of the Town Center Mall from one of its senior cabinet minister, Immigration and Financial Services Minister Brent Symonette, is just the latest in a number of naked and unbridled corrupt practices of this FNM government."

In a statement yesterday Mr. Robert said, "this should come as no surprise because the Prime Minister himself gave himself a lease contract for one of his buildings while he sat as Health Minister."

"Symonette sat in the cabinet and chaired a committee that presided over the relocation of the container port and the development of the northern shores. As a land



► Bradley Roberts, Former Cabinet Minister (File photo)



► Brent Symonette, Immigration and Financial Services Minister (File photo)

■ See GOV'T / page 3...

DNA BLASTS POST OFFICE RELOCATION

BY LEAH COOPER
 Journal Staff Writer

Democratic National Alliance Spokesperson for Transport & Aviation Buscheme Armbrister expressed concerns this past weekend regarding the relocation of the General Post Office.

Mr. Armbrister noted that over the years the country's postal system has been seriously challenged resulting in postal workers having to endure "substandard and dangerous working conditions".

He said, "while it is apparent that the relocation of the main post office is long overdue, there is an urgent need to modernize the postal system for the 21st Century. After years of inconvenience and discomfort, the Bahamian people expected a long-term solution and plan for the postal system. Unfortunately, we have been presented with another ad hoc and temporary solution – a temporary solution with a 5-year commitment."

The Government is set to

■ See DNA / page 4...

LAING DEFENDS WTO ASCENSION



► Bahamas' Chief Negotiator, Zhivargo Laing (File photo)

BY LEAH COOPER
 Journal Staff Writer

The Bahamas' Chief Negotiator Zhivargo Laing yesterday said the challenge for the government is to protect and preserve Bahamian businesses, no matter how small as the country negotiates ascension into the World Trade Organization (WTO).

Mr. Laing was a guest along with Attorney Paul Moss on the Love 97 and JCN Radio and Television talk show Jones and Company off the heels of the third meeting of the working party in Geneva, Switzerland.

Mr. Laing further explained that while the country is making progress, it still has a long way to go, saying that if we have a five step process, we're at the end of step one.

He said, "when I would've went to Geneva, it was essentially a question of sitting with a group of people and answering questions about about the trade regime itself, the factual summary of the trade regime, and getting clarifi-

■ See LAING / page 7...

Gov't Approves Disney's Proposal

BY BERTHONY MCDERMOTT
 Journal Staff Writer

Conservationists and Environmentalists suffered a blow last Friday evening as the proposal submitted by Disney Cruise line Island Development Ltd for Lighthouse Point was approved by the government. Negotiations for a heads of agreement will now begin.

In a Press release following Friday's cabinet meeting, the government emphasized

that Lighthouse Point - considered by some to be a sacred space - is privately owned and has been on the real estate market for some time.

Shortly after the Cabinet's statement, President of Disney Jeff Vahle expressed his excitement and in the upcoming project.

He said, "we are excited to reach this important milestone and look forward to

■ See GOV'T / page 7...

LPP Bemoans Failed Model

BY JAMEELHA MISSICK
 Journal Staff Writer

Lighthouse Point Partners (LLP) says it is regrettable that the government has capitulated to the demands of Disney Cruise Lines.

The group is among those expressing disappointment about cabinet's decision regarding Disney's acquisition of Lighthouse Point in Eleuthera.

It argued that the government, is perpetuating a failed

model, with limited spend by cruise passengers on the island of Eleuthera, compared to stayover visitors, with no chance of Bahamian ownership of the core enterprise.

The group further argued that their full proposal, which was submitted to the government on September 28, 2018, creates more, and better paying jobs for the people of South Eleuthera,

■ See LPP / page 7...

Visually Impaired Individuals Embark on 3 Mile Hike

BY LEAH COOPER
 Journal Staff Writer

To many, the life of someone disabled may seem limited, but twenty individuals from the visually impaired community this past weekend embarked on a hike in the Coral Harbor area.

Off the heels of World Sight Day this month, the visually impaired community along with members of the Seventh Day Adventist Pathfinders, the Kiwanis Club from over-the-hill, and the Square Table Lodge #201 wanted to do something special to prove that they're just as capable of

■ See VISUALLY / page 7...

Bahamians arraigned for drugs

BY JAMEELHA MISSICK
 Journal Staff Writer

A teen spent his 18th birthday behind bars on Friday, for attempting to smuggle

drugs into The Bahamas Department of Corrections (BDOC).

The accused who was a juvenile at the time of the offense, was charged before

Deputy Chief Magistrate, Subusola Swain, for possession of dangerous drugs with the intent to supply.

The court heard that on Wednesday October 17, at

■ See BAHAMIANS / page 7...



DONATE A DOLLAR FOR BREAST CANCER WITH BAF IN OCTOBER

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International Red Cross Vice-President Pays Courtesy Call on the Governor General



► Governor General, Her Excellency the Most. Hon. Dame Marguerite Pindling (seated centre) received Vice-President of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies, Miguel Villarroel (seated centre left), and members of the Bahamas Red Cross Society in a courtesy call, followed by a luncheon, October 16, 2018. (BIS Photo/Letisha Henderson)

Sports Minister Opens World Junior Judo Championships



► Minister of Youth, Sports and Culture (MOYSC) the Hon. Lanisha Rolle addressed the Official Opening Ceremony of the World Junior Judo Championships, October 18, 2018, in the Imperial Ballroom of Atlantis, Paradise Island. During the ceremonies, President of the International Judo Federation (IJF) Marius Vizer presented a Special Recognition award to her (pictured). Among those present for the Opening were MOYSC Acting Permanent Secretary Rhoda Jackson, Director of Sports Timothy Munnings, Director of Sports Tourism Marketing in the Ministry of Tourism and Aviation Virginia Kelly, and Bahamas Judo Federation President D'Arcy Rahming. More than 400 competitors from 67 countries participate in the championships, slated to run until October 20. (BIS Photos / Eric Rose)

Ministry of Tourism and Aviation Holds Safety and Security Workshop

Officials in the Ministry of Tourism and Aviation are looking to ensure that every visitor to the Islands Of The Bahamas feels safe when visiting the destination.

In an effort to come up with leading crime fighting strategies in tourist hot spots, officials held a Tourism Safety and Security workshop under the theme "Enhancing Safety and Security for our country's number one industry."

Minister of Tourism and Aviation Dionisio D'Aguilar, who delivered the keynote address, said

this "meeting of the minds" is to ensure that tourism stakeholders and national security officials are cultivating winning strategies in the fight against crime.

"The issue of visitor safety and security does not exist in isolation. The larger context surrounding this issue is that crime in general affects the entire population of The Bahamas. We all agree that crime is a social ill, and as such, must be approached in a holistic manner, with a multi-pronged strategy that will yield desired results in the

short, medium and long term," he said.

"Crime poses a grave threat to the vehicle of our livelihood. The international tourism arena is one of ferocious competition."

The minister said the Ministry of Tourism and Aviation is looking to create a committee aimed at targeting tourist hot spots such as Junkanoo Beach, Cabbage Beach, Prince George Wharf and Bay Street among others.

"Your plan is to, by the end of this workshop, form a committee comprising all

key security personnel within the industry. Such a committee would allow you to quickly share intelligence on crime and share best practices in combatting crime," he said.

Meanwhile, Director General of Tourism Joy Jibrilu, said she was looking forward to the innovative strategies and that the Ministry of Tourism and Aviation was looking to assist wherever possible.

"As the world looks more and more to innovation through technology, I believe that through techno-

logical advances, there is perhaps more that we can do to make sure that our locals and visitors are safer," she said.

"You are not alone in your fight against crime, as it is and should be a community effort. Our logo that 'tourism is everyone's business' means that we at the Ministry of Tourism and Aviation are ready to stand with you. We will continue to open the lines of communication to promote safety and manage impacts as they come."

Minister D'Aguilar

added that the Ministry of Tourism and Aviation continues to engage with US Embassy officials and cruise ship companies to drive the message that The Islands of the Bahamas is a safe destination.

"We have to be vigilant and we have to understand that it only takes one incident to damage our reputation. So, we have to befriend them and let them know that even with our limited resources we are doing the best we can to make sure that our visitors feel safe," he said.

GOV'T ACCUSED OF NAKED CORRUPTION

Continued from / PAGE 1...

owner and landlord, he conveniently dismissed the obvious conflict of interest.

"Prime Minister Minnis was quick to dismiss and sweep under the carpet the fraudulent OBAN deal, even after admitting that the signing ceremony was ceremonial; there is a view that he misled Parliament on the OBAN deal.

"Minnis said that awarding that lease to Brent Symonette was the right thing to do," said Mr. Roberts.

He noted that "Renward Wells, Agriculture Minister argued that it was not possible to make a rich man rich. I am not sure about the logic and relevance of such a statement. The FNM cabinet

basically fixed up or enriched one of their cabinet colleagues, plain and simple.

"Brent Symonette used his position and influence as a cabinet minister to openly lobby for that lease, saying it was cheaper to place the post office in his shopping mall, the town center mall.

"The tone and tenor of the House resolution were decidedly craven and self-serving. The property that sat dormant for an extended period of time was suddenly a "gift" or "favor" to the Bahamian people at \$12 per square foot which does not include CAM, expenses that will be picked up by the Bahamian tax payers.

"Senator Fred Mitchell, PLP National Chairman summed it up succinctly in

the opposition's response via a press statement released on Wednesday, 17th October 2018.

"We dispute the rate of 12 dollars per square foot as being a 'generous and commercial concessionary rate' said the statement. "What looks like a gift, when examined may not be. For example, the building has been empty for years. Now it will be rented, so the Landlord immediately comes out ahead. In five years, Government will have improved the landlord's property and instead of a depreciated asset, the Landlord will be left with an appreciating asset. So the Government is again arranging a benefit for one of its Cabinet ministers.

"Does the rate include the

charges for other costs like air conditioning, parking and maintenance?"

"I agree with the Senator and raise further questions about this agreement:

1. Who negotiated this deal?
2. Will the government make available all relevant correspondences in the interest of transparency?
3. In the government's initial analysis, why was the Town Center Mall rejected as unsuitable in favor of the former Phil's Supermarket on Gladstone Road?
4. Why is the Town Center Mall miraculously the best option for the public post office?
5. Is the Bahamian taxpayer picking up the CAM costs in this \$150 million deal? If so why?

6. Has a structural engineering report being obtained by a qualified Structural Engineer?

"Roughly 203,000 square feet of urbane space is being leased at \$12 per square foot. That works out to \$2.5 million per month or \$150 million over the life of the five-year contract. On the face of it Brent Symonette has to do nothing but sit back and collect another cool \$150 million. Bahamians remember very well that Mr. Symonette declared in 2017 that his net worth had expanded by some \$100 million, from \$57 million to \$157 million during one of the worst global recessions since the Great Depression," said Mr. Roberts who is Chairman Emeritus of the Progressive

Liberal Party.

He said, "The optics on this deal is terrible. Governments are elected to empower the broadest cross section of the people they govern. Here you have a Cabinet Minister, one of the richest men in the country, being fixed up by his Cabinet colleagues as the contracts with bus drivers are being unceremoniously terminated in midstream, scores of contractors, lunch vendors and civil servants cannot get paid and thousands have been separated from the public service. These bus contracts do not expire until 2020."

Mr. Roberts said "Bahamians must say no to this sweetheart deal and in so doing, bring a halt to the naked and unbridled corruption of the FNM."

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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

Minister Henfield Congratulates Graduating LJM Maritime Academy Cadets



► The Hon. Darren Henfield, Minister of Foreign Affairs, representing Dr. the Most Hon. Hubert Minnis, Prime Minister, gave the Keynote Address during the LJM Maritime Academy Inaugural Graduation Ceremony, October 18, 2018 in the Ballroom of Melia Nassau Beach resort. Graduating were cadets of Cohorts 2014 and 2017. Also offering congratulations were President of LJM Maritime Academy Dr. Brendamae Cleare, and Founder H.E. Lowell J. Mortimer, who gave remarks. The 'Charge to Graduates' was from Vice-President of Nautical Operations, Carnival Cruise Lines, Captain Gaetano Gigliotti, pictured seated at left near podium. LJM Maritime Academy offers tertiary level education for maritime and allied industries. Based at Maritime Cay, New Providence, the academy provides state-of-the-art training to produce qualified seafarers for a vibrant maritime sector.

(BIS Photos/Patrick Hanna)

DNA BLASTS POST OFFICE RELOCATION

Continued from / PAGE 1...

lease at least 56,000 square feet in the Town Centre Mall at \$12 per square foot for five years.

In the wake of this, Mr. Armbrister said that the Minister with responsibility for the Post Office, Renward Wells, "could not confirm the total cost to taxpayers when asked by the media".

This, he said, seems odd considering that, the total

cost would be a minimum of \$672,000 per annum or approximately \$3.4m over five years.

He added, "however, what remains unknown is the value of any anticipated leasehold improvements, ongoing maintenance costs and other associated fees for which the Bahamian taxpayer will be responsible."

"In the absence of all the details, we question whether this is the best deal for the

Bahamian people and how construction or renovation costs of other properties identified compare to the amount of funds the Government will utilize to finalize the deal with owners of the Town Centre Mall. Furthermore, the Government has failed to provide details on how this will be funded and whether the current budget can accommodate the total cost of this venture," he said.

Mr. Armbrister also said that the selection process for the new location also leaves much to be desired.

"There was no request for proposals issued by the Government to provide an opportunity for all without bias and encourage competition among small-medium sized businesses or owners of commercial property within the bidding process," he said.

He added, "It is disap-

pointing that these are the actions of an administration that campaigned on transparency, accountability and economic empowerment for all. While the chosen location may have won the bid on merit, the process has been tainted by a flawed process."

He is concerned about this new location because he fears that the ministry will be in search of a new location in five years or" end up being stuck with this lease arrange-

ment after investing millions of dollars in a property that we do not own".

He implored the Government to clearly articulate a vision and plan for the modernization of the postal system in The Bahamas in the age of technology and e-commerce.

The business model, he said, must evolve with the changing trends and inspire entrepreneurship among the Bahamian people.

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STRATEGIZING EFFECTIVELY

The 2018 series salutes fashion mogul Peter Nygård's Golden Jubilee detailing his rags to riches story and incredible business success over these past fifty years. The Clifton Review will take an inside look at how he did it.

There is no doubt that every business owner would love to be able increase their business income by 20%, or any amount really. Fashion mogul Peter Nygard did it during a recession. He took steps to avoid the negative impact of the 2008 recession and he succeeded. Can it be that easy?

We have seen from his successes that Peter Nygard knows how to strategize. Let's see how we can emulate the types of effective strategizing that he does.

As discussed, you always want to begin with setting a goal of what you are trying to accomplish. We said that we would focus on increasing the business income so that if you lose customers to new competition, it would not negatively impact your business. Here's our (SMART) goal:

- Increase the business income by 20% for the upcoming fiscal year.

Previously, we began a focus on this by advising that you determine what this translates to in terms of dollar amounts so you have something specific to aim for. We also suggested you begin to work toward this by assessing where you can cut costs in a way that doesn't threaten business operations.

Now, let's focus on specific strategies for increasing revenue. You were already given a clue in terms of effectively strategizing. Think about the business you are in. What makes the most sense for you to focus on to be able to increase income? Is it on,

- Increasing product sales each month?
- Offering more add-on items to each product?
- Adding new customers each month?

Each has the potential for increasing income. The area of focus you choose to be able to increase business income should be driven by the type of business you are in. Let's look at each individually beginning with increasing product sales: There are strategies you can employ from different angles.

- Make the product more financially appealing – Create packages or offer specials.

Use this if you know your customer base and if your products are fairly popular. Keep in mind that you have to work out the actual numbers to ensure that you are still increasing income and not losing money on this approach. The key is to sell more products than usual using packages and/or specials.

This approach would be most effective if customers already love your product and you

THE CLIFTON REVIEW

By P. J. Malone

The Clifton Review is a bi-weekly column that examines the question of the Clifton project along with the evolution of the war between two billionaires, the links to unsavory characters, the use of the courts for personal agendas, the involvement of the Government opposition party (the FNM), and the attacks on the Government of The Bahamas.

can be sure that you will likely sell more than usual if you made it even more appealing to your customers by offering package deals or specials.

For example, a café or restaurant could benefit from this approach. Most already offer daily specials. What if you offered 'buy three get one free'? People rarely eat at the same restaurant every day. However, if you have a fairly strong following, and you offer an incentive to them to return at least two other times in a week, then this could work to increase sales from your existing customers. But, be sure to spice up the menu with exotic new offerings as well so it adds to the appeal.

- Increase awareness of your products and their benefits – launch a product awareness campaign.

This would work for say a health food store or even an insurance company as examples. Stressing the benefits of a product is always a good way to motivate individuals to buy it.

As a further example, if an individual has been having sleepless nights, and all of a sudden they are hearing about the benefits of a particular supplement that aids in relaxation and the ability to sleep better, that will definitely motivate them to want to buy that product. A health food store associate can even inquire of every customer who walks through the door what challenges they may have been experiencing and make recommendations for various products.

The same can be true for promoting the benefits of various types of insurance: If an individual heard of a neighbor or friend who recently experienced a death in the family and had no life insurance benefits to help with expenses or future bills, that could be a motivator to consider taking out life insurance for themselves or family members so they don't end up in the same bind.

Spend some time thinking about how you can either make your product more appealing or increase awareness of its benefits. You may also have to consider ways to get the word out. Maybe distributing flyers or setting up a referral system. Think outside of the box on spreading the word so you can be cost efficient.

Stay tuned for more strategies.

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Wendall K. Jones
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EDITORIAL

Mission Undermined

We unequivocally demand that no effort should be spared in bringing to justice any and all public sector workers who have allegedly ripped off the Department of Social Services.

Evidently, it is corruption of this sort which –regardless of the stripe worn by those men and women in The Houses of Parliament–continue to short-change the Bahamian people.

Of note then are recent reports which suggest that: "...impaired internal controls" and "a severe breakdown" in management oversight had exposed Bahamian taxpayers to the potential loss of millions of dollars from graft and corruption..."

And thus, the Auditor's trenchant conclusion that: "... the department's weaknesses and failings were also undermining its mission to assist poor and low income Bahamians..."

It is this persistent action which lends great credence to an emerging public consensus that suggests that corruption in the guise of any number of bureaucratic-led shenanigans now tends in the direction where –instead of focusing on the antics of this or that supposedly corrupt politicians—more attention should be trained on the parts played by so-called 'civil' servants.

Here we exhort and encourage any and all politicians who might ever succumb to that sweetest of illusions which would have them believe in their new-found might and power to be ever leery of the public servant who would seduce them into believing such a lie.

Truth is that, the so-called 'civil' servant is loyal only to his office and the perks that come with said high perch; thus today, we remind all who would hear and heed: We have heard and we have listened in as one brazen civil servant after the other would crow: Ministers come and ministers go!

It is this declaration we now remember as we tune in on case after case as to how some of the bolder and more brazen crooked bureaucrats in the employ of the state routinely abuse not only their high offices, but also as to how their parasitic depredations adversely affect the strugglers and sufferers in this land.

Clearly, this statement brings with a ring of truth in a time when there is so much talk about corruption in today's deeply chal-

lenged Bahamas.

In truth, [and thus notwithstanding the sweet words which once upon a time flowed from the leader's lips; truth is as follows, corruption high and low continues apace even as : "...The Free National Movement is now in the political-driver's seat..."

Alas! Today's in-power Free National Movement now finds itself burdened with report after dreadful report of civil servants running amok!

In one key instance of corruption riding high on the hoof, we cite the perfectly poignant instance of theft and corruption apparently in yester-year's Department of Social Services where a senior level bureaucrat allegedly ordered that certain documents be shredded.

We also hear-say that: The Department of Social Services processed a fictitious invoice from a medical provider, and ended up paying for a non-existent procedure on a dead person; that some \$4.237m worth of vendor payments were made without the necessary executive management or financial officer signatures, further exposing the Department of Social Services to loss and fraud; and that, collusion between staff at a local food store and Department of Social Services personnel enabled the latter to use food coupons, intended to help poor and low-income Bahamians, to purchase groceries for themselves.

Whilst this is bad enough, let it also be known [according to the Auditor General]: "...The Department of Social Services processed a fictitious invoice from a medical provider, and ended up paying for a non-existent procedure on a dead person..." Auditor General, Commonwealth of The Bahamas.

This is all so very wrong; and yet, also as troubling are some other reports which suggest that: Certain high level Social Services employees routinely ordered shredded certain key documents and that such orders had come from a "senior accounts staff member" "with the knowledge" of their supervisor.

This is all so very disturbing!
Evidently, high level crooks like these should all be charged, locked up, await trial whilst all the while we assure them that, they are presumed innocent until proven guilty in open court!

THE BAHAMAS
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NO BETTER READING

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

60th Baptist Recognition Day and Annual Reception at Government House



► Governor General, Her Excellency the Most Hon. Dame Marguerite Pindling hosted the Bahamas National Baptist Missionary & Educational Convention's 60th Baptist Recognition Day & Annual Reception on Wednesday, October 17, 2018 at Government House.
(BIS Photos/Raymond A. Bethel, Sr.)



REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL ISSUED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE BAHAMAS

Consultancy Services For A Project Pension Feasibility Study for Transition of Defined Benefit Scheme to Contribution Scheme in the Public Sector

Background

The Government of the Bahamas is seeking proposal to conduct a feasibility study for a transition of the defined benefit scheme to contribution scheme in the Public Sector. This study would assist government in a factual finding to support consideration of the Government's initiative for reduction in expenses for the public sector and a planned approach to achieve significant cost savings over time.

Procurement Method

The procurement of service will be conducted under a national competitive bid process.

All tenders will be published on the national press of The Bahamas and on the government website.

Successful firm(s) will be those who meet the standard requirements set out below and who meet the firm with the most competitive price.

Where there is a tie between firms on the specification and price the Ministry of Finance may choose to a firm based on the following criteria:

- Firm establishment (how long the firm has been in business in The Bahamas).
- Delivery timelines
- Ability to ensure service level agreement for service.

Requirement for Bidders

The Firm responding to this proposal must have a valid Bahamas business license. At the time of submission of bid all company tax and national insurance obligations must be current, this includes at the time of issue of this RFP, but is not exclusive to:

- Business license fee
- National insurance payments
- Company Profile
- Outline of qualifications and experiences

Firm must be of good standing, i.e. no impending or current legal actions against the company or the directors of the company which may have a significant impact on the ability of the firm to deliver the service.

OFFER FOR CONSULTANCY SERVICES AND PROPOSED DELIVERABLES

Deliverables should be as follows:

1. Researching and outlining current position with regard to the defined benefit pension liability of the public service and all government corporations and agencies
2. Creating a data base of key statistics including but not limited to the pension liability, number of employees, contribution amount, etc.
3. Researching and benchmarking information from similar ones that have jurisdictions and governments specifically including ones that have migrated defined benefit plans to contribution plans.
4. Outlining cost savings/ expenses associated with each plan.
5. Survey of selected plan participants in the public service s related to their perceived benefits and concerns.
6. Estimating and scenario planning out the economic impact of the plans on the government's budget.
7. Identify any legal operational and funding issues around the migration to a hybrid pension system i.e. defined benefit for older employees, contribution for newer employees.

Submission of Bids

Bid contents

Firm responding to this RFP must submit their offers using the deliverables set out in this document. Additional documentation concerning the submitting firm and the service on offer may be submitted at the description of the firm.

Method of Submission

Bids to this tender can be submitted via electronically via e-mail or posted/delivered in a sealed envelope. Electronic submissions must be made to athenamarche@bahamas.gov.bs with the subject of "Feasibility Study for Transition of Defined Benefit Scheme to Contribution Scheme in the Public Sector".

Paper submissions should be posted/delivered to the following address:

Tenders submissions
Ministry of Finance,
Cecil Wallace-Whitfield Centre,
West Bay Street,
Nassau,
New Providence.

The envelope must be identified with "Feasibility Study for Transition of Defined Benefit Scheme to Contribution Scheme in the Public Sector".

Submission Deadline

Responses to this tender must be submitted, using one of the submission methods described above, by 5.00pm November 2, 2018.

Submissions received after this date will not be considered.

Please note that the complete RFP can be accessed on line at: www.bahamas.gov.bs

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

Gov't Approves Disney's Proposal

Continued from / PAGE 1...

working with Government and the people of The Bahamas to create new economic opportunities while preserving the natural beauty of Lighthouse Point.

"We are grateful for the warm welcome and support we have received from so many in Eleuthera and look forward to further developing relationships that will endure for many years to come."

The statement ended, "our team also looks forward to working with local artists, historians and others as we ensure that the stories and culture of The Bahamas shine through when Disney guests and Bahamians alike visit this special place."

Disney has a sales agreement with the land owner to purchase the land and is proposing to create a cruise port

on the site, touting the economic benefits along with way.

It has promised to do so in an environmentally sensitive way - low density development and sustainable design, public access and the restoration of various historical and cultural sites.

On the economic end, the company touts the creation of about 150 new jobs and an array of entrepreneurial opportunities for Eleutherans and Bahamians in general.

Disney's plans call for conveying approximately 190 acres of land to the government for the conservation and a national park and Disney has secured the backing of a great number of Eleutherans.

A recent poll found that the majority of those surveyed very much or somewhat supported the project.

This along with those

turned out in impressive numbers at a town meeting in Greencastle, Eleuthera insisting that this is their time.

The government stressed that prior to the town meeting, the One Eleuthera Foundation and its partners held several community meetings in Central and South Eleuthera to promote its proposal.

In the end, the group was not awarded the proposal and the government in the release said that it will ensure Disney's project is implemented in a manner that safeguards the environment and interests of the people.

The government is convinced that having taken into the consideration the views of the residents of Central and South Eleuthera, it is satisfied it has made the best decision in the interest of Bahamians.

LPP Bemoans Failed Model

Continued from / PAGE 1...

with broad and meaningful involvement by Bahamian investors, environmental organizations and local hoteliers.

They said Disney's proposal will not have any meaningful impact on the employment of persons in South Eleuthera until at least 2023.

LPP added that the funds

for the construction of Disney's quarter of a billion-dollar pier, will be spent with a US firm, with Bahamian contractors receiving little to nothing.

The partners said that by agreeing to continue with this outdated model of exclusive island cruise ports, the government will not be broadening Bahamian ownership and entrepreneurial opportunities for the people of South Eleuthera.

The Lighthouse Point Partners, which includes The Leon Levy Foundation, The Bahamas National Trust, The One Eleuthera Foundation, and The Island School, pledged to continue advocating for a sustainable model for development in Eleuthera and The Bahamas through constructive engagement with civil society, the government and the business community.

Bahamians arraigned for drugs

Continued from / PAGE 1...

together did conspire with others to supply more than one ounce of Indian hemp.

The pair was also charged with conspiracy to possess dangerous drugs with the intent to supply.

According to reports, shortly before 10am, a woman went to the BDOC to

take a plate of food for an inmate.

However, when prison officials examined the food, they found a quantity of marijuana.

Both Lewis and the teen pleaded not guilty to the charges.

The teen was arraigned on a separate charge of simple possession of dangerous drugs.

The court heard that on Thursday October 28 at New Providence the accused was found with one gram of Indian hemp.

He pleaded not guilty to the charge.

The pair was not granted bail and were remanded to the BDOC until 23 of October at 10am for trial.

They were represented by Ian Cargill.

LAING DEFENDS WTO ASCENSION

Continued from / PAGE 1...

cations."

He added, "upon that day we would submit those questions or additional question in writing. So, we would have to go back. So, no hard negotiations have taken place at all yet."

However, he also noted that the manufacturing industry, though on a small scale, isn't solely reserved for Bahamians.

He said, "the areas that we have reserved for Bahamians, we've already breached the policy. So, it

makes the argument even more difficult for the WTO because they get to say 'Well, your largest wholesaler is CISCO'."

He added, "you go on Bay Street and the vast majority of the owners of the stores on Bay Street are Mexicans and Indians."

He also reflected on how the country will manage without WTO.

"I think that what we will not see is an opportunity to exist in a relationship with the rest of the trading world that could for the progressive, modern, ambitious

Bahamian represent opportunities to access markets and to develop business opportunities that look like the terms that others get while members of the organization.", he said.

"The problem with potential is, you don't get to measure when it's not realized. you only realize what you lose or what you gain."

How Mr. Laing sees it, it's better to live with the WTO than to live without it. Mr. Moss is calling for a referendum in the Bahamas on whether or not the Bahamas should join WTO.

Visually Impaired Individuals Embark on 3 Mile Hike

Continued from / PAGE 1...

doing anything anyone else does.

The distinguished president from the Kiwanis Club, Miska Clarke said, "as you know, a lot of people count people with disabilities out until they experience with them and allow them to do certain things"

He added, "you'll be surprised at what persons are

able to do. Once I was told about the hike, I was all on board with it. I called my team an everyone is excited to be out here this morning."

The three-mile hike started on the Airport road just a few miles from Coral Harbor's entrance.

The group travelled south on the Airport Road straight into Coral Harbor and into the canal near the horse crossing, the group turned east across the horse cross-

ing, and walked the track leading to the Coral Harbor beach.

The route ended on the beach between the two pillars.

The entire month of October was jam packed with activities culminating with "vision 2018", a talent showcase to be held in Rawson's Square next Saturday highlighting the talents of the visually impaired.



MINISTRY OF HEALTH

NOTICE

INVITATION TO BID

The Ministry of Health, Department of Public Health invites Tenders for bi-monthly ground maintenance services at the following New Providence Clinics:

NAME OF CLINIC
Adelaide Clinic
Adolescent Health Centre
Anne's Town Clinic
Blue Hill Road Clinic
Coconut Grove Clinic
Elizabeth Estates Clinic
Flamingo Gardens Clinic
Fleming Street Clinic
Fox Hill Clinic
Gambier Clinic
South Beach Health Centre

Interested persons can contact the Clinic Administrator or Nurse In Charge at the said facilities for permission to inspect the premises. Also, for additional information and a copy of the Scope of Work please contact telephone number 502-4700/4818 or 502-4831.

All Tender documents are to be placed in a sealed envelope marked; "To Tenders Board" Ground Maintenance services c/o Financial Secretary Ministry of Finance Cable Beach Nassau, Bahamas

Companies should submit bids no later than Monday, October 22, 2018. Only persons with a valid Business License, Tax Compliance letter, Registration Certificate and Letter from National Insurance (NIB) stating your company is in Good Standing need apply. Bids will be opened October 23, 2018. Bidders or Representatives will be requested to be in attendance.



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

"Aging Care -- A Higher Calling": SRC Annual Caregivers Symposium

Public Hospitals Authority and Sandilands Rehabilitation Centre (SRC) held the Annual Caregivers Symposium today at Church of God Auditorium, Joe Farrington Road, under the theme, "Aging Care -- A Higher Calling." Minister of Social Services and Urban Development the Hon. Frankie Campbell gave opening ceremony remarks, and is pictured standing third left with medical community officials/gerontology specialists including, from left, Dr. Indira Grimes, PHA Chairman Julian Rolle, PMH Chief Hospital Administrator Mary Walker, and Dr. Agreta Eneas, third right. (BIS Photos/Raymond A. Bethel, Sr.)



Social Services minister calls for better elderly care

A call is being made for an increased awareness for the elderly from Social Services Minister Frankie Campbell.

The Social Services

Minister gave the reminder that the elderly has a wealth of information and wonderful stories that haven't been written but should be shared.

"Bridge the gap between our older persons and our younger person to ensure that that which makes us Bahamians, that which is a

serious and significant part of our tradition and culture lives on through the exchanged of stories from the older generation to the

younger generation," he said.

The Minister was addressing the opening session of the Sandilands Rehabilitation

Centre's annual Caregivers Symposium.

October is celebrated as elderly month as well as youth month.



Public Notice Roadworks

Please be advised

The Ministry of Public Works/Bahamix, has scheduled Milling and Paving works for Cordeaux Avenue between the hours of 9:30a.m. to 2:00p.m. Monday through Friday, beginning October 18, 2018, for 8 working days.

Provisions will be made for residents and businesses where necessary. Motorists are asked to utilize the adjacent streets and avoid the area if possible.

You are asked to be aware of and acknowledge the posted traffic paving signs in the area.

If you have any queries or concerns, please feel free to contact us at telephone numbers (242) 361-3886 or (242) 341-3886.

Bahamix apologizes for any inconvenience caused.



NOTICE Addendum

The Royal Bahamas Defence Force invites bids to the Tenders Board for insurance coverage for The Royal Bahamas Defence Force's Patrol Crafts. In addition, the coverage must include the vessels transiting the Caribbean and the East Coast of the United States.

2. Specifications and schedules of assets can be obtained from the Ministry of Finance, Monday through Friday between 9:00 am and 5:00 pm.
3. The quotes must be itemized to show the following:
 - a) The Hull and Machinery
 - b) War Risk
 - c) Increased Value
 - d) Protection and Indemnity
4. In providing quotations, in respect to the Patrol Crafts for the Royal Bahamas Defence Force, the date for commencing coverage is the 31 October 2018 to 30 31 2020. The final date for submission is Tuesday 16 October, 2018.
5. All submissions are to reach the Ministry of Finance by 10:00 am on or before the above-mentioned date and to be addressed to the:

Financial Secretary
Cecil Wallace-Whitfield Center
P.O. Box N-3107
West Bay Street
New Providence, The Bahamas