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VOL. 30 - NO. 269 TUESDAY - NOVEMBER 27TH, 2018 75 CENTS

PM Talks Disaster Managment

BY LEAH COOPER
Journal Staff Writer

Prime Minister Dr. Hubert Minnis yesterday sat among several Caribbean leaders attending the IMF/World Bank and IDB conference in Washington D.C. to address the issue of building resilience to disasters and climate change in the region.

In his address, Prime Minister Dr. Hubert Minnis said, like many other Caribbean countries, disasters in the Bahamas can have a large, direct impact on economic conditions through reduced productivity and increased

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Prime Minister Dr. Hubert Minnis *(File photo)*

American resident forfeits $52k

BY JAMEELHA MISSICK
Journal Staff Writer

An American man was yesterday charged with failing to declare $11,440 in U.S. currency.

The 43-year-old Chicago resident was arraigned before Chief Magistrate, Joyann Ferguson-Pratt, after authorities found him with $51,440, only declaring $40,000.

The father of three - who came to The Bahamas on vacation with his wife, children and their baby sitter claimed he won the money while playing as a guest at the Atlantis casino.

He pleaded guilty to the crime.

His attorney, Tonique Lewis, asked the court for leniency as her client did not waste the court's time, as he came here for a family vacation and that it was a very unfortunate situation.

She added that her client was remorseful and did not intend to deceive.

He had no previous convictions.

The magistrate ordered that all of the money be forfeited.

The accused was subsequently fined $500.

Food Lab Testing To Be Strengthened

Lettuce Recall Prompts New Look

BY LICEC BASTIAN
Journal Staff Writer

The recent recall of Romaine lettuce due to the bacteria E. Coli, has prompted the need for more resources to be pumped into ensuring that local laboratories are of first world status, to test imports to and exports from The Bahamas.

Agriculture Minister Michael Pintard said that the ministry would ensure that there is the capacity to not only test what's going out, but what's coming in.

"Bahamians are concerned about products coming from overseas as well and it's one thing to have a stringent requirement on products that are coming in or even pets coming in, because that is also an avenue through which diseases can be transferred cross border.

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CLIMATE CHANGE AND BUILDING RESILIENCE CONFERENCE AT IMF, WASHINGTON, DC

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Official Photo of Dr. the Most Hon. Hubert A. Minnis, Prime Minister of The Bahamas, and World Leaders, at the International Monetary Fund (IMF)/ Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)/World Bank (WB) High Level Conference on Building Resilience to Disasters and Climate Change in the Caribbean, at IMF Headquarters, Washington, D.C., November 26, 2018. Prime Minister Minnis is pictured third from left; and IMF Managing Director Christine Lagarde is pictured centre. ***(BIS Photo/Yontalay Bowe)***

Amendment To Fisheries Laws Proposed

BY LICEC BASTIAN
Journal Staff Writer

An amendment to the Fisheries Act may be before Parliament by the end of the year, with stiffer penalties included for illegal poachers.

Minister of Agriculture and Marine Resources, Michael Pintard revealed as much yesterday, when he spoke with reporters on the sideline of the opening of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations five-day workshop.

Mr. Pintard said the draft was necessary to assist in bringing stiffer penalties to not only foreign fishermen breaking fisheries laws, but Bahamians as well.

"The Fisheries Advisory Committee has been meeting from early

Minister of Agriculture and Marine Resources, **Michael Pintard**

in the year, every week and the draft has been completed. It's been forwarded to the Attorney General's office; it's been there roughly for about five weeks.

"We expect to get it

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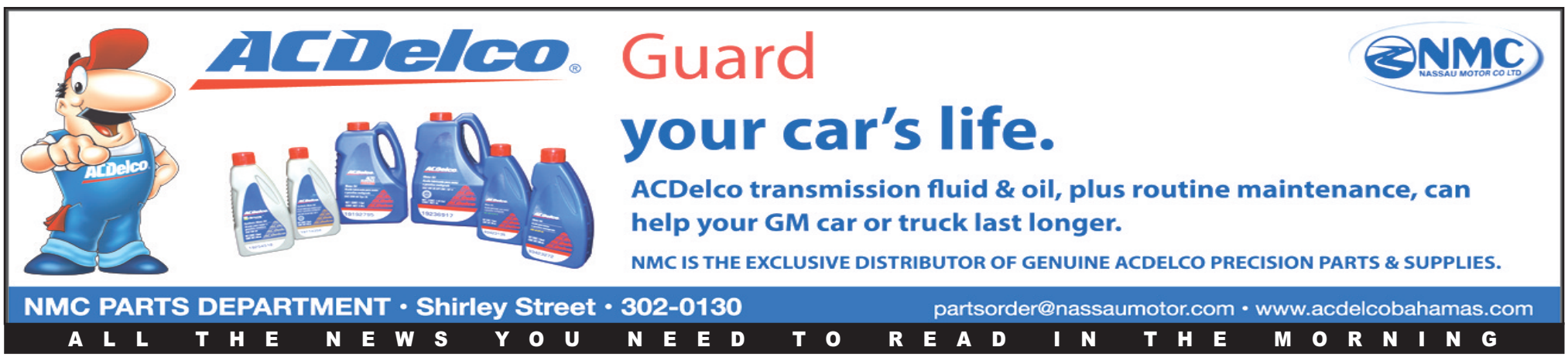

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Three men arraigned For Serious Offences

BY JAMEELHA MISSICK
Journal Staff Writer

Three men appearing before the Magistrates court yesterday separate charges of murder, attempted murder and armed robbery.

In the first matter, 21-year-old Charvis "Bones" McPhee of Sandilands Village Road, was formally charged before Chief Magistrate, Joyann Ferguson-Pratt, and abetment to murder.

The court heard how on Monday November 12th, in New Providence, the accused - being concerned with another - did purposefully aid and abet in murdering Stantavio Lord.

McPhee was not required to enter a plea, and bail was denied.

He was remanded to The Bahamas Department of Corrections until February 8, 2019 for service of a voluntary bill of indictment.

Meantime, 25-year-old, Devon Ellis was accused of attempting to murder.

It is alleged that on Friday October 26, the accused intentionally and unlawfully attempted to kill Trevor Mackey Jr.

He was not required to enter a plea.

Bail was denied and he was subsequently remanded to the Department of Corrections until February 7th, 2019 at noon.

In the third incident, 22-year-old, Newton Bowe, was charged with armed robbery and receiving a red Yamaha motorbike valued at $1500, the property of Christopher Nixon.

He was not required to enter a plea and was remanded until February 8th.

Tourism planners/strategists at work to build on 'successful' 2018

Tourism planners and strategists at The Bahamas' Ministry of Tourism and Aviation have already planned ahead to ensure that they build upon the successes of the 2018 tourism season next year.

"We look forward to building upon the success and tourism growth from 2018 as we forge ahead with exciting new programmes, partnerships and initiatives planned for the year ahead," Minister of Tourism and Aviation, the Hon. Dionisio D'Aguilar said Friday (November 23).

"We are supporting and encouraging the development of new resorts throughout our islands that appeal to millennials and their desire for authentic experiences on vacation, and which appeal to consumers of all ages with particular passions and lifestyles.

"In Nassau, revitalization of the historic architecture downtown, along with new dining and entertainment options are continuing in this district. The past year has been a big one for Baha Mar. The resort has brought new life and new visitors to Cable Beach in Nassau.

Development in Nassau continues as the $120 million 'The Pointe' mixed-use project rises on the beach next to the British Colonial Hilton; the Margaritaville brand will be developing the adjacent property.

"In Freeport, the government and Ministry of Tourism are focusing new efforts on the rebranding and revitalization of the island's tourism. The government recently purchased the Grand Lucayan resort with the intention of securing its future return to the local economy.

"Across our Family Islands we continue to see new boutique properties and eco-friendly resorts

See page 4...

HEALTH MINISTER CONFIRMS 3 CASES OF H1N1 VIRUS

Minister of Health, Dr. Duane Sands (File photo)

BY LEAH COOPER
Journal Staff Writer

Health Minister Dr. Duane Sands yesterday revealed that there are now three confirmed lab cases of influenza with the most recent patient being a child.

Dr. Sands told The Journal that he would rather stray away from the term "swine flu".

He said, "The fact that the ones that have been tested had been H1N1 we believe that as many as 70 per cent of seasonal cases are going to be H1N1, but it doesn't change the issue because many of the strains of influenza can be lethal."

As with vibrio parahaemolyticus that swarmed the conch market this past summer, Dr. Sands said that clinical cases meeting the syndrome definition of the flu virus are different from laboratory cases.

He explained that lab cases have been tested with a virus culture to determine whether an individual has caught the H1N1 virus.

Dr. Sands added the fact that patients have been confirmed by no means suggests they are the only three patients, who have influenza or the H1N1 virus in The Bahamas.

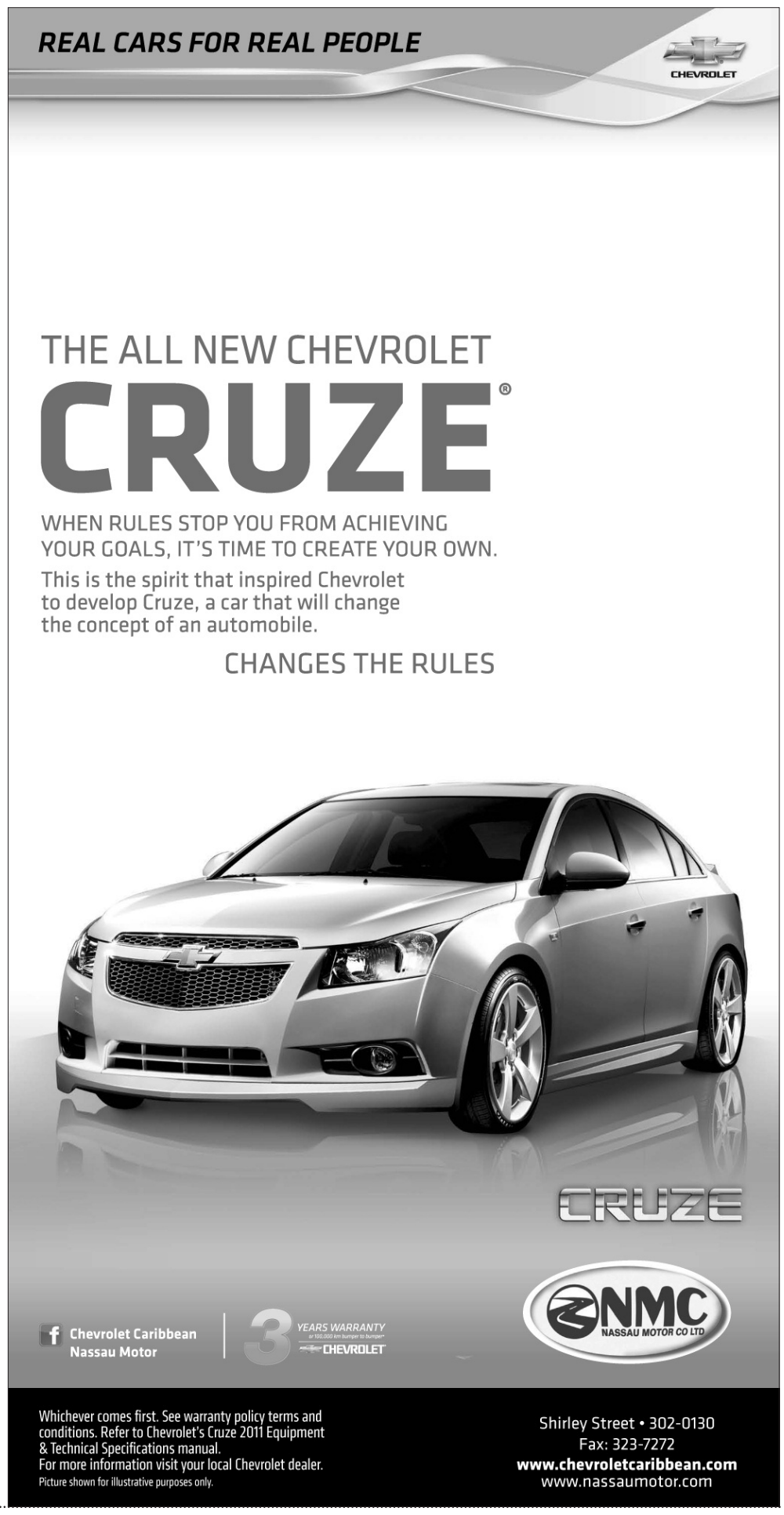
With one confirmed death this season and less than 1,000 Bahamians coming in for vaccinations, Dr. Sands urged the public not to play games.

He said, "Bahamians should understand that the flu is nothing to kid around with. If you look around the world, between 3-5 million people a year get influenza, and about 250,000 or 500,000 of them will die."

He added, "Just last year in the United States, 80,000 people died from influenza. We've already had at least one death in The Bahamas from influenza. This is no an insignificant problem."

The ministry provided 20,000 doses across the nation.

The flu season spans from October-March annually.



Section A REGULAR_Section A Tues 11/26/2018 9:53 PM Page 3

PM Talks Disaster Managment

Continued from / *PAGE 1...*

national debt due to reconstruction costs."

He added, "for example, as a result of Hurricane Mathew in 2017, The Bahamas Government initially borrowed $150 million and made allocations for capital works, and transfers and subsidies for relief and reconstruction.

"This widened the fiscal deficit from an estimated 1.0 per cent of GDP in 2016/17 before Hurricane Matthew to 1.9 per cent of GDP after Matthew. This represented an $81 million increase in the deficit after the hurricane.", he said.

The Prime Minister noted that in post-disaster and relief recovery

the resources and means should be at our disposal to finance direct contingent liabilities efficiently.

This, he said, will also enable a country to provide additional aid to small businesses and low-income farmers, who are disproportionally impacted by disasters.

He said, "there is no single ideal or universally applicable solution for homeowner's disaster insurance. Each country must find and adapt a model that best fits its exposures, existing insurance market infrastructure, institutional set-up and political acceptability."

He added, "The solutions in place in different countries range from comprehensive compulsory natural disaster covers offered by government-sponsored insurance entities to privately organized voluntary disaster insurance products.

"However, pooling of risks at the regional level may be the solution to overcome any shortcoming in any country. We are cognizant that ex ante instruments are the most effective and efficient means of governments practicing self-insurance.", he said.

According to experts, the world is running out of time as it relates to climate change, and predictions indicate that climate change will intensify the impact of natural disasters and worsen the vulnerabilities of small states in the Caribbean.

IMF President Christine Laguarde added that natural disasters know no boundaries and carry no passports, therefore no country is immune, and no region is safe.

The Prime Minister said last week the $41.3 million that has sat in dormant accounts for 17 years or more will be invested into a disaster relief fund.

Food Lab Testing To Be Strengthened

Continued from / *PAGE 1...*

"So, we need to strengthen our ability to do testing, Mr. Pintard said.

He added that farmers too are being prepared to have the ability to deal with building capacity through a series of workshops.

"[We] are helping farmers and fishers understand that if you are going to take advantage of the international market there are a set of requirements that you have to meet prior to you having the ability to export.

"The work for them begins from the point of cultivation, because depending on where you are exporting your products, the eventual buyer wants to know which area it came from, what kind of cultivation practices you are engaging in; so, when they do traceability they want to be able to go right back to the very field that you are bringing your products from.

"So, we are deepening our farmers understanding of what it means to participate in a global market where there are now more stringent sanitary and phytosanitary requirements," Mr. Pintard said.

As for the recent Romaine lettuce recall and some stores reluctance to remove them from the shelves, Mr. Pintard said, " my ministry concurs with Ministry of Health that there should be a total recall. Bear in mind persons have sought to identify the United States as the source, however that is not confirmed.

"So, we don't believe you should take a chance at all, it doesn't matter where it is coming from. But we're asking persons to remove Romaine lettuce from their shelves," Mr. Pintard said.

Mr. Pintard added that consumers who opt to continue consuming U.S. derived lettuce products, do so at their own risk.

He further advised to mitigate any potential exposure and illness, wash hands before handling lettuce, thoroughly clean any containers, utensils and cutting boards to be used during preparation. Wash the lettuce thoroughly over potable running water, rinse with a three or four to one ration of water to vinegar to remove any microbial presence, then again with water, keep the lettuce away from surfaces where raw food is present and place leftovers in a covered container in the refrigerator.

Consuming contaminated lettuce could lead to an illness that lasts up to a week after ingestion.

Amendment To Fisheries Laws Proposed

Continued from / *PAGE 1...*

back shortly [and] we'll then carry it to Cabinet for final ratification and then on to the House of Assembly. So, we expect before the end of the year, barring any challenges, we should have it completed at Cabinet, not later.

"In January, we expect that we should have it before Parliament. If it happens before we would be very happy," Mr. Pintard said.

He added that it is believed that the amendment is extremely important as it addresses the issue of the ongoing issue of poaching while increasing the penalties.

"We [also] looked at some of the matters that will be discussed here today to make sure that we are compliant with every international agreement that we are a signatory to, to ensure that we are carrying out the best practices in terms of monitoring, control and surveillance of our borders.

"Making sure that not just foreigners are not just engaged in illegal and unregulated unreported harvesting of marine resources, but also that Bahamians are compliant as well. So, we believe that we've made substantial progress and we expect that the act would demonstrate that," Mr. Pintard said.

Although Mr. Pintard admits there are challenges faced when it comes to fighting off illegal poachers, he ensured that the government has air-marked millions of dollars to further surveillance of the borders.

"The Bahamas has challenges in terms of gaps that exists; in terms of our ability to carry out much of what we have agreed to.

"So, for example, despite the fact that we have invested over $200 million in additional vessels for the Defence Fore, and despite the fact that we now have two satellite outposts in the Southern Bahamas, as you would've recalled, we've beefed up our surveillance in Inagua and we ae continuing to do so.

"The same thing is true in Ragged Island.

'The Cabinet has also approved $500,000 as an initial spend to ensure that we have drone technology.

"Despite having done all of that, we still have 100,000 square miles of ocean and so there is a need for more resources to be pumped into the surveillance and monitoring and control apparatus of the country.

"The Fisheries Act again is in part about capacity building. We don't have sufficient marine patrol boats in the water. We are bringing two additional ones on stream at the end of the year but that is still inadequate.

"We are also looking to beef up our Fisheries Offices. We have a number of gaps we have to plug if we are going to be effective," Mr. Pintard said.

Defence Force Marines recently arrested 124 Dominican fishermen aboard three motherships after they were caught poaching in Bahamian waters. The men were consequently fined roughly $8 million.

The five-day workshop with the Food and Agriculture Organization aimed at formulating a national strategy and action plan for compliance with the 2009 FAO Agreement on Port State measures to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing is currently taking place at the Marriot Courtyard Hotel.

The Most Hon. Dr. Hubert Alexander Minnis
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ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT ZONE ACT
2018 TOWNHALL MEETING

DATE: WEDNESDAY 28TH NOVEMBER, 2018
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VENUE: GRANT'S TOWN WESLEY METHODIST CHURCH HALL
LOCATION: BAILLOU HILL ROAD AND MEADOW STREET

Areas included in the Over-the-Hill Zone are:
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- Exemption on Excise Tax
- Business License Fee
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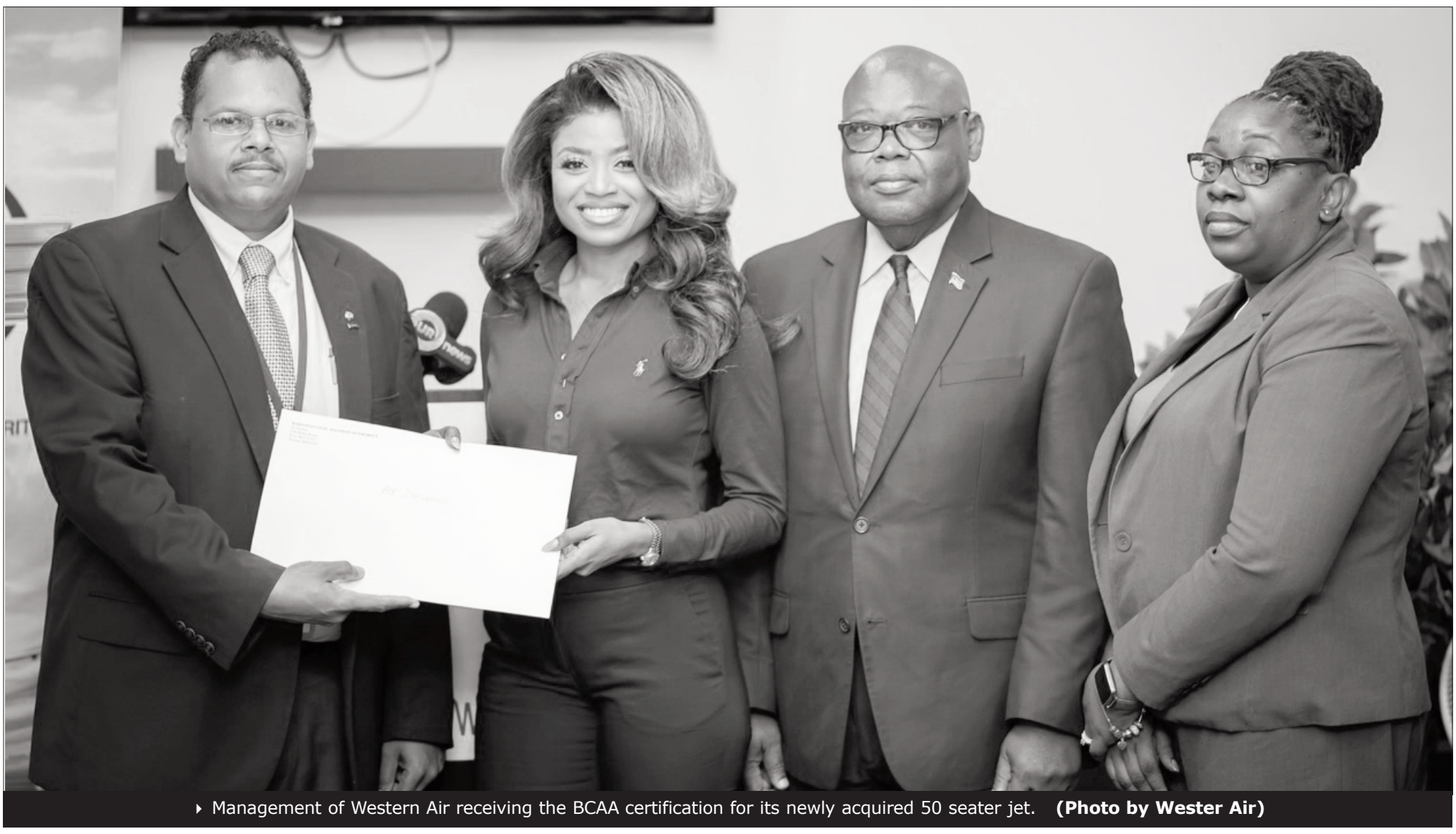
Subject to approval upon submission of required documents to the Ministry of Finance.

Western Air Receives BCAA's Approval to Operate New Embraer ERJ 145 Jets



Management of Western Air receiving the BCAA certification for its newly acquired 50 seater jet. **(Photo by Wester Air)**

Western Air, the largest privately owned airline in The Bahamas, completes Bahamas Civil Aviation Authority's (BCAA) certification process for its newly acquired Embraer ERJ 145 long range (LR) 50 seater jets. Western Air signed an agreement with Embraer to acquire four (4) Embraer ERJ 145 LR jets, two of which are presently in The Bahamas, the third is to be delivered in the first week of December 2018 and the fourth aircraft is scheduled to be delivered in the first quarter of 2019.

The jet aircrafts are powered by Rolls Royce advanced, high- efficiency engines. These aircrafts have the ability to fly internationally to destinations up to 1500 nautical miles away. The 145 Jets will allow Western Air to expand to multiple destinations in the Caribbean and Latin America, including Santo Domingo, Cuba, Haiti, Jamaica and Panama. As well as northern destinations such as Toronto, Canada. While international destinations are on the horizon, the airline also plans on providing daily jet service between Nassau and Grand Bahama, Marsh Harbor and Exuma.Western Air will use its current Saab 340A fleet to add flight service into New Bight, Cat Island and Treasure Cay, Abaco.

Western Air signed a five year, multi-million dollar engine support agreement with Rolls Royce, as well as a five year Pool Program agreement with Embraer for aircraft parts and support. Embraer has worked closely with Western Air providing additional pilot support and aircraft technical representatives on site in The Bahamas who will remain in the country as the airline transitions into the 145 jet aircraftS. Western Air becomes the first airline in The Bahamas and the Caribbean region to operate the ERJ 145 jets.

The airline made a significant investment into its long standing personnel. Western Air's Captains and First Officers were sent to Flight Safety International in St. Louis, Missouri where they successfully completed their ERJ 145 jet training and went on to do additional flight training with Embraer Support Captains. Flight Safety maintenance instructors came to The Bahamas earlier this year to provide detailed training on the aircraft to the Western Air Aircraft Maintenance Department. Further, Embraer also flew representatives to The Bahamas to provide ERJ 145 jet training to Western Air's dispatchers. Additional ramp and ground training was also conducted for the ground support team.

BCAA's certification process included five phases and an extensive review, observation, inspections and demonstrations for the new aircraft type to be added to Western Air's operations specifications. The certification was led by the Manager of the Safety Oversight Department, Mrs. Julia Braithwaite-Rolle and the Certification Coordinator and Chief Inspector Mr. Donald Barrett. Western Air and BCAA are to sign official documentation on Tuesday, November 20, 2018.

Western Air will launch jet service between Nassau and Freeport Thursday, November 22, 2018.

Start dates for other destinations will be announced in the coming days.

Tourism planners/strategists at work to build on 'successful' 2018

Continued from / ***PAGE 2...***

on Harbour Island, Eleuthera and Exuma that provide visitors, particularly millennials, with options that match their lifestyles. And, we eagerly await the development of a new, five-star resort eco-resort planned for Long Island."

Minister D'Aguilar said tourism planners and strategists will continue to work to reach millennials as well as repeat visitors seeking authentic vacation experiences and the natural beauty of all of the Islands of The Bahamas through strategic partnerships and promotions, media relations and attractive programmes for travelers.

"Our priority will be in continuing to position The Islands of The Bahamas as a premiere travel destination, evolving our branding to appeal to new visitors and promoting the distinct offerings across each of our unique islands."

Minister D'Aguilar said the Ministry of Tourism employed a robust marketing programme that communicated the superior, unfiltered Bahamas experience to "our target audience" of Curious for More travelers using a mix of tactics and channels.

He said desk-side Editor briefings and Mix and Mingle events in key markets from New York City to Atlanta to South Florida have also been a valuable tool in developing media relationships, providing new development updates and in encouraging future feature stories.

"The relationships developed have paid dividends over time," Mr. D'Aguilar said. "We have taken part in media blitzes in New York, Toronto and most recently, in China."

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MINISTRY OF FINANCE

PUBLIC NOTICE

The public is hereby notified that a Public Auction will be conducted by the Customs Department on non-entered goods at the places and times listed below-:

No.	LOCATIONS	DATES	TIMES
1	Airfreight LPIA - (GFT)	3rd December, 2018	9:00am – 12:30pm
2.	Airfreight Odyssey (GFT)	3rd December, 2018	9:00am – 12:30pm
3.	Betty K. – Arawak Cay (GFT)	3rd December, 2018	2:00pm – 5:00pm
4.	Mailboat – Arawak Cay (GFT)	4th December, 2018	9:00am – 12:30pm
5.	MSC – Arawak Cay (GFT)	4th December, 2018	9:00am – 12:30pm
6.	Tropical Shipping – John Alfred Dock (GFT)	4th December, 2018	2:00pm – 5:00pm
7.	Congo Town, Andros (GFT)	5th December, 2018	9:00am – 5:00pm
	VEHICLES (NEW PROVIDENCE) CUSTOMS HEADQUARTERS		
8.	Betty K – Kelly's Dock – Arawak Cay (HQ)	6th December, 2018	9:30am – 12:30pm
9.	Inchape Shipping (HQ)	6th December, 2018	9:30am – 12:30pm
10.	Island Maritime (HQ)	6th December, 2018	9:30am – 12:30pm
11.	United Shipping (HQ)	6th December, 2018	9:30am – 12:30pm
12.	R. H. Curry & Co. Ltd. (HQ)	6th December, 2018	9:30am – 12:30pm
	ARAWAK CAY		
13.	Mailboat – Fiesta Mail (Arawak Cay)	6th December, 2018	2:00pm – 5:00pm
	FAMILY ISLAND		
14.	Marsh Harbour, Abaco	10th December, 2018	10:00am – 5:00pm

The above goods will be sold under the Provision of Section 201 of the Customs Management Act. The Auction will commence at 9:00 am daily with the exception of Tropical Shipping, Betty K. Agencies, Arawak Cay (GFT), **which will commence at 2:00 pm.**

Vehicles (New Providence) Customs Headquarters, will commence at 9:30 am daily with the exception of the Mailboat - Fiesta Mail, Arawak Cay, **which will commence at 2:00 pm.**

Family Islands - Congo Town, Andros (GFT), will commence at 9:00 am on 5th December, 2018.

Marsh Harbour, Abaco, will commence at 10:00 am on 10th December, 2018.

A list of the goods to be auctioned can be viewed at Customs Headquarters, Betty K. Agencies, Gladstone Road Freight Terminal, Air Freight, Arawak Cay East.

The Department reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids tendered.

Marlon Johnson
(Acting) FINANCIAL SECRETARY

KEYS TO HIGH LEVEL PERFORMANCE

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.

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.

If you really want to operate at maximum capacity within your organization, it is essential to motivate employees to actively work toward your business goals. To do this, you have to win at engaging employees.

Here are the remaining three factors that you need to consider in getting employees to work toward your business goals:

- Empower your employees – empowering employees means giving them an opportunity to show their best selves and work at their highest potential. You do this by matching them to jobs that they want to do and that they are good at. Matching individual jobs to talent speaks to the question, 'what drives employees?'

Remember the case study with the two employees fired for poor performance from one department who were able to excel in another department? They were allowed to perform tasks in the new department that played to their strengths and not to their weaknesses, and that made them feel empowered to perform at a high level. It's an important difference.

Fashion mogul Peter Nygard's associates are generally performing tasks that they want to be performing. Often promotions happen from within the company and associates request job changes or even moves to new responsibilities that are at a higher level.

In some cases, employees, who haven't made any requests, are recognized for their talents and offered a move to an area where they can make the most of their talent.

- Involve employees in a significant way – Employees always want to know how they fit within a company. They want to feel like a part of the company beyond being 'worker bees'.

Nygard allows his associates to be an integral part of not just work tasks with input that is welcomed; he invites their participation at all of his events. Associates always volunteer to be a part of his fashion shows and major events. Some even perform live.

Here's what you can do: If you are struggling to make a decision or find a solution to an operations problem, you would be amazed at the high level contribution of ideas and suggestions from involving your staff.

Employees are the ones close to the ground on a daily basis. They know the clients or customers. They can make valuable contributions to your company if given the opportunity.

There is a tremendous benefit in involving employees in a significant way. It creates buy-in for everything that a company is doing. This motivates them to cooperate and assist with changes.

Remember the response of the talented but un-contributing employee? When asked why she didn't share solutions with the manager on problems she was in a unique position to solve, her response was "he didn't ask." Involving employees could be as simple as asking.

- Give them the tools – you cannot ask any employee to successfully complete work tasks without giving them the tools to succeed.

For example, don't expect efficiency in performance if you've given them a slow computer. Don't expect great customer service if you have not trained them on what that looks like.

A major part of Nygard's operations is his organizational practice of ongoing training. Nygard doesn't just ask employees to perform; he gives them ongoing training to always make sure they have the tools to perform. He also allows for mistakes and for them to learn from their mistakes, though he doesn't expect those mistakes to happen again.

Business leaders should always be thinking along the lines of 'what tools can I give my employees to help them succeed in achieving business goals?'

One of the most important things you have to take note of from all of our discussions is that all six of the key factors work in concert with each other. The whole is bigger than the sum of its parts.

Unless you do all of the things we've been discussing, including organizational alignment of the various organizational components, and do them in a meaningful way, none of these things we have spent months discussing will have the needed impact in helping you achieve business goals.

Following in Nygard's footsteps and achieving the kind of results he has brilliantly achieved over 50 years means doing all of these things and more.

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The Bahama Journal
Quo Vadis, Bahamas?

Wendall K. Jones
Publisher/Chief Executive Officer

Kimaley P. Jones
Vice President/Operations

EDITORIAL

Tear-away Youth

"…When a group of boys can burst into a crowded business establishment, slashing and stabbing... I realize, this place is too far gone!

"I left once I gave the police a statement and up to that point the ambulance had not arrived. The kids have no clue. The guys with the knives and cutlass were all under 18…" Senator Ranard Henfield.

Today we review what seems a very sad and bloody story concerning what can happen when tear-away youth wreak havoc on one of their own kind; thus commentary on what now seems a species of 'he said/ they said word stew'

This porridge of stuff pits the police reporting of what they describe as a disturbance against that of Senator Ranard Henfield who claims that he was front-seat witness when a "gang of men" entered a certain business establishment and then went to work "stabbing and chopping".

And then, we hear-say that the Senator told his family he was "almost murdered" at the establishment.

This is surely some very powerful stuff; but yet we wonder whether the good senator may well have been mistaken about the so-called 'gang of men' and for that matter, whether he was –as he would have the public believe "almost murdered".

Hereof late, sure seems as if practically every 'bulla' and he sister would love to be seen for the real hero they are; this even when the real facts might suggest otherwise.

Indeed, such is the power inherent in social media that quite ordinary folk now seemingly cherish every moment they have on-line when they can either boast of having done this or that on behalf of suffering humanity.

But rest assured, while Senator Ranard Henfield was witness to a very nasty piece of business involving some tear-away youth, we are not so certain that he played the hero's part in saving either himself or others when [as he claimed] "…a gang of men burst in stabbing and chopping…"

This stuff [as reported in legitimate media] took place at a local fast-food eatery.

As an eye-witness to what seemed a terror, Henfield spoke and told this gory tale which shared as follows: one victim of repeated stabs jumped over the counter; and that, the security [officer] got hit with a rock like a fast ball at the World Series.

And if that dramatic stuff was not enough, the senator went on to claim that he tried his best to save as much people as he could.

This is surely the stuff of which politically potent heroism is made in today's Bahamas where so very many people are busy searching for their own home-grown brand of superman!

For the record, please note that the good senator reports concerning a fracas involving 'a group of boys' who [as he claims] burst into a crowded business establishment, slashing and stabbing.

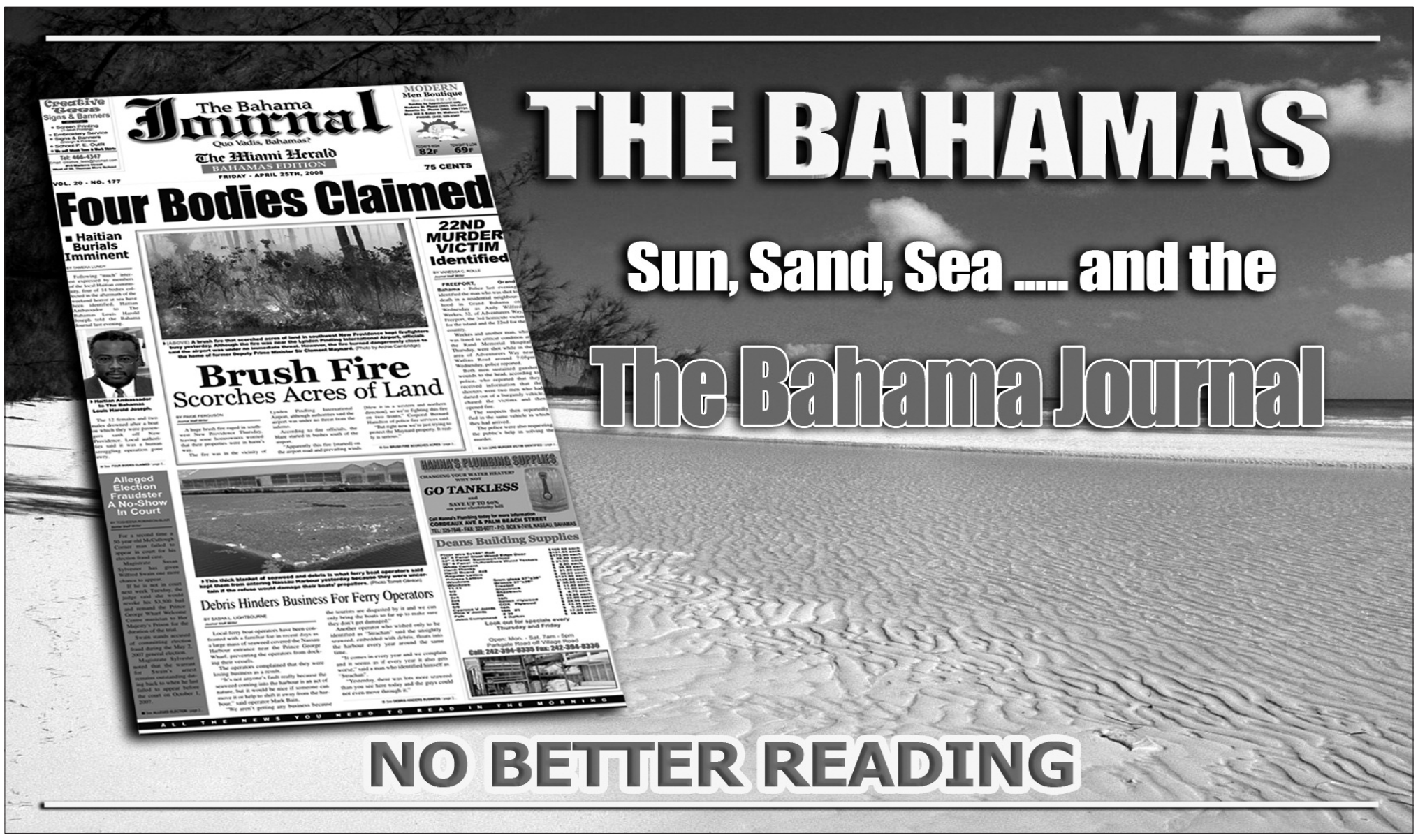
The senator also opined as follows, the kids have no clue!

He also suggested that he [Senator Henfield] tried his best to save as much people as I could.

At this juncture, inquiring minds yearn to know the number the good senator did manage to save; and [clearly] those yearning minds would also need to know whether the boys who were slashing and stabbing were doing so indiscriminately.

In truth, there was no gang of men doing anything.

And clearly, not one of those angry tear-away boys wanted or intended to murder the fine senator.

What we do know is that social media is really and truly not the kind of place where senators should ever find themselves baring their souls and the pictures of their fine kids.

And clearly, senator, leave the work that the police are paid to do to the police. Sir, try not to be a hero especially when you are just trying to pay for a snack+ fries included!