

STANDARD SERVICES SUPPLIES LTD.
 Shirley & Church Street
 Phone: 322-4635



Shop at STANDARD SERVICES where you can get **20% OFF** Houseware, linen, lamps and draperies. And much, much more

The Bahama Journal

Quo Vadis, Bahamas?

DEAN & ASSOCIATES PROFESSIONAL INSURANCE AGENTS & BROKERS
 "Meeting Your Needs Efficiently and Professionally"



BUILDINGS (COMMERCIAL & RESIDENTIAL)
 LIFE - GROUP - MEDICAL - ANNUITIES - LIABILITY - MARINE - HOMEOWNERS - AUTO

Tel: (242)-356-0986 Fax: (242)-356-0987
 Deal's Plaza, Mackey Street
 P.O. Box CB-13952 Nassau, Bahamas
 8:30am - 4:30pm

VOL. 30 - NO. 259

TUESDAY - NOVEMBER 13TH, 2018

75 CENTS

STRAW VENDORS CALL GOV'T ACTION "INHUMANE"

The Straw Business Persons Society is accusing the government of inhumane treatment of Straw Vendors and has outlined a litany of complaints.

The Straw Vendors are calling on the Prime Minister, Doctor Hubert A. Minnis and the Minister responsible for the Straw Market, Desmond Bannister, to assist in addressing this most pressing matter that affects hundreds of Straw Vendors.

The Vendors accuse Ms. Kelly Ingraham and the Straw Market Authority of removing and disposing the vendors' merchandise.

In a press statement, the



Image shows a traditional straw vendor in the Downtown Straw Market. (Journal file photo)

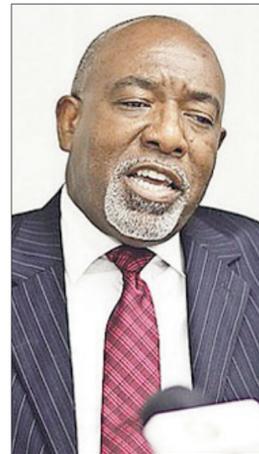
See STRAW / page 2...

FORMER IMMIGRATION DIRECTOR DENIES FBI CLAIMS

BY LEAH COOPER
 Journal Staff Writer

Former Director of Immigration William Pratt is seeking any necessary means clearing his name from a visa fraud case and that may result in a full-fledged legal battle.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) makes allegations that Mr. Pratt and Clarence Russell, the current Immigration Director accepting bribes to provide Bahamian work permits and work visas to



William Pratt, Former Director of Immigration (File photo)

See FORMER / page 2...

BICA On Fiscal Responsibility Council

BY LICEC BASTIAN
 Journal Staff Writer

The Bahamas Institute of Chartered Accountants (BICA), president Gowon Bowe, will have a seat on the Fiscal Responsibility Council, "a tremendous opportunity for BICA to demonstrably influence the fiscal fortunes of the country," according to Prime Minister, Dr. the Most Hon. Hubert Minnis.

During the opening of Accountants' Week under the theme: "Effectively Transitioning in a Digital Environment: Staying Current on the Global

Stage", Dr. Minnis highlighted the importance of a relationship between the accountants and the government to further develop the economy.

"A primary objective of my Government is the introduction of meaningful and accountable fiscal responsibility, which is evidenced by our tabling of Fiscal Responsibility legislation.

"This legislation encompasses many forward looking principles that will place The Bahamas on a better economic footing.

"To ensure accountability,

See BICA / page 7...



Prime Minister Minnis (right) greets BICA's Gowon Bowe; chartered accountants participate in BICA Week 2018 at Baha Mar, November 12. (BIS Photos/Yontalay Bowe)

Minister Explains UWI Medical Students' Scholarships

Minister of Health Doctor Duane Sands says the government has to rethink the paradigm regarding health-care professionals in the country. He said there has been tremendous discussion about the government's decision to raise questions of the 65 first-year medical stu-

dents presenting themselves for matriculation on the University of the West Indies (UWI) Campuses earlier this year.

"It is important to understand the background. In the early days, the UWI would

See MINISTER / page 7...

Second Homicide In 3 Days

BY LICEC BASTIAN
 Journal Staff Writer

Police in New Providence investigating another homicide after a male was shot at Cordeaux Avenue and Watkins Street last night.

According to reports,

shortly before 6pm, officers were called to a shooting incident where the man was shot.

He was transported to hospital where he later succumbed to his injuries.

This follows a similar shooting which occurred on Friday night when officers

responded to a report of gun shots being fired in the area of Coopers Terrace off Kemp Road. When they arrived on the scene officers discovered the body of a male lying in the street with injuries.

Paramedics were called and attempted to revive the

male, but were unsuccessful. He was pronounced dead.

Investigations continues. In other crime news, Police in Grand Bahama have released a wanted person poster seeking the

See SECOND / page 2...

INTERNATIONAL MEN'S WEEK TO BE RECOGNIZED LOCALLY

BY LEAH COOPER
 Journal Staff Writer

For the first time in the country, the spotlight will be shown on males in observance of International Men's Day.

This is a decades-old initiative created to celebrate men's contributions to society and to highlight concerns

of the day.

This year, that will include health, improving gender relations and promoting gender equality.

Committee member Terrence Ferguson said contrary to popular belief, men are discriminated against in The Bahamas, and this initia-

See INTERNATIONAL / page 8...



ACDelco Guard your car's life.

ACDelco transmission fluid & oil, plus routine maintenance, can help your GM car or truck last longer.

NMC IS THE EXCLUSIVE DISTRIBUTOR OF GENUINE ACDELCO PRECISION PARTS & SUPPLIES.

NMC PARTS DEPARTMENT • Shirley Street • 302-0130 partsorder@nassaumotor.com • www.acdelcobahamas.com

STRAW VENDORS CALL GOV'T ACTION "INHUMANE"

Continued from / PAGE 1...

Reverend Esther Thompson a leader of the Vendors said, "It was on Tuesday, November 6, 2018, when we witnessed members of the Straw Market Authority disposing of the products owned by some Straw Vendors. It is believed that those vendors did not receive proper notice of this action," she said.

Rev. Thompson asked: "Where is the legal basis for this action taken? If we are business owners in a Landlord / Tenant relationship, why wasn't due process extended to the disenfranchised vendors? Some of the vendors literally had their only source of income taken from them by the gov-

ernment. I say the government because the Straw Market Authority is an agent doing business on behalf of the government. We say again to Ms. Kelly Ingraham and her crew, we want to see the products returned to their rightful owners immediately! This is not a joke. People lives are at stake and their families are affected. How can people be so heartless? Where is the compassion for the vendors?"

"Some of these people built this tourism product that the guest to our shores so enjoy today.

The mistreatment of the vendors must cease and desist immediately," she said.

The Vendors leader said, "the focus of the Straw

Market Authority is misplaced. Their priorities are in the wrong place. They are doing a terrible job with the up-keep of the facility. Many days there are no hand towel, hand soap nor toilet tissue in the bathrooms used by the guest to our shores. The tourists have also expressed their disbelief in the state of the market. The facility is constantly dirty and the building is not properly maintained.

"We want to invite the members of the public to visit the Straw Market and see the state that the Straw Market Authority has it in due to lack of maintenance. If they wanted to clean something, they needed to clean the market. The place is filthy.

"They sit in their lofty offices and are paid every month-end without fail and they are doing such an awful job.

"We invite you to come in the market and look at the floors, look at the fans, look at the state of the restrooms and look at the condition the vendors are being made to work in. We are paying for the Straw Market Authority to keep the market clean for our guest and the vendors," Rev. Thompson said.

She stated that the only thing this FNM Administration is interested in is the victimization of vendors and being an evil task master. "But, we are calling on the Prime Minister and Mr. Desmond Bannister to

intervene and to assist in bringing correction.

"We want the return those of products taken from the disadvantaged vendors. We want Ms. Kelly Ingraham, the Chairman, and the Straw Market Authority to return every piece of merchandise they remove off those stalls and disposed.

"We want to see a better upkeep of the facility. They need to ensure that it is clean. We want to see hand towel, hand soap and toilet tissue in the restrooms.

"We demand that an audit be conducted on the financial affair of the Straw Market.

"We demand better treatment and respect for the vendors. This is a group of people that only want to be self-sufficient, make a living to

take care of their families and meet their financial obligations such as mortgages and light bills. Where is the human side of this administration? We were always taught "Treat people the way you would like someone to treat you".

"We plead again for the proper marketing of the Straw Market which would help to enhance sales.

"We seek clarity on the rights of the vendors as it relates to tenants' rights. It seems like the Straw Vendors have no rights and are only subject to the taskmasters.

"The needs of the Straw Market are great. But, we need the issues mentioned previously to be address as a matter of urgency," said Rev. Thompson.

FORMER IMMIGRATION DIRECTOR DENIES FBI CLAIMS

Continued from / PAGE 1...

Haitian Nationals looking to enter the United States.

Edward Israel Saintil is said to be a ring leader in the alleged scam.

Mr. Pratt, determined to clear his name, stressed in a release issued yesterday that he never sold or received bribes for any permits or anything else in his five years as director.

He said he has never met Mr. Saintil, never knew what he looked like until he was shown a photo online and never had any dealings with him or any other person in an illegal, unlawful conduct of any kind.

These applications, said Mr. Pratt are considered based on information received, which must justify the request.

The former Immigration Minister Fred Mitchell added that it is unjust to permit what he described a "loose, untested allegation to come into the public domain sullyng his character and integrity without any opportunity to refute it".

Mr. Mitchell said, "the question must be asked by our government: how could in the US jurisdiction a document be produced in court which clearly alleges malfeasance in office against named individuals, be allowed to surface with untested hearsay evidence in it?"

He added, "In other words the names of persons are called, serious accusations are made against them purporting to be the truth of their contents. There is no evidence to support the allegations. I am advised

that none of the persons whose names were called had an opportunity to defend themselves, yet their names are now scandalized.

"This becomes a serious matter given the subjective nature of US Immigration law which might portend negative consequences at the local embassy for these individuals or worse in the US itself. These named officials effectively have no legal redress either", he said.

The PLP Chairman added that at the very least, the matter must be protested by the Government for the record and the names of its public servants defended.

The damage has been done, he said, and "now it is left for me to use my personal resources to seek redress by having to prove a negative."

Roberts Furniture

SCARY SAVINGS

SAVE 50%* ON CLOSEOUTS
*WHILE SUPPLIES LAST

NEW ARRIVALS DAILY FROM

Bassett CROSCILL

DALYN RUG COMPANY

CAPRIS FURNITURE

Prime Designs

Lamp per se

12,000 BTU DUCTLESS AIR CONDITIONERS \$399*
INCL. VAT

SAVE UP TO 40%* ON SELECT APPLIANCES
*WHILE SUPPLIES LAST

LINEN DEPARTMENT SAVE 30%* OR MORE
*VISIT STORE FOR DETAILS

Roberts Furniture
5th Terrace & East Avenue
CENTREVILLE
Phone: 322-8862
Join us on Facebook

Second Homicide In 3 Days

Continued from / PAGE 1...

Enforcement Unit in Grand Bahama for alleged possession of dangerous drugs with the intent to supply.

Colebrooke is described as standing at 5'10' tall, weighing between 240-260 lbs. with dark brown complexion and is heavy built.

Anyone with information on the whereabouts of David Arlington Colebrooke is asked to contact the Drug Enforcement Unit in Freeport, Grand Bahama at telephone number 350-3125, Police Emergency # 911/919 or call your nearest police station.

public's assistance in locating 57 year old David Arlington Colebrooke of #1 Jasmine Gardens, Nassau, New Providence.

According to Police, Colebrooke, a fisherman, is wanted by the Drug

Principal appeals for opportunities for the deaf and hearing impaired

Sonja Rolle, Principal, Centre for the Deaf, underscored the need for hearing impaired individuals to become productive citizens of The Commonwealth of The Bahamas through employment, opportunities to express their feelings and opinions, and as a group, 'a place to call home.'

"Far too many of them face a life of unemployment or must labour as unskilled workers in jobs that offer no benefits or opportunities for advancement in this country.

"This group needs a place to call home. All of the former students here today hold in their heart only the promise of a school that they can be proud of to call their own," said Ms. Rolle.

She presented an overview of the institution at the official launch and the

Proclamation of Deaf Awareness Week in Rawson Square Saturday, November 10, 2018. The week is recognized in The Bahamas, November 10 to 18, on the theme "My Heart, My Hands, My Voice."

Deaf Awareness Week is sponsored by the Bahamas Red Cross, the Department of Education, and Centre for the Deaf and Hearing Impaired to raise awareness about communication disorders and to encourage those who suspect that they are hearing impaired to seek assistance.

In his remarks, the Hon. Frankie Campbell, Minister of Social Services and Urban Development expressed his commitment to using his voice to uplift the causes and purpose of the Centre for the Deaf, and to upholding the

government's commitment to ensuring that all persons enjoy the same rights and opportunities.

He shared some of his activities since taking over the portfolio of the Ministry of Social Services and Urban Development including: the approval for purchase of a \$23,000 generator for the Centre for the Deaf, discussions with the University of The Bahamas regarding the transitioning of persons with disabilities from high school to tertiary education, and discussions with the Minister of Education, the Hon. Jeffrey Lloyd on scholarship opportunities for graduates of the Centre for the Deaf.

Minister Campbell said he has also been appealing to the "able-bodied" community for an increased level of

sensitivity for persons with disabilities.

"Many persons wake up in the morning and because of some incident or accident, by the end of the day if they are lucky enough they go to bed with some disability. While we are here still able-bodied, giving a particular service, let us ensure that we put in place necessary protocols -- policies and procedures first of all -- to ensure that the persons who need the service are getting it, and getting it efficiently and on time; but secondly, God forbid, should we find ourselves on the other side, we would have met in place some beautiful policies and procedures that we put in place.

"There are some disabilities that are hereditary and [that] we can't prevent, but

there are quite a few of them that we can prevent. An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure."

He urged "able-bodied" persons to take care of their bodies by eating, drinking and getting the necessary rest to ensure that as far as possible they are able to prevent the things that can be prevented.

Minister Campbell followed his remarks by reading the Proclamation for Deaf Awareness Week on behalf of Dr. the Most Hon. Hubert A. Minnis, Prime Minister of The Commonwealth of The Bahamas.

In his welcome, Jevonny Allen, a student at the Centre for the Deaf, said Deaf Awareness Week is about social inclusion, eliminating communication barriers for

the deaf and hard-of-hearing, sharing deaf culture, teaching about deafness and sign language, celebrating their lives and highlighting their abilities.

"It is our hearts which beat with the single desire to be respected and appreciated as leaders of our own destiny. It is our hands that express what our hearts are feeling and our hands that speak our thoughts. It is the activities that we share with you this week that become the voice that connects us to you," said Mr. Allen.

Mark Humes, MP for Fort Charlotte also gave remarks and representatives of Baptist Bible Church performed a selection in sign language.

At the end of the launch, there was a Junkanoo Rush-out by Barabbas & the Tribe.



► Students from the Centre for the Deaf are pictured with the Hon. Frankie Campbell, Minister of Social Services and Urban Development. (File photo)



► DaVinci Leu-brunson, President, Bahamas Deaf Association and Hard of Hearing; the Hon. Frankie Campbell, Minister of Social Services and Urban development and Sonja Rolle, Principal, Centre for the Deaf. (File photo)

mmmmmm...patties, cakes, breads, pastries..
Nothing compares to the Original!

SPECIALS DAILY
Jerk Chicken & Pork
FRI. & SAT.
Chicken & Mutton Roti
MON. & WED.
Escovitch Fried Fish

PATTIES
Beef, Chicken & Vegetable

PASTRIES
Turnover, Tarts, Cheese Croissants, Glazed Twist, Gazzada, Sugar Buns

CAKES
Raisin, Pineapple Upside-Down, Chocolate, Marble Slice

BREAD
Hardough, Coconut, Banana, Potato & Wheat

LOAVES
Codfish, Beef, Callaloo Chicken & Vegetable

TWO LOCATIONS
Harrold & Blue Hill Road • Tel: 341-1871 / 341-6552
Business Hours: Monday to Saturday 7:00am-8:00pm
"Quality is always Job No. 1"

**COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS
IN THE INDUSTRIAL TRIBUNAL**

NOTICE OF CALL OVER

TAKE NOTICE that the following Industrial Tribunal Matters have been set for call over in the Industrial Tribunal in the City of Nassau before the Honourable Indra Demeritte-Francis, President of the Industrial Tribunal, at 10am on Wednesday 21st of November 2018.

	YEAR	NO.	APPLICANT	RESPONDENT	ATTORNEY/ REPRESENTATIVE	APPLICANT'S ADDRESS
1.	2018	NES/120	OMALATESHA DEAN	BAHAMAR (SKY WARRIOR LTD)		FIRE TRAIL ROAD EAST
2.	2018	NES/56	CLARICE MURPHY	LITTLE LEARNING CHRISTIAN ACADEMY & BARBER WORLD		SUMNOR STREET OFF SOLDIER ROAD
3.	2018	NES/106	JAROME JOHNSON	BET VEGAS CASINOS		FOX DDAIL CANDIA CREST
4.	2018	NES/130	FREDRICK HEILD	OAKES FIELD SHOPPING PLAZA		EAST STREET SOUTH

MINISTER OF YOUTH, SPORTS & CULTURE MEETS WITH JUNKANOO LEADERS



► Minister of Youth, Sports and Culture the Hon. Lanisha Rolle held a round-table meeting for New Providence Junkanoo leaders, on November 8, 2018, at the British Colonial Hilton. Also taking part in the meeting were Acting Permanent Secretary Rhoda Jackson, Director of Culture Rowena Poitier-Sutherland and Deputy Director Dereka Deleveaux-Grant, Co-Chairs of the National Junkanoo Committee Dr. Dwight Marshall and Kishlane O'Brien, Chairman of the Junkanoo Corporation of New Providence Silbert Ferguson, various Ministry staff members and selected group representatives. Among the various topics discussed included ways to encourage Junkanoo groups to be more self-sustained, the development of the roles of young people and scholarships in each group, the strengthening of the administrative arms of groups, the importance of communication with the Ministry, and the establishment of community bases in the neighbourhoods the groups represent. Minister Rolle is pictured centre, with Acting Permanent Secretary Rhoda Jackson, centre left.

(BIS Photo / Eric Rose)

"Rehabilitation Provides A Second Chance to Get it Right," says Social Services Minister

"Rehabilitation provides a second chance to get it right, it reopens the doors to opportunities, it brightens a marred future, it introduces a fresh start," said Minister of Social Services and Urban Development the Hon. Frankie Campbell during the Department of Rehabilitative/Welfare Services 41st Annual Church Service marking Rehabilitation Month 2018 on Monday, November 12, at St. Matthews Anglican Church.

No matter how good a programme is or how much help is offered, unless a conscious decision is made for persons to accept it nothing will happen; no one else can make that choice not your parents, your friends, your spouse or anyone else. You alone determine your future, he said.

Held under the theme 'Rehabilitation begins and ends with me,' the overarching objective of the month is to focus on the implementation of rehabilitative pro-

grams designed to address the volume of crime and anti-social behaviour in the country.

Minister Campbell encouraged representatives of non-governmental organizations to review effective programmes wherever being offered, and then build on them for maximum effectiveness and good outcomes. "Provide educational, vocational and employment opportunities which are factors that directly impact rehabilitation, he said.



► Minister Campbell is pictured addressing the service. (BIS Photos/Patrick Hanna)

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



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)	3 rd December, 2018	9:00am – 12:30pm
2	Airfreight Odyssey (GFT)	3 rd December, 2018	9:00am – 12:30pm
3	Betty K. – Arawak Cay (GFT)	3 rd December, 2018	2:00pm – 5:00pm
4	Mailboat – Arawak Cay (GFT)	4 th December, 2018	9:00am – 12:30pm
5	MSC – Arawak Cay (GFT)	4 th December, 2018	9:00am – 12:30pm
6	Tropical Shipping – John Alfred Dock (GFT)	4 th December, 2018	2:00pm – 5:00pm
7	Congo Town, Andros (GFT)	5 th December, 2018	9:00am – 5:00pm
VEHICLES (NEW PROVIDENCE) CUSTOMS HEADQUARTERS			
8	Betty K – Kelly's Dock – Arawak Cay (HQ)	6 th December, 2018	9:30am – 12:30pm
9	Inchape Shipping (HQ)	6 th December, 2018	9:30am – 12:30pm
10	Island Maritime (HQ)	6 th December, 2018	9:30am – 12:30pm
11	United Shipping (HQ)	6 th December, 2018	9:30am – 12:30pm
12	R. H. Curry & Co. Ltd. (HQ)	6 th December, 2018	9:30am – 12:30pm
ARAWAK CAY			
13	Mailboat – Fiesta Mail (Arawak Cay)	6 th December, 2018	2:00pm – 5:00pm
FAMILY ISLAND			
14	Marsh Harbour, Abaco	10 th 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

THE HUMAN FACTOR IN STRATEGY

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.

It is not enough to simply set business goals and implement strategies to achieve them. You have to consider the factors that can help or hinder your achievement of your goals.

In each implementation, you have to ask the question, 'how do our structures, systems and processes impact each other with this strategy? More specifically, 'are they helping or are they hindering our efforts in any way?'

This is especially important to do with respect to human resources. Remember the financial services company who was potentially losing thousands of dollars because their practices and strategies were working against each other?

When they were implementing the strategy of having their sales people focus on selling their financial products to millionaires, they should have reviewed their existing systems.

They should have asked themselves, 'what changes do we need, if any, with respect to human resources? What drives our people toward achieving our business goal?'

If they had asked themselves these questions, they would have looked at their practices to make sure nothing hindered their ability to achieve their goal of selling as much of their financial services products as possible. They should have considered the following:

- What motivates our sales people to sell?
- Given that our various financial services products are sold by different departments, how can we be sure to sell our differing products across departments?
- What might stop us from selling the maximum amount of products?

Instead, they promoted individuals with the most connections to millionaires and didn't think about what impact that might have on other sales people observing that practice.

Yes, it may have had the intended impact of sales people working to establish relationships with millionaires, but they didn't consider how it impacted sales across departments.

How did fashion mogul Peter Nygard do

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.

things differently to ensure maximum success?

Remember, one of Nygard's core business goals is to always be the best at what he does. So, he works within his company to make sure that his structure systems and processes always work together to support that goal.

Since products require several areas to make it successful, Nygard created teams made up of the different departments to work together to ensure the products' success. But, he didn't stop there.

One of the things the NYGARD company is known for is promoting individuals based on their ability. It ensures he has the best people working toward his goals. It also communicates the message, 'we care more about your ability than about educational qualifications.' What this does is engender loyalty and can result in employees working harder.

Why? Because they can witness it paying off. The corporate world generally places more value on educational qualifications of individuals—not that they shouldn't because in some jobs, that may be absolutely necessary; however, not everyone has had the opportunity to further their education and obtain those qualifications.

In many companies, individuals with fewer qualifications resign themselves to not being able to move up the corporate ladder as easily as their counterparts with higher education. That can sometimes cause individuals to continuously look outside the company for better work opportunities.

When advancement opportunities are based on ability, it equalizes the playing field in their minds. If employees feel like they can advance just as easily as their counterparts, the incentive of looking elsewhere for opportunities is taken away and working hard may have value.

We'll continue to look at how employees can be motivated to work toward business goals.

The Bahama Journal Is An Independent Newspaper - Published Week Days
By The Communicators & Associates In Affiliation With Jones Communications Ltd.

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

The Bahama Journal
Quo Vadis, Bahamas?

Wendall K. Jones
Publisher/Chief Executive Officer

Kimaley P. Jones
Vice President/Operations

EDITORIAL

Clear Them Or...

By its very nature, corruption is sometimes hard to pin down; this being the case precisely because, like slime, it is so very difficult to pin the stuff down.

And of course, the fact remains that many of those people who are corrupt have the good sense to present themselves as being so very many saints.

And yet: Thanks to the Most Honourable Prime Minister, Dr. Hubert A. Minnis we now live in a time and in a place where practically every buddy and his auntie are talking and thinking about corruption.

Interestingly enough, word in the wind suggests that the American Federal Bureau of Investigations have been engaged in their own hot pursuits of some corrupted ones doing their corrupted stuff in The Bahamas.

These thoughts now come to mind as we reflect on what seems a double set of professions of honesty on the part of two Bahamian gentlemen, Clarence Russell and William Pratt, both of whom are directly connected—as leaders past and present of The Department of Immigration.

For as much as we know or could care at this time, both of these men must be presumed innocent.

For our own special reason, we shall not pin a tail—long or short on this puppy; thus no reference to the phrase, 'until proven guilty'.

And thus today, let it be known that: This commentary comes on the heel of references made in an affidavit that is said to be part of the Federal Bureau of Investigation's probe of a local US visa scam.

As reported: The affidavit of special agent Kevin Grounaud details conversations the scam's alleged lead conspirator, Edward Israel Saintil, had with undercover FBI informants. Saintil is alleged to have boasted of having relationships with top immigration officials.

Thus moving right along, note that: [According to Mr. Grounaud]: "Saintil stated that he had a relationship both with the new director of immigration, Clarence

Russell, as well as the former director of immigration, (William) Pratt. Saintil noted that he preferred Pratt over Russell because he was more of a businessman and that Russell had been brought in to "change the situation in immigration".

And then this blockbuster of an allegation: "Saintil claimed that he used to work with Russell in the 'Passport Office'."

As affidavits go, this stuff is really, really interesting!

In this regard, then, we can only report what we read, namely that: Mr. Pratt emphasized that the reference to him contained no allegation of wrongdoing on his part.

As the beleaguered Pratt blurted: "...I read the affidavit and it very clearly makes a statement with reference to my name but nowhere does it imply any culpability on behalf of myself..."

As expected, Clarence Russell was far more emphatic as he let loose with claim to the effect that he had access to several personal lawyers in addition to "sixty lawyers at the Office of the Attorney General".

This is so very wonderful.

But notwithstanding Russell's claims about the sixty lawyers he has in the Attorney General's Office; all we can say is this: We seriously doubt this grand claim.

Tellingly, word is to the effect that: The Office of the Attorney General has not officially responded to news of the FBI's probe, however. Attorney General Carl Bethel declined to comment yesterday.

While we have absolutely no way of knowing what Attorney-General Carl W. Bethel has in his mind, we would be quite surprised if he was thinking about Clarence Russell.

For reasons of both economy and deliberate precision, we insist on completing the sentence we started with as caption; namely "...Clear Them Or..."

The completion of the matter is simple: The current administration must—as a matter of the most urgent priority- Clear them or clear them out!

Let Your Advertising Dollar Go A LONG WAY....

Advertise In The Bahama Journal
Call Our Sales Team At: 356-9071-3



THE BAHAMAS

Sun, Sand, Sea and the

The Bahama Journal

NO BETTER READING

FC Capital Investments Donates \$10,000 to Bahamas Feeding Network



► The Bahamas Feeding Network received a \$10,000 financial injection from FC Capital Investments Ltd., over the weekend. The act of generosity came as the financial services provider celebrated its 10th anniversary. From left to right Ugo Facca, FCCI partner and non-executive director; BFN director Sean Moree, a partner at McKinney Bankroft & Hughes; Alexander Murbach, partner and chairman and Julian Francis, non-executive director of FCCI. **Photo by Cay Focus Photography for DPA**

It's an investment that won't preserve its capital or reap any monetary dividends but for FC Capital Investments Ltd. (FCCI), a wealth and fund manager providing sophisticated investment solutions to high-net-worth individuals, the \$10,000 invested in the Bahamas Feeding Network as a part of its 10th anniversary celebration is money well spent.

"With so many worthy charitable organizations performing valuable services, we wanted to ensure that the organization we chose to partner with as we mark our 10th anniversary would have two major components," said Alex Murbach, partner and chairman of FCCI, a financial services provider offering wealth planning and management, investment, fund structuring and administration services and counsel.

"We wanted to ensure that proceeds went directly to persons in need and that the administrative costs of the organization were minimal relative to its expenditure. The Bahamas Feeding Network went above and beyond in both regards, meeting the highest standards of efficiency and accountability."

On a weekly basis the Feeding Network which operates out of a modest converted home called Mosseff House in Fox Hill preps, cooks and distributes

between 3,300 to 3,500 plates of food.

"Those meals feed so many households across The Bahamas. Their clients, if you will, are diverse in terms of the size of the family and the ages of household members, still they all have one thing in common – a lack of reliable access to an adequate amount of food to sustain a healthy lifestyle. We felt compelled to support and contribute to those efforts being made, ensuring that people get the sustenance they need to survive," said Mr. Murbach.

Government statistics peg the level of poverty at nearly 13 per cent of the population, or more than 40,000 persons who go hungry on a daily basis.

Launched in 2013, the Bahamas Feeding Network provides food parcels and prepares and distributes meals through its partner feeding organisations, a network that includes about 100 churches, soup kitchens and other feeding programs.

The brainchild of His Excellency Frank J Crothers, Ambassador of the Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of St John of Jerusalem of Rhodes and Malta, BFN's directors are among the leading civic and businesspersons in The Bahamas. In addition to hot meals, the non-profit organization has distributed more than \$450,000 in food

vouchers to its members since its founding.

"Whether it's a one-off contribution or a long-term commitment, every gift makes a difference," said BFN's executive director Philip Smith, who thanked "strong corporate partners like FC Capital" without whom, he said, they would not be able to ease the pain of hunger.

The cheque was presented during a chic evening celebration at Ocean Club Estates' Beach Club.

"It is only through contributions we receive that BFN is able to grow its capacity to meet the needs of those men, women and children who experience hunger in The Bahamas. We continue to press on to one day completely erasing the blight of hunger from society."

One of BFN's directors, Sean Moree, a partner at McKinney Bankroft & Hughes, accepted the cheque on behalf of the organization.

"This donation will go a long way in helping to defray the cost of our weekly food bill of approximately \$5,500," he said. "As the year winds down and more people find themselves in the mood to give we want to encourage them to do so. As we head into Thanksgiving and Christmas, it's a time to think of those who are less fortunate. We applaud FC Capital Investments Ltd., for this act of generosity."



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

The Bahama Journal

PICK UP YOUR COPY DAILY

We're Everywhere!

BICA On Fiscal Responsibility Council

Continued from / PAGE 1...

the legislation establishes the Fiscal Responsibility Council, with BICA having representation on this Council," Dr. Minnis said.

"We look forward to proposed amendments to further strengthen the legislation," he said.

He added that his administration welcomes input and counsel of members of BICA on topics pertaining

to economic development, governance, fiscal responsibility and corporate citizenship.

Dr. Minnis added that the government is also committed to implementing Internal Public Sector Accounting Standards by 2022.

In his response, Mr. Bowe challenged the accountants to take their responsibility seriously, adding that with BICA having a seat on the council would allow its members to

come from behind the curtains to the front of the curtains.

"We as an institute we take seriously our responsibility as one of those professions to make sure that the cornerstone of our profession, trust, is one that continues.

"We often have pundits and commentators that look at the budget's various decisions that government makes often with the privileges, if you will, of saying

an anonymous source, senior accountant anonymous source, but as it relates to that we have to now make sure that we are taking and analyzing the budgets and the out turns and giving critical feedback.

"Critical feedback means positive in those areas where there are elements that should be continued and negative, where we want to see change and being a part of that change and not simply being a

voice of talking about the problems," Mr. Bowe said.

He added that the accountants must be sure that they too are following the proper guidelines and principles.

"We are in discussions now with BICA as it relates to personnel in the Department of Inland Revenue and the Ministry of Finance in terms of understanding their objective which is assurance and, if you will, confidence in the

numbers being reported versus what is set out in writing.

"But what I can say is that we have, if you will, to look at ourselves in the mirror and say how many of us are abiding by the very guidelines and principles," Mr. Bowe said.

Accountants' week features a series of sessions ending on November 15th.

Sessions are being held and Bahama's Convention Center.

Minister Explains UWI Medical Students' Scholarships



Minister of Health Dr. the Hon. Duane Sands
(File photo)

Continued from / PAGE 1...

have had less than five or 10 students per year. Over time the number crept up slowly and then about seven, eight or nine years ago it exploded," Dr. Sands explained at the Bahamas Dental Association's Biennial Scientific Conference held at the Public Hospitals Authority, Friday, November 9, 2018.

He said the Bahamas Government sat by passively with a position that if persons showed up at UWI and were able to be accepted that the government would pay 80 per cent of the fees.

"That translates into an annual subvention in 2018 of roughly \$22,000 per person. There was no such consideration if you went to dental school; there was no such consideration if you wanted

to be an optometrist or a podiatrist or a physical therapist or an occupational therapist. Only if you went to medical school could you assume that there would be a scholarship."

The Health Minister explained that with the development of UWI, the campuses in Barbados and Trinidad found themselves in a cash crunch and they looked to The Bahamas to make up that cash crunch.

"They have an open door policy for Bahamian students. Why? Because they knew the Government of The Bahamas, unlike any other government, was going to pay.

"So Bahamian students became the cash flow that they required for fiscal survival."

He said in the lead up to National Health Insurance, wonderful clinics have been

created in Exuma and Abaco with incredible operative facilities and emergency rooms.

However, Dr. Sands noted that most of the equipment cannot be used because there is no auxiliary healthcare staff to take x-rays, no ultrasounds and in many cases there is a single pharmacist, and a number of deficiencies with laboratory technicians and so forth.

"So in 2018 what we have to do is to rethink the paradigm. Let us plan that The Commonwealth of The Bahamas needs more than medical doctors.

"Let us plan that we are going to meet the manpower needs of the country as it relates to oral health specialists, doctors, eye care, physical therapists, pharmacists, and so forth so that we approach this thing holistically."

He said the government has no interest in reducing the investment made by the people of The Bahamas.

"When we look at total scholarships provided by the Government of The Bahamas annually of \$17 million, half of that goes to the University of the West Indies and the bulk of that goes to medical education. That cannot be right."

He added that the Government would also like to partner with the Bahamas Dental Association and get ideas as to how it can provide expertise in to all the islands of the nation. He said, "I believe we need to go back to the system whereby if you benefit from a \$20,000 a year scholarship from the people of The Bahamas, then you should be prepared to provide service to the people of The Bahamas where they need and when they need."



MINISTRY OF LABOUR
THE PRICE CONTROL ACT, 1971
CHAPTER 339
THE PRICE CONTROL (GASOLINE & DIESEL OIL)
(AMENDMENT) () REGULATIONS, 2011

The public is advised that prices as shown in the Schedule for LEAD FREE GASOLINE and ULTRA LOW SULPHUR DIESEL OIL sold by RUBIS Bahamas Limited will become effective on Monday, November 5, 2018 and Monday, November 12, 2018 respectively.

SCHEDULE

PLACE	ARTICLE	MAXIMUM WHOLESALE SELLING PRICE PER U.S. GALLON		MAXIMUM RETAIL SELLING PRICE PER U.S. GALLON (VAT Inclusive)
		MAXIMUM SUPPLIERS' PRICE \$	MAXIMUM DISTRIBUTORS' PRICE \$	
PART A				
NEW PROVIDENCE				
		INCLUDING SEA FREIGHT		
	LEAD FREE	4.21	4.21	4.82
RUBIS Bahamas Ltd.	ULSD	4.34	4.34	4.72
PART C				
GRAND BAHAMA (NOT FREEPORT)				
		INCLUDING SEA FREIGHT		
	LEAD FREE	4.10	4.28	4.86
RUBIS Bahamas Ltd.	ULSD	4.20	4.38	4.76
PART D				
ABACO, ANDROS ELEUTHERA				
		NOT INCLUDING SEA FREIGHT		
	LEAD FREE	4.21	4.45	4.99
RUBIS Bahamas Ltd.	ULSD	4.35	4.53	4.91
PART E				
ALL OTHER FAMILY ISLANDS				
		NOT INCLUDING SEA FREIGHT		
	LEAD FREE	4.22	4.47	5.03
RUBIS Bahamas Ltd.	ULSD	4.36	4.53	4.92

PERMANENT SECRETARY



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

INTERNATIONAL MEN'S WEEK TO BE RECOGNIZED LOCALLY

Continued from / PAGE 1...

tive will help to raise awareness.

He said, "gender equality is the overall thing for gender affairs. What we believe must happen is address these

areas, especially in family matters."

He added, "for instance, in the court system one of the penalties that is allowed for men is for a man to be flogged, but the law prohibits that a woman can be flogged.

"Now, that may seem a little of a stretch, but these are all things that demonstrate inequality," he said.

The committee also wants to zoom in on young men who have fallen victim to the system.

Committee member Keith

Cox said, "All we want to do is uplift men and improve the young men in society. We're trying to save this generation because what helped us to be where we are now we see a little lull in those areas."

He added, "We're trying

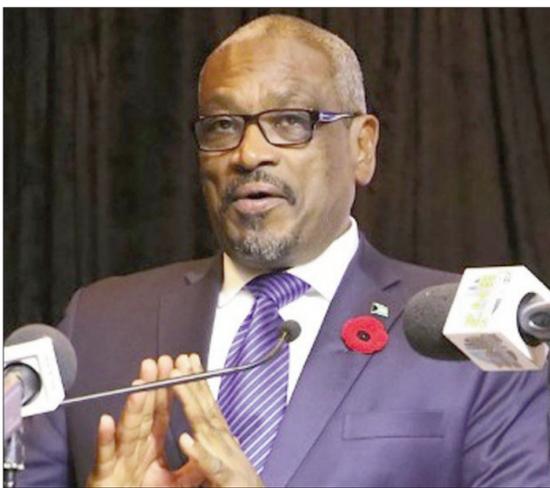
to encourage them to go back and put more oil to the wheel and steer these young men in the right direction."

International men's week begins next Monday with a march and rally, and a symposium on men's issues will take place the following day.

The committee is calling on all men - from zero to 100 - to put on a plain white shirt next Monday and march from the southern recreation grounds at 4:00pm to Arawak Cay.

The march will be followed by a 55 minute rally.

Prime Minister to Open Second Annual GB Technology Summit



FREEPORT, Grand Bahama - Prime Minister, Dr. the Most Hon. Hubert Minnis is expected to be keynote speaker at the opening of the Second Annual Grand Bahama Technology Summit, November 14 to 16, 2018 at the Grand Lucayan.

It marks the second time the nation's leader has opened the summit -- an indication of his belief in its importance to Grand Bahama and The Bahamas.

The Tech Summit is expected to draw large numbers of local and international participants.

"Our government recognizes that in order for the economy to grow, we must

diversify and create other opportunities for Bahamians to be successful," said Prime Minister Minnis, during the opening ceremonies of a recent Blockchain and Crypto Currency Conference held in Freeport.

"I firmly believe in growing a diverse technology industry sector in The Bahamas, where entrepreneurs can start and grow new technology companies. We must also welcome existing global technology players to move their operations to The Bahamas, which will have a meaningful impact on our economy and can be achieved in a relatively short period of time."

The Prime Minister pointed out that Grand Bahama is the ideal location in The Bahamas to establish and grow a technology cluster of block chain, and other software companies that can jumpstart the technology industry in The Bahamas.

In spite of the challenges that come with establishing and growing a technology sector, Prime Minister Minnis said The Bahamas is uniquely positioned to quickly become the jurisdiction of choice for technology companies, particularly block chain technology companies, and FinTech solution providers.

"With its close proximity to the United States, its

diverse economy and its efficient internet capabilities, Freeport, Grand Bahama is ideal for becoming a Technology Hub," added Prime Minister Minnis.

The first Tech Summit was considered a success and according to Minister of State for Grand Bahama, Senator Kwasi Thompson, word spread internationally. "It tells me that we did something right," said Minister Thompson, adding it has been good to hear of commitments to attend this year's conference.

Notably, Special Interest Workshops will be free to participants at this year's Tech Summit.

► Prime Minister, Dr. the Most Hon. Hubert Minnis was keynote speaker at the First Annual Grand Bahama technology Summit in 2017, and will open the second summit on November 14, 2018.
(BIS File Photo/Lisa Davis)

TROPICAL AND REFRESHING EVERYTIME!

TWININGS™ OF LONDON

INFUSIONS STRAWBERRY & MANGO

TWININGS™ OF LONDON Strawberry & Mango FLAVOURED INFUSION Smooth & Sweet

DISTRIBUTED IN THE BAHAMAS BY
milobutler™
RESPECT, QUALITY AND VALUE GUARANTEED.

(242) 677-6380
PEACH STREET OFF MONTROSE AVENUE

ALL THE PERKS OF COMFORT SUITES, ALL THE PLAY OF ATLANTIS...

There is no place quite like Comfort Suites Paradise Island. Our guests, whether traveling for business or leisure, enjoy the best of both worlds. Steps away from the world famous Atlantis Paradise Island, we provide all the recognizable amenities of the Comfort Suites brand, in addition to exclusive access to the Atlantis. Comfort Suites Paradise Island is well suited for the relaxed family vacation, and also offers all the necessities of modern business travel. Our award winning property, with unique value added amenities, is truly the Gem of Paradise Island.

- Complimentary access to all pools, the spectacular water parks, pristine beaches and activities at neighboring Atlantis.
- Complimentary full American buffet breakfast
- High Speed free Wi-Fi access in all rooms and public spaces
- Newly renovated, air-conditioned junior suites with parlor lounge, pull out sofa bed and your choice of king or double beds.
- Value added amenities include free parking, free in-room safe, 32 in. flat screen tv's, mini in-room refrigerators, fully equipped business center and coin operated laundry facilities.
- A la carte lunch and dinner prepared by our award-winning chefs available at our very own Crusoe's Restaurant where indoor & outdoor dining awaits. Swim up service available at our Pool Bar

The ultimate vacation or business trip awaits. Join us and experience All the Perks of Comfort Suites and All the Play of Atlantis.

Comfort Suites Paradise Island
For Reservations Call (242) 363-3680
www.comfortsuitespi.com
Email: info@comfortsuitespi.com

CHOICE HOTELS

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