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# The Bahama Journal

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75 CENTS

# PILOT'S FAMILY UPSET OVER SEARCH EFFORTS

BY LEAH COOPER  
 Journal Staff Writer

Family members and loved ones of one of the pilots that went down in Thursday's unfortunate plane crash were brought to tears yesterday as they expressed their extreme frustration with search and rescue attempts.

Ashton Ferguson, brother of pilot Byron Ferguson told reporters that though the men have yet to be found, they remain hopeful; but are bracing themselves with the harsh reality that their loved

See PILOT'S / page 4...

## PLANE SEARCH AND RECOVERY

BY BERTHONY MCDERMOTT  
 Journal Staff Writer

What started out as a search and rescue effort is now a search and recovery in the case of that six-seater Aztec that crashed in waters off Nirvana Beach on Thursday night.

According to authorities, the plane left Lantana

Airport in West Palm Beach, Florida however, shortly after 8:00pm, air traffic control alerted local police that the plane had disappeared from the radar in the area of nirvana beach.

Chris Lloyd Operations Manager from Bahamas

See PLANE / page 2...

## FORMER MP URGES GOV'T TO STOP LYING

BY LEAH COOPER  
 Journal Staff Writer

Former Parliamentarian and Cabinet Minister George A. Smith says "the government needs to stop lying to the Bahamian people."

Mr. Smith was reacting to the growing concern of rising electricity bills in the country following Bahamas Power and Light's release explaining that a 70 per cent increase in their services was false.

He said, "They haven't yet convinced the population. You're talking about increasing the bill before you tell them how you arrive there."

See FORMER MP / page 4...



Former Parliamentarian and Cabinet Minister, George A. Smith (File photo)

## Bradley Roberts "The Believer" Laid To Rest

BY BERTHONY MCDERMOTT  
 Journal Staff Writer

Several hundred friends, family and parliamentarians from both sides of the political divide, including sup-

porters of the Progressive Liberal Party all gathered Saint Francis Xavier Cathedral last Friday to pay their final respects to Former Cabinet Minister and Chairman Emeritus Bradley Roberts.

He was described by his Pastor Father Glen Nixon as "the believer who became a Politician."

Through the lens of party politics, Bradley Roberts was a firebrand, an outspoken, yet witty figure deter-

Bradley Roberts Laid To Rest continues on page 4

## One Killed, One Hospitalized In Weekend Shootings

BY LICEC BASTIAN  
 Journal Staff Writer

Police in New Providence are investigating the homicide of an adult male and a shooting which left one man hospitalized.

According to Police reports, shortly after 11pm Friday, officers responded to a report of gun shots being

See ONE KILLED / page 3...

## Ministers meet with EU and OECD

The Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, the Hon. K. Peter Turnquest says the constant threat of black or grey listing The Bahamas by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) is a major constraint to economic development and has repercussions that are felt beyond the financial services industry.

Mr. Turnquest led a delegation to Brussels and Paris this week for frank discus-

sions with high ranking officials within the European Commission and the OECD on The Bahamas' compliance with international standards on tax governance.

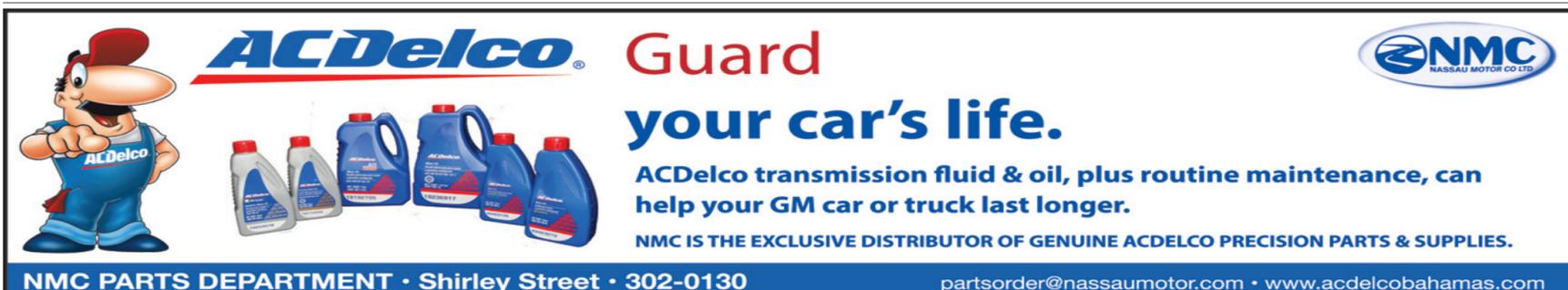
Accompanying the Deputy Prime Minister was the Minister of Financial Services, Trade & Industry and Immigration, the Hon. T. Brent Symonette; the Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs,

See MINISTERS / page 7...

## NATIONAL REMEMBRANCE DAY CEREMONIES MARK 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF EVENTS ENDING WW1



Governor General, Her Excellency the Most Hon. Dame Marguerite Pindling and Prime Minister, Dr. the Most Hon. Hubert Minnis headed a list of government officials in attendance. (BIS photo)



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# Bahamas Elected To ITU Council

BY LICEC BASTIAN  
Journal Staff Writer

The Bahamas became successful in its first bid for a seat on the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) Council, after securing a vote from 162 states out of 177 states present and voting.

The election to Council took place during the second week of the ITU's Plenipotentiary (PP)

Conference, in Dubai, United Arab Emirates. The ITU PP is the supreme organ of the ITU at which the ITU's 193 member states meet once every four years to elect the ITU's top executive officials and the 48 member states that will make up the Council.

The Bahamas' ballot was cast by members of The Bahamas' Delegation to the ITU PP, led by Parliamentary Secretary in the Office of

The Prime Minister, Pakesia Parker Edgecombe.

When the new session of the Council of the International Telecommunications Union meets to begin its work for the next four years, The Bahamas will be seated as one of the Council's 48 member states.

Mrs. Parker Edgecombe during the conference also presented the Bahamas Policy Statement on ICT.

She outlined the government's accomplishments in ICTs and shared proposed plans for the further development this sector.

During her statement she told more than 1500 delegates from more than 170 countries, that the Government of The Bahamas has introduced a "Community Development Partnership Initiative" which aims to strengthen the use of smart technology in public

institutions by facilitating increased access to broadband, develop apps and websites to assist in the dissemination of critical information to the public which will include a national alert messaging system to be used during national disasters, and facilitate greater public online communication access through the establishment of strategic WIFI hotspots throughout the country.

The International Telecommunications Union is the United Nations Agency which specializes in Information Communication Technologies, ICTs. It promotes innovation, accessibility and inclusion by setting rules and regulations

The Bahamas will represent Region A, the Americas, along with Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Cuba, El Salvador, Mexico, Paraguay and the United States.



▶ The Bahamas' ballot was cast by members of The Bahamas' Delegation to the ITU PP, led by Parliamentary Secretary in the Office of The Prime Minister, the Hon. Pakesia Parker Edgecombe. Mrs. Parker Edgecombe also presented the Bahamas Policy Statement on ICT during the first week of the conference. (File photo)

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## PLANE SEARCH AND RECOVERY

Continued from / PAGE 1...

Air Sea Rescue Association (BASRA) informed our news team of the efforts took place Thursday night.

"Air traffic reported that they didn't have a flight plan for the plane. Security at the apartments next to the beach at Nirvana reported that when it went down it appeared to be in the inside of the reef."

"You could see the light for quite a while and it

appeared not to disintegrate or sink very quickly. BASRA, the RBDF, the police all launched boats to the scene."

"By the time the boats got to the scene the tail was already out of the water, but then it sank very quickly in about 46 ft of water."

"There was no debris field, indicating that there was possibly the plane was intact. The coast guard helicopter out of Andros was on scene

and an extensive search was done to Friday morning," he said.

Despite earlier reports, Mr. Lloyd also confirmed that there was only one person on board the aircraft.

According to Mr. Lloyd, the ill-fated plane is known to be carrying oil as cargo. Reports are that there is an oil slick in the area and it is hoped that finding its source may lead to the location of the plane.

# Ministry of Finance accepting applications online for shoe and clothing merchants seeking customs duty waivers

The Ministry of Finance is inviting retail shoe and clothing merchants to take advantage of the customs duty waiver that is available to businesses to reduce the cost of importing goods. Since the policy was announced in July, with the start of the 2018/2019 budget year, the Ministry of Finance granted waivers to 154 applicants.

There are many more eligible businesses that can apply for the waiver, and the Ministry of Finance wants to encourage them to utilize this tax relief measure to

reduce the cost of doing business and to bring down the price for retail shopping at home. Starting from November, interested businesses should apply online at: atlas.revenue.gov.bs, the Ministry of Finance's digital portal for revenue waiver applications.

A statement from the Ministry said, "We want to make the application and approval possible as smooth as possible, so we encourage eligible businesses to apply online. This waiver will help businesses to reduce their costs of

doing business, and help consumers to save. We want to make sure businesses are aware of the opportunity and know how to take advantage of it. We have already granted 154 waivers and we will continue to review any new applications we receive online," said Financial Secretary Marlon Johnson.

"Businesses who are granted waivers are obligated to disclose this to consumers. They must advertise this in their stores and show the mark down in prices that resulted from their waivers. Consumers should therefore

look out for these in-store signs to ensure they are the beneficiaries of cost savings. Note also that the Ministry will be doing spot checks on merchants to determine their compliance to the terms of the duty waiver - including reducing their prices and advertising same openly to customers," said Mr Johnson.

Recognizing the impact of online shopping and competition from the South Florida market on the local retail market, the Government implemented the customs duty waiver as

part of its package of tax relief measures earlier this year. The decision to reduce duty by about 20 percent helps to make shopping more affordable and local retailers more competitive.

Eligible shoe and clothing retailers with a valid business license, no matter how big or small, can apply online for the duty waiver. It covers the import of clothing, footwear and other wearing apparels and accessories, as well as fabric for making apparel, sewing needles, buttons and zippers for clothing for a period of six

months.

As part of the application process, businesses must declare the current list pricing of sample items at the time of application, and the anticipated new price after the concessions are granted. They also have to commit to advertise their marked down prices in a prominent way. And to qualify for a renewal, they have to show, using examples, how prices have been marked down and quantify the savings passed on to consumers. They are also subject to inspections and review.

## One Killed, One Hospitalized In Weekend Shootings

Continued from / PAGE 1...

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 later pronounced dead.

In a separate shooting incident, a male was standing on the outside of a gaming establishment on Market and Peter Streets shortly before 11:00pm on Saturday when a male armed with a firearm, discharged it in his direction, hitting him, before running away. The injured man was transported to hospital and is listed in stable condition.

Police are appealing to anyone with information regarding this incident, to anonymously call police at 919/911.

Investigations are ongoing. In other crime news, Police are also investigating a spate of armed robberies that took place over a two day span and seeking the public's assistance in solving them.

According to reports, shortly after 9:00pm, Friday, a male arrived at a residence on Court Street off Beatrice Avenue, when he was approached by three men, one armed with a sharp object, who robbed him of a red 2015 Yamaha scooter, license # 1138. Two of the men drove away in a blue Nissan Note, while the third man sped off on the scooter.

On Saturday, 10th November, police reported a

## LAB SERVICES SUSPENDED AT THE RAND

Laboratory services at the Rand Memorial Hospital were suspended this past weekend as the hospital's management and technical teams continued to monitor the aftermath of a chemical spill which occurred in the Laboratory last Thursday morning.

The Management how-

ever has confirmed the full restoration of radiology services, and the cessation of referrals from General Practice to the Freeport Community Clinic.

Immediately following the spill, environmental chemistry experts, an independent Hazmat company, a private chemist and the

Department of Environmental Health Services were called in to mitigate the effects and clean the affected area.

A statement from The Public Hospitals Authority said, "the area was quickly contained and employees affected were seen by doctors on staff. No injuries

were reported, and at no time were patients admitted on the hospital's wards impacted."

The statement said The Rand Memorial Hospital will continue to monitor the matter to ensure the sustained safety and health of patients and staff.

slew of armed robberies.

In the first incident, shortly before 7:00pm, a woman pulled up to a residence on Prince Charles Drive, when she was approached by a male who robbed her of her handbag, which contained cash and other items, before getting into a white Honda CRV and speeding off.

Around the same time, a female was leaving a business

establishment on Bahama Avenue, when she was approached by a male armed with a firearm who shot her before robbing her of her handbag and running away. The female was transported to hospital and is in stable condition.

In the third incident, shortly after 10:00pm, a woman pulled up to a residence on Spikenard Road off Carmichael Road, when she

was approached by man, who came from a black jeep. The man pointed a firearm at her and robbed her of a blue 2012 Honda Civic, and sped off, behind the black jeep.

Then, shortly after 11:00pm, a woman was leaving a gaming establishment on Market Street and Peter Street, when she was approached by two armed men, who robbed her of her

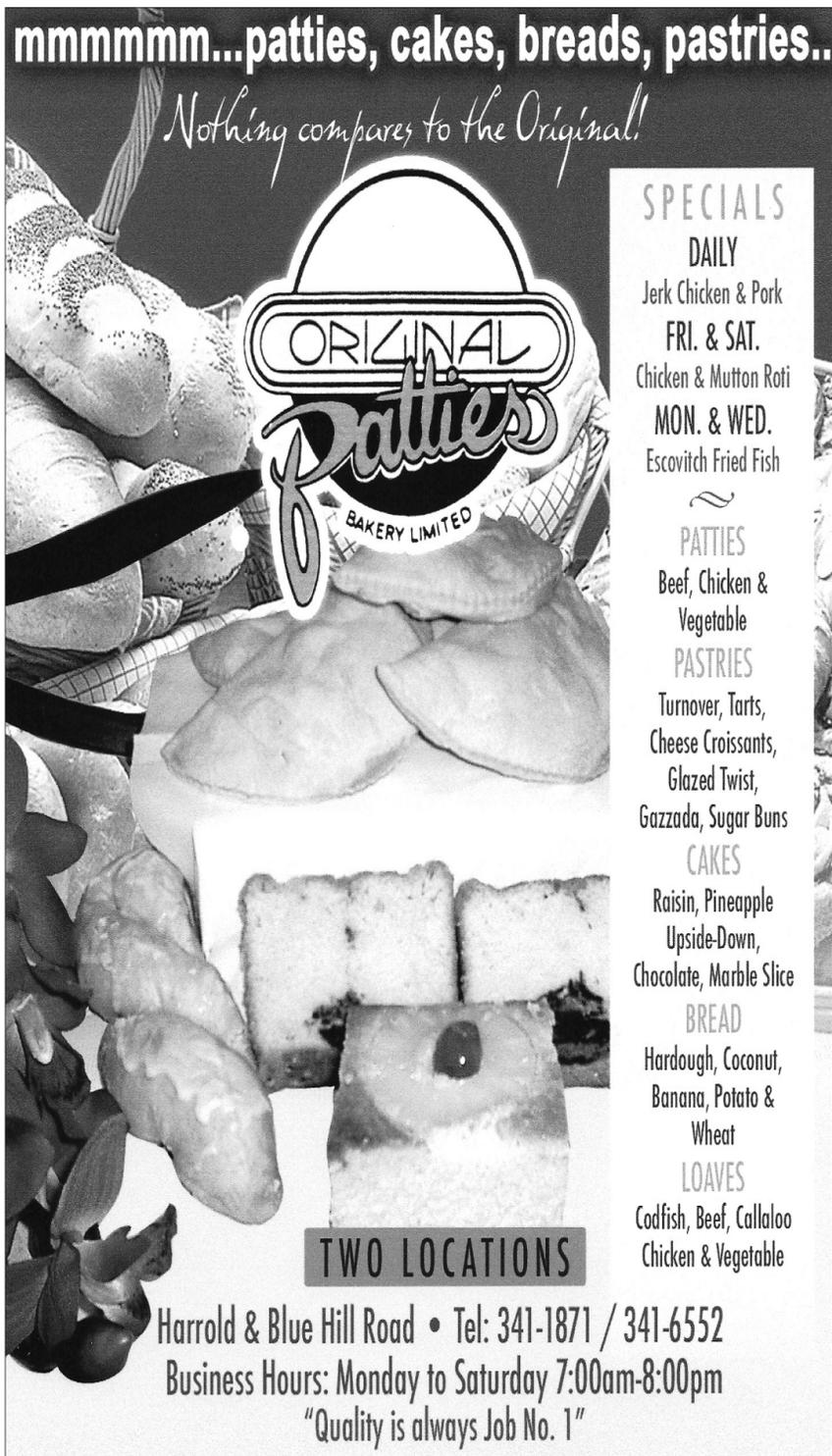
handbag containing cash and other items, before making good their escape.

In the fifth, according to reports, shortly after 11:00pm, a male was in Dannottage Estate, when he was approached by two armed men, who robbed him of a red and black Keyway Scooter, license#1337, before making good their escape.

Investigations are ongoing.

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### 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 Indira Demeritte-Francis, President of the Industrial Tribunal, at 10am on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> 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

# PILOT'S FAMILY UPSET OVER SEARCH EFFORTS

Continued from / PAGE 1...

one may be gone forever.

He said, "the information that we obtained indicated that my brother encountered difficulties about 40 miles off of the coast of New Providence with his door. He radioed air traffic control. I think that at about 15 miles, he contacted again with engine problems."

Mr. Ferguson described his brother as an experienced pilot that flew internationally, and had clarity of mind when on the job.

He added, "his friend that was supposed to collect him from the airport texted him a message letting him know that he needs to track the plane. So, he was aware that this plane was probably going to have some issues. His friend was also a pilot, so he would've known what to do to track the plane."

He also said that no one officially reached out to the family, and the Commodore of the Royal Bahamas Defense Force met with them yesterday indicating that they will be widening their

perimeter of search.

However, this was after they would have made contact and agitated a Member of Parliament.

Mr. Ferguson said, "I also understand that he's not the one in charge of this investigation. They have the Assistant Commissioner of Police, Deleveaux, who was in charge of this investigation; and he has never up to this day officially contacted us with any details or information to my mom and our family."

He added, "some of the

facts that we have not been relayed accurately to the media."

Mr. Ferguson recalled that night, indicating that the search for his brother was called off before midnight with no divers entering the water, leaving the family with many unanswered questions.

He asked, "do you respond to a plane crash in the water without dive equipment?"

Another family member added, "he is an experienced pilot that would have

taken all the necessary preparations that you would in experiencing difficulties. My thing is, this isn't the first time that there has been a plane crash or anything of this nature. The Defense Force said that they sent a unit with no divers onboard."

They added, "no divers responded until the very next morning. My thing is, if this was an American, like American Airlines or Delta Airlines that would have gone down, would they have gotten the same response where no divers

were in the water with no equipment available? It sounds like incompetence to me."

The family also indicating that the search and rescue team did not mark the plane's exact location that night, further delaying rescue efforts.

The family said that they are due and deserve facts and professionalism from those responsible for conducting this search and investigation.

They added that they will not stop until they reach a resolution.

# FORMER MP URGES GOV'T TO STOP LYING

Continued from / PAGE 1...

He added, "If I'm going to tell you that the bread I'm going to bring you tomorrow is going to cost you ten cents more, I should bring the bread so you can be satisfied that it is worth ten cents more."

"Nobody believes what we have been saying about electricity. We haven't come up with a solution that works, but I believe that if we engage some of the minds in this country to can take the

politics out of electricity and focus on satisfying the people's need for affordable electrical supply, we could do it," he said.

Mr. Smith also expressed that he found the recent increase in Value Added Tax disturbing.

He added that The Bahamas has become a country of "have-nots," as the cost of living rises and thousands of Bahamians go to bed without food, struggling to make ends meet.

He then urged Bahamians

to come together to foster change.

He said, "We've got to stop fooling ourselves--those who think they can lock themselves in comfort, behind great wealth and behind gated communities."

He added, "what people want desperately is a new group in whom they can place some confidence. I'm praying that such people exist and they come forth."

Mr. Smith was a guest on Love 97's talk show Jones and Company yesterday.

# Bradley Roberts "The Believer" Laid To Rest

Continued from / PAGE 1...

mined to keep his party's political foe - the Free National Movement's feet to the fire.

For some, he was the epitome of what the PLP must become to clinch the next general election.

However, there was also a Bradley Roberts that many did not know and that many only found out about in death.

According to Father Nixon, in true Bahamian style, Roberts too was looking forward to the upcoming Christmas holidays, having begun plans to renovate his kitchen. Aside from that, Christmas day would have been his 75th birthday.

He added that every Sunday, when not traveling, the former parliamentarian could be found at the 8:30 mass at St. Francis Xavier Cathedral, humbly taking a

seat near the back.

"He would leave mass early just before the announcement, not to trivialize his faith or to be disrespectful of it, but to simply avoid being inundated Sunday after Sunday by those who sought his help."

"Many Sundays he dug into his pocket to help fellow Bahamians who needed assistance with rent and food and life."

"In this life "Big Bad Brad" was known by some as a fierce friend and by others as a formattable opponent, but equally important is knowing Brad the Catholic, Brad the believer," he said.

In his homily during Mr. Roberts' official funeral, Father Nixon added that regardless of what Roberts' went through - failure or success, sickness or health, defeat or victory, he never once turned his back on his

God or his faith.

He was not a politician who became a believer, he said, but a believer who became a politician. He wasn't in the church, the church was in him.

Still, Father Nixon acknowledged that for those who loved Roberts, this is no doubt a painful time.

"The pain you now feel does mean you are too weak, it means that the memories you shared with Bradley was real and authentic."

"He touched your lives and you touched his. In this moment of pain and sadness we can all turn to strong drinks and despair, or we can all turn to God our father and renew of faith in Jesus Christ who is the resurrection," Father Nixon said.

Bradley Roberts leaves behind his wife of 53-years Hartlyn Roberts, one son and two daughters.



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

Marsh Harbour, Abaco, will commence at 10:00 am on 10<sup>th</sup> 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

Bradley Roberts Laid To Rest photos can be found in section B page 7

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

# 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.

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The Bahama Journal Quo Vadis, Bahamas?

Wendall K. Jones Publisher/Chief Executive Officer

Kimalee P. Jones Vice President/Operations

## EDITORIAL

# Crime Pays!

Dearly beloved, please be reminded that: The Most Hon. Dr. Hubert A. Minnis recently indicated that he was quite convinced that corruption was very real in The Bahamas.

Indeed, the prime minister went on to 'reveal' his own quess-tinged estimation suggesting an amount bordering on \$200 million.

When pressed, he said that: "...He chose the \$200m figure after considering general global estimations of the cost of corruption which peg it at five to ten per cent of a country's gross domestic product, as revealed during the Summit of Americas..."

And with that, he pivoted: "...I was very, very conservative when I said corruption in The Bahamas is probably \$200m, which was below the world's figures. If you want the true figure, if The Bahamas' GDP is \$10bn, if you look at the lower limit because we are a religious nation so let's put ourselves at the lower level, you talking about \$500m..."

There is goes, the 'true' figure!

This we recall today as we tune into some of what an apparently incorruptible Director of Immigration said as he responded to widespread rumor concerning alleged tales of serious wrong-doing in his own department!

As the intrepid Clarence Russel pontificated: "...If we find that persons were taking it upon themselves to indulge in nefarious activity, they will face the full brunt of the law, plain and simple. Regardless and irrespective of who they are. It is totally unacceptable..."

With that said and delivered, Russell sought fit to pat himself on the back as he noted that, "... He did not tolerate corruption during his 40-year career on the police force, nor during his tenure heading the Passport Office..."

And as if that self-administered pat was not just so much enough, Russell [apparently in address to the city and the world exclaimed by way of petulant boast: "...Under no circumstances does my upbringing, my training or anything speak to the tolerance of anything that is wrong..."

All of this self-serving stuff from Clarence Russell is good as it goes.

But for sure, the real issue as regards crime and corruption goes far beyond any

discussion of anyone person's moral probity.

What matters is the extent to which the rot itself is grounded in the country's culture; in a sense, so to speak, in its political DNA.

This we sincerely believe to be the case in our beloved Bahamas.

Indeed, we would suggest that, this culture of corruption can—with ease- be traced back to the Days of Prohibition—1919-1933!

Thus today, we would also suggest that: One of the more interesting facts of life in today's deeply challenged Bahamas has to do with that great extent to which the vast majority of votes who went to the polls May 10th, 2018 were—even as they cast their ballots-totally oblivious of the extent to which their country had been corrupted in those recent years prior to their coming to maturity.

And thus, it would be fair to conclude that, from one perspective, crows that had been long delayed in their arrival, at long last flew in to roost; thus the effectiveness of all of the 'corruption' talk and allegations thrown confetti-like all around this country.

As research reveals: For more than a decade, international drug traffickers have used the Bahamas as a vital gateway for U.S.-bound cocaine and marijuana. Sparsely populated and strewn over 100,000 square miles, the country's 700 islands are a smuggler's dream and a law-enforcement nightmare.

Evidently, these islands, rocks and cays continue to provide shelter for any number of criminal7y-minded men and women, inclusive of some public sector workers who routinely misuse their high perches in the bureaucracy.

They do as they do precisely because very many of them are as deeply hidden in a manner entirely analogous to the behavior of termites safe and sound in the hidden recesses of cheap wood; thus also they who do their nasty practices in the interstices of this deeply corrupted society.

In sum, then: Whilst the wages of sim might be death, the fact remains that crime pays high dividends to many of this nation's deeply corrupted elites.

Whoever said that crime does not pay!

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# THE BAHAMAS Sun, Sand, Sea .... and the The Bahama Journal

## NO BETTER READING

# Bahamas Marina Operators Report That 2018 Has Been a Banner Year for Boating In The Bahamas

## 2019 On Track To Match or Exceed 2018 Performance

FORT LAUDERDALE, Florida – November 6, 2018 - Bahamas tourism industry partners, comprising hoteliers and marina operators throughout the islands, who attended the 2018 Fort Lauderdale International Show (FLIBS) said they were totally impressed with the high level of interest shown in The Bahamas and business bookings for the 2018.

FLIBS, the largest boating show in the United States, attracted more than 100,000 persons from 52 countries around the world and showcased some 1500 plus in-water boats and 1200 exhibitors.

The Bahamas participation at FLIBS was organized by The Bahamas Ministry of Tourism and Aviation (BMOTA) vertical team; along with the Out Island Promotion Board and Association of Bahamas Marinas, in conjunction with Informa, organizers for the US International Boat Shows. The Bahamas also saw representation from many of its leading hotels and marina partners including Bahamasair, Atlantis Marina, Bay Street Marina, Bluff House, Highbourne Cay Marina, Hope Town Inn and Marina, Odyssey Aviation, Palm Cay Marina, Grand Bahama Yacht Club, Resorts World Bimini, Romora Bay Resort and Marina, Staniel Cay Yacht Club, Watermakers Air, Treasure Cay Beach Hotel and Marina, Valentine's Resort and Marina, Tropic Ocean Airways and the Chat n Chill Bar and Restaurant.

2018 has been a banner year for boating in The Bahamas. "In 2018, the BMOTA saw boating numbers double in some islands and saw an overall increase in numbers for the same periods in 2017. In 2016, we accommodated some 18,595 pleasure boaters and in 2017, that number increased to 21,090 pleasure boaters. From all indications and based on the 2018 boating performance thus far, we anticipate that 2018 will exceed previous years performance by as much as 50%," said Richard Treco, Senior Manager, BMOTA responsible for boating.

"No other vertical market provides the economic level

of spinoffs into the communities that boating does; it has the greatest economic impact in our family islands and truly trickles down to every sector in our communities from the marina shop operator, fuel provider, restaurant and hotel operator, to the mom and pop sundry store," said Mr. Treco.

The majority of The Bahamas hotel and marina operators, who attended FLIBS, echoed the sentiments shared by Mr. Treco.

Rob Batchelor, CEO of the 184 slips Palm Cay Marina, which opened in 2011 and has been voted the number one marina facility in The Bahamas by Active Captain, for the past four consecutive years, said his property has seen a substantial increase in bookings and strong business interest in The Bahamas, this past year. "We are currently discussing a big venture with one of the leading boating operators in the US to make Palm Cay its hub and main point of entry. This venture, which is scheduled to come on stream in 2019, will benefit us significantly," he said.

"Additionally, our initial high-end development, comprising more than 150, two and three bedroom townhouses, condos and beachfront homes, is almost completely sold out. Plans are underway for us to further develop 80 additional homes, and 2 and 3 bedroom condos; inclusive of two penthouses, with its own roof top, swimming pools; prices of which will range from \$800,000 (US) for a 2 bedroom condo to \$1.9 million dollars for its penthouse apartments," he said.

"Our attendance at FLIBS not only allows us to do business directly with our targeted clientele, the high-net individual who possesses a boat and has the disposable income to enjoy luxurious vacations, amenities and services, but also allows us to build on relationships as well as create new partnerships," said Mr. Batchelor.

Resident Manager at Cape Eleuthera Resort and Marina, Jermaine Rahming, said that 2018 has been the best performing year for business at his establishment, since opening in 2007. "Our 47-slips marina and hotel property has had unprecedented bookings,

with many of its weekends completely sold out, we have had boaters in cues waiting to get in, and as one boater left, another was waiting to check in. Throughout this year, we were inundated with persons wanting to come into our marina, some of whom we were unable to accommodate. This was an unfortunate, but good problem to have, but we were happy that some of those persons, who, we were unable to accommodate in 2018, we were able to confirm their 2019 booking at this year's FLIBS. We expect that at the very minimum, our boating business this year, has increased by at least 50% over the same period last year. And, should trends continue as they are doing and based on our current bookings for 2019, we believe that 2019 will be as strong a year as 2018 or will exceed it," he said.

Molly McIntosh, General Manager at the Bluff House Beach Resort & Marina in Green Turtle Cay Abaco, said that 2018 was a busy year for her 40-slip marina also. "We saw business level increase by at least 20% for the period October 2017 to October 2018," she said.

"The Incredibly great weather conditions in The Bahamas, coupled with a strong and vibrant US economy have definitely attributed to the business success we have received this year. Additionally, we have seen a heavy return of past customers, some of whom were absent for almost 15 years," she said.

"Attending FLIBS is critical to our success. If we could only attend one promotion each year, it would be this show, because of the consistent business it provides us throughout the year. In addition to the numerous bookings we received from this show last year, we were also able to book a wedding group, which generated \$40,000 to us alone, that does not include monies that would have been spent on food and beverage, golf cart and jeep rentals, tours, etc.," she said.

"If bookings continue as they are doing, we are certain that we will far exceed the 2018 numbers in 2019," she said.

■ See MARINE / page 8...



### 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](mailto: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](http://www.bahamas.gov.bs)



# Ministers meet with EU and OECD



Continued from / PAGE 1...

Sen. the Hon. Carl W. Bethel QC; and a senior advisor from each of their respective ministries.

In Brussels, the delegation had a series of bilateral meetings with the Code of Conduct Group, the Directorate-General for Taxation and Customs Unions and other representatives of the European

Commission.

In Paris, the delegation met with the Deputy Secretary General of the OECD, the Deputy Director of the OECD Center for Tax Policy and Administration, and the Head of the Secretariat of the Global Forum on Transparency and Exchange of Information for Tax Purposes.

The meetings centered around the high-level commit-

ments that the Government has made with respect to the EU's criteria on economic substance and transparency and the OECD's anti-Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (BEPS) minimum standards. Deputy Prime Minister Turnquest provided an update of The Bahamas' efforts to fulfil its commitments and reinforced that while The Bahamas will meet the December 31st 2018 deadline,

some consideration should be given to the challenges jurisdictions face implementing such extensive reform within such a short time frame.

The EU and OECD officials were presented with draft copies of the Commercial Entities (Substance Requirements) Bill, the Removal of Preferential Exemptions Bill, the Register of Beneficial Ownership Bill and the Non-Profit

Organizations Bill. These bills will be enacted by the end of this month, reinforcing the Government's intent to take all necessary steps to safeguard the financial sector and ensure the removal of The Bahamas from all watch lists in the shortest time-frame possible.

According to Deputy Prime Minister Turnquest, "the meetings were very productive and we feel that the

Europeans now have a greater understanding that The Bahamas has always been focused, at the highest political level, on protecting the integrity of the Bahamian financial system from abuse. Our approach has been to take a holistic view of the challenges that confront us and pragmatically do what promotes the long term viability of our financial services industry."



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 \$	
<b>PART A</b>				
<b>NEW PROVIDENCE</b>				
		INCLUDING SEA FREIGHT		
	LEAD FREE	4.21	4.21	4.82
RUBIS Bahamas Ltd.	ULSD	4.34	4.34	4.72
<b>PART C</b>				
<b>GRAND BAHAMA (NOT FREEPORT)</b>				
		INCLUDING SEA FREIGHT		
	LEAD FREE	4.10	4.28	4.86
RUBIS Bahamas Ltd.	ULSD	4.20	4.38	4.76
<b>PART D</b>				
<b>ABACO, ANDROS ELEUTHERA</b>				
		NOT INCLUDING SEA FREIGHT		
	LEAD FREE	4.21	4.45	4.99
RUBIS Bahamas Ltd.	ULSD	4.35	4.53	4.91
<b>PART E</b>				
<b>ALL OTHER FAMILY ISLANDS</b>				
		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

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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

# Bahamas Marina Operators Report That 2018 Has Been a Banner Year for Boating In The Bahamas, Cont'd.



► Representatives from Cape Eleuthera Resort and Marina reported that boating business this past year is at its highest since opening. Pictured from left to right are: Jermaine Rahming, Resident Dock Manager, Cape Eleuthera Resort; Illianna Spychalla, Director of Sales at Valentine's Residences & Marina; Carla Stuart, Senior Director, Cruise, BMOTA; Ecarsha Smith, Assistant Manager, BMOTA; and Neil Thompson, Facilities Manager, Cape Eleuthera Resort. *(File Photo)*



► Pictured assembled at the new Bahamas Pavilion are some of The Bahamas marina operators at the recent Fort Lauderdale Boat Show. *(File Photo)*



► Active Captain has voted Palm Cay Marina as the number one marina in The Bahamas for the past four consecutive years. Palm Cay executives announced plans to further expand its facilities due to heighten business interest and strong bookings. Pictured left to right are: Jack Cummins, Sales Director, Palm Cay; Janice Jolly, Office Manager, Palm Cay; Richard Treco, Senior Manager, Boating, BMOTA; Rob Batchelor, CEO, Palm Cay; and Earl Miller, General Manager, Boating, BMOTA. *(File Photo)*



► Pictured is the new state of the art Bahamas Pavilion, which was unveiled at the recent Fort Lauderdale Boat Show. The 800 Square feet pavilion features video walls and virtual reality authentic experiences in Abaco, Nassau, Freeport and the Exumas and geo target boaters, marinas and high-end vacationers. *(File Photo)*

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