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# McAlpine At Odds With PM On Corruption

BY BERTHONY MCDERMOTT  
 Journal Staff Writer

The Minnis administration receiving a scolding from one of its own, Pineridge MP Fredrick McAlpine over the issue of corruption.

Noticeably absent from the Free National Movement's all island rally on West Atlantic Drive, Grand Bahama on Friday, Mr. McAlpine disagrees with Prime Minister Dr. Hubert Minnis labeling the Progressive Liberal Party as corrupt.

■ See page 2...



► Pineridge M.P., Fredrick McAlpine

## Health officials tour Andros facilities

BY BERTHONY MCDERMOTT  
 Journal Staff Writer

Health Minister Dr. Duane Sands is in Andros where he and a team are assessing clinics in South Andros and Mangrove Cay.

The results of those

■ See page 2...

## Fox Hill Men On Murder Charges

BY LICEC BASTIAN  
 Journal Staff Writer

The alleged gunmen behind the death of Fox Hill resident, Richard Fowler, who was gunned down on February 12, were arraigned in Magistrate's Court yesterday.

The pair, also Fox Hill residents, were charged with one count of unlawfully and intentionally causing the death of Fowler.

Fowler's body was found on Tuesday February 12, on a vacant lot on Bernard Road, shortly after 8pm. Paramedics were called to the scene, attempted to revive him, but were unsuccessful.

Steffon Rolle 23, and

Owen Williams, both represented by attorneys, also claim they were abused and forced to sign documents while in police custody.

Before the charges were read by Deputy Chief Magistrate, Subusola Swain, attorney for Rolle, Bjorn Ferguson, argued that court documents were incomplete as there were no virtual complainants in the matter.

Mr. Ferguson pointed out that the prosecution only had the names of police officers and the pathologist listed, who are formal witnesses and added that these persons cannot make out the offense.

He subsequently asked

■ See page 2...

## KOMOLAFE BECOMES FIRST WOMAN TO LEAD A PARTY

BY LEAH COOPER  
 Journal Staff Writer

The Democratic National Alliance's (DNA) Arinthia Komolafe made history at the party's 2019 convention this past Friday being the first woman to be elected leader of a political party in Bahamian history.

She won the position over Kendal Smith at the Marriott Courtyard, West Bay Street, where party members elected candidates for various positions.

Busche Armbrister was also elected party

■ See page 2...

## PM MINNIS CHATS WITH JAMAICA'S PM HOLNESS UPON ARRIVAL IN ST. KITTS FOR CARICOM



► BASSETERRE, St. Kitts & Nevis -- Prime Minister, the Most Hon. Dr. Hubert Minnis, along with Prime Minister of Jamaica, the Most Hon. Andrew Holness arrived in Basseterre, St. Kitts & Nevis, today, for the 30th Inter-Sessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM). Prime Minister Minnis is pictured (right) in conversation with Prime Minister Holness at the Airport VIP Lounge in St. Kitts & Nevis. CARICOM meetings begin tomorrow. (BIS Photo/Yontalay Bowe)

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# McAlpine At Odds

Continued from / PAGE 1...

The FNM MP argued that the PLP is a political organization that has contributed to The Bahamas.

"There have been people in the FNM who we may have somehow thought their behaviour might have been considered corrupt, but that has yet to be proven in a court of law.

"Just how we can throw stones at the PLP, stones could be thrown at

the FNM with similar allegations.

"Does that make the FNM a corrupt group? I don't think so," Mr. McAlpine said.

It was expected that during Friday's rally, the Prime Minister would respond to the Opposition's calls for Cabinet Ministers Dr. Duane Sands and Marvin Dames to resign following their involvement in the Frank Smith extortion and bribery case.

However, the PM

never did. Mr. McAlpine reasoned that a government preaching anti-corruption should not have the appearance of corruption.

He said, "these are the kinds of things that cause leadership and the governing party to seem to lack integrity.

"That should have been priority, if you tell the people you are going to do something, then people expect to hear from you.

"The Bahamas is wait-

ing to hear the Prime Minister's take on what the Chief Magistrate had to say concerning his ministers and concerning the trial of corruption that was held as it pertains to the Frank Smith case," said the MP.

As for the many projects the government continues to tout to boost Grand Bahama's strained economy like the sale of the Grand Lucayan Resort, the Pineridge MP said Grand Bahamians will not be impressed

until the property is actually sold.

"You keep touting and telling us that you have 60 people or 60 groupings that want to buy the hotel, well why do you still have it?

"If I put a car out anywhere in The Bahamas, I know we do it in Grand Bahamas so I assume you do it in Nassau; they put a car out, they put a for sale sign and they put a number on it. If four people call me to buy the car, why am I still going

to have the car?

"Sixty people or sixty organizations want to buy the hotel and you think we're impressed in Grand Bahama by you telling us that?

"We're not impressed with that; we'll be impressed when it is sold, and the quicker the better," he said.

When asked whether he feels the Minnis administration will be reelected, Mr. McAlpine said that's a tall order.

## Fox Hill Men On Murder Charges

Continued from / PAGE 1...

for the names of the witnesses, as the accused has a fundamental right to know who his accusers are.

Mr. Ferguson stressed that if the prosecution wanted to keep witnesses names private, the prosecution should have gotten an anonymity order. He added that if names of witnesses were not provided, the charges could not

stand.

Magistrate Swain agreed and advised the prosecutor that the documents needed to be amended to reflect the names of the accusers, or she would refuse to arraign the young men. She stated that as it was a capital offence case and information could not be hidden that is required by law.

She added that not allowing the accused to

know his accusers "can be sighted as human rights abuse" and stated that "the law is the law".

The Court was adjourned to allow the prosecutor to amend the dockets.

However, Magistrate Swain returned a short time later and told the court that after being advised, she would read the charges without the witnesses listed, but advised the prosecutor that amendments would

need to be made before the pair are served with Voluntary Bill of Indictment (VBI).

After the charges were read, attorneys for both men claimed their clients were physically abused while in police custody.

Both Rolle and Williams gave the Magistrate a detailed report of the alleged beatings.

Rolle claims that a bag was placed over his head

while he was hit about the body with an object unknown to him. He said that after biting through the first bag in order to breathe, another plastic bag was placed on his head, this time doubled.

Williams claimed the same, but identified that a two by four wood was continuously dropped on his chest.

Both also said they were taken to hospital for breathing issues. Williams

said he was taken to hospital twice, but only saw the doctor on his second visit. However, he stated that medicine prescribed to him were not collected by the officers.

Both men were remanded to the Bahamas Department of Corrections until April 12, when they return for service of VBI.

Williams was represented by Latia Williams.

## KOMOLAFE BECOMES FIRST WOMAN TO LEAD A PARTY

Continued from / PAGE 1...

deputy leader, and Mrs. Komolafe's opponent, Omar Smith, was elected chairman.

The DNA first contested the 2012 general elections after former FNM MP Branville McCartney founded the party in 2011.

Under Mr. McCartney's leadership,

the party ran in those elections, winning just over 13,000 votes; but was unable to secure any seats in parliament.

The party ran again in the 2017 general election, but was only able to score 7,000 votes.

Mrs. Komolafe ran for the DNA in the Killarney constituency against Prime Minister Dr. Hubert Minnis and the Reneika

Knowles from the PLP.

The DNA platform focuses mainly on good governance, plans to implement true Freedom of Information and a "Right to Information Act".

The party also intends to enact whistle-blower legislation that would protect individuals who report corruption in government departments.

## Health officials tour Andros facilities

Continued from / PAGE 1...

assessments are already in and it's been determined that the clinic in Kemp's Bay is in good condition.

However, the same cannot be said about the Mangrove Cay Clinic; facilities which the government has been renting for the past five years.

"The renovations on the clinic there is not pro-

gressing as well as it ought to.

"We needed to make a determination on how we can move forward and I think that being able to see it with my technical team made it easier to make the decisions that had to be made," he said.

When asked if sufficient funding is available for the construction of this clinic the Health Minister said, "we have a capital

budget, we have a recurrent budget, so we are going to have to look at both of those budgets to determine what we are able to accomplish reasonably in this fiscal year and what will have to be bumped into subsequent years."

Dr. Sands could not confirm whether this clinic would be up and running by the end of this fiscal year.

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# RBDF says Farewell to Two RBDF Senior Enlisted

The Royal Bahamas Defence Force recently said farewell to Chief Petty Officers (CPO) Nelson Strachan and Brian Miller, who both retired after serving a combined 62 years of active service.

A 32-year veteran, CPO Strachan gave his final farewell on Parade immediately following Morning Colours (a military flag raising ceremony held every morning at Coral Harbour Base). He officially retired on February 6 2019.

CPO Nelson Strachan was a member of New Entry 18, enlisting as a Marine Recruit on June 23, 1986. Departments in which he has served over the course of his career have included Military Operations Platoon, Squadron Department aboard HMBS NASSAU, the Supply Department, and his final assignment in the Military Police and Force Protection (MPFP) Unit. He was also a participant in the peacekeeping mission to Haiti in 1995 as a member of the RBDF

CARICOM contingent.

With his wife and church members in attendance, he encouraged those in attendance to remain vigilant and always maintain their integrity. Lieutenant Byron McClain, Executive Officer of MPFP commended Chief Petty Officer Strachan for his hard work and dedication over the years, and wished him success in his transition.

CPO Brian Miller enlisted as a Marine Recruit on January 9, 1989 as a member of New

Entry 23. He officially retired on February 14, 2019. Attached to the Engineering Department, he has served onboard several classes vessels, which included HMBS David Tucker, HMBS Bahamas, HMBS Leon L. Smith, the Dauntless Class vessels, Harbour Patrol Unit and Technical Training section. His final assignment was with the Transport Workshop.

With his wife and children in attendance, CPO Miller thanked Defence

Force Commodore Tellis Bethel and the Royal Bahamas Defence Force for allowing him to have a successful career on the Defence Force. As he mentioned the numerous places he has traveled during his 30-year career, he admonished those in attendance to always put God first in everything they do.

Base Engineering Officer, Senior Lieutenant Gordon Roberts and the Deputy Base Engineering Officer Senior Lieutenant Jeremy Allen brought

remarks at the ceremony. CPO Miller was presented with gifts and accolades from the Engineering Department, and also from his family and squadmates.

Commander Defence Force, Commodore Tellis Bethel along with his Executive Command and the Officers and Marines of the RBDF commend both Chief Petty Officers Nelson Strachan and Brian Miller for their outstanding services, as they transition themselves into new careers.



► Chief Petty Officer (CPO) Brian Miller along with his wife and children, Officers and Warrant Officer of the Engineering Department, Base Executive Officer and his squadmate on February 14, 2019 at HMBS Coral Harbour. CPO Miller retired after serving 30 years on the Defence Force.  
(Photos courtesy of RBDF Public Relations Section)



► Chief Petty Officer Nelson Strachan at Defence Headquarters for the final time as an active Defence Force personnel. From left: Force Chief Petty Officer Oral Wood, Lieutenant Byron McClain, Captain Philip Clarke, Deputy Commander Defence Force, Captain Samuel Evans, Chief Petty Officer Nelson Strachan, Captain Clyde Sawyer, Lieutenant Commander Michael Hanna and Master-at Arms, Force Chief Petty Officer Geoffrey Miller.  
(Photos courtesy of RBDF Public Relations Section)



► Chief Petty Officer Arlington Clarke presenting CPO Brian Miller with a token of appreciation from his wife and family during an retirement ceremony at HMBS Coral Harbour. Looking on are Base Engineering Officer Senior Lieutenant Gordon Roberts and Deputy Base Engineering Officer Senior Lieutenant Jeremy Allen.  
(Photos courtesy of RBDF Public Relations Section)



# Minister Campbell 'turns over' key for new generator to BAPD

Minister of Social Services and Urban Development, the Hon. Frankie Campbell presented members of the Board of Directors, Administrators, staff and children at the Bahamas Association for the Physically Disabled (BAPD) School with the key to a "brand new" Caterpillar Generator.

The ceremony took place Thursday, February 21, 2019. Minister Campbell was accompanied by Parliamentary Secretary in the Ministry of Social Services and Urban Development, Mr. Michael Foulkes; Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Social Services and Urban Development, Sherrylee

Smith; Director of Social Services, Lillian Quant-Forbes; Executive Secretary to the Secretariat of the National Commission for Persons with Disabilities, Maria Kelley; and Gillian Bethell, Assistant Director, Disability Affairs Division, Department of Social Services.

BAPD President, Charlotte Albury accepted the keys to the generator on behalf of the Association. Ms. Albury took over the reins as President of the BAPD from her father, the late Sir Durward Knowles, who served in that capacity from February, 1991, until his death in February, 2018. Ms. Patricia Francis, Board Member, also participated in the ceremony.

"The presentation of this generator should ensure that there is uninterrupted service for the children at this facility whenever there are interruptions in service," Minister Campbell said. "I extend my gratitude to all of the persons who work directly with the children on a daily basis here; grateful for the Board of Directors, the Administrators and also the parents who have seen the need not to keep their children at home, but to expose them to all of the opportunities available to them here."

Registered as a non-

profit charitable organization in 1973, the BAPD exists to provide the best possible service to the young in the community of persons with special needs. This is achieved through the provision of a Daycare Facility, Special Education, Physical Therapy, and Computer Training in an environment dedicated to promoting self-esteem, improved social skills and functionally-independent living wherever possible.

Its driving force was Miss Phyllis Aldridge, who saw the need to help the Physically Challenged Children, as well as adults, of The Bahamas. Sir Durward was appointed President in 1991, serving in the post until his death in 2018.

Ms. Albury said the turn-over ceremony marked a significant milestone for the facility. The ceremony took place just days ahead of the one-year anniversary of Sir Durward's passing.

"This just could not have happened on a better occasion with Saturday marking the one-year anniversary of my father's passing. We miss him daily. Being able to help the children of the community -- and for those who are living with a disability, not to have them locked up inside the house, but be able to come out and experience what life has to offer, was so very important to him. I was on the committee with him for so many years and so I know that he is smiling down from heaven today knowing that we are continuing with his good works.

"I can't tell you how much this means to us and the children that are here because now when there is an interruption in the service, having a generator on property will just make their day so much easier -- to continue with their lessons, to continue caring for them, to continue to make their lives better," Ms. Albury said.



## PUBLIC NOTICE

### MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL PLANNING

The public is hereby notified that an application for Site Plan Approval SPA/8/2018 on behalf of A.A.H Development is presently being reviewed by The Department of Physical Planning for presentation to the Town Planning Committee.

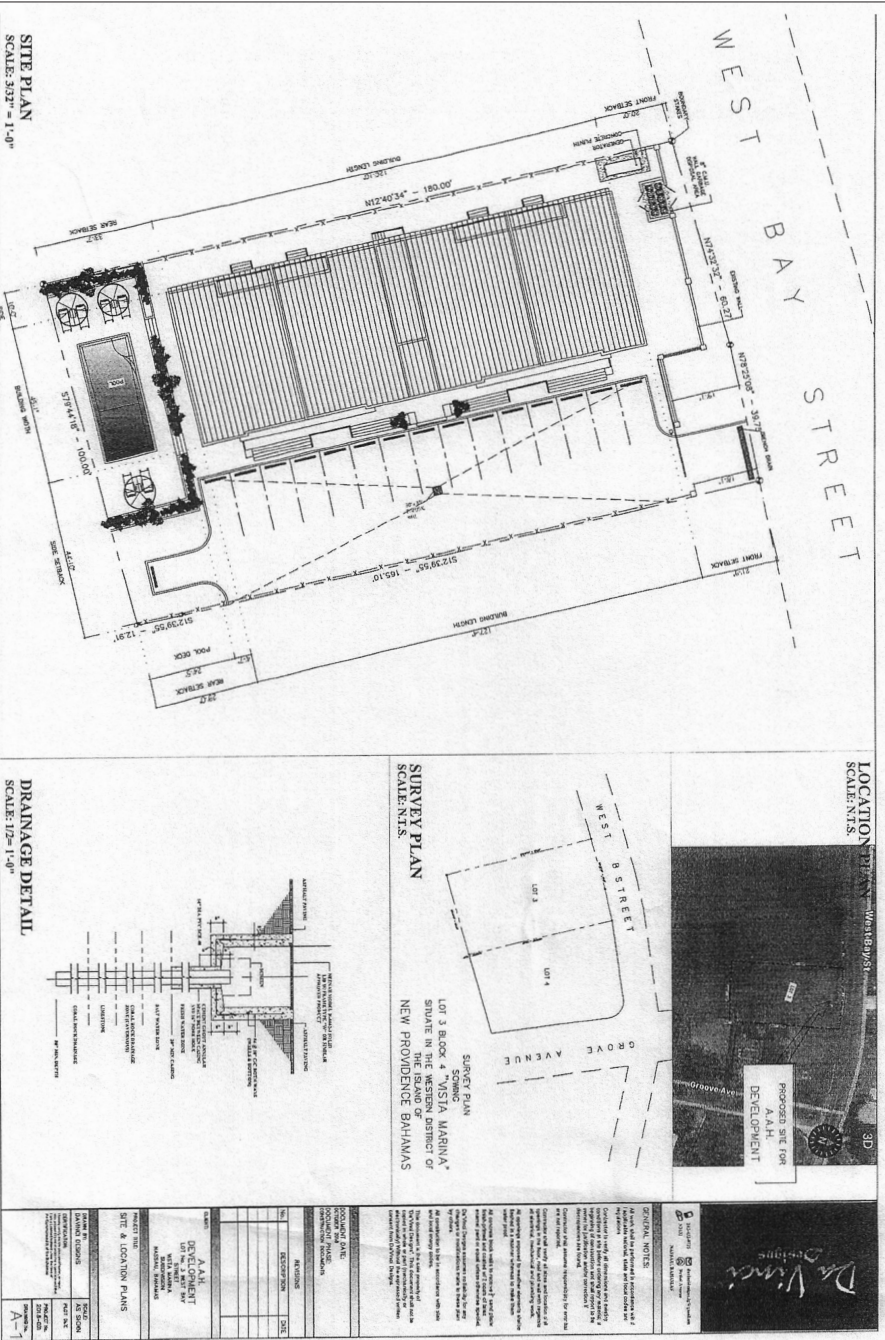
A public meeting will be held on March 4, 2019 at 7pm at The Department of Physical Planning's Hearing Room located on JFK Drive and Bethel Avenue.

The applicant is requesting a formal rezoning of lot #3, block #4 of the Vista Marina Subdivision. The property is located on West Bay Street, one lot west of Grove Avenue. The site is approximately 18,000sq.ft (100' x 180'). Six apartment units with accompanying leasing office and laundry facilities existed on the site until its recent demolition. Even though these units have existed for nearly 30 years, the applicant wishes a current and formal rezoning of the property in order to redevelop the site for the same use and density.

Preliminary plans for the proposed development are available for viewing at The Department of Physical Planning, located in the Aventura Plaza on John F. Kennedy Drive, during working hours of 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Interested persons and organizations are invited to review the information on file and provide written comments prior to the meeting. Comments should be directed to the Acting Director of Physical Planning within twenty-one (21) days of the date of this notice. Submissions can be made via P.O Box N-1611, Nassau Bahamas or fax (242) 328-3206. Further inquiries can be made to the Acting Director via Tel. (242) 322-7550/1/1 OR (242) 328-3202 or [CHARLESZONICLE@BAHAMAS.GOV.BS](mailto:CHARLESZONICLE@BAHAMAS.GOV.BS)

Signed  
Charles B. Zonicle  
Acting Director of Physical Planning



Minister Frankie Campbell addresses the turn-over ceremony of new generator to the Bahamas Association for the Physically Disabled. (BIS Photo/Patrick Hanna)

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