

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. 31 - NO. 134

WEDNESDAY - AUGUST 21ST, 2019

75 CENTS

Gov't to Borrow More Money for BPL

BY BERTHONY MCDERMOTT
Journal Staff Writer

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance Peter Turnquest said yesterday that the government will have to again borrow to acquire the necessary funds to meet Bahamas Power and Light's (BPL) needs.

This, of course, includes new generators and maintenance in the face of consistent load shedding in New Providence.

Minister Turnquest

■ See page 3...



▶ DPM and Minister of Finance Peter Turnquest

BPSU Wants Full Payment

BY EARYEL BOWLEG
Journal Staff Writer

Bahamas Public Services Union (BPSU) President Kimsley Ferguson is demanding the full lump

sum payment for public officers to assist with back-to-school expenses.

During a meeting at BPSU headquarters on Monday evening, Ferguson explained that

he wasn't going to make any moves until he spoke to Prime Minister Dr. Hubert Minnis about the matter during a meeting

■ See page 4...

NEWLY RENOVATED STONED CRAB OPENS IN GB



▶ Deputy Prime Minister Peter Turnquest helps proprietor Olivia Pages officially open The Stoned Crab Taino Restaurant and Beach Bar, employing over 40 Bahamians and estimated to cost over \$3.5 million to refurbish. Pictured are (left to right) Brenford Christie, partner with McKinney, Bancroft & Hughes, Ian Rolle, President of the Grand Bahama Port Authority, DPM Peter Turnquest, Olivia Pages and Benjamin Powers, The Stoned Crab Food and Beverage Manager. (Photo/Derek Carroll/Barefoot Marketing)

Gov't Monitoring Threats of Global Recession

BY BERTHONY MCDERMOTT
Journal Staff Writer

Deputy Prime Minister Peter Turnquest said the Ministry of Finance is monitoring the global market for the possibility of a recession, particular-

ly in the United States.

His comments came after Bank of America and Goldman Sachs warned of a rising risk of recession.

Last Wednesday, the Down Jones Industrial Average fell by some 800

points marking its worse day of 2019 and prompting CNBC to declare that the markets are in turmoil.

Speaking to reporters yesterday, Minister

■ See page 3...

D'Aguilar Clarifies Claims over Airline Certificate

BY BERTHONY MCDERMOTT
Journal Staff Writer

Minister of Tourism and Aviation Dionisio D'Aguilar yesterday shot down claims that the process for SkyBahamas to apply for an air operating certificate is what has led to the airline's demise.

The Bahamas Civil Aviation Authority contends that SkyBahamas has failed to meet the nine requirements needed to



▶ Minister of Tourism Dionisio D'Aguilar

■ See page 4...

Man Charged for MP's Brother's Murder

BY EARYEL BOWLEG
Journal Staff Writer

Twenty-two-year-old Lynden Williams was formally charged in the Magistrate's Court for the murder of Cabrio Wells, the younger brother of

Minister of Transport and Local Government Renward Wells.

The prosecution agreed to proceed with a voluntary bill of indictment and the Ridgeland Park resident was not required to enter a plea.

During the hearing, Williams' attorney revealed to Chief Magistrate Joyann Ferguson-Pratt allegations of his client being attack by two police.

■ See page 4...





The 'way to go' batteries.

- 12 month warranty
- Meets or exceeds manufacturer's specifications
- Available for most passenger vehicles and light-duty trucks

AVAILABLE THROUGHOUT THE BAHAMAS.

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

Compass Point Owner to Meet with Gov't

BY BERTHONY McDERMOTT
Journal Staff Writer

Compass Point owner Leigh Rodney will be granted the meeting he wanted with the government, according to Minister of Tourism Dionisio D'Aguilar.

Minister D'Aguilar agreed to the talk – despite long insisting he will not be bullied and that Mr. Rodney should instead speak with the licensing board.

The resort owner has threatened to close his West Bay Street property if the government does not make it easier to do business in The Bahamas.

While a meeting date has not been set, the minister said he is imposing some conditions on that meeting.

“As a government minister, I don't want to be

dealing with a single operator. Some of his complaints and issues as it relate to the ease of doing business industry wide and as you know government has to be widely consultative,” Minister D'Aguilar said.

“So, I'm encouraging him to come as part of the Bahamas Hotel and Tourism Association or The Bahamas Chamber of Commerce.

“These are all private sector organizations that have this concern and I don't want to limit myself to having a discussion with one operator. He should come as a body and I'll certainly ensure that those persons are in the room when we have a meeting.”

The Compass Point Resort has been a fixture on West Bay Street for more than two decades.



► Compass Point Beach Resort

Two Men Shot Dead in Pinewood

Police are investigating a shooting incident on Monday which left two men dead and a woman with injuries.

According to police, shortly before 11 p.m., a group of men were sitting in a yard on Maple Street, Pinewood Gardens, when

they were approached by three armed men, who opened fire in their direction, injuring two of them and a woman, who was

inside the home, before running away.

Paramedics were called to the scene and attempted to revive the

men, but were unsuccessful.

The two men were pronounced dead on scene, while the woman was

transported to hospital and listed in stable condition.

Investigations continue.

BTC Gifts MOE 2,500 Tablets

BY LICEC BASTIAN
Journal Staff Writer

Technology giant BTC (Bahamas Telecommunications Company) donated 2,500 tablets to the Ministry of Education (MOE) to be used in public schools throughout the country. BTC's CEO Garfield Sinclair said it's an initiative that is an excellent public private partnership that will revolutionize education.

It is a donation that will continue to propel the Ministry of Education into its goal of ensuring that students have access to technology that will push them forward in the 21st century.

Mr. Sinclair made the announcement recently at the Public Schools Administrators conclave.

Mr. Sinclair added the BTC fully supports MOE's project to provide technology in the classrooms, creating "smart classrooms" for educators and students.

"A digital country requires digitally inspired education," Mr. Sinclair said.

"We are ahead of schedule in connecting 127 schools and giving them high speed connectivity to the internet.

"It is actually an excellent private and public partnership because we are really connecting these schools to the existing government of The Bahamas WAN and at the end of this, what we are going to have are students who will hopefully be well advanced as part of this digital education process.

"We know that access to the internet has an inextricable link to GDP growth. It also equips young minds for a digital economy.

"So, we're talking about eventually, hopefully facilitating smart schools with smart cities, smart government and really driving The Bahamas into the 21st century.

"The fact of the matter is you're not going to be able to do that without the kind of connectivity that we are providing."

In September 2018, MOE launched its \$17 million technology upgrade with the signing of a contract with BTC for a "massive technology upgrade".

The project has been dubbed "One Network Project".

Education Minister Jeffrey Lloyd said the project will allow for

"tech-smart campuses throughout the entire country".

"I am talking about the day that must come within the next year or so, where the entire educational system is wired like an Estonia, Finland, South Korea," Mr. Lloyd said.

"We'll be the first of its kind in the Caribbean where there will be experiential learning, augmented reality, artificial intelligence, robotics, personalized learning, distance learning.

"Technology is going to further empower, you and I, administrators, and teachers, in providing the kind of support and assistance and instructions needed for students."

Minister Lloyd added that the initiative will also help to improve the graduation rate as students on islands that may have a shortfall in teachers will be able to learn through virtual classrooms.

The Ministry of Education also signed contracts with Cable Bahamas, Walkers Industries Limited and Sam's Businesses Machines, all in an effort to facilitate the creation of wireless internet connectivity in the school system.

Legal Notice

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to the public that **Zeneta Archer-Deveaux**, the heiress-at-law of the estate of the late Pearl Tucker, who died on the 20th day of September, 1980, is the legal fee simple owner of the property described herein. Any person or persons claiming any right, benefit or interest in the same, must present his or her claim, in writing, along with the appropriate documentation, to the aforementioned Zeneta Archer-Deveaux, within twenty-one (21) days of the publication of this notice at the expiration of which time, no further claim will be entertained.

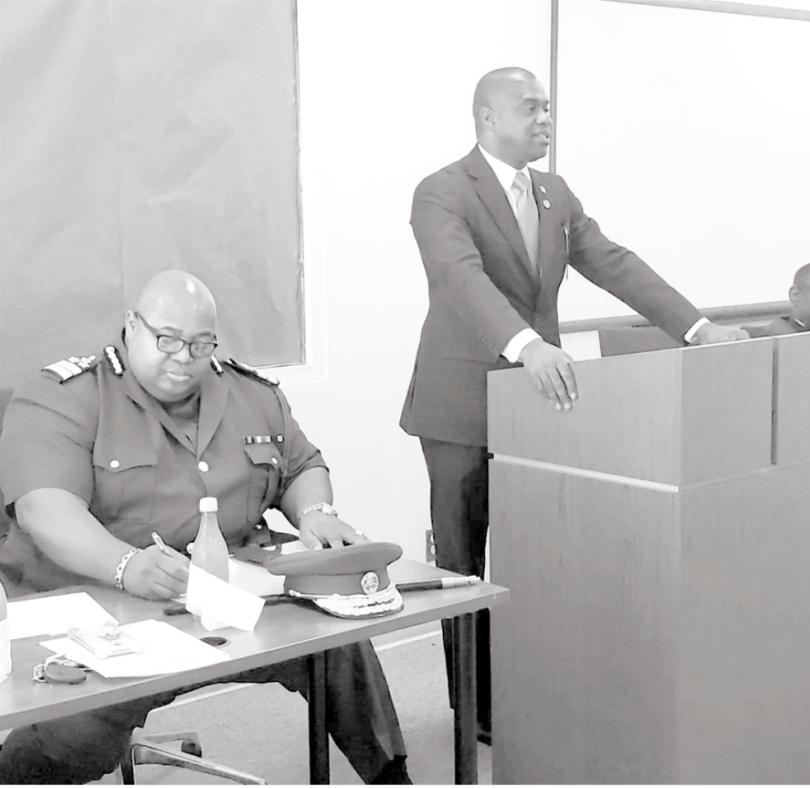
The plot referred to comprise six thousand six hundred and eight (6,608.00) square feet on the southern side of Laird Street two hundred and sixty seven feet east of Blue Hill road in the southern district of New Providence **bounded on the north** by Laird Street and running thereon fifty two and thirty three (52.33) hundredths feet **on the south** by property of various owners and running thereon fifty-eight and sixty nine hundredths (58.69) feet, **on the east** by property of Sadie Curtis and running thereon one hundred and eighteen and twenty seven hundredths (118.27) feet, and **on the west** by property of one Dorsette and running thereon one hundred and twenty and forty four (120.44) hundredths feet.

Zeneta Archer-Deveaux

ZENETA ARCHER-DEVEAUX
Phone No. 242-818-7911

Financial Services Min. Attends GB General Staff Meeting

FREEPORT, The Bahamas -- On Monday August 19, 2019, Minister of Financial Services, Trade, Industry and Immigration the Hon. Elsworth Johnson attended a Mass General Staff Meeting in Grand Bahama. The Minister was accompanied by his Permanent Secretary, David Davis and Director of Bahamas Immigration Clarence A. Russell. During the meeting, Minister Johnson laid out his mandate for the Ministry moving forward. Certificates of Appreciation were also presented to all Officers who graciously participated in this year's Independence Parade 2019. (Photo/BIS)



More Money for BPL

Continued from / PAGE 1...

disclosed outside Cabinet that the government is looking to do what is necessary to get on top of what even the prime minister accepted as a crisis at BPL.

"No finances will be speared if there is a solution that can be brought in the short term. BPL has put forth a plan which appears to be workable.

It seems to be a sensible solution and we're working towards that to the extent that if they need assistance to make that happen and if it can be accelerated, then certainly we will find the resources to do that," he said.

"This is because we recognized that it is a national issue particularly here in New Providence as our major economic

hub and so whatever it takes to ensure that we can get reliable consistent supply of energy back as soon as possible, we will do that."

The deputy prime minister's comments follow those made by the prime minister on Monday when he told reporters whatever BPL needs, BPL will get.

The DPM sought to make it clear that the bor-

rowing fits within the parameters of the fiscal responsibility legislation.

The recently passed law requires the government to be transparent in instances of unexpected expenditures.

"We will come to parliament, explain what is necessary, why we have done what we have done, if it is an after the fact disclosure and again present a plan to get us back

on track to our overall fiscal plan as soon as possible," Minister Turnquest said.

Just last year, a resolution was passed in parliament giving the government leeway to borrow \$100 million for BPL's maintenance.

However, it was later revealed that some \$95 million went to the new Wartsila plant set to come on stream in December.

When asked to respond to those who may have lost confidence in the government as a result, Mr. Turnquest said, "Well again, I don't know that I can answer that question."

"That would be a question that is better posed to BPL because they would have been the ones that has raised that money so I would have referred to them," he added.

Gov't Monitoring Recession Threats

Continued from / PAGE 1...

Turnquest said the Ministry of Finance has prepared for unexpected hits to the global market.

"As we look to the future, I believe the U.S. economy is still perform-

ing relatively strong, although there are signs on the horizon that there may be some issues to come," he said.

"As we in the Ministry of Finance make our plans, we take those things into consideration

and we try to ensure that we govern ourselves conservatively to take into account the worst-case scenario."

This, the finance minister added, means the country needs to watch its spending and plan to

ensure consistency with its projections.

"We watch our cash flow to make sure we don't get caught out and we always have some headroom in order to be able to meet any unexpected shots," Minister

Turnquest said.

"Again, somethings we can't control and so its just a matter of us being conservative and making sure we are managing our resources as best as we can, taking into

account things that can happen on a long term horizon."

U.S. President Donald Trump has shot down those claims saying that the United States is very far from a recession.

D'Aguilar Clarifies Claims over Airline Certificate

Continued from / PAGE 1...

receive the certificate.

It's been downhill from there as 35 of the airline's employees recently filed a trade dispute claiming they are owed salaries and other entitled benefits.

He added to that the airline which has been grounded since July 8 was evicted from its LPIA office on August 17.

"Certainly, the action that would have been taken by NAD which is

the airport, would have been building for some time," Minister D'Aguilar said.

"NAD took SkyBahamas to court for none payment and received an award or the ability to take the action

that they have done," the minister of tourism said.

"So, I guess the bills have been mounting, operational difficulties have been mounting and we are where we are."

When asked if he thinks the airline will

have a hard time getting back on its feet, the minister said, "The operator will have to evaluate that and they will have to see what the capital requirements are to reenter the market, build their brand back, attract customers

back to see what amount of capital will be necessary to do it and whether they have the capital to do it and the willingness to do it."

Captain Randy Butler is the CEO of SkyBahamas.

BPSU Wants Full Payment

Continued from / PAGE 1...

on Tuesday.

However, after receiving a number of calls, he felt it was best to at least inform union members about a scheduled meeting with the prime minister.

When asked if he didn't get a response from Dr. Minnis on the matter, he stated they'll have no choice but to take a position in order to get a

response. However, Mr. Ferguson is choosing to be patient.

"I said to the prime minister that I will wait. If I'm the shepherd of this particular flock, we're going to wait until we get a response from the prime minister," Mr. Ferguson said.

"I believe that the prime minister is an honourable gentleman and I believe that a response from him on Tuesday will

be forthcoming."

In a statement earlier this week, the Ministry of Finance clarified the negotiation with BPSU and expressed that there was a previous meeting with the union to discuss the government's ability to finance a payment to public officers for back to school preparations.

"The government sought to negotiate a good faith resolution which would be presented to

Cabinet for approval. The union proposed a lump sum payment of \$1,200 for the benefit of public officers. The total value of payments was estimated by the government at approximately \$20 million," the statement read.

"Considering the government's cash flow needs, the Ministry of Finance offered to recommend to Cabinet, splitting the payment into two lump sums of \$600

each, in August and December, 2019. The union refused to consider the offer, indicating \$1,200 was already a concession. The BPSU was advised that due to the scale of the funding requirements, meeting an end of month demand would be a challenge in all instances."

The president expressed that the union will get a good deal concerning the industrial

agreement.

"We're believing God that He's going to do what His people needs and we know that people are crying because they're burdened and we're asking for some relief on their behalf," Mr. Ferguson said.

"There's some discussion that would've taken place and we are just waiting for the response and the discussion that would have taken place."

Man Charged for MP's Brother's

Continued from / PAGE 1...

The attorney claimed that on August 15, during a police interview, Williams informed him that police placed a fish

bag over his head while handcuffed and he was kicked about his body and head. He added that Williams had to bite the bag in order to breath.

Although Williams said

he knew nothing about the murder, the police warned him to confess if he wanted to live.

His attorney saw marks on his hand, right shoulder and back during the police

interview and showed detectives. The interview stopped so Williams could be taken to hospital.

His counselor was supposed to be notified when the interview resumed.

However, the interview was continued without a lawyer present.

In court, Williams complained about experiencing pain on his left arm and back. The magistrate

ordered that instead of going to the hospital that he be seen by the prison physician as soon as it is reasonably practical.

He is expected back in court on October 22.

Soldanza
NOW AVAILABLE
**THE GOOD
NATURAL SNACK!**

Soldanza Cassava Chips Cream & Onion
Soldanza Plantain Chips Lightly Salted
Soldanza Ripe Plantain Chips Naturally Sweet
Soldanza Cassava Chips Original

milobutler
RESPECT, QUALITY AND VALUE GUARANTEED.
(242) 677-6380
PEACH STREET OFF MONTROSE AVENUE

TWINNINGS
OF LONDON

Make the perfect iced tea
with any one of your favourite Twinnings flavours!

1. Brew 1 tea bag for 3-4 minutes.
2. Transfer infused tea to a glass full of ice.
3. Add lemon and honey/sugar.
4. Mix well and you have the perfect iced tea!

DISTRIBUTED IN THE BAHAMAS BY
milobutler
RESPECT, QUALITY AND VALUE GUARANTEED.
(242) 677-6380
PEACH STREET OFF MONTROSE AVENUE