The Bahama Journal
Quo Vadis, Bahamas?

2023 ATLANTIC HURRICANE SEASON Are you prepared?

“PRIMED FOR EXPANSION”
A Stable And Receptive Environment

Top COP Defending Police Reward System
RBPF recently launched reward points system. Police officers who make arrests, find and recover illegal weapons will be rewarded.

Billions of dollars in pipeline for tourism investments

Michelle tells FNM mind own business, PLP convention approaches

Promoting The Bahamas before a large number of Chicago business leaders on Monday, Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Phillip Davis said over the last two years his administration enjoyed tremendous success with investors, settling the stage for sustainable growth and prosperity.

“Our resilience and our ability to weather external shocks has helped to persuade investors to see us as a safe harbour for investments. We are focused on making strategic investments that grow and diversify our economy, while continuing to strengthen our country’s fiscal health,” said the Prime Minister.

By Luan Stanley
Journal Staff Writer

Billions of dollars in tourism investments are in the pipeline for all islands across The Bahamas. This coming from Ministry of Tourism Investments and Aviation Deputy Prime Minister Chester Cooper as he again applauded the growth in visitor numbers coming into the country year after year. He said over 3,000 jobs will be created out of these projects.

"We are seeing the coming of the Hilton later this year, and that would be positive for room capacity, and we see in the pipeline Melia is going to be announcing some significant additions to overall rooms. Continuing to be said, "We have about $5 billion; generally $7 billion of new investments in the pipeline, with maybe $6 billion related to tourism. Some of it is already coming out of the pipeline. We have HGV Cay and for Nassau for example, which is about $300 million investment. We see the construction is there are really stepping up and we also see Montagu Cay in Abaco were construction is well on the way."

By Steve Clayton

It’s really "sad" to see the leader of the opposition Michael Pindling trying to take credit for the Prime Minister’s decision to make adjustments within his team of cabinet ministers, said Progressive Liberal Party (PLP) Chairman Fred Mitchell while speaking from the city of Chicago, USA on Monday morning.

In his capacity as Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr Mitchell accompanied Prime Minister Phillip Davis on an official visit to Chicago to mark the 50th anniversary of The Bahamian independence with the Bahamian community and business community that city over a two day period.

Mr Mitchell said Mr Pindling and his colleagues are "living in a dream world, and an air of anxiety". He claims that there are strong divisions in the Free National Movement among the leadership and recommended that "Diane Sands and Michael Pindling better mind their own business and stop fooling with the PLP."

Mr Mitchell then shared details about the PLP’s 55th national convention that will take place November 9th and 10th at Bahia Mar resort under the theme "Building On Progress: Driving Change."

In the written statement, Minister Mitchell explained a number of new procedures in regards to nominations for party officers. It said nominations will now be accepted on forms, and that under the new procedures, nominations will take place from the floor. All nominations will take place in writing and must be received no more than 14 days before the convention. The Secretary General who is the returning officer for the elections. Twenty delegates will be taken for each branch in accordance with the party’s new constitution. According to Mr Mitchell all meetings will be open.

He said the council has also set a non-refundable fee for anyone who wishes to run for office. "For the office of Leader, 2,500 dollars, Deputy Leader, 2,000 dollars Secretary, 1,500 dollars and all others, 250 dollars. The PLP’s last convention was held in 2019."
Billions of dollars in pipeline for tourism investments

By Gary CPI, RT

Billions of dollars in tourism investments are in the pipeline for all islands across The Bahamas. This coming tourism season, the area of Tourism Investments and Aviation Deputy Prime Minister Chamber Cooper as he again applauded the growth in the sector over the years coming into the country year after year. He said up to 3,000 jobs will be created out of these projects. "We are seeing the coming of the billion later this year, and that would be positive for room capacity, and we see in the pipeline Melia is going to be announcing some significant, additions to overall rooms."

Continuing he said, "We have here $6 billion; generally $7 billion of new investments in the pipeline, with maybe $8 billion related to tourism. Some of it is under construction now, we have Hope Cay and the Exuma for example, which is about $100 million investment. We see the construction levels here are really ramping up and we also see Montage Cay in Abaco were construction is well on the way." "So I'm positive about what I'm seeing generally at all of what we will see in the future years; we believe we can increase the overall percentage of stayovers within the next few years," Mr. Cooper said. After confirming that the $50 billion of new investments are currently approved as the tourism sector, Mr. Cooper listed some of the projects. After announcing $1 billion, we have Elizabeth Island where construction is underway, the early stages but underway nonetheless; we have Hope Cay as I mentioned before, construction there is on booming, we have Cove Cay with all of approvals received, and we anticipate construction to begin there; we have a project in Sampson Cay where some of the innovations have started, there are two or three major projects in Sampson Cay which have not yet started, so they are in varying stages but construction work has begun in many of these projects already," he said.

Mr. Cooper said his ministry is currently working with the tourism investment authority and multi-agency groups to help facilitate other projects out of the pipeline. Given the numerous projects planned, Mr. Cooper assured that the government will make sure that the project is managed well, that the project will be able to improve overall occupancy in the next one to two years. "I think we will increase overall occupancy in the next one to two years, we are in the right group," he said.

While he believes the forecast is strong over the next five years, he said through direct foreign investment, the Deputy Prime Minister said he hopes to see greater Bahrain investment in the Bahamian economy.

"PRIMED FOR EXPANSION"

Road Traffic Department
PUBLIC NOTICE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Last year, the Government of The Bahamas confirmed its intention to modernize the transportation sector in the country. A key component of this plan is to create opportunities for small business ownership in the tourism and hospitality industry, the sector has been more dependent on the discontinuation of the unlawful and unfair practice of franchise leasing.

The Road Traffic Department supports entrepreneurship and divestiture and to demonstrate its commitment to ending this unfair practice, franchises were issued to public service drivers who for decades, operated under unlawful "lease arrangements". Additional franchises were also issued to new market participants. The Road Traffic Department wishes to advise members of the public that the number of available franchises (taxi, livery, self-drive and other public service plates) have been fully subscribed for New Providence Island. New franchises may be granted when plates are surrendered, or franchises revoked.

New applications will be placed on hold to enable the Road Traffic Department to complete an assessment of all franchise plates. As a part of this assessment, the Board reserves the right to require franchise holders to show cause why license plate(s) should not be surrendered to the Department of Road Traffic immediately. All dormant/inactive plates should be surrendered to the Road Traffic Department in accordance with section 27 of the Road Traffic Act.

The decision to place new applications on hold is to allow for the full completion of assessment process and to avoid over saturated in the public transportation industry. Interested persons remain eligible to apply. However, applications will only be processed and advanced as issued plates become available in proportion to the franchise sought by applicants. Franchise approvals for conditions which have not been satisfied within the ninety (90) day period will expire and applicants will be required to re-apply.

The Ministry of Transport and Housing will provide an update to members of the public once the assessment process is completed. Members of the public are reminded that the Road Traffic Department and the Ministry of Transport and Housing are committed to acting in a transparent, fair, and responsible manner that supports sustainable growth.

As the Road Traffic Department is committed to being transparent and open with the process, persons interested in obtaining a franchise into contact the Franchise Unit, Road Traffic Department for assistance.

LANECA DARVILLE
CHAIRPERSON
ROAD TRAFFIC AUTHORITY

Photographed at the City Club of Chicago, this week are (l-r): Mr. Leon Louis, Parliamentary Secretary in the Office of the Prime Minister, Rev. Fred Mitchell, Administrator, Office of the Governor General, the Rt. Hon. Perry Christie, Governor General, and the Rt. Hon. Dr. Christopher C. Altamese, Prime Minister of the Bahamas. The Prime Minister was recently invited to Chicago by the Illinois State Council of the district, as part of his trip to the United States. (Photo: Bahamas Ministry of Tourism and Aviation via The Bahamas National)
**FNM Chairman Duane Sands accuses government of victimizing women**

By KELE KAMPFELD

In the backdrop of Director of Immigration Kermit Ferguson reportedly forced to retire, the First National Movement (FNM) Chairman Dr. Duane Sands accused the Devon administration of "systematically terminating" women in the public service.

Though he acknowledged some women being part of Prime Minister Philip Davis’s cabinet and Cyril "Mittor" Port austere named and seated as the new Government General, he stated that over the past months, several female public officers have been sidelined, going on to name some of the females he’s noticed now gone from the public service.

"There was Anthonette Thompson at the Ministry of Transport and Housing, Deputy Financial Secretary Araba Marsh at the Ministry of Finance, Deputy Director Jean Collier at the Department of Information and Communications Technology Dr. Graeme Moss, controller at Customs," The FNM Chairman said.

Continuing he said, "Director Rodney Balfour/Cabletech Department of Local Government, Deputy Director Carol Ross also at the Department of Information Technology, Deputy Director Francis Major-Smith at Immigration, and the most recent Director of Immigration Kermit Ferguson, but don’t forget, Minister teak, a Director of Works, and Kaylester Devaux-Nunes at ANTS.".

Dr. Sands goes on to claim that seven female Family Island administrators were also sent home, saying what message is being sent.

He mentioned the "watering down" of the Gender Based Violence Bill, calling the Protection Against Violence Bill "misogynist" and labelling the government as "plotting a casual axe towards civil rights against women and children insecurity in the country.".

**Grand Lucayan has multiple offers for purchase**

By DESTNY JOHNSON

The Grand Lucayan Resort has a number of potential buyers for the property, this coming from Minister of Tourism Investments and Aviation Deputy Prime Minister Clarence Cooper as to speak about new and exciting plans for Grand Bahamas earlier in the week.

Asked for more information on those negotiations during the Office of the Prime Minister’s Weekly Press Briefing, the tourism minister said he could not say at this time.

"Let me tell you that there is always a delicate balance when you are doing a business negotiation with providing information in the public interest and protecting the integrity of the deal that you are in fact negotiating," he said. "I don’t plan to provide any more information in relation to discussions on the Grand Lucayan Resort at this time. I hope that will be able to provide more information shortly."

Minister Cooper said, as soon as there’s more to tell he will make a statement, promising members of the media, "as soon as the money is in the bank, I’ll tell you first!"

He did say though that prospects for investments in the country’s second city remains high.

"What we are doing in Grand Bahama is a multi-pronged approach to the revitalization of the island," Mr. Cooper explained. "I can tell you that interest growth for Grand Bahama Island is better than any other island in the Bahama year over year. I can tell you that cruise traffic are up 20 percent. I can tell you the Ministry of Tourism and its executive teams visited the island of Grand Bahama. We are working with all of the stakeholders from east end and west end to help the island of Grand Bahama to tell their own story. Tell the story of their magnificent sister."

Minister Cooper explained that in the East End of Grand Bahama there are the natural beauties of the Lucayan Park and the natural beauty on western end of the island to authentic experiences that can be enjoyed, and the countryside inland Freeport.

"The deputy prime minister went on to highlight some of the recent developments in Grand Bahama. He said, “There is a deep bbroad product on the island of Grand Bahama. I’m enthusiastic about some of the developments that we’re seeing. We announced recently the ninth census report. We have examined recently the development of the Grand Bahama International airport. There are other developments to come in the near future.""

"I want the people of The Bahamas to know, and the people of Grand Bahama to appreciate that the growth of tourism, as we’ve indicated in the previous years and in the statistics of Grand Bahama last year, is really for the ultimate benefit of The Bahamas," he said.

He said it is in the governments’ duty and opportunity to create new businesses, and to provide opportunities for more experience.
PM Davis Calls On U.S To Reconsider on Climate Matters

In June Prime Minister Davis and U.S. Vice President Kamala Harris co-hosted a U.S. Caribbean Leaders Meeting which focused on addressing the existential threat of the climate crisis in Caribbean nations. The prime minister, during a visit in Chicago earlier this week, set down and spoke with Prime Secretary in the Office of the Prime Minister (OTM) and noted that at the end of this month Caribbean leaders will meet again at COP28.

"The more climates that are formed around the issues that are common to all of us, the better chances we have of succeeding in having, what I call, successful solutions," Prime Minister Davis said.

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The Bahamian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the U.S. Agency for International Development and the U.S. Embassy in the Bahamas have all expressed concern over the potential environmental risks in the Bahamas. This has sparked the Cabinet’s determination to cooperate with international authorities to address the pressing issues.

MOU Setting the Framework for Cooperation Between The Bahamas and the Republic of Botswana, Signed

The Public Notice

MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL PLANNING

The public is hereby notified that an application for Preliminary Support of Application Approval (PSPA/30/2023), on behalf of Esillette G. Kerr C/O Higgins and Johnson Counsel Attorneys at Law, has been made to the Department of Physical Planning for the site at 1847 Old Fort Road, Fortune Island, 1047 ft. by 20 ft.

The applicant is seeking planning approval to rezone portions of Lots 12 and 13 in the Ocean Beach Colony Subdivision from Multi-Family Residential to Commercial.

The site is located on the southern side of Coral Boulevard in the Coral Harbour neighborhood. The site is approximately 25,000 sq ft. and a residential building currently exists on the site. The applicant proposes to rezone the site to Commercial for the use of a professional/medical office.

A public meeting will be held 21st September, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. in the Hearing Room of the Department of Physical Planning, JFK Drive, for all interested parties to discuss and address planning issues related to the proposed Commercial development.

The Department of Physical Planning allows public views to be made by presentation of written comments prior to the meeting. This public meeting is an opportunity to express your views on the proposed development.

Please be aware that the Department of Physical Planning is committed to providing a safe and comfortable environment for all attendees.

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 Director of Physical Planning within twenty-one (21) days of the date of this notice. Submissions can be made via P.O. Box N-161, Nassau, Bahamas. Further inquiries can be made to the Director via Tel. (242) 325-2750/1.1 OR (242) 325-3202 or DEPARTMENTOFPHYSICALPLANNING@BAHAMAS.GOV.BD

Signed
Charles H. Zoncle, Director
Department of Physical Planning

Grand Lucayan has multiple offers for purchase

He said, “The Tourism Development Corporation in New Providence and Grand Bahama will be working along with entrepreneurs to do, to just that.”

Minister coosnsents that the government will continue to provide support for small business development through the Tourism Development Corporation (TDC) and he has ordered the TDC to continue.

10 New? Call Our Office at 356-7254

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TRANSFORMING A FISHING VILLAGE-TYPE ECONOMY TO SERVICE ECONOMY

By the 21st Century when Princess Christine and Hubert Ingham came on the scene to take the reins, the new Taguatinga was a thriving fishing community worth billions of dollars. Over the years, Taguatinga had faced several challenges, including the shift from traditional fishing to more modern methods and continuous efforts by the European community to limit the fishing activities in the Bahama, yet tourism growth and development continued. Since 1932, there have been four Prime Ministers and each Administration has implemented a progressive state on the tourism aspect of the region. It is an industry driven by successive governments that has been a game changer for the Bahamian people who, until recently, were not aware of the significance and importance of the tourism industry in the Bahama economy and the role it has played in development over the years.

For 200 years there was an unprecedented growth of hotels in the Bahamas. There were over 100 hotels on Paradise Island by 2015, offering a million-star service to the guests. For 50 years, the Royal Bahamian and Hutchinson Whapmean’s purchase of the

Hillside Inn and Lucayan Beach Resort and Casino in Grand Bahama Island was expanded by the US government to support the growth of the tourism sector. The $20 million cruise ship was constructed at Prince George Dock to accommodate cruise ships which are now in operation. This is a part of the redevelopment of Downtown Nassau. The future looks bright for the tourism industry in the Bahamas. Tourism has experienced a three-phase agenda that has contributed to the formation of a new wave of development policies. Family Beach resorts have been selected to promote the Redoubling of Downtown Nassau. The new Planning Board and the Redoubling of Downtown Nassau, with its terraced buildings and overseas properties, have introduced new tourism destinations.

Tourism has been good for The Bahamas, and it has experienced External Shocks, such as the COVID pandemic. The government has taken control. These shocks created substantial economic setbacks for the country because of the lack of economic diversification. The Pinding administration is continuing to diversify the economy and the tourism sector to make it more attractive to passengers with the introduction of the Bahamas Ministry of Tourism (BMT). In this era of technology, there are new technologies, which have been introduced in order to prepare for the fast-changing economic advances which are here like fish in an ocean these days.

The Bahamas has become a microcosm of the United States. This means that once an activity in the Bahamas is approved in the U.S., it will reach here because we have developed the same culture, owing to U.S. TV advertisements and our travel, which is little different. The Bahamians are very different from the U.S. in terms of pattern of behavior that differs in the Bahama and the Bahamas Island. We, as a nation, however, have not been short-directed hence the hospitality and friendly atmosphere of the Bahamas.

There was a time when Tourism was the main industry in the Bahamas. Some saw it like the catastrophe to the economy. Nonetheless, however, we have not been short-directed hence the hospitality and friendly atmosphere of the Bahamas.

Every Prime Minister and his colleagues have been able to properly receive the economic change and has set the tourism industry on a growth path where the economy will receive a boost of the arrival of eight million people every year. In addition, we now see a reduction in fiscal deficit and positive signals all around.

In 2015, the political leaders throughout the Caribbean and the Americas pointed to the Bahamas as a model for a government nation. While many challenges remain, the Bahamas have taken the lead in the cost of energy and tourism. If there is evidence of a serious concern on the part of the Bahamian government, its plans are apt to bring relief in this region.

When thinking of this government for the rest of its term, the Prime Minister and his team must seek to bring attention on Grand Bahama, which has been the second-largest producer of revenue for the government.

Grand Bahama, pressure is being placed on the Grand Bahama Minister of Government, and the government of the Bahamas under the Hawkins Creek Government is taking on its responsibilities. We believe that the Freeport Grand Bahama Minister of Government is now an anarchistic. The position of the Prime Minister has made a tremendous investment in the various Freeport programs. We believe that the Government is now time to sell their shares, probably by public auction.

It is clear that the Port Authority does not now possess the capacity to move Freeport forward. The days of grand promoter, the late Edward Saint George, are over. Before him, Wallace Bishop, and before Bishop Jack Darrow will had to attract foreign investors to the Grand Bahama, but that era is past.

Any more money that the Freeport now would be driven by the government and not the Port. The declining international investor will be unattractive to the Freeport concessions and not the Port.

The Port Authority had the kind of interest in operating Freeport as it had decades ago, it would have reinvested in the development of Freeport since after Hurricane Dorain destroyed the Freeport Airport years ago.

We believe that the Freeport group of companies, especially those who reside in Freeport agreement on ICAO, have long held that ICAO that BPGBA must move out of the way of progress. It cannot any longer hold on to the ownership because of the Freeport concessions and in spite of the threats from high places around.

Beyond all of this, the Freeport group of companies must be more patriotic and also have a more reasonable plan that BPGBA should target the Freeport Group of Companies to target the number of the Freeport Group of Companies' products. It is not only to run a "Company Town" with an international airport but the Freeport Group of companies to purchase the shares in the company which has been running a "Company Town" with an international airport in the beginning of this century, the Freeport Group of companies have made a tremendous contribution to the overall growth of the Freeport Group of companies and the Bahamas and the country.

However, while other Family Islands in the Bahamas have been seeing real growth and development, the Freeport Group of companies is not moving and it appears that the Freeport Group of companies has the capacity to stimulate the growth on Freeport Island.

We suggest that both the Freeport Group of companies and the Bahamas concur to find the way forward for the social and economic development of the Bahamas. People
Botswana's President Masisi pays a courtesy call on the Governor General

Governor General, His Excellency the Most Hon. Cyril Hlaudi, welcomed in a courtesy call the President of the Republic of Botswana, His Excellency Mr. Masisi Masisi and First Lady, Her Excellency Mrs. Neo-Jane Masisi at the Office of the Governor General, Tuesday, September 12, 2017. His Excellency and the First Lady arrived in Nassau on Tuesday for a three-day visit to the Commonwealth of The Bahamas.

Pictured from left: First Lady, His Excellency Mrs. Neo-Jane Masisi, President of the Republic of Botswana, His Excellency Mr. Masisi Masisi, D.C., the Most Hon. Cyril Hlaudi, the Hon. Alfred Sears, O.B., Bahamas Minister of Immigration and National Security (and long-time friend of His Excellency), and Dr. Dr. Lawrence Anthony, O.C., President of the Bahamas National Trust.

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Letters To The Editor

It Is Time To Pull The Plug on BIC

Dear Editor:

There comes a time in most people’s lives when they feel they are being forced to decide. It can be a personal matter, or it can be one which involves a service provider that one uses in this case, BIC, if only to progress your day.

You come to accept that no amount of heroic efforts, fervent accusations, or subtle deceptions can ensure that you can press for a solution. You know that the magic promises to send a technology that matches your personality will never materialize, and that the technical experts will all be out, but you keep hoping that your system is alive and functioning and just a flag of your imagination.

During your frequent checks of anger, you wonder how a service which is supposed to bring entertainment, education a workplace from the office and relaxation now reminds you of an unwanted guest who over stays her welcome. In a few days, she would become an historical failure, efficient, reliable, and serviceable. Almost a total sham.

You know that your responses to the BIC promotions will never materialize and that staff who refuse to assist you will not be the answer to your needs.

If you are to have a system that is missing something in the BIC of the Bahamas to get it first time right, it is time to act. and act is the name of the game.

Smistee,

Stephen M. Brown

MEN CHARGE WITH HAVING UNLAWFUL SEX WITH TEENAGER

Orchardtown Journal Staff Writer

Two men were apprehended in The Magistrate’s Court on Monday morning, charged with unlawful sexual intercourse with minor, 12-year-old, William Lewis was charged with two counts of unlawful sexual intercourse with two 15-year-old girls while on Harbour Island.

The incidents occurred on Saturday 12th August and Thursday, 29th August according to police reports.

Alleged for a similar offence in a separate incident was 24-year-old Alfonso Proctor, who was also charged with unlawful sexual intercourse with a minor, yet another 15 year old girl on Harbour Island on Thursday 1st July.

Both men were denied bail and remanded in The Bahamas Department of Corrections.

They return to court on the 25th July where they will be presented with a voluntary bill of indictment which would fast track their matter to the Supreme Court.

FNM Chairman Duane Sands accuses government of affecting women

Mr. Duane Sands, FNM Chairman, has accused the government of affecting women.

Mr. Sands suggests the government has no policy in place or legislative response to the matter at hand.

"To add insult to injury, NGOs in The Bahamas have had to work around an administration that is only propaganda, or as some say, Grandma speaking to a gender affair, they are doing just the fiery reactions to save face to see how can our women feel confident that they are important in the new day Bahamian," asked the Chairman.

"We say the there’s an emerging pattern of contempt for women affairs, and this isn’t random of happenstance, but a clear deliberate strategy to marginalize hard working women. The most recent victimization of the director of Immigration can not only be perceived as victimization of women under this government, but the FNM administration considering how the woman’s refugee movement contributed to the establishment of the Progressive Liberal Party (PLP) and the current government in place plays an integral role in this.

While speaking on this important matter, FNM Chairman, Mr. Duane Sands added that the FNM Administration to stop “bullying” women, to protect their daughters, wives and friends adding that “the unstoppable change” is coming.

FESTIVAL OF THE BOTSWANA OFFICIAL TOUR

Orchardtown Journal Staff Writer

Spokesperson of President Botswana Mrs Nao Jane Mabod was impressed with her visit to The Nassau Cruise Port on Wednesday morning.

Mrs Mabod is in country with her husband Doctor Mokogwatsi Mabod in an official state visit. The first lady was greeted by Minister of State for Housing and Urban Renewal, Loring and President of The Nassau Cruise Port Mr. Mike Muse.

During a tour of the facility, First Lady Mabod, visited one of the authentic Bahamian vendor booths as well the Junkanoo Museum. She expressed her appreciation for the welcome, the hospitality they received.

"Thank you very much, Minister, and let me take this opportunity everybody who’s here for such a warm welcome. Thanks for making me visit this beautiful place, the Nassau Cruise Port, I was very impressed by the local vendors, the fact that’s it’s work, mostly real people, real people, real women, our women, You know, it makes me think of our own women back home, I’m taking back so many ideas from this short experience," she said.

In welcoming First Lady Mabod, Minister of State for Housing and Urban Renewal, Loring, and President of The Nassau Cruise Port Mr. Mike Muse said.

"We went to several vendors where she was able to see handicraft. We had beer, bongos, jams, everything and the First Lady was happy to see the cool place to see the cool place, she even gave some recommendations for how the vendors could add more economic boost to their products," said Minister Muse.

"We’re so happy to have her here, and to be able to experience the local side of us, and believe she really enjoyed being here," she said.

"I think it’s a really important for the First Lady to visit the Bahamas because it helps to bring some awareness," said Mrs. Mabod.

"She was looking books with the vendors and learning about the craft and how many get their products sold and how many are doing this and how many are doing this and how many are doing this," said Mrs. Muse.

"So impressed you know there was the First Lady of Botswana, her Excellency," said Muse.

VACANCY FOR SOCIAL WORKER/ WRITER OF SOCIAL SERVICES (DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES)

Applicants are invited from suitably qualified Bahamians to fill the position for the post of Social Worker, Scale W1, within the Department of Social Services.

Requirements for the Post:

- Applicants must possess a Bachelor’s degree (an accredited institution, approved for the Bahamas Government’s pay scale) in Social Work,

- OR


Specific duties of the post include:

- Investigation of allegations of neglect and abuse cases reported either by telephone or in person;
- Investigation of cases where children may require care and protection and act as necessary;
- Secure placement for children in a substitute home or in an institution for children;
- Comply with case interviews and assess the needs of clients to determine required service;
- Conduct domiciliary and home visits to both the household and client;
- Maintain accurate cases records of assessment, activities and plans;
- Prepare case summaries, social history reports, letters and memoranda as necessary;
- Prepare court documents (court reports, case files, Arthurline, search and production orders);
- Audit Court Office records and provide testimony as necessary;
- Keep files and records up to date, including client, police, health, family, medical and other relevant records to assist children.

The salary of the post is Scale W1, $45,000 to $59,000—$93,450 per annum (July 2023 Scale).

Starting salary will be commensurate with qualifications and experiences.

Interested and qualified persons are advised to apply through the Heads of Departments.

Application forms may be obtained from the Department of Social Services, Bellair Blvd. Road, New Providence, or on the Department’s website at SocialServices.gov.bs. All applications should be accompanied by a current C.V. and documentary proof of id experience, as well as to reach the Secretary, Public Service Commission, P.O. Box Hill, Nassau, not later than September 29, 2023.

Gina Thompson (Ms.)

Pintard inspires BGSCS literature students at St. Johns College

By MRS. CAMPBELL, Education Officer

The work, free National Movement (FNM) Leader Michael Pintard inspired students to write critically, to think critically, to struggle for a better Bahamas, and to be a part of the government accountable on the Opposition leader, and to take a solutions to deliver an address to the 11th and 12th students of St. John’s College taking Literature in the BGSCS. Mr. Pintard said a new book “Nothing Staying” that is currently on the BGSCS curriculum, inspiring on students the importance of Bahamian identity, and the need for the students to speak out, stand out, and to be heard, and be able to express themselves.

While he encouraged the young, he also stressed with regard to their careers paths and dreams, to be dream of being a student at Ault and would continue our unique voice and express our identity.

As a student, he said that one of the key responsibilities of the Opposition leader’s role with regards to his speaking his influence and its influence on his literary work as a poet and playwright. He shared his political and environmental vision as well as his spiritual journey that improves upon real.

As a reference to literature, he also spoke on the authors and books which express such as well as the importance of the BA and the B.S. program.

Before thanking Sarah Vaughan, head of the Language Arts Department and St. John’s College for the invitation, Mr. Pintard encouraged the students to pay close attention to national issues and be the change they want to see in the world.

He also encouraged the students to consider coming back home after university and not just to invest their hard-earned income and pass from them by the time, wherever they are.
Man and Toddler Son Die in Bizarre Incident

Postmortem and toxicology examinations have not been conducted to determine the exact cause of death. The two individuals were both found deceased in auzzi mbm. Police say that both died mysteriously during a bizarre incident in the early morning hours of Tuesday. A 43-year-old man, identified by his wife as Joseph Miller and his 25-year-old son, were found deceased in a three-bedroom apartment complex on Family Drive, outside of town, sometime around dawn.

Police reports stated that the man and his son were located in the apartment complex around 3:30 a.m. When they arrived on the scene, the door to the apartment was unlocked.

The man was located in the living room area and the son was in the bedroom. The man's body was located in the living room while the son's body was found in the bedroom. Police say that there were no signs of forced entry or break-in.

The man was found lying on the floor of the apartment with his head resting against the wall. The son was found lying on his stomach on the bed.

The son's body was later moved to the morgue where an autopsy was conducted to determine the cause of death. The results of the autopsy are still pending.

The investigation continues and there is no information to suggest that the death was the result of foul play. The investigation is ongoing and the cause of death is still under investigation.

The man and his son were both known to the community and are described as peaceful individuals. The cause of death is still under investigation and the family is being supported by the police department.

Permanent Secretary

VACANCY FOR ASSISTANT SOCIAL WORKER MINISTRY OF SOCIAL SERVICES (DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES)

Applicants are invited from suitably qualified Bahamians to fill the position of Assistant Social Worker, Scale VII, within the Department of Social Services.

Requirements for the Post:

- Applicants must possess a Bachelor's degree from an accredited institution, approved by the Bahamas Department of Psychology, Human Services, Family Counseling, Criminology/Criminal Justice.
- Applicants must be registered with the National Registry of Social Workers.
- Applicants must be able to function effectively with members of their race.
- Applicants must be able to interact effectively with people from diverse cultural backgrounds.
- Applicants must be able to function effectively in a multicultural environment.
- Applicants must be able to work effectively with people from diverse cultural backgrounds.
- Applicants must be able to function effectively in a multicultural environment.

The salary for the position is $23,100.00 to $29,900.00 per annum (July 2023 Scale). The closing date for applications is February 28, 2023. Applications should be submitted to the Ministry of Social Services, Department of Social Services, P.O. Box 1234, Nassau, Bahamas.
JUNKANOO GROUP RECEIVES DONATION

Story Credit: J.E.

Community organization, they have had to come up with some innovative ways to raise much needed money to help make it to Bay Street.

"It means a lot to us knowing that coming off the heels of COVID, the price of mangoes and the events to do what we do on Bay Street increased enormously because of the shipping crisis. We’re not sure if it’s a juvenile organization that goes to Bay Street and competes; we’re also community bound," Ms. Fernandez said.

As Fernandez said, “Having corporate Bahamas with us and for them to come considering it as part of their family, it means a lot, Sunshine Insurance would have been the second set of funding that we’ve received and it’s very timely.

Shelley said, “We don’t make money we beg for money nowadays, we’re considered using our practice to engage fundraising.”

On Tuesday morning the 22nd, Bay Street parade with a wonderful performance led by their main section and cho-rummers director who had a crowd pleasing performance, then they backed it up with another hitgc on New Year’s Day 2023 with the help of a Sunshine Insurance and Royal Star Assurance.

The ceremony of the cheque presentation was held on the steps of the new Sunshine Insurance headquarters on John F. Kennedy Drive.

As a way to thank what you will see on Bay street December 20th and January 1st, Family, will harvest practice sessions Thursday, September 22nd at the island of the old City Markets Food Store on Market Street.

PUBLIC NOTICE
MINISTRY OF WORKS
DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL PLANNING

The public is hereby notified that an application for Preliminary Support of Application Approval (PSA/95/2023) on behalf of Stone’s Throw Away, is presently being reviewed by The Department of Physical Planning for presentation to the Town Planning Committee.

The applicant is seeking planning approval to rezone a 16,526 sq. ft. property, located on the western corner of West Bay Street and Tropical Gardens Road, from Residential to Commercial. Two residential buildings currently exist on the site. The applicant proposes to rezone the site to Commercial in order to renovate the existing buildings for a café, flower shop and grocery store.

A public meeting will be held on 2nd October, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. in the Hearing Room of the Department of Physical Planning for all interested parties to discuss and address planning issues related to the proposed Commercial development.

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 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. Further inquiries can be made to the Director via Tel. (242) 322-7556/1 OR (242) 328-3392 or DEPTPHYSICALPLANNING@BAMAS.GOV.BM.

Signed
Charles B. Zoucic, Director
Department of Physical Planning
HGC Sells
Record-Breaking
La Ceiba Property
on Paradise Island

After just a few months of being on the market, the 25,800 sq. ft. illustrating La Ceiba property at Ocean Club, Paradise Island was sold for an undisclosed amount, setting price offered of $57.5 million as the sale was a record-breaking one for Paradise Island. The sale was offered exclusively by Broker Joseph John Christie with agent Dylan Christie, who headed the extraordinary deal as follows:

“This was a record-breaking sale at the highest price achieved on Paradise Island and one of the top single-family home purchases in the country,” according to John Christie. “La Ceiba is a very special property, set on two lots on Cabbage Beach in the Ocean Club Estates. There is simply no other property like it.”

The 25,800 sq. property is a private oasis of Asian-inspired luxury complete with waterfalls, pools and 500 ft. of spectacular beachfront that take your breath away, making it like none other on the market. With impeccably maintained residences, La Ceiba has ten bedrooms, nine full bathrooms, and is also an entertainment hub with cinemas, game rooms, landscaped croquet/bocce ball green, infinity edge pool, lap pool and beach. The 2,400 sq. ft. main house, with soaring vaulted ceilings, features recreation spaces, outdoor lounging areas, two kitchens, a gym, wine cellar, 6-car garage, and mechanical rooms. Two tennis courts and a children’s playground adjoin the property, while the Tom Weiskopf championship golf course and protected marine areas are only a golf cart ride away.

With the sale of La Ceiba becoming a record-breaking real estate deal for Paradise Island, John Christie called it a true example of The Bahamas’ robust real estate market.

“Our Real Estate market remains strong, especially with international cash buyers,” he said.

“We are finding that as high net worth buyers scan the globe for a place to settle, The Bahamas is a shining star, with its tax neutral status, great location, only minutes from South Florida and a number of direct flights from London. The Bahamas is a place to be, not to mention we are 20-years old successful driving real democracy.”

For the past century, HGC has been the leader in The Bahamas’ real estate industry, specializing in luxury homes and condos, vacation homes, beachfront properties and private islands throughout the country. As the oldest and largest real estate agency in The Bahamas, HGC continues to lead in making the opportunity of luxury home ownership throughout the archipelago reality.

Contact Us at info@fidelitybahamas.com or call Nassau: (242) 356-7764 | Freeport: (242) 602-6811 | Abaco: (242) 367-3135 | fidelitygroup | fidelitybank | fidelitybankbahamas
Youth Leaders Rewarded for SDG Impact

The Bahamas: The UHI pilot program would serve as the first in a series to combat Bahamianarsity and would be administered by the University of the West Indies. The pilot would have the potential to impact 150,000 students and would be a significant step forward in addressing the high levels of inequality in education.

In his role as a Climate Change Youth Ambassador, Widjepole has also been instrumental in fostering positive change within his school and community. According to the Bahamian Student's Association, the innovative and transformative efforts undertaken by Widjepole have led to significant improvements in the overall climate change action. His efforts have highlighted the innovative leadership capacity of students in addressing climate change.

PUBLIC NOTICE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS
New Providence
City of Nassau

IN THE MATTER OF THE PLANNING AND SUBDIVISION ACT, 2010
AND
IN THE MATTER OF SUBDIVISION & DEVELOPMENT APPEAL BOARD RULES, 2011

The below listed APPELLANT and interested members of the public are hereby notified of a Sitting of the Subdivision and Development Appeals Board on Wednesday the 27th day of September, 2013 commencing at 1:30 p.m., at the Hearing Room, located in the Averuta Plaza on Bethel Avenue and John F. Kennedy Drive, New Providence.

The Intended Sitting will be subject to the order of the board in accordance with the said hearing taking place under any Emergency Powers (Civil 20) Pandemic Order in force.

Subject also to postponement in the event of the issue of any Bahamas Government Hurricane alert for the island of New Providence.

The following APPEAL will be heard as stated below:

APPEAL No. 4 of 2013 — being an Appeal by Sir Baltron Bethel and Susan Mathurin-Schuffert et al by Notice of Appeal dated 21st day of February, 2013.

APPEALING: from the decision of the Town Planning Committee made on or about the 16th day of January, 2013 under Town Planning Application Number PSA/21/2012 to grant Preliminary Support of Application Approval to Joann Woods (Planning Application No. 151/18) for the construction of Condominium Development on Lots 6 and 7—Love Estates, West Bay Street, New Providence.

Dated the 31st day of September, 2013.

R. DAWSON MALLOW
CHAIRMAN
SUBDIVISION & DEVELOPMENT APPEAL BOARD

SUBDIVISION AND DEVELOPMENT APPEAL BOARD
Averuta Plaza
Bethel Avenue and John F. Kennedy Drive
Nassau
Sun Oil ignites future business leaders with $10,000 gift to Junior Achievement Bahamas

Demonstrating its commitment to the empowerment of aspiring Bahamian entrepreneurs, Sun Oil Limited, a leader in the energy sector, recently announced a generous donation of $10,000 to Junior Achievement (AJA) Bahamas. The contribution is another testament to the company’s vision of fueling growth for people.

Highlighting the rationale behind the donation, Fabian Fernandes, Sun Oil’s Marketing Manager, stated, “Our aspiration is to cultivate a generation of Bahamians who are not only ambitious but also well-equipped with the tools essential for transformative national progress. Through our partnership with JA Bahamas, we are investing in a future where business is synonymous with innovation, resilience, and community.”

Throughout the past four decades, Junior Achievement Bahamas has played a pivotal role to spark an entrepreneurial spirit in the nation’s youth. Tommy Locky, the program’s executive director, remarked, “The donation from Sun Oil Limited is a gamechanger for Junior Achievement. It will enable us to enhance our existing programs and develop new initiatives that will equip young people with the knowledge and skills necessary to succeed in today’s competitive world. With this support, we can provide more resources, training, and mentorship opportunities to students, fostering their personal growth and preparing them for a brighter future.”

Furthering this sentiment, Philip Simons, chairman of Junior Achievement Bahamas, emphasized, “With Sun Oil’s support, we can empower the next generation with essential financial literacy, entrepreneurship, and work readiness skills, enabling them to drive the ever-evolving global economy. We hope this serves as an inspiration for other companies to follow Sun Oil’s lead and become sponsors of Junior Achievement, as we continue to make a difference in the lives of our people.”

The relationship between Sun Oil and Junior Achievement Bahamas is a testament to the transformative power of collaboration through financial support that provides greater access to resources that empowers the Bahamian entrepreneurial spirit. Fernandes concluded, “At Sun Oil, we remain steadfast in our pledge to uplift the upcoming generation of Bahamian visionaries. Through our alliance with Junior Achievement Bahamas, we are certain that our support will inspire a community of entrepreneurs, ready to bring innovative products and solutions to the forefront of our nation.”

Senior Justice Deborah Fraser sworn in as Acting Chief Justice

FINANCIAL INTELLIGENCE UNIT OF THE BAHAMAS

PUBLIC NOTICE – RELOCATION OF FIU OFFICE

30th August, 2023

All registrants, stakeholders and the general public are hereby notified that effective Monday, 3rd September, 2023, the Financial Intelligence Unit will be relocated from its current location at 3rd Floor, Norfolk House, Frederick Street, to its new location at the address noted below:

Policrana House
310 Annex Building, 2nd Floor
East Bay Street
Nassau, Bahamas

Telephone, fax number, postal and email addresses will remain unchanged. Further inquiries can be directed to the Director at:

P.O. Box SB-50085
Nassau, Bahamas
Phone: 397-6300
Fax: 322-9551
Email: director.fiu@flybahamas.bs
Website: flybahamas.org.bs

Emrick K. Seymour Sr., KPM
Director