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**Bahamas INDEPENDENCE 1973-2017**

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**YOUR WEATHER**

**88°F**

Partly sunny with a shower or t-storm in the area

SUNRISE: 6:26 a.m.  
SUNSET: 8:12 p.m.  
HIGH TIDE: 5:50 a.m. - 6:27 p.m.  
LOW TIDE: 11:57 a.m. - 12:44 p.m.  
WINDS: E 8 mph

See Page 10 for full round-up

**The Freeport News**

**BUSINESS PROFESSIONALS & SERVICE GUIDE**

Whatever you're looking for, these local businesses ask you to consider them first.

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# Govt. to correct 'job killing' Act



## SEN. THOMPSON: GRAND BAHAMA INVESTMENT INCENTIVES ACT "FLAWED" FROM DAY ONE

**JAIMIE SMITH**  
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The Free National Movement (FNM) Government intends to, under its vision plan, to implement corrective action with respect to the Grand Bahama Investment Incentives (GBII) Act, Senator J. Kwasi Thompson recently revealed.

Thompson called the Act, "job

killling."

Speaking to colleagues, during his Senate contribution, Thompson said that from day one the process of the Act was flawed and would result in confusion and distaste among those that it impacted the most – present and future investors of the island.

"Certain concessions under the Hawksbill Creek, Grand Bahama (Deep Water Harbour and Industrial Area) Act, Chapter 261 were due to expire on August 4, 2015.

"As a result, the expiring concessions on March 5, 2015 the Hawksbill Creek Agreement Review Committee was announced and formed, to review the Agreement and make recommendations to promote and sustain economic growth in Grand Bahama.

"The Grand Bahama (Port Area) Investment Incentives Act, 2016 was brought into effect on May 4, 2016.

"A further extension was granted under the Grand Bahama (Port Area) Investment Incentives (Amendment)

Act 2016, which extended the timeframe for licensees to submit applications for concessions to March 6, 2017.

"The Grand Bahama (Port Area) Investment, Incentives Regulations, 2017 provides application forms for licensees to apply for concessions.

"On May 3, 2017 by Order (No. 3) a further extension of two months for licensees to submit applications was made with a deadline of July 4, 2017," revealed Thompson.

Thompson further outlined, what he

opined, a number of examples of how the GB Investment Incentives Act was unorganized and would eventually result in a decline in potential investor traction.

The FNM has stated in its manifesto that it will repeal and replace the job killing GB Investment Incentives Act. This process from day one was flawed. The committee was appointed too late, the government was unable to fulfill all of the recommendations its own com-

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**BRENDA BULLARD-COLEBROOK**  
Administrator, West GB

## Administrator has high praise for clean-up campaign

**SHARELL LOCKHART**  
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Brenda Bullard-Colebrook, West Grand Bahama Administrator applauds the Community Clean-up Campaign initiated by Central Grand Bahama Member of Parliament Iram Lewis in partnership with Sanitation Services Co. Ltd., General Manager Lou Carroll and Grand Bahama Port Authority (GBPA) City of Freeport Manager Troy McIntosh.

Appreciative of an invitation being extended to West Grand Bahama and Bimini MP Pakesia Parker-Edgecombe and the Local Government Council by MP

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## U.S. EMBASSY OBSERVES USA 241ST ANNIVERSARY OF INDEPENDENCE



The U.S. Embassy hosted a celebration in observance of the 241st Anniversary of the United States of America in festivities at the U.S. Ambassador's Residence at Liberty Overlook on Friday, June 30, 2017. Pictured at the celebration during the ceremonial cake-cutting are Governor General Her Excellency Dame Marguerite Pindling (centre right), assisted by Commander, United States Northern Command (USNORTHCOM) and North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD), General Lori J. Robinson (centre left). Also pictured are Prime Minister Dr. Hubert Minnis and Patricia Minnis (at right); U.S. Chargé d'Affaires Lisa Johnson (fifth right); Minister of Foreign Affairs Darren Henfield and Mrs. Henfield (at left) and Major General (Ret.) David A. Robinson (sixth right).

(BIS PHOTO: DEREK SMITH)

## DPM ADDRESSES GOVERNMENT CONTRACT WORKERS' ISSUE

**ANDREW COAKLEY**  
Bahamas Information Services

Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Finance and Member of Parliament for East Grand Bahama, K. Peter Turnquest told

residents in East Grand Bahama that as it relates to Government jobs and contract workers, it is

Addressing residents during a special pre-Independence church service at the Latter Day Out-

issue of government contract workers and what he said, "what some consider to be an over-

citizens," explained Turnquest. "With that being said, we are all aware - from the revelations inside and outside of Parliament - that our financial situation in the country has been strained, with over 6,000 persons added to the government's payroll over the past five years, coupled with excessive spending.

"To put this in context, you must understand that this hiring, much of which is temporary contract work, was in fact a typical election ploy, done merely to try and influence the electorate. These short term contracts were never intended to be long-term jobs," Turnquest maintained.

"Given the state of our finances then, it is only reasonable to assume that some adjustments will

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“ Given the state of our finances then, it is only reasonable to assume that some adjustments will have to be made. Failure to do so, not only would be imprudent fiscally on the part of the government, but would be a breach of our fiduciary responsibility to all citizens of the country ... ”

~ Deputy Prime Minister K. Peter Turnquest, MP  
Minister of Finance

not government's wish to terminate any of its workers from its employ.

reach Ministry in McLean's Town on Sunday, July 2, 2017. Minister Turnquest spoke to the

crowded public service. "It is the government's wish to provide opportunity for all of its

## EDITORIAL

### Government's focus on Lucayan Strip



HON. K. PETER TURNQUEST



HON. KWASI THOMPSON



PM HUBERT MINNIS

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