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# Dr. Brown "Swings With No Holds Barred at BIU Banquet



Well, Hello There!

My, it's been a long, long time! How'm I doing? Oh, I guess that I'm doing fine.

It's been so long now, but it seems like it was only yesterday. Ain't it funny how time slips right on away?

The most important question, as I channel Al Green, is "How's your new love?"

But, I'll get back to that. On a very serious note:

Thanks, Laverne, my Defenderin-Chief, for that wonderful introduction.

I want to especially thank the Bermuda Industrial Union – the President, Chris Furbert, the General Council, and the membership – for this distinct honour. As we all know, one can go all over world and speak and attempt to spout wisdom. But, there's nothing like coming home to talk to your sisters, your brothers, your friends and your family.

So, that is the context in which I wish to address you this evening – it is as your family. We are family! Remember that!

What does that mean? That means that as a family member, I have the privilege – indeed, the responsibility – of being able to tell you where I think you are right, and where I think you are wrong. It means that I can be frank and tell you the truth as I see it and as you need

to hear it. It means that I will pull no punches and I will swing with no holds barred as I share with you the indisputable truth. It means that a few of you – as a matter of fact – many of you, might not like what I have to say. But, I am not going to let that bother me – I am older than some of you, I can probably run faster than others of you, and I know how to make a quick exit.

You may or may not recall a meeting years ago when I was running for the leadership of The Bermuda Progressive Labour Party. I was speaking, and banged on the podium for emphasis while proclaiming, "If you do not want change, do not vote for me". I thought about that tonight, because I have a similar warning for you: "If you do not want to hear the truth as I see it, you may want to leave now."

Much later, in 2010, when I held true to the words I uttered to my nuclear family and to you – that I would not seek but one term as the Leader of the PLP – I also declared that I was retiring from active politics and that I was going to be watching from the pavilion. Well, I have been watching.

I have been truly pleased to see continued on page 4

# Brother Lalami Returns to Bermuda



Caption: Brother Lalami, Sister Molly and Brother Chris during his visit to the BIU.

Back in Bermuda for the 50th reunion of former Princess Hotel staff, Brother Lalami Merrouni stopped by BIU Headquarters on Wednesday, September 24, 2014 to say hello to Brother Derrick Burgess and Sister Molly Burgess. Brother Lalami left Bermuda in 2002 and did not realize that Brother Derrick, former BIU President, had retired as President in 2006. However, Brother Lalami was happy to meet current President, Brother Chris Furbert.

"I first came to Bermuda in 1968 to work at Sherwood Manor," Brother Lalami, who was born and raised in Morocco, explained to the Workers Voice. "I had trained in a hotel school in Morocco and my first job in the industry was in the U.K."

Brother Lalami said that after a few years at the Sherwood Manor, he then worked at the Hamilton Princess Hotel and then moved on to Holiday Inn in St. George, where he first met Brother Derrick. While at Holiday Inn, the hotel changed hands and Loews took over, then Club Med. Brother Lalami moved on to the Margaret Rose Restaurant after Club Med took the hotel. He then moved to Hamilton Princess and then the Southampton Princess and stayed there until he retired in 2002.

"I joined the BIU when I worked at Loews, but there were some issues with management tell me that I could not be BIU member, but as long as I worked in Bermuda after that, I remained a Union member," explained Brother Lalami.

Brother Lalami said that his two sons were born in Bermuda and one still resides here, while the other one lives in the U.K. He said his wife did not make the trip with him as she was back in the U.K. taking care of their grandchildren.

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#### P U Z Z L E · S O L U T I O N **AUTUMN** This is the solution to the puzzle located here (LONGERNIGHTS)NAA)U UHALLOWEE SEVAELWOT WECHESTNU ACORN SEPTEMBER EOUINOX NOVEMBER FARMING BIRD MIGRATION ORANGE LEAVES SOLIASH SQUASH SWEET POTATOES THANKSGIVING TURKEY WINDY YELLOW LEAVES PIE PUMPKIN RAKE RED LEAVES SCARECROW SCHOOL SEASON BLUSTERY DAY HALLOWEEN HARVEST HAYSTACK HICKORY NUTS LONGER NIGHTS CHESTNUTS The hidden sentence is: AUTUMN IS A SECOND SPRING WHEN EVERY LEAF IS A FLOWER

# Was "Lili" Worthy of the Dollars Spent?

In my opinion Bermudians should be up in arms about the recent trip to New York by Premier Michael Dunkley, Ministers Grant Gibbons and Shawn Crockwell and Senator Jeff Baron. Added to that list of attendees were Bill Hanbury, CEO of the Bermuda Tourism Authority (BTA) and recent BTA hire, Glenn Jones, and, I understand from a report in the Royal Gazette, a Government spokeswoman. That adds up to at least seven airline tickets paid for by the Bermudian taxpayers to launch a perfume, although the Premier is trying to make us believe that he was in New York to "conduct business meetings with the aim of promoting Bermuda, bringing new business to Bermuda and creating jobs for Bermudians".



According to Premier Dunkley on Facebook, he was "invited to New York to participate in the "Lili" launch and to speak". "While accepting the invite I took the opportunity to conduct business meetings yesterday with the aim of promoting Bermuda ....". If that is in fact the case, several questions come to mind. First and foremost, would "Lili" have invited the Premier of the country to a launch between 1998 and 2012? Secondly, did "Lili" pay for the Premier's trip, which would include his hotel accommodations?

Thirdly, how was the Premier able to coordinate his calendar with two other ministers and the CEO of the BTA?

Shadow Minister of Tourism, Zane DeSilva was right when he stated "The public has a right to know why it was necessary for Premier Dunkley, Ministers Grant Gibbons and Shawn Crockwell, and Senator Jeff Baron to participate in this New York junket and how much Bermudians paid for it. In light of Minister Bob Richards' recent comments dismissing the needs of Bermuda's seniors, and Minister Wayne Scott dismissing the concerns and needs of the Centre Against Abuse, the OBA must explain how they continue to be make funds available consistently for these types of excursions."

I also agree with the Shadow Minister's comment that the Premier's refusal to disclose whether taxpayers footed the bill and at what cost while also refusing to disclose who he met with is reminiscent of his disgraced predecessor. This is the same lack of openness, transparency and accountability that led to former Premier Cannonier's resignation and caused immeasurable harm to Bermuda's reputation.

According to the report of the visit in the daily, subjects discussed during the visit included "new on-Island hotel and restaurant developments, Bermuda arts and culture, the BTA formation, Cup Match, international business, casino gaming "experiential tourism". I did have to go to the Internet to find out the meaning of "experiential tourism" as this was a new term to me. I find out that



"Experiential tourism has become the current term that encompasses a variety of tourism and traveler categories, including the following: cultural tourism, ecotourism, educational travel, experimental tourism, heritage tourism and nature tourism, where activities are environmentally sensitive, displaying respect for the culture of the host area and looking to experience and learn rather that merely stand back and gaze. Experiential tourism involves active participation, involvement, even immersion." So, was it worth the dollars that were spent by the cadre of OBA officials to discuss "experiential tourism"?

The fact of the matter is that while in opposition, the now Premier, Michael Dunkley, continuously berated, chastised and criticized the PLP government for spending taxpayers' dollars on what he considered unnecessary travel. Yet he is today asking the taxpayers to understand that travel is necessary saying he will "work to promote Bermuda at all times and so in a prudent, productive and fiscally responsive manner". As if the PLP government did not "work to promote Bermuda at all times and so in a prudent, productive and fiscally responsive manner".

and admire the hard work, vision and tenacity of the leader of the Bermuda Industrial Union, Chris Furbert. He has led you well through some very challenging times. Leading a union during prosperous times is difficult enough, because everyone wants to be more prosperous. But, leading a through times when union unemployment is high and pressure is on not to seek wage increases - indeed to take pay cuts – is as hard as it gets.

It is thus inspiring to see the continued strength of the BIU and trade union movement in Bermuda. The membership remains vibrant. In a time when words like "privatization" and "mutualization" are finding their way into our national discourse, unions must be vigilant and prepared for the next wave of challenges to the cohesion of the labour movement. One thing is certain - the attacks remain the same and the playbook about how to destabilize our causes is unchanged. The BIU of today remains a target of those who seek to undermine the strength of the organization and its commitment to fair working conditions for its members. And, oh, by the way, if the BIU decides to raise its membership dues, that's the BIU's business - and no one else's. Since when do the media in this country care about Union dues? Brother Chris, I salute you this evening because I do not foresee your job getting easier any time soon.

Many times from my perch in the pavilion, I have been beaming with pride because I have been watching our young people in the PLP – like our smart, fearless leader, Marc Bean - step up to take the helm passed on by Leader Freddie Wade, Dame Lois, and Former Premiers Dame Jennifer, Alex and Paula. Often, I have been brimming with hope for our Island nation as I have seen the new alliance of the BIU, the BPSU and the voiceless that has come together as the People's Campaign under leadership of Reverend Nicholas Tweed.

Quite often, though, I have been saddened and at the point of tears most memorably, on December 17, 2012, when the Bermuda Progressive Labour Party lost the election to the United Bermuda Party. That was not a slip of the tongue. The PLP lost to the UBP. You remember the William Shakespeare quote:

"What's in a name? That which we call a rose

By any other name would smell as sweet."

...and I would add, just as foul. Basically, that quote says that what matters is what something IS, not what it is called. Well, the UBP by any other name is still the UBP.

So, from the pavilion, I was left to ask myself: "How in the world did that happen?" After working so hard for so long, how did we let the UBP back into power?

I will tell you why and how. As the late Malcolm X was portrayed as saying in the movie about his life: "We were had, we were took, we were hoodwinked, bamboozled, led astray, run amok."

We were had by our enemies and

by our lack of faith in our friends. There are a couple of serious quotes from Brother Malcolm that probably tell the story: "The media's the most powerful entity on earth. They have the power to make the innocent guilty and to make the guilty innocent, and that's power - Because they control the minds of the masses." He also said, "If you're not careful, the newspapers will have you hating the people who are being oppressed, and loving the people who are doing the oppressing."

And, that's in great part what happened. The PLP was painted as this spendthrift party who got the country in debt and stole all of its money - the Party that didn't know how to govern and didn't know how to rule. We were painted as the party who gave our friends and family the business. Do you even know who's getting the business now?

No, you do not know, because you are not being told. You are not being fed hogwash everyday about the sitting government or its ministers. The companies that get business are not being torn to shreds or castigated and investigated by a rabid press that tarnishes their images for years to come. This current OBA government is doing everything it wants to do, and there is not a word about what is going on in the press.

Do you hear the silence?

When was the last time you saw an article about how much someone spent on a trip? When was the last time that you saw an article that told you how much the Premier's hotel

# Scotland and the Question of National Independence



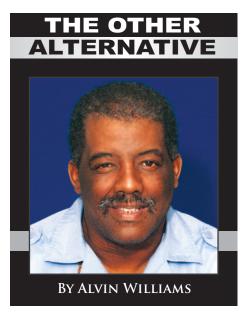
The recent referendum as to whether Scotland should become independent country has been touted as an example of a peaceful option to decide an important national issue, and in many aspects this was true. But unlike other examples where a people decide the future of their country, Scotland was unique. To begin with, Scotland was a not a British colony and that makes it unique, even in the Bermuda context, which was the only other territory under British jurisdiction that rejected national independence in a referendum.

Scotland, in fact, had already existed as a self-governing territory in its own right as before Britain became known as the United Kingdom. The United Kingdom was made up of separate kingdoms and the Anglo Saxon element of those groupings emerged as the dominant group. This

group conquered what later would be known as England, along with Wales and Scotland, but not Ireland. Ireland resisted Engish rule right up until the Anglo/Irish war of 1919 – 1921 which ended in secession of Soutehrn Ireland which became known as the Irish Free State.

Although there were many wars between Scotland and England over who was going to rule Scotland, the most famous being the Battle of Bannockburn where a Scottish army defeated a British army forcing Britain to recognize Scottish independence in 1328. In 1707 the act of union created a single Britain which made up the United Kingdom.

But to understand why, with all of this history, Scotland would want to remain a part of Britain? The answer probably lies in the fact that as Britain set about creating its empire, Scotland



became a full partner in that quest. As Britain set about ruling its empire, it did so with Scottish soldiers, administrators, business people and the like. In fact the economic component between British and Scottish interests are hand in glove, that's why it was easy for them to come together and threaten the Scottish people that if they voted for independence, there would be dire consequences. That was a major factor in the "no" vote against independence, a threat used in Bermuda's attempt to go towards independence.

But a lot of promises were made if Scotland's choice to remain with the union, promises which it appears have already been walked away from by the British. Whether that proves to be a factor in future English/Scottish relations remains to be seen as the question of Scottish self-determination made yet emerge as the dream of a people's self-determination never dies, but merely becomes dormant until once again the ground becomes fertile for its growth.

room cost? Imagine with me for a moment.

Imagine that it was I, when I was Premier, who flew to Washington in a private jet with a couple of my ministers, and that my host who paid for everything was someone who had every intention of owning a casino in Bermuda. Do you think that you would know all about this if it had not been for the brilliant, brave reporting of Ayo Johnson? Ayo deserves your support in his new venture. And we need and deserve reporting that will balance the daily newspaper. Thanks, Ayo.

So, now, back to Jetgate: If it were a PLP government involved, do you think that scandal would no longer be news? Where are the newspaper stories? Where is the investigative journalism?

Imagine that it was the PLP government who promised the people a referendum on gaming before the election. But, then, coincidentally, after meeting with this private jet host, decided and announced that there would be no referendum.

Do you hear the silence?

Imagine that it was the PLP government leaders admittedly meeting with someone about securing the right to build and own a casino in Bermuda, and as a direct result of that government meeting, the PLP or some affiliate of the PLP, received \$350,000. Do you think that scandal would no longer be news? What about the U.S. consultant who is thought to have

brokered the deal? Has anyone done any research on his company, his partner, his partner's past? This consultant is someone who was working for the OBA before and since the election, and who is said to have formed a company for the sole purpose of securing an \$80,000 Tourism contract for 8 weeks of work. Oops! Did I mention that the Minister of Tourism is thought to be a close friend? Did I mention that this consultant is said to have no experience in Tourism? Have you seen any news stories about this?

Do you hear the silence, people? Imagine that the PLP was still in power, and the Leader and the Deputy Leader of the Opposition stood up in Parliament, and declared that they were offered bribes by government leaders. And then those same Opposition leaders, without benefit of the protection of Parliament, repeated those allegations outside.

Where are the Police? Where is Whitehall? Where is the Governor? When a lying, thieving snake by the name of David Bolden stood up in Court on the day that his criminal trial for 18 theft and money laundering charges was going to the jury, they were visible. When this convicted liar said that he was afraid to go to a meeting because he thought he might run into me and I might try to bribe him, they were all visible. They said they were bringing in help from the U.S. to complete the investigation - presumably the FBI. Why doesn't anyone ask the FBI to

investigate Jetgate? There is a major U.S. component to Jetgate.

Do you hear the silence? Do you want to know why I ask these questions? I ask them because our PLP government would have been asked these and many more. I am unexpected reminded of an encounter with a former patient of mine in the airport a few months ago. She whispered to me that I should read the Bible story about Haman and Mordecai. I did just that. The story is told in the Book of Ruth that the King was told by Haman that Mordecai was undermining the King. The King ordered Mordecai to build a gallows so Mordecai could be But Queen Esther petitioned the King on Mordecai's behalf and explained to the King that in reality, it was Haman who was undermining the King. The King was enraged and ordered that Haman, not Mordecai, be hanged on the very same gallows that Haman had built for Mordecai. The moral of that story is God is always at work. The bad things that you plan for others, such as the towering gallows that were built for Mordecai, may be used to execute you. You may fall into the trap laid by your own hands and reap what you sowed.

As I understand it, I am still being investigated by the Police – over 3 years after this lie was told. There are many people who believe that the reason that they will always keep an open investigation on me is because they are afraid that I still might come back into politics. So, they keep their

# Going Out of Business

by E. McNeil Stovell

It has become more apparent these days that the more I walk around the City of Hamilton the more I see one business after the other going out of business. So far the number of storefronts that I see empty is about nine and there could be more elsewhere. Most of these businesses that I have seen lately have gone out of business since the OBA became the government Does that mean that there is a lack of confidence that the economy will get any better soon?

Most of those stores that I have noticed where at ground level, and vast amounts of office space that is not so visible to the naked eye which cannot be seen from ground level, have been empty for quite a long time as well. Yet, some new businesses have sprung up where others were occupying not too long ago, but the question is how long will they last before I walk by and see them gone as well. What I would like to know, is the closing down of businesses and the lay-off of local Bermudians as a part of a bigger picture or plan that we the people are not aware of.

It was also promised to us by the OBA that they would grow up to two thousand or three thousand new jobs within two or three years, but what has happened since then? We saw up to 1,200 jobs lost and still climbing and up to over 200 businesses go out of business, and here we are going into the second term of the OBA government with more businesses closing with even more smaller businesses like VSB television.

It would appear also that no one seems to be able to stop what appears to be an ongoing and unstoppable economic crash that's taking place in slow motion, it would appear that the OBA doesn't have the magic that most thought that they had. Have they now gone bus and run out of air?

The worst part of what's going on in Bermuda, is that it's the Bermudians, and it's mostly African-Bermudians who are getting wiped out on the jobs market, while many of the PRC's who were promised status still have jobs and have fortified themselves in position with the help of the OBA Government and leaving Bermudians out in the cold. The PRCs seem to be more entitled and important to the OBA then the born Bermudians that voted for them. Oh, I forgot, the OBA is looking to strengthen their political support base at the polls.

Ever since they have been the Government, it seems that the only thing that the OBA could do is stand in the shadow of the PLP and make stupid excuses why they can't do anything. They have made promises that they knew that they were not going to keep, and as it has been proven since, all they have promised us were nothing but lies.

Bermuda is just too small not to believe what some people are capable of doing, and I don't put anything past the OBA. It has amazed me so far to see and hear some Bermudians just standing on the tracks watching and waiting for the train to come and run right over them. No doubt some are just so shell-shocked that they can't believe what they had voted for.

I may not have a university or college degree, but there is one thing I just refuse to do and that is to allow some stupid self-centered intellectual qualify my right to think. It has been clear to me for some time now just where Bermuda and Bermudians are being pushed. I don't think that I know it all, but there are time that I wonder just where have all those so-called bright intellectuals disappeared to at a time when we really need them most.

I believe that I have a strong understanding of Bermuda's historical and cultural politics and if you understand that history you would at least have a good idea where Bermuda is heading based on what's happening on the political scene right at this moment. I believe that the table is set just right for the games to begin as those social engineers and political technocrats of the OBA get to work behind the scenes to draw us into a lot of complicated psychology as they plan a new Bermuda without African-Bermudians. I truly believe that. And remember this, there will be no mercy shown at all to those who do nit into the new plan for when their new Bermuda begins to take shape.

continued on page 17

dirty playbook in play. No problem! The room is not sold out tonight because Government House bought the tickets.

There is still something wrong with this picture, though. And, I will tell you what it is. The PLP Government and its leaders have been, and still are, treated differently than the OBA Government – by the Governor, the Police, the British Commonwealth, and the Press. That is discrimination in its rankest form. It is inexcusable. We are 2nd class citizens in our own country. It is wrong.

By way of example, I need to spend a little more time on myself and perhaps share some things you don't know or haven't thought about. I can use my story as an example of how Brother Malcolm's idea of bamboozling works. You see, what happens is that you get distracted. People fool you with stories of what and how much I am stealing. And, while you are looking at me, they make off with everything. Some of you still believe that I have cedar beams in my house. Some of you still believe that I stole money from the Government .....that I took kickbacks from government contracts. Well, let me say for once and for all that ANY and ALL allegations, innuendo, gossip, tales, and stories about my taking anything from Government are absolute and total lies. There are at least 4 reasons you can believe this:

I am not a thief. My momma and daddy raised me better than that. I don't believe in stealing period and

I did not steal from Government. I believe in giving – giving to scholarships for children's education, to programs like Mirrors, to football teams to help youngsters develop their potential, to people who are in need, to my beloved Howard University, and in order to take good care of my family and friends. I give money that my wife and I earn through our hard work.

The second reason is that my momma and daddy didn't raise no fool. As Former Premier Alex Scott says, "I heard them when they drove up". With the truths I told and the way I governed, I knew these people were coming after me. First of all, you cannot hide anything. All of this talk you hear about taking money and hiding it offshore is pure hogwash. You can't hide anything in this electronic "Big Brother" age. I never attempted to steal anything and I never attempted to hide anything. I always knew that every receipt for everything I bought inside and outside of government would be examined. Whenever my wife and I traveled, let me be clear, my wife bought all of her airline tickets 100% of the time. My former colleagues will tell you that. But, I will tell you what else we did. If we stayed in a hotel and ordered room service, on the morning we checked out, my assistant would take 2 credit cards to the desk - one for Government and one for my wife. We would split the room service charges in half, and we would pay for those personally. Why would we do this when we were traveling on official business and my wife was working hard to represent Bermuda as the wife of its Premier?

We did it because we knew they were coming after us for any little thing – whether it was a justifiable expense or not. So, we always lived as if every receipt and every transaction would be examined. We have absolutely nothing to hide; we sleep well at night. We know that if they ever find anything, you can rest assured that it will be because they put it there.

Thirdly, these people know where we earn our money. They have access to everything. They have people in the banks and insurance companies who know the exact origin of our dollars. That is why there is an all-out assault on our clinics and our doctors. They want and intend to put me out of business. In the past several months, I have had to defend our before virtually regulatory agency in Bermuda. So, while they still keep this investigation open on me - presumably for something they are trying to find or manufacture I did while in public office, they are at the same time constantly chipping away at the real source of most of our revenues our business.

There is a 4th reason you should know about as to why I have never taken anything from Government. It is very simple. God has blessed me abundantly, and I am grateful. Now I have to share one more story on my wife. We were on Martha's Vineyard, where Wanda has been going for the

past 34 years, and where she bought her first home in 1990 - 24 years ago. We passed by one of her female Wall Street colleagues' homes which had recently been purchased – a fabulous property. My wife said to me that she envied this woman. That was strange, because Wanda does not believe in or practice envy, so I knew she was speaking tongue-in-cheek. When I asked why, she responded that her female colleague was a single mother who had a similar position on Wall Street and had sent 3 children through college and bought a fabulous house, without it having been implied that she stole anything. I recount that to illustrate that what my wife and I have is what our parents wanted for us, and what you want for your children when you sacrifice so much for them to do better. We have what many people like us have who have gone to school and worked for years to become a doctor and an investment banker who is also an attorney - some have more than us and some have less than us - but there is nothing untoward. If I was white, some might call me a "self-made" man. But, that's impossible because I am non-white. I must have stolen what I have.

Finally, and this is not a reason. This is an admonition. Think! Think for yourselves! If there was some evidence of my having stolen some money or taken some kickback, you and I would have seen it by now - it would have been plastered in the news, and I would be in jail already....although I might be

tomorrow – after this speech.

These people have gotten into your heads so much that my close friends and supporters will say things to me like "I don't care how much they say you steal, you are the best leader we had". Or, "you can steal all day long, you still won't catch up with the UBP and you are still a good You think those are leader". compliments? They're not. They are evidence of how much you have let these people work your mind.

That's how bamboozling works. You get so pre-occupied with what our mutual enemies say about me some of you believe them - that you join together against me. You believe all the lies they have printed about the PLP misappropriating funds and stealing \$800 million. You coalesce against the PLP. You do not vote for the PLP. You cannot bring yourself to vote for the OBA, so you stay at home. Voila! That is the answer to my question. You were hoodwinked! That is how the UBP got the government back. You don't have to tell me, but I know some of you in this very room voted for the OBA you drank their Kool-Aid. And some of you who did not vote for the OBA staved at home and didn't vote at all, which was in fact, a vote for the OBA. But, don't worry, there is still a chance you might get in heaven. You can redeem yourselves. Keep listening! And wake up!

Wake up! And see that our country is being taken away from working people - we don't matter to this OBA government. Do you understand the significance of this PRC issue? Do you understand what 1,500 additional voters and their children on the rolls will do to electoral politics in Bermuda? Do understand that "they" understand? ... That they know that if 1,500 PRC's are added to the rolls, there is a good chance the PLP will never regain power - at least not in our lifetimes.

Wake up! And see that the last opportunities for wealth creation are being given away before your very eyes - we don't matter to this OBA government. Reflect on how many hotel deals have been, and are being inked, with deal terms that make extraordinarily attractive. Whose friends and family do you think are getting those?

Wake up! And see that the jobs to be had are not being given to us. I heard that our former Premier Paula was on the radio saying that she cannot find a job in Bermuda - a former Premier, a lawyer who worked in the captive insurance business, a former Attorney General... cannot find a job in Bermuda? What about Morgan's Point? Paula knows Morgan's Point up, down and around; she signed the deal that conveyed the property to Brian, Alan and Nelson. She worked at Ace with Brian for years. There is no job for her at Morgan's Point?

Bank of Butterfield, where are you? Former Premier Paula knows you intricately as well. She studied your balance sheets, championed your cause when you were failing, and

ensured the \$200 million loan guaranty for you. Now, hold on! I am not talking about quid pro quo – as in because she did for them, they should do for her. I am talking about one of our smart, talented attorneys who is one of the most experienced people around and she cannot find a job, even though I just named at least 3 entities where we all know she has special knowledge. There is something wrong with this picture, people.

Wake up! And see that casinos are coming to Bermuda, and the rights to operate them are said to have already been promised. Why can't the people of Bermuda be involved in these deals? Why can't a new corporation be formed that allows all Bermudians to invest in gaming - with sums as little as \$100 or as large as \$1 million? Why can't licenses be granted to the Bermuda Citizens' Gaming Corporation, and casino operators be made to deal with Bermuda's citizens the same way they have learned to deal with Native Americans in casino deals all over the United States?

Wake up! And see that your looking at me cross-eyed and my looking at you evil-eyed do not matter in the scheme of things. Our country is at stake. We need to unite, people. And, that gets me back to one of my views from the pavilion. I saw that there was a letter which stated that people should "stay in their own lanes" – I guess that meant that preachers should preach, labour unions should organize and move around labor issues, and that politics should be left to the politicians. I

know it was a well-meaning and well-intended letter. But, I have to speak on it because I promised you the truth. And the truth is this:

If Madiba, The Honorable Nelson Mandela, had stayed in his lane as a lawyer or a prisoner, he might not have become the greatest revolutionary of all time; he might not have gone on to become the first duly elected President of South Africa and winner of the Nobel Peace Prize, inspiring peoples of all nations, creeds and colors to peacefully fight for freedom and justice.

If Brother Malcolm X had stayed in his lane as a burglar and a pimp, he might not have changed the lives of countless young Black men who found hope and self-esteem as a result of his teachings; he might not have lived just long enough to become one of the most influential African-Americans of all time.

If the Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan had stayed in his lane as a violinist and calypso singer, we might have never seen the everlasting beauty of the Million Man March on Washington where Black men from all over the world re-committed to their families and their communities.

If our own Dr. E.F. Gordon had stayed in his lane as a doctor, where would we be today? If our AME church leaders, who have played a pivotal role in the advancement of Black Bermudians by their work outside the pulpit, had stayed in their lanes, we would not remember the names Foster. Tobitt and Monk.

We don't need to focus on our

lanes. We need to focus on our destination and forge every union we can. I call it the concept of "functional unity". Functional unity is at play when we come together around a common goal, and we unite and take all the steps necessary in order to reach it. I will give you a present day example, which will also illustrate what we are up against politically.

The UBP so wanted power that they disbanded, and reformed rebranded themselves as the OBA. They understood that it would be difficult, if not impossible to win an election in Bermuda with a white leader, so what did they do? They found Black ones. I say that because it is true. I say that with all admiration and respect for the two Black former leaders of the UBP who have crossed over and joined the PLP - Wayne Furbert, and most recently, Kim Swan. These are brave men, who knew what was happening in our country, and who could no longer abide standing with those who are making mincemeat of everyday Bermudians. Also in their ranks are Darius Tucker, Jamahl Simmons and Gynneth Rawlins. I salute and commend you all.

Now, let me get back to my illustration of functional unity.

The OBA saw Craig Cannonier as someone who they believed was electable in Bermuda, but they did not have a platform for him. So, John Barritt resigned his safe OBA parliamentary seat in order for Craig to run for it and win it. That, my

friends, is what is meant by functional unity. John Barritt did not love Craig Cannonier. What's love got to do with it? The members of the OBA did not love Craig Cannonier; you can tell that by the way they treated him when they no longer had use for him. Craig had probably not been a member for as long as others who thought they should have their turn. But he stepped ahead of many, nonetheless, including our current Premier, The Honourable Michael Dunkley. These OBA members, in their mischievous wisdom, admirable ambition, and undistracted willpower, saw Craig as the leader that they needed to win back the government. And that's what they did on December 17, 2012.

Now, the question we need to ask ourselves as Bermudians who are concerned about Bermudians, is what do we need to do in order to win back the government, because nothing else will stop the bleeding. Do we have the grit and the selflessness of a John Barritt? Do we have the patience of Premier Dunkley? Do we have the grit of the OBA? Can we exercise that type of functional unity? I say we can and we must.

We must return the government to the PLP. I will say this again in another way. I am calling for an organized effort to take back the government – starting right now! Right here! We cannot afford to wait 3 more years for an election. There will be nothing left for our people. We must unite; we must re-connect with ourselves; we must be prideless; we must be driven; we must have singular focus.

Terry and Randy, we need you to come home and be on the right side of history. In the words of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., "the time is always right to do the right thing."

PLP defectors to the OBA, we need you to listen to that prickly conscience that must bother you more and more each day as you see how this OBA Government has deceived you. Dr. King would say: "Never, never be afraid to do what's right.... Society's punishments are small compared to the wounds we inflict on our soul when we look the other way."

To OBA parliamentarians who care about everyday Bermudians and see what is happening, Dr. King might advise: "Conscience asks the question, is it right? For there comes a time when one must take the position that is neither safe nor politic nor popular, but he must do it because conscience tells him it is right."

And, PLP, we need you to open your arms and accept whoever comes

home. For the Bible says: Put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience – bearing with one another, and forgiving each other, whoever has a complaint against anyone; just as the Lord forgave you, so also should you forgive".

I am not asking you to love each other. I am asking you to work together toward a common goal – the return of Bermuda to Bermudians. Let's do something about a Black unemployment rate that is FOUR TIMES the White unemployment rate!

I will end with a quote from the famous Helen Keller, a great champion of labour rights: "The world is moved not only by the mighty shoves of the heroes, but also by the aggregate of the tiny pushes of each honest worker. Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much."

PLP, BIU, BPSU, People's Campaign, Churches, Mosques, Workmens' Clubs, football clubs, cricket clubs, women, men, boys and girls, Wake Up! Bermuda will not get better if we just let it be. We must work together toward change – you and me!

Thank you for this awesome privilege. Good night! ■



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# **Labour Day Celebrations**











# Labour Day Message - Bermuda Industrial Union President

I must begin my Labour Day Message by saying that the Bermuda Industrial Union (BIU) family is honored to have as our guest speaker this year, the Hon. Dr. Ewart Brown, JP former Premier of Bermuda, who also held the position of Minister of Tourism and Transport. When Dr. Brown held the different positions in Government we did not always agree, but we were able to find a reasonable resolution on most occasions.

Dr. Brown was very concerned about the BIU holding meetings during working hours, especially the Bus Operators and Allied Workers and the Marine & Ports Divisions, who from time to time met to discuss proposals that were given by the Government negotiating team. While the meetings were taking place for two hours or so there would be no public transportation, so he asked me if we could come to some kind of agreement and I said we could try. We had a number of conversations about creating a partial service while the meetings were taking place.

Over the last 5 years, from 2009 to 2013, we have seen the Bermuda workforce decrease from 40,213 jobs in 2008 to 34,277 in 2013, a loss of 5,936 jobs. As I said in my Labour Day message in 2013, we as a country must do something to stabilize the decline in jobs. We must look for new capital investment but at same time we must ensure that we are providing the protection for Bermudians to be gainfully employed in their



own country.

The Bermuda Industrial Union is very concerned that there are still so many Bermudians still out of work. There are Employers who are taking advantage of the current economic situation by making redundant and then hiring them back and offering them a lower rate of pay, reduced benefits, etc. This has to stop!

We in the Bermuda Industrial Union continue to work with our social partners on behalf of our members but it has not been easy. We continue to have some very serious concerns regarding some Employers who are obviously getting bad advice from time to time that will cause industrial unrest if not corrected. The Union has been told that there are investors looking to come to Bermuda but they are concerned about the wildcat strikes.

The Government and Employers need to understand that there should one set of rules that applies to ALL not just the Trades Unions. The Unions have complained to several Government Ministers over the years under the UBP, PLP and now the OBA that there appears to be a set of rules for the Unions, but there are no rules for the Employers. This has to change for the process of industrial relations to work.

In closing I would like to encourage The Government (OBA), Opposition (PLP), Employers and the Trade Unions to ALL come together in the interest of Bermuda so we can get our country back on the path to success. This will not be easy but if we ALL commit to having positive dialogue in the interest of improving our relationships, it can and will happen. Every journey begins with the first step. We need the collective will of ALL to make this happen on behalf of OUR COUNTRY.

"Today in America, unions have a secure place in our industrial life. Only a handful of reactionaries harbor the ugly thought of breaking unions and depriving working men and women of the right to join the union of their choice. I have no use for those - regardless of their political party - - who hold some vain and foolish dream of spinning the clock back to days when organized labor was huddled, almost as a hapless mass. Only a fool would try to deprive working men and working women of their right to join the union of their choice".

President Dwight D. Eisenhower



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Package #2: Welcome Cocktails & Dinner (Wed. 8th Oct 6.00pm) + Daily Buffet Breakfast (8 -10 am Thurs-Sat) + Daily Workshops (10 am -12:00 pm Thurs -Sat) - \$300.00

Package #3: Welcome Dinner (Wed. 8th Oct. 6.00pm) + Daily Buffet Breakfast (8—10 am Thurs-Sat) + Daily Workshops (10 am -12:00 pm Thurs -Sat) + Dinner Thursday and Dinner Friday - \$350.00

Package #4: Welcome Cocktails & Dinner (Wed. 8th Oct, 6.00pm) + Saturday Buffet Breakfast (8.00 -10.00am) + Sat Workshop (10.00am -12.00pm) - \$125

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Ask about other combinations!

Email Maxine@adht.bm to register and for further information.

#### Workshops

Thurs Oct. 9th

"Pieces of Me: Identifying and Connecting the Pieces of Who You Are" Panelists: Kim E, founder Girlfriend Connect; Dr. Jolene Bean, History Professor, Bermuda College; Moderator - Maxine Esdaille, Chair ADHT

Fri. Oct 10th

"Evaluating Your Ship: The Map for Reaching Your Destination and a **Balanced Journey**"

Panelists: Dr. Beverly Richards, Stress Management Specialist; Lydia Henry, Vision Coach; Patrice Frith-Hayward, Executive Director, Women's Resource Centre

Sat. Oct. 11th

"Economic Development, Empowerment and Leadership for Women of African Descent"

Panelists: Florence Hart-Torson, Sen. Financial Analyst, Merrill Lynch; Paula Cox, Fmr. Min. of Finance & Premier; Renee Ming, AVP Corporate Banking -Butterfield Bank, Senator; Sancha Durham, Owner of Nailbar











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### Going Out of Business

continued from page 7

What is now being put out of business is the African-Bermudian workforce which has been seen over the years as being obsolete. You see the dominoes have all been set to fall and when the stop falling, the Bermuda we once knew would have gone out of business for good and a new Bermuda with a diminished African-Bermudian population or without any at all will be born. Trust me, there is a psychological plan to get African-Bermudians to buy into without their knowledge. No one is going to set up any podium to stand on to explain anything to you, because it is designed for people to get the message without being told what to do. That's the psychology of it all. If we don't wake up and smell the coffee, it won't be just the watering down of political power that the African-Bermudian will face but we may also find ourselves adrift on an ocean or on a desert somewhere as nomads without a country. Well, those who supported the OBA and now blinded by their over-blown lies – was that what they voted for? ■

# IUF Caribbean Region Workshop on Hotel Chains and Kentucky Fried Chicken

Sis. Ronnie Burgess, Organizer, Hotels, Nightclubs and Restaurants, and Bro. Kim Tucker, Vice President, Hotels, Nightclubs and Restaurants Division, have just returned from a workshop and committee meeting of the Caribbean Region of the International Union of Food, Hotel, Restaurant, Agricultural, Catering, Tobacco & Workers (IUF) in, Castries, St. Lucia.

Bro. Kim was a participant in the workshop that took place September 16th 2014 and September 17th 2014; with representatives from various trade unions throughout the Caribbean and Bermuda. The topic of discussion for the two day workshop was organizing hotel chains such as the Sandals Resorts and



Kentucky Fried Chicken fast food chain.

Sis. Ronnie attended the two day workshop as well as the IUF

Caribbean Region Executive Committee meeting in her capacity as 2nd Vice President for the Caribbean Region which took place on September 18th 2014. ■

# Bethel A.M.E. Presents Brother Chris Furbert with an Apreciation Award



Rev. Ruth VanLowe-Smith, Pastor of Bethel A.M.E. Church, presented Brother Chris Furbert, BIU President with an "Appreciation Award" on Sunday, August 31, 2014 at the church's Sunday morning service. The plaque was presented "in appreciation of the Union's continued support to the Radio Ministry of Bethel A.M.E. Church". The BIU Executive and other members worshiped at Bethel during the Labour Day weekend.

### EAP CLIPS: SEPTEMBER 2014 STEPS FOR CUTTING OFF YOUR ADULT CHILDREN

#### HERE'S HOW TO WEAN THEM FINANCIALLY WHILE CONTINUING TO GIVE THEM LOVE AND SUPPORT.

If you're the parents of young adults, you may be wondering if they are ever going to make it on their own. It's small comfort but, if you're helping support grown children, you're in good company. Nearly 60% of American parents were financially supporting adult children, the National Foundation for Financial Education and Forbes reported in 2011. That included help with housing, insurance costs, spending money, living expenses transportation and medical bills.

#### HOW TO CUT YOUR CHILDREN OFF

Tired of bankrolling your adult children? Maybe it's time to cut that cord. More than half of the baby boomers responding to a 2012 survey reported that they'd let their adult children live with them rent-free. Many children are overstaying their welcome.

How do you cut them off and launch them into independent lifestyles? The recession may be mostly behind us but young adult workers are still struggling to stand on their own feet financially. The recession dealt them a tough blow, but it's not the only reason that 20-somethings, 30-somethings and even 40-somethings are wobbling on takeoff says "Failure to Launch: Structural Shift and the New Lost Generation" a report by the Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce.

Younger adult's difficulty finding steady work and accumulating savings is also the result of longer-term economic trends. More jobs today require advanced skills. Fewer high-paying jobs are available for workers who have only a high school diploma. Student loan debt is holding back younger workers too.

#### SUPPORTIVE EMANCIPATION

If you're a parent of one of these late-bloomers, you know the trends firsthand. You may have taken on debt or delayed your retirement to help your children. Your questions are likely to be practical ones:

- Does supporting grown children really help them?
- How do you wean them from the bank of mom and dad?

It is important to consider whether your support is really good for the children. By helping them financially you may be subtly signaling that you don't trust them to be capable of caring for themselves. Also helping your children may endanger your own financial stability. A spokesperson for the National Foundation for Credit Counseling says: "This is of course an additional financial burden on the parents, and one they had not likely planned for. What was intended to be a temporary situation often turns into a permanent one, potentially burdening the finances and the relationship."

Here are five steps to help break your financial ties with your children.

#### SET BOUNDARIES GENTLY BUT FIRMLY

When you do decide to cut off financial support from your adult children, cut the cord gradually. Begin with a conversation. Tell the kids how much you love them. Tell them that you believe in them, and mean it. Of course they have failed sometimes. Most of us need to try and try and try again until we figure out how to get it right. Pointing out their failures undermines their confidence. Their confidence is likely to be shaky enough already right now, even if they appear to be full of bravado. Try to focus on the times when they got it right, on ways they've proven their capacity to succeed. Tell them that you'll be there for them as you gradually shift more and more of the weight for their financial responsibilities to them. Ask them to help identify non-financial ways you can be supportive and then commit to the ones you can, in the place of money.

#### MAKE A PLAN TO END HELP WITH DATES

This is a big change and it could be tough on all of you. Tell the children what they can and can't expect from you. Make a road map for this journey, with milestones - goals and the date of achieving them. If possible, include your children in setting these goals and in discussing how to reach them. Involving them respects and supports their independence. It also may give you important information about what's realistic for them to achieve and when. Of course not all children will be able to respect their parents;' need to pull back.

Log-on for additional information



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# **Autumn**

Find and circle all of the Autumn words that are hidden in the grid. The remaining letters spell a secret message - an Albert Camus auotation.



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**SEPTEMBER** SHORTER DAYS SOUASH **SWEET POTATOES** THANKSGIVING TURKEY WINDY YELLOW LEAVES

SOLUTIONS ON PAGE