

LOCAL NEWS

Turnquest urge Bahamians not to lose focus

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Speaking exclusively with *this daily* at the Annual Coconut Festival celebration held in Pelican Point on East Monday, Deputy Leader of the Free National Movement (FNM) K. Peter Turnquest, Member of Parliament for East Grand Bahama not only shared what can be expected from his party over the next month and beyond, but he also urged Bahamians not to lose focus as the country prepares for the 2017 General Election.

"As you know we are getting into the height of the election season, we have basically three weeks to go. The party is ramping up its activities; you will soon see all of the sign and the posters.

"One of the things that I want to say to the residents is, not to lose focus; this election is not all about the hype, this is about substance.

Turnquest encouraged all registered voters to make a conscious decision, which is their democratic right.

"You must listen and evaluate what is being offered; look at the past five

years and make a decision. Are you happy with what you have; if you are not happy with what you have then you have to make a change.

"If you decide to make a change, then there are two choices that you have to make; out of those two choices you have to decide who you think is going to be able to form the next government of The Bahamas. A vote for the other one is a waste of time and you may end up with exactly what you have. At the end of the day you have two choices, do you like what you have or do you want a change?" questioned Turnquest.

Noting that the FNM is focused, Turnquest said, "We are looking at and being very cautious about how we spend money, and how we appear to the public; because we know that people are hurting. It would be a slap in the face, quite frankly, for the party to be out spending a "heap" of money, while people still have tarps on their roofs, mortgages are in arrears and people are losing their homes.

"People are hungry and all of the rest of it and so, we have made some deliberate decisions about how far we want to go with this campaign. But we will get our message out and we will be

talking with people over the next couple of weeks, putting out our plan for Grand Bahama and for The Bahamas."

He called on the present government to be truthful with issues that affect Bahamians regarding the economy, among other relevant plans and negotiations.

"Grand Bahama over the last five years, as you know, has suffered greatly; the hurricane was sort of the icing on the cake, which took us right over the edge. Contrary to what has been announced in the last week or so about a sale of resort property, I am understanding that that may not have happened.

"We call upon the government to be truthful with the Bahamian people, particularly in this time; this is no time for empty promises. We call upon the government at this time, to show proof that there was a Letter of Intent (LOI) and tell us what was the result of that meeting that they had supposedly travelled for in Canada.

"The Bahamian people are in too vulnerable a state to be toying with emotions at this point. We need real solutions for real problems," concluded Turnquest.



K. PETER TURNQUEST, MP
Deputy Leader, FNM

ARE WE WITNESSING THE DEATH OF AMBITION?

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down every school, stop telling our children to aim high, and make poverty and failure our national past time. Frankly, sometimes I think that is what we are doing now, and may be the reason we are achieving so much of it.

Ambition is no shame. Achievement is no vice. Wild

success is no failing. Ambition, achievement and success should be honored and promoted, in all areas of life, including wealth building and business. The Bahamian who nobly pursues an idea and does the fine work of turning it into a wildly successful business should be honored. If they happen to have a passion for politics or religion, or something else and excels at that,

then wonderful, so long as they do good for the society. If they continue to pursue wealth and business in order to continue to wildly succeed, then good for them. The master rewards the servant who grows his talents the most, rather than the one who, in false humility and fear, buries it in the ground, and grows it little. In fact, he takes from the latter and gives to the

former. Ambition is no shame. Achievement is no vice.

Only a small mind scoffs at ambition. Only a jealous soul mocks achievement. Only a wicked heart does not want others to be wildly successful at their craft the way it is successful at its craft. If you are a

Bahamian desirous of becoming outrageously successful, good for you. If you are achieving awesome success, good for you. If you want to own and buy up as many businesses as you can and lead them to unbelievable success, good for you. You are the type citizen we need, and I

pray that you and more like you flourish.

• Zhivargo Laing is a Bahamian economic consultant and former Cabinet minister who represented the Marco City constituency in the House of Assembly.

**TURNQUEST SAYS
RINGING OF BELL SOUNDS
A NEW DAY FOR THE PEOPLE**

Iram Lewis, Michael Pintard, K. Peter Turnquest, Fredrick McAlpine, Pakeasia Parker-Edgecombe

The announcement of the official General Election date in the Commonwealth of The Bahamas 2017 by this failed PLP Government sounds a new day for the people of Grand Bahama and the wider Bahamas. All around Grand Bahama Island, the pain, hurt, frustration and disappointment of our people is self-evident. Back in 2012, this PLP Government rose to power on pie in the sky promises. The people of Grand Bahama were swayed by the Right Honourable Perry Christie's sweet talk and campaign hype. A mere five years later, the PLP has performed miserably and Grand Bahama has the scars to show.

May 10, 2017, lends a wonderful opportunity for real change. I have the humbling, and great pleasure to serve as Deputy Leader of a party that once rescued our nation, back in 1992. Back then, corruption in government proved par for the course and our economy was on the brink of collapse. There was an air of uncertainty with regards to our country on the international stage and Bahamians were worried about the direction of their beloved Bahamas. Sadly, we return to this chaotic place by means of a repeated PLP performance. The FNM delivered then and we are set to do it again. Our party leader, Dr. Hubert Minnis and our Change Team on Grand Bahama, is focused and fit to steer our nation and Grand Bahama in a new and better direction.

On the night of May 10th, we will say goodbye and good riddance to fancy talk, speeches laced with nothingness and a Prime Minister tired, worn and fresh out of ideas to take us forward. Here on Grand Bahama, we are drowning with the same old, same old. Ministers (Obie) Wilchcombe and (Dr. Michael) Darville are detached from our daily struggles. They have come to believe their own misleading propaganda that things are better for the people of this island. They continue to believe that continued false promises of hotel openings and projects across the bar in the hopes of jobs will swing Grand Bahamians once again, but having suffered this long we are not so easily fooled in 2017.

Your Grand Bahama FNM 2017 Change Team of Pakeasia Parker-Edgecombe in West Grand Bahama and Bimini; Iram Lewis in Central Grand Bahama; Fredrick McAlpine in Pineridge; Michael Pintard in Marco City and K. Peter Turnquest, the incumbent in East Grand Bahama, are committed to reviving our economy. From East to West Grand Bahama and Freeport in between, we will address the burning issues and restore the dignity of our people. We will give you every inch of our caring, competent and courageous being to bring real change. We will encourage and invite foreign investments, but not at the demise of local Bahamian businesses or workers. We will not allow companies to play two different Government Ministers against each other. This newly elected FNM Government speaks with one voice for our people and our island. Those still agonized by Hurricane Matthew, will shortly be assisted by a new government with a compassionate and comprehensive plan. We have a talented team of loving Bahamians, who want only the best for the people of Grand Bahama and The Bahamas as a whole.

Now that the bell has rung, a desperate PLP slate will stop at nothing to retain power, including character assignment and fake news stories. We condemn them and trust that the Bahamian public will see them for who they are in this regard. They are big on campaigns, but small on getting things done as a government. Change is here, 'It is the people's time.' May 10th will prove our collective moment in time. This and future generations depend on our mission to get rid of this shameless PLP government. Grand Bahama deserves better.

**Vision & Plan of Action
For Marco City 2017-2022**

MICHAEL PINTARD
MARCO CITY

"WORKING HARD WITH PINTARD"
#thischangeisunstoppable

"It's the People's Time"

I Pledge To:

- HELP BUILD A CLEAN AND SAFE NEIGHBORHOOD FOR ALL
- PROMOTE AND SUPPORT THE FNM ANTI-CRIME PLAN
- PROMOTE AND TRANSFORM URBAN RENEWAL PROGRAM TO BENEFIT ALL MARCO CITY RESIDENTS
- IMPLEMENT A NEIGHBORHOOD CRIME WATCH
- CREATE CONFLICT RESOLUTION WORKSHOPS
- MAINTAIN ORGANIZED FILES ON CONSTITUENTS TO ENSURE ATTENTION IS GIVEN TO ALL MATTERS
- CONDUCT REGULAR TOWN MEETINGS TO ADDRESS THE ONGOING NEEDS OF THE MARCO CITY RESIDENTS