

# Good, Good is better than bad

Goodness is the law of God! There is no other way to 'peace and love' or national prosperity except through the footpaths of goodness. A couple days ago, I listened to Lord Cepeke Lake on ZJB radio playing the Basil Chambers song, Good, Good is better than bad. And remarkably, he explained goodness as being akin to caring and sharing, charitableness.

He asked Montserratians how much of their treasure would they give to charity. How much do we care, he lamented? And although he seemed to consider treasure as money only, I was deeply touched by his understanding of the word Goodness and his passion about caring and sharing.

Thank you Mr. Cepeke MBE! It was a lovely way to speak to Montserratians as we celebrated the New Year amidst the foolishness of our air and sea travel and 'Win Air and Fly Montserrat and Ferry Coordination'.

Certainly, being charitable is good; but it is just one aspect of goodness. Yet he is correct; charity is to share your treasures with others. Many of us have treasures within that are more valuable than money that we could share. For example many Montserratians have the gifts of the tongue and the pen.

And we can improve the quality of life on Montserrat if more of us embrace the concept of goodness, sharing our gifts speaking and writing and being charitable. You do not have to judge or condemn, but you can speak out or talk back. Share your feelings on the state of affairs in Montserrat and show an alternate footpath. You might experience great peace and comfort just by sharing your thoughts with others.

I am sure that every Montserratian feels the wrongness and the badness of our 'airline and flight and ferry and coordination' situation. There was not much good about getting into or out of Montserrat this 2010 Christmas season.

## by Man from Baker Hill

But who cares? But who will write about it? Who will stamp their feelings into a permanent record for historians to read? Who wants to be good, good and speak out?

I feel as if we are suffocating. We have been coordinated. In one short year we have paid great salary to eliminate our access. And now Montserrat is no longer a one-door island; we have become an island waiting for a window of calm seas to open. What went wrong, So many passengers, so few flights?

And what is bad, so very bad, is the increase in ticket cost. How much money did Tourism Challenge Fund give to Fly Montserrat? How much Money did Fly Montserrat receive from MDC? Did they receive more from the treasury too? **Oh dear! Fifteen minutes of flight time, fifteen days to confirm a flight, this is bad for Montserrat. Who brought this badness on Montserrat?**

Once upon a time we had LIAT and Montserrat Aviation Services, (MAS). Montserrat owned a plane; there was the famous TRI Lander airplane. We used to smoothly coordinate the access in or out of Montserrat too (with the help of LIAT).

How did we get from then to now?

Who own FLY Montserrat?

What is the management structure of FLY Montserrat?

Is FlyMontserrat just another family business?

What is the alternative to the access coordinator and FlyMontserrat?

Montserrat is in a very bad situation.

Will it get from bad to worse?

Oops! We have never been here before.

**So I am jus wonderin...** how did we get here?

I have heard stories of politicians telling Montserratians that it does not matter how you get money as long as you do not put your hands in the till. And since the onset of the volcano our political campaigns mostly ring out messages about money in our pockets. And today we speak of icons and amassed wealth as if the only good thing is wealth.

In the mean time we have become an unmotivated people gravitating only towards money in our pockets while waiting for the final order to evacuate Montserrat. And in the meantime a foreigner manages every financial institution, almost. We are being managed by Non-Montserratians. We are being organized. We are being coordinated. We are being corralled by FLY Montserrat as if we and our tourists are donkeys. Every bad thing has happened to us, in the meantime.

How could we get back there, to the time and place when we had leaders who loved Montserrat? How can we get back there when Montserrat had great managers?

Will we ever get from here to there? Can we?

Yes, but we must accept that it was a very bad thing to give FlyMontserrat the people's money to set up a family business. And secondly, we must agree that Bank of Montserrat's ownership and management structure should have been the model for FlyMontserrat, if that company wanted the support of government and people of Montserrat.

Montserrat...so many educated people, so many university graduates, yet we allow foreigners to trample on us in the name of management. So many people with money in their pockets, yet we are unwilling to join hand in hand and do good for Montserrat. Money is in our pockets but we do not care and we do not share. My God, will we ever understand that good is better than bad or that goodness, to care and to share for the good of Montserrat, is the footpath to our nation's prosperity and respect?

# Spare de rod an spile de child

## Rubenomics: A Post Mortem by Man from Baker Hill

It was not Aye, it is the Bible that says 'Spare the rod and spoil the child'.

The rod of discipline has always been used to correct a wrong and to guide towards goodness. There would come a time in your life when all you can do is to

love; and that day will come for sure, just as you are reading this article. But in the meantime just as your life is an open book to read, so is your backside subjected to the rod of discipline. Please be mindful however, the rod of discipline is never used to

praise good actions; in fact, goodness is mentioned only while the rod is applied, so as to point towards the correct path.

*Oh Gad, no kill benomics, it good to me.*

In 1991 Montserrat experimented with a new

politico- economic system. It was not Aye, it was the editor of the Montserrat Times who called the economic system Rubenomics. In 2009, Montserrat resurrected Rubenomics. But according to scripture, only dead things, dead places and dead people are resurrected. It is not Aye who shall declare Rubenomics dead. **It done dead aredy!**

Hence Rubenomics, a postmortem!

And what is a post mortem? It is an analysis that follows a difficult period ... to find ways of improving things for next period.

Here beginneth! .

Rumors still say that in 1991 the new government met a surplus of \$5 million in the Treasury and maybe twisted records can prove it too. Whatever the truth was, the truth is that in a very short time the treasury became bankrupt. In 2009, the same Rubenomic players were resurrected. And true to

their style of vengeance, by November 2010 there was not enough money in the treasury to pay salaries. **A time fu berry benomics!**

During the period 1991 to 1996, the politicians became the number one civil servant in each ministry. They did not respect the separation of authority and responsibility between legislators and administrators. They threatened and frightened bright career civil servants. The editorial of October 08, 1992 mentioned Noel Gray and Brenda Thomas, two bright nationals that were chased away to seek peace elsewhere, simply because they dared to question the socio- economic consequences of Rubenomics. So what prevails today? Every career civil servant is **sheeting in** her pants. They are afraid! Implementation has taken up and over the duties of PWD, Housing and Development Unit. And now, has the CM taken over

from the HE the administrative authority to discipline the workers of ZJB? **A goud fu dem, a civil survunt res orect de party.**

Between 1991 and 1996 it is still believed the Government destroyed the Seamen and Waterfront Union and created a Trucking magnate under the guise of the Rice Mills. Yes the rice mill was good for some, but what a disaster for the truckers and the Waterfront Workers Union. Now in 2010 we have an Equipment and Trucking magnate under the guise of Little Bay Town development. Oh what a disaster for Galloway Construction, truckers and equipment operators. **An two boot, 'che dee' de union man a de par tea mesbouy!**

Between 1993 and 1995, things had gotten so bad that the civil servants were threatened with early retirement and cutbacks. Public Works were put on **cont'd. on page 8**

### LEGAL NOTICE

#### IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE PROBATE DIVISION

##### In the Estate of LESLIE MARGARET LEONELLI, deceased

NOTICE is hereby given that after the expiration of fourteen (14) days from the date of this notice, an application will be made in the Registry of the High Court of Justice for an Order that Letters of Administration in the Estate of **LESLIE MARGARET LEONELLI** late of 1217 Pearl Street Florida U.S.A be granted to **DAVID S. BRANDT** of Olveston Montserrat the lawful attorney of **HEATHER CARRUTHERS** of 1218 Petronia St. Key West, Florida U.S.A the executrix of the deceased and one of the persons entitled to share in the estate of the deceased.

ALL persons claiming to be beneficially interested in the estate are requested forthwith to send written particulars thereof to me the undersigned within 14 days from the date of this Notice.

FURTHER any person objecting to the issuance of a Grant to the Applicant should notify the Registrar of the High Court of Justice not later than (14) days from the date of this Notice.

Dated this 17<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2010

**BRANDT & ASSOCIATES**  
Attorneys-at-Law