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INSIDE

OBITUARIES and RELIGION

IN TODAY'S TRIBUNE

Ex-PLP official seeks US court promise

Bahamian attorney facing money-laundering charges negotiates over family visits

By ALISON LOWE
Tribune Staff Reporter
alowe@tribunemedia.net



SIDNEY CAMBRIDGE

THE American attorney for embattled Bahamian lawyer Sidney Cambridge is trying to get US authorities to promise that her client will still be free to travel to The Bahamas to see his family if he goes to the states to face money-laundering charges brought against him.

According to Lily Ann Sanchez, she is negotiating with US prosecutors to get a bond agreement for Cambridge that would allow him to fly between South Florida and The Bahamas where his wife and family live.

"Mr Cambridge believes he did not do anything illegal whatsoever and he went forward all within the laws of the Bahamas and these are very unfortunate US charges," Sanchez said.

These negotiations may be the reason why no extradition request has yet been made for Mr Cambridge by US authorities - a fact confirmed yesterday by the Attorney Gener-

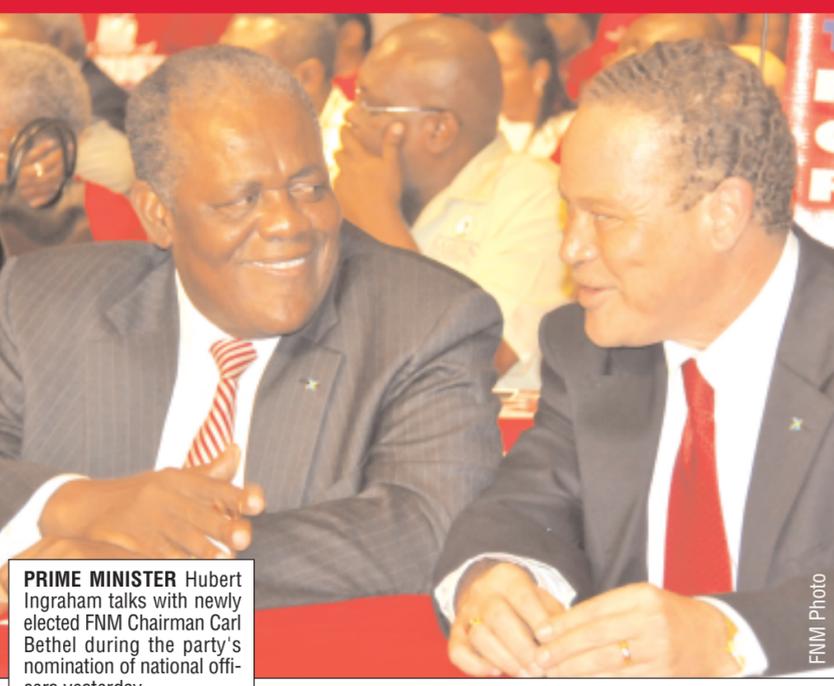
al's Office and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in The Bahamas.

It comes as the Bahamian attorney was formally indicted by a federal grand jury on Tuesday on charges that he was involved in a \$900,000 money-laundering scheme with a Florida politician, Joseph Eggleston.

Mr Cambridge, who is currently in The Bahamas, was not present in court and a war-

SEE page 11

CARL BETHEL ELECTED FNM CHAIRMAN



FNM Photo

PRIME MINISTER Hubert Ingraham talks with newly elected FNM Chairman Carl Bethel during the party's nomination of national officers yesterday.

By TANEKA THOMPSON
Tribune Staff Reporter
tthompson@tribunemedia.net

MINISTER of Education Carl Bethel was elected chairman of the FNM after being nominated unopposed by Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham in a shocking turn of events at the party's convention yesterday.

Mr Ingraham informed the cheering delegates that immediate past chairman Johnley Ferguson would not be offering himself for re-election before he nominated Mr Bethel for the post.

"It is my duty to inform you that the chairman of the party

SEE page 10

Bethel to step down as Minister of Education

By TANEKA THOMPSON
Tribune Staff Reporter
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NEWLY elected FNM Chairman Carl Bethel will step down as Minister of Education in the coming weeks in order to concentrate on his new responsibilities, he confirmed yesterday.

He remained mum on the identity of the person who will replace him after Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham shuffles his Cabinet.

PLP Chairman Bradley Roberts issued a scathing statement on Mr Bethel's impending resignation yesterday, thanking Mr Ingraham for "relieving the Bahamian people of ineptitude and poor leadership at the Ministry of Education."

Political observers specu-

lated that Mr Bethel was selected as chairman in order to match wits with Mr Roberts, who was elected at the PLP's convention last month. Mr Bethel brushed off this assertion.

"I deny that that was the reason," Mr Bethel laughed. "Obviously all jokes aside, we are now more than halfway through our term, the party is faced with the challenge now of beginning to prepare itself for the next general election."

Until the next general election, Mr Bethel said his prime focus will be ensuring that the proper groundwork is in place to ensure the party's victory. When, or if this is accomplished, he hopes to return to Cabinet, he said.

"The prime minister and I

SEE page 10

Beryl Hanna, wife of the Governor General, dies age 77

HEARTFELT condolences poured in yesterday from the prime minister and members of the PLP at the news of the death of Beryl Hanna, wife of Governor General Arthur D Hanna yesterday. She was 77.

Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham said that although Mrs Hanna was born in Britain, she fully embraced and came to love her adopted country and its people and was an excellent example of Bahamian citizenship.

"Mrs Hanna came to The Bahamas with her husband back in the 50s and right up until the time of her illness participated wholeheartedly in the life of our nation. Mrs Hanna supported her husband and his colleagues in their early struggle for majority rule and was herself on the frontline in that struggle.

"Along with other outstanding Bahamian women, she took to the streets in placard

SEE page six

Turnquest: PLP all talk and no action on capital punishment

MINISTER of National Security Tommy Turnquest hit out at the PLP last night claiming the party is "all talk and no action" on capital punishment.

In his speech to the FNM convention at the Wyndham Nassau Resort, Mr Turnquest said PLP leader Perry Christie "ranted" about being in favour of capital punishment.

"His zeal naturally sent me back to the records to see what they had done about capital punishment during their five-year administration. The record shows that they did nothing. All talk, no action.

"He also made statements about changing the Constitution to deal with the issue of bail in capital cases. Happily, the memory of Bahamians is not as short as some would wish. He did nothing about this on his watch."

Highlighting anti-crime

SEE page 10

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LOCAL NEWS

PM Ingraham at FNM convention



PRIME Minister Hubert Ingraham is all smiles at last night's FNM convention...

Photo by **Felipé Major**/Tribune staff

Immigration minister issues stern warning

MINISTER of State for Immigration Branville McCartney used the FNM convention podium last night to issue a stern warning to Bahamians who employ foreigners without proper authorisation.



MCCARTNEY

Speaking on the first night of the convention, McCartney delivered a fiery speech in which he defended the government's record on immigration and put those who break immigration laws on notice. "We are bringing those who seek to profit from violating our immigration laws before our courts to answer charges," he told the audience.

The minister acknowledged the hardships faced by many of those who risk their lives for better opportunities here, but said the Bahamas cannot sustain the current rate of illegal immigration - especially in such difficult economic times.

He said the government is determined to protect Bahamian workers and professionals from "unfair competition" and is therefore refusing work permits to those who enter the country as visitors, or who have entered illegally.

He added: "Those who hire non-Bahamian professionals without the proper authorisation should be on notice that this FNM government is stepping up its measures to put an end to such practices."

According to Mr McCartney, the time has come when the Bahamas must "make a choice" about its identity and the legacy it leaves for future generations.

"We do not have the luxury of sitting idly by as world events shift the climate around us and threaten to sweep us away in a global tide," he said.

The minister noted that immigrants from around the region and beyond have

played an important role in the development of the Bahamas, contributing to education, enriching culture, and broadening the economy.

He said: "Like our great neighbour to the north, the strength of our economy has made our country a Mecca for people escaping less fortunate circumstances in other countries, both near and far."

"Many risk their lives in search of a share in the promise which our country represents; a promise of prosperity and stability; a promise of peace and of acceptance by a people who have accepted and assimilated generations of immigrants."

Mr McCartney said that while the government welcomes immigrants who contribute to the expansion of the economy, many who seek to enter today are "poorly equipped to assist in our further development" - often needing a great deal from the Bahamas in terms of health care, education and training.

"The cost is becoming exorbitant in terms of our limited financial resources. In tough economic times the burden is heavier. We no longer have the capacity to assimilate the ever-increasing numbers of illegal immigrants," he said, noting that this year alone, more than 4,000 illegal immigrants have been repatriated after being apprehended in the country, at a cost of \$1 million.

Mr McCartney went on to speak about the "ugly underside" of illegal immigration - noting that many illegals are involved with cartels which run the regional drug and gun trades, while others are involved in human smuggling connected to the sex trade.

He said: "These cartels deal with human life as if people are disposable livestock, strapping dangerous drugs or concealing small arms on vulnerable people, with the promise of free passage to a better life. Many never make it."

"We will never know the number of people that have met their demise attempting to make that passage. It is a cruel irony that some of the

Steps to combat illegal immigration

During its current term in office, Minister McCartney told last night's convention, the FNM has taken a number of steps to combat illegal immigration, including:

- Reorganising and bringing order to the department
- Ensuring the enforcement of immigration laws and regulations without fear or favour
- Systematically reducing the number of illegal immigrants by sustained regular and routine arrest, detention and repatriation exercises

• Improving revenue collection measures in the financial planning unit of the Department of Immigration.

He said the government is also recruiting more immigration officers, working to regularise the status of long-term residents and the registration of children born abroad to Bahamian women married to foreigners, processing work permits more efficiently, and moving toward the issuance of anti-fraud tamper resistant immigration documents.

descendants of slaves who 300 years ago endured and survived the horrors of the Middle Passage between Africa and the Caribbean, today meet their end in waterlogged tombs like so many Africans did during the slave trade.

Noting that the majority of illegal immigrants come from Haiti, Mr McCartney said he believes it is important to "hold no malice or prejudice" against the people of this country - "Indeed, we might rightly admire the Haitian people who have fought gallantly for centuries to control their destiny, a people who were free when many of our ancestors were still enslaved."

"The Haitian people are our brothers and sisters. Our destinies have been linked by proximity, by trade, by family and by friendship," he said.

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LOCAL NEWS

PRAYER BREAKFAST

We are ready to overcome economic woes – Ingraham

PM says government is prepared for tough choices

DURING a time when the country is marred with escalating violence and a troubled economy the FNM stands ready to overcome these challenges, Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham said yesterday morning.

At a prayer breakfast held to mark the start of the party's convention, Mr Ingraham said the government is prepared to make the difficult choices that are necessary to emerge from the current economic turbulence and fulfil its mandate to the Bahamian people.

Said Mr Ingraham: "We meet at a time of tremendous economic hardship for many in our country and around the world. The global economic crisis has become very personal to nearly all of us. The fallout from economic failures in the developed world has meant decreased tourism arrivals and hence decreased tourism expenditures in our economy. This has dramatically reduced economic activity, business failures, increased numbers of unemployed persons and financial hardship for many persons. Yes, many of our people are hurting for these are tough times for many.



HUBERT INGRAHAM YESTERDAY

ation initiatives, through the introduction of the unemployment benefit scheme and through the enactment of legislation for the introduction of the Prescription Drug Programme. Through these programmes and initiatives we seek to live out God's admonition to us to feed the hungry, clothe the naked and care for the orphaned."

He added that government is unfazed by detractors who may take delight in seeing the party fail throughout these trying economic and social conditions.

"We are not discouraged by ill will toward us. We stand firm and ready to face and overcome the challenges, to make difficult decisions and to provide the leadership so seriously necessary in tough economic times," said Mr Ingraham, during the prayer breakfast held at the Wyndham hotel yesterday.

The FNM's convention continues until Friday; a celebratory banquet is scheduled for Saturday night at the Wyndham hotel.

Violence

"We meet at a time when violence continues to mar the lives of far too many of our people, particularly our young people."

He said government continues to assist the needy through bolstered national assistance programmes, job creation, BEC's electricity relief programme, the unemployment benefit and recently enacted legislation that would make it easier for persons with chronic diseases to access prescription drugs.

"Assistance has been planned and is being delivered on many fronts — through a \$12 million increase in Government's assistance programmes managed through the Department of Social Services, through BEC's electricity relief programme, through jobs cre-

FNM Convention

The following people were nominated or elected to key party posts at the FNM convention yesterday. Elections will take place on Friday at 10am:

Leader: Hubert Ingraham was re-elected after being nominated unopposed by Minister of National Security Tommy Turnquest, and seconded by MP for Garden Hills, Brensil Rolle.

Deputy Leader: Brent Symonette was re-elected after being nominated unopposed by Minister of Education Carl Bethel, and seconded by Richard Simmons.

Chairman: Carl Bethel was elected after being nominated unopposed by Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham. Incumbent Chairman Johnley Ferguson seconded the nomination, after Mr Ingraham announced that Mr Ferguson would not be offering himself for re-election to the office.

Deputy Chairman (2 posts): David Wallace, Senator Anthony Musgrove and Michael Turnquest will be in the running on Friday for the two positions. Senator Jacinta Higgs declined a nomination.

Vice Chairman (5 posts): Senator Jacinta Higgs (nominated by Senator Dion Foulkes), Mavis Johnson Collie (nominated by MP for Montagu Loretta Butler Turner), Margaret Johnson, Serfert Rolle, Vincent Pinnock, Francis Sawyer, Colin Ingraham, Sherry Albury, Ivan Thompson, Darren Cash and David Jordine will be in the running.

URBAN RENEWAL PROGRAMME

Roberts slams Turnquest over crime comments

PLP Chairman Bradley Roberts slammed National Security Minister Tommy Turnquest on his comments suggesting that there was no empirical evidence that the Urban Renewal initiative put in place by the former PLP government had any direct impact on crime reduction.

"This statement is totally untrue," Mr Roberts said.

On Tuesday, November 3, Mr Turnquest was the featured guest on a ZNS programme when the remarks were made.

"The Urban Renewal Programme had such a profound impact on the Bahamian community in terms of reducing crime, anti-social behaviour, and social decay, that the Ministry of Education made it part of its examining syllabus for the BJC and the BGCSE. Representatives from countries in the region and abroad came to the Bahamas to witness firsthand the programme and its effects.

"The Urban Renewal Programme won the International Association of Chiefs of Police Award in 2004, 2005 and in 2006. The Programme was also awarded the coveted community policing award of the Association of Caribbean Commissioners of Police. In order to attain these awards, the Royal Bahamas Police Force had to unequivocally and demonstrably prove that the Programme was an effective initiative in reducing crime. Comprehensive documents containing both qualitative and quantitative data had to be produced and scrutinized by a panel of judges representing countries around the world," Mr Roberts said.

Additionally, the PLP chairman said that statistics show that in each year of the programme, crime was reduced in the programme areas as well as nationally.

"For instance, a major concern remains the number of

homicides that are committed in the Bahamas, most of which occur in the 'over the hill' urban areas. The overall homicide count between 2002 and 2006 (ie the five year Urban Renewal period) totalled 258 incidents. Since the dismantling of the programme in 2007, the number of homicides for the period between 2007 to current (three year period) is two 223 incidents.

"In essence, whereas the Bahamas experienced 52 homicides per year, that figure has now drastically increased by 29 per cent to an average of 74 murders per year.

"Further, if one were to conduct a case study, the evidence will show that a number of young men whose lives were impacted by urban renewal inasmuch that they were being moulded into productive citizens have now turned to a life of crime and anti-social behaviour. As a matter of fact, several have been killed," he said.

The chairman added that not only does empirical evidence exist to prove that Urban Renewal was truly an effective programme but this evidence has been placed in public libraries for all to consume.

"It was documented in the form of the Annual Report of

the Urban Renewal Programme from the perspective of the Royal Bahamas Police Force. What does not exist is any empirical evidence from 2007 to the current of the true extent of crime and how it is being addressed by the Ministry of National Security and the Royal Bahamas Police Force as no Annual Report has been produced for public consumption from 2007 to the current period." Mr Roberts said.



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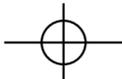
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THE BOX	T	1:00	3:30	N/A	6:00	8:25	10:45
THE FOURTH KIND	C	1:05	3:35	N/A	6:05	8:25	10:40
IP MAN	T	1:10	3:40	N/A	6:10	8:30	10:55
MICHAEL JACKSON: THIS IS IT	A	1:00	3:25	N/A	6:00	8:25	10:45
PARANORMAL ACTIVITY	C	1:10	3:35	N/A	6:10	8:30	10:55
SAW VI	C	1:20	3:40	N/A	6:20	8:35	10:50
THE VAMPIRE'S ASSISTANT	T	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	10:45
THE STEPFATHER	T	1:15	3:25	N/A	6:05	8:20	N/A
LAW ABIDING CITIZEN	C	1:00	3:25	N/A	6:00	8:20	10:45
ASTRO BOY	A	1:10N	3:45	N/A	6:10	N/A	N/A
I CAN DO BAD ALL BY MYSELF	B	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	8:20	10:50

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IP MAN	T	1:05	3:25	N/A	6:05	8:25	10:45
MICHAEL JACKSON	A	1:00	3:35	N/A	6:00	8:20	10:40
ASTRO BOY	A	1:00	3:30	N/A	6:00	N/A	N/A
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For Clinton, tough talk but few results

CAIRO (AP) — Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton's tense exchanges with Pakistani civilians and Arab diplomats over a harrowing week of foreign stops exposed the confining limits of her office.

On her most ambitious and contentious overseas trip as secretary of state, Clinton had to resort to damage control after she appeared to mangle the Obama administration's message on frozen Mideast peace talks.

And while she scored points back home by standing up to angry Pakistanis who confronted her about drone-launched U.S. missile strikes, her blunt questioning of the resolve of Pakistan's government exposed American impatience with the country's incremental steps against terrorists.

In each case her extraordinarily public approach to diplomacy — for better or worse — reflected not only her personal style but also President Barack Obama's promise to reach out openly to friend as well as foe.

What remains less clear is whether Clinton's hot-button politician's persona works any better at producing international results — let alone clarity — than a more classic diplomat's cooler tact. There were no breakthroughs, and it's too early to know how her public and behind-the-scenes performances in Pakistan, Abu Dhabi, Israel, Morocco and Egypt will play out. But Clinton emphatically followed through on a pledge she made last month when she said the time had come for the U.S. government to communicate more aggressively abroad and challenge U.S. critics on their own turf. From here on, she said then, "we're going to be in the mix and we're going to be in the mix every day."

It is a boldly political take on taking on the world, and Clinton is relying on some of her old campaign trail tricks and moxie to press America's case. In Pakistan, she aggressively sold the administration's stance against al-Qaida during several crowded "town hall" public forums that had been her stock-in-trade during the 2008 presidential primary run against Obama. But despite finding some success in Africa and Asia earlier this year communicating Clintonian warmth with foreign audiences, Lahore was not Portsmouth, N.H.

And a brash in-your-face style that won voters' hearts and minds in the U.S. may have come off as confrontational to skeptical Pakistan civilians who responded in kind.

In Lahore, Clinton certainly won domestic consumption brownie points by saying that many Americans have complained about for years — that Pakistan's government had done little to root out al-Qaida's upper echelon.

"Al-Qaida has had safe haven in Pakistan since 2002," she said bluntly. "I find it hard to believe that nobody in your government knows where they are and couldn't get them if they really wanted to. And maybe that's the case. Maybe they're not gettable. I don't know."

Pakistan's leaders were not pleased — waiting until Clinton departed to slap back. But even when she had a second chance to scale

back her remarks, Clinton softened them only by a hair. She also dinged Pakistan's leaders for diminishing their standing in Washington by complaining about tough new conditions set by Congress for providing billions in new aid.

"For the United States Congress to pass a bill unanimously, saying that we want to give \$7.5 billion to Pakistan in a time of global recession when we have a 10 percent unemployment rate, and then for Pakistani press and others to say, 'We don't want that, that's insulting,'" she said. That wasn't what the Pakistani government wanted to hear, but it seemed to reflect Clinton's determination to show the Pakistanis that they can complain about U.S. counterterrorism tactics and about strings attached to U.S. aid — but not without hearing the administration's own concerns.

Clinton's toughened public stance was less in evidence, though, when she turned to the stymied Mideast peace process. Instead of bluntness, she struggled repeatedly to cater to both Israeli and Arab concerns, making no headway in getting either side to move closer.

In Jerusalem, trying to mollify Israeli reluctance to agree to halt all future settlements as a pretext to renewed peace talks with Palestinians, Clinton floated an Israeli proposal that would restrain — but not stop — more West Bank housing.

Palestinian and Arab diplomats reacted with outrage, and the Clinton who had been tough in Pakistan was forced to backpedal. Arab officials questioned whether the U.S. had tilted toward Israel and abandoned its position that continued Israel settlements are illegitimate and must be brought to a full stop.

Clinton's comments reflected a realization within the Obama administration that conservative Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's government will not accept a full-on settlement freeze and that a partial halt might be the best lesser option. Her appeal seemed designed to make the Israeli position more palatable to the Palestinians and Arab states. Clinton had traveled to the region reluctantly, concerned her visit might be perceived as a failure without clear results, according to several U.S. officials.

She agreed to meet Israeli and Palestinian leaders after pressure from the White House, according to the officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss internal administration thinking.

In Marrakesh, Morocco, two days after her controversial comments in Jerusalem, Clinton issued what she called a clarification. But she was dogged by questions about the settlements issue for the rest of her time abroad.

Asked Wednesday before departing for Washington what she believed she had accomplished, Clinton focused on the depth of the challenges she faced, not on what the trip delivered — or failed to deliver.

This article is by Robert Burns, who has been covering national security and military affairs for The Associated Press since 1990.

Myrtle Hanna — a marvellous Bahamian lady

EDITOR, The Tribune.

I was just informed of the death of Nurse Myrtle Hanna, and thought it only right to pay tribute to this marvellous Bahamian lady.

She has touched so many lives, both in the Bahamas and abroad during her long and caring life, that is only right that the work she has done should be long remembered and she should serve as an example of a true Christian. And so I offer now this tribute to that great lady.

I first encountered Nurse Hanna when she applied for a job as a practical nurse at the Hardecker Children's Clinic in 1965. We had just started up the Clinic on Deveaux Street a few months before, but it was enlarging quickly and we needed to expand the personnel.

Nurse Hanna had worked for a private practitioner after her training at the Hospital (I believe it was still The Bahamas General Hospital at that time), but was interested in working with the children.

At first, Nurse Hanna, reflected her training: She made no decisions on her own, but faithfully followed doctor's orders, and did the initial admitting procedures. These included taking the children's temperatures, weighing and measuring them, but expanded into taking blood pressure and

LETTERS

letters@tribunemedia.net

pulse readings in both their arms and legs. Her knowledge and expertise were soon evident, but she needed convincing of her own ability to recognise signs and symptoms of disease and to communicate that knowledge. Her familiarity with many of the families was of great help in assessing their concerns for the children. It took a while before she would go beyond the door of the admitting room, to the treatment room, to the pharmacy, the lab, and finally the doctor's room.

It wasn't long before we recognised the great source of information Nurse Hanna provided.

Her fabulous memory and her wide range of acquaintances helped to provide many a medical history that both parents and children had forgotten. She could point out relationships that even the parents of the children were unaware of, making a medical history that much more accurate.

Nurse Hanna was frequently seen as a daunting figure and commanded obedience with her grim expression — which rapidly dissolved into an enchanting grin. She was intolerant of abuse by either children or adults, but a true nurse in

her sympathy with the ill, the painful, the worried and the bereaved.

She also proved to be an excellent teacher to the hundreds of medical students who came to the clinic. Although well versed in medical knowledge, these students learned from her the "how" of medicine — how to translate medical knowledge into action — how to take a history, how to communicate with parents and with children, how to put them at ease. She has been long remembered by "her" students, who have passed on the practical lessons she taught them.

In her later years, after leaving the Clinic, Nurse Hanna continued to practise nursing.

She devoted her efforts into caring for the elderly. (She never quite put herself in that category!)

She could frequently be found travelling around Grants Town on her mission of visiting the sick.

I felt it was only right that this very great, unassuming Christian lady should receive the accolade that she has long deserved and the memory of her great contribution to the Bahamas be acknowledged.

DR. JULIE WERSHING,

Former Paediatrician of The Hardecker Children's Clinic,
November 3, 2009.

Rotary Club commended for the presentation of Paul Harris awards

EDITOR, The Tribune.

On October 17, the Rotary Club of Abaco presented three Paul Harris Awards to three deserving persons: St. Michael Malone, Mother Merle Williams and Mr. Davis Ralph.

All three of the honourees made their mark in our community, and the award given to these remarkable individuals is very good and commendable of our Rotary Club.

As you know, there were many others in the past, and there will be many others in the future who have yet to receive such an outstanding award.

I say good job to the Rotary Club of Abaco of which I am one of the founding members, and I am proud to be just that.

I love the Rotary four-way test:

Is it the truth?

Is it fair to all concerned?

Will it build goodwill?

Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

At this point, let me be the first to say — congratulations to the recipients of the Paul Harris Award.

Please continue your work of service above self particularly to the two who are still with us. God bless St. Michael, who has completed his assignment, and I am sure the good Lord said to him, "Well done, thy good and faithful servant." St. Michael was full of love for his fellow man. May his soul rest in peace.

JOSEPH SAWYER

Abaco,
October, 2009.

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LOCAL NEWS

COLLEGE OF THE BAHAMAS

COB faculty have clear path to strike vote, says Foulkes

Minister still encouraging staff and management to continue talks

College of the Bahamas faculty have a clear path to conducting a strike vote if they wish to do so, Minister of Labour Dion Foulkes confirmed.

He told *The Tribune* that while he is encouraging the college's staff and management to continue discussions, the Union of Tertiary Educators of the Bahamas (UTEB) has gone through all the appropriate steps — including filing a trade dispute and taking part in several conciliation meetings — and is entitled to hold such a vote on behalf of its members.

Mr Foulkes said that once UTEB decides on a venue and date, the Department of Labour will oversee the exercise.

"I have met with both sides and the director was meeting with both sides to see if he could reach common ground on issues.

"This is a matter of negotiation, this is a matter for both parties to come to an agreement; I can't force them to agree," the minister said.

However, Director of Labour Harcourt Brown said that while he admits talks could have progressed better, he would not characterise the conciliation process as "at a stand-still" and believes there is "still room for parties to amicably resolve their differences."

This comes after 40 members of the union, which represents more than 200 staff, handed a letter calling for a strike vote to Mr Foulkes on Tuesday, saying they are angry that the college has allegedly failed to negotiate in "good faith" over their working conditions.

Meanwhile, COB's management issued a statement yesterday saying the college is committed to concluding negotiations with UTEB on "a new collective agreement to the satisfaction of both parties in a timely and conscientious manner."



JANYNE HODDER

It said: "Our responsibility is to meet the overall well-being of the college and to set the stage for building a high quality Bahamian university for years to come.

Confident

"The college is confident that an agreement will be reached and this will be done at the negotiating table.

"It is not the policy of the college to negotiate outside of the established negotiating process."

The group of professors, librarians, counsellors and other UTEB members who delivered the letter, showed up in force outside the Churchill Building at around 10am on Wednesday to greet labour minister Dion Foulkes.

Wearing orange "UTEB"-emblazoned t-shirts and singing songs of "solidarity", the educators and other key staff said they have had enough of what they for months termed a "dictatorial" approach to negotiations over their new industrial agreement on the part of their employer, the college. Their previous



Dion Foulkes

agreement expired in June 2008.

Staff members such as Llewellyn Curling, a professor in the college's school of technology, described the conditions that COB is seeking to put into the staff's new agreement as "regressive" — removing benefits that they previously enjoyed.

With the two sides failing to come together, only one clause — union dues — has so far been agreed upon during the 10-month talks out of a total of around 100 expected to be hammered out, according to the educator.

Some staff suggested that if the college changes working conditions as proposed, progress towards university status would be set back as staff's professional development would be hindered, while their living standards would be placed at risk through reduced job security.

Catharine Archer, a librarian, claimed she is concerned that under the terms proposed by the college, research leave and grants presently available to people like her will be no more.

"I have met with both sides and the director was meeting with both sides to see if he could reach common ground on issues. This is a matter of negotiation, this is a matter for both parties to come to an agreement; I can't force them to agree."

INSIGHT

For the stories behind the news, read *Insight* on Mondays

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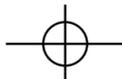
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LOCAL NEWS

Beryl Hanna, wife of the Governor General, dies age 77

FROM page one

for the poor and downtrodden of our society.

"My colleagues and I join with Bahamians everywhere in expressing sincere condolences to His Excellency the Governor General, to their daughters Glenys and Dawn, their sons Dion and Mark, and the entire Hanna family," Mr Ingraham said.

Calling her an "icon" in the

Bahamian struggle to Independence. PLP Chairman Bradley Roberts said that Mrs Hanna was present at her husband's side through every major event in the birth of the modern Bahamas.

"Beryl Hanna came to her adopted country at her husband's side following their time together at university. The Bahamas they arrived in the 1950s was full of prejudice and lost opportunities for the majority of its people. This couple joined the struggle as members of the Progressive Liberal Party.

"Mrs Hanna was a natural as if she had lived here all her life. She fit right in. Together she worked, they demonstrated. She helped to change the country. Beryl Hanna was there at every major event in the life of our modern political struggle: There when women fought for the vote; there when women voted for the first time; there for Black Tuesday in 1965; there for Majority Rule in 1967; there for the struggle against apartheid in South Africa; there as the consort to the Governor General in the winter of her life and in the face of very difficult physical circumstances," he said.

Being personally thanked by the former President of South Africa Nelson Mandela himself, Mrs Hanna worked tirelessly in the anti-apartheid struggle in the Bahamas. Mr Roberts said that when the next chapter of Bahamian history is written, Beryl Hanna's name is sure to be "all over it" — recorded and remembered with affection, and pride.

"We owe a great debt of gratitude to this quiet, but determined woman, for her loyalty, for her faith for her struggle to create the modern Bahamas and for helping to



ABOVE: Mrs Beryl Hanna reading a proclamation by then Prime Minister Sir Lynden Pindling declaring Universal Children's Day in November, 1979.



RIGHT: Paula Darcy shows Beryl Hanna round the Centre for the Deaf in November, 1979.

build our party. May her soul rest in peace. We extend condolences to Mr Hanna, Glenys Hanna Martin MP and the entire family on this sad passing."

Echoing these sentiments, Fox Hill MP Fred Mitchell said in the country's loss of Mrs Hanna he has also lost his closet friend in politics.

"I grew up calling her Aunt Beryl, a sign of the closeness of my late mother to her husband Arthur, our Governor General, who lived with my grandmother Gwendolyn during his years in high school. She was a trooper, a real advocate for the rights of Bahamians and people everywhere to equality justice and fair play. We were kindred spirits.

"My favourite recollection of her is that iconic photo in the newspaper of herself, Dame Marguerite Pindling and the late Daphne Wallace Whitfield with the placards supporting the demonstration on Black Tuesday in April 1965 following the PLP's then leader Lynden Pindling throwing the Speaker's mace out of

the window of the House.

"But our closeness grew when she agreed to join the Bahamas Committee on Southern Africa on which I served as its Vice President and she as its Honorary Chair. It was the main anti-apartheid organisation in the Bahamas. It was my proud honour to personally obtain and deliver to her a letter of thanks from Nelson Mandela for her work in the struggle," he said.

Even the PLP's Women's Branch remembered her as a woman who fought for the rights of other women, the down-trodden, the disadvantaged, and anyone who was being discriminated against in the Bahamas or elsewhere.

"Although she was not born in the Bahamas it is safe to say that there were not many individuals more patriotic and

loving of this country than Beryl Hanna. She stood up for the rights of all Bahamians when many others living in this country were afraid to. In doing so, she assisted in creating the modern Bahamas as we know it today.

"We know that a suitable memorial tribute is in order, to celebrate the life and contribution of our dear sister, and we offer our assistance in the execution of a suitable memento.

"Condolences are extended to the family of our beloved Governor General, the Honourable Arthur D Hanna, including our sister and former Chairman both of the Women's Branch and the PLP Glenys Hanna-Martin, Deon Hanna, the grandchildren and the extended family."

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Dr. Richard Stratton, President of Clearwater Christian College, Clearwater, Florida, will be visiting the Bahamas in late November 2009. A reunion of all Bahamian CCC alumni will be held at 7:30 pm on Saturday, November 28th in Nassau. If you are able to attend, please contact Priscilla Cartwright immediately by telephone at Logos Bookstore: 394-7040 or email: pullcart@coralwave.com.

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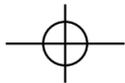
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November 6	2401-3000	December 2	8701-9000
November 9	3001-3600	December 3	9001-9500
November 10	3601-4200	December 4	9501-10000
November 11	4201-4500	December 7	10001-10500
November 12	4501-4800	December 8	10501-11300
November 13	4801-5100	December 9	11301-12100
November 16	5101-5400	December 10	12101-13000
November 17	5401-5700	December 11	13001-14000
November 18	5701-6000	December 14	14001-15000
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LOCAL NEWS

Public have their say on Atlantis' ban on unsupervised youth

THE TRIBUNE hit the streets yesterday to find out how the public feels about the Atlantis' new ban on unsupervised youth in Marina Village following the shooting of two security guards there over the weekend.

STREET TALK

Beth, 48, Ministry of Health
"When it comes to tourists and the countrymen, then so be it."

Melanie, Baillou Hill
"I don't think that unsupervised children should be allowed anywhere."

C
"They don't have the right to ban anyone from anywhere — this isn't communism. We don't live in a communist country."

Sean Smith, Killarney
"I think they shouldn't be there unsupervised."

Mr McPhee, Carmichael
"No, I don't think Atlantis should ban youths from coming. I think parents ought to try and supervise their kids . . . But at the same time we're in the Bahamas, we're

Bahamians, and we should be free to go and move — as long as we're not committing any criminal act."

Tom Jones, Yamacraw
"Young people today have no manners and they don't listen. . . Ban all of them."

18, Carmichael
"Atlantis has the right to do that. Minors don't need to be hanging up over there by themselves."

20, Carmichael
"If you don't have any business over there don't go over there. What are children going over there for — do they have any money to spend?"

Bahama Bob, 40
"From their perspective it's like we have a tourist product we can't let go of."



THE MARINA VILLAGE at Atlantis



A POLICE car and ambulance at the scene on Paradise Island after Saturday night's double shooting.

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LOCAL NEWS

Two students charged in connection with stabbing

By DENISE MAYCOCK
Tribune Freeport Reporter
dmaycock@tribunemedia.net

FREEPORT - Two male students of St George's High School were charged with causing grievous harm in connection with the stabbing of another male student.

The minors appeared before Magistrate Debbie Ferguson in Court One. However, they were not allowed to enter a plea because of the absence of the Juvenile Panel.

The matter was adjourned to February 9, 2010 when the juveniles will return to enter a plea.

The arraignment is in relation to Monday's stabbing at St Georges High School.

The victim remains in hospital in stable condition.

The teenagers were each granted \$600 bail.

DNA expert testifies in double murder trial

By NATARIO MCKENZIE
Tribune Staff Reporter
nmckenzie@tribunemedia.net

A DNA expert testified yesterday in the trial of a man charged in the October 2006 double murders of two men on Andros.

Frank Alphonso Pinder, 33, of the Bluff, South Andros, is accused of killing Glenwood Neely Jr and James Smith Jr. The two men were reported missing almost two weeks before their bodies were discovered in a remote area of the Bluff, South Andros, in an advanced state of decomposition.

Kevin Noppinger, lab director of DNA Labs International in Deerfield Beach, Florida, testified that he analysed two blood stain samples from William Neely and Edith Smith along with two bone samples submitted to the lab by Bahamian police.

Mr Noppinger told the court he began analysing the samples

on January 5, 2007, and later submitted a report. He developed a DNA profile from the blood stain samples and compared them to bone samples from the two victims.

He said he concluded there was a 99.99 per cent chance that Mrs Neely was the biological mother of the individual whose bone sample was labelled LS3 and that Mrs Smith was the biological mother of the individual whose bone sample was labelled LS1.

Also taking the witness stand yesterday was Kirsten Noppinger, president of DNA Labs International.

She told the court she had received the blood and bone samples from Detective Corporal Sheria King.

She said the samples were documented in the lab's computer system and then placed in an evidence vault.

Detective Inspector Rochelle Deleveaux-Rolle told the court she had received sealed packaged samples containing the

blood stains and bone on December 8, 2006, but did not open them.

She explained that she did not want to break the seal on the samples and risk contaminating the evidence, which was

later handed over to a woman she identified as Corporal King.

The trial, which is into its second week, is being heard before Senior Justice Anita Allen.

The case resumes today at 10am.

Man wanted for questioning in connection with murder



XAVIENT TAYLOR

POLICE are searching for a man who they want to question in connection with the murder of James Patrick Gardiner, 42, of Augusta Street.

Xavient Taylor, also known as "Ninja", is 26 years old and his last known address was Key West Street. He is described as being 6ft tall, slim and weighing 170lbs.

The police say Taylor should be considered armed and dangerous.

Anyone with information about his whereabouts has been urged to contact the police on: 919, 911 or 322-3333; the Central Detective Unit on 502-9930 or 502-9991; Crime Stoppers on 328-8474, or any police station.

Gardiner was stabbed following an argument in the Montel Heights area, where he had been visiting a friend on Monday night.

Shooting victim identified

By DENISE MAYCOCK
Tribune Freeport Reporter
dmaycock@tribunemedia.net

FREEPORT - Grand Bahama's tenth murder victim has been identified as 57-year-old Cedric Joseph Williams, of South Bahama, Freeport.

Williams, who was shot late Monday evening at his residence, was taken to hospital but died early Tuesday morning.

A motive for the shooting is not known. Police are appealing to the public for their assistance in solving this homicide.

The victim, also known as "General," is a well-known resident of Freeport. He had

worked as a head Bellman for many years at the Royal Oasis Resort before it closed, in 2004.

According to police reports, police received a call of a shooting at Braemer Drive, South Bahama sometime around 11pm on Monday.

Police and EMS personnel were dispatched to the scene, where they found an adult male with a gunshot injury to the upper part of his body.

The victim was taken to Rand Memorial Hospital, where he died around 3.15am Tuesday.

Asst Supt Loretta Mackey said police are investigating the matter.

Tropical storm forms in Gulf of Mexico

THE ninth tropical storm of the year, Ida, has formed in the Gulf of Mexico.

The Tropical Storm is headed toward Nicaragua with maximum sustained winds of 60 miles per hour. A tropical storm warning remains in effect for the entire eastern coast of Nicaragua and for the islands of San Andres and Providencia. Ida is heading toward the west-northwest at six miles per hour. The storm is expected to turn northwest and to decrease in forward speed.

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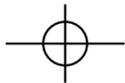
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LOCAL NEWS

Gentleman's Club hosting 'character building' workshops

By NATARIO MCKENZIE
Tribune Staff Reporter
nmckenzie@tribunemedia.net

FOR nearly two decades, the Gentleman's Club has been responsible for the recognition and the further development of high-achieving young men in the Bahamas.

To date, the club, which was founded by Dr Judson Eneas and his wife Marchetta Eneas, has graduated 690 'gents', who have been awarded millions of dollars worth of college scholarships.

With the programme now heading into its 19th year, Dr Eneas said that it is hoped that more schools will participate in the Gentleman's Club and that the continued support from the community will assist in the further enhancement of the initiative which initially started with only 12 young men.

The Gentleman's Club workshops run from January to April 2010 and culminate with the Gentleman's Club Ball on April 10, 2010. Deadline for applications is this Friday, November 6.

For the most recent course, some 40 young men from both the public and private school sectors were selected by a special committee.

The boys participate in a series of workshops designed to develop strong character as well as communication and networking skills.

"It has been my experience a lot of times that young men are taught to shut up and not say anything, this is the one place where they speak and give their opinions. Most of our men are in places now where they can give back to the community and are mentors," said Mrs Eneas.

Dr Eneas said: "It's about character building and network building, we want to build men of character, so from the begin-

"It has been my experience a lot of times that young men are taught to shut up and not say anything, this is the one place where they speak and give their opinions."

Marchetta Eneas

ning you will see a transformation. From the beginning to end you see the transformation process. We take what you have and try to take it to another level. It's more than getting some money for scholarships."

Dr Eneas said that the programme is trying to build an elite group of men, "because for too long we have celebrated mediocrity."

"We have been told that the Bahamas has lost its ambience. So we really want to elevate our young men to a higher level because we feel that if our young men can advance, our society can advance," he said.

The couple said that they are often criticised by persons claiming that they are "helping the wrong boys."

"That's not true. We have graduated through this programme 690 boys over the past 18 years and with all the scholarships we have provided and all the college scholarships we have been awarded, that's well over \$3 million worth of scholarships. So they can't say we are helping the wrong boys. We are helping boys who may not have been given the opportunity but were smart and did not have anyone to motivate them," Dr Eneas said.

The couple also noted that there are several schools that

have programmes geared towards at-risk young men and have also chosen to refer to them as 'gentleman's clubs.'

Dr Eneas said: "The problem is that this prevents certain schools from sending boys to this programme because they

think they already have the programme. We are not telling them not to help the young men, just change the name - we own the name and the logo."

"We want to accept boys from every school that applies. I think there are about 30 schools we send out applications to and at the most we have had about 16 schools involved. There are some schools that aren't sending anybody in, so we want to let them know that they need to get those applications," he said.

The Eneas' said that they continue to receive support from colleges in the United States and are also being assisted by a local fraternity.

"We have had unwavering support from some of the colleges in the United States and



DR JUDSON ENEAS (right)

we are trying to solicit more support.

"We are trying to get a few more colleges onboard, but Fisk, Morehouse and St John's University have supported us with scholarships for our young men," Dr Eneas said.

He said that the club has also benefitted from the assis-

stance of the Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity whose membership includes many prominent members of Bahamian society.

"We have been able even during the recession to award sizable scholarships and so we are grateful for the support we have gotten from the community," Dr Eneas said.



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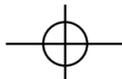


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LOCAL NEWS

FROM page one

Carl Bethel to step down as Minister of Education

have had discussions and within a matter of weeks, at his convenience, he will make certain adjustments.

"I will ultimately at that time, yes, I will be stepping out of Cabinet in order to fully perform the functions of chairman of the party over the next 18 months, to two years, to two and a half years until whenever the

next election is called. At which time — when the FNM will, God willing and with the help of the Bahamian people, be restored to office — I will of course look towards the resumption of my Cabinet responsibilities

in some form or fashion that's decided by the prime minister," Mr Bethel told the media on the sidelines of the FNM convention, minutes after he was elected as party chairman.

Mr Bethel said he volunteered himself to be nominated as party chairman after more than a month of discussions at the Cabinet level.

"A number of names were discussed internally and through a process, a weeding out process. . . We ultimately arrived at a handful and at that point when it was down to two or three I said 'Look, I would volunteer my services for the good of the party.' There were others who were prepared, but I stepped forward".

Mr Bethel, who previously served as party chairman, said he does not see the move as a demotion but the chance for him to assist his party in the best way he can. In order to avoid a repeat of the FNM's loss in 2002, he said it is critical for the party to keep an ear to the ground and ensure that the country knows how well the government is handling the current economic crisis.

His first order of business as chairman is to improve communication at the party's headquarters with a strong focus on multimedia; to address concerns of rank and file FNM supporters; and begin galvanising FNM foot soldiers as the party prepares for the next election.

Mr Roberts, who announced his plans to dismantle the FNM upon taking office, took Mr Bethel to task for his "failed" term as education minister.

"A word of encouragement to our devoted educators; the end of the month is but 24 days away and it ain't long now," Mr Roberts said.

Felipe Major/Tribune staff



NEWLY-ELECTED FNM Chairman Carl Bethel speaks yesterday.

Bethel elected FNM Chairman

FROM page one

Johnley Ferguson will not be offering as a candidate for chairman this time. I therefore beg to put the nomination in the name of Carl Wilshire Bethel," said Mr Ingraham as the crowd broke out into thunderous applause.

Mr Ferguson - who told *The Tribune* hours before the nomination process that he expected to win the chairmanship race - seconded the nomination.

Chairman candidate Ivoine Ingraham moved the motion to nominate Mr Bethel unopposed in the "interest of party unity", he told the delegates.

Although he put on a brave front at first, the "emotionally drained" candidate was later consoled by a supporter as he wept over the lost opportunity.

Mr Ingraham - who launched a public campaign for the post several weeks ago - told the media he put aside his pride and dropped out of the race. He conceded that due to the prime minister's endorsement of Mr Bethel's nomination it would have been futile for him to

battle for the post.

"If the Prime Minister stands up, the Prime Minister that enjoys a great deal of support in that convention, and nominates someone I must be the greatest fool there is to waste my time and waste the convention's time to have them vote for a position that I really have absolutely no chance in winning," said Mr Ingraham, who said he was informed of the move to nominate Mr Bethel yesterday morning.

Chairman-elect Carl Bethel said his main aim is to position the FNM to ensure its victory when the country returns to the polls.

"It was the consensus view of the party leadership that we really needed to in a sense take things up to another level and hopefully a level that will be effective in positioning the party to face the next elections," he said on the sidelines of the convention, with Ivoine Ingraham at his side.

During the nomination process for party officers both Mr Ingraham and FNM deputy leader Brent Symonette were unopposed and elected to their respective posts to rousing applause, cheers and a standing ovation.

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FROM page one

Turnquest

Highlighting anti-crime policies and initiatives that the FNM government have taken, the Minister said, "Soon, when ordered by the courts, we will be electronically monitoring persons charged with, or sentenced for, crimes who are not serving custodial sentences in Her Majesty's Prisons."

Mr Turnquest also spoke about Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) pilot projects which are being launched in the downtown area and in the South-Eastern New Providence Division, saying, "As we advance this initiative, we say to criminals, lawbreakers and those that aid and abet

them, 'Smile, you may well be on CCTV. We will tape you, and we will apprehend you.'

The Minister then encouraged Bahamians not to be permissive or compliant when those close to them commit crimes.

"We must be prepared, in confidence, to tell the police what we know," he said. "We must tell the police who has that gun, before it is used to harm or kill somebody. We must tell the police where that drug house is in our neighbourhood. We must join neighbourhood watches. We must become our brother's and sister's keepers."

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LOCAL NEWS

THE FNM NATIONAL CONVENTION



FNM SUPPORTERS enjoy the atmosphere at yesterday's convention.



Felipe Major/Tribune Staff

FNM DEPUTY LEADER Brent Symonette at the convention



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Ex-PLP official seeks US court promise

FROM page one

rant was issued for his arrest in the United States.

According to the indictment, Cambridge conspired to "unjustly enrich" himself "by obtaining fees for laundering purported fraudulent proceeds through Bahamian bank accounts" and "knowingly and wilfully" attempted to hide the real source of thousands of dollars which he was told were the proceeds of illegal activity.

The attorney, who resigned as partner in the Bahamian law firm Calendars and Co. and treasurer of the PLP after first being implicated in the criminal plot in September, was indicted along with one his three fellow co-defendants in the case, North Miami businessman Joel Williams.

They were both charged with one count of conspiracy to commit money laundering and five counts of money laundering.

If found guilty of the alleged crimes, 45-year-old Cambridge and Mr Williams could face a maximum of 20 years in prison and a \$500,000 fine.

Cambridge is accused of facilitating Broward County Commissioner Eggleton and two others in their efforts to launder money in The Bahamas from what they believed to be a European investment fraud by setting up an international business company and a First Caribbean bank account for a percentage of the funds to be laundered.

Eggleton was indicted in September, and was since suspended from his public office. Eggleton, Williams and another co-defendant, Ronald Owens, have all been released on bond.

The men were implicated following a three year long Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) sting operation. It was revealed in court in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, that federal investigators made 415 DVD and audio recordings during the course of the sting.

Meanwhile, Bahamian financial services regulators launched their own review of the allegations against Cambridge to determine whether any Bahamian laws were violated.

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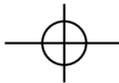


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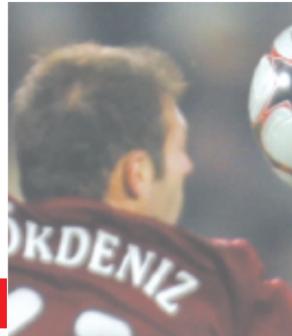




sports

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2009

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Rubin draws 0-0 with Barcelona...
See page 14

CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL LEAGUE'S BASKETBALL LEAGUE

St. Bede's Crushers remain undefeated

St. Francis and Joseph's Shockers flattened 41-3

by RENALDO DORSETT
Sports Reporter
rdorsett@tribunemedia.net

The defending champions continued to dominate in the Catholic Primary School League's Basketball League yesterday, despite an off performance from their star player.

With a balanced team effort, the St. Bede's Crushers remained undefeated with a 41-3 win on the road yesterday over the St. Francis and Joseph's Shockers.

Adrian Mackey led the Crushers with 16 points, while perennial leading scorer Kyle Turnquest chipped in with 11 and Gregory Cooper finished with eight.

The Crushers led 6-1 at the end of the first quarter, with Mackey opening 3-3 from the field.

The Shockers' lone score of the half came from Paul Farquharson at the free throw line just before the end of the quarter.

The Crushers defense did not give up a field goal the entire game, using a stifling defensive effort to widen their margin at the end of each quarter.

Cooper scored the opening basket early in the second and both teams struggled offensively without a score until the final play of the half.

Turnquest stole the inbound pass with eight seconds left and raced downcourt for his first score of the game and gave his team a 10-1 lead at the half.

With the regular starters on the court in the third, the Crushers opened with a half-court trap which continuously netted turnovers and fastbreak baskets.

Turnquest and Cooper outscored the Shockers 9-0 in the quarter with Cooper scoring on the first two fastbreak bas-



St Bede's Crushers' Kyle 'Flash' Turnquest attempts a dunk...
Photo by Felipe Major

SEE page 13

Athletes put the BAAA in spotlight

By BRENT STUBBS

STUBBS

An interesting letter came into my email from a group of senior track and field athletes on the plight of the Bahamas Association of Athletic Associations' upcoming annual general meeting and their election of officers.

The letter states that the athletes, both active and retired, felt it was time for them to weigh in on the salient event to elect a president for their prestigious organization, which has undergone many changes in recent times.

Although the athletes declined to identify themselves, they made some critical point, which adds another dimension to the whole make-up of the BAAA or any of the other major sporting bodies for that matter.

Where's the Athletes Representatives and why are they not allowed to participate in the election of their officers?

Track and field has been the most vibrant sporting body with the highest profile on the international scene, yet the association has yet to make provisions for the voices of its athletes to be heard.

With the elections scheduled for November 21, there's no time for the BAAA to meet and make amendments to include such a body. But there's still time for the association to hear the concerns of the athletes.

While space won't allow for the publication of the letter in its entirety, I wish to take this opportunity to point out these key aspects:

"We will not be deceived with rhetoric and double standards," the athletes wrote. "How is it that one can aspire to reclaim leadership to an organization when the institution was overwhelmed with division and without a vision during the tenure of the ousted leader?"

"This in our view portrays arrogance. Our firm and fervent desire is that any and all candidates vying to reclaim a position of leadership in the BAAA should begin with open and honest confession



OPINION

of their former management of the institution."

The letter further states that while the athletes know they are not eligible to vote, they do feel they should have a voice in determining who is elected to run the affairs of the association.

And they're right because, as they also stated, they have and are forced to maintain a high standard and likewise, they should only expect the same from the people who lead them.

Let me state here that I'm not taking any sides, but I firmly believe that our leaders must realize that without the athletes, they won't have any organization to manage. If our athletes are not performing to the level that will enable them to qualify for the international meets, then there won't be the need for a national team to travel.

I just think that more consideration must be given to our athletes and that's not just in track and field, but all sports, if we're going to continue to make the inroads that we've done so far.

The BAAA just happen to be the one in the spotlight

SEE page 13

GSSSA VOLLEYBALL SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

Difficult opening day for the Cobras

by RENALDO DORSETT
Sports Reporter
rdorsett@tribunemedia.net

Day one of the GSSSA Volleyball Senior Championships proved to be a difficult outing for the C.C Sweeting Cobras as both teams lost the opening games of their respective series.

In senior boys play the Cobras have much ground to make up if they hope to repeat as champions after a three set loss to the C.V. Bethel Stingrays, while the girls fell in straight sets to the defending champion C.R Walker Knights.

The Stingrays overcame an opening set loss to take game one 19-21, 19-14, 15-12.

The opening set was an equally played back and forth contest with neither team leading by more than two scores throughout.

The set featured 11 ties and 11 lead changes with the Cobras getting the better of the Stingrays late in the set.

The first tie came early in the set at 4, and the Cobras took the biggest lead of the set, 11-9 on a score by Gabi Laurent.

Tied at 19, Roosevelt Whyly spiked home a score to give the Cobras a 20-19 lead and Kenvado Thomson converted on the next play to take the first set.

The second set proved to be a complete turnaround as the Stingrays raced out to a commanding 6-0 lead before the Cobras could reach the scoreboard.

A bad serve ended the run for the Stingrays, but they maintained the six point advantage for much of the set.

The Stingrays led 10-4 before the Cobras chipped into the advantage with a pair of kills by Whyly and a block by Thompson to bring them within three.

C.V Bethel stayed ahead by four scores, before a final run won the set handily.

Ahead 14-10, Tre Adderley scored on consecutive scores and the Stingrays' defense forced a series of errors to take the second set by six points.

In the third and deciding set, the Cobras appeared to be well on their way to a game one win, before the Stingrays defense once again stepped up and forced a rally.

Jamon King became the hero, as he scored three of his team's final four points of the set.

The Cobras opened the set with a 4-0 lead, only to have the Stingrays answer with five scores of their own to take a 5-4 advantage.

The Cobras led 8-5 heading into the side switch.

The Stingrays again pulled ahead 10-9, and after a 10 all tie, King scored the first of his many clutch points down the stretch.

King's point sparked a 4-0 run capped by a soft dink at the net which dropped in for a 14-10 lead.

Fittingly he spiked home the winner to give the Stingrays a 15-12 win in the set and match.

Adderley led the Stingrays with 11 points while King added four.

Laurent led the Cobras in a losing effort with nine.

Play continues in both series today at the D.W Davis Gymnasium, beginning at 4pm.

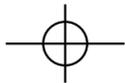
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LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL SPORTS

Crawford leads Hawks to victory over Blazers

By ANNE M PETERSON
AP Sports Writer

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) — Jamal Crawford is happy with his new team and his new role.

"This is the most fun I've had because I haven't had these kinds of athletes, ever. So it feels good," he said after scoring 27 points off the bench to lead the Atlanta Hawks to a 97-91 victory over the Portland Trail Blazers on Tuesday night.

Al Horford's dunk with 56.6 seconds left made it 95-89 and all but sealed it for the Hawks. Horford finished with 11 points and 13 rebounds.

LaMarcus Aldridge, who was questionable going into the game with a knee injury, led the Blazers with 20 points and 14 rebounds.

Horford's dunk on a fast break put the Hawks up 86-80 with six minutes left in the fourth quarter. He momentarily stood underneath the basket, staring down the Rose Garden crowd in defiance after Portland led by as many as 12 points in the first half.

Portland's Travis Outlaw made a jumper and a 3-pointer to narrow it to 86-85, but Crawford came back with a jump from the top of the arc with 4:01 left.

After Outlaw closed in again with another jumper, Joe Johnson hit a 3-pointer to make it 91-89 for the Hawks.

Andre Miller made a pair of free throws for Portland before Johnson's jumper and Horford's dunk with just under a minute left kept Portland at bay the rest of the way.

Crawford, who was acquired by Atlanta in the off-

season after splitting time between New York and Golden State last year, said he's adjusting to his reserve role.

"I think it gives us good balance," he said. "We have a really, really strong starting five and we have a really good bench, so we try to balance both and make the best of it."

The Hawks (3-1) were playing the second of a four-game road trip. They fell 118-110 to the Los Angeles Lakers on Sunday.

Aldridge played against the Hawks after he was knocked out of Portland's game Sunday at Oklahoma City with a bone contusion on his right knee. The Blazers (2-3) defeated the Thunder 83-74.

The Blazers uncharacteristically fell to 1-2 last home. Last season they were 34-7 advantage at the Rose Garden.

"I feel like our level of play has got to go up," coach Nate McMillan said. "To win, we're not playing as hard as we need to win ball games."

The Blazers and the Hawks split their series last season, with each team holding their own at home. Portland has won nine of the last 11 against Atlanta at the Rose Garden.

The Blazers began to pull away late in the first quarter, capped by Brandon Roy's two-handed jam to make it 25-15. Greg Oden padded the lead to start the second with a dunk off a pass from Miller.

But the Hawks came back, with a 14-6 run capped by Mike Bibby's 3-pointer to close to within 43-41. The Hawks narrowed it to 48-47 at the break. Atlanta was led by Crawford, who had 15 points in the quarter.

"He was huge," said coach



GREG ODEN (left) looks for an opening to the basket as Atlanta Hawks center Al Horford defends during the first quarter of their game in Portland, Oregon, on Tuesday night...

Mike Woodson. "He's a shot-maker. I haven't had a big-time guy off the bench like that who can score the ball."

Atlanta jumped up early in the second half but it was brief, marked by a Horford

shot that came to rest on the space between the rim and the backboard.

Portland came back to go up by as much as 64-56 after Steve Blake's 10-foot-jumper, but again Atlanta answered and led 72-69 at the end of

three. Roy's step-back jumper tied it for the Blazers at 80, but the Hawks scored the next six straight, capped by Horford's fast break dunk, with an assist from Crawford, that made it 86-80.



MAGIC guard Vince Carter goes down after injuring his ankle in the second quarter of a game against the New Jersey Nets... (AP Photo: Bill Kostroun)

Magic's Carter sidelined with injury

ORLANDO, Florida (AP) — Orlando Magic guard Vince Carter was sidelined against the Phoenix Suns on Wednesday night with a sprained left ankle.

Carter was first injured Friday against New Jersey. Magic coach Stan Van Gundy said Carter aggravated the ankle again Tuesday night versus Detroit. Carter's status is day to day.

The 32-year-old guard was Orlando's biggest free agent splash this summer. The Magic acquired Carter from New Jersey in a trade that sent Courtney Lee, Rafer Alston and Tony Battie to the Nets. Orlando also received Ryan Anderson.

Meanwhile, small forward Mickael Pietrus returned to the Magic's lineup Wednesday after missing two straight games with flu-like symptoms.

Johnson leads NFL in rushing

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Tennessee cornerback Cortland Finnegan is fast, very fast. And he refuses to even think about racing teammate Chris Johnson.

Not even for fun. "There's some things you just don't do," Finnegan said with a smile. "A Ferrari and a Toyota Corolla will not race. I feel like I'll be a Toyota Corolla. I'm not going to race a Ferrari."

Johnson is the speedy second-year running back from East Carolina who is leaving defenders in his wake. He's leading the NFL in yards rushing (824) and yards per carry with a whopping 6.9 average, and was the AFC offensive player of the week Wednesday for his franchise-record 228 yards rushing in last week's 30-13 win over Jacksonville.

Call it arrogant, but Johnson said he hasn't seen anyone match his speed — measured at 4.24 seconds in a 40-yard dash — yet in the NFL. "I'm not all about my speed. I can make people miss. I can break tackles," he said.

It's part of Johnson's march to being one of the NFL's best, and this season's goal is 2,000 yards, which has been done only five times and not since Jamal Lewis in 2003. If he reaches that, Johnson plans to reward his linemen by buying them cars. He has topped 100 yards three times this season, and his 228 yards was the NFL's best since Adrian Peterson rushed for 296 on Nov. 4, 2007, against San Diego. It was also the 16th best rushing total since the NFL/AFL merger in 1970.

Some running backs may have more touchdowns than Johnson's four, but each of his scoring runs has been longer than 52 yards, and he is busy rewriting the Tennessee record book, passing by names like Billy Cannon, Earl Campbell and Eddie George. Johnson has two of the franchise's three longest TD runs with an 89-yarder and a 91-yarder — both this season.

"It feels real good to look at some of the guys who have played before me, then come in and break a record. But records are made to be broken," Johnson said.

The Crushers remain undefeated

FROM page 12

kets from turnovers.

Turnquest was 3-5 from the line in the third but missed several easy lay-ups at the basket which he would normally convert.

The Crushers led 19-1 at the end of the third quarter.

The fourth was the most productive scoring quarter for St. Bede's as they outscored St. Francis and Joseph's 22-2.

Malik Jones opened the scoring on the opening possession with a baseline jumper.

Mackey was again the team's catalyst, dominating the offensive boards, and scoring 10 points in the quarter.

Leading 36-1, Johnathan Finlayson converted two free throws at the line for the Shockers for their only scores of the half.

STUBBS OPINION

BAAA in the spotlight

FROM page 12

because their elections is on the horizon. But whenever you have athletes speaking out about your organization, I think it's time to take note.

ROBINSON SUPPORT

Tommy Robinson has been the name of track and field for a long time.

He's still being remembered for his sole representation on the international scene and his name is inscribed on our national track and field stadium.

But in recent years, Robinson has been sidelined with stomach cancer and has reportedly mounted a huge financial bill and the Bahamas Association of Athletic Associations is coming to his rescue.

At age 71, Robinson has been the sporting ambassador for the country and now it's time for the country to show their gratitude in a tangible way once again.

I say once again because in July, a committee called "Friends of Tommy Robinson" hosted a gala luncheon in his honor. The public should be commended for the turnout.

On Saturday, December 12, the public is once again being called upon to help Robin-

son. This time it's true a 20 Mile Fight for Cancer Relay Health Run.

It's a new initiative, but I feel it's one that can really catch on and make an impact in our country as competitive and non-competitive athletes come together and compete for a worthy cause.

It's not every day that this type of appeal is made. But Robinson is not your ordinary person. He has served as a great ambassador, a mentor and a supporter for many of our athletes.

Let's rally around and give Robinson our support in this venture.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY SEA WOLF

Another remarkable Bahamian is in the spotlight.

On Monday, Sir Durward 'Sea Wolf' Knowles celebrated another milestone, his 92nd birthday. But if you see him, he certainly doesn't look that old.

Maybe it's because of Knowles' generosity, commitment and dedication to the Bahamas, not just in sports, but just about every aspect that he has been invited or willingly supported.

We want to congratulate Knowles and wish him every success in the future.

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INTERNATIONAL SPORTS

Rubin draws 0-0 with Barcelona

By DAVID NOWAK
Associated Press Writer

KAZAN, Russia (AP) — Ruben Kazan held off the constant attacking of defending champion Barcelona to earn a 0-0 draw Wednesday in the Champions League.

Barcelona dominated possession but lacked sharp finishing against Rubin's disciplined defense, leaving the two teams with five points each in Group F.

The visitors came closest after only two minutes, when Zlatan Ibrahimovic curled a shot past goalkeeper Sergei Ryzhikov onto the outside of the post after a precision through pass by Xavi Hernandez.

Rubin substitute Alexander Bukharov had the hosts' best chance in the 79th. Victor Valdes ran out of the Barcelona goal to smother his shot.

The match was played in freezing conditions in Kazan, the capital of the autonomous Tatarstan republic.

After Ibrahimovic's miss, Xavi's chip from 20 meters (yards) sailed on to the roof of the net in the 19th minute. A minute later, Messi dribbled past two defenders but Ryzhikov dived at the Argentine's feet to steal the ball.

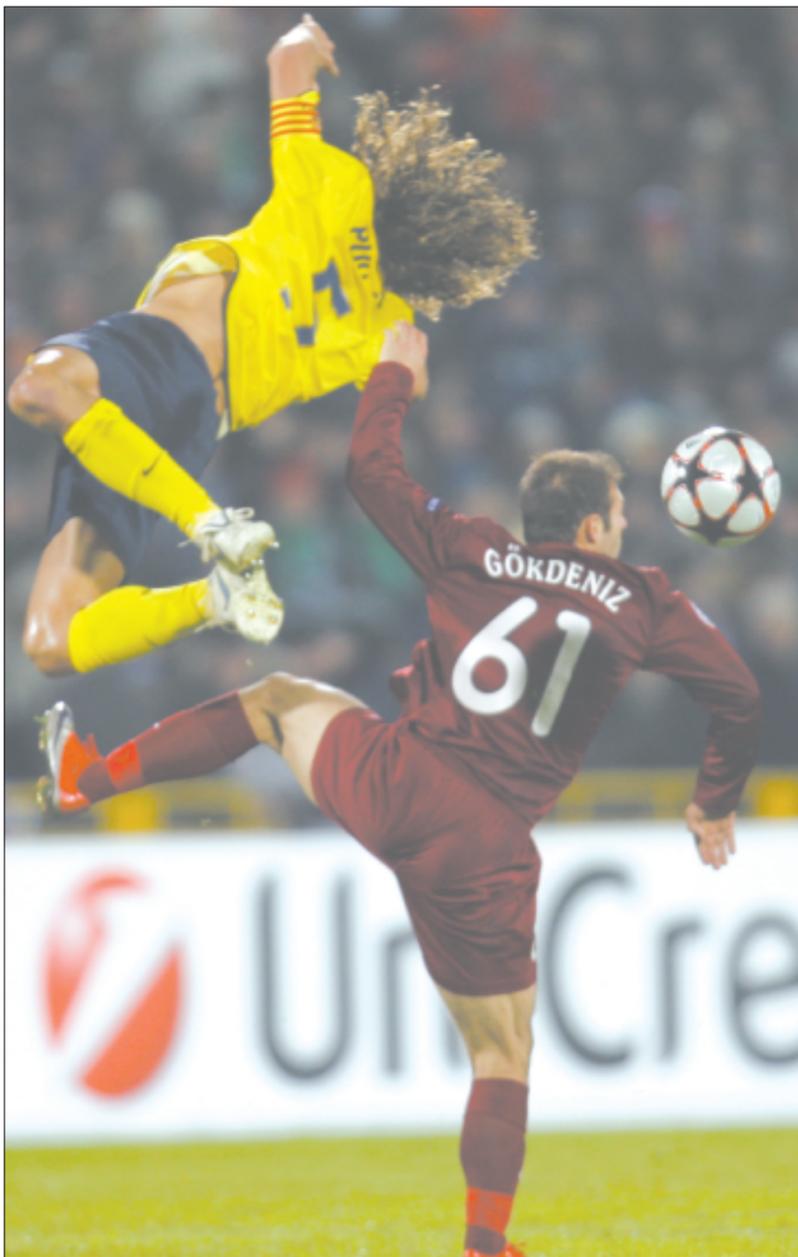
Carlos Puyol blocked a low drive from Ecuadorian midfielder Christian Noboa in the 25th, while Messi struck a fierce shot from 20 meters (yards) that bounced just wide seconds later.

Argentine striker Alejandro Dominguez was a nuisance for the Barcelona defense, jinking past several players in the 31st minute before losing the ball from some tight marking inside the box.

Ryzhikov saved twice again before the break, from Andres Iniesta and Ibrahimovic.

Barcelona was less potent in the second half with Rubin's defenders, undaunted by their illustrious opponents, calmly dealing with cross after cross.

Yaya Toure struck a



FC BARCELONA'S Carles Puyol (left) fights for the high ball with Rubin Kazan Gokdeniz Karadeniz during their Group F Champions League match in Kazan, Russia, yesterday...

(AP Photo: Sergey Ponomarev)

stinging drive from 30 meters (yards) after the break that Ryzhikov parried for his defense to clear.

Iniesta skipped past two defenders and into the box but shot wide in the 54th, while Xavi sliced a long shot

past the post in the 67th.

A rare Ruben attack in the 69th ended in Dominguez shooting weakly for the ball to bobble wide.

Five minutes later, Dominguez played Alexan-

der Bukharov through but the substitute could only chest the ball down into the arms of Valdes.

Barcelona substitute Thierry Henry shot wide when put through by Lionel Messi in the 90th minute



FORMER NBA REFEREE Tim Donaghy leaves Brooklyn federal court following his sentencing in New York. Donaghy was a free man yesterday after serving most of a 15-month sentence in a gambling scandal.

(AP Photo)

Ex-NBA ref is released from jail

BROOKSVILLE, Florida (AP) — Disgraced former NBA referee Tim Donaghy was a free man on Wednesday after serving most of a 15-month sentence in a gambling scandal.

Pat Berdan, a consultant working with Donaghy, said he was released from Hernando County Jail in Florida, where he had been held since August after officials said he violated travel restrictions while living at a halfway house in the Tampa area.

A New York judge sentenced the former referee in July 2008 after Donaghy said he took thousands of dollars from a professional gambler in exchange for inside tips on NBA games — including games he worked.

The 42-year-old pleaded guilty to conspiracy to

engage in wire fraud and transmitting betting information through interstate commerce in the tips-for-payoffs scheme.

Donaghy served 13 months of the sentence. During his stay in prison, he wrote a tell-all book "Blowing The Whistle," that does not yet have a publisher. Excerpts posted online include accusations of wagering between officials working games, favoritism toward star players, and desires by the league to extend playoff series.

The NBA has said it will review the allegations that appeared on the Web site deadspin.com.

Executive Prison Consultants, a consulting agency working with Donaghy, has said the former referee plans to seek a job in sales or marketing.

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52wk-Hi	52wk-Low	Security	Previous Close	Today's Close	Change	Daily Vol.	EPS \$	Div \$	P/E	Yield
1.71	1.03	AML Foods Limited	1.17	1.17	0.00		0.127	0.000	9.2	0.00%
11.80	9.90	Bahamas Property Fund	10.75	10.75	0.00		0.992	0.200	10.8	1.86%
9.30	5.90	Bank of Bahamas	5.90	5.90	0.00		0.244	0.260	24.2	4.41%
0.89	0.63	Benchmark	0.63	0.63	0.00		-0.877	0.000	N/M	0.00%
3.49	3.15	Bahamas Waste	3.15	3.15	0.00		0.125	0.090	25.2	2.86%
2.37	2.14	Fidelity Bank	2.37	2.37	0.00		0.055	0.040	43.1	1.69%
14.20	9.92	Cable Bahamas	9.92	9.92	0.00		1.406	0.250	7.1	2.52%
2.88	2.72	Colina Holdings	2.72	2.72	0.00		0.249	0.040	10.9	1.47%
7.50	5.26	Commonwealth Bank (S1)	5.74	5.74	0.00		0.419	0.300	13.7	5.23%
3.85	1.27	Consolidated Water BDRs	3.00	2.88	-0.12		0.111	0.052	25.9	1.81%
2.85	1.32	Doctor's Hospital	2.25	2.25	0.00	1,500	0.625	0.080	3.6	3.56%
8.20	6.28	Famguard	6.50	6.50	0.00		0.420	0.240	15.5	3.69%
12.50	8.80	Finco	9.30	9.30	0.00		0.322	0.520	28.9	5.59%
11.71	9.87	FirstCaribbean Bank	9.87	9.87	0.00		0.631	0.350	15.6	3.55%
5.53	4.11	Focol (S)	4.34	4.34	0.00	19,236	0.326	0.150	13.3	3.46%
1.00	1.00	Focol Class B Preference	1.00	1.00	0.00	40,000	0.000	0.000	N/M	0.00%
0.45	0.27	Freeport Concrete	0.27	0.27	0.00		0.035	0.000	7.7	0.00%
9.02	5.49	ICD Utilities	5.59	5.59	0.00		0.407	0.500	13.7	8.94%
12.00	9.95	J. S. Johnson	9.95	9.95	0.00		0.952	0.640	10.5	6.43%
10.00	10.00	Premier Real Estate	10.00	10.00	0.00		0.156	0.000	64.1	0.00%

52wk-Hi	52wk-Low	Security	Symbol	Last Sale	Change	Daily Vol.	Interest	Maturity
1000.00	1000.00	Fidelity Bank Note 17 (Series A) +	FBB17	100.00	0.00		7%	19 October 2017
1000.00	1000.00	Fidelity Bank Note 22 (Series B) +	FBB22	100.00	0.00		Prime + 1.75%	19 October 2022
1000.00	1000.00	Fidelity Bank Note 13 (Series C) +	FBB13	100.00	0.00		7%	30 May 2013
1000.00	1000.00	Fidelity Bank Note 15 (Series D) +	FBB15	100.00	0.00		Prime + 1.75%	29 May 2015

52wk-Hi	52wk-Low	Symbol	Bid \$	Ask \$	Last Price	Weekly Vol.	EPS \$	Div \$	P/E	Yield
14.60	7.92	Bahamas Supermarkets	10.06	11.06	14.00		-2.246	0.000	N/M	0.00%
8.00	6.00	Caribbean Crossings (Pref)	2.00	6.25	4.00		0.000	0.480	N/M	7.80%
0.54	0.20	RND Holdings	0.35	0.40	0.35		0.001	0.000	256.6	0.00%

52wk-Hi	52wk-Low	Fund Name	NAV	YTD%	Last 12 Months	Div \$	Yield %	NAV Date
1.4038	1.3344	CFAL Bond Fund	1.4038	3.72	5.20			31-Aug-09
3.0350	2.8952	CFAL MSI Preferred Fund	2.8300	-3.75	-6.75			30-Sep-09
1.4957	1.4226	CFAL Money Market Fund	1.4957	4.30	5.13			23-Oct-09
3.5399	2.9759	Fidelity Bahamas G & I Fund	2.9759	-12.10	-17.54			30-Sep-09
13.1751	12.3870	Fidelity Prime Income Fund	13.1751	4.42	5.86			30-Sep-09
103.0956	100.0000	CFAL Global Bond Fund	103.0956	3.10	2.52			30-Sep-09
100.0000	99.4177	CFAL Global Equity Fund	99.4177	3.12	2.76			30-Sep-09
1.0000	1.0000	CFAL High Grade Bond Fund	1.0000	0.00	0.00			31-Dec-07
10.5884	10.0000	Fidelity International Investment Fund	10.5884	5.88	5.88			30-Sep-09
1.0757	1.0000	FG Financial Preferred Income Fund	1.0757	3.86	5.20			30-Sep-09
1.0364	1.0000	FG Financial Growth Fund	1.0305	-0.24	0.32			30-Sep-09
1.0709	1.0000	FG Financial Diversified Fund	1.0709	3.24	4.54			30-Sep-09

MARKET TERMS
YIELD - Last 12 month dividends divided by closing price
Bid \$ - Buying price of Colina and Fidelity
Ask \$ - Selling price of Colina and Fidelity
Last Price - Last traded over-the-counter price
Weekly Vol. - Trading volume of the prior week
EPS \$ - A company's reported earnings per share for the last 12 mths
NAV - Net Asset Value
N/M - Not Meaningful
FINDEX - The Fidelity Bahamas Stock Index. January 1, 1994 = 100

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LOCAL NEWS

Burns House and Kalik support junkanoo groups

Junkanoo Fan Festival kicks off at the Butler & Sands Grounds on November 7



PICTURED are representatives from the participating junkanoo groups along with representatives from the Burns House Group and the Department of Culture. Seated (l to r) are: LeRoy Archer, managing director, Burns House; Charles Maynard, Minister of State, Department of Culture; Wendell Seymour, corporate relations manager, Burns House. Standing (l-r): Eddie Dames, Saxons / Ministry of Culture; Sadira Levarity, One Family; Shameka Johnson, Miss Cultural Bahamas; Les Johnson, The Roots; Davon Brennen, The Valley Boys.

THE Burns House Group of Companies and Kalik Beer have committed to supporting four major junkanoo groups in their fundraising efforts by hosting *Junkanoo 4.0: The Ultimate Fan Festival*.

This four-event series will take place at the Butler & Sands grounds, and feature the Saxons on November 7, the Valley Boys on November 14, One Family on November 28, and the Roots on December 5.

On its featured night, each group will perform a show-time hour, in addition to a rush-out performance.

Junkanoo fans can expect to see the groups exhibiting at their very best, as they fine tune their shows for the upcoming Boxing Day and New Years Day parades.

The gates will open at 6pm, with entrance fees set at \$5 before 8pm, and \$10 after. Gate proceeds will aid the featured group of the night.

Kalik Beer, whose name is derived from the

“kalik, kalik, kalikin” sound of cowbells used in junkanoo, has supported the development of the festivals and various other aspects of Bahamian culture for the last 21 years. LeRoy Archer, managing director of Burns House, noted that, “With groups finding corporate entities unable to contribute what they would have in better economic times, we are extremely happy that we have figured out a way to help junkanoo groups help themselves.”

“These events will essentially help the groups make it to Bay Street, while at the same time, provide world class entertainment in a safe environment.”

In addition to the junkanoo performance, food and drinks will be on sale. *Junkanoo 4.0: The Ultimate Fan Festival* has been endorsed by Minister of State for Culture Charles Maynard, and Bahamians, residents and tourists alike are being encouraged to attend.

The Burns House Group reminded attendees to drink responsibly.

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REGISTRATION TIME:
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REGISTRATION FEE:
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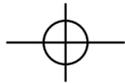
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Bahamas financial group's 'first step' in regional growth

By NEIL HARTNELL
Tribune Business Editor

BAF Global Group, the parent of Bahamas-based financial services provider British American Financial, yesterday said it had grown into a business containing "well over" \$100 million in assets and "just under" 100,000 policyholders through its acquisition of British American Insurance Company (Cayman), the "first step" in the Bahamian firm's regional and international expansion.



COOPER

Chester Cooper, BAF Global Group's chairman, and president/chief executive of British American Financial, told Tribune Business from the Cayman Islands that the move to purchase British American Insurance Company (Cayman) from its judicial managers, KPMG, represented "the first step in our regional strategy".

- * British American Financial acquires Cayman operation from receivers, giving enlarged group 'well over' \$100m in assets and almost 100,000 policyholders collectively
- * \$2.5m infrastructure investment in Bahamas set to pay-off for Bahamian interests via back office outsourcing from Cayman
- * Bahamian company exploits CL Financial difficulties to begin regional/international growth plan

Mr Cooper described the acquisition as "very positive" for British American Financial and BAF Global's Bahamas interests, saying there was "a real possibility" that some of the Cayman operation's back office functions would be outsourced back to the Bahamas.

This, Mr Cooper told Tribune Business, had been

SEE page 8B

\$20m project 65% 'sold out'

By CHESTER ROBARDS
Business Reporter
crobards@tribunemedia.net

A group of young Bahamian businessmen yesterday told Tribune Business they are developing one of the most innovative and environmentally-friendly gated subdivisions in New Providence, sparing no expense on the latest technology in erecting the \$20 million South West Ridge Tuscan Shores Community.

Anthone Deveaux, chairman of Green Thumb Investments, parent company of Tuscan Shores Development Company, said the community was developed with single family homes in mind, especially with professional mothers seeking security and comfort.

With the western district of New Providence producing a mass of new communities, these entrepreneurs said they have moved to produce a gated community with the old-world feel of Central Italy, the latest in communication infrastructure and some of the most environmentally secure acreage of any other community. The men secured the services of a Bahamian botanist for the purpose of saving and integrating indigenous trees and vegetation.

"We as a company take pride in being more like land architects than land butchers," said Mr Deveaux.

According to him, residential lots are 65 per cent sold out and infrastructure is 80 per cent complete.

Fibre optic cable has been laid

throughout the community to facilitate the latest in communications, including cable television, Wi-fi and telecommunications, in order to cater to the young professional market. And the fibre optic technology will be used to integrate triple play packages that bundle cable television, Internet and telephone services coming online in this country.

Shareholder Kelvin Leach said the fibre optic cabling will also allow for a state-of-the-art security system to fortify Tuscan Shores.

"We are the first community in Nassau using fibre optic technology in the infrastructure," he said.

Tuscan Shores will also feature underground electrical facilities in order to protect the community during storms and maintain its aesthetic landscape.

Mr Deveaux said paving of the 10-acre property could begin next month, while buildings will start to go up near the end of December and early next year.

The group hopes to have the community completed by early 2013, but due to the current economic conditions applying brakes to certain aspects of the project, construction could continue on into 2015.

Peter Baskin, the civil engineer with the group, said at the height of construction the site could create 50 to 60 permanent jobs. As a fully Bahamian-owned company, Green Thumb Investments has made sure to employ a full compliment of Bahamian firms to design and complete the Tuscan Shores Project.

Designers have incorporated grand green spaces with the community, going above and beyond the Ministry of Works' requirements, with a common pool facility, tennis courts and a children's play area.

The group hopes to also integrate as many alternative energy sources as possible, including solar street lighting.

"We want to be as environmentally friendly as possible and put in as much alternative energy sources as we can implement," said Mr Deveaux. "We have a responsibility to the environment."

Lots in the community will begin at \$119,000, while the 1,500 square foot, two-bedroom town homes will start at \$295,000 and 1,800 square foot three-bedroom at \$295,000.

According to the group, the square footage of their town homes and houses are larger than most communities currently being built. And construction of houses will be held to strict building codes that must be approved by a home owners association. All of the buildings and surrounding community will have "European flare mixed with a little island flavour".

The men said they chose the Westridge area because of its proximity to the burgeoning western district, the airport and downtown. Tuscan Shores is nestled in the middle to upper-class community of West Ridge.

"We're the future of the Bahamas and that comes with the responsibility to construct a world class development - at any level," said Mr Leach.

Post Office privatisation called for

By NEIL HARTNELL
Tribune Business Editor

THE Government was yesterday urged to privatise the Post Office, an ex-Bahamas Chamber of Commerce president telling Tribune Business that inefficiencies in handling mail and the early closures caused by non-functioning air conditioning systems were adding to the "costs of doing business".

Returning to the theme that the Government should get out of running and owning businesses, Dionisio D'Aguilar, Superwash's president, said delays in the sending and receipt of return mail, especially for companies sending out bills and receiving payments, caused accounts receivables problems and added to business costs.

These delays, he added, also impacted consumers, as they sometimes did not receive bills from institutions such as the banks and the utility companies until after the due date.

Suggesting that the Post Office and its functions did not seem to be important to the Government, with the administration "not interested in it", Mr D'Aguilar suggested that the agency either be outsourced to a private sector management who would

operate it, or privatise it altogether.

Although the Government was unlikely to earn a huge sum of money from selling-off the Post Office, Mr D'Aguilar said: "Perhaps it's something you could privatise. Give someone a contract to run it, and set performance guidelines for them."

"Privatise the Post Office. You would have a lot more flexibility to innovate and get rid of dead weight." Many developed world nations, such as the UK and US, have already privatised formerly nationalised post offices and mail delivery systems, such as Britain's Royal Mail, handing them over to private sector managers and owners who have increased efficiency by computerising them.

"It seems to be in distress; it's not working," Mr D'Aguilar said of the Post Office. "The way we conduct business in this country is still very much send me a bill, send you a cheque, and we need a Post Office for that to happen."

"So if you are a business that requires the sending out of bills, the Post Office is an integral component of doing business, especially if you are in the accounts receivables

SEE page 3B

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'Hold the line' over public sector wages

By NEIL HARTNELL
Tribune Business Editor

PUBLIC sector unions must "hold the line" on pushing for salary increases in upcoming industrial negotiations to keep inflation and the public finances under control, a leading Bahamian accountant said yesterday, as he urged the Government to include productivity clauses to combat this nation's relatively low output per worker.

Raymond Winder, Deloitte & Touche (Bahamas) managing partner, said the International Monetary Fund's (IMF) projections that

- * Salary increases could jeopardise IMF's inflation targets
- * Government urged to hold down industrial agreement settlements to keep inflation and public finances under control, and recovery on course
- * Productivity 'out of line' with per unit of labour output costs, says top accountant

Bahamian inflation would fall to 1 per cent in 2009 and just 0.2 per cent in 2010, compared to 4.5 per cent last year, could be jeopardised by the 'cost-push' effects of increased wage settlements with public sector unions.

Referring the possibility of industrial action by the Union

of Tertiary Educators of the Bahamas (UTEB) at the College of the Bahamas (COB), Mr Winder said increased wage settlements with public sector unions helped raise the cost base for utilities and other government-run agencies.

SEE page 11B

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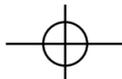
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BUSINESS

National energy policy must be more robust

By Audrey Ingram Roberts

THE National Energy Policy Committee's first report provides some insight into the challenges involved in formulating such a policy for the Bahamas. The policy's vision statement should indicate an aim for the Bahamas to

become a low carbon economy by some point in this century. It should inform the public of when the goal will be reached; what constitutes "low", given our prevailing realities; and how that goal is to be achieved. The report suggests that it is through pilot studies that these metrics will likely be generated (once

smart indicators have been identified, I suppose). Nonetheless, it is important that a policy communicates a robust vision of a changed future regarding energy.

Additionally, the policy should stimulate enthusiasm for a shared vision by all stakeholders. A clear energy policy framework will help

stakeholders appreciate what is involved in transitioning from high to low carbon status, and indicate the value added to our society and our environment in achieving this.

There are compelling reasons why the Bahamas must become a low carbon economy. Those reasons have to do with climate change, the changing economic climate and our sustainable development objectives. Energy is the pivot. It is both a threat to, and opportunity for, attaining sustainable development. How we reduce the threat or augment the opportunities depends much on our willingness to take responsibility for how we consume energy now, and how much we are prepared to change at the micro level where, as individuals we live our daily lives, as well as at the macro levels of social and economic policy.

The Committee's report said that formulation of a Conservation Policy will follow the Energy Policy. That's linear planning, in my view. Our environment is at the epicentre of all the compelling reasons why the Bahamas' goal must be to become a low-carbon economy. It therefore has to embark upon a structured transition process to reach and sustain that goal. Rather than following on the heels of the energy policy formulation process, conservation is itself a crucial pillar of the energy policy framework, and should be embedded as a platform for action towards the fulfillment of a robust energy policy.

Transitioning to a low carbon economy

"There are complex policy challenges involved in managing the transition to a low carbon economy, and in ensuring that societies can adapt to the consequences of climate change that can no longer be avoided." So says the Stern Review, commissioned by the British government on the economics of climate change in a publication released in 2006.

The truth of that statement is meaningful for the energy policy formulation exercise currently underway in our country.

The United Nations' 2007/2008 Human Development Report announced that if all countries were to emit carbon dioxide at levels similar to the Bahamas, the world would exceed its current CO2 output by over 200 per cent. Although small in geographic size, the Bahamas' emission levels per capita are above those of all other Latin American and Caribbean countries with a similar population size. (Tribune editorial on Thursday, December 13, 2007)

The operative term in the statement is 'per capita', suggesting that each citizen and resident of the Bahamas makes a heavy carbon footprint on the environment. The statement challenges us to build a low carbon economy, and we are foolish if we think the challenges are before us and not within us. Unfortunately, the tone of the National Energy Policy Committee's

report is that the journey is before us, even outside us - in sector studies, data gap analysis, upgrading the regulatory framework, implementing new energy technologies and the like. Undoubtedly, these are required technical activities in policy formulation, but do they give us any urgency to confront how we each personally impact upon the environment and own the changes we each must make? Hardly!

Every journey starts with an understanding of where we are, and where we are now is on the fossil fuel platform. Among the questions that consumers often ask are: How long do we have to stay on this costly platform? Why can't we step faster on to the renewable platform? When will the legislation be in place that permits us to step from the fossil fuel platform to the renewable, without risk of breaking the law?

Overall, the Bahamas wants to get at the high fruits of alternative and renewable energy. The committee's report is responsive to such aspirations. However, the point is this. The energy architecture to support those liberating, higher hanging fruits is still fossil fuel-based electricity, and will remain so for some time. That is the reality of where we are.

Retrofits and energy efficient technologies - 'the low hanging fruits' - are important instruments in the transition process, especially those world-class products that have been designed to perform in the context of the existing energy platform.

But there are questions not asked often enough by consumers, such as: What can we do now to efficiently manage our energy consumption? How can we save money, save energy and save our environment?

Transitioning to a low carbon economy is an endeavor that combines conservation measures with energy efficient technology. You cannot save what you cannot measure. Measurement is the first step in taking responsibility. We wouldn't think to drive cars without dashboards. By knowing the distances to be driven, the amount of petrol required, and time it will take, including peak traffic times, we take control. Yet the measurement of the energy we consume is determined only by BEC's meters - information we get after the fact in our electricity bills.

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SEE page 14B

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Nov 28 - Dream Girls Beauty Supplies (village Rd) 2-6pm

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Dec 19th - Universal Beauty Supplies (East Street) 10am - 2pm

Dec 19th - Unique Hair & Nails Salon - 2pm- 6pm

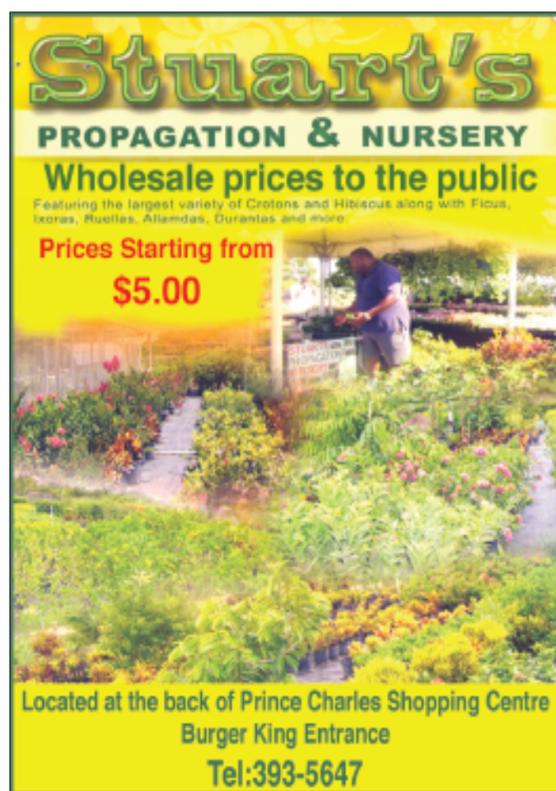
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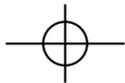


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THE ISLANDS OF THE bahamas



BUSINESS

Post Office privatisation called for FROM page 1B

Foxwoods off table 'for the moment'

By NEIL HARTNELL
Tribune Business Editor

But minister says all Our Lucaya parties agree on need for integrated resort/casino management

business. You need an efficient, working Post Office to send out the bills, for the client to receive the bill, cut the cheque and send it to you in the mail.

"People that need to send out lots of bills need to know it's working. You need an efficient, working post office to conduct your business."

Mr D'Aguilar said it seemed as if the Post Office was a forgotten, neglected arm of government, and pointed out that it "makes the cost of doing business more if you have to run around picking up cheques from clients."

"The time it takes to deliver mail from the General Post Office to the satellite post offices is like going to New York and back."

Mr D'Aguilar said the mail was still the preferred communications means for sending out bills, and receiving payments and receipts, since it was "cumbersome" to put a host of charges and their breakdown in an e-mail message. And e-mail messages were frequently forgotten about or accidentally deleted, unlike physical mail that was hand-delivered or sent in the post.

"The Post Office is still the cheapest form of inter-island delivery around the Bahamas," he added. "Mail still has a function, and we can't negate it for the purposes of doing business."

ALTHOUGH hopes that world-renowned casino developer/operator Foxwoods would take over management of Our Lucaya's resort and casino have been placed on the backburner "for the moment", the minister of tourism and aviation said yesterday that such an "integrated management" deal remained the "ultimate objective" for Freeport's leading hotel property.

Vincent Vanderpool-Wallace told Tribune Business that the Government had to fall back on its second choice to operate Our Lucaya's casino, Treasure Bay, when it became clear that the resort's owner, Hutchison Whampoa, and Foxwoods would be unable to reach agreement before the existing operator, Isle of Capri, left at month's end.

Without a replacement operator, that would have left some 235 casino employees jobless, a scenario unthinkable to the Government with unemployment nationwide - and in Grand Bahama especially - already running at around a likely 20 per cent rate.

However, Mr Vanderpool-Wallace said the Government was still focusing on a "Foxwoods-type deal", where the resort and casino were managed by the same sole operator, as the ultimate solution for Our Lucaya.

"We have always said from the beginning that Treasure Bay would be more successful, and any casino operator would be more successful, to the degree that we have integrated management of the resort and casino [at Our Lucaya]," Mr Vanderpool-Wallace told Tribune Business.

Working

"We are already working closely with Treasure Bay to effect that.....That is our ultimate goal, integrated management of the resort and casino as one."

When asked why the Foxwoods deal had seemingly been taken off the table, the Government deciding to go with its second option of Treasure Bay, Mr Vanderpool-Wallace said: "It was very clear that some of the other options being considered would take a much longer time that allowed by the need of Isle of Capri" to exit its Our Lucaya operation by end-October, as its Board of Directors had committed to.

"Treasure Bay was better able to accommodate what we needed to do in a shorter period of time," the minister told

Tribune Business. "That's not to suggest in any way that we do not have the utmost confidence in the capacity of Treasure Bay to do an outstanding job."

"We're already talking to them about what we want to accomplish."

Mr Vanderpool-Wallace implied that having separate resort and casino operators at Our Lucaya had been detrimental to the property's performance because the two sides had effectively been pulling in two directions, the resort manager focusing on filling rooms and making sure they were paid for, and its casino counterpart zeroing in on high-roller players.

"Casinos that are completely integrated into our resorts fare far better," Mr Vanderpool-Wallace said, telling Tribune Business that the Ministry of Tourism, casino operators and Hutchison Whampoa were all at one in agreement on this issue.

"This is an objective we all share in common," Mr Vanderpool-Wallace said of the need for integrated management.

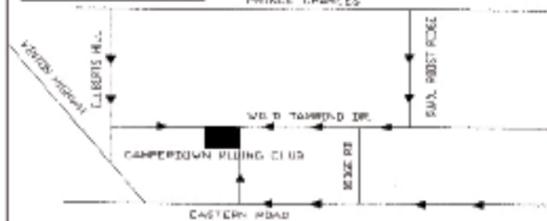
"It's a matter of how we get there. That's the hurdle to be overcome, but we've not lost sight of the objective."

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BUSINESS

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United States set to hit

By MARTIN CRUTSINGER
AP Economics Writer

December, two months later than its initial estimate, after scaling back an emergency loan program as the financial crisis abated.

Treasury Department officials said Wednesday they're

working closely with Congress to pass the legislation needed to boost the debt ceiling, currently at \$12.1 trillion, and avoid an unprecedented default on the nation's debt obligations.

Treasury also announced it is ending sales of 20-year inflation-protected securities and will offer similar 30-year securities starting next year. The government believes the longer maturity option will be more popular with investors.

The legislation to increase the debt limit is expected to trigger a congressional debate over the government's soaring deficits, which are projected to add another \$9 tril-

lion to the debt burden over the next decade.

The government initially estimated the debt ceiling would be hit last month, but in September it reduced one of the many emergency borrowing programs to \$15 billion, from \$200 billion. That cleared more room for the government's other borrowing needs.

Congress still faces the need to boost the debt limit by around \$1 trillion. Some senators have said they will not support that action unless it is linked to the creation of a commission that would force

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- (a) **QUICKSTART INC.** is in dissolution;
- (b) The date of commencement of the dissolution is the 6th day of October, A.D., 2009 and
- (c) the Liquidator is C.B. Strategy Ltd., of 308 East Bay St.

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in preparation for the upcoming annual general meeting of the bahamas agricultural producers association (bapa), scheduled for november 2009, we take this opportunity to encourage all our members and those persons wishing to become members to come into the office, 8th terrace, collins avenue and renew, or complete, membership applications to become financial in order to participate fully in the meeting.

the association is now developing forward momentum and you must be financial if you wish to participate in, or benefit fully from the programmes that are currently planned for its future.

Signed: Irwin G. Stubbs
President

Dated: October 26, 2009



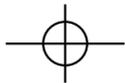
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BUSINESS

debt limit next month

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Congress and the administration to take credible action to restrain soaring deficits.

The administration has said the current record deficits are needed to get the country out of a deep recession and stabilize the financial system, but that the President Barack Obama will put forward new proposals to trim future deficits when he sends his next budget to Congress in February.

For the budget year that ended on Sept. 30, the federal deficit hit an all-time high in dollar terms of \$1.42 trillion. As a percent of the total economy, it stood at its highest level since the end of World War II. The jump reflected the massive spending from the \$700 billion financial bailout fund and the \$787 billion economic stimulus package designed to get the country out of the longest recession since the 1930s.

"Deficits of this size are serious and ultimately unsustainable," White House budget director Peter Orszag said in a speech Tuesday.

The deficits are making it harder for the administration to extend politically popular stimulus programs, such as support for the unemployed and the tax credit for first-time homebuyers, without greatly increasing the size of future deficits.

In its announcement Wednesday, Treasury said it decided to move to 30-year inflation protected securities, known as TIPS, because it believe the longer maturity would be more popular with

investors. Treasury also offers TIPS in five- and 10-year maturities.

The value earned by an investor on a TIPS bond fluctuates with changes in the consumer price index, giving investors protection that the value of their bonds will not drop if inflation accelerates.

Treasury also announced that it will raise \$81 billion in its quarterly refunding operations next week including \$40 billion in three-year notes to be auctioned on Monday, \$25 billion in 10-year notes to be auctioned on Tuesday and \$16 billion in 30-year bonds to be auctioned on Thursday.

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BUSINESS

Rum Cay marina dispute resolved

THE dispute over ownership of Rum Cay's Sumner Point Marina has been resolved, it was said yesterday, the two warring parties announcing in a statement that they would work together for "the betterment of the entire island".

Montana Holdings, developer of the \$700 million Rum Cay Resort Marina, which acquired Sumner Point Marina several years ago, had been in dispute with former owner Bobby Little, who had alleged they had failed to pay him the full purchase price and not met the terms of their transaction. This was denied by Montana Holdings.

"More than two out of every three local residents on Rum Cay is dependent directly or indirectly on the Sumner Point Marina," said Michelle Curtis, director of operations for New England Marine Services, which had been oper-



A VIEW of Sumner Point Marina, Rum Cay...

ating the marina for close to two years.

"It is not merely the main economic driver, it is the lifeblood of the island and it would be unconscionable for either of us to allow our busi-

ness differences to cause people to suffer, so for the betterment of the entire island, we are pleased to announce that Montana Holdings, through its associate company, New England Marine Ser-

VICES, and Robert Little and family have put our differences aside officially with an agreement signed today."

According to the terms of the agreement, management will revert to Mr Little, with

the full support of New England Marine Services, while the agreement for sale will continue in place.

"Although this was aired quite publicly, which is unfortunate because it makes it appear personal, the reality is that both parties, New England Marine Services, Montana Holdings and my family, are part of a bigger picture of what has transpired all over the world," said Robert 'Bobby' Little. "The state of the global economy and the limited funds available for foreign investment took their toll around the world.

"Rum Cay and Sumner Point Marina, the main income producer for the island that was in the process of being sold, were caught in that conundrum.

"I am appreciative of the improvements that Montana and New England Marine Services have made, and I

believe that there is enough flexibility in the agreement that both parties will be satisfied their interests are being protected while knowing that each has worked out a way to work together for the best outcome for the people of Rum Cay."

The marina that recently earned Ministry of Tourism approval for a hotel licence provides dockage, fuel, beachside accommodations and a popular restaurant and bar. Visitors have access to wireless Internet, air-conditioning, satellite TV and other amenities.

Both parties said they mutually wanted to settle their differences before the start of the busy season, noting that Thanksgiving was usually very active for the island in the southern Bahamas, known for its fishing, diving, striking scenery and laid-back atmosphere.

Bahamas financial group's 'first step' in regional growth

FROM page 1B

made possible by the \$2.5 million investment made in British American Financial's infrastructure, computer systems, product development and staff since BAF Global Group acquired the business in February 2007.

Some \$1.2 million had been invested in British American Financial's IT systems, including an insurance database system with the capacity to handle 300,000 policyholders.

With some 10,000-12,000 policyholders, \$30 million in assets and \$500 million in life insurance coverage in force, Mr Cooper said that when added to BAF Global Group's Bahamas interests, British American Insurance Company (Cayman) would create a group with "well over" \$100 million in assets. British American Financial

had "just under" \$100 million in assets in the Bahamas, and Mr Cooper said that Bahamian and Caymanian operations combined would give the group "close to 100,000 clients" and policyholders.

He added that when BAF Global Group acquired British American Financial in the Bahamas in 2007, it inherited 80,000 clients, implying that its Bahamian client base had grown by around 10,000 since then to around 90,000. The Caymanian deal accounts for the rest.

BAF Global Group's Caymanian acquisition and expansion has been made possible by the well-publicised difficulties of British American Insurance Company (Cayman's parent, Trinidad-based CL Financial, which also owned CLICO (Bahamas), the insolvent Bahamian life and health

insurer now in court-supervised liquidation. Although the purchase price was not publicised yesterday, it seems likely that BAF Global Group purchased a relative bargain.

"Cayman was always top of the charts in terms of where we wanted to go with regional and international expansion," Mr Cooper told Tribune Business. "British American's Cayman branch happened to be an opportunity to get into the market, and at significant size, [so] we took the decision to do the acquisition.

"It is our strategy to continue expanding regionally and internationally.... It's the first step in our regional strategy. There are a lot of benefits with respect to the business itself, and a lot of synergies can be created between the business here and the

business in the Bahamas. Really, it was an excellent fit."

John Wilson, the McKinney, Bancroft & Hughes attorney and partner, and an investor/shareholder in BAF Global Group, told Tribune Business: "This is the first step outside the Bahamas, and the onset of the realisation of our aspirations to become a truly global company.

Cayman

"We thought the Cayman Islands were a natural fit for our expansion goals, and we that the current crisis amongst the CL Financial entities realigned presented some opportunities for anyone who was bold enough to step in."

British American Insurance Company (Cayman) had a "core business" and products and services that were similar to British American Finan-

cial's traditional strengths, Mr Cooper said, and also had a strong presence in pensions - mandatory in Cayman - and health insurance.

Mr Cooper described British American Insurance Company (Cayman) as "one of the crown jewels" in the British American empire that extended throughout the Caribbean, and the company's purchase had been approved by all the relevant regulators in both Cayman and the Bahamas, including the latter's Insurance Commission, Central Bank of the Bahamas and Supreme Court.

When asked by BAF Global Group had decided to embark on an expansion/acquisition strategy at a time when most companies were adopting a conservative stance due to the global recession, Mr Cooper replied: "We have a long-term view

on business. The economy is cyclical, and the one thing we have always realised is that recessions are sometimes good for business opportunities.

"We have been very deliberate in terms of what we acquire, and we wanted to wait for the right opportunity. We found this to be the right opportunity, and because we've managed the operations in the Bahamas very prudently we've been able to take advantage of this particular opportunity at a time when others might be hurting.

"We're in business for the long haul. We see this as a strategic fit for our business, and an opportunity to expand regionally and globally. Our Board was able to respond very quickly, make the decision and make the investment."

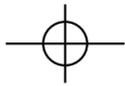


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BUSINESS

US rates likely to stay at record low

By JEANNINE AVERSA
AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Faced with lurking dangers to the budding recovery, Federal Reserve policymakers are sure to leave a key interest rate at a record low to entice Americans to spend more and help the economic turnaround gain traction.

The economy started to grow again last quarter for the first time in more than a year, although there are uncertainties about the strength and staying power of the recovery, especially after government supports are removed.

Fed Chairman Ben Bernanke and his colleagues, wrapping up a two-day meeting Wednesday, are likely to

note the country's economic and financial improvements. But they'll also warn that rising joblessness and hard-to-get-credit for many people and companies will restrain the rebound in the months ahead. Troubles in the commercial real estate market, where soured loans are contributing to bank failures, also remain a concern.

At its last meeting in late September, the Fed opted to stretch out into early next year a key program aimed at forcing down mortgage rates and providing support to the housing market. The central bank isn't expected to veer from that course Wednesday.

Wanting to nurture the recovery, the Fed is widely expected to keep the target

range for its bank lending rate at zero to 0.25 percent. If it does, commercial banks' prime lending rate, used to peg rates on home equity loans, certain credit cards and other consumer loans, will stay at about 3.25 percent, the lowest in decades.

"I don't think there is confidence at this point that the economy is firing on all cylinders by itself," said Bill Cheney, chief economist at John Hancock Financial Services. "It is not ready to be weaned off the extra fiscal and monetary support."

Against that backdrop, many economists predict the Fed will maintain a pledge to keep rates "exceptionally low" for an "extended period." The hope is that super-

low rates will spur consumers and businesses to spend more, supporting the recovery.

The Fed has leeway to do this because inflation has been low, economists said.

"The central bankers in the U.S. and Europe are considering the exit strategies," said Sung Won Sohn, economist at California State University's Smith School of Business. "Even the thought of an exit strategy could spook the financial markets and raise the bond and mortgage yields, hurting the economy."

Still, there are differences of opinion within the Fed about when it might need to start boosting rates — and how aggressively — to fend off inflation.

Inflation hawks, including the presidents of the Fed banks in Dallas, Philadelphia and Richmond, worry more about super-low borrowing costs and other special supports driving prices higher. But waiting too long could touch off inflation.

If the recovery takes hold, many analysts think the Fed could start to raise rates in the spring or summer. Bernanke and other Fed officials would try to prepare investors, businesses and ordinary Americans of a shift in stance well in advance of any upcoming shift in stance. One clue would come when the Fed opts to drop its "extend-

ed period" language, analysts said.

Whenever the Fed starts to boost rates, unemployment likely will still be high, analysts said. The worst recession since the 1930s caused companies to slash jobs and other costs to survive. They won't ramp up hiring until they are confident the recovery is entrenched.

The unemployment rate — now at a 26-year high of 9.8 percent — is expected to keep rising, Bernanke and other Fed officials have said. Economists predict it will hit 9.9 percent when the government releases the latest snapshot on employment conditions on Friday. It could rise as high as 10.5 percent around the middle of next year before declining gradually, analysts said.

Beyond rates, Fed officials in September were conflicted over whether to expand or cut back a program intended to drive down mortgage rates and prop up the housing market, according to minutes of the closed-door deliberations.

They ultimately agreed to slow down the pace of a \$1.25 trillion program to buy mortgage securities from Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, wrapping up the purchases by the end of March instead of at year-end. So far, the Fed has bought \$776 billion of mortgage securities.

The central bank was not divided over another part of program to buy \$200 billion worth of Fannie and Freddie debt. It has bought \$141.6 billion so far.

The Fed's efforts have helped lower mortgage rates. Rates on 30-year loans averaged 5.03 percent, Freddie Mac reported last week, down from 6.46 percent last year.

Meanwhile, the Fed is moving quickly on plans to police banks' pay policies to discourage reckless gambles by executives, traders, loan officers and other employees.

The nation's top 28 banks face a Feb. 1 deadline for submitting employee compensation plans to the Fed. The Fed isn't setting compensation, but it will have the power to reject pay plans — and call for changes in them.

The Fed also will be encouraging — though not requiring — banks to revise this year's pay plans if they are significantly out of step with principles the Fed has recently proposed to discourage excessive risk taking.

Elsewhere, the British government on Tuesday moved to break up two major banks — Royal Bank of Scotland and Lloyds Group — that have been bailed out by taxpayers. At the same time, the government injected more public cash into them.

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The successful candidate will be required to:

- Support the Managing Director in financial assessment of new business development and implementation of internal controls.
- Conduct monthly business performance reviews.
- Supervises all accounting, treasury and financial matters including general accounting financial reporting, budgeting, capital funding, financial systems, and merger and consolidation accounting.
- Ensure that the financial organization is designed and staffed with the appropriate skills in order to maintain the integrity, accuracy and the timeliness of financial reporting.
- Provide independent and objective appraisals of the Company's business and function to ensure that they are operating with effective internal accounting controls.

The Chief Financial Officer must have a strong technical and analytical background with an understanding of IAS or US GAAP accounting and reporting standards. He/She must have the ability to set and manage priorities, meet deadlines within compressed timeframes and handle multiple tasks simultaneously. He/She must have a successful track record in partnering with line management to develop strategic and operating business plans, effective systems of control and metrics for a dynamic global business. Some travel required. Strong communication and managerial skills are essential.

Education:

- Bachelor's degree in Accounting or Finance
- Master's degree in business, a plus

Licensing/Certification:

- CA or CPA a must

Experience:

- 10 - 15 years of relevant accounting and reporting experience at a senior level
- Experience with business planning and budget preparation
- Experience in treasury function activities: bank relationships, revolver and cash management
- Experience in reporting to lenders under credit agreements
- Experience in developing and improving internal control systems
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BUSINESS

'Hold the line' over public sector wages

FROM page 1B

In turn, these costs were often passed on to consumers, fuelling price inflation for the Bahamian public and potentially delaying economic recovery.

Turning to the IMF's inflation projections for the Bahamian economy, Mr Winder told Tribune Business: "Both figures are likely to be impacted by the union negotiations the Government is going to get involved in."

"To the extent the Government has to respond to these negotiations, we will have inflation, but it will be inflation that is internally generated. To the extent we can hold the fort we will be OK, but if the Government gives in over these negotiations, you're going to see some increases in costs to the average Bahamian through entities the public has to use."

Inflation

Describing wage-driven inflation as a "big threat" to the Bahamas' supply-side economics and economic recovery, especially given its relatively low worker productivity, Mr Winder said the Government was likely to face two to three industrial agreement negotiations per year. Apart from UTEB, talks with the nurses are also due to reconvene at some stage.

"To the extent that only one of these came up, that could further exacerbate the situation and further delay the recovery for the Bahamas in terms of its ability to attract

foreign direct investment as things improve," Mr Winder said.

Apart from the inflation issue, the senior accountant added that increased public sector wage settlements would also increase the pressure on the Government's finances and their ability to meet these higher payments.

"The Government's revenues are down more than they expected, and it creates challenges for the Government to meet those commitments, as they have to borrow more than anticipated," Mr Winder explained to Tribune Business.

"The likelihood is that revenues are going to be down, because the level of activity is down, as individuals are not purchasing in the same quantities as they did two to three years ago."

"To the extent revenue is challenged, the Government is going to find itself challenged in how it responds to [the demands] of union groups."

Mr Winder added: "The message is simply that we should understand we need to hold the line, and not expect government to be in a position to entertain contracts where they give them more than they were making before."

"The more pressure you put on the Government, the more pressure you put on the public finances by forcing the Government to borrow more than they need to do." This, the accountant said, had implications for both the fiscal deficit and the Bahamas'

debt-to-GDP ratio, which is soon likely to hit the 50 per cent barrier.

Critical

And the critical component in any public sector industrial agreement talks will be for the Government to insert a clause linking pay to worker productivity, Mr Winder explained.

Describing it as "the big question", he said: "If the Government finds itself in a position where it has to yield, it ought to ensure that what it

agreed to is tied to productivity."

Rather than just base pay rises on seniority and years of service, Mr Winder said: "The Government should make these various entities more accountable for the monies they are receiving out of the general purse. How has the general Bahamian public benefited from current salary increases, and if we give more in the future, how are we going to get more productivity?"

"It's only through increased productivity that we will keep

the further costs of doing business in the Bahamas down."

Mr Winder told Tribune Business that wage levels in the Bahamas were "out of line" with the "unit costs of productivity" and output, which were higher than most competitors.

"While in other jurisdictions salaries might be higher, the unit cost of productivity in the Bahamas is higher than, for example, Cayman and Bermuda. The person may be making more, but the output per person is where we are

getting hit.

"The salary costs are not out of line, but that is not what we should be comparing; it is what we are getting for that salary's cost. We are out of line there."

Mr Winder identified the publicly-owned utility companies as "the real big drivers" of costs and wage inflation, and said the Government needed to be careful about "trend-setting". Once it gave into one union, others would demand the same treatment when their own negotiations commenced.

PUBLIC NOTICE INTENT TO CHANGE NAME BY DEED POLL

The Public is hereby advised that I, **VERNITA MINNIE-LEE HANNA** intend to change my name to **VERNETHA MILDRED HANNA GILBERT**. If there are any objections to this change of name by Deed Poll, you may write such objections to the Chief Passport Officer, P.O.Box N-742, Nassau, Bahamas no later than thirty (30) days after the date of publication of this notice.

NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that **Jason Jeremie of Marathon Estates, P.O. Box SS 5807, Nassau, The Bahamas**, is applying to the Minister responsible for Nationality and Citizenship, for registration/naturalization as a citizen of The Bahamas, and that any person who knows any reason why registration/naturalization should not be granted, should send a written and signed statement of the facts within twenty-eight days from the 5th day of November, 2009 to the Minister responsible for nationality and Citizenship, P.O. Box N-7147, Nassau, Bahamas.

NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that **DEMCEY ALINGTON MARTIN of FLORIN DRIVE #4, FREEPORT, GRAND BAHAMA, BAHAMAS** is applying to the Minister responsible for Nationality and Citizenship, for registration/naturalization as a citizen of The Bahamas, and that any person who knows any reason why registration/ naturalization should not be granted, should send a written and signed statement of the facts within twenty-eight days from the 5th day of November, 2009 to the Minister responsible for Nationality and Citizenship, P.O.Box N-7147, Freeport, Bahamas.

NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that **ROSELAINE PETIT-HOMME of EIGHT STREET GROVE of ROBINSON ROAD, NASSAU, BAHAMAS**, is applying to the Minister responsible for Nationality and Citizenship, for registration/naturalization as a citizen of The Bahamas, and that any person who knows any reason why registration/naturalization should not be granted, should send a written and signed statement of the facts within twenty-eight days from the 5th day of November, 2009 to the Minister responsible for nationality and Citizenship, P.O. Box N-7147, Nassau, Bahamas.

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Notice is hereby given that in accordance with Section 138 (8) of the International Business Companies Act 2000, the dissolution of **WINTER THORPE INC.** has been completed; a Certificate of Dissolution has been issued and the Company has therefore been struck off the Register.

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BUSINESS

Health care delay causes further Obama problems

By **CHARLES BABINGTON**
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Delay is rarely good for politicians trying to pass legislation. The possibility that Congress might not complete action on a major health care bill this year is another frustration for President Barack Obama and his allies.

health care effort, a delay would raise new uncertainties and push other domestic priorities further back. It also would give opponents a chance to pick off nervous Democratic lawmakers eyeing their November 2010 re-election campaigns.

Even some House Democrats with safe seats don't like the idea of voting on a contentious bill until it's clear that the Senate will follow suit.

Adding to Democratic unease were losses in gubernatorial races in Virginia and New Jersey on Tuesday, with independent voters flocking to the Republicans. The results could force House Democrats in competitive districts to think twice about Obama's agenda, including health care.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., dismissed that notion Wednesday, focusing instead on the party's win in two congressional special elections.

"From our standpoint ... a

candidate was victorious who supports health care reform, and his remarks last night said this was a victory for health care reform and other initiatives for the American people," she said. "So from our standpoint we picked up votes last night, one in California and one in New York."

Obama has swallowed one disappointing postponement already this year, when the House and Senate failed to move separate bills before the August recess. Opponents used that lull to rip into the proposed health care changes

in raucous public forums.

Democrats are unlikely to be caught off guard again if the legislative battle goes past the Christmas-New Year's break. But any delay gives opponents more time to organize and campaign.

The new questions were raised Tuesday when Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., told reporters in the Capitol that he couldn't promise a health care package will pass this year.

"We're not going to be bound by any timelines," Reid said. "We're going to do this legislation as expeditiously as we can, but we're going to do it as fairly as we can."

A couple of hours later, Reid spokesman Jim Manley issued a more upbeat statement.

"Our goals remain unchanged," Manley said. "We want to get health insurance reform done this year, and we have unprecedented momentum to achieve that. There is no reason why we can't have a transparent and thorough debate in the Senate and still send a bill to the president by Christmas."

White House officials played down Reid's comments.

"We're moving on the same timeline," said spokesman Reid Cherlin. "The House plans to vote on the health reform bill within days, and as Sen. Reid said today, he shares the White House's commitment to passing meaningful reform by Christmas."

Cherlin said senators will move swiftly once the non-partisan Congressional Budget Office finishes its review of Senate proposals.

Any setback for Obama



BARACK OBAMA

and the Democrats would raise troubling memories of President Bill Clinton's failure to enact health care legislation in 1993-94 and the subsequent Republican takeover of Congress.

Senate rules, and ingrained Senate habits — such as holding few if any votes on Mondays and Fridays — make it easy for opponents of any legislation to draw out the process. The bid to revamp the nation's health care system, and insure millions of people now lacking coverage, is more complex than most.

Reid is trying to meld portions of two massive bills, one from the Finance Committee, the other from the Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee. He is submitting parts of the plan to CBO analysts to see if the Senate can hold the cost to \$900 billion over 10 years, as Obama has insisted.

Reid eventually will send the bill to the Senate floor, where weeks of debate and efforts to amend it could ensue. At crucial junctures, Reid will have to muster 60 votes in the 100-member chamber to advance the bill.

The House could move a significantly different bill as early as this weekend.

Assuming both chambers pass some version of health care overhaul, a House-Senate conference committee would try to resolve the differences. Then both chambers would vote on the final product and, if they approve it, send it to Obama's desk.

A congressional truism holds that it's easier to pass hard-fought legislation in odd-numbered years. In even-numbered years, all 435 House seats and one-third of the Senate seats are up for grabs in November and some lawmakers are more reluctant to cast tough votes.

Lawmakers, especially senators, also tend to focus on only one big issue at a time. As long as health care dominates debate, the Senate is unlikely to move on other hot-button issues such as a massive energy bill, immigration and a proposal to re-regulate the financial industry.

Pelosi said House members know they have a "historic opportunity to do something great, and we would hope that it would be sooner, but I don't think anybody has a clock ticking."

But, of course, a clock always runs on the legislative calendar. In the Senate, the tick-tock seems a bit louder.



GN-946

GOVERNMENT NOTICE

MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT

Sale Of Lots In Area Immediately West Of Blackbeard's Terrace Subdivision

It has been brought to the attention of the Ministry of The Environment that lots have been offered for sale to the public in a 16.704 acre tract of land, situated immediately west of Blackbeard's Terrace Subdivision. Please note that there is no approval of this Subdivision as required under the Private Roads and Subdivision Act.

The public is strongly advised to make enquires at the Ministry of The Environment before purchasing lots in the subject area or in any subdivision where the seller is unable to provide the prospective buyer with a copy of a plan stamped approved for sale of lots by the Ministry of The Environment.

Signed:
Ronald W. Thompson
Permanent Secretary



GN938

Ministry of Agriculture and Marine Resources

NOTICE

ANIMAL PROTECTION AND CONTROL BILL

The Government of The Bahamas invites comments on a draft Animal Control and Protection Bill.

The draft Bill is posted on the Government's website www.bahamas.gov.bs for a period of six weeks, effective 2nd October, 2009.

The public is urged to take full advantage of the opportunity to comment and submit their comments to MINAGRICULTUREMARINE@BAHAMAS.GOV.BS no later than the 13th November, 2009.



GN-949

Ministry Of Finance
PUBLIC NOTICE

RE: Real property tax Surcharge Waiver Notice. The principal Act is amended by the insertion immediately after section 21 of the following new section 21A and 21B respectfully.

Section 21 A Waiver of surcharge.

Notwithstanding section 21, any surcharge which has accumulated in respect of

- (a) owner-occupies property with a market value of up to two hundred and fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000.00) shall be waived.
- (b) owner-occupied property which exceeds two hundred and fifty thousand dollars, shall be waived if the outstanding real property tax is paid on or before December 31, 2009; and
- (c) other property, shall be waived by fifty per cent if the outstanding real property tax is paid before December 31, 2009.

Section 21 B Revival of Surcharge
If after December 31, 2009 any real property tax remains outstanding in respect of

- (a) owner-occupied property with a market value of up to two hundred and fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000.00)
- (b) owner-occupied property which exceeds two hundred and fifty thousand dollars
- (c) other property

The owner of such property, shall be liable to pay a new surcharge of five per centum (5%) of such tax per annum.

GN-941



MINISTRY OF FINANCE
SALE BY TENDER

It is hereby notified that the under-mentioned Aircraft has been decommissioned by the Royal Bahamas Defence Force and will be sold by tender:-

YEAR	TYPE
1978	Cessna 404 - Titan

This Aircraft may be inspected by contacting the Assistant Personnel Officer, Lieutenant Commander Sean Pinder at the Royal Bahamas Defence Force Headquarters, Coral Harbour, at telephone number 362-1854 during the hours of 2:00pm - 4:00pm Monday to Friday.

Tender forms for submission are obtainable from the Office of the Financial Secretary, Cecil Wallace Whitfield Centre, Cable Beach, Nassau, The Bahamas. Tenders should be submitted in **SEALED ENVELOPES** to the Office of the Financial Secretary, Cecil Wallace Whitfield Centre, Cable Beach, Nassau, The Bahamas.

The face of the envelope should bear the words:-

"TENDER FOR AIRCRAFT"

Tenders submitted with the foregoing should be received by 12noon, November 13th, 2009.

The right is reserved to reject any or all tenders and the aircraft is being sold "as is where is"

The successful bidder will, on making full payment assume all risks for the item sold and for making arrangements for its removal within seven (7) days after payment.

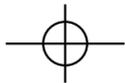
No guarantee is given as to the eligibility of the aircraft for registration.

Signed:
Ehurud Cunningham
Financial Secretary (Actg)



Share your news

The Tribune wants to hear from people who are making news in their neighbourhoods. Perhaps you are raising funds for a good cause, campaigning for improvements in the area or have won an award. If so, call us on 322-1986 and share your story.



BUSINESS

Regulator to get increased power

By ANNE FLAHERTY
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The House Financial Services Committee voted Wednesday to give federal regulators more power and money to police major players in the stock market, four months after Bernard Madoff was sentenced for the biggest investment scam in history.

The 41-28 vote was the panel's latest move to try to rein in abuses on Wall Street. It would give the Securities and Exchange Commission new enforcement powers, including the ability to offer bounty money to tipsters on fraud cases and the power to bar violators of the law from employment in any securities-related industry.

The bill also would double the SEC's budget in the next five years.

Rep. Paul Kanjorski sponsored the legislation after leading the panel's investigation into the government's failure to uncover Madoff's massive fraud scheme for nearly two decades. Madoff was sentenced in June to 150 years in prison.

"In the last five years, there's been a significant change and a greater sophistication in the financial service industry than has ever happened in the history of mankind," said Kanjorski, a

Pennsylvania Democrat. "So we're going to have to change fast."

The proposal was part of a broader effort by the committee to tighten rules governing financial institutions after last year's market crisis. The full House was expected to vote on the bill and related proposals in early December.

In addition to giving the SEC more power, the committee has voted to impose new restrictions on investment rating agencies and require oversight of hedge funds and other large pools of private capital.

The panel also wants a new federal agency dedicated solely to protecting consumers from fraud and abuse on credit cards, mortgages and other popular financial products.

As the House moves ahead to overhaul financial regulations, work in the Senate was just getting under way. Senate Banking Chairman Christopher Dodd has begun drafting a bill that would differ from the Obama administration's proposal by limiting the power of the Federal Reserve and consolidating banking supervision into a single regulator.

Dodd, who planned to meet Wednesday with his Democratic colleagues to discuss the matter, was expected to unveil a draft proposal next week.

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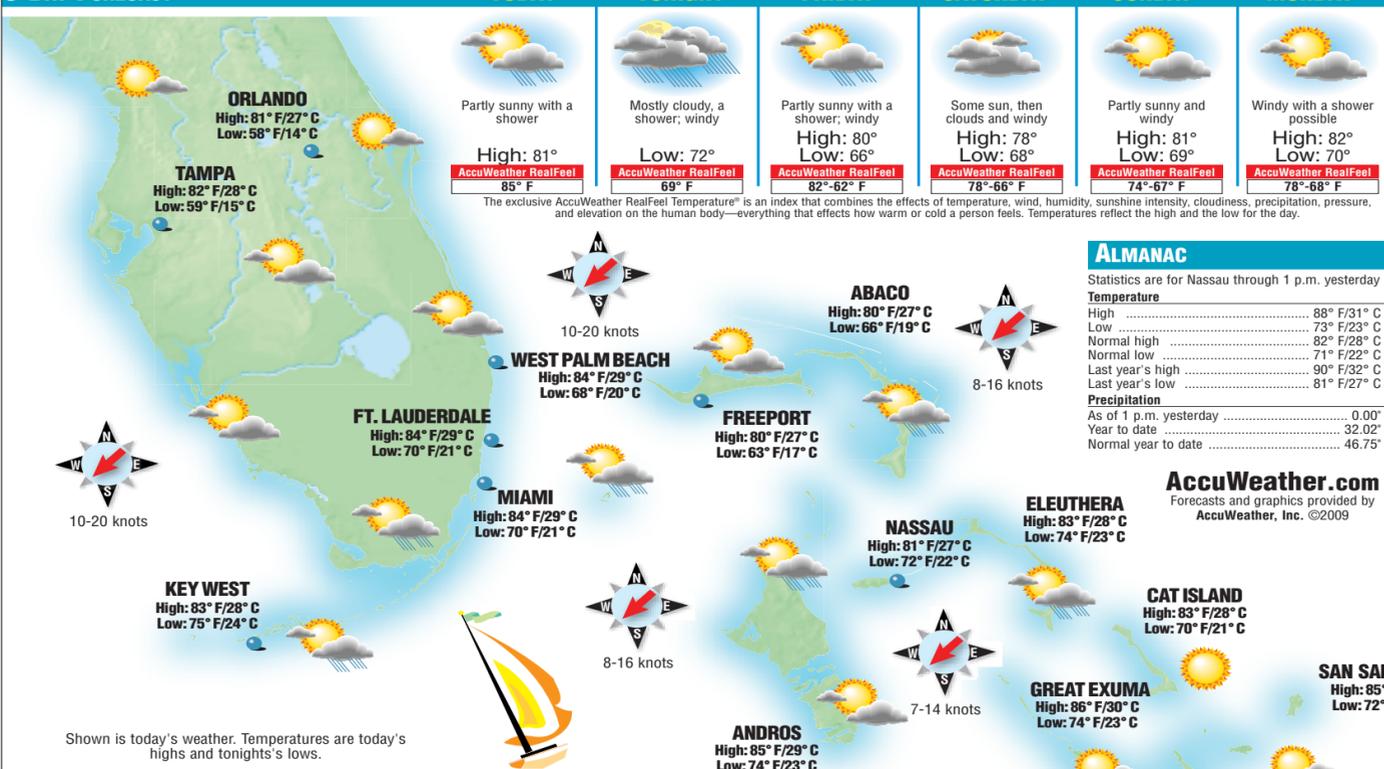


THE WEATHER REPORT

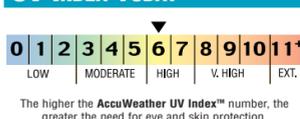


INSURANCE MANAGEMENT (BAHAMAS) LIMITED
INSURANCE BROKERS & AGENTS

5-DAY FORECAST



UV INDEX TODAY



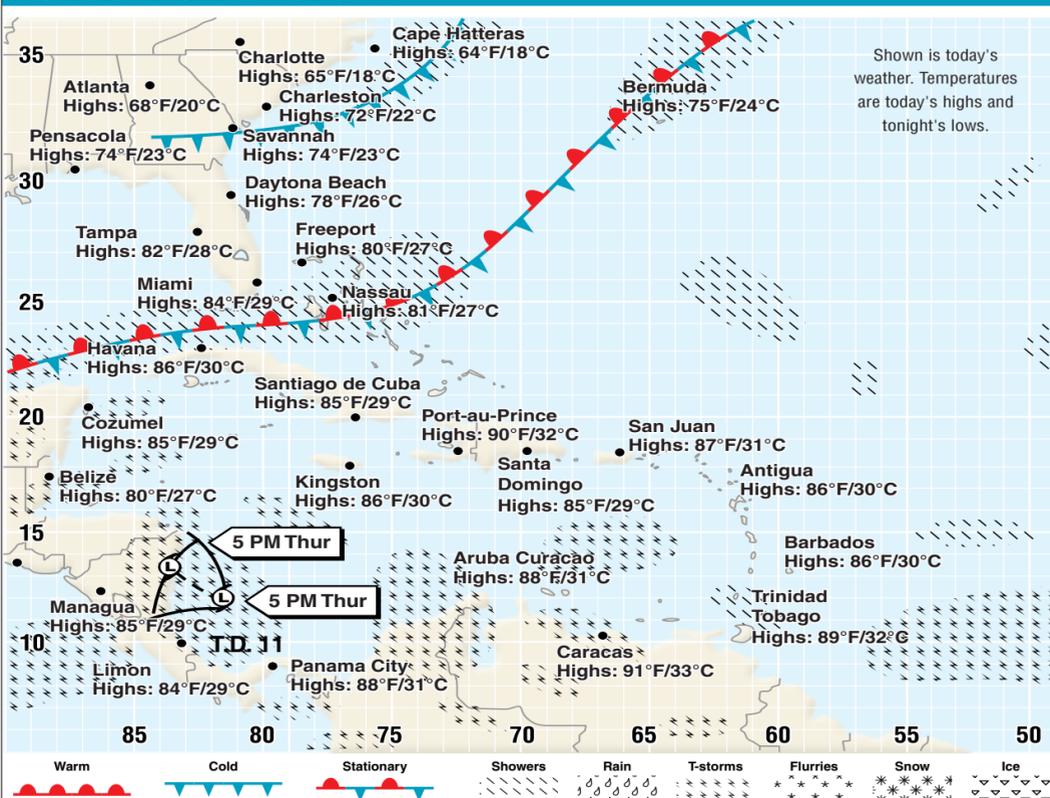
TIDES FOR NASSAU

	High	Ht. (ft.)	Low	Ht. (ft.)
Today	9:07 a.m.	3.5	2:41 a.m.	-0.1
	9:26 p.m.	2.6	3:38 p.m.	0.1
Friday	9:58 a.m.	3.4	3:30 a.m.	0.0
	10:20 p.m.	2.6	4:31 p.m.	0.3
Saturday	10:52 a.m.	3.3	4:24 a.m.	0.1
	11:20 p.m.	2.5	5:27 p.m.	0.3
Sunday	11:51 a.m.	3.2	5:25 a.m.	0.3
	-----	-----	6:26 p.m.	0.4
Monday	12:25 a.m.	2.6	6:33 a.m.	0.4
	1:58 p.m.	2.9	8:28 p.m.	0.3
Tuesday	1:34 a.m.	2.6	7:44 a.m.	0.6
	1:58 p.m.	2.9	8:28 p.m.	0.3
Wednesday	2:41 a.m.	2.8	8:55 a.m.	0.6
	3:00 p.m.	2.8	9:25 p.m.	0.1

SUN AND MOON



INSURANCE MANAGEMENT TRACKING MAP



MARINE FORECAST

		WINDS	WAVES	VISIBILITY	WATER TEMPS.
ABACO	Today:	NE at 8-16 Knots	4-7 Feet	7 Miles	82° F
	Friday:	NE at 15-25 Knots	6-10 Feet	10 Miles	82° F
ANDROS	Today:	NE at 8-16 Knots	1-3 Feet	10 Miles	83° F
	Friday:	NE at 20-30 Knots	4-7 Feet	10 Miles	83° F
CAT ISLAND	Today:	NNE at 6-12 Knots	4-7 Feet	10 Miles	83° F
	Friday:	NE at 12-25 Knots	4-7 Feet	10 Miles	83° F
CROOKED ISLAND	Today:	NE at 8-16 Knots	2-4 Feet	10 Miles	83° F
	Friday:	NE at 8-16 Knots	2-4 Feet	10 Miles	83° F
ELEUTHERA	Today:	NNE at 6-12 Knots	3-5 Feet	10 Miles	83° F
	Friday:	NE at 15-25 Knots	5-9 Feet	10 Miles	83° F
FREEPORT	Today:	NNE at 10-20 Knots	3-5 Feet	10 Miles	83° F
	Friday:	NE at 15-25 Knots	4-8 Feet	10 Miles	83° F
GREAT EXUMA	Today:	NE at 7-14 Knots	1-2 Feet	10 Miles	83° F
	Friday:	NE at 15-25 Knots	2-4 Feet	7 Miles	83° F
GREAT INAGUA	Today:	ENE at 8-16 Knots	2-4 Feet	10 Miles	84° F
	Friday:	NE at 7-14 Knots	2-4 Feet	10 Miles	84° F
LONG ISLAND	Today:	NE at 8-16 Knots	1-3 Feet	10 Miles	83° F
	Friday:	NE at 10-20 Knots	1-3 Feet	10 Miles	83° F
MAYAGUANA	Today:	NE at 7-14 Knots	3-6 Feet	10 Miles	83° F
	Friday:	NE at 8-16 Knots	3-6 Feet	7 Miles	83° F
NASSAU	Today:	NNE at 10-20 Knots	2-4 Feet	7 Miles	82° F
	Friday:	NE at 15-25 Knots	3-6 Feet	6 Miles	82° F
SAN SALVADOR	Today:	NE at 10-20 Knots	2-4 Feet	10 Miles	84° F
	Friday:	NE at 10-20 Knots	2-4 Feet	10 Miles	84° F
RAGGED ISLAND	Today:	NE at 6-12 Knots	1-3 Feet	10 Miles	83° F
	Friday:	NE at 15-25 Knots	3-6 Feet	5 Miles	83° F



INSURANCE MANAGEMENT (BAHAMAS) LIMITED. INSURANCE BROKERS & AGENTS

BUSINESS

JP Morgan agrees \$700m settlement with regulators

By MARCY GORDON
AP Business Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — JPMorgan Chase & Co. has agreed to a settlement worth more than \$700 million over federal regulators' charges that it made unlawful payments to friends of public officials to win municipal bond business in Jefferson County, Ala.

The scandal over the county's \$3.9 billion debt has pushed it to the brink of filing what would be the biggest municipal bankruptcy in U.S. history. The Securities and Exchange Commission on Wednesday announced the settlement with JPMorgan, which canceled interest-rate swap contracts with the county worth \$700 million in March.

The Wall Street bank did not admit or deny the SEC allegations in agreeing to pay a \$25 million civil fine, a \$50 million payment to the county and to forfeit \$647 million in termination fees it claims the county owes from the canceled swap agreements.

The SEC also accused two former managing directors of JPMorgan, Charles LeCroy and Douglas MacFaddin, of securities law violations. The agency is seeking unspecified restitution from them. MacFaddin will contest the charges.

The SEC alleged that JPMorgan, LeCroy and MacFaddin made about \$8 mil-



JAMES DIMON, chairman and CEO of JP Morgan Chase & Co., speaks at the Securities Industry and Financial Marketers Association in New York...

(AP Photo: Mark Lennihan)

lion in undisclosed payments to close friends of several Jefferson County commissioners. Starting in July 2002, LeCroy and MacFaddin solicited the county for a \$1.4 billion sewer bond deal.

Swayed by the payments, the county commissioners voted to select JPMorgan's securities division as managing underwriter of the bond offerings and its affiliated bank as swap provider for the transactions, the SEC said.

JPMorgan failed to disclose any of the unlawful payments or conflicts of interest in the bond offering documents, but passed on the cost of the payments by charging the county higher interest rates on the swap transactions, according to the SEC.

"The transactions were complex but the scheme was simple," SEC Enforcement Director Robert Khuzami said in a statement. "Senior JPMorgan bankers made unlawful payments to win business and earn fees."

MacFaddin's attorney, Richard Lawler, said his client "has at all times acted properly" in his dealings with Jefferson County. "He denies he has violated any securities laws and we're confident he'll be vindicated after trial," Lawler said.

LeCroy's lawyer didn't immediately return a telephone call seeking comment Wednesday afternoon.

New York-based JPMorgan said in a statement it has since discontinued its municipal swap-exchange business.

The settlement with the SEC "does not impair any outstanding Jefferson County bonds and JPMorgan continues to work to achieve a responsible restructuring of Jefferson County's financial affairs," the statement said.

The SEC previously charged Birmingham, Ala., mayor Larry Langford and two others for undisclosed payments to Langford related to municipal bond offerings and swap agreement transactions made while he was president of the Jefferson County Commission. On Oct. 28, Langford was found guilty in the related criminal case on 60 counts of bribery, mail fraud, wire fraud and tax evasion.

The SEC in July proposed tightening rules governing disclosures about municipal securities to aid investors in a multitrillion-dollar market used to finance schools, roads and hospitals around the country.

Brokers and dealers in municipal bonds and other securities would be required to make fuller and more timely disclosures to investors.

State and local governments raise funds for public facilities by issuing bonds, in a market estimated to be worth about \$2.7 trillion. Retail investors increasingly participate in the market, seeking safe investments with reliable returns. The financial crisis and tight credit have made it more difficult for some municipal securities deemed higher risk to be sold.

National energy policy must be more robust

FROM page 2B

control of kilowatts per hour (KwH) consumption through setting and reaching reduction targets, including cost and carbon emissions targets.

Energy is very costly, not only because of the vexing fuel surcharge but because of waste. About 60 per cent of the power we buy from BEC simply vanishes in distribution - between the power plant and our homes and workplaces. That's not peculiar to BEC; it's a condition common to all overburdened power grids, including the US. So we pay a lot for wasted energy, including the energy we waste ourselves at home and at work. That's about 40 per cent, conservatively speaking.

President Obama announced recently that through the \$787 billion stimulus package, \$6 billion will be spent on the Smart Grid. About half this amount will go to pay for smart electricity meters that will be installed in millions of homes around the US. Obviously, enabling people to take responsibility is an important plank in the US government's transitioning strategy.

Ours is not a rich nation. Our government cannot afford to outfit homes with smart meters. However, our government should provide incentives for reducing consumption, at least until we can get on to the renewable plat-

form.

Mass behaviour change in meeting the energy and climate challenges is required, and this calls for vigorous social marketing on the part of government. Such 'social marketing' as now exists is so insipid as to be of no consequence.

No amount of advertisements to save money and energy by a proliferation of small energy saving businesses can create the critical mass necessary to change behaviour. Besides, most of us do not have the capital for sustainable marketing, and anyway, social marketing is not the role of business. Businesses sell services or products. However, we need the support of an enabling environment in which to perform our role successfully.

The Ministry of the Environment would do well to embark upon a massive social marketing programme to support the formulation of the energy policy. The good news is that an effective template already exists. In the 1990s, the Ministry of Health implemented a formidable social marketing programme for HIV/AIDS, the success of which has done much to stem the pandemic in our society by targeting sexual values and behaviour.

NB: Audrey Ingram Roberts is the executive director of Source Development Consultants and Enigin, the energy saving business

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