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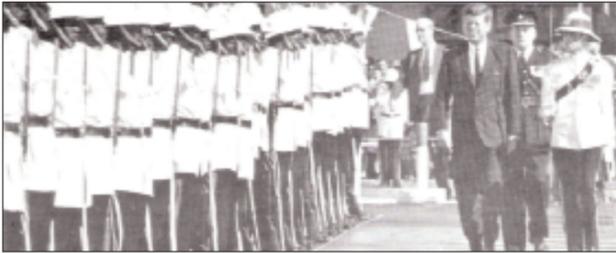
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2009

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IN DAYS GONE BY

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INSIDE

CARS FOR SALE, HELP WANTED AND REAL ESTATE

BAHAMAS BIGGEST

'Fireball' jet crash probe

Police shoot man after he allegedly draws handgun

POLICE shot a 27-year-old man when he allegedly pulled out a handgun and ran away as they requested to search him.

Drug Enforcement officers say they stopped the man as he left a yard on Brougham Street, between Market and East Streets, Nassau, at around 8.30pm on Thursday.

But as they tried to search him, he pulled out a handgun and made a break for freedom.

Officers fired shots at the man and hit him in the right leg, bringing him to the ground. He was taken to hospital, and officers recovered a .40 pistol and ten rounds of ammunition.

Anyone with any information relating to the incident should call police on 919 or call Crime Stoppers anonymously on 328-TIPS (8477).

Four feared dead in Inagua accident

Nassau officers help investigation

By ALISON LOWE
Tribune Staff Reporter
alowe@tribunemedia.net

AIR accident investigators are probing a plane crash that killed four people.

Eyewitnesses described seeing a "fireball" as the blazing aircraft hurtled to the ground, sending a shockwave for miles around.

Up to press time yesterday, police investigating the crash of the Falcon Air Jet in eastern Inagua had yet to confirm the exact number or nationality of the individuals onboard.

However, a police officer believes four people may have been inside. Unconfirmed reports are that the pilot and co-pilot are both Americans — Harold Hangle and Tredy Camilo.

The plane belongs to the US-based company Wells Fargo, the Dominican Today newspaper states, quoting The Dominican Aviation Civil Institute (IDAC) and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).

Superintendent Elsworth Moss, of the Criminal Investigations Department, confirmed that his officers have flown from Nassau to the country's southernmost island to assist with investigations into the crash.

However, at press time last night he had yet to receive a report back from the team about their findings.

Local Inagua police officer PC 2887 Michael Tucker said the plane had come

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PM MEETS THE QUEEN OF DENMARK



PRIME MINISTER Hubert Ingraham is greeted by the Queen of Denmark. The Queen of Denmark and the Prince Consort's Gala Dinner was held at Christiansborg for Heads of State and Government. The Heads of State have been in Denmark for the World Climate Conference. Among them is President Barack Obama who has been applying a combination of muscle and personal charm to secure a climate change agreement involving nearly 200 countries. With almost 120 heads of state and government in attendance, there were some signs that a meaningful political deal might be at hand, including a slight shift in China's position and a pledge by the United States to help the poorest nations cope financially with global warming.

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2010 TO BE AN ACTIVE YEAR FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL COMMUNITY

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CHARITIES 'MEET OBLIGATIONS' DESPITE SMALLER CONTRIBUTIONS

• PAGE THREE

CRIME THE MOST SERIOUS ISSUE IN 2009, SAY TRIBUNE READERS

• PAGE FIVE

Teenage boy admits having sex with girl, 14

A TEENAGE boy who admitted to having sex with a 14-year-old girl has been remanded to Her Majesty's Prison.

The 17-year-old, whose identity is withheld for legal reasons, is said to have had sex with the girl on September 21.

He was arraigned in Juvenile Court 2, Victoria Gardens. Magistrate Janet Bullard remanded him to Her Majesty's Prison until January 27 for sentencing.

Hopes dashed of breakthrough in search for missing boaters

By ALISON LOWE
Tribune Staff Reporter
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HOPES that a pilot's aerial photo of one of the Berry Islands showed two missing boaters have been dashed, leaving their families continuing to pray for their safe return.

Edwin Pritchard, a Bahamian living in Miami, and his best friend Richard Alicea, also a Miami resident, were reported by their families to have set off last Saturday on a deep sea fishing trip from the Haulover Inlet, Florida, to Bimini, Bahamas.

However, the two fathers never showed up in Bimini as expected, and since being alerted to the no-show by their families on Sunday, the US Coast Guard had up until yesterday searched more than 46,000 square miles of ocean.

After five days without success, hopes were raised that photos taken from a commuter plane and forwarded to the US Coast Guard on Tuesday might have provided the key to their whereabouts.

The images purportedly showed people on one of the Berry Islands, along with an "SOS" signal written in the sand.

US Coast Guard Petty Officer Sabrina Elgammal said: "The Coast Guard immediately launched multiple aircraft to search the island in the photo and the surrounding area, including hav-

SEE page eight

US Ambassador criticises Bahamas

US Ambassador Nicole Avant has criticised the Bahamas for abstaining from a UN vote on human rights resolutions concerning the actions of Iran, Burma and North Korea.

She noted that formerly, the Bahamas was consistently one of the "brave souls" in the region that stood up for human rights.

Mrs Avant said it is the "fervent hope" of the United States that the Bahamas and other Caribbean countries who abstained or voted against the resolutions will

SEE page eight

Nicole Avant

LOCAL NEWS

2010 to be an active year for environmental community

BY NOELLE NICOLLS
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Environmental activists say they will be pushing the government to act on a number of initiatives in the New Year. The proposed Town Planning and Subdivision Act, considered a landmark piece of legislation by some, is high on their priority list.

The Bill was temporarily withdrawn from the House of Assembly in November for further review, based on the volume of late contributions submitted by public commentators.

The Bill, submitted by Minister of Environment, Earl Deveaux, is not without its detractors, but director of the Nature Conservancy, Eleanor Phillips, said it will be a major complement to the work of the environmental community.

Ms Phillips is an advocate for a government mandate requiring all houses to use freshwater tanks as their source of water. She said in the mid 1900s, Bahamians were self-sufficient as far as water was concerned because they used rainwater wells and tanks.

While this regulation is not currently up for debate, the Bill can be seen as part of a larger effort to enforce new development standards and controls, for example in the design and style of buildings and the proximity of

developments to shorelines.

The Bill will activate a process of systematic land use planning across the islands to zone areas that are most appropriate for certain types of developments. These determinations are made based on factors like the condition of natural resources and biodiversity, population growth trends, and economic considerations.

"The Bill will make it law for certain things to be reviewed and required and for decisions to be made after those things are considered. It will set new mandates for environmental impact assessments for major projects," said Eric Carey, executive director of the Bahamas National Trust.

"There are so many subdivisions that have destroyed blue holes, destroyed wetlands. These developments could have still proceeded, but the total obliteration of the environment did not have to take place," he said.

Spotlight

Environmental issues took the spotlight this week with a presentation by Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham to the United Nations Climate Summit in Copenhagen. At the Summit Mr Ingraham stressed the Bahamas' commitment to sustainable development and the protection of natural resources.

While there have been mixed reactions to his comments – focused specifically on discrepancies between the prime minister's words and some of his government's actions, some environmentalists have praised the government for its work to preserve national parks and



ECOLOGICALLY DIVERSE Mangrove creek, Abaco.

"The Bill will make it law for certain things to be reviewed and required and for decisions to be made after those things are considered. It will set new mandates for environmental impact assessments for major projects."

Eric Carey, Bahamas National Trust

protected marine and terrestrial resources.

As one of the earliest signatories to the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Bahamas has already met its commitment to protect land areas with biodiversity by 2010. The Convention, of which 168 countries are signatories, also outlines a commitment to protect marine areas by 2012, which the government is working towards.

The Exuma Land and Sea Park contains 176,000 acres of protected terrestrial and marine environment, providing safe harbour for endangered species like hutia, iguanas and seabirds. The Abaco National Park contains 20,000 acres of pinewood land and broadleaf coppice habitat.

The Blue Holes National Park in Central Andros contains 33,000 acres of protected land. Also in Central Andros is 3,000 acres of land protected for crab replenishment. The entire island of Little Inagua, 31,000 acres, is protected, as well as 184,000 acres of land in the Inagua National Park.

Still, questions remain as to the effectiveness of the

government's efforts in managing the protected areas.

"They talk a lot of stuff, but there is zero enforcement. Foreigners can fish out as many parks as they want (in Abaco)," said Matthew McCoy, founding member of Abaco Cares, a community advocacy organisation in Abaco.

Crawfish

"They are allowed to catch under-sized crawfish, exceed catch limits and do whatever they like. Exuma is a good example, and I commend the work they are doing there, but in Abaco it seems like foreigners can get away with anything," said Mr McCoy.

Ms Phillips said her organisation recognises financing as a major issue in park management. She said developing sustainable financing mechanisms for parks is one of the focuses of the Caribbean Challenge Initiative, which is a collaborative effort of Caribbean nations pushing for more aggressive standards for protecting terrestrial and marine resources.

Under the Caribbean



SOFT CORALS and Sponges flourish below an anchored dive boat. Coral reefs are important for protecting shorelines and sea life. The picture was shot in Exuma Cays Land and Sea Park, Bahamas

Challenge Initiative, participating countries are working towards protecting 20 per cent of near shore marine environments by 2020, which is twice the size of the international standard. Near shore environments include sea grass beds, which are natural habitats for conch and sea turtles, and coral reefs, which are important for protecting shorelines and fisheries.

So far five countries are committed to the challenge, including the Bahamas, Jamaica, Grenada, St Vincent and the Grenadines, and the Dominican Republic. The Nature Conservancy is spearheading the challenge, and has received the endorsement of CARICOM.

Ms Phillips suggested that a practical way forward in maintaining the integrity of natural ecosystems in the Bahamas would be to pro-

tect a percentage of all habitat types on each island.

"We need a network of protected areas that will enable us to enhance fisheries over the long-term, protect the environment and mitigate against climate change. We have very unique ecosystems and because our land resources are limited the impact of development is more visible," said Ms Phillips.

Also expected in the New Year are reports from the Eco-Schools pilot programme launched jointly by the Bahamas Reef Environment Educational Foundation (BREEF) and the Ministries of Tourism, Education and Environment.

Seven schools were engaged in the programme, designed to have students evaluate their environmental impact, particularly in terms of energy consumption.

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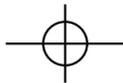
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LOCAL NEWS

Attempted murder charge: Man, 34, is denied bail

By NATARIO MCKENZIE
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A 34-year-old Laird Street man was denied bail yesterday after being arraigned in Magistrate's Court on an attempted murder charge.

Police have charged Marvin Beneby with the December 10 attempted murder of Willard Rolle. According to initial reports, Rolle, 38, was allegedly shot multiple times by the driver of a car that pulled up next to him as he was walking in the Windsor Lane area.

Beneby, who appeared before Chief Magistrate Roger Gomez in Court 1, Bank Lane, was not required to enter a plea to the charge. Fourteen witnesses are listed on court dockets. Prosecutor Berlin Smith objected to Beneby being granted bail, noting that Beneby had been convicted and sentenced to 12 years in prison on an attempted murder charge on October 8, 1998, and 10 years imprisonment on an armed robbery charge on November 8, 1998. Beneby's attorney Willie Moss argued that there was no evidence that Beneby was a flight risk or would commit any offences if released on bail.

He also noted that the prosecution could not confirm to the court when Beneby was released from prison. Chief Magistrate Roger Gomez noted that Beneby had been convicted more than five years ago. However, he stated that because the charges were serious, he would err on the side of caution and deny the accused bail. Beneby was remanded to Her Majesty's Prison.

The case has been adjourned to January 18 for the start of a preliminary inquiry in Court 11, Nassau Street.



34 YEAR OLD LAIRD STREET resident Marvin Beneby appeared in court yesterday.

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AVATAR	NEW	2:30	N/A	N/A	6:00	N/A	10:30
DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THE MORGANS	T	1:05	3:30	N/A	6:05	8:25	10:45
INVICTUS	B	1:10	N/A	4:10	7:10	N/A	10:10
THE PRINCESS & THE FROG	A	1:15	3:35	N/A	6:15	8:35	10:35
ARMORED	C	1:20	3:40	N/A	6:20	8:40	10:50
NINJA ASSASSIN	C	1:25	3:25	N/A	6:05	8:20	10:35
THE OLD DOGS	B	1:10	3:45	N/A	6:10	N/A	N/A
THE TWILIGHT SAGA	T	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	8:20	10:40
BLIND SIDE	B	1:15	N/A	4:15	7:15	N/A	10:30
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ARMORED	C	1:15	3:35	N/A	6:15	8:25	10:50
NINJA ASSASSIN	C	1:10	3:30	N/A	6:10	8:25	10:45
THE TWILIGHT SAGA	T	1:30	3:25	N/A	6:30	8:20	10:40
BLIND SIDE	B	1:10	N/A	4:10	7:10	N/A	10:10

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Charities 'meet obligations'

By TANEKA THOMPSON
Tribune Staff Reporter
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DESPITE smaller donations due to economic constraints, local charities say they have still been able to meet their obligations in helping the country's underprivileged this year.

Major Lester Ferguson, the Salvation Army's divisional commander, has seen demand for assistance grow in 2009 as more Bahamians struggle to make ends meet.

It's the same for the operators of the Bahamas Red Cross Society, who have seen an estimated 30 per cent increase in demand for aid this year.

Along with homeless persons and the unemployed, a growing number of struggling workers are visiting the Salvation Army centres for a hot meal or grocery vouchers – an added weight which has strained the charity's resources.

"We have people who are driving from work to stop by to get some groceries to take home or there may be other needs in the household, so it's no longer the unemployed – it's people who are working who are just in need of assistance," Mr Ferguson told *The Tribune*. "The kind of people who are coming to us for assistance, that has changed."

The group operates two soup kitchens – one in the Grants Town area and another on Mackey Street – which provide meals to around 300 persons a day. The Salvation Army also supplies food baskets, food vouchers, clothing, medical assistance, and helps people find emergency housing.

To keep up with this demand, the organisation depends on generous public support to meet 80 per cent of its budget. To Mr Ferguson's surprise, donations have been steady this year.

"In spite of the economic downturn we have found that a lot of residents here in the Bahamas have still been very generous in their giving. Now the size of their giving may not have been as much as they used to give, but what we've found is that more people are giving – even those small amounts," he said. "We've been able to manage our budgets quite reason-

ably but what we have discovered is that the demand keeps increasing every month."

Year-round fundraising is the key to the Red Cross' success, said its president Brendon Watson, speaking at *The Tribune* on the sidelines of a press conference held by BTC to donate \$5,000 to the Red Cross, Salvation Army and Great Commission Ministries. He added that the charity operates on \$600,000 to \$700,000 a year. The agency

provides food five days a week to invalids and shut-ins through its meals-on-wheels programmes along with emergency food and aid baskets to persons in need. The assistance from the general public and the corporate citizen keep(s) us going. . . We run low on that sometimes. This year we had to quickly stick in a golf tournament which we hope to make an annual one to meet those goals," Mr Watson said.

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EDITORIAL/LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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Being Bound to Swear to The Dogmas of No Master

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Obama the pragmatist gets what he can

COPENHAGEN — The world is coming to know President Barack Obama, the pragmatist whose stand at a messy global warming summit underscored the way he leads: Let's get done what we can, imperfect as it is.

When Obama impatiently told other leaders here to rally behind a climate change deal despite its limitations, he sounded like he was talking about his health care push or his economic stimulus plan at home. The president whose election campaign was about change knows that governing — and re-election — are about showing results.

"I'm sure that many consider this an imperfect framework," Obama said Friday to a gathering of leaders from 193 countries. "No country will get everything that it wants."

On several levels, watching Obama in Copenhagen was like getting a mini-course in what makes him tick as a leader.

He's learning the frustrating limits of his powers of persuasion. Yet he presses on, willing to jet across the ocean and plunge into a long day of unpredictable diplomacy in pursuit of a deal to fight global warming.

At the same time, he's hemmed in by the high expectations he helped create. Across the world, so many people have come to see Obama the way they want his actions often don't fit their perceptions, and he finds it ever harder to meet people's wishes.

He won the White House because voters from all over the U.S. political map placed in Obama their hopes for the future — expanding health care all around, reducing racial tensions, saving the planet. Now his approval ratings hover around 50 per cent, down considerably from the heady, early days. Reality is harder than hope.

And so when Obama plunged at the last minute into a summit where the best chance was a political deal — talk of a legally binding pact had long been quashed — he sought to grab the moment and claim what he could.

"We can embrace this accord, take a substantial step forward, continue to refine and build upon its foundation," Obama said. In other words, focus on what's in, not out, and don't walk away empty-handed.

Later, after a long day of negotiations, Obama announced that the U.S., China and three other countries had reached an "unprecedented breakthrough" on curbing climate change. Yet not without more hard work and trust would a more comprehensive, binding deal be in sight, he added.

This was only a start, but one that was well worthwhile.

"This is a classic example of a situation where if we just waited for that (legal deal), then we would not make any progress," he said. "There might be such frustration and cynicism that rather than taking one step forward, we ended up taking two steps back."

So it goes across the many fronts of Obama's agenda. He is no longer on his own pace to sign a nuclear arms deal with Russia, or to close the Guantanamo Bay prison, or to get

a health insurance overhaul through Congress. But there is halting movement on them all, and that's what he likes to talk about.

In Copenhagen, Obama's diplomacy displayed the importance of his presence and the limits of his power. He has promised a U.S. posture of leading without lecturing, although he did both here as his patience shrank.

He said the U.S. has its demands for any climate deal: aggressive emissions reductions from all major economies, not just wealthy ones, a way for promises to be verified, financing to help poorer nations.

"We have made our commitments," Obama said of the U.S. offers to reduce heat-trapping emissions, offer financial aid to poorer nations and invest in clean energy. "We will do what we say."

But that is not solely for him to say. The president is constrained by political realities at home.

The House has passed climate-change legislation but the Senate has not yet. Obama is making administrative moves on his own as he pushes lawmakers to act, but Republicans say they will try to block his administration from regulating heat-trapping gases, saying the administration can't strong-arm Congress.

Obama again showed his style of making a direct appeal at a big event, which carries risk and reward. Though negotiators worked through the night, Obama and other leaders arrived here Friday morning for the U.N. climate conference with hopes for a deal dimming instead of brightening.

Many officials in Copenhagen have been labouring for years over extraordinarily complex issues. But Obama, not even a year into his job at the helm of the world's most powerful nation and its second-largest polluter, seemed to say it was time to move on.

Yet the negotiations didn't end just because Obama said they should. He said America was showing responsibility and taking bold action on climate, but critics sniffed at that. Obama's approach is to grab wins where he can, emphasizing progress even when goals are scaled back and deadlines missed. And so he went to Copenhagen to try to close a deal. It was about results. Even mixed and modest ones.

Just before he left for Denmark, an interviewer asked Obama what he would have to do over the next three years to have a successful presidency. Obama named fixing the economy, getting Afghanistan to a stable place, passing meaningful health care reform and moving the nation toward clean energy.

"If I can get those things done over the next three years — and that's a pretty big list — I will feel really good," he said.

Fittingly, he added: "If I get three out of four, then I'll still feel pretty good about myself."

(This article was written by Ben Feller and Jennifer Loven, Associated Press Writers)

Foreign police in crime fight? No! A thousand times no

EDITOR, The Tribune.

An article under the by-line "Tribune Readers Back use of foreign police in crime fight" on page one, was in my opinion, the views of a number of persons in John Q Public.

Who are like many others, fed-up with the high rate of crime, the senseless taking of human lives, the denigration of women's sanctity in our society and the mutilation of the chastity of young persons, males and females by sexual degenerates in this archipelago of islands dubbed the Commonwealth of the Bahamas.

The calling for assistance from foreign police officers is motivated by fear and frustration; but it is most definitely not the answer.

Our Police Force, from the disbandment of the West Indian regiment at the turn of the 20th century, was dominated by foreign personnel (West Indian) who were because of their higher educational standards and intellect, recruited into our Police Force.

Due to our status as a colonial territory, the command and supervisory positions were the sole domain of those appointed by our colonial masters and whose only qualifications in many instances was their pigmentation. Literacy for 95 per cent of Bahamian males of colour, was non-existent, all they possessed was brawn.

The majority of those recruited into the force were taken for their size, strength and ability to pra-pra (wrestle) as their main duties were dealing with drunk and disorderly sponge fishermen.

In 1912 a number of Barbadians were recruited along with a number of Jamaicans, notables such as Sgt/ Major King, Sgts Eddie, Amtrobus, (who joined the army and returned to the force in 1918), Distupe and others, who were responsible for bringing the force to a reasonable standard up to the early 1930's when Bahamians notables like, Sgt #1 Storr, Sgt Saul Armbrister, Kinnear, Archer and a number of other locals from the out islands found the force as a source of income. The force got its first Commissioner of Police — Col. Erskine Lindop — around 1937.

LETTERS

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All others who headed the force before him were dubbed Police Commandants. Lindop was transferred to Trinidad in the aftermath of the Oakes murder in 1942 as Deputy Commissioner at a salary of £700 per annum which was higher than his £500 per annum as commissioner in the Bahamas. He was succeeded by Col. Lancaster as Commissioner of Police.

After WWII a contingent of police recruits were brought in from British Guyana and an instructor (Wentworth) from Trinidad, he held the rank of Sgt/Major, he was succeeded by L R Granger from Guyana who was the last foreign police instructor in the Bahamas Police Force.

In early 1950 a batch of recruits from Trinidad was the last to be recruited from that country.

1955 and 1958 saw the last contingents of recruits from Barbados. During the mid-1950's-60 a large number of displaced English Officers from Colonial Forces viz: - Bermuda, Palestine, Singapore and other destinations, found themselves in the Bahamas Police Force. Unlike the recruits from the West Indies who were all trained here and whose cultures were similar to ours and who very easily adapted to our conditions, the English segment were trained in police methods applicable to the cultures and *modus operandi* of the miscreants of those cultures, because they were white, officers, and completely ignorant of not only their new environment but the *modus operandi* of our criminal element; they were unable to contribute anything of value to the solution of our criminal problems.

Retired AC Paul Thompson was correct in pointing out that foreign officers can only be of assistance in the area of forensics, fingerprints, the art of interrogations and crime scene procedures.

But experience has proven that because of the culture, pigmentation and attitudes towards locals, their presence is of little or no value at all.

We need only to look at their presence in the Jamaica Constabulary and the confusion in the Turks and Caicos Force, being created by such individuals. The practice of not utilising the expertise of retired senior police officers and specialised personnel, who are still able to make valuable contributions in crime fighting techniques to our police force, is a serious oversight that should be addressed by the movers and shakers responsible for crime in government and the force. The need for assistance is real; but to go abroad for it when it is right here among us; is incomprehensible.

Community Policing coupled with input from crime fighters of old who are still healthy and kicking and the wider community can do wonders in reducing our crime situation by bringing it to a level that we can all live with. We should all take cognizance of the fact that crime is not the sole responsibility of the government or police force, but the entire population and that is why we should and must look to our communities for the solution.

If and until we as a people look at crime and recognise it for what it is, a social problem; and treat it as such, by looking into our social structure for the solution. It must be treated as a boil.

Look for the root and remove it. As a former policeman and having spent some years in the rehabilitation of convicts, I am of the opinion that in our fight against crime, we must go back to basics, prevention.

I am convinced that incarceration is the largest single factor that is responsible for the rise of crime in any society.

We are in bad shape (criminally) but not as bad as many in the region, yet one murder, rape, robbery or any other crime is one too many.

Parents, teachers, service clubs, fraternal organisations, government law enforcement agencies and indeed the nation as a whole must come together as one body to find the ingredients to produce a pill called crime prevention.

ERRINGTON WI
WATKINS
Nassau,
December 8, 2009.

Christ Church Cathedral Schedule of Christmas Services December 20th, 2009 - January 3rd, 2010

A Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols
Featuring The Highgrove Singers
6:00 p.m. Sunday December 20th, 2009

The Eve of The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ
Thursday December 24th, 2009

10:30 p.m. "Christ Our Saviour Is Born"
A Christmas Eve Concert
Presented by:
The Choirs of Christ Church Cathedral

11:45 p.m. Christmas Eve, Procession to the Manager & Solemn Pontifical Eucharist

Christmas Day
Friday December 25th, 2009
7:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
10:00 a.m. Sung Eucharist

The First Sunday After Christmas
Sunday December 27th, 2009
7:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist
9:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
11:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist
6:00 p.m. Solemn Evensong, Sermon & Benedicton

Thursday December 31st, 2009
The Eve of the Feast of the Holy Name of Jesus
New Year's Eve
11:00 p.m.
This Service leads into the First Mass of The New Year, 2010

The Second Sunday After Christmas
Sunday January 3rd, 2010
7:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist
9:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
11:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist
6:00 p.m. Service of Light
Presented by Cathedral Boys Choir

Merry Christmas

to
All Our Customers & Friends
from

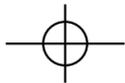


May the Holidays be shared with Loved
Ones in Peace and Happiness.

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LOCAL NEWS

WHY YOU VEX?

"Why I vex is because I can't sleep Sunday night because of the street bikes all the time making noise in my ears. I'm surprised they don't get mash up running so fast up and down Bay Street. Why don't nobody do something about them, I tried and can't sleep. Help!"
 - Sleepless in Sandyport



"I is vex that politicians are not classifying the apprehension of the illegal migrant who breaks Bahamian laws by illegally invading our island country as a crime! Our little sovereign nation and member of the United Nations should not suffer destabilisation by massive groups of persons whose aim is to breach the security of our Bahamas. This action should be classed as a major criminal act and severely punishable as a deterrent to other invaders!"
 - Legal warrior

"I is vex with all these children an' adults an' their family all over Nassau, on the road, in the supermarket, at gas stations, in the mall, everywhere speaking Creole so loudly with no respect to lower the volume. This Nassau is one English speaking island an' I is wonder what in the world happened over the last 20 years. Before time, I remember only them couple o' elderly gardeners speaking quietly and to each other in Creole and never in the presence of the English speaking Bahamians who were held in great respect. What happened now? Who responsible? Who authorise this?"
 - Rip Van Winkle

"I vex because I went to the FNM meeting in Pinewood Gardens, my Byron Woodside spoke and had all these great activities for us. (A lady) was suppose to teach us how to sew and make quite a few other arts and crafts. I called and no one answered at least four times at the headquarters office - nothing ever got started. Why is all I want to know, why? I could be making some of those arts and crafts for my Christmas tree and plus the knowledge would be with me for a lifetime."
 - Upset in Pinewood

"I vex because as hard as things is a lot of employees still carrying on as if they are doing their bosses a favour. I pull up to the hot dog stand, you think the young lady look at me yet? I said to her, 'Excuse me, can I have a hot dog without the relish'. 'Chile' she continued to talk to the young man sitting next to her - all I said was 'Have a good day' then I sped away."
 - Hungry as hell

"I am happy that the intellectual lawyer, former Cabinet (minister) and current MP Alfred Sears has been issuing a series of informative articles on the blacklisting of the Bahamas by the FATF and the OECD/Financial Stability Board in 2000 and 2009. Such proactive and informative commentary towards the national good is what should be expected from every MP even when they are on the opposite side of the bench."
 - Finance student

Are you vex? Send your complaints to whyyouvex@tribune-media.net

Crime - 2009's most serious issue, say Tribune readers



EIGHTEEN visitors were robbed recently while touring BASH's Earth Village site.

Tribune readers have overwhelmingly voted that crime was the most serious and pressing issue of 2009.

Asked to choose the issue which has had the greatest impact on them from a list of the year's biggest media stories, 112 readers chose crime - more than double the next most popular choice - the economy.

Readers chose crime above the economy, the Crown land row, the John Travolta extortion trial and the marital rape debate, among others.

Adrian Kasey Anusitz wrote that the Bahamas is on a slippery slope into "the abyss" because of crime.

"The ignorance and the unwillingness to cease and desist in the attitude, behaviour, conduct and the mentality of too many people in the Bahamas is placing the country on a pathway to destruction," the reader said.

Fred said crime is definitely the most serious problem facing the Bahamas today. "In the last year I've had my boat stolen, car broken into twice and just last month caught someone stealing in my yard," he said. "I'm also in retail and totally stressed out about constantly having to look over my shoulder every day, now assuming the worst of everyone that looks a bit strange and not being able to legally protect myself and family."

"I think if the police are undermanned they need to seriously consider letting business owners arm themselves, pro-

viding proper mandatory training in order to qualify for handgun licenses. Wake up! The criminals are armed and have no regard for life."

Kevard Rolle said: "You can't even go outside of your house to throw away your garbage without thinking that you will lose your life to murder. I'm just 18 and scared of losing my life to such things. In this society there are too many crimes - murder, robbery, rape, stabbings and so forth. This is sending negative information to visitors of the Bahamas being a bad place, especially after the 18 tourists were robbed."

"Where are the criminals getting these guns from? The government should make the Customs Department check every container that comes into our ports - whether it is owned by the public sector or the private sector."

Sherle Knowles said: "We are losing too many of our young people to illiteracy, crime, drugs, gangs, immorality and untimely death. To reduce crime, it is critical that we get the unemployed, idle, aimless youth off the streets and engaged in a national boot camp training programme aimed at teaching them basic skills, trades, Godly values, et cetera."

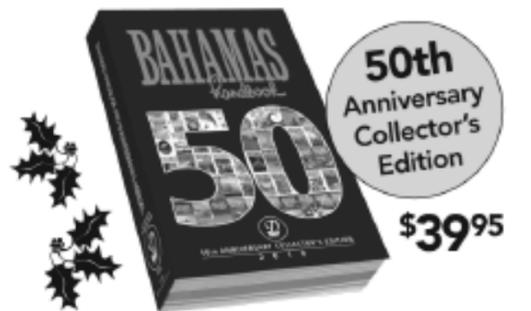
"In addition, the Bail Act must be amended in the best interest of the Bahamian people, and the government's inaction on this most important issue is exposing the citizens of the Bahamas to grave injury."



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GENEROUS



HELPINGS

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LOCAL NEWS

INDAYS GONE BY

If you have any memories of the people and places featured in *In Days Gone By*, please send them to rmissick@tribunemedia.net

Demeritte's Funeral Home

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FUNERAL SERVICE FOR

ALBERTHA EVANS, 79

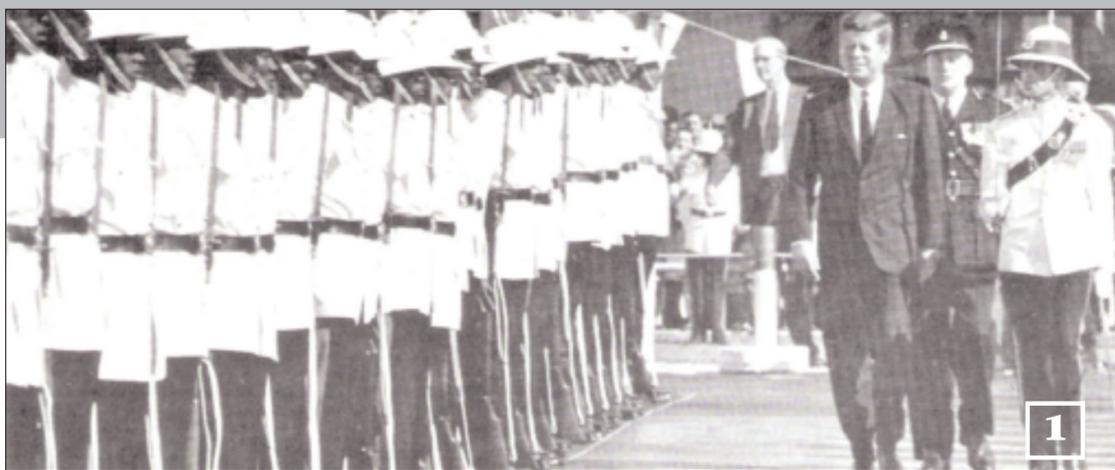
a resident of Garden Hills & formerly of Old Bight, Cat Island, who died on 2nd Dec. 2009, will be held at Transfiguration Baptist Church, Market & Vesey Streets, on Saturday at 11:00 a.m. Officiating will be Rev. Dr. Stephen E. Thompson,

assisted by Rev. Brazil McDonald, Rev. Basil Johnson & Rev. Sherma Bowe. Interment follows in Woodlawn Gardens, Soldier Road.

Left to cherish the legacy of her life is her daughter, Jillian Patnett and son-in-law, Brian Patnett; grandchildren (5), Bria Alexis, Jade Aliya, Jordan Alyssa, Brian Edward Jr., and Jasmine Christina Patnett; 3 sisters, Clarita Lindsay, Bluenetta Seymour and Rochelle Rolle of Freeport, Grand Bahama; aunt, Avilda "Dove" Johnson of California; sister-in-law, Evangelist Prophetess Loretta Maud Rolle of Old Bight Cat Island, including Deborah Simmons, Deidre Authur, Lucy Sturup, Rev. Francis Cooper, Inspector Donna Francis, Susan Wood, Sophette Russell, Ianne Bain, Phonia Seymour, Sonia Rolle of Freeport, Crystal Thompson, Patrece and Shawna Williams of New York, Evane Harris of New York, Eleanor Burrows, Theresa Strachan, Margaret Sweeting, Miriam Cherelus, Glendora Hart, Archelean Brown, Barbaraanne Rolle, Joyanne Dean and Samantha Forbes; nephews, including Ross, Leroy and Sterling Seymour, Ralph Jr., Gerard, and Freddy Williams of New York, Chasmar and Glenford Roll, Elthy and Dwight Darling of Freeport, Andre and Stephen Harris of New York, Charles, Wilfred, Paul, Hamrick, Elvis and Christopher Rolle of Freeport, Grand Bahama; other relative and friends, Rowena Riley and family, Edna Johnson and family, Isabell Burrow and family, Christina Culmer and family, Mizpah Strapp and family, Verdell Johnson and family, Erma Smith and family, Edwina Gibson and family, Eleanor Brennen, the Transfiguration Church family and many other relatives and friends, too numerous to mention.

Friends may pay their last respects at Demeritte's Funeral Home, Market Street, from 10-5:00 p.m. on Friday & on Saturday at the church from 10:00 a.m. until service time.

THE VISIT OF JFK



PRESIDENT JF KENNEDY (left), Inspector Leslie Cates (right), Commissioner Colchester-Wemyss (behind Pres Kennedy and Inspector Cates), Rusty Bethell of ZNS (back of photo).

This week's *In Days Gone By*, submitted by Tribune reader Christopher Cates, gives us an insight into US President John F Kennedy's visit to the Bahamas on December 18, 1962.

He is the only sitting US president to ever officially visit the Bahamas.

In the photos are Lawrence Ginton of the Ministry of Works, who later became a Senator; Harcourt "Rusty" Bethell, who became the general manager of ZNS; EJH

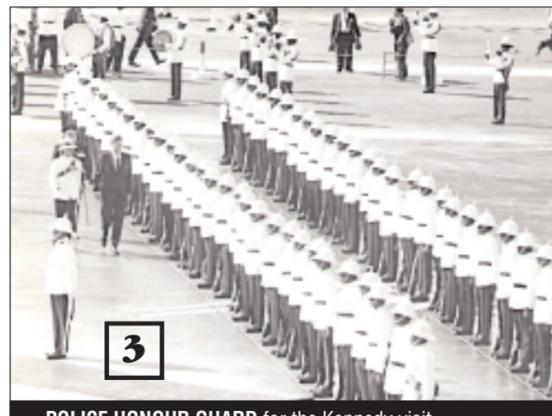
Colchester-Wemyss, OBE, who was commissioner of police from 1955 to 1963; and Inspector Leslie Cates, who later became a superintendent and the officer in charge of the Northern Division from 1964 until his retirement from the force in 1968.

Inspector Cates was one of the officers sent to reclaim Cay Sal in 1956 after an invasion by Cuban nationals and was later in charge of the Police Air Wing at its inception in 1964 (Supt Cates was a licensed pilot).

ALL PRESENT AND CORRECT



PRESIDENT KENNEDY, Honour Guard Commander Inspector Leslie Cates, Commissioner EJH Colchester-Wemyss and the Police Honour Guard.



POLICE HONOUR GUARD for the Kennedy visit.

PRESIDENT KENNEDY at a tree planting ceremony. Pictured are: President Kennedy, Peter Bethell (Ministry of Works) and Lawrence Ginton (Ministry of Works)



nothing's too hard for God

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BEHOLD, I AM THE LORD, THE GOD OF ALL FLESH: IS THERE ANYTHING TOO HARD FOR ME? Jeremiah 32:27

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AG OPPORTUNITIES FOR WORSHIP AND MINISTRY

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- * Early Worship Service 8:30 a.m.
- * Sunday School for all ages 9:45 a.m.
- * Worship Service 11:00 a.m.
- * Spanish Service 11:00 a.m.
- * FAIDS Youth Church(Grades 7-12)
 - First & Third Sunday 11:30 a.m.
 - * POWER CREW Church(Ages 10-11 yrs.)
 - Second & Fourth Sunday 11:30 a.m.
 - * Evening Service 6:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY at 7:30 p.m.

- * Selective Bible Teaching
- * Royal Rangers (Boys Club) 4-16 yrs.
- * Missionettes (Girls Club) 4-16 yrs.
- * Spanish Bible Study

FRIDAY at 7:30 p.m.

- * Youth Ministry Meeting (Grades 7-12)

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SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20TH, 2009.

10:00 a.m. Communion Service
11:00 a.m. Annual Christmas Centaria
Speaker Pastor Emeritus Rex Major
NO EVENING SERVICE

Bible Class: 9:45 a.m. • Breaking of Bread Service: 10:45 a.m.
• Community Outreach: 11:30 a.m. • Evening Service: 7:00 p.m.
• Midweek Service: 7:30 p.m. (Wednesdays)
• Sisters' Prayer Meeting: 10:00 a.m. (2nd Thursday of each month)

LIGHT AND LIFE COMMUNITY CHURCH

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Worship time: 11am & 7pm
Sunday School: 9:45am
Prayer time: 6:30pm
Place: The Madeira Shopping Center

Pastor Knowles can be heard each morning on Joy 101.9 at 8:30 a.m.

Rev. Dr. Franklin Knowles

ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND
Pastor: Rev. Dr Franklin Knowles
P.O.Box EE-16807
Telephone number 325-5712
EMAIL - lynnk@batelnet.bs

PHOTO CREDITS:

Photo No. 1 and Photo No.4 Bahama Life Magazine – December 1963 edition. Photographer Jarvis Darville (Jarvis Studios)

Photo No 2 to No 3 *The Tribune* Newspaper

Grant's Town Wesley Methodist Church
Ballou Hill Rd & Chapel Street PO Box CD 12046

The Holy Ghost Prayer-Line number is 326-7427
(www.gtwesley.org)

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20TH, 2009.

7:00 am Bro Ernest Miller/Sis Tazel Anderson
11:00 am Rev. Carla Culmer/Lay Preachers/Televised Service
7:00 pm Candle Light Service

Theme: "But As For Me And My Household, We Will Serve the Lord"

Grace and Peace Wesleyan Church
A Society of The Free Methodist Church of North America

(WHERE GOD IS ADORED AND EVERYONE IS AFFIRMED)

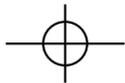
Worship Time: 11a.m. & 7p.m.
Prayer Time: 10:15a.m. to 10:45 a.m.

Special Services
Candlelight Service Dec. 20th @ 7pm
Christmas Virgil Dec. 24th @ 11pm
Watch Night Dec. 31st @ 11pm

Church School during Worship Service
Place: Twynam Heights off Prince Charles Drive

Minister: Rev. Henley Perry
P.O.Box SS-5631
Telephone number: 324-2538
Telefax number: 324-2587

COME TO WORSHIP, LEAVE TO SERVE



LOCAL NEWS

BAHAMAS INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

From rock to acting ... Lenny Kravitz talks about Precious



LENNY KRAVITZ (centre) with BIFF's Leslie Vanderpool.

By MEGAN REYNOLDS
Tribune Staff Reporter
mreynolds@tribunemedia.net

raise awareness of abuse and inspire those who have experienced abuse in any country or culture.

and witty interactions with lively characters, portrayed through innovative cinematography, carry the audience with her on her journey, so when Lenny Kravitz enters as the dashing nurse John and flashes his dazzling white smile we are presented with a beacon of hope.

where. I knew people like this personally growing up as a kid, I think people here in Nassau will really identify."

dedicate to film. Mr Daniels invited the rock star to play the role and shot his part in a day so he could fit it into his hectic touring schedule.

ROCK star Lenny Kravitz talked about his first acting role in a Golden Globe nominated film, *Precious*, based on the novel 'Push' By Sapphire, at the Bahamas International Film Festival screening on Thursday night.

He said: "One of the things the film's about is the invisibility of a woman like Precious and anyone who's ever endured the things that Precious has will hopefully know that they're not alone.

Mr Kravitz said: "I don't think you can deny this film. I really don't think you can, it's just one of those films.

The rock star, whose Bahamian mother Roxie Roker, starred in the 1970s hit TV show *The Jefferson's*, said he has always been interested in acting but has had little time to

Mr Kravitz hopes to feature in more substantial roles in future films, but for now he is based in the Bahamas, recording his next album.

The world-famous American/Bahamian musician was joined by screenplay writer Geoffrey Fletcher for a discussion with the audience at the end of the festival's closing night film at Galleria Cinemas on JFK Drive.

Funny

"But what people haven't been talking about is that it's funny too, I think.

"I think wherever people have gone to see this film, in whatever country, people are relating to it in a very deep way.

NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that **EMMA DORSAINVIL of CORONATION ROAD, MACKEY STREET, P.O. BOX N-7060, 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 **12th day of December, 2009** to the Minister responsible for nationality and Citizenship, P.O. Box N-7147, Nassau, Bahamas.

Mr Kravitz talked to fans on the red carpet as he arrived for the Bahamian premiere and talked about how the minor acting role as nurse John is the first of what could be a budding film career.

"I always hoped it would be a dynamic experience where you go through so many emotions, and certainly it's a tough journey to take, but hopefully one that you feel was worthwhile."

"I remember being at the Cannes film festival and at the end of it the audience gave Lee a 15 minute standing ovation and the entire room was crying.

NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that **EDWIN LOUIS of OKRA HILL, P.O. BOX N-7060, 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 **12th day of December, 2009** to the Minister responsible for nationality and Citizenship, P.O. Box N-7147, Nassau, Bahamas.

Since its release last month *Precious* has attracted critical acclaim and earned three Golden Globe nominations including one for Best Picture, sparking hopes for Oscar success.

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NOTICE is hereby given that **PRESENDIEU SIMEON of P.O BOX N3331, 6th Street Grove, 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 **8th day of January, 2008** to the Minister responsible for nationality and Citizenship, P.O. Box N-7147, Nassau, Bahamas.

The film directed by Lee Daniels challenges audiences to confront the disturbing realities of a 16-year-old girl's life in 1980s Harlem as she endures the horrors of extreme physical and sexual abuse and faces her second pregnancy after being raped by her father.

NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that **BLONDEL VINCENT OF SOUTH BEACH, P.O.BOX SB-51712, 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 **12TH day of DECEMBER, 2009** to the Minister responsible for Nationality and Citizenship, P.O.Box N-7147, Nassau, The Bahamas.

Claireece "Precious" Jones (Gabourey Sidibe) further struggles with obesity and illiteracy, but her inspirational hope and strength lead her to face these challenges and to the dawning of new possibilities.

The character has inspired people around the world, and after the first Bahamian screening a woman was moved to share her own experience of sexual abuse and subsequent thoughts of suicide with Mr Fletcher, Mr Kravitz and the audience. Mr Fletcher was touched by her confession and said he hopes the film does

Bahamas Democratic Movement in GB food drive

BY DENISE MAYCOCK
Tribune Freeport Reporter
dmaycock@tribunemedia.net

FREEPORT - THE Bahamas Democratic Movement will be distributing \$10,000 worth of food items to residents on Grand Bahama this afternoon.

Cassius Stuart, BDM leader, said the organisation launched a food drive to assist the needy.

He and other party members will be handing out food bags at the International Bazaar at 2pm.

"We have been on a food drive to assist residents of the Grand Bahama because on our last trip here we met many individuals who were struggling to pay their bills and were falling short on groceries," said Mr Stuart.

Needy

"I told our executive team that we had to do something, and we raised about \$10,000 worth of food items which we have brought to distribute to our needy brothers and sister here.

"I had a chance to speak with Social Services and I was told stories about young girls as young as 11 involved in prostitution to find food to eat, and that hurt me."

Mr Stuart said the BDM is hoping to assist as many people as they can.

"We want anyone who needs food must come out to the International Bazaar.

"We just want to be able to help out for the Christmas season," he added.

Mr Stuart said will return to Grand Bahama in January to distribute another \$10,000 in groceries.

The BDM is hosting a Gala Ball - 'A Purple and Gold Affair' - in Grand Bahama at the Junkanoo Beach Club on Taino Beach at 7pm tomorrow.

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LOCAL NEWS

Hopes dashed of breakthrough in search for missing boaters

FROM page one

ing a helicopter with Bahamian officials aboard land on the island to conduct searches by foot. "All searches of the island and surrounding areas have yielded no results. Port checks of the marinas and ports around the search areas are also being conducted to determine if the missing boaters have checked in."

The search area surveyed by the US Coast Guard covers Haulover Inlet to Cape Canaveral, Florida., outwards to and including the islands of the Bahamas.

Chris Lloyd, Operations Director of the Bahamas Air Sea Rescue Association, said yesterday that BASRA was informed about the case on Monday, and based on the information he has received believes it is unlikely the men are in Bahamian waters. "It would be very difficult to breakdown near Florida and end up near The Bahamas," said Mr Lloyd.

He added that the men were said to have left Florida in rough seas without proper safety equipment.

"There were six-foot seas that day. They had no radio, no life-jackets and no flares. The onus is on them to have proper safety equipment."

He said the case remains "open" but one of the hindrances is that there is "no (defined) area to actively search."

The missing men are both 30 years old. They were sailing in a white, 17ft, centre-console style Key Largo pleasure craft with a green-blue stripe.

If anyone has any information regarding the whereabouts of Mr Alicea and Mr Pritchard, they are asked to contact the US Coast Guard at 1 305-415-6800.

'Fireball' jet crash probe

FROM page one

down into particularly "rough, bushy" terrain away from any development, requiring police to set out by car and then on foot to inspect the wreckage yesterday.

PC Tucker said that based on the "frightening" scenes witnessed by those living on the island, he doubted anyone will be found alive at the site of the crash.

The flight was said to have come to a fiery end around two hours after leaving the Dominican Republic, where it had stopped at the Higuero International Airport to refuel.

It was scheduled to land in Fort Lauderdale on Thursday evening, but never showed, causing local authorities to raise

the alarm. The aircraft shocked residents of the small settlement of Mathew Town, Inagua, when it appeared in the sky over the island as an unidentified speeding fireball at around 7.30pm.

Moments later, locals reported feeling a "shockwave" ripple through their homes on the moment of impact.

Describing the dramatic moments when the plane — at that point an unidentified flying object — appeared in the sky, a Matthew town resident said: "There was just a flash of light for a couple seconds, then a couple seconds later there was this vibration which shook the doors.

"By that time everyone was huddling around trying to find out what it was — we had no idea," she said.

US Ambassador FROM page one

reconsider. "We cannot stand by and wait when people's lives are at stake and the principles that we all purport to share— respect for democracy, the rule of law and human rights — are in jeopardy," she said.

OVERSEAS NEWS US and Russia near deal to trim nuclear arsenals

By PETER BAKER c.2009 New York Times News Service WASHINGTON

Eight months, three presidential meetings, countless Geneva negotiating sessions and one missed deadline later, the United States and Russia appear on the verge of agreeing to a new arms control treaty that will reduce their strategic nuclear arsenals by at least one quarter.

But even if the two sides manage to bring home a deal in coming days as they hope, that will be the easy part. After President Barack Obama and President Dmitri A. Medvedev of Russia sign the new pact, they plan to send negotiators back to the table next year to pursue a far more ambitious agreement tackling whole categories of nuclear weapons never before subject to international limits.

The talks envisioned for 2010 would take Obama's disarmament agenda to the next level and attempt what no president has managed since the dark days of the Cold War.

In addition to further reducing deployed strategic warheads, the negotiations would try to empty at least some vaults storing warheads in reserve. And the two sides would aim at thousands of tactical nuclear bombs most vulnerable to theft or proliferation, some still located in Europe 20 years after the fall of the Berlin Wall.

The effort is part of a broader initiative by Obama toward eventual elimination of all nuclear weapons and to transform the U.S. military for a new era. A nuclear review next month will propose an overhaul of the nation's strategic doctrine and force consideration of how many weapons the United States really needs without a superpower rival, including whether to eliminate one leg of the traditional "triad" of submarines, missiles and bombers.

The first step is the completion of the treaty on the table. Obama left Washington on Thursday night to fly to Copenhagen, where he will meet with Medvedev at a global climate change conference. There, they hope to cut through the remaining obstacles to the agreement to replace the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty of 1991, known as START, which expired Dec. 5.

The new version of Start would require each side to reduce deployed strategic nuclear warheads to roughly 1,600, down from 2,200, according to a senior American official.

Technician WANTED

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Product/Service Knowledge
Change Management
Flexible
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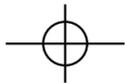
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Financial market data table including BISX LISTED & TRADED SECURITIES AS OF THURSDAY, 17 DECEMBER 2009, with columns for security names, prices, and indices.



LOCAL NEWS

Bahamas changes historic support for human rights

BY US AMBASSADOR NICOLE A AVANT

On November 19 and 20, three country-specific resolutions on the human rights situations in Iran, Burma and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) came up for action in the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) Third Committee. The Third Committee is the only UN body with the universal membership responsible for addressing international human rights issues.

All three resolutions passed. What was different about this year's vote was that the Bahamas' historic support for these important resolutions changed.

While the Bahamas was consistently one of the brave souls in the Caribbean region that stood up for human rights, it chose to abstain during the November vote.

The resolution on Iran, sponsored by Canada and 41 other co-sponsors, was particularly important this year as the world watched in stunned horror at the brutal repression that occurred in the wake of the June 12 elections.

The government in Iran shut down scores of news outlets, arrested journalists and carried out summary executions, torture, and arbitrary detention.

The resolution called on the government of Iran to fully respect its human rights obligations, both in law and in practice.

The government of Iran has consistently refused to acknowledge that it faces human rights issues, as all countries do.

In explaining this significant change in position to the committee chairman, the Bahamas said it was "reassessing" its vote because they were not convinced that country specific resolutions would improve the human rights situations in those countries.

The Bahamas went so far as to suggest that these resolutions could actually impede meaningful dialogue

We hope one day that the citizens of Iran, Burma and the DPRK will be able to discuss and address human rights issues openly, without fear of persecution.



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and co-operation.

Review

The Bahamas stated that human rights issues should be addressed during the Human Rights Council's (HRC) Universal Periodic Review (UPR) which each country submits to every four years.

The problem with this

argument is that Iran has not facilitated the visit of a single rapporteur or independent expert of the Human Rights Council to its country in over four years. Iran's and the Bahamas' contention that co-operation is better than resolutions would be more credible if Iran had itself cooperated in the most basic manner with these established human rights mechanisms.

The resolution on Iran, sponsored by Canada and 41 other co-sponsors, was particularly important this year as the world watched in stunned horror at the brutal repression that occurred in the wake of the June 12 elections.

When confronted with situations of grave and widespread violations in countries which refuse to cooperate in any meaningful manner with the international human rights system, the UN bodies must act. Action in one forum does not preclude action in other fora.

Importance

We attach great importance to the establishment of the HRC system of Universal Periodic Review, which is an excellent opportunity to share best practices and to work to improve the global human rights situation. But it does not replace the HRC's and Third Committee's mandates to act in the face of urgent situations. It was not designed to do so, nor to act in cases of non-cooperation. In part this is because every country is only reviewed once every four years.

Iran's review is February 2010, Burma in 2011, and

when people's lives are at stake and the principles that we all purport to share respect for democracy, the rule of law and human rights; are in jeopardy.

We hope one day that the citizens of Iran, Burma and the DPRK will be able to discuss and address human rights issues openly, without fear of persecution.

The people of those nations must know that all the freedom loving people in the world stand with them and are committed to addressing the promotion and protection of human rights with the sense of urgency that the situations in those countries deserve.

DPRK at the end of 2009. If we were to do what the Bahamas suggests and wait

NOTICE

THE BAHAMAS HUMANE SOCIETY

We had had several envelopes addressed to our president stolen from an employee vehicle. If you have sent anything recently that requires our attention and or is of importance please contact us so that we can address the matter.

2009
CLE qui No. 01483

COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS
IN THE SUPREME COURT
Common Law and Equity Division

IN THE MATTER OF ALL THAT piece parcel or lot of land comprising 5,515 square feet and situate on the Northern side of Lewis Street East, in the City of Nassau, New Providence, Bahamas, and at a distance of 137 feet from Comfort Street, and bounding Northerly by land said to be the property of Howard Pinder and running thereon Fifty-seven and Nineteen hundredths (57.19') feet and bounding Easterly by land said to be the property of Gertrude Fowler and running thereon One Hundred and Three hundredths (100.03') feet and bounding Southerly by Lewis Street and running thereon Fifty-three and Ninety-seven hundredths (53.97') feet and bounding Westerly by land said to be the property of Mary Cartwright and running thereon Ninety-eight and Sixty-five hundredths (98.65') feet.

AND

IN THE MATTER OF the Quieting Titles Act of 1959

AND

IN THE MATTER OF the Petition of
Lesley Anne Stubbs and Lerverne Palacios

NOTICE OF PETITION

Pursuant to an Order of The Supreme Court dated the 15th day of October, A.D. 2009.

The Petition of Lesley Anne Stubbs and Lerverne Palacios, both of Lewis Street East, in the City of Nassau, New Providence, Bahamas, sheweth in respect of:

ALL THAT piece parcel or lot of land comprising 5,515 square feet and situate on the Northern side of Lewis Street East, in the city of Nassau, New Providence, Bahamas, and bounded on the North by land said to be the property of Howard Pinder and running thereon Fifty-seven and Nineteen hundredths (57.19') feet and on the East by land said to be the property of Gertrude Fowler and running thereon One Hundred and Three hundredths (100.03') feet and on the South by Lewis Street and running thereon Fifty-three and Ninety-seven hundredths (53.97') feet and on the West by land said to be the property of Mary Cartwright and running thereon Ninety-eight and Sixty-five hundredths (98.65') feet.

The Petitioners, Lesley Anne Stubbs and Lerverne Palacios, herein claim to be the owners in fee simple in possession of the said tract of land and have made application to The Supreme Court Of The Commonwealth Of The Bahamas under Section 3 of the Quieting Titles Act 1959 to have their title to the said tract of land investigated and the nature and extent thereof determined and declared in a Certificate Of Title to be granted by the Court in accordance with the provisions of that Act.

Copies of the Plan showing the position boundaries shape marks and dimensions of the said tract of land may be inspected during normal office hours at the following places:

- (a) The Registry of The Supreme Court, East Street North, Nassau, Bahamas.
- (b) The Chambers of Joseph C. Lédée, Suite No. 6, Grosvenor Close, Shirley Street, Nassau, Bahamas.

Notice is hereby given that any person having Dower or right to Dower or an Adverse Claim not recognized in the Petition shall on or before the expiration of Thirty (30) days after the final publication of these presents file at the Registry of The Supreme Court in the City of Nassau, Bahamas, and serve on the Petitioners or on the undersigned an Adverse Claim in the prescribed form verified by an Affidavit to be filed therewith.

Failure of any such person to file and serve an Adverse Claim on or before the expiration of Thirty (30) days after the final publication of these presents shall operate as a bar to such claim.

DATED THIS 15TH DAY OF OCTOBER, A.D. 2009.

JOSEPH C. LEDEE, ESQ.
Chambers
Suite No. 6, Grosvenor Close
Shirley Street
Nassau, Bahamas
Attorney for the Petitioners

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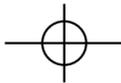
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For all questions please call 323 5138



sports

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2009

INSIDE • International sports news



Bahamas Lawn Tennis Association opens December Invitationals

By BRENT STUBBS
Senior Sports Reporter
bstubbs@tribunemedia.net

OLYMPIAN Devin Mullings, fresh from qualifying for the USTA Plantation Open Tennis Tournament in January, came home and showed why he's the best men's player on the Davis Cup team.

The Grand Bahamian, who graduated from Ohio State University, wasted very little time in pulling off a 6-0, 6-1 victory over national junior champion Robert Lightbourn yesterday at the National Tennis Center.

The performance came as the Bahamas Lawn Tennis Association opened its December Invitational that will serve as the trials for both the men's Davis Cup and the women's Fed Cup teams next year. The tournament wraps up on Sunday.

"We want to have players identified for the teams next year," said BLTA's president Steve Turnquest. "We have other players who may not be at the level of the team, but they are approaching it."

"We were hoping that we would have been able to include one or two more juniors, but because of the amount of matches that we have to play, we had to defer that."

Turnquest said while this Invitational will determine where their professional and collegiate players are, there will be a similar tournament for the junior players, ages 14-16, starting on December 28 for teams next year as well.

The men's division of the Invitational have a field of 14 players divided into four pools, while the ladies have six, shared up in two pools.

As the premier national team singles male player, Mullings said he just wanted to come home and establish his presence early, despite the fact that they had to play under windy conditions.

"I played okay. I did what I had to do. I hit the ball very," said Mullings, who noted that the qualifying tournament in Plantation, Florida really helped to keep him sharp.

"I'm just here to take care of business as usual and then go back and

train because I have three tournaments in January so I have to prepare for them."

Mullings, 24, is the top seeded player in the Invitational. He also tops Pool C, which also comprises of fellow Grand Bahamian Rodney Carey and Desmond Perigord.

Carey, who is also home around playing in a number of junior tournaments, was almost as impressive as Mullings, taking his opener 6-0, 6-3 over Perigord.

"Not too bad. It was a bit too windy, which made it a little worse. But I got it done," said the 17-year-old Carey, who was added to the Davis Cup this year as an alternate.

"It's always good to come back home. I'm just happy that I'm able to play here again. I'm looking forward to doing very well in the tournament."

One of the big matches during the early session was between No.2 Davis Cupper Timothy Neilly, also from Grand Bahama and former Davis Cupper H'Cone Thompson.

In the Pool D showdown, Neilly pulled off a 6-3, 6-1 decision and he indicated that it was good to get the feeling of playing at home again.

"I'm just having some fun," he said. "I played him once or twice before, but I just played my match. It was pretty much what I expected."

"I just want to play as much matches as I can here. I really enjoy playing here, so I'm looking forward to competing and letting the results take care of itself."

Thompson, who got in as an alternate, said it was a tough match, notwithstanding the fact that it was windy.

"He played a good match. I didn't take care of my serve and took care of my business when I should have," Thompson said. "I think all of the young guys are getting better and the usual characters from Davis Cup are playing well."

The most exciting match came in Pool A when Jason Rolle came from a 5-1 deficit in the third set to come-from-behind to beat KC Strachan 6-3, 1-6, 7-5.

On the women's side, 17-year-old Kerrie Cartwright won 6-1, 6-1 over Gabriel Moxey in Pool A and Elanqua Griffin got by Tershelle Bur-



Tim Clarke/Tribune staff

MARVIN Rolle returns a volley at the BLTA's December Invitational yesterday at the National Tennis Center.

rows 6-0, 6-2 in Pool B. "It was okay. It was really windy, but it was what I expected," Cartwright said. "I think it's a great opportunity and I just love playing here at home, especially in this type of tournament."

Moxey, a 16-year-old 11th grader at Queen's College, said it was a good match, but the windy conditions didn't help her at all.

"I knew I could have played better this time around against her," Moxey said. "I was proud of my performance, compared to the last time."

"I feel proud of myself playing against the bigger girls. Even if I don't get to make the team."

The remainder of the pool play will continue today at 10 a.m. and the semifinal will start at 2 p.m. The finals will be played on Sunday.

BLTA DECEMBER INVITATIONAL RESULTS

HERE'S a look at the results from matches played during the first day of the Bahamas Lawn Tennis Association's December Invitational at the National Tennis Center:

Morning Session

Men's Draw
Pool A
Jason Rolle def. KC Strachan 6-3, 1-6, 7-5.

Marvin Rolle def. KC Strachan 6-1, 6-1.

Pool B
Justin Lunn def. Ceron Rolle 6-2, 6-4.

Jamal Adderley def. Justin Lunn 7-6, 6-1.

Pool C
Devin Mullings def. Robert Lightbourn 6-0, 6-1.

Rodney Carey def. Desmond Perigord 6-0, 6-3.

Devin Mullings def. Desmond Perigord 6-0, 6-0.

Pool D
Timothy Neilly def. H'Cone Thompson 6-3, 6-1.

Jonathan Hanna def. William Fountain 7-6, 6-7, 6-4.

H'Cone Thompson def. William Fountain 6-4, 3-6, 6-0.

Ladies Draw
Pool A

Kerrie Cartwright def. Gabriel Moxey 6-1, 6-1.

Kerrie Cartwright def. Larikah Russell W/O.

Pool B
Elanqua Griffin def. Tershelle Burrows 6-0, 6-2.

Tershelle Burrows def. Nikkita Fountain W/O.

New Providence Volleyball Association All-Star Classic

AS the New Providence Volleyball Association gears up for its All-Star Classic on Sunday, a double header completed the regular season action on Wednesday up to the Christmas break.

In the ladies opener at the DW Davis Gymnasium, it took the Lady Caribs of College of the Bahamas five sets to defeat the Lady Techs 25-22, 19-25, 25-19, 15-25 and 15-7.

Once again Kenisha Thompson led the Lady Caribs with a game high 24 points. Rochelle Henfield scored 17 points in a losing effort.

In men's feature game, the Scotiabank Defenders won over DaBasement 25-16, 25-16 and 25-19 as Ian 'Wire' Pinder both led the attack with seven kills behind Hector Rolle's game high 13 points.

Khayum Minus would secure nine points in a losing effort.

As the association take the Christmas break, here's a look at the current standings:

Teams	W	L	Pct.	GB
MEN'S DIVISION				
Scotiabank Defenders	11	1	.916	-
Nat'l Fence Intruders	10	1	.909	.5
Technicians	9	2	.818	1.5
Champions Club	6	7	.461	5.5
DaBasement	6	7	.461	5.5
Police Crimestoppers	4	8	.333	7
COB Caribs	2	11	.153	9.5
Saints	1	12	.076	10.5
WOMEN'S DIVISION				
Scottsdale Vixens	8	0	1.0	-
Johnson's L. Truckers	7	1	.875	1
COB Cabirs	4	5	.444	4.5
Lady Techs	3	7	.300	6
Champions Club	3	4	.428	4.5
Batelco Blackberries	0	8	.000	8

Providence Holiday Classic scheduled to begin this month

By BRENT STUBBS
Senior Sports Reporter
bstubbs@tribunemedia.net

FOR the seventh year, coach Kevin 'KJ' Johnson will provide an avenue for local high school basketball players to participate in a basketball tournament during the Christmas break.

The Providence Holiday Classic is scheduled for December 27-30 at the Kendal Isaacs Gymnasium and it will feature a total of 20 senior boys' basketball teams divided into four pools of five each.

"The objective definitely is to try to keep the teams sharper for the second half of the season," Johnson said. "Secondly, we want to keep these children in a positive environment during the Christmas break."

"We know that idle hands get them in trouble, so we want to try to keep them busy doing positive stuff by playing the game of basketball."

Players participating in the tournament will also get the opportunity to be scouted as a number of high school and college coaches from the United States are expect-

ed to be in town, according to Johnson.

"They're looking for players for their junior colleges and even some of the high schools, so we want to use the opportunity for a lot of our players to showcase their talent," Johnson stressed.

As for the competition expected, Johnson said it should definitely be stiff as all five pools are pretty much balanced. Each team will play each other in their pool with the top two teams advancing to the pool championships.

From there, the top four will go to the semifinal where they will cross over to play in the semifinal. While the two winners will advance to the championship game, the two losing teams will end up playing for the consolation third place.

Trophies will also be provided for the first and second All-Tournament teams, the most valuable player for the tournament and the MVP for the championship game along with the most assists, rebounds, block shots and steals.

"We want to award all of the kids for their hard work," Johnson stated.

With a lot of parity displayed so far during the regular season in the high schools, Johnson said it's a little difficult to determine who are the favourites right now.

"I guess the teams who come out to play will beat you," he pointed out. "Anybody is liable to win because we have Eight Mile Rock, CC Sweeting, RM Bailey, Westminster, CI Gibson and Government High," said Johnson, who coaches CI Gibson.

"But we know that the Family Islands have a point to prove and Telios always have a strong team. Once these teams are focussed and you come half stepping, you could get beat. You have to be ready to play."

Johnson said with the tournament coming right on the heels of Christmas day and just before New Year's Day, it's a good chance for the public to enjoy some competitive basketball games.

"Junkanoo will be over with and so during those four days before New Year's Junkanoo, there's nothing happening, so come on out and watch some good basketball competition."



CI Gibson coach Kevin Johnson talks about Providence Holiday Classic.

PROVIDENCE HOLIDAY CLASSIC SCHEDULE

HERE'S a look at the teams as they are stacked in the four pools for the Providence Holiday Classic that will run from December 27-30 at the Kendal Isaacs Gymnasium:

POOL 1

CI Gibson, Government High, Queen's College, Galilee High and CW Saunders.

POOL 2

CC Sweeting, Eight Mile Rock, Jordan Prince William, St. John's College and Mt. Carmel.

POOL 3

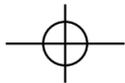
RM Bailey, Kingsway Academy, Telios Academy, Zion Academy and North Long Island.

POOL 4

Westminster College, Doris Johnson, University Academy, NGM Major and Blairwood Academy.

INSIGHT

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



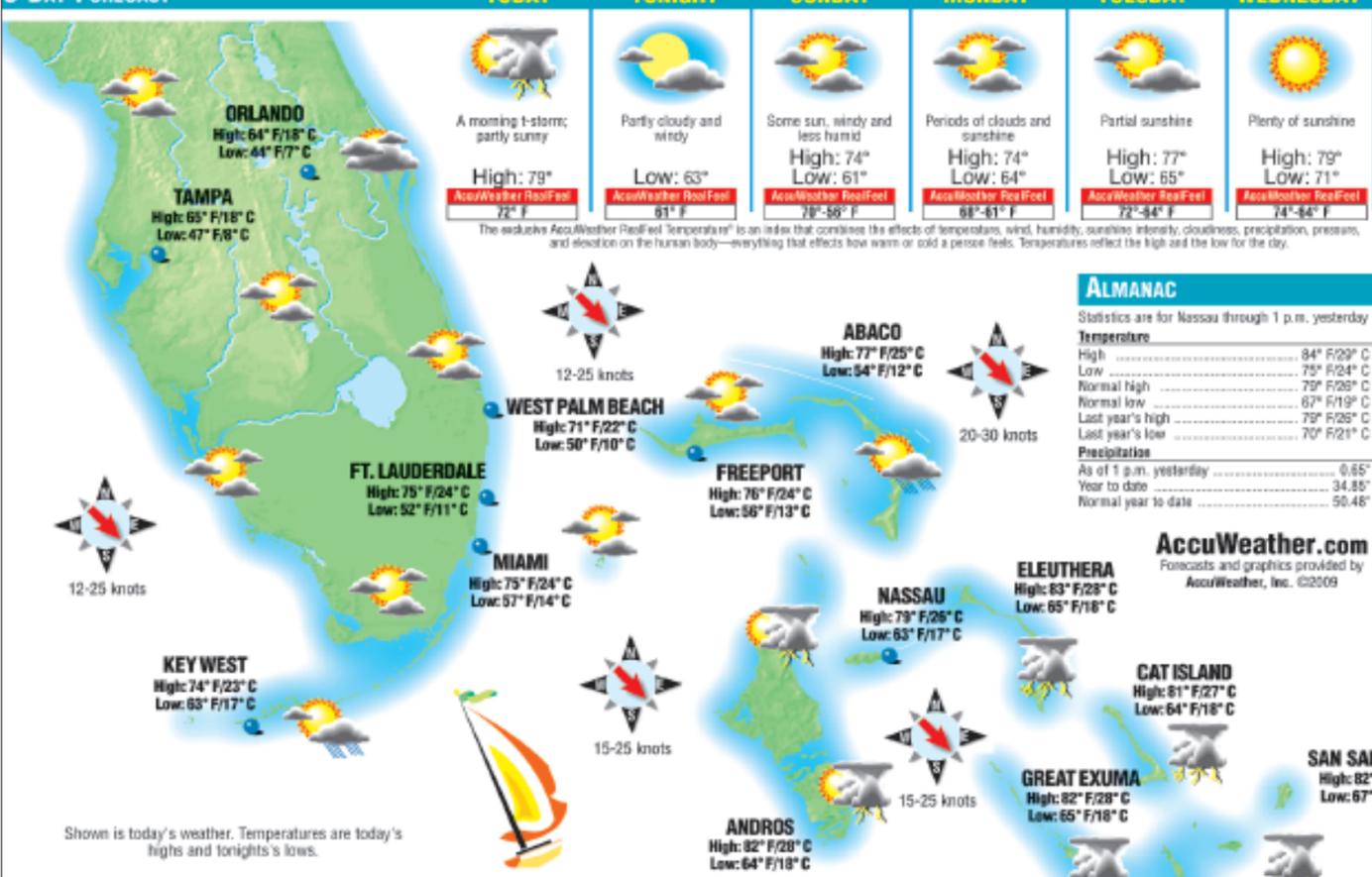
LOCAL NEWS

THE WEATHER REPORT

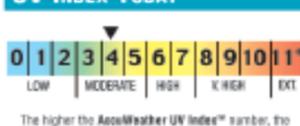


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5-DAY FORECAST



UV INDEX TODAY



TIDES FOR NASSAU

	High	Ht. (ft.)	Low	Ht. (ft.)
Today	9:22 a.m.	2.8	3:00 a.m.	0.0
Sunday	10:09 a.m.	2.7	3:41 a.m.	0.1
Monday	10:38 a.m.	2.5	4:23 a.m.	0.3
Tuesday	11:18 a.m.	2.5	5:08 a.m.	0.4
Wednesday	12:00 p.m.	2.3	5:56 a.m.	0.6
Thursday	12:41 a.m.	2.2	6:50 a.m.	0.6
Friday	1:33 a.m.	2.3	7:48 a.m.	0.6

ALMANAC

Statistics are for Nassau through 1 p.m., yesterday

Temperature	Value
High	84° F/29° C
Low	75° F/24° C
Normal High	79° F/26° C
Normal Low	67° F/19° C
Last year's high	79° F/26° C
Last year's low	70° F/21° C

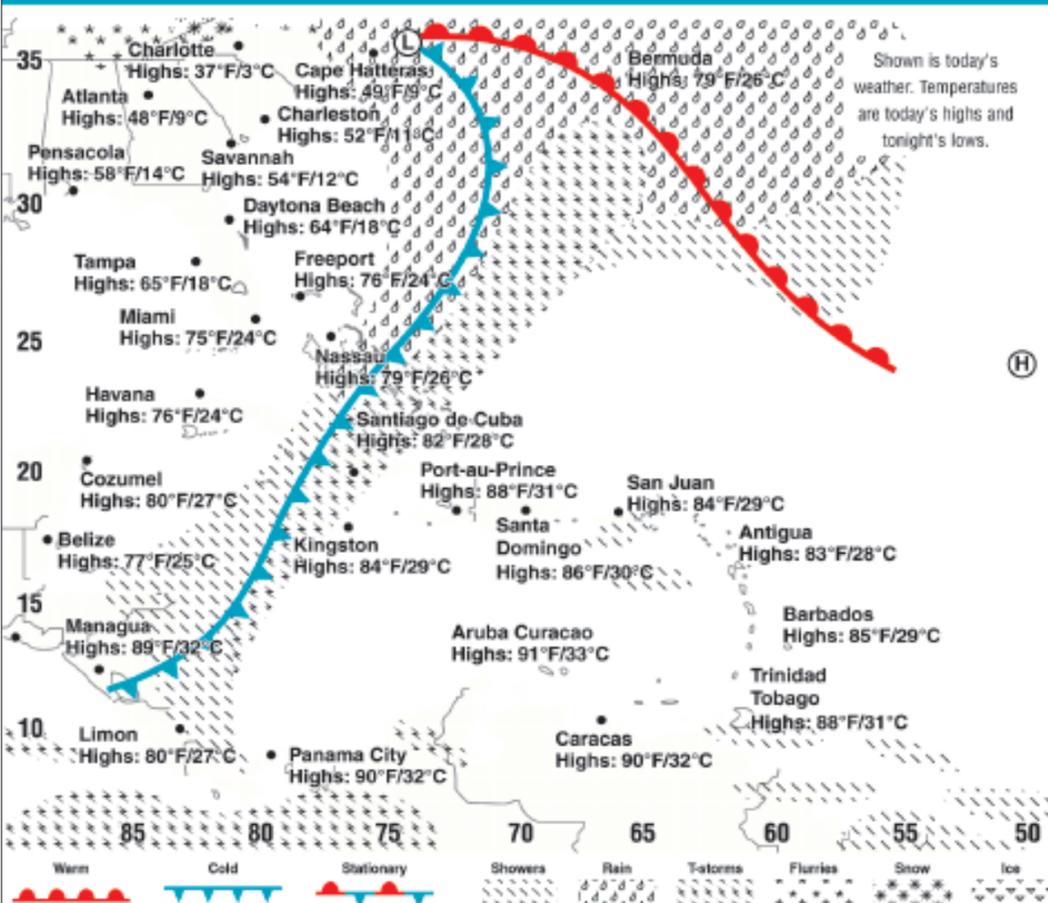
Precipitation
As of 1 p.m., yesterday: 0.65"
Year to date: 34.85"
Normal year to date: 59.46"

AccuWeather.com
Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2009

SUN AND MOON

Sunrise	6:50 a.m.	Moonrise	9:08 a.m.
Sunset	5:25 p.m.	Moonset	8:16 p.m.
First	Dec. 24	Full	Dec. 31
Last	Jan. 7	New	Jan. 15

INSURANCE MANAGEMENT TRACKING MAP



MARINE FORECAST

	WINDS	WAVES	VISIBILITY	WATER TEMPS.
ABACO	Today: MW at 20-30 Knots	6-10 Feet	10 Miles	78° F
ANDROS	Today: MW at 15-25 Knots	5-9 Feet	10 Miles	78° F
CAT ISLAND	Today: W at 20-30 Knots	4-7 Feet	10 Miles	81° F
CROOKED ISLAND	Today: SW at 12-25 Knots	3-5 Feet	10 Miles	82° F
ELEUTHERA	Today: MW at 15-25 Knots	3-5 Feet	10 Miles	80° F
FREEPORT	Today: MW at 15-25 Knots	3-5 Feet	10 Miles	80° F
GREAT EXUMA	Today: MW at 15-25 Knots	3-5 Feet	10 Miles	81° F
GREAT INAGUA	Today: SW at 12-25 Knots	3-5 Feet	10 Miles	82° F
LONG ISLAND	Today: WSW at 15-25 Knots	3-5 Feet	10 Miles	81° F
MAYAGUANA	Today: SW at 12-25 Knots	3-5 Feet	10 Miles	81° F
NASSAU	Today: WNW at 20-30 Knots	3-5 Feet	10 Miles	80° F
SAN SALVADOR	Today: SW at 12-25 Knots	3-5 Feet	10 Miles	82° F
RAGGED ISLAND	Today: MW at 20-30 Knots	4-7 Feet	10 Miles	81° F

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OUT AND ABOUT

OUT & ABOUT

IN THE 242

THE 6TH ANNUAL BAHAMAS INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL came to a close Thursday night at Compass Point, where film makers, panelists, jurors, sponsors and the press had gathered to celebrate another successful year.

BIFF opened on December 11 with the Bahamian opening movie Children of God, directed by Kareem Mortimer, followed by the opening gala at the Atlantis Resort.

For a full week, the BIFF schedule was filled with panel discussions, award ceremonies and of course movies, short films, documentaries and more movies.

One documentary that stood out was Rise Up, a journey through the Jamaican music underground, directed by Luciano Blotta of Argentina.

The documentary juxtaposes three stories or musical journeys by a ghetto artist, an uptown artist and a young singer from the country to give an insight into Jamaican culture, society and paint a vibrant picture of the music scene in Jamaica, of course accompanied by a great soundtrack.

A very special movie also was the closing night movie Precious by Lee Daniels and Geoffrey Fletcher. This outstanding film about the suffering of 16-year-old Claireece "Precious" Jones and her journey to overcome

was a true inspiration.

Lenny Kravitz was present at the film festival as one of the cast in Precious and spoke to the audience about the film.

This year's honourees were: Johnny Depp, Sophie Onokedo and Gavin McKinney.

Johnny Depp received the "Career Achievement Award" at a ceremony held at the Balmoral Club on Sunday, where he took the opportunity to speak to the audience and the media.

He said he liked all the movies he had ever been a part of – "the good and the bad" – and felt honoured to be recognised at the festival.

Sophie Onokedo was the recipient of the "Rising Star Award" at the Balmoral Club on Wednesday, for her noteworthy performances to date and her bright future as an elite actress.

Gavin McKinney's special tribute was held at the College of the Bahamas where he was honoured for his work since 1973. He has spent over 20,000 hours underwater making films.

Leslie Vanderpool, the founder and face of the Bahamas International Film Festival, has yet again put together an outstanding international event showcasing Bahamian, Caribbean and international talent in the movie industry.

We are looking forward to BIFF 2010.



Heike gets Johnny Depp on the red carpet.



Lenny Kravitz



Screenplay writer of PRECIOUS Geoffrey Fletcher.



Director of the film RISE UP (Luciano Blotta right).



Leslie Vanderpool and Gavin McKinney.



Laurent and Maurizio of Lombard Odier.



Heike Wollenweber

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