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ADDERLEY HITS OUT AT PLP LEADERSHIP AS HE QUILTS HOUSE

'It's the worst personal experience I have faced'

By **ALISON LOWE**
Tribune Staff Reporter
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BLAMING PLP party leader Perry Christie for "undermining" him as a political representative, Malcolm Adderley yesterday formally announced his resignation as an MP, days after notifying the PLP that he was leaving the party.

In an at times emotional speech, Mr Adderley said the last seven and a half years as MP for Elizabeth have been "the worst personal experience" for him and his family as his relationship with the leadership of the PLP went from bad to worse.

"Ever since my election to this honourable House in 2002, my relationship with the leadership of my party has been strained," said Mr Adderley.

"Seven and a half years later that relationship has

worsened. From then to now has been the worst personal experience that my family and I have ever faced. I took the insults, the disrespect, the negative gossip, the careful and calculated undermining that was the hallmark of my political journey..."

He said his decision to resign, "one of the most difficult" he has made, came not because of any personal disgruntlement over being denied a Cabinet position under the 2002 to 2007 Christie administration, as some had alleged, but because the 4,000 "loyal, decent and loving" constituents in Elizabeth "deserve better."

"The people of Elizabeth need as their representative someone who has the full support of the party. Anything less is almost futile for the development and

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Attorney voices concern over retired politicians on bench

By **TANEKA THOMPSON**
Tribune Staff Reporter
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ATTORNEY Damian Gomez contends that the number of retired politicians who are taking up positions on the bench makes it harder for lawyers to find a sitting judge without an apparent conflict of interest in civil suits against the AG's office.

Mr Gomez claims this has created a court backlog contributing to deteriorating public confidence in the legal system.

His comments add to the growing concern that the anticipated appointment of former MP Malcolm Adderley to the Supreme Court bench will undermine the independence of the judiciary from the influence of the executive branch of Government.

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MALCOLM ADDERLEY speaks in the House yesterday.

Registration centres to open today for Elizabeth constituents

By **PAUL G TURNQUEST**
Tribune Staff Reporter
pturnquest@tribunemedia.net

PARLIAMENTARY Commissioner Errol Bethel has issued a notice advising residents of the Elizabeth constituency that beginning today registration centres will be established at the Thelma Gibson School in preparation for this constituency's impending by-election.

This centre will be open today and Friday from 5pm to 8pm and on Saturday, January 9, 2010 from 10am to 3pm to facilitate any changes to the current register of voters in the area.

"If there is a need to extend beyond these days arrangements will be made. The centre will accommodate applications for registration, transfer on the register, and corrections to the register," Mr Bethel said.

Yesterday the PLP's former Member of Parliament

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Hotel Union members protest ruling on president

By **NOELLE NICOLLS**
Tribune Staff Reporter
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MEMBERS of the Bahamas Hotel, Catering and Allied Workers Union assembled on Rawson Square yesterday to protest a Court of Appeal ruling that challenged the legitimacy of the union's elected president.

"We are sick and tired of what is going on. We went out to the polls already, twice, and now we are sick and tired. Our union has been in trouble for a long time. We voted out Roy

Colebrooke. We are wondering who in this country cares about the workers. The union is governed by a constitution. They are using the courts to try to get out the first female worker elected as president of the union," said Svelynn Stuart, a union member.

The Bahamas Hotel Catering and Allied Workers Union (BHCAWU), representing over 5,000 workers, is the largest labour union in the country. It was established more than 50 years ago. For

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UNION MEMBER Svelynn Stuart speaks yesterday.

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LOCAL NEWS

Malcolm Adderley's resignation speech in full

"Mr Speaker, Members of Parliament, It is my belief that politics is about persons coming together to achieve common goals for the good of the people they represent.

In order for the group to survive there must be respect, honesty, transparency and decency towards one another. In order for progress to be achieved, there must be some real fundamental bonding with each other — and a vision as to what that group needs to achieve in order to capture the dream to which people aspire.

Mr Speaker, when I was invited to enter the political arena some time in the year 2001, I had a vision of being a part of an organisation that my father, a humble taxi driver (taxi no. 4) was a proud and faithful member of since its inception. I reluctantly agreed to enter politics but felt it was a noble cause. Over the years, my reluctance became sheer love for this new career path — especially as I came to know the people of Elizabeth.

Sir, I never once expected fame or fortune when I entered politics. Service to country was not new to me. In earlier years, I had served in the capacity of a prosecutor in the Attorney General's Office for four years; as an acting magistrate on several occasions; I served as the first president of the newly established Bahamas Industrial Tribunal for two years; and as a justice of the Supreme Court for a year — all at no significant remuneration.

I should add, sir, that before I left the Supreme Court bench I was invited to become a permanent judge and could have been a judge years ago had I wished. But I declined and returned to my own law chambers.

So to trivialise this matter by saying that this is about my not having been given a Cabinet seat is frightening, because it shows a mentality that is totally out of touch with reality. The Cabinet was chosen in 2002. This is now 2010 — why would I stay for seven and a half years afterwards if in fact I was "puffed up" over not being in Mr Christie's Cabinet.

Mr Speaker, the Elizabeth Constituency has some 4,000 constituents. Since the 2007 election, I have spoken to many of my supporters in Elizabeth indicating to them the possibility of my departure from the political arena depending on the direction in which my party chose to go.

Over the past few days Mr Speaker, the noise in the market has become quite vociferous. But, sir, I invite those who are not a part of the great constituency which I have been privileged to represent, not to



Tim Clarke/Tribune staff

MALCOLM ADDERLEY speaks to the media outside of the House of Assembly yesterday.

mind the noise in the market.

You see, we in Elizabeth know what time it is. That noise is not coming from the decent people of Elizabeth. The noise is coming from the same direction that it came from prior to my nomination in 2007.

The people of Elizabeth are intelligent, decent, independent minded and have been calling me to tell me what they have been telling me since 2007 — we support you whatever you do.

Mr Speaker, ever since my election to this honourable House in 2002, my relationship with the leadership of my party has been strained. Seven and a half years later that relationship has worsened. From then to now has been the worst personal experience that my family and I have ever faced. I took the insults, the disrespect, the negative gossip, the careful and calculated undermining that has been the hallmark of my political journey.

But through it all I took the blows, never flinching, never allowing it to make me lose my focus of what my responsibilities were to the people of Elizabeth. The interesting thing, sir, is that is that none of this came from the good people of Elizabeth. In fact, it came from those outside Elizabeth, who obviously feared anyone who could think and had an independent view — and most of all, refused to be led by mediocrity.

In fact, sir, if it were not for the support and encouragement of the good people of Elizabeth, I would have succumbed long ago to the vicious politics and hatred that was hatched by those wretched beings outside the boundary of the great constituency of Elizabeth by those whom one would least expect to do so.

But the history of my political journey is well documented in the account I gave during my first speech in this House, after the 2007 election, of the journey of the famous dingy

boat "Elizabeth". And so, Mr Speaker, I need not relate it once again.

Mr Speaker, I have tried my best to serve the good people of Elizabeth. We had good and bad times together. During the years 2002 to 2007 I sought but could not obtain the much needed assistance for the people of Elizabeth; nor could I provide the much needed infrastructure. Nevertheless, Elizabeth supported me. I am happy that between 2007 and 2009 as a result of the contribution of the government members of parliament, I have been able to refurbish two existing parks and construct four new parks for the people of Elizabeth — so that families can take their children for recreational activities at their leisure. I am happy that Elizabeth Estates park has had additional construction recently added with the addition of a walking track, a softball diamond and a brand new modern toilet facility for men and women.

I am indeed pleased that I was able to donate to the Elizabeth Children's Home beautiful furniture to add to the comfort of the children and the staff in the home and also to the Thelma Gibson Primary School two state-of-the-art enactive boards that will go a long way to promote and assist the advancement of the learning process of the dear children of the school.

Even as I speak, a computer lab is being established for the children of Elizabeth as a result of the contribution of the government made to each constituency.

Mr Speaker, during my tenure in this House, I have come to love the years of door-to-door campaigning, the greetings and discussions with the beautiful people of Elizabeth — I shall surely miss this wonderful and rewarding experience.

The people of Elizabeth over the years have shown me the warmth and love that is crucial for survival in the type of poli-

tics that I had to deal with from those who wished me ill.

I can attest to this by drawing your attention to the events leading up to the 2007 election.

Mr Speaker, if one ever doubted that there is a God above...I can testify that there is — I am living example of this — and God is good. Whom God bless, no man can curse. In the 2007 general election — despite what has been said I was fighting two formidable giants.

Not only did I have to deal with the formidable, well organised, well-equipped political genius of the then opposition leader...regardless to what you have heard and will hear in the future, I was exposed to the forces of my own party.

The only thing I had was my personal ambition and a determination to conquer both forces — and like the Biblical shepherd boy David — the Almighty God stood by my side and gave me victory. Praise be to God!

Mr Speaker, despite all of this I took it like a man — never wavering, but kept my focus. I must confess however, sir, that it has not been easy. It has been even more difficult for my family. And as they say, sir...enough is enough!

Mr Speaker, immediately after the recent election, I met with my family and close political friends. Together, it was agreed that I should allow time to pass to see whether there would be any improvement in my relationship with the leadership. It was felt that after a two year period of mid-term would be a reasonable point to assess my political future. It would be a good time for me to know the position and notify the people of Elizabeth whether I would be seeking a third term in office.

Mr Speaker, the decision I make today, no doubt, is one of the most difficult decisions that I have ever made. The fact of the matter, sir, is that my love for politics does not matter. It is not about me. In life, we are mere vehicles that God sometimes uses to achieve worthwhile objectives.

What is important — is that the people of Elizabeth deserve better...much better. I decided that this constant and perpetual undermining of the duly elected Member of Parliament in total disregard and blatant disrespect of the will of the people of Elizabeth...this contrived and calculated creation of confusion in Elizabeth had to stop and that the time to address them is now.

Mr Speaker, which other constituency held by the official opposition after the 2007 election other than Kennedy and Elizabeth were there persons being actively encouraged to campaign against us with a view to becoming the parties candidate in the 2012 election, brazenly knocking on doors, even dispensing T-shirts, groceries, even handing out Mother's Day gifts and cards, indicating to constituents that they were the party's choice for 2012.

Mr Speaker, we are now in mid-term. I am on time. I have reviewed the period from May 2007 to December 2009...a period of two and a half years. Nothing has changed. In fact, it has worsened. The point is, sir, that there is still too many issues that separate the leadership of the party and I.

The record will show that my future as a member of the Progressive Liberal Party has always been dim. Time would

not have allowed me to believe that there would have been a new day...a change of attitudes, a change of good will for all concerned.

I simply cannot bury my head in the sand, like the proverbial ostrich and pretend that all is well. The people of Elizabeth need as their representative, someone who has the full support of the party which he represents.

The leadership of the party at its recent convention was given an almost unanimous vote of confidence by the membership...I know what it is like to be subject to that leadership. I have had it for seven and a half years. I have always expressed my deep concern about the lack of vision of the leadership and that has not changed. The reality is, sir, that the people have spoken and I have to respect their voice.

Accordingly, sir, it has been said that when a member of an organisation finds that he cannot support its leadership — then the honourable thing for that member to do is resign. So, after many months, days and nights of painful deliberations, I found that I had no other choice than to tender my official resignation to the chairman of the party effective January 1st, 2010.

The Progressive Liberal Party is a party that has the distinction of being built by the blood, sweat and tears of hard-working men and women of humble beginnings but proud of their commitment to uplift the well-being and standard of the people.

Men and women like my late parents, Malcolm Adderley, Sr and Elaine Adderley, like so many of their era, played a significant role in bringing the Progressive Liberal Party to its zenith and made it the most powerful force in our great Bahamaland. Regrettably, if they were alive today their hearts and souls would ache to see the state of the party today as a result of the venom and ill will that is displayed almost on a daily basis on any member who tries to correct its ills.

Mr Speaker, as I said before, politics is not about one individual. It is about what is in the best interest of the people that we serve. As a result, there is no benefit to the people of Elizabeth for me to sit in this House as the independent member for Elizabeth.

Mr Speaker, issues have been raised as to my loyalty because of the position I have taken. In order to remove all doubts as to who the wonderful people of Elizabeth want to represent them...I have decided to remove myself from the political stage and allow the people of Elizabeth in their wisdom to decide who they would wish to be their spokesman.

And so, sir, with the greatest respect and humility, I hereby tender my resignation to this honourable house as the Member of Parliament for the Elizabeth constituency effective at 5.30pm today.

Mr Speaker, I thank the officers and members of the Progressive Liberal Party for having allowed me to carry the banner of the party in the last two general elections.

I thank the staff of the Honourable House for their support, goodwill and professionalism displayed towards me during my tenure as the Member of Parliament.

I thank all of my colleagues in this Honourable House and wish you well in your

future endeavours. Let me assure each and every one of you that I hold no animosity whatsoever.

To all those beautiful, loyal, decent, loving people of the great constituency of Elizabeth — who despite all — has shown me love and supported me through thick and thin, especially Marsha Curry, Cynthia Cox, Verona Woodside, Elizabeth Collie, Lilly mae Thompson, John "Commander" Higgs, Annamander Forbes, Mrs Cash, Cindy Moss, Keisha Rodgers, Sidney Strachan and many many more. I extended my heartfelt thanks and will forever be indebted to you. You stood by me through all the storms and sheltered me from harm. I love you all and may God continue to bless you.

To William "Bill" Wallace who played an integral role in my election of 2002; to Donna Smith, who unselfishly joined our historical team in my election of 2007 and played an integral part in it, I extend my sincere gratitude.

To Calvin Davis, who from the election of 2002 to now, has stood by my side — whose support I find impossible to quantify, I express my eternal gratitude.

Mr Prime Minister! My gratitude to you, sir! for your statesmanship in rising above petty politics in allowing me to continue to serve the people of the Bahamas as Chairman of the Gaming Board under your watch for the past two and a half years. This is a position I thoroughly enjoyed as it allowed me to serve the Bahamian people in a small, but meaningful way.

To my fellow directors, the officers and employees of the gaming board, I thank you for your support, it has been truly a worthwhile experience.

To my wife, Daphne, and our five children (who are present in the House today) — Eamon, Engedi, Evan, Misty and Mia — you are my strength, my inspiration and my gift from God — I love you all.

Finally, Mr Speaker! As I leave these honourable chambers I am pleased to see that the landscape of Bahamian politics is changing. For I am happy to say — for the better.

The young people of Elizabeth and other constituencies can no longer be persuaded by bully tactics and ghetto politics. Sir, they demand and deserve better Mr Speaker. A new day is dawning for the wonderful people of the Bahamas. One in which the guideline is integrity and honesty.

I pray, Mr Speaker, that God will give me the strength and the wisdom to continue to serve the people of the Bahamas in any other capacity with integrity and character as I have tried to serve the wonderful people of Elizabeth — as their duly elected Member of Parliament for the past seven and a half years.

May God Bless you all. May God Bless this Honourable House

And May God Bless the people of The Commonwealth of the Bahamas.

Thank you and God speed."

Malcolm E Adderley, Jr
Resignation address
January 6, 2010.

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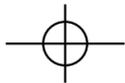
Higgs & Johnson is pleased to welcome its newest Partner to the firm, Ms. Tara Cooper Burnside. She joined the firm in 2005 as an Associate and is a member of the firm's Litigation, Financial Services Law & Regulation and Insolvency & Restructuring Groups.

Ms. Burnside provides advice on a wide scope of insolvency, multi-jurisdictional commercial, employment and transactional matters. Her financial services regulation practice covers the range of transactional, regulatory and compliance issues that financial institutions confront on a daily basis. Further, Ms. Burnside's litigation practice includes complex commercial disputes and contentious insolvency matters such as director misfeasance actions and fraudulent preference claims.

Ms. Burnside holds a Bachelor of Laws degree from the University of the West Indies at Cave Hill, Barbados and a Certificate of Legal Education from Commonwealth Caribbean's Council of Legal Education Eugene Dupuch Law School at Nassau, Bahamas. Additionally, she holds a Master of Laws degree in International Commercial Law from the University of California and was called to the Bahamas Bar in 2001.

Ms. Burnside is presently an Associate Tutor in Civil Procedure and Practice at the Eugene Dupuch Law School and a member of the Board of Directors of Faith Temple Christian Academy. She is also a former member of the Constitutional Reform Commission (2002 - 2007).





LOCAL NEWS

Perry Christie denies undermining character of Malcolm Adderley

By ALISON LOWE
Tribune Staff Reporter
alowe@tribunemedia.net

PLP leader Perry Christie yesterday refuted accusations that he undermined or attacked the character of Malcolm Adderley, saying his behaviour towards the former MP was characterised by “extreme patience, extreme tolerance and sympathetic understanding.”

Mr Christie claimed that he and the PLP as a whole exercised “forbearance” towards Mr Adderley even as the MP for parliament yesterday to announce his resignation from politics after resigning from the PLP over the weekend – displayed “what the country regarded as an attitude of indifference” towards his fellow PLPs.

constituency and was unable to do what he would have liked for his constituents during Mr Christie’s tenure as prime minister.

As with Kenyatta Gibson when he quit the PLP in 2008, Mr Adderley revealed long-standing concerns about Mr Christie’s ability to lead and suggested that the PLP leader had engaged in behind-the-scenes tactics against those with whom he had disagreements.

Responding to Mr Adderley, Mr Christie instead painted a picture of an MP who had lost interest in his party and constituents and whose decision to leave politics had more to do with his own political deal-making than consideration of the best interests of his constituents.

It has been rumored but not confirmed that Mr Adderley is in short order due to accept an appointment, on the recommendation of Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham, as a Supreme Court judge and he

has been accused of being embittered by Mr Christie’s failure to give him a Cabinet post during the previous PLP administration.

Mr Christie said: “The truth is we all know that this is not the end of the story and indeed the proverbial penny hasn’t yet dropped.”

Drama

“We wait to see those acts in the drama that has already been scripted but not yet played out.”

“There is more to this than meets the eye. We all stand alert pending a major announcement yet to come.”

The PLP leader said that in the wake of Mr Adderley’s resignation, which leaves Elizabeth without a representative, the party will be carrying out consultations both with the people in that area

PLP LEADER Perry Christie addresses the House of Assembly yesterday.



Tim Clarke/Tribune staff

and “the relevant (party) councils” to determine the way forward.

Some political insiders have suggested that the party may not see it as worthwhile to field a candidate in the by-election that will now result from Mr Adderley’s departure given the hefty cost of doing so and the possibility

they may lose the seat anyway.

Mr Christie added: “I can assure the nation that we are in no way deterred by the

events that have unfolded. We will not be deflected from our work which . . . has always been for the betterment of the Bahamian people.”

Nomination

He spoke of how he personally supported Mr Adderley as he sought a nomination in the 2007 general election, to the extent of investing “personal resources” in his candidacy.

“It would be disingenuous for me to state that I am not disappointed by this course of action now taken by the MP for Elizabeth.

“It would be more than disingenuous of me if I were to profess not to be disappointed in the manner in which the course of action unfolded, not only today but in the days and weeks that preceded today.

“But what must be absolutely clear is that the MP for Elizabeth is his own man and he must order himself in the way he feels he should,” Mr Christie told parliament.

The PLP leader’s defensive comments came as he faced the second round of accusations in a year – the first coming from Kennedy MP Kenyatta Gibson, who quit the PLP and joined the FNM in 2009 – that he has “viciously” belittled one of his own MPs, undermining their position as a representative.

Days after resigning from the PLP, Mr Adderley reasoned in parliament yesterday that his “difficult decision” to quit politics altogether was informed by his belief that the constituents of Elizabeth “deserve better” than an MP who cannot properly represent them because he has been undermined by a lack of support from his party’s leadership.

The ex-MP, whose resignation took effect yesterday at 5.30pm, said he and his family suffered the “worst personal experience (they had) ever faced” during the seven and a half years he was an MP as his relationship with Mr Christie went from bad to worse.

He claimed he suffered “vicious politics and hatred” from those “wretched beings outside the boundary” of his

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| DAYBREAKERS | NEW | | | | | | |
| UP IN THE AIR | NEW | 1:00 | 3:30 | N/A | 6:00 | 8:25 | 10:45 |
| LEAP YEAR | NEW | 1:10 | 3:35 | N/A | 6:10 | 8:35 | 10:40 |
| SHERLOCK HOMES | C | 1:00 | 3:25 | N/A | 6:00 | 8:20 | 10:40 |
| IT'S COMPLICATED | C | 1:30 | N/A | 4:30 | 7:30 | N/A | 10:30 |
| NINE | C | 1:00 | 3:20 | N/A | 6:00 | 8:20 | 10:50 |
| BROTHER | C | 1:05 | 3:45 | N/A | 6:05 | 8:25 | 10:50 |
| ALVIN & THE CHIPMUNKS | B | 1:20 | 3:45 | N/A | 6:20 | 8:40 | 10:35 |
| AVATAR | T | 1:00 | N/A | 4:30 | N/A | 8:40 | N/A |
| DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THE MORGANS | T | 1:05 | 3:30 | N/A | 6:05 | 8:25 | 10:45 |
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| AVATAR | T | 1:00 | N/A | 4:10 | 7:15 | N/A | 10:20 |
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Malcolm Adderley bows out – free at last

YESTERDAY, after seven and a half long years of being buffeted by a cruel political storm, the leaking little dingy, mv SS Elizabeth dropped anchor, and her disillusioned captain stepped ashore — a beaten, but a free man at last.

In July, 2007 Elizabeth MP Malcolm Adderley — through a story about a leaking little dingy — shared with Bahamians how his party had shunned him, even threw up road blocks to engineer his defeat as the PLP candidate for Elizabeth in the May election of that year.

“This dingy,” Mr Adderley told the House of Assembly two months after his election victory, “had holes from front to back. It had no sail; it had no motor; it did not even have a rudder, but, far away from Elizabeth I was lost at sea. At the time the sea was raging, the waves were blowing and there were those on the shore who were anxiously awaiting with baited breath to see the motor vessel SS Elizabeth sink. Despite the tremendous courage of the crew on the mv Elizabeth, there were times when they became discouraged because of the cries of those from Elizabeth. But those who stood on the shore looking from without ... Yes, sir, it was not an easy voyage.”

At the time when reporters were trying to interview Mr Adderley to find out his political future, we predicted that this was his farewell speech and that it would only be a matter of time before he, like the late Cecil Wallace Whitfield and the Dissident Eight many years before, would be breathing a sigh of relief. “Free at last, my soul is free at last!” were the departing words of Sir Cecil as he walked out of the House and the Cabinet of former Prime Minister Sir Lynden Pindling.

Mr Adderley recalled the early days of the PLP, a party, he said, that had the “distinction of being built by the blood, sweat and tears of hardworking men and women of humble beginnings, but proud of their commitment to uplift the well being and standard of the people.”

It was a party that had a dream. It was a dream that, despite what our detractors will say today, even The Tribune believed in and supported. But the party lost its way. It was n’t long before it espoused the dream of one man — and it was more than one dared to suggest that there might be another way, another dream.

As Mr Adderley told the House yesterday the souls of those who had sacrificed so much to build their party would ache as a “result of the venom and ill will that is displayed almost on a daily basis on any member who tries to correct its ills.”

Gutter politics had entered the arena. Victimisation was the party’s battle cry during the Pindling era; vicious character assassination was the way to eliminate an adver-

sary. Party members were even expected to compromise their consciences for “the Chief.” The late Carlton Francis, who had contributed so much to his party and his leader, discovered in his dying days how it felt to be mocked and thrown on the political pyre because there came a day when he decided to follow his conscience and not his leader. Who will ever forget the night that Sir Lynden, speaking from a public platform, spotted the dying man, pointed him out to the crowd and scoffed that there went a three-piece suit, but all he could see was suit. It was true that on Mr Francis’ shrunken frame all one could see was a baggy suit, but what cruelty, especially from a nation’s leader. That was the depth to which the party had fallen — under Pindling there were many “nights of the long swords” and scraping in the gutter.

In 2002 Mr Perry Christie won a one term election on the promise that he was leading the “New PLP.” It wasn’t long before it was realised that the style of execution might have been different, but the same bitter, viciousness was being conducted in the open. While Mr Adderley maintained a dignified silence, the party’s hatchmen were about their dirty work — in the words of Mr Adderley — constantly and perpetually “undermining the duly elected Member of Parliament in total disregard and blatant disrespect of the will of the people of Elizabeth.”

His greatest anger was levelled at the party’s leader who apparently did nothing to discourage those who were actively campaigning to unseat him in his Elizabeth constituency — “brazenly knocking on doors, even dispensing T-shirts, groceries, even handing out Mother’s Day gifts and cards, indicating to constituents that they were the party’s choice for 2012.”

If Mr Christie expected Mr Adderley to remain a loyal party supporter — as he claimed he did— then he should have taken note when Mr Adderley in 2007 ran up the red flag on the SS Elizabeth informing him that there were dangerous shoals ahead threatening to wreck both of them. Mr Christie, true to form, chose to ignore the warning, obviously waiting for time to heal all and relieve him of the bother. It is always amazing when the inevitable happens, Mr Christie innocently rolls his eyes and appears to be taken by surprise.

Mr Adderley has stepped aside for the sake of his people in Elizabeth, who he acknowledged needed a representative who had the full support of the party he represented. Mr Adderley did not have that support.

This weekend Mr Christie and his party will have to look at the collective damage they have wrought and decide what road they will take into the future.

2010 should be extremely interesting

EDITOR, The Tribune.

Well many have to see and wonder whether all the predictions of Copenhagen Climate Conference made any sense as since the conference concluded certainly the weather across the Canada and the US and in Asia has never been so cold and have those areas had so much snow.

Have the climate experts got it right or are they talking rubbish?

Cuba — the announcement from the TSA, indirectly the Obama White House, of the inclusion of Cuba, named in the list of those countries or destinations from where any traveller heading to the US must receive the highest scrutiny, if not rejection seals at least, till the first terms of the Obama Administration that the strict travel restrictions on US citizens to freely

Carl Bethel is in an elite group

EDITOR, The Tribune.

I would not beat this horse too long; I just want to state an inescapable truth. There was an attempt by the PLP to discredit Carl Bethel on his resignation from the Ministry of Education. Then afterwards, they began immediately salivation like wild dogs whose eyes have been locked on its frightened victim. They claimed he was fired. They, in their lack of wisdom and memory set out to score some cheap political brownie points. It is astonishing how supposedly intelligent men, could, in their wildest imagination expect to gain any advantage from this.

History should have shown them that Perry Gladstone Christie and Hubert Alexander Ingraham were fired from the Pindling cabinet. If memory serves me right, both gentlemen went on to become Prime Minister of the Bahamas. I do not know if Mr Bethel has any aspirations to become prime minister but he is in an elite group, if all things are considered.

Now I am positive that there is no one in the PLP who is shallow enough to dispute what in fact did happen, but I would not be surprised, stranger things have been happening recently.

IVOINE W
INGRAHAM
Nassau,
December, 2009.

LETTERS

letters@tribunemedia.net

travel to Cuba will not be relaxed.

Bahamas take a sigh of relief again.

MP Malcolm Adderley indicates that he now wishes to be an Independent MP — again we see this play out where certainly it raises the question that it would seem to be totally contradictory when a person offers themselves under the banner of party ‘a’ or ‘b’ then shows support to a particular MP who obtains the largest support and becomes constitutionally the Prime Minister and likewise the process where the MP who becomes the leader of the opposition. There is a contradiction in the

constitution as an individual nominates, as an individual if elected throws his/her support behind one person who becomes PM not on political allegiance but as an elected MP.

Certainly we need parliamentary election reform urgently included in that should be provisions to recall their MP.

2010 looks as if it certainly will be interesting.

W THOMPSON

Nassau,
January 4, 2010.

(This will not be necessary in the Malcolm Adderley case as Mr Adderley has not changed sides, he has just left the political arena. It is now up to his former constituents in a by-election to say whether they want to continue with PLP representation or whether they will opt to go FNM. — Ed).

I suggest there is a same sex pat down search policy

EDITOR, The Tribune.

As discussions commence globally in connection with heightened airport security and enhanced passenger screening, I want the government department responsible for aviation and airport security to make a distinct separation in who is allowed to pat down whom.

Let me clarify, unless the process/policy has changed at our airport, males are allowed to pat down females. I strongly suggest that there is a same sex pat down that will be strictly adhered to.

This should help to eliminate any inappropriate contact/touching by the airport security unless of course the person in question is an unprofessional gay/lesbian who relishes the thought of touching a complete stranger. This is equally applicable for the random checking/screening of minors.

I do not think any parent will like to see a strange male patting down their underage daughter/s.

Sadly we live in a world of fanatics and certain steps must be taken to preserve the security of all passengers. I welcome the thought that the extra screening will deter criminals from terrorist activities on the planes. However, we must not become over zealous in our efforts to the point where the rights of an innocent person/child are permitted to be violated by sick/perverted security personnel.

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Nassau,
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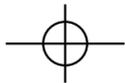
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LOCAL NEWS

NDP calls for reform to limit a PM's chances of power abuse

THE National Development Party is calling for constitution reform that would limit a prime minister's chances of abusing his power.

The party charged that the country's political system is "broken" because it is ruled by a constitution that "offers very little in the way of checks and balances on the vast powers of the Prime Minister."

The NDP argued that under the country's current system of governance, the position of prime minister does not facilitate democracy, but "is rigged to produce dictatorship."

Said the NDP: "Our constitution is extremely vulnerable to abuse, since it is our constitution that permits the prime minister to virtually act alone in selecting the chief justice and two of the other sitting members on the five-member Judicial and Legal Services Commission – the statutory body responsible for deciding who becomes a judge of the Supreme Court."

"It is the prime minister that has constitutional authority to decide whether a sitting Supreme Court judge will be allowed to receive a two year extension beyond the mandatory retirement age of 65; and it is the Prime Minister who decides when an election is called."

"Such examples of power effectively give the prime minister control of all three



Tim Clarke/Tribune staff

THE NDP'S Dr. Andre Rollins addresses the media on the steps of the House of Assembly yesterday.

branches of our government – the Executive, the Legislative and the Judiciary – to unfairly stack the deck in his favour."

The party's comments came on the same day that former Elizabeth MP Malcolm Adderley resigned his seat in Parliament and days after he quit the PLP. It is speculated that the politician was wooed by Government to give up his seat in exchange for a position as a Supreme Court judge.

The NDP is calling on the Ingraham administration to cease games of "political pok-

er" and honour a 2007 campaign promise to institute local government in New Providence.

The party believes that candidates from the two major political parties should be chosen through voter primaries, instead of being selected through an internal party process. The NDP thinks allowing constituents to choose nominees will help to fix the country's "broken" political system.

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CORRECTION

IN TUESDAY'S EDITION of The Tribune under the headline 'PLP by-election would be indicator of party's strength and support' it was reported that former PLP Senator Philip Galanis is an attorney.

The Tribune would like to clarify that Mr Galanis is not a lawyer but managing partner of HLB Galanis Bain which provides chartered accounting, forensic and litigation support services.

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LOCAL NEWS

FROM page one

'It's the worst personal experience I have faced'

growth of any constituency," said the MP.

Mr Adderley served as the MP for Elizabeth since the 2002 general election, when the Christie-led PLP won power.

He was appointed Chairman of the Gaming Board

by then Prime Minister Perry Christie in 2005 after the resignation of Kenyatta Gibson from the post, but in a move which caused some to begin questioning his loyalty to the party of which he was

a member, remained on at the behest of Hubert Ingraham when the FNM were elected in 2007.

Becoming only the second MP in almost 13 years to resign as an MP — the last

being Sir Lynden Pindling when he retired in 1997 — Mr Adderley's withdrawal from the political arena means a by-election will now be required in the Elizabeth constituency in February.

In the meantime, it is rumoured that Mr Adderley is set to be appointed as a Supreme Court judge by Prime Minister Ingraham in short order. He has previously worked as a public prosecutor, acting magistrate and a supreme court judge for one year.

Addressing accusations that he was disappointed at not being given a high profile appointment by Mr Christie, Mr Adderley said that "never once were fame and fortune" his goals upon entering politics.

Instead, he claimed he chose to quit after concluding that this "constant and perpetual undermining of the duly elected Member of Parliament in total disregard and blatant disrespect of the will of the people of Elizabeth ... that this contrived and calculated creation of confusion in Elizabeth had to stop."

Outlining the strained relationship between himself and his party's leadership, Mr Adderley said he was only put in a position to make infrastructural improvements in the constituency once Prime Minister Hubert

Ingraham won power in 2007 after finding his plans scuttled under Mr Christie's tenure and noted his discovery that there were people actively campaigning under the PLP banner in his constituency even as he remained the sitting MP.

"They were brazenly knocking on doors, even dispensing t-shirts, groceries, handing out mother's day gifts and cards, indicating to constituents that they were the (PLP) party's choice for 2012," said the MP.

Mr Adderley said his decision to leave the political arena did not come on a whim, but at a time predetermined following discussions which began around the time of the 2007 general election with family, friends and the people of Elizabeth.

At that time, they decided that he would wait until mid-term to see if there was "any improvement in my relationship with the (PLP) leadership" before deciding whether to remain in politics, he said.

Given that there was none, and in the meantime, the membership of the party returned Mr Christie as leader "almost unanimously" at the PLP convention in November 2009 even as the MP continued to harbour "deep concern about the lack of vision of the leadership", Mr Adderley said the hon-

ourable thing for him to do was resign.

Highlighting the alleged extent to which he and Mr Christie were at odds throughout his career in politics — a career which he admitted entering "reluctantly" before coming to feel "sheer love" for the job as a result of his interactions with his constituents — Mr Adderley said he was not only facing opposition from the FNM as he ran for a second term in Elizabeth in 2007 but from "the forces of my own party."

"The only thing I had was my personal ambition and a determination to conquer both forces — and like the biblical shepherd boy, David — the almighty God stood by my side and gave me victory. Praise be to God!" said Mr Adderley.

He said he had been told by his constituents that they support him "whatever (he) does" and that were it not for the encouragement they had given him throughout his tenure as their representative he would likely have "succumbed long ago to the vicious politics and hatred that was hatched by those wretched beings outside the boundary of the great constituency of Elizabeth by those whom one would least expect to do so."

Mr Adderley paid tribute to the PLP as a party which "has the distinction of being built on the blood, sweat and tears of hardworking men and women ... proud of their commitment to uplift the well being and standard of the people."

However, he asserted that those same men and women, like his mother and father, would have their "hearts and souls ache to see the state of the party today as a result of the venom and ill will that is displayed on an almost daily basis on any member who tries to correct its ills."

He thanked his family, friends, political supporters, constituents and the staff at the Gaming Board.

In a parting shot, Mr Adderley said that as he prepares to leave the lower chamber he is "pleased to see that the landscape of Bahamian politics is changing for the better."

"The young people of Elizabeth and other constituencies can no longer be persuaded by bully tactics and ghetto politics. They demand and deserve better. A new day is dawning for the wonderful people of The Bahamas. One in which the guideline is integrity and honesty."

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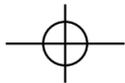
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Bradley Roberts: I won't be running for by-election

By **TANEKA THOMPSON**
Tribune Staff Reporter
tthompson@tribunemedia.net



PLP CHAIRMAN Bradley Roberts

CHAIRMAN of the Progressive Liberal Party Bradley Roberts laughed off reports that he would throw his hat into a by-election race for the vacant Elizabeth seat left by former PLP Malcolm Adderley.

He also called on Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham to call a general election instead of "squandering" public money on a by-election.

Speaking to *The Tribune* yesterday, Mr Roberts said he was "tickled" by the idea of running, which he admitted some supporters have approached him about – but claimed there was no merit to reports reaching *The Tribune* that he will be the PLP's candidate in the looming by-election.

"Some people have advanced that idea but I have no interest. I've been there and I've done that," he said, laughing.

His comments came the same day Mr Adderley – who was voted in by Elizabeth constituents for two consecutive terms on the PLP ticket – officially resigned from the House yesterday, just days after quitting the opposition.

It is a move that the chairman sees as a "betrayal" of the people of the Elizabeth constituency.

This means a by-election in the area is imminent, however it is still unknown if the cash-strapped PLP will offer a candidate.

Mr Roberts refused to comment on speculation that it would be beneficial for the

PLP to enter a candidate using minimal financial resources, in order to test voter support.

He would only say that the nation would know "by Monday" what the PLP's plans are.

Asked if a candidate had been selected, Mr Roberts said that a decision would be made when the party's National General Council meets in the coming days.

"We got to go through the

process – the PLP is not like the FNM you know, it doesn't have one man who runs everything," he said.

"What I want Mr Ingraham to do is call the general elections; that's what I want to him to do instead of wasting money that the government said it doesn't have".

So far, attorneys Ryan Pinder, Craig Butler and Ken Dorsett have expressed interest in representing the PLP in the Elizabeth area.

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LOCAL NEWS

Fitzgerald fires fresh broadside at Laing

PLP Senator questions Minister's political fitness

THE political row between PLP Senator Jerome Fitzgerald and FNM Minister of State Zhivargo Laing continued yesterday with Mr Fitzgerald questioning whether Minister Laing is a fit and proper person to occupy the position he currently holds.

members of the media yesterday, Mr Fitzgerald said it is now obvious that Minister Laing and the government have missed the message and point of Standard and Poor's downgrading of the Bahamas' sovereign rating.

Earlier this week, Senator Fitzgerald suggested that the

Bahamas' recent downgrading by Standard and Poor's could herald an oncoming fall in the value of the Bahamian dollar that would see it "unpegged" from its US counterpart.

This criticism, however, was met with a sharp rebuttal from Minister Laing who called Mr Fitzgerald's remarks "nonsense."

\$2.889 billion which clearly shows an increase of \$665 million, but this fails to take into account that in June 2002 when the PLP came to office, the financial state of the treasury was so poor that the PLP was immediately forced to borrow \$125 million to pay off the \$100 million overdraft at the Royal Bank of Canada and \$25 million of other payables. When the \$125 million is subtracted from the \$665 million, the PLP can only be held responsible for \$540 million of debt between 2002 and 2007. Those are the indisputable facts," he said.

With this in mind, Mr Fitzgerald invited Minister Laing to read carefully the reasons why the sovereign rating of the Bahamas was downgraded by Standard and Poor's and their admission of the government to "get its act together."

"They said: 'It's debt and deficits have increased and the composition of its debt has weakened somewhat... against a drop in the Bahamas' already narrow revenue base.' The report concluded by saying that: 'The ratings could come under downward pressure if the Bahamas' fiscal deterioration persists and the economic base erodes more severely. Conversely the ratings could



JEROME FITZGERALD

improve following a more proactive government policy response to reduce debt levels," he said.

Senator Fitzgerald added that the fact still remains that the foreign currency portion of the Bahamas' national debt has almost tripled from \$430 million in 2007 to \$1.1 billion at the end of 2009.

Poignant

"It was against the recent poignant observations made by Standard and Poor's and my comments made in June 2008 during my contribution in the Senate, that I am again pleading with the FNM government on behalf of the Bahamian people to take what I say seriously and listen carefully to the warning given by Standard and Poor's. We are on a slippery slope indeed.

"I again invite the Minister and the FNM government to consider the contents of my initial release and respond in a mature and reasoned manner, which is what the Bahamian people expect of them.

"I stated: To stabilize and secure our country's future financial standing, the Government must not engage in any further foreign currency borrowing. It must also move with a sense of urgency to develop a plan to reduce our national debt, diversify our economy and reduce our dependence on imported goods.

"This is not the time for talk of 'proven leadership' or 'tested leadership'; this is the time for sound, strategic economic policies void of political rhetoric and smoke and mirrors," he said.



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Constructive

Yesterday, Mr Fitzgerald said that his criticism of the government's borrowing has been reasonable and constructive considering the state of the Financial Services Industry over the past two and a half years.

However Mr Laing, he said, lashed out questioning the level of government borrowing under the PLP between 2002 and 2007, describing it at more than \$866 million.

Mr Fitzgerald said, however, that he thought he had laid this "outright misstatement" to rest during his contribution in the Senate on the Budget debate in June 2008.

"The facts can be found by a simple review of the Central Bank reports which disclose that at the end of June 2002 the national debt stood at \$2.224 billion and at the end of June 2007 the national debt stood at

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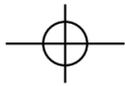
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| Last 3 Years Average Annual Returns As at December 31, 2009 | Last 5 Years Average Annual Returns As at December 31, 2009 |
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LOCAL NEWS

Chinese govt expresses support for the Baha Mar resort project

By NOELLE NICOLLS
Tribune Staff Reporter
nnicolls@tribunemedia.net

THE Chinese government is expressing strong support for ongoing negotiations between local hoteliers and Chinese business interests with regard to the development of the Baha Mar resort project.

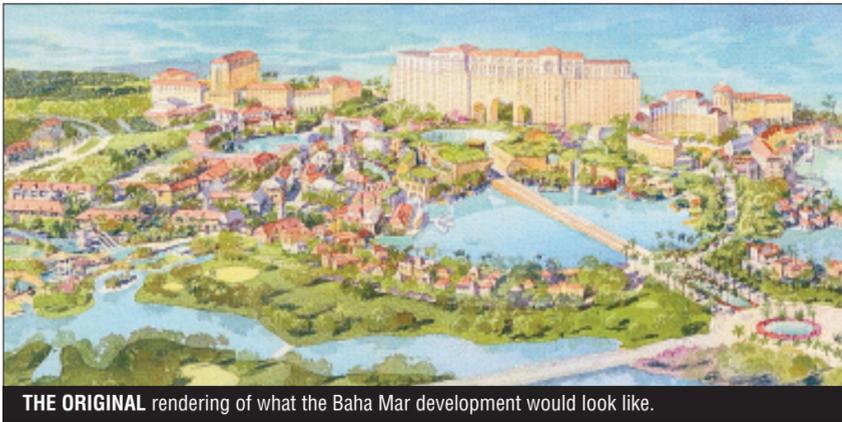
While the government is not directly involved in negotiations, embassy representatives said a deal would trigger many economic benefits for both Bahamians and the Chinese.

"The government of the Republic of China will strongly support this project. It will benefit both parties and strengthen our relationship. We would like to do everything possible for it to commence," said Jian Tan, first secretary in the Chinese Embassy and head of commercial affairs.

Negotiators for the China Import-Export Bank, the potential financier, and China State Construction Company, the potential construction company, are expected back in the country early this year to carry negotiations forward.

Mr Tan said while the embassy requests information from the Chinese negotiating parties from time to time, the negotiations are conducted independently.

"Even though the company is state-owned, it retains its direct profits and it is managed independently. The negotiations in progress are totally of their



THE ORIGINAL rendering of what the Baha Mar development would look like.

own business. The embassy can facilitate the parties, but they make the decisions by themselves. Generally the government will not intervene in a business decision," said Mr Tan.

In the 1990s China implemented new regulations requiring state owned companies to establish modern enterprise systems and take on their own risk.

"State owned companies must compete in the market with all the other companies, even private and multi-national. All companies must start at the same level. If the government facilitates something for state-owned companies the others would fail," said Mr Tan.

The question of how many work permits are to be made available to Chinese workers in connection with the project has reportedly been one of the

stumbling blocks delaying a final agreement.

Mr Tan said the number of permits necessary for the project would be determined by Baha Mar and approved at the discretion of the Bahamian government.

He said the Chinese government would only be involved at the level of screening workers to ensure that only reputable citizens are brought to work in the Bahamas.

Just five months ago, Baha Mar officials met for the first time with a Chinese business delegation to explore opportunities for collaborating on the billion dollar resort. Now on the cusp of an agreement, Baha Mar officials are cautiously optimistic that work will soon commence with the backing of the Chinese entities.

"Our intention and best wish is to promote bilateral relations between the Bahamas and China. The Chinese government and the embassy would like to do our best to improve bilateral relations and ensure the Bahamian people profit," said Mr Tan.

DEATH NOTICE

Helen Millicent Rose Davidson

died on 5th January 2010 in Nassau, Bahamas after a long illness borne with grace and dignity. A Memorial Service will be held at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Kirk, Princess Street, Nassau, Bahamas at 4:00 p.m. on Saturday 9th January 2010. She is survived by her husband Carroll Davidson, her daughters Suzanne Davidson and Judy Whitehead, son-in-law Thomas Whitehead and granddaughters Rory Whitehead, Alannah Van-Onselen and Tessa Whitehead and brothers and sisters in Jamaica, Canada and the United Kingdom.

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Union officer charged in connection with altercation

By DENISE MAYCOCK
Tribune Freeport Reporter
dmaycock@tribunemedia.net

FREEPORT – A union officer has been arraigned in Magistrates' Court on assault charges in connection with an altercation that occurred at Workers House this week.

Robert Barry, a resident of Golden Gates, New Providence, appeared in Court One before Magistrate Debbye Ferguson.

It is alleged that on January 5, Barry assaulted union trustee Ian Neely.

Barry pleaded not guilty to the charge. He was granted bail and the matter was adjourned to August 30, 2010.



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STOP LIVING IN FEAR - AVOID BEING NEXT

Why the young people can't just walk away



By D'ARCY RAHMING

JUST telling young people to just walk away from a violent encounter will never work as a solution to violence because it largely misses the point. Young people have to walk away with confidence or they feel that they have been disrespected. Many believe that the only way to regain that respect is through revenge.

Each young person must have an understanding of his own power and where he fits in so he knows that walking away doesn't diminish his being. Prior to the last century most societies initiated young persons through ceremonies that taught that life was hard and could be dangerous. Think of young men in Africa hunting lions.

In this day and age, every young person

should know how to control, respect and avoid danger. This can be accomplished through their taking part in boxing, wrestling and martial arts programmes with competent teachers that have good moral foundations.

Always remember, we outnumber the Bad Guys.

• *D'Arcy Rahming is a violent crime researcher and Adjunct Faculty Member at the College of the Bahamas. He holds Black Belts in several martial arts and is an internationally renowned seminar leader for corporations, private groups and police and security groups. You can follow him on his blog at www.stoplivinginfear.org.*

New Planning and Subdivisions Bill is introduced for debate



HUBERT INGRAHAM

MOVING closer to a revamp of the laws governing town planning and the development of subdivisions in the Bahamas, the government introduced a new Planning and Subdivisions Bill for debate in parliament yesterday.

The Bill was an updated version of a previous Bill with the same name and purpose, which was with-

drawn by the government prior to parliament's Christmas break after what the government described as a slew of late comments and criticisms of the changes it would entail.

The latest version of the 63 page Bill – which will be debated on January 20 – takes account of those responses, including those from opposition members of parliament, the Bahamas Real Estate Association and others.

Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham said yesterday that it would be uploaded onto the government's website for members of the public to view and comment upon, if they would like.

The government intends to pass the legislation before it prorogues parliament. This is expected to take place in late January or early February.

Restaurant employee robbed by armed men

POLICE are investigating the robbery of a woman employee of the Chinese Restaurant on Madeira Street by two armed men late Tuesday night.

The woman was reportedly approached by the men as she left the store. They robbed her of an undetermined amount of cash, cell phone cards and a Toshiba lap-top, before fleeing on foot.

The culprits were reportedly wearing blue hooded jackets and black jeans.

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LOCAL NEWS

Superclubs executive chairman conferred with honorary degree by University of West Indies



Photo by Superclubs Resorts

BREEZES Resort and Spa Panama, the first Super-inclusive resort in Central America officially opened on December 12, 2009, with statewide dignitaries, including Excelentísimo Sr. Ricardo Martinelli, president of the Republic of Panama, helping to cut the ribbon. Located in the coastal community of Santa Clara, just 90 minutes from Panama City, the 294-room resort has been booked solid with consumers and agents since its soft opening on October 1. Pictured (left to right) Excelentísimo Sr Ricardo Martinelli, and Hon. John J Issa, chairman of SuperClubs.

SuperClubs' executive chairman John Issa has been awarded an honorary Doctor of Laws degree by the University of the West Indies in Mona, Jamaica.

Praised for his contributions to Jamaica's tourism industry, the university praised Mr Issa as one of the field's most influential consultants and entrepreneurs. Mr Issa has also played an influential role in Bahamas tourism with the 1995 opening of Breezes, the all inclusive resort at Cable Beach.

Known for many firsts in the Jamaican hospitality sector, Mr Issa pioneered the all-inclusive hotel concept on the island when he opened Negril Beach Village in 1976. Reshaping the resort industry, Mr Issa then introduced the Super-Inclusive holiday with the inception of the adults-only playground Hedonism II in 1981. He also launched the island's first all-inclusive family resort, Boscobel Beach, in 1983.

Mr Issa's vision has grown beyond the "isle of Irie", with 19 resorts throughout the Caribbean and Latin America. The most recent in Panama was opened in October last year and the Brazil resort is scheduled for a May opening this year.

Beyond his hotel ventures, Mr Issa has deep roots in Jamaica: He served as a senator from 1983 to 1989, chairman of the Jamaica Tourist Board during the same years and president of the Jamaica Hotel and Tourist Association in 1972. A unique honour, Mr Issa even has his own 40-cent postage stamp, which was created to commemorate the centenary of the Jamaica Hotel Law (1904-2004). Throughout the years Mr Issa has received numerous accolades for his achievements, including being honoured with the Order of Jamaica, the country's fourth highest national order (1998), and the Brazilian Order of the Southern Cross (Officer Rank, 2001). Ernst & Young named him "Caribbean Master Entrepreneur of the Year" (2003), he received the Jamaica Tourist Board's "Trail Blazer Award" (2005), *Caribbean World* named him "Premier Hotelier of the Year" (2006); and most recently the magazine extended Mr Issa "Lifetime Achievement Award in Travel and Tourism" (2007). Along with Mr Issa, 16 distinguished recipients received honorary degrees from the university during graduation ceremonies, including Barbados' former prime minister Sir Lloyd Erskine Sandiford; governor general of St Vincent and the Grenadines, Frederick Ballantyne GCMG; journalist and environmental activist John Maxwell; prolific scholar and historian Prof. Colin A Palmer; and chairman and managing director of The Gleaner Company Ltd., Oliver Clarke.

THE PRE-CLEARANCE AGREEMENT (AMENDMENT) BILL

Pre-clearance legislation 'could boost Grand Bahama economy'

By ALISON LOWE
Tribune Staff Reporter
alow@tribunemedia.net

LEGISLATION paving the way for passengers on private as well as commercial aircraft to "pre-clear" US Customs and Border Protection in Freeport was heralded yesterday as likely to bring about major economic benefits for Grand Bahama.

The convenience of being able to use pre-clearance facilities in the Bahamas rather than enduring typically longer waiting lines in the United States will attract higher volumes of private aircraft to land in Grand Bahama, members of parliament said, bringing with them boosts in revenue for hotels, taxi drivers, restaurants and shops on the island.

Their comments came during a debate in parliament on the Pre-Clearance Agreement (Amendment) Bill, a piece of legislation that empowers the Bahamian government to amend the 1974 Pre-Clearance Agreement it entered into with the US "from time to time" in conjunction with US authorities. "In the first instance, we wish to extend those pre-clearance benefits to the pre-clearance of private aircraft," said Minister of National Security Tommy Turnquest.

"It should be noted that this Bill provides for the pre-clearance of aircraft both visiting and transiting the Bahamas. Although the Bill does not restrict the location of these facilities in The Bahamas, it has been determined that Freeport would be the ideal location for the pre-clearance of private aircraft."

The Bahamas is currently one of only five destinations in the world where commercial passengers are able to pre-clear US Customs and Border Protection. This in itself has been of "enormous benefit" to tourism in the islands and to Bahamian citizens travelling to the US, said Mr Turnquest.

"We are confident that (the legislation's) passage and implementation will alert the owners of private aircraft that if it is advantageous for them to pre-clear in Grand Bahama before flying on to their ultimate destination in the United States, then it would make sense for them to make Grand Bahama their vacation destination," added the minister.

He said that in the last three years 80,000 visitors came to the Bahamas on private aircraft, with the economic downturn having encouraged a preference on behalf of owners and leasees of such aircraft to travel to "closer destinations and airports."

"We expect these numbers to grow even in a recession once these pre-clearance facilities are in place and there is little debate over the fact that the spending of those persons arriving on private aircraft is con-

siderably higher than those arriving on commercial aircraft," he added.

Some of the benefits arising from the implementation of private pre-clearance include: Increased landing fees for the GBIA; the ability for flights departing from GBIA to land at any airport in the US without having to first land at the first international port of entry in the US; increased commercial opportunities at the airport; the likelihood that pilots and passengers will stopover for recreation in Grand Bahama; and the opportunity for aircraft from neighbouring countries without pre-clearance facilities to use the GBIA as an intermediate stop prior to entering US airspace. MP for Fox Hill Fred Mitchell said: "I think that this Bill is in the best interest of the Bahamian people because it will do something for Freeport. It is in our best interests that

Grand Bahama succeeds. We cannot afford for Grand Bahama and Freeport to collapse and every effort must be made to ensure that the present trend there is reversed with people saying that this is the worst it has ever been in their experience."

The increased aircraft volume will help ensure that the currently "underutilised" pre-clearance facility in Freeport is no longer subject to discussions of whether it should remain in operation at all, as has been the case in the past, he added.

Parliamentarians yesterday passed the legislation, which had already been approved by the Senate. The government must negotiate the precise terms of the pre-clearance arrangement for private aircraft with the US, via the American Embassy in Nassau, before private pre-clearance can take effect.

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| | Professional Web Designer | Learn to create and modify web pages and web sites like a professional web designer. | Feb 13—May 8 Saturdays 1pm-4:30pm |
| BUSINESS | QuickBooks Professional | Learn how to use the world's most popular small business accounting software to manage your company | Jan 23—Feb 6 Saturdays 1pm to 4pm |
| | Certified Office Administrator | This course equips the business professional with the best office administration practices and develops business communication, customer service and business etiquette as a discipline. | Jan 23—May 8 Saturdays 9am—12pm |
| | Introduction to Personal Computers | Learn how to use your personal computer to create documents, send email and use internet. | Jan 23—Feb 27 Saturday's 9am—12pm |
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LOCAL NEWS

FROM page one

Hotel Union members protest ruling on president



HOTEL WORKERS protest yesterday.

tion against Ms Martin, and is the architect of the latest appeal.

"They do not want Nicole Martin because she is not for sale. She has the respect of the workers. The government can't buy her. The hotel executives can't buy her, so they don't want her," said Perry Cox, a long-standing union member.

"I have been a hotel worker all my life. Our judiciary system is a mockery. We are not going to stand by idly to let no court determine our fate. This union has affiliations and we are not going to stand dead. We are telling the politicians to act now, stand now, because this

is just the beginning and we are going down Burma Road. They better check their history, Sir Clifford Darling is still alive, because someone is going to get lick," said Mr Cox.

Protesters expressed disappointment over the lack of support from political representatives in the leading PLP and FNM parties, saying no one was speaking up on behalf of the workers.

As a result of the outstanding legal matters, former president Colebrooke is expected to assume presidential duties once again.

"We are the ones that suffer when this mess starts up again.

The teachers and the workers are really feeling it. We don't get paid because they don't have anyone to sign cheques. We are supposed to be paid weekly and sometimes for three to four weeks we are not paid. I don't even know if I am going to be paid this Friday," said Erica Eneas, a union member from the group of child care workers.

"It is too early in the year for this. One judge makes one decision and another judge makes another decision. I thought it was the members who were supposed to make decisions for themselves about who they want as their leaders," she said.

Members of the National Development Party (NDP)

were on hand to lend their support to workers. Party member Renward Wells said the constitution allows for people to freely organise to form labour groups, but that process was being compromised. He said the government needs to strengthen the capacity of people to be able to vote and have their votes respected.

Chairman of the NDP Executive Steering Committee, Dr Andre Rollins, said: "It is time to take seriously the business of nation building. The workers have spoken not once, but twice and they spoke loudly and clearly indicating unanimous support for a union led by Nicole Martin's team. It is time to stop playing political games, using the money con-

tributed by union members - \$10 per week - to play legal games at the expense of hard working Bahamians."

The objective of the protesters is the reinstatement of Nicole Martin as president. They appealed to the Prime Minister, the Minister of Tourism and all individuals in power to intervene, stressing the importance of worker satisfaction to the tourism industry and Bahamian economy.

"We want Nicole Martin back in office as our president. No judge with a wig should determine our right to elect a leader. We are sick of politics interfering with our business," said Rodwell Rolle, union member.

Registration centres to open today

FROM page one

Malcolm Adderley resigned from his seat as the representative for the Elizabeth constituency paving the way for the first by-election in over 10 years to take place.

However, a by-election has not been called as yet as it can only be done once the Speaker of the House of Assembly notifies the Governor General that a seat is vacant in Parliament. At that time the Governor General will call for a by-election which then will have to take place within 21 or 26 days. This therefore could place such an election at the beginning of February at the earliest.

Mr Bethel also reminded the public that first time applicants for registration must be Bahamian citizens 18 years or older, who must provide proof of citizenship and must have resided in the constituency for at least the past three

months. Additionally, applicants for transfer or correction must present their current voters' cards, Mr Bethel said.

"It's not different from a general election, it's the same process rather than electing the whole House (of Assembly) you're electing one person.

"The (voter) register that is enforced is the register that was used for a general election, that is the register that would be used for a by-election. The only difference is that any change that would be made to the register would change to that extent, if anyone else registers or if any one is deceased. The register is open for five years, it's a living document and it can change every single day — so it remains open," he said.

Currently there is an estimated 4,200 registered voters in Elizabeth which covers Commonwealth Boulevard West as far as Sea Breeze Drive, Joe Farrington Road, and Cool Acres.

FROM page one

Attorney voices concern over retired politicians on bench

matters as he ought".

"I happen to like Malcolm Adderley as a person but I'm just saying that I just find it strange that on the eve of the age of ordinary retirement, he would be given a post which would, in order to make sense, would require him to be extended beyond two years," he continued.

There is also a cry for constitutional reform in order to limit the control a prime minister has over the executive, legislative and judicial branches of government.

Pushing for such reform is fringe political group, the National Development Party, which questioned if Mr Adderley used his political leverage as a bargaining chip to secure a judicial post. The NDP argued that his resignation from the House was proof that the constitution is "vulnerable to abuse."

"It is because our constitution was not designed to pro-

tect the citizenry from the abuse of power by the Prime Minister, that Mr Malcolm Adderley is today causing the public to question whether he used his elected office as a bargaining chip in this game of political poker that has been played between the FNM and the PLP since May of 2007," the NDP told the press in an impromptu press conference on the steps of the House of Assembly yesterday morning, after Mr Adderley resigned from Parliament.

This comes after speculation that Government wooed Mr Adderley away from the PLP with promises of a post within the Supreme Court in exchange for his seat.

The NDP said the country must institute constitutional safeguards to limit a prime minister's "absolute power", if the Bahamas plans to escape being categorised as a "Banana Republic."

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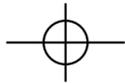
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**Retailer's staff
get 'significant
piece of the pie'**

* Robin Hood owner says staff given shares in business have seen stake's worth grow to \$250,000-\$300,000 in four-five years

* Urges more Bahamas-based companies to 'spread the wealth' and give employees ownership stake

* December numbers drop from previous 30-40% month-on-month rises, although 2010 to be 'banner year'

* January to finish 20-30% up year-over-year, with just under 100,000 customer visits in December

By **NEIL HARTNELL**
Tribune Business Editor

Robin Hood's president yesterday urged "more companies" to follow his lead and give key/deserving staff an ownership stake in their business, telling Tribune Business that those who had been granted 50 Class A shares in the retailer four to five years ago now had "a significant piece of the pie" worth \$250,000-\$300,000.

Advocating that giving select employees an ownership stake in the business was the greatest motivational tool possible, Sandy Schaefer said the 10-12 staff who had been given a stake in Robin Hood "represent the best we have".

"It engenders a sense of team spirit and collective pride, as they share in the good times and the bad," Mr Schaefer told this newspaper. "I'd love to see more companies do it."

"The greatest asset in any business, bar none, is your employees. They are truly the single greatest asset any company has. What greater reward can you give but long-term security and ownership?"

Arguing that more Bahamas-based businesses needed to "spread the wealth", Mr Schaefer said that unless select employees were granted some form of

SEE page 10B

**\$7m food market
pledges price drop**

* Newly-opened Premium Foods argues Bahamas food prices too high, with 50,000 square foot store employing 100 Bahamians

* Chief investor former Bahamas Food Services exec, with business occupying Penn building on Gladstone Road

* Robin Hood says 'no impact' from launch, as its 45,000 SKUs provides more variety, and targets different market, than Premium

By **CHESTER ROBARDS**
Business Reporter
crobards@tribunemedia.net

INVESTORS told Tribune Business yesterday that they hoped their \$7 million investment in a newly-opened Gladstone Road-based wholesale/retail mega food market will help to lower the average New Providence food bill over time.

The principal investor in Premium Foods, Phil Lightbourne, said he hoped his investment in a low-priced food market would drive average costs down, saying the public response to date

has been outstanding.

Though he could not say what revenue the store earned during its first month since opening the doors in December 2009, Mr Lightbourne said his first three weeks in business felt like "three years".

Mr Lightbourne was a former director of operations at Bahamas Food Services, the well-known food wholesaler based nearby, before retiring after 30 years.

He said he had seen food price points continue to rise, and decided that Bahamians were paying too much in their food bill. That was when he made the commit-

ment to opening Premium Foods.

According to the store's sales manager, Keishla Goodman, the 50,000 square foot outlet carries similar products to many Bahamian food stores, though in bulk and at wholesale prices.

The store has been compared to the US chain Sam's Club, which also sells goods in bulk. However, Ms Goodman said Premium Foods' bulk imports are split, packaged in smaller pairs and sold at wholesale rates.

"You basically get every-

SEE page 8B

**Investors eye
Freeport FBO**

* 'Fantastic development' of private aviation pre-clearance in Freeport likely to attract developers of fixed base operations

* Chamber chief hopes increased traffic will result in greater airport revenues, lowering commercial aircraft fees and reducing aviation fuel costs

By **NEIL HARTNELL**
Tribune Business Editor

Several groups are looking at the establishment of a fully-fledged fixed base operation (FBO) at Grand Bahama International Airport, the president of the island's Chamber of Commerce disclosed yesterday, adding that this initiative would receive a major boost from the "fantastic development" of US pre-clearance for private aircraft in Freeport.

K P Turnquest, responding to the legislative amendments extending pre-clearance facilities to private aircraft in Grand Bahama, said the increased revenues this should generate could help to lower fees that Grand Bahama International Airport currently levies on commercial airlines, thereby boosting airlift into the island.

The Grand Bahama Chamber of Commerce's president also suggested that the increased aircraft volume generated by a rise in private plane

usage would lower aviation fuel costs on Grand Bahama, something that has been a major impediment in attracting carriers to the island. "I think it's a

SEE page 7B

GAS TRACKER

Shell \$4.15

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The information contained is from a third party and The Tribune can not be held responsible for errors and/or omission from the daily report.

**Abaco's Xmas
arrivals grow
5% in 2009**

Leading resort says December 'over forecast' and 'way up' on 2008

By **CHESTER ROBARDS**
Business Reporter
crobards@tribunemedia.net



VINCENT VANDERPOOL-WALLACE

PRELIMINARY data shows Abaco's Christmas holiday arrivals were up 5 per cent year-over-year, the minister of tourism and aviation said yesterday, while a large resort on the island was "pleasantly surprised" by bookings during the season.

Vincent Vanderpool-Wallace told Tribune Business that increased airlift into the country's fastest-developing economy has certainly "paid off dividends" during the Christmas season, though he warned it was still too early to predict when arrivals will completely turn around.

He said flights from Miami, one of the nearest US international gateways, have been full but are not translating into connections into the Bahamas.

SEE page 5B

**'Little confidence' in ability
to arrest \$3.8b national debt**

By **NEIL HARTNELL**
Tribune Business Editor

A leading fiscal hawk yesterday said he did not have "much confidence" in the Government's ability to get the nation's finances back on the right track, given that it had achieved "one year of no deficit in 26-27 years of independence" and was now faced with a national debt totalling almost \$3.8 billion.

Rick Lowe, an executive with the Nassau Institute economic think-tank, said that with the national debt approaching at least \$3.8 billion, "future generations of Bahamians will have

* Leading fiscal hawk says government achieved 'one year of no deficit in 36-37 years of independence'

* Backs Fitzgerald's long-term concerns on dollar, and warns: 'Chickens coming home to roost'

* 'Future generations of Bahamians will have a burden that no generation has had to carry before'

SEE page 9B

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BUSINESS

Protecting against copyright thieves

Are you undecided whether or not to post your precious photos on the blog because of security concerns? Artists, photographers, news/stock agencies have been asking this question forever, and there is still no simple solution. The simplest answer to this question is also the most hated one. You can't!

Despite the usual way of displaying images in a blog post, they can be stolen or copied easily, too. Even a novice user can simply right click on an image to save it on to his computer. It is eventually passed on, and finally appears in some other blog, website or magazine without your knowledge. Easy as that!

Because of how graceful and inexpensive it is to replicate something digitally, if you put up content it could - and will - be stolen! Really? Oh my gosh, I wasn't aware of that!

Actually, all is not lost. These are some steps to temporarily protect your images from being copied.

Do not display full-size images

Never upload images that are large enough to be used in commercial work. Keep your images under 600px wide. This way, if they are blown up in an image editor, the image will pixelate and become unusable for



THE ART OF GRAPHIX

DEIDRE BASTIAN

any serious reproduction.

Blocking 'Right Click' or the 'Context Menu'

One of the simplest ways is to put up a 'no right-click' script. Users will either get no options to download the image, or get a pop-up error message (depending upon how you code the script). Sounds easy ...but it is also easy to get around as well. Just because they cannot right click and save doesn't mean they can't download the image.

The obtrusive Watermark

Watermarks are fairly effective and can be removed, but with difficulty. Using a Digital Watermarking Service will help identify copyright infringement and allow you to contact offenders. Because the image has a watermark in a corner doesn't mean it cannot be taken off and used. A computer or

graphic expert can crop the image or photo shop over the watermark. It is perhaps the only method that can deter copyright violation, but it also degrades the art work.

Keep the images out of search engines

Don't let Google or other search engines index your images directory. Keep all your images in an images directory and block access via your robots.txt file. This way, you can keep your Art out of 'image search' results.

Let people know the images are protected

Display your copyright and usage policy alongside the images. Implement a path for people to contact you for permission to reproduce and know they cannot copy your images.

Shrink Wrapping Images

Shrink wrapping an image is a JavaScript technique where you display your image with another, transparent, image overlaid on top. If copied, it will usually generate a blank image. However, for someone who is determined, this method can be circumvented as well.

Using Flash can protect your image

It is also possible to set up a slideshow in Flash to display image, which limits the ability of thieves to download the images directly. Even if you embed your images in a Flash object to protect them, it's possible to take a screen shot of the desktop as that object is displaying your image.

Never upload them to the Web

'Prevention is better than cure', so if you post your images online it is possible for someone to pinch them! The only guarantee that your images would not be stolen is to never upload them to the web, which is the securest and safest method of protecting your digital images.

By and large, full protection of your images is impossible because screenshots can be taken and edited as well, so approach this venture with caution. Finally, I will leave you with this tip: Like everything else, if they can see it, they can steal it. Thievery is not only active on land, it exists and roams cyberspace as well.

Let's have fun and stay on top of our game.

FAMGUARD AND BAHAMAS FIRST IN DISCUSSION TO CONSOLIDATE COMPANIES

Norbert Boissiere, Chairman of FamGuard Corporation Limited (FamGuard) and Ian Fair, Chairman of Bahamas First Holdings Limited (Bahamas First) are pleased to announce that FamGuard and Bahamas First are in discussion with a view to consolidating their two holding companies.

The terms and conditions of the transaction are currently being negotiated and if negotiations are successfully completed will result in these majority Bahamian owned companies coming together under one group holding company.

The companies are currently engaged in due diligence exercises and negotiations, which are subject to shareholder and regulatory approval, are expected to be concluded by June 30, 2010.

If the transaction is successfully concluded the combination of these companies will result in the creation of the first composite insurance holding company in The Bahamas and result in the consolidation of approximately \$200 million in gross premium revenue.

It is expected that the combined entity will achieve greater efficiencies from the consolidation of operations at the holding company level as well as broaden the market access for all product lines offered by both companies within the Bahamas and the wider region.

Bahamas First and FamGuard share a similar history with both entities having been established as holding companies for their home grown insurance subsidiaries, Bahamas First General Insurance Company and Family Guardian Insurance Company which were established in 1982 and 1965 respectively.

FamGuard became a publicly traded company in 1998 and began the process of restructuring its insurance operations in 2001 with the merger with Star Insurance Company (Bahamas) and the acquisition of the remaining 50% portfolio of BahamaHealth Insurance Brokers & Benefit Consultants Limited in 2002. In 2006 FamGuard entered into a strategic alliance with Sagicor Financial Corporation with that entity acquiring 20% of its shares. In 2008 FamGuard launched its pensions and wealth management subsidiaries, FG Financial Limited and FG Capital Markets Limited.

Since its creation 28 years ago, Bahamas First has taken a lead position in the general insurance market and was the first local general insurance company to exceed \$100 million in premium income in 2007. Also in 2007, the company entered into a strategic arrangement with the Economical Insurance Group (EIG) of Canada with that entity acquiring 20% of its shares.

The insurance subsidiaries of both companies are currently rated A-Excellent by international rating agency A.M. Best.

Bahamas First and FamGuard will issue another release upon conclusion of these negotiations.

NOTICE

IN THE ESTATE OF GUISEPPE CAMPI domiciled and late of Podere Grillana, Trequanda (S1), Italy, and Madrid, Spain, deceased

NOTICE is hereby given that all persons having any claim or demand against or interest in the above Estate should send same duly certified in writing to the undersigned on or before 21st January, 2010 after which date the Executrix will proceed to distribute the assets of the Estate having regard only to the claims, demands or interests of which she shall then have had notice AND all persons indebted to the above Estate are asked to settle such debts on or before 21st January, 2010.

FREDERIK F. GOTTLIEB & CO.

Attorneys for the Executrix
P.O. Box AB-20405
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No prior experience is needed but the ideal candidate will be able to write and speak French fluently, hold a Bachelor's degree or equivalent and have excellent computer skills.

The position offers an attractive salary and benefits package including, pension and bonus schemes.

Applications should be submitted to the following address, to arrive on or before January 13, 2010.

Head of Human Resources
SG Private Banking (Bahamas) Ltd.
PO Box N7789
Nassau, Bahamas

BUSINESS

Bahamas' US imports grow 16% per year

By NEIL HARTNELL
Tribune Business Editor

The Bahamas' imports from the US grew at a 16 per cent annual rate between 2001 and 2008, data produced by the Caribbean Regional Negotiating Machinery (CRNM) has revealed, with this nation accounting for around 25 per cent of the region's US import bill in 2008.

A CRNM document, describing the Bahamas as "the top import market for US goods in CARICOM", said: "The Bahamas was the most dynamic importer of US goods between 2001 and 2008, overtaking Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago.

"Between 2001 and 2008, the Bahamas' appetite for US goods grew by 16 per cent annually." None of this will come as a surprise, given the Bahamas' proximity to the US and taste for things American, with this nation account-

ing for 25 per cent of all US exports to the CARICOM region.

This data comes after the US Trade Representative Office's report on the Caribbean Basin Initiative (CBI), published this week, found that of the \$465.823 million worth of goods exported to the US by the Bahamas in the period January-August 2009, some 13.3 per cent or \$62.16 million entered tariff-free under the preferences provided by the initiative.

These figures represented a drop on the 2008 comparative period, when \$93.472 million or 27.9 per cent of a total \$334.497 million worth of goods exported to the US by the Bahamas entered under the CBERA.

For the eight-month period January-August 2009, some 41 per cent or \$190.832 million worth of Bahamian exports also entered the US duty-free, compared to

\$197.476 million or 59 per cent of exports for the same period in 2008.

The US Trade Representative's Office's report also noted that US exports to the Bahamas for the eight months to January 2009 had fallen by 18.6 per cent, from \$1.895 billion the year before to \$1.542.2 billion, the more than \$300 million drop likely to have been induced by the recession.

Overall, for the 2008 full year, the Bahamas exported some \$603.935 million worth of products to the US, of which \$141.048 million or 23.4 per cent entered the US duty-free under the CBERA. The main beneficiaries from the Act's trade preferences were Bahamian crawfish, Polymers' plastic products, salt, fruits and vegetables.

In that same year, the US exported some \$2.76 billion worth of goods and services to the Bahamas.

Bank invests \$1.5m in its card platform

Bank of the Bahamas International yesterday said first quarter results showed a net profit of \$3.6 million for the three months ending September 30, 2009, representing 29 per cent growth over the same period last year.

"I am particularly pleased to report the strength of the balance sheet, with an increased risk adjusted capital ratio of 24 per cent, well above the new guideline of 14 per cent to 17 per cent introduced by the Central Bank," said Paul McWeeney, the bank's managing director.

He added that increasing capital provided the "financial fortification to absorb increasing credit risk while seeking viable lending and

investment opportunities, and remaining supportive of providing solutions to customers faced with financial challenges at this time."

Total assets at the end of the period dipped slightly from the one-time high of \$758 million at the end of the fiscal year June 30, 2009, to just under \$744 million.

The figures were achieved despite the bank's \$1.5 million investment in sophisticated software and equipment to bring credit card processing in-house, a move that prepares it to supply that service and others to financial institutions and business locally as well as internationally.

VACANCY NOTICE

Grand Bahama Power Company invites qualified applicants to apply for the position of **Director of Transmission & Distribution**.

This position is responsible for the activities required to plan, construct, operate and maintain the 69/12.5KV transmission and distribution (T & D) system of Grand Bahama Power Company and leads the T & D activities for a 20,000 customer based utility.

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The duties of this position include but are not limited to developing short and long term plans to improve reliability and efficiency, providing leadership for the coordination of T & D activities with external customers and other internal departments, establishing and reviewing appropriate technical standards and T & D maintenance programs.

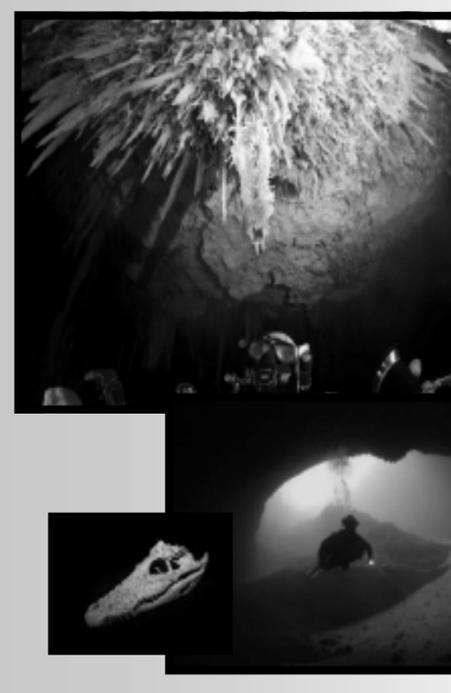
Minimum qualifications are a Bachelor of Science Degree in Engineering or HNC/HND in Engineering, ten years experience in a Utility Company with at least six years in a technical position and four years in a Transmission and Engineering managerial leadership position. Applicants are required to have proven leadership skills in a unionized workplace, proven ability to improve system reliability and overall efficiency in a T & D organization to meet peer and industry benchmarks, experience leading emergency power restoration, specifically hurricanes, and demonstrated ability to lead a large team through change.

Applications with supporting documentation including a clean Police Certificate and proof of Bahamian citizenship should be sent to:-

THE DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES
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DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF APPLICATIONS IS
January 15, 2010



TOWN MEETING RESEARCH AND CONSERVATION OF BLUE HOLES IN THE BAHAMAS



When: Wednesday, January 13, 2010 at 7 pm

Where: Bahamas National Trust, The Retreat Gardens, Village Road, Nassau

Why: Proposed protection of blue holes on Abaco, with discussion on a national conservation effort.

The Antiquities, Monuments and Museums Corporation/National Museum of the Bahamas has partnered with the Bahamas Caves Research Foundation, Friends of the Environment and the Bahamas National Trust in a large scale conservation proposal of 4 known blue holes containing more than 9 miles of underwater passages located on Southern Abaco. These amazing sites are considered the most highly decorated underwater caves in the world, and explorers and scientists have discovered the fossilized remains of the ancient animals that once roamed the islands of the Bahamas, long before man ever set foot here.

The sites are currently the primary focus of a National Geographic/Nova one hour documentary, as well as an upcoming feature article in National Geographic Magazine. The purpose of this presentation is to enlighten the general public about current conservation efforts for the protection of these highly sensitive windows into ancient Abaconian history and create dialog among stakeholders, both from Abaco as well as nation wide. Please join us to discuss your interest and concerns.

For more information, please call the Bahamas National Trust at: (242) 393-1317

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- Sheffield Hallam University - BSc (Hons) International Hospitality & Tourism (top up)
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- MSc Marketing & Management - University of Bradford (commencing January 2010)
- MSc Finance, Accounting & Management - University of (commencing January 2010)
- MSc Information Technology - University of Teesside
- MSc Telecommunications - Birmingham City University
- MSc International Hospitality Management - Sheffield Hallam University
- Diploma in Management - University of Wales (pre-MBA for non-degree holders)
- Certificate in Management - University of Wales



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BUSINESS

GM says new CFO is a candidate for CEO post

Hundreds of the 1,350 General Motors Co. dealers who lost their franchises last year could see them restored in a congressionally mandated arbitration process that begins later this month, the company's interim CEO said Wednesday, according to Associated Press.

CEO and Chairman Ed Whitacre Jr. also said that new Chief Financial Officer Chris Liddell is a candidate for the CEO post. And Whitacre said he's not confident about selling the Swedish Saab brand.

In a wide-ranging talk with reporters at GM's Detroit headquarters, Whitacre also predicted that GM would be profitable this year, although he said that was dependent on the economy and other factors.

GM had planned to close the 1,350 dealerships this year in an effort to dump poor performers and better align its dealer base with much lower consumer demand for autos. In many cases, GM had dealerships too close to one another and competing too much on price, the company said.

Congress passed legislation late last year that forces GM and Chrysler Group LLC, which shed 789 dealers last year, to give dealers a chance to appeal closure decisions. Both companies went through bankruptcy protection earlier this year and are receiving government aid.

GENERAL HANDYMAN

The New Providence Development Company Limited is seeking a general handyman to perform various maintenance tasks throughout the group of Companies. Experience in pool maintenance and landscaping is a plus. Candidates must be able to read and write, allocate time spent per task, have broad skills that cover carpentry, plumbing, electrical and be capable of efficiently and effectively overseeing work done by third party service providers.

Please fax your resume to 362-4582 by Monday, January 11th at 11:00am.

Accountant to address infrastructure needs

"The world is going to spend \$30 trillion on infrastructure over the next 30 years. The global population will go up from 6.5 billion to between 9 and 12 billion over this period. This means increased demands for energy, transportation, healthcare, water and wastewater, telecoms and, very importantly, education."

Simon Townend

Simon Townend, a partner in KPMG Bahamas and managing director of KPMG Corporate Finance, will speak on the topic *The Infrastructure Challenge for the Bahamas 2010 and beyond*, when he addresses the 19th annual Bahamas Business Outlook next week.

Mr Townend said infrastructure was considered to be one of the greatest challenges of the 21st century globally.

"The world is going to spend \$30 trillion on infrastructure over the next 30 years. The global population will go up from 6.5 billion to between 9 and 12 billion over this period. This means increased demands for energy, transportation, healthcare, water and wastewater, telecoms and, very importantly, education. And it is not just about building things, rather the delivery of efficient and scaleable services," he said.

Mr Townend added that infrastructure was central to Government planning out of the current crisis for the creation of jobs and economic activity, and the building of tangible assets for the long term.

"But in the current environment, governments have larger debt burdens and less cash to spend. Almost every country in the world has a massive infrastructure challenge ahead of it, and the Bahamas is not unique.

How is the Bahamas faring? What is its infrastructure need over the next 10-20 years? What is being done about it? What could be done better? How will all of this get financed?" Mr Townend said.

Questions

These are some of the questions he will discuss at Bahamas Business Outlook.

Mr Townend has 17 years of professional and corporate advisory experience gained with KPMG member firms in the Caribbean, the United Kingdom and the Channel Islands. He has a BA (Hons) degree from the University of Bristol in the UK, is a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, and is a Member of the Bahamas Institute of Chartered Accountants.

This year's Bahamas Business Outlook is themed

2010-2020: A Decade for Action and Accountability. Other presenters will include Minister of Tourism, Vincent Vanderpool-Wallace; Algernon Cargill, director, National Insurance Board; Dr. K.J. Rodgers, ophthalmologist and businessman; Khaalis Rolle,

president, Bahamas Chamber of Commerce; Dr Nelson Clarke, psychiatrist Wendy Waren, chief executive and executive director, Bahamas Financial Services Board; Usman Saadat, director of policy and regulation, Utilities Regulation and Competition Authority (URCA); Dr Ian Strachan, associate professor, the College of The Bahamas; and panelists Scharad Lightbourne, photographer, Allan P. Wallace, artist, and Terneille Burrows, recording artist.

Bahamas Business Outlook is organized by The Counsellors and sponsored by the Central Bank of The Bahamas, First Caribbean International Bank, Scotiabank (Bahamas), NIB, British American Financial, KPMG and Sun Oil.

NOTICE

NAFCOD INTERNATIONAL LIMITED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN as follows:

- (a) **NAFCOD INTERNATIONAL LIMITED** is in dissolution under the provisions of the International Business Companies Act 2000.
- (b) The dissolution of the said Company commenced on the 5th day of January, 2010 when its Articles of Dissolution were submitted to and registered by the Registrar General.
- (c) The Liquidator of the said Company is Gabriele Schneider of 23, rue Beaumont L-1219Luxembourg.

Dated the 5th day of January, 2010.

HARRY B. SANDS, LOBOSKY MANAGEMENT CO. LTD.
Attorneys for the above-named Company

NOTICE

NAFCOD INTERNATIONAL LIMITED

Creditors having debts or claims against the above-named Company are required to send particulars thereof to the undersigned c/o P.O. Box N-624, Nassau, Bahamas on or before 29th day of January, A.D., 2010. In default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made by the Liquidator.

Dated the 5th day of January, A.D., 2010.

Gabriele Schneider
Liquidator
23, rue Beaumont L-1219 Luxembourg

NOTICE

IN THE ESTATE OF PATRICK VAN WAINWRIGHT BETHEL a.k.a. WAINWRIGHT PATRICK BETHEL a.k.a. PATRICK BETHEL late of and domiciled of Eastwood Estates, Eastern District, New Providence, The Bahamas, deceased

NOTICE is hereby given that all persons having any claim or demand against or interest in the above Estate should send same duly certified in writing to the undersigned on or before 21st January, 2010 after which date the Executrix will proceed to distribute the assets of the Estate having regard only to the claims, demands or interests of which she shall then have had notice **AND** all persons indebted to the above Estate are asked to settle such debts on or before 21st January, 2010.

V. M. LIGHTBOURN & CO.
Attorneys for the Executrix
P.O. Box AB-20365
Bay Street, Marsh Harbour
Abaco, The Bahamas

COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS 2008/CLE/gen/01746

IN THE SUPREME COURT

Common Law & Equity Division

BETWEEN

SCOTIABANK (BAHAMAS) LIMITED

Plaintiff

AND

ANTIONNE R. ROLLE

Defendant

To: Antionne Rolle

TAKE NOTICE that:

An action has been commenced against you by Scotiabank (Bahamas) Limited in the Supreme Court of The Bahamas by Writ of Summons filed on the 22nd of October A.D. 2008 (and renewed on the 22nd of October 2009) being Action No. 2008/CLE/gen/01746, wherein the Plaintiff's claim is for the sums due and owing under a Scotia Plan Loan numbered 1654616.

It has been ordered that service of the Writ of Summons in the said action be effected on you by virtue of this advertisement.

You must within 21 days from the publication of this advertisement inclusive of the day of such publication, acknowledge service of the said Writ of Summons by entering an Memorandum of Appearance on the Attorneys whose name and address appear below, otherwise judgment may be entered against you.

Dated the 4th day of January A.D., 2010

GRAHAM, THOMPSON & CO.,
Chambers,
Sassoon House,
Shirley Street & Victoria Avenue,
Nassau, Bahamas.
Attorneys for the Plaintiff

LEGAL NOTICE

NONA HOLDINGS MANAGEMENT INC.

International Business Companies Act
(No.45 of 2000)

In Voluntary Liquidation

Notice is hereby given in accordance with Section 138 (4) of the International Business Companies Act, (No. 45 of 2000), **NONA HOLDINGS MANAGEMENT INC.** is in dissolution. **PANAMERICAN MANAGEMENT SERVICES (BAHAMAS) LTD.** is the Liquidator and can be contacted at Marlborough & Queen Streets, P.O. Box N-10429, Nassau, Bahamas. All persons having claims against the above-named company are required to send their names addresses and particulars of their debts or claims to the Liquidator before January 31, 2010.

PANAMERICAN MANAGEMENT SERVICES (BAHAMAS) LTD.
Liquidator



Temple Christian High School

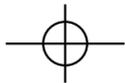
Temple Christian High School

Entrance Examination 2010 - 2011

Temple Christian High School will hold its Entrance Examination on **SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6th, 2010** at the school on Shirley Street from 8:00a.m. - 12noon for students wishing to enter grades, 7,8,9 and 10.

Application forms are available at the High School Office. The application fee is twenty dollars (\$25.00). Application forms should be completed and returned to the school by Friday, February 5th, 2010.

For further information please call
394-4481 or 394-4484



BUSINESS

Bahamian motivates scholars at Harvard

A BAHAMIAN Businessman has spoken at the Harvard Business School's Caribbean Business Club, on the topic of *Envisioning the Caribbean as a Global Centre for Design, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship*.

Roosevelt Finlayson, who works as a catalyst for personal and organisational change, and is the co-developer of the Festival in the Workplace (FITW) process, highlighted the history of innovative persons from the Caribbean, including artists and scientists, who have made a positive impact on the region and the world.

Mr Finlayson told Harvard students of the need to ensure new ideas, innovations and inventions were developed to positively impact and transform the Caribbean and the world, and that new business models, industries, innovations in production and delivery processes, and new products and services, were developed.

He added that persons in the Caribbean should aim to understand the transformational role that the creative design process, used by artists and scientists, can play in the development of a

new approach to leadership in businesses, the public service, education and the social services.

Mr Finlayson stressed redesigning the learning process in schools, universities and communities, and taking lessons from Caribbean festivals and the arts to stimulate significant growth in cultural and creative industries.

The presentation was organised by Bahamian Graham Ward, who said: "On behalf of the Caribbean Business Club of the Harvard Business School, we would like to thank Mr Roo-

sevelt Finlayson for his inspiring presentation. As the first Bahamian speaker ever invited to present at this prestigious business school, Mr Finlayson's speech expressing a call for action resonated with the professors, students and alumni in attendance. I intend to support Mr Fin-

layson's efforts to make this vision a reality, and I encourage all of our Caribbean students at HBS and alumni to do the same."

Some of the individuals in attendance at Mr Finlayson's presentation were students and HBS Alumni from the Bahamas, Barbados, Trinidad and Jamaica.

And also in attendance was HBS Professor Anita Elberse and Carl Smith, vonsul general for the Bahamas in New York.

Mr Finlayson was the recipient of a special award in 2006 for innovation from the Human Resources Association of the Caribbean.

Abaco's Xmas arrivals grow 5% in 2009

FROM page 1B

Meanwhile, Abaco residents and hotel owners saw a better Christmas than planned. General Manager of the Abaco Beach Resort, Bob Kramm, said their December was "over forecast" and "way up over last year".

He said many of the guests visiting the resort during the recent holiday season had not made advance reservations, making occupancy forecasts unpredictable.

Mr Kramm said the marina, one of the largest in the Bahamas, had as many as 90 boats. Last September, Abaco Beach Resort's marina was the emptiest it had been in years.

Mr Kramm was cautiously optimistic that the worst might be behind Abaco, as several fishing tournaments that were cancelled last year have vowed to return in

2009. An art festival is also planned for later this month in conjunction with the Bahamas National Trust.

Early last year, Mr Kramm tweaked the resort's offerings, adding full moon parties and numerous entertainment options to drive business during low periods sparked by the economic downturn.

He added yesterday that those strategies were still being employed, with the hotel throwing bonfire parties as a result of the recent uncommonly cold weather across the Bahamas.

The hotel expects an over-booked band schedule and increase in boat arrivals this month.

Mr Vanderpool-Wallace said that though airlift to the Bahamas had increased, the turn around in business might not be felt until confidence in the market is back up.

"We're optimistic of see-

ing a slight increase in business month-over-month," he said.



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.

VACANCY NOTICE

Grand Bahama Power Company invites qualified applicants to apply for the position of Director of Shared Services.

This position will lead the Shared Services Department, including strategic sourcing, category and supplier relationship management, procure-to-pay transactional processes, logistics and material management, and associated responsibilities for Grand Bahama Power Company. After an initial period, the role may additionally assume management responsibility for GBPC's Vehicle Fleet and Building Services activities.

Applicants must have a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration, Supply Chain Management, Logistics, Purchasing, Economics, Math, MIS or related discipline. MBA preferred, with at least seven (7) years progressive experience in a Supply Chain Management, Economics/Financial Analysis or Operations Management role with emphasis on cost reduction/control and improving service to internal/external customers, and five (5) years purchasing experience. Desired Purchasing Certification CPM/CPSM,SCSP,CPIM. The individual must possess good leadership skills and a reputation as an honest and ethical employee.

Applications with supporting documents including a clean Police certificate and proof of Bahamian citizenship should be sent to:

THE DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES
GRAND BAHAMA POWER COMPANY, LIMITED
P.O. BOX F-40888
Freeport, Grand Bahama
Bahamas
OR BY EMAIL: hrdept@gb-power.com
DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF APPLICATIONS IS
January 15, 2010



**MINISTRY OF WORKS & TRANSPORT
ROAD TRAFFIC DEPARTMENT**



PUBLIC NOTICE

The Road Traffic Department is pleased to remind the general public of the established protocols for the Inspection and Licensing of Company Vehicles.

The month of March is traditionally companies' registration month at the Road Traffic Department. In an effort to expedite and ensure a smooth registration process the department advises that registration will commence February 1, 2010. All companies with a fleet of five (5) or more vehicles are encouraged to prepare and submit the required documents on the second (2nd) floor to the Controller's Office in the Clarence A. Bain building to ensure an appointment for Inspection. The department further wishes to advise that applications will be processed on first on first come, first serve basis.

The following documentations are required:-

- (1) Cover note stating the make, model, year, and chassis number
- (2) Total number of all vehicles to be licensed
- (3) A copy of the current disc for each vehicle
- (4) Original certificate of insurance (**no copies will be accepted**)
- (5) Special Permit Letter (Ministry of Works) for all miscellaneous vehicles.

Please note that payments can be made in the form of:

- Certified Cheque - made payable to Public Treasury (**absolutely no personal/company cheques**)
- Visa/Master Card
- Suncard
- Cash

Julius Bär

Julius Baer Group, the leading dedicated Wealth Management is seeking candidates for the position of:

RELATIONSHIP MANAGER

CORE RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Develop his/her exiting client network
- Provide financial information to clients as requested
- Develop Julius Baer Bank & Trust as booking centre through Julius Baer worldwide network

REQUIRED SKILLS:

- Excellent Italian verbal and written communication skill
- PC literate with strong Excel, Word, PowerPoint (ability to learn new applications quickly)
- A commitment to service excellence

EXPERIENCE:

- Minimum 10 years experience in Swiss Banking or related field

EDUCATION:

- A Bachelor's degree with concentration in Economic, Business Administration or equivalent.
- The Securities Course Series 7 or equivalent.

FOREIGN LANGUAGES:

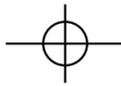
- The ability to speak a second language (Italian, French, Spanish or Portuguese) would be a strong asset.

We offer a very competitive compensation and benefits package, a stimulating work environment and the opportunity to make a significant contribution to our business while expanding your career.

Interested candidates should forward a copy of their resume by January 29th, 2010 to the attention of:

BY HAND:
Personal & Confidential
Human Resources
Ocean Centre, Montague Foreshore
P.O. Box N - 4890
Nassau, Bahamas

BY MAIL:
Personal & Confidential
Human Resources
P.O. Box N-4890
Nassau, Bahamas



BUSINESS

FROM page 1B

Investors eye Freeport FBO

fantastic development for Grand Bahama," K P Turnquest told Tribune Business yesterday. "I think it also will necessitate the need for the reconstruction of a proper Fixed Base Operation at the airport. We don't have one at the moment. They, Freeport Flight Services, operate out of a

trailer, which is not satisfactory at all. The construction of a proper Fixed Base Operation to receive the kind of visitors and traffic that will result is a fantastic development.

"There is a group that is looking at developing an FBO there. Scott Albury is a part of

one group looking at it."

FBOs, such as Odyssey Aviation at Lynden Pindling International Airport (LPIA), provide a complete service to the private aviation market, including refuelling and all necessary aircraft services and maintenance. They also allow this market's high-end clientele to pass through Immigration and Customs swiftly when entering and exiting the Bahamas.

The added convenience provided by FBOs is a further attraction to investors and tourists eyeing the Bahamas, and Tommy Turnquest, the minister of national security, in leading House of Assembly debate on the proposed amendments yesterday said some 80,000 visitors had entered this nation via private plane in each of the past three years.

More importantly, spending by private aircraft visitors was higher than what was spent by commercial aviation passengers, Tommy Turnquest said, indicating this was a business with high margin potential for tourism.

Meanwhile, K P Turnquest said of the economic effects of Grand Bahama private aircraft pre-clearance: "It will impact revenues at the airport, like landing fees and other aeronautical fees, and hopefully that will be able to reduce costs for other aircraft coming in. "Then you have the opportunity for caterers and the like to serve these aircraft. It's a good potential opportunity for us. As a result of the increased aircraft volume generated, hopefully we'll see a reduction in fuel costs. All things considered, it's a beautiful opportunity."

The Grand Bahama hotel industry may also benefit from spin-offs generated by private aircraft passengers seeking accommodation for short-stays, while all other aspects of the tourism industry, such as tours and excursions, could benefit from passengers venturing beyond the airport to spend money on the island.

K P Turnquest said the precise economic impact was unknown at this point, as it was uncertain whether the pre-clearance initiative would attract private aircraft from just the Caribbean, or also catch the attention of pilots/clients from "further south", in countries such as South America.

"It's just that the Caribbean traffic may not be as significant as we'd like," K P Turnquest told Tribune Business.

Acknowledging that Grand Bahama International Airport was "underutilised", Tommy Turnquest yesterday said both it and Lynden Pindling International Airport (LPIA) were assessed as potential pre-clearance locations for private aircraft flights transiting and originating in the Bahamas, before the latter was settled on. Aircraft from neighbouring countries, Tommy Turnquest said, would be attracted to use Grand Bahama to pre-clear US Customs and Border Protection, as they could then land at any US airport without having to land at the first international airport of entry.

COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS 2008/CLE/gen/01728

IN THE SUPREME COURT

Common Law and Equity Division

B E T W E E N

SCOTIABANK (BAHAMAS) LIMITED

Plaintiff

AND

MARSHA T. YOUNG

First Defendant

AND

BERNARD A. YOUNG

Second Defendant

To: Marsha & Bernard Young

TAKE NOTICE that:

An action has been commenced against you by Scotiabank (Bahamas) Limited in the Supreme Court of The Bahamas by Writ of Summons filed on the 17th of October A.D. 2008 (*and renewed on the 17th of October 2009*) being Action No. 2008/CLE/gen/01728, wherein the Plaintiff's claim is for the sums due and owing under a Scotia Plan Loan numbered 1545620 and a Mastercard No. 5449 6850 1000 7611.

It has been ordered that service of the Writ of Summons in the said action be effected on you by virtue of this advertisement.

You must within 21 days from the publication of this advertisement inclusive of the day of such publication, acknowledge service of the said Writ of Summons by entering an Memorandum of Appearance on the Attorneys whose name and address appear below, otherwise judgment may be entered against you.

Dated the 4th day of January A.D., 2010

GRAHAM, THOMPSON & CO.,

Chambers,

Sassoon House,

Shirley Street & Victoria Avenue,

Nassau, Bahamas.

Attorneys for the Plaintiff

VACANCY NOTICE

Grand Bahama Power Company invites qualified applicants to apply for the position of **Assistant to the CEO – Communications**.

This position is primarily responsible for all corporate communications, community and major customer relations for Grand Bahama Power Company.

The successful candidate will be expected to plan and implement the company's public relations strategies in conjunction with Senior Executives, with a primary focus on improving the Company's image in the community. The individual will act as the company spokesperson representing the company to the press and public in consultation with Senior Executives.

Duties of this position include but are not limited to developing and managing the company's publications for internal and external audiences including press releases, newsletters, speeches, articles and advertising campaigns. Defining corporate priorities and aligning outreach activities with corporate social responsibility and business strategies, organizing community events sponsored by GBPC and building business relationships with top customers to include periodic contacts.

Applicants must have completed some college level courses in Communications, Public Relations or related field with a Bachelor's Degree in Communications, Public Relations or related field preferred.

Applications with supporting documentation including a clean Police Certificate and proof of Bahamian citizenship should be sent to:-

THE DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES
GRAND BAHAMA POWER COMPANY, LIMITED
P.O. BOX F-40888
Freeport, Grand Bahama
Bahamas

OR BY EMAIL: hrdept@gb-power.com

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF APPLICATIONS IS
January 15, 2010



GRAND BAHAMA POWER COMPANY
Keeping Grand Bahama's Future Bright



BUSINESS

\$7m food market pledges price drop

FROM page 1B

thing along the lines of food service," she said. "We also buy a lot our products locally."

Ms Goodman said items such as fresh conch, lobster and vegetables, and as many sundry products as possible, are shopped for locally, before using international markets. Unlike similar large wholesalers in the US, Premium Foods does not require membership and is completely open to the public. This development comes as existing large food retailers, such as Robin Hood and AML Foods, are expanding their businesses.

According to Ms Good-

man, Premium Foods is 100 per cent Bahamian-run and owned, and employs almost 100 individuals.

Mr Lightbourne alluded to huge changes to the store within three months, which will allow its expansion in the future. For now, he said he has been able to keep food price points down and will continue to attempt to drive the prices lower.

Premium Foods is operating out of the property constructed by well-known contractor Edward Penn and his brother.

Its launch has intensified competition in an already-crowded food and grocery retail/wholesale market in the Bahamas, which has

long been dominated by the likes of City Market, Super Value and AML Foods. New players, particularly Robin Hood, have moved into the market aggressively, putting the pressure on margins and market share.

Sandy Schaefer, Robin Hood's president, yesterday said the emergence of Premium Foods would have little to no impact on his grocery business.

"I think it's really of no major concern to us because their market is the one Bahamas Food Services serves right now," he added. "We probably have in excess of 45,000 SKUs [stock keeping units], and in a place like that they probably have a couple of thousand. People wanting variety come to Robin Hood, so we haven't felt much of an impact."

COMMERCIAL SPACE FOR RENT

Grosvenor Suites-West
#3 Grosvenor Close - off Shirley Street
Phone (242) 328-5550 for viewing.

First month free with renovations

NOTICE

IN THE ESTATE OF PHILLIP EMERSON BRAID a.k.a. PHILLIP E. BRAID domiciled and late of 15 Gervin Crescent, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K2G OJ6 deceased

NOTICE is hereby given that all persons having any claim or demand against or interest in the above Estate should send same duly certified in writing to the undersigned on or before 21st January, 2010 after which date the Executrix will proceed to distribute the assets of the Estate having regard only to the claims, demands or interests of which she shall then have had notice AND all persons indebted to the above Estate are asked to settle such debts on or before 21st January, 2010.

FREDERIK F. GOTTLIEB & CO.
Attorneys for the Executrix
P.O. Box AB-20405
Bay Street, Marsh Harbour
Abaco, The Bahamas

RBC ROYAL BANK OF CANADA
is considering applications for

Account Manager

The successful candidate should possess the following qualifications:

- 7 or more years banking experience
- Must have retail banking experience in lending
- Minimum – Bachelor's Degree in Banking or a related field

Responsibilities Include:

- Providing overall management by achievement of team sales objectives, and related activities to achieve a high standard of customer care, optimal business retention, profitable growth and productivity.
- Developing RBC Financial Group and community relationships to capitalize on business opportunities.
- Providing ongoing coaching and development of staff, ensuring a high level of employee commitment and capability through focused sales/service management routines.
- Growing both the business and personal client relationship.
- Balancing the rewards of meeting business objectives with the risk of loss to the customer, employee and shareholder by following corporate compliance/policies to maintain risk exposure and to operate within the legal framework.

Required Skills:

- Strong Leadership
- Problem Account Management
- Strong written and verbal communication
- Negotiating/Selling Skills
- Relationship building & Coaching Skills
- Analytical Skills
- Good judgement
- Effectively manage Risk
- Critical Thinking
- Impact and Influence
- Ability to manage multiple priorities
- Microsoft Office Proficiency (Word, Excel, Outlook)

A competitive compensation package (base salary & bonus) commensurate with relevant experience and qualifications is offered.

Please apply by **January 12, 2010** to:

Regional Manager
Human Resources
Caribbean Banking
RBC Royal Bank of Canada
Bahamas Regional Office
P.O. Box N-7549 Nassau, N.P., Bahamas
Via fax: (242)322-1367
Via email: bahcayjp@rbc.com

RBC HELPING YOU SUCCEED



RBC Royal Bank of Canada

NOTICE

MAZABE LIMITED

In Voluntary Liquidation

Notice is hereby given that in accordance with Section 138(4) of the International Business Companies Act, 2000, MAZABE LIMITED is in dissolution as of December 31, 2009.

International Liquidator Services Inc. situated at 35A Regent Street, P. O. Box 1777, Belize City, Belize is the Liquidator.

LIQUIDATOR

COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS 2008/CLE/gen/01730

IN THE SUPREME COURT

Common Law & Equity Division

BETWEEN

SCOTIABANK (BAHAMAS) LIMITED

Plaintiff

AND
JOHN V. BETHEL

Defendant

To: John V. Bethel

TAKE NOTICE that:

An action has been commenced against you by Scotiabank (Bahamas) Limited in the Supreme Court of The Bahamas by Writ of Summons filed on the 17th of October A.D. 2008 (and renewed on the 17th of October 2009) being Action No. 2008/CLE/gen/01730, wherein the Plaintiff's claim against you is for the sums due and owing under a Scotia Plan Loan numbered 1283900.

It has been ordered that service of the Writ of Summons in the said action be effected on you by virtue of this advertisement.

You must within 21 days from the publication of this advertisement inclusive of the day of such publication, acknowledge service of the said Writ of Summons by entering an Memorandum of Appearance on the Attorneys whose name and address appear below, otherwise judgment may be entered against you.

Dated the 4th day of January A.D., 2010

GRAHAM, THOMPSON & CO.,
Chambers,
Sassoon House,
Shirley Street & Victoria Avenue,
Nassau, Bahamas.
Attorneys for the Plaintiff

Service Station Pump Attendants

A well established gas station located in western New Providence is looking to hire pump attendants. Candidates must be able to work rotating shifts of 7am - 3pm and 11am - 7pm. Applicants should hold a high school diploma.

Please fax your resume to 362-4582 by Monday, January 11th at 11:00am.

Legal Notice

NOTICE

INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS COMPANIES ACT
(No.45 of 2000)

JOINT EXPRESS INVESTMENTS LTD.

In Voluntary liquidation

"Notice is hereby given that in accordance with Section 137 (4) of the International Business Companies Act (No. 45 of 2000), JOINT EXPRESS INVESTMENTS LTD. is in dissolution.

The date of commencement of dissolution is the 5th day of January, 2010.

Rustem Limited
of Trident Chambers, P.O. Box 146,
Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands
Liquidator

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

ACCOUNTANT NEEDED

Applicants should possess the following minimum requirements.

- Bachelor's Degree in accounting
- At least 3 years work experience
- Experience in a retail environment
- Experience preparing bank reconciliations
- Experience coordinating physical inventory counts
- Knowledge and experience with QuickBooks
- Experience preparing financial statements

Interested applicants can forward their resumes to the following e-mail address:
a.accounts@ymail.com.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Due to the construction of the new Straw Market, effective 4th January 2010, the bus lay-by/bus stop on Bay Street in the vicinity of the Straw Market, will no longer be used as a lay-by/bus stop. All bus drivers and passengers are encouraged to use other bus stops along Bay and Frederick Streets.

We apologize for any inconvenience caused.

The Controller Road Traffic

BUSINESS

FROM page 1B

'Little confidence'

a burden that no generation has had to carry before".

Criticising both FNM and PLP governments for fiscal profligacy that has endured over successive administrations, Mr Lowe said senior Bahamian politicians and civil servants had shown no appetite for tackling what he identified as the key factor behind recurrent fiscal deficits - ever-increasing spending and the growing size of government. "I think both parties are culpable. They've both borrowed and spent and printed money, and run deficits, for far too long," Mr Lowe told Tribune Business yesterday.

Of the Standard & Poor's (S&P) decision to downgrade the Bahamas' long-term sovereign debt to 'BBB+', he added: "It's only the chickens coming home to roost. Eventually, D-Day comes."

Data from the Central Bank of the Bahamas' latest statistical digest showed that at the 2009 third quarter end on September 30, 2009, this nation's national debt stood at \$3.675 billion. Some \$3.236 billion of that was directly owed to creditors by the Bahamian government, along with a further \$438.486 million worth of borrowings it had guaranteed on behalf of public sector corporations and agencies.

Taking the Bahamas' \$7.564 billion GDP for 2008, and assuming the economy contracted by 4.5 per cent in 2009, gives a \$7.224 billion GDP for the latter year. Using this number gives the Bahamas a debt-to-GDP ratio of 50.9 per cent as at September 30, 2009.

And this ratio is likely to have worsened, given that these figures do not include the net \$100 million increase in the Bahamas' national debt that resulted from its subsequent \$300 million bond issue. That took the national debt to just under \$3.8 billion, at \$3.775 billion, and would make for a 52.3 per cent debt-to-GDP ratio.

Mr Lowe said that assuming a national debt of \$3.75 billion, and 350,000 Bahamas residents, the debt per person was around \$11,000-\$12,000. And if only 150,000 Bahamians were working, it averaged out to \$25,000 per working person.

Mr Lowe said he "tends to agree" with PLP Senator Jerome Fitzgerald, who told Tribune Business pre-Christmas that the S&P downgrade was "the first step on a slippery slope" that, if not corrected, could ultimately lead to the Bahamian dollar's devaluation from its one:one peg to the US dollar.

Their views contrasted with the Government position set out by Zhivargo Laing, minister of state for finance, who on Tuesday attacked Mr Fitzgerald for "reckless nonsense" over his comments, arguing that there was "no such threat to the value of the Bahamian dollar".

Mr Laing said the national

debt-to-GDP ratio was 48 per cent, just below Tribune Business' calculations. It is not clear what data he was using, but the Government has exceeded the 40 per cent debt servicing ratio that, for example, the Central Bank has recommended commercial banks use when assessing a potential borrower's creditworthiness.

"It's certainly a very serious situation, but it's a result of many years of both PLP and FNM failed fiscal policies," Mr Lowe told Tribune Business.

"You can't keep expanding government and not expect it to cost you. Eventually, you'll have to either increase taxes, the dollar will have to be devalued, or both. That's not the intent of either political party, but that's what going to happen if we keep going."

Arguing that successive governments' fiscal policies had been driven largely by short-term political considerations, as opposed to long-term needs, for the past 20 years, Mr Lowe added: "That's what keeps leading us further and further down this path."

"I think devaluation is coming, and obviously higher taxes. There's no doubt in my mind. We're not going to stop spending. I think we've had one year of no deficit in 36-37 years of independence."

"As far as I'm concerned, future generations of Bahami-

ans will have a burden that no generation has had to carry before, and they can thank the politicians of the last 30 years for that. Economic growth will return, but I don't think it will return to the levels we saw, so it's going to be a long, slow grind to get the economic system back on track."

And Mr Lowe added: "They've [the Government] shown they cannot control spending, and that's a track record since independence. I don't have much confidence that they can [reverse course]."

"The only way to get out of this is to shrink the size of government. Government is responsible for too much of our economy. But for some reason, our senior civil servants and politicians are only willing to continue with the status quo. They are not willing to look at it through a different lens."

As a result of the worsening public finances and debt metrics, Mr Lowe said the Government was not going to have "the ease of borrowing" that it enjoyed in the past.

The Central Bank data showed that since year-end 2007, the Bahamas' national debt increased by more than \$600 million over seven quarters, having started out at \$3.07 billion.

Mr Fitzgerald, speaking with Tribune Business yesterday, said that when the former

Christie administration demitted office in May 2007, the national debt was \$2.889 billion. If this is correct, it would indicate that the Ingraham government has been forced to borrow almost \$900 million in two years, something that equates with the \$872 million figure quoted by Mr Laing.

"It's obvious that by the time we get to the next Budget in May, the national debt will be

up to \$4 billion," Mr Fitzgerald said.

He also questioned the size of the Government's overdraft with the Royal Bank of Canada, querying what was happening "if the Government continues to run its overdraft to the max and not include it as part of the national debt".

Mr Fitzgerald again reiterated that the Bahamas' foreign currency debt now stood at \$1.1

billion, more than 25 per cent of the national debt, and argued that the Christie administration had to borrow \$125 million when it took office to clear a \$100 million overdraft left by the first Ingraham administration.

However, that \$125 million credit facility had been put in place, but not drawn down by, the then-FNM government.



At Butterfield, we pride ourselves on being approachable, disciplined and proactive. If you embody these qualities and have the necessary experience, you may be the one we're looking for.

Investment Manager

Butterfield Bank (Bahamas) Limited

This position reports to the Head of Investment Management and is responsible for building a profitable investment management portfolio, through the provision of expert advice to HNWI individuals and families.

Your Responsibilities will include

- Drive the growth of client AUM/ALIA through active business development
- Prime relationship management of a number of key relationships
- Management of non-discretionary and investment advisory portfolios
- Delivery of high quality professional advice and services
- Ensure that all activities are undertaken in compliance with applicable laws and regulations

Your Experience may include

- CFA or other internationally recognized Investment Management/Advisory qualification
- A minimum of 10 years HNWI portfolio management/ investment advisory experience
- The gravitas to interact with sophisticated and discerning investors
- An up to date comprehensive understanding of global investment market trends and products
- A thorough knowledge of investment management theory, strategies and best practice within the industry
- A full understanding of investment market themes and the factors driving differing market outlooks at any point in time
- Extensive knowledge of banking procedures and processes including KYC and AML
- A self motivator with excellent interpersonal, communication, organizational and time management skills
- STEP qualified or a good understanding of trusts would be an advantage

Please apply by 16 January 2010 to:
Debbie Garland,
Human Resources
Butterfield Bank,
P.O. Box N-3242, Nassau, Bahamas
Fax (242) 394-2997
E-mail resumes@bs.butterfieldgroup.com

www.butterfieldgroup.com

THE BAHAMAS | BARBADOS | BERMUDEA | CAYMAN ISLANDS | GUERNSEY | HONG KONG | MALTA | SWITZERLAND | UNITED KINGDOM



Butterfield

NOTICE

IN THE ESTATE OF HANS OTTO ERICH RITTER domiciled and late of Hessisch, Lichtenau, Germany, deceased

NOTICE is hereby given that all persons having any claim or demand against or interest in the above Estate should send same duly certified in writing to the undersigned on or before 21st January, 2010 after which date the Administratrix will proceed to distribute the assets of the Estate having regard only to the claims, demands or interests of which she shall then have had notice AND all persons indebted to the above Estate are asked to settle such debts on or before 21st January, 2010.

FREDERIK F. GOTTLIEB & CO.
Attorneys for the Administratrix
P.O. Box AB-20405
Bay Street, Marsh Harbour
Abaco, The Bahamas

VACANCY NOTICE

Grand Bahama Power Company invites qualified applicants to apply for the position of **Engineer - Diesel Operations and Maintenance**.

This position is primarily responsible for the technical and operational oversight of the diesel Generation fleet of Grand Bahama Power Company.

The duties of this position include, but are not limited to performing routine daily inspections of the diesel units, assisting with the planning, preparation and execution of maintenance and repairs, supervising and evaluating engine performance tests for optimization of the running condition and reporting of results to Management.

Applicants must have post High School Training in Diesel Engines with a College Degree in Mechanical/Marine Engineering preferred. Also required is a minimum of ten (10) years experience in maintenance of large diesel engines in excess of 10 MW with at least five (5) years at a maintenance supervisor level or equivalent.

Applicants are also required to have sound trouble shooting skills demonstrated experience and ability along with good understanding of diesel electric generators and proven leadership skills.

Applications with supporting documentation including a clean Police Certificate and proof of Bahamian citizenship should be sent to:-

THE DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES
GRAND BAHAMA POWER COMPANY, LIMITED
P.O. BOX F-40888
Freeport, Grand Bahama
Bahamas

OR BY EMAIL: hrdept@gb-power.com

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF APPLICATIONS IS
January 15, 2010



Caribbean Bottling Co. (Bahamas) Ltd



Is seeking the position of

Job Title: QUALITY SYSTEMS MANAGER

Department: Quality Systems

The **Quality Systems Manager** shall report to the **Operations Manager** and must be familiar with, understand and operate according to the relevant elements of the Coca-Cola Management System (TCCMS).

Main Duties & Responsibilities:

The Quality Systems Manager shall be responsible for the efficient and effective operations of the quality assurance department. These duties include but are not limited to the following:

1. Manage all staff in the quality assurance department to ensure that all procedures are in compliance with the standards of TCCMS.
2. Liaise with Production Manager and Operations Manager to ensure that the necessary corrective actions are taken when required
3. Monitor and assess quality assurance procedures and activities to ensure that products meet required specification
4. Develop and implement programs and procedures to address quality issues
5. Provide training and guidance to all staff to ensure that they understand and are competent in performing their roles and responsibilities.
6. Report to the Operations Manager and General Manager on matters pertaining to the department.
7. Engage in new product development
8. Assist in the coordination and implementation of quality assurance activities
9. Perform other reasonable job related duties as may be assigned by senior management.

Qualifications & Experience:

Minimum of a Bachelor of Science Degree in Chemistry and/or Biology or Food Science or the equivalent.
A minimum of five-eight years' experience in a similar capacity in the beverage industry including a HAACP certified environment and exposure/experience in an ISO 9000 environment.

Skills/Core Competencies:

Excellent analytical skills and laboratory techniques
Strong leadership and team building skills
Good interpersonal and communication skills.
Computer literacy (Microsoft Office)
Strong knowledge of a Quality Management System

Please apply in writing to:

Human Resources Department
Caribbean Bottling Co. (Bah.) Ltd
P.O.Box N-1123
Nassau, Bahamas

Or by email to: jfountain@cbcbahamas.com

On or before Jan. 21st., 2010

BUSINESS

Retailer's staff get 'significant piece of the pie'

FROM page 1B

ownership in their place of employment, it was difficult to instill such motivation unless they had been "fighting in the trenches with you" from the beginning.

While many had bemoaned an alleged lack of work ethic in the Bahamas, Mr Schaefer said those staff members he had granted shares to had either

been with Robin Hood from almost the beginning, or had fully "embraced the concept" of the retailer and its ethics.

"I think ownership is a great motivator for anybody," Mr Schaefer said. "You've also got another pair of eyes that's going to be watching over your business other than yourself. Employees look at their place of employment through one set of eyes, but

owners look at their business through an entirely different set of eyes."

Given that they enjoyed a share of the profits, Mr Schaefer said employee-owners would not just focus on the bottom line, but also concentrate on minimising costs and expense containment.

And Mr Schaefer added that last month, Robin Hood sent out 125 cheques for "tens of thousands of

dollars" to charities and churches, the proceeds from its Shop, Share and Save initiative.

Meanwhile, the Robin Hood president said the retailer, which is based in the Summerwinds Plaza off Tonique Williams-Darling Highway, was looking forward to a "banner year" in 2010 despite the December/Christmas sales figures not having hit the month-over-month growth enjoyed

previously.

While Christmas sales were "up year-over-year", Mr Schaefer told Tribune Business: "I would say, oddly enough, that our hard goods sales exceeded projections. We were a little disappointed - we're used to achieving such high month-over-month growth in the high 30 to low 40 per cents, but did not hit those numbers."

On customer count, Robin Hood saw "close to" 100,000 visitors during December, although Mr Schaefer said the actual figure was probably close to 95-96,000.

"We expect to finish 20-30 per cent ahead of last year," the Robin Hood president said of January 2010, "but last year we were still working out the kinks, and not firing on all cylinders. Now we are."

Mr Schaefer said the retailer hoped to receive a further boost from the immi-

"Employees look at their place of employment through one set of eyes, but owners look at their business through an entirely different set of eyes."

Sandy Schaefer

nent opening of the adjacent Mario's Bowling and Entertainment Centre, which has been constructed by his landlord, former PLP MP Leslie Miller.

Adding that the Centre's opening would "hopefully be later this month", Mr Schaefer suggested it would act as a magnet to "bring more traffic our way", as there were "a lot of synergies we hope to exploit" between the two facilities.

COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS 2007/CLE/gen/01355

IN THE SUPREME COURT
Common Law and Equity Division

BETWEEN

SCOTIABANK (BAHAMAS) LIMITED

Plaintiff

AND

GRANVILLE N. BASTIAN

Defendant

To: Granville Bastian

TAKE NOTICE that:

An action has been commenced against you by Scotiabank (Bahamas) Limited in the Supreme Court of The Bahamas by Writ of Summons filed on the 17th of October 2007 (and renewed on October 17th 2009) being Action No. 2007/CLE/gen/01355 wherein the Plaintiff's claim is for the sums due and owing under a loan numbered 1597300 and Visacard No. 4539-3870-1055-2324.

It has been ordered that service of the Writ of Summons in the said action be effected on you by virtue of this advertisement.

You must within 21 days from the publication of this advertisement inclusive of the day of such publication, acknowledge service of the said Writ of Summons by entering an Memorandum of Appearance on the Attorneys whose name and address appear below, otherwise judgment may be entered against you.

Dated the 4th day of January A.D., 2010

GRAHAM, THOMPSON & CO.,
Chambers,
Sassoon House,
Shirley Street & Victoria Avenue,
Nassau, Bahamas.
Attorneys for the Plaintiff

Human Resources Coordinator

Are you a people person? Join a team where people come first.

About Us - A leading player in the retail insurance sector and part of Colonial Group International Limited (CGI), with over 280 employees and offices in Bermuda, the Bahamas, the British Virgin Islands and the Cayman Islands, we offer a complete range of premier financial and insurance services to our individual and corporate clients. We know that our products make a real difference to our clients and their families.

About the Role - Based in Nassau and reporting to the Executive Vice President for Atlantic Medical Insurance Limited (AMI) and the Group HR Manager for CGI in Bermuda, duties will include, but not be limited to, providing support, advice and guidance to senior management at AMI and our other affiliated companies in the Bahamas in their responsibilities for effective people management and will include functional areas of HR such as recruitment, compensation, benefits, training, employee relations, as well as administrative and clerical duties to support the primary duties.

The Person - Will have CPD/PHR/SPHR certification or relevant Bachelors degree along with a minimum 3 years relevant experience in at least one of the functional areas of HR. Superior communication, interpersonal and organizational skills as well as proficiency with the MS suite of products, the internet and email software to intermediate level is required along with the ability to work extended hours or weekends.

The Benefits - We offer an attractive salary and benefits package.

To Apply - Please send your resume/cv to our Group HR Manager at hr_manager_bm@colonial.bm The closing date for applications is 25th January, 2010.



ATLANTIC MEDICAL

ATLANTIC MEDICAL INSURANCE LIMITED
Atlantic House, 2nd Terrace & Collins Avenue, Nassau
P.O. Box 55-5915, Nassau, Bahamas
tel. 326 8191 www.cgigroup.bm

A Member of Colonial Group International
Insurance, Health, Pensions, Life




NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that **DANIELLA PHILIPPE of ROBINSON ROAD #7, P.O. BOX N-6070, 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 **31st day of December, 2009** to the Minister responsible for nationality and Citizenship, P.O. Box N-7147, Nassau, Bahamas.

NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that **JACKLYNE JOSEPH of SUNRISE ROAD #7, P.O. BOX SS-6360, 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 **31st day of December, 2009** to the Minister responsible for nationality and Citizenship, P.O. Box N-7147, Nassau, Bahamas.

NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that **LICVA LOUIS of WELTON STREET, 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 **7th day of January, 2010** to the Minister responsible for nationality and Citizenship, P.O. Box N-7147, Nassau, Bahamas.

NOTICE

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 137 (4) (a), (b) and (c) of the International Business Companies Act, 2000, notice is hereby given that:-

(a) **ARINETHA CORPORATION LTD.** is in dissolution;

(b) The date of commencement of the dissolution is the **12th day of November, A.D., 2009** and

(c) the Liquidator is C.B. Strategy Ltd., of 308 East Bay St.

C.B. Strategy Ltd.
LIQUIDATOR

NOTICE

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 137 (4) (a), (b) and (c) of the International Business Companies Act, 2000, notice is hereby given that:-

(a) **MAYSIEJANE INC.** is in dissolution;

(b) The date of commencement of the dissolution is the **30th day of October, A.D., 2009** and

(c) the Liquidator is C.B. Strategy Ltd., of 308 East Bay St.

C.B. Strategy Ltd.
LIQUIDATOR

| BISX LISTED & TRADED SECURITIES AS OF: TUESDAY, 5 JANUARY 2010 | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|----------|---|----------|----------------|----------------|-------------|---------------|-----------|-----------------|-------|-------|
| BISX ALL SHARE INDEX: CLOSE 1,565.42 CHG -0.09 %CHG -0.01 YTD 0.04 YTD % 0.00 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| FINDEX: CLOSE 000.00 YTD 00.00% 2008 -12.31% | | | | | | | | | | | |
| WWW.BISXBAHAMAS.COM TELEPHONE: 242-323-2330 FACSIMILE: 242-323-2320 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 52wk-Hi | 52wk-Low | Security | Symbol | Previous Close | Today's Close | Change | Daily Vol. | EPS \$ | Div \$ | P/E | Yield |
| 10.75 | 1.03 | AML Foods Limited | | 1.17 | 1.17 | 0.00 | 0.127 | 0.000 | 9.2 | 0.00% | |
| 7.00 | 9.90 | Bahamas Property Fund | | 10.74 | 10.74 | 0.00 | 0.992 | 0.200 | 10.8 | 1.86% | |
| 0.63 | 5.77 | Bank of Bahamas | | 5.90 | 5.90 | 0.00 | 0.244 | 0.250 | 24.2 | 4.41% | |
| 3.49 | 0.63 | Benchmark | | 0.63 | 0.63 | 0.00 | -0.877 | 0.000 | N/M | 0.00% | |
| 2.15 | 3.15 | Bahamas Waste | | 3.15 | 3.15 | 0.00 | 0.125 | 0.090 | 25.2 | 2.86% | |
| 13.95 | 2.14 | Fidelity Bank | | 2.37 | 2.37 | 0.00 | 0.055 | 0.040 | 43.1 | 1.69% | |
| 2.88 | 9.63 | Cable Bahamas | | 9.99 | 9.99 | 0.00 | 1.406 | 0.250 | 7.1 | 2.50% | |
| 7.00 | 2.72 | Colina Holdings | | 2.72 | 2.72 | 0.00 | 0.249 | 0.040 | 10.9 | 1.47% | |
| 3.65 | 5.00 | Commonwealth Bank (S1) | | 7.00 | 7.00 | 0.00 | 0.419 | 0.300 | 16.7 | 4.29% | |
| 2.55 | 2.21 | Consolidated Water BDRs | | 2.88 | 2.79 | -0.09 | 0.111 | 0.052 | 25.1 | 1.86% | |
| 7.80 | 1.32 | Doctor's Hospital | | 2.55 | 2.55 | 0.00 | 0.625 | 0.080 | 4.1 | 3.14% | |
| 11.80 | 5.94 | Famguard | | 6.49 | 6.49 | 0.00 | 0.420 | 0.240 | 15.5 | 3.70% | |
| 10.45 | 8.75 | Finco | | 9.28 | 9.28 | 0.00 | 0.322 | 0.520 | 28.8 | 5.60% | |
| 5.53 | 9.80 | FirstCaribbean Bank | | 9.99 | 9.99 | 0.00 | 0.631 | 0.350 | 15.8 | 3.50% | |
| 1.00 | 3.75 | Focul (S) | | 4.77 | 4.77 | 0.00 | 0.326 | 0.150 | 14.6 | 3.14% | |
| 0.30 | 1.00 | Focul Class B Preference | | 1.00 | 1.00 | 0.00 | 0.000 | 0.000 | N/M | 0.00% | |
| 6.13 | 0.27 | Freeport Concrete | | 0.27 | 0.27 | 0.00 | 0.035 | 0.000 | 7.7 | 0.00% | |
| 10.50 | 5.00 | ICD Utilities | | 5.59 | 5.59 | 0.00 | 0.407 | 0.500 | 13.7 | 8.94% | |
| 10.00 | 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% | |
| BISX LISTED DEBT SECURITIES - (Bonds trade on a Percentage Pricing b ases) | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1000.00 | 1000.00 | Fidelity Bank Note 17 (Series A) + | FBB17 | 100.00 | 0.00 | | 7% | Interest | 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% | |
| Colina Over-The-Counter Securities | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 41.00 | 29.00 | ABDAB | 30.13 | 31.59 | 29.00 | | 4.540 | 0.000 | 9.03 | 0.00% | |
| 0.55 | 0.40 | RND Holdings | 0.45 | 0.55 | 0.55 | | 0.002 | 0.000 | 261.90 | 0.00% | |
| BISX Listed Mutual Funds | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 52wk-Hi | 52wk-Low | Fund Name | NAV | YTD% | Last 12 Months | Div \$ | Yield % | NAV Date | | | |
| 1.4160 | 1.3419 | CFAL Bond Fund | 1.4160 | 4.62 | 5.53 | | | 31-Oct-09 | | | |
| 3.0351 | 2.8266 | CFAL MSI Preferred Fund | 2.8552 | -2.88 | -3.92 | | | 30-Nov-09 | | | |
| 1.5071 | 1.4326 | CFAL Money Market Fund | 1.5071 | 5.12 | 5.20 | | | 25-Dec-09 | | | |
| 13.2400 | 2.9343 | Royal Fidelity Bahamas G & I Fund | 2.9518 | -12.52 | -15.21 | | | 31-Oct-09 | | | |
| 103.0956 | 12.6816 | Royal Fidelity Prime Income Fund | 13.2400 | 4.93 | 5.90 | | | 31-Oct-09 | | | |
| 100.0000 | 100.0000 | CFAL Global Bond Fund | 103.0956 | 3.10 | 2.52 | | | 30-Sep-09 | | | |
| 1.0804 | 99.4177 | CFAL Global Equity Fund | 99.4177 | 3.12 | 2.76 | | | 30-Sep-09 | | | |
| 1.0364 | 1.0000 | FG Financial Preferred Income Fund | 1.0804 | 4.32 | 5.26 | | | 31-Oct-09 | | | |
| 1.0742 | 1.0000 | FG Financial Growth Fund | 1.0269 | -0.59 | -0.19 | | | 31-Oct-09 | | | |
| 9.4740 | 9.1005 | FG Financial Diversified Fund | 1.0742 | 3.56 | 4.42 | | | 31-Oct-09 | | | |
| 10.6301 | 10.0000 | Royal Fidelity Bah Intl Investment Fund | 9.4740 | 4.17 | 4.18 | | | 31-Oct-09 | | | |
| 7.4613 | 4.8105 | Royal Fidelity Bah Intl Investment Fund | 10.6301 | 6.30 | 6.30 | | | 31-Oct-09 | | | |
| | | Royal Fidelity Int'l Fund - Equities Sub Fund | 7.4613 | 35.40 | 29.64 | | | 31-Oct-09 | | | |
| MARKET TERMS | | | | | | | | | | | |
| BISX ALL SHARE INDEX - 19 Dec 02 = 1,000.00 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| YIELD - last 12 month dividends divided by closing price | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Bid \$ - Highest closing price in last 52 weeks | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Ask \$ - Selling price of Colina and Fidelity | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 52wk-Low - Lowest closing price in last 52 weeks | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Last Price - Last traded over-the-counter price | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Previous Close - Previous day's weighted price for daily volume | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Weekly Vol. - Trading volume of the prior week | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Today's Close - Current day's weighted price for daily volume | | | | | | | | | | | |
| EPS \$ - A company's reported earnings per share for the last 12 mths | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Change - Change in closing price from day to day | | | | | | | | | | | |
| NAV - Not Asset Value | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Daily Vol. - Number of total shares traded today | | | | | | | | | | | |
| N/M - Not Meaningful | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Div \$ - Dividends per share paid in the last 12 months | | | | | | | | | | | |
| FINDEX - The Fidelity Bahamas Stock Index, January 1, 1994 = 100 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| P/E - Closing price divided by the last 12 month earnings | | | | | | | | | | | |
| (\$) - 4-for-1 Stock Split - Effective Date 8/8/2007 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| (S) - 3-for-1 Stock Split - Effective Date 7/1/2007 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| TO TRADE CALL: CFAL 242-502-7010 ROYALFIDELITY 242-356-7764 FG CAPITAL MARKETS 242-396-4000 COLONIAL 242-502-7525 | | | | | | | | | | | |

Baptist conference aims to uplift the country and boost the economy



PASTORS who make up the Nassau Branch of the West Indies Baptist Fellowship committee shown here.

By REUBEN SHEARER
Tribune Features Reporter
rshearer@tribunemedia.net

THE SUM of \$30,000 has been pumped into what is being called the biggest gathering of local and international Baptists for the 49th Annual West Indies Baptist Fellowship (WIBF) conference starting January 18.

The gathering has been held in over 16 different Caribbean countries to date, and this year the Bahamas plays host for the third time in the conference's 49 years.

Over 200 hundred delegates will travel from as far as Aruba, Curacao and Trinidad in the South, from the Cayman Islands and Jamaica in the West, Barbados in the East, and United States in the North, and of course from the islands in between, to attend the week-long of event.

Meetings will begin on January 18,

and the public is asked to attend the gatherings which will be held in the mornings from 9am to 12.25pm at the New Testament Fundamental Independent Baptist Church on New Testament Way and Dolphin Drive in Highland Park.

The evening services will begin each evening at 7pm and will be held at the BCPOU Hall on Farrington Road.

"We want God to be promoted and for Him to be actively and directly involved in our lives so that our nations would be affected in a major way," said Dr David Adams, pastor of the host church (New Testament Baptist Church) for the event.

"In years gone by when a revival swept a town crime came to a halt, houses of prostitution and gambling, liquor stores were closed down," said Dr Adams.

He hopes the Bahamas and other participating countries will see a similar revival.

There will be a variety of Caribbean speakers each day and night, who will set conference-goers "strong spiritual challenges."

The objectives for the conference are two-fold -

1. For the spiritual horizon of Baptist attendees to be broadened.

"The Bible teaches that the spiritual life of the Christian has direct correlation to the social and physical situations going on in our lands," said Dr Adams.

2. To showcase the Bahamas as the greatest country in the world, to boost the economy.

"We want to make sure that we give our visitors a great Bahamian experience," said Dr Adams.

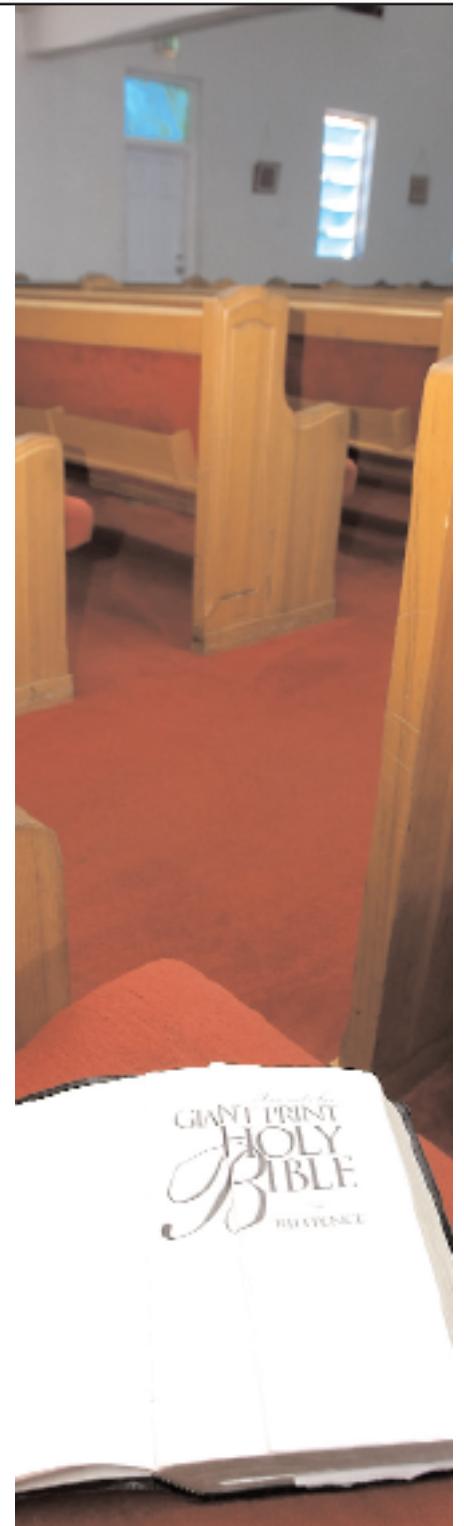
"And they in turn will go back to their homes and influence others to choose the Bahamas as their place of vacationing."

"A lot of preparation went into the booklet that we have made for guests," said Dr Adams. "The booklet is special because it has information taken from the Bahamas Handbook about the Bahamas."

Organisers have designated days for tours of the island and other events so that the visiting delegates can experience the beauty and culture of the country.

WIBF was started in 1962 by a small

SEE page 39



The Tribune's
RELIGION
SECTION

Nassau Methodist Church hosts business coach Joel Freeman

By JEFFARAH GIBSON

AT a time when people are more concerned than ever about their financial futures, the Nassau Methodist Church has decided to assist its members by providing them with professional advice.

Tomorrow starting at 9am at the Casuarinas Hotel on West Bay Street, the Nassau Methodist Church will host successful business coach and motivational consultant Joel Freeman.

In an interview with *Tribune Religion*, Mr Freeman said that this seminar is very timely, and will show attendees how to take a blossoming idea and turn it into a product.

"With this seminar I hope to provide persons with an overview, showing them how to take an idea from the mind to the market place," he said.

"There might be people who have great ideas. For instance, there might be a musician who probably has about 13 singles, and then what? So hopefully they will be able to take something from this seminar and run with it," he said.

He also said that the seminar welcomes all, from those just starting out as entrepreneurs to the seasoned professionals.

Mr Freeman said that while most seminars of this kind aim to sell a product, his is "75 per cent education and 25 per cent inspirational."

"People can benefit greatly from this seminar. I will discuss how the 'idea factory' can help persons expand their business enterprise, the science of bartering and its benefits, and branding concepts that will put persons into a personal creative zone," he said.

In addition, persons will also learn how to enhance individual and group success as well as learn how to fight against "jadedness" and complacency in business and personal relationships, he said.

This is Mr Freeman's first time visiting the Bahamas, but he already describes himself as "Bahamas crazy".

He said he is thrilled about the opportunity to share the knowledge he has gathered over the years which could help open doors for others.

"The seminar becomes something everyone can benefit from. I am giving a lot of good information and I am hoping that attendees leave with their heads and their hearts filled with information," Mr Freeman said.

"Dealing with God's people who drive you crazy" is another seminar Mr Freeman will be hosting during his time in Nassau and this will take place on Saturday at 9am.

This seminar, he said, gives persons the chance to examine themselves in ways that will help them develop skills conducive to enhancing individual identity.

"There is a special focus on looking within. We will take a look at the internal issues that we often deal with. We will also discuss different personality styles, vulnerability and ways that we can turn that same vulnerability into strength," Mr Freeman said.

"Then we will take a look at an external aspect of things. So basically people can expect to be equipped with lifetime tools that have the ability to bring them success."

Although there is special focus on persons in leadership positions, "every and anyone can come out, the youth leaders, persons that work in cleaning areas, or persons who work in the kitchens, so it is open to all persons," he said.

On Sunday, Mr Freeman will preach to the members of the Nassau Methodist Church.

Afterwards he will present his 45-minute award winning film entitled 'A Return to Glory: A White's Man's Journey Into Black History'. This focuses on Black history, the Bible and its modern application.

Born in Maine and raised in a small town in Alberta, Canada, Mr Freeman is an accomplished author, internationally sought-after conference speaker and workshop facilitator, professional counsellor, success coach, behavioral analyst, corporate trainer, and a organisational culture change specialist.

The film presentation will also be held at the Casuarinas Hotel. The entrepreneurial seminar will be held at the Epworth Hall at Ebenezer Methodist Church on Shirley Street.

For more information call 326-1677.



MOTIVATIONAL consultant Joel Freeman will speak at a seminar hosted by the Nassau Methodist Church.

New Year's Eve Eucharist at a historic church

AS 2009 came to a close, Cat Islanders got ready for their annual New Year's Eve church celebrations.

But this year, the Anglican Church in Cat Island would hold a Eucharist celebration like none other in the Bahamas.

Each year scores of Anglicans assemble in their respective churches where a service is held for people who reside in Cat Island.

But this New Year's Eve all Anglicans who did not leave the island to spend the Christmas holidays in Nassau with their families converged and congregated at the church of St Mary the Virgin in Old Bight.

Many modern-day Bahamians hearing the name of the above mentioned church would not realise or recognise the importance or significance of this edifice.

Enshrined in the wall of this church a plaque bears this inscription: "To the glory of God erected in memory of Blayne Townley Balfour, Townley Hall, Ireland, Governor of this said Bahamas at the passing of the Emancipation Act 1834, by his widow commending him to the prayers of all who minister at this altar or worship in this church."

"This was the only bastion of hope to the now free slaves who resided on the Isle of Cat," Father Chester Burton, priest-in-charge of Anglican Churches in Cat Island, said.



CAT Island Anglicans celebrate New Year's Eve in a service at St Mary the Virgin Church in Old Bight.

"The significance and proceeding events emanated and resounded throughout the fabric of Bahamian landscape. It meant that all people of colour were now free."

The church of St Mary the Virgin lay in a dilapidated state from June 2002 to December 2009.

It had no roof for seven long years. Fortunately, after an Anglican

Church men's group from St Jude's in Freeport came in mid-2009 and erected the roof, the mammoth task of restoration began. Members were elated to be moving back into the church to celebrate services like those of many years ago.

So on New Year's Eve night at the stroke of 10.30pm members and well-wishers, as well as those who just

wanted to witness history being made in the Cat Island Anglican Church, gathered at St Mary the Virgin to join in the Christmas carolling pre-service.

Then, at 11pm, the Eucharist service began. The introit hymn,

"Through all the changing scenes of life", was sung and voices joined together in celebration of the church's restoration.

Father Burton had promised at a vestry meeting held in November that there would be a Eucharist service for New Year's Eve at St Mary in Old Bight.

It was mandated in the Anglican Diocesan Synod 2009 by Bishop Laish Boyd, that when churches are planted there should be some concerted effort made by the rector, vestry and people to bring new members to the fold.

"From Emancipation to the present day the vision and values of people of colour have not changed," Father Burton said.

He said he especially valued the historic moment of the reopening of the church because St Mary's proposed rededication date is August 2010. After the concelebrated Eucharist, church members enjoyed fellowship at a souse fete, after which they watched as a fireworks display lit up the night sky. Father Burton thanked Catechist Cedric Wilson who could not be present for spearheading the restoration work.

MEDITATION

Our gifts

This is the time in the Church's year when we think of the journey of the wisemen or magi to find the Christ-child.

They follow a star for quite some time until they are able to present their gifts to this newly born King.

Our life is a journey that also involves following leads, selecting a destination and the offering of gifts. Let us explore this further.

When we are born, we follow the example of the significant adults in our life.

This is why all adults have the weighty responsibility of nurturing the next generation by engaging in wholesome and godly life-styles.

As we grow, we select friends who will influence us, and model ourselves



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after teachers whom we have come to admire.

Eventually, we either make a decision to follow God, or advertisements that flaunt a materialistic and consumer-oriented vision, or some guru who attests to being god, or any other "star" that appears (movie, rock, sports).

In following the star, the magi went towards the east until they arrived in Bethlehem.

We, too, have to determine our life direction and the final destination that we hope to attain. If it is heaven, then there are certain guides and guidelines

that we have to follow, or we will become hopelessly lost.

The Word of God is a bright light that reveals who God has been, is, and wants to be in our generation. Prayer is the ongoing contact that we maintain with 'heavenly headquarters' like a walkie-talkie system that enables us to be directed by the will of God.

Worship occurs every time we stop and remember who it is that loved us enough to send a son to be born among us, live with us, die for us, and be resurrected to raise us up at the last day.

The gifts we bring to God are our lives, including our relationships, labours, finances, talents and everything else that come from God in the first place.

The gifts we give to each other are determined by need and generosity.

What do you think that parents, spouses, children, friends, colleagues and others wish most from you as a gift

to them in their present season of life?

I would venture to suggest the following as a way to begin your list:

1. Parents: Respect, gratitude, obedience (where appropriate), and concern.
2. A spouse: Faithfulness, forgiveness, sensitivity, intimacy and companionship
3. Children: Love, appreciation, understanding and discipline with fairness..
4. Friends: Loyalty, affirmation and confidentiality.
5. Colleagues: Hard-work, affability, and honesty.

There are others who are looking to us for gifts as well and need our ongoing generosity: The sick, lonely, bereaved, imprisoned, orphaned, and destitute.

Jesus says what we do for this group is what we do for him because they cannot reciprocate. Become a gift today.