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PM joins bid to 'rebuild Haiti'

Only 16 of 40 MPs respond to request for \$200,000 spending record

By ALISON LOWE
Tribune Staff Reporter
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FEWER than half of all 40 MPs contacted for an accounting of how they had spent or not spent the \$200,000 made available to them between 2007 and 2009 to enhance their constituencies have provided that accounting. Only one of those 16 was PLP.

To be clear, the \$200,000 in question — made up of two allocations of \$100,000 in consecutive budget cycles since 2007 until the most recent one — was not given to MPs outright but made available to them from the public treasury

SEE page two

Ingraham attends emergency meeting in Dominican Republic

By MEGAN REYNOLDS
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A STRATEGIC plan for the Reconstruction of Haiti will be drawn up following an agreement by the international community at an emergency meeting attended by Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham in the Dominican Republic yesterday.

Upon his return from the Summit "United for a Better Future for Haiti" with Haitian President Rene Preval, world leaders, and international donors, Mr Ingraham told the press how a co-ordinating committee will be established to draw up the medium to long-term plan to direct international efforts.

He emphasised the urgent need to rebuild infrastructure in Port-au-Prince amidst the challenges presented by the catastrophic destruction, and stressed the importance of establishing an economy capable of creating jobs in Haiti.

Mr Ingraham said it will take many years to rebuild the poorest country in the western hemisphere after the greatest crisis in Haiti's 200-year history and one of the world's most serious natural disasters in recent decades.

"This is the gravest crisis Haiti has ever had," Mr Ingraham said.

"Haiti had its own challenges before now; they have now been magnified and multiplied many times over."

The magnitude-7.0 earthquake claimed tens of thousands of lives and left hundreds of thousands homeless and unemployed, rendering the Haitian government unable to function without international help.

The meeting attended by leaders of the Dominican Republic, Jamaica, Barbados, Dominica, Trinidad and Tobago, as well as the Vice-President of Spain and government representatives from the US, Canada, Mexico, Brazil and Chile, and represent-

SEE page six



PRIME MINISTER Hubert Ingraham (centre) and Minister of National Security Tommy Turnquest (left) return from the meeting in the Dominican Republic yesterday.

PLP hits out at PM over release of detainees

THE Progressive Liberal Party yesterday accused Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham of having "complete and utter disregard" for his own Cabinet, the Official Opposition and the Bahamian people.

In a statement issued to the media, the PLP decried the prime minister's recent decision to release Haitian detainees from the Carmichael Road Detention Centre.

"Mr Ingraham does not have any regard for the PLP. He said

what they (the PLP) say is 'like water off a duck's back'. Mr Ingraham does not have any regard for his own Cabinet ministers.

"In the face of the embarrassing reversal of his previously announced decision, the Minister of State for Immigration was at a loss to explain the release of the Haitian detainees. The minister told the country that the reversal of his decision 'came from the top'," the PLP said.

SEE page six

No illegal Haitian migrants picked up since earthquake

By TANEKA THOMPSON
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THE Royal Bahamas Defence Force has not encountered any illegal Haitian immigrants seeking refuge in the Bahamas since a catastrophic 7.0 earthquake levelled Haiti's capital city

SEE page six

Detective denies tormenting teen found dead in cell

By NATARIO MCKENZIE
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A POLICE detective, directly involved in a housebreaking investigation that led to 15-year-old Michael Knowles being held in police custody, testified in Coroner's Court yesterday.

On May 31, 2009, the teenager was found hanging in a holding cell at the East Street South

SEE page six

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LOCAL NEWS

FROM page one

Only 16 of 40 MPs respond to request for \$200,000 spending record

once projects that they decided were needed in their areas were approved by the Ministry of Works and the Public Treasury.

After detailing last year in an INSIGHT article the tribulations of this reporter's attempts to secure a documentary accounting from the Public Treasury on how each MP had spent the money potentially available to him, some readers wanted to know why I had not asked the MPs what they had spent the money on.

In the November 30th article I said that I thought this would have been a cop-out and would not have been sufficient to provide as full a picture as Treasury records would have.

Unfortunately, seven months on from my initial request in July 2009, and despite several follow ups with the Minister of State for Finance and Minister of Finance, Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham, this documentary information is still beyond the reach of this journalist.

However, over the last month and a half I have engaged in this exercise in what I hope will be an interim step towards an accounting of the expenditures before I have the opportunity to provide the full details as outlined in records held by the Treasury.

In doing so, an email request with a deadline for a reply was sent out before Christmas through each party's leader asking each MP if he or she could

provide a breakdown of how they had spent the twice allocated \$100,000 that was made available to them in the budget for discretionary constituency enhancement projects. As a result, I did receive several prompt responses that shed some light on the matter.

They were so few, however —no more than four initially—that I decided to send out another reminder email after Christmas to each of the party's MPs, again with a deadline of several days later, I received a few more replies.

For fairness, I tried to ensure both sets of MPs received the same request at the same time in the same form and were given the same amount of time to respond.

I emailed FNM MPs directly as I was provided with their personal email addresses by leader of government business in the House of Assembly, Tommy Turnquest, MP for Mount Moriah. I relied on the cooperation of PLP Chairman Bradley Roberts and PLP Party Whip Melanie Griffin, MP for Yamacraw to contact Opposition MPs with my request, as I was not provided with their addresses to do so myself.

To date, fewer than half of all MPs have responded — a total of 16 out of 40. Some MPs provided more detail than others — indicating exactly what amount was spent on which project and who did the work,

for example, while others simply listed work that was done.

Of those, 15 were FNM MPs and one was PLP. This leaves eight FNM MPs and 15 PLPs who did not respond.

Several PLP MPs acknowledged receipt of my request. These included party leader Perry Christie, MP for Farm Road and Centreville, to whom my initial inquiry about the possibility of contacting Opposition MPs for this purpose was forwarded; Deputy Leader Philip Davis, MP for Rum Cay, Cat Island and San Salvador and former Chairman and MP Glenys Hanna Martin. But, despite a reminder, none found time to follow through on it.

It should be noted that these constituency funds are separate from the \$18,000 annually disbursed directly to individual MPs for the maintenance of their constituency offices. The Government recently undertook to have an audit conducted of these expenditures, whereby any records of what the money was or was not spent on were collected and scrutinised by the Auditor General's Office.

Yesterday Auditor General Terrance Bastian stated that all "fieldwork" towards the completion of this audit has now been done, and it only remains for his office to complete the report on the funds, which he projected could occur by mid-February.

Below is part one of a breakdown of how all of the MPs who responded said they used the \$200,000 in their constituencies. Due to space limitations, expect details on the following MPs' expenditures in tomorrow's Tribune: Earl Deveaux (Marathon), Fred Mitchell (Fox Hill), Hubert Ingraham (North Abaco), Zhivargo Laing (Marco City), Charles Maynard (Golden Isles), Branville McCartney (Bamboo Town), Phenton Neymour (South Beach), Brensil Rolle (Garden Hills), Tommy Turnquest (Mount Moriah), Alvin Smith (North Eleuthera) and Brent Symonette (St Anne's).

How did the following spend the \$200,000?

Desmond Bannister - FNM - CARMICHAEL

2007/2008: Mr Bannister, also Minister of Education, followed the theme "Improving sporting infrastructure and development in the community". He had numerous basketball courts resurfaced (Carmichael Police Station, Mermaid Park West, Mermaid Park East, Carmichael Road next to Golden Gates Assem-



bly) and built two new basketball courts (Belaire Park and Sir Gerald Cash Primary School) and resurfaced the tennis court at Flamingo Gardens Park.

2008/2009: Mr Bannister aimed to "provide for community and family leisure relaxation and enjoyment while enhancing community."

This involved: Having 80 benches designed and placed throughout the constituency — along Carmichael Road, Flamingo Gardens Park, Belaire Park, Mermaid Park East, Mermaid Park West; and on the campuses of the Sir Gerald Cash Primary School, the Carmichael Primary School, and the Anatol Rodgers High School.

Mr Bannister did not say whether this had exhausted the funds.

Carl Bethel - FNM - SEABREEZE

2007/08: Installation of cement kerbing along the central median of Golf Course Boulevard; cleaning, levelling and landscaping the central median of Golf Course Drive and purchasing and planting grass and trees; clearing of deserted or vacant and overgrown lots of land in Sea Breeze Subdivision, and Gleniston Gardens, as directed and at the request of the Sea Breeze Crime Watch Association; and the installation of a children's playground and swings, etc, on the western end of the newly developed Park at the intersection of Charles Saunders Highway and Golf Course Boulevard.

2008/09: Purchase of two Eno Interactive "White Boards" with built-in projectors for the Sadie Curtis Primary School; the purchase and installation of a children's playground, swings and other equipment in Hope Gardens Subdivision; the partial landscaping and planting of trees at the new Sea Breeze Public Park, at the intersection of Golf Course Boulevard and Charles Saunders Highway.

Loretta Butler Turner - FNM - MONTAGU

Mrs Butler Turner, also Minister of State for Social Development said: "After consultation and review it was collectively decided that the constituents of Montagu would be best served by these funds from a general clean-up and sustained maintenance of the constituency. Particularly targeted were the areas of main thoroughfares, street verges, side streets, derelict vehicles and indiscriminate dumping."

In this regard, the services of JimCo Construction and Maintenance Services, whose principal owner is Jim Curry, was selected to provide the services. His company was encouraged to engage the services of unemployed residents of the area to carry out the clean-up and maintenance exercises. This included removing derelict vehicles, clearing overgrown properties and mowing and weeding verges.

The contract was scoped by the Ministry of Works and Ministry of Environment and subsequently agreed by Ministry of Finance. The contract was given for the agreed amount of \$11,000 per month.

Since the project did not start until late 2007 there was a credit balance of just under \$10,000, which was rolled over to 2008/09. All funds were fully utilised by the end of 2008/09.

In December 2008 a financial donation of \$2,500 was made to L.W. Young School — the nearest Public School to Montagu constituency — for the school's Junkanoo Group. Also a financial donation of \$5,000 was made to Colours Junkanoo Group. The majority of group members and youth are residents of Montagu.

Larry Cartwright - FNM - LONG ISLAND

2007/2008: Long Island - \$85,000 was allocated to the Long Island District Council for projects to be done at the MP's discretion. These included: A bathroom block at Glington's Park, constructed by Pinder's Construction at a cost of \$35,625; the Construction of six concrete settlement sign boards by SJC Construction at a cost of \$15,850; the Construction of a Bridge-top culvert for drainage near Hamilton's by Laurin Knowles Construction at a cost of \$8,000 and the construction of a new Basketball court in Millerton's School yard by G & E Construction at a cost of \$29,304.

The overall total cost was \$88,779, \$3,779 over the allocated amount, Mr Carwright



stated.

All contracts were offered through public tender process.

Ragged Island - \$15,000 was transferred to the Local Government Office, Exuma for constituency projects at Duncan Town, Ragged Island. These included: the Construction of wooden shed with wooden floor near Wall of Fame for community functions by Myron Lockhart-Bain, the sole bidder, at a cost of \$15,000.

2008/2009: Long Island - \$9,984.50 paid to The Amour Company for computers and additional paraphernalia for schools in Long Island and Ragged Island — five personal computers, five laptops, surge protectors, flash drives, carrying bags, etc.

Balance of \$3,779 to G & E Construction for Millerton's Basketball court; Settlement signs for major settlements on Long Island by Island Signs \$9,664.50; Construction of a gazebo at Mangrove Bush Beach (ocean side) \$5,200 by Cartwright's Construction; Construction of gazebo at Buckley's Beach (ocean side) \$5,400 by Neil Cartwright Construction; Construction of gazebo at Gray's Beach \$5,450 by Neil Cartwright construction; Construction of gazebo at Gordon's Beach by Cartwright's Construction \$5,800; Road repairs to roads leading to beaches at Mangrove Bush and Buckley's by Cartwright's Construction \$5,300; repairs to roof of fishermen's shed at Buckley Point by Don Knowles \$2,200 and materials for repairs to widow's home by Henry Cartwright \$1,500.

All construction jobs, except the last listed, were offered at the end of competitive bidding among contractors on the island.

\$30,722 remains unspent to date but is committed to be spent on the completion of the settlement sign project and building three more gazebos at popular picnic spots.

Sidney Collie - FNM - BLUE HILLS

\$100,000 was spent clearing a five acre parcel of land in the Sunset Park Subdivision to commence the development of a "state of the art" community park, to be administered by a park committee elected from amongst residents of Sunset Park and members of the executive board of the Blue Hills Constituency Association.

A plan was prepared by an urban planner and submitted for registration to the Ministry of Works. Development of the first and second phase of the park were put out through a public tender process and involved the preparation and installation of the perimeter track and the filling of the park.

A male and female bathroom were constructed and are completed except for water and electricity. Two gazebos are under construction, along with a children's play area, a family picnic area, a tennis court, a mini golf court, perimeter fence, a barbecue pit and a parking area are all awaiting completion.

The contractor is Alexander Hanna. The project is inspected and certified for payment by the assistant director of the Ministry of Public Works, Bradley King.

"All disbursements are handled by the individual contractors with the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Works," Mr Collie noted. He added that the project is currently "at a standstill" awaiting payment of funds.

A "portion" of the funds were disbursed for the set-up of a community computer lab, including desks, chairs and 15 computers. This project is a joint venture between the MP and the Christ Community Church on Bellot Road, which provided the space and staff that enabled the lab to open six days a week and conduct computer literacy courses.

No money was allocated in the 2009/2010 budget period for discretionary constituency projects due to the economic downturn.

CORRECTION

THE Tribune apologises to Tanya McCartney who was named as an aunt of Robin Valdez, a two-year-old toddler who was in Haiti during the earthquake. His McCartney said she is in no way associated with the toddler's family.

LOCAL NEWS

Readers split on PM's Haiti detainees decision

Two masked men 'rob man arriving home'

TWO masked men are reported to have robbed a man when he arrived home shortly before midnight on Thursday.

Police, who were at the scene of the alleged crime at around 11.40pm, were told that the victim, a resident of Jennie Street off Balfour Avenue, gave the men an unknown amount of cash when they held him up outside his house. The culprits then fled into the Union Village area.

Meanwhile, police made three other arrests that day — one for drugs, and two over the discovery of a small quantity of marijuana and cocaine.

"Sometime around 3.15 pm officers on patrol in the Dignity Gardens area off Carmichael Road observed two males acting suspiciously. Officers checked the immediate area and discovered a small quantity of suspected marijuana and a small number of packets suspected to be cocaine," said Sgt Chrislyn Skipplings. Both men arrested were residents of Carmichael Road.

Just before 5pm a Dunmore Street resident was taken into custody in connection with the discovery of a black .380mm pistol and one round of ammunition in the St Margaret Road area, off Kemp Road.

Police investigations continue.

TRIBUNE readers are split on whether Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham made the right decision in releasing the Haitians currently at the Detention Centre and giving them temporary status.

In an online poll which attracted by far the greatest number of responses since the launch of tribune242.com, more than 320 readers gave their verdict on the controversial decision.

In the end, those who disagreed with the government's move slightly edged out those who supported it by a vote of 165 to 159.

Many of those who agreed with Mr Ingraham left comments on the issue.

According to Terry, releasing the detainees is the "humane" thing to do, as returning them to Haiti would risk their safety, and "keeping them locked up for the next 10 months is not right".

Erma C agreed, saying: "Deporting them is out of the question. Things in Haiti are just too bad and we don't know long it will be horrible. If we house and feed them indefinitely, that would be expensive."

Merissa thanked the prime minister for having the "guts" to release the detainees. "I note that the US made the same announcement AFTER you, so thank you for showing sympathy on behalf of the Bahamas," she said.

Don gave the government a "thumbs-up" for showing "the same measure of compassion and humanity as the rest of the entire world, save for some unfeeling people" and cried



HUBERT INGRAHAM

shame on the naysayers for lacking Christian charity and remaining "selfish self-serving, self-centred".

Alex agreed, calling Bahamians "the most selfish people" and saying the discrimination against Haitians needs to end.

"The Bahamas is not free from disaster so don't ever think it can't happen to us. Many of our people would be lost because they would have no options, just like many of the Haitian nationals," Alex said.

A number of those who opposed the detainees being released also left comments on tribune242.com.

RAM said every sovereign nation has a right to protect its homeland. "The Bahamas is already dealing in a humane way with Haitians — we feed them, clothe them, educate them, give them medical attention — free".

Monique asked what the detainees are going to do after

being released. "How will they survive? All I see ahead is more crime and violence. Release them to burglarise us? Nonsense. I feel they will do whatever it takes to survive," she said.

Neil said: "I really do feel for the Haitian people, such a cursed nation (of their own doing), but we really have to look out for our legal Bahamians' interests first."

According to Concern Citizen, releasing the detainees was merely a ploy to "grab as many Haitian-Bahamian votes in the Elizabeth area."

"I say help them, sure, but deport them to parts of Haiti where they came from. Since they did not come from Port-au-Prince, the affected area, they should have little problem doing so," the reader said.

Lady Caramel said she feels for Haitians but does not think "we as a nation are financially ready and stable enough to take on some one else burden".

Tenille Barr warned the move is "an open invitation for all immigrants, whether they be Chinese, American, Haitian, African and all others to bring their Johnny bundle here to live."

Many readers responded to these comments, saying they were ashamed of the Bahamians who want to "turn their backs" on those in need.

Jack Sprat said: "Those opposed to this move have revealed ignorance, prejudice and cold-heartedness that scares me."

Amazed said: "I finally understand why many Haitian-Bahamians... find it necessary to hide in shame their Haitian heritage. It continues to amaze me the fact that generally, Bahamians really have very little love for their Haitian brothers and sisters. God is watching us from a distance."

Delores M Dean said the result of the poll was "very disappointing".

She said: "The whole world is trying to help these people and Bahamians need to get involved — put themselves in these people's shoes."

Steve said the poll shows the "true colours of many Bahamians — 'Me first'. Incredible considering this is the region's worst natural disaster for 200 years."

Hope apologised to all Haitians for the comments of some Bahamians, while Nadia said: "I truly feel God is

putting us through a test to see if we are truly a Christian nation. Bahamians, I have bad news — we fail".

However According to Larry, the reason some Bahamians see no problem with Mr Ingraham's decision is that they are not the ones feeling the impact of the "dire illegal immigration problem".

He said: "We basically have two groups of Bahamians — the haves and the have-nots, and it is not based on race or religious affiliation."

"If you live in the far east or west or in a gated community, as opposed to someone who lives in Carmichael, South Beach, Joe Farrington Road, Over the Hill, et cetera, the Bahamians who live in the latter areas feel and witness the adverse effect the illegal immigration problem has had on the country for years, much more than people who live in the former."

Mixed news for Bahamas' Haitian community

By NOELLE NICOLLS
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MEMBERS of the Haitian community in the Bahamas were faced with mixed news over the weekend as word surfaced of their loved ones in Haiti.

Although there were reports of deaths, and almost everyone is out on the streets, many family members were spared their lives.

"I have one sister dead, one sister missing. One of my cousins called me from Haiti. My sister was inside the house, so when everything came down she was inside, she could not move. She was trapped inside the house," said Samuel Alstead, a Haitian living in the Bahamas.

Mr Alstead said his employer is travelling, but as soon as he returns from the United States he plans to get assistance to travel to Haiti to be with his family. He said he wants to sit and talk with his family to reassure them, as there is little else he can do.

Prosper Bazard received mixed news on the weekend. He was scheduled to leave Sunday on a Van Meurs Corporation sponsored charter plane to search from his family and distribute relief supplies. He was unable to contact his two children and extended family members for five days. They all lived in Port-au-Prince.

On Sunday, his flight was cancelled due to clearance issues at the Toussaint Louverture International Airport, which is now being managed by the US military.

What could have been a devastating day turned into a day of celebration as Mr Bazard heard from his son, Junior Bazard. Junior and Mr Bazard's extended family are alive, all except a nephew, but they are sleeping on the streets.

Some Haitian survivors are lucky enough to have family members outside of Port-au-Prince with whom they can stay. Louis Petiblan, a Haitian living in the Bahamas, said his children called him on Sunday to say they were alive. His son, Chenil, and daughter, Shanae, both have broken legs. They lived together in an apartment with their sister Shelda.

When their two-story apartment building started to crack, they were able to escape outside, only to be hurt by a falling concrete perimeter wall. They are currently living inside a make-shift camp in a former market area, but plan to leave Port-au-Prince for Gonaives.

"I am happy now because my children did not die. I feel better, but plenty people are dead. Some people are going to a next place: Port-au-Prince stink now. If you don't have a mask, you can't go walking," said Mr Petiblan.

Dead bodies on the streets of the capital are posing health chal-



Disaster in HAITI

allenges for officials, as well as psychological challenges for survivors. Concerns over the smell of death and the potential for the spread of disease are on the minds of authorities.

Alouidor Presley's wife and daughter are not so lucky to have family outside of the capital. They escaped before their house collapsed in the quake, but not without injury. Mr Presley's wife damaged her foot.

"They are still in Port-au-Prince. They don't have nothing. I am trying to send something for them. I lost all my things in Haiti. I want to go now to Haiti," he said. Mr Presley lost his cousin and nephew in the quake.

Haitian-Bahamian teacher, Jouslene Burrows, was one of the lucky ones, to have heard from her family members the day after the disaster struck.

Her father, a pastor in Nassau, woke up to the impact of the quake on his birthday. He travels to his hometown in Delmas annually, but this was the first trip for her mother in six years. They were due to return to the Bahamas on January 24.

"They told me that all the houses next to them and in front of them collapsed. They had to sleep on the street, on the road, because our house — a three story building — was shaking all night and while they were talking to me this morning it was still shaking," said Mrs Burrows.

She said even though her parents' home was located on a hill, it was not precariously perched, because her father dug out the hill and built the home into the hillside. She suspects that is the reason why the home is still standing, while the neighboring homes collapsed.

When she spoke to her parents last week, they could still hear homes and buildings sliding down the hill. They could still hear the walls of their home cracking.

"My mummy already got the flu because she spent the night outside. There's no food. Right now she is telling me she is hungry and thirsty. They told me that they are waiting, hoping help will reach them, because my mummy said that they really want some water, they are just hoping that something good will happen because they have no water, food or electricity," said

Mrs Burrows. "My mummy said all night people were screaming all over, they said it is worse than the hurricane, worse than when people used to come to your home in the night with a gun and (demand) money."

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Being Bound to Swear to The Dogmas of No Master

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Fred Smith applauds Ingraham on Haiti policy

EDITOR, The Tribune.

I wish to express the greatest sympathy and support to the Haitian community both in Haiti and abroad.

Regrettably Haiti seems plagued with bad luck and this is yet another chapter in its tragic history.

It is gratifying to see how the world and many in the Bahamas have reacted so supportively to assist.

I wish also to congratulate and applaud the Prime Minister and the FNM Government in releasing illegal Haitian nationals for the time being, providing them with temporary residency status, and also stopping any further raids and repatriation exercises.

This is the rational, sensible and humanitarian thing for the Bahamas to do.

It is a responsible reaction to this crisis which is affecting not only the people in Haiti but so many out-side.

It would be inhuman and degrading for the Bahamas

LETTERS

letters@tribunemedia.net

It is the Christian thing to do! Again, Mr. Ingraham should be applauded.

What Mr Ingraham has done will go down in the annals of Bahamian history.

FREDERICK SMITH, Q.C.,
Freeport, Grand Bahama.
January 18, 2010.

to continue to engage in such exercises and to do so would only bring down the ire of the entire civilized world on the Bahamas.

Outcry is unchristian and smacks of racism

EDITOR, The Tribune.

The outcry over government's decision to grant 100 illegal Haitian immigrants temporary status in the Bahamas is unchristian and smacks of racism.

No right thinking person who has watched the disturbing footage of events in Haiti in the aftermath of the earthquake could possibly entertain the idea of returning the immigrants to their hell of a homeland at this particular time.

Although big in mouth, I am sure these uncharitable and misguided critics represent only a small portion of our population.

Everywhere I turn, Bahamians from all walks of life are coming together to help their desperate neighbours to the south.

ATHENA DAMIANOS,
Nassau,
January 18, 2010

Help steps up, but so does Haiti's tragedy

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti — The staggering scope of Haiti's nightmare came into sharper focus Monday as authorities estimated 200,000 dead and 1.5 million homeless in the quake-ravaged heart of this tragic land, where injured survivors still died in the streets, doctors pleaded for help and looters slashed at one another in the rubble.

The world pledged more money, food, medicine and police. Some 2,000 U.S. Marines steamed into nearby waters. And ex-president Bill Clinton, special U.N. envoy, flew in to offer support. Six days after the earthquake struck, search teams still pulled buried survivors from the ruins.

But hour by hour the unmet needs of hundreds of thousands grew.

Overwhelmed surgeons appealed for anesthetics, scalpels, saws for cutting off crushed limbs. Uncounted hundreds of survivors sought to cram onto buses headed out of town. In downtown streets, others begged for basics.

"Have we been abandoned? Where is the food?" shouted one man, Jean Michel Jean-tet.

The U.N. World Food Programme (WFP) said it expected to boost operations from feeding 67,000 people on Sunday to 97,000 on Monday. But it needs 100 million prepared meals over the next 30 days, and it appealed for more government donations.

"I know that aid cannot come soon enough," U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said in New York after returning from Haiti. "Unplug the bottlenecks," he urged.

In one step to reassure frustrated aid groups, the U.S. military agreed to give aid deliveries priority over military flights at the now-U.S.-run airport, the WFP announced in Rome. The Americans' handling of civilian flights had angered some humanitarian officials.

Looting and violence flared again Monday, as hundreds clambered over the broken walls of shops to grab anything they could — including toothpaste, now valuable for lining nostrils against the stench of Port-au-Prince's dead. Police fired into the air as young men fought each other over rum and beer with broken bottles and machetes.

Hard-pressed medical teams sometimes had to take time away from quake victims to deal with gunshot wounds, said Loris de Filippi of Doctors Without Borders. In the Montrissant neighbourhood, Red Cross doctors working in shipping containers and saying they "cannot cope" lost 50 patients over two days, said international Red Cross spokesman Simon Schorno.

Amid the debris and the smoke of bodies being burned, dozens of international rescue teams dug on in search of buried survivors. And on Monday afternoon, some 140 hours after the quake, they pulled two Haitian women alive from a collapsed university building. At a destroyed downtown bank, another team believed it was just hours from saving a trapped employee.

The latest casualty report, from the European Commission citing Haitian government figures, doubled previous estimates of the dead from the magnitude-7.0 quake, to approximately 200,000, with some 70,000 bodies recovered and trucked off to mass graves.

If accurate, that would make Haiti's catastrophe about as deadly as the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami, which killed an estimated 230,000 people in a dozen countries.

European Commission analysts estimate 250,000 were injured and 1.5 million were made homeless. Masses are living under plastic sheets in makeshift camps and in dust-covered automobiles, or had taken to the road seeking out relatives in the safer countryside.

On the capital's southern edge, hundreds of people struggled to get onto brightly painted "tap-tap" buses heading out of town.

"We've got no more food and no more house, so leaving is the only thing to do," said Livena Live1, 22, fleeing with her 1-year-old daughter and six other relatives to her father's house in Les Cayes, near Haiti's western tip.

"At least over there we can farm for food," she said.

She said she was spending her last cash on the "insanely expensive" bus fare, jacked up to the equivalent of \$7.70, three days' pay for most Haitians, because gasoline prices had doubled.

The European Union and its individual governments boosted their aid pledges for Haiti to euro422 million (\$606 million) in emergency and long-term aid, on top of at least \$100 million pledged by the U.S.

A dirt-poor nation long at the bottom of the heap, Haiti will need years or decades of expanded aid to rebuild.

After meeting with Haitian President Rene Preval and other international representatives in the neighbouring Dominican Republic, Dominican President Leonel Fernandez said Haiti would need \$10 billion over five years. For the moment, however, front-line relief workers want simply to get food and water to the hungry and thirsty.

(This article was written by AP reporters).

Monies earmarked for election sweeteners should be diverted to Haiti earthquake relief agencies

EDITOR, The Tribune.

Please publish this as an open address to the PLP, FNM, and all others who have announced their intention to contest the Elizabeth Estates by election. In light of the epic disaster in Haiti I would have more respect for you and be more inclined to vote for your candidate if you deflected the

monies you have earmarked for election sweeteners in this constituency and sent it to the international relief agencies working to alleviate the suffering of the earthquake survivors,

CONCERNED
Nassau,
January, 2010.

Wilson City plant: Another major cause for concern

EDITOR, The Tribune.

While perusing the EIA for the Wilson City power plant, I came across yet another major cause for concern — as if there weren't enough already.

Near the beginning of the EIA we are told, "...the site is located outside of the Marsh Harbour-Lake City Aquifer." (P. 3-11). This is would be

good news if it were true, as this aquifer supplies all the water for Marsh Harbour and surrounding communities. However, later on we are told, "Cooling water extracted via boreholes is readily available at the site. This cooling water will then be discharged to the brine zone beneath the Marsh Harbour-Lake City Aquifer using a new effluent discharge injection well." (P. 7-3). The writers obviously realize this is not such a great idea, because they go on to say, "Additional training is recommended to educate facility operators of the sensitivity of the underlying aquifer and the importance the protection of this resource is to the people of Abaco. Under no circumstances should untreated contaminated waste water be permitted to be discharged via the injection well." (P. 7-3).

Well, I'm sure we can trust BEC to do the additional training and to make sure no contaminated water gets into the injection well, right? Apparently not. In another part of the EIA, we are told,

"...disposal wells for both the Clifton Pier and Blue Hills station, through which oily wastewater are disposed, were found to be without routine monitoring. Observations ... indicated that all injection wells were found to have traces of sludge in them. ... the deep injection well at Station-A was filled with oil sludge apparently 150-200 feet in depth." (P. 6-5 and 6-6).

There are other details about "oil sludge one to two feet deep" (P. 6-5) in the bund (which at Wilson City is only planned to be 3.5 feet high), and sludge leaking through holes in the bund and a grid in the base of the bund connected to the rainwater drainage system. In Nassau, this sludge "found its way into a cave". (P. 6-5). On Abaco, it will be finding its way directly into our only water supply.

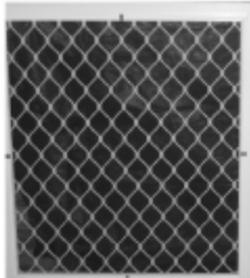
It would be ironic if we ended up with more power than we can use and absolutely no usable water.

ALISON BALL
Abaco,
January, 2010.

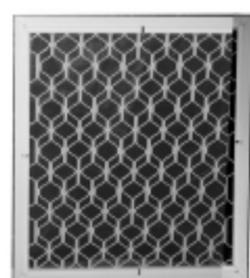
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LOCAL NEWS

Torchbearer president and team are re-elected

INCUMBENT national president of the FNM's Torchbearer Youth Association Jamal Moss and his team were returned to office in the organisation's elections last week.

Mr Moss, with his executive member Keith Major II, engineered a campaign team under the banner "True Few".

Every position contested by the "True Few" was won by that team's candidate, while some candidates entered unopposed and were elected on nomination night.

Spectators and analysts described the most recent elections as "historic, hard fought and most of all open and fair throughout the process."

The "True Few" campaign took its message to the popular social medium Facebook, campaigning on performance and commitment. Although very happy with the results at this time, the newly elected administration stated that their focus is now helping the FNM's candidate Dr Duane Sands in the Elizabeth by-election.

The newly elected officers are Jamal Moss, president; Sasha Skinner, first vice-president; Malcolm Foulkes, third vice-president; Robin Pratt, secretary general; Leah Treco, assistant secretary general; Inga Rolle, assistant secretary; Bianca Minnis, treasurer; Gia Rolle, assistant treasurer; Wayne Cleare, assistant treasurer; Ricardo Knowles, chaplain; Matthew Brown, assistant chaplain; Tia Smith, council member; Jason Rolle, council member; Keith O Major II, executive member.

List of organisations donating to Haiti grows

NOELLE NICOLLS
Tribune Staff Reporter
nnicolles@tribunemedia.net

THE number of organisations accepting donations for the Haiti relief effort is growing, with Bahamians donating cash and supplies to civil society groups across the country.

Haiti was devastated by a 7.0 magnitude earthquake on January 12 that struck just 10 miles off the capital city of Port-au-Prince.

As of yesterday, the Bahamas Salvation Army had collected \$33,000 in cash donations. Clothing, pillows, blankets and water have also come in. An air shipment was scheduled to leave yesterday with one load of goods. A second load is expected to leave today on a chartered cargo plane.

"We have been in Haiti since 1950, so we already had people there. But the team that went from Jamaica (the Caribbean territory headquarters) said there are holes in the roads the size of semi trucks. They had to go around on the edge of cliffs that had no guard rails. It is unbelievable. We are not seeing everything from the media, only bits and pieces. They said you can't imagine what it looks like it is the worse than anything they have ever seen," said Marsha Kennedy, community relations and development director for the Salvation Army.

Cash donations collected by the Salvation Army are sent to the territory headquarters in Jamaica, which disperses funds to the Haiti Salvation Army. The territory office, in consultation with their team on the ground in Haiti, issued a call for funds, non-perishable food items, water, personal hygiene items, blankets, tents, clothing and pillows.

"Donations are not coming in real fast. I think it is due to so many organisations - rotaries, churches - taking in donations. If you consider \$25,000 of the



Disaster in HAITI

\$33,000 was from one person. But I know everyone is giving. The Bahamian people are giving, it is going to a lot of different organisations," said Ms Kennedy.

The Salvation Army also donated another \$25,000 generated from previous fundraising efforts. The Salvation Army's strategy was originally to provide medical personnel on the ground in Haiti. But Ms Kennedy said they have now shifted gears to provide people with the basic necessities.

The Bahamas office is facilitating this by shipping items and allowing the teams already in Haiti to handle distribution.

The Jamaica mission sent to join their Haitian counterparts landed in Cap Haitien as the Port-au-Prince airport is still closed to commercial traffic. Small private planes have reported finding it hard to gain clearance. The US Military currently controls the airport. From Cap Haitien, Ms Kennedy said, it took them six to eight hours at 20 miles per hour to reach Port-au-Prince due to the road conditions.

The Salvation Army is currently taking names of volunteers who wish to go to Haiti. So far a few Bahamians have enrolled, including a reporter, a pastor and an electrician.

Ms Kennedy said they will not send people over until the logistics on the ground are more sta-



Tim Clarke/Tribune staff

VOLUNTEER WORKERS for the Red Cross help off-load a 40ft container at Red Cross headquarters with supplies for Haiti.

bilised. She said when the trip is arranged, volunteers will have to provide their own transportation to Haiti. Ms Kennedy said volunteers should expect to be accommodated in harsh conditions, possibly in tents, with no bathing facilities and rationed food.

Other organisations accepting donations include the Embassy of Haiti, Bahamas Red Cross, Rotary International District, Catholic Archdiocese, Anglican

Archdiocese, the Haitian Association of Pastors, and others, including a number of ad hoc online groups, like the Haiti Relief Effort Committee, established by Blackfood.org, a Bahamian online bookstore.

The Red Cross also has a Haiti Relief Fund at the Royal Bank of Canada, account number 05165 2893865, and the Bahamas government has accounts at all commercial banks for the Haiti relief effort.

The Haitian Association of Pastors (HAP) is expecting a plane to leave today with supplies for Haiti. They also plan to fly to Cape Haitien and drive the supplies to the capital. Anne Josette Chereus, vice-president of the New Haitian Mission Baptist Church, said the church is collecting donations on behalf of HAP. Haitians and Bahamians have contributed clothes, canned food, milk and other supplies to their relief effort. Ms Chereus said she is happy with the response.

The Bahamas Red Cross reported receiving an overwhelming amount of second-hand clothing from Bahamians, enough to fill a trailer over 40-feet in length. However, food donations have been slow.

Pamela Brown, disaster management manager at the Red Cross, said she is not surprised by the success of their clothing drive, although she does not believe it broke any records.

"Bahamians are overall giving people once there is a need in trying to alleviate the suffering of those affected by tragedy," she said. Individuals donating clothes are being encouraged to donate clean clothes.

The Red Cross packed a trailer with clothes, water and food yesterday. The trailer is destined for shipment to the Haitian Red Cross.

"It is a wait-and-see situation. We have to get clearance before we can move (the trailer). We are in touch with the International Red Cross Federation, but no one can say when the ports will open. We will just have to wait and see," said Ms Brown.

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- Advise front office on structuring new business trades for the Branch.
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LOCAL NEWS

FROM page one

Detective denies

Police Station. Detective Constable Kelrico Burrows testified that the first time he came into contact with Michael was on May 26, 2009. He told the court that on that day he was informed that Michael had been arrested in connection with housebreaking. He said that Michael had initially denied any involvement in the alleged offence and was released. Officer Burrows said that he took Knowles to his mother's Newbold Street residence and it was there that Knowles informed him that he was living in an old car in the yard as his mother had kicked him out of the house. According to Officer Burrows, Knowles' mother, Donna Wilson, told him that Michael had been recently released from Simpson Penn Centre for boys and that she was thinking of sending him back because he was being rude. Officer Burrows told the Coroner's Court that at Ms Wilson's request, he had spanked Michael.

of Lifebuoy soap in Michael's mouth while he had been at the Grove Police Station. Officer Burrows denied this suggestion.

Corporal Leon Strachan, who testified last November, was recalled to the witness stand yesterday. He recalled that Knowles had initially been brought to the East Street South Police Station on Wednesday, May 27, 2009, around 7pm. Cpl Strachan said that when he got to work on May 31, he checked the cells but did not document it in the detention record. He said that Michael was the only one in custody at the time.

"I spoke to him and asked him if he was okay. He said, 'Yes, sir.'" Cpl Strachan said. He also told the court that Police Constable 2054 Moultrie checked on Michael sometime after he did and his check was documented on the detention record. During cross-examination, Cpl Strachan said that he did not move Michael when he found him hanging but checked his pulse before informing ASP Newbold. He said that Michael had no vital signs. Cpl Strachan said that he did his routine check every hour and that was the standard. He said that if a person was under the influence of alcohol or suicidal the check would be every half an hour. Mr Smith then asked where juveniles are to be placed when they are taken into custody. Mr Smith said that the standard procedure is that juveniles are only to be placed in a cell if they are uncontrollable.

"I'm not aware of that," Cpl Strachan said.

Assistant Superintendent Hillard Newbold, who was second in charge of the East Street South Police Station during the time the incident occurred, also took the witness stand yesterday. He told the inquest yesterday that once a person is placed into custody, all of their personal property is taken from them and documented on their detention record. ASP Newbold, who had been assigned to the East Street South Police Station only two months earlier, also took the witness stand yesterday. He said that he went to the station at around 8.10pm on May 31. ASP Burrows recalled that Cpl Leon Strachan, the Station orderly, came to his office around 8.22pm and told him that he had found one of the prisoners hanging from a steel beam in his cell with a nylon rope around his neck. He testified that he immediately left his office and went to cell 1. There he saw Michael with a blue nylon string around his neck hanging from the steel bar in the cell. ASP Burrows said that he checked to see if Michael had a pulse, but found none. ASP Burrows said that Michael was wearing red shorts, a black shirt and black socks. He said that he immediately contacted the relevant authorities as well as the police control room.

During cross-examination by Mr Smith, ASP Burrows said that every half an hour was the standard time for checking on prisoners. ASP Burrows said that the draw string should have been taken from Knowles' shorts, stating that all prisoners should be searched properly before they are placed in a holding cell. ASP Burrows also noted that there was a camera positioned in the corridor leading to the holding cells at the police station.

He said, however, that the surveillance system was not working properly.

FROM page one

PM joins bid

tatives from the United Nations (UN), the European Union (EU), World Bank, Organisation of American States (OAS), International Development Bank and the International Red Cross applauded international relief efforts.

They noted the \$100 million donation from the World Bank for infrastructural reconstruction; \$100 million from the United States; around \$440 million from the European Commission; \$50 million from Brazil; \$10 million from the Organisation of American States (OAS) and \$8 million from Mexico.

In addition Canada is spending tens of millions of dollars on a number of different initiatives and a proposal to convert \$470 million of International Development Bank (IDB) loans to Haiti into grants was discussed yesterday, while further consideration will be given to converting \$340 million in approved projects through the IDB into emergency projects funding.

And international donors agreed yesterday to meet at ministerial level in Montreal, Canada on Monday.

It was also decided Jamaican Prime Minister PJ Patterson will head the co-ordinating committee tasked with producing a draft plan to be agreed at a confer-

ence in the Dominican Republic in April, which Mr Ingraham plans to attend.

A final consultation and implementation of the Strategic Plan for the Reconstruction of Haiti will take place at the EU-LAC meeting of European, Latin American and Caribbean leaders in Madrid, Spain, this May.

Mr Ingraham said the Caribbean Community Caricom, and therefore the Bahamas, is likely to determine the size and form of its assistance after formalisation of the plan.

Immediate assistance is being provided with difficulty as around 200 aircraft are delivering aid and supplies to Port-au-Prince each day.

But poor roads and infrastructure means the International Red Cross has reported only 20 per cent of their goods are getting through to the people, Mr Ingraham said.

The desperation for food and water has led to reports of looting and violence in Port-au-Prince and these were met with empathy from Mr Ingraham.

He said: "The need is overwhelming and it's understood that there will be some anger and frustration and concern on the part of the Haitian people, but so far the international com-

munity has committed to support Haiti and provide assistance."

The international community indicated yesterday one million meals will be provided to the people each day and within four weeks this will be doubled.

Mr Ingraham also commented on the challenges of maintaining law and order in Haiti as only 50 per cent of the Haitian police force is currently operational and the country is barely functioning with international support.

US Forces are leading security and organisation of Port-au-Prince to better co-ordinate emergency relief and areas outside the capital fall under the direction of Canadian forces, while the United Nations Forces continues to lead overall security matters. Mr Ingraham said the US military will have 10,000 military personnel in Haiti this week as well as a hospital ship.

The Royal Bahamas Defence Force has two platoons of 30 people each and a Bahamas Class vessel on standby for deployment to the devastated island nation if and when conditions warrant or require.

And RBDF Commodore Clifford Scavella, the future special envoy and ambassador to Haiti, will conduct assessments in Port-au-Prince this week and determine areas that can accommodate Bahamian forces if needed.

No illegal Haitian migrants picked up since earthquake

FROM page one

last week, a RBDF official said.

In the aftermath of last Tuesday's quake there was initial concern from the Department of Immigration that there would be an influx of Haitian migrants to our shores, trying to escape the devastation in Port-au-Prince and its surrounding areas.

"We've responded to a few false alarms but we haven't picked up any Haitians since then (the earthquake)," said Ms Miller.

Up to press time the RBDF had not apprehended any Haitian immigrants for the year even though the winter months, with favourable sailing conditions, are traditionally seen as peak migration periods. Ms Miller said this lull is uncommon for this time of year.

"Around the Christmas time and during the beginning of the year normally we would have a high influx normally we would be doing a lot of apprehensions. That has not happened so far for the year."

Last Thursday, Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham downplayed the initial immigration fears. He said that the majority of Haitian immigrants who make their way to the Bahamas come from north Haiti, adding that those living in Port-au-Prince have not normally been an immigration concern.

The nation's chief also announced that all Haitian detainees housed at the Carmichael Road Detention Centre would be released and granted temporary status.

A total of 102 Haitians, 84 men, 15 women and three children were discharged from the Detention Centre on Saturday. They were given the right to reside in the country for six months on the stipulation that they check in with the Department of Immigration in three months.

The immigrants' status will be reviewed at the end of six months and assessed depending on Haiti's situation.

At present the immigrants are not legally allowed to work, however, Mr Ingraham said this issue would be addressed in a meeting this Tuesday.

Amid heavy fire from critics of the move — who feel it will place a greater strain on the public health and education sectors — Mr Ingraham later said it was in line with new policies in the United States and other countries faced with large numbers of undocumented Haitians.

PLP hits out at PM

FROM page one

Most importantly, the Opposition party said, "Mr Ingraham does not have any regard for the Bahamian people."

"In fact, he said that he is deeply disappointed in the Bahamian people because they are expressing their democratic right to disagree with his policies. In 2002, he was also ashamed of the Bahamian people when they voted against him in the Referendum. Yesterday, he questioned the Christian values of Bahamians and called Bahamians 'hypocrites'," the PLP said.

The PLP further suggested that Mr Ingraham's exclamations are all a device to distract voters in the Elizabeth constituency from "the real issues."

"These issues include: Unemployment, foreclosure due to the inability to make the mortgage payments and the car payments; children moved from private schools; electricity off; phones off, and the lack of health care."

"Interestingly, Mr Ingraham in saying that Mr Malcolm Adderley 'cashed in' on the Elizabeth seat, Mr Ingraham is admitting to the charges made against the FNM by our leader and our chairman that the FNM engaged in back room deals and played games with our judicial system," the PLP claimed.

"(The prime minister) is admitting that the FNM engineered a by-election. This is a game that his party alone hatched, plotted and executed. It is the FNM who cashed in on the people of Elizabeth and are now plotting to buy them back lock, stock and barrel."

Woman 'stabbed man'

A WOMAN is reported to have stabbed a man during a fight between a group of people at the Bamboo Shack takeaway on Baillou Hill Road Thursday afternoon.

The incident was one of two stabbing incidents that day, both resulting in victims being taken to hospital to be treated for their wounds.

Police reported that the Bamboo Shack attack happened sometime before 5pm.

"Police responded and information received from the victim, while at the Bamboo Shack is that he got into an altercation with a group of males and females which resulted in one of the females stabbing him to the left side of his back," said police sergeant Chrislyn Skippings.

A woman is now in police custody assisting investigations into this matter.

At around 10.22pm police received reports of the second stabbing incident, on Shady Lane Street.

A man was stabbed in the mouth and the neck after getting into a fight with another man, police reported. He was taken to hospital by ambulance. Police are investigating.

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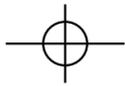
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LOCAL NEWS

Grand Bahama Airport Company aids mercy flights to Haiti

THE Grand Bahama Airport Company was among the first corporate citizens in the Bahamas to lend a hand following the tragedy in Haiti, providing assistance to a company transporting relief supplies to the devastated country.

Pegasus Tech, a private company out of Jacksonville, Florida, en-route to Haiti with two helicopters filled with supplies to assist in the search and rescue efforts, made a fuel stop in Grand Bahama last Thursday.

To assist the humanitarian effort by Pegasus Tech, the Grand Bahama Airport Company waived all landing fees for the helicopters.

Gary Gilbert, CEO of Grand Bahama Airport Company, Freeport Container



Port and Freeport Harbour Company, said the assistance was in some small way the first opportunity the company had to show its support for relief efforts underway in Haiti.

"We cannot begin to imagine what lies ahead for that country and we are pleased to be able to show our support," said Mr Gilbert.

The two helicopters were piloted by Randy Dossey and Captain Stephen

Weaver, respectively.

Grand Bahama Airport Company owns and operates the Grand Bahama International Airport, which is situated only 65 miles from Florida and capable of handling the largest aircraft in the world. GBA is a joint venture between the Hutchison Port Holdings (HPH) Group and the Grand Bahama Development Company.

MERCY FLIGHTS -Two helicopters taking relief supplies to Haiti from Jacksonville, Florida made a fuel stop at Grand Bahama Airport en-route to the earthquake devastated island. Pictured (l-r) are GBAS director Phil Carey; pilot Captain Stephen Weaver; Gary Gilbert, CEO of Grand Bahama Airport Company, Freeport Container Port and Freeport Harbour Company, and pilot Randy Dossey.

MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR



Kathleen Agatha Bethel, 86

Of Freeport, Grand Bahama and formerly of Hope Town, Abaco and Nassau, N.P. will be held at the Lucaya Presbyterian Kirk, Freeport, Grand Bahama on Saturday 23rd January at 12 noon. Rev Scott Kirkland will officiate assisted by Rev Chris Neely.

Mrs. Bethel was predeceased by her husband **Harcourt (Rusty) Bethel**, son **Randolph Bethel** and brother **Ray Albury**.

She is survived by her **daughter** Sheila Ashton, **son-in-law**, Peter Ashton and **daughter-in-law**, Angelita Bethel; **three grandchildren**, Chris Ashton, Cameron Bethel and Liza Nash; **two sisters**, Viola Bethel and Peggy Gates and **brother** Winer Malone; **five nieces**, Jennie Seymour, Mary Parks, Karen Sands, Debbie Gates and Kara-Lee Senn; **four nephews**, Thomas and Gregory Albury, Billy Gates, and Roddie Malone; also many friends and acquaintances.

A special thanks to Dr Kevin Bethel, Mrs. Agatha Thompson and all her caregivers during her long illness.

In lieu of flowers, friends may make a donation to a charity of their choice.

Bahamian Brewery helps Haiti along with Rotary Grand Bahama

THE Bahamian Brewery and Beverage Company donated to the Haitian Relief fund via Rotary Grand Bahama Sunrise yesterday. The substantial monetary donation will be channelled through the Rotarian International funding planned for Haiti.

"This is a great start for us and will hopefully get the rest of the community to follow suit," said Jamie Rose, president of the Grand Bahama Sunrise Rotary.

"Every dollar will go towards the aid as our Rotary group will be working with the Red Cross Internationally to assure our assistance gets to the people who need it. The Red Cross are already established in Haiti and they will be able to make



sure the help we send is distributed properly," he said.

The earthquake disaster has touched many in the Bahamian community who want to help as quickly as they can.

"We have all watched the

catastrophic news and we at the brewery are cognisant of how devastating an effect it has had on our Haitian brothers and sisters," said Donald Delahey, Bahamian Brewery general manager.

"(We) knew that Rotary

PICTURED ARE Donny Delahey, Bahamian Brewery General manager, making a cheque presentation to Jamie Rose, president of Rotary Grand Bahama Sunrise. The Brewery Family and Rotary Grand Bahama plan on teaming up to do more fund raising soon.

with its civic connections would assure that the aid given would get into the hands of the less fortunate properly and help provide the correct assistance needed."

Though this is a huge start for the relief, Rotarians are also planning additional fundraisers on Grand Bahama.

Mr Delahey and Mr Rose began early discussions for a fundraiser to be held at the brewery in the near future, details will be forthcoming.

Musicians set to stage concert in aid of earthquake victims

A GROUP of the Bahamas' most popular musical artists is coming together to stage a special concert in aid of the earthquake victims in Haiti.

The benefit concert will take place on Friday, January 29, starting at 7.30pm at the Faith Temple Christian Academy on Prince Charles Drive.

Price of admission is four tins of canned food.

"This concert is in aid of our Haitian brothers and sisters who are still feeling the effects of the devastating earthquake that took place on January 12. This concert will contain a mixture of some of the best artists in the Bahamas," said DJ Counsellor, one of the concert's organisers.

The performing artists are "generously donating their time and entertaining talents so that supporters of this concert will be sure that all donations will go towards immediate relief in Haiti," he said.

Participating performers include Sammi Star; Mr Lynx; DJ Counsellor; Land Lord; Solo Julien; Ruben Hights; Unlimited Angel; Vanderia Woods; Mr Beeds; V Mac, and many more.

The concert is a Kingdom Dub Entertainment Group production in partnership with the Faith Temple school.



DJ Counsellor

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A position has arisen for a chartered accountant with 20-25 years experience in the profession, or private sector, at assist in the further development of branch offices in Marsh Harbour, Abaco and Freeport, Grand Bahama.

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LOCAL NEWS

Ministry of Education pays tribute to veteran educator Paula Sweeting

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Nassau, N.P., The Bahamas

A Funeral Service for Cyril Eugene Treco, 77



A funeral service for the late Cyril Eugene Treco age 77 of Pettys, Long Island, The Bahamas, who died on Sunday, 17th January, 2010 at the Princess Margaret Hospital, Shirley Street, Nassau, will be held at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Church, Hamiltons, Long Island, on Saturday, 23rd January, 2010 at 9:00a.m.

Deacon Patrick Darville will officiate and interment will be in the Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Church Cemetery, Hamiltons, Long Island.

Mr. Treco is survived by his sons, Joseph, Eugene and Carroll Treco, grandsons, Leon and Jon Treco, granddaughters, Sarah and Eloise Treco, brother, Kenneth and Clyde Treco, sisters, Dolores Treco Wells, Lowie Treco and Winifred Treco Mullins, daughters-in-law, Andrea and Diane Treco, great grandsons, Max and Oliver Treco, great granddaughter, Aurora Treco, nephews, Carl, Herbert, Harry, Tommy, David, Basil, Damien, Joey, Milton, Tony, Dennis, Leslie, Mark, Jason and Buddy Treco, Monsell and Marvin Darville, Paul and Tony Lowe, Robert, Chuck and John Wells, nieces, Annie Boodoo, Chloe Cartwright, Alice Burrows, Eileen Dawn, Theresa Treco, Yvonne Cartwright, Maria Smith, Sherry Themens, Minerva Pierce, Shirley Cartwright, Jenny Diamond, Sonja Darville, Stella Randall, Debra Carey, Cheryl Wells, Theresa Wells, Lisa Carroll, Sheila House, Linda Urvina, Laura Aaronson, Selina Mullins, Jessica Silverman and Amaya Mullins Collins and many other relatives and close friends.

Instead of flowers the family request that donations be made to the Intensive Care Unit at the Princess Margaret Hospital, P.O. Box N. 3730, Nassau in memory of Mr. Cyril E. Treco.

Relative and friends may pay their respects at Kemp's Funeral Home Limited, Palmdale Avenue, on Thursday, 21st January, 2010 from 4:00p.m. to 6:00p.m. and at the Church in Long Island on Friday, 22nd January, 2010 from 5:00p.m. until service time on Saturday.

Arrangements by Kemp's Funeral Home Limited.

SENIOR administrators and staff of the Ministry of Education paid tribute to Paula Sweeting on the occasion of her retirement from the Ministry of Education after 43 years.

A special farewell event for the veteran educator, who is described as a trailblazer in her field, was held at the Ministry of Education last month.

Following in her older sister, Juanita Sweeting-Moxey's footsteps, Ms Sweeting began her career as a trained teacher after graduating from the Bahamas Teachers' College in 1966.

Her first teaching post was at the Harrold Road Secondary High (which later was renamed A F Adderley High School) as a geography teacher.

She later taught at the Willard Patton Primary School, and again at the A F Adderley High School prior to attending the Mona Campus of University of the West Indies where she graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in History and Geography in 1975.

After completing her studies, Ms Sweeting returned to the A F Adderley High School where she became the head of the Social Studies Department.

In 1978, she was appointed as the education officer for social studies at the Ministry of Education's central office.

Ms Sweeting worked along with teachers in the schools to execute the ministry's mission of revising the national curriculum in the subjects of history, geography, social studies and religious studies.

Some of the notable accomplishments that she is proud of as the education officer responsible for social studies, is the introduction of the curriculum in civics education in high schools; being the editorial consultant for "First Lessons in Map Reading for



MINISTER OF EDUCATION Desmond Bannister presented Paula Sweeting with a basket of flowers and thanked her for her dedicated service to education in the Bahamas. Ms Sweeting retired after a 43-year career in the Ministry of Education.

the Bahamas"; the revising of the secondary atlas for the Bahamas, and preparing a paper on the historical development of education in the country.

She has also written other materials for the social studies curriculum. It is her belief that Bahamians do not have to look outside of their borders for writers to provide this service to education.

Ms Sweeting has held others senior positions in the Ministry of Education including senior education officer for tertiary education and scholarships. During this time she was the liaison officer between the Ministry of Education and the College of the Bahamas. She also assisted in the introduction of the New Teacher Education Grant Programme in 1994; was actively involved

in town meetings for the national task force on education and secretary to the Advisory Council of Education.

She is also proud of the fact that from 1993 to 1995, she assisted 120 untrained teachers in attaining their certification through the Local Teacher Certification Programme.

Many of them, she said, have gone on to earn other degrees and also become principals in several Family Island schools.

Ms Sweeting was promoted to the position of assistant director of education for tertiary education and quality assurance. Some of the responsibilities that came with the post included being the first administrator for the Government Guaranteed Loan Programme; the establishment of the National Equivalency

Council for the Bahamas and working on to see the passage of the National Accreditation and Equivalency Council of the Bahamas Act in the House of Assembly; the introduction of certification of registration of schools; liaison on policy matters relating to the University of the West Indies.

During her career Ms Sweeting continued to upgrade her skills having earned a Masters in Education (Secondary Administration) from the University of Miami in 1978 and a certificate in Education Management and Supervision in 1982 from the International Training Institute in Australia, as well as a Senior Manager's Certificate in Public Administration and Management from the Public Service Training Centre.



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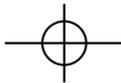
Listing of Awardees

- | | | | | |
|----------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
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| Bretwod Adderley | Deanza Cox | Amethyst Haeward | Regene A. Moncur | Alexandria Russell |
| D'Antra Adderley | Robin Cox | Adam Hanna | Akini Morris | Chelsi Russell |
| Tyler Albury | Devon Creary | Rachel Hanna | Rena Mortimer | Saul Salonga |
| Taj Anderson | Paola Crespo | Cherylynn Hanna | Dashanique Moss | Carl Sands |
| Nomanique Bain | Mica Cunningham | Crispin Hanna | Danielle Moss | Shipra Sankpal |
| Myron Bain-Lockhart | Sumarah Curry | Danielle Heppburn | Myah Moss | Latravia Saunders |
| Rikki Barry | Stephanie Darville | Melodie Hillhouse | Theophilus Moss | Traeque Saunders |
| Brittany Basden | Claytisha Dean | Brittani Holder | Kason Moss | Jada Saunders |
| Delvarado Beneby | Jochelle Dean | Taja Hudson | Gabriel Moxey | Issa Saunders |
| Inga Bethel | Robertha Dean-McIntosh | Alexandria Iferenta | Mahala Moxey | Charles Sawyer |
| Zakita Bethel | Adrian Demeritte | Sydney Isaacs | Erica Moxey | Vestra Sears |
| Tia Bimal | Erin Dorsett | Richantaé Johnson | Lovell Murphy | Natasha Jn-Simon |
| Keturah Bowe | Dimitri Duncombe | Robin Johnson | Alec Nabb | Timothy Smith |
| Clifford Bowe | Derrinique Elliott | Christopher May | Dyah Kristen Neilson | Damiene Stewart |
| Alexandria Bowe | Ryan Ellis Smith | Nandi Maynard | Nicolette Nottage | Shannae Stubbs |
| Clayton Bowles Jr | Silena Evans | Adria McCarty | Giselle Outten | Annastacia Stubbs |
| Alysia Boyce | Jimmy Evans | Lydia McGrath-Ostermeyer | Kerri Pinder | Eva Suhecki |
| Tanisha Brathwaite | Khumalo Fawkes | Cheyenne McHardy | Quianna Angelina Pinder | Ashley T Thompson |
| Keren Brown | Melanie Fellay | Shakelle Meddow | Shaniece Pinder | Courtney Thompson |
| Lesley Brown | Edraneice V. Ferguson | Kenton Meronard | Allyce Pratt | Samuel-Samon Thompson |
| Felicia Burns | DMaria Ferguson | Lance Miller | Antonieto Pratt | Yasheeka Thompson-Palmer |
| Alysa Butler | Ryan Fernandez | Terahn Miller | Sandino Ramacola | Thalia Thurston |
| Dana Campbell | Kemoy Fong | Jasmine Miller | Kerri Richardson | Kelly-Ann Tracey |
| Kai Cary | Megan Francis | Jodi Minnis | Jessie Ridge Duford | Shantol Turnquest |
| Terrence Chand | Danielle Gaitor | Regene A. Moncur | Earl Roberts | Calla Angala Underwood |
| Vicente Chea | Deepa Gharbharan | Akini Morris | Georgianna Robinson | Mikayla Underwood |
| Matio Cleare | Fran'kysha Gibson | Rena Mortimer | Janiqua Rolle | Vanessa Valleray |
| Ashanique Colebrooke | Drameca Grinton | Shakelle Meddow | Shawn Rolle | Letrell Walker |
| Laurel Colebrooke | Cicely Gomez | Kenton Meronard | Orabessa Rolle | Abigail Williams |
| Anthonya Cooper | Ashli Gordon | Lance Miller | Keric Rolle | Antonia Wilson |
| | Matthew Grammatico | Terahn Miller | Ashley Rolle | Gary Wong |

Persons attending are expected to be seated by 9:45 a.m.

The Exhibition will be open for viewing by schools and the public from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, 21st January, 2010 after the ceremony and Friday 22nd January, 2010 during the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

STUDENTS MUST BE CHAPERONED BY THEIR TEACHERS!



sports

TUESDAY, JANUARY 19, 2010

INSIDE • Clarke inducted into Hall of Fame



sportsNOTES

VOLLEYBALL TWO TEAMS IN FINAL

THE first two teams booked their spots in the New Providence Volleyball Association's best-of-five championship series.

In game two of their best-of-three playoff series on Sunday at the DW Davis Gymnasium, the Johnson's Lady Truckers knocked off the College of the Bahamas Lady Caribs in three set straight, 25-11, 25-13 and 25-17 to secure their berth in the ladies' final.

Anastacia Sands-Moultrie and Brenda Wert both led the attack with 12 and six points respectively. Keneisha Thompson had eight points in a losing effort.

And in the men's game, the Scotiabank Defenders disposed of DaBasement in three sets as well, 25-18, 25-22 and 25-17 to advance to the final.

Shedrick Forbes and Maurice 'Cheeks' Smith had 13 and eight points respectively in the win. Lahaandro Thompson had nine in a losing effort.

BASEBALL JBLN RESULTS

THE Junior Baseball League of Nassau hosted a full slate of games in all six divisions over the weekend at the St. Andrew's "Field of Dreams."

• Results are as follows:
TEE BALL
Blue Claws def. Grasshoppers 20-13; Knights def. Raptors 18-11; Sidewinders def. Sand Gnats 24-13.

COACH PITCH
Cubs def. Pirates 15-4; Diamondbacks def. Padres 14-10; Angels def. Athletics 14-4.

MINOR LEAGUE
Red Sox def. Orioles 11-9; Mets def. Royals 17-7; Rockies def. Brewers 7-4; Brewers def. Orioles 6-4.

MAJOR LEAGUE
Indians def. Mariners 27-2; Marlins def. Reds 18-6.

JUNIOR LEAGUE
Yankees def. Twins 12-2; Dodgers def. Rays 8-0.

SENIOR LEAGUE
Tigers def. Nationals 16-6; Phillies def. Giants 16-5.

TENNIS KNOWLES OUT OF AUSTRALIAN OPEN

AFTER suffering an injury to his right calf, touring pro Mark Knowles has officially pulled out of the Australian Open, the first Grand Slam Tournament for the year.

Knowles, 38, was scheduled to team up with American Mardy Fish, 28, in their first appearance as a new men's doubles team on the ATP circuit. But the injury suffered last week has delayed their season opener.

With Knowles sidelined, Fish has teamed up with American James Blake.

Marathon Bahamas seeks more sponsors

By BRENT STUBBS
Senior Sports Reporter
bstubbs@tribunemedia.net

WITH the window closing on the date for the initial Marathon Bahamas, the organising committee is keeping the door open for corporate Bahamas to get involved.

Sunshine Insurance is the lead sponsor and organiser, but chairman Franklyn Wilson said there is tremendous opportunities for the business community to join them before the 28.2 mile road race is held on Sunday, February 14.

"Participation means more than just running in this marathon," Wilson pointed out. "There are a lot of business opportunities that we want Bahamians to plug into."

Expo

The major event that the community can get involved in is an Expo that will be staged from Friday, February 12 at Arawak Cay where participants will be picking up their race packages until race day.

"Whatever you have to sell, whether it's related to wellness, handicraft, souvenirs, whatever you have to sell, this is the place to do it," Wilson stressed.

"We want to make that point to all entrepreneurs. Contact us and we will put you in touch with the right people."

The Expo is being coordinated by Nikita Curtis.

Marathon Morning Boil

The Marathon Boil will be breakfast held at Arawak Cay, starting at 7 a.m. on February 14 where people can take advantage of the opportunity to sell food items.

"We are working very closely with all of the regatta people," Wilson said. "That same weekend is the Valentine's Massacre, but we are saying to them to use this as a major fundraiser."

Sponsors for companies

Nautilus, according to Wilson, has come on board as the official water sponsors of the marathon and



PICTURED above from left are Philip Smith and Brian Moodie, two members of the organizing committee from Sunshine Insurance.

Gatorade has joined them as the official energy drink.

"But there are sponsorship opportunities galore for anyone who wants to promote a product," Wilson proclaimed. "We are urging anyone who

is selling anything to contact us. We are in a position to do some things that can be of great value to you."

Along the race, Wilson said they

SEE page 10

Big Red Machine topple Giants

THE St. Augustine's College Big Red Machine's senior boys basketball team blew out the St. John's Giants 81-64 yesterday at St. Augustine's College.

It was one of the many games played in the Bahamas Association of Independent Secondary Schools' regular season.

Pictured above is Donovan Brown, passing the ball off to a teammate.

Donovan Brown led the Big Red Machine with a game high 29 points and Jabari Wilmott added 20.

Dwight Moss had 20 in a losing effort for the Giants.



Derek Smith/Photo

Vanderpool-Wallace makes SEC female swimmer of the week

BAHAMIAN sophomore Arianna Vanderpool-Wallace joined junior Adam Brown as the South Eastern Conference (SEC) female and male swimmers of the week.

The honours, which came earlier this month, were the first weekly award for both Vanderpool-Wallace and Brown.

Vanderpool-Wallace tallied three top finishes after a very busy weekend. Against the fifth-ranked Texas, Vanderpool-Wallace won the 50 free in 23.96 and finished third in the 100 free in 50.08.

The team-mate of Bahamian Alana Dillette also recorded her second consecutive win in the 50 free during Auburn's tri-meet with Texas A&M and SMU, finishing in a season-best time of 23.10.

And she swam anchor for the 400 free relay that finished first in a B time of 3:21.91, while swimming the fly leg of



Vanderpool-Wallace

the second-place 200 medley relay (1:41.84). She was also runner-up in the 100 fly in 55.02.

The Tigers, the alma mater of Jeremy Knowles, had a couple weeks off since that competition, but they will return to the pool on Saturday when Auburn travels to SEC rival Florida for a 4 p.m. dual.

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SPORTS

Bahamian trio does 'exceptionally well' at Kentucky Invitational

By BRENT STUBBS
Senior Sports Reporter
bstubbs@tribunemedia.net

ASSISTANT coach Henry Rolle likes the way the Bahamian female connection performed in their season opening meet over the weekend for the Auburn University Tigers.

Sprinters Sheniqua 'Q' Ferguson and Nivea Smith along with hurdler Krystal Bodie all performed exceptionally well at the Kentucky Invitational in Lexington.

Ferguson, a junior transfer from Southwest Mississippi Junior College, was successful in winning her first NCAA meet as she clocked 7.28 seconds in the 60 metres.

The Olympic and World Championship competitor just missed the automatic qualifying time of 7.26 for the NCAA Indoor Championships, but she surpassed the provisional mark of 7.44 with the fifth best time ever recorded by an Auburn Uni-

versity athlete.

The automatic time is 7.26. Smith, the Grand Bahamian sensation now in her sophomore year, won the 200 in 23.79, which was also a provisional time that was just a tenth of her personal best.

The automatic time is 23.20.

And Bodie, who also transferred with Ferguson from Southwest Mississippi, was ninth in the 60 hurdles in 8.49. But her time of 8.42 went under the provisional mark of 8.43.

The automatic time is 8.14. Rolle, the Bahamian assistant coach who formed the Auburn connection that also includes triple jumper Lee-van 'Superman' Sands and hurdler Shamar Sands, said the women all performed very well.

"This is just the first meet, but we're still working on them," Rolle said. "Because of the weather, we haven't had a chance to really work with them.

"But we only had three days with spikes because of the cold freeze, so I would think that in a month's time, they will come around to form. But I'm very pleased with where they are now."

Although Ferguson and Bodie are competing in the NCAA for the first time, Rolle said he's confident that the base they had at the junior college will certainly help them in their transition.

"I think based on the course that they are, they will run very well this year," Rolle said. "They should do very well in their conference and get to the NCAA."

"I think it's just a matter of how quickly Sheniqua and Krystal adjust, they should do very well. But we also expect that Nivea will do very well because she's really committed to the programme."

The Tigers are expected to take this weekend off and will be back in action at the Clemson Games over the weekend of January 29-30.



Bodie

Marathon Bahamas seeks more sponsors

FROM page nine

will be erecting 28 mile markers, which will provide business companies to display their logos. And there will be at least 10 banners spread around the island.

Schools Impact

Philip Smith, one of the organizers, have indicated that since they have launched the new initiative for the schools, there have been a lot of discussions as to how the teams will be made up.

"We haven't gotten confirmation back from them in terms of how many teams they will have," Smith said. "But there is some competition in some of the schools over weather students will compete with their teachers or teachers compete with their students."

Smith said the good thing is that each school is being invited to register two relay teams free of charge, thanks to a generous contribution from one of their sponsors.

Wilson said in speaking with some of the principals, they have indicated that it's been a real positive aspect to their programme and they are going to definitely take advantage of it.

Community Involvement

Brian Moodie, president of Sunshine Insurance and the president of Marathon Bahamas committee, said the response they have received from all areas of the community is overwhelming.

From Atlantis and the properties on the western end of the island, to the medical committee, headed by Dr. Beverton Moxey and Charles Sealey at Doctor's Hospital, to the Police Force, Moodie said everything is shaping up for a fantastic marathon.

"We've measured it to the decimal and it has been sanctioned by the IAAF and AIM, the Association of International Marathons," Moodie said.

"The timing system that we have gotten is a state-of-the-art system and it will provide and display times so that the athletes can have their splits as they go. So everything that a runner would expect from a Boston or a Miami Marathon, we will have the same quality of service in Marathon Bahamas."

Additionally, Moodie said the Ministry of Tourism, the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education and Ministry of Youth, Sports and Culture have all thrown their full support behind the organizing committee.

"But we can definitely do with some more sponsors because the cost are adding up," Moodie proclaimed.

Best Course to Offer

Although it was only three months ago that Wilson and the organizing committee got started in planning the event, Moodie said this will be a measure of what to expect in years to come.

"The numbers that you get in the first year are normally off the numbers that you will ultimately get 2-3 years down the road," Moodie said.

"But we are very positive that the growth of Marathon Bahamas will be tremendous partly because we had the group that organize the Boston Marathon come down and chart the course and they indicated that it's the best course that they've seen anywhere."

The marathon will get started at 6 a.m. from Fort Montagu on February 12 and will head in a westerly direction. It will travel over the Paradise Island bridge and directly down Bay Street to West Bay Street.

The course will go all the way to the round-a-bout at Fort Bay before it turn around and head back to the finish line at Arawak Cay where a series of land activities are planned.

Race registration forms and sponsorship packages are now available at Sunshine Insurance head office on Shirley Street or the Blue Hill Road office.

The last marathon staged in the Bahamas was in 1985 at the Central American and Caribbean Championships.

Clarke to be inducted into the CIAA Hall of Fame

By BRENT STUBBS
Senior Sports Reporter
bstubbs@tribunemedia.net

IT'S been more than 20 years since she adorned a Hampton University uniform, but retired Golden Girl Eldece Clarke is preparing to return to the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association (CIAA).

The 1988 graduate, who went on to become one of the fastest women in the world in the 100 metres, will be inducted into the CIAA Hall of Fame on February 26 in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Clarke, who turns 45 on February 13, said she's just delighted to have been considered by the CIAA, an NCAA Division II conference of historically African-American institutions.

"It's years later, but it's still a significant achievement," said Clarke about the induction. "So it's kind amazing and I'm overwhelming for sure."

Humbled by the achievement, Clarke said this is her first induction because up to last year, Hampton University have not had an induc-

tion ceremony.

She noted that when her former coach Laverne Sweat called her to inform her of Hampton University's decision to induct her, she was really taken aback.

"I'm really excited. I'm glad that it's happening because the young people can see what they can achieve if they focus on their goal," Clarke said. "So for me, it's not when it happened, but the fact that it has happened."

The mother of an 18-year-old son had a stellar tenure at Hampton University where she won numerous titles in the CIAA in the 60 indoors and the 100 outdoors.

She also competed on their relay teams.

Upon graduation, Clarke represented the Bahamas at three Olympic Games, inclusive of Los Angeles in 1984, Atlanta, Georgia in 1996 and Sydney, Australia in 2000.

In both Los Angeles and Atlanta, Clarke ran in the 100, but she was a member of the women's 4 x 100 relay teams at the three games, the last of which she helped the Bahamas earn the gold medal.

Clarke posted a personal

best of 10.96 seconds in the 100 in Fort-de-France in 2000, which then was the fastest time in the world. That same year, she did her 200 PR of 22.86.

Additionally, Clarke also represented the Bahamas in the 60 metres at the 6th IAAF World Indoor Championships in Paris in 1997 and that same year in Athens and 1995 in Goteborg, Clarke ran in the 100 at the 6th and 5th IAAF World Championships.

Now employed in the Sports Department of the Ministry of Tourism, Clarke said ten years later since winning the gold on the women's 4 x 100 relay team and 22 years since she graduated from college, she is quite thrilled that she's being inducted.

"It's quite good. I'm really and I was really glad that they actually elected me to be inducted into my conference Hall of Fame," Clarke stressed.

Clarke's induction will follow that of former team-mate Chandra Sturup, who was inducted in the Class of 2009 after her performance at Norfolk State.



GOLDEN Girl Eldece Clarke is set to return to the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association be inducted into the CIAA Hall of Fame on February 26 in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Wilson set to make his debut at University of Texas

By BRENT STUBBS
Senior Sports Reporter
bstubbs@tribunemedia.net

JAMAL Wilson is heading off to University of Texas where he intends to compete for the Longhorns during the upcoming collegiate season.

Before he left for Austin, Texas, Wilson competed at the T-Bird Flyers Track Classic over the weekend at the Thomas A. Robinson Track and Field Stadium.

The 21-year-old easily won the men's high jump with a leap of 2.08 metres or 6-feet, 93/4-inches, but he felt he should have cleared at least 7-2 or higher.

"Looking at today athletic wise, things are going good," Wilson said. "It should be a very positive season."

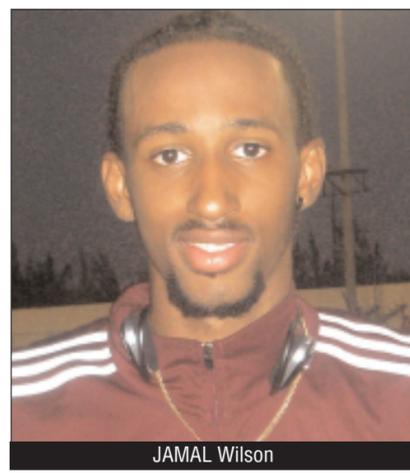
Wilson said although there were some discrepancy on the actual height of the bar, he was pleased to have been able to perform the way he did.

Having left for Texas on Sunday, Wilson is looking forward to making his debut next Saturday.

"I don't have much goals because when you set yourself up for goals, you normally set yourself up for a big fall," he said. "I just want to PR and see where I can go."

Last year as he completed his tenure at Southwest Mississippi Junior College, Wilson opened up with 7-2, but he didn't jump any higher as he had to endure a nagging injury that prevented him from competing the way he wanted to.

Wilson has not yet been officially named to the Lornhorns' roster. According to Jeremy Sharpe, the Media Relations Officer for the men's track and field team, Wilson should be added to the roster this week.



JAMAL Wilson

"Our office is closed today because of the (Martin Luther King Jr Memorial) holiday," Sharpe said yesterday. "But we just have to complete the paperwork, which should be done tomorrow when our office reopens."

"Once that is done, he should be ready to make the team," Sharpe said. "As far as (head) coach Bubba Thornton is concerned, everything is fine. They're just waiting to finalize his paperwork."

Sharpe, however, was not able to confirm just exactly when Wilson will be able to compete. He said as standard procedure, the coaching staff will take a look at him and see what kind of condition he is in.

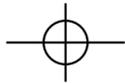
"Once that is done and they are confident that he is ready to compete, he will compete," Sharpe said. "That could happen as soon as he go through his first workout."

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Payments system to cease 'illegal' cheque practices

By CHESTER ROBARDS
Business Reporter
crobards@tribunemedia.net

EXPEDITED cheque clearing is only the beginning of the Automated Clearing House's (ACH) capabilities, its business manager said yesterday, adding that the system will eradicate the "illegal" practice of writing cheques before funds are available.

Brian Smith said he was unsure whether the ACH's implementation would cause an increase in returned cheques due to the payers lacking the funds to cover them, but he argued that the days of "writing a cheque based on funds they expect to deposit later" are gone.

"That practice, in fact, was illegal, and those days are gone," he said.

Mr Smith said that because cheques will take only one day to clear instead of the former five business days, funds for written cheques will have to be readily available in a chequeing account.

"One thing that the public will notice is that it will take far less time for Bahamian dollar cheques to clear," said Mr Smith. "If you deposit today, by close of business tomorrow you will receive the funds."

Bahamians have traditionally been able to hand off payee cheques and deposit the cheque amount when they are able to, before the cheque is cleared by the payer's bank.

In order to reduce the instance of returned cheques, Mr Smith said banks have been handing out literature and including

SEE page 4B

'Aggressive' \$10m expansion plans

* Telecoms operator plans two-phased build-out of 'true wireless broadband' infrastructure in Bahamas, each costing \$5m

* Build-out to start 'within several months', as company offers cellular phone application

* New application 'first step towards' eventual hoped-for cellular entry

By NEIL HARTNELL
Tribune Business Editor

A leading Bahamian telecoms operator said it could ultimately invest \$10 million in building the "true wireless broadband" infrastructure it plans to start constructing "in the next couple of months", its president telling Tribune Business that the cell phone application launched yesterday was the first step in its hoped-for move into that market when full liberalisation comes.

Paul Hutton-Ashkenny, president of Systems Resource Group (SRG) and IndiGo Networks, said that with the numerous legal challenges to the company's licence and plans now large-

ly behind it, it planned to execute on some "aggressive expansion plans".

IndiGo again showed the consumer benefits that arise from liberalised markets when it comes to service quality, yesterday unveiling an application that allows users of its Onephone residential and business services to make free in-plan calls from their cell phones anywhere in the world where there was Wi-Fi connectivity.

Although IndiGo's licence currently prevents it from being a cellular operator, the Government aiming to only liberalise this market two years from the Bahamas Telecommunications Company's (BTC) eventual pri-

vatation, Mr Hutton-Ashkenny said the new application was "a huge step forward" that would prepare IndiGo for eventual entry to that sector.

Adding that it was "unfortunate we had to take the path" of legal action to protect IndiGo's licence and rights from numerous legal challenges, largely initiated by BTC, Mr Hutton-Ashkenny said that was now largely "in the past".

He explained: "We've left it behind us, and that allows us to expand more aggressively than, historically, we've been able to do. We've got some very excit-

SEE page 6B

Controversy over timeshare firm close

* Leading Bahamian musician seeks 50-year portfolio he alleges went missing when Festiva cleared out Hilton office

* Says he needs details for legal actions aimed at safeguarding copyright, alleging he has lost 'millions' to Internet pirates

* Company denies claims as 'absurd', and says it is not responsible for, nor does it have, entertainer's possessions

By NEIL HARTNELL
Tribune Business Editor



BRAD LUNDY

A leading Bahamian musician yesterday said he had filed a police complaint against a former Bahamas-based timeshare company in a bid to retrieve a portfolio featuring his 50-year history as an international entertainer, alleging it had been lost when the firm closed its doors in early December 2009 and removed all computers, furniture and fixtures - including employees' personal effects - from the office.

Brad Lundy, the well-known Bahamian artist with a 50-year history in the music business, told Tribune Business it was vital that he recover the portfolio and pitch book that had been left in Festiva Resorts' former office at the British Colonial Hilton's Centre of Commerce, as it contained material critical to court actions he had launched in the UK and elsewhere to protect his intellectual property rights.

Mr Lundy, who had been employed by Festiva in timeshare sales for six-and-a-half years before the company closed its Nassau office on December 4, 2009, said he was in the process of initiating legal actions against multiple websites that had been selling his music without seeking his permission or paying royalties to him. Telling Tribune Business he had lost potentially "millions of dollars" in income from the pirating of his music, Mr Lundy said he had been advised by his attorney, Obie Pindling, to file a police complaint against Festiva Resorts in a bid to retrieve his portfolio, which he alleges is still missing five weeks after the office closed.

"I had to," Mr Lundy said of yesterday's complaint filed with the police. "Obie Pindling said: Brad, you've now got to

SEE page 3B

Banks urged: 'cut buyers some slack'

By NEIL HARTNELL
Tribune Business Editor

Bahamian commercial banks were yesterday urged to "cut borrowers some slack" and relax the lending criteria when it came to property purchases, the Bahamas Real Estate Association's (BREA) arguing that this was essential to sustain the "increased activity" seen in the domestic end of the market during early 2010.

William Wong told Tribune Business that BREA's members that "there seems to be a lot of activity" and buyer interest in lots priced at around \$100,000 and under, targeting chiefly the Bahamian middle class market.

He added that it was "a good time to buy" for Bahamian real estate purchasers, with developers likely to accept 5-10 per cent price reductions in a bid to move lots and properties out of inventory and convert them to sales.

However, Mr Wong said that to truly stimulate the Bahamian real estate market and wider economy, commercial banks needed to relax a lending criteria that had further tightened towards year-end 2009, as they focused on

* Realtors chief calls on lenders to relax borrowing criteria to 'simulate' and sustain housing market recovery

* Developers willing to reduce prices 5-10% to move lots from inventory

* Signs of increased activity in domestic Bahamian market, but 'not at levels of two years ago'

managing existing credit portfolios and reducing default levels on those.

SEE page 5B

Foreign investment up 33% to \$214.4m

By NEIL HARTNELL
Tribune Business Editor

Net foreign direct investment inflows into the Bahamas increased by 33.4 per cent to \$214.4 million during the 2009 third quarter, the Central Bank of the Bahamas confirmed yesterday, driven largely by financing obtained from investors' own equity resources.

In its quarterly economic review for the three months to September 2009, the Central Bank said net equity investments by overseas investors increased by 35.7 per cent to \$171.7 million, while net real estate purchases grew by 25 per cent to \$42.7 million. "Increases in equity financing of \$45.1 million to \$171.7 million, and land purchases of \$8.5 million to \$42.7 million, bolstered the net direct investment inflow by \$53.7 million to \$214.4 million," the Central Bank report said.

While modestly encouraging, the year-over-year increase in net capital inflows from foreign

Equity investments by overseas investors up 36% to \$171.7m

direct investment in the 2009 third quarter should not be overstated. The main reason for this is that they were up against extremely weak comparatives from the prior year, as the 2008 third quarter featured the Lehman Brothers bankruptcy collapse and the onset of the full credit crunch.

The Central Bank data again indicates that overseas investors are heavily reliant on their own capital, or equity, in making Bahamas-based investments, and a true recovery to pre-recession levels will depend on how quickly credit markets unfreeze and investor confidence returns.

Elsewhere, the quarterly economic review contained few surprises. The Central Bank said construction sector output during the 2009 third

SEE page 7B

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BUSINESS

ROYALFIDELITY MARKET WRAP

It was a moderate week of trading in the Bahamian stock market last week. Investors traded in five out of the 24 listed securities, of which one advanced, one declined and three remained unchanged.

EQUITY MARKET

A total of 26,377 shares changed hands, representing an increase of 20,414 shares compared to the previous week's trading volume of 5,963 shares. Freeport Oil Holdings (FCL) was the volume leader, trading 11,215 shares to close the week unchanged at \$4.77. Cable Bahamas (CBL) was the sole advancer during the week, its stock price increasing by \$0.01 on a volume of 1,200 shares traded to end the week at \$10. AML Foods (AML) was the sole decliner, trading 10,000 shares to see its stock price close down by \$0.02 at \$1.15.

BOND MARKET

10 FBB Series D bonds traded on the Bahamian exchange last week, representing a total par value of \$10,000.

COMPANY NEWS

First Caribbean International Bank (CIB) released its unaudited financial results for the quarter ended October 31, 2009. CIB reported net income of \$29.4 million, representing an increase of \$2.8 million or 10 per cent when compared to the \$26.6 million reported for the same period in 2008.

Net interest income of \$37 million fell by \$8.8 million or 19 per cent, while operating income of \$9.9 million advanced by \$5 million or 118 per cent compared to the 2008 fourth quarter. Operating expenses of \$19 million were up by \$3.8 million or 25 per cent quarter-over-quarter.

Management has indicated that

despite the challenging economic environment, FirstCaribbean recorded an increase in net income for the year.

Interest income was impacted by a decline in customer deposits and flat loans and advances, while operating income increases were due to the sale of investment securities, a decline in mark-to-market losses and an improvement in loan loss expenses in the year. Earnings per share increased from \$0.22 in the 2008 fourth quarter to \$0.25 in the 2009 fourth quarter, an increase of \$0.03. Bank of the Bahamas (BOB) released its unaudited financial statements for the quarter ending September 30, 2009.

Net income for the period was \$3.7 million compared to last year's \$2.8 million, an increase of \$834,000 or 29 per cent. Net interest revenue stood at \$6.8 million compared to \$7.5 million in the same period last year, a decline

of \$745,000 or 9.9 per cent. Net fee and commission income also fell by \$382,000 from \$1.1 million in the 2008 first quarter to \$759,000.

Despite lower net interest, fees and commission income, BOB reported higher net operating income of \$9.7 million, which increased by \$161,000 or 1.7 per cent. The higher net operating income was due primarily to lower net credit loss expense, with a \$1.3 million positive balance recorded in the quarter reflecting additional provisions of \$2.7 million. This was offset by a \$3.9 million adjustment for a provisioning policy change.

BOB reported earnings per share of \$0.24 for the quarter compared to \$0.16 for the 2008 first quarter.

BOB's total assets declined by \$14.5 million, from \$758 million reported at year-end June 30, 2009, to \$744 million. Total liabilities stood at \$626 mil-

lion, compared to \$644 million at year-end 2008.

Freeport Concrete Company (FCC) issued a press release announcing a request, and subsequent approval, for trading in the company's shares to be suspended on the local stock exchange (BISX). The company said it filed for and received an extension from BISX to March 15, 2010, for the filing of audited financial statements for the year ended August 31, 2009.

In the press release, management noted that preliminary unaudited figures are reflecting a net loss of approximately \$1.2 million on sales of \$10.2 million for the year. It was noted that the company's overall sales were down by \$3.4 million or 25 per cent, due primarily to lower sales in the concrete division and Home Centre. The company has not been in a position to purchase much-needed inventory.

EQUITY MARKET

BISX SYMBOL	CLOSING PRICE	WKLY PRICE CHANGE	VOLUME	YTD PRICE CHANGE
AML	\$ 1.15	-\$0.02	10,000	-1.71%
BBL	\$ 0.63	\$-	0	0.00%
BOB	\$ 5.90	\$-	0	0.00%
BPF	\$ 10.74	\$-	0	0.00%
BSL	\$ 10.06	\$-	0	0.00%
BWL	\$ 3.15	\$-	0	0.00%
CAB	\$ 10.00	\$0.01	1,200	0.20%
CBL	\$ 7.00	\$-	1,400	0.00%
CHL	\$ 2.72	\$-	2,562	0.00%
CIB	\$ 9.99	\$-	0	0.00%
CWCB	\$ 2.74	-\$0.05	0	-3.86%
DHS	\$ 2.55	\$-	0	0.00%
FAM	\$ 6.49	\$-	0	0.00%
FBB	\$ 2.37	\$-	0	0.00%
FCC	\$ 0.27	\$-	0	0.00%
FCL	\$ 4.77	\$-	11,215	0.00%
FCLB	\$ 1.00	\$-	0	0.00%
FIN	\$ 9.28	\$-	0	0.00%
ICD	\$ 5.59	\$-	0	0.00%
JSJ	\$ 9.95	\$-	0	0.00%
PRE	\$ 10.00	\$-	0	0.00%

BOND MARKET

BISX SYMBOL	DESCRIPTION	VOLUME	PAR VALUE
FBB13	FBB Series C Notes Due 2013	0	\$1,000
FBB15	FBB Series D Notes Due 2015	10	\$1,000
FBB17	FBB Series A Notes Due 2017	0	\$1,000
FBB22	FBB Series B Notes Due 2022	0	\$1,000

Dividend Notes: First Caribbean International Bank (CIB) has declared a dividend of \$0.16 per share, payable on January 25, 2010, to all ordinary shareholders of record date January 15, 2010.

NOTICE

IN THE ESTATE OF DELLA DELPHENE BURROWS late of West Avenue, Coconut Grove, in the Southern District in the Island of New the Islands of the Commonwealth of the Bahamas.

Deceased.

NOTICE is hereby given that all persons having any claims against the above-named Estate are required, on or before the 18th day of February, A.D. 2010 to send their names and addresses, and particulars of their debts or claims, to the undersigned, and if so required by notice in writing from the undersigned, to come debts or claims, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution **AND** all persons indebted to the said Estate are ask to pay their respective debts to the undersigned at once.

AND NOTICE is hereby also given that at the expiration of the assets of the late **DELLA DELPHENE BURROWS**, will be distributed among the persons entitled thereto having regard only to the claims of which the Administrator shall then have had notice.

Dated this 18th day of January, A.D., 2010

c/o PYFROM & CO
Attorneys for the Administrator,
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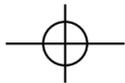
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BUSINESS

FROM page 1B

Timeshare firm

go to the police because someone's got to be accountable. "Forty-five years of my life has now gone. It ain't about the money. Money can't buy that. We'll give CID time to investigate and do what they have to do. If nothing happens, then I'll have to sue them [Festiva Resorts]. I won't have any choice."

at Cable Beach on the same day. It was then that they were handed a letter explaining the closure. In a December 29, 2009, letter to Festiva executives Robin Nichols and Evert Maks, Mr Lundy said Festiva sales representatives had convened for their normal morning meeting on Friday, December 4. "Approximately an hour later, the sales employees inquired as to why no tours had yet entered the sales bay," Mr Lundy added. "The sales employees were later advised by employees from marketing that they had been instructed not to book any tours as there were no funds available."

"As a consequence of the foregoing, the employees were advised that the company would be closing temporarily and would re-open on Tuesday, December 8, 2009."

In the belief that all would resume as normal, Mr Lundy said a two-hour training seminar was arranged for the sales staff on Monday, December 7, 2009. Yet he added in his letter: "Subsequently, I was contacted by Sarah, a co-worker, via telephone, who advised me that Ian, the administrative manager of Festiva, had advised her that the company was not closing temporarily but was, in fact, ceasing its operation and was requesting that employees meet with representatives of the company at Nesbitt's Restaurant on Tuesday, December 8, 2009."

"It later became disturbingly apparent that during the weekend, the premises which the company had rented at the British Colonial Hilton Centre of Commerce, Bay Street, had been vacated without proper notice being given by the company. As a result of this unexpected act by the company, private items that belonged to the sales employees could not be personally retrieved and secured."

At Nesbitt's, Festiva's sales and marketing staff were handed a December 4, 2009, letter signed by Terri Kirkpatrick, the company's human resources manager. Confirming that the company had decided to close down its Nassau office, which had been operating since 2001, Ms Kirkpatrick said: "The decision has been made necessary by a number of factors, including more stringent lending criteria by US lenders, as well as the declining sales and profitability driven by the worldwide economic downturn."

She added that Festiva would continue sending clients to the Paradise Harbour Club & Marina Club, its managed Bahamian resort. The letter also contained a quote from Mr Clayton, who said: "We have tried to maintain our sales and marketing operations in Nassau, but economic factors beyond our control are forcing this decision to downsize."

"We regret having to make this decision, and the hardship it will cause our employees. As the credit market improves, we will be re-evaluating our position and we hope to return to a more profitable sales and marketing operation in the future." Mr Lundy said his missing

portfolio contained copyright certificates, tax certificates, recording contracts, his resume, biography, press clippings and awards. His pitch book contained certificates and awards from Atlantis, Crystal Palace, the American Music Awards and Musician Entertainers Union. In a January 5, 2010, letter to Mr Clayton, Mr Lundy said the Nesbitt's meeting had been told that all property belonging to the company had been destroyed. He had searched the location where Festiva's office property had been taken to, but that had proven fruitless.

In his replies, Mr Clayton in January 4, 2010, letter expressed surprise that Mr Lundy would leave such a valuable possession in Festiva's office, and said the company was "unable to return that which is not in our possession".

He denied that Festiva was responsible for, and had in its possession, Mr Lundy's portfolio and pitch book. And, in a January 6, 2010, e-mail, Mr Clayton reiterated that Festiva was not "going to compensate you for materials you misplaced". He also told Mr Lundy to in future communicate with Festiva's in-house attorney, Toby Weas. Mr Lundy confirmed Mr Clayton's assertion that Festiva's Bahamian staff had received their severance pay, and obtained their vacation pay a week after the closure. However, Mr Lundy said the staff were still awaiting their reserve pay - money deducted to cover for cancellations - which would come in May 2010. He argued that Festiva should have paid the employees what they were due one time.

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BUSINESS

Payments system to cease 'illegal' cheque practices

FROM page 1B

notices of the ACH's implementation regularly.

The ACH allows for almost instantaneous communication between the Bahamas' clearing banks in order to speed up cheque deposits, and in three months' time will allow for the same with direct deposits.

"Before the ACH, you and your employer had to bank at the same bank or your employer had to maintain accounts at various banks if that employer wanted to pay you by direct deposit," said Mr Smith.

Transfers

"Within three months of the ACH going into effect, banks will be to accommodate interbank transfers as easily as they do intra-bank transfers now, meaning direct deposits may be made to any account in the system, even if the employer and employee bank at different institutions."

Mr Smith said paper cheques could completely be done away within several years. He said the UK has made a commitment to do away with paper cheque transactions by the year 2018.

Many businesses have been awaiting the launch of the ACH, hoping to do away with cash transactions, which make them targets of crime.

The ACH's launch is also expected to spawn much more e-commerce in the Bahamas, as Internet transactions will be conducted easily online and deposited to Bahamian bank accounts.

"New legislation will open up the Automated Clearing House to many more companies," said Mr Smith.

NOTICE

IN THE ESTATE OF JONATHAN WILLIAM BURROWS late of West Avenue, Coconut Grove, in the Southern District in the Island of New the Islands of the Commonwealth of the Bahamas.

Deceased.

NOTICE is hereby given that all persons having any claims against the above-named Estate are required, on or before the 18th day of February, A.D. 2010 to send their names and addresses, and particulars of their debts or claims, to the undersigned, and if so required by notice in writing from the undersigned, to come debts or claims, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution **AND** all persons indebted to the said Estate are ask to pay their respective debts to the undersigned at once.

AND NOTICE is hereby also given that at the expiration of the assets of the late **JONATHAN WILLIAM BURROWS**, will be distributed among the persons entitled thereto having regard only to the claims of which the Administrator shall then have had notice.

Dated this 18th day of January, A.D., 2010

c/o PYFROM & CO
Attorneys for the Administrator,
No.58 Shirley Street,
P.O. Box N 8958,
Nassau, N.P., Bahamas.



JOB VACANCY

SENIOR LEGAL COUNSEL

A well established conglomerate on the Island of Grand Bahama is seeking a Senior Legal Counsel to assist in various areas of its Legal Department. The position will report to the General Counsel for the Grand Bahama Port Authority, Limited and its Group of Companies.

Qualifications and Experience

- Judicial degree along with international expertise
- 10 or more years of commercial transactional legal background, along with combined in-house and law firm legal experience
- Relevant litigation experience in civil and commercial litigation matters
- Legal experience in the formation, administration, maintenance and and compliance of public, private and global companies
- Strong presentation and negotiation skills, solid business instincts and judgment, and outstanding written and verbal communication skills
- Creative and flexible problem-solving skills
- Ability and interpersonal skills to relate with internal and external customers, including government, business professionals, the community, corporate executives and managers, and contribute to strategic planning

The key functions of the successful candidate are

- Assist the General Counsel in developing and implementing all legal and corporate governance policies
- Lead various projects including litigation management; direction of leases, deeds of release, and conveyances; privacy and employment matters, corporate governance, domestic and international compliance and other matters requiring legal support
- Provide senior management with effective legal opinions on company strategies and implementation
- Advise and counsel corporate departments on general and specialized legal matters; including complex international and commercial business transactions
- Assist in providing legal representation on international local projects at preliminary stage of negotiations and throughout development
- Provide legal counsel and advice regarding various corporate business transactions to ensure compliance with Bahamian Law and company policies and procedures

All applications **MUST** be submitted on or before the 1st February 2010. Salary and benefits commensurate with qualifications and experience.

JOB VACANCY

UNDER LEGAL COUNSEL & COMPLIANCE OFFICER

A well established conglomerate on the Island of Grand Bahama is seeking Legal Counsel & Compliance Officer to assist in various areas of its Legal Department. The position will report to the General Counsel for the Grand Bahama Port Authority and its Group of Companies.

Qualifications and Experience

- Judicial degree along with international expertise
- 7-10 years of commercial transactional legal background, along with combined in-house and law firm legal experience
- Strong transactional and general business and commercial law experience, including drafting and negotiating commercial contracts and licenses
- Relevant litigation experience in civil and commercial litigation matters
- Results-oriented, with skills to influence change and drive compliance within the Legal department and throughout the Grand Bahama Port Authority, Limited and its Group of Companies (including relevant regulatory and corporate compliance expertise and experience)
- Strong presentation and negotiation skills, solid business instincts and judgment, and outstanding written and verbal communication skills
- Ability and interpersonal skills to relate with internal and external customers, including government, business professionals, the community, corporate executives and managers and contribute to strategic planning

The key functions of the successful candidate are

- Provide legal, compliance, and overall assistance to the General Counsel and Legal Department
- Assist with civil and commercial litigation for company as required
- Participate in various projects, relating to compliance, privacy, corporate, and employment matters
- Providing Senior Management with effective advice on all matters of a legal nature
- Assist with managing the company's internal function and staff
- Provide and maintain the Corporate Affairs of GBPA, PGL and the Group of Companies
- Participate in complex business transactions and negotiating critical contracts
- Play a key role in managing risk and helping to make business decisions.
- Experience in the preparation of Leases, Deeds of Release, Conveyances, etc.

Interested persons should send curriculum vitae and supporting documents to:

The Grand Bahama Port Authority, Limited
P.O. Box F-42666
Freeport, Grand Bahama Island
Or
GENERALCOUNSEL@GBPA.COM

All applications **MUST** be submitted on or before the 1st February 2010. Salary and benefits commensurate with qualifications and experience.

LIQUIDATOR'S NOTICE

CLICO (Bahamas) Limited (In Liquidation)

The properties listed below are being sold by Mr. Craig A. (Tony) Gomez, Official Liquidator of Clico (Bahamas) Limited (In Liquidation).

Sealed offers should be sent to the following address:

Mr. Craig A. (Tony) Gomez
Official Liquidator
The Deanery
No. 28 Cumberland Street
P.O. Box N-1991
Nassau, Bahamas

Attention: Real estate

Lot details	Property description	Property location
Lot #1, Block 19	2 - storey office building - 5,335 sq. ft.	Western side of Mount Royal Avenue and Talbot Street, 2 blocks south of Madeira Street
Lot #s 2, 9, 10 & a portion of lot #3, Block 19	Two (2) 2 - storey office buildings - 9,468 sq. ft.	Western side of Mount Royal Avenue and Carew Street, 3 blocks south of Madeira Street
Lot # 30, Block 6	Office building and a small rental office on ground floor - 3,092 sq. ft.	Northern side of Thompson Blvd., opposite the western end of the Police training College
Lot # 5B3	2 - storey office building - 2,780 sq. ft.	Carmichael Road, opposite Bahamas Faith Ministries' entrance.
Lot # 5, Block L	2 - storey office building - 5,055 sq. ft.	Freeport Grand Bahama, west side of West Atlantic Drive, 1/8 mile south of Adventurers Way
Lot #s 1, 2, 25 and 26, Block 15	Centreville Medical Centre, rental office space - 15,313 sq. ft.	Southwestern corner of Collins Avenue and Sixth Terrace (Gibbs Corner)
Lot #s 20, 21 and 22, Block 18	Building No. 111, yellow one storey family residence converted into an office building - 2,734 sq. ft.	Northeastern corner of Mount Royal Avenue and Carew Street
Lot #s 29 and 31	Vacant pink house and apartments, adjacent to Clico's office building - 4,668 sq. ft.	Western side of Montrose Avenue, (Sears Hill) North, 1/8 mile north of Rosetta Street
Vacant parcel of land	Vacant parcel of land - 42,750 sq. ft.	Western side of Montrose Avenue, (Sears Hill) North, at the rear of Clico's office building, 1/8 mile north of Rosetta Street
Lot # 1, Block 1	Vacant parcel of land - 8,650 sq. ft.	Regency Park Subdivision, Northwestern corner of Soldier Road and Prince Charles Drive
Vacant parcel of land	Vacant parcel of land - 34,994 sq. ft.	125 feet east of Mount Royal Avenue, opposite The Bahamas Immigration Office, 1/8 mile south of Shirley Street

For further information or to view properties, kindly contact Mr. Craig A. (Tony) Gomez or Mr. Edward R. Rolle at telephone (242) 356-4114.

The Liquidator reserves the right to refuse any or all offers submitted.



BUSINESS

Banks urged: 'cut buyers some slack'

FROM page 1B

The BREA president said his understanding was that commercial banks were increasingly looking for borrowers to have 'perfect' credit histories, and would not extend credit to those who had missed just "one or two payments" on their existing loans. "We are hoping the banks will come on board and relax their lending requirements, and assist more Bahamians in buying lots," Mr Wong told Tribune Business. "There was a further tightening before the Christmas holiday, but banks can't make money by holding on to it - they've got to lend it out."

The BREA president criticised some banks for focusing more on higher margin consumer loans (to compensate for the greater risk) than real estate credit, which was much more secure because the properties/physical assets involved provided far greater security/collateral for the lender.

"That does very little to stimulate the economy," Mr Wong said of consumer lending.

"If the banks were to lend money to buy lots, that would stimulate the economy. They need to look at their lending practices, and have policies where a certain amount of money is loaned to people to buy property or invest in their business."

"From what we understand, the banks are very picky about who they lend money to. When it comes to someone purchasing lots or houses, the banks are not going to lend money to anyone who has missed one or two payments on previous loans."

Arguing that this criteria was too strict, and that many borrowers may have missed a loan payment in their lifetime only to catch up later, Mr Wong said these persons were "not deadbeats".

"The banks need to take a second look at how they lend money and who they lend

money to," he added. "Land is good collateral and security. You need to cut people some slack and give them a chance, especially if they're buying property because that's a secure investment, particularly in New Providence."

Stimulus

"The banks need to be the ones to create a stimulus package by lending money, and not use such a tight yardstick in judging people."

While the Bahamian real estate market was "not out of the woods" and would take some time to recover from the recession, Mr Wong said: "Since the beginning of the year we have seen some activity in the local market, although it's not where it used to be two years ago. It's still slow. But there seems to be a lot of activity in the market for lots priced at around \$100,000 or under."

And the BREA president added: "This really is a good time for the consumer to buy and bargain with developers. Developers are now probably looking at reducing prices a little bit to move lots, rather

than have them sitting in inventory.

"Developers are looking at a reasonable reduction in prices, anywhere between 5-10 per cent. Particularly if buyers take two lots, developers will look at it carefully."

"This is no time to be picky. Developers are willing to reduce profits to get lots moving."

Mr Wong, though, said the international end of the Bahamian real estate market was "a bit slower than the local market". This was because the largest buyer market for the Bahamas, the US, was "still figuring out where it's going and settling down after the recession".

"Once the dust settles down, we'll have buyers coming in," he added. "Those not affected by recession still have money, and we have to try and find them."

"Our market is very resilient. There's no big fire sale. Buyers are looking for bargains, and there are no big bargains right now. Prices are holding strong. The Bahamas is still a primary destination, being so close to North America."

Legal Notice

NOTICE

MIRAMAR VALLEY INC.

(In Voluntary Liquidation)

Notice is hereby given that the above-named Company is in dissolution, which commenced on the 18th day of January 2010. The Liquidator is Argosa Corp. Inc., P. O. Box N-7757 Nassau, Bahamas.

ARGOSA CORP. INC.
(Liquidator)



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The Bank of The Bahamas International, the institution of first choice in the provision of financial services, seeks to identify suitable candidates for the position of:

Core Banking Application Analyst (2)

Core Responsibilities:

- Provide Production Support of the bank's core-banking business application software
- Investigate Core banking systems' issues reactively as escalated and analyze / diagnose for resolution according to established guidelines
- Perform post-mortem activities for any breaks in system availability
- Perform trend analysis to identify and highlight recurring problems. Carry out root-cause analysis and determine and document solutions for review and further implementation
- Perform issue testing and evaluation of fixes for resolutions provided with necessary change control
- Participate in application testing and evaluation for new products, as directed by the bank's strategic goals
- Assist with improving core-banking application system efficiency by recommending changes to parameterization, work-flows, reporting
- Assist project management and development teams for new implementations. Participate in change management activities

Job Requirements:

- Bachelor's degree in Computer Science (preferred) or Business Management
- Proficient systems analytical skills to perform tasks including, root-cause analysis, develop, execute, assess test plans and test cases, and recommend issue resolutions
- Knowledge and adept use of select programming language(s), preferably PL/SQL, SQL, and working knowledge of Oracle and RDBMS
- Practical knowledge of systems life cycle and systems development
- Knowledge of specific financial industry and banking laws and regulations to appreciate the operational implications when developing, reviewing and testing for the bank's core banking application system software.
- Specific and detailed knowledge of core-banking system setup and settings, both technical and application-based
- Solid appreciation of the bank's infrastructure setup, including computer, LAN and WAN communications
- Excellent oral and written communication skills to interact with internal customers in sharing and explaining information; gathering user requirements for new and change requests, and root cause analysis with/ from associates and supervisors. These skills are also needed for all areas where documentation is required e.g. root cause analysis, testing reports, regular updates, issues and direct for prepare necessary documentation
- Ability to multi-task in a frame-work of assigned task priority and importance
- Ability to be innovative in problem solving approach, self-motivated; have great initiative
- A team player

Benefits include: Competitive salary and benefits package, commensurate with work experience and qualifications. Interested persons should apply no later than **January 25, 2010** to:

**Email: hr.apply@bankbahamas.com
or fax to: 242-323-2637**

ROYAL FIDELITY

Money at Work

An entrepreneurial spirit, original thinking, and a passion to succeed. If you have it, we want you.

We are growing!

Royal Fidelity invites applications for the position of:

- ASSISTANT SECURITIES TRADER -

PROFILE:

- Series 7 Qualification
- Minimum 1 year administrative experience
- Must have excellent communication skills (verbal and written)
- Proficient at Microsoft Office Suite programs
- Ability to work in a self motivated environment with little supervision
- Ability to manage multiple tasks simultaneously

RESPONSIBILITIES WILL INCLUDE:

- Meet with prospective and existing clients and maintain client accounts inclusive of inputting trades and other client transactions
- Promotion and distribution of various investment products of the company
- Assist with the solicitation of securities transactions
- Conduct research on various domestic publicly traded companies and assist in the preparation of commentaries and research reports
- Participate in business development initiatives including public speaking engagements
- Administrative and other duties as assigned

PLEASE SUBMIT BEFORE
January 29th, 2010 to:

HUMAN RESOURCES
Re: Assistant Securities Trader
51 Frederick Street
P.O. Box N-4853
Nassau
F: 328.1108
careers@fidelitybahamas.com

ABSOLUTELY NO
PHONE CALLS

A competitive compensation package (including base salary and commissions) will be commensurate with relevant experience and qualification.



NOTICE

INVITATION TO BID

WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT ELIZABETH HARBOUR EXUMA

1. The Water & Sewerage Corporation invites proposals from suitably qualified Companies for the design and construction of a wastewater facility at Elizabeth Harbour Exuma. The Scope of Works include the provision of all labour, equipment and other necessary services for the design and construction of a cost effective and appropriate reception, storage and treatment of sewage from water crafts.

2. Proposals from potential Companies must be accompanied by comprehensive details from the Qualified Questionnaire out-lining:

- Experience on similar projects
- Personnel to be assigned (including their experience on similar projects)
- Financial capacity to execute the works.

Qualifications, bid price, and selected technology will be evaluated for award of Contract

3. Bidding Documents will be available on request beginning January 20, 2010 from the Engineering & Planning Department of the Water & Sewerage Corporation .

4. Completed documents must be returned to the address below, no later than 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday February 10, 2010.

**General Manager
Water & Sewerage Corporation
87 Thompson Blvd.
P.O. Box N-3905
Nassau, Bahamas**

Attn: Engineering & Planning Division

**Telephone: (242) 302-5548
Facsimile: (242) 302-5547**



BUSINESS

'Aggressive' \$10m expansion plans

FROM page 1B

ing and aggressive plans we want to initiate in the next 12 months to offer true wireless broadband to the consumer.

"We will start to build that network in the next couple of months. The initial couple of phases will be in the order of \$5 million, and expansion beyond that will be that much again. The first phase will be New Providence, and right on its heels will be Grand Bahama and Marsh Harbour."

While many Bahamians currently had access to Internet broadband via their Cable Bahamas modem or BTC's DSL service, Mr Hutton-Ashkenny said these facilities were fixed in the home, thus leaving consumers "tethered" to one location.

SRG/IndiGo's wireless broadband solution, he explained, would allow Bahamian consumers to access broadband facilities with their laptops, cell phones and other devices wherever they were in this nation, allowing them to

enjoy the service 'on the move'.

Indicating that SRG's staff complement would expand in line with its infrastructure and services, Mr Hutton-Ashkenny said: "At each step we take, we said we wanted to initiate innovative services to the consumer, and that's what we're doing."

Application

With the new cellular application, named One-phone2GO, SRG/IndiGo's OnePhone customers will be able to use iPhone and iPod Touch, as well as Wi-Fi enabled Nokia phones and, eventually, Blackberries, to make and receive Voice over the Internet (VoIP) calls anywhere in the world where there is a Wi-Fi connection.

"As long as there is a Wi-Fi hot spot, customers will have the ability to roam without incurring any finan-

cial charge," Mr Hutton-Ashkenny said. "We've been developing this application for at least nine months, and undertook some significant technological developments to make this happen."

IndiGo's new application does not involve roaming or airtime charges, and the assignment of a Bahamas domestic number means no calling charges are incurred. Effectively, it will allow IndiGo to compete with BTC for Bahamian roaming customers abroad.

MR Hutton-Ashkenny said that while the One-phone2GO application had initially been driven by demand from the business community, it had "mass appeal".

"Since announcing it this morning, we've had a lot of interest coming into the office and a significant stream of people coming in," he added.

Mr Hutton-Ashkenny said SRG/IndiGo wanted to

offer "full mobility" to its "thousands of subscribers" once the Bahamian telecoms market was fully liberalised, and admitted "frankly" that the company wanted to "go into the mobile sector".

"The launch of One-phone2GO continues IndiGo's commitment to develop innovative products and services that enhance the telecommunications experience of Bahamians and drive down the cost of service," said Mr Hutton-Ashkenny.

"Wi-Fi is ubiquitous in airports, coffee shops, stores,

hotels and elsewhere all across the world, meaning that an access point for One-phone2GO is always available. With the technology in OnePhone2GO, the cost of staying in touch when travelling has just gone from outrageous to negligible.

INSIGHT

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

PUBLIC NOTICE
INTENT TO CHANGE NAME BY DEED POLL

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

NOTICE
INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS COMPANIES ACT (No 45 of 2000)

BASE CONSULTING GROUP LTD. LIQUIDATOR'S NOTICE

PURSUANT TO SECTION 137 (6) OF THE INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS COMPANIES ACT

We, Sterling (Bahamas) Limited, Liquidator of BASE CONSULTING GROUP LTD., hereby certify that the winding up and dissolution of Rosewood Estates Inc. has been completed in accordance with the Articles of Dissolution.

Dated the 17th day of November, A.D., 2009.

NOTICE
INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS COMPANIES ACT (No 45 of 2000)

SUNURYS LTD. LIQUIDATOR'S NOTICE

PURSUANT TO SECTION 137 (6) OF THE INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS COMPANIES ACT

We, Sterling (Bahamas) Limited, Liquidator of SUNURYS LTD., hereby certify that the winding up and dissolution of Rosewood Estates Inc. has been completed in accordance with the Articles of Dissolution.

Dated the 11th day of November, A.D., 2009.

NOTICE
EXXONMOBIL (GUANGDONG) PETROLEUM & PETROCHEMICAL COMPANY LIMITED

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 137 (8) of the International Business Companies Act 2000, notice is hereby given that the above-named Company has been dissolved and struck off the Register pursuant to a Certificate of Dissolution issued by The Registrar General on the 21st day of December, A.D., 2009.

Dated the 15th day of January, A.D., 2010.

Lie Min Yi
Liquidator of
EXXONMOBIL (GUANGDONG) PETROLEUM & PETROCHEMICAL COMPANY LIMITED

NOTICE
EXXONMOBIL EXPLORATION AND PRODUCTION CYPRUS LIMITED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN as follows:

(a) EXXONMOBIL EXPLORATION AND PRODUCTION CYPRUS LIMITED is in dissolution under the provisions of the International Business Companies Act 2000.

(b) The dissolution of the said Company commenced on the 15th 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 Carol G. Gray of 16825 Northchase Drive, Houston, Texas 77060.

Dated the 15th day of January, 2010.

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

NOTICE
INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS COMPANIES ACT (No 45 of 2000)

J. WALLACE LTD. LIQUIDATOR'S NOTICE

PURSUANT TO SECTION 137 (6) OF THE INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS COMPANIES ACT

We, Sterling (Bahamas) Limited, Liquidator of J. WALLACE LTD., hereby certify that the winding up and dissolution of Rosewood Estates Inc. has been completed in accordance with the Articles of Dissolution.

Dated the 18th day of December, A.D., 2009.

NOTICE
INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS COMPANIES ACT (No 45 of 2000)

MILLER DRUCK SPECIALTY STONE LTD LIQUIDATOR'S NOTICE

PURSUANT TO SECTION 137 (6) OF THE INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS COMPANIES ACT

We, Sterling (Bahamas) Limited, Liquidator of MILLER DRUCK SPECIALTY STONE LTD., hereby certify that the winding up and dissolution of Rosewood Estates Inc. has been completed in accordance with the Articles of Dissolution.

Dated the 27th day of November, A.D., 2009.

NOTICE
EXXONMOBIL EXPLORATION AND PRODUCTION CYPRUS 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 10th day of February, A.D., 2010. In default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made by the Liquidator.

Dated the 15th day of January, A.D., 2010.

Carol G. Gray
Liquidator
16825 Northchase Drive
Houston, TEXAS 77060

Legal Notice
NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN as follows:

(a) KROKODILLE S.A. is in dissolution under the provisions of the International Business Companies Act 2000.

(b) The Dissolution of said Company commenced on January 18, 2010 when its Articles of Dissolution were submitted and registered by the Registrar General.

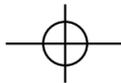
(c) The Liquidator of the said company is Zakrit Services Ltd. of 2nd Terrace West, Centreville, Nassau, Bahamas.

(d) All persons having Claims against the above-named Company are required on or before the 2nd day of March, 2010 to send their names and addresses and particulars of their debts or claims to the Liquidator of the company or, in default thereof, they may be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved.

JANUARY 19, 2010

ZAKRIT SERVICES LTD.
LIQUIDATOR OF THE ABOVE-NAMED COMPANY

BISX LISTED & TRADED SECURITIES AS OF: MONDAY, 18 JANUARY 2010										
BISX ALL SHARE INDEX: CLOSE 1,565.35 CHG 0.00 %CHG 0.00 YTD -0.03 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	Previous Close	Today's Close	Change	Daily Vol.	EPS	Div \$	P/E	Yield
1.49	1.03	AML Foods Limited	1.15	1.15	0.00	0.283	0.000	4.1	0.00%	
10.75	9.90	Bahamas Property Fund	10.74	10.74	0.00	0.992	0.200	10.8	1.86%	
7.00	5.77	Bank of Bahamas	5.90	5.90	0.00	0.244	0.250	24.2	4.41%	
0.63	0.63	Benchmark	0.63	0.63	0.00	-0.877	0.000	N/M	0.00%	
3.49	3.15	Bahamas Waste	3.15	3.15	0.00	0.168	0.090	18.8	2.86%	
2.15	2.14	Fidelity Bank	2.37	2.37	0.00	0.055	0.040	43.1	1.69%	
13.95	9.63	Cable Bahamas	10.00	10.00	0.00	1.406	0.250	7.1	2.50%	
2.88	2.72	Colina Holdings	2.72	2.72	0.00	0.249	0.040	10.9	1.47%	
7.00	5.00	Commonwealth Bank (S1)	7.00	7.00	0.00	0.419	0.300	16.7	4.29%	
3.65	2.21	Consolidated Water BDRs	2.73	2.73	0.00	0.111	0.052	24.6	1.90%	
2.55	1.32	Doctor's Hospital	2.55	2.55	0.00	0.627	0.080	4.1	3.14%	
7.80	5.94	Fanguard	6.49	6.49	0.00	0.420	0.240	15.5	3.70%	
11.80	9.75	Finco	9.28	9.28	0.00	0.322	0.520	28.8	5.60%	
10.45	9.80	FirstCaribbean Bank	9.99	9.99	0.00	0.631	0.350	15.8	3.50%	
5.53	3.75	Focol (S)	4.77	4.77	0.00	0.326	0.150	14.6	3.14%	
1.00	1.00	Focol Class B Preference	1.00	1.00	0.00	0.000	0.000	N/M	0.00%	
0.30	0.27	Freeport Concrete	0.27	0.27	0.00	0.035	0.000	7.7	0.00%	
6.13	5.00	ICD Utilities	5.59	5.59	0.00	0.407	0.500	13.7	8.94%	
10.50	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 basis)										
52wk-Hi	52wk-Low	Symbol	Last Sale	Change	Daily Vol.	Interest	Maturity			
1000.00	1000.00	Fidelity Bank Note 17 (Series A) +	FBB17	100.00	0.00	7%	19 October 2017			
1000.00	1000.00	Fidelity Bank Note 22 (Series B) +	FBB22	100.00	0.00	Prime + 1.75%	19 October 2022			
1000.00	1000.00	Fidelity Bank Note 13 (Series C) +	FBB13	100.00	0.00	7%	30 May 2013			
1000.00	1000.00	Fidelity Bank Note 15 (Series D) +	FBB15	100.00	0.00	Prime + 1.75%	29 May 2015			
Fidelity Over-The-Counter Securities										
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										
52wk-Hi	52wk-Low	Symbol	Bid \$	Ask \$	Last Price	Weekly Vol.	EPS \$	Div \$	P/E	Yield
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		
1.4387	1.3535	CFAL Bond Fund	1.4387	6.30	6.30				31-Dec-09	
52wk-Hi	52wk-Low	CFAL MSI Preferred Fund	2.8869	-1.81	-1.81				31-Dec-09	
1.5087	1.4336	CFAL Money Market Fund	1.5071	0.08	5.23				8-Jan-10	
13.2400	2.9343	Royal Fidelity Bahamas G & I Fund	3.1168	-7.94	-7.94				31-Dec-09	
13.2400	12.6816	Royal Fidelity Prime Income Fund	13.2400	4.93	5.90				31-Oct-09	
103.9873	93.1999	CFAL Global Bond Fund	103.9873	3.41	3.41				31-Dec-09	
101.7254	96.4070	CFAL Global Equity Fund	101.7254	5.52	5.52				31-Dec-09	
1.0898	1.0000	FG Financial Preferred Income Fund	1.0898	5.22	5.22				9-Dec-09	
1.0680	1.0000	FG Financial Growth Fund	1.0680	3.39	3.39				9-Dec-09	
1.0907	1.0000	FG Financial Diversified Fund	1.0907	5.15	5.15				9-Dec-09	
9.5795	9.1005	Royal Fidelity Bah Int Investment Fund	9.5795	5.33	5.33				31-Dec-09	
11.2361	10.0000	Royal Fidelity Bah Int Investment Fund	11.2361	12.36	12.36				31-Dec-09	
7.7171	4.8105	Principal Protected TIGRS, Series 2	7.7171	40.05	40.05				31-Dec-09	
MARKET TERMS										
BISX ALL SHARE INDEX - 19 Dec 02 = 1,000.00										
52wk-Hi - Highest closing price in last 52 weeks										
52wk-Low - Lowest closing price in last 52 weeks										
Previous Close - Previous day's weighted price for daily volume										
Today's Close - Current day's weighted price for daily volume										
Change - Change in closing price from day to day										
Daily Vol. - Number of total shares traded today										
Div \$ - Dividends per share paid in the last 12 months										
P/E - Closing price divided by the last 12 month earnings										
(S) - 4-for-1 Stock Split - Effective Date 8/8/2007										
(S1) - 3-for-1 Stock Split - Effective Date 7/11/2007										
YIELD - last 12 month dividends divided by closing price										
Bid \$ - Buying price of Colina and Fidelity										
Ask \$ - Selling price of Colina and Fidelity										
Last Price - Last traded over-the-counter price										
Weekly Vol. - Trading volume of the prior week										
EPS \$ - A company's reported earnings per share for the last 12 mths										
NAV - Net Asset Value										
N/M - Not Meaningful										
FINDEX - The Fidelity Bahamas Stock Index, January 1, 1994 = 100										
TO TRADE CALL: CFAL 242-502-7010 ROYALFIDELITY 242-356-7764 FG CAPITAL MARKETS 242-396-4000 COLONIAL 242-502-7525										



BUSINESS

Foreign investment up 33% to \$214.4m

FROM page 1B

quarter was further "constrained" by "lack of activity" in projects financed by both Bahamian and foreign investors.

"Data collected from the main mortgage lending institutions revealed that the contraction in the value of mortgage disbursements for new construction and building repairs deepened to 17.1 per cent from 3.9 per cent in the same period of 2008," the Central Bank said.

"The rate of decline was more than five times higher for residential mortgages at 17.8 per cent, and up by less than three percentage points for commercial disbursements to 10.3 per cent.

"Mortgage commitments for new construction and repairs, a more forward looking activity, receded by 39.3 per cent to \$34.8 million, comprising downturns in both the residential (40.9 per cent) and commercial (4.5 per cent) components."

Commercial mortgages fell in number, by 33.3 per cent, to 10, with a collective value of \$2.4 million. Residential mortgages issues during the 2009 third quarter dropped in number by 39.5 per cent to 225, with a total value of \$32.3 million.

On the fiscal front, a \$150 million domestic bond issue during the 2009 third quarter increased the Government's direct debt by \$151.9 million or 4.9 per cent to \$3.236 billion.

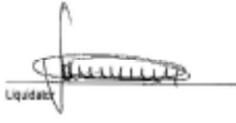
Adding some \$438.5 million in contingent liabilities and the Government's total national debt came to \$3.675 billion - a figure that will have risen to at least \$3.775 billion in the fourth quarter due to the \$100 million net proceeds from the Government's \$300 million foreign bond issue. Year-over-year, the national debt had increased by 17 per cent or \$469.8 million, compared to the position at the 2008 third quarter end, emphasising the size of the Government's capital works programme and stimulus spending to mitigate the economic downturn's impact. Some 81.9 per cent of the direct charge on government is held domestically, with 32.3 per cent held by commercial banks; 29.8 per cent by private and institutional investors; 27.7 per cent by public corporations; and 10.22 per cent by the Central Bank.

NOTICE

INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS COMPANIES ACT. 2000
No. 45 of 2000

VALLUM ASSET ADVISORY LIMITED

Notice is hereby given that in accordance with Section 138 (8) of the International Business Companies Act, (No. 45 of 2000), the Dissolution of VALLUM ASSET ADVISORY LIMITED has been completed, a Certificate of Dissolution has been issued and the company has therefore been struck off the Registrar. The date of completion of the dissolution was December 30, 2009.



JOB OPPORTUNITY

Building Engineer / Superintendent - to oversee day-to-day management, maintenance and repairs of a leading office building, coordination of maintenance providers, coordination and supervision of repairs and maintenance.

Must demonstrate a continuous effort to improve operations, decrease turnaround times, streamline work processes and to work cooperatively and jointly to provide quality seamless customer service.

Qualifications: Basic hands-on knowledge and experience with air-conditioning systems, plumbing systems, electrical systems, fire & safety systems, standby emergency power systems and related preventative maintenance programs. At least five years experience in senior management position, excellent communication skills, excellent organizational skills, must possess a "hands-on" approach and must be self-motivated.

Qualified applicants are to fax (394-7069) a current and complete resume by January 22nd, 2010.



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&

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9:00am-1:00pm

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Begins: January 27th, 2010
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POSITIONS AVAILABLE

1) Operations Officer

New office of established international firm is seeking operations officers/clerks. A successful candidate must:

- Have minimum of 3 years experience in sales and processing;
- Be proficient in Word, Excel, PowerPoint and Outlook;
- Possess excellent communication skills with fluency in English, Cantonese and Mandarin, written and oral;
- Be a team player, displaying strong problem solving skills and a positive proactive attitude;
- Be able to work long hours and weekends as required;
- Be willing to relocate to and be stationed in Freeport, Grand Bahama.

Applications should be sent on or before the 19th February 2010 via email to: positionsavailable2010@gmail.com or addressed to Position Available, P.O. Box N-3937, Nassau, N.P., The Bahamas.

2) VP of Operations

New office of established international firm is seeking Vice President of Operations. The position requires direct reporting to the President, entails responsibility for local operations and finance, management of a small staff and requires a great degree of integrity, maintaining utmost confidentiality. The position pays a very competitive salary. A successful applicant must:

- Be extremely organized, disciplined, mature, independent and very attentive to details;
- Hold a Degree in either Accounting, Law or Business Management;
- Have minimum of 5 years management experience;
- Possess a working knowledge of Bahamian employment and labour laws;
- Possess proficient computer skills;
- Have excellent communication skills with fluency in English, written and oral; an understanding of Mandarin would be an advantage;
- Be a team player, displaying strong problem solving skills, the ability to effectively manage and motivate people, as well as a positive and proactive attitude;
- Be able to work long hours and weekends as required;
- Be willing to relocate to and be stationed in Freeport, Grand Bahama.

Applications should be sent on or before the 19th February 2010 via email to: positionsavailable2010@gmail.com or addressed to Position Available, P.O. Box N-3937, Nassau, N.P., The Bahamas.

Vacancy for

PRODUCT IMPLEMENTATION & SUPPORT SPECIALIST

Solutions Via Internet is a start-up but growing company based in Freeport, Grand Bahama that develops, markets and supports web-based software solutions for companies in North America and abroad, such as Chambers of Commerce. Our solution meets the needs of membership and association management companies ranging from 1 to 10 employees. We are looking for a **PRODUCT IMPLEMENTATION & SUPPORT SPECIALIST** to support our growing client base.

Job Description:

The **PRODUCT IMPLEMENTATION & SUPPORT SPECIALIST** will be responsible for all facets of an implementation, including working with customers to map out implementation plans, delivering product training, consulting, guidance and support throughout the duration of the implementation phase. Post implementation, the position will be responsible for all support related questions and trouble shooting of software problems. This position will report to directly to the Operations Manager.

Primary Responsibilities:

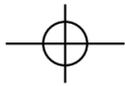
- Provide full business analysis beginning with needs assessment through to successful implementation, including business process review and recommendations on best practices;
- Overall responsibility for the successful planning, execution, monitoring, control and closure of implementation process;
- Deliver software training (online and via conference) to customers;
- Interface with other team members to manage customer requirements;
- Provides software support to customers post implementation, answering complex questions on function and usage of product via the telephone and internet;
- Work systematically through hardware or software problems and help customers understand the features and benefits of new features that best meet their needs;
- Acquire, maintain and apply detailed knowledge of our product suite;
- Continually strive to exceed customer expectations.

Experience/Qualifications:

- Completion of a post-secondary degree;
- Extensive computer experience including graphic arts, web design, MS Windows and office applications;
- Experience with consumer level software implementations, consulting, training and rollouts;
- Customer service/support experience;
- Strong oral, written and presentation communication skills;
- Must have the ability to work independently and be self-motivated.

To succeed in this role you must have a customer-oriented attitude, excellent project and time management skills and have extraordinary interpersonal skills to allow you to communicate with team members internally and with various members of the customer's organization. We are looking for a hard driving individual that is looking for opportunities for growth.

Interested persons should submit their resumes in confidence to info@thechamberworks.com by January 20, 2010.



WOMAN

The Tribune

B O D Y A N D M I N D

health

Painful facts about arthritis

By REUBEN SHEARER
Tribune Features Reporter
rshearer@tribunemedia.net

THE recent cold weather has had many Bahamians bundling up in layers of clothing and even purchasing space heaters for their homes.

Temperatures have dipped as low as the 50s in some islands.

Still, most are enjoying the respite from the typical heat.

But others, particularly those living with arthritis, say the chilly conditions have brought them physical suffering.

The most common form of arthritis, osteoarthritis, is a degenerative joint disease.

The chronic condition is characterised by the breakdown of the cartilage in the joints.

A second, wide-spread type of the disease is rheumatoid arthritis.

Rheumatoid arthritis is the more painful of the two. It is a systemic inflammatory disorder that can affect not only the joints, but also organs and tissues.

People living with rheumatoid arthritis say that cold weather causes their condition to flare up and become especially painful.

Those suffering from the condition prefer the heat that is currently absent from the Bahamas.

But if natural heat cannot be found, doctors have an alternative.

"In my office we have an infrared centre which produces pure infrared heat. When these patients come in this is the best thing I can do for them," said Dr Jonathan Bartlett, a chiropractic physician trained in massage, physical therapy and acupuncture, told *Tribune Health*.

He is one of the two trained therapists that practice at the Advanced Chiropractic Clinic in Centreville.

Dr Bartlett estimates that most of his patients suffering from rheumatoid arthritis are young and middle-aged adults.

"When the situation gets far enough you end up with the bone

rubbing on bone complex which causes the body much pain," said Dr Bartlett.

Osteoarthritis will only appear in one joint at a time. For example, you can get it in one or both of knees, or in particular areas of the body at different times.

But osteoarthritis won't appear in one or two regions at a time. It affects the knees or the shoulders, whereas rheumatoid arthritis can affect all areas of the body at the same time. It is extremely painful and is very difficult to treat.

"The problem with rheumatoid arthritis is that it is a progressive disease," said Dr Bartlett.

"Once rheumatoid starts, it will continue to get worse, and there's no reversing it.

"For these patients, you can't promise them a cure, but you can offer them some comfort and pain relief," said Dr Bartlett.

Rather than trying to put heat packs on each joint in the body, Dr Bartlett has taken a more innovative approach to treating his patients.

"We just put them in the sauna and allow the whole body to be affected by infrared heat," said Dr Bartlett.

"This works very well for pain relief for patients when they come in."

"We also prescribe medication for patients that helps relieve the pain. But for some people the condition is so far gone the medication doesn't give a lot of relief."

The laser machine is also a treatment method that persons with rheumatoid arthritis respond very well to.

However, one downside of laser treatment is that it can't treat the entire body. The laser Dr Bartlett uses stimulates the mitochondria in the cells which helps them to heal and repair.

"There are ointments as well that seem to work especially well with patients," said Dr Bartlett. "Sombra is a natural ointment, made from capsaicin which is derived from cayenne pepper."

One of the peculiar things about rheumatoid arthritis is that it responds to metals.

Some people wear metal bands and bracelets and other jewellery to prevent the advancement of rheumatoid arthritis in their hands and fingers.

Rheumatoid arthritis is an aggressive disease that can cause deformities, especially in the hands.

Dr Bartlett told *Tribune Health* about a study done with married patients who were in the advanced stages of rheumatoid arthritis. Those that were wearing a gold wedding band did not have any rheumatoid deformities.

"This confirms that the condition

“ We also prescribe medication for patients that helps relieve the pain. But for some people the condition is so far gone the medication doesn't give a lot of relief. ”

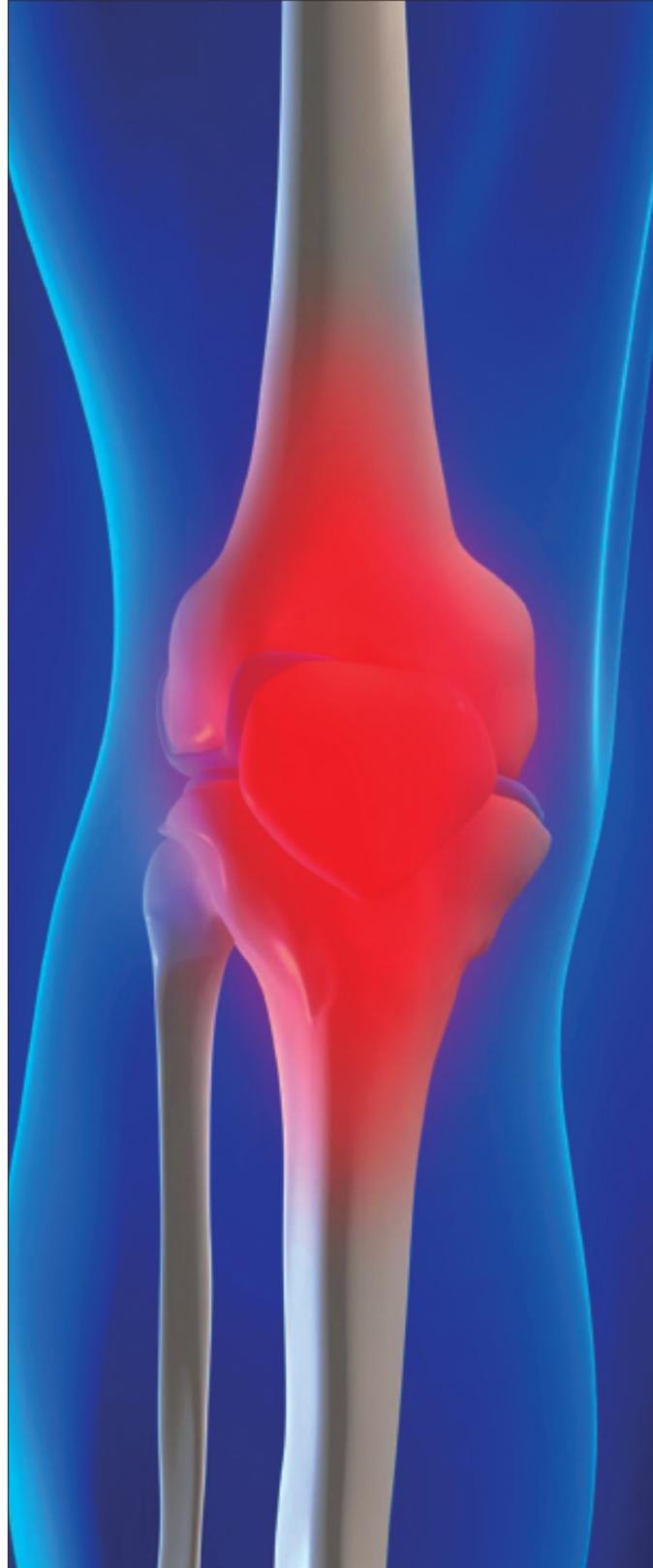
DR JONATHAN BARTLETT

responds to the frequency of a metal," said Dr Bartlett.

Taking this into account, he recommends that his patients with rheumatoid arthritis wear copper, brass or gold bracelets, which have proven to affect the whole hand.

In addition to cold weather, a change in biometric pressure can also affect rheumatoid patients. For instance, if there is an approaching hurricane and bands from the storm sweep over the region, the biometric pressure is affected, Dr Bartlett explained.

"When the biometric pressure drops, rheumatoid arthritis flares up in the body," he said.



Ticks in the Bahamas

IN the last five years we have seen a proliferation of these spider-like pests.

It seems if you ask any pet groomer, pet boarding facility, veterinary clinic or dog breeder, the one pest or parasite that is a constant problem with their daily operation is the tick.

They are an extremely common skin parasite of dogs.

These spider relatives have eight legs and live off blood.

They typically are gray to brown with oval shaped, leathery bodies or hard, flat bodies that inflate as the tick feeds.

Ticks come in a vast array of species and vary from pinhead size to as large as a lima bean when fully engorged.

The ticks that usually afflict dogs spend up to 90 per cent of their time off the host.

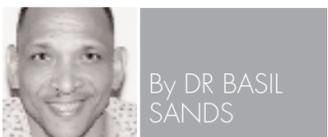
Ticks are typically a three-host parasite, that is they target a different kind of animal during each stage of development.

Should a preferred host (like a dog or a rat) be unavailable, ticks will feed from what's handy, including rats and people.

In the Bahamas we have the 'Brown Dog Tick'. The males of this type of tick are about the size of a match head and females can expand to the size of a pea after a blood meal.

Ticks begin as eggs that hatch into six legged larvae or tiny seed ticks that live in vegetation until they can board a passing host animal (dog or rat). These seed ticks feed for several days on a passing animal, then drop off and molt into eight legged nymphs.

These nymphs then seek an



By DR BASIL SANDS

appropriate host (dog or rat) to feed.

After another blood meal, these nymphs drop off and molt into adults.

Ticks do not run and jump as fleas do, but scuttle around slowly.

They climb up grass and plants and hold their legs up to sense passing host. When a warm blooded animal walks by, the adult tick crawls onto them and begins feeding.

Adults must again feed before mating. Once fertilised, females drop off the host to lay a 1,000 to 4,000 eggs.

The entire life cycle of a tick can take as long as two years.

Ticks can fasten to any part of the dog's skin, but are commonly found around the ears, between the toes, and sometimes in the armpits.

A severely infested dog may have hundreds of tick all over the body.

The ticks will insert their mouth, attach to their prey and engorge themselves with a blood meal.

During feeding, tick saliva can get into the host's body and blood stream, this is how diseases such as Ehrlichiosis and Lyme disease are transmitted. Males and females mate on the skin of the dog after which the female takes a blood meal and then drops off to lay her eggs.

This usually occurs five to 20 hours after the dog acquires the tick.

This is why prompt removal of ticks is an affective method of preventing tick bone disease.



TICKS come in a vast array of species and vary from pinhead size to as large as a lima bean when fully engorged.

If the dog has many ticks, treatment involves an insecticide dip containing natural or synthetic Pyrethrins labelled for ticks or an organophosphate dip such as Paramite. For information on how to use this dip, ask your veterinarian.

With a heavy infestation, I recommend dipping the dog once every week for four to six weeks.

Prevention: Ticks must attach for several hours before they can transmit disease.

Preventic tick collars containing Amitraz are quite effective in controlling ticks. These collars are effective for up to three months, but should not be used on puppies under 12 weeks of age. Frontline used to control fleas kills an dis-

ables most ticks for up to 30 days following a single application. I usually recommend using Frontline and a Preventic tick collar together.

For outdoor control, you need to cut tall grass, weeds and brush.

Treat the yard with an insecticide labelled as safe for use with animals or call one of your local pest control companies like Struckum or Tropical.

WOMAN

WOMEN & SEX

Pleasure



By MAGGIE BAIN

WHEN we sit as a group and consider our individual uniqueness it opens the doors for an interesting discussion. Throwing up words such as love, pleasure, rewards, sexual motivation makes us realise that we all have varying, and often surprising, view points.

We may come away more confused and bamboozled by the whole relationship thing, or leave determined to master the nuances of the 'game of love'.

The word 'pleasure' usually brings a smile to any face. Memories are triggered and range from the simplest things to the monumental milestones that mark our lives.

Today's dialogue is about 'Women and Sex' so we should fine tune the definition to 'sexual pleasure'.

Here again we find that it is almost impossible to accurately describe one model that would suit everyone.

Do you think it would make life easier if you could read or be told,

"If you do this with out missing a step you and your partner will find complete pleasure?"

In theory this sounds great, but wouldn't it all get robotic after awhile? What would happen to creativity and experimentation?

Singles and couples often start relationship therapy because they feel the joy has disappeared from their intimate relationship.

The happiness and glow of thinking, or being with their partner, has changed.

They still love their partner but sexual pleasure and fulfillment feels as if it has gone.

Thoughts of 'have we fallen out of love?' or 'does that mean it was-

n't real to begin with?' makes them feel sad and disillusioned through out the day.

As women, it is inbuilt in us to be the nurturers, and if we feel as if we are not 'doing our job' we often feel guilty.

Not seeming to be able to give pleasure to our lover reduces our confidence and self esteem.

It is a vicious cycle, and a downward spiral, unless we are given positive and helpful feedback.

Do we hear the cries of "But what about us?"

To date we have done a fairly good job in educating women about their right to enjoy their sexuality.

Sexual pleasure for women is talked and widely written about in the media.

It is now common place for the word 'sex' to be found on every magazine cover because they are aware of the natural curiosity that it produces.

If that is the case then why is there still a sense of shame and lack of entitlement felt within our soci-

ety?

No matter how liberal we are behind closed doors it still does not remove the negative messages coming from outside.

The unhelpful labelling of stereotypes only contributes to the harmful message that 'sex is bad'.

When we then carry these attitudes into our committed relationships we have a problem believing that we deserve to experience personal pleasure.

The inability to let go and fully enjoy the moment often inhibits orgasmic pleasure, and this often results in a feeling of incompleteness.

As we all know life can have its low moments.

Our desire and overall feelings towards any type of sexual pleasure may be altered.

The most common problems are due to medication, relationship and medical causes.

We may also find ourselves thrown back into singlehood and miss the happiness we used to feel.

For many of us the idea of 'self pleasuring' is accompanied with shame and disgrace.

If that is the case then start by thinking of ways to 'please yourself'.

Remember, sexual pleasure is all about our sensuality and sexuality. For example, enjoying spa treatments that pamper your skin provide the stimulation, both body and mind, to produce a sensual fulfillment.

Once you relax and fully commit to this concept you will become more confident and complete. You will both get to know each other in ways unimaginable and your overall life together will become happier.

• Margaret Bain is an individual and couples relationship therapist. She is a registered nurse and a certified clinical sex therapist. For appointments call 364-7230 or e-mail her at relatebahamas@yahoo.com or www.relatebahamas.blogspot.com. She is also available for speaking engagements.

GREEN SCENE

By Gardener Jack



THE blue sky vine produces large blue flowers and is one of the fastest growing vines of all.

Singing the blues

AZURE, indigo, cerulean, glaucous, sapphire – these are words that describe shades of blue, the most noticeable colour in the Bahamas given our sky and beautiful waters.

Even our national tree the lignum vitae (*Guaiacum sanctum*) bears blue flowers but is in a minority, for blue is a comparatively rare plant colour in this country.

The busy hummingbird is visually geared to feeding from and pollinating flowers that are in the spectrum from red through orange to yellow.

The lower end of the spectrum – all shades of blue – is left to the greatest pollinators of all, bees.

There are three notable wild plants that bear blue flowers.

Morning glory comes in a wide range of colours and shades that includes a striking powder blue, often the largest of the morning glory flowers in one area, the size of a saucer.

These brighten up the roadside bush and neglected areas.

My wife and I went to a tropical butterfly conservatory in the Niagara region a few years ago and found the butterflies very interesting.

But it was the plants we both commented on mostly, for just about every one of them – palms, heliconias, hibiscus, bougainvillea – we had growing in our yard back

home.

Probably the most abundant plant was the blueflower (*Valerianoides jamaicensis*) that grew to a much larger size in the artificial tropical conditions than it does in my backyard, which is just as well for it is a weed.

Blueflower has rather pretty oval leaves that are toothed around the edge and send up a flower stalk embedded with diminutive flowers that range from light to dark blue.

If allowed to spread, successive plants tend to radiate in a circle. Blueflower was used extensively in the conservatory because it was attractive to butterflies.

A few months ago I was surprised to find a pigeonberry for sale in my local nursery for \$56.

My surprise was because I have pulled dozens of pigeonberries from my garden in the past few years, leaving three as specimen plantings.

With pigeonberry (*Duranta repens*) – also called golden dew-drop – we have a beautiful native plant that turns into a weed when it invades cultivated gardens.

Pigeonberry grows to over six feet tall and bears small clusters of lacy light blue flowers that give way to bunches of yellow to orange berries.

Flowers and berries can often be seen on the shrub at the same time.

One of my favourite plants (though I do not have one in my garden at the moment) is Queen's



MORNING glory vine flowers come in many shades and one of the most attractive is blue.

Wreath (*Petrea volubilis*), a sturdy vine that produces wreath-like projections of vivid deep blue flowers up to 12 inches long.

Two petreas would make a wonderful ornamental archway.

Probably the most popular blue-flowered shrub is the plumbago (*P. capensis*).

The South African native is a straggly small shrub that bears masses of light blue flowers throughout most of the year. Plumbago can be the basis of a very attractive hedge.

The most rampant of all vines is

the blue sky vine (*Thunbergia grandiflora*).

Once established it drops kite tails of light blue flower clusters, each flower up to three inches across.

Be very aware of where you plant this vine. Friends of mine planted a small one about ten feet from a large brick barbecue complex and then went home to France for the summer. On their return they found it hard to locate their barbecue.

Another full-size tree besides the lignum vitae that produces blue flowers is the jacaranda (*J acutifolia*).

The jacaranda is very similar in growth and size to the royal poinciana but bears clusters of bell-like flowers that range on different trees from pale blue to purple.

Jacaranda is a native of Brazil but is extensively grown in subtropical regions of South Africa.

We may not have many blue-flowering plants but those we do have are lovely additions to any garden.

• For any comments or questions contact gardenerjack@coralwave.com.



Rotary Club East Nassau holds drive for eyeglass

THE Rotary Club of East Nassau (RCEN) is urging the public to donate their used eyeglasses as part of the club's efforts to give the gift of sight to children and the elderly in Nassau and Eleuthera.

The RCEN in conjunction with their twin club- The Rotary Club of Roswell, Georgia and the Eleuthera Rotary Club will sponsor eye testing during the Georgia's club visit to the Bahamas February 3-7.

The idea is to match the donated

eyeglasses to persons who can use them.

Rotarian Richard Pyfrom told Tribune Health yesterday that initiatives such as this can make a world of difference.

"This is our first joint community project with our twin Rotary club in Roswell Georgia. If it is successful I am sure there will be another.

"We will be testing in one of the schools and Bahamas Fast Ferries has been kind enough to take us to Eleuthera where we will test as

many elderly as time permits.

"Eye testing in the young is essential in bringing possible vision problems out in the open, which can improve a child's future tremendously. Testing the elderly in the islands brings a service to them that might not be available otherwise."

Members of the public wishing to contribute to this cause can do so by dropping glasses off at several locations- Doctor's Hospital, The Mall at Marathon, Bahamas Realty and The Tribune.

WOMAN

BAHAMIAN LADY LAUNCHES BOOK COMPANY

By JEFFARAH GIBSON

DESPITE the economic woes faced by many, Bahamian women are pushing ahead in the business community, becoming their own boss and calling the shots in 2010.

And entrepreneurship, which was once a male-dominated pursuit, is a dream chased by many women today.

Young Bahamian entrepreneur Sonia Farmer is a woman who has already chased, captured and established her dream.

With a combination of a good education, great skills and a passion for art, Ms Farmer conceived her business venture, the Poinciana Paper Press.

Located in Brooklyn, New York, the Poinciana Paper Press is a small press that specialises in producing chapbooks (pocket-sized booklets) rather than full length books.

In an interview with the *Tribune Woman*, Ms Farmer talked about how she got started and what her main objectives are for her new business.

"I have always been an artist, and having studied writing and taking a few bookmaking courses at the Brooklyn Pratt Institute my passion was ignited. I then soon realised that all of the things I learnt in the bookmaking courses can be intertwined with writing."

"Poinciana Paper Press is a place for writers of the Caribbean Diaspora living at home and abroad to share their stories of longing and belonging, stories of passion, of fire, of people and places, and this small press is dedicated to pre-

serving the voice of writers in limited edition, handmade chapbooks," she said.

People have responded very positively to the small press culture, and with the necessary skills books produced in this way can become beautiful creations.

Unlike large publishing houses, some small presses produce books that are handmade with a needle and thread or any material available, instead of bound with glue.

And even though presses both large and small have to compete with technological advancements like ebooks, Ms Farmer believes that a physical copy of a book offers readers something that no electronic form of document can.

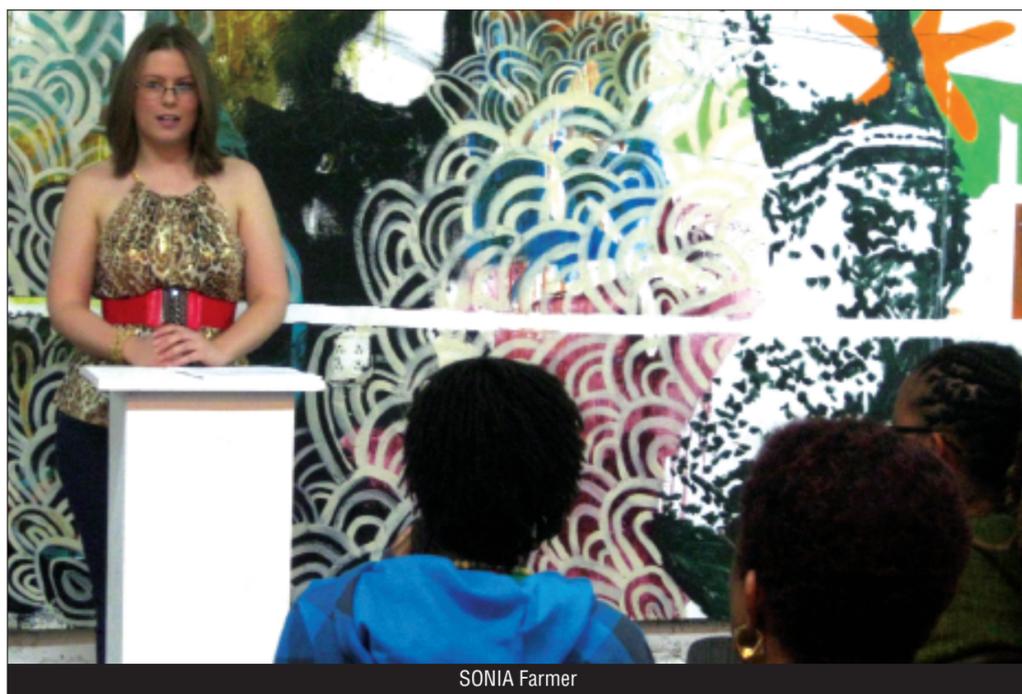
"Writers and publishers who don't want the physical book to become extinct are using small presses as way to keep readers interested. They are including tactile elements to bring touch and personality to books, something that the cold flat screen ebooks lack."

"So many small presses now use letterpress printing, printmaking, hand paper making techniques and interactive book structures to provide extreme alternatives to electronic text," she said.

Ms Farmer said small presses are a collaborative effort between artists in various professions and often produce beautiful books that are surprisingly affordable.

Ms Farmer is already off to a great start. She has published books for two Bahamian authors, up-and-coming writer Kiesha Lynne Ellis and established author Obediah Michael Smith, which have been launched just recently at The Hub in Nassau.

"When I thought about starting my press off with a bang these are the writers I solicited. And they are certainly explosive. One is a



SONIA Farmer

veteran writer who has published 11 books of poems. The other is a young writer with proactive stories of politics, philosophy, and human nature," she said.

Ms Farmer said she loves that she can collaborate with writers to make books, and with the Poinciana Paper Press she wants to show people that writing and art can come together to create something special.

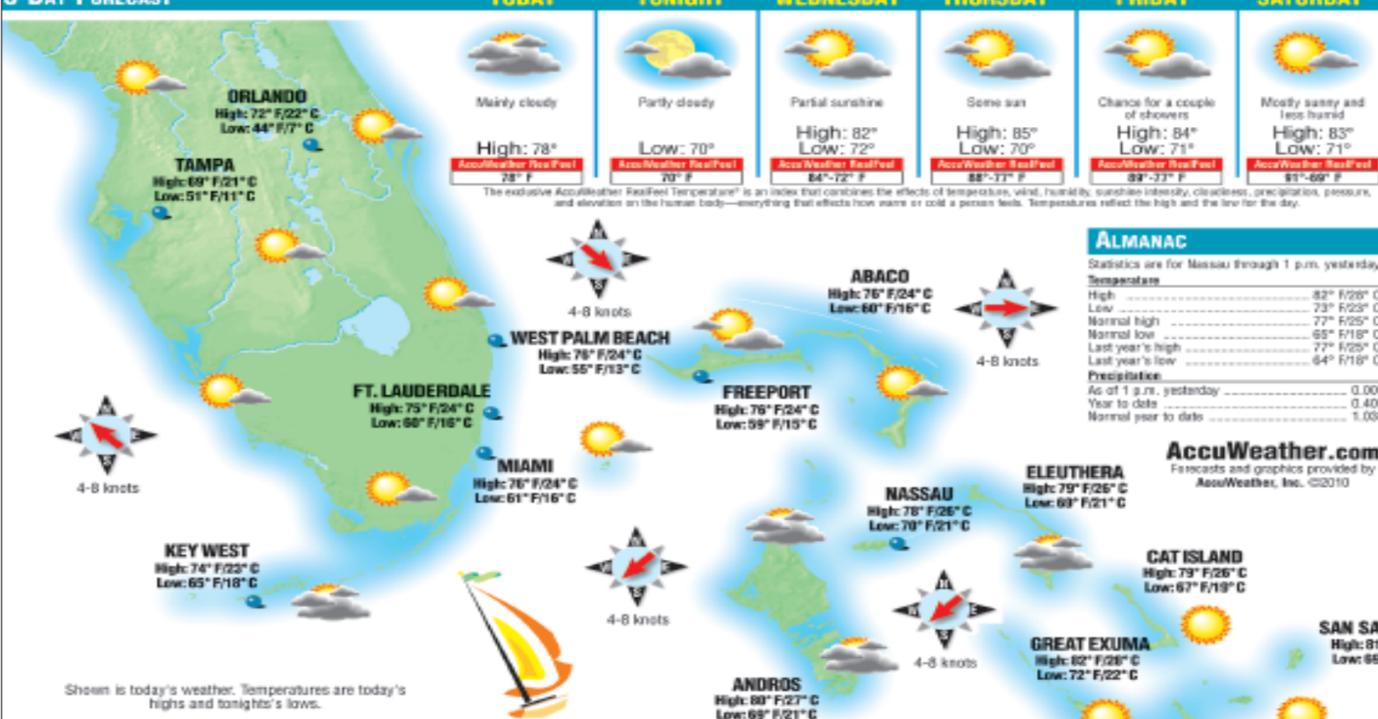
BOOKS printed by Sonia Farmer's Poinciana Paper Press - 'In a China Shop & Other Poems' by Obediah Michael Smith and 'The Little Death' by Kiesha Lynne Ellis.



THE WEATHER REPORT

INSURANCE MANAGEMENT (BAHAMAS) LIMITED
INSURANCE BROKERS & AGENTS

5-DAY FORECAST



UV INDEX TODAY



The higher the AccuWeather UV Index™ number, the greater the need for eye and skin protection.

TIDES FOR NASSAU

Time	High (ft.)	Low (ft.)
Today	10:04 a.m. 2.5 10:31 p.m. 2.3	3:57 a.m. 0.0 4:27 p.m. -0.1
Wednesday	6:40 a.m. 2.4 11:12 p.m. 2.3	4:36 a.m. 0.1 5:02 p.m. 0.0
Thursday	11:19 a.m. 2.2 11:57 p.m. 2.3	5:22 a.m. 0.3 5:39 p.m. 0.0
Friday	12:03 p.m. 2.1	6:12 a.m. 0.4 6:22 p.m. 0.0
Saturday	12:48 a.m. 2.4 12:54 p.m. 2.0	7:06 a.m. 0.4 7:32 p.m. 0.0
Sunday	1:45 a.m. 2.5 1:53 p.m. 1.9	8:11 a.m. 0.4 8:09 p.m. -0.1
Monday	2:46 a.m. 2.5 2:58 p.m. 2.0	9:17 a.m. 0.3 9:19 p.m. -0.3

ALMANAC

Statistics are for Nassau through 1 p.m. yesterday

Temperature	High	Low	Normal high	Normal low	Last year's high	Last year's low
Today	82° F / 28° C	72° F / 22° C	77° F / 25° C	65° F / 18° C	77° F / 25° C	64° F / 18° C
Year to date	82° F / 28° C	72° F / 22° C	77° F / 25° C	65° F / 18° C	77° F / 25° C	64° F / 18° C
Precipitation	0.00"	0.40"	1.00"	1.00"	1.00"	1.00"

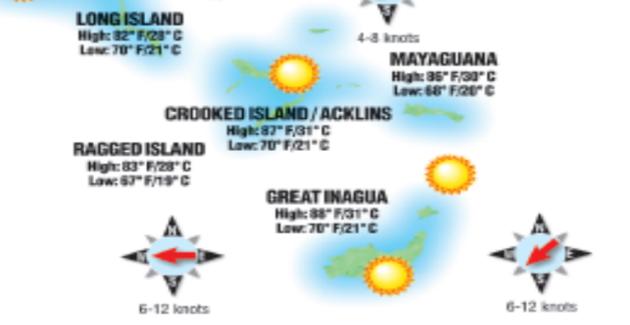
AccuWeather.com
Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2010

SUN AND MOON

Event	Time
Sunrise	6:56 a.m.
Sunset	5:45 p.m.
Moonset	9:19 a.m.
Moonset	9:37 p.m.

First Full Last New
Jan. 23 Jan. 30 Feb. 5 Feb. 13

INSURANCE MANAGEMENT TRACKING MAP



MARINE FORECAST

Location	Winds	Waves	Visibility	Water Temps.
Abaco	W at 4-8 Knots	3-6 Feet	10 Miles	74° F
Andros	W at 4-8 Knots	2-4 Feet	10 Miles	74° F
Cat Island	W at 4-8 Knots	1-2 Feet	10 Miles	72° F
Crooked Island	W at 4-8 Knots	1-2 Feet	10 Miles	72° F
Eleuthera	W at 4-8 Knots	1-2 Feet	10 Miles	72° F
Freeport	W at 4-8 Knots	1-2 Feet	10 Miles	72° F
Great Exuma	W at 4-8 Knots	1-2 Feet	10 Miles	72° F
Great Inagua	W at 4-8 Knots	1-2 Feet	10 Miles	72° F
Long Island	W at 4-8 Knots	1-2 Feet	10 Miles	72° F
Mayaguana	W at 4-8 Knots	1-2 Feet	10 Miles	72° F
Nassau	W at 4-8 Knots	1-2 Feet	10 Miles	72° F
San Salvador	W at 4-8 Knots	1-2 Feet	10 Miles	72° F
Ragged Island	W at 4-8 Knots	1-2 Feet	10 Miles	72° F

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