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INSIDE

## OBITUARIES and RELIGION

IN TODAY'S TRIBUNE

SEE PAGE 29

# GET CAUGHT & WIN

# Huge drug bust on Haitian boat

## Boy, 3, and father both shot in face

A THREE-YEAR-OLD BOY and his father were each shot in the face by a ruthless gunman who opened fire from a passing car.

The father had his son by his side as he was driving a silver coloured Nissan Pulsar in Pitt Road, off Nassau Street, when shots were fired from a gold-coloured Honda.

Police say the gunman was one of three people in the Honda and he fired several shots at the Nissan just after

SEE page 15

## Millions of dollars worth of cocaine and marijuana discovered on freighter

By MEGAN REYNOLDS  
Tribune Staff Reporter  
mreynolds@tribunemedia.net

DRUG Enforcement Officers swooped on a 44ft Haitian freighter packed with millions of dollars worth of cocaine and marijuana off the coast of Great Inagua yesterday.

The Royal Bahamas Police Force officers stormed the ship at around 10am in a joint operation with the United States Coast Guard and the American Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), and brought the haul into Nassau last night citing it as one of the most significant in the region.

Police arrested five Haitian citizens in connection with the haul and escorted the foreign suspects to Nassau by airplane yesterday.

Further investigations will

determine the exact quantity of cocaine and marijuana loaded inside the Haitian ship.

The drug seizure was one of three in the country yesterday as Long Island police found a large quantity of marijuana hidden in a bushy area in southern Long Island yesterday morning.

And Drugs Enforcement Unit (DEU) officers in Nassau uncovered 16 lbs of marijuana in a Marshall Road apartment when executing a search warrant at around 8am. A 36-year-old man has been arrested in connection with the New Providence find and investigations have been launched into all incidents.

The largest of the three is thought to be the load found on board the Haitian ship raided as some have stirred a climate of fear over an influx

SEE page 13

## BISHOP CALLS FOR UNITY ACROSS POLITICAL DIVIDE



Felipe Major/Tribune staff

**BISHOP LAISH BOYD**, head of the Anglican Dioceses of the Bahamas and the Turks and Caicos, delivers a sermon to members of Parliament yesterday, with PLP leader Perry Christie and Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham looking on. Bishop Boyd urged legislators across the political divide to put aside differences and come together in unity to create a better Bahamas. His remarks came at the annual Parliamentary Church Service at St George's Anglican Church. Members of the House of Assembly and the Senate attended yesterday's service at which several members of the religious community spoke.

## Haiti telethon raises \$250,000

By MEGAN REYNOLDS  
Tribune Staff Reporter  
mreynolds@tribunemedia.net

THE Bahamian public donated a total of \$250,000 to relief efforts in a two-day national telethon to 'Help Us Help Haiti'.

A concert starring Bahamian music legend Ronnie Butler, local popstar TaDa, and popular rake and scrape groups drew a crowd to Arawak Cay for the second night of the telethon on Tuesday while calls were taken by high profile Bahamians at the British Colonial Hilton and raised around

SEE page 14

## Travolta case retrial set for September 6

By NATARIO MCKENZIE  
Tribune Staff Reporter  
nmckenzie@tribunemedia.net

THE RETRIAL of former PLP-senator Pleasant Bridgewater and an ex-ambulance driver accused of attempting to extort \$25 million from Hollywood actor John Travolta is expected to begin on September 6 in Nassau.

The date was set yesterday during a fixture hearing before Senior Justice

SEE page 19

## Threatened action by airport security staff could temporarily close US pre-clearance

By NOELLE NICOLLS  
Tribune Staff Reporter  
nnicolls@tribunemedia.net

SECURITY staff at the Airport Authority are threatening to withdraw their services over a dispute with management that could result in the temporary closure of the US pre-clearance department at the Lynden Pindling International Airport.

Dissatisfied with the results achieved by following standard protocols, they are appealing to Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham and Minister of Tourism and Aviation

SEE page 15

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LOCAL NEWS

# Establishment of Exuma Cays Land and Sea Park

By LARRY SMITH

## ECOFILES

ONE of the pioneering underwater photographers who worked in the Bahamas before the Second World War was Ilya Tolstoy, a colourful grandson of the great 19th century Russian writer, Leo Tolstoy.

He had been a cavalry officer before emigrating to the US in 1924. He later became associated with the New York Museum of Natural History and the Explorers Club, taking part in several film ventures and expeditions around the world.

After the Second World War, Tolstoy was a frequent visitor to the Bahamas and became increasingly concerned about environmental degradation. In 1953 he began leveraging his international contacts to push the idea of setting aside some Bahamian islands as protected areas.

At about the same time, a Columbia University graduate student named Carleton Ray was working on a photo book about marine life (with a fellow student named Elgin Ciampi). Like others before them, they

had decided that the Bahamas was the place for underwater photography.

In his book, *The Underwater Guide to Marine Life*, Ray also called for the protection of marine areas in the same way that land areas were protected. These "undersea wilderness areas" would serve as replenishment zones for marine life to repopulate surrounding areas, while preserving the beauty of coral gardens as valuable tourist attractions and natural laboratories.

Meanwhile, Tolstoy had presented his idea to the Bahamian government, which had agreed to temporarily set aside a 22-mile stretch of the Exuma Cays providing that some group would explore the possibility further and make concrete recommendations.

Tolstoy and Ray joined forces and by January 1958 they had organised their Exuma expedi-

tion. A collection of big-name conservationists like Donald Squires of the American Museum of Natural History, along with Bahamian experts like Oris Russell and Herbert McKinney, spent a week travelling by boat from Norman's Cay to Conch Cut.

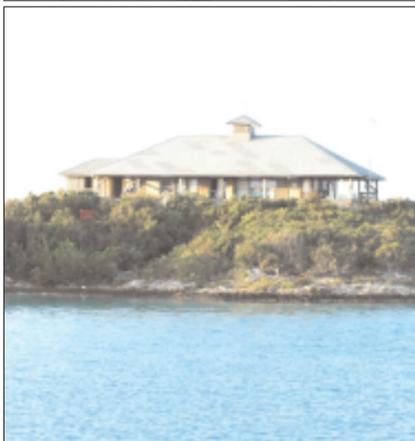
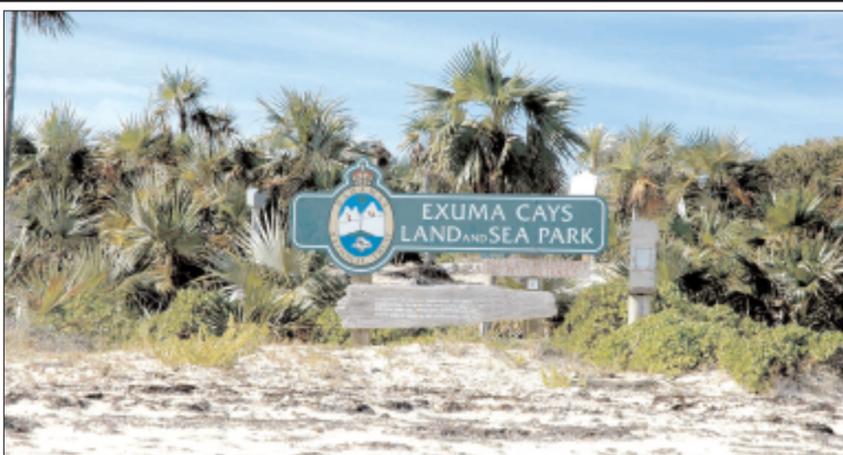
They concluded that the area had "essentially unspoiled natural conditions with unmodified associations of plants, animals, earth processes, and those intangible elements that combine to give an area its outstanding character."

"The Exuma Cays park under consideration should be regarded as only the beginning of a conservation movement that is vital to the Bahamas as a whole. It will also be a beginning of a new concept, integrated land-and-sea conservation, in which the Bahamas will take the lead and show the way to other nations throughout the world," their report said.

The survey team called for an organisation modelled on the British National Trust to acquire lands and manage protected areas throughout the Bahamas. This organisation - which was created by parliament in 1959 - would be the government's advisor on conservation matters and seek to educate Bahamians on the value of their natural heritage.

The government adopted the team's recommendations wholesale and the 176-square-mile Exuma Cays Land and Sea Park, the first of its kind in the world, was officially established. Parliament passed the Bahamas National Trust Act in 1959, creating an independent statutory organisation charged with conservation and preservation. The BNT's governing council included government, private sector and scientific representatives.

The Exuma park incorporated the following land areas: Little Wax Cay, Shroud Cay, Little Pigeon Cay (private), Hawksbill Cay, Little Hawksbill Cay, Cistern Cay (private), Long Cay, Warderick Wells (park headquarters), Halls Pond Cay, Little White Bay Cay, South Halls Pond Cay (private) Soldier Cay



THE PARK HEADQUARTERS at Warderick Wells (above left) and an iguana at the park.

(private), O'Brien's/Pasture Cays, Bell Island (private), Little Bell Island (private) and Rocky Dundas.

In addition to overseeing the Exuma Cays Land and Sea Park, the newly created Bahamas National Trust also took over responsibility for thousands of endangered flamingos on Inagua. This effort had previously been handled by an ad hoc group spearheaded by the US National Audubon Society, which paid the salaries of Bahamian wardens Sam and Jim Nixon.

In 1986 the BNT concluded that commercial pressures on Bahamian marine resources were becoming unsustainable and declared the Exuma park a no-take zone, making it the first marine fisheries reserve in the wider Caribbean. Subsequent research has shown that the park is acting as a fisheries replenishment area - as was originally pro-

jected by the 1958 survey team.

Scientists have found that the concentration of conch inside the park is many times higher than outside the park, helping to bolster conch populations available for fishermen to harvest. Crawfish tagged in the park have been found near Cat Island, over 70 miles away. And a large proportion of the grouper in the northern Exuma region originate in the park.

According to marine biologist Dr Dan Brumbaugh of the American Museum of Natural History, the Exuma park is doing exactly what it was created to do: "There are more and bigger fish in the park than in other areas, and there are good size fish just outside the park boundaries too. It is distinctly different from what you see around New Providence, for example, and the reefs are healthier with more parrot fish present."

The documented success of

the Exuma park in terms of fisheries replenishment has led the government to adopt a policy of setting aside 20 per cent of the Bahamian marine environment as a network of protected areas. The extraordinary benefits to fisheries that are expected to result from these no-take zones are coupled with equally significant benefits for tourism and education.

• Written by Larry Smith, Media Enterprises Ltd, for the Bahamas National Trust. For more information call 393-1317 or visit [www.bnt.bs](http://www.bnt.bs).

## INDEX

### MAIN/SPORTS SECTION

Local News.....P1,2,3,5,6,7,8,9,10,12

Local News.....P13,14,15,19,21,23,26,27

Editorial/Letters.....P4

Advts.....P11,20,22,24,25,28,29,30,31

Sports.....P16,17,18

Comics.....P32

### BUSINESS SECTION

Business.....P1,2,3,4,5,7,8,9,10,11,12,13

Advts.....P6,14

### OBITUARIES/RELIGION 32 PAGES

### CLASSIFIED SECTION 32 PAGES

### USA TODAY MAIN SECTION 12 PAGES

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LOCAL NEWS

ELEUTHERA CONTROVERSY

Education chiefs seek legal advice over child sex scandal

By ALISON LOWE Tribune Staff Reporter alowe@tribunemedia.net



DESMOND BANNISTER

THE Ministry of Education is seeking legal advice over the Eleuthera child sex scandal, it was confirmed last night.

As education chiefs continue their investigations into the affair, a file has been forwarded to the AG's office to see what action should be taken.

"I've asked the Attorney General to review a number of issues arising out of this matter and to make such decisions as he, in his discretion, thinks are appropriate," said Minister Desmond Bannister yesterday.

Mr Bannister made his comments a day after it was revealed that the Ministry of Education is deeply concerned about widespread child sex abuse allegations and a sudden rise in suicide attempts among school-age children in Eleuthera over the last six months.

On Monday, the Minister confirmed that to date there have been nine such attempts since September 2009 on the island, with three in January alone.

Meanwhile, compounding the seriousness of the situation, The Tribune understands that numerous allegations of "intimidation" and "interference" with, and of, children on the island who may have spoken out about abuse are also a major focus of government officials.

As the ministry continues to probe and respond to these issues, parents at North Eleuthera High School also pushed on yesterday with their protest against the Ministry's decision to transfers the school's Principal on Monday.

She was moved in order to fill a gap left by another senior administrator at the Preston

Albury High School who was asked to step in to take the place of the District Superintendent for Eleuthera's education system after he was sent on extended leave at the start of the week.

Responsibilities

It was claimed that District Superintendent, Rudolph Smith, had not lived up to his responsibilities as the chief educational administrator in the district when allegations of abuse of children surfaced.

Even as Mr Bannister said yesterday morning that he had been assured by his Ministry's representatives on the island that discussions with parents had resulted in a commitment that the more than 200 students who attended the school would have returned yesterday, a call to the school revealed that still only "about nine or ten" children were in class that day as the parents continued to seek ways to express their opposition.

The Parent Teachers Association (PTA) of North Eleuthera has headed angry calls from local parents for the

return of the Principal, who joined the school in September 2009, and was primarily responsible for preparing the children for their BGCSE and BJC exams. Only a handful of students have attended school each day since Monday, The Tribune understands.

PTA executives have said that they do not see how it is in the best interest of the children to move the Principal at this time. They have responded angrily to suggestions that their community is suffering from any of the social problems the Ministry is concerned about in Eleuthera.

Mr Bannister said yesterday morning: "My officers were down there yesterday and they left with a clear understanding that today children would be in school. Keeping children out of school is against the law, but we fully expect children will be in school today."

Mr Bannister told The Tribune that he plans to visit Eleuthera to speak with parents next Wednesday. However, he had earlier said he would only do so if all children returned to school.

On Tuesday Bahamas Union of Teachers President Belinda Wilson accused the ministry of disrespectfully effecting the massive shake-up of the Eleuthera education system without properly consulting or even informing the union after the fact of its plans or the basis of the move.

Yesterday the Education Minister said he would not be drawn into an "antagonistic" public debate with Ms Wilson over the matter.

"You'll never hear me responding to Ms Wilson. I don't believe (it's the Ministry of) Education's policy to get involved in public discussions between myself and the President of the union. It's important for things to happen the proper way," he said.

However, he did assert the Ministry's right and responsibility to reassign any of its employees.

Police continue car dump fire probe

POLICE are still investigating the cause of Tuesday's fire at the car dump in Marshall Road.

Fire Services reported they were alerted to the fire at around 11.15am and found a number of derelict vehicles ablaze.

The massive blaze led to huge clouds of smoke filling the skies above the area, but no one was injured in the fire and the flames did not spread to any nearby properties.

While the site is near the Anatol Rodgers High School, no one on the campus was affected as the winds were blowing the smoke south of the school at the time.

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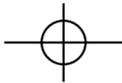
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EDITORIAL/LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

# The Tribune Limited

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## Deficit-cutting vows not matched by acts

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama and Congress want to have it both ways.

Obama is signaling budget cutting will be a major priority, yet he's putting most spending off-limits. Congress talks belt-tightening, too, but its votes tell a different story.

Obama is proposing a partial three-year spending freeze. It's a relatively modest gesture intended to show he's serious about deficit reduction. It comes partly in response to rising public fury over fiscal irresponsibility in Washington, anger that was reflected in last week's costly Democratic loss in a special Massachusetts Senate election.

Since then, nearly all politicians in Washington, especially those up for re-election this year, are sounding like deficit hawks.

Even though they talk the talk at the White House and in Congress, there is no sign of strong action anytime soon to begin seriously filling the government's \$12 trillion-plus fiscal hole.

Two wars, a deep recession that has depressed tax revenues, and federal bailout and stimulus spending have resulted in a debt that is mushrooming well past \$1 trillion a year. The debt is equivalent to nearly \$40,000 a year for each man, woman and child in America.

And while other major economies, from Japan and Britain to Italy have even bigger proportionate debts and manage to muddle through, the deficits can't be ignored. At some point, worries about inflation or possible default will push up interest rates. Meeting interest payments on the national debt will squeeze out other government spending, sap business confidence and leave trillions of dollars in unpaid bills to future generations of Americans.

On Capitol Hill, despite emotional calls for spending restraint from both parties, the Senate on Tuesday rejected a White House-backed plan for a bipartisan commission that would send Congress a package of recommendations on combined spending cuts and possible tax increases. The deficit-cutting recommendations were to have been voted on after this fall's mid-term elections.

Lining up in opposition was an unusual coalition of liberals and conservatives — the liberals arguing that the group's recommendations could lead to cuts in Social Security and Medicare benefits, and the Republicans complaining that they would mean higher taxes.

"You can get locked into these positions that guarantee gridlock and a rising deficit," said Robert Bixby, executive director of The Concord Coalition, a bipartisan fiscal watchdog group. "Everybody's looking for some magic solution that isn't there."

After the vote, the Senate returned to considering a proposal that would increase the government's borrowing authority by

an additional \$1.9 trillion. "We have to pay the bills for what we've already spent," White House spokesman Robert Gibbs said in seeking to explain how the president could be for both reducing the deficit and increasing the debt limit.

Members of both parties agree the present course is unsustainable.

The late Herbert Stein, who was chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers under Presidents Richard Nixon and Gerald Ford, liked to say that "unsustainable trends tend to come to an end." Nobody can say when and how the present unsustainable spending spree will end.

As if to drive home the bleak math, the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office on Tuesday said this year's budget deficit would be \$1.35 trillion, down only slightly from last year's record \$1.4 trillion shortfall. The accumulation of annual budget deficits adds up to \$12.1 trillion, the nation's national debt. The CBO later said in a separate report that last year's \$787 billion economic stimulus bill actually is costing \$75 billion more.

The CBO numbers underscored what many deficit-minded economists and lawmakers have been saying for some time: Without action by the White House and Congress to alter its course, the river of red ink will continue to flow even after the economy recovers and stimulus spending to prop it up ends.

"For the first time in our nation's history, we risk undermining U.S. economic and military strength, and becoming a second-rate power," said former Sen. Pete Domenici, a Republican who once chaired the Senate Budget Committee.

Domenici dismisses efforts by the White House to blame much of today's government debt on the previous administration as well as Republican attempts to blame Obama and his congressional Democrats. "We don't know how much of the debt is Republican or how much is Democratic, and it doesn't matter," Domenici said.

Part of the problem of finding a bipartisan solution is that there's a scarcity of senators like Domenici, able to reach effectively across party lines, said Ross Baker, a political science professor at Rutgers University. "People are just frozen in their positions and just reacting to the loudest noises that they're getting from the base of both parties."

He said a fuller economic recovery, and the return of job creation, will help some.

"In the long run, things are going to get better," Baker said. "But as Franklin Roosevelt once noted, we don't eat in the long run."

(This article was written by Tom Raum, AP economics and political writer).

# The blasting at Bahama Rock needs to cease

EDITOR, The Tribune.

On January 12, 2010 there was a massive 7.0 earthquake that devastated the lives and country of Haiti. Due to this the Bahamas was under a tsunami watch that left me and my family wondering what do we do?

My seven-year-old daughter said to me: "Mom, what will happen to us and what is an earthquake?" I then responded to her by telling her an earthquake is when the earth moves under you and things begin to shake and sometimes cause damage (to simplify it remember this is a seven year old).

In response to her question I reassured her that we will be okay and that we needed to pray! She then proceeded to say: "You mean the earthquake is like when we feel the blasting that makes me so afraid?" I said to her: "Yes, you are entirely correct, darling."

There's an old saying only he that feels it knows it; I say this because no matter what the reports tell you about how minimal the blasting is at Bahama Rock, unless you experience the vibrations you will never know what the residents of Eight Mile Rock, especially Harbour West, are faced with on a daily basis (a nightmare!). It is amazing to see how a seven year old can think to give an analogy of

## LETTERS

letters@tribunemedia.net

the earthquake and sum it up to the shaking and vibrations that we feel on a daily basis from (BR). Wow, how sad!

This is simple, the blasting at Bahama Rock needs to cease. It has been one year and two months now since the members of the Grand Bahama Committee for Concerned Residents heard or got any response from the Bahamas Government on the latest development in regards to the expansion and development at (BR). This in itself is disheartening, ludicrous, deplorable and shameful. As I write this letter I am bitter and very angry. It is sad to see a public statement was made by the Minister of Environment assuring Grand Bahamians that he would meet with them to discuss the ongoing battle that the Bahamians face in regards to the effects of the project at (BR). To date nothing has been done, no meetings, no letters, no e-mails, no phone calls. That in itself is embarrassing due to the fact that a promise was made and the Bahamian people have been let down.

There obviously is no clear representation from the local government or the represen-

tative for the area. I say this with disgust because both entities are aware of the ongoing saga. I see work going on across the (WJL) highway but yet nothing is being said to establish what sort of permission or approval was given to (MM/BR).

However, there is an easy solution to this problem. Rather than have the Bahamian people left to wonder, come to the forefront and establish the real deal as to what the plans are for (BR) and its intent with regards to approval to cross the (WJL) highway. There needs to be some form of accountability for the actions displayed by the government towards its people.

Please, we need to work together in order to build this nation. Wow, if a seven year old can see the light of day as to the traumatic effects of the blasting what other evidence is needed?

Please give the Bahamian people their respect and live up to your responsibility of dealing with the concerns that affect all of us!

**Carolyn Maria Nortelus-McIntosh**  
A concerned citizen, mother, entrepreneur and taxpayer.

Eight Mile Rock, Grand Bahama, January 22, 2010

## Allegations are irrelevant to our school

EDITOR, The Tribune.

I am writing concerning the problems at the North Eleuthera High School that by now you should be aware of. The problem with these allegations is that they are all irrelevant to our school. These problems occurred at various different schools on the island, not at our school.

Apparently, they did not do a detailed research on these situations or they would have found out that the alleged prostitution ring and the attempted suicides both happened at a different school which isn't located in North Eleuthera. The allegations of eight boys being molested occurred in the

settlement of Hatchet Bay, not even in a school and the case is now in the hands of the courts.

Our Principal and Senior Mistress have done nothing wrong except providing discipline to children that were headed in the wrong direction and needed to be disciplined accordingly. Therefore we as a PTA see no reason for removal of such fine ladies who are doing great things in our school.

I am a concerned parent that is very frustrated at the way that Government officials are

handling this situation, they are refusing to meet with us to clarify all statements made by themselves until the middle of next week; if they are as concerned as they say they are don't you think this should be top priority?

**AUDRA NEELY**  
Proud Parent of a Student of North Eleuthera High Eleuthera, Bahamas, January 26, 2010.

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## LOCAL NEWS

# 'Too early to say' if Toyota concerns will affect Bahamas

By ALISON LOWE  
Tribune Staff Reporter  
alowe@tribunemedia.net

THE exclusive distributor for Toyota cars in the Bahamas says it is "too early to say" conclusively to what extent Bahamian car owners may be affected by safety fears that prompted the recall of millions of popular Toyota cars in North America earlier this week.

Frederick Albury, president of Executive Motors on Shirley Street, is awaiting further information from Toyota's Miami office before he can advise whether the vast majority of cars his dealership sells – which are imported from Japan – are subject to the same concerns which led to the US recall, but added that it seems unlikely based on what he has been told at this stage.

Mr Albury said however that there are a "minority" of vehicles the company has sold in recent years that "will probably be affected" by the recall, based on the fact that they are US-made.

His comments come in the wake of international media reports that car maker Toyota announced it was recalling 2.3 million cars – from a total of eight different models from particular years – after finding that some were



A CUSTOMER walks past a new 2010 Toyota Camry at a dealership on Wednesday, Jan. 27, 2010 in Nashville, Tenn. Toyota Motor Corp. announced late Tuesday it would halt sales of some of its top-selling models to fix gas pedals that could stick and cause unintended acceleration.

affected by a fault which causes the accelerator pedal to "stick". The fault "does not come overnight", said the company, but has been found to manifest itself after some wear and tear.

Following the January 21, 2010 recall, the company ordered that all US dealerships stop selling all the models in question.

The models which have been recalled are: the 2009-10 RAV4; 2009-10 Corolla; 2009-10 Matrix; 2005-10 Avalon; 2007-10 Camry; 2010

Highlander; 2007-10 Tundra and the 2008-10 Sequoia.

Mr Albury said: "So far (Executive Motors) has not been informed of any effect on models we sell that are imported directly from Japan. I've been onto the Toyota office in Miami this morning. They told us that with the models we import the parts affected are supplied by a different supplier to those parts being used in the US."

"So what they're saying is it seems like we're not affected yet but they're doing more tests."

He added that his company has imported a relatively small number of US-made Toyotas in recent years, and these "will probably be affected" by the recall.

Mr Albury estimated that his dealership may have imported and sold around "30 to 40" US-made vehicles in the "last few years" – mainly certain Avalon and Camry models. Exactly how many may have been imported privately is unclear.

"We've had calls from people who imported directly themselves. They're advised to contact those who they bought the car from to acquire the necessary parts

once they're available and we would do the installation," said Mr Albury. "We're just waiting on what the remedy will be. We presume it will involve changing some accelerator parts. We can't say conclusively until we hear from Toyota's head office."

He said he hopes to hear something definitive from the car company within the week so he can speak more definitively on the Japanese-made models.

One local Toyota driver told *The Tribune* yesterday that she was "horrified" upon hearing about the potential fault with her 2009 Toyota Corolla.

Having been very happy with her previous car, a Toyota Tercel, the woman, who wished to remain anonymous, said she was already disappointed that her new car did not appear to be of the same quality as her previous car and this latest announcement has left her feeling very anxious.

She criticised Executive Motors for failing to issue a public statement on the recall, suggesting that even if they were not able to say for sure whether the cars they had sold were affected, this should have been made known to drivers and an update given when it became available.

## STOP LIVING IN FEAR - AVOID BEING NEXT HOW TO AVOID BEING SHOT BY THE POLICE - PART 1

By D'ARCY RAHMING

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The officer does not have the luxury of walking away from potentially violent situations as you and I do. Young people have to be made to understand that the officer's job is to bring a problem under control and if you are perceived as the problem, that means YOU! Therefore, always follow the rule of "Comply Now and Complain Later."

Always remember, we outnumber the Bad Guys.

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



D'ARCY RAHMING

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## Road closures for military funeral

POLICE are advising the public that certain roads will be closed tomorrow morning for the military funeral of Royal Bahamas Police Force Inspector Shannon Colebrooke.

The funeral will be held at the Kemp Road Union Baptist Church on Kemp Road at 11am, and the portion of Kemp Road between Wulff Road and Parkgate Road will be closed from 10am.

Traffic will be diverted through side streets during the road closure and there will be parking restrictions in streets from Kemp Road to John F Kennedy Drive from 11am onwards for the funeral procession.

Parking will not be allowed until after the procession has passed in the following roads:

- Kemp Road, between Wulff Road and Parkgate Road;
- Wulff Road, between Kemp Road and Baillou Hill Road;
- Poinciana Avenue, between Baillou Hill Road and Thompson Boulevard;
- Thompson Boulevard, between Poinciana Avenue and Bethel Avenue;
- John F Kennedy Drive, between Bethel Avenue and Gladstone Road;
- Theodore Lane, between John F Kennedy Drive and Tonique Darling-Williams Highway;
- Tonique Darling-Williams Highway between John F Kennedy Drive and Theodore Lane.

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LOCAL NEWS

# 'Machine malfunction' puts hold on financial assistance coupons

By REUBEN SHEARER

HUNGRY and down-trodden Bahamians were distraught to find out yesterday that for the second day in a row, they would not have access to financial assistance coupons.

Social Service officers posted a sign early Tuesday morning which read: "Come back on Wednesday for regular coupons. Sorry for the inconvenience." The sign remained in place all day Wednesday.

The Tribune learned from Eugena Cartwright, head of the Treasury Department, that the Social Services

**"I have two children, and my fiancée has a child. She's hungry, and I don't know where to go from here."**

A welfare beneficiary

Department has been unable to issue welfare coupons because of a machine malfunction. She assured the public that a shortage of money was not the issue.

"This machine malfunction caused a big glitch, and

we were unable to sign the statements for welfare recipients," she explained.

Social workers remained tight-lipped about the situation, wishing not to comment other than to reassure the public that coupons will be issued today.

One senior official added: "Persons who were in more of a dire need got assistance today, and the rest will receive their coupons by Thursday."

After being turned away on Tuesday and again yesterday, one welfare beneficiary said he heard rumours that the government was struggling to find the funds to continue to help people such as himself.

He said: "It's not fair because we are the poorest people, and we rely on that food assistance."

"I have two children, and my fiancée has a child. She's hungry, and I don't know where to go from here," another said.

The Social Services Department is charged with the huge task of aiding a large group of ill and indigent persons who receive welfare on a monthly basis. Those who are unemployed get assistance every three months.

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# FOCOL HOLDINGS CO. LTD.

## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

For The Quarter Ended October 31, 2008



Despite a slow economy FOCOL has continued to produce strong financial results. Net income for the quarter ended October 31, 2008 was \$4.123 million, compared to \$3.841 million in 2007. This represents a 7.3% increase.

We are continuing to make steady improvements in our operations that are resulting in cost savings and greater efficiency. We expect that the improvements we are making will help us to maintain our profitability over the expected difficult times ahead. The decrease in petroleum prices has had a positive effect on our business by decreasing the amount of money we have invested in inventories.

Our Board of Directors, management and staff remain committed to the development of our plans to make FOCOL more efficient and profitable.

Sir Albert J. Miller, KCMG  
Chairman and President

### FOCOL HOLDINGS CO. LTD CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET (AUDITED) (B \$000)

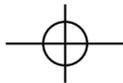
	October 31, 2008	July 31, 2007
Assets	\$ 129,259	\$ 137,061
Liabilities	44,551	57,207
Total shareholders' equity	84,708	79,854
	\$ 129,259	\$ 137,061

### CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF INCOME (AUDITED) (B \$000)

	Year ended October 31, 2008	Year ended October 31, 2007
Sale & revenues	\$ 101,551	\$ 80,679
Cost of sales	(90,147)	(70,094)
Gross profit	11,404	10,585
Marketing, administrative and general	(6,648)	(5,812)
Depreciation	(554)	(556)
Finance cost	(170)	(383)
Other income (expense)	(91)	(7)
Net Income	4,123	3,841
Preference share dividends	(392)	-
Net income available to common shareholders	\$ 3,731	\$ 3,841
Basic earnings per share	\$ 0.11	\$ 0.11
Dividends per share	\$ 0.06	\$ 0.03

Copies of a full set of the un-audited financial statements can be obtained from Stephen Adderley (sadderley@focol.com), at the Freeport Oil Company located on Queens Highway, Freeport, Grand Bahama, Monday through Friday from 8:30 AM TO 5:00 PM.

FOCOL Holdings Co. Ltd



LOCAL NEWS

# Mitchell warns govt: don't make up policy by seat of your pants



FRED MITCHELL

PLP spokesman on foreign affairs Fred Mitchell has warned the government "not to make up policy by the seat of its pants" after two ministers offered apparently conflicting statements on how the government intended to deal with a group of Haitian immigrants apprehended on Monday.

Meanwhile, Mr Mitchell accused Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham of having been "proven wrong once again" in the face of reports from Immigration officials that most of the 51 immigrants picked up after their sloop ran aground near Adelaide said they had set

off from the Haitian capital, Port au Prince.

"The only man who did not expect this incursion must have been the Right Honourable Prime Minister. He predicted that since Haitians normally come to the country from the north that the country would not likely suffer these incursions because the earthquake occurred in the south of that country. He has been proven wrong once again," said Mr Mitchell, MP for Fox Hill and former foreign affairs minister.

Port-au-Prince and nearby areas was left devastated and hundreds of thousands were killed and injured

after a 7.1 magnitude earthquake struck on January 12. The deadly disaster led to some concerns of an "influx" of Haitian migrants to the Bahamas, but Mr Ingraham stated shortly afterwards that he did not foresee this happening.

On Tuesday 49 of the Haitians were charged with illegal landing before the courts, and sentenced to six months detention.

Earlier that morning, Immigration Minister Brent Symonette and Minister of State for Immigration Branville McCartney had made divergent statements on what was likely to happen to the immigrants, with

Mr Symonette stating that they would be reviewed on a case-by-case basis but likely released, and Mr McCartney suggesting they would probably be charged before the courts.

"The government cannot seem to get the facts straight about what the situation is and what it proposes to do in the face of this incursion. It appears that in talking with the Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham, the Minister of State for Immigration Branville McCartney and the Deputy Prime Minister Brent Symonette who is also the Minister of Foreign Affairs, there are three dif-

ferent government policies on this issue.

"This is a matter of grave concern for our people and the government must not make up policy by the seat of its pants.

"The government must address this with dispatch and with a seriousness commensurate with the gravity of the problem which faces us," said Mr Mitchell.

## GB police officers promoted

By DENISE MAYCOCK  
Tribune Freeport Reporter  
dmaycock@tribunemedia.net

FREEPORT - Three senior police officers were promoted on Grand Bahama to the ranks of Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent.

ASP Welbourne Bootle was promoted to the rank of Superintendent. Mr Bootle currently heads the Police Traffic Division.

Inspector Wendell Clarke, an attorney at law, and Inspector Wendell Smith were promoted to the rank of Assistant Superintendent.

Clarke will continue to head the Police Prosecutions Department in Freeport. Smith will serve as the officer in charge of the Mobile Patrol Division on February 8.

These are the second round of promotions in the Royal Bahamas Police Force in Freeport this year.

Asst Supt Loretta Mackey said the promotions became effective



WELBOURNE BOOTLE



WENDELL SMITH



WENDELL CLARKE

on Monday, January 25.

The first round of promotions was announced early in the New Year. ASP Edmund Rahming, officer in charge of the Central Detective Unit, and ASP Noel Curry, who now heads Abaco District, were promoted as superintendents.

Chief Inspector Hector Delva, officer in charge of the Police Training College, and Inspector Floyd Bastion, officer in charge of Fire Division, were promoted to assistant superintendents.

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# Bahamians focus on food sustainability

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RBC Royal Bank of Canada • Scotiabank (Bahamas) Ltd.

By **NOELLE NICOLLS**  
Tribune Staff Reporter  
nnicolls@tribunemedia.net

AGRICULTURALIST Godfrey Eneas and cultural activist Khalil Khalfani have joined forces to lead a partnership between the Bahamas and the Republic of Senegal.

They are collaborating to establish a non-profit organisation, the Bahamas Sub-Sahara Foundation, to implement strategies for food sustainability in West Africa.

"There are others like me in the Diaspora who believe we owe something to Africa. There is a moral responsibility here, so we feel that since we have this expertise we should find a way to assist our brothers and sisters in Africa by helping them to become more food secure," said Mr Eneas, the former director of Agriculture and Bahamas Ambassador to the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations.

"Sub-Sahara Africa is the poorest region in the world and food security is a major issue. Khalfani is in the process of moving back to Senegal and we thought that one of the ways that we could be of benefit and assist him is to try and address the issue of food security," he said.

Mr Khalfani is the founder and proprietor of Ashanti Oils and the Ashanti Bazaar and Beauty



GODFREY ENEAS

Centre at Ross Corner. The stores carry Senegal-based products. Plans are underway for Mr Khalfani to relocate to Senegal next year with his Senegalese wife. He has been trading and travelling between the two countries for about 20 years and plans for this to be his retirement stop.

### Expertise

"The idea is not to give them (the Senegalese) things like food items, but to educate them in a way using expertise so that they can sustain their own food production using our network internationally. Once we can get this model in operation we will be in a position to duplicate that example elsewhere in other parts of Senegal and West Africa," said Mr Khalfani, who has no particular agricultural skills, but plans to

use his marketing and business expertise to coordinate experts and efforts on the ground.

Senegal is a former French colony that became independent in 1960. It sits on the western most tip of Africa. With approximately 10 million people, Senegal suffers from widespread poverty.

The initial plan for the non-profit organisation is to supply farmers with simple agricultural inputs, like seeds, fertiliser, machetes and other small farmer implements badly needed in the region to achieve food sustainability.

"Sub-Saharan Africa is a food deficit region, in essence the region does not grow or produce enough food to feed itself. It depends on external sources to meet its food supply. There are a number of reasons for that and many of the reasons are very much akin to the situation in the Bahamas, Haiti and the rest of the Caribbean. The Caribbean itself is a food deficit region," said Mr Eneas, who is also the author of the book "Agriculture In the Bahamas (1492-1992)".

Mr Eneas said globalisation and poor government policies have had negative impacts on agricultural sectors in the Caribbean West Africa. Pointing to the fact that the Bahamas imports 90 per cent of its food, Mr

**SEE page nine**

# sale

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# strategies in Africa



**SENEGAL** sits on the western most tip of Africa and has a population of approximately 10 million.

## SEE page eight

Eneas said only Cuba, out of the rest of the Caribbean, is relatively self-sufficient.

“Africa, like the Caribbean is in this position because of bad policies at the national level. The news media is just as responsible for the state of food insecurity in the world. They always tell you it is cheaper to import. That is garbage. Bad policies have put the sector in decline,” said Mr Eneas.

He also pointed to the fact that in 2000 the Bahamas produced \$17.8 million in chicken meat while importing \$11.7 million worth of the product.

“Just eight years later, the situation was reverse. We are importing more chicken because the policy environment does not encourage investment in the sector,” he said. According to Mr Eneas’ research, agricultural production accounted for five per cent of the Bahamas’ gross domestic product (GDP) in 2000, while in 2009 it accounted for less than one per cent. He said the Bahamas is an example of a trend prevalent throughout the Caribbean and Sub-Saharan Africa.

In light of the fact that Senegal is an economically impoverished country, with food shortages and massive budget deficits to contend with, Mr Khalfani said it was “absolute madness” that President Abdoulaye Wade of Senegal offered Haitians parcels of land and voluntary repatriation to the West African nation following the earthquake on January 12.

“President Wade is over 80 years old. People basically think he was having a senior moment. Politically, if an election was held he would probably lose because there are a whole lot of issues concerning his leadership. He is not a dictator per se, he is an internationally respected leader, but people are feeling it is time for him to go because Senegal is slipping econom-

ically backwards,” he said. Mr Khalfani also had concerns about Senegal dealing with an influx of Christian Haitians as it is a 90 per cent Muslim country.

“He should be congratulated for the offer, but it should not be taken seriously. If President Wade would offer repatriation, I am supposed to be completing my house next year so I can migrate after retiring. If he wants to take care of someone and give someone some land, he can give me,” he said.

In light of the 7.0 magnitude earthquake that dev-

astated Haiti, Mr Eneas said the Foundation would likely shift some of its efforts to food sustainability in Haiti. He said the food supply needs of Haiti are the same as West Africa.

“When you look at the situation with the earthquake, it has exacerbated a situation which the world knew existed in Haiti before.

“It was nothing new to the world that Haiti could not feed itself and Haiti’s agriculture was in decline. This earthquake has only exacerbated the problem,” said Mr Eneas.

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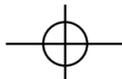
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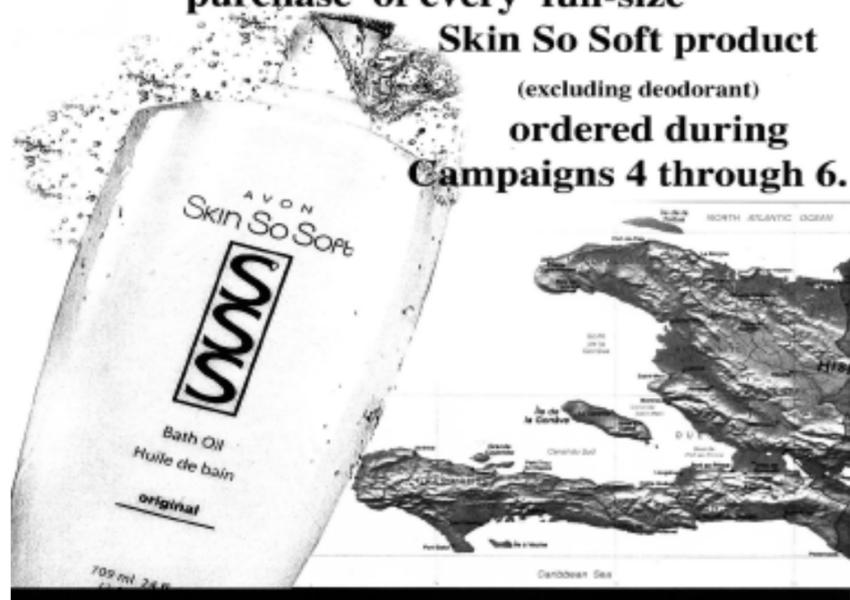


LOCAL NEWS

# AVON Products Inc. Announces \$1,000,000.00 to Haiti Disaster Relief Efforts

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(excluding deodorant) ordered during Campaigns 4 through 6.



# Electricity metre tests 'show no malfunctions leading to overbilling'

FREEPORT – Random testing of electricity metres has not revealed any malfunctions that could result in overbilling, the Grand Bahama Port Authority reported.

In response to concerns raised by Freeport residents who are customers of the Grand Bahama Power Company Limited (GBPC), GBPA commissioned ITRON Inc to carry out testing on electricity metres which were randomly selected throughout Freeport and outlying settlements.

"No metres were found to be functioning in a way that would suggest 'overbilling'," said Arthur Jones, vice-president of building and development services for GBPA.

ITRON Inc randomly tested 115 residential and commercial customers. Three meters failed the ANSI limits (the limits of the American National

Standard Institute determine the acceptable efficiency within which metres should operate. ANSI C12.1 – 2008, 5.1.2).

"These three meters failed 'slow' – meaning they would have been recording less energy consumed than what was actually used," Mr Jones explained.

"It was also observed that each of these three metres had their seals broken, suggesting illegal tampering."

A team of observers who witnessed the testing procedure and compiled the report, was comprised of an electronics engineer, two electrical engineers, a Freeport businessman, and representatives from GBPA, the Freeport City Council, and the Grand Bahama Chamber of Commerce.

According to Mr Jones, after the observers confirmed no malfunctioning electrical metres, their attention shifted elsewhere.

The group recommended that a regulatory committee be put in place to monitor the billing process by GBPC.

"The exercise in this metre testing led the team of observers to suggest that a neutral party should be

retained to verify that the recorded consumption of electrical energy matches the billing as determined by GBPC," Mr Jones said.

In a statement released to GBPA following the results of the random meter testing, the power company advised that they have already engaged in a one-year process to:

"Stabilise the metering system currently in place with industrial, commercial and residential customers, ensuring that metres are accurate, sealed, correctly wired and safe.

Ensure that GBPC's systems are correctly billing customers for the amount of power that they use.

Ensure that appropriate 'metering-to-billing' procedures are in place to keep the process accurate going forward."

GBPA awaits the results of this project, which according to the power company, is due to be completed by late April 2010.

"In the interim, GBPA supports the recommendation for the formation of a standing group of observers to monitor GBPC's procedures between metering and billing," Mr Jones said.

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LOCAL NEWS

# New court complex expected to be ready mid-year

**By DENISE MAYCOCK**  
Tribune Freeport Reporter  
dmaycock@tribunemedia.net

FREETPORT – The new magistrate's court complex and a second coroner's court are expected to come on stream by mid-year in New Providence, according to Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs John Delaney.

He said the magistrate's complex at South and Nassau

Streets is a modern state-of-the-art facility that will consolidate all the magistrate's courts, with the exception of the coroner's court.

"I am very pleased to say that the facility will be finished by mid-year," Mr Delaney said while in Grand Bahama last week.

"We will be also commencing construction of a second coroner's court at Victoria Gardens within the first quarter of this year."

Mr Delaney said that plans are also well underway to completely renovate the Supreme Court buildings on Parliament Street and Bank Lane.

That project, he said, will take all of this year and the next.

Mr Delaney said that "greater efficiency" in the management of criminal and civil cases is a priority for the Office of the Attorney General.

He noted that the issue of bail is one that has been hotly debated in the community, and that the Attorney General's Office will be looking at reviewing the Bail Act.

"I heard the Chief Justice (Sir Michael Barnett) say that a person has a right to a fair trial within a reasonable period of time, and if that cannot be delivered then the question of bail comes up."

"And so I would say the issue is far more complex than

simply saying should we look at the Bail Act and try to extend the period of time that might be unreasonable before granting bail.

"The Bail Act will be looked at, but I can tell you that the priority of the Office of the Attorney General is to seek greater efficiency in management of our cases, both on the criminal and civil side," said Mr Delaney.

When asked for a comment regarding police officers serving as prosecutors, Mr Delaney said that historically the magistrate's courts were called police courts.

"Bearing in mind that our system evolved from the English, historically going back a couple of centuries the magistrate's court summary jurisdiction were called police courts because police did the prosecution of those courts."

"And so the fact that today the Bahamas and many countries still have police involved in summary jurisdiction is not remarkable. It is the way it has been for a very long time," he said.

Chief Justice Michael Barnett said that more attorneys are needed to be prosecutors in the magistrate's court so that police officers can do police work.

Mr Delaney noted that there are a good number of police officers who are qualified lawyers.

He said that in their efforts to achieve a more efficient criminal justice system they should make sure that those prosecuting are better trained.

"If police prosecutors are not as sufficiently skilled then we should make sure they are skilled and utilise those officers," he said.

"We have an energetic Commissioner of Police and I am optimistic that he will make sure the best arrangement is made in respect to criminal prosecution in the magistrate's court."

"I don't want to suggest that I have interest only from a distance. I am very much interested to ensure that prosecution happens efficiently there because what happens there may end up coming to the Supreme Court level," said Mr Delaney.



JOHN DELANEY

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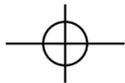
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LOCAL NEWS

FROM page one

Drug bust



president Jetta Baptiste said fears of rising crime are unfounded and yesterday's drug haul is unlikely to be connected to the earthquake.

She said: "There's always crime and violence — before the earthquake and after the earthquake.

"I don't honestly believe there will be more crime now because people in the Haitian community are concerned about the well-being of their families, about reaching their loved ones. People are crying in mourning, crime is the last thing on their mind.

"This drug find is an isolated incident and I don't see the earthquake as being anything to do with it at all."

Ms Baptiste called on the US government to attack the drug trade at its source in the countries where cocaine and marijuana are produced, and to also hold consumers responsible.

She added: "Those who

PRIME MINISTER Hubert Ingraham cried shame on his critics for not showing compassion to their neighbour.

were criminals before the earthquake are still criminals, and I know the US has the resources to deal with these drug problems.

"But you can't blame the whole Haitian community for an isolated incident, just as you can't blame every Bahamian for all the drug dealing going on in Nassau."

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LOCAL NEWS

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## Telethon

### FROM page one

\$170,000. The simultaneous events were broadcast live on ZNS, the Jones Communication Network (JCN) and Cable 12, and aired live on the radio, as they had been on Monday night, in one of the country's first successful media collaborations for a charitable cause.

'Help Us Help Haiti' was organised by the Bahamas Chamber of Commerce (BCC) after a magnitude-7.0 earthquake devastated the Haitian capital of Port-au-Prince and surrounding areas on January 12, claiming up to 200,000 lives according to some estimations, and leaving many more homeless and in critical need of medical care.

All funds raised throughout the two-day telethon will go directly to Rotary for the purchase of medication and medical equipment at wholesale prices to be distributed in Haiti.

Rotary was one of the first organisations to purchase and deliver goods in the country in the aftermath of the earthquake and has orchestrated dozens of deliveries in cooperation with the Bahamas Conference of Methodist Churches, and with the support of Bahamian businesses and individuals.

And charitable Bahamians continued to show their support for Rotary's relief efforts as they called to pledge donations ranging from \$1 to \$100,000, as donated by FML CEO Craig Flowers on Tuesday night.

Progressive Liberal Party (PLP) leader Perry Christie was one of the many well-known



BAHAMIAN ARTISTS and performers took to the stage at Arawak Cay to help raise money for Haiti during the live telethon.

national figures answering phone calls at the British Colonial Hilton on Bay Street on Tuesday night, along with Bishop Neil Ellis, College of the Bahamas (COB) president Janyne Hodder and Haitian ambassador to the Bahamas Louis Harold Joseph.

BCC executive director Philip Simon praised the success of the event on all levels.

He said: "Beyond fundraising we did something very special, as here we have Bahamians not only raising funds, but raising a level of consciousness to the humanity of Haitians and the inhumanity of suffering."

"Other groups or individuals may have raised or donated more money, but when you bring the media into it in the way that we were able to, it raises a level of consciousness to keep Haiti right in our sight."

The event's success also sets a template for future national efforts, and has had a positive impact on the local Haitian community, Mr Simon said.

He added: "I think they were very proud to see the way Bahamians responded and have been responding to them, because a lot of times we run into vilification. And I think we went a long way to show the care, because you can never underestimate the human heart."

Haitian Bahamian Society president Jetta Baptiste was overwhelmed by the show of support as she watched the telethon from Grand Bahama.

"I felt so blessed," she said. "I was truly touched, because we are seeing a cross-section of the community trying to help and respond. We want to continue to support the cause and preach peace, love, unity and respect."

If you did not make a donation during the telethon and you want to contribute, contact the Bahamas Chamber of Commerce on Collins Avenue, Nassau, or deposit funds into the Bank of the Bahamas account number 5510032762.

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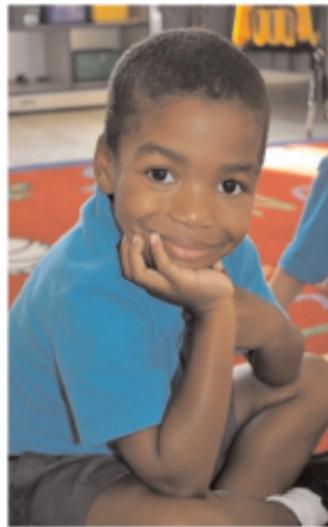
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LOCAL NEWS

FROM page one

**Airport security**

Vincent Vanderpool-Wallace to intervene in the dispute, and investigate the Authority.

"There is a big problem about to brew and break open. We were trying to get it done quietly, but they are victimising us. Management is avoiding our questions, victimising us by pulling us into the office one by one and pulling out files on us. We are about to close down the airport. We want help," said a screening officer at the airport.

The complaints against management reported to *The Tribune* are extensive, ranging from allegations of obscene language, sexual harassment, abuse of authority, poor vetting of employees, lack of adequate training for employees, lack of sensitivity towards health hazards, nepotism, untimely salary payments, withholding overtime payments and other salary-related issues. This, along with allegations of other unverifiable "internal scandals", have some staff members on the brink of revolt.

When the pre-clearance division was launched in 2007, security staff said they worked up to 18-hour shifts for two consecutive weeks. They said payment for this is still outstanding. They said security employed on the Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day holidays were not paid for those days.

In one instance, a worker claimed she felt insulted when she inquired about not being paid in a timely fashion, and was told by a manager, "you better be glad you have a job."

Acting General Manager, Jerry Hutchinson, said the salary related matters were currently being worked on. He said he would investigate the new issues brought to his attention. The Bahamas Public Service Union, which represents workers at the Authority, said he met with the general manager on Tuesday to address the salary issues.

Mr Hutchinson said some managers were disciplined with respect to procedural breaches, but no sexual harassment allegations were being investigated.

The Human Resources (HR) department recently had a

shakeup with the transfer of HR Manager Charles Albury late in 2009. Workers say the HR department is poorly representing their concerns.

"I find those comments very troubling, because I personally keep an open door policy. That is known throughout the airport authority. I have been at the airport now almost 10 years. I left the security department as the deputy director. I left with the reputation of being totally approachable. If they feel they are going to be victimised, I encourage them to come and see me," Mr Hutchinson said.

Minister Vanderpool-Wallace said he received no communication on the matter from workers, although one worker claimed an e-mail was sent. When informed by *The Tribune* of worker complaints, he said: "We have complaints in organisations all the time, so I am not surprised there may be complaints, but all of this is news to me." He said he would investigate the matter.

The security division is managed by Director Osbourne Ferguson. Workers are calling for his resignation, as well as the resignation of Assistant Human Resources Manager Roselda Stubbs.

"There is no way that (victimisation) could ever happen down at the airport. We want workers to speak, they work for us so we have to look out for them. As for those (complaints), I guess they have their personal agenda and at the end of the day the truth prevails over lies," said Mr Ferguson.

"I don't know why they want to remain faceless. If you have the issues come and show your face. All I can do is try to do my job to the best of my ability," he said.

Mr Ferguson said workers are not being truthful about conditions at the Airport Authority. He said he was concerned about his character being called into question, and would consult with his lawyers to ensure fair treatment.

"For every action there is a

reaction so that is all I can say at this time. Above all discipline must be maintained. As to being oppressive, I don't know anything about that," he said.

Ms Stubbs said she was unable to comment on any of the matters brought to her attention by *The Tribune*. She said the general manager would have to address the issues.

"Since all of this now staff are lax. They are not being that vigilant with the people they have to profile and on the machines. Morale is low and there is a high level of absenteeism. I really don't think there is any other way for this to be resolved except with the resignation of these people," said a security worker.

Speaking on the matter of allies in management, one security worker said she was aware of Mr Hutchinson's open door policy, but at this point, "we don't trust anyone." Workers lack confidence in management respecting confidentiality and fear being victimised.

Union president, John Pinder, said he is aware of the problems at the Airport Authority, as many issues are long-standing. He said he formerly lodged complaints with the chairman about the managerial style of the director. He spoke with the general manager, who said he was doing his best.

"They are going to the extreme to try to intimidate them," Mr Pinder claimed, alleging that "every little minor infraction" is being used to build cases to the extent that claims are being falsified when there is no evidence.

"I certainly have my challenges in that regard," Mr Pinder added. He said he had two disputes before the industrial tribunal.

"They do not take directives and listen to the General Manager. I think it has to do with the familiarity of the chairman. They are circumventing the system. The chairman is too much involved with matters that should be worked out between management," he said.

"The problem is the Airport Authority is operating like a police force. They hire a lot of

retired police officers and people from the force, mostly in management. All they know is policing. I don't like what is

going on at all." Despite the challenges, Mr Pinder said he believes the issues can be resolved without

industrial action, although he is prepared to advise workers on the proper protocol should they demand such action.

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Clarks, Mall at Marathon 393-4155

FROM page one

**Boy and father shot**

9.30pm on Tuesday.

Police were called, and the toddler and his father were rushed to hospital by an Emergency Medical Services (EMS) ambulance.

The boy is said to be in "serious" condition and his father is "stable".

Officers investigating the incident are appealing for witnesses to call either 911/919, the Criminal Detective Unit on 502-9997 or Crimestoppers anonymously on 328-TIPS (8477).

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THE BAHAMAS RED CROSS SOCIETY TO HONOUR

**LADY DARLING**

AT THE 38TH ANNUAL RED CROSS BALL



**L**ady Darling, former president of the Bahamas Red Cross Society, will receive a lifetime award for her long and dedicated service to the national disaster and relief agency on January 30, 2010 at the Society's annual ball at the Nassau Wyndham Resort and Crystal Palace Casino.

Lady Darling's work with the Red Cross began when she lived in the United States, and continued when she returned to the Bahamas while living in Long Island. "I was a volunteer at a member group of the national society, and at the time, Long Island had a Fair to raise funds to assist national efforts for Red Cross in the Bahamas. One of the ways I contributed at the time was through needle work; I made handcrafted dolls to sell at these Fairs," Lady Darling said.

After moving to New Providence, Lady Darling was just as enthralled with the work of the Bahamas Red Cross Society, serving in the capacity of volunteer, and later Deputy President, from 1982 - 1986; as Joint Patron, from 1992 - 1995 with her husband, former governor general, Sir Clifford Darling; and as president, from 1995 - 2001.

Marina Grinton, former director general of the Society, and a past honoree of the Red Cross Society for her work, remembers Lady Darling's contribution to the Society. "Lady Darling was a dedicated, goal oriented leader, and an exemplary volunteer. She gave unselfishly of herself so that vulnerable people throughout the Bahamas received the aid they needed. During her tenure as president, Lady Darling was particularly interested in the construction of a building to house disaster preparedness supplies and donations to the Society. She was actively involved in fundraising activities that led to the completion of the Henri Dunant Center. I applaud the Red Cross Society for honouring her, it is long overdue."

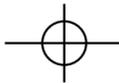
As the Society's president, Lady Darling made the bold dec-

laration of not wanting to end a fiscal year in deficit during her tenure. By all accounts, she tried hard to achieve this goal. Beverly Wallace-Whitfield, former colleague of Lady Darling at the Bahamas Red Cross recalls her tireless work ethic, "Lady Darling had a way about how she approached work; she was very keen on getting things done and was excellent at identifying people and the talents they could contribute to our work. She was also great at giving you room and the avenue to work, these characteristics, coupled with her warmth and outgoing nature contributed to the increase in the amount of volunteers we recruited during her presidency. I am delighted that she is being recognized for the quality of service she gave to the Bahamas Red Cross Society. Lady Darling is only short in height, but great in stature," she said.

Lady Darling remembers her decision to become president of the Bahamas Red Cross Society after attending a regional conference in Barbados in 1995, "I saw the Bahamas in a global context, with the same problems facing societies everywhere, mainly surviving in today's global challenging world...that equals to competing with other worthy organizations and causes for limited resources," she said at the time. Upon learning that she was being recognized for her work with the Society, Lady Darling spoke of her joy in being honoured, "I was part of the group that determined that the Society should recognize those who have greatly assisted in its work, so to get this award is an added plus, and a fitting culmination to my work with the Bahamas Red Cross. It is such a wonderful gesture. Sometimes one wonders whether ones contribution is unnoticed or overlooked."

Join the Bahamas Red Cross Society for an unforgettable night of celebration and entertainment at its 38th Annual Ball. Cocktails start at 7:00 pm, dinner will be served at 8:00pm. The world famous Chi-Lites will provide special entertainment. Dress is Black Tie.

Join the Bahamas Red Cross Society for an unforgettable night of celebration and entertainment at its 38th Annual Ball on January 30. Cocktails start at 7:00 pm, dinner will be served at 8:00pm. The world famous Chi-Lites will provide special entertainment. Dress is Black Tie.



# sports

THURSDAY, JANUARY 28, 2010

INSIDE • International sports news



## Abbott set to host softball clinic

By RENALDO DORSETT  
Sports Reporter  
rdorsett@tribunemedia.net

### She is expected to head delegation from US, Canada

TALENTED American Olympic softball player Monica Abbott is expected to head a delegation from the United States and Canada to host a clinic to aid local players.

The clinic takes place February 19th at the Blue Hills Sporting Complex from 12pm-2pm and will address theoretical and practical issues.

The Bahamas Softball Federation will host the clinic and all primary and high school female students interested in the game between the ages of 9-18 are urged to attend.

Schools are encouraged to field their entire teams or a few representatives to become a part of this educational experience.

Reece Oslinker, clinic organiser, has confirmed that

55 softball enthusiasts and their families will take part in the event.

Abbott was the ace pitcher for the University of Tennessee Lady Volunteers softball team from during her four year tenure in Knoxville. She is currently under contract with National Following a successful collegiate career she signed on with Pro Fastpitch's Washington Glory, however, sat out the 2008 season to represent team USA in the Beijing Olympics.

Abbott set several NCAA marks while at Tennessee.

She set the record for the most strikeouts in a Division I softball in a single season and became the NCAA Division I Softball all-time leader in career wins, strikeouts,

shutouts, innings pitched, games started and games pitched.

Among her many accolades, Abbott received the 2007 Honda Sports Award for the Top Collegiate Softball Player in the country and was named the 2007 USA Softball Collegiate Player of the Year.

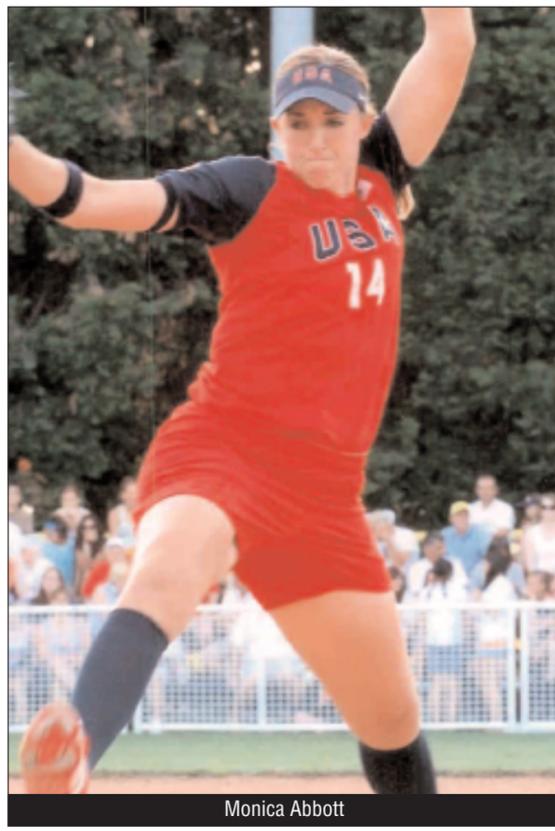
She was also named the 2007 Women's Sports Foundation Sportswoman of the Year. Abbott announced her signing with Toyota Motor Corporation on a six-month contract to play professional softball in Japan in February of 2009.

Federation president, Burket Dorsett, said the event was a "continuous effort of the Bahamas Softball Federation to afford the opportu-

nity to softball players, managers, coaches, game officials and administrators to take advantage of the opportunity to expand their knowledge and skill of the game. It is expected that of that clinics of this nature is to be extended to the Family Islands as well."

"It is a privilege to have a player of this calibre come to the Bahamas and share her experiences and talents with an up and coming generation of Bahamian softball players," he said. "We hope she can give the young players here an example of just how far the game of softball can take you throughout the world if you give it the type of dedication it warrants whether at the high school, collegiate, olympic or professional level."

Interested schools or groups may contact the BSF Secretary general, Dianne Miller at 356-8217 or Dorsett at 565-5095.



Monica Abbott

## Swift has four swimmers make the Carifta qualifying times



PICTURED from left to right are Anibal Hernandez Valdes who qualified 100m and 200m Free, Doran Reed qualified for 110m Free and Hydie Knowles.

SWIFT Swimming started the new year off with some fine performances at the Gunite Pools/Swift Invitational Swim meet on January 23rd, 2010.

Swift had four swimmers make the Carifta qualifying times with Zach Moses leading the way with five qualifications in the 400m, 200m, 100m, 50 Freestyle, and 200m Breaststroke.

Simone Sturup had two qualifications in the 50m and 100m Free, Anibal Hernandez Valdes had two - 100m and 200m Free, and Doran Reed had one - 100m Free.

There were many top swims, especially in the younger age

groups as Peter Morley and Kacey Kemp lead the way with numerous first place finishes and personal bests.

Other Swift swimmers leading the way with first place finishes were Abigail Lowe, Donovan Higgs, Alexa Strommer, Shaunte Moss, Luke-Kennedy Thompson, and Percy Knowles.

Swift Swimming is very grateful and thankful to Gunite Pools and Peter Whitehead for their generous support year after year. It is this type of corporate sponsorship that allows Swift to continue to produce top swimmers.

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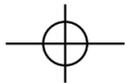
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SPORTS

# Swiss star Federer shows timing is everything

TENNIS  
MELBOURNE, Australia  
Associated Press

THE only three men to beat Roger Federer in the last 19 majors were already out of the Australian Open, leaving the Swiss star with a new threat to face.

Nikolay Davydenko's 13-match winning streak was the hottest on the tour and included two wins over Federer during title runs at the season-ending ATP championships in November and the season-opening event at Doha this month.

The Russian unloaded everything he had on Federer for a set and a half on Wednesday and was suddenly in uncharted territory at a Grand Slam tournament.

That's when a bit of gamesmanship and a lot of big-match experience helped Federer switch gears and win 13 straight games en route to a 2-6, 6-3, 6-0, 7-5 victory that sent Davydenko packing to join Federer's former Grand Slam conquerors: No. 2-ranked Rafael Nadal, No. 3-ranked Novak Djokovic, and No. 4-ranked Juan Martin del Potro.

"Winning that many games in a row against a player that's been on fire like this, it's a great sign," Federer said.

The win stretched his record to a 23rd consecutive Grand Slam semifinal appearance, something he rated as "definitely one of the most incredible things I have in my resume."

Before Federer, Ivan Lendl and Rod Laver shared the record at 10.

"It's incredible looking back on how many years that is now, you know, I'm able to



Mark Baker/AP Photo

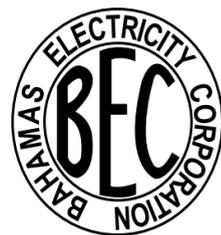
ROGER Federer of Switzerland waves to the crowd after beating Nikolay Davydenko of Russia to win their Men's singles quarterfinal match at the Australian Open tennis championship in Melbourne, Australia, Wednesday Jan. 27, 2010.

deliver at Grand Slam play, especially this year," he said. "Looking at the draw with (former No. 1-ranked Lleyton) Hewitt in the fourth round and Davydenko in the quarters, who has been on fire the last weeks and even today, you know, we saw big signs of it."

"So for some reason I was just a bit worried I was not going to make it this time in

the semis. Now obviously that it's safe again and I've been able to add one. It's amazing."

Besides his incredible run of Grand Slam semifinals that began at Wimbledon in 2004, Federer boasts three Australian Open wins among his record 15 major titles and 50 wins or more at three of the four biggest tournaments in tennis.



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**Mrs. Delmeta Seymour**  
Phone No. 302-1158

Bids are to be hand delivered on or before **5<sup>th</sup> March, 2010 by 4:00 p.m.** and addressed as follows:

**Mr. Kevin Basden**  
General Manager  
Bahamas Electricity Corporation  
Executive Offices  
Blue Hill & Tucker Roads  
Nassau, Bahamas  
Attention: Mrs. Delmeta Seymour

For all enquiries regarding the Tenders, contact Mrs. Cecile Greene at telephone 302-1159 or email: [cbgreene@bahamaselectricity.com](mailto:cbgreene@bahamaselectricity.com). The Corporation reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals.

Submissions should be marked as follows:

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- B. Computers, IT Infrastructure, (Mobile & Electronic Equipment)

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Motor Vehicle

**Tender No.: 717/10**  
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SPORTS



# Donovan scores first Premier League goal

**SOCCER**  
**LIVERPOOL, England**  
**Associated Press**

U.S. midfielder Landon Donovan scored his first Premier League goal, helping Everton defeat Sunderland 2-0 on Wednesday night.

Donovan, on a 10-week loan from Major League

Soccer's Los Angeles Galaxy, scored in the 19th minute at Goodison Park with a left-footed shot off a headed pass from Tim Cahill.

Cahill put Everton ahead with a sixth-minute header as the Toffees (7-7-8) climbed to ninth in the standings.

Donovan has signed a new

contract with the Galaxy through 2013 and is scheduled to rejoin the team for its March 27 league opener, but a MLS work stoppage could start next week and prompt Donovan to try to extend the loan.

"The games he started were Arsenal and Manchester City, two of the better teams in the country, and I thought he played really well in those games," Everton manager David Moyes said. "He has not had many chances in those games but tonight he got his first one and he was a bit unlucky not to get a second with it cleared off the line. If he can add us a goal or two, that will be great."

Also Wednesday, defending champion Manchester United overcame archrival Manchester City to reach the League Cup final, but was overtaken by Chelsea for the Premier League lead.

Wayne Rooney scored his 21st goal of the season in stoppage time at Old Trafford to prevent the Manchester derby going into overtime. Paul Scholes and Michael Carrick also scored as Manchester United won 3-1 and advanced on 4-3 aggregate to the Feb. 28 final against Aston Villa. Carlos Tevez got City's goal.

In London, Florent Malouda got the first goal and Frank Lampard scored twice as Chelsea (16-3-3) cruised 3-0 over eighth-place Birmingham (9-7-6) to move one point ahead of Manchester United (16-5-2).

Arsenal (15-4-4) is two points behind Chelsea after a 0-0 tie at seventh-place Villa (10-5-7).

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## LOCAL NEWS

# HPH staff members receive long service awards



SOME of the 57 award-winning employees from FCP.

**T**HE HR Department of the Hutchison Port Holdings (HPH) Group of companies in the Bahamas recognized 81 employees for their many years of service at a special luncheon at the Freeport Harbour Convention Centre on 16 January. In total, 57 employees of Freeport Container Port (FCP), six staff members of Freeport Harbour Company (FHC), and 18 employees of Grand Bahama Airport Company (GBA) were given awards for service periods of 10, 15, 20, 25, and over 30 years.

At the event, FCP CEO Gary Gilbert said that it was an honour for him to recognize these team members for their contributions.

"Staying power, like experience, cannot be taught," he said. "You are quality employees who live by our core values of commitment, loyalty, honesty, integrity, discipline and respect."

FHC Port Director Orlando Forbes also praised the employees. "Your long and hard hours of labour have been invaluable. You have set examples for many more employees to share in your dedication and commitment and to follow in your footsteps," he said.

Airport Director Philip Carey said in turn, "Over the years, you have been committed to our goals here at Grand Bahama Airport Company. Your loyalty and excellent service will not be forgotten"

The employees received special motivation from Donald McCartney, Deputy Permanent Secretary in the Bahamas' Department of Public Service, who shared with the attendees several tips for success. McCartney also pointed out that it is "absolutely astounding" that 1,272 years of service had been accumulated by the employees. He advised them to find a way to record and codify their experiences in order to better contribute to the success of future employees.

# COB president shares green thumb secrets with students

**LET THE TOMATO GROWING BEGIN!** – President of the College of the Bahamas Janyne Hodder enthusiastically shared with students of the Oakes Field Primary School her secrets to growing flavourful tomatoes recently while giving the school over two dozen tomato plants from her own garden. Blessed with a green thumb, President Hodder has grown over 30 different tomato specimens including the luscious Arkansas Traveller, Beauty, Thessaloniki and Valenciano.

School principal Beryl

Gray was grateful for the donation and said, "This was such a nice gesture from President Hodder. We are trying to get our students interested in learning about gardening. The College's donation helps with the learning process."

The donation was especially welcome since the Ministry of Agriculture and Marine Resources has launched an initiative to encourage more citizens and schools to grow their own fruits and vegetables to encourage healthy eating habits and increase efforts towards self-sufficiency for

the Bahamas. From left: Mia Rodgers, Vice President of the Discovery Science Club at Oakes Field Primary; Mrs. Beryl Gray, Principal; Janyne M. Hodder, College of the Bahamas president; Sophia Hughes, Discovery Club Advisor; Crystal McCoy, College of the Bahamas Presidential Scholar; Marlon Johnson, Discovery Club member; Sharonne King, Head Girl and President of the Discovery Club; Aquindo Johnson, Treasurer, Discovery Club; and Joan Knowles-Turnquest, Discovery Club Advisor.



COB President Janyne Hodder poses with some of the students of Oakes Field Primary.

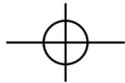
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## Cable proposes 'decoupling' of TV and Internet

\* BISX-listed utility proposes end to product tying, allowing customers to order Internet services only  
\* Move would require major two-year network upgrade, and 'may put at risk Cable Bahamas' network and business integrity'  
\* Also consents to continued price regulation of basic cable TV offering

By NEIL HARTNELL  
Tribune Business Editor

Cable Bahamas has proposed to industry regulators the "decoupling" of its basic cable TV package from its broadband Internet offering, in a bid to satisfy interim obligations to be imposed on Bahamian communications operators with "Significant Market Power" (SMP).

Judith Smith, the BISX-listed company's in-house attorney, made the proposal to the Utilities Regulation & Competition Authority (URCA) in a January 22, 2010, letter, in which she offered that Cable Bahamas would not tie its cable TV offering to a customer order seeking its broadband Internet offering only.

The offer was made as part of a package of proposals Cable Bahamas sent to URCA, in which it submitted potential obligations it had to comply with as remedies to its perceived SMP in the cable TV and high speed data (broadband Internet) and connectivity markets.

While "substantial competition" already existed in the broadband Internet market as a result of the Bahamas Telecommunications Company (BTC) and other niche players, Ms

SEE page 11B

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## 'Dead in water' fears over port

\* \$60m Arawak Cay project needs to get going this year, as opposition PLP warn of '100% opposition' to any IPO seeking Bahamian investor funds

\* 'Buyer beware' warning reiterated, as Senator indicates re-election of opposition would see Arawak Cay abandoned in favour of southwest port

\* Arawak Cay Port Development Company seeking target dates and financial agreements from government, so financial model can be completed

By NEIL HARTNELL  
Tribune Business Editor

The proposed \$60 million Arawak Cay container shipping port could be "dead in the water" if its shareholders and the Government are unable to conclude a deal and get construction moving this year, Tribune Business was told yesterday, with the two

sides still negotiating their Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) and other critical details.

Informed sources close to the negotiations told this newspaper that the 19 shareholders in the privately-owned Arawak Cay Port Development Company were

SEE page 8B



JEROME FITZGERALD

## Top food store up for sale

\* Gourmet Market owner confirms deal in the works and likely to close shortly, but not done yet

By NEIL HARTNELL  
Tribune Business Editor

Gourmet Market, the high-end specialist food store located in the Caves Village complex out west, is close to being sold to a new buyer, Tribune Business can reveal, with the purchase likely to close imminently.

Peter Andrews, the Bahamas Waste chairman, who is also owner of the 3,000 square foot food store, confirmed to this newspaper that a deal was in the works, although he declined to go into detail or identify the purchaser.

Denying reports reaching Tribune Business that Gourmet Market had been sold, Mr Andrews told this newspaper: "The deal is not done yet, and no deal is done until it is done."

He did not elaborate further, but suggested the

SEE page 5B

## Economic growth threat from 'severe national handicap'

\* Economist says 'high illiteracy' rates among public high school graduates a Bahamian 'embarrassment'

\* Highlights gap between Nassau public and private schools, with 42% of C R Walker students getting 'F' in 2006 compared to 3% of SAC students

\* Almost 50% of Maths graduates 'functionally illiterate', with increased global competition and technology progress making life 'even more daunting' for Bahamas

\* 'Country's academic failure preventing it from achieving fully its welfare objectives for its own citizens

By NEIL HARTNELL  
Tribune Business Editor

The "high failure and illiteracy rates" among Bahamian public education system graduates have been branded "an embarrassment and severe national handicap" to sustained economic growth, a leading Bahamas-based economist warning that this weakness will be exacerbated by increasing global competition and changing technology.

Ralph Massey, who did

SEE page 12B

## BTC revenue share 5-25 per cent for globally leased lines

By NEIL HARTNELL  
Tribune Business Editor

The Bahamas Telecommunications Company (BTC) has dismissed arguments that national and international communications lines should be regulated, arguing that it has "less than 25 per cent market share by revenue" on the latter, and just 20-40 per cent

SEE page 10B

\* State-owned incumbent paying \$500k per annum for cell tower leases on Crown/government land

\* Submits proposal to cut regulatory audit costs by 25%, with market share for domestic circuits down to 10-30%

## Fishermen discouraged by 50% drop in pricing

By CHESTER ROBARDS  
Business Reporter  
[crobarbs@tribunemedia.net](mailto:crobarbs@tribunemedia.net)

A 50 per cent decline in the price of crawfish, coupled with rising fuel costs, has discouraged Bahamian fishermen, though catches this year have been better than in previous years, the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries told Tribune Business.

SEE page 4B

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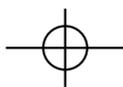
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BUSINESS

# Keeping publications from being off-colour

BY DEIDRE M. BASTIAN

**F**ew issues in Desktop Publishing cause as much confusion as colour management. Publishers need to understand the difference between RGB colour and CMYK colour to ensure that the document they have created looks as good in print as it does on the screen.

RGB refers to the primary colors of light, red, green and blue, which are used in monitors, television screens, digital cameras and scanners, while CMYK refers to the primary colours of pigment: cyan, magenta, yellow and black. These are the inks used on the press in "four-colour process printing", commonly referred to as "full colour printing".

RGB is what your monitor uses to send colour to your eye.

In a sense, the two colour spaces are opposites and combine red, green and blue to create a whole range of different colours. It is sometimes referred to as an additive colour process. The combination of RGB light creates white, while the combination of CMYK inks creates black. Therefore, it is physically impossible for the printing press to exactly reproduce colours as we see them on our monitors.

Many programs have the capability to convert the layout/images from the RGB colour space to the CMYK colour space. I recommend that you convert your colours from RGB to CMYK if your tools allow you to. By doing it yourself, you have maximum control over the results. Be especially careful to keep backgrounds light if there is black or dark coloured text over it, so that the text remains readable.

CMYK is the colour space used in the world of ink and paper, and it is sometimes called a subtractive colour process. Cyan, magenta and yellow inks are combined to create thousands of other colours. Black ink is added into the process because, while in theory it can be created by combining cyan, magenta and yellow, in reality the end result of this combination doesn't give the effect of pure black.

So what does all this mean in a practical sense to desktop publishers and graphic designers? For starters, RGB offers a much wider range of colours than CMYK does, and many RGB colours cannot be duplicated using the CMYK process.

As long as your document is staying on a computer screen (as a web page, for example), these differences are purely theoretical. However, the moment your desktop published document makes the leap from



## THE ART OF GRAPHIX

DEIDRE BASTIAN

monitor to printing press, the differences between the two colour spaces become crucial.

A green that looked Christmas-like on screen can turn into a dull, khaki colour when your document is printed. That charming piece of clip art, featuring Santa's elves in bright green outfits, suddenly looks like a picture of elves in Army uniforms when converted from RGB to CMYK.

Thus, if you are using a particular colour, convert it to CMYK to make sure it will print the way you want it to. Note that some software (including Photoshop Elements and Microsoft Word) does not allow users to work in CMYK.

In the old days of desktop publishing, the prevailing wisdom was that all documents should be converted to CMYK before sending them to a printer or service bureau. This allows the desktop publisher a measure of control over colour appearance, and is a good way to prevent problems, such as separations not printing properly. Nowadays, however, there are a few printing companies who actually prefer to receive files in RGB color mode, even though they do the conversion to CMYK themselves. The key is to consult with your printer bureau ahead of time to see what format they prefer for your document.

So what is the difference between RGB and CMYK? In a nutshell, Cyan-Magenta-Yellow-Black. CMYK is a colour model in which all colours are described as a mixture of four process colors

[http://www.webopedia.com/TERM/C/process\\_colors.htm](http://www.webopedia.com/TERM/C/process_colors.htm)

[http://www.webopedia.com/TERM/C/offset\\_printing.htm](http://www.webopedia.com/TERM/C/offset_printing.htm)

<http://www.webopedia.com/TERM/C/document.htm>

Because such printing uses inks

of these four basic colours, it is often called four-colour printing.

In contrast, display devices

<http://www.webopedia.com/TERM/C/device.htm> generally use a different colour model called RGB, which stands for Red-Green-Blue. One aspect of desktop publishing [http://www.webopedia.com/TERM/C/desktop\\_publishing.htm](http://www.webopedia.com/TERM/C/desktop_publishing.htm) in colour is colour matching [http://www.webopedia.com/TERM/C/color\\_matching.htm](http://www.webopedia.com/TERM/C/color_matching.htm)

For converting, <http://www.webopedia.com/TERM/C/convert.htm> from RGB to CMYK, so that the document looks the same as what appears on the monitor <http://www.webopedia.com/TERM/C/monitor.htm>

Remember:

\* Scanners, digital cameras and computer monitors use red, green and blue (RGB) light to display color.

\* Presses print use Cyan, Magenta, Yellow and Black (CMYK) ink instead of RGB light, and therefore produce a different range of colours. To print on a four-colour press, all RGB files must be converted into CMYK.

\* Many inkjet printers and desktop colour lasers automatically convert files from RGB.

It should also be noted that individual monitor settings will affect your colour accuracy. What all this boils down to is that images on your monitor will always look somewhat different than the final printed piece. Have fun and stay on top of your game!

The author can be contacted at [deedee2111@hotmail.com](mailto:deedee2111@hotmail.com)



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### C294 IT Flight Information Systems

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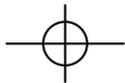
The proponent shall be fully responsible for the design and implementation of the Scope of Work described in the RFP and shall make maximum use of commercial off the shelf products and technologies.

The C-290 and C-294 RFP Documents will be available for pick-up after 1:00pm, Thursday January 28th, 2010.

Bidders meetings will be held each RFP as follows:

- C290 IT Infrastructure: 10:00 am, Tuesday, February 9th, 2010.
- C294 IT Flight Information Systems: 1:30 pm, Tuesday, February 9th, 2010.

Contact: TRACI BRISBY  
Contracts and Procurement Manager  
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BUSINESS

# Bahamas set to leverage shipping lane positioning

By CHESTER ROBARDS  
Business Reporter  
crobards@tribunemedia.net

A MARITIME conference next month is expected to bring almost 190 delegates into Grand Bahama to showcase the island's attraction as an important transshipment point and vessel maintenance hub, the Ministry of Environment's project manager said yesterday.

She added that the topic of climate change and the threat of a sea level rise was of the utmost importance to the shippers and boaters.

She added that the conference could open up discussion on increasing this Bahamas ship and yacht registry.

"The world economy is driven by shipping, and the Bahamas is in a very strategic position in terms of shipping," said Ms Symonette.

"Because of the current quality of our registry we tend to attract other quality ships. We also know that with all of the yachts and mega yachts, the Bahamas seeks to tap into that area as well, seeking to establish legislation to augment the general yacht registry and capitalise on the good financial opportunities."

She said the Bahamas' is also working to leverage its position in the middle of a high traffic transatlantic shipping lane.

During the conference, international delegates will be given tours of the port facilities, including the Grand Bahama Ship Yard.

It will also feature Dr Anne-Marie Warris, one of the Lloyd's Register

Group's leading environmental and climate change experts, and the Bahamas' first native managing director of the Bahamas Maritime Authority (BMA), Commodore Davey Rolle.

The board of the BMA will also use the conference to hold a parallel meeting with committee members.

"That has added a tremendous benefit to the conference," said Ms Symonette.

She said Junior Maritime cadets, who involve themselves in an immersion programme at the high school level, will have the opportunity for an audience with the secretary-general of the International Maritime Organisation, Efthimios Mitropoulos.

"In some high schools there are persons who have expressed interest in maritime careers, and they are channelled into courses that will help them to meet their goal of getting into a maritime college," said Ms Symonette.

"This is a once in a lifetime opportunity for those kids to meet the secretary-general of the IMO, and he is eager to meet them."

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# Fishermen discouraged by 50% drop in pricing

**FROM page 1B**

ness yesterday.  
Larry Cartwright said the price of crawfish is expected to return to \$12 to \$13 per pound by the next crawfish season, up from its \$7 low last year.

"We anticipate the price of crawfish might go up, but the 2009-2010 season hasn't been that lucrative," said Mr Cartwright.

According to him, fishermen are taking their boats out simply to "stay alive" despite the large disparity between the cost of fuel and the price of crawfish on the market.

Chief Councillor for Spanish Wells, Abner Pinder, said the unfavourable market for crawfish made it a "pretty rough" year for Bahamian fishermen, who he said are currently preparing to go back out.

He confirmed that fishermen have reported catches above last year, but with the market price for crawfish sub-prime due to the global recession, and fuel costs at the pump increasing, the extra catch is not translating into extra cash.

"They don't have a problem selling it," said Mr Pinder. "The buyers will buy, but they can't pay what they were (before) because they are not getting the price abroad."

Mr Cartwright said fishermen also appealed to the Government last year to extend the grouper season because sales were on the decline. He said they were not interested in fishing, but getting rid of surplus stock.

"We are looking forward to better days," he said.

The Government also extended the backyard garden programme to Grand Bahama this year, and reinstated it in New Providence late last year, to entice Bahamians to begin to sustain themselves.

Mr Cartwright said they received 1200 participants in the capital last year, and hope to increase that number this year.

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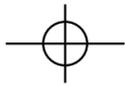
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BUSINESS

# Top food store up for sale

## FROM page 1B

tomers at its store in the Caves Village complex, nestled at the junction of Blake Road and West Bay Street, Gourmet Market also serves the private aviation, yacht and home catering markets with high-end, premium and organic foods.

Mr Andrews, included Mark Radcliffe, Richard Ryan, the former Delta Airlines station manager, and Chris Herrod, one of the Caves Village developers. Today, though, Mr Andrews is understood to be the company's only shareholder, the others having been bought out and exited.

Tribune Business understands that the store's founding shareholders, apart from

prospective purchaser was conducting due diligence on the company, and indicated the deal was likely to close imminently. "Hopefully, within the next 10 days," Mr Andrews added.

Apart from building up a loyal clientele of walk-in lunchtime and breakfast cus-

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Applications will be accepted until the registration deadline of 3:00 p.m. Friday, 29<sup>th</sup> January 2010.



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INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS

# Toyota US sales halt deals blow to image, earnings

**DAN STRUMPF,**  
AP Auto Writer  
NEW YORK

Toyota's suspension of U.S. sales on an unprecedented scale to fix faulty gas pedals deals a blow to the automaker's reputation for quality and came amid intense pressure from the Obama administration.

Toyota Motor Corp. announced late Tuesday it would halt sales of some of its top-selling models to fix gas pedals that could stick and cause unintended acceleration. Last week, Toyota issued a recall for the same eight models affecting 2.3 million vehicles.

Toyota is also suspending production at six North American car-assembly plants beginning the week of Feb. 1. It gave no date on when production could restart.

The Obama administration said it pressed Toyota to protect consumers who own vehicles under recall and to stop building new cars with the problem.

Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood told WGN Radio in Chicago that "the reason Toyota decided to do the recall and to stop manufacturing was because we asked them to."

LaHood said the department urged the company to act and credited Toyota for going "a step above" by stopping production.

David Strickland, the administrator of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, told reporters in Washington that the Transportation Department had been in regular communication with Toy-

ota about the recall. He said the company's decision to stop selling the vehicles was "an aggressive one and one that is the legal and morally correct thing to do."

"Toyota was complying with the law. They consulted with the agency. We informed them of the obligation and they complied," Strickland said. Strickland wouldn't address why Toyota failed to stop selling the vehicles five days earlier when it announced the recall.

The suspect parts are made by a U.S. supplier, but they are also found in its European-made vehicles, an official with the automaker said Wednesday. Toyota said it hasn't decided what to do there.

The supplier is CTS Corp., based in Elkhart, Ind., and the problem part was manufactured at its plant in Ontario, Canada, according to a report Toyota handed to the U.S. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration last week.

CTS has not replied to a request for comment sent earlier this week.

Toyota's report says it first received reports in March 2007, of gas pedals being slow to come back in the Tundra pickup, and fixed the problem in February 2008.

Starting in December 2008, similar problems were reported in Europe with the Aygo and Yaris models. Toyota said it lengthened a part and changed the material to fix the problem, starting in August 2009.

The latest problem emerged in North America, culminating in the decision for the recall earlier this month, Toyota said

in the report.

The timing of the recall and production suspension could not be worse for Toyota. Two years ago, the company beat out General Motors Co. to become the world's largest automaker. Now just weeks into 2010, it is stopping some sales in its biggest market, the U.S., at a time when it desperately needs to sell cars here after reporting its first-ever annual loss last year.

The sales and production halt involves several best-selling U.S. models, including the Camry and Corolla sedans and the RAV 4 crossover, a blend of an SUV and a car. RAV 4's sales surged last month.

In addition, the problem could spread to Europe, where a similar accelerator part is being used, said Toyota spokeswoman Ririko Takeuchi. She declined to give the number of vehicles affected. The company was studying possible responses there, including a recall, she said.

"For Europe, the number and models potentially concerned are under evaluation," said Philippe Boursereau, spokesman for Toyota France.

John Wolkonowicz, a long-time auto analyst with IHS-Global Insight, said Toyota is fortunate in that it has a loyal customer base — primarily baby boomers who have been buying Toyotas for decades. That, he said, will help minimize the sales impact in the short term.

"But it will further impede their ability to get the younger buyers that they so dearly want to get into the Toyota fold," Wolkonowicz said.

Toyota has said it was unaware of any accidents or injuries due to the pedal problems associated with the recall, but could not rule them out for sure.

The sales halt calls into question the aggressive growth strategy pursued under former President Katsuaki Watanabe, a cost-cutting expert, who led the Japanese automaker to the No.

**SEE page 9B**

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BUSINESS

# 'Dead in water' fears over port

**FROM page 1B**

seeking specific timelines and start dates from the Government as goals they could work towards, as well as details that would allow them to finalise the port's financial model.

Multiple sources told Tribune Business that one of the remaining issues to be decided is how the proposed Arawak Cay port's revenue streams are to be divided between its owners.

Multi-million dollar revenues will be generated from the likes of dockage, wharfage, storage and container through-put fees, but this newspaper was told the Government wanted its income "off the top", meaning on the gross revenues or profits, and not on the net.

Tribune Business was told that until issues relating to how the port's income streams were to be obtained and divided were settled, the Arawak Cay Port Development Company's chief financial consultant, Simon Townend, managing director of KPMG Corporate Finance (Bahamas), was unable to finalise the financial model and projections for the project.

This newspaper was informed that the Arawak Cay Port Development Company, chaired by Jimmy Mosko, last met a week to two weeks ago, to discuss the project's update and progress in negotiations with Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham and his office.

Given that the \$44 million Nassau harbour dredge contract has been completed, and the western end of Arawak Cay built up, the Govern-

ment's and private sector's attention in 2010 is now likely to turn to the proposed port, and relocating the existing container shipping facilities to pave the way for downtown Nassau's revitalisation.

Sources told Tribune Business that the Arawak Cay Port Development Company was looking for the Prime Minister and the Government to "provide some goals to work towards, definite dates when things are going to take place".

## Model

"Simon Townend is working on the financial model, and there has to be some adjustments," one source told Tribune Business. "The Government has to make some decisions so that Simon could go back and look at the financial models. Until all this happens, nothing much can be done."

Another source said "most of the points have been agreed" for the Memorandum of Understanding (Mou) between the Government and Arawak Cay Port Development Company, whose 19 investors include the likes of Bahamas Ferries, Tropical Shipping, The Mail Boat Company and Mediterranean Shipping Company.

The MoU had been sent to the Attorney General's Office where some unexpected changes were made, Tribune Business has learnt, but that situation has now been resolved.

Still, there area fears that the Arawak Cay port project may not happen if the shipping companies and the Government are unable to reach agreement this year, given

that 2011 will bring this nation close to a general election. The opposition Progressive Liberal Party (PLP) has already given notice it is not backing the Arawak Cay port, and indicated it will scrap the project if returned to government, in a bid to deter investors from injecting capital into the project.

"If it doesn't happen this year, the deal will be dead in the water," the source said. It is likely that Prime Minister Ingraham and the private sector will do everything in their power to prevent that from happening.

For Senator Jerome Fitzgerald, the PLP senator who has led the Opposition's objections to the Arawak Cay port, again reiterated that it was "buyer beware" and his party would be "100 per cent against" any attempt to attract Bahamian institutional and retail investors, plus the public, to invest in an initial public offering (IPO).

Tribune Business understands that the port's business model still calls for 40 per cent to be owned by shipping industry players, with the Government holding a 40 per cent stake - via its provision of the land - and the remaining 20 per cent set to be auc-

tioned via an IPO. A preference share issue may also be contemplated.

Yet Mr Fitzgerald warned: "One of the things I have said, and Perry Christie has said in the House of Assembly, is that if they go ahead with that project they do so at their own risk."

## Cultural

"There can be no doubt in anyone's mind that under the PLP plan for Arawak Cay it was to serve as a recreational, cultural and residential location to fit in with the master-plan for downtown. Where this port has come from, no one knows, so owners and investors invest at their own risk. We do not agree with it."

Mr Fitzgerald said that if re-elected to office, the PLP would proceed with the previous plan to re-locate downtown Nassau's shipping facilities to southwestern New Providence, arguing that the port there could have been built by now.

The Ingraham administration did not agree, believing that the southwestern option was too costly, too far from Nassau and would have taken too long to build. A study also showed Arawak Cay would

have had a lesser environmental impact.

Mr Fitzgerald told Tribune Business he was aware that the Arawak Cay Port Development Company and its investors had met within the last two weeks, adding: "They're pushing ahead feverishly, trying to get the financing, and the people to agree."

Arguing that a cross-party consensus should have been reached on the port relocation, the Senator added: "If they want to try and get the

They've not been able to give no logical reason as to why the port is going there. They can't justify it."

## INSIGHT

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

### NOTICE

INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS COMPANIES ACT (No 46 of 2000)

**ALDERCO FINANCIAL FUND LTD.**  
IBC NO.49,015B  
(In Voluntary Liquidation)

NOTICE is hereby given that as follows:

(a) That ALDERCO FINANCIAL FUND LTD. is in Dissolution under the provisions of The International Business Companies Act 2000.

(b) The Dissolution if the said Company commenced on the 19th day of January 2010 when the Articles of Dissolution were submitted and registered by the Registrar General.

(c) The Liquidator of the Company is Sterling (Bahamas) Limited of Suite 205A, Saffrey Square, Bank Lane and Bay Street, Nassau, Bahamas.

(d) Any person having a Claim against the above name Company are required on or before the 19th day of February, 2010 to send their name, address and particulars of the debt or claim to the liquidator of the Company, or in default thereof they may be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such claim is approved.

**Sterling (Bahamas) Limited**  
Liquidator

## NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that **JONEL TELSON of BAHAMA AVE, P.O.BOX 10326, Nassau, Bahamas**, is applying to the Minister responsible for Nationality and Citizenship, for registration/naturalization as a citizen of The Bahamas, and that any person who knows any reason why registration/naturalization should not be granted, should send a written and signed statement of the facts within twenty-eight days from the **21<sup>st</sup> day of JANUARY, 2010** to the Minister responsible for nationality and Citizenship, P.O. Box N-7147, Nassau, Bahamas.

## NOTICE

**Bahamas Supermarkets Limited's 2008 Annual Report is available for viewing on the City Market web site at [www.citymarketbahamas.com](http://www.citymarketbahamas.com)**

Go to:

**Investor Relations**



Bahamas Supermarkets operates 11 City Market supermarkets in New Providence and Grand Bahama

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Nassau, Bahamas • (242) 393-2830

## NOTICE

### Novus Holding Limited

Pursuant to the Provisions of Section 138 (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 16th day of December, 2009.

Dayan Bourne  
Liquidator

of  
Novus Holding Limited

## NOTICE

**UNTOLD STORIES LTD.**  
In Voluntary Liquidation

Notice is hereby given that in accordance with Section 138(4) of the International Business Companies Act, 2000, **UNTOLD STORIES LTD.** is in dissolution as of **January 18, 2010**.

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

**LIQUIDATOR**

## NOTICE

**PADDY INVEST CORP.**  
In Voluntary Liquidation

Notice is hereby given that in accordance with Section 138(4) of the International Business Companies Act, 2000, **PADDY INVEST CORP.** is in dissolution as of **January 18, 2010**.

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

**LIQUIDATOR**

### NOTICE

INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS COMPANIES ACT (No 46 of 2000)

**ALDERCO MANAGEMENT LTD.**  
IBC NO.49,015B  
(In Voluntary Liquidation)

NOTICE is hereby given that as follows:

(a) That ALDERCO MANAGEMENT LTD. is in Dissolution under the provisions of The International Business Companies Act 2000.

(b) The Dissolution if the said Company commenced on the 19th day of January 2010 when the Articles of Dissolution were submitted and registered by the Registrar General.

(c) The Liquidator of the Company is Sterling (Bahamas) Limited of Suite 205A, Saffrey Square, Bank Lane and Bay Street, Nassau, Bahamas.

(d) Any person having a Claim against the above name Company are required on or before the 19th day of February, 2010 to send their name, address and particulars of the debt or claim to the liquidator of the Company, or in default thereof they may be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such claim is approved.

**Sterling (Bahamas) Limited**  
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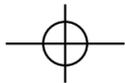
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INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS

# Toyota US sales halt deals blow to image, earnings

## FROM page 7B

1 spot in global vehicle sales in 2008, analysts say. Hitting that milestone coincided with a 437 billion yen (\$4.86 billion) loss during its last fiscal year, marking the worst performance in the company's 72-year history. The automaker said the U.S. sales suspension includes the following models: the 2009-2010 RAV4, the 2009-2010 Corolla, the 2007-2010 Camry, the 2009-2010 Matrix hatchback, the 2005-2010 Avalon large sedan, the 2010 Highlander crossover, the 2007-2010 Tundra pickup and the 2008-2010 Sequoia large SUV. "This action is necessary until a remedy is finalized," said Bob Carter, Toyota's group vice president and general manager.

Toyota spokesman Mike Goss said most workers were expected to be at their jobs during the assembly line shutdown. Workers will receive additional training or work on improvements to their assembly processes. They can also take vacation or unpaid leave, he said. About 300 workers who build V8 engines at a Toyota plant in Huntsville, Ala., will be affected, said Stephanie Deemer, a spokeswoman for the plant. Goss said the shutdowns will also affect engine plants in Georgetown, Ky., and Buffalo, W.Va. Toyota dealers said they were concerned the move would hamper sales. They hoped parts to fix the problem could be distributed quickly. John McEleney, who owns a Clinton, Iowa, Toyota dealership, said the sales stoppage affects about 60 percent of the inventory on his lot. He said he was hopeful Toyota would come up with a fix soon — especially because the longer a vehicle stays on a dealer lot, the more money a dealer pays in interest fees.

"Short term, it's going to be difficult," he said. "It will certainly set us back, but I think the impact will be very short lived." Mamoru Katou, analyst at Tokai Tokyo Research, said Toyota was likely reorganizing

production plans, such as switching suppliers, and shipping in parts from Japan.

"The problem is extremely serious," said Katou. "The models are precisely those Toyota had been preparing to sell in big numbers."

Toyota expects to sell 2.19 million vehicles in North America in 2010, up 11 percent from 2009, according to sales targets released Tuesday. Globally, Toyota said it was planning sales of 8.27 million vehicles this year, up 6 percent from 2009. But those numbers have not figured in the U.S. sales stoppage, Takeuchi said.

The automaker's problems in the U.S. may be an extension of the spate of quality problems that plagued Toyota several years ago in Japan, its home market, during the aggressive growth strategy pursued under Watanabe.

In 2006, the Japanese government launched a criminal investigation into accidents suspected of being linked to vehicle problems, though nobody

was charged. Watanabe later acknowledged overzealous growth was behind the quality problems. Watanabe was replaced last year by Akio Toyoda, the grandson of Toyota's founder.

Tuesday's announcement follows a larger U.S. recall months earlier of 4.2 million vehicles because of problems with gas pedals becoming trapped under floor mats, causing sudden acceleration. That problem was the cause of several crashes, including some fatalities. About 1.7 million vehicles fall under both recalls. The auto company said the sales suspension wouldn't affect Lexus or Scion vehicles. Toyota said the Prius, Tacoma, Sienna, Venza, Solara, Yaris, 4Runner, FJ Cruiser, Land Cruiser and select Camry models, including all Camry hybrids, would remain for sale. Those vehicles contain gas pedals produced by a different North American supplier from the one whose parts are involved in the current sales halt, Toyota has said.

## NOTICE

**IN THE ESTATE OF EULAH MAE FRANCIS** late of Thompson Court, Oakes Field in the Western District of the Island of New Providence, one of the Islands in the Commonwealth of The Bahamas, Deceased.

NOTICE is hereby given that all persons having any claims or demands against the above-named Estate are requested to send the same duly certified to the undersigned on or before Friday the 26th day of February 2010 after which the Personal Representatives will proceed to distribute the assets of the Deceased among the persons entitled thereto having regard only to the claims of which the Personal Representatives shall then have had notice.

AND NOTICE is hereby also given that all persons indebted to the said Estate are requested to make full settlement on or before the date hereinbefore mentioned.

**CASH, FOUNTAIN**  
Attorneys-at-Law  
P.O.Box N-476  
Armstrong Street  
Nassau, The Bahamas  
Attorneys for the Personal Representatives



## THE COLLEGE OF THE BAHAMAS

Visit our website at [www.cob.edu.bs](http://www.cob.edu.bs)

**The College of The Bahamas wishes to engage the services of an Executive Search firm to support in the search for a College President.**

Detailed information is available in a Request for Proposal (RFP) document which may be obtained by visiting

The College's website,

[www.cob.edu.bs](http://www.cob.edu.bs),

by email request at

[communication@cob.edu.bs](mailto:communication@cob.edu.bs),

OR

by telephoning the office

of External Affairs at 302 4304.



## NOTICE

### IMPORTANT CUSTOMER INFORMATION

CHEQUING AND SAVINGS ACCOUNT HOLDERS

In preparation for the introduction of The Bahamas Automated Clearing House (BACH) in early 2010, Fidelity Bank (Bahamas) Limited has revised its Account Operating Terms and Conditions, effective January 2010.

Copies of the Terms and Conditions brochure will be made available as follow:

- Downloaded from our website: [www.fidelitybahamas.com](http://www.fidelitybahamas.com)
- By postal delivery with your Account Statements
- Any of our Fidelity Bank Financial Centres

For any additional information, please call or visit any of our locations:

Nassau: t 356.7764  
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Admissions Officer  
[sally.varani.jones@st-andrews.com](mailto:sally.varani.jones@st-andrews.com)

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BUSINESS

# BTC revenue share 5-25 per cent for globally leased lines

FROM page 1B

of total capacity.

Responding to feedback on the proposed Significant Market Power (SMP) remedies that should be imposed on itself and Cable Bahamas, BTC said in its January 22, 2010, feedback to communications sector regulator URCA that competition between the two companies had forced it to reduce all its international lease prices by 30 per cent.

Felicity Johnson, BTC's vice-president for legal, regulatory and interconnection issues, argued that the 100 per cent state-owned incumbent held just a 10-30 per cent share of the Bahamian telecoms connectivity market, which features national and international leased lines. She argued that the remaining share was held by Cable Bahamas.

When it came to market share on international connectivity capacity, Ms Johnson said: "BTC has only 5-25 per cent of market share by revenue, or 20-40 per cent of market share by capacity", according to URCA's information.

This was much less than the market share held by Cable Bahamas, its 100 per cent-owned affiliate, Caribbean Crossings, and the former's ex-controlling shareholder, Columbus Communications, whose buyout by the BISX-listed utility is now understood to have been completed.

As for national leased lines, which provide intra and inter-island connectivity, Ms Johnson said: "BTC only has a market share of 10-30 per cent of circuits, and so presumably Cable Bahamas has a market share of 70-90 per cent on a national basis."

"When considering only

those areas where Cable Bahamas has a presence, its market share will be higher than this. SRG also provides national leased lines using wireless technology, although their market share is not known to BTC at present." And BTC also acknowledged that Cable Bahamas led the way on broadband Internet with a 70 per cent market share.

This means that BTC is totally reliant on its cellular monopoly to remain financially viable, but the state-owned incumbent said this situation was a "quid pro quo" for it to continue providing universal service throughout the Bahamas without any financial assistance from the Government or other operators.

Arguing that it had received no financial concessions from the Government, apart from when it received customs duty exemptions for three years between 1996-1999 to facilitate its network build-out, Ms Johnson said BTC had paid a \$4 million franchise fee to the Treasury for every year since 1992.

"Indeed, between 2005 and 2008, BTC paid \$7.6 million (2005); \$10.3 million (2006); \$12.1 million (2007); and \$12.4 million (2008) per annum in customs duties," Ms Johnson wrote.

"BTC has also declared in excess of \$150 million in dividends to its shareholder, the Government, since 2004."

"Additionally, BTC's cell towers on government and Crown land are, as of March 1, 2009, the subject of a master agreement which attracts a \$500,000 per annum lease payment."

Still, BTC agreed with SRG that a regulatory audit of all licensees not be mandated.

It added that this would cost BTC \$850,000 in the first year, reducing to \$600,000 in

later years. "This represents per cent of net revenues of an additional \$6.40 per fixed line per year," Ms Johnson said, arguing that using a 'properly prepared in accordance with' audit opinion would reduce regulatory audit costs by 25 per cent.

However, Ms Johnson urged URCA to "investigate the ownership details of Cable Bahamas with regards to its interest in Systems Resource Group (SRG) through the supply of international capacity, and links to Columbus Communications and ARCOS-1 via its parent company".

Columbus Communications is the majority owner of the ARCOS fibre optic telecoms cable that links the US, Bahamas, Caribbean and Latin America, but it is no longer Cable Bahamas' controlling shareholder.

Still, Ms Johnson urged: "Moreover, URCA should consider that Cable Bahamas also owns its own submarine cable, in addition to the capacity it owns in ARCOS 1."

"Aggregating international capacity market share across all companies with ownership links may support a finding of international dominance on Cable Bahamas, in which case remedies could be applied to Cable Bahamas."

The BTC executive acknowledged that Cable Bahamas "has a far greater number of customers for its international connectivity" than the incumbent carrier, with only one rival Internet Service Provider (ISP) currently using capacity on its Bahamas II cable.

While BTC was in discussions with another ISP, Ms Johnson said the remainder must either be using the ARCOS cable or Cable Bahamas' own Bahamas Deep Sea Network cable, SRG, in particular, only leasing bandwidth space on these cables.

And Ms Johnson added: "Cable Bahamas' cable is more modern and has different characteristics to BTC's Bahamas II cable, and is able to provide services that BTC is not able to."

"For example, the Bahamas II cable cannot easily be used for data traffic, due to difficulties of interconnection with the US Network Access Points (NAPs)."

"BTC, therefore, is forced to buy capacity on ARCOS 1 to carry its own international data and voice traffic."



## 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 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 1<sup>st</sup> February 2010. Salary and benefits commensurate with qualifications and experience.

## JOB VACANCY

### 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](mailto:GENERALCOUNSEL@GBPA.COM)

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

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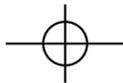
The National Insurance Board invites suitably qualified businesses to tender for the contract to operate the cafeteria of the National Insurance Board's Head Office, Clifford Darling Complex, Baillou Hill Road.

The following **REQUIREMENTS** must be met:

1. Tenders must be licensed with the proper licensing authorities.
2. Tenders must meet all the requirements of the Ministry of Health and other relevant agencies related to food services.
3. Tenders must be able to provide food for 250 or more persons daily.
4. All National Insurance contributions should be paid up to date.

Interested persons may collect a **Bid Application** from the Director's Office, at the National Insurance Board's Head Office, Clifford Darling Complex, Baillou Hill Road, and submit the same on or before **February 5, 2010, at 1:00 p.m.** Tenders are asked to submit their bids in a sealed envelope, marked "**Bid for Cafeteria**," and addressed to:

The Cafeteria Committee  
**THE NATIONAL INSURANCE BOARD**  
Clifford Darling Complex  
Baillou Hill Road  
Nassau, Bahamas



BUSINESS

# Cable proposes 'decoupling' of TV and Internet

**FROM page 1B**

Smith's letter "concedes" that one regulatory modification proposed by URCA could "increase competition..... if a proportionate solution can be found".

She added: "As a transitional measure, Cable Bahamas is prepared to commit to the immediate decoupling of its Internet broadband services from its pay-TV services for any new installation in which a customer orders Internet broadband only, commencing no later than two months following URCA's decision accepting this proposed obligation."

"It should be noted that to comply with this obligation, Cable Bahamas will be

forced to resort to an interim technical solution (until a comprehensive network upgrade could be completed) that may put at risk Cable Bahamas' network and business integrity."

Ms Smith's letter said Cable Bahamas would offer to work with URCA on the "technical details and cost recovery mechanisms" appropriate to its "unbundling" solution, adding that the company's proposal was "in line with best international practices" once adjusted for the Bahamian market.

The letter added that Cable Bahamas had discussed "the technical and commercial challenges" of such a proposal before with URCA's predecessor, the Public Utilities Commission

(PUC), as the 'decoupling' would require major network upgrades likely to take two years.

**Difficult**

"In particular, Cable Bahamas' current network architecture makes it difficult to develop a cost-effective, comprehensive solution that would, at the same time, preserve the security and integrity of Cable Bahamas' pay TV network and business," Ms Smith wrote.

"As a result, these options were ruled out as a workable, system-wide solution."

"A comprehensive solution allowing for the cost-effective decoupling of broadband from Cable Bahamas' pay-TV services,

while at the same time ensuring the security and integrity of Cable Bahamas' pay TV network and business, would require Cable Bahamas to undertake a major network upgrade."

In addition, Cable Bahamas also proposed continuing price regulation of its basic cable TV package, currently priced at \$30 per month, the level it has been at since the service was launched in 1994.

Ms Smith described the price regulation as a "quid pro quo" for the 15-year exclusive monopoly that

Cable Bahamas held on the provision of cable television in the Bahamas, but the expiration of that agreement had allowed new operators - especially BTC and IP Solutions International - to enter the IP TV market. New satellite and subscription television services were also expected to emerge.

"Although Cable Bahamas believes that this prospective competition should be sufficient to justify the removal of price regulation from Cable Bahamas' basic package, this may be an issue that is

more appropriately addressed in a full market review," Ms Smith said.

"In the interim, Cable Bahamas would not oppose the continued application of reasonable and proportionate retail price regulation to its basic package."

The BISX-listed company proposed a regulatory model that would account for its costs in providing the service, such as programming costs, associated network, IT, marketing and sales and general and administrative expenses.



**THE COLLEGE OF THE BAHAMAS**

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**NOTICE FROM THE OFFICE OF ADMISSIONS**

The deadline for Fall (September) 2010 applications is **Friday, February 5th 2010.**

Please ensure that your application and all supporting documents are submitted by that deadline.

For more information, call The Office of Admissions at 302-4499/302-4394 or e-mail [admissions@cob.edu.bs](mailto:admissions@cob.edu.bs).

**NOTICE**

The following persons are asked to contact **STOR-IT-ALL OF NASSAU, LIMITED** in connection with items left in storage:

College of the Bahamas  
c/o Anthony Burrows

Makita S. Depardine

Denise Francis

Cyril Greenslade

Camille Hudson

Larraina Humes

Deanna Haggman

Krystal Lord

Nelson Mackey

Kendra Rolle

Shelton Smith

Payments not made by January 30th, 2010 - items will be sold to cover outstanding Account.



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- Prepare maintenance work requests when required for all equipment in the operations department.
- Complete fire, safety and equipment checklists as directed.
- General housekeeping of the operating areas.
- Provide both written and oral shift turnover reports.

**Experience:**

Experience in terminal operations is a good asset, but not mandatory. Training will be provided in all areas.

**Job Requirements:**

- High School graduate
- Age 18-30
- Good Verbal and written communication skills (mandatory)
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- Prepared to work 12 hour shift cycle.
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- Passion for excellence and teamwork.

Applications should be submitted to the Operations Director  
Bahamas Oil Refining Company International Limited  
Dbs Vopak Terminal Bahamas  
P. O. Box F-42435  
Freeport, Grand Bahama, Bahamas  
On or before January 31, 2010



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- Very strong computer skills, including a high level of proficiency with MS Excel, MS Word and sound practical experience in the preparation of MS PowerPoint presentations and reports
- Strong analytical skills with the ability to solve issues efficiently
- Ability to work independently and take initiatives
- Flexibility to respond to the reprioritisation of tasks

**RESPONSIBILITIES INCLUDE:-**

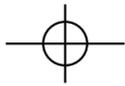
- Preparation of the Bank's consolidated financial statements and work schedules for statutory audit purposes in accordance with accounting standards (IFRS)
- Coordinate the statutory audit and the preparation of all supporting schedules required by the external auditors
- Preparation of all regulatory reports in compliance with mandated format and deadlines (e.g. The Central Bank and The Securities Commission)
- Preparation of a variety of reports for group regulatory reporting purposes
- Preparation of annual operating budget and expense control
- Development and preparation of internal statistical and financial reports for the board of directors and executive management
- Production of professional presentations in line with the corporate standard
- Preparation of various client financial statements and other types of customized client reports.
- Responsibility for the reporting and accounting activity concerning two licensed banking affiliates.

**ABSOLUTELY NO TELEPHONE CALLS WILL BE ACCEPTED.**

Please deliver Resume and two (2) references **BY HAND NO LATER THAN MONDAY, 1st FEBRUARY 2010 to:-**

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INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS

# Federal regulators tighten the rules for money funds

MARCY GORDON, AP Business Writer WASHINGTON

Federal regulators on Wednesday tightened rules for money-market mutual funds to require them to hold some assets that could be easily converted to cash and to disclose new information on fund values.

The Securities and Exchange Commission voted 4-1 at a public meeting to adopt the new rules designed to bolster protection for investors in money-market funds, which hold about \$3.2 trillion in assets.

The move came in response to an episode in September 2008, at the height of the financial crisis, in which a \$60 billion money fund "broke the buck" and exposed investors to losses.

The value of the Reserve Primary Fund's assets fell to 97 cents per investor dollar — below the dollar-for-dollar level needed for full repayment.

SEC Chairman Mary Schapiro said the new rules were "just a first step in our efforts to strengthen" rules governing money-market funds.

"I am committed to continuing to move forward with reforming the money-market fund industry," Schapiro said before the vote.

But Commissioner Kathleen Casey said the changes "simply do not go far enough" and she therefore was voting against adopting the new

rules. The vote was narrower, 3-2, to issue guidance to public companies on how current SEC disclosure requirements for them could apply to business or legislative events related to climate change.

For example, companies should consider whether specific laws and regulations regarding climate change could have a significant effect on their financial position and therefore should be disclosed to investors, the new guidelines say.

## Debate

The issue spurred a sharp debate among the commissioners over climate change and whether the new guidance was needed. Commissioners Casey and Troy Paredes, the panel's two Republicans, insisted that the issue of global warming hasn't been scientifically established and said the SEC was straying from its mission to protect investors with the guidelines.

Environmental groups and major institutional investors, including the California Public Employees Retirement System, have been pressing the SEC for such guidance for several years.

Money-market funds are a mainstay of financial management for U.S. families and companies, holding themselves out as safe and easily accessible investments that offer returns exceeding those of conventional savings accounts. They generally

invest in the safest types of debt such as Treasury bonds, while so-called prime money-market funds seek slightly higher yields but accept marginal risk by venturing into short-term corporate bonds.

The "breaking of the buck" by the Reserve Primary Fund — the first U.S. money fund, established in 1970 — stoked fears over the safety of the trillions held in the money funds. During the week it happened, investors pulled out around \$300 billion from prime money funds, representing 14 percent of the assets in those funds.

Under the SEC rule changes, all money funds will be required to hold at least 10 percent of their assets in cash, Treasury bonds or other instruments that could be sold for cash within a day. There currently are no such liquidity requirements; the change would make it easier for investors to redeem their money from the funds amid a rush of demand. At least 30 percent of funds' assets will have to be convertible to cash within a week.

In addition, funds will be barred from investing more than 3 percent of their assets in securities that are other than the highest grade. That is stricter than the current limit of 5 percent.

The maximum average maturity of bonds in which money funds can invest will be shortened to 60 days from the current 90 days.

The SEC also is mandating changes in money funds'

operations, such as requiring that they be able to electronically process investors' purchases and redemptions at a price other than \$1 a share — to make it easier for investors to get their money back if a fund "breaks the buck."

The new rules will take effect in stages, with some requirements coming into force in the spring and others in the fall.

The SEC has been examining whether substituting a floating share price for the \$1 for money funds — making them more akin to investments like conventional mutual funds whose value rises and falls — would better protect investors from runs on the funds.

The new rules require money market funds to disclose their "shadow" floating share price: how the market values what investors would pay per share to get into the fund and would receive getting out of it. The information will have to be disclosed monthly, with a 60-day lag.

New York-based Reserve Management, which operated the fallen Reserve Primary Fund, said Tuesday night it will return to shareholders \$3.4 billion — nearly all the remaining cash it has.

It is the sixth partial payout the fund has made since its collapse. Reserve Management said 99 percent of what the fund held at the peak of the financial crisis will have been returned. About \$160 million remains to cover legal and management costs.

# Fed holds rates at record low to boost recovery



THE INTEREST rate decision of the Federal Reserve appears on a television screen on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange Wednesday, Jan. 27, 2010. The Federal Reserve has decided to hold interest rates at a record low and pledged to keep them there for an "extended period" to nurture the economic recovery. (AP Photo/Richard Drew)

JEANNINE AVERSA, AP Economics Writer WASHINGTON

The Federal Reserve has decided to hold interest rates at a record low and pledged to keep them there for an "extended period" to nurture the economic recovery and lower unemployment.

One member — Thomas Hoenig, president of the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City — dissented from the Fed's decision to retain the pledge to hold rates at record lows. He believes the economy has improved sufficiently to drop the pledge, which has been in place for nearly a year.

The Fed made no changes to an \$1.25 trillion economic support program aimed at driving down mortgage rates and bolster housing. Reports on home sales this week pointed to a fragile housing market. Fed policymakers said economic activity has continued to "strengthen," the deterioration in the job market is easing and consumers are spending moderately. But they warned that high unemployment, lackluster income growth and tight credit could crimp that spending.

Against that backdrop, the Fed kept its target range for its bank lending rate at zero to 0.25 percent, where it has stood since last December. In response, commercial banks' prime lending rate, used to peg rates on home equity loans, certain credit cards and other consumer loans, will remain about 3.25 percent. That's its lowest point in decades. Super-low interest rates are good for borrowers who can get a loan and are willing to take on more debt. But those same low rates hurt savers. They are especially hard on people living on fixed incomes who are earning measly returns on savings accounts and certificates of deposit.

# THE WEATHER REPORT



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**5-DAY FORECAST**

TODAY	TONIGHT	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
Sunny, breezy and pleasant High: 78° Accumulated Rainfall: 0.2" F	Clear and breezy Low: 68° Accumulated Rainfall: 0.1" F	Sunny and breezy High: 81° Low: 72° Accumulated Rainfall: 0.2" F	Partly sunny and more humid High: 85° Low: 69° Accumulated Rainfall: 0.2" F	Mostly cloudy and breezy High: 77° Low: 68° Accumulated Rainfall: 0.2" F	Rather cloudy with a stray shower High: 76° Low: 71° Accumulated Rainfall: 0.2" F

**ALMANAC**  
Statistics are for Nassau through 1 p.m. yesterday

Temperature	High: 78° F/26° C
Low	68° F/20° C
Normal high	77° F/25° C
Normal low	65° F/19° C
Last year's high	79° F/26° C
Last year's low	66° F/19° C
Precipitation	As of 1 p.m. yesterday: 0.06"
Year to date	0.51"
Normal year to date	1.54"

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

**UV INDEX TODAY**

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11+  
LOW MODERATE HIGH VERY HIGH EXTREME

**TIDES FOR NASSAU**

Today	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
5:44 a.m. 6:53 p.m.	6:38 a.m. 7:52 p.m.	7:29 a.m. 8:45 p.m.	8:19 a.m. 9:37 p.m.	9:08 a.m. 10:30 p.m.	9:57 a.m. 11:25 p.m.	10:46 a.m. 12:14 p.m.

**SUN AND MOON**

Sunrise: 6:54 a.m. Sunset: 5:52 p.m.  
Moonrise: 4:19 p.m. Moonset: 5:21 a.m.

**INSURANCE MANAGEMENT TRACKING MAP**

Shows today's weather. Temperatures are today's highs and tonight's lows.

Atlanta: Highs: 60° F/16° C	Charlotte: Highs: 61° F/16° C	Cape Hatteras: Highs: 58° F/14° C
Pensacola: Highs: 65° F/18° C	Savannah: Highs: 66° F/19° C	Charleston: Highs: 65° F/18° C
Tampa: Highs: 72° F/22° C	Daytona Beach: Highs: 68° F/20° C	Bermuda: Highs: 63° F/17° C
Miami: Highs: 76° F/24° C	Freeport: Highs: 75° F/24° C	San Juan: Highs: 82° F/28° C
Havana: Highs: 83° F/28° C	Nassau: Highs: 78° F/26° C	Antigua: Highs: 82° F/28° C
Cozumel: Highs: 83° F/28° C	Santiago de Cuba: Highs: 82° F/28° C	Barbados: Highs: 84° F/29° C
Belize: Highs: 80° F/27° C	Port-au-Prince: Highs: 89° F/32° C	Trinidad Tobago: Highs: 86° F/30° C
Managua: Highs: 89° F/32° C	Santa Domingo: Highs: 85° F/29° C	Caracas: Highs: 88° F/31° C
Limon: Highs: 82° F/28° C	Aruba Curacao: Highs: 86° F/30° C	Panama City: Highs: 91° F/33° C

**MARINE FORECAST**

Location	WINDS	WAVES	VISIBILITY	WATER TEMPS.
ABACO	Today: NE at 7-14 knots	3-5 Feet	10 Miles	72° F
ANDROS	Today: SE at 8-16 knots	3-5 Feet	10 Miles	73° F
CAT ISLAND	Today: ESE at 10-20 knots	3-5 Feet	10 Miles	74° F
CROOKED ISLAND	Today: ESE at 10-20 knots	3-5 Feet	10 Miles	74° F
ELEUTHERA	Today: ESE at 10-20 knots	3-5 Feet	10 Miles	74° F
FREEPORT	Today: ESE at 10-20 knots	3-5 Feet	10 Miles	74° F
GREAT EXUMA	Today: NE at 10-20 knots	1-3 Feet	10 Miles	73° F
GREAT INAGUA	Today: ENE at 10-20 knots	1-3 Feet	10 Miles	73° F
LONG ISLAND	Today: ENE at 12-25 knots	2-4 Feet	10 Miles	74° F
MAYAGUANA	Today: ENE at 12-25 knots	2-4 Feet	10 Miles	74° F
NASSAU	Today: ESE at 8-16 knots	1-3 Feet	10 Miles	73° F
SAN SALVADOR	Today: NE at 12-25 knots	3-6 Feet	10 Miles	73° F
RAGGED ISLAND	Today: ESE at 10-20 knots	2-4 Feet	10 Miles	74° F

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# a bishop's legacy

Remembering the Archbishop Lawrence Aloysius Burke

By JEFFARAH GIBSON

**ARCHBISHOP Lawrence Aloysius Burke, SJ, leaves behind a legacy of humble social activism and fervent humanitarianism that will be hard to match. The first archbishop of the Bahamas, died in Kingston, Jamaica, at 7pm Sunday after a long battle with cancer.**

While in the Bahamas the Jamaican-born archbishop headed a number of religious, educational, and social programmes that targeted the personal needs of the people in the community.

Archbishop Burke established the Roman Catholic Stewardship programme, Forward Together in Faith, an umbrella programme designed to create a higher level of involvement, enthusiasm, and commitment within the church through the establishment of various organizations. He also implemented the Samaritan Ministry - a

resource outlet for HIV/AIDS victims and their families.

Another programme, Yeast, was an initiative aimed towards assisting and rescuing dysfunctional, unskilled, socially troubled, academically inept young males between the ages of 16-19 years.

This was his way of mending the broken hearts and healing the broken families.

Tribune Religion spoke to Archbishop Patrick Pinder who described the late Archbishop Burke as a man with a courage that is rarely seen.

“He came here as a young man, charged with the task of leadership, he had a very uncommon gift and restored the spirits of those who came into contact with him,” Archbishop Pinder said.

“He is without a doubt the best sense of the word ‘leader’.”

Not only did he impact lives personally, he also made them very comfortable. Under his leadership he oversaw the physical expansion of the church with many new renovated buildings. Schools were built and expanded in

**SEE page 28**



Archbishop Burke

“He is without a doubt the best sense of the word ‘leader’.”

*Archbishop Patrick Pinder*

## Spirit of Love Organisation hosts ‘Bahamas for God Again’

By REUBEN SHEARER  
Tribune Features Reporter  
rshearer@tribunemedia.net

ENCOURAGING younger Bahamians to walk away from conflict and embrace the love of God is the aim of “Bahamas for God Again” birthed out of the Spirit of Love Organisation (SOL) which was started by president of Barak Ministries International, Devon Rolle in 2003.

The group plans school and park outreaches with an aim to demonstrate the love of Christ, and to encourage individuals to walk away from conflict rather than solve it through the means of using a weapon.

It is a national outreach initiative aimed at confirming the supremacy of God and His principles in the

Bahamas.

This Saturday at 4pm, the organisation will minister to residents on Englerston Park. Each month they will go on a different park.

In 2003, the assignment of SOL was to spiritually and practically combat the escalating rate of crime after the country’s murder count reached an all time high of 70.

“We yet again see an unacceptable surge in the level of murders and dangerous crimes occurring within our nation,” the statement said.

The coalition believes that the remedy for criminal activity is for the nation to return to the Christian values they claim have been thrown out by the present day generation.

“Here we stand at the transition point towards the second decade of the millennia and our nation,

notwithstanding thousands coming to salvation through the efforts of the SOL organisation and other ministries,” the statement continued.

The Bahamas for God Again team therefore seeks to be a substantive, non-demonational agent of spiritual change in the nation.

“We believe that a strong intervention must be orchestrated now to positively impact the 18-40 year old generation of our nation who are largely responsible for the onslaught of social decadence that has invaded the serenity of the modern Bahamas.

“We want to see a reversal in the drastic amount of murders, violence, sexual offenses and overall inclination towards sinful indulgence presently experienced by our nation.

This campaign is founded upon the biblical passage, II Chronicles 7:14.

# A no nonsense leader!

IT WAS only a matter of God's timing that the Bahamas would begin to see and experience true leadership. The appointment of Ellison Greenslade as the Commissioner of Police and Marvin Dames as Deputy Commissioner and the out-of-the box thinking team of senior officers that leads the force; will no doubt throw a monkey wrench in the criminal's agenda.

Now, please let me make this emphatically clear; Mr Greenslade, Mr Dames and their team of officers don't have a magic bullet that will prevent criminal acts from taking place in this country. But what this new leadership brings to the Royal Bahamas Police Force is something that was lacking for many, many years; and that's visionary leadership.

There is no need for me to expound or dissect the word vision to this educated nation, because everybody from the out-house, the church-house and the parliament house has used and abused this word vision; yet we've all been groping around blindly like headless chickens. While the visionary criminals understands that our judicial system is constipated, and filled with highly paid legal eagles / lawyers

(in most cases) these lawyers are or the firms are owned / partnered by the persons that the country dubbed as honorable.

The high murder rate that this little Bahamas experienced in 2009, could be laid at the feet of poor / ineffective leadership on all of our (Bahamians) part.

Here again, is another word (Leadership) that has suffered the same fate as that of the word vision, in this educated / ed-u-macated Bahamas. But be that as it may, let's move on.



PASTOR  
MATTHEW  
ALLEN

Please know this! Every criminal act that has and is being committed in this country is being carried out by one of our family members. But what do, we do as a society?

Unless we're one of the victims or family members of a victim we remain silent, and close our eyes and ears to criminal acts. A no nonsense leadership approach to crime begins with us, firstly in our homes; which will no doubt spill over into our communities and then throughout our nation.

It makes absolutely no sense for us to experience the wrath of crime and murder as we did last year, when we as a Christian nation can come together and send a stern message to the criminal mind-set stating "Hell no, we won't go through another year of your foolishness"

The time has come for us (The Church) to get out of our four walls and take back our communities. In stead of having our annual conferences within the four walls, why don't we go and set-up shop on the parks and areas where we know the drug dealers and gangs are? I can assure you that every church leader and member knows where an illegal drug store is located; yet they all stay in the church buildings praying and sending God / the Holy Spirit to drive out the illegal activities from their areas.

Unbeknown to the religious mind-set; the fact and truth of the matter is that Yahweh has endowed the church of His Son, Yahshua Messiah with

power and authority and sends us to take dominion.

Can you imagine what it would be like in our communities, especially those ones with five and six churches; if these churches would unite and have nightly evangelical street meetings on every known drug infested corner and park for the next nine months?

If we (Bahamians) pool our resources and say no to every criminal act and hold the family of criminals somewhat accountable for the behavior their members, our communities would then have a different outlook on being silent and covering illegal activities.

Listen, I'm not PLP, FMN, BDM, BDP or whatever other political fruit cake parties we've got out there. I am a Bahamian, and most of all I am a disciple of Yahshua Messiah and a son of Yahweh.

With that being said, I would like to give props to the Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham for making a wise move in appointing Mr Greenslade

and Mr Dames as commissioner and deputy of police. Now all the Bahamian people would ask is "that for God sake, please keep politics out of the police force so that these men and women can work to best of their abilities."

The no nonsense, skilled and wise leadership that Mr Greenslade and Mr Dames bring to the Police Force should be the very same that is displayed throughout every facet of our government agencies, public and private sectors. This sort of action will put a demand upon us as a nation to be and do better.

We're all at fault for our country falling apart as its doing; but it's not too late, let's rise up Bahamians and make the Bahamas beautiful once again.

• For questions and comments contact us via E-mail: [pastormallen@yahoo.com](mailto:pastormallen@yahoo.com) or

[kmfci@live.com](mailto:kmfci@live.com) or Ph.1-242-441-2021 Pastors Matthew & Brendalee Allen Kingdom Minded Fellowship Center Int'l

## CHURCH NOTES

### ACM PREPARES FOR ANNUAL CONFERENCE

• The 38th annual Anglican Church Men (ACM) conference will be held in North Andros from March 17-21. All Anglican men are asked to register at their parish or contact any ACM council member for more information. Ken Obrien is the conference chairman he can be reach at [kob1150@coralwave.com](mailto:kob1150@coralwave.com) for more information.

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# Past and future

When you occasionally think about the past and look to the future, you use the present to take stock. Here are some thoughts to ponder about 2009:

1. Thank God that you survived the year of challenge
2. Thank God for whatever blessings you did receive
3. Thank God for whatever lessons you learnt
4. Thank God for the bills you were able to pay
5. Thank God for love received and given
6. Thank God for items acquired
7. Thank God for items shared with others
8. Thank God for health and strength
9. Thank God for prayers answered
10. Thank God for the presence and



REV. ANGELA  
C BOSFIELD  
PALACIOS

power of God's grace

We have all witnessed a multiplicity of miracles in different ways. There are friends that we have comforted, counseled, and encouraged. Those of us in ministry have prepared persons to die in peace. Members of the medical profession have used their training, experience and intuition to attempt the seemingly impossible and watched God bring people back from the edge of death.

In the coming days there will be more griefs to bear, burdens to share, and from time to time, even the shedding of a tear.

In 2010, we look toward the future with anticipation:

1. There will new opportunities to access in the days to come
2. There are unexpected friendships to be forged as time goes on
3. There are spiritual revelations yet to be experienced
4. There are more material blessings to be discovered
5. There are additional educational accomplishments to be explored

None of these things are definitely guaranteed but we know that the Lord God Almighty has wonderful

plans for us all. We have to allow God to act in our lives.

Something that we can work to guarantee ourselves is the spirit that we take into the future as we face the unknown. We can do the following:

1. Decide to let the past go and forgive freely if we can
2. Receive counseling if we need help
3. Allow memories to fade if we cannot forget
4. Reprioritise our lives
5. Develop a personal ethic

May your gratitude overflow, generosity multiply, joys abound, peace be unshakable, faith be immovable, love be contagious, and your smile be infectious. May you live each day in the knowledge of God's grace.

## Jet diverts to Philly over teen passenger's prayer

### PHILADELPHIA

A Jewish teenager trying to pray on a New York-to-Kentucky flight caused a scare Thursday when he pulled out a set of small boxes containing holy scrolls, leading the captain to divert the flight to Philadelphia, where the commuter plane was greeted by police, bomb-sniffing dogs and federal agents, *according to the Associated Press.*

The 17-year-old on US Airways Express Flight 3079 was using tefillin, a set of small boxes containing biblical passages that are attached to leather straps, Philadelphia police Lt. Frank Vanore said.

When used in prayer, one box is strapped to the arm while the other box is placed on the head.

"It's something that the average person is not going to see very often, if ever," FBI spokesman J.J. Klaver said.

The teen explained the ritual after being questioned by crew members of the flight, which had left LaGuardia Airport around 7:30 a.m. headed for Louisville and was operated by Chautauqua Airlines, authorities said.

Officials with the airline, however, said crew members "did not receive a clear response" when they talked with the teen, according to a statement issued by Republic Airways, which owns Chautauqua.

"Therefore, in the interest of every-

one's safety, the crew decided to land in Philadelphia, where a more complete investigation and follow-up with authorities would be possible," the statement said.

The flight landed in Philadelphia about 9 a.m. without incident and was met by police, bomb-sniffing dogs and officials from the FBI and Transportation Security Administration.

Authorities said the plane was searched and passengers were questioned. The teen, who is from White Plains, N.Y., and was traveling with his 16-year-old sister, was very cooperative, Vanore said.

"They were more alarmed than we were," Vanore said.

Klaver said the teen and his sister were never in custody and were cleared to continue their travels.

The teen's grandmother, who was waiting for him at Louisville International Airport, said the early flight left no time to pray before leaving New York.

"He hadn't had the opportunity to pray, so that is why he did it on the plane," Frances Winchell said.

She said the episode was traumatic for the boy, whose mother requested that he not give interviews.

"But in any event," she added, "all's well that ends well, and maybe some good will come to the world because of



Matt Rourke/AP Photo

**A DIVERTED** plane is escorted by to a terminal at Philadelphia International Airport in Philadelphia, Thursday, Jan. 21, 2010. A misunderstanding about an Orthodox Jewish prayer ritual led a US Airways Express captain to divert his Kentucky-bound plane to Philadelphia on Thursday, authorities said.

it."

The teen, who belongs to the congregation Young Israel of White Plains, is "a brilliant student" from "the sweetest family," said Shmuel Greenberg, the synagogue's rabbi.

The morning prayer ritual is supposed to take place within a few hours of sunrise, so it's understandable that the teen

was doing it on the plane, Greenberg said.

Binding the boxes of holy scrolls to the arm and head serves as "a reminder for the person that their actions during the day, and what they think about during the day, should be on a level of holiness and should inspire them to do productive, good things," he said.

 THE HISTORY OF RELIGION IN THE BAHAMAS

# Anglicans in Andros

I AM grateful to Father Shazz Turnquest, a former student of mine from St John's College, who appears to be doing great work in South Andros. He is following in his father's footsteps as an Anglican priest. I have edited his website history.

The Anglican involvement in Andros actually is said to have begun under a leaf tent on the island of Mangrove Cay in 1818 by an English priest Rev Joseph Evans, and a local man Arthur Sweeting from Harbour Island both men being former slave traders. However, the actual church building of All Saints was not completed until 1891.

In 1865, H.T.S Cassell writes in the Mission Quarterly Papers of a wonderful fishing holiday spent on Andros where he, Rev Saunders and Bishop Venables visit only two stations beginning at Fresh Creek and then heading North to Nicholl's Town, with no mention of any stations in between.

**"Precisely at five we landed at Fresh Creek, the chief settlement at Andros. Mr Sweeting, the catechist, met us at the landing, and took us at once to his house, which was a model of cleanliness, with its palmetto-thatched roof and white-washed walls."**

William Henry Sweeting was known as the 'Apostle of Andros', a teacher, catechist, land owner and eventually one of the first black indigenous priests in the Bahamas. According to Bishop Venables during the consecration of the original church in Calabash Bay, Sweeting did much for the church in Andros, giving the land and even building some of the churches with his own hands. He escaped an outbreak of



JIM  
LAWLOR

cholera which killed his wife and most of his children. He died in 1878 but much of his handiwork remains.

In 1872, the second Bishop of Nassau, Addington Robert Peel Venables (1864-1876), mentions nine different churches built in 1871 on the island of Andros including the churches at Mastic Point and Nicholl's Town.

'We arrived in the evening at Mastic Point; but, as the whole population was going to a wake, we could not hold service until the next day. Here I learnt for the first time that it is customary at these wakes to put food outside the door for the dead person to eat. The next morning I examined the day-school in the new church. It appears to be making good progress.

Leaving the same day (August 8) we ran down to Nicoll's Town. The church here was destroyed by the hurricane of 1866. At length, however, the Mission is apparently recovering. Stones have been collected for a new church, which the people wish to build more substantially than the last.

In 1892, the new Rector of all Andros the Rev Frederick Barrow Matthews ex San Salvador (Cat Island) speaks about his first missionary trip North from Mangrove Cay.

"All of the hard work of Rev W.H. Sweeting appears to be eroding due to the burgeoning sponge trade and subsequent lawlessness associated with it.

All of the stations have succumbed to apathy albeit one or two.

"Leaving Stanyard Creek, saddened and depressed, I made for the next station, Mastic Point...Mastic Point proved a little oasis in the spiritual desert. The Catechist evidently loves his little church, and spoke cheerfully of his congregation. Here one sees the good work Father Fisher has done for the Church in this colony. The Catechist here was an old choir-boy of Father Fisher's, and his early training in St Agnes, Nassau has stood him well. He has his congregation well in hand, and a nice little Sunday and day school. How important good sound teaching is, was illustrated here.

'I spent a happy Sunday here with the usual round of services. Here too, alas! The same decay appears in the fabric; I never celebrated in a more nervous state of mind than I did at this altar.

Nicoll's Town too is a lovely spot with its coconuts and beautiful beach. Here all the horrors of our unhappy divisions burst upon us. In the centre stands the only decent and well built church in the parish. On one side some 300 yards off stands a large Methodist chapel; on the other side, a little more than a stone's throw, stands a large Baptist chapel; and further on, a preaching house for the Plymouth Brethren; and facing all stands a huge liquor shop which scents the street for a long distance and does more work than all the sects put together!...On the whole I was pleased with the little congregation; they have much to contend with, three different sects persuading them that they are all wrong. The real evil is the liquor shop, for drunken men and women are everywhere.

About 1900, Fr Matthews writes again in the Mission Quarterly Paper in his eighth year of service on Andros. Building work is at a standstill at Fresh Creek, Calabash Bay, and Stanyard Creek because all the men are out sponging. However, at Mastic Point it is a little brighter - the new chancel was finished having taken one year and seven months to do this small amount of work. Neville Chamberlain has settled here, and has begun sisal planting on a vast scale. Last May, near to Mastic Point, I went ashore to get a few young casuarina trees (Spanish cedar) which were growing wild there, evidently washed up by the Gulf Stream.

This time I fairly gasped in astonishment in looking at the same spot. Thousands of acres cut down, burnt, and being planted out with manilla, hemp, and cotton. Two huge houses nearly finished, a broad and spacious road right up from the beach through the clearing into the pine forest, large shops, barracks, and all over the place little shanties for the hundreds of work-people. Four hundred men, women, and boys weekly employed, whilst thirty carpenters from Nassau are working almost night and day at the various large buildings rapidly going up.

A few years later, Revd G.H. Brookes reported that the Parish of St Margaret actually stretched from Nicholl's Town down to Fresh Creek. The priest was resident in Fresh Creek and it was only later that the parish of St Stephen was formed encompassing Behring Point, Bowen Sound, Fresh Creek, Calabash Bay and Stanyard Creek.

Father Shazz is researching further to fill the gaps in the history but he should be commended for the work so far.

## A bishop's legacy

FROM page 28

Grand Bahama, Abaco, and New Providence. New churches were built in Bimini, Abaco, San Salvador, Eleuthera, and Long Island.

Buildings in Nassau included a new Chancery building, Emmaus Centre, Loyola Hall, two renovated and three new churches and one new church hall.

But his signature mark was the construction of the new St Francis Xavier Cathedral. Built at a cost of more than

\$5 million, this edifice stands as a building of historic proportions. It seats 1,300 parishioners comfortably.

While Archbishop Burke was responsible for the Mission of Turks and Caicos Islands, he built the rectory and the hall that has served as the church of Our Lady of Divine Providence in Providenciales as well as the church of the Holy Cross in Grand Turk.

"He was a man of rare courage, and this is a major loss to the Catholic

Community," Archbishop Pinder said.

Archbishop Burke, 77, died in the retirement home for Catholic priests in the Kingston Archdiocese. He had retired in 2008, four years after being transferred from the Bahamas to take over the archdiocese of his native Kingston.

Archbishop Burke, born in Kingston on October 27, 1932, entered the Society of Jesus on August 14, 1951 at Lenox, Massachusetts and was ordained a priest on June 16, 1964 at Holy Trinity Cathedral, Kingston.

He taught at St. George's College, Jamaica, from 1958 to 1969, when he was named Rector of the College. In 1973 he was appointed Regional Superior of the

Jesuits in Jamaica, the first and only Jamaican to be appointed to that post, which he held until 1979. He returned to St George's College in 1980 as Acting Principal.

He was appointed Bishop of Nassau by Pope John Paul II on July 17, 1981 and on June 22, 1999, was named the first Archbishop of the newly erected Archdiocese of Nassau.

It was under Archbishop Burke that the new St Francis Xavier's Cathedral was planned and built.

On February 9, 2004 Archbishop Burke was appointed the fourth Archbishop of Kingston and was installed on May 2, 2004, at the Holy Trinity Cathedral in Kingston.



## ACM COUNCIL WORSHIPS AT ST ANNE'S

On Sunday January 21, the Anglican Church Men's Council worshipped at the 10.30 am Service at St. Anne's Parish. The council led by President Kevin Ryan paid a visit and courtesy call on the men and the rector of the church, Rev'd Crosley Walkine. At that service new members of the branch was installed by the Council President.

