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INSIDE

FIRST CLASS

AQUINAS COLLEGE
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'Mother' Pratt fears gang war

PLP SET TO ASSIST FINDING ATTORNEYS FOR STRAW VENDORS

By **PAUL G TURNQUEST**
 Tribune Staff Reporter
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THE Progressive Liberal Party is set to announce today its plans to assist in finding defence attorneys for the nine Bahamian straw vendors being held in New York.

Having been charged in a district court last week with conspiracy to defraud the US Criminal Code by way of trafficking counterfeit goods for commercial advantage or financial gain after a six-month investigation, the nine straw vendors have reportedly admitted to travelling to New York to buy the fake luxury goods after they were arrested at

SEE page 10

Concern over rivalry between Ridgeland Park and the Grove

By **AVA TURNQUEST**
 Tribune Staff Reporter
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ST Cecelia MP Cynthia "Mother" Pratt said the area surrounding her constituency is steeped in an all-out gang war, based on reports from the youth in her constituency.

Mrs Pratt added the country must work harder at "bridging the gap" between factions like the growing divide she highlighted between groups from Ridgeland Park and those identifying themselves as the Grove. Mrs Pratt said: "I'm troubled by the thug boys, the

wars, the cross rivalry. These areas are laden with children and it is unfortunate but a lot of them are raising themselves."

The territories for both groups were said to be separated by Robinson Road, and Mrs Pratt said their seemingly endless retaliation sprees against each other negatively impact her constituents – most of whom she feels are impressionable bystanders caught between the feuding neighbours.

"Just one road separates them – we have to find a way to bridge the gap and

SEE page 10

Arawak Homes: house demolition in full compliance with the law

By **AVA TURNQUEST**
 Tribune Staff Reporter
 aturnquest@tribunemedia.net

ARAWAK Homes has assumed responsibility for the demolition of the Wood's home on Friday, according to a press statement issued by the company yesterday. It assured the public that its actions were in full compliance with the law.

SEE page 10

AFTERSCHOOL READING INITIATIVE

FELIPE MAJOR/TRIBUNE STAFF



A CLASS ACT: Cynthia 'Mother' Pratt speaks to children at the launch of a new afterschool reading initiative at her St Cecelia constituency yesterday. Inside what was once her constituency office but has now been converted into a classroom, reading lessons will be available every weekday from 4pm until 5.30pm for school children in the community. On Saturdays, one-on-one adult sessions will be held from 2pm until 7pm.

Carl Bethel hits out at tabloid's 'campaign of character assassination'

By **PAUL G TURNQUEST**
 Tribune Staff Reporter
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HITTING BACK:
 Carl Bethel

FNM Chairman Carl Bethel slammed a down-market tabloid yesterday for continuing its "ongoing malevolent campaign of character assassination" against him.

Claiming that the Sea Breeze MP had some "ulterior motives" behind his recent intervention in the constituency association elections in St Thomas More, the publication said Mr Bethel had "fears" that he could be beaten in his Sea Breeze seat by the PLP's Hope Strachan in the next general election.

As such, the tabloid claims Mr Bethel was seeking to "switch" from Sea Breeze to St Thomas More in anticipation

that the St Thomas More seat would be a safer bet for the FNM.

However, Mr Bethel has flatly denied these allegations.

"Let me say from the outset that I made a personal commitment to the residents of the Sea Breeze constituency in 1990, at the age of 29 years, which I have never abandoned. I have been elected by the good people of this constituency in three of the last four general elections, for which I remain eternally grateful.

"I have no intention, nor have I contemplated now, or at any time, changing that personal commitment. I have no interest or intention in seeking to represent anyone other than the good people of the area presently called the Sea Breeze

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PRISONER IS QUESTIONED OVER SHOOTING

By **ALISON LOWE**
 Tribune Staff Reporter
 alowe@tribunemedia.net

A PRISONER who checked himself in to hospital with a gunshot injury to the leg after he was supposed to have returned to prison from his Bernard Road work site is being questioned in connection with a shooting in Yellow Elder on Saturday,

SEE page nine

REPORTS: 80 STAFF TO LOSE JOBS AT ZNS

THE final number of staff to be cut at ZNS has been confirmed, according to late reports reaching The Tribune. Of the 238 persons currently employed, yesterday it was announced only 158 people will remain – 13 more than the ini-

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ARREST HOPES OVER TEENAGER'S SHOOTING

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

POLICE are hopeful they can bring a swift resolution to the investigation into the shooting of 13-year-old Rashad Rolle. Although senior officers say they don't have anyone yet in

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LOCAL NEWS

Prison chief Rahming defends the work release programme

Allegations of inmates becoming involved in crimes

By ALISON LOWE
Tribune Staff Reporter
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PRISON Superintendent Dr Elliston Rahming has defended the prison's "extra-mural" work release programme in the face of two alleged instances over the weekend of participating prisoners becoming involved in crimes while off prison property.

Both inmates have now been taken off the programme that saw them selected to be allowed to go off the prison compound during work hours to participate in paid employment, despite still serving their prison sentences.

An investigation is underway by prison officials into how one of the inmates, who was supposed to have been at his Bernard Road work site, was allegedly able to get caught up in a murder and double shooting incident in Ridgeland Park and Yellow Elder on Saturday.

The inmate, who has been returned to prison, is being questioned in connection with the Yellow Elder shooting, which saw a man – who is himself now being questioned in connection with the Ridgeland Park murder – shot at while seated inside a Honda Accord in the area. The man's sister, who was also inside the car, was also injured in the shooting.

The inmate himself received a gun shot injury to the leg at some point during the day, for which he sought treatment at Princess Margaret Hospital on Saturday, leading to his re-arrest. He was taken back to the prison for further treatment in the medical unit there.

The second inmate was taken off the work-release programme after a search upon his return to the prison last Friday resulted in the discovery of a half pound of marijuana hidden somewhere on his person.

According to Supt Rahming, this second inmate, has now been confined to maximum security as police investigations continue into how he obtained the drugs.

The inmate, who is being questioned in connection with the Yellow Elder shooting, is said to have been serving a 15-



SCENE OF TRAGEDY: The body of a young man is placed in a hearse on Saturday after he was shot in the head in Ridgeland Park.

year prison sentence for armed robbery. He is said to have served nine and a half years and was due for release next August.

The sentence being served by the other inmate who was found with the drugs is unknown at this stage.

Asked yesterday whether he felt the incidents warranted a review of or changes to the work release programme, which – up until the removal of the two inmates – involved 15 inmates, Dr Rahming said that he did not see the need for any major alterations.

Concerned

Sources say some law enforcement authorities are concerned about a "lack of supervision" of those on the programme, and how they are selected.

Dr Rahming defended the programme yesterday in this regard. However, he did say that there was one decision taken yesterday morning as a direct result of the weekend's alleged transgressions – that all inmates on the work programme would be taken to and from their work sites by prison staff. At present, inmates are generally dropped to their work sites and are allowed to "make their own way" back to the prison in the afternoon. They are required to be back at Her

Majesty's Prison, Fox Hill, at 6pm on weekdays and 4pm on Saturdays.

Dr Rahming added that he foresees that electronic monitoring of these inmates and others "would significantly tighten the surveillance of them." The government has promised to introduce electronic monitoring, however no implementation date has yet been given.

Selection of inmates to participate in the work release programme, which Dr Rahming credits with reducing re-offending rates, is conducted by the Prison Visiting Committee or the Prerogative Board of Mercy, on which the Minister of National Security sits.

Dr Rahming said: "They are the only two entities entitled to place inmates on the work scheme and all are very carefully selected but from time-to-time, an inmate would do something stupid, something you didn't anticipate. But by and large the extra mural scheme has been extremely successful. It's been going on for probably between 25 and 30 years and very few who have been in the programme for an appreciable length of time have recidivated."

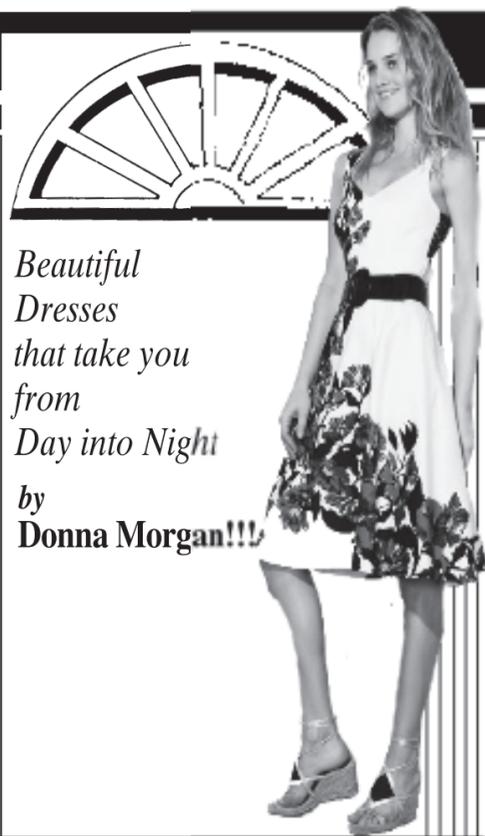
The Prison Superintendent said he does not feel the public have been "exposed to any undue danger" by the decision to allow certain inmates the freedom to leave prison

grounds during the day. "There have only been a few instances where persons engaged in the programme would have gotten involved in an illegal enterprise of a violent nature and virtually all of the inmates return to the prison on a timely basis."

Dr Rahming said supervision of the inmates while on the job includes sporadic drop-ins by prison officers during the day, and the requirement that their employer notify the prison if the inmate leaves the work site outside of regular hours.

In order to be considered for the programme, an inmate must have had no disciplinary charges against him in the prison in the past year; ought to have completed at least two technical, vocational or attitudinal adjustment programmes and should have no more than 18 months or two years remaining on his or her sentence. The inmate must also agree to be subject to random drug tests.

"The Visiting Committee will then interview him and make their decision," said the top prison official, adding that this committee is made up of "a number of outstanding citizens of the Bahamas, who are performing a tremendous service to the country."



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Draft prison bill to be released before end of year, says Minister

By NOELLE NICOLLS
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THE draft Department of Corrections Bill will "absolutely" be released before the end of the year, according to Minister of National Security Tommy Turnquest.

The new bill, drafted to replace the "outdated" Prison Act, is expected to reflect the government's vision for the prison moving forward, he said.

The minister is participating in a general staff meeting at the prison this week, where he plans to "help them to see the way forward" and "buy into the vision."

The Prison Staffers Association recently expressed its opposition to what they believe is a move by the government to "civilianise the prison." They see the appointment of Superintendent Dr Elliston Rahming as an example of this, and claim they do not support his re-appointment.

One prison officer said he did not care what "international reports" say about the need to move away from a "military structure" in prisons. He said a policy of civilian leadership would be a "crippling blow to the very core" of officer morale.



TOMMY TURNQUEST

doing a job that most of our citizens would not even consider have reasonably expected that for their efforts, rewards would come," said one tribune242.com reader.

"I have been a prison officer for more than five years. I joined the service with a view of not only making this job a career, but also with the hope and aspiration of attaining the highest rank there is – Prison Superintendent," he said.

Mr Turnquest said he is aware of the concerns about

"For years officers who have exposed themselves to countless risks and hazards, educated themselves in related disciplines and have served their country

the possible move to "civilianise the prison." He said the government has no intention of changing "the disciplined force that the prison is and the rank structure. We will change

SEE page nine

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Being Bound to Swear to The Dogmas of No Master

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Public deserves truth about the Baha Mar project

EDITOR, The Tribune.

With your kind indulgence, I shall be grateful if you would allow me to continue addressing the proposed Baha Mar Cable Beach development, the predicament it is presently in and the repercussions it could have if it is allowed to continue in its present form.

I listened and watched attentively while the Prime Minister brought the Resolution to Parliament and explained it in detail. Then a few days later, Baha Mar released a statement outlining its own position. And when one examines both the Resolution from the Prime Minister and the statement from Baha Mar, therein lies some confusion.

According to the Resolution, Crown land and land owned by the government will have to be conveyed to Baha Mar in fee simple before the Chinese financiers will provide the funding. That is understandable.

However, along comes Baha Mar in a prepared statement, saying that work will begin first and afterwards financing will commence.

I have been in the real estate business for more than twenty-three years and I have never heard of any financing institution releasing its funds before the sale is closed. So, as far as Baha Mar's statement is concerned, I believe that is incorrect.

Taking that statement from Baha Mar a little further, I can only conclude that the financiers are shareholders.

If that is the case, the Bahamian people have a right to know. To expand further in fee simple, according to the Florida Real Estate Hand Book 1986 Edition, "The fee simple estate is also known as an absolute estate because one possessing this estate has no restriction or limitation upon his ownership except that imposed by the state i.e. imposition of taxes, public safety regulation and purchase by the state for public use. A fee simple estate is the most comprehensive type of ownership in land since the owner may dispose of the land in any manner he selects, or if he does not dispose of it the estate will pass on intact to his heirs. Title to this estate may be acquired by deed, will, inheritance, or adverse possession and may also be granted by a court." So, according to press reports, almost 300 acres will be conveyed to Baha Mar and I presume a

LETTERS

letters@tribunemedia.net

lien will be placed against those acres by the financiers.

And also I presume that a lien will be placed against the entire development by the Chinese banks.

Because that is what happens when a financier lends you money, he takes out a lien against the property so that if you miss your payments, they can move in and take possession of the property.

I'm a real estate broker and I believe I know a little about the value of land in New Providence.

I'm saying that the almost 300 acres of Crown land and land owned by the government has a fair market value of around \$500,000 per acre.

If my math is correct, then the total land value is around \$150,000,000.

Taking that a little further, according to press reports the proposed development is worth around \$2.5 billion.

We ought to be reminded that the principals behind Baha Mar development were involved in a foreclosure in the United Kingdom to the tune of under \$800 million. Can you imagine if the Chinese financiers have to foreclose on the Baha Mar Resort?

I'm forced to inform those who may not know that the Chinese population represents 15 per cent of the population in San Francisco, but they own 85 per cent of the real estate.

It is common knowledge that the Chinese do not come to rent, they come to own. Think Bahamians. Think. We have to be concerned with our children, our grandchildren and our great-grand. Lest my critics be misinformed, I'm in favour of foreign direct investment.

And obviously we need foreign capital to stimulate

the economy and reduce unemployment. However, I propose that the land be leased to the Chinese for 99 years.

We all know the one who owns the land calls the shots. I'm against the re-routing of West Bay Street, the demolition of Cecil Wallace Whitefield building.

The present government, I believe, ought to review the existing heads of agreement with Baha Mar and make changes that are conducive to Bahamians.

The re-routing of West Bay Street will further decrease one's access to our country, the same way our access was further decreased on Paradise Island and the disappearance of South West Road near the Albany Resort.

Some of the more pertinent questions lingering in my mind are as follows:

Can the Department of Immigration ensure us that of the 8,000 plus Chinese, there are no child molesters, rapists, murderers or AIDS infected persons entering the Bahamas?

Can the Department of Immigration ensure us that they will be monitoring those persons entering our country temporarily will be made to leave when their work is completed?

In closing the public deserves to know the truth about this mammoth development.

I believe Baha Mar is not being upfront with the Bahamian people. It appears as if the present government is caught between a rock and a hard place.

They have been put in a precarious position and left to defend a heads of agreement the previous government negotiated. In future, I shall return to this subject. However, the fee simple estate comment needs some clarifying.

PAT STRACHAN
Nassau,
September 21, 2010.

Foreigners on Bahamian construction sites

THE DEBATE on the number of Chinese to be employed on the construction of the Baha Mar Cable Beach project — six hotels, about a 100,000-square foot casino, a 200,000 square-foot convention centre, 20-acre beach and pool, 18-hole golf course and a 60,000-square foot retail village with additional residential products — is going to be interesting, if and when it takes place on the floor of the House.

The number of foreign workers required by the Chinese as part of the deal is unusually large. But it is well known that the Chinese do not approve foreign loans unless their workforce is employed as a major part of the loan project. In the case of Baha Mar — valued at about \$2.5 billion — \$1.918,965,693 billion has been negotiated with the China Construction Company as primary contractors. With that financial outlay it is amazing that government was able to negotiate any Bahamian presence. As Mr Ingraham said in presenting his resolution for this project to the House "the foreign labour component intended during the construction for the resort exceeds levels ever experienced in the Bahamas and is beyond anything ever contemplated by my government."

Under the UBP, construction up to a certain value was reserved for Bahamian contractors. Over that value it was agreed that Bahamians did not yet have the expertise or equipment to handle very large jobs and so those were left to foreign contractors, such as McAlpine, Balfour Beatty and others. In the 1950s, said Mr Ingraham, the government permitted 25 per cent of the labour force in construction and/or the operation of tourism development to be foreign.

During the Pindling era, however, the foreign labour component increased and newspaper articles recorded protests, either by foreign workers complaining of working conditions, or Bahamians questioning their presence in the Bahamas. For example, in 1988, 600 angry Indians went on hunger strike on the construction site of the Crystal Palace Hotel, Cable Beach. They accused the foreign contractor, Balfour Beatty, of treating them as slaves. Earlier — in 1981 — the Construction and Civil Engineering Union picketed the construction site of government's \$66.5 million Cable Beach Hotel. "They import Filipinos to shovel sand. You tell me no Bahamians can do that?" complained a Bahamian worker. There were 40 Filipinos on that job site.

But the 1990 demonstration to protest the employment of common labourers — truck drivers for example — from Brazil on government's \$55 million Nassau International Airport expansion was particularly interesting. The ratio of foreigners to

Bahamians was 70 per cent on that construction site with government having to pay a large penalty if the number of Bahamians went over the agreed 139 or 30 per cent of the total work force. This prompted the carrying of placards that read: "It's Better in the Bahamas for Brazilians!"

At one point during the contract there were more than 340 Brazilians at the construction site, bringing the Brazilian count to 71 per cent compared to the 139 Bahamians that the company had agreed to use during this period.

The Pindling government had agreed that for every five Bahamians hired by the Brazilian company over the agreed 139 Bahamian workers, the government would have to pay \$88,000 or \$17,000 for each worker.

In the House on April 30, 1990, then Opposition Leader Hubert Ingraham revealed that the Pindling government had also agreed to pay all of the Brazilian company's Customs and stamp duties, work permit fees for their workers, and building fees on mechanical and electrical permits. In addition government was to pay all public utility fees — connections and the like — except for the actual electrical consumption.

The FNM found it preposterous that government would be penalised if more than 139 Bahamians were hired at the airport. "It is incredible that the Government has agreed to pay extra monies for Bahamians to work in their own country," said the FNM.

When the Ingraham government came to power its policy on foreign labour was established on the resort properties of Kerzner International — the ratio of Bahamians to non-Bahamians on that site was not to exceed 30 per cent foreign to 70 per cent Bahamian.

And now here were the Chinese financially backing the transformation of Cable Beach into a mega tourist resort and asking for 8,150 of their countrymen to be engaged on the "core project". The projection is that some 1,200 Bahamians will be engaged in construction of the non-core projects.

Because of the unusual request for foreign labour — 71 per cent foreign to 29 per cent Bahamian — Prime Minister Ingraham has brought the matter to the House to give the Opposition an opportunity to express the opinions of their constituents on the matter. Both sides have to determine — in the words of Mr Ingraham — "whether this invaluable benefit of skills transfer and improved exposure to new technologies can or will occur in a project where contact between Bahamians and foreign experts is likely to be limited." Bahamians also have to decide whether in these lean years this project, with its foreign labour, is what they believe will jump start their economy.

Why are dogs at the CCU not getting Dr. Balfe's injection?

EDITOR, The Tribune.

I am dumbfounded by the Dogs article in Monday's Tribune, which describes the "excruciating pain" of intracardiac injections for dogs being put down without prior sedation.

When the time came, my big German Shepherd lay quietly in my arms as I watched Dr. Pat Balfe administer an injection in her foreleg. I looked up at his face and said, "How long will it be?" He replied, "Oh, she's gone already." I looked down at her, and saw that she had died *without the slightest tremor*.

So why are dogs at the CCU not getting Dr. Balfe's injection?

RON LIGHTBOURN
Nassau,
September 22, 2010.

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Teaching applications 'were rejected due to background concerns'

By ALISON LOWE
Tribune Staff Reporter
alowe@tribunemedia.net

THE applications of a number of teachers who applied to teaching posts in North Andros had to be rejected because a police inquiry into their background revealed concerns, according to education officials.

Minister of Education Desmond Bannister told *The Tribune* yesterday that this was one of a number of factors that played into a teacher shortage at the North Andros High School, but despite these challenges it is expected that the shortfall will be remedied within a week.

His comments came after Vincent Peet, MP for North Andros, issued a press statement in which he called on Mr Bannister - who recently toured schools in Andros - to fulfill a promise to fill the teaching posts, and to address a deficiency in the number of desks and chairs at the school which he said has resulted in some students having to sit on the ground during classes.

Mr Bannister denied Mr Peet's claim that there is a shortage of seven teachers, but he admitted that five weeks into the school term, not all posts have been filled, in part due to unexpected departures.

"The math and English teachers left the school at



SCHOOL ISSUES: Desmond Bannister and Vincent Peet

the beginning of this new school year without officially resigning.

"They gave us no notice whatsoever. We only knew that they were gone when they did not turn up in September. Another teacher, who is a priest, was reassigned to another island by the church. As a result we had to scramble for new teachers."

Mr Bannister said the replacement of these teachers was slowed by three factors. These included the "refusal" of a number of teachers to be stationed in North Andros, and the lack of qualified Bahamian teachers in a number of areas, such as math.

"This year we also implemented a process of police vetting for the first time in

history. Accordingly, no new teachers were placed until they had been vetted. In fact, one of the teachers who was supposed to be sent to Andros could not be hired as a result of the police report," added Mr Bannister.

District Superintendent for schools in the North and Central Andros area, Harcourt Davis, said that as far as he was aware more than one teacher had to be overlooked because of the findings of the vetting procedure.

"With vetting system we have we wouldn't want to just go and because an application's there, just get that person and send them into the school before doing proper vetting. In one case we had three different per-

sons for a subject area vetted and when we checked into their characters, they were not fit.

"It's not that people are not coming forward, it's just that we want to make sure when we get someone they come to stay and we don't have to ask them to return or dismiss them," said Mr Davis.

Mr Bannister said that "notwithstanding these problems" teachers were identified for the school and should be arriving this week.

Both Mr Davis and Mr Bannister confirmed the furniture shortage at the school, and both put this down to the poor quality of furniture previously brought into the institution.

Mr Davis said that the recent condemning of this "non-durable" furniture which was in poor condition, in conjunction with the expansion of North Andros High's school population from 461 to 500 - the extent of which was not fully anticipated - exacerbated the equipment shortage.

Mr Bannister added: "I spoke to the shortage in parliament last week, and even tabled a document to show that we have had to order thousands of items of furniture because of the defective furniture purchased by the former administration. As the furniture arrives it is being shipped to all schools."

Similac powder infant formula recall 'did not affect all brand's products'

By REUBEN SHEARER
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NASSAU Agencies' recall of Similac powder infant formula on Friday did not affect all of the popular brand's products, a representative told *The Tribune* yesterday.

Barbara Donathan, account pharmaceuticals manager, told parents that "not all Similac is bad."

Products that have been found usable include all Abbott Nutrition liquid ready-to-feed and concentrated infant formulas and all powder and liquid specialty formulas, such as Similac Expert Care, Alimentum, Elecare, Similac Expert Care Neosure, Similac Human Milk Fortifier, and metabolic formulas for inherited disorders.

The recall came after reports emerged suggesting that millions of cans of the product with certain lot numbers may have contained "a small common beetle" or larvae that could irritate the digestive tract of babies who consume the milk powder.

The brands on the safe list include: Similac Isomil Advanced (23.2 ounces), Similac Go & Grow Early Shield, Similac Go & Grow Soy (22 ounces), Similac Advance Early Shield (23.2 ounces), Similac Advance (12.9 ounces), Similac Advance (12.4 ounces), Similac Advance Early Shield (12.9 ounces), Isomil Advanced (12.9 ounces), Isomil Advance (25.7 ounces) and Similac Go & Grow with LCPs (12.9 ounces).

While formula containing the beetles poses no serious

health risks, there is a possibility that infants who consume it could experience gastrointestinal discomfort and refuse to eat as a result of small insect parts irritating the gastrointestinal tract, the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has determined. If these symptoms persist for more than a few days, physician should be consulted.

Locally, there have been no reports of babies consuming the product, thanks to the swift action of Nassau Agencies, the sole distributor. After hearing about the US recall, the company immediately contacted City Markets, Super Value, Lowe's Pharmacy and dozens of other food-stores and pharmacies.

"People are bringing in the cases that were not good, and changing with the good ones," Ms Donathan told *The Tribune* yesterday. "We were concerned that some stores wanted all stock removed which was not necessary. Only affected stock needed to be removed."

Concerned parents were advised by the company to refer to www.similac.com/recall/lookup, and type in their lot number to determine if their product is affected, or call (1 800) 986-8850.

The lot number can be found on the bottom of the product container.

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Rupert Dean Lane man on weapons charges

A 21-YEAR-OLD man of Rupert Dean Lane was arraigned in a Magistrate's Court yesterday on weapons charges.

Shawn Brown, 21, was arraigned on two counts of possession of a firearm with the intent to endanger life.

It is alleged that on Friday, September 10, he was found in possession of a firearm with the intent to endanger the lives of Noel Roker and Naika Ferguson. It is also alleged that Brown caused \$500 in damage to Roker's bedroom window and wall.

Brown, who appeared before Deputy Chief Magistrate Carolita Bethell in Court 8, Bank Lane, was not required to enter a plea to the charges.

Brown pleaded not guilty to assaulting Kenya Ferguson with a chrome handgun on Monday, August 23.

He was remanded to Her Majesty's Prison. The case was adjourned to October 8, when he is expected back in court for a bail hearing.

PLP opens new branch office in Deadman's Cay

AFTER not contesting the Long Island seat in the last two elections, the PLP last week took a first step towards re-establishing a presence in the constituency by opening a branch office in the settlement of Deadman's Cay.

Speaking at the reopening of the branch last Friday, party leader Perry Christie told the crowd of supporters that one of the mistakes he pledged to correct at the last national convention was the fact that Long Islanders did not have a PLP option in the last few elections.

The party supporters said the Deadman's Cay office is only the first of a number of PLP branches planned for Long Island.

The new headquarters of the branch are located on the property of Ruth Watkins, who was elevated to the rank of stalwart counsellor on the occasion. Mrs Watkins has been a member of the PLP from its inception in 1953.

Party chairman Bradley Roberts promised Long Islanders that when the PLP returns to office, with or without Long Island as a PLP seat, they would once again receive their due and rightful benefits as citizens of the Bahamas.



He promised that Long Island would be fought for just as hard as any other seat up for grabs.

Mr Christie also pledged a continued commitment by the PLP to find ways to stimulate the economy of Long Island, which has been home to some of the country's greatest builders and artisans.

PLP deputy chairman Alex Storr theorised that a PLP win could only occur if the many FNMs on the island who are upset with their current MP could be convinced to vote PLP.

The party's vice-chairman for Family Islands Randy

Rolle said that opening this particular branch was done at this early stage to send a clear message that the PLP will not be taking any community for granted.

He said the party will continue to work closely with the branch on Deadman's Cay and will be moving swiftly to establish more branches in the north and south of the island very soon.

The Deadman's Cay branch will be the sister branch of the Yamacraw constituency and plans are already under way for a branch-to-branch visit in the near future, the PLP said.

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LOCAL NEWS

PM gives infrastructural progress report in House

RECOGNISING that no matter what his government says or does, the Opposition will oppose, Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham gave the House a progress report on his government's infrastructural accomplishments while moving a resolution to borrow \$60 million from the China Export-Import Bank to construct a four-lane highway for Nassau.

He said that regardless of the naysayers his government was not going to be distracted. It would continue to do what it is now doing.

In the House on September 22, Mr Ingraham also reported on the progress at the airport, the needs of BEC, Nassau's water problems, the infrastructure for the justice system and the new national stadium.

"We are well advanced on the new US departure terminal at a cost of more than \$200 million," he told the House. "We are the Party that created the Airport Authority. We are the Party that created the study and the plan for Nassau International Airport, and we are the Party that is carrying out the development."

"As soon as the US departure terminal is completed next year, we will begin the new international terminal and then we will begin the new domestic terminal. People coming to Nassau will know that we are different, and that, yes, it is better in The Bahamas."

"In view of that, we are not going to be distracted from our principal purpose by naysayers. "Quite frankly," he said, "no



NEW STADIUM: The prime minister said of the project: 'The Chinese are only building the shell. We have to build the roads, put in the sewerage, the water, the electricity, the parking lot and landscaping'.

matter what we say or do, the other side is opposed to it. And we understand – they are in opposition to us and they do not wish for us to succeed. What is good for The Bahamas may or may not be good for their political interests. But that is a judgment for the people of The Bahamas to make.

"But for so long as we have the opportunity to occupy these Offices of State, we shall continue to do that which we are doing."

"We are doing so at the airport; our principal port of entry, and we are doing so on our waterfront at our principal port of entry for shipping. Con-

struction has commenced on the new port development on Arawak Cay, and I invite Members from time to time to drive out there and see what is going on and to see all of the old cars, (scrap) irons, and all the other things that are being removed from that place so that eventually, we will remove freight handling from the city of Nassau."

BEC AND WATER WORKS

"Ours is a very difficult job to do," he said, "because the infrastructure of Nassau is inadequate for its population and for its development. We have an electrical company, BEC, that has over 100 megawatts of generating capacity that sits idle because of a lack of maintenance over the years."

"We do not need to buy new engines for BEC; we can repair them and keep them in good shape. It is going to cost hundreds of millions of dollars to bring BEC back to where we left it when we were last in office, when it used to make \$16-20 million in profit every year, and now it is operating hand-to-mouth, day-to-day, it cannot even afford to buy fuel."

"BEC just had to borrow \$50 million from First Caribbean Bank to pay for fuel. But in order for them to borrow the money, the Government had to sign a letter that says 'I am now going to pay BEC \$1 million per month for street

lights and I am therefore going to commit to paying the \$1 million per month for 60 months.' On the basis of that, BEC is able to borrow \$50 million, because BEC is no longer in a position to be able to borrow on its own."

"When we were in office up to 2002, BEC no longer needed the Government of The Bahamas to borrow money. It had matured, it had developed and it was able to do normal banking business and obtain loans on its own."

"Five years under your (the PLP) leadership, has put BEC in a state that it is in today."

"We have got massive problems with the water situation in New Providence. We are spending some \$10 million to put in additional water mains along places like Robinson Road."

"It is causing inconvenience to the public and the public is agitated, and we apologise."

"But it is a job that must be done. It cannot be that people in eastern New Providence cannot get reasonably clean water and that the pressure has to be so low."

"But ours is the task to fix these things, because quite frankly, I have great difficulty in countenancing that if we do not do it now, who will do it. It takes a lot of nerve – gumption, they say – to do what we are doing. We do so in the face of opposition, condemnation, by the very people who are going to benefit most from it."

"Everyday, every time they are stuck in traffic, they cuss Hubert Ingraham. But this is what needs to be done in The Bahamas. We are busy putting in the new straw market on Bay Street and it is coming on quite well."

JUSTICE SYSTEM INFRASTRUCTURE

"We are having to also, at the same time, pay attention to the Supreme Court of The Bahamas – the highest court in our land," Mr Ingraham told the House. "We are having to spend more than \$20 million this year for premises for the Supreme Court."

"The building on the corner of Bank Lane and Bay Street (the Hansard Building) is being converted to courts for the Supreme Court. Ansbacher House, which the Government bought, is now being converted for two Supreme Courts and eventually six Supreme Courts. We are seeking to complete work on the new 12 Magistrates Court complex on Nassau Street."

THE NEW NATIONAL STADIUM

"We are stuck with having to put in the infrastructure for the new sports stadium," said the Prime Minister. "The People's Republic of China was kind enough to donate to The Bahamas a sports stadium. It is said that it cost \$30 million. It is going to cost us \$50 million of borrowed money to put in the infrastructure to make the place functional."

"The Chinese are only building the shell. We have to build the roads, put in the sewerage, the water, the electricity, the parking lot and landscaping. So we have to spend more money to make the place functional than was spent to build it."

"We have to, as a result of commitments made to Baha Mar, find between \$45-50 million of public money to contribute to them toward the infrastructure they have got to put in on Cable Beach for their development."

"We have huge requirements."

"Yes, we need a new hospi-

tal and yes, it is our hope and expectation that eventually we get a new hospital; it has taken too long. The reality is that we made choices over the years. The money we flittered away on the Hotel Corporation and other excursions in the private sector could easily have caused us to be in a position to build a new hospital at a cost of \$300-400 million. But the reality is that we do not have it anymore."

NEW 4-LANE HIGHWAY PROJECT

"So, we are now embarking upon a programme to create this new four-lane highway from Nassau International Airport into our city centre," he said. "When people come to The Bahamas in the future – many people talk about the positive impacts it is going to have on Bahamians – and they are going to go to the hotels on Cable Beach, they are going to be able to come on this four-lane highway and turn north by Gladstone Road."

"If Baha Mar goes, as we expect it will go, there will be a new highway going north. I told the Leader of the Opposition that I intend to name that road after him; that I intend to name that road Perry's Way."

"So, a visitor coming to Nassau would be able to take that four-lane highway, and go north to the Cable Beach development or alternatively, going to Paradise Island and continue up to the six-legged roundabout at Bethel Avenue and go north coming out to Saunders Beach and see the beautiful vista. Hopefully the taxi-drivers, when taking them back to the airport will go the other direction so that the visitor will see that there is no place anywhere in the Caribbean where there is a more beautiful entry into the city than there is in Nassau."

"When we talk about improving the product, we are also talking about the physical environment. The entire landscaping contract of the highway will be done by Bahamians. We have listed all the trees that could be planted, we are going to have the opportunity for people to be able to ride their bicycles, there are going to be sidewalks."

"We are on our way to a new place."

"Bahamians will do the landscaping and Bahamians will build the road. The road is not being built by the Chinese. \$20 million of the \$60 million contract is for the infrastructure in respect of the utility companies – BEC, BTC and Water and Sewerage."

"In the case of water, the new 24-inch main along this highway will literally provide water for the entire West of New Providence – Cable Beach, Skyline, Stapeldon, Oakes Field, Yellow Elder, and will also connect to the water main that is on Harrold Road, and connect to the main we are putting in now at Robinson Road."

"And people who live in eastern New Providence and elsewhere will be able to have good pressure and clean water."

"If the Baha Mar project goes, as I say we expect it will, this is the only means by which we can supply the water from Windsor Field to Cable Beach and elsewhere. The new high tension wires will all be buried underground in the median. There will be no more digging up of roads to repair damaged infrastructure."

"We have a tight schedule and so we have a project that is going to begin in January 2011 and be completed by October of the following year. We have terms and conditions in the contract for penalties."

"We know precisely what work the non-Bahamians can and will do. We will be able, for the first time, to have a totally planned major public infrastructural project that can be costed out."

"We are still planning the New Providence Road Improvement Project. When we were in office the last time, we hired a company. Those on the other side hired people to do the plans because we gave a construction plan and contract and they did not like that, but the planning is not complete yet."

"This project is completely planned. The utility companies will have the ability to certify or approve the quality of items being put in."

"If the exports from China meet those standards, they will go in and if they do not, then they will be accessed elsewhere."



PROGRESS REPORT: Hubert Ingraham

About \$14 million is expected to be spent out of the \$60 million in respect of import of materials for this job.

"That is on top of the \$20 million for the utilities. We expect that the number of Bahamians who are going to be employed there will be in the order of 120 or more."

CHINESE FINANCING

"We are very grateful and pleased that the Government of China has agreed to make available to the Caribbean loans totalling some \$1 billion (US), of which, some \$150 million was allocated for accessing by The Bahamas."

"We have sought to use the first \$60 million or so of that concessional loan to put in this four-lane highway. We are quite aware that a part of the conditions of lending by China, is for them to be able to sell manufactured goods and for them to be able to provide employment for some of their people."

"We are also quite aware that The Bahamas is unable to borrow from anywhere at any time at interest rates of 2 per cent."

"We are also aware that a loan that will save the taxpayers of The Bahamas at least \$30 million (US) when compared to any other loan that we can get, is an attractive proposition."

"We also think that the involvement of Bahamians in the project will be substantial. We are satisfied that we are making the right choice for The Bahamas."

"When in 1997, it was my good fortune as Prime Minister of The Bahamas at that time, to decide that the PLP Government had taken us along the wrong track, because they had recognised the Government of Taiwan as the Government of all of China, and they have even named an Ambassador to go to Taiwan – I had the occasion to tell them here in this House not to bother with that because we intended to change it, and we did."

"We determined that the People's Republic of China was the Government of China. We accepted the One China Policy, and we have received a lot of benefits as a direct result of us doing that because we were the one country that did so unconditionally."

"I gave instructions to my Ambassador in the United States to engage the Chinese Ambassador, to let them know that we had decided that we wished to recognise the People's Republic of China as the Government of all of China, and that we did so without any condition whatsoever."

"I hear the Member for Farm Road and Centreville say that he got the gift for the stadium for The Bahamas. Well, without a recognition of China, there would be no opportunity to do so."

"We want the Chinese Government to know and we want the Chinese people to know, that the Government of The Bahamas and the people of The Bahamas are deeply appreciative to the Chinese Government for what they are making available to The Bahamas."

And that those in Opposition to us, who do not support what we are doing, do not speak for the majority of the Bahamian people; we are speaking for the majority of the Bahamian people and we are therefore most pleased to move a Resolution for the Government of The Bahamas to borrow from the Export-Import Bank of China the sum of the equivalent to \$60 million (US), which will require us to pay interest only during the first five years and the next 15 years we would pay principal and interest."

"We are getting it on terms that are not available anywhere else, and we thank the Bahamian people very much for the opportunity given to us to do the good work we are doing."

"By our deeds they know us. The things we do speak for us and speak louder than any other noise that can come from any other source," Mr Ingraham said.

Scripture Thought

LUKE 11:44-46

44. Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye are as graves which appear not, and the men that walk over [them] are not aware [of them].
45. Then answered one of the lawyers, and said unto him, Master, thus saying thou re proachest us also.
46. And he said, Woe unto you also, [ye] lawyers! for ye lade men with burdens grievous to be borne, and ye yourselves touch not the burdens with one of your fingers.



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LOCAL NEWS

Man gets life sentence for pastor's murder

By DENISE MAYCOCK
Tribune Freeport Reporter
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FREEPORT – Convicted killer Angelo Rahming was sentenced to life in prison for the murder of Troy Seymour, a local pastor who was brutally murdered in Eight Mile Rock in November 2006.

Rahming, 28, of Hanna Hill, Eight Mile Rock, also received a 20-year prison sentence for armed robbery.

The sentences were handed down by Justice Hartman Longley in the Supreme Court last Thursday.

Rahming pleaded guilty to murder and armed robbery in May of this year. However, his attorney Wallace Rolle filed an application in the Supreme Court that sought to change his client's guilty plea to not guilty.

Justice Longley rejected the application after hearing submissions from Mr Rolle and Crown Prosecutor Vernal Collie.

A person can change his plea at anytime before sentencing, however, it is at the judge's discretion.

The accused claimed that he was intoxicated at the time he entered his guilty plea. Mr Collie argued that Rahming's evidence should not be believed because he not only admitted guilt to the offences, but also expressed remorse to the probation officer. He urged the judge not to allow Rahming to change his plea now.

In September 2007, Rahming was charged with Cruz Kemp for Seymour's murder. However, charges were dropped against Kemp in exchange for his testimony against Rahming.

Mr Collie described Seymour's murder as a brutal, heinous and senseless act.

According to the prosecutor, Seymour was shot three times while fleeing and stabbed more than 30 times after being shot.

Mr Collie said that the prosecution would have asked for the death penalty if the matter had gone to trial.

He noted that because the accused pleaded guilty and did not waste the court's time and had expressed remorse, the Crown decided not to pursue the death penalty.

Troy Seymour, a pastor at Mt Zion Baptist Church, was employed as a delivery man for KFC Restaurant. Seymour drove a white company truck and picked up money every Mondays and Thursdays at KFC.

Rahming told Kemp of his plan to rob Seymour. On November 13, 2006, Rahming had Kemp drop him off near the Texaco Service Station, where he flagged Seymour down for a ride.

Seymour had just left KFC with a bag of money to be deposited at the Bank of the Bahamas.

As Seymour was driving along Bayshore Road, Rahming pulled out a gun and shot him. Seymour jumped out of the truck and ran to a house for assistance. Rahming chased after Seymour, shooting him twice more. He followed Seymour inside a house, where he stabbed Seymour multiple times about the body.

Rahming then ran back to the truck and grabbed the bag of money. Police were able to retrieve Rahming's thumb print from inside the truck.

Rahming boarded a Westin Air flight to Nassau on November 13, 2006. He was arrested by police in Nassau on September 24, 2007. He told officers that he did not want to hurt Seymour, but Seymour attempted to take the gun from him and the gun went off.

Deborah Cox-Strachan, chief probation officer, said probation officer Trina Carey interviewed Rahming while he was incarcerated in New Providence.

She said the probation report was completed on July 2, 2010. Mrs Strachan said in

the report that Rahming admitted to the crime and expressed remorse.

"He said he wanted to rob Seymour not kill him, but got

caught up. A life was taken and family experienced extreme grief in view of this it is recommended that the court grant a sentence to reflect the

seriousness of his behaviour," she said.

"The Crown is not seeking the death penalty due to the fact that the defendant plead-

ed guilty to murder and armed robbery, but had the matter proceeded to trial the Crown would seek the ultimate penalty of death," said Mr Collie.

NEW NEMA WAREHOUSE EXPECTED TO IMPROVE RESPONSE TIMES



CONFERENCE: Minister for Works and Transport Neko Grant is pictured (centre) along with Captain Stephen Russell, NEMA's director, and several of the participants in the Northern Bahamas Disaster Conference which closed out last Thursday at the Our Lucaya Resort. The three-day event attracted participants from Bimini, Berry Islands, North Andros, Abaco and Grand Bahama.

RESPONSE times during disasters affecting Grand Bahama and the Northern Bahamas are expected to be improved with the establishment of a new warehouse for the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA).

Speaking at the Northern Bahamas Disaster Conference in Freeport last week, Works and Transport Minister Neko Grant said that authorities are seeking to improve their response time in the coordination of relief efforts in the aftermath of a disaster.

"To this end, action is presently being taken to finalise the transfer of ownership of a parcel of land to the government of the Bahamas by the Grand Bahama Port Authority.

"The land will facilitate the construction of a warehouse to be utilised by the National Emergency Management Agency.

"This will enable local disaster response teams to quickly mobilise in assisting disaster victims in Grand Bahama and the Northern Bahamas through immediate assessment of needs, rational distribution of supplies, and projection of future needs of the affected communities," he said.

Mr Grant, who is also the MP for the Lucaya constituency, was delivering the closing remarks at the three-day conference which opened at the Our Lucaya Resort last Tuesday and was sponsored by the United States Northern Command and the United States Embassy, while the National Emergency Management Agency and the Pacific Disaster Centre designed and conducted the training sessions.

The conference focused on a number of topics including the role of the US Northern Command, the Pacific Disaster Centre, the role of the Met Office, disaster response and mental health, hurricane preparedness and infrastructure and more.

Participants also carried out a case study on the Haiti earthquake and the Grand Bahama tornado, as well as a risk and vulnerability assessment.

The three-day event attracted senior government and local government officials from Bimini and the Berry Islands, North Andros, Abaco and Grand Bahama, officials from NEMA based in New Providence, as well as the Red Cross, Department of Social Services, police, Defence Force and others

involved in disaster management.

Addressing the gathering last Thursday evening, Mr Grant noted that the staging of the workshop is timely as we approach the mid-point of the hurricane season.

A Grand Bahama native, Mr Grant reminded the gathering that during 2004 and 2005 with the arrival of Hurricanes Frances, Jeanne and Wilma, residents of the island experienced severe to catastrophic weather conditions, and that the damages inflicted by those hurricanes resulted in significant personal loss and financial hardship.

"Five years later, the island has made much progress in its quest to return to its normal state. The repair of damaged infrastructure in the communities adversely affected by the hurricanes has been given priority," he said.

Mr Grant advised that these recovery efforts have included miscellaneous road works, repairs to public buildings and reconstruction of cemeteries.

Most recently, he said, the government has moved ahead with the construction of the Eight Mile Rock seawall and elevation of adjoining land to accommodate a new "Fish Fry" village and cultural centre.



MINISTER of Labour and Social Development Dion Foulkes participates in an exercise organised by one of the facilitator's Dr Peter Weller, Founder of the Caribbean Men Action Network (Cariman) at the Family Violence Summit's 'men's forum' held at the Paul Farquharson Conference Centre, Police Headquarters, Friday, September 24.

Organisers praised for bringing men together to discuss gender-based violence

MINISTER of Labour and Social Development Senator Dion Foulkes congratulated the organisers of the Family Violence Summit's "men's forum" for addressing violence in general and gender-based violence in particular.

Speaking at the forum last Friday, Mr Foulkes said that gender-based violence has traditionally been defined as violence involving men and women, in which the woman is usually the victim, and which is derived from unequal power relationships between men and women.

"It includes, but is not limited to, physical, sexual and psychological harm, including intimidation, suffering, coercion, and/or deprivation of liberty within the family, or within the general community," he said.

"It has been identified as the most pervasive human rights violation of our time."

Senator Foulkes noted that men are said to be main perpetrators of violence.

"Certainly, the steady rise in crime and in particular violent crime throughout the Caribbean and in the Bahamas is primarily a male phenomenon."

He said that Her Majesty's Prison is full of men and increasingly young men.

The minister told the male audience that he is convinced men must play a large role for peace and harmony to be achieved in homes around the country.

"The unacceptable level of violence in our homes and by extension our country is a reality that we as men must address and change," he said.

During the forum, he said the participants should take an introspective look at the Bahamian male and ask the hard questions.

"How do we define male/female relationships? How is Bahamian manhood demonstrated? What is accounting for the disparity

between the sexes in tertiary education? Is it more important to show that you can control others?"

Senator Foulkes said he is aware that while there are a large number of men who are perpetrators of violence, some men are also victims.

Many of these men are reluctant to identify themselves as victims of abuse because of the stigma attached to this process, and they have been conditioned by society to perceive themselves as being in control of their emotions and their environment and should not have to reach out for help, Mr Foulkes said.

These societal expectations make male victims reluctant to discuss their experiences openly.

The minister commended one of the facilitators at the forum, Dr Peter Weller, Founder of the Caribbean Men Action Network (Cariman), who will be launching the Bahamas branch of the Network.

Senator Foulkes noted that the work of the organisation includes an understanding of manhood, male/female relationships and how to promote healthy development in the country's young men.

The men's forum was held on the last day of a three-day workshop sponsored by the Ministry of Labour and Social Development.

Representatives from the police, the Attorney General's Office, Sandilands Rehabilitative Centre, Princess Margaret Hospital, the Departments of Public Health and Social Services, the Ministries of Education and Youth, the College of the Bahamas, the church and many non-governmental agencies involved in the work of the family took part in the summit.

It is expected that a national draft plan of action to confront violence is developed as a result of the summit.

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GBPA volunteers donate time to children's home

THE Grand Bahama Port Authority's newly-formed group, the 'GBPA Volunteers', recently spent an afternoon with kids of the Grand Bahama Children's Home (GBCH).

The GBPA volunteers organisation was the brain-child of GBPA president Ian Rolle, established as a means of giving back to the community.

In keeping with its mandate, over 20 GBPA volunteers spent time with the almost 30 residents of the children's home.

The children were treated to games like 'Bat-n-Ball', as well as various board games and enjoyed tasty treats from the grill.

"As a group we decided to spend quality time with the kids at the centre. Although physical donations are important, nothing surpasses human interaction and one-on-one

time with the kids," said GBPA Volunteers' president Kendra Clarke.

In an effort to 'make it happen', the group also donated much-needed school text books to the home.

Additionally, several GBPA volunteer members signed-up to assist with weekly homework and reading at the centre.

Administrator of GBCH Brennae Cooper said she was overwhelmed by the outpouring of support by the GBPA Volunteers and their kind gestures.

"It is certainly an honourable thing when people can reach back into themselves and offer so much to others who are in need. Your good deed will certainly go a long way in affording our children the opportunity to live better lives.

"On behalf of the grate-

ful children of the Grand Bahama Children's Home, I extend sincere gratitude to you, the fine volunteers of the Grand Bahama Port Authority," Ms Cooper said.

GBPA vice-president Ginger Moxey commended the volunteers for the group's inaugural efforts.

"The level of support by the members truly demonstrates their commitment to undertaking various



projects to improve our communities. Their decision to give of their time and energies is rewarding for both givers and recipients," she said.

LUNCHTIME: Members of the GBPA volunteers employee group serve up lunch for kids of the Grand Bahama Children's Home during a fun day at the facility.

Pictured (l-r) are: Sergio Armaly, sergeant-at-arms; Eugene Neely, assistant sergeant-at-arms; and Sarah Cooper, social officer.



PRESENTATION: In an effort to give back to the community, the recently formed 'GBPA Volunteers' donated new school text books to the Grand Bahama Children's Home. On hand for the presentation were some of the newly elected officers and members (l-r): Sergio Armaly, sergeant-at-arms; Sheneae Albury, treasurer; Kara Cartwright, secretary; Sarah Cooper, social officer; Kendra Clarke, president; Crystal Woodside, secretary, GBCH; Rhondrea Fox, vice-president; Nicole Colebrooke, member; Margaret Williams, membership representative; and Telina Smith, member.

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LOCAL NEWS

Son arrested after father shot and killed by police

By NOELLE NICOLLS
Tribune Staff Reporter
nnicolls@tribunemedia.net

A GRIEVING son was arrested after his father, Reginald 'Cisco' Smith, was shot and killed by a police officer.

Nardo Smith confronted police officers on the same day of the police walkabout downtown, making accusations against the officers while using "profanities."

A downtown worker, who said she was giving the police the benefit of the doubt, said the son was handcuffed and taken to the Central Police Station "to quiet him down."

Superintendent Wayne Miller, officer in charge of the Central station, said Mr Smith was arrested on the matter of

"obscene language." He was only held "briefly" in custody before being released without charge.

"I had an opportunity to speak with him. He was very apologetic, but expressed his frustration. We explained to him the circumstances around his father's death and he accepted that and was extremely apologetic about his behaviour," said Mr Miller.

"It was against that backdrop, we decided not to charge him after he was very apologetic for his behaviour. We made note of it, but decided that under the circumstances we understood," he said.

The matter of the police shooting on Thursday is still under investigation by the Central Detective Unit, according

to Assistant Commissioner of Police Hulan Hanna. Although matters of that nature usually go before the Coroner's Court, Mr Hanna said the police investigation is not complete.

Some downtown workers are still in disbelief over the death of Cisco who they describe as a Bain Town boy who fell on hard times. "He was not a vagrant," said one worker.

"Trust me, I went ballistic when I found out who it was. He was a nice person. He is not a violent person. He'll walk around and sit there. He might ask me for a cigarette. He don't bother with one soul," said another worker.

He was known to be a former taxi driver. The day he died seemed like

a routine day to workers, who said he stopped to visit his brother, George Smith, a security officer at the British Colonial Development Company, before making his usual rounds.

George said he saw his brother 20 minutes before the shooting. When he heard about a shooting downtown, he assumed it was someone "troubling the tourists."

"I know my brother don't bother with the tourists, so I didn't think it was him," said George. He was in disbelief when he finally learned it was his big brother.

He said Cisco would always stop to hail him at work every day, before catching a bus back to Bain Town. Sometimes George would give his brother

lunch or bus fare.

Cisco was working on the construction of an apartment building on Polhemus Street, where the family grew up, and had only completed the foundation. He would also check on a shop building in the area he owned that was now closed, said George.

The Tribune was not able to contact Cisco's wife, Paulette Smith or their five children for comment.

A downtown worker said Cisco was a "respectable man," who did not trouble anyone. He was hanging around downtown, "he is a Bahamian and has the right to be anywhere he wants to be," she said. "Bahamians are not to be harassed in their damn country by police for nothing."

Trial of man accused of murdering former girlfriend begins

By NATARIO MCKENZIE
Tribune Staff Reporter
nmcknzie@tribunemedia.net

THE trial of a man accused of murdering his former girlfriend and leaving her body in a grave in the Bahamas Veterans' Cemetery began in Supreme Court yesterday.

Angelo Poitier, 24, is charged with the murder of 19-year-old Shenice Adderley, whose body was found in the Infant View Road cemetery on May 27, 2009.

Prosecutor Sandra Dee Gardiner told jurors that the prosecution will present evidence showing that Adderley and Poitier had been in a relationship that ended several months prior to her death.

She added that the prosecution also intends to present evidence to show that Adderley had started a new relationship, and because of this Poitier killed her. First on the witness stand yesterday was Detective Corporal Marvin Cargill. He told the court that he went to the Veteran's Cemetery around 7am on May 27, and was directed to the partially closed grave of Audley Humes.

He told the court that he noticed drag marks at the southern entrance of the cemetery, which continued to the grave. The officer said he also noticed a disturbed area of vegetation near a wall and a black and white tennis shoe.

Corporal Cargill told the court that inside the grave, he saw the body of a young woman.

He said the woman had drag marks on her body and had suffered a stomach wound.

The officer said he photographed the scene and directed jurors through those photographs yesterday.

The trial is expected to continue today before Justice Vera Watkins. Deputy Director of Public Prosecutions Franklyn Williams, Yoland Rolle and Sandra Dee Gardiner are representing the Crown.

Poitier is represented by attorney Terrell Butler.

Draft prison bill to be released before end of year, says Minister

FROM page three

nomenclatures, but not in essence to get away from the various ranks within the prison."

The minister added that the intention is not to "create another bureaucracy outside of the prison."

He said the government is in the process of "assessing and streamlining people into a leadership track," including the chief officer, principal officer, sergeants and some corporals, to create a system similar to the one now operating in the Royal Bahamas Police Force.

This would be separate and apart from the "normal" staff development training that is conducted in the prison, and would, he said, place "those who are showing the aptitude" on a "fast track" to senior positions, including the top job.

Criticism has been levelled at Prison Superintendent Dr Rahming by the PSA for what they say is his failure to plan for the future.

Dr Rahming's strategy for succession planning has been to increase the overall standard of performance for officers throughout the ranks by "doubling, perhaps trebling the level of training we have exposed staff too."

He claims it is not his call to hand-pick particular individuals for the top jobs. The government's plan involves having potential leadership candidates spend time attached to US prisons and undergo formalised training, such as prison management courses organised through the Caribbean Basin Security Initiative (CBSI), according to the minister.

"We would like to have a streamlined structure at the prison and we are working towards that. Unfortunately we can't do everything at the same time," said Mr Turnquest.

He said the public should bear in mind that the four top men in the police force, Elliston Greenslade, Marvin Dames, Hulan Hanna and Quinn McCartney, were identified in the mid-1990s as "top flyers" by the then Commissioner B K Bonamy, and this view was reinforced by his successor Commissioner Reginald Ferguson.

Mr Turnquest said it was not until some 15 years later that all four of them assumed the top leadership positions.

Once identified as likely leadership candidates, Mr Greenslade and Mr Dames were sent to Canada for training before they were respectively made commissioner and deputy commissioner of police.

At the end of the day, Mr Turnquest said, "rehabilitation for reintegration into society is really the focus we are moving towards." Success will be measured based on the extent to which the prison is a facility "where we can have true reform and rehabilitation."

"We do support the move from a basic lock-up mentality to a corrections mentality. People who go to prison, who are sentenced to prison, are sentenced to pay a debt to society for a crime they would have committed. So there is no question that prison is a punishment, but in order to ensure it does not become a revolving door, to ensure the recidivism rate is not a very high rate, we have to ensure there are rehabilitative efforts taking place, and to ensure basic human rights of incarcerated prisoners are adhered to."

FROM page one

police have confirmed. Meanwhile, a man who was injured in the Yellow Elder shooting is being questioned in connection with the murder of 27-year-old Marco Smith, in Ridgeland Park, hours earlier.

Several sources yesterday suggested Smith's killing was over an outstanding balance of \$40 on a quantity of marijuana and a lawnmower.

These latest developments regarding the questioning of the Yellow Elder man and the prisoner confirms *The Tribune* source's claims that police suspect the two daylight attacks are linked.

The Yellow Elder shooting, which saw a brother and sister injured when their Honda Accord was shot at multiple times at around 4pm Saturday was alleged to have been carried out in retaliation for the earlier killing.

Initial police reports told of how officers received word of a shooting on Colleton Street in Ridgeland Park west at around 2pm.

On the scene, the lifeless body of Marco Smith was discovered on the ground outside a house where he had gone to get something to eat.

Prisoner is questioned over shooting

A man with dreadlocks was said to have ambushed Smith as he approached the house. A man with dreadlocks was later seen leaving the area on a bicycle and police appealed to any witnesses who might have seen the man to come forward.

Janice Smith Butler, Smith's aunt, yesterday told of how her nephew - whose body she identified in the morgue - had been struck by at least six bullets.

Around two hours later police reported that two people sitting in a car in Yellow Elder - a brother and sister - were shot at.

The injured pair drove to Princess Margaret Hospital to seek treatment, leaving their bullet-riddled Honda Accord parked outside the Accident and Emergency Unit.

The hospital was soon after placed on lockdown for security reasons for around two hours, ending at around 6.45pm. The brother and sister were still being treated under police surveillance yesterday.

What was not initially reported was that it is believed that the prison inmate, who was participating in the prison's extramural "work release" programme that sees a select group of inmates allowed to

go off prison property during the day to undertake paid employment at private establishments, was allegedly with Smith at the scene of his death, despite it being against prison regulations for him to have left his work site and not returned to Fox Hill prison.

The pair were friends, it is alleged, with Smith also having served a prison sentence.

It is not clear when the inmate - who is believed to have gone to the Ridgeland Park area with Smith after leaving his Bernard Road worksite against prison regulations - received his gunshot injury, although sources suggest it may have been at the scene of the Ridgeland Park murder of Smith.

The incident has brought to the fore further concerns that this newspaper understands existed among law enforcement officials about the integrity of the prison's work-release programme, in terms of who is selected to participate in it and supervision of those in it while at their work sites.

• SEE PAGE 3

FROM page one

custody, they are confident that intelligence being gathered will soon lead to an arrest or arrests.

"We are still investigating the matter, it's still open. We're looking at some good information which we feel we will be able to work with, and from that bring some resolution to the case," said Glenn Miller, Assistant Commissioner in charge of Crime.

Nearly two weeks ago Rashad, an eighth grade T A Thompson student, was waiting at a bus stop at John Road with other students when a fight broke out at about 4pm. A short time later gunshots were fired.

The boy was reported to have sustained injuries to the left side of his head and was taken to hospital by ambulance.

His parents believe Rashad

Arrest hopes

was at the wrong place at the wrong time, and another victim of the senseless violence sweeping the country.

Yesterday Mr Miller could not say who police suspect was the intended target of the bullet, nor if they suspect the shooting to be gang-related.

"We have some good information, intelligence information that we're trying to piece together. We wouldn't know the exact (target) and who was the intended target until we get all the players in custody," he told *The Tribune*. "I don't want to be quick to say if it was gang-related or not, we are analysing our information as we go along".

A \$2,000 reward has been offered by the Bain and Grants Town Association to encourage persons with information on the shooting to con-

tact police.

At last report, Rashad had regained consciousness after a short coma, a move his doctors described as "miraculous". A bullet passed through his head damaging parts of the brain that control speech and movement.

Recently his parents spoke of their relief at seeing their

son regain consciousness, nodding his head, to signal he knew they were present.

Rashad's father, Gregory Rolle, a 45-year-old self-employed mason, and his mother, Janet Taylor, a 44-year-old janitress, have said the events on that tragic day have changed their entire world forever.

Memorial Service For



UZZIAH AUGUSTUS DEAN, 45

of Roses, Long Island, The Bahamas, will be held at the Chapel of Vaughn O. Jones Memorial Center, Mount Royal Avenue and Talbot Street, on Wednesday, 29th September, 2010 at 6:00p.m.

Brother Whitfield Smith will officiate.

Cherish memories remain with his brothers, Frank, Thomas, Hezekiah and Cecil Dean; sisters, Sherry Smith, Naomi Devaney, Gwendolyn Martinborough, Ruth Johnson, Lillian Fox and Juanita Taylor; brothers-in-law, Wilbert Smith, Clunis Devaney and Bernard Martinborough; sisters-in-law, Caroline, Thelma and Marsha Dean, numerous nieces and nephews; aunts, Daisy Dean and Josephine Major and a host other relatives and friends including, Elsie Minnis, Richard Johnson, Patricia Taylor, the medical staff at Deadman's Cay and Clarence Town, Long Island, the medical staff at Princess Margaret Hospital Male Surgical I Ward and the entire South End Community of Long Island.

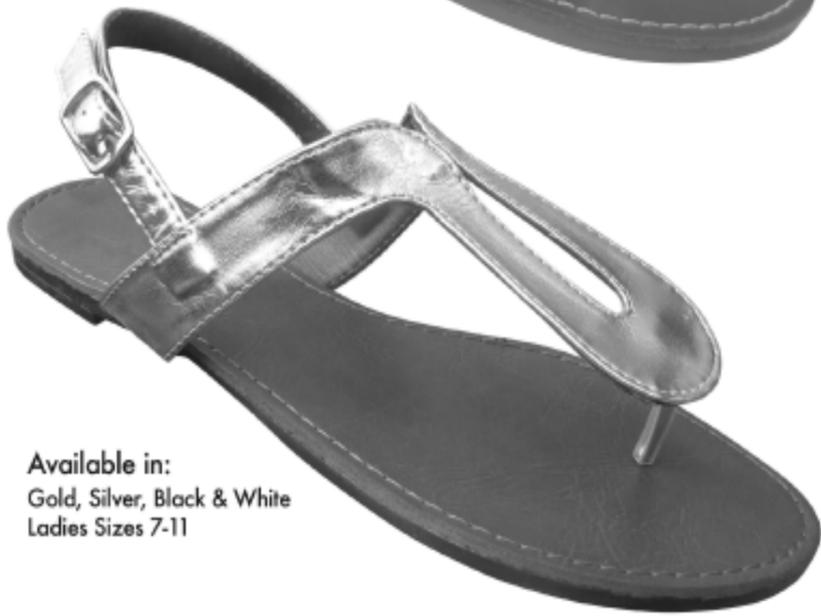
Viewing will be held at the Chapel of Vaughn O. Jones Memorial Centre, Mount Royal Avenue and Talbot Street, on Wednesday, 29th September, 2010, from 11:00a.m. to 6:00p.m.

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LOCAL NEWS

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College of The Bahamas



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Anatol Rogers High School



Jeffrey Pierre
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Kevin Blair
R.M. Bailey Senior High



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College of The Bahamas



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Arawak Homes

FROM page one

Frederick Wood, a 44-year-old auto mechanic, and his wife Maria Gibson-Wood, a self-employed interior decorator, told The Tribune of the ultimate devastation they experienced when they returned to find their home completely demolished. They had put every cent they had into purchasing land on the new subdivision being developed south of Charles W Saunders Highway and building a home they – and their four children – could call their own.

The statement by Arawak Homes explained that the demolition of the Wood's home – referred to as "an incomplete structure in Sir Lynden Pindling Estates" – was the consequence of a complex process that spanned over a quarter of a century.

The statement read: "The basic position is that there was, and continues to be, widespread trespass on property owned by Arawak Homes. This is fully established in law by multiple rulings of the Supreme Court, dating back as far as 2003."

On Friday, in the presence of officers, security guards handed Mr Wood a copy of a Supreme Court ruling showing Arawak Homes Limited as a plaintiff, John Sands as the first defendant, and Smith, Smith & Co (sued as a firm) as the second defendant. However, at that time Mr Wood said all the names listed in the ruling were meaningless to him. He also noted that the document did not bear an official stamp.

Franklyn Wilson, chairman of Arawak Homes, brushed off questions put to him yesterday about Friday's demolition, and



DEMOLITION: Maria Gibson-Wood in the rubble of her house

told The Tribune he had "a lot of issues to deal with" and couldn't "deal with it right now." At that time, Mr Wilson neither denied nor confirmed his company's involvement.

The press statement added: "All relevant parties have had their day in court, particularly since these above mentioned rulings were preceded by others which went all the way to the Privy Council.

"Despite the strength of its legal position and in keeping with its corporate policy, since 2003, Arawak has given the particular trespasser numerous opportunities to cooperate in curing the trespass by means other than what transpired on Friday past.

"Unfortunately these efforts were generally resisted, some in ways which threatened the personal safety of employees of the company."

The Wood family maintain Arawak Homes gave them no notice of the demolition to their dream home, which took their family over eight years and all their finances to complete. The building, which was in its final stages of completion – Mr Wood planned to go to Town Planning this week to apply for electricity – was said to have been fully furnished, housing memories and belongings that

spanned a time before the couple had even met and documented the birth of each of their four children.

Mrs Gibson-Wood said: "This was the only building here, this was a corner lot when we first got this property. Since then government had already started to put in infrastructure around here, I don't know who stopped it or why they stopped it. This is the only road that they move over that they didn't put a name on it – you tell me why they didn't put a name on it. We slaved to build this house, nobody know if we eat bread or water, we are not proud people, we are not hearty people, we are children of the Lord – we wanted a home for our children and anybody else who needed a place to stay."

Several messages left for Keith Bell, general legal counsel at Arawak Homes, and Tarrvares Laroda, assistant to general legal counsel, were not returned up to press time. The company's statement also noted its plans to release a full report on Pinewood Gardens, where they claim there are "hundreds of persons involved in similar trespass."

One Tribune reader commented: "How many stories like this have we read in this past year alone regarding Arawak Homes and this type of activity? Is there going to be an independent investigation? I extend my prayers and well wishes to the Wood family, and wish them luck in what could possibly be a civil litigation matter."

"Since these Arawak Homes people seem so happy to willfully destroy things and always preaching about legal rights this and responsibility that, I want to know when the government gone make them responsible for that mess they created call Pinewood Gardens and the flooding and poor construction of homes there. Plenty of us had our belongings destroyed over and over again because of this."

PLP set to assist finding attorneys for straw vendors

FROM page one

JFK airport.

However, yesterday a representative from the PLP said the issue surrounding this matter goes beyond the abuse of intellectual rights, and into a larger sphere.

"Surely what happened with these women, we can not say that they were on their own. They had full license by the government which also collects taxes from them. So that is really the issue. In other words, what is our responsibility to these people, in terms of education and incentivising local indigenous crafts.

"We need to call a spade a spade. What is the responsibility of the Bahamian government for being complicit in this.

"One would have thought that if you were being prosecuted for such a thing you could not

possibility be selling it in a government-sponsored market.

"And if one were selling it, one would gather that they could not possibly be paying customs duty on it," the source said.

Opposition MPs Fred Mitchell and Alfred Sears are both reportedly set to speak at today's press conference.

With a tentative first hearing of the nine straw vendors set to take place in New York on October 4, *The Tribune* understands that a contingent of PLP MPs will also travel to New York for the hearings and provide what legal counsel they can.

According to party sources, a 'forum non conveniens' argument is expected to be raised by the straw vendor's court-appointed public defender, to essentially have the matter returned to the Bahamas for hearing.

FROM page one

Carl Bethel hits out

constituency, formerly Holy Cross constituency.

"Secondly, the performance of my constitutional duty as chairman, to preserve the foundational FNM principles of ensuring inclusive democracy and procedural fairness in all the activities of the party, is unwavering.

"The principles of inclusive democracy and procedural fairness were of fundamental importance to the founding fathers of the party, among whom were Cecil Wallace-Whitfield, Kendal Isaacs, Arthur Foulkes, Orville Turn-

quest and Henry Bostwick, who were intent on ensuring that the FNM never became a party where the dictates of any minority group could override the democratic will of rank and file FNMs in their constituency associations, which is the bedrock of the party," Mr Bethel said.

This enduring commitment, the party's chairman said, to procedural fairness and inclusive democracy has ensured that the FNM is not a political party where any group of MPs could be nominated by the council one day, and summarily

stripped of their nominations the following day, when the word "came down", as occurred in the PLP on the "night of the long knives" in 1976.

"These enduring principles make the FNM different, distinctively different, from the PLP. My commitment to ensuring procedural fairness and inclusive democracy in the Free National Movement is fully consistent with my ongoing commitment to the residents of the Sea Breeze constituency, and the wider FNM membership, all of whom I am privileged to serve," he said.

Reports: 80 to lose jobs at ZNS

FROM page one

tial estimate given.

The board met with unions yesterday, presenting members with the revised structure of how the corporation is going to look going forward.

It was reported board members offered union leaders the opportunity to choose among themselves the names of those persons who will be cut, however the unions reportedly denied the offer.

The confirmed cuts differed slightly from what was originally announced, with the biggest dif-

ference stemming from changes to ZNS' Grand Bahama office, the northern service, which was said to be facing the biggest cut with staff levels being reduced from 48 to 26. That number was said to have increased only minimally, the accounting department will be reduced to 10 – three more than the initial estimate – and the operations department staff will also be downsized to 10. The marketing and sales department will be slashed to three persons and the radio department will be reduced from 23 to 12.

According to sources, the corporation expects to complete its transition to public service broadcaster by the end of this year.

'Mother' Pratt fears gang war

FROM page one

bring them together, and if its education then we need to reach the young ones and teach them a better way," she said.

"If you could try and get them involved in positive activities. I believe if I teach you to fish then we can all live in the same community and I won't be bombarding you or you bombarding me."

While speaking at the opening of a new after school programme at her con-

stituency office, the former Minister of National Security voiced concerns over troubling reports of youth violence.

According to Mrs Pratt, the brazen daylight murder of 27-year-old Marco Smith, on Saturday afternoon, is just one of many retaliation acts the children in her constituency tell her take place on the streets nearly every day.

Mr Smith was shot in the head when he and a friend were allegedly ambushed by two men on bicycles.

It was reported that Mr

Smith and his friend had stopped for something to eat on Colleton Street, Ridgeland Park west, when the incident eye witnesses described as a hit-type killing occurred.

Mrs Pratt added: "I'm really concerned about the rivalries in the area. I just want them to live in peace, because it's not good for any of us. We have to try and bridge the gap through education. The opportunity is here, now we have to try and encourage them to get involved, and realise there is a future for them."

FIRST CLASS

Aquinas College

AQUINAS College opened the Curry Theatre last week in honour of the first lay Bahamian principal of that school, Andrew Curry.

With a seating capacity for 63 people, students will entertain members of the public in a concert this October, featuring selections from the choir, violinists, and a small production by the drama team.

Since the start of the academic year, students have been learning the violin and are taking part in several new electives such as Study Skills and Library Skills, according to Shona Knowles, Aquinas principal. In the Study Skills course, students are taught how to study and plan their academic year, in addition to identifying if they are audio, visual, kinesthetic or tactile learners.

Ms Knowles expects fierce competition in a matter of weeks, when students will campaign against each other to win votes in an election that will decide one class president and vice president.

First Class is a new regular feature showcasing the youngsters who have started at a new school and is dedicated to the teachers and staff who help them settle into their new surroundings.

To get your new starters featured, contact Reuben Shearer at *The Tribune* on 322-1986 or email rshearer@tribunemedia.net.



THE CLASS poses together for a photo with Senora Ali Gibson.



SPANISH TEACHER
Senora Ali Gibson works with the students.



DARIN MOSS finishes up his classwork.



LAGREA HIGGS hard at work.



ANTONIA INGRAHAM is eager to ask a question of Senora Gibson.



KERHA OXLEY raises her hand to answer a question.



AUSHANTI KNOWLES uses one of the new pens from her pencil case to complete her classwork.



SHARLOT GARGOLES takes a quick look at her notes.

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Bahamas eyes airlift boost from \$1.4bn deal

Southwest's \$1.4bn Air Tran purchase could reduce ticket prices and enhance airlift into nation



VINCENT VANDERPOOL-WALLACE

By CHESTER ROBARDS
Business Reporter
crobards@tribunemedia.net

The \$1.4 billion purchase of Air Tran Airlines by Southwest could increase the number of low-cost carriers serving the Bahamian market to four, a development the minister of tourism and aviation said yesterday could open more Bahamas/US routes and decrease the cost of travel to this country.

Vincent Vanderpool-Wallace said the Ministry of Tourism and Aviation for years had sought to convince Southwest to open up routes to this market, and for years it was told "not at this time". The Air Tran deal, though, could leave four low-cost carriers serving the Bahamian market, with Southwest joining Jet Blue, Spirit and WestJet.

Now, the possible acquisition of Air Tran will mean that for the first time in its history, Southwest will fly international routes. However, it is not yet known if the Bahamas will remain on its list.

"We are interested in continuing service to many if not all Air Tran markets," said Southwest spokesperson Ashley Dillon. "There are no details on specific markets."

Air Tran began service into the Bahamas only late last year, causing an expansion of airlift from Orlando and Atlanta.

SEE page 5B

Property Fund in \$100m value goal

- BISX-listed entity aiming to almost double in value and size from current \$55m level, but acquisition targets few and far between
- Plans to resume dividend payments to investors by year-end 2010, if no purchases on horizon
- Debt-to-equity ratio at 50%, giving fund major leverage capacity to take on debt financing
- Net income for half-year down almost 19%, due to 15% Financial Centre vacancy and \$175k preference payments associated with last deal



MICHAEL ANDERSON

By NEIL HARTNELL
Tribune Business Editor

The Bahamas Property Fund's creator is still targeting a \$100 million value for the BISX-listed fund, almost doubling its current \$55 million size, with plans to resume dividend payments to shareholders by year-end 2010.

Michael Anderson, president of RoyalFidelity Merchant Bank & Trust, which sponsored the fund's creation in late 1999 and now acts as its administrator, told Tribune Business yesterday that with a

debt-to-equity ratio of around 50 per cent, the Bahamas Property Fund had significant debt-carrying capacity to be able to finance new acquisitions.

The major impediment to the mutual fund/real estate investment trust's growth towards that \$100 million valuation target, Mr Anderson said, was a lack of suitable acquisition opportunities.

"We still have in our minds that we'd like this fund to be

SEE page 4B

Bahamas broker in 'tentative' deal to settle with SEC

By NEIL HARTNELL
Tribune Business Editor

A Bahamian broker/dealer and its Bermuda affiliates have reached a "tentative" agreement with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), the US capital markets regulator, to settle allegations that they committed securities fraud by "manipulating the stock prices of [two] publicly traded shell companies".

Court documents filed in the southern New York district court on Friday confirmed that LOM Securities (Bahamas), which is based at the British Colonial Hilton's Centre of Commerce in downtown Nassau, its Bermuda and Cayman affiliates, and principals Scott and Brian Lines, had "reached a tentative settlement" with the SEC, which required only the approval of the regulator's commissioners and counsel.

The US court ruled that the SEC's attorneys had until October 8, 2010, to

confirm to it whether the commissioners had "finally approved or rejected the tentative settlements" with LOM Securities (Bahamas), its affiliates and their principals.

As court documents make clear, LOM (Bahamas), its affiliates and the Lines brothers have continually,

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Yacht registry's October launch

- * Bahamas Maritime Authority aiming to increase annual \$6m contribution to government's coffers with roll-out of new initiatives
- * Hong Kong and Greek offices to open before year-end, and put Bahamas 'front and centre' in shipping industry
- * Bahamas reaches 'Utopia' with impending registration of 200-apartment, 108,000 gross tonnes floating luxury palace

By NEIL HARTNELL
Tribune Business Editor

The Bahamas will formally launch its yacht registry at the Fort Lauderdale International Boat Show next month, the Bahamas Maritime Authority's (BMA) chairman said yesterday, telling Tribune Business that the organisation aimed to increase its annual \$6 million contribution to the Government's coffers over the next two years.

Confirming the BMA's plans for the official yacht registry launch via a fully staffed booth and exhibition at the Fort Lauderdale show, Mr Fair said the Authority also had representatives present at the Monaco Yacht Show two weeks ago.

When asked by Tribune Business about the status of the yacht registry plans, he replied: "Done. We're just tweaking the code right now. It is complete, and all the bits and pieces are in place."

While he did not expect the Bahamas' yacht registry to "take off like a rocket", snatching major chunks of market share from the likes of the Cayman Islands and the Marshall Islands, Mr Fair said it was "significant missing element

SEE page 3B

Festival's 'fringe' economic boost

By CHESTER ROBARDS
Business Reporter
crobards@tribunemedia.net

A FIRST-of-its-kind arts and cultural festival, Carifringe, is expected to create a small economic boost for Nassau between October 1-11, one of its organisers told Tribune Business yesterday, as participants jet in for the festivities.

Jonathan Murray said businesses that partnered with Carifringe will be obtain a direct economic boost as a result of the association, with the potential for developing long-term growth through the affiliation.

Mr Murray added that while this is Carifringe's pilot year, it is likely that the festival won't be in debt and will be able to cover costs. He said organisers worked closely with the organisers of

SEE page 5B

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BUSINESS

RND switches name to Colina Real Estate

RND Holdings has changed its name to Colina Real Estate Ltd, a move that better reflects its transformation from cinema operator to property holding company, and Colina Insurance Company's acquisition of an almost-80 per cent majority interest in the publicly traded firm.

A motion calling for the name change was raised as a matter of extraordinary business at RND's Annual General Meeting on September 23, 2010 and was agreed by the company's shareholders.

"The company has evolved quite a bit since we branded ourselves RND Holdings back in 1994," said its chairman, Senator Jerome Fitzgerald. "Starting out as a lucrative multiplex enterprise, we have restructured our asset base to pursue a number of



JEROME FITZGERALD

business ventures over the years.

"However, RND as we know it today is essentially a real estate holding company with strong assets in New Providence, Grand Bahama and Abaco. We are really excited about the move going forward, and are focused on our core business. Colina Real Estate Ltd is a name that better reflects both our core business as well as the new

market opportunities we are pursuing."

Colina has owned shares in RND Holdings since the latter's initial public offering in 1998, but acquired a majority interest over the past year.

Senator Fitzgerald said the new ownership structure has created certain synergies to increase Colina Real Estate's cash flow, improve the physical plant of portfolio properties, and bolstered investor confidence.

Colina agreed to a restructuring of RND's long-term debt in March 2010, thereby allowing the company to liquidate all its aged payables and assume a positive cash flow position.

Colina Holdings (Bahamas) refinanced RND Holdings' existing bank debt with a \$3.7 million mortgage, its audited financial statements for fiscal 2009 revealed. RND Holdings generated \$43,926 in net income for the BISX-listed life and health insurer in 2009 during the almost-six months following the acquisition of its majority stake. Some \$815,191 in revenue also flowed to Colina Holdings (Bahamas) benefit.

"From the date of acquisition, RND has contributed \$815,191 of revenue and \$43,926 to the net profit before non-controlling interests of [Colina Holdings Bahamas]," the insurer's financial statements said.

While Colina Holdings (Bahamas) and its fully-owned subsidiary, Colina Insurance Company, had built up a 24.8 per cent stake in RND Holdings as at 2008 year-end, via the purchase of 2,197,779 shares, it took another six months for them to acquire a majority.

"During 2009, through additional purchases of shares on the open market as of June

9, 2009, the company [Colina Holdings (Bahamas)] had acquired a total of 4,482,314 shares at a cost of \$0.40 per share, representing a 50.6 per cent shareholding," the financial statements said.

"The company has acquired RND to expand its investment property holdings to support its life insurance liabilities over the long-term."

There is little doubt that Colina Holdings (Bahamas) acquired majority control at RND Holdings for a relative bargain price, since its accounts record a \$2.054 million "gain on bargain purchase" among its investment income gains during 2009.

This "bargain" occurred because it acquired its 50.6 per cent share of RND's \$7.498 million net assets, worth \$3.794 million, for \$1.74 million. The latter figure is the sum spent on building Colina Holdings (Bahamas) majority interest in RND's ordinary shares.

The balance sheet details provided for RND Holdings at the June 9, 2009, acquisition date show why the company needed a 'saviour' in the form of Colina Holdings (Bahamas).

RND had just \$1,459 in cash at the balance sheet date, indicating that just about all the rental cash flow from its investment properties - the RND Plazas in Nassau and Freeport - was being sucked up to repay/service bank debt and other liabilities.

Some 97.9 per cent of RND's assets, \$11.559 million out of \$11.804 million, were tied up in the value of its illiquid real estate holdings.

This was matched against liabilities that were more current, including a \$3.064 million bank loan; \$197,191 in bank overdrafts; and \$877,716 in accounts payables and other liabilities.

Subsequent to Colina Holdings (Bahamas) financial year-end, it acquired a further 2.8 million RND Holdings shares in a series of transactions in January and March 2010, taking its controlling stake to 79.8 per cent.



PRESENTATION: Lennox McCartney's luncheon presentation to BFSB's Captive Insurance Seminar.

Insurance regulator hires top Canadian

The Insurance Commission of the Bahamas has hired a veteran Canadian regulator to head-up its supervision department, in addition to engaging numerous consultants to help beef-up its enforcement and technical capacities.

Addressing a recent Bahamas Financial Services Board (BFSB)-sponsored captive insurance seminar, Lennox McCartney, the Commission's superintendent, said the regulator was committed to "doing our part to help develop a competitive and vibrant international insurance industry in the Bahamas".

He said a consultant's report highlighted three key commitments required from the Commission to support development of a captive insurance regulator in the Bahamas, namely:

1. To support the development of the industry
2. Become an independent Insurance Commission
3. Recruit regulatory staff with international Insurance Experience

Mr McCartney said: "Many times consultants' reports are

commissioned and presented with great ideas and enthusiasm, and then left on the shelves to gather dust. I could safely say that that is not the case with the recommendations made by this report as far as the insurance regulator is concerned here in the Bahamas.

"I would like to assure you that the Commission is very committed that we meet our stated goal of a 30 day turnaround time for restricted captive applications, once all of the required documents are in hand. We have committed to this and we are pretty much on target."

The Commission made an immediate assessment of its technical capacity, and recruited additional staff to address gaps in the competencies and expertise needed to meet its obligations. Recently engaged was Arvind Baghel, a seasoned insurance regulator (from the Canadian regulator, OSFI) who now heads its supervision department.

In early 2010, the Insurance Commission entered into a partnership agreement with the Toronto Leadership Centre to enhance its supervisory methodology. The Centre will provide two experts on insurance and risk-based supervision to the Commission, on both an on-site and off-site basis, for up to 10 weeks per year, and to work with the Commission and its staff to establish realistic supervisory objectives.

The Commission has also engaged international consultants to review the actuarial liabilities of the life and health carriers. Reinsurance consultants were also engaged to review the reinsurance programmes of the general insurance companies.

Insurance supervisory consultants were engaged to complete the review the Commission's compliance with international standards, and to make recommendations on the organisation and structure of the office. The Commission used the results of these consultations to chart the way forward in 2010. The regulator is currently canvassing the industry for representatives to serve on its Industry Advisory Committee.

Legal Notice

NOTICE

KESTREL PREMIER INVESTMENTS LIMITED (In Voluntary Liquidation)

Pursuant to Section 137 (4) of the International Business Companies Act, 2000, notice is hereby given that the above named Company is in dissolution, which commenced on the 27th day of September 2010. The Liquidator is BdS Corporate Services Limited, George House, George Street, P.O. Box N-8159, Nassau, Bahamas.

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Notice is hereby given that in accordance with Section 137 (4) of the International Business Companies Act, (No. 45 of 2000), **BEEHIVE INVESTMENTS LTD** is in dissolution. Mr. Marcos Antonio Munoz is the Liquidator and can be contacted at Calle 4A, No 1836, Ciudad Radial, Juan Diaz, City of Panama, Republic of Panama. All persons having claims against the above-named company are required to send their names, addresses and particulars of their debts or claims to the Liquidator before October 25th, 2010.

Marcos A. Munoz
Liquidator

VACANCY

RE: POSITION

A local company is currently seeking applications for the position of Chief Financial Officer (CFO).

The CFO will oversee accounting, financial analysis, risk management, the objective and analytical measurement of company performance, back-office operations, administration and collaborate with the CEO to develop various recommendations for increasing profitability and return on assets.

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'Last key barrier to competition'

By NEIL HARTNELL
Tribune Business Editor

A major telecoms operator yesterday welcomed the issuance of a survey seeking feedback on telephone number portability in the Bahamas, something that is viewed as "one of the last significant barriers to competition" in fixed-line and cellular telecommunications.

Responding to the Utilities Regulation & Competition Authority's (URCA) survey release, Anthony Butler, Cable Bahamas' president and chief executive, said the Bahamas was now following number portability trends established in other markets that had deregulated.

"It's good for the consumer, and consumers tend to be identified by their phone numbers now," Mr Butler told Tribune Business. "It's more of a personal phone now. It follows the trends in other deregulated markets, and this market is also deregulating."

Number portability allows consumers to retain their existing numbers when switching to another telecoms provider, thus enhancing choice and convenience, and making for a more competitive market.

Usman Saadat, URCA's head of policy and regulation, said in a statement: "Number portability is one of the last significant barriers to competition

and has several benefits, including enabling service provider choice, convenience to customers, and avoids having to inform friends, family and business contacts about a number change."

URCA said that while the Bahamas Telecommunications Company (BTC) and Systems Resource Group (SRG), via IndiGo Networks, were the major fixed-line providers currently, there was the possibility of extra competition from Cable Bahamas and IP Solutions International. And number portability would become even more important when BTC's cellular exclusivity expired in two years' time.

Cable Bahamas is pushing number portability because of its impending entrance into the fixed-line market via its 100 per cent purchase of SRG, which is now awaiting regulatory approval. URCA yesterday extended the deadline for sector and public feedback on the proposed Cable Bahamas/SRG merger from Friday, October 1, to next Tuesday, October 5. Views have already been expressed that the deal could be "anticompetitive" and have a detrimental impact on the Bahamian market.

Edison Sumner, IP Solutions International's president, told Tribune Business that the planned merger, which would create a 'Triple Play' provider of communications services in

the areas of Internet, video, data and voice traffic, could impact the maintenance of a 'level playing field' in the telecommunications industry.

"I think it will have an impact on the market, and issue like a level playing field and competition," Mr Sumner said. "Frankly, I think the deal is going to be anti-competitive to the market. I have similar concerns about the BTC deal [privatisation]."

The opposition from rival telecoms players, especially smaller ones and start-ups such as IP Solutions International, is both predictable and understandable, since they will fear the merged entity - together with a privatised BTC - will have enough market share, economies of scale and power to force out all rival operators. Both Cable Bahamas/SRG and BTC have their own infrastructure and networks, a priceless advantage, since other operators will either be forced to finance their own or rent/lease from the two incumbents.

Market observers have already privately told Tribune Business that Cable Bahamas' decision to formally consummate its marriage with SRG, something that has been in the making for five-six years, seems to presume that the Bahamian communications market will effectively evolve into a duopoly, dominated by the merged

entity and BTC at the expense of all others.

Indeed, Cable Bahamas has made no secret of its desire to obtain a cellular licence when that sector is opened post-privatisation, something that would further a duopoly position if granted. And, if Cable & Wireless becomes the privatisation partner for BTC, it will bring its video/TV offering to that company, positioning

the two 'incumbents' to truly go head-to-head. Whether this happens at the expense of increased competition from rival operators is likely to weight heavily in URCA's deliberations, with the regulator also having to take into account whether the Bahamas' relatively small 300,000-350,000 population can sustain more than just Cable Bahamas/SRG and BTC. One source suggest-

ed that Cable Bahamas' decision to move now on executing the call option to acquire SRG indicated it was extremely confident that it would pass all URCA's Significant Market Power (SMP) obligations in short order. This requires it to complete the accounting separation for all its business lines, in addition to splitting off - or unbundling - its cable TV offering from its Internet business.

Yacht registry's October launch

FROM page 1B

from our offering", especially given this nation's attraction for cruising yachtsmen and its position as a major private wealth management centre.

Private banking clients were also typically yacht owners, Mr Fair said, adding: "I would hope that people can walk around a marina in the Bahamas and see the Bahamian flag on these yachts, not that of Guernsey, Bermuda and the Marshall Islands."

The BMA chairman added that inquiries about yacht registration had already been received, and told Tribune Business that this initiative, along with other plans in the pipeline, would hopefully increase the \$6 million in fees that the organisation paid the Government annually.

"Hopefully, we can make it much more," Mr Fair told Tribune Business. "It's been flat the last two years, but it's not gone down, and in the current environment that's a pretty good situation. Over the course of the next two years, with some of the things we've been doing, we'll be able to increase that."

He explained to Tribune Business that a major goal of his, upon becoming BMA chairman, was to "raise the profile" of the organisation and show Bahamians and the global shipping industry that it truly was a 'third pillar' of this nation's economy.

Key components of this strategy are to the BMA's Hong Kong office opening on October 25, coupled with the opening of its Greek office before year-end. These moves are designed to position the BMA and, by extension, the Bahamas at the heart of the ship building and ownership world, bringing the organisation closer to current and potential clients.

"We've just landed a big new ship to the

registry, the Utopia," Mr Fair told Tribune Business. "It's a new 108,000 gross tonnes, 200-apartment vessel. It's like a floating apartment building. It's being built in South Korea, and being registered with us. It's a significant one, because it's a big one, a major ship."

"It points to why we opened an office in the Far East. We felt Hong Kong was the obvious choice. It's the central location in Asia, but it's also a significant centre, and we have close links to Hong Kong through Hutchison Whampoa and the Freeport Container Port."

Mr Fair said he had visited Hong Kong to select office space for the BMA in April this year. The BMA was moving someone from its New York office to act as registrar, and was now seeking technical staff.

"It will be a fully staffed office and a key part of the BMA going forward," Mr Fair said, adding that with the shipbuilding activity going on in China and South Korea, the Bahamas needed to be "front and centre" in the region.

He added that the BMA was also seeking to open its Greek office "before the end of the year", that country being where the Bahamian registry's existing "significant ship owners" are based. There was also a possibility that the BMA office there could act as a "catalyst" for increased business links between Greece and the Greek Bahamian community.

"It's been an exciting year," Mr Fair said. "One of the things I recognised when I became chairman was the need to raise the profile of the BMA, and demonstrate there were more than two legs to our economy."

Adding that it was correct to describe the maritime sector as the third largest contributor to Bahamian GDP, Mr Fair added: "There are so many segments to the maritime industry that we tend not to look at the whole, and not realise how important it is and could be."

Attorney takes STEPs on foundation effectiveness



A Graham, Thompson & Company partner has addressed the Bahamas branch of the Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners (STEP Bahamas) on whether this nation is "making effective use" of foundations as an estate planning tool.

Aliya G. Allen spoke to STEP members and non-members at the organisation's first luncheon for the 2010-2011 year, held on 23 September at the British Colonial Hilton.

Ms Allen's presentation addressed the benefits of using a foundation, registered under the Foundations Act 2004, as an alternate estate planning tool to the ordinary trust or private trust company.

Pictured from L to R are Karen Haven (STEP director); Tanya Hanna (STEP chairperson); Mark Richford (STEP director); Aliya G. Allen (partner, Graham, Thompson & Co); Anita Bain (STEP deputy chairperson).

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The Bahamas Electricity Corporation wishes to advise the public that it has commenced nationwide electricity service disconnections of ALL accounts with overdue balances. This includes the accounts of customers who have payment arrangements with BEC but are not honoring their commitments.

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BUSINESS

Property Fund in \$100m value goal

FROM page 1B

\$100 million in size, and we're currently sitting around \$55 million," he told Tribune Business. "We'd like to be around \$100 million, and to have a slightly wider diversification in terms of properties....."

"We're ideally positioned for acquisition, and just need to find the right properties. We haven't seen much recently. We're not really interested in small buildings, and have not seen a sizeable investment opportunity for a while."

The Bahamas Property Fund had been eyeing the purchase of UBS House on East Bay Street around Christmas 2009, but its interest in the \$22-\$23 million deal waned after the Swiss bank imposed terms and conditions - including price - that made the deal unattractive for the Bahamian market.

The BISX-listed fund had stopped paying dividends to its Bahamian shareholders last year, as it sought to conserve capital and ready its balance sheet for the possible UBS purchase, but with no potential deals on the horizon that position appears ready to change.

Dividends

"We stopped paying dividends a year ago when we looked at the UBS transaction, and if nothing comes on to the market in terms of acquisitions, we will look at paying a dividend by year-end," Mr Anderson told Tribune Business. "The cash is building up on the balance sheet, and there's no point in keeping it unless you're going to use it. We've got more capital than we need."

When asked why commercial real estate owners were currently reluctant to sell, Mr

Anderson suggested that many were "holding on" in the hope that prices would improve in line with the economy.

"It's hard to sell most things today at the price you want," he added, "so most people who have a building are saying: 'Let's wait for a better deal.'"

The BISX-listed entity seeks high-end, unique properties that have a certain exclusivity and 'stand out' in the market, providing both an existing client base and opportunities for increased cash flow via lease increases. Hence the reason why its three-strong property portfolio to date comprises the Bahamas Financial Centre in downtown Nassau; the One Marina Drive office building on Paradise Island; and Providence House on East Hill Street, the current home of PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) Bahamas.

For the half-year to June 30, 2010, the cost of financing the Providence House purchase via \$175,000 in preference share interest payments to the former owner, something it did not have to make in the 2009 comparative period, and the 15,000 square feet of vacant space at the Bahamas Financial Centre, depressed the Bahamas Property Fund's performance.

Net income dropped by 18.3 per cent year-over-year to \$870,015, compared to \$1.065 million in the 2009 half-year, despite rental revenues growing by 3.7 per cent to \$2.023 million from \$1.952 million the year before. Total income (revenues) also rose by 4 per cent to \$2.047 million, compared to \$1.968 million in 2009.

Mr Anderson reiterated that the Providence House purchase was always going to be 'cash flow neutral' for the Bahamas Property Fund for the first few years, the increase in rental income that it produced during the 2010 first half being offset by the carrying cost of funds via the preference share payments.

The fund's 'other expenses' also grew by 40.7 per cent, from \$365,495 in 2009 to \$514,078 for the six months to June 30, 2010, something Mr Anderson said was "associated with the free space at the Financial Centre that we've been largely unable to rent".

Despite the net income drop, which saw the Bahamas Property Fund's earnings per share (EPS) fall from \$0.44 to \$0.36 year-over-year, Mr Anderson described its performance as "not bad".

He pointed out that as it continued to pay down the loan that financed the initial Bahamas Financial Centre acquisition, the Property Fund's interest expense was dropping, down from \$448,294 in the 2009 first half to \$420,074 this year.

With Providence House rental rates set to be renegotiated next year, Mr Anderson said: "We've got ongoing

rental increases built into most leases. The bulk of the problem lies at the Financial Centre, where we've got space we've been unable to rent during this difficult period for the global financial system. The big banks that might have rented space are not here."

Costs

As a result, the Bahamas Property Fund was having to carry the common area maintenance (CAM) costs associated with 15,000 square feet, out of 100,000 total square feet, that was vacant at the Bahamas Financial Centre. A depressed commercial property market also means there is more competition for potential tenants.

While the Bahamas Property Fund had expected to rent out 3,000 square feet of the vacant Financial Centre space by now, Mr Anderson said its performance year-to-date had largely been in line with budget.

With the Financial Centre 85 per cent occupied, Providence House and One Marina Drive were both virtually at 100 per cent, the latter only having 1,000 square feet vacant.

"I'm very happy with where we are," he added.

"The net asset value (now at \$14.36 per share) continues to grow. It's a period that we have to go through, but I think we're doing fairly well overall.

"It would just be nice if we could get some more cash flow from it.

"We're still generating good cash flow, paying down the loan, and debt as a component of the balance sheet is so small compared to capital.

"The debt-to-equity ratio is like 50 per cent."

This means that for every dollar in debt owed, the Property Fund has \$2 in capital, giving it significant leverage capacity and also minimising risk associated with it.

Bahamas broker in 'tentative' deal to settle with SEC

FROM page 1B

and strenuously, denied all allegations levelled against them by the SEC since the charges were first filed in the New York district in December 2008.

The SEC alleged that its claims stemmed "from two separate, but similar, fraudulent schemes to manipulate the stock prices of publicly-traded shell companies quoted on the over-the-counter bulletin board, Sedona Software Solutions and SHEP Technologies".

On the Sedona front, the US regulator alleged that LOM (Bahamas), the Lines' brothers and other LOM affiliates had committed securities fraud by "aiding and abetting" the activities of a trader named Anthony Wile, who had previously settled SEC charges against him.

Abetting

As for the SHEP side, the SEC again claimed that LOM (Bahamas), its fellow entities and the Lines brothers had committed securities fraud by aiding and abetting the trading activities of William Peever and James Curtis.

"Defendants Brian Lines, Scott Lines and through them LOM Ltd, LOM Bermuda, LOM Bahamas and LOM Cayman also unlawfully sold unregistered SHEP securities in violation of Section 5 of the Securities Act," the SEC alleged.

"The Commission further alleges that Brian Lines, Scott Lines and, through them, LOM Ltd, LOM Bermuda, LOM Bahamas and LOM Cayman failed to report beneficial ownership of SHEP securities, and aided and abetted the failure of Peever and Curtis to report their beneficial ownership in SHEP."

In response, LOM (Bahamas) and its affiliates said there was no evidence to support the SEC's claims against any of them, and there was nothing to suggest they had committed securities fraud or manipulated the prices of any stocks.



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BAHAMAS ELECTRICITY CORPORATION

VACANCY NOTICE

ELECTRICAL TECHNICIAN-ABACO OPERATIONS FAMILY ISLANDS DIVISION

A vacancy exists in the Family Islands Division-Abaco Operations for an Electrical Technician.

This job is located in the Family Islands Divisions with lead responsibility for installing, maintaining and repairing electrical equipment. This job troubleshoots and installs and repairs electronic and electrical equipment.

Responsibilities of the position include, but are not limited to the following:

- Maintains and repairs electrical equipment and auxiliaries such as generators and generator transformers and control panels: by interpreting schematic diagrams, testing, calibrating, and installing electrical components. This also involves overhauling and cleaning motors.
- Troubleshoots and repairs gas turbines and auxiliaries by interpreting electrical schematics and performing diagnostic tests.
- Installs and calibrates electrical equipment according to schematics, such as lighting sensors, telephone and computer cables, electrical trip assembly.
- Performs mechanical repairs on engines by replacing worn parts.
- Troubleshoots and repairs damaged cables by splicing high and low voltage cables.
- Leads related staff and contractors by giving instructions, reviewing and inspecting completed work to ensure adherence to specifications and quality control.

Job requirements include:

- Requires the successful completion of Ordinary Technical Diploma Program (Electrical) or an Associate degree in Electrical Engineering
- Requires 4-5 years of experience
- Requires the ability to read schematic diagrams and written and verbal communication skills
- Requires good technical knowledge of electrical schematics, circuitry, and equipment.
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- Requires the ability to operate heavy-duty equipment to assist roving crews during barging

Interested persons should apply by completing and returning an Application Form to: **The Office of the Local Manager, BEC Abaco Operations or The Assistant Manager - Human Resources Department, Bahamas Electricity Corporation, Blue Hill & Tucker, P. O. Box N-7509 Nassau Bahamas on or before: Friday, October 8, 2010.**

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October 17th — 23rd, 2010

WEEK OF EVENTS

Church Service	Sunday October 17 th
St. Francis Xavier Cathedral, West Street, 11:00 a.m.	
Exposition	Tuesday October 19 th
8:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. (booth rental \$150)	
Conference	Tuesday October 19 th (see below)
8:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.	
Awards Dinner	Friday October 22 nd 7:00 p.m.
\$75 membership/\$200 for non-members	
... Exposition, Conference & Awards Dinner ALL Held at the Sheraton Nassau Beach Resort ...	

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Annual Conference

Facilitators: Rockhurst University

Date: Tuesday October 19th, 2010

Time: 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Location: Sheraton Nassau Beach Resort

Who should attend? HR Directors and Managers, HR Practitioners in the public and private sector, Business Owners, executive leaders in all industries, Companies that do NOT have a Human Resources Department, All Interested Persons.

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BUSINESS

GLOBAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bahamas eyes airlift boost from \$1.4bn deal

FROM page 1B

Mr Vanderpool-Wallace said Southwest is well known for increasing the popularity of a destination once they begin flying to them. The term "Southwest Effect" was coined by the US Department of Transport in 1993, in a document penned by James Craun and Randall Bennett, to describe the tremendous growth in travel to US cities once service was launched by the airline.

According to Mr Vanderpool-Wallace, this phenomenon is in line with his ministry's strategy of increasing the number of available seats coming into this country, and reflecting the Bahamas' proximity to the US in airline ticket prices.

He added that while Southwest might have rejected the Bahamas' plea for business while it planned this strategic buyout, it could ultimately benefit this country.

Expand

Olga Romero, a second Southwest Airlines spokesperson, said the reason for the airline's acquisition of Air Tran is to expand its routes and grow its business.

According to lowfaresfather.com, a website dedicated to the acquisition, there will be no changes to the operations of either airline in the near term.

"This transition will take time," the site said. "We will, of course, first need to obtain clearance from the US Department of Justice and other regulatory approvals, and Air Tran will need to obtain stockholder approval."

"Following those approvals and closing of the transaction, our plan is to integrate Air Tran into Southwest within two years. At the end of that time period, we anticipate customers will see only the Southwest brand and all employees will be Southwest employees."

"We have an integration team which will provide oversight and direction to integrating every aspect of our respective operations."

Festival's 'fringe' economic boost

FROM page one

Shakespeare in Paradise in order to create a successful model

However, because this is the inaugural year for the festival, its business model is flexible. According to Mr Murray, with only about 16 per cent of their budget in cash, the majority of support for the festival came in-kind.

"We have been able to execute it (Carifringe)," he said. "And because of the economic limitations many business gave in kind and we got more responses than we initially thought we would."

Mr Murray added that many of the official festival bars will receive an extra boost during Carifringe, as festival goers will be encouraged to visit them for drink specials.

The local arts community will be recognised during the almost two-week event with concerts, art shows, theatre production and relating workshops.

Partnerships

Mr Murray said the festival model is shaped around developing partnerships rather than asking for sponsorships. Each entity involved in the festival is responsible for its own budget and development, with Carifringe as the "dark matter or web" that produces the network and pulls them all together.

He added that the art community has lacked cohesion in the past, and Carifringe hopes to become the adhesive that melds the community.

"We are very aware that the relationship has to take place," Mr Murray said.

"Our model is not sponsorship, but partnership and how businesses can benefit."

"Art and culture seems to be lacking the administration to make it successful."

According to Mr Murray, the festival's administrators hope to grow the festival into an internationally-recognised event that draws participation and a following like that of Miami's Art Basel.

"We see an opportunity to use Nassau as a middle ground between Miami, Europe and the Caribbean for large art shows," he said.

"It makes sense, but we haven't been able to jump on that market."

A look at economic developments and activity in major stock markets around the world Monday:

TOKYO — Japan's export growth slowed for the sixth consecutive month in August as a strong yen and cooling global demand rattled an already fragile recovery.

BRUSSELS — France clashed with Germany and the European Central bank, rejecting any proposal that would punish European Union nations with near-automatic sanctions if they fail to keep their debt and budget deficits within limits.

Instead, French Finance Minister Christine Lagarde said governments still should have the overriding say in any such decision.

She dismissed the idea that a member nation could be reprimanded by unelected experts alone and penalized for budget excesses.

Earlier, EU Monetary Affairs Commissioner Olli Rehn said he will propose on Wednesday for member states to be punished early for spending their way into trouble.

BEIJING — China stepped up customs inspections of goods shipped to and from Japan, slowing trade, logistics companies said. Relations between the two countries are growing tense because of a spat over the detention of a Chinese fishing boat captain near disputed islands.

LONDON — European stocks slipped amid uncertainty about the outlook of the global economic recovery, with near-record gold prices suggesting sentiment remains tense as investors seek safe assets.

Britain's FTSE 100 benchmark index closed down 0.5 percent, Germany's DAX fell 0.3 percent and France's CAC-40 dropped 0.4 percent.



BRAKES ON EXPORTS: In this March 29, 2010 file photo, Japanese vehicles for export park at a Yokohama port, near Tokyo, Japan. Japan's export growth slowed for the sixth consecutive month in August.

TOKYO — Japan's Nikkei 225 stock average climbed 1.4 percent to 9,603.14 with exporters advancing as investors bet the central bank will try to weaken the yen with further monetary easing when it meets next week. The yen hit fresh 15-year highs against the U.S. dollar this month, and led the government to intervene in currency markets to weaken the yen for the first time in six years.

Elsewhere in Asia, South Korea's Kospi added 0.8 percent, Hong Kong Hang's Seng advanced 1 percent, China's Shanghai Composite Index rose 1.4 percent and Australia's S&P/ASX 200 jumped 1.6 percent. Markets in India, Taiwan and Singapore also climbed while Malaysia and Vietnam dropped.

WASHINGTON — The Obama administration is proposing that banks report all electronic money transfers in and out of the country, expanding its anti-terrorism requirements for financial institutions.

BUCHAREST, Romania — The Romanian government was in an uproar over austerity protests as the interior minister resigned, the opposition demanded the prime minister go as well and top police officials held emergency talks with the president.

The chaos reflected social fallout from the sharp wage cuts, tax hikes and other austerity measures the government has taken to fight its budget deficit amid a deep recession.

President Traian Basescu's government has been unable to pay wages and pensions without a euro20 billion (\$26 billion)

bailout loan last year from the International Monetary Fund and other lenders, and the IMF is demanding strong action now to trim Romania's national debt.

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates — Dubai's government said it soon plans to issue its first sovereign bonds since the start of the emirate's credit crisis last year. The bond sale will be an important test of investor appetite for Dubai debt. It comes as the city-state looks to fill a budget deficit of \$1.6 billion this year while working through a nearly yearlong financial crisis that remains unresolved.

ATHENS, Greece — Riot police used tear gas to disperse protesting truckers and prevent a highway blockade, as protests against government labor reforms entered a third week.

The reforms were enacted as

part of deal for crisis-hit Greece to receive euro110 billion in rescue loans over three years from the International Monetary Fund and other European countries.

BEIJING — China and Russia signed agreements to boost energy cooperation, while Moscow said it is ready to supply its energy hungry neighbor with all its natural gas needs.

WELLINGTON, New Zealand — New Zealand's government announced it will place new controls on overseas investors buying large land holdings, reacting to growing public concern that the country is selling too much farm land to foreigners.

HAVANA — Cuba has raised already-high gasoline prices by about 10 percent amid sweeping changes to the economy, a move that could lead to grumbling among cash-strapped islanders, particularly private taxi drivers who are not allowed to raise their own prices.

LISBON, Portugal — An organization of leading economies predicted that debt-burdened Portugal will come close to meeting its deficit reduction target this year.

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BAHAMAS ELECTRICITY CORPORATION

VACANCY NOTICE

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A vacancy exists in the Family Islands Division-Abaco Operations for an Electrical Technician.

This job is located in the Family Islands Divisions with lead responsibility for installing, maintaining and repairing electrical equipment. This job troubleshoots and installs and repairs electronic and electrical equipment.

Responsibilities of the position include, but are not limited to the following:

- Maintains and repairs electrical equipment and auxiliaries such as generators and generator transformers and control panels: by interpreting schematic diagrams, testing, calibrating, and installing electrical components. This also involves overhauling and cleaning motors.
- Troubleshoots and repairs gas turbines and auxiliaries by interpreting electrical schematics and performing diagnostic tests.
- Installs and calibrates electrical equipment according to schematics, such as lighting sensors, telephone and computer cables, electrical trip assembly.
- Performs mechanical repairs on engines by replacing worn parts.
- Troubleshoots and repairs damaged cables by splicing high and low voltage cables.
- Leads related staff and contractors by giving instructions, reviewing and inspecting completed work to ensure adherence to specifications and quality control.

Job requirements include:

- Requires the successful completion of Ordinary Technical Diploma Program (Electrical) or an Associate degree in Electrical Engineering
- Requires 4-5 years of experience
- Requires the ability to read schematic diagrams and written and verbal communication skills
- Requires good technical knowledge of electrical schematics, circuitry, and equipment.
- Requires proficiency with specialized tools, such as meggars, digital meters and voltage detector meters
- Requires the ability to operate heavy-duty equipment to assist roving crews during barging

Interested persons should apply by completing and returning an Application Form to: **The Office of The Local Manager, BEC Abaco Operations or The Assistant Manager - Human Resources Department, Bahamas Electricity Corporation, Blue Hill & Tucker, P. O. Box N-7509 Nassau Bahamas on or before: Friday, October 8, 2010.**

INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS

Stocks waver as investors take profits and see deals

STEPHEN BERNARD, AP Business Writer NEW YORK

Stocks took a pause from their big September rally on Monday as worries about the financial sector offset excitement over a fresh round of corporate dealmaking, according to Associated Press.

With no major economic reports to drive trading, investors focused on individual stocks after major deals in the airline, consumer products and retailing industries.

The Dow Jones industrial average fell 6 points in afternoon trading after spending most of the day in negative territory. The Dow is on pace for its best September since 1939.

Chip Bryan, CEO of SmartTrend, an electronic trend trading system, said Monday's modest decline was largely tied to investors pocketing profit made during the strong September rally.

"The September rally has been surprisingly resilient," Bryan said. But investors might be ready to put the brakes on the run-up so they can wait to see what happens during earnings season, which kicks off



INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS

next week, Bryan said.

The Dow entered Monday having risen each of the past four weeks, its longest winning streak since eight consecutive weekly gains ended in late April when stocks hit their highest levels of the year.

Financial stocks mostly dipped as concern remains about the health of Europe's banking sector. Moody's Investors Service cut its rating on Anglo Irish Bank Corp., one of Europe's more troubled banks in recent months. Global banking giants like Barclays

PLC and JPMorgan Chase & Co. fell nearly 1 percent.

In deal news, consumer products giant Unilever NV agreed to buy beauty products maker Alberto Culver Co. for \$3.7 billion. Southwest Airlines Co. will purchase AirTran Holdings Inc. for about \$1.4 billion. Wal-Mart Stores Inc. proposed to buy South African consumer goods distributor Massmart Holdings Ltd. for about \$4.25 billion. Michael Sansoterra, portfolio manager of the Ridge-Worth Large Cap Growth Fund, said the latest deals are a sign companies are confident economic growth will pick up in the coming quarters. Acquisition activity has been booming this month as companies become more willing to take large cash reserves built up during the recession and invest it.

"The timing is never certain, but smart companies are saying, 'if not now, when,'" Sansoterra said. "This is the time to be doing it."

The Dow fell 6.48, or less than 0.1 percent, to 10,853.78 in late afternoon trading. The Dow has jumped 8.4 percent in September, which is historically one of the worst months of the year for the market.

The Standard & Poor's 500 index fell 1.08, or less than 0.1 percent, to 1,147.59, while the Nasdaq composite index fell 1.42, or less than 0.1 percent, to 2,379.80. Shares of Unilever, which makes Dove soaps, Axe deodorants and Suave shampoos, rose 36 cents to \$29.73. Alberto Culver, which makes beauty products such as TRE-Semme, VO5 and Simple, jumped \$6.27, or 19.9 percent, to \$37.75. AirTran shares jumped \$2.81, or 61.8 percent, to \$7.36. The deal valued Airtran shares at \$7.69. Southwest rose \$1.63, or 13.3 percent, to \$13.91. Wal-Mart shares fell 36 cents to \$53.72.

JPMorgan shares fell 26 cents to \$39.49. Barclays dropped 12 cents to \$19.69. Rising stocks narrowly outpaced those that fell on the New York Stock Exchange where volume came to 475 million shares. Traders that prefer to look at the broader economic picture will get plenty of data later in the week to review.

Traders get reports on consumer sentiment, weekly jobless claims and a final reading on second-quarter gross domestic product before the month wraps up Thursday.



AP Photo/Richard Drew, file
PAUSE FOR THOUGHT: In this Aug. 11, 2010 file photograph, specialist Patrick Murphy, left, works at his post on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange.

Oil prices mostly flat as equities decline

NEW YORK

Oil prices were little changed Monday as traders watched the stock markets for clues about the pace of economic growth, according to Associated Press.

Benchmark oil for November delivery added 3 cents to settle at \$76.52 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange, after falling to \$75.52 earlier in the trading session.

Stocks ended the day lower, with the Dow Jones Industrial Average off about 48 points.

Oil traders often look to stock markets as a barometer of overall investor sentiment.

Indicators

Investors will be closely watching the latest indicators on U.S. consumer confidence on Tuesday and second quarter gross domestic product on Thursday, figures "which could make or break the equities rally," according to The Schork Report, an energy consultancy.

"Perhaps not surprisingly, speculative flows into the oil market have been slow to pick up," said KBC Energy Economics in Britain.

"A lot of money is waiting on the sidelines that could be invested in oil



AP Photo/Hasan Jamali
PRICES FLAT: Oil prices were little changed Monday as traders watched the stock markets for clues about the pace of economic growth.

when the time is right, but that moment does not seem to have arrived just yet."

In other Nymex trading, natural gas fell as tropical storms threats to Gulf of Mexico production evaporated. Natural gas lost 8.1 cents to settle at \$3.800

per 1,000 cubic feet. Heating oil fell 0.78 cent to settle at \$2.1228 a gallon and gasoline added 0.17 cent to \$1.9488 a gallon. In London, Brent crude lost 30 cents to settle at \$78.57 a barrel on the ICE Futures exchange.

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The Bahamas Electricity Corporation

Tender

The Bahamas Electricity Corporation invites Tenders for the services described below:

Bidders are required to collect packages from the Corporation's Administrative Office, Blue Hill & Tucker Roads
Contact: **Ms. Charlene Smith** at telephone **302-1158**

Submissions should be marked as follows:

Tender No. 736/10
Street Lighting Installation and Maintenance Services
New Providence

Tenders are to be addressed to:
Mr. Kevin Basden
General Manager
Bahamas Electricity Corporation
Executive Offices - Blue Hill & Tucker Roads
Nassau, Bahamas

Deadline for delivery to BEC:
22nd October, 2010
no later than 4:00 p.m.

The Corporation reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals.
For all inquires regarding the tenders and site visits, contact **Mr. Kevin Bowleg** at telephone **302-1240**

BISX LISTED & TRADED SECURITIES AS OF: MONDAY, 27 SEPTEMBER 2010											
BISX ALL SHARE INDEX: CLOSE 1,500.54 CHG -0.03 %CHG 0.00 YTD -64.84 YTD % -4.14											
FINDEX: CLOSE 000.00 YTD 00.00% 2009 -12.31%											
WWW.BISXBAHAMAS.COM TELEPHONE: 242-323-2330 FACSIMILE: 242-323-2320											
52wk-Hi	52wk-Low	Security	Previous Close	Today's Close	Change	Daily Vol.	EPS \$	Div \$	P/E	Yield	
1.26	1.00	AML Foods Limited	1.01	1.01	0.00	4,242	0.250	0.040	4.0	3.96%	
10.75	9.67	Bahamas Property Fund	10.63	10.63	0.00		0.013	0.200	817.7	1.88%	
6.18	4.50	Bank of Bahamas	4.90	4.90	0.00		0.598	0.260	8.2	5.31%	
0.58	0.18	Benchmark	0.18	0.18	0.00		-0.877	0.000	N/M	0.00%	
3.49	3.15	Bahamas Waste	3.15	3.15	0.00		0.168	0.090	18.8	2.86%	
2.15	2.14	Fidelity Bank	2.17	2.17	0.00		0.016	0.040	135.6	1.84%	
12.50	9.62	Cable Bahamas	10.77	10.77	0.00		1.212	0.310	8.9	2.88%	
2.84	2.50	Colina Holdings	2.50	2.50	0.00		0.781	0.040	3.2	1.60%	
7.00	5.40	Commonwealth Bank (S1)	6.28	6.28	0.00		0.422	0.230	14.9	3.66%	
3.65	1.63	Consolidated Water BDRs	1.88	1.88	-0.03		0.111	0.052	16.7	2.81%	
2.55	1.60	Doctor's Hospital	1.90	1.90	0.00		0.199	0.110	9.5	5.79%	
6.99	5.94	Fanguard	6.07	6.07	0.00		-0.003	0.240	N/M	3.95%	
10.20	8.50	Finco	8.50	8.50	0.00		0.287	0.520	25.6	6.12%	
11.40	8.77	FirstCaribbean Bank	9.74	9.74	0.00	600	0.645	0.350	15.1	3.59%	
5.51	3.75	Focol (S)	5.46	5.46	0.00		0.366	0.170	14.9	3.11%	
1.00	1.00	Focol Class B Preference	1.00	1.00	0.00		0.000	0.000	N/M	0.00%	
6.69	5.00	ICD Utilities	5.59	5.59	0.00		0.012	0.240	465.3	4.29%	
10.50	9.92	J. S. Johnson	9.92	9.92	0.00		0.883	0.640	11.2	6.45%	
10.00	10.00	Premier Real Estate	10.00	10.00	0.00		0.355	0.800	28.2	8.00%	
52wk-Hi	52wk-Low	Security	Symbol	Last Sale	Change	Daily Vol.	Interest	Maturity			
99.46	99.46	Bahamas Note 6.95 (2025)	BAH29	99.46	0.00		6.95%	20 November 2029			
100.00	100.00	Fidelity Bank Note 17 (Series A) +	FBB17	100.00	0.00		7%	19 October 2017			
100.00	100.00	Fidelity Bank Note 22 (Series B) +	FBB22	100.00	0.00		Prime + 1.75%	19 October 2022			
100.00	100.00	Fidelity Bank Note 13 (Series C) +	FBB13	100.00	0.00		7%	30 May 2013			
100.00	100.00	Fidelity Bank Note 15 (Series D) +	FBB15	100.00	0.00		Prime + 1.75%	29 May 2015			
52wk-Hi	52wk-Low	Symbol	Bid %	Ask %	Last Price	Daily Veh.	EPS \$	Div \$	P/E	Yield	
10.06	5.01	Bahamas Supermarkets	5.01	6.01	14.00		-2.945	0.000	N/M	0.00%	
0.55	0.40	RND Holdings	0.35	0.40	0.55		0.001	0.000	256.6	0.00%	
41.00	29.00	ABDAB	30.13	31.59	29.00		4.540	0.000	9.03	0.00%	
0.55	0.40	RND Holdings	0.45	0.55	0.55		0.002	0.000	261.90	0.00%	
52wk-Hi	52wk-Low	Fund Name	NAV	YTD%	Last 12 Months %	NAV 3MTH	NAV 6MTH	NAV Date			
1.4904	1.4905	CFAL Bond Fund	1.4904	3.59%	6.42%	1.475244	1.452500	31-Jul-10			
2.9265	2.8266	CFAL MSI Preferred Fund	2.9115	0.85%	0.23%	2.926483	2.906205	31-Aug-10			
1.5543	1.4920	CFAL Money Market Fund	1.5543	3.11%	4.36%	1.533976	1.518097	17-Sep-10			
3.2025	2.8522	Royal Fidelity Bahamas G & I Fund	2.8624	-8.16%	-7.49%			31-Aug-10			
13.6388	13.0484	Royal Fidelity Prime Income Fund	13.4286	0.46%	2.40%			31-Aug-10			
109.3929	101.6693	CFAL Global Bond Fund	109.3929	5.20%	7.60%	107.570620	103.987340	30-Jun-10			
105.7795	93.1998	CFAL Global Equity Fund	100.1833	-1.52%	3.56%	105.779543	101.725415	30-Jun-10			
1.1223	1.0000	FG Financial Preferred Income Fund	1.1272	3.43%	5.28%			31-Aug-10			
1.0917	1.0000	FG Financial Growth Fund	1.0948	2.51%	6.10%			31-Aug-10			
1.1198	1.0000	FG Financial Diversified Fund	1.1275	3.37%	5.64%			31-Aug-10			
9.5955	9.1005	Royal Fidelity Bah Int'l Investment Fund Principal Protected TIGRS, Series 1	9.5955	2.71%	5.96%			31-Jul-10			
11.2361	10.0000	Royal Fidelity Bah Int'l Investment Fund Principal Protected TIGRS, Series 2	10.3734	-3.69%	3.38%			31-Jul-10			
10.0000	9.1708	Royal Fidelity Bah Int'l Investment Fund Principal Protected TIGRS, Series 3	9.1708	-8.29%	-11.59%			31-Aug-10			
7.9664	4.8105	Royal Fidelity Int'l Fund - Equities Sub Fund	7.5827	-1.74%	-1.58%			31-Aug-10			
MARKET TERMS											
YIELD - last 12 month dividends divided by closing price											
Bid \$ - Buying price of Colina and Fidelity											
Ask \$ - Selling price of Colina and Fidelity											
Last Price - Last traded over-the-counter price											
Weekly Vol. - Trading volume of the prior week											
EPS \$ - A company's reported earnings per share for the last 12 mths											
NAV - Net Asset Value											
N/M - Not Meaningful											
FINDEX - The Fidelity Bahamas Stock Index, January 1, 1994 = 100											
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WOMAN

The Tribune **B O D Y A N D M I N D** **health**

NACB president returns from International Council of Nurses Leadership Institute

By ALESHA CADET
Tribune Features Writer

Rosmarie L Josey, the president of the Nurses Association of the Bahamas (NACB) recently returned from the International Council of Nurses Leadership Institute in Geneva, Switzerland with a wealth of information to share with her colleagues regarding personal development enhancement of nurses and nursing along with health care.

Ms Josey told Tribune Health that her personal vision is for the country to become known for quality and excellence services throughout the Commonwealth by 2016.

It was significant that the Bahamas was represented at the conference.

"Of the more than 130 member countries of International Council of Nurses (ICN), it was an honour to represent The Bahamas as one of the 30 participants at the Global Nursing Leadership Institute held in Geneva Switzerland," Ms Josey said.

Leadership

She explained that the GNLI provided an opportunity to strengthen the leadership of the NACB Locally and Internationally and the opportunity to network with global nursing

leaders was one of great value to The Bahamas.

"There is a strong possibility that The Bahamas will one day host the Global Nursing Leadership Conference as well as the ICN conference (ICN has over 3 million nurses membership worldwide)," she said.

In preparation for the GNLI, participants were required to submit a country profile which included information regarding countries' populations, the number of nurses and doctors in country, identification of the top three causes of death in our country, the three key issues and challenges facing our country's health services and key issues for nurses/nursing in the country.

According to the Nurses' Association of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas (NACB), the association is believed to be at a critical stage of its development in the Global Nursing Leadership arena. The GNLI in Geneva provided a rich learning environment in which all members were considered equal and were from a rich diversity of country and regional backgrounds, professional backgrounds, age and experience in nursing.

Among the many benefits derived from the Institute, participants left with a deeper understanding of global health care challenges, better equipped to build strategic alliances, able to identify their leadership strengths and areas for improvement and prepared to take on higher lead-

ership roles nationally and globally.

Having attended the GNLI, Ms Josey's states that her vision for nursing and health services in the Bahamas is that "we will become known for quality and excellence in service, throughout the Commonwealth countries.

The NACB believes that the GNLI was very timely, as the local association is currently preparing for its annual conference to be held November 18 and 19 at the Sheraton Nassau Beach Resort.

Ms Josey told Tribune Health that the focus of the workshop this year is "Leadership" and the topics to be explored include; Advocacy and Lobbying, Strategic Thinking, Strategic Planning and Working with the Media.

The conference will culminate with a celebration of Excellence in Nursing Leadership at a Gala Ball to be held Saturday November 20 at the Sheraton Nassau Beach Resort. More than fifteen nurses will be honoured in recognition of their invaluable contributions to the NACB and the nursing profession.

Collaboration

"It is envisioned that the Association will one day host a Global Nursing Leadership Conference in the Bahamas," Ms Josey said.

"We recognise the need to work together as a collective body and in collaboration with other health care



FROM LEFT: Mrs. Rosemarie L. Josey (President NACB), Mr. David C. Benton (CEO ICN), Paddie Blaney (facilitator GNLI) and Mrs. Ishwari Devi Shrestha (GNLI Participant from Nepal).

organisation and key stakeholders to influence Health Care Policies and to bring about positive changes in the delivery of quality health care to all," she said.

"Professionalism and academic excellence will be the benchmark by which nursing and health services will be valued and respected. It is my belief that as nurses and women become more involved in politics in our countries, we will discover the benchmark where effective nursing leadership will become the vehicle that will influence and shaped stan-

dards of nursing practice and health policy in our respective countries. By the year 2016, nurses will become the only voice that speaks with authority on nursing matters," she said.

The NACB represents nurses in the Bahamas nationally, regionally and internationally. The purpose of the association is to promote the highest possible standard of nursing practice, encourage professional and educational advancement for nurses and to ensure that all people irrespective of nationality, race colour or social origin may have optimal nursing care.

GREEN SCENE

By Gardener Jack

Sweet peppers & eggplants

SWEET peppers are warm weather lovers so we should get them started as soon as possible. They do well during our mid winters but even better when the conditions are balmy rather than blustery.

Sweet peppers - along with hot peppers, eggplants, potatoes and belladonna - are members of the Solanaceae family.

They are plants that like their space and do not like to be crowded or to have to share their area with weeds. Even when planting sweet pepper seeds you must take care to firm the soil over them with your knuckles so that germination is better assured.

Sweet or bell peppers come in many shapes, sizes and colours. The traditional blocky cylindrical pepper can be long and tapering as well as mature at two inches tall, perfect stuffed as an hors d'oeuvres presentation.

The traditional green pepper comes in red, yellow,

orange, purple and chocolate and the last packet I bought was marketed as Stoplight Peppers: red, amber and green. Green peppers will turn red if left on the parent plant and turn sweeter at the same time.

That said, peppers should be harvested as soon as they are mature to ensure continued production.

Best started in pots, peppers can be transplanted into well drained soil when about six inches tall. A handful or two of commercial cow manure or compost can be dug into the soil an inch or two below where the roots will be planted, along with a small amount of time-release fertiliser.

Once the transplant is happily ensconced you can apply a side dressing of time-release fertiliser to last the plant for the next few months. Water is very important for peppers as they will drop young fruit if stressed. Even moisture is essential and the young plants should

be watered daily.

It is not good for pubescent girls to have babies, nor is it good for sweet peppers. If your plant puts out flowers before reaching 9 inches or so tall, nip them off.

Once fruits are established you may wish to add a small side dressing of superphosphate. This helps increase the size of the fruits. Winter sun is rarely a problem but in late spring and thereafter you may have to shade your pepper plants to prevent the fruits suffering from sunscald. It's a pity to grow a lovely pepper then have to throw it away.

As mentioned earlier, eggplants - aubergines, if you will - are closely related to peppers and are grown in identical manner. Eggplants do not have the range of colours that peppers display but there are orange heirlooms. Normally eggplants are purple and ivory, the mixture sometimes almost pink, and it is the patterns of the skin that are entrancing.

The most reliable producer in our area is Black Beauty, a large all-purple variety. Because it is large we may be tempted to worship size ahead of eating qualities. Eggplants should be picked as soon as they are mature, maybe even a few days early.



IDEAL: The ideal bell peppers are solid, blocky and heavy.

Eggplants left on the plant for too long turn spongy and inedible, the seeds hard and unpleasant.

Do not try to pick eggplants with your bare hands. The stem bears prickles and is very tough. It is best to use secateurs or large scissors to remove the fruits.

Plan to use your eggplants the same day they are picked. Eggplants do not improve off the parent plant and lose the firmness that is the hallmark of perfection. Old eggplants mop up oil when they are cooked while freshly picked ones are less prone to saturation.

Both okra and eggplants have slippery textures and many people resist eating eggplant because of this. Properly prepared, however, eggplants are not mucilaginous and can even be crisp.

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• gardenerjack@coralwave.com

Kids' backpacks = pain in back

MORE and more often school children are carrying too much weight, and it may be causing undue back pain. But stress is not the culprit, backpacks are heavy, book-laden backpacks. It is not uncommon to see a school aged child walking home or waiting for their ride with a backpack that appears to be straining the child. One can't help but be concerned that this burden is causing significant pressure on the young body. And if it is a strain, could more chronic problems develop from it?

When I was a schoolgirl we carried our books in school bags that had a handle like a suitcase, and I never had back



By SUSAN DONALD DC

pain and never heard any of my classmates or friends complain of back pain. As a chiropractor in the Bahamas I am amazed at how many young kids and teenagers now have back pain and are brought into my office because of it.

The reason this is occurring is because kids are overloading their backpacks. Kids should not carry more than 15 per cent of their body

weight, so if the student is 100 pounds that would be about 15 pounds but they are carrying 20, 30, and even 40 per cent of their body weight - which would stagger an adult. Kids are also using only one strap over one shoulder, this alters their gait and posture to accommodate the asymmetric load.

The complaints that the kids have can be one or a combination of the following: upper and lower back problems, headaches, tingling in the arms and fingers, aching knees, pinched nerves, and strained necks and sore shoulders. Backpacks can also aggravate scoliosis (curvature of the spine) especially for

teenage girls. The American Chiropractic Association takes the view that "improper use of backpacks can lead to muscle imbalance that could turn into chronic back and neck problem later in life."

If we want our children to grow up straight, strong and healthy we as parents need to make sure that their backpacks are worn properly and do not exceed the recommended 15 per cent of their weight. Another option which is new is a back pack with an air pack in it which helps lift the weight off the child's back. I ordered these back packs for my kids and they have said that it has helped and made carrying a

backpack more comfortable. Another option is a backpack on wheels - though most kids do not like this option because very few kids use backpacks on wheels.

Here are some guidelines to use so your kids will stay healthy:

- Use a pack with wide heavily padded shoulder straps.
- Choose packs with separate compartments that will help distribute the load evenly.
- Place heaviest items closest to your back, and distribute the load on both the right and left.
- Wear the straps over both shoulders adjusted so the pack is held against the back.
- Only carry true necessities - see if there are items you can

leave behind.

• Make sure the pack has no loose or dangling cords, strings, key chains, etc that can snag and cause an accident or injury.

• When wearing a backpack, lift by bending knees and using legs, not by bending over.

• The weight of the filled pack should never exceed 15per cent of a child's weight.

• Children should always remove backpacks when biking, skating, swinging, or using other playground equipment.

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• If there are any questions call Life Chiropractic Centre, #7 Village Road, Tel: 393-2774 or e-mail sdonald@netbahamas.com.

WOMAN

LOVING RELATIONSHIP

Why do people cheat?

'WHY do people cheat?' is like a million dollar question. We could spend hours speculating because the odds of getting it right would be like shooting for the stars. As an outsider, looking in, we all think the answer is obvious, but clinical practice shows us the complicated web that joins two people.

Certainly, there are those who seemed to be wired differently and who find the whole concept of monogamy inconceivable. They may not admit it, but their lack of remorse reinforces their underlying thought pattern. Living life in such a fashion is habit forming and many in no way want to change. Some are honest and upfront about their intentions, while others live life surrounded with deceit and lies.

Then, there are some people whose psychopathology predetermine their behaviour and consequently have difficulty changing. By the time we reach midlife, there is a good chance we have met or been involved with such a person. From the first time we become aware of it



By MAGGIE BAIN

we change the course of our lives. Do we work at forgiving the first time? What happens if it happens again? Does the deceiver become comfortable knowing that you will always be there? Does the betrayed worry they will be perceived as weak by taking their partner back?

Fidelity

As devastating as it is to discover your dating partner is being unfaithful it still provides a way out. There may have been verbal commitment, but no formal agreement or vows were made. These are pivotal moments in a couple's life and the course of their relationship is decided from that moment. Facing the reasons why a certain behaviour has taken place is excruciatingly

painful. Understanding the need to talk about it is overshadowed by the heavy weight of anger and rejection. Blame is quickly slammed on the wrong doer who in turn reacts defensively. For many, time passes and day to day life keeps them busy. Many of us are procrastinators and find putting things off much easier. Trust has quickly been extinguished and secrecy often prevails.

The core principles of relationship therapy is to work at restoring the intimate bond between a couple. Consciously working at maintaining this delicate bond, and ensuring the glue that keeps people together, does not come unstuck. For many, there are underlining relationship and sexual issues. Basic primary needs have been overlooked or ignored. Feelings of betrayal prevent a willingness to listen to the other person's story and so things remain in limbo. The ability to express and listen to unmet needs proves a daunting task for many. When the pain is so great just being in the room, looking in the eye, or having to interact with that person seems impossible.

Years of not feeling truly connected, or even understood means that a foundation for forgiveness is even harder.

Pride can get in the way of seeking out a trained professional. The very idea of saying out loud details of our private life may seem embarrassing. It may seem easier and more satisfying to find someone to fulfill those missing needs. It may solve the problem today but the reality is that it usually ends up making things more complicated. They are able to justify their actions and believe they 'had no choice'.

Thoughts of something new and refreshing in our lives are not uncommon. Our minds play paradoxical games between what is expected of us and the things we desire. This is how fantasies are formed. But making them reality crosses the border and we need to acknowledge that clear choices were made.

With out a doubt 'crisis' often drives us to seek out a therapist. The sadness, anger, humiliation provokes so many questions from the betrayed. Talking to a third person in the room allows things to be said

and heard which otherwise would probably not be said. The role of the therapist is to gradually help all concerned find some personal and interpersonal meaning, to the chaotic mess. Time puts a different perspective on things.

Persevering through the crisis, and salvaging the couple, allows healing and future relating. Affairs are often the prelude to divorce. It is interesting to contemplate that if all couples considering divorce were to come for counseling how many relationships could be saved. Can we really put a cost on the damage, both financial and emotional, if we leave things unattended? At least by getting professional help you will be able to say you really tried.

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 • Maggie Bain is an individual and couples relationship therapist. She is a registered nurse and a certified clinical sex therapist.

Listen to 'Love on the Rock' with Maggie Bain every Thursday 5pm-6pm on Island FM 102.9. For appointments call 364-7230, e-mail relatebahamas@yahoo.com or visit www.relatebahamas.blogspot.com.

Nursing newborns

NEWBORN puppies and kittens are for all practical purposes completely helpless; they rely on their mother for warmth, food elimination and cleanliness. They are unable to regulate their body temperature for the first 6 days of life and require an external heat source to stay warm for 1 to 3 3 weeks of life.

They nurse from the mother every 1-2 hours for the first week and the mother licks their external genitals both to stimulate urination and defecation and clean them after feeding. Approximately 14 days after delivery, the puppies and kittens eyes open but have limited vision and several days later, their external ear canals open. By 18 days of age, they begin to move around and explore their environ-

ment.

It is important to:

1. Keep puppies and kittens in a small box with sides high enough to both keep them inside and to prevent drafts.
2. Raise the bottom of the box off the floor and cover it with padded disposable materials such as indoor and outdoor carpeting
3. Do not use a material that gets slippery when wet
4. Consider using covered hot water bottles or heating pads to keep the environmental temperature stable, do not use set heating pads on higher settings because severe burns can result.
5. Maintain a temperature that provides the puppies or kitten's rectal temperature of 96 to 97F for the first week of life.



By DR BASIL SANDS

Orphan Puppies and Kittens

Hand raising orphan puppies and kittens requires a great deal of time and effort. The ideal solution to the problem of caring for a motherless newborn is to locate a lactating mother that will accept the newborn and raise it with its own. When a foster mother is not available, it is necessary to hand feed the puppy or kitten until about 4 weeks.

However leave the newborn with littermates between feeding during this time so it can interact with others to learn appropriate social behav-

our.

Puppies and kittens are usually mature enough to be sold between 6-8 weeks if age. Feeding orphaned puppies and kittens that still require mother's milk can be rewarding. The most obvious alternative is to find a foster mother. If that is not an option, it is necessary to hand feed this newborn a replacement food that is a prototype of the mother's milk. Various modifications of homemade or commercially prepared milk formulas are available.

A recommended homemade prepared milk formula for puppies.

- 120 ml cow's or goat's milk
- 120ml water
- 2-4 egg yolks
- 1-2 teaspoon of vegetable oil
- 100mg of calcium carbonate

A recommended homemade formula for kittens

- 90ml condensed milk
- 90ml of water
- 120ml of plain yogurt
- 3 large egg yolks

The average puppy or kitten should receive daily approximately 13 ml of milk per 100 grams of body weight for the first week of life. 17 ml of formula per 100 gram during the second week, 20 ml of formula during the third week, and 22 ml of formula per 100 gram daily during the fourth week. This amount of formula should be given in equal portions 3-4 times a day for the first 3 weeks of life.

This formula should be warmed before feeding to about 100F or to a temperature near the animal's body temperature.

The easy or safest way of feeding formula to nursing puppies and kittens is by a nipple bottle, a dosing syringe or by a tube, however nipple bottles are preferred.



The benefit of the doubt

WHEN you say you are giving a person the benefit of the doubt it assumes you have a nagging doubt and you will choose to overlook it given the limited facts you possess. In other words, you are giving the person the advantage of being innocent until proven guilty.



By YVETTE BETHEL

Before there are facts

There are some who endow the benefit of the doubt not knowing much about the circumstances or the person receiving the benefit. This is appropriate when you are new to a role or environment and you don't know much about the players and the related dynamics. In cases like these, knowledge of the facts is usually limited so it is important to consider the facts you have because personalities, power structures and working relationships are not yet adequately understood.

After gathering the facts

There are others who propose the benefit of the doubt after knowing the players. They are familiar with historical and current data, and they understand the dynamics of relevant relationships. In cases like these, when you give a person the benefit of the doubt inappropriately, your credibility can be called into ques-

tion. This is because it may appear that you are taking the course of least resistance by saying you are offering the benefit of the doubt but all you are doing is hiding behind this statement, using it as camouflage for avoiding tough decisions.

There is another type of person who bestows the benefit of the doubt in a situation where a person they know well makes a mistake or veers away from typical behavioural patterns. Their rationale is that the person receiving the benefit of the doubt will eventually revert to their traditional patterns of behaviour. If the person receiving the benefit does not revert to their traditional patterns, the person bestowing the advantage may decide to retract the benefit of the doubt if the new behaviour becomes the norm.

Temporary vs. Enduring Trust

Providing the benefit of the doubt

may be safer than offering a more enduring version of trust because the benefit of the doubt can be used as a tool to wait and see if there are actual grounds for trust.

From this perspective, the benefit of the doubt is granted on a temporary basis because it can exist until you eliminate the doubt. When you grant a person the temporary suspension of your doubts to allow them time to solidify their position, the burden of proof is typically on the person being given the benefit of the doubt. However, there are times when the person bestowing the benefit of the doubt seeks to prove or disprove the doubt because of personal agendas.

Withdrawing the Benefit of the Doubt

If the benefit of the doubt was given initially and additional facts become available, two important questions to ask yourself are, "Should I cease giving the benefit of the doubt and if so, why? I have witnessed cases where the facts are revealed, proving the benefit of the doubt is no longer deserved but the beneficent one continues to generously endow the benefit of the doubt. This could be due to fear of confrontation or an inability to iden-

tify changes in a situation.

Resisting Assignment of the Benefit of the Doubt

There are others who don't or seldom assign the benefit of the doubt and require evidence of every single thing. While this is perceived as a safe point of view and an accountability tool, constant risk aversion can be draining for the people in the environment because it can lead to decision paralysis.

4 Tips for Building Accountability and Trust

Here are three tips you can consider to help you reduce the risks associated with erroneously granting the benefit of the doubt.

Get the facts: Be careful of the people who present opinion as fact. When you ask specific questions, these people cannot produce evidence supporting their opinion or position, so ask clarity seeking questions like, can you bring me the document or report? Or what are you basing your assertion on? Don't be afraid to constructively confront uncertain situations.

Once you obtain the facts, analyse them by asking yourself if the facts support the doubt or the opposite view. It is important to review the facts because it is important to avoid creating a situation where the benefit of the doubt becomes an entitlement and causes laziness or mediocrity.

Build desired skills: If you are a

team leader, another action to consider is to provide training or coaching opportunities to members of your team where appropriate. No matter how long a person has been in a position, a lack of skill may be an underlying issue.

Avoid Spin: If you are being doubted it may be that your credibility is questionable because you spin the truth. While spin is inevitable because we all have different ways of filtering information, building your integrity through being forthright can help to dispel doubts other have in you.

Timing: Ask yourself if you are giving the benefit of the doubt early on in the working relationship to be fair or after it has been proven that the benefit is no longer deserved. If it is no longer deserved, are you taking the path of least resistance or have you been fooled by manipulation?

The benefit of the doubt, when used optimally, is a temporary tool. Therefore, conscious steps should be taken to get the facts so that you are making decisions based on reliable information.

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 • Yvette Bethel is CEO of Organizational Soul, an HR Consulting and Leadership Development company. If you are interested in exploring how you can create higher performing team leaders, you can contact her at info@orgsoul.com.

BAHAMIAN CROWNED QUEEN of the ENVIRONMENT

The Miss Bahamas Beauty Organisation is pleased to announce that **Miss Bahamas Progress - Lakindes Brown** has captured the title Miss Progress of the Environment while competing at the Miss Progress International Pageant in Bari Italy.

Ms Brown crowned Miss Bahamas Progress in August of this year, also won the best costume award at MPI. She brings home a purse price of up to US\$30,000 to assist in implementing her environmental platform in the Bahamas.

During her presentation to the panel of judges, Miss Brown focused on Coastal Awareness and Marine Life in the Bahamas. The presentation and judges interview received 75 per cent of the total score given by judges.

Miss Progress International is a perfect mix of a classical beauty contest with an event that can transmit important social contents in a "light" form, ideal for catching the attention of the entire planet, as stated by Giuseppe Borillo from the MPI.

Moments after her victory,

Miss Brown expressed her delight in having promoted the Bahamas in the European market. She pledged her continued best in making both the Miss Progress International and Miss Bahamas Beauty Organisation proud as she serves as both their beauty and environmental ambassador.

She also thanked Royce Hayler and associated sponsors for their support. Gaynell Rolfe, the president of MBBO stated "We are so proud of her, the best is yet to come for Kendis".

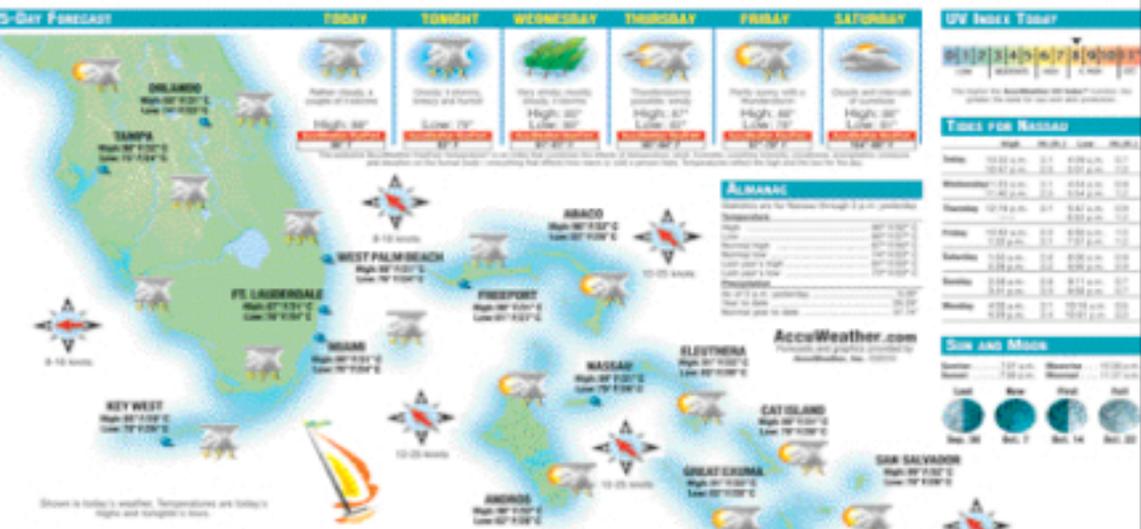
The Miss Bahamas Beauty Organisation having been in existence for the past eight years also crowned the 2010 Miss Bahamas Earth and Miss Bahamas International and produces the Miss Teen Bahamas and Little Miss Bahamas Pageants annually.



THE WEATHER REPORT



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SEASIDE FORECAST

SEASIDE	WAVE	WIND	WIND	WIND	WIND	WIND	WIND
AMBER	1-2 ft	SE	10-15 mph				
ANTIGUA	1-2 ft	SE	10-15 mph				
BARBADOS	1-2 ft	SE	10-15 mph				
BELMOPAN	1-2 ft	SE	10-15 mph				
BRETTOWN	1-2 ft	SE	10-15 mph				
BRISTOL	1-2 ft	SE	10-15 mph				
CHERRY LAKE	1-2 ft	SE	10-15 mph				
COCKBURN	1-2 ft	SE	10-15 mph				
CROOKED ISLAND	1-2 ft	SE	10-15 mph				
CRUISE	1-2 ft	SE	10-15 mph				
DEER CREEK	1-2 ft	SE	10-15 mph				
GRAND BARRA	1-2 ft	SE	10-15 mph				
LONG ISLAND	1-2 ft	SE	10-15 mph				
MAYAGUANS	1-2 ft	SE	10-15 mph				
NASSAU	1-2 ft	SE	10-15 mph				
SAN SALVADOR	1-2 ft	SE	10-15 mph				
ST. JOHN	1-2 ft	SE	10-15 mph				
ST. PETER	1-2 ft	SE	10-15 mph				
ST. GEORGE	1-2 ft	SE	10-15 mph				
ST. MARK	1-2 ft	SE	10-15 mph				
ST. PATRICK	1-2 ft	SE	10-15 mph				
ST. ANDREW	1-2 ft	SE	10-15 mph				
ST. DAVID	1-2 ft	SE	10-15 mph				
ST. JOHN	1-2 ft	SE	10-15 mph				
ST. PETER	1-2 ft	SE	10-15 mph				
ST. GEORGE	1-2 ft	SE	10-15 mph				
ST. MARK	1-2 ft	SE	10-15 mph				
ST. PATRICK	1-2 ft	SE	10-15 mph				
ST. ANDREW	1-2 ft	SE	10-15 mph				
ST. DAVID	1-2 ft	SE	10-15 mph				

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Focused Woman International presents..

'Woman of Distinction Award Ceremony'



SMILING: Participants of the Focused Woman International Tea Party.

By **ALESHA CADET**
Tribune Features Writer

UNDER the theme 'Empowering women to become Focused Agents of Change,' Focused Woman International (FWI) is an all-encompassing network of professional women determined to encourage, strengthen, define, and refine women to strategically impact their world of influence.

According to Cyrianna Bethel, the group's founder, their mission is to provide opportunities for women to utilize their gifts, experiences and professional skills to enhance the life of another woman. This network of professional women is looking to recognize influential women who have impacted their community with the core values of joy, love, peace, caring, honesty, support and encouragement.

The Woman of Distinction Award Ceremony is to be held under the Patronage of Dame by Danson in January 2011. This is the way FWI has chosen to acknowledge women who lead where they are and provide other women to do the same.

This organization is founded on Christian principles and is driven by a desire to fulfill a Kingdom lifestyle on earth. FWI is mandated and committed to ensuring that future generations of professionals

display the highest level of ethical and Godly standards that transform lives,' Ms. Bethel said in a statement.

The goals of the group is to establish a training retreat center for women, concentrating on training and development, mentoring, enrichment, relaxation and preparation for focused influence in the marketplace.

FWI provides members and the general public with seminars for personal and professional development, social events and the opportunity to give back through community outreach programs. "My goal is to empower women to be focused agents of change," says Bethel.

FWI provides a platform where women can use their professional skills, life experience and talents to enhance the life of another woman and in turn the community at large.

On the twenty second of January, FWI

will mark their first annual ceremony to celebrate outstanding women in a variety of categories ranging from professional designations to community acts of service.

The criteria for nominees, is they must have significantly affected their sphere of influence through courage, vision, creativity and innovation.

Focused Woman has opened the nominations to the public who can access further details and information through their website www.focusedwoman.com and applications may be picked up from Zamar Group of Companies, Marathon Road.

For more information on this topic or for an interview please contact Cyrianna Bethel at 242-361-7708, Postal Address: P.O. Box EE 13794, Web Site: www.FocusedWoman.com, Email: info@FocusedWoman.com or FocusedWomanEvent@gmail.com.

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Krumm upsets Sharapova at the Pan Pacific Open...
See page 13

Magnum Rolle eyes a spot on Pacers' roster

By RENALDO DORSETT
Sports Reporter
rdorsett@tribunemedia.net

WITH NBA training camps tipping off in cities across the US this week, one Bahamian hopeful to the world's premier professional league looks to solidify a contract berth with his franchise.

Magnum Rolle received an official invite as the Indiana Pacers opened training camp during its media day yesterday to outline the team's goals and plans for the im-

mediate future.

As of today, Rolle remains unsigned by the Pacers but will be assured a spot in the club's training camp for an opportunity to fight for one of 15 final roster spots.

Since draft night and throughout the NBA Summer League, Pacers executives and coaches have raved about Rolle's performance and potential to fit into the team's immediate future.

The Pacers have reportedly made attempts to explore trade scenarios or possibly release players to clear a

space for Rolle.

Pacers general manager David Morway has stated that "the best 15 players will be in the final roster."

The Pacers currently have a full 15-man roster, but are thin at Rolle's power forward/center position with several players vying for playing time.

After trading away incumbent starter Troy Murphy, the Pacers' list of power forwards include Tyler Hansborough, Josh McRoberts and Solomon Jones, while Roy Hibbert and Jeff Foster are listed at center.

Rolle and second-year player Lance Allred are the only two unsigned players invited to Pacers camp, which brings the total number of players to 17.

Training camp workouts for the team begin today with the first pre-season matchup set for tip off October 6 on the road against the Memphis Grizzlies.

Rolle finished play in the 2010 AirTran Orlando Pro Summer League with an impressive statline at the end of the five-game exhibition series at the Orlando Magic's RDV

complex in Orlando, Florida.

In just over 28 minutes per game, Rolle averaged 13.4 points, seven rebounds, and two blocks per game. He shot over 57 per cent from the field and 62 per cent from the line.

In easily the most thrilling game of the 2010 AirTran Orlando Pro Summer League, the Pacers overcame a 27-point deficit and outscored the Celtics 36-16 in the fourth quarter for the come-from-behind win.

Rolle led the comeback and had

SEE page 14

'Golden girl': Shaunae Miller 'is the best talent we have'



DEBBIE FERGUSON-McKENZIE

Olympic medallist Debbie Ferguson-McKenzie expected to be the moderator at Compass Point reception in Miller's honour



GOLD MEDAL GLORY: Sixteen-year-old Shaunae Miller runs for the gold at the 13th IAAF World Junior Championships on July 22, 2010, in Moncton, Canada. Miller clocked 52.52 seconds to pull off the upset victory over world leader Margaret Etim of Nigeria to hand the Bahamas its only medal at the new Olympic stadium.

(AP Photo)

IAAF World Junior Championships gold medallist Shaunae Miller "is indeed the best talent we have, both past and present, coming out of the Bahamas," says Olympic medallist Debbie Ferguson-McKenzie.

"Ms Miller, in my humble opinion, is indeed the best talent we have, both past and present, coming out of the Bahamas. Being extremely talented, hardworking and focused in that I know that she will continue becoming the best because she has such a natural talent for it," said Ferguson-McKenzie.

At the 13th IAAF World Junior Championships on July 22, 2010, in Moncton, Canada, 16-year-old Miller clocked 52.52 seconds to pull off the upset victory over world leader Margaret Etim of Nigeria to hand the Bahamas its only medal at the new Olympic stadium.

In celebration of Miller's achievements, a reception is all set for September 30 at the Compass Point Beach Resort, West Bay Street.

Ferguson-McKenzie is expected to serve as the event's moderator. A number of guests, including Olympic medallist Pauline Davis-Thompson, Government and BTC officials and Miller's family and friends (who are set to make special presentations) are expected to attend.

"Like a flower, we need to

care and nourish this delicate gem, not just her talent, but also her soul, both on and off the track. Ensuring that she surrounds herself with the right people who will steer her in the right path," Ferguson-McKenzie added.

Sponsored by the resort, SageEden Marketing & Event Planning in conjunction with Club Monica Athletics, BTC and Bahamas Athletics, this event "serves to encourage Bahamian athletes who continue to place the Bahamas on the international stage," according to a

press statement.

Considered by many as the Usain Bolt of the Bahamas, Miller said that when she begins a race, her mind is set on winning. "It's just that I don't like to lose knowing that I have the best training from coach Woodside," she said.

Encouraging other upcoming athletes, Miller said: "Keep your head up and never give up, rather always believe in yourself and see yourself winning before you actually do."

Miller said she is grateful that the reception is to be

hosted in her honour. "It encourages me to continue to win gold for the Bahamas," she said.

While noting the importance of celebrating athletes who continue to place the Bahamas on the world stage, BTC marketing manager Marlon Johnson extended congratulatory remarks on behalf of the management and staff.

"We are very proud of youth like Shaunae who are focused and driven to get the gold. BTC encourages all youth with a dream to take

note of Miller's example because you too can be best among the best in the world."

Johnson said discipline and consistency are key ingredients for any successful story, and reminded parents to continue to encourage their children to develop and nurture their inner gifts.

Kermit Taylor, founder of Bahamas Athletics, said: "I had the good fortune of observing Shaunae's talent when she was just a diamond in the rough. Four years ago she came to Club Monica and as a result of working with Diane Woodside over the past four years, the patience and talent combined got her to the point she is at today."

Taylor said that in 2009, Miller made her first national team and represented the Bahamas at the Carifta Games. "However, this year she grew tremendously both personally and athletically," he added.

Taylor said: "Whatever competition came her way, she met the competition head on and made a name for herself. After winning a gold medal at the Carifta Games, she went on to the Dominican Republic in the under-17 girls 400m, won the gold medal and set the new national record," he said.

Coach Diane Woodside, president of Club Monica Athletics, said watching Miller mature into the athlete that she is today has been a joy.

According to Woodside, Miller was initially interested in the 300m hurdles, but coach Woodside noticed that she could be a great long distance runner as well.

"Shaunae did a lot of distance running and field events and because she is tall and slim, I knew that she could have been a very good sprint-

er as well," Woodside said.

"She also ran the 100m in the Carifta Games. She ran about 11.9 seconds, which is very good for her age and stature. By the end of that particular year, I saw that she also could have possibly been an excellent 400 runner."

"So we went into the Pan Am Games last year where she was a part of the bronze medal winning team. By the age of 14 she ran against seniors, and that Pan American team is usually under 20. She was about 15 at that time. So this year we really concentrate on the quarter mile as well as sprinting and she made it with the team to run the 400m hurdles and the 300," she said.

Describing Miller, Woodside added that she stands out above the rest at six feet, as well as in character and personality. "She is really athletic, she listens well, is very respectful, co-operative, well-mannered and she has natural desires to win and do extremely well in track and field. Shaunae loves track and field," she said.

The strongest quality Woodside seeks to develop is humility. "I don't like to blow athletes up too big, but I think Shaunae can handle this because she is a very humble person and she has had an extremely great year," she said.

"I believe that it's fitting for her to be recognised for achieving a gold medal champion title at age 16. She will also have another opportunity in two years."

Sharell Ferguson, chief executive officer of SageEden Marketing, Event & Image Consultancy, explained that her company is pleased to

SEE page 14

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LOCAL/INTERNATIONAL SPORTS



MEDAL HAUL: The 12-member Central American and Caribbean Bodybuilding team.

CAC bodybuilders win seven medals

BODYBUILDING continues to be one of the Bahamas' most successful sports on the international level with an impressive showing against top flight regional competition.

The 12-member Central American and Caribbean Bodybuilding team which competed in Aruba over the weekend returned with a seven-medal haul, which included four silver and three bronze.

Paul Wilson and Lorraine LaFleur led the charge with two medals each.

Wilson won second place in the Men's Bantamweight category, while LaFleur took second place in the Women's Heavyweight category.

The duo teamed up to take second place in Mixed Pairs.

Sidney Outten also won a silver medal in the Men's Super Heavyweight division.

The team also got bronze medals from Sharmine McNabb in the Women's Heavyweight, while Tammi Stubbs teamed up with Raymond Tucker for a bronze medal in Mixed Pairs.

Chanice Bain won a bronze medal in the women's fitness tall class division, however, Jan Johnson just missed out on a bronze medal in the women's B class figure when she finished fourth.

Madrid, Inter look to find cutting edge in Europe

By STEVE DOUGLAS
Associated Press Writer

LONDON (AP) — Defending champion Inter Milan and nine-time titleholder Real Madrid will look to rediscover their cutting edge up front when they renew their Champions League campaigns this week.

Inter, which drew its opening Group A match 2-2 with FC Twente and next plays Werder Bremen, relinquished its sole lead in the Italian league at the weekend when it lost 1-0 to AS Roma for its first Serie A defeat.

Madrid, meanwhile, was held to a goalless draw at Levante on Saturday and will expect more when it travels to Auxerre for its second Group G match this season as coach Jose Mourinho continues his bid for Champions League success with a third team.

Inter coach Rafa Benitez's mood will not be helped by the potential loss of striker Diego Milito, who is doubtful for the Bremen match after injuring his thigh against Roma.

"We need to be strong in the final third," said the former Liverpool manager. "We had 15 shots on goal (against Roma) and couldn't take any of them and that is a problem for us."

"We need to find the right balance. We have to analyze why we didn't score."

Inter striker Samuel Eto'o, who is joint top of the Serie A goalscorer standings with five goals, scored the team's equalizer at Twente as the reigning champions earned a point from what proved to be a tough opener against the tournament newcomers.

Bremen also opened up with a 2-2 draw against English side Tottenham, which is at home to Twente on



THE SPLITS: Roberto Rosales of FC Twente battles for the ball with Samuel Eto'o (right) of Inter Milan in their first round group A Champions League match at the Grolsch Veste stadium in Enschede, Netherlands, earlier this month.

Wednesday.

Madrid remains unbeaten in the Spanish league and kicked off its European campaign by beating Ajax 2-0.

But Mourinho, who guided Inter to Champions League glory last season, is worried about his side's goalscoring issues which he believes has cost it four points in two domestic matches.

"I am obviously concerned because we need to score," said Mourinho. "We are a solid team in defense. We have only allowed one goal in six

official games — five in La Liga and one in the Champions League — and our tactics aren't the problem, but we aren't scoring."

Kaka is still out with a knee injury but Madrid team doctor Carlos Diez said the Brazil attacking midfielder, who hasn't played since the World Cup, was making good progress.

"He is almost free of symptoms at the moment," said Diez.

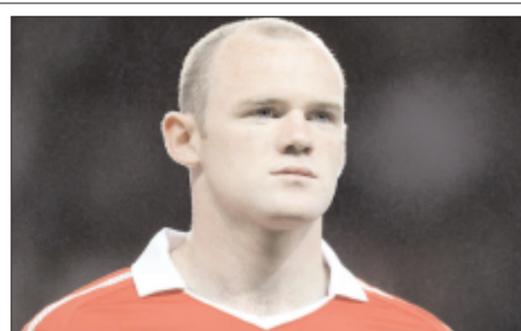
In the group's other match, AC Milan and Ajax — who

have won 11 European Cups between them — meet at the Amsterdam ArenA.

Milan ended a three-match winless run in Serie A by edging Genoa 1-0 on Saturday to give the players a welcome morale boost.

"We will go to Amsterdam with renewed determination," Milan left back Luca Antonini said.

"It was fundamental that we got the three points (against Genoa), above all from a psychological point of view with the match against



INJURED: Wayne Rooney trains with teammates at Carrington training ground.

(AP Photo)

Wayne Rooney out of United-Valencia match

MANCHESTER, England (AP) — Manchester United says Wayne Rooney will miss Wednesday's Champions League game against Valencia because of an ankle injury.

The England striker was substituted in the 61st minute of United's 2-2 draw at Bolton on Sunday and the Premier League club says he will not be part of the squad that flies

to Spain on Tuesday.

United said on its website Monday that even though Rooney's injury is "not thought to be serious," he will miss the game against the Spanish leaders.

United drew 0-0 with Rangers in its opening Group C match. It is already without injured wingers Ryan Giggs and Antonio Valencia.

Ajax coming up."

Barcelona, which began Group D with a 5-1 thrashing of Panathinaikos, travels Wednesday to Rubin Kazan, who beat the Spanish champion 2-1 at the Nou Camp in last year's tournament.

Barca come into the match on the back of a 3-1 win at Athletic Bilbao — its third successive victory in La Liga.

"Against Panathinaikos and Atletico Madrid, we were in good form and we did not do so well against Sporting Gijon (which Barcelona scraped past 1-0 at home). The team is fine and we are competing well."

Lionel Messi was expected to be missing for Barcelona but the Argentina forward has been included in the squad that travels to Russia.

Messi, who hurt his ankle in a league match against Atletico Madrid eight days

ago, hasn't yet been given the all-clear by the club's medical staff to return to action.

Brazil defender Adriano definitely misses out for Barcelona with a muscle strain.

Panathinaikos hosts FC Copenhagen in the other match.

Elsewhere Wednesday, Valencia hosts Manchester United and Bursaspor goes to Rangers in Group C, while Group B play sees Hapoel Tel Aviv hosts Lyon and Schalke is at home to Benfica.

On Tuesday, Chelsea hosts Marseille as it looks to follow up an opening Group F win at Zilina, which visits Spartak Moscow, and Arsenal travels to Partizan Belgrade and Braga hosts Shakhtar Donetsk in Group H.

In Group E, Basle is home to Bayern Munich and Roma hosts Cluj.

Magnum eyes a spot on Pacers' roster

FROM page 15

his best game of the Summer League thus far with his first NBA double double, finishing with 19 points and 11 rebounds. He shot 8-13 from the field while adding three steals and a blocked shot.

He was selected by the Indiana Pacers with the 51st pick in the NBA Draft and became the first native Bahamian to hear his name called on draft night in over 30 years.

The Oklahoma City Thunder originally held the rights to the 51st pick, however they agreed to swap picks with the Pacers who held the 57th pick and selected Ryan Reid.

The 6'11" 230-pound forward out of Louisiana Tech joined a Pacer draft class which also includes Fresno State forward Paul George and Cincinnati guard Lance Stephenson.

The Pacers finished a disappointing 32-50 in the 2009-10 season, a distant 10th in the Eastern Conference.

Rolle starred on the Grand Bahama high school basketball scene for the St George's Jaguars before relocating to the Laurinburg Institute in North Carolina.

After a standout high school senior season, Rolle was signed by SEC powerhouse Louisiana State University.

At LSU, Rolle was a part of an historic Tigers team in the 2005-06 season which advanced all the way to the NCAA Championship game before they fell to the UCLA Bruins.

Rolle averaged 2.2 points and 2.5 rebounds per game and appeared in 33 of the 36 games for the eventual runners-up on a team which featured future NBA standouts Glen "Big Baby" Davis and Tyrus Thomas.

With a depleted roster following the loss of its major superstars, Rolle returned to average 4 points and 4.1 rebounds per game with 31 blocks during his sophomore season.

Rolle transferred the following season and transferred to Louisiana Tech where he became one of the top front-court players in the WAC Conference. He became a two-time all-WAC Defensive Team player and was named to the Lefty Driesell All-America Defensive Team in his senior year.

'Golden girl': Shaunae Miller 'is the best talent we have'

FROM page 15

have the opportunity co-ordinate this reception in honour of a young Bahamian.

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the most talented youth and brilliant minds in the world. It is certainly fitting to appreciate them to the fullest and encourage them to achieve even greater things in life."

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