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**SPORTS**



**DELHI 2010**

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**AMERTIL ELEVATED TO BRONZE**

BRENT STUBBS REPORTS ON PAGE FIFTEEN



# Store boss shot dead by robber

**Mass BCB layoffs branded 'unjust'**

By NATARIO MCKENZIE  
Tribune Staff Reporter  
nmckenzie@tribunemedia.net

MASS layoffs by the Broadcasting Corporation of the Bahamas was described as "indiscriminate and unjust" by union executives as they hinted at the possibility of taking legal action yesterday.

The downsizing exercise that reportedly left 71 New Providence employees out of work on Friday is expected to continue at the BCB's Northern Service in Grand Bahama where another 11 people are set to lose their jobs.

Both the Bahamas Communications and Public Managers Union (BCPOU) and the Bahamas Communications and Public Managers Union (BCPMU) were said to be analysing individual cases yesterday for possible legal action where applicable.

BCPMU president William Carroll told *The Tribune*: "We wanted to know who's going so we can address each case individually, but we have had no time to evaluate individual

**SEE page 13**

**Lawyers rapped by judge appear to have escaped punishment**

By MEGAN REYNOLDS  
Tribune Staff Reporter  
mreynolds@tribunemedia.net

LAWYERS severely discredited in a Supreme Court judgment appear to have escaped contempt action and disciplinary measures despite being criticised by a senior judge for serious misconduct and wasting court time.

Magistrate Derrence Rolle was appointed to the bench three years after he was criticised by Senior Justice John Lyons in his judgment on the Arawak Homes case. The appointment was made by Chief Justice Sir Burton Hall in 2006.

Government agencies could give no explanation for the appointment in view of the September 2003 Supreme Court judgment, which has only recently come to light.

**SEE page 14**

## Homicide count now stands at 73

By NATARIO MCKENZIE  
Tribune Staff Reporter  
nmckenzie@tribunemedia.net

A CONVENIENCE store owner was shot in the head by an armed robber outside his shop in Fire Trail Road yesterday evening marking the 73rd murder this year.

Police said the man, unofficially identified as shopowner Joseph Tynes, was sitting outside his establishment with another man when the gunman approached.

The robber stole cash and jewellery from the pair before he shot Mr Tynes in the head and got away, police press liaison officer Sgt Chrislyn Skippings said.

She would not confirm the age or identity of the man as police investigations into the murder were in their initial stages as *The Tribune* went to press.

**SEE page 14**



Tim Clarke/Tribune staff

SCENE OF TRAGEDY: Police officers remove the man's body. A convenience store owner was shot in the head by an armed robber.

## PRESTON FERGUSON INQUEST TO OPEN TODAY

By MEGAN REYNOLDS  
Tribune Staff Reporter  
mreynolds@tribunemedia.net

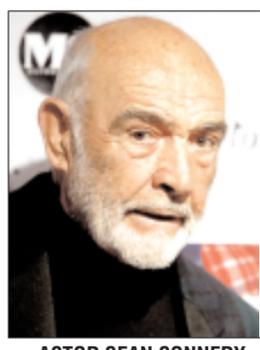
AN INQUEST into the death of an Exuma man determined by police to have been killed in a road traffic accident and believed by some to have been murdered is scheduled to open in George Town today.

Preston Ferguson was found dead in a truck on the

**SEE page 14**

## Sean Connery a no-show at Spanish 'Goldfinger' hearing

By DANIEL WOOLLS  
Associated Press Writer  
MADRID



ACTOR SEAN CONNERY

Sean Connery declined to appear in a Spanish court Friday as requested by a judge investigating an allegedly shady real estate deal involving property the actor used to own, according to Associated Press.

The 80-year-old actor sent the judge a letter explaining he can-

**SEE page three**



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# Man in custody in connection with bank stabbing

By DENISE MAYCOCK  
Tribune Freeport Reporter  
dmaycock@tribunemedia.net

FREEPORT - A 32-year-old male resident of Freeport, Lucaya, is in police custody in connection with the stabbing incident at the Royal Bank of Canada and FINCO Bank on Friday.

Asst Supt Hector Delva reported that the victim was treated for his injuries and discharged from hospital.

"The stabbing was not serious and we are pleased to report that the victim sustained only minor injuries," he said.

On Friday, two male customers at the bank were involved in an argument that resulted in one of them being stabbed.

The incident occurred around 1pm, during peak banking hours when many customers were inside the bank. A number of police units were dispatched to the scene to investigate.

ASP Delva said the suspect is expected to be charged with causing harm before the Magistrate's Court on Monday.

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LOCAL NEWS

# Sean Connery a no-show at Spanish 'Goldfinger' hearing



(AP Photo/Sergio Torres)

**BEACHFRONT PROPERTY:** Part of the Malibu Resort is seen in Marbella, southern Spain, on Friday, Oct. 15, 2010. A Spanish court official says Sean Connery is declining to appear in court in Marbella as requested by a judge investigating an allegedly shady real estate deal known here as the "Goldfinger Case" in southern Spain. The probe involves a beachfront mansion near Marbella that Connery used to own which was allegedly illegally rezoned to allow condominiums to be built.

## FROM page one

not travel to Spain because of his age and unspecified health issues, a court official said.

Connery and wife Michelle Roquebrune had been summoned to testify on Friday. They have not been charged with a crime in the affair known in Spain as the "Goldfinger Case."

The official said the magistrate will decide next week how to proceed. His options include sending Spanish officials to question Connery personally, the official said, although he said he did not know where Connery is now. The James Bond actor owns a home in the Bahamas, where it is believed the investigating magistrate will make a formal request to speak with Sir Sean.

## Anonymity

The court official spoke on condition of anonymity in line with court rules.

The probe involves a beachfront mansion near Marbella that Connery used to own and nearby land which was allegedly rezoned to allow condominiums to be built. The court official declined to give details but Spanish news reports say the judge is probing possible tax evasion in the land project.

For 20 years Connery vacationed at his lavish property, Malibu, before selling it in 1998.

Marbella was once synonymous with glitz but in more recent years has been tarnished by corruption.

In 2006 the Spanish government took the unprecedented step of dissolving the entire Marbella city council amid a scandal in which city officials were accused of accepting bribes and other favours in exchange for granting building permits during a nationwide real estate boom that largely fueled Spain's economy but has since collapsed.

A total of 95 people went on trial in that case last month, although the case in which Connery was requested to testify is separate.

# MABEL STUBBS RECOGNISED FOR OUTSTANDING EFFORTS IN RELIGION

## LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

FOR HER outstanding efforts over the past 50 years in Religion, Mabel Stubbs of Fresh Creek, Andros received the Lifetime Achievement Award to a packed room of supporters yesterday afternoon. Over 700 persons gathered at the Crystal Ballroom of the Wyndham Nassau Resort to recognize the efforts of veteran educators, nurses, healthcare and public service professionals in the Bahamas.

### Honoured

Hosted by the King Foundation, the 2010 "Salute to Greatness" award ceremony and luncheon honoured some 200 civil servants from all corners in the categories: Award of Excellence, Rising Star Award, Golden Star Award, Golden Apple Award, Pioneer Award and a Lifetime Achievement Award.

The ballroom was reduced to standing room only, and invited patrons and those honoured enjoyed a three-course meal and entertainment by the Royal Bahamas Police Force Band.

Founder of the King Foundation, Rudolph King said: "This event was about saluting the efforts of persons who contributed much to the Bahamas. Nothing negative happened today."



**RECOGNITION:** Mabel Stubbs of Fresh Creek, Andros accepts the Lifetime Achievement Award for her efforts in the religious sector.

PHOTO: Peter Ramsay

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RED	NEW	1:00	3:35	N/A	6:05	8:30	10:50
JACKASS-3D	NEW	1:10	3:40	N/A	6:15	8:25	10:50
MY SOUL TO TAKE	C	1:10	3:30	N/A	6:05	8:30	10:55
SECRETARIAT	B	1:05	4:05	N/A	7:05	N/A	10:05
LIFE AS WE KNOW IT	T	1:00	3:25	N/A	6:00	8:20	10:50
LEGEND OF THE GUARDIANS-3D	A	1:05	3:35	N/A	6:15	8:20	10:40
SOCIAL NETWORK	T	1:00	4:00	N/A	7:00	N/A	10:00
CASE 39	C	1:05	3:30	N/A	6:05	8:25	10:40
WALL STREET	C	1:05	4:05	N/A	7:05	N/A	10:05
THE TOWN	C	1:00	3:30	N/A	6:50	8:20	10:45

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RED	NEW	1:05	3:35	N/A	6:05	8:20	10:45
JACKASS-3D	NEW	1:15	3:40	N/A	6:10	8:30	10:55
SECRETARIAT	B	1:00	4:00	N/A	7:00	N/A	10:00
LIFE AS WE KNOW IT	T	1:15	3:25	N/A	6:10	8:25	10:45
LET ME IN	C	1:05	3:30	N/A	6:00	8:25	10:50
THE TOWN	C	1:00	3:30	N/A	6:00	8:25	10:55

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## Bending too far to meet immigrant demands

WE ARE living in interesting, but troubled times. The world is in a state of flux as people migrate from one country to another and cultures clash.

It is as though the Almighty is creating a new cocktail, throwing different ingredients together, shaking it vigorously in the expectation that the ingenious mix will create a more harmonious world.

However, in a speech on Saturday to her party's young people's association in Postdam, Chancellor Angela Merkel announced that Germany's attempt to build a multicultural society had "utterly failed."

Years ago Germany needed immigrants to meet the country's labour shortage. Many of these immigrants were from Turkey and the Islamic world — different culture and different language. "Those who want to take part (in our society), must not only obey our laws, they must also master our language," she said. Germany still needs highly skilled immigrants to satisfy its job market.

On Sunday night the BBC broadcast a Doha debate. These debates are held in Qatar and chaired by former BBC award-winning interviewer Tim Sebastian, who founded them in 2004. The debates deal, not only with the region's most controversial subjects, but Sebastian has been guaranteed freedom from censorship in the guests he invites and the opinions they express. It is a most interesting programme.

Sunday's subject was the French government's banning of the face veil. It was a large turnout and the motion was lost — 78 per cent were against the banning of the veil considering it discrimination, while 22 per cent voted for the ban.

"No one in our history has worn a piece of cloth on his or her face," said Jacques Myard, a member of the ruling conservative UMP coalition in the French national assembly. He insisted that France was a secular state. "Face veiling appears, for the majority of the people in France, to be a breach of the common will. It is contrary to the dignity of the human being," he said.

He considered himself a "victim" when denied the "right to see your face. Those who refuse to show their face in public are

excluding themselves from the national community," he said. However, a Paris-born Muslim, felt the ban had nothing to do with national unity but was tantamount to "stigmatising Muslim women."

Farzana Hassan, a Canadian author and women's activist, agreed with the ban. She held that the Muslim face veil, the Burqa, was a security threat that could be used by terrorists to conceal weapons. Her belief was that if the veil were banned, Muslim women would more easily integrate into French society. There were many other arguments, both pro and con. It was also established that the covering of the face was not a part of the Islamic religion and could be found nowhere in the Koran.

We related to the security risk. We recall one day in 1990 — shortly after more than 100 radical Jamat-al-Muslimeen stormed the Trinidad and Tobago parliament hoping to overthrow the administration of ANR Robinson, killing at least 24 people in the attempt — when a tall Burqa-clad woman stormed into our office. Behind her she dragged a small, frightened looking Bahamian. She introduced him as her husband. We forget the purpose of her visit, but were not satisfied that, behind that black flowing camouflage with only a narrow slit for the eyes, we were talking to a woman. Her coarse voice, her mannerism and the control she had over her "man" seemed too out of character for a woman. We were satisfied that we were facing a tough and determined man.

We recall when we were packed off to an English boarding school at a tender age. Among much advice that our dad — Sir Etienne Dupuch — gave us was: "When in Rome, do as the Romans do. If you don't like what they do, then come home, don't waste time complaining because they are not going to change their way of life to accommodate you."

We considered it good advice. And we think that the lack of assimilation in many of these countries today is that immigrants expect the host country to change their mores to accommodate them. This is the mistake that they have made in their demands and the host country has made in bending over backwards to meet those demands.

# LaKendis Brown put the Bahamas on the map

EDITOR, The Tribune.

I hope you will grant me a few words in your fine newspaper.

Recently LaKendis Brown, 2nd Runner-up Miss Bahamas Earth placed in the top four at the Miss Progress International Pageant in Italy. She received the title Miss Progress Environment which included a prize of \$30,000 for her to use toward promoting environmental awareness.

She also won the Best Costume Award. This is a great victory for The Bahamas. This is history for The Bahamas. LaKendis is a very pretty, charming girl who has made The Bahamas proud and put

## LETTERS

letters@tribunemedia.net

The Bahamas on the international map.

In Wednesday's edition of your fine journal, there was a small article with a picture posted in the back section of your paper.

This kind of news should be on the front page of the paper, headline material.

On the front page all we see and hear about are all the murders, violence and crime taking place in the country, but when our young people such as LaKendis Brown

make an international accomplishment and put The Bahamas on the map, this gets featured in the back of your paper. I think the accomplishments of our fine Bahamians who have accomplished positive things in the country and for the country need to be promoted better.

People could see better the accomplishments rather than the negative and it would inspire others in the country, that they too can achieve and do positive things and everything is not just negative.

**ACONCERNED BAHAMIAN CITIZEN**  
Nassau,  
October 2010.

## The national dilemma that requires Ministerial input

EDITOR, The Tribune.

What is the old proverb...one in the hand is better than two in the bush? It would seem the recent statements, be they accurate or not, significantly lay on the table the national dilemma, as do we take the offer of Atlantis, a sure deal, or Baha Mar a not so sure deal?

If the news is accurate, no one really knows, but like the boy crying wolf, one does not know who is telling the truth. Scotia Bank and Baha Mar might have arrived at an acceptable position and the detail is now in the hands of probably 60 attorneys.

Of course, the multi-million dollar question the cheque has not passed yet!

Be it as it may the question is significant, we need some input from the Minister of Tourism, who has been remarkably quiet, if not totally masked over the Baha Mar issue.

My questions are simple but so relevant:

What will be the impact of 3000 new hotel rooms on the Nassau Tourism product taking into account the existing hotels at all levels?

Can The Nassau Tourism infrastructure service this number of people?

Of the principal global top 5-star hotel operators Rose-

wood is rated with Four Seasons, Orient Express, One and Only (Kerzner) and Ritz Carlton.

Last year the average occupancy of all was in the region of a low 54 per cent Orient Express, a mid-rate, Rosewood at 62 per cent and a high at Ritz Carlton 66 per cent, now so we have been told for a long time owing to the much higher costs of operation in the Bahamas, a hotel needs an 80-85 per cent occupancy rate...Rosewood reports off their web site that their Caribbean hotels are 39 rooms, Antigua - BVI 100 and USVI 169 rooms. The average spent per day was \$750, compare that to Nassau.

I certainly look forward to a public comment from the Minister with his wealth of experience, I am sure his advice is what is driving the opinion of the Prime Minister, but we need assurances of the marketing and investment facts.

Concluded last Friday Sol Kerzner, laid it fair and square where Kerzner International stands — I am considering replicas of Atlantis in Brazil and China — aren't these the same new markets Tourism are looking to develop new visitors from — our principle attraction acknowledged by all the Tourism experts is Atlantis, so why come from Rio or Beijing

to Nassau/Bahamas, if the Brazilians and Chinese can take a short ride and see the same in their backyard?

My conclusion is — So it is surely better to retain the one you have, as you are not sure of the alternative.

**W. THOMPSON**  
Nassau,  
October 3, 2010.

## Airport 'hackers' and counterfeit goods

EDITOR, The Tribune.

**Re: Everyone aiding, abetting airport 'hackers'.** — The Tribune, Editorial, October 13, 2010.

IN effect, it seems the airport "hackers" have been permitted to sell counterfeit goods, for which nine Bahamians may have paid with their lives.

**KEN W KNOWLES, MD**  
Nassau,  
October 13, 2010.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

INTENT TO CHANGE NAME BY DEED POLL

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

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### MEETING DATES & VENUES

**Western New Providence**  
7 p.m., Wednesday, October 20, 2010  
at H O Nash School

**Northern New Providence**  
7 p.m., Tuesday, November 9, 2010  
at the Ministry of Health Cafeteria, Meeting Street

**Southern New Providence**  
7 p.m., Wednesday, November 10, 2010  
at CV Bethel School

**Eastern New Providence**  
7 p.m., Wednesday, November 17, 2010  
at Darre Davis Johnson School

Registration forms will be available and refreshments will be served.

LOCAL NEWS

CRIME REPORTS

# Police investigate shootings

A man was left nursing gunshot wounds in his leg on Saturday after being shot while walking on Baillou Hill Road Saturday evening.

According to police press liaison officer Sergeant Christlyn Skippings, the man was approached by a white Nissan Sentra with two men inside. One of the men, armed with a handgun, shot at the pedestrian hitting him in one of his legs. He was taken to hospital where his condition is unknown.

A man was shot multiple times Saturday night while attending a party in Peardale.

According to Sgt Skippings, police were informed that a man at a party was approached by a man armed with a handgun, wearing a black-hooded jacket and jeans. The assailant reportedly shot the man multiple times about the body. The man was taken to hospital where he was detained. He is reported to be in stable condition.

Investigations are underway into an apparent drowning incident at the Sea Breeze Canal on Saturday.

According to Sgt Skippings, sometime around 4.30pm on Saturday, police received a

report that a man was submerged in the Sea Breeze Canal, South Beach. According to Sgt Skippings, police

were informed that a group of men were swimming in the canal when the man drowned. EMS personnel were called

to the scene where the man was pronounced dead. Police have not yet released his identity.

## Crist GOP donor sues Florida gov over public records



JOHN ROOD

TALLAHASSEE, Florida

Two Republican legislator-lawyers are representing one of Gov. Charlie Crist's GOP campaign contributors in a public records lawsuit against him, according to Associated Press.

Reps. Tom Grady of Naples and Matt Gaetz of Fort Walton Beach sued Thursday for former US Ambassador to the Bahamas John Rood in state court in Tallahassee.

They allege Crist failed to comply with Rood's request for records showing he has made policy shifts since leaving the Republican Party to run for the U.S. Senate as an independent. The governor's office says it cannot find what Rood's looking for.

Rood also has sued seeking to force Crist to refund \$7.5 million in contributions he collected before quitting the GOP, but a judge in Naples has denied class action certification.

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LOCAL NEWS

# One dead, 39 hurt in Jamaica bus crash

KINGSTON, Jamaica

Police in Jamaica say a bus has plunged over a cliff on the Caribbean island's north coast, killing a teenage girl and injuring 39 people, according to Associated Press.

Police Constable Yanique Matthews says the bus driver fled after the accident late Friday and has not been found.

Matthews said Saturday that the bus was carrying church members to a weekend retreat when it went off the road in St. Ann, Jamaica's largest parish. She says a 16-year-old girl died and several of the 39 injured people are in critical condition.

Jamaica Urban Transit Co. spokesman Reginald Allen says the person driving the bus was not scheduled to be the designated driver. The bus company and police are investigating.

## THE BAHAMAS INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL (BIFF)

# Move to inspire a new generation of filmmakers

## Popular youth workshop to be expanded

THE Bahamas International Film Festival (BIFF) announced yesterday it will expand its popular Youth Film Workshop to educate and inspire a new generation of filmmakers.

The seventh annual BIFF will partner with schools throughout Nassau to incor-

porate the film workshops for young people directly into classrooms, BIFF founder and executive director Leslie Vanderpool has confirmed.

The Youth Film Workshops serve as an innovative children's mobile film studio, creating a learning envi-

ronment like none other.

With the support of the board and sponsors, the Youth Film Workshops will take place in classrooms across the island of New Providence, to heighten awareness of the positive impact of media literacy.

There will be one program per day at each participating school with 15 students in each program taking place November 29 through December 3.

Schools that have signed on in the past to participate in the Youth Film Workshop venture are CC Sweeting, St Andrews, Uriah McPhee, Queens College, Lyford Cay School, St Annes and St Bedes.

Leslie Vanderpool said: "The Bahamas International Film Festival continually strives to provide beneficial mentoring and education programs that open imaginations and introduce young Bahamians to an uninhibited world of creative filmmaking."

### Staple

"The Youth Film Workshops have been a staple of the Festival for many years and have always delivered on their mission to inspire and educate."

"This year will feature another wonderful installment of the program and we encourage all Bahamians to participate and see for themselves what can be achieved through the power of film."

Select workshops are open to the public on December 4 and cost \$50.

The Youth Film Workshop is conducted by Never Too Short Productions, a group of professional filmmaking educators and instructors from Canada, who have worked countless hours to create, develop and implement specially designed workshops for kids.

With the guidance of the Never Too Short professionals, participants will explore and experiment with the latest in digital technol-



LESLIE VANDERPOOL

**"The Youth Film Workshops have been a staple of the Festival for many years and have always delivered on their mission to inspire and educate."**

Leslie Vanderpool

ogy, in an exciting, fast-paced, child-focused environment with the ultimate goal of developing media literacy, social networking and collaboration skills.

BIFF 2010 begins Wednesday, December 1 and runs through Sunday, December 5. Tickets can be booked online, over the telephone, or in person at BIFF box offices by November 1.

Every year the Festival offers advance ticket deals from the date of opening to the first day of the festival. For additional information please visit [www.bintfilmfest.com](http://www.bintfilmfest.com).



## -Quote of the week-

Betty Taylor

Journalist / Entrepreneur

*Teach people how to behave by your positive attitude, and you will be surprised of the impact you will have on society.*

~ Betty Taylor ~



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Many women worry about the effect their breast cancer will have on their children. If you have children and received a diagnosis of breast cancer, talk with them. Consider their age and tailor your message so that they understand what the disease and treatment of it will entail. Don't exclude them, as children will likely sense that something is happening in the family. Children can be a great source of support and encouragement during breast cancer treatment.

*You can survive breast cancer. Early detection through regular breast self-exams and a regular program of mammogram and physical exams are crucial steps that every woman should employ.*



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## Pam Burnside

58

Breast Cancer Survivor for 27 years



The Tribune observes Breast Cancer Awareness Month 2010

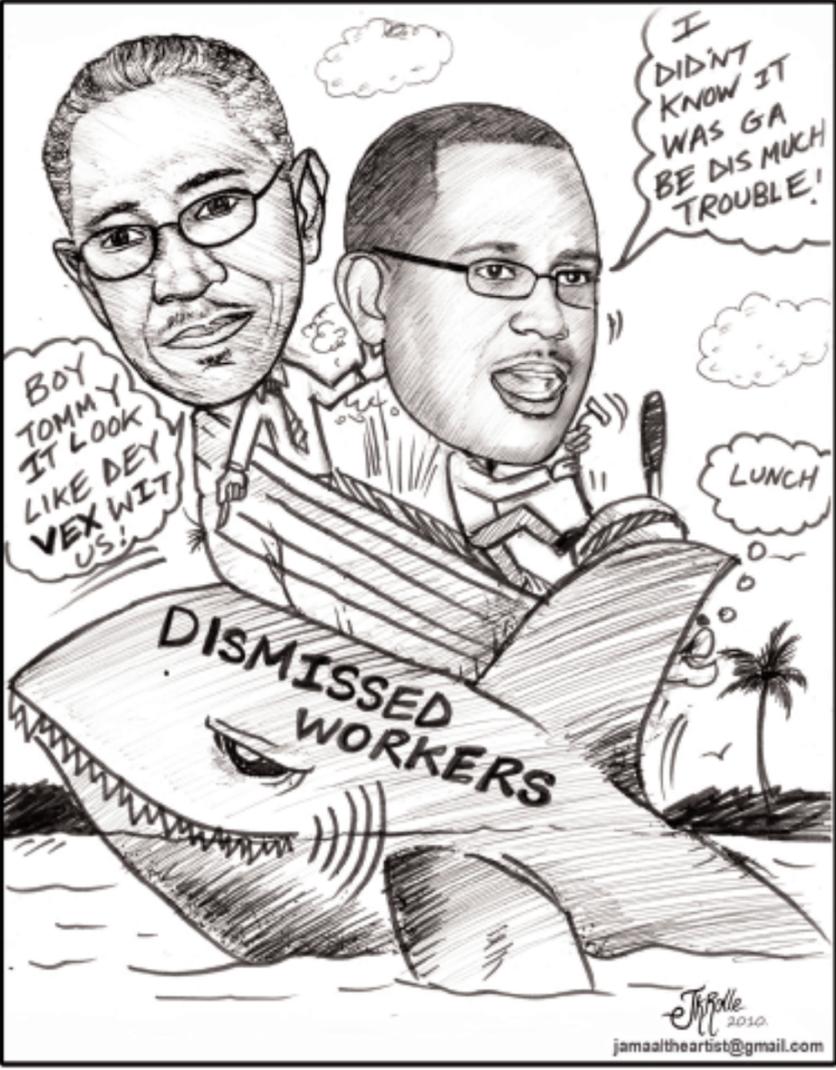
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**PUSHIN' DA ENVELOPE**

By Jamaal Rolle



**DRAMA AT ZNS**



MINISTER AT OPENING CEREMONY FOR WORKSHOP

**Family Islands Transport Enhancement Project launched**

By KATHRYN CAMPBELL  
Bahamas Information Services

Nassau, The Bahamas – The Bahamas Government in collaboration with the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) officially launched the Family Islands Transport Enhancement Project during the opening ceremony for a workshop for stakeholders on October 14.

In attendance were Minister of Public Works and Transport Neko C. Grant; Colin Higgs, permanent secretary; John Canton, director; engineers; CDB representatives and a wide cross-section of stakeholders.

A \$10.1 million loan agreement was signed between the Bahamas Government and CDB during the 40th annual Caribbean Development Bank Board of Governors meeting in May.

The loan enables the Government to execute infrastructure projects including the reconstruction of Three Island Dock in North Eleuthera, the reconstruction of Fresh Creek Dock in Central Andros, rehabilitation of Deep Creek Bridge in South Andros and rehabilitation of Little Creek Bridge in South Andros.

A technical assistance grant of \$37,000 from CDB will also facilitate preparation of feasibility studies and designs for new commercial ports in Abaco and Great Exuma, a new North/South highway in Great Exuma and a road link between Little and Great Abaco.

Among others, the workshop covered legal considerations relating to the loan, disbursement policy and procedures, project implementation arrangements and descriptions of roles for government officials.

Mr. Grant described the project as “timely”. He said it will provide direct employment for Bahamians, Family Island residents, in particular.

As an archipelagic nation the roads, bridges, docks and ports provide vital transportation and communication links within and between islands, Mr. Grant said.

“They facilitate the provision of basic services to residents.

“They also facilitate increased economic activity in tourism, agriculture, fisheries and other sectors on these islands.

“This project brings much needed relief to family islands where residents have patiently waited for enhanced public



Letisha Henderson/BIS Photo

**PUBLIC ADDRESS:** Public Works and Transport Minister Neko C. Grant addresses participants in the Family Island Transport Enhancement Project workshop. Works director John Canton is seated the table.

infrastructure in which they can take pride.”

Mr. Grant thanked the CDB for its support in financing the project and for hosting the workshop.

Speaking on behalf of the Ministry of Finance, Simon Wilson, director of economics and planning, said the Ministry is fully committed to the successful on-time and on-budget completion of this project.

Andrew Dupigny, of CDB, said it is expected that project stakeholders will be empow-

ered with a greater understanding of the project timing and the inputs that will be necessary to achieve the project's objectives. “It is our hope that this workshop will give us the opportunity to discuss and devise solutions to overcome those constraints which we are able to identify,” he said.

The project is to be implemented over a 17-month period. A project coordinator will be appointed to report directly to the Director of Public Works on project activities.

LETTERS OF CREDENCE



**RAISING A GLASS:** Governor General Sir Arthur Foulkes proposes a toast during a reception at Government House following the presentation of Letters of Credence of the new Ambassador of the Republic of Haiti to The Bahamas Antonio Rodrigue. Pictured from left: Joan Lady Foulkes, Sir Arthur, Ambassador Rodrigue, Madame Martha Sajous Rodrigue and Deputy Prime Minister Brent Symonette.

Peter Ramsay/BIS Photo



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LOCAL NEWS

# The Commonwealth: No slippage from upholding human rights

By SIR RONALD SANDERS

(The writer is a Consultant and former Caribbean diplomat).

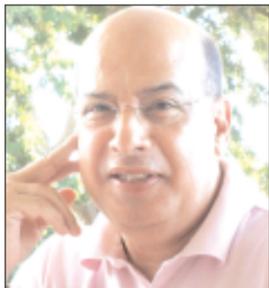
The following is an excerpt from a speech delivered by the writer, who is a member of the Commonwealth Eminent Persons Group, to an Economic Forum at the Guildhall in the City of London held by the Commonwealth Business Council.

**A** BRITISH newspaper carried a story on October 10 suggesting that the Commonwealth Secretariat has abandoned its commitment to defending human rights. The newspaper based this story on a "leaked document" in which the Secretary-General, Kamalesh Sharma, is alleged to have told his staff it is not their job to speak out against abuses by the 54 member states.

The Secretariat responded publicly saying: "There is no memo directing staff not to respond to reports of human rights abuses. There was an options paper for discussion among senior managers about how we could strengthen our human rights pronouncements and encourage the buy-in of member governments to address concerns."

Despite the Secretariat's firm statement, the story was picked up by a section of the media in Australia and has been the subject of a lively

## insight WORLD VIEW



SIR RONALD SANDERS

e-mail discourse among many people who are deeply concerned about the image and substance of the Commonwealth.

This question of human rights in the Commonwealth and the role of the Secretary-General have occupied the attention of the Eminent Persons Group (EPG) of which I am a member as we fulfil a mandate from Heads of Government to produce a report that would strengthen the Commonwealth and make it fit for purpose in the decades to come.

The EPG has focused some attention on the Commonwealth Ministerial Action Group (CMAG) which was established to protect Commonwealth values and principles and to take action against member states that indulged in serious or persistent violations of them.

Like many others

throughout the Commonwealth, the EPG has been concerned that, thus far, CMAG has acted only when there has been an unconstitutional overthrow of a government, but has not dealt with other serious or persistent violations of other declared core values of the Commonwealth.

The EPG would like to see further empowerment of CMAG to take up the full gamut of its remit.

### Reviewing

We are aware that CMAG has been reviewing its own work and that it has developed a position, but in considering our own view of CMAG, while we will take CMAG's review into account, we will not consider ourselves bound by it.

As people outside the day-to-day interplay between governments, we feel we can bring a level of distance and independence to the scope of the work that CMAG should be undertaking, and we can suggest objective criteria by which its scrutiny of a member state should be triggered.

We regard the Secretary-General's "good offices" role as equally important in relation to violations of Commonwealth declared principles.



KAMALESH SHARMA

Prevention is better than cure.

But, we recognise that this role is under resourced and requires not only wider machinery to alert the Secretary-General to potential problems, but also a mechanism that goes beyond government permission, to set the machinery in motion.

In other words, action by the Secretary-General to employ his good offices role to correct infractions of the Commonwealth core values should be undertaken within member states automatically and should not have to await the agreement of the government concerned.

However, there needs to be a clear understanding of what we mean by 'human rights'.

In the Commonwealth, there are some organizations palpably more concerned with the wretchedness of the weak under despotic national regimes than they are with the degradation of the poor under inequitable international structures.

'Human rights' for these organizations means the former not the latter.



IDI AMIN

But human rights in the Commonwealth must embrace both, and do so with equal passion.

The Commonwealth must see its commitment to the universality of human rights as including strong opposition to the denial of civil and political rights anywhere in the Commonwealth.

### Credibility

The Commonwealth will lose its credibility if it abstained on such human rights denials or was thought to be indifferent to their emergence within its member countries.

In this regard, we will likely recommend that, as the Chief Executive Officer of the Commonwealth Secretariat, the Secretary-General should immediately speak-up publicly when there are serious violations of the Commonwealth's core values.

In making this recommendation, we will not be breaking new ground; we will simply be reiterating and reinforcing a principle

long established. The issue that clouds a clear Commonwealth posture on this matter is that of 'interference in internal affairs'.

But there is a difference between meddling and taking an honourable stand and the latter must not be avoided where human rights violations are so gross or systemic that the line against 'meddling' has been crossed.

The Commonwealth confronted this issue over South Africa as early as 1960, and very specifically over Idi Amin and Uganda in 1977. In the latter case, even the UN Human Rights Commission stalled in condemning the Amin Regime on arguments about 'interfering in internal affairs'.

At the 1977 Commonwealth Summit, the Commonwealth was strong in its condemnation.

After The Commonwealth had condemned Amin, the UN HRC followed suit.

I think it is true to say that all of the members of the EPG are convinced that the Commonwealth's business as much as business in the Commonwealth, will be conducted in much larger measure and with far greater economic benefits if human rights in the widest meaning of that term are respected and upheld throughout its member states.

And, let me say with no fear of contradiction that Secretary-General, Kamalesh Sharma, shares this view with the EPG.

We are convinced that problems of poverty, inadequate health and sanitation, education and infrastructural development are most effectively and sustainably addressed within a framework of democracy and good governance.

Upholding human rights in the broadest understanding of this term must remain central to the Commonwealth's activities.

Responses and previous commentaries at:

[www.sirronaldsanders.com](http://www.sirronaldsanders.com)

**The Commonwealth must see its commitment to the universality of human rights as including strong opposition to the denial of civil and political rights anywhere in the Commonwealth.**



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- Creating network and exchange profiles for authorized users
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Coming Soon To Harbour Bay...

The Cape Eleuthera Foundation and Deep Creek Community raise awareness on climate change by organising global work party

# Seeking solutions to global climate crisis



Deep Creek, October 15 - The Cape Eleuthera Foundation and the Deep Creek community joined with 350.org's "10.10.10 Global Work Party" to raise awareness and seek solutions from politicians on the global climate crisis.

The number 350 represents what scientists, climate experts, and progressive national governments say is the safe upper limit of carbon dioxide, measured in "parts per million," in our atmosphere.

The Deep Creek community joined thousands of concerned citizens in over 188 countries to organise over 7,000 work parties that weathered homes, installed solar panels, and planted trees.

Deep Creek volunteers supported climate solutions locally by picking up glass bottles, aluminum cans and scrap metal from the streets.

Then, the volunteers sorted these materials for recycling and donated the aluminum cans to the Deep Creek Middle School to raise money through Cans for Kids in New Providence.

After the clean sweep, the participants rode in biodiesel fuelled vehicles to Freetown Beach to catch some sun, play musical instruments, and eat hot dogs.

"I am happy to be a part of this event and see the children come out to support it."

"I hope that we can continue with events like this one in the future," said South

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The Cape Eleuthera Institute is a facility that promotes a connection between people and the environment. CEI's scope of work includes visiting educational programs/field courses for students in primary through graduate school; modeling green technologies that promote self-sufficiency; performing research and collaborating with outside scientists/organizations in areas related to tropical ecology and sustainability; building local capacity through education and training programs; and by hosting conferences.

Eleuthera District Deputy Chief Councillor, Leviticus Anderson.

10.10.10. Global Work Party highlights include:



**SHOWING SUPPORT:** Deep Creek volunteers supported climate solutions locally by picking up glass bottles, aluminum cans and scrap metal from the streets. Then, the volunteers sorted these materials for recycling and donated the aluminum cans to the Deep Creek Middle School to raise money through Cans for Kids in New Providence.

**BEACH PARTY:** After the clean sweep, the participants rode in biodiesel fuelled vehicles to Freetown Beach to catch some sun, play musical instruments, and eat hot dogs.

**"I am happy to be a part of this event and see the children come out to support it. I hope that we can continue with events like this one in the future."**

*Leviticus Anderson*

unteers cleaned up beaches and educated the community about plastics in the ocean.

- In Grand Cayman, volunteers created public art from plastic removed from a beach.
- In Jamaica, volunteers cleaned up and recycled

garbage in Kingston.

- In China, 30,000 students joined over 300 events across the country/
- In the United States, there were over 2,000 rallies with events in all 50 states, including 400 clean energy rallies in California.

- In Abaco, students expanded a garden and reused waste water to grow vegetables.
- In Turks & Caicos, vol-

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LOCAL NEWS

2010 INTERNATIONAL CULTURAL FESTIVAL

# Weekend scenes from The Botanical Gardens



**TEMPTING TREAT:** Deputy Prime Minister Brent Symonette inspects some local wares.



**STRIKING:** Traditional Indian saris helped create an international atmosphere.



**EYE-CATCHING:** A stall displaying handmade wooden crafts attracted plenty of interest.



**HAITIAN STALL:** Festival-goers peruse a stall displaying Haitian art and memorabilia.

Tim Clarke/Tribune staff

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LOCAL NEWS

# 2010 BAPTIST DAY PARADE



Hundreds of Bahamians lined the streets to watch the annual Baptist Day, which featured performances from affiliated Baptist churches in the capital. Pictured are Baptist groups performing on Wulff Road.



PHOTOS: Tim Clarke/Tribune staff

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LOCAL NEWS

# US stands ready to partner with Bahamas to advance renewable energy – Ambassador



**PULLING TOGETHER:** Photo shows United States Ambassador to The Bahamas Nicole A. Avant flanked by representatives from the U.S. Departments of State and Energy (DOE) as well as government officials from the region who participated in the U.S.-Caribbean discussion on energy and Energy and Climate Partnership of The Americas (ECPA) held at the Atlantis Resort on Paradise Island on October 13, 2010.

IN support of the Energy and Climate Partnership of the Americas, the U.S. Departments of State and Energy participated in the Caribbean Renewable Energy Forum held in Nassau on October 14-15 at the Atlantis Resort on Paradise Island.

Policy-makers from across the Caribbean as well as private industry, international organizations, multilateral development banks, and NGOs working to advance renewable energy and energy efficiency in the region gathered together for the two-day conference.

Nicole Avant, U.S. Ambassador to the Bahamas, led the U.S. delegation and delivered a keynote address on October 15.

In her remarks, Ambassador Avant applauded the continuing efforts made by the government and the private sector in the Bahamas because leaders recognize that addressing climate change is an economic opportunity and see a clear link between clean, sustainable energy and robust economic growth.

“The partnerships I see here between the public sector and private industry are what will make The Bahamas a model in efficient, sustainable energy practices for the region – and eventually for the world,” said Ambassador Avant.

To respond to the threat that global climate change poses to development, U.S. President Barak Obama has launched a Global Climate Change Initiative (GCCCI) to spur global greenhouse gas emission reductions in the

energy and forests and land-use sectors, and to promote climate change adaptation in vulnerable countries and communities.

As part of this effort, the United States has committed to contributing to a sum approaching \$30 billion from multiple donors over the 2010-2012 period, as called for in the Copenhagen Accord, for “fast-start” funding to assist countries in addressing climate change.

The U.S. share of the \$30 million total will be delivered through existing mechanisms, including bilateral assistance programmes through U.S. Embassies, USAID programmes, U.S. agencies, such as MCC, multilateral contributions to climate change funds, and international organizations such as the UNFCCC.

## Contributions

The United States will also make additional contributions to the IDB, OAS, or World Bank to finance clean energy and climate change projects.

In her keynote address on October 15, Ambassador Avant explained that one component of President Obama’s Global Climate Change Initiative is the Energy and Climate Partnership of the Americas, also known as ECPA; a voluntary technical assistance opportunity – open to all governments in the Western Hemisphere – with a focus on seven pillars: renewable energy, energy efficiency, energy poverty, cleaner fossil fuels, infrastructure, adaptation, and sustainable land use

and forests. “The United States also has a long term commitment to working with Caribbean governments on energy, which is why President Obama invited all countries to join him in an Energy and Climate Partnership of the Americas at the last Summit of the Americas in Port of Spain,” said Ambassador Avant.

“We do not believe there is a one size fits all approach or one single solution for Caribbean energy and climate challenges, which is why ECPA’s flexibility can allow us to partner on any number of things of interest to governments here today.”

Since President Obama first announced the Energy and Climate Partnership of the Americas (ECPA), over a dozen new initiatives have begun in the Western Hemisphere, including Brazilian-led efforts on urban development and planning, Mexico’s initiatives on energy efficiency and access, Colombia’s activities to promote electrical interconnection in the Andes, Chile and Panama, and Canada’s heavy oil working group.

Ambassador Avant concluded her address by emphasizing that the United States is a friend and partner to the Caribbean and that there is great work underway.

“The United States looks forward to next year’s Caribbean Renewable Energy Forum (CREF) where hopefully we will be able to point to new renewable energy projects and tangible results that will advance Caribbean energy security and prosperity,” said Ambassador Avant.

## Bahamas celebrates World Food Day

By GLADSTONE THURSTON  
Bahamas Information Services

THE Bahamas joined nations worldwide in celebrating World Food Day on Saturday. It is sponsored under the auspices of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation.

The primary focus of this annual event is the eradication of world hunger which is said to affect one billion people, Agriculture and Marine Resources Minister Lawrence S “Larry” Cartwright told a press conference.

Under the theme “United Against Hunger”, the Ministry hosts a series of activities at the Gladstone Road Agriculture Centre. It is estimated by international experts that 40 years from now the population of Earth will be nine billion people. As a result the production of food globally would have to increase by 70 per cent above present levels to prevent widespread hunger and malnutrition, said Mr Cartwright. A highlight of this year’s commemoration will be the presentation of gift certificates and bins of food to homes for senior citizens and under privileged children.

Programmes for Saturday also include the Farmers’ Market, and a Backyard Gardening Workshop.

“While it is recognised that hunger is a complex geo-social problem,” said Mr Cartwright, “there is also the realisation that a critical feature of hunger is the non-production of essential foodstuffs in the areas where they are needed. This means that each country will have to play its part in this massive effort to raise global food production, and ensure that basic food stuffs are produced in the very communities where they are to be consumed.”

Mr Cartwright also recognised the “important role” played by the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) in fostering agriculture development in The Bahamas.

“There is a strong, positive relationship between FAO and the Ministry of Agriculture and Marine Resources,” he said.

## GROSS OR NET PRICES



## REAL ESTATE

MIKE LIGHTBOURN

By MIKE LIGHTBOURN

SOMETIMES people may be a bit confused when a property is advertised for sale. Bahamas Real Estate Association (BREA) members price their properties the same way. Unfortunately, some private sellers

quote or advertise a net figure, which means they list the price at the amount they want at the end of the day in their pocket.

All BREA members quote their prices based on what we call a GROSS figure.

A gross price will include the agent’s commission, one half of the applicable government stamp duty and the vendor’s attorney’s fee.

For example, if a property is listed for sale at \$150,000, this means that the purchaser will have to pay on top of the GROSS price one half of the government stamp duty and his/her attorney’s fee.

This attempt to standardise asking prices was started approximately twelve years ago to avoid confusion.

In addition, all appraisals are valued at GROSS prices. Unfortunately, some owners who have appraisals prepared on their behalf mistakenly think that the valuation is, in fact a NET price to them.

In other words, they think it’s the amount they will receive in their pocket on the completion of a sale.

This is not correct. All appraisers explain in their valuation that the figure is a GROSS price.

(Mike Lightbourn is president of Coldwell Banker Lightbourn Realty).

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# Mass BCB layoffs branded 'unjust'

FROM page one

cases. "So now we're pursuing them to see what other options we have, be it to get more compensation or get them back on the job."

Mr Carroll maintains the layoffs have been unjust and unplanned.

"It was like they had no criteria in the way they got rid of people," he said.

"In one case they argue the shop steward is 58 years old and they let her go to give a younger person a chance.

"But then we have a member who was dismissed who is 40 years old, and has a Bachelor's degree in accounting.

"She was let go from that department, but they kept someone who was 59 years old with no degree."

He added: "It just shows there was no real plan the way they got rid of people - as if this was done all willy-nilly.

"It wasn't as if they were performing or unperforming.

"I'm just at a loss for words the way they did this."

Mr Carroll said the unions will meet to discuss the next course of action taken after today's layoffs in Freeport.

Speaking on Friday's restructuring exercise at operations in New Providence, BCPOU president Bernard Evans said: "It definitely was totally unorganised.

"The methodology used was not right."

According to Mr Evans, 71 people were let go from the broadcasting corporation on Friday.

He said: "We are now going to Grand Bahama as a show of support for the persons who are expected to be



**NO NEWS ... IS BAD NEWS:** Abandoned microphones symbolise the dispute. Demonstrators were successful at preventing TV and radio broadcasts.

let go there."

Initially 30 people were expected to be let go, however he claimed that number has essentially been halved.

Mr Evans credited the overwhelming public support on Grand Bahama for helping to keep the BCB's Northern Service operational.

He said the same principles applied in relation to redundancy packages afforded during other government restructuring exercises should have applied in BCB's downsizing operations.

Mr Carroll added: "We will do whatever is required to get justice. We will ensure that we will do all we can to help those persons," Mr

Evans said. Mr Evans said that legal action, if necessary, could also be taken.

The BCB board completed its new organisation chart on Friday, generating a list of workers who will lose their jobs, and those set to receive possible promotions or demotions.

Several ZNS big names were dismissed, including reporter Charlene Ferguson, sports anchor Marcellous Hall, who reportedly left on his own terms.

Three cameramen, three chauffeurs, four VPR editors and one radio production assistant were also reportedly let go from the news department.



**ANGRY SCENES:** Enraged ZNS staff last week try to calm down a colleague after he was reportedly pushed by a woman manager. ZNS employees yesterday hijacked the newroom to prevent news broadcasts.



**FED UP:** Workplace woes.



**HEADLINE NEWS:** Staff read a copy of last week's Tribune..

## Chavez pledges oil to Belarus for 200 years

**YURAS KARMANAU, Associated Press Writer MINSK, Belarus**

In one of his typical flamboyant gestures, Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez on Saturday promised to provide oil to the former Soviet republic of Belarus for the next 200 years, according to Associated Press.

Chavez, who was visiting Belarus on Saturday, promised that Belarusian refineries — the backbone of the country's economy — "would feel no shortages of oil in the next 200 years."

Venezuela in March agreed to ship 80,000 barrels of heavy crude a day to Belarus as well as create a joint venture to develop oil and natural gas projects in this South American country. Belarus President Alexander Lukashenko, who critics have dubbed "Europe's last dictator," is anxious to diversify away from Russian oil supplies as his relations with Moscow grow increasingly sour. Lukashenko is facing a presidential election in December but Moscow has so far refrained from endorsing his bid. Chavez was in Moscow earlier this week, where he reached a deal with Russia to build Venezuela's first nuclear plant and signed a few energy pacts.



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## LOCAL NEWS

# Store boss shot dead by robber

## FROM page one

However, the crowd of around 70 people who knew Mr Tynes as a neighbour, friend or relative, identified him as the owner of the Morning Star Convenience Store in Fire Trail Road, off the Tonique Williams-Darling Highway in south-west New Providence.

His mother made an emotional plea to see her son's body at the scene as police held her back and the murdered man's body was taken away in a hearse.

Sgt Skippings said police were called shortly after 5pm and responded immediately to find that a gunshot to the head had instantly claimed the life of the man dressed in grey trousers and a striped shirt.

## Sitting

"It was reported that the deceased was sitting outside the establishment along with another man when they were approached by a man armed with a handgun," Sgt Skippings said.

The gunman then robbed the men before shooting Mr Tynes in the head.

"The suspect fled the area on foot heading west on Fire Trail Road," Sgt Skippings said.

EMS personnel pronounced Mr Tynes dead at the scene. The other man was unharmed, according to police.

Police are appealing for information to assist investigations into the matter.

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



Tim Clarke/Tribune staff

**SHOCKED:** A police officer speaks to family members at the scene.

## FROM page one

side of the road in the area of Ocean Addition East, near the Forest in Great Exuma on August 2 last year.

Police said at the time that Mr Ferguson had died when his truck ran off the road and hit a utility pole, however, his relatives raised suspicions about the accident theory and have claimed the accident "staged."

They publicly refuted the police's version of events and called for further investigations to determine the real cause of Mr Ferguson's death.

Police asserted that Mr Ferguson died of a head injury with fracture of the skull bone, which is "not inconsistent with the history of death due to a road traffic accident."

Their theory suggested that Mr Ferguson, driving alone, either stuck his head out of the window to spit, or slumped his head out of the window after falling asleep at the wheel, when the company truck he was driving swerved several feet to the left, his head hit a utility pole, and his truck turned back onto

## PRESTON FERGUSON INQUEST TO OPEN TODAY

the road and stopped.

The impact was only forceful enough to create shallow scrape marks along the door and shatter the driver's side window, leaving the rest of the vehicle unaffected, but was significant enough to fracture Mr Ferguson's skull and kill him.

## Object

However, Mr Ferguson's family claim it is far more likely Mr Ferguson was struck in the head with a blunt object while sitting on the passenger's side, or that his already lifeless body was taken to the scene in the passenger's seat.

They believe he was murdered, not just because of the circumstantial evidence they say was not sufficiently recorded or investigated, but they also have an idea of who may

have killed him.

Mr Ferguson's relatives said police failed to investigate the death sufficiently as officers did not question anyone at the scene, aside from a single relative, and disregarded even the two people who first reported discovery of the body when responding to the death.

His family also claimed that police did not secure a crime scene around the truck, or even the truck itself for forensic testing, as it was returned to Mr Ferguson's employer the same day.

Mr Ferguson's body was then dispatched to the hospital and his clothes released without being tested for DNA samples, according to his family.

Photographs, if taken of the crime scene, were left on a camera inside the truck, Mr Ferguson's relatives said.

When their calls for justice were reported in *The Tribune's Insight* a retired New York City

Police Department detective who happened upon the story became enraged after reading the official version of the investigation and offered his expertise on how to handle such a crime scene.

He said responding officers must be alert, observant and display rigorous attention to detail. They must document photograph and retain every possible piece of evidence, and do their utmost to preserve the crime scene from contamination. They must also observe and question everyone on the scene, as well as anyone who might have the slightest possible connection to the case. All this should be done before any conclusions are drawn, the former detective said.

Mr Ferguson, who was employed at Grand Isle Villas as a Landscaping Supervisor, was a father of one and the youngest of 12 children.

His family have pushed for a full investigation into his death and will attend the inquest opening in George Town today. The hearing will be covered by *The Tribune*.

Relatives of Mr Ferguson did not wish to comment on the inquest yesterday.

## Lawyers rapped by judge appear to have escaped punishment

### FROM page one

real estate developers Arawak Homes sought to prove their title to the 156-acre tract of land in the Pinewood Gardens area which Senior Justice Lyons ruled had been fraudulently obtained by John Sands, with the help of his attorney Leon Smith of Smith, Smith and Co, and sold to unsuspecting Bahamians subsequently evicted from their properties.

Mr Rolle represented John Sands as the first defendant against Arawak Homes in the case, while lawyer James Thompson represented second defendant Smith, Smith and Co. In his ruling, Senior Justice Lyons noted the misconduct of both defence attorneys as they repeatedly sought to disrupt proceedings.

He forwarded copies of his judgment and trial transcripts to the Bar Association for disciplinary action, the Attorney General for contempt action and the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP) for investigation concerning any breach of the Penal Code.

However Arawak Homes reported: "Arawak is not aware that any of the above institutions have acted on the findings of the Supreme Court or that any of these matters have been investigated."

And when *The Tribune* made inquiries to the relevant bodies last week, no evidence was presented to contradict Arawak's suggestion.

## Copy

A copy of the ruling obtained by *The Tribune* details the extent of what the senior judge described as the attorneys' misconduct.

Before the trial started Mr Thompson, with the support of Mr Rolle, called for the judge to recuse himself from the hearing because of his apparent bias, a request Senior Justice Lyons dismissed.

The pair then filed a counterclaim against Arawak Homes' attorneys Paul Adderley and Sharon Wilson and Co, claiming they had conspired with Arawak Homes for at least 18 years to commit a fraud on the court.

"This type of allegation is probably the most serious one can make against a fellow lawyer," Justice Lyons said.

"This was a preposterous and audacious claim with absolutely no foundation in fact or law," he said.

He viewed the action as serious misconduct as they attempted to have Arawak's attorneys removed just 16 days before the trial was due to begin, and the judge only allowed them to proceed, "under vigilant

observation by me and at their own peril."

But the pair further sought to disrupt proceedings by threatening to walk out when the judge dismissed their submissions and they were informed they had no right to go directly to the Court of Appeal before a ruling had been delivered in the case, the judge ruled.

Senior Justice Lyons noted how Mr Rolle made an application which seemed to be just, "a cynical and contemptuous attempt to stall the trial," and he expressed concerns the attorney was, "being led into an area of considerable peril," by closely following counsel for the second defendant, and found himself in "treacherous waters" by ignoring the judge's guidance.

Justice Lyons said: "It certainly crossed my mind that the defendants were doing all in their power, fair or foul, to scuttle these proceedings."

"At first they attacked counsel for the plaintiffs. When that did not work, they attacked the judge."

"Then, when that did not work, they attacked the justice system by walking out, but not before expressing the view that the court was 'a nullity'."

In his judgment, Senior Justice Lyons said: "It is also undeniably part of a judge's function to see to it that counsel conduct themselves properly and professionally."

"It is part of a judge's function also to deal with any instances where counsel may be misconducting themselves."

"Sometimes this is dealt with on the spot. Sometimes in serious cases such behaviour is referred to the Bar Association or the Attorney General, or in rare cases, to the Director of Prosecutions."

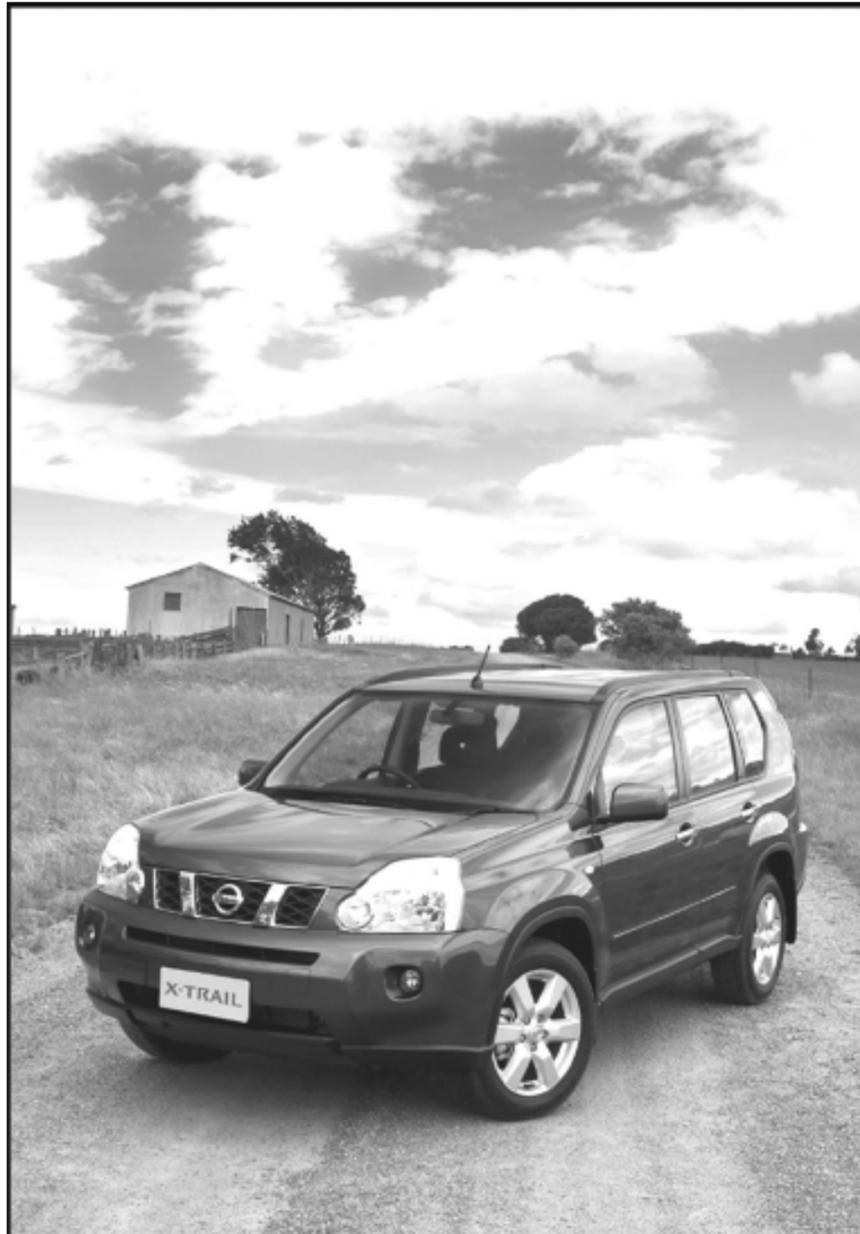
Justice Lyons forwarded copies of the ruling to all three bodies and further ordered that access to the case file be controlled as there was a, "strong incentive for documents to go 'missing' or be destroyed."

Bar Association president Ruth Bowe-Darville said she was unable to review the file last week, but would locate it today to discuss the matter with the ethics committee.

"I will not speak on the matter unless and until I am properly and reliably informed on the matter," she said.

Newly appointed DPP Vinette Graham-Allen has not yet responded to inquiries about what was done in the aftermath of the judgment or what can now be done, and Attorney General John Delaney declined to comment on the matter last week.

He passed the inquiry on to Permanent Secretary Archie Nairn before leaving the country. Mr Nairn was unable to provide information on the matter or comment in the Attorney General's absence.



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LOCAL NEWS

# Ministry informs St. John's College PTA on road projects underway



**QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION:** A St. John's College parent participates in the question and answer segment of the presentation by the Ministry of Public Works and Transport on the New Providence Road Improvement Project.



**By KATHRYN CAMPBELL**  
Bahamas Information Services

Nassau, The Bahamas – Continuing its efforts to inform and educate the public on the New Providence Road Improvement Infrastructure Projects, the Ministry of Public Works and Transport extended its public relations campaign to the Parents Teachers Association of St. John's College.

**KEY ADDRESS:** Charlene Collie-Harris addresses parents and teachers of St. John's College on the New Providence Road Improvement Project.

Charlene Collie-Harris, civil engineer and public relations representative for the road projects, told parents and teachers that the objective is to make the driving experience easier for all motorists. She urged them to change their attitude toward driving and work together with the Ministry of Works in its efforts to improve the road network. Borrowing a phrase from a banner erected on a wall in the school's auditorium she said, "Attitude is everything."

Ms. Collie-Harris said the Ministry's mandate is to build roads with proper infrastructure and work in conjunction with utility companies to install drainage. She said, "Be courteous, plan your journeys and exercise patience."

The six-legged roundabout opened on August 30 at the intersection of John F Kennedy Drive/Bethel Avenue/Farrington Road and Thompson Boulevard is still under construction and motorists will not see its full capacity at this time, she said.

"Major utility works are being carried out and traffic must move at all times as we improve roads. Road closures must happen to avoid unsafe areas," she said. There are presently no plans to open the existing Bethel Avenue (closed at the northern entrance) as it was not designed to take the high volume of traffic that previously traversed that corridor.

"Bethel Avenue is a sub-division. The new highway was built for the load and volume that Bethel Avenue previously carried. We're building proper roadways so we can return neighbourhoods back to the people who live in them."

She said the Ministry of Works is presently preparing a public bus unification programme, a school bus programme and other initiatives including maintenance of roads. "Too much time is spent focusing on the roads and not the transportation system," she added.

Patrick Hanna/BIS Photos

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**Energy efficiency to cut hotel power consumption 53%**



FRANK COMITO

By ALISON LOWE  
Business Reporter  
[alowe@tribunemedia.net](mailto:alowe@tribunemedia.net)

Bahamian hotels, which consume about 40 per cent of the electricity generated in this country, could cut up to 53 per cent of that consumption if they were to implement energy efficiency measures, the Bahamas Hotel Association's executive vice-president has revealed.

Based on audits of 18 hotels conducted in late 2009 and early this year, and reviews of potential savings from the implementation of energy conservation and efficiency efforts, it was concluded that while many hoteliers often complain about the high cost of power in the Bahamas, "considerable opportunities exist" for them to cut back

**SEE page 6B**

**Kerzner rumours still swirl**

By NEIL HARTNELL  
Tribune Business Editor

Despite Kerzner International's adamant denial last week that the Atlantis and One & Only Ocean Club Owner is not for sale, rumours and speculation continue to swirl, with claims being made to this newspaper that other suitors are also interested.

Apart from BMB Group, a firm with connections to the Brunei Royal Family, making an unsolicited \$3.4 billion all-cash bid that was rejected, one message sent to Tribune Business last night suggested that other parties potentially interested in Kerzner International included the Qatar Investment Authority, billionaire Las Vegas developer Steve Wynn and China Investment Corp, another Chinese government-owned entity.

There is nothing to suggest there is any truth in such rumours and sugges-

**SEE page 7B**

**'Best of class' will fill 1,500 room rise**

■ Baha Mar argues that multiple brand strategy, targeting different markets with own sales, marketing and loyalty networks, gives project best shot at filling \$2.6bn project's new rooms

■ Hyatt completes Cable Beach resort line-up, branding 700-room hotel and 200,000 square foot convention centre, plus 600-unit timeshare complex

■ Operator believes 35-40% of occupancy will come from groups its network brings to Bahamas, with 12-15% of occupancy coming from loyalty programme clients

■ Developer rebuts PM on 3,500 new rooms, saying net increase will be 1500-1600, given 700 rooms at Wyndham and Nassau Beach taken out two years ago

■ Casino brand and hotel partner search now set to start

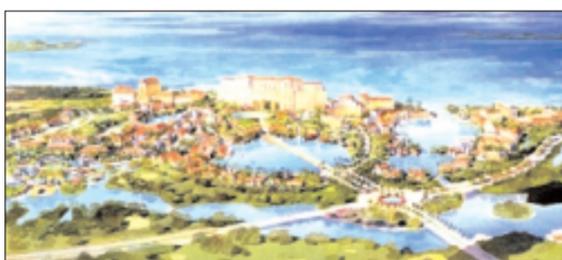
By NEIL HARTNELL  
Tribune Business Editor

Baha Mar believes its revised "best of class" hotel brand strategy will give it the best shot to fill a net 1,500-1,600 room inventory increase when its \$2.6 billion Cable Beach redevelopment is completed, confirming to Tribune Business that the resort line-up was complete through the selection of Hyatt to manage the 700-room convention property.



DON ROBINSON

Don Robinson, Baha Mar



THE ORIGINAL rendering of the Baha Mar project.

Ltd's president, in an exclusive interview with Tribune Business, revealed that the developer had "probably talked to 20 different hotel brands" before settling on Rosewood

Hotels & Resorts, Morgans Hotel Group and Hyatt to complete its resort line-up, with the search for the casino brand/casino

**SEE page 8B**

**Bahamas broker: 'Next to zero effect' from SEC closure**

LOM Bahamas settles with US regulator, neither admitting nor denying allegations

By NEIL HARTNELL  
Tribune Business Editor

A Bahamian broker/dealer said the Friday settlement it and its parent group had reached with the Securities & Exchange Commission (SEC) would have "next to zero effect on our business" in this nation, since it had not opened any US client accounts since 2001.

Craig Lines, head of LOM (Bahamas), said the company and its ultimate parent, Bermuda-based LOM (Holdings), were "glad to get behind us" the SEC's allegations that they had committed securities fraud by "manipulating the stock prices of [two] publicly traded shell companies".

Describing the company's relief at settling an almost two-year court case that was filed against the firms by the "800-pound gorilla" of the SEC, Mr Lines told Tribune Business: "We're glad to get

it behind us. I think it's a reasonable outcome considering it's been a number of years. We're just glad to get it behind us and move forward.

"We're positively looking forward to expanding and developing our new business

**SEE page 7B**

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

**100-job 'wave' from energy testing ground**

- \* Water-based kinetic energy technology eyed for Spring 2011 testing and manufacturing in Grand Bahama, having gained Letter of Intent from GB Power
- \* Dallas-based company and Bahamian partner say if commercial viability proven, over \$0.10 per kilowatt hour knocked off consumer bills from fuel removal
- \* Full manufacturing could create over 100 jobs, with Freeport being eyed as export hub and earner if product mass-produced
- \* Prototype manufacturing talks with Grand Bahama Shipyard and QSL

By NEIL HARTNELL  
Tribune Business Editor

Grand Bahama is being eyed as a 2011 first half testing ground for a unique technology that aims to generate electricity from ocean wave kinetic energy, the project's Bahamian partner telling Tribune Business that if commercial viability was proven it could create up to 100 manufacturing jobs in Freeport coupled with export production.

Scott Albury, president of Neptune Wave Power (Caribbean), speaking to Tribune Business at last week's Caribbean Renewable Energy Forum (CREF), said the \$3-\$4 million research and development (R&D) phase of the company's project was scheduled to start in early 2011, with a 90-day testing cycle anticipated to begin at the first quarter

**SEE page 4B**

**Merged distributor to have 9,000 SKUs**

By NEIL HARTNELL  
Tribune Business Editor

The "merger" between Bahamas Food Services and Prime Bahamas will create a company with around 9,000 product lines (SKUs) and 350 employees, the former's general manager has confirmed to Tribune Business, likely making it the largest food wholesaler/distributor in the Bahamas by far.

Telling this newspaper

**SEE page 5B**

- \* Enlarged Bahamas Food Services to have over 350 employees, with wholesaler looking to exploit size to cut costs, improve economies of scale and product source better
- \* 'Lot of upside' to deal, with product line rationalisation likely to happen
- \* BFS looking to use it as springboard for further 'value-added ventures', including fresh produce plans involving Bahamian farmers

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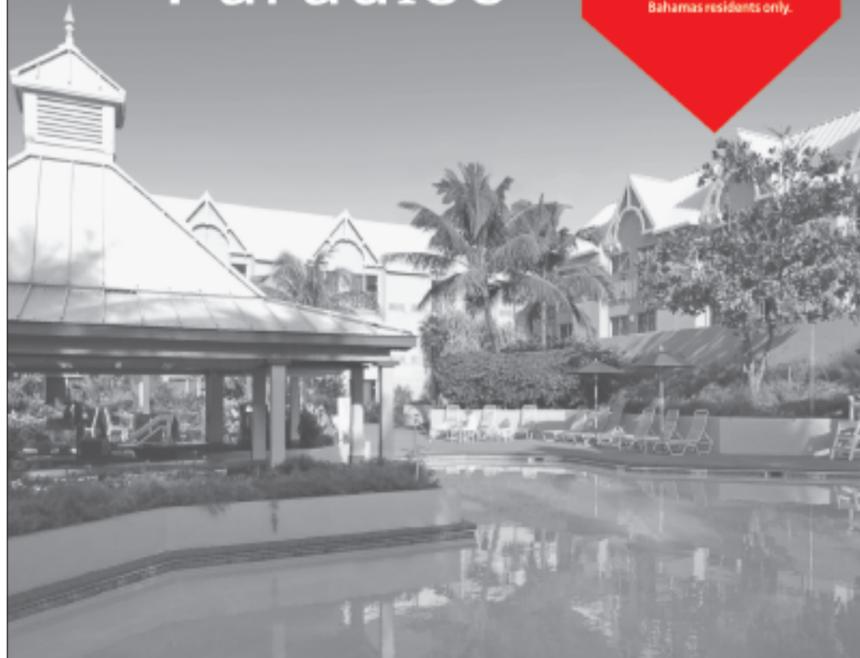
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## BUSINESS

# URCA awaits energy sector 'timetable'

By **ALISON LOWE**  
Business Reporter  
Alowe@Tribunemedia.net



**USMAN SADAAT**

The Utilities Regulation and Competition Authority (URCA) is looking for "early sight of a timetable" within which it will be expected to regulate the Bahamas' energy sector, in addition to its current oversight of communications, its chief executive said.

Usman Sadaat said that while many of the skill sets and activities involved in the regulation of the communications sector overlap with that required for energy, the regulator would expect to hire individuals who have energy industry-related experience.

During the Caribbean Renewable Energy Forum, hosted at Atlantis last week, recommendations were revealed by National Energy Policy committee chairman, Phillip Weech, and others, that URCA must be part and parcel of moves to bring more renewable energy sources into the Bahamas' power generation mix.

It is envisaged that URCA would take on responsibility for monitoring and regulating new power producers, whether it be utility scale wind, solar or wave energy, for example, or power generated by residential consumers through solar panels or other small-scale technologies - as well as promoting renewable energy and efficiency.

Under recommendations put to the Government by the National Energy Policy Committee, it is expected that new legislation and regulations governing the energy sector in the Bahamas will be implemented to encompass the generation transition that is forecast.

Speaking at the forum, Mr Weech suggested that within "eight to 18 months" of the Government approving the NEPC's recommendations on

(to government)."

He added: "Today we don't have the sector skills for energy, for example, so we need an indication from the Government as well as to when they think they want us to take the responsibility and then work backwards to start looking at the internal resources that are required."

"There will be a lot of synergy between some of the things, because we have lawyers, economists and the form of regulation..... even within communication and energy there's some overlap, so you can use the same skill sets and experiences in communication and energy. But there's no substitute for having people who have been through the industry as part of their career, so there will definitely be a need for additional resources."

Mr Sadaat noted that the benefit to the consumer from URCA taking over regulation - as it has been forecast to take over regulation of BEC, too - is that there is a "separation of ownership and regulation".

"So, today, BEC is both the operator as well as the regulator, or in some cases the Government is the regulator. With a change in responsibility, what it does is a lot of issues that affect consumers, most importantly, price, are going to be determined through regulatory reviews rather than just through BEC or the Government."

"Secondly, if you look at some of the things that need reform, there's been a lot of talk in the conference about people being able to do some sort of self-generation in the home - whether it's through water heaters etc - and we need to ensure that the legislation helps such initiatives. Then, the role of the regulator is also to promote use of such renewable energy in the future."

Mr Sadaat said URCA will continue to do preparatory work, and has been "actively engaged in some of the work of Fichtner and feeding into some of those recommendations that are in the reports

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Applications should be submitted to:  
Human Resources Department  
P.O. Box N-4928  
Nassau, Bahamas  
or via fax 356-8148

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF APPLICATIONS IS: OCTOBER 21, 2010

# Renewable energy a big 'no brainer'

By ALISON LOWE  
Tribune Staff Reporter  
alowe@tribunemedia.net

Taking advantage of renewable energy such as sun, wind and ocean tides to create power is a "no-brainer" for the Bahamas, and offers "loads of opportunities" to Bahamian professionals, according to a director of the Bahamas Society of Engineers.

Engineer LaToya Johnson said the Bahamas Society of Engineers chose to become a sponsor of the Caribbean Renewable Energy Forum, and have a stall there to promote Bahamian engineering, so it could take back information to its membership on renewable energy and energy efficiency from top stakeholders in the industry.

"We wanted to have a presence for our local engineers who are in the area, and we wanted to see what was going on in the region concerning renewable energy, which is important for everybody, but particularly important for our country. We can take that information back to our membership, which is about 250 engineers," she said.

"There's a lot of opportu-

nities out there. The main thing is we have so much at our fingertips in the Bahamas. As an engineer I look around every day and think why aren't we using what God has given us, and which some people wish they have. We have sun all year round, we have the water all around us because we're islands and it's not far to get it, and we have wind. It's a no-brainer. Why aren't we using the things that God has given us for free instead of going and buying something in order to create what it is we need to use (power)."

## Interest

As to whether engineers have been seeing more interest from Bahamian businesses and homeowners seeking to implement renewable and energy efficient technologies, Ms Johnson said: "I think people are interested in it, I just don't think that people know what's available and out there to them, so I think this conference is a great place to be able to share information so people can learn and know."

"Information is the key. If you don't know if you are

ignorant about it then you can't make decisions. So we are here to hear what people are doing in different countries.

"Sometimes we just think that because we are a smaller country it may be so remote to us, that we may not have the resources to do it, and then you come here and talk to other countries who are making it happen and making it work, so then you say: 'Well why aren't we doing it? Why don't we jump on the bandwagon and try it out?'"

The BSE Director said she supports the Government moving as quickly as possible to implement leg-

islation and regulations which will facilitate the entry of renewable technology into the Bahamas, as well as involving stakeholders like the BSE in its formation.

"The people with the red tape hold things up, and at the same time the world is still moving forward, the barrels of oil are still increasing in cost and you never know when it's going to get out of control like it did two years ago when the prices went through the roof and everyone was impacted by it. We need to move on and see what we can do to get ourselves aligned with the world moving forward," said Ms Johnson.

## COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS 2010

IN THE SUPREME COURT No. 1323

### Equity

#### NOTICE

The Petition of **LEYVON AND JOYCELYN MILLER** is in respect of the following parcel of land:-

**ALL THAT** piece or parcel or tract of land containing a total acreage of Seven Thousand Six Hundred and Eight (7,608) square feet situate in a Subdivision called and known as Englerston Subdivision in the Central District of the Island of New Providence, one of the Islands of The Commonwealth of The Bahamas.

Copies of the filed plan may be inspected during the formal hours at:-

- (a) The Registry of The Supreme Court, Ansbacher House, East Street North, Nassau, Bahamas, and;
- (b) The Chambers of Kingdom Advocates & Associates, Rosetta Street, Palmdale, Nassau, Bahamas.

Notice is hereby given that any person having right to dower or any adverse claim not recognized in the Petition shall within thirty (30) days after the last day on which the appearance of the Notice herein filed in the Registry of The Supreme Court and serve on the Petitioner or the undersigned a statement of such claim. Failure of any such person to file and serve a statement of such claim and requisite documents within thirty (30) days herein will operate as a bar to such claim.

Dated this 15<sup>th</sup> day of July, A.D., 2010

**YOLANDA K.J. ROLLE**

*Attorney for the Petitioner*

(D. 15, 17, 19)

## NOTICE

### The Pilot House Management Company Ltd

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All offers should be in writing and tendered in sealed envelopes by **Friday, October 29, 2010** at the offices of **Seymour & Co., 101 East Hill Place, P.O. Box N-9965, Nassau, The Bahamas - attention Mr Kirk Seymour.**

These sales are subject to a reserve price and the right is reserved to reject any or all offers.

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BUSINESS

FROM page 1B

100-job 'wave' from energy testing ground

ter end/second quarter start. Mr Albury, who is also president of Atlantic Jet Management, an aviation consulting and management company, said the project had received a Letter of Intent from Grand Bahama Power

Company, pledging to purchase its electricity if the project's commercial viability was proven. Adding that support had

also been received from Earl Deveaux, minister of the environment, and Phenton Neymour, minister of state for the environment, plus the Bahamas Electricity Corporation (BEC), Mr Albury said Neptune's technology would completely eliminate the \$0.10-plus per kilowatt hour fuel surcharge attached to Bahamian electricity bills, since it used no fuel.

Bahama Shipyard and QSL over the contract to construct the first test buoy, while Grand Bahama Power chief executive, Alan Kelley, had been "very co-operative in supporting our efforts." "We have a Letter of Intent with Grand Bahama Power," Mr Kelley said. "They've agreed to help us any way they can."

Construction of the buoy, which will contain the kinetic energy-producing technology, is scheduled to take place in Spring next year, with deployment in the waters off Grand Bahama for a 90-day testing cycle to follow shortly.

If testing proved successful, Mr Albury said Neptune would move to construct an "array" of three-four buoys to further determine commercial viability, and added: "We need to two-three feet of sea water in order to be 80 per cent efficient with the buoy."

"It's all designed to feed power into the grid and save on power costs. This thing doesn't need fuel." Moving to mass production, though, will depend on the testing results, available financing, likely costs and the returns in terms of how much electricity the buoys can produce, and the Mega Watts (MW) demanded by customers.

Not to mention the Government permitting and sea

bed leases required.

Yet, if all went swimmingly, Mr Albury said of Neptune's Grand Bahama manufacturing potential: "We think there'll certainly be in excess of 100 people involved in manufacturing when this gets up to the scale of commercial viability."

"We're also talking, and this will be an important part of the process, that we think there will be an opportunity to export this product from the Bahamas to other Caribbean countries from the Harbour in Freeport."

Tax

The would tie into the tax and duty-free incentives provided under the Hawksbill Creek Agreement, and involve using the Freeport Container Port for export purposes as originally envisaged.

Mr Albury described Grand Bahamas as "the stepping stone".

While Neptune's first potential customer would be there, it could then move on to service BEC's needs throughout the Bahamas, looking at both New Providence and the Family Islands, before eyeing further afield.

Asked about how much savings, in terms of reduced energy costs, could potentially be passed on to Bahamian

consumers by technology such as Neptune's, Mr Albury replied that this was a difficult question to answer, since the renewable energy industry believed that "voided costs" applied to much more than just fuel cost elimination.

But, assuming that technologies such as Neptune's just eliminated fuel costs, Mr Albury said the savings would still be in excess of \$0.10 per kilowatt hour.

"The numbers will only go up from that point," he said.

Mr Albury added that the "most exciting" aspect of the Neptune project was that it brought R&D and new technology to both Freeport and Grand Bahama, something that was currently in short supply.

"All of this is unproven technology and that, for me, is the most exciting part of it - to bring R & D to the Bahamas, as we don't have a lot of it going on, if any at all," he told Tribune Business.

Neptune's technology generated electricity through the kinetic energy generated from a buoy bobbing back and forth, and did not rely on tidal or wave power, he added. While Grand Bahama's use as the testing ground was "not chiselled in stone yet", Mr Albury believed the CREF conference had helped to convince the Dallas-based principals they were going to the correct location.

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Succeeded

Explaining that Neptune was a Dallas-based company with whom he had been working for two years, Mr Albury said he had succeeded in bringing its officials to Grand Bahama to assess what the island had to offer.

Following three to four trips to the island, and the receipt of financing for its RDA phase, Mr Albury said Neptune was moving to build its first energy-producing buoy, and deploy it, in Grand Bahama.

Talks were being held, he added, with both Grand

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Table with market data including BIX LISTED & TRADED SECURITIES AS OF: TUESDAY, 12 OCTOBER 2010. BIX ALL SHARE INDEX: CLOSE 1,508.82 | CHG -0.07 | % CHG 0.00 | YTD -56.56 | YTD % -3.61. Includes sections for Security, Mutual Funds, and Market Terms.

NOTICE. NOTICE is hereby given that FLORANCE DORCEUS of FORT FINCASTLE, P.O. BOX N-13647 is applying to the Minister responsible for Nationality and Citizenship, for registration/naturalization as a citizen of The Bahamas, and that any person who knows any reason why registration/naturalization should not be granted, should send a written and signed statement of the facts within twenty-eight days from the 18th day of October, 2010 to the Minister responsible for Nationality and Citizenship, P.O.Box N-7147, Nassau, Bahamas. Green Leaf Mortgage Brokers & Financial Service. Making homeownership affordable to every wallet!!! READY TO START SAVING!!! Homeowners can save hundreds of dollars every month by consolidating the entire bill into on for one low monthly payment with the lowest interest rates available in the Bahamas. "We specialize in mortgages that fit your life style" A. Low down payment for those who qualify B. Affordable rates and flexible terms C. Loans for homes or refinancing D. Free pre-approvals. Call for a free consultation at 356-0822 or visit us on line www.greenleafaffnancials.com

## BUSINESS

## FROM page 1B

# Merged distributor to have 9,000 SKUs

that there was "a lot of upside" to the deal, Don Carnine confirmed that following Bahamas Food Services' acquisition of Prime's assets and inventory in a deal that closed on Friday, the enlarged company would seek to exploit its size through better product sourcing - something that might reduce consumer prices - and gaining economies of scale to reduce costs.

The two companies had been talking "for about a year" before consummating their tie-up, and Mr Carnine said that given the similarities between their customer bases and product lines, the focus going forward was on "how to combine our sales forces to serve the Bahamas better and continue to grow the business".

"We're very excited and Prime brings very positive things to the table. It's a very good move on behalf of both companies," Mr Carnine told Tribune Business. "It's a real good thing for both companies to do this thing during these economic times."

"Prime has about 1,100 items they carry, SKUs (stockkeeping units), and we've got a little over 8,000 SKUs. We have about 300 employees, and have asked all 42 of the employees at Prime Bahamas to come on board with us."

The Bahamas Food Services general manager said a transition period would now have to take place, with the enlarged company having to rationalise the SKUs, inventory and product lines it distributed, given that many were similar.

"We just have to pretty much let the dust settle right now," Mr Carnine told Tribune Business. "We are in

the process of transferring inventory, and will be starting at SKU level as soon as we get everything on board, seeing how the inventory covers the market on a turnover basis.

"As for the customer sales, with Prime coming on board they bring in some very good lines, and the way they market their brands will definitely help Bahamas Food Services with their sales growth."

Praising Prime Bahamas for "doing an outstanding job" with the marketing and sale of the Tropicana drinks brand, Mr Carnine said an obvious area for cost savings was delivery and transportation, since the enlarged company could service customers via one delivery

truck - rather than two, as they had when they were separate.

Rather than engage two delivery drivers and two helpers to deliver to the same customer five-six days per week, Mr Carnine said Bahamas Food Services would have to engage just one of each to deliver a potentially wider selection of brands. And, with one vehicle involved, insurance and gasoline costs were also reduced.

He added that Prime brought "some very good sales people, marketing, accounting and IT people", who would be "particularly helpful to us". Then there was the extra purchasing power the enlarged Bahamas Food Services

and take on additional product, with different distribution network opportunities. We can grow and continue to employ more people."

Mr Carnine said one such venture Bahamas Food Services was eyeing was a "value-added venture on fresh produce", tapping into the Bahamian agriculture market in a venture that would benefit local farmers and get them involved in the food processing/supply process.

"I know that what it's all about is delivering what the customer wants and the customer expects, and bringing in what the customer wants at the best prices possible. That's what we're all about, keeping the economy growing and sustaining it," Mr Carnine added.

He told Tribune Business that the recession had impacted Bahamas Food Services' top-line sales, due to the lower occupancy rates and business levels at its key hotel and restaurant customers, but the Bahamian retail market had acted to cushion this.

Garland Evans, Prime Bahamas' proprietor, told Tribune Business last week that a combination of the poor economy and himself "running out of gas" prompted him to conclude the deal with Bahamas Food Services as a way to secure the future for the majority, if not all, his employees. He hinted that if the deal had not been done he would have to "let a lot of people go".

LEGAL NOTICE

## NOTICE

### LEGACY BAHAMAS LIMITED

Pursuant to the Provisions of Section 138 (8) of the International Business Companies Act 2000 notice is hereby given that the above-named Company has been dissolved and struck off the Register pursuant to a Certificate of Dissolution issued by the Registrar General on the 28th day of September, 2010.

MICHELLE MINNIS

Liquidator  
of  
LEGACY BAHAMAS LIMITED

## WORLD STATISTICS DAY

The Ministry of Finance and the Intersectorial World Statistics Day Committee Invite You to Celebrate World Statistics Day with Us

**Under the Theme:  
"Celebrating the Many  
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Statistics"**

Wednesday, October 20, 2010  
9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

**Sheraton Nassau Beach Resort, Cable Beach**

You are also invited to view an exhibition held by various agencies of government at Centre Court at the Mall-at-Marathon, from Thursday October 21 to Saturday October 23.

**DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS**



**THE COLLEGE OF THE BAHAMAS**

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## VACANCIES Academic Administration

Applications are invited from suitably qualified persons for the positions of:-

**Dean, Faculty of Social and Educational Studies**  
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Successful candidates will be responsible for providing leadership of a Faculty, overall operation of schools, personnel matters, planning, budgeting, programme development and other academic matters. Candidates must have earned a doctoral degree from an accredited university, have held the rank of associate professor or higher, have a minimum of six years tertiary level teaching experience, a demonstrated collaborative approach to academic governance and a working knowledge of institutional academic policies.

For detailed job descriptions please visit: [www.cob.edu.bs/hrapply](http://www.cob.edu.bs/hrapply). Interested candidates should submit a detailed resume and cover letter of interest no later than Friday, October 29th, 2010.



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## BUSINESS

FROM page 1B

# Energy efficiency to cut hotel power consumption 53%

significantly on their usage. Frank Comito revealed the findings of energy audits conducted between November 2009 and February 2010 on "small, medium and large" hotels throughout the Bahamas on the closing day of the Caribbean Renewable Energy forum on Friday. Mr Comito spoke on a panel entitled *Energy Efficiency: Policy, regulation and financing*. The possibility to cut back on the use of fossil fuel-generated power, and the related cost of conservation and efficiency measures, was repeatedly referred to throughout

CREF by panellists as the "low hanging fruit" in the sustainable energy equation, as in many cases the latter requires little to no capital investment, or significantly less capital investment than the implementation of renewable technologies to generate power. This, it was felt, could result in dramatic shifts in power demand.

Mr Comito said the audit and review of energy management measures at Bahamian hotels - facilitated by the BHA, financed by the Inter-

American Development Bank and conducted by Government-contracted consultants, Fichtner - supported this assertion, revealing that there was "plenty of room" for improvement in the country's main industry in terms of hoteliers considering and implementing energy-efficient practices and technologies to their benefit.

The audits firstly took into consideration the facilities that used the most power within hotels. Air conditioning and other ventilation aver-

age 50 per cent of all power usage; hot water heating, 17 to 25 per cent; kitchens, 10 to 15 per cent; and lighting largely the remainder.

Electricity costs "per hotel room" were said to average \$37 when usage of facilities around the hotel by the customer were factored in. "We are told this is much higher per room than you'll find in North America and Europe," said Mr Comito.

## Lighting

In an assessment of "good practices" employed by hotels, the auditors found that 90 per cent of hotels used energy efficient lighting, although it was not clear to what extent. Mr Comito said this shift was stimulated by a government move to reduce duty on non-incandescent bulbs around three years ago, which made it a cheap way for hotels to save.

"Ninety per cent of them do staff awareness and staff engagement activities to get them to be more conservation oriented.

"Seventy per cent of them use liquefied natural gas to power some of their equipment.

"Only 45 per cent do scheduled equipment maintenance, which surprised many of us, 45 per cent use natural shading, curtains etcetera, 45 per cent have their air conditioning at a good set point and calibration, 33 per cent have non-heated pools and 33 per cent use air conditioning motion detectors," said Mr Comito.

Meanwhile, the executive vice-president said the audit discovered that only 22 per cent of hotels monitored their overall electricity usage, 16 per cent use solar water heaters, and only 11 per cent have energy management systems in place.

"So you're getting the idea that there's plenty of opportunity for savings potential," said Mr Comito.

The BHA executive said

there are a lot more things that his organization and the Bahamas Chamber of Commerce believe can be done from the Government's side to stimulate a shift to efficiency, such as by reducing the duty on many pieces of equipment or their components that help save energy.

Mr Comito said the BHA and the Chamber made recommendations that import duties be reduced on more than 80 items for this reason.

Other key recommendations made to the Government are that consideration must be given to putting in place a financing mechanism which would assist small hoteliers, in particular, in paying the upfront cost of implementing energy efficient equipment that would ultimately help them reduce their costs and power demand.

The implementation of net-metering - providing for electricity generated by consumers through renewable means to be fed back into the power grid in exchange for cash or credits on their regular utility bill - has been included as a recommendation in the latest draft report to the Government from the National Energy Policy Committee, and is supported by the BHA and Chamber as a means of stimulating energy efficiency.

"There are some low cost energy efficiency measures that could pay back within about two years within the existing framework.

"Some of the key policy recommendations that have been advanced could reduce that pay back period even more," said Mr Comito.

The BHA and Chamber have further requested that consideration be given to changing the current regime where hotels are charged for electricity based on meter readings of their peak usage taken by the Bahamas Electricity Corporation and the Grand Bahama Power Company only once a year, a factor which is considered to be

another "barrier" to energy efficiency in hotels.

"We believe readings should be done monthly or quarterly," said Mr Comito, who said the BHA believes that more collaboration and coordination between utility companies and those in the industry on increasing energy efficiency is key in general.

In an interview with The Tribune after his presentation, Mr Comito said the

BHA received positive feedback from hotels on the audits but is aware that hoteliers are not inclined at present to spend on capital projects, even if it means saving money in the future. However, he feels this will change as the economy improves.

"The feedback we got from a number of them was that they found the audits very useful and, at a minimum, they found a number of small things they could do so that they are more efficient. Some of them indicated they would begin to put some of these things in place," Mr Comito said.

"The challenge of putting some of the more high-cost items in place is lack of cash flow for capital investments and improvements, the high duties to bring these things in if it's equipment related and then you couple that with the economy it's a tough environment to do those things."

Speaking after Mr Comito on the panel, Loreto Duffy-Mayers, project manager for the Caribbean Hotel Energy Efficiency Action Programme (CHENACT), provided the findings of audits conducted in the Barbadian hotel sector, which provide evidence that Bahamian hoteliers are not alone in their presently inefficient usage of electricity.

Ms Duffy-Mayers said the CHENACT auditors "discovered some things which scared us a little bit" during their assessment.

"Operational efficiency in the hotels is very, very poor, maintenance not good at all....there is a lack of understanding of technology and a lack of knowledge of base-lines (of power usage)," she said.

## NOTICE

**IN THE ESTATE OF MABEL EILEEN PATRICIA KERR** late of Shirley Street in the Eastern District of the Island of New Providence, one of the Islands in the Commonwealth of The Bahamas, Deceased.

**NOTICE** is hereby given that all persons having any claims or demands against the above-named Estate are requested to send the same duly certified to the undersigned on or before Friday the 12<sup>th</sup> day of November 2010 after which the Personal Representative will proceed to distribute the assets of the Deceased among the persons entitled thereto having regard only to the claims of which the Personal Representative shall then have had notice.

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

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

**Attorneys for the Personal Representative**

## SECURITIES COMMISSION OF THE BAHAMAS

### PUBLIC NOTICE

No. 7 of 2010      12<sup>th</sup> October 2010

## Re: UNLICENSED FCSP OPERATORS

This **NOTICE** is issued by the Inspector of Financial and Corporate Services (the Inspector) pursuant to its authority under Section 11(3) of the Financial and Corporate Service Providers Act, Chapter 369 (the Act). The Securities Commission of The Bahamas (the Commission) was appointed as the Inspector on January 1, 2008 and is therefore responsible for ensuring all persons operate in accordance with the Act, which provides for the licensing and regulation of Financial and Corporate Service Providers (FCSPs).

The Inspector advises further to its Notice, No. 6 of 2010 dated 10<sup>th</sup> September, 2010 (the Notice) wherein unlicensed operators were directed to immediately cease and desist operating and were given thirty (30) days to report to the Inspector. As part of its ongoing efforts to regularise persons who may require a FCSP license, **the general public is HEREBY ADVISED that the thirty day period given in the Notice is extended by another thirty (30) days commencing from the date of this Public Notice to grant unlicensed operators further opportunity to report to the Inspector.**

The Notice indicates that the Inspector utilises the definition of financial services issued by the WTO and unlicensed operators providing services including, but not limited to, money lending or other forms of credit extension, cash or pay advance, money or mortgage broking or other forms of financial intermediation, escrow and other custodial services should immediately contact the Inspector at the Securities Commission, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Charlotte House, Shirley and Charlotte Streets.

The general public is hereby **AGAIN ADVISED** that all persons operating without a license who fail to submit to the Inspector and/or continue to operate without a license **after** this thirty (30) day period will result in a formal complaint being filed with the police for criminal prosecution.

This notice is not applicable to licensees of the Central Bank of the Bahamas pursuant to section 20 of the Act.

You may contact Mr. Gawaine Ward, Deputy Legal Counsel, at the Securities Commission with any general inquiries concerning this Notice at telephone number 397-4100 or in writing to P.O. Box N-8347, Nassau, The Bahamas or via e-mail: [info@scb.gov.bs](mailto:info@scb.gov.bs)



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### IMPORTANT NOTICE TO OUR CLIENTS WITHIN NEW PROVIDENCE, FREEPORT, ABACO AND THE OTHER FAMILY ISLANDS.

In an effort to arrest the chronic delinquency problem presently facing the Bank, the Bahamas Development Bank is appealing to all delinquent clients and those clients for whom the Bank is presently holding judgment.

#### Delinquent Clients

Delinquent Clients are asked visit the bank during normal banking hours of 9:30am - 4:30pm in an effort to work out a payment or consolidation plan to reduce or eliminate their outstanding amounts.

#### Clients with Judgements Against Them

The Bank is currently preparing action aimed at bringing resolution to these cases. Clients with judgements against them are invited to visit the Bank to work out a permanent resolution before the Bank moves for further final legal action.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS INITIATIVE ENDS OCTOBER 31st 2010, AFTER WHICH THE BANK WILL AGGRESSIVELY MOVE TO RECOVER THE AMOUNTS THAT ARE DUE!

**CLIENTS FALLING IN THE ABOVE CATEGORIES ARE STRONGLY ENCOURAGED TO EMBRACE THIS OPPORTUNITY BY CALLING EXTENSION 5711 THE DEPUTY MANAGING DIRECTOR NO LATER THAN OCTOBER 31st, 2010.**

## FROM page 1B

no hotel partner - the only missing piece in the jigsaw - now set to begin.

Confirming that a Letter of Intent had been signed between Baha Mar and Hyatt for the latter to become the operating/managing partner for Cable Beach's planned 700-room convention resort, plus 200,000 gross square feet of convention space, featuring three ballrooms and various 'break-out' rooms, Mr Robinson said the developer's new multi-brand strategy would maximise its ability to fill the planned extra room inventory at Cable Beach.

He explained to Tribune Business that, rather than just Starwood and its brands promoting the various Cable Beach resorts to a sole client base, Baha Mar would have three top

# 'Best of class' will fill 1,500 room rise

operators with global reach - and their own independent sales and marketing networks, plus loyalty programmes - each targeting a different market niche.

"Originally, the strategy was to do a showcase of Starwood hotels, and at the beginning of this year we made a decision to break that and go out for best in class for each of these hotels," Mr Robinson explained. "What we wanted to do is not put all of our inven-

tory assets into one hotel company's basket.

"Starwood had one reservation system, one marketing programme, one loyalty programme, one sales network. Now, we have three, carrying with them three sales networks, three different loyalty programmes, three different marketing programmes.

"They reach out to different markets throughout the world. Having three companies sell the destination is better than one

company selling the destination, and is better for us."

Providing evidence of how important this strategy was to filling Baha Mar's planned room inventory, Mr Robinson said Hyatt was forecasting that 35-40 per cent of the Cable Beach convention hotel's group business would come from the chain's long-standing convention client list, who it booked into its various resorts around the world each year, selecting a different one every time.

And it was estimated that 12-15 per cent of occupancy would be generated by customers of Baha Mar's various hotel brands choosing to redeem accumulated loyalty points at their resorts in the Bahamas.

"The reason we did this was because we've got multiple brands with multiple loyalty programmes filling their particular hotels," Mr Robinson

said. "When you look at how inventory and occupancy builds up, Hyatt, with the convention hotel, is forecasting 35-40 per cent of that hotel being group business they will bring down. They believe that 35-40 per cent of the hotel and convention centre's business will be groups they bring into the Bahamas."

And a further 12-15 per cent of occupancy would be "people who have brand affinity and loyalty programmes redeeming their loyalty points here..... Those loyalty programmes can drive significant occupancy", a trend that Baha Mar was already seeing at its existing Sheraton property.

## Dispel

Mr Robinson also sought to dispel the impression that the redevelopment would unleash 3,500 new rooms on to the Bahamian hotel market.

Pointing out that the \$2.6 billion project would involve the construction of four new hotels, not six, given that the existing Sheraton and Wyndham properties would remain part of Baha Mar, Mr Robinson told Tribune Business that at completion, the total Cable Beach resort campus would feature only a net inventory increase

of 1,500-1,600 rooms - upon the 2,300 rooms the destination had in operation just two years ago..

This was because Baha Mar, anticipating that construction work on its project would have started two years ago with Harrah's Entertainment as its casino/equity partner, closed both the Nassau Beach Hotel and two towers at the Wyndham (some 300-400 rooms), thus taking 700 total rooms off the market.

"We absolutely intended to replace that inventory with these new hotels," Mr Robinson explained. "We just got caught up in a delay that we did not want. All we're doing is replacing the inventory that Cable Beach began with two years ago."

Describing the importance of securing Hyatt, Mr Robinson said the brand had between 420-430 properties worldwide, using name varieties such as the Grand Hyatt, Park Hyatt and Hyatt Regent.

"This one is probably the most important brand outside the casino," Mr Robinson told Tribune Business. "The size of the property, the size of the convention space, this one was very important to us

"This is the critical one, the one we worked very hard on, and took seriously. This is a big hotel for us, and a good deal for the Bahamas."

Mr Robinson added that Hyatt would also brand and operate/manage the timeshare component to the Baha Mar development. The first phase timeshare development would involve 50 units, but at full build-out this is projected to be 600 units.

"We probably talked to 20 different hotel brands and narrowed it down to these," Mr Robinson said of Rosewood, Morgans and Hyatt. "In some cases it was very close. We had two brands fighting very hard to get this project, and had to make a decision, choosing Hyatt."

Together with the existing Wyndham and Sheraton brands, Baha Mar is planning to have a resort line-up that appeals to all income and taste points, ensuring it touches all segments of the global tourist/travel market.

And, by completing the hotel brand line-up in advance, Mr Robinson indicated that Baha Mar felt it would now be much easier to attract a top-notch casino and casino-hotel partner.

Explaining that the developer had consciously chosen to leave the casino operator to last, he explained that in comparison to resort operators they were relatively few in number, and added: "What a casino hotel company wants to know is who their partners are.

"The brands have to work together. They're all critical and we wanted to be thoughtful about that. We can say to a casino partner: 'The project is financed, under construction, the neighbours will be these. Come in and join us'."

**IN THE ESTATE OF PATRICIA L. FERGUSON** late of #17 Sapphire Ridge San Souci in the Eastern District of the Island of New Providence, Bahamas, deceased.

## NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that all persons having any claim or demand against the said estate are required to send the same duly certified in writing to the undersigned on or before the 29<sup>th</sup> day of October, A.D. 2010, after which date the Administrator will proceed to distribute the estate having regard only to the claims of which he shall have had notice.

AND notice is hereby given that all persons indebted to the estate are required to make full settlement on or before the date hereinabove mentioned.

**CEDRIC L. PARKER & CO.**  
Attorneys for the Executrix  
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Freeport, Grand Bahama, Bahamas  
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1 1/2 cups thick and chunky style salsa  
3 cans (16 oz each) garbanzo beans, drained and rinsed  
1 zucchini, unpeeled and diced  
2/3 cup creamy peanut butter

In a large saucepan, heat vegetable oil over medium-high heat and sauté onions, sweet potato and garlic, stirring occasionally, until onion is softened (about 5 minutes).  
Add chicken broth, thyme, cumin, and rice. Bring to a boil and reduce heat to simmer and cover; simmer 18 - 20 minutes until rice is cooked.  
Add salsa, beans and zucchini; cook until zucchini is tender (about 10 minutes). Add peanut butter and stir until completely combined. Remove from heat.



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## NOTICE

### REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP) FOR SECURITY SERVICES

The National Insurance Board invites Tenders for Security Services for its Properties, located throughout **New Providence and Freeport, Grand Bahama**. Bidders are required to collect a RFP from the Customer Service Desk, located at the National Insurance Board, Clifford Darling Complex, Baillou Hill Road, Nassau, Bahamas, from Monday to Friday, between 9:00 a.m. & 5:00 p.m.

For further information, please contact Mr. Harry P. Oldham, at telephone number 502-1878.

All proposals should be sealed, marked "**Tender for Security Services for the National Insurance Board New Providence and Freeport, Grand Bahama**," and must be **DELIVERED BY HAND** no later than 4:00 p.m., on Friday November 19, 2010, to:

**Mr. Algernon Cargill**  
Office of the Director  
**THE NATIONAL INSURANCE BOARD**  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Clifford Darling Complex  
Baillou Hill Road  
Nassau, Bahamas

The National Insurance Board reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals.

# sports

MONDAY, OCTOBER 18TH, 2010

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Jets  
defeat  
the Pros,  
20-6...

See page 18

# Amertil elevated to bronze

By BRENT STUBBS  
Senior Sports Reporter  
bstubbs@tribunemedia.net

**N**EW DELHI, India — She would have loved to have been afforded the opportunity to stand on the dais at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium and receive her first medal — the bronze at the XIX Commonwealth Games in New Delhi, India.

But Christine Amertil said she's just excited to know that she has been awarded her first Commonwealth Games medal, which came as a result of the positive drug testing of African Folashade Abugan.

Abugan, 20, was the third Nigerian athlete to have failed a drugs test at the Games where she won two silver medals, it was revealed on Friday. She was stripped of both medals after testing positive for the banned anabolic substance testosterone pro hormone.

She came second in the women's 400 meters behind the games' record breaking performance of Amantle Montsho of Botswana (50.10) and ran on Nigeria's 4x400m relay that finished behind the surprised Indian team.

Amertil, when contacted about the result, which placed her behind Montsho and Aliann Pompey of Guyana (51.65 SB), said she found out the news about the suspension of the Nigerian athlete while watching the BBC morning news.

"Initially, I thought I had misread the ticker but after looking it up on-line, I saw that it was true," said Amertil, who finished fourth in the race in 51.96.

"I was of course excited and called my husband right away to share this news with him. It is my first Commonwealth Games medal and whereas I would have liked

to have my opportunity to stand on the podium, the knowledge that I did it cleanly and fairly is enough for me to still be able to enjoy it."

Her room-mate Lavern Eve, the only other female member of the 14-member track team that competed at the games, was just as pleased.

"I feel very happy for her because I know this is something she really wanted (Commonwealth medal)," Eve stressed. "We talked about how she felt after her races and from watching her races I had a very good feeling that she was going to win a medal."

"She had a positive attitude and was very calm and showed no stress. I would've like to have seen her receive her medal on the podium and that was taken away. But overall, I'm proud of her and I wish her all the best. We spoke yesterday on my way back and she was very happy."

Amertil, who always prides herself on being and staying clean, frowned on Abugan and the other two Africans — women's 100m champion Osayemi Oludamola and Samuel Okon — who came sixth in the men's 110m hurdles, along with the Indian walker, who all cheated during the games.

"I think it is very unfortunate and disappointing that so many young athletes would take this route for what I call temporary glory," she said. "Whereas you get the lime-light in that moment of time, it is not worth harming your life, your body, your self respect and it is disappointing those that look up to you whether you are aware of it or not."

"I hope that through continued education of all the pitfalls of this dangerous practice we can curb the desires by athletes of this quick but dangerous road to fame. Hard



**BRONZE MEDAL:** Christine Amertil competes in a 400m semifinal at the Commonwealth Games at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in New Delhi, India, on October 7, 2010.

(AP Photo)



THE TRIBUNE

THE XIX COMMONWEALTH GAMES, NEW DELHI, 2010

work and perseverance will pay off."

And nobody understands that better than Eve, who over two decades has also enjoyed a clean career and even offered her words of advice to the powers that be.

"My thoughts are if you are caught you should suffer the consequences," she said. "There are athletes out there who work very hard to get there and to be cheated like that is so wrong, they steal

there moment of receiving there medal and all the other accolades that comes with it so they should be punished."

As a result of Abugan's disqualification, the Bahamas ended up with six medals for its best showing ever at the games. The team, which got two medals in boxing and three in athletics at the completion of the games on Thursday, surpassed the five-medal haul by the team that went to the 1982 games in

## Medal pushes Team Bahamas' haul to record six at the Comm. Games

Brisbane, Australia.

That team included men's discus gold medallist Bradley Cooper, women's long jump gold medallist Shonell Ferguson, men's high jump silver medallist Stephen Wray, men's long jump silver medallist Steve Hanna and boxing lightweight bronze medallist Stevie 'the Heat' Larrimore. Amertil, who turned 31 on August 18, joined men's high jump gold and silver medallists Donald Thomas and Trevor Barry respectively, men's 400 bronze medallist Ramon Miller and boxers Carl Hield and Valentino Knowles, who got bronze in the welterweight and light welterweight divisions respectively.

Looking back at her race, Amertil said she doesn't think she would have done anything differently that she did because she went out and gave it her best shot.

However, she was delighted to add to the Bahamian medal haul, even if it came in the aftermath.

"Six medals for such a small nation is quite a feat. The Bahamas is continuing to make strides in athletics and I am proud to be a part of that," she stressed. "This Delhi CWG team was comprised of many young athletes and it is these ones and others that will be the future of Bahamian athletics."

It was the second straight medal for Amertil, who won

the gold at the Central American and Caribbean Games in Puerto Rico in July.

"Having just finished this very long 2010 season, I just want to rest," she stated. "However, later on there will be preparations for the outdoor season with the focus being on the Outdoor World Championships in 2011. I haven't made any plans for a celebration. I am just enjoying the knowledge that I am now a Commonwealth Games medallist."

Although she didn't end up with another medal as she closed out her fourth appearance at the games with a 10th place finish in the women's javelin, Eve noted that she intends to start on a new path next year.

"My plans for the future is to give back first and foremost and try to develop a throwing programme for the ones who are interested, especially young kids," she said. "But I would like to throw again next year because I was told that the new stadium would be finished next year and I would like to get a chance to compete in it at least one time."

Like Amertil, however, Eve said she's glad that her season, which was plagued by a knee injury (torn meniscus) that took so long to heal, is over so now she can get some rest and intensive treatment before she embarks on what could be her final season.

## Maynard very proud of Team Bahamas' achievements

By BRENT STUBBS  
Senior Sports Reporter  
bstubbs@tribunemedia.net

ON returning home from New Delhi, India, the Bahamas' delegation to the XIX Commonwealth Games was praised for its outstanding performance and they learnt that the total number of medals would increase to six as a result of the third positive dope testing of an African athlete.

This time, it was Nigerian Folashade Abugan, who won two silver medals in the women's 400 metres and as a member of their 4 x 400 relay team.

She failed a drugs test after her "A" sample was found to have contained a type of performance-enhancing steroid and she was disqualified Friday after she waived the right to have a "B" sample tested and had admitted her guilt.

As a result of her disqualification, bronze-winning Aliann Tabitha Pompey of Guyana will be upgraded to silver and the bronze will go to Christine Amertil of the Bahamas (see lead story). Amertil finished

fourth in the final.

By virtue of Abugan's disqualification, Nigeria also had to relinquish the silver they collected in the women's 4 x 400 relay behind the sterling gold medal performance by India. England got the silver and Canada took the bronze.

Abugan followed compatriots 110m hurdler Samuel Okon and women's 100m gold medallist Osayemi Oludamola, who also tested positive for stimulants. As well as the Nigerian runners, Indian athlete Rani Yadav tested positive for the banned substance nandrolone.

Bahamas Olympic Committee secretary general Rommel Knowles, who acted as the masters of ceremony for the reception for the athletes and officials on their return home yesterday, said the Bahamian athletes should be commended because none of their names were called for any doping violation at the games.

"That's a testament to the hard work that the coaches have been doing with the athletes," said Knowles, who along with BOC president Wellington Miller arrived just

ahead of the team from New Delhi.

The two BOC executives, along with Ministry of Youth, Sports and Culture Charles Maynard and acting sports director Kevin Colebrooke were on hand to greet the team led by boxing bronze medallists Carl Hield and Valentino Knowles.

The other three medallists, Donald Thomas and Trevor Barry, who captured the gold and silver in the men's high jump respectively and Ramon Miller, who achieved a bronze in the men's 400, all headed to their various destinations in the US.

Maynard, who was accompanied by his wife and Kevin Colebrooke, said he was very proud of Team Bahamas' the achievements.

"When I had to deal with the sports ministers on the first day, none of them was surprised that you did so well. All of them were expecting the Bahamas to do well," Maynard said.

"They did their research and they knew what events we would medal in."

"That speaks about what kind of advancement that the Bahamas has

been making over the years. As small as we are, we are expecting to succeed. So that puts a burden on our shoulder. If we come back with one medal, the Bahamian people are asking what happened. But I still want them to know that if it's only one, we still did well because many countries who would have turned up to those games did not medal."

Out of the 71 participating countries, the Bahamas ended up 19th in the medal hunt, two spots below Jamaica, who finished 17th with just seven medals.

Maynard also pointed out the accomplishments of Hield and Knowles, saying that he was particularly proud of what they did. "I remember when they came home from the World Championships in India and I told them that I expected great things from them," he said. "They came through, they delivered two medals. 2012 is not too far away. Keep focus on the Olympic Games. Keep the gold in mind in London."

Also addressing the team were Miller, who is also the president of the Amateur Boxing Association of

the Bahamas and Roy Colebrooke, the chef de mission, who is also the president of the Bahamas Cycling Federation.

They both joined Kevin Colebrooke in congratulating all of the athletes, coaches and officials on the team for what they described as an outstanding performance.

In giving the vote of thanks, Jamal Moss, one of the two members of the 14-member athletic team, made no excuses for his failure to keep the Bahamas out front on the third led of the 4 x 400 relay when he got the baton from Michael Mathieu.

Moss said he suffered a hamstring injury and developed spasms during his leg and, as a result, he ended up giving the baton to Ramon Miller on the anchor leg in sixth place. But he promised that next year, at the IAAF World Championships in Korea, the men have vowed to bring home the gold.

Moss congratulated all of the coaches and the officials, particularly the medical staff, for keeping the athletes together and focused on performing at a high standard at the games.



## Commonwealth Games

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