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Volume: 106 No.1

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2010

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**BUSINESS**

**\$20-\$30 million 'first jump' on Water Corp woes**

SEE FRONT PAGE OF BUSINESS



**INSIDE**

**CARS FOR SALE, HELP WANTED AND REAL ESTATE**

BAHAMAS BIGGEST

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SEARCH FOR THE BEST DEAL

HAVER



**Seminar for volleyball coaches**

SEE PAGE ELEVEN

## ARAWAK HOMES SAYS LAWYERS ARE TO BLAME

# Hundreds set to lose their homes

### PLPs fear 'FNM operative' may be within party

PLP insiders fear an FNM operative may have been planted inside their organisation with intent to disrupt the party's public relations machinery and possibly reignite a leadership battle before the next general election.

As a political organisation that prides itself on having a "large tent" and being open to new talent, a number of PLP insiders have expressed their deep seated concerns over the motives of a number of persons who have skyrocketed to "influential" positions within the party overnight.

Seeking access to the par-

**SEE page 15**

By MEGAN REYNOLDS  
 Tribune Staff Reporter  
 mreynolds@tribunemedia.net



**PRESS CONFERENCE:**  
 President of Arawak Homes Franon Wilson

HUNDREDS of people in Pinewood Gardens are set to lose their homes after a court ruled the land they built on belongs to Arawak Homes.

Supreme Court judgments by Chief Justice Michael Barnett last week prompted president of Arawak Homes Ltd Franon Wilson to hold a press conference at his Shirley Street office yesterday, warning hundreds of people in the area to avoid legal action.

The rulings deem Arawak Homes the rightful owner of a 156-acre tract of land in Sir Lynden Pindling Estates and others who claim ownership of the land were sold the property without good title.

Mr Wilson encouraged property owners in the area to come forward and regularise their title to the land with Arawak Homes.

Mr Wilson said Arawak Homes is working with the Department of Land and surveys to develop a map of the Sir Lynden Pindling Estates area to show each encroachment on Arawak Homes' property, and although he is not yet sure how many people are affected he said, "We

know it is hundreds for a fact."

However he assured residents Arawak Homes will not proceed with the spontaneous demolition of buildings.

"In each and every instance in which Arawak Homes has removed a structure on its land, it has done so only after exhaustive communication with the party affected," Mr Wilson said.

"Additionally, Arawak continues to have an open

**SEE page six**

## SAUNDERS BEACH MAKEOVER

FELIPE MAJOR/TRIBUNE STAFF



**NEW LOOK:** Workmen focus on finishing touches to Saunders Beach yesterday. The area, on West Bay Street, has been undergoing a major makeover.

### MP SEEKS TWO WEEKS OF HEARINGS OVER FREEPORT INDUSTRIAL PARK ISSUE

By NOELLE NICOLLS  
 Tribune Staff Reporter  
 nnicolls@tribunemedia.net

A SUB-COMMITTEE will hold two weeks of hearings to address the issue of Grand Bahama residents and the Freeport Industrial Park, if Obie Wilcombe, West End Member of Parliament, has his way.

Mr Wilcombe is preparing to put the matter of the sub-committee on the agenda of the House of Assembly in order to get official approval.

Residents of Pinder's Point, said they were pleasantly surprised when Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham gave Mr Wilcombe the unofficial go ahead.

Residents heard the Prime Minister

**SEE page 10**

### CONTROVERSIAL BELL ISLAND DEVELOPMENT APPROVED

By MEGAN REYNOLDS  
 Tribune Staff Reporter  
 mreynolds@tribunemedia.net

AS APPROVAL for a controversial development in Bell Island was revealed yesterday, *The Tribune* was frustrated in its efforts to obtain the planning permits afforded to another media house.

Environment Minister Earl Deveaux had forwarded documents to The Nassau Guardian showing how the Department of Physical Planning approved plans to dredge and excavate more than 12 acres of land and sea at the 349-acre island in the Exuma Cays Land and Sea Park.

However, the Minister did not return calls from *The Tribune* requesting the same documents. Someone from his

**SEE page six**

### LOW-LEVEL PLP OFFICIAL VOWS TO 'DESTROY' MP'S CAREER

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

A LOW-LEVEL PLP official has vowed to "destroy" the political career of one of their party's own members of parliament.

According to well placed sources within the party, PLP MP Ryan Pinder has become the target of a smear campaign by one of the party's officials in what insiders claim is a vendetta against his family.

This official, it was said, has relatives who had to be terminated from a business that Mr Pinder's family was involved in for allegedly stealing by reason of employment.

Swearing revenge, the official has

**SEE page six**

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LOCAL NEWS

# Bahamas Maritime Authority branch opening in Hong Kong 'long overdue'

## PM cuts ribbon on new office



**ROOM WITH A VIEW:** Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham is pictured among members of his delegation and BMA officials viewing the Hong Kong skyline.

THE opening of a Bahamas Maritime Authority branch in Hong Kong is "long overdue", Prime Minister Ingraham said.

Mr Ingraham, who is in China on a two week trip, was speaking at the reception to mark the official opening of the BMA Hong Kong office. He noted that there are now BMA offices on three continents, the others being located in London and in New York City.

The prime minister said: "Some 12 years ago, when we opened our first career consular office in this city, it was my expectation that our maritime office would soon follow.

"We knew then as now, that Hong Kong is a significant

hub for international shipping and hence an ideal location from which to attract additional world-class ships to our expanding registry."

Mr Ingraham said he was therefore particularly pleased to be able to take part in the formal opening of the new office.

He said: "With over 52 million in gross tonnage the Bahamas has one of the

largest fleets in the world. Still, it is not our aim to have the biggest fleet in the world. What we desire, is the best. And we are well on our way in achieving this goal.

Mr Ingraham said Hong Kong is a city with an important history that is home to shipping companies and related trade enterprises.

"It also has a wide cross section of business persons and high net worth individuals whom we would like to introduce to the islands of the Bahamas," he said.

Mr Ingraham noted that the Bahamas is now engaged in the most expansive infrastructural investment programme in its history, includ-

ing a new state-of-the-art international airport in Nassau.

He said: "Because of the many opportunities and advantages the Bahamas offers, we have made impressive and fairly rapid strides in attracting world-class maritime services.

"Indeed, in this area we are an international centre of excellence, constantly seeking to improve our maritime services and products."

Mr Ingraham added: "It is our goal as a nation and as a highly attractive destination for foreign investment to be the best we can in the strategic areas integral to our national development."

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### INDEX

**MAIN/SPORTS SECTION**

Local News.....	P1,2,3,5,6,7,8,9,10,15,16
Editorial/Letters.....	P4
Sports .....	P11,12,13,14

**BUSINESS/WOMAN SECTION**

Business.....	P1,2,3,4,5,6,7
Woman .....	P9,10,12
Comics.....	P8
Weather .....	P11

**CLASSIFIED SECTION 24 PAGES**

**USA TODAY MAIN SECTION 12 PAGES**

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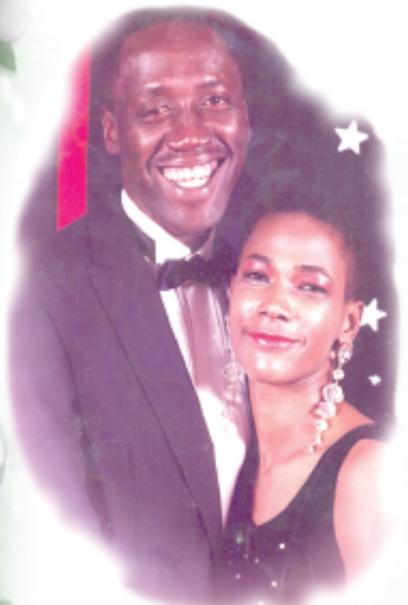


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LOCAL NEWS

# Several AG's Office lawyers call in sick

**"I'm not aware of any industrial action. We have a highly professional group of lawyers. They work very hard under challenging conditions. The mould situation ought to be dealt with."**

Attorney General John Delaney

By NATARIO McKENZIE  
Tribune Staff Reporter  
nmckenzie@tribunemedia.net

WHILE several lawyers attached to the Attorney General's Office called in sick yesterday, it remains unclear if this was connected to the mould problem that persists in the Post Office building.

Sources close to the matter claimed that as many as 17 lawyers failed to turn up. Attorney General John Delaney could not verify that number but admitted

that "several" persons had called in sick.

Mr Delaney said that he also could not confirm whether their reported illnesses were in any way related to the mould issue that persists in the 40-year-old Post Office building which also contains offices of the Ministry of Labour and Social Development, and the Post Office.

The Attorney General said that all lawyers who had court commitments were at work yesterday.

"I'm not aware of any



industrial action. We have a highly professional group of lawyers. They work very hard under challenging conditions. The mould situation ought to be dealt with. They ought to have a comfortable environment. We do have a mould problem in the building," Mr Delaney said.

Mr Delaney said that the mould problem is connected with another problem – the building's air conditioning system – which is being addressed by the Ministry of Works.

"I have been here a year and there have been a number of mould remediation exercises. The last one was in August. The mould issue

is of concern to staff, senior administration and myself. The long term solution is that the entire air conditioning system needs to be replaced.

"We are looking at the option of relocating. We are actively looking for alternative accommodations," Mr Delaney said. He admitted, however, that this presents logistical challenges as the Attorney General's Office needs to be in the downtown area, near the courts.

Mr Delaney also noted that the building's elevator system is being replaced.

## Man shot after gunmen storm into apartment

By DENISE MAYCOCK  
Tribune Freeport Reporter  
dmaycock@tribunemedia.net

FREEPORT – A male resident of Bimini was shot about the body when gunmen stormed into an apartment in the Garden Villas area on Monday afternoon.

According to police reports, the victim was taken to the Rand Memorial Hospital with gunshot injuries to the stomach and leg. His condition was not known up to presstime.

Police are withholding the victim's identity.

Asst Supt Hector Delva, press liaison officer, reported that police received

a report of a shooting around 2.30pm and went to the Garden Villas Apartments.

Upon arrival, officers saw a dark male with gunshot injuries. The man was transported by ambulance to the hospital.

ASP Delva said police investigations revealed that about four to six men went into an apartment unit, where gunshots were heard inside.

The suspects then got into a tan-coloured Saturn and fled the scene.

Mr Delva said police do not know the motive for the shooting and are continuing their investigations into the matter.

They are appealing to members of the public who can assist with the investigation to call 911 or 352-9774/5.

## NEWSINBRIEF

### MISSING MAN

A PARA-SAIL operator reported missing at sea in the Berry Islands last week has still not been located.

The man was reported missing at around 3.30pm on Friday. The 39-year-old was last seen in his boat with a 26-year-old British woman about six miles west of Coco Cay at around 2pm.

There was severe weather in the area at the time, and both were reportedly thrown into the water.

While the woman was rescued by local boaters who rushed to the scene, the man was not found.

### TWO ARMED ROBBERIES

Police are investigating two armed robberies that took place on Sunday.

The first took place around 2.30pm at Lucky Hart Corner off East Street.

The male victim was walking near Quintine Alley when he was approached by a man wearing a white t-shirt, jean shorts and armed with a handgun.

The culprit stole the man's laptop computer and fled the area in a white Honda Accord.

The second incident took place shortly before 9pm at

the Budget Meat Mart on Faith Avenue South.

A man in a black shirt and black pants, with a white stocking over his face, entered the establishment armed with a handgun.

He stole an undetermined amount of cash and fled in a black Suzuki Grand Vitara heading north on Faith Avenue.

### STABBING

Just after 9pm on Sunday a stabbing was reported at Red Land Acres.

The male victim was taking a short-cut when he was approached by another man and stabbed.

The victim was taken to hospital where he is listed in stable condition.

### SHOOTING

A shooting took place on Bethel Avenue just before 8.30pm on Sunday.

A man told the police he was standing in front of his

home when he heard shots being fired, only to realise moments later that he had been shot in the leg.

The victim was taken to hospital where he is listed in stable condition.

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## Overseas ties could be in for change

WASHINGTON — A big Republican win in Nov. 2 congressional elections could stymie President Barack Obama's attempts to reset relations with Russia while opening the way for a new bipartisan toughness toward China.

Despite scant attention to foreign relations in the campaign, the election is likely to have a significant effect on that front.

A stronger Republican voice in Congress could push the president to slow his plans to begin withdrawing from Afghanistan in July, badger him to be even tougher on Iran over its suspected nuclear weapons programme and ease U.S. pressure on Israel in negotiations with the Palestinians.

While the U.S. entanglement with Iran has been prominent, simmering conflicts with China probably are most open to quick U.S. action and with stronger Republican backing after the vote.

Republicans traditionally take a tougher line on trade issues and imbalances and those clearly are central to relations with Beijing.

"There's a conviction that the U.S. must respond to a whole range of Chinese provocations," said Jessica Matthews, president of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace.

China is in the doghouse not only with the United States, but with many of its global trading partners over Beijing's routine deflation of the value of its currency. That practice makes Chinese goods cheaper abroad and inflates the price of imported goods in China.

That's partly to blame for the outsized U.S. trade deficit with the Chinese and an easy target for politicians in Washington who are frustrated by their inability to reinvigorate the American economy.

"This is about money, not ideology," said Wayne Merry, senior associate at the American Foreign Policy Council and a former U.S. diplomat.

"The notion is becoming accepted that protectionism is no longer a dirty word," Merry said. "A year ago that was heresy. A year from now that will be mainstream. He predicted Washington would begin to impose some kind of trade penalties on Beijing for manipulating its currency.

Also likely to win support among Republicans in the new Congress is the Obama administration's more forward-leaning stance on strategic interests in shipping lanes near China. Americans also have voiced displeasure with Beijing's aggressiveness over disputed islands in those waters.

But Obama's foreign policy could take a battering over relations with Russia. Many conservatives have not shed their Cold War distrust of Moscow, making it even more difficult for the administration to win Senate ratification of the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (New START) signed by Obama and Russian President Dmitry Medvedev in April. While it seems unlikely Republicans

will seize a majority in the Senate, where they are currently outnumbered 58-41, the party could considerably close the gap. The Senate must ratify all treaties and that requires 67 affirmative votes.

That may be unattainable in the next Congress, but the interim lame duck session that begins 13 days after the election offers a chance for ratification. That session will include senators who have lost their seats Nov. 2 and may be less politically motivated.

The Russians have made it clear that Obama's vow to improve relations, while theoretically beneficial to both countries, hangs on his ability to win ratification of the New START treaty. The pact calls for big reductions in nuclear weapons.

Even though Washington is engaged in two wars — in Iraq and Afghanistan — those expensive and bloody ventures have drawn little attention in this election year. While Democrats are losing patience with the Afghanistan conflict, now in its 10th year, Obama will probably find backing for his war policies from Republicans and pressure to limit or put off plans to begin withdrawing in July. Republicans normally take a more aggressive line on issues of war and peace.

The Iraq war, barring an outbreak of extreme violence, has faded from the American consciousness as the last combat forces left in the summer and all troops are scheduled to be gone by the end of next year.

In the Middle East, strong Republican gains probably would cost Obama some manoeuvring room in his sponsorship of peace talks between Israel and the Palestinians. The president has put considerable pressure on the Israelis — particularly to stop their West Bank and Jerusalem settlement building projects.

Even so, Obama may find that his dealings with Iran and its suspected nuclear weapons programme gain ground from the improbable and quiet convergence of national interests that Arabs and Israel share concerning Iran.

Israeli feels directly threatened by Iran, whose leaders have said the Jewish state should be eliminated. Arabs are deeply concerned that a nuclear-armed Iran would upend the balance of power in the Middle East. The intersection of those worries could create greater pliability on both sides and grease the negotiating process with the Palestinians, who rely heavily on fellow Arabs for backing.

Regardless of how foreign policy issues eventually play out after the November vote, Obama won't find refuge from a gridlocked and unfriendly Congress by turning to international affairs.

Other presidents have taken that path in similar circumstances. The economy, however, is going to force the president's focus.

(This article was written by Steven R. Hurst, Associated Press writer.)

# Straw vendors issue: Breaking the law is wrong

EDITOR, The Tribune.

I AM writing in response to Rev Esther's letter about Nicki Kelly, I have to agree with Mrs Kelly, and despite the fact that the President Of Straw Business sees it or not, to support these people, is telling all criminals that it's okay to do wrong just as long as you say it's your livelihood.

Regardless of the fact that the law was not broken in the Bahamas, it was still wrong, and ask yourself this question, how can these straw vendors now come back home and teach their children to do what is right, when they themselves have been caught breaking the law?

Another thing that was mentioned was what the high-end designer had to say, and apparently they said that their client would never buy knock offs, which is fine and dandy, and the letter goes on to say how the designer made nine billion plus in profit and was not concerned, but that is not the issue here, the law has been broken, and that is wrong.

How would you like it if

## LETTERS

letters@tribunemedia.net

some tourist came here for a visit and took pictures of some of our most famous Artists works, or even Junkanoo and took it back home and made prints and sold them all around the world making thousands upon thousands of dollars with none of that money ever coming to the Bahamas?

I'm sure all of you who are in support of these vendors would be screaming out to bring the law down on anyone who does that to our Bahamian Artists.

Don't trivialise this situation because the high-end designer made a lot of money.

We have to wake up, and start being honest with ourselves, do we want things to change?

Do we want to reduce the level of crime running rampant in our nation?

Then we need to ask ourselves is supporting and con-

doning criminal behaviour on any level the right thing to do? Or are we gonna stand up to anyone, no matter who they are that breaks the law, and stop allowing the fact that just because they are doing it within the means of their livelihood, does that make it right?

Nicki Kelly is right, because as they say "Monkey see Monkey do", which means that the career criminals can look at the support these vendors are getting and feel they also justify in doing what they do, it's a trickle down effect, and the more we support wrong doing, the worse it is for all of us.

I say this all the time, if you support this kind of behaviour and are complaining about crime, please shut up, because you are contributing to it as well, which means you are either part of the problem or part of the solution choose, which one are you?

FILIFE A COLEBROOKE  
Nassau,  
October, 2010.

## Light problem needs to be fixed

EDITOR, The Tribune.

I travel on Kemp Road almost on a daily basis coming from Shirley Street, and as you approach the traffic light at the junction of Parkgate and Pyfrom Roads traffic is always backed up.

The reason being the light dealing with the flow of traffic travelling north and south on Kemp Road is only on green for 15 seconds, allowing about four vehicles to pass; whereas the light for traffic travelling east and west is on for one minute.

I have spoken to the Permanent Secretary Mr Colin Higgs whose ministry is responsible for the maintenance of this light on numerous occasions and was told that the matter would be looked into.

Nothing has been done up to the writing of this letter.

This problem is very agonizing, and steps need to be taken urgently to resolve this vexing situation.

BRYAN A C WRIGHT  
Nassau,  
September 30, 2010.

## Thoughts on Halloween

EDITOR, The Tribune.

As a concerned adult I would very much like to pass along my thoughts on Halloween to your readers.

As Halloween approaches I feel it important to remind parents and children that the festival has an undercurrent of occultism and is absolutely anti-Christian." The feast of Halloween was once the vigil feast of All Saints' Day, which is celebrated on November 1. It was the beginning of a day in which we rejoice in the work of God seen in his saints and cause of great inspiration and joy to the world.

Sadly, it has become dangerously paganised and heavily commercialised. Parents should be aware of this and try to direct the meaning of the feast towards wholesomeness and beauty rather than terror, fear and death. Wearing skeleton suits, dressing up as vampires, witches or goblins or slapping on fake blood is not far removed from communing with the devil.

As we approach Halloween this year let us try to provide a wholesome, non-pagan alternative celebration, which thus critiques and rejects the pagan holiday.

Parents can, for example, dress up their children as popular saints instead of witches and devils. They can carve smiling faces, rather than menacing faces, into pumpkins. They can light a candle or display publicly another kind of light alongside, perhaps, an image of Christ. These things can be a powerful means of showing people that we have hope in someone other than ourselves.

VIC VERITAS  
Kingston, Jamaica  
October 18, 2010.

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LOCAL NEWS

**Govt accused of lack of commitment to alternative energy**

ELIZABETH MP Ryan Pinder has criticised the government for what he described as its lack of commitment to alternative energy.

Mr Pinder noted that when the National Energy Policy Committee presented its first report almost two years ago, he still believed the government was serious about energy reform and saving homeowners money on utility bills. "After two years of inaction, I am rather disappointed, disappointed for many Bahamians who are struggling day in and day out to meet their demands," he said.

Speaking in the House of Assembly last week, Mr Pinder said that while the argument that the second NEP committee report contained "significant data gaps" may be true, a review of the first report reveals that there were some initiatives that could have been put in place right away. Mr Pinder said that had he been in government, he would have:

- Reduced energy usage in public buildings by 30 per cent by 2010.

He said: "Energy audits could have been done of all government buildings to assess their inefficiencies and make them more efficient. Government buildings are a significant demand on the electricity supply. Actions as simple as swapping out light bulbs, ensuring appliances are energy-efficient, especially when going through a replacement cycle, and proper maintenance of the fleet of automobiles can save significant government revenues, but also relieve significant demand on BEC."

- Implemented a national policy on conservation, including giving incentives, or public distribution of energy saving means.

He said: "This would include a national education campaign on energy usage. Also, the distribution of energy efficient light bulbs to Bahamians would have contributed a great deal."

- Incorporate efficient use of energy and water into all new government housing.

He said: "This is not difficult to implement, but would have real cost savings to Bahamians who need it the most, the less advantaged generally purchasing their first home. A key component of this is to ensure that solar water heaters are used in all houses, as well as energy efficient light bulbs."

"In addition, the Ministry of Housing should put in place construction guidelines to ensure the construction is most energy efficient. The government missed a great opportunity to provide energy relief to new homeowners."



Ryan Pinder

**Inquiry into reported Bradford Marine health concerns**

By DENISE MAYCOCK  
Tribune Freeport Reporter  
dmaycock@tribunemedia.net

FREEPORT - Investigations have been launched by the government into reported health concerns at Bradford Marine after an employee there reportedly contracted a severe respiratory illness commonly associated with sandblasting.

In June, Cecil Moore, a sandblasting technician at Bradford, was reportedly diagnosed with Reactive-Airways Dysfunctional Syndrome (RADS) by doctors in the United States.

Moore is currently on sick leave.

He is taking 11 different medications for his condition.

In September, Rev Bethel called on the Department of Environment Health to conduct an immediate investigation into the sandblasting operation at the yacht repair facility on Queen's Highway.

"I have been informed that an investigative team has been sent to conduct investigations at Bradford, and we are awaiting the conclusion of those

**Employee said to have contracted severe respiratory illness**

investigations," he told The Tribune on Monday.

Rev Bethel is concerned that the health of employees is being put at risk.

He has been contacted by three former employees who claim that they also suffer with similar health problems.

Bertha McPhee, chief health inspector in Freeport, could not be reached for comment up to press time.

The Tribune spoke with Dan Romence, general manager at Bradford, who confirmed that an audit is being conducted at the facility by officials at Environmental Health Services.

Mr Romence said they are cooperating fully with officials.

"They are conducting a standard audit of the facility because they received a complaint from an employee and they are following protocols that are set up for that.

"They basically came and looked at all of our documentation; it is in their hands. We are now going through a

process. It is not a one day deal but we are cooperating fully, and hopefully it will be done shortly," he said.

Mr Moore has been employed at Bradford for the past eight years.

According to Rev Bethel, Moore's health started to decline in 2008 when he began experiencing severe respiratory problems, such as shortness of breath and constant coughing.

Moore sought medical help in Grand Bahama and New Providence, but was unable to get a proper diagnosis in the Bahamas.

**Asbestos**

He went to Florida for asbestos testing and was diagnosed with RADS.

The first stage of the disease is asthma-like symptoms.

The disease usually progresses to Silicosis cancer, which is incurable.

The diagnosis report by doctors claims that sandblasting is

the primary contributor to his condition. Rev Bethel said that Moore has to continually travel back and forth to the US for further treatment.

"He is experiencing some complications and he just returned from the US a few days ago trying to get some sort of relief for his discomfort. They (the doctors) are saying there is very little they can do."

Rev Bethel said although Moore is receiving sick benefit from NIB, he still has to dig in his own pocket to help pay for his medical treatment.

He said Moore intends to file a lawsuit against Bradford Marine in Florida, where the company has its headquarters.

"We are in the process of retaining a law firm in the US," Rev Bethel said.

"We also have three former employees, one has cancer and was let go from the job earlier this year and the two others are plagued with medical issues. They have seen doctors and have been diagnosed with the same symptoms," he claimed.

Rev Bethel said two of the men were also employed as sandblasters.

When The Tribune spoke with Mr Romence in September, he said the company provides all safety gear, including a full helmet with a separate breathing apparatus for respiratory protection, and eye gear.

"We have all the safety gear needed for employees to be fully protected, and employees are trained to use it," he said.

He stated that it is the first case where an employee has been diagnosed with a severe illness at its facility in Freeport.

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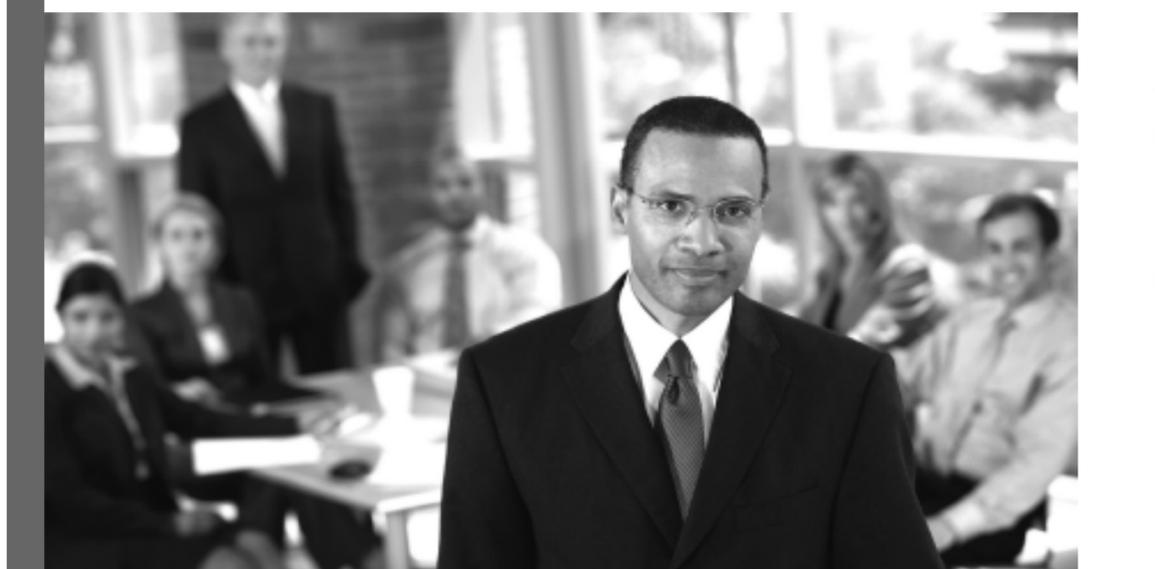
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## Second medical firm targets the Bahamas

\* New firm aiming to establish base that would boost Bahamian medical tourism, only awaiting NEC and Medical Association approvals

\* Nettie Symonette confirms addiction treatment provider made offer to acquire her Cable Beach resort

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

A second company interested in offering health-related services from the Bahamas, boosting efforts to stimulate medical tourism, is expected to submit documentation to the National Economic Council (NEC) for approval, the Minister of Tourism said yesterday.



Vanderpool-Wallace

SEE page two

## Surge in downtown real estate interest

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

There has been an upsurge in interest from "Bahamians and abroad" in buying "large areas of real estate" downtown in the city of Nassau, Downtown Nassau Partnership (DNP) chief, Vaughn Roberts, said yesterday.

"People are looking at or buying, and people are entertaining the sale of their properties. There's certainly lots of interest that's come across my

SEE page three

# \$20-\$30m 'first jump' on Water Corp woes

By NEIL HARTNELL  
 Tribune Business Editor

A \$20-\$30 million investment will be required to resolve the Water & Sewerage Corporation's New Providence-based issues "in the first jump" and produce a "reliable" 18-20 million gallons per day water supply, a government minister told Tribune Business yesterday.

Earl Deveaux, minister of the environment, said the Government regarded addressing the Water & Sewerage Corporation's issues as "very critical", both from providing a reliable water supply and putting it on a "sustainable path" that did not bleed the Bahamian taxpayer.

The Corporation, he added, was now in possession of a business plan presented by the Spanish consultants, Castilla, who in a project part-funded by the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), had also produced recommendations for institutional and regulatory reform in the Bahamian water sector.

Castilla had again visited the Bahamas last week, and while the Corporation was in possession of its proposed business plan going forward, the Government had yet to see this. "Based on the business plan, the Water & Sewerage Corpo-



EARL DEVEAUX

ration will present an implementation plan for the Government's consideration," Mr Deveaux told Tribune Business.

"The general manager promised Mr Neymour [minister of state for the environment] and myself that he would have his documents to us by next week. He's working very aggressively on it."

Mr Deveaux said Castilla had identified a number of areas that the Corporation urgently needed to address, namely non-revenue water (more than 50 per cent of the water pumped around its system per day fails to reach the end-consumer,

being lost via leaks and the like); rationalisation of the water supply; rebuilding and maintaining infrastructure; the barging of water from Andros via the MV Titus; and the sewage treatment aspect.

The business plan lays out "the sequencing" of the steps that will be taken to address these areas, the minister describing it as "a comprehensive strategic plan that we can implement".

However, the Government is not just waiting for the business and implementation plan to be finalised, Mr Deveaux telling Tribune Business: "We cannot afford to wait on other urgent issues requiring attention..... The Government is taking steps now, spending just under \$12 million with the New Providence Road Improvement Project on rebuilding some of the main areas, and the Bay Street and Shirley Street paving will also accompany some water and sewerage works."

Asked how much capital investment would be required to deal with the Water & Sewerage Corporation's key problems, Mr Deveaux replied: "The New Providence water issue revolves around having a reliable supply of 18-20 million

SEE page three

## Downtown scores 'Bulls eye' via Dart

Multi-billion Cayman developer completes purchase of portion of Parliament Properties' portfolio

By NEIL HARTNELL  
 Tribune Business Editor

A multi-billion dollar Cayman Islands-based developer has successfully concluded a deal to purchase real estate on the corner of Bay and Parliament Streets, Tribune Business can reveal, a strategic first step in what could be the start of a much wider role in downtown Nassau's redevelopment.

Philip Hillier, principal of Parliament Properties, yesterday confirmed to this newspaper that the sale of part of its real estate holdings to The Dart Group, the entity founded by Kenneth Dart, billionaire heir to a styrofoam cup fortune, had been completed.

"The sale has gone through," he told Tribune Business. "We've only sold part of the properties." Mr Hillier declined to comment further, stating that he did not want "publicity".

Tribune Business was tipped that the agreement between Parliament Properties and The Dart Group, the developer of Cayman's 500-acre Camana Bay project, had gone through when informed sources told it that the former's preference shareholders had all been paid out what they were owed. Mr Hillier did not comment on that aspect of the deal when it was put to him yesterday.

The real estate in question is said by sources to include the shopping arcade opposite the House of Assembly on Parliament Street, plus several premises on the corner of Parliament and Bay Streets. It is not thought to include the Parliament Hotel, as indicated by Mr Hillier's comment that "we've only sold part of the properties".

Tribune Business exclusively revealed The Dart Group's interest in acquiring this real estate last month, the deal then only requiring the necessary Government approvals from the

SEE page two

## Sunshine fully places first \$5m bond tranche

\* But does not go through with initial plans to raise \$10m, dropping second tranche of longer-term, 20-year bonds

\* Chairman Wilson pledges to do 'more and more' to raise company's profile and return to capital markets at later date

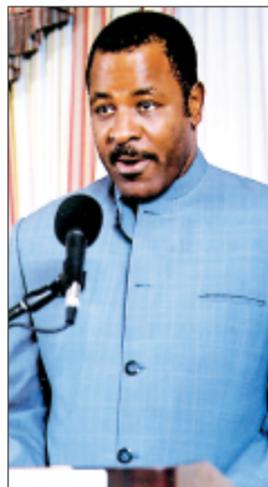
\* Hints at using \$5m raised from 10-year tranche for growth and/or acquisition openings, and says 'pleased' with first Bahamian capital markets foray

By NEIL HARTNELL  
 Tribune Business Editor

Sunshine Holdings plans to return to the Bahamian capital markets in the future, having fully placed the first \$5 million tranche in its recent corporate bond offering - although it yesterday conceded that it withdrew the issue's second, longer-term maturity component.

Franklyn Wilson, the company's chairman, said that while the \$10 million offering's 10-year tranche had been fully subscribed, it decided to withdraw the second tranche of 20-year bonds prior to the private

SEE page two



FRANKLYN WILSON

## Government awaits waste-to-energy and landfill proposals

By NEIL HARTNELL  
 Tribune Business Editor

The Government is "awaiting receipt" of new waste-to-energy plant and solid waste management proposals from a variety of bidders before it makes a final decision on the Tonique Williams-Darling Highway landfill's future, the minister of the environment told Tribune Business yesterday.

Earl Deveaux said there was "significant Bahamian interest"

SEE page two

\* 'Significant Bahamian interest' in bids for renewable energy plant, management of New Providence landfill  
 \* Energy conference sparks 'renewed' interest in waste-to-energy solution at landfill

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## BUSINESS

## Sunshine fully places first \$5m bond tranche

FROM page 1B

placement's closure.

Pronouncing himself "pleased" with the outcome, Mr Wilson told Tribune Business: "We had designed this thing to do in two tranches - one 10-year tranche, and one 20-year tranche.

"We withdrew the 20-year tranche, and did very well with the 10-year tranche." Mr Wilson confirmed that the 10-year tranche of \$5 million had been fully subscribed. While not discussing why Sunshine Holdings had dropped the 20-year tranche, which was seeking the same \$5 million amount, this is likely to have been due to reduced investor appetite for this longer term security.

"The important point is that this is the first time we have gone to the markets, and we are pleased with this reaction," Mr Wilson told Tribune Business.

"We will do more and more to make the capital markets more aware of the company, what it does, its assets and so forth. We will go back to the capital markets at a later date to do certain things."

Asked what Sunshine Holdings planned to use its new capital for, Mr Wilson replied: "For us it's general corporate purposes at this point. We have a number of opportunities - our group has so many opportunities.

"In the climate, there's many people out there stressed and struggling and so forth. We'll just grow. That's the bottom line."

Mr Wilson's comments appear to hint that Sunshine Holdings plans to pursue growth and/or acquisition opportunities, as the contracting economy forces existing business owners to explore strategies, including exit routes, that they would not otherwise have eyed.

Sunshine Holdings' existing interests include Arawak Homes, Sunshine Insurance Brokers & Agents, RoyalStar Assurance and FOCOL Holdings. Its corporate bond issue was placed by CFAL.

The \$5 million in debt capital raised adds to the \$20 million already obtained by RoyalStar and rival insurer, Bahamas First, through preference share and bond issues, respectively. It means that some \$25 million in additional capital has been raised from institutional and high net-worth investors this fall to date, and there is more to come, with the College of the Bahamas (COB) said to be planning its own \$20 million bond issue, and Wendy's (and its parent, Aetos Holdings) also eyeing a preference share issue. If these offerings come off, some \$50 million or more might be raised from the Bahamian capital markets this fall.

In a previous interview with Tribune Business, Mr Wilson said that Sunshine Holdings, although a private company, had decided to behave "more and more" as if it was a public company, adhering to corporate governance, transparency, accountability standards and prudential norms as if it was a listed entity.

Explaining the company's decision to tap the capital markets for its corporate bond issue, he added: "We were approached by some people who asked if they could be a part of what we're doing, and we said we will go out and see what the market thinks.

"We have, over the years, placed a lot of corporate bonds with institutions, and at this point in time a number of large banks and insurance companies hold our corporate bonds.

"Previously, we had direct discussions with institutional investors interested in our offerings. This is the first time we've gone about it this way. This is the first time we've allowed one of the corporate finance houses to introduce us to the local capital markets, and we will see what they say. We'll see where it leads."

## Second medical firm targets Bahamas

FROM page 1B

Meanwhile, Nettie Symonette, owner of Nettie's 'Different of Nassau' resort on Cable Beach, confirmed she "received an offer" for her property from another company - would-be addiction treatment providers, Ibocure - which has already received final approval from the NEC to set up shop in the Bahamas.

"I'm in a position to say that we did get an offer and that's about it," said Ms Symonette who, when previously contacted in August about Ibocure's expressed interest in her property as an ideal location for its addiction treatment centre, said she was unaware of the company. Yesterday, she would not say if she has accepted or rejected the offer.

Ibocure's owner, US-based former physician Dr Mark Puleo, had suggested the company - which has received the backing of the Ministries of Tourism and Health and the Bahamas Medical Association - could begin offering its Ibogaine drug to medical tourists by early 2011, bringing on stream about 20 to 25 jobs for Bahamians, including doctors, psychiatrists and other staff.

The drug, which has not been approved by the Federal Drug Administration (FDA) in the US, is said to eradicate substance abuse in less time than other addiction treatments.

Some \$2 million has already been raised to start-up the project, and several other US investors are on board, Dr Puleo told Tribune Business earlier this year.

In September, Dr Puleo responded to revelations that he had "willingly relinquished" his right to practice medicine in the US after being cited by the State of Florida for reselling and redistributing prescription drugs, an act that was prohibited under the supplier's terms.

He told The Tribune he was "coming to run a business" in the Bahamas and therefore did not need his physician's credentials, but added that he would address this and other issues in a planned press conference which has yet to take place.

Calls to Ibocure representatives were not returned up to press time yesterday, but Minister of Tourism, Vincent Vanderpool Wallace, said he believes the company is moving forward with its plans.

"I haven't heard of any hiccups or interruptions. I know they'd identified a site and wanted to get into negotiation on specifics and details," said Mr Vanderpool-Wallace of Ibocure.

Meanwhile, speaking of the second company who the Ministry of Tourism was minded to support in their proposed medical tourism venture, the Minister declined to identify it at this point, but said it had been expected to submit documentation to the National Economic Council for approval. This has not yet happened, but he spoke to the company's principal a week ago "and he did not express any issues".

"They haven't submitted their documentation as yet and I'm not quite sure why not, because they had identified precisely what they wanted to do and have approvals to proceed from overseas," said Mr Vanderpool-Wallace.

"They are up and operating in a jurisdiction which would have done due diligence - in Europe - so we had no difficulty with that. They have identified the business, identified the location and the investors who were prepared to fund it so, as far as I'm concerned, the only things left were for them to get approval from the Medical Association, as Ibocure did, and then the NEC."

The Minister added that other companies were "poking around" with regard to expressing interest in potential medical tourism ventures in the Bahamas, but none were "on the front burner" at this time.

# Contractors hopeful on business licence

By ALISON LOWE  
Business Reporter  
alowe@tribunemedia.net

Despite not having received any formal confirmation of the Government's decision over its appeal against a 50 per cent business license fee increase, the Bahamian Contractors Association is confident the matter is "still a work in progress" and changes could be made prior to implementation of the new Act in January next year.

Youri Kemp, the BCA's projects director, told of a "very encouraging" meeting with an official at the Business License/Valuation Unit last Thursday to discuss the issue following that unit's forum to field concerns and queries about the new Act.

"From what I've gotten from her, there is still room for negotiation up to January," said Mr Kemp. "It's still a work in progress. There's nothing concrete."

The BCA reacted furiously when it was revealed in the summer that included in the new Business License Act is a provision which would see the rate at which licence fees are calculated for the construction sector rise from the equivalent of 0.5 per cent to 0.75 per cent of turnover.

Stephen Wrinkle, the BCA president, stated that due to the "extremely high turnover volume and very low profit margins" in the construction sector, the new fee calculation would hit contractors, particularly larger ones, hard.

"We're concerned about not passing on any more costs to consumers than we have to," said Mr Wrinkle.



STEPHEN WRINKLE



ZHIVARGO LAING

**"We're concerned about not passing on any more costs to consumers than we have to,"**

*Stephen Wrinkle*

In August, the BCA met with Minister of State for Finance, Zhivargo Laing, over the proposed change and Mr Wrinkle said the group left "comfortably satisfied" that their concerns over the increase had been taken into consideration.

Yesterday, Mr Kemp said no formal communication has since taken place between the BCA and the Government since that time, aside from his

## Government awaits waste-to-energy and landfill proposals

FROM page 1B

in some of the awaited proposals, and the Government wanted to entertain their participation in a process through which it hopes to develop a long-lasting, holistic solution to both the landfill's problems and the Bahamas' energy needs.

The minister also indicated that the recent Caribbean Renewable Energy Forum (CREF), held earlier this month at the Atlantis resort on Paradise Island, had sparked interest in the landfill as the site - and raw material/fuel source - for a waste-to-energy plant that would both help to meet the Bahamas Electricity Corporation's (BEC) electricity needs and start the Bahamas down the path of renewable energy.

"We are awaiting receipt of additional offers on waste-to-energy, which have been promised as a result of the recent renewable energy conference, and the receipt of additional offers on solid waste management, so that we give each fair consideration," Mr Deveaux confirmed to Tribune Business.

"We have significant Bahamian interests we want to accommodate."

The minister declined to comment further, but it is thought that the Government will effectively put all the proposals it received by bid deadline day into a 'melting

pot', with the best comprehensive solution taken to Cabinet for its approval.

The landfill situation was highlighted last month when the Government confirmed it was "not proceeding" with the \$20 million proposal to upgrade and outsource management of the Tonique Williams Darling Highway landfill to the private sector, in the shape of Miami-based Cambridge Project Development Inc. However, Tribune Business understands that Cambridge is still at the table and is one of the parties negotiating with the Government.

### Proposal

At the time Ronald Thompson, permanent secretary in the Ministry of the Environment, confirmed to Tribune Business that the Ingraham administration had "decided not to go in the direction" of accepting either the initial \$20 million proposal by Miami-based Cambridge Project Development Inc, or a 'watered down' \$8 million version that it had subsequently asked the company for.

"We're looking at the management of the landfill site in conjunction with waste-to-energy, and I suppose that's about all I can say on it right now. We're in the preliminary stages of going in that direction, and I don't know if we have anything finalised in that regard," Mr Thompson

had said.

Explaining the Government's attitude to the landfill, Mr Thompson told Tribune Business: "It's a very big priority because at the present the site is not being properly managed, so it is an urgent matter for us to deal with. It will be dealt with and given that sort of attention, just not under the present proposal."

Len Enriquez, Cambridge's principal, said back then that the company was still willing to negotiate with the Government to move the project forward, and urged it to detail its objections/concerns.

"We have no idea why this has been stopped," he told Tribune Business. "No one has written to us, sent us an e-mail. We're ready, willing and able to sit back down with them, and understand what their objections are, because we have no feedback right now."

"All we hear is that they might try a different path, but we don't know the how and the why. We have nothing to go on, and therefore the negotiations remain stalled and the fire danger at the landfill remains. After four-five months of fairly detailed, serious and good faith negotiations, the whole process shuts down without warning. If there's a contractual reason, issue, tell us what it is. We may be able to work it out rather than incur delays to the project."

## Downtown scores 'Bulls eye' via Dart

FROM page 1B

Investments Board (National Economic Council) and the Central Bank of the Bahamas. This newspaper had been told at that time that the Cayman-based investor had become increasingly frustrated at what it perceived as the relatively slow government approvals process.

Other sources with knowledge of plans to redevelop downtown Nassau and Bay Street yesterday also confirmed that The Dart Group's purchase had gone through.

One told Tribune Business: "They're a very wealthy company. They've done a massive job in Cayman, and it seems logical they could help is here as well. There's a lot of similarities between Cayman and here. They can really play an important role, because there's so many properties available on the waterfront."

The source, and others, told this newspaper that The Dart Group was interested in acquiring the Betty K property on East Bay Street, which is set to be freed up shortly when the shipping company of the same name - and others - move to the new Arawak Cay port.

The Dart Group's interest, though, could not be confirmed before press time, but Tribune Business was told that other down-

town Bay Street property owners were interested in talking to the Cayman-based developer over the potential sale of their own properties.

The Betty K property, though, was described by one source as the "key" and "pivotal" piece of real estate on Bay Street once past the East Street junction. "It would help to connect the whole city," the source said. "The city has to grow east because of the way it is configured."

The Dart Group's representatives are understood to have visited the Bahamas and downtown Nassau last year, and expressed interest in becoming involved with the Bay Street revitalisation project. In particular, they were attracted to the waterfront properties that will be freed up for commercial/residential development when the shipping companies relocate to Arawak Cay.

"The Downtown Nassau Partnership had met with them some months before to pitch them on the idea of the revitalisation, so they were looking at a number of properties in downtown," one source told Tribune Business last month.

Pointing out that it would require "hundreds of millions of dollars" to bring downtown Nassau's redevelopment to fruition, the source said: "The Dart Group is exactly the kind of developer that could develop some of what is needed in downtown."

McDonald's advertisement for the McCOMBO. The main offer is a Big Mac and Coca-Cola for \$4.49, available Sunday to Thursday. Below this, four smaller McCOMBO options are shown for each day of the week:

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BUSINESS

# Destinations 'Going Places' via rebranding

The Destinations travel agency will see its eight Bahamas-based offices rebranded as Going Places Travel as of November 1 this year, as its ultimate parent company moves to create uniform branding across the Caribbean region.

Destinations' immediate parent, P&M Travel, said in a statement that the rebranding push by their owner, Barbados-based Caribbean World Travel Services, was intended to provide uniform representation for

clients, employees and suppliers throughout 25 offices, which are spread across eight countries.

Hanif Moore, P&M Travel's group vice-president of operations, said in a statement: "Our major aim with this rebranding effort is to be recognised by our industry partners as one brand. This will allow us to negotiate better pricing through consolidation, offer international standards, unsurpassed services and quality products."

"Creating one brand of retail

travel stores will bring greater value to our clients and reflect the global nature of our brand and business."

The change will impact Destinations' five offices in Nassau - at the Cable Beach Shopping Centre, Carmichael Road, Lyford Cay, the Mall at Marathon and Shirley Street - plus its three offices in other islands. These include the Regent Centre, Freeport; Governor's Harbour, Eleuthera; and Georgetown, Exuma.

"The core capabilities of

Destinations, which include our staff, diverse services, extensive product offerings and dedication to customers will remain unchanged," Mr Moore said.

Apart from the rebranding, P&M Travel Group has been upgrading its front and back office computer systems, enhancing its reservations and accounting systems.

"Through re-tooling with up-to-date technologies, re-training and improving our working environments, we have positioned our team to be the mar-

ket leader in the travel agency business in the Bahamas," said Mr Moore. "We hope that you will embrace our new look with your continued support, and we look forward to welcoming our

loyal and new clients to Going Places Travel."

P&M Travel Group was acquired by the Caribbean World Travel Services Group in September 2008.

## FROM page 1B

gallons per day. If we address that, and that alone, then we're talking \$20-\$30 million in the first jump."

This sum, he suggested, would be invested in rebuilding the Water & Sewerage Corporation's New Providence infrastructure, getting some sewerage plants to the first operational stages, and phasing out the barging of water from Andros - which supplies three millions gallons per day.

"The [Castilla] report indicated that at today's prices and volumes, we can produce water more cheaply from desalination than barging it," Mr Deveaux said, implying that privately-owned reverse osmosis plants at Blue Hills and Windsor were a better bet than the Titus, if produc-

## FROM page 1B

desk, both from abroad and within the Bahamas," said Mr Roberts, who told *Tribune Business* he was "not at liberty to say" at this point what developments buyers - and potential buyers - were proposing for the properties he is aware of.

"I don't see why it took so long to get there. It's the most undervalued property and most valuable in terms of what it could be," added Mr Roberts.

Meanwhile, five months after he first expressed his expectation that draft legislation to create a Business Improvement District (BID) would go before Cabinet "within a few weeks", the DNP managing director revealed this has not happened yet.

This legislation makes provision for "consolidating in one organisation the decision-making around the management and operation of the town". It has been touted as a major component of efforts to revitalise the city of Nassau, making it more attractive to visitors and Bahamians alike.

"It's about things as simple as who cleans the street and who pays for it, who collects trash and what are the requirements of retailers to put trash out," Mr Roberts said. "Who's responsible for signage, who is marketing the town - saying we've got all these new great restaurants, come on down and have a dinner - who's responsible for events and entertainment, who's going to organise

## \$20-\$30m 'first jump' on Water Corp woes

tion was increased. When more than half the Water & Sewerage Corporation's supply was lost before reaching the end user, Mr Deveaux said it was "very critical" to address the problem, adding: "When we have something so essential to life, and we're losing half of it, the cost is up by that amount. Addressing that is a big and significant factor, as is putting the Corporation on a sustainable path."

The minister added that the Castilla report had also drawn the Government's attention to the Water & Sewerage Cor-

poration being both a service provider and regulator at the same time.

"So that will be one of the issues addressed by the Government," Mr Deveaux said, adding that it would look to follow the communications sector's lead by splitting regulatory responsibilities away from the Government to an independent regulator such as URCA (the Utilities Regulation and Competition Authority).

The regulator would have the authority to monitor quality and reliability in the water sector, and set rates, Mr Deveaux said, indicating that the Government would continue with its strategy to privatise water production.

"These institutional things take a little longer, but are part and parcel of the business plan," Mr Deveaux said.

## Surge in downtown real estate interest



VAUGHN ROBERTS

parking, who's going to focus on expanding life in the city beyond the normal nine to five, who puts grants in place to attract new entrepreneurs...

"It's attempting to put the responsibility for a lot of that stuff under one organisation. The model is a public-private partnership that has clear authority and responsibility, a budget and accountability."

Speaking of efforts to get the legislation reviewed by the Government, Mr Roberts said yesterday: "It's a process", adding that the administration should get "lots of credit" for some of the decisions already taken which impact downtown Nassau.

"The decision to move the container shipping was a landmark decision, 20 years in the making. In my view it's the sin-

gle most important decision ever made with regard to this town," Mr Roberts said.

"I think there's been some significant progress. The agreement on container port relocation has been finalised and work is underway to get the new port ready. The Straw Market is moving ahead in earnest, the Government's commenced some work around Rawson Square in the Hansard building, and there are ongoing commitments around cleaning, entertainment and programming. The Ministry of Tourism is always doing things, and from our office we've done alot of preliminary design work that we want to see happen in the existing core area. There is new investor interest in real estate downtown, and I think we've also done things to get the community excited about what city could be."

"A lot has happened, and I think you have to remember the context of this is that we're coming out of an economic recession," added Mr Roberts, who said "nothing happens overnight" and his own expectations in this regard have been "tempered".

Meanwhile, the DNP head

said the public-private sector grouping - formed in 2009 to guide efforts to begin overseeing "an economic and social transformation" of Nassau - is still planning to undertake a retail survey for downtown, which would help identify "who our customer is downtown - both local and visitor".

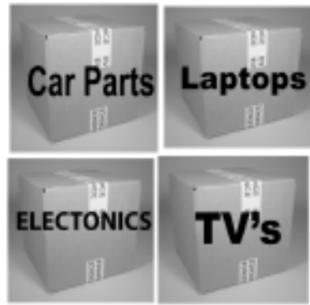
"It's absolutely necessary. It's just a matter of timing and our capacity to accommodate it," said Mr Roberts of the survey.

"Out of that will come a sort of retail programme, which will tell us the kind of things we need to offer - what we have Downtown and what we need to add to it - and also suggest various policy actions that can be taken to influence the outcome."

And the DNP is working on a plan to "get the pedestrianisation of Charlotte Street done fairly quickly", in conjunction with business stakeholders in the area.

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BUSINESS

# Cuba makes its self-employment rules official

PAUL HAVEN, Associated Press Writer HAVANA

Cuba has made official the grand economic changes it announced last month, publishing nearly 100 pages of rules and regulations for small businesses in the government Gazette.

The move means eagerly anticipated licenses for the self-employed should be around the corner, and already on Monday, lines of potential entrepreneurs formed at several government offices around the capital.

Cuba announced on Sept. 13 that it would lay off half a million workers and push many of them into the private sector. It later detailed some 178 private jobs that will be allowable, the most significant economic changes on the island since the early 1990s. But the rules did not become law until they were published Monday.

They allow Cubans over the age of 17 to start their own business, so long as they are



## INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS

permanent residents. Citizens can also apply for licenses for more than one business. They will even be allowed to sell their services to the state, though there will be strict transparency rules to try to stave off corruption.

The law also establishes up to six months of sick leave and a year of maternity leave so that self-employed workers don't have to pay tax while they are not earning.

"I hope this license will bring me a better future," said Lazaro Ramos, who was waiting out-



**EASY DOES IT:** People use a horse drawn carriage as public transport as a public bus is seen behind in Bayamo, Cuba, Friday Oct. 22, 2010. The Cuban government laid out details of the taxes that Cubans will face as they go to work for themselves for the first time after announcing last month that it will lay off half a million state workers, nearly 10 percent of the island's work force.

side a government office in Havana's 10 de Octubre neighborhood. Ramos, 34, said he was unemployed but was hoping to get permission to make pinatas for children's parties. "The economy is not good. But with this, I will be able to make ends meet."

## Information

Officials took down personal information and told applicants to come back in a couple of weeks for more information. It was not clear how long it would take to process the licenses.

The rules published Monday detail four kinds of taxes for the private sector: a sliding personal income tax, a sales tax, a public service tax and a payroll tax. It also establishes minimum monthly fees for different kinds of businesses, as well as deductions Cuban can take to reduce their tax burden.

Some of the tax rules were detailed in the Communist Party newspaper Granma last week, but the newspaper

account lacked crucial details and contained several contradictions.

The lengthy rules laid out in the government Gazette clear up most of the uncertainty.

The law establishes 178 private activities for which licenses can be granted — everything from restaurateur to taxi driver, from button maker to party planner. The majority of those businesses will be eligible for a simplified tax system that establishes a monthly quota regardless of revenue.

For instance, parking attendants would pay 80 pesos (\$4) a month, while typing instructors would have to fork over 100 pesos (\$5) monthly. Barbers have one of the highest fees: 200 pesos (\$10) a month.

Those not eligible for the simplified tax system — jobs like taxi driver, plumber and rooming house operator — will pay a 25 percent income tax on the first 10,000 pesos (\$476) earned each year, with the rate rising for those who earn more. Income exceeding 50,000 pesos (\$2,381) a year will be taxed at 50 percent.

Businesses will also be subject to a 10 percent levy on the total value of their sales, and those that use public services like electricity and water will have to pay a 10 percent tax on top of normal utility rates. The government heavily subsidizes public utilities, meaning the tax should amount to pennies for most businesses.

Entrepreneurs who hire



**BUSINESS CYCLE:** A man repairs a bicycle wheel in his shop in Bayamo, Cuba, Friday Oct. 22, 2010.

employees will have to pay a 25 percent payroll tax on their salaries, and all Cubans who are self-employed must 25 percent of their income into a social security system from which they will eventually draw a pension.

## Rules

The rules mean that, theoretically, a successful businessperson could face taxes of nearly 75 percent, between personal income tax and social security. But the law also establishes many deductions for raw materials, transportation and other business expenses that make such a high rate unlikely.

Cuba is in the midst of a major restructuring of its economy under President Raul Cas-

tro. The half million workers will be laid off by March 2011, and the Cuban leader has warned that another 500,000 state jobs must shed within the next five years. In total, that would be about 20 percent of the island's labor force.

Castro has insisted the changes do not mean the end of Cuba's socialist system. But he says the cash-strapped government can no longer afford to subsidize every aspect of Cuban life and has warned Cubans they will have to work hard to make their own way.

The government currently employs about 85 percent of the labor force, paying workers about \$20 a month but providing free or nearly free education, health care, housing, transportation and basic food.



**HOLDING THE LINE:** Fishermen hold their lines under cloudy skies in Playa del Chivo, Cuba, Friday, Oct. 22, 2010.

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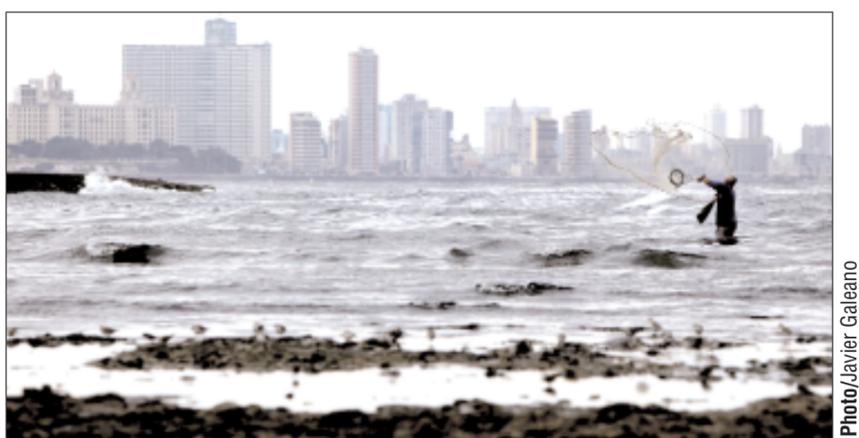
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**NET GAINS:** Backdropped by the Havana skyline, a fisherman casts his net in Playa del Chivo, Cuba, Friday, Oct. 22, 2010.

BISX LISTED & TRADED SECURITIES AS OF:  
**MONDAY, 25 OCTOBER 2010**  
 BISX ALL SHARE INDEX: CLOSE 1,503.88 | CHG 0.09 | %CHG 0.01 | YTD -61.50 | YTD % -3.93  
 FINDEX: CLOSE 900.00 | YTD 00.00% | 2009 -12.31%  
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52wk-Hi	52wk-Low	Security	Symbol	Previous Close	Today's Close	Change	Daily Vol.	EPS \$	Div \$	P/E	Yield
1.26	1.00	AML Foods Limited		1.01	1.01	0.00		0.150	0.040	6.7	3.96%
10.75	9.67	Bahamas Property Fund		10.63	10.63	0.00		0.013	0.200	817.7	1.88%
6.18	4.50	Bank of Bahamas		4.90	4.90	0.00		0.598	0.260	8.2	5.31%
0.58	0.18	Benchmark		0.18	0.18	0.00		-0.877	0.000	N/M	0.00%
3.49	2.84	Bahamas Waste		2.84	2.84	0.00		0.168	0.090	16.9	3.17%
2.15	2.14	Fidelity Bank		2.17	2.17	0.00		0.016	0.040	135.6	1.84%
12.50	9.62	Cable Bahamas		10.23	10.24	0.01	50,000	1.227	0.310	8.3	3.03%
2.84	2.50	Colina Holdings		2.50	2.50	0.00		0.781	0.040	3.2	1.60%
7.00	5.40	Commonwealth Bank (S1)		6.59	6.59	0.00		0.422	0.230	15.6	3.49%
3.65	1.63	Consolidated Water BDRs		1.87	1.85	-0.02		0.111	0.045	16.7	2.43%
2.55	1.60	Doctor's Hospital		1.77	1.77	0.00		0.199	0.110	8.9	6.21%
5.99	5.94	Fanguard		6.07	6.07	0.00	100	-0.003	0.240	N/M	3.95%
10.20	8.10	Finco		8.10	8.10	0.00		0.287	0.520	28.2	6.42%
11.40	8.77	FirsCaribbean Bank		9.74	9.74	0.00		0.645	0.350	15.1	3.59%
5.51	3.75	Focol (S)		5.46	5.46	0.00		0.366	0.210	14.9	3.85%
1.00	1.00	Focol Class B Preference		1.00	1.00	0.00		0.000	0.000	N/M	0.00%
5.59	5.00	ICD Utilities		5.59	5.59	0.00		0.012	0.240	465.8	4.29%
10.50	9.92	J. S. Johnson		9.92	9.92	0.00		0.971	0.640	10.2	6.45%
10.00	10.00	Premier Real Estate		10.00	10.00	0.00		0.991	0.800	10.1	8.00%

52wk-Hi	52wk-Low	Security	Symbol	Last Sale	Change	Daily Vol.	Interest	Maturity
99.46	99.46	Bahamas Note 6.95 (2029)	BAH29	99.46	0.00		6.95%	20 November 2029
100.00	100.00	Fidelity Bank Note 17 (Series A) +	FBB17	100.00	0.00		7%	19 October 2017
100.00	100.00	Fidelity Bank Note 22 (Series B) +	FBB22	100.00	0.00		Prime + 1.75%	19 October 2022
100.00	100.00	Fidelity Bank Note 13 (Series C) +	FBB13	100.00	0.00		7%	30 May 2013
100.00	100.00	Fidelity Bank Note 15 (Series D) +	FBB15	100.00	0.00		Prime + 1.75%	29 May 2015

52wk-Hi	52wk-Low	Fund Name	NAV	YTD %	Last 12 Months %	NAV 3MTH	NAV 6MTH	NAV Date
1.5056	1.4076	CFAL Bond Fund	1.5056	4.65%	6.95%	1.482477	1.460225	30-Sep-10
2.9265	2.8300	CFAL MSI Preferred Fund	2.9187	1.10%	3.13%	2.919946	2.91577	30-Sep-10
1.5579	1.4920	CFAL Money Market Fund	1.5579	3.37%	4.42%	1.539989		30-Sep-10
3.2025	2.8522	Royal Fidelity Bahamas G & I Fund	2.8624	-8.16%	-7.49%			31-Aug-10
13.6388	13.0484	Royal Fidelity Prime Income Fund	13.5642	1.47%	2.95%			30-Sep-10
114.3684	101.6693	CFAL Global Bond Fund	114.3684	9.98%	12.49%	109.392860	107.570619	30-Jun-10
106.6528	99.4177	CFAL Global Equity Fund	106.6528	4.76%	7.18%	100.779540	105.776543	30-Sep-10
1.1318	1.0000	FG Financial Diversified Income Fund	1.1318	3.85%	5.22%			30-Sep-10
1.0969	1.0000	FG Financial Growth Fund	1.0969	2.71%	6.44%			30-Sep-10
1.1320	1.0000	FG Financial Diversified Fund	1.1320	3.79%	5.71%			30-Sep-10
9.6938	9.1005	Royal Fidelity Bah Int'l Investment Fund Principal Protected TIGRS, Series 1	9.6938	3.77%	5.71%			30-Sep-10
11.2361	10.0000	Royal Fidelity Bah Int'l Investment Fund Principal Protected TIGRS, Series 2	10.5308	-2.23%	4.10%			30-Sep-10
10.0000	9.1708	Royal Fidelity Bah Int'l Investment Fund Principal Protected TIGRS, Series 3	9.4372	-5.63%	-5.63%			31-Aug-10
7.9664	4.8105	Royal Fidelity Int'l Fund - Equities Sub Fund	7.8830	2.15%	6.29%			30-Sep-10

**MARKET TERMS**

BISX ALL SHARE INDEX - 19 Dec 02 = 1,000.00  
 52wk-Hi - Highest closing price in last 52 weeks  
 52wk-Low - Lowest closing price in last 52 weeks  
 Previous Close - Previous day's weighted price for daily volume  
 Today's Close - Current day's weighted price for daily volume  
 Change - Change in closing price from day to day  
 Daily Vol. - Number of total shares traded today  
 Div \$ - Dividends per share paid in the last 12 months  
 P/E - Closing price divided by the last 12 month earnings  
 (S) - 4-for-1 Stock Split - Effective Date 8/9/2007  
 (S1) - 3-for-1 Stock Split - Effective Date 7/11/2007

YIELD - Last 12 month dividends divided by closing price  
 Bid \$ - Buying price of Colina and Fidelity  
 Ask \$ - Selling price of Colina and Fidelity  
 Last Price - Last traded over-the-counter price  
 Weekly Vol. - Trading volume of the prior week  
 EPS \$ - A company's reported earnings per share for the last 12 mths  
 NAV - Net Asset Value  
 N/M - Not Meaningful  
 FINDEX - The Fidelity Bahamas Stock Index, January 1, 1994 = 100

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## Legal Notice

### NOTICE

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**THE SYMINGTON GROUP INC.**  
 In Voluntary Liquidation

"Notice is hereby given that in accordance with Section 137 (4) of the International Business Companies Act (No. 45 of 2000), THE SYMINGTON GROUP INC. is in Dissolution."

The date of commencement of dissolution is the 22nd day of October 2010.

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# Home sales up in Sept. but more troubles ahead

ALAN ZIBEL,  
AP Business Writers  
JEANNINE AVERSA,  
AP Business Writers  
WASHINGTON

Sales of previously occupied U.S. homes rose last month after the worst summer for the housing market in more than a decade. And fears over flawed foreclosure documents could keep buyers on the sidelines in the final months of the year.

Sales grew 10 percent in September to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 4.53 million, the National Association of Realtors said Monday.

Home sales have declined 37.5 percent from their peak annual rate of 7.25 million in September 2005. They have risen from July's rate of 3.84 million, which was the lowest in 15 years.

Most experts expect roughly 5 million homes to be sold through the entire year. That would be in line with last year's totals and just above sales for 2008, the worst since 1997.

Still, sales could fall further if potential lawsuits from former homeowners claiming that banks made errors when seizing their homes make consumers fearful of buying foreclosed properties.

The Federal Reserve on Monday became the latest government regulator to announce it would be looking into whether mortgage companies cut corners on their own procedures when seizing homes.

Chairman Ben Bernanke said the Fed would look intensively to see if policies, procedures or internal controls led lenders to improperly foreclose on homeowners. Preliminary results of an in-depth report are expected to be released next month.

"We take violation of proper procedures very seriously," Bernanke said.

In a survey taken by the Realtors group this month, about 23 percent of the 2,000 agents surveyed said they have a client who is no longer interested in purchasing a foreclosed property due to the foreclosure-document mess.

"You're going to see uncertainty on the part of homebuyers," said Quinn Eddins, director of research at Radar Logic Inc., which tracks the housing market.

Mortgage applications to purchase homes last week were 29 percent below the same week a year ago, according to the Mortgage Bankers Association.

At that time, buyers were rushing to purchase homes to qualify for federal tax credits.

Last month the inventory of unsold homes on the market fell about 2 percent to 4 million. That's a 10.8 month supply

at the current sales pace. It compares with a healthy level of about six months.

Dubious mortgage practices and lax lending standards were blamed for contributing to a housing bubble that eventually burst and thrust the economy from 2007-2009 into the worst recession since the 1930s.

Many Americans took out home loans that they didn't understand and bought homes that they couldn't afford.

As a result, foreclosures have soared to record highs. It's one of the negative forces restraining the economy's ability to get back on sounder footing.



**SALES RISE:** In this photo taken Saturday, Oct. 23, 2010, a sign indicates a residential home sale in Framingham, Mass. Sales of previously occupied homes rose last month after a dismal summer but remain well short of healthy levels.

(AP Photo/Bill Sikes)

## NOTICE

IN THE ESTATE OF JOHN DALE domiciled and late of 11b Carefree Apartments, Cable Beach, New Providence The Bahamas, deceased.

NOTICE is hereby given that all persons having any claim or demand against or interest in the above Estate should send same duly certified in writing to the undersigned on or before 6th December, 2010 after which date the Executor will proceed to distribute the assets of the Estate having regard only to the claims, demands or interests of which he shall then have had notice AND all persons indebted to the above Estate are asked to settle such debts on or before 6th December, 2010.

**FREDERIK F. GOTTLIEB & CO.**  
Attorneys for the Executor  
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## BUSINESS

# Greek Prime Minister sells austerity ahead of tough poll

DEREK GATOPOULOS,  
Associated Press Writer  
ATHENS, Greece

Prime Minister George Papandreou urged Greeks on Monday to back austerity measures, in a live television address ahead of local elections that could see a dent in support for his Socialist government.

Papandreou's government — faced with months of unpopular reforms to secure international bailout loans — has seen a sharp drop in support in recent weeks ahead of the Nov. 7-14 regional and municipal elec-

tions. "If we stop now and fail to continue major reforms, our efforts will be lost and we will slide back into the past, making things worse," Papandreou said in an interview broadcast live on state and private TV channels.

"We were a few days away — maybe just a few hours away — from defaulting on our debts ... facing with a protest vote that many seek, I ask you to cast a ballot of hope."

The high-profile appearance was seen by analysts as a risky tactic since it was likely to focus public attention on unpopular

government measures. Greece's main opposition conservatives and left-wing parties in parliament all fiercely oppose the terms of the rescue deal with European countries and the International Monetary Fund providing Greece euro110 billion through 2012.

Under the agreement to receive the loans and avoid default on its debts, Greece's government slashed pensions and civil service pay, hiked consumer taxes, and began dismantling protective job rules and restructuring loss-making state companies.

## POSITION WANTED

**Freelance Accountant/Consultant** (presently working 2 days/wk) seeks job on a part-time (1, 2 or 3 days/wk); or temp basis (to cover maternity, sick leave, project, etc.).

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- |                                   |  |
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| <b>2. Accounting</b>              | (Corp/Trust/Client Accounting:- book-keeping, financial statements, accts receivables & payables, calc of agency/introducer fees & commissions, bank/broker recs, cash control & mgmt, etc.) |
| <b>3. Compliance/Risk</b>         | (new accounts/risk reviews/assessments, internal systems' monitoring, etc.)  |
| <b>4. Client Services</b>         | (client rep/mgmt of client accts)  |
| <b>5. Company Administration</b>  | (incorporating & mgmt of companies)  |
| <b>6. Office Mgmt.</b>            | (Overseeing of small offices)  |
| <b>7. Payroll/Human Resources</b> |  |

Interested persons please contact [accountant.consultant@yahoo.com](mailto:accountant.consultant@yahoo.com) or [accountant.consultant@hotmail.com](mailto:accountant.consultant@hotmail.com)

## 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)

## GLOBAL ECONOMIC NEWS

ASSOCIATED PRESS

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

**SEOUL, South Korea** — Facing the risk of a dangerous trade war, top finance officials from the world's leading rich and developing nations looked each other in the eye and vowed they wouldn't use their currencies as economic weapons to boost exports.

The agreement the members of the Group of 20 reached the past weekend in South Korea, though vague on enforcement and long on promises, was hailed by officials and analysts as a step forward in defusing tensions.

Still, it could turn out to be nothing more than a symbolic handshake unless the separate forum that has become the board of directors for the global economy after the 2008 financial crisis can act on its words and build a viable enforcement mechanism.

**LONDON** — World stocks rose and the dollar slumped after global finance chiefs vowed to avoid a currency war that could derail the global recovery. With no concrete guidelines to go by, however, investors are wary that this may only prove a temporary truce.

Britain's FTSE 100 index closed up 0.2 percent, Germany's DAX rose 0.5 percent higher while France's CAC-40 was almost unchanged.

Earlier in Asia, Japan's benchmark Nikkei 225 stock index closed down 0.3 percent, but other shares rose. South Korea's Kospi added 1 percent, Hong Kong's Hang Seng climbed 0.9 percent and the Shanghai Composite Index vaulted 2.6 percent. Markets in Singapore, Taiwan and India also gained.

Australia's S&P/ASX 200 added 1.3 percent amid news the Singapore Exchange is making a \$8.3 billion takeover offer for ASX, the operator of the Australian stock market.

**PARIS** — France's massive strikes are costing the national economy up to euro400 million (\$557 million) each day, the French finance minister said as workers continued to block oil refineries and trash incinerators to protest a plan to raise the retirement age to 62.

Rotting piles of garbage are becoming a health hazard in the Mediterranean city of Marseille. France's 12 striking refineries have been shut down for nearly two weeks, and at least one in four gas stations in France has run dry.

President Nicolas Sarkozy stood firm amid the growing pressure, determined to reform the retirement system to ensure funds for future generations as life expectancy increases and the nation's debt soars.

**TOKYO** — Japan's exports grew at their slowest pace this year in September, hit by cooling foreign demand and a strong yen.

**SINGAPORE** — The Singapore Exchange Ltd. said it is making a \$8.3 billion cash and shares takeover offer for the operator of the Australian bourse, aiming to vault from second-tier stock market to leading Asian finance center.

**LONDON** — British Prime Minister



(AP Photo/Kyodo News)

**ON THE MONEY:** Tokyo money traders work under a currency rate indicator showing Japanese yen is traded 81.80-85 yen against the U.S. dollar at one moment Tuesday afternoon, Oct. 12, 2010. The dollar fell to 81.92 yen from its New York close of 82.16 yen but was off a fresh 15-year low of 81.37 yen in Sydney late Monday, nearing its post World War II low of 79.75 yen set in 1995.

David Cameron promised to drive exports higher and cut regulatory red tape to encourage private sector innovation as his government seeks to replace tens of thousands of jobs lost because of harsh public spending cuts.

**LONDON** — The Bank of England is unlikely to withdraw economic stimulus yet as the recovery from recession remains "bumpy and uneven," a senior policymaker said.

**TOKYO** — The leaders of India and Japan signed a broad agreement aimed at increasing trade and agreed to speed up talks toward a civilian nuclear energy deal.

**ATHENS, Greece** — All train services in Greece were suspended after state railway employees launched a series of strikes against planned reforms.

**NAIROBI, Kenya** — Much of Africa is recovering fast from the global financial crisis and the region will register the second-highest growth rates in the world, the International Monetary Fund said.

**LAGOS, Nigeria** — India's largest telecom company Bharti Airtel said it plans to bring call center jobs to Africa, months after it bought out a major mobile phone network on the continent.

**BEIRUT** — Arab countries are pushing for greater transparency in their stock markets to boost credibility in their exchanges following massive losses linked to the global economic meltdown, Arab market officials said.

GN -1118

## Ministry of Finance Central Bank of The Bahamas

### Banks And Trust Companies Regulation Act, 2000

#### Notice of Approval of Surrender of Licence

In exercise of the powers conferred by subsection (2) of section 18A and section 18D of the Banks and Trust Companies Regulation Act, 2000, the Central Bank of The Bahamas approves the surrender of the branch licence of HSBC Private Bank (Suisse)S.A. which was granted on the 4th day of July, 2001 to HSBC Republic Bank (Suisse) S.A. (now called "HSBC Private Bank (Suisse) S.A.")

Made this 19th day of October, 2010

Signed: Wendy Craigg  
Governor of the Central Bank of The Bahamas

## BUSINESS

news  
BRIEFS

ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Govt pushing more fuel efficiency for trucks

WASHINGTON

Future longhaul trucks, school buses and large pickup trucks will be required to cut fuel consumption and emissions by 10 to 20 percent under first-ever fuel efficiency plans for trucks released Monday by the Obama administration.

For the first time, the Environmental Protection Agency and the Transportation Department announced proposed fuel economy requirements and reductions in tailpipe emissions for medium- and heavy-duty trucks, beginning with those sold in the 2014 model year and into the 2018 model year. The proposal, which is expected to be finalized next summer, seeks a 20 percent reduction in carbon dioxide emissions and fuel consumption from big rig combination tractors by 2018. Large tractor-trailers tend to be driven up to 150,000 miles a year, making them prime candidates for improved fuel efficiency.



**EFFICIENT:** Lightweight Alcoa Dura-Bright(R) wheels are improving the efficiency of Yale University's campus transit buses. Alcoa donated 130 of its environmentally-friendly wheels to Yale in support of the university's campus wide sustainability initiative. Converting to aluminum wheels from steel wheels increases the fleet's fuel efficiency, reduces emissions and saves on maintenance costs.

## Boyd Gaming won't buy rest of Borgata

ATLANTIC CITY, New Jersey

Boyd Gaming said Monday it won't buy the remaining half of the Borgata Hotel Casino & Spa, Atlantic City's top casino.

The Las Vegas-based company owns half of the Borgata, and had the right of first refusal to buy the remaining half from MGM Resorts International. Boyd says it's comfortable owning half of the casino-hotel. MGM chose to sell its half-share rather than cut ties to the family of an Asian gambling mogul suspected of ties to Chinese organized crime. The company has a joint venture casino in Macau with Pansy Ho. Her father, Stanley, has long denied allegations that he is affiliated with Chinese criminal gangs.

## Expedia offers blind-booking option for hotels

SAMANTHA BOMKAMP, AP Transportation Writer

Online booking site Expedia is partnering with Hotwire to offer a "blind-booking" option to travelers looking for bargains on hotel room rates. The companies say the partnership, officially announced Monday, will allow travelers to choose hotel rooms in more than 25,000 hotels worldwide for as much as 50 percent off comparable online rates. Customers won't see the name of the property before they book. During the recession blind-booking sites like Hotwire gained popularity for finding cheap rates, Hotwire president Clem Bason said in an interview with The Associated Press. That trend is continuing now, he said, as deals become fewer and farther between and hotel room rates begin to rise.

Blind-booking options also funnel more travelers into hotel rooms that would otherwise stay empty. About half of all hotel rooms went unfilled last year, according to Smith Travel Research.

Expedia customers can sort hotels by travel dates, star rating and location. Hotwire will manage the display, pricing and back-end booking with the hotel. Expedia's website has been testing an "Unpublished Rates" offer since late summer. The company is based in Bellevue, Wash.

## France: Strikes cost up to \$557m per day



## INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS

ELAINE GANLEY, Associated Press Writer PARIS

France's massive strikes are costing the national economy up to \$557 million each day, the French finance minister said Monday as workers continued to block trash incinerators to protest a plan to raise the retirement age to 62.

Rotting piles of garbage — now at nearly 9,000 tons — are becoming a health hazard in the Mediterranean city of Marseille, which has been hit hard on land and at sea. Striking dockers at France's largest port are intermittently blocking ships trying to unload fuel there. Twelve striking refineries have been shut down for nearly two weeks, but the protest movement appeared to weaken Monday after workers at three refineries voted to end their walkout. The French oil refineries' body, UFIP, said all the country's oil depots had also been unblocked.

The oil worker's return to work is likely to ease the ongoing gasoline shortages, which on Monday still had about one in four gas stations in France shuttered. President Nicolas Sarkozy has stood firm throughout the weekslong protest movement, insisting the reform is necessary to save the money-losing retirement system and ensure funds for future generations as life expectancy increases and the nation's debt soars.

The bill to overhaul France's pension plan is to be definitively voted on this week by the two houses of parliament, likely by Wednesday, officials said



PILING ON THE MISERY: A man walks past piles of garbage in Marseille, southern France, Monday, Oct. 25, 2010.

AP Photo/Laurent Cipriani

after a meeting of a committee that wrote a final version of the legislation to raise the retirement age from 60 to 62. It is all

but certain to pass. "We must be aware that in a world without borders we can't have a French exception ... that exists

nowhere else," said lawmaker Pierre Mehaignerie, of Sarkozy's UMP party.

Strikers were clearly counting on derailing the measure before it is signed into law after this week's final voting.

Garbage and gas are critical weapons for the strikers, who decry the reform as unjust. Besides raising the minimum retirement age to 62, it increases the age to access full retirement benefits from 65 to 67. It was only in 1982 that French employees won the right to retire at 60, and since then it has been considered a well-earned right.

"We aren't going to work on the docks until 65. It's just not possible," said Frederic Chabert, 47, at Fos-sur-Mer, a Marseille area port.

## Job Vacancy

An established Nassau based company seeks to fill the position of **Assistant Financial Controller**. All applicants **MUST** possess the following:

- Passing grades on all parts of the CPA examination.
- 1-2 years experience working with an Accounting firm.
- Strong analytical skills.
- Strong organizational skills with the ability to work independently.
- A thorough working knowledge of Microsoft Excel.
- The ability to learn quickly.
- Excellent communication and team work skills.
- The ability to manage multiple tasks and responsibilities simultaneously.

Interested persons should submit their resumes via e-mail to:

asstfinancialcontroller@hotmail.com

All resumes must be received by **19<sup>th</sup> November 2010**.

Only persons meeting **ALL** of the requirements above need apply.

## CFA SOCIETY OF THE BAHAMAS

## ANNUAL CFA PROGRAM INFORMATION EVENING

**TOPIC:** "AN INTRODUCTION TO THE CHARTERED FINANCIAL ANALYST (CFA®) PROGRAM AND THE EDUCATION REVIEW COURSE"

**DATE:** Friday, October 29th, 2010

**TIME:** 6:00 p.m. Cocktails  
6:30 p.m. Presentation

**PLACE:** Arawak Room  
Sheraton Beach Resort, Cable Beach

**WHO SHOULD ATTEND:** Anyone who has already registered for Level I, II or III of the CFA exams or who would like to learn more about the CFA program

**COST:** Complimentary

**RESERVATIONS:** PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED  
by October 28th, 2010  
Andre Souza, CFA  
[andre@arbitral.com](mailto:andre@arbitral.com)  
ph 362 6750

The Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA®) Program is a globally recognized standard for measuring the competence and integrity of professionals in the fields of portfolio management and investment analysis. Three levels of examination verify a candidate's ability to apply the fundamental knowledge of investment principles across all areas of the investment decision-making process.

The next examination date is June 4, 2011 and the final registration and enrollment date is March 16, 2011. We encourage all interested persons to attend the information evening to learn more about the CFA Program.

The CFA Society of The Bahamas will present a brief outline of the CFA Institute, and the local society. The Education Committee will present the 2010/2011 Education Programs planned for Level I, II and III candidates. A question and answer panel session will follow.



SOLUTIONS FOR A RAPIDLY CHANGING WORLD

## Join the team!

## About Providence Technology Group

Providence Technology Group is one of the leading providers of business critical IT solutions in The Bahamas. Through our seamless mix of Networking, Productivity and Consulting solutions, we have the privilege of guiding a growing base of clients in the financial and professional services sectors along unique paths to achieving their business goals.

## We Exist so that our Clients may Succeed

Microsoft  
GOLD CERTIFIED  
Partner

## Senior Technical Analyst

As a Senior Technical Analyst in the Networking Solutions practice, you will play a leading role in the architecture & design, staging & deployment, and ongoing optimization & support of small, medium and large client networks. As such, you will be required to work closely with the Vice President, Networking Solutions in order to gain a full understanding of client requirements, to rapidly design and accurately cost client solutions, and to assist in presenting solutions to clients in clear business terms. Once a solution has been approved, you will also be responsible for leading the deployment of the solution to ensure that it is delivered "error-free" and in accordance with industry best practices. Additionally, you will be responsible for ensuring that all "managed" client network environments are regularly optimized and kept in excellent working condition. You will also be required to provide hands-on technical support and advanced troubleshooting to bring prompt resolution to technical problems as they arise.

## Requirements:

## Education &amp; Experience

- Minimum of a Bachelors Degree
- Minimum 10 years hands-on experience designing, deploying and supporting business critical networks.
- Demonstrated technical leadership experience

## Core Certifications

- Microsoft: MCSE W2K3, MCITP W2K8 EA, Exchange 2K3/2K7, ISA 2K4/2K6 | Hyper-V Virtualization
- Cisco: CCDP (Design), CCNP (Routing & Switching), CCSP (Security), CCVP (Voice), CCNA (Wireless)

## Additional Certifications/Competencies (are an advantage)

- Citrix (Administrator | Engineer)
- VMWare Virtualization
- Storage Area Networking (SAN)
- Unified Messaging, Voice over IP (VOIP), Telephony

## How To Apply

Please email resumes to [jobs@providencetg.com](mailto:jobs@providencetg.com) by Friday, November 5 2010

#2 Nassau Court | Level Two | P.O. Box N-1081 | Nassau, The Bahamas  
T 242.326.0382 F 242.326.0389 | [info@providencetg.com](mailto:info@providencetg.com) | [www.providencetg.com](http://www.providencetg.com)

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The Tribune

B O D Y A N D M I N D

# health

## HEARTSTRONG

The family of Haddassah Greene recounts coping with her heart defect

**W**HEN a child is diagnosed with a serious heart defect at birth parents may feel as if their worst nightmare has come true.

In addition to the immense emotional strain put on the family there is the immediate concern about how to pay for treatments to save the child's life.

Jayson and Denise Greene found themselves in this traumatic predicament 14 years ago when their daughter Haddassah was born with a large atrial septal defect—a hole in the upper part of the heart.

However, thanks to the support of family, friends and the assistance of the Sir Victor Sassoon Bahamas Heart Foundation, Haddassah was able to get the medical attention she needed and now lives a healthy and productive life.

Grateful for all the help they received in their time of need, the Greene family is now appealing to Bahamians to support the Sir Victor Sassoon Bahamas Heart Foundation in its efforts to assist others who find themselves in a similar situation to Haddassah's.

### Illness

Haddassah was born on February 12, 1996 with a hole in her heart.

She developed heart failure unexpectedly and failed to thrive as a result.

The signs of her illness included her being slightly sluggish and not eating properly.

Initially, her parents took her to a pediatrician, but she was later referred to heart specialists and her case presented to the Sir Victor Sassoon Bahamas Heart Foundation.

Medical management did not improve her growth and she required surgical closure of the hole in her heart when she was seven and a half months old.

A local team of trained experts—including pediatric cardiologist Dr Jerome Lightbourne, cardio-thoracic surgeon Dr Duane Sands and cardiac-anesthesiologist Dr Mark Weech—performed the surgery at Doctor's Hospital.

Haddassah was then transferred to the Princess Margaret Hospital (PMH) for recovery. She was discharged five days later and soon resorted to being a typical playful toddler.

She needed no further surgery and required only one visit to the doctor annually for a medical check-up, her family said.

Today, at age 14, Haddassah is a healthy and energetic teenager, her parents said.

She is an active member of the Centreville Seventh Day Adventist Church and the Pathfinder's Club.

She attends grade eight at Kingsway Academy High School and excels academically.

Haddassah says she also enjoys cooking, music, running and playing volleyball, and she aspires to be a dentist someday.

However, Haddassah and her family said they know all of this would not have been possible if she did not receive the necessary medical attention when she was a baby.

### Surgery

Haddassah's surgery would have been a financial strain without the assistance of the Sir Victor Sassoon Heart Foundation, her family said.

To the Foundation and the medical team from the Bahamas Heart Centre who repair the hearts of children, Haddassah said: "A big hearty 'thank you' Drs Jerome Lightbourne, Duane Sands and Mark Weech for the love, tender care given me while mending my little heart and giving me a chance at life. I thank my Mom and Dad and all those lovely people who prayed and cared for me and I thank God for the wisdom given to man and His love and mercy on me."

Haddassah's parents described the experience as a "faith-building" one.

"We realise that God in His great mercy has seen fit to allow us to keep this precious bundle of joy. As parents this experience has also caused us to be more attentive and observant as early detection can correct and save a child's life, giving them the opportunity to develop physically and spiritually".

The Greenes said they would especially like to thank the Heart Foundation for stepping in and making Haddassah's surgery financially possible.

"In gratitude we have given back financially and in active service. We encourage you the public to financially assist the Heart Foundation and help to make a difference in the lives of other children and parents. At the Heart Foundation there are dedicated, caring persons who do all they can to help both the child and parent. We are happy about the way they dealt with us," the Greenes said.

Bahamians are encouraged to support the Heart Foundation by attending its upcoming fundraising efforts—The Annual Tea Party and Fashion Show on November 21 and the Annual Heart Ball on February 19, 2011.



### SURVIVOR



**ABOVE:** HADASSAH as a toddler. When she was seven and a half months old Haddassah underwent surgery to close a hole in the upper part of her heart.

**FAR LEFT:** At age 14, Haddassah now lives a healthy and productive life.

**LEFT:** HADASSAH is now an active member in the Seventh Day Adventists' Pathfinder Club.

## A call for nominations for the Lady Sassoon Golden Heart Award

NEXT year will mark the 50th anniversary of the Sir Victor Sassoon (Bahamas) Heart Foundation.

Leading up to the events surrounding this milestone, Foundation representatives are searching for an individual who has touched the lives and hearts of others to receive the Lady Sassoon Golden Heart award during the 50th anniversary celebrations.

The award will be presented at the 47th annual Heart Ball, scheduled to be held on February 19, 2011 at the Sheraton Nassau Beach Resort.

Interested persons are invited to submit a nomination, to be accompanied by a letter or statement explaining why the person recommended should receive the award.

The most recent winner of the Lady Sassoon Golden Heart Award winner is Dr Donald Gerace.

Dr Gerace, the Foundation said, is known for his giving nature and community building efforts. He gained fame in

the Bahamas for his work in San Salvador at the Gerace Research Centre. Additionally, when Hurricane Francis struck San Salvador, Dr Gerace, through his US connections, helped to get needed supplies and materials to the island to help the people to rebuild. One of Dr. Gerace's most significant gifts to the Bahamas has been the number of students who have profited from the scholarships he has helped to arrange, the Foundation said.

The Sir Victor Sassoon (Bahamas) Heart Foundation first instituted the Golden Heart Award in 1969. This award was to be given annually to a person who has given of himself unselfishly to promote human welfare and dignity while making life better for his fellow men. The winner of the 1968 Golden Heart Award, awarded in 1969, was Dr Maria Bachem. She was the clinical director of St Francis Xavier's Free Health and Pre-natal Clinic.

She was recognised for her unpublicised work among the poor and the elderly during her 14 years in the Bahamas.

Since 1969, the award has been presented to many persons. In 1998, the award's name was officially changed to the Lady Sassoon Golden Heart Award in honour of the founder of the award and the Sassoon Heart Foundation, Lady Evelyn Sassoon.

Lady Sassoon established the Heart Foundation in 1961 as a living tribute to her late husband Sir Victor Sassoon to help children suffering from heart defects in the Bahamas.

Nominations for the Golden Heart Award 2010 can be delivered to the Golden Heart Award Committee, PO Box N-8189; or alternatively, submissions can be hand-delivered to Grosham Property, Cable Beach. This is the office site for The Sir Victor Sassoon (Bahamas) Heart Foundation.

The deadline for nominations is January 14, 2011.



**CONGRATULATION:** R E Barnes, the Victor Sassoon (Bahamas) Heart Foundation chairman, and Dr Donald Gerace, 2009 Lady Sassoon Golden Heart Award winner.

## WOMAN

# Staff of Sandals participate Breast Cancer awareness seminar

By ALESHA CADET  
Tribune Features  
Reporter

**D**ISPELLING the myths surrounding breast cancer and addressing the complex issue of mastectomy were among the topics touched upon in one of the final efforts held in connection with this year's Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

In support of Breast Cancer Awareness Month, staff at the Sandals Royal Bahamian Spa and Resort's in New Providence attended a seminar featuring guest speaker and surgeon Dr Charles Diggiss, chief medical officer at Doctors Hospital.

Dr Diggiss took the attendees on an explanatory journey to increase their understanding of breast cancer, early detection and treatment, beginning with an explanation of the anatomy of the breast and dispelling myths about breast cancer.

"While the actual cause of breast cancer remains unknown, a lot of research has been done worldwide and efforts continue to find a cure, however, early detection and treatment are key," he said.

Organisers said one question that arose during the session was "whether to keep or lose the breast" once cancer is

detected.

Dr Diggiss alluded to the dual roles of the breast, its role in breastfeeding and in sexual situations, but he also noted that if it were necessary, it is a part of a woman's body that she can do without.

While removing the entire breast or both breasts has an impact on reducing the local recurrence of cancer it does not necessarily increase the chance of survival.

President of the Sister Sister Breast Cancer Support Group Andrea Sweeting, an eight-and-a-half year cancer survivor, also explained to the staff the function and role of support groups in helping cancer victims and survivors.

"Many cancer patients think or ask 'why me', they often feel forsaken that no one understands or cares, and a group such as the Sister Sister Breast Cancer Support Group plays a vital role in a cancer patient's survival," she said.

The Sister Sister breast cancer patient support group came out of the multi-practice offices of the Surgical Suite at Centerville Medical Centre, Collins Avenue, co-founded by Dr Diggiss, Dr Locksley Munroe and Nurse Charlene McPhee. The Surgical Suite is a member of the MedNet Group of Companies, of which Dr Diggiss is president.

"These compassionate surgeons would cut away our cancer but they could not

answer our questions, so that is where the network began," Ms Sweeting told *Tribune Health*.

In recent news, nine members of the Surgical Sister group flew from Nassau to Miami, Florida where they participated in the widely promoted and internationally televised Komen Race for the Cure on Bayfront Park. The race, which garnered worldwide support, is symbolic for the race against time to find a cure for cancer.

The nine cancer survivors from the Sister Sister group travelled to show their solidarity by joining hands, hearts and sharing their courage and strength with the over 30,000 women from across the United States and the world.

The Komen Race for the Cure was just one of the highlights of Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

The Sister Sister group will be winding down its Breast Cancer Awareness Month activities with an information booth at the College of the Bahamas from 2pm to 4pm and at the Seventh Day Adventist Health Fair at the Mall at Marathon from 6pm to 8pm on October 28.

The month's activities culminate with a Sister Sister candlelight vigil in Rawson Square on Saturday, October 30 at 7pm.

"The candlelight vigil is where we come together at the end of the month of Octo-



LEFT TO RIGHT: Anrea Sweeting, president of the Sister Sister Breast Cancer Support Group; Nurse Sandra Ferguson-Rolle, vice-president of the Sister Sister Breast Cancer Support Group; Helen Rolle, secretary of the Sister Sister Breast Cancer Support Group.

ber. It involves a small walk from George Street and Elizabeth Avenue, and we would meet at Rawson Square where we do praise and worship, one of the survivors will give their testimony as well," Ms Sweeting said.

The Sandals health symposium was organised by Sandals' resident nurse Anna Forbes to increase staff support and understanding of breast cancer patients and survivors and to encourage preventative measures during

Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

"We thought to educate our staff about breast cancer and to assist them in getting a better understanding of prevention, early detection and treatment," Nurse Forbes said.

## GREEN SCENE

By Gardener Jack

# Cool weather crops

THERE are some vegetables that require much cooler conditions than others in order to grow successfully.

These should be planted towards the end of October when nighttime temperatures drop considerably and conditions become favourable.

Bitterness is a quality of lettuce that makes it what it is, but when the bitterness is too pronounced lettuce becomes inedible.

Warm growing conditions promote bitterness and bolting – the production of a seed stalk, after which the plant is fit only for the compost bin or to produce seeds.

Our store bought iceberg and romaine lettuce generally comes to us from California where conditions are perfect for their growth.

It is best to avoid growing these and look for lettuce varieties that have been developed for tropical conditions.

These lettuces will be smaller than Californian ones but should satisfy our needs.

There is a wide variety of lettuce types that can be grown in our gardens between now and March, the most reliable performers being loose leaf such as Simpson Black-Seeded. Loose leaf lettuces come in an array of colours from green to bronze to red, and have the advantage that their leaves can be picked individually as required.

One sandwich? A couple of leaves. A salad bowl? Cut the whole plant.

If you are determined to grow romaine then you may need to germinate your seeds in the refrigerator.

Plant them in a small pot, water them and leave them on a fridge

shelf for week. Once the seedlings are about two inches tall you can transplant to the garden.

Locally grown romaine is usually coarse and chewy, edible but far from prime. Crisphead lettuces may be a better choice. These grow to the size of a softball and have a crunchy texture rather like iceberg.

Lettuces in general have small root balls and care should be taken to keep them relatively moist and with adequate fertiliser.

Frozen garden peas are a mainstay as a vegetable side dish but only by growing your own will you experience the truly delightful taste of fresh peas.

Peas are best grown in rows and the soil in which they are grown should have compost or commercial cow manure added.

Most pea varieties need some sort of staking and are best grown against a trellis.

Normal garden peas should be picked once the pods are full and almost cylindrical. Mangetout peas are eaten pods and all, usually after a brief steaming.

Snow peas are grown solely for their large pods and should be picked early.

Strangely enough, despite the name, snow peas are the easiest and most productive of peas to grow in a Bahamian garden.

Fresh spinach is loved by many as a substitute for lettuce in salads but has a very short growing season in our climate.

Grow plenty and reap often. Spinach is best grown in blocks, allowing three inches between plants.



Superior: Freshly picked and shelled peas taste far superior to frozen or canned.

Harvest by clipping the plants just below where the green of the leaves starts and new leaves will grow.

Spinach bolts quickly in warm weather so look for a variety that is bolt resistant.

Snap or green beans are perhaps the most reliable performers in our winter garden for they grow quickly and bear abundantly.

Snap beans can be grown in rows

around the edge of garden lots to make the rather fussy chore of picking them somewhat easier.

It is almost certain you will end up with more beans than your family can stand. Why not freeze some for a later date? Drop the beans into boiling water and stir for one minute.

Drain the beans quickly and plunge them into a bowl of iced water to cool them as close to instantly as

possible. Place the beans on a cooking sheet so they are not touching each other and freeze them. Once frozen they can be stored in freezer bags. Don't forget to put the date on the label.

• For more information and information e-mail [gardenerjack@coralwave.com](mailto:gardenerjack@coralwave.com)

## LOVING RELATIONSHIPS

# Do we create our own happiness?

FOR some of us a birthday, anniversary or life altering event propels us into a state of introspection. We chronicle our life, the major players, the paths presented and the choices that we made. We often refer to particular times or stages as high and low points in our life.

Whether the wheels of our life were running smoothly or had slowed to a stand still may have helped to shape our recollection.

Peeling away at all the external layers of our life we find ourselves naked in our personal pursuit of happiness.

If love, health and happiness head our list of life's priorities, then we start to understand how one impacts the other.



By MAGGIE BAIN

How we feel about our love, life and intimate relationships is central to our core happiness or unhappiness.

Our mental and physical agility plays games with desire and dictates heavily to our sense of peace.

For most of us, our journey through life consists of building a pyramid of 'stuff' in an effort to reach that pinnacle of contentment.

We only have to look

around to realise that we have joined the general population in acquiring all the social trappings expected of us.

Unarguably, 'things' can make certain aspects of our life easier, but it is not unusual for the novelty to quickly fade. Once again, we are face to face with ourselves.

If we are not careful, we can spend a lifetime adding and subtracting people and things in the hope that it brings us peace and fulfillment.

We are quick to point the finger of blame on things missing in our lives, or the negative energy surrounding us.

Hopefully, over time or even a lifetime, we realise that it is how we deal with life's obstacles that will produce satisfac-

tion. When all is said and done, we return to the same point that happiness is a state of mind.

We only have to look at persons who have had horrific pasts or those who look to the future with expected misery and yet tackle life with joy.

Happiness is all about pushing forward and dealing with day-to-day struggles. It is an energy that produces fortitude and courage.

Scientifically, we know that some of us need a kick-start with pharmaceuticals in order to rearrange the brain chemistry.

It may take changing diet and lifestyles just to put us in the starting line.

Having faith, that no matter what it takes to get to that point, we will then start to feel a change.

If we choose to keep on run-

ning and not deal with our problems we find our fears only compounded.

Nothing goes away because we cannot hide from ourselves. For many it takes decades of avoidance and discontent before something makes them come to a grinding halt.

"How to go about this", is a frequently asked question. There is no doubt that it is a process and a mindset.

Just to take that first step to understand and want to change from within is hard, even for the strong. To create a philosophy of fearlessness that you will be able to face and tackle anything is not an easy endeavour.

Viewing your life as a journey of self-discovery will open your eyes to a life of wonder.

With that in mind, we start to understand that everything thrown in our direction is for a reason, although it may not be

immediately apparent.

Knowing all of this we should not be surprised to find that it is often the elderly who declare themselves the happiest. Many have come to terms with life's struggles and appreciate the joy of waking up each day. We can start by emulating them by making a point of finding some small happiness each day, and ultimately the gift of life.

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

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

WOMAN

# Abaco's Madisyn Cole has her sights set on 'Little Miss Bahamas' title

By ALESHA CADET  
Tribune Features Reporter

**E**XCITEMENT is building for 33 young girls who are preparing for the Little Miss Bahamas pageant next month.

Among the contestants this year is Madisyn Cole, a fourth grade student from Abaco who is being sponsored by HG Christie.

Madisyn's mother, Kathleen Albury, is HG Christie's Abaco estate broker.

Meeting the young beauty queen during a recent dress fitting in Nassau, John Christie, vice-president and director of HG Christie, summed up his first impression of her in two words: "Very cute!"

**Talented**

Described by her friends and family as "bright, talented and self-assured", Madisyn will represent Abaco on the big night, which is scheduled for November 21 at the Wyndham Nassau Resort.

As part of the competition, Madisyn will be required to participate in a cultural costume presentation, an evening gown display and a talent performance.

Madisyn is reportedly planning on performing a "cultural dance" for her talent segment.

Ms Albury told *Tribune*

*Entertainment* that her daughter is incredibly excited to be participating in the pageant and does not seem to be nervous at all.

"She has loved meeting all the other little girls in the pageant and the rehearsals are going great," the real estate broker said.

"She is very proud to represent Abaco, and as far as preparation goes, they will do a stage performance which is a commercial and Madisyn is going to be talking about the history of Abaco."

**Honoured**

Ms Albury said she feels very honoured by HG Christie's sponsorship of her daughter.

"They all have known her since she was a baby and it is great to have my company sponsor her in this competition," she said.

The Little Miss Bahamas Organisation just recently recorded a major success – one its former queens advanced to the finals and captured the title of World's Mini Miss in Phoenix, Arizona.

Adria Albury was the lucky contestant who not only won the title, but also, together with her mom, won in the Mother/Daughter category.

A group of over 30 Bahamians attended the international pageant event and celebrated with Adria and her family.



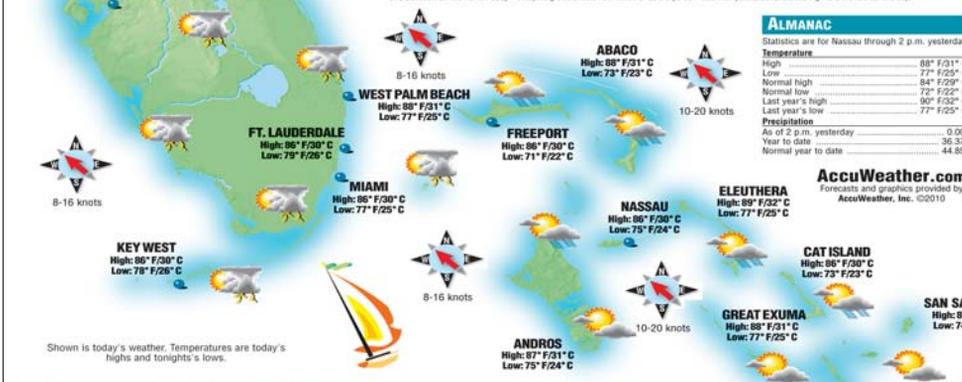
**LITTLE MISS PERFECT:** VICE-president and director of HG Christie John Christie, Little Miss Bahamas contestant Madisyn Cole and her mother, HG Christie's Abaco estate broker Kathleen Albury.

## THE WEATHER REPORT

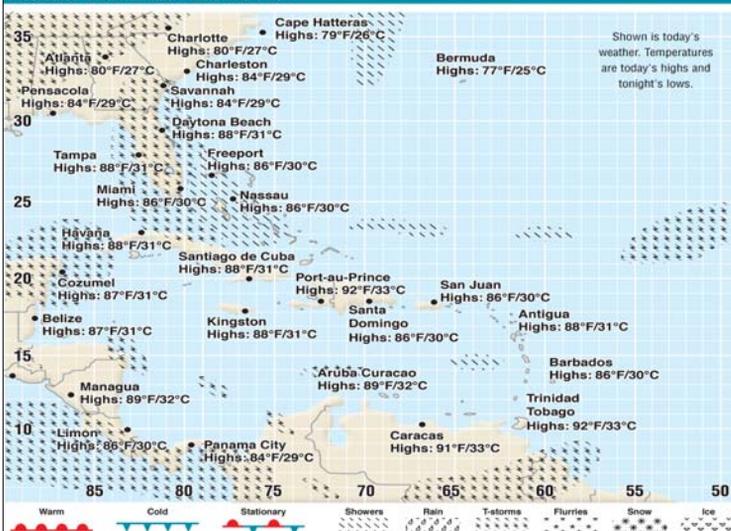


**INSURANCE MANAGEMENT (BAHAMAS) LIMITED**  
INSURANCE BROKERS & AGENTS

**5-DAY FORECAST**



**INSURANCE MANAGEMENT TRACKING MAP**



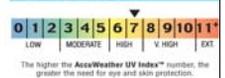
**ALMANAC**  
Statistics are for Nassau through 2 p.m. yesterday

Temperature	High: 88° F/31° C
Low	77° F/25° C
Normal High	84° F/29° C
Normal Low	77° F/25° C
Last year's high	90° F/32° C
Last year's low	77° F/25° C
Precipitation	0.00"
As of 2 p.m. yesterday	36.37°
Year to date	44.85°

**AccuWeather.com**

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2010

**UV INDEX TODAY**



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

**TIDES FOR NASSAU**

Time	High	HR (H.)	Low	HR (H.)
Today	9:28 a.m.	3.2	3:04 a.m.	0.4
	11:28 p.m.	2.5	3:58 p.m.	0.5
Wednesday	10:13 a.m.	3.2	3:46 a.m.	0.4
	10:32 p.m.	2.5	4:45 p.m.	0.7
Thursday	11:03 a.m.	3.1	4:35 a.m.	0.6
	11:28 p.m.	2.5	5:32 p.m.	0.7
Friday	11:59 a.m.	3.1	5:32 p.m.	0.7
	1:00 p.m.	3.0	7:34 p.m.	0.7
Saturday	12:30 p.m.	2.5	6:37 a.m.	0.7
	1:00 p.m.	3.0	7:34 p.m.	0.7
Sunday	1:37 a.m.	2.6	7:47 a.m.	0.7
	2:03 p.m.	3.0	8:39 p.m.	0.4
Monday	2:43 a.m.	2.8	8:58 a.m.	0.8
	3:06 p.m.	3.0	9:30 p.m.	0.3

**SUN AND MOON**



**MARINE FORECAST**

ISLAND	WINDS	WAVES	VISIBILITY	WATER TEMPS.
ABACO	Today: SE at 10-20 Knots	4-8 Feet	10 Miles	81° F
ANDROS	Today: SE at 8-16 Knots	2-4 Feet	10 Miles	82° F
CAT ISLAND	Today: E at 10-20 Knots	4-7 Feet	6 Miles	82° F
CROOKER ISLAND	Today: E at 10-20 Knots	4-7 Feet	10 Miles	84° F
ELEUTHERA	Today: ESE at 10-20 Knots	3-6 Feet	6 Miles	84° F
FREEPORT	Today: SE at 7-14 Knots	4-8 Feet	10 Miles	82° F
GREAT EXUMA	Today: SE at 10-20 Knots	1-3 Feet	5 Miles	82° F
GREAT INAGUA	Today: ESE at 10-20 Knots	3-6 Feet	10 Miles	85° F
LONG ISLAND	Today: ESE at 10-20 Knots	2-4 Feet	10 Miles	85° F
MAYAGUANA	Today: ESE at 10-20 Knots	2-4 Feet	10 Miles	83° F
NASSAU	Today: ESE at 10-20 Knots	2-4 Feet	10 Miles	81° F
SAN SALVADOR	Today: E at 10-20 Knots	3-6 Feet	10 Miles	84° F
RAGGED ISLAND	Today: E at 10-20 Knots	2-4 Feet	6 Miles	82° F

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## A mother of three on a MISSION for the DEAF

By JEFFARAH GIBSON  
Tribune Features Writer

**A**NNETTE Lunn is a woman who has found herself with an unexpected calling in life – for the past five years this mother of three has been on a mission for the deaf in the Bahamas.

Mrs Lunn's has immersed herself in the deaf culture, studying sign language and ensuring that deaf individuals are not socially discriminated against.

But this wasn't always her life. It wasn't until the birth of her son Kelvin 19 years ago that she realised that her role as a parent would take her down an unusual path.

And it was what she calls a "very traumatic" experience – giving birth to a child who's hearing was impaired – which changed her life forever.

"I have three children, Cimmonne, Marques, and Kelvin. But my last, which is Kelvin, was born deaf. It was a very traumatic experience for me because I didn't know any deaf people and none of my family are deaf," she told *Tribune Woman*.

"I went through the stages that most parents go through after finding out that their child is deaf. I was in denial and I would say things like 'my baby will never be able to say mama'. Afterwards I came to accept the situation and my child's disability," she explained.

There was never a point in her life that she felt ashamed of her son's disability, Mrs Lunn said. Ensuring that Kelvin felt loved and supported was the most important thing for her.

"Oftentimes parents who have kids with disabilities tend to be ashamed of them. They make them feel unloved or unappreciated, and they make them feel as though they are different. But I never did that with him and I think that is the reason why Kelvin is such a proud deaf person.

"I think the best thing any parent can do for their child who has a disability is show them that they are just like everyone else. They never make them feel as though they are different; and parents should not hide their children because all they need to know is that they are loved," Mrs Lunn said.

### Accomplishments

Before moving to the United States in 2005, Kelvin completed primary education here in the Bahamas at the Centre for the Deaf.

He has since then been graduated from St Rita's School for the Deaf in Cincinnati, Ohio and is now pursuing a Bachelor's degree in physical education at Gallaudet University in the District of Columbia.

Mrs Lunn said she felt that moving Kelvin to Cincinnati and enrolling him at St Rita's School for the Deaf would provide her son with opportunities unavailable to him here in the Bahamas.

She said what frustrated her most about the deaf culture in the Bahamas was the lack of role models for her

son.

Overseas, she said, Kelvin saw deaf doctors, deaf lawyers, deaf bankers and deaf engineers.

"I moved him from the Centre for the Deaf (in the Bahamas) not because it wasn't good enough, but because I wanted him to have options. I wanted him to feel as though he could do anything and be anything he wanted to be and not be what people told him to be," she said.

Not only did she want her son to have options, she also wanted him to feel comfortable in the community in which he lived.

"The deaf community in the Bahamas does not have the exposure they should. Individuals in the deaf community feel isolated because the services that are needed to accommodate them are not present," Mrs Lunn explained.

This was part of the reason she became a deaf advocate and began studying, interpreting, and teaching sign language.

She said the government of the Bahamas should make it a priority to ensure that deaf individuals have the same opportunities that hearing persons have.

### Advocate

Mrs Lunn recalled a time when she spoke to one of her son's childhood friends who is also deaf and still lives in the Bahamas. She said it saddened her when she heard about his dismay and disappointment over being unable to find employment.

"He is having a very hard time finding a job and he wants to work. He wants to do anything he can do, but some employers in the Bahamas are skeptical about hiring deaf individuals. Some of them (deaf persons) happen to find jobs maybe working in the food stores as a packer."

However, Mrs Lunn said she will keep advocating for the deaf until this form of discrimination is eradicated. She feels a good start would be introducing sign language as an elective subject in schools.

"I would like to see more people learn sign language because it is there to facilitate communication between those who are deaf or hard hearing with those people who can hear," she said.

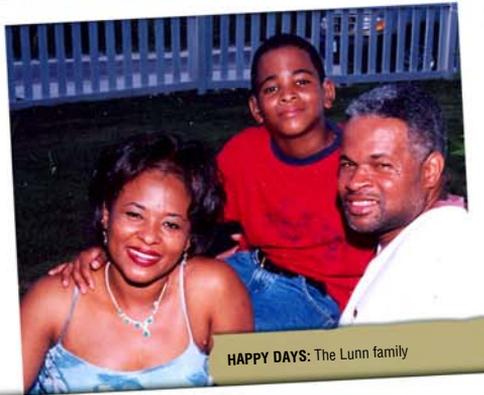
She also believes that law enforcement agents should know basic sign language so that when they come into contact with a deaf person they are able to communicate with them.

Mrs Lunn is a sign language interpreter. She interprets at various places such as schools, churches, the Magistrates Courts, sporting events and at workshops. She has also interpreted the theatrical production of Disney's *The Lion King*.

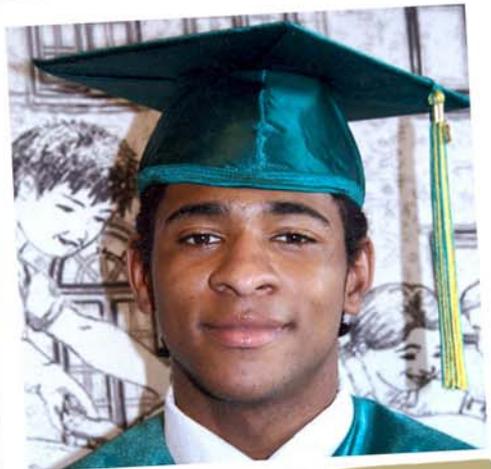
She is a member of St Rita's School for the Deaf Scholarship Planning Committee; the Registry of Interprets for the Deaf; Clarke School for the Deaf's National Development Council, and the Cincinnati State Interpreters Training Programme.

Additionally she offers sign language lessons at St Cecilia's Roman Catholic Church every Monday and Wednesday.

**PROUD PARENT:** Annette Lunn with her son Kelvin before his high school prom.



**HAPPY DAYS:** The Lunn family



**PROUD DAY:** Kelvin Lunn's graduation picture. He was graduated from St Rita's School for the Deaf in Cincinnati, Ohio.



Ultra Thin



Regular



Overnight with wings

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# sports

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2010

PAGES 12 &amp; 14 • International sports news



BSF presents individual awards for Austin Knowles tournament...

SEE page 13

## SPORTS IN BRIEF

### NPSA SOFTBALL GAME TWO CALLED OFF

GAME two of the New Providence Softball Association women's best-of-seven championship series between the defending champions Pineapple Air Wildcats and the Proper Care Pool Lady Sharks was called off Sunday night.

Apparently, members of the defending men's champions Commando Security Truckers blocked the entrance to the Lady Sharks' dugout, denying them the opportunity to get on the field to play the game against the Wildcats.

The Truckers had been expelled from the NPSA after they refused to continue playing game one against the Dorin United Hitmen Friday night.

As a result of their actions, the NPSA executive committee awarded the championship title to the Hitmen. The Truckers, however, showed up in defiance of the ruling to play game two. The NPSA had scheduled game two to be played last night.

### CYCLING JUPP WIN RACE

FRESH of his appearance at the XIX Commonwealth Games in New Delhi, India, Laurence Jupp came home and won the JAR Cycling Classic's road race on Sunday.

Jupp clocked one hour, 10 minutes and 39.49 seconds to beat out a field of 21 other competitors. He was followed by Lee Farmer (1:10:43.99). Mark Holowesko was third (1:13:47.52) with Tracy Sweeting fourth (1:16:01.24) and junior sensation Jay Major completing the top five (1:16:01.93).

### SOFTBALL EXUMA CHURCH LEAGUE

THE Exuma Sporting Church League kicked off its 2010 season Saturday night with three of the four games scheduled played.

In the upset of the night, Rickey Rolle hit a rocket home run to right field to lead St Andrew's Anglican to a 2-0 win over Mt Olive Baptist.

Church of God, led by Maverick Ferguson and Fred Rolle, crushed Gilead 15-2 and Ebenezer knocked St John's 9-1. In the other game scheduled, Palestine Baptist lost by default to St Peter's.

### GYMNASTICS SPONSOR-A-STAR PROGRAMME

THE Bahamas Gymnastics Parent Booster Club, in conjunction with Bahamas Star Gymnastics, is scheduled to launch its Sponsor-A-Star Programme on November 4 at the Ministry of Youth, Sports and Culture.

Minister of Sports Charles Maynard is expected to attend along with the scholarship fund's screening committee that includes Bahamian Olympic medallist Eldece Clarke, Attorney-at-Law Cheryl Bazard, Ginny McKinney of Can For Kids, Mark Cartwright of FAMFest and Pastor Randy Curtis, Church of God of Prophecy, Carmichael District.

The scholarship programme targets youngsters who have the desire and/or aptitude for the sport, but are unable to enjoy the benefits due to financial limitations.

# Long-time rivals set to be reunited in Hall of Fame

By BRENT STUBBS  
Senior Sports Reporter  
bstubbs@tribunemedia.net

Peter 'Sweet P' Brown and Sharon 'The General' Storr were long-time rivals on the basketball court. Now they will be reunited when they are enshrined together in the National Hall of Fame.

Brown and Storr have had more head-to-head match-ups than any other players, but ask both of them and they would

quickly tell you that they never envisioned being on the same stage again Friday when the ceremony at Government House takes place 7pm Friday as expected.

"I wasn't expecting it this early," said Brown, the quick dealing point guard for the Beck's Cougars.

"I was pleasantly surprised, but I think I'm worthy of it. It's pretty much something that I didn't expect at the time, but I think the whole overall idea was a good one in that you honour people while they are still alive and you remember those

who would have passed away."

Brown, who celebrated his 61st birthday on October 19, said he hopes the induction ceremony would inspire the younger people to distinguish themselves in sports or other endeavors so that "they can better themselves and better the country in the bigger picture."

Brown and Storr will be part of a 14-member Class of 2010 inductees, which includes Winifred 'Winnie' Bethel-Russell in netball, Eleuthera's Douglas

SEE page 13



DIG THIS: A player in the junior programme gets ready for next year's trip.

## Girleanu conducts seminar for volleyball coaches

By BRENT STUBBS  
Senior Sports Reporter  
bstubbs@tribunemedia.net

FORMER Romanian national team member Dan Girleanu has been assisting the Bahamas Volleyball Federation over the past two weeks.

Now working as the technical director at the FIVB Regional Development Centre in Barbados, Girleanu said the Bahamas has a lot of talent that just needs to be harnessed.

Girleanu, who played on Romania's bronze medal winning team at the 1980 Olympic Games in Seoul, Korea, said while he could have pursued a career in law where he holds a degree, he opted to continue to make his contribution to the sport.

"This is what I like to do," said Girleanu, who moved to Barbados in 1996 to establish the Regional Development Centre with the view of him moving around to assist the Caribbean.

A lack of funding prevented him from achieving his ultimate goal, but Girleanu said as it was mandated for him to travel, the Bahamas Volleyball Federation contacted him to conduct a clinic for the local coaches and hence he made the trip here.

While here for the past two weeks, he conducted a seminar for 19 coaches, conducting sessions all day, every day for the duration of the two courses that he put on.

"I was very pleased with the progress that I saw the students (coaches) made through the courses," he stressed. "I think the Bahamas

## Says Bahamas has plenty of young talent

is in good hands."

During his tenure, Girleanu was also invited to assist the coaches with the preparation of the junior national boys and girls teams, who are hoping to travel next year.

"It was good to exchange ideas and exchange the way we coach," he stated. "I think it was beneficial for all of us. But I am convinced that the Bahamas has a lot of talent here, as I've seen throughout the Caribbean."

The trip was made possible through the Bahamas Olympic Committee's Solidarity Programme and secretary general Rommel Knowles said they were just delighted to accommodate Girleanu.

"With him coming in and imparting his knowledge, I think the sport will only continue to grow," Knowles said. "Our goal and objective in the Bahamas Olympic Committee is to see the day when we can have a team qualify for the Olympic Games."

"So we will continue through the Olympic Solidarity to provide the assistance to all of our Olympic sports with the hope of one day getting them into the Olympics. This is just the first step in that direction for volleyball."

BVF first vice president Joseph 'Joe Mo' Smith said they were very



GIRLEANU

impressed with the knowledge that Gileanu imparted to them, especially the local players.

"He did a setter's course for five days and then he did a middle player's course for five days," he said. "We decided to specify those two areas because every year that we do a course, it's for level one."

"We have some 150 level one coaches here in the Bahamas, but it's not helping the programme much because they go into the school system. But when we specify, we can identify persons to better help us with our national programme."

There were some seven persons from the Family Islands who participated. Four came from Cat Island and three were from Abaco.

"So it now filters down to the Family Islands so whenever we go down there, it makes our job a lot easier so that we can find the people to identify with for the programme," Smith said.

Smith said the federation was only pleased to utilise Girleanu's service to assist in their junior programme to get them a jump start on their preparation for next year's trip.

The venue for their tournament has not yet been finalised, but they are expected to travel in July. Smith said they hope to capitalise on the pointers they got from Girleanu in their training programme.

## Renaldo's Ramblings

### Putting the 'S' back in 'Heat'

By RENALDO DORSETT  
Sports Reporter  
rdorsett@tribunemedia.net

THERE are few iron clad, absolute, positively unarguable statements a sports writer can make. These include: Usain Bolt was more impressive than Michael Phelps at the '08 Olympics in Beijing, Eric Snow will never make an open jumper, and Bob Sanders will get injured. Tonight, we add another to the list as October 26 features the beginning of the most eagerly anticipated NBA season ever.

Headlining the offseason was the winner of the 2010 Sweepstakes, the Miami Heat, who will immediately turn their attention towards a fierce battle with the Lakers for the rights to be called the National Team of the Bahamas (This is not an overstatement. There was a parade. I'm not making this up, there was an actual Laker Parade...here...in the Bahamas). How do you know what to watch for? Use our guide to the 10 most compelling storylines to follow during this NBA season, and in true Ramblings fashion, most of them actually have nothing to do with basketball at all.

10. John Wall and his quest to surpass Barack Obama as the most recognizable black guy in Washington. I know what you're thinking, it's the President of the United States, it's an unbeatable office, not true. John Wall got the entire Commonwealth of Kentucky to fall in love with him in four months. In the 2008 Presidential Race, Kentucky was called for John McCain in four minutes.

9. Unless you've been hiding under a rock, you know that a lockout is looming in 2010. If the NBA does cut teams in an effort to prevent the lockout, then that means 60 players would be free agents and entering a supplemental draft. We could see everyone hustling like it's a contract year, just to see who would be the first pick in the "Lockout Saving Draft 2011."

8. LeBron James in his return to Cleveland, henceforth, it will be known as the 85 game. I didn't see Kobe's 81, but there's nothing going to pull me away from a television set on December 2 when the Heat visit Gund Arena (This is assuming Dan Gilbert doesn't run onto the court during the tipoff and start wailing on LeBron WWE style with a steel chair. I'm not completely ruling that out from happening).

SEE page 14

## Over 100 to set sail in ocean race next month

THE Nassau Yacht Club is in the final stages of readying itself to receive well over 100 international sailors, and yachts competing in the much heralded annual Miami to Nassau Ocean Race.

With the continued support of the Bahamas Ministry of Tourism, the 2010 event is scheduled for an 11am November 11 start off Government Cut in Miami, with the highly competitive crews sailing 176 nautical miles non-stop across the unpredictable Gulf Stream, leaving Great Isaac and Great Stirrup to starboard on their way to the finish at the entrance to Nassau Harbour. The first yachts are expected to arrive in Nassau on November 12.

The Miami Nassau race is one of

the most historical races on the sailing calendar. The prestigious Nassau Cup is a highly sought after trophy that is emblazoned with the names of world famous skippers on some of the world's finest racing sailboats, including Ted Turner of America's Cup fame on the yacht Tenacious. Other noteworthy sailors that have vied for the Cup are Dennis Conner, Dick Bertram, Ted Hood and Bobby Symonette.

### Anniversary

The race was first sailed in 1934, making 2010 the 77th anniversary of the inaugural event. The course record was set in 1988 by George S Coumantaros on the yacht

Boomerang in a time of 14 hours, 26 minutes and 39 seconds. As a sailing record of 22 years standing, the organising committee anticipate a successful assault on the record books in the coming years.

Competition for the Nassau Cup is open to separate classes for IRC, PHRF and MASF In addition to prizes with a distinctly Bahamian flair, the Nassau Cup is awarded to the winner of IRC, the Arthur Bosworth Trophy to the winner of PHRF, and the Calvert Cup to the winner of MASF.

The first yacht across the line on elapsed time is awarded the historic Coral Harbour Yacht Club Trophy.

The Nassau Yacht Club is proud to co-host the race with the Coral

Reef Yacht Club, The Fort Lauderdale Yacht Club and the Storm Trysail Club. The hosts are delighted that from 2010 the event has returned to its roots through race management by the Southern Ocean Racing Conference, making it a part of the stable of ocean races that now also include the Fort Lauderdale to Key West race, the Fort Lauderdale to Montego Bay race and the Fort Lauderdale to Charleston race.

Yachts in the event will each carry GPS enabled personal tracker units to facilitate on line tracking of positions, allowing race officials and members of the public to follow progress of competitors on the web: [www.trackleaders.com](http://www.trackleaders.com)

LOCAL SPORTS

# BSF presents individual awards for Austin Knowles tourney

THE Bahamas Softball Federation (BSF) presented the following individual player awards at the end of the Austin Knowles Invitational High School Tournament Saturday night/Sunday morning at the Banker's Field, Baillou Hills Sporting Complex.

**Girls Division**  
Most hits (6) - Amanda Barr (North Andros)  
Most wins (3-1) - Natoria Knowles (North Andros)

Batting champion (.800) - Breanna Newbold (Spanish Wells)

**All-Tournament team**  
Pitcher - Natoria Knowles (North Andros), catcher - Patra Johnson (North Andros), first base - Amanda Barr (North Andros), second base - Nakishae Moss (Nassau Christian Academy), shortstop Bethany McGee (Spanish Wells), leftfield - Beanna Newbold (Spanish Wells), centerfield - Kadajah Bain (CV Bethel), right-field Kerline Tador (Spanish Wells).

Round robin most valuable player - Natoria Knowles (North Andros)

**Boys Division**  
Most hits (6) - Laron Taylor



**BOYS CHAMPIONS:** Jordan Prince Williams Falcons.

(NGM)  
Most runs (3) - David Nathan (Nassau Christian Academy)  
Batting champion (.714) - Lance Thompson (Government High)

**All-Tournament team**  
Pitcher - David Nathan (Nassau Christian Academy), catcher - Darius Albury (Spanish Wells), first base



**GIRLS CHAMPIONS:** North Andros.

- Akeem Newton (Government High), second base - Julius Lord (Doris Johnson), third base - Lance Thompson (Government High), shortstop - Zhivargo Archer (CV Bethel), leftfield - Jared Saunders

(Nassau Christian Academy), centerfield - Austin Pinder (Spanish Wells) and right-field - Brian Cargill (Doris Johnson)

Round robin most valuable player - Laron Taylor (NGM)

## Long-time rivals set to be reunited in National Hall of Fame

FROM page 11

'Douggie' Smith in softball and baseball, politician Cynthia 'Mother' Pratt in basketball and volleyball, Keith Parker in track and field, Bimini's Gomeo Brennen in boxing, Leonard 'Skeeter' Dames in a variety of sports, Celestine Wilson-Albury in volleyball, Andy Knowles in swimming, the late great golfing executive Freddie Higgs, the late Basil T Kelly, the late Carl 'Mr Volleyball' Minnis and the late Ank Rahming.

From the time he started playing basketball at the age of 14 in 1962, Brown and his Cougars, coached by Arthur 'Gully' Rolle, were always in a fierce battle with Storr and his

Kentucky Colonels, coached by late Leviticus 'Uncle Lou' Adderley and Anthony 'Bando' Bostwick before he ended up under the tutelage of Martin Lundy and Steve 'Bullah' Pinder, up until the time of his retirement around 1984.

With their names synonymous with each other on the court, although there is a slight difference in their ages, Brown said it's quite an honour to be enshrined with Storr.

"Playing against him was a treat because you had to be at your best if you wanted to win," Brown said. "And even when you were at your best, you still didn't win."

There's still the argument as to who won more titles. While they

both put in a plug for their team being the best, one thing is certain. They both had a heated battle on the court.

Today, they're the best of friends and Storr said their induction is just the highlight of "what Bahamians have done for sports."

### Proud

"I'm very glad and proud to be a part of the recognition," he said.

As a former senior sports officer in the Ministry of Youth, Sports and Culture, Storr played a key role in the initiation of the Hall of Fame.

"One of the greatest things is that somebody recognised that I made a

contribution," said Storr, who is still regarded as one of, if not, the greatest basketball players in the country.

"I hope and I believe that I made a significant contribution. But one of my biggest disappointments in this country is the fact that too many people are walking away from sports without any recognition."

After completing his tenure on the basketball court, Storr moved into administration at the Ministry of Sports until 2005 when he officially retired.

Like Brown, Storr said he's delighted to have his arch-rival join him on the same stage once again, just like they did when they competed against each other.

"When we competed against each other, we neutralized each other," he pointed out. "There was always the question of who was the best, but if we are going in together, obviously it had to be close."

Although there's no official record available, Storr, who was moved up from the junior division to play in the senior league a year before his eligibility was up, say the Colonels won more.

Looking back at his career, 58-year-old Storr said right now he is enjoying life because he's getting a chance to give back to the sport that helped him to excel to the point where he's going to be inducted into the National Hall of Fame.



## MINISTRY OF WORKS & TRANSPORT



### NOTICE CORRIDOR 13A

#### ROBINSON ROAD MINNIE STREET to EAST STREET

#### Temporary Road Closure & Diversions

Jose Cartellone Construcciones Civiles S.A wishes to advise the motoring public that a Temporary Road Closure will be carried out on sections of Robinson Road between MINNIE STREET and EAST STREET from Thursday October 28, 2010.

Road construction works will be ongoing westbound to facilitate the installation of new twenty-four inches (24") water main. Construction works will be carried out in different stages as the works progress towards East Street.

Other works to be carried out during this phase of construction will include:

- Milling of existing pavement
- Installation of new Drainage facilities
- Installation of new/upgrade Utility services
- Sidewalks
- Improved Street Lighting
- New Asphalt Pavement

Motorist travelling eastbound should divert through:

**PALM BEACH ST. → BALFOUR AVE. → CLARIDGE ROAD.**

Motorist travelling westbound should divert through

**CLARIDGE RD. → MINNIE ST.**

Local access will be granted to residents, pedestrians and the affected businesses during the construction process. Signs will be in place to identify safe passage for Pedestrians and Access points to the businesses in the area.

The public will be updated through of the local media (radio & television) for regular updates.

We sincerely apologize for any inconvenience that may be caused by the closure and look forward to the co-operation of the motoring public throughout this project.

**For further information please contact:**

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