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FEATURES


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INSIDE

CARS FOR SALE, HELP WANTED AND REAL ESTATE
BAHAMAS BIGGEST



SPORTS


Star pitcher 'milestone'
SOFTBALL NEWS ON 1E

'Critically ill' baby in hospital ordeal

STRAW VENDORS PUNISHED IN NEW YORK 'HAPPY' TO BE BACK AT WORK

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

AT LEAST two of the straw vendors who were punished by a New York court for trafficking counterfeit goods are "happy" to be back to work in the Bay Street market – but have little to say on the matter.

Straw vendor association president Telator Strachan said her friends and fellow vendors Judy Duncombe and Shamone Thompson returned to the market not long after their sentencing, but have not spoken of their experience.

"They didn't discuss anything about the situation there but they did say that they were happy to be at home," said Ms Strachan.

"I encouraged them that everything was going to be okay and that was about the size of it. They really didn't want to get caught up in a situation like that, they are distraught about it, but I think that they are trying to cope. As far as I know they are back at their business places and doing business as usual but they didn't say anything about their ordeal except to say that they are happy to be at home."

The two women were part of the group of nine straw vendors arrested in New York on September 18 and later charged with

SEE page 12

Family hits out over care at PMH emergency room

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

HORRIFIED by what could have been a fatal error on behalf of medical staff at the Princess Margaret Hospital, a grandmother told *The Tribune* of her harrowing experience seeking medical care for her two-month-old granddaughter.

In a crowded Accident and Emergency overwhelmed by shooting and

other violent crime victims, 62-year-old Vianna Pinder says she waited for more than five hours with her daughter and the sick infant Kyannah Bootle – only to be turned away by health workers who allegedly found no sign of illness.

Ms Pinder said: "They say they are doing better, they ain't doing no better. I thank God, I don't really have to go there because I have my

SEE page 12



ORDEAL: Little Kyannah Bootle is recovering at Princess Margaret Hospital.

THREE CHARGED IN CONNECTION WITH SHOOTING DEATH OF WOMAN

By **NATARIO MCKENZIE**
 Tribune Staff Reporter
 nmckenzie@tribunemedia.net

THREE men appeared before a magistrate yesterday in connection with the drive-by shooting death of a Fox Hill woman.

SEE page 11

Claim of Pigeon Pea land ownership challenged by MP

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

SOUTH Abaco MP Edison Key is challenging a resident's claim to ownership of almost six acres of land in Marsh Harbour's Pigeon Pea community.

"I cleared the land where the Pigeon Pea settlement is. My brother-in-law, Morton Sawyer, and I, we started our farm on that area. We cleared about six acres of land back in 1967. We paid for the bull-

dozer and operated on that property. Ricky Albury wasn't born yet I bet," said Mr Key.

"It had pine trees on it and we cleared the land. We called ourselves Key and Sawyer Farms. (Family members who from time to time have claimed rights to land) had some documents made up with signed affidavits, but they are not even relevant. I could do the same thing and say I owned the same plot. I am a Key; I come down from



CHALLENGE: Edison Key

SEE page 11

GOVT UNVEILS PUBLIC SECTOR INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY PLANS

THE GOVERNMENT unveiled its plans to strengthen and expand information technology infrastructure in the country yesterday - an ambitious initiative that if executed correctly could herald a complete revitalisation of the public sector.

Under the guidance of the government of Singapore - a country renowned for its groundbreaking use of information technology to drive economic success - the Bahamian government hopes to launch the first phase of new online services in less than eight months.

• SEE STORY, PAGES TWO AND THREE

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E-Government could revitalise

The government unveiled its plans to strengthen and expand the country's information technology infrastructure yesterday - an ambitious initiative that if executed correctly could herald a complete revitalisation of the public sector.

Under the guidance of the government of Singapore - a country renowned for its groundbreaking use of information technology to drive economic success - the Bahamian government hopes to launch the first phase of new online services in less than eight months.

By AVA TURNQUEST
Tribune Staff Reporter
aturnquest@tribunemedia.net

THE HIGHLY anticipated modernisation of the public service sector could eliminate a number of inadequacies that have become synonymous with the culture of the Bahamas, according to officials.

Drawing from the Information and Communications Technology (ICT) successes of Singapore - whose prodigious journey from an estimated \$966 million GDP at independence in 1965 to an estimated \$235.7 billion GDP in 2010 has received international notoriety - Minister of Finance Zhivargo Laing is confident the country is ready to embrace the 21st Century.

Mr Laing said: "The advent of the Internet has changed the way we communicate and share information. This is true not only for social network-

New online services to be launched under guidance of Singapore govt

ing and keeping in touch with family and friends but also for commerce, learning, banking and all facets of everyday life. This undertaking is a fundamental one for us in the Bahamas. It will change the culture of doing business and providing public services in our nation. It will involve a substantial investment on our part but the gains will be significant."

The infrastructure initiative "e-Government" was unveiled to parliamentarians and senior government officials yesterday, and with it, projections of a public service sector that could be engaged at anytime, from anywhere.

Mr Laing said: "e-Government refers to the use of information and communications technology by government agencies to interact with employees, citizens, businesses and others agencies. The activities of which can be categorised as: publishing - content is published to the Internet; interacting - two-way communication is established; and transacting - transactions are conducted online."

The firm partnering with the government on this substantial improvement initiative is IDA International - a subsidiary of IDA Singapore, the government agency dedicated to guiding Singapore's

vision for economic growth through the Information and Communications industry.

Mr Laing said: "To advance our e-Government efforts and improve our online service delivery strategy, the government of the Bahamas has engaged the government of Singapore, through its technology arm, IDA International, to recommend a way forward that will employ the best practices, and follow a model that would yield the most for our endeavour."

"The government will seek to lay the technical foundation and governance structure in the Singapore Model to drive the Bahamas' e-Government agenda, and by early in the next financial year, will be launching the government online services portal, gov-Net.bs, with several services that will cater to citizens and businesses."

During the presentation, IDA executives illustrated possibilities that are now a reality for the tiny island country of Singapore, and explained that these benefits were also within grasp for the Bahamas.

The first batch of online services are expected to be launched in July of next year, and include: the payment of business licence fees, payment of real property tax, payment of fines, renewal of a driver's licence, application for new business licenses, vendor inquiries (payments, invoices and purchase orders) and service-wide customer service.

Representatives illustrated how the Bahamas could also be freed from the archaic system to which it has become accustomed, using Singapore as evidence of the latent benefits possible through improved ICT infrastructure.

Long queues, data backlogs and the frustrations that accompany them for both public servants and their customers also encroached upon



SINGAPORE (above) had an estimated \$966 million GDP at independence in 1965 and rose to an estimated \$235.7 billion GDP in 2010. The country once suffered long queues, data backlogs and the frustrations that accompany them in the public service (below) but implemented ICT with great success.



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the quality of life of the people of Singapore - but this was almost 30 years ago.

Post-independence, the technology infrastructure giant was struggling with minuscule land mass, overwhelming population growth, and a labour intensive economy.

After effecting a total shift in economic and manpower strategies towards the cultivation and implementation of information technology by the government, Singapore is now experiencing the results of

successive national ICT plans.

Now in its sixth plan, the country, which had a total of 850 IT professionals in 1980, has established a globally competitive Infocomm Industry and has been ranked number one in 'ease of doing business' for five consecutive years.

Mr Laing said: "The Bahamas is seeking to do the same. In the long term we would like to use technology to make the Bahamas the best place to work and live in the Caribbean."

"We envision a Bahamas where technology is the driver in all sectors in our society: tourism, education, financial services, government, health care, transportation, and commerce."

"In the medium term we see e-Government as the enabler of true public sector reform as it will provide the baseline for measuring government agencies' performance; introduce online customer service and encourage response; provide easy access to government service; clarify government processes; improve efficiency and transform the way the government collects revenue."

The successful implementation of e-Government is expected to engender an efficient and responsive govern-

ment, with increased transparency through equal opportunity to government services and contracts.

An integrated public service sector, armed with functional information technology tools, promises an education sector where online classes and video conferences are the norm, health services that can be accessed and managed remotely, an e-Commerce marketplace which would offer inclusion of local businesses, a transparent financial services sector and most importantly an improved justice system.

Mr Laing said: "We imagine the possibilities - where lawyers can file documents online, court documents are digitised and readily available to authorised persons, the backlog is no more and cases are adjudicated in record time."

However - as the six-month-long study by IDA International concluded - the Bahamas must make great leaps to close the gaps in current infrastructure before public service in the country can effectively progress into the 21st century.

In addition to obvious limitations due to the current state of online services, which

SEE page three

ALIVE AND KICKING NASSAU'S NEWEST NONAGENARIAN



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INDEX

MAIN/SPORTS SECTION

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

BUSINESS/WOMAN SECTION

Business.....P1,2,3,4
Woman.....P5,6,7,8

SPORTS SECTION

Sports.....P1,2,3,4,5,7,8
Comics.....P6

CLASSIFIED SECTION 28 PAGES

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Bahamas public sector



E-GOVERNMENT: Minister of Finance Zhivargo Laing speaks to parliamentarians and senior government officials yesterday at the presentation of the new e-Government initiative.

FROM page two

were found to be duplicative with limited automation and to lack transactional services, core inefficiencies were found in the government's vision and strategy, organisation and capacity for information technology.

The report cited scarce ICT manpower, low morale among staff and noted that the existing data centre and government network needed to be enhanced to meet the anticipated increase in demand.

The study also concluded the lack of governance structure in the current system would not allow for the definite strategic direction needed to implement the proposed widespread policy changes.

Mr Laing said: "A

lot of work must be done in terms of trying to get people to understand what e-Government is, to understand the benefits that e-Government can provide. We really want to have a significant launch of it and then to take subsequent opportunities to meet with even smaller groups to talk about it as we implement it.

"It means change of workflow, change of attitude, change of skills – for some people – so what they did point out to us and what is going to be our own efforts is training, giving people as much training as possible so that they feel comfortable with

the tech, comfortable with the programme, and feel as if its making a difference in their own lives and the service that they provide.

"What is going to be important is not learning the technology – as in accessing the internet for instance – but how to operate in an environment where technology is driving what you do."

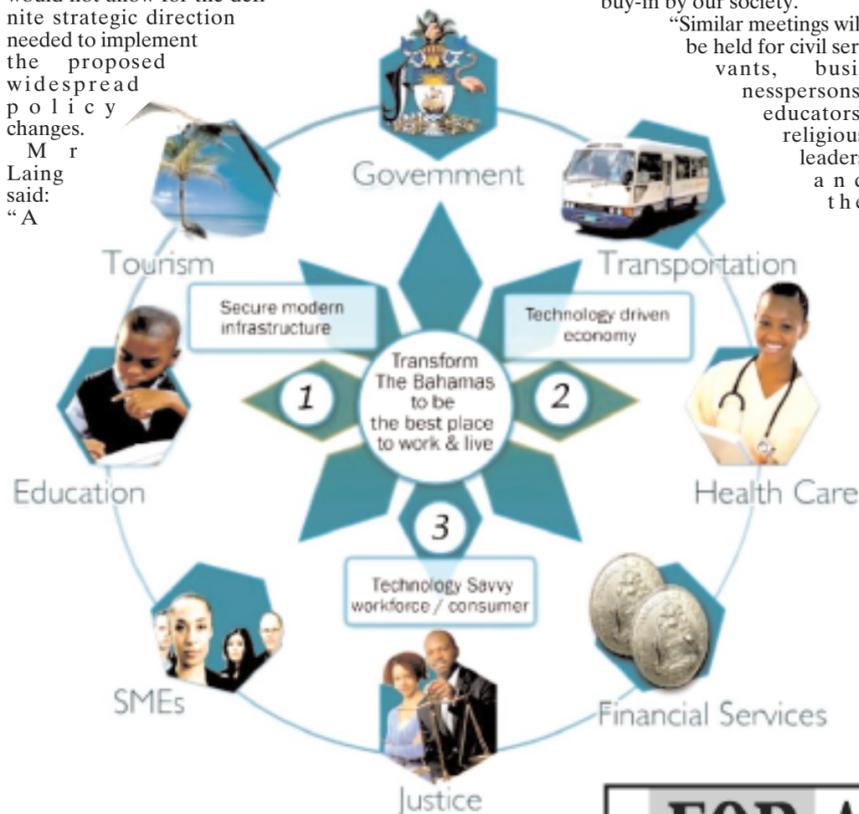
In the following weeks the government will embark on a national public education campaign to keep the population – its customers – abreast of the huge changes expected in the months going forward.

Mr Laing added: "We seek to have the fullest possible buy-in by our society.

"Similar meetings will be held for civil servants, businesspersons, educators, religious leaders and the

public at large throughout the nation.

"It is our hope to ensure that as full an understanding of what we are doing is achieved and that we will work together as a nation to make this important endeavour work. I invite all to participate."



VISION: A connected Bahamas, maximising technology.

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Concerns encountered during trip to Nassau

EDITOR, The Tribune.

We would appreciate the publication of the following letter that was sent to the Bahamas Ministry of Tourism.

Dear Sir,

On our recent trip to Nassau, Bahamas we encountered some concerns that lead my husband and I compelled to write to your department. We are owners at Harborside Resort and frequent The Bahamas twice a year. We consider it our second home and have been travelling to your country for more than 30 years. We are very familiar with your island and feel very comfortable coming there with our family and friends.

Upon our arrival to the airport on October 25, 2010, three airplanes arrived simultaneously. There were three immigration officers on duty to process all passengers' passports. Needless to say, the lines backed up all the way

LETTERS

letters@tribunemedia.net

up the escalators. By the time we got through the lines, the luggage carousel was overflowing with suitcases. Luggage was falling all over the floor. My suitcase got jammed up on top of the carousel, out of my reach. I asked an attendant if he could assist me in retrieving my suitcase. His response was, "get someone younger." I thought to myself, "Welcome to The Bahamas!"

On October 30th, we attended The Bahamas Arts Festival at Arawak Cay. We enjoyed looking at the local Bahamian crafts, listening to the bands and of course sampling true home-cooked local food. When we were ready to leave, we grabbed a ride with a female taxi driver and negotiated our fare to take us back to Harborside. She pulled out

onto West Bay Street and stopped for a large group of intoxicated tourists in the hopes of adding them to our taxi.

We were not interested in driving with these other people and let her know. She continued to work out a price with them. We jumped out of her cab, hopped on a jitney to downtown and picked up another taxi to take us back to Harborside. We felt we had hired her, obviously, the fare she agreed to charge us was not enough and she was looking to get more out of her travels at the expense of us.

We truly enjoy our time spent in The Bahamas, but felt that sometimes you need to hear directly from the tourists their experiences.

Thank you for your time.

STEVEN & JUDY PHILLIPS,
Nassau,
November 7, 2010.

Be kinder to gun-wielding hoodlums

EDITOR, The Tribune

Re: Gun terror in Montagu, witnesses claim police used 'excessive force'. - The Tribune, 28 October, 2010.

Surely there are kinder, gentler ways for our police to disarm gun-wielding suspects.

For instance, a hoodlum might be coaxed into discussion whilst sharing a caffè latte, perhaps with just a touch of Madagascar ginger, to be followed by a word of prayer.

Then the gunman could be invited into the cruiser where the soothing strains of FM 98.1 are playing. If further persuasion is necessary, a bullet could then be administered between his eyes, all the while being very careful to only "injure", of course.

Ken. W. Knowles, M.D.
Nassau,
October 31, 2010

Why is it possible for straw vendors to sell non-Bahamian products?

EDITOR, The Tribune.

Please allow me to piggyback on the article entitled "Time for Change in Straw Market", written by Sheena Thompson, published in your edition on November 8, 2010.

I concur with the author's sentiments. A few weeks ago, I took a friend of mine (a tourist) to experience the "Straw Market", as well as to purchase a gift.

To my surprise and disappointment, it appears as though the majority - if not all of the vendors are selling non-Bahamian products - knock off included.

When I inquired about a particular item's Bahamian authenticity (although the word "Bahamas" was printed on it), the vendor did not hesitate to admit to me (after noting my Bahamian accent) that the item was not locally produced.

When will we as a people ever get it together?

The Straw Market is one of our popular local attractions.

So then, how and why is it possible for straw vendors to sell non Bahamian products?

Shouldn't tourists feel like they've experienced the Bahamian life after visiting the Straw Market?

THEREZE L GIBSON

Nassau,
November 8, 2010.

US Election campaign ignored foreign policy

WASHINGTON — The Republican gains in Tuesday's midterm elections say a lot about how the American public wants the government to rule here at home, but very little about what it should do abroad.

Unresolved wars in Iraq and Afghanistan are taking their toll in American lives and capital, nuclear tensions are simmering with North Korea and Iran. But voters weren't asked to either approve or reject President Barack Obama's view of the United States' role in global affairs.

It wasn't on the ballot.

"I can't think of an instance in recent times in which foreign policy was less prominent," said Andrew Kohut, president of the Pew Research Centre.

The president, meanwhile, was in India on Saturday, opening a 10-day Asia trip to promote U.S. policy and commerce and to meet with foreign leaders.

Terror strikes from abroad are the clear and present danger, as shown by the discovery of two package bombs headed to the U.S. from Yemen.

But across the country, candidates offered little of substance on how the U.S. should respond to those threats.

There was little discussion during the campaign of a landmark arms control deal with Russia, which the Senate must ratify to take effect. Nor was there serious debate about the wisdom of withdrawing remaining U.S. forces from Iraq or starting the withdrawal of U.S. troops from Afghanistan next July.

Richard Haass, president of the Council on Foreign Relations, a New York-based think tank, said "foreign policy hardly mattered" in the campaign and election.

"The principal reason," he said in an interview, is that "most Americans are pre-occupied with their economic circumstances. People voted on the basis of butter, not guns."

Haass said a major crisis might restore the prominence of foreign policy in national affairs, but it would have to be "something big and bad," such as a war with Iran or the collapse of Afghanistan or North Korea.

The Senate is considering a treaty with Russia to reduce stockpiles of U.S. and Russian long-range nuclear weapons, the first major arms control deal in years between the world's two leading nuclear powers.

The treaty still needs to be ratified by the Senate, where Republicans have balked at supporting it. Now with the Democrats' Senate majority eroded, the treaty's fate is in question. But it never became a major issue in the campaign.

It wasn't always like this. President Lyndon Johnson's pursuit of the war in Vietnam turned the public against him and he ultimately decided not to run for re-election.

Aaron David Miller of the Woodrow Wilson Centre said that unlike Johnson, Obama is perceived as trying to end the conflicts he inherited.

"It can change if the president becomes risk-ready rather than risk-averse," Miller said, though the Republicans will be looking for stumbles in Afghanistan, Iraq, Iran or the Israeli-Palestinian dispute.

The voters have decided, perhaps, that their vote carries little weight on national security issues, especially in a congressional election. Overall, Congress has given a free hand to Obama in this area, as it did to President George W. Bush.

This could change if, as some predict, Republican legislators hold hearings to question a broad range of White House policies. But if the GOP challenges Obama's war strategy, it won't be because voters asked them to do so.

The Republicans made an issue of big spending. But in general, they are eyeing cuts in domestic programmes, not the huge cost of maintaining and deploying the United States' military might abroad.

Travelling in the South Pacific the day after the election, Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton said a shift in congressional power will not affect U.S. foreign policy goals because politics stop at the nation's borders.

Clinton, no stranger to politics — she was a U.S. senator for eight years and competed with Obama for the presidential nomination — reminded reporters travelling with her that she was in the Senate minority for six of her eight years.

She said Republicans and Democrats can build coalitions and find allies on issues that are in America's interests.

(This article was written by Barry Schweid, AP Diplomatic writer).



Tender

C-140 Airside Civil and C-150 Landside Civil, Stage 2 and 3

Nassau Airport Development Company (NAD) is pleased to announce the release of Tender C-140 Airside Civil and C-150 Landside Civil for Stage 2 and 3 of the Lynden Pindling International Airport Expansion. NAD intends to enter into one contract for the completion of these work packages.

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The C-140 Airside Civil and C-150 Landside Civil, Stage 2 and 3 Tender Documents will be available for pick up or electronic distribution after 3:00 pm, **Thursday October 28th, 2010**. A bidders meeting will be held at **10:00 am, Tuesday November 9th, 2010**.

Please contact Traci Brisby to register at the NAD Project office.

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

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

Eastern New Providence
7 p.m., Wednesday, November 17, 2010
at Dame Doris Johnson School

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FREEPORT

Copper thieves strike

Wire stolen from Grand Bahama Power Company substation

By DENISE MAYCOCK
Tribune Freeport Reporter
dmaycock@tribunemedia.net

FREEPORT – Copper thieves have struck again on Grand Bahama, this time stealing a large quantity of copper wire from the Grand Bahama Power Company's substation in Freeport.

This is the second incident within a week and police are warning persons not to purchase the stolen goods as they will be prosecuted for the offence.

ASP Hector Delva reported that about 250 feet of copper wire was stolen from the substation

on West Atlantic Drive. The company's project manager reported the incident to police around 10am on Friday.

Mr Delva said the stolen copper is valued at about \$1,300.

Pipes

A week ago, thieves stole nearly \$5,000 worth of copper pipes and fittings from the government construction site on the Mall Drive.

Thieves broke into a trailer on the construction site of the new government complex sometime between October 28 and 29.

Copper thefts have also been reported in New Providence.

In September, copper wire was stolen from a ZNS transmission site in South Beach, resulting in the temporary shut-down of the AM 1540 radio station.

The copper was said to be valued at \$1,314.

And just last week, thieves attempted to steal the newly installed copper wiring at the transmission site but their attempt was foiled by security guards. Asst Supt of Police Hector Delva said police are asking anyone who may have any information regarding these latest incidents on Grand Bahama to call 911 or the Central Detective Unit at 325-9774/5.

Health Ministry to receive flu vaccines this month

By NOELLE NICOLLS
Tribune Staff Reporter
nnicolls@tribunemedia.net

AS the influenza season comes into full swing, the Ministry of Health is set to receive flu vaccines later this month.

Dr Hubert Minnis, Minister of Health, said he does not anticipate a repeat of last year's supply shortage, when the ministry for the first time distributed its complete supply of 10,000 vaccines.

Dr Minnis said the worldwide outbreak of the H1N1 virus in 2009 created heightened concern about the risks of flu.

The government is supplied flu vaccines by the Pan American Health Organisation (PAHO).

This year, the standard flu



DR. HUBERT MINNIS

vaccine will also include a vaccine for the H1N1 virus. "Last time was the first time in our history that all

the vaccines were given out. Swine Flu made Bahamians very cognisant of the flu," said Mr Minnis.

Flu season is from November to April.

It is a highly contagious viral infection of the respiratory tract with symptoms including fever, chills, headache, muscle ache, dizziness, loss of appetite, tiredness, cough, sore throat, runny nose, nausea or vomiting, weakness, ear pain and diarrhoea.

The annual vaccines administered in Dr Minnis' Killarney constituency is a part of an independent community project.

Those vaccines are purchased from private pharmaceutical companies, such as Lowe's and Nassau Agencies, he said.

In brief

Appeal hearing of death row inmate adjourned

THE appeal hearing of a man on death row had to be adjourned yesterday.

Death row inmate Godfrey Sawyer, 30, is appealing his conviction and sentence for the murder of Sterling Eugene during an armed robbery at Quality Discount Store in 2005.

At his sentencing hearing last November, Senior Justice Anita Allen described the crime as the "worst of the worst."

Mr Eugene was shot in the back and buttocks as he was trying to get off the ground following a struggle in which the victim and another employee tried to stop the robber making his escape with the store's cash trays.

Sawyer appeared in the Court of Appeal yesterday, however his appeal hearing could not proceed as his attorney Jerone Roberts had informed the court by way of letter that he was ill.

The appeal hearing has been adjourned until a new date can be fixed.

In mid-February, the Ministry of National Security announced that the Advisory Committee of the Prerogative of Mercy had met and determined that Sawyer's case was not one that warranted mercy and that the law should take its course.

It was subsequently announced that Sawyer had filed an appeal that would delay his execution.

Lorna Longley-Rolle and Eucal Bonaby appeared for the Crown.

TROPICAL EXTERMINATORS FOR PEST PROBLEMS PHONE: 322-2157

Grouper

The department also reminded the public that once again this year, taking, landing, processing or possessing Nassau Grouper will be prohibited between December 1, 2010 and February 28, 2011 throughout the Bahamas.

In addition, any fish commonly known as "grouper" which is landed during this period must be brought to shore with its head, tail and skin intact.

"The Department of Marine Resources requests the co-operation of all fishermen and the general public in this regard.

"Persons found in violation of the above will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law," the department's statement said.

EVANGELISTIC TEMPLE WOMEN AFTER THE HEART OF GOD CONFERENCE 2010

"Mountain Top Communion With God"



Apos. Agnes Ginton



Min. Charlene Paul



Rev. Angela Palacios



Min. Jacquelyn Dean



Pas. Cleopatra Williams

Evening Sessions:

Nov 10-12 @ 7:30 p.m.

Venue: Evangelistic Temple, Collins Avenue. Tel: 322-8304

Prayer Breakfast:

Nov 13 @ 8:00 a.m.

Venue: Temple Christian High School, Shirley Street

SALE

\$9.00

SIZES 7-11

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LOCAL NEWS

Adventists are recognised for nation building contribution

THE Bahamas Conference of Seventh-day Adventists was recognised for its contributions to nation building at its Third Quadrennial Session on Sunday.

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and Immigration Brent Symonette, in his address, expressed the government's appreciation for the "good work" that the conference has done and continues to do.

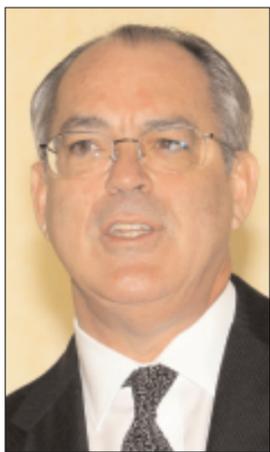
"The emphasis which you place on good neighbourliness, good citizenship, strong family life and wholesome lifestyles is of particular relevance to our country today where too often civility is disappearing from social discourse and where disagreements are too often settled violently," Mr Symonette said.

He also acknowledged the contribution of Adventists to the education system.

"Your role in helping to instil good work ethics and a desire to succeed in our youth will assist in a meaningful way toward their development into productive, useful members of our communities. This activity is invaluable and I encourage you to continue to increase your various life affirming activities," Mr Symonette said.

The government is responding to the extent possible in an effort to soften the blow of the economic crisis and to its social consequences, he added.

"The complementary assistance extended by churches



ADDRESS: Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and Immigration Brent Symonette.

such as the Seventh-Day Adventists, to members of their congregations in need of assistance and to other needy members in our communities is especially commendable," Mr Symonette said.

The Seventh-day Adventist Church is composed of 50,000 congregations in 210 countries and has over 12 million members.

The Bahamas Conference of Seventh-day Adventists is the fourth largest religious denomination in the Bahamas. With a history of more than 100 years, it consists of 36 churches throughout the central and southern Bahamas, and has a membership of 9,935.

US Coast Guard evacuate man from container ship

ANDROS – The Coast Guard evacuated an ill man from a container ship about 200 miles northeast of Nassau on Friday.

Watchstanders at the Coast Guard 7th District Command Centre received notification from the Panamanian-flagged motor vessel Jin Zhou Hai, of a 25-year-old male crew member suffering from internal bleeding at around 11.30am.

In response, an MH-60 Jayhawk Helicopter crew was launched from Atlantic Undersea Test and Evaluation Centre (AUTC) on Andros and arrived on the scene at 2.30pm.

After lowering a rescue swimmer and hoist litter to the deck of the ship, the Jayhawk crew safely hoisted crew member Qin Qingbin, a Chinese national, to the helicopter.

Qingbin was flown to Nassau in stable condition and transferred to waiting emergency medical personnel.

"We were able to safely hoist the ill man despite heightened sea and wind conditions, and obstacles aboard the vessel," said Petty Officer 2nd Class Jon Geskus, the crew's rescue swimmer.



COAST GUARD IN ACTION: The man is taken from the freighter in the Bahamas.

"Our lift elevation had to be approximately 90 feet because of cranes aboard the vessel, which when combined with the 30-knot winds and 10 to 15-foot seas, made for a challenging

rescue." Geskus and the Jayhawk helicopter crew are based at Coast Guard Air Station Clearwater, in Clearwater, Florida.

3 Big Events

New arrivals



Grab your discount out of the Bag! on new clothing

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SUN OIL LIMITED

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MAINTENANCE OPERATOR

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This position is responsible for the daily execution of key responsibilities within the bulk fuel facility. These responsibilities include the safe receipt, storage and distribution of petroleum products in accordance with strict industry and company standards. The position is also required to perform routine maintenance inspection and repairs throughout the Depot. Successful experience in the petroleum industry would be a plus.

Core Responsibilities

- General fuel handling operations associated with the receipt, storage and re-distribution of petroleum products.
- Facility inspection and maintenance with focus on electrical equipment (lighting, motors, controls, etc).
- Fuel quality controls and documentation.
- All activities related to the daily operation of a bulk fuel facility and the documentation thereof.

Job Requirements

- Single phase electrical license would be preferred.
- 5 years minimum work experience in a similar capacity.
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills.
- Proficient in the use of personal computers.
- A strong safety record. Safety related trainings would be a plus.
- A mechanical aptitude with some experience with equipment maintenance would be a plus.
- Strong leadership skills with the ability to work as an effective team member.
- The ability to work flexible hours and weekends.

Benefits include: Competitive salary and benefits package, commensurate with work experience and qualifications.

Interested persons should apply no later than November 17, 2010 to:

jobs@sunoilbahamas.com



Feel as if you have **"No More Minutes"** to cope?

Let alone the energy or patience to do something about it all? Then come and discover easy, practical and real solutions to relieve the stress and take control of your life.



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Cori Ashley

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Laugh, learn and leave your stress behind.

2 CONVENIENT WORKSHOPS
Thursday November 11, 2010
Day: 9:00 am - 2:00 pm OR
Evening: 5:30 pm - 9:30 pm
at Sheraton Cable Beach

Tickets are going FAST!

Buy 2 tickets, get 1 FREE

Reserve your seat and don't miss out on this essential support system for women.

TICKET LOCATIONS

JEMI Health & Wellness | 327-1701
Caves Village (above Scotia Bank)

The Counsellors | 322-7505 / 6
First Terrace, Collins Avenue

Renal House | 322-6952 or 322-6963
West Bay Street opposite Peripall Tract/Ferguson Road



In cooperation with **WOMEN'S ADVISORY COUNSEL**

LOCAL NEWS

'One God, One People, One Bahamas' message for students

By DENISE MAYCOCK
Tribune Freeport Reporter
dmaycock@tribunemedia.net

Foundation members visit Grand Bahama schools

FREEPORT – Ambassadors of One Bahamas visited the Freeport Primary School on Friday spreading the message of 'One God, One People, One Bahamas' to hundreds of students.

Terrance Gape, co-chairman of One Bahamas, and members of the One Bahamas Foundation Cecil Thompson and Churchill Tener-Knowles have visited some 10 schools on the island.

The objective of One Bahamas, which has been celebrated for the past 18 years, is to foster unity and love among all Bahamians and emphasise the importance of national symbols.

In November, various activities are planned, including school visits, a flag-raising ceremony, a church service and essay competition. The theme for 2010 celebrations is 'Love and Unity.'

Mr Gape said it is important that young students appreciate what it means to be a Bahamian.

"I think it is very important for kids, especially in their youth, to appreciate all the manifestation of being Bahamian.

"The flag and national anthem are what binds us together as one people in love, unity and respect for each other."

Mr Gape believes that the flag-raising ceremony is something that young people will always remember.

The flag-raising ceremony will be held at the Independence Park on November 19. Students throughout the island will be in attendance as Governor-General Sir Arthur Foulkes delivers his address to the nation.

Cecil Thompson, a former co-chairman of One Bahamas, said the message of One Bahamas is "profound".

"I strongly believe in the noble message and ideals of One Bahamas. This message has done so much good for the country over the years,"

he said.

However, Mr Thompson said that the One Bahamas message must be something that we live by every day and not just once every year in November.

"If we can live in love and unity, I am convinced that the difficulties facing the country today regarding crime could be avoided."

Mr Thompson commended Bahamians such as Sir Algernon Allen, who was one of the people who came up with the idea for One Bahamas, and former Governor General Orville Turnquest, who in 1995 visited every school in the country promoting the One

Bahamas message.

Churchill Tener-Knowles, member of One Bahamas Foundation and former co-chairman, said the Bahamas is a very blessed nation in his view.

"The kids are our future and we have been to every single school in Grand Bahama, from Sweeting's Cay to West End and Bimini, over the years promoting the One Bahamas concept," he said.

"We need to instill pride

in our children and we must show love for one another, realising that whether we come from Inagua or Eleuthera we are all one people, and love for our country by appreciating our wonderful heritage.

"I have been around the world and there is no other country like the Bahamas. We are blessed tremendously and that is the message we want to send to our young people," said Mr Tener-Knowles.

HAITI GOVT SUSPECTS CHOLERA HAS ENTERED PORT-AU-PRINCE



A WOMAN holds a serum bag as she helps a relative with cholera symptoms at the St. Nicholas hospital in Saint Marc, Haiti, Monday. After at least 20 people died when Hurricane Tomas brushed past Haiti, officials are now turning their attention back to a worsening cholera epidemic that has killed more than 500 people and hospitalized more than 7,300. (AP)

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti

HEALTH OFFICIALS said Monday that they are examining at least 120 suspected cases of cholera in Haiti's capital, the most significant warning sign yet that the epidemic has spread from outlying areas to threaten as many as 3 million people, according to Associated Press.

Samples from patients in Port-au-Prince are being tested in a laboratory to confirm the presence of vibrio cholera bacteria, which has already killed at least 544 people in Haiti, Health Ministry Executive Director Gabriel Timothee told The Associated Press.

If confirmed, the bacteria could imperil an estimated 2.5 to 3 million inhabitants, nearly half of whom have been living in tents or under tarps in easily flooded encampments since their houses were destroyed in the Jan. 12 earthquake.

"We are working on the cases. ... We don't have confirmation yet," Timothee said.

He said many of the hospitalized patients are believed to have recently arrived from parts of Haiti such as the Artibonite Valley, where the epidemic was first registered and has done its most ferocious damage. More than 6,400 of the known 8,138 cases to date have been in the agricultural region, clustered around the Artibonite River.

At least 114 of the people suspected of having the disease in the capital are in the Cite Soleil slum, the expansive oceanside shantytown at the capital's far northeastern edge and its closest point to the valley.

Since its discovery in late October, the disease has spread to half of Haiti's 10 administrative regions, or departments. More than 200 people have been hospitalized in the West department, where Port-au-Prince is located, but no cases of cholera have yet been confirmed within the limits of the capital city.

Cholera had never been documented in Haiti before its sudden appearance last month.

In little more than three weeks it is suspected of infecting tens of thousands of people, though only about a quarter of people infected normally develop symptoms of serious diarrhea, vomiting and fever. Nearly 4 percent of the thousands hospitalized have died, most from extreme shock brought on by dehydration.

Officials are concerned that floods triggered by Hurricane Tomas on Friday and Saturday could exacerbate the spread of the disease, which is transmitted through the consumption of fecal matter contained in contaminated water or food. The release of a dam on the Artibonite River caused the infected waterway to swell Monday, but there were no reports of major flooding.

An analysis by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has found that the cholera outbreak in Haiti most closely matches a strain of the disease found in South Asia.

Public health experts including U.N. Deputy Special Envoy to Haiti Paul Farmer have called for an aggressive investigation into the origin of the outbreak.

An unconfirmed theory is that the disease was introduced to Haiti by U.N. peacekeepers from Nepal who are based on a tributary to the Artibonite River.

The Four-WAY Test

From the earliest days of the organization, Rotarians were concerned with promoting high ethical standards in their professional lives. One of the world's most widely printed and quoted statements of business ethics is The Four-Way Test, which was created in 1932 by Rotarian Herbert J. Taylor. This 24-word Test has been translated into more than a hundred languages and published in thousands of ways. It asks the following four questions:

The Four-Way Test

"Of the things we think, say or do

1. Is it the truth?
2. Is it fair to all concerned?
3. Will it build goodwill and better friendships?
4. Will it be beneficial to all concerned?"

FOUR-WAY TEST ESSAY CONTEST
Enter the contest and send your essay to the Rotary Club of East Nassau and you can be a winner of \$300!

(Cash prizes and trophies will be awarded in two categories for first and second place winners)

What does the 4-way test mean to you? Explain your understanding of the 4-Way Test as it relates to your life, experiences, and/or society in general.

The world is much more complicated and dangerous for today's youth. We are faced with many challenges, such as drug abuse, gangs, violence, teen pregnancy, AIDS, high school dropouts—the list goes on. We have many decisions to make and problems to solve. Although there are many challenges in life, there is one thing that can help. Ask yourself the four questions when facing a challenging decision.



The Rotary Club of East Nassau
www.rcen.org

Rules:

1. Children ages 10-16 may enter. Judging will be in two age categories: 10 - 13 years and 14-16 years for a first and second place winner in each category.
2. Write an essay answering the following subject: "What does the Four-Way Test mean to me." Explain your understanding of the 4-Way Test as it relates to your life, experiences, and/or society in general." Your essay must include the four principles.
3. The body of the essay must not exceed 1,000 words. Adults may assist the child in filling out the entry form, but not in writing the letter.
4. Limit one essay per child. All entries must be received by the Rotary Club of East Nassau before Nov 30, 2010.
5. Only essays accompanied by original entry forms clipped from the newspaper will be accepted. Photocopy, fax, carbon or other copies will not be accepted.
6. One winner will be chosen from each age category. The decision of the judges is final.
7. Winner must agree to a photo presentation which will be published in the newspaper.
8. Mail essay and completed newspaper clipping to The Four-Way Test Essay Competition, Attn: Joanne Smith, The Rotary Club of East Nassau, P.O. Box N-1299, Nassau, Bahamas

OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM

Child's Name: _____
 Age: _____
 School: _____
 Address: _____
 P.O. Box: _____
 Email Address: _____
 Parent's Name: _____
 Parent's Signature: _____
 Telephone contact: (H) _____ (W) _____

All entries become property of the Rotary Club of East Nassau and can be used and reproduced for any purpose without compensation.

The Tribune
My Voice. My Newspaper!



LOCAL NEWS

Man questioned in connection with hunting trip shooting death

A 31-YEAR-OLD Guana Cay man is being questioned in connection with the shooting death of a 29-year-old Marsh Harbour resident who was shot in the head during a hunting trip at Matthew Point Pond on Sunday evening.

According to press liaison officer Sgt Chrislyn Skippings, police in Abaco first received reports that the body of a caucasian man

was at the Marsh Harbour Clinic at around 1.15pm.

"Police responded and discovered the lifeless body of a male, clad in a white t-shirt and camouflage pants, on the back of a white GMC truck L/P 1401, with gunshot injury to the head. It is reported that the deceased was on a hunting trip with others at Matthew Point Pond, near Lee

Waterways, when the incident occurred.

"The 29-year-old victim of Marsh Harbour was taken to the local clinic where he was pronounced dead," she said. Police investigations into this matter continue.

Meanwhile in New Providence, officers discovered the decomposing body of a man inside a

white F-150 truck in a bushy area off Cowpen Road on Sunday.

Sgt Skippings said police do not suspect foul play at this time, but are continuing to investigate the matter. Police also reported that an armed robbery occurred shortly after 8pm on Sunday at Harp Close near Joe Farrington Road.

"Police responded and infor-

mation received that a female on arrival to her residence was approached by a masked male wearing dark clothing, allegedly armed with a handgun. The culprit robbed the female of her red 2008 Honda Accord, L/P 220002, and fled the area in an unknown direction. Police are investigating," she said. Police have also identified the victim of Sunday's

traffic fatality that occurred on East Street and Coconut Grove Avenue as 21-year-old Marvin Navado Sears Jr, of Toote Shop Corner.

The victim of another fatal traffic accident, which occurred on Bernard Road east of Monastery Park, has been identified as Tamico Tate, 34, of Wilford Lane, Fox Hill.

FAMILY ISLAND LISTINGS

DEVELOPED RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL

- 1. BAHAMA PALM SHORES - ABACO**
LOT NO. 27 Block 26 Section 4
PROPERTY DESCRIPTION: Single-family Residence
PROPERTY SIZE:
LOCATION: The subject property is located at Bahama Palm Shores, Abaco.
- 2. BAHAMIA NORTH REPLAT SUBDIVISION - FREEPORT**
LOT NO. 4 portion of Lot No. 5 Block GN
PROPERTY DESCRIPTION: Condominium complex unit 304, 2 beds / 1 bath
PROPERTY SIZE: 650 sq. ft.
LOCATION: The subject property is located at Fairway Manor opposite the Ruby Golf Course.
- 3. BAHAMIA SECTION XIII SUBDIVISION - FREEPORT**
LOT NO. 1 Block 36
PROPERTY DESCRIPTION: Single-family Residence
3 beds / 2 baths
PROPERTY SIZE: 0.26 acres
LOCATION: The subject property is located on the northern side of Yorkshire Drive.
- 4. BAHAMIA WEST REPLAT - FREEPORT**
LOT NO. 33 Block 14
PROPERTY SIZE: Single Family Residence, 0.33 acres.
LOCATION: The subject property is located along the southern side of a semi-busy road called Yorkshire.
- 5. CENTRAL PINES SUBDIVISION - ABACO**
LOT NO. 399
PROPERTY DESCRIPTION: Condominium complex unit 304, 2 beds / 1 bath
PROPERTY SIZE:
LOCATION: The subject property is located in the settlement of Dundas Town.
- 6. DUNDAS TOWN - ABACO**
LOT NO. #11 Crown Allotment
PROPERTY DESCRIPTION: Single-family Residence, 2 beds / 1 bath
PROPERTY SIZE: 3,150 sq. ft.
LOCATION: The subject property is located at Godfrey Cooper Drive off East Bay Street in Dundas Town.
- 7. FOX TOWN - ABACO**
LOT NO. 32 Block 32
PROPERTY DESCRIPTION: Single-family Residence
PROPERTY SIZE: 650 sq. ft.
LOCATION: The subject property is located in the settlement of Crown Haven and Fox Town, Abaco.
- 8. FREEPORT CITY SUBDIVISION - FREEPORT**
LOT NO. 5, Block 'J'
PROPERTY DESCRIPTION: Condominium Apartment No. 420 2 beds / 2 baths
PROPERTY SIZE: 1,177 sq. ft.
LOCATION: The subject property is located at Jansel Court Condominium, East Mall Drive and East Atlantic Drive.
- 9. GARDENS AT SUNRISE SUBDIVISION - FREEPORT**
LOT NO. 100
PROPERTY SIZE: Single Family Residence, 0.18 acres.
LOCATION: The subject property is located at the Gardens at Sunrise Subdivision.
- 10. GREENING GLADE SUBDIVISION - FREEPORT**
LOT NO. Block 6 Unit 1
PROPERTY DESCRIPTION: Lucayan Towers Condominium Apartment No.408, 1 bed / 1 bath
PROPERTY SIZE: 672 sq. ft.
LOCATION: The subject property is located on Albacore Drive.
- 11. HARBOUR WEST SUBDIVISION - EIGHT MILE ROCK - GRAND BAHAMA**
LOT NO. 9Block 3
PROPERTY DESCRIPTION: Single Family Residence, 3 beds / 2 baths
PROPERTY SIZE: 8,062 sq. ft.
LOCATION: The subject property is located on Yvonne Drive and East Pine Street.
- 12. MARINA VIEW SUBDIVISION TREASURE CAY - ABACO**
LOT NO. Unit 2331 Block 205
PROPERTY DESCRIPTION: Condominium complex
PROPERTY SIZE:
LOCATION: The subject property is located at Royal Palm Condominium.
- 13. SEA HORSE VILLAGE - FREEPORT**
LOT NO. 26 Block 6
PROPERTY DESCRIPTION: Single-storey Duplex, 3 beds / 2 baths Units
PROPERTY SIZE: 0.28 acres
LOCATION: The subject property is located on the northern side of Turtle Cove.
- 14. TREASURE CAY - ABACO**
LOT NO. 4 portion of Lot No. 5 Block GN
PROPERTY DESCRIPTION: Single-family Residence
PROPERTY SIZE:
LOCATION: The subject property is located at Madeira Park in Treasure Cay, Abaco.

VACANT LOTS

- 1. ARDEN FOREST SUBDIVISION - FREEPORT**
LOT NO. 12 Block 3 Unit 5
PROPERTY SIZE: Single Family Lots, 0.33 acres
LOCATION: The vacant lot is located on the northeastern section of Caliban Drive and Ariel Place.
APPRAISED VALUE: \$35,000
- 2. BAHAMA BEACH SUBDIVISION - FREEPORT**
LOT NO. 373
PROPERTY SIZE: Single Family Lot, 0.12 acres
LOCATION: The vacant lot is located on the western end of Windward Lane and Wilscombe Boulevard.
APPRAISED VALUE: \$18,000
- 3. BAHAMA REEF YACHT & COUNTRY CLUB SUBDIVISION - FREEPORT**
LOT NO. 35 Block 2, Section 1
PROPERTY SIZE: Golf Course Frontage Lot, 0.39acres
LOCATION: The vacant lot is located 350 yards off Coral Road
APPRAISED VALUE: \$110,000
- 4. BAHAMIA WEST REPLAT SUBDIVISION - FREEPORT**
LOT NO. 28 Block 19Unit 2
PROPERTY SIZE: Single Family Lot, 0.25 acres
LOCATION: The vacant lot is located on the northern side of Columbus Way.
APPRAISED VALUE: \$26,000
- 5. BAHAMIA WEST REPLAT - FREEPORT**
LOT NO. 34 Block 14
PROPERTY SIZE: Single-family Lot, 0.27 acres.
LOCATION: The vacant lot is located along the southern side of a semi-busy road called Yorkshire.
APPRAISED VALUE: \$25,000
- 6. BAHAMIA WEST SUBDIVISION - FREEPORT**
LOT NO. 6 Block 20
PROPERTY SIZE: Multi-family Lots, 18,144 sq. ft. or 0.417
LOCATION: The vacant lots are located approximately 2 miles south of the International Shopping Bazaar.
APPRAISED VALUE: \$28,900
- 7. BAHAMIA WEST REPLAT SUBDIVISION - FREEPORT**
LOT NO. 39Block 17
PROPERTY SIZE: Single Family Lot 0.25 acres
LOCATION: The vacant lot is located on the western side of Suffolk Lane.
APPRAISED VALUE: \$30,000
- 8. CHESAPEAKE SUBDIVISION - FREEPORT**
LOT NO. 29Block 21
PROPERTY SIZE: Single Family Lot, 0.38 acres
LOCATION: The vacant lot is located on the northwestern section of Snipe Court and Capstan Drive.
APPRAISED VALUE: \$28,000
- 9. CHEROKEE SOUND - ABACO**
LOT NO. 4N
PROPERTY SIZE: Multi-Family Lot, 27,231 sq. ft.
LOCATION: The vacant lot is located at Yellow Wood Creek
APPRAISED VALUE: \$74,000
- 10. EMERALD BAY SUBDIVISION - FREEPORT**
LOT NO. 15 Block 48 Unit 2
PROPERTY SIZE: Single Family Lot, 0.41 acres
LOCATION: The vacant lot is located near the eastern boundary of Emerald Bay Subdivision, one lot before the end of a short cul-de-sac called Mundon Court.
APPRAISED VALUE: \$33,000
- 11. FREEPORT RIDGE SUBDIVISION - FREEPORT**
LOT NO. 500 and 501
PROPERTY SIZE: Single family Lots, 0.27 and 0.28 acres respectively
LOCATION: The vacant lot is situated along the curved section of an unpaved road called Penryn Place - a minor cul-de-sac - located within 250 yards south of Settler's Ways (a busy arterial road) in Freeport.
APPRAISED VALUE: \$17,000
- 12. FORTUNE POINT SUBDIVISION, FREEPORT**
LOT NO. 14 Block 2 Unit 3
PROPERTY SIZE: Single Family Lots, 0.35 acres
LOCATION: The vacant lot is located west of the intersection of Pearl Drive and Pearl Close.
APPRAISED VALUE: \$45,000
- 13. GUANAHANI SUBDIVISION - SAN SALVADOR**
LOT NO. 29
PROPERTY SIZE: Single Family Lot, 8,536 sq. ft.
LOCATION: The vacant lot is located on the eastern side of Queen's Highway.
APPRAISED VALUE: \$25,600
- 14. GRASMERE SUBDIVISION - FREEPORT**
LOT NO. 11 Block 45 Unit 3
PROPERTY SIZE: Single Family Lots, 0.35 acres
LOCATION: The vacant property is located on the corner of Grasmere Drive and Pondsides Drive.
APPRAISED VALUE: \$9,200
- 15. LINCOLN GREEN SUBDIVISION - FREEPORT**
LOT NO. 15 Block 26 unit 4
PROPERTY SIZE: Duplex Lots, 0.34 acres
LOCATION: The vacant lot is located on Manton Place and Manton Avenue.
APPRAISED VALUE: \$36,000
- 16. LINCOLN GREEN SUBDIVISION - FREEPORT**
LOT NO. 16 Block 26 unit 4
PROPERTY SIZE: Duplex Lots, 0.33 acres
LOCATION: The vacant lot is located on Manton Place and Manton Avenue.
APPRAISED VALUE: \$35,000
- 17. LINCOLN GREEN SUBDIVISION - FREEPORT**
LOT NO. 26 Block 1
PROPERTY SIZE: Duplex Lot, 0.32 acres
LOCATION: The vacant lot is located on Ludford Drive.
APPRAISED VALUE: \$34,000
- 18. LUCAYAN ESTATES SUBDIVISION - FREEPORT**
LOT NO. 1 Block 43 unit 4
PROPERTY SIZE: Duplex Lot, 1.0 acre
LOCATION: The vacant lot is located on the southern side of Newby Drive.
APPRAISED VALUE: \$9,000
- 19. LUCAYA ESTATES SUBDIVISION - FREEPORT**
LOT NO. 14 Block 76 Unit 8
PROPERTY SIZE: Single Family Lot 1.0 acre
LOCATION: The vacant lot is located on the south side of Allendale Road.
APPRAISED VALUE: \$10,500
- 20. LUCAYAN KNOLL - FREEPORT**
LOT NO. 8 Block 5
PROPERTY SIZE: Single Family Lot, 15,380 sq. ft.
LOCATION: The vacant property is located on Sergeant Major Drive near Sea Horse Road.
APPRAISED VALUE: \$30,000
- 21. MALIBOO REEF SUBDIVISION - FREEPORT**
LOT NO. 1 Block 5
PROPERTY SIZE: Multi-family Lots, 12,126 sq. ft.
LOCATION: The vacant lots are located 2 miles from the Town Centre and 31/2 miles from the Freeport International Airport.
APPRAISED VALUE: \$35,000
- 22. MAYFIELD PARK SUBDIVISION - FREEPORT**
LOT NO. 112
PROPERTY SIZE: Multi-Family Lot, 18,325 Sq. Ft.
LOCATION: The vacant property is located on Farnham Crescent.
APPRAISED VALUE: \$54,000
- 23. MURPHY TOWN - ABACO**
LOT NO. 2 Crown Allotment #57
PROPERTY SIZE: Multi - Family Lot, 5,310 sq. ft.
LOCATION: The vacant lot is located on the main Murphy Town Road.
APPRAISED VALUE: \$12,000
- 24. MURPHY TOWN - ABACO**
LOT NO. 67 Crown Allotment #1
PROPERTY SIZE: Single Family Lot, 6,935 sq. ft.
LOCATION: The vacant lot is located on the main street of Murphy Town.
APPRAISED VALUE: \$11,000
- 25. MURPHY TOWN - ABACO**
LOT NO. 67 Crown Allotment #2
PROPERTY SIZE: Single Family Lot, 12,100 sq. ft.
LOCATION: The vacant lot is located on the main street of Murphy Town.
APPRAISED VALUE: \$19,360
- 26. QUEENS COVE - FREEPORT**
LOT NO. 25 Block 18 Section 6
PROPERTY SIZE: Single-family Lot .25 acres
LOCATION: The vacant lot is located along the western end of Hawksbill Drive and Yorkshire Road.
APPRAISED VALUE: \$23,000
- 27. ROYAL BAHAMIAN ESTATES SUBDIVISION - FREEPORT**
LOT NO. 305 Section "A"
PROPERTY SIZE: Single family lot, 0.44 acres
LOCATION: The vacant lot is located on Dominica Avenue.
APPRAISED VALUE: \$30,000
- 28. ROYAL PALM BAY SUBDIVISION - FREEPORT**
LOT NO. 47 Block 6 Unit 5
PROPERTY SIZE: Single Family Lots, 17,005 sq. ft.
LOCATION: The vacant property is located on Cippinghill Drive, south of Bartlow Lane.
APPRAISED VALUE: \$40,000
- 29. ROYAL PALM BAY - FREEPORT**
LOT NO. 23, Block 21
PROPERTY SIZE: Multi-family Lots, 17,500 sq. ft. or 0.40
LOCATION: The vacant lots are situated along the western boundary of the Royal Palm Bay Subdivision, which is Fortune Bay Drive, a collector street.
APPRAISED VALUE: \$55,00
- 30. SHANNON SUBDIVISION - FREEPORT**
LOT NO. 8 BLOCK 5 UNIT 1
PROPERTY SIZE: Multi-Family Lot .34 acres
LOCATION: The vacant lot is located on the eastern side of Shannon Drive.
APPRAISED VALUE: \$30,000
- 31. SHANNON SUBDIVISION - FREEPORT**
LOT NO. 5 Block 3 Unit 1
PROPERTY SIZE: Multi-Family Lot, 0.40 acres
LOCATION: The vacant property is located on the southern side of Moonraker Lane.
APPRAISED VALUE: \$50,000
- 32. WOOD CAY - LITTLE ABACO**
LOT NO. Parcel of Land
PROPERTY SIZE: Single Family Lot, 39,999 sq. ft.
LOCATION: The vacant lot is located on the western section of the main street of Wood Cay.
APPRAISED VALUE: \$25,000
- 33. YEOMAN WOOD SUBDIVISION - FREEPORT**
LOT NO. 4 Block 58 Unit 2
PROPERTY SIZE: Single Family Lot, 0.36 acres
LOCATION: The vacant lot is located on the southwestern side of Spinney Road.
APPRAISED VALUE: \$25,000
- 34. YEOMAN WOOD SUBDIVISION - FREEPORT**
LOT NO. 18 Block 9Unit 3
PROPERTY SIZE: Single-Family Lot 0.29acres
LOCATION: The vacant lot is located on the eastern end of Osprey Lane and Gallinule Drive.
APPRAISED VALUE: \$18,000

INTERESTED PARTIES SHOULD SUBMIT OFFERS INCLUSIVE OF TELEPHONE CONTACT AND POSTAL ADDRESS

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PROPERTIES FOR SALE

LOCAL NEWS

War vets on Grand Bahama to be honoured

By DENISE MAYCOCK
Tribune Freeport Reporter
dmaycock@tribunemedia.net

FREEPORT – Four World War II veterans living on Grand Bahama will be honoured at the 12th Annual Remembrance Day Parade at the Columbus Theatre this Sunday.

World War II veterans James Roker of West End; Gerald Wildgoose of Hunters; Neville Simmons of Freeport; and Cecil Hepburn of Eight Mile Rock were among the hundreds of Bahamians who fought to defend democracy.

Remembrance Day is held in commemoration of the millions of

men and women that fought to defend, protect and preserve democracy during the First and Second World Wars.

Ceremony

Cecil Thompson, Deputy Director of Education, said the official opening ceremony for the Remembrance Day Parade starts at 3pm in the theatre parking lot.

Kenneth Russell, Minister of Housing and Member of Parliament for High Rock, will be the guest speaker.

Mr Thompson said every youth organisation on the island of Grand Bahama – every school, church-based and community-

based youth organisation, every uniformed youth organisation and every marching band – has been invited to participate in the parade.

The parade will begin following the official opening ceremony. It will travel east on Adventurer's Way, west on Poinciana Drive, south on East Beach Drive, and west on East Sunrise Highway, ending in the parking lot of Mary Star of the Sea Roman Catholic Church.

Remembrance Day, also known as Poppy Day or Armistice Day or Veterans Day – is a holiday observed in all Commonwealth countries except Mozambique to commemorate the sacrifices of

members of the armed forces and of civilians in times of war, specifically since the First World War.

It is observed on November 11 to recall the end of World War I, on that date in 1918 "major hostilities of World War I were formally ended" at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month of 1918 with the German signing of the armistice.

Armistice

Common British, Canadian, South African, and Anzac traditions (in Australia and New Zealand) include two minutes of silence at the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh

month (11am on November 11), as that marks the time (in the United Kingdom) when armistice became effective.

The Service of Remembrance in many Commonwealth countries generally includes the sounding of "Last Post", followed by the two minutes of silence, followed by the sounding of "Reveille" – or, more commonly, "The Rouse", and finished by a recitation of the "Ode of Remembrance".

The "Flowers of the Forest", "O Valiant Hearts", "I Vow to Thee, My Country" and "Jerusalem" are often played during the service. Services also include wreaths laid to honour the fallen, a blessing, and national anthems.



DR. IVA DAHL, Manger/Consultant at BTVI, and Elma Garraway, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Education.

Permanent Secretary provides BTVI students with tips for workplace

ACTING appropriately in the workplace and having the ability to get along with others are essential skills to securing a future in the job market, Elma Garraway, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Education, told the students at the Bahamas Technical and Vocational Institute (BTVI).

Mr Garraway was the first participant in the special speakers series at BTVI.

Making her presentation on "Enhancing Interpersonal and Communication Skills", she said that the student's interpersonal skills and the manner they use to communicate will determine how they are perceived, the extent of their happiness at work and the future of their careers.

She encouraged the students to strive to be the "leader of self", or what image consultant Stacia

Williams termed the "CEO of you incorporated".

This concept, Mrs Garraway said, requires an individual to set their own high standards and follow them rather than following other people's principles.

Mrs Garraway also told the students that if they are not able to get along with people, despite their other professional abilities, their careers will be

short-lived.

She said that many large companies when they downsize base their decisions on who to let go on an employee's ability to behave appropriately in the workplace.

The speaker series at BTVI is designed to provide students with access to business professionals who can offer tips and best practices for performing in the workplace.

Share your news

The Tribune wants to hear from people who are making news in their neighbourhoods. Perhaps you are raising funds for a good cause, campaigning for improvements in the area or have won an award.

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- Safe truck loading and delivery of petroleum products throughout the island.
- Provide exceptional customer service at all times.
- Adhere to company driving policies and the Highway Code of the Bahamas.
- General fuel handling operations associated with the receipt, storage and re-distribution of petroleum products.

Job Requirements

- 5 years minimum work experience in a similar capacity.
- In depth knowledge of The Highway Code of The Bahamas.
- A strong safety record. Safety related trainings would be a plus.
- Defensive driving training would be a strong plus.
- A mechanical aptitude with some experience with equipment maintenance and repairs.
- Strong leadership skills with the ability to work as an effective team member.
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills.
- The ability to work flexible hours and weekends.

Benefits include: Competitive salary and benefits package, commensurate with work experience and qualifications.

Interested persons should apply no later than November 17, 2010 to:

jobs@sunoilbahamas.com

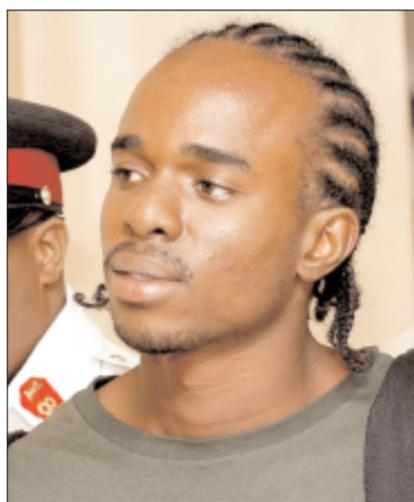


NOTICE OF IN-DEPTH INVESTIGATION INTO THE PROPOSED MERGER BETWEEN CABLE BAHAMAS LIMITED AND SYSTEMS RESOURCE GROUP LIMITED

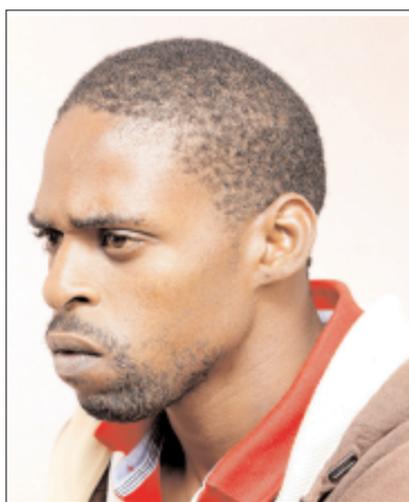
pursuant to
SECTION 8(1)(e) and 78(2)
of the
COMMUNICATIONS ACT, 2009

1. The Utilities Regulation and Competition Authority (URCA) hereby gives notice that it has opened an in-depth investigation in accordance with the Communications Act, 2009 and the Merger Control – Substantive Guidance (ECS Comp. 2) into the proposed merger between Cable Bahamas Limited (CBL) and Systems Resource Group Limited (SRG).
2. On September 27, 2010, by public Notice, URCA gave interested persons until October 1, 2010 to make representations before determining to open an in-depth investigation or forming any opinion or issuing any adjudication on whether the proposed merger would have or be likely to have the effect of substantially lessening competition in a market in The Bahamas. URCA has now considered the representations to the proposed merger submitted by interested parties.
3. URCA may open an in-depth investigation where it considers that there is a significant prospect that the change in control, consequential to the proposed merger, is likely to have adverse effects which will substantially lessen competition in the market and:
 - (i) the merging Parties have not suggested any proposals to eliminate URCA's concerns; and
 - (ii) URCA is not satisfied at that stage that the competition concerns are outweighed by substantiated efficiencies.
4. A decision to open an in-depth investigation does not prejudice the result of the investigation or a Final Decision by URCA to the proposed merger.
5. URCA now has within ninety (90) calendar days of opening the in-depth investigation to issue its adjudication and will therefore issue its adjudication on the proposed merger on or before February 5, 2011.

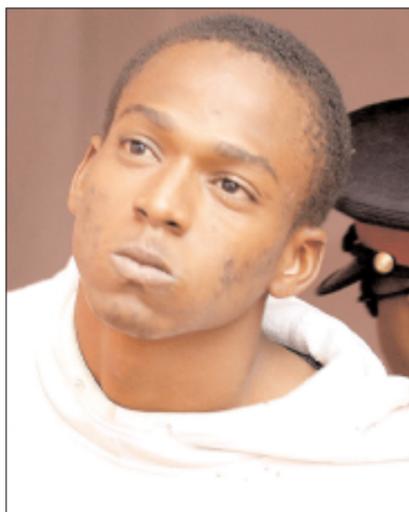
Three charged in connection with shooting death of woman



CHARGED: Denard Davis



CHARGED: Lynden Lloyd Prosper



CHARGED: D'Angelo Adderley

FROM page one

Police have charged Lynden Lloyd Prosper, 23, of Johnson Road, D'Angelo Adderley, 20, of Shady Tree Lane and Denard Davis, 21, of Cool Bush Lane, with murdering 40-year-old Sheria Curry, of Step Street, Fox Hill.

They have also been charged with attempting to murder her 10-year-old son, Shanko Smith.

According to police reports, Ms Curry and her son were sitting with a group of people outside their home when a man in a gold-coloured Hyundai SUV opened fire with a handgun.

Ms Curry was shot in the head and died later. Shanko was shot in the thigh.

According to court dockets, the three men, on Wednesday, November 3, being concerned together, caused the death of Ms Curry. It is also alleged that on the same day the men attempted to kill Shanko Smith.

The men were not required to enter a plea to the charges during their arraignment before Chief Magistrate Roger Gomez.

Claim of Pigeon Pea land ownership challenged by MP

FROM page one

Nathan Key's descendants. I don't even claim to own the Key's tract," he said.

Six months ago, some 1,500 residents were handed eviction notices by purported landowner Ricky Albury, who claims to have secured the deeds to 5.38 acres of the property in question.

Mr Albury said his lawyers were expected to file an action in the Supreme Court this week to clear the way for him to exercise his eviction orders.

Armed with the backing of the Marsh Harbour and Spring City Township, Mr Albury said he will move forward with plans to clear the land once the court gives him authorisation.

"That area will be bulldozed and levelled as long as the court approval comes out in Mr Albury's favour," said Roscoe Thompson III Township chairman.

"Basically we have to make sure no one else has claim to the land and that it is done properly," said Mr Thompson.

He criticised comments made by the MP challenging the authority of Mr Albury, calling them "unhelpful." Mr Key made the comments earlier this year while touring Pigeon Pea with former Haitian Ambassador Louis Harold Joseph.

Pigeon Pea is a notorious area, said to be one of Abaco's two largest squatter communities. Mr Albury claims some 85 per cent of the residents are undocumented immigrants.

Mr Key did not venture a

guess as to the percentages, but he says a number of the residents are naturalised citizens. At least 300 of them are registered voters, according to Mr Key. There are also many others with citizenship applications pending.

"I don't think anyone can put claim to the Key's tract, unless the government does it through some act of parliament. It is a complicated tied up situation," said Mr Key.

Mr Albury claims to be the descendent of Nathan Key, the original owner of 220 acres of land in Abaco, now called the Key's Tract. Some Abaconians treat the property as generational land.

"My deed is not in dispute. Everything went through the law," said Mr Albury. He claims his rights to the land were acquired through his mother, at least four generations removed from the original owner.

Nathan Key is said to have died without a will and ever since the descendants of his many children have struggled to acquire fee simple title to the land.

According to Mr Key Nathan Key was granted the land by an eighteenth century British king for bravery in fighting a war. The many would-be-heirs have been entangled in an ownership dilemma for decades, because the eldest son of Nathan Key has never been established, according to Mr Key.

"In order for them to own a portion of the Key's Tract, they would have to stake it out, go to the Quietening Title Act and the court would have to make a decision on the property. No one has

done that so far as I know," he said.

The various deeds and affidavits possessed by would-be-heirs, according to Mr Key are not sufficient to "go to the bank and borrow money on."

Since the eviction notices were distributed, most of the residents have remained stationary. The local township had hoped the aggressive move of Mr Albury would have forced the government to intervene and regularise residents.

However, the government has not budged since the initial action, six months ago, according to Mr Thompson.

"The government has not even approached me on this matter for six months: no contact from the Prime Minister, immigration, nobody. Nobody from central government has taken this seriously," he said.

If the government was able to give the township some form of assurance that they would be held liable for dealing with the settlement, Mr Thompson said they would have bulldozers in the community right away.

Mr Key is adamant, the residents cannot be forced to move, unless there is somewhere for them to go.

"I would like to see the government put in a subdivision where they can buy a lot at a reasonable price and build their own homes. In fact, we just built over 100 new low cost houses in Spring City.

"A few of them were able to purchase homes through the mortgage corporation, but that is only a drop in the bucket," said Mr Key.



COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENT

The following persons are asked to visit the Department of Immigration, located on Hawkins Hill, Nassau, on Saturday, 13th November, 2010, between the hours of 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Persons are requested to bring along a valid picture identification.

Almonor, Marc
 Antoine, Johny
 Atilus, Adeline
 Augustine, Michelaine
 Bien-Aime, Jean Bussaint
 Bien, Vilaine
 Blanc, Marilyn
 Cadeau-Estimable, Johanna
 Charles, Belony
 Charles, Jimmy
 Charles, Julie
 Daniel, Florence Selamise
 Dicul, Lunes
 Dolce, Erick
 Dolce, Rochelle Joseph
 Delhomme, Madeline
 Docteur, Wilner
 Dolce, Macelinda
 Dormeus, Harry
 Dormeus, Loremise
 Dorceley, Ermith
 Dorest, Joel
 Dorsainvil, Josette
 Duverse, Rochenal
 Edmond, Michael
 Elvie, Richard Nixon
 Etienne, Albert Merilien
 Etienne, Cheryl
 Etienne, Diana
 Etienne, Hortoise
 Etienne, Rodney
 Estime, Kerline
 Eugene, Max P.
 Etienne, Kevin
 Etienne, Mirlande
 Etienne, Nalia
 Eugene Philippe
 Fenelus, Cherline
 Flere, Edwin
 Francois, Linda
 Fenelon, Françoise
 Fenelus, Muslaine
 Fils-Aime, Leslie
 Fleurimon-Johnson, Philomise
 Fleuristin, Jowle
 Forestant, Sonie
 Fortune, Allanda
 Frais, Jacques
 Francois, Celaine
 Francois, Lyrol
 Francois, Rene
 Frederique, Guerda
 Frederique, Albert
 Gedeon, Fontaine
 Gedeon, William
 George Marcelline
 Gregorie, Sherley
 Gue, Kenol
 Guillaume, Linda
 Guerrier, Faustin Adeline
 Gordon, Racquel Janice
 Homme, Kelly Jeantil
 Jackson, Noralus
 Jacques, Mary
 Jean-Baptiste, Merlene
 Jean-Baptiste, Moniqu
 Jean, Francis
 Jean, Monique
 Jean, Shirley
 Joseph, Benson
 Joseph, Cindy
 Joseph, Elmise
 Joseph, Fernand
 Joseph, Fontaine
 Joseph, Gibson
 Joseph, Noille
 Joseph, Teogen
 Joseph, Veronique
 Libenis, Merlene
 Liberal, Johnny
 Louis, Jean Rony
 Lacroix, Erol
 Liberis, Yvene
 Lissaint, Roseline
 Lonmon, Simon
 Loudior, Cindy
 Louis, Adline
 Louis, Anthony
 Louis, Edline
 Louis, Geedhin
 Louis, Kam
 Louis, Luckson
 Louis, Shantnel
 Louis, Virta
 Louis, Wilner
 Luc, Luckson
 Lucius, Necksand
 Lucius, Wilner
 Louissaint, Rosenie
 Liberis, Yvene
 Lissaint, Roseline
 Lonmon, Simon
 Loudior, Cindy
 Louis, Adline
 Louis, Anthony
 Louis, Edline
 Louis, Geedhin
 Louis, Kam
 Louis, Luckson
 Luc, Luckson
 Lucius, Necksand
 Lucius, Wilner
 Louissaint, Rosenie
 Moise, Mario
 Mitchell, Kainnsly
 Medeus, Wilner
 Mooree, Monique
 Mycklewhite, D'Anglo
 Marcellus, France
 Mareus, Fedner
 Massillon, Elion
 Mesidor, Raymond
 Michel, Marie Mathe
 Mirtil, Dieujuste
 Murat, Minue
 Myrtil, Eglaise
 Menelas, Lucile
 Nelson, Perry
 Newbold, Maneka Saron
 Newchurch, Coralie
 Nacius, Gertha
 Nelson, Anthony
 Nicola, Carrey
 Nonhomme, Edwin
 Oscar-Bien, Vilaine
 Opsin, Josey
 Pettie, Vincent
 Philiias, Nesly
 Pierre, Thompson
 Paul, Rodney
 Pierre Alios
 Pierre, Cediemene
 Pierre, Jules Bernard
 Pierre, Raymond
 Pierre, Rose Lourdes
 Pierre, Sandy
 Petit-Phard, Cleffi
 Petit-Phard, Richardson
 Prophete, Adeline
 Pierre, Nadege
 Raphael, Rosena
 Reynolds, Lauren Elizabeth
 Richemond, Suzette
 Romeus, Sintalise
 Russell, Melissa Ingrid
 Saint Hilaire, Agneau
 Sherwood, Marklet Andrew
 Similes, Jean Claude
 Similien, Sidney
 Simon, Alen
 Solomon, Suzanne
 St. Natus, Standley
 Sylvestre, Lionel
 Sylvestre, Ozianie
 Taylor-McPhee, Natasha
 Toussaint, Maurice
 Tassy, Eardly
 Tertulien
 Thervil, Lucger
 Tilhomme, Herry Jean
 Toussaint, Monique
 Valcin, Rosena
 Valcon, Micheline
 Victor, Mario
 Victor, Mickenzy
 Wallace, Maxwell Remy
 Youte, Patrick
 Youte, Seneque

'Critically ill' baby in hospital ordeal

FROM page one

medical card. It's really ridiculous to see how our system is working. It isn't working. The head people have to be there to know what's going on. They don't be there - only the people working there is be there."

The infant began showing signs of illness last week Monday, according to Ms Pinder, whose daughter lives in Abaco.

When the Family Island clinic could not treat the infant, who appeared to be wheezing, she was directed to Nassau with documentation requesting her treatment at the hospital.

"When I picked them (daughter and baby) up from the airport the flight was late - the baby was wheezing so bad we went straight to the hospital," the grandmother said.

Once at PMH, Ms Pinder said they gave the clinic's paperwork to attending staff however it was mandated that the baby be registered first.

"I thought this was strange because the child is so young and she was having so much trouble breathing. But I said to my daughter go through, I will register while you take her back there."

However, the sick baby and her mother were not allowed admittance into the back area of Accident and Emergency until registration was complete.

Ms Pinder said: "I went back to the window, I said 'this baby came from the island and is really sick. She needs to be tended to, we

don't know what's wrong' - that's when they let her through."

The mother and her baby were allowed through, however Ms Pinder said she was not allowed to accompany them because staff said it was too overcrowded.

It wasn't until just after midnight Ms Pinder said, that her daughter returned to the front area and told her that medical staff said they did not hear any wheezing.

Bewildered by what she felt was clearly an immense oversight, Ms Pinder said she returned to the registration window seeking answers.

Ms Pinder said: "I went back to the window and said 'Miss, this baby is wheezing.' She told me that I would have to wait as they are currently changing shifts so there was no one that could help at this time. I asked her 'what kind of foolishness is this?' and she told me 'ma'm I'm just a nurse'."

Exhausted and without recourse, Ms Pinder said they decided to take the baby home and monitor her.

"She cried all night, wheezing as if she just couldn't catch her breath. I put olive oil on a brown paper bag and put it on her chest but that didn't help, she just cried and cried," Ms Pinder said.

Early Wednesday morning, the family took the infant - whom they would learn was critically ill - to a private doctor whom upon inspection, immediately wrote a letter to PMH mandating her admittance.

Ms Pinder said: "He said she could have died. She was crying so much - she's only two months old - to see her wheeze like that as if she just couldn't catch. Last night [Wednesday] she was hooked up to all these machines."

Up to press time, the infant was said to be in stable condition.

During her time spent waiting in Accident and Emergency, Ms Pinder said she heard of the seemingly hopeless plight of persons awaiting care at the public health facility.

She said: "They take a whole hour to serve one person. They call one name every hour. One woman with a broken foot had been there since 1pm, and when we were leaving at midnight she was just going in to be seen. They talking about since they put that new wing in, the system working - it ain't working - not what I saw there."

An investigation into the matter may be launched, pending co-operation from the family.

When briefed of the incident, hospital administrator Coralie Adderley said: "We have heard their side of the story, but we can't move forward and look into this issue until they come forward."

The matter follows recent remarks made by Minister of Health Dr Hubert Minnis towards the dramatic rise of violent crime in Nassau, where he admitted the emergency room of the Princess Margaret Hospital had evolved into a makeshift trauma centre.

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Straw vendors punished in New York 'happy' to be back at work

FROM page one

trafficking counterfeit goods. When *The Tribune* visited the market yesterday, Ms Duncombe was busy stitching a design on to a straw bag near her stall. She said she was "happy to be back to work" but declined to say anything else.

Meantime, despite the publicity surrounding the arrests, some shelves in the market were still stocked with counterfeit handbags and wallets bearing the logos of designer brands like Coach, Gucci and Juicy Couture yesterday.

However, Ms Strachan believes most vendors will forgo the risks of arrest by importing the goods from the United States as in the past.

"I have my doubts, you may find someone who may want to I don't know I'm sure that the majority of persons I have spoken to it doesn't make sense (to them)".

Duty

She said the majority of the market sees the nine women as scapegoats and chastised authorities for not fully explaining the ramifications of the counterfeit bag trade while they collected duty on the goods.

"I think the general consensus was that they were sort of scapegoats because they felt that what they were doing was something being done not only by those ladies but other persons in the community - they have those same bags in the RM Bailey park, in some of the shops on East street - they are being sold all over the place.

"I've been on cruises (and seen) people in the other Caribbean islands selling them right off the docks and we are concerned that the US itself did an injustice to those young women because, as far as they are concerned and we are concerned, if that is against the law why hasn't it been published in the seaport and the airport warning persons coming in that these things are prohibited and if found with them what would happen.

"Persons paid their monies bought tickets, went in with a valid passport - they didn't smuggle themselves in the States - and they come back home bring their receipts to customs officers and pay their duties," said Ms Strachan.

Seven of the nine vendors have been sentenced to time served and released on probation.

The two awaiting sentencing, Marva and Marvette Ferguson, are expected to appear in court today.

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LOCAL NEWS

Obama: US ready to help India, Pakistan make peace

NEW DELHI

PRESIDENT Barack Obama said Monday that he was ready to play "any role" requested by India and Pakistan to foster peace between them as he moved delicately to address tensions between the nuclear-armed neighbors, according to Associated Press.

On the third and final day of his trip to India, Obama said that while both India and Pakistan have an interest in reducing tensions in the region, the U.S. "cannot impose a solution to these problems."

"We are happy to play any role the parties think is appropriate," Obama said at a joint news conference with India's

Prime Minister Manmohan Singh.

Muslim-dominated Pakistan and Hindu-majority India have gone to war before and still hold deep suspicions. Indian officials accuse Pakistan's intelligence service of helping orchestrate the 2008 Mumbai attacks that killed 166 people and say Islamabad has not done enough to crack down on the Pakistan-based extremists held responsible.

Pakistan views India's ties with the U.S.-backed government in Afghanistan as an effort by its old rival to encircle it.

Obama treaded carefully when asked about what role the U.S. could play in resolving

India and Pakistan's long-standing dispute over Kashmir, a Himalayan region where rebels have sought independence from India or incorporation with Pakistan. The president quickly sought to broaden his answer, saying a reduction in tensions would not only benefit the region, but also the security of the U.S.

Kashmir has been the main source of friction between the nuclear-armed neighbors since they won independence from Britain in 1947. Pakistan has frequently sought outside intervention to resolve it but India vehemently opposes such involvement, and the United States has traditionally stayed above the fray. Obama

declined to veer from that stance.

Singh said that while he believes a strong, moderate Pakistan is in the interest of India and the wider region, India can't engage in talks as long as Pakistan's "terror machine is as active as ever before."

However, he deflected a reporter's question about whether he would call Pakistan a terrorist state.

Singh is seen as a driving force behind Indian efforts to make peace with Pakistan. He called off peace talks following the November 2008 Mumbai attacks, carried out by Pakistani militants, but was generally restrained in his reac-



PRESS CONFERENCE: U.S. President Barack Obama, left, and Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh at Hyderabad House in New Delhi, India, Monday. (AP)

tion and never threatened military retaliation. The two countries have resumed periodic "trust-building" talks between foreign ministers and foreign secretaries in recent months.

After the news conference, Pakistani Foreign Minister Shah Mehmood Qureshi reiterated that his country was willing to talk to India and was committed to eliminating ter-

rorism and dismantling any networks operating from his country.

"We condemn terrorism. We do not and will not allow Pakistani soil to be used against anyone and that includes India," he told India's CNN-IBN news channel. "We have taken considerable steps in the last two years to deal with this situation."



REQUEST FOR TENDER

LPIA Expansion Project Stages 2 & 3

Nassau Airport Development Company (NAD) seek subcontractors to assist in the completion of Stages 2 & 3 of the LPIA Expansion Project. Stage 2 consists of a new International Arrivals Terminal and Stage 3 consists of a new International and Domestic Departures & Domestic Arrivals Terminal. All subcontractors, particularly Bahamian subcontractors, are encouraged to participate in this significant national project. Scopes to be competitively tendered to complete the Stages 2 & 3 terminal projects include:

TENDER PACKAGES:

Package 1 includes the following Scopes – Closing 3:00pm EST, Friday, November 12th, 2010

- Demolition
- Structural/ Architectural Steel
- Structural / Architectural Concrete
- Exterior & Interior Glazing Systems
- Earthworks, Piling, Civil
- Electrical
- Metal Panel, Siding & Soffit System
- Mechanical (Fire Protection, Plumbing, HVAC)

Package 2 includes the following Scopes – Closing 3:00pm EST, Friday December 3rd, 2010

- Unit Masonry
- Expansion Control
- Exterior Stone & Precast Coping
- Doors/Frames/Hardware
- Interior Tile and Stone
- TPO Roofing
- Steel Stud Framing / Drywall
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- Insulation / Fireproofing
- Painting & Coverings
- Wood/Plastic/Millwork
- Specialties (Partitions, Access Panels, Louvers, etc.)

PREQUALIFICATION PROCESS:

A qualification package must be submitted by all interested subcontractors no later than **3:00pm, Friday November 12th, 2010 for Package 1 and 3:00pm Friday December 3rd, 2010 for Package 2.** Only bids from contractors deemed qualified will be considered. Qualifications will be based on the following criteria:

- A demonstration of financial capacity
- Experience
- References
- Bahamian Ownership / Content

SCENES FROM THE REDROSEBALL

ON November 6, this year's Red Rose Ball black-tie event took place in Freeport, Grand Bahama under the theme: "All Things Bahamian - Homecoming". The event was held in the Grand Ballroom of the Radisson at Our

Lucaya Resort and the proceeds went to the Grand Bahama AIDS Awareness Committee and its work on HIV/AIDS prevention. The ball was held under the patronage of Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham and Mrs. Ingraham.



LOCAL NEWS



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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

FROM THE ARCTIC TO CUBA TO THE NIGERIA COAST, AVOIDING SPILLS IS LIKELY TO BECOME MORE DIFFICULT

World's oil thirst leading to risks

HARRY R. WEBER,
Associated Press
JOHN FLESHER,
Associated Press
MIAMI

The world's thirst for crude is leading oil exploration companies into ever deeper waters and ventures fraught with environmental and political peril, according to Associated Press.

The days when the industry could merely drill on land and wait for the oil — and the profits — to flow are coming to an end. Because of that, companies feel compelled to sink wells at the bottom of deep oceans, inject chemicals into the ground to force oil to the surface, deal with unsavory regimes, or operate in some of the world's most environmentally sensitive and inaccessible spots, far from ports and decent roads. All those factors could make it difficult to move in equipment and clean up a spill.

From the Arctic to Cuba to the coast of Nigeria, avoiding catastrophes like BP's Gulf of Mexico spill is likely to become increasingly difficult and require cooperation among countries that aren't used to working together.

An Associated Press review of oil ventures around the world found plans to punch through layers of salt more than three miles (4.8 kilometers) beneath the ocean floor off the coast of Brazil, drill seven exploratory wells off Cuba and extract oil from crude-soaked sands on the Canadian prairie. Drilling is proceeding in countries with extremely weak regulations and a lack of skilled operators, and in geological settings much like the northern Gulf of Mexico, with high pressure and weak rock formations ripe for blowouts.

Companies are seeking the new frontiers amid warnings from some analysts that worldwide oil production will peak and then decline as onshore wells dry up. It's not that oil itself is scarce — global reserves are estimated at 1.2 trillion barrels — but getting to it requires large investments in treacherous places.

"It's just getting harder to find this stuff. You're having to go to the end of the Earth or the bottoms of very deep oceans now," said Randy Udall, director of the non-profit Community Office for Resource Efficiency in Aspen, Colorado.

BP CEO Bob Dudley argued last week that deep-water drilling is necessary despite the dangers because the world could be consuming 40 percent more energy by 2030.

BP and other major oil companies say they are preparing for the risks and trying to find common solutions. Also, the International Association of Oil and Gas Producers, a trade group, is talking with other industry

organizations in the U.S., Australia, Brazil and Britain about preventing and responding to disasters, said executive director Michael Engell-Jensen.

But so far, little has been done globally to come up with a universally accepted set of standards and response procedures. Diplomatic tensions could prevent effective cooperation among countries, and some projects already under way — such as a deep-water containment system that U.S. oil companies are building in the Gulf — are meant only for a particular area.

In the meantime, the industry is pursuing some audacious projects.

Exploration companies have discovered huge oil fields in the South Atlantic off Brazil, with deposits believed to exceed 8 billion barrels. Reaching them will require drilling not only in waters nearly two miles (3.2 kilometers) deep, but through salt layers up to three miles below the ocean floor. The BP well that blew out was in water a mile (1.6 kilometers) deep.

The U.S. Geological Survey estimates the Arctic region holds up to one-quarter of the world's undiscovered conventional oil and natural gas, including 90 billion barrels of crude — most of it offshore. Companies in the U.S., Russia, Norway, Denmark and Canada are stepping up preparations to drill there.

Sued

Environmental groups have sued to prevent it. Cold and ice would hamper cleanup of a spill, they say, by making it hard to get people and equipment to the scene. And the region lacks the sunlight and abundance of microbes that are helping break down the oil in the Gulf. A major spill could injure or kill whales, polar bears, seals, walrus and many types of fish.

Shell Oil, which plans to drill exploratory wells off Alaska, will have a response fleet constantly on hand with helicopters, boom, skimmers and other equipment for dealing with spills. "In the unlikely event of a discharge, they would be deployed and recovering oil within an hour," spokesman Curtis Smith said.

In the western U.S., companies are targeting what the Energy Department says are billions of barrels of recoverable oil trapped within deposits of shale rock, which is composed of layers of clay-like, fine-grain sediments. Mining and processing shale oil are a big source of greenhouse gas emissions. Environmentalists also worry about the huge volumes of water and chemicals pumped deep underground at high pressures to break loose the shale.

Similar issues have arisen



CATASTROPHE: This April 21, 2010 file photo shows the Deepwater Horizon oil rig burning after an explosion in the Gulf of Mexico, off the southeast tip of Louisiana.



OFFSHORE PLATFORM: This Thursday, Oct. 28, 2010 file photo shows a view of the Petrobras offshore ship platform FPSO Cidade de Angra dos Reis, on the day the first oil sample was taken from the pre-salt layer of Tupi field in Santos Bay off the coast of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. The world's thirst for crude is leading explorers into ever deeper waters and ventures fraught with environmental and political peril, heralding an end to an easier era when companies could merely drill on land and wait for the oil — and the profits — to flow.

(AP Photo/Felipe Dana, File)

in the Canadian province of Alberta, where companies are extracting sticky black bitumen oil from mixtures of sand and clay known as tar sands — a process that consumes vast quantities of water in an arid climate.

In Nigeria, where major oil companies like Royal Dutch Shell and others explore the oil-rich Niger Delta, regulators ostensibly demand adherence to international standards. But enforcement is another matter in a country with a reputation for some of the worst corruption in the world.

Uneven environmental standards are a big concern in developing countries such as Nigeria, Angola and Kazakhstan — places where "a major spill would be an absolute nightmare to manage, politically and logistically," said Matthew Halle, a recruiting manager at the energy consulting firm NES Inc.

Environmentalists estimate as much as 550 million gallons of oil have poured into

the Niger Delta and its surrounding waterways during 50 years of crude production. That is roughly comparable to one Exxon Valdez disaster per year.

The pitfalls of doing business with certain regimes were brought into sharp focus when questions were raised about whether BP tried to procure a \$900 million exploration agreement with Libya by seeking the release of the man convicted of bombing Pan Am Flight 103 over Lockerbie, Scotland.

Agreement

The 1988 attack killed 270 people. BP says it urged the British government to sign a prisoner transfer agreement with Libya but did not specify Abdel Baset al-Megrahi's case. As the Gulf oil spill illustrated, even multinational oil companies with solid experience have their own shortcomings. In the U.S., it could be another year before a better cap-and-siphon contain-

ment system is developed to choke off underwater leaks. Experts have said the industry needs better technology and more thorough testing to prevent blowouts from happening in the first place.

Exxon Mobil's Lloyd Guilory, the senior project manager for the U.S. industry containment system initiative, said he is confident that enough attention is being paid to safety. "The starting point one has to understand is that prevention is the predominant focus — safe drilling operations and prevention," he said.

Plans for drilling off the Cuban coast have made many people uneasy in Florida, which depends heavily on tourism to drive its economy.

Jorge Pinon, an oil expert at Florida International University, said a Spanish company and others are expected to drill seven exploratory wells in Cuban waters. The first well — at a depth of 5,600 feet (1,700 meters) — is to be located 22 miles (35 kilometers) north of Havana

and 65 miles (104 kilometers) south of Key West, he said. BP's ill-fated well was about 40 miles (65 kilometers) off Louisiana.

Because of the U.S. trade embargo, U.S. companies could be barred from assisting the Spanish company with equipment and other resources in the event of a blowout in Cuban waters.

Pinon said he was part of a recent delegation that met in Washington to discuss breaking down barriers so that the U.S. and Cuba can work together on prevention and response. Rep. Kendrick Meek, a Florida Democrat, said he worries about drilling off Cuba because of how long it took to stop BP's runaway well from gushing oil into the Gulf. Before it was over, some 200 million gallons of oil spewed from the well.

Just as governments around the world cooperate to keep air travel safe, "there has to be rules and regulations globally to protect our waters because we're all connected by water," Meek said.

Mexican leader: Drug gangs biggest threat to press

E. EDUARDO CASTILLO,
Associated Press
MERIDA, Mexico

President Felipe Calderon warned Monday that organized crime has become the biggest threat to press freedoms in Mexico, according to Associated Press.

Calderon said Mexico, which emerged from a system of virtual one-party rule a decade ago, has made strides against government censorship. He noted that under his government, defamation and slander have been decriminalized.

But now many newspapers are sti-

fling their coverage for fear of drug gangs, he said. "You can openly criticize the president or the government ...

In this administration, there has never been gag laws or censorship," Calderon said at the annual meeting of the Inter American Press Association, a Miami-based organization that groups newspapers across the Western Hemisphere.

"Now the great threat to freedom of expression in our country, and other parts of the world, without a doubt, is organized crime," Calderon added. Many small newspapers in the most violent regions of Mexico, especially the northern areas bordering the United

States, acknowledge that they no longer cover drug-gang violence because their reporters have been threatened or killed.

At least 11 journalists have been killed in Mexico this year, according to the press association, known as IAPA. The country has become the most dangerous in the Americas for journalists.

Calderon said his government has promised to create a security protocol for journalists, and has already taken some steps, including creating a special prosecutor for crimes against freedom of expression.

However, that prosecutor's office has been criticized for failing to resolve

most attacks on reporters. Mexican journalists have also said that official influence over news coverage remains a problem in this country because government advertising is a major source of revenue for many publications.

IAPA Vice President Gonzalo Marroquin urged Mexican media to unite and create their own strategy to protect themselves against traffickers.

"We've found there is great common interest but little common action" among Mexican journalists, Marroquin said.

Diana Carolina Duran, of the Colombian daily El Espectador, said newspapers in her country confronted

criminal gangs by conducting joint investigations that would run at the same time in numerous publications.

At a recent forum in Mexico, journalists discussed adopting such a plan. IAPA President Alejandro Aguirre, meanwhile, criticized Cuba for its lack of freedom of expression.

"Cuba remains the dark point in the map of the Americas, and it still won't wake up," Aguirre said in a speech at formal inauguration of the meeting.

"This is one of the biggest embarrassments of our humanity. It should not be tolerated. A half-century of dictatorship. It's enough," Aguirre said.

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Competition fears lead to Cable/SRG deal probe

* Cable chief still 'very hopeful' merger will go through, as URCA launches 90-day 'in-depth investigation' into antitrust implications

* Lauds potential benefits to Bahamian consumers

* But rival describes deal as 'spoiling manoeuvre' that further concentrates Bahamian telecoms assets in hands of few players

By NEIL HARTNELL
Tribune Business Editor

A senior Cable Bahamas' executive yesterday told Tribune Business the company remained "very hopeful" that its multi-million dollar merger/acquisition of fellow telecoms operator, Systems Resource Group (SRG), would ultimately receive full regulatory approval even as a 90-day "in-depth investigation" was launched to determine if the deal would "substantially lessen competition in the market".

Anthony Butler, the BISX-listed utility group's president/chief executive, in a brief interview with Tribune Business following the Utilities Regulation & Competition Authority's (URCA) announcement that it wanted to assess whether the proposed merger could have "adverse effects" on sustainable competition in the Bahamian communications market, continued to laud the benefits the tie-up would bring Bahamian consumers. "We'll assist the regulators with any further information"

SEE page 3B

'Bottoming out' hope on \$1.15bn bad loans

■ Commercial banks anxiously waiting for September's 1.6% bad loan fall to become trend and show 'worst is over'

■ Bank chief says 'a good 18 months' before commercial bank asset quality gets back to normal once recovery starts, and process will not be swift

■ Describes high level of mortgage delinquencies as 'new phenomenon', with industry in 'uncharted territory'

By NEIL HARTNELL
Tribune Business Editor

The Bahamian commercial banking industry is hopeful that September's 1.6 per cent decline in its collective \$1.153 billion bad loans could indicate a "bottoming out" and that "the worst has passed", but one leading executive told Tribune Business that the sector wanted to see a consistent trend, and that any recovery

would take "a good 18 months".

Speaking to this newspaper after the Central Bank of the Bahamas, in its monthly economic and financial developments report for September, revealed that loan write-offs had resulted in total private sector loan arrears falling by \$18.9 million during that month, Paul McWeeny, Bank of the Bahamas International's managing director,

said it was "too early" to determine if this was an emerging trend.

"One month's improvement is no trend," Mr McWeeny told Tribune Business. "We need to see a trend. We're optimistic it could be a bottoming out, but it's still too early to tell. It's still too early to take that

SEE page 4B

\$14M PLAZA'S DECEMBER 'SOFT OPEN'

By ALISON LOWE
Business Reporter
alowe@tribunemedia.net

Elizabeth on Bay, the re-developed former Moses Plaza, is now set for a December soft-opening, with six new retail stores and a cafe ready to launch.

Charles Klonaris, co-chair of the Downtown Nassau

SEE page 3B



DECEMBER SOFT-OPENING: The Elizabeth on Bay Marketplace & Marina. The Nassau shopping plaza is set for a December soft-opening, with six new retail stores and a cafe ready to launch.

Investor 'turn-off' fears from World Bank rankings

* Chamber chief says report's perception that doing business in Bahamas becoming harder could deter foreign investors in increasingly competitive market

* Warns 'whole host of issues that need to be addressed' in government's regulatory and permitting processes, although start now made

* Says 'cause for concern' if Bahamas falling due to status quo, while all other nations improving

By NEIL HARTNELL
Tribune Business Editor

The Bahamas' consistent slip-page in the World Bank's *Ease of Doing Business* report could turn away investors in the increasingly competitive foreign direct investment market, the Chamber of Commerce's president warned yesterday, adding that there were "a whole host of issues that need to be addressed" when it came to cumbersome regulatory/permitting processes.

Responding to the annual report's latest findings, which dropped the Bahamas another

SEE page 2B

E-govt's 'fundamental cultural shift'

By ALISON LOWE
Business Reporter
alowe@tribunemedia.net

Inspired and aided by Singapore, a world leader in e-government, the Bahamas will launch its first such portal in July, marking a significant step towards a "fundamental" shift in "the culture of doing business in the Bahamas and providing public services in our nation," the Minister of State for Finance said yesterday.

Business license applications, payment of business license fees, real property taxes, various fines, drivers' license renewals, government vendor inquiries and public service-wide customer service will be dealt with - and paid for - for the first time online once the portal - www.govnet.bs - goes live.

Each Bahamian citizen will be provided with a "unique citizen identifier" number, and the Government will implement an "e-payment gateway" to facilitate online payments for the services. A survey will be implemented to see which other services

SEE page 2B



KHAALIS ROLLE

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BUSINESS

BFSB student winner meets account adviser

The Bahamas Financial Services Board's (BFSB) 'Student of the Year' award winner has visited CFAL to meet the investment adviser assigned to him for a full year, part of the Investment Account honour he won with his award.

Edmund Bain (BBA-Accounting) was selected as the College of the Bahamas graduate who would wear the 'Student of the Year' hat for 2010.

The BFSB, in collaboration with the Professional Industry Associations, launched the Financial Ser-

vices Student of the Year award in 2002 as part of an ongoing 'Financial Centre Focus' (FCF) programme.

The FCF is designed to facilitate the growth and development of the financial services industry by raising the profile of key components considered essential for the Bahamas' continued success as an international financial services centre. This award programme recognises an outstanding graduating student from within the School of Business, College of the Bahamas, with specific focus

on financial services disciplines: economics, banking & finance, accountancy and law.

Marketing

It also extends to computer information systems, marketing and management.

In addition to the collaboration with industry associations, the BFSB also partners with the COB and the Central Bank of the Bahamas on the annual student award programme. Corporate sponsors of the \$5,000 student award are



STUDENT OF THE YEAR: Pictured from left to right: Renee Barrow, human resources manager at Societe Generale Private Bank; Edmund Bain (recipient); Pamela Musgrove, vice-president-investments, CFAL; Sophia Thurston, vice-president-operations and pension administration, CFAL.

Societe General Private Banking and CFAL. This year, Colina and CFAL col-

laborated to jointly sponsor half the award. Mr Bain with student award sponsors at

CFAL's offices prior to his first meeting with his investment manager.

FROM page 1B

should be prioritised for online availability.

Consultants from the information technology arm of the Singaporean government are in the process of guiding the Bahamas as it "lays the technical foundation and governance structure" necessary to move towards "a Bahamas where technology is the driver in all sectors of our society", Zhivargo Laing told a handful of MPs who attended a presentation on the e-government initiative yesterday at the Sheraton Nassau Beach Resort.

With 30 years of experience in developing and delivering e-government, consultants from IDA International have recommended a raft of steps to be taken by the Bahamian government as it begins its journey to catch up. Apart from benefits to the ease of doing business, the Government believes that the movement of key services online will enhance every sector - from education and health, to tourism and financial services, transportation and justice.

Speaking of the private sector benefits, Mr Laing said:

E-government's 'fundamental cultural shift'



TECHNOLOGY INITIATIVE: Zhivargo Laing

"The idea of having a sound e-government programme is that it all helps to make your economy and offerings better. It becomes easier to do business, and that creates opportunities for both domestic and international companies to come here to do business. There's that incentive, and it creates momentum for generating new and expanded business opportunities, which means more jobs.

"It is conceivable that any number of people seeing what we have done may find opportunities to provide the services that this effort requires," he added, noting, for example, there will be a need for a great deal of digitisation of public records which will be contracted out.

As well as their findings and recommendations relative to the Bahamas, IDA International chief executive, Seah

Chin Siong, and deputy director, Serene Ho, provided an impressive presentation to Parliamentarians on 'The Singapore Story'. This outlined how the Asian economy left behind bureaucratic inefficiency, exemplified by long queues for government services, court case backlogs, and unending paperwork in the 1980s, and moved to an Internet-oriented system of government service delivery that has seen the time and cost associated with accessing government services drop to zero in some cases.

Some 1,600 e-services and 30,000 different business-related applications are accessible online, with applicants able to get notice of the status of their applications via e-mail and SMS messages. Businesses can be registered in between 20 minutes to an hour.

The pay-offs attributed to efficiency in this area have been great, with Singapore ranked top for ease of doing business by the World Bank for five years in a row, and commonly rated first for quality of life globally. With a population of two million in the 1960s growing to almost five million today, its GDP has swelled over the same period to \$235 billion (The Bahamas has a GDP of around \$6.8 billion).

Mr Laing said it is the Bahamian government's expectation that IDA International will "recommend a way for-

ward for the Bahamas that would employ best practices and follow a model that would yield the most for our effort

"Singapore, one of the world's leaders in delivering e-government, over some 30 years has successfully used technology to improve the lives of its citizens, expand its economy and made itself one of the best countries in the world in which to work and live. The Bahamas is seeking to do the same. In the long term we would like to use technology to make the Bahamas the best place to work and live in our region."

The Minister of State said the long-term government initiative will involve "substantial investment on our part, but the gains will be significant".

A nationwide public education programme is planned, as the Government says it desires and requires "the fullest possible buy-in by our society" into e-government.

In a six-month study conducted this year, IDA International determined that the Bahamas currently lacks "government-wide information and communications (ICT) plans, an ICT governance structure, a unified government-wide citizen identifier system or a government-wide e-payment gateway (permitting payment for government services online)."

There is also a scarcity of ICT manpower "spread thinly

across ministries", and a lack of integration between government agencies' back-end systems in terms of the capacity to share data held within each online. Initial recommendations from IDA International for the Bahamas include the launch of a Department of Information Technology and an Information Communications Technology (ICT) Committee, along with a focus on developing and pursuing a "national ICT vision" with defined strategic outcomes and measurable performance outcomes.

IDA International proposes that a Department of IT will play a part in developing the manpower necessary to resource the e-government effort. An ICT Committee will bring together key individuals from each government ministry and beyond, with the government advised to appoint a Chief Information Officer for each ministry, who is "responsible for that ministry's IT needs and meeting the strategic objectives set out by the national committee".

The benefits of doing government business online, said Ms Ho, include reduced duplication of information and efforts throughout agencies, cross-agency efficiencies through sharing and aggregating data, easy access to government any time or any where, enhanced customer service and increased transparency.

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Investor 'turn-off' fears from World Bank rankings

FROM page 1B

six places from 71 to 77 out of 183 nations, Khaalis Rolle told Tribune Business that benchmarking exercises such as this, which compared the attractiveness of this nation's business environment with those of others, could have a profound impact on foreign investor perceptions of this nation.

And he warned that if other nations, including Caribbean competitors and other small island developing states, were improving their regulatory processes while the Bahamas was essentially standing still, that was "cause for concern".

Crediting the Government for moving to improve the ease of business conduct, via regulatory reforms such as the new Business Licence Act and impending e-government initiative, Mr Rolle said it was "no secret" that permitting/approvals processes had to improve, the key being the "speed" with which the Ingraham administration could effect change.

Warning that perception was everything when wealthy foreign investors decided to place their money, and that reports such as *Ease of Doing Business* could determine whether capital flowed into or away from the Bahamas, Mr Rolle said it was vital that this nation start to move up this benchmarking exercise's standings.

"It is very critical," he told Tribune Business. "When you start to be ranked against other countries on attractiveness for doing business, that has an impact on how you are viewed globally by investors.

"Because the country has a high dependency on foreign direct investment, we want to be held in a positive light. If you are an investor, you want to be comfortable that it's easy to do business in that country, your money is safe and that doing business is predictable and transparent."

Of the need to improve the Bahamas' position in the world standings, Mr Rolle added: "It's critical, and I'll tell you why it's critical. Everyone is competing for foreign direct investment now, and the market is not as robust as it used to be.

"In evaluating where to place your money, a lot of reputational factors are involved in the process. A lot of reputation comes from global sources, such as this report."

The Bahamas fell in every category in the World Bank/International Finance Corporation's (IFC) 2011 Ease of Doing Business Report, apart from the ease of enforcing contracts, where its ranking remained unchanged - 120 out of 183.

The Bahamas slipped from 60th to 66th position on the ease of starting a business; from 100 to 107th on dealing with construction permits; from 151st to 154th on registering property; from 69th to 72nd on gaining credit; from 108th to 109th on investor protection; from 43rd to 50th on paying taxes; and from 41st to 45th on trading across borders. When it came to closing a busi-

ness, the Bahamas fell from 31st to 34th.

Mr Rolle said of the findings: "It just goes to show we have a ways to go in the reform process. Public sector reform is one of those issues the Government has been talking and talking about for a while, and that goes to the root of how we do business in the Bahamas; how it's perceived that we do business in the Bahamas.

"There are some changes the Government has made that will start to address the problem, but there are a whole host of issues we need to address with new legislation. The new Business Licence Act will address that issue in a substantial way, because it's consolidating the process, but that's not scheduled to take effect until next year."

"There are other reforms the Government has on the drawing board," the Chamber president added, "the Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises legislation, which will make it easier to do business."

Drafting

Drafting the correct legislative reforms was only one part of the battle, though. Mr Rolle explained: "The Government must not only get the content of these Bills right, but the execution side, the implementation side, has to be right for us to see measurable improvements in the ways we do business and the ease of doing business.

"There's two things in play here. One, how seriously competitor countries are taking this and the moves they are making to improve the environment for doing business, and their business processes. It may not mean we're getting increasingly worse; it could mean that we're stuck in the status quo and everyone else is improving. If that's the case, it's cause for concern."

Mr Rolle suggested that the priority area for the Bahamas to tackle was the Government's "bureaucratic processes", based on the volume of complaints received. Apart from Business Licence processes, another key concern for the private sector was the Customs Department.

"There's been this huge fight between some of the retailers and wholesalers, and the Customs Department, on their requirements for doing business," the Chamber president said. "I'm hearing a lot of complaints about Customs processes. There has to be some consideration taken and review done. All these things the Government is aware of, because we talk about it on a regular basis."

Licensing and permitting were the main contentions, but Mr Rolle credited the Government for being "a bit proactive" and taking steps to start the reform process with the new Business Licence Act.

"I don't believe it's a surprise or secret. There's no secret to this," he added. "Everyone knows what the issues are. It's the speed at which those issues can be resolved."

BUSINESS

Land Bill feedback goes to Commission

By ALISON LOWE
Business Reporter
alowe@tribunemedia.net

"Questions, recommendations and suggestions" on new Bills relating to land reform in the Bahamas have been gathered over a six-week consultation period, and will be forwarded to the Law Reform Commission "to inform the continued drafting", the minister responsible for land and local government said yesterday.

Byron Woodside said the Bar Council, Bahamas Real Estate Association, Clearing Bank Association Land Surveyors Association and private citizens in New Providence and the Family Islands had made comments and raised concerns relative to the Land Adjudication Bill during a six-week period in which meetings were held between September 20 and October 28.

"The questions, recommendations and suggestions, which focused on the definition of generational land, the lack of appeal against a decision made by

"It was generally accepted that land laws in the Bahamas are outdated; therefore the public fora were welcomed."

Byron Woodside

the Adjudication Officer and the amount of land that can be claimed (one acre to one and a quarter acres) have been noted and will be considered by the Law Reform Commission to inform the continued drafting of the Bill," said a statement from Mr Woodside.

Earlier this year, the Government tabled the Land Adjudication Bill, Registration of Land Bills and Law of Property Bill, which intend to reform

the legal framework relating to the ownership and registration of land in the Bahamas, including generational land.

In recent weeks, attorney Sharlyn Smith was among a number of people who have raised concerns about some of the provisions of the draft Bills, suggesting that if they are to result in fair outcomes certain changes would need to be made prior to their passage into law.

Mr Woodside said recent meetings hosted to discuss the Bills allowed for discussions which "indicated the importance of land ownership to Bahamians".

"It was generally accepted that land laws in the Bahamas are outdated; therefore the public fora were welcomed," he said.

No indication of when the land reform Bills will be debated in Parliament has yet been given.

The Bills can be viewed at www.bahamas.gov.bs under the "Bills, Laws and Acts" section.



THE PLAZA TO BE: The Elizabeth on Bay Marketplace & Marina.

\$14M PLAZA'S DECEMBER 'SOFT OPEN'

FROM page 1B

Partnership, who together with his two brothers has financed the \$14 million re-development of the plaza, said the "grand opening" of the shopping and dining attraction would now wait until around February next year.

"We will wait until the two restaurants are ready. At that time there will also be more yachts in the marina. We expect in December to have the stores and the courtyard cafe up and running," said Mr Klonaris.

In September, Mr Klonaris had suggested that this month would be the right time to open the \$14 million Elizabeth on Bay development. The plaza includes a total of 12 retail and three restaurant spaces, as well as a marina.

Yesterday, Mr Klonaris said fashion stores La Rose, Lacoste, Urban Myth, Tempo and "an Italian boutique", as well as a branch of the Friendly Pharmacy and a courtyard cafe, will be on offer in November at the plaza.

A Mediterranean-style restaurant has signed up to operate out of one of the waterfront restaurant spaces, while negotiations are still underway over who will occupy the third restaurant space.

Competition fears lead to Cable/SRG deal probe

FROM page 1B

they require, but we're still very hopeful we'll get a positive response from them," Mr Butler told Tribune Business, hinting that the two companies had been expecting URCA to launch its investigation, as it is empowered to do under last year's Communications Act.

"We truly believe it will be good for the Bahamian telecommunications market," Mr Butler told Tribune Business of the Cable Bahamas-SRG tie-up. He declined to comment further, not responding to this newspaper's questioning on whether the 90-day investigation would disrupt or delay Cable Bahamas' business plans and strategy for incorporating SRG into its business model.

Mr Butler would only say: "We're just really focused on getting this review out of the way." Paul Hutton-Ashkenny, president of SRG, which trades as IndiGo Networks, the main competitor to the Bahamas Telecommunications Company (BTC), did not return Tribune Business's calls seeking comment.

In announcing its 90-day review yesterday, URCA said that it may open an in-depth investigation where it considers that there is a significant prospect that the change in control, consequential to the proposed merger, is likely to have adverse effects which will substantially lessen competition in the market".

The regulator said other considerations determining the launch of its investigation were the fact that neither Cable Bahamas nor SRG had proposed remedies to address the anti-competitive concerns, and that these fears were "not outweighed by substantiated efficiencies".

Determining whether to approve the Cable Bahamas/SRG merger is the first big test of URCA's abilities as a standalone regulator on the competition side, and observers will be watching keenly for confirmation that it truly is independent from the Government.

The regulator's announcement yesterday, while saying it was not pre-judging the issue, indicates that it does share the competition concerns raised by rival operators, including BTC, about the implications of the Cable Bahamas/SRG merger. URCA will decide by February 5, 2011, whether to approve the deal.

One rival telecoms operator, speaking to Tribune Business on condition of anonymity, described Cable Bahamas' move to acquire SRG as "a spoiling manoeuvre which has no place in a vibrant, competitive market", arguing that it would increase the concentration of major Bahamian telecoms assets into the hands of relatively few operators and squeeze out smaller players.

Pointing out that Cable Bahamas had already been designated by URCA as an operator with Significant Market Power (SMP) in the areas of Internet and cable TV, the rival operator said the SRG deal was not "a creative move by Cable Bahamas, designed to enhance service, but an effort to attain further concentration of the current communications assets".

Arguing that Cable Bahamas and BTC had not served the Bahamian digital market well, the rival operator also pointed out that by virtue of the Columbus Communications buyout, the Government - through the National Insurance Board and the Treasury - would control the largest stake in Cable Bahamas, while still enjoying a substantial shareholding of 49 per cent in BTC.

Thus the Government would still enjoy control and influence over a substantial portion of the Bahamian telecoms market, exchanging 100 per cent BTC ownership for a smaller stake, plus the largest equity interest in Cable Bahamas - the two largest players.

According to its accounts, Cable Bahamas has already invested \$4.243 million in its purchase option to acquire SRG, with the latter likely to be run as a fully-owned subsidiary if the deal is approved, acting as the BISX-listed company's telecoms arm. It would make Cable Bahamas an instant player in the fixed-line voice market, the firm having made no secret of its intentions to begin such service in 2011.

Cable Bahamas' purchase option can be traced back to 2003 and 2004, when the former Christie government was attempting to privatise BTC. SRG was awarded its licence to compete with BTC in the fixed-line market at the same time, and attempted to raise \$7 million from Bahamian investors in a private placement to finance the build-out of its network infrastructure.

Yet URCA's predecessor, the Public Utilities Commission (PUC), acting under what many suspected was pressure from the then-PLP government, changed the 'rules of the game' in relation to leasing interconnection circuits when SRG was in the middle of its capital raising. This forced SRG to return the raised funds to the investors, since its business model and financial projections had been thrown out of whack. To prevent the new operator from becoming 'stillborn', it was Cable Bahamas that financed the build-out of SRG's network in return for the purchase option.

And Cable Bahamas' desire to consummate the relationship and make SRG its telecoms arm was also behind the \$85 million buyout of its former controlling shareholder, the Canadian-owned Columbus Communications.

As previously revealed by Tribune Business, Cable Bahamas tried to execute the purchase option back in late 2007, just after the Ingraham administration returned to office.

It was able to block the transaction because of Cable's foreign ownership component in the shape of Columbus, denying the necessary Investments Board approvals and Central Bank exchange control approval.

Fiscal deficit hits \$339.4m for 2009/2010

FROM page 1B

2009-2010 indicated that the overall deficit narrowed by 6.5 per cent (\$23.6 million) to \$339.4 million," the Central Bank said.

"Expenditures fell by \$43.6 million (2.6 per cent) to \$1.642 billion, explained by declines in current outlays (1.9 per cent or \$27 million), and net lending (27.3 per cent or \$33.7 million), which outstripped an expansion in capital outlays (12.2 per cent or \$17 million)."

The Central Bank's report said the Government's total revenues for 2009-2010 fell by \$20.1 million or 1.5 per cent, compared to fiscal year 2008-2009, to \$1.303 billion.

There was a \$19.3 million or 1.7 per cent fall in tax receipts, year-over-year, as taxes on international trade (import and Excise taxes, plus Stamp duties) contracted by 4.8 per cent or \$28.8 million. Non-tax revenues were marginally lower by \$0.8 million or 0.4 per cent at \$193.5 million.

Tribune Business reported last month how the weakness in the Government's finances had carried over into the current 2010-2011 fiscal year, which started on July 1, 2010. The fiscal deficit increased year-over-year by 37.5 per cent or \$17.4 million during the first two months, hitting \$63.8 million, as both revenues and spending continued to move in

the wrong direction.

Depressed economic activity resulted in a drop in both import demand and real estate transactions during the July-August 2010 period, causing a \$4.9 million or 2.6 per cent decline in total revenues to \$182.8 million.

And, on the other side, the Government's combined recurrent and capital spending increased year-over-year by 5.3 per cent or \$12.4 million to hit \$246.6 million.

Outlining just how weak government revenue was due to the recession, the Central Bank's August report said: "Depressed import demand and a reduction in taxes related to property sales led to a 1.5 per cent fall in tax revenue to \$169 million. A steeper fall off in non-tax inflows by 15 per cent to \$13.8 million was broadly based across the major categories."

"In terms of expenditure, the growth in capital outlays of 67.4 per cent to \$28.3 million was associated with an \$8.5 million hike in land purchases to \$8.8 million, alongside higher spending on infrastructure projects of 24.6 per cent to \$18.4 million."

Meanwhile, the Central Bank warned yesterday that "weak domestic demand conditions will continue to constrain" the Government's ability to improve its fiscal position in the near term.

It added that the fragile glob-

al economic recovery was set to support stability in the Bahamian economy, "with modest growth anticipated in 2011". Among the key risks, though, was uncertainty over the US economic recovery's sustainability, which could impact consumer spending in

the Bahamas and the prospects for reducing unemployment.

While the tourism showed some improvement in September, the construction sector remained weak due to the absence of local new-builds and foreign direct investment.

PKF BAHAMAS

QUALIFIED AND TRAINEE ACCOUNTANTS REQUIRED

The Nassau office of PKF, an International Accounting Firm, seeks to recruit the following:

(1) Professional qualified persons with recognized accounting qualifications. They must be eligible for membership in The Bahamas Institute of Chartered Accountants and must have at least two (2) or three (3) years post qualification experience. Only Bahamians need apply. Preference will be given to applicants with proven audit and assurance experience.

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In all cases, salary and benefits subject to negotiation.

Apply in writing to Human Resources Partner, PKF, P.O. Box N-8335, Nassau, Bahamas.

SALES MANAGER POSITION AVAILABLE

Local Company seeks SALES MANAGER for its Sales Department

Position Description

The Sales Manager plays an integral role in the Company's operations as this person serves as one of the first point of contacts for the Company's clients. We are looking for a qualified, young professional with a background in Business with strong development in sales and marketing to fill the position.

The individual would be responsible for the effective communication with clients the products and services the Company has to offer to a broad range of international clients at the major resorts for which the Company operates. To this end, the Sales Manager's responsibilities may include but is not limited to, site inspections, quotation/ agreement preparation and maintaining adequate records of client information.

This person will also be responsible for ensuring that all Company guidelines, procedures and policies are adhered to and will work closely with executive management (including the Sales Manager) on executing the business strategy and objectives.

Qualifications:

- Advanced knowledge of meeting and event practices.
- Moderate to advance knowledge in contract negotiations.
- Demonstrates ability to handle all scopes of meetings and events, small to large.
- Strong administration skills including the ability to set priorities and organize administrative systems and procedures.
- Exceptional professionalism, control and confidence and the ability to communicate effectively at all levels of the Company and with clients.
- Excellent customer service, interpersonal, oral and written communication skills.
- Excellent organizational, problem-solving and negotiation skills, including the ability to handle a variety of assignments simultaneously.
- Must be able to work with little oversight.
- Ability to work flexible hours, including evenings, week ends and holidays where required.
- Must be able to travel as necessary for site visits, training and other priority meetings.
- Strong presentation skills.

Education:

- Bachelors Degree in related field.
- Minimum 5-7 years experience in sales/marketing, meeting and event planning.
- Highly proficient with MS office programs

Resumes should be forwarded to jobseekersbahamas@yahoo.com



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Telephone: 325-4444
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LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS

FROM page 1B

'Bottoming out' hope on \$1.15bn bad loans

month as a sign the worst is over." Mr McWeeney said the collective \$1.153 billion bad loan portfolio, a figure that is equivalent to 18.4 per cent of all outstanding loans (worth \$6.356 billion) to Bahamian households and businesses - almost one in five - "could drag along the bottom for some time before we see an improving trend".

per cent to \$6309.7 million, a figure equivalent to 10.1 per cent of total loans - meaning that more than one in every 10 loans to Bahamian consumers and businesses is non-performing, or at least 90 days past due. Mortgage delinquencies fell by \$9.2 million or 1.5 per cent to \$622.6 million in September, "following five consecutive months of expansion", due to a \$9.6 million or 2.8 per cent fall-off in mortgages 31-90 days past due. This offset a minor \$0.4 million or 0.1 per cent rise in the non-performing mortgage loan segment.

nomenon for us, in that mortgages were the crown jewels for any debt portfolio" Mr McWeeney told Tribune Business, when asked to explain why mortgage loan defaults accounted for such a high proportion of bad loans. "There's been a lot of discussion about this, and one suggestion has been that the public has got wind that the banks don't want to foreclose unless they absolutely have to, that it's an option of last resort."

Oil rises above \$87 even as dollar gains

Oil prices edged higher Monday on positive news on U.S. jobs data suggesting demand for crude is growing, trumping the effects of a stronger dollar. Benchmark oil for December delivery settled up 21 cents at \$87.06 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange — a high for the year.

US issues security rules for air cargo

EILEEN SULLIVAN, Associated Press WASHINGTON



HIGH ALERT: Police officers check passengers waiting for a flight at the Linate Airport in Milan, Italy, Saturday, Oct. 30, 2010. A suspicious package originating in Yemen containing a toner cartridge with wires and powder was found during routine screening of air cargo in the United Kingdom, prompting authorities to scour three planes and a truck in the United States on Friday Oct. 29 2010.

New U.S. security rules are in effect banning all cargo from Yemen and Somalia and prohibiting toner and ink cartridges weighing more than one pound (half a kilogram) from passenger flights. Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano said Monday.

"The threats of terrorism we face are serious and evolving, and these security measures

reflect our commitment to using current intelligence to stay ahead of adversaries," Napolitano said in a statement. The U.S. immediately banned cargo from Yemen after the bombs were intercepted. Other countries including Britain and Germany — which the bombs traveled through — followed suit.

In brief Associated Press

Amazon to buy Diapers.com owner Quidsi for \$500m

Expanding its online retail empire, Amazon.com Inc. said Monday that it is buying Quidsi, the owner of Diapers.com and Soap.com, for \$500 million in cash.

Amazon said that privately held Quidsi will continue to operate independently after the acquisition, which is expected to close in December. Amazon plans to assume about \$45 million in debt and other obligations as part of the deal, which has been approved by Quidsi's shareholders.

Soap.com sells health, beauty and cleaning products online, while Diapers.com sells baby-care items, including food and maternity wear. And Quidsi recently launched BeautyBar.com, which sells higher-end skin care, makeup and other products online.

Gold sets record high amid economic fears

Investors looking for safer places to stow their assets pushed gold to a record price above \$1,400 an ounce Monday as they become more worried about the global economy.

A combination of issues have created fresh worry among investors: Ireland's debt difficulties and two key global summits where leaders of major industrial and developing nations are discussing currencies, free trade and ways to help the world economy.

Also in the back of investors' minds is the prospect of inflation stemming the Federal Reserve's multi-billion bond-buying program. "People are really concerned again and so I think we're seeing safe-haven buying," IG Markets Inc. CEO Dan Cook said.

"Whether you're holding dollars or euros or whatever you're holding, gold is that one kind of go-to product, a commodity as well as a currency type of trade," he said. "Nobody seems to be that willing to sell out of it."

NOTICE WEISSHORN MANAGEMENT LIMITED. N O T I C E IS HEREBY GIVEN as follows: WEISSHORN MANAGEMENT LIMITED is in voluntary dissolution under the provisions of Section 137 (4) of the International Business Companies Act 2000.

NOTICE INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS COMPANIES ACT 2000 KRISS TRADING CORP. In Voluntary Liquidation Notice is hereby given that in accordance with Section 138 (4) of the International Business Companies Act, KRISS TRADING CORP. is in Dissolution.

NOTICE In the Estate of Carl Granville Treco O.B.E. late of No. 18 Brace Ridge Road in the Eastern District of the Island of New Providence, one of the Islands of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas, deceased.

NOTICE is hereby given that all persons having any claim or demand against the above Estate are required to send the same duly certified in writing to the undersigned on or before the 14th day of December A.D. 2010, after which date the Executors will proceed to distribute the assets of the deceased having regard only to the claims of which they shall then have had notice.

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

HARRY B. SANDS, LOBOSKI & COMPANY Attorneys for the Executors CHAMBERS Shirley House Fifty Shirley Street Nassau, Bahamas.

Table with financial data including BISK LISTED & TRADED SECURITIES AS OF: MONDAY, 8 NOVEMBER 2010. Includes columns for Security, Previous Close, Today's Close, Change, Daily Vol., EPS \$, Div \$, P/E, and Yield. Lists various funds and securities.

WOMAN

What are we really passing on to our children?

HOW many times have you caught yourselves looking at each other and saying, 'That's your child' or 'He takes after you'? As parents, we may pat ourselves on the back when they are qualities considered admirable or virtuous. We beam in the afterglow of being recognised as having 'done good', feeling that we are on the right track, and our journey as parents is going according to plan. But, what happens when you are jolted into self-recognition when you see undesirable behaviour? It is a hard pill to swallow, or at least admit, that your own disagreeable behaviour has been passed on to your child.

If we expect our children to be little sponges and to soak up everything they are fed at school, then surely we cannot be that naïve to think that they



By MAGGIE BAIN

will not do the same at home. We can prepare or educate ourselves on parenting skills with self-help information, but the reality is that it is harder to put it into practice. The long and the short is that if we want to be proud of our children, then we need to teach by example. We need to be proud of our own behaviour, to then become a person of integrity.

When we let ourselves down, and in so doing our children, it is important to be brave enough to admit we made a mistake. Owning up

and acknowledging without excuses and apologising to those around us is extremely important. Not only does it represent honesty, but wanting to live a life without hypocrisy. It teaches our offspring that we understand about being flawed, but that it is not alright to walk around creating chaos without repairing the damage.

If we chose to live our adult life, without thought or concern towards our children, then we should not be surprised if they develop a tainted view of life. Instead of youthful optimism, they may approach life and people with a lack of interest and distrust. Trailing along, not far behind that lack of energy, is often a sense of self-pity and entitlement. Are these really the most attractive qualities to

present to the world as a young adult?

Taking time to really recognise the value, and the importance of our mentoring role, reveals two sides of a coin. On one side is the simplicity of 'just being ourselves', and leading by example. On the flip side, it is the relentless and time-consuming job that has no end in our lifetime - it is a job that, unless you do not possess a conscience, you cannot quit.

Often, it is not until we enter this role that we truly understand the importance of family planning and contraception. Timing the arrival of a newborn shows not only forethought, but also kindness to all involved. A disadvantaged start makes the journey together even more bumpy than it needs to be.

Putting all these views aside, we can appreciate that there are certain personal attributes that are extremely admirable. They are the very same qualities that we know are common in healthy relationships. Dependability, ambition, respect, and self-control head the student's list. Of course, these are easily translated into schoolwork and preparation towards the higher work force. Once these characteristics are established at an early age they are then drawn on as 'values' throughout our lives. No matter how we may be side tracked from them, we inevitably are reminded of them from time to time.

In our ever-changing world, perhaps the importance of family has become a distant cry. Learn to understand the importance of having people

to lean, and even fall on. Discover the joy of conversation and the world of story telling, at the dinner table. It is often at this very place that we understand our sense of worth, and position within the family. Surely it is this ability to create, and nurture a new generation that is the most important lesson to pass on to our children.

• Maggie Bain is an individual and couples relationship therapist. She is a registered nurse and a certified clinical sex therapist. Listen to 'Love on the Rock' with Maggie Bain every Thursday 5pm-6pm on Island FM 102.9. For appointments call 364-7230, e-mail relatebahamas@yahoo.com or visit www.relatebahamas.blogspot.com.

GREEN SCENE

By Gardener Jack

Cucumbers and squash

CUCURBITS – members of the cucumber and squash family – are some of the most rewarding crops we can grow in the cool seasons of the year. Summer squash in particular grows abundantly and can often overwhelm our needs.

One feature shared by cucumbers, squash, melons and pumpkins is the production of separate male and female flowers. Generally, male flowers are produced first and in greater numbers so when a female flower comes along there is pollen enough to deal with the situation. Pollination is assisted by bees but can be done by hand using a cotton swab or artist's paintbrush. The female flower is usually much larger than a male flower and the base is a miniature fruit.

The main cucumber grown in The Bahamas is the American or Ridge cucumber. It can be 6 inches to 10 inches long, two to three inches in diameter, and bears small spines along its sides at the unripe stage. Other types of cucumber that can be grown are English – much longer and thinner – and Asian. English and Asian cucumbers are best grown on trellises. There is also Armenian cucumber – but this is really a squash – and lemon cucumber – a softball-sized oddity that originated in the Caribbean.

One of the problems associated with growing cucumbers is their tendency to spread and exceed the bounds of your garden. There are 'patio' types of cucumber that produce their fruits near to the parent plant and do not send out long vinous growth. The cucumbers produced are the same size as regular vines.

Cucumbers and squash are traditionally grown in 'hills', specially prepared areas that do not necessarily have to be raised. A hill is made by digging circular area of soil about 18 inches wide and enriching it with cow manure or compost and fertiliser. The cucumber seed are sown in an equilateral triangle, each about 8 – 10 inches apart. As long as fertiliser and water are added as needed, all three plants will grow happily and produce well.

There is no virtue in a large, fat cucumber. The longer a cucumber is left on the vine the larger the seeds will grow and the flesh will become slightly corky. Ridge cucumbers should be picked when the spines can be rubbed off lightly with one's fingertips. Always cut a cucumber away from the parent plant.

Summer squash encompasses crookneck and straightneck yellow varieties as well as zucchini. Instead of growing in a vinous fashion, the fruits are produced from the base of the plant. Cut the fruits away when they are approaching full size but still have juvenile seeds. Any zucchini fruits that have a 'bump' in them are over mature.

Cut and come again is the rule for cucumbers and summer squash. The quicker you pick your ripe fruits the more productive the plants will be.

Winter squash is so named because the skin of the fruits is quite hard and once picked they can be stored for a considerable time. Favourites in The Bahamas are Butternut and Acorn. Winter squash take longer to develop than summer squash and the fruits can be allowed to reach the mature stage. Store them in a refrigerator and they may last for months.

Pumpkin is a great Bahamian favourite, but not the field pumpkin we use for Halloween purpose. The type used by Bahamians is the Cuban or Calabaza pumpkin. You can obtain the seeds by buying a wedge of Calabaza from a food store or wayside fruit vendor. Make sure the seeds are full and plump.

Calabaza pumpkin needs a lot of room to grow in and has a tendency to put down roots along its length and walk out of the garden. Allow 8 feet between plants. The mature fruit is usually straw yellow with olive green markings. The shape varies considerably from almost round to bottle gourd shape.

Excess crops can be utilised in many different ways such as zucchini bread, pickled cucumbers and pumpkin pie.

• gardenerjack@coralwave.com



BEAUTY: The flower of a butternut winter squash fades away after being pollinated.



READY: A Ridge cucumber is ready to pick when the spines can be lightly rubbed away.

Skin and allergy problems in dogs

AS A veterinarian, the most common medical complaint we see in dogs is skin or ear related. Unlike humans who react to allergens with nasal symptoms, dogs react with skin problems. Their problems may range from poor coat texture or length, to itching and chewing, to hot spots and self mutilation.

Allergies may also play a major role in chronic ear infection because the ear is continuation of the skin. Always remember, your best source of information is your vet. One must always remember though that the success or failure of treatment will rest mainly with you, the dog



By DR BASIL SANDS

owner. There is no magic pill to deal with these problems. Unfortunately there is also no cure, and only systematic treatment options.

Inhalant Allergies

Substances, which can cause an allergic reaction in dogs, are much the same as those which cause reactions in people including pollen, dust, mites and mold. A clue

to diagnosing these allergies is to look at the timing of the reaction. Does it happen year round?

This may be mold or dust. If the reaction is seasonal, pollen may be the culprit. The clinical signs of inhalant allergies include: scratching, biting, chewing at feet and constant licking. The itching may be most severe on feet, flaps, groin, and armpits. Dogs rub their face on the carpet. Earflaps may become red and hot. Chronic ear infection may follow. The skin becomes thickened, greasy and has a strong odour. Hot spots may develop due to irritation from con-

stant chewing or scratching. Allergies have also been implicated as a possible cause of acral lick granuloma, a frustrating, treatment resistant condition whereby the dog creates a sore on his skin from constant licking.

During the rainy season in the Bahamas, and because the fact we are an island nation, the humidity is usually high. This causes an increase in mold production. Outdoors, mold plays a part in nature by breaking down dead organic matter such as fallen leaves and dead trees, but indoors, mold growth should be avoided. Molds reproduce by means of tiny spores that are invisible to the naked eye and float through the air.

Allergic reactions to molds are common to humans and their pets. It is almost impossible to get rid of all mold spores in the air. However, the mold spores will not grow if moisture is not present. If there is mold growth in your home, you must clean up the mold, and fix the water problem, if you clean up the mold and don't fix the water problem then most likely, the mold problem will come back. This mold problem is seen in areas that are close to the sea, lakes, swampy areas and canals and also people who live in old buildings and high rise buildings with old plumbing are predisposed to this problem. I am of the opinion that a lot of inhalant allergies are as result of mold.

Malassezia Infection

With Malassezia, in dogs, the skin lesions are most often seen at anatomic sites that create a relatively warm, moist skin environment. Thus the interdigital skin, ventral, neck, lip region, ear canal, axilla, groin and folded areas are most often affected. Itching is normally reported. Intense reddening of skin, alopecia, skin thickening and hyper pigmentation of the skin occurs. It has been documented that a seasonal increase in numbers have been seen in veterinary hospitals in geographic region where a noticeable change to warm, humid, climatic conditions is present. Unfortunately, this is our climate year round in the Bahamas.

WOMAN

What are we really passing on to our children?

HOW many times have you caught yourselves looking at each other and saying, 'That's your child' or 'He takes after you'? As parents, we may pat ourselves on the back when they are qualities considered admirable or virtuous. We beam in the afterglow of being recognised as having 'done good', feeling that we are on the right track, and our journey as parents is going according to plan. But, what happens when you are jolted into self-recognition when you see undesirable behaviour? It is a hard pill to swallow, or at least admit, that your own disagreeable behaviour has been passed on to your child.

If we expect our children to be little sponges and to soak up everything they are fed at school, then surely we cannot be that naïve to think that they



By MAGGIE BAIN

will not do the same at home. We can prepare or educate ourselves on parenting skills with self-help information, but the reality is that it is harder to put it into practice. The long and the short is that if we want to be proud of our children, then we need to teach by example. We need to be proud of our own behaviour, to then become a person of integrity.

When we let ourselves down, and in so doing our children, it is important to be brave enough to admit we made a mistake. Owning up

and acknowledging without excuses and apologising to those around us is extremely important. Not only does it represent honesty, but wanting to live a life without hypocrisy. It teaches our offspring that we understand about being flawed, but that it is not alright to walk around creating chaos without repairing the damage.

If we chose to live our adult life, without thought or concern towards our children, then we should not be surprised if they develop a tainted view of life. Instead of youthful optimism, they may approach life and people with a lack of interest and distrust. Trailing along, not far behind that lack of energy, is often a sense of self-pity and entitlement. Are these really the most attractive qualities to

present to the world as a young adult?

Taking time to really recognise the value, and the importance of our mentoring role, reveals two sides of a coin. On one side is the simplicity of 'just being ourselves', and leading by example. On the flip side, it is the relentless and time-consuming job that has no end in our lifetime - it is a job that, unless you do not possess a conscience, you cannot quit.

Often, it is not until we enter this role that we truly understand the importance of family planning and contraception. Timing the arrival of a newborn shows not only forethought, but also kindness to all involved. A disadvantaged start makes the journey together even more bumpy than it needs to be.

Putting all these views aside, we can appreciate that there are certain personal attributes that are extremely admirable. They are the very same qualities that we know are common in healthy relationships. Dependability, ambition, respect, and self-control head the student's list. Of course, these are easily translated into schoolwork and preparation towards the higher work force. Once these characteristics are established at an early age they are then drawn on as 'values' throughout our lives. No matter how we may be side tracked from them, we inevitably are reminded of them from time to time.

In our ever-changing world, perhaps the importance of family has become a distant cry. Learn to understand the importance of having people

to lean, and even fall on. Discover the joy of conversation and the world of story telling, at the dinner table. It is often at this very place that we understand our sense of worth, and position within the family. Surely it is this ability to create, and nurture a new generation that is the most important lesson to pass on to our children.

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GREEN SCENE

By Gardener Jack

Cucumbers and squash

CUCURBITS – members of the cucumber and squash family – are some of the most rewarding crops we can grow in the cool seasons of the year. Summer squash in particular grows abundantly and can often overwhelm our needs.

One feature shared by cucumbers, squash, melons and pumpkins is the production of separate male and female flowers. Generally, male flowers are produced first and in greater numbers so when a female flower comes along there is pollen enough to deal with the situation. Pollination is assisted by bees but can be done by hand using a cotton swab or artist's paintbrush. The female flower is usually much larger than a male flower and the base is a miniature fruit.

The main cucumber grown in The Bahamas is the American or Ridge cucumber. It can be 6 inches to 10 inches long, two to three inches in diameter, and bears small spines along its sides at the unripe stage. Other types of cucumber that can be grown are English – much longer and thinner – and Asian. English and Asian cucumbers are best grown on trellises. There is also Armenian cucumber – but this is really a squash – and lemon cucumber – a softball-sized oddity that originated in the Caribbean.

One of the problems associated with growing cucumbers is their tendency to spread and exceed the bounds of your garden. There are 'patio' types of cucumber that produce their fruits near to the parent plant and do not send out long vinous growth. The cucumbers produced are the same size as regular vines.

Cucumbers and squash are traditionally grown in 'hills', specially prepared areas that do not necessarily have to be raised. A hill is made by digging circular area of soil about 18 inches wide and enriching it with cow manure or compost and fertiliser. The cucumber seed are sown in an equilateral triangle, each about 8 – 10 inches apart. As long as fertiliser and water are added as needed, all three plants will grow happily and produce well.

There is no virtue in a large, fat cucumber. The longer a cucumber is left on the vine the larger the seeds will grow and the flesh will become slightly corky. Ridge cucumbers should be picked when the spines can be rubbed off lightly with one's fingertips. Always cut a cucumber away from the parent plant.

Summer squash encompasses crookneck and straightneck yellow varieties as well as zucchini. Instead of growing in a vinous fashion, the fruits are produced from the base of the plant. Cut the fruits away when they are approaching full size but still have juvenile seeds. Any zucchini fruits that have a 'bump' in them are over mature.

Cut and come again is the rule for cucumbers and summer squash. The quicker you pick your ripe fruits the more productive the plants will be.

Winter squash is so named because the skin of the fruits is quite hard and once picked they can be stored for a considerable time. Favourites in The Bahamas are Butternut and Acorn. Winter squash take longer to develop than summer squash and the fruits can be allowed to reach the mature stage. Store them in a refrigerator and they may last for months.

Pumpkin is a great Bahamian favourite, but not the field pumpkin we use for Halloween purpose. The type used by Bahamians is the Cuban or Calabaza pumpkin. You can obtain the seeds by buying a wedge of Calabaza from a food store or wayside fruit vendor. Make sure the seeds are full and plump.

Calabaza pumpkin needs a lot of room to grow in and has a tendency to put down roots along its length and walk out of the garden. Allow 8 feet between plants. The mature fruit is usually straw yellow with olive green markings. The shape varies considerably from almost round to bottle gourd shape.

Excess crops can be utilised in many different ways such as zucchini bread, pickled cucumbers and pumpkin pie.

• gardenerjack@coralwave.com



BEAUTY: The flower of a butternut winter squash fades away after being pollinated.



READY: A Ridge cucumber is ready to pick when the spines can be lightly rubbed away.

Skin and allergy problems in dogs

AS A veterinarian, the most common medical complaint we see in dogs is skin or ear related. Unlike humans who react to allergens with nasal symptoms, dogs react with skin problems. Their problems may range from poor coat texture or length, to itching and chewing, to hot spots and self mutilation.

Allergies may also play a major role in chronic ear infection because the ear is continuation of the skin. Always remember, your best source of information is your vet. One must always remember though that the success or failure of treatment will rest mainly with you, the dog



By DR BASIL SANDS

owner. There is no magic pill to deal with these problems. Unfortunately there is also no cure, and only systematic treatment options.

Inhalant Allergies

Substances, which can cause an allergic reaction in dogs, are much the same as those which cause reactions in people including pollen, dust, mites and mold. A clue

to diagnosing these allergies is to look at the timing of the reaction. Does it happen year round?

This may be mold or dust. If the reaction is seasonal, pollen may be the culprit. The clinical signs of inhalant allergies include: scratching, biting, chewing at feet and constant licking. The itching may be most severe on feet, flaps, groin, and armpits. Dogs rub their face on the carpet. Earflaps may become red and hot. Chronic ear infection may follow. The skin becomes thickened, greasy and has a strong odour. Hot spots may develop due to irritation from con-

stant chewing or scratching. Allergies have also been implicated as a possible cause of acral lick granuloma, a frustrating, treatment resistant condition whereby the dog creates a sore on his skin from constant licking.

During the rainy season in the Bahamas, and because the fact we are an island nation, the humidity is usually high. This causes an increase in mold production. Outdoors, mold plays a part in nature by breaking down dead organic matter such as fallen leaves and dead trees, but indoors, mold growth should be avoided. Molds reproduce by means of tiny spores that are invisible to the naked eye and float through the air.

Allergic reactions to molds are common to humans and their pets. It is almost impossible to get rid of all mold spores in the air. However, the mold spores will not grow if moisture is not present. If there is mold growth in your home, you must clean up the mold, and fix the water problem, if you clean up the mold and don't fix the water problem then most likely, the mold problem will come back. This mold problem is seen in areas that are close to the sea, lakes, swampy areas and canals and also people who live in old buildings and high rise buildings with old plumbing are predisposed to this problem. I am of the opinion that a lot of inhalant allergies are as result of mold.

Malassezia Infection

With Malassezia, in dogs, the skin lesions are most often seen at anatomic sites that create a relatively warm, moist skin environment. Thus the interdigital skin, ventral, neck, lip region, ear canal, axilla, groin and folded areas are most often affected. Itching is normally reported. Intense reddening of skin, alopecia, skin thickening and hyper pigmentation of the skin occurs. It has been documented that a seasonal increase in numbers have been seen in veterinary hospitals in geographic region where a noticeable change to warm, humid, climatic conditions is present. Unfortunately, this is our climate year round in the Bahamas.

WOMAN

Seize the opportunity to mentor

Mentors can have a profound impact on any organisation or group. They serve to ensure present and future continuity through building current and future leaders, they impart operational knowledge and can perpetuate the kind of organisational culture designed to ensure future growth.

If mentors are good for succession and seamless continuity why don't more companies invest time and other resources into mentoring? There are several factors that can create obstacles or derail both formal and informal mentoring programs. They can happen either in isolation or concurrently:

- **THE PERSONS** deemed repositories of institutional knowledge may not feel comfortable releasing information because the organisation is not demonstrating that it values long tenured employees. Instead the organisation highly rewards younger employees with up-to-date skills and limited experience.

As a result, the long tenured employees have the experience that can improve the performance of the inexperienced highly skilled employees but the willingness, trust and the feeling of being valued are not present.

- **THERE ARE ORGANISATIONS** that exist predominantly in the present, directing their energies toward immediate issues because of a subconscious notion of immortality or a reality of not having enough time. If the state of being busy is perpetual, it forces decision makers to habitually adopt a view predominantly centered on microcosms instead of a visionary or long term perspective.

- **A LIMITED BUDGET** is often a reason why talent development plans are delayed. Executives and owners often have competing financial priorities that require attention so training and development plans are postponed, sometimes indefinitely.

- **NEGATIVE ATTITUDES** toward employees based on past experiences can also obstruct the development of talented employees. While there are cases where the attitude may be justified because risks are high, there are cases where unforgiving attitudes stall the careers of strong performers who eventually leave the organisation and flourish elsewhere.

Mentoring doesn't only have to be about succession and the future career of the mentee. It can be focused on the present from the following perspectives:

- **Informational Mentoring** - This type of mentoring helps

the mentee to focus on correct procedures and processes, both formal and informal.

- **Friend** - This type of mentor interacts with the mentee in social situations to help the mentee understand how to navigate social interactions. This is particularly useful in highly political work environments.

- **Reciprocal Mentoring** - This type of mentoring relationship is one where persons with complementary strengths collaborate on projects. Each person learns from the other through mutual exchange.

We tend to focus on the benefits of mentoring to the mentee and the organisation but there are tangible benefits for mentors. Here are a few examples:

- **BY INTERACTING** closely with persons from lower levels of the organisation, the mentor is being exposed to information directly from a level of employee they may not connect with under normal circumstances. The direct access allows executives to skip a level of people leaders that may be providing a biased interpretation of circumstances. It can also bring a deeper understanding of diversity and how to harness differences to positively impact the performance of the organisation.

- **MENTORING** helps leaders to develop their coaching, counseling, listen-



By YVETTE BETHEL

ing, leadership and modeling skills.

- **MENTORING** helps to create an impression of accessibility, connectivity and humanity between junior employees and executives. Building credibility through creating positive connections and valuing employees can also serve to build trust in organisations where trust is impaired.

Here is what organisations can consider when developing a mentoring program:

- **AS A MENTOR**, decide why you want to mentor, what you want the mentoring to achieve in the present and future and who would be the best person for you to mentor. If there is no formal mentoring program, you can select someone to mentor informally.

- **AS AN EMPLOYER**, understand if you have persons within the company who can mentor your employees and if not, determine if there are possible mentors, external to the company, who have the time, interest and skills.

- **DETERMINE** if talent should be mentored by more than one mentor.

democratic training is theoretical and does not always give the individual the opportunity to apply knowledge, make mistakes and experience variations on a theme.

- **CULTIVATE AN ENVIRONMENT** of collaboration where employees experience a sense of being valued. Otherwise your mentoring program will be perceived as a farce.

What distinguishes good mentors from great mentors is the best mentors don't focus on creating clones of themselves, they focus on developing the individual's inherent strengths, guiding the individual to go beyond their perceived limits.

Many companies are so entrenched in survival mode that they postpone the need for preparing for long term realities until it is too late to develop the right people. Instead, I encourage decision makers to think about ways you can match the right mentors with top talent who will represent the vision and values of the organisation in the future.

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



'Tis the essential season for good skin care

(ARA) - Setting aside a day of beauty for yourself before or during the busy holiday season could be your key to not only looking good, but keeping yourself safe and healthy for the rest of the year. Think of cooler weather as the essential season for good skin care. Go about it naturally by crafting your own toxic-free skin care products that feature the benefits of pure, plant-derived essential oils.

STEP 1: Start your new yearly routine by examining and evaluating your skin. Everyone should periodically perform a thorough skin examination. First, get naked, and then use a handheld mirror in a well-lit room to look over your entire epidermis. Map out the location, size, color and form of any mole, scar, birthmark or discoloration. Make a note of any troubling changes that occur in any of these permanent skin features, such as blemishes, moles or lesions that are or become persistently itchy, bleeding, waxy, translucent, and hard or clustered together. Pay special attention to any blemish that increases in size and has an irregular edge. Make an appointment with your doctor or dermatologist if you note anything out of the ordinary.

STEP 2: Adjust your skin care routine. Now is the time to help your skin recover from summer sun and wind as well as get yourself ready to look your best for the parties, family, friends (and photos) of the holiday season. To that end, the most effective

approach isn't premium cosmetics - simply get adequate rest, good nutrition and hydration. Here are some lifestyle tips to promote great skin:

- Minimize caffeine.
- Get at least eight hours of sleep every night.
- Eat right - you already know what to avoid.
- Eat whole, fresh fruits and colorful vegetables. Beta carotene-rich carrots, pumpkin and sweet potatoes can even skin color and help prolong your summer glow.
- Drink pure, clean water instead of coffee, soda or sweetened juices.
- Get exercise and fresh air - 20 minutes every day is adequate and easy.

Expensive cleansers are mostly water with a small percentage of "active ingredients" thrown in, while high-end lotions and creams are mostly water emulsified with a bit of oil. Both of these types of formulations are inherently unstable and must be preserved and stabilized with a whole host of potentially toxic and irritating ingredients that have everything to do with maintaining the product on the store shelf and nothing to do with maintaining your healthy skin. Why pay for what you don't need or want?

STEP 3: Create your own safe and natural skin care products. What's not in your skin care products is perhaps more important than what is in your skin care products. You can control what goes on your body by making and using a few essential skin care products yourself. Aro-

mathepary expert Tom Havran offers cleanser, moisturizer, and hydrating mist recipes that call for lavender and geranium essential oils which are toning, calming and adaptable to all skin types.

Cleanser. A gentle, natural liquid soap created when an alkaline mineral salt is combined with a natural vegetable oil such as sweet almond is the cleanest clean you can use. Soap can be drying for sensitive individuals, so don't overdo it and make sure you follow up with a moisturizer.

- INGREDIENTS:**
- 1 cup unscented liquid vegetable oil based soap
 - 2 tablespoons water or unflavored green tea
 - 1/4 teaspoon lavender essential oil
 - 1/4 teaspoon geranium essential oil

DIRECTIONS:

Combine soap, water (or tea) and essential oils in a small bottle. Apply about 1 tablespoon to a soft, wet washcloth and gently scrub damp skin in a circular buffing motion (not too long or with too much force). Rinse with warm water and follow with moisturizer below.

Moisturizer. We need a moisturizer to re-fat the skin after cleansing. Washing with soap lifts away dirt, make-up and dead skin and keeps skin bright and pores clear, but it also strips our skin of its natural, protective (and wrinkle-fighting) oil known as sebum. A light-bodied and absorbent, non-clogging oil such as grapeseed or jojoba applied to still-damp skin after rins-

ing away your liquid soap-based cleanser will perform the same function as costly lotions and creams - but at a fraction of the price.

- INGREDIENTS:**
- 1/2 cup grapeseed oil
 - 1/2 cup jojoba oil
 - 1/4 teaspoon lavender essential oil
 - 1/4 teaspoon geranium essential oil

Directions:

Combine all ingredients in a small squeeze bottle, apply a teaspoon to the palm of hand, rub hands together and smooth over damp, freshly cleansed skin, pat dry any excess water or oil.

Toning and hydrating mist. As the day goes on, you'll inevitably lose that fresh glow of the morning. Some areas of your skin might become increasingly dry while others might be oily. A simple mixture of pure water and toning lavender and geranium essential oils can help diminish an oily appearance while moistening dry areas.

- INGREDIENTS:**
- 1 cup water
 - 1/4 teaspoon lavender essential oil
 - 1/4 teaspoon geranium essential oil
- Small spray mister bottle

Directions: Combine water and essential oils in a bottle. Shake vigorously and apply two to three spritzes of the mist to skin. Smooth over surface if needed.

For more information and valuable skin care tips, visit www.auracacia.com.

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INCREDIBLE: 6th annual Wedding Professionals Conference's wedding CAKE on display.



CELEBRITIES: 6th annual Wedding Professionals Conference Colin Cowie and the cast of "Unveiled".

6th ANNUAL WEDDING PROFESSIONALS CONFERENCE

By ALESHA CADET
Tribune Features Reporter

IT'S a dream many women have from their earliest childhood, a dream that evolves through the years with the details ever-changing. And when the time finally comes and Mr Right is found the dream hopefully becomes reality – the dream of the perfect wedding.

In recent times, delivering that dream wedding to the fashion-conscious ladies out there who follow the trends and have an exact idea of what they want has become big business.

So much so, that regular seminars and conferences are held around the world to cater to the needs of the booming industry.

Last week, it was the Bahamas's turn to host such an event.

Celebrity wedding planner Colin Cowie, along other industry leaders including Mary Dann and Peter Merry were in attendance at this year's Wedding Professionals Conference which took place in Nassau from November 1-5.

The conference was sponsored by and held at Sheraton Nassau, Breezes Bahamas and Sandals Royal Bahamian.

The 6th Annual Wedding Professionals Conference quickly generated buzz in the industry as perhaps "the best wedding professionals conference yet!"

The conference was created in 2004 and has since become a go-to resource for wedding professionals from across the world.

In a statement, The Wedding Pro-

professionals told *Tribune Woman* that with weddings being a trend-based business, its professionals must stay abreast of the ever-changing industry in order to expand their business and keep it relevant, regardless of their reputation or years of experience.

The conference, which focuses on business and marketing tactics, also featured additional celebrity and industry-renowned professional speakers including Mary Dann-McNamee, the celebrity event coordinator and star of "Whose Wedding Is It Anyway".

Sonny Ganguly, marketing guru for Wedding Wire, Jung Lee, one of New York's top wedding planners and star of *Wedded to Perfection*, and Peter Merry, the International Wedding Marketing Speaker and author of *The Best Wedding Reception* was also in attendance.

Josh Brooks, the corporate brain behind New York's *Fete and Wedded to Perfection* and Tom Haibeck, world renowned emcee and author of the best-selling *Wedding Toasts Made Easy* made appearances as well.

The Wedding Professionals Awards featured categories such as Best Wedding Over \$50K, Best Themed Wedding and Best Eco-Chic Wedding.

The off-shore island tours were provided by the Bahamas Ministry of Tourism and the Wedding Planners Institute of Canada.

The vendor fairs, book signings and a Closing Gala were hosted by Sandals Resorts and according to the wedding professionals, there were a "vast number of Wedding Professionals who will return home equipped with the most up-to-date knowledge to further their wedding business."



STAR POWER: Bahamas Minister of Tourism, Vincent Vanderpool-Wallace and Richard Emmanuel (Renowned Boutique-style Photographer)



BEAUTIES: Speaker Mary Dann-McNamee, the cast of "Unveiled" with Danielle Andrews-Sunkell, Producer, The Wedding Professionals Conference and Tracey Andrews Manailescu.



ALL SMILES: Guests enjoying opening night

Richard Emmanuel Photography /Photos

feelings
As confident as yourself

Regular with wings

Ultra Thin

Regular

Overnight with wings

10

10

10

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