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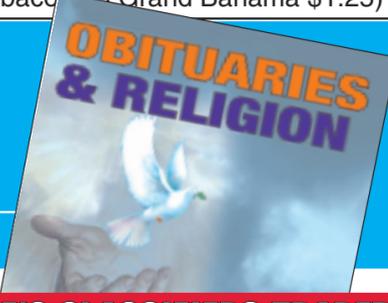
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# 1,000 Haitian fire victims homeless

## RESORT SET TO AXE '200 JOBS'

By ALISON LOWE  
Business Reporter  
alowe@tribunemedia.net

GRAND Bahama will suffer a massive blow on Friday when Our Lucaya Beach and Golf Resort lays off what informed sources have estimated will be about 200 workers.

Around 50 managers and 150 line staff will be shed, reducing the company's staff levels to around 500. The hotel has struggled with low occupancy levels for some time and Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham has previously

**SEE page 16**

## Second shanty town destroyed in blaze

By PAUL G TURNQUEST  
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MORE than 1,000 Haitian have been left homeless after an early morning fire ripped through their shanty town on Fire Trail Road yesterday. Consuming almost every structure, the blaze is believed to have destroyed more than 400 homes. Some of the affected residents were reportedly residents of Mackey Yard, another Haitian village that was destroyed by fire in December. With all of their belongings now gone, many of the people interviewed by *The Tribune* yesterday said they had no idea what to do, or where to go. Veanola Axaus, a masonry worker, said all of his clothes, household items, and \$500 in cash was destroyed in the blaze. Saline Hebas said he lost his passport and everything he owns. Ivoicin Cineus told a similar story, along with Saint Riloit who said everything his family owned was consumed in the blaze.

"We have nothing," Mr Riloit said through Augustin Luders who translated for the group. "We lost everything," he said. During the height of the blaze, a bulldozer was brought in to push down a number of the clapboard homes that were engulfed in fire to prevent the blaze from leaping from one to the other. Many Bahamian residents who lived nearby the Haitian village scrambled to secure their own homes. They sprayed water on their roof tops and removed gas tanks from the sides of their houses. Even Leslie Miller, the former MP for Blue Hills, was seen in the crowd helping firefighters and residents pull water hoses along to help tackle the flames. Speaking with *The Tribune* at the scene, Mr Miller said he used to represent that area, which now is a part of the Garden Hills constituency, up until 2007 when the boundary lines were

**SEE page two**

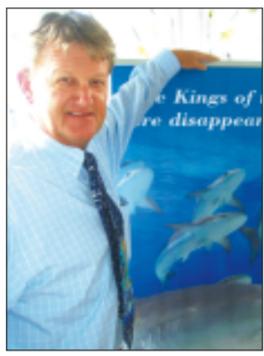


**BLAZE:** A firefighter surveys the damage yesterday at the shanty town on Fire Trail Road. **Tim Clarke/Tribune staff**

## CAMPAIGN TO PROTECT SHARKS IN THE BAHAMAS IS STEPPED UP

By MEGAN REYNOLDS  
Tribune Staff Reporter  
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MARINE wildlife artist Guy Harvey launched a custom-designed logo for the campaign to protect sharks in Bahamian waters at Bahamas National Trust's Retreat Gardens in Village Road yesterday. The Jamaican-born artist, scientist and conservationist renowned for his popular T-shirt designs, also spoke to the press and members of the Trust about work the Guy Harvey Research Institute (GHRI) has done to aid understanding of the importance of sharks. Mr Harvey is the latest celebrity to lend his voice to the campaign led by the Pew



**SHARK CAMPAIGN:** Guy Harvey

Environment Group and the Bahamas National Trust (BNT) calling for the enactment of legislation that will prevent commercial shark

**SEE page 17**

## RYAN PINDER ACCUSES MP OF USING A RACIST REMARK AGAINST HIM

TEMPERS flared in the House of Assembly yesterday when Elizabeth MP Ryan Pinder accused a fellow Parliamentarian of using a racist remark against him. Mr Pinder told the House he took great offence at Pinewood MP Byran Woodside calling him a "poster boy for the Opposition" because he is a white Bahamian. Mr Woodside denied using the word "white" but did admit to calling the Elizabeth MP a "poster boy." Mr Pinder said despite the "bigoted and boardline racist" comments by the member for Pinewood "constituents in Elizabeth demonstrated they did not care if I was white, black, purple or green."

## MAN FOUND WITH 'MINI ARSENAL' GETS RE-SENTENCED TO PRISON

THE Court of Appeal overturned the sentence of a man found in possession of a "mini arsenal" after a magistrate gave him the option of paying a \$5,000 fine. It re-sentenced him to two years in prison. During a trial at Freeport Magistrate's Court in March, 2009, Denny Bullard pleaded guilty to three counts of possession of a firearm and possession of ammunition. The

**SEE page 16**

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LOCAL NEWS

# 1,000 Haitian fire victims homeless

FROM page one

changed, and as such wanted to see what was happening to the people in the area.

Looking out at the devastation, Mr Miller said his heart goes out to those who lost everything.

"To lose everything you own in the world is devastating."

"I hope that Bahamians who have a conscience would give from their heart to these people who have lost everything that they own in this world."

"These people are human

beings. Hopefully the government and the churches will step forward and provide assistance to these persons who are really in need. I hope that everyone steps forward; I know I will do my part," he said.

Even though the House of Assembly was in session yesterday, some residents questioned why their Member of Parliament, Brensil Rolle, had not taken the time to visit the area "to at least see the devastation for himself."

One woman, who wished not to be identified, asked what else could the MP be

doing that was "more important."

Superintendent Jeffrey Deleveaux, the director of Fire Services, said they have yet to determine the cause of the blaze, although reports on the ground suggest it may have been the result of someone who was cooking and left a pot "unattended."

With the fire reportedly starting sometime around 7am, firefighters were only able to bring the blaze under control sometime shortly after noon yesterday.

• SEE PAGE THREE



Tim Clarke/Tribune staff

SCENES from yesterday's fire at the shanty town on Fire Trail Road.



BELONGINGS of village residents are stacked up during the fire.



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# Fire chief denies reports of delayed response to blaze

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

FIRE Services Director Superintendent Jeffrey Deleveaux denied reports that his officers intentionally delayed their response to the blaze at the Haitian village on Fire Trail Road yesterday.

According to a number of Haitians who live in the shanty town, the fire started shortly after 7am yesterday. However, they said fire personnel did not respond to the blaze until almost 8.30am.

Supt Deleveaux admitted that the fire may have been raging from 7am; but stressed that it is up to the residents of the area to alert Fire Services about the blaze.

"Fire Services responds when we receive calls. If the fire started at 7am, we got the call at 8.24am; which means that somebody really didn't call (until then). But we got the call at 8.24am and responded. As a matter of fact we had a unit stationed at Carmichael Road so the response time was extremely quick," he said.

In fact, Supt Deleveaux said that three units responded and when officers arrived they found the fire in two different locations in the Haitian village. "We proceeded to extin-



FIREFIGHTERS tackle the blaze at the Haitian village yesterday.

guish the fire but with the strong winds and the close proximity of the buildings it was extremely difficult to contain. And as you can see a number of homes were destroyed."

At this time, however, Supt Deleveaux said they are unable to confirm the number of homes that have been lost although estimates put the number close to 400. He also stressed that the exact cause of the blaze is

still yet to be determined, although they are currently looking at "several possibilities."

"We have persons who think they may have seen something. We might have to find the individual and interview him or her to find out what it really was that they saw.

"It's a possibility that arson is involved.

"It's a possibility that it's an electrical fire.



"A leaky engine and oily driveway is NOT OK. Could be a case of worn oil seals or something more serious."

**Castrol**

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# MP claims PLP 'consciously voted' against providing clean water

By CELESTE NIXON  
Tribune Staff Reporter  
cnixon@tribunemedia.net

THE PLP consciously voted against providing Bahamians with clean water, Garden Hills MP Brensil Rolle told the House of Assembly yesterday.

Last September, the House approved a resolution for the government to borrow nearly \$58 million from the China Export-Import Bank to construct a four-lane airport highway.

The project will mean the grant of 200 work permits for Chinese labourers, but also a very low interest rate for the loan.

Displaying a sign reading "The PLP voted yes to Blue-water and no to the Clean Water", Mr Rolle explained that within that resolution was a specific set of provisions that would have been achieved by the government once the loan was completed. Providing clean water was among those provisions.

The assertion that the opposition did not want "Bahamians to have clean water" raised the ire of a number of PLP MPs, who asked Speaker Alvin Smith to have Mr Rolle withdraw the statement.

The first on her feet was Englerston MP Glenys Hanna-Martin, who said it was a blatant "untruth" that she or any member of her party voted against giving Bahamians clean water.

MP for Elizabeth Ryan Pinder said in his opening remarks that the PLP did not vote against clean water, but rather voted for Bahamians.

Mr Rolle said the gov-

ernment borrowed more than \$60 million for the China Export-Import Bank to build a road from the airport.

Under the conditions of the loan, Chinese workers and contractors would build the road.

Alternatively Mr Pinder said, the investment should have been made for the Bahamian people and should have embraced

Bahamian contractors and workers.

Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham agreed that in voting against the resolution, the opposition party did distinguish that they were voting against the use of Chinese labour.

However, Mr Ingraham said, "The facts are that the resolution applied to the airport-highway project segment one and voting against

the resolution, you are voting against the project," which included the water provision.

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BEASTLY	NEW	1:15	3:40	N/A	6:15	8:40	10:50
DRIVE ANGRY 3D	C	1:10	3:30	N/A	6:10	8:35	10:45
HALL PASS	C	1:00	3:25	N/A	6:05	8:30	10:40
BIG MOMMAS HOUSE 3	T	1:10	3:35	N/A	6:05	8:30	10:45
UNKNOWN	T	1:00	3:20	N/A	6:00	8:25	10:50
I AM NUMBER FOUR	T	1:05	3:30	N/A	6:05	8:25	10:35
JUSTIN BIEBER 3D	A	1:05	3:30	N/A	6:05	8:30	10:35
GNOMES AND JULIET	A	1:15	3:35	N/A	6:10	8:40	10:30
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RANGO	NEW	1:10	3:35	N/A	6:05	8:20	10:30
DRIVE ANGRY 3D	C	1:15	3:35	N/A	6:10	8:30	10:50
HALL PASS	C	1:10	3:30	N/A	6:05	N/A	N/A
BIG MOMMAS HOUSE	T	1:00	3:40	N/A	6:10	8:30	10:40
UNKNOWN	T	1:05	3:25	N/A	6:00	8:20	10:50
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EDITORIAL/LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

# The Tribune Limited

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Being Bound to Swear to The Dogmas of No Master

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Published Daily Monday to Saturday

Shirley Street, P.O. Box N-3207, Nassau, Bahamas  
Insurance Management Building., P.O. F-485, Freeport, Grand Bahama

WEBSITE  
www.tribune242.com – updated daily at 2pm

## Diabetes reduces life expectancy

NEW YORK — A 50-year-old with diabetes dies six years sooner than someone without the disease, and not just from a heart attack or a stroke, new research suggests.

The large international effort to measure diabetes' toll found the disease also raises the risk of dying prematurely from a host of other ailments, even breast cancer and pneumonia.

"It's quite a wide sweep of conditions," said Dr. John Danesh of Cambridge University in Britain, who led the team of researchers. While most people think of heart problems, diabetes surprisingly "appears to be associated with a much broader range of health implications than previously suspected."

Putting the six years lost in context, he said, long-term smoking shortens life by 10 years.

The analysis used pooled medical information for 820,900 people from nearly 100 studies done mostly in Europe and North America. The results are published in Thursday's New England Journal of Medicine.

Diabetes, the seventh leading cause of death in the U.S., affects about 26 million Americans, or 8 per cent, including 7 million who haven't been diagnosed. Most in the study were thought to have the most common kind — Type 2 — which occurs when the body makes too little insulin or cannot use what it does make to regulate blood sugar. High blood sugar can damage nerves and blood vessels, and is a major cause of heart disease.

The new research didn't include those who had heart disease when they were first enrolled. Participants were followed on average for 13 and a half years, and there were more than 123,000 deaths. Overall, death rates from various causes were higher for those with diabetes than those without.

The researchers took into account other risk factors that could influence the results: age, gender, smoking and weight. Type 2 diabetes is tied to obesity. They found that those with diabetes had double the risk of dying from a heart attack or stroke, compared to those without the disorder. But they also found that diabetics had a 25 per cent higher risk of dying from cancer and were more likely to die from a variety of illnesses, including infections, lung and kidney disease as well as falls.

Exactly how diabetes raises those risks isn't clear, but in the case of infections, it could be that diabetes weakens the immune system, the researchers said. Diabetes can cause vision problems and loss of feeling in the legs, which may be the reason for falls, they said.

Danesh said one intriguing finding was a

higher risk of suicide in those with diabetes. Other research has linked diabetes with depression, he noted.

The results are "another reason to try to normalize blood glucose in people who have diabetes," through diet, exercise and medication, said Dr. Alvin Powers, a diabetes specialist at Vanderbilt University. "There have been smaller studies that hinted at this but nothing where a study of this size looked at so many different outcomes."

Danesh and his colleagues also estimated diabetes' affect on life expectancy. They calculated that a 50-year-old diabetic without heart disease dies about six years earlier than someone without the disease, with 40 per cent of the difference due to cancer and conditions other than heart disease.

"It underscores the need to prevent diabetes," Danesh said.

Previous studies have shown a possible link between diabetes and cancer. The new paper tied some, but not all, cancers; the increased risk ranged from 25 per cent for breast cancer to double for liver cancer. Danesh said people with diabetes should get age-appropriate cancer screenings.

Last year, a joint report from the American Diabetes Association and the American Cancer Society looked at the issue and said that it wasn't clear whether any connection was direct, indirect or perhaps because the two disorders share common risk factors, like obesity. The new research squares with that report's conclusion that "there's a lot more we need to understand about diabetes and the link to cancer," said one of the authors, Dr. Richard Bergenstal of the International Diabetes Centre at Park Nicollet in Minneapolis. He is a former president of the diabetes group.

While adding to the evidence, the study doesn't answer the question of why, he said.

"Diabetes is a serious condition. We often don't quite think about it quite that way," Bergenstal said.

(This article was written by Stephanie Nano of the Associated Press).

### DIABETES IN THE BAHAMAS

According to the Bahamas Diabetic Association the incidence of diabetes in the Bahamas is about 12 per cent and is responsible for a devastating percentage of all deaths in the country. It is also the leading cause of many complications, including blindness, cardiovascular disease, kidney failure and limb loss. In 2002 it was estimated that the economic burden of diabetes in the Bahamas, in both direct and indirect charges, was \$23,084,249 or 0.43 per cent of GDP.

# Looking at alternate energy

EDITOR, The Tribune.

I am so done. So, so one! We are so computer savvy, so informed, so educated, so naturally curious yet we allow ourselves to be sold down the wrong path. We have all that the world and universe has to offer us at our fingertips yet our own insecurities and naivety allows us to believe what others want us to rather than what we find and believe ourselves.

We all search on line for the best deals. Amazon for a book at \$4.99 that was \$29.99, EBay can get you a plane ticket that should cost \$500 for \$30 yet we still believe that solar energy is sooooo expensive that we can't possibly buy into it. We have people in the business that say that unless you can reverse into the grid you can't save money and it's a waste of time. I could scream when I hear such foolishness and shudder when I see the educated, worldly people I know buying into this!

Are we so insecure that we allow our inevitable right and privilege of sense and reason to be destroyed by others, who either need to control or need to monopolize an industry, guide our better judgment?

I refer to an article in Wednesday's Tribune on page seven titled "Opportunities" for independent electricity suppliers in energy sector where a Graham Siener claims that unless we can "self generate" and "feed into the system" it is not "cost effective." Hmmm. My electricity in let's say June, July and August runs about \$1,000 a month. I have central air upstairs in the bedrooms which is only activated at night. I recently built a home in Charlotteville, a "green" home for a client with alternate energy as the main power source and BEC as the back up. Their first electricity bill was \$17 and when they used their central air, two three ton units running 24/7, their bill was \$87. I am not a highly educated person but with my limited schooling and a calculator, I wholeheartedly disagree with this person and can only wonder what their motive could possibly be in

## LETTERS

letters@tribunemedia.net

saying such foolishness? He continues and says: "To size a system so it can power a home, most people would have to revert to the use of batteries to store surplus power and the batteries require a lot more cost, maintenance and are not as efficient." He next said that he "encouraged the government to start getting out of the way" and allow "individuals to feed electricity into the system."

Fact of the matter is virtually everything these days has a back up battery. My computer does, my calculator does.

The house in Charlottesville does. The fallacy that they are expensive and not efficient should be taken back.

The comment serves no purpose other than to mislead those who may want to venture into alternate energy and to eliminate others who might be on the fence.

Let's for a minute forget about false information and the difference in his opinion and mine and discuss the obvious need for alternate energy during a power outage.

Discuss what we know, a generator. A generator can only be used when BEC is not providing power. It cannot be used in lieu of BEC on a daily basis. It is extremely noisy, uses fossil fuel and the fuel tank, in a hurricane, would need to be refilled every day or two. Solar energy on the other hand can be used 24/7, makes no noise, does not rely on fossil fuel, panels are on the roof and battery storage takes up a small area in a covered space. The generator should be run once a week or so for maintenance and should be serviced at least every six months.

The batteries I provided my client have a ten year warranty and the company will take them back when the time frame is up for proper recycling. If you are following this line of thought, the scale is already tipped in the favour of solar.

Now review the cost. I did an exercise for another client who wanted a generator, by the time I added up the generator, the pad, double throw switch, fuel tank, electricians cost, generator hook up by supplier I was at \$38,000. The solar cost \$26,000. Both products have a life expectancy, both need maintenance, one

needs fuel one doesn't one can run 24/7 one can't, one is noisy one is quiet, one will reduce your electricity bill to nothing, one will have no change of your bill whatsoever.

Don't misinterpret my message, solar will not run or supply energy to completely run your central air unless you have plenty, I mean plenty panels but if your units are properly sized, high efficiency, 15 or 16 Seer, if your attic space is insulated with a product such as Icynene and is an un-vented space, your units will cost less to run.

Also don't misinterpret that you must spend \$26,000, you can start with one or two panels and add on as your budget allows but anything we do to reduce our own carbon footprint the better.

Each and every one of us, is responsible to the planet and its future. It will be here long after our short time here is over, our children and grandchildren inherit our mistakes. So can we please, for the good of all, be extremely careful what we say before sharing them with the media?

We also don't have to wait for the government, we are totally capable of making our own choices on what to purchase, Mr Deveaux in this article and numerous others has tried to dispel the misinformation that going solar is illegal and he reiterates in the article that the "government" has put in place tax reductions on various items to help benefit the consumer.

You can also, if you choose, prior to bringing in a product that may be "green" write a letter to the controller of Customs asking for a reduction in duty and if the information provided proves your product worthy, the reduction will be granted.

### DEBBY DEAL

Nassau,  
February 28, 2011.

## Letting foreigners do the dirty work

EDITOR, The Tribune.

Re: US Coast Guard spearheads weekly beach clean-ups on New Providence. – The Tribune, February 28, 2011.

Fortunately, we Bahamians are never too lazy or too proud to let foreigners do our dirty work.

### KEN W KNOWLES, MD

Nassau,  
February 28, 2011.

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# Man arrested after high speed car chase

A HIGH SPEED car chase involving the police and a three-vehicle convoy ended in a 29-year-old Fox Hill man being arrested.

Reports state that sometime around 3.55am on Wednesday, officers from the Central Detective Unit were on routine patrol on Nassau Street when they saw the occupants of a grey Ford Taurus, a Honda vehicle with a flat tyre and a silver Nissan Maxima travelling at high speed.

The officers pursued the three cars into the Bain Town area. There, the occupants of the Honda, which was the middle vehicle in this three-car convoy, stopped and got out. The police officers continued to pursue the grey Taurus and caught up with the car's single occupant after he crashed on Meeting Street. The police recovered a handgun with ammunition from the vehicle and subsequently took the driver, a 29-year-old man of Smithville, Fox Hill, into custody. Investigations continue.

• A phone card vendor was robbed at gunpoint on Tuesday morning.

The vendor was at Constitution Drive when she was approached by two men in a white Ford Explorer at around 10am, police reported.

Reports further state that one of the men produced a handgun and robbed the woman of her jewellery and an undetermined amount of cash.

The robbers then fled the area in an unknown direction.

• A 19-year-old man and a 16-year-old boy are being held by police in connection with the armed robbery of a drug store.

Shortly before 7.50pm on Tuesday, police received a report of an armed robbery at Bethel's Drug Store, located East and Young Streets.

According to police, two men, one of whom was armed with a handgun, entered the establishment and demanded cash.

The culprits robbed the establishment of an undetermined amount of money and fled the area on foot.

## BAHAMIAN FOOD PRODUCTS AVAILABLE AT EXPO TODAY

AN ARRAY of Bahamian food products will be available to patrons attending the third annual National Agribusiness Expo which opens today.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Marine Resources is hosting the event, which will be held at the Gladstone Road Agricultural Centre until Saturday.

The opening ceremony takes place today at 11.30am and the keynote speaker will be Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham.

The expo will close on Saturday at 2.15pm with an awards ceremony hosted by Minister of Agriculture and Marine Resources Larry Cartwright.

Provisions are being made for at least 150 vendors.

A wide variety of fruits, vegetables, meats, marine products, pastries, preserves, ornamentals, and handicrafts will be featured and offered for sale. Fifty-one agricultural science students will compete in root crop, fruits and vegetables categories.

There also will be cooking demonstrations and culinary competitions utilising native ingredients. The linkages between agriculture and marine resources, and education, tourism, health and the manufacturing sectors will be explored.

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### The Day of the LORD

## Zechariah 14:1-9

Behold, the day of the LORD is coming, and your spoil will be divided in your midst. For I will gather all the nations to battle against Jerusalem; the city shall be taken, the houses rifled, and the women ravished. Half of the city shall go into captivity, but the remnant of the people shall not be cut off from the city. Then the LORD will go forth and fight against those nations, as He fights in the day of battle. And in that day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, which faces Jerusalem on the east. And the Mount of Olives shall be split in two, from east to west, making a very large valley; half of the mountain shall move toward the north and half of it toward the south. Then you shall flee through My mountain valley, for the mountain valley shall reach to Azel. Yes, you shall flee as you fled from the earthquake in the days of Uzziah king of Judah. Thus the LORD my God will come, and all the saints with You. It shall come to pass in that day that there will be no light; the lights will diminish. It shall be one day which is known to the LORD—neither day nor night. But at evening time it shall happen that it will be light. And in that day it shall be that living waters shall flow from Jerusalem, half of them toward the eastern sea and half of them toward the western sea; in both summer and winter it shall occur. And the LORD shall be King over all the earth. In that day it shall be—“The LORD is one,” [b] And His name one.



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LOCAL NEWS

# More than 250 suspected Haitian migrants apprehended in 'horrible' conditions

By CELESTE NIXON  
Tribune Staff Reporter  
cnixon@tribunemedia.net

THE Royal Bahamas Defence Force apprehended more than 250 suspected Haitian immigrants off the Exuma Cays Tuesday afternoon.

They were brought to New Providence last night to be processed by Immigration officers.

The apprehension was made after two vessels were spotted near Ragged Island and in the Salina Point Acklins area.

Onboard the 198ft Defence Force vessel HMBS Bahamas on Tuesday afternoon, Lieutenant Commander Clearance Dean told *The Tribune*

that the first vessel, a 40-foot sloop containing 164 persons (127 men and 37 women) was spotted and intercepted 18 miles west of Elbow Cay, Exuma, around 11pm Monday.

The majority of migrants were under the age of 30 – “very young individuals,” said Lieutenant Dean.

According to Lieutenant Dean, the migrants had been out to sea for four to five days but appeared to be in good health.

Executive Officer and Senior Lieutenant Chappell Whymms said Defence Force officers intercepted a second smaller vessel off Raccoon Cay, Exuma, with 93 suspected illegal immigrants

aboard.

He said they met with HMBS Bahamas on Tuesday at 4.30pm to transport the detainees to Nassau.

Boarding officer Sub-Lieutenant Adrian Stubbs said that as conditions aboard the vessels were “extremely horrible” – and included a lack of proper bathrooms – health precautions had to be taken, not just for the migrants but also for the boarding officers.

The migrants got hot meals, water and shelter once onboard HMBS Bahamas, Sub-Lieutenant Stubbs said.

Defence Force officers suspect a third vessel is somewhere in the Exumas.



THE MIGRANTS were brought onboard the Defence Force vessel HMBS Bahamas on Tuesday. Tim Clarke/Tribune staff



NUA Promotes

## ROCHELLE ROBERTS to Senior Account Executive

Warren Rolle, Managing Director NUA Insurance Agents & Brokers, is pleased to announce the promotion of Rochelle Roberts to Senior Account Executive.

Mrs. Roberts' promotion recognizes her outstanding work in NUA's Commercial Lines Department since joining the organization in 2008.

Mrs. Roberts has a wealth of experience in the insurance industry having held various senior positions during her more than 25 year professional career. Her clients benefit from her ability to ensure their risk exposures are adequately covered, the kind of personal attention, advice and understanding that is part of the NUA culture. In addition to servicing major commercial and personal lines accounts, Mrs. Roberts' new role will see her assume responsibility for the training and development of junior members of staff in the Commercial Lines Department.

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# Two new ambulances not expected until next week

BY DENISE MAYCOCK  
Tribune Freeport Reporter  
dmaycock@tribunemedia.net

FREEPORT – Two new ambulances allocated for Grand Bahama are not expected to arrive on the island until next week.

In the meantime, more than a dozen emergency medical personnel will have to make do with only three functioning units – two in Freeport and one in West End – to service the entire island.

While the five new units purchased by the Public Hospitals Authority (PHA) have reportedly been delivered to the Bahamas from Florida, they will not be shipped to Grand Bahama until next week.

Two of the units earmarked for Freeport were initially scheduled to arrive by mid-February, according to an emergency medical services union official.

EMS personnel in Freeport had staged a sick-out, expressing grave concerns over the

## Grand Bahama emergency personnel forced to make do with only three functioning units

long-standing inadequacies at their department, including an insufficient and poorly-maintained ambulance fleet.

Of the seven ambulances stationed on Grand Bahama, only three are currently working and that could change as mechanical issues could arise at any time.

The Tribune yesterday spoke with area vice-president of the Bahamas Public Service Union John Curtis, who gave an update on the issues facing workers at the EMS Department in Freeport.

“Initially, we were looking for those units to be here in mid-February. So by mid-March, if (the units) are not here and if they are still experiencing the same issues with units not working properly, the union would

have to take another step in terms of causing the PHA to get dependable units here in Grand Bahama,” Mr Curtis said.

The area vice-president said that the current units in Freeport have surpassed their years of usefulness.

“In the budget debate the minister talked about the real need to get dependable units because the ones here were not dependable.

“I spoke with the manager at the EMS Department today and he advised that at present three units are working, but by mid-day or at the end of the day anything can go wrong mechanically with one or all of the units.

“The wear and tear of ambulances should

be a three to five years maximum and we have had these in Grand Bahama working for the past 12 years,” Mr Curtis said.

There are presently 14 paramedics working in Freeport. They alleged that due to the workload and the scarcity of vehicles, ambulances frequently break down during emergency transport.

The mechanical faults routinely experienced were said to include abrupt power loss, locked steering wheels and gas leaks.

The arrival of the two new ambulances will bring the total number of functioning units to five.

Other concerns raised by EMS personnel include: wages, accommodations (rest quarters and bathroom facilities), the lack of a proper dispatch centre, pest control, security concerns, insufficient uniforms and a lack of equipment. Mr Curtis said that hospital officials recently purchased the new uniforms and the heavy gloves requested by paramedics.

# ODYSSEY AVIATION BECOMES 2011 PRESENTING SPONSOR OF THE RIDE FOR HOPE



**CHEQUE THIS:** Left to right: Stephen Holowesko and Susan Larson, RFH co-founders; Steven Kelly, President Odyssey Aviation Bahamas.

ODYSSEY Aviation has taken its support of the Ride for Hope to “a new level”, organisers of the groundbreaking cancer charity announced.

Since the inception of the Ride for Hope (RFH), Odyssey Aviation has been a pace-setting corporate sponsor, lending substantial financial and logistical support to the event each year.

RFH co-founder Stephen Holowesko said: “Odyssey Aviation came onboard when Ride for Hope was no more than an idea. Their belief in that idea and their willingness to contribute financially and logistically has played an important part in helping us grow from that little idea six years ago to one of the biggest fund-raising events in the Bahamas.

“We are pleased and excited to announce that Odyssey Aviation has taken its support to a new level and is the newly established presenting sponsor for the 2011 Ride for Hope.”

Odyssey president Steven Kelly said: “Odyssey Aviation considers it a privilege to be the first company representing the new category of presenting sponsor.

“For many years, Odyssey has contributed to a vast number of local charities and persons in need. Rarely do we get the opportunity to support and work with such a well-organised and operated non-profit organisation as the Ride for Hope.

“We are indeed grateful and humbled by the amount of work and effort that goes into

the organisation of an event of this magnitude and we are pleased to have the ability to be the presenting sponsor of such an outstanding event.”

The Ride for Hope is held in Eleuthera each spring. Participants ride distances of their own choosing up to 100 miles and raise money in the process. Because of the support of corporate sponsors, who under-write the event’s costs each year, every dollar participants raise goes directly to RFH-supported programmes.

The brain-child of Mr Holowesko and his sister, Susan Larson, the Ride For Hope has in five years attracted 1,000 cyclists who collectively have ridden more than 30,000 miles along the roads of Eleuthera and raised nearly \$1.3 million in the process.

Ride for Hope funds are now supporting a wide variety of institutions and programmes which are battling cancers, increasing treatment programmes, improving cancer patient care and expanding early detection opportunities for Bahamians from all walks of life.

Last month, Ride for Hope presented the Cancer Society of the Bahamas with \$400,000 – representing a two year commitment to two new initiatives: the first, a national cancer education outreach programme and the second, a treatment assistance programme for Bahamian cancer patients in financial need.

The 2011 Ride for Hope, presented by Odyssey Aviation, will take place in Governor’s Harbour, Eleuthera on Saturday, April 9.



## KINGSWAY ACADEMY SCHOLARSHIP ANNOUNCEMENT

Kingsway Academy, a leading Bahamian (K-12) school with a reputation for excellence in academics, athletics and the arts; a commitment to Christian values; and a strong tradition of public service, is inviting public school students entering Grade 10 in September 2011 to apply for 2 (two) prestigious 3-year scholarships.

**(A) The Grace Tatham Kemp Scholarship**  
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**(B) The Ned Wallace Sports Scholarship**  
Named in honour of one of Kingsway’s earliest building contractors and a former member of the Board, Mr. Ned Wallace. This scholarship is for a well-rounded student with proven, strong academic and sports performance.

Interested students should submit:

- Completed Kingsway High School Application Form, available at the Kingsway High School Office or may be downloaded from the school’s website [www.kingswayacademy.com](http://www.kingswayacademy.com). Click on Document Downloads.
- Recommendation letter from your school’s Principal
- Recommendation letter from your school’s Coach if applying for the sports scholarship
- Personal statement sharing your school, church and community involvement, as well as your plans for the future.
- Transcript of your last 3 (three) academic years (Grades 7, 8 and 9 to date). Transcripts will only be considered valid if they are submitted in your school’s sealed envelop.

**Note:** Short-listed candidates will be invited to sit the scholarship examination and appear at an interview.

**Deadline: Complete application package should be received by 4:00 p.m. at the High School Desk in the Administration Building by March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2011**

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LOCAL NEWS

# Ranfurly Home to benefit from Antique Auto Show 2011 honouring Dudley Coverley



(Photo by Tim Aylen)

**HELPING OUT:** Officers of the Antique Auto Club of the Bahamas (AACB) present part proceeds of the 2010 Antique Auto Show to the Bahamas Association for the Physically Disabled (BAPD); (l-r) Cheryl Dean, secretary of the BAPD; Charlotte Albury, vice-president of the BAPD; Donna Barr-Burrell, chief welfare officer of Social Services; Richard Blake, president of the AACB; Sir Durward Knowles, chairman of the BAPD; Mrs Moss, administrator of the BAPD; Murray Forde, secretary of the AACB; Eugene Munroe, director of the BAPD, and Brendan Foulkes, vice-president of the BAPD.



**PRESENTATION:** MEMBERS of the Antique Auto Club of the Bahamas (AACB) present computers to Kathleen Burrows, principal of Progress Academy (centre), purchased from part proceeds of the 2010 Antique Auto Show. The club also provided some new doors and security screens for the school. In back, club members Peter Armstrong, Brendan Foulkes, Murray Forde, Ms Burrows, Richard Blake, president of the AACB, and Don Aranha. Also pictured are teachers L Wilson and Jem Cooper along with a number of the students.

MEMBERS of the Antique Auto Club of the Bahamas are finalising plans for their 24th annual Antique Auto Show and Steak-out to be held at the Arawak Cat Cultural Centre on Saturday, March 19 from noon to 6pm.

The show is being promoted in honour of club member Dudley Coverley, who died suddenly a few months ago.

"The show, as in previous years, provides both historical and family style entertainment and is the club's way of giving something back to the community as its major fundraiser," organisers said.

The club traditionally receives support from the business community, which covers the cost of trophies and other expenses. The majority of the funds come from the sale of steak and chicken dinners.

Advance tickets are available from all members of the club.

The club keeps no profits for its own use, and each year the net proceeds are donated to a charity or organisation involving children, usually a different one each year.

Last year's proceeds were divided between

the Bahamas Association for the Physically Disabled (BAPD) and Progress Academy. The Ranfurly Home for Children has been selected as the recipient for the 2011 show.

The auto show will feature vintage cars and trucks and motorcycles, ranging from the 1930s to 1991 (the club's definition of antique being 20 years old), which are judged in eight different classes. Other features will be a Junkanoo rush-out, bouncy castle, raffle prizes, children's art contest, the popular people's choice voting and a few surprises.

Any owners of vintage vehicles that are not already members of the Antique Auto Club are welcome to participate in the show for a nominal registration fee, organisers said.

The Antique Auto Club of the Bahamas was formed in 1987 by six men interested in the hobby of preservation of historic vintage vehicles to share a venue with people of common interest and to grow the hobby in the Bahamas.

The club has grown over the years and presently has a membership in excess of 50 men and women. The club website is [www.antiqueautos-bahamas.com](http://www.antiqueautos-bahamas.com).

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# Union official speaks on issues at Social Services

By DENISE MAYCOCK  
Tribune Freeport Reporter  
dmaycock@tribunemedia.net

FREEPORT – Inadequate office space and staff shortages leading to huge case loads are pressing issues that must be addressed at the Department of Social Services in Freeport, according to a union official.

John Curtis, area vice president for the Bahamas Public Services Union, said that the staff has outgrown the department's current location in the National Insurance building complex.

"We are waiting for the minister responsible for Social Services to understand the hardship placed on the personnel here in Grand Bahama; the area that they work from in the National Insurance Building has been outgrown by leaps and bounds," he said.

Mr Curtis said he hopes that some consideration can be given to the plight of social workers when it comes time to allocate space in the new \$18 million government complex that is being built on the Mall Drive.

The union official believes that Social Services is not properly recognised for the essen-

tial role it plays. "The Department of Social Services has not been classified properly as an essential service, but it is an essential service department that is needed because when you have any type of crisis or disaster in the country, social workers are the ones who go along with the police, doctors, and nurses in the community to assist residents," he explained.

"We realise we were facing an economic situation... and so at first opportunity we would want the government to recognise the worth of Social Services. "We wait to see the distribution of space specifically in the new government building and whether or not consideration would be given for Social Services to get more space," Curtis said.

The area vice president expressed concern about the cramped conditions that social workers have to endure on a daily basis.

"If you walk in there, it is a health hazard. And a lot of the ladies have case loads and paperwork piling up which could be a fire hazard also," he pointed out.

Mr Curtis stated that the

department is also short staffed and some social workers are handling as many as 600 cases each. He also stressed that there are persons still classified as case aides and earning a minimum wage even though they are performing the same tasks as social workers.

"Those persons are doing practically the same thing as social workers and they need to be reclassified," Mr Curtis said. The BPSU industrial contract expired in December 2010. The union, which represents some 18,500 public servants, is expected to begin negotiations with the government for a new industrial contract.

Mr Curtis said they are seeking to address the issue of insurance during the talks.

"We intend in the new industrial agreement to ask the government to take care of the responsibility to insure all public servants. And what that will do is eliminate the government having to pay hazard and risk allowance for certain staff members, and the monies they would have allocated for risk and hazard pay would then be able to go towards a national health insurance plan for employees," he said.

## UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT IN COURTESY CALL



**BOOK PRESENTATION:** President of Bakke University Brad Smith, (left) paid a courtesy call on Governor-General Sir Arthur Foulkes on Wednesday, February 23. During his visit, Mr Bakke presented Sir Arthur a copy of the book, 'Joy at Work,' written by entrepreneur and Christian philanthropist, Dennis W Bakke. The book discusses how to have fun while working.

Photo: Derek Smith/BIS

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# Tribune Trivia

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Which Member of Parliament called for a referendum on the sale of BTC?

## Yesterday's Answer

Dr. Bernard Nottage

## Yesterday's Winners

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Crystal Clarke	2pts
Cindi Scavella	1pt

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## LOCAL NEWS

# Exuma Ferry Bridge structural issues to be addressed, says PM



Eric Rose/BIS

**EVALUATION:** Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham (second left) speaks in front of the Ferry Bridge. Also pictured (from left) are Ambassador of the People's Republic of China Hu Dingxian, Minister of State for the Environment Phenton Nymour and Minister of State for Land and Local Government Byran Woodside.

GEORGE TOWN, Exuma – Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham said the structural deterioration on the bridge linking Great and Little Exuma is a matter of serious concern.

He said officials are evaluating the bridge, commonly known as "Ferry Bridge", to see whether repairs or a rebuild are necessary.

"All of the children who go to high school have to cross this every day (as the school bus can no longer traverse the bridge) and there are probably about 600 to 700 persons living in this part of Exuma," Prime Minister Ingraham said while visiting Exuma this week.

He led a delegation to the island and they visited other sites in need of infrastructural development, such as the old naval base, the dock in George Town and the water supply area in Williams Town, Little Exuma.

With him were: Minister of State for the Environment Phenton Nymour, Minister of State for Land and Local Government Byran Woodside, senior government officials, outgoing Ambassador of the People's Republic of China Hu Dingxian and representatives of the China Harbour Engineering Company.

Prime Minister Ingraham said even though the bridge was not one of the projects that the Bahamas government had asked the Chinese Harbour Engineering Company to look at, he thought it would be useful if they inspected the bridge.

"We hope to be able to get their opinions and suggestions," Mr Ingraham said. "We have some suggestions as to whether or not this bridge is

**INSPECTION:** A delegation led by Prime Minister Ingraham (third right) inspects the Ferry Bridge that connects Great and Little Exuma.

Eric Rose/BIS

**"All of the children who go to high school have to cross this every day (as the school bus can no longer traverse the bridge) and there are probably about 600 to 700 persons living in this part of Exuma."**

Hubert Ingraham

capable of being repaired or whether it needs to be reconstructed.

## Economically

"Obviously, from our point of view, if it can be repaired economically, that would be our preference; but if it cannot, then the question of replacement will have to be addressed."

The company is currently looking into constructing both a new port and bypass roads on Exuma and Abaco, and work on the bridge in North Eleuthera.

Mr Ingraham said the financing for those projects is expected to come from the China Export-Import Bank. They will be design/build contracts, with the work expected to start this year in North Abaco, then in Exuma.

Mr Nymour said that the lives of the 600-700 Exumians in the area have been affected because of safety concerns over the bridge, which officials have had to put safety restrictions on.

"As you know, Little Exuma is developing; so it has impacted some of the development in the area," he said.

"In order to carry a tractor or a tank of water, we have been hampered in that regard.

"It is very important that we address this bridge, as it has proven to be critical to those residents of Little Exuma."

Prime Minister Ingraham added that the Department of Public Works also will be providing information on the bridge to the Chinese Harbour Engineering Company team that is on the island; so that a plan could be arrived at in the best possible and thorough way.

"The other project that we are going to ask them to look at is the Fishing Hole Road, in Freeport, Grand Bahama – between Freeport and going towards Eight Mile Rock – because every time there is bad weather, it makes it almost impassable," he said.

"We are going to let them look at that project the same time they are in the Bahamas."

## FIRST FOREIGNERS IDENTIFIED AMONG THE NEW ZEALAND EARTHQUAKE DEAD

WELLINGTON, New Zealand

Two Israeli backpackers were the first foreigners named among the dead in last week's earthquake in New Zealand, as the painstaking work of confirming the identities of scores of others gained pace Thursday.

Officials expect the number of foreigners killed in the Feb. 22 quake that devastated Christchurch to rise into the dozens, many of them Asian students and staff at an English language school that was in an office building that collapsed.

The process of identifying the victims has been slowed by the extensive injuries to people who were crushed, and by the task of picking through the vast amount of rubble left behind by the magnitude 6.3 temblor. Police Superintendent Sam Hoyle said Thursday that one more body had been found overnight, taking the overall count to 161, though just 13 have been publicly identified. Many other people remain missing, and officials have said the final death toll could be as high as 240.

Hoyle said 90 of the bodies found so far were pulled from the Canterbury university building, which housed a regional broadcaster and other offices including the language school, which taught students from Japan, China, the Philippines and other nations.

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## From the Desk of the Institute

Training Sessions (March 2011)

### One Team: One Prize

Facilitator: Cherrylee Pinder

Date: Thursday March 10th, 2011 9am - 4pm

### Professional Image and Branding

Facilitator: Stacia Williams

Date: Thursday March 17th, 2011 9am - 4pm

### Business Communication Strategies for Leaders and teams.

Facilitator: Kim Welcome

Date: Thursday, March 24, 2011 9am - 4pm

### Creating Vision/Mission/Value Statements

Facilitator: Simone Bowe-Mullings

Date: Thursday March 31st, 2011 9am - 4pm

Registration two (2) days prior to the event is advised!

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## JOHN BULL PRESENTATION TO MISS GOSPEL BAHAMAS 2010

JOHN BULL REPRESENTATIVE Nellie Collins presents a John Bull gift basket to Miss Gospel Bahamas 2010-2011 Sylvianne Rahming and Miss Gospel Bahamas committee member Salveen Smith on Thursday, February 10.



## CHILE'S CONGRESS BLAMES MINE OWNERS FOR ACCIDENT

SANTIAGO, Chile Associated Press

CHILEAN congressional commission on Wednesday found two mine owners responsible for the accident that trapped 33 men a half-mile underground for 69 days last year.

The commission's report, which is expected to be approved by the lower house on Thursday, said members unanimously found Alejandro Bohn and Marcelo Kemeny responsible for the collapse that trapped the men deep inside the San Jose mine, whose veins of copper and gold had been pursued for more than 100 years in poorly reinforced tunnels under the Atacama desert in northern Chile.

Deputy Alejandro Garcia Huidobro said the commission also determined that Chile's mine safety agency was administratively responsible for failing to fully enforce its safety rules.

The report is expected to help lawyers for the miners pursue lawsuits against the owners.

Bohn and Kemeny denied being negligent or otherwise responsible for the collapse, in which a 700,000-ton granite monolith, the very center of the remote hilltop, crashed down shutting off any hope of escape without a Herculean rescue effort.

Both executives also face charges in an earlier accident in which a falling slab of rock sliced off a miner's leg.

## FBO groundbreaking is further step in transforming Grand Bahama airport

THE Grand Bahama Airport Company advanced plans for a new Fixed Based Operations facility by breaking ground during a ceremony at the international airport yesterday.

Gary Gilbert, CEO of Hutchinson Port Holdings Bahamas, owners of the Grand Bahama Airport Company, Freeport Container Port and Freeport Harbour Company, assisted by the Minister of Tourism and Aviation Vincent Vanderpool-Wallace, broke ground for the 8,000 square foot facility that is expected to make "Grand Bahama's aviation future a whole lot brighter".

The future state-of-the-art building is envisioned as being "the jewel of the Northern Bahamas" when it comes on stream by the end of the year.

Mr Gilbert told a gathering of government officials, industry partners, members of the Grand Bahama Port Authority and the Grand Bahama Development Company, "We knew that sooner or later the Grand Bahama International Airport would have to advance a FBO facility that was far more of an accurate representation of our future than what exists today."

Minister Vanderpool-Wallace said that over the course of the last several years Grand Bahama has really not seen the kind of growth that they would like to see in terms of what matters most, visitor expenditure.

"There is a plan that's afoot, and we see the begin-



MINISTER OF TOURISM AND AVIATION Vincent Vanderpool-Wallace

ning of this today, to move Grand Bahama into another category of business in a way that we all know that we can deliver on.

"It takes the kind of confidence that your company is bringing into it to galvanise people to understand what we're trying to accomplish," said the Tourism and Aviation Minister.

The new facility will accommodate private aviation guests upon arrival, and will also house Bahamas Immigration and Customs, the Royal Bahamas Police Force and the new administration offices of the GBAC. The building will also feature a pilot's lounge, a business centre, and food and beverage outlets.

## Venezuelan activists condemn sentence for union leader

CARACAS, Venezuela Associated Press

LEADING human rights activists condemned Venezuelan authorities on Wednesday for sentencing a union leader to prison for launching a strike, saying more than 100 other unionists also face charges after participating in protests.

Ruben Gonzalez was sentenced Monday to seven-and-a-half years in prison on charges related to a strike he led that temporarily paralyzed Venezuela's state-run iron mining company.

Marino Alvarado, who heads the human rights group Provea, said it is an "emblematic case" of authorities prosecuting those who hold labor protests. He and other activists denounced the sentence in a small protest outside the attorney general's office in the capital, Caracas, holding signs reading "Protesting is not a crime, it's a right."

Alvarado said that by Provea's count there are now about 2,500 people facing charges for participating in protests in Venezuela, including 125 union activists. He said such cases have grown dramatically since 2005, when there were protest-related charges against about 20 people in the country.

The leading human rights coalition Foro por la Vida, or Forum for Life, said in a statement that the sentence against Gonzalez shows the government "fears the emergence of a labor movement" that imposes its own agenda.

President Hugo Chavez has repeatedly said his socialist-oriented government has done more for the working class than previous administrations, and officials deny the government uses prosecutors and judges to curb the power of labor unions.

One union leader, Pablo Zambrano, said that in the coming weeks labor groups will hold protests in various Venezuelan cities to demand that Gonzalez be freed.

Gonzalez's defense lawyer, Italo Atencio, has said he will appeal. Gonzalez was sentenced on charges including unlawful assembly, incitement to commit crimes and violation of a government security zone during a 2009 strike at CVG Ferrominera Orinoco CA, better known as Ferrominera.



## MINISTRY OF WORKS & TRANSPORT NOTICE



### COMPLETION OF THE NEW PROVIDENCE ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

CORRIDOR 13Bv2

### PRINCE CHARLES DRIVE (Beatrice Avenue to Fox Hill Drive)

JOSE CARTELLONE CONSTRUCCIONES CIVILES S.A. has been awarded a Contract by the Government of The Bahamas for the Completion of the New Providence Road Improvement Project (International Package).

Please be advised that from Tuesday March 1<sup>st</sup> 2011, Road Works will be implemented on sections of Prince Charles Drive between Beatrice Avenue to Fox Hill Drive.

#### WHAT IS THIS PHASE OF THE PROJECT ABOUT?

Improvements will be carried out at the following junctions:  
College Gardens & Prince Charles Drive  
Foxhill Road & Prince Charles

The works include installation of new drainage facilities, utilities, water service laterals, milling existing pavement, asphalt pavement, sidewalks, traffic signs & signals, street lighting and road markings.

#### WHAT TO EXPECT IN A FEW WEEKS?

Initially, works will commence outside of the existing roadway on the northern side of Prince Charles Drive; however the public should expect temporary road closures & diversions as the works will be carried out in different stages. Updates will be posted and announced through the media.

As indicated on the 'Traffic Management Scheme': Motorist travelling east & westbound on Prince Charles Drive should use the following routes as an alternate, as temporary road closure will be implemented between the junction of Fox Hill & Pine Barren Road.



#### RESIDENTS/LOCAL BUSINESSES/PEDESTRIANS

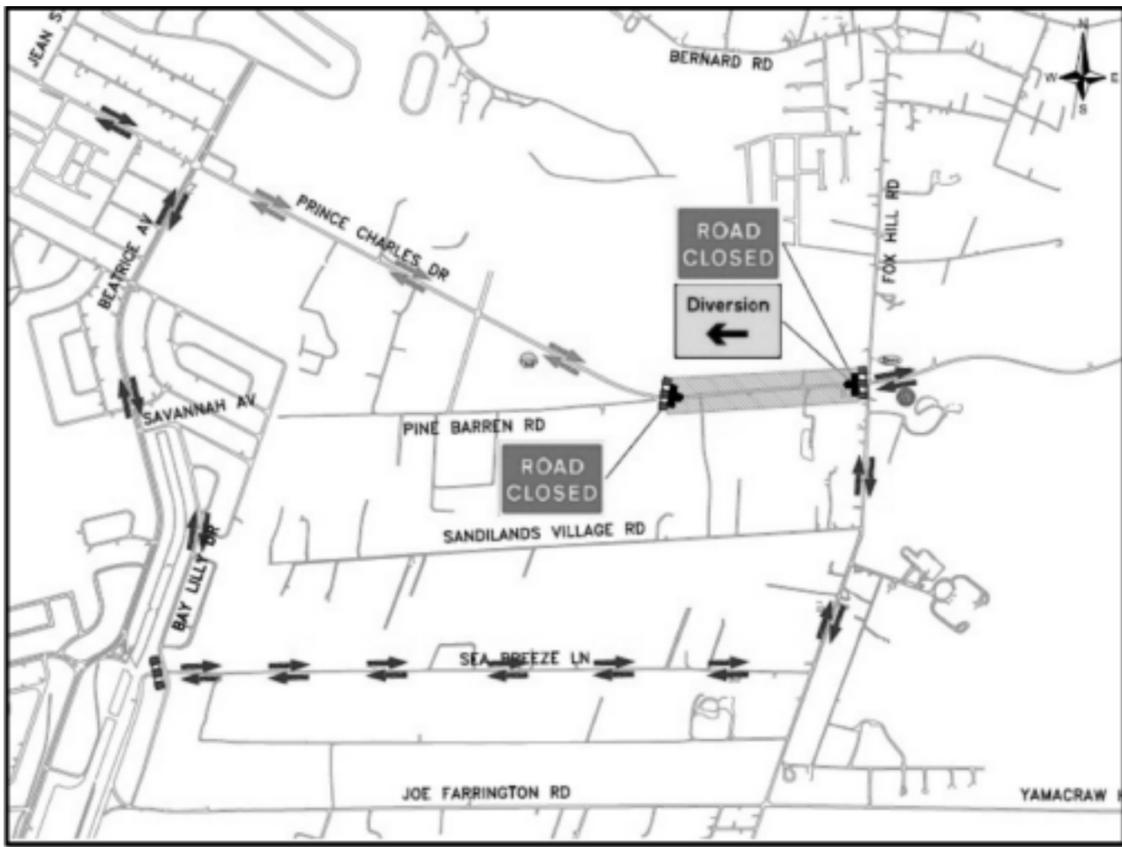
Access will be given to residents, pedestrians and the affected businesses in this area during the construction process. Signs will be in place to identify safe passage for Pedestrians and Access points to the businesses in the area from the diversion route. The public will be updated through the local media (radio & television) for regular updates.

**We do apologize for any inconvenience caused and we look forward to the cooperation of the motoring public.**

For further information please contact :

(The Contractor)  
Jose Cartellone Construcciones Civiles S.A  
Office Hours: Mon-Fri 8:00 am to 6:00 pm  
Office:(242)322-8341/322-2610  
Email: bahamasneighbor@cartellone.com.ar

(The Contracting Agency)  
Ministry of Works & Transport  
The Project Execution Unit  
Hotline: (242) 302-9700  
Email: publicworks@bahamas.gov.bs



## LOCAL NEWS

# Our Lucaya Beach and Golf resort set to axe '200 jobs'

## FROM page one

praised its owners – Hong Kong-based Hutchison Whampoa – for maintaining staff levels despite having to subsidise the hotel's payroll due to losses which in 2010 were said to amount to "tens of millions," according to The Tribune's source.

Our Lucaya resort consists of two separate properties – the Radisson Our Lucaya and the Our Lucaya Reef Village – one offering a

more upmarket experience, including a casino, and the other a more family-oriented product. The Tribune understands that only one of the hotels will remain open, as the company consolidates its operations.

An informed source said that despite the dire outcome for laid-off workers, Hutchison Whampoa "is committed to making Our Lucaya work" and will be looking to "re-brand and re-strategise" as it seeks to turn around the resort's fortunes.

In January, President of the Bahamas Hotel Managerial Association, Obie Ferguson said he had got wind of plans on the part of Our Lucaya to release 50 managerial staff – a move Mr Ferguson put down to "union busting." Although contacted for comment at that time, the resort did not respond to the claim.

Earlier that month, a Hutchison Whampoa executive denied claims that Our Lucaya resort was up for sale, with the asking price

having dropped from \$450 million to \$200-\$250 million.

Confirming that he had heard "rumours" circulating on Grand Bahama that Hutchison Whampoa may be seeking to offload the Freeport-based resort, Graham Torode, president of the Grand Bahama Development Company (Devco), speaking on behalf of Hutchison Whampoa, which is one of Devco's two shareholders, told Tribune Business that there was "no truth" to claims the proper-

ty is on the market.

Our Lucaya General Manager had recently informed Tribune Business that Christmas hotel bookings were not as buoyant as had been anticipated – at a little over 50 per cent for the week between Christmas and new year despite 2010 in general having brought an increased level of visitors to the property over 2009.

The last interim labour survey to be conducted in The Bahamas took place in May 2009. In that survey, Grand Bahama was found

to have an unemployment rate of 17.4 per cent, while Nassau recorded a rate of 14 per cent. Those figures do not include discouraged workers who have given up looking for employment.

Grand Bahama's level of unemployment is now inevitably considerably higher, although the exact figure is unknown.

Neither representatives of Our Lucaya, the Minister of Labour or the unions representing the workers, could be reached last night for comment.

## Man found with 'mini arsenal' gets re-sentenced

### FROM page one

offences were committed on May 1, 2007.

Bullard was found in possession of three handguns and 571 rounds of ammunition – a "mini arsenal by any definition" the Court of Appeal said.

On the count of possession of a firearm, the magistrate fined Bullard \$5,000 or two years imprisonment and an additional year of probation. That decision was appealed by the Commissioner of Police on the grounds it was unduly lenient.

The Court of Appeal re-sentenced Bullard to two years imprisonment on the counts of possession of a firearm. The sentences run concurrently with effect from February 21, 2011. On each count of being in possession of ammunition, a sentence of two years to run concurrently with each other was also imposed.

The Court of Appeal, in its judgment, found that a custodial sentence was warranted and that the sentence handed down by the magistrate was unlawful.

"The respondent was also convicted of three offences of possession of ammunition with no sentence imposed upon these convictions," the court stated.

"The respondent therefore remains liable to be punished in respect of all of the offences to which he pleaded guilty and the question is what should be the proper determination of this appeal."

The court noted that the extent of the magistrate's powers to sentence on conviction of an offence of possession of a firearm and an offence for possession of ammunition is imprisonment for five years and a fine of \$10,000 in each case.

"Accordingly, in determining what is the just and appropriate sentence, we take into account all matters in the respondent's favour including that he was of good character, that he was gainfully employed at the time of the offences, that he pleaded guilty, and that he is being sentenced some two years after his trial.

"We balance the above matters against the fact that the respondent was convicted of being in possession of three handguns and 571 rounds of ammunition, a mini arsenal by any definition, which in the absence of any explanation, must be assumed to be sinister and not innocent," the court stated.

"Punishment is the way society inveighs against wrongdoing. These offences are serious and it appears to us that the balance of all of the matters which we have taken into account weighs heavily in favour of the public policy that an offender who engages in a deliberate course of criminal behaviour be appropriately and correctly punished.

"In sentencing the respondent for the multiple offences of which he is convicted, we must determine and impose a sentence which is just and appropriate in light of his overall criminal behaviour."

The appellate court noted that in determining the appeal it had to first construe the meaning of the magistrate's pronouncement. The court noted that Bullard's attorney had contended the court "should find that the sentence imposed was a permissible sentence for any one of the offences charged; that it is an indication of what the highest sentence he intended for the most egregious of the offences and any lesser sentence would be subsumed in the sentence pronounced."

The appellate court stated that it found the argument could not be sustained.

Bullard's attorney had also asked the court to accept the proposition that where a court does not state whether sentences are concurrent or consecutive, they should be construed as concurrent.

The court stated: "We have no doubt about the correctness of that proposition, but the difficulty in this case is that there was only the one sentence passed by the magistrate."

"Given the clarity of the magistrate's pronouncement and the context in which it was made, namely the conviction for multiple offences, we are bound to construe it as imposing one sentence for an offence of possession of a firearm. Moreover, we are unable to say to which of the three counts, the sentence relates."

The court also noted that another issue raised was whether the magistrate could legally combine a fine and probation in the one sentence. A reading of section 124(1) of the Penal Code clearly shows that probation is not a sentence of punishment and cannot be combined with a sentence as the magistrate purported to do in this case."



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## 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.

If so, call us on 322-1986 and share your story.



**FROM page one**

# CAMPAIGN TO PROTECT SHARKS IN THE BAHAMAS IS STEPPED UP

fishing in the Bahamas. Shark populations around the world are under threat of extinction as they are increasingly targeted for their fins to be served in the East Asian delicacy shark fin soup. Matt Rand, director of the Pew Environment Group's Global Shark Conservation Campaign, estimates 100 million sharks are killed every year, including 73 million exclusively for their fins, and the remainder as by-catch in longline fishing. However the Bahamas boasts one of the most diverse and abundant shark

populations in the region, and one of the healthiest in the world, owing to a ban on longline fishing in the Bahamas 20 years ago. The healthy shark populations ensures the health of the reef and success of other fisheries, they also draw an income of around \$78 million a year from dive-related tourism. However their vulnerability became apparent when it was revealed in *The Tribune* that a seafood export company in Andros was interest-

ed in exploring the possibility of shark finning for export to Hong Kong. Months later Pew and the BNT launched the shark protection campaign and petition for new legislation which has now gathered 4,000 signatures in support. Mr Rand said: "The diversity and numbers of sharks, and the ability for people to interact and see them here is hands down, the best that I've seen globally. "It's a remarkable resource, it helps keep the ecosystem functioning healthily, and they are a remarkable creature that's largely misunderstood."

Mr Harvey agreed there is still much work to be done to "de-vilify" the graceful creatures. "The damage caused by the press in the past has been enormous and that all needs to be turned around," Mr Harvey said. "So it is with great pleasure that we have hooked up with the Bahamas National Trust, the Pew foundation, and a lot of other organisations, as we're all working together towards the same end, which is sustainability in the use of marine resources."

GHRI director Mahmood Shivji has tagged 37 tiger sharks, mostly in Bermuda, and found they migrated directly to the Bahamas and remained there for several months before swimming out to the mid-Atlantic and then returning to the Bahamas the following year.

Dr Shivji said: "There's something about this ecosystem that is bringing these sharks back here from very far away, which is all the more reason to protect the sharks in the Bahamas. "These are amazing migratory animals. You can't



GUY HARVEY and Guy Harvey Research Institute director Mahmood Shivji endorsed the shark campaign at the Bahamas National Trust yesterday.



THE CUSTOM-DESIGNED campaign logo by Guy Harvey shows a tiger shark, hammerhead, Caribbean reef shark and lemon shark with a Bahamian flag in the background.

just protect them within the boundaries of a national park because these animals move, so there has to be a regional approach and the Bahamas can really take a lead in this, not only to protect healthy marine ecosystems in the Bahamas but internationally."

Dr Shivji said the GHRI tagged four tiger sharks in the Bahamas in December, and Mr Harvey promised students he spoke to at CV Bethel Senior High School yesterday morning the next shark they tag will be named CV Bethel after them. Students will be able to follow the sharks movements with updates from the GHRI over the coming year.

The shark campaign was launched by Pew and the BNT in September last year in the wake of revelations published in *The Tribune*. A petition calling for legislation to protect sharks in the Bahamas has gathered

For more information about the Guy Harvey Research Institute log on to: <http://www.nova.edu/ocean/g/hri/>.



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## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

# Rebels push back Libya regime attack on oil port

BREGA, Libya  
Associated Press

## Warplane bombs beach as rebel fighters charge over dunes

OPponents of Moammar Gadhafi repelled an attack by the Libyan leader's forces trying to retake a key coastal oil installation in a topsy-turvy battle Wednesday in which shells splashed in the Mediterranean and a warplane bombed a beach where rebel fighters were charging over the dunes. At least six people were killed in the fighting.

The assault on the Brega oil port was the first major

regime counteroffensive against the opposition-held eastern half of Libya, where the population backed by mutinous army units rose up and drove out Gadhafi's rule over the past two weeks.

For the past week, pro-Gadhafi forces have been focusing on the west, securing his stronghold in the cap-

ital Tripoli and trying to take back nearby rebel-held cities with only mixed success.

But the foray east against opposition-held Brega appeared to stumble. The pro-Gadhafi forces initially recaptured the oil facilities Wednesday morning. But then a wave of opposition citizen militias drove them out



**LIBYAN MEN** walk over sand dunes in order to fight forces from the Libyan army, near the eastern Libyan town of Brega, Wednesday, March 2, 2011. Opponents of Moammar Gadhafi repelled an attack by the Libyan leader's forces trying to retake Brega, a key coastal oil installation in a topsy-turvy battle in which shells splashed in the Mediterranean and a warplane bombed a beach where rebel fighters were charging over the dunes. At least six people were killed in the fighting. The assault on the Brega oil port was the first major regime counteroffensive against the opposition-held eastern half of Libya, where the population backed by mutinous army units rose up and drove out Gadhafi's rule over the past two weeks. (AP)



**A LIBYAN** protester stands on top of a pile of burning 'Green Books' during a protest against Libyan leader Moammar Gadhafi during a demonstration against him in Benghazi, eastern Libya, Wednesday. (AP)

again, cornering them in a nearby university campus where they battled for several hours until the approximately 200 Gadhafi loyalists fled, according to an Associated Press reporter at the scene.

In the capital, Gadhafi vowed, "We will fight until the last man and woman." He lashed out against Europe and the United States for their pressure on him to step down, warning that thousands of Libyans will die if U.S. and NATO forces intervene in the conflict.

The United States is moving naval and air forces closer to Libyan shores and is calling for Gadhafi to give up power immediately.

The U.S., Britain and other NATO countries are drawing up contingency plans to impose a no-fly zone over Libya to prevent Gadhafi's air forces from striking rebels.

But the idea has been rejected by Russia, which holds a veto-wielding seat on the U.N. Security Council.

"We will not accept an intervention like that of the Italians that lasted decades," Gadhafi said, referring to Italy's colonial rule early in the 20th Century.

"We will not accept a similar American intervention. This will lead to a bloody war and thousands of Libyans will die if America and NATO enter Libya."

Opposition members said they believe Gadhafi was pulling up reinforcements from bases deep in the deserts of southwestern Libya, flying them to the fronts on the coast.

Soon after sunrise Wednesday, a large force of Gadhafi loyalists in around 50 SUVs, some mounted with machine guns, descended on opposition-held Brega, 460 miles (740 kilometers) east of Tripoli along the Mediterranean.

The force caught a small opposition contingent guarding the site by surprise and it fled, said Ahmed Dawas, an anti-Gadhafi fighter at a checkpoint outside the port.

The pro-Gadhafi forces seized the port, airstrip and the oil facilities where about 4,000 personnel work, as regime warplanes hit an ammunition depot on the outskirts of the nearby rebel-held city of Ajdabiya, witnesses said.

Midmorning, the opposition counterattacked.

Anti-Gadhafi fighters with automatic weapons sped out of Ajdabiya in pickup trucks, heading for Brega, 40 miles away (70 kilometers) away.

Dawas said they retook the oil facilities and airstrip. Other witnesses reported regime forces were surrounded by rebels.

The sound of screaming warplanes and the crackle of heavy gunfire could be heard as the witnesses spoke to The Associated Press by phone.

By the afternoon, the regime fighters fled the oil facilities and holed up in a nearby university campus, where they came under siege by anti-Gadhafi fighters, according to an Associated Press reporter at the scene.

Machine gun and automatic weapons fire rattled in the air, and shells lobbed from the campus went over the anti-Gadhafi side to splash in the Mediterranean.

At one point, a warplane

from Gadhafi's airforce swooped overhead and an explosion was heard. A witness said it struck an empty stretch of dunes near the battle, sending a plume of sand into the air but causing no injuries in an apparent attempt to intimidate the anti-Gadhafi side.

But opposition citizen militias poured into the battle, arriving from Ajdabiya and armed with assault rifles. They moved through the dunes along the beach against the campus next to a pristine blue-water Mediterranean beach.

Those without guns picked up bottles and put wicks in them to make firebombs.

An ambulance driver who was briefly held by the pro-Gadhafi force and then released told AP they numbered about 200 fighters.

The forces came to Brega from Sirte, Gadhafi's main remaining stronghold in central Libya, 200 miles (320 kilometers) west of the oil port, said the driver, Jumaa Shway.

At least six opposition fighters were killed and 18 others wounded in the fighting, their bodies covered with sand thrown up by shells bursting in the dunes, doctors at Brega hospital said. Angry crowds gathered around them at Brega's hospital, chanting, "The blood of martyrs will not go in vain."

In the late afternoon, the pro-Gadhafi force fled the campus, and opposition fighters were seen combing through the university buildings. Automatic gunfire was still heard in the distance, but it appeared the regime troops were withdrawing. The campus grounds and dunes between it and the beach were littered with casings and shells.

In Ajdabiya, people geared up to defend the city, fearing the pro-Gadhafi forces would move on them next.

At the gates of the city, hundreds of residents took up positions on the road from Brega, armed with Kalashnikovs and hunting rifles, along with a few rocket-propelled grenade launchers.

They set up two large rocket launchers and an anti-aircraft gun in the road. But by the evening, there was no sign of attack there.

Brega and nearby Ajdabiya are the farthest west points in the large contiguous swath of eastern Libya extending all the way to the Egyptian border that fell into opposition hands in the uprising that began Feb. 15. Ajdabiya is about 90 miles (150 kilometers) from Benghazi, Libya's second largest city and the nerve center of the opposition.

Brega is the second-largest hydrocarbon complex in OPEC-member Libya. Amid the turmoil, exports from its ports have all but stopped with no ships coming to load up with crude and natural gas. Crude production in the southeastern oil fields that feed into the facility has been scaled back because storage facilities at Brega were filling up.

General Manager Fathi Eissa said last week the facility has had to scale back production dramatically from 90,000 barrels of crude a day to just 11,000.

The unrest in Libya — which ranks about 17th among world oil producers

and has Africa's largest proven oil reserves — has sparked a major spike in world oil prices. Overall crude production has dropped from 1.6 million barrels per day to 850,000.

Gadhafi's regime has been left in control of Libya's northwest corner, centered on Tripoli, but even here several cities have fallen into rebel hands after residents rose up in protests, backed by mutinous army units and drove out Gadhafi loyalists.

In recent days, loyalists succeeded in regaining two of those towns — Gharyan, a strategic town in the Nafusa mountains south of Tripoli, and Sabratha, a small town west of the capital.

But opposition fighters successfully repulsed attacks by pro-Gadhafi forces on several others: the key city of Zawaya outside the capital; Misrata, Libya's third largest city east of Tripoli; and Zintan, a town further southwest in the Nafusa mountains.

The regime may be bringing in more forces from regions it still dominates in the sparsely populated deserts in the southwest.

Residents of the southwestern oasis town of Sebha — a key Gadhafi stronghold with military bases 400 miles (560 kilometers) south of Tripoli — reported heavy movement at the airport there Tuesday night, said Abdel-Bari Zwi, one of the opposition activists in Ajdabiya in touch with sympathizers in Sebha. Zwi said it is believed some of those forces were involved in the offensive against Brega.

In his speech Wednesday, Gadhafi lashed out at international moves against his regime, including the freezing of his and other Libyan assets abroad — an act he called "piracy" — and efforts by Europe to send aid to opposition-held Benghazi. He said any Libyan who accepts international aid was guilty of "high treason" because it "opens Libya to colonialism."

In a pointed message to Europe, he warned, "There will be no stability in the Mediterranean if there is no stability in Libya."

"Africans will march to Europe without anyone to stop them. The Mediterranean will become a center for piracy like Somalia," he said. Gadhafi's regime has worked closely with Italy and other European countries to stop African migrants who use Libya as a launching point to slip into Europe.

He also threatened to bring in Chinese and Indian companies to replace Western companies in Libya's oil sector if the West keeps up its pressure on him. European firms are heavily involved in Libya's oil production.

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

**UN: WORRISOME RISE IN MEXICO HEROIN TRADE TO US**

MEXICO CITY  
Associated Press

A U.N. anti-narcotics agency cited a worrisome rise in shipments of increasingly pure Mexican heroin to the United States, and said in a report Wednesday that Mexican cartels are an increasing threat in Central America.

The International Narcotics Control Board says Mexican cartels are displacing Colombian

traffickers, the traditional suppliers of much of the heroin consumed in the United States, and opium poppy production is on the rise in Mexico, said board member Jorge Montano.

Montano told a news conference said that as much as 5,000 hectares (12,355 acres) of opium poppies in Mexico "are basically intended for the United States."

The rise also had been noted by the U.S. Justice Department, which said in a 2010 report that

Mexican cartels had more than doubled their heroin production in the preceding year.

Mexico had long been a transit route for processed Colombian heroin, while Mexican production remained mostly semi-processed paste or 'tar.'

But the board said "there are some indications that 'white heroin' of greater purity is being illegally produced in Mexico" and sometimes mixed with Colombian heroin.



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Nassau

## 'Nailed to the wall' by \$4.2bn National Debt

\* Fiscal hawk warns 'future generations will have to pay the piper' via higher debt service payments and taxes if nothing done  
\* 'Foregone conclusion' government's revenue targets not met  
\* Advocates spending cuts, as 'anaemic' economic growth means no revenue rises

By **NEIL HARTNELL**  
Tribune Business Editor

A leading fiscal hawk has warned that future Bahamian generations "are going to be nailed to the wall" by the rising \$4.2 billion national debt, as he urged both main

SEE page 7B

## 'Unconstitutional' warning over the \$1.6bn NIB fund

\* Leading attorney says Fund contrary to constitution, as contributions a tax, and all taxes must go to Consolidated Fund  
\* Warns Customs and NIB not to 'ride roughshod over the rights' of GBPA licencees

By **NEIL HARTNELL**  
Tribune Business Editor

The National Insurance Board (NIB) and Customs were both warned yesterday to stay within their statutory powers and "not ride roughshod over the rights" of Grand Bahama Port Authority (GBPA) licencees, a lead-

SEE page 9B

# BORCO owner to invest \$250m

■ Upgrades, including expansion to eight vessel berths, planned for completion in 2011

■ Warning on 'political risk' for Grand Bahama facility, with 30% and 69% of storage revenues derived from top one and three customers

By **NEIL HARTNELL**  
Tribune Business Editor

The Bahamas Oil Refining Company's (BORCO) new owner plans to invest between \$200 million to \$250 million this year in upgrading the Grand Bahama-based oil storage facility, with current renovation projects expected to leave it with eight berths. Unveiling its plans in a

Securities & Exchange Commission (SEC) filing, New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) listed Buckeye Partners, which has closed its \$1.7 billion purchase from First Reserve Corporation and Vopak, said: "We expect to spend approximately \$200 million to \$250 million for capital expenditures in 2011 related to the BORCO facility, of which

\$185 million to \$225 million is expected to relate to expansion projects, and \$15 million to \$25 million is expected to relate to sustaining capital expenditures. "Major expansion expenditures in 2011 are expected to include upgrades and expansions of the jetty structure, the inland dock and berth developments, and

SEE page 4B

## RETAILER'S 44,000 SQ FT EXPANSION TO 'BREAK GROUND WITHIN 35-40 DAYS'

\* Customer count/revenues 'within margin of error for new stores' at Robin Hood's Prince Charles outlet  
\* Sales increasing 'nicely' at both stores in last fortnight  
\* Economy improving but 'will not shoot for the stars'

By **NEIL HARTNELL**  
Tribune Business Editor

Robin Hood is aiming to break ground "in the next 35-40 days" on the 44,000 square foot addition to its new Prince Charles Drive store, the retailer's president telling Tribune Business yesterday that sales at both its outlets had "picked up nicely over the last couple of weeks".

Sandy Schaefer said he was "just waiting" to get more tenants confirmed for his planned 44,000 square foot expansion at the Prince

SEE page 6B



Felipe Major/Tribune staff

ADDITION PLANNED: In this file photo a shopper looks at what's on offer inside Robin Hood on Prince Charles Drive.

## FirstCaribbean market cap falls almost \$600m

\* Drop from \$1.76bn to \$1.17bn shows recession's impact, as impaired loan portfolio grew \$57.5m in 2010

\* Business and government loans dropped \$72.6 million or 6.3 per cent

\* Management fees paid to parent raised operating expenses

\* Equity return and efficiency ratios both declined

By **NEIL HARTNELL**  
Tribune Business Editor

FirstCaribbean International Bank (Bahamas) has seen its market capitalisation slashed by more than \$590 million or one-third during the recession, it was revealed yesterday, with its impaired loan portfolio expanding by 17.7 per cent or \$57.5 million during its 2010 financial year.

The bank's annual report for the year to end-October  
SEE page 5B

## Resort moving to boost staff

Bimini Big Game Club looks forward to spring and summer 2011, after \$3.5m investment and 'pretty tough' 2010

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

After a \$3.5 million renovation and relaunch, the Bimini Big Game Club is anticipating adding 12 new staff as it heads towards its first peak season since re-opening in summer 2010.

However, rising fuel prices spurred on by Middle Eastern political turmoil are a "concern" for the resort, whose 100-plus slip marina

is a major source of revenue. Business at the property, as elsewhere around the Bahamas in recent times, was "pretty tough" last year, according to general manager Chris Pollock, but things are looking up for spring and summer 2011.

Looking on the bright side, Mr Pollock said he hopes that even if fuel prices do rise, the Bimini Big

SEE page 6B

**GAS TRACKER**

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TEXACO

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BUSINESS

By DEIDRE M. BASTIAN

# Getting on web is a business must



**Y**ou may have created a brilliant website for your products and services, but if no one sees it online it might as well not exist. On the other hand, you may have traffic coming to your site that does not convert to sales and profit. However, the answer to both these scenarios is that you may require planning to enhance your website traffic.

First, let's ask why is it important for any business to have a website?

Is it really necessary, as nobody needed websites in the past, and many businesses today still run successfully and profitably without having one? Why the need now?

Well, while the above statement has merit and still stands true, if we continue to do things the same way all the time, can we expect a different result?

Times have changed and having a web presence is pretty much becoming an essential component to business.

By virtue of this fact, opening a 'bricks and mortar' business requires a considerable investment, as a lease, rent, staff, utilities and other expenses are all incurred.

However with the introduction of e-business the cost of reaching the customer has decreased dramatically. With the use of these tools, here are some reasons why you want to have a website for your business.

**Constant Advertising:** Websites are visible 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. A website does not need to close off at the end of the business day, take a week-end off, ask for vacation or

take a sick day. So if we are to follow this pipeline, ultimately a website is an advertising tool that will take your business to potential customers, regardless of whether your store/office is open or not.

**Convenience for Your Clients:** A website is a convenient way for existing or potential clients to explore and gather information on products/services without visiting the physical premises of the business. Many people appreciate convenience since it saves time, and potential customers can visit 10, 20 or 50 websites, then make a decision without leaving their chair. Some customers dislike direct pressure when they visit bricks and mortar stores, as having to talk to a sales person may evoke pressure into purchasing an item.

**Your Competitor has a WebSite:** If your competitor is the only site found online, guess who the potential customer will patronise?



## THE ART OF GRAPHIX

DEIDRE M. BASTIAN

**Brand your business with the website address;** make sure any business cards you give, letters you send, contain your website address. And, most importantly, be patient with your website growth.

**A Website beats hiring a salesperson:** Without advertising and sales force costs, a website provides a much higher Return On Investment (ROI). The best customers use the Internet and have money to spend. If they can't find you, they will spend it, but somewhere else.

**Web Site ROI, vs Brochure ROI:** When the cost of creating, printing, distributing and updating a

brochure is taken into consideration, your more-easily-maintained website is a better investment.

It may help to be selective when choosing your web hosting company; it's not the same as purchasing groceries. Keep in mind that your web host is like your business partner. There are a number of elements to consider when approaching your potential web hosting partner.

**Sound customer support systems:** Some of them serve their customers promptly, while some do not. The industry standard calls for 24 hours response time.

**Know server technology:** Ensure reliable back-up systems and technical employees are on board. Additionally, if you propose to insert video, audio clips and interactive contents into your webpage, inquire more about the bandwidth, hosting reliability and up-time

guarantee. These are the most important areas that you should consider. What is Up-time? Up-time is the time (expressed in percentages) the host is available to access through the Internet.

Becoming instantly rich through online business has not been the story for every online seller... but to simply quit is not the thing to do. Ascertain the problem and start re-strategising.

A business that desires success should invest in a website, especially small businesses that cannot afford missed opportunities. I consider Internet marketing as a track meet, so be the first to get off the blocks! A web site = easy, efficient referrals.

Make sure you are there when you or your company is Goggled. So until we meet again, have fun, enjoy life and stay on top of your game.

**NB: The author welcomes feedback at:** deedee2111@hotmail.com



### Villas at Grand Isle, Exuma, Bahamas **FOR SALE**

31 villas at Grand Isle, located on the island of Great Exuma, within the Emerald Bay master development, are available for sale. With breathtaking views, exquisite interior designs and top of the line furnishings, the villas are distinctively decorated and designed. The units feature 9' high vaulted ceilings, master suites with a private balcony and French sliding glass doors overlooking the beach. All villas include full-sized bathrooms, furnished with a whirlpool tub, oversized showers with seating, marble vanity tops, mosaic tiling and Kohler fixtures. Kitchens include Sub-Zero refrigerators, oven and range stoves, microwaves, wood cabinets, granite countertops and double-basin stainless steel sinks.

Offers will be considered for all the villas or in blocks. The villas are being offered for sale by the Receivers and Managers of the villas.

Interested parties should contact the Receivers and Managers for additional information:

**Juan (John) Lopez**  
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This scholarship is inclusive of tuition, fees, course material, accommodation and transportation costs. Commencing in September 2011, the successful candidate will follow a 4 year degree programme at the State University of New York (SUNY). Upon completion of the degree, the qualified officers will be expected to serve on board a Bahamian flagged vessel for at least 2 years providing the solid foundation upon which to build his/her Maritime career.



Further information and application forms can be obtained from Mr. Arthur Barnett Jr. Deputy Director, Bahamas Maritime Authority, Manx Corporate Centre, West Bay Street, P O Box N-4679 Nassau, Bahamas, email: [abarnettjr@bahamasmaritime.com](mailto:abarnettjr@bahamasmaritime.com) tel: 356 5772, fax: 356 5889.

Completed applications must be submitted in person or by post, with copies of academic certificates/transcripts and proof of Bahamian citizenship, no later than Thursday, 31 March, 2011. Interviews will take place in Nassau first week in May.

## BUSINESS

# Minister 'willing' to discuss gas mark-up rise

By ALISON LOWE  
Business Reporter  
alowe@tribunemedia.net

Gas retailers' hopes of the Government permitting an increase in the 'mark up' they are allowed to reap per gallon of gas or diesel, in order to reflect rising oil costs, received a boost yesterday when the minister responsible said he would be open to meeting with the industry to discuss the matter.

Phenton Neymour, minister of state for the Environment, said that while he has yet to receive any formal communication from the Petroleum

Retailers Association on their concerns, expressed in a letter from 18 of its members to the Ministry of Finance earlier this month, he is "willing to meet with them to discuss it".

Mr Neymour has ministerial responsibility for relations with the petroleum industry. Arnold Heastie, owner of Heastie's Service Station on Blue Hill Road, said he was pleased to hear of Mr Neymour's openness to the industry's concerns, adding that he feels the minister - who formerly worked in the petroleum industry for Esso - should be keenly aware of the challenges retailers face. "I would be very interested in meeting with him because we

need it (an increase in the permitted mark up). This is a problem that's been going on for years, where because the mark-up is fixed, every time the price of oil goes up our profits shrink. They should be a percentage of the cost of the gas or diesel," said Mr Heastie.

Mr Neymour said "it would be good" if he, in addition to the Ministry of Finance, could receive a copy of the letter sent by the Petroleum Retailers Association expressing their concerns and proposal.

Minister of State for Finance, Zhivargo Laing, told Tribune Business yesterday that the matter of any adjustments to the mark up permitted got gas

retailers - 44 cents per gallon of petrol and 19 cents per gallon of diesel - would be within the remit of Consumer Affairs Minister, Dion Foulkes.

However, Mr Foulkes said that while he has responsibility for pricing, it would be Mr Neymour who, as minister with responsibility for relations with the petroleum industry, would first consider any proposal to increase the retailers' mark-up.

Eighteen retailers braced for the impact a hefty rise in the cost of crude oil will have on their businesses wrote to the Ministry of Finance two weeks ago in anticipation of being priced out of the market.

# Produce notice boosts farm sales

By ALISON LOWE  
Business Reporter  
alowe@tribunemedia.net

Huge quantities of Bahamian-grown vegetables are being shipped fresh into the e-mail inboxes of hoteliers, restaurants, chefs and wholesalers on a weekly basis as part of a new promotional effort by the Bahamas Agricultural and Industrial Corporation (BAIC) and the Bahamas Hotel Association (BHA).

Despite the initiative having begun just two weeks ago, farmers are already seeing the benefit of the increased exposure and linkage with buyers that has been created as a result of a BAIC-produced weekly "produce notice", which gives those interested the information they need to know what produce is available to buy, when, and at what price, from Bahamian farmers.

Candy Pinder, of Big Bird Avocado Farm in Abaco, welcomed the development yesterday, crediting it with creating the opportunity for the farm to shift hundreds of cases of its Avocado crop in just one week, after slow sales during the earlier part of the season.

She anticipates the farm's entire remaining pear harvest will now be exhausted by next week. "We're very happy that they've put this together," said Ms Pinder. "We were getting a lot of calls."

BHA executive vice-president, Frank Comito, and BAIC agricultural marketing officer, Amanda Wells, said the information collated by BAIC from farmers and included in the e-mail, which the BHA helps to distribute, provides the "missing link" that

- \* Farmer expects new links forged to restaurants and hotels to exhaust pear supply in a week
- \* Initiative by BAIC and BHA aims to put dent in to \$500m import bill

was necessary before farmers and the tourism industry could be better aligned to each other's mutual benefit.

Former president of the BHA, Robert Sands, had for several years sought to increase linkages between Bahamian farmers and the economy's main engine, tourism. Now the information is reaching around 150 hotel properties and restaurants - including 50 chefs - who make many of the purchasing decisions for food per week, noted Mr Comito.

Highlighting Mr Sands' commitment to the issue, Mr Comito nonetheless said that "the real kudos" is due primarily to BAIC, who went out and liaised with farmers before putting together the informative notice, which it is hoped may help make a dent in the country's enormous food import bill of around \$500 million a year.

Ms Wells said: "The farmers pretty much have their act together and the buyers are eager to buy, we just needed to make it easier."

Alongside colourful photos of the produce available for purchase in islands such as Andros and Abaco - which have so far included avocado, sweet pepper, eggplant, cucumber and goat pepper - contact details for the farmers are highlighted, as well as

details such as quantities, prices, and when the goods will reach the dock in Nassau.

Quality checks are also done by BAIC officers, providing additional reassurance to potential buyers that they will not waste money on "shoddy" goods.

However, Ms Wells said that, fortunately, officers have found that quality has rarely been an issue.

"We haven't had to turn anyone away because of the quality, it has been phenomenal this year. The farmers have also been so competitive versus the market price," she said.

Mr Comito said he does not see the drive to get hotels and restaurants to buy more Bahamian produce as simply a matter of supporting local growers for the sake of it.

"There are a number of compelling reasons why it's attractive. I think if it's done right buyers can find produce that's fresher than the imported stuff, that's price competitive and that will also contribute to revenue retention in the country," said the BHA executive.

"We've been getting feedback from some of our members saying: 'This is very helpful'. BAIC should be commended in putting their heads together in coming up with this."

Ms Wells said that any hotels, restaurants or other potential buyers who wish to find out about the availability of local Bahamian produce can contact her at 322 3740 or amandawells@baic.gov.bs to be added to the mailing list. Any farmers who would like to have their produce promoted through the BAIC notice can also make themselves known to BAIC in this way.

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Registration for the first session of the "Learn to Swim" program will take place at Queen's College pool on Saturday, March 5th, 2011 from 9:00am to 11:00am

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## Arawak Port Development – Request for Proposal for the Terminal Management and Development of the Arawak Port Bulk Terminal

Invitation to qualified Bahamian firms to submit proposals for providing bulk material handling equipment and bulk handling services

Arawak Port Development was established in 2010 pursuant to a MOU between the Bahamas Government and Arawak Port Development Ltd and for the purpose of developing Arawak Cay into an international port facility serving the break bulk cargo, bulk materials and containerized freight needs in New Providence. The port development and operating agreement with the Government of The Bahamas provides Arawak Port Development with exclusive rights to operate the port in New Providence for twenty years and provides Arawak Port Development with a 45 year lease for the port property on Arawak Cay.

In July 2010 Port construction began and is expected to conclude by December 2011. The bulk material terminal operations are presently managed on temporary facilities. The port plan describes the area designated for the port bulk terminal, comprising approximately 8 acres (A copy of the Bulk Terminal plot may be obtained from the APD Ltd office). Arawak Port Development requires that bulk material construction begin on or before April 15, 2011 and is completed by December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2011.

The Terminal Operator will be expected to operate and invest in the bulk terminal facility. On the basis of a mutually agreed upon formula, the Terminal Operator is permitted to charge a bulk material handling fee which will serve to compensate the Terminal Operator for any investments made in the facility and address all operating expenses. Arawak Port Development will establish the rules and regulations on how to operate the bulk terminal. The Terminal Operator will be required to conform to these requirements in order to remain in good standing with Arawak Port Development. Should the Terminal Operator fail to meet the minimum operating requirements and the agreement be terminated for cause, Arawak Port Development will have the right to acquire all investments made by the Terminal Operator. Among other equipment and facilities, the Terminal Operator will be required to invest in a conveyor system which will connect the terminal berth to the terminal's customer loading area. The Terminal Operator will also be required to invest in a bulk material containment facility and cement and bitumen storage facilities.

Terminal Operators interested in the providing the bulk material handling services in the Arawak Port are invited to submit a proposal to include but not be limited to the following:

1. Business structure; sole entity or a consortium of partners. Please explain and provide background of consortium.
2. Evidence that the applicant is licensed to provide bulk material handling services in the Bahamas.
3. Summary of current and historic experience in the bulk materials handling in the Bahamas.
4. The Arawak Port will not have exclusive rights to receive and handle bulk materials shipped to New Providence. What volume of bulk material is the applicant prepared to guarantee despite continued competition with other bulk terminals in New Providence, most notably Clifton Pier.
5. The strategy on how independence and service level is guaranteed for all different users whom will import and export via the terminal.
6. Evidence from any one or more of Royal Bank of Canada, First Caribbean, Bank of The Bahamas, Royal Fidelity, Scotiabank or other recognized firm, indicating the applicant's ability to invest a minimum of \$7 million on demand.

Procedure:

Upon receipt and satisfactory analysis of the provided qualification criteria, Arawak Port Development will provide the successful applicant(s) with detailed construction requirements, the terms of reference for the use of the temporary facility and the Terminal License agreement for the bulk terminal area. Shortlisted companies will be invited to present their proposal on or before March 18th, 2011.

You are requested to hand deliver your submission to the office of Arawak Port Development Ltd. Submissions must be received by March 11th, 2011.

Arawak Port Development  
House of Mosko's Building  
Corner of Bay & Victoria Street.

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### EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The Bank of The Bahamas International, the institution of first choice in the provision of financial services, seeks to identify suitable candidates for the position of:

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- Be able to calculate, analyze and comment on the various liquidity and credit ratio implications, to facilitate ongoing strategy adjustments;
- Assesses and analyze impact of forex risk and preparation of regulatory reports for foreign exchange operations;
- Undertakes high level economic assessment, scenario and stress testing to facilitate ongoing risk management and regulatory reporting;
- Assesses the Bank's ability to respond to varying economic conditions and scenarios by performing credit, capital adequacy, interest rate and liquidity stress testing; and
- Assists in monitoring and analyzing the current liquidity position through GAP analysis reporting.

#### Job Requirements:

- Bachelors Degree in Accounting, Finance, or Business Management.
- 5 years supervisory/management experience.
- Specific knowledge of risk management processes especially management of liquidity risk.
- Broad knowledge of treasury practices and procedures.
- Good computational skills.
- Strong oral and written communication skills.
- Proficient in Microsoft Office.
- Must be a team player.
- MBA would be advantageous, but not essential.

**Benefits include:** Competitive salary and benefits package, commensurate with work experience and qualifications. Interested persons should apply no later than **March 7, 2011** to:

**Email: [hr.apply@bankbahamas.com](mailto:hr.apply@bankbahamas.com)**  
**or fax to: 242-323-2637**

BUSINESS

FROM page 1B

# BORCO owner to invest \$250m

terminal storage tank expansion projects.”

Noting that “in response to customer demand, BORCO is prepared to undertake a significant expansion project, which we expect will be phased in over the next two to three years”, Buckeye Partners added in its filing: “BORCO continues to discuss with its existing customers and potential new customers their storage and service requirements as we refine our expansion plans.

“New tankage is expected to be constructed with the flexibility to store fuel oil, clean petroleum products or crude oil. We expect an expansion plan, which phases in capacity additions, to be finalised in the near future. In addition, the facility site also has additional unused land available for future expansions, with room to more than double the existing storage capacity if all the expansion opportunities are utilised.”

Buckeye Partners said

BORCO had three deep-water jetties, one of which was undergoing an existing refurbishment programme expected to conclude in the 2011 second half.

“The three jetties will provide six deep-water berths that serve as the access points to the storage facilities, and are capable of handling vessels over a range of deadweight tonnage (“DWT), from a minimum of 20,000 DWT to a maximum of 500,000 DWT, including both very large crude carriers and ultra large crude carriers,” Buckeye

Partners said.

“BORCO’s terminal facility also includes an inland dock with an approximately 650-foot berth located in Freeport Harbour. BORCO currently leases the inland dock from the Freeport Harbour Company under a long-term agreement through 2067.

“The inland dock is in the process of being upgraded, which will include the build-out of a new berth. Upon completion, the inland dock will include two berths capable of handling Panamax vessels of up to 80,000

DWT. We expect completion of the upgrade of the inland dock to occur in 2011. Upon completion of the jetty refurbishment and inland dock renovation projects, BORCO will have a total of eight berths.”

Buckeye Partners noted that BORCO’s business was exposed to political risk, because a “substantial portion of BORCO’s revenues” were derived from petroleum products exported by Venezuela’s state-owned oil company, PDVSA. The antagonism between Washington and the Chavez

administration is well known.

Another risk was BORCO’s dependency on a small number of major clients for the bulk of its revenues.

“Storage revenue represented approximately 80 per cent of BORCO’s total revenue for the nine months ended September 30, 2010,” Buckeye Partners disclosed.

“Currently, BORCO has a limited number of long-term storage customers, consisting of oil majors, energy companies, physical traders and one national oil company. For the nine months ended September 30, 2010, approximately 30 per cent and 69 per cent of storage revenue was derived from the top one and the top three customers, respectively.....

“If any of BORCO’s customers, in particular its top three customers, significantly reduces its contracted storage with BORCO, and if BORCO is unable to find other storage customers on terms substantially similar to the terms under BORCO’s existing storage contracts, our business, results of operations and cash flow could be adversely affected.”

Assessing the facility it had acquired, Buckeye Partners added: “BORCO’s terminal facility includes 80 aboveground storage tanks ranging in capacity from 5,000 to 500,000 barrels, with a total installed capacity of approximately 21.6 million barrels. Presently, 66 of the 80 tanks are available to serve third parties, as 14 of the tanks (representing only 0.2 million barrels) are dedicated for BORCO’s own use. Of the 66 tanks available to serve third parties, 10 are currently used for the storage of crude oil, 43 for the storage of fuel oil and 13 for the storage of clean petroleum products, such as gasoline, diesel and certain other distillates. Six of the tanks currently used for crude oil can be converted between crude oil service and fuel oil service.”

**NOTICE**

**VANTAGE POINT INC.**

In Voluntary Liquidation

Notice is hereby given that in accordance with Section 138(4) of the International Business Companies Act, 2000, **VANTAGE POINT INC.** is in dissolution as of **February 22, 2011.**

International Liquidator Services Inc. situated at 3rd Floor Withfield Tower, 4792 Coney Drive, Belize City, Belize is the Liquidator.

LIQUIDATOR

**NOTICE**

**LOLA LECHAT INC.**

In Voluntary Liquidation

Notice is hereby given that in accordance with Section 138(4) of the International Business Companies Act, 2000, **LOLA LECHAT INC.** is in dissolution as of **February 28, 2011.**

International Liquidator Services Inc. situated at 3rd Floor Withfield Tower, 4792 Coney Drive, Belize City, Belize is the Liquidator.

LIQUIDATOR

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 Location: Lyford Cay Price: \$550,000 Size: 170 x 150 Sq ft: 20,000 plus



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Contact: Brian Austin 323-0890 (w) or 376-5400 (c) [baustin@RTBahamas.com](mailto:baustin@RTBahamas.com)  
[www.RTBahamas.com](http://www.RTBahamas.com)

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**M & E Limited**



Machinery & Energy Limited Caterpillar dealer in the Bahamas are seeking a candidate to work as a **Parts Regional Manager**, at our Nassau Office.

The Candidate should have the following requirements:

- Have 7-10 years experience with the Caterpillar or similar Product Line, have worked in a Caterpillar dealership or a similar Organization;
- Have training in Ordering and Receiving Parts Importation;
- Be able to Audit Parts Inventory; Cyclic Count Procedure;
- Degree from an accredited University would be an asset;
- Must be able to manager and motivate staff in the Parts Department;
- Must have experience in process statistical control in planning, programming and control of Caterpillar industrial parts and Warehouse production process;
- Able to manage major components interchange process; Hoses assembling process.

This candidate is required to be a professional who thrives on the challenge of Managing Parts Inventory and all other operational procedures within the Parts Warehouse.

Send complete resume with education and work experience to M & E Limited, P. O. Box N-3238, Nassau Bahamas, Attention: Office Administrator, or email [me@me-ltd.com](mailto:me@me-ltd.com).

**NOTE: Only persons being interviewed for this position will be contacted.**

**Bahamas National Pride Association**

Environmental Neighborhood Council Forum

The purpose of this forum was to formulate core groups to act as the advisory boards for the neighborhoods and conduct initial surveys, documenting and evaluating all environmental health problems and concerns. The councils will outline goals, projects and strategies to bring into focus the neighborhood plan, monitoring and evaluating the progress of the plan on a regular basis, to ensure success for the preservation and improvement of the neighborhood.



A large amount of neighborhood representatives along with community supporters attended the forum.

## BUSINESS

FROM page 1B

# FirstCaribbean market cap falls almost \$600 million

31, 2010, disclosed that FirstCaribbean's market capitalisation hit \$1.17 billion at that date, a decline of some 33.5 per cent from the pre-recession high of \$1.761 billion achieved at year-end 2007.

FirstCaribbean's market capitalisation decline is important given the heavy weighting it carries on the Bahamas International Securities Exchange (BISX), where it is the largest listed stock, accounting for more than one-third of the total market worth.

The almost-\$600 million decline in the bank's market capitalisation has been sparked, of course, by the decline in FirstCaribbean's share price from a \$14.65 high at year-end 2007 to \$9.74 at October 31, 2010. That share price decline also mirrors the fall in the bank's net income, from a high of \$109.86 million or \$0.91 in earnings per share (EPS) at the 2007 pre-recession peak, to \$61.863 million and \$0.515 EPS for 2010.

Writing in FirstCaribbean's annual report, executive chairman, Michael Mansoor, pledged that the bank would support borrowing clients through their current problems in the belief that delinquent loans would eventually come good in the long-term.

"We have found that balance sheet growth has been difficult, and we have also had to increase the level of provisioning," Mr Mansoor wrote. "We have, however, taken the position that we will support our clientele through the current difficulties as long as we believe that their responses to the reduction in business volumes are likely to result in long-term positive outcomes..... We fully expect that these customers will in

time improve their results and prospects, and be the source of meaningful growth in our own results."

Mr Mansoor added that FirstCaribbean expected to convert investments in new products, technology and systems "into sustainable sources of profitability in short order".

Marie Rodland-Allen, FirstCaribbean International Bank (Bahamas) managing director, noting that the bank's net income slipped by \$16.8 million or 21 per cent in 2010, compared to 2009 figures, blamed this on the overall economic environment coupled with low interest rates, which impacted net interest income and interest margins.

## Operating

"Higher operating expenses were driven by increases in management fee charges which, if excluded, would reflect prudent cost management," Mrs Rodland-Allen said. "Gains on the sale of investment securities and increases in foreign exchange earnings partially mitigated the declines experienced as a result of this challenging economic environment."

Net interest income dropped by 9.7 per cent, from \$142.893 million to \$129.035 million, year-over-year between 2010 and 2009, the annual report revealed, although hedging gains and a reduction in 'mark-to-market' losses saw other operating income rise by \$14.8

million or 58 per cent.

FirstCaribbean was not immune from the deteriorating credit/asset quality that afflicted the Bahamian commercial banking industry throughout 2010, as commercial, household and consumer borrowers all experienced difficulty in servicing existing loans due to unemployment and reduced incomes.

Loan loss expenses rose year-over-year by \$11.7 million or 63.1 per cent to \$30.204 million, compared to \$18.519 million in 2009. And impaired loans grew by 17.7 per cent or \$57.5 million during the 12 months to October 31, 2010.

"Net loans and advances to customers were \$2.42 billion compared to \$2.54 billion in the prior year," FirstCaribbean said in its annual report. "Business and government, which account for 43 per cent of the portfolio, decreased \$72.6 million or 6.3 per cent year-over-year. Mortgage and personal loans also declined by \$19.2 million and \$25.8 million, respectively.

"Productive loans were \$2.13 billion, down \$175.1 million or 7.6 per cent from the prior year. This decrease primarily reflects a combination of paydowns and repayments of loans, and a shift of loans from productive to non-productive (impaired) classifications, which increased by \$57.5 million or 17.7 per cent."

Higher management fees paid to FirstCaribbean's parent resulted in operating expenses growing by \$6 mil-

lion or 8.5 per cent year-over-year, which drove the Bahamian subsidiary's efficiency ratio (operating expenses as a percentage of gross revenue) to 45.6 per cent, compared to 42.2 per cent the year before.

FirstCaribbean's total assets at year-end were \$3.6 billion, a decrease of \$163.7 million or 4.3 per cent year-over-year, due largely to declines in cash balances

and the loan portfolio. Liabilities fell by \$187.3 million or 6.1 per cent, mainly because of the fall in customer deposits, which dropped by \$218.6 million or 7.3 per cent.

## Strong

FirstCaribbean's capital ratios, though, remained strong and above regulatory

requirements, standing at 20.89 per cent and 21.47 per cent for Tier I and Tier II respectively, compared to 18.85 per cent and 19.46 per cent the year before.

The bank's return on equity dropped to 11.6 per cent in its 2010 financial year, compared to 16.7 per cent in 2009, while the net interest margin dropped from 3.6 per cent to 3.5 per cent.

FirstCaribbean's price to earnings multiple as 18.9 at year-end 2010, compared to 15.1 the year before, while the dividend yield dropped from 3.5 per cent to 3.2 per cent. The dividend payout ratio rose year-over-year from 54 per cent to 60 per cent.



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**Key job functions and responsibilities include:**

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- Analysis and reconciliations of financial data in Excel.
- Preparation of financial models.
- Preparation of PowerPoint presentations in accordance with KPMG guidelines.
- Preparation of charts, graphs and tables in Excel in accordance with KPMG guidelines.
- Maintaining client transaction and marketing databases.
- Maintaining and developing market research and industry research databases.
- Providing support to associates, managers, and partners on assignments.

**The Junior Associate is expected to have the following qualifications and attributes:**

- A Bachelor's degree in accounting, finance or economics.
- 1-2 years work experience in the financial services sector is preferable.
- Strong writing and Excel financial modeling skills are essential.
- Strong PowerPoint and Word skills are important.
- Enrollment in a professional qualification program such as CBV, CFO or CFA is desirable.
- Highly motivated with the ability to handle a demanding business environment.

KPMG offers competitive salaries and employee benefits including a medical and pension plan.

Applicants should submit a cover letter, resume, a copy of their transcripts, and a copy of their professional certification by **Friday, March 11, 2011** to: Human Resources Manager, KPMG, P.O. Box N123, Nassau, Bahamas or [hr@bahamas.kpmg.com.bs](mailto:hr@bahamas.kpmg.com.bs)

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## THE PUBLIC HOSPITALS AUTHORITY MATERIALS MANAGEMENT DIRECTORATE

### PUBLIC NOTICE

#### TENDER FOR THE SUPPLY OF LINEN / TEXTILE, CLEANING, AND STATIONARY SUPPLIES

Tenders are invited from qualified Contractors for the supply of **Linen/Textile, Cleaning and Stationary Supplies** for the Public Hospitals Authority Institutions and Agencies for a period of one (1) year.

Tender documents, which include instructions to Tenderers, specifications and other relevant information, can be collected **9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday** at the Materials Management Directorate, Princess Margaret Hospital's compound, Shirley Street.

A Tender must be submitted in duplicate in a sealed envelope or packaged identified as "**Linen/Textile, Cleaning, and/ or Stationary Supplies**" and addressed to:

**The Chairman  
Tenders Committee  
Public Hospitals Authority  
3<sup>rd</sup> & West Terraces  
Centerville  
P.O. Box N-8200  
Nassau, Bahamas**

All Tenders must be received at the above address by 5:00 p.m. on **4<sup>TH</sup> April 2011.**

A copy of a valid business license and a certificate of up to date National Insurance Contributions should accompany all proposal.

*The Public Hospitals Authority reserves the right to reject any or all Tender(s).*

## SECURITIES COMMISSION OF THE BAHAMAS

### PUBLIC NOTICE

No. 5 of 2011

28 February, 2011

#### SUSPENSION OF TRADING IN SHARES OF AML FOODS LIMITED

This **NOTICE** is issued by the Securities Commission of The Bahamas (the Commission) in relation to its Notice issued pursuant to section 44 of the Securities Industry Act, 1999 on 22 February 2011, suspending trading in AML Foods Limited. The Commission has responsibility for the licensing, regulation and supervision of the securities and investment fund industries of The Bahamas pursuant to the Securities Industry Act, 1999, the Investment Funds Act, 2003 and the Financial and Corporate Service Providers Act, 2000. Additionally, the Commission is mandated inter alia to formulate principles to regulate and govern investment funds and securities and capital markets, and to create and promote conditions to ensure the orderly growth and development of the capital markets.

The Commission hereby advises that the suspension placed on the trading in shares of AML Foods Limited, with effect from 22 February 2011, has been lifted effective 28 February 2011.

Any questions regarding this Notice should be directed to:

**The Secretary of the Commission,**  
Securities Commission of The Bahamas  
3rd Floor, Charlotte House  
Shirley & Charlotte Streets  
P.O. Box N-8347  
Nassau, Bahamas  
Tel: (242) 397-4100  
Fax: (242) 356-7330  
Email: [info@scb.gov.bs](mailto:info@scb.gov.bs)  
Website: [www.scb.gov.bs](http://www.scb.gov.bs)

BUSINESS

# Retailer's 44,000 sq ft expansion to 'break ground within 35-40 days'

FROM page 1B

Charles site, which will be another retail complex in front of Robin Hood's new store.

A Scotiabank branch and Sbarro's restaurant are already confirmed, he added, and a fine dining restaurant and other retail formats are actively being sought.

"Hopefully, in the next 35-40 days we will start breaking ground," Mr Schaefer told Tribune Business of the planned expansion. He added that customer count and revenues "continue to build" at Robin Hood's Prince Charles Drive outlet, which opened last month, with in-store concessions and tenants starting to grow.

A 'Cash 4 Gold' store had

already opened within the Robin Hood outlet, and Mr Schaefer said a music store and restaurant were set to open within two and four weeks respectively.

"We're within the margins of error that are typically looked at in a new store," the Robin Hood president said, when asked for details on customer count and revenues.

Meanwhile, the company's first outlet, at Tonique Williams-Darling Highway, was continuing to perform "very nicely".

"Customer count has been very strong for us," Mr Schaefer said. "We're look-

ing now at revamping the AC, appliances and electronics sections. We may even go back into furniture again. We're looking at upscaling the store, and are going to renovate."

## Showcase

The Ream air conditioning brand was set to host a showcase during the third week of March, and the Robin Hood president told Tribune Business: "We're going to push very hard on residential and commercial AC sales."

"That's a big piece of busi-

ness. AC, for us, is a multi-million dollar business."

Asked by this newspaper whether he detected signs of economic improvement, Mr Schaefer replied: "I wouldn't say that I see it yet. Certainly, our sales have picked up over the last couple of weeks nicely at both stores, so we're looking forward to gradual improvement."

"I don't think we will be shooting for the stars right away, but things will gradually improve."

"We are in a different world now."

Mr Schaefer said his immediate focus would be

"continually improving the product we offer now". Asked about plans he previously unveiled to Tribune Business, which called for further Robin Hood stores in New Providence, Grand Bahama and Abaco, he indicated these were on the backburner compared to the focus on his existing business.

"We just want to solidify the position we have with the two stores we have now, and if opportunities present themselves we will consider them," Mr Schaefer said of possible expansion.

## FOR SALE BY OWNER



### COMMERCIAL BUILDING

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# Resort moving to boost staff

FROM page 1B

Game Club may still benefit from the fact that it is "the closest (Bahamian) island to the United States", drawing fuel-conscious boaters who

may have ventured further afield to their marina slips.

The Bimini Big Game Club re-opened last year after shutting down in late 2008: a significant loss to Bimini's economy.

It is now a Guy Harvey

Outpost Resort and Marina, having been bought by the company belonging to artist/conservationist/businessman, Guy Harvey, who was in Nassau yesterday to play a part in promoting the shark preservation campaign that was launched by the Bahamas National Trust last year.

Some \$3.5 million was invested in new guestrooms, marina slips, the Bimini Big Game Bar & Grill and an Outfitter Shop selling Guy Harvey sportswear.

"We had already missed most of the season by the time we opened last year, and things were pretty tough - especially in the fall. But we have a fair amount of groups we will be hosting this year, which is very exciting," said Mr Pollock.

Among those are representatives of Hatteras, who will meet at the legendary fishing resort next week, and another big crowd is expected for the club's first major fishing tournament since its relaunch, which will take place in May.

The newly-launched "dive portion" of the 51-room resort's offering is anticipated to bring in more visitors by plane, whereas the majority of the club's present clientele are coming by boat to stay in the marina.

The resort has invested in a 60-foot glass bottom boat and brought on board Neal Watson, a veteran of the Bimini dive scene, to take charge of the dive operation.

"That should bring in more business," said Mr Pollock.

Bimini Big Game Club currently has 28 people on staff, and the general manager said that 40 would likely be required once the operation shifts into high gear in peak season. Interviews are taking place already.

As to whether there may be any further investment/expansion at the property in the near future, Mr Pollock said there have been "discussions" about this, but nothing more at this stage.

The general manager said the company expects business to slowly grow at the resort as it regains its once legendary reputation in the south Florida fishing/boating community.

"This is a very famous resort which was allowed to be run down for many, many years, and then closed. You can't just bring that back right away."

"There's a lot of excitement, a lot of families who had come here for generations are coming back, but it takes a while," he added.

**Dr. Renee V. Lockhart**



## Seahorse

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 Phone: (242) 552-5540  
 Email: drreneelockhart@hotmail.com

COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS 1999

IN THE SUPREME COURT No. 3

Equity Side

IN THE MATTER OF ALL THAT piece parcel or lot of land known as Lot number Nine (9) in Block Number Twenty (20) in the Subdivision called and known as "Coconut Grove" and situate in the Southern District of the Island of New Providence one of the Islands of the Commonwealth of the Bahamas.

AND

IN THE MATTER OF The Quieting Titles Act, 1959

AND

IN THE MATTER OF The Petition of Frederica Stuart

**NOTICE**

The Petition of FREDERICA STUART of the Southern district of the Island of New Providence one of the Islands of the Commonwealth of the Bahamas in respect of:

ALL THAT piece parcel or lot of land being Lot Number Nine (9) in Block Twenty (20) on the plan or lots of the Subdivision called and known as "Coconut Grove" and situate in the Southern District of the Island of New Providence aforesaid and is numbered One Hundred and Sixty-Three (163) which said piece parcel or lot of land is bounded on the North by Lot Number Eight (8) in Block Number Twenty (20) of the said plan and running thereon One Hundred and Five (105) Feet on the East by Lot Number Nine (9) in Block Number Twenty (20) of the said plan and running thereon Fifty (50) Feet on the south by Lot Number Ten (10) in Block number Twenty (20) of the said plan and running thereon One Hundred and Five (105) Feet on the West by a private road in the said subdivision known as "Third Street" and running thereon Fifty (50) Feet.

FREDERICA STUART claims to be the owner of the fee simple estate in possession of the lot of land hereinbefore described free from encumbrances.

AND the Petitioner has made application to the Supreme Court of the said Commonwealth of The Bahamas under Section 3 of The Quieting Titles Act, 1959 to have her title to the said parcel of land investigated and the nature and extent thereof determined and declared in a Certificate of Title to be granted in accordance with the provisions of the said Act.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that any person having dower of right to Dower of an Adverse Claim or a claim not recognized in the Petition shall on or before the expiration of 15th day of April, A.D., 2011 file in the Supreme Court and serve on the Petitioner or the undersigned a Statement of his claim in the prescribed form verified by an affidavit to be filed therewith. Failure of any such person to file and serve a Statement of his claim on or before the 15th day of April, A. D. 2011 will operate as a bar of such claim.

Copies of the plan may be inspected at:-

1. The Registry of the Supreme Court.
2. Department of Lands and Surveys.
3. The Chambers of Turnquest & Co. Counsel & Attorneys-At-Law, Attorneys for the Petitioner.

Dated the 28th day of February, A.D. 2011

TURNQUEST & CO  
 Chambers  
 94 Nassau Street  
 Nassau, Bahamas

Attorneys for the Petitioner

**EFG Bank & Trust (Bahamas) Ltd**

## Client Relationship Officer Vice President

**About EFG International**  
 EFG International is a global private banking group, headquartered in Switzerland offering private banking and asset management services, EFG International's group of private banking businesses currently operate in 60 locations in over 30 countries, with approx. 2,940 employees.

**EFG Bank & Trust (Bahamas) Ltd** continues to grow as evidenced by its two premises, one in the heart of Downtown and one at Lyford Cay. EFG Bahamas has over 50 experienced professionals and offers a full range of solutions for wealthy clients around the globe. EFG's unique corporate culture attracts the most entrepreneurial and most experienced professionals in the industry. To learn more, please visit [www.efginternational.com](http://www.efginternational.com)

We are looking for seasoned financial professionals with at least 10 years of sales and marketing experience in providing financial solutions to high net worth clients and companies. The candidates must possess a solid knowledge of investments, banking and trust services. The ability to service and grow your own client book is extremely important. EFG provides a unique and uninhibited global marketing opportunity, an open architecture platform and multiple booking centers.

The successful candidates must have a university degree or equivalent and possess or be enrolled in the Series 7, CSC, or UK equivalent. The candidates must have the required qualifications and accreditations to be registered with The Bahamas Securities Commission. The flexibility to go on frequent business development trips and work within very tight deadlines is also a necessity. Fluency in any other language would be an asset.

EFG offers an attractive compensation plan that includes salary, benefits and a bonus structure directly related to profitability. Salary will be determined by experience and qualifications.

Interested and qualified professionals should submit applications by **15<sup>th</sup> March 2010** to:

**EFG Bank & Trust (Bahamas) Ltd**  
 Human Resources  
 Centre of Commerce, 2nd Floor  
 1 Bay Street  
 P.O. Box SS-6289  
 Nassau, The Bahamas  
 Fax (242)502-5487

# 'Nailed to the wall' by \$4.2bn National Debt

## FROM page 1B

political parties to "figure out how to cut spending" and avoid the imposition of ever-increasing tax rates.

Rick Lowe, a leading executive with the Nassau Institute economic think-tank, told Tribune Business in the aftermath of the mid-year Budget that his main concern was for future Bahamian generations, who he feared would be crippled with ever-increasing debt servicing payments, higher taxes and devalued savings as a result of the expanding national debt and persistent fiscal deficits.

Advocating public spending cuts to bring the Government's finances back into line, given that revenue growth would be limited due to the likely "anaemic" nature of overall Bahamian economic growth in the short-medium term, Mr Lowe said this nation also needed to "sustain" tax rates at lower levels, not increase them.

"My concern is the future generations. Only the citizens can pay for it. The Government can print money, borrow and say all these things," Mr Lowe said of the Bahamas' fiscal situation.

"Future generations will have to pay the piper, and that's all of us. We're going to have to pay higher taxes, and will possibly have a devalued currency if things don't turn around pretty quickly."

Describing the National Debt's growth rate and persistent fiscal deficits as "unsustainable", Mr Lowe added: "The bureaucracy likes to talk about sustainability, except where taxes are concerned. We should sustain taxes at a lower level, not increase them."

He again reiterated his

scepticism that the Ingraham administration would realise a \$200 million increase in recurrent tax revenues during the 2010-2011 fiscal year, stripping out the \$120 million in one-off revenue injections from the Bahamas Oil Refining Company (BORCO) sale, the Baha Mar deal and the possible \$210 million-plus from the Bahamas Telecommunications Company's (BTC) sale.

Noting the Prime Minister's admission that revenues for the July 1-December 31 2010/9 period were \$84.3 million behind forecasts, Mr Lowe told Tribune Business: "They have to be. It was a foregone conclusion where they threw out those numbers."

"They were anticipating a turnaround sooner than it was, and we knew they were not going to make it."

"We were not making it in the private sector, so why are they [the Government] any different?"

Asked how important it was for the Government to cut wastage and rein in its \$1.554 billion recurrent spending, Mr Lowe replied: "It's critical that they figure out how to deal with it."

"The difficulty I see is that an election is coming, people are hurting, and they've encouraged people all their lives to believe: 'Don't worry, the Government will take care of you'."

"Unfortunately, the chickens are coming home to roost, and it doesn't matter who the Government is, they have to deal with it."

"It's very important they figure out how to cut expenditure, because growth is still going to be anaemic."

"You can't keep on growing the debt, which grows the payments for interest, and that alone is a major

expense." Interest payments on the Bahamian national debt totalled \$98.135 million during the 2010-2011 fiscal year's first half, coming in some \$6.046 million below the \$104.182 million forecast.

Still, it represented the single most expensive line item in the Budget, and is expected to hit \$208.363 million during the 2010-2011 fiscal full year, remaining the single most expensive line item.

## Redemptions

Meanwhile, redemptions of debt principal totalled \$27.035 million during the 2010-2011 Budget half-year, coming in some \$10.347 million below forecasted payments of \$37.383 million. For the full year, debt principal redemption is set to total \$74.766 million, taking total payments associated with the National Debt to more than \$283 million.

Mr Lowe contrasted the Government's spending approach to that of the Bahamian private sector, where numerous companies were having to "cut expenditure here, cut expenditure there, and we're still finding it difficult to tread water".

And he pointed out that government spending was always going to increase as a result of inflation.

"If you change the tax system today, they're only going to spend more revenues," Mr Lowe said of the Government. "Future generations are going to be nailed to the wall, and retirement savings will probably be reduced as a result of inflation, so when you think you've got a handle on it, going forward your knees are cut out from under you."

"Everything keeps going

up, and they've got to get serious about cutting some things or privatising things they can outsource - marriage licences, Business Licences, anything they can get out of. Should

they also be charging more realistic fees on day-to-day government services?"

Mr Lowe questioned whether both political parties were serious about reducing

public spending and the size of government, adding: "They don't come clean on what they think is the way forward, other than more debt."



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- Assisting primarily in Corporate Finance and Transaction Services engagements.
- Preparing financial and factual reports to assist with the decision making process.
- Building and evaluating financial models.
- Analyzing financial statements and other financial data.
- Collecting research data for financial and valuation models.
- Performance of client due diligence.
- Preparation of PowerPoint presentations in accordance with KPMG guidelines.
- Preparation of charts, graphs and tables in Excel in accordance with KPMG guidelines.
- Preparation of financial models.
- Maintaining client transaction and marketing databases.
- Maintaining and developing market research and industry research databases.
- Maintaining client files in accordance with KPMG guidelines.
- Compiling and maintaining electronic data rooms.
- Providing support to managers, directors, and partners on assignments.

**The Associate is expected to have the following qualifications and attributes:**

- A Bachelor's degree in accounting, finance or economics.
- 2-3 years work experience in the financial services sector.
- A corporate finance or restructuring background.
- Strong ability to analyze and solve problems, leveraging the contribution of others and taking responsibility for outcomes.
- Strong writing and Excel financial modeling skills are essential.
- Strong PowerPoint, Word and presentation skills are important.
- Enrollment in a professional qualification program such as CBV, CFG or CFA is desirable.
- Highly motivated with the ability to handle a demanding business environment.

KPMG offers competitive salaries and employee benefits including a medical and pension plan.

Applicants should submit a cover letter, resume, a copy of their transcripts, and a copy of their professional certification by **Friday, March 11, 2011** to: Human Resources Manager, KPMG, P.O. Box N123, Nassau, Bahamas or [hrbahamas@kpmg.com.bs](mailto:hrbahamas@kpmg.com.bs)

**AUDIT • TAX • ADVISORY**

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## THE PUBLIC HOSPITALS AUTHORITY

MATERIALS MANAGEMENT DIRECTORATE

### PUBLIC NOTICE

#### TENDER FOR THE SUPPLY OF MEDICAL & SURGICAL ITEMS

Tenders are invited from qualified Contractors for the supply of **Medical & Surgical Items** for the Materials Management Directorate, Public Hospitals Authority, for a period of one (1) year.

Tender documents, which include instructions to Tenderers, specifications and other relevant information, can be collected **9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday** at the Materials Management Directorate, Princess Margaret Hospital's compound, Shirley Street.

A Tender must be submitted in duplicate in a sealed envelope or packaged identified as "**TENDER TO SUPPLY MEDICAL & SURGICAL ITEMS FOR THE PUBLIC HOSPITALS AUTHORITY**" and addressed to:

**The Chairman  
Tenders Committee  
Public Hospitals Authority  
Third Terrace West  
Collins Avenue  
P.O. Box N-8200  
Nassau, Bahamas**

All Tenders must be received at the above address by 5:00 p.m. on **4<sup>th</sup> April 2011**.

A copy of a valid business license and a certificate of up to date National Insurance Contributions should accompany all proposal.

*The Public Hospitals Authority reserves the right to reject any or all Tender(s).*



## Director Required

The Antiquities, Monuments and Museum Board of The National Museum of The Bahamas, a statutory body ([www.ammcbahamas.com](http://www.ammcbahamas.com)) established in 1998 is seeking a Director to lead the institution.

The Director will be responsible for the fulfillment of the institution's Mission Statement. This will include:

- Refining and implementing a Strategic Plan jointly developed with the Board
- Financial planning and management, and the tactical generation of revenue.
- General administration and development of the staff.

#### Requirements:

- Master's Degree or equivalent in Business Administration.
- 5-7 years' experience in Corporate Management.
- Experience in personnel management, financial management and fundraising.
- Interest in Heritage Studies would be an asset

#### Skills:

- Excellent verbal, written, and people skills.
- Highly organized self-starter.

#### Salary:

- Commensurate with experience

Applications should be delivered to the:

Chairman  
Antiquities, Monuments and Museum Corporation  
P.O.Box EE-15082  
Shirley Street & Collins Avenue  
Nassau Bahamas.

Or Fax (242) 326-2568

and should be received at the office on or before 1 April 2011. Telephone contacts are:  
(242-326-2566)  
(242-323-1928)

BUSINESS

# Jobs breaks from medical leave to unveil the iPad 2

**JORDAN ROBERTSON,**  
AP Technology Writers  
**RACHEL METZ,**  
AP Technology Writers  
**SAN FRANCISCO**

Apple CEO Steve Jobs briefly emerged from his medical leave and walked on stage to a standing ovation Wednesday to unveil the second generation of the popular iPad. It comes with two cameras and will go on sale March 11 in the U.S.

Jobs looked frail as he appeared in his signature black mock turtleneck, blue jeans and wire-rimmed glasses.

"We've been working on this product for a while, and I just didn't want to miss today," Jobs told an audience that included bloggers and Apple enthusiasts. "Thank you for having me."

The next-generation tablet computer is faster than the original iPad's. As expected, it comes with two cameras for taking photos and video chatting. The battery life will be the same as the original — about 10 hours of usage or a month on standby.

The iPad 2 is also thinner — 8.8 millimeters, or about a third of an inch, instead of the current 13.4 millimeters.

"The new iPad 2 is actually thinner than your iPhone 4," Jobs said.

The original iPad, which went on sale last April, was

more popular than analysts anticipated. Apple sold 15 million in nine months.

The iPad was initially used for checking e-mail, surfing the Web and watching online video. But as the number of software applications — or "apps" — designed just for iPad grew, the tablet made itself at home in offices, shops, restaurants and countless other settings. The rush for iPads sparked dozens of copycat touch-screen devices, but so far, none has broken into the mainstream consciousness the way the iPad has. In February, Motorola Mobility Inc.'s Xoom, the most promising challenger so far, went on sale. It runs a new version of Google Inc.'s Android software that was designed for tablets, not smart phones.

The new iPad will make it even harder for rivals to compete.

"Overall, the big message today is that Apple is offering a version 2 device while everyone else is still attempting to ship their first version 1 devices," said Yankee Group analyst Carl Howe.

He said the iPad 2's improvements are modest over the first one, but it will nonetheless stand out because there are more apps available.

Sarah Rotman Eps, a Forrester Research analyst, said iPads should make up at least

20 million of the 24.1 million tablet computers she expects people in the U.S. to buy this year.

Tablet computers existed long before the iPad, but it took Apple to build a device that made sense to consumers. Apple simplified the software, packed it in sleek, shiny hardware and sold it to a generation of gadget lovers who, most likely, already have a smart phone and a laptop that serve most of the same functions.

The new iPads will cost the same as the originals — \$499 to \$829, depending on storage space and whether or not they can connect to the Internet over a cellular network. Apple said there will be black and white versions, despite its problems getting the promised white iPhone 4 models to market. The first iPad came only in black. In the U.S., the iPad 2 will work on AT&T Inc. and Verizon Wireless.

A reporter who used a white iPad 2 immediately after the announcement found it noticeably thinner and more curvy. YouTube video loaded quickly using AT&T's data service, and "Toy Story 3" played smoothly. Given its size, the iPad 2 appeared impractical for taking lots of photos, but both cameras will help with video chats — the front one to show the caller, and the back one to show what the caller is seeing.

Jobs also introduced a new accessory for the iPad that will let people connect the tablet to high-definition televisions, so they can watch videos up to 1080p in resolution on the bigger screen. The \$39 part plugs into the iPad's charging port and connects to an HDMI cable. After its March 11 U.S. launch, the iPad 2 goes on sale March 25 in at least 26 other markets, including Mexico, New Zealand, Spain and other European countries.

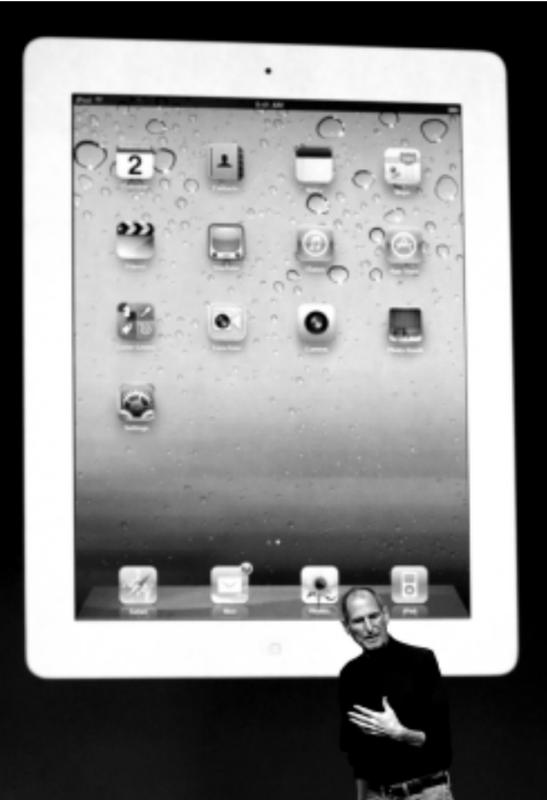
Apple also introduced updates to the software that runs on the iPad, iPhone and iPod Touch devices. The company said the update would work on GSM-type iPhone 3GS and iPhone 4 models; Verizon Wireless' version uses a different technology.

The new system, iOS 4.3, includes support for FaceTime, Apple's video-chat program. The company said people can now hold conversations between iPads, iPhones and Mac computers.

The update turns iPhones and iPads with 3G cellular connections into personal Wi-Fi hotspots, so you can share the connection with computers or other devices — if your wireless carrier allows it. Many charge additional fees for this service. The improved software also makes Apple's Safari Web browser run faster.

Apple also announced new software designed for the iPad, including a \$4.99 version of iMovie for video editing and a \$4.99 version of GarageBand, its music recording and editing software. GarageBand includes instruments that can be played by touching the iPad 2's screen, and it can even sense whether you're tapping quietly or banging on the "keys." People can start a project on their Mac, then work on it later on the iPad 2. Jobs gave an update on the company's iBook business, saying people downloaded more than 100 million books since the e-book business launched last year. He also said Random House became the last major publisher to agree to sell its titles in the iBookstore.

Jobs announced in January that he would take a third leave of absence to focus on his health. In the last decade, Jobs, 56, has survived a rare but curable form of pancreatic cancer and undergone a liver transplant.



(AP Photo/Jeff Chiu)

**IMPROVED SOFTWARE:** Apple Inc. Chairman and CEO Steve Jobs stands under an image of the iPad 2 at an Apple event at the Yerba Buena Center for the Arts Theater in San Francisco, Wednesday, March 2, 2011.

COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS 2009.CLE qui 980  
IN THE SUPREME COURT  
Equity Side

**IN THE MATTER of ALL THAT** tract of land comprising of Nine Hundred and Seventy Eight and Fifty-five Hundredths (978.55) acres being the Archibald Taylor Estate and more commonly known as Pemberton Estates situate approximately 1.5 miles SOUTHWEST of the Settlement of Clarence Town in the vicinity of Galloway Landing on the Island of Long Island one of the Islands of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas.

AND

**IN THE MATTER of the Quieting Titles Act 1959** (Chapter 393 of the 2000 Revised Edition of the Statute Laws of The Bahamas)

AND

**IN THE MATTER of the Petition of**  
Ellison Kenneth Minnis

**NOTICE**

Pursuant to the Order of the Supreme Court filed the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of February, A.D. 2011.

The Petition of **Ellison Kenneth Minnis**, of the Southern District of the Island of New Providence, one of the Islands of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas, in respect of:-

ALL THAT tract of land comprising of Nine Hundred and Seventy Eight and Fifty-five Hundredths (978.55) acres being the Archibald Taylor Estate and more commonly known as Pemberton Estates situate approximately 1.5 miles SOUTHWEST of the Settlement of Clarence Town in the vicinity of Galloway Landing on the Island of Long Island one of the Islands of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas.

Ellison Kenneth Minnis, claims to be the owner of the land the subject of this Petition hereinbefore described in fee simple free from encumbrances.

And the Petitioner has made application to the Supreme Court of the aforesaid Commonwealth of The Bahamas under Section 3 of the Quieting Title Act (Chapter 393), to have her title to the said tract of land investigated and the nature and extent thereof determined and declared in a Certificate of Title to be granted in accordance with the provisions of the said Act.

Notice is hereby given that all persons having Dower or a right of Dower or an Adverse Claim or a Claim not recognized in the Petition shall on or before expiration of Thirty (30) days after the publication of these presents file in the Supreme Court and serve on the Petitioner or the undersigned a statement of his claim in the prescribed form verified by an affidavit to be filed therewith.

Failure of any such person to file and serve a Statement of his claim on or before the expiration of Thirty (30) days after the publication of these presents shall operate as a bar to such claims.

Copies of the filed plan may be inspected at: The Registry of the Supreme Court; The Chambers of ALLEN, ALLEN & CO., the Attorneys for the Petitioner, whose address for service is Allen House, Dowdeswell Street, Nassau, N. P. The Bahamas. Attorneys for the Petitioner Dated this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of February, A.D., 2011.

**ALLEN, ALLEN & CO.,**  
Chambers,  
Allen House,  
Dowdeswell Street,  
Nassau, Bahamas.  
Attorneys for the  
Petitioner

**NOTICE**

NOTICE is hereby given that **LAFRANCE ALCIRA, of P.O. Box EL27478, Spanish Wells, Eleuthera, Bahamas**, is applying to the Minister responsible for Nationality and Citizenship, for registration/naturalization as a citizen of The Bahamas, and that any person who knows any reason why registration/naturalization should not be granted, should send a written and signed statement of the facts within twenty-eight days from the **3<sup>rd</sup> day of March, 2011** to the Minister responsible for nationality and Citizenship, P.O. Box N-7147, Nassau, Bahamas.

Legal Notice

**NOTICE**

INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS COMPANIES ACT  
(No.45 of 2000)

**GOLDEN CHAIN PROPERTIES LIMITED**

In Voluntary liquidation

"Notice is hereby given that in accordance with Section 137 (4) of the International Business Companies Act (No. 45 of 2000) **GOLDEN CHAIN PROPERTIES LIMITED**, is in Dissolution."

The date of commencement of dissolution is the 1st day of March, 2011.

**Luis Maria Pineyrua Pittaluga**  
Zonamerica  
Ruta 8 - km 17.500  
Local 115 A  
C.P. 91.600  
Montevideo - URUGUAY  
Liquidator

**NOTICE**

NOTICE is hereby given that **VADA BIEN-AIME ALCIRA, of P.O. Box EL27478, Spanish Wells, Eleuthera, Bahamas**, is applying to the Minister responsible for Nationality and Citizenship, for registration/naturalization as a citizen of The Bahamas, and that any person who knows any reason why registration/naturalization should not be granted, should send a written and signed statement of the facts within twenty-eight days from the **3<sup>rd</sup> day of March, 2011** to the Minister responsible for nationality and Citizenship, P.O. Box N-7147, Nassau, Bahamas.

**NOTICE**

NOTICE is hereby given that **CLAIRSON CHARLOT of 2ND STREET, THE GROVE, NASSAU, BAHAMAS**, is applying to the Minister responsible for Nationality and Citizenship, for registration/naturalization as a citizen of The Bahamas, and that any person who knows any reason why registration/naturalization should not be granted, should send a written and signed statement of the facts within twenty-eight days from the **24<sup>th</sup> DAY of FEBRUARY 2011** to the Minister responsible for nationality and Citizenship, P.O. Box N-7147, Nassau, Bahamas.

BISX LISTED & TRADED SECURITIES AS OF:											
TUESDAY, 1 MARCH 2011											
BISX ALL SHARE INDEX: CLOSE 1,461.87   CHG -3.19   %CHG -0.22   YTD -37.64   YTD % -2.51											
FINDEX: CLOSE 000.00   YTD 00.00%   YTD 00.00%   2009 -12.31%											
WWW.BISXBHAMAS.COM   TELEPHONE: 242-323-2330   FACSIMILE: 242-323-2320											
52wk-Hi	52wk-Low	Security	Symbol	Previous Close	Today's Close	Change	Daily Vol.	EPS \$	Div \$	P/E	Yield
1.13	0.95	AML Foods Limited		0.04	0.04	0.00		0.123	0.040	8.5	3.85%
10.63	9.05	Bahamas Property Fund		10.63	10.63	0.00		0.013	0.200	817.7	1.88%
5.75	4.40	Bank of Bahamas		4.40	4.40	0.00		0.153	0.100	28.8	2.27%
0.53	0.17	Benchmark		0.18	0.18	0.00		-0.877	0.000	N/M	0.00%
2.84	2.70	Bahamas Waste		2.70	2.70	0.00		0.168	0.090	16.1	3.33%
2.20	1.96	Fidelity Bank		2.17	1.96	-0.21	1,000	0.016	0.040	122.5	2.04%
12.40	9.44	Cable Bahamas		10.21	10.21	0.00		1.050	0.310	9.7	3.04%
2.85	2.35	Colina Holdings		2.40	2.40	0.00		0.781	0.040	3.1	1.67%
7.00	5.80	Commonwealth Bank (S1)		6.80	6.80	0.00	4,500	0.488	0.260	13.9	3.82%
2.86	1.90	Consolidated Water BDRs		2.18	2.11	-0.07		0.111	0.045	19.0	2.13%
2.54	1.40	Doctor's Hospital		1.40	1.40	0.00		0.107	0.110	13.1	7.86%
6.50	5.25	Famguard		5.25	5.25	0.00		0.357	0.240	14.7	4.57%
9.27	6.25	Finco		6.25	6.25	0.00	2,000	0.682	0.000	9.2	0.00%
11.40	8.77	First Caribbean Bank		9.39	9.39	0.00		0.494	0.350	19.0	3.73%
6.00	4.57	Focol (S)		5.48	5.48	0.00	4,500	0.452	0.160	12.1	2.92%
1.00	1.00	Focal Class B Preference		1.00	1.00	0.00		0.000	0.000	N/M	0.00%
5.59	5.50	ICD Utilities		7.40	7.40	0.00		0.012	0.240	616.7	3.24%
10.50	9.80	J. S. Johnson		9.82	9.82	0.00		0.859	0.640	11.4	6.52%
10.00	10.00	Premier Real Estate		10.00	10.00	0.00		1.207	0.200	8.3	2.00%
52wk-Hi	52wk-Low	Security	Symbol	Last Sale	Change	Daily Vol.	Interest	Maturity			
99.46	99.46	Bahamas Note 6.95 (2029)	BAH29	99.46	0.00		6.95%	20 November 2029			
100.00	100.00	Fidelity Bank Note 17 (Series A) +	FBB17	100.00	0.00		7%	19 October 2017			
100.00	100.00	Fidelity Bank Note 22 (Series B) +	FBB22	100.00	0.00		Prime + 1.75%	19 October 2022			
100.00	100.00	Fidelity Bank Note 13 (Series C) +	FBB13	100.00	0.00		7%	30 May 2013			
100.00	100.00	Fidelity Bank Note 15 (Series D) +	FBB15	100.00	0.00		Prime + 1.75%	29 May 2015			
52wk-Hi	52wk-Low	Symbol	Bid \$	Ask \$	Last Price	Daily Vol.	EPS \$	Div \$	P/E	Yield	
10.06	5.01	Bahamas Supermarkets	N/A	N/A	14.00		-2.945	0.000	N/M	0.00%	
0.55	0.40	RND Holdings	0.35	0.40	0.55		0.001	0.000	256.6	0.00%	
CFAL Securities Ltd. (Over-The-Counter Securities)											
41.00	29.00	ABDAB	30.13	31.59	29.00		4.540	0.000	9.03	0.00%	
0.55	0.40	RND Holdings	0.45	0.55	0.55		0.002	0.000	261.90	0.00%	
BISX Listed Mutual Funds											
52wk-Hi	52wk-Low	Fund Name	NAV	YTD%	Last 12 Months %	NAV 3MTH	NAV 6MTH	NAV Date			
1.5122	1.4076	CFAL Bond Fund	1.5179	5.51%	6.90%	1.498004	1.475244	30-Nov-10			
2.9527	2.8300	CFAL MSI Preferred Fund	2.9527	0.18%	1.61%	2.918697	2.910084	11-Feb-11			
1.5837	1.5141	CFAL Money Market Fund	1.5837	0.61%	4.59%	1.564030	1.545071	31-Jan-11			
2.0225	2.8522	Royal Fidelity Bahamas G & I Fund	2.7049	-0.56%	-15.54%			31-Jan-11			
13.6388	13.0484	Royal Fidelity Prime Income Fund	13.4164	0.44%	-0.10%			31-Jan-11			
114.3684	101.6693	CFAL Global Bond Fund	114.3684	9.98%	12.49%	109.392860	107.570619	30-Jun-10			
106.5528	99.4177	CFAL Global Equity Fund	106.5528	4.75%	7.18%	100.779540	105.776543	30-Sep-10			
1.1465	1.0000	FG Financial Preferred Income Fund	1.1465	5.20%	5.20%			31-Dec-10			
1.1185	1.0000	FG Financial Growth Fund	1.1185	4.73%	4.73%			31-Dec-10			
1.1491	1.0000	FG Financial Diversified Fund	1.1491	5.35%	5.35%			31-Dec-10			
9.7485	9.1005	Royal Fidelity Bah Int'l Investment Fund Principal Protected TIGRS, Series 1	9.7950	4.85%	5.45%			30-Nov-10			
11.2361	10.0000	Royal Fidelity Bah Int'l Investment Fund Principal Protected TIGRS, Series 2	10.6417	-1.20%	0.50%			30-Nov-10			
10.1266	9.1708	Royal Fidelity Bah Int'l Investment Fund Principal Protected TIGRS, Series 3	10.1266	1.27%	1.27%			31-Jan-11			
8.4510	4.8105	Royal Fidelity Int'l Fund - Equities Sub Fund	8.4510	0.72%	9.95%			31-Jan-11			
MARKET TERMS											
BISX ALL SHARE INDEX - 19 Dec 02 = 1,000.00						YIELD - last 12 month dividends divided by closing price					
52wk-Hi - Highest closing price in last 52 weeks						Bid \$ - Buying price of Colina and Fidelity					
52wk-Low - Lowest closing price in last 52 weeks						Ask \$ - Selling price of Colina and Fidelity					
Previous Close - Previous day's weighted price for daily volume						Last Price - Last traded over-the-counter price					
Today's Close - Current day's weighted price for daily volume						Weekly Vol. - Trading volume of the prior week					
Change - Change in closing price from day to day						EPS \$ - A company's reported earnings per share for the last 12 mths					
Daily Vol. - Number of total shares traded today						NAV - Net Asset Value					
Div \$ - Dividends per share paid in the last 12 months						N/A - Not Meaningful					
P/E - Closing price divided by the last 12 month earnings						FINDEX - The Fidelity Bahamas Stock Index. January 1, 1994 = 100					
(S) - 4-for-1 Stock Split - Effective Date 8/8/2007											
(S1) - 3-for-1 Stock Split - Effective Date 7/1/2007											
TO TRADE CALL: CFAL 242-502-7010   ROYALFIDELITY 242-356-7764   FG CAPITAL MARKETS 242-396-4000   COLONIAL 242-502-7525											

# Fed survey: Economy expands throughout US



**EXPANDING ECONOMY:** In this photo taken Feb. 28, 2011, Teacher Dave Badger, left, buys a television, at the Costco Wholesale store in Glendale, Calif. The U.S. economy expanded in January and early February in all parts of the country, but businesses are under pressure to raise their prices.

**CHRISTOPHER S. RUGABER,**  
AP Economics Writer  
WASHINGTON

The U.S. economy expanded in January and early February in all parts of the country, but businesses reported they are under pressure to raise their prices.

A Federal Reserve survey released Wednesday showed that all 12 of the Fed's regions reported growth at a "modest to moderate pace" and it pointed to a pickup in job creation in each.

Retail sales picked up in 10 of the 12 regions, while falling in the Richmond and Atlanta areas. Factory activity rose in all districts except St. Louis.

The survey hinted at some inflationary concerns. Costs are rising for manufacturers and retailers in most areas. Manufacturers in many districts said they are increasingly able to pass on those costs to customers. Retailers in some districts said they have or soon will raise prices.

"There are beginning to be some troubling signs on inflation," said Steven Wood, Chief Economist at Insight Economics.

But other economists noted that the survey found little evidence that wages are increasing. Accelerating wages are "a necessary condition for a sustained, destabilizing high-inflation episode," said Dana Saporta, an economist at Credit Suisse Securities.

Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke endured tough questioning from members of



## INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS

Congress on Tuesday and Wednesday about the threat of rising inflation. Lawmakers raised concerns that the Fed's \$600 billion bond-purchase program is laying the groundwork for higher prices. Those concerns have been heightened by recent run-ups in the price of oil, corn, wheat and other commodities.

Bernanke told members of Congress that higher oil prices, which have risen due to turmoil in the Middle East, would likely cause only a temporary and mild increase in inflation.

The U.S. economy has been growing for 18 months. But that expansion hasn't been enough to significantly lower the nation's unemployment rate, which was 9 percent in January. The federal government will release the February jobs report on Friday.

The Fed survey did note that the job market is picking up in all districts. Many districts reported improved hiring in the manufacturing and

health care industries.

Seven districts said that staffing agencies are more optimistic, with more employers converting temporary jobs to permanent status. Permanent hiring is also picking up, the agencies said.

The survey also noted that wages remain steady in five districts and are rising only modestly in several others. Sluggish wage growth should act to restrain future price increases.

Harsh snowstorms in many different parts of the country reduced store sales and factory activity. Bad weather disrupted manufacturing in the Cleveland, Atlanta and Minneapolis regions, and pushed down retail sales in six districts.

Housing remains the economy's main weak spot, the report showed.

"Overall sales and construction remained at low levels across all districts," the survey said. The St. Louis region said sales are still declining.

Tourism improved in the Richmond, Atlanta and San Francisco areas, while it slowed in Kansas City, partly due to severe weather. New York reported slower business at hotels and said Broadway theater attendance dropped.

The region-by-region survey is based on information collected from the Fed's 12 regional banks on or before Feb. 18. Known as the "Beige Book," the survey provides a more in-the-trenches look at the overall economy than broad statistics.

## PRINCESS MARGARET HOSPITAL & SANDILANDS REHABILITATION CENTRE



### PUBLIC NOTICE

### TENDER FOR THE SUPPLY OF PROVISIONS & FOOD ITEMS

Tenders are invited from qualified Contractors for the supply of Provisions and Foods Items for the Princess Margaret Hospital and Sandilands Rehabilitation Centre, Public Hospitals Authority, for a period of one (1) year.

Tender documents, which include instructions to Tenderers, specifications and other relevant information, can be collected **9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday** at the Materials Management Directorate, Princess Margaret Hospital's compound, Shirley Street.

A Tender must be submitted in duplicate in a sealed envelope or packaged identified as "TENDER FOR THE SUPPLY OF PROVISIONS AND FOODS ITEMS FOR THE PRINCESS MARGARET HOSPITAL AND SANDILANDS REHABILITATION CENTRE" and addressed to:

**The Chairman  
Tenders Committee  
Public Hospitals Authority  
Third Terrace West  
Collins Avenue  
P.O. Box N-8200  
Nassau, Bahamas**

All Tenders must be received at the above address by 5:00 p.m. on **8<sup>th</sup> April 2011**.

**A copy of a valid business license and a certificate of up to date National Insurance Contributions should accompany all proposal.**

*The Public Hospitals Authority reserves the right to reject any or all Tender(s).*

GN 1173



## GOVERNMENT NOTICE

### MINISTRY OF FINANCE

#### Business Licence Act 2010

The new Business Licence Act 2010 will take effect on January 1, 2011. The Act requires that no person shall carry on a business within The Bahamas without the grant of a licence issued in accordance with the requirements of this Act.

Before the expiry of the allowed period of 90 days or by March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2011 all business owners must bring their business into compliance with the requirements of this Act, submit an application form and pay the taxes as prescribed for that business licence for the current year.

A list of owners that are not compliant by March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2011 will be published at the end of the 90 day period.

Any person carrying on a business, with fees outstanding, at the time this Act comes into force may enter into a written agreement to pay the outstanding fees, and thereby be entitled to receive a Licence.

Where a business ceases to operate or is sold the Business Licence Division must be so advised by the submission of the appropriate form giving the relevant details.

Forms are available on <http://forms.bahamas.gov.bs/>, at any of the Business Licence Offices and at the Administrator's Office in the Family Islands.

GN1157



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# Pope exonerates Jews for Jesus' death in new book

By NICOLE WINFIELD  
Associated Press

**P**ope Benedict XVI has made a sweeping exoneration of the Jewish people for the death of Jesus Christ, tackling one of the most controversial issues in Christianity in a new book.

In "Jesus of Nazareth-Part II" excerpts released Wednesday, Benedict explains biblically and theologically why there is no basis in Scripture for the argument that the Jewish people as a whole were responsible for Jesus' death.

Interpretations to the contrary have been used for centuries to justify the persecution of Jews.

While the Catholic Church has for five decades taught that Jews weren't collectively responsible, Jewish scholars said Wednesday the argument laid out by the German-born pontiff, who has had his share of mishaps with Jews, was a landmark statement from a pope that would help fight anti-Semitism today.

"Holocaust survivors know only too well how the centuries-long charge of 'Christ killer' against the Jews created a poisonous climate of hate that was the foundation of anti-Semitic persecution whose ultimate expression was realised in the Holocaust," said Elan Steinberg of the American Gathering of Holocaust Survivors and their Descendants.

The pope's book, he said, not only confirms church teaching refuting the deicide charge "but seals it for a new generation of Catholics."

The Catholic Church issued its most authoritative teaching on the issue in its 1965 Second Vatican Council document "Nostra Aetate," which revolutionised the church's relations with Jews by saying Christ's death could not be attributed to Jews as a whole at the time or today.

Benedict comes to the same conclusion, but he explains how with a thorough, Gospel-by-Gospel analysis that leaves little doubt that he deeply and personally believes it to be the case: That only a few Temple leaders and a small group of supporters were primarily responsible for Christ's crucifixion.

The book is the second installment to Benedict's 2007 "Jesus of Nazareth," his first book as pope, which offered a very personal meditation on the early years of Christ's life and teachings. This second book, set to be released March 10, concerns the final part of Christ's life, his death and resurrection.

The Vatican's publishers provided a few excerpts Wednesday.

In the book, Benedict re-enacts Jesus' final hours, including his death sentence for blasphemy, then analyzes each Gospel account to explain why Jews as a whole cannot be blamed for it. Rather, Benedict concludes, it was the "Temple aristocracy" and a few supporters of the figure Barabbas who were responsible. "How could the whole people have been present at this moment to clamour



**POPE** Benedict XVI delivers his blessing during a general audience in the Pope Paul VI hall at the Vatican, Wednesday, March 2, 2011. (AP)

for Jesus' death?" Benedict asks.

He deconstructs one particular biblical account which has the crowd saying, "His blood be on us and on our children" — a phrase frequently cited as evidence of the collective guilt Jews bore and the curse that they carried as a result.

The phrase, from the Gospel of Matthew, has been so incendiary that director Mel Gibson was reportedly forced to drop it from the subtitles of his 2004 film "The Passion of the Christ," although it remained in the spoken Aramaic.

But Benedict said Jesus' death wasn't about punishment, but rather salvation. Jesus' blood, he said, "does not cry out for vengeance and punishment, it brings reconciliation. It is not poured out against anyone, it is poured out for many, for all."

Benedict, who was forced to join the Hitler Youth as a child in Nazi Germany, has made improving relations with Jews a priority of his pontificate. He has visited the Auschwitz Nazi death camp in Poland and Israel's Yad

Vashe Holocaust memorial.

But he also has had a few missteps that have drawn the ire of Jewish groups, most notably when in 2009 he lifted the excommunication of a traditionalist Catholic bishop who had denied the extent of the Holocaust by saying no Jews were gassed during World War II.

Benedict has said that had he known Bishop Richard Williamson's views about Jews he never would have lifted the excommunication, which was imposed in 1988 because Williamson was consecrated without papal consent. Williamson is a member of the traditionalist Society of St Pius X, which has rejected many Vatican II teachings, including the outreach to Jews contained in Nostra Aetate.

Separately, Jewish groups have been outraged that Benedict is moving Pope Pius XII closer to beatification, the first main hurdle to possible sainthood. Some Jews and historians have argued the World War II-era pope should have done more to prevent the Holocaust.



61<sup>st</sup>

ANNUAL GENERAL CONVENTION  
OF THE PENTECOSTAL ASSEMBLIES  
OF THE WORLD WORLD INC.

March 6th - 11th, 2011

Greater Bethel Cathedral,

Faith Way, off Blue Hill Road South  
(Corner of Carlton L. Francis School)

Early Morning Prayer / Day Sessions / Evening Worship Service  
5:00 am 6:00 am / 12:00 noon 2:00 pm / 7:30 pm

THEME:

“EARNESTLY CONTEND  
FOR THE FAITH”

Speakers include:



Bishop  
Ellis Farrington J.P.



Suffragan Bishop  
Winston Redwood



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Ezekiel Munnings



Evangelist  
Shantal Mackey



District Elder  
Lynnaye Knowles



Suffragan Bishop  
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DON'T MISS YOUR BLESSING! BE THERE!

# I receive that!



PASTOR  
MATTHEW  
ALLEN

I KNOW that I'm not alone in saying that "I've heard so many pathetic (so-called prophetic words) gone forth as prophecies in the church and at various religious conferences / gathering.

Without fail I hear the itching ears, naïve religious folks say "I receive that" Can I tell you that as a pastor, I don't say "Amen" to everything that I hear coming from church pulpits, internationally or locally; no matter who the preacher / teacher might be. Please hear me! Not everything that's being preached / taught in the church today is inspired by the Holy Spirit, despite the fact that the presenter may use a few scripture verses.

The best way of knowing, if what you're hearing from the pulpit is lining up with God's word; is to know the word of God, not just casual read a few scriptures; but truly study the word of God. Here's how the Apostle Paul puts it to his spiritual son Timothy: **2:Tim.2:15. Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.** Note: It's no coincidence that the words "Rightly Dividing" is mentioned in the above passage of scripture.

This clearly indicates that the word of God could be wrongly divided, and I dare to say that today; we're seeing the results / impact of the word of God being wrongly divided by many ulterior motives, self centered religious leaders / superstars; thereby causing God to reject the defiled, contaminated acts of worship that's being offered in the church today.

Whenever true knowledge of God comes forth, it will always find opposition and rejection from the spirit of religion and the tradition of men.

**Hosea.4: 6. My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge; because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children.** It's time for the saints to grow-up / mature in the things of God and stop allowing themselves to be duped by every wind of doctrine that's infiltrating the church today; especially the twisted, incomplete prosperity gospel. Don't allow your emotions and present financial state to get the better part of you and your walk with God.

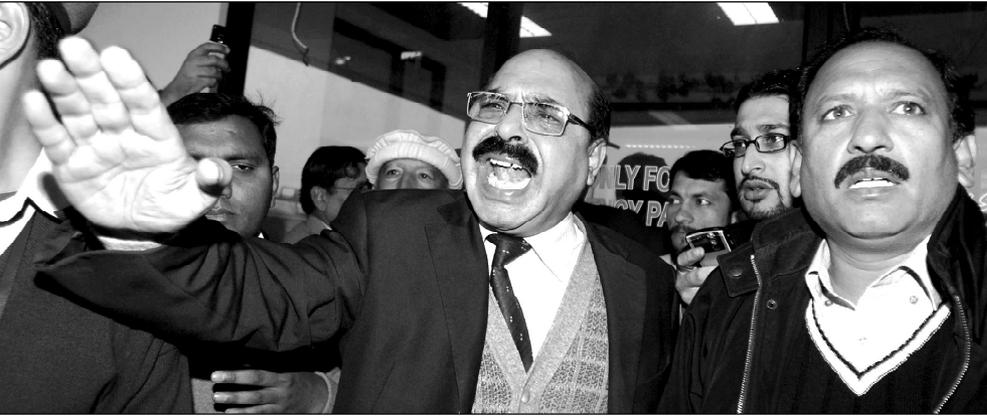
The eloquent speaking, crafty religious leaders have set a gullible spirit in the church's atmosphere as they're misappropriating the scriptures to stir up their followers. In so doing, here's one of their most foolish, dumb sayings that literally moves their crowd: "I don't know who I'm talking to, but the Lord told me to tell you" Here's some food for thought: Where in the scriptures can it be found that the prophets of old were given messages and they didn't

know to whom the messages were for? Wake up saints! He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches! This twisted, incomplete prosperity gospel that's permeated today's church by the superstars, and want-to-be superstar religious leaders can be likened to gangrene; whenever gangrene sets in, if it's not immediately and properly treated, amputation is a life saving must. The body of Messiah / Christ is suffering much causality as the amputation; disconnection rate is at an all time high due to the pursuit of prosperity via the twisted prosperity gospel.

The message of the church today is more centered on financial and material prosperity rather than Holy living unto God. I'm not advocating the rejection and disrespectful scrutiny of God's word but rather allowing the spirit of wisdom to lead and guide you along the way. In other words, here's how the apostle John puts it. **1John.4: 1. Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.** Do you know that there was a time when Yahshua Messiah (aka Jesus the Christ) was the center of attention of the local churches / congregations; but those days are quietly slipping away as the religious bishops, apostles, doctors, pastors, etc; have taken preeminence of the church? Watch this! Have you ever attended a church and upon entering the foyer or sanctuary of that church building you're greeted with a hanging / posted photo of the religious leader and their spouse?

The ignorance to spiritual matters would have many to believe that nothing's wrong with this; as they would have no problem in declaring that "we're just honoring our Mand-of-God and our Woman-of-God; the founders of this church" To this I strongly disagree and boldly say no! It's a blatant act of ignorance to spiritual matters that's been methodically set in place by the enemy as he spiritually lures the church to sleep. If the truth be told you would be surprised at what most people who name the name of Christ come into agreement with in saying "Yes, Lord, I receive that!" The enemy and the gates of hell have strategically put their plans in motion; in an attempt to stifle the church. In watching the operation of today's religious church, it's no longer Christ (Yahshua Messiah) the founder

SEE page 28



# Militants kill Christian minister in Pakistan

ISLAMABAD  
Associated Press

MILITANTS gunned down the only Christian in Pakistan's government outside his widowed mother's home Wednesday, the second assassination in two months of a high-profile opponent of laws that impose the death penalty for insulting Islam.

Shahbaz Bhatti was aware of the danger he faced, saying in a videotaped message that he had received death threats from al-Qaida and the Taliban. In it, the 42-year-old Roman Catholic said he was "ready to die" for the country's often persecuted Christian and other non-Muslim minorities.

The slaying in Islamabad followed the killing of Salman Taseer, a liberal politician who was gunned down in the capital by one of his guards. Both men had campaigned to change blasphemy laws in Pakistan that impose the death penalty for insulting Islam and have been loudly defended by Islamist political parties.

The Taseer slaying triggered fears the country was buckling under the weight of extremism, especially since the government, fearful of militants and the political parties that champion their causes, did not loudly condemn the killing or those who publicly celebrated it.

Wednesday's slaying will only reinforce those concerns and further undermine confidence in the government, which appears paralyzed by political rivalries and unable to fix a stagnant economy or provide basic services for the country's 180 million mostly poor people.

The turmoil comes despite attempts by the Obama administration to support Pakistan, which it sees as key to ending the war in neighboring Afghanistan and defeating al-Qaida, whose leadership is believed to reside in the mountainous northwestern regions.

Pakistani government ministers usually travel with police escorts, but Bhatti was without such protection when he was killed as he and a driver left his mother's home. Bhatti, who was minister for religious minorities, had been given police and paramilitary guards but had asked them not to accompany him while he stayed with his mother, said Wajid Durrani, a senior police official.

Bhatti had just pulled out of the driveway when three men opened fire, said Gulam Rahim, a witness. Two opened the door of the car and tried to pull Bhatti out, Rahim said, while a third fired a Kalashnikov rifle repeatedly into the dark-colored Toyota, shattering the windows.

these pulpits, their naïve followers are saying "I receive that" Here's what the Apostle Paul would ask most of today's church:

*"Gal. 3:1. O foolish Galatians, who hath bewitched you, that ye should not obey the truth, before whose eyes Jesus Christ hath been evidently set forth, crucified among you?"*

Be careful of what you're receiving.

.....  
• For questions and comments contact us via E-mails: [pastormallen@yahoo.com](mailto:pastormallen@yahoo.com) or [kmfci@live.com](mailto:kmfci@live.com) <<mailto:kmfci@live.com>> or Ph.242-441-2021 Pastors Matthew & Brendalee Allen Kingdom Minded Fellowship Center Int'l.

AN UNIDENTIFIED relative of Pakistan's government minister for religious minorities Shahbaz Bhatti mourns over his death outside a local hospital in Islamabad, Pakistan, Wednesday, March 2, 2011. Gunmen shot and killed the Christian Pakistani government minister for religious minorities on Wednesday, the latest attack on a high-profile figure threatened by Muslim militants for urging reform of harsh blasphemy laws that impose the death penalty for insulting Islam. (AP)

## The Youth Ministry of Christ Church Cathedral

in association with

## Shakespeare in Paradise

presents



featuring

**Arthella Issacs, Tex Tumquest, Onike Archer,  
Marcel T. Sherman, Erma Albury and  
Claudette "Cookie" Allens**

with special guest  
**Rev'd Colin Humes**

also featuring  
**The St. Francis Church Junior Choir**  
under the direction of Francis Richardson

**Sunday, March 6, 2011 - 4:00pm**  
**Christ Church Cathedral**  
**George Street - Nassau, The Bahamas**  
**Donation: \$20.00 Children: \$10.00**

## Receive

*FROM page 24*

of the church; the religious Bishop, Apostle, Doctor, etc; have taken that position. But, as for the true church of Messiah here's what He says: *Matt.16:18. That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it*". Do you know that there are well meaning believers who have accepted and are dancing around Satanic Pentagrams in their churches? And yet as so-called prophetic words goes forth from

# BUFFET Brunch

Sunday March 6th, 2011  
Green Parrot East Bay Street  
11:30 am - 2:30pm

Juice, Coffee and Tea  
Tropical Fruit Platter  
Potato Salad, Mixed Greens and  
Cole Slaw

Peas and Rice, Macaroni  
Vegetable Medley  
French Toast  
Chicken Marsala  
Steamed Mahi Mahi  
Made to Order Omelets

Dessert

**\$19.95**

\*Gratuity is estimated



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## Dedication, discipline, determination

THESE were the words given to me as the "Three Ds of Excellence" at the South Andros School District Award ceremony last week. In that academic setting, the students were to be congratulated for past achievements and encouraged to aim even higher.

How may we consider these words in a more spiritual light?

**Dedication** is the desire to become so completely devoted as to make something or someone the centre of our undivided attention. Our relationship with God calls for this level of reverence and sacrificial service. How do we work to make God the centre of our lives? How much energy do we expend on a daily basis? Let us dedicate ourselves to prayer, study, worship and witnessing about the person and work of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Let us reorganise our priorities.

**Self-discipline** is the result of practiced behaviour that has been repeated to form a habit. As we prepare for Lent, we are all cognizant of the fact



REV. ANGELA  
C BOSFIELD  
PALACIOS

that six weeks offers us sufficient time to work for positive change. If we are unable to break bad habits then we need to be accountable to someone we respect or seek counseling. Let us all strive to daily hear God's well done because we are growing to become more like Christ every day. We cannot earn our salvation. It is a free gift given by Christ's death on the cross. We can please God by living a disciplined life with the help of the Holy Spirit.

**Determination** is the attitude we need to make the effort that will accomplish our goals. If we are determined that we will be punctual, then

**SEE page 28**

## Speak a word

*Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. (Hebrews 11:1)*



ALLISON  
MILLER

THE BIBLE tells us that without faith it is impossible to please God.

Matthew 8:5-13 speaks about the Centurion's faith, Jesus himself marveled at the belief that this man possessed.

Do any of us have this kind of faith? If Jesus were to come today, would He marvel at any of us? When we find ourselves between a rock and a hard place, what do we do? Do we look to the hills where our help comes from? Or do we look down in despair? The Centurion was not of the household of faith, but he knew if Jesus spoke a word of healing, his servant would be made whole. How is it that we as believers allow non believers to have more faith than us who are believers? I think that is a charge against us as children of the most high God.

I know we have real situations and circumstances where panic may be warranted. However, it should be the complete opposite. In the 'I can't see no way out' situations, I learn to trust

God. There is no part of life that is outside the control of God. If we truly believe that, then there is no doubt in what God can and will do. We are able to breathe easy because the one who controls life is at work.

The Bible tells us that without faith it is impossible to please God. We can't let the Centurion's faith or non believers be more than that of ours as Christians. We have to get to the place where we say, "speak a word Lord" to our situations, in our circumstances and to our relationships and know that all will be well. If no one else believes we have to. That is what makes us Christians.

"But speak the word only and my servant shall be healed." We must develop our faith so that it can be as solid as the Centurion's faith.

# Perception!

PERCEPTION is the process of receiving information through the senses (hearing, feeling, tasting, smelling and seeing) and making sense of it. It is also defined as the process by which an organism detects and interprets information from the external world by means of the sensory receptors.

When making our assessments of others, our decisions or conclusions of them are usually only garnered from our senses. This can be erroneous in some cases because things aren't always they way they appear.

The Bible admonishes us to walk in the spirit so that we would not fulfill the lust of our flesh. We are also told to walk by faith and not by sight. In both scriptures, the underlying tone suggests that we can judge or perceive incorrectly if left to our senses and not being aided by the spirit of God.

In many of our local churches, we are reminded frequently of the favour of God, but very few explain to us how this favour comes about. In today's teaching, we will analyse how God will alter the perception of others in an effort to not only grant us favour but via the perception of others cause promotion, opportunities and open doors that could not have happened under normal circumstances.

Just before I proceed any further with this Biblical insight, I must make clear that when God promotes, gives favour, advances, or elevates you he initiates it by changing the perception of those around you. The lessons which were via your trouble and challenges were making the necessary changes in you. However I am sure you'll agree that no matter how much you've changed some folks refuse to accept the fact that you've changed, and will continue to label or categorise you as to who you use to be.

Therefore, if it were left up to those



KEVIN  
EWING

around you who refuse to accept your change you'll never advance. So, it is necessary for God to change their perception of you to accommodate the change in you.

Joshua, who was the minister of Moses was about to take on one of the greatest challenges of his life. That challenge was taking over as the leader of the children of Israel following Moses' death. Now, least we forget this was not an easy task, simply because Moses was the greatest leader they ever knew. Aside from leading them out of Egyptian bondage, there were many miracles that were performed by God through him and he brought them out of slavery by breaking the back of poverty and making them wealthy.

Like any good leader Moses affirms Joshua as the future leader to the children of Israel. "And Moses called unto Joshua, and said unto him in the sight of Israel, be strong and of good courage." Moses added "The Lord will go before thee, he will not fail thee nor forsake thee, fear not neither be dismayed" (Deuteronomy 31:7-8.)

I was compelled to ask myself, why would Moses say be strong and of good courage? I am convinced Moses knew the difficult times Joshua would have faced leading an estimated three million people who revered Moses.

In Deuteronomy 31:7-8, Joshua 1:6,7,9 Moses and God had repeatedly said to Joshua: a) Be strong b) Be of good courage

c) Fear not and d) Be not dismayed. Again seeing that Joshua is now the leader, why are these four statements being rehearsed into his hearing?

It is almost as if they knew something Joshua did not know. The truth is they both knew that the children of Israel would automatically compare Joshua to Moses and conclude that Joshua was inferior to Moses and not capable of leading them like Moses.

So, even though Joshua was qualified for the job, the children of Israel's perception needed to be amended. Right now you are qualified for that promotion on your job, or you've changed your life and decided to live for God, but somehow folks don't accept your new status because you are still the same old you in their sight. Therefore God will have to do for you what he did for Joshua.

"And the Lord said to Joshua, this day will I begin to magnify thee in the sight of all Israel, that they may know that, as I was with Moses, so I will be with thee."

The revelation here is simply this, God changed absolutely nothing about Joshua. God did not change his height, strength, weight etc, but instead God made Joshua appear larger than he was in the sight of Israel. The only thing that was changed was Israel's perception of Joshua who was already qualified for what God had called him to do.....wow!

My beloved readers, you've been ridiculed, talked about, used, skipped over for promotion, degraded and laughed at. To add insult to injury, it has been trouble after trouble, disappointment, set backs and hindrances. However, this year God has decided that you've qualified to go forward, but he has to change the perception of your haters and oppressors. All of the challenges were in an effort to change you. Now that that leg of the process is completed GOD WILL NOW MAGNIFY YOU IN 2011!

Magnification from God places a demand on your haters and oppressors to respect you and see you as what God has called you to be. Just for you, God will change the spiritu-

al lens of all those who oppose you in years, months, and weeks past, only to reveal to them what he has done in you.

Remember when Jesus did his miracles, the nay sayers said, "Isn't this Mary and Joseph boy? Isn't this the carpenter?"

God magnified Jesus through his miracles and teachings. However prior to this, he was just a regular person to the people, not that he wasn't ready to do God's work, but the people's perception had to be altered, and only God can do that.

Wherever you are right now, say it out loud or scream it out in your mind, God has magnified me and it has caused me to appear larger, magnificent, glorious, and more confident in the sight of my enemies.

Prayer points:

- Confess and repent of all sins
- Ask God for courage, strength, resisting fear and confusion
- Believe that God is with you and will not forsake you
- Finally, ask God to magnify you and begin thanking him and behaving as if it has already happened.

*Heavenly father thank you once again for your revelations, and for everyone that would have read this article. It is no accident that they came across this article today, but all according to your divine plan for their lives. I now come in agreement with your word which is faith and declare that you magnify them in the sight of those around them. I command that the spiritual lens of their oppressors and haters be changed only to behold what you've done in their lives. Your word declares that whatsoever thing we desire when we pray, believe that we've receive it and we shall have it, in the mighty and matchless name of Jesus Christ.*

- You can contact Minister Ewing by email at kevinewing@coralwave.com.



## EBENEZER METHODIST CHURCH HOST ANNUAL WALKATHON

Members of Ebenezer Methodist Church recently participated in their annual walkathon from the church to Blair Estates and back on Saturday January 29. Following the walk there was a souse-out and cake sale. Everyone had a great time as they walked to benefit the church. There are a number of events that are being planned this Spring including a tea and fashion show on Sunday, April 10 and the first annual Ebenezer Spring Fling multi-cultural tasting event and fair on Saturday May 7, 2010. The public is invited to both.

## religious NOTES

# The Process of Aging

THE Youth Ministry of Christ Church Cathedral, in association with Shakespeare in Paradise, will present James Weldon Johnson's *God's Trombones* on Sunday, March 6 at 4pm.

This piece, also sometimes known by its full title, *God's Trombones: Seven Negro Sermons in Verse*, was written in 1927 and is based on a book of poems by Johnson patterned after traditional African-American religious oratory.

*God's Trombones* has delighted audiences in theaters, churches and other venues for over 80 years and never grows old.

This production not only features the junior choir from St Francis Church, under the direction of Francis Richardson, but guest pastor, Rev'd Colin Humes will deliver the opening piece, *Listen Lord - A Prayer* and the sermon, *The Prodigal Son*.

The other sermons will be delivered by, Claudette "Cookie" Allens, Tex Tu'mquest, Erma Albury, Arthella Issacs, Mar'cel T Sherman and Onike Archer. The performance will take place at Christ Church Cathedral. *God's Trombones* is directed by Philip A Burrows.

### • 38TH ANNUAL ACM CONFERENCE

On March 16, the Island of Abaco will come alive as the 38th Annual Diocesan Anglican Church Men Conference will be held in Marsh Harbour from March 16-20. This year's theme is "A Call to Ministry".

The Scripture text is taken from St Luke 10:37. Cannon Basil Tynes and Dr Robin Roberts are two or three speakers on the schedule. All Anglican men are urged to register at their local branch as the deadline is fast approaching.

## Dedication

FROM page 26

we work hard to plan carefully and manage our time wisely. If we insist that we will budget and save, we learn how to manage our money, even if we have to request that someone assist us. If we make up our mind and put our whole heart into being led by the Holy Spirit, then we open ourselves to God's grace in new and exciting ways. We will associate with people who will be able to influence us for good, and enable us to mentor others. We will seek to resist Satan in any way possible and to follow the example of Jesus, our Master.

There may be other words that you wish to add to your list of qualities to celebrate and emulate. You may have different definitions for my words chosen. Let our time together guide your personal reflection, stimulate your small group discussions, and promote the writing of even more thought-provoking pieces by more persons.

ONE OF the facts of life is that we must contend with during our journey here on earth is the reality of growing older. Though we are aware that no one is exempted from this process and that it is a natural part of our existence, we still tend to resist it and view it in a negative light. No one wants to grow old. No one wants to die. Like any other aspect of one's life, the aging process can be handled positively and productively. It should be understood, first of all, as a scriptural principle: "He knoweth our frame; he remembereth that we are dust. As for man, his days are as grass: as the flowers of the field, so he flourisheth. For the wind passeth over it, and it is gone; and the place thereof shall know it no more." (Psalms 103:14-16). God ordained the process. It is a beautiful, positive part of his perfect plan for our life.

The aging process should also be



BISHOP VG  
CLARKE

viewed as a natural principle. It is evident in almost every aspect of nature. It should be seen as not simply a matter of getting older, but rather a process of "maturing with a purpose". Notice the stages in nature – the seed, the plant, the flowers, the fruit and the seed. Without the seed there would be no plant; without the plant, no flowers, without the flowers, no fruits; without the fruit, no seed; and without the seed no more plants.

Without the maturing process in human beings, there would be no perpetuation of

the race, no physical reproduction, no gaining and impartation of knowledge. The good fruits we produce in our process of development contain the seeds of truth that, in turn, produce more good fruit in the next generation.

The so-called "midlife crisis" seems to be especially difficult for those who are called to the ministry. Most ministers tend to be ambitious, idealistic individuals who have a burden to win the world for God. We usually feel that we are never accomplishing enough and that there is never enough time to do all that we want to do.

When mid-life crisis is reached, it comes as an overwhelming realisation that time is quickly running out and many of those personal and ministry goals will never be reached.

We should approach the later years of life with a positive, optimistic attitude.



## BREEZES DONATES TO GREAT COMMISSION MINISTRIES

Breezes recently donated more than 100 blankets, clothing and banquet chairs to the Great Commission Ministries on Wulf Road. Shown accepting donations from executives of Breezes are Minalee Hanchell (executive director) and Marie Rolle (chef).

Left to right: Cindy Coakley, Hedda Smith (Breezes housekeeping manager and sales manager respectively), Ms Hanchell, Ms Rolle and Camille Tynes Miller (controller at Breezes).