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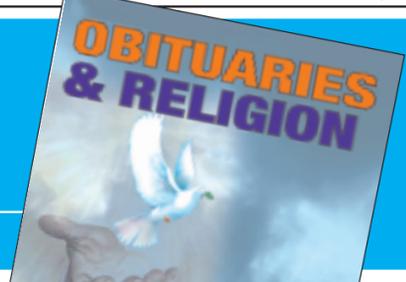
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Misery goes on for fire victims



THE TRIBUNE SEES OUT 2010 IN STYLE

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SEE page 11

75 left in tents as clothing, food and water distributed

By AVA TURNQUEST
Tribune Staff Reporter
aturnquest@tribunemedia.net

THE HUMAN toll of the fire-ravaged Haitian village was revealed yesterday.

Government officials registered a total of 120 households, which housed more than 100 children made homeless by the tragedy.

Last night 75 people were left to seek shelter under tents as a top official confirmed that government emergency relief efforts had been satisfied.

Due to unbearable weather conditions, only 30 people

SEE page 12



FIRE VICTIMS: Displaced residents of the Haitian village destroyed by fire take shelter yesterday.

• MORE PICTURES ON PAGES TWO AND 16

Tim Clarke/Tribune staff

Suspected illegal immigrants 'will not be rounded up in Mackey Yard'

By TANEKA THOMPSON
Tribune Staff Reporter
tthompson@tribunemedia.net

THE Department of Immigration will not swoop into the fire-ravaged community of Mackey Yard to round up suspected illegal immigrants, said Immigration Director Jack Thompson.

However the agency will continue its focus on apprehending and repatriating illegal immigrants throughout the country,

SEE page 12

Residents say fire ravaged village 'has existed since the 1970s'

By NOELLE NICOLLS
Tribune Staff Reporter
nnicolls@tribunemedia.net

MACKEY Yard, the Haitian village ravaged by fire on Boxing Day, was not a secret community living under the radar of the authorities and has existed since the 1970s, said residents.

Although it mushroomed over the years, residents say the once small community was built on private land owned by the Mackey family with permission from the owners. Residents are said to live free of charge.

Some claim Mackey Yard is one of the oldest Haitian communities in New Providence.

"When I came here in 1972, it was here," said a resident who lost his home.

However Kenny Mackey denied his family owned the land and was responsible for the community. He directed all comments to Garden Hills Member of Parliament Brensil Rolle.

"The only ones who had permission are those my parents left there and one or two offsprings who are no longer even there. Those people came there, they were told not to build. My thing with the whole ordeal is how they were allowed to trespass, number one. These issues were brought up to the authorities," said Mr Mackey.

He insisted he did not

SEE page 12

MAN SHOT BY POLICE DURING BAIN TOWN CHASE

POLICE shot a man who was allegedly evading arrest during a chase in Bain Town yesterday.

The injured suspect, a 20-year-old resident of Rupert Dean Lane, was in hospital last night nursing a wounded

SEE page 11

BTC UNIONS THREATEN TO SUE OVER STRIKE CLAIMS

THE unions representing BTC employees yesterday said they have not encouraged their members to take part in any industrial action this week and are threatening to sue those who accuse them of doing so.

President of the Bahamas Communications and Public Officers Union Bernard Evans said at a press conference yesterday

SEE page 11



CUSTOMS AND IMMIGRATION CONCERNS RAISED

By CELESTE NIXON
Tribune Staff Reporter
cnixon@tribunemedia.net

IMPLEMENTATION of the shift system for immigration and customs officers, inaccurate pay cheques, and no overtime or holiday pay, is stifling morale and productivity among officers, claim union leaders.

SEE page 11

MORE MACKEY YARD FIRE NEWS ON PAGES TWO, THREE, FIVE AND 16

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LOCAL NEWS

• MACKEY YARD FIRE AFTERMATH •

Ground zero relief operation continues

By AVA TURNQUEST
Tribune Staff Reporter
aturnquest@tribunemedia.net

Humanitarian efforts by members of the community to improve conditions for displaced residents of the Mackey Yard fire - who are forced to live at ground zero - continued yesterday.

Concerned about the exposure of so many young children and infants to toxins from the ashen remains of the Boxing Day blaze, heavy equipment were brought in to clear the rubble.

A tractor from Kino Simmons of Simmons Construction, Wulff Road laboured throughout the day to clear the sea of tin roofs and charred materials.

Mr Simmons said: "This is humanitarian assistance, a char-

ity to assist however we can. We're trying to manage the debris, push it up in piles to provide some form of containment until proper authorities can come and deal with it."

In addition to care packages distributed by faith-based ministries and non governmental organisations, private residents were also driven to act yesterday.

Tanya Crone, lead organiser of an impromptu drive for residents of Lyford Cay and Old Fort Bay said: "We just went down there and realised the need. So that night we sent out loads of emails and really just rallied whatever we could to come back out here."

Numerous donations were said to have been made to lead charities by various organisations such as the Royal Society of St George.

Lead organisations dedicated to relief efforts are the Red Cross, the Salvation Army, and Great Commission Ministries. Persons can also contact Pastor Celiner St Louis of Gospel Assembly at 426-7414, part of the Haitian Pastors League who are providing counselling and coordinating aid for the hundreds of displaced victims.



CLEAN-UP TIME: A child watches as a tractor clears debris.



HELPING OUT: Humanitarian efforts continue.



GETTING REGISTERED: Yolanda Pierre, 29 stands with her one-year-old son and daughter before getting in line to be registered by social workers.

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MORE PICTURES ON PAGE 16

PHOTOS: Tim Clarke/Tribune staff

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LOCAL NEWS

• MACKAY YARD FIRE AFTERMATH •

NEMA chief admits initial relief efforts 'disjointed'

By NOELLE NICOLLS
Tribune Staff Reporter
nnicolls@tribunemedia.net

THE initial coordination of relief efforts by government agencies was "disjointed," admitted the chief officer at the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA).

Responding to criticism that it took three days for NEMA to mobilise emergency relief, Captain Stephen Russell said "the flow of information took time," which resulted in a "disjointed" effort.

Captain Russell said he "called all the players together" after personally visiting the site yesterday morning.

He said "people were generally doing their own thing" before, although the Department of Social Services were on the ground doing assessments earlier.



EMERGENCY RELIEF: Victims of the fire queue yesterday for supplies.

"We have to work on the triggering mechanism that brings everyone together

right away," said Captain Russell.

Earlier this week, Obie Wilchcombe, West End and Bimini Member of Parliament, questioned the emergency response, saying victims of the fire were left with "no systemic approach to food, no systemic approach to clothing" and no temporary housing.

"It doesn't matter how the people got here, they are here. It doesn't matter that they live in a shanty town - that's because we haven't done our jobs correctly, or

effectively. The truth is people are hurting right now and there is a lot of suffering and it's very difficult to sleep when people are hurting. No matter who they are they are human beings, and that's how I got here, why I'm here now," said Mr Wilchcombe.



MAN DIES SWIMMING IN RESORT HOT TUB

A 33-YEAR-OLD man, who is believed to be a tourist, died on Tuesday night while swimming in a hot tub at the Sandals Royal Resort.

The incident occurred around 11.30 pm. Police were called to the resort following a report that a man was unresponsive in the outdoor hot tub.

The man was taken to hospital by emergency medical personnel where he was pronounced dead.

Investigations continue.

GRAND BAHAMA BUSINESSMAN LEO LABLANC DIES

By DENISE MAYCOCK
Tribune Freeport Reporter
dmaycock@tribunemedia.net

FREEPORT - Grand Bahama businessman Leo LaBlanc died over the Christmas holiday at his home. Mr LaBlanc was the owner of Island Projects Company Ltd.

According to reports, Mr LaBlanc, 59, was having Christmas dinner with relatives at his residence on Garnell Lane, Silver Point, when he suddenly collapsed.

The cause of his death is not known.

Businessman Clarence Bellot also died at his home several days before Christmas.

Mr Bellot, the owner of Foto Factory, was ill for sometime. He was a well known photographer and was the first to introduce the one-hour photo concept to Grand Bahama.

He was also known to be a community-minded individual who was very passionate about the environment, especially in the Queens Cove area where he lived.

Mr Bellot is survived by his wife and children.

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LITTLE FOCKERS	T	1:10	3:35	N/A	6:00	8:30	10:40
TRON LEGACY	B	1:30	3:20	N/A	6:00	8:20	10:45
YOGI BEAR	A	1:10	3:40	N/A	6:15	8:40	10:30
CHRONICLES OF NARNIA	A	1:00	3:25	N/A	6:05	8:25	10:35
TANDED	A	1:10	3:35	N/A	6:15	8:30	10:35
THE FIGHTER	C	1:00	3:25	N/A	6:05	8:25	10:40
HOW DO YOU KNOW	T	1:05	3:20	N/A	6:00	8:20	10:40
THE TOURIST	T	1:10	3:25	N/A	6:10	8:30	10:40
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YOGI BEAR	A	1:05	3:35	N/A	6:10	8:30	10:35
THE FIGHTER	C	1:10	3:35	N/A	6:00	8:20	10:40
THE TOURIST	T	1:05	3:30	N/A	6:05	8:25	10:45
CHRONICLES OF NARNIA	A	1:10	3:25	N/A	6:00	8:30	10:30
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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

TELEPHONES

Switchboard (News, Circulation and Advertising) 322-1986
Advertising Manager - (242) 502-2352
Circulation Department - (242) 502-2387
Nassau Fax: - (242) 328-2398
Freeport, Grand Bahama: 1-(242)-352-6608

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Where is the Bahamian's compassion?

SUNDAY morning a cold wind whipped a small fire into a roaring blaze that swept through a shanty town of wooden shacks, built arms length apart, leaving in its wake a pile of crackling, smouldering rubble before firemen could get it under control. When firemen arrived on Alan Drive off Carmichael Road hundreds of men, women and children, with the clothes they wore as their only possessions, stood staring in defeated horror at their loss. They didn't possess much, but what little they had, was gone.

Common humanity is the catalyst that motivates most human beings to rush to the aid of their fellows in trouble. They bring help before they ask questions.

But the Mackey Yard fire was different. It was a settlement that existed below the radar for Haitians — some legal, some illegal. The comments left on Tribune242's web site would make one question whether some Bahamians among us are indeed a part of the same human family.

It is true that there are too many illegal Haitians in the Bahamas. It is also true that they are a strain on our social services. It is true that the tiny Bahamas cannot accommodate all of them and that those who are here illegally will eventually have to be returned to their homeland.

But now is not the time for this discussion. There are human beings out there who shiver from the cold as do Bahamians.

They are thirsty, they are hungry and when night falls they do not know where to rest their tired bodies. There are pregnant women, there are innocent children, and there are men, stripped of their manhood because they can no longer protect their families. This is no time for persecution. This is the time for compassion.

In answer to questions as to the intent of Immigration, Director Jack Thompson made it clear that his department had no plans to swoop down on the

destroyed village to search for illegals — as a matter of fact what papers they might have had were destroyed in the fire. The only records that now exist are in the Immigration Department. It will be a time consuming exercise to ferret them all out. In the meantime people are hungry, tired and cold.

"There are other areas where there are illegals in the Bahamas," said Mr Thompson. "We need not concentrate on a devastated area at this point. We understand our mandate and we will carry out our mandate, but we are also an agency which is sensitive to tragedy and disasters, I think that is what is required of us."

Fletcher Carroll, obviously upset by the callous comments from the public on tribune242.com captured the moment. This is what he had to say to those who were more interested in using the opportunity to deport Haitians than helping human beings in their hour of need:

"Interesting comments. I think we miss da point, though. The only issue at hand is people suffering. The larger debate ain't relevant at this time.

"We all are concerned about the weak approach to immigration control, but I am more concerned about the apparent inability to identify with basic human suffering. That's scary!"

Yes, Mr Carroll, that is very scary. A comment on the previous day that dismissed Haitians as "cockroaches" brought back for us the horrors of the Third Reich. This is the very word used by Hitler to rid himself of the Jews. To think that there are Bahamians in this community of the same mentality is indeed scary.

We hope that when those Bible toting Bahamians with eyes lifted heavenward on Sundays arrive at the Pearly Gate, St Peter doesn't slam the gate in their faces while he goes to check their credentials.

We also hope, for their sakes, that their papers will be in order — if not they could be listed as illegal and deported back to where they came from — a hell on earth.

Mind-boggling to see politicians give support to law breakers

EDITOR, The Tribune.

On the front page of Thursday the 9th of December 2010 edition of The Nassau Guardian was a picture of a number of union leaders attending a mass rally in support of the illegal walking off the job by BaTelCo staff and their court defying action.

The rally of the unions was not surprising as this type of thing is an integral part of their arsenal; but what was amazing and startling, was the photo directly beneath the union leaders depicting four top members of the opposition party (PLP) in attendance at the rally.

This to say the least, was not only condoning, but showing open support to persons that as far as can be ascertained had staged an illegal work stoppage, and brazenly defied a court order.

It is mind-boggling to see law makers in a nation that is at its wits end in trying to find solutions to our unrelenting crime problems giving support to law breakers in order to gain brownie points and votes.

I am wondering if those politicians have not learn anything from past episodes involving unions.

Those members should first take into consideration that they are the alternative to the government and given the make-up and *modus operandi* of unions, will, of a certainty, find themselves involved in similar situations when they are the government.

Unlike union members, those members present at that meeting are members of Parliament, and as such have a forum from which they can deal with the government when issues with which they, opposition, disagree.

Besides showing a bad example under the existing circumstances of the unions' stance in the dispute, they are lending support to what as far as is known were illegal actions and with the state of lawlessness in this nation today, that is unacceptable. Some years ago, while in their second term, the Ingraham administration, when

LETTERS

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preparing for the sale of BaTelCo, paid out millions of dollars to staff who were of retiring age and those that opted for early retirement.

There were no strikes or walk-outs, some of those persons were rehired, but kept their packages.

What are their gripes now? I, for one, do not buy the argument that Bahamians are capable of running the entity. Why?

We, the majority of Bahamians. Have yet to learn the difference between mine and thine (we "tief" too much).

The infighting for control will be awesome.

There will be no end to workers disputes over pay and money related matters.

BaTelCo staffers are suffering from an attitude problem now, what you think they would be suffering under a private Bahamian owned entity?

Such a venture will be throttled to death in its infancy by the same unions that are trying to abort its sale.

Service now is poor, think of what it will be then, deplorable would be an understatement

One union official said that BTC created a number of phone card millionaires.

This statement really needs some clarification, I am sure he cannot be talking about that hapless lot of phone card vendors who are a hazard to traffic on our streets.

Over time BTC has been complaining about the theft of hundreds of thousands of phone cards, are you, Mr Official referring to the culprits who made off with those cards? If so I have to agree with you on your assertion.

Assuming that that was the basis for your argument, we now find that it confirms my point "a" above, against the idea of selling to a Bahamian entity.

I have always been of the opinion that the theft of those cards was not only an inside job, but possibly one

with the knowledge and blessing of a person or persons in the higher echelon of the entity.

I am of the opinion that an investigation into the theft of those cards should be implemented by the police, one that will leave no stone unturned, and one that will investigate the bank accounts of all and sundry that had, not only access to those missing cards, but overall control of them.

You too, Mr Official, should be able to give the investigators the basis for you making such a public statement.

The disobeying of a lawful injunction by a judge of our high courts is to say the least disrespectful and deploring, the head of every union participating in that spectacle called a rally, should be harshly dealt with by the court, the courts cannot be seen as being partial in its administration of justice in this nation.

I read in the media a few days ago where a magistrate issued warrants for the arrest of two police officers who failed to appear as witnesses in a case. No one is above the law.

If we are going to deal with crime in this country, it is incumbent upon the courts to enforce their rulings.

The union members should always bear in mind that they, from the advent of unions were only being used by the union leaders as a stepping stone to another level in the social structure, politics, don't believe me just take a look back in Bahamian politics and tell me where did the following arrived from into politics.

Clifford Darling, Wilbert Moss, Simeon Bowe, Cadwell Armbrister, Shane Gibson and others they were union leaders.

Remember? I can only say to you now, look at that bunch around you and tell me what do you see in them. Nothing but ambition.

A word to the wise is sufficient.

ERRINGTON

W I WATKINS

Nassau,

December 9, 2010.

Do all-inclusive operators wish clients to leave their properties?

EDITOR, The Tribune.

All-inclusive formula does it really perform better than traditional?

The comments of the Minister of Tourism & Aviation are probably 100 per cent correct but why is it that the All-inclusive operators simply do not do as he says "encourage their guests to leave their properties"?

If you perceive as a guest that everything is purchased other than beverages then common sense and especially if you are a budget visitor it will take a lot for you to be enticed to purchase a tour, etc, that is reality and human nature.

There is no doubt that the arrival, especially on Cable Beach of the All-inclusive concept quickly killed Bay Street in the '80's and whether All-inclusive is disguised with some fancy name the end result is that the guest stays on the property they are staying at.

What the Minister misses is that we must infuse a concept where included in the all-inclusive packages are tours – visits to the limited attractions available possibly meals at participating restaurants – use of such services as charter boats, etc.

Is this impossible? Absolutely yes especially if what the Minister says is true and that is the clincher to the deal – does the All-inclusive operator really wish their clients to leave their properties?

Remember beverages are not included in an all-inclusive package and the profit centre for beverages is probably as high as 70 per cent – can Stewart/Sandals or Issa/Breezes loose that revenue? It certainly will be good to hear from them.

Exuma should be exceptionally grateful that Sandals came in and purchased the closed in-liquidation property and could be purchasing the other near-by financially strapped resort...get progressive and set-up tours, etc, as the minister says and if Sandals does not co-operate then call the minister and complain.

W THOMPSON

Nassau,

December 7, 2010.

AUTOMALL

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LOCAL NEWS

• MACKAY YARD FIRE AFTERMATH •

Minister promises to assist children after fire disaster

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

EDUCATION Minister Desmond Bannister toured the fire-ravaged Haitian village off Carmichael Road yesterday, and promised his ministry will do all it can to assist the children who were traumatised by this disaster.

With a cadre of other ministers in tow, including the Minister of Social Services Loretta Butler-Turner, the Minister of Housing Kenneth Russell, and the MP for the area Parliamentary Secretary Brensil Rolle, Mr Bannister said he was pleased to see the MP for West End and Bimini Obie Wilchcombe at the site as well and commended him for displaying that some issues are truly beyond politics.

"I went out there and I saw a number of children who had been displaced," said Mr Bannister.

"Those children attend Carmichael Primary, Garvin Tynes Primary, SC McPherson and AF Adderley – a cross-section of them. They have been displaced and adversely affected, so it is important for the Ministry of Education to be able to have a full list of those children and the schools they attend to see how we can assist them.

"They would have had their



DISPLACED: A number of children have been affected by the fire in the Haitian village.

uniforms destroyed, and they would have also had a traumatic experience. So it is important for us to assist them to ensure that they do not have their education disrupted further when schools start next week. With respect to school uniforms, with respect to the counselling they would need for the trauma they went through, it is absolutely critical that we provide the kind of support that they require."

Mr Bannister added: "As meager as your home may be, when you have your only home that you have known flattened and destroyed and you are a primary school child at ages seven or eight, and you are uncertain where you are going to live or what you are going to do, you are put in a very difficult situation. So our concern is that they get the appropriate counselling and that we assist as much as we can with respect to the other physical needs for schooling."

The Education Minister said he hoped politics would not play a role in what assistance was offered to families – and that persons would not seek to capitalise off their suffering.

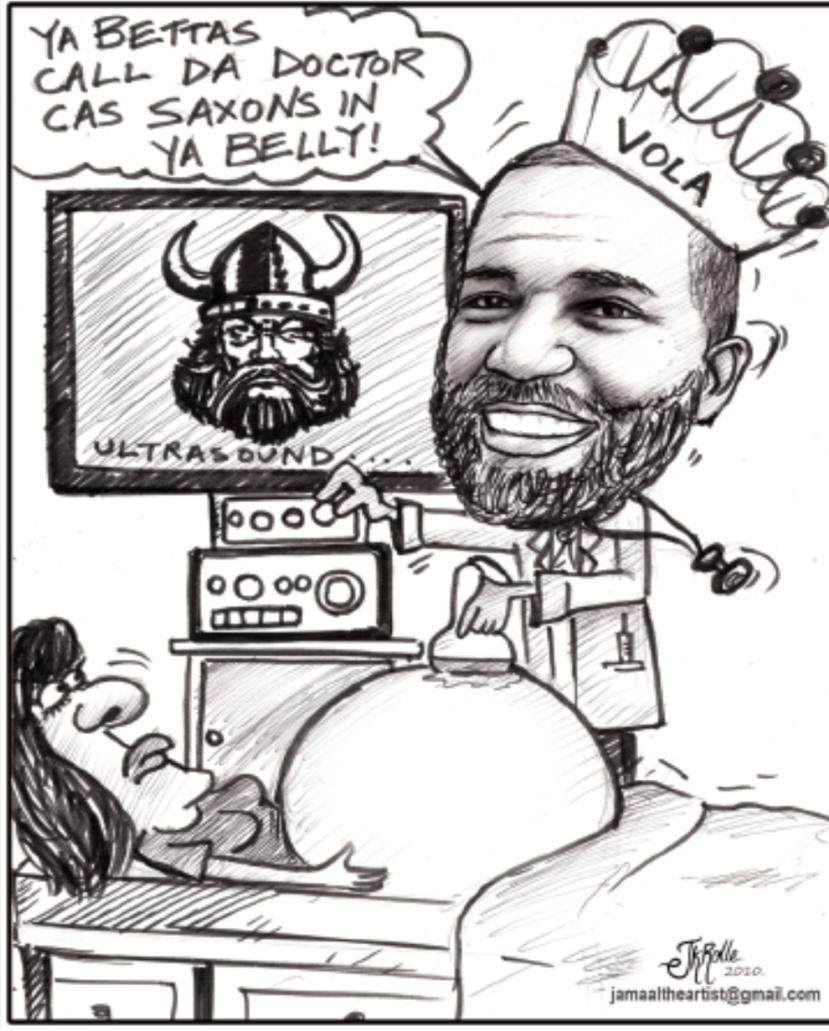
"I hope we all will get to the point where we look beyond politics and look at people and look at basic needs and how they will be fulfilled," said Mr Bannister.

"I didn't give politics a moment's thought. If you would have seen those children out there playing on an old dirty mattress, with very little basic things, no toys or books like that, you would understand how important it is for us to be there to help.

"It doesn't matter what side of the political spectrum you come from, but that you are there to render assistance and you try to be there for the children. I think that is critical."



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LOCAL NEWS

SHOOTING VICTIM FIGHTING FOR LIFE

A SHOOTING in Fox Hill on Tuesday night has left a 23-year-old man fighting for his life in hospital. The victim, a resident of Farrington Road, was attending a private party when he was shot multiple times at about 11.10pm. Police said preliminary reports are that a party was being held at Dorsett Street when a black Honda Accord pulled up and the occupants fired gunshots into the group of guests. The victim, taken to hospital in a private vehicle, is in critical condition. Police are investigating.

Rapid HIV testing 'to be made available'

BY MATT MAURA

RAPID testing for the detection of the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) will be made available at the four poly-clinics in New Providence effective January 2011, Health Minister Dr Hubert Minnis announced.

Dr Minnis said additional services for those infected, but not ill with HIV will simultaneously be made available at the four poly-clinics.

These include the South Beach, Flamingo Gardens, Fleming Street and Elizabeth Estates poly-clinics.

Expansion of the service is expected to follow in the Family Islands later in the new year.

Dr Minnis said the availability of the rapid testing and other HIV services at the four clinics in New Providence is part of a far-reaching Ministry of Health, Department of Public Health and Public Hospital Authority initiative to provide Bahamians with greater access to healthcare services.

He said that access will be even greater with the proposed plans to construct two mini hospitals - one each in Abaco and Exuma - in addition to clinics in a number of other Family Island districts.

Meetings

Dr Minnis said officials at the Ministry of Health, the Department of Public Health and the Public Hospitals Authority have participated in a series of consultative meetings and discussions to move the process of the construction of mini hospitals in Abaco and Exuma forward during the course of the year 2011.

The construction of the two mini hospitals will strengthen the care and services to Family Island residents, he said.

Plans are also underway to construct new clinics proposed for Staniel Cay and the surrounding cays in the Exumas, as well as for the Fresh Creek Dis-

CNCDS CONTINUE TO BE LEADING CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE BAHAMAS

BY MATT MAURA

PUBLIC health officials will expand their efforts in the fight against chronic, non-communicable diseases in 2011, Health Minister Dr Hubert Minnis said.

Dr Minnis said that chronic, non-communicable diseases (CNCDS), such as diabetes, hypertension, cancer and cardiovascular diseases continued to be the leading causes of illness, hospitalisation and death among Bahamians over the course of the year 2010.

The Health Minister said HIV/AIDS, asthma, arthritis, obesity, injury and violence also played major roles.

He said public health officials will introduce increased health promotion and illness prevention strategies to address all of these areas in 2011.

"In the next few weeks, the National Insurance Board, the Ministry of Health and the Department of Public Health will launch an intensive healthy people's programme to create a culture of wellness in our population," Dr Minnis said.

"These new strategies will be critical in helping to reduce the incidences and prevalence of these illnesses and diseases that reduce our work force and limit the quality of life for our citizens."

The Health Minister said healthcare professionals at the Elizabeth Estates Clinic this year began routine surveillance for the early detection of diabetes and hypertension for all first-time clients.



HUBERT MINNIS

Dr Minnis said the monitoring and evaluation of clients with existing chronic, non-communicable diseases has reduced the incidence of secondary complications, thereby reducing the need for hospitalisation - meaning that the measure has been "very effective."

"Pro-active health initiatives such as these are critical in our fight against chronic diseases," he said.

Vital

Dr Minnis said the Government's introduction of the National Chronic Disease Prescription Drug Plan in September 2010 through the National Insurance Board will also play a vital role in reversing the trends.

The first phase of the drug plan provides access to drugs and supplies for the 11 identified non-communicable diseases in the public and private sector at no out-of-pocket cost to the most vulnerable Bahamians.

Figures show that more than 1,300 persons have taken advantage of these services in the public sector, and 14,000 more at private participating pharmacies.

Reports further show that persons are continuing to register with the programme.

"The Department of Public Health will implement new initiatives to strengthen health promotion, health education, and training for clients and health care providers in the successful management and prevention, of not only the 11 identified diseases covered under this Plan, but other conditions as well," Dr Minnis said.

trict in Andros. "Additionally, the National Insurance Board, in consultation with the Ministry of Health and the Department of Public Health, repaired clinic facilities in Marsh Harbour and Cooper's Town in Abaco and Fresh Creek, Andros, all with a view to further strengthening the public healthcare system in those islands," Dr Minnis said.

"Repairs are ongoing at the Hope Town Clinic in Abaco (and) residents of James Cistern, Eleuthera, are assisting the government with the expan-

vision of that clinic. All of these measures will assist in granting Bahamians greater access to quality, primary health care," Dr Minnis added. The Health Minister said the construction of the four poly-clinics in New Providence, and the ones in Abaco and Andros, resulted from recognition of the need to expand services at the community level in order to provide Bahamians "from all walks of life" with easy access to early basic primary healthcare services.

More than one-half million

visits were made to primary healthcare facilities in the Bahamas in 2010, he said.

Primary health care in the Bahamas is provided through a network of 98 healthcare clinics and covers maternal and child health, immunisation, school health, dental services, acute and non-acute ambulatory care, district nursing and other home visiting services.

"Primary healthcare service is the most cost effective and socially equitable healthcare strategy for a people," Dr Minnis said.

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court
BRIEFS**Man arraigned
on charges of
attempted murder
and armed robbery**

A MAN was arraigned in a Magistrate's Court yesterday on attempted murder and armed robbery charges.

Valentino Williams, 20, of Crab Apple Street, was arraigned before Acting Magistrate Jeneane Weech-Gomez in Court 6, Parliament Street.

Williams is accused of attempting to cause the death of Fenrick Seymour on December 18. It is also alleged that on the same day Williams, while armed with a handgun, robbed Stacetta Spence of \$1,500 cash, the property of the \$ U Beauty Supply Store on Malcolm Road.

It is also alleged that Williams robbed Anna Strachan of \$11.

Williams, who was not represented by counsel, was not required to enter a plea to the charges.

The prosecution objected to bail. Williams was remanded to Her Majesty's Prison and is expected back in court on February 28, 2011.

**Woman arraigned
on stealing almost
\$23k in goods**

A 26-year-old woman accused of stealing nearly \$23,000 in goods from her place of employment was arraigned in a Magistrate's Court yesterday.

Anetra Pickstock, 26, was arraigned before Acting Magistrate Jeneane Weech-Gomez, charged with stealing by reason of employment.

It is alleged that between May 1, 2010 and Friday, October 1, 2010, she stole from B'Jour Classique on Mount Royal Avenue goods valued at \$22,922.40. Pickstock pleaded not guilty to the charge and was granted bail in the sum of \$10,000 after the prosecution raised no objection to her being granted bail. The case was adjourned to August 3, 2011.

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We have teamed up with Dollar Rent A Car who are offering a fantastic prize package, including airfare for one to Miami, a one-day car rental and a night in a hotel.

Every week day at 3pm, the team at *The Tribune* and *Tribune242.com* will post a question relating to a story in that day's newspaper. The answers can be found by reading

the stories in the newspaper and online.

The first three readers to email the correct answer, along with their full name, will receive points. The first correct answer to hit our *TribuneTrivia@tribunemedia.net* inbox will get three points. The second person to respond correctly will get two points and third in will get one point.

Each day's winners will be recorded on the monthly tally sheet and at the end of each month one person

will walk away with the grand prize. Tribune Trivia is open only to residents of the Bahamas.

In the event of a tie, the prize will go to the person who received the most first place wins that month. The tally sheet will be wiped clear on the first day of each month.

The question, the correct answer, and the names of the three winners will be published the following day in *The Tribune*.

Good luck!

Officials say immigration sickout had 'no effect'

By DENISE MAYCOCK
Tribune Freeport Reporter
dmaycock@tribunemedia.net

FREEPORT – The sick-out by some immigration officers over the holiday weekend had no effect on the various ports of entry here on Grand Bahama, officials said.

Last week, the Bahamas Custom and Immigration Workers Allied Union (BCI-WAU) encouraged officers to stay home during the holidays after claiming the government had failed to compensate them for overtime and holidays worked.

As a result, last Friday a

number of junior immigration officers called in sick for the overtime shift because of grievances over non-payment of their overtime.

John Curtis, area vice-president of the Bahamas Public Services Union (BPSU), confirmed last Tuesday that the sick-out was not organised by his union.

"We (the BPSU) did not orchestrate the sick-out, but I made inquiries and it appears as if the grouping that is forming the other break-away union

from the BPSU had orchestrated the sick-out," Mr Curtis said.

"Based on my inquiries (the sick-out) had no affect at the various ports of entry at the airport or harbour because management was able to take care of the shift."

According to Mr Curtis, all of the persons who called in sick were back to work on Tuesday.

In addition to the overtime issue, the BPSU said insufficient staffing is also a problem

among officers.

The Immigration Department has about 47 officers on staff in Freeport.

"Even with the new shift system in place there is still need for more persons in the Immigration Department to cover various areas," Mr Curtis said.

He noted that another matter of concern is the reclassification of officers.

Mr Curtis explained that a number of officers have not received promotions even though they have completed

courses and received qualification certificates.

"We can't tell the employer who to promote, but some people have gone and qualified themselves and were seeking promotion, only to be told that due to the economic situation in the country it could not happen at this time," he said.

Mr Curtis said the BPSU will bring these issues to the table in the next negotiation exercise for an industrial agreement.

PARLIAMENTARY REGISTRATION DEPARTMENT BEGINS VOTER REGISTRATION DRIVE

THE Parliamentary Registration Department has started its voter registration drive, which will culminate in the national general election during 2012. To this end, the department is offering its mobile services to companies with a minimum of 20 eligible voters.

Interested persons may take advantage of this service by contacting Isadelle Howells at the Parliamentary Department at telephone numbers 397-2000, 397-2008 or e-mail at IGH1950@gmail.com for an appointment.

INSIGHT

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on Mondays

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**Children's Service
& Blessing of Christmas gifts/toys**

Sunday 26th Dec. - 7:15a.m. Eucharist:

Holy Communion Service

10:30a.m. Eucharist/ Holy Communion Service

7:00 p.m. Song Mass, Sermon and Benediction

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LOCAL NEWS

Bahamas Realty spreads Christmas cheer at Bilney Lane's Children Home

THE employees at Bahamas Realty spread Christmas cheer at the Bilney Lane's Children Home for the 25th year in a row.

Bahamas Realty partners and staff put up and decorated a large Christmas tree for the children during the annual tree trimming party last week.

Carols were also sung to fill the night with joy as Bahamas Realty broker Stuart Halbert played the keyboard.

Office manager Daniel Hall played Santa Claus in plain clothes, delivering groceries, a turkey, bags and baskets of gifts from the partners and staff of the real estate company.

There was also pizza for the tree trimming party.

Brokers Sara and Chandra Parker brought gifts for each child to open on the night and their colleague Pyper Parker sent two shopping bags full of puzzles and books.

Bilney Lane Children's Home is part of the Conference of the Methodist Church.

The Home's administrators Janet Brown and her assistant Olivia Major sent a thank you note to the real estate firm the next day, saying: "We thank our heavenly Father for putting grace in your hearts. May our loving saviour continue to bless you and the staff of Bahamas Realty in Jesus' name."

Those who wish to help may contact the Home at bilneylane@live.com



SPREADING CHEER: Sandals Foundation volunteer Monique Alcy is pictured handing out presents.

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Christmas cheer extended to more than 200 children

MORE than 200 toys and games were distributed to children at Gambier Primary, the Children's Emergency Hostel, Bilney Lane's Children Home, All Saints Camp and the Princess Margaret Paediatric Ward.

The charitable initiative was part of the Sandals Foundation Annual Christmas Treat. The Sandals Foundation is the philanthropic arm of Sandals Resorts International and aims to enhance education, the environment and the community in the Caribbean islands where Sandals operates.

Stacy Mackey, public relations manager at Sandals Royal Bahamian, said this year's events were varied and aimed to provide much

needed holiday cheer to the children.

"We had a group of more than 15 resort guests and Sandals Foundation volunteers that went down to Gambier Primary on the last day of school and served lunch and gave out gifts to all 120 students. "Then we hosted the Children Emergency Hostel and All Saints Camp to an afternoon of games, a movie and buffet lunch before they departed with their Christmas presents in hand," she said.

Diana Thompson of the All Saints Camp said this year there were few donations of gifts for the children.

"Being able to take the children to Sandals and have them enjoy an outing was such a blessing. Everyone had a big smile on their faces and it truly made the children happy," she said.

Sandals Foundation volunteer Monique Alcy said it was great to assist more children than last year.

"We were able to spend quality time with most of the kids and even our guests enjoyed the experience. We needed the extra helping hands and the Christmas Treat allowed our guests to see the work of the Sandals Foundation."

These activities are a part of the Sandals Foundation's Caribbean-wide Annual Holiday Treats, which this year are expected to benefit over 10,000 children in Jamaica, St Lucia, Antigua, Turks and Caicos and the Bahamas, resort officials said.

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.



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VIA SPIGA

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Stadium hailed as start of 'new era' for Bahamas sport

By ERIC ROSE

YOUTH leaders touring the construction site of the new National Stadium hailed the facility as the beginning of a new era for Bahamian athletes and the country's sports tourism industry.

The tour was also described as a "signature event" which will further the friendship between the Bahamas and China.

Minister of Youth, Sports and Culture Charles Maynard said that the recent tour by a cross-section of youth representatives was a very important event for the Bahamas' present and future sporting endeavours.

"It is important for the young people, our future leaders, to know exactly what is going on in the process of construction, to be intimate with how the design is now unfolding and how it is going to be managed in the future," Minister Maynard said during the tour.

"To look at it at this point in the construction is significant, so that they could get a full appreciation of it when it is finished."

Hu Dingxian, People's Republic of China Ambassador to the Bahamas, said he was "so happy" to see so many people on the tour because of what it symbolised for the friendship enjoyed between the two countries over the past decade.

"This friendship needs to be carried on to the younger generations; so I am very happy that they are here today and I sure that this friendship will carry on for generations to come," said Ambassador Hu.

Co-ordinator of the International Desk in the Department of Culture John Darville said having members of the National Youth Ambassadors Corps take part in the special tour was a "signature event" for them because, as youth envoys, they are learning of the friendship of the two countries and what such partnerships mean to nation building.

Mr Darville said: "Today we are in awe, observing these developments and seeing how pivotal our government has been in forming this relationship and we are excited to learn of this development, as it will impact the future generations of the Bahamas, and how we can further our ties to have more developments in the Bahamas."

Youth Ambassador for CARICOM and the vice dean of the Youth Ambassadors Corps Demathio Forbes said he feels that such investments made in sports will be returned in short order.

"I would love to be a young track athlete right now. I was just trying to imagine myself out there, running in the 400 metres (race) on the new track and jumping out of the blocks. If you are in high school right now or just coming out of

junior high school, you should be very excited seeing this.

"It gives Bahamians a chance to stand strong – not just in the region, but internationally – to show our sports prowess and compete on a higher level in track and field."

Youth Ambassador to the Organisation of American States (OAS) Sharell Ferguson said that it is "amazing" to see that the Bahamas is going so strongly into sports tourism.

"Like Demathio said, this is going to be a new era for the Bahamas," she said.

Markets

"This is going to be a new economical means of bringing in revenue and we are going to tap into markets that we had never tapped into before. I just want to commend the government for this step they have taken and I do hope that everything is continued to be done in transparency and accountability to show how Bahamians will benefit from this gift we are receiving from the Chinese government."

National Youth Ambassador to the United Nations Chistina Smith agreed that the stadium would give young Bahamians more opportunities to shine in the international sports arena.

"This here, having proper facilities, is important in training and getting them used to how to conduct themselves and the appropriate behaviour in sports."

"In respect to the international arena, having a stadium of such magnitude here in the Bahamas would open up doors in not just sports tourism, but also in giving us

more exposure to different cultures and bringing in talent to train our Bahamian people. All of that is important to the development of our Bahamas," she said.

Gia Rolle, who represented the Pinewood constituency in the recent Youth in Parliament exercise, said that it was an honour and a privilege to be a part of the tour.

President of the Free National Movement Torchbearers Jamal Moss said the construction of the stadium is a historic moment for the Bahamas.

"I want to commend the minister, the Ministry of Youth, Sports and Culture and the present administration for allowing the young people to be seen and to have a voice in this country," he said.

Also taking part in the tour were C C Sweeting Senior High School students who were assigned at the site to this year's apprenticeship programme.

The programme was introduced last year to afford the students a chance to get a hands-on experience learning some of the construction methods.

Keiran Sweeting, a grade 12 student, said that the programme helped him to understand various aspects of building and gives him an edge for when he enters the workforce.

"It's good to learn and it's good to help us because if you do not have anybody to help you, you cannot make it in life," he said.

"And if you make it in life and keep at it, anything is possible. I was happy to be able to join them on this tour today, to see the progress,"



MINISTER OF YOUTH, SPORTS AND CULTURE Charles Maynard (third right) and People's Republic of China Ambassador to the Bahamas Hu Dingxian (fifth right) pose with a group of Bahamian youth leaders and stakeholders on a recent tour of the National Stadium construction site. Patrick Hanna/BIS



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Notice is hereby given that the private roadways **Lucayos #1 on Elbow Cay will be closed on Saturday December 25, 2010** to protect its privacy, and **Lucayos #2 on Elbow Cay will be closed on Saturday January 1, 2011** to protect its privacy.

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LOCAL NEWS

VIEW FROM AFAR

JOHN ISSA

'HAPPY HOLIDAYS' REALLY!

By JOHN ISSA



ON the altar of political correctness at this time of the year, in most hotels, restaurants and shops in the United States you are received with the greeting "Happy Holidays."

I usually respond by saying in Jamaica we say Merry Christmas.

Then I go on to add that we can say all three greetings, Happy Hanukkah, Happy Kwanzaa and Happy Christmas, but not Happy Holidays.

The reaction I then receive has always been positive with the person appearing to be relieved that he or she has been freed to greet in the way they would have preferred in the first place.

One hears from time to time the complaint that this season that is celebrated by a number of religions and cultures has been reduced to a secular commercial holiday. Nothing underlines this more than the pressure that political correctness places on people not to say Happy Christmas because it may offend those who may wish to say Happy Hanukkah or Happy Kwanzaa.

The obvious solution would appear to be a simple one. Each person uses the greeting that fits their religion or culture and the person greeted responds with the greeting appropriate to them.

So let us banish the Happy Holidays greeting.

I will end by wishing you all a very Merry Christmas, a belated Happy Hanukkah and Happy Kwanzaa.

Fire causes minor damage to resort building

By DENISE MAYCOCK
Tribune Freeport
Reporter
dmaycock@tribunemedia.net

building at the Club Fortuna Resort on Monday, police reported.

Asst Supt Loretta Mackey reported that firemen were dispatched to the resort around 1.50pm and observed flames and smoke

coming from the second floor of the Abaco Building.

The fire was confined to an air-conditioning unit in one of the rooms, which sustained minor smoke damage to the ceiling.

No one was injured and none of the other rooms were affected by the fire.

Ms Mackey said officers are continuing their investigations into the cause of the fire.

PM AT BOXING DAY JUNKANOO



BUNDLED UP - Everybody dressed for the low temperatures during the Boxing Day Junkanoo Parade on Bay Street Monday morning. Among the spectators were Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham and Delores Ingraham. Also enjoying the parade at right is Minister of National Security Tommy Turnquest.

CHATTING - Leader of the Valley Boys Winston "Gus" Cooper stops to chat with Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham and Delores Ingraham during the Boxing Day Junkanoo Parade on Monday morning. The Valley Boys placed second behind first place winner Saxon Superstars.



Peter Ramsay/BIS

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Customs and Immigration concerns raised

FROM page one

Deron Brooks, executive vice-president of Bahamas Custom and Immigration Workers Allied Union (BCI-WAU) in Grand Bahamas, said yesterday he believes the incorrect pay cheques have been issued from either administration heads or the public treasury in Nassau, in conjunction with the implementation of a shift system, is resulting in "low morale and quality of service among immigration and customs officers and will compromise the security of the country".

"Although this was always

a concern, it was never a problem until the shift system was put in to place earlier this year," said Mr Brooks.

According to Mr Brooks, the implementation of the shift system, which has been in place since January 18, 2010, is a major source of the problem.

Mr Brooks said: "A shortage of officers results in persons working long hours, more than the standard 40 hours and often working ten days straight without a day off and more importantly without compensation."

He confirmed that 85 to 90 per cent of junior ranking

immigration officers "did not feel well enough to go to work" this past holiday Monday.

According to Sloane Smith, vice-president of the BCI-WAU in New Providence, immigration officers have not been given their lawful overtime or holiday pay for the past six to seven months.

Following Mr Brooks' sentiments, Mr Smith said the shift system is not working and "is stomping on the constitutional rights of the officers".

According to the union leaders, the system was implemented to reduce overtime

costs but also reduced employment opportunities.

"We are aware that the Customs Management Act was amended in 2009, however as far as the union is concerned, the current set rates do not reflect the employment act" said Mr Smith.

"It has been one year, long enough to rectify any discrepancies and issues that have arisen. We just want what is entitled under the law, nothing more," said Mr Brooks.

According to Mr Brooks, correct billing for officers' pay cheques left Grand Bahamas, however rates were changed

by the head office or the public treasury to reflect a set rate which was never agreed to.

Mr Brooks went on to say that Assistant Director of Immigration Fousteen Major-Smith "has done her due diligence in inquiring into the status of the cheques and at what the pay rates would be paid".

Director of Immigration Jack Thompson confirmed with *The Tribune* that overtime and holiday monies due has been paid as recently as

Christmas Eve and the remaining outstanding monies are currently being processed.

"The government is committed to ensuring that those persons who work over 40 hours receive their overtime and holiday pay," said Mr Thompson.

He also commented that there is a process and procedure that must be followed.

"We will ensure that the exercise is carried out," promised Mr Thompson.

BTC unions threaten to sue over strike claims

FROM page one

that executives at BTC should try to boost staff morale instead of pointing fingers at the union for any drop in work performance.

"No one has reached out yet to the staff to try and lift their morale. They asking us to try and encourage our members to work they need to get out there as managers and chairman to walk around and to ensure and ask the member what's going on. Why not boost their morale? We have not instructed our members to take any industrial action.

"As a matter of fact I told Mr Griffin yesterday that if he charged us with such thing as this that we will sue him," said Mr Evans.

His comments came after BTC acting President Kirk Griffin reported that staff performance at BTC's call centre had dropped to under 20 per cent, which seemed to be continued industrial action by employees.

"Hurting the very customers who you rely upon to pay your bills is in no way a productive undertaking," said Mr Griffin, vowing that those responsible will be held accountable.

The unions and BTC executives are at odds over the impending sale of 51 per cent of the state-run telecommunications company to regional operator Cable & Wireless.

Earlier this month the unions staged two days of protests against the sale.

Man shot by police during Bain Town chase

FROM page one

shoulder, said Press Liaison Officer Sgt Chrislyn Skipplings.

The man was wanted by police and is expected to be charged on a number of criminal offences, Sgt Skipplings said.

The incident took place at about 1pm yesterday when

uniformed officers were on mobile patrol of the Bain Town area and received information that two male suspects wanted by police were seen walking in the Augusta Street area.

The officers spotted two men fitting the description of the suspects, pulled alongside them and asked them to surrender, said Ms Skipplings.

"The suspects in turn began

running in an effort to evade arrest," she said.

"The officers then pursued the suspects on foot through a yard, where it is reported that one of the men turned in the officer's direction and pointed a weapon at them.

"In response, a police-issued weapon was discharged, striking one of the suspects to the shoulder.

"This suspect was subse-

quently arrested and taken to Princess Margaret Hospital via ambulance where he is detained in stable condition in police custody.

"During this event, there were no injuries to police officers and no damage to police vehicles."

The second suspect, a another man and the wounded 20-year-old were taken into police custody.

FROM page one

year gridiron action.

• Youngsters, make sure you get your copy of **Kid Scoop**, the fun, yet educational puzzle magazine.

The Tribune sees out 2010 in style

• **Business Review** takes a look at the past year's major business issues.
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Bellagio nixing \$25,000 chip after casino heist

LAS VEGAS

LAS VEGAS casino bosses are serving notice to the bandit who made off with \$1.5 million in chips from the Bellagio: Try to redeem those worth \$25,000 soon or they'll become worthless, according to Associated Press.

Bellagio owner MGM Resorts International is giving public notice that it's discontinuing its standard chip valued at \$25,000 and calling for all gamblers holding the chips to redeem them by April 22.

After that, gambling regulators say each red chip with a gray inlay won't be worth more than the plastic it's cast from.

"The bottom line is that they're not money," said David Salas, deputy enforcement chief for the Nevada Gaming Control Board.

MGM Resorts first posted notice of the redemption last week in the classifieds of the Las Vegas Review-Journal newspaper. That's one week after a robber wearing a motorcycle helmet held up a craps table at gunpoint and made off with a bag of chips of varying denominations.

Police and casino officials have been working since the Dec. 14 heist to try to locate the bandit and keep watch on anyone trying to cash in the chips, which ranged in denomination from \$100 to \$25,000.

A police spokeswoman said Wednesday there have been no significant developments in the case since then.

MGM Resorts spokesman Alan Feldman told The Associated Press the chips were



IN THIS surveillance video frame grab released Tuesday Dec.14,2010 by the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department showing a bandit wearing a motorcycle helmet during an armed robbery Thursday Dec. 9,2010 at the Las Vegas Suncoast Casino. Police believe it's the same man who who escaped on a motorcycle with about \$1.5 million worth of casino chips from the posh Bellagio early Tuesday Dec.14, 2010. (AP)

switched out at the tables within an hour of the robbery, and the Bellagio immediately filed to discontinue the chips.

Feldman said the move was designed to avoid inconveniencing players using the high value chips.

He said he did not know how many chips existed and were uncashed.

"Obviously, anyone walking with one of the old series is going to be subject to a certain amount of questioning as to how they obtained them — assuming it isn't someone we know," Feldman told the AP.

"It's pretty unusual for someone we don't know to come strolling up with a handful of

\$25,000 chips."

Discontinuing chips — though done in this case because of the robbery — is not uncommon for Las Vegas casinos, even at high denominations, Salas said.

Commemorative chips to mark a noteworthy prizefight for example, often have a finite circulation. On Wednesday, the Silver Nugget Casino in North Las Vegas posted notice it planned to discontinue chips with the Mahoney's Silver Nugget logo.

It's not immediately clear how many of the chips that were stolen were \$25,000 chips, though it could be as many as 60.

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Neighbours put the Ivory Coast military option on hold

ABIDJAN, Ivory Coast

WEST AFRICAN leaders blinked in their showdown with Laurent Gbagbo on Wednesday, taking a military intervention off the table for now so that negotiations can continue with the incumbent leader who refuses to hand over power in Ivory Coast, according to Associated Press.

Even as the 15-nation regional bloc ECOWAS gave Gbagbo more time, though, defense officials from member states gathered in Nigeria.

ECOWAS had vowed to use force to wrest Gbagbo from the presidential palace if he did not agree on Tuesday to step aside for Alassane Ouattara, the internationally recognized winner of last month's election. The presidents of Sierra Leone, Benin and Cape Verde delivered the ultimatum on ECOWAS' behalf, hoping to escort Gbagbo into exile. He refused to budge.

A Ouattara adviser, speaking on condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the matter, said that Gbagbo demanded a vote recount during the negotiations with the visiting delegation and also wants amnesty if he leaves office. The United Nations has accused his security forces of being behind hundreds of arrests, and dozens of cases of torture and disappearance, an allegation his advisers deny.

The ECOWAS delegation reported Wednesday on its trip to Abidjan, and Nigerian President Goodluck Jonathan said the leaders would return to Ivory Coast on Monday.

"Whenever there is a dispute, whenever there is disagreement, it is dialogue that



ALAIN LE ROY, UN Peace Keeping Chief, speaks during a press conference at the UN Headquarters in Abidjan, yesterday. West African leaders blinked in their showdown with Laurent Gbagbo on Wednesday, taking a military intervention off the table for now so that negotiations can continue with the incumbent leader who refuses to hand over power in Ivory Coast. (AP)

will solve issues," Jonathan said in the Nigerian capital, Abuja, where ECOWAS is based. "The dialogue is on. They are encouraging us to go back."

Vote

The United Nations declared Gbagbo the loser of the presidential runoff vote held on Nov. 28. Chaos in his country already has kept him in power five years beyond his mandate.

The U.N., which was tasked with certifying the results of the election, the United States and other world powers have insisted Gbagbo hand over power to Ouattara.

ECOWAS, the Economic Community of West African States, has sent combat troops to several nations in the past two decades. ECOWAS defense chiefs met on Wednesday at the Nigeria defense headquarters. A soldier at the headquarters said

the meeting was closed to the press.

However, Africa security analyst Peter Pham said practical obstacles may prevent troop deployment to Ivory Coast. The best troops from ECOWAS states are already deployed on missions elsewhere such as Sudan, and even if soldiers could be found, transport logistics would be a challenge, he said.

"Gbagbo called their bluff on their ability to follow through on any sort of military threat," said Pham, of the National Committee on American Foreign Policy, a New York-based think tank. "Sending a peacekeeping force is one thing, but an invasion force that will be resisted by the national military is quite another."

U.N. peacekeeping chief Alain Le Roy, meanwhile, said that the U.N. had become a target of violence after a campaign of "disturbing lies" on state television suggested that

IVORY COAST PRESIDENT Laurent Gbagbo, left, welcomes Sierra Leone President Ernest Bai Koroma, centre, and Benin President Boni Yayi, at the Presidential Palace in Abidjan, Ivory Coast, on Tuesday. (AP)



the U.N. was arming and transporting anti-Gbagbo rebels.

One U.N. peacekeeper was wounded with a machete when his patrol was encircled by angry people in the pro-Gbagbo neighborhood of Yopougon on Tuesday. One U.N. armored personnel carrier was burned before the head of the national army personally intervened to allow the peacekeepers to retreat, Leroy said.

U.S. State Department spokesman Mark Toner said the United States has begun planning for the possible evacuation of its embassy in Ivory Coast amid concerns of a full-blown conflict.

Coalition

Also Wednesday, a lawyer representing Gbagbo told AP Television News that the incumbent might agree to power-sharing, saying a previous coalition government with Prime Minister Guillaume Soro, a former rebel leader, shows Gbagbo can compromise.

"He has already shown that he is willing his country to get back to peace and to development and to reconciliation between the people," attorney Aref Mohamed Aref said.

But U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said earlier this month power-sharing is not on the table and that Gbagbo must leave.

"Any other outcome would make a mockery of democracy and the rule of law," Ban said. "There was a clear winner. There is no other option."

Other African nations have opted for coalition governments in the wake of contested elections which degenerated into violence with varying degrees of success. Ivory Coast, however, is unique in that the United Nations was allowed to certify the election results as part of a peace agreement that ended the 2002-2003 civil war.

In Kenya, Mwai Kibaki and Raila Odinga agreed to a coalition government after election violence following the December 2007 vote left more than 1,000 people dead. Kibaki serves as president and Odinga is the country's prime minister.

And in Zimbabwe, President Robert Mugabe and longtime opposition leader Morgan Tsvangirai agreed to a power-sharing deal in Zimbabwe following the disputed 2008 election, although deep divisions have persisted.

Gbagbo has been in power since 2000.

The election was meant to help reunify a country that the war divided into a rebel-controlled north and a loyalist south, but again Ivory Coast stands at the brink of war. While Ivory Coast was officially reunited in a 2007 peace

deal, Ouattara still draws his support from the northern half of the country, where residents feel they are often treated as foreigners within their own country by southerners.

Gbagbo insists he did not lose the election, saying the Ivory Coast constitutional council declared him the winner.

Ballots

The council, which is led by a Gbagbo ally, made that announcement after the country's electoral commission said Ouattara won. The constitutional council threw out half a million ballots from Ouattara strongholds in the north, saying violence and intimidation directed at Gbagbo supporters meant results from those areas should be invalidated. The top U.N. envoy in Ivory Coast has disputed that assessment.

While Ouattara has gained widespread international recognition and is creating a shadow government from an Abidjan hotel, Gbagbo maintains control of Ivory Coast's security forces.

The regional bloc ECOWAS is comprised of Benin, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Ivory Coast, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Togo.



GN 1155

GOVERNMENT NOTICE

MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS & TRANSPORT

TENDER FOR SPORTS CENTRE REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT PHASE 1A, PHASE 1B AND UPGRADE OF YELLOW ELDER WASTE WATER TREATMENT PLANT

The Government of The Bahamas through the Ministry of Public Works and Transport invites sealed Tenders from eligible tenderers for the **Sports Centre Redevelopment Project – Phase 1A, Phase 1B and Upgrade of Yellow Elder Waste Water Treatment Plant**. The project includes the construction of a new internal road network; parking lots in and around the new stadium which is currently under construction by others and the construction of water and sewer, electrical and telecommunications systems. The project will also include extensive landscaped/hardscaped areas that are integral to creating an aesthetically pleasing environment within the Sports Centre Site.

Tender Documents may be purchased, at the Ministry of Public Works and Transport, beginning Friday 7 January 2011 between 9:00a.m. and 4:00p.m., Mondays to Fridays, upon payment of a non-refundable fee of \$B200.00 (two Hundred Dollars). Payments may be made in cash, certified cheque, bank draft or money order, payable to the Public Treasury of The Bahamas. Following proof of payment one set of Tender Documents comprising Volumes 0, 1, 2 in paper format and Volume 3 in electronic format shall be issued by:

Ministry of Works & Transport
Civil Engineering Section
John F. Kennedy Drive
P.O. Box N-8156
Nassau, Bahamas

Telephone: (242) 302-9772 or 302-9779
Fax: (242) 302-9770

Interested parties may inspect the Tender Documents and obtain further information, including eligibility to participate and purchase, at the same address.

Completed Tender Documents including copy of receipt for the \$200.00 paid must be enclosed in a sealed envelope, clearly marked, "CONFIDENTIAL – TENDER APPLICATION FOR SPORTS CENTRE REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT – PHASE 1A, PHASE 1B AND UPGRADE OF YELLOW ELDER WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT" and deposited in the Tender Box at the Ministry of Finance, Cecil Wallace Whitfield Building, West Bay Street, Nassau, Bahamas, no later than 10:00a.m. Tuesday 15 February, 2011. Late submissions will not be accepted. Tenderers are invited to attend the Tender Opening at 10:00a.m., on Tuesday 15 February, 2011 at the following address:

Tenders Board
Ministry of Finance and Planning
Cecil Wallace-Whitfield Building
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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Wind found to be a factor in Maine chair lift accident

CARRABASSETT VALLEY, Maine

High wind contributed to a chair lift accident at the Sugarloaf ski area that caused skiers to plummet 25 to 30 feet, sending eight to hospitals and stranding others for more than an hour, state investigators said Wednesday, but they're not ruling out other factors, according to Associated Press.

The 35-year-old lift, which recently passed an inspection, was due to be replaced, possibly next summer, and was known to be vulnerable to wind long before its cable derailed Tuesday.

Resort spokesman Ethan Austin also said Wednesday that wind played a role, but he didn't rule out mechanical difficulties or other causes. At least two skiers said a Sugarloaf worker was atop the tower where the cable derailed, though that could have been a coincidence. The lift was properly licensed and inspected for 2010, officials said.

Before the accident Tuesday, the damaged lift and two others started the day on a "wind hold" because of the blustery weather, but Sugarloaf officials later deemed it safe to operate. Wind gusts of 40 mph were reported around Sugarloaf before the accident on the aging lift.

On Wednesday, the ski resort's parking lots were full, and the slopes were crowded.

The damaged lift remained out of commission, with part of its cable and several chairs still on the snow where they fell, as state inspectors and Sugarloaf workers went about their investigation.

Skiers and snowboarders agreed that it had been windy on Tuesday, a day after a blizzard whipped most of the state before blowing out to sea. But many of them disagreed over whether the wind was above and beyond what's normally

seen on Sugarloaf, the state's tallest ski mountain.

"Yeah, it was windy. It didn't keep me from coming up here," Chuck Tetreau, a snowboarder from North Yarmouth, said after making a run Wednesday.

In Maine, ski resort lifts are overseen by the Maine Board of Elevator and Tramway Safety, whose inspectors are investigating the accident. Annual inspections are the responsibility of the ski resorts, but the state licenses the inspectors.

Nationwide, there's no federal oversight of ski lifts, and inspection rules and procedures vary from state to state, said Troy Hawks of the National Ski Areas Association.

Deadly lift accidents are relatively rare. Since 1973, lift accidents have killed 12 people, including one in 1976 that killed four people in Vail, Colo., and another in 1978 in Squaw Valley, Calif., that also killed four people, according to the Colorado-based organization.

In Maine, no one was killed but eight people, including three children, were taken to hospitals. Five chairs and the skiers in them plunged onto the ski trail below, and dozens more skiers were stuck on the crippled lift for more than an hour until the ski patrol could get them down. Six of the injured skiers had been released from Franklin Memorial Hospital as of Wednesday, said hospital spokeswoman Jill Gray. Two others were transferred to Maine Medical Center in Portland, she said, but a spokeswoman there declined to confirm whether the hospital was treating them.

The lift is 4,013 feet long, gains 1,454 feet of elevation and nearly reaches the summit of 4,327-foot Sugarloaf. The resort had targeted the lift for replacement under a 10-year plan. Sugarloaf's general manager publicly stated he wanted this to be its last winter, partly because of vulnerability to wind.

Donor in 1st successful transplant dies in US

PORTLAND, Maine

RONALD LEE HERRICK, who donated a kidney to his dying twin brother 56 years ago in what's recognized as the world's first successful organ transplant, has died of complications following heart surgery, according to Associated Press. He was 79.

Herrick died Monday at the Augusta Rehabilitation Center in Augusta, said his wife, Cynthia. He had been in deteriorating health since his October surgery, she said.

Herrick gave a kidney to his twin brother, Richard, at what is now Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston. The 5 1/2-hour operation on Dec. 23, 1954, kept Herrick's brother alive for eight years and was the first successful organ transplant, according to the United Network for Organ Sharing. Lead surgeon Dr. Joseph Murray went on to win a Nobel Prize.

The operation proved that transplants were possible and led to thousands of other successful kidney transplants and ultimately the transplant of other organs. Doctors had tried a handful of transplants worldwide without success up to that point, said Murray, who went on to perform another 18 transplants between identical twins.

"This operation rejuvenated the whole field of transplantation," Murray, 91, told The Associated Press in a phone interview from his home in Wellesley, Massachusetts. "There were other people studying transplants in four or five different countries, but the fact that it worked so well with the identical twins was a tremendous stimulus."

Herrick was raised on a family farm in Rutland, Mass.



IN THIS JUNE 4, 1955 FILE PHOTO, Richard Herrick, left, and his twin brother Ronald, from Northborough, Mass., sing at the annual meeting of the Mended Hearts Club at a hotel in Boston. The identical twin brothers made medical history when Ronald donated one of his kidneys to Richard for a Dec. 23, 1954 kidney transplant that was recognized as the world's first successful organ transplant. Richard lived eight years after receiving the transplant. Ronald died Monday, Dec. 27, 2010, in Augusta, Maine. He was 79. (AP)

achusetts, where he graduated high school. He later served in the U.S. Army.

At 23, Herrick was glad to give up a kidney if it would help his brother, who was dying from chronic nephritis, an inflammation of the kidneys. Murray thought the odds of a transplanted organ being accepted would be enhanced since they were identical twins.

Before the operation, many people opposed the idea of transplanting a body organ, equating it with desecration of a body. Others felt it was unethical to operate on healthy humans, and respected editors of medical journals wrote that it was contrary to the Hippocratic Oath's vow to never do harm to anyone, Murray said.

But Herrick never wavered

and the operation went on as planned with no complications. Richard Herrick met his future wife, Clare, in the recovery room, where she was a nursing supervisor.

"He was the only one in the world who could save his brother's life, so he was going to do it," said Cynthia Herrick.

"There was no question about it."

IN THIS FRIDAY'S TRIBUNE . . .

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Kid Scoop News

Celebrations!
The new year is here and this issue is packed with articles and activities about celebrations of all kinds!

Count the confetti on this page. Are there more square, triangle or circle-shaped confetti bits?

JANUARY 2011

Write and win great prizes!
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- January Activities
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Sports
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Divisional matchups spice up NFL's Week 17

LOCAL NEWS

• MACKEY YARD FIRE AFTERMATH •



PHOTOS: Tim Clarke/Tribune staff



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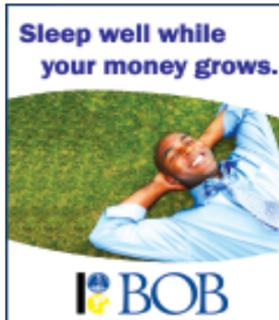
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Property insurance boost for consumer

Rates set to fall in Bahamas in 2011

By NEIL HARTNELL
Tribune Business Editor

Hard-pressed Bahamian consumers are set to enjoy some modest New Year cheer in one respect, Tribune Business can reveal, as general insurance carriers move to lower property insurance premiums in 2011.

This newspaper's contacts informed it yesterday that one Bahamas-based general insurance underwriter, RoyalStar Assurance, had already decided to lower property premium rates for 2011, while Bahamas First was considering whether to follow suit from February 1.

Steve Watson, RoyalStar's managing director, was said to be out of the country on holiday when Tribune Business tried to contact him yesterday, but Patrick Ward, Bahamas First's president and chief executive, confirmed that several Bahamian general insurance carriers were seeking to reduce their property rates.

While emphasising that Bahamas First had made no decision itself on whether to follow suit, Mr Ward told Tribune Business: "Our market intelligence suggests there are companies looking to reduce property rates for next year. We have not come to that conclusion ourselves yet, but are hearing there are other companies in the market willing to reduce rates."

Mr Ward said the property insurance rate reductions being mulled by various carriers were "a very small level of reduction in our terms, but it's good from the consumer's standpoint".

The Bahamas First chief executive declined to name the other general insurance carriers who were looking to reduce their property insurance premium rates, but said there was pressure for the entire industry to do so, given the relatively long period that had elapsed - especially for New Providence consumers - since the last major catastrophe claims were made.

New Providence and Nassau, where the biggest risk exposure lies, have not been hit by a major storm since Hurricane Frances struck a glancing blow in 2004, and Mr Ward told Tribune Business: "We've had a number of years without any major catastrophe losses, and the expectation in the mind of the buying public is that rates should go down. What you see is the market adjusting to that expectation."

SEE page 6B

City Markets pension got 'bad end of stick'

- While not making unethical or illegal allegations, supermarket's new owner says: 'I would not have done certain things that were done' in relation to investments
- Says certain moves produced results that were 'not good'
- Now seeking to split plan from company, and hire professional trustees
- AGM targeted for end-January, with forensic auditor asked to 'dig a little deeper' on inventory issues



MARK FINLAYSON

By NEIL HARTNELL
Tribune Business Editor

The beneficiaries of City Markets' staff pension plan "got the bad end of the stick" from some of the decisions made by the trustees under the failed BSL Holdings' ownership, the supermarket chain's new majority owner told Tribune Business yesterday, as he hinted at a restructuring that would separate the plan's stewardship

from the company's Board and management. Mark Finlayson, principal of 78 per cent majority owner, Trans-Island Traders, emphasising that he was not accusing the two trustees under BSL Holdings' ownership of doing anything unethical or illegal, told this newspaper that he would not have made some decision that were taken had he been in

SEE page 5B

Filmmaker boost from telecoms liberalisation

- * Banker says that combined with BTC privatisation, policy will provide Bahamian producers with new distribution channels through cellular movies and 'shorts'
- * Further opportunities for local content and movies to come from likely Broadcasting Corp reforms
- * But laments absence of Film Studios as missing element in niche market development

By NEIL HARTNELL
Tribune Business Editor

Telecommunications market liberalisation could further aid the growth of the Bahamian film production industry as a niche market, a leading investment banker said yesterday, as it would provide more avenues for distribution of local work.

Owen Bethel, president and chief executive of the Montague Group, told Tribune Business that with movies and 'shorts' now being



OWEN BETHEL

viewed on iphones, and movies being downloaded on to cell phones in many countries, the long-awaited devel-

opment of new products and technologies following the Bahamas Telecommunications Company's (BTC) privatisation and market liberalisation could further help to unleash Bahamian creativity in film production.

And he added that the Government's policy for the Broadcasting Corporation of the Bahamas (BCB), moving it towards a public broadcasting service and possible pri-

SEE page 5B

Mortgage issuances drop 15.2% to \$53m

By ALISON LOWE
Business Reporter
alow@tribunemedia.net

Activity in the construction sector remained "constrained" in the 2010 third quarter due to a lack of demand for building construction from the private sector and foreign investors, with mortgage disbursements down 15.2 per cent.

In the Quarterly Economic Review for July to September 2010, the Central Bank of the Bahamas noted that there was a 15.2 per cent fall in the disbursement of mortgages by banks, insurance companies and the Bahamas Mortgage Corporation to \$53 million in value, an extension of the 31.6 per cent contraction in this area in 2009.

Such figures "provide an indication of domestic construction trends", notes the report. With the number of loan approvals falling from eight to two for commercial construction projects, and a corresponding contraction in value by \$2 million to a mere \$0.4 million, the Central Bank report added that "short term prospects for commercial construction remain subdued" at this time.

"Similarly, the value of residential loans fell by \$1.8 million to \$30.5 million, although the number of approvals grew by seven to 232," said the report.

Residential mortgage disbursements, which accounted

SEE page 4B

'The worst season in 19 years'

Harbour Island hotels thrive, but others in the Family Islands report major year-over-year falls, hurt by air and transport costs

By ALISON LOWE
Business Reporter
alow@tribunemedia.net

As Harbour Island hotel operators saw properties booked full, other Family Island owner suffered a painfully quiet Christmas, with one Cat Island resort reporting "the worst season in 19 years" of operation.

In a series of interviews conducted by Tribune Business with small hotel operators throughout the Bahamas, the consensus among managers/owners in Abaco, Cat Island and Long Island was that conditions are more lean than ever.

In contrast to the 3 to 4 per cent average occupancy increase over 2009 reported to have been seen at Nassau/Paradise Island hotel properties this Christmas, staff at

SEE page 4B

DOCTORS SUFFERS 82% PROFIT DROP



SUFFERING: The Doctors Hospital

By NEIL HARTNELL
Tribune Business Editor

Doctors Hospital Health Systems (DHHS) suffered a \$914,000 swing into the red via a \$307,000 loss in its 2011 third quarter, although for the first nine months it remains in the black - albeit after suffering an 82.1 per cent net income decline year-over-year.

Careful expense containment, as evidenced by a \$1 million or 3.3 per cent reduction in total expenses to \$29.435 million for the nine months to end-October 2010, combined with a

SEE page 6B

GAS TRACKER

Shell \$4.36

Esso \$4.58

FUEL

Texaco \$4.61

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

BOB

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BOB Saturday Banking
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BY DEIDRE M. BASTIAN

Getting 'shirt-ty' with graphics

Today's generation is fashion conscious and wants a t-shirt with a 'different look' to stand out in the crowd. Fortunately, graphic designers have a plethora of options in this field.

Designing graphic t-shirts requires a different approach, as these shirts can address an issue or sometimes convey something about the world. But there is also the 'not-so-serious' side of life, where t-shirts can show their enthusiastic and playful side.

Let me take you back a few decades. During the fad-ridden 1980s, so many new inventions were born.

If you weren't born then, it was called the 'pop culture', because many new inventions popped up so quickly. For example: board games, music, computers, video games and everyone's favourite, colour tv.

The 1980s fashion was also influenced by many clothes with cartoon characters printed on them.

As many of you probably know, graphic design - and designs specifically for t-shirt printing - can be two totally different beasts.

Have you ever worked extremely hard for long hours on a t-shirt design for yourself or a client, only to have the printer tell you your design won't work for t-shirt printing?

This problem is not that uncommon, and here are a few tips on how to prepare your artwork for printing on t-shirts.

Use PMS Colors in Your Artwork

You may typically complete artwork in RGB and CMYK color modes, but to ensure the most accurate colours with a silk screener, use PMS Colours, which make the colour separations a lot easier and more accurate. As a side note, the printers should not charge you extra for PMS colour matching as you are actually doing them a favour in making the process easier. Here are two links on t-shirt designing <http://www.gomediazine.com/tutorials/photoshop/how-to-create-photorealistic-shirt-mockups/> <http://naldzgraphics.net/>.

Convert All Text to Outlines

Sometimes your artwork may call for a very obscure font, or maybe even a custom-designed font. When sending your artwork off to the printers, the last thing you want to see is a substituted font in your design. By converting

the text to outlines, any computer that opens the artwork will view the text as an image. Therefore, you should feel comfortable because no substitutions will be made.

Create Your Artwork at Actual Size

Do not rely on the printers to correct any boo boos. Remember, they are just printers and only responsible for the end work, which is solely printing. The vision you have of the end product is different from the printers' assumption. Remember, not all printers are graphic designers, and vice versa. Don't know what size you want to use? Slap a ruler to the shirt. Sounds simple, but it works.

Use Vector Artwork as Much as Possible:

This is not an argument over raster versus vector, but a suggestion and a general rule. It makes colour separations cleaner with more details. x

T-shirt Design Tools:

With every good designer comes a good set of tools. Your tools are like your 'hands'; they take the 'brain' ideas and practically form them. T-shirt drawings, computers, printers are all necessary tools for any designer. Another great tool that is used is the 'airbrush tool', which can be used on a photo editing application.

What software is best?

Let's have a look at this for both the beginner and the experienced designer. If you are a beginner, you might be asking yourself: "I want to design my own t shirts; what software is easy to learn?" And that's the key, learning. By learning you are adding a "skill" for life that will be used many times again. Go for the challenge. Part of the fun is learning while designing.

I use Corel Draw, but Illustrator is good, too. CorelDraw is a vector-based design program with excellent usability,



THE ART OF GRAPHIX

DEIDRE M. BASTIAN

and is capable of exporting files and formats for screen printing.

While CorelDraw has existed in the shadow of Illustrator for many years, recent alterations make it the superior software when it comes to design for screen printing and custom t-shirt design.

Illustrator is ideally suited to creating scalable images, specifically logos and very large print.

You will probably pay close to \$300 for whichever program you choose, but it is well worth it. Having the right tool for the right job is like taking candy from a baby.

Below are a few more quality design applications for both Mac and PC. Vector-based t-shirt design programs, for layout and design: - Macromedia FreeHand MX; Adobe Illustrator CS5; CorelDraw Graphics Suite X5 .

Photo and image manipulation programs:- Photoshop CS5; Corel Painter and the Print Shop for Mac. Owing t-shirt graphic design software that is not only limited to t-shirts but can also be used in other areas of design is a plus.

How to Design T Shirts

Do a rough drawing of a t-shirt, then take it to the computer, scan in your design and import it into your t-shirt software program.

Trace it and clean it up. Add color, if your design requires print from home! Why not turn your hobby into a small income stream t-shirt business?

What is hot and what is not?

Designs speak a thousand words. So how do we know, then, what is 'hot' and what is 'not'? Sometimes your style might not be appealing to others, but it doesn't mean it's not good enough, only that it speaks a different language to a different audience. Each designer has a certain way of thinking and expressing thoughts on to t-shirts. As a designer, I have 'learned to adapt' and 'develop design skills' in all areas and different phases.

I used to love abstract-looking designs, then experimented with photo manipulation, collages and magazine.

I have now settled for realistic and practical approaches.

Try not to box yourself into one way of doing things, but instead have fun with different styles. Design is about 'interpreting an idea' into a way that others can enjoy and understand.

Language of T-shirt Design

Ask yourself what audience would be attracted to your style of t-shirt design? Take some time to think about 'what' you are trying to say and to 'whom' you are saying it.

T-shirt design messages should always start with a concept or an idea.

How that idea consummates is your thunder, as you may be a rotten designer with great ideas.

Don't limit yourself: Designing is about growing and expanding your creative style, too.

When it comes to software, try not to always look at the "now", but look long-term. See yourself stretching your designs from your t-shirts to other print and web-based designs. Think of a t-shirt as a snapshot, since it captures that very moment in an instance. Your ideas are like a camera that takes the shot and creates a 'never forgetting picture'. Guess what; it's even framed by the person wearing it.

It is a battery free 'walkie talkie', where the people do the walking and your t-shirt designs do the talking. So until we meet again, have fun, enjoy life and stay on top of your game! Happy Holidays!

NB: The author encourages feedback at deedee211@hotmail.com

READER FEEDBACK

Hello Deidre,
I am the distribution and marketing manager for Ganarious Enterprises. Ganarious Enterprises is a telecommunications company in the process of being approved by URCA.

I enjoyed your article (Advertising your greatest benefit).

We will be entering the marketing arena in the Bahamas. I will be posting a link to your article on our new marketing company website.

All the best
Frederick Taylor
Ganarious Enterprises Limited

Distribution and Marketing Manager
P.O.Box AP 59217
Nassau, Bahamas

Good morning Mr Taylor:
Thank you for your interest in the Business section of the Tribune, particularly the Art of Graphix Column.

All the best in your new venture.

Bank of The Bahamas LIMITED

Head Office
Claughton House
Charlotte & Shirley Streets
P. O. Box N-7118
Nassau, Bahamas

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF BANK OF THE BAHAMAS LIMITED IS PLEASED TO ADVISE THAT A DIVIDEND OF TEN CENTS (10¢) PER SHARE WAS DECLARED ON 19TH MARCH, 2010 TO ALL SHAREHOLDERS OF RECORD AS AT 5TH JANUARY, 2011 AND PAYABLE AS OF 12TH JANUARY, 2011.

LAURA A. WILLIAMS
CORPORATE SECRETARY

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CRITERIA FOR EMPLOYMENT

- A minimum of a Bachelor's Degree from a recognized university confirmed by a certified copy of certificate
- A post graduate certificate in education or a teaching certificate confirmed by a certified copy of certificate
- Willingness to support the school's Accelerated Programme, including teaching advanced courses such as Advanced Placement and Advanced Subsidiary. Experience in teaching advanced courses is preferred
- Two professional references
- Successful applicants will be expected to make a commitment to work in harmony with Christian principles and to support the emphases of the Bahamas Conference of The Methodist Church of which the school is a part.

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Queen's College was established in Nassau in 1890 by The Methodist Church and is a member of The International Association of Methodist Schools, Colleges and Universities (IAMSCU)

Application forms are available from the Human Resources Office at the school or may be downloaded from our award winning website www.qchenceforth.com. The completed application, together with a covering letter, a statement of educational philosophy and a recent photograph must be sent to:

The Principal
Queen's College
P.O. Box N7127
Nassau, Bahamas

Or faxed to: 242-393-3248, or emailed to dlynch@qchenceforth.com and should arrive no later than January 4, 2011. Candidates short-listed will be contacted by telephone, fax or email for an interview.

BUSINESS

'The worst season in 19 years'

FROM page 1B

all three properties contacted in these islands have seen their hours reduced going into the Christmas season, as occupancies dropped lower than in 2009, a year which saw the economy tank.

Molly McIntosh, sales manager at the Green Turtle Club in Green Turtle Cay, Abaco, said that while

the level of inquiries would suggest there is great demand for what the boutique property has to offer, it is lack of flight availability and the increasing cost of reaching the club that are hurting.

"I hate giving bad news and complaining, but we are definitely down compared with last year. We've got about half the business we had then," she said, reveal-

ing that while the property would normally be full "from Christmas Day to around January 2" it is now running occupancies of between 35 and 40 per cent.

The resort normally hires extra temporary staff in the traditionally busy Christmas/New Year's period, but has this year taken on no extra employees and been forced to reduce staff hours by 50 per cent in the run-up to Christmas.

staff at Greenwoods had their hours reduced, too.

Meanwhile, Karin Kuska, a manager at the boutique Stella Maris Resort Club in Long Island, said business was around 10 per cent down from 2009, at around 50 per cent for the Christmas period on average. Throughout the year the property recorded average occupancy levels of roughly 40 per cent, added Ms Kuska.

Bookings

Waldemar Illing, whose family owns the 16-room Greenwood Beach Resort on Cat Island, said bookings for the Christmas/New Year period are around 20 per cent off those registered last year, which were less than those seen in 2008.

"This is rough," he said. "This is the slowest Christmas and New Year's in our 19 years." Although no one has been laid-off, and efforts were made to find ways to occupy them with maintenance and other activities,

"We realised that somehow the economy affects tourism this year even more than year before when we had a bigger crisis, so our assumption is that last year people were a little bit more positive and believed in a faster turnaround, whereas this year we have the feeling people got a little bit insecure (about the economy)," said the manager.

Ms McIntosh in Green Turtle Cay blamed lack of flight availability and rising airfare costs, combined with the price of taxis and ferries to reach the Green Turtle Club from the airport, for

being the major issues for tourism on the island.

"Travel to Abaco is definitely not for sissies," quipped Ms McIntosh. "If we had more flights coming out of Florida at more reasonable prices, I think this place would be almost full."

Continental Airlines recently reduced their flights out of Fort Lauderdale to nearby Treasure Cay Airport by 50 per cent - from two to one a day - she noted, with a round trip ticket on this route costing around \$600 during the Christmas period.

"Last minute type flights" from cities such as Baltimore or Newark to Abaco have cost as much as \$1,300 per person this year, added Ms McIntosh.

"A one-way cab ride from Marsh Harbour airport to the ferry dock, where guests would catch a ferry to the hotel, will cost \$85 for a 22 mile stretch, while if guests miss the ferry, a charter will cost a further \$85.

"It isn't just us who are suffering about the lack of business this year.

"The home owners that rent out their properties are complaining bitterly, too," she added.

Mr Illing said the price of air travel to Cat Island and the continuing depressed conditions in the US are the two primary reasons for Greenwood's not-so-merry Christmas.

"People are more cautious with their money.

"There are a lot of very, very cheap offers on the market all over the Caribbean.

"Starting last year, people who have been coming in regularly over the years,

repetitive guests, say very frankly 'I lost 30 - 40 per cent of my stock and I can't sell my house, so I can't afford it this year'."

A flight to Cat Island from Florida averages around \$450 per person, he added, and lamented: "You could fly transatlantically for that if you get a good deal."

Good

By contrast, Harbour Island hoteliers reported that - aside from the impact of cancellations related to bad weather on the east coast of the US last weekend - business is good.

"This is traditionally one of the busiest 10-day periods of the year and we are fabulously on target," said Tracy Barry, owner/manager of boutique hotel, The Landing.

"We were delighted to see that having just increased from seven to 13 rooms, all of them are filled, and it's the same with the restaurant.

"Harbour Island in general is busy. All golf carts are rented, you can't get in for dinner unless you book two months in advance...that's what usually happens and this year we are not seeing anything different," said Ms Barry.

Juanita Percentie, manager of the Tinguam Village property on the island, said: "It was great besides the winter storms on the east coast (of the US).

"We were booked 100 per cent but only 50 per cent came.

"Some came late and for a reduced period, and some rescheduled for another time."

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Bridge Plaza Commons Bldg.
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Toll Free (242) 300-7035

NOTICE

In the estate of Pamela Anne Higgs late of Treasure Cove in the Eastern District of the Island of New Providence, Housewife, deceased.

NOTICE is hereby given that all persons having any claims or demand against the above Estate are required to send the same duly certified in writing to the Undersigned on or before the 31st day of January, A.D., 2011, after which date the Executors will proceed to distribute the assets having regard only to the claims of which they shall then had notice.

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

E. DAWSON ROBERTS & COMPANY
Attorneys for the Executors
Chambers,
P.O. Box N-918
Magna Carta Court,
Parliament & Shirley Streets,
Nassau, Bahamas

COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS 2009
IN THE SUPREME COURT CLE/QUI/No. 00041

IN THE MATTER OF ALL THAT piece; parcel or tract of land of containing 10.87 acres situate in the Crown Land Allotments in the Settlement known as and called "Crown Haven" on the Southern Coast of the Island of Little Abaco, Bahamas.

AND

IN THE MATTER OF THE Quieting Title Act, 1959

AND

IN THE MATTER OF THE Petition of **WELLINGTON LEONARD FORBES**

NOTICE

WELLINGTON LEONARD FORBES by Power of Attorney of Alexander Julius Rolle, claims to be the beneficial owner in fee simple in possession of the parcel of land hereinbefore described and such ownership arises by virtue of possession of the said land.

Copies of the filed plan of the said piece parcel or lot of land may be inspected during normal office hours at the following locations:-

(a). The Registry of the Supreme Court, Anasbacher House, East Street, North, Nassau, Bahamas;

(b). The Chambers of Messrs. Richard L. Boodle & Co., 1st Floor, K. G. Malcolm Building, Bay Street & Victoria Avenue, Nassau, The Bahamas

NOTICE is hereby given to any person(s) having a Right of Dower; Adverse Claim or a Claim not recognized in the Petition shall on or before the expiration of Thirty (30) days after the final 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 by any person to file and serve a statement of such claim on or before the said date will operate as a bar to such claim.

RICHARD L. BOODLE & CO.
Chambers,
1st Floor, K. G. Malcolm Building
Bay Street & Victoria Avenue
Nassau, Bahamas

Attorneys for the Petitioner



Career Opportunity

IT Technician

The Nassau Airport Development Company (NAD) is seeking candidates for the position of IT Technician. This position will assist in the management and maintenance of electronic systems and equipment.

Qualifications

- Associate Degree in Electronics or related discipline
- 5 years working experience in related field
- Knowledge and experience in maintenance of low-voltage equipment and systems
- Knowledge and experience working in complex LAN environments
- Sound knowledge and experience of TC/PIP and Microsoft Windows NOS

For more details, please visit the PEOPLE section of our website at www.nas.bs.

If you are qualified and interested, please submit your resume by January 7, 2011 to:

Manager, People
Nassau Airport Development Company
P. O. Box AP 59229
Nassau, Bahamas

or email: people@nas.bs

Mortgage issuances drop 15.2% to \$53m

FROM page 1B

for 85 per cent of the total, contracted by a further 19 per cent to \$44.9 million, after a 32.5 per cent decline to 55.4 million in 2009.

Disbursement of mortgages for commercial purposes, however, did grow by 14.9 per cent to \$8.1 million - reversing last year's 23.4 per cent decline to \$7.1 million.

As a "forward looking indicator", mortgage commitments fell in "both number and value", noted the Central Bank, to 234 and \$31 million, in comparison to a total of 235 loans valued at \$34.8 million during the same period in 2009.

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.



NOTICE

This is to inform

The General Public that the private roadways and parking areas situate in **The Harbour Bay Shopping Centre** between East Bay Street and Shirley Street will be

CLOSED

on

Saturday the 1st of January, 2011 in order to preserve the right of ownership thereof.

The Owners

Filmmaker boost from telecoms liberalisation

FROM page 1B

privatisation, could also provide new opportunities for Bahamian filmmakers, given that it would require locally-produced content and programming.

"With the development of the telecommunications avenues for release, you have movies and 'shorts' on iPhones," Mr Bethel told this newspaper. "It really tells you that the telecommunications industry is moving by leaps and bounds, where you can even now download movies on a cell phone."

"The number of avenues local producers can take to ensure exposure and sales of their production are increasing, and it means the growth of the industry is not just [confined] for theatrical release."

Bahamian filmmakers and producers could specifically tailor their works for cellular phone customers, tapping into the fastest-growing area of telecommunications worldwide, Mr Bethel suggested, thus exposing themselves to a new audience and expanding distribution channels.

Importance

Given the telecommunications industry's potential future importance to Bahamian filmmakers and producers, and its role in stimulating growth in their sector, Mr Bethel urged the Government to be very deliberate in its decision-making on the BTC privatisation and subsequent liberalisation.

"It is going to require that the process is done properly," he added, "and the potential for these various niche markets and what it means for Bahamians should not be overlooked."

"Government, in its deliberations, must look to see where benefits can be made and reserved for the development of Bahamian industry in the diversification of the economy. That means a very complete and thorough review by all parties in whatever privatisation process there is."

Another potential opening for Bahamian filmmakers and producers lay at the BCB/ZNS, Mr Bethel said. "With the direction the Government is moving in in regards to the TV industry, public service broadcasting and possibly further privatisation of it, there is a need for further content and locally-produced movies and features," Mr Bethel told Tribune Business.

"The ability for local producers to see an avenue for release through these means lends itself to a niche market, where we can showcase local talent in an industry other than tourism and banking."

"It won't happen overnight; it has to evolve over time, but the talent is there. It just needs more avenues to be exposed, and released from the exposure."

Film production is an industry that appears to have, in particular, captured the imagination of young Bahamian entrepreneurs, encouraging them to make full use of their creative talents.

Independent

Mr Bethel said their efforts were being further aided by the increasing tendency of US-based film studios to provide an avenue for independent producers to develop their works, not just for theatrical release but also DVDs and TV productions.

"Hidden throughout has been this talent and desire to produce, but it has clearly been limited by what is seen as a limited market and the exposure they would get," Mr Bethel told Tribune Business of Bahamian filmmakers.

"Kudos to the Bahamas International Film Festival and Celi Moss for drawing attention to, and providing an avenue for, the talent here and allowing those filmmakers to see it's really a stepping stone to a larger industry."

"From that perspective, I'm pleased Bahamians are coming out of the woodwork and are confident enough to present their works for review and criticism. I hope constructive criticism makes them better and increases their resolve."

But, in a reference to the still-closed Bahamas Film Studios on Grand Bahama, Mr Bethel said one element lacking in the development of Bahamian filmmakers was access to a purpose-built production facility that would act as a one-stop-shop in taking care of all their needs.

"It would be great to imagine there was a Film Studios established to capture this talent and put it to greater use on an active basis," he told Tribune Business. "Had we seen the Bahamas Film Studios come to fruition, that is an avenue that has the greatest potential to develop this talent. But it is one that is lacking."

Mr Bethel pointed out that Pirates of the Caribbean IV was set to be released next year, having been filmed elsewhere after its II and III prequels were shot at the Bahamas Film Studios, largely due to the facility's demise and closed status.

City Markets pension got 'bad end of stick'

FROM page 1B

charge.

Mr Finlayson, whose Trans-Island Traders agreed to acquire the now nine-store chain for \$1 and the assumption of certain liabilities, also told Tribune Business that the wait for an audit of the pension fund had also delayed plans to hold an annual general meeting (AGM) of Bahamas Supermarkets shareholders until end-January 2011. He explained that he wanted to release the report to pension plan beneficiaries first.

"What we're doing is that we're going to have one [an AGM] in late January or early February," Mr Finlayson told Tribune Business. "We want to do two things - an AGM with the shareholders, and a meeting of the stakeholders for the [pension] trust."

"We'd like to have that before the AGM, and want to do it in that order to make sure the report from the pension fund audit is back."

That audit is being conducted by Bahamian forensic accountant John Bain and, asked by Tribune Business what the likely findings from that report will be, Mr Finlayson replied: "I don't know if everyone is going to be satisfied with it..... I'm not satisfied with it, to be honest."

"If I was a trustee, I would not have done certain things that were done. I'm not saying they were unethical or illegal, but the results were not good for the people involved with the trust. I think the beneficiaries got the bad end of the stick with some of the decisions made."

"In the final analysis, it can be repaired over time, but in my opinion some of the decisions should not have been done in the first place. The two trustees involved, I have a lot of respect for and have known for many years, but with some of the decisions made they looked at the overall benefit to the employees of making sure they [the staff] had a job....."

Questions had previously

"If I was a trustee, I would not have done certain things that were done. I'm not saying they were unethical or illegal, but the results were not good for the people involved with the trust. I think the beneficiaries got the bad end of the stick with some of the decisions made."

Mark Finlayson

been raised over Bahamas Supermarkets' sale and leaseback of \$3 million worth of store equipment and improvements, at its Cable Beach store, to the staff pension plan.

Defended

This had been defended at the time as allowing the pension plan to gain a higher rate of return than it would otherwise enjoy on alternative investments, but it was queried by external auditors, Deloitte & Touche, in the 2009 audited accounts, over whether it should be treated as an operating or finance lease, the company not having assessed the value of lease assets.

The same audited financial statements also showed

that Bahamas Supermarkets, operating parent of City Markets, owed the staff pension fund almost \$519,000 at the 2009 year-end in unpaid rent for the company's head office - an asset owed by the plan.

Mr Finlayson, meanwhile, told Tribune Business that Mr Bain's pension plan audit would be passed to an actuary for "double checking" when it was completed. He added that City Markets would also look to turn over trusteeship of the pension plan to independent, professional trustees, thus removing any conflict of interest perception when it came to investment decisions.

"It's such a sensitive area, the company being a settlor, we'd be better off turning it

over to professional trustees where you do not have this conflict, where people involved with the Board are the trustees," Mr Finlayson said.

"That's why we're going to this great extent, to put the trust in the hands of professionals. I'll be more at ease, the beneficiaries will be more at ease, and everyone will be a lot better."

Mr Bain has also been engaged by City Markets to conduct a forensic audit of the company itself, and Mr Finlayson said: "He's delivered his preliminary report. We've called him to go back into a few areas and dig a little deeper."

One area Mr Bain has asked to conduct a more in-depth investigation into is "the overall inventory situation, all the shipments that came in since 2006 and accountability for it".

While there was nothing to support the claims, Mr Finlayson said rumours continued to surface that some inventory shipments had gone missing, and he wanted to put the allegations to rest.

INSIGHT

For the stories behind the news, read *Insight* on Mondays



Kingsway Academy

(An Evangelical, Non-denominational, Christian School)
Entrance Examinations for the 2011-2012 School Year

High School Division (Grades 7 to 12)

Applications for the 2011-2012 school year (starting in September 2011) are invited for grades 7 to 10.

Testing Date: 8.00 am January 15, 2010

- The high school division supplies a premium offering of courses from grades 7 to 12.
- These include Arts, Sciences, Technical and Vocational Subjects in addition to sound fundamentals in Christian education.
- This school provides one of the most balanced ranges of subject offerings in the Bahamas. Students are prepared for examinations such as BJC, BGCSE, PSAT, SAT, SAT Subject Tests and Advance Placement (AP) tests.
- Accelerated Track - Students with exceptional ability are allowed to accelerate beginning in grade 9 with a view towards college preparatory courses in grade 12.
- In addition, the school provides a wide range of extracurricular activities including all BAISS core sports, Governor General's Youth Award, Junior Achievement, Travel Club, Key Club, Science Club etc.
- The achievements of our students during and after high school speak for themselves.

Elementary Division (K3 to Grade 6)

Applications are invited for the 2011-2012 school year for all grade levels from K3 to Grade 6.

- The elementary division offers a curriculum that blends the A Beka and Harcourt Brace curricula.
- The experience also offers a stimulating blend of extracurricular activities to enhance the academic and social development of your child.

Testing Dates:

- K3 - Saturday, January 15, 2011 at 10.00 am. (must be 3 years old by October 31, 2011)
- K4 - Friday, February 4 and Friday February 18, 2011 from 8.30 am to 1.40 pm. (Must be 4 years old by December 31, 2011.)
- K5 - Saturday, March 5, 2011 from 8.00 am to 1.00 pm. (Must be 5 years old by December 31, 2011)
- Grades 1 to 6 - Saturday, March 5, 2011 beginning at 9.00 am

GrahamThompson

To our Valued Clients please note our

SPECIAL HOLIDAY HOURS

Friday & Monday
December 24 & 27

Closed

Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday
December 28, 29 & 30

Normal business hours

Friday & Monday
December 31 & January 3, 2011

Closed

Tuesday, January 4, 2011

Normal business hours

Nassau Chambers
Sassoon House
Shirley St. & Victoria Ave.
P.O. Box N - 272
Nassau, N.P., Bahamas
Tel: (242) 322-4130
Fax: (242) 328-1069

Freeport Chambers
The First Commercial Centre
3rd Floor, Suite 9
P.O. Box F- 42451
Freeport, G.B., Bahamas
Tel: (242) 351-7474
Fax: (242) 351-7752

BUSINESS

FROM page 1B

Property insurance boost for consumer

Pressed on whether Bahamas First was likely to follow suit, Mr Ward said: "I couldn't say that as a definitive statement at this stage. We're still looking at the overall scenario."

One potential benefit from a rate reduction, apart from the slight savings and disposable income increases consumers may enjoy, is that it may encourage households and businesses who had either underinsured or let their cover lapse entirely (forcing, in some cases, the banks to take over), to resume paying the

full premium amount.

"I think that's a possibility," agreed Mr Ward.

"That's historically been the trend when rates come down. It does attract the element that was lost when rates were increased, and there is nothing in this market to suggest that wouldn't happen here."

Another senior Bahamas-

based insurance executive, who requested anonymity, told Tribune Business: "I think there will be some lowering of rates going into next year."

"We haven't finalised our reinsurance program for next year totally, although we have most of it in place, but I think you will see some slight reduction in rates next year."

As for the exact percentage reduction that will occur, the executive said: "It's difficult to forecast until we actually finalise our costs for next year."

Finalising

With the Bahamian general insurance industry finalising its reinsurance programs for 2011, the executive pointed out that while the Bahamas, the US and most of the Caribbean had enjoyed a relatively hurricane-free 2010, the world had "not been short" on catastrophes and natural disaster-related losses elsewhere.

These natural disasters, such as snowstorms in the US and floods in Australia, were continuing, making 2010 a busy natural catastrophe year.

"We're all in the same reinsurance market," the executive said, "and while we came out of hurricane season with no losses in this region this year, the reinsurers will be picking up losses from catastrophes elsewhere in the world."

Another senior insurance industry source questioned the wisdom of lowering property insurance rates, stating that consumers would ultimately suffer a bigger shock when they were forced by reinsurers to increase in the aftermath of a hurricane loss.

And it was also pointed out to Tribune Business that a reduction in property insurance premiums meant lower commissions for brokers and agents.

DOCTORS SUFFERS 82% PROFIT DROP

FROM page 1B

strong balance sheet that has \$27.244 million in net assets and is free of long-term debt, has helped Doctors Hospital ride out the worst effects of the recession on its top line.

Joseph Krukowski, Doctors Hospital's chairman, in his report to shareholders, said that as net income fell to \$833,000 for the year-to-date, compared to \$4.652 million the year before, net revenue over the same period dropped by \$5 million or 14.2 per cent - from \$34.245 million to \$29.202 million.

That decline was arrested slightly in the three months to October 31, 2010, as net patient service revenues declined by 13.2 per cent - from \$10.26 million to \$8.901 million.

The drop in Doctors Hospital's top-line has been heavily influenced by the recession, which has encouraged potential patients to put-off treatment until it is absolutely necessary, and also driven some to use the public services available at the Princess Margaret Hospital.

In response, Doctors Hospital has moved to tightly control expenses, achieving this despite the total \$0.4 million increase over the first nine months as a result of combined depreciation and amortisation, plus repairs and maintenance to the Collins Avenue-based hospital.

Some \$3.3 million worth of expenses related to "additions to fixed and intangible assets" were incurred, but

Mr Krukowski added: "Bad debt expense is down \$0.9 million, and is primarily due to collection of accounts previously written-off and improved collections. Receivables continue to be well-managed in spite of the slow economy."

While accounts receivables owed by patients themselves had increased slightly over the fiscal 2011 year start, rising from \$515,000 at January 31, 2010, to \$536,000 at end-October, those owed by third party payors - private health insurance companies, the National Insurance Board et al - dropped by almost \$500,000 to \$4.01 million.

Provisions of \$4.2 million for doubtful accounts have been made.

Salaries and medical supplies, Doctors Hospital's two largest cost items, were down slightly year-over-year at \$12.616 million and \$8.399 million, further demonstrating the company's ability to hold the line on costs it can control.

Balance sheet strength has also aided Doctors Hospital, with some \$30.261 million in total assets, some \$12.201 million of which are current, dwarfing the \$3.017 accounts payables - the company's sole liability line item. Cash remains strong, too, with some \$6.002 million on hand, while retained earnings stand at \$14.487 million.

Meanwhile, Mr Krukowski said that following its Joint Commission International (JCI) accreditation, and the success of its HIFU prostate cancer treatment, Doctors Hospital was "cur-

rently in active discussions with medical tourism agencies to attract foreign patients to the Bahamas".

The High Intensity Focused Ultrasound program was available to both Bahamians and foreigners, he added, and despite the economic slowdown it had seen volumes of foreign patients "increase steadily" since it was started in 2008.

Mr Krukowski added that Doctors Hospital's latest Health Information Management software application was now live, and had allowed the hospital to "minimise wait times and expedite a patient's treatment". This, in turn, had created streamlined medical care and better management of the patient experience.

Legal Notice

Notice

BNP Paribas (Bahamas) Limited
(In Voluntary Liquidation)

Pursuant to Section 226 of the Companies Act, 1992, notice is hereby given that the voluntary winding-up and dissolution of the Company commenced on the 17th day of December, 2010 and that Tracy E. Knowles and Juan M. Lopez of KPMG Restructuring Ltd., 5th Floor, Montague Sterling Centre, East Bay Street, P.O. Box N-123 Nassau, Bahamas have been appointed Joint Liquidators.

Notice is hereby given that the creditors of the above-named Company are required on or before January 31, 2011 to send their names, addresses and supporting documents for their debts or claims to the Joint Liquidators at the address above and/or email address info@kpmg.com.bs and fax number, 1-242-393-1772.

Failure to do so may result in the creditor being excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proven or from objecting to the distribution.

Dated this 17th day of December A.D., 2010

Tracy E. Knowles and Juan M. Lopez
Joint Liquidators



Career Opportunity

Baggage Support Staff

The Nassau Airport Development Company (NAD) is seeking candidates for the position of Baggage Support Staff. This position will have ultimate responsibility for the retrieval of bags between Federal Inspection Station and aircrafts.

Qualifications

- High school diploma
- Working knowledge of Microsoft Office applications
- Skilled multi-tasker who works well under pressure
- Some mechanical or electrical skills would be an asset

For more details, please visit the PEOPLE section of our website at www.nas.bs.

If you are qualified and interested, please submit your resume by January 7, 2011 to

Manager, People
Nassau Airport Development Company
P. O. Box AP 59229
Nassau, Bahamas
or email: people@nas.bs

LEGAL NOTICE

OLDENDORFF EXPRESS LINES LTD.
(In Voluntary Liquidation)

Notice is hereby given that the above-named Company is in dissolution, commencing the 22nd day of November 2010 and I Craig A. (Tony) Gomez of Baker Tilly Gomez, The Deanery, 28 Cumberland Street, P. O. Box N-1991, Nassau, Bahamas is appointed the Liquidator for the purpose of winding up the affairs of the said Company.

Dated the 24th day of December, 2010

Craig A. (Tony) Gomez
Liquidator

HEPSON PHARMACY

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American Certification Exam
New Year, New Start, New You
Register now for January session

Call: 356-4860

BISX LISTED & TRADED SECURITIES AS OF:											
TUESDAY, 28 DECEMBER 2010											
BISX ALL SHARE INDEX: CLOSE 1,496.99 CHG 8.22 %CHG 0.55 YTD -68.39 YTD % -4.37											
FINDEX: CLOSE 000.00 YTD 00.00% 2009 -12.31%											
WWW.BISXBAHAMAS.COM TELEPHONE: 242-323-2330 FACSIMILE: 242-323-2320											
52wk-Hi	52wk-Low	Security	Symbol	Previous Close	Today's Close	Change	Daily Vol.	EPS \$	Div \$	P/E	Yield
1.26	0.97	AML Foods Limited		0.97	0.97	0.00		0.150	0.040	6.5	4.12%
10.75	9.67	Bahamas Property Fund		10.63	10.63	0.00		0.013	0.200	817.7	1.88%
6.18	4.50	Bank of Bahamas		4.90	4.90	0.00		0.598	0.100	8.2	2.04%
0.58	0.18	Benchmark		0.18	0.18	0.00		-0.877	0.000	N/M	0.00%
3.49	2.70	Bahamas Waste		2.70	2.70	0.00		0.168	0.090	16.1	3.33%
2.15	2.14	Fidelity Bank		2.17	2.17	0.00		0.016	0.040	135.6	1.84%
12.50	9.62	Cable Bahamas		10.46	10.46	0.00		1.050	0.310	10.0	2.96%
2.84	2.36	Collina Holdings		2.40	2.40	0.00		0.781	0.040	3.1	1.67%
7.00	5.40	Commonwealth Bank (S1)		6.95	6.95	0.00		0.422	0.260	16.5	3.74%
3.05	1.63	Consolidated Water BDRs		1.62	1.64	0.02		0.111	0.045	16.6	2.45%
2.55	1.60	Doctor's Hospital		1.60	1.60	0.00		0.199	0.110	8.0	6.88%
6.99	5.94	Famguard		6.07	6.07	0.00		0.357	0.240	17.0	3.95%
10.20	7.23	Finco		7.23	7.23	0.00		0.287	0.520	25.2	7.19%
11.40	8.77	FirstCaribbean Bank		9.39	9.39	0.00		0.645	0.350	14.6	3.73%
5.51	3.75	Foocl (S)		5.00	5.46	0.46	3,000	0.366	0.210	14.9	3.85%
1.00	1.00	Foocl Class B Preference		1.00	1.00	0.00		0.000	0.000	N/M	0.00%
7.40	5.00	ICD Utilities		7.40	7.40	0.00		0.012	0.240	616.7	3.24%
10.50	9.82	J. S. Johnson		9.82	9.82	0.00		0.971	0.640	10.1	6.52%
10.00	10.00	Premier Real Estate		10.00	10.00	0.00		0.991	0.800	10.1	8.00%
BISX LISTED DEBT SECURITIES - (Bonds trade on a Percentage Pricing basis)											
52wk-Hi	52wk-Low	Security	Symbol	Last Sale	Change	Daily Vol.	Interest	Maturity			
99.46	99.46	Bahamas Note 6.95 (2020)	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			
RoyalFidelity Merchant Bank & Trust Ltd. (Over-The-Counter Securities)											
52wk-Hi	52wk-Low	Symbol	Bid \$	Ask \$	Last Price	Daily Vol.	EPS \$	Div \$	P/E	Yield	
10.06	5.01	Bahamas Supermarkets	5.01	6.01	14.00		-2.945	0.000	N/M	0.00%	
0.55	0.40	RND Holdings	0.35	0.40	0.55		0.001	0.000	256.6	0.00%	
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	1.4078	CFAL Bond Fund	1.5179	5.51%	6.90%	1.498004	1.475244	30-Nov-10			
2.9260	2.8300	CFAL MSI Preferred Fund	2.9197	1.10%	3.13%	2.919946	2.911577	30-Sep-10			
1.5668	1.4954	CFAL Money Market Fund	1.5697	4.15%	4.18%	1.551550	1.532712	3-Dec-10			
3.2025	2.8522	Royal Fidelity Bahamas G & I Fund	2.7108	-13.03%	-4.96%			30-Nov-10			
13.6388	13.0484	Royal Fidelity Prime Income Fund	13.2825	-0.63%	-0.14%			30-Nov-10			
114.3684	101.6693	CFAL Global Bond Fund	114.3684	9.98%	12.45%	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			
1.1415	1.0000	FG Financial Preferred Income Fund	1.1415	4.74%	5.21%			30-Nov-10			
1.1101	1.0000	FG Financial Growth Fund	1.1101	3.94%	7.60%			30-Nov-10			
1.1428	1.0000	FG Financial Diversified Fund	1.1428	4.78%	5.90%			30-Nov-10			
9.7485	9.1005	Royal Fidelity Bah Int'l Investment Fund Principal									
11.2361	10.0000	Royal Fidelity Bah Int'l Investment Fund Principal	9.7950	4.85%	5.45%			30-Nov-10			
10.0000	9.1708	Protected TIGRS, Series 2	10.6417	-1.20%	0.50%			30-Nov-10			
10.0000	9.1708	Royal Fidelity Bah Int'l Investment Fund Principal									
8.1643	4.8105	Protected TIGRS, Series 3	9.6635	-3.37%	-3.37%			30-Nov-10			
		Royal Fidelity Int'l Fund - Equities Sub Fund	7.9442	2.94%	6.47%			30-Nov-10			
MARKET TERMS											
BISX ALL SHARE INDEX - 19 Dec 02 = 1,000.00											
52wk-Hi - Highest closing price in last 52 weeks											
52wk-Low - Lowest closing price in last 52 weeks											
Previous Close - Previous day's weighted price for daily volume											
Today's Close - Current day's weighted price for daily volume											
Change - Change in closing price from day to day											
Daily Vol. - Number of total shares traded today											
DIV \$ - Dividends per share paid in the last 12 months											
P/E - Closing price divided by the last 12 month earnings											
(S) - 4-for-1 Stock Split - Effective Date 08/2007											
(S1) - 3-for-1 Stock Split - Effective Date 7/11/2007											
YIELD - Last 12 month dividends divided by closing price											
Bid \$ - Buying price of Collina and Fidelity											
Ask \$ - Selling price of Collina and Fidelity											
Last Price - Last traded over-the-counter price											
Weekly Vol. - Trading volume of the prior week											
EPS \$ - A company's reported earnings per share for the last 12 mths											
NAV - Net Asset Value											
N/M - Not Meaningful											
FINDEX - The Fidelity Bahamas Stock Index, January 1, 1994 = 100											
TO TRADE CALL: CFAL 242-502-7010 ROYALFIDELITY 242-356-7764 FG CAPITAL MARKETS 242-396-4000 COLONIAL 242-502-7525											

NOTICE

IN THE ESTATE OF AVERY B. HUMES domiciled and late of Joan's Height's, New Providence, The Bahamas, deceased.

NOTICE is hereby given that all persons having any claim or demand against or interest in the above Estate should send same duly certified in writing to the undersigned on or before 15th February, 2011 after which date the Administratrix will proceed to distribute the assets of the Estate having regard only to the claims, demands or interests of which she shall then have had notice **AND** all persons indebted to the above Estate are asked to settle such debts on or before 15th February, 2011.

V.M. LIGHTBOURNE & CO.
Attorneys for the Administratrix
Chambers
P.O. Box AB-20365
Marsh Harbour, Abaco,
The Bahamas

BUSINESS

GLOBAL ECONOMIC NEWS

ASSOCIATED PRESS

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

LONDON — Hopes that the world economy will enjoy stronger growth in 2011 nudged most European stocks higher. Lackluster trading volumes in the traditionally quiet period between Christmas and the New Year kept momentum in check.

Germany's DAX closed up 0.3 percent and the CAC-40 in France rose 0.8 percent. The FTSE 100 index of leading British shares fell 0.2 percent.

SHANGHAI — Stocks in China recovered some ground following two days of losses in the wake of the rate hike. The Shanghai Composite Index rose 0.7 percent, and Hong Kong's Hang Seng index climbed 1.5 percent.

Elsewhere in Asia, Japan's benchmark Nikkei 225 stock average and South Korea's Kospi rose 0.5 percent. Singapore's main index traded higher.

VATICAN CITY — The Vatican will issue new rules designed to make its financial transactions more transparent after a money laundering probe resulted in the seizure of 23 million euros (\$30.2 million) from a Vatican account.

LISBON, Portugal — Portugal's national debt agency said the country needs to raise up to 20 billion euros (\$26.5 billion) on international markets in 2011, in what will be a key test of the country's ability to calm jittery investors.

Portugal is one of the frailest members of the 16-nation eurozone. Its high debt burden and low growth in recent years have fueled speculation it may join Greece and Ireland in needing a financial bailout.

BERLIN — Germany's annual inflation rate picked up to 1.7 percent in December, with higher oil and fuel prices helping push the rate higher. Annual consumer price inflation rose 1.5 percent in November.

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates — The struggling real estate developer behind Dubai's manmade islands said it has support from more than 90 percent of its nonbank creditors for its debt restructuring plan.

LONDON — The value of listings on the London Stock Exchange jumped over 500 percent this year as the British economy started growing again.

The London bourse said 89 companies raised 10.1 billion pounds (\$15.5 billion) through IPOs on its markets. While Britain was mired in recession in 2009, companies raised 1.5 billion pounds.

HANOI, Vietnam — Vietnam's economy grew 6.8 percent this year while inflation hit double digits.

The General Statistics Office said the strong growth was driven by a rise in exports, industrial outputs, services and investments.

Portugal needs to raise up to 20 billion euros in 2011

BARRY HATTON,
AP Business Writer
LISBON, Portugal

Portugal needs to raise up to euro20 billion (\$26.5 billion) on international markets in 2011, the national debt agency said Wednesday, in what will be a key test of the country's ability to calm jittery investors.

Portugal is one of the frailest members of the 16-nation eurozone.

Its high debt burden and low growth in recent years have fueled speculation it may join Greece and Ireland in needing a financial bailout.

The Institute for Treasury and Public Credit Management said it intends to issue bonds worth euro18-20 billion to meet Portugal's financing requirements next year. It provided no dates for the auctions.

The institute said it also plans to issue shorter-term Treasury



AP Photo/Tarmando Franca

FINANCIAL CRISIS: A woman walks past a closed currency exchange agency Monday, Nov. 29 2010, in Lisbon. On Monday the euro currency initially gained but then dropped back as investors remained unconvinced that the international financial bailout of Ireland would soothe wider fears of eventual debt defaults somewhere else in the 16-nation eurozone.

bills next year though the sales will depend on market conditions.

The first sale, of euro500 million in three-month bills, is scheduled for Jan. 5.

So far, the country has been able to raise the money it needs on international markets but the worry is that the higher rates demanded by investors could become unsustainable —

as happened with Greece and Ireland. The yield on Portuguese 10-year bonds has risen in recent days, hitting 6.7 percent Wednesday.

By comparison, the yield on benchmark German bonds stands at around 3 percent.

Portugal has to raise money because its budget deficit is too high — though its budget deficit of 9.6 percent last year was far below Greece's 15.4 percent, it was still the fourth-highest in the eurozone.

The government says Portugal's deficit will fall to 7.3 percent this year and to 4.6 percent — one of the lowest in the eurozone — in 2011, and insists that it doesn't need or want a financial rescue.

Though the austerity measures adopted by the government to restore the country's fiscal health are reducing the deficit, they are likely to stunt economic growth next year.

Oil hovers above \$91 as traders eye crude supplies

ALEX KENNEDY,
Associated Press
SINGAPORE

Oil prices hovered above \$91 a barrel Wednesday in Asia ahead of reports that may show a third week of U.S. crude inventory reductions, a sign demand is improving.

Benchmark oil for February delivery rose 1 cent to \$91.50 a barrel late afternoon Singapore time in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange.

The contract rose 49 cents to settle at \$91.49 on Tuesday.

Crude supplies likely fell 3.2 million barrels last week, according to analysts surveyed by Platts, the energy information arm of McGraw-Hill Cos. The American Petroleum Institute is scheduled to announce its inventory numbers later Wednesday while the Energy Department's Energy Information Administration reports its weekly supply data Thursday.

Crude inventories have fallen 15 million barrels the previous two weeks, according to the EIA.



GN-1142

Ministry Of National Security Police Department

TRAFFIC PRESS RELEASE NOTICE
THE ANNUAL NEW YEARS DAY JUNKANOO PARADE
MONDAY, 3 JANUARY, 2011

INFORMATION

The Annual New Year's Junkanoo Parade will be held on Monday, 3rd January, 2011 between the hours of 12:00 midnight and 10:00 a.m.

ROUTE

The routes of the parade are as follows:

Fredrick Street to Bay Street, east along Bay Street to Elizabeth Avenue, south along Elizabeth Avenue to Shirley Street, west along Shirley Street to Fredrick Street.

NO PARKING

Two (2) hours before and until after the parade, no vehicles will be allowed to park on the following streets:

- BAY STREET BETWEEN NAVY LION ROAD AND VICTORIA AVENUE - BOTH SIDES
- NAVY LION ROAD - BOTH SIDES
- SHIRLEY STREET BETWEEN FREDRICK STREET AND COLLINS AVENUE - BOTH SIDES
- FREDRICK STREET BETWEEN SHIRLEY STREET AND WOODS RODGERS WHARF - BOTH SIDES
- CHARLOTTE STREET BETWEEN WOODS RODGERS WHARF AND SHIRLEY STREET - BOTH SIDES
- WOODS RODGERS WHARF - BOTH SIDES
- ELIZABETH AVENUE - BOTH SIDES
- EAST STREET BETWEEN SANDS LANE - BOTH SIDES
- PARLIAMENT STREET BETWEEN WOODS RODGERS WHARF AND EAST HILL STREET - BOTH SIDES
- MARKET STREET BETWEEN BAY AND DUKE STREETS - BOTH SIDES
- TRINITY PLACE - BOTH SIDES
- KING STREET - BOTH SIDES
- CUMBERLAND STREET BETWEEN DUKE STREET AND MARLBOROUGH STREET - BOTH SIDES

ROAD CLOSURE

From 5:30 p.m. on Sunday, 26 December, 2010 until after the parade the following streets will be closed to vehicular traffic:

- BAY STREET BETWEEN NAVY LION AND ELIZABETH AVENUE - BOTH SIDES
- SHIRLEY STREET BETWEEN FREDRICK STREET AND COLLINS AVENUE - BOTH SIDES
- PARLIAMENT STREET BETWEEN EAST STREET AND BAY STREETS - BOTH SIDES
- FREDRICK STREET BETWEEN EAST HILL AND BAY STREETS - BOTH SIDES
- CHARLOTTE STREET BETWEEN WOODS RODGERS WHARF AND SHIRLEY STREET - BOTH SIDES
- EAST STREET BETWEEN SHIRLEY AND BAY STREETS - BOTH SIDES
- ELIZABETH AVENUE BETWEEN BAY AND SHIRLEY STREETS - BOTH SIDES

TRAFFIC DIVERSION

Vehicular traffic traveling west bound on Shirley Street will be diverted south onto Collins Avenue.

Vehicular traffic traveling north bound on Blue Hill Road will be diverted west on Marlborough Street.

Vehicular Traffic traveling north bound on Nassau Street will be diverted west along Bay Street.

Signed

Ellison E. Greenslade
Commissioner of Police.

GN-1147



GOVERNMENT NOTICE

MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS & TRANSPORT PROPOSED FOUR (4) CLASSROOMS BUILDING AND COVERED WALKWAY, MATTHEW TOWN, INAGUA

Interested Contractors are invited to tender for the construction of a single storey four (4) Classrooms and covered walkway building, located at Matthew Town, Inagua Island, Bahamas.

Tender Documents may be collected December 9th, 2010 through January 5th, 2011 between the hours of 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. from:

Architectural Section
Department of Public Works
1st Floor North Wing
Ministry of Public Works & Transport
John F. Kennedy Drive
Nassau, Bahamas

Sealed tender submissions are to be deposited in the Tender Box located at:

Tender's Board
Ministry of Finance
Cecil Wallace Whitfield Building
3rd Floor
West Bay Street
P.O. Box N-3017
Nassau, Bahamas

Tender submissions will be received no later than 10:00 am, Tuesday, January 11th, 2011.

Tenderers are invited to attend the opening at 10:00am, Tuesday, January 11th, at the Tenders Board.

The Government of The Bahamas reserves the right to reject any or all tenders.

Signed

Colin Higgs
Permanent Secretary

BUSINESS

Travellers say airlines' customer service failed

DAVID KOENIG,
AP Airlines Writer

Passengers are lashing out at airlines for poor customer service after this week's storm on the East Coast left thousands stranded and unable to get through to reservation agents.

Critics are incensed over what they say is the airlines' effort to blame everything on the weather and take themselves off the hook.

"We don't blame the airlines or airports for bad weather, but

it's their responsibility to be prepared," said Brandon Macsata of the Association for Airline Passenger Rights. "The airlines just seem to be saying, 'Suck it up.' People are tired of sucking it up."

Travelers stranded by the blizzard have been calling airlines to rebook flights in huge numbers, but the airlines have fewer reservations agents to take their calls.

For example, Continental cut 600 call-center jobs — about one-fourth of its reservations



STRANDED: A traveler checks her phone near the ticketing area at Newark Liberty International Airport, Sunday, Dec. 26, 2010, in Newark, N.J.

workers — in February. A few months before that, it closed a center in Florida and cut 500 jobs, and American Airlines cut a similar number when it closed a center in Connecticut. Other airlines closed call centers throughout the past decade, chopping hundreds of jobs at a time.

Fee

The airlines cut staff because so many people now book tickets online. The airlines themselves encouraged the trend by charging customers a fee to book over the phone.

It works well most of the time. But when storms hit, hordes of airline customers can wait on hold for hours or simply be told to call back later, as happened to anyone dialing Delta, American or Continental earlier this week.

US Airways imposed mandatory overtime for customer-service workers. American Airlines said it asked people to cut short vacations and extended

the hours of part-time workers at call centers and airports.

"It would have been nice to have more people at the airport in the teeth of the storm, but it was difficult to get our people to the airport," said Ed Martelle, a spokesman for American.

Martelle said call volume spiked to 220 percent of normal on Monday, and however many people were at the call centers — he didn't have a figure — weren't enough. Service appeared to be working normally by Wednesday.

Travelers, many of them visibly exhausted after living at the airport for two or three days, said they were unable to get basic information from airline employees.

"I waited four hours in the queue just to speak to someone — just to get the news that I have to wait a few more days," said Tommy Mokhtari, who was stranded at New York's John F. Kennedy International Airport while trying to get home to Dubai.

STOCKS ADVANCE AS OPTIMISM CONTINUES INTO YEAR-END

PAN PYLAS,
AP Business Writer
LONDON

Hopes that the world economy will enjoy stronger growth in 2011 continued to buoy stocks Wednesday though lackluster trading volumes in the traditionally quiet period between Christmas and the New Year kept the momentum in check.

Stocks have been buoyant in the last few months as expectations of another slide into recession around the world have dissipated. Most of the world's major indexes are poised to post solid gains for 2010, and many are actually trading at their highest levels since Lehman Brothers collapsed in September 2008, which proved to be the catalyst to a banking crisis and the ensuing global recession.

"Equity markets are apparently in optimistic mood as they approach the New Year," said Stephen Lewis, an analyst at Monument Securities.

In Europe, Germany's DAX closed up 23.37 points, or 0.3 percent, at 6,995.47, while the CAC-40 in France rose 31.93 points, or 0.8 percent, to 3,890.65. The FTSE 100 index of leading British shares bucked the trend though, falling 12.56 points, or 0.2 percent, to 5,996.36.

While the DAX and the CAC have been open for business the last couple of days, traders in the U.K. have been on holiday. On Christmas Eve, its previous trading day, the FTSE closed above 6,000 for the first time since the summer of 2008 and traders booked profits on their return.

In the U.S., the Dow Jones industrial average was up 25.20 points, or 0.2 percent, at 11,600.74 around midday New York time, while the broader Standard & Poor's 500 index rose 2.39 points, or 0.2 percent, to 1,260.90.

With no major economic data scheduled during the U.S. session, investors will be keeping a close eye on a government bond auction in light of a weak offering the previous day. On Tuesday, the U.S. Treasury sold \$35 billion in five-year notes, but demand was weaker than expected as fewer investors, including foreign buyers, turned out. The Treasury is planning to auction \$29 billion in seven-year notes later.

Investors are also keeping a close watch on China following last week's surprise decision by the monetary authorities to raise a key interest rate for the second time since October as they try to keep a lid on rising inflation.

Stocks in China recovered some ground Wednesday following two days of losses in the wake of the rate hike.

The Shanghai Composite Index rose 0.7 percent to close at 2,751.53, and Hong Kong's Hang Seng index climbed 1.5 percent to finish at 22,969.30.

Elsewhere, Japan's benchmark Nikkei 225 stock average rose 51.91 points, or 0.5 percent, to close at 10,344.54, while South Korea's Kospi was 10.17 points, or 0.5 percent, higher, ending at 2,043.49. Oil prices are also in focus as a number of analysts predict that a barrel of crude will soon spike above \$100 a barrel.

There was a modest retreat Wednesday with benchmark crude for February delivery down 18 cents to \$91.31 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange.

Many analysts think that a big feature of 2011 will be what happens to oil prices and what the impact on inflation levels will be. If prices start to rise faster than anticipated, then central banks around the world may start considering raising interest rates from their current super-low levels sooner than they thought.

Inflation figures out of Germany certainly provided evidence that higher energy costs are beginning to feed through into the wider economy. The Federal Statistical Office said consumer prices rose 1.7 percent in the year to December, up from November's rate of 1.5 percent, largely on the back of higher oil and fuel prices.

The figures helped support the euro, which by late-afternoon London time was trading 0.3 percent higher at \$1.3157.

Generally activity in the currency markets was fairly subdued, though traders continued to keep a close watch on the dollar's value against the yen. The Japanese currency has risen on nine of the last 10 days against the dollar, to the chagrin of the country's exporters. A higher yen makes it more difficult for them to compete in international markets.



INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS

NOTICE

INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS COMPANIES ACT
(No 46 of 2000)

IMC INTERNATIONAL LIMITED

LIQUIDATOR'S NOTICE

PURSUANT TO SECTION 138 OF
THE INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS COMPANIES ACT

We, Redcorn Consultants Limited, Liquidator of the above-referenced company, hereby certify that the winding up and dissolution has been completed in accordance with the Articles of Dissolution and the company has been struck off the Registers of Companies.

Dated the 8th day of December, A.D. 2010.

For and on behalf of
Redcorn Consultants Limited
Liquidator

NOTICE

PINKERTON BUSINESS CORP. In Voluntary Liquidation

Notice is hereby given that in accordance with Section 138(4) of the International Business Companies Act. 2000, **PINKERTON BUSINESS CORP.** is in dissolution as of **December 24, 2010.**

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

LIQUIDATOR

NOTICE

MONOCEROS LIMITED

In Voluntary Liquidation

Notice is hereby given that in accordance with Section 138(4) of the International Business Companies Act. 2000, **MONOCEROS LIMITED** is in dissolution as of **December 28, 2010.**

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

LIQUIDATOR

NOTICE

NORTH ISLAND BUSINESS LTD. In Voluntary Liquidation

Notice is hereby given that in accordance with Section 138(4) of the International Business Companies Act. 2000, **NORTH ISLAND BUSINESS LTD.** is in dissolution as of **December 24, 2010.**

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

LIQUIDATOR

NOTICE

SAMOYO LIMITED

In Voluntary Liquidation

Notice is hereby given that in accordance with Section 138(4) of the International Business Companies Act. 2000, **SAMOYO LIMITED** is in dissolution as of **December 28, 2010.**

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

LIQUIDATOR

NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that **MYRLANDE DORCENT of EAST STREET, 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 **30th Day of December, 2010** to the Minister responsible for nationality and Citizenship, P.O. Box N-7147, Nassau, Bahamas.

NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that **LAVON ALBURY of P.O. BOX N5252, FAITH AVENUE** 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 **23rd day of December 2010** to the Minister responsible for nationality and Citizenship, P.O. Box N-7147, Nassau, Bahamas.

NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that **LAVAR ALBURY of P.O. BOX N5252, FAITH AVENUE** 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 **23rd day of December 2010** to the Minister responsible for nationality and Citizenship, P.O. Box N-7147, Nassau, Bahamas.

NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that **LEJAITH PAUL of Jubilee Gardens, P.O.Box CB 13776** 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 **30th day of December 2010** to the Minister responsible for nationality and Citizenship, P.O. Box N-7147, Nassau, Bahamas.

Legal Notice

Notice

Bergues Finance Limited (In Voluntary Liquidation)

Pursuant to Section 228 of the Companies Act, 1992, notice is hereby given that the voluntary winding-up and dissolution of the Company commenced on the 17th day of December, 2010 and that Tracy E. Knowles and Juan M. Lopez of KPMG Restructuring Ltd., 5th Floor, Montague Sterling Centre, East Bay Street, P.O. Box N-123 Nassau, Bahamas have been appointed Joint Liquidators.

Notice is hereby given that the creditors of the above-named Company are required on or before January 31, 2011 to send their names, addresses and supporting documents for their debts or claims to the Joint Liquidators at the address above and/or email address info@kpmg.com.bs and fax number, 1-242-393-1772.

Failure to do so may result in the creditor being excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proven or from objecting to the distribution.

Dated this 17th day of December A.D., 2010

Tracy E. Knowles and Juan M. Lopez
Joint Liquidators

NOTICE

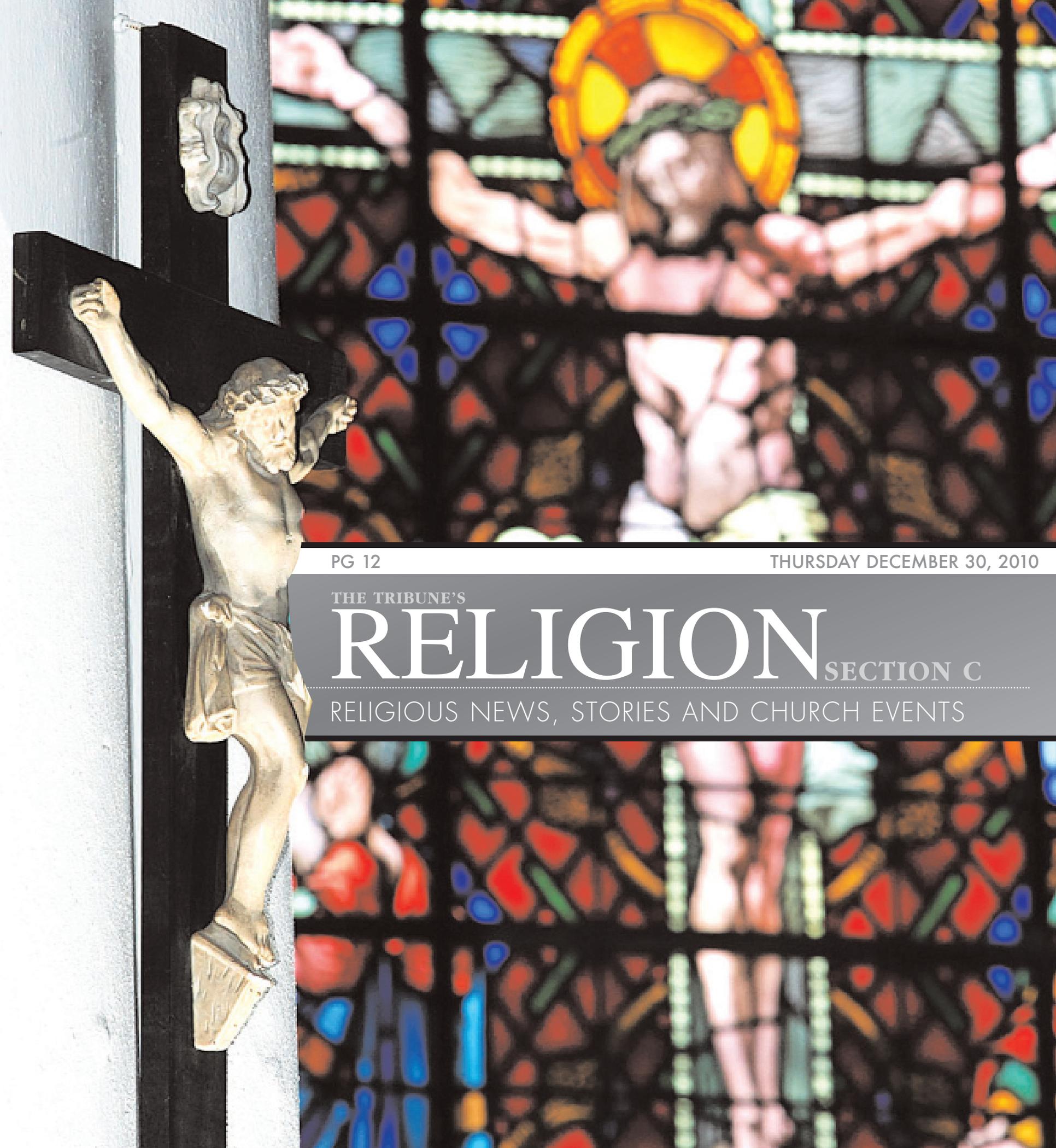
GENERATION DEVELOPMENT INC.

In Voluntary Liquidation

Notice is hereby given that in accordance with Section 138(4) of the International Business Companies Act. 2000, **GENERATION DEVELOPMENT INC.** is in dissolution as of **December 28, 2010.**

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

LIQUIDATOR



PG 12

THURSDAY DECEMBER 30, 2010

THE TRIBUNE'S

RELIGION

SECTION C

RELIGIOUS NEWS, STORIES AND CHURCH EVENTS

Watching the New Year

By JEFFARAH GIBSON
Tribune Features Writer

FOR many years, the watch night service has been part of the Christian tradition. On New Year's Eve members of various churches attend the service to bring in the new year.

But while the origins of the service is not entirely known Bishop Simeon Hall of New Covenant Baptist Church said that the church has always sought to bring meaning to this event.

"I do not know how watch night service came about. However the church has always sought to bring meaning to cultural events," he said.

According to www.wikipedia.com: "In many different Christian traditions, a watch night service is held late on New Year's Eve, and ends after midnight. This provides the opportunity for Christians to review the year that has passed and make confession, and then prepare for the year ahead by making new commitments. There is a deep sense of blessing for many that they have begun a new year with their sisters and brothers of the Christian family in God's house. Often the service follows a feast and evening celebration at the church," the website stated.

Churches in the Bahamas mimic the same events. During the service there is a moment for praise and worship, reflection, and a time to make

new spiritual commitments.

But the most important thing of the watch night is the opportunity to bring in the new year the right way Bishop Hall said. "With all that some have been faced with in this year the least that people can do is fall on their faces. I don't know any household that hasn't been faced with any challenges so falling on their faces at year's end would be the most appropriate," he told *Tribune Religion*.

Not only is the watch night service a chance to reflect and make recommitments, Bishop Hall said it is also a time to access the spirit outside of themselves.

"At the watch night service we reference the greatest source of the universe and that is Christ. When we stop to worship, we reference the life greater than ourselves that's why its important to spend the time on our faces," he said.

Some individuals may not attend church year around but, they are in attendance during the watch night service. Bishop Hall said that persons should not be guilt ridden because the only thing that matters is that they are there.

"The most important thing is that they are there. So they don't need to feel guilty because I would rather them come," he explained.

Those who are making spiritual recomitments, in order to keep them one must take it thirty days at a time.

During New Covenant Baptist Church's watch night service- Bishop Hall said that he intends to speak on recovering what the enemy has taken.



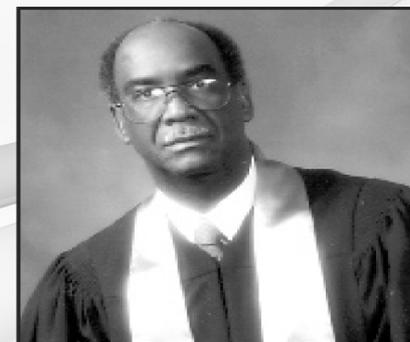
Zion Methodist Ministries

South Beach Shopping Centre, East Street South
P.O. Box SB-51628 - Nassau, Bahamas

Phone/Fax: 242-392-4100

Pastor's Residence: 242-324-3628

Email: zionmethodistministries@hotmail.com



PASTOR: *Rev. Charles Lewis, Dip, TH., JP, Pastor*

Annual Covenant Service

Sunday, January 2nd, 2011 at 11:00am

The public is cordially invited to worship
with us.

Church keeps on keepin' on

MEMPHIS, Tenn.
Associated Press

CONSIDER it the Teflon church. St. Mary's Catholic Church in Downtown Memphis has survived 140 years and more than its share of close calls — including deadly disease, urban sprawl and natural disasters.

"We've survived a lot," said Ron Bezon, head of the church's soup kitchen ministry.

The three-story, red-brick Gothic Revival building is situated at the southern border of the Pinch District. The area, north of Poplar Avenue and east of The Pyramid, was a melting pot for immigrants during the 19th and early 20th centuries.

Irish immigrants founded St. Peter in 1840, said Jane Scharding-Smedley, who leads tours there. But an estimated 1,400 Germans had settled in Memphis, many unable to speak English. They wanted a spiritual leader who spoke their native tongue. So some of St. Peter's leaders helped give life to St. Mary's.

Franciscans bought the property for the current site in 1864, laying the cornerstone that fall. In 1870, a Nashville bishop traveled west to dedicate what was initially called the St. Mary's German Catholic Church of the Immaculate Conception, at 155 Market near Third Street.

The Franciscans, who took charge, excelled at carpentry. They hand-carved pews still used today and a detailed carving of Jesus and the Last Supper, part of the main altar.

Sections of the church were still under construction when a wave of yellow fever

cut a destructive swath through the city in 1873. Many of the sick were brought to the doorsteps of St. Mary's, where there was a makeshift hospital.

By the end of 1879, about a dozen of the parish's priests and nuns had given their lives helping to save others, said Father Eric Peterson, the church's pastor.

In spite of its resilience, a century later the bishop wanted to demolish the parish, which was aging and adjacent to a dilapidated public housing project, Peterson said.

One morning, parishioners came to pray and found the church doors padlocked. Undeterred, they began singing "The Bells of St. Mary."

St. Mary's supporters campaigned to save it, eventually winning the church a designation as a historical site, killing plans to bulldoze it. Or, as Bezon put it, the church "dodged another bullet."

Among St. Mary's most cherished features are the ornate, jewel-toned, German-made, stained-glass panels. The \$5 million windows were threatened by a July 2003 storm that tore through Downtown Memphis with 100 mph winds in a storm dubbed "Hurricane Elvis." The winds gusted west to east. The windows face north and south.

"A lot of people said that's the only thing that saved them," the pastor said. "We were lucky once again."

Three years later, a fire leveled First United Methodist Church at Second and Poplar. Strong winds blew embers onto nearby buildings, leaving them heavily damaged.

New Justice of the Peace



Rev. Charles Lewis
is seen shaking hands with
Chief Magistrate Roger Gomez,
December 22nd, 2010 after being
sworn in as a Justice of the Peace.

Abundant Life Bible Church

Watch Night Service

Join us Friday Dec 31 @ 9:30 P.M.

Include - Drama "A Pot Cake Christmas", Lively Singing, Touching Reflections, Inspiring Message "Preparing for 2011-the Year of God's Glory"

Food (Soupe, Stew) & Drinks available

THE KICK OFF: Abundant Life Bible Church prepares for the new year with its annual watch night service.

Preparing for 2011, The Year of God's Glory

By **ALESHA CADET**
Tribune Features Reporter

THE members of the Abundant Life Bible Church are coming together to bring in the New Year with their annual Watch Night service, beginning at 9.30 pm, December 31.

The Watch Night service is usually the exclamation mark to the wonderful Christmas season, and the kickoff for the New Year.

Tribune Religion understands that "Preparing for the Year 2011, the Year of God's Glory" will be the theme of the evening. Pastor Anthony Rolle, the Pastor of Evangelism at Abundant Life will bring a stirring message on God's solution to the current dilemma, "since God indeed has a specific Word and desire for The Bahamas."

"This will only be revealed if Bahamians met his required spiritual conditions and

prepare the way for His glory," a member explained.

"It is therefore with much anticipation that the members, followers, and many friends gather for an evening that promises to be filled with a lively Praise and Worship, dramatic reading of the scriptures through video presentation and a drama entitled "A Pot Cake Christmas", which will be delivered with humor."

Moreover, the dramatic presentation will follow the lives of two young Bahamian ladies and a mysterious stranger. Interweaving a mixture of tragic and shocking events, the true message shines through as the social, economic and religious temperature of their environment all seem to be pointing to a futuristic event.

Towards the end of the service, the church will be hosting a stew and souse out, chicken, sheep tongue souse, stew conch will also be available for a ten dollar charge.

All proceeds are in aid of the Evangelism Team's short term mission trip to Dominican Republic in 2011.



MEDITATION

The Process

If you have been wondering how all the events of these past weeks fit together, (Advent and Christmas) why not join me for the guided tour of Kingdom territory. Then you can become a Kingdomhost, in the way that we have guides in the Bahamahost program.

Think of the signs "Keep off the Grass", or "No Trespassing" and you get an idea of what the Old Testament Law (The Ten Commandments and others added later) was intended to do. The boundaries are set by God, upheld by the Prophets, and regulated by the priests. Just as a teen is expected to obey even when parents are not around, so we are supposed to be "under heavy manners." Toddlers have to be supervised because it is less likely that they will internalise family rules unless reinforced consistently.

Guard rails on winding roads, banisters on staircases, and barbed wire or chain link fences around a piece of property, help us to remain within prescribed limits. Galatians 3:23-5 says: "Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ, so that we might be



REV. ANGELA
C BOSFIELD
PALACIOS

justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian."

When you receive the gift of salvation by accepting Jesus Christ as the Son of God, the Saviour of the world, and the Lord of all Creation, you are "discipled" by the Holy Spirit. You are mentored and guided just as the disciples were while Jesus was with them. The external rules of the Law are still in place but we do not obey out of fear of punishment, instead we obey out of love for Redeemer. The laws are within us and grace is the motivator.

The Gospel of John describes the process in this manner: "He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all

who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God" (John 1: 10-12).

Some of us stay in the fields when the rest of the shepherds go to encounter the Lord. Others wave good-bye to the wise men who are on the journey to spiritual discovery. A few even go to the door to peep in but never make the move to come and worship. When we receive Christ, we lay down our life, open our heart, or make good on commitments made on our behalf at baptism.

In time, the reality of our spirituality becomes crystal clear, and we who once walked in darkness have the opportunity to see a great light. When the process begins with a devoted life of worship, it can eventually end with our willingness to be a guide and mentor for others. Maturity means fulfilling the process of God's plan as it unfolds, a plan that involves becoming an ambassador or a "Kingdomhost".

Let this New Year find you living the process and leading others in the process as well. Resolve to allow the Holy Spirit to plan your day and empower you to accomplish the plan God's way.

“When you receive the gift of salvation by accepting Jesus Christ as the Son of God, the Saviour of the world, and the Lord of all Creation, you are “discipled” by the Holy Spirit. You are mentored and guided just as the disciples were while Jesus was with them.”

For unto us !

THIS IS a twofold Christmas article, one of the folds speaks to those who believes that their assignment is to prove beyond all shadow of doubt that December 25 is not Yahshua Messiah (aka Jesus the Christ) birthday and the acknowledgment and celebration of the same on the said date is paganistic.

Isa.9: 6 :For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

A deceptive trick of the enemy is to distort the truth by whatever means he can; therefore he has placed great efforts in trying to dispel and diminish the birth of Yahshua Messiah (a.k.a. Jesus the Christ).

As a believer, if you're not Holy Spirit led; it would be very easy to be distracted with the world / religious arguments about Yahshua's date of birth, whether it is December 25 or some other date. And in the midst of the argument, the acknowledgment of His birth is overshadowed by the said date of December 25 or any other date / time frame that is mentioned.



PASTOR
MATTHEW
ALLEN

Isaiah, says that "UNTO US A SON IS GIVEN" and here's how John says it - John3:16 :For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

My brothers and sisters, don't fall for the enemy's tricks; and waste time / energy in foolish vain arguments about December 25 being or not being Yahshua Messiah's birth. Whereby we all should be grateful and with a heart of thanksgiving unto Father Yahweh for sending His Son to restore mankind back to his rightful place with Him.

The key or chief issue for us ought to be "Have you received Him / Yahshua Messiah as your Lord and Saviour ? Are you keeping His commandments ?"

If your answer to these questions is "No

or I'm not sure" even if you've got evidential facts concerning His date of birth that would not guarantee your salvation.

Here's what the word says about one's salvation:

"Romans10:9. That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved."

As we celebrate this Christmas, unless you're planning on hiding in a cave until the acknowledgment and celebrations are over; might I suggest that you put your religious beliefs aside and allow others the freedom to enjoy themselves without you waving the rod of judgment and condemnation.

Please note:

The spiritual significance that's attached to the birth and the resurrection of the Messiah, insomuch that the enemy would stop at nothing to try and create confusion and strife concerning these two most powerful events in the history of mankind. And therefore he would use whomever makes themselves available to carry out his assignment.

The second fold speaks to those who acknowledge and celebrate the birth of Yahshua Messiah.

So is it His birthday that you're celebrating ? And here's a question I wish you to answer for me. "How would you feel if it's your birthday that's being cele-

brated and everybody at the celebration was exchanging gifts, and at the end of the day; you're the only one that didn't get a gift ?"

Let's set out to ensure that the one who's birthday we're celebrating be the recipient of all the gifts. You may ask "How can I give a gift to the Messiah (Christ) ? Or what kind of gift should one give ?"

We can give Him the greatest gift of all, and that's the gift of obeying His word / commandment. And here's what Yahshua says about expressing love for Him. "John.14: 15. If ye love me, keep my commandments."

As we celebrate Christmas, let's do it with the sincere heart of love for keeping Yahshua's commandments and walking in love towards our brothers and sisters; this would be a gift that's fit for our King of kings, and our Lord of lords.

Isaiah.9: 6. For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

For questions or comments contact us via E-mails:pastormallen@yahoo.com or kmfci@live.com or Ph.1-242-441-2021

A child with many names

BY DR WILLAMAE C MILLER

"His name will be called wonderful, counselor, Mighty Lord. Everlasting father Prince of Peace." **ISAIAH 9:6**

Hundreds of years prior to the birth of Christ, the prophet Isaiah uttered this prophecy to the nation of Israel. The biblical names of the Christ-child revealed His character as God who "became flesh and dwelt among us" (John 1: 14). Just as each facet of a perfect diamond reflects the beauty of the gem, so too the unique; divine;- human character of the incomparable Christ is revealed through the many aspects of His nature.

Each name gives a unique meaning- "Wonderful Counselor" means one with a divine plan that is truly a wonder.

"Mighty God" -He is the victorious warrior who obtains final victory. "Everlasting Father" shows His eternal care and provision for His own. "Prince of Peace" implies His rule of peace in the believer's heart.

No wonder the angel said His name shall be called Jesus- for he is truly a Saviour. Matthew1:21- Believers can joyfully sing "O come let us adore him Christ the Lord.

And His Name Shall He Called Wonderful

His name shall be wonderful. This babe for whom
Even in the village inn there was no room

The lowing of cattle was His lullaby,
Though caroling angels were thronging the sky.

"His name shall be wonderful. This little lad

Living so simply, and so plainly clad

His name shall be wonderful. This carpenter,
Known from His childhood by each villager!"

"His name shall be wonderful. Spat upon, shamed,
Tortured and crucified how is he named.

Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God,
He who one dark day Golgotha's road did trod!"

His name shall be wonderful- Jesus, God's son!
God's Word has promised, and it shall be done!

Not meek and lowly, despised among men,
This same Lord Jesus is coming again!

With clouds and great glory, Lo to reign here below,
And all men shall praise him, and each knee shall bow.

From ocean to ocean, His name shall be heard

Wonderful name of our wonderful Lord

Martha Snell Nicolson

The power of 60 seconds

How to fit doing good into any schedule

(ARA) - No matter how much you want to volunteer and find ways to give back to your community, for most people, it seems difficult to find the time. With everything that needs to get done each day, it rarely seems like your schedule can accommodate a moment to relax, much less taking on a big volunteer commitment.

Nonprofits know just how packed the average person's schedule is, and they're trying to make it easier for you to make a difference. And with new ways to give and some creative thinking, you really will be able to find the time to give back.

Consider these great ways to make a difference that won't interfere with your schedule, even during the busy holiday season.

• **GO ONLINE.** Everyone - including nonprofit organisations - knows the power of the Web. That means that nonprofits are making it easier than ever for you to interact with them via their websites. For instance, when you visit JoinMyVillage.com, 60 seconds of your time, releases corporate donations that make a real impact for girls and women in Africa.

By visiting the site and watching a video or going through a photo story for just 60 seconds, you'll be releasing dollars from General Mills that go toward the work CARE, a leading international humanitarian organisation, is doing in Malawi to help empower girls and women to make lasting change in their lives. The videos and photos will show you how your efforts are providing girls with scholarships for secondary school, bringing female teach-

ers to the villages as role models for girls and helping women living in poverty learn how to start their own businesses. It's one of the fastest, easiest ways to make a difference (even without donating your own money) and you'll be empowering people in one of the poorest countries in the world with the tools they need to build a better life.

• **MAKE "DOING GOOD" PART OF USUAL ACTIVITIES.** Look for creative ways to add volunteering or supporting a program to something you already have planned. If you're going to host an event like a book club meeting or a party, consider it an opportunity to raise money or awareness for causes you support. You can either discuss it with friends, and encourage them to get involved, or turn a party into a fundraiser. If you plan to hold a fundraiser, contact the nonprofit you want to support and they can often give you tips and materials to help with planning the event. Or, if you have a weekend (or even a weeknight) set aside for family time, make it a charitable effort. You could go as a group to a soup kitchen, lend a hand to clean up a local park, or volunteer to help walk animals at a local shelter.

• **USE THE POWER OF SOCIAL NETWORKING.** Word of mouth is as important today as it has ever been, but now it's your digital voice that carries farthest. Using social networking tools like Facebook and Twitter allow you to reach a lot of people with little effort - and little time. Tweet about a nonprofit you support and what their newest initiatives are, and



your 140 characters have the potential to reach countless other users, through retweets from your followers. Thousands of nonprofits can be searched on www.causes.com, which connects directly to Facebook, making it easy for you to "like" organisations and get updates on the work they're doing. You can even find Join My Village on Causes and unlock more money to fight poverty in Africa when you "like" the page. Plus, when others see you interacting with an organisation on a social networking site, it can build their curiosity and encourage them to get involved as well.

In about the same amount of time it would take to refill your coffee cup, you can make a real difference in a massive effort like fighting global poverty. There are two important things to keep in mind when you think about giving your time to a nonprofit. The first is that you don't need to skip it because your schedule is hectic - 60 seconds is sometimes all you need to do good. Second, and perhaps most importantly, remember that small efforts, coming from many people, can have a profound effect. Start the ripple effect.