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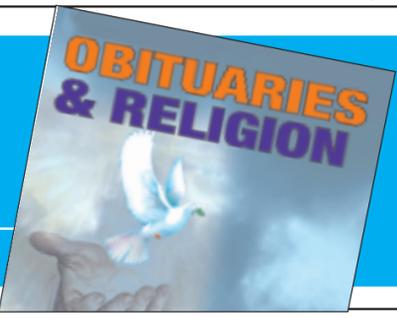
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INSIDE TODAY



AS PROTESTERS THREATEN ESSENTIAL SERVICES, GOVT MOVES TO . . .

'END DECEIT'



BTC ROW: Protesters march on Parliament Square yesterday (above) and (right) some clash with police.

By NOELLE NICOLLS
 Tribune Staff Reporter

AS UNION leaders threatened to shut down a number of vital services in protest of the BTC sale yesterday, the government moved to "bring an end to the deceit" over the deal.

Just hours after demonstrators in Rawson Square clashed with police and said they would interrupt the supply of water, electricity, air transport and education services if the sale was not scuttled, the Cabinet Office released a statement revealing that according to its calculations, the PLP's plan to sell the telecommunications company – now being praised by many protesters – would actually have earned the public less money.

In addition to a financial comparison of net earnings of the CWC sale versus the earlier decision to sell 49 per cent of BTC to Bluewater Ventures, the statement also compared exclusivity terms and credibility. (See full statement on page 7).

Many of the protesters who gathered outside parliament yesterday emphasised job security as a major concern.

"One person losing their job is one too many. Today was a test run. We were preparing today for a planned emergency later. No water; no light; no

SEE page five

Tim Clarke/Tribune staff



POLICE USE BATONS AS PROTESTERS ATTEMPT TO STORM BARRICADES

By NOELLE NICOLLS
 Tribune Staff Reporter
 nnicolls@tribunemedia.net

POLICE officers used batons to control protesting union members as they attempted to storm past barricades in Parliament Square.

No arrests were made in what was an otherwise peaceful protest that started at Archdeacon William Thompson Park.

The drama began when protesters rushed the barricades on Parliament Square, which originally kept them at bay on the north-side bleachers.

During the scuffle, police officers were sta-

SEE page two

OPPOSITION FURY AS HOUSE SUSPENDED WITHOUT BTC DEBATE

By TANEKA THOMPSON
 Tribune Staff Reporter
 tthompson@tribunemedia.net

OPPOSITION members of Parliament rose in outrage in the House of Assembly yesterday when they were not allowed to debate the impending sale of BTC.

Parliamentarians were scheduled to debate amendments to the Small Business Act and the Local Government Act, but Opposition members had hoped to raise the privatisation issue as well.

However, the amendment to the Local

SEE page three

FAMILY OF MAN WHO DIED AFTER ARREST WANT INVESTIGATION

By AVA TURNQUEST
 Tribune Staff Reporter
 aturnquest@tribunemedia.net

THE family of 35-year-old Owen Rolle, who died shortly after his arrest last month, want an independent investigation into the police force's Central Detective Unit.

Mr Rolle was reported to have died less than an hour after he was arrested for questioning into the theft of copper wire from BTC on November 26. Family members question the tears and bruising found on Owen's face. They say that the father-of-two was in good health before his arrest.

Reaffirmed by the results of his autopsy – which stated Owen died of a sudden and unexplained death – family are demanding an investigation into the Central Detective Unit.

Owen's brother, Corey Rolle, 31, an assistant youth pastor at Bahamas Faith Ministries, also disputes that his brother died at hospital – as stated in the autopsy report.

SEE page 16

MINISTER TO GIVE UPDATE ON 'PIRATE TREASURE' LAND

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

THE Minister of State for Finance is travelling to San Salvador today to update residents on the status of the title to land under which many believe contains buried pirate treasure.

For the past few years, competing families have laid claim to the land in Fortune Hill after some initial prospecting determined there were large metal deposits in one of the hill's blocked caves.

According to some of the island's senior citizens, there have been rumours of gold, diamonds, and other precious stones being discovered over the years. Many people believe San Salvador may have been used in the past as a staging ground for such notorious pirates as Captain Kidd, who in all likelihood may have buried their ill-gotten gains on the island.

With the discovery of the large metal deposits in Fortune Hill, many residents took the job of "amateur treasure hunters" and began

SEE page 17

MORE BTC NEWS ON PAGES TWO, THREE, FIVE, SIX AND SEVEN

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LOCAL NEWS

Police use batons as protesters attempt to storm barricades

FROM page one

tioned on the opposite side of the barriers to protesters, who eventually pushed through to the middle of the road before officers were able to regain control.

After the brief confrontation, a union member, who had broken through the barricades, said: "They have y'all corralled like a bunch of animals. That is how they have you. Y'all look like a bunch of animals."

A police officer asked him to "stop that", fearing his words might further incite the crowd.

Shortly after the disturbance turned confrontational, the House of Assembly was "unexpectedly" suspended until Wednesday, January 19, 2011.

"Hubert left without his seat belt, burning tyres," said a protester, describing how some parliamentarians "flew out of the House."

Hundreds of BTC employees participated in the protest, along with employees from several other government agencies, including air transport workers.

"I am here because I don't believe what is going on. There is no accountability to the people. They are selling our best national asset below market value. If there is nothing to hide why not make the memorandum of understanding public," said an air transport employee, who took the day off to sup-

port the labour movement.

Barbara Rodgers, a BTC employee, said: "I am not here for myself. I am here for the generation to come. Why would you take food out of my grandchildren's mouth? 'Fire and wire' don't need to come here."

She took the day off from work to participate in the protest, although "the union told me to go to work," she said.

"I am not listening to the union today. I plan to be here all day. My father participated in the general strike, and we need to close the country down now for 20 days to send a message to Hubert Ingraham that the Bahamas is for Bahamians and not him and his cronies," said Ms Rodgers.

She was not concerned about the possibility of being reprimanded on the job.

Some protesters said they requested an "emergency day off"; others said they "called in sick." Several were on previously scheduled vacation time.

Kenny Knowles, a BTC manager on vacation, said: "As an employee I am very proud of BTC. It is a part of the Bahamian identity and instills a lot of national pride.

"They should not sell our national heritage. Privatisation does not have to equate to foreign ownership. That is the aspect we opposed."

Union leaders said more industrial action should be expected.

DAVID YURMAN



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LOCAL NEWS

Opposition
FROM page one

PLP 'also wrong' when it planned sale of BTC stake to foreigners

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

THE Progressive Liberal Party was "also wrong" when it planned to sell a minority stake in BTC to foreigners, PLP MP Alfred Sears admitted.

"On reflection I think we were also wrong," said Mr Sears, when asked about the former government's plans to sell 49 per cent of BTC to the American company Bluewater.

However, he added that the PLP changed its policy at some point since then, from one that focused on a "foreign strategic partner" to a "strategic partner", so qualified Bahamian bidders could be accommodated.

Speaking to *The Tribune* on the sidelines of a union protest over BTC's privatisation, the Fort Charlotte MP added that the outcry is "only going to get worse" unless the Ingraham administration caves into the calls for "Bahamianisation" of capital resources.

"There is a disquiet in this country. It is not against C&W. What the people are saying is the policy is wrong. People are asking the government to be committed to a policy of Bahamian ownership. BTC is the case that will draw a line in the sand that the government should make the ownership and economic empowerment of Bahamians the primary objective of public policy," he told *The Tribune*.

"The government should reconsider the sale and issue an IPO (initial public offering). Management and technology can always be bought. You don't have to sell the birthright of Bahamians," he said.

PLP Leader Perry Christie defended his administration's choice to sell BTC to Bluewater Ventures in early 2007 – a deal that fell through once the FNM assumed office in May of that year.

He said: "We had taken the approach that we were going to sell to a group made up of people who were shareholders in major entities around the world, people who were leading executives in the companies, regulators who had been approved by other jurisdictions so we were satisfied as to what we were selling to. We knew we were going to have people who make up a Bahamian company that would be able to centre its headquarters in the Bahamas, run the operation from the Bahamas with the

"I think the Government is very fearful now, scared of this issue. They know that they are riding a tiger and you know old Confucius' saying, 'He who rides tiger dare not fall off' and so they have postponed this to a date in January when I presume they believe they would have finished this deal and then they can come to Parliament with what they are doing."

Mr Turnquest later released a statement on why the House was suspended.

In it, he said: "The Government fully intended to proceed today with the debate and passage of amendments to the Business License Act. The Government discovered late Tuesday evening that a subsequent amendment to the Local Government Act would also be necessary to proceed with the debate."

"The amendment to the Local Government Act was not available at the time of this morning's sitting of Parliament. As the Government intends to debate and pass both sets of amendments concurrently due to their being interconnected, Parliament was suspended until January 19, 2011. The Government intends to debate and pass the amendments to the Business License Act and the Local Government Act at that sitting."

Minister of State for Finance Zhirvargo Laing shot back at assertions that Government left running scared yesterday as unions protested outside of Parliament.

"We are the ones who are proceeding the privatisation. We know the objection that some people have to it. We know the unions have indicated that they are objecting to it. What is there for us to be afraid of?" he said when he called into a radio talk show yesterday.

"The Prime Minister of the Bahamas, everybody knows, is no man who lacks courage."



PLP MP Alfred Sears

country owning 51 per cent, move into the region using the Bahamas as its base."

Mr Christie added that he at least sought to keep the unions

involved every step of the way while he was in office.

BTC's union heads have argued that they have been kept in the dark over the intricacies of the C&W deal.

"My Cabinet appointed the management union and the workers union to be full members of the privatisation committee and we said we would only move ahead if they agreed – if we had the full agreement of the workers' and the managers' representatives to the deal," he said during an impromptu press conference yesterday.

Selling a majority stake in the highly profitable utility company is not a good deal he said.

"Cable & Wireless is not the company to sell to. . . selling 51 per cent places the Bahamian public in a position where they have lost complete control. . . we are very, very fearful about what's happening."

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HOW DO YOU KNOW	NEW	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
CHRONICLES OF NARNIA	A	1:00	3:35	N/A	6:05	8:25	10:35
TANGLED	A	1:10	3:35	N/A	6:15	8:30	10:35
UNSTOPPABLE	T	1:10	3:20	N/A	6:15	8:30	10:50
FASTER	C	1:10	3:35	N/A	6:15	8:30	10:35
THE WARRIOR'S WAY	C	1:05	3:30	N/A	6:15	8:20	10:45
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EDITORIAL/LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Tribune Limited

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Being Bound to Swear to The Dogmas of No Master

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TELEPHONES

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Bahamians being offered better deal

WE ARE baffled by Opposition Leader Perry Christie's harping on the "secrecy" surrounding government's memorandum of understanding with Cable & Wireless (LIME). Surprised because on the desk in front of us is a file of the Christie government's secret negotiations with Bluewater that were then too sensitive to be shared with the public and of which no one knew the details until the Ingraham government came to office and opened the books. The union, by its own and Mr Christie's admission, was a part of the negotiations and approved the sale.

A week before the election, which resulted in the Christie government's removal from office, it was discovered that the privatisation committee for the Bluewater sale had submitted its report, which was approved by cabinet, but not signed by Mr Christie.

Today the public knows more about the Cable and Wireless proposal than it ever did about the Bluewater deal — and even now information is coming out about Bluewater that the public is hearing for the first time.

Prime Minister Ingraham has promised that all information on the BTC sale with all documents attached will be made public two weeks before being presented to the House for a vote.

This full disclosure, we can assure our readers — judging from the PLP's track record, especially recalling the "secret" land-giveaway in the Baha Mar Cable Beach deal — would have never happened under the Christie government.

And so why does Mr Christie continue to harp on a deal being "clandestinely" dealt with "deep in secret" when there is nothing secret about it?

He believes government, avoided parliament yesterday morning, because it is afraid of the issue.

"They know that they are riding a tiger and you know old Confucius' saying: 'He who ride rides tiger dare not fall off,'" said Mr Christie.

We know that Confucius was a wise man, but this particular saying cannot be attributed to him. It is an ancient Chinese proverb, which says: "He who rides a tiger can never get off or the tiger will devour him."

Is this why Mr Christie cannot give up the secrecy myth? Maybe, he and the union representatives, who admit they were a part of

the whole Bluewater negotiations, should come clean and tell the public why they were so secret when they were trying to hand over the Bahamian people's "jewel" to a group that had not been tested and had no track record in communications? No, Mr Christie, this is one tiger you will have to keep riding because if you fall off the people will indeed see that the Emperor has no clothes.

In yesterday's demonstration when a union member broke through the restraining barriers on Bay Street and was confronted by police, he taunted his colleagues, who remained behind the barricades: "They have y'all corralled like a bunch of animals. That is how they have you. Y'all look like a bunch of animals!"

Not only did they look like a bunch of corralled animals, but they were behaving as such without an independent brain in their heads. Imagine mounting a demonstration on the emotional hot air of politicians and union leaders without accepting the invitation to sit down with Cable and Wireless to discover for themselves what the negotiations are all about and the important role Bahamians are to play in it.

Today they now have a chance to sit down in the quiet of their homes and read the Cabinet's statement on page 7 of today's edition and see the bill of goods that the PLP was trying to sell them — and if it were not for the election would have got away with — and what they are being offered today.

This week a union leader accused government of giving away the country's cash cow. Indeed it is a cash cow that consumers are paying for dearly and unionists are milking without shame.

The backwardness of BTC has retarded the growth of this country's financial industry as well as local businesses that have been forced — thanks to the computer — to try to avoid the BTC monopoly as far as possible.

All we have heard so far is what the unionists want of BTC. It is now time for the consumers to be heard. Consumers want lower prices, better service and an ability to enter the world market without being hemmed in by suffocating monopolies.

Read the Cabinet statement and understand how Bahamians are being hoodwinked by politicians — there is indeed no comparison with the Christie-backed Bluewater deal to what is being offered today by Cable and Wireless Communications.

Old guard must make way for young blood

EDITOR, The Tribune.

How shocking for Mr Ingraham to think that it is either fit or proper to suggest that The Bahamas should consider choosing him again to lead this country after 2012. Mr Ingraham (and Mr Christie) while still having some useful qualities, are old men today — and will be even older in 2012. They no longer have the energy, and cannot learn the skill-set required to run a 21st century nation.

Surely the young men of this country cannot allow this to happen. And it is up to those young men, those between 35 and 55, to stop this in its tracks.

Young men of each generation have a responsibility to their families and the nation to renew the team, and to choose one of their generation to bring new ideas and new energy to every sector of the society — whether it be in business, religion or politics.

In the life of a nation, twenty years completes a generational cycle.

And any generation that allows the previous one to continue to control their fate after that cycle has run its course, does so at their own peril.

The generation of the 30's chose Mr Pindling (Sir Lynden) as their political leader. And he managed to keep his place for the entire genera-

LETTERS

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tional cycle. There is no question that he should have been replaced in 1987, but the next generation made the mistake (for reasons which may be understandable) of allowing him to remain for an additional five years, which turned out to be a complete disaster.

The 50's generation divided their twenty years between Mr Ingraham and Mr Christie.

(It is Mr Christie's own fault that he got only five of those twenty years.) That generation's cycle will end in 2012. And so should the control of both Mr Christie and Mr Ingraham.

The 70's generation now moves into position to choose their political leaders.

They may not be able to find a single one to lead for 20 or even 10 years, and may end up with four different leaders over the next twenty years. That is their choice, and their problem to solve.

But they must not allow old men to steal their energy and opportunity to shape the world in which their children will have to survive.

Those who are older, and have served with honour, will,

and must, be treated with respect and dignity by the next generation.

Their advice and counsel are useful in guiding the hands that will next take control.

But if they will not gracefully relinquish those controls, it is the duty of the generation-in-waiting to take control from them.

Life requires turnover. And we are at a time in our nation's life when that turnover must occur.

I have great confidence in the qualities and abilities of the next generation.

I have seen enough of them to know that The Bahamas will be in excellent hands when they assume control. These men and women have seen the world and have had experiences which the current leaders cannot imagine.

They will change our environment, and it is their duty to do so.

And while this may disturb some of those in the over-65 set, they are disturbed only because they are now the status quo.

When they did it, their grandparents were also disturbed. But they did it anyway.

And that is simply life, as it should be.

SHAYNE DAVIS
Nassau,
December 6, 2010.

Hope Town was badly misrepresented in article

EDITOR, The Tribune.

I wish to respond to the article in Wednesday's edition titled "Residents stage protest in hotel development row" written by Noelle Nicholls.

Miss Nicholls came to Hope Town to cover a protest and not only did she ignore the entire reason for the protest, but she also badly misrepresented the town of Hope Town.

By reading the article, one would think that there is a small group of foreigners protesting a development that will benefit most Bahamians and that most Bahamians support it. Nothing is further from the truth.

The truth of the matter is

that our Town Council was elected by the Bahamians of Hope Town, Man-O-War, and Guana Cay to act and speak on our behalf and according to our wishes. Remember, non-Bahamians cannot vote or hold office.

Regarding the proposed Elbow Cay Club development, the council worked very hard to get everyone's opinion by attending town meetings, discussing it in length individually, and encouraging everyone to write letters expressing their views.

After digesting all the information they decided that the voters were overwhelmingly against the development as proposed and a resolution was drafted expressing this view to Central Government. Central Government in turn chose to totally ignore its own local government and approved the development.

The protest was meant to bring attention not just to the issue that the citizens of Hope Town do not want a huge development on their island, but also to the bigger issue that local government and the wishes of the people are being ignored.

We are being dictated to by

Nassau. Is democracy dead in the Bahamas? In the article Miss Nicholls brushes over most of what Chief Councillor Jeremy Sweeting had to say and then from an unnamed source claims that most people at the protest were second home owners and expatriates. This is untrue.

There was a healthy proportion of both Bahamian and non-Bahamian. Just because people are white does not mean that they are not Bahamian.

Second home owners are a huge part of the economy of the Bahamas. They have millions of dollars invested in Hope Town alone. What is wrong with them voicing their concerns in regards to their investments? Miss Nicholls then focuses on the opinions of Kerry Sullivan and Michael Meyers, both who stand to gain monetarily from this deal.

Miss Sullivan claims the council did not give the developers an alternative and that the developers had made efforts to downsize. In truth the developers first submitted a plan for a development of outrageous size that had no hope of being approved and it was consequently turned down.

They then came back with the present plan which is still of outrageous proportions but is admittedly smaller than the first one.

Now they are claiming to be the good guys because they have downsized from huge to not quite as huge. Since the beginning the town has always said a small resort or inn would be welcome.

No one has ever said nothing should be done there at all.

Mr Meyers also claims the developers have downsized the marina and that this will bring in jobs for our youth and clean up the Haitian ghetto that is now there.

The marina is the same story. It is going from huge to not quite so huge.

Regarding jobs for our youth and cleaning up the ghetto the same goals could be accomplished with a small resort as opposed to a mega development.

This is a sad day for all of the Bahamas.

JEFF GALE
December 9, 2010.

AUTOMALL

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LOCAL NEWS

BISHOP FRASER EXPECTED IN WITNESS STAND NEXT MONTH

BAPTIST Bishop Earl Randy Fraser is expected to take the witness stand when his unlawful sex trial resumes next month.

Bishop Fraser is expected back in court on January 13 and 14, 2011 for the continuation of his retrial.

His wife is reportedly also expected to testify.

Bishop Fraser, pastor at Pilgrim Baptist Temple on St James Road, was in court on Monday as four more witnesses were called to testify in his defence.

Eight people have testified on the bishop's behalf so far.

Bishop Fraser pleaded not guilty to having unlawful sex with a 16-year-old girl between July 2005 and February 2006.

He was acquitted of the charge in 2007, but the Court of Appeal ordered a retrial. His retrial began before Deputy Chief Magistrate Carolita Bethel last May.

Bishop Fraser remains on \$10,000 bail. He is represented by attorney Wayne Munroe.

Deputy Director of Public Prosecutions Franklyn Williams is prosecuting the case.

PLP chairman: govt on public relations exercise over BTC



'NATIONAL ISSUE':
Bradley Roberts

WITH "national opposition" to the sale of 51 per cent of BTC to Cable and Wireless continuing to grow, PLP chairman Bradley Roberts said the government has now embarked on a major public relations exercise to convince Bahamians that the deal is in the "best interest of the Bahamas."

"These groups of misguided personalities," Mr Roberts said, "including executives of Cable and Wireless, all have hit the airways in droves in an effort to support this 'sweetheart deal'."

"In fact, the creators of this deal sound so convincing over the airwaves they are starting (to) sound as if they truly believe their own propaganda."

"However all Bahamians from all sides of the political divide are not buying into the hype."

Mr Roberts said despite the government's efforts, the BCPOU, the

BCMU and other national unions remain strongly opposed to Cable and Wireless as the purchasing entity of BTC.

The chairman added that his party believes the sale of BTC to C&W is a "national issue" and not a political one.

Battle

"We therefore will rightly do battle in the Halls of Parliament against this foolish, sweetheart proposition by the FNM."

"To this end, the primary spokespersons outside the halls of parliament have been primarily the party's chairman, the leader and deputy leader."

"This position by the PLP has been clearly demonstrated with the ongoing

Senate debates, as opposition members, despite attempts to be censored, continue to hammer the government for not making public the details of the Memorandum of Understanding on the BTC/C&W deal.

"We conclude by stating the government continues to stubbornly proceed with this bad deal despite mounting national opposition by the people of the Bahamas."

"Considering the above factors, the PLP again calls on the prime minister to make public the details of the sale by releasing the Memorandum of Understanding on the BTC/C&W deal without further delay."

"More importantly, we call on the government to listen to the majority of the people and cancel the government's plans to sell BTC to Cable and Wireless," Mr Roberts said.

FROM page one

'End deceit'

flight," said Nelerene Harding, president of the Airport, Airline & Allied Workers Union (AAAW), and third vice president of the National Congress of Trade Unions (NCTU).

She spoke, along with leaders from 10 different unions. Hundreds of union members participated in the demonstration called by the NCTU.

"We don't need no lemonade, so LIME got to go," shouted protesters, who were adamant about the government reversing the sale.

Onlookers heard representatives of the teacher's union say "no read, no write", forecasting possible follow-up action.

Bernard Evans, president of the Bahamas Communications and Public Officers Union (BCPOU), said: "We don't want any foreigners to take over BTC. We can stay all day and all night. We are going to eat lunch, dinner, breakfast and lunch again."

Yesterday, the House was suspended until January 19, 2011, shortly after protesters had a brief clash with police when they attempted to storm past barricades in Parliament Square.

In last night's statement, the government said going forward, it will put more facts into the public arena, and will release "all facts and documentation" two weeks prior to the House of Assembly being called upon to vote on the sale of BTC.

William Carrol, president of the Bahamas Communications and Public Managers Union (BCPMU), said: "They will

have to come to Parliament to vote on BTC. If every time they come they run, then we will be victorious."

During the protest, leaders from the different unions spoke from a bullhorn in the middle of Parliament Square, while fellow members sang and chanted.

"We are here to make a statement today. Come hell or high water, we will stand together as the TUC and the NCTU."

"We will not allow BTC to be taken away and sold to Cable and Worthless," said Cleola Hamilton, Trade Union Congress (TUC) vice president

and president of the nurses union.

"We are giving away our children's birthright and our children's, children's birthright."

"Enough is enough and too much is too god damn much," said Ms Hamilton.

In light of a court injunction preventing BTC union representatives from "inducing employees of BTC to break their respective contracts of employment by taking part in any unlawful industrial action against BTC", Mr Evans said the union "told our people to go to work."

"We admonished them to go to work. Go pay your phone

bill. My people are at work," said Mr Evans, who emphasised that the NCTU and the TUC led the protest, not the BCPOU.

"We will be guided by the NCTU and the TUC with whatever plans they have," he said.

Downtown workers filed out of their stores to observe the procession, as union members walked slowly down Bay Street. Police diverted downtown traffic using Charlotte Street, Woodes Rodgers Wharf, Parliament and East streets.

The demonstration started at the Archdeacon William Thompson Park, with protesters toting an array of placards.

SEARCH FOR SECOND PERSON IN PLANE CRASH SUSPENDED

THE search for a second person believed to have been onboard a private US-registered cargo plane that crashed in the ocean seven miles southwest of New Providence on Tuesday was suspended yesterday.

According to a Royal Bahamas Defence Force official, a search effort which began at 8am yesterday proved fruitless as nothing else related to the crash was discovered.

"The search has been suspended pending any

new developments or reports," the officer said.

The body of a Caucasian man who is yet to be identified was pulled from the ocean Tuesday afternoon after the crash.

A Caucasian woman is also believed to have been onboard the plane.

Air traffic controllers reported that shortly before 3pm, a small aircraft disappeared from their radar four miles south of Gaulin Cay. The plane was reportedly travelling from Florida.

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LOCAL NEWS

BTC PARLIAMENT SQUARE PROTEST



SCENES FROM yesterday's protest against the proposed sale of BTC at Parliament Square. During the protest, leaders from the different unions spoke while fellow members sang and chanted. **Tim Clarke/Tribune staff**



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Scripture Thought
Luke Chpt. 21: 25-28
The Coming of the Son of Man
25 "And there will be signs in the sun, in the moon, and in the stars; and on the earth distress of nations, with perplexity, the sea and the waves roaring;
26 men's hearts failing them from fear and the expectation of those things which are coming on the earth, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken.
27 Then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.
28 Now when these things begin to happen, look up and lift up your heads, because your redemption draws near."

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LOCAL NEWS

Cabinet statement on BTC sale

LATE last night the Cabinet released a statement on the sale of the 51 per cent interest in Bahamas Telecommunications Company to Cable & Wireless Communications concluding that "the offer from Bluewater is in no way comparable to that from CWC."

Following is the full text of the statement:

It is time to bring an end to the deceit that is now becoming a national debate regarding the Government's decision to sell 51 per cent of the Bahamas Telecommunications Company (BTC) to Cable and Wireless Communications (CWC) and its comparison to an earlier decision to sell 49 per cent of BTC to Bluewater Ventures.

Price Comparison.
The price agreed with Bluewater was \$260 million for 49 per cent of BTC. But there was a net balance of approximately \$70 million of BTC's cash in its bank account at the end of May 2007. There was no allowance in Bluewater's offer for this cash to be removed from BTC.

Using the same maths we have heard with respect to the Cable & Wireless transaction, this constituted a net cash transaction of \$190 million. Of this amount \$25 million was deferred for five years and another \$15 million deferred for six years.

The net cash therefore, that the country would have received from the Bluewater transaction at the time of closing is \$150 million.

The deferred payment of \$40 million, which was also interest-free, would have in fact been paid by BTC itself and because of time-value the money would have amounted to less in value than \$40 million. The sale price of \$260 million was nothing more than a gimmick designed to deceive and mislead.

The net cash to Government of the proposed Bluewater bid would therefore have been less than \$190 mil-

lion. It is deceitful not to openly acknowledge this fact.

In the case of the CWC transaction, the purchase price is \$210 million which will be paid at closing plus \$7 million in stamp taxes, that is \$217 million. And, the Government at closing will receive any net cash in excess of \$15 million.

Therefore, the net cash benefit to the Government of the CWC transaction will be at least \$202 million. No account is taken in this statement of the tens of millions of dollars received by the Government from BTC since the aborted sale to Bluewater as the Government did not intend to sell BTC's cash.

Exclusivity Period
A comparison of the exclusivity period for the mobile service which has an annual cash value of a very significant amount shows Bluewater was granted an exclusivity period of six years while for CWC the exclusivity period for mobile service is three years.

Regarding the fixed line monopoly, Bluewater was granted an exclusivity period of six years. As for CWC, this issue does not arise since we already liberalized fixed line services and CWC will therefore be in a competitive environment from the beginning of its operation.

Minority vs. Majority Ownership
Much is being made of the issue of sale of 49 per cent against 51 per cent and the implications inherent in the difference.

The principal issue that arises in minority versus majority interest is the element of management and control of the company. In the case of Bluewater the fact is that the management and control was to be given to Bluewater without acquisition of the majority interest.

Bluewater was given control of the Board and of the Company by virtue of its greater number of directors and of the day-to-day management by virtue of its

authority to select the Company's Chief Executive Officer. The important distinction is that Bluewater secured effective majority control without having to pay for it.

Credible Partner
Perhaps the most compelling issue for the Bahamian people's consideration is the issue of credibility of the selection for partnering with BTC in its quest for the transformation of telecommunications networks throughout The Bahamas and assurance of a telecommunications framework that facilitates and supports the economic prosperity of the country.

A comparison of Bluewater and Cable and Wireless is in order.

Firstly, it is not possible to know who Bluewater is because there is no history to refer to. Bluewater was a shell company registered offshore in Jersey in the Channel Islands, and was established in 2003, 140 years after Cable & Wireless commenced operations. It had no financial statements and no organizational support. It only had 2 issued shares of 1 UK pound each. It was previously called Bluewater Communications Ventures Ltd. It changed its name to Bluewater Ventures Ltd. removing the word "Communications".

As far as we know, given the 2 shareholders are nominee companies, its principal is one individual foreigner who used to be in a communications business, NTL, which went into bankruptcy in 2002. We don't know who the shareholders are, as this information was never provided to us. It is mind-boggling that a decision was once taken by a Government of The Bahamas to sell BTC to this entity. It is even more astonishing that there are those still bold enough to publicly tout this experience today.

On the other hand, the partner the present Government has selected, CWC, is a

SEE page eight

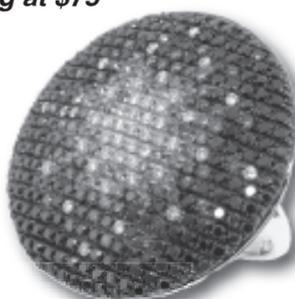
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Little Drummer You

We approach this holiday season as the world continues to face global economic crisis, job losses, fluctuating fuel prices and home foreclosures. With this economic uncertainty those of us who celebrate Christmas are finding it difficult to cope with our ever-shrinking holiday budget. This is because we so often celebrate Christmas with expensive gifts and extravagant parties. It is at this time that I reflect on the story of the Little Drummer Boy who gave the only thing he had to baby Jesus. Why not follow this example and give the best of ourselves this Christmas. There are so many ways to do this:

- 1. Adopt a grandparent:** There are many senior citizens' homes in our local communities with elderly people who have no one to share Christmas with. Why not spend a day with one of them? Find out their favourite book and read to them or simply sit and listen to them tell stories of their past. I promise you that it would be an unforgettable experience.
- 2. Participate in a community or church play:** Check your local newspapers or community boards for plays in the area and express your talent of acting, singing, playing a musical instrument or reciting poetry.
- 3. Volunteer at the local soup kitchen:** These groups are eager to accept volunteers as there is always a great need to feed the hungry in the area. Inquire about their times for distribution this holiday season and choose the one which is more convenient for you.
- 4. Donate, Donate, Donate:** Clothing (new and old), shoes, books, and old toys can be delivered to local children's homes or soup kitchens for distribution.
- 5. Hand Me Downs:** Now may be the best time to give your daughter the pearls you were saving for her or your son the watch you were saving for him. This gift will have great sentimental value and will not cost any more than the gift wrapping paper.
- 6. Spend quality time:** Your family and friends will remember more the moments you share with them than the gifts you give. Arrange a tree-trimming party with eggnog and popcorn. Have a Christmas movie night with the same treats.

The more we give of ourselves we will realise that Christmas is not a time of sharing gifts but of sharing love and giving of ourselves. May you have a wonderful Christmas and a prosperous New Year as we at Halsbury Chambers wish you, "Peace on earth and goodwill to all men."

Written by Mrs. Estero N. Saunders
Counsel & Attorney at Law



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LOCAL NEWS

Ministry criticised for sale of counterfeit goods at RM Bailey park

By CELESTE NIXON
Tribune Staff Reporter
cnixon@tribunemedia.net

MEMBERS of the public are criticising the Ministry of Education for allowing the sale of counterfeit goods at RM Bailey park.

Holiday vendors who "set up shop" last Saturday at the park, across the street from the Marathon Mall, are selling everything from toys to clothes. Some are reportedly also selling counterfeit bags and wallets.

One concerned person remarked that it would appear that the Ministry of Education, which has responsibility for the park, is teaching the public "how to sell illegal goods and undermine both the government and legitimate businesses."

When confronted with the complaints, Director of Education Lionel Sands explained that the ministry does not give the vendors specific rules or guidelines concerning what they can and cannot sell.

Nor does the ministry examine what is sold.

"We give them permission to use the area for periods of three weeks during the holiday season under the premise that their goods are legitimate and legal," Mr Sands said.

According to the ministry, vendors are not required to possess a business or shop licence or pay rental fees for the use of the space.

The issue of persons being allowed to sell counterfeit goods has been highlighted

on more than one occasion recently, beginning with the arrest of nine straw market vendors in New York for buying counterfeit goods they planned to later sell on Bay Street.

Then, Minister of Public Works and Transport Neko Grant announced that counterfeit goods will not be allowed in the new Straw Market – a decision that drew the ire of many straw vendors.



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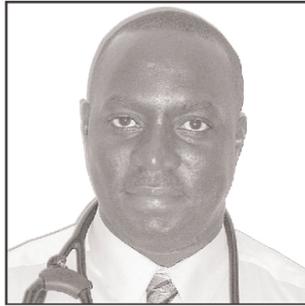
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LOCAL NEWS



THESE ANDROS residents have built their homes on land to which they have title, unlike many Central Androsians who have built their homes on Crown Land and are unable to obtain an occupancy certificate from the Government.

Central Andros natives can now claim Crown Land



CENTRAL ANDROS administrator Oscar Munroe offered an view of how Central Androsians can directly benefit from the discipline provided by the 2010 Forestry and Planning & Subdivisions Act, as well as the 2010 Land Adjudication Act.

ANDROS – Central Andros natives can now claim Crown Land which they can prove they have a vested interest in under the 2010 Land Adjudication Act.

The 2010 Planning and Subdivisions Act will also empower their right to build on the land legally and retain equity and market value, according to local government officials.

“In Andros, most of the land is owned by the state and there’s very little privately owned land. So hence, the residents find it difficult to engage in any kind of expansion of the communities in which they live, whether it’s for private residence or for business purposes,” said Central Andros administrator Oscar Munroe.

“Because of that you find there’s a practice whereby

people arbitrarily just build on Crown Land with the hope that they will be able to at some point get some type of title to the land. But it’s a problem in that, in order for them to build, there are certain requirements to get a building permit. One of those requirements will be that they will have to show proof of ownership of the land. This presents a problem in that most of the time they build without coming forward. And then there’s a difficulty in regulating because sometimes they build by the building code or sometimes they didn’t.”

The 2010 Planning and Subdivisions Act will take effect in January 2011, ending an era of ambiguity and confusion.

It offers a clear legal framework with a list of guidelines, of which these Bahamian investors have been unaware, government officials said.

“You would know that a building is progressing when the investor goes to BEC to get electricity and they need an occupancy certificate. In order to get that, they will come in and everybody expects you at the time to understand they have invested in this property, and this is the norm, and most cases they just expect for it to be business as usual, that you turn a blind eye and give them the occupancy certificate,” said Mr Munroe.

Mr Munroe spoke in general regarding the local land disputes presented before him as a Family Island administrator.

He said the issues are deep-rooted because Central Androsians expect fairness and want equal treatment under the law. Residents were offended that land ownership was a privilege granted to others in the past and not extended to them.

“Most of the land is Crown Land and these settlements have been going on for many, many years. There were other people who were able to do it and found that they were able to get regulation after a while. So hence, everyone feels that it should be the norm,” said Mr Munroe.

The new amendments will help residents to comply with government building codes easier and will dismiss the established tradition of manipulating the Quieting Titles Act to acquire land in which they have invested, he said.

At least, 80 per cent of the land in Andros is government owned, including land protected by the Bahamas National Trust for sustaining national biodiversity.

The 2010 Forestry and Planning and Subdivisions Act brings the unaddressed issues from the court of public opinion back into the courtroom.

“It forces us to look into the situation and perhaps from the Town Planning side of it, we would have to make land available to the residents. We would have to actively survey the lands that people have been building on and making sure that some title is forthcoming. Land would also have to be made available for future growth,” said Mr Munroe.

Mr Munroe also spoke about how the laws will protect wildlife from human interference.

“There has been a lot of research going on about Andros from the local and international perspective. The blue holes were widely publicised by National Geographic magazine. You can catch crabs in those areas, but you cannot build there because those areas are reserved for sustainable growth of the crabs,” said Mr Munroe.

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LOCAL NEWS



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QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY RECIPIENTS 2010

ABOVE: Queen's Birthday Recipients for 2010 are pictured in the ballroom at Government House after receiving their awards. Seated in front from left are: Warren Levarity, CMG; Mrs Deloris Ingraham, Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham, Governor-General Sir Arthur Foulkes and Lady Foulkes.



LEFT: Governor-General Sir Arthur Foulkes confers upon Solomon Kerzner the award of Knight Commander of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George.

CALL FOR INQUIRY OVER SHIRLEY STREET JAMS



ROAD WORKS: Several workmen can be seen looking on as one man works on the manhole. Tim Clarke/Tribune staff

AS FRUSTRATED drivers continued to rage over Shirley Street traffic jams caused by government road

works, a local civic action group has demanded an official inquiry. 'We The People' chair-

man Ed Fields said the group is perturbed that those managing the work seem "completely unconcerned" that they are negatively impacting the quality of life for all residents and that productivity is being unnecessarily and significantly reduced.

He said: "We the People seek to make an impact with respect to the quality of life for all Bahamians. It is the small things that count and in this regard we call for an immediate investigation of the process whereby non-essential roadworks are being done during peak hours."

Mr Fields said that over the past several weeks, agencies "unknown to anyone" have been commissioning contractors to raise manhole covers on Shirley Street.

He called for the public to be told who is managing the process and why it is important to do the work now.

In the spirit of We The People's stated approach, Mr Fields said, the group would suggest the following:

- That non-essential road works be carried out during non-peak hours on week days, and completed prior to the resumption of peak hours.
- That non-essential road works be carried out on evenings and weekends,
- That non-essential road works, or scheduled road works, be carried out during school closures so as to reduce traffic congestion.
- That the police be made aware of such works, so officers can be in position to assist with traffic management.

Mr Fields added: "We The People is committed to the process of change and over the months and years ahead, WTP will serve as the vehicle for persons to express themselves with respect to issues such as these. We will always be mindful however of forwarding solutions in the absence of overt confrontation, attacking personalities or politicising the matter at hand.

"Most importantly, we call on all citizens that are affected by these thoughtless decisions or any other similar acts, to voice their disapproval either through their own devices or by joining We The People, which will act on those concerns accordingly.



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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

1,000 detained in Russia to prevent ethnic clashes



AP Photo

CLAMPING DOWN: Riot police officers detain protesters outside Sennaya Ploshchad metro station in St. Petersburg yesterday. Dozens of riot police deployed around central St. Petersburg Wednesday to prevent possible ethnic clashes after the weekend rioting by racist hooligans fueled rumors that minorities could try to retaliate.

DAVID NOWAK,
Associated Press
MOSCOW

Fearing more clashes between racist hooligans and mostly Muslim ethnic minorities, police detained more than 1,000 people in Moscow and several other Russian cities Wednesday, after weekend rioting in the capital left dozens injured.

Hundreds of riot police outside the Kievsky station in central Moscow hauled into police vans mostly young men and teenagers who were shouting racist slogans and raising their hands in Nazi salutes. Some were lined up against buses and searched by police. Officers confiscated an arsenal of weapons, including traumatic guns, knives and metal bars, police spokesman Viktor Biryukov said. Police rounded up about 60 protesters in St. Petersburg, where radical groups also planned a gathering Wednesday.

Riot police prevented clashes in Krasnodar and Rostov-on-Don, southern Russian cities with large non-Slavic populations where ethnic clashes have been frequent in recent years, officials said. Dozens of mostly young men have been detained in central Russia and Siberia, Russian news agencies reported.

Resentment has been rising among Slavic Russians over the growing presence in Moscow and elsewhere of people from the southern Caucasus region, most of them Muslims. People from other parts of the former Soviet Union, including Central Asia, Armenia and Azerbaijan, also face ethnic discrimination and are frequent victims of hate crimes.

While ethnic Russians amount to about four-fifths of Russia's population of 142 million, the country is also home to some 180 ethnic groups. The Caucasus region with its mountainous terrain and isolated valleys is home to at least 100 ethnicities including Chechens, who waged two separatist wars against Moscow after the collapse of the Soviet Union.

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Julian Assange back in court to fight for bail

LONDON

WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange was due back in British court Thursday to fight for bail following a week of legal drama which has seen prosecutors challenge a judge's decision to free him, according to Associated Press.

Assange was granted a conditional release on 200,000 pounds (\$316,000) bail Tuesday, but prosecutors are trying to keep him behind bars and appealed the decision to London's High Court.

Assange has already spent more than a week in prison following his surrender to British police over a Swedish sex-crimes warrant. He denies any wrongdoing but has refused to voluntarily surrender to Swe-



LEGAL DRAMA: WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange leaves the City of Westminster Magistrates' Court in London Tuesday Dec. 14, 2010.

AP Photo/Lewis Whyld, PA

den's request to extradite him for questioning.

Supporters of the 39-year-old Australian say the charges are trumped up and possibly politically motivated.

Assange's British lawyer, Mark Stephens, said Wednesday that "somebody has it in

for Julian Assange and we only can conjecture why."

But lawyer Gemma Lindfield, acting for Sweden, told Tuesday's hearing at the City of Westminster Magistrates' Court that Assange faced serious allegations and may abscond if granted bail.

She said he is accused of rape, molestation and unlawful coercion by two women for separate incidents in August. Assange has yet to be charged.

His lawyers say the allegations stem from a dispute over "consensual but unprotected sex" and argue that he has offered to make himself available for questioning via video link or in person in Britain.

Lindfield also rejected attempts to link Assange's case with the work of WikiLeaks — which last month deeply angered U.S. officials by beginning to publish its trove of 250,000 secret U.S. diplomatic cables.

"This is not a case about WikiLeaks, rather a case about alleged serious offenses against two women," Lindfield said.

District Judge Howard Riddle approved bail on condition Assange wear an electronic tag, stay at a specific address in southern England, report to police every evening and observe two four-hour curfews each day besides putting up the bond.

His lawyers are struggling to assemble the bail money, which the court wants to see up front and in cash. Stephens said he had about half the amount by Wednesday.

BREAKING NEWS

For breaking news alerts
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Christ Church Cathedral Schedule of Christmas Services December 19th, 2010 - January 2nd, 2011

6:30 p.m. Sunday December 19th, 2010
**A Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols
Featuring The Highgrove Singers**

Friday December 24th, 2010
The Eve of The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ

10:45 p.m. "Emmanuel: The Promise Fulfilled"
A Christmas Eve Concert
Presented by:
The Choirs of Christ Church Cathedral

11:45 p.m. **Procession to and Blessing of the Manger
&
Solemn High Mass**

Saturday December 25th, 2010
Christmas Day

7:00 a.m. **Holy Eucharist**
10:00 a.m. **Sung Eucharist**

Sunday December 26th, 2010

The First Sunday After Christmas

7:30 a.m. **Holy Eucharist**
9:00 a.m. **Holy Eucharist**
11:15 a.m. **Holy Eucharist**

6:00 p.m. **Solemn Evensong, Sermon & Benediction**

Friday December 31st, 2010

**The Eve of the Feast of the Holy Name of Jesus
New Year's Eve**

11:00 p.m.

**This Service leads into the First Mass of The New
Year, 2011**

Sunday January 2nd, 2011

The Second Sunday After Christmas

7:30 a.m. **Holy Eucharist**
9:00 a.m. **Holy Eucharist**
11:15 a.m. **Holy Eucharist**

6:00 p.m. **Service of Light: "We Have Seen His Star"**
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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Cable: Cubans say Jamaica lax on fighting drugs

DAVID McFADDEN,
Associated Press
KINGSTON, Jamaica



BRUCE GOLDING

of drug-related information between the two island nations to increase interdictions and avoid 'being surprised by drugs,' said the cable, apparently

mal drug cooperation treaty, Cuba and the United States have long worked together on interdiction efforts, with the two country's coast guards handling communication about operations on the high seas.

The cable reveals a level of cooperation between Havana and Washington not talked about openly, such as an August 2009 trip by a U.S. Coast Guard drug interdiction specialist to the Cuban city of Camaguey following the capture of a plane carrying 13 baels of marijuana from Jamaica.

Officials at the U.S. Interests Section in Havana normally are not allowed to travel beyond 25 miles (40 kilometers) outside the capital without Cuban permission, which is rarely granted. According to the memorandum, the U.S. specialist determined that Cuba "genuinely desires greater information sharing" with Jamaica. Cuban officers complained that Jamaican officials "commonly agree to greater information sharing in person; however, that is the extent of their efforts."

It also details an October

2008 meeting aboard a British ship in Havana's port that was arranged by the U.K. defense attache to spur better cooperation between Cuba and Jamaica. Afterward, the U.S. anti-drug specialist said Cuban officials complained that the two Jamaican officials "just sat there and didn't say anything."

A spokeswoman for Jamaica's national security minister said a statement would be issued later Wednesday.

While not addressing specifics or confirming the authenticity of the cable, the U.S. Embassy in Kingston said in a statement that the U.S. has a "long, positive history of productive relations" with Jamaica on a wide range of law enforcement matters.

The island's opposition quickly pounced, calling on Prime Minister Bruce Golding's Jamaica Labor Party to explain the "damning allegations."

Jamaica's counter-drug efforts have been so sluggish that exasperated Cuban officials privately griped about their frustrations to a U.S. drug enforcement official, according to a newly released U.S. diplomatic cable.

The communicate released by WikiLeaks said Cuban officials painted their Caribbean neighbor to the south as chronically uncooperative in stopping drug smugglers who use Cuban waters and airspace to transport narcotics destined for the U.S. Dated Aug. 11, 2009, and first published by Britain's The Guardian newspaper, it said no fewer than 15 Cuban Interior Ministry officials complained to a U.S. anti-drug specialist assigned to the U.S. Interests Section, which Washington maintains in Havana instead of an embassy.

"Collectively and continually, they express frustration over the (government of Jamaica's) consistent ignoring of Cuban attempts to increase the flow

written by America's chief diplomat to Cuba, Jonathan Farrar. The document was written less than a year before Jamaican security forces launched an anti-gang crackdown following the capture of Christopher "Dudus" Coke, once described by the U.S. Justice Department as one of the world's most dangerous drug kingpins.

The cable describes two major seizures of marijuana from Jamaican smugglers in Cuba's territory and portrayed the Cubans as active partners, even if the communist government ultimately blames Washington for drug trafficking due to high demand in the U.S.

Despite their stormy relationship and the lack of a for-

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FP Nassau Week 5 Winner Charaine McDonald chose the Rainlury Home for her donation.

FP Grand Bahama Week 5 Winner Shirley Lowe chose The Salvation Army for her donation.

FP Grand Bahama Week 5 Winner Desmond Nisbold chose the Grand Bahama Children's Home for his donation.

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WINNER'S PHOTOGRAPH UNAVAILABLE

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LOCAL NEWS

FAMILY OF MAN WHO DIED AFTER ARREST WANT INVESTIGATION

FROM page one

He believes his brother died at CDU.

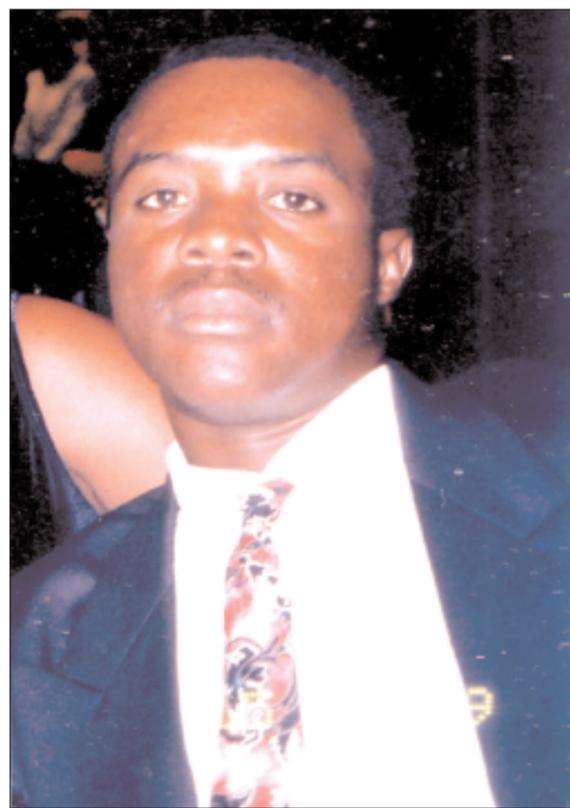
Mr Rolle said: "His daddy - ASP Nathan Rolle - was actually one of the leading officers in CDU for years. He trained Bethell (head of CDU), who dropped us to school for years. The force that my daddy helped build to where it is right now, is now being questioned for his own son's death by the officers who he trained."

According to the police, Mr Rolle had been taken in for questioning in connection with the robbery of the BTC office on Shirley Street that morning. While at the Central Detective Unit, officers said, they noticed he was breathing heavily, then he suddenly collapsed.

Mr Rolle said: "I think one of the biggest problems on the force right now - I think officers are frustrated with the judicial system and it forces them to do things that may be extreme to crack down a case."

Mr Rolle explained that since his brother's death, he had been doing his own research into the interrogation tactics of officers at CDU. His findings revealed that persons were beaten with various objects about the body, including their head and testicles, suffocated or tased.

"The two other guys that got arrested with this case both said they were beaten badly," he said. "When an officer arrests somebody, knowing he's gonna be out within 24 hours, for murder or gun possession, I think they're frustrated so when they're in situations like that they do desperate things. They go to the extreme to try to find out what's going



OWEN ROLLE: The 35-year-old died after his arrest.

on because there isn't much hope with our judicial system. I definitely think they did something which they do normally, but it took his life."

Mr Rolle explained that despite the personal meeting from the commissioner - who assured him that there would be no cover up if there was any wrongdoing - he was dissatisfied by the efforts of the organisation towards ensuring proper recourse for his brother's death.

"We are at a serious state in this country," said Mr Rolle, "my brother missed his daughter's birthday yesterday. He had two kids, a three-year-old and a five-year-old."

The Rolle family's cry for an independent body to monitor the RBPF echoes public statements made by a senior police officer this week.

Assistant Superintendent Glenroy McKenzie demanded an independent investigation into the death of Inspector Archibald Miller who was accidentally killed last month by police. Both matters were said to have been sent to the coroner's court, however the autopsy report on both Mr Rolle and Mr Miller were not made public.

Mr McKenzie told the media that he had "lost confidence" in the police commissioner's ability to effect a proper inquiry. He also said he felt Commissioner Greenslade was too concerned with "public image."

"The commissioner," said Mr Rolle, "is a good man, he's trying his best, but definitely we do have a police force that needs to be fine tuned."

Senior officers were not available for comment up to press time.



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LOCAL NEWS

Minister to give update on 'pirate treasure' land

FROM page one

to excavate vast areas of private land in the hope of finding this lost treasure. International prospectors also joined the search. When good title to the land could not be determined, the government was forced to step in and halt all activity.

However, Minister of State Zhivargo Laing told *The Tribune* yesterday the government has finally been able to determine title to the land, but would not disclose the name of the person, save to say it was a woman.

"There is an individual who we are able to confirm that her title is clear. So now I am going to explain to them what we now know, and explain to them what will happen from here. I'm really going to update them on the status of things as far as that property is concerned," he said.

While it is not the government's responsibility to determine if there is buried treasure on the island or not, Minister Laing stressed that if anything were to be discovered, that individual, according to Treasure Trove law, would have to enter into an agreement with the Minister of Finance before anything could be excavated.

"You first would have to

SAN SALVADOR TRIP:
Minister of State for Finance Zhivargo Laing



show clear title to property. Then you would have to get permission from the Antiquities, Monuments and Museum Corporation to do the excavation. Then, if you have any findings, you have an obligation to disclose that to the Minister of Finance so that you can enter into a Treasure Trove arrangement with him that says how the property can be disposed of."

Minister Laing said that beyond this there is no law that stipulates what percentage the government could take from any find,

other than what would be negotiated between the Minister of Finance and the prospector.

"And I want to be clear, that I am not in any way suggesting that the government has, or that there is any treasure on any property that I am aware of," Minister Laing laughed.

The Minister will be hosting his town meeting on the salvage proposal at Fortune Hill at the Riding Rock photo centre in San Salvador at 6.30pm today.

He returns to New Providence tomorrow.



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November 1	001 - 700	November 25	7501 - 7800
November 2	701 - 1200	November 26	7801 - 8100
November 3	1201 - 1800	November 29	8101 - 8400
November 4	1801 - 2400	November 30	8401 - 8700
November 5	2401 - 3000	December 1	8701 - 9000
November 8	3001 - 3600	December 2	9001 - 9500
November 9	3601 - 4200	December 3	9501 - 10000
November 10	4201 - 4500	December 6	10001 - 10500
November 11	4501 - 4800	December 7	10501 - 11300
November 12	4801 - 5100	December 8	11301 - 12100
November 15	5101 - 5400	December 9	12101 - 13000
November 16	5401 - 5700	December 10	13001 - 14000
November 17	5701 - 6000	December 13	14001 - 15000
November 18	6001 - 6300	December 14	15001 - 16000
November 19	6301 - 6600	December 15	16001 - 17000
November 22	6601 - 6900	December 16	17001 - 18500
November 23	6901 - 7200	December 17	18501 - 19000
November 24	7201 - 7500	December 20	19001 on




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LOCAL NEWS

TALKING ART: Minister of Education Desmond Bannister speaks with artist Laneir Curtis about her artwork, (Holy Ground). Pictured from left: Dr Gail Saunders, Lionel Sands, Director of Education; Elma Garraway, Permanent Secretary; Minister Bannister and Ms Curtis.



Students praised for their quality work at National Art & Craft Exhibition



ADMIRING GLANCE: Artist Yutavia George (right) having a good laugh with Dr Gail Saunders and Elma Garraway, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Education.

BY BETTY VEDRINE

BAHAMIAN art students were recently praised for their contribution to the art world.

Education Minister Desmond Bannister called the artwork displayed at the annual National Exhibition featuring work done by students in the Art and Craft After-School Enrichment Programme a "marvel" to look at.

The event, which over the past several years had been held at the Central Bank, was held at the National Art Gallery on Friday, December 10. "This exhibition speaks to the depth and talent of our students and is also evidence of the fact that their works can be showcased in any gallery anywhere in the world," he said.

Thanking the artist community for their contribution to the development of art in the country, Mr Bannister said their involvement has "set the stage" for up-and-coming artists.

"Once again, I must thank the artist community of the Bahamas for their involvement in this programme from the beginning," said Mr Bannister. "Among them are Mr Max Taylor, Mr Antonius Roberts, Mr John Beadle and Mr Joleyn Smith."

He also thanked others who assisted with the event, including Charlthorn Strachan, a former Doris Johnson Senior High School student who participated in the programme and is currently an assistant instructor for the programme.

Other persons involved in the programme are Patricia Collins, deputy director in the Ministry of Education; Eula Gaitor; Genevieve Brown-Richards and Timothy Nottage,



WELL DONE: Minister of Education Desmond Bannister congratulates artist Bernard Smith for his participation and contribution (Hibiscus) to the programme.

who serves as the programme's art instructor. "This is indeed historical and significant for the students as it is for the Ministry of Education because the records will reflect that it is the first time that we have had an exhibition at Villa Doyle fea-

ting entirely the work of student artists since this gallery opened its doors in 2003."

Also present were Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Education Elma Garraway and Director of Education Lionel Sands.

Raymond A Bethel/BIS Photo



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Kia Sportage

The all-new 2011 Sportage received the organization's top honor by earning "Good" ratings - the highest achievable - in frontal, side, rear and rollover impact crash safety tests. Kia Motors' 2011 all-new Sportage compact utility vehicle leads the compact CUV segment for residual value ratings from ALG, the industry benchmark in the US for residual values and a leading provider of data and consulting services to the automotive industry.

Kia Optima

The 2009 Kia Optima midsize sedan was named to top 10 of the "Top 20 Cheapest Cars to Insure" list by Autobytel.com's MyRide. After analyzing every 2009 vehicle insurance quote request generated by insurance marketplace Web site InsWeb.com since January 1, 2009, the median automotive insurance rate for all vehicles was determined, with Optima landing seventh, of the 20 lowest median insurance rates for consumers.

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LOCAL NEWS

Nassau gets addition to Bahamian attractions



NETTIE'S Different of Nassau Heritage Centre on West Bay Street recently received a partial overhaul and unveiled its Bahamian-themed restaurant.

Nettica Symonette, owner and operator of the heritage centre, said she wants to offer the whole package to visitors, including hotel rooms, a Bahamian village, museum and a restaurant that serves good, old-fashioned Bahamian cooking.

"When I was a little girl growing up in Eleuthera there were some things that stood out in my memory," Ms Symonette said.

"It was the culture and the heritage and the cooking. I want to help others to be mindful of where we came from and know we are what we eat."

Café Nettie serves organic Bahamian dishes with a hint of personal expression. Nettie, as she is affectionately called, said that cooking is a

form of art that she enjoys.

She uses traditional Bahamian recipes, but she has also created some of her own.

"I want people to live a healthy lifestyle," Ms Symonette said.

"People look at me, they ask my age.

"I'm almost 77 and I've got more energy than anybody in the world."

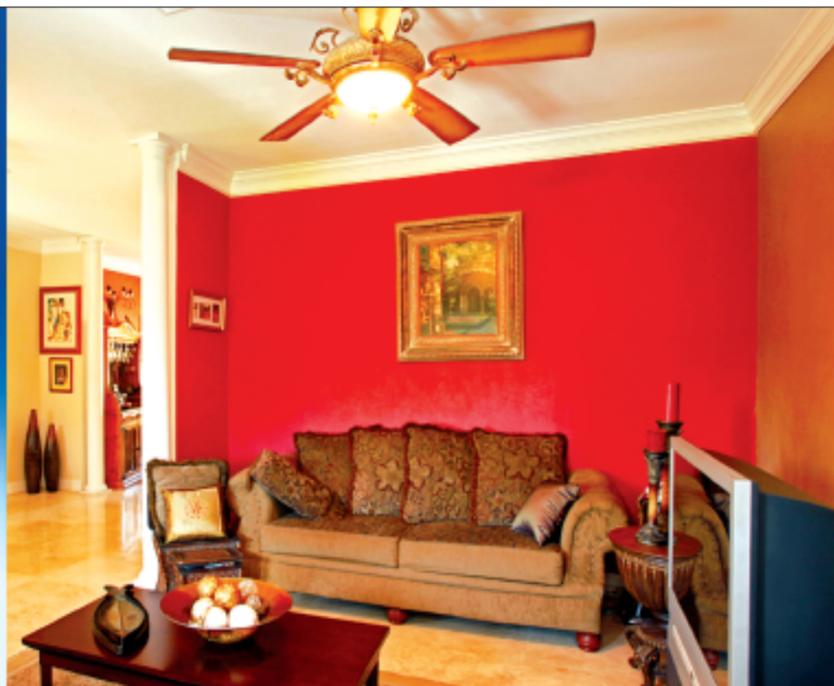
Café Nettie is open for lunch and dinner every day except Tuesdays.

Nettie's Different of Nassau, which is located in the Cable Beach area, has many treasures that can be appreciated by visitors and residents alike. For those who grew up shooting marbles and spinning tops, it is a reminder of the good old days.

Tours are available for schools, church groups and individuals.

The centre is also open for cultural weddings, retreats and other private functions.

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Collapsed broker's \$1.47m shortfall '54% recoverable'

By **NEIL HARTNELL**
Tribune Business Editor

The liquidator of a collapsed Bahamas-based broker/dealer has determined that 54 per cent of a \$1.47 million shortfall, which is in excess of the \$25 million loss that caused the company's failure, can be recovered, pledging that he wanted the winding-up to come to an end "as much as" the fiduciary clients.

SEE page 5B

■ Some former Caledonia clients 'unhappy' value of securities holdings has fallen, one suffering \$593,400 loss

■ Deloitte & Touche liquidator pledges he wants to bring wind-up to end 'as much as' fiduciary clients of broker that collapsed with \$25m hole

■ More than \$300,000 shortfall in Bahamian broker/dealer's accounts with overdrawn cash balances

■ Twelve accounts with just securities suffer \$370,000 depreciation, with one client's assets decreasing by approximately \$143,000

Atlantis eyes 25% business boost

By **ALISON LOWE**
Business Reporter
alowe@tribunemedia.net

Atlantis will benefit from 25 per cent higher occupancy levels during the Christmas period this year, while visitor levels for New Year's remain "flat to last year", according to Kerzner International executive Ed Fields.

SEE page 6B



BUSINESS BOOST: Atlantis in Paradise Island.

Major 'mindset' change coming for local firms

Chief WTO negotiator says Bahamas companies have to do more for themselves, investigating new markets/products and understanding trade rules themselves, rather than relying on government



RAYMOND WINDER

By **NEIL HARTNELL**
Tribune Business Editor

Bahamian businessmen will have to undergo a fundamental "mindset" change when this nation accedes to full World Trade Organisation (WTO) membership, this nation's chief negotiator believes, investigating new opportunities and learning the rules themselves rather than relying on the Government to do it for them.

Such a 'culture shock' will be many of the major adjustments for the Bahamian private sector, Raymond Winder, the Deloitte & Touche (Bahamas) managing partner, told Tribune Business, pointing out that by joining the WTO and signing on to other trade agreements, such as the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA), this nation would have to move to a business environment regulated by statute as opposed to the current policy-dominated one.

"One of the big issues would be that for a long time Bahamian businesses have operated in an envi-

SEE page 8B

CHALLENGE AIMS FOR KEY PRIVATE AVIATION BOOST

By **ALISON LOWE**
Business Reporter
alowe@tribunemedia.net

The Ministry of Tourism has launched a new promotional initiative aimed at maximising the benefits to the Bahamian island archipelago from the high-value private aviation market.

Motivated by the results of a survey conducted in partnership with the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association, which showed that while 80 per cent of their membership had never flown to the Bahamas, 86 per cent would be interested in doing so, The Ministry of Tourism partnered with online "aviation superstore", Pilot Mall, to create the Bahamas Pilot Challenge.

The program invites private pilots to register to take up the challenge, which encourages them to visit a minimum of 12 out of the Bahamas' 20 different Airports of Entry in 2011, becoming eligible for several grand prizes at the end of the year.

A website, Bahamaspilotchallenge.com, has been set up to provide pilots with details about the competition and information they may need when seeking to fly into the Bahamas.

"We talked to each of them

about what they need to say if a pilot wants to fly to the Bahamas, that this is what they need to do, these are the amenities on each island, and so on," said Greg Rolle, chief aviation specialist with the Ministry of Tourism in Florida.

The Bahamas Pilot Challenge was his brainchild, according to Minister of Tourism, Vincent Vanderpool

SEE page 5B

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

CONSUMERS TOLD TO BRACE FOR PRICE RISES

Florida chill to impact Bahamas supply

By **ALISON LOWE**
Business Reporter
alowe@tribunemedia.net

As Florida farmers continued to count the cost of the lowest temperatures in the state since the 1960s, wholesalers and retailers yesterday warned Bahamian consumers to be prepared for potential spikes in produce prices in the coming weeks.

Meanwhile, major local wholesaler, Bahamas Food Services, suggested any destruction of crops in Florida may signal a sil-

SEE page 10B

CLICO staff get \$2.6m pay-out

CLICO (Bahamas) 149 former staff were yesterday receiving the collective \$2.6 million severance pay due to them following the insolvent insurer's collapse, informed sources told Tribune Business.

The payments were made by the Government, courtesy of the Ministry of Finance, as CLICO (Bahamas) liquidator, Craig A. 'Tony' Gomez, the Baker Tilly Gomez accountant and partner, continues with efforts to transfer its insurance portfolio to Colina Insurance Ltd and sell its key asset, the Wellington Preserve real estate project in south Florida.



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BUSINESS

Getting 'Hyper' over road map

BY DEIDRE M. BASTIAN

What are Hyperlinks? Hyperlinks are links connecting to another destination or file. Typically, a user following hyperlinks is said to navigate or browse to a document or location the hyperlink leads to. Very similar to taking a connecting plane, train or bus to work or home.

The gigantic international network of web pages known as the World Wide Web is interconnected through the use of hyperlinks, and would simply fail to exist without them.

For example: Hyperlinks are often used to implement reference mechanisms, such as tables of contents, footnotes, bibliographies, indexes and glossaries.

Links connect to another page on a Web site, a Web page on a different Web site, or a file in another format that is not a Web page, such as a PDF document, an image, a Microsoft PowerPoint presentation or multimedia file.

The term 'hyperlink' was coined in 1965 (or possibly 1964) by Ted Nelson and his assistant Calvin Curtin. A team led by Douglas Engelbart was the first to implement the hyperlink concept for scrolling within a single document (1966), and soon after for connecting between paragraphs within separate documents (1968).

A database program, HyperCard, was released in 1987 for the Apple Macin-



THE ART OF GRAPHIX

DEIDRE M. BASTIAN

directory.

* Site Root-Relative Links point to a location that is relative to the root directory of the site. One common use of this is to store all images in an images directory, then link to images with links like '/images/mypic.jpg'. The advantage is that the link stays the same no matter what directory the current page is in.

* Absolute Links are those that simply include the entire path to the file. These are generally used for links that points to different sites other than the one located on your page.

* Anchor Link is bound to a portion of a document, generally text. For example, a map of the Bahamas may have each island hyperlinked to further information about a particular island.

Link behaviour in Web Browsers

When you move the cursor over a link in a Web page, the arrow will turn into a little hand, and a web browser usually displays a hyperlink in some distinguishing way - in a

SEE page 4B

tosh, which allowed hyper linking between various types of pages within a document. Sir Timothy John 'Tim' Berners-Lee, a British engineer credited for overseeing the Web's continued development, implemented the first successful communication between an HTTP client and server via the Internet.

Is hyper linking legal?

While hyper linking among WebPages is an intrinsic feature of the web, some object to being linked. In certain jurisdictions and courts, it advocates that hyperlinks can give rise to legal liability without permission, regardless of referencing material.

There are various types of links used on web pages, such as: Relative, Site root relative and Absolute. The correct choice depends on the location of the page to which it links.

* Relative Links point to a location that is relative to the current page. The disadvantage is that the link can break if you move a file to another



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Except for Emergency Complaint Line: 325-0505

Monday December 27 - Boxing Day Observation (CLOSED)

Friday December 31 New Year's Eve CLOSED at 1:00 pm for the day at

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Monday, January 3, 2011 New Year's Day Observation (CLOSED)

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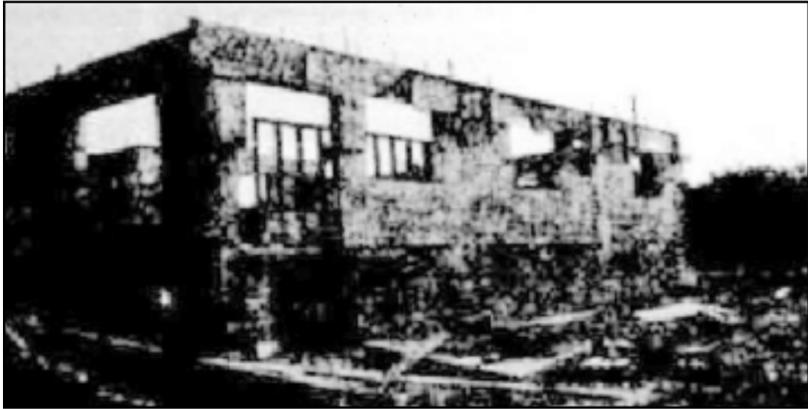
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ALL THAT piece parcel or lot of land being Lot Number Twenty (20) in Block Number One (1) situate in Section Two (2) of the Subdivision called and known as Sea Breeze Estates in the Eastern District of the Island of New Providence having the bounded Northwestwardly by a road reservation called Casuarina Lane East Northeastwardly by Lot Number Twenty-one (21) in the said Block East Southeastwardly by parts of Lots Number Two (2) and Three (3) in Block Number Three (3) in the said Section Number Two (2).

JOE FARRINGTON ROAD



ALL THAT piece parcel or lot of land being Lot Number Twenty-two (22) of Palm Subdivision which forms a portion of Sandilands Allotment Eighty (80) situate in an area known as Joe Farrington Road in the Eastern District of the Island of New Providence aforesaid which said piece parcel or lot of land is bounded NORTHWARDLY by Lot Number Twenty (20) and running thereon One Hundred and Sixteen and Five hundredths (116.05) feet EASTWARDLY by land running thereon Fifty (50) feet SOUTHWARDLY partly by Lot Number Twenty-three (23) and partly by Lot Number Twenty-four (24) and running thereon jointly One Hundred and Sixteen and Five Hundredths (116.05) feet and WESTWARDLY by a Road Reservation Thirty (30) feet wide and running thereon Fifty (50) feet.

Vacant Lots

KEMP ROAD

ALL THAT piece parcel or lot of land situate in the Eastern District of the Island of New Providence which said piece parcel or lot of land is bounded on the North by another portion of the said original lot of land and running thereon One Hundred (100) feet on the East by Kemp Road and running thereon Fifty (50) feet on the South partly by another portion of the said original lot of land and partly by another portion of the said original lot of land and running thereon jointly One Hundred (100) feet and on the West.

JAMES CISTERN

ALL THAT piece parcel or lot of land situate in the Settlement of James Cistern in the Island of Eleuthera in the said Commonwealth and is bounded on the NORTH and running thereon Seventy-five (75) feet on the EAST and running thereon Seventy-five (75) feet on the SOUTH by the Public Road and running thereon Seventy-five (75) feet and on the WEST and running thereon Seventy-five (75) feet.

FREEPORT

ALL THAT piece parcel or lot of land situate in BAHAMIA SECTION 1 Subdivision lying in the Island of Grand Bahama comprising Lot Number Two (2) in Block ZZ of the said Subdivision according to the Subdivision.

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The Risk Manager
P.O. Box N 3180
Nassau, Bahamas

The right is reserved to reject any or all offers.

THE ART OF GRAPHIX

Getting 'Hyper' over road map

FROM page 3B

different colour, font, style or blue and purple underlined text.

Moreover, when the cursor hovers over a link, some information about the link pops up in a special hover box, which disappears when the cursor is moved away.

Dead links occur when the server that hosts the target page relocates to a new domain name, some form of blocking such as firewalls or when the targets are not kept up to date.

Correcting an Error in Internet Explorer

1. Go to Start -> Run -> Type regsvr32 urlmon.dll
2. Once complete click Ok.

If that didn't resolve the problem, repeat the process

by running the following additional entries to repair Internet Explorer:

Start -> Run -> Type regsvr32 Shdocvw.dll

If the above still didn't resolve your issue, try the following.

Open Internet Explorer
At the top select Tools -> Internet Options

Click on the Programs tab
Click on the Reset Web Settings button

Creating Hyperlink on Microsoft FrontPage:

* Click the Make a hyperlink to a file on your computer button that is to the right of the URL box.

* In the Select File dialog box, locate and then click the Word document that you want, and then click OK.

* Right-click the hyperlink

and then click Hyperlink Properties.

The path and file name of the Word document is displayed in the URL box.

* Position the insertion point at the end of the path and filename that is displayed in the URL box, and then type the following line:

#bookmark_name
where bookmark_name is the name of the bookmark in the Word document to which you want to link.

* Make sure there is no space between the end of the file name and the bookmark name, for example:

file://computer_name/share/file_name.doc#bookmark_name

* Click OK.

* Click Save on the File menu to save your Web page.

* Click Preview in Browser on the File menu to preview your Web page in a browser.

Please see this site for a linking tutorial in Dream Weaver http://www.guidesandtutorials.com/dreamweaver_tutorial_create_hyperlink.html

At the end of the day, all websites should be in the Internet business to make money, whether they are a non-profit organisation or a business that sells products or services.

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Today marks a one year anniversary for the 'Art of Graphix' column.

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NB: Author encourages feedback at:
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Collapsed broker's \$1.47m shortfall '54% recoverable'

FROM page 1B

Anthony Kikivarakis, the Deloitte & Touche (Bahamas) accountant and partner, in his fifth report to the Bahamian Supreme Court as the liquidator for Caledonia Corporate Management, said he would have to seek the court's directions on how the shortfall should be handled - whether it should be borne only by clients who had assets in the impacted accounts, or shared across all clients and deducted from the second tranche of their assets, some 8 per cent of their total portfolio - which is held in escrow by himself.

Noting that the \$1.47 million "shortfall" was identified in seven accounts at two Bahamas-based institutions, FirstCaribbean International Bank and EFG Bank & Trust, Mr Kikivarakis said he had either recovered or identified for recovery some \$791,000, roughly 54 per cent of this amount.

Omnibus

"From a review of the company's records and discussions with the company's and discussions with [Caledonia's] previous employees, the FirstCaribbean account operated as an omnibus account through which cash balances of clients were deposited and transfers made to other accounts," Mr Kikivarakis alleged.

"The amounts therefore coming out of the FirstCaribbean accounts had been comingled and were not separately identifiable."

Detailing other issues that required approval from Supreme Court Chief Justice, Sir Michael Barnett, the liquidator said a hearing was supposed to have taken place last Friday over his contention that Caledonia's sole preference shareholder had received \$5.636 million from the broker/dealer after it was placed into liquidation. That allegation has been vehemently denied by the preference shareholder, and Mr Kikivarakis has reduced the amount alleged to be involved from the \$5.909 million originally estimated.

Apart from difficulties in identifying beneficial owners of Caledonia accounts, Mr Kikivarakis added: "Certain clients' assets are held in securities, and the values of those assets have decreased considerably since September 30, 2008. In light of this, some clients have refused to pay 2 per cent of their assets into the Clients Security Account or to provide appropriate instructions to transfer their securities to

a new custodian. In one case, the assets have decreased by \$593,400."

Other problems, the liquidator alleged, stem from the fact that two Caledonia clients have overdrawn cash balances on their accounts, yet he is holding insufficient securities to cover these.

As at September 30, 2010, while these clients held securities worth a collective \$101,700, their overdrawn cash positions totalled \$430,116 - a more than \$300,000 shortfall. Mr Kikivarakis said he would seek a Supreme Court order authorising him to sell some of these securities.

Elsewhere, out of 34 accounts that were overdrawn, Mr Kikivarakis said three balances worth \$328,112 had been recovered, but 23 accounts "appear unrecoverable, with balances ranging from \$1.08 to \$1,725". The aggregate amount represented by these accounts was \$5,386.

Analysing the 94 accounts for whom he had not received instructions to transfer their assets, Mr Kikivarakis said that because 76 of these contained cash, he would merely retain 4 per cent of their assets - worth \$171,486 - to cover his costs.

As for the 18 accounts holding just securities, the liquidator said he needed them to provide cash equivalent to 4 per cent of their assets to effect the transfer.

"Of the 18 accounts, 12 of these clients' securities values have decreased substantially," Mr Kikivarakis said. "These clients' assets have decreased by approximately \$370,000, with one client's assets decreasing by approximately \$143,000. It should also be noted that the marketability of these securities is questionable."

And he added: "A number of clients are displeased that some of their securities have fallen in value and, as a result, the increased cost of the liquidation will affect them more now than earlier. Some of these clients clearly stated that they did not wish to sell their securities or to pay the initial 2 per cent, and have not done so to date."

Despite Sir Michael previously expressing hope that the Caledonia liquidation could be wrapped up by year-end, Mr Kikivarakis said some cases involving client ownership of assets would "carry over into the New Year".

"The company's fiduciary clients would like to see this liquidation come to an end, as much as I would, and I hope that we can do so shortly in this regard," Mr Kikivarakis said.

CHALLENGE AIMS FOR KEY PRIVATE AVIATION BOOST

FROM page 1B

Wallace.

Mr Rolle said: "This will be a major step up for tourism into the Out Islands in particular. The average cruise visitor may spend \$60- \$70 on a visit, a regular tourist maybe \$400 plus or thereabouts, but a private pilot starts at about \$600 to \$700 per visit. They have to not only buy a hotel, a rental car and so forth, they also pay all these fees and buy fuel. That's a big plus. Some pilots come and spend almost \$1,500 per day."

Encourage

It is already the case that 80 per cent of all private pilots flying into the Bahamas visit the Family Islands. However, part of the Bahamas Pilot Challenge is to encourage pilots to visit a wider variety of the islands on offer, including less frequented places such as Long Island, San Salvador and Inagua.

Besides the promotional boost the program will receive through Pilotmall.com, The Bahamas Pilot Challenge is also being promoted by the Ministry of Tourism in conjunction with the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA), with whom the Ministry undertook the initial survey among its 420,000-strong US membership, in a bid to gauge the level of interest among pilots in flying to the Bahamas.

"Being a pilot I understand the logistics and the mindset," said Mr Rolle, adding: "We've crafted it in such a way where the pilots will be eager to do this challenge. It's going to get people talking in the marketplace."

PUBLIC NOTICE



Stephan Francis is no longer employed by The Landing Hotel and restaurant on Harbour Island, and is not authorized to conduct business in the name of, or on behalf of The Landing Hotel and Restaurant.

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9:30am – 4:30pm

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**MONDAY, DECEMBER 27, 2010
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Applicants should submit a cover letter, resume, and a copy of their professional certification by **Wednesday, December 22, 2010** to: Human Resources Manager, KPMG, P.O. Box N123, Nassau, Bahamas or hrbahamas@kpmg.com.bs.

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BUSINESS

Atlantis eyes 25% business boost

FROM page 1B

Meanwhile, in the industry as a whole, outgoing Bahamas Hotel Association (BHA) president, Robert Sands, said data forecasts to date "show flat" occupancy levels vis-a-

vis last year among major properties, "with some hotels showing modest gains". This comes after Mr Sands described occupancies around Thanksgiving as a "mixed bag", with levels at major properties ranging from lows

of 65 per cent to highs of 80 per cent. Speaking at that time, the outgoing BHA president said overall improvements in the tourism sector "have been somewhat slower than we expected".

Although indicators are "heading in the right direction, we are still not satisfied that we are showing the gains the industry really wants to see at this time", said the tourism veteran.

President Obama says he shares mission with business leaders

WASHINGTON

President Barack Obama and 20 business leaders worked through lunch Wednesday on ways to boost anemic U.S. job creation and improve their own testy relations amid rising anxiety over the slow economic recovery.

The president said he wants ideas from business leaders on how to "seize the promise of this moment."

The closely watched session represents something of a reset for the president as he seeks common ground with a business community that has bristled over the administration's

approach to health care, financial regulations and executives' bonuses.

With unemployment at 9.8 percent and weak home prices and tight credit placing a drag on growth, the president was looking to shake loose more than \$1.9 trillion in untapped corporate cash to help the recovery.

Agenda items included an overhaul of the tax system, ways to ease regulations on business and greater private sector investments.

A priority for business leaders is altering or eliminating regulations they believe are creating uncertainty and hindering growth, a step White House officials say Obama is open to considering.

The policy climate for Obama-business relations has changed since the November elections altered the balance of power in the capital, giving Republicans control of the House.

In recent weeks, Obama announced a new trade agreement with South Korea that corporate leaders applauded and negotiated a tax deal with Republicans that included new business investment incentives. The Senate passed that measure on Wednesday.

No major announcements were expected from the session. But Obama's outreach meets the White House's goal of sharpening his image as a pres-

ident willing to reach out to former antagonists, a move that has angered liberals but could resonate with independent voters. The office of House Republican leader John Boehner issued a statement calling the session a "nothingburger," arguing that previous attempts had not resulted in any business-friendly policies.

"The White House's 'olive branches' to the business community are more like twigs really," the statement said.

In his comments, Obama pushed his agenda of investment in education, cleaner energy sources and high-speed rail. And he spoke of making a firmer stand in Washington on fiscal discipline, an area where Congress and White House have long made promises but with little result.

Overall, Obama said the path to economic growth is clear, and he added: "I'm committed to taking that path. I know America's business leaders are as well."

The president joined the CEO group a short walk from the White House grounds across Pennsylvania Avenue at the Blair House, better known as guest quarters for visiting dignitaries.

Some of the executives are Obama backers and members of White House advisory boards who have worked with the administration for some time.

NOTICE

HERMATITE LIMITED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN as follows:

HERMATITE LIMITED is in voluntary dissolution under the provisions of Section 137 (4) of the International Business Companies Act 2000.

The dissolution of the said company commenced on the 15th December, 2010 when the Articles of Dissolution were submitted to and registered by the Registrar General.

The Liquidator of the said company is Peter Leppard of c/o 1 Raffles Link #05-02 Singapore 039393.

Dated this 16th day of December A. D. 2010

**Peter Leppard
Liquidator**

NOTICE

DARRINGTON ASSETS LIMITED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN as follows:

DARRINGTON ASSETS LIMITED is in voluntary dissolution under the provisions of Section 137 (4) of the International Business Companies Act 2000.

The dissolution of the said company commenced on the 09th December, 2010 when the Articles of Dissolution were submitted to and registered by the Registrar General.

The Liquidator of the said company is Peter Leppard of c/o 1 Raffles Link #05-02 Singapore 039393.

Dated this 16th day of December A. D. 2010

**Peter Leppard
Liquidator**

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE

RAMANIO MANAGEMENT LTD.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN as follows:

(a) **RAMANIO MANAGEMENT LTD.** is in voluntary dissolution under the provisions of Section 137 (4) of the International Business Companies Act 2000.

(b) The dissolution of the said company commenced on the 14th December, 2010 when the Articles of Dissolution were submitted to and registered by the Registrar General.

(c) The Liquidator of the said company is Manex Limited, The Bahamas Financial Centre, Shirley & Charlotte Streets, Nassau, The Bahamas

Dated this 16th day of December, A. D. 2010

**Manex Limited
Liquidator**

NOTICE

SMITHTON INVESTMENT LIMITED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN as follows:

SMITHON INVESTMENT LIMITED is in voluntary dissolution under the provisions of Section 137 (4) of the International Business Companies Act 2000.

The dissolution of the said company commenced on the 15th December, 2010 when the Articles of Dissolution were submitted to and registered by the Registrar General.

The Liquidator of the said company is Peter Leppard of c/o 1 Raffles Link #05-02 Singapore 039393.

Dated this 16th day of December A. D. 2010

**Peter Leppard
Liquidator**

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE

DOMINI LIMITED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN as follows:

(a) **DOMINI LIMITED** is in voluntary dissolution under the provisions of Section 137 (4) of the International Business Companies Act 2000.

(b) The dissolution of the said company commenced on the 14th December, 2010 when the Articles of Dissolution were submitted to and registered by the Registrar General.

(c) The Liquidator of the said company is Dizame Consulting SA, Pasea Estate, Road Town, Tortola, BVI

Dated this 16th day of December, A. D. 2010

**Dizame Consulting SA
Liquidator**

NOTICE

HEROLD PROPERTIES LIMITED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN as follows:

HEROLD PROPERTIES LIMITED is in voluntary dissolution under the provisions of Section 137 (4) of the International Business Companies Act 2000.

The dissolution of the said company commenced on the 13th December, 2010 when the Articles of Dissolution were submitted to and registered by the Registrar General.

The Liquidator of the said company is Peter Leppard of c/o 1 Raffles Link #05-02 Singapore 039393.

Dated this 16th day of December A. D. 2010

**Peter Leppard
Liquidator**

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE

ADELINA MANAGEMENT LIMITED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN as follows:

(a) **ADELINA MANAGEMENT LIMITED** is in voluntary dissolution under the provisions of Section 137 (4) of the International Business Companies Act 2000.

(b) The dissolution of the said company commenced on the 13th December, 2010 when the Articles of Dissolution were submitted to and registered by the Registrar General.

(c) The Liquidator of the said company is CST Administration (Bahamas) Limited, The Bahamas Financial Centre, Shirley & Charlotte Streets, Nassau, Bahamas

Dated this 16th day of December, A. D. 2010

**CST Administration (Bahamas) Limited
Liquidator**

NOTICE

WEST WINDS PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION LIMITED

Notice is hereby given that the annual general meeting for the West Winds Property Owners Association Limited will be held Thursday the 16th day of December, A.D., 2010 at 6:30 p.m. At the Pavilion, West Winds Subdivision, New Providence.

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS
WEST WINDS PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION LIMITED**

**HELP WANTED
CASHIER &
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Mature and reliable persons only. Willing to train the right individual. Must be able to work nights/days including Sundays and Holidays.

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VACANCY

Major law firm is immediately seeking a detail oriented, hands-on individual to fill the position of Probate & Estates Paralegal. The qualified candidate must have 5 years experience in the field. Responsibilities include, but not limited to, administering estates, trusts and guardianships, including asset transfers; preparation of wills, trust documents and probate forms; liquidation of estates and performing other related tasks. The candidate must work well independently, take initiative, be a team player, and have excellent organization and communication skills in addition to knowledge of the Microsoft Office Suite.

Reply in confidence to:
gbastian@higgsjohnson.com

HOTEL MANAGERS PENSION FUND NOTICE

Pensioners of THE BAHAMAS HOTEL INDUSTRY MANAGEMENT PENSION FUND are asked to visit the Fund's Office in the Societe Generale Building, #4 West Bay Street, Nassau, N.P., The Bahamas to obtain an end of year voucher and to update their pension eligibility records.

Please call or visit the Funds Office on or before Thursday, 23rd December 2010.

Please call us at (242) 322-8381/4 if you have any questions.

The Trustees for the Fund wish all hotel pensioners a safe and joyous holiday season.

For more information on the Bahamas Hotel Industry Management Pension Fund you may visit our website at: www.bhimpf.com.

Date: 6th December 2010

Cable affiliate battles URCA over its cable system licence

FROM page 1B

This latest bone of contention between the BISX-listed company and the Utilities Regulation & Competition Authority (URCA) was revealed amid the plethora of legal documents filed to support Cable Bahamas' case that it should not be paying licence fees to the regulator on its Freeport Internet revenues, since it is licensed to provide this service in the city by the Grand Bahama Port Authority (GBPA).

A November 5, 2010, affidavit from John Gomez, Cable Bahamas and Caribbean Crossings' vice-president of engineering, alleged that the Bahamas Internet Cable System (BICS), which carries the companies' data and Internet traffic, was owned by Caribbean Crossings.

Caribbean Crossings, a 100 per cent-owned affiliate of Cable Bahamas, was granted a June 2000 licence by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to land the BICS cable in Boca Raton, Florida, with the company also subsequently licensed by URCA's predecessor, the PUC, to land system at various points in the Bahamas.

Following enactment of the Communications Act 2009, and the PUC's replacement by URCA, Mr Gomez alleged that on September 7, 2009, Caribbean Crossings applied to the new regulator for a licence relating to the BICS system.

But Mr Gomez alleged: "URCA, however, refused to accede to the application made by Caribbean Crossings despite Caribbean Crossings' protestation, and URCA issued the licence relating to the BICS cable to Cable Bahamas under the Communications Act 2009, instead of Caribbean Crossings. A formal notice of objection was lodged by Caribbean Crossings in relation to URCA's decision."

Explaining the rationale for licensing the BICS system under Cable Bahamas' name, rather than Caribbean Crossings, Usman Saadat, URCA's then-director of policy and regulation, said operating licences were only granted to subsidiaries not under control of their parent.

This, he implied, was not the case with Caribbean Crossings, as it was 100 per

cent owned by Cable Bahamas.

"URCA will only grant a separate individual operating licence to a subsidiary undertaking of a licensee in unusual circumstances, such as when it can be demonstrated that the subsidiary undertaking is not under the control of its parent company. Caribbean Crossings is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Cable Bahamas: ie, it is under Cable Bahamas' control," Mr Saadat explained.

But Caribbean Crossings, in its objection letter to URCA, said that by refusing it a separate operating licence and requiring the BICS system to be subsumed into its parent's licence, the regulator was frustrating the policy objectives contained in the Government's Telecommunications Sector Policy.

Stifled

Competition, it suggested, would be stifled because Caribbean Crossings "ability to obtain independent financing" to upgrade the BICS system against the likes of the Bahamas Telecommunications Company's (BTC) Bahamas II cable and the Columbus network would be "impaired".

Pointing out that Cable Bahamas created it to "compete aggressively" with existing providers of deep sea fibre optic cables, Caribbean Crossings said it had been able to raise funds in the Bahamian capital market separate from

those of its parent, giving investors a new investment opportunity and using their funds to launch a new network.

"This business model has succeeded, however, only because investors, regulators and consumers have all treated Cable Bahamas and Caribbean Crossings as two separate, independent and distinct entities," Caribbean Crossings alleged.

It pointed out that, unlike its parent, it was not identified as having Significant Market Power (SMP), and while its business was the wholesale provision of international fibre optic capacity, Cable Bahamas' was a retail cable TV and Internet offering. Caribbean Crossings was also subject to FCC regulation, unlike its parent.

"Requiring Caribbean Crossings to operate under a single individual licence with Cable Bahamas would jeopardise Caribbean Crossings' ability to attract investors, upgrade its network and compete effectively against other operators," the company argued.

"Potential investors, who have sought an equity stake in Caribbean Crossings, are likely to shy away from such commitments to the extent the regulatory obligations of the company are indistinguishable from those of a parent presumed to possess Significant Market Power."

Cable Bahamas' SMP regulatory requirements would be "burdensome and unfair"

for Caribbean Crossings, the latter argued, warning that this could also "complicate and confuse the regulatory status of Caribbean Crossings in the United States, which until now has designated Caribbean Crossings as a non-dominant carrier."

"Finally, and most critically, the diminished interest of the investment community in Caribbean Crossings, coupled with the potential for additional burdensome regulatory obligations, would seriously impair Caribbean Crossings' ability to upgrade its network and compete effectively against other operators."

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE

CALYPSO BAHAMAS PIPELINE LIMITED

Notice is hereby given that the winding up and dissolution of **CALYPSO BAHAMAS PIPELINE LIMITED** has been completed and the Company was removed from the Register of Companies on the 13th day August A.D.,2010

Alison J. Treco
Liquidator



Join the Leading Environmental Conservation Organization in The Bahamas

JOB OPPORTUNITY: PRESERVE ADMINISTRATOR AND PROGRAMME DIRECTOR LEON LEVY NATIVE PLANT PRESERVE - ELEUTHERA

Position Summary: This position is located in Governor's Harbour, Eleuthera. Candidate will be responsible for providing day to day management and supervision of Leon Levy Native Plant Preserve (LLNPP). Potential candidates should have a love for the Bahamian environment. A strong interest in the natural history and cultural history of The Bahamas is a plus.

Primary Responsibilities:

- General Preserve management duties
- Develop all age school curriculum/programs including detailed lesson plans, teacher workshops, special summer programmes and on site activities.
- Outreach to local and national educational institutions
- Manage on site programs including Docent programme, special events and intern programmes.
- Serve as a community liaison between Local Government, Ministry of Tourism, local businesses and other agencies.

Qualification and Experience:

- MS or BS Degree in Environmental education, Biology or Botany with a minimum of 5 years' experience
- Demonstrated experience in Program development
- Teaching certification a plus
- Proficiency in MS Office suite.
- Strong organizational and time management skills
- Excellent oral and written communication skills

To apply: Submit cover letter, resume and three references to the Bahamas National Trust, Attn: Human Resources awemvss@bnt.bs by December 21st, 2010.

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE

BLUE MARLIN LNG TERMINAL LIMITED

Notice is hereby given that the winding up and dissolution of **BLUE MARLIN LNG TERMINAL LIMITED** has been completed and the Company was removed from the Register of Companies on the 13th day August A.D.,2010

Alison J. Treco
Liquidator

DISCONNECTION NOTICE



The Bahamas Electricity Corporation wishes to advise the public that it has commenced electricity service disconnections of ALL accounts with overdue balances. This includes the accounts of customers who have payment arrangements with BEC but are not honoring their commitments.

The public is also advised that payments can be made directly to the Corporation's payment centres in New Providence and the Family Islands or at any major banking institution (either online or over the counter).

Please call

302-1623/4
or toll free at
242-300-0110

for any billing queries

View your electricity account online at
www.bahamaselectricity.com

The Bahamas Conference of The Methodist Church

Queen's College

'Legendary Past ... Glorious Future!'

Now accepting applications for teachers for September, 2011 for the following areas:

EARLY LEARNING CENTRE (Ages 3-5)
Classroom Teachers

PRIMARY SCHOOL (Grades 1 - 6)
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HIGH SCHOOL (Grades 7 - 12)
Science (Chemistry, Biology, Physics) History, Mathematics, Accounts, Physical Education, Guidance Counsellor, Modern Languages, (French and Spanish) English Language and Literature, Information Technology, Music, Religious Education, Art, History, (Social Studies) Library Science

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 Programmes, 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.

QUEEN'S COLLEGE ...

- Is the oldest private school in The Bahamas
- Ensures a seamless continuity of education and a strong sense of community
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- Is a place where excellence is respected and pursued, where teaching and learning are innovative and where caring for others is intrinsic
- Offers a **competitive benefits package**, including gratuity, pension, health insurance, discount on children's tuition

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.qcchenceforth.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@qcchenceforth.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

FROM page 1B

Major 'mindset' change coming for local firms

ronment with policies that tend to change from government to government and, in some cases, from minister to minister," Mr Winder said.

"That becomes a bigger issue with WTO, because clearly in becoming part of the WTO, we have to provide more transparency and clarity on our position relative to rules of trade."

The Government is understood to be drafting a National Investment Act to translate its current policies into statute law, in a bid to

comply with both WTO and EPA obligations.

Explaining that the WTO would "want us to have a more definitive position" on trade and investment issues than just mere policies, Mr Winder told Tribune Business: "The country is moving more from a policy-based business environment to a rules-based environment."

"Bahamian businessmen have primarily relied on per-

sonal relationships and contacts with government ministers and officials in terms of acquiring, and getting clarity, for their current businesses, and getting involved with new businesses in the future.

Engaged

"Businessmen have to do a better job in becoming involved, engaged and have

a better understanding of what the rules are.

"These will provide them with a lot more clarity and transparency in what they can and can't do.

"Businesses must now get up to read laws, read regulations, to identify those rules that will impact on their existing businesses and identify new opportunities."

Expanding on this theme, Mr Winder explained that while it was the responsibil-

ity of himself and the Government to provide information to the Bahamian private sector with respect to the various trade agreements this country was negotiating, they were not obliged to "identify new opportunities" for Bahamian companies.

"Businesses have to do it themselves, looking at the rules around the EPA, WTO and CARIBCAN, to determine where they can get a competitive advantage," Mr Winder explained.

"They have to do far more investigation, and not sit back and rely on the Government to do it for them. That's a big change for Bahamian businessmen."

Describing this as a "change in the mindset of the business community", Mr Winder said Bahamian businesses for the most part had been too "reactionary" in the past, waiting until legislation was passed and enacted before reacting to aspects that impacted their operations.

Now, the private sector needed to be engaged "upfront", learning how to use changes in the business environment to "better improve profitability for their existing products and

services or new products and services", plus access new markets.

"Is the business community looking to see to what extent they can benefit from that?" Mr Winder asked. "Now they need to investigate more to be able to move from a reactionary to a proactive position."

"It is not the responsibility of the Government to identify new potential business opportunities for the private sector."

"This debate going on in this community, this reliance on the Government to identify new services and product opportunities, that is the responsibility of entrepreneurs and new and existing businesses."

In supplying data to himself and the Government's WTO negotiating team, Mr Winder urged Bahamian companies to divide their revenue streams into as many different product lines as they produced, so they knew which areas needed "protection" - both existing products and new opportunities.

Product lines crucial to Bahamian companies would "have the most protection going forward".

BAHAMAS MACK TRUCK SALES LTD. WILL BE CLOSED

December 24, 2010 Through January 3, 2011

WE WILL BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
TILL 4:00 P.M. on

December 23, 2010



Normal working hours will resume on January 4, 2011.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!



NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that **MARIO TADOR of MARSH HARBOUR, ABACO, 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 **14TH day of DECEMBER, 2010** to the Minister responsible for nationality and Citizenship, P.O. Box N-7147, Nassau, Bahamas.

NOTICE

INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS COMPANIES ACT
(No.46 of 2000)

Allied Corporation Inc.

No. 138888 B
(In Voluntary Liquidation)

NOTICE is hereby given in accordance with Section 138 of the International Business Companies Act, (No. 46 of 2000), **Allied Corporation Inc.**, is in Dissolution

Any person having a Claim against the **Allied Corporation Inc.** is required on or before 23rd November 2010 to send their name, address and particulars of the debt or claim to the Liquidator of the Company, or in default thereof they may be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such claim is approved

The date of Commencement of dissolution was 23rd day of November 2010.

We, **Sovereign Managers Limited** c/o Suites 1601-1603, 16th Floor, Kinwick Centre, 32 Hollywood Road, Central, Hong Kong is the Liquidator of **Allied Corporation Inc.**

SIGNED
For & On Behalf Of

Sovereign Managers Limited
Liquidator



MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS & TRANSPORT

NOTICE

CLOSURE OF LITTLE AND DEEP CREEKS BRIDGES, SOUTH ANDROS

The Ministry of Public Works and Transport wishes to advise the motoring public in South Andros that road works will be carried out on the approaches to Little and Deep Creek Bridges to prepare for upcoming bridge repairs.

The works will be carried out from **December 14th to 17th, 2010** between the hours of **10:00AM to 2:00 PM** daily. Due to the nature of the works, the bridges will be closed to motoring traffic during these hours.

*The Ministry of Public Works apologizes for any inconvenience and delays caused.
For further information, please contact:*

Ms. Colebrooke
South Andros Administrator
Adminsitator's Office
Kemps Bay
Phone: (242) 369-4567

or

Director of Public Works
Department of Public Works
P. O. Box N-8156
John F. Kennedy Drive
Nassau, Bahamas
Phone: (242) 302-9528

Colin Higgs
Permanent Secretary
Ministry of Public Works & Transport



CAREER OPPORTUNITY

Manager, Environmental Services

The Nassau Airport Development Company (NAD) is seeking candidates for the position of Manager, Environmental Services. The duties and responsibilities of the successful applicant will include researching, planning and writing environmental procedures and plans, conducting regular inspection of company and tenant facilities and acting as a liaison with government agencies and contractors on environmental matters.

The ideal candidate will have a minimum of a Bachelor's degree, experience in identifying environmental issues, knowledge of environmental field monitoring protocols and the ability to manage environmental programs from inception to completion.

This position offers competitive compensation and benefits, consistent with experience and qualifications.

For more details, please visit our website at www.nas.bs

If you are qualified and interested, please submit your resume by **December 31, 2010** to:

Manager, People
Nassau Airport Development Co.
P.O. Box AP 55229
Nassau, Bahamas
Email: people@nas.bs

BUSINESS

NOTICE

EXXONMOBIL EXPLORATION AND PRODUCTION UGANDA LIMITED

Creditors having debts or claims against the above-named Company are required to send particulars thereof to the undersigned c/o P.O. Box N-624, Nassau, Bahamas on or before 7th day of January, A.D., 2011.

Dated the 13th day of December, A.D., 2010.

Carol G. Gray Liquidator 16825 Northchase Drive Houston, Texas 77060 U.S.A.

COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS 2009 IN THE SUPREME COURT CLE/qui/No.01268 Common Law & Equity Division BETWEEN

IN THE MATTER OF ALL THAT piece parcel or tract of land containing 6.888 acres situate on the Eastern side of the Eleuthera Main Road and approximately 1.2 miles Northwest of Haynes Avenue in the Settlement of Governor's Harbour on the Island of Eleuthera one of the Islands of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas

AND

IN THE MATTER OF THE Quieting Titles Act, 1959

AND

IN THE MATTER OF THE Petition of Alban Johnson

NOTICE

THE PETITION OF ALBAN JOHNSON in respect of:- ALL THAT piece parcel or tract of land containing 6.888 acres situate on the Eastern side of the Eleuthera Main Road and approximately 1.2 Miles Northwest of Haynes Avenue Governors Harbour Eleuthera one of the Islands of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas which said piece parcel or tract of land is bounded Northeastwardly by land now or formerly the property of Eleuthera Adventurers Ltd. now Cigatoo Estates and running thereon 350.81 feet and Southeastwardly by land now or formerly the property of the Estate of D. Artie Nottage and running thereon 949.97 feet and Southwestwardly by Eleuthera Main Road and running thereon 297.53 feet and Northwestwardly by land now or formerly the property of Eleuthera Adventurers Ltd. now Cigatoo Estates and running thereon 933.14 feet.

ALBAN JOHNSON claims to be the owner of the unencumbered fee simple in possession of the said land and has made application to the Supreme Court of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas under Section Three (3) of the Quieting Titles Act, 1959 to have his title to the said land investigated and the nature and extent thereof determined and declared in a Certificate of Title to be granted by the Court in accordance with the provisions of the said Act.

Copies of the Petition and Plan of the said Land made by inspected during normal offices hours in the following places:

- 1. The Registry of the Supreme Court, East Street North, Nassau, The Bahamas;
2. The Administrator's Office, Governor's Harbour, Eleuthera, The Bahamas; and
3. The Chambers of Lockhart & Co., 35 Buen Retiro Road, off Shirley Street, Nassau, The Bahamas.

NOTICE is hereby given that any person having dower or right to dower or an 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 of any such person to file and serve a statement of his claim on or before the expiration of Thirty (30) days after the final publication of these presents will operate as a bar to such claim.

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

LOCKHART & CO. Chambers 35 Buen Retiro Road Off Shirley Street Nassau, The Bahamas

Attorneys for the Petitioner

FROM page 1B

ver lining for Bahamian agricultural producers in the form of increased revenue opportunities. Mike Leslie, of Sun International Produce, Florida, Supervalu's primary produce wholesaler, told Tribune Business the impact of the record breaking temperature lows this week, while not fully quantified, will certainly not go unnoticed.

"The northern part of the state got hit really hard. They're still assessing the southern part, but it's definitely going to have an effect on pricing," he said.

Rupert Roberts, Supervalu's president, noted that although the supermarket is "locked in" to contracts with its supplier for certain produce, enabling it to maintain its pricing levels on particular items despite short-term fluctuations as a result of any damage to crops affecting availability, this situation does not exist with all produce, meaning price changes may still arise.

Meanwhile, Mr Roberts quipped: "Prices will actually increase whether there's damage or not. Farmers are the smartest people on earth."

On Sunday, Florida Governor Charlie Crist declared a state of emergency because

CONSUMERS TOLD TO BRACE FOR PRICE RISES

of the threat of severe crop damage in the typically warm state from diving temperatures.

According to Lisa Lochridge, a spokeswoman for the Florida Fruit and Vegetable Association, it is unusual for temperatures to dip so low - the teens in north Florida and the high 20s in central and South Florida - at this time of year. Temperatures of between 60 to 78 degrees are more common.

Mr Leslie said it was likely the price of tomatoes will now go "sky high" as a consequence of damage to the crops from this week's cold snap. This was one of several "soft" crops, which also include peppers, beans, corn and cucumber, which are grown in south Florida and are likely to be badly affected. Supervalu, however, "should be in good shape" for the time being as far as tomatoes are concerned, given their current two-week "lock in", said Mr Leslie.

Phil Lightbourne, owner of Phil's Food Services, which imports most of its produce

directly rather than going through a Nassau-based wholesaler, said December was typically "bad" for produce availability due to poorer weather conditions, "but this (weather) will make it worse".

"I think the biggest problem we'll have is that prices will skyrocket. Availability will be scarce and so we have to pay the price. On a few items there will be price increases," he said.

Among the produce Phil's Food Services imports most of from Florida are watermelon, strawberries, grapes and limes.

The price of limes coming into the Bahamas had already increased in recent weeks after the US Department of Agriculture surprised importers by rejecting shipments of limes from Mexico, due to fears they were contaminated with a pest known as "sweet orange scab".

"We had to go back to the limes in the US, so they doubled in price right away. There could be no more ten for a dollar," said Mr Roberts. Yesterday, however, the US Department of Agriculture approved new regulations that should restore lime and other citrus imports from Mexico to normal levels, perhaps mitigating against any further increase in lime prices in the Bahamas as a result of damage to citrus crops in Florida this week. Don Car-

nine, general manager of Bahamas Food Services, said yesterday morning that he believed it was "too early to tell" precisely the outcome that the freezing weather in Florida would have on imports to the Bahamas in terms of pricing and availability, as assessments were still in an early stage. However, he said there "will be an impact".

"The farmers are taking a hard look at everything this morning, and they're anticipating temperatures to pass through today and lighten up tomorrow and Friday to where they can do some complete analysis of the damage that took place. They did have a severe amount of frost on the ground, so there will be an impact, though the extent we don't know yet," Mr Carnine said.

This will to some degree be mitigated by the availability of some crops on the Bahamian agricultural market, which did not experience the same freezing temperatures.

"For some of those crops we're into the local season now, so the availability local wise will give us a definite advantage in terms of being able to work with the farmers to provide an affordable price for end user," Mr Carnine said. Also, as market prices increase on the imported front it should have an impact in terms of us being able to give farmers a little more for their money here."

Green pepper, cabbage, tomatoes, zucchini and yellow squash are presently all in season in the Bahamas, being grown in farms in New Providence, Andros, Abaco and Freeport.

NOTICE EXXONMOBIL EXPLORATION AND PRODUCTION UGANDA LIMITED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN as follows:

- (a) EXXONMOBIL EXPLORATION AND PRODUCTION UGANDA LIMITED is in dissolution under the provisions of the International Business Companies Act 2000.
(b) The dissolution of the said Company commenced on the 13th day of December, 2010 when its Articles of Dissolution were submitted to and registered by the Registrar General.
(c) The Liquidator of the said Company is Carol G. Gray, of 16825 Northchase Drive Houston, Texas 77060, U.S.A.

Dated the 13th day of December, 2010.

HARRY B. SANDS, LOBOSKY MANAGEMENT CO. LTD. Attorneys for the above-named Company

LEGAL NOTICE

THE PUBLIC is hereby NOTIFIED that as of the First day of January, A.D. 2011, the name DOCKENDALE HOUSE, West Bay Street, Nassau, The Bahamas will be changed to:

CAMPBELL MARITIME CENTRE

Mortimer & Co.,

NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that CHRISTENA CAMPBELL of 982 LISKEARD AVENUE, P.O.BOX F42282, FREEPORT, GRAND BAHAMA, 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 9th day of DECEMBER, 2010 to the Minister responsible for Nationality and Citizenship, P.O.Box N-7147, Freeport, Bahamas.

NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that JOHNNY GEORGE of GOLDEN GATES #1, P.O.Box N1739, 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 9th day of December, 2010 to the Minister responsible for nationality

NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that SAMSON FRANCILLON CHATELAIN, BARTLETT HILL, EIGHT MILE ROCK, GRAND BAHAMA, 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 9th day of DECEMBER, 2010 to the Minister responsible for Nationality and Citizenship, P.O.Box N-7147, Freeport, Bahamas.

NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that MIKE ERNEST JOSEPH of UNISON ROAD OFF CARMICHAEL ROAD, 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 16th day of December, 2010 to the Minister responsible for nationality and Citizenship, P.O. Box N-7147, Nassau, Bahamas.

LEGAL NOTICE

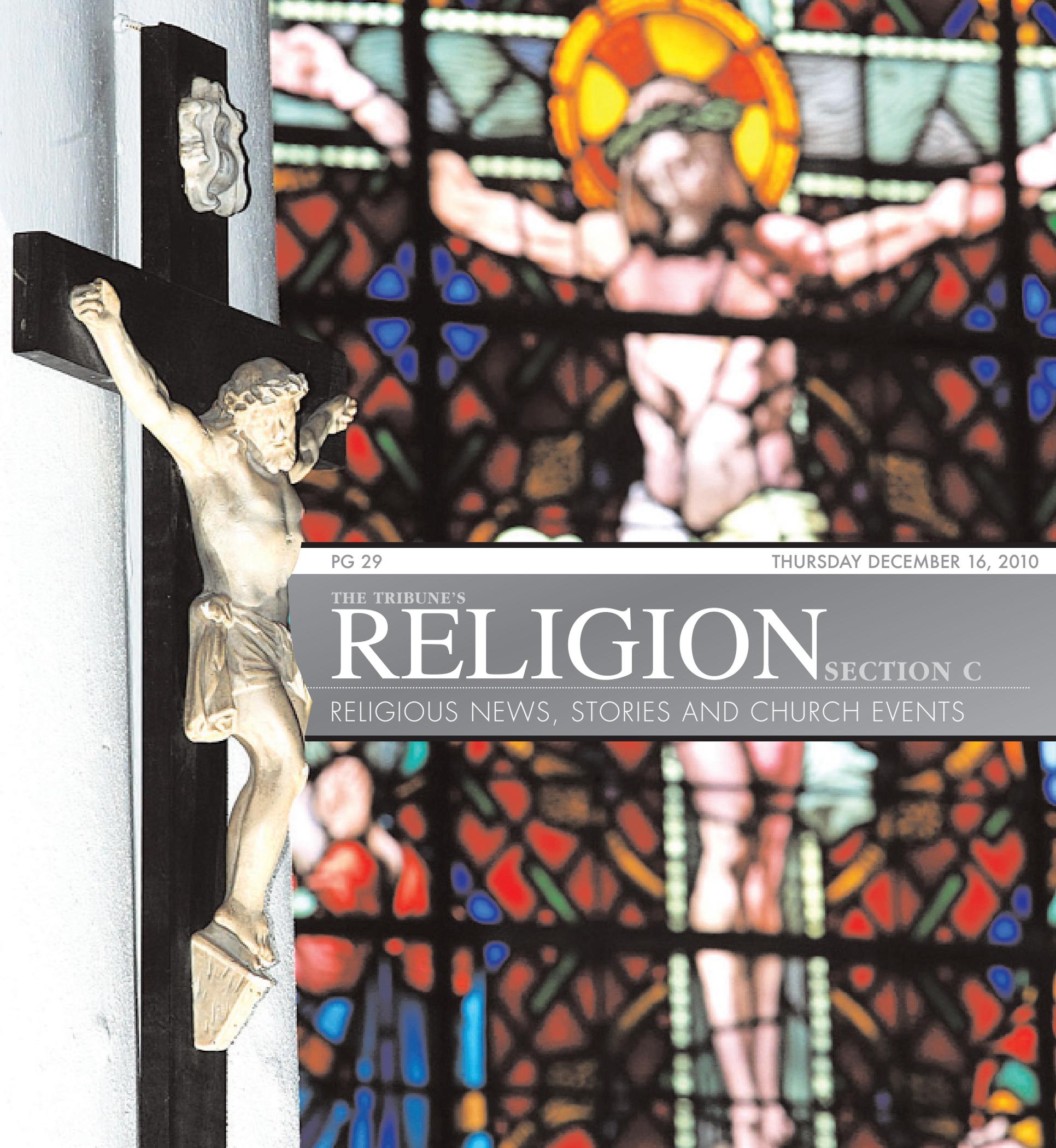
FIFI HOLDINGS INC.

International Business Companies Act (No.45 of 2000) In Voluntary Liquidation

Notice is hereby given in accordance with Section 138 (4) of the International Business Companies Act, (No. 45 of 2000), FIFI HOLDINGS INC. is in dissolution. PANAMERICAN MANAGEMENT SERVICES (BVI) LTD., is the Liquidator and can be contacted at Vanterpool Plaza, 2nd floor, Wickhams Cay I, Road Town, Tortola, BVI. All persons having claims against the above-named company are required to send their names, addresses and particulars of their debts or claims to the Liquidator before 28th December, 2010.

PANAMERICAN MANAGEMENT SERVICES (BVI) LTD. Liquidator

Table with financial data including BIXX LISTED & TRADED SECURITIES AS OF: TUESDAY, 14 DECEMBER 2010. Includes columns for Security, Previous Close, Today's Close, Change, Daily Vol., EPS \$, Div \$, P/E, and Yield. Also includes BIXX LISTED DEBT SECURITIES and BIXX LISTED MUTUAL FUNDS.



PG 29

THURSDAY DECEMBER 16, 2010

THE TRIBUNE'S

RELIGION

SECTION C

RELIGIOUS NEWS, STORIES AND CHURCH EVENTS

A Bahamian comedian celebrates 10 years of service to the Bahamas



Most serious historians would concur that great events happen at the turn of each new century thereby ushering the dawn of a new era while closing the chapters of the past. Such was the case in 2000, at the height of the “Y2K” frenzy when Bahamians were stocking up on water and food supplies and other necessities just in case all the computers crashed sending the world into a mad frenzy.

Amidst the buzz and the hustle, a dream was being born in the mind of Lyn Terez Davis. This young striving Bahamian woman, armed with a strong education in theatre from Morgan State University, and a deep desire to pursue her godly purpose on the national landscape, began what is now known today as Dynamite Productions.

Dynamite

It is from this launching pad the now nationally known character “**Dynamite Daisy**” was created. A mixture of satire, irony and comedy, Daisy has somehow flown into the hearts of the Bahamian public both young and old, rich and poor, professional and blue-collared, white and black. Lyn Terez Davis, the last child of Bishop Ros and Lady Althea Davis, credits her beginnings and first opportunities to the late Kayla Lockhart Edwards who believed, supported, nurtured and pushed her talents to the forefront. Now in their 10th year, the production company has been the impetus for four complete state productions: Conch Salad Christmas, Daisy’s Whirlwind Weekend, Daisy’s Kapuncle-up Vacation, Judge Daisy, and the most recent offering, the Valley and the Shadow of Death.

This year’s 10th Anniversary celebration will take place in two parts. On Saturday, December 18, 2000 at Phil’s Food Services on Gladstone Road, Dynamite Productions will host a birthday party and brief ceremony for all of the public to attend. There will be face painting and cake for everyone. Children will be allowed to take Christmas Pictures with Daisy with part proceeds going to the HIV/Aids foundation. Secondly, Dynamite Productions will present on December 26, 2010, Boxing Day, two shows of the revival of the Original Conch Salad Christmas at the National Theatre for the Performing Arts.

Lyn Terez Davis extends her gratitude to the government and people of the Bahamas for their unwavering support and love.



MEDITATION

The best gifts to give

One of the most perplexing problems associated with the season of Christmas is selecting appropriate, affordable gifts for each person on our list. What the person wants may not fall into our budget constraints, or in an effort to make it a surprise, we may find ourselves surprised by the lack of enthusiasm displayed when the contents are revealed.

Let us consider some gifts for members of our family and for friends which money cannot buy and which time cannot destroy:

1. The **gift of love** with all of the wrappings of warm hugs and smiles, and gentle tones.
2. The **gift of listening** with patience and a sincere effort at understanding.
3. The **gift of presence** to be available, approachable, and attentive.
4. The **gift of a peaceful spirit** fostered by the presence of the Holy Spirit in us.
5. The **gift of forgiveness** especially where remorse is genuine and distress real.

In the Church, there are special gifts needed in order for the work of the Lord to be done:

1. The **gift of faith** as exhibited by those who are able to truly believe and trust God.
2. The **gift of hospitality** manifested as the welcoming of others into our homes and hearts.
3. The **gift of teaching** where knowledge and information are imparted to build up faith.



REV. ANGELA
C BOSFIELD
PALACIOS

4. The **gift of administration** displayed in wise leadership and handling of church affairs.
5. The **gift of healing** as seen in the restoration of bodies, minds, spirits and emotions.
6. The **gift of preaching and proclamation** to convict of sin and offer hope of salvation.

These are just some of the gifts of the Spirit, distributed among all of the members of the Body of Christ. References to spiritual gifts may be found in the following chapters in the New Testament: 1 Corinthians 12 and 14, Romans 12, Ephesians 4, and 1 Peter 4. The Houts Inventory of Spiritual Gifts, for example, is one of several ways to discover your own gifts for ministry by means of a series of questions to be answered and scored.

In the final analysis, the best gift that we can give to God is a heart that is submissive, a will that is surrendered, and a life that is being lived to the honour and glory of God. Led by the Holy Spirit day by day, we become a gift to our home, school, place of employment, neighbourhood, church, country and the world as a whole.

Like concentric circles spreading well beyond what the eye can see, our prayers and our influence affect generations to come. The best gifts last forever, so choose carefully what you plan to give, and place God's name at the top of your list.

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.



Christ Church Cathedral Schedule of Christmas Services December 19th, 2010 - January 2nd, 2011

6:30 p.m. Sunday December 19th, 2010
A Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols
Featuring **The Highgrove Singers**

Friday December 24th, 2010
The Eve of The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ

10:45 p.m. **"Emmanuel: The Promise Fulfilled"**
A Christmas Eve Concert
Presented by:
The Choirs of Christ Church Cathedral

11:45 p.m. **Procession to and Blessing of the Manger**
&
Solemn High Mass

Saturday December 25th, 2010
Christmas Day

7:00 a.m. **Holy Eucharist**
10:00 a.m. **Sung Eucharist**

Sunday December 26th, 2010

The First Sunday After Christmas

7:30 a.m. **Holy Eucharist**
9:00 a.m. **Holy Eucharist**
11:15 a.m. **Holy Eucharist**

6:00 p.m. **Solemn Evensong, Sermon & Benediction**

Friday December 31st, 2010

The Eve of the Feast of the Holy Name of Jesus
New Year's Eve

11:00 p.m.

This Service leads into the First Mass of The New Year, 2011

Sunday January 2nd, 2011

The Second Sunday After Christmas

7:30 a.m. **Holy Eucharist**
9:00 a.m. **Holy Eucharist**
11:15 a.m. **Holy Eucharist**

6:00 p.m. **Service of Light: "We Have Seen His Star"**
Presented by **Cathedral Boys Choir**

Reclaiming 'Christmas' for Christ

THE Knights of Columbus, a Catholic fraternal organisation, is encouraging all Bahamians, irrespective of their denomination or creed, to "keep Christ in Christmas" this holiday season.

The organisation said as it launches its 2010 "Keep Christ in Christmas", secularisation is chipping away at the religious significance of Christmas.

"The tradition of honouring the birth of Jesus by saying or displaying the word 'Christmas' is being pushed from the public square.

"Let's face it. We live in a world that commercialises almost everything, especially Christmas. We all know that the true meaning of Christmas is Christ," the organisation said in a statement.

"Everywhere one goes, there is the greeting of "Merry Xmas" as opposed to "Merry Christmas". It is apparent that those who are opposed to Christ want to eclipse Christ from Christmas."

The organisation, which says it is "devotedly in solidarity with the Catholic church", explained that the battle for Christmas is not new to the Knights of Columbus, which has publicly promoted the true meaning of Christmas for more than 30 years through its multi-faceted "Keep Christ in Christmas" programme.

The order's public service Christmas announcements have reached more than 20 million television viewers and about 27 million radio listeners since they began airing in the 1980s, the organisation said.

The Knights of Columbus, which has been in the Bahamas since June 1990, unveiled its 2010 "Keep Christ in Christmas" campaign on December 5 at



RECLAIMING CHRISTMAS: Officers of the Knights of Columbus Council 10415 unveil their 2010 "Keep Christ in Christmas" campaign on Sunday, December 5 on the grounds of St Joseph Roman Catholic Church on Boyd Road.

the St Joseph Roman Catholic Church.

The purpose of the campaign is to sensitise the entire Christian community that Christ is the reason for the season.

"As Christian brothers and sisters, we should not be ashamed to recognise the season as "Christ Mas" rather than "Xmas", "Happy Holidays" or "Seasons Greetings"," the order said.

The campaign calls all Christians to

boldly proclaim Christ as Lord of Christmas.

"Knights of Columbus Councils throughout the free world promote the 'Keep Christ in Christmas' message on billboards, lawn signs and posters. Knights also honour the birth of Jesus by illuminating and blessing a Christmas tree or Nativity scene on the first Tuesday of December as part of the

order's 'Light Up for Christ' campaign launched in 1991. Other Knights keep Christ in Christmas in a variety of ways.

"Our mission is simply to keep Christ in Christmas and extend to every Christian family the opportunity to celebrate the birth of our Lord by displaying in their front yard a depiction of his birth," said Joseph Johnson, Worthy Grand Knight of Council 10415.

Bread of Life Baptist Church celebrates it's 12th anniversary

By **ALESHA CADET**
Tribune Features Reporter

UNDER the theme "A church that was established on the covenant's of God's word," the Bread of Life Baptist Church celebrates its 12 church anniversary on Sunday, December 19.

The event will take place at the church grounds on Lee Street, Nassau Village, starting at 3 pm, all are invited to attend.

The celebration will feature special guest speaker Rev Daniel Simmons, Pastor of Carmichael Bible Church. The speakers during the week are Rev Tyrone Sands, pastor of True

Worshippers Assembly and Apostle David King Mcphee of World Changers Ministries International.

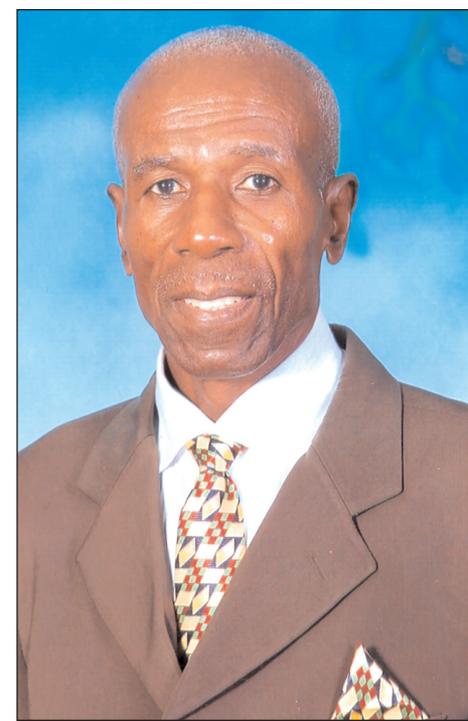
According to members of the church, Pastor Thompson, a native Mayaguanian from the beautiful settlement of Betsy Bay, was inducted as the pastor of the Bread of Life Baptist Church on March 28 1999.

"Pastor Thompson has a passion for young people and intends to focus on this ministry by building a centre to help troubled teens and young people. There is a soup kitchen and clothing distribution centre to help those in need," the church said in a release.

Pastor Thompson started the Ministry in December 1998 with only thirteen members. He was ordained to the gospel ministry in March 1998 at New Hope Missionary Baptist church under the leadership of the late Rev Dr Mitchell R Cooper.

He is married to the former Pearl Missick and the couple has four children, Koralee, Maguerite, Kirkwood and Kirkwood.

Pastor Thompson and the congregation at Bread of Life are motivated by their favorite scripture, Philippians 4:13, which states, "We can do all things through Christ who strengthens us."



Courtesy of Dr. P. Samuel Bain

'Emmanuel...God is with us'

The birth of Jesus is usually the main emphasis of the Christmas message. Jesus was born for the express purpose of bringing salvation into the world. The lost and dying of the world would now have hope because of the birth of this child. The long heralded Christ came in the fullness of time. (Gal. 4:4)

God providentially supplied the proper background for His appearing and mission. His advent occurred at a point in human history when the Law of Moses had done its work of demonstrating the sinfulness of man and the impossibility of achieving righteousness by human effort. Jesus took what is common to us all, our human nature, yet free from any taint of sin, and combined it with deity to become an actual person with his own individuality. This is the mystery of the incarnation. The ministry of the Saviour was pre-



BISHOP V.G.
CLARKE

dominantly to the multitudes during its early phase, as He sought out the people where they were, whether in the synagogue or on the city street or by the lakeside. Once while crossing the lake, a storm arose and His disciples seemed helpless and so they called for His assistance. "What manner of man is this?" Such was the amazed observation of the disciples of Jesus as they beheld Him in action and felt the strength and mystery of His personality as they accompanied Him.

Jesus was a man of integrity. No taint of duplicity marred His dealings with others,

for there was a mixture of motives within His heart. He could not be deceived, for He was truth incarnate.

Jesus was a man of courage. When Aristotle advanced his famous doctrine of the 'mean', he illustrated it by courage, which lies midway between cowardice and recklessness. Judged by this standard, the character of Jesus appears in a most favourable light, for in Him one can detect no wildness ability even in the most intense activity, nor any supineness in His passivity. Christ had physical courage.

Our Lord showed great compassion for people. The sight of the multitudes, forlorn and forsaken by those who should have been their spiritual shepherds stirred Christ to the depths of His being. Out of His compassion, He ministered to physical needs for food and health, and went on to tell them the secrets of the life of true godliness.

He was clothed with humility. He could

talk about his own passion without infatuation. Christ wrought revolution in ethics by dignifying humility in a world, which despised it as weakness. His humility was His refusal to please Himself. He came not to be ministered unto but to minister.

His life was so brief, so confined in its geographical orbit, so little noticed by the world in his own time, has yet become the most potent force for good in all of human history. His influence on the saints is so radical and comprehensive that nothing can describe it better than assertion that Christ is their life.

Until He comes into the heart, self rules supreme. When He comes, He creates a new point of preference and a new set of values. Yes, Jesus coming into the world has mightily affected society in its organised state. He taught the world the dignity of human life, the worth of a soul, the preciousness of personality.

Emmanuel...God is with us!

The Highgrove Singers present the Nine Lessons and Carols for Christmas

ALL roads lead downtown to Christ Church Cathedral this Sunday evening, December 19 at 6.30pm as the Highgrove Singers lead the Cathedral parishioners, and other guests, including Governor General and Lady Foulkes, in the yearly remembrance of the story of the birth of Jesus Christ through the Festival of Lessons and Carols.

The Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols is a format for a service of Christian worship that is traditionally held during the Christmas season. The story of the fall of humanity, the promise of the Messiah and the birth of Jesus is told in nine short Bible readings from Genesis, the prophetic books and the Gospels, interspersed with the singing of Christmas carols, hymns and choir music.

"We are very pleased to have been asked by the Dean of the Cathedral to lead the service once again," said Adrian Archer, Director of the Highgrove Singers. "The music for this occasion will include both traditional congregational carols and modern twentieth century music for choir and congregation."

The format for the service of lessons and carols was based on an order drawn up by Edward White Benson, later Archbishop of Canterbury but at that time Bishop of Trur, for use on Christmas Eve (24 December) 1880. Tradition says that he organised a 10 pm service on Christmas Eve in a temporary wooden shed serving as his cathedral and that a key purpose of the service was



The Highgrove Singers

to keep men out of pubs on Christmas Eve. The original liturgy has since been adapted and used by other churches all over the world.

"The choir's music for this occasion is dictated primarily by the readings," said Archer. "So picking the music hasn't been a very complicated thing. We hope

to present some very lovely anthems and canticles by composers such as Eric Whitacre, Gordon Thorne, William Dix, Craig Courtney, Steve Pilkington and the dramatic "Sir Christemas" by William Mathias.

Accompanying the choir will be Yvonne Foulkes, Cathy and Lynden

Flowers and at the great organ will be Dr Sparkman Ferguson, titular organist of the Cathedral. Other readers during the Carol Service include Fr Colin Humes, Joann Callendar, Rosemary Hanna, Elridge McPhee and Marvin Lockhart.

Admission to the Carol Service is free of charge.

'Please daddy don't get drunk this Christmas'

By BISHOP SIMEON B. HALL
Senior Pastor, New Covenant
Baptist Church

THE words of the song (Please Daddy Don't Get Drunk This Christmas) by Bill and Taffy Danoff bespeak how we, as a people, indeed as a nation, have profaned the sacred season that is intended to reflect on the birthday of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Instead this season has become a time to get drunk and engage in licentious lifestyles.

This 1974 song places on the lips of a child, words of pathos and deep melancholy, it says:

**"Please daddy don't get drunk this Christmas
I don't want to see my mama cry
Just last year when I was only seven
Now I'm almost eight as you can see
You came home a quarter past eleven
And fell down underneath our Christmas tree."**

It is most discouraging to know that this scene will be played out a thousand times in many homes throughout our Bahamas.

Christmas is the queen of Christian festivities; second only in significance to Easter.

For now, and for all times let us set aside as puerile and insignificant those who would make a case that Christmas has pagan historical ties.

In Israel's history, God sent His Son into the world. At some point serious Christians look forward to the celebration of the birth of Christ, the incarnation; this is the event when God punctuated human

history with His divine presence.
**"Born to raise the sons of earth.
Born to give them second birth."**

We show our highest capacity to profane the sacred when we would use the time set aside to reflect on the Lord's birth as a time to lower our standards and get drunk.

The song **"Silent Night, Holy Night"** is wrong. There was nothing holy or silent about the night on which the Christ child was born.

But those around were so intoxicated with their way of life that they missed the fact that God, through the promised Messiah, had come to them. I appeal to those who might make the same mistake as those who did at the time of Christ's birth: **Please daddy, don't get drunk this Christmas.**

Do not become so intoxicated by this world (literally and figuratively) that you miss the divine presence in our midst.

Daddy, please don't leave the rent money or the school fees at the corner bar and embarrass us again.

Please daddy, we would like to have a peaceful time like the neighbour next door. We would like to exchange gifts like the people in church.

Please daddy when you get drunk you beat and abuse my mother and sometimes you forget I am your daughter and the way you look at me makes me very uncomfortable.

God comes to us in Jesus Christ that is the meaning of Advent. Time, place, colour of the child are all incidental to the central theme of this cosmic drama.

Drunkenness is escapism and those who try to drown their sorrows in alcohol come to know that sorrows can swim.

The Bahamas has the infamous distinction of ranking number 3 in the world in alcohol consumption and abuse. By extrapolation, it means that at any time of positive social reconstruction and progress many Bahamians will be found inebriated and without good sense. It is clear to me that some persons with power and influence in our history decided that the best way to keep some Bahamians back is to keep them drunk.

We pursue and prosecute those who deal in the illicit drug trade – indeed as we ought; but at the same time we reward liquor barons who trade in the nefarious business of alcohol. This is a naked contradiction.

Alcohol is a killer and those who benefit from it have the blood of thousands of weak persons on their hands.

The **National Health Initiative** recently passed in the Honorable House of Assembly is worthy of support, but what about taking another look at those things in our country that causes ill health. I am safe within the mark that wanton alcoholism ranks at the top.

We speak passionately about the health of the nation but then we have high ranking government officials organising government events being sponsored by the liquor merchants – suggesting that this practice is okay.

Alcohol is one of the **sacred cows** in our Bahamian society. Would it not be interesting if a scientific study was done on the effects of alcohol on the Bahamian society?

How does alcohol affect family life? How does this demon of alcohol impact

the work and study habits of employees and students?

Ought we not to make a scientific assessment on this accepted area of Bahamian life before the National Health Program is implemented? I think so!

Here are some quotes on the matter of alcoholism:

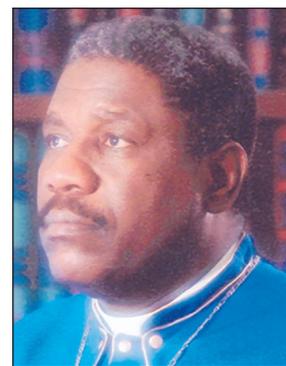
"People who drink to drown their sorrows should be told that sorrows know how to swim." Ann Landers

"One reason I don't drink is that I want to know when I'm having a good time." Nancy Astor

I have always been a little suspicious, perhaps even more contemptuous of persons who make a living off someone else's pain and death.

During this Advent Season many children will receive gifts from their parents and friends. Sadly there will be those who will have to face these days in painful dismay and disappointment because daddy is drunk, and that is sad.

My immediate family and the people of New Covenant Baptist Church join me in wishing you and yours an Advent Season full of joy and peace and one that is free of any abuse and destruction.



Bishop Simeon B. Hall

Refugees aim to preserve unique Vietnamese faith

POMONA, Calif.
Associated Press

AS DARKNESS fell on a recent night, Duc Le donned a long white tunic and black cap, slipped off his shoes and joined other aging refugees to honor the new moon with the chanted prayers and offerings that mark the Vietnamese religion of Cao Dai.

As Le worshipped, his 25-year-old son stood nearby in sweat pants and chatted with his young bride before slipping away to study for his mid-term exams. The college senior said he visits the temple to teach martial arts more often than to worship and struggles to observe the elaborate rituals of

his elders' faith.

"Usually I don't get too involved. I think it's the language barrier," said Thuan Le, who finds the higher-level Vietnamese used in Cao Dai prayers difficult to understand. "I definitely see it as a hindrance with all the ceremonies. You have to follow all these procedures to get to the truth of it and that's really hard."

Le's ambivalence is echoed by many young Vietnamese and marks a turning point for the thousands of refugees who brought their religion with them to the U.S. and have nurtured it for decades in their adopted homeland.

Now, as the original followers age, Cao

Dai's most learned scholars in the U.S. are scrambling to build interest among their children and grandchildren while trying to widen the faith's appeal to gain new, non-Vietnamese worshippers as well.

But Cao Dai's unusual history and a colorful blending of beliefs that earned its most prominent temple in Vietnam the nickname "Walt Disney fantasia of the East" could make that a challenge.

The faith, born in 1926 out of a series of spirit seances, is monotheistic but incorporates elements of the oldest and most established religions in its complex DNA. It took root in French Indochina, in part as a way for the country's intellectual elite to reconcile the Christian beliefs of their colonial rulers and ancient Eastern traditions, said Janet Hoskins, an anthropology professor and Cao Dai expert at the University of Southern California.

Practitioners today believe the founders of the world's major religions are all messengers of the same God and point to similar teachings on peace and love in all religions. As a result, the faithful pay homage to a cornucopia of religious and philosophical fig-

ures, including Jesus, Moses, Muhammad, Lao Tzu, Buddha and Confucius.

Among their saints is the French author Victor Hugo, who is believed to have spoken to spirit mediums from beyond the grave. Hugo's image, along with the French slogan "Liberty, Equality and Brotherhood," appears at the front of many Cao Dai temples along with the Chinese revolutionary Sun Yat-sen and the Vietnamese sage Khiem Binh Nguyen.

Practitioners also believe Joan of Arc guided the first Cao Dai disciples in their seances and is one of nine female fairies associated with the Mother Goddess.

Five levels of carved and brightly painted figures depicting Cao Dai's saints, prophets and immortals sit above the altar in its temples, where worshippers also burn incense and place tea, wine, fruit and flowers to represent the different aspects of being.

The faith's complex history and its emphasis on ritual and hierarchy make it difficult for young people to embrace, even without a language barrier, said Hum Duc Bui, a Cao Dai scholar, author and retired surgeon who lives in Redlands.

AN APPRECIATION OF THE MINISTRY OF CAROLS

By NGM Major
(Date not mentioned; precise occasion not stated).

I am sure all of us have been looking forward to this day with joyous anticipation.

I believe that we all agree that the singing of Christmas Carols are a most rewarding pastime and custom.

They express in a very satisfying way our feeling toward the birthday of our lovely Lord.

In them we greet the holy maker and offer Him our humblest worship, our love, our blessings, having accepted Him as the great Author of our salvation.

In them we are given a glimpse of Xmas in other climes, and this adds to our joys.

But there is that fascination in these Carols which was first experienced in our childhood when it seemed that the holy babe had a special influence on us and this unique thrill has remained with us ever into the present time.

There is nothing to equal the entrancing music and related joys - of Xmas Carols. Many of them, I am sure were written by inspired persons for they have captivated us with a magnetism which has charmed and held us with a bond that will not let us go.

The birth of our blessed Lord and Savior was not by accident. In Eternity past, in the Eternal Council of God, a PLAN was made whereby God desired to raise up a people who would love and serve him. In his great prophetic WISDOM he knew that human nature would fail him. They would SIN and be separated from our Father God.

So God provided ONE who would pay the price of sin with his life thereby permitting all who wished to enjoy Life Everlasting to do so by **REPENTANCE** toward God and faith in Jesus Christ our Savior.

The Birth of Christ was a miracle, and so is the conversion of every sinner. Every minute, every hour.

Millions have obeyed the gospel, and now look forward with joy to the blessed Hope of the return of our blessed Lord and Savior Jesus Christ to take His saints home. It is indeed gratifying to note the interest and enthusiasm shown by every well-thinking person throughout our island as this season comes around. We can therefore feel assured that this delightful pastime of carol singing among the schools has now become a well established custom in our island. The history of every worthwhile custom never fails to enhance and increase its importance.

Carol singing dates back to the early centuries, however carol singing among the schools in Long Island had its beginning about 15 years ago.

It came about in this way: I happened to be visiting the metropolis when a carol-singing programme came off at Christ Church Cathedral. Timothy Gibson was in charge and he invited me to attend and I enjoyed it immensely, and before I left Nassau I suggested that it would be a fine addition to the Christmas celebration if our schools in Long Island would have a special meet for carol singing.

As Mr Gibson was the Music Inspector for the out islands and I was district Inspector for the South East Islands, we got it going the following year.

We held meets at Buckley's Lower Cay Millerton, Clarence Town, Simms, etc. Those meets were held outdoors but today we are indoors a progressive step - and I believe the acoustics are very much better today.

It is pleasing to note that, in spite of distance and other problems a very appreciable number of schools are taking part, to sing to the glory of God.



N.G.M. Major



CROWD OF VOICES: A portion of the eight Choirs which participated in the first all Schools United Choir Celebration of Christmas Carol singing in Long Island in the late sixties.

History of Long Island's carol singing

By REX MAJOR

I saw a story of the Carol -Singing by the Long Island Schools in your newspaper recently (*Long Island Schools Celebrate the District Carol Service on December 9*).

I felt that it might be a meaningful follow up, if you carried the story of how it all got started.

While my father N.G.M. Major was the Supervisory Headteacher of the Long Island Schools, he felt that it would be very rewarding and helpful if all the Schools got together at least once per year - to sing the Carols.

Enclosed is an address he gave on one of those

occasions. Included also is a photo of the 1964 Carol service, held at that time on the lawn of the Commissioner's Residence, on a hill overlooking Clarence Town, Harbour, Long Island.

A second photo gives a picture of his nationally award winning Buckley School Choir, of which he was headteacher and choir director. His second love was music. He and Timothy Gibson, studied music together first under CI Gibson then as students at the old Boy Central School in Nassau, from which they graduated and left to take their first Schools as Headteachers in 1922. Timothy Gibson went to George Town Exuma, while N.G.M Major went to Port Nelson, Rum Cay.



MAKING MUSIC: Mr NGM Major is seen conducting his Buckley's Primary School Choir in the garden of the residence of the District Commissioner of Long Island, in Clarence Town, Long Island - overlooking the Clarence Town Harbour.

St. Andrew's Anglican Church, Whymms Long Island celebrates its Patronal Festival



SINGING PRAISES: Parishioners sing the introit hymn during St Andrew's patronal Festival in Long Island.

Parishioners came together from the length and breadth of Long Island to celebrate and begin yet another church's liturgical year. Patronal festivals are seen as the birthday of any particular church and St Andrew's is found in the exquisite tranquil serene settlement of Whymms.

St Andrew's Anglican Church has been closed for a number of years to receive extensive renovations and refurbishment to the physical structure of this edifice. Prior to Fr Mark Fox's departure to relocate to the capital, he reopened and celebrated the first mass on July 7 of this year.

Anglican members from St Peter's in the north and St Paul's in the south came together in the palatial picturesque edifice of St Andrew's to laud the life and

witness of the apostle Andrew. This church spiritually reared the first Bahamian born Bishop Donald Knowles and possesses an aura of mystique.

The Church was adorned with celebration flags on the exterior and the altar decorated in the Patronal festival colour of red denoting the color attributed to Apostles.

Fr Chester Burton; new rector of St Peter's North Long is anticipating the rededication of this edifice in short order by Diocesan Bishop Laish Boyd early in the New Year. Fr Jonathan Archer, Rector of the St Paul's Parish preached the sermon to the packed church overflowing with jubilant members.

The gospel reading for the Eucharistic celebration was taken from Matthew's gospel chapter 4 verses 18-22 in which Jesus is walking down the Sea of Galilee and comes into contact with Simon Peter

and Andrew who are brothers and also James and John the sons of Zebedee. Fr Archer touched on the simple yet profound words of Jesus when he told Andrew and his brother Simon Peter, that He would make them fishers of men.

Fr Archer reminisced on his early experiences while serving as rector of St Patrick's, Governor's Harbour where he enjoyed fishing. He went on to say that certain Long Island settlements are built around fishing communities. Fr Archer then in his sermon asked a poignant and rhetorical question to the congregation: "What are you fishing?"

Fr Archer pointed out that during the New Testament Era there were no motor boats or any devices (for example GPS,) that enabled fishermen to target fish and determine storms or hurricanes so fishing in that time was extremely dangerous. He noted that Jesus picked some of the most

unlikely characters to assist Him with spreading the gospel message.

In the English Language "follow" is one of the most powerful words known to humanity. And the mere thought of these two brothers along with the sons of Zebedee leaving their father in the boat and following Jesus should sensitise each Christian of their duty and obligation to be a witness and fisherman for God and His Son Jesus Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit.

After the Eucharistic celebration members congregated under the belfry to share in table fellowship and to meet and greet different members of the Anglican Community in Long Island before their long drive back to their various homes. The parish is anticipating the rededication of the church on the completion of the bathroom block and church's office facility.



BROTHERS IN THE LORD: Fr Chester Burton and Fr Jonathan Archer fellowship after the service.



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