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# The Tribune

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Volume: 107 No.7

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2010

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**INSIGHT**

**Bain Town:  
 not a riot?**

**SEE PAGE 12C**



**INSIDE**



**Real Estate**

**SECTION INSIDE**

**SPORTS**



**Women's basketball**

**SEE SECTION E**

# Murder count passes record

**WOMAN CLAIMS HUSBAND DIED DUE TO ATLANTIS EMPLOYEES' NEGLIGENCE**

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

A WIDOW has filed a wrongful death suit in a Florida court against Kerzner International alleging that her husband died because of negligence of employees at the Atlantis Resort on Paradise Island.

Toni Lynn Bell claims that her husband – who was having heart attack symptoms – waited nearly an hour for an ambulance to arrive after a desk clerk promised that a doctor was on the way to the couple's aid. She also alleges that the hotel's assistant manager impersonated a doctor

**SEE page 18**

## Weekend shootings bring homicide total up to 88

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

TWO FATAL weekend shootings have pushed the country's homicide count to 88, breaking the Bahamas' overall record for the second consecutive year.

With still one month left in 2010, the year's homicide count has already passed last year's record-setting number of 87.

Last night, a 32-year-old man was in critical condition at hospital following two separate shooting incidents that claimed the life of two 22-year-old men.

Following the weekend's first shooting, which occurred on Friday at Nassau Street and Deans Lane, where a 22-year-old man became this year's 87th homicide, Theodore Frank Berry Jr – also 22 – was gunned down at his childhood hangout on Woodes Alley off Market Street on Saturday.

According to family members, Mr Berry had just finished baby-sitting his younger cousins and had gone to the area to spend time with family and friends.

In a recent interview, Commissioner of Police Ellison Greenslade indicated that the steady increase in violent crime was symptomatic of greater societal issues, such as the proliferation of weapons, recidivism and the current judicial system.

Mr Greenslade said: "You have to take some ownership of this. We cannot be in every home and we cannot be on every street corner. It is against the law and people have to come back to the decision of realising that if you ignore this issue it is going to come back to bite you. Far too many people get up everyday and do not go to a legitimate job, but rather go to a street corner where they sell illegal drugs. We arrest

**SEE page 18**

## LATEST HOMICIDE



Tim Clarke/Tribune staff

**SHOOTING SCENE:** Police stand over the body of Frank Berry Jr after he was gunned down in Woodes Alley off Market Street.

## CELEBRATED ROTARIAN AND TEACHER CHARLES FREDERICK CADMAN DIES AGED 89

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



**CELEBRATED:** Charles Frederick Cadman

CELEBRATED father, husband, Rotarian, teacher and war veteran, Charles Frederick Cadman has died.

The 89-year-old, known affectionately as "Fred" by friends and family members, died on Thursday.

He was known for his kindness, dedication and commitment to his family and philanthropic efforts.

Sharing with The Tribune an excerpt from his memorial service, Mrs Sharon Wilson told of her parents' unlikely union and her father's full life.

Mrs Wilson said of her father: "Fred was a quiet, unassuming man, going

**SEE page 18**

## MINISTER UNCERTAIN OF UNPAID DUTIES' IMPACT ON PRIVATE AIRCRAFT OPERATORS

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

TOURISM Minister Vincent Vanderpool-Wallace could not say what impact if any Government's demand for unpaid Customs duties from private aircraft operators will have on the domestic aviation sector.

This comes after the Aircraft Operators Association (AOA) claimed that if Government seized their planes in lieu of unpaid duties, it would "cripple"

the domestic airline industry. One day of aircraft impounding would cost operators an unquantifiable amount in lost goodwill from passengers, said AOA members during a press conference last week.

The Senator told The Tribune in an interview yesterday that he did not know how or why the unpaid taxes were allowed to accrue, but he said the private aircraft operators should have made allowances in their finances for customs duties on their fleet, explaining that the

**SEE page 18**

**Merry Christmas**

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**Nassau**

LOCAL NEWS

# POLICE GRADUATION CEREMONY

## In brief

### Two in hospital after knife attacks

TWO men are in hospital being treated for knife wounds after they were injured in two separate attacks over the weekend.

The first stabbing incident occurred at 8.15pm on Friday on Penny Savings Bank Lane, off Wulff Road.

Police reported that two men, aged 37 and 38, got into an argument that resulted in the 38-year-old being stabbed several times. The victim was taken to hospital by medical emergency personnel where he is detained in stable condition.

Police are questioning the 37-year-old of Peardale in connection with this incident. Investigations are also continuing into a stabbing that took place around 2.40 pm in the Madeira Street area.

Two men were reportedly walking on Montrose Avenue when they were attacked and beaten by a group of men, which resulted in a Pinewood Gardens' man being stabbed in his back.

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

### \$12,000 worth of suspected marijuana seized

OFFICERS of the Central Detective Unit and the Drug Enforcement Unit seized \$12,000 worth of suspected marijuana during a search of a Nassau Village home on Friday.

Around noon, the CDU together with the DEU searched a home in Nassau Village and discovered 12 lbs of suspected marijuana. Three men were taken into custody for questioning in connection with the seizure. Police on Friday also arrested a 32-year-old man of Palmetto Avenue after they found a quantity of suspected marijuana on his person.

The officers of the Northeastern Division who were on routine patrol in the area of Andros Avenue and Adderley Alley stopped the man because he was reportedly acting suspiciously.

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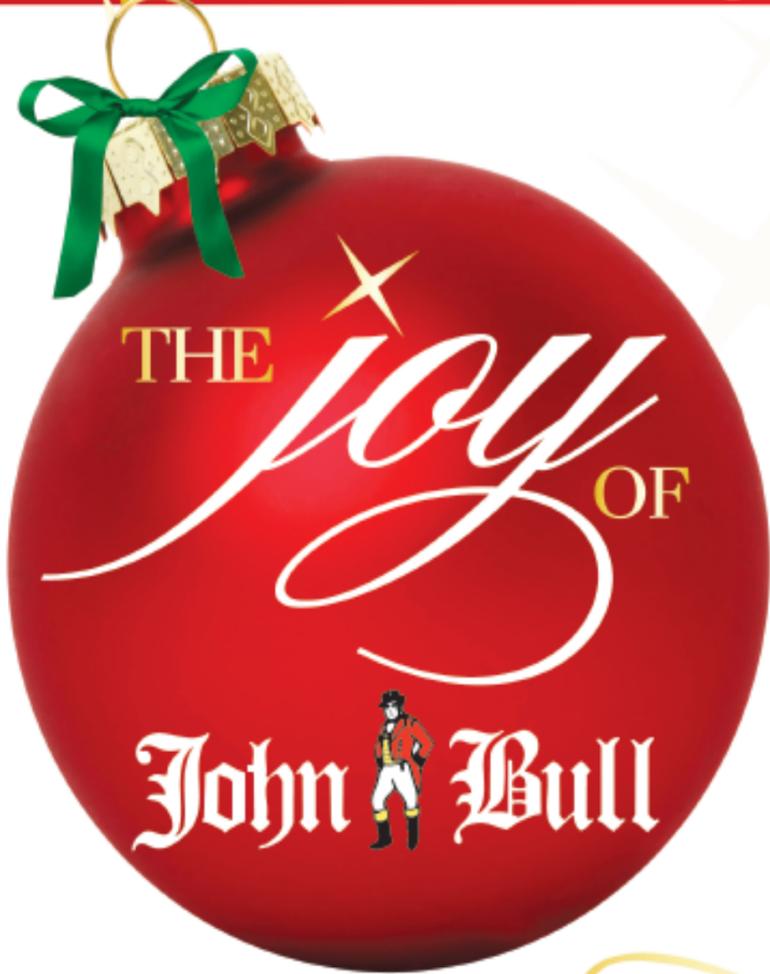
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PHOTOS: Tim Clarke/Tribune staff

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## LOCAL NEWS

## PLP CLAIMS OF BCB CONFLICT OF INTEREST BRANDED 'ASININE'

CLAIMS from the Progressive Liberal Party of a conflict of interest within the board of the Broadcasting Corporation of the Bahamas have been branded as "asinine" by BCB Chairman Michael Moss.

Mr Moss' comment came in response to concerns raised in a statement by PLP Chairman Bradley Roberts after Media Enterprises – a company owned by BCB board member Larry Smith – issued a press release on behalf of the broadcasting agency last week.

"Do the board of directors of the BCB believe that it is appropriate for a press statement to be issued by a company that is owned by one of its directors? Was Media Enterprises contracted by the BCB to perform such services? If so, what is the value of such a contract? If there is such a contract between the BCB and Media Enterprises, was the contract awarded pursuant to a competitive bidding process?" Mr Roberts asked.

Yesterday Mr Moss brushed off the conflict of interest claims.

"That is asinine," he said.

### Ignored

Mr Moss explained that he asked Mr Smith to distribute the press release to the media through his company as a favour because most media outlets had ignored the story when it was first sent by the BCB.

"I asked him to release it again to ensure that it would get wider coverage than it did before. He received no compensation for it," said Mr Moss.

His earlier statement noted that, in the wake of its recent restructuring, BCB has started a wide-ranging operational review aimed at securing a sustainable future for ZNS as a public service broadcaster.

After bringing its financial losses under control by cutting staff levels BCB will now work towards implementing a new business model. The channel aims to focus more on community-oriented news, entertainment and information.

## NEW PROVIDENCE HIT BY POWER CUTS

WIDESPREAD power outages affected residents in New Providence this weekend.

Residents reported sporadic black-outs occurring late Saturday evening and yesterday, some lasting only half an hour.

The power issues were thought to be the result of generator problems, however an official statement on the power outages is expected to be released today, pending a technical report by engineers.

# New straw market 'should celebrate all things Bahamian'

By CELESTE NIXON  
Tribune Staff Reporter

DESPITE straw vendors' fears that making and selling authentic Bahamian products will never be as profitable as peddling foreign souvenirs, BAIC officials say the new straw market has great potential and must be given an opportunity to show it.

A source at BAIC's Department of Handcrafts said the concerns are premature, and that vendors should give the new rules – which limit merchandise to only Bahamian goods – a chance.

If there is one place in the Bahamas where only Bahamian goods should be sold, it is the straw market, the source said.

Local artist and owner of Doongalik Art Gallery, Jackson Burnside, believes the new policies will have a very positive impact on the popularity of Bahamian made products, crafts and art work.

He said: "The experience of the new straw market should be a celebration of all things Bahamian for visitors and Bahamians alike."

### Merchants

Over the years, the once authentically Bahamian straw market developed a "flea market" atmosphere, which turned straw workers into merchants selling mostly foreign goods.

Tourists responded to this development – and in particular to the lower prices – and this influenced the market's culture and the type of clientele to which it currently caters.

Although the change has been consistently complained about by Bahamians, vendors say foreign souvenirs are in higher demand and therefore more profitable. They say tourists will not pay enough for authentic handcrafts to justify the time and labour involved.

The issue was recently highlighted when nine straw vendors were arrested for buying counterfeit goods that they planned to later sell on Bay Street. All nine were released after pleading guilty, however the case sparked renewed calls for an all-Bahamian market.

Acknowledging that the issue is truly complex, Mr Burnside said that while the new rules are a necessary development, there should be an ongoing effort to train, develop and support straw vendors and other Bahamian artists.

Just as we pay attention to the details of the building we should be paying attention to persons actually producing and selling the goods, so that "the experience inside the building should be as beautiful as the

## Public have little sympathy for straw vendors' outrage at new regulations

WHILE some straw vendors say they feel hard done by when it comes to the government's proposed policies for the new downtown straw market, members of the public seem to have little sympathy for them.

In fact, many commentators on *The Tribune's* website [www.tribune242.com](http://www.tribune242.com) expressed outrage at the vendors' reaction to the new regulations.

Last week, angry vendors declared "war" on the government after Minister of Public Works and Transport Neko Grant announced that there will be rent hikes – rental charges will range from \$200 to \$250 per month, \$46 to \$58 per week or \$6.50 to \$8.20 per day – and that all counterfeit goods for sale will be banned. After the announcement, straw Business Persons Association President Esther Thompson dismissed the government as a "joke" and declared the vendors' intention to defy the new rules.

*The Tribune's* online version of the November 25 story with the headline "Straw vendors vent anger over new market policies and rent" received numerous comments about the matter, with the overwhelming majority condemning the Straw Business Persons Association for its statements.

One poster, simply going by the moniker "Bahamian", called for all "ungrateful vendors" to get off Bay Street.

"Minister Esther Thompson, the war is indeed on, but against you and the likes of you.

"I resent my tax dollars being used to accommodate your foolishness," the poster said.

Another commentator questioned the vendors' claim that the proposed rent increase is too steep for them to pay.

"How can these vendors – some of whom can make enough to afford to join daily asues of as much as 100 dollars a day – say eight dollars a day, \$250 per month is too much money? Stop spending money on weaves and acrylic nails and pay ya cheap rent! The straw market would be a better place," the online poster said.

Poster "Marilyn Stubbs" asked: "What is wrong with these straw vendors?"

"How much more they want the government to help them. I hope the policies that are instituted are adhered to. We always put laws in place and when it is time to allow the law to take its course something else happens," she said.

"Gail H" said it is time for these straw vendors to wake up and realise that you must pay in order to run a business.

"If they don't want to pay, they can leave! No one is forcing you to become a straw vendor. They could even form their own committee, pool their resources and build a market on their own terms and conditions. Of course no one of them would ever consider that. Disgrace."

Another poster by the name of "Well Muddo" came up with a more drastic solution: "I would just bulldoze the building and cover it with tar, put one chain-link fence around it and put a sign in the middle of the property that says 'The Product of Ingratitude Brought to You by the Bahamian Straw Vendor' and leave them ungrateful (vendors) under that tent."



ESTHER THOMPSON



NEKO GRANT

building itself," he said.

BAIC said that training and development programmes are already available throughout the year on New Providence and other Family Islands.

While straw market vendors are often solicited to join these programmes, it is up to vendors

to take an active role in the development of their skills.

The programmes include the making of coconut shell crafts and jewellery, sea shell and conch shell crafts and jewellery, straw weaving and sisal-based goods.

## The Tribune Limited

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### 'Don't look a gift horse in the mouth'

FOR ALMOST a year Emerald Bay, Great Exuma, has had a luxury hotel sitting empty. Managed by the famous Four Seasons chain, it opened to rave notices in November 2003. By June 2007 it was in receivership and on May 26, 2009 it had officially closed — “temporarily” it was said at the time. However, that temporary became permanent, and 400 Bahamians were out of work.

The resort reopened on January 22 this year under the ownership and management of the Sandals all-inclusive group, owned by “Butch” Stewart of Jamaica with his son, Adam, and a new name — Sandals Emerald Bay.

But there was a difference between the two operations. Four Seasons offered a luxury hotel, suggesting to its guests that when the “resort gets a bit much, head off property to discover the unspoiled beaches, roadside eats, and hang with the locals for a little calypso, rock and reggae.”

On the other hand Sandals is an all-inclusive resort that sells its vacation as a package, providing not only the luxury of a hotel, but all the recreation and entertainment needed on site — no need to go off property.

And for this some of the locals are complaining. Floyd Armbrister, Chamber of Commerce president, said that the all-inclusive nature of the new hotel meant that the “trickle down” effect of Bahamian-owned businesses were limited. He said Exumians were “shocked into reality” since Sandals’ opening, realising that the growth years enjoyed when Emerald Bay was operated by Four Seasons “were gone, and probably gone for good.”

Here was an all-inclusive, employing most of the 400 workers laid off by Four Seasons, giving fantastic exposure to the island with an 83 per cent increase in visitor arrivals since its opening and devoting 30 per cent of its global marketing and advertising budget to put Emerald Bay on the map — and yet there were complaints. There are now new flights in and out of the island by Delta and Air Canada, and the first direct jet service by American Eagle, which started flying to the island on a weekly basis on November 18. The American Eagle service is something that even Nassau does not have. During the week switch on ABC, CNN, TBS, TNT — all the major US networks — and there is Sandals Emerald Bay, Great Exuma being introduced to the world.

No wonder Prime Minister Ingraham advised the islanders not to “look a gift horse in the mouth.” He said he had had an opportunity to speak with some of Exuma’s leaders and “some of the attitudes of some of these persons in these positions leaves much to be desired. They have no alternative and

they grumble and grumble ...” Mr Ingraham said he continues to tell Mr Stewart how appreciative the Bahamas is that he has bought the abandoned hotel, opened its doors and has breathed new life into Exuma. He told the press that he “thanks God every night for Sandals coming to Exuma.” The hotel is already attracting business to the island, which is benefiting its people.

A Bahamian, whose roots are in Exuma, was there on business about two weeks ago. He planned to stay a few days. Instead he returned to Nassau immediately — nothing to do, nowhere to eat after 6pm, outside of the hotel no activity, nothing of a standard that would lure a visitor from the hotel. We understand that three new restaurants are scheduled to open in Exuma within the next two weeks.

Maybe this lack of activity is why the Four Seasons failed. Islands like Exuma, inviting first class visitors, without first class facilities have to have all-inclusives to provide the all-round luxury experience these visitors expect.

As an Exumian commented recently: “Every development at Exuma is high end, it is now up to Exumians to bring local standards up to that level.”

He predicted that if Exumians can do that their efforts will probably benefit Sandals because there is only so much a visitor can do at a hotel in six days. He soon becomes curious and will want to explore the island. It’s up to the locals to provide proper facilities and operating hours — especially for dining — that will meet his needs. In other words, he said, Sandals was doing its part by putting the island on the map, and attracting visitors and airlift, it was now up to the Exumians themselves, rather than sitting on their hands and moaning, to settle down and see where they could fit into the picture and be a part of the venture. Already, said Mr Stewart, Sandals’ guests usually hire an average of 10 rental vehicles a day, 25 per cent of them participate in at least one local tour and local taxi drivers have been busy ferrying guests and travel agents to and from the property. He said that an average of \$35,000 is spent a month to pay the local taxi association to provide this service for the hotel’s guests.

The Prime Minister said that next year government will start significant infrastructural work in Exuma, including work on the badly deteriorated public dock. Exumians will also have to start upgrading their own businesses if they want to be part of the action.

Exuma has a tremendous future ahead of it if only all parts of the community can come together to work towards a common goal.

# We must help police in war against crime

EDITOR, The Tribune.

The Bahamian public must accept the fact that we are in a war against the criminals and terrorists in our country.

The police and other law enforcement agencies are our only hope to restore the peace and good order we had in the past.

We must continue to assist our law enforcement agencies in the battle those of us on the outside are likely to be victims and must take precautions to protect ourselves and our property.

Those of us with influence must strive for support from the government to enact the type of legislation that would support our police personnel in their constant struggle to eradicate the crime problem. We must quash efforts by the media and those citizens, who tend to make apologies for the hoodlums with the guns. Each person carrying an illegal firearm is a potential murderer and a threat to all of us even though we may not be the intended victim.

Recently in Antigua possession of an illegal firearm

**LETTERS**  
letters@tribunemedia.net

means mandatory imprisonment. St Lucia has enacted similar legislation and there is no bail pending trial.

In Trinidad & Tobago legislation is being enacted to make the penalty for a third conviction of any crime involving the use of firearms life imprisonment.

Our Police Force thus far this year has arrested 250 persons for possession of firearms, most of or all of whom are out on bail. Many of them continuing their criminal activity to acquire funds for attorneys.

In January, 2006 a man was arrested with three guns in his car. That case is still pending.

On the 7th January, 2009 a couple was arrested at Kelly’s dock with 2500 rounds of assorted ammunition in baby clothing. That case is still pending. In recent week a man was arrested in his residence with seven guns and a

large quantity of assorted ammunition.

He was granted bail and trial set for June, 2011. We have in our midst a Haitian national, who obtained permanent residence. He was allegedly found in possession of 2.3m dollars in Freeport some years ago. The money was confiscated by the Supreme Court. The same man was arrested in April, 2010 at the LPIA arriving with 2.5 kilos of cocaine. He was granted bail and his trial was set for November 16, 2010, that trial has been postponed to June 26, 2011. The PM was right when he talked about the decisions being made by the courts with respect to bail and the long adjournments of simple cases that could be completed in a very short time.

These are just a few of the hazards being encountered by our hardworking Police Force over the last three to five years. We, the public, lobby our politicians to get the support for our troops in this war.

PAUL THOMPSON  
Nassau,  
November, 2010.

### William ‘Bill’ Holowesko – a courteous, respectful and principled man

EDITOR, The Tribune.

I was very saddened to learn of the passing of William “Bill” Holowesko, the founder of the Holowesko clan in the Bahamas, last Friday, November 12, at his residence in Lyford Cay.

I had known Mr Holowesko for 25 years, first making his acquaintance in 1985 as a callow Legal Research Clerk, then employed by his brother-in-law Jerome Pyfrom and his law partner, Noel Sawyer Roberts.

Whenever I encountered a snag in a research assignment, or needed help with a particular title problem, he always helped me willingly and with alacrity.

The deceased and I shared a great common interest in researching Bahamian genealogy, and we often joked of the many old families that were not “clean”, but today are parading about as “pure-breds.”

During the quarter century that I knew the owner and operator of Bahamas Title Research Company, he was always courteous, and respectful. His company’s motto was “your judgment is only as good as your information.” He was a man of principle, whose probity was never once questioned or impugned to my knowledge.

The last time he and I spoke, it was last year, November 7th, when he and several other staunch Catholics were recognised at a Gala Ball celebrating the 120th anniversary of Catholic Education in The Bahamas, held at the Grand Ballroom of Atlantis on Paradise Island. There he was surrounded by his loving wife and caring children, along with other supportive family members.

I am grateful that our paths crossed, and thankful to him for all his assistance rendered to me over the years which made my métier less ponderous.

I extend my condolences to his widow, Senate President the Honourable Mrs Lynn Pyfrom-Holowesko, and to the entire family, including the Catholic Community of which he was a faithful member, and which he served pre-eminently, for so many years and in so many ways.

I invoke the intercessions of blessed Mary ever Virgin, all the angels and saints, both celestial and terrestrial, to pray for the repose of his soul.

GEORGE L HEASTIE  
Nassau,  
November 18, 2010.

### Disappointed with Bahamas Christmas stamps

EDITOR, The Tribune.

I am writing to say how disappointed I am with the 2010 Bahamas Christmas stamps. I have been purchasing Bahamas Christmas stamps for over 40 years to put on my Christmas cards which I usually mail out to foreign destinations around November 20th, each year.

2010:  
70 cents stamps water tower and fireworks display  
65 cents Bahamasair jet and fireworks display  
15 cents Cruise ship and palm trees and fireworks display.

These stamps commemorate a New Year’s celebration – not Christmas!

What was the Post Master General thinking when he chose these stamps? I hope and pray for 2011 the Christmas stamps will once again reflect the reason for the season – Christmas and be in more bright cheerful tropical Bahamian colours!

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RESIDENT  
Nassau,  
November 24, 2010.

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# Church leader calls for govt to protect hard-working citizens

AS hundreds of Bahamians faced the possibility this year of losing their homes because of complex legal disputes and claims of fraud by lawyers, a prominent church leader is now calling on government to do more to reach and protect the country's hard-working citizens.

Bishop Simeon Hall, senior pastor of the New Covenant Baptist Church, is calling in particular on Minister of State for Social Services Loretta Butler-Turner and Attorney General John Delaney to use their ministries to protect the unfortunate.

"The exploitation of the poor should find no protection under the law. Someone, anyone, please step forward and lead a national cause to help and protect the poor of our land.

"In too many instances the rich and famous exploit the ignorance and desperation of those at

the bottom of the social-economic ladder. Hard-working Bahamians should feel safe whenever they buy land, build a house, try to start a small business and make small investments in insurances and other investment institutions," he said.

Bishop Hall said scores of Bahamians are angry and feel marginalised because they have been "exploited and ripped off."

"In too many cases you hear of the inability to recover money paid to lawyers, shoddy and deficient work done on houses. All these criminal anomalies fuel social discontent," he said.

Bishop Hall said he is concerned if government does not do more to protect these affected persons they will continue to mistrust the national institutions, "and the manifestations of this mistrust will continue to be seen throughout the land."

# Former ZNS employee opens production business in FPO

By DENISE MAYCOCK  
Tribune Freeport  
Reporter  
dmaycock@tribunemedia.net

FREETPORT – Veteran ZNS television programmer Denzel "Inch" Swain has opened a new television and audio business on Grand Bahama after 30 years at the Broadcasting Corporation of the Bahamas.

Mr Swain launched "Something Different Bahamas Audio and Video

Production Company" on November 17 shortly after he was disengaged from ZNS in Freeport.

Swain, who served as deputy director of television at ZNS, has a wealth of knowledge and expertise in the area of radio and television programming.

According to a press release, Swain has served 10 years in radio programming and production at ZNS.

In November 1990, he was given the opportunity by the

late Albert Adderley to pioneer live television programming in Grand Bahama.

Swain did not agree with the decision made by the broadcasting board and believed he had more to contribute.

"I wanted to continue to build on what I was a part of starting here (at ZNS Freeport)," he said.

Wasting no time, Swain decided to venture into business. This month Swain celebrated 20 years in television broadcasting.

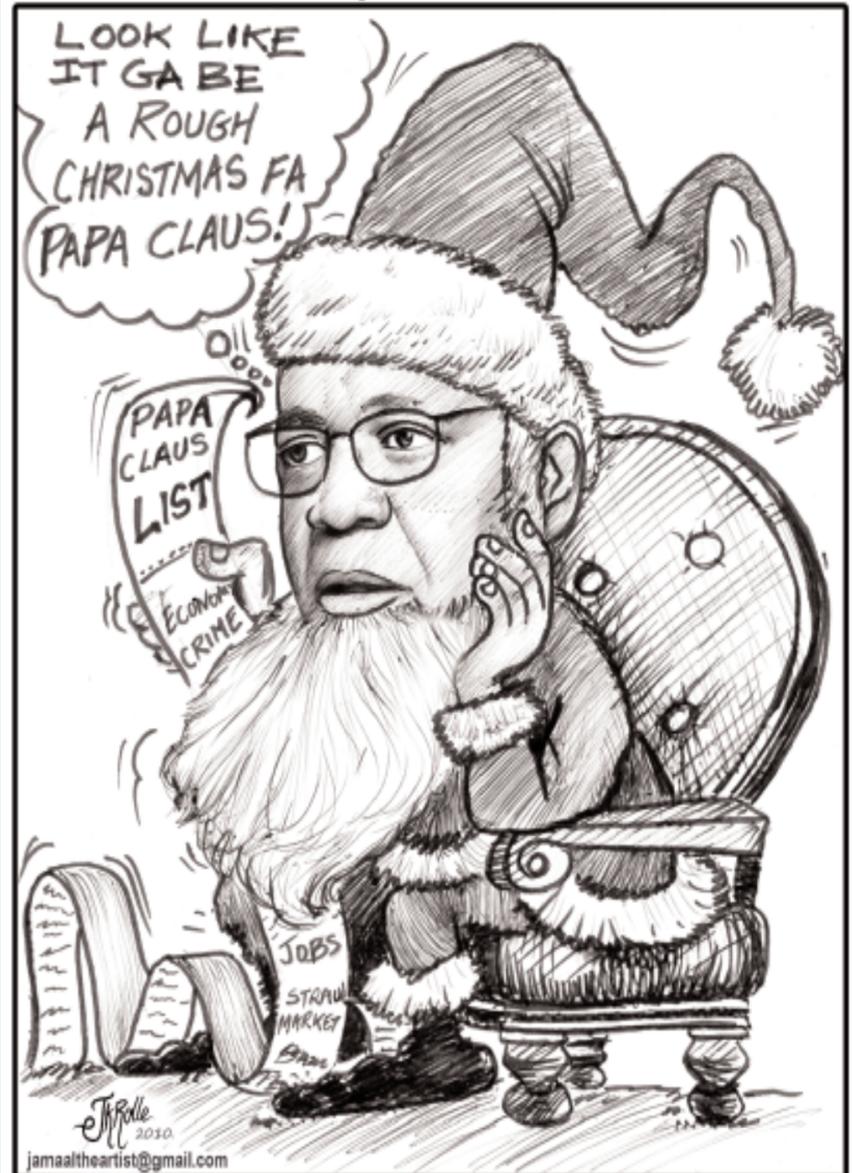
"Something Different" is a technical service company with many services to offer, including news production, sports production, corporate events, television commercials, TV advertising, video production, photography, transfer services, audio production, duplication services, and website production.

The company also offers consultant services in audio and video production. Persons can visit his website at [www.somethingdifferentbahamas.com](http://www.somethingdifferentbahamas.com) for additional information.

"We are eager to help with any size project by offering our facilities, experience, talent, and enthusiasm to producers all across The Bahamas," Mr Swain said.



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# -Quote of the week-

Betty Taylor  
Journalist / Entrepreneur

An unenthusiastic person could make you change your mind about "your positive" ideas.

~ Betty Taylor ~

## Downtown mural contest artists receive awards



**DOWNTOWN WELCOME CENTER MURAL COMPETITION WINNERS:** Downtown Turnaround committee members present gift baskets of art supplies to the top three finalists in the Downtown Welcome Centre Mural Competition. Committee members, who are employees in the Building and Development Services Department of GBPA, pose along with the winners (left to right): Olethea Zonicle; Allison Campbell, deputy director; Jemar Simms, second place winner; Rico Cargill; Teneko Rolle, winner; Andrea Grant; Shakiel Deleveaux, third place winner; Dudley Francis; Caroline Murphy, art teacher, and Nakira Wilchcombe.

**FREEPORT** - The Downtown Turnaround Project (DTP) committee recently held a mural competition in conjunction with the opening of the new Downtown Welcome Centre. Students from Grand Bahama's high schools were invited to submit entries under

the theme, "We are Culture."

Participating as judges were artists Chantal Bethel, Teresa Lord-Rolle-Long and Sheldon Saint. Entrants were judged on clarity of the theme; creativity and originality; quality of composition and design, and overall presentation effect.

Winners were announced and received numerous awards and prizes during a special presentation at the Building and Development Services Department of the Grand Bahama Port Authority (GBPA).

Addressing the group of entrants and finalists was Arthur Jones, vice-president of building and development services at the GBPA.

"We looked at what was happening downtown and decided it was time to improve its look," said Mr Jones as he briefly outlined the DTP which was launched last year.

"We are trying to involve everybody in the projects we're undertaking. So we invited students to take part because we wanted all of you to feel that this city of Freeport belongs to you and hence requested your participation."

With the colourful, winning entries displayed before all present, the top three finalists received special recognition for their paintings. Overall winner was Teneko Rolle of St George's High School.

Jemar Simms of Eight Mile Rock High School and Shakiel Deleveaux of St George's High School placed second and third, respectively.

Teneko described his piece as a collaboration of all things



**JUDGES IN THE DOWNTOWN MURAL COMPETITION:** Responsible for choosing the winners in the recent high school artistic competition were local artists (l-r): Chantal Bethel; Teresa Lord-Rolle-Long, and Sheldon Saint. The mural competition was held in conjunction with the opening of the new Downtown Welcome Centre and Bus Transit Station in the city's centre.

Bahamian, such as rake 'n scrape, Junkanoo, straw plaiting, a community church, national symbols, locally grown fruits, native foods and 'Kalik' beer. Similarly, Shakiel explained how he sought to portray what Bahamian life was like a few years back, in his parents' time, but through his eyes.

Mr Jones noted that the impressive scores given by the seasoned panel of judges who critiqued the competition reflected the calibre of artistic talent on display.

"We wanted you young artists to use your imagination and creativity and let your art tell compelling stories, and you did an excellent job."

DTP chairperson and GBPA planning compliance officer Andrea Grant agreed and also commended the group: "Art evokes feelings and emotions and inspires people. That's why

we found it so important to incorporate art into the Downtown Turnaround Project. We wanted to inspire people and bring an element that has not been addressed before into the city's centre, and eventually we'd like to spill that art throughout the city."

The new, 1,495 square foot, handicap accessible, Downtown Welcome Centre and Bus Transit Station houses a jointly-shared Royal Bahamas Police Force and Road Traffic Division satellite office, restrooms and eateries.

The top three finalists will assist with painting a mural on the rear wall of the facility.

In addition, musical talents of some of the island's choirs will be displayed on December 11 when GBPA officials host a Christmas Concert in the parking lot of the new Downtown Welcome Centre.

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# Senator visits Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan

SENATOR Allyson Maynard-Gibson in her capacity as president of the International Women's Forum (IWF) visited the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan last week following the recent election of the first woman from the capital Amman to the Jordanian Lower House of Parliament.

IWF Jordan president Reem Badran in her country's November 2010 elections became the first

woman in Amman to win a seat in the Lower House of Parliament through direct competition, running as an Independent.

She is also the head of the Investment Committee/Arab Economic Council - Arab League.

Mrs Badran accompanied Mrs Maynard-Gibson to a visit with the Jordanian Speaker of the Senate Taher Al Masri.

Also accompanying Senator Gibson was IWF



board member Haifa Fawzi Yousef Dia, former personal assistant to HRH Crown Prince Hassan, educational consultant to Aga Khan Academies Unit and educational consultant to the Jordanian Parliament.

SENATOR ALLYSON MAYNARD-GIBSON is received in Amman, Jordan on November 25 at the Senate by Speaker of the Jordanian Senate, Taher Al Masri (far left).

Senator Gibson was accompanied by IWF Jordan President Reem Badran (third from left) and IWF board member Haifa Fawzi Yousef Dia (far right) former personal assistant to HRH Crown Prince Hassan, educational consultant to Aga Khan Academies Unit and educational consultant to the Jordanian Parliament.

## VIEW FROM AFAR

JOHN ISSA

### A GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY



By JOHN ISSA

THE Bahamian economy is poised to enter a period of expansion like none it has ever experienced. A number of events are converging that can create a momentum for growth which most other countries can only dream about.

In order to maintain my policy of keeping my columns short I will list them.

1. The world economy has returned to a growth path.
2. The Baha Mar project is set to start.
3. The Port has been moved from East Bay Street and the land formerly used for the port has been freed for the redevelopment of downtown Nassau.
4. An investor with a credible record in Grand Cayman has shown an interest in the redevelopment of downtown.
5. The southwestern part of New Providence has come to life with Albany after more than forty years of depending on the rebirth of the failed South Ocean Club.
6. Developments in the Out Islands that were in hibernation are waking from their slumber.
7. The new LPJA is nearing completion.

We need to support these by finally divesting BTC. I have read that there are some hitches but the longer we wait the less we will get. The entire country is being penalized with high cost and less than world class telecommunication services because of our out-of-date telecommunications regime.

We also now need to finally remove all exchange controls so that the massive amount of Bahamian capital which is invested overseas will start to return to take advantage of the investment opportunities that are about to explode in The Bahamas. It is not often that so many positive events converge. When they do we must thank God. Remember God helps those who help themselves.

#### Scripture Thought

Mark Chpt. 3: 28-30

The Unpardonable Sin

28 "Assuredly, I say to you, all sins will be forgiven the sons of men, and whatever blasphemies they may utter; 29 but he who blasphemes against the Holy Spirit never has forgiveness, but is subject to eternal condemnation" 30 because they said, "He has an unclean spirit."

Colossians 4:1

1 Masters, give your bondservants what is just and fair, knowing that you also have a Master in heaven.

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# Canada can do more for the Caribbean, so can the Caribbean

By SIR RONALD SANDERS

(The writer is a Consultant and former Caribbean diplomat)

THE Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) recently invited me to review with its Caribbean staff the state of play of regional integration in the Caribbean and ways in which CIDA's work could help the process. This commentary is an abridged version of a longer and more detailed presentation.

In reviewing the region's condition, I stated what we all know and that is that CARICOM countries, except Guyana, have always witnessed grave economic decline. Of all the Caribbean

## insight

### WORLD VIEW

Community (CARICOM) countries, only Guyana has witnessed continuous economic growth. According to the International Monetary Fund (IMF), "Guyana's economy has exhibited resilience, registering a fifth consecutive year of robust growth. Real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is projected to grow by just under 4 per cent this year, above the outturn in 2009, supported by increased activity in the sugar, gold, and services sectors."

Sadly, I had to admit that the governments of the region have not seriously explored accelerating the regional integration process as one of the ways to ameliorate the worsening economic situation of their individual countries. Indeed, what we have seen is division among the governments as they scramble to find individual solutions to their crisis. The absence of cohesion let alone unity in the scrambling around in the international field for whatever



cherries may be picked has led to confusion in the body politic of the Caribbean people about the value of CARICOM, and added to the uncertainty that hangs over the region as an ominous cloud.

In a sense, it is understandable that governments have acted this way, although they are not without blame. The region's institutions have produced no blue prints for how together CARICOM coun-

**“Sadly, I had to admit that the governments of the region have not seriously explored accelerating the regional integration process as one of the ways to ameliorate the worsening economic situation of their individual countries.”**

tries might successfully deal with the crisis that confronts it.

Even in the approaches for borrowing from the IMF whether under its Stand-by arrangements (as in the case of Antigua and Jamaica) or its special windows (St Vincent, St Kitts and Grenada) there has not been a unified CARICOM approach at least on the framework of the agreements and the conditionalities that the IMF continues to impose in its

quest for exchange rate stability.

That there is need for urgent reform of our regional institutions is beyond question. All of them need to focus squarely on the region's grave problems and conduct the research and development desperately needed to help formulate and implement well thought out policies over a range of areas, including food and energy security, climate change and disaster preparedness – all of which are now pressing problems in the region and pose what Professor Norman Girvan rightly describes as “existential threats.”

Over the last few years, the actions of some governments have weakened the integration process and weakened belief in it. These actions include deliberate policy positions to expel CARICOM nationals from some countries; shabby treatment of CARICOM nationals at airports; and the ascendancy in Trinidad and Tobago of the view, amongst a small but influential minority, that CARICOM is a burden and, more worryingly, that Trinidad and Tobago is a “superior” nation to other CARICOM states and should graduate itself out of CARICOM.

**SEE page 10**

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On behalf of the Board of Directors, I am pleased to report that despite the current economic environment, Focol 2010 was another year of record results for Focol, meeting targets. Our investment strategies focused with greater operational flexibility has confirmed the company's ability to sustain long-term sustainable growth.

Focol's net income (excluding corporate distributions for the 2010 year) 2010 was \$1.115 billion compared to \$1.075 in 2009, an increase of 3.6 percent. Company per share increased from \$7 to \$7.10 and dividends per share from \$1 to \$1.00 per share.

We will continue to ensure that we achieve maximum efficiency in our operations. Management expects to focus on our retail operations in the upcoming year in order to achieve the maximum benefit from that sector for our shareholders. We will continue to evaluate strategic acquisition and partnerships that will be beneficial to our business.

The Board of Directors thanks our loyal shareholders and dedicated staff for their continued confidence in Focol Holdings Limited.

*[Signature]*  
Sir Nigel J. Mills, FCOAG  
Chairman and President  
FOCOL Holdings Limited

	July 31, 2010	July 31, 2009
Assets	\$ 1,115,000	\$ 1,075,000
Liabilities	11,000	10,000
Minor shareholder equity	113,000	101,000
	\$ 1,115,000	\$ 1,186,000

	Year ended July 31, 2010	Year ended July 31, 2009
Net income	\$ 115,000	\$ 110,000
Cost of sales	(103,000)	(100,000)
Other items	10,000	10,000
Minority shareholder and interest	10,000	10,000
Depreciation	1,000	1,000
Finance costs	1,000	1,000
Other income	10,000	10,000
Shareholder share available	10,000	10,000
Minority shareholder	10,000	10,000
Basic earnings per share	\$ 0.11	\$ 0.11
Dividends per share	\$ 0.10	\$ 0.10

Images of a full set of the audited financial statements can be obtained from Hughes Bentley (Bahamas) Limited, at the Focol's 111 company located on Queen's Highway, Freeport, Grand Bahama, Bahama through Friday from 9:30 am to 5:00 pm.

**FOCOL Holdings Ltd**

# Governor General addresses One Bahamas Service

GOVERNOR-GENERAL Sir Arthur Foulkes, speaking at the One Bahamas Service at Ebenezer Methodist Church Sunday evening, briefly traced Bahamian history from the first meeting of Spaniard and Lucayan to today's Bahamians who over the years came from Europe, Africa, Asia —diverse in race colour, creed and ethnicity — to live as one people in peace and unity on these islands called The Bahamas.

Following is Sir Arthur's address:

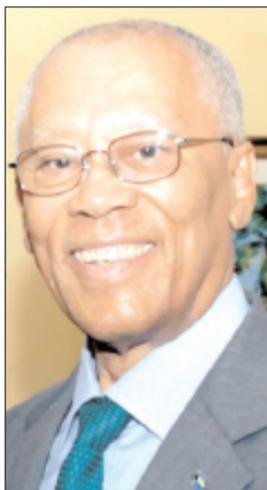
I SHOULD like to begin by reading a few lines from Dr. Paul Albury's book, *The Story of The Bahamas*:

"The Spaniards made every gesture of goodwill and friendship they could think of. They held out tempting gifts, brightly coloured beads, tinkling bells and beautiful cloth.

"The Lucayans moved towards them, timidly at first, but with increasing assurance. They looked into each other's eyes, touched each other and exchanged gifts. This meeting of Old and New World peoples on a Bahamian coral beach was surely one of the most dramatic events in the history of man."

That is how Dr. Albury described the historic encounter and turning point that opened up the Americas to European exploitation, created what we have come to know as the New World, and changed forever the course of human history.

That was also the beginning of centuries of history written in blood about the cruel exploitation of man by man. It began with the betrayal and annihilation of the Lucayans by the Spaniards, which is described in a poem by another Bahamian man of



**ONE BAHAMAS SPEECH:**  
Sir Arthur Foulkes

letters who lived a century ago.

His name was Henry Christopher Christie, and his magnificent epic poem, which is unfortunately little known today, is titled *Blackbeard: A Romance of The Bahamas*.

I should like to read just a few lines from a section of the poem, *The Lucayan's Lament*, words the poet put into the mouth of a surviving Lucayan chief.

The Lucayan describes the idyllic life enjoyed by the original inhabitants of these islands, and then he says in part:

"Ah! day of days,  
accursed day

The day when Lucay fell,  
The Spanish guns within  
the bay,

Sounded our funeral  
knell,

And slowly as a funeral  
train,

The people swarmed from  
hill and plain,

And on the ships of  
cursed Spain

They passed from Heav'n  
to Hell."

The sad history contin-

ued with the brutal enslavement of Africans in the New World and of countless wars and persecutions. The beautiful islands of The Bahamas were a magnet for noble saints and grievous sinners, people who came and took and left.

But many who were brought by force and many who came by their own free will stayed, put down their roots, and became the ancestors of a new people: the Bahamians. We are the Bahamians.

Over many years they came from Europe and Africa, and some from Asia; and they came by direct as well as by circuitous routes. Many of our forebears — diverse in race, colour, creed and ethnicity — came by way of the United States, South America and the other islands of the Caribbean.

But today we are one people with a distinct identity among the nations of the world. We are Bahamians. We have come through many trials and tribulations but now we joyously celebrate the blessing of being able to live as one people, in peace and unity, and to call one of the most beautiful spots on the planet our home.

The natural heritage which helps to shape the Bahamian personality is replete with island jewels set in thousands of square miles of crystal clear azure blue and emerald green waters, with magnificent coral reefs, sun-drenched beaches, forests, fascinating blue holes, spectacular sand banks, lakes and creeks.

That heritage also encompasses rich marine resources, from passing jacks to pink snappers to blue marlins; beautiful plant life, from cascarilla to yellow elder to *lignum vitae*; and spectacular avian life, from the hummingbird to the roseate

spoonbill to the glorious flamingo.

We are Bahamians, and we have woven a single, rich cultural tapestry of threads from Africa, Europe and Asia, threads spun and

coloured in the Americas and the islands of the Caribbean.

We are now one people, One Bahamas, proud of our music, proud of our songs and dances, proud of our

folklore, proud of our works of art.

We are also proud of the national institutions that lend us stability and bind us

**SEE page 18**

# Canada can do more for the Caribbean, so can the Caribbean

## FROM page eight

There is not sufficient acknowledgement in any CARICOM country of the benefits that regional integration in all its aspects bring to each of the countries; and those benefits (from which Trinidad and Tobago and Barbados are the principal beneficiaries) go far beyond intra-regional trade.

An overarching problem faced by the region is the failure of governments to implement the decisions taken jointly in CARICOM for the establishment of a Single Market and Economy; and a weak CARICOM Secretariat as an instrument for promoting regional integration and as a mechanism for pushing for the implementation of decisions, as well

as a centre for preparing and implementing regional projects including accessing funding from external agencies.

With regard to the private sector, both the global reports on "Doing Business" and on "Competitiveness" have rated CARICOM countries with no exception as plagued with problems. These problems range from high crime in certain countries to excessively bureaucratic procedures, high port charges, lack of business innovation, and even inadequate telecommunications to support information technology enterprises. But they also include an absence of legal and other facilitating frameworks that would allow cross-border mergers and acquisitions of similar competing companies in member states, and not enough incentives for integrating production in the region.

So, what could agencies such as CIDA do to help advance the region's economic and social progress?

First, CIDA should consider helping the region, through regional institu-

**"There is not sufficient acknowledgement in any CARICOM country of the benefits that regional integration in all its aspects bring to each of the countries."**

tions in collaboration with Canadian institutions to undertake research and development in the following areas: food and energy security, disaster preparedness, climate change, and low carbon strategies. An institution such as the University of the West Indies could be the central Caribbean partner in this undertaking. The purpose would be to develop well researched strategies, policies and implementation mechanisms for governments in each of these areas.

Second, it is well known that every year a goodly number of Doctors, Nurses and Teachers trained in the Caribbean at the expense of Caribbean taxpayers are encouraged to migrate to

Canada. Canada gets the benefit of their skills and knowledge at the Caribbean's expense. CIDA might consider making an annual contribution on a predictable basis over an agreed number of years, to Caribbean institutions that train these people from whose skills Canada benefits. In that way, the Caribbean institutions would be able to train a sufficient number of people annually to satisfy Canada's needs (much cheaper than Canada could do it) while retaining others to cater for Caribbean demands.

Third, Canadian commercial banks have existed in the Caribbean for over a hundred years. Over these years, Canadian

banks, which now dominate the banking industry in the region, have made huge profits that have been repatriated to Canada for Canadian development. Could not CIDA now encourage these commercial banks to set aside a portion of their profits, made in the Caribbean, for allocation to a Caribbean Development Fund from which governments and the private sector could draw low cost loans for developmental projects? This money would not be a giveaway; it would be a loan except that it would be at non-commercial terms and it could be targeted to projects for sustainable development.

I suspect, the Free Trade Agreement currently being negotiated between Canada and CARICOM – given the fact that the benchmark will be the existing uneven Economic Partnership Agreement between the Caribbean and the European Union – will do the Caribbean little good.

Responses and previous commentaries at: [www.sirronaldsanders.com](http://www.sirronaldsanders.com)

## \$20 MILLION SOLAR POWERED CATAMARAN TO CRUISE GLOBE

### MIAMI

A SLEEK outer space looking solar powered catamaran is heading for Miami, according to *Associated Press*.

Swiss engineer Raphael Domjan says the 102-foot-long Turanor PlanetSolar is the world's largest solar powered boat. The vessel docked in Miami this weekend.

Turanor's deck is covered in 5,700 square feet of photovoltaic panels of thin glass that charge a gigantic lithium ion battery.

The vessel can last on battery for three to four days

if there's no sun. Domjan is planning a eco-adventure around the world on the catamaran.

The Turanor costs about \$20 million.



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# Stale real estate is like stale bread

REAL ESTATE  
By MIKE LIGHTBOURN

AS YOU prepare to sell your home or property, you probably expect to have a For Sale sign out front, information on the Multiple Listing Service (MLS), and perhaps an Open House, among other things. If you expect top dollar in today's market, you can count on your BREAA professional to provide many more services in addition to those three most obvious elements of successful marketing.

The agent will handle all aspects of the sale, from helping you stage your home to attract purchasers right through the negotiation of the purchase offer. Somewhere in the middle of all that is effective marketing through online advertising, targeted mailings, and personal networking, not just on behalf of the BREAA agent, but through a whole team of professionals.



When that offer comes in, the experts in the office spring into action, helping the entire process move along smoothly, hopefully to a satisfying conclusion. Your BREAA agent has a personal stake in selling your home for the highest price possible in the shortest time possible. If your listing languishes on the market, it becomes like stale bread that might sell for half price at the

supermarket. Time and money are directly related, whether we're talking about bread or houses. Price your home competitively from the start, present it in the finest manner possible, and market it through the expertise of a professional supported by a network of experts. Tip of the Week - I know this is repetitious, but remember: PRICE - PRICE - PRICE (Mike Lightbourn is president of Coldwell Banker Lightbourn Realty).

# Mexico captures an alleged leader of Aztecas gang

MEXICO CITY

MEXICO'S federal police have captured a presumed leader of a cross-border drug gang suspected in dozens of killings, including the slaying of a U.S. consulate worker, authorities announced Sunday, according to Associated Press.

Arturo Gallegos Castellon, 32, was arrested Saturday in the border city of Ciudad Juarez, which is considered the most violent city in Mexico.

Gallegos is suspected in last January's killing of 15 youths at a party, a massacre that shocked even the violence-hardened people of Ciudad Juarez, and in the March murder of a U.S. consulate employee in that city, regional security chief Luis Cardenas Palomino said.

The alleged gang leader is also accused of killing five federal agents in unrelated attacks.

Gallegos is purported to be one of the leaders of the Aztecas gang that operates both in Ciudad Juarez and across the border in El Paso, Texas.

The Aztecas work as hired assassins for the Juarez cartel, which is fighting its rival, the Sinaloa cartel, for control of Ciudad Juarez and lucrative border routes for smuggling drugs into the United States, Mexican authorities say.

Two other members of the gang were arrested with Gallegos on charges of transporting drugs and weapons. Authorities said they seized 228 cartridges, 90 grams of marijuana and four vehicles, one of them armored.

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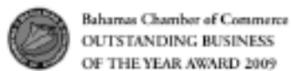
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LOCAL NEWS

# SENIORS GIVE 'THANKS FOR LIFE' AT URBAN RENEWAL LUNCHEON

**LUNCHEON:** A group of 243 senior citizens gathered to give thanks with the Urban Renewal Programme at a luncheon held at the New Providence Community Centre on Blake Road. They were welcomed by Ella Lewis, national coordinator of the Urban Renewal Programme and Jack Thompson, director of Immigration, who was the master of ceremonies at the event.

Gena Gibbs/BIS



**LEFT:** The seniors enjoyed a buffet style banquet fit for royalty. Volunteers for the Urban Renewal Programme took turns serving the tables. The menu included Bahamian staple dishes and a home-made fruit punch.

A group of 243 senior citizens came together on Wednesday to break bread and give thanks for life.

The Urban Renewal Programme invited 27 seniors from each of the nine community centres in New Providence to a Thanksgiving luncheon at the New Providence Community Centre on Blake Road.

In addition, each centre wanted to make certain everyone received a meal this year and independently had a Thanksgiving luncheon within each community.

During the luncheon at the New Providence Community Centre the senior citizens took a walk down memory lane with Jack Thompson, Director of Immigration.

He led them to remember the progress they have witnessed in the Bahamas over the last 70 years.

From transistor radios to rabbit ears television antennas, from the Savoy Theatre to the Silver Slipper, from the House of Sales to flannel shirts and polyester.

"When I thought about how many years we have in this place, I thought about what you must have witnessed in your lifetime. Then, I was thinking about the olden days and years passed and one of my favourite songs is 'Through all the changes, think of life'," said Mr Thompson.

## Serious

"It is a good thing to give thanks to God. Ingratitude is a serious thing. Even if you give something to your children or your grandchildren, you like for them to say 'thank you'. And so when God gives us a day, it is important for us to say, 'thank you God for giving us a brand new day'."

The Farm Road Urban Renewal Band entertained the senior citizens with a Junkanoo rendition of popular hymns and holiday classics such as "Silver Bells."

Ella Lewis, national coordinator of the Urban Renewal Programme, welcomed the seniors and thanked them for their patience and compassion as caring parents and community builders.

"We are doing well today because of who you are and the contributions you have made," said Mrs. Lewis.

"You are the lovers of our children, lovers for the family, lovers for the church, and for that, we are thankful.

"Thank you for coming out and having a good time.

"You will have a good time today."

The menu included Bahamian holiday staple dishes such as turkey, ham, peas and rice, macaroni and cheese, beets, and coleslaw, served with a homemade fruit punch.

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Plan to attend and bring someone with you.

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## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

# Seeking cash, Chavez looks to sell Citgo

CARACAS, Venezuela

PRESIDENT Hugo Chavez is promising to build new public housing complexes, boost social programs and renovate the long-neglected Caracas subway — and he needs money, according to Associated Press.

The ambitious plans will squeeze Venezuela's coffers at a time when oil earnings have slipped and Chavez is sending his foreign allies generous amounts of crude on credit. So he has raised a possibility that once seemed remote: selling off Venezuela's U.S.-based oil com-

pany, Citgo Petroleum Corp.

For Chavez, it's an idea driven both by hard-money realities and by politics.

Getting rid of the company and its refineries in the U.S. would give Chavez billions of dollars for domestic spending as he approaches his 2012 re-election bid and seeks to remedy problems including an acute shortage of affordable housing. A sale would also fit with the leftist leader's interest in distancing Venezuela from the U.S. while building stronger ties with allies such as Russia, China and Iran.

Citgo has delivered oil to Venezuela's No. 1 client for two decades, but judging by Chavez's complaints about Citgo not turning a profit, he seems more than ready to sell it, if a buyer can be found.

"Citgo is a bad business, and we haven't been able to get out of it," Chavez said in a televised speech late last month.

He ordered his oil minister, Rafael Ramirez, to look at options for selling off the state oil company's assets in the United States.

Chavez says the Houston-based company could be worth



**IN THIS FEB. 13, 2006 FILE PHOTO,** Kenmore Square and the landmark Citgo sign are seen from the roof of the John Hancock Tower in Boston. Venezuela's President Hugo Chavez is up for re-election in 2012 and is already in campaign mode: promising new public housing complexes, ordering renovations for the long-neglected Caracas subway and budgeting more money for education, health care and social programs. Looking for cash, he has raised the possibility of selling off Venezuela's U.S.-based oil company Citgo Petroleum Corp. (AP)

at least \$10 billion, but analysts say it would likely fetch much less — perhaps half that — and it might be hard to find a buyer in a difficult economic climate.

The government's budget next year — not counting the additional spending often approved by Chavez's congressional allies — is the equivalent of \$47.5 billion, making the possible sale of Citgo a potential shot in the arm for the president's efforts to shore up support.

Critics say that selling Citgo could endanger Venezuela's long-term business interests since oil is the lifeblood of the economy and much of the earnings come from the U.S.

Chavez, meanwhile, has increasingly sold oil elsewhere under less profitable deals aimed at cementing relationships with friends abroad.

"It's hard for rational observers to understand that (Chavez) would take oil away from U.S. clients that pay cash for Venezuelan oil, in order to supply countries that consider Venezuelan oil almost as a right or as a political gift," said Gustavo Coronel, an energy consultant and former executive of state oil company Petroleos de Venezuela SA (PDVSA). "However, Chavez is no longer driven by economics but by ideology."

If Chavez were to go ahead with a sale, Venezuela would likely seek to negotiate a supply contract to keep selling crude to U.S. refineries.

Even so, Venezuela's oil exports to the U.S. have been declining while Chavez has sought to diversify the country's markets, shipping more crude under preferential deals to allies including Belarus, Cuba and other Caribbean islands. Some buy-

ers are granted low-interest loans, decreasing upfront revenue.

Oil shipments to the U.S. declined from 49 million barrels in February 1999, when Chavez took office, to 31.9 million barrels during the same month last year.

Venezuela's overall oil output has also been declining due to lower OPEC quotas and — experts say — inadequate maintenance at some oil fields. While Venezuela says it produces about 3 million barrels of oil a day, the U.S. Energy Information Administration estimates 2.2 million barrels a day in 2009, down about 190,000 barrels from 2008.

Coronel said that when Venezuela bought Citgo, it was a good deal. PDVSA purchased 50 percent of the company in 1986 from Southland Corp. for \$290 million as part of a drive to have its own refineries and other facilities in its key markets, the U.S. and Latin America. The state oil company purchased the remaining 50 percent of Southland's shares in Citgo in 1990 for \$675 million.

Since then, Citgo has grown. It now operates three refineries in Texas, Louisiana and Illinois, and sells fuel through thousands of gas stations. Citgo has been used by Chavez to distribute discounted heating oil to poor American families in a high-profile program aimed at criticizing Washington's approach to the needy.

Another motive for selling Citgo could be to reduce Venezuela's exposure to U.S. court suits over Chavez's expropriations of U.S. company assets.

U.S.-based Exxon Mobil Corp. has sought international arbitration to claim billions of dollars in compensation after it refused to accept the government's terms for a 2007 nationalization of an oil project in which it had invested heavily.

Citgo, for its part, took a \$201 million loss last year, and issued \$3.5 billion in bonds this year as its profits plummeted. Profits were battered by lower world prices and a declining flow of heavy, sulfur-laden crude.

"I don't think there would be much interest now" in buying Citgo, said Lou Pugliari, president of the Energy Policy Research Foundation, a Washington-based think tank. "But Chavez might find a buyer at the right price."

None has publicly stepped forward yet. Exxon and other major U.S. refiners such as Chevron Corp. and ConocoPhillips might end up being interested in Citgo or some of its assets, said Gualaipuro Lameda, a former PDVSA president and government critic.

"It has the potential to be a good business if it's well managed," Lameda said.

"But it's not being well managed, and that's causing problems."

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## LOCAL NEWS

# 2010 murder count passes the record



**POLICE COMMISSIONER**  
Ellison Greenslade

## FROM page one

them, we take them to court, and we soon see them back on the streets again. Well they live in the Bahamas and you can't make them disappear. The point is we go after them again and again and soon we have this pinch point where folks say 'but you're picking on me'."

A 32-year-old man, who was with Mr Berry at the time of his death, was also shot after a culprit armed with a firearm began shooting in their direction in front of a residence.

The 32-year-old shooting victim was taken to hospital by emergency medical services, however Mr Berry died of his injuries at the scene.

The gunman was said to have approached the victims in a burgundy coloured Nissan vehicle, which police believe to be the 1994 Nissan Primera, license plate 153612, that was discovered on fire moments later at St. Joseph's graveyard on Tyler Street.

Police investigations into both criminal matters continue.

According to the commissioner, the police have recovered more than

270 illegal weapons this year, and more than 6,000 rounds of ammunition.

Mr Greenslade said: "There is a market, we have got to look at ourselves – all of us – there are far too many issues that we allow to go unchecked. There are some fundamental questions that arise as a result of that and so while we're not going to berate anyone we simply say there is a lot of work to do in this country."

Friday's shooting incident took place at Nassau Street and Deans Lane shortly before 10pm.

It was reported that the 22-year-old victim was shot in the head after three men — one armed with a handgun — approached his residence and called for him.

Investigations into this matter continue. Mr Greenslade said: "Unfortunately, in our country there is a core group of prolific offenders who commit very serious crimes, they are armed with illegal handguns of various sorts, they're involved in the drug trade, and they would never not hesitate to cause harm to another human being. Many of them have been in and out of the system, we are well

aware as to who they are, but we live in a democracy and we have to allow the rule of law to take its course and certainly to allow the system to work."

He added: "What you hope is that we will continue to respect each other, that if we don't, we'll develop some sort of respect for each other, that we will respect the inherent dignity of human life."

## Celebrated Rotarian and teacher Charles Frederick Cadman dies aged 89

### FROM page one

about the business of helping in the community at every opportunity, never seeking the limelight for his good deeds. He had a great sense of humour, a sharp wit, which he shared with everyone around him. As a father and grandfather, he was loving and stern in equal measures, and encouraged them (children and grandchildren) in every venture, advising but not dictating."

After deployments in England, Wales, Scotland and Norway during World War II, the Royal Air Force veteran met his wife Yvonne while he was stationed in the Bahamas.

Although he returned to the UK after the war ended, Mrs Wilson said that her father had fallen in love with Yvonne and after just over a year, he returned to the Bahamas and married her.

"It was in 1947 that he returned to Nassau and to Yvonne, and taught at Queen's College for five and a half years, becoming Senior Master and served as Acting Headmaster," said his daughter.

An avid reader, he enrolled at St David's College when he was 15 years old and supported himself as a freelance reporter, attending council and education committees as well as covering the courts.

In addition to his love and skill in history, English and writing, he was also a decorated athlete in track and field and soccer.

Mrs Wilson added: "Fred was very proud of his family and the fact that he had been able to send three children off to good universities. He was never happier than when he was in the midst of a family gathering, especially in the earlier years, with Yvonne's sisters, Peggy and Cynthia and their families, and Ernest her brother, and later on with sons-in-law and daughter-in-law, grandchildren and great grandchild."

Mr Cadman joined the East Nassau Rotary in 1963, and became its president in 1978. For his invaluable service, he received The Paul Harris Award, the highest award Rotary offers for service to the organization and community.

She added: "Although he had been born far away from The Bahamas and had wonderful memories of his country of birth, Wales, Fred loved The Bahamas and its people, and was never prouder than when, in 1975, he was made a 'Belonger' with full citizenship. Fred leaves us with wonderful memories; he will be greatly missed and fondly remembered by so many."

Mr Cadman's funeral will be held on Tuesday at Trinity Church, Frederick Street, at 2pm.

## Minister uncertain of unpaid duties impact on private aircraft operators

### FROM page one

taxes are not new.

"I don't think I heard any of the airline operators say that this isn't a legitimate tax that's owed, so that's not the issue. The issue seems to be that it wasn't paid and they would like some kind of relief in time to pay it. But that is a matter for the Ministry of Finance," said Mr Vanderpool-Wallace yesterday.

"I am presuming that if they were running their businesses properly that they would have factored that cost into (their books), but this is not a new charge so I can't imagine how this would have had that kind of problem (paying the duty)."

Recently the Comptroller of Customs issued a 14-day order to at least 17 of the country's 31 private aircraft operators to pay an unspecified amount of duty on an undetermined number of aircraft or risk seizures. The agency threatened aircraft seizures if companies did not contact the department's Investigation Section to have the "matter resolved within four-



**TOURISM Minister Vincent**  
Vanderpool-Wallace

teen days" of receiving the communication.

On Friday, one operator claimed that the national flag carrier Bahamasair could not pick up the slack if private planes were out of operation because it provides fewer seats today than it did in 1974.

Mr Vanderpool-Wallace said he did not know the financial conditions of the private aircraft operators so he could not say if government's tax demands would hurt the industry or raise prices for intra-island travel.

"I don't know, I can't speculate, I don't know what their financial situa-

tion is," he said.

When asked if his ministry would meet with the operators to help facilitate an amicable solution, the senator said: "We are facilitating a whole variety of things that we want to enable these operators to continue to deliver good quality of service to the Bahamas, but when it comes to taxes that is between them and the Department of Customs."

# Woman claims husband died due to Atlantis employees' negligence

### FROM page one

when he came to her room about 45 minutes after she called the front desk for emergency help because her husband appeared to be having a heart attack.

Mrs Bell, a resident of California, vacationed at the Atlantis Resort with her husband Paul Neil Bell last August. He died shortly after arriving at the hospital on August 25, 2009.

His last words to his wife were that everything would be okay, said court papers.

According to documents

filed in the United States, Mr Bell awoke in his hotel room around midnight on August 25, 2009 with heart attack symptoms. It is alleged that Mrs Bell immediately called the hotel's front desk asking for medical assistance explaining the urgency of the situation. The court papers say Mrs Bell asked if the hotel had a doctor on site and was told by a desk clerk that a doctor was available and would be dispatched immediately.

Mrs Bell claims she waited on the line with the desk clerk for 45 minutes and

help had still not arrived. She claims that 45 minutes after placing the call to the front desk for emergency assistance, a hotel security guard – not a doctor – came to her room.

Another security guard soon followed, the court papers claim, who allegedly told Mrs Bell that he would call the front desk and ask for an ambulance. It is claimed that during this time, Mrs Bell repeatedly asked the desk clerk for the doctor that was said to be on his way while the clerk assured her that a doctor

would be there soon.

It is further alleged that within minutes of the second security guard's arrival, a man arrived claiming to be a doctor but it was later discovered that he was the property's assistant manager.

A short time later emergency medical technicians arrived and administered emergency treatment to Mr Bell and took him to hospital by ambulance. Mr Bell died in the ambulance shortly after arriving at the hospital.

"Had prompt and ade-

quate medical attention been provided by the defendants or alternatively had the defendants promptly summoned appropriate medical and rescue personnel, Paul Neil Bell would have survived," the complaint claims.

Mrs Bell alleged that Kerzner and its staff breached its duty of care to her husband, in part, by "failing to respond within a reasonable time" to her request for emergency assistance; "failing to timely summon emergency personnel"; "failing to ade-

quately train its employees in CPR and other life saving techniques"; and "failing to render emergency life saving techniques such as CPR to her husband.

Kerzner International Ltd and its subsidiary companies Island Hotel Company Ltd and Paradise Island Ltd are listed as defendants in the lawsuit.

Mrs Bell, who is in the process of becoming the personal representative of her husband's estate, is listed as the plaintiff and is asking for a jury trial.

# Governor General addresses One Bahamas Service

### FROM page nine

together as one nation, institutions built on the concepts of freedom, equality and democracy, and the rule of law which is handmaiden to the sovereign justice. For all these things we give thanks and we celebrate with great joy.

Most of all, we celebrate the rich diversity of the Bahamian people who have come to this gateway to the New World to form a microcosm of that New World.

We celebrate the good fortune that we Bahamians have been blessed with so much talent, talent way beyond the measure of our small number. It may be because of the wonderful environment in which we live, or perhaps the rich genetic pool from which we have descended; but whatever it is, it is certainly a wondrous thing.

Not just today, but for generations our small nation has excelled

in many pursuits on the great world stage. Some of the names of great Bahamians who have carried our fame abroad are known to us, but some need to be rescued from the obscurity into which they have been allowed to fade.

There is Sidney Poitier who with grace and dignity shattered the colour barrier in American cinema and powerfully influenced the struggle for civil rights and our own struggle for equality here at home;

Bert Williams, who left the Bahamas in 1884 at the age of 10 to become a great vaudeville comedian and recording artist, who made America laugh and appeared in a command performance at Buckingham Palace;

Paul Meeres, perhaps the greatest cabaret dancer of his age, who mesmerized audiences on both sides of the Atlantic with his physical beauty and poetry of motion;

Randolph Symonette, the young man who sailed out of Inagua on a

schooner and became a singer with the Metropolitan Opera in New York and with opera houses in Europe;

John Berkeley "Peanuts" Taylor who became famous for his artistry on the drums and performed for audiences around the world;

Joseph Spence whose magical mastery of the guitar is celebrated internationally and whose inventive technique is being studied in international music institutions.

And then there was a young Bahamian who stunned the world in 1964 and put the Bahamas on the international sports map for the first time with a gold medal in sailing. His name is Durward Knowles and he is still happily with us.

Sir Durward has been followed by an impressive procession of athletes who have made the Bahamas, having regard to its small size, a great world sports power: Tommy Robinson, Andre Rodgers,

Tonique Williams, Debbie Ferguson, and many more. And they are still coming.

There are others who have excelled or are just beginning to make their considerable mark in the arts and academics both at home and abroad: Brent Malone and Jackson Burnside, Lynn Parotiti and Lavar Munroe, Franz Hepburn and Cleveland Williams, Domek Rolle and Christian Campbell, and many others.

As we pledge our allegiance to the flag which represents this Commonwealth bequeathed to us by history, by nature and by the sacrifices of our ancestors:

Let us pledge to become more aware of our natural, historical and cultural heritage and commit ourselves to the vigorous protection and conservation of that heritage;

Let us pledge to learn more about and to cherish the national institutions through which the will of a free people is expressed and

through which we are governed by consent;

Let us pledge to resist criminality and other toxic influences by showing more traditional Bahamian civility and respect towards one another, and courtesy to our visitors;

Let us pledge that no accident of birth, no conviction of faith, shall diminish to even the slightest degree the privileges of citizenship of a single Bahamian: not race nor colour; not creed nor ethnicity; not gender nor circumstances of birth.

If we do these things we shall overcome our present and future challenges just as our ancestors did – and they had even higher mountains to climb and wider rivers to cross – and we shall pass on to future generations a more stable, more prosperous, more united, One Bahamas.

May God bless the Commonwealth of The Bahamas.

## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

# Police in Brazil raid gang-ridden Rio slum

## RIO DE JANEIRO

POLICE and soldiers charged into Rio's most dangerous slum at daybreak Sunday, seizing the bastion of the city's biggest drug gang in a battle to make the seaside metropolis safe for the Olympics and soccer's World Cup, according to Associated Press.

Black-clad officers poured into the Alemao slum complex amid heavy gunfire, with helicopters flying low overhead. But the officers encountered less resistance than expected and they declared victory two hours later, even if many gang members still remained inside.

A Brazilian flag was raised at the shantytown's highest point at midday.

It was the biggest victory yet in a two-year effort to drive drug gangs from their strongholds in the hundreds of shantytowns, many draped across the hills around Rio's beaches, a crusade driven in part by the need to make foreign visitors feel secure for the final matches of the 2014 World Cup and for the 2016 Olympics that are meant to be showpieces of Brazil's emergence as growing world force. Rio de Janeiro Gov. Sergio Cabral said the campaign against gangs will go forward.

"We will continue to conquer more territories and give peace to our citizens and the foreign visitors who come here," he told Globo TV.

Officials have already imposed order on more than a dozen other former gang strongholds, even encouraging tourism along streets once echoing with gunfire.

The gangs, feeling threatened, reacted violently, mounting mass robberies of motorists on key highways, burning more than 100 buses and cars and shooting up police outposts.

The government counter-attacked with hundreds of soldiers and thousands of police in armored vehicles, first driving the gangsters from the Vila Cruzeiro slum on Thursday, then neighboring Alemao — their most ambitious target yet — 72 hours later. At least 36 people, mostly suspected drug traffickers, have died in the gang violence and resulting police raids in the past week.

Officials earlier warned that as many as 600 gang members were holed up in Alemao, a district of some 85,000 people, but by nightfall Sunday they had made only a handful of arrests, including a few of the slum's reputed top gang leaders.

Police said they think at least 200 gangsters remain hidden in the slum, and warned that sporadic shootouts were likely in the coming days. At least one suspected trafficker was killed in the invasion and at least two people were injured.

"We won," said Mario Sergio Duarte, head of Rio state's military police. "We brought freedom to the residents of Alemao."

Inside the slum, large piles of trash littered a main dirt road that ran with raw sewage. The iron gates of storefronts were drawn, their surfaces pocked with bullet holes. Spent rifle casings littered streets. Slum residents, under siege for days, took advantage of the break to restock food supplies. Old women, young boys and teenagers leaned against the edges of their squat shacks quietly surveying the new scene, but often hustled inside when a police contingent walked by.

Some residents said the government had a negligible presence in the area for at least a decade and feared it would not last.



**POLICEMEN PLACE** a Brazilian flag at a top point of the Complexo do Alemao slum in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Sunday, Nov. 28, 2010. Rio's most dangerous slum that was the backbone of the city's biggest drug gang was taken by 2,600 police and soldiers Sunday, an unprecedented accomplishment by authorities in their fight to secure this seaside metropolis that will host the 2016 Olympics. (AP)

"The gangs will be back. I have no doubt they escaped and will return after the police leave," said a young pregnant woman, whispering and declining to give her name for fear both of gangs and of the police standing guard a few feet away. "How big a police post will they need to secure this whole place? I don't think they can do it."

A woman at the counter of the St. Luzia da Alvorada bakery hurriedly dismissed questions and would not give her name.

"It's too dangerous to talk in here," she said, looking toward a dozen policemen who were taking a break, eating bologna sandwiches, drinking colas and watching a small television showing images of the raid they were taking part in.

Francisco Antonio Xavier, a 34-year-old cook who lives in the slum with his wife and two young children, was more optimistic.

"I always hoped, I always knew they would come," he said of the police. "It's going to be a calmer place to live. Everybody is loving this. From today onward life is going to get better."

Police and soldiers, too, were in a jubilant mood, hugging one another and enjoying the applause and shouts of praise from people driving past.

"There is no doubt that Rio residents have reason to celebrate today," said police inspector Rodrigo Oliveira. "The complex was seen as a fortress for drug traffickers and in less than two hours we took control."

Police said they captured large amounts of weapons, ammunition and drugs in Alemao and showed off the finds as they were toted down from the top of the slum to the streets below. A large haul of contraband rifles filled the bed of one pickup. One of the weapons bore a sticker that read "No Stress" in English.

Television images showed police entering a four-story home at the top of the slum believed to belong to one of the leaders of the Red Command drug gang that ruled the area. Its air conditioners, flat-screen TV, computer, whirlpool, pool and new appliances were a stark contrast to the bare wooden shacks that house most of the area's people. Within hours, small boys had taken command of the pool, cooling off in the heat and splashing one another with abandon.

"This is exactly the thing we needed," said Ana Costa, 48, who lives in the Penha neighborhood a block from the slum. "This community has been so violent for so long that I never thought that I would see this day. I still have my doubts, but I'm praying that peace has finally come here."

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**WIRELESS INTERNET PROVIDER TARGETS EXPANSION MODE**

Jazztell signs up 80 firms, and looking to add 10 extra staff in coming year

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

A Bahamian wireless Internet start-up is going into expansion mode, looking to take on an extra 10 employees over the next year as it seeks to transform the way Bahamians and tourists access the Internet, make telephone calls and even secure their homes and businesses in New Providence.

Jazztell, established by Leslie Pindling, began its life in 2008 through offering high-speed wireless Internet connectivity - WiFi 'hotspots' - in downtown Nassau. In the last two

SEE page 5B

**\$40-\$50m boost if incentive is eased**

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

More than 90 per cent of hoteliers would undertake capital upgrades in short order, potentially pouring an estimated \$40-\$50 million into the Bahamian economy, if the Government were to relax the requirements necessary for them to access concessions for such work under the Hotel Encouragement Act, according to the findings of a recent survey.

The Bahamas Hotel Association (BHA) has now forwarded the results of its October survey to the Government, with a call

Over 90% of Bahamian hoteliers to undertake capital upgrades if Hotel Encouragement Act stipulation that they invest up to 25% of property value dropped

for consideration of an amendment to the Hotels Encouragement Act to temporarily eliminate the requirement that hoteliers must invest in upgrades equivalent to 25 per cent of the value of their property, in order to access duty concessions on materials related to those upgrades.

According to BHA executive vice-president, Frank Comito, "a strong sampling

of the nation's hotels, particularly our smaller properties", were asked three questions with a view to determining "the extent to which hotel upgrades and refurbishments could be stimulated with a change in the existing Hotels Encouragement Act investment requirement."

SEE page 2B

**AIRLINES CALL FOR PM INTERVENTION ON SEIZURE THREAT**

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

More than a dozen Bahamian airline and charter operators have urged the Minister of Finance, Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham, to intervene and prevent the Customs Department's potentially crippling threatened seizure of their planes over alleged unpaid import duties.

Many commercial aviation operators were shocked last Thursday to receive Customs letters informing them that if they do not seek to have "resolved" within two weeks unpaid customs duty on imported planes they operate, those craft could be seized.

The letters were the first formal communication the operators said they had received regarding the previously suggested intent of

SEE page 4B

**RoyalFidelity targets region with mutual fund products**

\* Aims to leverage RBC relationship, even stronger with RBTT deal, to develop US dollar fund products for Caribbean  
\* Eyeing new product for \$10m investor monies in TIGRS set to mature in June 2011  
\* Targeting two TIGRS a year, but feels 'wariness' of new products and exchange control 'comfort zone' has dampened international investment appetite

By NEIL HARTNELL  
Tribune Business Editor

RoyalFidelity Merchant Bank & Trust is seeking to develop and launch mutual fund products into the wider Caribbean market, leveraging the joint venture relationship it has with Royal Bank of Canada - and the latter's Roy-

SEE page 8B

**ROYALFIDELITY GLOBAL FUND ASSETS SET TO REACH \$28M**



TWO'S COMPANY: Michael Anderson and Joseph Euteneuer, manager of RoyalFidelity's mutual funds.

\* Growth from zero over past three years is complete reversal of flagship Growth & Income fund, which has fallen over 50% from \$40m to \$18m over past two years

\* But Bahamian investors 'still scratching surface of diversification and return benefits from international investing

\* NIB keener than private investors, going beyond annual \$25m allocation to invest with RoyalFidelity

\* Executive 'surprised' if more than half of annual \$25m made available to brokers for overseas investing used

By NEIL HARTNELL  
Tribune Business Editor

RoyalFidelity Merchant Bank & Trust will have grown investor assets in its internation-

al mutual fund family from zero to \$28 million in three years if its latest \$5 million TIGRS 4

SEE page 9B

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BUSINESS

# RoyalFidelity Market Wrap

**By ROYALFIDELITY CAPITAL MARKETS**

It was a slow week of trading in the Bahamian stock market. Investors traded in six out of the 24 listed securities, with one decliner and the others remaining unchanged.

**EQUITY MARKET**

A total of 55,906 shares changed hands, representing a decrease of 51,111 shares compared to the previous week's trading volume of 107,017 shares. Commonwealth Bank (CBL) was the volume

leader last week, trading a volume of 50,100 shares to see its stock close unchanged at \$6.85. Finance Corporation of the Bahamas (FIN) was the lone decliner in the week, trading a volume of 1,315 shares to see its share price fall \$0.03 to close at \$7.23.

**BOND MARKET**

No notes traded last week.

**COMPANY NEWS**

Earnings Releases: There were no earnings reports released last week.

**BOND MARKET - TRADING STATISTICS**

BISX SYMBOL	DESCRIPTION	VOLUME	PAR VALUE
FBB13	FBB Series C Notes Due 2013	0	\$1,000
FBB15	FBB Series D Notes Due 2015	0	\$1,000
FBB17	FBB Series A Notes Due 2017	0	\$1,000
FBB22	FBB Series B Notes Due 2022	0	\$1,000

**EQUITY MARKET - TRADING STATISTICS**

Week ending 26.11.10

BISX SYMBOL	CLOSING PRICE	WKLY PRICE CHANGE	VOLUME	YTD PRICE CHANGE
AML	\$ 1.01	\$-	0	-13.68%
BBL	\$ 0.18	\$-	0	-71.43%
BOB	\$ 4.90	\$-	0	-16.95%
BPF	\$ 10.63	\$-	670	-1.02%
BSL	\$ 5.01	\$-	0	-50.20%
BWL	\$ 2.70	\$-	0	-14.29%
CAB	\$ 10.46	\$-	0	4.81%
CBL	\$ 6.85	\$-	50,100	-2.14%
CHL	\$ 2.40	\$-	221	-11.76%
CIB	\$ 9.74	\$-	0	-2.50%
CWCB	\$ 1.83	\$-0.04	0	-35.79%
DHS	\$ 1.60	\$-	3,500	-37.25%
FAM	\$ 6.07	\$-	0	-6.47%
FBB	\$ 2.17	\$-	0	-8.44%
FCL	\$ 5.46	\$-	0	14.47%
FCLB	\$ 1.00	\$-	0	0.00%
FIN	\$ 7.23	\$-0.03	1,315	-22.09%
ICD	\$ 5.59	\$-	100	0.00%
JSJ	\$ 9.82	\$-	0	-0.30%
PRE	\$ 10.00	\$-	0	0.00%

**INTERNATIONAL MARKETS**

FOREX Rates Currency	Weekly	% Change
CAD	0.9806	-3.67
GBP	1.5598	-2.45
EUR	1.3245	-3.17

Commodities Commodity	Weekly	% Change
Crude Oil	85.58	4.38
Gold	1,355.00	0.93

**International Stock Market Indexes**

Index	Weekly	% Change
DJIA	11,092.00	-1.00
S&P 500	1,189.40	-0.86
NASDAQ	2,534.56	0.65
Nikkei	10,039.60	0.17

## \$40-\$50m boost if incentive is eased

FROM page 1B

Properties were surveyed in Andros, Abaco, Cat Island, Eleuthera, Exuma, Grand Bahama, Harbour Island, Long Island, New Providence and Exuma, and between them make up 20 per cent of all room inventory in the Bahamas if one removes Atlantis from the equation, said Mr Comito.

Eighty per cent of hotel properties surveyed said they had "put a hold on refurbishments, capital improvements or upgrades during the past two years due to economic conditions".

Mr Comito told Tribune Business the "big number" in the survey is the 92 per cent of hotel properties who responded to say they would either be "likely" or "highly likely" to be motivated to undertake investment in upgrades "if the threshold (to qualify for investment incentives in the form of duty exemptions on materials) were eliminated" for a period of three years.

Only 8 per cent said they were "unlikely" to be motivated by such a change, while none said they would be "highly unlikely".

Mr Comito said: "This is a big issue, in particular for many small hotels throughout the country, and particularly in the Family Islands, which have been hit hard by the recession and need to upgrade their product."

"If you were a small hotel with a market value of \$2 million, you would need to come up with \$500,000 worth of upgrades to take advantage of the duty-exemptions, an amount most small hotels would find difficult to attain in this economic climate - when all they may need to invest is a much smaller amount to 'refresh' their property. It should be noted that more than 70 per cent of the licensed small hotels (less than 75 rooms) in the country are owned and operated by Bahamians," he added.

The survey asked hotel owners where improvements would likely be made, and the estimated cost, minus customs duties.

\* Some 96 per cent of properties said they would upgrade their equipment (including electrical, refrigeration, air conditioning, kitchen and plumbing), providing an estimated cost for this of \$3.415 million

\* A further 91 per cent said they would buy new linens, sheets, towels, tablecloths or napkins, at an estimated cost of \$1.032 million. The same percentage said they would invest in furniture and furnishings at an estimated total cost of \$4.574 million.

\* Eighty-seven per cent said they would undertake construction to upgrade their existing facilities, with this work estimated to be worth a total \$2.865 million

\* Another 74 per cent said they would upgrade bathrooms, tubs, sinks and fixtures, at a cost of \$2,512,000. Seventy per cent said they would purchase new glassware, china or silverware at an estimated cost of \$339,500.

\* And 44 per cent said they would like undertake construction to build additions to their existing facilities, at an estimated cost of \$452,900.

Mr Comito said: "On an estimate, the change could stimulate by extrapolation from the survey results, quite a bit more than the \$15 million indicated below. We suspect it would be in excess of \$40-50 million over the next 18 months if the investment threshold were eliminated today."

Minister of Tourism, Vincent Vanderpool Wallace, yesterday told Tribune Business he had not seen the survey's results, and said the issue would not fall directly under his purview, but in the Minister of Finance's.

"There's no question that the initial investment is something we would welcome, but obviously the question is what is the trade-off," he said when the survey's results were put to him.

Minister of State for Finance, Zhivargo Laing, did not respond to e-mailed questions seeking comment up to press time.



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BUSINESS

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# AIRLINES CALL FOR PRIME MINISTER INTERVENTION ON SEIZURE THREAT

FROM page 1B

the Customs Department to collect tax on imported planes, which stands at 10 per cent.

Most operators do not deny not having paid the duty, but they claim this was in accordance with assurances given since 1995 that while the tax was "on the books", the Government was not minded to collect it, being of the position that the economic benefits associated with planes being brought into the Bahamas for use by local companies or private individuals, who would register them with this nation's aircraft registry, brought more benefits.

## Decade

According to some Bahamian airlines and charterers, the planes at risk include those which have been operating in the Bahamas for up to a decade, being well known to the Civil Aviation Department and Customs.

However, in a previous interview, Customs Comptroller Glenn Gomez, who signed the letters sent out to operators, claimed the companies would have been "well aware of the rules and regulations governing planes coming into the country" as it relates to duty payable, and should now pay "what should have been paid before".

Mr Gomez further suggested that some companies could be charged a penalty on top of the tax for not having paid earlier.



GLENN GOMEZ



RANDY BUTLER

At least one aircraft operator owes the Department around \$700,000 in unpaid duty, according to Mr Gomez, while it has been suggested that most operators would owe at least several hundred thousand dollars in tax.

For a number of the operators, already hurt by the dampened demand for their services during the recession, they claim that to collect the tax could put some companies out of business, further damaging inter-island tourism.

They are also concerned that it is only legal operators licensed by the Civil Aviation Department who are being hit with the charges, while illegal operators - "hackers", who some claim "outnumber" legal operators - would be given "yet another competitive advantage", besides the fact that they do not pay other associated government fees, if they too are not asked to pay up.

Representatives from around 13 operators, including Sky Bahamas, Western

Air, Southern Air, Golden Wings charters, Safari Seaplanes, Pineapple Air and more, gathered on Friday at an emergency meeting to discuss their approach to the letters.

With the Customs Department not having identified in the letters sent out how much they believe each individual operator owes the department, Randy Butler, owner of Sky Bahamas and president-elect of the Bahamas Aviation Association, accused the department of going on a "fishing expedition".

## Exemption

And he said that rather than complying with the demand by the Department that operators contact them to "have the matter resolved" within two weeks, the operators would seek permission from higher authorities for an exemption from that demand.

"We believe it is not the Government's intention to put us out of business. We are contributing so much to

the economy and to tourism, and I am very confident the Ministry of Finance wants to see business grow and the islands grow in the long term, not just get a couple dollars in the short term. We will apply to the Minister of Finance for an exemption. We are confident that if they treat us in the same way as other public transportation sectors they will give us that," said Mr Butler.

He said the group will tell the Customs Department they are awaiting a response from the Ministry of Finance on their request.

If the Customs Department does decide to simultaneously ground all of the operators' aircraft in the next two weeks, Mr Butler said the result would be "crippling" to inter-island tourism and the hotels, taxi drivers and others that rely on it. Bahamasair, with its limited seat capacity, "would not be able to pick up the slack", he said.

As for the cost to the industry if the planes were seized, Mr Butler said it would be "unquantifiable", adding that in addition to the business lost in ticket sales: "It's the good faith that we would lose from the general public. It's hard to calculate."

Laurie Roach, owner of Golden Wings charters, added: "It's the busy holiday season and we need to be able to make up what we lost over the last few months."

Meanwhile, Paul Harding, owner of Safari Seaplanes, said the situation is "becoming obscene".

"The Ministry of Tourism is asking us to reduce our charges and other departments are squeezing us to the point where we can't operate," he said.

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# WIRELESS INTERNET PROVIDER TARGETS EXPANSION MODE

FROM page 1B

months, the company has expanded its WiFi connectivity as far east as Montagu, targeting mostly boaters who dock in that area, and Cable Beach. The service allows anyone with a wireless device - phone or laptop, for example - to sign in to remotely access the company's Internet service for a daily, weekly or monthly charge.

"They can log in, check the winds, see where they can go to get something to eat and drink," said Mr Pindling, of the benefits of the wireless connectivity for sailors.

Having spent the last year establishing sites for its strategically-mounted WiFi antennas throughout New Providence, Jazztell is now ready to offer WiFi Internet connectivity to homes and businesses throughout the island, something which Mr Pindling said should espe-

**"In the Bahamas there are many who don't have phone service or cable, where BTC didn't go and Cable didn't go. New Providence has exploded. I would like to give them alternatives to getting access to phone and Internet with no dredging or digging at a lower price."**

*Leslie Pindling*

cially appeal to those who may not have BTC or Cable Bahamas infrastructure servicing their area.

"We can cover about 75 per cent of the densely populated areas in the island," said Mr Pindling.

In conjunction with this effort, Jazztell is also set to become a competitor to IndiGo and BTC when it launches its Voice Over Internet Protocol (VOIP) phone product in January 2011, allowing homes and businesses without phone service to get it without the cost of traditional infra-

structure installation.

For those who are in an area with infrastructure in place, Mr Pindling said the company's wireless Internet and VOIP phone product will be competitively priced alternatives to getting Internet through companies such as Cable Bahamas or BTC.

Aiming to drive down the cost associated with adding a separate VOIP handset, Mr Pindling said the company has technology to adapt regular phone handsets for VOIP use.

"If it can drive down prices and bring up the competitive edge that'll be very good, although we're not in there to compete against Cable Bahamas. In the Bahamas there are many who don't have phone service or cable, where BTC didn't go and Cable didn't go. New Providence has exploded. I would like to give them alternatives to getting access to phone and Internet with no dredging or digging at a lower price," said Mr Pindling.

In the last two months, 80 businesses have signed on, and are now getting their Internet access through Jazztell, said Mr Pindling. Dunkin Donuts is currently undertaking a 30-day trial of the company's "managed" wireless Internet service, which will see customers who purchase a drink or food at a Dunkin Donuts outlet provided with a token which gives them access to the outlet's wireless Internet service for a period of one hour.

"They had problems with people coming in and buying a drink and sitting there for five hours without buying anything else. This will help solve that problem for them," said Mr Pindling.

Jazztell is also in discussions with BTVI about setting up a wireless Internet system on the college's campus. "We sat with them yesterday, very interested in doing it. The price is less than with a fixed cable because we don't have to dig a trench and lay the fibre," said Mr Pindling.

Meanwhile, other more novel applications for the wireless Internet connectivity Jazztell provides, and which have also been launched by the company in the last year, include providing the "wireless backbone" for a totally wireless radio station - Bahama Hot Ones - and to allow wireless transmission of images from security cameras to monitoring screens.

In conjunction with security firm Migrafill, Jazztell has helped to set up wireless security cameras in Cable Beach and in several police stations. These can be monitored remotely from specially designated monitors or other devices, such as laptops or smart phones, without and moved easily due to their wireless connectivity.

Mr Pindling intends for the company to grow the security side of its operations by offering wireless CCTV surveillance technology to homes and businesses, so that they, too, can remotely view from computers or phones what may be going on in their house or business establishment.

Jazztell currently employs five people, but Mr Pindling said its business plan for the coming year demands the addition of at least another 10.

"We've already grown out of our space where we are now, and we are going to need more customer service, more installation teams and more on the accounting side," he said.

## INSIGHT

For the stories behind the news, read Insight on Mondays



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## ANNOUNCEMENT

Kelso Medical Laboratory will be closing at the following times on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> December

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**Village Road Office** 2:30pm

## NOTICE

IN THE ESTATE of DOROTHY LOUISE MOSS late of the Western District of the Island of New Providence, one of the Islands of The Commonwealth of The Bahamas, deceased.

Notice is hereby given that all persons having any claim or demand against the above Estate are required to send their names, addresses and particulars of the same certified in writing to the undersigned on or before the 9th day December A. D., 2010, and if required, prove such debts or claims, or in default be excluded from any distribution; after the above date the assets will be distributed having regard only to the proved debts or claims of which the Executors shall have had Notice.

And Notice is hereby given that all persons indebted to the said Estate are requested to make full settlement on or before the aforementioned date.

**MICHAEL A. DEAN & CO.,**  
Attorneys for the Executrix  
Alvernia Court, 94 Dowdeswell Street  
P.O. Box N-3114  
Nassau, The Bahamas

## Employment Opportunity

A well-established Law Firm wishes to employ a competent Attorney in the area of Litigation. The ideal candidate should:

- **Have at least three - five (3-5) years experience and possess a thorough working knowledge in Commercial Litigation with the ability to draft documents and pleadings.**
- **Working knowledge of collection and enforcement of judgments as it relates to credit facilities.**
- **Possess exceptional interpersonal and communications skills.**
- **Is Proficient in Microsoft Office Suite applications.**
- **Possesses the ability to work under pressure and perform as a team player.**

Applications together with Curriculum Vitae, Diplomas, Certificates and References should be sent to:

**Attorney**  
**P O Box N 7371**  
**Nassau, Bahamas**



### PUBLIC HOSPITALS AUTHORITY ADVERTISEMENT

#### ONE (1) VACANCY FOR AMBULANCE DRIVER (ABACO)

The Public Hospitals Authority invites suitably qualified individuals for the post Ambulance Driver, Abaco Station, Public Hospitals Authority.

Applicants must possess the following qualifications:-

- Clean Police Record
- A valid Driver's License and a minimum of five (5) years driving experience.
- Must have excellent interpersonal communication skills.

#### JOB SUMMARY

Responsible for transporting patients and staff who require emergency medical assistance; Secures scene and maintains safety. Ability to operate Type 1or 11 emergency vehicles.

#### DUTIES INCLUDED BUT NOT LIMITED TO:

- Responds immediately to emergency calls;
- Secures the scene of an emergency situation and maintains safety;
- Assists in the administration of First Aid as directed by the team leader;
- Assists Team Leader in transporting patient;
- Operates the vehicle safely and efficiently;
- Maintain communication between the scene, Dispatcher and - Accident and Emergency Department in compliance with Emergency -Medical Services Driving Protocols;

Salary scale HAMP6 (\$12,650x400-\$20,700).

Letter of application and curricula vitae should be submitted through your Head of department to the Director of Human Resources, Corporate Office, Public Hospitals Authority, 3<sup>rd</sup> Terrace West, Centreville, or P. O. Box N-8200 Nassau, Bahamas no later than **30<sup>th</sup> November, 2010.**

BUSINESS

FROM page 1B

# RoyalFidelity targets region with mutual fund products

al Bank of Trinidad & Tobago (RBTT) merger - for sales and distribution channels throughout the region.

Michael Anderson, the Bahamian-headquartered investment bank's president, told Tribune Business in an exclusive interview that RoyalFidelity was especially interested in developing US dollar-denominated investment fund products, targeting the extensive US dollar stocks accumulated by businesses and individuals region-wide.

Explaining that RoyalFidelity had hired Joseph Euteneuer as fund manager for this purpose, Mr Anderson told this newspaper: "Where RoyalFidelity sees itself moving forward is launching TIGRS products into the Trinidad market or the wider Caribbean market, creating US dollar funds that sell in the wider market."

Mr Euteneuer explained that apart from exploring the possibilities to expand the TIGRS family, RoyalFidelity's collection of mutual funds currently designed to give Bahamians international investment opportunities, the Bahamian-based investment bank would examine US dollar-denominated equity and fixed income funds - anything that would appeal to the

wider market.

Describing the merged Royal Bank/RBTT as the second largest commercial bank in the region, behind Scotiabank, and with a presence in markets such as Jamaica, Mr Anderson told Tribune Business: "RBC, through RBTT, has distribution throughout the Caribbean, and we want to take advantage to leverage that relationship and get into the broader market, creating a series of funds that we sell into the broader Caribbean through the RBC/RBTT network."

Royal Bank of Canada has a 50 per cent equity ownership interest in RoyalFidelity, the other half being held by Fidelity Bank & Trust International.

Meanwhile, Mr Anderson said RoyalFidelity had already begun to expand its TIGRS product into the

**"We're very conscious that there's a bunch of money sitting in a TIGRS that needs to get reinvested."**

Michael Anderson

Caribbean, expecting that the latest addition to the family, TIGRS 4 would raise about \$7-\$8 million in Barbados dollars (the US dollar equivalent is about half that), compared to the \$3 million in Barbadian dollars that one of its predecessors attracted last year.

"In a relatively short period of time, by introducing products like the TIGRS, we've

been able to create a presence for ourselves in that market," Mr Anderson told Tribune Business.

Meanwhile, the first member of the TIGRS family is due to mature in June 2011, and Mr Anderson explained that RoyalFidelity was attempting to develop another product into which investors could place their \$10

million into for further investment.

"We try to bring out two TIGRS a year, one in June and one in December, and what we're intending next June, at the maturity of the first TIGRS, is to find an investment those people who came into the first TIGRS can put their monies into, as well as attracting additional monies from new investors," Mr Anderson explained. "We're very conscious that there's a bunch of money sitting in a TIGRS that needs to get reinvested."

## Securities

He argued that any Bahamian who had built a portfolio of securities investments should invest in RoyalFidelity's TIGRS funds, describing these as "an essential part of a portfolio" whether for an institutional or retail investor.

And while not wishing to give the impression that there were no or limited opportunities in the Bahamian capital markets, there were "only so many places" domestically where investors could place their funds, and the domestic market had been in a two-year slump.

Questioned as to why Bahamian investors had not

bought into the concept of investing internationally more, even though their principal in RoyalFidelity's funds was 100 per cent protected, Mr Anderson suggested it stemmed from a combination of "wariness" and uncertainty over the unfamiliar TIGRS products, and having been long-induced into a comfort zone by the exchange control restrictions imposed on all residents.

The RoyalFidelity president pointed out that while "nobody else in the Caribbean" had created anything like a principal-protected security, or something akin to a Bahamian Depository Receipt (BDR), the experience with the latter product was instructive.

When the first BDR was launched for Kerzner International in 2004, Mr Anderson said out of \$41 million made available, Bahamian investors subscribed for just \$21 million, despite being familiar with Atlantis and Paradise Island. The same happened with the Consolidated Water BDR, which raised \$7 million out of \$12 million.

Mr Anderson attributed this to Bahamian investor uncertainty, resulting from a lack of confidence in an unfamiliar product.

He added that while exchange controls were often viewed as a barrier to resident investments, many had grown comfortable living behind what was seen as a protectionist barrier.

"There is a sense of protectionism, but it's not recognised as a limitation," Mr Anderson explained. "People have got so used to living in a comfort zone. It's hugely limiting in terms of what the upside could be, but most people do not see it that way."



**Employment Opportunity Restaurant Managers Needed for leading Fast Food Franchise**

**Requirements:**

- Must have at least two (2) years of Restaurant Management or Food & Beverage Management Experience
- Must have Strong Leadership Skills
- Must be Customer Service Driven
- Must be Results-Oriented & Articulate
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- Must have excellent Oral & Written Communication skills

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Please submit Resume to:

**Human Resources Department  
McDonald's Head Office on  
Market St. North  
P. O. Box SS-5925  
Telephone: 325-4444  
Nassau, The Bahamas**

## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

### Law Firm seeks Business Manager/ Comptroller and Compliance Officer

**Business Manager:**  
Qualifications:  
• BSc in Accounting/Finance or Business  
• Management with minimum of 2 years managerial experience.  
• Leadership skills

**Position Summary:**  
• Business manager will be responsible for the day-to-day management of the firm including communicating with clients and vendors and the preparation and maintenance of the firm's financial records.

**Compliance Officer:**  
Qualifications:  
• Internal/external audit experience of 5 years or more.  
• In-depth knowledge of applicable regulatory requirements

**Position Summary:**  
Compliance Officer will be responsible for obtaining information from clients and maintaining records of information collected for compliance purposes as well as reviewing existing files to make sure they are fully compliant. He or she will also be responsible for liaising with regulatory bodies and agencies.

Salaries for both positions will be commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Interested persons may send resumes by fax to: 322-5942 or by Mail to:  
Managing Partner  
P. O. Box N-9298  
Nassau, Bahamas



**THE COLLEGE OF THE BAHAMAS**  
Visit our website at [www.cob.edu.bs](http://www.cob.edu.bs)

## NOTICE

### PREQUALIFICATION OF CONTRACTORS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE COLLEGE OF THE BAHAMAS SMALL ISLAND SUSTAINABILITY FACILITY GLADSTONE ROAD, NASSAU, BAHAMAS

The College of the Bahamas is seeking applications of interest from contractors for the proposed GTR Campbell Small Island Sustainability Facility on Gladstone Road.

Total Square Footage of the facility is 15,245. The facility will consist of 3 Main Buildings, 2 of Single storey construction and one of 2 storey construction.

The proposed facility will be LEED certified.

The project will include associated parking and site improvements.

Interested Contractors can collect Pre-Qualification Documents from the Offices of Bruce LaFleur & Associates at

2 Nassau Court,  
P.O. Box F.H. 14-435  
Nassau, Bahamas  
Tel: 1 (242) 328-7240  
Fax: 1 (242) 325-7963  
E: info@bla-arch.com.

Documents are to be submitted by **5:00 pm on Friday 10th December.**

BISX LISTED & TRADED SECURITIES AS OF:											
FRIDAY, 26 NOVEMBER 2010											
BISX ALL SHARE INDEX: CLOSE 1,482.76   CHG -0.44   %CHG -0.03   YTD -82.62   YTD % -5.28											
FINDEX: CLOSE 000.00   YTD 00.00%   2009 -12.31%											
WWW.BISXBAHAMAS.COM   TELEPHONE: 242-323-2330   FACSIMILE: 242-323-2320											
52wk-Hi	52wk-Low	Security	Previous Close	Today's Close	Change	Daily Vol.	EPS \$	Div \$	P/E	Yield	
1.26	1.00	AML Foods Limited	1.01	1.01	0.00	0.150	0.040	6.7	3.96%		
10.75	9.67	Bahamas Property Fund	10.63	10.63	0.00	0.013	0.200	817.7	1.88%		
6.18	4.50	Bank of Bahamas	4.90	4.90	0.00	0.598	0.260	8.2	5.31%		
0.58	0.18	Benchmark	0.18	0.18	0.00	-0.877	0.000	N/M	0.00%		
3.49	2.70	Bahamas Waste	2.70	2.70	0.00	0.168	0.090	16.1	3.33%		
2.15	2.14	Fidelity Bank	2.17	2.17	0.00	0.016	0.040	135.6	1.84%		
12.50	9.62	Cable Bahamas	10.46	10.46	0.00	1.050	0.310	10.0	2.95%		
2.84	2.36	Collina Holdings	2.40	2.40	0.00	0.781	0.040	3.1	1.67%		
7.00	5.40	Commonwealth Bank (S1)	6.85	6.85	0.00	0.422	0.260	16.2	3.80%		
3.65	1.63	Consolidated Water BDRs	1.85	1.83	-0.02	0.111	0.045	16.5	2.46%		
2.55	1.60	Doctor's Hospital	1.60	1.60	0.00	0.199	0.110	8.0	6.88%		
6.99	5.94	Famguard	6.07	6.07	0.00	-0.003	0.240	N/M	3.95%		
10.20	7.23	Finco	7.26	7.23	-0.03	0.287	0.520	25.2	7.19%		
11.40	9.77	FirstCaribbean Bank	9.39	9.39	0.00	0.645	0.350	14.6	3.73%		
5.51	3.75	Focol (S)	5.46	5.46	0.00	0.366	0.210	14.9	3.85%		
1.00	1.00	Focol Class B Preference	1.00	1.00	0.00	0.000	0.000	N/M	0.00%		
5.59	5.00	ICD Utilities	5.59	5.59	0.00	0.012	0.240	465.8	4.29%		
10.50	9.82	I. S. Johnson	9.82	9.82	0.00	0.971	0.640	10.1	6.52%		
10.00	10.00	Premier Real Estate	10.00	10.00	0.00	0.991	0.800	10.1	8.00%		
BISX LISTED DEBT SECURITIES - (Bonds trade on a Percentage Pricing basis)											
52wk-Hi	52wk-Low	Security	Bid \$	Ask \$	Last Sale	Change	Daily Vol.	Interest	Maturity	Yield	
99.46	99.46	Bahamas Note 6.95 (2025)	BAH29	99.46	99.46	0.00	6.95%	20 November 2029			
100.00	100.00	Fidelity Bank Note 17 (Series A) +	FBB17	100.00	100.00	0.00	7%	19 October 2017			
100.00	100.00	Fidelity Bank Note 22 (Series B) +	FBB22	100.00	100.00	0.00	Prime + 1.75%	19 October 2022			
100.00	100.00	Fidelity Bank Note 13 (Series C) +	FBB13	100.00	100.00	0.00	7%	30 May 2013			
100.00	100.00	Fidelity Bank Note 15 (Series D) +	FBB15	100.00	100.00	0.00	Prime + 1.75%	29 May 2015			
RoyalFidelity Merchant Bank & Trust Ltd. (Over-The-Counter Securities)											
52wk-Hi	52wk-Low	Symbol	Bid \$	Ask \$	Last Sale	Change	Daily Vol.	EPS \$	Div \$	P/E	Yield
10.06	5.01	Bahamas Supermarkets	5.01	6.01	14.00			-2.945	0.000	N/M	0.00%
0.55	0.40	RND Holdings	0.35	0.40	0.55			0.001	0.000	256.6	0.00%
CFAL Securities Ltd. (Over-The-Counter Securities)											
41.00	29.00	ABDAB	30.13	31.59	29.00			4.540	0.000	9.03	0.00%
0.55	0.40	RND Holdings	0.45	0.55	0.55			0.002	0.000	261.90	0.00%
BISX Listed Mutual Funds											
52wk-Hi	52wk-Low	Fund Name	NAV	YTD%	Last 12 Months %	NAV 3MTH	NAV 6MTH	NAV Date			
1.5122	1.4076	CFAL Bond Fund	1.5122	5.11%	6.79%	1.490421	1.467397	31-Oct-10			
2.9265	2.8300	CFAL MSI Preferred Fund	2.9187	1.10%	3.13%	2.919946	2.911577	30-Sep-10			
1.5655	1.4954	CFAL Money Market Fund	1.5655	3.87%	4.48%	1.545071	1.530224	12-Nov-10			
3.2025	2.8522	Royal Fidelity Bahamas G & I Fund	2.8624	-8.16%	-7.49%			31-Aug-10			
13.6388	13.0484	FG Financial Growth Fund	13.5642	1.47%	2.95%			30-Sep-10			
114.3684	101.6693	CFAL Global Bond Fund	114.3684	9.98%	12.49%	109.392860	107.570619	30-Jun-10			
106.5528	99.4177	CFAL Global Equity Fund	106.5528	4.75%	7.18%	100.779540	105.776543	30-Sep-10			
1.1367	1.0000	FG Financial Preferred Income Fund	1.1367	4.30%	5.21%			31-Oct-10			
1.0974	1.0000	FG Financial Growth Fund	1.0974	2.75%	6.87%			31-Oct-10			
1.1363	1.0000	FG Financial Diversified Fund	1.1363	4.18%	5.78%			31-Oct-10			
9.7485	9.1005	Royal Fidelity Bah Int'l Investment Fund Principal Protected TIGRS, Series 1	9.7458	4.35%	5.22%			31-Oct-10			
11.2361	10.0000	Royal Fidelity Bah Int'l Investment Fund Principal Protected TIGRS, Series 2	10.6000	-1.59%	4.26%			31-Oct-10			
10.0000	9.1708	Royal Fidelity Bah Int'l Investment Fund Principal Protected TIGRS, Series 3	9.5037	-4.96%	-4.96%			31-Oct-10			
8.1643	4.8105	Royal Fidelity Int'l Fund - Equities Sub Fund	8.1643	5.79%	9.42%			31-Oct-10			
MARKET TERMS											
BISX ALL SHARE INDEX - 19 Dec 02 = 1,000.00					YIELD - last 12 month dividends divided by closing price						
52wk-Hi - Highest closing price in last 52 weeks					Bid \$ - Buying price of Colina and Fidelity						
52wk-Low - Lowest closing price in last 52 weeks					Ask \$ - Selling price of Colina and Fidelity						
Previous Close - Previous day's weighted price for daily volume					Last Price - Last traded over-the-counter price						
Today's Close - Current day's weighted price for daily volume					Weekly Vol. - Trading volume of the prior week						
Change - Change in closing price from day to day					EPS \$ - A company's reported earnings per share for the last 12 months						
Daily Vol. - Number of total shares traded today					NAV - Net Asset Value						
DIV \$ - Dividends per share paid in the last 12 months					N/M - Not Meaningful						
P/E - Closing price divided by the last 12 month earnings					FINDEX - The Fidelity Bahamas Stock Index, January 1, 1994 = 100						
(S) - 4-for-1 Stock Split - Effective Date 8/2/00											
(S1) - 3-for-1 Stock Split - Effective Date 7/1/2007											
TO TRADE CALL: CFAL 242-502-7010   ROYALFIDELITY 242-356-7764   FG CAPITAL MARKETS 242-396-4000   COLONIAL 242-502-7525											

# NOTICE

This is to advise that

## Ms. Anna Marie Butler

is no longer employed at  
The Clifton Heritage Authority  
Clifton Heritage National Park  
And is not authorized to  
conduct any business  
on our behalf

# RoyalFidelity global fund assets set to reach \$28m

FROM page 1B

offering is fully subscribed, a total contrast to the more than 50 per cent decline in value experienced by its flagship domestic fund over the same period.

Michael Anderson, RoyalFidelity's president, told Tribune Business that based on initial investor indications, the investment bank was "still hopeful of seeing a fully subscribed offering" for the TIGRS 4, as he urged more Bahamians - both retail and institutional investors - to exploit the diversification and better returns prospects that investing outside this nation offered.

Lamenting that too few Bahamians to date had exploited the opportunities offered by RoyalFidelity's international fund family, and similar products promoted by its rival, CFAL, Mr Anderson said he would be "surprised" if this nation's brokers had used 50 per cent of their collective \$25 million annual foreign currency allocations provided by the Central Bank of the Bahamas to launch such funds.

Nevertheless, he told Tribune Business that the four-strong TIGRS fund family would have \$23 million collectively in funds under management if the latest offering - launched today - is fully subscribed. This one is for \$5 million, and will join the \$10 million invested with the prototype; \$3 million in the second TIGRS; and the \$5 million invested with TIGRS 3, the commodities fund.

"If you add that to the international equity fund, which has just over \$5 million now, that brings the total invested in RoyalFidelity's foreign funds to \$28 million, which exceeds the Growth & Income Fund, which has about \$18 million," Mr Anderson told Tribune Business.

The RoyalFidelity Growth & Income fund, which was launched in 1999, is the investment bank's flagship domestic mutual fund, and Mr Anderson added: "Over the last three years, notwithstanding the crisis in international markets, we've been able to grow the asset base from zero to \$28 million."

"We saw a reduction in the Growth & Income fund, because at the end of 2008 it had \$40 million in it. So between devaluation of securities and redemptions, it has fallen by more than 50 per cent, while we've been able to expand international market investments by \$28 million."

Despite the negative performance of the RoyalFidelity Growth & Income fund, Mr Anderson said he was taking some encouragement from the "small sense" of change, namely that Bahamian investors were starting to buy into international investment opportunities and "recognising the limitations of the local market".

He even suggested there may be some "correlation" between investor redemptions in the Growth & Income fund, and increasing investments in RoyalFidelity's international fund counterpart, indicating money was being switched from one to the other.

"There has to be a much larger pick-up of these opportunities," Mr Anderson told Tribune Business. "There's a massive investment market out there. Having been given an opportunity, [Bahamians] are not taking full advantage of

**"Hopefully, over the next couple of years, as US dollars flow into this economy, there may be a revision of the amount of US dollars made available [to the brokers], but at this stage the Central Bank does not feel under pressure because there simply is not enough demand for it."**

Michael Anderson

them. We're scratching the surface.

"Hopefully, over the next couple of years, as US dollars flow into this economy, there may be a revision of the amount of US dollars made available [to the brokers], but at this stage the Central Bank does not feel under pressure because there simply is not enough demand for it."

## Contrasted

Mr Anderson contrasted the relatively slow private sector take-up of international investment opportunities via these mutual funds with the eagerness with which the National Insurance Board (NIB) had embraced approval for it to invest overseas.

While NIB had permission to invest a relatively small amount of its investment portfolio, some \$25 million per annum, in international markets, Mr Anderson said this was a "step in the right direction" when it came to diversifying its \$1.6 billion Reserve Fund.

international funds, CFAL and us," Mr Anderson said. "There's a total of \$25 million made available each year to the brokers, and as far as I'm aware, only a fraction of that has been used."

"We've typically taken about half our allocation, which is \$6.25 million a year, meaning we've probably used about \$3-\$4 million, some 70-80 per cent, a year."

"That's driven by demand, and points to the fact that Bahamians have yet to get on board with this. The biggest culprits are not individuals but the institutional investors, who otherwise would not have the exposure to international markets that they really ought to be taking advantage of. It's one of the only ways to diversify outside the Bahamas."

RoyalFidelity's TIGRS funds, though, were attracting new investors all the time, typically attracting a couple of hundred each time one was launched.

RoyalFidelity's TIGRS 4 fund is seeking a minimum \$1.5 million, with minimum subscription levels set at \$5,000 during an offering period that closes on December 10, 2010. The fund is a five year, closed-end structure.

It is structured to provide 60 per cent equity exposure to emerging market economies such as China, Brazil, Taiwan, Korea and Singapore, balancing this with 20 per cent exposure to the S&P 500 Index and the MSCI European, Australasian and Far East Indices.

This reflects RoyalFidelity's belief that emerging markets will provide better growth and investment return opportunities over the next five years than developed country economies, growing at 6-8 per cent as opposed to 2-3 per cent, something already recognised by most multi-nationals.

Legal Notice

### NOTICE

**FSO Forex and Special Opportunities Fund Ltd.**  
(Company number 153,447 B)

An International Business Company

(In Voluntary Liquidation)

Pursuant to Section 137(4) of the International Business Companies Act, 2000 the following notices are hereby given:-

1. That the voluntary winding-up and dissolution of the Company commenced on the 25th day of November, 2010.
2. That Vanessa Z. Coleby and J. Eleanor Bain both of Devonshire House, Queen Street, P.O. Box N-3918 Nassau, Bahamas have been appointed Liquidators.
3. That all persons having any outstanding claims against the above-named Company are required on or before the 8th day of December, 2010 to send their names and addresses and particulars of their debts or claims to the Liquidators of the Company or, in default thereof, they may be excluded from the benefit of any distributions made before such debts are proved.

Dated this 25th day of November, 2010

**Vanessa Z. Coleby / J. Eleanor Bain**  
Liquidators

## NOTICE REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY NATIONAL PORTFOLIO FORMULATION EXERCISE

In preparation of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) National Portfolio Formulation Exercise (NPFE), the Ministry of The Environment, via the Bahamas Environment Science and Technology (BEST) Commission requires the services of a **National Report Project Consultant** who shall be responsible for coordinating the national effort to complete the exercise in its entirety for development of a National Portfolio Formulation Document (NPF) submission to the (GEF) in accordance with the GEF Reporting Guidelines in all required formats. Such consultant will work closely with the BEST Commission for the successful completion of this task.

Key selection criteria include:

- An advanced degree in environmental management or other fields relevant to the project;
- A minimum of four (4) years of working experience in area(s) relevant to the environment;
- Demonstrable knowledge of project writing and GEF reporting methodologies
- Strong understanding of biological diversity and sustainable development issues;
- Experience in technical report writing and presentation;
- Excellent oral and written communication skills, in English; and
- The duration of the work is 4 months.

The detailed terms of reference :

- Establish a work plan, and a calendar with a preliminary set of milestones to chart progress toward completion of the NPF as well as indicators to show information will be gathered, and incorporated into the report.
- The Consultant will collate, print and disseminate relevant GEF and factual documents for the workshop.
- Facilitate in the hosting of the meeting
- Submit a report of the meeting to the NSC
- Maintain financial records and receipts of all meetings to be included in the final expenditure report.
- Establish a process to prepare the NPF by identifying stakeholders that should be involved; based on that, build a multi-stakeholder network and establish operating procedures, a schedule of meetings and interviews that could include opportunities to establish dialogue amongst the members.
- Host separate meetings to discuss thematic areas of Climate Change, Biodiversity, Land Degradation and Chemicals
- Develop a database to keep track of the GEF Portfolio of projects and concepts.
- Provide progress reports of this exercise.
- Draft NPF document for review by the NSC
- Convene and coordinate key meetings or workshops as required with the NSC which is ultimately responsible for the overall submission of the National Portfolio Document to the GEF National Focal Point.
- Submit the final draft to the NSC for review and endorsement within contracted timeframe in order to meet submission date and transmittal to the GEF Secretariat by the NFP.
- Make any final changes to the report (editing).
- Submit final version of the report to all members of the multi-stakeholder network for final review in digital and hard copy formats as appropriate.
- Prepare for submission by BEST final document in two digital and hard copy format as agreed through further discussions with the NSC.
- Provide financial statements and receipts of the exercise and submit for final reconciliation by the financial office.

Interested persons should forward a proposal package by December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2010 to:

**Bahamas Environment, Science and Technology Commission**  
Ministry of The Environment  
Dockendale House P.O.Box N-7132  
Nassau, The Bahamas  
Email: bestnbs@bahamas.gov.bs ; bestnbs@gmail.com  
Attention: Mr. Philip S. Weech, Director



### PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the Bahamas National Children's Choir (BNCC), organized in the summer of 1990 by two sisters, Mrs. Patricia Bazard and Mrs. Audrey Wright, was formed in an effort to enhance the potential of, and to enable Bahamian children to identify with their culture, cultivate their talents and provide an opportunity for their individual development while offering healthy entertainment to the general public;

AND WHEREAS, at its inception, the BNCC's membership consisted of a core group of twenty-five (25) students recruited from Government and Private Schools in the Bain Town area;

AND WHEREAS, the current membership of the BNCC comprises approximately (70) boys and girls who range in age from five to fifteen (5-15) years, and are drawn from all economic strata of our society;

AND WHEREAS, the BNCC, which has a wide repertoire of music that ranges from Bach to Blind Blake, has sung in at least six languages and performed at many government and non-government national and international events, inclusive of international conferences, events organized by local and international Civic Organizations, business establishments, churches throughout New Providence, Grand Bahama, as well as performances with visiting American and Canadian Groups;

AND WHEREAS, in its role as musical ambassadors, the Choir has ably represented The Bahamas at the Smithsonian Festival in 1994 in Washington, D.C. U.S.A., in Aberdeen Scotland, at the World's Fair in Germany in 2000, in Russia in 2001, New York City in 2003, competitively in 2004, at the T.D. Jakes Mega Fest Youth Conference in Atlanta Georgia, U.S.A, at Panafest in Ghana, West Africa, in 2005, Cuba in 2006, on a Caribbean Cruise Tour in 2007, in Poland and London in 2008, as participants at a Choral Workshop in Detroit Michigan in 2009, and in competition in the Prague, Czech Republic, in 2010;

AND WHEREAS, in marking the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of the BNCC, the Choir wishes to use the occasion to highlight its continuous efforts to mould young lives by instilling positive values, excellence in choral artistry and the promotion of our Bahamian Culture;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Hubert A. Ingraham, Prime Minister of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas, do hereby proclaim the week beginning the 28<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2010, as "BAHAMAS NATIONAL CHILDREN'S CHOIR WEEK".

IN WITNESS WHEREOF,  
I have hereunto set my  
Hand and Seal  
this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of November,  
2010.

HUBERT A. INGRAHAM  
PRIME MINISTER

# US, South Korea launch war games in tense Yellow Sea

YEONPYEONG ISLAND, South Korea

A U.S. supercarrier and South Korean destroyer took up position in the tense Yellow Sea on Sunday for joint military exercises that were a united show of force just days after a deadly North Korean artillery attack, according to Associated Press.

As tensions escalated across the region, with North Korea threatening another "merciless" attack, China belatedly jumped into the fray. Beijing's top nuclear envoy, Wu Dawei, called for an emergency meeting in early December among regional powers involved in nuclear disarmament talks, including North Korea.

Seoul responded cautiously to the proposal from North Korea's staunch ally, saying it should be "reviewed very carefully" in light of North Korea's recent revelation of a new uranium-enrichment facility, even as protesters begged President Lee Myung-bak to find a way to resolve the tension and restore peace.

The troubled relations between the two Koreas, which fought a three-year war in the 1950s, have steadily deteriorated since Lee's conservative government took power in 2008 with a tough new policy toward nuclear-armed North Korea.

Eight months ago, a South Korean warship went down in the western waters, killing 46 sailors in the worst attack on the South Korean military since the Korean War. Then, last Tuesday, North Korean troops showered artillery on Yeonpyeong, a South Korean-held island that houses military bases as well as a civilian population of 1,300 — an attack that marked a new lev-



**CHINESE** Vice Foreign Minister Wu Dawei speaks during a press briefing in Beijing, China, Sunday, Nov. 28, 2010. The Chinese envoy called Sunday for an emergency meeting of North Korean nuclear disarmament talks to discuss the tensions on the Korean peninsula. (AP)

el of hostility.

Two South Korean marines and two civilians were killed and 18 others wounded in the hailstorm of artillery that sent residents fleeing into bunkers and reduced homes on the island to charred rubble.

North Korea blamed the South for provoking the attack by holding artillery drills near the Koreas' maritime border, and has threatened to be "merciless" if the current war games — set to last until Dec. 1 — get too close to its territory.

As U.S. and South Korean ships, including the nuclear-powered USS George Washington, sailed into the waters off Korea's west coast Sunday, China began launching its diplomatic bid to calm tensions.

Washington and Seoul had been pressing China, North Korea's main ally and benefactor, to help defuse the situation amid fears of all-out war.

China, slow at first to react, has quickened its diplomatic intervention in recent days. Chinese state councilor Dai Bingguo made a last-minute visit to Seoul to confer with Lee.

Lee pressured China to contribute to peace in a "more objective, responsible" matter, and warned Sunday that Seoul would respond "strongly" to any further provocation, the presidential office said.

## Defiant

The strong words were Lee's first public comment in days. He was due to address the nation Monday morning amid calls from his people to take stronger action in dealing with the defiant North.

Appearing Sunday CNN's "State of the Union" Sunday, U.S. Sen. John McCain, the top Republican on the Senate Armed Services Committee, said China should rein in its neighbor.

"The key to this, obviously, is China," McCain said. "And, unfortunately, China is not behaving as a responsible world power. It cannot be in China's long-term interest to see a renewed conflict on the Korean peninsula."

North Korea has walked a path of defiance since launching a rocket in April 2009 in



**A NORTH KOREAN** female soldier, right, looks back as she and another patrol on a pathway along the bank of the Yalu River, the China-North Korea border river, near North Korea's town of Sinuiju, opposite to the Chinese border city of Dandong, Sunday Nov. 28, 2010. (AP)

violation of U.N. Security Council resolutions and abandoning the disarmament process in protest against the condemnation that followed.

However, in recent months Pyongyang has shown an eagerness to get back to the talks, and has appeared increasingly frustrated by U.S. and South Korean reluctance to restart the negotiations.

Seoul has said it wants an acknowledgment of regret for the sinking of the Cheonan warship in March as well as a concrete show of commitment to denuclearization.

North Korea, which cites the U.S. military presence in South Korea as a main reason behind its drive to build atomic weapons, routinely calls the joint exercises between the allies a rehearsal for war.

Washington, which keeps 28,500 troops in South Korea to protect the ally, insists the routine drills were planned before last Tuesday's attack.

The exercises will take place over four days, but no live-fire drills are planned, said Cmdr. Jeff Davis, spokesman for the 7th Fleet

in Japan.

Along scenic Mallipo Beach on the west coast, about 50 South Korean soldiers were laying down an aluminum road to prepare for an amphibious landing drill Monday. Barbed wire and metal staves ran the length of the beach for about 2 miles (3 kilometers). Military ships hovered in the distance.

North Korea expressed renewed outrage over the Yellow Sea drills.

The war games are a "pretext for aggression and ignite a war at any cost," the National Peace Committee of Korea said in a statement carried Sunday by the official Korean Central News Agency.

## Tense

Hours earlier, the rattle of new artillery fire from North Korea sent residents, journalists, police and troops scrambling for cover on Yeonpyeong Island. None of the rounds landed on the island, military officials said, but the incident showed how tense the

situation remains.

Saying they could not guarantee the journalists' safety, South Korea's Defense Ministry sent a ship to ferry them off the island but bad weather forced them to cancel the evacuation. About 380 people, including 28 islanders and 190 journalists, remained on Yeonpyeong on Sunday, officials said.

A similar burst of artillery fire Friday occurred just as the U.S. military's top commander in the region, Gen. Walter Sharp, was touring Yeonpyeong Island. No shells landed anywhere in South Korean territory.

Calls for tougher action made way Sunday for pleas for peace among about 150 South Koreans who turned out for a vigil Sunday evening in a Seoul plaza, huddling with candles in paper cups and chanting, "Give us peace!"

"It was very shocking," said Kang Hong-koo, 22, a student. "I'm here to appease the souls of the people who were killed in the North Korean attack. I hope the current tense situation is alleviated quickly."



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INSIGHT



# Bain Town: not a riot?

FROM page 12B

Later that year, a police shooting in Bimini led to residents storming and burning down a police barracks and setting fire to the police station and three police boats. Rocks, bottles, bricks and conch shells were hurled at officers.

Then commissioner Reginald Ferguson denied most Biminities were involved, blaming the riot on "a couple of malcontents on the island who create problems."

In all these cases, the man occupying Mr Greenslade's office insisted that the problem was caused by a handful of trouble makers, but that no riot occurred. Each was trying to diffuse the situation, to create an atmosphere in which the police could foster better relations with the community.

The spirit of this effort is to be commended: the Bahamas must be wary of allowing anti-police sentiment to fester until it explodes as it did, for example, in Los Angeles in 1992, or coalesce into "no-go zones" for law enforcement seen in other Caribbean countries.

The trouble is, trying to achieve this by selling the public a line which they know does not reflect the facts is much more likely to confirm the suspicions of those who already distrust the police and create scepticism in the formerly assured.

The day after the riot in Bain Town, a resident told The Tribune: "Something like this, this could be over in a minute you know. It could just settle down and die, as long as the truth be told. See, this get something, the repercussion of this is the truth not being told."

He was referring to the circumstances surrounding Newbold's shooting, but the same could be said about how the police characterised what followed.

After all, if they won't call a riot a riot, why should anyone believe their version of the shooting when it is finally revealed?

The commissioner, who was nearby, presumably heard the man's advice. Let us hope he was paying attention.

What do you think?  
email: [pnunez@tribunemedia.net](mailto:pnunez@tribunemedia.net)

POLICE COMMISSIONER Ellison Greenslade in Bain Town last weekend.

## Senator: Arms treaty less urgent than other issues

WASHINGTON

A LEADING Republican lawmaker on Sunday rejected the Obama administration's assertion that ratification of a new arms control treaty with Russia is so pressing that it must be dealt with by the lame-duck Senate, according to Associated Press.

Sen. Jon Kyl of Arizona denied there was any partisanship behind his calls for a delay. He said the Senate has more urgent business to attend to in the weeks before it breaks for Christmas, including dealing with potential tax increases and funding the government through the rest of the budget year.

"It's more a view of reality rather than policy," he said. "These are higher priority items."

Kyl said the treaty, known as New START, is extremely complex and can wait until the Senate reconvenes with newly elected members in January.

He also said he has unresolved concerns about the pact, which the administration has said is an urgent national security priority and should be voted on as soon as possible.

"My issue is that you can't do everything" in the limited time the current Senate has, said Kyl, the No. 2 GOP leader in the Senate who has emerged as the Republicans' top arms control manager.

Kyl's position has stunned the administration, which thought it had addressed his concerns.

Officials have suggested he is simply trying to sabotage one of President Barack Obama's foreign policy priorities.

"There's some game-playing going on with the START treaty, and it's all about politics and it's all about trying to damage the president of the United States," said Sen. Claire McCaskill, D-Mo.

But Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., said that Kyl has a valid argument.

He said the nonbinding preamble to the treaty has been interpreted by the Russians as limiting America's ability to deploy missile defense systems. And, he said he was concerned that the treaty allows Russia — along with the U.S.



SENATE Judiciary Committee member Sen. John Kyl

— to pull out of the agreement.

"If it's going to be interpreted by the Russians that way, I need to know before I vote," he said. "If the Russians say that they will withdraw from the treaty if we develop strategic missile defense systems, I need to know that. If they that it doesn't mean that, then I think we're a lot closer to the treaty being enacted."

Administration officials and Democrats have appealed for Kyl to drop his objections to considering START, maintaining that the United States would be less safe until the treaty was ratified.

### Inspectors

Without it, as of next week, the U.S. will have had no weapons inspectors in Russia to verify cuts in its nuclear arsenal since the last treaty expired in 2009.

"We live in a dangerous world," said Sen. Dick Durbin, D-Ill. "The failure of the United States Senate to ratify the START treaty immediately is going to cause a danger to the United States and its security."

"There is no excuse for us to ignore this responsibility and to say we'll wait several months," he said. "While we wait, there will be no inspectors on the ground in Russia to make sure that their nuclear weapons are safe and treaty compliant."

Rose Gottemoeller, one of the State Department's negotiator for the treaty, said START is "first and foremost" a U.S. national security interest.

"It begins with the fact that it is our best way to predict what's going on with Russian nuclear weapons."

Obama sees the treaty as an opening for improved relations with Russia and has argued that it is essential for U.S. national security. It would reduce U.S. and Russian limits on strategic warheads and set up new procedures to allow both countries to inspect each other's arsenals to verify compliance.

Republicans have called those verifications procedures inadequate and contended that the treaty would limit U.S. missile defense options. Most Republican senators probably would vote against the treaty. Others have said they would follow Kyl's lead.

Kyl has argued that it does not make sense to reduce U.S. warheads until more is done to maintain and modernize the remaining arsenal. To answer Kyl's concerns, the administration last week delivered a proposal to significantly boost funding for the U.S. nuclear weapons complex.

Kyl and Durbin spoke on NBC's "Meet the Press." McCaskill and Graham were on "Fox News Sunday" and Gottemoeller appeared on C-SPAN's "Washington Journal."

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# INSIGHT

The stories behind the news

## Bain Town: not a riot?

### Police Commissioner's reaction to disturbance

By PACO NUNEZ  
Tribune News Editor

*Riot – (a) public violence, tumult, or disorder (b) a violent public disorder; specifically: a tumultuous disturbance of the public peace by three or more persons assembled together and acting with a common intent*

– The Mirriam-Webster Unabridged Dictionary

WORDS are important. How they are used exerts a powerful influence on the way actions and events are defined and remembered.

This fact is not lost on Commissioner of Police Ellison Greenslade, who always chooses his words carefully. Consider for example, his insistence that the disturbance in Bain Town following the police shooting of Sharmoco Newbold – in which officers were attacked, pelted with stones, a patrol car was firebombed and several others seriously damaged – should not be described as a riot.

According to the commissioner, the incident was a "bad situation", in which community members were "alarmed and distressed" and which his officers found "a little unnerving."

He said: "I offer no disrespect to the community of Bain Town. We had no riot, I want to be very clear in saying that to the public – no riot, nothing of that nature, but a community that is very concerned, very distressed..."

Trouble is, the incident was unquestionably, unequivocally, a riot. It matched, in every respect, the dictionary definition of a riot. Everyone in Bain Town knows it was a riot. Everyone who saw footage on TV or the internet knows it was a riot.

Mr Greenslade's position was understandable given the circumstances. He acknowledged that police have a lot of work to do in Bain Town, his way of saying a negative impression of the force has taken root in that community and could be the source of renewed hostility in the future.

The commissioner is hardly the first law enforcement officer or senior official to defy the authority of Messrs Merriam and Webster with the best intentions. But there are consequences to calling something what it emphatically is not – among them, that while you may influence public opinion, the results are sometimes the opposite of those intended.

Consider how readers responded to the commis-



**BAIN TOWN:** Police Commissioner Ellison Greenslade (obscured, centre, in striped shirt) in the middle of last weekend's events. Armed police at the scene, pictured right.

sioner's comments on [tribune242.com](http://tribune242.com).

"If that wasn't a riot," Gail H said, "I would love to know what Mr Greenslade's definition of a riot would be. Perhaps if they had utilised trebuchets and grenades instead?"

Kesha L said: "So Mr Greenslade said it wasn't a riot... explain what is then! Because the photos in the paper sure look like one. And again we are only being told half of what goes on in Nassau. I think it's terrible, this place will never change. The crime here has got out of control and nobody can do a thing about it!"

Another reader said: "Put together an unruly mob, a burning car, stone throwing aggressive people and you've got a RIOT, especially when the police seemed like they didn't know what to do next. Mr Greenslade, you can try to be as polite as you want but you need to face facts: it was a riot and there will always be people who want to fight and cause trouble. The police needs to have a better response to show they're not afraid to do their job."

Dion told the commissioner, "There are times you just have to call a SPADE and let the chips fall where they may. Then, people will really respect you."

Far from commending his efforts to sooth tensions in Bain Town, readers responded with sarcasm and derision. Worse, the gap between what they saw and what the commissioner said, led them to assume the police are hiding things, are not to be trusted, and are afraid to do their job – the very impression Mr Greenslade was trying to counteract in the first place.

And, not only does the commissioner's stance encourage the kind of anti-police sentiment which fuelled the Bain Town "disturbance", it also obscures a sobering reality: that the incident was only one in a series of riots over the last decade in which police were attacked, not because they happened to be trying to disburse a crowd, but as the specific targets of the mob's anger.

In December 2002, the shooting of a man in Kemp



Road sparked a riot in which a fire truck, a crime scene van, and five patrol cars were damaged. Sticks, bottles and rocks were thrown at police. Tear gas had to be used to control the crowd.

Then, in 2005, two officers responding to reports of an accident allegedly accidentally struck a 16-year-old girl with their patrol car. Angry residents surround-

ed the cruiser, and in the ensuing altercation the officers shot the girl's brother in the jaw while he was holding his two-year-old son. Officers reportedly exchanged fire with some residents, while others threw rocks at the police.

Three civilians were shot during the incident. Then commissioner Paul Farquharson said there were two or three people making

it impossible to calm the crowd, but that the crowd was otherwise orderly.

In January 2007, Ridgeland Park residents threatened to riot after a police raid. Officers were accused of assaulting and beating the occupants of a home in the area. Residents claimed victimisation and harassment at the hands of police.

**SEE page 11B**



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