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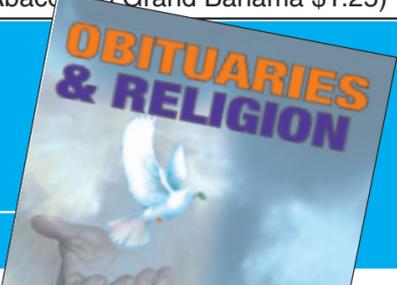


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**INSIDE TODAY**  
CARS! CARS! CARS! LOADS OF JOBS AND HELP WANTED! THE TRIBUNE'S CLASSIFIEDS TRADER

# 'Rapid Strike' bid to beat criminals

**PUBLIC HOSPITAL AMBULANCES 'IN DESPERATE NEED OF REPLACEMENT'**

By AVA TURNQUEST  
Tribune Staff Reporter  
aturnquest@tribunemedia.net

AMBULANCES currently used by public hospitals are in desperate need of replacement, hospital officials acknowledged yesterday. The majority of emergency vehicles in the nation's fleet are 2004 models, and not up to international standards that call for the replacement of the vehicles every three years.

**SEE page nine**

## Commissioner launches major police operation

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

firearms, stealing of vehicles, stabbings, house break-ins, and "all other criminal activity."

A MASSIVE police operation, targeting criminals throughout New Providence was launched last night by the Commissioner of Police Ellison Greenslade.

This new thrust by police, said Mr Greenslade, is a continuation of their efforts to reduce the occurrence of serious crimes throughout the country and restore peace and civility in the community.

Operation Rapid Strike will focus on a number of people who the police suspect to be involved in murders, armed robberies, possession of illegal

Following the Commissioner's announcement, two

**SEE page 12**

## Appeal filed against ruling that Minister of Works acted unlawfully on roadworks

By CELESTE NIXON  
Tribune Staff Reporter  
cnixon@tribunemedia.net

ATTORNEY General John Delaney confirmed yesterday that an appeal to the Supreme Court ruling that found that the Minister of Works acted unlawfully when he commenced roadworks on Baillou Hill Road and Market Street was filed on Monday.

The ruling handed down by Justice Neville Adderley on

**FROM page 10**



**ON THE MOVE:** Police take to the streets yesterday as part of Operation Rapid Strike.

Felipé Major/Tribune staff

## POLICE CLAMPDOWN HALTS HARBOUR ISLAND BREAK-INS

By NOELLE NICOLLS  
Tribune Staff Reporter  
nnicolls@tribunemedia.net

A CRIME-FIGHTING initiative between local police and the Central Detective Unit has put a clamp on house break-ins at Harbour Island.

A spate of burglaries late last year sparked fears of irreparable damage to visitor and resident confidence.

Since then, the local police have arrested five people, including a juvenile. They have been charged with eight counts of burglary and stealing.

In the last three weeks there have been no reported break-ins.

A police spokesman on the island said: "We have the assistance of CDU offi-

**SEE page 10**

## MP SAYS CABLE & WIRELESS 'FORMED NINE MONTHS AGO'

FORT Charlotte MP Alfred Sears yesterday criticised the Government for its sale of BTC to Cable and Wireless Communications, arguing that the Ingraham administration had not made it clear that the company was "formed nine months ago."



**CRITICISING GOVT:** Alfred Sears

He said the public was under the impression that it is Cable & Wireless Worldwide, a global telecommunications company with more than 130 years of experience, not CWC - which separated from the CWW group last year - that is about to buy BTC.

**SEE page 12**

## DECOMPOSED BODY OF MAN IS FOUND IN BARREL

A TEAM of officers from the capital is in Eleuthera today looking for clues that might help explain the bizarre discovery of a dead man in a barrel yesterday morning.

Police have said very little about the case, but sources claim the decomposed remains were found in a 55 gallon drum not far from the home of the victim.

The identity of the man has not been confirmed, but he is said to have been a Haitian handyman known as Elise. He was known as a quiet family man and was liked in the community.

He had not been seen since Saturday and had been reported missing. His wife was in Nassau.

In its official report, the police said the body was found "in a barrel through

**SEE page 10**

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LOCAL NEWS

# 'Children of God' makes top ten list of 2010 films

THE controversial Bahamian film "Children of God" has made BET.COM'S list of the top ten films of 2010. The Black Entertainment

Television (BET) network this week described the movie as "gloriously shot, each frame strikingly beautiful, despite its low budget."

BET's reviewer Clay Cane said it is "refreshing to see an independent filmmaker who knows his craft".

"Children of God" took the 10th spot on a list that included such critically acclaimed films as "127 Hours", "The Kids Are All Right" and "The Social Network".

"Children of God", a homosexual love story, has experienced unprecedented success for a Bahamian film since it first premiered at the sixth annual Bahamas International Film Festival in 2009.

"Coming off of an incredible year with this film, to be recognised by Black Entertainment Television really puts the icing on the cake and helps to spread the word about our movie in anticipation of our theatrical and DVD release this spring," said writer/director Kareem Mortimer.

The movie, which is Mr Mortimer's first feature length, screened at 70 film festivals around the world last year, winning 13 coveted awards, as well as being shown across the United Kingdom on tour with the British Film Institute London Lesbian and Gay Film Festival.



CONTROVERSIAL: "Children of God", which was described as "gloriously shot".

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LOCAL NEWS

PLP'S RYAN PINDER RAISES QUESTIONS AFTER DECREASE IN BUSINESS LICENCE TAXES FOR FOUR INDUSTRIES

# Govt giving 'preferential treatment' to special interest groups, says MP

By TANEKA THOMPSON  
Tribune Staff Reporter  
thompson@tribunemedia.net



Felipe Major/Tribune staff

**SPEAKING OUT:** MP for Elizabeth Estates Ryan Pinder speaks in the House.

THE Government was yesterday accused of giving "preferential treatment" to special interest groups following a decrease in business licence taxes for four industries - construction, hotels, petroleum and food wholesalers.

Elizabeth MP Ryan Pinder questioned if the taxes were lowered because FNM supporters have a huge stake in these industries.

"Why would you extend this preferential rate to construction companies, except for the fact that the largest construction companies are generally supporters of the FNM? We know who the largest hotel operator supports. Why have these industries been included in a preferential business licence rate generally reserved for historical industries in this country that we want to promote as a matter of public policy," argued the Opposition MP as he debated amendments to the Business Licence Bill in the House of Assembly yesterday.

"Enough with the catering to special interests. An alternative would be for a reduced business licence fee for small, growing companies in this industry, rather than the large special interests that don't need it," he added. In its amendments to the Business Licence Act, which was passed in 2010, government lowered the business licence tax rate from 0.75 per cent to 0.5 per cent for the aforementioned industries following an outcry from those sectors.

State Finance Minister Zhivargo Laing has previously said that the Government reduced the taxes for the four industries to "what most of them would have been paying under the old regime."

## Concerns

He has also said it was never the Government's intention to significantly increase revenue through the new legislation, only to make commerce more efficient. Mr Laing said taxes were lowered after concerns were raised.

The amendments, in part, also extend the deadline to submit annual business financial results to the Secretary of Revenue from December 31 to March 31; and broadens an applicant's right to appeal a

rejection, cancellation, or suspension of a licence by the Secretary of Revenue to the Business License Review Board or the Supreme Court.

Mr Laing told Parliament yesterday that the legislation will streamline the process of doing business in the country by creating benchmarks and timelines for the process of applying for a business licence; eliminate the need for separate applications for shop/liquor/music/dance licences, and simplify the process of calculating business licence taxes.

"It continues to be our aim and objective to modernise, make easier the process and procedures for conducting business in the Commonwealth of the Bahamas because we regard this as fundamental to promoting a sustained growth and

development of our economy," said State Finance Minister Laing, who led the debate on the amendments.

Still, Mr Pinder criticised the amendments, arguing that the Inghram administration put "sloppy" legislation before Parliament when it brought the

Business Licence Act last summer, only to have to amend the laws later following public backlash. He said if Government had carried out proper public consultation before the Act was passed, these new amendments would not have come before the House.

"Today we find ourselves in this honourable place to clean up the sloppiness, and to clean up the poor drafting of a Bill that this government brought (last year). Mr Speaker, this amendment to the recently passed Business Licence Bill is because this government felt it necessary to push through legislation that was poorly drafted and doing so without public consultation.

"This has been a trend with this administration," Mr Pinder charged. "All of the amendments we debate here today are a direct result of the protest of the private sector at a town hall meeting held after the Business Licence Bill was passed."

The new Business Licence Act came into effect on January 1, 2011.

## Court NEWS

### Prison officer, teacher among three facing drug possession charge

A PRISON officer and a teacher were among three people arraigned in a Magistrate's Court yesterday on a marijuana possession charge.

Prison officer Travaughn Bowe, 23, teacher and former news reporter Lloyd Allen, 30, and a 17-year-old of Pinewood Gardens were arraigned before Deputy Chief Magistrate Carolita Bethell, charged with possession of marijuana.

According to court dockets, the adults and the teenager were found in possession of the drugs on Tuesday January 18.

## Vehicle

The accused pleaded not guilty to the charges.

According to the prosecution, the drugs were discovered by police after they searched a vehicle the men were travelling in at around 2.30am on Tuesday.

A small plastic bag containing a quantity of marijuana was found under the driver's seat.

The accused were each granted bail in the sum of \$5,000.

The case was adjourned to July 25.

## Two pilots arraigned on cocaine smuggling charges

Two pilots were arraigned in a Magistrate's Court yesterday on cocaine smuggling charges.

Patrick Pyfrom, 45, and Valentino Antoine Collie, 38, appeared before Deputy Chief Magistrate Carolita Bethell in Court 8, Bank Lane, charged with importation of cocaine, conspiring to import cocaine, possession of cocaine with the intent to supply and conspiring to possess cocaine.

According to police reports, around 10am on Sunday, officers of the Drug Enforcement Unit (DEU) apprehended two men at the Lynden Pinning International Airport after they searched their suitcase and found 16 taped packages of suspected cocaine.

The men had reportedly flown into New Providence from the Turks and Caicos on a private aircraft.

According to prosecutor Inspector Ercell Dorsette, the drugs weighed 21 pounds.

Both Pyfrom and Collie have pleaded not guilty to the charge.

They were remanded to Her Majesty's Prison and are expected back in court on January 26 for a bail and fixture hearing.

## Attorney: Commission's position on Grant-Bethell was justified

ATTORNEY Thomas Evans submitted yesterday that given the nature of the information presented in a report by the Security Intelligence Branch on veteran prosecutor Cheryl Grant-Bethell, the commission was justified in taking the position it did.

On Tuesday, Mrs Grant-Bethell's attorney Wayne Munroe had argued that she had not been afforded the opportunity to defend herself against information presented to the Judicial and Legal Services Commission while it was considering her application for the post of Director of Public Prosecutions.

The contents of the report were so damaging that regardless of what Mrs Grant-Bethell said, it would not have changed their mind the court has heard, Mr Evans claimed.

Mr Evans, who represents the Judicial and Legal Services

Commission, concluded his submissions yesterday as the judicial review hearing continued.

Mrs Grant-Bethell filed an application for judicial review after being passed over for the post of Director of Public Prosecutions. She was instead appointed Deputy Law Reform Commissioner.

Jamaican attorney Vinette Graham-Allen was appointed DPP instead. The matter is

being heard by Senior Justice Jon Isaacs.

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THE GREEN HORNET	T	1:00	3:25	N/A	6:00	8:20	10:40
THE DILEMMA	T	1:00	3:20	N/A	6:05	8:30	10:45
SEASON OF THE WITCH	T	1:15	3:30	N/A	6:10	8:25	10:50
LITTLE FOCKERS	T	1:10	3:35	N/A	6:00	8:30	10:40
TRON LEGACY	B	1:00	3:20	N/A	6:00	8:20	10:45
YOGI BEAR	A	1:10	3:40	N/A	6:15	8:40	10:30
THE HEART SPECIALIST	T	1:05	3:30	N/A	6:10	8:25	10:40
GULLIVER'S TRAVELS	A	1:15	3:40	N/A	6:15	8:40	10:45
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SEASON OF THE WITCH	T	1:10	3:35	N/A	6:05	8:20	10:40
YOGI BEAR	A	1:05	3:35	N/A	6:10	8:30	10:35
LITTLE FOCKERS	T	1:15	3:30	N/A	6:10	8:20	10:45
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**JAN 20 - FEB 1**

LOCAL NEWS

# The return of 'Baby Doc' prompts some celebration in local Haitian community

By NOELLE NICOLLS  
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THE nostalgia for the "good days" of the Duvalier regime has caught fire amongst some Haitians in the local community, who are celebrating the return of the 'president for life'.

While some are applauding the Haitian government for investigating Jean-Claude 'Baby Doc' Duvalier on charges of corruption and embezzlement, other Haitians are joining their counterparts in Haiti to celebrate the homecoming of Baby Doc after 25 years of exile.

"We are so happy, so glad to see him in Haiti. That is very good. We need him in Haiti and we need (President Jean-Bertrand) Aristide back to help rebuild Haiti. We wished for Jean Claude and Aristide to come back to help rebuild Haiti," said Celiner St Louis, a leader in the Haitian community and pastor of Gospel Assembly.

"We feel he had good leadership. When he was here we never had problems for water, food, or light. He was the one who did good for us. We lived

**"We feel he had good leadership. When he was here we never had problems for water, food, or light. He was the one who did good for us. We lived so good."**

so good. In the 25 years he has been gone Haiti has had all these problems," said Mr St Louis.

To the surprise of many in Haiti and the international community, Baby Doc returned to the island nation for undeclared reasons on Sunday. He was arrested and later released, although his passport was confiscated.

Attorneys say the matter is in the hands of a judge, who has to determine if there is enough evidence to go to trial.

Feelings in Haiti are mixed. Baby Doc was greeted by cheering supporters and jeering detractors.

"I don't support it and I am glad they arrested him and took

him to court. That was the right thing to do. The guy has killed so many people; he took all of the resources and the money, now he is coming back to Haiti, for what?" asked Antoine St Louis, president of the United Haitian-Bahamian Association (UAHB).

"I do not mind that he helps, but he still should be tried for what he did before. Every time one of them come in power, they take what they want and go. It is not a matter of forgiveness. It is a matter of doing the right thing according to the law. The law should take its course," he said.

Amnesty International issued a statement praising the actions of the government, and encouraging them to do more.

"If true justice is to be done in Haiti, the Haitian authorities need to open a criminal investigation into Duvalier's responsibility for the multitude of human rights abuses that were committed under his rule, including torture, arbitrary detentions, rape, enforced disappearances and extrajudicial executions," the statement read.

Baby Doc assumed power in 1971 at age 19 following the death of his father, Francois 'Papa Doc' Duvalier. The pair presided over the infamous secret police force known as the Tonton Macoute, said to have tortured and killed thou-

sands of detractors and presumed opponents.

With the help of the American government, Baby Doc was transported from Haiti, in a similar manner to Aristide, to France where he lived in exile.

A Haitian-Bahamian resident of 20 years said he welcomed Baby Doc's return and believed the Haitian people could "forgive him for the mess he made during his regime".

"Some Haitians say yes, but majority say it is not the time to put him in jail. It doesn't make any difference now. He made a lot of mistakes, but at the same time there is always forgiveness. I don't think he is going back to Haiti now to get in power.

"After the earthquake he gave Haiti \$1 million. That means he can do more. If they could take the money then they can allow him to use money now to help," he said.

Antoine St Louis said he did not recall news about Baby Doc's donation. International media reported Baby Doc pledged \$8 million of his assets to the American Red Cross after the earthquake. It is unclear if any of the money reached Haiti.

"I have not heard about the \$1 million donation, but I would not be surprised. He has an opportunity to position himself like a caring soul, just like the persons who run criminal activities in the Bahamas who donate money to charity to garner public support," said Philip Smith, former ambassador to Canada, who has followed the political situation in Haiti.

Speaking on the politics



HAITI'S FORMER DICTATOR Jean-Claude Duvalier, centre, and his longtime companion Veronique Roy, left, leave court as Louis-Jodel Chamblain, right, leads Duvalier by the arm in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, Tuesday. (AP)

behind Haiti's embrace of Baby Doc since his return from exile, Mr Smith said: "I think someone got to him to say, 'There will be enough nostalgia for the good your father did early in life and the good you tried to do. If you want to go back this is the last and best opportunity for you'."

"There is this entity that most people in Haiti don't know as a real person. He has been out of the country for 25 years, so they think, maybe he is not as bad as people say; he's come back and he wants to help," said Mr Smith.

The frustration level in Haiti is high, he said, following the

November 28 elections that are still unresolved, and with tones of rubble from the January 12 earthquake still visible in the city and the international press continuing to report about the millions in pledged yet to arrive in Haiti one year after the fact.

"The bottom line is, there are all sorts of reasons to feel bad. But I don't think he will bring anything positive to the mix. I think the excitement people are demonstrating is more frustration over everything else than pleasure over what he represents," said Mr Smith.

• SEE PAGE 13

## Scripture Thought

1 Thessalonians Chapter 4 verse 1-8  
**Plea for Purity**

Finally then, brethren, we urge and exhort in the Lord Jesus that you should abound more and more, just as you received from us how you ought to walk and to please God; for you know what commandments we gave you through the Lord Jesus. For this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you should abstain from sexual immorality; that each of you should know how to possess his own vessel in sanctification and honor, not in passion of lust, like the Gentiles who do not know God; that no one should take advantage of and defraud his brother in this matter, because the Lord is the avenger of all such, as we also forewarned you and testified. For God did not call us to uncleanness, but in holiness. Therefore he who rejects this does not reject man, but God, who has also given us His Holy Spirit.

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LOCAL NEWS

# PLP claims BEC starting load-shedding exercises



PLP CHAIRMAN  
Bradley Roberts

THE opposition Progressive Liberal Party has slammed the Bahamas Electricity Corporation for conducting planned power cuts without notifying the public in advance.

In a statement issued yesterday, the PLP's chairman Bradley Roberts claimed the corporation has begun load-shedding exercises, usually reserved for the summer months due to the higher

demand, and insisted that Minister of State for the Environment Phenton Nymour give a public explanation of what is happening at BEC.

The statement said: "The Progressive Liberal Party is obliged to bring to the attention of the public that BEC is currently load shedding and has willfully failed to bring same to the attention of the residents of New Providence. "The Junior Minister Phenton Nymour has failed to tell the public that only two generators – numbers 12 and 13 – are operational at the Clifton Power Station which was designed to carry the base load for New Providence.

"A lack of preventative maintenance and mechanical overhaul of generators is the major factor for the dire straits in which BEC currently finds itself."

Mr Roberts claimed the cost of running the gas turbines at the Baillou Hill Power Plant (which uses diesel verses Bunker C gas) is contributing significantly to the escalating fuel cost for the Bahamas Electricity Corporation.

"The Progressive Liberal Party demands that the government come clean on the current status of BEC.

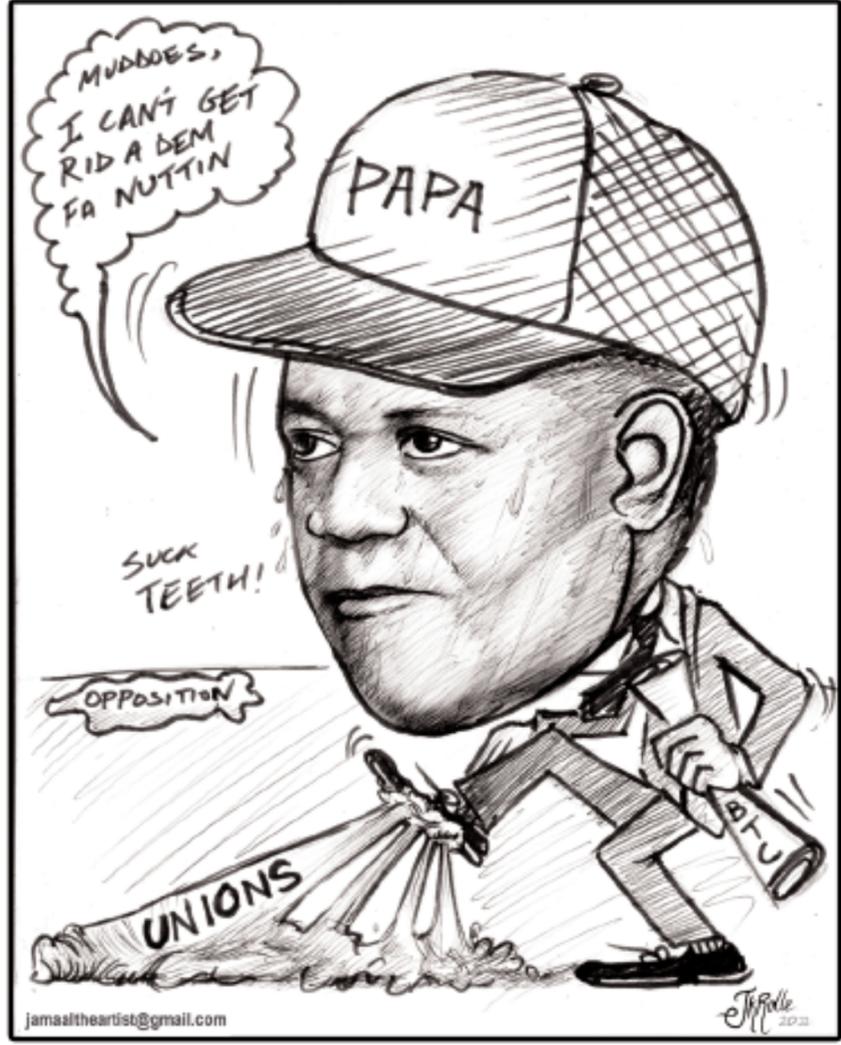
"The PLP also demands that the government, without delay, lay on the table the report prepared by Emera on the current status of BEC," he said.

The PLP did not specify which areas of New Providence had been experienced power cuts.

Minister of State Phenton Nymour could not be reached for comment before press time last night, as the House of Assembly was in Session.



## BTC SITUATION PT:2



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# BAIC chairman aims for poultry products increase

By GLADSTONE THURSTON

BAHAMAS Agricultural and Industrial Corporation (BAIC) chairman Edison Key said he wants to help increase the local production of poultry products.

With the assistance of College of the Bahamas poultry scientist Ronald Justin Taylor, BAIC is planning instructional facilities for the North Andros agri-industrial park.

"There is a huge market for poultry products in the Bahamas," said Mr Key on Tuesday as he toured the park. "Chicken is a mainstay of the national diet. And, although chickens are relatively easy to raise, the vast majority of our poultry products, to the tune of many millions of dollars, is imported."

Mr Taylor, who has a master's degree in poultry science, is a poultry specialist and lecturer at COB where he is engaged in research in poultry nutrition, husbandry and related aspects.

"We import 100 per cent wings and leg quarters from the United States," he said. "These are sourced from places like Brazil at reduced cost and somewhat like dumped into the Bahamian market."

"So, the market for a fresh Bahamian product, which is superior to the imported products, is wide open."

He said the centrally located Andros "has what it takes" for poultry production - lots of land and a good supply of fresh water.

"Consumers in today's society are looking for fresh locally produced birds," he said. "A bird straight from the Bahamian environment can naturally sell itself, without a doubt."

He pointed out that there is no certainty about the shelf val-



ABOVE: BAIC is encouraging Bahamians to pursue poultry production. These chickens are from Ricardo Johnson's operation at Love Hill, North Andros.

RIGHT: BAIC executive chairman Edison Key enjoys a sample from the greenhouse unit at the North Andros agri-industrial park.

ue of imported eggs.

"No one knows where they came from, how long have they been travelling, what their storage life is. Therefore you will have more chance of bacterial infection and reduced egg quality."

"Locally produced products limit these factors in terms of ease of availability of these products," Mr Taylor said.

Mr Key said he envisions small to medium-size operations, especially in egg production, being established in communities throughout the islands.

"We met with several persons who seem to have great interest and some experience in poultry production."

"Through this initiative we can supply the local market in such a way that we do not have to depend on product of dubious quality. We can produce a

fresher product, and create a lot of jobs," he said.

Ricardo Johnson of Love Hill manages a family-size operation of just under 200 chickens. He said each harvest sells out.

"Maybe his operation can be developed into a demonstration unit so other people can see what can be done," said Mr Key

The BAIC chairman said he was "very pleased" with the quality of produce coming out of the greenhouse in the agri-industrial park.

"The peppers and tomatoes are as good as you can get," he said.

"This is a demonstration unit that we put in to show the many advantages of various techniques of growing. That is an indication of what we can do all over the Family Islands,"



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## LOCAL NEWS

# Opera experience to benefit aspiring Bahamian singers

THE Nassau Music Society has announced a rare night of top-class opera performances to be held in support of aspiring local singers.

The Bizet-Broadway committee, in association with the Nassau Music Society, is featuring a special dinner and opera event to raise funds for voice training and scholarships in the Bahamas.

The event will be held this Saturday, January 22, at Old Fort Bay Club under the patronage of Governor-General Sir Arthur Foulkes.

"After five successful years of a similar event in Montreal, promoted by the order of St John of Quebec, one of its leading patrons decided to mirror this unique musical experience in the Bahamas," said one of the organisers, Cornelia Nihon.

"This gala evening will begin with a Champaign reception followed by an exceptional dinner and a special performance by well-known Canadian opera singers, who will be entertaining you with excerpts from various operas and Broadway musicals."

Music Society president Patrick Thompson said: "We do not see a lot of live opera in Nassau and we feel this is an opportunity for many to

experience this.

"From the Nassau Music Society's point of view, our interest is to raise funds so that we can promote singers as well as instrumentalists and pianists through our College of the Bahamas Scholarship.

"There are a number of good voices in the music community in the Bahamas. Because of the limited population, it is difficult for them to get quality voice training and we envisage the funds raised from the evening for the voice scholarship programme being used to bring to the Bahamas voice trainers, not only to work with individuals but also with choirs, of which there are a large number in Nassau."

Mr Thompson said the Society is already in discussions with choirmasters from Bel Canto and the Highgrove Singers, among others.

"Our first mission would be to train choirmasters how to train a choir. If sufficient funds are raised, we would also provide a programme for individual voices," Mr Thomson said.

*Performers for the 'Bizet to Broadway Night at the Opera' include:*

## • BEVERLY MCARTHUR

As a mezzo-soprano, Ms McArthur has been praised for her "rich voice" and "excellent" character portrayals. As a young artist she performed roles with both the Vancouver Opera and Montreal Opera. These roles included Wovkle (La Fanciulla del West), Berta (Il Barbiere di Siviglia), Clotilde (Norma), and Zinnia (L'Étoile). Her other credits include the roles of Dido (Dido and Aeneas) and Tituba (The Crucible) with the University of British Columbia, and Marcellina (Le Nozze di Figaro) with Banff Opera Theatre. In addition to performing opera, Ms McArthur has performed concerts and oratorio works.

## • ALEXANDER DOBSON

British-Canadian Alexander Dobson has been praised for his musicality and dramatic awareness on both opera and concert stages. Recent highlights include his portrayal of Wozzek conducted by Yannick Nézet-Séguin; Papageno in Die Zauberflöte with Opera Hamilton; Mercutio in Roméo et Juliette for l'Opéra de Montréal; Silvio in Opera Quebec's Pagliacci; Marcello in both Saskatoon Opera's production and BRAVO's TV rendition of La Bohème; De Retz in Bard Summerscape's production of Les Huguenots, and he made his Royal Opera Covent Garden debut with The Midnight Court. Upcoming engagements include Marcello in Pacific Opera Victoria's La Bohème. With Calgary Opera he last performed Harlequin in Ariadne auf Naxos and with L'Orchestre Métropolitain the title role in Don Giovanni.

## • MICHAEL MCMAHON

Pianist Michael McMahon is the preferred partner to

many of Canada's most renowned singers. He has performed regularly throughout Canada, in Europe, Japan and the United States, with singers such as Catherine Robbin, Karina Gauvin, Measha Brueggergosman, Dominique Labelle, Wendy Nielsen, Maureen Forester, Marie-Nicole Lemieux, Annamaria Popescu, Joseph Kaiser, Nathan Berg, Brett Polegato, Benjamin Butterfield, Daniel Taylor, Michael Schade, Russell Braun and Richard Margison.

Following his studies at McGill University in Montreal, he completed his musical education in Vienna at the Hochschule für Musik und darstellende Kunst and the Franz Schubert Institute, and in Salzburg at the Mozarteum. During this time, he studied with such legendary artists as Erik Werba, Hans Hotter, Elly Ameling, Jörg Demus, and Kim Borg.

In addition to his active performing schedule, Mr McMahon is a professor at the Schulich School of Music of McGill University in Montreal.

He has had long associations with l'Atelier Lyrique de L'Opéra de Montréal, Opera Nuova, the Orford Arts Centre and the Banff Centre for the Arts, where he has worked regularly as a vocal coach. He is also often asked to give masterclasses for singers and pianists, and recently was resident coach at the Franz Schubert Institute in Austria and the COSI Summer Opera programme in Italy.

## • GIANNA CORBISIERO

Praised as "luminous" by Opera News, soprano Gianna Corbisiero is equally known for her warm vocal timbre as well as her exceptional presence on stage. Ms Corbisiero has studied at McGill University, the young artist programme at l'Opéra de Montréal and at the Juilliard School of Music in New York.

She has since then interpreted lead roles in such operas as La Bohème, La Traviata, I Pagliacci, Gianni Schicchi, Le Nozze di Figaro, Don Giovanni, The Magic Flute and Carmen in North America, Europe and Asia. She has sung with Zubin Mehta, Kent Nagano and Charles Dutoit; as well with the Orchestre Metro-

## PERFORMERS



ALEXANDER DOBSON



MICHAEL MCMAHON



KEITH KLASSEN



GIANNA CORBISIERO

politain conducted by Yannick Nezet-Séguin, the Sinfonia de Lanaudiere conducted by Stéphane Laforest and with Richard Tucker Foundation. In the past season, she sang with Bryn Terfel, Rene Fleming and Marcelo Alvarez for the Jacqueline Desmarais Foundation.

## • KEITH KLASSEN

A tenor who has emerged to become one of Canada's busiest performers. Since graduating with honours from the Opera Division at the University of Toronto in 2002 he has performed over 50 roles from the standard operatic repertoire, as well as over 35 roles in the realm of new opera. He has been engaged across Canada, as well as in Scotland, Germany, the United States, Ireland and the Czech Republic. The Star Phoenix described him as having "...a big ringing voice and great stage presence"; Classical 96.3 added, "Klassen's voice is pure honey with its ease of high notes and the lyrical grace of his phrasing";

Opera Canada raved that his Rodolfo was "...dramatically convincing, sung with passionate sincerity ensuring the audience's love"; John Terauds of the Toronto Star called him "one of the country's most versatile artists"; and NOW maga-



BEVERLY MCARTHUR

zine's Jon Kaplan went so far as to rate Keith as one of Toronto's top ten theatre artists.

In the past few seasons, critics and audiences alike have enthusiastically received his performances of Rodolfo (La Bohème), Alfredo (La Traviata), Don Jose (Carmen), the Duke (Rigoletto), Samson (Samson et Dalilah) and Alfred (Die Fledermaus). Keith has also continued his work with Tapestry New Opera Works, joining their newly formed studio company.

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## DR SPARKMAN FERGUSON TO PERFORM ANNUAL BENEFIT RECITAL

ST John's College Music Library will be the beneficiary of the proceeds from the annual Epiphany organ recital to be performed by Dr Sparkman Ferguson on Thursday, January 27 at 7.45pm at Christ Church Cathedral.

The 60-minute organ recital will feature Dr Ferguson performing works of J S Bach, Felix Mendelssohn, Louis Vierne, Sir George Thalben-Ball and Virgil Fox. Also included will be two living composers, Diane Bish and Franklin Ashdown.

The concert is under the patronage of the Anglican Bishop Laish Boyd and Joanne Boyd.

There is no admission charge, and all are welcome to attend. Previous concerts of Dr Ferguson have benefited St Anne's High School and College of the Bahamas.

## LOCAL NEWS



**DR ALVERY HANNA** (left), Director of National Emergency Medical Services, addresses concerns of paramedics in Grand Bahama, as **Herbert Brown** (Managing Director) and **Stephanie Bannister** (Human Resources Manager) of the Public Hospitals Authority look on.

Felipé Major/Tribune staff

## PUBLIC HOSPITAL AMBULANCES 'IN DESPERATE NEED OF REPLACEMENT'

**FROM page one**

The current state of ambulances in the country was acknowledged at a press conference to address concerns published in yesterday's Tribune of frustrated paramedics in Grand Bahama (see story on page 9).

Dr Alvery Hanna, Director of the National Emergency Medical Services at the Public Hospital Authority, explained that the agency had already commenced a phased replacement strategy.

Dr Hanna said: "It's not new, the Public Hospitals Authority is aware that there is a need to replace the fleet of ambulances, not only in Grand Bahama but also here in New Providence. We have begun a replacement process and we have procured five new ambulances at a cost of \$640 thousand."

In yesterday's article, the Tribune exposed the concerns of paramedics in Grand Bahama who claimed that their efficiency was severely challenged due to an insufficient and poorly-maintained ambulance fleet.

It was alleged that due to the

workload and the scarcity of vehicles, ambulances frequently break down during emergency transport. Mechanical faults routinely experienced were said to include abrupt power loss, locked steering wheel, and gas leaks.

The concerns raised in yesterday's Tribune were also confirmed by emergency technicians in New Providence.

One frustrated paramedic challenged the phased replacement strategy, highlighting that the majority of ambulances in the fleet at Princess Margaret Hospital were not functioning properly.

The technician said: "None of these ambulances are working, none, as we speak they are going down constantly. How can we only have three new ambulances - where does the priority lie?"

While acknowledging the vital need for an updated fleet, Herbert Brown, PHA Managing Director, explained that the process had financial limitations.

Mr Brown said: "The fact of the matter is, there is only so much money we are allotted to spend in one given year. We are phasing the procurement over a period of time but the plan is to

eventually have a system in place where we can replace our vehicles every three years."

The first five ambulances are due to arrive at the end of February and the agency plans to order seven more ambulances in July. In the second phase, three new ambulances have been earmarked for Grand Bahama. Following their arrival, the department plans to implement the presence of an ambulance and team at the Eight Mile Rock clinic. There are also plans to dedicate a full time ambulance and team to the Lynden Pindling International Airport.

Mr Brown said: "We have seven ambulances in Grand Bahama - we need to bring that up to at least ten. The idea is that when we would have placed the order in July for additional ambulances then we would have an ambulance dedicated to the Eight Mile Rock area."

Mr Brown told the media that the government of the Bahamas, through the PHA, was currently spending an excess of \$9.7 million in projects to improve the delivery and quality of healthcare in the Bahamas.

# Officials pledge commitment to pre-hospital care upgrades

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

**HOSPITAL** officials pledged their commitment to upgrading pre-hospital care throughout the Bahamas yesterday.

At a press conference responding to concerns published in yesterday's Tribune, officials sought to defend their intent to improve the delivery and quality of public health care in the Bahamas.

Herbert Brown, Managing Director at the Public Hospitals Authority, explained that he sent executives to Grand Bahama in December to investigate claims surfacing from the Emergency Medical Services Department after he received a complaint from the Bahamas Public Services Union.

Mr Brown said: "I think it is fair to say that the issue with respect to the ambulances, the age of the vehicles, they are genuine complaints. There is no question about that and we have acknowledged that. We will seek to ensure that our staff who work extremely hard get what they need to provide the service to the Bahamian people."

Nearly four years since a mass sick-out brought their concerns to national attention, paramedics said the Emergency Medical Services department on Grand Bahama were still without vital resources or adequate security.

In a lengthy dossier detailing current faults within the pre-hospital care system, paramedics said severe neglect of their department continued to affect unnecessary, and in some cases fatal, challenges to the entire health care system.

In Grand Bahama last month, Dr Hanna spoke with the administrator, administrative and human resources managers, EMS managers and staff

and action plans were made concerning resolutions to issues raised.

Dr Hanna said: "The issues noted to us at that time were the licensing process, training, provision of books, new ambulances, and a mechanic for the EMS, a cellphone for EMS manager and industrial gloves."

A Nassau-based emergency technician, who called to confirm the concerns of paramedics in Grand Bahama, explained that the lack of resources created low morale in staff.

The technician said: "We don't have the tools, we don't have the equipment to work with. Every other day the wrecker has to be towing the ambulance."

"The focus is come to work or else and it shouldn't be that way. If you want top performance from any of your employees you have to know how to treat them."

Long-standing inadequacies, which were said to have fatal consequences, were an insufficient and poorly-maintained ambulance fleet, and the lack of a proper dispatch centre.

With respect to maintenance of vehicles, Dr Hanna said: "There is a mechanic from Nassau, Ford certified mechanic, who routinely goes to Grand Bahama to service and deal with repairs and maintenance."

Dr Hanna confirmed the agency expects to hire a second mechanic for the Grand Bahama department "in short order."

Paramedics in Grand Bahama were critical that the dispatch centre was not located within the police control room - as it is in Nassau.

Dr Hanna maintained that there was 24-hour dispatch service in Grand Bahama, however she acknowledged that its relocation into the police control room - in accordance with international standards - was being actively pursued.

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Motorists travelling along this route are advised to follow the traffic management in place and use FIRST STREET as an alternate.

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LOCAL NEWS

**APPEAL FILED  
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UNLAWFULLY ON  
ROADWORKS**

FROM page one

December 17 of last year found that Minister of Works Neko Grant "did not follow the requirements of the law" when roadworks began in the area.

Justice Adderley awarded the Coconut Grove Business League an unspecified amount in damages for loss of business.

The road changes, which made Baillou Hill Road one-way northbound and Market Street one-way southbound, are a part of the government's \$120 million New Providence Road Improvement Project.

According to Charlene Collie, project engineer and public relations officer for the Ministry of Works, the entire project is estimated to cost more than \$8 million and will be completed in early 2012.



WORK TAKES place on new drainage being put in place on Baillou Hill Road yesterday. **Felipe Major/Tribune staff**

Work performed in the area from Robinson Road to Duke Street includes road pavement, drainage infrastructure, street lighting, utility upgrades, side walks, signals and road marking.

Secondary drains called "gully ports," are also under construction from Robinson Road to Wulff Road to ensure that drainage problems occurring in areas highly prone to flooding are alleviated. These "gully ports" are estimated to cost around \$500,000.

Road works being carried out from Robinson Road to Wulff Road are hoped to be completed by March, with work to begin on the portion north of Wulff Road shortly.

The road has been designed to be 12 inches narrower than most in order to reduce traffic

speed. Side walks on either side of the road have also been constructed to make the road accessible for the handicapped and pedestrian-friendly.

"This is a high pedestrian area and our intention is to build a road up to international standards," said Ms Collie.

Ms Collie said the design used for the underground drainage facility is similar to that used on the Tonique Darling and Sir Milo Butler highways that have been successful thus far.

The public should be advised that Robinson Road to Wulff Road will be closed after peak hours on January 27 for the final cement pouring, and will open later that evening.

**POLICE CLAMPDOWN HALTS  
HARBOUR ISLAND BREAK-INS**

FROM page one

Just their presence alone has had an impact. Some things we were unable to do with short staff, but they can go out there with the additional strength in numbers and increase the visibility on the ground."

Officers from CDU have been sent to Harbour Island weekly, on a rotation basis, from December. It is unclear whether the arrangement is to be permanent, but it is "ongoing."

Darrol Johnson, Harbour Island chief counsel, said police officers have been visible on the island since the initiative, and burglary reports have been reduced.

"The police came in and they have been working on the ground. They have been sending officers in every two weeks, and been on top of it," said Mr Johnson.

"Once the criminals see that the police are serious in their duties then we shouldn't have a problem."

**DECOMPOSED BODY OF  
MAN IS FOUND IN BARREL**

FROM page one

a tract road in Hatchet Bay Eleuthera by a family member. Police are not certain of the circumstances surrounding this incident. Investigations continue."

Prison Guards in Nassau were also called into action yesterday morning when an inmate on remand attempted to escape by scaling the fence of the exercise yard.

Alert guards caught the prisoner within minutes, according to Prison Superintendent Elliston Rahming, and he has been transferred to the Maximum Security

wing. A few hours later, police were called to the scene of an armed robbery at Constitution Drive.

Responding officers were told that a woman was at her home when she was approached by a man wearing a blue t-shirt, blue jeans and a blue and yellow striped shirt wrapped around his head.

The man, who pulled out a handgun and demanded cash made off with the victim's handbag containing an undisclosed amount of money and a cell phone.

He fled the scene on foot.

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# BTC sale is good for the Bahamas

By DAVID JORDINE

## OPINION

THE proposed sale of BTC is good for The Bahamas. The Bahamas' struggle to compete in the globalized market place is growing more fierce by the minute, and, as a nation, we must make a compelling case to attract organizations here to do business with us.

As we work our way out of this long and hard recession, it has become very apparent how important it is for our country to be more efficient, and cost effective.

It is not only important for governments to become well-oiled machines, but it is imperative that they exhibit efficiency, while at the same time minimizing the cost borne by the public piggy-bank.

The private sector is the engine that drives our economy.

### Banks

Take for example, Atlantis (i.e. the second largest employer in The Bahamas), the many banks in our Financial Services Industry, and the proposed BahMar development.

All of these entities, have, and will continue to significantly impact our National Gross Domestic Product in the coming years.

However, the government provides the private sector with many of the tools it needs to carry out its role in creating jobs and generating revenue.

Such tools provided by the government are namely, communication, energy, transportation, and a well regulated banking system, just to name a few.

**“As it stands today, when compared with other countries in the region, The Bahamas ranks among the highest in terms of cost for value.”**

The government provides the aforementioned tools at a cost, and it is this cost that determines the competitiveness of The Bahamas' business environment.

A cost effective, reliable, and competitive business environment is to the advantage of foreign investors, and small Bahamian entrepreneurs alike. It is for this reason that I support the sale of BTC.

It is my view that if the government can reduce the cost of providing any number of the aforementioned tools to the private sector, including the cost of telecommunication, such reduction will be seen in the bottom line of domestic and foreign companies, and will help to improve their overall efficiency.

As it stands today, when compared with other countries in the region, The Bahamas ranks among the highest in terms of cost for

value. As a matter of fact, some of the very countries we pity in this region can boast of cheaper telecommunication rates, more reliable services; and all have partnered with private telecommunication companies, represented largely by Digicel and Cable & Wireless.

I totally understand and appreciate the unions' position on the proposed sale of BTC in so far as it relates to the safeguarding of jobs, employee morale, advancement for Bahamians, and a tranquil work environment.

### Economy

What I do not quite comprehend are their efforts, which are being fueled and supported by the opposition party, to discredit and disparage the government's efforts to reduce the cost of providing a very necessary tool that will benefit all facets of our economy.

It is my hope that the successful sale of BTC will lead to the liberalization of other government dominated industries, such as energy, water, and other utilities.

In my view, what is most important as the government pursues its efforts of privatization, is the continued regulation of various industries to ensure consumer protection, to prevent price gouging, and where foreign entities are involved, to ensure that the rights and opportunities for Bahamian workers are always a priority.



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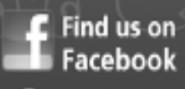
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LOCAL NEWS

# 'Rapid Strike' bid to beat criminals

**FROM page one**  
bus-loads of officers armed with automatic weapons, four

squad cars, a K-9 unit, and a special rapid response team left police headquarters to begin their work.

These officers will be led by seasoned senior officers of the rank of Superintendent who will be assisted by Assistant Superintendents throughout the operation.

"I have asked our officers to be respectful of the rights of all citizens and residents of the Bahamas but to also be firm, resolute, focused, and committed to the task at hand," Commissioner Greenslade said.

While this operation is going on, Commissioner Greenslade stressed that all other police services will continue without interruption.

"As Commissioner, I ask all persons that are involved in the unlawful possession of firearms, vehicular thefts, armed robberies, break-ins, drug peddling, and all other acts of criminality to cease and desist.

"To parents, family mem-

bers, and acquaintances of persons involved in the underworld of crime, do all in your power to encourage these individuals to make an about-turn and join all law-abiding citizens in building a better Bahamas, where we all live without the occurrence of and the fear of crime," he said.

With the police having "targeted profiles" which they will be seeking out, the Commissioner added that they will be visiting "all places" where criminality is suspected and take the necessary action to arrest, charge, and place these persons before the courts.

While Operation Rapid Strike will continue for as long as the Force thinks necessary, the Commissioner noted there will be specific benchmarks they will be aiming for to ensure the opera-

tion is successful.

As a security warning to residents who may fear criminals may exploit this latest police operation to gain access to their homes, Commissioner Greenslade said all officers are properly attired in their uniforms and will be carrying proper identification to show exactly who they are.

"If we have a suspect who is named, with reasonable grounds to suspect, and is named; we do not believe that it is appropriate for that person to just go about business as usual. We are going to seek you out wherever you reside. We are going to come asking for you, and we are going to enforce the laws of this country," he said.

The Commissioner asked for all well-meaning citizens to stand united with the Royal Bahamas Police Force and



**POLICE COMMISSIONER**  
Ellison Greenslade

allow them to do what is right "to keep our country safe and secure."



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# MP says Cable & Wireless 'formed nine months ago'

**FROM page one**

"What will be the (majority) shareholder, it is not Cable & Wireless PLC because that is what the Bahamian public had thought because Cable & Wireless (is) a big, global company. It is Cable & Wireless Communications, a company that was just formed about nine months ago that is barely making a profit," claimed Mr Sears, a former attorney general in the Christie administration.

He questioned why CWC was selected, even though it did not engage in the bidding process for BTC, instead of allowing a Bahamian group to buy the state-run utility company.

"I am concerned that we would give 51 per cent of BTC to a company - we wouldn't give it to Colina, I know Colina, I would have preferred to give it to

Colina, or give it to Commonwealth Bank. But you mean to tell me they going to give it to a company that has been in existence for nine months?" Mr Sears asked.

On March 26, 2010, Cable & Wireless Worldwide separated from Cable & Wireless Communications through a demerger. They now operate as separately listed companies on the London Stock Exchange, according to CWC's website. CWC describes itself as a full service telecommunications company which operates in the Caribbean, Panama, Macau and Monaco.

When contacted by *The Tribune*, State Finance Minister Zhirvargo Laing said if any company's history should be questioned, it should be Bluewater Ventures, the company to which the Progressive Liberal Party agreed to sell 49 per cent of BTC's shares before losing the general

election in 2007.

"There is going to be ample opportunity to speak to any number of points raised by Mr Sears and others on the BTC matter, so I don't propose to really address that today other than to note that it is curious that Mr Sears, who sat in the former Cabinet that proposed to sell shares in BTC to Bluewater, a company whose age should be checked, whose ownership and financial capability should be checked.

"Because if the argument he raised is an argument at all, it should have been one he raised when he was in Cabinet when he agreed to do what they agreed to do," said Mr Laing.

The Ingraham administration chose not to go ahead with the sale to Bluewater when it won in May, 2007, and described it as a "phantom company that was not publicly traded."

## Tribune Trivia

### Yesterday's Question

Which resort boss announced his support of government's selection of Cable & Wireless as the buyer of 51 per cent of BTC?

### Yesterday's Answer

Adam Stewart

### Yesterday's Winners

- |                  |      |
|------------------|------|
| Senemae Kelly    | 3pts |
| Jillian Mullings | 2pts |
| Kishna Carey     | 1pt  |

Click the 'Like' button on the Tribune News Network Facebook page to play Tribune Trivia



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## 'Get used to paying for local calls'

Telecoms operator's warning for Bahamians



PAUL HUTTON-ASHKENNY

By NEIL HARTNELL  
Tribune Business Editor

Bahamians will "have to get used to paying for local calls" at some point in the near future, a leading telecoms operator yesterday warning of the major cultural shift that would have to occur, after regulators decided to allow the Bahamas Telecommunications Company (BTC) to charge cost-based interconnection fees.

Paul Hutton-Ashkenny, president of Systems  
**SEE page 3B**

## BORCO owner closes \$1.36bn deal for 80%

By NEIL HARTNELL  
Tribune Business Editor

The \$1.36 billion buyout of the 80 per cent stake in the Bahamas Oil Refining Company (BORCO) was completed yesterday by New York Stock Exchange-listed Buckeye Partners.

Confirming that it had completed the purchase of First Reserve's stake, Buckeye added that the total acquisition cost would be \$1.7 billion, as its deal to buy the remaining 20 per cent from Vopak would conclude as soon as legal documents and closing conditions were satisfied.

Reiterating BORCO's attrac-  
**SEE page 7B**

# Airport project creates 125 retail/eatery jobs

- \$189m out of \$198m budget spent on LPIA phase one expansion by end-November, with 800 workers on site
- End-February gala opening planned for US departures terminal
- Just 24 hours lost, out of over one million man hours worked on phase one expansion
- NAD pledges 'best in class airport' comparable to anything in North America

By NEIL HARTNELL  
Tribune Business Editor

Some 125 new permanent jobs will be created by the retail/restaurant concessions alone when the Lynden Pindling International Airport's (LPIA) first phase redevelopment is completed, the Nassau Airport Development Company's (NAD) head said yesterday, telling Tribune Business it would "be a best in class airport" for facilities of comparable size in the North American region.

Stewart Steeves, NAD's  
**SEE page 10B**



PROGRESSING: Airport redevelopment in a 2010 file photo.

## DOMESTIC TOURISM TO 'EASILY DOUBLE'

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

MONTEGO BAY, Jamaica -The contribution from Bahamas residents to Family Island tourism will "easily double" in 2011, giving the islands a massive boost, the president of the Out Island Promotions Board (OIPB) has predicted, as changes to a promotional program enabling domestic travellers to receive a free air ticket come into effect.

Stephen Kappeler, president of the OIPB and general manager of the Cape Eleuthera Resort and Yacht Club, said he believes that through market research, the OIPB and the Ministry of Tourism have been able to "find the sweet spot that Bahamians are looking for" when it comes to creating conditions to stimulate more inter-Bahamas travel.

A less well-known adjunct of the "Free Companion Airfare" program launched by the Ministry of Tourism in conjunction with hotels in Nassau and Paradise Island, which allows international couples travelling to the capital to get one free airfare if

## 'Sweet spot' for Family Island travel found

they commit to a minimum four-night stay at a participating property, the Out Island program launched last year allows both international and Bahamian residents to receive a free airfare from Nassau if they stay on the island at a particular resort for a given period.

**SEE page 9B**

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## NAD rate rise: \$1 per seat over six years

- \* Airport chief says small price to pay for 'world class' facility
- \* Adds that NAD absorbed 7-8% passenger fall-off at recession height by adjusting own cost base, rather than passing burden on to others
- \* LPIA non-employee operating costs down 19% at \$9.7m

By NEIL HARTNELL  
Tribune Business Editor

The total rate increase imposed on Bahamian-owned airlines by the Nassau Airport Development Company (NAD) is equivalent to \$1 per seat over six years, its president and chief executive yesterday telling Tribune Business this was a small price to pay for "a world class" airport that would help grow the overall aviation sector.

Stewart Steeves, responding to concerns expressed by Bahamian-owned airlines about the impact NAD's fee increases would have on their businesses, said the rise was "nominal" and that existing charges were relatively low in any case.

Pointing out that NAD had "decided to work" with Bahamian-owned carriers by electing to phase fee rises in over six years, rather than implementing them all at once, Mr Steeves said the plan for increases outlined in 2006 remained unchanged despite the revenue hit the Lynden Pindling International Airport (LPIA) airport operator had taken as a result of the recession and downturn in passenger traffic.

Indicating that it would have been easy for NAD to raise fees  
**SEE page 6B**

## 'SKY IS THE LIMIT' ON SPORTS TOURISM

By NEIL HARTNELL  
Tribune Business Editor

The Minister of Tourism yesterday told Tribune Business that "the sky's the limit" for the Bahamas in developing a sports tourism niche, efforts in this area receiving a substantial boost at the weekend after the US National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) granted this nation 'exempt status'.

The exempt status, which places the Bahamas on the same footing as Mexico and Canada when it comes to staging NCAA events, provides a platform for the Bahamas to host more collegiate and amateur sports events in the Bahamas, since NCAA teams

Obtaining NCAA exempt status 'a big deal', says minister, enabling Bahamas to 'monetise' value of sports assets

will now no longer be subject to sanctions if they play in tournaments here.

Vincent Vanderpool-Wallace told Tribune Business that the Bahamas had re-focused its sports tourism strategy, moving away from the professional teams it had targeted previously.

**SEE page 4B**

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## BUSINESS

By DEIDRE M. BASTIAN

# We designers must stick to principles

There are certain types of clients that designers flat out will not work with. Did I say that? Yes, it's not a question of whether the client will be easy to work with or how much they have offered to pay. Instead, it's a question of comfort and ethics. If something feels wrong are you willing to walk away?

Deciding which projects are ethical can be very subjective, as what might seem perfectly okay to one designer might pose a big question for another.

Because most designers are "feelers" they do not have a list of 'dos' and 'don'ts', they merely have morals and ethics that survive on instincts.

If we capture this ideology, is it practical to tell a prospective client why you aren't able to design a project?

Furthermore, some choices can obliterate one issue to give rise to another.

For example, a web designer might refuse to design a site for a political candidate simply because he plans to vote for another.

I am reminded of a videographer who would design for other churches but won't work with any other groups that could be construed as hate groups.

Since we are operating on

these principles, we can easily say it is a matter of comfort level.

It is not always the content of a project that can bother a freelance designer, but sometimes the methods required in the course of the business process.

I am convinced that persons, who by their very nature are unethical in their business lives, are generally those to avoid.

## Reassurance

Personally, I've found reassurance in believing that it's very important to have some idea as to what jobs you would and would not accept, and stand by it.

In some fields there are techniques that could make us a little uncomfortable, and perhaps violate our personal morals.

For example, designs that promote racism, sexual ori-



## THE ART OF GRAPHIX

DEIDRE M. BASTIAN

as freelance designers are more than just tools for clients.

Just as not all lawyers are ambulance drivers, not all designers "borrow" from photo.com or templemonster either.

There is no need for battle if it is to be agreed that people respect and appreciate honesty, which perhaps alleviates tons of undue stress and cheap, deadbeat clients.

Hungry designers who tend to bite at everything have a tendency to stay hungry.

When a designer is prepared to do anything for a buck, the value of the buck diminishes very quickly.

entation, child abuse or exploitation, paedophilia or any other despicable activities are ones to miss.

Simply avoiding projects that you are uncomfortable with is a legitimate choice and the mark of a professional artist.

On the face of it, no designer should lose his or her soul for a few bucks if it goes against their principles. Let's not throw the baby out with the bath water just yet,

**I am convinced that persons, who by their very nature are unethical in their business lives, are generally those to avoid.**

The more designers are willing to compromise their integrity, the easier it is for clients to demand lower costs and misconstrue ideas.

Sometimes the coin may be flipped, as some clients may be offered a reduced cost if a designer believes in their project, such as animal shelters, medical charities, disabled promotions, or some other outreach ministry.

## Disaster

Accepting a project that makes a designer uncomfortable may result in a disaster, as they might not give it their best shot.

Nevertheless, just because one designer does not feel comfortable about a particular assignment should it be proclaimed a "bad project". Consider giving another designer a shot at the assignment, as this is one of the most favoured ingredients of an ethical designer.

Let's hope that when there are bills to be paid our principles are still with us.

An employed designer's life is nothing like that of a freelancer's.

A freelancer is somebody who is self-employed, not committed to a particular employer and typically works by themselves.

There are other steps beyond their actual work,

such as managing projects, accounting, sales and marketing, that directly lead to designer income.

Thus, it may be difficult for freelance designers to draw a line in the sand and say "no", especially if we are one week away from 'rent overdue'.

There is a palpable sense of admiration and respect for freelancers, or people who are prepared to yield not.

Remember, only you will face yourself at the end of the day, as it might seem easy to forgive someone else but difficult to forgive yourself.

A freelance designer should always feel superior and believe their work has provided a positive influence within their community.

Based on this premise, if you succumb to your weakness not only did the client buy your design, but they bought you.

To create a better you, making the best choice is paramount.

The long and short of this is that we are only as good as our reputation.

Remember, not because you can do something means that you should. Would your conscience allow you to turn down a client if it compromises your ethics?

Until we meet again, play a little, have fun and stay on top of your game!

**NB: The author encourages feedback at**

deedee2111@hotmail.com

## INSIGHT

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

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## Partners Congratulate Associates on Successful Completion of the Uniform Certified Public Accountants' Examination



From left to right Candice Murton - ABAS Manager, Kendra C. Culmer - Associate, Myra R. Lundy-Mortimer - HC Partner

**KENDRA C. CULMER** - successfully passed all parts of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants' Uniform CPA Examination on her first attempt during the July/August 2010 testing window.

Kendra joined the Firm in August 2009 and currently holds the position of Audit Associate. She attended the College of The Bahamas and received a BBA in Accounting with Distinction in May 2009. At graduation, Kendra was also awarded with the Ernst & Young Award for Accounting, the BICA award for Accounting and the Chamber of Commerce Award for Academic Excellence. While at COB, she served as Managing Editor of the school newspaper. She was also the 2008 recipient of the BICA scholarship award and a 2009 finalist for the Financial Services Student of the Year Award. In 2005, she graduated as Valedictorian from Windermere High School; she was also honoured for the top BGCSE results for Eleuthera that year.

Presently, she serves as a youth leader at Global Village Methodist Church. She credits her achievements to God's grace and the support of her parents, Ken and Audrey Culmer, from Tarpum Bay, Eleuthera.

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L. Edgar Moxey, Partner and Renaldo P. Knowles - Associate

**RENALDO P. KNOWLES** - successfully passed the final part of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants' Uniform CPA Examination during the October/November 2010 testing window.

Renaldo is a 2004 graduate of Saint Augustine's College, Nassau, Bahamas. In 2008 he graduated from Saint Mary's University, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada with a Bachelor's Degree in Accounting. He joined the Firm in August 2008 and currently holds the position of Audit Associate. He is also a member of the Firm's Banking Committee.

Renaldo thanks God for granting him success in the CPA examinations, the Partners of the Firm for their support during his studies as well as his family, especially his parents, Patrick and Philippa Knowles who continuously encourage him to strive for success and to be diligent and persistent in all endeavours. Renaldo enjoys travelling and is a member of Believers Gospel Chapel.

BUSINESS

# JP Morgan executive passes the Series 7

A client accountant at JP Morgan Trust, Osriea Gordon, has passed the Series 7 exam in the US after studying with the Nassau-based Securities Training Institute (STI). Ms Albury, course administrator at STI, said: "The Series 7 Course allows participants to expand their knowledge of capital markets, and thereby become more proficient and effective in their jobs." Ms Gordon is pictured.



OSRIEA GORDON



JOHN S. BAIN

## Bahamian set to address seminar

Bahamian chartered forensic accountant, John S. Bain, has been invited to address an accounting conference in St Kitts & Nevis held by the ACCA (Association of Chartered Certified Accountants), The Institute of Chartered Accountants of the Eastern Caribbean (ICAEC) - St Kitts and Nevis Branch; and The Institute of Chartered Accountants of the Caribbean (ICAC).

Mr Bain will lecture on *Ethics & Governance*. He has recently been elected to the ACCA International Assembly to represent the Americas and the Caribbean, including the Bahamas and St. Kitts & Nevis. The meeting will be held on January 25, 2011, in St Kitts and Nevis.

FROM page 1B

Resource Group (SRG), which operates as IndiGo Networks, said "the biggest concern" for his company stemming from the Utilities Regulatory & Competition Authority's (URCA) determination on BTC's Reference Access and Interconnection offer (RAIO), was its decision to allow the state-owned incumbent to charge rival carriers cost-based interconnection rates, while still providing local calls.

This, Mr Hutton-Ashkeny said, "foreshadowed" the introduction of "metered tariffs" for local calls, with Bahamian households and businesses ultimately having to pay either a flat-rate or per minute fee for same-island calls.

"In time, Bahamians will have to get used to being charged a metered tariff for local calls," he told Tribune Business. "I think it's inevitable. Over time, operators will not be able to absorb these cost. What URCA has done is set in train circumstances that lead to local tariffs. When that does come it will cause a cultural shift in the market, because we're all used to free local calls."

With BTC now able to impose charges on rival carriers for interconnecting and terminating their clients' calls on its network, Mr Hutton-Ashkeny said competitors would have no option but to do similar, as they could not keep on absorbing these costs.

This would also mean a move away from the existing 'Bill and Keep' arrangement between BTC and SRG, where neither party charges the other for interconnection/call termination because each is providing the other with a service of similar value. As a result, no local call fees were collected from Bahamian consumers.

Mr Hutton-Ashkeny said URCA's decisions on BTC's RAIO were largely expected, and he added: "There's no smoking gun."

Both SRG and Cable Bahamas had warned in their responses to the BTC RAIO consultation that allowing the state-owned incumbent to marry its free local calls regime with charging cost-based interconnection (call termination) rates on rival carriers would destroy the prospects for "sustainable competition" in the Bahamian landline telecommunications market.

This, they argued, was because such a situation meant there was no way rival

# 'Get used to paying for local calls'

operators could replicate, or compete with, BTC's free same-island calls.

In its decision, URCA noted Cable Bahamas' point that for "a reasonably efficient operator" to compete with BTC's fixed-line offering to residential customers, the latter's interconnection rates had to be "cost oriented", while the cost of 'free local calls' had to be covered by monthly access fees.

## Confirm

The BISX-listed telecommunications provider also urged URCA to confirm that BTC's "retail pricing is not predatory or below cost", and that retail offers could be replicated by rival carriers on the basis of the proposed RAIO offer.

"Cable Bahamas further stated that in the event that BTC's monthly access charge is not compensatory, URCA must require BTC to rebalance its tariffs, as this is necessary for sustainable competition," URCA noted.

"In the absence of URCA's confirmation that BTC's local rates are compensatory, local termination charges should be 'zero-rated'. Cable Bahamas believes that the introduction of a capacity-based interconnection offer would enable other licensed operators to replicate BTC's unlimited offer of free local calls."

In response, the regulator said that while cost-orientation was a requirement of BTC's licence and the Communications Act, it was still awaiting the company's 2009 accounting separation results to determine whether it was providing cost-based interconnection services.

URCA added that tariff rebalancing, which both BTC and itself knew was needed, had to take place before it could be determined whether the latter was offering services to residential customers below cost. And the regulator was also unable to determine whether BTC's fixed, landline pricing could be replicated by

rivals.

Responding to the concerns raised, and in a direct nod to Cable Bahamas' plans to enter the Bahamian fixed-line telecommunications market in 2011, URCA said: "Notwithstanding the legitimate competition concerns identified, URCA considers that an efficient other licensed operator (OLO) could still compete with BTC in the fixed access market by, for example, bundling fixed access services with local and long distance calls.

"URCA understands that there is an emerging trend in many jurisdictions for cable TV service providers to offer double or triple play packages in order to actively compete in the fixed telephony market (even if the incumbent's monthly access fee may not be fully cost reflective).....

"URCA agrees in principle

that the monthly access fees should also cover the economic cost of providing 'free local calls. However, for historic and social policy reasons, that might not be the current case in the Bahamas."

Looking to reaffirm its pro-competition credentials, URCA said "it takes seriously any potential competition concerns identified by the respondents, namely the ability of other licensed operators to profitably replicate BTC's retail offers given the non-zero RAIO charge for local calls".

It promised to use its powers should any anti-competitive conduct come to light, and said that while BTC had not proposed a capacity-based interconnection offer, such arrangements could be negotiated with rival Bahamas-based telecoms providers.

## Sandlewood Residences

### St. Albans Drive

Beautiful spacious studio apartment. Fully furnished \$550 to move in & \$175 weekly plus electricity 4 months minimum stay. Tel: 325-1325 | 325-1408

## JOB OPPORTUNITY

Established company seeking to employ a

### PLANT TECHNICIAN

To operate Reverse Osmosis Facility Knowledge of electrical and mechanical plumbing a must

Serious inquiries only Apply at:

[www.gecareers.com](http://www.gecareers.com) Job Search#: 1279165

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## PremierHealth

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## ATLANTIC MEDICAL

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**BUSINESS**

**LENNOX PATON**

**COUNSEL & ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW**

**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY**

Lennox Paton is seeking an experienced Administrative Assistant

**REQUIREMENTS**

- A minimum of 7 - 10 years experience working with litigation attorneys
- Adept in the preparation of legal documents and administrative correspondence
- Knowledge of the legal environment and fundamental subjects in law
- Proficient in Microsoft Word, Excel, Outlook & Power Point
- Good working knowledge of general office procedures, and use of office equipment

**PERSONAL ATTRIBUTES**

- Must be conscientious, thorough and organized
- Must meet deadlines
- Must have good client liaison skills
- Require minimum supervision

Interested persons must submit a current resume no later than January 28, 2011.

[HRmanager@lennoxpaton.com](mailto:HRmanager@lennoxpaton.com)

OR

**Human Resources Manager  
Lennox Paton  
P.O. Box N-4875  
Nassau, Bahamas**

*No phone calls please.*

**FROM page 1B**

ly to collegiate and amateur sides, realising that these, too, brought huge numbers of family, friends and travelling supporters with them.

Apart from boosting stopover visitors and spending, Mr Vanderpool-Wallace said visiting sports teams and their followers also gave the Bahamas an opportunity to "monetise" its sporting assets.

Apart from the new \$30 million national stadium (\$20 million in supporting infrastructure), he noted that the Bahamas already had facilities such as swimming pools and basketball courts, that sat idle for long periods of time.

"There's no question that this is a huge deal for the Bahamas," Mr Vanderpool-Wallace said of the NCAA exempt status. "This paves the way for exemptions across the board for a whole series of sports. It's very much in line with our focus on amateur sports as opposed to what has heretofore been a focus on professional sports teams within North America.

"Needless to say, wherever these teams participate they bring large numbers of friends and family." Pointing out that he frequently travelled to inter-

**'SKY IS THE LIMIT' ON SPORTS TOURISM**

national swimming meets with his well-known daughter, Arianna, Mr Vanderpool-Wallace said he was "always amazed by the number of people there in support" of the athletes, having paid their own way. As a result, he thought: "Why not come to the Bahamas?"

The benefits to Atlantis from hosting the four-team NCAA tournament pre-Christmas were obvious, the resort doubling its occupancy rates by around 40 percentage points. "The occupancy rate for that period is around 80 per cent - significantly higher than that the usual 40 per cent for the period prior to the Christmas Holidays. We are also pleased with tickets sales, which have surpassed the 1,200 mark," said Ed Fields, senior vice-president of public affairs for Kerzner International, said at the time.

Visiting NCAA teams and others would require a whole range of tourist-related and specialist services while in the Bahamas, the minister added, providing spin-off opportunities for Bahamians.

He praised the work of George Markantonis, president and managing director of Kerzner International (Bahamas) and Atlantis; minister of youth, sports and culture, Charles Maynard; and the Ministry's own sports tourism department, headed by Tyrone Sawyer, for making the NCAA exempt status happen.

Mr Markantonis did not return Tribune Business's calls seeking comment yesterday, but an Associated Press report said Atlantis is hoping the exempt status will pave the way for it to host the US east coast version of the Maui Invitational, with an eight-team basketball tournament over the Thanksgiving weekend.

"We, of course, are very delighted the vote went in favour of the Bahamas," Mr Markantonis, was quoted as saying. "That enables entities in this country and, certainly in our case, Atlantis, to go ahead with their plans for a monster pre-season tournament.

"Basketball is the most popular sport in the Bahamas, and we'd like to think it's going to stimulate more interest in the country, and that people will come and make a week of it on a long vacation and take in some quality basketball."

Mr Markantonis said last summer that Kerzner International was aiming to break into the sports tourism market by hosting two NCAA basketball tournaments at its Atlantis property over the next two years, and was working with the Ministry of Tourism to enable the Bahamas to obtain 'exempt status'. Announcing that the resort owner was "working on a lot of initiatives to do with sports tourism", and that it "agreed 100 per cent" with the Ministry's drive to break into this market niche, Mr Markantonis said it had been negotiating with "two major organisations" over the last nine months.



**THE COLLEGE OF THE BAHAMAS**

Visit our website at [www.cob.edu.bs](http://www.cob.edu.bs)

**THE CONFUCIUS CLASSROOM AT THE COLLEGE OF THE BAHAMAS**



**Is happy to announce the beginning of its Mandarin Classes**

**On January 31, 2011 - PLEASE CONTACT US AT:**

**ROOM 16, MUNNINGS BUILDING  
P. O. BOX N-4912, NASSAU, THE BAHAMAS  
TEL: (242) 302-4584 AND 4563  
E-MAIL: [confucius@cob.edu.bs](mailto:confucius@cob.edu.bs)**

A leading jewellery retailer is seeking a person for this senior position in its Nassau Operation.

*ISLAND MANAGER*

The successful candidate will be responsible for ensuring sales and profits are optimized by customer service and proper maintenance of inventory controls according to established company procedures.

- The ideal candidate should possess:
- Integrity, Energetic motivational skills and Assertiveness
  - A minimum of 5 years multi store management experience in retail jewellery sales is preferred
  - The ability to manage and supervise store managers
  - The ability to provide motivation and demonstrate leadership to improve customer satisfaction and sales performance
  - Good Educational Background
  - Proven skills with inventory management, merchandising, marketing and training
  - Good knowledge of computers and administration

The position offers an excellent remuneration and benefits package.

Interested person should submit your resume to:

**The Human Resources Manager**  
P.O. Box N-623  
Nassau, Bahamas  
Fax (242) 322-6607  
Or Email  
[hr@luxuryretaillimited.com](mailto:hr@luxuryretaillimited.com)

**Senior Client Relationship Manager**

Societe Generale Private Banking (Bahamas) Ltd., part of the Société Générale Group, is a private bank providing a comprehensive wealth management service.

Societe Generale Private Banking is currently looking to recruit a Senior Client Relationship Manager. Your primary role will be to introduce, maintain and grow profitable client relationships in Latin America for Societe Generale Private Banking (Bahamas) Ltd and ensure adherence to legal, regulatory and industry standards

You should ideally hold the Chartered Institute of Bankers Diploma or equivalent professional qualifications, and have at least 8 to 10 years' international private banking/marketing/sales experience. Strong managerial and operational skills is mandatory.

You should have excellent client relationship and selling skills, an in-depth knowledge

of investment, trust and banking products and fluency in Spanish is mandatory. Some knowledge of Portuguese would be an asset, and proficient in the use of Computers. The incumbent will be required to travel on a regular basis to designated marketing regions.

The position offers an attractive salary and benefits package including, pension and bonus schemes.

Applications should be submitted to the following address, to arrive on or before 21 January 2011.

Head of Human Resources  
Societe Generale Private Banking (Bahamas) Ltd  
PO Box N7789  
Nassau  
Bahamas



Societe Generale Private Banking (Bahamas) Ltd. is licensed under the Bank & Trust Companies Regulations Act



**Temple Christian High School**

**ENTRANCE EXAMINATION**

2011 - 2012

Temple Christian High School will hold its Entrance Examination on **SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 5TH, 2011** at the school on Shirley Street from 8:00 a.m. - 12 noon for students wishing to enter grades, 7, 8, 9 and 10.

Application forms are available at the High School Office. The application fee is twenty five dollars (\$25.00). Application forms should be completed and returned to the school by Friday, February 4th, 2011.

**For further information please call 394-4481 or 394-4484**

## BUSINESS

FROM page 1B

**NAD rate rise: \$1 per seat over six years**

on airlines above what was outlined in the 2006 plan, Mr Steeves said that instead it made that "adjustment internally" by reducing non-employee operating expenses by 19 per cent during its 2010 financial year.

"The total increased burden on domestic carriers over the life of this project is about \$1 per seat phased in over six years," Mr Steeves told Tribune Business, "because that's what

the carriers asked us to do.

"Often, such fee increases are put in place all at once, but we decided to work with the carrier community and phase it in over six to seven years. There's a lot of discussion on what I feel is a rather small impact on the travelling public in exchange for a world class facility that will be an enabler of growth for the whole sector."

Acknowledging that there had been "more discussion about rates in the domestic market than anywhere else", Mr Steeves added: "The reality is that the increase is nominal. The rates were extremely low."

The NAD chief executive told Tribune Business that the fee increases for the two most commonly operated aircraft on domestic Bahamian routes, the 34-seat Saab-340 and 19-seat

Beech 1900, were \$5.44 and \$3.18 per flight respectively. This worked out at \$0.16 per seat and \$0.17 per seat respectively.

"The rate paid by domestic and international carriers has remained unchanged since 2006, when this recession began," Mr Steeves told Tribune Business.

NAD had to cope with a reduction in passenger volume that, at its peak, hit 7-8 per cent, and he added: "We took that adjustment internally on our cost base."

While passenger numbers transiting through LPIA were now "back on track", Mr Steeves said NAD had managed to cut its non-employee operating expenses by 19 per cent, from \$12.1 million to \$9.7 million, due to improvements in energy conservation and "proactive as opposed to reactive maintenance".

As for international carriers, Mr Steeves said NAD had engaged in a benchmarking study to ensure LPIA remained competitive against rival airports on "a whole basket of fees".

"We continue to be very competitive in that regard, and will be throughout the life of the project, despite this airport being brand new and having three levels of service - US pre-clearance, international and domestic," the NAD chief executive said. "That makes it a more complex facility. When you can show you're competitive against anyone when you're not an average facility, we're very pleased with that."

Mr Steeves said NAD had exploited the economic down cycle to reduce its construction and financing costs considerably, locking-in long-term financing for the \$409.5 million LPIA expansion at relatively

low interest rates, something that would reduce its debt burden over the next 20-30 years, plus lessen the fees it would have to charge airlines and passengers. Noting that NAD's overall interest rates had dropped by 1.5 percentage points between the stage one and stage two financing, falling from 8.5 per cent to 7 per cent, Mr Steeves said the airport operator was "on track" to meet all its financial targets.

"We're on or ahead of all covenants with lenders, which enables us to get a strong credit rating without any government guarantee," Mr Steeves said.

"It's very important to stay on plan and continue to build confidence with lenders and credit rating agencies, so we can get competitively priced financing without any guarantee or obligations from the Government."

GN 1164



MINISTRY OF FINANCE  
TREASURY DEPARTMENT  
PUBLIC NOTICE

**RELOCATION OF THE PUBLIC TREASURY DEPARTMENT**

THE TREASURER OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS WISHES TO ADVISE THE GENERAL PUBLIC THAT THE PUBLIC TREASURY

DEPARTMENT WILL BE RELOCATED TO THE NORTH BUILDING AT WATER

**TOWER PLACE EAST STREET NORTH**

**DIRECTLY OPPOSITE THE ROYAL BAHAMAS POLICE FORCE HEADQUARTERS**

EFFECTIVE MONDAY JANUARY 17, 2011 THE FOLLOWING SECTIONS WILL BE OPERATING FROM THE ABOVE LOCATION:

REVENUE SECTION  
PENSION SECTION  
PAYROLL SECTION  
STAMP EXEMPTION SECTION

EFFECTIVE MONDAY JANUARY 24, 2011 THE PUBLIC TREASURY WILL BE IN FULL OPERATION FROM THE ABOVE LOCATION.

GN-1159



Ministry of Finance  
Treasury Department

Public Announcement

January 2011 Pension Verification Exercise  
Change of Venue and Date

The Treasurer of the Commonwealth of Bahamas wishes to advise ALL pensioners whose monthly pension payments are paid directly into their bank accounts that the January 2011 verification exercise will commence on **Monday, January 17, 2011** during the hours of 9:00am to 4:00pm at the following New Location:-

The North Building at Water Tower Place  
East Street North

Directly Opposite The Royal Bahamas Police Force Headquarters

## Employment Opportunity Financial Controller

A food service industry leader is seeking to employ an experienced Financial Controller for various business entities. The successful applicant must possess effective leadership skills and is expected to assume overall responsibility for finance related functions. The Financial Controller will ensure that the preparation of financial reports, both internal and external, is accurate, timely, complete and in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards and internal controls are in place to safeguard company assets.

**Primary Duties and Responsibilities:**

- Preparation, review and approval of monthly Financial Statements for multiple companies.
- Assist the operations leaders in preparation of annual budgets, periodic forecasts and monthly reports as required.
- Support the operations leaders in managing their businesses by developing internal controls procedures, overseeing expenses, provide input for strategic decisions and make recommendations to improve efficiencies and profitability.
- Establish financial policies and procedures.
- Provide technical assistance and training to staff members as needed.
- Manage staff members in line with company's policies and procedures.
- Act as first point of contact with external auditors and communicate with them to ensure all questions are answered efficiently.
- Report key financial data and statistical information to internal and external users
- Conduct annual staff performance appraisals and, upon review of the results, re-allocate tasks and responsibilities as required.
- To provide input for strategic decisions and make recommendations to improve overall performance and efficiency of the Finance Department.
- Ability to conduct group meetings with staff, management and shareholders as required.

**Qualifications and Experience :**

- Bachelors Degree in Business Administration with an emphasis in Accounting or Finance. Advanced degree or certification in Accounting.
- Minimum of 10 years hands on experience in the Accounts Department of which at least 5 years is in a senior position.
- Effective communication skills (written and oral).
- Knowledge of local labour laws, reporting requirements to government agencies, etc.
- Must be able to prioritize and manage time effectively.
- Must be proficient in the use of Accounting software, Microsoft Word, Excel, and PowerPoint.

Salary will be commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Interested candidates should submit their resumes in confidence, including name, address and telephone contact information of at least three references to:

Human Resources Department  
P.O. Box CB-12762  
Suite 299  
Nassau, Bahamas  
Or email [hrconsultantsbs@gmail.com](mailto:hrconsultantsbs@gmail.com)

GN1167



MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT  
PORT DEPARTMENT

GOVERNMENT NOTICE

INVITATION FOR TENDERS

The Government of the Bahamas is inviting tenders for the following Contracted Service for the Port Department, Ministry of The Environment.

- **Lease agreement advertising signage at the Port of Nassau**

Interested parties may obtain further information, and may collect the bidding document as of **21st January, 2011** from:

The Port Department  
Prince George Dock  
Nassau, Bahamas  
Telephone No. (242)322-8832

Between the hours of 9:00a.m. and 5:00p.m. Monday through Friday.

Tenders are to be submitted in Triplicate (3) in a sealed envelope (s) Marked Tender for The Lease agreement advertising signage at the Port of Nassau to:

The Chairman  
Tenders Board  
Ministry of Finance  
Cecil V. Wallace Whitfield Building  
Cable Beach  
P.O. Box N-3017  
Nassau, Bahamas

No later than 5:00p.m. on the 24<sup>th</sup> January, 2011.

Tenders will be opened at 10:00a.m. on the 25th January, 2011 at the Office of the Tenders Board, Ministry of Finance.

**THE GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL TENDERS.**

BUSINESS

# BORCO owner closes \$1.36bn deal for 80%

FROM page 1B

tion for it, Buckeye Partners said: "No other international commercial storage terminal enjoys BORCO's proximity to the US demand and supply centres, as well as its scale and comprehensive service offerings.

"BORCO's terminal is a premier marine storage facility with a unique position as a strategic logistics hub.

"The terminal has 21.6 million barrels of storage capacity with deepwater access up to 91 feet, and the ability to berth the largest tankers in the world.

"Located only 80 miles from southern Florida and 920 miles from New York Harbour, BORCO is strategically located to act as a hub in facilitating international logistics for bulk-build, break-

bulk and blending operations."

And Buckeye Partners added: "We believe that BORCO's customer demand is well in excess of its currently available capacity. BORCO has received strong indications for contract renewals from current customers, and there is a significant backlog of demand from additional potential customers. In addition, BORCO has received significant interest from existing and new customers for the increased storage capacity expected to be constructed at the terminal over the next two to three years. "We believe the BORCO acquisition will support future regional and international growth opportunities. There are potential synergies with our existing assets in the continental US and our newly acquired refined products terminal in Yabucoa, Puerto Rico, as well as other Caribbean market opportunities."



GN 1168

Ministry of National  
**PARLIAMENTARY REGISTRATION DEPARTMENT**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

The Parliamentary Registration Department will be conducting Evening Registration on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, during the period 17th January – 21<sup>st</sup> January, from 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm at the following locations:

- (1) Parliamentary Registration Department
- (2) Mall at Marathon
- (2) Town Centre Mall
- (3) Elizabeth Estates Post Office – Prince Charles Drive
- (4) Carmichael Road Post Office – Carmichael Road

The public is reminded that only Bahamian Citizens are eligible to register to vote and applicants are required to produce proof of citizenship.

*Errol W. Bethel*  
**PARLIAMENTARY COMMISSIONER**

**VOTER REGISTRATION FOR THE WEEK OF 17<sup>TH</sup> – 21<sup>ST</sup> JANUARY, 2010**

The Parliamentary Commissioner wishes to remind the general public that Voter Registration continues on a daily basis in New Providence and in the Family Islands. Persons applying for registration must be **BAHAMIAN CITIZENS, 18 years and older** and must have resided in a particular constituency for three months or more.

Voter Registration Centres are opened in **New Providence** between the hours of 10:00am – 4:00pm at the following locations:

- (1) The Parliamentary Registration Department, Farrington Road
- (2) The Town Centre and Marathon Malls
- (3) The General Post Office, East Hill Street
- (4) The Sub-Post Office Carmichael Road
- (5) The Sub-Post Office Elizabeth Estates
- (6) The National Insurance Board – Bailiou Hill Road
- (7) Commonwealth Banks Mackey Street and Golden Gates Branches.

In **Grand Bahama**, Centres are opened between the hours of 9:30am – 4:30pm at the following locations:

1. Parliamentary Registration Department, Freeport
2. Administrator's Office, Eight Mile Rock
3. Administrator's Office, High Rock (Tuesdays and Thursdays)

In the Family Islands, registration takes place at the Administrators' Offices in the various Family Islands between the hours of 9:30am – 4:30pm.

The Parliamentary Commissioner also wishes to advise that the Department has commenced its mobile services with effect from 10<sup>th</sup> January 2011.

Businesses and organizations with at least twenty (20) eligible employees or members may contact the Department at telephone numbers 325-2888/9 or 397-2000 to schedule an appointment.

*Errol W. Bethel*  
**PARLIAMENTARY COMMISSIONER**

**VOTERS REGISTRATION RADIO ANNOUNCEMENT**

**VOTERS REGISTRATION WILL BE HELD IN THE CENTRAL ANDROS DISTRICT AS FOLLOWS:**

**TUESDAY JANUARY 18<sup>TH</sup> 2011**

**BEHRING POINT AT THE PRIMARY SCHOOL FROM 6:00 P.M – 7:30P.M**

**CARGILL CREEK AT THE ADMINISTRATOR'S OFFICE FROM 7.30 P.M. – 9:00 P.M**

**THURSDAY JANUARY 20<sup>TH</sup> 2011**  
**BOWEN SOUND AT THE PRIMARY SCHOOL FROM 6:00 P.M – 8:30 P.M.**

**PERSONS APPLYING FOR REGISTRATION MUST BE**

1. **BAHAMIAN CITIZENS**
2. **18 YEARS AND OLDER**
3. **MUST HAVE RESIDED IN THE CONSTITUENCY FOR 3 MONTHS OR MORE**

**APPLICANT FOR REGISTRATION MUST PROVIDE PROOF OF CITIZENSHIP PREFERABLY**

**A VALID BAHAMIAN PASSPORT  
A BIRTH CERTIFICATE ALONG WITH AN OFFICIAL ID, AND OTHER DOCUMENTS AS REQUESTED OR A CURRENT VOTERS CARD.**



GN 1169

**THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**TENDER FOR THE SALE OF VEHICLES AND MACHINERY**

The Government of The Commonwealth of The Bahamas, through the Ministry of Finance invites Tenders for the provision of sale of vehicles and machinery located at the Ministry of Public Works & Transport and the Ministry of Finance.

All interested persons/companies may collect listing from Ministry of Finance, Cecil Wallace-Whitfield Building, West Bay Street, Nassau, Bahamas. Vehicles may be inspected at the Ministry of Public Works & Transport, J.F. Kennedy Drive and the Ministry of Finance, Sir Cecil Wallace Whitfield Building, Cable Beach between the hours of 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday beginning 19<sup>th</sup> January, 2011. Contact persons are as follows:

Location	Contact Person	Telephone
Ministry of Works	Mr. Bertram Reckley Mr. Phillip Gardiner	302-9567
Ministry of Finance	Mr. Julian Smith Mrs. Tonya Ferguson	702-1529 702-1509

Tenders are hereby invited for the purchase of one (1) or more of the following:

No.	Year	Make/Model	License Plate No.	Serial Number	Location
1	2001	Chrysler Sebring	C76	3N1B51S4ZL040170	Ministry of Works
2	1995	Buick Lesabre	C55	1G4HP5216SH433633	Ministry of Works
3	-	Chevy Lumina	C1697	2G1WL52M1T9311809	Ministry of Works
4	-	Nissan A D Wagon	C202	3NIDY0557ZK005144	Ministry of Works
5	-	Chevy Cavalier	C2080	3G1JX5442XS158071	Ministry of Works
6	1999	Toyota Corolla	C59	AE100-3119492	Ministry of Works
7	2006	Kia Clarus	C1837	KNAGC2223V5507617	Ministry of Works
8	1998	Dae Lanos	T1960	KLATA69YEWB231273	Ministry of Works
9	2001	Nissan AD Wagon	C172	3N1TAA1Y10V-000468	Ministry of Works
10	1998	Nissan AD Wagon	C1682	3N1TEAY107000412	Ministry of Works
11	1998	Chevy 2500	T38	1GCE34K6WZ167526	Ministry of Works
12	1996	Ford Ranger	T375	-	Ministry of Works
13	1991	Nissan AD Wagon	C56	3N1TDAY10V-000563	Ministry of Works
14	1997	Ford Crown Victoria	-	2FALP73W7YX183	Ministry of Works
15	2004	Nissan AD Wagon	C2463	3N1DY055XZK005316	Ministry of Works
16	1997	Ford F150	-	1FAFD1721VNC72399	Ministry of Works
17	1997	Ford Ranger	T110	1FTCR10A1V159808	Ministry of Works
18	1990	Ford F350	-	1FDTF37Y9LNA76156	Ministry of Works
19	-	Buick Road Star	C1797	1G4B15372NR460071	
20	-	Nissan AD Wagon	-	3N1TDAY10W-003568	Ministry of Works
21	-	Nissan AD Wagon	-	3N1DY055XZK005347	Ministry of Works
22	1996	Ford Ranger	T227	1FTCR10A3TUC21462	Ministry of Works
23	1998	Chevy S10	T758	1GCCS1441WK196305	Ministry of Works
24	1997	Ford Crown Victoria	C1792	2FALP73W7VX183682	Ministry of Works
25	1992	Nissan Sentra	C1776	3N1BDAB14V-004253	Ministry of Works
26	2005	Kia Optima	C2623	KNAGD22435539861	Ministry of Works

No.	Year	Make/Model	License Plate No.	Serial Number	Location
27	-	Caterpillar Grader	-	B6693 12Volts 12Faradia 13K 353	Ministry of Works
28	-	Kubota Tractor	-	M4950-M3950	Ministry of Works
29	-	Caterpillar Fork Lift	-	VC60D 2MC443	Ministry of Works
30	-	Faint Machine (3 Wheel)	-	2000 Hatz Diesel D 399RUHSTOR/ROTT	Ministry of Works
31	-	Hand Roller	-	- Yellow	Ministry of Works
32	-	Lister Snaker Plumbing Machine	-	Lister No.34053 19ST1A11 Green/Yellow	Ministry of Works
33	-	Concrete Mixer (2)	-	Green	Ministry of Works
34	-	Double Paint Tank (on platform)	-	Yellow	Ministry of Works
35	-	Ingersoll-Rand 100 Air Compressor	-	DWC40005910048	Ministry of Works
36	2000	Daewoo Damas	C721	KLAT7TIYSDYCC70992	Ministry of Works
37	2000	Daewoo Damas	C2222	KLAT7T11YDYCO59803	Ministry of Works
38	1998	Daewoo Cielo	C1932	KLATA19Y1WB207224	Ministry of Works
39	1996	Daewoo Cielo	C1929	KLATA19Y1WB207162	Ministry of Works
40	1999	Daewoo Cielo	C2062	KLATA19Y1X8242929	Ministry of Works
41	1997	Daewoo Racer	C1817	KLATA19Y1VB146642	Ministry of Works
42	1997	Daewoo Damas	C1880	KLY7011YDWC038201	Ministry of Works
43	1997	Daewoo Damas	C1881	KLY7711YDWC038199	Ministry of Works
44	1997	Daewoo Tico	C1770	KLY3211BRVC398175	Ministry of Works
45	1997	Daewoo Tico	C1874	KLY3511BRVC478170	Ministry of Works
46	1997	Daewoo Tico	-	KLY3511BRVC476628	Ministry of Works
47	1997	Daewoo Racer	C1765	KLATA19T1VB069409	Ministry of Works
48	1999	Daewoo Cielo	C1867	KLATA19Y1WB195417	Ministry of Works
49	1999	Nissan Sentra B14	C1994	3N1DB4136ZK025528	Ministry of Works
50	2000	Nissan AD Wagon	C2027	3N1DY0553ZK0C4220	Ministry of Works
51	1999	Mitsubishi L 3cc	C704	JMYJNP16VXA000380	Ministry of Works
52	2000	Daewoo Damas	C720	KLAT7T11SD1C075561	Ministry of Works
53	1999	Daewoo Cielo	C81850	KLATA19Y1YB2482334	Ministry of Works
54	1999	Kia Pregio	1933	KNHTR7313W6316196	Ministry of Works
55	2003	Suzuki Baleno	C2475	GC115-400305	Ministry of Works
56	2005	Kia Clarus	C2733	KNAFCS26365409317	Ministry of Works
57	2003	Kia Spectra	2350	KNAFB227335211258	Ministry of Finance
58	2004	Chevy Vectra	2287	WOLZ054N341082077	Ministry of Finance
59	2004	Chevy Vectra	3155	WOLZC54N241085102	Ministry of Finance
60	2003	Chevrolet Impala		2G1WF55K6391872	Ministry of Finance
61	2000	Chevrolet Impala	2633	2G1WF55K0Y9176587	Ministry of Finance
62	2000	Kia Clarus, SLX	2256	KNAGC2223Y5534952	Ministry of Finance
63		Chevrolet Epica Lt		KL1VM58254B135972	Ministry of Finance
64	2001	Chevrolet Impala		2G1WF55K919278153	Ministry of Finance
65	2004	Chevy Optra LT	2601	KL1JM68314K017272	Ministry of Finance
66	1997	Nissan, Bluebird	1805	JN1BCAU13206025	Ministry of Finance
67	1997	Chevy Lumina	1812	2G1W152M1V9313654	Ministry of Finance
68	2004	Chevy Vectra	2486	WOLZC54N541022883	Ministry of Finance
69	2000	Chevy Impala	2160	2G1WF55K0Y9314712	Ministry of Finance
70	2004	Nissan Sentra	2442	3N1CB5151ZK029715	Ministry of Finance
71		Kia Clarus, SLX	2257	E1143R-00247	Ministry of Finance

The completed bids must be placed in sealed envelopes clearly marked "Tender Document for the "Sale of Vehicles and Machinery" and deposited in the Tender's box at the Ministry of Finance, Cecil Wallace-Whitfield Building, West Bay Street, Nassau, Bahamas, no later than 9:30 a.m. on or before Tuesday, February 1, 2011.

Persons submitting Tenders are invited to be present for the Tender opening on Tuesday, February 1, 2011 when the Tenders Board meets at 10:00 a.m.

The Ministry of Finance reserves the right to reject any or all tenders.

Financial Secretary

# DOMESTIC TOURISM TO 'EASILY DOUBLE'

FROM page 1B

Tourism officials have previously stated they were somewhat disappointed by the uptake by Bahamians and Bahamas residents, with David Johnson, director-general of tourism, suggesting some thought it was "too good to be true".

However, according to Valery Brown-Alce, senior director at the Bahamas Ministry of Tourism's New York office, and Mr Kappeler, market research pointed the stakeholders to a more specific reason why Bahamians did not take up the offer: timing.

As of December 2010, the program has been tailored to ensure more Bahamians can take advantage.

"We had patterned our initial domestic plan a lot like the travel might have been for US travellers.

"But the thing we learned was – if you're Bahamian and you live in Nassau, your pattern to travel to the Out Islands probably isn't like a US traveler.

"What we realised is that domestically our families and individuals travel a lot more like a two-day pattern. They fly in on maybe a Friday and fly out on a Sunday. So now we've strengthened our initial package by recognising and learning from what we tried," said Mr Kappeler.

The latest version of the promotion will now see domestic travelers offered a free companion airfare if they commit to two - not three - nights at a participating Out Island property.

Mr Kappeler has high hopes for the potential of the promotion to kick-start major growth in inter-island travel among Bahamians and domestic residents.

"I think the contribution of business coming to the Out Islands from Nassau, our domestic market, will easily double because we've found the sweet spot.

"We've found that spot that the Bahamian travellers are looking for, and that's a

**"What we realised is that domestically our families and individuals travel a lot more like a two-day pattern. They fly in on maybe a Friday and fly out on a Sunday. So now we've strengthened our initial package by recognising and learning from what we tried."**

*Stephen Kappeler*

two-night pattern," he said.

"For example, if it's \$150 to travel to Eleuthera and a \$150 hotel, basically by paying your airfare it's like I've paid for your room. How much more affordable can you get than that?"

## Partnership

The joint public-private partnership between the OIPB, which is funded by contributions from its member hotel and resort properties, and the Ministry of Tourism, has also changed the way the program is funded in an effort to attract more hotels to participate.

This gives travellers a wider variety of properties

to choose from at a range of price points.

"Before there was a split funding model which said the hotel paid a little something, the Ministry of Tourism paid a little something and the Out Islands Promotions Board paid something towards the cost of that air fare. Now we've taken that burden off the hotel, making it more attractive to the hotels of the Out Islands," said Mr Kappeler.

Where participating hotels and resorts used to have to put up 25 per cent of the cost of the free airfare being offered to each individual, the funding is now being split 50-50 between the Ministry of Tourism and the OIPB, he said.

## Share your news

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

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



## GrahamThompson

Seeks applicants for the following positions:

### 1. Litigation Counsel Attorneys

- Minimum 7-year post qualification with proven experience to provide solicitor level and administrative support to GTC advocates in all areas including personal injury and professional negligence.
- Principal responsibilities will include opening and archiving files, witness interviews, case management, liaising with courts, attorneys, clients and experts in order to assist in smooth progression of cases, and preparing invoices.
- The successful candidate will have a thorough understanding of Bahamian litigation practice and procedure, have good organizational skills with excellent attention to detail and the ability to multi task and handle a heavy workload.
- Excellent writing, telephone and interpersonal skills are essential as are excellent working knowledge of MS Office, Word and Outlook.

### 2. Paralegals or experienced litigation assistants

- Minimum 3-year post qualification with proven experience to provide support to GTC Litigation Group.
- Principal responsibilities will include opening and archiving files, monitoring filings and court dates, ensuring that all correspondence is responded to promptly, and preparing invoices.
- The successful candidate will have a thorough understanding of Bahamian litigation practice and procedure, have good organizational skills with excellent attention to detail and the ability to multi task and handle a heavy workload.
- Excellent writing, telephone and interpersonal skills are essential as are excellent working knowledge of MS Office, Word and Outlook.

### 3. Paralegals or experienced property assistants

- Minimum 3-year post qualification with proven experience to provide support to GTC Property Group.
- Principal responsibilities will include opening and archiving files, ensuring that all applications, requisitions and correspondence are responded to promptly, and preparing closing statements and invoices.
- The successful candidate will have a thorough understanding of Bahamian conveyancing practice and procedure, have good organizational skills with excellent attention to detail and the ability to multi task and handle a heavy workload.
- Excellent writing, telephone and interpersonal skills are essential as are excellent working knowledge of MS Office, Word and Outlook.

**Excellent salary and benefits and the opportunity to work in a challenging and supportive environment.** Non-traditional working hours available.

Applicants **MUST** apply by letter accompanied by a resume to be delivered to Graham Thompson, Sassoon House, Shirley Street & Victoria Avenue on or before **5:00 pm February 4, 2011** or by email to [resume.ad1101@gtclaw.com](mailto:resume.ad1101@gtclaw.com). Telephone calls will not be accepted.

All applications will be dealt with in the strictest confidence. The Firm reserves the right to reject any or all applications.

**BUSINESS**

*Employment Opportunity*

**Administrative Assistant**

A progressive retailer company seeks qualified candidates to fill the position of an Administrative Assistant. This is a highly confidential hands-on position that requires a responsible, efficient and confidential individual. Suitable candidates must be proactive and demonstrate strong leadership skills. Have the ability to communicate effectively and possess excellent organizational/interpersonal skills.

**QUALIFICATIONS:**

Good educational background in Office Administration  
Minimum of 2 years experience in a similar position  
Proficient in MS Office applications  
Have the ability to multitask and pays attention to detail  
Excellent record keeping and filing skills

We offer an attractive compensation package with excellent benefits. Suitable persons may submit resume to:

**The Human Resources Manager**

P.O. Box N-623  
Nassau, Bahamas  
Fax (242) 322-6607

Or Email

[hr@luxuryretaillimited.com](mailto:hr@luxuryretaillimited.com)

**FROM page 1B**

president and chief executive, said that while no wide-ranging analysis had been performed on the total economic impact of LPIA's redevelopment to date, the retail and restaurant concessions in the new US departures terminal would add 125 jobs once operational.

"Just looking at very narrow slice, just the shops and concessions in phase one, have created 125 new permanent jobs," Mr Steeves told Tribune Business. "The project as a whole has had a far more reaching impact."

Disclosing that \$189 million had been invested in LPIA's first phase expansion at end-November 2010, out of a total \$198 million budget, Mr Steeves said the construction workforce on site had currently hit its peak of around 800 workers. Apart from those working on the terminal, a number were also employed by the retail and restaurant concessions in fitting out those stores.

Once stage one is finished, Mr Steeves said work would seamlessly switch to the existing US departures terminal, where efforts would focus on its \$128.9 million phase two conversion into the international arrivals hall.

"Everything is still on track," he said of the phase one construction. "We're in the final push, which is always a busy

**Airport project creates 125 retail/eatery jobs**

time, but we're still planning for an early March opening of the US departures terminal and then switching over to work on the current US terminal.

"It would essentially be overnight. The day we begin operation of the new terminal, there will be no need for the old one. We will be ready to go by the time the first flight arrives at the new US terminal. The plan is to get in there and begin work right away. The second stage is very similar to the first stage in terms of scope."

Mr Steeves said phase two would require similar construction worker numbers to phase one, with a core of 400-500 workers rising to a peak of around 700-800. These numbers were set to remain "consistent" throughout the next two-and-a-half years until the expansion was completed in 2013.

"The vast majority of that workforce is Bahamian as well," Mr Steeves said. "We're 70 per cent and above Bahamian labour, and that rises to 75 per cent if those working on tenant stores are included."

These percentages, he added, were especially impressive given the specialised nature of air-

port construction, involving aircraft loading bridges, baggage systems, IT systems and such like.

Mr Steeves added that NAD was pleased with the "safety aspect" of the project, as while more than one million man hours had been worked on the construction, just 24 hours had been lost due to minor incidents, something he described as a "very, very low rate".

The third and final phase of LPIA's redevelopment, the \$83.5 million domestic and international departures terminal, is scheduled to be completed by end-2013, and NAD's chief executive said all three seemed to be meeting their financial targets.

"All indications are that we should hit budget performance; be within budget on all three stages, unless something goes wrong in the global marketplace," Mr Steeves said.

The "gala opening" for the US departures terminal is planned for February 25, 2011, followed by a public open house a day later, with the facility starting operations one week afterwards.

Mr Steeves said NAD hoped to have "most" of the US departure terminal restaurant and retail concessions open for phase one by the February 26 public open house date. Apart from eight restaurants, bars and lounges, the finished US departures terminal will hold 10 retail stores and three mobile retail 'carts'.

Describing the improved concessions offering as "significant", Mr Steeves said it represented a further upgrade on what was available in the existing US departures terminal - six-seven kiosks and the kiosks, three food places, including Dunkin Donuts and Cafe Kalik, and the Graycliff Lounge.

The new terminal, he added, would have a 160-170 seat sit-down restaurant with table service, and more seating available on an outside patio. There will be 100-150 seats in the food court, with three different food vendors, plus a Dunkin Donuts coffee shop, the relocated Graycliff lounge and Heineken bar/lounge.

"It'll be a significant improvement from what we have even today in the US departures terminal, let alone what the US departures terminal had two to three years ago," Mr Steeves told Tribune Business.

He pledged that the US departures terminal would be "spot on" when it came to creating a Bahamian 'sense of place', having commissioned Bahamian artwork and entered into a "rotating exchange" initiative with the National Art Gallery of the Bahamas. And, with many retailers offering Bahamian-made soap, candles and straw products, plus Bahamian-themed restaurants, "it'll have a strong sense of place, no question".

"It will be state of the art," Mr Steeves said of the new LPIA, "and in many ways it will be the most advanced, because it will have the latest technology..... We really believe this will be a best in class airport, not only in the region, but in North America in terms of [airports of comparable] size when complete."

**ANNOUNCEMENT**

**SPECIALTY CLINIC AT DOCTORS HOSPITAL**

As we continue to grieve the sudden death of our colleague, friend and physician, we wish to thank you all for your cards, telephone calls and sympathy. We appreciate your kindness and wish you all God's richest blessings. Thank you.

This is to advise all patients of **Dr. Willard J.J. Thompson** who consulted with him at the Specialty Clinic at Doctors Hospital; that alternate specialist Orthopaedic care is now available at the clinic.

Please contact the Sessional Clinic at 302-4684 for further information or email: [info@doctorshosp.com](mailto:info@doctorshosp.com)



[www.doctorshosp.com](http://www.doctorshosp.com)



Temple Christian High School

Shirley Street

**TEACHING VACANCY**

Invites applications from qualified Christian teachers for the following positions for the 2010 - 2011 School Year.

**Math/Commerce (Grs. 10-12)**

Applicants must:

- A. Be a practicing born-again Christian who is willing to subscribe to the Statement of Faith of Temple Christian School.
- B. Have a Bachelor's Degree in Education or higher from a recognized College or University in the area of specialization.
- C. Have a valid Teacher's Certificate or Diploma.
- D. Have at least two years teaching experience in the relevant subject area with excellent communication skills.
- E. Applicants must have the ability to prepare students for all examinations to the BJC/BGCSE levels.
- F. Be willing to participate in the high school's extra curricular programmes.

Applications must be picked up at the High School Office on Shirley Street and be returned with a full curriculum vitae, recent coloured photograph and three references to:

**Mr. Neil Hamilton**  
The Principal  
Temple Christian High School  
P.O. Box N-1566  
Nassau, Bahamas

Deadline for application is January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2011

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**Position Available**

An established law firm is seeking to employ an attorney who specializes in litigation with a minimum of five(5) years practical and professional experience.

Applicants should be organized, diligent, a team player and have the ability to work with minimum supervision.

Salary will commensurate with experience.

Interested applicants should send their curriculum vitae to:

**Da 101559**  
c/o The Tribune  
P.O. Box N3207  
Nassau, Bahamas



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**NOTICE**

This is to inform the public that as of January 10th, 2011

**Mr DeVaughn M. Gow**  
*is no longer employed with*  
**Jemi Health & Wellness Company Ltd.**

Therefore, **HE IS NOT AUTHORIZED** to conduct any business or to act in any way for **Jemi Health & Wellness Company Ltd.**

BUSINESS

# 2010 ends as 2nd worst year for home construction

MARTIN CRUTSINGER, AP Economics Writer WASHINGTON

U.S. homebuilders are coming off their two worst years in more than a half-century, and the outlook for this year is only slightly better.

Economists say it could take three more years before the industry begins building homes at a healthy rate. In the mean time, the housing downturn is dragging on the broader economy, with one-quarter of the jobs lost since the recession began in the construction field.

Builders normally help lead the economy out of a recession. Construction projects fuel growth and that leads to more hiring.



INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS

But a year and a half after the recession officially ended, builders are struggling to compete in markets flooded with

unsold homes — many of them foreclosures that are depressing prices.

"Housing in the past has always been one of the key drivers getting the economy back on track. It is not going to happen this time because there is a huge glut of homes out there," said Patrick Newport, U.S. economist at IHS Global Insight. Homebuilders broke ground on a total of 587,600 homes in 2010, just slightly better than the 554,000 started in 2009, the Commerce Department reported Wednesday. Those are the lowest annual totals on records dating back to 1959.

And the pace is getting worse. The Commerce Department reported Wednesday that builders started work at a sea-

sonally adjusted annual rate of 529,000 new homes and apartments last month. That's a drop of 4.3 percent from November and the slowest pace since October 2009.

A big reason for the decline is that people are buying fewer single-family homes, which represent nearly 80 percent of the market. Single-family home construction fell 9 percent to an annual rate of 417,000 units in December.

In a healthy economy, homebuilders break ground on more than 1.5 million units a year.

Newport said he doesn't expect that level of home construction until 2014. He expects builders will start work on 685,000 homes this year, 1.09 million units in 2012, and 1.43 million in 2013.

## Oil prices fall on disappointing housing report

NEW YORK

Oil prices fell Wednesday after a government report showed the U.S. housing industry still has a long way to go to recover.

Benchmark oil for March delivery lost 50 cents to settle at \$91.81 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange.

The Commerce Department said builders broke ground on 587,600 homes in 2010. That was the second lowest number of homes started since 1959. The worst year was 2009 when only 554,000 homes were started. That compares to about a million new units a year when the economy is healthy.

The data were an indication that Americans are not building new homes as unemployment remains high and credit remains tight for many people.

The housing report disappointed oil traders because they were looking for positive data that would indicate the economy is getting stronger. Tradition Energy analyst Gene McGillian said. A stronger economy will mean more demand for oil and gas.

Oil and natural gas supplies remain plentiful. The Energy Department is scheduled to release its weekly oil inventory report on Thursday, a day later than usual because of the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday on

Monday. Analysts surveyed by Platts, the energy information arm of McGraw-Hill Cos., expect a decline of 2.2 million barrels in crude supplies.

The numbers should reflect last week's temporary closure of the Trans-Alaskan pipeline due to a leak. The line delivers about 13 percent of the nation's daily domestic oil production to tankers for West Coast delivery. Natural gas prices rose as icy weather blanketed much of the country and forecasters said

very cold temperatures may be around into the middle of next month. Natural gas for March delivery added 13.6 cents to settle at \$4.561 per 1,000 cubic feet.

Analysts expect the Energy Department to report Thursday that natural gas in underground storage fell last week. The amount of the decline likely will "set the tone in this market for the next several days," energy consultants Cameron Hanover said in a report.

## NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that **JOHNNY CHARLES of Bishop St., Nassau Village** is applying to the Minister responsible for Nationality and Citizenship, for registration/naturalization as a citizen of The Bahamas, and that any person who knows any reason why registration/naturalization should not be granted, should send a written and signed statement of the facts within twenty-eight days from the **20<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2011** to the Minister responsible for nationality and Citizenship, P.O. Box N-7147, Nassau, Bahamas.

## NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that **CLAUDIA ISABEL ALCANTARA SANTOS of Jansel Court #303 F41492, Freeport, Grand Bahama** is applying to the Minister responsible for Nationality and Citizenship, for registration/naturalization as a citizen of The Bahamas, and that any person who knows any reason why registration/naturalization should not be granted, should send a written and signed statement of the facts within twenty-eight days from the **20<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2011** to the Minister responsible for nationality and Citizenship, P.O. Box N-7147, Nassau, Bahamas.

## NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that **DANIEL JAMES EVANS of #69 Fortune Bay Point, P.O. Box F-42958, Freeport, Bahamas** is applying to the Minister responsible for Nationality and Citizenship, for registration/naturalization as a citizen of The Bahamas, and that any person who knows any reason why registration/naturalization should not be granted, should send a written and signed statement of the facts within twenty-eight days from the **20<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2011** to the Minister responsible for nationality and Citizenship, P.O. Box N-7147, Nassau, Bahamas.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

### INTENT TO CHANGE NAME BY DEED POLL

The Public is hereby advised that I, **LISA CANDISE KNOWLES** of Nassau, Bahamas, intend to change my name to **LISA CANDISE SEARS**. If there are any objections to this change of name by Deed Poll, you may write such objections to the Chief Passport Officer, P.O. Box N-742, Nassau, Bahamas no later than thirty (30) days after the date of publication of this notice.

## NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that **RONY ST.FLEUR of #54 East Street, Nassau, Bahamas**, is applying to the Minister responsible for Nationality and Citizenship, for registration/naturalization as a citizen of The Bahamas, and that any person who knows any reason why registration/naturalization should not be granted, should send a written and signed statement of the facts within twenty-eight days from the **13<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2011** to the Minister responsible for nationality and Citizenship, P.O. Box N-7147, Nassau, Bahamas.

## NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that **WILLIAM PETER MANOS of George Town, Exuma, Bahamas, P.O. BOX EX-29476** is applying to the Minister responsible for Nationality and Citizenship, for registration/naturalization as a citizen of The Bahamas, and that any person who knows any reason why registration/naturalization should not be granted, should send a written and signed statement of the facts within twenty-eight days from the **13<sup>th</sup> day of JANUARY 2011** to the Minister responsible for Nationality and Citizenship, P.O. Box N-7147,

## Mortgage applications rose last week

NEW YORK

The number of borrowers looking to refinance their mortgage rose last week for the third straight time, according to Associated Press. The Mortgage Bankers Association said Wednesday its refinancing index increased 7.7 percent from the previous week. Overall, the mortgage applications index rose 5 percent this week.

But the number of people applying for a mortgage to buy a home fell 1.9 percent.

Rates on fixed mortgages were mixed, the survey said. The average rate for the 30-year fixed loan slipped to 4.77 percent from 4.78 percent. The rate on the 15-year mortgage, a popular refinancing option, rose to 4.16 percent from 4.15 percent.

Still, fixed mortgage rates are about a half-point higher than in November. They have risen as Treasury yields increased on improved economic data. Investors tend to seek safer investments like Treasury bonds in rockier times.

### NOTICE OF DISSOLUTION

OF

### UNION PACIFIC INVESTMENT LIMITED

Notice is hereby given that liquidation of the above company commenced on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2011. **Octagon Management Limited** of Bahamas Financial Centre, Shirley & Charlotte Streets, Nassau, The Bahamas has been appointed Liquidator of the Company.

Octagon Management Limited  
Liquidator

## JOB VACANCY

### SR. GIS TECHNICIAN

The Grand Bahama Port Authority, Limited

**REQUIRED**  
A Senior Geographical Information Systems Technician

**QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE**  
A Bachelor's Degree from an accredited university or college with substantial knowledge in the fields of Civil Engineering and Electronics but with a major focus/experience in GIS. (It is realized that this combination is unusual, so it should not serve as a deterrent from applying).

Interested persons should send curriculum vitae and supporting documents to:

**THE GRAND BAHAMA PORT AUTHORITY, LIMITED**  
Personnel Department  
P.O.Box F-42666  
Freeport, Grand Bahama Island  
or personnel@gbpa.com

A leading jewellery retailer is seeking a person for this senior position.

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The successful candidates will be responsible for ensuring sales and profits are optimized through excellent customer service and proper maintenance of inventory controls according to established company procedures.

- The ideal candidate should possess:
- Integrity, Energetic motivational skills and assertiveness
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  - Good educational background. Professional qualification (GIA or equivalent) or suitable work experience would be an asset
  - Proven skills in inventory management, merchandising, marketing and training
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The position offers an excellent remuneration and benefits package.

Interested person should submit your resume to:

**The Human Resources Manager**  
P.O. Box N-623  
Nassau, Bahamas  
Fax (242) 322-6607  
Or Email  
[hr@luxuryretaillimited.com](mailto:hr@luxuryretaillimited.com)

BISX LISTED & TRADED SECURITIES AS OF:											
TUESDAY, 18 JANUARY 2011											
BISX ALL SHARE INDEX: CLOSE 1,480.04   CHG -0.03   %CHG 0.00   YTD -19.47   YTD % -1.30											
FINDEX: CLOSE 000.00   YTD 00.00%   2009 -12.31%											
WWW.BISXBAHAMAS.COM   TELEPHONE: 242-323-2330   FACSIMILE: 242-323-2320											
52wk-Hi	52wk-Low	Security	Symbol	Previous Close	Today's Close	Change	Daily Vol.	EPS \$	Div \$	P/E	Yield
1.26	0.67	AML Foods Limited	10.63	10.63	0.00	0.160	0.040	6.7	3.98%		
10.75	9.67	Bahamas Property Fund	4.90	4.90	0.00	0.013	0.200	817.7	1.88%		
6.18	4.50	Bank of Bahamas	0.18	0.18	0.00	0.153	0.100	32.0	2.04%		
0.58	0.18	Benchmark	2.70	2.70	0.00	-0.877	0.000	N/M	0.00%		
3.49	2.70	Bahamas Waste	2.17	2.17	0.00	0.168	0.090	16.1	3.33%		
2.15	2.14	Fidelity Bank	10.21	10.21	0.00	0.016	0.040	135.6	1.84%		
12.50	9.62	Cable Bahamas	2.40	2.40	0.00	1.050	0.310	9.7	3.04%		
2.84	2.36	Colima Holdings	6.85	6.85	0.00	0.781	0.040	3.1	1.67%		
7.00	5.40	Commonwealth Bank (S1)	2.10	2.07	-0.03	0.422	0.260	16.2	3.80%		
3.55	1.63	Consolidated Water BDRs	1.60	1.60	0.00	0.111	0.045	18.6	2.17%		
2.55	1.60	Doctor's Hospital	6.07	6.07	0.00	0.107	0.110	15.0	6.88%		
6.99	5.94	Fanguard	6.85	6.85	0.00	0.357	0.240	17.0	3.95%		
10.20	7.23	Finco	9.39	9.39	0.00	0.287	0.520	22.7	7.99%		
11.40	8.77	FirstCaribbean Bank	5.47	5.47	0.00	0.645	0.350	14.6	3.73%		
5.51	3.75	Focol (S)	1.00	1.00	0.00	0.366	0.210	14.9	3.84%		
1.00	1.00	Focol Class B Preference	7.40	7.40	0.00	0.000	0.000	N/M	0.00%		
7.40	5.00	ICD Utilities	9.82	9.82	0.00	0.012	0.240	616.7	3.24%		
10.50	9.82	J. S. Johnson	10.00	10.00	0.00	0.859	0.640	11.4	6.52%		
10.00	10.00	Premier Real Estate	10.00	10.00	0.00	0.991	0.800	10.1	8.00%		
BISX LISTED DEBT SECURITIES - (Bonds trade on a Percentage Pricing basis)											
52wk-Hi	52wk-Low	Security	Symbol	Last Sale	Change	Daily Vol.	Interest	Maturity			
99.46	99.46	Bahamas Note 6.95 (2029)	BAH29	99.46	0.00		6.95%	20 November 2029			
100.00	100.00	Fidelity Bank Note 17 (Series A) +	FBB17	100.00	0.00		7%	19 October 2017			
100.00	100.00	Fidelity Bank Note 22 (Series B) +	FBB22	100.00	0.00		Prime + 1.75%	19 October 2022			
100.00	100.00	Fidelity Bank Note 13 (Series C) +	FBB13	100.00	0.00		7%	30 May 2013			
100.00	100.00	Fidelity Bank Note 15 (Series D) +	FBB15	100.00	0.00		Prime + 1.75%	29 May 2015			
RoyalFidelity Merchant Bank & Trust Ltd. (Over-The-Counter Securities)											
52wk-Hi	52wk-Low	Symbol	Bid \$	Ask \$	Last Price	Daily Vol.	EPS \$	Div \$	P/E	Yield	
10.06	5.01	Bahamas Supermarkets	5.01	6.01	14.00		-2.945	0.000	N/M	0.00%	
0.55	0.40	RND Holdings	0.35	0.40	0.55		0.001	0.000	256.6	0.00%	
CFAL Securities Ltd. (Over-The-Counter Securities)											
41.00	29.00	ABDAB	30.13	31.59	29.00		4.540	0.000	9.03	0.00%	
0.55	0.40	RND Holdings	0.45	0.55	0.55		0.002	0.000	261.90	0.00%	
BISX Listed Mutual Funds											
52wk-Hi	52wk-Low	Fund Name	NAV	YTD%	Last 12 Months %	NAV 3MTH	NAV 6MTH	NAV Date			
1.5122	1.4076	CFAL Bond Fund	1.5179	5.51%	6.90%	1.498004	1.475244	30-Nov-10			
2.9474	2.8300	CFAL MSI Preferred Fund	2.9474	2.10%	2.09%	2.918697	2.919946	31-Dec-10			
1.5743	1.4954	CFAL Money Market Fund	1.5740	4.44%	4.44%	1.555464	1.538692	31-Dec-10			
3.2025	2.8522	Royal Fidelity Bahamas G & I Fund	2.7202	12.72%	4.63%			31-Dec-10			
13.6888	13.0484	Royal Fidelity Prime Income Fund	13.2825	-0.63%	-0.14%			30-Nov-10			
114.3684	101.6693	CFAL Global Bond Fund	114.3684	9.98%	12.49%	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			
1.1415	1.0000	FG Financial Preferred Income Fund	1.1415	4.74%	4.74%			30-Nov-10			
1.1101	1.0000	FG Financial Growth Fund	1.1101	3.94%	7.60%			30-Nov-10			
1.1428	1.0000	FG Financial Diversified Fund	1.1428	4.78%	5.90%			30-Nov-10			
9.7485	9.1005	Royal Fidelity Bah Int'l Investment Fund Principal Protected TIGRS, Series 1	9.7950	4.85%	5.45%			30-Nov-10			
11.2361	10.0000	Royal Fidelity Bah Int'l Investment Fund Principal Protected TIGRS, Series 2	10.6417	-1.20%	0.50%			30-Nov-10			
10.0000	9.1708	Royal Fidelity Bah Int'l Investment Fund Principal Protected TIGRS, Series 3	9.8635	-3.37%	-3.37%			30-Nov-10			
8.1643	4.8105	Royal Fidelity Int'l Fund - Equities Sub Fund	8.9979	8.82%	8.82%			31-Dec-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 mths						
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						
S1 - 4-for-1 Stock Split - Effective Date 8/8/2007											
(S) - 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											

# China agrees to purchase \$45B in US exports

**JULIE PACE,**  
Associated Press  
WASHINGTON

Seeking to build ties with an economic rival, the White House said Wednesday that China would purchase \$45 billion in U.S. exports, including a highly sought-after \$19 billion deal for 200 Boeing airplanes.

The announcement came as Chinese President Hu Jintao arrived at the White House for a state visit with President Barack Obama. The deals could soothe some concerns from the U.S. government and corporate America, both of which contend that China keeps its currency artificially low in order to make Chinese products cheaper in the U.S. and U.S. products costlier in China.

Obama and Hu met Wednesday with U.S. and Chinese business leaders, including some involved in the new export deals. Obama said the economic relationship between the two countries is "more complex" than it appears.

"Our goal here today was to make sure that we break out of the old stereotypes that somehow China is simply taking manufacturing jobs and taking advantage of low wages, the U.S. is importing cheap goods and thereby having cheaper products, but also putting strains on our employment base," Obama said.

Hu told the executives that he welcomed U.S. companies to do business in China, and said his country is speeding up its economic restructuring and trying to increase domestic consumption. Increased Chinese demand for goods is a prime U.S. concern because it could help reduce a U.S.-China trade gap.

In addition to the Boeing deal, China will also invest in U.S. exports from agriculture, telecommunications and technology companies, including General Electric, Honeywell and Navistar. The White House said the deals will support up to 235,000 jobs in the U.S. Executives from Boeing and General Electric were among the business leaders who will meet with Obama and Hu at the White House.

The White House said China also agreed to strengthen its intellectual property rights enforcement and ease its indigenous innovation policies — both practices that have



(AP Photo/Charles Dharapak) **GREETING:** President Barack Obama welcomes China's President Hu Jintao during a state arrival on the South Lawn of the White House in Washington, Wednesday, Jan. 19, 2011.

irked U.S. businesses.

The indigenous innovation policy China adopted in 2009 limits Beijing's purchase of foreign products to those designed in China. U.S. businesses see the policy as a ploy to force them to turn over their technology to China or be locked out of business with the government.

The White House said Wednesday that China agreed that it would not make government procurement decisions based on where the intellectual property rights for goods or services are developed or maintained. Officials said China also agreed that it would not discriminate against innovative products made by foreign suppliers operating in China.

U.S. software companies have also said they're cheated out of billions in sales because Chinese companies, and even government agencies, illegally copy their programs instead of buying them. China agreed in December to allocate funds in its budget for legal software purchases, and on Wednesday, the White House said China agreed to audit the use of legal software and publish the results of those audits. U.S. officials hailed the move as a significant step forward in transparency for the often secretive Chinese government. Among the companies the U.S. and China reached export deals with are:

— Boeing: China agreed to approve airline contracts for 200 aircraft to be delivered over a three-year period, starting this year. The \$19 billion package will support more than 100,000 American jobs, according to the White House.

— General Electric: The White House says GE reached

a deal with China Shenhua Energy Company Limited. The joint venture will use GE's cleaner power generation technologies to advance cleaner coal solutions for industrial chemicals, fuels and power generation. GE estimates the deal has the potential to generate up to \$2.5 billion in U.S. exports.

## Hopes for Europe aid drag dollar to 2-month low

NEW YORK

The dollar fell to a nearly two-month low against the euro Wednesday because of investor hopes for more decisive action to combat the eurozone debt crisis. Meanwhile, housing data in the U.S. showed a troubled real estate market.

The euro traded as high as \$1.3538, its strongest point since Nov. 23, before slipping back to \$1.3465 during late trading Wednesday. It was worth \$1.3392 late Tuesday.

The euro has suffered since November due to worries over the eurozone debt crisis, but has moved higher over the past week on speculation among investors that policymakers will soon enact a more aggressive plan to combat countries' debt problems, said Bank of America Merrill Lynch fixed-income strategist Daniel Tenengauzer. Political leaders face pressure to increase and reform the current euro750 billion (\$1 trillion) bailout fund.

A successful Portuguese bond auction Wednesday also helped reassure investors. Portugal raised euro750 million, paying a lower interest rate than in its last bond sale.

The dollar was also weak against most other major currencies after the U.S. government said homebuilders broke ground on a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 529,000 new homes and apartments last month. That's the slowest pace since October 2009.

While the pace of building permits, a gauge of future building, rose to the highest level since March, the real estate market remains stagnant, analysts said.

"Homebuilding activity will remain painfully weak for the next few years," said Paul Dales, an economist with research firm Capital Economics, in a note to clients.

The British pound rose to \$1.5990 from \$1.5979 and the dollar dropped to 82.06 Japanese yen from 82.54 yen. The dollar was up to 99.60 Canadian cents from 99.27 Canadian cents, recovering from a two-and-a-half year low of 98.32 Canadian cents on Tuesday.

The U.S. currency dropped to 0.9550 Swiss franc from 0.9630 Swiss franc.

The dollar also fell to its weakest point against the Chinese currency since the China's current currency regime began in 1994. Chinese President Hu Jintao is in Washington for high-profile meetings with President Barack Obama and business leaders.

The dollar fell to as low as 6.5819 yuan earlier on Wednesday. The yuan has risen about 3.5 percent against the dollar since June, when China pledged more exchange rate flexibility. U.S. lawmakers and others had long complained that China keeps its yuan too weak, giving its exporters an unfair price advantage and hurting U.S. manufacturing jobs.

During a visit to the White House on Wednesday, President Barack Obama said that he told Chinese President Hu Jintao that China's currency is still undervalued. And last week, Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner said that he believed it was in China's interest to let the yuan rise more rapidly.

# NOTICE

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# 40 Days of Prayer for Peace Campaign

By ALESHA CADET  
Tribune Features Reporter

**A** GROUP of social partners, comprised of a wide range of Bahamians and Bahamian organisations has come together to join in a campaign called "40 Days of Prayer For Peace In Our Community" to address the escalating issues of crime and social dysfunction facing the country.

The group includes the Royal Bahamas Police Force, the Church, business owners, fraternal organisations, community organisations, families, and neighbours in the Fort Charlotte/Boyd Subdivision area.

The "40 Days Of Prayer For Peace" will begin on January 23 and end on March 3. The campaign will focus on the Ft Charlotte/Boyd Subdivision area that has the following boundaries: Nassau Street on the east, West Bay Street On The West, Farrington Road on The South, and the Rock Crusher/ Perpall Tract areas in the Southwest. Organisers will have a full walk about in the area led by the police and social partners on Saturday, January 22. On Sunday, January 23 there will be a special launch of the campaign on Arawak Cay at 4pm.

*Tribune understands* that some forty adults met at the beginning of January in Boyd Subdivision to own this campaign and create a strategy. The churches represented at the meeting included, Temple Baptist Church, Holy Spirit Anglican Church, Johnson Park Seventh Day Adventist Church, Church of God of Prophecy of Greater Chippingham, Mt Moriah Baptist Church, Living Waters Church, St Joseph's Catholic Church, St Michael's Methodist Church, The New Mt Zion Baptist Church, and Bishop Swain a leading clergyman who resides in Chippingham.



**PREPARATIONS:** The members of the 40 Days Of Prayer For Peace Campaign discuss ideas.

In a statement, Rev Philip Stubbs said: "One hundred persons being murdered in 14 months in the Bahamas has caused alarm throughout our Commonwealth. Routine experiences of violence on our streets and within our homes joined to create fractures in family life that have touched every family tree in our nation. It is creating a Bahamas that seems to be tipping on the point of social destruction. These social realities seem to have leaders and Bahamians from every sphere in 2011 looking frantically for solutions that would redirect our beloved land."

He goes on to state that a narrative was clear at the group's first meeting, saying "We commend our police for the job that they are doing but crime continues to escalate in our community. We have decided to seek God's face during this forty day period. We believe that God will act when we seek Him in

prayer and that He alone is the answer to the problem of crime in our community. Our direction comes from 2 Chronicles 7:14, "if my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land. God and God alone, that will be our cry for a solution in the Ft Charlotte/Boyd Subdivision area during this forty day period."

Going further, the impetus and coordination for the first meeting came from Schell Stubbs, a banker who clearly has a vision for the campaign, but is said to be equally impassioned about it being a campaign that is owned not by one individual but by a group of social partners.

SEE page 29

# Dr Ferguson hosts Epiphany solo organ recital

By JEFFARAH GIBSON  
Tribune Features Writer

FOR the 11th consecutive time Dr Sparkman Ferguson will host the annual Epiphany solo organ recital.

This year the 60 minute recital will feature the work of composers Bach, Mendelssohn, Virgil Fox, Diane Bish, Franklin Ashdown, Vieme, Ball and Rogers and Hammerstein.

Dr Sparkman told *Tribune Religion* that choosing to lead the recital with works from the famous composer Johanne Sebastian Bach, is only right.

"Bach has written most of the music for the organ that exist and his music is synonymous with the church.

"I have created a program of classical and sacred organ music," he said.

Because there are not many organists hosting recitals, he said he wants to foster an appreciation among musical enthusiast for the organ as a solo instrument.

"Bahamians are not used to hearing the organ played as a solo instrument.

We seldom have organ recitals. It's the one time you get to see the organ performed as a solo instrument. There is no singing, there is no clapping," he said.

While admission for the recital is free of charge, donations are accepted to aid St John's College for the establishment of a music library.

The proceeds from Dr Ferguson's recent recitals have benefited St Anne's High School Band, and the College of the Bahamas scholarship fund. Additionally the recital provided 17 new trumpets, clarinets, saxophones and trombones for the St John's band last year.

"Last year it was instruments and this year it is a new music library because currently the school doesn't have one," he told *Tribune Religion*.

Dr Ferguson is encouraging the public to come out and support the event because this year he has a good show lined.

"The Bahamas has a lot of good organists, but it just that they do not recite. I encourage people to come out and support the recital," he said.

Since the start of the recital ten years ago the Dr Ferguson said has attracted more and more persons to the event.

Last year the recital hosted an audience of more than 300 persons.

"The recital has been well received by the public. It has grown every year. People look forward to this event," he explained.

As soon as this recital is finished Ferguson said he will be on his way to planning the next!



STILL STRONG: Dr Sparkman Ferguson will host the annual Epiphany solo organ recital.

## ANGLICAN CURSILLIO EVENTS FOR 2011 FIRST QUARTER

### JANUARY

Spring Retreat

St. Mary's

January 22

St. Mary's Parish

8.30 am

### FEBRUARY

Secretariat

February 12

Day of Deeper

Understanding

Abaco, February 26

Steak Out

February 26

St Gregory's

### MARCH

Servant Community

March 12

Ultreya/Day of Deeper

Understanding

Freeport

March 26

**Cursillo**  
"Spring Retreat"

**January 22nd**

**St. Mary's Anglican Church**

**Time: 8:30 am**

**Cost: FREE**



De Colores!

**See you there!!**



ALL PRAISE: Worshipers pray and give praise at the 'Start Your Year Right, Bahamas!'

# Start your year right, Bahamas!

THINGS are very different today than they were two or five years ago. 2010 was a year filled with many difficulties, and even though we welcome 2011 with the excitement that accompanies a new year, it looks as if the difficulties may continue.

Economically the nation appears to be in a deep hole with a sluggish economy that despite the positive outlooks and forecasts, just won't turnaround fast enough to most people's satisfaction. Unemployment has reached alarmingly high double digits, crime in 2010 has managed to frighten most in all facets of the Bahamian society and amidst all of these fears, the general mood of the nation and even the world is one of anxiety and uncertainty. Indeed, if we were to look back, we can truly say, 2011 is different – it's uncertain, and whether people want to admit it or not, most are afraid and uncomfortable with this change.

Major threats of civil unrest looms among the unions of the nation, leaving politicians apparently handicapped in finding solutions. The national debt and the debt of individual citizens in the nation continue to increase into the billions and millions respectively, all while the poverty rate is rising along with the cost of living. These are indeed trying times. Indeed

hope seems grim and scarce in The Bahamas today.

Yet all is not lost! The Commonwealth & Global Prayer Grotto, the 24-Hour Prayer Centre of Trinity City of Praise, in partnership with Kingdom Covenant Connection (KCC), the network of sons, daughters and covenant partners of Apostle Ed Watson, and the sound, production and recording company FAM Entertainment, have joined together to host a **"Start Your Year Right, BAHAMAS!" National Prayer Rally on January 21 at 7pm at Rawson Square.** This two-hour rally will give people within the country a sense of hope, faith for the upcoming year, and an opportunity for them to place their future in the hands of an unchanging power source, God. It presents everyone the chance to begin their year right.

The rally will focus on the state of the economy, the government - in view of next year's general elections, crime and violence within the nation, our youth and the family along with many other issues that prevail within our society currently. All are invited to attend and be a part of this event as it is an opportunity to inject faith and hope back into our nation as we prepare for better days to come.



PASTOR ED AND LEE WATSON

# Damah!

**HOSEA 4: 6.** My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children.



PASTOR  
MATTHEW  
ALLEN

This word DESTROYED in the Hebrew is: damah, daw-maw'; which has several meanings as follows: 1) to be dumb or silent; 2) hence to fail or perish; 3) to ease, 4) to be cut down (off), 5) to be brought to silence, 6) to be undone.

The time has come for each of us to take a good look at the way / manner in which things are transpiring around us; nationally and internationally. Have you noticed that in matters where it's expected that certain persons (leaders) should speak up; they are dumb/silent?

Are you taking note of the world systems (political, religious, economic, insurance, employment, etc;) and their failures; and are not these the very same systems that the people have been methodically trained to hold onto as their safety net? Now, stop for a moment and ask yourself this question "What's Going On?"

Think it not strange that as a nation we're seeing and experiencing that which we are at this time. The simple fact that we as a people have creatively chosen to reject the true knowledge (da'ath, dah'-ath) of God (Yahweh) and being obedient thereby; which is resulting in our perishing in various areas of our lives; personally and nationally.

The deception that many persons have given into is that "they're of the view that

once they are praying and fasting, God would overlook their continual / consistent disobedience to His word or their partial obedience thereof." Whereas they seem not to know that partial obedience, is disobedience.

One of the first steps to be taken in rectifying this deception that we're walking / operating in as a people; is the step of humility. This is where each of us, from the least to the assumingly great among humble ourselves before God and one another; admit that we don't know everything and be openly willing to receive from those who might know that which we don't.

While we do give honour and respect to whom they are due; it's also of the utmost importance that even the recipients of such honour and respect not allow the spirit of pride and arrogance to be their down-fall.

It is not God's will that any should perish; but yet many shall and are perishing. This is a result of the choices many have made or are making. Agree or disagree as much as you wish; life is about choices.

Here's what God's word says:

Deut.30: 19. I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set

before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live:

2011 and the coming years will not make room for those who choose to reside on Complaining Boulevard and Murmuring Street; nor for those who reside on the Corner of Just Pray About It, and Do Nothing Avenue.

During the days of the Prophet Elisha, the nation of Israel was going through a rough period; there was a severe famine in the land (2Kings.7:3-5), and four leprous men made a choice to get up and do something. Their decision changed the course of their nation's history; what choice or decision are you going to make? Are you going to get up and do something? Or are you going to continue your complaining and murmuring?

Watch this!

2Kings.7:3-5:

: 3. And there were four leprous men at the entering in of the gate: and they said one to another, Why sit we here until we die?

: 4. If we say, We will enter into the city, then the famine is in the city, and we shall die there: and if we sit still here, we die also. Now therefore come, and let us fall unto the host of the Syrians: if they save us alive, we shall live; and if they kill us, we shall but die.

: 5. And they rose up in the twilight, to go unto the camp of the Syrians: and when they were come to the uttermost part of the camp of Syria, behold, there was no man there.

Again, it's not God's will that any

should perish! But remember your perishing could be based upon your choices. You could choose to believe and receive God's word / his Son, Yahshua Messiah (a.k.a. Jesus the Christ) and have a personal relationship with Him, or you can hold-fast to the perishing religions and traditions of men.

Here's what the scriptures says about it.

John3:16. For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

This word PERISH in the Greek is: apollumi, ap-ol'-loo-mee; which means to DESTROY.

There is no need for any to PERISH / be DESTROYED any longer, simply choose; make a decision / choice of which direction, pathway you're going to take.

Religion can be likened to man searching for a path / a way to God:

Prov.16:25. There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.

To put an end to man's futile search for the way back to his God, here's what Yahshua Messiah says:

John.14:6 Yahshua saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

Choose the right WAY!

• For questions and comments contact us via E-mails: [pastormallen@yahoo.com](mailto:pastormallen@yahoo.com) or [kmfci@live.com](mailto:kmfci@live.com) or ph.1-242-441-2021 Pastors Matthew and Brendalee Allen Kingdom Minded Fellowship Center Int'l

## 40 Days of Prayer

FROM page 26

Mrs Stubbs explained with an enthusiasm that could only be described as infectious, that this type of campaign has been used successfully in a number of places including Orlando, Florida, and Peoria, Illinois. The organisers have laid out the signature feature of the campaign that will be a public prayer each day of the 40 day period at scheduled places in the Ft Charlotte/Boyd Subdivision area, Christie Park, Quarry Mission Park, Lucky Food Store Parking Lot, Mt Moriah Baptist Church, C I Gibson Parking Lot, St Michael's Tennis Court, St Bernard's Parking Lot at St Joseph's Church will be some additional sites.

"While prayer times will vary, most of the prayer times will occur between 7 pm and 8 pm each evening. Saturdays will be different. On Saturdays, there will be a family focus," Rev Philip Stubbs noted.

"To put it plainly over forty days a lot of different persons will be praying publicly for an end to crime in our area and for an expansion of peace. Willing families throughout the area will sponsor the prayer time on Saturdays. During the Saturday time of prayer the prayer will be public but will occur in the front of a neighbourhood home. Family members, neighbours, will be praying directly for each other during these Saturdays."

The group's organisers of the "40 Days of Prayer For Peace" in the Ft Charlotte/Boyd Subdivision area emphasise that the campaign, like prayer, is for everyone, it is not a campaign for the organisers alone, it's for the entire community. Members of the neighbourhoods throughout the area are invited to share in the daily public times of prayer that will occur during the campaign. The "40 Days Of Prayer For Peace Team 2011" can be contacted at telephone 325 6126.



# Holy Family Anglican Church celebrates Feast of Title

**H**oly Family Anglican Church in Mortimer's, Long Island has a long history that dates from the early 1900's. The Church's history involves preaching, teaching and molding the basic social unit the 'family'.

This church has played a pivotal role in Long Island history many youngsters who grew in the southern most settlements of Mortimer's or Gordon's attended this church for Sunday school and Sunday morning worship.

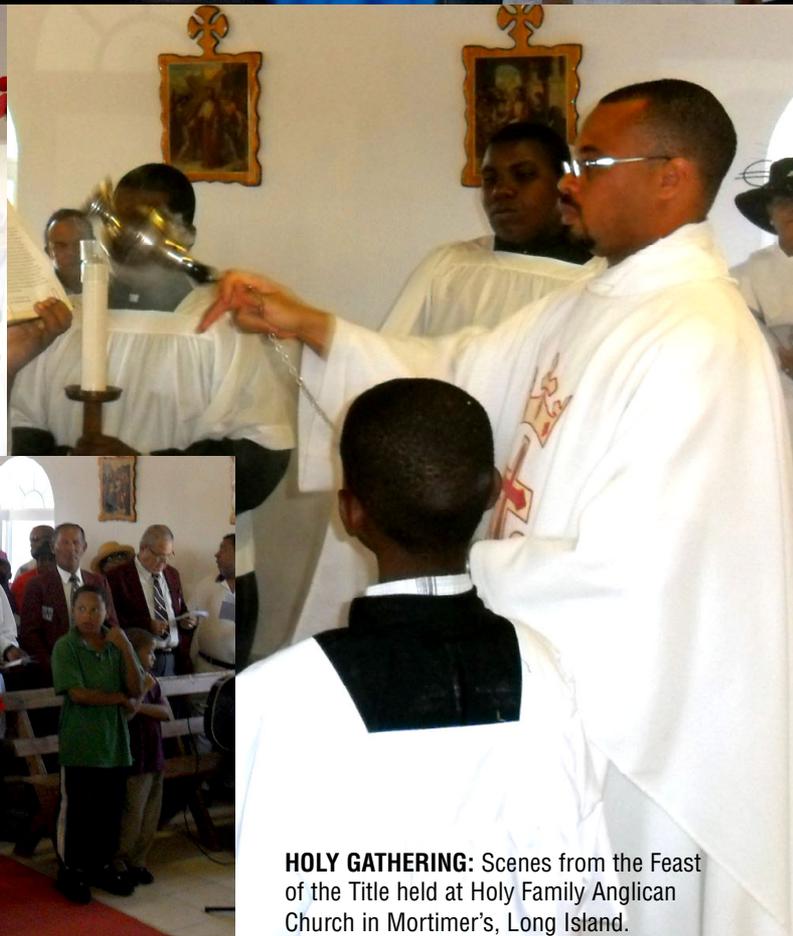
And this past Sunday January 9, members from North and South joined together for corporate Eucharistic celebrations at Holy Family in Mortimer's. St Peter's and St Paul's Anglican parishes from the North and South Long Island respectively welcomed high spirited Priest Vicar at Christ Church Cathedral Rev Fr Colin Humes.

Fr Chester Burton, Rector of St. Peter's Parish was the chief celebrant for the concelebrated Eucharist Mass, Fr Jonathan Archer, Rector of St Paul's Parish assisted at the altar and Fr Humes preached the sermon in this historic church.

Fr Humes took his text from the Gospel appropriate for the Eucharist Luke 2 verses 41-51. Luke the evangelist records the events that surrounds Jesus visit to the Temple. In the passage the parents of Jesus are frantically searching for Him and when He is found, He told them, "Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" Fr Humes then asked the church, "Are you on your Father's business?"

He said that we in the Commonwealth of the Bahamas especially the capital New Providence have seen the deterioration of the family structure. He reminisced on his childhood growing up in a Christian family and recognising that Sunday was a day of worship and a day people spent venerating their Creator. He reminded the congregation that if any corrections and amendments must be made to the moral fabric of society, it must start primarily with the family structure. Finally, he admonished the family driven church to encourage family worship time, family play time and definitely family Bible study time to ensure that Long Island maintains its quiet tranquil and serene ambiance.

Afterwards members congregated in the foyer of the church for refreshments.



**HOLY GATHERING:** Scenes from the Feast of the Title held at Holy Family Anglican Church in Mortimer's, Long Island.