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INSIGHT Moving away from 'chalk and talk' SEE PAGE 12B

SPORTS National Swimming Championships SEE SPORTS IN SECTION E



Young mum 60th murder victim

Woman shot in head while sitting in car

By MEGAN REYNOLDS and DENISE MAYCOCK

A YOUNG mother was shot dead this weekend in a brutal murder recorded as the 60th in the country this year.

Services and died at around 11pm leaving two young children without a mother.

Her own mother was too distraught to speak to The Tribune yesterday.

Tribune sources confirmed Ms McBride's ex-boyfriend, said to have been the father of one of her children, was questioned by police immediately after the shooting.

He was reportedly sitting in the car with her when she was shot outside his home in Royal Bahamian Estates, Freeport.

SEE page 11

AMENDMENTS TO PARLIAMENTARY ACT EXPECTED TO BE TABLED TODAY

PRIME Minister Hubert Ingraham is expected to table a number of amendments to the Parliamentary Act today.

Proposed changes will reflect recommendations made by the recent election court cases, and will follow the closure of the current register on July 14.

Eligible voters in the Bahamas are urged to register before the deadline, as the data will be used by the Boundaries Commission to determine the size and number of constituencies to be named for the 2012 general election.

The Parliamentary Registration Department

SEE page 12



AMENDMENTS: Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham



HAVING A SWINGING TIME ON FATHER'S DAY: Pichol Clarke pushes his daughter, three-year-old Ashley Clarke, on a swing yesterday as they spent some quality time on Father's Day at Saunders Beach.

Felipe Major/Tribune staff

BAHAMAS' SUPPORT FOR UN GAY RIGHTS RESOLUTION 'A LONG TIME COMING'

THE Bahamas' support of a United Nations Human Rights Council resolution passed last week affirming equal rights for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender (GLBT) is a move that has been a long time coming, according to local human and gay rights activist Erin Greene.

The resolution, which was narrowly passed in the council in Geneva, Switzerland, expressed "grave concern" about discrimination against gays throughout the world and affirmed that freedom to choose sexuality is a human right.

"It's been a long time coming for a country that

SEE page 11

ELDERLY WOMAN DIES IN HOUSE FIRE

AN ELDERLY woman was found dead following a fire at her house in Green Castle, Eleuthera, on Saturday.

Flames destroyed the single-storey wooden house in the Queen's Highway and the body of the 88-year-old woman was found after firefighters from Green Castle and volunteers from Tarpum Bay extinguished the blaze.

The grandmother is said to have lived in the home with her grandson, a police officer on the island.

Police are investigating the cause of the fire which began at around 6pm on Saturday.

It is not known yet whether arson or murder is suspected.

Anyone with any information which may assist investigations should call police on 911/919 or call Crime Stoppers anonymously on 328-TIPS (8477).

POWER CUTS SPARK RESIDENTS' FEARS FOR THE SUMMER

By AVA TURNQUEST Tribune Staff Reporter aturnquest@tribunemedia.net

SPORADIC power cuts have intensified fears among Abaco residents of inconsistent electricity supply during the scorching summer months.

Up to press time, officials were unavailable for comment on the widespread power outages in Hope Town, Green Turtle Cay and Marsh Harbour over the weekend.

The failures were said to have lasted up to two hours at a time and have "opened up old wounds" among residents and potential visitors, according to Abaco Chamber of Commerce president Michael Albury.

Mr Albury said. "Both sec-

SEE page 12

LEADS FOLLOWED IN ADMINISTRATOR'S OFFICE CASH THEFT PROBE

INVESTIGATIONS continue into the theft of a safe containing a large sum of money from the Acklins administrator's office.

Last week, police reported that two men ages 32 and 37 were in custody in connection with the matter.

Superintendent Paul Rolle, officer in charge of the Central Detective Unit (CDU), told The Tribune yesterday that three persons had in fact been taken into custody for questioning and had

been released.

"We are still conducting investigations in relation to the matter in Acklins. We are not ready to lay any charges as yet but we are following some leads," Superintendent Rolle said.

A safe containing a large sum of money was stolen from the office of Gregory Knowles, Government administrator to Acklins, over the Whit

SEE page 12

Bahama Subs & Salads advertisement with images of food and a sun.

RBC FINCO advertisement for mortgage with images of a family and text: RBC FINCO puts the MORE in Mortgage. Still renting? With our special low rates\*, you can get the mortgage you need and make your move today, PLUS enter to WIN \$7,500!

# GEARING UP FOR FATHER'S DAY WEEKEND AT CAR SHOW



LAVAR MAJOR and his daughter Lanae check out the vehicles on Saturday at the Sunshine Auto Father's Day Car Show held at the Town Centre mall.

Felipe Major/  
Tribune staff

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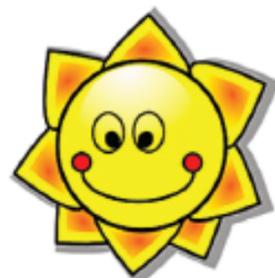


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LOCAL NEWS

# Probe into wild horses' mysterious disappearance

By MEGAN REYNOLDS  
Tribune Staff Reporter  
mreynolds@tribunemedia.net

THE mysterious disappearance of nearly a dozen wild horses who once wandered through hundreds of acres in south Eleuthera has sparked a local police investigation.

Concerned animal rights activists fear farmers who complain the wild horses are eating their crops and harming their industry have captured and killed the animals, or sent them off to be ridden at tourist resorts.

The burnt body of a young foal, under eight months old, was found two weeks ago, and the grey stallion who had led the smaller of two herds on the island is said to have been shot, "because he was too 'bigitty'".

An animal rights activist, who does not want to be named for fear of reprisals, also suspects poisoned bananas have been left out for the animals.

"I don't know if any of it is true but the horses are disappearing and it's very mysterious," she said.

"We don't know what has happened to them, it's a mystery and it's really sad.

"They are the most beautiful things and they have just been brutalised.

"Police are working on it to find out what the real truth is, but they have no proof so far."

Farmers have complained the horses were eating their banana crops and when they spoke up about how the animals were harming their livelihood the govern-



**MYSTERY:** The grey stallion and black mare pictured in south Eleuthera two years ago have disappeared.

ment department of agriculture sent the farmers wire fencing to protect their crops.

But the farmers are said to have chosen not to erect the fences and may be targeting the horses instead, the animal rights advocate said.

Evidence of animal cruelty was made clear when a colt, a male foal, was tied to a tree by his left leg which snapped when he was startled and tried to run, the animal advocate said. People nursed the colt back to health over six months before they released him in the wild, but now he also seems to have vanished, sources said.

The horses are believed to have been brought to Rock Sound Farm in Eleuthera in the 1950s and released to roam the area when the farm closed later that decade. Thick woodlands stretching between Rock Sound and Tarpum Bay sustained the herds with wild fruits such as guavas and mangoes, and the horses grew fat and healthy and successfully

bred, locals said.

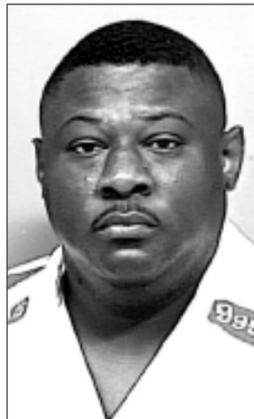
There were two distinct herds of nine and four horses around two years ago, and now just three are

thought to remain.

Legislation protects wild horses from being harassed under the Wild Animal Protection Act and police



**REMAINS** of the burnt foal found in south Eleuthera two weeks ago add to the mystery.



## POLICE CONSTABLE BERNARD COLLIE DIES IN HOSPITAL

POLICE Constable 995 Bernard Collie died in hospital yesterday.

PC Collie, who worked in the maintenance department at Police Headquarters in East Street, was in the Intensive Care Unit at Doctor's Hospital when he died just after 9.30am.

Funeral arrangements will be announced at a later date.

Commissioner of Police Ellison Greenslade and the Royal Bahamas Police Force extend condolences to officer Collie's family and his colleagues.

## RESIDENTS DEMAND INDEPENDENT ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

MANGROVE Cay residents are staging a protest as they demand independent administrative services for their settlement.

Residents bemoaned the inconvenience of not having their own satellite local government office, which forced a costly commute to South Andros.

One resident said: "Road traffic comes from South Andros only once a week, if you want to get a drivers licence you have to go to South Andros."

The resident added: "Take an 8.30am boat, pay at least \$50 round trip for a taxi to get to the Administrator's office to apply, then you have to wait until 4.30pm to take a taxi back to Mangrove Cay, so it would have cost you almost \$75 to get a \$20 licence."

Redundancies were also cited in the Fisheries department, which was said to be underutilized in South Andros.

The resident added: "The autonomy would also mean that all of the government departments or ministries in Mangrove Cay would have their budgets invested there, as opposed to having it in South Andros."

The protest is scheduled for Wednesday.

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MR POPPER'S PENGUINS	NEW	1:15	3:35	N/A	6:10	8:30	10:40
SUPER 8	T	1:05	3:25	N/A	6:00	8:20	10:40
JUDY MOODY	A	1:10	3:35	N/A	6:10	8:40	10:30
X-MEN FIRST CLASS	T	1:05	4:05	N/A	7:05	N/A	10:00
THE HANGOVER	C	1:05	3:30	N/A	6:10	8:25	10:55
KUNG FU PANDA 3D	A	1:10	3:40	N/A	6:15	8:40	10:30
PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN	B	1:0	4:00	N/A	7:00	N/A	10:00
JUMPING THE BROOM	T	N/A	N/A	N/A	6:05	8:25	10:55
PRIEST	C	1:15	3:40	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

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GREEN LANTERN 3D	NEW	1:05	3:20	N/A	6:10	8:25	10:45
MR POPPER'S PENGUINS	NEW	1:10	3:40	N/A	6:15	8:35	10:30
SUPER 8	T	1:00	3:30	N/A	6:05	8:25	10:50
X-MEN FIRST CLASS	T	1:00	4:00	N/A	7:00	N/A	10:00
JUMPING THE BROOM	T	1:05	3:30	N/A	6:05	8:30	10:50
THE HANGOVER	C	1:10	3:25	N/A	6:00	8:25	10:50

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Switchboard (News, Circulation and Advertising) 322-1986  
Advertising Manager - (242) 502-2352  
Circulation Department - (242) 502-2387  
Nassau Fax: - (242) 328-2398  
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# An exaggeration to blame PM for recession in Grand Bahama

EDITOR, The Tribune.

The so-called shocking headline story in the June 14th edition of The Nassau Guardian about Prime Minister Hubert A Ingraham placing Grand Bahama's economy in jeopardy is an over exaggeration. Prime Minister Ingraham refused to renew Grand Bahama Port Authority Chairman Hannes Babak's work permit in December of 2009. This information was obtained from a Wikileaks cable. Critics are saying that this move by the Ingraham administration is the main reason why the economy in Grand Bahama is experiencing a recession.

The Prime Minister has yet to tell Grand Bahamians why he has refused to renew Mr Babak's work permit. People, however, talk as if the Prime Minister's refusal to renew the work permit of the former Chairman of the Port Authority is the major reason for Grand Bahama's ailing economy.

However, Grand Bahama's economy has been bad now for over ten years. This didn't just happen in 2009, or thereabouts. Grand Bahamians had been catching hell before the Babak work permit issue.

I believe that the real culprits for Grand Bahama's economic malaise are the principals at the Grand Bahama Port Authority and Hutchinson-Whampoa. They can easily fix Grand Bahama's ailing economy, yet both of these entities are refusing to even lift their finger to address the situation. The American officials don't understand what is really going on in Grand Bahama. Granted, the ongoing feud between the St George's family and Sir Jack Hayward has adversely affected Grand Bahama. I believe, though, that the Grand Bahama Port Authority and Hutchinson-Whampoa can still implement certain measures to help this island's struggling economy.

Until these two important entities reduce their landing and docking fees at the airport and the harbour, Grand Bahama will continue to suffer. Any person who visits Grand Bahama would see for

## LETTERS

letters@tribunemedia.net

himself what this island's major issue is: The lack of airlifts to the island. This translates into very few stopover visitors to the island. That is why the Our Lucaya Resort and many of the other hotels on the island are virtually empty. Their occupancy levels are very low. In fact, this is a perennial issue with many of the hotels on Grand Bahama. Several airlines have stopped coming to this island because of the outrageous fees that they were being charged. It is just too expensive to travel to Grand Bahama. The Grand Bahama Port Authority and Hutchinson-Whampoa have virtually priced Grand Bahama out of the tourism market. That is why Grand Bahamians continue to suffer. I don't think that the principals of these two entities care about what Grand Bahamians are going through.

Unlike the average resident of this island, the principals at the Port Authority and Hutchinson-Whampoa have never had their light, cable television, telephone and water turned off; or received an eviction letter from the bank. They have never sent their children to school without lunch money, or went to bed hungry. They don't know what it's like to be thrown out of an apartment because of an inability to pay their rent. They have never had to depend on Social Services for a food coupon. The principals at the Port Authority and Hutchinson-Whampoa live in a bubble. While they continue to prosper, many Grand Bahamians have been reduced to poverty, especially during the last ten years.

Just recently an engineer at the Our Lucaya Resort told me that their occupancy level was at ten per cent. What make matters worse, however, is the fact that the resort only has one of its three hotels in operation, Breaker's Cay. The Lighthouse Point and Reef Village are both closed. This can explain why the resort is always laying off workers. The resort simply has no business. The remaining workers at Our Lucaya are working reduced hours. I was told that some of the workers are working only two and three days a week. You cannot pay your bills and provide for your family if you are unable to work a full forty hour work-week.

Again, the major issue Grand Bahama is facing is the lack of airlifts. There are

hardly any stopover visitors on this island. True, we do have a lot of cruise ship visitors. But let us also bear in mind that these visitors hardly spend any money while on Grand Bahama. They don't need to. The cruise ships have plenty to offer their guests. When I visited the Port Lucaya Marketplace, the only tourists I saw were cruise ship passengers. Grand Bahama's tourism sector is rapidly deteriorating.

If this continues to happen, many Grand Bahamians will continue to either work reduced hours, or will be sent home. The FNM government has got to get the Port Authority and Hutchinson-Whampoa to go down on their fees at the airport and the harbour. In addition, the government has to do a better job at promoting this island's tourism product. While it may be true that Mr Babak could have attracted one or two major investors to GB, I believe that this island's major concern is the lack of stopover visitors. Until Grand Bahama's tourism sector is addressed, the people of this island will continue to catch hell.

We already have a thriving industrial sector. Yet any honest person would tell you that this just isn't enough to put a dent in the high unemployment rate on GB. We desperately need to get more women, especially single mothers, back on the job. The sorry state of Grand Bahama's tourism sector is also adversely affecting taxi drivers, jitney operators and hair braiders.

Many of these persons who work in the tourism industry are the sole breadwinners for their households. When they are unable to make a decent salary, this will in turn adversely affect their families who are depending on them to provide.

We must bear in mind that the tourism sector has the potential to employ thousands of Bahamians, either directly or indirectly.

Therefore, I utterly reject the simplistic assessment given by the American officials regarding Grand Bahama's economic woes. We here in Grand Bahama know exactly what is going on. Talk to the average Grand Bahamian, and he or she would tell you that we need our tourism sector to be repaired. It is simply an over exaggeration to blame Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham for Grand Bahama's recession.

KEVIN EVANS  
Freeport,  
Grand Bahama,  
June 15, 2011.

## Instead of the noose, let them produce

IN THE days when we covered court cases as a reporter, justice was swift — certainly in murder cases. If found guilty the condemned man was hanged within days of his conviction. In all cases the trial and hanging were completed within the same year of the murder. Appeals were unheard of.

From the days when the Bahamas Gazette of April, 1791 recorded the hanging of a runaway slave for stealing a boat, the Bahamas has come a long way. Today we are now discussing the abolition of hanging for all but a very few heinous murders. In the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries not only did the authorities believe in hanging as a deterrent, but the dead body was put up for public viewing to drive home a point to those who might contemplate breaking the social code.

The body of the runaway slave was hanged from chains "on Hog Island at the entrance to the harbour." Hanging with him was the body of "a Negro man found guilty of murder."

In those days stealing and murder were considered equally offensive.

On July 19, 1834 one Castletown Roberts was found guilty and sentenced to death for stealing from a well known dry goods store owned by Messrs Greenslade and Forster in Nassau. Sixteen days later he was hanged "on top of the prison, where there is a terrace round the cupola and is a most convenient site for purposes of this lamentable kind." Obviously the public could view the scene from below.

A few years later the Eastern Parade was chosen as the spot for public hangings. That was the execution site of the first woman to be convicted of murder. This much talked of event was handed down from grandfather, Leon, founder of The Tribune, to The Tribune's second publisher, his son, Sir Etienne, who passed it on to us.

Daphne Neilly stabbed Ada Roxbury near their homes on October 10, 1855. The trial opened on January 17, 1856. Neilly was convicted and sentenced to death on January 23. "Following an elaborate processional, an 'immense' crowd kept under control by 70 soldiers saw Neilly hanged from a gallows constructed on the Eastern Parade on February 2, 1856."

At dawn on May 16, 1868 what appears to have been the last public hanging took place on the Eastern Parade. Jose Roberts, a Spaniard, stabbed a co-worker to death over the firing of his girlfriend. The murder took

place on April 1, 1868. Robert was hanged May 16, 1868.

The next hanging was carried out on February 4 within the confines of the prison. On that occasion a black flag was raised outside to announce the execution. A large crowd gathered at the prison gates to catch a glimpse of the condemned man, and await the announcement of his death.

Today the Bahamas is faced with a proliferation of guns and rising crime. The crime wave is not surprising when one considers the number of persons accused of serious crimes who have been released on bail by the courts. These persons have to live. To do this they have to have jobs to earn an honest living. But who is going to hire anyone with a criminal record? It's a vicious circle that tracks a path back to court decisions and lawyers who plead for leniency. Many dead men would be alive today if, instead of being out on bail, they were safely behind prison walls.

Not only do we advocate the withdrawal of bail for certain offences, but a life sentence should be for life — until a natural death carries the offender across Jordan.

And it need not be an expensive proposition for the taxpayer if the time of those awaiting trial for serious offences and those incarcerated for life were productive.

These prisoners could go into greenhouse farming that would not only feed the prison compound, but produce enough to sell to the public to pay for their keep. This would also assist in the drive to assist the nation in becoming self sufficient in the production of fruits and vegetables.

They could also do woodwork that could be sold. With expert training many useful items could be turned out by prisoners. We have recounted in this column before how prisoners made beautiful toys for children, which were distributed by the Santa Claus committee at Christmas time. In those days Sir Etienne Dupuch, founder of this committee, worked closely with his friend, Byron (Bing) Pinder, then the prison superintendent. Between them they kept many idle hands busy behind the prison walls. It also gave the prisoners great satisfaction to know that at last they could contribute to their community.

With a little imagination and the will to move ahead, the lives of these men and woman could be changed for the better. This could also help to remove much of the present crime from our streets.

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*Thank You*

**Judy Ansell-Grindrod**

and the family are most grateful to their numerous friends for the kindness and support they have received during the past week over the loss of their beloved

*Eric Grindrod*

*Marie Dear.*

WEEKEND CRIME NEWS

# FOUR IN HOSPITAL AFTER SHOOTINGS

A SPATE of shootings across New Providence left four men in hospital recovering from serious injuries.

The violence started on Friday morning when a 24-year-old man was shot in the back and arm while in East Street and Robinson Road at around 7.30am. He was taken to hospital in a private vehicle, treated and discharged.

A drive-by shooting in East Street South at around 12.30pm on Friday left a 32-year-old man in hospital as he was shot multiple times in his upper body when the occupants of a white Honda drove past him and opened fire. The man was rushed to hospital by Emergency Medical Services (EMS) where he has been detained in stable condition.

A 29-year-old man was shot in the head while in West and Peter Streets at around 11.20pm on Friday.

Police are unsure of the circumstances surrounding the violence, and are questioning a 24-year-old man in connection with the incident.

The injured man was taken to Princess Margaret Hospital (PMH) in a private vehicle and

has been detained in stable condition.

A 27-year-old man was shot twice in the leg while in Sarah Robinson Road, off Farrington Road, at 11pm on Saturday, and has been detained in hospital in stable condition.

Police press liaison officer Sgt Chrislyn Skippings said: "Police are investigating, all matters, and are appealing to members of the public who may have any information regarding these incidents to contact police."

**• POLICE CHASE**

A high-speed police chase caused a three car crash in which two innocent women were seriously injured on Saturday morning.

Officers had attempted to stop a man armed with a high-powered weapon as he was driving on Ida Street off Balfour Avenue at around 11am. But as they approached he sped off, and police chased the Nissan Maxima he was driving into Podoleo Street where he crashed into another car occupied by two women.

The gunman got away on foot

and police arrested the passenger in his car, a 28-year-old man of Ida Street.

As the passenger was taken into custody, Emergency Medical Services (EMS) were called and the women were taken to hospital to be treated for head, chest and leg injuries. Sgt Skippings said: "Their injuries were not life threatening, but I am uncertain of their condition at present."

"Police are investigating and encouraging members of the public to partner with them in the fight against crime."

**• ROBBERY**

Armed robbers raided the Muck-a-Muck store in East Street and Island Luck in Marathon Road this weekend.

A gunman stormed the clothing store on the corner of East Street and Coleman Lane at around 8pm on Friday, threatened staff with a handgun and demanded cash.

The robber, described as around 5ft 6ins tall and wearing an orange shirt with jeans, fled the store on foot heading south on East Street. Police said robbers held up employees of Island Luck at around 9pm on Saturday. One is said to have been armed with a handgun as they demanded cash from staff. They took an undetermined amount and ran off in an unknown direction.

**• RAPID STRIKE**

Proactive police operations took a handgun, ammunition and marijuana off the streets this weekend.

Rapid Strike officers armed with a search warrant found a handgun and ammunition at a home in Brown's Alley shortly before 7pm on Friday and arrested a 33-year-old resident. Investigations continue.

Officers in the mobile division seized marijuana when they stopped and searched a car in Robinson Road and Old Trail Road at around 5.30pm on Saturday.

A 22-year-old man of Sandilands Village Road was arrested.



# FATHER'S DAY CRABS



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**Ecclesiastes 11:9-10**

Rejoice, O young man, in your youth, And let your heart cheer you in the days of your youth; Walk in the ways of your heart, And in the sight of your eyes; But know that for all these God will bring you into judgment. Therefore remove sorrow from your heart, And put away evil from your flesh, For childhood and youth are vanity.

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LOCAL NEWS

# TOUR GUIDE BELIEVES HE'S BEING CHEATED BY THE CLIFTON HERITAGE AUTHORITY

By MEGAN REYNOLDS  
Tribune Staff Reporter  
mreynolds@tribunemedia.net

A TOUR guide and descendant of slaves who worked on the Whylly plantation at Clifton Heritage Park believes he is being cheated by the Clifton Heritage Authority as he attempts to lead tours of the site.

Vivian Whylly, 49, of Cable Beach, Nassau, was told he can only lead tours of the site if he will first submit a copy of his script to the Clifton Heritage National Park (CHNP), ensure it is identical to theirs, and seeks approval in writing

**“They don’t really know what the park is and are trying to force the information out of me without compensation. They are fighting me down so the story can be told their way, and not the way it is.”**

Vivian Whylly

before adding new material. But the amateur historian who says he was knighted by

the Sovereign Order of Saint John of Jerusalem for his historical knowledge of his ancestry and dedication to protect the former plantation refuses to agree to the clauses.

He said: “They don’t really know what the park is and are trying to force the information out of me without compensation.”

“They are fighting me down so the story can be told their way, and not the way it is.”

Mr Whylly believes he has been victimised by authorities managing the park, despite being a trained and certified tour guide with education in eco-tourism planning, and having special knowledge in the history of the site. He has been fighting for an opportunity to work there since the park was established more than two years ago.

The amateur historian who is working on a book entitled *The Battles of Clifton*, says he was knighted by the Sovereign Order of Saint John of Jerusalem for his historical knowledge of his ancestry and dedication to protect the former plantation.

He also played an active part in the fight to protect the 200-acre site of the former plantation when the FNM government proposed to sell it as a resort development. The PLP administration later designated it as a public park.

Just before the park officially opened in April 2009, Mr Whylly applied for a job as a tour guide but was instead offered “slave’s work” as a janitor and groundskeeper.

He then established an independent tour company to lead visitors and students on educational visits of the former plantation, but has been held up in negotiations with the Clifton Heritage Authority (CHA) for more than two years.

Now he claims the CHA has

demanding in writing, and in a meeting with Mr Whylly and attorney Pericles Maillis, that the prospective tour guide first takes CHA managing director A L Carey on his proposed tour route, provides him with a copy of his script, ensures it is identical to the Clifton Heritage National Park’s, and obtains permission in writing before expanding his tour information. Public liability insurance was also required by the CHA.

When asked by *The Tribune* why he had asked Mr Whylly to provide a copy of the script, Mr Carey said: “This is most inappropriate because Mr Whylly and I are still supposed to be negotiating.”

“I am flummoxed to tell you the truth, he was supposed to be getting back to me.”

“The clause is going to remain. I won’t tell you why. I will speak to Mr Whylly, he knows why we want the script.”

Mr Whylly, who says he has traced his ancestry back to his great-great-great-grandmother Esther Whylly on an 1820 registry of Mr William Whylly’s slaves, said the CHA has downplayed the history of the plantation and its links to its slaves’ living descendants as the CHNP has not acknowledged the fact 2011 marks 200 years since the plantation owner bought the land from slave trader James Moss in 1811.

But handing over his research to the CHA would compromise the copyright of his yet to be published book, Mr Whylly said.

“From the days of William Whylly straight down to today, the slaves of the Whylly plantation and their descendants are having to fight for equal rights and justice,” he said.

“The only way I would submit my documents would be for compensation.”

“I won’t submit my documents for free. It’s cheating. It’s asking me to do for them what they are not prepared to do for me.”

“I know I did the work and I should get the credit.”

Mr Whylly claims he was further encouraged by the Minister of Tourism Vincent Vanderpool-Wallace to provide the CHA with his script, but he has refused to do so.

The Clifton Heritage Park schedules educational tours for visitors and schoolchildren during the week but is closed on weekends.

Former pastor at the New Providence Community Church Clint Kemp was instrumental in a group effort to develop Sacred Space on Clifton Pier in 2005 and said he has been disappointed by the degeneration of the area since.

He said scores of visitors



VIVIAN WHYLLY holds a register of slaves at the Whylly Plantation in 1820 which includes his great-great-great grandmother Esther Whylly.

have complained about the current state of the Clifton Heritage Park.

The Sacred Space characterised by Slaves Landing, Antonius Roberts’ evocative sculptures of slaves looking out to sea, is now surrounded by a chain link fence and does

not provide the public with the accessible space he had intended to create, Mr Kemp said.

He added: “It’s now in total disrepair and it’s unfortunate, because it provided a tremendous place for people to come.”

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**HANDS FOR HUNGER WELCOMES NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**



**HANDS FOR HUNGER WELCOMES YOLANDA DARVILLE AS NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:** Yolanda Darville (left) with Ashley Lepine (outgoing Executive Director) as this year’s Paradise Plates, Hands For Hunger’s annual fundraiser.

HANDS For Hunger officially welcomes Yolanda Darville as its new executive director.

Most recently the director of development with the Queen’s College Foundation and development associate at The College of The Bahamas, Ms Darville has more than a decade of non-profit management and community relations experience, as well as strategic leadership skills and a strong commitment to the volunteer sector.

An alumnus of James Madison University, graduating magna cum laude with a degree in public relations, Ms Darville is prepared to share the mission of Hands For Hunger and the organization’s commitment to eliminating hunger and achieving food security in The Bahamas.

“During this exciting time of growth and change for Hands For Hunger, we could not have asked for a more qualified, devoted and ambitious chief ambassador to welcome to our organisation this spring as our new executive director. I have every confidence in Yolanda’s ability to be an excellent leader for both Hands For Hungers and the community,” said Andrew Howard, vice president of H4H.

Ms Darville said: “I have had an opportunity to observe from a distance the excellent services that Hands For Hunger has provided to the community through its food rescue programme and its education efforts around hunger and food security in The Bahamas.

“I am pleased to be a part of the team and continue to expand the groundwork laid by former executive director Ashley Lepine, the board of directors and Hands For Hunger’s dedicated volunteers.”

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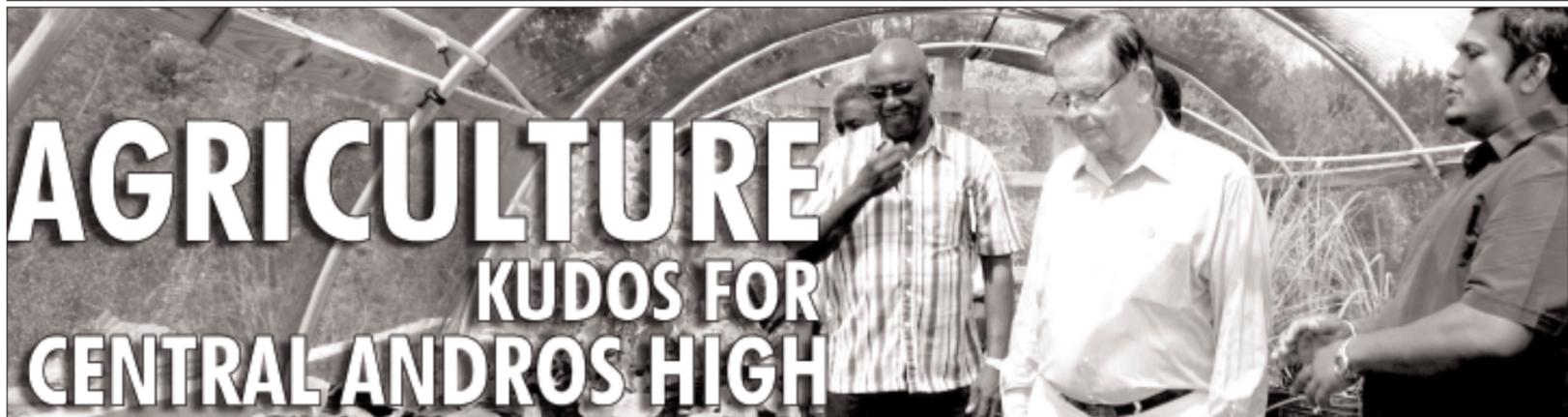
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LOCAL NEWS



**HIGH AMBITION:** Agriculture teacher Shivananda Ackloo (right) shows off Central Andros High Schools mini-greenhouse. From left are BAIC assistant general manager (agriculture) Arnold Dorsett and executive chairman Edison M Key.

**By GLADSTONE THURSTON**  
Bahamas Information Services

CENTRAL Andros High School's agriculture programme has won the support of Bahamas Agricultural and Industrial Corporation (BAIC) and the Inter-American Institute for Co-operation in Agriculture (IICA).

"I was very impressed," said BAIC executive chairman Edison M Key. "We can do a lot to support that programme and we have indicated that to them. "If we can see more of these programmes throughout The Bahamas we would be well on the way to producing young men and women who might be the future food producers for The Bahamas."

Mr Key and a BAIC team along with IICA's Bahamas representative Dr Marikis Alvarez visited the school during a tour of North Andros farms

They were welcomed at Central Andros High by headmaster Andrae Nairn and agriculture science teacher Shivananda Ackloo.

The students there raise goats and chickens, operate a small greenhouse, and till the land utilising implements and material gathered from the community.

"We were very impressed with the school's output, where they have a trained agriculture teacher," said IICA's Dr Alvarez.

IICA is the specialised agency of the Inter-American System for the promotion of agriculture and rural well-being.

Its efforts are focused on making agriculture competitive and sustainable in the Americas.

Through the Ministry of Education, IICA has been assisting schools that have agriculture programmes.

"We have provided seed material and we have helped them with capacity building, to do rapid multiplication in order to produce good quality material," said Dr Alvarez.

He commended agriculture teacher Mr Ackloo, of Guyana, and his team.

"We see that he is stimulating innovativeness among the students," said Dr Alvarez. "He is making use of some resources that he can put a hand on



**HEALTHY:** ABOVE: Cucumbers grow healthy in BAIC's model greenhouse at the North Andros Agri-industrial Park. Pictured inspecting them is executive chairman Edison M Key.

**LEFT:** Native goats join the tour of the Central Andros agriculture project during a visit last weekend by a team from BAIC and IICA.



**KNOWING YOUR ONIONS:** Agriculture teacher Shivananda Ackloo (right) shows off the Central Andros High School's mini greenhouse to BAIC executive chairman Edison M. Key and his team.

and is indeed getting some output."

Mr Ackloo noted that some students are extending their school activities to home - they want to take animals home to raise them, and they want seedling to start their own gardens.

"That is the kind of impact we are looking out for because that is an indication that the students are absorbing the training," said Dr Alvarez.

"Being in a school system though, we would like to see continuity from primary through tertiary levels. How do we sustain the interest of these young people in agriculture?"

"Agriculture has 240 professions. There are avenues for the different interests they are expressing. We would really like to see them accommodated," said Dr Alvarez.

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**NEW AIRLINE SERVICE TO OFFER 'VERY COMPETITIVE' FARES**

**By DENISE MAYCOCK**  
Tribune Freeport Reporter  
dmaycock@tribunemedia.net

**FREEPORT:** The new non-stop jet service by Vision Airlines will favourably reflect Grand Bahama's proximity as the nearest offshore destination to the US East Coast, says Director-General of Tourism David L Johnson.

The airline will provide direct air service to at least five US cities in November, it was announced at the Our Lucaya Resort.

Vision Airlines will start non-stop jet service on a 136 seat Boeing 737 aircraft to Grand Bahama on November 11 from several US cities, including Richmond, Virginia; Louisville, Kentucky; Raleigh-Durham, North Carolina, Baltimore, Maryland and Ft Lauderdale, Florida.

This new service will bring 100,000 additional seats annually to Grand Bahama in its first phase of operations.

Mr Johnson said Vision's low fares would be very competitive, and lower than other carriers.

He noted that round trip ticket to Grand Bahama from Fort Lauderdale on Vision would be more than \$100 less than another airline.

"If we shopped for tickets to Grand Bahama Island today, the best price round-trip from Ft Lauderdale would be \$259 including tax, but an average price of \$340.

"When Vision Airlines starts, tickets will be available for as little as \$89 round-trip, plus tax, or \$199 including tax. And for travel to GB combined with minimum three nights hotel stay our customers will be able to fly free for taxes only," he said.

Mr Johnson said the lowest airfare from Louisville, KY to GBI today is \$663, including taxes, compared to Vision Airlines' fares which would be \$392 including taxes, or a savings of \$542 per booking.

He noted that Richmond, VA to GBI will be \$382, including taxes versus today's cost of

\$665. "What this shows is that with the advent of this new Vision Airlines service, a three night stay on Grand Bahama with airfare, hotel and transfers will be typically less than today's cost for airfare alone," he stated.

Mr Johnson said the non-stop jet flights also significantly reduce travel time from cities like Louisville, KY, Baltimore, MD and Richmond, VA by two hours or less.

"By realising its proximity advantage through lower airfares and shortest travel times, it will go a long way to making GB the destination of choice for vacationers in these markets seeking a beach holiday," the Director-General said.

Vision Airlines began operations in Las Vegas, NV in 1994. It expanded its operation from one plane to a fleet of more

than 20 aircrafts, flying to more than 15 US cities.

David P Meers Jr, Senior Vice President of Vision Airlines, said he is looking forward to the partnership with the Ministry of Tourism and the other stakeholders on Grand Bahama.

Vision Airlines is privately held and its long-term plans are to become a premier leisure destination airline.

The company serves popular tourist destinations such as Ft Lauderdale, Destin/Ft Walton Beach, Tampa/St Petersburg, Orlando/Sanford and Ft Myers/Punta Gorda. The company will add Punta Cana, Cancun and Montego Bay through its agreement with Funjet. These routes will originate in St Louis and start December, 2011.

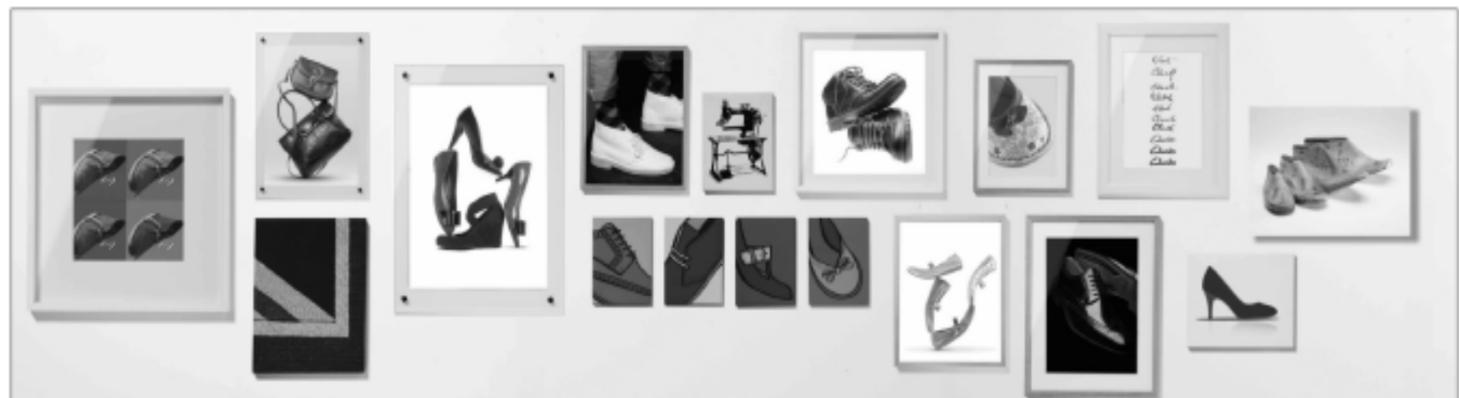
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# 'Time out' on the promises of European Union Partnership

By SIR RONALD SANDERS

(The writer is a Consultant and former Caribbean diplomat).

In October 2008, when the 15 member countries of CARIFORUM (CF) individually signed a full Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) with the collective European Union (EU) of 27 countries, much was made of the promise of increased benefits to Caribbean countries. Two and half years later, the promise remains unfulfilled.

At the time of signing, observers stressed the importance of setting-up two bodies throughout the CF countries which are the 14 independent states of the

## insight

### WORLD VIEW

Caribbean Community (CARICOM) plus the Dominican Republic. These two bodies were: a unit in each country to ensure implementation of the many demanding clauses of the EPA; and the other was a unit to monitor the delivery of the promises that the EPA proffered. It was also anticipated that the CARICOM Secretariat would have established similar oversight bodies for the CF countries as a whole.

As it turned out, the

CARICOM Secretariat established an implementation unit, but not a monitoring one. Similarly, some countries established implementation units, but none has set up machinery to monitor the delivery of the EPA pledges.

Yet, if any CF country is to seek a review of the EPA, it will have to do so based on evidence of non-delivery based on effective monitoring and recording of the EU's failure to deliver.

Hopefully, governments will establish monitoring units soon, or at the very least, authorise the setting-up of such a unit by the CARICOM Secretariat on behalf of all CF countries.

But, it is becoming increasingly clear that, even though two and half years have passed, CF governments were not ready to implement the EPA that they were the first to sign in the expectation that great benefits would flow not only from an early signing, but also from signing a "full" EPA, rather than one that simply complied with requirements of the World Trade Organisation (WTO). The WTO-plus EPA, which was signed, was justified on the basis that CF countries would be able to access the EU market for services. Among the services touted were: architects, accountants, chefs, and musicians. Access to the EU market has proven to be extremely difficult for many reasons, among which is: these Caribbean service providers can only access the EU market under **Mutual Recognition Agreements**



SIR RONALD SANDERS

(MRA) but the structures for recognition do not exist in many CF countries.

Thus far, only five CF countries – Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Dominican Republic, Grenada and Jamaica – have established implementation units, but even these are said to be "constrained by insufficient financial and personnel resources", according to a report produced by the European Centre for Development Policy Management. This problem is not likely to ease anytime soon, given the financial constraints faced by almost all the CF states.

At the time the EPA was signed, the CARICOM Secretariat had identified hundreds of measures that CF states would have to implement. If the EU is genuinely interested in a "partnership", it should consider making funds available, swiftly and without its usual bureaucratic delays, to fund the full operationalization of these units in each CF state on a dedicated and accountable basis. So far, under its Caribbean Aid-for Trade programme, Britain has helped to fund the few implementation units that now exist. The EU should also strengthen the implementa-

tion unit in the CARICOM Secretariat. After all, it has to be recalled that this is a "partnership" between 27 giants collectively and 15 dwarfs individually. It is only fair that the giants should give their "partners" the assistance they need.

When the EPA was being signed, a few commentators – experienced in negotiations in the WTO and elsewhere – had warned against the early signing of the EPA and had spoken out strongly against the signing of a WTO plus agreement. We were described as "nay-sayers". But, it seems that the concerns we expressed are coming to pass. Among them were that governments of small economies would find it extremely difficult to replace the revenues they would lose from removing tariffs on EU imported goods. As the commitments of these governments under the EPA kick-in, this will become a huge problem for small states whose economies are in the doldrums and are already burdened with high taxation and debt.

In the event, the "nay-sayers" cannot be blamed for the failure to put implementation and monitoring units in place. Nor can they be blamed for the governance issues that now bedevil the CF countries, and that are now adversely affecting the process of managing the EPA process. The so-called "nay-sayers" can also not be blamed for the failure to mobilise the private sector in many – if not all – CF countries to take advantage of the opportunities the EPA provides. It is obvious that in many of these countries only a very small number of companies understand the provisions of the EPA or are able to utilise them to access the EU market. Here again,

the EU should dedicate funds, in the spirit of partnership, to launch information, education and facilitation campaigns for the region's private sector.

It is now generally known that the EU Aid-for-Trade facility is a big disappointment. The resources that have been made available since the EPA was signed have fallen far short of what the Caribbean was given to expect. In this connection the EU should do better particularly as some CI countries signed the EPA only on the basis of threats to their banana, rum and sugar industries by the negotiations for the European Commission (EC). And, as it turned out, the EC reneged on commitments in all three areas, particularly rum and measures to support the banana industry.

Clearly, CF governments need urgently to settle their difficulties of governance and they have to put implementation and monitoring machinery in place. But they should face up to the European Commission which pushed many Caribbean countries into signing the EPA. It is time Caribbean governments demand a pause in the EPA arrangements especially in light of the adverse effects of the global financial crisis that broke just as the EPA was signed.

If CARICOM governments could pause the Single Market and halt work toward a Single Economy amongst themselves, they should be able to tell the EU that it is appropriate to take "time-out" from the EPA for reflection, revision and renegotiation of many difficult aspects of it.

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

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LOCAL NEWS

# NEW FORMULA 'PRODUCES RESULTS IN CONTROLLING PROSTATE CANCER'

By LAMECH JOHNSON

DURING a weekly lunch meeting of the Rotary Club of West Nassau, the guest speaker revealed a formula that has produced stellar results in controlling prostate cancer.

Dr Joseph Evans, owner and operator of the Bahamas Urology Center said Navophos, in the process of being renamed to Lophostin, has been helping his patients to beat the disease which is one of the

main causes of death for Bahamian men.

He said: "A gentleman came into my office with an elevated Prostate-Specific Antigen (PSA). The normal level for the PSA is 0 up to 4.0. That gentleman came into my office after being treated elsewhere and being told nothing else could be done for him, his PSA was 513."

The PSA is a test used to help detect prostate cancer in men over 40.

According to Dr Evans, the man used Navophos and "six weeks later his PSA

which was 513 is now 3.1".

Another patient using the same treatment and duration had his PSA reduced from 3,334 to 300.

Though the product is not approved by the US Food and Drug Association, due to unavailable resources and the length of

time it would take for the product to be approved, Mr. Evans claims foreigners have flown to the Bahamas to use the treatment.

The only known side effects of the treatment are tenderness and enlargement of the chest.

## Royal Bahamas Police Force National Crime Prevention Office 'conflict resolution safety tips'

By CONSTABLE 3011 MAKELLE PINDER



CONSTABLE 3011 Makelle Pinder

CONFLICT is a normal and necessary part of healthy relationships. After all, people aren't expected to agree on everything at all times. Therefore, learning how to deal with conflict—rather than avoiding it is crucial.

When conflict is mismanaged, it can harm any relationship. But when handled in a respectful and positive way, conflict provides an opportunity for growth, ultimately strengthening the bond between individuals.

How we handle our anger and how we deal with other people who are angry can make the difference between managing conflict effectively and having conflict end in violence.

Therefore listed below are a few Conflict Resolution Safety Tips.

### UNHEALTHY RESPONSES TO CONFLICT:

An inability to recognise and respond to the things that matter to the other person

Explosive, angry, hurtful, and resentful reactions.

The withdrawal of love, resulting in rejection, isolation, shaming, and fear of abandonment.

An inability to compromise

or see the other person's side.

The fear and avoidance of conflict; the expectation of bad outcomes.

### HEALTHY RESPONSES TO CONFLICT:

The capacity to recognise and respond to the things that matter to the other person.

Calm, non-defensive, and respectful reactions

A readiness to forgive and forget, and to move past the conflict without holding resentments or anger

The ability to seek compromise and avoid punishing.

A belief that facing conflict head on is the best thing for both sides.

Remember that conflict is a normal reaction, therefore choose your battles, and learn how to walk away.

Compromise, and think before you act and speak.

Life does not have a restart button.

## REAL ESTATE: THE MARKETING DILEMMA

By MIKE LIGHTBOURN



PRETEND you want to be an author. You have an idea for a riveting book based on startling new evidence on the murder of Sir Harry Oakes. You are sure readers will be receptive and you write the book.

Now – how will you get the book into readers' hands? Your first thought may be to "self-publish" your book. You could make some phone calls to Barnes & Noble or Amazon.com to stir up some sales. You could also run an ad in *The Tribune*, as well as USA Today and the Wall Street Journal.

Think your book would hit the "Best Seller" list with that approach? Probably not. Would your book be more likely to sell millions if you had a "literary agent" or "publicist"? Absolutely – without question!

So why would you ever consider trying to sell your home without the professional assistance of a seasoned BREA real estate specialist? Do you want your home to be a "Best

Seller" at the top of every buyer's "must see" list – or merely an under exposed "wanna be" languishing on the market?

Your Bahamas Real Estate Association rep is a combination of publicist, promoter, publisher, and brilliant "ringmaster" appealing to people of all ages to call their attention to your home in the "centre ring."

Your BREA agent will use a variety of methods to give your home maximum exposure, including their private list of prospects and contacts, not to mention the real estate professionals they network with on a daily basis to find the right purchaser for your home.

With these tremendous resources a sale is virtually assured, provided it is priced correctly. Ready to sell? Now that the local banks are set to reduce lending rates, this is a great time to think about selling. Get represented!

(Mike Lightbourn is president of Coldwell Banker Lightbourn Realty).



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LOCAL NEWS



**SOME OF THE BOYS** in the Minister's Life Management Male Empowerment Programme sing for Minister of Education Desmond Bannister. **Felipe Major/Tribune staff**



**20 COMPLETE MINISTER'S LIFE MANAGEMENT MALE EMPOWERMENT PROGRAMME**

TWENTY boys aged between 10 to 15 have successfully completed the first Minister's Life Management Male Empowerment Programme (LMMEP) - a pilot study designed to increase the school graduation rate.

The programme was held Friday at the Ministry of Education.

Superintendent Stephen Dean, director of the RBPF National Crime Prevention Office, delivered the Charge to the youngsters encouraging them to "stay focused and complete high school".

Minister Desmond Bannister congratulated and presented each of the boys with their certificates and welcomed them on their team as, Summer Youth Peer Counselors.

Mr Bannister encouraged them to assist him in reducing conflict resolution in the

schools. He also recommended the programme to be continued in September, and he wants it to be expanded in other Ministry of Education Junior schools.

The Ministry of Education partnered with The Royal Bahamas Police Force, The Royal Bahamas Defence Force, BTC, and Phil's Food Service.

The primary goal of the LMMEP is to motivate young men to complete junior schools without any infractions; and to ultimately graduate from high school.

Facilitators present were Rev Wilton Pinder, Sub Lt Deleveaux, RBDF; Troy Clarke, L.E.A.D. President, Sergeant Rolle (RBPF), Supt Stephen Dean, RBDF; Dr Patrick Rolle, Director, Civil Aviation; Eric Fox, director, Teen Challenge; Ian Bethel, Ministry of Youth.

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Congratulations to 10yrs old **ARANIQUE BROWN**, who Graduated from 6th grade as Valedictorian of Mt. Carmel Preparatory Academy with a GPA of 4.0. She received seven trophies including best in Reading, Language Arts, Spanish and Bible along with 16 certificate for her outstanding Academic and extra-curricular achievements.

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# Young mum 60th murder victim

**FROM page one**

And the man Ms McBride regarded as her current boyfriend was also questioned by police and released from custody at around 3am on Sunday after detectives established he had been in Eight Mile Rock at the time of the shooting.

Police spokesman Asst Supt Loretta Mackey, said the motive for the shooting is not known and police are

continuing their investigation.

The death of Ms McBride, an employee at Stop N Wash Laundromat who lived in Jones Town, Eight Mile Rock, is the fifth homicide victim in Grand Bahama this year, and 60th in the country.

The national murder toll was 41 on June 19 last year, and anti-crime advocate Rodney Moncur has called for all those who have lost loved ones to murder to take to the streets on Saturday to call for killers to be hanged.

The former Worker's Party leader and member of the Democratic National Alliance (DNA) aims to bring together hundreds of Bahamians whose loved ones have been murdered to collectively cry out for justice.

Mr Moncur started the marches three years ago to pressure the government into hanging murderers for their crimes and ensuring

judges do not grant bail for those accused of murder.

"We will continue to march and proclaim our message because the situation is getting worse day by day," said Mr Moncur.

"The Bahamas is now in suicide mode. With the murder rate as high as it is at present, with no signs of abating, it is clear that the country is on a sure and unobstructed path to self-destruction.

"The dramatic rise in crime over the past six months only reflects the unrelenting growth in the total and utter disrespect for the law that has been nurtured in our society for years now. This breakdown in law and order has had and will continue to have long-lasting negative effects on the country.

"And once we have descended into the depths of social degradation, where crime rules, it will take generations for this country to be restored."

Demonstrators will meet at 9am at the former City Market shopping centre in Tonique Darling Williams Boulevard on corner of Bailou Hill Road.

Anyone with information that can assist police investigations into the country's latest murder should call police on 911, 919 or call Crime Stoppers anonymously on 328-TIPS (8477).

## BAILLOU HILL ROAD SOUTH ROADWORKS

BAILLOU Hill Road South will operate with one lane only as roadworks begin today and are expected to go on for six weeks.

Drivers are advised to take care when passing through the area, and to use alternate routes such as East Street or the Sir Milo Butler Highway when possible.

The left lane of Bailou Hill Road south will be closed and two lanes of traffic will be implemented in the north lane, while the area directly behind the Family Guardian building will be closed.

Works being carried out by the New Providence Road Improvement and Infrastructure Project include the installation of a water main and service ducts for drainage beneath the surface of the road.

## BAHAMAS' SUPPORT FOR UN GAY RIGHTS RESOLUTION 'A LONG TIME COMING'

**FROM page one**

identifies itself as a Christian nation. It's only the beginning and hopefully, soon enough, our Christian beliefs and our humane policies will come together and help us create a country we all want to live in," Ms Greene told the *Tribune*.

"It's only a resolution, it's not the be-all-and-end-all. It's just the start of a process of guaranteeing protection and safety of all citizens in a country. Many Bahamians may be upset and appalled but that move is more Christian than any other policy decision."

Twenty-three countries on the human rights council supported the resolution, 19 voted against it and three countries abstained.

The resolution was the first of its kind passed by the council. The United States, France and Thailand were among the countries that supported the bill while Russia, Pakistan and Ghana were among the countries that opposed it.

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## LOCAL NEWS

## MARINA TO INCREASE SECURITY AFTER BOAT THEFT

By DENISE MAYCOCK  
Tribune Freeport Reporter  
dmaycock@tribunemedia.net

FREEPORT – A marina resort in Bimini will be increasing its security following a recent boat theft at that property.

Sandra Fieger, a human resource manager at the Big Game Resort, said a boat theft was captured last Thursday on their security cameras. “We are always concerned

about boat thefts and we have security measures in place and we were able to catch the thieves on camera,” she said.

According to police reports, a 30ft Grady, with white centre console and twin 250hp Yamaha outboard engines, was reported stolen from the resort between 10am on June 15 and 6am on June 16.

Grand Bahama Police discovered the stolen vessel

adrift some 19 miles south of Grand Bahama around 2pm on Thursday.

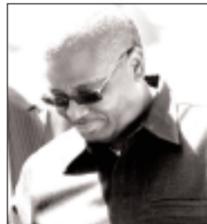
Onboard were two male Bimini residents, both 22 years old. They were arrested by police.

Ms Fieger said the vessel belonged to an American.

She said the Big Game Resort has some 77 slips and will heighten security measures by increasing security.

“We will remain diligent and vigilant,” she said.

## BISHOP FRASER TRIAL CLOSING STATEMENTS EXPECTED



Bishop Earl Randy Fraser

CLOSING statements are expected to be presented today as the unlawful sex trial of Baptist Bishop Earl Randy Fraser continues in a Magistrate's Court.

Prosecutors have accused Fraser, 53, of abusing his position of trust by having a sexual relationship with a 16-year-old girl he had agreed to counsel.

It is alleged that Fraser, pastor of Pilgrim Baptist Temple on St

James Road, had a sexual relationship with the girl between July 2005 and February 2006. Fraser denies the allegations and remains on \$10,000 bail. Fraser is represented by attorney Jiaman Mangra.

Deputy Director of Public Prosecutions Franklyn Williams is prosecuting the case which is being heard before Deputy Chief Magistrate Carolita Bethell.

## FROM page one

Monday holiday weekend.

Reports say the thieves entered the building by forcing their way through a window. It is reported that once inside they forced the lock to the administrator's office off where they removed a safe containing an undetermined amount of cash.

The incident came less than a year after Mr Knowles and his son were held up by gunmen

## Leads followed

outside of their home and forced to drive to the administrator's office in Masons Bay where their captors stole a large sum of money from the safe and personal items, including a cell phone and cash.

According to reports, the robbers then drove the father and son down a track road in a bushy area, tied them up and left.

## FROM page one

ond-home owners and visitors are nervous. If BEC can't come up with good reasons as to why power outages happened, and it continues on, then we're gonna have some problems for sure.”

Mr Albury added: “It's gonna be hard to quell the nervousness, and override the fear that is just skin deep, that we're facing another summer of cuts.”

Power outages were said to reflect the “massive mismanagement” of the new power plant installation, according to PLP Chairman Bradley Roberts, who attributed the “failure” to FNM Ministers Earl Deveaux and Phenton Nymour.

Mr Roberts called for a commission of inquiry into the power failures on Abaco despite its multi-million dollar contracted upgrades.

“The PLP,” he said, “believes that a Commission of

## Power cuts

Inquiry is needed to investigate and provide a report on why a contract to build four new generators issued in 2006 and a new power plant in Abaco is after almost five years and with expenditure of over \$100 million is not providing uninterrupted electricity to the people of Abaco and its cays.”

BEC assumed responsibility for the generation of electricity at the \$70.8 million Wilson City power plant in March from contractor MAN Diesel.

Built to address the unreliability of power generation in the Abaco islands, the plant's operation on a full time basis awaits the completion of an upgraded transmission line linking it to Marsh Harbour.

Mr Roberts added: “Despite very strong assurances given to the people of Abaco by Minister Earl Deveaux and Jr. Minister Phenton Nymour that the

required action was taken to insure that the major blackouts of 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010 would not occur in 2011.”

Mr Albury, chamber president, estimated that Abaco companies lost \$3 to \$4 million due to shortened or cancelled visitor stays during daily power summer outages experienced last summer.

Realtors were also hit, according to the Public Treasury, with \$2 to \$3 million in losses as a result of buyers reneging on property closings due to electricity concerns.

Mr Albury said: “It has been pretty good, just in the last week or so it's starting to act up again. What we have is a case of people with a wound that is still sore so when you start having little hiccups, it brings back bad memories.”

“People are asking, is this the beginning of a summer trend again, or is it just some issues that they'll solve in a few days? Only time will tell on that.”

## AMENDMENTS TO PARLIAMENTARY ACT EXPECTED TO BE TABLED

## FROM page one

ment estimates that between 160,000 to 170,000 Bahamians will register for the next general election.

There were 74,179 persons entered on the new register as of June 7, 2011. Of that number, 53,663 were registered for New Providence; 11,623 on Grand Bahama and 8,893 for the Family Islands.

To facilitate early registration, voter registra-

tion centres and sub-stations have been established throughout the country.

Permanent centres have been established at the department's headquarters in New Providence and Freeport and the administrator's offices in various Family Islands.

Additional stations have been established at the Mall at Marathon and Town Centre Mall, National Insurance Board, General Post Office and Elizabeth Estates and Carmichael Road post offices.

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Ruby Princess  
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## Generations Junior Angler Tournament

Saturday June 25<sup>th</sup> 2011 from 10:00am to 3:00pm.  
Everyone is invited to participate.



This a fun tournament for kids only. It is a wonderful opportunity to take your kids fishing and spend some quality time on the water with them.

Many of us don't take enough time to enjoy the beautiful waters of our country.

The entry fee is only \$50.00 per boat.

It is a very simple tournament:

Two Age groups: 4-to-12 years old and 13 to 17 years old.  
Four eligible species: grunts, snappers, jacks & turbot. Prizes for heaviest of each.

Weigh in at Green Parrot on Bay Street at 3:00pm with a party and awards ceremony right after. We will have free hotdogs, burgers, drinks after the tournament for the kids that fished.

Please register at the Captains meeting which will be on Thursday June 23 at 6:00 pm at the Green Parrot on East Bay Street or stop by Harbourside Marine on East Bay Street. Call Nick Rademaker at 393-0262 for more details.

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## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

## WINDS TO CHALLENGE CREWS BATTLING WILDFIRES

PHOENIX  
Associated Press

EXTREMELY high winds are expected to challenge firefighters trying to protect homes threatened by a pair of fires in southern and eastern Arizona on Sunday.

The small New Mexico town of Luna is in the path of the massive Wallow Fire burning in eastern Arizona's Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest. Fire breached a containment line along Highway 180 on Saturday and about 200 residents were ordered to evacuate and remained out of their homes Sunday.

The evacuation order came on the same day that some other residents displaced by the fire that began May 29 were allowed to return home.

The threat to Luna lessened late Saturday but was expected to return Sunday afternoon as wind gusts of 40 to 50 mph were expected to drive the flames.

Only about half the town's residents actually left, and the rest have been told to stay off the roads so they don't get in the way of fire crews, Catron County Undersheriff Ian Fletcher said Sunday. Few people went to a Red Cross shelter set up in Reserve, N.M.

"If the fire comes back around or things change where they have to get out, we still have an egress point, so we will still escort them out of town," Fletcher said. "We're expected high winds this afternoon — we're preparing for the worst and hoping for the best."

The blaze has consumed nearly 800 square miles, a little more than 511,000 acres, and more than 3,500 firefighters were trying to stop its advance. The blaze is larger than a 2002 fire that burned 732 square miles and destroyed 491 buildings that had been the largest in state history. Despite its size, the latest fire has destroyed just 32 homes and four rental cabins. Containment rose to 44 percent Sunday.

In southern Arizona, a wildfire south of Sierra Vista remained 27 percent contained at about 21,000 acres, or nearly 33 square miles. About 44 home already have been destroyed by the Monument fire and about 2,600 homes were evacuated.

Fire information officer Bill Paxton said high winds Sunday morning grounded tankers that have been dropping slurry on the fire. Winds were blowing steadily at about 30 mph with gusts on the ridges of about 50 mph. About 1,000 firefighters were on the lines, and hundreds of state and local police and firefighters were helping in the area.

With summer rains still weeks away, forecasters said fire crews across the region would likely have little relief from the hot, windy weather that has dogged them for days. Residents of Alpine, Ariz., were allowed to return to their homes Saturday morning after being forced out by the Wallow Fire for more than two weeks, but residents of the resort town of Greer still remained evacuated.

U.S. Sen. Jon Kyl, who owns a home in Greer, toured the fire area Saturday along with Sen. John McCain and Arizona congressmen Jeff Flake and Paul Gosar.

"Seeing a terrible fire like this is always a wakeup call," Flake, a Republican who represents Arizona's 6th district, said in a statement. "Our forest health policies need an overhaul. ... In the short term, we need to address regulations that hamper timber salvage in the burnt areas. In the long term, we need to enter into public-private partnerships in order to improve the health of these forests by thinning them."

CLAIM THAT WARPLANES STRUCK RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBOURHOOD

# Libya says nine civilians killed in NATO airstrike

TRIPOLI, Libya  
Associated Press

LIBYA'S government said NATO warplanes struck a residential neighborhood in the capital Sunday and killed nine civilians, including two children, adding to its accusations that the alliance is striking non-military targets.

NATO acknowledged its planes hit targets in Tripoli in the early hours of Sunday and said it was investigating whether it was responsible for the alleged strike on a heavily damaged building.

Whether the airstrikes are eventually confirmed or not, the allegations provided supporters of Moammar Gadhafi's regime a new rallying point against the international intervention in Libya's civil war. The foreign minister called for a "global jihad" on the West in response.

Early in the morning, journalists based in the Libyan capital were rushed by government officials to the damaged building, which appeared to have been partially under construction. Reporters were escorted back to the site during the day, where children's toys, teacups and dust-covered mattresses could be seen amid the rubble.

It was not possible to independently verify the government's account of what happened. NATO has repeatedly insisted it tries to avoid killing civilians.

Foreign Minister Abdul-Ati al-Obeidi told reporters nine civilians, including two children, were killed in the explosion and said 18 people were wounded. He said the strike was a "deliberate attack on a civilian neighborhood," and follows other alleged targeting of nonmilitary targets such as a hotel, oxygen factory and civilian vehicles.

"The deliberate bombing ... is a direct call for all free peoples of the world and for all Muslims to initiate a global jihad against the oppressive, criminal West and never to allow such criminal organizations as NATO to decide the future of other independent and sovereign nations," al-Obeidi said. He did not take questions.



IN THIS PHOTO taken on a government-organized tour, members of the media and others examine the remains of a damaged residential building in Tripoli, Libya Sunday. The Libyan government accused NATO of bombing a residential neighborhood in the capital and killing civilians early Sunday, adding to its charges that the alliance is striking nonmilitary targets. (AP)

Journalists were shown the bodies of at least four people said to have been killed in the strike, including the two young children. Foreign reporters in Tripoli are not allowed to travel and report freely and are almost always shadowed by government minders.

Salem Ali Garadi, 51, who said his brother and sister were among the victims, said five people were killed. There was no explanation for the discrepancy in death counts.

## Attacks

Before Sunday's alleged strike, Libya's Health Ministry said 856 civilians had been killed in NATO air attacks since they began in March. The figure could not be independently confirmed. Previous government tolls from individual strikes have proven to be exaggerated.

NATO acknowledged its planes hit targets in Tripoli and was looking into the reports.

"NATO confirms that it was operating in Tripoli last night, conducting airstrikes against a legitimate military target," Wing commander Mike Bracken said in a statement Sunday after-

noon.

"NATO deeply regrets any civilian loss of life during this operation and would be very sorry if the review of this incident concluded it to be a NATO weapon," Bracken said.

A later NATO statement said the incident "is said to have occurred ... following a deliberate strike which targeted a missile site operated by pro-Gadhafi forces."

The alliance struck Tripoli again Sunday afternoon. A number of explosions could be heard in the city, and smoke could be seen rising over the southern part of the capital.

While NATO warplanes have stepped up their campaign against Gadhafi's regime over the past week, fighting has intensified between rebels and government troops outside the port city of Misrata, the main rebel stronghold in western Libya.

For weeks, the rebels had been bottled up in the city, some 125 miles (200 kilometers) east of Tripoli. The eastern third of the country is under rebel control from their de facto capital, Benghazi.

On Sunday, Gadhafi's forces unleashed a heavy barrage of Grad rockets and

mortars on the rebel front lines in Dafniya, about 15 miles (25 kilometers) west of Misrata. A medical official in Misrata hospital said that 10 rebels were killed and 54 wounded in clashes Sunday in Dafniya.

## Casualties

As the barrage continued into the afternoon, a steady stream of pickup trucks rushed casualties to a field hospital in Dafniya, where medics and volunteers quickly unloaded the dead from the back of the pickups and placed the wounded on stretchers.

One truck pulled up with three bodies covered in blood.

"They are shelling us really badly today with everything — mortars, Grads, heat-seeking weapons, anything you can imagine," said Mustafa, 30, who was helping drive the wounded from the front.

Gadhafi's forces also ambushed a group of rebels near Dafniya early Sunday with AK-47s and heavy machine guns, according to rebel fighter Mohammed Khalil.

He said the fighting was intense, with the two sides

as close as 50 yards (meters) from each other. Five rebels were killed in the ambush, he said.

The two sides have also been fighting in a mountain range southwest of the capital that runs to the border with Tunisia and controls a critical supply route for the rebels.

Three days of fighting there in the border town of Nalut has killed 15 people and injured many others, said Brigadier Gomaa Ibrahim, a spokesman of the rebel military council in the Nafusa Mountains.

"The Gadhafi forces outnumber the rebels and they are better armed and equipped," he said.

Gadhafi forces are also taking shelter inside the residential suburbs of Nalut, making it hard for rebels to chase and hunt them down, he said.

Despite daily clashes in places, the rebels say they control about half of the mountain range.

In new defections from Gadhafi's military, 35 army officers led by Brig. Gen. Fouad al-Adrisi announced in a video message that they had joined the rebel ranks. The video was posted on a Facebook page for the uprising.

TORRENTIAL RAIN LEAVES HUGE AREAS UNDER WATER

# MORE THAN FIVE MILLION AFFECTED BY CHINA FLOODING

BEIJING  
Associated Press

MORE than five million people have been displaced or otherwise affected by flooding in eastern China that is also pushing up food prices, state media reported Sunday.

Torrential rains have left huge areas of Hubei and Zhejiang provinces under water, with more than one million acres (432,200 hectares) of farmland inundated, the official Xinhua News Agency said.

Almost 1,000 businesses have been forced to suspend operations and 5.7 million people have had their lives disrupted, Xinhua said in a brief report. More than 7,000 homes collapsed or were otherwise damaged and direct financial damage was estimated at almost 6 billion yuan (\$930 million).

The downpour triggered a mudslide that buried houses and killed two people in Zhejiang's Changshan county, while two more were killed and two left missing by flooding in Hubei, Xinhua said.

Flooding in eastern and southern China this month has left more than 170 people dead or missing.

Roads and railways have been blocked, but aid supplies are arriving and the country's weather bureau says skies are expected to clear up Monday.

Farmers quoted by Xinhua said the flooding was the worst in 20 years, reducing vegetable output by 20 percent and also causing shortages of fruits and grains. Prices for



TWO MEN on a motorcycle are stuck in floodwaters in Wuhan in central China's Hubei province Saturday. Flooding from this month's seasonal rains has already forced hundreds of thousands of people from their homes and left more than 170 dead or missing. (AP)

green vegetables were up 40 percent, Xinhua said, adding to an inflation rate of 5.5 percent, a three-year high.

The increase in the consumer

price index reported last week was in line with expectations but higher than April's 5.3 percent and March's 5.4 percent. The National Statistics Bureau said the main factor was an

11.7 percent jump in food prices.

Higher food prices blamed on flooding were also reported in the eastern provinces of Anhui and Jiangxi, Xinhua said.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

HOMES AND BAKERY SET ON FIRE

# SYRIAN ARMY CUTS OFF LIFELINE TO THOUSANDS

**BOYNUYOGUN REFUGEE CAMP, Turkey**  
Associated Press

SYRIAN TROOPS combing through restive villages near the Turkish border set fire to homes and a bakery Sunday, cutting off a lifeline to thousands of uprooted people stranded in miserable open-air encampments.

Activists said the military carried out mass arrests and threw up checkpoints in the village of Bdama and surrounding areas to block residents from fleeing across the frontier, as thousands of others have done.

Turkey, whose leaders have denounced the Damascus regime's deadly crackdown on dissent, began distributing food to those encamped on the Syrian side of the border, in the first such aid mission since the campaign against anti-government protesters turned into a refugee crisis two weeks ago.

People from the Syrian side were collecting food at the border to take to the stranded families, the local Turkish governor's office said.

With the 3-month-old pro-

democracy uprising raging on, the Syrian government appeared desperate to put an end to the embarrassing stream of refugees fleeing their homeland. Activists said Syrian authorities at the border were making it more difficult for people to reach Turkey.

As he escaped to this area of Turkey on Sunday, one refugee from Bdama, identifying himself only as Hassan, said he could hear gunfire as he fled.

"Soldiers have blocked roads and many people are walking through fields and mountains," he said.

Clashes erupted almost two weeks ago in Jisr al-Shughour, in the northern province of Idlib, where activists reported loyalist troops fought with army mutineers who refused to take part in the continuing crackdown on protesters seeking President Bashar Assad's ouster.

Government forces retook that town a week ago, and meanwhile more than 10,500 Syrians fled and are being sheltered in four Turkish refugee camps. An estimated 5,000 others are camped out on the Syrian side of the border, with dwindling

resources, trying to remain close to their homes and relatives, avoiding official refugee status that might delay their return.

The Syrian government has called on the displaced people to return, promising safety. But most are staying put as long as the army is occupying their towns, fearing arrest upon return.

Assad was expected to give a speech Monday in what would be only his third public appearance since the uprising began in mid-March, inspired by the revolutions sweeping the Arab world. Turkey, U.N. and Western leaders and others who have urged change in Syria will watch to see whether he shows any sign of bending toward demands for an easing of the Assad family's 40-year authoritarian rule.

Residents of Bdama, a village 12 miles (20 kilometers) from the Turkish border, said tank-borne troops firing machine guns were tightening their grip on Bdama, the nearby village of Rihan and surrounding areas, which had been a gateway for refugees and for their food and medical supplies, dissident



GENERAL VIEW of a newly set up refugee camp for Syrians who fled the violence in their country, the second in the Turkish town of Yayladagi in Hatay province, Turkey, Sunday. (AP)

sources reported.

In Bdama, several homes were set ablaze in what appeared to be revenge attacks, human rights activist Ammar Qurabi said. A man at the Bdama bakery was shot in the stomach and leg as the place was torched by troops, and he was evacuated to

Turkey for treatment Sunday morning, said an activist near the border, Jamil Saeb.

The bakery was said to have been the sole source of bread for thousands stuck on the Syrian side of the frontier.

"Security forces have arrested around 100 people from those

villages in the past few days. They are trying to close off border areas with checkpoints to keep people from leaving," said Syria-based activist Mustafa Oso, who expressed concern that the thousands encamped on the Syrian side might come under attack.



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## '75-90%' OF FIRMS NOT PAYING NIB, BEC ON TIME



**RAYMOND WINDER**  
\* Rate reduction to have 'minimal impact' on Bahamian economy  
\* Top accountant says cut a 'short-term view' penalising prudent Bahamians saving for retirement  
\* Warns 'shortfall' will have to be put back by government

By NEIL HARTNELL  
Tribune Business Editor

With between 75-90 per cent of Bahamian companies not paying their electricity and National Insurance Board (NIB) contributions on a timely basis, a leading accountant believes the 75 basis point reduction in the Discount and Prime rates will have "minimal impact" in terms of stimulating economic activity.

Raymond Winder, managing partner at Deloitte & Touche (Bahamas), told Tribune Business that individuals and companies were more likely to use the estimated \$60-\$70 million set to be returned to borrowers to pay-off existing debt "shore up" household and company balance sheets, rather than engage in new spending.

SEE page 7B

## \$218M EXPORTER: MORE TRANSPARENCY ON ELECTRICITY RATES

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

The Bahamas' \$218 million leading exporter has called for more "transparency" from the Grand Bahama Power Company and extra "synergy" between the industrial community and the education system, noting that high power costs and suitably-skilled employees remain the two main obstacles facing industrial investors.

Greg Ebelhar, chief operations officer at Grand Bahama-based Polymers International, also suggested the "murky future" of the Grand Bahama Port Authority (GBPA) must be "settled" if international investors are to be enticed to the Bahamas' second city.

Looking ahead, however, Mr Ebelhar contended that given the country's small size there is the potential for the Bahamas to "become another Singapore" if enough emphasis

SEE page 4B

"2011, I think, will be much more of a challenge than the last few years."  
—Timothy Ingraham

# Summit to miss peak in 'challenging year'

By NEIL HARTNELL  
Tribune Business Editor

A leading Bahamian general insurer believes its 2011 net income will "be a bit less than" the \$3.899 million it generated in 2010, itself a 22 per cent decline, with the increase in claims year to date bearing out forecasts that it is in for "more of a challenging year".

Timothy Ingraham, Summit Insurance Company's general manager, told Tribune Business that while the property and casualty underwriter's 2010 performance had matched internal budget forecasts, the surge in fire-related claims during the five months to end-May meant it - and the Bahamian general insurance industry

- \* Bahamian general insurer believes 2011 profit will be 'bit less' than last year's \$3.899m, itself 22% drop
- \* Claims experience in first five months 'outpaces' same time in 2010
- \* Makes \$130k downpayment on new HQ property
- \* Results aided by premium reserve release

as a whole - were already "outpacing" last year's claims experience.

"2011, I think, will be much more of a challenge than the last few years," Mr Ingraham told this newspaper. "We've seen a few big fires already. Like everyone else, we had a piece of the Valentine's Day Bay Street fire.

house fires, which cost us a bit of money as well. Certainly, for the first quarter, the first five months, compared to last year it's a different picture, not just for Summit but the whole market."

Reiterating that Summit faced "a challenging year ahead", Mr Ingraham added: "We've already seen claims so far this year out-

pace the first half of last year....., but the focus is on underwriting to ensure we're doing all we can to write good risk at good rates of premium."

Summit, which generates 97 per cent of its premium income through agent/broker Insurance Management, has seen top-line premium

SEE page 6B

## SANDALS: NO UNION TALKS 'IN A VACUUM'

- \* Attorneys for Bahamian resort says yet to receive gratuity proposal, and 'illogical and counterproductive' to negotiate without it
- \* Ability to meet 'negated', as resort rejects 'baseless' request for apology

By NEIL HARTNELL  
Tribune Business Editor

Sandals Royal Bahamian cannot start negotiations over an industrial agreement because the trade union involved has yet to present it with its gratuity proposal, its attorneys warning that it was "illogical and counterproductive" to think the resort and its parent would "negotiate in a vacuum".

Ferron Bethell, attorney and partner at Harry B. Sands, Lobosky & Company, in a June 16, 2011, letter sent to Obie Ferguson, legal adviser to the Bahamas Hotel, Maintenance and Allied Workers Union (BHMAWU), said that the absence of gratuity proposal would "negate" the ability of his client, Sandals, to meet with the union and negotiate a potential industrial agreement.

He was responding to a June 14, 2011, letter written by Mr Ferguson to Patrick Drake, Sandals Royal Bahamian's general manager, in which a public apology was demanded for comments the latter had made in a Tribune article published on Monday, June 13.

In that letter, Mr Ferguson denied Mr Drake's allegation that the BHMAWU was attempting to pressure the Ministry of Labour to reinstate employees and union executives who were among the 150 staff members let go by Sandals Royal Bahamian in a late 2008 downsizing exercise. A further 80 were released the following year.

He added that the union was "merely requesting" that the Ministry of Labour "conciliate" the trade disputes filed in 2009 by those let go by

SEE page 9B



STYLISH: The Sandals Royal Bahamian resort.

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

## TOP LAW FIRM, BANK FAIL TO DISMISS \$14M ACCOUNT CASE

- \* Judge orders case involving Graham, Thompson & Co and Corner Bank to start all over again
- \* Says claims read like 'sordid affair straight out of a Hollywood script - or at least a second-rate mystery novel'
- \* Bahamian firms deny all allegations

By NEIL HARTNELL  
Tribune Business Editor

A leading Bahamian law firm and Bahamas-based bank have seen their attempts to impose sanctions against a US citizen, and dismiss the case she brought against them over an alleged \$14 million bank account, thrown out by an American judge, who in effect has told the parties to begin the case again.

In a 20-page ruling, Chief Judge Royce Lamberth, sitting in the US District Court for Columbia, found that while the amended complaint made against Graham, Thompson & Company and Corner Bank (Overseas) was dismissed, because it was improperly changed, both Bahamas-based parties had been properly served with court papers.

The judge also found that Day's amended complaint was "a good faith attempt to correct inconsistencies" raised by Graham, Thompson & Company's sanctions motion

SEE page 8B

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**BUSINESS**

## ROYALFIDELITY MARKET WRAP

### By ROYALFIDELITY CAPITAL MARKETS

It was a moderate week of trading in the Bahamian stock market. Investors traded in six out of the 24 listed securities, with two advancers.

### EQUITY MARKET

A total of 23,493 shares changed hands, representing a decrease of 41,637 shares compared to the previous week's trading volume of 65,130 shares.

Commonwealth Bank (CBL) advanced for the week, trading a volume of 20,325 shares to see its stock price climb by \$0.01 to close at \$6.88.

Bank of the Bahamas (BOB) was the other advancer for the week, trading a volume of 1,000 shares to see its share price climb by \$0.09 to close at \$6.94.

Cable Bahamas (CAB) traded a volume of 300 shares, remaining unchanged at \$8.48.

Commonwealth Brewery (CBB) traded a volume of

### BOND MARKET - TRADING STATISTICS

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

### INTERNATIONAL STOCK MARKET INDEXES

INDEX	WEEKLY	% CHANGE
DJIA	12,004.36	0.44
S&P 500	1,271.50	0.04
NASDAQ	2,192.96	-1.03
Nikkei	9,351.40	-1.71

800 shares, remaining unchanged at \$8.33.

Colina Holdings (CHL) traded a volume of 818 shares, remaining unchanged at \$2.80.

Freeport Oil Holdings (FOCOL) traded a volume of 250 shares, remaining unchanged at \$5.50.

**BOND MARKET**  
No bonds traded last week.

**COMPANY NEWS**  
**Earnings Releases:**  
Doctors Hospital Health-

**SEE page 9B**

### EQUITY MARKET - TRADING STATISTICS

Week ending 17.06.11

BISX SYMBOL	CLOSING PRICE	WKLY PRICE CHANGE	VOLUME	YTD PRICE CHANGE
AML	\$ 1.18	\$-	0	21.65%
BBL	\$ 0.18	\$-	0	0.00%
BOB	\$ 6.94	\$+0.09	1,000	41.63%
BPF	\$ 10.63	\$-	0	0.00%
BSL	N/A	\$-	0	0.00%
BWL	\$ 2.70	\$-	0	0.00%
CAB	\$ 8.48	\$-	300	-18.93%
CBB	\$ 8.33	\$-	800	0.00%
CBL	\$ 6.88	\$+0.01	20,325	-1.71%
CHL	\$ 2.80	\$-	818	16.67%
CIB	\$ 8.60	\$-	0	-8.41%
CWCB	\$ 1.72	\$-0.03	0	-8.02%
DHS	\$ 1.38	\$-	0	-13.75%
FAM	\$ 5.40	\$-	0	-11.04%
FBB	\$ 1.77	\$-	0	-18.43%
FCL	\$ 5.50	\$-	250	0.73%
FCLB	\$ 1.00	\$-	0	0.00%
FIN	\$ 6.00	\$-	0	-17.01%
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## BUSINESS

## SCOTIABANK NAMES MANAGING DIRECTOR



**APPOINTMENT:** Kevin Teslyk.

Scotiabank Bahamas has appointed Kevin Teslyk to replace Barry Malcolm as its managing director.

"Kevin's appointment is recognition of his strengths, and he brings with him continuity and knowledge of our business in the Caribbean," said Claude Norfolk, senior vice-president, international banking for the Caribbean region.

"I am pleased to continue working directly with him, and am confident that his years of experience will serve the Bahamas team well."

Since 2009, Mr Teslyk has been Scotiabank's managing director for the Caribbean East, and has led the sub-region of nine countries – Anguilla, Antigua & Barbuda, Barbados (as country manager), Dominica, Grenada, St Kitts & Nevis, St Lucia, St Maarten and St Vincent & The Grenadines – through significant change and profitable growth.

Under his leadership, Scotiabank Barbados earned 'Best Bank' honours for three consecutive years, and was recently recognised as Best Employer in Barbados.

Mr Teslyk joined Scotiabank in 1992, and has held senior roles in Canadian banking. In more recent years, he held the role of assistant general manager and head, corporate, commercial and offshore banking in Barbados, where he led his team through a significant period of expansion and growth, and helped to establish the Scotia Private Client Group.

Mr Teslyk holds a Bachelor of Commerce (Finance) degree from the Haskayne School of Business, the University of Calgary, and a Master of Business Administration degree from the Richard Ivey School of Business, the University of Western Ontario.

# Union blasts Bimini Bay

By ALISON LOWE  
Business Reporter  
alowe@tribunemedia.net

The Bahamas Hotel, Catering and Allied Workers Union (BHCAWU) is seeking to have the Bimini Bay Resort prosecuted for allegedly violating the Industrial Relations Act, after former management allegedly failed to recognise and meet with the union.

Darren Woods, vice-president of the BHCAWU, said the union wrote to the Attorney General's Office several months ago urging them to act on the matter, given that numerous attempts to get resort management to meet with the union since 2008 had allegedly failed.

The Bimini Bay Resort was developed, owned and managed by the Capo Group until March 2011, when RockResorts, a subsidiary of Vail Resorts, best known for its ownership and management of mountain/ski resorts in locations such as Aspen and Vail, Colorado, came onboard as managers.

Having struggled with low occupancy levels and an admitted lack of experience in hospitality management, the Capo Group decided it would contract a professional hospitality management brand to take over responsibility for the property and beef up arrivals. The Capo Group remain the owners.

Mr Woods said the union's last attempt to reach out to the management/owners at the resort was around November 2010.

Contacted for comment on the union's statement, new manager, RockResorts, did not respond to Mr Wood's claims about alleged Industrial Relations Act violations directly.

"Bimini Bay Resort and Marina has been under new management by Vail Resorts'

Hospitality Division since March 1, 2011," the company said.

"Over the course of the past several months, and in conjunction with Bimini Bay's ownership, our focus has been on delivering 'experiences of a lifetime' to both our employees and guests as we look to add value to the resort and community."

Mr Woods said the BHCAWU's legitimacy as the bargaining unit for the workers dates back to 2008, when the union was able to obtain

"50 per cent plus one" signatures from the Bimini Bay staff in support of aligning with the BHCAWU.

Despite obtaining these conditions as required under the Industrial Relations Act to become the legitimate bargaining agent for the employees, the management refused to recognise the BHCAWU, said Mr Woods. The union was under the control of a different administration at that time, led by then-president Roy Colebrooke.

Mr Woods said: "The Bimi-

ni Bay employees have absolutely no representation at the moment. They indicated who they wanted as a bargaining unit and their rights have been totally ignored."

"We have been chasing after Bimini Bay for some time. The Attorney General's office said they are working on it but they haven't got back to us."

A message left for the Attorney General's Office was not returned up to press time.



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107,108,109,110,111,112,113,114,115,116,117,118,119,120,121,122,123,124,125,126,  
127,128,135,136,137,138,139,140,141,142,143,144,145,146,147,148,149,150,151,152,  
153,154,155, 156,157,158,159,160,161,162,163,164

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# \$218M EXPORTER: MORE TRANSPARENCY ON ELECTRICITY RATES

FROM page 1B

is placed on improving education standards.

Singapore and its booming pace of export-led economic growth, for a country of less than five million people, has been long held up worldwide as a model for economic success.

Mr Ebelhar was addressing the Economic Development Summit in Grand Bahama on June 10. The summit met under the theme: *Creating a sustainable economy.*

In 2010, polymer-related products manufactured by Polymers International in Grand Bahama accounted for \$218 million worth of exports from the Bahamas, significantly greater than the \$57.7 million of lobster exports, which form the second largest export category.

Mr Ebelhar said: "The challenges affecting industrial investors on Grand Bahama are varied, and affect each industry with varying impact. The deterioration of economic conditions worldwide would have had far more far-reaching effect on GB were it not for the stability and diversity of the industrial community. This does not mean we are not facing our own issues.

"For some, the high cost of power has a more direct effect. For others it might be the availability of skilled workers."

Mr Ebelhar urged that the Government and the Grand Bahama Port Authority must take action to address certain issues facing the industrial sector in Grand Bahama. He admonished the GBPA to increase their demands for financial "transparency" at the Grand Bahama Power Company, which he suggested customers in Grand Bahama are now effectively "bailing out" after past mismanagement.

"The high cost of power is one of the things we have to deal with. Most recently there's been an announcement in the paper that the Port Authority and the power company have reached a new rate structure," Mr Ebelhar said.

"So what happens is everybody here realises that

**"I think everyone knows in this room that we have to dig out of this hole that GBPC and its past has gotten us into, (but) what I want is transparency going forward."**

Emera/GBPC has to raise \$80m to replace antiquated equipment (with a new power plant). Everyone realises that Emera's not putting that up without getting some return on investment, and where this comes from is out of our pockets.

"Regardless of what's been in the paper; yes the power rates won't change, but we all know that money's going out and that (will lead to) a transfer of the base fuel surcharge that will go into our fuel surcharge that was originally in the tariffs.

"I think everyone knows in this room that we have to dig out of this hole that GBPC and its past has gotten us into, (but) what I want is transparency going forward.

"GBPC is a public utility, even though they are a private investor. If they want our money, we should know how it is being spent, just like any other public utility. So going forward, if they want our cooperation, I believe that as regulator the GBPA should make sure this transparency is there. So that each one of us knows that we are really stakeholders in the power company because they are asking us to bail them out with this new rate.

"They want a return on their investment and we want a return on our investment. That's number one," said Mr Ebelhar.

Meanwhile, he said that education in the Bahamas continues to be a major concern for industrial investors such as himself.

"It's two-fold. You don't have as much of a problem getting college-educated

personnel. It's the ones you need to work at the factory level," he said.

Mr Ebelhar revealed that representatives from the "industrial community" in Freeport recently met with BTVI officials to discuss training needs.

"We think there should be a synergistic process here between BTVI and the industrial community to identify the needs of training on the industrial level, and also to be able to supply these on a regular basis, not to have it where as soon as you do a push (at the industrial level) you have to go back and do the training," he added.

Mr Ebelhar noted that BORCO has set up a training program for welders to address a shortage of available labour in this area, as Polymers also did when it first came to the Bahamas around 15 years ago.

"We did that when we first came here 15 years ago because we could not find welders that would pass certification," he said, suggesting that the same difficulties remain in finding individuals with welding skills, or who are capable of being certified in this area.

Mr Ebelhar said the type of technical jobs available in the industrial sector in the Bahamas is only expanding, while the number of suitably qualified individuals to fill them is not.

"As the industry becomes more and more technical you need electronic technicians, PLC programmers, IT specialists, computer technicians, and everything along that line are needed more and more," he added.

Mr Ebelhar, an American, said that in his view the deficiencies in the Bahamian education system "are the same problems affecting the education system in the US.

"In the US, throwing money at the problem hasn't fixed it. The problem is performance and accountability. Every person in here is held to a performance and accountability standard. We need to have the same performance and accountability in education. This is one of the things we need to look at. We need to fix the education division," said Mr Ebelhar.



## PUBLIC HOSPITALS AUTHORITY ADVERTISEMENT

### VACANCY

## FINANCIAL CONTROLLER PRINCESS MARGARET HOSPITAL

The Public Hospitals Authority (PHA) invites applications from suitably qualified employees for the post of Financial Controller, Princess Margaret Hospital.

Applicants must possess the following qualifications:

- Professional qualification from a recognized accounting body, namely, American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA), designation CPA, or Association of Chartered Certified Accounts (ACCA), designation CA or Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants (CICA), designation CA or Certified General Accountants Association of Canada (CGA), designation CGA and at least three (3) years experience as a Financial Controller in a similar size institution., OR professional Qualification CPA, CA or CGA and three (3) years experience as a Manager with a public accounting firm;
- Excellent leadership and organizational skills;
- Excellent communication skills (oral and written); analytical and conceptualized thinking skills; computer skills; excellent interpersonal and leadership skills.

The Financial Controller will report directly to the Director of Finance of the Public Hospitals Authority, Corporate Office.

#### JOB SUMMARY:

- Participates fully in the management and governance of The Princess Margaret Hospital and support Senior Management and the Board with financial and other business advice to permit discharge of responsibilities for public accountability, operation of effective systems of financial control, corporate governance and ensure that financial targets for the year are met in a manner that maintains financial stability.
- Leads management role for the Audit Committee work plan and for delivery of the Authority's five (5) year financial plan and in year revenue budget; ensuring sound systems of internal controls and good financial management are in place. Provides high level financial advice and support to the Hospital Administrator, Director of Finance, other Directors, and Divisional budget holders.
- Ensures accountability by all persons charged with the use of the Authority's funds.
- Drives the "people" strategy of the organization to ensure that, the Authority's resources provide the overall business performance needed to achieve its strategic aims and objectives.

#### DUTIES:

1. Provides high level expertise in the areas of financial management and corporate governance to the Board and senior management, that ensures financial strategies are effectively integrated and aligned within the corporate management process.
2. Plans, controls and monitors the flow of the Authority's funds to ensure expenditure is contained within budget; Produces financial reports as required by the Board, the Managing Director and all its levels of management, as well as for statutory purposes that are timely, relevant and proactive.
3. Assists in the development and implementation of the Authority's financial strategy and plans; Ensures that the appropriate levels of expertise are in place for effective delivery of financial and management accounting services and that all statutory and regulatory requirements are met relating to the Princess Margaret Hospital's accounts, including the submission of audited accounts to strict deadline.
4. Reviews and supervises the implementation of financial policies and supervises approved systems of financial control to ensure the effective use of resources and compliance with PHA's financial policies; accounting standards; liaises with audit, both internal and external to ensure systems of control are adequate and secure; promotes optimum standards of professionalism within financial functions to ensure compliance with best accounting standards and practices.
5. Coordinates integrated activities across the Authority and its institutions ensuring the Board, Managing Director, Hospital Administrator and all levels of management have the appropriate skills and tools to maximize scarce resources so as to deliver sustainable improvements to patient care.
6. Ensures that there is effective coordination across all elements of the finance functions of the Princess Margaret Hospital; contributes fully to the business planning cycle of the Princess Margaret Hospital; liaises with the relevant key managers and clinicians to encourage their participation in the process.
7. Leads, motivates, develops and trains staff within the department to ensure that they have the necessary skills to achieve required objectives and to encourage the development of innovative, creative thinking and team work across the departments.
8. Develops, after consultation with relevant stakeholders, an Annual Plan for the management of resources. The plan must be submitted to the Director of Finance for review and approval.

Letters of application and curriculum vitae should be submitted through your Head of Department to the Director of Human Resources, Corporate Office, Public Hospitals Authority, Third and West Terraces, Centreville; or P.O. Box N-8200, Nassau, Bahamas **no later than 24<sup>th</sup> June, 2011.**



## THE BROADCASTING CORPORATION OF THE BAHAMAS

### VACANCY NOTICE GENERAL MANAGER

The Broadcasting Corporation of The Bahamas is seeking an individual, with proven leadership skills, to fill the position of General Manager.

Candidates should be proficient in managing change and providing leadership necessary to consolidate the Corporation's transformation from a State Broadcaster to a Public Service Broadcaster and the vision and skill to implement major equipment upgrade from an analog to a digital format.

At a minimum, candidates should possess a first degree in journalism, broadcasting or other related field.

The ideal candidate should possess an MBA and have a proven, clearly and comprehensively displayed track record in a senior management capacity for a minimum of seven (7) years.

Interested individuals should hand deliver letters of interest, together with comprehensive resumes, marked "Strictly Confidential" and addressed to the attention of the Executive Chairman, to the Corporation's Human Resources office, Harcourt "Rusty" Bethel Drive, Nassau, Bahamas not later than Friday July 8, 2011.

All applications received will be treated in the strictest confidence.

# GDP revision 'unlikely' to impact IDB access

By ALISON LOWE  
Business Reporter  
alowe@tribunemedia.net

The Bahamas should not be at a greater risk of losing funding from the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) as a result of upwards revisions to its Gross Domestic Product (GDP), a former minister of state for finance said.

Access to funding for the Bahamas from international institutions has already been diminished due to this nation's relatively high GDP per capita, compared to other developing countries, which has forced the country to "graduate" from eligibility for loans at the World Bank, which aims its resources at more impoverished nations.

Earlier this year, Prime Minister Hubert Ingraham described the question on when the IDB, the only multilateral financing institution that still provides loans to the Bahamas, will stop making such funds available to this nation, as a "sword hanging over the country's head".

However, despite recent announcements during Mr Ingraham's Budget Communication for 2011-2012



JAMES SMITH

that the implementation of a new system for calculating GDP by the Department of Statistics means GDP estimates for previous years have been revised upwards to a significant degree - up to \$1 billion in some cases - former minister of state for finance, James Smith, said he did not see this as likely to hasten The Bahamas' "graduation" from IDB financing eligibility.

"I think the quick answer is 'no', because we are really already beyond what would be the cut off point. We were cut off from the World Bank because of our

higher levels of GDP.

"It is the developing countries that are saying the Caribbean should be capable of going to the financial markets for funding, and that we don't need to be funded by the IDB," said Mr Smith, suggesting that the question of when the Bahamas will no longer be able to obtain this financing that has been utilised for projects, such as the New Providence Road Improvement program, along with a host of other infrastructural and technical upgrades, will remain more a factor of when the organisation capitulates to pressure from more developed countries.

"We are way beyond and above in terms of GDP per capita for graduation. [Whether we continue to get funding from the IDB] is really a question of if developing countries get way. However, I think that with the global crisis that's on a bit of a back burner now," said Mr Smith.

The former minister of state for finance and Central Bank governor noted that the particular advantages attached to loans made available by the IDB to the Bahamas, as opposed to those this country could

access on the international capital markets, are the often longer terms and more concessionary interest rates attached.

"You also get technical assistance with it, so it's a bit different. You get a lot more things with the loan," he said.

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### LEGAL NOTICE

#### NOTICE

INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS COMPANIES ACT  
(No.45 of 2000)

THE MASTER MCC GLOBAL EMERGING MARKETS BOND FUND, INC.  
(formerly THE HIGH YIELD MASTER FUND, INC.)

Notice is hereby given in accordance with Section 137 (E) of the International Business Companies Act No. 45 of 2000, the Dissolution of THE MASTER MCC GLOBAL EMERGING MARKETS BOND FUND, INC. (formerly THE HIGH YIELD MASTER FUND, INC.) has been completed, a Certificate of Dissolution has been issued and the Company has therefore been struck off the Register. The date of completion of the dissolution was the 21st day of April, 2011.

*Mr. Robert Koffler*  
Liquidator

## THE PUBLIC HOSPITALS AUTHORITY

### NOTICE

#### TENDER FOR SECURITY GUARD SERVICES, PRINCESS MARGARET HOSPITAL

TENDERS ARE INVITED FROM QUALIFIED CONTRACTORS TO PROVIDE SECURITY GUARD SERVICES FOR THE PRINCESS MARGARET HOSPITAL, PUBLIC HOSPITALS AUTHORITY, FOR A PERIOD OF ONE (1) YEAR.

TENDER DOCUMENTS, WHICH INCLUDE INSTRUCTIONS TO TENDERERS, SPECIFICATIONS AND OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION, CAN BE COLLECTED 9 AM - 5:00 PM MONDAY TO FRIDAY AT THE PUBLIC HOSPITALS AUTHORITY, CORPORATE CENTRE "B", THIRD & WEST COLLINS AVENUE.

A TENDER MUST BE SUBMITTED IN DUPLICATE IN A SEALED ENVELOPE OR PACKAGE IDENTIFIED AS **A TENDER FOR THE PROVISION OF SECURITY GUARD SERVICES, PRINCESS MARGARET HOSPITAL** AND ADDRESSED TO:

**THE CHAIRMAN,  
TENDERS COMMITTEE  
THE PUBLIC HOSPITALS AUTHORITY  
CORPORATE CENTRE "B"  
THIRD AND WEST TERRACES COLLINS AVENUE  
P.O. BOX NB8200  
NASSAU, BAHAMAS**

TENDERS ARE TO ARRIVE AT THE PUBLIC HOSPITALS AUTHORITY NO LATER THAN 5:00 P.M. ON **1<sup>st</sup> July, 2011**

**A copy of a current business license and a certificate verifying up to date National Insurance Contributions should accompany all proposals.**

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

## The National Insurance Board of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas

### PUBLIC NOTICE

#### ~ National Insurance Contributions Regulations Relative to Hospitality Workers & Pensionable Civil Servants ~

For the information of affected persons and the general public, the National Insurance Board wishes to advise that implementation of the July 2010 amendments to the National Insurance Contributions Regulations relative to hotel/hospitality workers, and Pensionable Civil Servants will no longer happen on July 1, 2011, as previously announced; the amendments are now scheduled to take effect on July 1, 2013. These two amendments will be the last of a package of changes, approved by Parliament last year, to take effect. They are aimed at providing better coverage to more workers of the country.

The amendment relative to hotel/hospitality workers will positively impact persons whose take-home pay includes both "base wages" and gratuities and/or tips. It will require them to pay contributions on gratuities to ensure better coverage by insuring - and by extension replacing - more of their earnings when they are unable to work. Currently, only their base wages attract a percentage of N.I. contributions and benefits.

The amendment relative to Pensionable Civil Servants will remove the restriction on the amount of wages on which they are able to pay contributions in respect of pensions (long-term benefits). Currently, they are limited to paying contributions on a ceiling of \$110 for pensions - Retirement, Invalidity, Survivors - while for short-term benefits, they pay on the same ceiling as everyone else. This means that they are eligible for pensions that are far less than those received by other categories of workers.

## BUSINESS

FROM page 1B

# Summit to miss peak in 'challenging year'

income fall from a pre-recession annual high of just over \$42 million to \$39.079 million last year, a drop of around \$3 million. Its gross written premiums fell by 2.2 per cent in 2010, dropping from \$39.947 million the year before.

Mr Ingraham, though, told Tribune Business that with projects such as Baha Mar's \$2.6 billion Cable Beach redevelopment coming on stream "the economy looks as if it is starting to pick up a little bit", all of which is set to benefit the general insurance industry. "We are cautiously opti-

mistic the economy will continue to rebound and benefit us, and that we will begin to grow again and get premium income back up to where we had it," the Sum-

mit principal said.

"Having said that, our focus is on the bottom line rather than the top line. Our philosophy is it's not the amount you make, it's what

you keep. We want to grow the capital base and make sure we remain a successful, strong company."

Asked about the net income outlook for 2011, Mr Ingraham told Tribune Business: "It will probably be a bit less than it was last year. Bearing in mind what we've seen in the first quarter, it will be a challenge to meet last year's results unless we have a really, really good second half of the year."

"Fires don't do it as much in one go, but if you get enough of them it can have a significant impact on the bottom line."

Mr Ingraham also conceded that Summit's investment portfolio, largely consisting of bank deposits and fixed income securities such as Bahamas Government Registered Stock, corporate bonds and preference shares, would be negatively impacted by the cuts in the Central Bank's Discount Rate and Bahamian Prime.

## Income

Summit earned \$1.075 million in interest income in 2010, down slightly from \$1.089 million in 2009, and this figure is likely to fall again given that the returns on most of its investments are all variable rates linked to Bahamian Prime.

"That will definitely result in us having to take a very close look at our investment portfolio," the Summit chief conceded. "Obviously a lot of investments, basically bank deposits and government bonds, are tied to the Prime rate, so that will definitely have a significant impact."

"Unfortunately, in this country the range of investments is not that wide, so you cannot change your investment portfolio - and the investment mix - very quickly."

"As an insurance company we want to be conservative, not go heavily into equities, and stick with government bonds and CDs, but we do see that as a challenge for this year coming. We definitely expect lower income on investment income on the interest side."

Summit, as at end-December 31, 2010, had \$20.27 mil-

**"Fires don't do it as much in one go, but if you get enough of them it can have a significant impact on the bottom line."**

*Timothy Ingraham*

lion tied up in bank term deposits, and another \$5.75 million invested in a variety of securities.

Elsewhere, the general insurer's 2010 financial statements also revealed that it has made a \$130,000 down-payment as part of a deal to acquire land and a building for its new headquarters.

Declining to identify the new location for Summit, which is presently renting office space in the Island Traders Building on East Bay Street, Mr Ingraham said the real estate transaction was still "in process" and not complete.

Adding that the deal was expected to close "before the end of this year", Mr Ingraham said it would make Summit a property owner, and the funds currently allocated to pay rent would "show up in the cost of the building. Hopefully, in the long run it will benefit us".

Acknowledging that Summit's - and, indeed, the whole industry's - annual financial performance "boils down at the end of the day" to whether the Bahamas is struck by a major hurricane, Mr Ingraham said the company's 2010 figures were up against tough comparatives from the previous year.

For many general insurers, 2009 proved to be a banner year, aided by an exceptionally low claims experience. Mr Ingraham also pointed out that the reduction in top-line premium, together with increased reinsurance, boosted Summit's results this year and last by

enabling it to release funds from its unearned premium reserve.

It was able to do this because it was taking less risk on its books, and Mr Ingraham explained: "We were very satisfied with the overall performance of the company last year. Considering the economy, we feel we did very well."

"In times of falling premium income, one of the things insurance companies are allowed to do is release premium reserves, and that assisted us. We had a higher incidence of claims last year, but we were able to manage that and produce a decent result."

## Premiums

Summit released \$1.994 million from its premium reserve in 2009, and \$572,603 last year. Net premiums written declined by 4.4 per cent, from \$15.771 million to \$15.083 million, with the difference in premium reserve release dropping net premiums earned by 10.6 per cent - from \$17.489 million to \$15.641 million.

Net claims incurred increased by 30 per cent, from \$3.687 million to \$4.795 million. "It was pretty much what we anticipated it would be," Mr Ingraham said of the 2010 figures.

"The expectations were that profits would be lower in 2010 because of the economy. We saw top line premium go down. We had a number of positives kick in during 2009 that we felt would not all line up in 2010."

"In 2008-2009, there was a robust drop-off in premium from \$42 million to under \$40 million. Our premium reserve reduced, and we placed a bigger reinsurance program, and that allowed us to release premium reserve. Those things assisted us in pulling the bottom line."

"As our income goes back up, that will reverse, and we will have to start rebuilding the premium fund again."

Summit's personnel costs rose year-over-year in 2010 from \$779,059 to \$874,296, due to the hiring of an extra staff member and increases in medical insurance costs. Due to the unrealised depreciation of the value of its investment holdings, to the tune of \$987,263, the company's total comprehensive income fell by 34.6 per cent - from \$4.451 million in 2009 to \$2.912 million.

Summit's net equity grew from \$18.934 million to \$20.132 million, based on assets worth \$37.397 million and liabilities of \$17.265 million. An \$0.30 per share dividend was declared on April 4, 2011.



## PUBLIC HOSPITALS AUTHORITY ADVERTISEMENT

### VACANCY

## FINANCIAL CONTROLLER GRAND BAHAMA HEALTH SERVICES

The Public Hospitals Authority (PHA) invites applications from suitably qualified persons for the post of Financial Controller, Grand Bahama Health Services.

Applicants must possess the following qualifications:

- Professional qualification from a recognized accounting body, namely, American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA), designation CPA, or Association of Chartered Certified Accounts (ACCA), designation CA or Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants (CICA), designation CA or Certified General Accountants Association of Canada (CGA), designation CGA and at least three (3) years experience as a Financial Controller in a similar size institution, OR professional Qualification CPA, CA or CGA and three (3) years experience as a Manager with a public accounting firm;
- Excellent leadership and organizational skills;
- Excellent communication skills (oral and written); analytical and conceptualized thinking skills; computer skills; excellent interpersonal and leadership skills.

The Financial Controller will report directly to the Finance Director of the Public Hospitals Authority, Corporate Office.

### JOB SUMMARY:

- Participates fully in the management and governance of Grand Bahama Health Services and support Senior Management and the Board with financial and other business advice to permit discharge of responsibilities for public accountability, operation of effective systems of financial control, corporate governance and ensure that financial targets for the year are met in a manner that maintains financial stability.
- Leads management role for the Audit Committee work plan and for delivery of the Authority's five (5) year financial plan and in year revenue budget; ensuring sound systems of internal controls and good financial management are in place. The post holder will provide high level financial advice and support to the Hospital Administrator, Director of Finance, other Directors, and Divisional budget holders.
- Ensures accountability by all persons charged with the use of the Authority's funds.
- Drives the "people" strategy of the organization to ensure that, the Authority's resources provide the overall business performance needed to achieve its strategic aims and objectives.

### DUTIES:

- Provides high level expertise in the areas of financial management and corporate governance to the Board and senior management, that ensure financial strategies are effectively integrated and aligned within the corporate management process.
- Plans, controls and monitors the flow of the Authority's funds to ensure expenditure is contained within budget. Produces financial reports as required by the Board, the Managing Director and all its levels of management, as well as for statutory purposes that are timely, relevant and proactive.
- Assists in the development and implementation of the Authority's financial strategy and plans. Ensuring the appropriate levels of expertise are in place for effective delivery of financial and management accounting services and that all statutory and regulatory requirements are met relating to Grand Bahama Health Services' accounts, including the submission of audited accounts to strict deadline.
- Reviews and supervises the implementation of financial policies and supervises approved systems of financial control to ensure the effective use of resources and compliance with PHA's financial policies; accounting standards; liaises with audit, both internal and external to ensure systems of control are adequate and secure; promotes optimum standards of professionalism within financial functions to ensure compliance with best accounting standards and practices.
- Coordinates integrated activities across the Authority and its institutions ensuring the Board, Managing Director, Hospital Administrator and all levels of management have the appropriate skills and tools to maximize scarce resources so as to deliver sustainable improvements to patient care.
- Ensures that there is effective coordination across all elements of the finance functions of Grand Bahama Health Services; contributes fully to the business planning cycle of Grand Bahama Health Services; liaises with the relevant key managers and clinicians to encourage their participation in the process.
- Leads, motivates, develops and trains staff within the department to ensure that they have the necessary skills to achieve required objectives and to encourage the development of innovative, creative thinking and team work across the departments.
- Develops, after consultation with relevant stakeholders, an Annual Plan for the management of resources. The plan must be submitted to the Director of Finance for review and approval.

Letters of application and curriculum vitae should be submitted to the Director of Human Resources, Corporate Office, Public Hospitals Authority, Third and West Terraces, Centreville; or P.O. Box N-8200, Nassau, Bahamas **no later than 24<sup>th</sup> June, 2011.**



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397-2601/2 OR SEND EMAILS TO:  
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BUSINESS

FROM page one

# '75-90%' of firms not paying NIB, BEC on time

Agreeing that the 0.75 percentage point cut by the Central Bank, which is likely to be passed on in some form by Bahamian commercial banks, represented "a transfer of wealth from savers to borrowers", Mr Winder argued that the move took a "short-term view" that rewarded consumers and firms who may have leveraged themselves to irresponsible levels.

And, he added, it would negatively impact those prudent Bahamians who had saved and invested for their retirement. NIB's liabilities and asset-matching would also be impacted by the interest rate drop, Mr Winder said, with the Government likely to be called upon to eventually "put that money back".

Noting that the main justification for the interest rate cut was that it would put Bahamian consumers and businesses "in a position to use that benefit to further enhance and improve the economy", Mr Winder said: "However, this recession has been one of the worst we've had for quite some time.

"When one looks at the level of non-performing loans, commercial loans being at 25 per cent-plus, and mortgage loans, my advice to individuals would not be to do any additional spending in the economy, but to use the additional savings to reduce or bring their mortgage up to date.

"If the individual does that, the potential impact on the economy will be minimal."

Mr Winder added that individuals currently in arrears on their mortgage would likely be given little choice by their lender other than to use the interest savings to bring their debt into line.

And, with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) having just cut US growth forecasts for 2011 and 2012, the uncertainty over the strength of international economic

recovery, coupled with persistent high unemployment and tepid activity here, was unlikely to encourage Bahamian consumers to spend their interest windfall.

Bahamians, Mr Winder said, were not seeing "the level of improvement that gives them the confidence to spend like they did five years ago.

"I think the majority of them, because things have not turned around in the US and not come together in the Bahamas, they will do the best thing, which is to pay off their mortgage. It will have minimal impact on the economy." Many, he added, were "so deep in debt" that the interest rate reduction would have no effect.

## Windfall

And, if Bahamian consumers did decide to spend the interest windfall, they were more likely to do it in Florida, the Deloitte & Touche chief said, given that visitor numbers to that state from this nation had not decreased despite the recession.

The situation, Mr Winder said, was the same for many Bahamian companies. "When you look at the level of Bahamian companies not paying their bills on a timely basis, 80-90 per cent of commercial clients are not paying their BEC bills on a timely basis," he told Tribune Business.

"When you look at NIB, here you have the same issue. You have between 80-90 per cent of companies not making their payments on a timely basis."

Mr Winder said he had obtained this data from speaking to the relevant figures at NIB and BEC within recent months, and added: "My advice to them is to protect their existing business. Most of them are operating below the capacity they have to offer, so there is no need to increase capacity. They have the capacity to take on additional work because of the recession."

Rather than add equipment, staff or invest in a new building, Mr Winder urged Bahamian firms to "shore up" their existing structure. "There's going to be minimal impact on the economy in terms of those funds being used to generate additional activity in our economy," he added of the rate cut's effect

on business. Assessing the other side, Mr Winder said many Bahamians "do not have sufficient levels of savings to ensure they have a sufficient level of income after they retire", and the rate cut would impact savers with bank deposits and fixed income securities.

## Sacrifices

Effectively, the rate cut would penalise Bahamians who had "made sacrifices to succeed, and chosen not to build big houses.

Those who have built big houses beyond their means, they are getting the benefit from not being financially prudent. Those businesses not operating prudently, they are

receiving benefits from being poor businesses".

The reduction in interest income on bank deposits and other instruments linked to Bahamian Prime would also impact NIB's liabilities, forcing it to recover lost income from elsewhere. "Once again,

it's a short-term view, where you're giving the benefits to those who have been spending in the hope of generating a rebound in the economy," Mr Winder told Tribune Business of the rate cut, "at the expense of Bahamians who are going to retire in the next 10-20 years.

"The burden is going to be on the Government to meet that shortfall.

"We've taken it out now, but the Government is going to have to give it back later on. The Government is going to need to come up with that money in the future to meet the shortfall of savers over the next 10-20 years."

**NOTICE**

Notice is hereby given of the loss of Bahamas Government Registered Stock Certificate as follows:

Stock	Interest Rate	Certificate No.	Maturity Date
2015-2024	1/32%	71-056	2015
2021-2026	0.15625%	76152	2021

I intend to request The Registrar to issue a replacement certificate. If this certificate is found, please write to P. O. Box N-9705, Nassau, Bahamas.

**BEST COMMISSION – EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY**

The Bahamas Environment, Science and Technology (BEST) Commission, Ministry of the Environment is seeking a qualified individual or consulting firm to prepare the National Implementation Plan (NIP) for persistent organic pollutants.

The Terms of Reference for The Bahamas NIP consultancy is available for download from the BEST Commission website: [www.best.bs](http://www.best.bs).

Interested consultants are invited to submit credentials (i.e., resumes, etc.) and a cover letter, conveying interest and outlining qualifications for completing the NIP, to:

The BEST Commission  
Ministry of the Environment  
Dockendale House, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, West Wing  
West Bay Street, P.O. Box N-7132  
Nassau, The Bahamas  
Tel: 242-397-5508; Fax: 242-326-3509  
Email: [bestnbs@bahamas.gov.bs](mailto:bestnbs@bahamas.gov.bs)  
**Attn: Philip S. Weech, Director**

**DEADLINE TO APPLY**

**30 June 2011**

**NOTICE**

**CASPIAN CONSTRUCTION GROUP LIMITED**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN as follows:

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

(b) The dissolution of the said company commenced on the 16th June, 2011 when the Articles of Dissolution were submitted to and registered by the Registrar General.

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

Dated this 20th day of June, A. D. 2011

CST Administration (Bahamas) Limited  
Liquidator



**BAHAMAS SOCIETY OF ENGINEERS**

**NOTICE**

[www.bahamasengineers.org](http://www.bahamasengineers.org)

**THE BAHAMAS SOCIETY OF ENGINEERS**  
CORDIALLY INVITES THE PUBLIC TO ATTEND  
**THE MONTHLY LUNCHEON**

Sponsored by Caribbean Environmental Health Institute  
And The Global Environment Facility/Integrating  
Watershed and Coastal Areas  
Management Project (GEF-IWCAM),  
ON  
**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22, 2011**

**GUEST SPEAKER: The Hon. Phenton Neymour**

Topic  
**"Recent Engineering Developments In The  
Water & Energy Sectors"**

PLACE:  
**BRITISH COLONIAL HILTON HOTEL**  
No. 1 Bay Street

TIME: 1:00 p.m.

Donation: Member \$20.00, Non-Member \$25.00, Student Member \$15.00

**IF POSSIBLE PLEASE CONFIRM YOUR ATTENDANCE  
BY E-MAIL**

[pdecbahamas@gmail.com](mailto:pdecbahamas@gmail.com) or [crrreiss@reisseng.com](mailto:crrreiss@reisseng.com)

 **MINISTRY OF WORKS & TRANSPORT** 

**NOTICE**

**CORRIDOR 13A**

**ROBINSON ROAD**

**SIXTH STREET to ROBINSON ROAD**

**Temporary Road Closure & Diversions**

Please be advised that from **Wednesday June 22, 2011** Temporary Road Closure & Diversions will be carried out on sections of Robinson Road between **SIXTH STREET** and **MARKET STREET**.

Motorist travelling in the following directions should follow the traffic management scheme in place.

**Eastbound**  
BAILLOU HILL ROAD. → PALM TREE AVE. → SIXTH ST. → ROBINSON RD.

**Westbound**  
SIXTH STREET → PALM TREE AVE. → MARKET STREET → ROBINSON ROAD.

Access will be given to residents, pedestrians and the affected businesses in this area during the construction process. Signs will be in place to identify safe passage for Pedestrians and Access points to the businesses in the area from the diversion route on Balfour Avenue.

*We sincerely apologize for any inconvenience that may be caused by the closure and look forward to the co-operation of the businesses, residents and motoring public throughout this project.*

For further information please contact:

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

Ministry of Public Works & Transport  
Project Execution Unit  
Hotline: (242)302-9700  
Email: [publicworks@bahamas.gov.bs](mailto:publicworks@bahamas.gov.bs)

**Traffic Management Scheme**



BUSINESS

FROM page 1B

# Top law firm, bank fail to dismiss \$14m account case

against her, and that motion was dismissed. Similar treatment also befell the sanctions sought against Day by Corner Bank and its principal, Colyn Roberts, on the grounds that her allegations were "insufficient" to warrant such treatment.

In effect, Judge Lamberth ordered all parties back to the drawing board, setting out detailed case management instructions for a matter he acknowledged had become "heated", and giving both Bahamian companies the opportunity to file new motions to dismiss the case if Day complied with his order to file a new complaint.

"This case centres on the existence, or non-existence, of an offshore bank account in the Caribbean," the judge's ruling recalled.

"Plaintiff, a US citizen liv-

ing in Las Vegas, alleges that her mother set up an account in excess of \$14 million at Corner Bank (Overseas), the Bahamian-based, wholly-owned subsidiary of the Swiss bank Corner Banca S. A., and that since her mother's death Corner Bank (Overseas) and Corner Banca S. A. have conspired wrongfully to cover up the existence of any such account.

"Plaintiff also accuses Colyn Roberts - a Corner Bank (Overseas) employee - and Graham, Thompson & Company, a Bahamian law firm, of being in collusion with Corner Bank (Overseas) and interfering with plaintiff's attempts to recover the account funds.

"For their part, the defendants deny the existence of any account in plaintiff's or

her mother's name, and dispute any allegations of wrongdoing."

The US judge described Day's complaint as alleging "a sordid affair straight out of a Hollywood script - or at least a second-rate mystery novel". It spoke of how her mother, Lavera Jean Foelgner, alleged that she had deposited \$14 million in funds earned 'from the oil business' at a Corner Bank in the Bahamas, and how a sticker on the back of a painting contained numbers representing the account number and password.

Foelgner was allegedly killed in a car crash before she should pass on the account details to Day, who eventually determined that it must be held at Corner Bank (Overseas). Graham, Thompson & Company was hired to represent her, but allegedly failed to divulge that it had done previous legal work for Corner Bank (Overseas), prior to withdrawing from the case.

Both Graham, Thompson & Co and Corner Bank (Overseas) moved to dismiss the case on the grounds that service was ineffective, since it did not include a summons,

with the law firm also arguing that the US court lacked jurisdiction and no grounds for relief were stated.

This prompted Day to amend her complaint and reserve the Bahamas-based companies, who again contested the process. Corner Bank (Overseas) and Mr Roberts also moved for sanctions against Day, arguing that her assertion the bank was acting as a trustee/administrator for her mother's estate was "directly at odds" with records from the estate proceedings in Kansas.

"At this point, unsurprisingly, civility in these proceedings began to wane," the judge found, referring to "the heated exchanges that now pervade these proceedings". He noted how Graham, Thompson & Company had accused Day and her attorneys of using the court "as a soapbox to make scurrilous personal attacks" against the law firm and its principals.

The judge warned that the findings to date did not address many of the issues central to the dispute, and did not indicate which way he was likely to rule.

"The court anticipates that the conclusions reached today

are unlikely to fully satisfy either side in what has become a heated dispute," the judge ruled.

"However, the complicated procedural posture of this case, combined with the numerous outstanding motions, require clarification and proper briefing before the

court may proceed." Realising that all parties wanted a prompt resolution, Judge Lamberth expedited the case management schedule, adding: "Though an amended complaint will be filed, the court expects that the central issues in this matter are unlikely to drastically change, and is aware that the parties will have already researched and - in large part - written on these matters."

## NOTICE

The Pilot House Management Company Ltd. is offering, by virtue of liens against the hereafter described condominium units, and the power of sale vested in the Condominium Management Company pursuant to the provisions contained in the Law of Property and Conveyancing (Condominium) Act 1965:

### Unit 307 Two Bedroom/Two Bath

All offers should be in writing and tendered in a sealed envelope by Friday July 8, 2011 at the offices of **Seymour & Co., 101 East Hill Place, P. O. Box N 9965, Nassau, Bahamas - attention Mr. Serfernt Rolle**

This sale is subject to a reserved price, and the right is reserved to reject any or all offers.

**IN THE ESTATE OF Marielle Guimont Carrier a.k.a. Marielle Josephite Francoise Guimont late of Drummondville, Quebec, Canada.**

NOTICE is hereby given that all persons having any claim or demand against the above Estate are required to send the same duly certified in writing to the undersigned on or before the 20th day of July A.D., 2011, after which date the Executors will proceed to distribute the assets having regard only to the claims of which they shall then have had notice.

AND NOTICE is hereby given that all persons indebted to the said Estate of Marielle Guimont Carrier a.k.a. Marielle Josephite Francoise Guimont are requested to make full settlement on or before the date hereinbefore mentioned.

**NADIA A. WRIGHT**  
Attorney for the Executors  
Chancellors Chambers  
P.O. Box N-4589  
Nassau, Bahamas

## Operations Manager

### Wanted for a Growing Franchise Restaurant

**Duties and Responsibilities**

- Provides overall management for a franchise restaurant chain.
- Plans and executes exciting product launches and other promotional activities.
- Plans, organizes, assigns, and supervises the work of a number of diversified personnel engaged in food preparation and service.
- Observes quality of food service and gives instructions for maintenance of high standards.
- Works as necessary to insure customer satisfaction, which may include occasional odd hours and /or remaining on-call for problem solving.
- Reviews inventory and requisitions and purchases food supplies as required.

**Education and Experience**

- Graduation from an accredited college or university including or supplemented by course work in restaurant management and considerable (min. of 5 years) management experience in a high volume food service unit; or any equivalent combination of training and experience.
- Thorough knowledge of food delivery and casual dining services management procedures and practices.

Send résumé to:  
[hr.bah.restaurants@gmail.com](mailto:hr.bah.restaurants@gmail.com)  
Deadline for application is  
Friday, June 24th, 2011



## Employment Opportunity

RESTAURANT MANAGERS NEEDED FOR LEADING FAST FOOD FRANCHISE

**REQUIREMENTS:**

- MUST HAVE AT LEAST TWO (2) YEARS OF RESTAURANT MANAGEMENT OR FOOD & BEVERAGE MANAGEMENT EXPERIENCE
- MUST HAVE STRONG LEADERSHIP SKILLS
- MUST BE CUSTOMER SERVICE DRIVEN
- MUST BE RESULTS-ORIENTED & ARTICULATE
- MUST HAVE EXCELLENT INTER-PERSONAL SKILLS
- MUST HAVE EXCELLENT ORAL & WRITTEN COMMUNICATION SKILLS

**McDonald's offers excellent benefits!**

Please submit Resume to:  
Human Resources Department  
McDonald's Head Office on Market St. North  
P. O. Box SS-5925  
Telephone: 325-4444  
Nassau, Bahamas  
E-mail: [humanresourcesltd@danbradltd.com](mailto:humanresourcesltd@danbradltd.com)

Join Our **Kelly's Team**

### Network Systems Coordinator

Kelly's is seeking an experienced and motivated person to become a full-time Network Systems Coordinator at Kelly's House & Home and Kelly's Lumber Yard. The position will demand a resourceful individual able to work within a team responsible for the performance of network, communication and computer systems. Candidates must have a background in the related field, a proven record of reliability and commitment, and be willing to be flexible.

Responsibilities will include, but not be limited to, the management, maintenance and update of:

- Wired & Wireless Networks
- Data Communications Systems
- Voice Communications Systems
- Surveillance & Alarm Systems

This person is also expected to have a working knowledge of the tasks of the Computer Systems Manager and to provide coverage for that person during their absences. These duties include the management, maintenance and update of hardware, software, and related consumables.

This is a position for someone who is willing to demonstrate a long-term commitment to Kelly's development and expansion. In return we offer a great group of people to work with, excellent benefits and working conditions, huge potential for future advancement and a remuneration package dependant on qualifications and experience.

E-mail a letter of application and comprehensive resume to [applications@kellysbahamas.com](mailto:applications@kellysbahamas.com) with your name and Network Systems Coordinator as subject. No phone calls please. Only Bahamians, or those with Bahamian work status, need apply: no applicants needing a work permit will be considered. The deadline for applications is **Friday 1st July 2011**; no application received after that date will be considered.

**Kelly's House & Home**

Tel: (242) 393-4002  
Fax: (242) 393-4096

Mon-Fri 7:00am-8:00pm  
Sat 7:00am-9:00pm  
Sun 10am-5pm  
[www.kellysbahamas.com](http://www.kellysbahamas.com)

BISX LISTED & TRADED SECURITIES AS OF:											
TUESDAY, 14 JUNE 2011											
BISX ALL SHARE INDEX: CLOSE 1,419.56   CHG 0.68   %CHG 0.05   YTD -79.95   YTD % -5.33											
FININDEX: YEAR END 2008 -12.31%											
WWW.BISXBHAMA.COM   TELEPHONE: 242-677-BISX (2479)   FACSIMILE: 242-323-2320											
52wk-HI	52wk-Low	Security	Symbol	Previous Close	Today's Close	Change	Daily Vol.	EPS \$	Div \$	P/E	Yield
1.19	0.95	AML Foods Limited		1.18	1.18	0.00		0.155	0.080	7.6	6.78%
10.83	9.05	Bahamas Property Fund		10.63	10.63	0.00		-0.640	0.200	-16.8	1.88%
7.50	4.40	Bank of Bahamas		6.85	6.84	0.09	1,000	0.213	0.100	32.6	1.44%
0.53	0.17	Benchmark		0.18	0.18	0.00		-0.048	0.000	N/M	0.00%
2.84	2.70	Bahamas Waste		2.70	2.70	0.00		0.047	0.090	57.4	3.33%
1.967	1.77	Fidelity Bank		1.77	1.77	0.00		0.037	0.040	18.2	2.25%
11.96	8.48	Cable Bahamas		8.48	8.48	0.00		1.058	0.310	8.0	3.66%
2.85	2.35	Colina Holdings		2.80	2.80	0.00	592	0.438	0.040	6.4	1.43%
8.33	8.33	Commonwealth Brewery		8.33	8.33	0.00	800	0.000	0.000	0.0	0.00%
7.00	6.00	Commonwealth Bank (S1)		6.87	6.87	0.00	324	0.496	0.260	13.9	3.73%
2.19	1.90	Consolidated Water BDRs		1.75	1.75	0.00		0.111	0.045	15.9	2.56%
2.54	1.31	Doctor's Hospital		1.38	1.38	0.00		0.107	0.110	12.9	7.97%
5.99	4.75	Famguard		4.75	4.75	0.00		0.445	0.240	12.1	4.44%
9.00	5.65	Finco		6.00	6.00	0.00		0.757	0.000	7.9	0.00%
9.85	8.25	FirstCaribbean Bank		8.60	8.60	0.00		0.494	0.350	17.4	4.07%
8.00	4.57	Fool (S)		5.50	5.50	0.00		0.435	0.160	12.6	2.91%
1.00	1.00	FG Financial Diversified Fund		1.00	1.00	0.00		0.000	0.000	N/M	0.00%
7.30	5.50	ICD Utilities		7.30	7.30	0.00		-0.122	0.240	-59.8	3.29%
10.80	9.80	J. S. Johnson		9.82	9.82	0.00		0.880	0.640	11.2	6.52%
10.00	10.00	Premier Real Estate		10.00	10.00	0.00		1.207	0.200	8.3	2.00%
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			
BISX Listed Mutual Funds											
52wk-HI	52wk-Low	Fund Name	NAV	YTD%	Last 12 Months %	NAV 3MTH	NAV 6MTH	NAV Date			
10.06	5.01	Bahamas Supermarkets	N/A	N/A	14.00		-2.545	0.000	N/M	0.00%	0.00%
0.55	0.40	RND Holdings	0.35	0.40	0.55		0.001	0.040	256.6	0.00%	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%	0.00%
0.55	0.40	RND Holdings	0.65	0.75	0.40		0.029	0.000	24.13	0.00%	0.00%
MARKET TERMS											
YIELD - last 12 month dividends divided by closing price											
Bid \$ - Buying price of Colina and Fidelity											
Ask \$ - Selling price of Colina and Fidelity											
Last Price - Last traded over-the-counter price											
Weekly Vol. - Trading volume of the prior week											
EPS \$ - A company's reported earnings per share for the last 12 months											
NAV - Net Asset Value											
N/M - Not Meaningful											
FININDEX - The Fidelity Bahamas Stock Index, January 1, 1994 = 100											
BISX ALL SHARE INDEX - 19 Dec 02 = 1,000.00											
52wk-HI - Highest closing price in last 52 weeks											
52wk-Low - Lowest closing price in last 52 weeks											
Previous Close - Previous day's weighted price for daily volume											
Today's Close - Current day's weighted price for daily volume											
Change - Change in closing price from day to day											
Daily Vol. - Number of total shares traded today											
DIV \$ - Dividends per share paid in the last 12 months											
P/E - Closing price divided by the last 12 month earnings											
(S) - 4-for-1 Stock Split - Effective Date 9/8/2007											
(S1) - 3-for-1 Stock Split - Effective Date 7/11/2007											
TO TRADE CALL: CFAL 242-502-7010   ROYALFIDELITY 242-356-7764   FG CAPITAL MARKETS 242-396-4000   COLONIAL 242-502-7525											

BUSINESS

FROM page 1B

# SANDALS: NO UNION TALKS 'IN A VACUUM'

Sandals Royal Bahamian, and said the BHMAWU's financial proposal had been served on Mr Bethell and Harry B. Sands, Lobosky & Co on June 9.

This prompted Mr Bethell's response, which was copied to Tribune Business, indicating that yet another Bahamas-based industrial agreement negotiation is becoming increasingly agitated and controversial.

Describing himself as "non-plussed" by Mr Ferguson's June 14 letter, Mr Bethell said the union's financial proposal was not delivered to his law firm's offices on June 9. Instead, he received "a truncated wage schedule" from Mr Ferguson, which was handed to him outside the Court of Appeal the same

day. "On opening the letter on my return to office, I noted that the gratuity proposal that we had also requested was not included," Mr Bethell told Mr Ferguson, referring him to a June 7, 2011, letter in which that demand was made.

## Gratuity

"Needless to say, until the gratuity proposal is received, we will not be in a position to finalise out counterproposal and have the same approved by Sandals' head office, which will negate our ability to meet," Mr Bethell warned.

In that June 7 letter, which has also been seen by Tribune

Business, Mr Bethell told Mr Ferguson that in order for Sandals' Bahamian officials to get instructions from the resort chain's Jamaican head office prior to a scheduled meeting with the union, both a wage and gratuity schedule were needed.

"We find it pointless at the most, and counterproductive at the least, to commence negotiations without knowing the potential global financial figure in advance," Mr Bethell wrote.

"As you can appreciate, almost every item, benefit and term in the draft agreement has a financial impact on our client's business.

"This financial impact has

to be disclosed in advance of finalising our counterproposal, if we are to have meaningful negotiations.

"For example, how can we negotiate vacation days without knowing the total net cost?"

"It is illogical and counterproductive for you to think that we are prepared to negotiate in a vacuum."

Mr Bethell pledged that Sandals Royal Bahamian would "make every effort to be ready to have constructive negotiations" once it received the BHMAWU's proposals, the resort's officials then being able to make themselves available at "a mutually agreed venue" for the allo-

cated days in July. In that same June 7 letter, Mr Bethell expressed surprise at six union representatives turning up at his law offices the same day with the expectation of starting industrial agreement talks.

## Adamant

"Our note of the last meeting reflects that you were adamant that you did not want to meet at our Cham-

bers, and stated that you would notify us of the proposed venue for the negotiations," Mr Bethell wrote.

"In point of fact, you had indicated, tentatively, the use of the Conference Room at the Department of Labour. Needless to say, we have heard absolutely nothing from you."

And, in his June 16 letter, in which Mr Ferguson's demand for a public apology from Sandals was deemed "baseless", Mr Bethell said the two sides had not agreed to meet on June 21-23, as the union's attorney had alleged. This was because he was tied up in a court matter in Freeport.

## ROYALFIDELITY MARKET WRAP

FROM page 2B

care Systems (DHS) released its unaudited financial results for the quarter ended April 30, 2011.

DHS reported a net income of \$846,000 for the quarter compared to \$976,000 in the same quarter the previous year, a decline of \$130,000 or 13 per cent.

Total revenues of \$11.4 million were up by \$667,000 or 6.2 per cent in the quarter, due to an increase in reported net patient service revenue of \$11.2 million. This advanced by \$772,000 quarter-over-quarter.

Total expenses of \$10.6 million increased slightly by \$797,000 or 8 per cent in comparison to the \$9.7 million reported in the same quarter the prior year.

Earnings per share for the quarter declined slightly, dropping to \$0.08 compared to EPS of \$0.10 for the same

INTERNATIONAL MARKETS			
FOREX Rates Currency	Weekly	%Change	
CAD	1.0209	-0.07	
GBP	1.6192	-0.24	
EUR	1.4308	-0.24	
Commodities Commodity	Weekly	%Change	
Crude Oil	113.30	-4.43	
Gold	1,537.50	0.54	

quarter in 2010, a decline of \$0.02.

Total assets and liabilities stood at \$31.4 million and \$3.5 million at April 30, 2011, compared to \$30.2 million and \$2.9 million respectively as at January 31, 2011.

**Dividend Notes:** Commonwealth Bank (CBL) has declared a dividend of \$0.06 per share, payable on June 30, 2011, to all ordinary shareholders of

record date June 15, 2011.

Cable Bahamas (BOB) has declared a dividend of \$0.08 per share, payable on June 30, 2011, to all ordinary shareholders of record date June 17, 2011.

Caribbean Crossing will redeem its Series B 7 per cent Preferred Shares, which mature on July 1, 2011, to shareholders of record date June 15, 2011.

### AGM Notices:

J. S. Johnson & Company (JSJ) has announced its AGM will be held in the Governors C Room at the British Colonial Hilton Hotel on June 20, 2011, at 6pm.

Doctors Hospital Health Systems (DHS) has announced its AGM will be held at Doctors Hospital's Conference Room, Dowdeswell Street, on June 23, 2011, at 5.30 pm.

Cable Bahamas (CAB) has announced its AGM will be held in the Governors Room One at the British Colonial Hilton Hotel on June 30, 2011, at 6pm.

Abaco Markets (AML) has announced its AGM will be held at the British Colonial Hilton Hotel, on July 13, 2011, at 10am.

## WANTED

### General Maintenance Worker

Established company is seeking an entry-level maintenance worker/handyman/security/driver for its business. The ideal candidate must have a valid drivers license and will be required to clear shipments and carry out other tasks assigned by the business owners, and must work well independently, take initiative and be a team player.

### Retail Store Manager

Retail Store specializing in women's and girls accessories is seeking a dynamic, energetic, and highly motivated Store Manager (30 years and over). Only persons with prior retail managerial experience need apply.

Send resumes by e-mail to: [success1hundred@gmail.com](mailto:success1hundred@gmail.com)



### INVITATION TO AN INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT SELECTION

#### Curriculum Consultant

COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS  
BAHAMIAN CONTRACTORS' ASSOCIATION (BCA)  
INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT SELECTION  
PROJECT No: BH-M1006

The Government of The Bahamas has received financing from the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and intends to apply part of the proceeds to payments under the Project Strengthening the Bahamian Contractors' Association, for the services of a Curriculum Consultant to design a training program to cater to the skill requirements of the construction industry in the Bahamas.

The Curriculum Consultant will be required to:

- (i) Design training modules to address the skill requirements of the industry.
- (ii) Design course curriculum or content outline for each of the training modules.
- (iii) Recommend and or design appropriate course instructional materials for use with each training module.
- (iv) Prepare trainer notes for each module.
- (v) Conduct the training of course instructors identified by the BCA.
- (vi) Suggest appropriate teaching methods to be used.

The Bahamian Contractors' Association now invites eligible individual consultants to indicate their interest in providing the above services. Interested candidates must provide information along with a detailed resume establishing that they are qualified to perform the services. The Criteria for Selection will be based on the following qualifications and experience;

- a) **General Qualifications:** At least a Bachelor's degree in Education, Curriculum Development, Education Instruction Design or a related field of study. A Master's degree (M.S./M.A.) in the above disciplines or a related field of study is preferred.
- b) **Work Experience:** Extensive, proven experience working in curriculum, program or course development at the post-secondary level. Experience in how to teach specific groups of students such as adults or working professionals. Expertise in developing educational materials.
- c) **Adequacy for the assignment:** A minimum of 7 years teaching experience in addition to a minimum of 7 years experience in the field of curriculum development. Broad knowledge of current theories and practices in education with respect to post-secondary, adult or continuing education teaching and learning. Experience in construction industry education or training development would be an asset. Excellent organizational, written and communication skills. Also strong presentation and interpersonal skills.

The duration of the consultancy will be approximately two months and all deliverables must be received within that time frame.

Consultants will be selected in accordance with the procedures set out in the Inter-American Development Bank: *Policies for the Selection and Contracting of Consultants financed by the Inter-American Development Bank* (GN-2350-7) and this opportunity is open to all eligible consultants as defined in the policies. Applications are invited from both local (Bahamian) and international (Non-Bahamian) consultants.

Interested consultants may obtain further information at the address below during office hours of 9:00a.m. - 5:00p.m. EST.

Communications with above indicated information must be delivered via direct mail or e-mail to the address indicated below by 1<sup>st</sup> July 2011

Bahamian Contractors' Association  
Attn. Mrs. Dominique Martin  
Caribbean Business Park  
Suite #41  
Tonique Williams-Darling Highway  
P.O. Box N-9286  
Tel: 356-8850  
Fax: 356-8851  
E-mail: [bcas@bahamascontractors.org](mailto:bcas@bahamascontractors.org)



The Government of The Bahamas has received financing under the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) to manage HIV/AIDS Strategic Information, Laboratory Testing and Prevention Programs.

The Ministry of Health invites application to fill positions of Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist and Epidemiologist.

### POSTS FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

#### MONITORING AND EVALUATION SPECIALIST

##### General Function

The successful candidate will carry out evaluation and monitoring of the national HIV/AIDS programme, among others as directed, with a view to ensuring the existence of protocols to produce a sustainable system for the collection and utilization of programme data. The incumbent should be able to work independently, function as an interim supervisor, project leader and surveillance coordinator.

##### Educational and Experiential Criteria

- a) Masters degree with a focus in health policy and management, health administration, health care organizations and/or any such related concentrations; or other professional degree (RN, MD, or MBBS) with either
  - i. Specific training in programme management in the health sector; or
  - ii. At least four (4) years experience in performing monitoring and evaluation of programmes of significant size and relevance - preferably regional, national or municipal HIV or other infectious disease programmes in a public health agency.

Salary will be commensurate with degree and experience and includes standard project benefits. Interested persons are invited to submit a cover letter and current curriculum vitae in Word or PDF format to [paulabowleg@bahamas.gov.bs](mailto:paulabowleg@bahamas.gov.bs). Applications must be received by **5pm on Friday, June 24<sup>th</sup>, 2011.**

#### EPIDEMIOLOGIST

##### General Purpose

The Epidemiologist carries out simple and more complex non-routine data collection, analysis and interpretation tasks and can work independently.

The Epidemiologist functions as an interim supervisor, project leader and/or surveillance coordinator.

##### Education and Experience

- i. Masters degree with a focus in epidemiology with two (2) or more years work experience in epidemiology in a public health agency; or other non-epidemiology professional degree (RN, MD, or MBBS) with either
- ii. Specific epidemiology training (MPH degree or CDC Epidemic Intelligence Service program); or
- iii. At least four (4) years experience performing epidemiologic work

Salary will be commensurate with degree and experience and includes standard project benefits. Interested persons are invited to submit a cover letter, current curriculum vitae in Word or PDF format to [paulabowleg@bahamas.gov.bs](mailto:paulabowleg@bahamas.gov.bs). Applications must be received by **5pm on Friday, June 24<sup>th</sup>, 2011.**

INSIGHT



In this photo provided by the UNHCR, actress and goodwill ambassador for the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees Angelina Jolie, right, and the U.N. Refugee chief Antonio Guterres, second from right, meet with migrants at the immigration center in Lampedusa, Italy, Sunday. Jolie traveled to Lampedusa on Sunday to mark World Refugee Day. She visited a migrant holding centre and then participated in a ceremony at Lampedusa's memorial for migrants lost at sea.

UNHCR, Jason Tanner/AP

# UN: POOR COUNTRIES BEAR THE BRUNT OF REFUGEE STORM

GENEVA Associated Press

FOUR-FIFTHS of the world's 15.4 million refugees are hosted in poor countries, where their prospects for citizenship are slim and economic opportunities are limited, according to a U.N. report released Monday.

More than a quarter are in just three nations: Pakistan, Iran and Syria.

Those figures don't include the latest wave of people displaced by this year's unrest in North Africa, most of whom have found refuge in neighboring countries as European nations try to stop them reaching their shores.

"Fears about supposed floods of refugees in industrialized countries are being vastly overblown or mistakenly conflated with issues of migration," U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees Antonio Guterres said. "Meanwhile, it's poorer countries that are left having to pick up the burden."

Guterres visited the Italian island of Lampedusa on Sunday, where together with UNHCR goodwill ambassador Angelina Jolie, he met with migrants and refugees who have fled Tunisia and Libya in recent months.

The Geneva-based agency said the situation had changed drastically from its foundation in 1950, when its focus was on the 2.1 million Europeans uprooted by World War II.

Aside from the 15.4 million refugees — a small increase of 153,000 since 2009 — UNHCR also counted 27.5 million internally displaced people and 850,000 asylum seekers last year. In total, there are 43.7 million forcibly displaced people worldwide, it said.

Palestinians make up one-third of the world's refugee population — a total of almost 5 million people — many of whom have lived in neighboring countries all their lives. Afghans, meanwhile, con-

stitute a fifth of the refugee total, having fled successive wars since the 1979 Soviet invasion. Many live in dire conditions in Pakistan and Iran.

Other major sources of refugees are Iraq, with almost 1.7 million, Somalia, with 770,000, and Congo, with 477,000.

UNHCR says many refugees risk lifelong hardship unless they are integrated by their host countries or offered resettlement elsewhere.

"It's quite often the case that neighboring countries don't want to grant citizenship for political reasons," UNHCR spokesman Adrian Edwards said.

The agency nevertheless stressed the generosity of host countries, many of which struggle to provide even for their own population.

Pakistan has 710 refugees for every dollar of its per capita gross domestic product. By contrast, Germany counts just 17 refugees for each dollar of per capita GDP, UNHCR said.

However, rich countries like Germany, which has the biggest refugee population in the industrialized world, are more likely to eventually grant them citizenship, offering newcomers and later generations the prospect of much-improved lives.

The U.S. is by far the most generous country when it comes to outright resettlement, explaining its relatively low refugee figure of just 3,025. Last year alone, the U.S. took in 71,362 refugees from elsewhere for resettlement. This was followed by Canada and Australia, with about 12,000 and 8,500 resettlements, respectively.

Japan became the first Asian country to offer resettlement last year.

In September, the first of about 90 ethnic Karen from Myanmar arrived in Tokyo. Some had lived their entire lives in a Thai refugee camp before Japan agreed to take them in.



GERMAN SOLDIERS with the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) guard a road close to the location of a suicide attack on a German military convoy, in Kunduz, north of Kabul, Afghanistan on Sunday. A suicide car bomber struck a German military convoy in northern Afghanistan on Sunday, detonating explosives that killed three Afghan civilians and overturned at least one armored vehicle, according to officials and witnesses. (AP)

# Afghan leader confirms peace talks; Kabul attacked

## White House tight-lipped over Karzai statement

KABUL, Afghanistan Associated Press

PRESIDENT Hamid Karzai acknowledged that the U.S. and Afghan governments have held talks with Taliban emissaries in a bid to end the nation's nearly 10-year war, even as suicide attackers launched a bold assault in the heart of the county's capital, killing nine people.

The attack Saturday, which occurred just blocks from Karzai's office, shows the parties have a long way to go to reach a political settlement as the Obama administration weighs a major withdrawal of its forces. The White House neither directly confirmed or denied Karzai's statement.

Three men wearing camouflage fatigues that are frequently worn by Afghan soldiers stormed a police station near the presidential palace, with one of them detonating an explosives vest just outside the gates as two others rushed inside and began firing, an Interior Ministry statement said.

The crackle of gunfire echoed through the usually bustling streets for about two hours before security forces killed the two remaining attackers. Insurgents killed three police officers, one intelligence agent and five civilians in the attack, according to the ministry statement.

Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid claimed responsibility for the attack in a text message to The Associated Press.

Attacks in the Afghan capital have been relatively rare, although violence has

increased since the May 2 killing of Osama bin Laden in a U.S. raid in Pakistan and the start of the Taliban's annual spring offensive.

The last major attack in Kabul took place late last month when a suicide bomber wearing an Afghan police uniform infiltrated the main Afghan military hospital, killing six medical students. A month before that, a suicide attacker in an army uniform sneaked past security at the Afghan Defense Ministry, killing three people.

Kabul is one of seven areas scheduled to begin to be handed over to Afghan security control in July — part of NATO's efforts to begin transferring security responsibilities ahead of its planned 2014 withdrawal from the country.

The assault occurred shortly after Karzai announced during a speech to youth at the presidential palace that members of his peace council and the U.S. have begun preliminary peace negotiations with the Taliban, which ruled Afghanistan for five years and sheltered al-Qaida before being driven out of power in the U.S.-led invasion in late 2001.

Reports about such talks have surfaced in recent months, but Karzai's statement was the first public confirmation of U.S. participation. Publicly, the Taliban

say there will be no negotiations until foreign troops leave Afghanistan.

"In the course of this year, there have been peace talks with the Taliban and our own countrymen," Karzai said Saturday. "Peace talks have started with them already and it is going well. Foreign militaries, especially the United States of America, are going ahead with these negotiations."

President Barack Obama is weighing a range of options for starting the withdrawal of some American forces.

The U.S. has roughly 100,000 troops in Afghanistan. When the president sent an additional 30,000 U.S. forces to Afghanistan at the end of 2009, he did so with the caveat that some of those troops would start coming home in July.

U.S. State Department spokesman Mark Toner said only that the U.S. has "consistently supported an Afghan-led" peace process.

"Over the past two years, we have laid out our red lines for the Taliban: They must renounce violence; they must abandon their alliance with al-Qaida; and they must abide by the constitution of Afghanistan," Toner said.

"This is the price for reaching a political resolution and bringing an end to the military actions that are targeting their leadership and dec-

imating their ranks."

Karzai said some Taliban emissaries who have met with members of the peace council he set up last year were only representing themselves, while others were speaking for the broader movement. The exact nature of the contacts was not immediately clear, and Karzai said no government official outside of the council had contact with them.

Karzai's rambling speech was the latest tweak to the U.S.-led coalition trying to control a message about a war grinding toward the decade mark. It likely overstates the progress of the delicate negotiations both his government and others face in identifying and wooing potential Taliban leaders.

Many of the movement's leaders remain either unknown or underground since fleeing Kabul at the start of the U.S.-led invasion. Mullah Mohammad Omar, the Taliban's one-eyed leader, has not been seen publicly since 2001.

Officials also have been duped before. Late last year, a Quetta, Pakistan, shopkeeper posed as the Taliban's former aviation minister, Mullah Mohammed Akhtar Mansour, and met twice with Western officials before they realized they had been tricked.

However, such talks may be gaining momentum after the U.N. Security Council voted unanimously Friday to treat al-Qaida and the Taliban separately when it comes to U.N. sanctions, a move aimed at supporting the Afghan government's reconciliation efforts.

Meanwhile, violence persists. Insurgents attacks targeted three convoys ferrying fuel and supplies to NATO troops in western and eastern Afghanistan over the weekend, killing nine Afghan security guards and torching at least 15 fuel tankers, officials said.

In the eastern city of Jalalabad, insurgents kidnapped a provincial council member for Logar province and three of his family members.

Seven NATO service members were killed Saturday. Three died in fighting — two in southern Afghanistan and one in the east, according to the alliance.

Four others were killed in a vehicle accident in the south. At least 37 international soldiers have died in Afghanistan so far this month, raising the death toll for 2011 to 243.

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# Moving away from 'chalk and talk'

**FROM page one**

of its impact if half the kids come with no pen or pencil, no books and we have no text books! It is not worth all of the expense involved when we are lacking in the basics," said a teacher, who submitted her comment at Tribune242.com.

Several years ago, there was a split in the Ministry of Education between former Minister Carl Bethel and former deputy director of education, Leona Archer. Sources claim Mr Bethel favoured the Eno brand, while Ms Archer favoured the Promethan brand.

In his 2008/2009 budget presentation as minister of education, Mr Bethel encouraged all parliamentarians to invest in Eno boards.

"I recently had the pleasant task, in my capacity as a member of parliament for the Sea Breeze constituency, of donating to the Sadie Curtis Primary School two state-of-the-art Eno interactive whiteboards. These boards are designed to make learning fun for the students and activate their imagination. Installing these boards in schools can only benefit our teachers and students, and I appeal to each and every one of my parliamentary colleagues to make a commitment of at least one board to one school in your constituency," said Mr Bethel.

One teacher at a school that uses both brands claimed the Eno board was a "better buy" because the projector it uses "is located on an extended arm, right above the board itself." With Promethan boards, teachers have to place the projector on a desk in front of the classroom, where it increases the risk of accidents, and causes a general inconvenience. Another teacher said her school uses Eno boards because they "do not need electricity to run and you can use them like a regular white board."

Promethan boards, on the other hand have a



**IN HIS 2008/2009** budget presentation as minister of education, Carl Bethel encouraged all parliamentarians to invest in Eno boards.

touch screen interface. Teachers can "move stuff around" and interact with the white board as if it were a computer screen.

Mr Bethel purchased several Eno boards with his constituency allowance and convinced several other MPs to purchase Eno boards shortly before he resigned from his post as minister to assume the chairmanship of the Free National Movement.

One of the major problems the MOE needs to work out to solve all of its problems with the implementation of hardware and software initiatives is the overall structure for managing technology in the school system. The task of training teachers and providing the needed technical support is critical.

"Chalk and talk is not working anymore. A lot of the things that children are learning now, you have to teach them with video. Every class is a multimedia presentation. It takes some time for the teachers to get there. Before we had white boards we started putting multimedia projectors so they could use PowerPoint presentations. It is going to take some time but you have to start," said a school teacher.

"They have to be trained to get into the multimedia field. There are tons of things online. Our science teachers go to YouTube and pull down videos. Teachers have to be trained on where to find resources. Teachers have to be trained to look at their curriculum differently; how to incorporate multimedia into the curriculum. All of those things are what teachers need to be trained on," she said.

The Management Information Systems (MIS) Division at the Ministry of Education is responsible for "the installation, upkeep, maintenance and repair of hardware such as routers, wireless equipments, satellites and software in all departments of the Ministry of Education, including libraries, archives and all government schools in New Providence and the Family Islands," as stated by the MOE website.

Tribune sources claim MIS has been ineffective in accomplishing its broad mandate. There have been major failures and mass wastage with the implementation of any number of technology projects at the ministry. Only a portion of the blame rests at the feet of MIS and the ministry's other technology experts, but the reality is, the MOE does not have it all together when it comes to technology. The MIS division is overseen by the Ministry of Education and not the Department Education. Sources claim "jurisdiction issues" create conflicts over MIS that negatively impact the delivery of service.

The training needs of the ministry are so great, as are the technical support needs.

It is not good enough for the ministry to simply have a vision of what technology can do to help the school system. The requisite systems have to be put in place to ensure the technology is actually being utilised to the maximum, and to ensure there are not loopholes that can be manipulated for the profit of a few.

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THE TRADITIONAL blackboard (pictured) could be a thing of the past thanks to interactive whiteboards – which place a modern spin on traditional ‘chalk and talk’.

## MOVING AWAY FROM ‘CHALK AND TALK’

### MINISTRY OF EDUCATION’S CONTROVERSIAL FORAY INTO INTERACTIVE WHITEBOARDS

By NOELLE NICOLLS  
Tribune Staff Reporter  
nicolls@tribunemedia.net

### AN EDUCATION SPECIAL REPORT

TOMORROW morning the government is scheduled to open the tender documents for a government bid worth hundreds of thousands. This bid is special, not because the value is so significant when compared to other government tenders, but because it involves the Ministry of Education and its controversial foray into the world of interactive whiteboards.

Over the past five years or more, the central government and its agencies have invested large sums on interactive whiteboards and other modern educational technology. There has been little oversight of the project. Because of this, sources claim the investment has done little to enrich the education experience of students and much to enrich a few interested parties.

Interactive whiteboards place a modern spin on traditional blackboards. Using a computer, projector and an interactive display, teachers can bring a multimedia instructional experience to the classroom, and move away from traditional “chalk and talk” instruction. Promethean is one of several interactive whiteboard brands. Competing brands include SMART boards and Eno Boards. Promethean has the largest market share locally, according to Tribune sources.

Teachers can project material from a web browser to the classroom like a big screen television, and depending on the brand, teachers can treat the boards like a touch-screen computer. Interactive whiteboards

have the added capacity to capture and save class notes written on the display for storage on a connected computer.

The interactive whiteboard industry is a billion dollar business in the United States. Local companies with international license agreements are cashing in. The Armoury Company, a local technology company, secured the license for Promethean boards, several years ago.

Used effectively the technology can greatly enhance the educational experience, but without the requisite policy guidelines and support systems in place, what you end up with is the mess that exists today.

#### Review

More and more, educators feel there needs to be a system-wide review on the purchase of interactive whiteboards by school administrators. Not because they question the value of the technology, but because they question the way the Ministry of Education (MOE) has handled the purchase, promotion and implementation of the technology in the school system over the years.

Tribune sources claim the MOE has staff employed for the sole purpose of actively promoting the sale of a particular brand of interactive whiteboard. Mr Sands said he is not “tied to one brand”, and the ministry should not promote any specific brand. Tribune sources claim, schools have even been pressured into pur-

chasing interactive whiteboards in exchange for “favours” or school requests being processed.

One school official said schools are on a “Promethean board spending spree.” They are shelling out tens of thousands of dollars to keep up with the technology trend without ensuring they get the concurrent benefit.

In many instances, the interactive whiteboards are “catching dust” inside school classrooms. Reasons for this are plenty: in some instances teachers are not adequately trained; the required computers are not connected to the internet, or are not working altogether. In other cases, teachers fight over the use of the room where the boards are located.

“There is a lot of waste going on boy!” exclaimed one educator, who believes the lack of direction has created several inefficiencies.

“A lot of times they have not been using them. They give them a projector and a board, but it also needs a computer or laptop. They put the boards in the classroom but there is no computer or no internet, so it cannot really be used. Say there is one board for the year one group, but the teacher who has it in their classroom does not want to share. Basically they have been buying them, but they are not being utilized fully,” said a teacher, familiar with the situation.

Lionel Sands, director of education (DOE), said he is aware of the complaints. He said the DOE is assessing the matter “because there

have been many questions raised with respect to it.”

One of the ideas under consideration is a recommendation for schools to set up a central classroom, like a lab, where students would move to the classroom to access the board.

He agreed that in order to make the system more standardised, the DOE could determine the subject areas suited best for the use of the boards and ensure every school and every child in that subject area has access to a board.

Several schools have four or five boards, where only one may be in use. One teacher from a high school said the science department at her school uses their Promethean board, but the school has four to five boards in total and the rest of them are simply taking up space.

#### Lesson

Another teacher from a primary school said the boards are being utilised, but “maybe not to the potential that they should be.” He said only a few of the total boards were being used for “about one lesson per week.”

The pending bid for the TG Glover Lab School issued in May includes the procurement of 32 interactive whiteboards with projectors, and 32 student response systems (SRS), which are wireless handheld devices used by students. The SYS technology allows students and teachers to interact in a dynamic way, because the teacher, using a

**“I would not refuse a whiteboard, but it loses a bit of its impact if half the kids come with no pen or pencil, no books and we have no text books! It is not worth all of the expense involved when we are lacking in the basics.”**

Teacher’s comment on [tribune242.com](http://tribune242.com)

mini tablet computer, can design assessment and lessons for students to respond to on their handheld device.

Companies that distribute the product claim the system will “encourage student participation, facilitate class discussion, take attendance, grade quizzes, track performance and minimize administrative tasks.”

Some of the options on the device allow students to answer multiple choice, open-ended and true or false questions posed by the teacher in a digital assignment.

The bid is a clear demonstration that the ministry is not letting up, despite the call for more structure to be brought to the purchase and use of the boards. The bid also shows the ministry’s intention to deepen its ties with education technology, although past experience has proven they do not have adequate systems and structures in place to support the school system in its use of technology.

School boards purchase the interactive whiteboards directly from their govern-

ment allocated budgets and private sponsorship. Because of this Mr Sands said there have been no dictates on the use of the boards.

#### Regulations

Collectively, over the past five years, the DOE has spent hundreds of thousands on interactive white boards. The DOE has not purchased any boards in two years, according to Mr Sands, because of restrictive regulations on the DOE budget with respect to the purchase of computer hardware. However, the \$11.8 million Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) project is funding the purchase of boards, according to Tribune sources.

“If you put a whiteboard in many of the classrooms here in the Bahamas with conditions as they are currently, it would be like putting a wig on a pig. The pig may look better but it would still be a pig.”

“I would not refuse a whiteboard, but it loses a bit

**SEE page 11B**



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